

**INSIDE**



**Bizarre careers, P3**



**Gifts of lockdown, P5**

**AMITe poll**

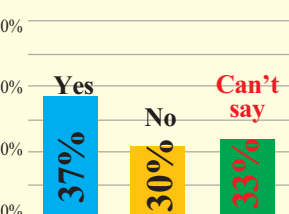
**Do you think the soaring fuel price variations can be controlled if state-level taxes are regulated?**

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

To vote, log on to  
 www.theglobaltimes.in

**POLL RESULT**  
 for GT issue November 22, 2021

**Do you think a global taxation regime would help combat the growing cases of tax evasion and rising inequality world over?**



Results as on November 27, 2021

**Coming Next**  
 History This Week

# Back to the ~~future~~ past

## Yet Another Case Depicting Humanity's Negligence Towards Nature

Aditi Banerji & Kreetik Thakur  
 Alumni, AIS Noida

23rd August, 2050, Futureapolis.

Dear world citizens,  
 On the 30th anniversary of The Great Realisation, we've all gathered here to reminisce the prestigious past. A past that could not be salvaged despite the strongest desires, deliberations and decisions put forth by their intelligent inhabitants. A past that rendered us with this future. Today, in retrospect, as we read yet another article from the 2020s, let's recollect and rejoice how far we have come from then.

Alarms inserted inside human brains. Pillows recording dreams. Hoverboards materializing on our feet. Robots as BFFs. Smart watering plants on Cloud I. Transformer cars zooming in and out in the air, packed in a tight uniformity. A better world, a better future, an answer to our deepest desires.

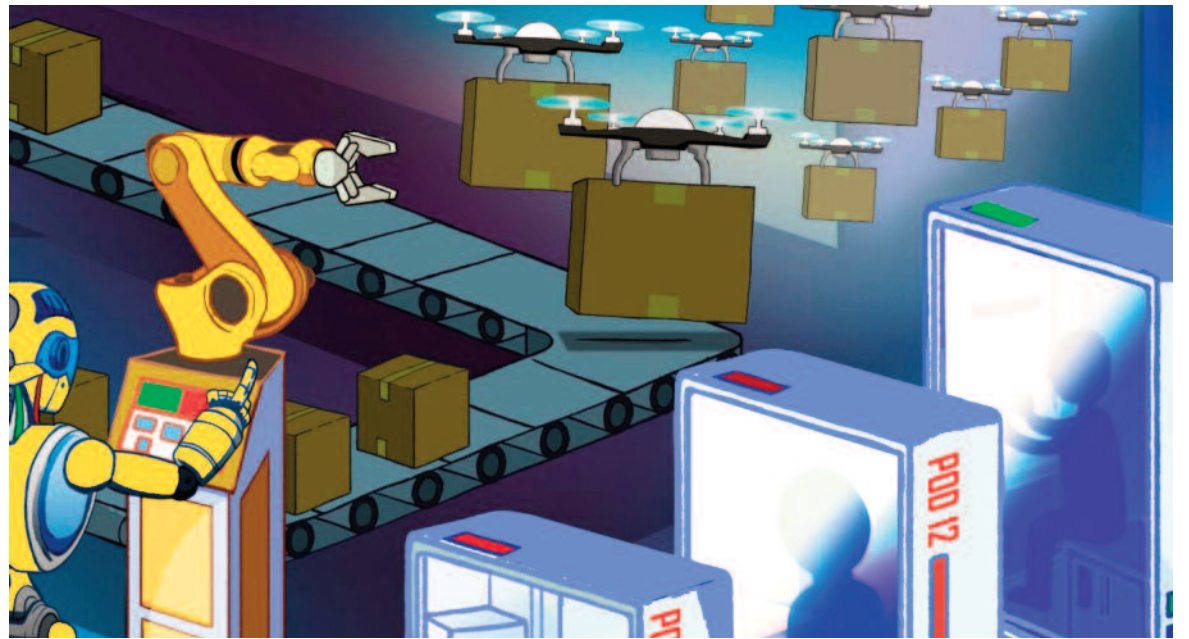
### The hindsight that is...

The coronavirus, apart from wreaking havoc on humanity, plunged us into a parallel reality, which we thought was in fact another 30 years into the future. We have life-like computer-generated imagery, and we have our home on voice control. This is the advanced year 2020-  
**Social:** Internet usage pushed up by 70%. Up to 145 million users on online communications apps. All milestones from weddings to graduations, from concerts to arcade nights have found their place in the virtual realms.

**Human:** With learning moving online, the education market is believed to grow by \$247 billion starting 2020 to 2025. Covid vaccines are being developed at a record-breaking pace, 413 million doses to be exact, in a race to defeat the coronavirus and save millions of lives.

**Economic:** The world economy, although punched down by corona, is back on its feet with a growth rate of 5.4%. After successful contactless deliveries globally, Amazon is all set to launch Prime Air to deliver packages to customers in 30 minutes or less using drones.

**Environmental:** While Dubai is faking rain by cloud seeding, China is possibly waging a weather war with India. Humanity has once again exhausted the yearly biological resources that the planet regenerates. The UN has issued Code Red as the planet's temperature is set to rise by 1.5°C



in the next 20 years. 29th July, 2021 was forever marked Earth Overshoot Day.

### The foresight that will be...

While focusing on the advancements in technological, and humanitarian, and economical aspects, we might have left our environmental needs behind. The future is yet to unfold and we have a promising prospect ahead. Indeed, the best way to predict the future is to create it. Well, a peek into the envisioned future of the 2050s-

**Social:** With the global space tourism market to blow up to US\$1.7 Billion by 2027, growing at a CAGR of 15.2%, space tourism will replace sky diving from bucket lists. Sociologists foretell social evils like casteism, racism, colourism are likely to vanish while giving rise to imminent classism.

**Human:** 80% of the world's government is going to be democratically elected. 90% of students will solely pursue online degrees. Digitized brains, genetic engineering, instant vaccines would be the norm. People will be able to "upload" their entire brains to computers and become "digitally immortal".

**Economic:** Asia's share in global GDP will grow to over 50%, driven largely by China and India. Beyond the top

ten, the largest economies will be located outside of Europe and North America. 'Green economy' will rule, with public-private partnerships supporting 'planet first' initiatives. AI will strengthen municipal systems.

**Environmental:** Garbage will be one of the most valuable resources, mined both on land and sea. Warming is expected to organically vanish. We will transform into a climate-neutral planet with zero percent greenhouse emissions and minimal footprint.

### The insight that should be...

Participating in what has come to be known as 'future proofing' is absolutely essential for survival. Analysing, strategising, and statistically predicting; in essence, going from hindsight to foresight is what will help us put a safety helmet on our future. While certain arenas like policy making, sustainable development, globalisation and world peace are opportune to directional progress, the climate crisis remains at the hem of issues with no major visible change. The biggest solution to our present problem lies in accepting our vulnerability and not taking this Earth as our own personal utopia.

Despite this insight, how did you still manage to mess up the future of mankind? 🇮🇳

# The healthy way

## Dr Pravin H Khobragade Shares Insight

Jaya Jha, AIS Gurugram 46, XII J



If there is one thing the pandemic has taught us, it is to see our health in a new light, one where we are grateful for still being alive after COVID-19 killed millions. It taught us to never take our health for granted, but it also made us aware of the complexities and difficulties the doctors and the healthcare workers of the world go through just to do their job well. To understand it all better, GT jumped at the chance of interacting with Dr Pravin H Khobragade, health specialist, Health Section, UNICEF, at AIMUN 2021 where he graced the stage as a guest speaker. Let's see what he has to say on...

### ...being a healthcare diplomat

The one thing that I learnt as a healthcare diplomat is that we need to invest more in human resources. As of health sector, we need to invest more in the technical aspect, which includes not just niche fields as cardiology or neurology, but the basic health system. There is immense poverty in India and women still die during childbirth. All these can only be solved once medicine is combined with social sciences by investing wisely in human resources.



Dr Pravin H Khobragade in conversation with GT reporter

### ...transformation of healthcare

If we look at global healthcare, it has really transformed in terms of technology, especially during the pandemic. The vaccine for COVID-19 was developed in record time, which has never been made possible before. India proudly shared its vaccines and doctors with the rest of the world to help the ones in need. There are still 54 countries who are facing shortage of vaccines. If data is to go by, only a meagre 20% of the population has been vaccinated in these countries. But with resolved cooperation, we should be able to overcome these hurdles.

### ...policy reforms

One of the most important steps forward now is for India to double its investment in the healthcare sector. Only 1.26% of the GDP is allotted for the health sector, which is a shame, and we all know how many big hospitals lacked basic oxygen facilities when they needed it the most. We all remember the dreadful situation we all faced a few months back, which proves that we need to focus more on human resource investments i.e., doctors and needed equipment. To achieve better and be better, what we need is HRTEAMS (Human Resources, Technology, Alliance, Money, Supply).

### ...dealing with the pandemic

40% of the youth in India dealt with some sort of psychological trauma during the pandemic, which is

a sad and terrifying figure. The solution, from my point of view, is that each adult should be vaccinated as soon as possible so that the proportion of vulnerable population reduces.

### ...UNICEF and its work

In public hospitals in India, SNCUs have been developed for newborns with UNICEF's help. It helps us to get real-time data regarding the sick newborns as 50% of the deaths in children occur 15-20 days within birth. We worked with the government to strengthen the health system by development and reinforcement of concepts like midwiferies and immunisation of children and pregnant women during the pandemic as well.

### ...alternative medicines

The Indian Medical Association doesn't want mixopathy. I believe that each medicine should go through a strict process of examination before being integrated into any mainstream health system. Only after a medicine, be it homeopathic or ayurvedic, is well researched, should it be allowed for use by the public, for their own safety.

### ...advice for Amitians

Be confident and take the path less tread on. It will ensure that you stand out and achieve what you've always wanted. Try for a career with UN because at UN, you will be heard. 🇮🇳





# India This Week

Arpita Chakraborty, GT Network

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



## No vaccine, no ration in Aligarh

**News:** The Aligarh administration has announced that in order to receive subsidised ration under the Public Distribution System scheme, citizens need to be vaccinated with at least one dose against COVID-19. It has been also announced that families with even one unvaccinated member will be disqualified from receiving the ration. The government has set up inoculation facilities at 196 shops across the area to speed up the vaccination process.

**Views:** In my opinion, the step taken by Aligarh administration to promote vaccination is a great idea. To ensure maximum safety, the govt. has made vaccination a requirement for subsidised ration. According to Dr MK Mathur, additional chief medical officer, the campaign response has been 'very good', which shows us the success of the campaign. I think the idea can be very well incorporated in other areas of our country and the administrations should come up with such techniques to fasten the process of vaccination.

Yash Wadhwa, AIS Pushp Vihar, IX B



## Worst flood in 140 years

**News:** Unprecedented rains in the catchment area of Penna River in Andhra Pradesh caused a 140-year-old record flow, and the situation has only been getting worse day by day. A record 5.49 lakh cusecs of water has flowed through the Nellore barrage. The flood broke the National Highway 16, and even led to more than 35,000 people being lodged into 90 relief camps.

**Views:** When faced with such a tragedy, the first and foremost step should always be to shift the affected people, who should also be provided with basic amenities they require to sustain. In my opinion, the government should start preparing a set of methods to prevent the detrimental effect of floods for the future. This issue of environmental degradation is occurring in the coastal cities as well as in the mountains. Hence, the local population should be trained accordingly.

Shambhavi Verma, AIS Vasundhara 6, X E

## Gender-neutral uniforms in school

**News:** In a step towards achieving gender neutrality, a govt. primary school in Kerala's Valayanchirangara, has adopted a new school uniform which remains the same for all students, irrespective of their gender. A 3/4th shorts and shirt, the uniform, was introduced to 200 pre-primary class students in 2018. After receiving a good response from parents and students, it has now been extended to all the 754 students studying in the school.

**Views:** Adopting gender-neutral uniforms will not only help in achieving equality and comfort, but it will also help in the cultivation of a bias-free attitude in children. This is a real-life example to promote the concept of 'gender equality, a term often found in textbooks only. If this initiative is adopted by all schools, it would increase representation and awareness of a community long oppressed.

Shivanshi Sharma, AIS Mayur Vihar, X B



## e-Shram for unorganised workers

**News:** Recently, the central government has taken an initiative to mobilise employment resources for 8.4 crore informal sector workers, who have registered on the national database platform, e-Shram portal. Through the portal, the workers from informal sector can update their details. The database will be linked with 'Unnati', a proposed labour matching platform for grey-collar and blue-collar jobs. The employers and workers both will have access to Unnati where nearly 400 occupational sectors have been added to hire workers specifically for certain sort of projects.

**Views:** Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, the working sector have suffered and lost the most in the pandemic. Thankfully, such a step comes as an excellent initiative for them, as they have been affected mostly because of the seasonality and lack of formal employee-employer relationship. The portal seems very simple to use; they can easily register after which they will get an accidental insurance cover of over 2 lakh INR, and even in future, all the social security benefits of unorganised workers will be delivered through this portal. I think e-Shram is a vital system to provide invisible workers the much-needed visibility and attention.

Pragya Singh, AIS VYC Lucknow, XII B

# Around The WORLD

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



## SOLOMON ISLANDS

### Protests led to lockdown

On Nov 24, 2021, protests broke out in Honiara, the capital of Solomon Islands. Dissatisfied by the country's PM due to a host of domestic issues, the people demanded his voluntary resignation from the post. As violent protestors looted stores and burned down buildings including the Parliament, Prime Minister, Manasseh Sogavare, imposed a 36-hour lockdown in the capital to pacify the situation.

## SRI LANKA

### Lifts farm chemical ban

The government ended the broad agrochemical ban on the import of herbicides and pesticides that would make Sri Lanka the world's first completely organic farming nation. The decision has been taken keeping in mind the needs of food security and the growing economic crisis. With the lift of the ban, it would now allow chemical inputs needed by farmers to protect their crops.



## FRANCE

### English channel tragedy

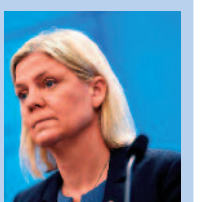
Over 31 refugee migrants headed for the UK via the English channel drowned and died as their boat capsized in what is deemed as one of the deadliest channel tragedies. As per the International Organisation for Migration, the incident is also one of the worst migrant disasters on record since 2014.



## SWEDEN

### Sweden's first woman PM steps down

The country's first female Prime Minister, Magdalena Andersson, stepped down in less than 12 hours after her appointment in the office. She was forced to quit after her coalition partner, the Green Party, pulled out its support, and the budget proposed by her failed to pass in the parliament session.



## SOUTH KOREA

### BTS makes history at the AMAs

Pop sensation, BTS won the Artist of the Year award at the prestigious American Music Awards, becoming the first Asian artists to ever attain this feat. To compound it, their commercially hit song 'Butter' won the Favourite Pop Song, and the group itself won the Favourite Pop Duo/Group. The septet also successfully earned its spot in the 2022 Grammy Award Nominations for Best Pop Duo/Group Performance for the second year in a row.

## PHILIPPINES

### World's oldest person dies

Deemed as the world's oldest person, Lola Francisca Susano passed away on Nov 22, 2021, at the age of 124. Born in 1897, she was reportedly the world's last woman alive to be born in the 19th century. Once her documents get verified for Guinness World Records, she will officially surpass France's Jeanne Calment who died at the age of 122 in 1997.







It has an estimated population of 2,148,271 residents as of 2020 and an area of 105 square kilometers.

# Bizarre careers

Your Folks Are Never Going To Believe That These Are Real Professions

**Anshika Gupta**  
AIS Gurugram 43, IX

**D**o you ever feel that the traditional concept of working 9 to 5 is not something you are cut out for? Do you desperately want to explore a road less travelled by, in fact, a road that's not known to many? Well, here's a list of some unusual jobs that might be just right for you. For these jobs are not only unique but offer great work-life balance, and no compromises on doing the things you love.

**Nail polish namer**

Gone are the days when women liked those basic shades of red and pink. Nowadays, there are more than 50 shade options between two primary colours. If that's the case, the shade, as well as its name, should be attractive and catchy to ensure ample sale. A nail polish namer does just that by assigning quirky names such as After Dark, Dusted Pearl, etc., to different shades of nail polishes. This job entails colour expertise, a love for nail polish, and strong creative skills. Do you think you have it in you? If yes, what are you waiting for?

**Taggers or binge-watchers**

Taggers are people hired whose job is to watch OTT content and 'tag' episodes and movies to relevant metadata. Presently, Netflix has a 30-person team, those who watch all Netflix content and then add relevant tags to stay up the algorithm. The only qualification needed is a high school diploma, passion for content viewing and

good communication skills. Taggers get around '500 USD to watch three Netflix shows' plus a stipend to order pizza. Now that definitely sounds like something you would want to do? Are we right or are we right?

**Tea taster**

Surely, one has heard about wine tasters, but do you know that tea sommelier is also a profession? A tea taster's job is to quickly assess and identify the difference between two intricate tea flavours, brands, variety, and their quality. A specialised tea taster should be able to grade and give expert advice on tea brewing. In

India, the prerequisites for joining as a professional tea taster is B. Sc in Botany, Horticulture or food sciences and are hired by established tea companies to ensure quality standards.

Currently, Wake Fit is giving their interns a total of 10 lakhs for nine hours of sleep for 100 days.

**Whistler or siffleurs**

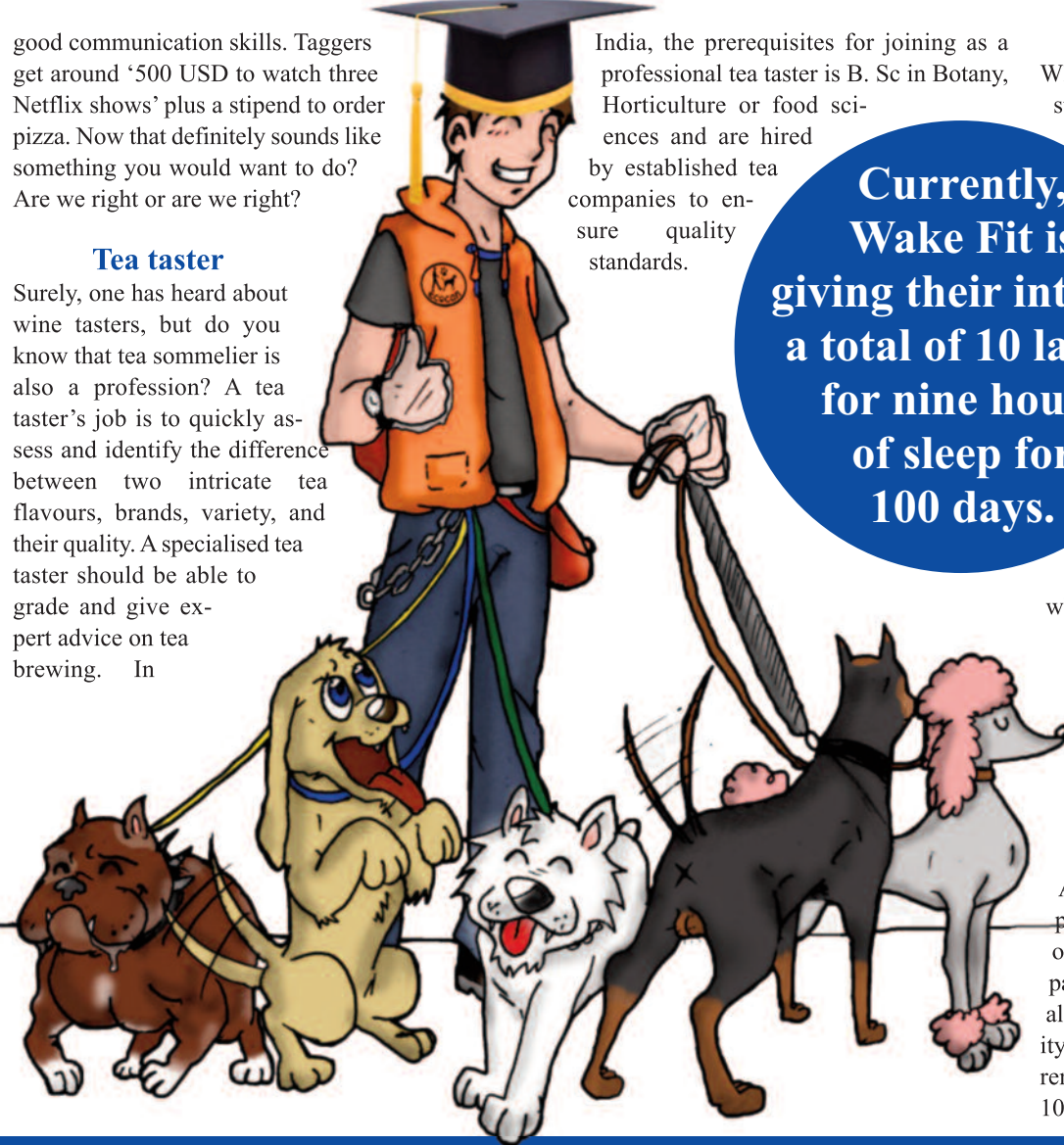
Whistling is a compulsory subject for primary students on an island named La Gomera, Spain Canary. India too has elevated the status of whistling to an art form worthy of being called a profession. So, if you have an incredible whistling ability then this can become a career path for you. One could also be a part of the music industry, as a whistler or enter into competitions by joining the Indian Whistler's Association.

**Dog walker**

If you love animals then this is definitely the dream job for you. Professional dog walkers are hired by dog owners who have long work hours or cannot spare time due to any other reasons and take their dogs out for walking. They are paid monthly or by the number of hours in a day. Besides, one of the prerequisites required is a good understanding of the dog's temperament and tactics needed for an amicable relationship.

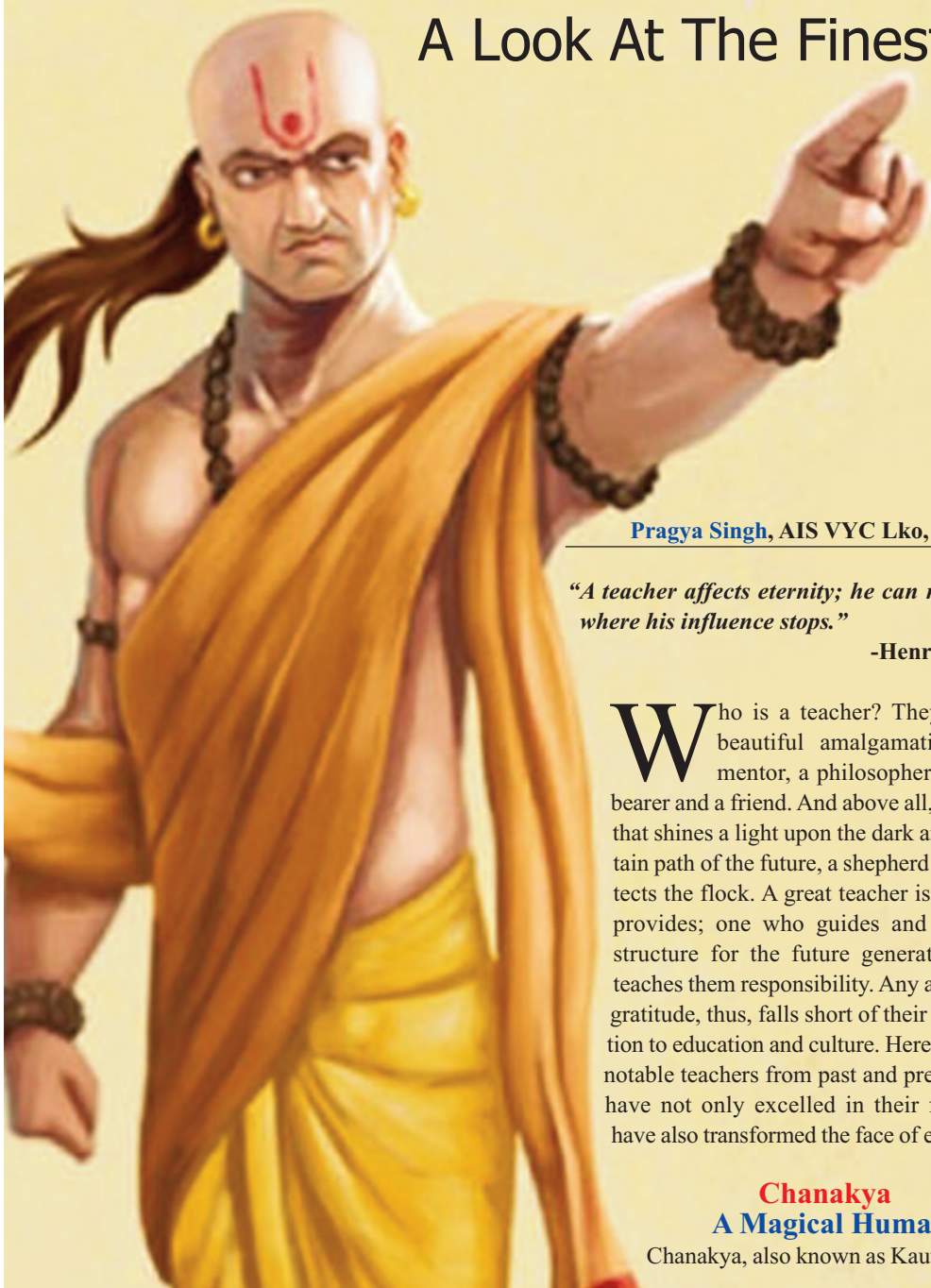
**Professional sleeper**

A professional sleeper is someone who gets paid to sleep. Many research groups do it as part of their scientific study to analyse different sleep patterns and behaviours. Big mattress companies also hire people for sleeping to evaluate the quality of their various sleep-related products. Currently, Wake fit is giving their interns a total of 10 lakhs for nine hours of sleep for 100 days.



# Great Indian teachers

A Look At The Finest Teachers Who Helped Make India Great



**Pragya Singh, AIS VYC Lko, XII B**

*"A teacher affects eternity; he can never tell where his influence stops."*

-Henry Adams

**W**ho is a teacher? They are the beautiful amalgamation of a mentor, a philosopher, a torch-bearer and a friend. And above all, a lantern that shines a light upon the dark and uncertain path of the future, a shepherd who protects the flock. A great teacher is one who provides; one who guides and builds a structure for the future generations and teaches them responsibility. Any amount of gratitude, thus, falls short of their contribution to education and culture. Here are some notable teachers from past and present who have not only excelled in their field, but have also transformed the face of education.

**Chanakya**  
**A Magical Human**

Chanakya, also known as Kautilya, was

an ancient scholar who served as not just a royal advisor to king Chandragupta Maurya but also as the political science and economics professor at Takshila University. Renowned for his books, Arthshashtra and Neetishastra, Chanakya was the man responsible for the creation of the first biggest Indian empire with the aid of Emperor Maurya. His famed quotes include "A man is great by deeds, not birth," and "Education beats the beauty and the youth."

**Savitribai Jyoti Rao Phule**  
**The Golden Mind**



Regarded as the first female teacher of India, Savitribai Phule was a feminist educationalist who played a major role in women empowerment at a time when most were unaware of the word empower. Savitribai opposed several of the then-prevalent societal evils like child marriage, sati, untouchability, gender and caste-based discrimination and advocated for widow remarriage and intercaste marriages. "Go, get education..." was Savitribai Phule's insistent appeal to women and those belonging to backward castes. In the honour of her influence and legacy, the University of Pune was renamed as Savitribai Phule Pune University on August 9, 2014.

**Vimla Kaul**  
**A Marvellous Boon**

Vimla Kaul, a retired English teacher, has been working restlessly for the education of slum children for years and continues to do so in Delhi, India. Her journey began in 1994 when she

started to teach village women the art of tailoring to ensure financial stability. As a result, 40 women were trained to be tailors, some even started earning a livelihood. Later she started a school to teach children, aged between 4 to 8, providing them basic education to enable admission into real schools. She started teaching the underprivileged in her own private apartment of four rooms and her efforts remain persistent at the age of 84.



**Anand Kumar**  
**The Human Gem**



Anand Kumar, the founder of the Super 30 mission, is an Indian mathematician and columnist from Bihar. He prepares economically backward students for IIT-JEE by tracking talented youngsters from economically impoverished sections and honing their skills by providing a conducive and nurturing environment. He and his brainchild-Super 30's mission is to help more students from economically poor sections reach the reputed halls of IITs. By 2018, 422 out of 510 students had made it to the IITs. Discovery Channel showcased his work in a compelling documentary.

These teachers have shown that a teacher's position is not just confined to a mere classroom, rather it goes way beyond.



According to the Economist Intelligence Unit Worldwide Cost of Living Survey, Paris is the second most expensive city in the world after Singapore.



# The talk of the forest

## The Whispers That Travel Amongst The Friends You Never Knew You Had

Arshiya Tyagi, AIS Gur 46, X H

We have always thought of the birds and animals, who chirp and yelp in the forest, as the only ones with the ability to communicate well, forgetting what lies under-

neath our feet, beneath the soil, where the trees interface through their roots! Well, for those uninitiated (the majority of us), trees are far more alert, social, sophisticated, and even intelligent than we initially understood. Don't believe us? Read on and see for yourself.

### The F.R.I.E.N.D.S theory of trees

While the festival of lights was just around the corner, the trees were vehemently motivating each other to purify the air to the fullest.

Yes, you heard it right; they motivated each other through their

networks well, and we all know that they are pretty good at branching out (pun intended). Scientists have time and again hypothesised that trees of the same species are communal, and often form alliances with trees of other species. Trees in forests have evolved to live in cooperative, interdependent relationships, maintained by communication and a collective intelligence similar to that of an ant colony, and hence the rule of 'survival of the fittest' among the trees is a hoax.

### Nature explains why sharing is caring

We have always been taught by our elders to sow seeds in pairs, but did you ever ask why? It's because they were aware of this theory even before it was proven. These soaring columns of living wood draw the eyes upward to their outspreading crowns, but the real action is taking place underground, just a few inches below our feet.

Some are calling it the 'wood-wide web', pretty sure they access the internet by logging in (pun intended). Trees share water and nutrients through the networks and also share alerts. They send distress signals about drought and disease, or pest inva-

sions and other trees alter their behaviour when they receive these warnings. They also communicate through the air, using pheromones and other scent signals.

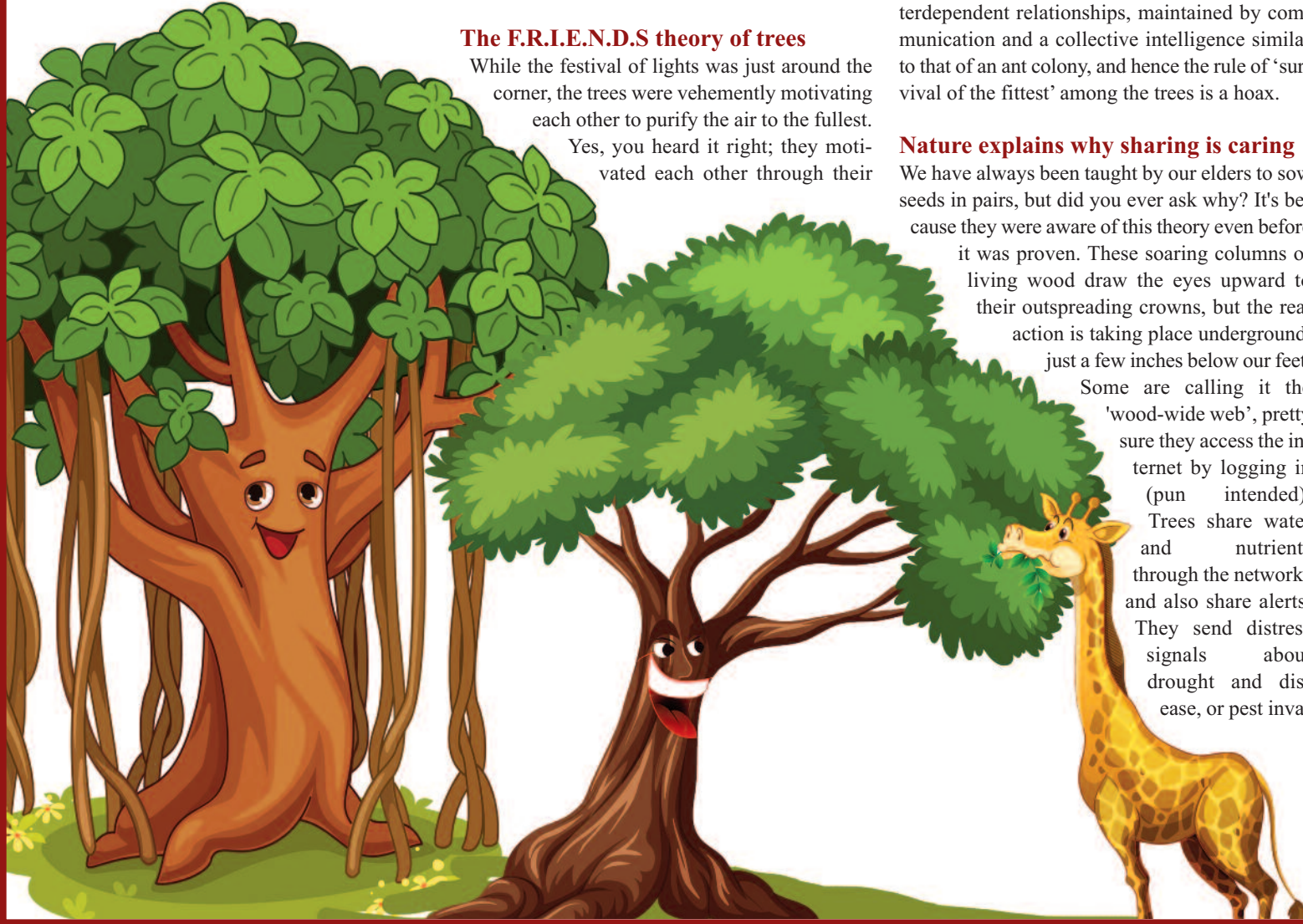
### Giraffes may know "the secret"

In one such instance, when a giraffe starts chewing on the leaves of an acacia tree, the tree notices the injury and emits a distress signal in the form of ethylene gas. Upon detecting this gas, neighbouring acacias start pumping tannins into their leaves. In large enough quantities, these compounds can sicken or even kill large herbivores. Giraffes are aware of this, however, as they've evolved with acacias, and this is why they browse into the wind, so the warning gas doesn't reach the trees ahead of them. If there's no wind, a giraffe will typically walk 100 yards, farther than ethylene gas can travel in still air before feeding on the next acacia. Giraffes, one might say, know that the trees are talking to one another.

### Trees are useful even in the afterlife

A study has found that certain stressed and dying trees can even pass resources, such as nitrogen and phosphorus, to their neighbours before they die. This gives the healthy trees who receive these extra resources a boost in combating any sort of disease or outbreak. Scientists can therefore use what they've learned about the 'wood wide web' to help loggers make better decisions when harvesting trees. For example, for reasons you've read about, loggers should keep mother trees alive in the forest; and they should allow dying trees to release their nutrients before removing them.

So, the next time you stroll through the woods, think of all the communication that is taking place beneath your feet. Who knows, they might be gossiping about you!



# Persistent Pumpkin



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

Raghav Sharma, AIS Saket, VIII B

Hey! My name is: Pumpkin  
I am also known as: Cucurbita

### About me

- My name has evolved from the German word 'Pepon' which means large melons.
- I am native to North America and have been domesticated in Central America for almost

10,000 years now.

- My recipes mainly originated in the early 16th century, and I started appearing in the cookbooks in the mid-17th Century.
- Most of you know me by the fancy makeovers I get by getting carved into Jack-o-lanterns around Halloween.
- I am also considered as the universal symbol of autumn.
- Most of me is edible, including my flowers which are packed with nutrients.
- With time, people discovered the amazing nutritional value of my seeds, so now my seeds are also dried and consumed.
- Sadly, I am not one of a kind, rather there are 45 different varieties of me.
- I am being cultivated on a large basis in every continent except Antarctica.
- Illinois, Ohio, Pennsylvania and California are my top cultivating states in USA.
- I am usually available in orange colour, but little did you know that I am also available in white, yellow, red, blue or green.

### What I offer

About 100 grams of me can give you:

- Calories: 26
- Sodium: 1 mg
- Potassium: 340 mg
- Dietary fiber: 0.5 g
- Sugar: 2.8 g
- Protein: 1 g

### I can help you with

- Skin and eye health
- Weight loss
- Digestion

- Fighting against cancer
- Improving heart health
- Boosting immunity

### Where can you find me

My top exporter is China with 7.7 million tonnes, followed by India producing 5 tonnes. Russia, Ukraine, USA, Mexico, Indonesia, Italy, Cuba and Turkey also fall under the top 10 producer list in the world. In the year 2019, China produced 8.4 million tonnes of me, Ukraine produced 1.3 million tonnes, Russia produced 1.2 million tonnes. Mexico, on the other hand, produced 0.7 million tonnes of me and in United States, I was produced in the quantity of 0.6 million tonnes. I am also produced in bulk in Egypt, Bangladesh, Algeria and many other countries.

### My different avatars

- Kent Pumpkins (dark yellow flesh, perfect for

salads and baked dishes)

- Butternut Pumpkins (Sweet, dry, pale on the outside, deep orange flesh)
- Dumpling Pumpkins (beige green in colour, pairs well with creamy and sweet flavour)
- Queensland Blue Pumpkins (Blue and greyish, perfect for baked dishes, mashes and soups)

### Why I fear climate change

Climate change has become a great cause of worry for my cultivators in the recent years. I am usually grown at the temperature of 75-85 degrees Fahrenheit, but with the rising temperature of our planet, my production could slow down. Some scientists in US are trying to create heat-tolerant versions of me, and some farmers are trying to hop onto different adaptive strategies to keep me going. But we all know the true answer is that we should be working towards stopping climate change so that veggies like me can prosper as they always have.







Paris is served by two international airports - Paris-Charles de Gaulle, and Paris-Orly.

# Myth or fact

## When The Books Failed The Burrows

Sarthak Sahoo  
AIS Saket, XII G

Ever reminisce about the long nights spent burning the midnight oil trying to cram arbitrary facts with no semblance to reality? Well, fear not, for your intuitions were nothing but superior and on the dot. Knowledge has evolved, and so have the myriad 'facts' we were once taught, as they proved to be mere mistakes. Howbeit, the veil separating proclaimed fact from fiction is thinner still. So, let us cruise along the syllabus to see what's true no more.

**The Folly:** Christopher Columbus was the first person to discover the Americas.

**The Fact:** Mostly an apocryphal myth, the Norse explorer Leif Erikson from Iceland got to the Americas a strong half-a-millennium before Columbus.

**The Folly:** Chameleons change their colours to camouflage to their surroundings to protect themselves.

**The Fact:** These reptiles shift between darker and light colours of skin to regulate their body temperature and adapt and dwell with the harsher conditions in their environment.

**The Folly:** Camels in arid regions use their humps to store water to be used in future.

**The Fact:** While it is true that camels can live a long while without water, much of it is stored in the bloodstream. The humps store fat in case they are unable to nourish themselves for a while.

**The Folly:** Isaac Newton discovered gravity when an apple fell on his head.

**The Fact:** While he was in an orchard and did see an apple fall, there is nothing to suggest

that it fell on his head.

**The Folly:** Diamond is the hardest mineral and substance known to humans.

**The Fact:** The wurtzite boron nitride and lonsdaleite, amongst a collection of many other substances, are much harder than diamonds. However, they remain largely unstable and intangible for practical use, unlike their diamond counterpart.

**The Folly:** 'I' before 'E', except for 'C'

**The Fact:** While a commonplace suggestion to spell 'Science', this rule of thumb is actually no rule at all. To the peril of our English teachers, its exceptions vastly outnumber its adherents.

**The Folly:** The food pyramid is an apogee of healthy and balanced diets.

**The Fact:** As any dietician,

putting one off the high amount of carbohydrates from their food planner, will tell you, balanced diets are unique and idiosyncratic, and no average foundation for a food pyramid has been formed to date.

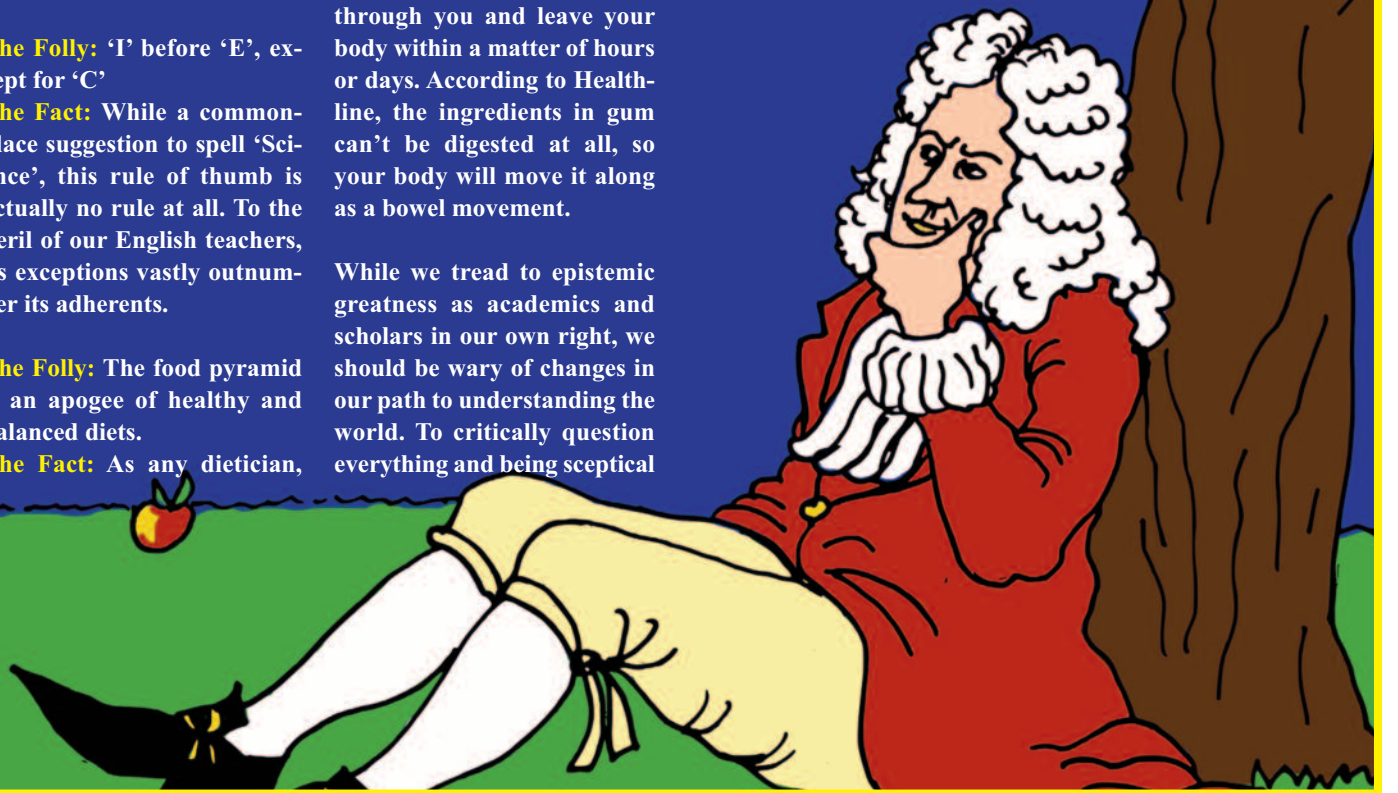
**The Folly:** It takes seven years for your body to digest a piece of chewing gum.

**The Fact:** Gum will pass right through you and leave your body within a matter of hours or days. According to Healthline, the ingredients in gum can't be digested at all, so your body will move it along as a bowel movement.

While we tread to epistemic greatness as academics and scholars in our own right, we should be wary of changes in our path to understanding the world. To critically question everything and being sceptical



has gotten us here, so let us carry it forward as we spend the odd days looking up for fun facts to shoo away our boredom.



# Gifts of lockdown

## The Return Gifts By Pandemic That We Didn't Ask For

Anshika Saxena  
AIS Vas 1, VIII C

The giant lock of COVID-19 on normal life pushed us inside our houses and truly put us on lockdown, but even that could not deter our plans. 'Life goes on' - BTS truly stated, and we tried our best to follow the mantra and adjust to the new normal. As we did so, we got something extra in return than what we bargained for, a gift in disguise, but whether they were really gifts or not, you better decide for yourself.

**Gift #1: Background Noise**  
Whether it is the sound of the pressure cooker's whistle or your mum yelling at your sibling for countless things, classes no longer seem complete without them. Long gone are the days when a lecture meant sitting in pin drop silence. Now these tiny anecdotes provide the best background music to every class, and give you the perfect excuse to mute yourself to get out of answering the teacher's question.

**Gift #2: Gadgets**  
If the world could suffer the evil cough of COVID-19 and try its best to come back on track, it was all thanks to our technology. As the virus spread and lockdowns were announced all over



the world, we could get firsthand news of what was happening in every corner of the world. Moreover, it allowed us to stay in touch with all our friends and relatives that we would have otherwise worried about. Granted, this started feeling like a curse when that one distant *maasi* wouldn't stop calling you on WhatsApp every time she saw you online, or when that one annoying classmate was hell-bent on getting their follow request accepted on your private IG.

**Gift #3: Weight Gain**  
No one is surprised to see that al-

most everyone gained a little weight in the lockdown. With our daily physical activity being limited to dancing between our bed and kitchen, a great pause on our exercise was put on. We all sat at home, tried our hands at being Masterchefs, but becoming another version of Baymax was not in the plan, COVID! Maybe this comes as a reminder to all of us that we need to get up and get active as much as we can.

**Gift #4: Real Requirements**  
Who would have thought that we could go so long without cinema or malls, cafes with our friends

or without travelling? Two years ago, giving up all of these would seem like a curse, and yes, it definitely was a pain in the lockdown times. But giving up all of these made us realise what truly matters in life. As the pandemic struck us, our first thoughts weren't buying the newest iPhones, but it was our safety and the health of our loved ones. All the materialistic things were put aside as we became thankful for being safe and getting through the pandemic.

So, what unique gift did the lockdown give you? [G |](#)

# MOVIE REVIEW

## Rake in that review

**Movie:** The Pursuit of Happyness  
**Director:** Gabriele Muccino  
**Release:** December 15, 2006  
**Starring:** Will Smith, Thandiwe Newton and Jaden Smith  
**Genre:** Drama, Biography



**Synopsis:** The movie is based on the true story of Chris Gardner, a single father who went from being homeless to becoming a successful entrepreneur. Chris, enacted by Will Smith, is depicted as a bright and talented, but marginally employed salesman. Struggling to make ends meet, he finds himself and his five-year-old son evicted from their San Francisco apartment with nowhere to go. Eventually, when Gardner lands an internship at a prestigious stock brokerage firm, he and his son endure many hardships in the pursuit of his dream. To know what lies ahead for this duo, watch the movie now!

**Why is it watch-worthy?** The Pursuit of Happyness is about a person who undergoes several unprecedented challenges and

hardships. But throughout his journey, he never gave up, and stood firm to his goals. The mood of the movie is slow and sombre, intended for the audience to experience more fully what the character is going through. Besides determination, self-belief, and going after dreams, the story also speaks strongly of a dad's love for his child. If you feel like you've been down and out in life and just about had enough of it, you should check out this film for sure and feel better.

**Iconic dialogue:** "You got a dream, you got to protect it. People can't do something themselves; they want to tell you; you can't do it. If you want something, go get it. Period."

**Rating:** ★★★★★  
**Review By:** Ojasvi Singh, AIS VYC Lko, XA



Paris Metro, the city's subway system, serves 5.23 million passengers daily and is the second busiest metro system in Europe.



## Ideas for change



Dr. Amita Chauhan  
Chairperson

Creativity in life is all about saying yes to new ideas. And, every innovation, each pioneering concept has the ability to propel the world towards a better future. It is also a fact that the will and discipline to bring about this change is not age-specific. It

can be found even in the youngest of minds. With the right support and encouragement, young changemakers can exhibit as much initiative and ingenuity as anyone else. This is what we witnessed when four Amitians won great laurels for their innovative projects at India@75: Youth Ideathon 2021, India's largest K-12 school level ideas festival organised by CBSE in association with Management Entrepreneurship Professional Skills Council (MEPSC).

One such project was that of Medicinator, which was selected amongst the top ten ideas at the national level and was also declared the best one in Uttar Pradesh. Then, we had the Saathi app, that was designed to facilitate children with special needs. This featured amongst the fifty national finalists, while the dream for a cleaner planet found existence in the Good-Bye Waste app, which made it to the top 125. The app that envisioned raising the quality of life in Indian villages was called 'Smart Village' and this was selected as the best idea in Haryana.

The fact that industry stalwarts, who selected the winning entries, saw great value in these concepts proves that these were not just praise-worthy creative processes but also realistic solutions for several socio-economic issues. My heartiest congratulations to the winners, and I hope that we continue to witness more of such path-breaking ideas in the future as well. 🇮🇳

## Leaving footprints



Vira Sharma  
Managing Editor

If there is one term that has recently become part of our everyday discussion, it has to be Air Quality Index, whose rapid deterioration every winter becomes a matter of alarm. Just when we felt that normalcy was around the corner, after having struggled

with Covid 19 for almost two years, state governments in Delhi-NCR have once again been forced to shut down schools and colleges due to poor AQI. All this makes me believe that the conversation around safe and healthy environment should be an ongoing one. We have to deal with issues of nurturing our eco-system, and the pertinent subject of climate change, in a way that it gets reinforced in the minds of both children and adults on a daily basis. It is not that things have not begun to change. During Diwali this year, we saw that many people refrained from bursting crackers. Office-goers have begun to practice car-pooling, several societies urge their residents to segregate dry and wet waste, and in many places, rain-water harvesting has begun to take some form. In fact, we can take some comfort from the latest Climate Change Performance Index which shows that India's journey towards climate protection has been consistently improving, shifting our ranking from 31st in 2014 to 10th place in 2021. Several developed countries, on the other hand, have shown a decline in their performance. Perhaps, this should tell us that we, as Indians, can bring about any change if we put our minds and hearts in the right place! 🇮🇳

# Bricks and Books

## The Deteriorating State Of The House Of Haven And Tranquility

Vasudha Sharma, AIS Noida, XI I

Books have their own little world, tucked away in their warm pages, waiting to be unravelled by a reader. Characters, places, emotions are woven together by a writer to pour their heart out on paper, with some ink and goodwill. But what about the four walls that house hundreds and thousands of stories, neatly stacked on wooden shelves?

The warmth that rushes inside when you enter a book store or a library cannot be comprehended by a non-bookworm. The sight of paperbacks, hard bounds, coffee table books, book sets is a feast for the eyes (they also make my eyes red at two in the morning but we'll leave that for some other time). Browsing and wandering among these shelves can shush the ticking of a clock. And one may truly get lost while exploring the house of countless tales.

Even a single shelf, filled to its capacity with books is a haven for readers. Books help us transcend space and time, to enter into an alternate universe created by the imagination of the author. And if your luck is pointing up, you could find a fellow bookworm who is ready to engage in a conversation with you about Austen and Alcott. These havens are also a good space to hold book discussions, poetry readings and book clubs, to meet like-minded people who either love or hate the same books we do. Such havens become cross-words for wandering and weary travellers who would want nothing more than to sit by the metaphorical fire and share their tale.

However, it is unfortunate that these local bookstores and libraries are being put out of business by online retail stores. Ordering books online is, with-



out a doubt, efficient and convenient. But you don't get to see a five-year-old girl buy her first book on Flipkart or two strangers forge a new friendship over a cup of coffee and Kafka. Helpers in these independent bookshops handpick books for you, not a mechanical algorithm. The warm librarians who give you an approving nod when you choose a good read (the validation feels incredible), a feeling that cannot be replaced by ten reviews some strangers posted online. The variety of books that can be found in an indie bookstore cannot be found on a laptop. You can explore different genres, discover underrated authors and you could even chance upon an antique classic, all while shopping

in a bookstore! But most importantly, online retail stores could never replace the warmth of the home we choose for ourselves. And the best aspect of all, the musty smell of books, which is better than the world's most expensive perfume. If only it could be bottled, its fragrance would have the power to stop time itself.

These wholesome moments can only be experienced within this hallowed sanctum, with yellow brick walls, which holds the key to fairies, fiction and fantasy. Therefore, cherishing and preserving the principle behind these shops and libraries is of the utmost importance in an increasingly paperless world. A penny for your thoughts?

## The price to pay... ...For Maintaining An Active Social Media Status

Raghav Gupta, AIS PV, XII

In this socially influenced world, it is impossible to imagine a day without being active on any social media platform. The reels on Instagram keep us hooked for hours, before we realise that we have been mindlessly scrolling. Sending pictures, sharing information, making a voice or a video call is just a click away. And if that wasn't enough, these social media apps are reinventing themselves to hook us some more. Case in point - Facebook; reinventing itself as Meta, it is now incorporating itself into other platforms enjoyed by the younger audience like Instagram and WhatsApp.

But what's the harm, you ask? Well, the story is all good till we know that these apps keep us connected, provide a platform to showcase our talents and views, and keep us engaged. But there is more to it than meets the

eye. We often fail to see the picture behind the screen, and acknowledge how spending hours on these apps can actually backfire.

Facebook began its humble journey as a network for students of Harvard University to connect to each other, but has now grown to a global app with over 2.4 billion (direct) and over 5 billion (indirect) users worldwide. It has now transformed into a major ad network and is one of the worlds biggest collectors of Big Data. Does that frighten you a little?

It indeed is true that the apps owned and run by Facebook or Meta - as it is called now - like WhatsApp and Instagram, are some of the essential apps in the current age and are used by almost everyone in the world. With the data collected from these services, Facebook has been able to easily profile users to the extent of finding their political preferences. This should be deeply concerning as this opens the

doors to targeted advertisement where advertisers can easily manipulate how the audience feels and act. These algorithms aim to maximise profits via selling collected data and showing ads by making us stay on site for as long as possible. Ever wondered why the advertisements of any product you searched for, keeps on popping on your social media apps? This is achieved by showing us the content we like, and though a useful feature, it many-a-times creates a reinforcement-chamber of bad thoughts. The apps collect data from our searches, and then looks for and provides us extensive advertisements pertaining to the same on every application we use. In an effort to have more data, Facebook collects lots of metadata from all apps, most notably from WhatsApp. This can be highly dangerous for users as indirectly, a graph can be drawn for our every activity, from our favourite stickers to the people we chat with the most. As said by an NSA employee, "We use Metadata to kill", which clearly states how these apps are not exactly our friends, but more like profit portals that gives these companies all our personal preferences and breaches our privacy in the most incognito ways.

Data mining is a major market in today's world that is driven by social media, and yes, in a world lived online, only so long can we go on without using these apps. This puts us at risks, so the ultimate question is - should we just accept that our privacy is the currency we pay in for being online? 🇮🇳



Dear Editor,

This is in reference to the article 'Pineapple pizza: blessing or curse?' on page 12 published in the GT edition dated November 22, 2021. The article depicts the controversy regarding pineapple on pizza, in a humorous way, by portraying the ongoing dispute in the form of a legal battle taking place in a courtroom. Pizza-eaters (basically everyone) have highly contrasting judgements concerning this tropical topping. Most people absolutely detest it and simply cannot accept the personal choice of the opposite party. But there are some who would go to great lengths to defend their beloved add-on by stating its nutritional value or comparing it with other sweet-savoury combinations. Though there are many arguments for whether pineapple belongs on pizza or not, it cannot be denied that with or without this fruity addition, pizza is a crowd favourite. Not to be cheesy but we all hold a lot of love for it in our hearts, even though it gets crusty sometimes!

Aanya Moturu, AIS Gur 43, XI C





The Louvre, the most visited art museum in the world with around 9.6 million visitors annually, is in Paris.



# Youth Power 2021-22

With Spirits So High, Meet The Harbingers Of Change Who Have Come Together To Make This World A Better Place



**AIS**  
**Gur 43**

**Vande Vasudha : Nature Conservation**

Nitya Malhotra (team leader) Gitansh Goel, Anika Bali and Prince Mittal; XI with mentor teacher, Jyoti Mutreja



**AIS**  
**Gur 46**

**Sahejana, Ek Soch : Save Water**

Sparsh Sahni (team leader), Anvi Chawla, Asmi Chawla and Aditi Dheer; XI with mentor teacher, Deepika Bailey



**AIS**  
**Vas 1**

**Hygienoabhyan : Awareness about hygiene**

Sourish Srivastava (team leader), Shruti Gupta, Madhav Mullick and Sahil Mishra; IX with mentor teacher, Sonia Rao



**AIS**  
**Vas 6**

**Vittiksha : Financial literacy**

Ishaan Uday (team leader), Aditya Bansal, Navya Kohli; XI and Ridhi Chopra, IX with mentor teacher, Paridhi Agarwal



**AIS**  
**Saket**

**Maitri : Emotional well-being of elderly**

Mannat Bahl (team leader), Ananya Satish, Twesha Chawla and Hina Pradhan; XI with mentor teacher, Garima Pandey



**AIS**  
**PV**

**Nindiya : Awareness on insomnia**

Suhani Dewan (team leader), Gunika Madan, Adya Gupta and Daksha Tuteja; XI with mentor teacher, Sonali Batra



**AIS**  
**Noida**

**Vyadhimukt : Severity of eating disorders**

Ananya Pareek (team leader), Sara Maheshwari, Vasudha Sharma and Yashasvini Verma; XI with mentor teacher, Smita Bhardwaj



**AIS**  
**MV**

**U Matter : Mental health during pandemic**

Pooja Jha (team leader), Eeshani Singh, Alina Ahmad and Rehmat Kaur Talwar, XI with mentor teacher, Sonali Jain



**AIS**  
**Jagdishpur**

**Immunity warriors : Building immunity**

Fatima Samreen (team leader), Jagriti Agarwal, Saumya Soni; XI and Ajeet Kumar Bharti, XII with mentor teacher Amar Nath Sharma



**AIS**  
**VKC LKO**

**Desordenando : Decluttering our lives**

Ritika Pandey (team leader), XI, Aashna Bhalla, X, Mishti Shukla, IX and Ishita Bajpai, X with mentor teacher, Meetika



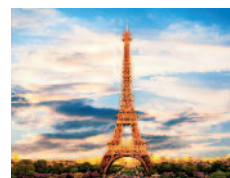
**AIS**  
**VYC LKO**

**Melanite : Working against Colourism**

Kainaat Arif (team leader), Gursimran Kaur, Pragati Singh; X and Tvisha Sarkar, XI with mentor teacher, Sunita Singh



Paris has also been ranked the second most visited travel destination in the world, with 38 million noted visitors in 2019.



# A maddening escapade

## Storywala



Anshita Kumar  
AGS Gurugram, XI

The strange luminous rays of the sun sneaked into the room, flooding it with a spectrum of yellow and white, peeking through the cracks and crevices, to find their way to fall warmly upon my cold bare skin. I struggled to keep my eyes open as one of the rays shot directly into them like a laser beam. An eerie silence weighed the air down, and all that could be heard was the air conditioning that screeched harshly every now and then.

Almost immediately after my eyes adjusted to the extensive brightness, an unfamiliar sensation seemed to strangle my body like a trance. My lips quivered unceasingly, while the world seemed to remain calm and still. My skin dropped, hanging loose and tickling- my mind envisioning a billion centipedes creeping upwards from my toes, wriggling about like dying flies. My head turned towards the window, the light blinding me once more, to see nothing but a screen of white. Fastened to my bed, I dialed the reception of the hotel in a desperate attempt to call out

for help, only to be left with no answer. Absolutely hopeless, I was bound within a room with no signs of heroic escape. It felt like being trapped in a horror movie, except instead of darkness, I was suffocated with light and instead of ghostly noises, I was numb in silence. I could not help but think about the countless nights that I had spent begging to find solitude, to run away from the ghost-town that houses me. All I was left with now was a hotel room, absent of anything that could remotely resemble normal, fettered to a bed, with no game plan.

The air grew thick and hazy, and soon my mind was a house of a myriad crippling thoughts.

I sat up slowly, my limbs slithering like strands of overcooked noodles, dragging myself to move. My head rested hot in my hands that grew clammy; droplets of sweat escaped my head, drenching them. My eyes turned red from the strain of the white bullets shooting into them – a maddening trance. No footsteps receded in the hallway and no sounds of the family of eight, that checked into the room adjacent to mine, could be heard. No sounds of forks and knives clattering in the dining hall overhead. No sounds of the housekeepers knocking upon the wooden door and exclaiming “room service” cheerfully as they did - a maddening silence. The window framed a view of the cruel sun beating down without a wisp of cloud to soften its harsh, maleficent rays. The air grew thick and hazy, and soon my mind was a house of a myriad crippling thoughts. My eyes remained unblinking, but I was unsure that if they close, they would ever reopen to see an ounce of light again, such was the beauty of lunacy and insanity in solitude. 🇧🇷



## Tangy Avocado Dip

Akshita

Akshita Shrote, AIS Vas 1, IX

### Ingredients required

Avocado.....	1
Jalapenos .....	5 slices
Lemon juice.....	½ tsp
Plain mayonnaise .....	1 tsp
Onion (small) .....	1
Tomato (small) .....	1
Salt .....	to taste
Coriander leaves .....	10-15

### Procedure

- Cut the avocado in half, remove the seed and take out its pulp in a small bowl.
- Finely chop onion and tomatoes, and keep them aside.
- In the bowl containing avocado pulp, add lemon juice, coriander leaves, jalapenos and salt. Mix the ingredients well.
- Put the prepared avocado pulp into a grinder and grind well until a thick paste like consistency is obtained. Add water only if it is absolutely required.
- Transfer the thick paste into a small bowl and add mayonnaise, chopped onion and tomato to the dip. Mix them well.
- Your tangy avocado dip is ready to be served. Savour it with your favourite nachos!

## WORDS VERSE

# Fall-ing into place

Samiksha Dubey  
AIS Noida, XII J

The sudden quiet in the nature  
Echoes the everyday hustle bustle  
A mild fragrance disseminates  
Bringing with it, a slight hustle

Streets decked up with bright lights  
We gear up for the festivities to arrive  
One of lights, the other trick or treat  
One of Santa, other marks year's retreat

Stuffed noses, blushed cheeks  
Cold finger and groggy throats  
Lazy winter mornings commence

Combined with a foggy suspense

Logs crackle in our bonfires  
Scented candles in home lightens  
Barbecues under specks of snow  
Grill chars while the earth brightens

Rooftops covered in white snow  
The deciduous greens blossoming  
Tourists crowding the hill stations  
Suffusing quiet with conversations

The sun dips into the bed early  
As all lifeforms shiver and shudder  
The vast dull grey skies unfurl  
Liberating the fleeting time.



# Beyond the looking glass

Suhani Malik, AIS PV, Alumna

What if there's a universe  
Beyond the looking glass?  
Where happiness is real  
And smiles are wider

What if in that universe  
You don't have to cry?  
Your eyes shine brighter  
And your cheeks stay dry

What if in that universe  
You're not insecure?  
There is no discontentment



And your thoughts are pure

What if to reach that universe  
You just have to clear your mind?  
Forget what your brain was fed  
And your own future you'll find. 🇧🇷

# Brush & Easel

Aditi Gupta  
AIS Vas 1, IX A

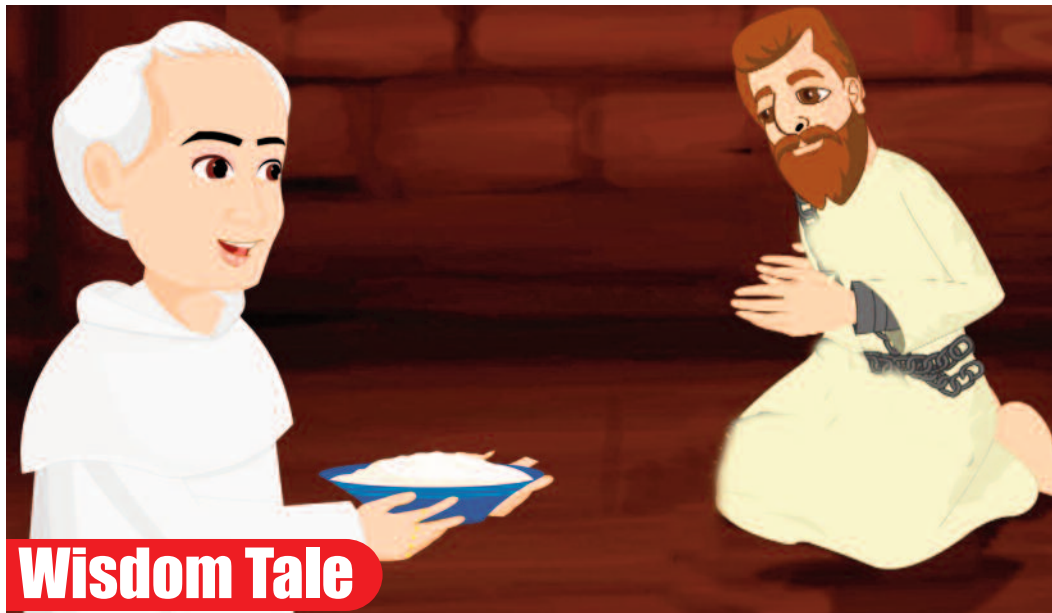






Paris has hosted the Olympic games in 1900, 1924, and is set to host the 2024 Summer Olympics.

# The magic of hard work



## Wisdom Tale

Ishanvi Mishra

AIS Vasundhara 6, VI E

Once upon a time, there was a man named Jimin who lived with his sister, Maria, in a quaint hamlet called Oland. They had lost their parents early in their childhood hence, Jimin, being the older sibling, had taken it upon himself to care of his sister. He loved Maria with every fibre of his being and wanted the best possible education for her, however, he was plagued with a problem. Jimin was a dreamer. He preferred to dream of riches rather than work for it. He wanted instant results, without putting in any effort. This was the reason why Jimin could never concentrate on a single job for a stable period of time

and would quit frequently. Though Maria adored her brother to death, she grew tired of watching him waste his potential building castles on the clouds. So, one day, she decided to call up their uncle, George, to help her rid Jimin of his folly once and for all. George was sympathetic to their plight and was eager to help out. So, he met Maria the very next day and devised a plan in order to push Jimin onto the right path. As per the plan, Uncle George was supposed to disguise himself as a saint and meet Jimin, whilst carrying two plates, one with the 'milk of knowledge' and the other with the 'curd of wealth', for Jimin to choose from. And so he did; as Jimin was on his way back home one day, he appeared

before him and presented him with the two plates to pick one from. Jimin was quick to respond. "Hey, Saint," he exclaimed, "I want the plate which contains the curd of wealth!" George, with a grave tone, replied, "I see. But my dear child, you ought to know the condition behind this boon. This curd only works when you're consistent. So, you're not allowed to quit your job, you must carry on no matter how mundane and pointless it may seem. Only then you shall achieve prosperity bestowed by this magical curd!" Jimin agreed to the condition put forward by the Saint, dreaming of the riches he would soon be bequeathed with. And so, keeping up with the condition posed to him, Jimin con-

Jimin agreed to the condition put forward by the Saint, dreaming of the riches he would soon be bequeathed with.

tinued to do his work as he always did, only this time, he had no intentions of quitting. He wanted the curd to work, so he gave his best consistently. Consequently, his dedication impressed his boss and Jimin was soon promoted. Then it didn't take long for him to realise that he achieved his goal by working hard, not just by dreaming, and that it was due to his diligence and dedication that he got promoted and now occupies a bigger position in his workplace. "The magical curd worked, didn't it now?" he thought out loud, bemused by the whole affair. And with his pay, he finally helped Maria get into the best school possible and they lived happily ever after.

*(The story is one of the entries received as part of the story writing workshop during GT Summer Workshop. The participants were given a setting and characters to weave a short story.)*

**So, what did you learn today? Dreams are important, as is working hard to achieve those dreams.**



Kabir Chabra

## Denim organisers

Kabir Chabra, AIS Vasundhara 1, IV

### Material required

- Old denim-2
- Hot glue gun
- Old photo frame-1
- Scissors

### Method

#### For the stationery organiser

- Take an old pair of jeans and from it, cut out the whole pocket area just below the waistband and a little above the thighs part.
- Now, fold it together as you would a normal pair of jeans and paste all the open ends, except the one on the top to give it a pouch-like structure. Let the glue dry.
- Your stationery holder is ready! Organise different stationery items in completely different pockets.

#### For the mobile phone holder

- Take an old pair of jeans and in accordance with the size of your frame, cut out the patch of cloth to which one of its back pockets is securely attached.
- Then, paste the cloth against the old photo frame in such a way that the pocket juts out of the frame (as shown in the picture).
- Trim the extra cloth, if any, from around the frame.
- Your mobile phone holder is ready to use!

## It's Me



### KNOW ME

**My name:** Rudransh Aryan  
**My Class:** KG  
**My school:** AIS Gurugram 43  
**Born on:** August 9

### MY FAVOURITES

**Teachers:** Alta ma'am and Hema ma'am  
**Subject:** Drawing  
**Friend:** Arjun  
**Game:** Building blocks  
**Cartoon:** Doraemon  
**Food:** Chocos cornflakes  
**Mall:** Ambience Mall  
**Book:** Story books

### MY DREAMS AND GOALS

**Hobbies:** Cycling and playing games  
**I like:** Drawing  
**I dislike:** Sleeping  
**My role model:** Little Singham  
**I want to become:** Policeman  
**I want to feature in GT because:** I believe I have the talent to be featured in GT.

## POEMS

# All we see around is snow

Dhruv Tripathi, AIS Gur 43, VIII



When geese fly to the south  
Arctic gale is bound to blow  
The skies darken into stormy grey  
But all we see around is snow

The streets are like frosted cakes  
All covered in ice cold flakes  
Wearing a wardrobe, out we go  
But all we see around is snow

Christmas arrives soon, it is nearby  
One might see a reindeer fly  
And Santa who goes "HO-HO-HO"  
But all we see around is snow

New Year is around the corner  
This year soon shall take a bow  
New fables and tales will unfold  
But all we see around is snow.



## Our founder sir

Arihan Kaushik, AIS Gur 46, VI D

Amity is the finest institution and Stupendous has been its contribution Harmonious is the milieu around, with Our Founder Sir's blessings abound Kids here feel motivated and secure, as Cautiously they follow the most Hard working and noble monsieur Affectionate is your presence, and Under your guidance, we strive to attain Heights higher than our lucid visions As you inspire all of us, we hope to Nurture a bright future ahead for us!

## Jokey Pokey

Anoushka Chakraborty  
AIS Pushp Vihar, IV

Q: What do female ghosts use to do their makeup?  
A: Vanishing powder

Q: What do witches ask for at hotels?  
A: Broom service

Q: What genre of music does a mummy like the best?

A: Wrap music

Q: What is the name of the witch who lives in the desert?  
A: Sandwi(t)ch

Q: Why is Cinderella so bad at soccer?  
A: Because she keeps running away from the ball

Q: Why is Peter pan flying all the time?  
A: He Neverlands

## PAINTING CORNER

Emaad Ali  
AIS Noida, II





Paris is often called the 'City of Light' for its role during the Age of Enlightenment because it was the first major European city to use gas street lighting on a grand scale.



# Towards global well-being

AIMUN 2021, A Global Platform That Strives To Build A Better World Together



**Arpita Chakraborty, GT Network**

In an endeavour to make the world a happier place, 280 young delegates from 25 schools across the world came together to bring concrete solutions for the problems posing threat to human existence at the 14th Amity International Model United Nations (AIMUN) held virtually from October 6-8, 2021. The global platform was organised by Amity Educational Resource Centre (AERC) under the guidance of Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools & RBEF. The spectacular series of events began with the opening ceremony and saw the presence of Chairperson and chief guest, Joonas Kontta, Member of Parliament, Finland; Keynote speaker, Jayathma Wickramanayake, UN Envoy for Youth; Imrich Milo, Director, Bilingual Gymnasium School, France; Dr Pravin H Khobragade, Health Specialist, United Nations Children's Fund; Tara Stafford Ocansey, Programme Manager and Education Specialist, Centre for Sustainable Development, Colombia University; Devesh Kumar, Member, Bihar Legislative Council and other esteemed guests.

Chief guest, Joonas Kontta, in his address emphasised on the importance of MUN and power of youth. Following this, a special video message conveyed by Jayathma Wickramanayake, stressed on human and socio-economic crisis during the pandemic. Chairperson further ignited the spark in young participants to believe in the 'power of one and all' in order to create a world united in happiness. Charge d' affaires, Jyoti Arora spoke on how AIMUN is a playground for policy making, negotiating, and discussing to become confident delegates. The opening ceremony was followed by a keynote address and an interactive talk session by Anita Bhatia, Assistant Secretary General for Resource Management, Sustainability and Partnerships and Deputy Executive Director of the UN Entity for Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women. During the session, Anita Bhatia mentioned about gender equality and the necessity to introduce STEM subjects to girls as well as stressed on building an equal, inclusive and sustainable society.



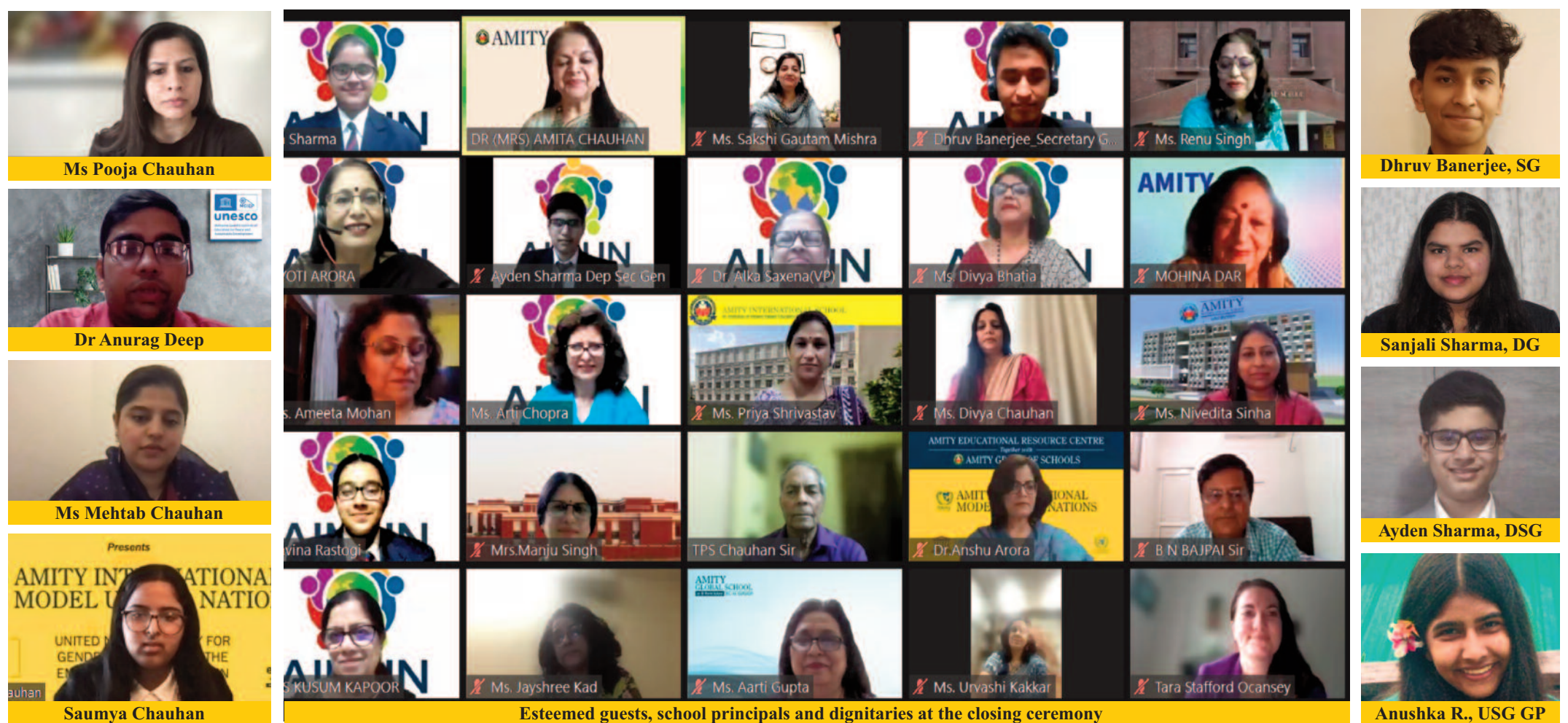
The interaction also saw participating students ask thought provoking questions. She highly appreciated Amity's efforts to promote education of the less privileged girl child, Amitasha. The second day of AIMUN saw series of discussions and debates by delegates on their respective agendas. The highlight of the day was International Cultural Festival which began with an introductory video on the theme of AIMUN 'May the whole world be happy'. The festival witnessed Julien Magnier from France address the gathering on behalf of the chief guest, Stephane Lowys, Principal, Institut de Genech, Lille, France. The third and the last day of AIMUN saw the culmination of an enriching interactive session that saw delegates debate on thought-provoking questions. Among the long list of questions, some of the questions were how do countries ensure a dedicated fund for stem education system for women? How can mindsets be altered? How to deal with the threat of physical violence, sexual harassment?

How do we increase interest of women in sciences? How to remove gender barriers in the field of science? The six committees namely UNGA, Lok Sabha, WHO, UNESCO, UN Women and UNDP also saw guest speakers Imrich Milo, Devesh Kumar, Dr Pravin H Khobragade, Tara S.Ocansey, interact with the delegates and enlighten them on the committee's idea and agenda. The closing ceremony saw in presence chief guest, HE Ritva Koukku Ronde, Ambassador of Finland in India and guest of honour, HE Boris Jelovsek, Minister Plenipotentiary, Embassy of Slovenia, Athens, whose encouraging words enlightened the young minds to become future leaders and build a world which radiates happiness. Excitement filled the screens, as the most awaited valedictory ceremony began where Charge d' affaires, Kusum Kapoor announced the results of AIMUN'21. The award for the Best Delegation was won by Delegation of Russia, Delegation of Israel and Delegation of USA & Malaysia represented by AIS Gur 46, AIS Saket and AIS Noida respectively. Chairperson, Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan congratulated

## Highlights

- Delegates: 280
- Virtual platform: Zoom
- Countries: Slovakia, France, Slovenia and India
- International schools participating for the 1st time: Bilingual Gymnasium School, Institute de Genech and Gimnacija Jozeta Plecnika Ljubljana, Slovenia
- Interactive session with: Anita Bhatia, Assistant Secretary General and Deputy Executive Director at UN Women
- Simulation of Indian committee (Lok Sabha)

every delegate for their stupendous performance. The global conference came to an end with a single bang of the gavel by Secretary General, declaring AIMUN'21 close.



Esteemed guests, school principals and dignitaries at the closing ceremony

Anushka R., USG GP





The city was majorly governed directly by a king, emperor or president of France and was granted municipal autonomy until 1974.

# Ideathon 2021

The Ideas Which Can Change India And The World



Pranjal Agarwal, AIS Vas 1

ACSF

Four young visionary thinkers of Amity won big laurels at India@75: Youth Ideathon 2021, a 3-stage programme based on the theme 'Mera idea jo badal de Bharat' launched on September 21, 2021 with the final round being held on November 15, 2021. This unique victory was achieved under the visionary leadership of Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and RBEF under the aegis of Amity's Children Science Foundation( ACSF)



Krish Bhatnagar, AIS Vas 6

Organised by CBSE in association with Management Entrepreneurship Professional Skills Council (MEPSC) under the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, India@75: Youth Ideathon 2021, is India's largest K-12 school level ideas festival. It aims to foster innovative spirit and entrepreneurial potential in young and virile minds of India. To begin with, the national competition saw more than 62,000 students from all over India present their start-up business ideas, out of which top 500 ideas were selected. The selected ideas were



Aviraj Katiyar, AIS Vas 6

then showcased as 2-min videos to a panel of jury who also interviewed them. Top 50 ideas out of 500 were then selected, interviewed and mentored for two weeks by eminent business experts, founders and CEOs like Rohit Bansal of Snapdeal, Rahul Garg of igp.com and others. Pranjal Agarwal (IX) of AIS Vasundhara 1 made it to top 10 national winners and also won the Best Idea Award in UP state for his idea 'Medicinator'. He won a certificate of merit, incubator and mentor support and cash prize of 10,000 INR. Krish Bhatnagar (XII) of AIS Vasundhara 6



Sanvi Mohapatra, AIS Gur 43

was selected among top 50 for his idea 'SAATHI', an assistant app designed for children with special needs, and won a merit certificate and mentor support. Aviraj Katiyar (VIII) of AIS Vasundhara 6 made it to top 125 students for his idea, 'Goodbye waste' and bagged a merit certificate and young ideator programme participation. From AIS Gur 43, the idea of 'Smart Village' by Sanvi Mohapatra (VIII) was awarded as Best Idea in Haryana state. She was conferred with a merit certificate and cash prize of 10,000 INR for her achievement.



Young saviours participate in the presentation

## Save environment Celebrating Wildlife Day

AIS VKC Lucknow

Students from Class I-VIII celebrated World Wildlife Day on October 6, 2021 virtually. An online quiz show was organised for Class I-V to make them aware about the co-dependence of all life forms, and encourage them to explore the hidden spectacles of nature. The quiz was based on flora and fauna of India and its rich natural heritage. Students also watched a video on wildlife, wrote slogans on flora and fauna and pledged to safeguard the environment around them. On the other hand, to understand

the importance of wildlife, Class VI-VIII organised a special assembly wherein they presented a PPT showing wild animals in their natural habitat. They also delivered a speech informing their peers to be kind and loving towards wildlife. A mesmerising song based on nature was sung by the students of Class VII and VIII which sought to remind everyone about the glory of nature. School principal Rachna Mishra, appreciated the efforts of students as well as their performance in the wildlife quiz. She urged the students to save wild animals before they go extinct.

**Congratulations!**  
Amity International School, Sec- 6  
Vasundhara, Ghaziabad – 950b1248  
You are now a  
**CyberSmart School!**  
Date: 20/Oct/2021  
AIS Vas 6 wins certificate of CyberSmart School

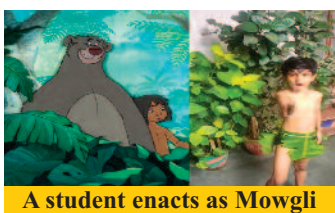
## Be CyberSmart

AIS Vasundhara 6

The school became the proud recipient of CyberSmart School certificate, on October 20, 2021, as 1420 students (88.75% of the school strength) from Class II-XII completed the required cybersmart certification course. The CSR initiative of Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) under the

aegis of Niti Ayog partnered with WNS Cares Foundation, the certification programme aims to empower children with knowledge of cyber safety. The programme was launched in June 22, 2020 with the objective to keep children safe on internet and other digital platforms by involving all stakeholders in the learning eco-system i.e. students, teachers and parents.

## Cartoon act competition



A student enacts as Mowgli

AIS Gwalior

The school organised an inter house cartoon character enactment competition for the students of Class I-II virtually on Sep 29, 2021. Aimed at enhancing their presentation and communication skills, the competition saw students present



Little one as Chota Bheem

their favourite cartoons in creative ways. Winners were declared on the basis of parameters like, eloquence, content, creativity, props, costumes and presentation. First position was won by Bhagirathi House, second position was bagged by Alaknanda House and Mandakini House finished at the third position.

# Children's Day celebration

Songs, Dances And Much More To Celebrate The Day



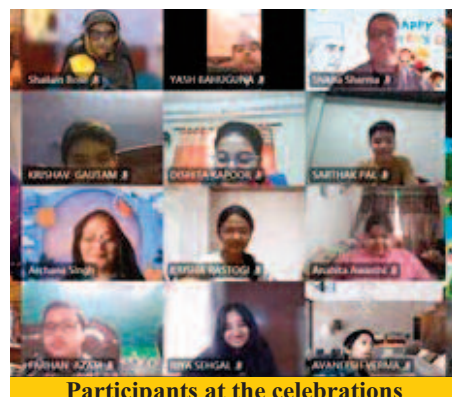
Dance presentation by a student

AIS Noida

Children's Day was celebrated with a lot of enthusiasm by the school, virtually on November 12, 2021. The celebrations began with an invocation to the Almighty, followed by myriad presentations by the teachers. Students thoroughly enjoyed the performances presented by school's music, drama and theatre department. The cultural coordinator presented humorous Hindi poems which received great appreciation from the audience. Students from different classes also showcased their various talents in singing, dance, drama, role-plays, etc. School principal Renu Singh, in her address, motivated children to imbibe the qualities of being respectful, wise and truthful; and strive to build a progressive and happy world.

AIS Saket

The celebrations saw students from Class I-V celebrate Children's Day virtually in their respective classes, and Class VI-VIII conducting class assembly together. All of them participated in a number of fun filled activities and games planned by the teachers, who also gave all a brief insight into the life and times of Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru



Participants at the celebrations

through an interesting video. Children participated in a quiz based on his life and learnt to make the famous 'Nehru cap' through origami craft activity. The young ones also wrote their favourite childhood memory in a reflection card on Padlet, and watched the video 'Tryst with destiny' to mark the special day. A book discussion on 'Letters from father to daughter' and 'Discovery of India', was also conducted. A beautiful poem written by school principal Divya Bhatia was also shared with the students.

AIS Vasundhara 6

To celebrate Children's Day, the students of Class VIII participated in an experiential, hands-on activity virtual programme that kindled their tinkering spirits by reinforcing scientific concepts and principles on November 11, 2021. Virtual experimental



A student displays demo on 'Dispersion'

demos of concepts like dispersion of light, chemical reactions, atmospheric pressure, etc were showcased by the children. Students of Class VII also celebrated Children's Day with same fervour as they showcased their literary prowess. They recited poems reflecting the sweet memories of their childhood and school times. Heartfelt messages by teachers from all the classes boosted the morale of the children, who are eagerly awaiting to come back to school physically. Reflective messages like, 'If you carry your childhood with you, you never become old', on the dashboard struck a chord in everyone's heart. Children sang songs, danced and played instruments to enliven the day.

AIS VYC Lucknow

A special assembly was organised to celebrate Children's Day held virtually on November 13, 2021. The teachers presented variety of acts, song and dance performances. They took everyone down the memory lane with a special video showing pictures of students participating in school activities and having fun in school. School principal Sakshi Gautam Mishra, wished students and reiterated, "Childhood is the best phase of life."



A glimpse of students enjoying in school



80% of Parisian enterprises are engaged in commerce, transportation and related sectors, with only 6.5% in construction and 3.8% in industry.

All top quotes contributed by  
Nesih Chandrasekar, AIS Gurugram 43, VII B



# Now, That's Colossal

A sculpture is a three-dimensional form which is produced by carving, modeling or welding a wide range of materials, like stone, metal, wood, ceramic etc. into an aesthetic work of art. The bigger and bolder the piece, the more likely it is to attract onlookers and become a permanent part of a country's cultural landscape. Enjoy this visual imagery as **Harshita Khera, GT Network** brings to you eight iconic artworks from across the world.



**Expansion, New York, USA** ↑

**Designed by:** American sculptor, Paige Bradley  
**Created in:** 2004

**What's special about it:** This electrifying sculpture energises the mind and touches the soul. It portrays the imperfections of the human body. It also symbolises a woman's attempt to break free from the shackles of societal conduct, in order to expand and express her inner self.



**The Appennine Colossus, Florence, Italy** ↑

**Designed by:** Italian sculptor, Giambologna  
**Created in:** 16th century

**What's special about it:** It is a brooding half man, half mountain sculpture, which stands tall at 35 feet and personifies the Apennine Mountain range. The grandeur of the sculpture can be estimated from the fact that inside the structure exists a complete villa.



**Kelpies, Falkirk** ↑

**Designed by:** Scottish Sculptor, Andy Scott  
**Created in:** 2013

**What's special about it:** It is a pair of massive 30-metre tall, equine sculptures, named after Scottish mythical water horses. The work illustrates the significance of Scottish culture in the local community.



**Ocean Atlas, Nassau Bahamas**

**Designed by:** Jason de Caires Taylor  
**Created in:** 2014

**What's special about it:** It is the largest underwater sculpture that has been made using a PH neutral cement which allows the creation of coral reefs. The piece depicts a girl carrying the entire sea on her shoulders similar to what Atlas did in Greek mythology.



**Dancing with Dandelions United Kingdom** ↑

**Designed by:** UK based sculptor, Robin Wight  
**Created in:** 2014

**What's special about it:** Made with stainless steel wires, this masterpiece is inspired by fairytales. The sculpture is based on a real-life encounter with what Wight feels was a fairy. He has designed a delicate yet fierce feminine character who collects dandelion seeds and possesses the power of magic.

**The Force of Nature II, Doha, Qatar**

**Designed by:** Italian sculptor, Lorenzo Quinn  
**Created in:** 2011

**What's special about it:** This is a sculpture with an important message. It warns observers to be mindful of the destructive capabilities of mother nature if its resources are misused. The sculpture was created in the aftermath of a devastating hurricane in the nation of Thailand.



**Raindrop, Ukraine**

**Designed by:** Nazar Bilyk  
**Created in:** 2010

**What's special about it:** A bronze statue with a huge raindrop made of glass sitting atop its face. The sculptor portrays this drop of water as a symbol of dialogue that connects man with his Creator and with all the diversity of life.



**Diminish and Ascend New Zealand** ↑

**Designed by:** David McCracken  
**Created in:** 2014

**What's special about it:** This 31-foot high sculpture by the sea looks like a 'stairway to heaven' as it stretches up into the sky and, from some angles, looks like a never-ending staircase. It was originally installed in Bondi, Australia and later shifted to Kiosk Lake, New Zealand in 2016.

