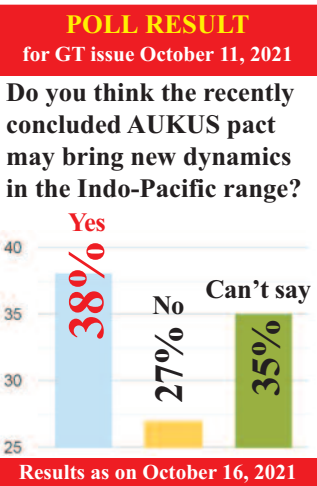




This special edition has been brought to you by Amity International School, Mayur Vihar, as a part of the 'GT Making A Newspaper Contest'. Each page of this unique edition carries a special story handcrafted by the school's editorial team as a part of the competition. The inter-Amity newspaper making competition witnesses different branches of Amity schools across India churn out their own 'Contest Edition' which are pitted against one another at the end of the year, culminating with GT Awards. So, here's presenting the seventh edition of 'GT Making A Newspaper Contest 2020-21'.

INSIDE
Building a career, P3
A magical musical, P4

AMITEpoll
Do you think European Union's engagement in the Indo-Pacific will strengthen the military balance and contribute to regional security in multiple ways?
a) Yes b) No c) Can't say
To vote, log on to www.theglobaltimes.in



Coming Next
AIS Gur 46 Contest Edition

The Unspoken, Surreptitious Rules Of The Game We Refer To As

Chaitanya Roy, AIS MV, IX C

MONOPOLY

As the biggest social network monopoly, Facebook Inc., experienced a massive outage (not its first one though) on October 4, 2021, the world collectively went on an app-refreshing-switching spree. Error messages such as '5xx Server Error', 'connecting', and 'something went wrong' are what the tech giant's three core apps, namely Instagram, WhatsApp and Facebook, flashed respectively. Consequently, hobbling communication and disrupting overall access for users and businesses across the globe for over 6-7 hours, the incident brought the internet to its knees. Costing a lump sum of 7 billion USD, it cut back Facebook Inc. CEO Mark Zuckerberg's worth to 120.9 billion USD additionally. Now, the question arises - if one breakdown is all it takes to blow away billions like this, how evenhanded is it for one company to make the game monopoly? Let's deduce...

What is monopoly?

Put simply, a monopoly is an economic market structure where a particular person or enterprise is the sole seller of a specific product or service. This seller has so much power in the market, considering it controls 25% or more of it, that it becomes impossible for other rival businesses to enter the field and challenge it. Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corp (IRCTC), Google, etc., are some contemporary examples. Now, there are sundry routes through which businesses become monopolies - patenting ideas as Microsoft Corp (MSFT) did with its Windows software in 1985; having access to a scarce resource as was the case with Standard Oil that acquired over 90% of the oil industry in the US in 1870s; when government grants exclusive rights to a firm, similar to what the British

government did with the British East India Company in 1600s; or when one firm acquires another such as Facebook's 2012 acquisition of Instagram.

Why is it inefficient?

While monopolies benefit the shareholders involved, the consumers and other small businesses mostly get the short end of the stick...

- No or negligible competition, a key feature of monopolies, results in them serving as the price maker, sometimes an unreasonable one. Owing to its monopoly on PC software in the 1980s, Microsoft Corp overcharged its customer base by an estimated 10 billion USD every year.
- The quality of the product/service is at risk due to the lack of alternatives in the

market. Times Warner Cable, the largest cable-internet-provider in the US once, long served its customers with slow internet speed, unexplained outages and poor customer service before it finally became defunct in 2016, 48 years after its inception in 1973.

- In order to increase their profits, monopolies are known to cause inflation. De Beers, an international corporation specialised in mining and trading of diamonds, did so by influencing global diamond supply and demand in the 1800s. As diamonds were a rarity then, the firm kept the illusion going with its limited supply of the same, thereby inflating their cost for a century or so.
- With control in the hands of one and no competition in sight, the vision gets lim-

ited and innovation takes the back seat. Dominating the US steel production market with a whopping 60-70% share in the early 1900s, US Steel, that did very little with the resources in its grasp, lost its monopolistic position in the market (not to say that it isn't doing well - 9.8 billion USD in revenues is not that small a number) when more innovative alternatives came into the picture eventually.

■ Monopolies restrict the entry of other competitive firms in the market through various schemes such as control of a scarce resource, patenting, intimidating potential competitors, etc. Dutch East India Company's monopolisation of nutmeg and mace in the 17th-18th century serves as one of the best examples of the latter-most. Since these spices did not grow elsewhere and were in demand, the Dutch took to arms to protect this monopoly.

Where is it beneficial?

But that in no way means we should ignore the times it has proven to be a beneficial structure for economic growth and globalisation...

- Monopolies can lead to economies of scale, i.e., cost

advantages that big enterprises enjoy due to their size, as production cost per unit decreases when output increases. These are mostly regulated by the governments in the form of utility firms such as those dealing in water supply, electricity, natural gas, etc., to provide uniformity of price and protect the end-customers from fluctuating costs. Besides, these also prevent wasteful duplication of infrastructure. For instance, in the 20th century, AT&T telecommunications company was the only phone company in the US that was legally allowed to provide local and long-distance service, for it made no sense to allow various smaller firms to imitate the same infrastructure over and over again.

Continued on page 6...

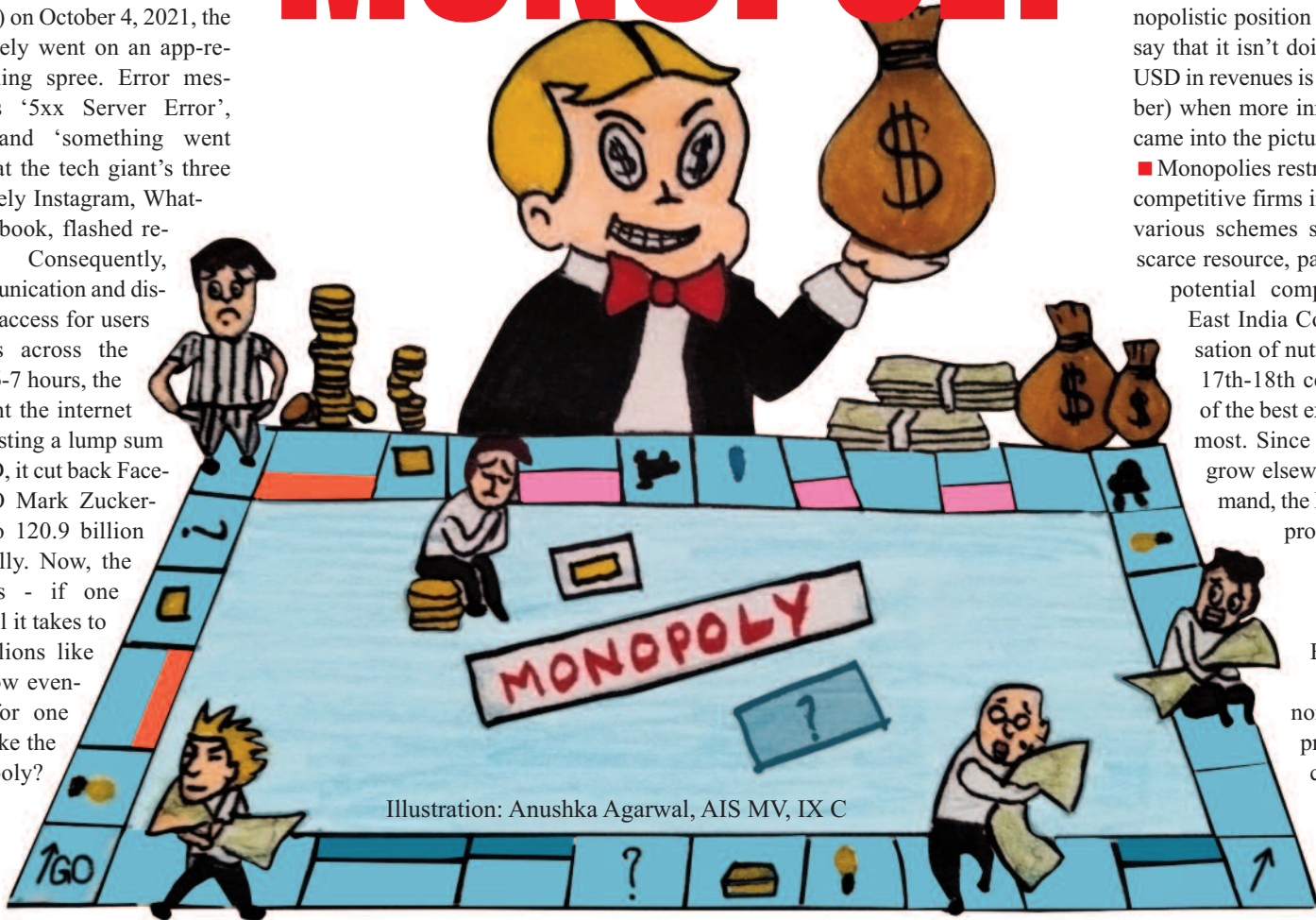


Illustration: Anushka Agarwal, AIS MV, IX C

A valorous voice

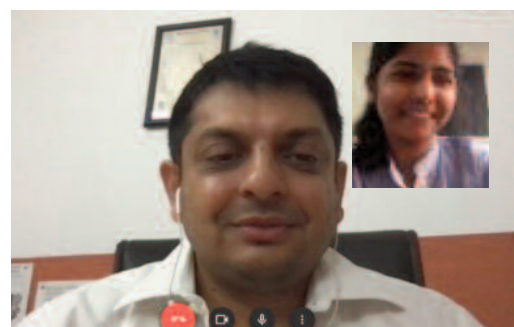
Rahul Agarwal On The Role Of News Media In Today's World

Anushka Ramesh, AIS Mayur Vihar, XI F

Meet Rahul Agarwal, founder, Newspoint television; author and new media strategist, Govt of India. In a career spanning the better part of two decades, he has worked as news contributor, CNN International; special correspondent, Zee News; and photojournalist, Press Trust of India. His book 'Turbulence and Triumph, the first ever pictorial biography of Prime Minister Narendra Modi' fetched rave reviews. To interview such a stalwart is always special, and more so when he happens to be an alumnus of your very own alma mater - Amity School of Communication (Batch 2001-02).

A big break

I had just started out my television journey when I



Rahul Agarwal with GT reporter

bagged a scholarship with Stanford. It was there that I learnt a great deal about social media and multimedia platforms. On coming back to India, I wanted to make use of what I had learnt up till then. In the year 2010-11, we started a network, more of a social media platform for the government of India. We were very sceptical about the initiative, given that social media was very new at that time and mainstream media reigned. Eventually, the initiative went a long way in circulating important information and popularising public welfare policies.

A robust responsibility

One of the key responsibilities of a journalist is to have complete knowledge of a given situation. You ought to be well researched and well read. Other than that, if you are going to a field for coverage,

INTERVIEW

Awards Galore

- Web Ratna Award
- CNN Best Young Journalist Award (Asia)
- Chief Minister's Award for Journalism

you should be more of a listener rather than being an interrogator. You are the people's voice, so it becomes your duty to make them feel heard. Moreover, a journalist needs to be unbiased and non-judgmental. Never throw shade on other people's opinions; instead let them form their own opinion from the facts that you provide.

A memorable moment

In the year 2004-05, CNN International conferred me with Best Journalist in Asia award and subsequently asked me to travel to CNN headquarters in Atlanta. During the module, I was given the opportunity to interview the then President of United States, Barack Obama. Upon reaching the White House, the chief of staff to the president instructed me to follow only the questionnaire that was provided and not go off-script.

Continued on page 5...



Rahul Agarwal, founder, Newspoint Television





What's popping?

A World Amidst Balloons, Filled With Twists, Colours, Contours, And Much More



Balloon art by Party Jingles



GT reporter in conversation with Surili Srivastav

GROUND REPORTING

Naina Srivastav

AIS Mayur Vihar, X A

As little children, all of us would get ecstatic at the sight of a *gub-barewallah* carrying a bunch of vibrant and flamboyant balloons. That said, we never knew balloons to be more than just a plaything. If only we knew that there was a thing as 'Balloon art' and could be a potential career option! Before your balloon of curiosity explodes, let's hear it from Surili Srivastav, founder, Party Jingles, and balloon décor specialist, who is going to reveal everything about this road less travelled.

A colourful enterprise

Just like us, Surili wasn't au courant with balloon artistry earlier. Incumbent with a secure and well-paying engineering job,

we wonder why she made this unconventional shift. "I wanted to strike a balance between my personal and professional life. After exploring my ways through some options, I came across balloon artistry and it instantly clicked. It involves twisting of balloons to form certain shapes, and to make big and complicated structures to suit an occasion. It was just the kind of work I had wanted to do: creative, exciting and flexible!" She delved deeper into it by watching tutorials aplenty, and also enrolled for training sessions by Qualate World Balloon Convention, a US company which offers the only certification programme for balloon artists in the world. Currently, Surili is just a few steps away from being one of the only certified balloon artists in India!

Some twists and turns

Though balloon art has been thriving in metropolitan cities such as Delhi and

Mumbai for the last 10-12 years, it is still not very prevalent in places such as Chandigarh, where Surili kickstarted her new journey. "People didn't accept the pricing and were not too sure whether they wanted to spend some money for 'only a balloon'," she says. She began a few projects involving her friends and family, and it was only a matter of time before the idea purveyed across a larger audience. Advertising and word of mouth eventually changed the game and led her to more and more projects. Presently, Party Jingles stands with a huge clientele overseas, specifically from Canada, US, UK and Saudi Arabia.

The steady inflation

Being a well-known career op-

tion abroad, balloon artistry is making its mark in our country gradually. Right now, there are more people in India at the distributor level for balloons than at the artistry level. With Party Jingles, a venture that is entirely dedicated to balloon art in India, Surili credits a lot of its success to social media platforms like Instagram, Twitter, Facebook, etc. She firmly believes that the balloon industry will be one of the flourishing sectors in the times to come because balloon art has an edge over other décor options,

owing to its eco-friendly and sustainable nature. At Party Jingles, they use biodegradable latex

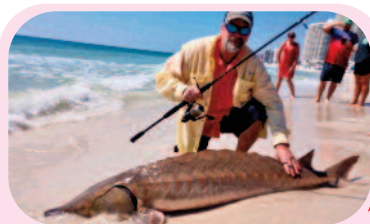
balloons which go well with any event, be it a birthday, anniversary, or any festival. More than that, she opines that the success of her enterprise so far has a lot to do with emotions as well. "People try to find innovative ways to express their love to close ones. Balloon decors are durable and can stay intact even after weeks or months," she added.

Fulfillment guaranteed

As it is with any business, balloon artistry comes with its shares of ups and downs, too. There are times when Surili gets no orders, and then there are times when she receives multiple orders per day. According to her, there is no fixed income that balloon artistry can ensure, as it entirely depends on the size of the orders you take and the quality that you offer. However, she reveals, "The bigger pay in this job is the satisfaction I see on people's faces when I deliver them specially customised balloons." 🇮🇳

Around The WORLD

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



USA

Prehistoric fish captured

A Kansas fisherman, Danny 'Butch' Smith II, caught a prehistoric predatory Alligator Gar, measuring four feet, six inches, in Neosho river, southeast Kansas. The creature, weighing 39.5 kilos, is nicknamed a 'living fossil fish' as its existence dates back to 100 million years. Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks confirmed the identification of the fish, and are currently trying to figure out where it came from, as the species is not native to the river.

MEXICO

Hit by hurricane Pamela

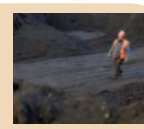
Category 1 hurricane Pamela, with winds of about 120km/h, made landfall in the western Pacific coast of Mexico. Though it flooded streets and knocked down several trees in its wake, no casualties have been reported so far. However, to prevent the residents from risk of flash floods and mudslides as has been forecasted, relocation efforts are well underway. For the same, the authorities have opened 40 shelters in Sinaloa.



CHINA

Coal prices hit peak

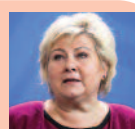
As floods in the nation deepen energy crisis, China, the world's largest coal consumer, witnessed a record-breaking 12% surge in coal prices on Oct 13. Since several mines in Shaanxi province that produce one third of the nation's coal supplies have been facing outages due to heavy rainfall and are temporarily shut, businesses have come to a halt too, forcing authorities to resort to power cuts and rationing.



NORWAY

PM to step down

Having served two four-year terms in her position as the PM, Erna Solberg handed over her letter of resignation to the country's monarch King Harald on Oct 12, as her party lost a total of nine seats in the Sept 13 parliamentary elections. As her successor, Jonas Gahr Støre would be taking over the office as and when he announces the new Cabinet. Till then, Solberg is required to act as the caretaker leader of the nation.



AFGHANISTAN

Teachers Peace Award'21

The teachers in Afghanistan were awarded the first ever IIHM Teachers Peace Award on the occasion of World Teacher's Day in order to celebrate their immense contribution to the education sector, despite such turbulent situations in the region. The theme of the award was 'Because Teachers Make Difference'. In line with the same, the teachers were saluted for their tireless efforts in combating challenges and providing the students unhindered learning.



INDIA

PM addresses G20 leaders

Prime Minister Modi, on October 12, 2021, took part in an emergency G20 summit on Afghanistan, where, through his virtual address, he urged nations to jointly handle the issues of radicalisation, terrorism and smuggling of arms in the war-ravaged nation, and prevent the territory from becoming a source hub. He further pressed the need for 'urgent and unhindered' assistance, in the form of food and healthcare, for the citizens of Afghanistan as they undergo the current humanitarian crisis.



In life when one door closes, another opens. Or you can just open the closed door. That's how doors work.
Hannah Mubarak, AIS MV, XII G, Page Editor

Ananya Gupta, AIS Mayur Vihar, XII G

The term 'architecture' is way too often misinterpreted to be a single dimensioned career option, when in actuality, it is abundant with countless ambits, more than we can imagine. Well, if you think you are a potential architect but at the same time, you are confounded whether this field of career will help in fulfilling your imaginative, creative flair, you need not look any further. Here's what experts from different arenas of the all-encompassing sphere of architecture have to say about this prospective career.

Building a career



BASIC ARCHITECTURE

Know if it's your calling

A basic architect outlines and designs a space, and then makes plans and elevations which help in the execution of the said design. The plan includes all the information like measurements and specifications, regarding the construction.

Know the eligibility

You must complete 10+2 years of school and acquire a bachelor's degree in architecture which takes up 5 years to complete. Apart from this, anyone who finds their calling in architecture must have a flair for sketching and also mathematics, with special focus on areas, volumes, ratios, etc.

Know the remunerations

Architecture is a rewarding job. Essentially, there is no fixed salary designated in this area of architecture. Starting as an intern, the salary could

About the expert: Shubhangi Goel is a licensed architect who started out as an intern in a South Delhi architect firm. She has undertaken several challenging projects, prime amongst which is a 5-star hotel near Bhumrao Highway spread across 7 acres with about 500 rooms.

range from 6,000-10,000 INR per month. Once you land a full-fledged job, then the starting salary is anywhere between 16,000-20,000 INR. If you dedicate your passion to this field for few more years, your pay-range can certainly reach up to 1-1.5 lakhs INR.

Know your responsibilities

You must be as ingenious and research-oriented as you can be. As a basic architect, it is imperative to be thorough in the whole process. The client lays down their needs, post which a proposal is devised by the architect. A primary design layout is created and pitched, changes are suggested and the draft goes through certain permutations and combinations. Once the design is finalized, the budget, size, ratio and other factors are deliberated on. Subsequently, contractors and workers are roped in.

Know the challenges

Firstly, it is very crucial to know if you are cut out for this field of work. This field demands long working hours, and a lot of dedication and hard work. So, go ahead only if you think you can take up challenges each day.

Know the learnings

Being an architect requires strong communicative and presentation skills. Each project undergoes a rigorous process right from the architect meeting the client to designing a layout to selling out the ideas. So, this profession teaches a lot about how to deal with people. If at all you are quiet and reserved, it is only a matter of time before this profession fosters a good deal of confidence and enhances your public speaking skills.

Know if it's your calling

A landscape architect is entrusted with the design of outdoor areas, landmarks, or structures to achieve environmental, social-behavioural or aesthetic outcomes.

Know the eligibility

In order to pursue landscape architecture, you must have completed 10+2 years of school and a bachelor's in architecture after that. Following this, you have to specialise for the domain, which requires a master's degree in landscape architecture. Lastly, a diploma in landscaping will add to your knowledge and expertise of the domain.

Know the remuneration

Architecture in itself is a versatile career, hence, the remuneration varies. For instance, if you happen to launch your own firm or company, the earnings could be as



URBAN DESIGNING

Know if it's your calling

An urban designer decides what can be built where and how outdoor areas will be used whereas other forms deal with the detailing part. This includes the analysis of demographic information to discern trends in population, employment, and health along with the ability to solve problems using a balance of competence and hardheaded pragmatism.

Know the eligibility

It is possible to become an urban designer with a 5 years bachelor's degree from a recognised university. It is recommended to pursue a master's degree which will enhance your knowledge.

Know the remuneration

It would be an overstatement to specify a fixed salary range. The income varies from person to person with respect to skills and experience.

Know the responsibility

As an urban designer, one needs to prepare design concepts, schematic plans, landscape construction

About the expert: Surbhi Vaka is an urban designer, working with Growever Infrastructure Pvt. Ltd. In the past, she has developed an effective government plan for the rejuvenation of Bara Bazaar, Aizawl, where she proposed guidelines for smart streets, parking, signages etc. She has also worked on projects on the development and beautification of Lodhi Art District, Laxmi Nagar Colony. Currently, she is leading three different smart cities projects namely Aizawl, Kohima and Bareilly.

plans, and community design plans related to complex residential and commercial development, redevelopment projects, as well as community projects. The work extends to urban and rural environments, in addition to spatial and generalist projects. The bottom-line is same in each field, just that the clientele differs.

Know the challenge

Being an urban designer, one of the biggest tasks is to convince the client of the designs. Since this field requires one to deal with different people for one project, it is an uphill battle to keep everyone, precisely the producer, the regulator, and the user on the same page while explaining the concept. You have to take each opinion into account and come up with a holistically appealing layout.

Know the learning

Architecture helps one to be cooperative because you have to deal with others, be it a single client or a whole group. It inculcates a sense of team spirit. A lot of us limit architecture to be simply about knowing the requisites of constructing a building. However, it much more than that. It's not just about measurements, but the material, the area, and nature itself. You also get to know about different types of soil, floods, climate and weather; basically, everything about nature per se that influence construction. This field gives you the freedom to do and be a lot of things.

and the kind of elements one can add to same before the construction of the building starts, because that way it is ensured that leftover space is not wasted. You must take into account the environment, the accessibility and other stakeholders.

Know the challenge

Despite architecture being a popular career choice, not many people are aware of its numerous branches. Each branch requires a different skill set. So, if you are approaching a basic architect for urban designing requirements, the results are bound to be unsatisfactory.

Know the learning

This is one field of work that allows you to imagine and experiment. You hold the power to convert a simple plain land into a stunning infrastructure, keeping in mind its impact on the community, environment and so on. So as you work, you acquire creativity and ability to think out of the box.

About the expert: Yogeeta Bhandari is a landscape architect and designer. She holds a master's degree in Landscape Architecture. Driven to push creative limits with cutting edge design concepts, she has worked on various schools and farmhouse landscaping projects. Her work portfolio also includes renowned proposals and projects such as the Temple Complex at Aerocity with GMR, redesigning of South East Delhi roads under PWD, to name a few.

high as 35,000-40,000 INR per month at the onset. However, if you are associated with some company as a freelancer, then it entirely depends on the project you are working on.

Know the responsibility

As a landscape architect, cohesive planning is very crucial. It is important to first understand the site,



LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE



Vidhi Pandey, AIS MV, XI I

In Agrabah dwelled an innocent boy who owned a mystic lamp, from which appeared an apparition called Genie. The crowd in front of him look bedazzled. Never had they come across such a marvel. Questions were asked but he had his answers in order:

A MAGICAL MUSICAL

“My name is Aladdin and with me is my Gin
My friend, my saviour, my inseparable kin
Whenever I happen to rub this lamp of tin
He pops out instantly with a glorious spin
Do you believe in magic and mystery?
There is no such thing without chemistry!”

With a ukulele and the lamp, entered Aladdin.
“So, what is it that really transpires
Inside the mysterious lamp, you inquire
A little scouring here and there, I perform
And thus, my blue Genie takes its form
Do you take notice of something?
Something unusual that makes you flinch?”

What was this apparition they had witnessed? The questions raged on and Aladdin took over once again.
“I’ll give you the answer to this verse
Lest you find this magic a curse
Let me resolve this sudden confusion
And show you a world full of fact and precision!”

Aladdin rubbed the lamp again and there sparked an abrasion. The huddled crowd looked on with their eyes widened. Hitting the melodious tunes of do-re-mi-fa, he took off again.
“When two surfaces come in chafing contact
It gives birth to a concept called friction, in fact!
Abrading the surfaces makes the heat elapse
Heat is a form of energy, which you know perhaps
It makes water unfold in the form of steam
Still spurious to you does it seem?”

Analogous to how a Genie emerges, he gets powered up from the heat generated. However, the gathering was more inquisitive than Aladdin thought them to be. “Something seems amiss here,” they asserted. “How can a giant be charged by a rub?”
With melody trickling down her spine, Jasmine replied:
“For that, we will need a gigantic scrub
In order to charge this world, a giant bulb
We need more than just friction to enable
Cosmic energy works its way to keep it stable
Now we take your leave, so does the Genie
He will rest in this little lamp so shiny!”

Aladdin took a sigh of relief as Jasmine arrived to his rescue. Genie disappeared into the magic lamp as he bid adieu. The whole town gave out an array of satisfied gasps and nods. “It was science, after all, that was behind all this magic,” they remarked in awe!

The science of it

Friction is the resistance to the motion of one object moving relative to the other. It is created as a result of the electromagnetic attraction between charged particles in the two touching surfaces. There are two types of friction-static friction & kinetic friction.



Instant click!

A Saga, Straight From The Mouth Of Polaroid

Aadya Kapoor

AIS Vasundhara 6, XII D

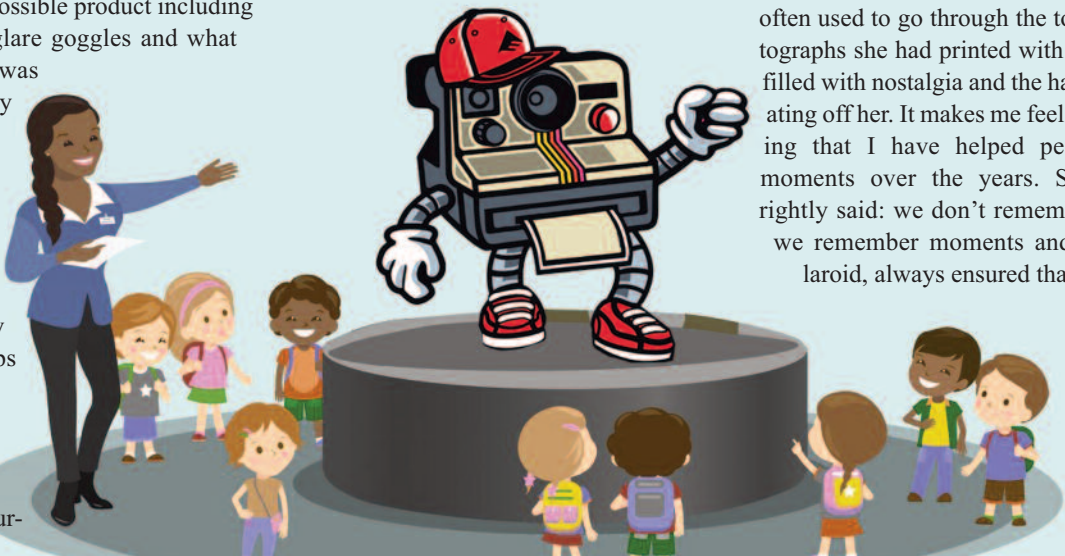
Sitting here, in the photography museum, I reminisce that day, which is fresh in my memory as yesterday: when my eye captured the first-ever photograph and printed it instantly. Edwin Land (my inventor) and his family were out on a vacation; he was clicking photographs of his 3-year-old when the little girl asked why she wasn't able to hold her own picture and to this Mr Land was left speechless. Thereafter, a star was born; I was born: Model 95 Land Camera, the camera which gave you the power to hold your most cherished moments in your hands, almost instantly. The polarizer technology that helped me be born was utilised by every possible product including 3-D movies and glare goggles and what not. Of course, I was the jewel of every memory's crown. Everyone adored me and my fellow camera-mates. I was the talk of the town, the star performer of every event. The shops selling cameras of my kind sold out within a day! From capturing smiles to capturing

ing surprises, I have memories of thousands of emotions humans put themselves through, each holding its own beauty. I love the powers I was born with, the power of spreading happiness and joy. Your friends are angry with you? Just take me to them and ask them to say cheese! The holidays on the beach, the snow on the mountain tops, I have been there, seen it. From happy moments, to moments of sorrow, I was a constant companion for people.

As time passed, the technology advanced quite rapidly and new cameras such as the DSLR came into existence with which my kind became an old-school type. People stopped buying me and switched to the new editions of high-tech cameras. I was hurt emotionally. Me and my fellow camera

mates missed being among the people; we missed those moments when everything just felt right. However, a few years back, there was an addition to the photography museum: a new model of DSLR joined the collection. That new companion told me that companies like Fujifilm, Kodak and even Polaroid are bringing the instant cameras back to life! Believe it or not, that was the moment of utter joy and relief. I was coming back to what I was devoid of since years.

Sitting here in the photography museum, watching people come and see the history of photography, the excited faces of children leaving the museum with the hope of owning an instant camera of their own, makes me realise how far the idea of instant camera has come. This reminds me of the time when Mr Land's daughter was growing up: she often used to go through the tonnes of photographs she had printed with me, her eyes filled with nostalgia and the happiness radiating off her. It makes me feel proud, thinking that I have helped people capture moments over the years. Someone has rightly said: we don't remember the days; we remember moments and I, your polaroid, always ensured that.



Peas in a pod

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



Nitya Gupta, AIS PV, IX D

Hey! My name is: Pea
I am also known as: *Pisum-sativum*

About me

I belong to the Fabaceae legume family and the eight 'Founder crops' of domesticated agriculture.

I am one of the oldest cultivated crops, dating back to the Neolithic period of the Middle East.

In the 1800s, I was used as part of a pioneering study on nature of heredity.

I am a hard leafy annual plant, with hollow trailing or climbing stems reaching upto 1.8 metres in length.

- My flowers are butterfly shaped reddish-purple, pink or white in colour, and grow two-three per stalk.
- My fruit is a pod that grows 10 cm long; inside it are 5 to 10 small, edible round seeds.
- The oldest me ever found was nearly 3,000 years old.
- I can be bought fresh, frozen or canned and am mostly available all year around. I can be eaten raw or you can cook me.

What I offer

100 grams of my consumption provides you with:

- Calories: 84
- Protein: 5.4 grams
- Sugar: 5.9 grams
- Fiber: 5.5 grams
- Fat: 0.2 grams
- Potassium: 0.27 grams
- Vitamin A, E & C
- Other minerals (Calcium, Magnesium and Iron)

I can help you

- Blood sugar
- Digestion
- Heart diseases
- Diabetes
- Stomach cancer
- Improved eye sight

My different avatars

- Asauji
- Arkel
- Alaska
- Jawahar Matar
- Bonneville
- Alderman
- Lincoln

■ Ooty

Where you can find me

I am a winter season crop as I require cool to moderate temperature for optimum production. A well-drained loamy soil with neutral pH range is suitable for my cultivation. In India, Uttar Pradesh is my chief producing state. Other major countries producing me are Russia and China, followed by Canada, Europe, Australia and the United States.

Why I fear climate change

I am highly sensitive to climate change and my yield could be affected by drought or high temperature (exceeding 25 degrees Celsius) changes during my grain formation period. In a study, it was found out that when the mean daily temperature increases by 1.4 °C or 2.0 °C, my stems become vulnerable to root-rot sickness by 23.3% or 50.6%, respectively. These results indicate that a temperature increase will make me sick. I also do not require much fertiliser as I have my own source of nitrogen in root nodules. Thus, excessive use of fertilisers should be avoided because it can damage my crop produce a great deal. Besides, it is advisable to do a crop rotation of my plant after every three years for better quality and quantity cultivation. I hope humans would take care of these factors to help me grow further and prosper in 'peas'. 🌱



If I've only got this life, this adventure, oh then I want to write for GT!

Aarushi Aggrwal, AIS MV, XI C
Page Editor

Dead poets' society

The Fight For Freedom Meets The Pen Of The Poets

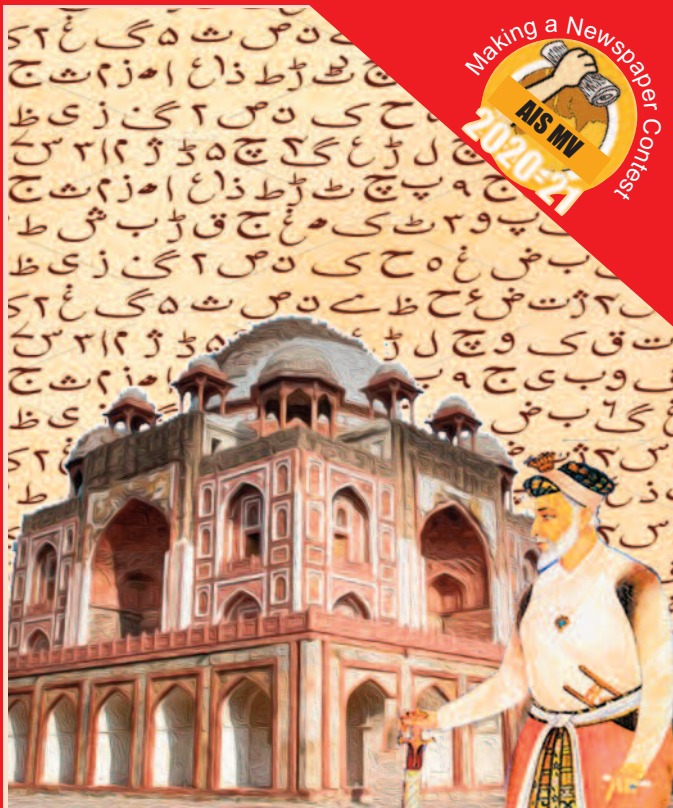
Leela Ajeet
AIS Saket, XI C

I tapped impatiently at my notebook while I waited. Finally, after 30 long seconds, they began to materialise. I graciously offered them a cup of tea and biscuits, all in a hope to energise the revered poets sitting in front of me. "So, I believe you have called us here on a serious matter," spoke Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore, the great Indian poet, as he took his place at the table. "Yes, I need help from all of you on writing an essay on India's struggle for independence. And as I have delayed this essay for as long as possible, I now only have a few hours to submit my assignment for the renowned writer's award. I so do want to win it!" "Don't worry, my child," said

Tagore, "all of us are here to help you achieve your goal." Just then, I heard Sir Muhammad Iqbal, a poet and philosopher fondly known as the 'Poet of East' pronounce, "Saare jahan se accha, Hindustan hummaara" followed by Tagore, "Where the mind is without fear and the head is held high" and a voice from nightingale of India, Sarojini Naidu, "Thy (India's) future calls thee, with a manifold sound, to crescent honours, splendours, victories vast." Stunned for a second, I muttered under a deep breath: why are all of them making such statements? Ignoring it, I continued "As I was saying, I now only have a few hours..." "This biscuit is excellent, I quite like it," spoke Sir Muhammad Iqbal. The others nodded in agreement. "Erm...to finish. So, I was hoping that you all

could give me the main points. Basically, the main dates, events, people, etc., so I can write this," I completed. "The weather is really beautiful this time of the year. Perfect for picnics," added Sarojini Naidu. Once again, the others gravely nodded in agreement. I brushed the crumbs off my lap, gritting my teeth slightly. "And I must add that this tea party is quite lovely," spoke Tagore. Seeing me trying to maintain my composure, as one must while interacting with great poets, Naidu continued, "The movement wasn't only about the main events, dates and it definitely wasn't about a few main people. There were many other small factors, just like the weather and the biscuit dipped in the day's tea." Scratching my head, I decided to change my question, "What

would you consider as one the most important factors in the movement?" "Feelings, patience, courage," they all chimed in unison. "Not anger or hate?", I asked. "Why hate?" they questioned. I glanced at my notes on the violent tactics and exploitation of the British. "Well, didn't everyone hate the British because they were so mean and ruthless?" "Nothing can be fueled by hate for long. The movement was about being proud of our country and making it ours," said Tagore. And soon, I could listen "Mazhab nahin sikhata, aapas mein bair rakhna!" I realised that I would probably never get the essay done on time, so I asked "Is that what you all did, focus on the... feelings and emotions of people?" "Well yes," said Iqbal, "we are poets after all."



Graphic: Ananya Jain, AIS MV, XI A

Reminiscing Rahim

Tale Of A Forgotten Love

Aarushi Aggrwal
AIS MV, XI C

Autobiography

Greetings, everyone! I am the Khan-i-Khanan tomb. I see you have your eyebrows raised in curiosity wondering who I am. Well, I have a tale to tell you - a tale that more often than not goes astray amidst the grandeur of monuments like Taj Mahal or Humayun's Tomb. But it's about time we revive my story.

I was brought to life in 1598 by the awe-inspiring poet Abdur Rahim Khan-i-Khana to commemorate his wife Mah Banu. Does 'Rahim ke dohe' ring a bell? An adept architect, poet, minister, and one of the Navaratnas of Akbar's court! In 1627, Rahim, too, was buried alongside his better-half. I am sure you're thinking that this story bears resemblance with Taj Mahal, but would you believe me if I said that Taj Mahal was inspired by me and that I was the first ever mausoleum constructed in the memory of a woman?

Sitting placidly, yet unnoticed along the busy Grand Trunk Road in Nizamuddin East, I was a delight and often adored for my craftsmanship. However, my status as a classic structure only lasted so long. To be precise, until Safdarjung Tomb was born. It was supposed to be an emulation of me, but then some must die for others to be born. The lucent marbles adorned on my dome were stripped off, along with numerous precious gems in order to build this new tomb. Gradually I was torn down, my state deplored. I was rendered incomplete.

After ages of neglect, I was finally recognised by the Archaeological Survey of India, though tourists seldom visited.

Who would want to visit a crumbling place, threatening collapse? My heartbreak slowly showed: large cracks, stones falling. Imprudent restoration attempts were made, but it made me worse. Modern plaster and cement did not help; I looked stable but was in actuality on the verge of dilapidation.

But all was not lost yet. Following this complicated history erupted the light of dawn! 2014 was a quantum leap. One morning, I heard chatter near me. It was not a usual guide reciting stories of yore. They were officials talking business. I will recite one dialogue that resides in my heart still- "We are repairing Rahim ka Makbara! Let's get the paperwork going." I was non-plussed. All these years, I had told myself that I was worthless and unsalvageable. But there were people from the Aga Khan Trust for Culture and the ASI who were still so passionate about Rahim.

Today, I yet again stand proudly, singing praises of Rahim. Having withstood all kinds of seasons and weathers, I still look as breathtaking as I was in the sixteenth-century. I still hope that someday, by-passers will point at me and remark my significance. Because the words of Rahim still resound inside me:

जैसी परे सो सहि रहे,
कहि 'रहीम' यह देह।
धरती ही पर परग है,
सीत घाम और मेह।।
That is, "one must bear adversity. As the earth tolerates cold, sun, and rain, humans should live through happiness and sorrow."



A valorous voice

...continued from page 1

A valorous voice

But at the end of the interview, I asked the President if I could ask a few off-script questions which I was permitted to do. The chief later told me that they had never previously allowed anyone to go beyond the questionnaire and I was probably the youngest journalist to have interviewed the President at that time. I believe that to be my most reminiscent memory as a journalist.

A courageous capture

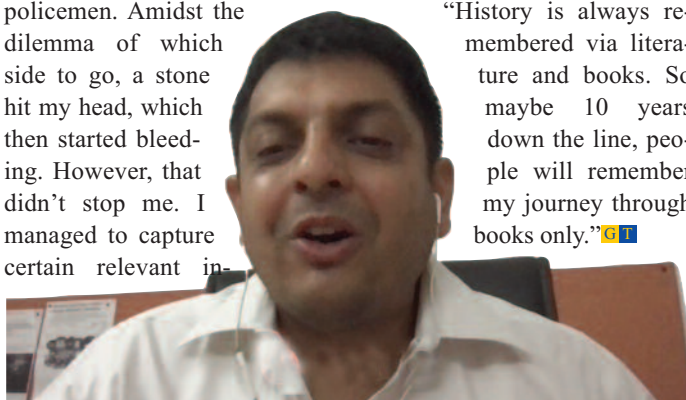
Being a photojournalist, getting gripping visuals is very crucial. I still remember a picture I took in the city of Uttar Pradesh during some riots. We were posted between the stone pelters and policemen. Amidst the dilemma of which side to go, a stone hit my head, which then started bleeding. However, that didn't stop me. I managed to capture certain relevant in-

stances which would then go on the cover page of The Times of India newspaper.

A pictorial perspective

It was during our PM Narendra Modi's first term that I met the then US president Barack Obama. His chief photographer apprised me that the White House releases a book annually on the President of United States that depicts all the work done by him while in the power. It was then that I realised that nothing of such sort was attempted for our PM whose work has been extremely notable. And that is how the idea for my book 'Turbulence and Triumph' came about. This book is replete with photographs which depicts his journey.

The PM himself told me, "History is always remembered via literature and books. So maybe 10 years down the line, people will remember my journey through books only." 📖📚



SERIES REVIEW

Rake in that review

Web Series: Scam 1992

Director: Hansal Mehta and Jai Mehta

Released On: October 9, 2020

Starring: Pratik Gandhi, Shreya Dhanwanthary

Genre: Crime, Drama



Synopsis: Set in early 90's Bombay, Scam 1992: The Harshad Mehta Story captures the meteoric rise and fall of Harshad Mehta- the flamboyant big bull of the stock market. The story begins in the 1970s, where Harshad Mehta is working in low-paid jobs and is living with his family in a one-room apartment. In the 1980s, he joins a job at the Bombay Stock Exchange as a 'jobber' (A person who exchanges stocks). Unable to satisfy his ever-growing ambitions, he opens a trading company named 'Growmore' and he quickly amassed wealth and power. His meteoric rise threatens the big players of the market, who began to plot against him. With an anonymous tip at hand journalist Sucheta Dalal, writes an eye

opening article on Harshad. The article calls for investigation from RBI and multiple suspects appear in the biggest stock market gamble.

Why is it watch-worthy: The series is a captivating and a cautionary tale which lets you decide if Harshad was a victim or a criminal. It also gives you an in-depth analysis of the political and financial world of the neoliberalised India. With a great story and an amazing screenplay, it surely is 500 minutes of binge-worthy content.

Iconic dialogue: "Success kya hai? Failure ke baad ka naya chapter."

Rating: 4.9/5

Review by: Keshav Bajaj,
AIS Gur 46, XI J



Global leaders




Dr. Amita Chauhan
Chairperson

Amity International Model United Nations, a simulation of the United Nations, just completed its 14th edition. The event saw participation of young students from across the world. Donning the role of diplomats, they discussed and deliberated upon issues that loom

over the world at large and sought solutions to the same. As the students represented countries other than their own, they were sensitised towards the impact of common issues on different nations.

To lessen the gap between an online simulation and the real world, many dignitaries joined in too. Gracing the occasion were politicians like Mr Joonas Kuntta, Member of Parliament, Finland and Mr Devesh Kumar, Member, Bihar Legislative Council. Diplomats as Ambassador Ritva Kouku-Ronde, Embassy of Finland, New Delhi and Mr Boris Jelovsek, Minister Plenipotentiary, Embassy of the Republic of Slovenia, Athens, Greece enlightened students on the importance of maintaining friendly relations between nations. The dignitaries from the UN like Ms Anita Bhatia, Assistant Secretary General and Deputy Executive Director at UN Women and others, shared the work being done by UN to achieve peace and reach the SDG goals. The event also saw many international experts as Mr Imrich Milo from Slovenia and Ms Tara Stafford Ocansey from USA share their expertise with the students.

As students interacted with these leaders, they were not just inspired by them but also gained a stronger insight into the workings of the field of diplomacy in the real world. 


Overcoming adversities



Meenu Kanwar
Principal, AIS MV

While nations across the world are still struggling to combat the pandemic, what has remained unchanged is the indomitable will of human beings to overcome challenges and triumph against all odds. As educators, it gives us great pride to see that 'school build-

ings maybe closed, but learning continues seamlessly' keeping the learning process uninterrupted to ensure normalcy in the lives of children. And all this has been made possible through the efforts of honourable Founder President Sir and respected Chairperson Ma'am who have devised innovative strategies and progressive initiatives to create a harmonious online environment for all classes at Amity. No wonder then that Amity has proved to be a pioneer in setting new benchmarks, even during the online mode of learning.

I must add that Amity has fulfilled the dual responsibility of actively engaging and ensuring participation from their students with characteristic dedication in both letter and spirit! Guided by Founder President Sir's philosophy of 'BHAAG', our students are shining in all vistas of education, bagging laurels with their achievements at various events and competitions as well as in academics, thereby ensuring that the Amity flag keeps soaring high! It is said that 'The challenges of life are intended to make you better, not bitter.' We learn this best from our children with their boundless resilience and ability to adapt. Let us raise a salute to their spirit and unwavering positivity in these unusual times! 

A happy ending...

Addin' A Pinch Of Reality To The Happy-Ever-After Sundae

Aarushi Aggrwal
AIS Mayur Vihar, XI C

"...and they all lived happily ever after." Well, for a change, this story begins with an ending, and a rather happy one at that. Just like the denouement of every other children's storybook that we can recall from our childhoods. Think Cinderella, The Sleeping Beauty, and all we soak from these fantasies is the image of a utopian world immune from all the hardships. And while such run-of-the-mill storylines keep giving the preposterous illusions of a trouble-free world to impressionable weans, it might have been forgotten that such a realm is a myth blown out of every proportion. However, The Bunker Diary, a novel by Kevin Brooks, bagged the Carnegie medal, a Booker prize equivalent of children's literature, in the year 2014. Now did the story bring with it a fantastical plot or a feel-good ending? Far from it. The story entails a kidnapped boy who never finds his way out ever. In fact, the book even ends mid-sentence giving the impression of a life that ends abruptly; implying that life is such that, sometimes, it just keeps throwing the sourest lemons at you and you must be prepared for it, because let's be honest, fairy godmother is

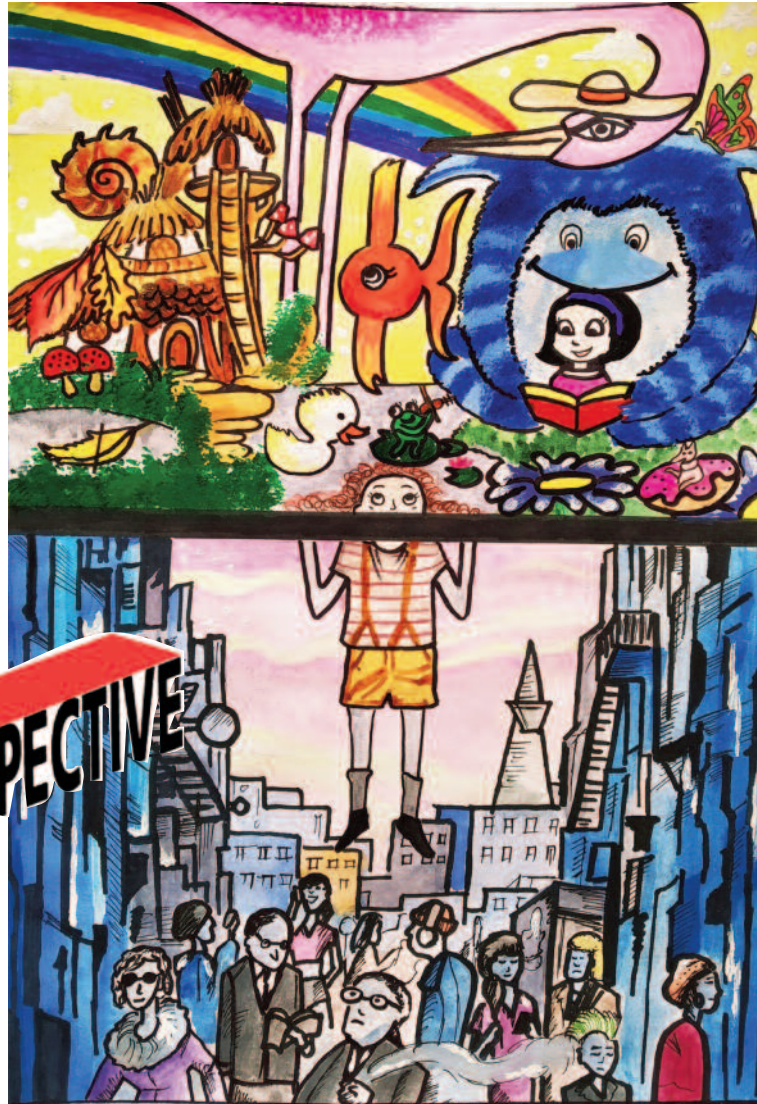


Illustration: Ananya Arya, AIS MV, XI C

too busy with fiction to be real!

Contrary to the Little Red Riding Hood, who, along with her grandmother is swallowed by a cunning

jackal, but is saved by a lumberjack in the end, The Little Match Girl, an 1845 literary fairytale by Danish author Hans Christian Andersen,

comes off as not so fairytale esque. A recipient of the prestigious 1999 Parent's Choice Award, this story highlights the plight of a little girl struggling to sell matchboxes for a living. Towards the end, the girl, after a tough day, begins to light her matches for warmth. With each burning match, she imagines a better life for herself, devoid of poverty and tribulations. Eventually, her deceased grandmother appears and takes her to heaven, and the book as a whole succeeds in painting the reality, sensitising children about all the privations that humans are bound to go through.

EB White, through his 1952 classic children's novel, Charlotte's Web, attempts to take younglings through the concept of slaughter and sacrifice. Depicting a fictional setup, a spider named Charlotte tries everything to have Wilbur the pig saved from being butchered, through a webby message to a gullible farmer about Wilbur being a miraculous animal who must not be killed. Charlotte, however, dies in this course. Here, EB White's story, which also won the distinguished John's Newbery Medal in 1953, acts as a reminder that while magic and miracles are requisites to appeal to children, it must open their eyes to the unfeigned realities of the world that one cannot ignore.

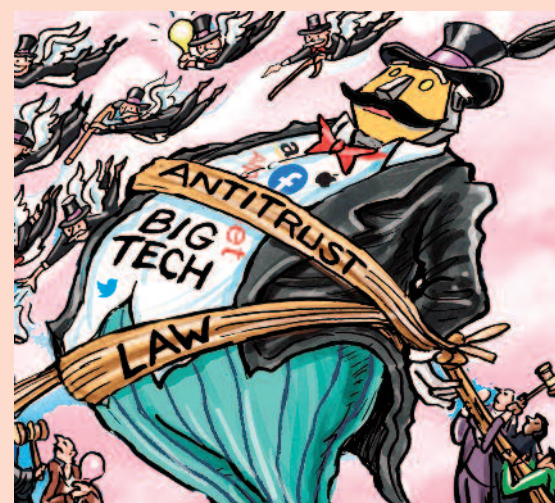
And thus, we wonder, in a world of happy endings, will it be too far-fetched to be real?

Not so com(monopoly)

Delving Further Into The Rules Of The Game

Continued from page 1...

- The only way to maintain a durable monopoly is by producing efficient and more dynamic products. The power that Google enjoys with its 92.47% share in the search engine market comes from its ability to innovate and be better than its rivals.
- Monopolies with their ability to produce on a large-scale help avert crisis of any kind. During the pandemic, Amazon managed to triple its sales as online shopping boomed. It was able to fulfil the requirements of its consumers without compromising on the quality or pricing of the products it deals in.
- Employment opportunities increase manifold. Amazon added over 430,000 employees in the last year to keep up with the surge in orders, taking its total employee count to 1.27 million by the end of March 2021. The job opportunities provided otherwise are huge in number too. Government monopoly IRCTC, with its 110% market share in the rail network, is the largest employer in India.
- These enterprises can use their monopoly profits for research and developments, and as a result, create new efficiencies and products. Before Standard Oil was established in 1870, several small oil companies would dump their industrial residue into the rivers, but as the former emerged, it developed ways to make money off of its waste products, with Vaseline being one of its novel creations to attain the same. Likewise, IBM is credited with the production of first commercially available modern computers, thanks to the research the company undertook.



when it comes to keeping these monopolies in check. As these detract from acting in the interest of the citizens who happen to be their customers, governments, by means of antitrust laws, price capping, nationalisation or investigations, limit or completely stamp out these structures of power without remorse. The breakup of the American conglomerate AT&T in 1980s owing to its potential to fix prices, the 2015 termination of the merger between two of the world's largest food distributors Sysco Corp and US Foods Inc., to prevent the resulting entity from becoming an overwhelming monopoly, or the more recent filing of lawsuit against Facebook for its systematic acquisition of rival apps Instagram and WhatsApp, are few incidents where governments intervened just in time. The power that lies with the government is thus immense, but do we as customers, the most essential part of any business, feel powerful and safe in this monopolistic setting is for us to ponder over and determine!

When does the government jump in?


In any case, there's nothing denying the fact that governments around the world play an instrumental role

Going all out to achieve perfection



Shweta Gaur
GT Teacher
Coordinator

"Never underestimate the power of dreams and the influence of the human spirit."

In the past two years we have witnessed educators across the globe work relentlessly and spent tireless amount of time in the preparation of new modules. Now, that we are all into the second successful year of online teaching, I must commend the underlying spirit of the teachers and our students who adapted to this teaching-learning environment and contributed immensely in the completion of this session. I take immense pride in commending the indomitable spirit of the young scribes of Amity Mayur Vihar as I see their hard work materialise into a vibrant contest edition. Frantic phone calls, messages, chats punctuated with online teaching, marked the making of this issue. What amazed me the most was their unbridled enthusiasm and requests to write for GT, their fertile minds and their adaptability to provide alternate solutions against all odds posed by the pandemic. GT has always been a great platform for the students to harness their talent and showcase creativity. We can't thank our Chairperson ma'am enough for ensuring that the GT reaches us in its digital avatar. I enjoyed every opportunity to spur the young minds, and I hope the hard work of the entire team is duly rewarded and makes this contest edition a fulfilling one! 



They say home is where the heart is, and mine lives in GT.

Vidhi Pandey, XI I & Ridhima, IX A, AIS MV
Page Editors



Swaying south-east



...Towards Securing Freedom From China's Seizure Of The South China Sea

Vidhi Pandey, XI I &
Ridhima, IX A, AIS MV

India recently deployed warship in South China Sea (four ships including a guided missile destroyer and missile frigate) – a news that sent Ajay's dad in a frenzy. His eyebrow raised, he let out a huge gasp, enough for Ajay who was lying lazily on the couch to take notice...

Ajay: What happened, dad?

Dad: India's warship in South China Sea...big news...ehhh!

Ajay: Oh yeah! I heard my MUNer friends debate over it too. So, what exactly is the fuss about?

Dad: The warship means India taking a strong stance against China, which comes as a surprise considering that our country has always tried to avoid any clash. It is a paradigm shift from India's stance on Beijing. Also, in the wake of recent Indo-China dispute, this has all the potential to escalate into a war.

Ajay: Wait! I am confused. This is about India and some international waterways. How does China come into the picture here?

Dad: Ever since the 1970s, South China Sea has been a bone of contention. However, over the past few years, China has been asserting increasing dominance over the said waterways. It started with China militarising some artificially constructed island in the area. Several intelligence reports assert that China has been deploying anti-ship cruise missiles,

electronic jamming equipment et al on those islands. In addition, it has also constructed harbours and airships that can house military aircraft and warships. So, basically any maritime vehicle entering the said Sea now is within China's military range.

Ajay: But how can China exercise control over international waterways? By that logic other countries in the South Asian region should be doing the same thing?

Dad: It's not like other South Asian countries are not trying to exercise their power. However, other countries as Philippines, Vietnam, Malaysia and Brunei are not as powerful as China. Besides, they also have a crucial economic relationship with Beijing, which they can't afford to jeopardise. As a matter of fact, China has wrangled with these countries over South China Sea, and their spat has flared on and off for several decades now.

Ajay: Okay, so China is trying to gain control over South China Sea. But how is that any of India's business? Remember you once told me to keep my nose out of others' affairs!

Dad: Of course, it is India's business. South China Sea is one of the busiest and second most used sea routes in the world. In fact, 200 billion USD worth of India's annual trade happens through this waterway. Nearly 55% of India's trade with the Indo-Pacific region passes through these waters. Besides, the sea is home to a rich biodiversity and various re-

sources, including an estimated 190 trillion cubic feet of natural gas, and 11 billion barrels of oil in reserves. This makes it an excellent choke point of power.

Ajay: This means that South China Sea is not just important for India, but other countries too.

Dad: Most certainly! Why do you think other countries are worried? The South China Sea also accounts for one-third of the world's shipping worth more than 3 trillion USD every single year, including world's most vital commodities like raw materials. This region is responsible for the passage of 75% of South Korea's and 90% of Japan's oil and natural gas imports too.

Ajay: That's huge. Then why is India alone frenzied?

Dad: That's because the stakes are higher for India. Given South China Sea's strategic significance, India has invested its resources in the maintenance of rules, order, and freedom in these sea lanes of communication. Along with this, India has also invested in the oil reserve of the sea, especially as it signed an agreement with Vietnam in 2011 which aims to expand and promote oil exploration in SCS. China openly objects to India's oil exploration activities in the Vietnamese waters in the SCS, and has deployed as many as 35 ships to the area to escort a ship operated by the China Geological Survey. Even Vietnam has stated that China has been conducting "provocative activities" near severe oil blocks, especially near the ones where India's ONGC has been involved in oil



and gas production. Keeping the country's energy and trade requirements in mind, India needs the sea lanes open and free in SCS. Even for the Indian Navy, which also operates in the Western Pacific, the sea becomes important. The Chinese intelligence ships, which were earlier stalking American, Australian, and Japanese warships in the western Pacific, are now also in the Eastern Indian Ocean and keeping an eye on India's naval movements.

Ajay: Sure, the stakes are higher for India. But other countries have their interests in South China Sea too. So, why aren't they doing something about it?

Dad: Who said, they aren't? Whether it is the formation of international alliances like Quad (US, Japan, India and Australia) or Aukus (a trilateral security pact between Australia, UK and US), all major powers are trying to curb China's aggressive control over the region. The US, UK and other countries have been sending warships to the region, calling it 'freedom of navigation'.

Ajay: Looks like the entire world's against China!

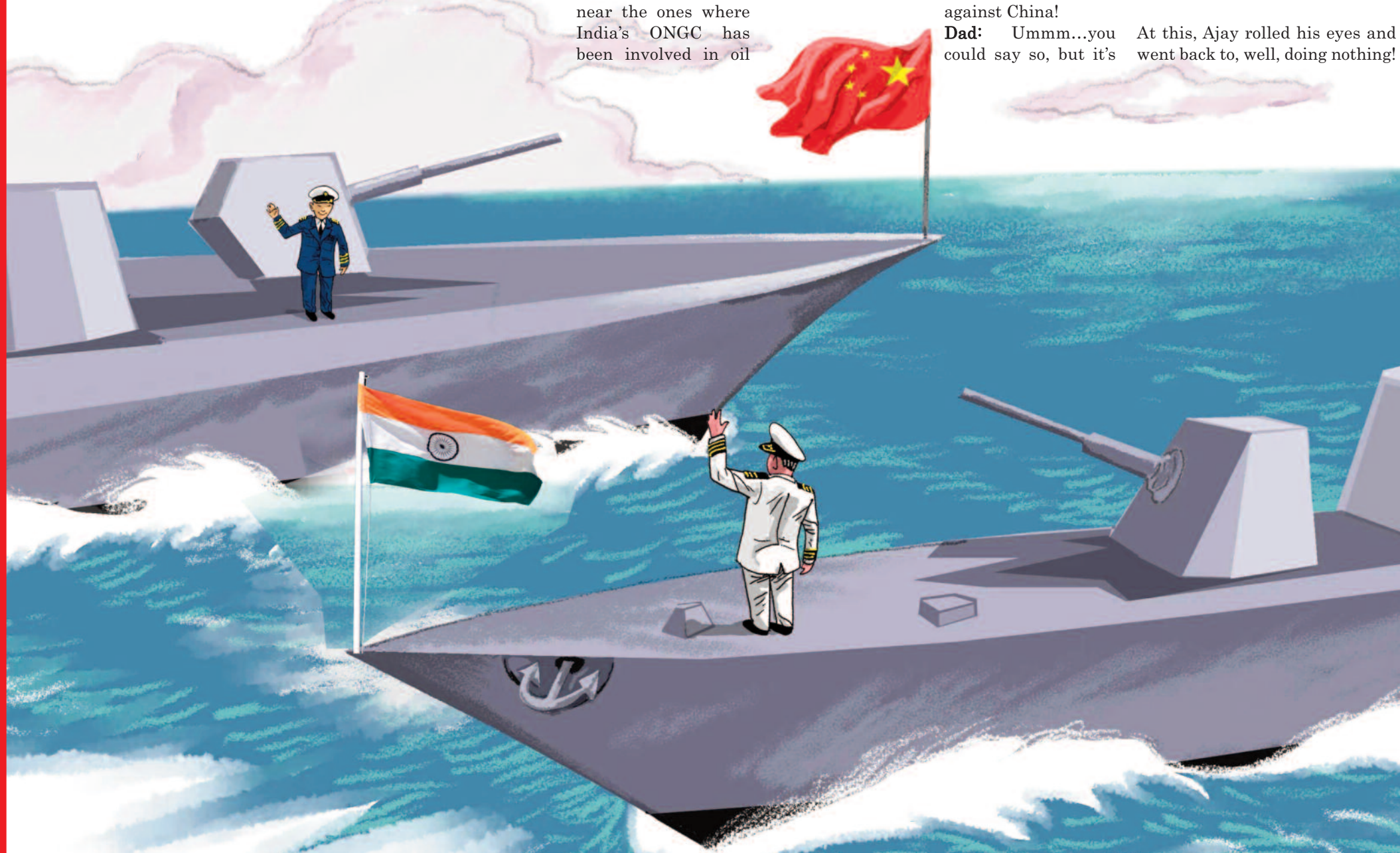
Dad: Ummm...you could say so, but it's

more like trying to retain a global order. In fact, many analysts argue that other powers must not let go of their control over South China Sea in order to challenge China's unchecked, aggressive dominance over various areas. They also state that the same is a must to keep a rule-based liberal international order intact.

Ajay: And what about India? Where does it stand in this new international order?

Dad: Interesting question. India has begun to play a key role in the new world order, especially in the southeast Asian region. It is engaging with the ASEAN countries on a regular basis via waters, growing strategic-military partnerships, oil exploration, diplomatic discussions and much more. The Act East Policy of 2014 was a key step in this direction. The policy is a diplomatic initiative that aims to bolster India's ties with various countries in the Asia-Pacific region at the economic, strategic, and cultural levels. India's deployment of warship in SCS was also a part of this policy. Many see SCS as India's chance to enhance its engagement with Southeast Asia. And not just that, the country is also strengthening its security ties with other nations via its stance in the SCS matter. It's a strategic diplomatic move, but it is too early to say if it will put India in the top rankings in a new-found international order. And for that, it is important that you keep reading the news and stop being a couch potato.

At this, Ajay rolled his eyes and went back to, well, doing nothing!





A cliché murder

Storywala



Pic: Sanyam Jain, AIS MV, XI H

Chaitanya Roy
AIS Mayur Vihar, VIII C

“Good morning, ladies and gentlemen, I’ve gathered you all here today to announce...” said Adele, and sighed, taking a pause. “Announce what?” inquired someone from the audience. “Please, Evan, this is serious!” Adele continued in a sweet yet exhausted tone. “I’m here to announce that I’m dead. I’ve been murdered, actually.” In the regular world, one would run away hearing this sentence. But then, this is the realm of fiction and anything is possible. It was that part of Edward’s story where the villain, Adele, had been murdered. “I received a letter in the morn-

ing, and the opening sentence read ‘you’ve been murdered’. I recalled that someone had poisoned my wine at yesterday’s Halloween celebration,” continued Adele. Everyone in the crowd was bewildered as no one really knew why Edward had killed Adele. “Now, which one of you got a letter saying ‘you murdered Adele Arson’?” A pale redhead from the crowd pointed out, “Well, Adele, this is supposed to be a murder mystery, after all. So, I don’t think Edward has written about the killer yet.” Everyone seemed to agree and, surprisingly enough, so did Adele. “Yeah, Anne, yeah. I know this is a murder mystery. Also, why would you care, you are the protagonist and there are less problems for you now that I

Everyone in the crowd was bewildered as no one really knew why Edward had killed Adele.


am gone,” Adele said, in a tone that bordered on anger. She screamed, “Why would Edward want to kill me? I’ve been there since the very first draft.” A man from the back of the crowd said, “You were the villain and had to be killed.” Adele was not willing to accept this at all. She was short tempered, jealous, and most importantly, the villain! “But...I am the villain...that’s it. Get ready, everyone, we are going to change the story. One of you has murdered me, and we

will find out who.” This sounded absolutely strange to everyone; but no one could argue with Adele, especially now that she was lying back on her chair, tapping her long nails on the wooden table, showing off that hideous evil smirk. She pointed at a few men and women, dressed just like her, all dark, mysterious and evil. “Sylvie, Arthur, Helena, Petunia and Simon - they are going to help me with the interrogation which will begin now,” she smiled. All the ‘suspects’ were lined up and ‘interrogated’. Few hours passed, and finally Adele had ‘found’ the ‘killer’, ruining Edward’s murder mystery.

“Amy! There you are. Read this! Here, I’ve finished writing the murder mystery,” said Edward handing the draft to his assistant. Amy was shocked by what she read. She hesitated at first, but at last she said the dreaded words. “Edward, this is a little strange, don’t you think? This ‘Adele’ character is just...she doesn’t fit. She ruins the whole story. She has become such a cliché - a typical villain. I’m sorry but just remove her. If she’s not there, this story could be your next hit. Oh, and make sure Anne’s identity is hidden till the end.” Next morning, when Petunia and Simon came to visit Adele, they just found a letter outside her house that read ‘resident has been evicted’.







Trendy tin lamp

Ravina Rastogi, AIS Saket, X

Material required

Tin can (medium size)	1
Drill machine	1
Drill machine bits (small and big)	2
Bulb holder with wire and plug	1
Bulb (preferably 40 Watts)	1

Method

- Take a used tin can and remove the mouth of the can.
- Under parental supervision, make a hole in the center of the other closed end of the tin can with the help of a drill machine.
- Pass a wire attached to the bulb holder through this hole.
- Next, use the small and big bits of drill machine to make multiple holes in any pattern of your choice on the curved surface of the cylinder.
- Attach the holder and fix a bulb at the top of the can where the hole was made.
- Hang the tin lampshade at your preferred place and make sure it is stable.
- Your personalised lampshade is ready. Switch off all the other lights in the room, and light up the bulb to see the final look of lampshade. Cover the tin with a coloured cellophane sheet for added effect.

(This DIY was performed under parental supervision)

WORDS VERSE

The face of humanity

Nandinii Tandon
AIS Pushp Vihar, XII

Governed by society
Separated by diversity

Wanting to defy gravity
Searching for longevity

Yet world is a calamity
Lead by only insanity

And language of profanity
Hiding our insecurity

Scared of vulnerability
We sometimes find unity

In worshipping vanity
Fixated on superiority

We lost our morality
This is the face of humanity.



You can get through



Shreya Tuli
AIS Vasundhara 1, XII

Everything happens for a reason
Just like our beautiful seasons

It might be good or at times bad
Some things pleasant, others sad

In every dreadful experience
You need to cross the fence

At first, the bad is baffling
But soon the bad come battling

At times, you don’t know the good
But they’re never misunderstood
Lost in the negatives it consumes
Wait for your life to actually resume

Like there’s no rose without a thorn
None without sorrow has been born
It’s time for you to endure the pain
Face your true fears, never abstain

Every path has its own set of puddles
You can’t win a race without hurdles
There’s no land without stones
Or living beings without bones

Just know it right in your heart
Nothing around you is falling apart
For sure, you can get through it all
And stand upright after a bad fall.

Urban dictionary

Pratul Gupta, AIS Saket, X

Acquaintance (noun): A person you know well enough to borrow from, but not well enough to lend to

Secret (noun): Something that you tell everybody not to tell anybody

Advice (noun): A thing everyone gives but nobody takes

Man (noun): An animal who throws

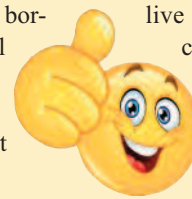
peanuts at his ancestors

Calories (noun): Tiny creatures that live in your closet and sew your clothes a little bit tighter every night

Synonym (noun): Word used in place of one you can’t spell

Feet (noun): A body part used to find Lego pieces in the dark

Tomorrow (noun): Best time to do things you’ve planned for today



BRUSH ‘n’ EASEL

Vaishnavi Chettiar
AGS Gur, Alumna





A safe friendship

Short Story



Naman Jha, AIS Noida, VII A

The sun was shining bright and Hobi was taking a walk in his balcony. Amidst the gloomy days of the pandemic, he suddenly noticed that his rude neighbour had been replaced by a new family. Hobi was quite excited to see a young one of his age in the neighbour's balcony. Due to the pandemic, Hobi knew that he wouldn't be able to visit the new neighbour's house and greet the new child, yet he wanted to be friends with his new little neighbour. Taking the first step, Hobi waved at him and said, "Hello, my name is Hobi! What is your name?" The new child with his mask and gloves on point

seemed curious but didn't wave back. Hobi waved at him again and said, "Welcome to your new house. I am your neighbour." The new child remained quiet and kept staring at him. After a few minutes the child returned to his room. Hobi thought that the new child must be **exhausted** with the shifting and that was the reason he didn't respond.

The next morning, both Hobi and the new child were in their respective balconies again. Hobi really wanted to develop a good friendship with him. He wished him 'good morning' and offered some cookies. The new child again appeared in mask and gloves and turned his face to the other side. Hobi tried to begin a conversation by asking how old he was and where they lived earlier. To his surprise, he got just a silent stare as a reply. Even then, Hobi tried to talk about himself by mentioning about online classes, the challenges and how he was trying to cope with the same during the lockdown.

The next morning, both Hobi and the new child were in their respective balconies again.

After a few minutes, it became a little awkward for Hobi to keep talking and looking at a face covered with mask and eyes constantly staring at him with no reaction. Hobi returned to his room and thought about the reason behind the new child not interacting with him. After dinner, he went to his bed but he could not stop thinking about why the new child was ignoring him and not responding at all.

The next day, Hobi went to his balcony with mask and gloves. The new child stared at him; they both looked at each other for few minutes. Trying one last time, Hobi waved and said, "Good morning. How are you?" And finally the boy replied, "I am good, Hobi. My name is Ishaan."

Hobi was shocked to finally listen to his new friend and enquired, "Ishaan, may I know why you chose to keep quiet for the last two days?" "My friend, you should follow COVID-19 protocols. Both the days you appeared without mask and gloves. I don't wish to be infected with virus at all. I was afraid but was also keen to talk to you. So, I decided to listen to you quietly," replied Ishaan. Hobi laughed out loud and soon they both started talking to each other. Thus, a new safe and healthy friendship was born with masks and gloves amidst the lockdown. **GI**

(The above story is one of the entries received as part of the story writing workshop conducted during GT Summer Workshop '21. The participants were given a setting and characters to weave a gripping short story.)

So, what did you learn today?
A new word: Exhausted
Meaning: To feel very tired



Classic choco-pudding

Darsh Singh Chahar, AIS Vas 6, III

Ingredients

Milk.....3 tsp
Oreo cookies.....1 pkt
Choco chipsto garnish
Nutellaas desired
Sprinklesto garnish
Whipped cream.....as desired



Darsh Singh Chahar

Procedure

- In a zip lock pouch, crush Oreo cookies into fine powder using a rolling pin.
- Take a bowl and add the Oreo powder and milk in it. Mix them well to form a paste-like mixture.
- Now take two glasses and pour the mixture in them in equal quantity and settle with a spoon.
- Top it with a thick layer of whipped cream followed by choco chips, small Oreo cookie crumbs and some sprinkles.
- Place the glasses in the freezer for half an hour.
- When done, insert one choco sticks & Oreo cookie on the top of each glass.
- Your classic choco pudding is ready to be shared with your best friend!

Riddle Fiddle

Kaihaan Gogia, AIS PV, IV

1. Why is teddy bear never hungry?
2. Which is uncle Sun's favourite day?

3. What dies if it drinks water?
4. What has legs but cannot walk?
5. What has hands but cannot touch?

Answers: 1. Because it's always stuffed 2. Sunday 3. Fire 4. A table 5. A clock

It's Me



KNOW ME

My name: Kenisha Sen
My Class: KG
My school: AIS Gur 43
Born on: August 28

MY FAVOURITES

Teacher: Soni Jauhar ma'am
Subject: English
Friend: Anaisha
Game: Barbie Dream House
Cartoon: Chhota Bheem
Food: Idli Sambhar
Mall: Sapphire 83, Gurugram
Book: Colouring book

MY DREAMS AND GOALS

Hobby: Drawing
I like: Playing with friends and eating chocolate
I dislike: Turning off the TV
My role model: Mamma
I want to become: A doctor
I want to feature in GT because: I want to become famous

PAINTING CORNER

Aishwarya Bhanushankar, AIS VKC Lucknow, VII



Phantom

Ridhima Pant, AIS MV, IX A

2 am in the morning that night
My heart was gripped with fright
My room was darker than ever
Down my spine, it sent a shiver

Insomnia was hitting me hard
I peeped out, saw a lurching guard
Wondering what was going on
I lay on my cold bed, awaiting dawn

I tried to comfort my asinine brain
That a phantom was totally insane
Pulling the ruched blanket over me
Tried to recall a happy memory

Subconsciously, I started to dream
Halfway interrupted by a scream
I felt my house was haunted
To run at once was all I wanted

But my whole body turned numb
Couldn't sense my toe or my thumb
There like a sweaty statue I froze
As from the corner, a form arose

Believe me as to what followed
Bizarre, I saw it was hollowed
Into my ear, whispered the ghost
That the reader shall be its next host. **GI**





During the infamous World War II (1939-1945), which chiefly pitted the Axis powers- Germany, Italy and Japan against the Allies - France, USA and Great Britain, another important mission was undertaken- the Battle of Normandy, also dubbed 'Normandy Invasion'. Having lasted from June-August 1944, this operation, code named Operation Overlord, resulted in the Allied liberation of Western Europe from Nazi Germany's control. Till date, it is known to be the largest seaborne invasion in world history.

The beginning of THE END



The inception



After the World War II, in May 1940, Germany invaded and occupied Northwestern France. The British were driven away from the beaches of Dunkirk by the Germans soon after the Battle of France. The Americans joined the war after the Japanese bombing of the Pearl Harbor in December 1941. By 1942, the Americans and the British had joined powers and were planning a possibility of an allied attack via the English Channel on the coast of France.

The preparation



The following year, Hitler became aware of a possible threat of invasion at the northwestern France border; though he was unsure of when and where it would take place or if the invasion would even take place. Nevertheless, he appointed Erwin Rommel in-charge of defense in French regions closest to England. Rommel responded by finishing the project of the Atlantic Wall via forced labour. It was a 2,400-mile fortification of bunkers, beach obstacles and landmines. The Atlantic Wall served as a partial success. Allies ramped up the planning for the invasion and appointed General Dwight Eisenhower (1890-1969) as commander of the invasion at Normandy, later code-named Operation Overlord.

The question



There were four possible attack targets: Pas de Calais, Dieppe, Normandy and Brittany. So why was Normandy chosen, instead of Pas-de-Calais, the nearest of all four? This is simple. Pas-de-Calais was the nearest and also the most defended of all. Dieppe was also heavily fortified. The Germans were expecting an attack at these two ports. Brittany was too far from England and far too out to the sea for para troopers to reach. That left Normandy which, conveniently, had many beaches and not too much defenses, since Hitler only had enough resources to fortify ports like Dieppe. However, a massive decoy operation, Operation Fortitude was carried to make Pas-de-Calais look like the main target. Tactics used to lead the decoy were: a phantom army, double agents, dummy weapons and fraudulent information leaks.

The interruption

The initial date set for the invasion was June 5. The troops were to enter by night and they needed a full moon to see, leaving only a few days of the month possible. The troops, artillery, air cover, weapons and supplies were all boarded to set sail at the fixed hour. And yet, this had to be postponed due to unfavorable weather conditions. On the morning of June 5, 1944, Eisenhower consulted his meteorologist to get a weather update. Surprisingly, the meteorologist gave a go-ahead sign. Thus, began the Normandy Invasion, the beginning of the



end. Before departure, Eisenhower told his soldiers, "You are about to embark upon the Great Crusade, toward which we have striven these many months. The eyes of the world are upon you." Then with over 11000 mobilised aircrafts providing air cover and support, 6000 ships departed from England bound for France across the channel, carrying troops and supplies.

The execution



By the dawn of June 6, bridges and exits were being secured by the para and glider troopers that had landed a few hours prior to land troops. Beaches code-named Gold, Juno, and Sword were occupied by British and Canadian soldiers. Americans captured Utah beach and fended off soldiers from the Omaha beach before occupying that. By June 11, the beaches and the surrounding areas were secured and 326K troops, 500K vehicles and 100K+ tons of equipment had been loaded off at Normandy.

The reaction

Hitler disagreed to send any troops to counter the invasion because he thought this attack to be another decoy and waited for the "real" attack at Seine River to begin. When Hitler finally realised the mix up, the Allied Air-force had already blocked all direct bridges and exits to the Allied troops, causing the Nazis to take a long detour. In the following weeks, Allies countered the German resistance across the marshy Normandy landscape. By the



start of July, the vital post of Cherbourg was captured and 950K+ troops and vehicles had been landed at the Normandy beaches. The Allied forces were ready to continue their march into the country of France.

The end



By the end of August 1944, Paris and the North western France had been liberated from the Germans, thus concluding the Battle of Normandy. From there they headed inward to Germany where they were to join up with the Soviet Troops coming from the east. The Normandy invasion had turned the tide against the Nazis. It was called the Beginning of the End. By May 8, 1945 shortly after Hitler's suicide, the Allies accepted the surrender of the Nazis.

The five W's

What: Operation Overlord

When: 1944

Who: Britain, USA, Canada, France, Germany

Where: Normandy, France

Why: To emancipate Western Europe from the tyrannous Nazi reign





I'm sorry but I can't come to the phone right now... I'm writing the article of my dreams.
Kuhu Saha, AIS MV, XII G
 Page Editor

Alphabit 2021

The Test Of Wits Of Young Tech Wizards



The coveted overall champions trophy



The young tech wizards and guests at the event



The titans of design declared



Address by school principal

We will surely!

Save Our Mother Earth

AIS Vasundhara 6

Students of Class III organised a virtual Class presentation, 'Nishchitam Ayan - Towards Positive Progress', on September 21, 2021. The aim was to create awareness about six Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and draw the attention of young ones towards critical global environmental issues. The presentation was graced by Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of

Schools and RBEF. Students presented a skit and a rap song based on theme, 'Reduce, Reuse, Recycle' and staged *nukkad natak* to emphasise on the importance of clean water. They also hosted a mock chat show in which some of them enacted as famous personalities like Sudha Murthy, Meera Bai Chanu, Kiran Majumdar Shaw, etc., and discussed the importance of fitness. They also discussed their initiatives on climate change and gender equality.



Students present their ideas to save water and planet

AIS Saket

The technology club of the school organised the 8th Alphabit, an inter-school technology symposium, virtually for the second consecutive year on September 21, 2021. The annual event envisioned by Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and RBEF, that aims to kindle the scientific spirit and enhance technological expertise of the

young minds saw participation from 19 eminent schools. It comprised tech based competitions like Hackathon, Designing, Coding, QBit (quiz) and Debate which tested the aptitude of students in multifarious disciplines of technology. Students from Amity Group of Schools won various accolades in all these competitions. AIS Vasundhara 1 won the first prize in Hackathon, with AIS Saket and AIS Gurugram 46

winning second and third prizes respectively in the same. In Design competition, AIS Saket won first prize, AIS Gurugram 46 won second prize and AIS Pushy Vihar bagged third prize. AIS Gurugram 43, AIS Gwalior and AIS Saket won first, second and third prizes respectively in Coding. AIS Mayur Vihar and AIS Gurugram 46 were the winners of second and third prizes respectively in QBit (quiz). In Debate, AIS Vasundhara 1 won

first prize, AIS Saket won second prize and AIS Gurugram 43 won third prize. AIS Vasundhara 1 lifted the overall rolling trophy. The events were judged by noted school alumni like Sharath, Siddhant Bambri, Anurag Sharma, Chetan Anand and Lakshay Gulati. School principal Divya Bhatia lauded the efforts of all the participants and encouraged them to pursue science and technology research for the betterment of society.



Students provide meals to the less privileged children

Nutrition care

For Good Holistic Health

AIS Noida

Students celebrated 'Rashtriya Poshan Maah' as a Class assembly on July 27, 2021. The objective of the same was to create awareness about the importance of a healthy balanced diet and instill the virtues of sharing and caring in the students. As the assembly progressed, students engaged in a series of activities like special assemblies on nutrition, donating balanced and nutritional meals to underprivileged children, quizzes, discussions, etc. They all participated with great zeal and showcased impressive presentations during the assemblies. Insightful speeches on *poshan maah* and talks about the importance of nutrition and balanced diet in one's life were also

held. During the speech sessions, the importance of eating right meals at the right time, and latest facts and figures about overall health and malnutrition among Indians were also discussed. Some Class assemblies also comprised skits and quizzes based on nutritive diet.

About Rashtriya Poshan Maah
 It was launched in 2018 by the Prime Minister as a flagship programme of Ministry of Women and Child Development to improve nutritional status of children and women. Its prime objective is to implement a comprehensive, unified strategy to fortify nutritional content, delivery, outreach and outcome, with renewed focus on developing practices that nurture health, wellness and immunity.



An Amitian draws focus towards healthy breakfast for kids

Mahatma, a fond remembrance

Amitians Kindle The Spirit Of Gandhi Within Self



A role play on Babu by AIS Noida

AIS Noida

Students from Class Nursery-VIII engaged into an array of week-long activities from September 27-October 1, 2021 to celebrate Gandhi Jayanti. The virtual celebrations comprised rhymes, songs, skit, special assemblies, art works, etc. Videos and power point presentations based upon principles and ideologies of Mahatma Gandhi were showcased and students sang *bhajans* like 'Raghupati Raghav Raja Ram' and 'Vaishnava Jana' as a tribute to Mahatma Gandhi. In special assemblies conducted by all the Classes on different days, students shared the learnings from life and times of Gandhiji and discussed virtues like honesty, truth and non-violence. They also talked about swadeshi movement, peace and self-reliance and made Gandhiji's charkha and three monkeys in craft activities. Students from Classes VI-VIII organised an exclusive event titled 'Gandhi Jayanti and Non-Violence Day', during which they performed role plays, recited poems and shared stories inspired by the life of Gandhiji.



AIS Vas 1 students discuss Gandhi

AIS Vasundhara 1

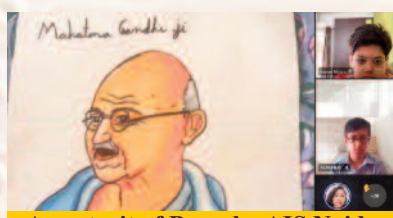
Students of Class X conducted a Class assembly titled 'Gandhi Jayanti and Natural Heritage of Madhya Pradesh' on October 1, 2021. The assembly started with a prayer sung by Raima Chadha and Saina Bhattacharya following which, Manashwi Sinha and Namya Agarwal recited *shlokas*. Akshita Kaushik and Mahika shared the soulful message of Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and RBEF. Akshita also made a beautiful sketch of Mahatma Gandhi. Shivansh Dixit gave a speech on Gandhiji, while Aarna Sikri and Pragati Rai sang the *bhajan* 'Vaishnav Jana'. Students spoke pertinent lines on the life and contribution of Gandhiji towards India's independence. They showcased a presentation on the natural heritage of Madhya Pradesh emphasising on the UNESCO World Heritage sites like rock shelters of Bhimbetka, high marble rocks valley of Bhedaghat, Jatashankar cave in Panchmarhi, and Amarkantak where the holy rivers like Narmada, Son and Johila originate.



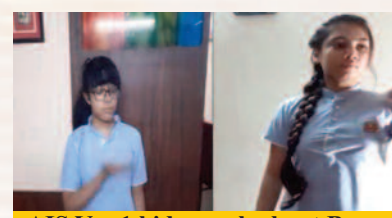
AIS Vas 6 student discuss charkha

AIS Vasundhara 6

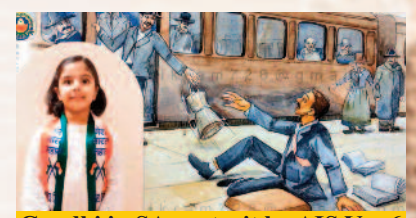
Students of KG and Class I fondly remembered the Father of nation, Mahatma Gandhi, through virtual assemblies they conducted on October 1, 2021. Tiny tots from KG engaged in storytelling session comprising anecdotes of Gandhiji's life and recited poems focusing on the values and ethics of Babu. During the virtual circle time, they were taught about the importance of Dandi march, the Swadeshi movement, khadi and charkha, and the virtues of leading a simple noble life. In the craft activity, they made Babu's spectacles, three monkeys, and the charkha with paper. Class I students in their assembly recollected important anecdotes from Gandhiji's life that gave the freedom movement of India an impetus. They also discussed Gandhiji's central role in instilling the virtues like truth, non-violence, honesty, etc., in the minds of people globally. They also engaged themselves into an array of creative activities like music, dance, art creation, enacting role plays, singing *bhajans*, etc., to remember and invoke the Mahatma that resides in all.



A portrait of Babu by AIS Noida



AIS Vas 1 kids speak about Babu



Gandhi in SA portrait by AIS Vas 6



The battle is online!

Facing Every Student's Current Worst Nightmare: The Dreadful Online Class

Kashvi Singh Das, AIS MV, X

All things were bright and beautiful; all students were at their lackadaisical best. It all seemed like a dream, for nothing in the world could possibly wake them up from their sound slumber. A pandemic arose from nowhere (somewhere) and everything else vanished into thin air. Schools and 7 AM schedules were rendered things of past. Nostalgia and longing reigned, as teachers, the hullabaloo of the classrooms, morning assemblies, ECAs and more were missed. But life, more or less, was a bliss. Oh yes, it truly was!

However, one evening, as the budding scholars relished in their impromptu faux-vacation, something tugged at their gut, and a peculiar feeling consumed them. Huh. That's odd, they thought. They hadn't anything to fret about in particular, did they? But before they could delve too deep into their dreams, a bolt out of the blue struck them off guard.

The slumber party was over.

Denials loomed in the air for how could this wind-fall gain come to an end so soon? Copious amounts of anxiety filled in the hapless girls and boys, for who anticipated mere technology to come so far, eh? The once ecstatic carefree days were now refusing to go by. Mother shook them awake each morning, sharp at 8 AM. 8 AM! Was this for real?

Mother pulled them away from their thoughts and handed them their uniform hastily. Realisation finally dawned upon them – they knew it but had been too



JUST FOR
LAUGHS

frightened to consider it to be a possibility. With a shaky voice, they asked, "Ma, must I really set foot in this treacherous battlefie-?"

"Online classes, yes!" Mother finishes. The students turned pale. How could mother say it without even a hint of fear? Have you really no heart and no compassion, mother?

And thus, they reluctantly perched themselves in front of the screens. Screens that earlier bestowed them

with hours Mario, were now a window to nostalgia, something they had missed, but wanted this early...eh? As they turned on the screens, there appeared the supreme- the teacher.

"Am I visible? Can you hear me now? Okay, now?" the master ensured. "Yes, ma'am!", chorused the army in unison (quite discorded, to be honest). Connectivity issues, you see. "Al-

right then, shall we do this?" "Yes, ma'am!" Ever since, seasons had been passed and weathers had been stormed. The once woe-begone were now invincible. Albeit, the battle was in motion, it was not overwhelming anymore. If anything, it was the only ray of hope to the old normal.

"7 AM class on a winter morning?" Bring it on.



Leader of the pac: Editor-in-Chief on the job



The troupe: Making of a brilliant edition



Artist of the team: Illustrator brings the colour



Star of the gang: Photographer snaps the moment



Savior of the squad: Page Editor to the rescue

