

Varada Kachroo, Alumna & Mariam Fatma, XII
AIS VKC Lucknow

The technological epoch dawning on the entire globe marked the decade that has passed by. As we made advancements, we redefined the human intellect, or rather, in a way, implanted it into machines. Howbeit, Sweden has suddenly changed this tide. With a new perspective, they now stand to make humans more robotic. Merging with our bodies, a chip beneath our skin is already on the way to make our routines swifter and more relaxed, they say – a move that found 51% acceptance rate in the EU and UK. But are these numbers forming the majority?

Cyborging process

It all began when Epicenter, a Swedish business incubator, started inserting microchips in the hands of its employees in 2015 in an attempt to give them the power

A serious RELATION-CHIP

Chipping Away To Turn Humans Into Robots

to operate printers and more with a wave of the hand (in front of a chip reader). Implanted subdermally using syringes, these grain-sized radio frequency chips contain a unique ID number that can be linked to personal identification, police records, medical history, and contact information stored in an external database. They are designed to help people easily access their homes, offices, gyms etc., by reducing the hassle of carrying keys, ATM cards, tickets and so on. The chips use near-field communication, the same technology used in GPay and Paytm, and it is the one that helps you pay with a contactless credit card without having to physically swipe it. “But do we really need them?” is

the question it all boils down to.

A realistic vision

Well, the pros weigh heavier. The human microchips provide testimony for self while transitioning from passport scanning to arm scanning at the airports. Apart from providing expedient access to our regimes, the chips can be used to store health and attendance records, personal profiles for identification, emergency contacts, and much more. These diminutive chips are a great relief for parents as they ensure infants and elderly people’s safety. For sure they can help maintain a track record!

Unexpected disclosure

Amongst this, the question frequently pondered upon is –

would anyone want to trade their privacy for a little convenience? For the critics, the biggest future concern is over data protection. As the amount and type of information we store on the microchips become more advanced, so do the security risks of third-person intervention. Acting as a modern form of bar codes on people, the chips could be used to hack and sell information regarding one’s physical and financial movements, blurring the line between work and personal life. Also, would you get a microchip implant done without knowing its long-term effects on your body?

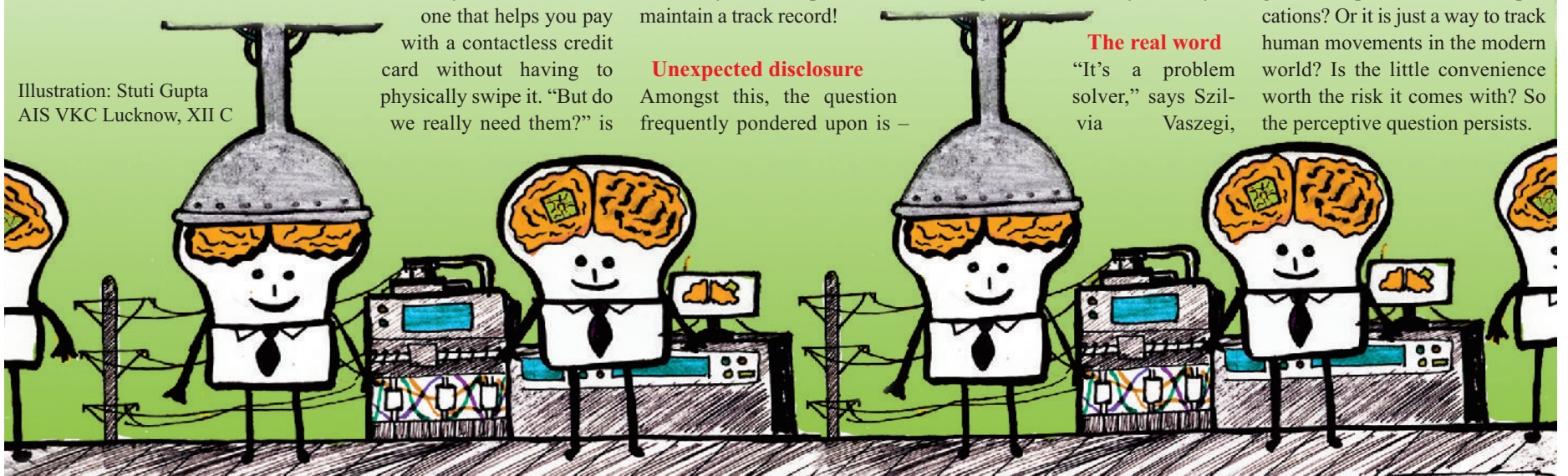
The real word

“It’s a problem solver,” says Szilvia Vaszegi,

founder of Sweden’s online text based platform for shopping assistance, Jemboo, as she uses the chip to share her LinkedIn details at networking events, keeping her name confidential. She has a strong faith in the microchips becoming globally recognised as a substitute of official files and purposes. On the other hand, Alex Lewis, a quadruple amputee from Hampshire, assumes the microchips to be a saviour in using finicky things like door keys. The chips implanted in the remains of his arm hold his medical particulars as well. Howbeit, Vaszegi and Lewis are a result of Sweden’s effective labour regulations and data protection laws, which over the years, have created an atmosphere of conviction between the authority and the institutions, employer and worker.

Is the entire world drawn by ethics similar to Sweden? Is this the beginning of a vivid forthcoming where the chips will, one day, diagnose and predict health complications? Or it is just a way to track human movements in the modern world? Is the little convenience worth the risk it comes with? So the perceptive question persists.

Illustration: Stuti Gupta
AIS VKC Lucknow, XII C



Page editors: Varada Kachroo, Alumna & Mariam Fatma, XII, AIS VKC Lucknow

THE GT POLL

Will World Bank lowering India’s FY24 growth forecast to 6.3% usher in a new wave of layoffs and inflation?

a) Yes
b) No
c) Can’t say

To vote, check out our Instagram page @the_global_times

Coming next
Run for cover

Making A Newspaper Contest
AIS VKC Lko
2022-23

This special edition has been brought to you by Amity International School, VKC Lucknow, 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 **tenth edition** of ‘GT Making A Newspaper Contest 2022-23’.

What’s inside

The trailblazer, P3
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Let them fly!, P10

POLL RESULT
for GT Edition April 03, 2023

With India logging in over 10,000 fresh COVID cases, what measures should be taken to curb the new wave?

Limited people in a space	44%
Work/School from home	33%
Strict social distancing	23%

Results as on April 08, 2023

Going the digital way!

Roundtable Meet On Digitalisation & The Future Of Work In A Global Economy



Eminent guests and speakers pose for the lens

Key highlights of the roundtable

- Creating infrastructure to attract foreign students and faculty to make India a hub of international students
- The need for the faculty to keep up with the newest teaching techniques in their field of expertise
- Utilising artificial intelligence to create employment opportunities and improve the economy
- Building industry-academia relations at regional level with help from the government
- Focusing on nurturing roaring minds and not boring minds, i.e., blending AI with natural intelligence and creating real thinkers
- Utilising digital platforms to provide best experience to the young minds, but at the same time, not losing human touch

AUUP

Amity University, Uttar Pradesh, in collaboration with the Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU) and Association of Indian Universities (AIU), hosted a roundtable meet on 'Digitalisation And The Future of Work in A Global Economy' in the university campus on March 31, 2023. The event was part of a series of ACU India roundtables convened in different parts of the country in March 2023 with the objective of creating a forum for discussion on issues critical to higher education in India, and also developing new partnerships amongst commonwealth institutions with respect to internationalisation, digitalisation, and industry-academia collaboration. More than 200 deans, directors, professors, and researchers from different universities of India and abroad, along with 20 vice chancellors and senior industry leaders from India and other commonwealth nations, attended the programme physically and virtually as esteemed speakers.

The event saw the virtual presence of Dr Ashok K Chauhan, Founder President, Amity Universe, who appreciated the endeavours of both ACU and AIU towards the incessant development and digitalisation of higher education in India.

Welcoming the session chair and esteemed panellists, Prof (Dr) Balvinder Shukla, vice chancellor, AUUP, in her address, highlighted how educational institutions must be cognizant of and updated with the latest global trends to create a future ready workforce. Adding on to the same, Aditya Mal-



Release of souvenir at the roundtable meet

kani, regional director for Asia Pacific, ACU, and co-chair of the roundtable, remarked, "By bringing various universities and diverse people who study and work within them together from around the world, we aim towards exchange of knowledge, promotion of understanding, broadening of minds, and improvement of lives." Expressing her views on the occasion, Dr Pankaj Mittal, secretary general, AIU, and chair of the roundtable, said, "The future of education requires curriculum modification, capacity building, numerous teaching modalities, multidisciplinary teaching, and lifelong learning." Post this, guest of honour Alison Barrett MBE, director India, British Council, stated that, "Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs) must consider multilingual knowledge production with machine learning to reduce the digital divide and benefit from the create-tech industry."

With this, the roundtable began, and was then conducted in three sessions. The first



session focused on the theme 'Digitalisation and the Future of Work and Skills'. Prof Basmuthkar Jagadeeshwar Rao, vice chancellor, Central University, Hyderabad; Prof PB Sharma, vice chancellor, Amity University, Haryana; Prof Jude William R Genilo, dean of Social Sciences, University of Liberal Arts, Bangladesh; Prof Sabu S Padmadas, associate dean (International), India Centre for Inclusive Growth & Sustainable Development, University of Southampton, UK; Prof Siddhartha Bandyopadhyay, director, Centre for Crime, Justice and Policing, University of Birmingham, UK; and Karan Singh, deputy director, NASSCOM, presided over this session as panellists and shared their views on the theme.

The second session touched upon 'Internationalisation and its importance in Higher Education in the era of Digitalisation'. The esteemed panellists for the session were Prof (Dr) Mohammad Afshar Alam, vice chancellor, Jamia Hamdard University; Maj Gen

(Dr) GK Thapliyal, vice chancellor, Swamy Vivekanand Subharti University, Meerut; Dr Chadaram Sivaji, vice chancellor, Saveetha Institute of Medical and Technical Sciences; Dr NJ Pawar, vice chancellor, Dr DY Patil Vidyapeeth, Pune (Deemed to be University); Prof LB Laxmikanth Rathod, vice chancellor, Palamuru University; Anuradha Gupta, head, partner engagement, Macquarie University, Sydney; and Raja Dasgupta, global education evangelist, Employability.Life.

The final leg of the roundtable session focused on the 'Importance of Industry-Academia Collaboration in Global Digital Economy', with Prof Sibaram Khara, vice chancellor, Sharda University; Prof Ch Gopal Reddy, vice chancellor, Mahatma Gandhi University; Dr Rozy Patel, dean & director, Uka Tarsadia University, Gujarat; Dr Murli Prasad Panta, professor, IIT Kanpur; Jaspreet Singh, partner, Grant Thornton; Abhishek Narad, director, TradeServ; and Jasmeet Singh Sethi, assistant vice president, SHL, on the panel.

Further, a special presentation on 'Leveraging Academic Partnerships for a Wider Outreach' by Dr Shubhra Dutta, customer consultant (South Asia), Elsevier, was also showcased at the meet, along with the release of the souvenir by the chairs and guest of honour.

Prof (Dr) Pooja Vijayaraghavan, professor, Amity Institute of Biotechnology, and campus ambassador, Association of Commonwealth Universities, delivered the final vote of thanks and invited all to join hands with Amity and collaborate on future projects.  



The trailblazer

Dr Dass Talks Of Education, Reforms, And The Need To Transform

Vanshika Singh, XII & Advika Singh, XI A, AIS VKC Lko

A leading educationist and career-counsellant, the list of accomplishments for Dr Amrita Dass have always been long. Her achievements include being the founder-director of Institute for Career



Dr Amrita Dass, founder director, ICS

INTERVIEW

Studies; chairperson and MD of ICS Education Ltd.; participant of many international forums including the UN etc. As if this wasn't enough, she is also the recipient of Lions Club Award for outstanding social work, Rotary Award for vocational excellence, TCS-Woman Achiever Award etc. Without further ado, let's read what she has to say about different sectors of life.

Evolution in education

The most noteworthy evolution in education came with the New Education Policy 2020, declaring a shift from teacher centric to student centric learning processes. This equips the students to navigate through a Volatile, Uncertain, Complex, Ambiguous (VUCA) world. Through technology, they have infinite opportunities of upgrading their knowledge and skills. While there is a sea of choices at hand, students in the 21st century

need to make an informed and sound decision to unleash their inherent potential.

Passion for progress

Know yourself, inform yourself, and plan yourself for a career by choice, not chance. Today, most careers can be accessed via a variety of subjects, but what truly matters is a student's aptitude. The stereotypical mindset of PCM leading only to engineering etc., are far from being relevant. So, even if you get derailed in life, know that there are plenty of opportunities to change the track of your career that will bring you fulfillment, happiness and success.

Career and counselling

The development of a student must start early on. Career guidance from Class VII onwards makes the students aware of their capabilities, and also of the fast-changing educational and career scenarios. It is vital for students to become lifelong learners.

Scaling at skills

The needs of the world today have changed, so have the skills required to thrive. Today, the students need to focus on learning, literacy, and life skills. The 4Cs of learning skills cover critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, and communication. Literacy skills focus on information literacy (understanding facts and interpreting data), media literacy (finding trustworthy sources of information), and technology literacy (efficient application of the latest tools). While the



GT reporters interact with Dr Dass

major life skills are flexibility, leadership, initiative, productivity, and social skills. All three categories are necessary to make a student reach their full potential.

Equity for equality

Noteworthy progress has been made in India regarding freedom of women to make independent decisions pertaining to education, career, and marriage. Many women opt for higher education, careers of their choices, and getting married when they're ready. However, a lot more is left to be done at all levels – family, society, government, and courts of law etc., to tackle the prevailing evils of dowry and violence against women.

Dream it, do it

Amitians, always believe in yourself. And for a purposeful and happy life, give back to the society. Create a legacy each day by making a difference, and remember that 'we make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give'.

The school life



Shivansh Sinha
AIS Saket, X A

School is the place of learning
And not the place for relaxing

School makes us scientist, doctor
And start the vehicle of our life
It makes us discern life's factors
And hones our blade like a knife

School is the place of learning
And not the place for relaxing

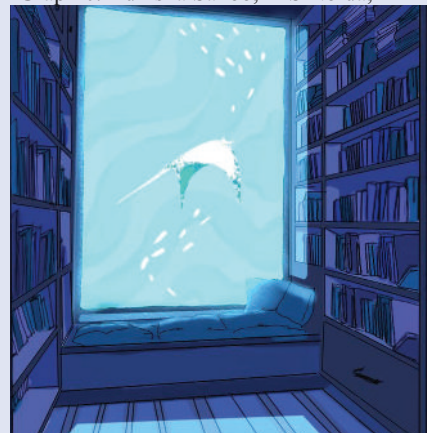
It is the best spot in the world
Whether it is big or it is small
It makes us shine like emerald
And brings success to us all

School is the place of learning
And not the place for relaxing

Economic status is so old school
Hence, we must wear a uniform
So that no one looks more cool
And all shine in their real form

School is the place of learning
And not the place for relaxing.

Graphic: Adhisha Sahoo, AIS Noida, XII M



Dhruv Bhatia
AIS Noida, X M

I often used to sleep in agony
With a lot of stress on my mind
Post becoming a high schooler
Straight from a little naive child

Agony of ninth

For the stress of studies wasn't mild
And free time felt no more mine
My results weren't great either
At least not worth showing to others

But now I'll prove everyone wrong
With hard work, I'll stand strong
I'll stay determined for hours long
To roar out my victory like King Kong

For now I sleep with goals on my mind
To cast aside distractions and train a lot
In integrals, ratios, theorems and whatnot
To be free of stress and climb to the top.

POEMS



The honey business

A Cop's Journey As She Tries To Bust Villainous Honey And His Bee Gang

Ishita Bajpai, AIS VKC Lko, XII A

For Miss Catcher, it was the most crucially tense day of her life. Once again the terror of Honey had struck the Flower City and it was on her to catch the culprit. She had been after him for a while, but she knew that with the recent series of attacks, the time to catch him was now or never.

She decided to start her investigation at the crime scene – Garden Boulevard. “What can I tell you, officer?” cried one of flowers “Evil Honey does not work alone. He has his minions to do it all for him.” “Tell me what happened,” Miss Catcher requested. “Since it was such a beautiful day outside,” the resident began, “all the residents here decided to enjoy the weather, but little did we know that we would be attacked by a swarm of bees. They ganged up on us and using their proboscis, they sucked all our nectar.” “And then? What happened next?”

Miss Catcher did not want to sound apathetic, but time was of the essence. “They stored all our nectar in something special. Honey sac, I think they called it. Then they left.” “Where did they go?” “One of them did call to the other one that he would meet them at some place called Hive, so maybe there.” “So you steal from people and hide it all in your hive, huh?” thought Miss Catcher to herself. “But your evil reign will be over today.” Miss Catcher gath-

The science of it

Field bees suck nectar from flowers and bring them back to be chewed by house bees, who add enzymes to the mixture and stretch it over honeycomb for it to dry and turn into honey.

ered her team and together, they made their way to the not-so-secret Hive – a part of town seized by Honey and her minion bees. As Miss Catcher and team snuck into the Hive, she was shocked to see the number of bees Honey had working for him. “I never knew his gang was so big. That’s why he escapes us so easily,” Miss Catcher whispered. Hiding behind a big barrel, she saw a group of bees enter the warehouse. “Aye, house bee, get yo’ supply,” yelled a field bee. All the bees in the warehouse swarmed the area to form a line. The first bee took the nectar from the outside bee, chewed it a little bit, and passed it onto the next in line. “What are they doing?” one of

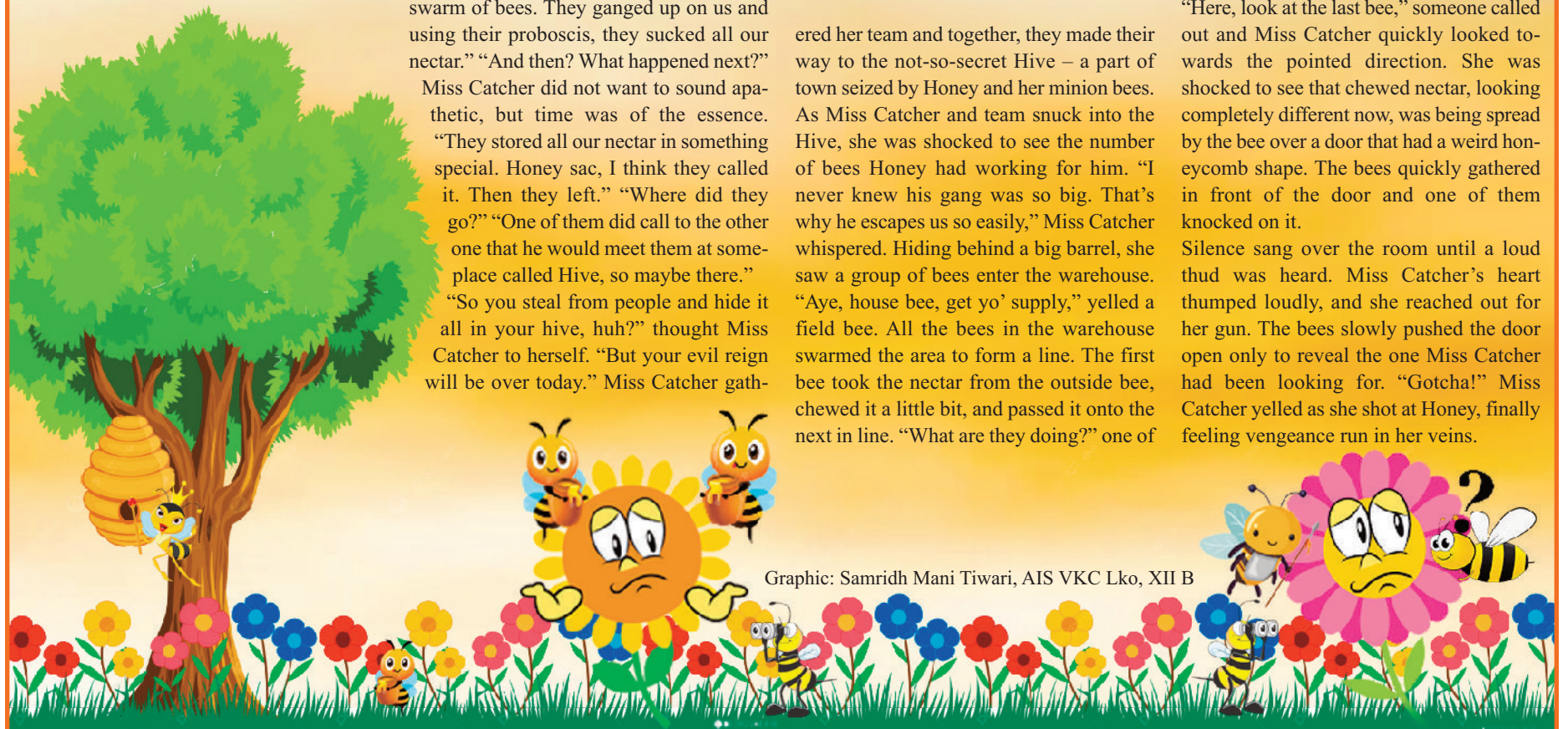


SCIENCE
BEDTIME STORIES

the members of Miss Catcher’s team asked. “I bet they are trying to change the pH of the enzyme and play with its chemical properties, these villains!” The thought angered Miss Catcher but she kept quiet to see what they would do next.

“Here, look at the last bee,” someone called out and Miss Catcher quickly looked towards the pointed direction. She was shocked to see that chewed nectar, looking completely different now, was being spread by the bee over a door that had a weird honeycomb shape. The bees quickly gathered in front of the door and one of them knocked on it.

Silence sang over the room until a loud thud was heard. Miss Catcher’s heart thumped loudly, and she reached out for her gun. The bees slowly pushed the door open only to reveal the one Miss Catcher had been looking for. “Gotcha!” Miss Catcher yelled as she shot at Honey, finally feeling vengeance run in her veins.



Graphic: Samridh Mani Tiwari, AIS VKC Lko, XII B

A picture-perfect discovery

Barbara's Way To Enhance Underexposed Photographic Negatives

Ruchita Nair, AIS Mayur Vihar, XII

It's never too late to start if your heart is set on achieving your goals, and Barbara Askins has proven just that. Askins began her career as a teacher, and it was only after her two children entered school that she returned to college to complete her bachelor's degree in chemistry and then earned a master's degree in the same subject. Following which, she joined NASA's Marshall Space Flight Centre in 1975. Her discovery - making even the faintest part of a photograph visible, has benefitted a range of industries since that time. It is a process in

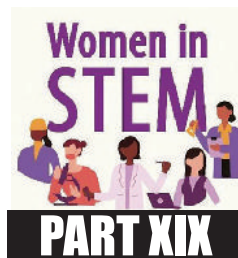
which images on developed photographic emulsions could be greatly intensified by making the image silver radioactive and thus, exposing a second emulsion to this radiation. The resulting print, known as an 'autoradiograph', reproduces the image with significant increase in both density and contrast. This invention has been very useful for NASA in retrieving data from underexposed space images.

Her invention has also helped in the medical industry, as it improved the quality of X-ray

images. Medical images that were earlier 96 percent underexposed became readable with the invention. This further enabled the doctors

to decrease the huge amount of X-ray radiation they needed to give to patients during the routine or emergency tests. Askins' process has also been used in the restoration of old photographs.

She patented her invention in 1978 and won several awards for her invention. In the same year, the Association for Advancement of Inventions and Innovations honoured Askins



as the 'National Inventor of the Year', making her the first individual woman to earn this honour. Like many of her women contemporaries, Askins has shown that when it comes to achieving your best potential, neither age nor time can ever be a barrier. **GT**

Chucking all the way



Two Wooden Sticks Plus One Metal Chain Equals An Iconic Weapon

Avika Mishra

AIS VKC Lucknow, X A

“And the Best Martial Artist 2023 award goes to Haruki!” I watch as he climbs the stage. “Thank you, everyone. I would like to thank my master and my parents for their support.” Wait, what? Don’t I get a thank you? Was I not a vital part of Haruki, or anyone else for that matter, excelling in kobudo and karate? After all, I am the one who made it possible; yes, I am Nunchucks. You might know me as *nunchaku* if you speak Japanese, or stick to nicknames like dual-section stick, nunchuks, chainsticks, and chuka sticks if you speak the lingua franca. Whichever name you prefer, the fact remains the same – I am the iconic Okinawan martial arts weapon that consists of two sticks connected at their ends by a short metal chain or even rope, the same one who has been a part of history and who has created history on its own. If you were to look at me to figure out my history, I know the first

thing you will notice is my shape. “So unique,” I am sure you think. My sticks, the lethal weapon that they are, are usually around 30 cm, and the chain attaching them is around one inch. Though I initially started out by being made of wood, today, it is very easy for martial artists to find me in metal, plastic, fiberglass, and even polystyrene foam. It is true that I now also come in a version for kids, but don’t take that lightly either. I am one dangerous being, so much so that my possession is illegal in some countries except for professional reasons. It doesn’t surprise me though, because I was always intended to be used as a weapon, one that trains people in developing quick hand movements and better posture. I am, remember, the most widely used tool in martial arts.

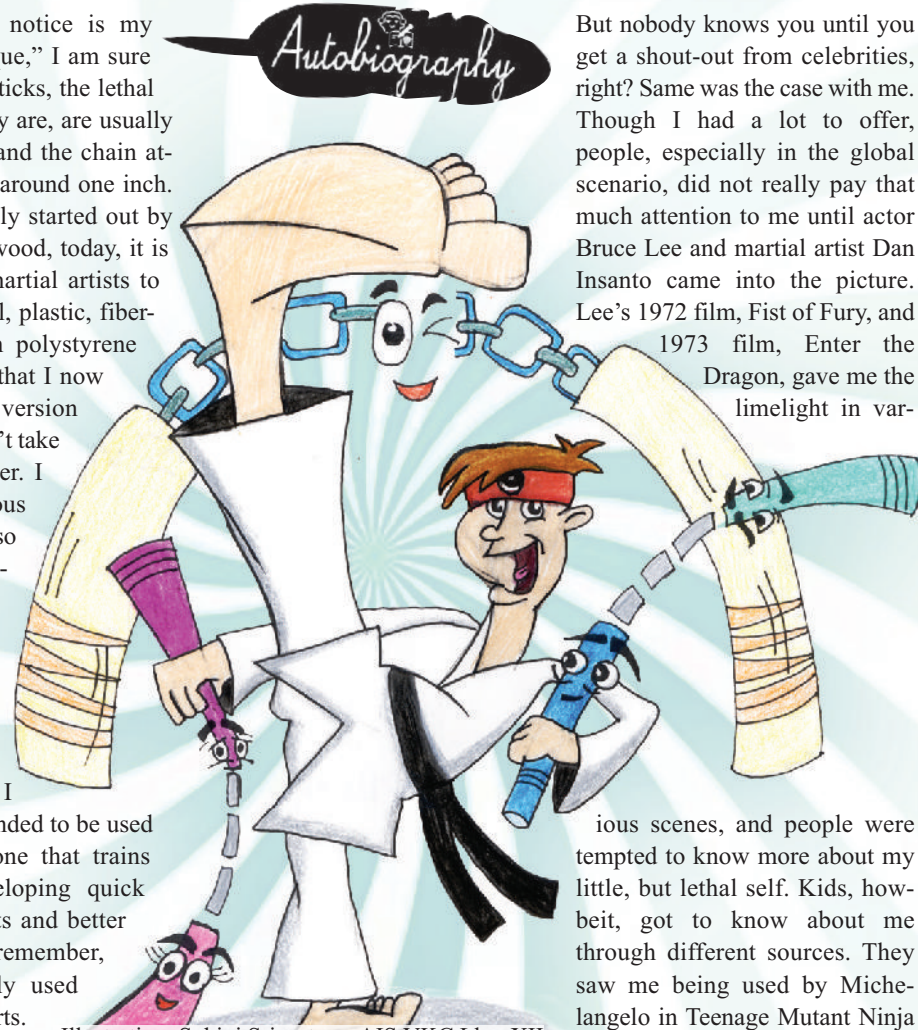


Illustration: Sohini Srivastava, AIS VKC Lko, XII

But nobody knows you until you get a shout-out from celebrities, right? Same was the case with me. Though I had a lot to offer, people, especially in the global scenario, did not really pay that much attention to me until actor Bruce Lee and martial artist Dan Insanto came into the picture. Lee’s 1972 film, *Fist of Fury*, and 1973 film, *Enter the Dragon*, gave me the

limelight in various scenes, and people were tempted to know more about my little, but lethal self. Kids, however, got to know about me through different sources. They saw me being used by Michelangelo in *Teenage Mutant Ninja*

Turtles and thought I was cool. No matter how people found the road to me, the important thing was that they reached me. Yet many travelling on this road do ask me about my origin. To them, I can give nothing but vague answers. The truth is that my origin is a bit blurry. Sometimes I think I started out with Okinawan farmers who used me as a flail for threshing rice, but sometimes I think I started out as *tabak-toyok*, a weapon native to northern Philippines that looks a lot like present me. Sometimes my brain tells me I was developed from an Okinawa horse and sometimes I feel I was once a weapon used by peasants who were forbidden from possessing conventional weapons. The options are many, but which one’s correct, I don’t know, and honestly, I don’t care much about it. For me, the only thing of worry is the future ahead, where I hope all parts that consist me (*ana, himo, kusari, kontoh, jukon-bu, chukon-bu, kokon-bu, and kontei*) always come together to build a beautiful nunchaku that keeps on writing history.



Kiara enjoying her vacation

At amazing Prayagraj

Kiara Raghav Gupta

AIS Pushp Vihar, IV E

Place: Prayagraj

Top sights: Allahabad Fort, Bade Hanuman Temple, Triveni Sangam, Akshaya Vat, Anand Bhavan

Best time to visit: October-March

Delicacies to try: Allahabadi churmura, kachori sabzi, lassi, kebabs, dum aloo, makkhan malai, imarti

Things to carry: Walking shoes, sunscreen, umbrella, camera

Souvenirs to buy: Sandalwood, beads, vermilion, camphor, electronic goods, computer equipment, embroidery work on garments

Languages to know before you visit: Hindi, English, Urdu, or Braj

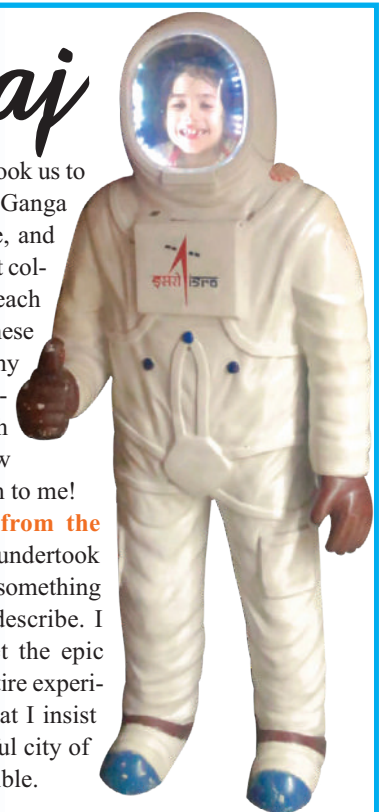
My experience: During my recent

visit to Prayagraj, I, along with my maternal uncle and aunt, visited Jawahar Planetarium which is situated beside Anand Bhavan, the former residence of the Nehru-Gandhi family and now a museum. There I saw a documentary based on our galaxy and other life forms in space. It was an enlightening 40-minutes show on space science. Post which, we paid a visit to the adjoining Anand Bhavan as well and clicked many pictures there.

We then visited the most auspicious place in the city, Triveni Sangam, where, after every 12 years, millions of people flock together to celebrate Maha Kumbh Mela. We went on an amazing boat ride in the silent waters of the Sangam and enjoyed the scenic

beauty. The boat ride took us to the point where the holy Ganga and Yamuna rivers merge, and one could see two different colours of water blend into each other. The confluence of these rivers is where I offered my prayers to God and worshipped for the good health of my family. Never knew a trip could mean so much to me!

My favourite memory from the trip: The camel ride we undertook on the shores of Ganga is something words aren’t enough to describe. I am never going to forget the epic time we had there. The entire experience, in fact, was such that I insist you all to visit the beautiful city of Prayagraj as soon as possible.



Wondrous life



Dr Amita Chauhan
Chairperson

One of the most subtle yet profound emotions among the navarasas is the *adhbhuta rasa* or the feeling of wonder and amazement. Subtle, because we often do not find enough words to express ourselves when we experience this emotion, and profound, because every little moment in this miracle called life can fill us with a sense of true exhilaration. *Adhbhuta rasa* is, therefore, evoked in us when we behold something extraordinary. This emotion is something

we feel and experience on a daily basis and it knows no bounds. And truly, what can stir this emotion more than all the beauty of the universe around us, be it stars and galaxies, oceans and mountains, or the little things much closer to us like trees sprouting new leaves or a toddler taking his first steps?

It does not matter whether you feel our 'creation' is a scientific phenomenon or the work of a Supreme Being; what is important is that every aspect of life fills you with a sense of curiosity and astonishment. By cultivating the right attitude towards every moment in our lives, *adhbhuta rasa* can be our permanent companion and inspire us to look beyond the ordinary, step out of our comfort zone, and find answers for ourselves. This, in turn, gives us a deep sense of happiness and connection with everything we have. My vision is to instil this quality in every Amitian, where curiosity and contentment are interwoven in everyday learning.

Amitians are amazing children and have awed all of us, time and again, with their unmatched skills. I am delighted to share that 61 students from seven branches of Amity in Delhi-NCR have done remarkably well at the Unified International English Olympiad organised by the Unified Council. 39 of them have grabbed top 100 ranks at the national level, and 22 have emerged as zonal toppers in their respective zones. 🇮🇳

Ideate to radiate



Rachna Mishra
Principal, AIS VKC Lko

Amity encourages students to take ideas from the initial stage of conception and develop them into something tangible that can be shared with the world. The Global Times is one such idea that was generated from the vision of our respected Chairperson, Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, who always thinks out of the box to give unique platforms to the students to explore their talent.

The first step to thusly ideate to radiate is to think with the intent of creating. This is fol-

lowed by evaluating and executing to bring the idea to fruition. The Editorial Board of AIS VKC Lko in the same way hustled very hard round the year to put together this work of immense inventiveness, all while taking the 'tehzeeb' and 'nazakat', which is an integral part of this city of nawabs, hand in hand. Needless to say then, the contest issue this year is consummate in the modern times, wherein the reporters, writers, visualisers, and all the others on board have showcased maturity in covering diverse topics. Such level of outcome is sought only when a team strongly believes in dispensing eminence.

Creativity is a mindset that can be applied to any field, whether it's business, art, or personal growth. I'm sure, by resorting to originality in like manner, AIS VKC Lko has turned ideas into something that has the potential to positively impact the world. I congratulate the team for the same, and pray that they keep getting inspired to express their ingenious capacities to the fullest. 🇮🇳

Trends vs timelessness

APERSPECTIVE



The Debate On 'In The Moment' Vs 'Forever' Rages On

Hamda Fatima

AIS VKC Lucknow, Alumna

From the sundry delicacies we nibble on to the wearables we deck ourselves with; from the social networking trends we partake in to the gadgets we go gaga over, trends, as volatile alternants behind everything, steer it all. They are everywhere, and so are those succumbing to them and also those chiding them in favour of timelessness. Who's right, who's wrong, or do the two get along?

A pro trends view

Today, the word 'trends' requires no elucidation, but in layman language, it refers to anything hip or popular at a certain time; things so 'cool' and 'in vogue' that people feel the need to conform to them in an effort to feel up-to-date or out of fear of being termed an outcast. The 1900s bucket hat, 1960s bell bottom pants, 2014 ice bucket challenge, or the pandemic born dalgona craze - were all nothing but trends. What's worth noting here, however, is the fact that these fads were all inherently fleeting and disappeared like the deuce. "So, why the hype?" You ask. Imagine looking back at a trendless history with no progressive timeline to identify it with. For something trending today only acts as a piece of history in the future and collectively, with others of its kind,

forms a timeline of sorts. The only thing that's going to put us in the history books thus, is the defining of a trend and being a part of the now. Howbeit, this is not to say that one has to constantly be in the wake of things to be "trendy". It's more about being mindful of the underlying biases of the present-day society and still take risks to have them grow with you.

A pro timelessness view

Conversely, being 'timeless', by definition, is to 'not be affected by the passage of time'. Any-

thing timeless as such is a classic entity that never goes out of style. Artistic advances like renaissance; artworks like Vinci's Mona Lisa; historic movements such as environmental activism or even feminism; or fashion statements like little black dresses or classic pumps, etc., are all exemplars of timelessness. "How are these superior?" You ask. One, they stay relevant at all times and don't let trends affect them; two, by virtue of that, any investment made in these is practical and more cost-effective. Besides, isn't attaining longevity the sole aim of human existence? Ask Ozymandias, if you don't believe us.

Where do the twain meet?

Now, some might argue that "timeless pieces too were all trends at once that managed to define their own moments in time," and they wouldn't be entirely wrong. For trends do have a profound impact on the culture and history of an era they form a part of, an impact so huge that transcends the bounds of time and space. Trends also have a tendency of resurfacing ever so often, particularly in fashion. Aren't we all back to the basic bell bottoms, bootcut as we now call them, again? So, it was never a "versus" situation, but one that depends on one's personal preferences and ethics. To be a non-conformist or not to be, that is the question.



Pic: Aarush Agrawal, XII |
Models: Mishti Sachan, IA &
Aashvi Maurya, IB; AIS VKC Lko

Lost in success

"Some beautiful paths can't be discovered without getting lost."

So, here we go again - lost in the appreciation and accolades of our first attempt, effortlessly sailing from chaos to clarity, perplexity to coherence, on this brand-new literary expedition towards our second CE. Our sincere gratitude to the honourable Chairperson ma'am for provid-

ing the students with this distinguished platform to display their creativity and writing prowess.

The Editorial Board of AIS VKC Lko, impelled by the desire to excel, has created this artistic concoction with great enthusiasm. Be it the fruitful advice of the dynamic leaders of 'Career Watch'



Nidhi Barthwal
GT Coordinator

or the unique views expressed through the 'Perspective' section, every segment has been crafted with extra care and a generous sprinkle of artistic flair, making this edition a definite winner. To make the same possible for us, we also express our sincere thanks to the GT team for their never-ending guidance. We hope this offering of artistic finesse will be relished by all. Happy reading!

Plan to be a planner

Managing an event from start to finish is a job that requires the synchronised efforts of countless professionals. If you wish to be one of them, let **Aishwarya Singh, XII C, Gouri Srivastava, XII A & Varada Kachroo, Alumna, AIS VKC Lko**, hand you a manual on the same.



Davinder Sharma

Chalking out: I started back in the 2000s when event management was in its nascent stage in India and people failed to define those pursuing it as anything other than a *tentwala*. But my first real exposure to event management happened during my short stint with a Mumbai-based textile and fashion magazine named Clothesline. That was also when I realised that the event planning industry is where I belong.

Operational knacks: Anyone with the right attitude, communication skills, practical knowledge of production, understanding of brand image, and the ability to network can excel in this industry.

Academic expertise: The event management degree courses available in our country at this stage may be helpful but do not really qualify one to be a successful professional. So, be

Meet the expert

Davinder Sharma is the director of Delhi-based event management company RMG Mileage LLP. He specialises in corporate event planning, corporate outbound and travel management, and M.I.C.E. events production.

prepared to walk the route of hard work and resilience.

Labour hours: This industry is not for anyone looking for a 9 to 5 job. Aspirants should be ready for the 24*7 non-conventional industry demands.

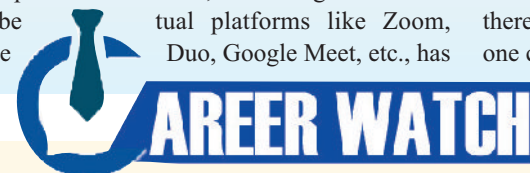
Howbeit, the emergence of virtual platforms like Zoom, Duo, Google Meet, etc., has

somehow spared us the trouble of making unnecessary travels.

Managing ordeals: Ensuring that everything is done within the prescribed budget and as per the client's satisfaction is tough. Bad creatives further exacerbate the problem.

Perks and pay-offs: To see a client happy and smiling by the end of an event is truly the biggest reward. Other than that, the various kinds of people, mindsets, and cultures you get exposed to is worth the time, money and efforts spent.

Getting paid: The industry is progressing rapidly and provides enough scope in areas of production, media, PR, event managing, mainstream corporate jobs in MNCs, hospitality, etc. But since it is still largely unorganised, there's no set formula for the earnings one can make.



Manika Garg

Meet the expert

Manika Garg is the vice president of Noida-based wedding management agency E-factor Entertainment (P) Ltd. The company has organised some of the largest weddings witnessed in India and abroad. Her role varies from client servicing to production and styling.

bound by the traditional working hours and is largely dependent on the changing demands of the customers, so work will form a major part of your daily conversations.

Managing ordeals: Since my specialisation lies in managing how the overall event is being led, the changes that the clients suggest, even at the last minute that is, become an onerous task to make peace with and bring about.

Perks and pay-offs: There's nothing more rewarding than seeing your creativity actualise, and how!

Getting paid: The scope is immense because weddings will always happen, come what may. As for the remuneration bit, it depends on a lot of things and cannot be generalised.

Chalking out: It was when I was pursuing MBA in the year 2000 that my journey as a wedding planner began. Since I had a lot of time on my hand, and my husband had just ventured into the field of event management, I pitched in, too.

Operational knacks: One needs to be well-informed about the various cultures and customs around the world in order to become a wedding planner. For every venue has a certain character, and every wedding comes with a different theme.

Academic expertise: Basic grooming that comes from management education and training is non-negotiable.

Labour hours: The profession is not

Chalking out: I began as a professional school tour operator in 2018, but due to some medical complications could not continue doing the same. That's when I got to know about Rocksport.

Operational knacks: Organisational skills like good planning, communication, client-first approach, problem-solving, negotiation and budgeting are a must.

Academic expertise: The field doesn't require any specific academic qualifications, but one should at least be a graduate in any field and should love to travel.

Labour hours: We work as per the demands of our clients; if they ask us to make any changes at, say, 4 in the morn, we do that without any complaints. But that does not mean we don't have a work-life balance. One can always take out a



Vivek Verma

Meet the expert

An adventure activity planner, Vivek Verma is currently serving as the business development manager at Great Rocksport Pvt. Ltd., an organisation that promotes adventure to the masses through workshops and events.

little time for themselves, and if you love your job, nothing like it.

Managing ordeals: Everything happens for a reason, so see it all as a lesson to remember, and come back even stronger.

Perks and pay-offs: The satisfaction you get when your clients ask others to avail your services tops the list.

Getting paid: Learning how to manage stuff is something that will always come in handy, so the scope is vast. Earnings, on the other hand, are a little hard to define because your proficiency in the work you do plays a major role in it.

Did you say Hitler?

Avika Mishra, AIS VKC Lko, X A

The clock struck 9:30 AM, indicating that it was time for the history class, and Ahaana despised going to this class. "I would rather eat a tubful of mustard, than attend this boring class, and that's when I despise mustard," she whined to her friend. But today it all seemed different. As soon as they entered the classroom, a large electric box occupied 1/4th of the room. "Is this the time machine?" exclaimed Ahaana. Ms Lohan, their teacher, replied, "Indeed, it is! For we're going on a surprise field trip today!" Everyone was delighted, even Ahaana threw in a little smile after hearing this.

All of them entered the machine, and Ms Lohan instructed the kids, "Listen everyone, stay on the designated path, and do not, I repeat, do not go off the grid." And off they went, the machine stopped and they arrived in the year 1907. But where had they come? Unaware of all other things, the only thing they could see was a tall building with a flag on top. "That flag up there looks familiar," Ahaana observed. "It's one of Germany's old flags, remember we learned this in class," one of the students replied. Ms Lohan said, "Class, you can now look around on your own, but remember to stay

on the designated path." They could hear people talking, "Don't you speak German, Raphael?" Ahaana enquired. "I do, but this is an old dialect," he said and went closer to eavesdrop. Once he returned, he was bombarded with questions. "I think, they were discussing some art school's entrance exam," he said. Listening to which, everyone was disappointed.

Something caught Raphael's attention as they continued walking. "Guys...do you

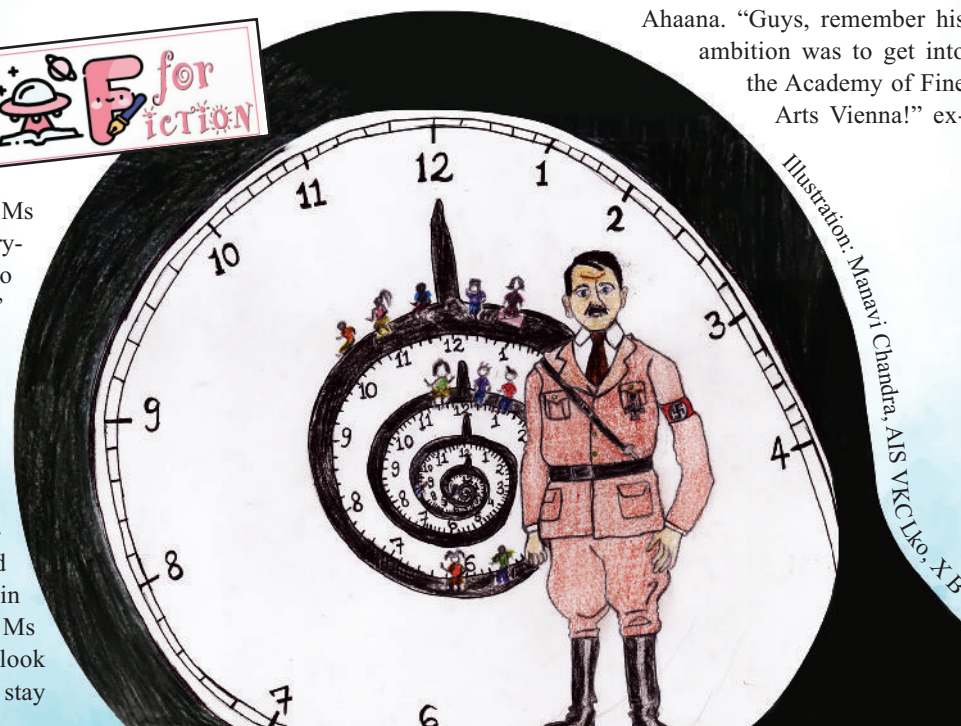
But today it all seemed different. As soon as they entered the classroom, a large electric box occupied 1/4th of the room.

also see, what I see?" he asked. "Oh my, he looks like the infamous Adolf Hitler," someone commented. "He doesn't just resemble Hitler; he is Hitler!" exclaimed Ahaana. "Guys, remember his ambition was to get into the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna!" ex-

claimed Jay.

Jay began running towards the building, motioning for his classmates to join him. "Jay, no! Ms Lohan warned us not to deviate from the path!" But before they could stop him, Jay had climbed up to the now empty balcony and took a paintbrush in his hand to covertly add a few strokes to the painting. "I see Hitler returning, let's go," one of the students said, his voice trembling. They all ran towards the time machine. Ms Lohan was waiting for them. The field trip was now over and they all returned to the present, however, everything felt strange...different. Everyone was surprised to find a changed world, and upon inquiry, another teacher said, "There's been no change. The usual wars are going on, my verdict is that there'll be another one this week." Everyone was perplexed, and Ahaana asked, "But didn't World War II bring an end to all wars?" The teacher was puzzled and asked, "Child, what are you talking about?" An equally puzzled Ahaana said, "You know, the one with Adolf Hitler and the Nazis?" The teacher scoffed and said, "Do you mean the famous German artist Adolf Hitler? What could he possibly have to do with war, let alone World War II," and walked away.

This was the moment when the kids realised that they had messed up.



The wheels of age

Ruchika Batra, AIS VKC Lko, XII B

Walking through the streets one night
I realised the world was all bright
When we did not need to turn a page
We are riding on the wheels of age

Playing from sunrise till the dawn
Never did I ever had to check my phone
Teachers used to look exactly like a sage
We always were on the wheels of age

The swings in parks were never so low
We would pile the rocks and then throw
We had to jump high to skip the rope
The wheels of age now ride over hope

We are now grown up, all ready to live
Leaving behind that world full of bliss
All those dear friends had to scatter
As these wheels of age start to clatter

We didn't know about our futures or fights
When all we had were our parents in our sight
Slowly, we all grew to solve the equations
Those little arguments proved to be lessons

We stand confused between current and sparks
Studying in class XI, vying just for all the marks
To think that I would write such long answers
Was an absolute nightmare for me and my mother

We now carry hopes in our hollow school bags
Lunch eaten with formulae written on notepads
Recalling the time when birds weren't in a cage
Reminds me that I am still on the wheels of age.

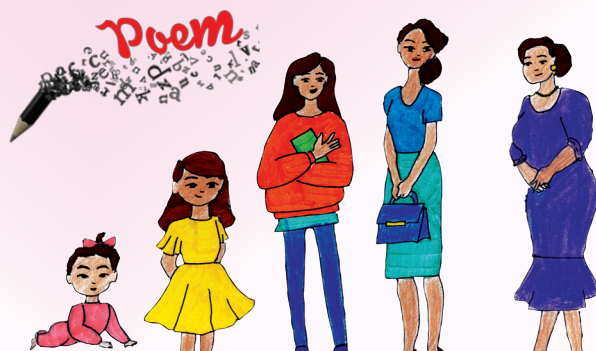


Illustration: Stuti Gupta, AIS VKC Lko, XII C

Read Play and Win 20

Reading GT can be fun as it can fetch you a prize too. Participate in this interesting contest simply by clicking on the link mentioned below in the online edition/taking a picture of the sheet and mailing us your responses at editor@theglobaltimes.in. So, get set, go!



Q.1 Who made the illustration of this edition's cover story?

Q.2 UP's first Butterfly park is an add-on to which zoological park?

Q.3 Who is the page editor of page 9?

Q.4 Name the scientist featured in part 19 of the 'Women in stem' series.

Q.5 Who is the founder director of ICS?

Q.6 Who is the Editor-in-chief of AIS VKC Lucknow?

Q.7 Mention the name of the three event managers interviewed on page 7.

Q.8 What is the best time to visit Prayagraj aka Allahabad?

Q.9 What was the theme of the roundtable meet hosted by AUUP on March 31?

Name:.....Class:.....School:.....

Results of Read Play & Win-19: **Reeth Pandey**, AIS Vasundhara 1, X C;
Yaksh Varshney, AIS Saket, V D; **Saisha Mehra**, AIS Noida, VIII A

[Click here to participate](#)

or log on to <http://theglobaltimes.in/readplaywin/>

Accelerating electronic payments...

...And Paving A Financially Secured Path To Building A Wiser Digital India

Yusra Zahra, AIS VKC Lko, X B

The news: In a circular dated March 24, the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) announced that transactions above 2000 INR, made using prepaid payment instruments, will attract an interchange fee. As soon as the news circulated, it stirred a domino effect of sorts, with questions like 'But what is an interchange fee?' 'What exactly is prepaid instruments?' 'Do I have to pay extra for UPI transactions?' popping on our news feed one after the other. Don't worry, we've got it all covered for you.

So, what exactly is this hustle-bustle all about?

The NPCI announced that starting April 1, an interchange fee of 1.1% will be levied on UPI merchant transactions initiated using prepaid payment instruments (PPI). However, this will be applicable for only transactions above 2000 INR.

Ok. But what is this prepaid payment instrument (PPI)?

Put simply, PPI are payment instruments that allow you to shop for goods or services with cash saved in or on the instrument. This includes vouchers, gift cards, and also wallets. Most payment apps like Amazon Pay, PhonePe and Paytm have an in-built wallet feature that allows users to load money in a prepaid account. This money can in turn be used for carrying transactions. So, now if you are using this money in your let's say Paytm wallet to make a payment, an interchange fee of 1.1% will be applicable.

And what does an interchange fee mean?

In layman terms, interchange fee refers to the transaction fee that a merchant's bank pays to the customer's bank. However, here since the customer is using UPI, this is the fees that the merchant's bank needs to pay to the customer's UPI wallet service provider. For example, if a customer uses the money in his Amazon Pay wallet to scan a QR code and make a

payment to a merchant with a HDFC bank account, then here HDFC bank will be required to pay the interchange fee to Amazon Pay.

The same is applicable for different payment platforms. Taking on from the above-mentioned example, if the merchant is using a QR code by PhonePe, then PhonePe will have to pay the interchange fee to Amazon Pay.

Also, it is important to note here that the interchange fee varies from one sector to another. The interchange fee stands at 0.5% for agriculture and fuel, 0.7% for education, telecom, and utilities, 0.9% for supermarket, while it stands at 1% for government, mutual fund, and railways.

So, do I have to pay this fee each time I use my wallet?

No. The interchange fee is not levied on customers. So, there can be two scenarios. Firstly, HDFC bank bears the fee, or it passes on this fee to the merchant. In the

latter scenario too, its impact is not certain, for this interchange fee is already covered under MDR, also known as merchant discount rate. MDR is basically the fee charged to merchants, which up until now has been zero in all UPI transactions. This means that thus far UPI transactions have remained free for merchants. Even with the revised interchange fee, it is not clear if the government will change its zero MDR policy any time soon.

Does this imply that this move will not have any impact?

Not really. Sure, there are a lot of transactions and parties who will remain unaffected but who will bear the ultimate brunt of this move remains to be seen. As of now, there are no charges for bank to bank account based UPI payments, and given that 99.9% UPI transactions are bank to bank, the chances of interchange fee coming to play remain sleek.

Besides, since the fee is only to be levied



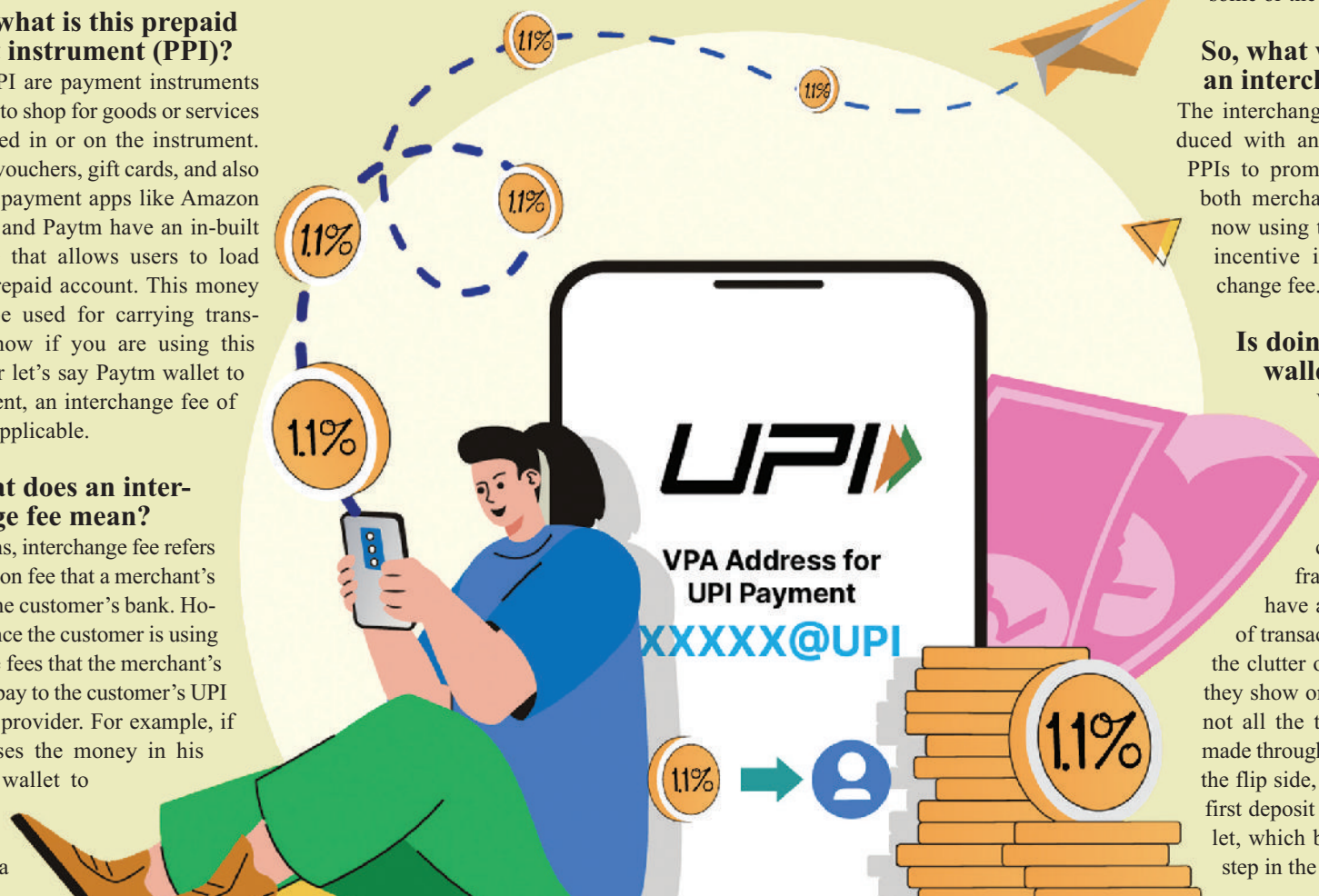
on PPI payments above 2000 INR, it is less likely to have any impact on small merchants or grocery store owners who have an average transaction size of 500 INR or less. At the same time, large merchants accepting larger online payments or payments above 2000 INR on an average may have to absorb the interchange fee, leading to a surge in their cost. In the long run, there are chances of this cost being passed on to the customer in the form of some or the other fee.

So, what was the need for an interchange fee then?

The interchange fee has been introduced with an aim of encouraging PPIs to promote UPI adoption by both merchants and users. Those now using the same will have an incentive in the form of interchange fee.

Is doing away with the wallets the way out?

Well, you could do that, but then there are both pros and cons. On the plus side, wallets offer security from potential frauds given that they have a lower limit on value of transactions. Also, it reduces the clutter on bank statements, as they show only wallet top-ups and not all the transactions you have made through the wallet money. On the flip side, wallets require you to first deposit the money in the wallet, which becomes an additional step in the payment process.



Let them fly!



Butterfly Park - The Azure Abode Of The Awadhi Winged Beauties

Pics: Aarush Agrawal, AIS VKC Lko, XII



Avika Mishra, X A & Manavi Chandra, X B, AIS VKC Lko

If an average garden area with a few butterflies flying around for kids to spot is what comes to your mind when you think of a butterfly park, you are not alone. But what if we tell you that UP's very first Butterfly Park, a 2018 add-on to the renowned Nawab Wajid Ali Shah Zoological Garden, has a lot more to offer? "How?" You may ask. Here's what we gathered from our conversation with the Zoo's educational officer and caretaker, Neena Kumar.

Giving wings to a thought

Having been inaugurated in April 2018, the huge, bowl-shaped Butterfly Park is home to some 62 different species of butterflies today. "Since these insects act as good environmental indicators, and as great pollinators, help many species of flowering plants repro-



GT reporters pose with Neena Kumar



A glimpse of the Butterfly Park

duce, it becomes our duty to shield them from the numerous risks that increasing pollution, urbanisation, and use of chemical fertilizers pose for them. That's exactly what we intended to achieve with this park," said Kumar, highlighting the significance of the said species and that of the park in spreading awareness about them. "It would also give a boost to UP's eco-tourism," she added, regarding the initiative as one aimed at killing several birds with one stone.

Getting hands on the wings

"We procure these winged beauties from the forests in Lucknow. In order to retain them here, we have grown two types of plants in the park, all pesticide free. On one hand, we have host plants like lantana, butterfly weed, etc., that attract the butterflies and are used by them for laying eggs; on the other hand, we have nectar plants like bougainvillea, lemon, etc., for them to feed on and help pollinate," Kumar summarised on how

the park works to sustain the abundance it boasts of. Though the butterflies are free to come and go as they wish, "in the monsoon season when many caterpillars go through chrysalis (turn into cocoons), we force shelter them to make sure they don't get eaten by any insect or animal," she added, listing yet another way the conservation takes place. Owing to these very efforts, the park is filled with butterflies all year round, especially in the months of March to November.

Ensuring a smooth flight

Since the zoo is a trust, it doesn't receive any money from the government other than that for food. "All the other expenses are thus borne by us, usually out of the money made from the tickets sold. For those below the age of 12, the ticket is priced at 40 INR; for those above 12, it is 80 INR," Kumar elaborated. As for its investigatory needs, the park invites entomology students from Lucknow University to conduct research on the butterfly species housed there. This not only benefits the students by providing them with experiential learning on the subject, but also helps the caretaking team learn more about butterflies. The park also has a butterfly Interpretation Center of its own to serve this end.

"Having already provided them with adequate sunlight, a nectar source, and a host plant to survive on, the only thing we as a society need to take care of is that we let the sky be filled with these vibrant wings," she said, signing off.



The photographer capturing the world



The EB of AIS VKC Lko celebrating the hardwork



The page editor scripting the thoughts



The illustrators conveying ideas through art



The designer creating visual ideas

For more pictures, log on to www.facebook.com/theglobaltimesnewspaper or www.instagram.com/the_global_times

Star olympians

Amitians Bag Top 100 Positions In English Olympiad

A total of 39 students from seven branches of Amity Group of Schools across Delhi-NCR secured national ranks at the Unified International English Olympiad, making it to the top 100 all over India. Further on, 22 Amitians emerged as zonal winners by topping their respective zones.

The olympiad that was organised by Unified Council on November 18, 2022 for Class II-X saw over 3000 students taking the exam. Results for the same were declared on January 2, 2023.

Several Amitians stood as national winners for the competition. The



Top 20 rankers (L-R) Khushi Mehta (AIS Gur 46); Divisha Gupta, Agrim Bansal, Shivanjali Sapra & Sabhya Agarwal (AIS Saket)

tally standing at 18 from AIS Gurugram 46, nine from AIS Saket, seven from AIS Pushp Vihar, two from AIS Gur 43, one from AIS Mayur Vihar, one from AIS Noida, and one from AIS Vasundhara 1. The number of zonal winners from each school stood at: two from AIS Mayur Vihar, one from AIS Pushp Vihar, three from AIS Gu-

rugram 43, six from AIS Saket, and 10 from AIS Gur 46.

The national winners received a book, a medal, and a certificate of appreciation, whereas zonal winners were awarded a medal and a certificate. Both the national and zonal winners were also awarded Olympiad coach online subscription worth 1198 INR. [G T](#)

Shaping tomorrow's leaders

AIS Mayur Vihar

The school organised Model United Nations on March 22, 2023 to instill negotiation and diplomatic skills in the students, thus empowering them as future leaders.

The programme envisioned by Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and RBEF, was attended by 100 student delegates from Class VIII-



Young delegates with mentors

XII. The students experienced exhilarating sessions of debates and discussions on burning topics like the Russian military intervention

in Ukraine, and the human rights situation in Afghanistan in two committees namely United Nations Human Rights Commission (UNHRC) and United Nations General Assembly (UNGA).

Several awards like Best Delegate, High Commendation, Special Mention, and Verbal Mention were bestowed upon the deserving young diplomats who displayed their skills of diplomacy during the conference. [G T](#)



The participants of the special assembly for World Water Day

Conserving water

AIS Vasundhara 6

Students of Class VIII conducted a special assembly on March 24, 2023 to celebrate World Water Day which is observed on March 22 every year. The assembly commenced with the students expressing their thoughts on water conservation in

three languages i.e. English, Hindi, and Sanskrit. They recited self-composed poems, shared facts, and information about water bodies and different ways to conserve water. A skit on water wastage which drew the audience's attention towards gravity of the situation was the highlight of the special assembly. [G T](#)



Dr Jon M Jenkins delivers the talk about space exploration

Let's talk about space

ACSF

Ninety seven students from Class IX-XII of Amity Group of Schools across Delhi-NCR attended a talk by Dr Jon M Jenkins, research computer scientist, NASA Ames Research Center, USA. Organised as a part of International Research Seminar on Innovations in Space Technologies, the talk was held at Amity University, Noida on March 22, 2023. It was centered on the topic 'Chasing shadows in the night: how NASA's Kepler and Tess missions are revolutionising exoplanet science'.

Amitians' participation in the talk was facilitated by Amity Children's Science Foundation (ACSF) under the visionary leadership of Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and RBEF.

The session began with an introductory speech by Professor Manoj Kumar, joint head, Amity



The delegates during session

School of Engineering & Technology, AUUP, who emphasised upon the importance of nurturing scientific temperament in young minds, and also shared about the rich legacy of India in space.

Dr Jenkins, in his presentation, talked about finding habitable exoplanets that can host living organisms, and scientific methods of finding such planets. He also described his journey as a part of the Kepler and TESS teams which work towards identifying and discovering new potentially habitable exoplanets. The seminar closed with a Q&A session, wherein the students posed various queries and discussed careers in space science.

Learning with fun

AIS Saket

Synchronising Amity's vision of learning with fun in classroom with emphasis on cross curricular and meaningful learning, the school organised Integrated Project Based Learning presentations for Class I-IV from March 3-4, 2023.

Aimed at increasing long-term retention, and improving problem solving and collaboration skills in students, the presentations saw them express their learnings through various activities like song, dance, drama, skit etc. Class I did sorting and spinning the wheels, and highlighted the importance of different seasons. Class II creatively depicted the animal kingdom. They spoke



Students mix learning with art to create a holistic experience

about the different kinds of animals, their habitats, discussed zoo manners, and composed small poems on animals. Class III displayed the beautiful world of birds and animals. They shared about their visit to a zoo,

wrote slogans, and made posters on endangered animals. Class IV gave a presentation on 'lessons from the past', in which they focused on some landmark inventions from the past through role plays and skits. [G T](#)



Dear autocorrect

It's High Time I Get Rid Of You As You Have Made My Life Well Hell

Gouri Srivastava

AIS VKC Lucknow, XII A

Autocorrect - is it the boon of our existence, or is it the bane making us wish for a timestone that could take us to the past when we had not sent that auto-corrected text? While we all have, kind of, learned to live with it, today I am here to vent out my feelings, courtesy - my misadventures with this devil known as 'autocorrect'!

The revenge ship

Imagine you're enjoying a well-deserved Sunday break, binging on a Netflix series, but voila! Think of the devil and the devil calls. Ring, ring...Grumpy Boss calling! Unfortunately, you miss it, being too engaged in your Netflix show, and as soon as you see the notification, you rush to message him. "Sir, just missed a call from you. Can you please call?" Well, well, your phone (and auto-

correct) was so desperate to correct you, the message became - "Sir just got a miscarriage from you. Can you please call?" Before you realise your mistake, woosh, it was sent. Well plaid, autocorrect, well plaid!

The name conflict

Indian names and autocorrect are a match made in heaven. My friend Ingit added me to his

Family & Friends Group on WhatsApp. To be nice, he posted a welcome message - "Hey everyone, welcome Gouri. She's my best friend." Sweet of him, right? Autocorrect says no, because my reply of "Thank u Ingit" was turned into "Thank u Idiot." Urghh, so much for being nice!

The amateur caterer

A rare holiday from work and

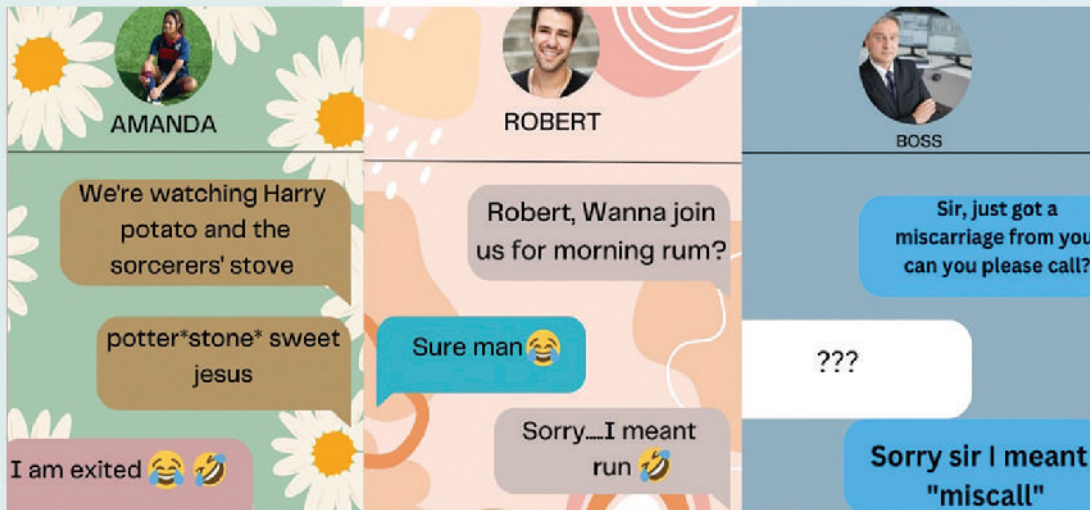
you're all dolled up to attend a wedding where food is the sole motivating factor. As soon as you enter, your favourite curries tickle your nose. You drift towards the food stalls and start reading the names of the delicacies presented. Dal Makhani, Malai Kofta, Mix Veg, Paneer Labrador...wait a mi-

nute - Paneer Labrador? Well, the idea of enjoying the food is now thrown out, but first things first, "Hello, PETA?"

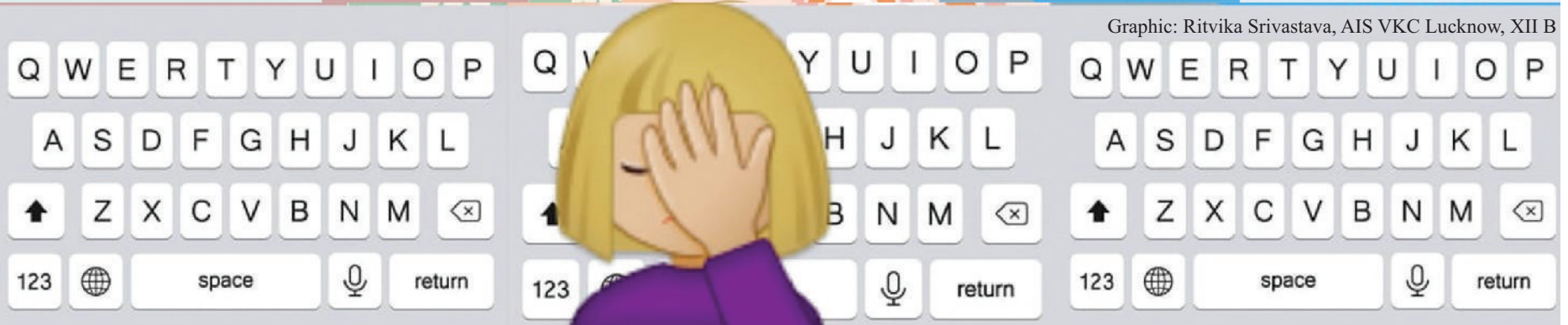
The danger zone

Autocorrect doesn't fail in making you look like a weirdo or even a murderer. You message your friend, "What's up?". She replies, "It was my parents' anniversary so we hosted a party." Out of courtesy, you type - "You should have told me. I would have wished them!" but autocorrect had other plans because the message sent was "You should have told me. I would have finished them!" *digging a hole to die of shame*

There have been enough times when autocorrect contributed to the top 10 embarrassing moments of our lives. It doesn't fail in making you sound like a psycho or a criminal, but since I am neither, I will do you a favour by telling you to turn it off.



Graphic: Ritvika Srivastava, AIS VKC Lucknow, XII B



In spotlight



Editor-in-chief: Gouri Srivastava



All hands on deck for the win, AIS VKC Lucknow is the A team!

Pics: Aarush Agrawal, AIS VKC Lucknow, XII