

**INSIDE**



Warriors of India, P7



Prompt box, P10

**AMITe poll**

With Air India being completely handed over to Tata group, do you think the privatisation will prove to be beneficial for both the government and aviation sector?

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

To vote, log on to  
 www.theglobaltimes.in

**POLL RESULT**  
 for GT issue January 24, 2022

Do you agree with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's statement that India is now the "new attractive" investment destination in the world?

Yes	No	Can't say
100%	0%	0%

Results as on January 29, 2022

**Coming Next**  
 TEDx

# Massive in miniature

## When Small Incidents Serve As Catalysts For Bigger Consequences

Aditya Khuntia, XI C & Bhuvi Pandey, XI A  
 AIS Saket

They say small adjustments in the way you think, and small variations in the energy you possess, can lead to gigantic alterations of your end result. Chaos theory, outlined by the American mathematician and meteorologist Edward Lorenz way back in the 1950s, is based on the same principle, wherein the flutter of a butterfly's wings is believed to cause a typhoon halfway across the world. Of course, a single act like the butterfly flapping its wings cannot cause a typhoon on its own; small events can, however, serve as agitators that act on starting conditions to precipitate long-term implications. Corroborating the same, human history is crammed with instances where this phenomenon has affected (and continues to do so) our individual lives and the world quite severely. Read on as we unravel some of them for you...

### At one's own whim

*When the butterfly flapped its wings and consciously ended up slaughtering/saving many...*

During WWII that lasted from 1939-1945, over 40 million civilians and 20 million military personnel reportedly lost their lives, most of them owing to mass bombings, deliberate genocides, starvation, concentration camps, slave labour, and ruthless massacres, all carried out as the consequence of one man's vision of a world where only the strongest and the 'pure' survived. One might tend to disagree, but all of this was largely a result of a small event that took place 38 years prior to 1939, when a young adult - moody and apathetic - applied for Vienna's Academy of Fine Arts, only to be rejected, not once but twice. To compound it, he lost his mother at the same time, a tragedy that left him with no financial support. Out of poverty thus, he moved to the slums of Vienna where he developed a life-long hatred against the Jews. Who would have thus known that a rejection, common to many, would shape this young man, Adolf Hitler, into becoming the physical manifestation of evil?? Contrastingly though, there's also an abundance of



small instances in history that led to larger communal good instead.

Case in point - Russian Navy officer Vasili Arkhipov's refusal to sanction the launch of a nuclear torpedo during the Cuban Missile Crisis in October 1962. As part of the one month long confrontation between the US and the Soviet Union, when the former began

dropping depth charges on the latter in an effort to bring their hidden submarines to surface, the crew of B-59 (the nuclear-armed submarine Arkhipov was stationed on) decided to blast the nuclear torpedo as a way to defeat the US in their own game. But Arkhipov suggested otherwise, and the rest is history! Had the missile been launched, nuclear clouds would have hit Moscow, London, Germany, and East Anglia, wiping out half of the British population, further resulting in a worldwide nuclear holocaust. Here's to the man who saved the world!

### At the whim of economic cycles

*When the butterfly flapped its wings and cascadingly ended up boosting/depressing the sundry economies of the world...*

With globalisation and the advent of technology withal, countries worldwide have become more and more susceptible to what is happening around them. This dependability finds its classic example in the catastrophic stock market crash of October 19, 1987 (a day that was later named as Black Monday), that started in Hong Kong and spiralled out of control immediately after, crashing stock markets around the world. It had a severe impact on the US, as the country saw the biggest one-day percentage drop, 22% to be exact, in its stock market history. Though no specific cause for the same was made public, many experts believe that the crash could have resulted from some fundamental mistakes in the trading software. Close to home, the 2018 IL&FS crisis in India would serve as another great example of this chain reaction. As the said NBFC owed around 4.5 billion INR of debt to public sector banks and housing finance companies, with its non-performing assets decreasing in value simultaneously, the event resulted in a major liquidity crisis in India, severely affecting the banking sector and other sectors, especially real estate and automobile, as well.

However, in the financial realm too, the butterfly effect does not always have to be a bad thing. Looking at it from a monetary perspective, good saving habits and careful investments practiced over the long run can result in big gains. This can be seen in how the share price of Maruti Suzuki India rose from 1500 INR at the start of 2010 to around 8600 INR today.

*Continued on page 6...*

# The digital learning

## The New And Improved Road To Education

Vanalika Maini, AIS Gur 46, XII A

The world of digital education and learning has grown more than ten-fold in the last two years, and the coming times predict of an even higher growth. One can say it is even the only future we can be sure of when it comes to education, but before we submerge ourselves into it completely, we

need to take a step back and understand it fully. To do so, GT interacted with Dr Anurag Deep, digital pedagogy designer, UNESCO Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Education for Peace and Sustainable Development, when he graced eAIMUN 2021 as a guest speaker. Let's look at what pearls of wisdom he had for us!

### On the era of online education

We have been gradually moving away from the 'one size fits all' model of education because the society is finally realising that everyone has different skills and abilities, and there is no one way that satisfies the needs of every student. Even before the pandemic, there had been a gradual shift taking place to accommodate the skillsets of students and to make education more accessible to them. I had expected

the shift to happen over another decade, but the pandemic caused it to accelerate, but nonetheless, we need to understand that this system was put into place to replicate offline learning rather than to completely replace it.

### On designing digital pedagogy

Whenever we are working on a digital pedagogy for learners, the first thing we think of is the modality- whether the teaching is exclusively online, offline, or is it a mix of both. The second question is the pacing - are we looking at a self-paced course or is it fixed? Third is the student-to-instructor ratio, and finally, fourth is the role of assessments, and whether they take place during the course or after its completion. All of these factors are of great importance, because earlier the roles of teachers and students used to be extremely linear. Teachers were considered as the transmitters of knowledge and students, on the other hand, as the consumers. However, now, due to accessible learning, the role of students has changed from consumers to creators of knowledge, while the role of teachers has changed from transmitters to guides.



GT reporter in conversation with Dr Anurag Deep

### On quality online learning

Even for an online class, the teacher starts it off with a specific topic to teach, and the students enter with the aim of learning that topic. To make any online lesson successful, the variability and the barriers of the learners should always be kept in mind, because there should be a constructive alignment between teaching, learning, and assessment. The Universal Design of Learning provides principles that can help to design a learning system that is useful and accessible to a variety of learners. For example, the lesson plan should allow students to have multiple means of engagement, the students should be allowed multiple means of representation for learning the same concept, and the students should also have multiple means of action and expression to put it into practice.

### On the digital challenges

Any subject can become a little challenging in the digital mode, but whilst teaching, the focus should always be on

both the concepts and the skills. Currently, online teaching is mostly focused on imparting knowledge. There aren't a lot of resources to help students to develop scientific enquiry and computational thinking; one would not be asked to recite a concept but rather they would be asked to apply a skill in the outside world. Students, too, on the other hand, need to be open to transferability, and should have the ability to apply their skills in different contexts and circumstances if they want to make the most of their education. We are not fully there yet, but interactive simulation technologies are a promising feature that could help in honing one's skills practically.

### On message for Amitians

Use the power of collaboration, and collaborate with people from across the globe. Many-a-time you will find that you and your peers do not share the same perspective or outlook. Try to identify these differences, appreciate them, and learn from them.



Dr Anurag Deep, digital pedagogy designer, UNESCO MGIEP





# Around The WORLD

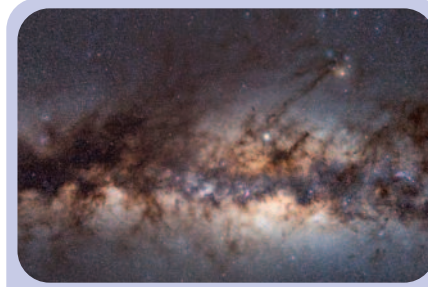
GT keeps the newswire ticking by bringing you news from around the globe



## PHILIPPINES

### WHO director accused of racism and abuse

In an anonymous email sent to WHO's executive board, Takeshi Kasai, the top director of WHO in the Western Pacific region, has been accused of 'racist, unethical and abusive behaviour'. It has been stated that more than 30 current and former WHO employees were involved in drafting the complaint email that talks of the 'toxic environment' and the 'culture of systemic bullying and public ridiculing'. The WHO main headquarters have said that appropriate steps would be taken.



## AUSTRALIA

### Spinning object found

A team from Curtin University have discovered a foreign spinning object in the Milky Way which has been observed to 'release a huge burst of radio energy for a full minute every 18 minutes'. The object, first discovered by Tyrone O'Doherty, an Honors student seemed to first appear and disappear over a few hours during observations, leading the team to investigate further. It is now observed that the object is about 4000 light-years from Earth, has a strong magnetic field, and is also 'incredibly bright'.



## CHINA

### Halt on US interference

The country has openly demanded a stop to the US 'interference' in the Beijing Winter Olympics which are scheduled to start in February 2022. The US has stated that the country will not be sending its dignitaries to the games as a protest against China's detention of around one million or more Uyghur and other Muslims in Xinjiang. The athletes, however, are still free to take part in the event, but US has made calls within their state departments, embassies and consulates around China to withdraw staff and dependents.



## JAPAN

### Omicron research conducted

Based on their study, the Kyoto Prefectural University of Medicine has concluded that the Omicron variant of COVID-19 can stay alive on skin for over 21 hours and for more than eight days on plastic. It thus proves that Omicron can stay alive for longer than any other variant of Coronavirus faced till now, which is also seen as one of the reasons for its widespread. The Alpha variant could remain alive for 56 hours on plastic, Beta for 191.3 hours, Gamma for 156.6 hours, and Delta variant for 114 hours.



## USA

### Demand to bar Ukraine rejected

Amidst the fear of Russia's invasion of Ukraine, the US secretary of state Antony Blinken has officially rejected Russia's demand of barring Ukraine from North Atlantic Treaty Organisation. The country has chosen to stand with Ukraine, making their "core principles" clear which aim to give Ukraine their sovereignty and right to choose to be a part of the security alliance. US has also sent the country three shipments of military assistance.



## SAUDI ARABIA

### 30-year dispute finally ends

A 30-year-long dispute between Saudi Arabia and Thailand has officially been stamped over as the Saudi crown prince met with Thailand's PM. The end of the dispute, which was about a Thai worker stealing a rare 50 carat blue diamond from a Saudi prince in 1989 and then leading to the death of various Saudi diplomats, has once again opened opportunities for Thais to find employment in Saudi Arabia. Renewed cooperation in tourism and petrochemicals is also in the pipeline for both the countries.



## INDIA

### Air India handed over to Tata

The reins for Air India have officially been handed over to Tata group nearly four months after the company won the bid for the takeover with 18,000 crore INR. With the takeover, Tata has inherited the 15,300 crore INR worth of debt that drowned Air India; it is said that Tata plans to do away with their non-core assets like the Vasant Vihar housing colony and the Air India buildings in Delhi and Mumbai. The first change after the takeover has already been witnessed by the passengers as a new 'enhanced meal service' has been introduced in four of their flights.



## PAKISTAN

### Mounted howitzers by China

The country has received its first batch of mounted howitzers from China to level the confrontation field. It is also claimed that China will be supplying Rawalpindi with NORINCO AR-1 300 mm multi barrel rocket launchers to help Pakistan fight against Indian rocket launchers. The trade-off between China and Pakistan, which is worth around 512 million USD, doesn't come as a surprise as Pakistan has been using China for years to stand as a competitor against India.







Even though humans have 32 permanent teeth, they are only born with 20 primary ones.

Deepannita Mukherjee  
AIS Gurugram 46, XI C

2019 proved to be a big year for 'Edustella', the world of knowledge. For it happens to be the year when Cambridge University Press released 'The trouble with graphs', a report on how students world over experience a plenitude of challenges when faced with a task involving the construction of graphs; and how this fear of graphs largely stems from a lack of correct teaching methodology for the same. Consequently, this has taken a huge toll on the students' graphical literacy. Thus, keeping in mind the usefulness of this mathematical tool, a revolutionary reform in the graphing pedagogy became imperative. Read on how the founders of Edustella addressed the same...

**Disclaimer:** All the characters and events involved in this conversation are entirely fictitious; the only thing real is the issue of graphs; well, as it should be!

**Physicia (exhaling loudly):** I am knackered to see students run away from something as straightforward as a graph! It's quite literally the nucleus that holds the whole shebang around it in place and plays a pivotal role in understanding everything, from simple math calculations to heavy topics like Motion, with ease.

**Miss Graphia (weeping):** Well,

# Let's grid it!

## All About How Graphs Can Make Our Life Simpler

I am disappointed as well. Even students of History and Economics, who have to study graphs to analyse the results of various wars or surveys, learn graphing rules by rote and spew content in answer sheets. A graph can be very handy in collecting such data and storing it in one place, but why would they care?

**Biomania (sharing her kerchief):** And it's not just about scholars per se; from stockbrokers to performance evaluators or even sales assistants in companies, all use graphs to boost their sales and meet deadlines. In fact, graphing is an integral part of

our daily life. For instance, weight-conscious people use them to keep a record of their weight loss. Besides, how do you think people track their heart rate? Do they keep writing numbers on papers or use an

ECG? And did you not read about Prof. M Vidyasagar, the Indian mathematician who predicted the second wave of coronavirus last year? He did so by studying graphs. Thus, one can only imagine their utility, serv-

iceability and handiness!

**Disastria:** Talk about keeping a track of, say, seismic activity? Graphs are all we humans need!

**Historia:** While all of this stands true, nothing can really stop the students from mugging them graphing rules, for they hardly understand or interpret the relation between the graphs and the wider ecosystem. We really lag in the methodology to teach students the same!

**Miss Graphia (eyes in awe of what Historia said):** Hold on, well, that gave

me a brilliant idea. First off, while teaching, we need to shift our entire focus from 'how to construct a graph' to 'what', 'where', and 'why' of its different features. What does each axis represent? Or why is this representation appropriate for this data? And as we do that, we need to formulate a strategy to make graphs more central to the students' life. For the hold of a student can only be polished by persuading him to use it for his own benefit. Kids these days are into the habit of making a 'to-do' list and simultaneously, check off their finished tasks. And since many of them want to keep track of their progress, our graphs can be a plausible solution for the same. A simple line graph with time on the x-axis recorded over months would solve the problem once and for all.

**Civicia (waking up from her slumber):** That's splendid. We definitely need to try this one out. How about formulating a more structured 'Edu bill' on the same in another such meeting! Let's grid it!

(All present in the conference room burst into laughter at Civicia's sudden attentiveness and involvement)  
So, readers who still fear graphs, the next time you see them, don't run away from them; try and welcome them, for they are sure to enhance your analytical ability and make your life a lot more organised and simpler.



Imaging: Dinesh Kumar, GT Network

# Let's ethically HACK it!

## Delving Into The Ethics Of Cyber Hacking Industry

Krishna Aditya  
AIS Vasundhara 1, IX D

**"Are you a hacker?"**  
**"Hacker like hacking into my neighbour's WiFi password?"**  
**"Is that what you think all hackers do?"**

Hackers, were initially, considered as somewhat of burglars in the world of cyber space, looking out for people's private information as credit card details, information of financial accounts etc. With ethical hacking coming into the foray, things have come a long way since then, so much so, that this seemingly dark space has become a booming career.

**"So what is ethical hacking?"**  
Simply put, ethical hacking is basically legally breaking into computers and devices to test an organisation's defences. This is done in order to ascertain a system's weak points that malicious hackers can destroy. However, this is just the starting point in the wide spectrum of functions that ethical hacking covers. These days, ethical hackers are also deployed by intelligence agencies, security companies et al in a bid to look for secretive information. It's amongst one of the most exciting IT jobs any person can be involved in, because it consists of an authorised attempt to gain unauthorised access to a computer system, application, or even data. Carrying

out an ethical hack involves duplicating strategies and actions of malicious attackers. Ethical hackers are also known as White Hats, a term derived from old Western movies where the heroes often wore white hats.

**"So now you know exactly what hackers do!"**

**"Yeah, I do, but what qualifications does one need to get into this line of work?"**

To become an ethical hacker, it is compulsory to have a bachelor's

degree (BSc, BTech, BE or BCA) in IT or even Computer Science. An advanced diploma in networking and security will also help your career. Some of the top colleges in India that offer courses related to ethical hacking are HITS Chennai, NIIT University, IIIT, IIS, University of Madras, SRM University etc.

**"And what about skills?"**

For an ethical hacker, skills in networking, computers, Linux, programming, basic hardware

knowledge, reverse engineering, cryptography, database, etc., are of utmost importance. In addition to these, one must be well aware of skills like malware, SQL, etc. One must have extensive experience in the area of network security, working knowledge of various operating systems, and even knowledge of Cisco network switches, virtualisation, Citrix and Microsoft exchange, and a good enough knowledge of all the latest penetration softwares.

**"That sounds like a lot of work. Does this job come with perks?"**

One remarkable perk of being an ethical hacker is that you get paid to keep up with the latest technology. Ethical hacking is indeed an incredible career option in terms of cyber security, and you can apply these skills for your personal life as well and keep yourself and your loved ones safe from the ever-growing internet hacks and threats.

**"And what do I get paid for it?"**

Definitely a good enough salary range! In this digital era, an average ethical hacker earns about 3.5-15 lakhs INR per year. The salary also varies with work experience, so the more experience you gain, the more you are in demand. So, if you want a job that is exciting and keeps you on your toes, ethical hacking is definitely the right choice for you!



## Book Review

### Rake in that review

**Name:** Darlah (172 Hours on the Moon)

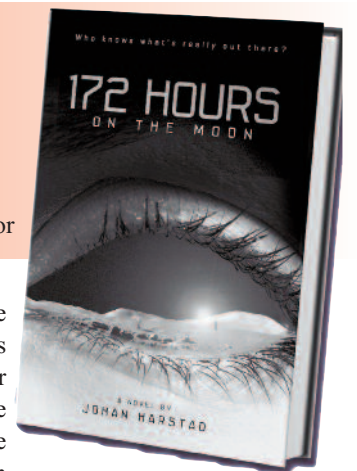
**Author:** Johan Harstad

**Published on:** September 15, 2008 (English version on July 10, 2012)

**Genre:** Science Fiction, Horror

**Synopsis:** Set in 2012, the story begins with NASA's announcement of a contest for teens, aged 14-18, the three 'lucky' winners of which are promised a coveted spot on an upcoming week-long space mission to moon. Since such lunar missions were mysteriously stopped in the 1970s, NASA's renewed engagement in the same raises a few brows. And so, when three youngsters, namely Mia, Midori and Antoine, all enthusiastic about the chance to see the moon and stay in the secret lunar base DARLAH 2, get selected for the said mission, the real, sinister intent behind the contest and the mission that NASA hid from the world comes to light. The kids' excitement thus is quite short-lived as a series of mysteries and adventures uncover one after the other, doppelgangers take over the scene, and an irreversible blunder turns the tables.

**Why is it worth reading:** One needs to give the book a read



for its thrilling, bone chilling, and captivating story that ends with a cliff hanger and keeps you on the edge of your seat throughout. Additionally, the teenage protagonists of the story aren't geniuses or science-enthusiasts per se and feel like real teenagers with their own imperfections. And so, as the three go on the trip of a lifetime, their personalities change over the course of the journey as numerous tragedies befall them, making their chances of survival as bleak as it gets. Would the three be able to return safely? Go grab your copy of the book now and see for yourself!

**Iconic quote:** "It's the trip of a lifetime if they make it back alive."

**Rating:** 5/5

**Review by:** Koyal Das  
AIS Gurugram 43, X B





# Erupting tantrums

## Witnessing The Eruption Of Magma Through The Fissures Of Mama Volcano

Jaya Jha, AIS Gur 46, XII J

Once upon a time, there was a Mama Volcano. Unlike other mother volcanoes, she was of a rather peaceful nature and did not believe in erupting with anger very frequently. This made her the centre of all jokes, but Mama volcano would pay no heed. In fact, she was so doting of her daughter Magma that she did every bit to keep her protected inside her walls. She knew erupting would mean losing her daughter forever.

Magma, on the other hand, was a rebellious teenager. All Magma dreamt of was quickly growing into Lava and seeing the outside world. No matter how much Mama Volcano would dissuade her, by telling her stories of magma who had ruined livelihoods by bursting into lava, Magma wouldn't believe a word! In fact, in sheer fury, she even screamed at her mother, "You don't want me to see the world, and keep me trapped here with you forever."

Then, one fine day, Magma had had enough. All her friends had already left their mother volcanoes and gone into the outside world as Lava! True to her name, she got furious and told her mother she wasn't going to take her advice anymore. In a fit of tantrum, she made herself lighter than the solid rocks around her and shut herself in her chamber. When she couldn't retain her anger

### The science of it

A volcano is a mountain like structure on the surface of a planet which is filled with substances such as hot gases, molten rocks, hot rock fragments. These substances together float inside the volcano known as magma. When magma becomes lighter than the solid rocks, it rises and pushes itself through vents and fissures to Earth's surface in the form of lava leading to an eruption called volcanic eruption. Once magma erupts from the volcano, it undergoes several chemical changes, in what is known as chemical weathering.

anymore, she pushed herself through the fissures and vents of her mother and rose to the earth's surface as Lava!

At first, Magma was so proud of herself for proving her mother wrong and rising gloriously. But then as she looked around, she realised that her sudden outburst had destroyed a whole settlement! She had covered roads for kilometers with ash, burnt houses and trees and ruined livelihoods! Regret took over her and all she could think of was her mother's warning. Shocked at what she had done, Magma couldn't help but sob uncontrollably.

But then she suddenly recalled her mother telling her something about 'chemical weathering' – something that



SCIENCE  
BEDTIME STORIES

happens when magma leaves their volcano. She knew what had to be done. With the aid of chemical weathering, she tapped her phosphorous, potassium and iron content to enrich the nearby soil and make it highly fertile. The people of the adjoining lands used this fertile soil to grow crops. It took a while, but eventually she helped people overcome the damage she had caused.

But never since that day, did she disobey Mama Volcano again.



# Knockout Kannanthura

Rivers, lakes, and wetlands are indubitably amongst the most biodiverse places on earth, but the diversity that dwells in them is often overlooked. As such, despite being vital for communities, economies, and ecosystems alike, scores of fish species today are heading towards extinction; fisheries that trade in them and provide employment opportunities to millions across the globe are increasingly shuttering down withal. Being mindful of the same, the United Nations has designated 2022 as the International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture in order to make us au courant with the catastrophe that awaits these marine miracles and ensure their continuity for the foreseeable future. Aiming to make this vision a reality, GT presents a brand-new series, wherein each segment will either cover an endangered fish species on the verge of extinction or a renowned fishing village in any part of the world in need of immediate human attention.

Anika Purwar & Bhaavya Asthana  
AIS VKC Lko, VII A

**Name of the village:** Kannanthura  
**The townlet is located in:** Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala  
**Population:** 8,441 (as per a 2020 survey)



### About the village

- The size of the village has been noted to be about 0.98 square kilometer, and it is located at 1/3rd of ward 84 handled by Thiruvananthapuram Corporation.
- Around 49% of the houses in the village are pakka, 42% semi-pakka, and there are about 7% kachha houses.
- 90% of the houses are said to have safe drinking water availability, whereas 95% are electrified.
- The village is yet to advance in a lot of areas as currently it has no hospital facilities, only four anganawadis.
- It has three roads of 2.75 km length and has an unprotected coastal length of 0.57 km.
- The majority of the total populace living in the village belongs to the Mukkuva community which comes under the affiliation of the Latin Catholic church.

### About the fish population

In the golden days, there were many different types of fishes that could be seen in the area like Decapterus dayi, Carangoides plagiotaenia, Priacanthus hamrur, Sphyrna sp. Rastrelliger kanagurta and Nemipterus spp. But there has been a vast decline in the variety of fishes in the area ever since the tsunami of 2004. Due to the havoc



wreaked by the natural disaster, many varieties of fish and even other marine resources have seen a substantial decline.

### The life of fishers in the village

The village seems to be a perfect blend of traditional and modern methods when it comes to fishing. There are almost 1200 active fishers in the area and around 600 folks who practice allied occupation, including men and women. The village has around 17 traditional boats which are fitted with outboard engines that are used for fishing, and the ownership of these boats is shared between the residents of the village. The fishermen and fisherwomen of the community still use traditional methods of fishing along with some modern aspects like engines. They also use various classic tools and equipment that include indigenous crafts, fishing nets, compasses etc. The fisher population living in Kannanthura mostly practices shore fishing, and the fishes that they catch are bought by auctioneers who come from different markets.

### The hardships faced

The lack of returns from the occupation and the uncertainty of the catch led to difficulty in a stable income. Due to the joint ownership of fishing boats, the fishers are bound to go in groups for catching fishes. There are 17 traditional crafts in the village and a crew for each consists of about 30 to 40 fishers. Thus, only a portion of the total catch goes to everyone, which, most of the time, ends up to be a frugal amount. The statistical data collected from the fisheries department mentions that at least 60% of Kerala's fisher population lives below the poverty line. Moreover, due to the low income and returns to scale, the folks are pushed into poverty. This leads to debt, with the situation worsening due to decreasing rate of returns. The people of the village mainly depend upon each other and their close ones for credit facilities. Local money lenders, employers, relatives, family, and neighbours act as the agents of credit markets in the village. The helping hands of the relatives who work abroad further act as a source of credit for the poor folks at the time of need. Inability to pay back the borrowed money further causes bonded labour.

### The efforts made

There are some institutions who have been working to help the fishing community. One of them being, the Fisheries Department, Vettukadu, which works towards the welfare of the fisher folk of Kannanthura by allotting subsidies and benefits to people under different welfare schemes, in order to support them. Secondly, the Fisherman Co-operative Society of Kannanthura, tries to provide the fishing community with services such as connecting fisherman with outside market, helping them to procure advanced fishing equipments and gain benefits from the government.





Contrary to popular belief, teeth aren't bones as they do not produce bone marrow.

# That's so cringey!

## Let's Decode The Rampant Cringe Culture, One "Oh My God, No!" At A Time

Ayushi Jain, AIS Gur 43, X A

That tiny involuntary flinch of disgust that you get when you smell sour milk? Now replace that sour milk with a clip of a Bollywood actor posing with opened arms and a heroine running towards him. Would you still flinch the way you previously did? If yes, that flinch is called "cringe". Simply put, anything that is too normal, too weird, too over-used, too under-used, too attention-seeking, too plain, too childish, too mature, too funny, or too un-funny

to exist in the sarcastic world of internet gets spiraled down into the void of the cringe cyclone, and putting it mildly, there's no coming back from there. When put like that, it may sound a lot like cancel culture, except the internet's all the more excited to see the "cringers" do something cringe again.

### Battle of the generations

Millennials and boomers who have grown up with 'Saas Bahu' serials as their only source of entertainment continue to enjoy them. In a way, you can't really blame them, for something about those expressionless faces and melodramatic background music is hooking. They continue to trend today, though only through the means of Yashraj

Mukhate's 'Kokila ben' troll edits. Twenty years ago, no one would have thought that those seemingly normal soap operas would turn into stomach-achingly hilarious cringe content for the next generation. Perhaps the things we find entertaining now will be cringe-worthy to the upcoming generation. Well, that's a depressing thought!

### The ever-changing Gen Z tastes

Being a part of Gen Z is, well, difficult. You never know which trend would come up the next day, die the next week, and come back ironically a year later. A similar trail follows singer Justin Bieber. He is musically talented, and some of his songs are catchy and deep, but there's no doubt that he has

had a past where people cringed at and mocked him for various reasons (let's leave out the details, shall we?). So, while some people find certain messages of Bieber objectionable, a majority of people find him and his work cringe-worthy just because that's what has been the norm for over a decade. As long as no harm is caused, it's pretty much acceptable by us zoomers to follow into each other's footsteps of what is to be considered cringe.

### The special case of Bollywood cringing

Picture this - you walk into a birthday party, and you hear Dhinchak Pooja's "Selfie maine le li aaj" song being played on the speakers. Hurry! Burry yourself alive to escape from the cringe

radiations! They can and will affect your brain in irreversible ways. Just because of some, well, extremely pleasing and meaningful songs, we tend to adopt a general image of all Bollywood songs; expensive Lamborghinis, actresses dripping in make-up, foreign locations, all three in one music video are enough to fill your cringe platter until the next Tony Kakkar's "hit" drops.

So, there you have it folks; that's what the cringe culture's all about. Go cringe all you want, but make sure it does not turn into something that normalises the diminishing of one's interests and hobbies based on the benchmark set by a few.



# Not so fair times

## Recounting The Endless Times, I See It, I Like It, I Want It, But I Never Got It

Endri Agrawal  
AIS Saket, X C

Remember, Charles Dicken's novel 'Hard Times'? Well, hard times come unannounced in everyone's life, like the times you go to a shopping mall all rosy-eyed, and there they are - hard times.

### No means no, quite literally

As a seven-year-old, you just spotted your favourite skirt on a mannequin in the shop. Your natural instinct would be to tug on your mom's dupatta and ask for it. But to your dismay, your mom's instinct would be to say no ever so conveniently. Your precious heart would be pierced into a thousand fragments right in the middle of the market. And would soon be met by your mom succinctly giving voice to the mannequin's delicate frills and intricate sequins- "I'm a nightmare dressed like a daydream." No matter how much you pester her or how smartly you lay your cards, it did not help. Even the "but all my friends have it" did not get you any closer, and the "promise, this is the last thing I will ask you for" just resulted in an eye-roll. The puppy-eyes did not work either, bye-bye, soulmate skirt!

### So close, yet so far from reach

If the shopkeeper and your mom are bantering about the price of your dream toy and you sense your mom is cracking her knuckles, you know that

the show is about to go down. At that moment all you want to do is find a comfy chair and sit back, get some popcorn, and watch the drama unravel. To your shock, the shopkeeper would manage to settle on a price that would be about 80% lower than the original one, yet mom would easily walk away from the store. Perhaps the shopkeeper would think "Is it too late now to say sorry?" or perhaps it's a mutual feeling. "You'll get it cheaper on Amazon! This shopkeeper is a thief!"

will be the justification you'll hear from your mom as you walk away.

### Time is an illusion, talk is overrated

You entered your favourite shop, this time with full confidence to buy something for sure from the store because mom said yes. But, just then Mrs Gulati, your mom's kitty party friend enters the shop, lo and behold, the chances of buying the toy

becomes zero.

Well, the prayers you made "I hope Mrs Gulati is out of town!" didn't reach to God on time. Be prepared to stand in the background of their philosophical voyages upon the empirical conduct of humans, better known as gossip. Five minutes turn to fifty-five and people who came after you have long gone. All of it culminating with "Let's move now, your dad will be home anytime. We'll buy it the next time."





Human teeth have a 200lbs bite force, almost on par with that of a pit bull.



## Path of conservation



Dr. Amita Chauhan  
Chairperson

One philosophy which I have always lived by is that we are one with nature. And that it is our moral duty to protect and nurture our environment. While every element of nature is crucial to life, the one without which we cannot survive even for a day is water. At Amity, we value this precious gift and protect each drop with all our might, and it gives me great happiness to share that our efforts have been recognised by the Govt. of India at the National Water Awards 2020. Out of 100 participants from all over India, Amity Noida was awarded the third position nationally and the first rank in Uttar Pradesh for its persistent efforts to save water. I can proudly say that our determination of planting hundreds of trees, building clean toilets with sensors, using sprinklers and rainwater harvesting pits have been duly rewarded. The distinguished team of officials from the State Jal Ministry, which had visited the school campus, was also impressed with the special presentation by Avishi Sahoo of Class XII, who recently won the Pramerica National Community Service Award for her project on reducing and reusing of RO wastewater! It is satisfying that they were able to appreciate how Amity has always been in the forefront of nurturing socially conscientious students. I must also give credit to The Global Times for playing a big part in bringing the award home to us. After all, it is a crucial feature of the Amity universe and is renowned for raising issues pertinent to conservation. While this award is certainly a mark of appreciation, it has motivated us to continue walking on this path of conservation. 🇮🇳

## Refreshing approach



Vira Sharma  
Managing Editor

Annual meetings, held to select the school editorial board, are always a time of great revelation to me. I'm impressed by the innovative portfolios presented by prospective candidates and their range of creativity. I have been presented with everything from a book to a complete chat show, examples that prove just how coherent and articulate today's generation can be and I must admit that such was not the case when I was a school-going child. Things were quite run-of-the-mill for us, and there was not much diversity one could choose from. Extracurriculars meant participating in elocution and debate or sport, and if you were culturally inclined, in dance and music. So, for us, when the time came to write our CV, all we had in our arsenal were our marks and mention of these hobbies. This is certainly not the case now. At Amity itself, there is a plethora of opportunities that help one explore their talents. Apart from the regular MUNs, Olympiads and cultural fests, access to internet has had its benefits as well. We could never imagine becoming a self-published author 30 years ago, but children today have no limits to what they can achieve. Recently, I interviewed a young girl who is pursuing science, but also has a passion for writing. She shared with me that she wanted to become a science journalist. It was refreshing to see that she could envision a future beyond medicine or engineering. Indeed, these are the things which tell me that today's generation is more aware and wiser about their career choices. More power to them. 🇮🇳

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# Roles and equality

## Is Gender Stereotyping Really Necessary In The World We Live In?

Graphic: Shivika Gupta, AIS MV, VIII A.

### Opinion

Aanya Narula, AIS Vas 1, X A

I often look at the hazy sky and allow the breeze to sway my body and reinvigorate my soul. For a moment, I enjoy the immaculate pleasures of life but then I realise that I am bound by the constraints of the world that ask me to play a 'role' in the society. Why? Because I am a woman, so the world expects me to abide by the rules they have created for my gender. But in a liberal society, is it really necessary to let someone's expectation of you rule the way you live your life? With the advent of gender equality debates and increased consciousness, there has been a spurt in the demands of equal rights for women, because women have always been an easy target. The truth, however, is that female is not the only gender that suffers at the hands of societal pressure; men, too, are often dominated for a number of bigoted reasons. Today women's rights are often discussed and debated upon. Sadly, men's rights do not get the same platform for discussion. Men are considered to be symbols of strength, and because the gender has always had the upper hand, a lot of people refuse to believe that they too have their own struggles. Males are expected to behave within the rules set by masculinity and females are expected to live with the grace of femininity. Females are expected to behave like a 'zephyr' and always stay polite, and if they aren't, then they are the 'bad ones'. Males are expected to behave like 'ferrous', and anyone who doesn't follow their as-



signed gender role is looked down upon. We live in a civilised society which does have rules to ensure a peaceful, law-abiding world, but how far along is it okay for the society to govern us? And are these gender roles even 'governing' us or 'dictating' us?

Perhaps, the key lies in treating people as humans first and man or woman later. Gender inequality stands to be a great impediment to any society that wishes to progress. Let's try and create a holistic and happy world, where we follow our hearts, not the constricting rules set for our gender. 🇮🇳

## Massive in miniature

Continued from page 1...

### At the whim of nature

*When the butterfly flapped its wings and inscrutably ended up devising/evolving the diverse phenomena of the natural world...*

From an infinitesimal mutation in the DNA sequence leading to primitive apes' evolution into the most intellectual species popularly known as homo sapiens to an arbitrary asteroid in space determining which species will dominate in the long run, nature's spontaneity is astounding! Had the asteroid thus slightly diverted in its trajectory and the Cretaceous-Paleogene extinction not occurred about 66 million years ago, the evolution of animals such as dinosaurs and other marine invertebrates belonging to the Mesozoic era into the diverse species of animals that occupy the world today would have been highly unlikely. Or take for instance, the medical breakthrough of discovering the penicillin in 1928. As amusing as it may sound, the discovery took place because Sir Alexander Fleming, a Scottish physician and microbiologist, while working with the bacteria Staphylococcus, decided to put off his work and go on a vacation with his family. Living up to his reputation, he left his lab in a state of disarray. So, when he returned a few days later, he found mould growing on his petri dishes. This mould, later identified as a rare strain of Penicillium notatum that had killed the bacteria growing in its vicinity, led to the dawn of the antibiotic age. The discovery resulted in an annual consumption of 6.8 trillion units of penicillin and a Nobel Prize for Sir Fleming. If that were not the case, the world perhaps would have never



found a cure for pneumonia, gonorrhoea, or rheumatic fever. Imagine!

### At the whim of that which is ungovernable

*When the butterfly flapped its wings and inadvertently ended up decimating billions altogether...*

With the discovery of new cultures and regions, the Age of Exploration marked a new chapter in human history. As such, all European nations were contesting with one another to expand their territories further and claim, by hook or by crook, as much land as they possibly can for their own kind. In one such incident thus, as some 500 Spanish conquistadors led an expedition to present day Mexico in 1519, they were armed with more than just guns and horses to conquer the new land; they unwittingly brought a pathogen, namely smallpox, with them that led to the downfall of the Aztec civilisation. Since the Aztecs had absolutely no immunity to it, their population reduced by a whopping 40% in a single year. The COVID-19 pandemic that the

world's currently reeling under however, balanced it out once and for all. What started as a small virus in China in 2019, in a matter of a few days, took the entire world by storm, leaving the health sector distraught with the many mutant variants that came in its wake, and killing over 5 million people worldwide as of January 31, 2022. Every single step we took thus had its large-scale consequences, whether it was stepping out to buy groceries, going out to a birthday party, or traipsing for a long-awaited vacation. Had we followed the protocols more sincerely, we might have been living a corona free existence by now. But, hey, better late than never!

Thus, even the smallest act - of both compassion and empathy, or vengeance and neglect - reverberates across great distances and time spans, affecting the lives of people unknown to us. For at the end of the day, it is the seemingly trivial entities and incidents, intricacies so complex yet rudimentary, that make life truly complete, isn't it now? 🇮🇳



Dear Editor,

This is in reference to the article 'The junk funk' published on page 4 of the GT edition dated January 24, 2022. The article sheds an entirely new light on the dangers of space debris, which many of us are unaware of. It states that pieces of debris surrounding our planet can be tracked using sensors and more research is going on to develop even more effective methods. These space particles, though small, are large enough to threaten human space lift and even robotic missions. But we are only controlling the junk, not cleaning it up. Thus, we can conclude that even though humans are developing at a very fast pace, it's necessary to think of the bigger picture and focus on cleaning up the space junk. The write up helps us realise that it is not time to play defense anymore, and that perhaps we should take up the opposite role and help save the planet.

Ishita Bajpai,  
AIS VKC Lucknow, X A





# The braveheart Laxmibai

The human heart has always been stirred by tales of valour and adventure, and whenever we hear such stories, we cannot help but look up to those heroes who have chiseled their names onto the stone of history with the weight of their accomplishments. Such legends deserve to be celebrated and remembered for their bravery and all that they have done in the past to make the present better. Here's presenting the saga of one such warrior, **Rani Lakshmibai**, who changed the course of history for the better.

## WARRIORS of INDIA Part 3

**Name:** Manikarnika Tambe aka Laxmibai (also written as Lakshmibai)

**Born on:** November 19, 1828

**Died on:** June 18, 1858

**Position held:** Maharani consort of Jhansi

**Noteworthy achievements:** Leading figure of Sepoy Mutiny in 1857; led a fierce attack on the British army and rallied the troops against them

**Biography to watch:** Manikarnika: The Queen of Jhansi; Jhansi ki Rani

**Biography to read:** A Begum & A Rani: Hazrat Mahal and Lakshmibai in 1857, by Rudrangshu Mukherjee; The Queen of Jhansi, by Mahasweta Devi

### The roots of a warrior

Manikarnika Tambe, famously known as Rani Lakshmibai/Laxmibai, was born on November 19, 1828, in Varanasi, India, to Moropant Tambe and Bhagirathi Sapre in a Brahmin Marathi family. She was fondly nicknamed Manu.

Her father, Moropant Tambe, worked in the court of Baji Rao II, the Peshwa of Bithoor. Laxmibai was

raised by the Peshwa Saheb just like his own daughter as she lost her mother at a very early age, which led to Laxmibai being brought up by her father. Though she was homeschooled, her educational curriculum included shooting, fencing, and even horsemanship. She was attracted to weapons ever since her childhood, which she mostly spent with Nana Saheb and Taty Tope, who have registered their names in the pages of history for their own achievements. Laxmibai was born with an innate talent for martial arts, sword fighting, and horsemanship; skills she further finetuned with training. Her horsemanship was so proficient that she had three horses of her own named Sarangi, Pavan and Baadal.

At the young age of seven, Manikarnika was married off to the King of Jhansi, Gangadhar Rao Newalkar, though the marriage was not consummated until she turned 14. It was after her marriage that she was given the name 'Laxmi' after the Indian goddess. In 1851, Laxmibai gave birth to her son Damodar Rao, but due to poor health conditions, the child died after four months. She later adopted her deceased child's cousin Anand Rao, whom she renamed Damodar in the fond memory of her child. Soon after, the king fell ill and passed away, leaving great responsibility on the shoulders of Laxmibai. It was around this time that the British raj in Jhansi was extremely suppressive.

These circumstances led to the begin-

ning of her journey as a warrior.

### The sword of a warrior

After the death of the king, Lord Dalhousie aimed to impose the Doctrine of Lapse on Jhansi, which claimed that if a ruler of a state died without a legal heir, the kingdom would be annexed. The British then planned to seize Jhansi and its related territories, and Laxmibai was asked to flee Jhansi at the earliest, but being the queen that she was, she refused and pledged to protect her state with all her will. And that's what she did! Even when the Rebellion of 1857 was at its peak, Jhansi remained in peace under Rani Lakshmibai's rule. In 1858, when the British troops aimed for Jhansi were delayed, Rani Lakshmibai took advantage of every extra second and trained her own army comprising both men and women.

As the British army reached Jhansi, Lakshmibai strapped her son to her chest and fought valiantly with two swords, one in each hand. However, during the battle, Rani Lakshmibai realised that winning would be difficult. Thus, with the help of Jhalkari Bai, a skilled warrior from her army, Laxmibai escaped the fort and joined hands with Tantia Tope and other leaders for another round of the battle. But sadly, once the British attacked, the resilience could not last long and the troops were defeated. However, on being defeated, she fled to defend the next province. When Rani Lakshmibai fled from Kalpi, Tantia

Tope and Rao Sahib also accompanied her and joined the Indian forces at Gwalior. Laxmibai, along with her large Indian force, was once again ready to retaliate the British torture, but sadly, over 5000 defenders were brutally slaughtered by the British army. Our queen, Rani Lakshmibai, fought this battle against the British with courage till her last breath.

### The legacy of a warrior

The great queen lost her life defending Gwalior from British troops, but she died a fearless warrior, which is why her heroism and her name are unforgettable till date. Talking about her, Sir Hugh Rose commented, "The rani was remarkable for her bravery, cleverness and perseverance. Her generosity to her subordinates was unbounded. These qualities, combined with her rank, rendered her the most dangerous of the rebel leaders. The Indian mutiny had produced but one man, and that man was a woman." Even after her death, she became a figure of inspiration in the nationalist struggle for women to fight against the British. The sacrifice and the patriotism Rani possessed made a remarkable contribution towards Indian freedom and independence. She indeed still is a symbol of heroism, bravery, courage and motivation, and perhaps Subhadra Kumari Chauhan was correct to immortalise her with the verse – "खूब लड़ी मर्दानी वह तो झाँसी वाली रानी थी"!





Humans only get two set of teeth in their lifetime whereas dolphins only get one and sharks around 40.



# Looking ahead



## Storywala

**Manavendra Singh Panwar**  
AIS Saket, XI F

“It’ll be fun, cheer up now,” said my mother. Her words barely made sense to me, but I nodded my head, nonetheless. We were relocating you see, and I was quite melancholic about leaving my school and my neighbourhood friends, friends I loved and had grown up with. My mother had got an excellent job offer somewhere else far from here and jumped head long into the opportunity, leaving me to prepare myself for the big move. I am a rather sentimental person. Getting over so many fond mem-

ories, leaving behind so many friends, was quite hard on me. My friends and I had a pact to call each other frequently but deep inside I knew these were musings built on naivety. “Pack up your remaining things quickly, we’re leaving in a minute,” said my mom sharply, pulling me out of my reverie. Part of me wanted to stay put forever while the smaller, more grown-up part of me, sadly acknowledged the fact that I had to leave. I decided to think positive and try to move on, but felt gloomy, hopeless. We both sat in the car, and all the while I was nervously thinking about our new house, the crowd and my

new school. My mind tired with a gazillion thoughts eventually gave up and into a short nap. I woke up to my mother’s voice calling out to me. Rubbing my eyes, I craned my neck and looked around the place. Our new building towered over me, almost menacingly. I saw a small park with a broken swing set and a slide. It was small compared to my old neighbourhood park. Disappointed, I gave up on my hopes and gingerly walked towards the park. Tears started streaming down my face as I missed the life I had left behind. Honestly, I felt that nothing in my life mattered anymore. As I wiped my eyes, I saw my mother

**But I’ll share a secret, a couple of blocks from here is the best cricket ground you’ll ever find.**

beckoning me from the car and guilt surged over me. I had been so self-absorbed this entire time that I didn’t think even once about how difficult this move must’ve been for my mother who also left behind a lot of things. Just then, I saw a boy walk towards me. He looked about my age. He walked towards me and gave a quiet smile. “Hi, are you moving into the neighbourhood?” he asked, motioning towards the car and the boxes around it. I wiped away my tears and nodded. “You must be really sad about moving huh? But I’ll share a secret, a couple of blocks from here is the best cricket ground you will ever find. We all play there. You should join us. My name is Vaibhav.” Talking to Vaibhav made me feel better. I saw a glimmer of hope that maybe, just maybe, coming here wasn’t the colossal mistake I was making it out to be. Perhaps, I would definitely come to love this place too, just like my old neighbourhood. Soon, Vaibhav and I became great buddies. I realised that I was wrong to give up even before trying. Maybe, one needs to look at what’s coming instead of what’s gone. 🇮🇳



## Pao pizza



Ridhima Sarin

Ridhima Sarin, AIS Vasundhara 6, IX D

### INGREDIENTS

Pao.....	6
Pizza sauce .....	2 tbsp
Thousand island sauce.....	2 tbsp
Cheese .....	1/2 cup
Onions (finely chopped) .....	1/2 cup
Capsicum (finely chopped) .....	1/2 cup
Tomato (finely chopped) .....	1/2 cup
Oregano seasoning .....	1 tsp

### PROCEDURE

- In a bowl, mix all the veggies.
- Add pizza sauce to the veggies and mix it very well.
- Take a pao and using a knife create a cavity in the centre of the pao. Take out the bread so that there is space to fill in the vegetable filling.
- Fill the hole with your veggie mixture and once it is filled, add grated cheese and orgeano on top.
- Bake the pao in the oven for eight minutes at 180 degrees.
- Using a squeezezy bottle, drizzle thousand island sauce on the pao pizza.
- Enjoy hot with your friends and family.

**Tip:** You could also drizzle some mayonnaise on your pao pizza to enjoy a burst of flavours.

## WORDS VERSE

### Purpose of life



And be filled with heartfelt care  
For children who feel their lives  
Are busy in this world of stakes

My purpose of life  
Would make everybody share  
Their times of sorrows and cheers  
And find me a way to erase fears  
People will praise me as their knight  
To my utter happiness and delight

I wish to tell you my strife  
I want to become just like Christ  
Living in hearts like a shining light  
Don’t idolise me as one made of clay  
Or hang me on ceilings like a shade  
Think of me as the saviour of the day!

**Agrim Gupta, AIS Noida, XII G**

Ever since I was a little child  
When, I guess, I was merely five

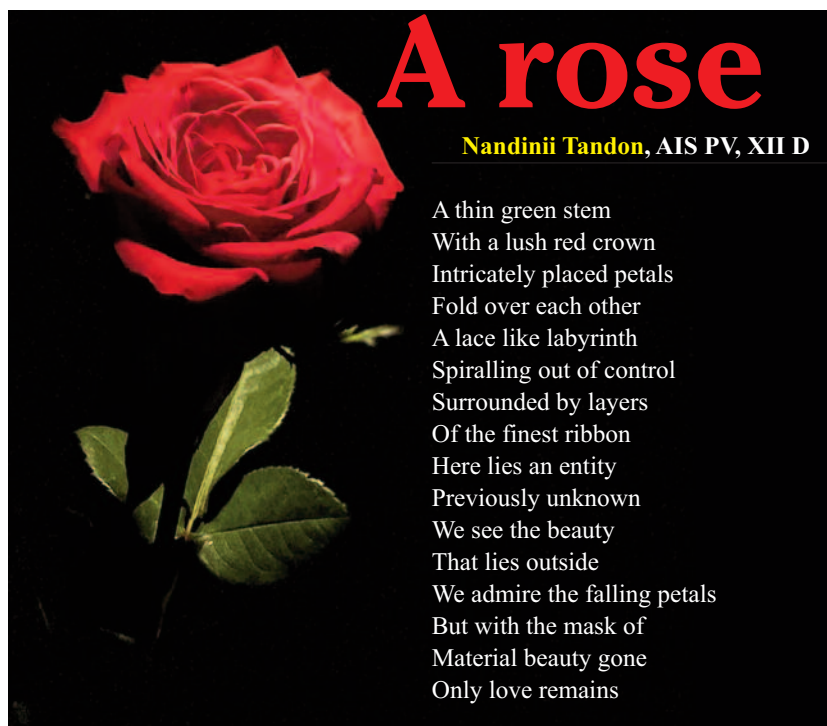
My purpose of life  
Will take time and courage  
For the universal peace to glare

My purpose of life  
Has made a pretty huge place  
Inside my heart and my soul  
For I worked on my inner state

### A rose

**Nandinii Tandon, AIS PV, XII D**

A thin green stem  
With a lush red crown  
Intricately placed petals  
Fold over each other  
A lace like labyrinth  
Spiralling out of control  
Surrounded by layers  
Of the finest ribbon  
Here lies an entity  
Previously unknown  
We see the beauty  
That lies outside  
We admire the falling petals  
But with the mask of  
Material beauty gone  
Only love remains



## CAMERA CAPERS

**Dhruv Singh, AIS VKC Lko, Alumni**

Send in your entries to  
[cameracapers@theglobaltimes.in](mailto:cameracapers@theglobaltimes.in)



Catching up after a long day



Looking through the lens



The golden ray amidst the green





There are over 300 different species of bacteria that can be found in plaque.

# The taste of failure

## Wisdom tale



Aditi Agarwal  
AIS Gur 43, VIII D

“You can do it! Stay strong, Diana!” These words of encouragement echoed in Diana’s mind as she took the stage and sang her heart out. It was her first time in a talent show hunt. She had practiced for days for she really wanted to be selected. But little did she know that it wasn’t meant to be. The sorrow of being rejected thus, weighed heavy on her even as days went by. Her parents had supported her throughout the journey, but she had let them down or at least that’s what she

believed. They did try to teach her the importance of failure in one’s journey to success, but she remained inconsolable for a considerable amount of time. However, somewhere along the way, Diana realised that she couldn’t afford to lose heart. For she had a dream to conquer and her rejection was a mere setback. “So what if I didn’t get selected? The rivers still flowed and the night would still turn into day,” she thought to herself. And with that thought, she went back to her room and turned on the AC to cool herself. But while she was at it, she saw her guitar lying on the chair from the corner of her eye. It was cherry red

in colour. Without putting in a lot of thought thus, she picked it up and started to play it while singing her favourite song, completely forgetting the world around her. She had made up her mind to practice the entire night in order to calm herself down and it was working to a great extent. She loved to sing after all; perhaps she just needed to find joy in it again. But as time thus passed, an idea struck her out of nowhere. Implementing the same, she recorded herself sing as she wanted to ascertain her flaws. To her amazement, the video of her singing and playing the guitar turned out really well. She

They loved it too, to the point that they insisted she uploaded the video on her social media accounts.

sounded beautiful in it and her tone was rich and warm. Excited, she showed it to her parents the very next day. They loved it too, to the point that they insisted she uploaded the video on her social media accounts. Under their guidance therefore, Diana uploaded the video on YouTube and to her surprise, people were actually liking it. As days passed, she gained a small fan base of her own. People loved her singing and praised her in the comments section, while asking for more. Encouraged, Diana continued to upload her recordings on her YouTube channel and after a few months or so, she became somewhat of a celebrity. Her fame was so wide reaching that she was invited to be the guest of honour in a talent hunt, the same talent hunt that had rejected her previously. Diana couldn’t believe it but she went there with a certain elegance and grace in her step, and the nervousness of her past left behind in her stride. For she had finally achieved her dream, her dream to sing and pursue her passion!

So, what did you learn today?  
One can overcome failure through perseverance



## Cycle pencil holder

Sayed Armaan Alam, AIS VKC Lko, VI A

### Material required

- Cardboard
- Colourful paper
- Scissor
- Ice cream sticks
- Plastic cup
- Matchsticks
- Markers
- Water colours
- Hot glue



Sayed Armaan

### Methodology

- Take a cardboard and cut two circles of same size keeping the diameter somewhere around 10 cm. From the same cardboard, cut out another circle of the diameter 15 cm.
- Once your circles are cut, paste colourful sheet on it covering it from all sides. You can paste sheets in a single colour, multi-coloured, or anything as per your convenience.
- Paste a matchstick on the circle such that the tip is towards the edge and the end towards the center of the circle.
- Paste more matchsticks at regular spacing. The end result will make your circle look like a wheel as shown in the picture. If your matchsticks are too long, you can cut them to an equal size using scissors or cutter.
- Now take one ice cream stick and paste one end of the stick on the circle at a 45-degree angle such that one fourth portion of it is on the circle and the remaining free and upwards. See the photo for reference for better understanding of the position.
- On top of this ice cream stick, paste another one horizontally and seal it with hot glue. Take help of an adult whilst working with hot glue. Once you are done, the front of your bicycle will be ready.
- Take a plastic cup and paste it in front of your handle and vertically on the circle wheel to make the front basket as you can see in the photo.
- Once this is done, take up the other two smaller circles you cut out in the starting and place an ice cream stick in the middle so that both the wheels are at the opposite end of the ice cream stick.
- Making sure your ice cream stick is in the center of both the circles, seal it with the help of hot glue.
- You can add one- two more ice cream sticks on top of the original one in order to make it more sturdier.
- Once this is done, both your smaller wheels are to be combined and the ice cream stick will become the axle for your behind basket.
- On this ice cream stick axle, now place a plastic cup and paste it there with hot glue.
- You can paint your plastic cup or cover it with colourful sheets or even doodle on it if you want.
- Once that is done, both the front and the back end of your bicycle are complete.
- Now take one ice cream stick and place it diagonally between the front and back of your bicycle parts as you can see it in the photo.
- Seal it there with hot glue, place your pencils in the plastic cup, and your DIY bicycle holder is ready!

## POEM

### Mother

Avnija Maurya, VI E & Aviral Maurya,  
VIII A, AIS Vasundhara 6

Loving and so caring forever  
All your dreams are part of me  
O mother, I love you so much  
Your blessings always with me

When I fell, you picked me up  
When I cried, you held me tight  
Tear in eyes I could always see  
Every time you bid me goodbye

My world is you, I know it so  
And your whole world is me  
O mother, I love you so much  
Your blessings always with me

You answer all my questions  
For tantrums, you’ve patience  
My heart truly knows no fear  
Whenever you are close to me



At time you’re harsh and unfair  
But deep down I know you care  
Endless nights taking care of me

Your blessings always with me

Your smile makes my day  
So so busy, you’ve no holiday  
But you still laugh and play with me  
You sing and you dance with me

You are my very first teacher  
You taught me how to write  
You told me all about colours  
You told me wrong and right

One heart one soul we both are  
You are inseparable part of me  
O mother, I love you so much  
Your blessings always with me

I am in all your prayers, I know  
And in all of your thoughts  
Even with my closed eyes  
I can always feel your warmth

You are ready to see me smile  
And forever ready to fight for me  
O mother, I love you so much,  
Your blessings always with me.

## Jokey Pokey

Aarna Saini,  
AIS VYC Lko, III

Teacher: Why did you get such a low score in this exam?  
Riya: Ma’am, the boy who sits next to me was absent.

Teacher: I asked you to draw a cow and grass, but I only see a

cow. Where is the grass?  
Student: The cow ate the grass.

Q. Why are you standing in the scorching sun?  
A: I am drying my sweat.

Q. What do you give a extremely sick Lemon?  
A. Lemon aid

## It's Me



### KNOW ME

My name: Shivya Sharma  
My Class: KG D  
My school: AIS Vasundhara 1  
Born on: September 11

### MY FAVOURITES

Teacher: Richa ma’am  
Subject: English  
Friend: Amaira Masih  
Game: Football  
Cartoons: Tom and Jerry & Masha and

the Bear  
Food: Mix-veg parantha and corn pasta  
Mall: I like all the malls equally  
Book: All storybooks

### MY DREAMS AND GOALS

My hobbies: Painting and singing  
I like: Drawing and craft making  
I dislike: People who shout at me  
My role model: My father  
I want to become: A singer  
I want to feature in GT because: It’s perfect for expressing myself





*Writing is an art and there's no better platform to exercise it than your own beloved GT! 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...*

"Tattoos are applied for various purposes ranging from personal interests to religious practices. If research has proven the ingredients to be a safety hazard with escalating symptoms, then this decision seems like a fair call. However, this ban may affect the livelihood of tattoo artists adversely. Thus, for this decision to turn out in everyone's favour, we must work towards procuring alternative methods of colouring tattoos. This should not be extremely difficult as there are a plethora of natural inks to choose from. Tribes residing in forests have been utilising natural dyes to make tattoos for a long time now. Perhaps, making this tribal populace a part of the process could serve the dual purpose of obtaining safe colours and eliminating unemployment amongst tribals."

**Viwaswan Jha, AGS Gurugram, XI**

"On one hand, the European Union's ban on the use of coloured inks in making tattoos come as a much needed step amidst rising skin concerns. But at the same time, it will jeopardise the entire existence of the profession, because tattoos with only black ink can be monotonous and non-expressive. Tattoos naturally require colours to symbolise the perfect personal expression. If the existing chemicals tend to cause skin cancer or genetic mutations, one can easily shift to 'vegan' tattoo colours. The government should work towards providing easy access as currently the demand and supply of vegan tattoos have a huge gap. Having said that, the decision serves the larger good, and can further minimise its pitfalls."

**Sudiksha Sarcar, AIS Gurugram 46, XII H**

"On January 4, 2022, a pan-EU ban on the use of coloured inks in tattoos stating that they can cause "serious health impacts such as cancer" was enforced, which has created havoc in the tattoo industry. Tattoo artists argue that there is no firm evidence on the matter, and I somewhat agree with it. There isn't any significant data to prove that tattoos, in any way, can cause cancer. I think this ban on tattoo ink will increase tattoos being distributed in the black market! Also, because of the ease of travel throughout Europe, tattoo parlours of various countries like Ireland will lose their customers to the UK. The EU is rightly worried about the people, but being over concerned isn't ideal. Controlling the distribution of ink in black market won't be easy. And even if they control it, they definitely can't stop people from getting "better" tattoos elsewhere."

**Parth Tyagi, AIS Vas 1, XI A**

"Tattoos have been an integral form of expression. The recent news of banning coloured inks by the EU, would at a glance, seem like a sensible decision. But for people passionate about tattoos, this news may seem like a restriction on their beloved art form. Although I believe this news surely comes from a place of concern, instead of an outright ban on all coloured inks, the government should incentivise artists to look into more environmentally friendly alternatives for coloured inks and only restrict the usage of those inks that have been scientifically proven to be carcinogenic."

**Arnav Sharma, AIS Gwalior, VIII A**

"This seems like an inferential step much needed for today's world where genetic mutations have an expeditious growth. Arts like tattoos on the body are quite famous in the European world; this industry is a rake in for artists. From a scientific perspective, the protein growth in genetic mutations can be significantly limited, and this will lead to significant depletion in sources for the growth of genetic mutations. From a literal fashion point of view, it is seen in mega European countries like Germany that there are mostly black coloured tattoos. Hence, no major industrial change is expected and in fact, this will establish a monopolistic equilibrium in this art in the long run. Thus, we should support this step taken in the interest of the public."

**Hridyanshu, AIS Saket, XI D**

"The recent ban on coloured tattoo ink by the EU is a severe restriction for tattoo artists across Europe. I believe this decision will severely impact the work of artists across the union, and further worsen the effects the pandemic had on their business as the implementation of the process doesn't consider the fact that most businesses haven't had time to adjust after a rocky two years. I believe that the union should first do more detailed research on the connection of coloured ink to health risks and work on offering a suitable replacement for it, and then start the mass production of alternatives instead of harmful ink."

**Priyamvada Rao, AIS MV, VIII C**

**The European Union has recently banned the use of coloured inks in tattoos as the ingredients could expose people to greater risk of cancer or genetic mutations. In your opinion, is the decision fair or would it jeopardise the very existence of this profession?**

The prompt

**BOX**

"Coloured tattoo inks have now been banned in the European Union with the outlawing of 4,000 chemical substances used in the production of permanent make-up and coloured inks. It is no surprise that this move regards the interests and welfare of the citizens by protecting them from exposure to harmful chemicals. However, ban on coloured inks is a terrible setback on an industry that heavily relies on such materials. With no actual efforts on the provision of alternative substances and the attraction of the reckless public towards 'backyard artists' that may continue to use these lethal substances illegally, this does not seem like a wise move. In my opinion, the EU should have encouraged production of coloured inks made from eco-friendly material and made it locally available before banning products that may have put various livelihoods at stake."

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

"A ban on chemicals used for colouring tattoos by the European Union has put thousands of tattoo artists across the bloc in limbo. This threat to the freedom of artistic expression has thus triggered a torrent of accusations and complaints. Although I am not a tattoo enthusiast myself, scarring an entire profession due to "unlikely cancer effects" is an attack on subculture and choice. The clients must be made aware of the associated probable risks rather than prohibiting them from coloured tattoos. In my opinion, health always comes first, but bans must be proportionate and must not bring down an industry without any alternative."

**Riya Jain, AIS Noida, XI K**

"It is fair by the European Union to impose a ban on coloured tattoo inks that are made of chemicals and are known to cause cancer or genetic mutations. For it has been reported several times that these professional inks are often made of a combination of iron oxide, metal salts, or plastics. Along with these, heavy metals like mercury, lead, zinc, etc., are also used, making skin diseases, infections, and other allergic reactions common. So, even though this decision would affect the tattoo industry for the time being, it would not jeopardise its existence altogether. For the EU has clearly stated that the aim is not to ban tattoos but to make colours used in tattoos safer. The artists, thus, can find substitutes for these inks to make them more user friendly and carry on with their business. Prioritising public health over everything is necessary."

**Arpita Singh, AIS Jagdishpur, XII**

"The ban on coloured inks used in tattoos is unarguably justifiable. EU has effectively outlawed the use of these inks from January 4, citing health concerns, as the ingredients used in them potentially expose people to hazardous risks of skin cancer and skin allergies. As expected, the tattoo artists and their customers are opposing this legislation as replacement inks are neither available nor as per the vibrancy demanded by the customers. However, in a survey conducted with some 3400 people in Germany, two-third of them reported immediate reactions due to the inks used, which clearly has proven to be a good reason for the ban. In the meantime, the industry can devise healthy alternatives so as to shield the tattoo enthusiasts from dangerous chemicals and protect the industry from meeting its impending doom."

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

"Since the chemicals found in tattoo inks have been thoroughly scrutinised for decades, this ban comes as no surprise. Several of these have been banned already. Currently, the ban will probably not impact tattooists too much, because many of the harmful chemicals have already been banned, and many ink manufacturers have already found compliant alternative ingredients. More concern lies for the people who already have coloured ink on their bodies. Experts point out that "if you have already had a tattoo or permanent makeup, and you are not experiencing any health concerns, then you should be fine." However, people opting for tattoos should now closely check the tattooist's qualifications and hygiene parameters before committing. Better safe than sorry!"

**Shyla Basu, AIS PV, XII C**

"The EU has banned the use of coloured inks in tattoos as the ingredients could increase the risks of cancer or genetic mutations. The EU banned the ingredients under Registration, Evaluation, Authorization, and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH)—an EU regulation dating back to December 2006. The downside is that the ban prohibits the usage of most of the colours tattoo artists use. Thousands of individuals are opposing the ban under a campaign called "Save the pigment", which has reportedly gathered over 170,000 signatures. In my opinion, the decision has been taken based on the fact that one's health cannot be compromised for anything, be it even a tattoo. Tattoo inks are neither approved nor regulated by major agencies like the FDA which makes the risk of the situation a bit hazy. Nonetheless, I believe that individuals should have the right to decide whether they want to take the risk, just like people do with tobacco and alcohol consumption."

**Chitralekha A Borah, AIS Vas 6, IX D**

"EU has recently put a ban on coloured tattoo ink, citing its lethal chemical composition as one of the central reasons. Although the dearth of scientific consensus on how dangerous the ink really is has caused angry reactions from the tattooists and has made it difficult to gauge the pertinence of this decision, I strongly support the regulatory board's aim. Tattooists and tattoo enthusiasts, thus, need to understand that the move is one to make the whole experience of getting inked safe. Keeping the same in mind, the board has given the several ink suppliers a deadline of Jan 2023 to come up with new REACH-approved chemicals for the ink colours, for it is hidden from none that the chemicals currently used have carcinogenic properties and carry a threat of genetic mutations as well. Protecting the consumers by establishing concrete links between tattoo ink chemicals and health concerns was the only way ahead!"

**Shreya Dwivedi, AIS VKC Lko, XII E**

**Question:** According to you, which sector in the new Union Budget 2022-23 should be given priority in terms of allocation of resources and tax incentives?

Send in your entries in 100-150 words to the Editor in Chief /GT Teacher Coordinator of your school latest by February 5, 2022.





Only one-third of the tooth is visible to the eye as the other two-thirds is hidden under the gums.

# The water saviours

## Laurels Flow For Amity Noida At National Water Awards



Renu Singh, director principal, AIS Noida, receives the prestigious award

### AIS Noida

On January 7, 2022, AIS Noida won third position all over India (amongst top eight finalists from all zones) and first position in the entire state of UP at the 3<sup>rd</sup> National Water Awards 2020, an event organised by Department of Water Resources, Government of India. The results were announced by Department of Water Affairs, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation in the presence of Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Union Cabinet Minister of Jal Shakti. The awards were first launched in 2018 by Jal Shakti Ministry, to recognise and motivate individuals and organisations doing extraordinary work in the field of water resources management. AIS Noida achieved the remarkable feat under the visionary leadership and constant support of Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan,

Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and RBEF and the able guidance of Renu Singh, director principal, AIS Noida. The school won the award for its projects, assemblies, awareness programmes and infrastructure support created for good water management.

Key endeavours which helped AIS Noida win the award were: 800 trees inside and outside the school premises, 109 toilets, 10 toilets with sensors, 10 sprinklers, 24 rain water harvesting pits, 70 borewells and 5000 litre underground water supply tank. National Water Awards 2020 received a total of 100 applications and a distinguished team of officials from the state Jal Shakti Ministry, inspected AIS Noida campus to check its water resources management endeavours. They checked the details like, the number of plantations done, number of water sprinklers installed, rain water harvesting

pits, hydraulic pumps, etc. A presentation on water conservation at the school was given to the officials. A special presentation was also showcased by Avishi Sahoo, a student of Class XII, who had won bronze medal at 11<sup>th</sup> Pramerica Spirit of Community Awards, for her project 'Preservoir' designed to control the wastage of RO water. Activities and programmes like virtual assemblies and awareness drives conducted by school for strengthening the concepts of water conservation among the students were also explained to the officials in detail. They were also apprised on the academic curriculum followed at the school which seamlessly weaves in the awareness and sensitivity towards environment in young minds. It was highlighted to the esteemed officials that Amity nurtures traditional values and focuses on the holistic development of its students while giving



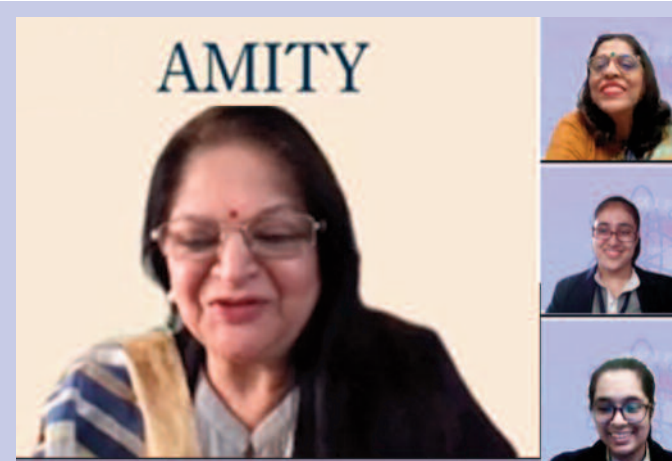
Water conservation assembly



Sprinkler system at AIS Noida

ing them the best of the world class education. They were also presented with a copy of The Global Times newspaper, the only registered school newspaper of the students, by the students and for the students. They were apprised on the enormous circulation of the newspaper among 40,000 students of Amity Universe and their families. The instrumental role of The Global Times in creating awareness about social causes like environment protection, water conservation, and sustainable development was also highlighted during the interaction.

**About National Water Award**  
Launched in 2018 by Jal Shakti Ministry, National Water Award aims to encourage the citizens, to adopt holistic approach towards water resources management in the country and create awareness among people on the importance of saving water.



Chairperson addresses young innovators at the fest

## Dhananjay Mohan ATL innovation fest Renaissance In Science

### AIS Noida

The school organised 17<sup>th</sup> Dhananjay Mohan ATL Innovation Fest 2021, virtually from December 22-23, 2021. The valedictory function of the annual interschool science symposium was graced by Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and RBEF. Over the years, the event has transformed into a boulevard to nurture scientific spirit of the young minds, who can think globally and act locally to make India a knowledge superpower by 2030, as envisioned by Dr Ashok K. Chauhan, Founder President, Amity Universe.

Prof (Dr) Neharika Vohra, vice chancellor of Delhi Skill and Entrepreneurship University, presided over as the chief guest at the event, where 28 schools with over 430 students had applied for the innovation fest. After a vigorous selection, 15 schools were shortlisted to compete in eight events namely: Pitch, Duel of thoughts, Musixmatch, Teen Business Tycoon, Designtier, Gamer's Groove, The Reels and Appcraft. AIS Pushp Vihar lifted the overall rolling trophy at the competition.

In Pitch Innovate, first position was shared by AIS Mayur Vihar and AIS Gurugram 46, second position went to AIS Saket and third position was shared by AIS Noida and AIS Vasundhara. The Duel of thoughts event saw AIS Mayur Vihar bag both first and third position, with AIS Gurugram 43 secure the second position.

In Musixmatch, first position was won by AIS Pushp Vihar with AIS Gurugram 43 and AIS Noida, at second and third position respectively. In Teen Business Tycoon event, AIS Noida won the first position and AIS Pushp Vihar bagged second position, while AIS Vasundhara 6 secured third position.

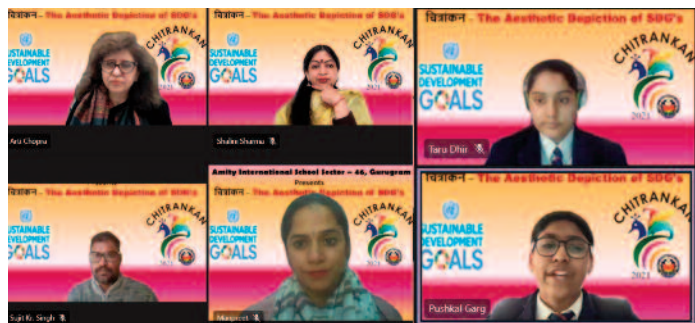
In Designtier, second position was bagged by AIS Vasundhara 6 and AIS Saket shared third position with AIS Mayur Vihar. AIS Gurugram 43 won first position in Gamer's Groove, while AIS Gurugram 46 and Noida secured second and third position respectively. In The Reels, AIS Saket won first position, and third position was shared by AIS Mayur Vihar and AIS Pushp Vihar. First position in Appcraft was won by AIS Pushp Vihar, and second and third position in the competition went to AIS Gurugram 46 and Noida respectively.

Prof (Dr) Neharika, in her address emphasised on the importance of innovation and the need to take it further in the positive direction. She also extolled the work of Chairperson, for providing world class facilities for research and innovation. Congratulating the winners, Chairperson appreciated the innovative spirits of the young minds. She also lauded the efforts of director principal and her team of educators for making the fest a grand success.

The fest proved to be a stimulating platform for the young minds to interact and exchange ideas about the latest developments, thereby bringing a Renaissance in the field of science.

# Chitrankan 2021

## Depicting SDGs Using Colours And Clay



School principal Arti Chopra with young artists

### AIS Gurugram 46

The school organised 6<sup>th</sup> Chitrankan, an annual interschool art fest from December 16-18, 2021, both online and offline. Envisioned by Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and RBEF, the fest aims to let students innovate, create, explore and express themselves through a plethora of zestful art competitions for Class II-IX. The theme of the art fest this year were seven SDGs which required the students to depict sustainable goals artistically through

various visual art forms. It was a step forward in integrating Art with SDGs to help students connect with real life, make learning authentic and creative.

Around 70 schools pan-India, participated zealously in various events like Dot Painting, Clay Relief, Madhubani Art, Typographic Portrait, Story Board Cartooning, Digital Art and Round Sculpture. Out of the seven events, five were conducted offline and two online. The winners were announced during the closing ceremony held on the last day. AIS Vasundhara 1 lifted the overall winners

trophy. AIS Noida and AIS Gurugram 46 bagged second prize in Dot Painting and Clay Relief, respectively. In Typographic Portrait, AIS Gurugram 46 won first prize and AIS Vasundhara 1 bagged third prize.

On the other hand, AIS Vasundhara 1 won second prize and AIS Gurugram 46 bagged third prize in Story Board Cartooning. AIS Gurugram 43 won first prize in Digital Art event with AIS Pushp Vihar winning third prize in the same. The Round Sculpture event saw AIS Gwalior bag second prize and AIS Vasundhara 6 secure third prize. While, AIS Gurugram 46 won third prize in Madhubani Art. All the events were judged by eminent senior ceramic sculptor, artist Rekha Bajpe and artist Urvashi Singh. The participants were given e-certificates. School principal Arti Chopra, admired the intricately woven competitions designed to harness the creativity of young minds and redefine realities through art and sculpture.



A little storyteller at the fest

## Storyfest

### AIS Vasundhara 1

In an endeavour to foster verbal and linguistic skills of little ones while instilling human values in them, a virtual story fest for the students of Class Nursery was held on December 10, 2021. Children enthusiastically participated in the fest which started with lamp lighting. Amidst beautiful digital backgrounds and eye-catching props, they narrated stories from Panchatantra with good voice modulation; and laid emphasis on the moral values.

## Welcome winters

### AIS Vasundhara 6

The tiny tots of Nursery-B welcomed winters with a virtual assembly on January 20, 2022, celebrating the season as the celebration of life and living. They spoke about the beauty of the winter season, the clothes worn, the foods eaten, and the festivals celebrated, through English and Hindi rhymes, songs and dances. With these cultural presentations they conveyed the thought that seasons are nature's way of



Little ones share winter joy

showing how changes lead to a new beginning, because when winter comes, spring follows. They were also informed about the benefits of traditional, 'Dadima ke Nuskhe' like turmeric milk, honey and ginger mix, warm water gargles etc.





# Author in the making

## Kanishk Bansal Showcases The Power Of A Young Mind And Its Mighty Pen

### GT Author's Desk



Kanishk Bansal with his book

Aditi Tiwari, AIS VKC Lucknow, X A

The realm of creativity and imagination doesn't discriminate on any grounds, be it gender or age. Thereby, the tender aged, though lacking in experience and adequate knowledge about the ways of the world, have the power of an inquisitive mind in their arsenal. Bearing the same in our mind, we introduce you to a budding writer - **Kanishk Bansal, a fifth-grader from AIS VKC Lucknow**, who took the pandemic as an opportunity to discover his love for writing, and, as a result, write his own book titled 'The super sea'. Read on as we give you a glimpse of the journey of this aspiring fictioneer!

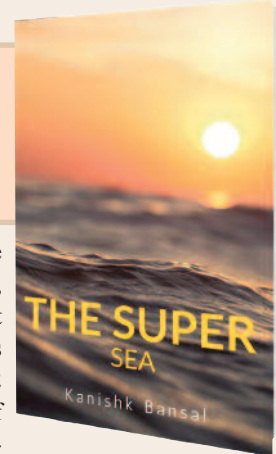
**When did you realise your passion for words?**

My love for the fictional world started when I read 'The Dragon of Fortune' by Geronimo Stilton. Stilton's books always take me to a different realm, and it never fails to fascinate me how he uses his imagination to guide the readers into a new world altogether. Through his writings, he makes the impossible seem possible. As an ardent fan, thus, I wanted to channel a small part of that power.

**What is 'The super sea' about?**

'The super sea' is about two pizza restaurant owners namely Mact Macnolious and Kitankton. They live under the sea in a city called Sokini Soken. Mact Macnolious serves good quality food and is famous all over the city, but Kitankton's food, on the other hand, does not please the taste buds of his

**Title:** The super sea  
**Author:** Kanishk Bansal  
**Price:** 131 INR  
**Available on:** Amazon and Notion Press



**How did your parents react to your keenness to write?**

My parents have always been supportive of every task that I do. They have taught me to always follow my heart and not surround myself with a boundary that limits my potential. And so, they took my urge to write a book very seriously and helped me whenever I got writer's block. In fact, it was their support and love that kept me going and helped me finish the book. To compound that,

though I could not physically attend the school owing to the pandemic, my teachers and friends were really supportive, too, and encouraged me through and through.

**What is your next plan of action?**

I plan on writing another fictional book, and to be honest, I am halfway through the story, too. I will be publishing the same soon so stay tuned! And as a long-term goal, I wish to keep writing books and be recognised as a successful author one day in order to make my parents proud.

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

I advise all young and aspiring authors to never give up and write whatever springs forth from their hearts and minds. Writing is an organic process and one cannot force it, so, take it as a repose from your studies and enjoy it.

# A zero waste life

## The Tale Of An Amitian Trying To Make Mother Earth A Clean And Green Planet

The world generates 2.1 billion tonnes of solid waste annually, and the number is only increasingly making waste management one of the biggest threats to mankind today. While the issue perplexes all, there are a few actually working towards resolving the problem. Case in point – **Anusha Baranwal, a student of Class V C of Amity International School, Vasundhara 6**. With the help of her mother, she is doing her bit to solve the problem. Let's hear the story of this green warrior straight from the source!

"From day to night in our daily life, knowing or unknowingly, we generate waste. Be it toothbrushes, shampoo bottles, juice containers, or anything we buy from the market or use at home, most of them are packed in plastic or are given in plastic bags, which goes to the rising landfills. According to reports, one person generates more than one kg of waste per day, which translates to 365 kgs of waste per year by just one individual. Now, if we multiply this by the world population, the digits will be so much more difficult to count. Looking at all these shocking numbers, I put on my thinking cap to find ways in which I could reduce my share of waste. When I looked at my own house's trash bin, I realised that there were mainly two kinds of waste: one being the vegetable and fruit peels from the kitchen which are biodegradable, and other were the plastic packets/wrappers of groceries, biscuits, plastic bot-



tles, which are non-biodegradable in nature. I wondered what I could do to help this waste problem and even asked my mom to help. I asked her if there was a way to use our kitchen waste to turn it into compost as I had read on the internet, and she loved the idea!

From that day onwards, we started to save all the biodegradable waste our house produced. We took a pot, put some soil in it, and then we would pour our biodegradable kitchen waste on top of it, making a layer of it. We would then again cover it with soil and whenever we had enough waste next, we'd again cover it with it. We let the whole pot rest for around a month, and we noticed how our pot had turned into compost, which we could use for our balcony garden. Since that day, we have never thrown the kitchen waste in the bin because we can always convert it into compost and use it for our garden.

Once this was tackled, another big issue to resolve was the plastic waste or the non-biodegradable waste every house produces. My mom and I discussed the issue with our friends and family

and soon got in touch with an initiative called "10 kg plastic – an initiative by Dabur". I found out that they visit my area every Sunday to collect plastic and cardboard boxes, so we started collecting all our plastic waste and gave it to them for proper disposal and usage. So, this time I collected all the plastic and gave it to the NGO. Now every week we collect all the plastic we can find – juice packets, plastic bottles, delivery bags etc., and give them away.

I feel proud to say that my house has now become a zero-waste producer, because all the waste we produce ends up being reduced or recycled. Though it takes planning and effort, I think it is worth it, and I urge everyone to follow me and bring a little change in their lifestyle to bring out a greater change in our society. 'We do not need hundreds of people doing zero waste perfectly; we need thousands doing it imperfectly' is indeed true."

*Anusha's initiative may be a small step towards a gigantic problem, but as they say small steps can create a big difference.* 🌱



Anusha Baranwal, the green warrior