

INSIDE



Warriors of India, P7



Prompt box, P10

AMITe poll

Do you think the restrictions placed by Election Commission on rallies for assembly elections will help to curb rising COVID-19 cases?

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

To vote, log on to  
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POLL RESULT

for GT issue February 7, 2022

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



Results as on February 11, 2022

Coming Next

Women in STEM

# In a paw-fect world

## Delving Into The Budding Industry Of The 21st Century Petkeeping

Shikhar Srivastava, AIS Gur 46, XI B

Renowned novelist of Victorian period, George Eliot, once said, "Animals are such agreeable friends – they ask no questions; they pass no criticisms." Maybe that's the reason why pets and humans have been sharing the bond of companionship through the years. Not only has this bond offered humans best companions, but it has also led to the significant growth of pet care industry in the recent times, especially during the pandemic. So, here's exploring the potential factors behind the significant growth of pet care industry.

### Petkeeping - the ancient art

Many ancient Greek mythology texts feature animals as protectors, like Cerberus, the three-headed guardian dog of the underworld. But the connection of petkeeping in human history can be traced back to 14,200 years ago, when Bonn-Oberkassel dog became the first to be domesticated, followed by cats around 9,500 years ago. The exception comes from ancient Egypt, who treated cats as literal goddesses! Perhaps that explains why cats are so high-headed. A little farther east, and rather later, the Indian emperor Jalal-ud-din Akbar had pets ranging from dogs to cheetahs. Even in the 21st era, Samoyed breeds in dogs and Ashera breed in cats are the most expensive ones, with people getting their DNA tested to ensure they have the purest breed.

### Building of pet care market

From the late 1800s and the early 1900s, the pet industry began to focus on pet care apart from pet breeding. The first commercial canned dog food was introduced by businessman James Spratt, that led to a new market opportunity for the pet 'food' industry. The next evolution came in 1941, driven by a shortage of metal in WWII, which meant that cans could not be made.

And therefore, manufacturers found ways to make dry dog food, which was sold in boxes. Gradually, a variety of options like dry kibble, wet food, biscuits, treats specially designed to suit pets etc., were made accessible. Talking about the present, there are more than thousands of products and services available, whether it is spa treatment, buying from an elaborate range of quite expensive toys, personalised clothes, socks or medical insurance to cover for their health, pet owners (read: parents) are indulging in the whole shebang. If one is to go by numbers, according to a recent study, the global pet care market in 2020 surpassed 232 billion USD and is expected to grow at over 6.1% CAGR between 2021- 2027, with USA as the single largest market. Furthermore, the pet care industry in South Korea by the end of 2022 will reach 573 million USD. At home, in 2021, India's pet care market was at 3660 crores INR and grew steadily at 20% CAGR in all classifications, be it pet food, pet grooming, pet pharma and consultation or pet essentials; it is expected to reach a value of 7500 crore INR by the end of 2026.

### Finding the right audience

One may want to know the reason behind the sudden rise in the pet care industry. Well, the first one is adoption of pets during the pandemic, where people found pets to be a cure for lockdown blues and to overcome factors like loneliness and anxiety. As per the latest study presented by chewy.com, the Carolinas saw the adoption of nearly 9,00,000 pets across the country in 2020. Moving on, India saw a rise in its pet population i.e., between 28-29 million pets during the pandemic where dog adoption was maximum, with their feline friend, cats, next in the queue. Besides, as

per the latest report by China Pet Industry Association, China might adopt more than 700 million pets in 2022 as compared to 500 million in 2018 to overcome 'loneliness' present in the lives of young and old ones alike. Another major reason driving the pet care market is 'pet humanisation', where pet owners take care of pets as their own family members. They want to give their pets quality life and do not shy away from spending a significant amount of

their earnings on them. For instance, an Indian pet parent spends an average amount of 4,000 INR on their pet every month. Hence, this trend has led to a remarkable shift from being a 'pet owner' to a 'paw-rent', which has further propelled the pet care manufacturing companies to come up with luxurious and customised products in different sectors and meet the demand of pet parents.

Continued on p6...



# Reforms to re-form

## In-Depth Outlook On Economy, Internet, And Tides Of Change

Hridyanshu, AIS Saket, XI D

They say "Correct reforms in policy can reform the society." A firm believer of the same, with policy intervention for economic development as his forte, Major Rajpal Singh Baisoya, founder director, Confederation Of Sports And Recreation Industry (CSRI), and member of the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) Task Force, has been persistently working at the forefront of policy making and regulatory matters in various sectors such as telecommunications, IT, labour and employment, physical education and sports, etc., amongst others, right from the start. As such, he holds the distinction of being an integral part of the 9th, 10th, and 11th Five Year Plans of various ministries of the Government of India. So, when The Global Times got the chance to interact with him in an exclusive interview, he certainly had a lot to say. Here's presenting his views on...

### ...the current economic slowdown

Indian economy is influenced mainly by agriculture which is showing a declining trend. With the recent political upheaval on farm laws, I believe that instruments like ENAM, that refer to E-National Agricultural Market, are not fully utilised at the district levels of India. Due to lack of quick assaying facilities, participation of foreign players has not picked up. This has resulted in no significant increase in competition. There is a need for increased participation of the stakeholders as well as I believe that policy intervention can be aimed specifically to the MSMEs and migrant workers. This would ensure stability of the Indian economy.

### ...how small businesses can cope up

As an individual, one needs to minimise costs to the maximum by analysing which products or services are not giving much profits to the business. Apart from that, new ventures should be started online, especially with regard to teaching a skill. This is a highly profitable sector and can boost the business a lot.

### ...how self-reliance is the way forward

Creating an Aatmanirbhar Bharat is one of the most prominent campaigns of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The existing business sector will have to imbibe a lot of new changes in their working style. They need to take up more manufacturing within the country rather than depending on other nations. It is true that everything cannot be manufactured within India but, at the same time, there are various components which can be sourced from within the

country. But we should not forget that the government of India also has to give and extend support to the industry by giving both fiscal and monetary benefits. I am sure this is a vision which is important and achievable.

### ...how internet can intervene

Internet-based economy will increase efficiency, productivity, and create new opportunities not yet imagined. Internet of Things (IoT) and block chain technologies are the future. As technology drives automation, traditional jobs and the local economies that rely on them will be at risk. Internet economy of the future will depend on new approaches to skills and education. Many companies will be pushed into adopting new technologies just to stay competitive with new entrants.

### ...how reforms can rally round

Structural reforms in land and labour markets are part of the overall ecosystem of the nation. The Government of India has carried out many reforms but in a piecemeal manner. Land and labour reforms are some of the crucial things that need to be taken up at the earliest. As of now, labour reform is only valid in the organised sector which is not even 6% of the total economy. I believe that, instead of labour laws, we need employment laws which will enable the economy to provide more employment to the public. Similarly, with regard to land laws, we have hardly done anything as such. Digitalisation of total land bank, and then accordingly going ahead with structural change, should be the first step.

Continued on p4...

Major Rajpal Singh Baisoya, founder director, CSRI



An average cloud weighs about 216 thousand pounds or 98 thousand kilograms.



Cloudy domain

# The end of an era

## To The Legendary Nightingale Of India, Lata Mangeshkar



Sayantani Dubey  
AIS Gurugram 46, XII J

**A** voice that echoes the warcries of thousands of Indian Jawans, a voice that serves as the only ground of consensus amongst family members in a car, a voice that leaks sentiment aplenty, and holds a multitude of experience in every note - such was the voice of our melody queen Lata Mangeshkar. Though no longer with us, her evergreen voice continues to bind us humans together, as it always has and always will. For she was not just a prolific singer, but the very soul of Indian music. Her art emanated from her heart, and it is this very quality of her melodic euphoria that helped her achieve unconditional love and appreciation across all generations, as it should!

### She came...

Lata Mangeshkar was born as Hema to Marathi-Konkani musician Deenanath Mangeshkar and his wife Shevanti, in Indore, India on Sept 28, 1929. Shortly after her birth, her name was changed to 'Lata', which means brave and was inspired by a strong character named Latika in the play Bhav Bandhan. To inspire the one who has been an inspiration to millions, Lata Mangeshkar's father started training her when she was just five years old. Her professional musical journey, however, began when she turned 12 and lost her father

to illness in 1942, only to become the sole breadwinner of the family.

### She saw...

Thus, in an era defined by deep-set voices like Noor Jahan and Shamshad Begum, Lata Mangeshkar faced her own set of challenges. At the starting of her career, directors believed her voice to be too 'thin' and 'unromantic', and were reluctant to have her record playback music. As a consequence, her songs were edited out of films several times before she finally got a big break as a playback singer in 1943 with the Marathi song 'Mata Ek Sapoot Ki Duniya Badal De Tu'. And then there was no looking back for the nightingale of India. From her association with the Burmans, Madan Mohan, Laxmikant-Pyarelal, all the way to collaborating with new renowned music producers like AR Rehman, her musical career spanned the arc of Indian cinema.

### She conquered...

The legendary singer accomplished a lot during her unforgettably remarkable singing career. To acknowledge her dedication towards music, she was conferred with the Bharat Ratna, India's highest civilian honour, in 2001. She was also the first Indian to perform at the Royal Albert Hall in 1974. And so, in a career spanning over seven decades, she became a recipient of Padma Bhushan (1969), Dadasaheb Phalke Award (1989), Padma Vibhushan (1999), three National Film Awards, and several other Filmfare Awards. To honour her legacy further, the Government of Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra have also instituted

### Tweets of admiration

"I am anguished beyond words. The kind and caring Lata Didi has left us. She leaves a void in our nation that cannot be filled. The coming generations will remember her as a stalwart of Indian culture whose melodious voice had an unparalleled ability to mesmerise people."

PM of India, Narendra Modi

"With the death of Lata Mangeshkar, the subcontinent has lost one of the truly great singers the world has known. Listening to her songs has given so much pleasure to so many people all over the world."

PM of Pakistan, Imran Khan

"Rest In Peace Nightingale of #India #LataMangeshkar. Thank you for the decades of entertainment that transcended borders & gave life to the phrase 'music is a universal language'."

PM of Sri Lanka, Mahinda Rajapaksa

a special Lata Mangeshkar Award for Lifetime Achievement in her honour.

Thus, on the morning of February 6, 2022, as Lata ji, who had sung more than 30,000 songs in over 36 different languages, left her corporeal form to grace heaven, the sun was dull, and the nightingales bereaved the loss of one of their own. The unparalleled legacy of flair extraordinary and great artistic excellence she left behind would, however, go on and on.

### Her iconic discography

- "Pyaar Kiya Toh Darna Kya"- Mughal-E-Azam (1960)
- "Aye Mere Watan Ke Logo" (1963)
- "Lag Jaa Gale"- Woh Kaun Thi? (1964)
- "Aaj Phir Jeene Ki Tamana Hai"- Guide (1965)
- "Ek Pyar Ka Nagma Hai"- Shor (1972)
- "Luka Chuppi"- Rang De Basanti (2006)

## Around The WORLD

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



### CANADA

Emergency due to protests

Hundreds of truckers in the country blockaded central Ottawa with trucks and cars to oppose the government's recent ruling of compulsory vaccination for all truckers wanting to cross the US-Canada border. Bringing Ottawa to a complete standstill, the blockade of the Ambassador Bridge has disrupted cross border trade to a great extent and is impacting Canada's overall relationship with the USA.



### UNITED KINGDOM

Adele breaks Guinness World Record

Leading English singer and songwriter Adele smashed the Guinness World Record for bagging the most number of BRIT Awards for Album of the Year by a solo artist. Having already won the same in 2012 and 2016 for her previous albums, she dominated the award ceremony that was hosted in London on February 8, 2022.



### IRAN

New missile unveiled

A long region-wide range 'Kheibarshekan' missile, made domestically and manufactured by the IRGC, was unveiled on February 9. The missile has high accuracy and a range of 1,450 kilometers that would allow it to easily reach US and Israel bases. This development is to advance the country's ballistic missile programme, and to further negotiations to revive Tehran's nuclear deal.



### AUSTRALIA

Borders open after two years

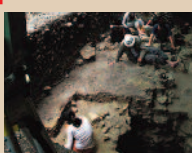
The country, that had some of the strictest and the longest COVID-19 border restrictions in place in the world, is set to reopen commute to doubly-vaccinated international tourists and visa holders for the first time in two years. Prime Minister Scott Morrison announced the same in a media briefing on Feb 7, inspiring more countries like New Zealand, Philippines, and Malaysia to follow suit as the daily cases decline gradually.



### FRANCE

Earliest evidence of homo sapiens found

The earliest evidence of Europe's modern humans, in the form of a homo sapiens tooth between layers of Neanderthal remains, has been discovered in Grotte Mandrin, suggesting the coexistence of both groups in the region. This discovery questions the earliest date of the species in Europe by 10,000-54,000 years ago.



### PAKISTAN

Air force to induct 50 JF-17 jets

Pakistan Air Force, in order to boost its air strike power, is all set to induct the very first batch of modernised JF-17 Block III Thunder fighter jets by the end of March. The planes, jointly developed by the Pakistan Aeronautical Complex (PAC) and the Chengdu Aircraft Industry Corporation (CAC), China, are built using next generation technology, and are light weight with air-to-air and air-to-surface combat features.



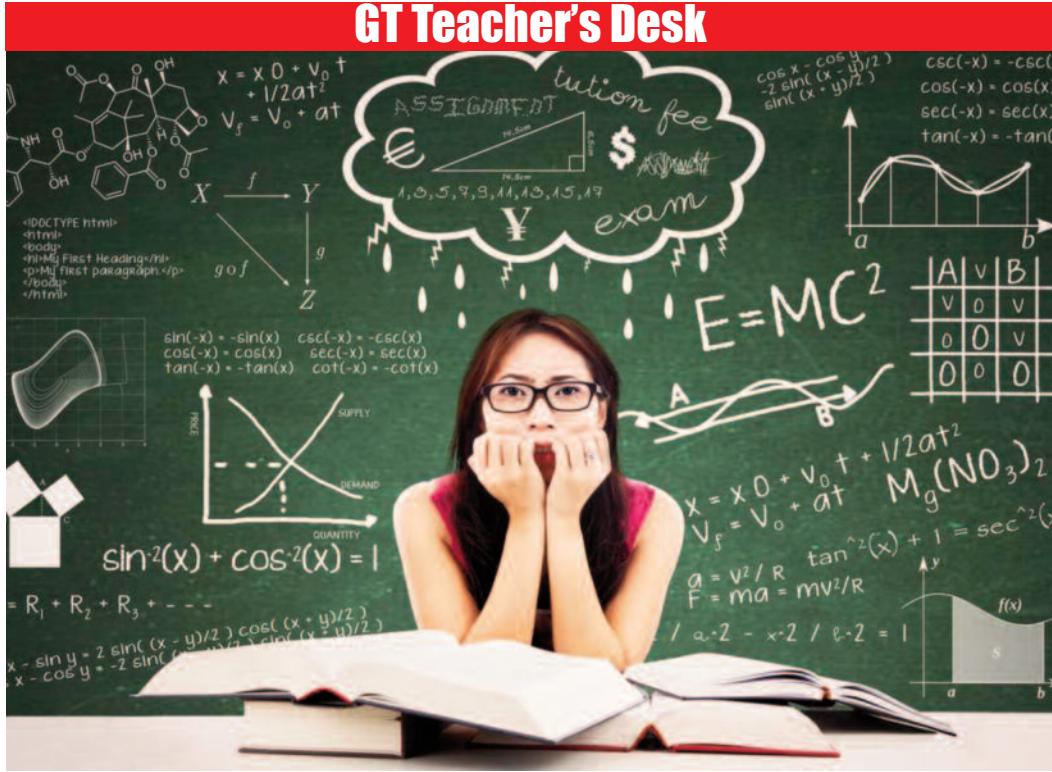




About 10,000 light-years away from Earth, there exists a huge cloud of alcohol which is 1000 times larger than the diameter of our solar system.

# Acing Physics

Tips And Tricks To Get Good Command Over The Subject



GT Teacher's Desk

**Kiranjot Kaur**  
AIS PV, PGT Physics

The most beautiful experience one can have in his/her mind is to be able to 'observe', 'infer', and 'conclude' things, and Physics offers the same to every student studying it. The capacity to see the world with a perspective that relates to 'cause' and 'effect' gives a very reasonable vision to everything that exists. Therefore, Physics is a bridge between the familiarity and the understanding of the world around us.

Students who opt to study 'Science' for their Senior Secondary education get to see the real flavour of this subject. The way they get to work on the basic domains of Physics as a part of hands-on laboratory course stimulates the physicist in them. It is because of the critical thinking capacity that the subject develops a tendency to identify the problem and seek unique solutions. In fact, the whole building block of the subject lies in the problem-solving capacity. This subject is beyond what is contained in the designated course work books, in

fact, it is a vision! Many times it becomes difficult for students to satisfy the basis on which CBSE tends to assess them during board exams. Thus, the whole idea lies in identifying the soul of the subject. If the student knows how to apply and escalate the thought process, then no question is difficult to answer. The subject just demands honest hard work and expects to be 'understood' and not just 'known'. So, in order to ace this subject, the students must ensure thorough reading and understanding of their NCERT book. Thinking

and understanding between the lines is what the exam pattern demands. Analysis and implementation are the new favourites of the board exam setters. Introduction of 10 one markers, two case studies with eight questions, and reason-assertion is just to evaluate the capacity of the student to think. Thus, they need to do ample written practice of application-based questions on the same. Raising 'why' and 'how' while studying shall lead to a very fine conceptual grasp and furthermore, will help the students to justify all and any kind of questions asked in the board exam. Last but not the least, understanding what the question demands is the biggest ace card to score full marks. It is a primary requisite to read the question very carefully and answer it using the right terminology. Being crisp and to the point is another essential skill to write a perfect paper. One may start writing answers in bullet points rather than in paragraphs. Numericals based questions in Physics have always been one of the biggest fears students have. The only way to have good command over them is by investing your time and practicing hard, for there is no shortcut to hard work! The only mantra for reaching the pinnacle of excellence is continuous and sincere effort, as it is very well said - "Success is the sum of small efforts repeated day in and day out."

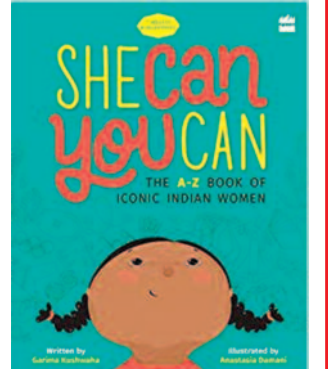


## Book Review

### Rake in that review

**Book:** She can you can: The A-Z book of iconic Indian women  
**Author:** Garima Kushwaha  
**Published in:** 2020  
**Genre:** Children's literature; non-fiction

**Synopsis:** The book is a unique and beautiful compilation of the biography of 26 different women. Starting from alphabet A to Z, these inspiring female figures are presented with a beautiful sketch as well as a summary of why they are worthy of being acknowledged and celebrated. The book begins with the story of the mountaineer Arunima Sinha and ends with Zohra Sehgal, a seasoned performer in breaking the glass ceiling in various fields. The author has collected and brilliantly penned down stories of women from various fields including sports, science, entertainment, and business. Each and every autobiography is embedded with immense motivation and inspiration for the reader.



very simple and understandable. The book preaches women empowerment with solid examples, presenting readers with real life heroes to look up to. It talks about how women have struggled with time to attain a place in society and how they have eventually managed to win this fight. Having wonderfully included women from different backgrounds, the author has made the book worth reading as it will motivate the readers to aim and achieve higher.

**Why it is worth reading:** The book makes you stay hooked to all the autobiographies. The narration is so beautiful that it makes the reader interested and keen. Not only that, but the illustrator Anastasia Damani has also done a commendable job with the visuals of the book that keep the readers engaged. To make it truly child-friendly, the language has been kept

**Iconic Quote:** "You see me now when I am old and ugly, in fact, you should have seen me earlier when I was young and ugly."  
**Rating:** 5/5  
**Review by:** Siddhi Dwivedi  
AIS Mayur Vihar, V C

# Think creative

## Revamping The Conventional Problem Solving Techniques With Design Thinking

**Aarushi Anand, AIS Vasundhara 1, XI D**

The problem students face nowadays are complex, diverse, and often difficult to address; these range across all learning topics and are rarely solved through simple and linear problem-solving. Grappling with them thus requires students to think creatively. Design Thinking Model helps them accomplish exactly that! As a design methodology that provides a solution-based approach to solving problems, Design Thinking helps one tackle complex problems, that are ill-defined or unknown, by reframing them in human-centric ways and understanding the human desires involved. As such, this model consists of five stages that are needed to be worked through in an effort to gain reasonable solutions or resolutions. Read on as we walk you through the same...

### Stage I: Empathise

Empathy is the competence of understanding the feelings and intentions of others and is the foundation for any human-centered design. It involves understanding of what the problem is, the cause and effect between the variables and their complexities. It allows design thinkers to set aside their own personal assumptions about the world in order to gain insight into what's really important for the users and what they truly need.

### Stage II: Define

Defining the problem in a meaningful manner is the second step. It involves critical thinking and in-

terpretation skills in order to condense the information put together during the 'empathise' stage and convert it into a compelling point of view to clear direction for ideation. This stage helps the designers in the team gather great ideas to establish features, functions, and any other elements that would allow them to solve problems.

### Stage III: Ideate

'Ideating' is all about opening up the mind, being imaginative, generating lots of ideas, and exploring a wide variety of solutions, all while keeping the problems and consequences in mind. As such, there are hundreds of ideation techniques like Brainstorm, Brainwrite, Worst Possible Idea, SCAMPER, etc. Brainstorm and Worst Possible Idea sessions amongst the aforementioned are typically

used to stimulate users' free thinking and to expand the problem space.

### Stage IV: Prototype

Breathing life into the ideas, making them tangible, accessible, and relevant is what prototyping does. This is an experimental phase where the aim is to identify the best possible solution for each problem identified during the first three stages. As such, the solutions are implemented within the prototypes, and are further cross-examined, accepted, improved, or rejected one by one in order to rule out the possibility of any sort of inefficiency or faults.

### Stage V: Test

The fifth and final step of Design Thinking is testing the prototypes. The results of this testing show how well and from what dimensions the problem was understood. In fact, alterations and refinements are made even during this phase in an effort to eradicate problem solutions and derive as profound an understanding of the product and its users as possible.

Charting through these five stages, design thinking can somewhat be explained as a cross between analytical thinking and intuitive thinking. Thus, it comes as no surprise that it is used by professionals from across the world in a wide range of fields such as sports, education, healthcare, business et al. So, no matter which field you choose to pursue, design thinking skills will surely prove to be beneficial for you.





Planet Kepler 7b has clouds made of silica particles, so it rains molten liquid glass.



# Myliddy, milady

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

Aditi Pandey, AIS VYC Lko, VII A

**Name of the village:** Myliddy  
**This townlet is located in:** Northern Province, Sri Lanka  
**Population:** 1,152,000 (as per a 2020 survey)



## About the village

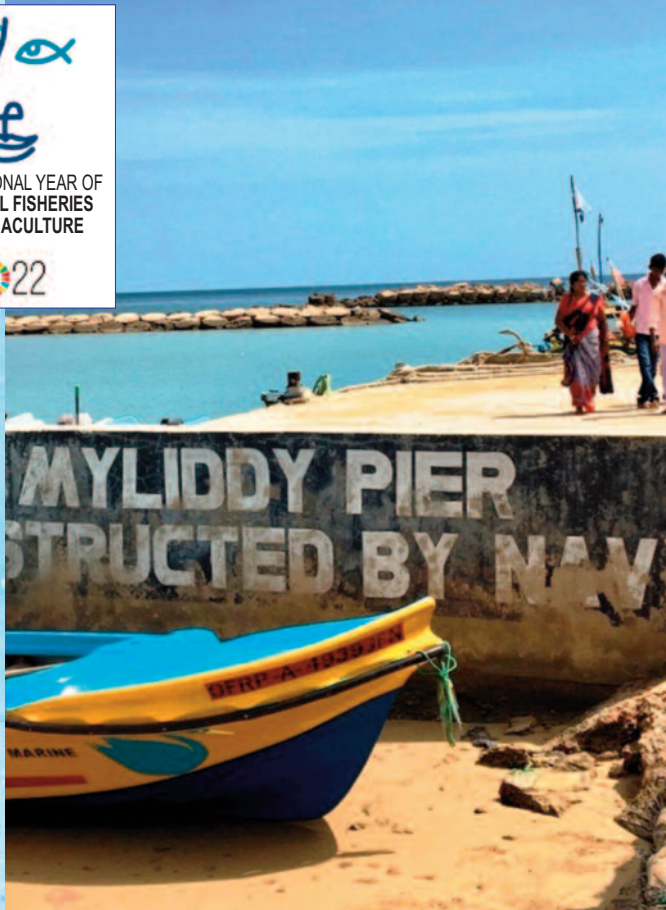
- Myliddy is a small town located in the mid-part of the Jaffna Peninsula in Northern Province, Sri Lanka.
- Popularly known as the 'typical Jaffna fishing village', the town at one point in time accommodated almost one third of Sri Lanka's fishing trade.
- Owing to its close proximity to the Palali military base and the Jaffna Airport, this harbour town has been occupied by the military since 1990.
- It was on May 3, 2017, after about 27 years of military occupation, that the town, less than half of it and in a state quite inhabitable, was released for civilian use.
- An abandoned Sri Lankan cargo ship is beached near it and attracts tourists around the place.

## About the fish population

The fishes endemic to this region are Shark fish, Ceylon killifish, Anabas testudineus, and Channa harcourtbutleri (found in some areas). However, in recent years, fishing activity has been slow.

## The life of fishers

With no other means to make a living, the life of resident fishers in the area is completely dependent on fishing. Thus, in an effort to earn a livelihood, they take their jetties into the waters every



day with whatever little supplies is available to them. Quite often, they are unable to take their fishing boats along due to lack of financial resources to run the engines, which forces them to work

for someone else to be able to pay off their increasing debts. In such a scenario, managing home and educating their children becomes increasingly difficult for the various fishermen communities homed here; all this when most of them have already been displaced years ago when the town was militarised in the 1990s.

## The hardships faced

With overfishing, poaching, and other conflicts in the northern fishing areas, mainly between Indian and Jaffna fishermen, becoming some of the town's emerging concerns, the fishers in the region are struggling. Besides, many Indian fishing trawlers, with a fishing technology that is far superior to the war-ravaged vessels owned by local fishermen, exploit the current easy access, and trespass the Indo-Lankan Maritime Border to poach on local fish resources, depriving the locals of their only means of subsistence. And if that wasn't enough, the locals are even forced to comply with the tight restrictions imposed by the Sri Lankan Army. To compound it further, they are also facing the impact of the climate crisis as due to global warming and inadequate and unpredictable rainfalls, there is a significant drop in the number of fish and catch ratio.

## The efforts made

The government has launched a few restoration projects to begin the much-needed infrastructural advancements in the region. It has also initiated several plans to make the province fully operational and encourage small scale traditional fishing communities as well as the large ones to gain back their means of livelihood. Reactivation And Reconstruction Of Myliddy Fisheries Harbour is one such initiative of the UNDP that ensures that the resettled habitants have better development opportunities after decades of displacement. However, there is still a dire need for implementation of comprehensive near-shore fishing policies in order to fully sustain this artisanal fishing village.

# Striking strokes

## An Effort To Make My Country Stroke-Free!

Nitya Jain, AIS Saket, VIII A

In today's world, we have remedies and treatments for diseases that were once considered impossible to treat. And yet, health levels around the globe continue to deteriorate, with stroke being one of the deadliest medical conditions. Put simply, a stroke is a cardiovascular disease that affects the cerebral arteries i.e. the arteries that carry blood to the brain, and can be deadly or permanently damaging to a person's health. There are two types of strokes – ischemic strokes, and hemorrhagic strokes, where ischemic stroke is the most common one that occurs when the blood flow to a part of the brain is affected by a blood clot that is blocking the artery or narrowing it down. 70-75% of strokes in India are ischemic strokes, and even though the number of people affected by it has decreased, thanks to awareness campaigns organised by various bodies, there are still about 1.8 million people who suffer a stroke every year. So, how do we prevent such statistics?

Firstly, the number of neurologists in our country is very less in comparison to the number of patients. There are just 2000 neurologists, which means that for every 900 stroke patients, there is just one neurologist. This means patients waste their time waiting in line and by the time they reach a doctor, the damage could be irrevocable. To overcome this problem, India needs better educa-

tional facilities to produce better doctors in quality and quantity. Secondly, the monetary resources available to those seeking treatment are very limited. For people below poverty line or who are living in remote and underdeveloped areas, government hospitals are the natural answer to all health problems, but the sad truth remains that these hospitals

do not have the facilities required for proper treatment. Thirdly, even if someone does have adequate resources to seek suitable medical attention, lack of awareness creates a wall between the patient and their care. Recognising stroke symptoms is necessary if we want to be aware and save lives before it is too late. For the same, schools, colleges, offices, workplaces

etc., should take up initiatives to educate their pupil. Lastly, the post treatment period is just as important as the other steps, but a major roadblock that can stand in their way is that not enough caregivers are equipped to look after them. People who have suffered a stroke need proper facilities so that they can fully convalesce from their terrible ordeal and deal with issues like emotional trauma, memory loss, paralysis, pain, difficulty in swallowing, talking etc. In most cases, they need someone to assist them with everyday chores, which is why proper care is vital.

10 years ago, one in six people suffered from a stroke. Today, this statistic has been reduced to one in four. So, while it is apparent that the situation is better than it was in the past, it is imperative that we work towards



Nitya receives her award for third spot in an essay competition by AIIMS

completely eradicating this deadly health issue. And we can only do that if we all take a pledge to do our best to help somebody in need, to try to educate as many people as we can, and to make sure we mind our own health as well. [G](#) [T](#)

(The presented essay, written by Nitya Jain, won third prize at an essay-writing competition organised by the Department of Neurology, AIIMS, as a part of the World Stroke Day 2021.)

# Of sports and more

continued from page 1...

## ...how CSRI can contribute

At Confederation of Sports and Recreation Industry, our belief is that this industry is not limited to sports alone. It includes education, health, tourism and many other areas. It is a trillion-dollar industry, and we are yet to take it seriously. In India, as of now, sports is not even considered as an economic sector. We believe that by creating a sports eco-system in India, we can improve not only our sporting standard but also create an independent economic sector. Through various activities like sports science, capacity build-

ing and skills development, sports law and arbitration, business of sports, e-sports and gaming, India can create huge employment and business opportunities.

## ...how Amitians can assist

Pick your favourite industry and start working in it consistently and be genuine to yourself. Integrity, loyalty, maturity and, most importantly, a cheerful disposition is necessary for long-term growth. You must take time out to play and enjoy after a day of hard work. You must pursue at least one physical activity of your choice or some passion that is not related to your job.







Noctilucent clouds, hovering at around 60,000 m above the ground, are the highest clouds of all.



Savyasachi Singh, AIS Noida, XI H

# A slice of life

## Enjoying The Relatable Trivialities On Screen!

When it comes to big screens, it is always the exciting wand-waving and dramatic plots that capture the greater chunk of the audiences. And why not? They take us away from the mundane and transport us to a different world. So, while these born-on-a-different-planet kind of movies thoroughly entertain us, at times they seem a tad too far-fetched. In fact, the lack of relatability sometimes makes them a little off-key.

In such a scenario, we can thank god for the 'slice of life' genre. It is perhaps one of the few genres in fiction that makes one feel at home. But what exactly is this slice of life? Put simply, it places the spotlight on regular people and their routine lives. There is no extraordinary or mystic set-up or plotline.

In terms of theatre, slice of life, refers to naturalism, and usually portrays a

seemingly inconsequential series of events in one's life. Unlike other fictional genres, slice of life does not revolve around developing a plot, conflict, and subsequent climax. Often, the stories here are left open-ended. This genre is also a part of the literary world, where it entails a technique of storytelling that presents the character's life. And just like the screen, the literary genre contains a lack of plot structure, conflict, or even ending.

The term first came into existence dur-

ing the 1890s from the French phrase 'Tranche de vie' by Jean Jullien, a famous French playwright. However, it gained its highest momentum during the 19th century, where slice of life was given utmost importance in the Chicago School in the United States. The novel 'A Woman's Life' by Guy de Maupassant furthered its popularity and stood as a wonderful example of the genre as a story where a woman transfers an unreciprocated love for her husband into a compulsive affection for her son. A lot

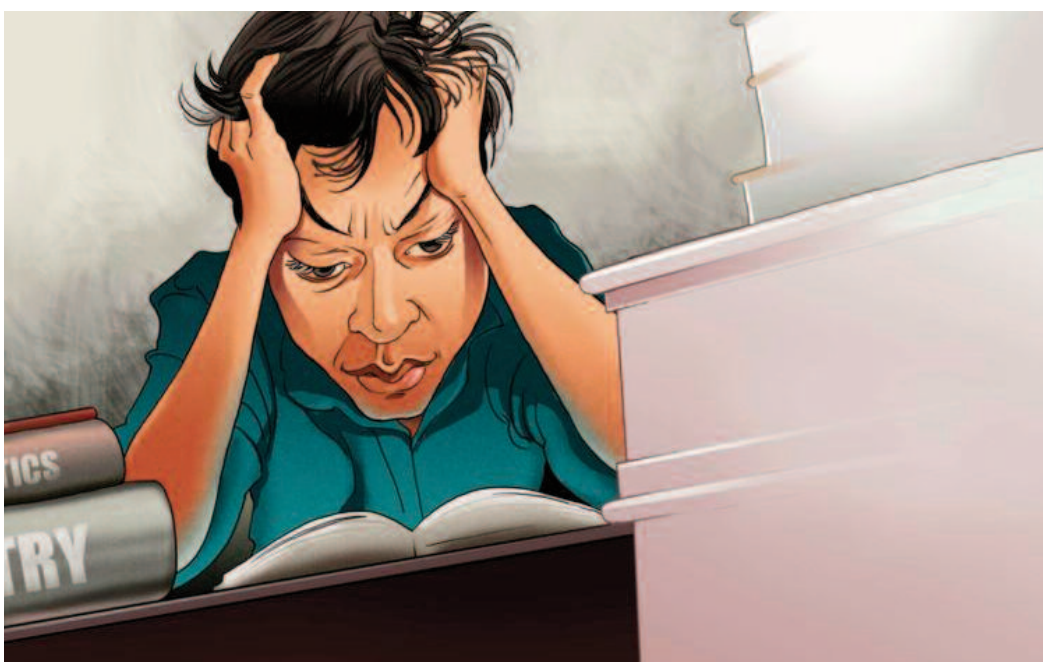
of examples of it can also be seen in Japanese animes and mangas which are centered around regular high school life and the day-to-day dealings of someone. A popular example being Saiki K, which, despite being a show about having telepathic powers, runs into only the minor instances of teenage life like school and friends. A more popular example would perhaps be the beloved cartoon Shin Chan. We've all seen it as kids, and it was somehow always entertaining to see his bizarre ways of han-

dling the same troubled circumstances as the rest of us who were watching. But one might argue as to how watching someone else live in the same sphere as us qualify as entertainment? Isn't the whole idea of entertainment to escape the mundane nature of life? What makes something so normal deserve a space in our minds?

Perhaps the primary factor for its attractiveness is its effortlessly relatable nature. Sometimes the character might have the same trivial problems as we had an hour ago, which strikes a sense of familiarity and perspective. We see these plotless stories and the unique ways in which a character interacts with it, and we connect with that uniqueness, or rather, sometimes, we just enjoy it. In a way, this genre is so close to home that it opens our eyes more than the speedy sequences of apocalypse or dreamy explorations. So, what slice of life will you be exploring now?

# Let us sing you a lullaby

## The Ever-So-Important Books Gather Around To Deliberately Put You To Sleep



Pragna Das

AIS Gurugram 46, XI S

Kunal was skimming through his science books. His eyes shone red, screaming of exhaustion. A night before the exam, he desperately wanted to sleep, but there was a lot to do. As he put up all guards against slumber, he heard an unknown rhyme coming from the psychology book kept next to him...

Extremely tired and exhausted you are  
Deep sleep is the need of the hour  
That coffee is playing with your mind  
Sleep, even if the syllabus lags behind  
Your mind will play all kind of games  
But without sleep, your body isn't same  
Sleep my dearest friend, sleep  
Else you will be in trouble deep!

Still reeling in shock, Kunal could barely come to

terms with what he had just seen, when suddenly he saw his physics book opening up...

You've been in motion far too long  
Brain will heat up, sing an off-tune song  
Oh dear, it is about time you sleep  
The body is losing energy, about to weep  
Shut your eyes, your body will be in motion  
For a complete shutdown is a wrong notion  
The atoms inside will continue to dance  
A slower waltz, perhaps, if not a prance!

Seeing physics sing, chemistry chimed in...

Been up for 36 hours? Is not organic  
In fact, it is the base for falling sick  
Brain suffers, leaves poor memory behind  
Heart has its own reactions, suffers in grind  
While you may think you're still placid  
Immune system is weak, for the body it is acid  
Go sleep if you want to be in your element  
Else all you will have to do is just repent!

Next, in a slow and alluring tone, geography book opens its pages...

After all, even if you go to sleep  
Neither continent nor ocean will weep  
For the continents will still drift apart  
Create something new, make a fresh start  
Rocks will continue to break and form  
Your sleeping will cause no storm

Sleep, refresh and discover landscapes  
Else your body will be out of shape!

Tired of its own struggles, geography soon fell asleep to its own tune, when astronomy soulfully came to the rescue...

Hey you! Look at the night sky  
See it's trying to sing you a lullaby  
Even the sun has gone to sleep  
After all, a 24-hour shift is tough to keep  
The moon maybe up and about  
But in a few hours, it will snore and pout  
The stars twinkle, blink their eyes  
Calling sleep, the bed is warm and nice!

Biology, who had been observing everything for far too long, decided to have the last word...

Cell by cell, the body falls asleep  
For it has certain promises to keep  
The lungs still respire, the heart stills beats  
The brain acknowledges the body's caveat  
Even though it continues to plan and think  
The body in mushy pillows begins to sink  
Good night, sleep tight, my dear friend  
For every sweet lullaby has an end.

Finally, Kunal fell asleep to take the much-required nap. Meanwhile, loud snores could be heard from the far end of the bedroom. We wonder who might that be! 🇮🇳



Clouds that look like fish skin/scales are a reliable indicator of change in weather (often rain) in the next 6-12 hours.



Cloudy domain

## Act with kindness



Dr. Amita Chauhan  
Chairperson

Inculcating human values, like respect, kindness, acceptance, and gratitude, in every student forms the very core of education at Amity. Naturally then, my heart swells with pride when I hear that an Amitian has been recognised globally for her thoughts

on the virtue of kindness. Ananya Sharma, of AIS Vasundhara 6, has been selected amongst the top ten winners for her essay on the topic of 'kindness' which was submitted for the Heartfulness Essay Event held by UNESCO in collaboration with Shri Ramchandra Mission and Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Education for Peace and Sustainable Development.

Through her insightful article, Ananya has shown that one needs to have a great sense of empathy and compassion to be able to comprehend the idea of 'kindness', a virtue not even parents or educators are sometimes able to explain. That is why we need to keep revisiting what Mahatma Gandhi spoke about kindness, "The simplest acts of kindness are by far more powerful than a thousand heads bowing in prayer." Or what philosopher Lao-Tzu said, "Kindness in words creates confidence. Kindness in thinking creates profoundness. Kindness in giving creates love." Indeed, in the last two years, we have seen how the world required kindness more than ever before. We witnessed multiple acts of benevolence and humanity all around us, giving us the strength to go on despite all the hardships. And at Amity too, we emphasise on how small acts of kindness can make the world a better place. Learn to be kind and life will reward you with endless joys. 🇮🇳

## The Voice of India



Vira Sharma  
Managing Editor

The outpouring of heartfelt condolences, not just from India but all over the world, is a testimony to the fact that Lala Mangeshkar was a global phenomenon. Her demise, Feb 6, is a great loss for the world of music. With over seven decades of

singing career and nearly 30,000 songs in her repertoire, she had touched and presided over the hearts of young and old alike. No wonder she had earned various epithets like 'Nightingale of India' and 'Queen of Melody' during her lifetime.

I remember listening to Vividh Bharti while growing up and marvelling at how every musical chart was dominated by her songs. Whichever be the song, romantic or sad, patriotic or spiritual, she had the ability to pull our entire family together to listen to her magical voice on radio.

I also recall watching a live show in Kolkata where she, along with her sisters Asha Bhosle and Usha Mangeshkar, gave a scintillating performance, one of the rarest stage performances of all the three siblings together. When she walked into the auditorium, the first thing that struck me was her simplicity and down to earth persona. She was already a legend by then but there were no starry airs. As I watched the telecast for her funeral, the song 'Meri awaaz hi pehchaan hai, gar yaad rahe' echoed in the air. Tears welled up in my eyes and I wondered what she would have felt when she sang this song 45 years ago; would she have known that this song would one day become the apt description of a life so beautifully lived and loved? 🇮🇳

## Thank you, Amity!

### The Tale Of An Amitian Reaching The Sky



I am Hridyanshu, a student of Class XI at AIS Saket, who dreams of pursuing a dual major in computer science and aerospace engineering post Class XII, and as an Amitian, I want to thank our dear Chairperson ma'am for providing me with the opportunities to hone my skills and confidence. I would like to thank the Amity family as well for a spiffing 2021 where I participated in phenomenal activities and won national and international competitions all because of the support Amity has provided me.

The biggest highlight that I was able to achieve was to be selected for two US universities' summer programmes, i.e., Harvard and Brown, both being top Ivy League colleges. I attribute my success to Chairperson ma'am's motivational speeches and stories, and her being the living embodiment of serenity and success. Not just this, but I was also given a chance to participate in the Ritsumeikan Super Global Forum (RSGF). It is a wonderful platform for the students to deliberate upon global issues. I learnt critical thinking and constructing solutions via the experience, and also got a chance to interact with students from diverse backgrounds and cultures.

The Amity family has nurtured me so well to become what I am today. My school principal, Divya Bhatia ma'am, always acts as an inspiration for all activities and leadership positions I have taken up. Our vice principal, Alka Saxena ma'am, is the figure who has guided me since the day I became associated with Amity, and my beloved MUN teacher, Sumedh Kapoor sir, has known me since Class VII, and since the very



Hridyanshu (second from left) at Ivy League MUN Conference, India

first time I asked him for a chance to compete in AIMUN, he has been a full enthusiast and supporter. From AIMUN Singapore to winning the Best Delegate at Ivy League Model United Nations India, sir has been an incredible instrument of mentorship. Thanks to Amity I got the opportunity to be a panelist at the first 'Talk with Diplomat' programme with the Slovenian Ambassador. I was amongst the only two students from India this year to have been selected for the most prestigious and competitive US university boot camp for high schoolers - Massachusetts Institute of Technology Innovation Leadership Camp - that will be a 10-week intense course on developing a product and marketing it. Furthermore, I am also now a VVM scholar by achieving rank 2 in the Vidyarthi Vigyan Manthan examination conducted by the Department of Science and Technology, India, VIBHA and NCERT. The wisdom and stories shared by our Chairperson ma'am, especially the carpenter story, always motivate me to give my best in any activity. Because of this, I have been given the utmost privilege to handle the school's STEM and ATL society - FUTUREAL, and also am the first high school student ever to be selected for an internship at the Satel-

lite Communication Industry Association of India.

Amity has helped me develop life skills that have aided me in securing all my achievements, and it is because of this that I am currently a junior researcher at the Rowing Federation of India. My school IT teacher introduced me to the National Design Championship organised by NASSCOM, Autodesk, and Mind Box India, where I currently reign as the national champion for three years in a row. The designing skills and analytical prowess have come in handy, too, as I designed the new age hybrid spacesuit for the prestigious CONRAD Challenge. Words, thus, are not enough to thank Chairperson ma'am and my Amity family for providing us Amitians with such huge opportunities to shine out in the universe. It is because of this love and vision that I got a chance to go ahead and explore. The formula of BHAAG by Founder President sir, Dr Ashok K. Chauhan, is the secret to my energy, and because of it, I will continue to take on more challenges and will keep making Amity proud! 🇮🇳

Proud Amitian,  
**Hridyanshu, AIS Saket, XI D**  
(Hridyanshu is one of the two students from India to be selected for an internship at MIT.)



## In a 'paw-fect' world

Continued from page 1...

### Selecting sectors for expansion

As per the data shared by Petex, the pet food segment alone is projected to cross 310 million USD mark by 2022, while other segments are picking up too. Companies like Heads Up For Tails (HUFT), a high end pet retail brand, saw 80% increase in its revenue during the pandemic, and plans to increase the number of stores in India and Singapore. Supertails, another pet care brand offering pet training, has been doing 2000+ consultations every month to meet the demand of paw-rents. Furthermore, metropolitan cities like Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, etc., have come up with their own pet cafés such as Puppchino, Cat Café and Twisty Tails, all doing swift business. Not to miss the luxury hotels dedicated to pets, such as Critterati situated in Gurugram, which offer services such as spa, day boarding, boutique, etc. And the pet resort in Bangalore, Petcart-nest, that offers exclusive bamboo huts for pets along with a swimming pool. In fact, to expand the pet care market, the pet brands have been working towards engaging content to connect with paw-rents. According to special report released by TAM AdEx with Ad and Media Insider, there has been a boost in ads related to animal food across TV and digital print. Big pet brands like Mars International India, Pet Essentials, etc., ruled the advertising space on TV and digital media during 2020-2021.

So, it is safe to say that this industry will continue to rise as people will invest their money and hearts into adopting animal companions to enrich their lives. Let's hope the businesses are able to meet the growing demands in terms of food and services just as effectively.

## Pearls of wisdom

# Who is a 'hero'?

## Wondering The Worth Of The Title We Give Away So Freely

Vardaann Gautam Malhotra  
AIS Pushp Vihar, III C

One day, my mother gave me a quiz to solve. One of the questions of the quiz was - 'Please select the hero from the following: Sachin Tendulkar or Aamir Khan'. I was puzzled so I went to my mother to ask, and she started explaining to me what a 'hero' meant. "Sachin Tendulkar is a very famous cricketer, and Aamir Khan is a very popular actor. Remember you watched Taare Zameen Par last month and liked it? So, you can tick his name as that is the correct answer!" she said. But I was still just as confused so I looked at the test and back at my mother. I wanted to finish the quiz quickly so I could go outside and play with my friends, but there was something I wanted to understand even more urgently.



"But, mom," I said, "how is an actor or a cricketer a 'hero'? Didn't you tell me a hero was someone who was brave and saved others? Doesn't that mean that our soldiers are our heroes? They are the ones who stay and guard our borders, no matter what the situation. These soldiers don't even take a day off to celebrate festivals so that we can be safe and be

with our family and friends. You told me they are the real heroes, and they are who we should look up to. You said people like Capt Vikram Batra are heroes, so why isn't his name here in the options given?" My mother didn't know what to say so she asked me to skip the question and complete the rest of the quiz. But later that night, as I sat reading my

favourite book 'Param Vir Chakra', my mother came to my room and said, "You were right, Vardaann! People like Capt Vikram Batra are the real heroes and the ones who should truly be called heroes. What they do for the nation and for us all is something most of us can never gather the courage to do. It isn't that people have forgotten about him or the soldiers who keep us safe, but just that sometimes all of us need a reminder of why we can sit inside our homes and be so safe and care-free. I am very happy that you remember about our soldiers and I hope you will continue to do so and continue to look up to them as our heroes. Yes, the actors on our screen may be called 'heroes', but even they will admit who the real heroes of this country and of this world are. I hope you spread the same message to your classmates and friends as well!"





There is a water vapour cloud in space which has 100 trillion times the amount of water present on Earth.

# The braveheart Ashoka

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

## The roots of a warrior

Ashoka – a name that has not only marked its own page in history but rather its own books. Known to be one of the greatest emperors of India as well as the world, the exact start of Ashoka's life is not known. However, it is speculated to be somewhere around 304 BCE. The same remains for the rest of his early life as the Edicts of Ashoka – a collection of more than 30 inscriptions on pillars, boulders, and cave walls done by Ashoka himself – do not spill out much truth on the matter. However, there are various stories talking of his past, all of them based on plausible historical information gathered years after he was gone.

Though exact dates remain unconfirmed, it is believed that Ashoka lived through 3rd century BCE. The Puranas and the Mahavamsa draw conclusions that he is the son of emperor Bindusara and the grandson of Chandragupta, founder of Maurya dynasty. Some accounts even claim his lineage to be linked with king Bimbisara or king Nemita of Champarana. It is also claimed that Ashoka was disliked by his father (some say because of his 'ugly' appearance, which is why he wanted Ashoka to be away from the palace), but it did not stop everyone else in the kingdom from seeing the prince's true potential – both being the reasons stated as to why Ashoka was given the task to suppress a revolt at Takshashila and also to be the viceroy of Ujjain at a young age. The 'priyadarshi', a title bestowed upon Ashoka, went to Takshashila with only a fourfold army and without any weapons provided by his father, and still succeeded, proving that he was ready to carve out a name for himself that the world would remember even centuries later.

## The sword of a warrior

The legends of Ashoka's ascension to the throne come in multiples, all claiming different versions of the story, but all starting with him not being the crown prince. Some claim that he killed his father and his eldest brother Susima for the throne, some claim he killed 99 of his half-brothers on his father's side and only spared his brother on his mother's side, some claim that he killed six legitimate sons of his father to get the crown as he himself was an illegitimate child –

the stories are endless.

But Ashoka did end up being the sovereign and ruling his empire for around 37 years where he extended the region under control of his ancestors. According to his own inscriptions, his empire roughly stretched from modern-day Afghanistan to Bengal and even to southern India except the tip, almost including the entire Indian subcontinent. Ashoka kept a tight ship as a leader, being given various titles at different stages of his life (Kamashoka, Chandashoka, Dhammashoka etc.); many tales even support the claim that he was a 'violent' person and had done a lot of 'evil deeds' before his image conversion. One of the biggest wars under his name, and the one that truly turned a corner for him, is said to be the Kalinga war fought between his army and the state of Kalinga. The battle ended up being one of the largest and the deadliest battles in the history of India, costing around 250,000 lives, and even though Ashoka did emerge as the winner, the bloodshed ended up completely changing his world view and philosophy. He started viewing death and harm to be painful and deplorable, a step that finally pushed him to accept and embrace Buddhism fully.

## The legacy of a warrior

Also known as Ashoka the Great, it is no surprise that his legacy was noted down in various ancient languages like Sanskrit, Pali, Tibetan, Chinese, Burmese, Sinhala, Thai, Lao and Khotanese, and is fondly remembered till date. He was India's greatest emperor, and after the Kalinga war, he started on his journey to practice and preach Buddhism. Today, he is known for his various achievements like spreading Buddhism, constructing 84,000 stupas or monasteries, his Ashoka Chakra, and his many Ashoka pillars, one of them being the Lion Capital of Ashoka which is now the national emblem of India. He ruled over his pupil with beliefs of peace, tolerance, and the Buddhist idea of 'dharma'. It was his true will to be in touch with his subjects, to know their woes and to eradicate

## WARRIORS of INDIA

### Part 5

**Name:** Ashoka  
**Born in:** circa 304 BCE  
**Died in:** 232 BCE  
**Position held:** Ruler of the Indian subcontinent in the Maurya Dynasty  
**Noteworthy achievements:** Promoted Buddhism in ancient Asia; expanded Chandragupta's empire from present-day Afghanistan to present-day Bangladesh; won Kalinga war  
**Biographies to watch:** Ashoka; Samrat Ashok; Chkravartin Ashoka Samrat  
**Biographies to read:** The Emperor's Riddles; Ashoka ki Chinta

them, and to spread the message of 'increase the inner worthiness' that made him so successful. He spent a great deal of his career building hospitals for animals and humans, carrying out plantation drives, constructing watersheds, rest houses, wells, and other public services. He was also the first king to work for animal welfare, imposing a ban on killing of 'all four-footed creatures that are neither useful nor edible', and even abolishing royal hunting. Even in his last days, instead of using his wealth to treat himself, he donated the state funds and his personal possessions for the betterment of the society. In his illustrious career, he started out violent and saw the worse of it, but he rectified it and came out as the epitome of peace, knowledge, and grace; which is probably why H G Wells stated that the name Ashoka "shines, and shines almost alone, a star" amongst all the monarchs that have had their names registered in the columns of history, because he truly was one in a million.







# Tale of Maneshwar



Bhuvu Pandey, AIS Saket, XI A

It was a cool winter night when Dev Singh returned to his hometown Maneshwar. After working sedulously with his team in New Delhi, he longed to take a break from his hectic city life. He missed the feel of damp air on his skin, the blue sky, towering mountains and lush green grass. But as he entered the village, it was as if the day was out of sync with his chirpy mood. The trail between the mountains of Lohaghat and Champawat was dusty, conveying to Dev Singh that the village he was hoping to see was long gone. As he reached home, he was greeted with enormous hugs by his daughters, who were grinning from ear to ear at

the sight of their father. "How was the journey?" asked his wife, Avantika. "Pretty good, the roads are in a far better condition than how they were the last time," replied Dev Singh, smiling. "I will just go, freshen up." The weather really was cold. He hadn't noticed this while he was in the car but now the chilly air was raising goosebumps on his arm. He opened the tap to wash his face but nothing came out. "Avantika, is the tap not working?" he asked. "The tap's fine, just water shortage," said Avantika, her voice barely a whisper. "What? But Maneshwar has never had such a crisis," said Dev Singh. Avantika sighed. She knew that her husband would be appalled at the condition of

Maneshwar. Since the time the oak trees, which stored water in them, were replaced by the poplar and pine trees just for some selfish reasons of the tree-cutters, she knew there would come a time when the entire village will have to face the consequences of their actions. "We've got to do something about this," Dev Singh declared, breaking her train of thoughts. "But what?" asked Avantika. He smiled and she knew he was taking the matter into his own hands. Avantika had always been impressed by how he could maintain his composure, even in the most difficult situations. Perhaps being in the army had toughened him up. The next day, Dev Singh gathered some

**He filed a PIL against the tree-cutters and they were asked to leave the village premises instantly.**

friends and started planting oak trees in and around the neighbourhood. He filed a PIL against the tree-cutters and they were asked to leave the village premises instantly. The entire village rejoiced. It took about three years for the village to become what it had once been and about ten years for the snowfall to occur again. The whole town participated in the plantation of oak trees and overtime, the water reservoirs filled up. The greenery had returned and so had the wildlife.

Dev Singh had to quit his job in Delhi in order to pay attention to re-developing his village. Although he did often miss the aura of the army officers around him, it gave his heart immense pleasure to contribute to the development of his hometown in some way. He could now listen to the crickets clicking in the air, the whisper through the lush green grass and the whizzing chirr of the insects.

As he sat outside his home along with Avantika and his daughters, he watched the horizon in its breathtaking colours and felt that all his hard work had finally paid off. 🇮🇳



## White sauce pasta

Anansha Nastasia Frank, AIS VKC Lko, XII A

### Material required

Pasta .....	2 cups
Butter .....	2 tbsps
Refined flour .....	1 tbsps
Milk .....	1 ½ cup
Olive oil .....	2 tbsps
Garlic (finely chopped) .....	2 tbsps
Coriander (chopped) .....	2 tbsps
Mushrooms (diced) .....	½ cup
Cheese (grated) .....	1 ½ cup
Nutmeg powder .....	a pinch
Salt .....	to taste
Pepper .....	to taste
Oregano .....	to taste

### Procedure

- Boil some water in a pan, add pasta to it and cook al dente. Once done, drain the pasta and keep aside.
- For the white sauce, keep a saucepan on low flame and add butter to the pan.
- Once the butter melts, add refined flour. Keep stirring till the raw smell fades away.
- Now, slowly add milk to the mix. Use a wired whisk to keep stirring thoroughly to avoid formation of any lumps.
- Keep cooking on slow flame till it thickens slightly.
- Add grated cheese at this stage. Keep cooking the sauce on slow flame till the cheese dissolves completely. Your white sauce is ready.
- Now in another pan, add olive oil. Once the oil heats up, add finely chopped garlic.
- Once the raw aroma of garlic fades, add diced mushrooms and saute well.
- Next add white sauce to the mushrooms, along with the boiled pasta.
- Add salt, pepper, oregano and nutmeg powder to the pasta as per your taste.
- Garnish with coriander and serve hot. Enjoy with friends and family.

## WORDS VERSE

# Smartphones

Daivik Gupta  
AIS Noida, X L

In today's modern life  
A smartphone helps one  
Pass their leisure time

Made for communication  
With friends far away  
Its overuse causes vexation

For instead of playing out  
Kids use the phones that  
They cannot live without

Locked up inside their rooms  
Sitting idle through the day  
Surfing is what these kids do



Rather than being with friends  
Or seeing something informative  
They are eager to follow trends

So, instead of losing yourself  
Stop its excessive usage  
And act up before it's too late! 🇮🇳



Riya Gupta, AIS PV, XII G

Her fingers curl around yours  
Her giggles double your joy  
Her cheeks naturally blushed  
Her face a replica of yours  
Her beauty's one that stuns  
She's your most superb creation

Beautiful copy of your soul  
A soul that has waited so long

A soul that's whole with her  
She is what your heart desired  
So, giving her a wholesome life  
Will be the utmost blessing for her

Like the first rays of the sun  
That adorn mother earth all day  
She brings light to your life  
Her cries break your heart  
And her smile instantly mends it  
Rejoice, for she is yours forever! 🇮🇳



## CAMERA CAPERS

Prisha Nigam, AIS Gurugram 43, X C

Send in your entries to  
cameracapers@theglobaltimes.in



Nature's soulful goodness



Nature's resplendent hues



Nature's mischief





While most clouds we see are made up of tiny liquid water droplets, Cirrus is one type of cloud that is made of ice.

# An unlikely friendship

## Wisdom tale



**Kartavya Parashar**  
AIS Vasundhara 6, VII C

Naman was a shy and reserved boy who didn't have any friends. He always found it hard to express himself and often stayed alone in school. There was only one place where he felt comfortable and that was the forest behind his house. He would spend hours exploring the little paths in the forest and play with squirrels and rabbits to kill time. One day, during one of his regular exploration trips into the forest, he found a wounded rabbit under a tree. It looked like he had

been attacked by an enormous animal. Naman could not have left him there to die so he gently picked him up and carried him home. And since he was not allowed to bring stray animals at home, he hid the rabbit in his room and started taking care of him. In a few days, rabbit's health improved drastically and he started to get better. Naman was so excited to have a new friend that he would spend hours talking to the rabbit every day, telling him about his school and the difficulties he faced in making friends. The rabbit would just look at him with his red eyes and listen carefully to

everything Naman had to say. After a few weeks, the rabbit was fully healed and Naman released him back into the woods. But every time he would go into the forest, the rabbit would follow him everywhere. One day, Naman was playing with the rabbit when he lost track of both time and direction. As he realised that he had never been to this part of the forest and didn't know his way back, he panicked and started crying. Then suddenly he heard someone say, "Don't cry, I will take you home". At first he thought his dad had found him but there was no one around to be seen. He

**There was only one place where he felt comfortable and that was the forest behind his house.**

heard the voice again, "I am right here, my dear friend." Suddenly, Naman realised that the voice was coming from the rabbit. He rubbed his eyes thinking he was hallucinating but the rabbit was indeed smiling and talking. The rabbit said, "Don't be scared Naman. My name is Cheeku. I am forever indebted to you for taking me home when I was injured. You are a wonderful person and a good friend". Naman was in tears, not because he was scared or he was looking at a talking rabbit but because someone had called him a friend. All he ever wanted was to be a good friend to someone and he finally became one. Cheeku asked Naman to follow him and soon Naman could see the back of his house. He was so happy that he ran towards it. But when he was about to reach, he realised that Cheeku was no longer next to him. He turned around and found Cheeku sitting at the entrance of the forest smiling at him. With that, he went back inside happy knowing that he had made a friend for life.

**So, what did you learn today? Friendship can be found in the most unlikely of places.**

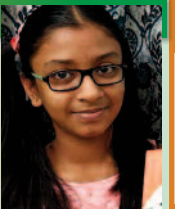


## Tricoloured card

Ridhima Goel, AIS Gurugram 46, VIII E

### Material required

- A4 size sheet (orange, green, and white)
- Watercolour paints (green and orange)
- Glue
- Scissors
- Black sketch pen
- Decorative beads



### Methodology

Ridhima Goel

- Take a white A4 size sheet and fold it into half.
- Now, using orange colour, paint the upper inner edge of the sheet in an arc shape as shown in the picture.
- Repeat the same on the lower outer edge using green colour. Leave ample blank space between both the colours.
- Now, take an orange coloured sheet and on it, trace out a butterfly about 10 cm long and 12 cm wide. Cut it out.
- Repeat the same with the green sheet, only this time the butterfly should measure 8.2 x 9.3 cm. Likewise, from a white sheet, cut out a butterfly measuring 7.2 x 7.2 cm.
- Stack the three butterflies together one over the other, with the largest at the bottom, and the smallest at the top.
- Press fold this stack in the middle and paste it in the center of the sheet along the crease.
- Now, decorate the butterfly stack by pasting beads in its center. Similarly, decorate the arcs by outlining them with beads.
- Lastly, using a black sketch pen, draw the antenna and head of the butterfly.
- Your tri-coloured 3D butterfly card is ready!

## POEMS

### Why her?

Anushka Bhardwaj  
AIS Gurugram 43, Alumna

She roams in the hall still  
At even the dead of the night  
With the doubts of societal ill  
Every day is like climbing a hill

She needlessly tires herself out  
By working all day like a slave  
Still taunts and admonishes  
Are considered her only wage

She questions herself and regrets  
Is my existence just a threat?  
Why do they block my potential?  
Do they love being pestilential?

Such thoughts she tries to neglect  
Being ludicrous is just an effect  
Of being spirited all day, she suspects  
So, she sleeps and wakes up again

Every day is simply the same  
Same stories of eyes gazing at her  
All of them looking with disdain  
If only someone could see her pain

But after all, is it really her fault?  
Why must she be the one to halt?  
And who exactly are they to decide  
That she should be kept aside?



## It's Me

### KNOW ME

**My name:** Aryan Singh  
**My Class:** II A  
**My school:** AIS VYC Lucknow  
**Born on:** May 27

### MY FAVOURITES

**Teacher:** Twisha ma'am & Sunita ma'am  
**Subject:** Mathematics & Hindi  
**Friend:** Huzaif & Aradhya  
**Game:** Cricket  
**Cartoon:** Doraemon  
**Food:** Aalu ki kachori  
**Mall:** Fun Republic mall  
**Book:** Story book



### MY DREAMS AND GOALS

**Hobby:** Painting  
**I like:** Cricket  
**I want to become:** An army officer  
**I want to feature in GT because:** I want to be famous.

**I dislike:** Nothing  
**My role model:** My father



## Mr Sunday

Bhavyaa Pandey  
AIS Mayur Vihar, VII B

Like a cat waiting for rat  
We long for Mr Sunday  
The best day of the week  
As good as any birthday

When Mr Sunday arrives  
We smile with sheer delight  
Enjoying every moment

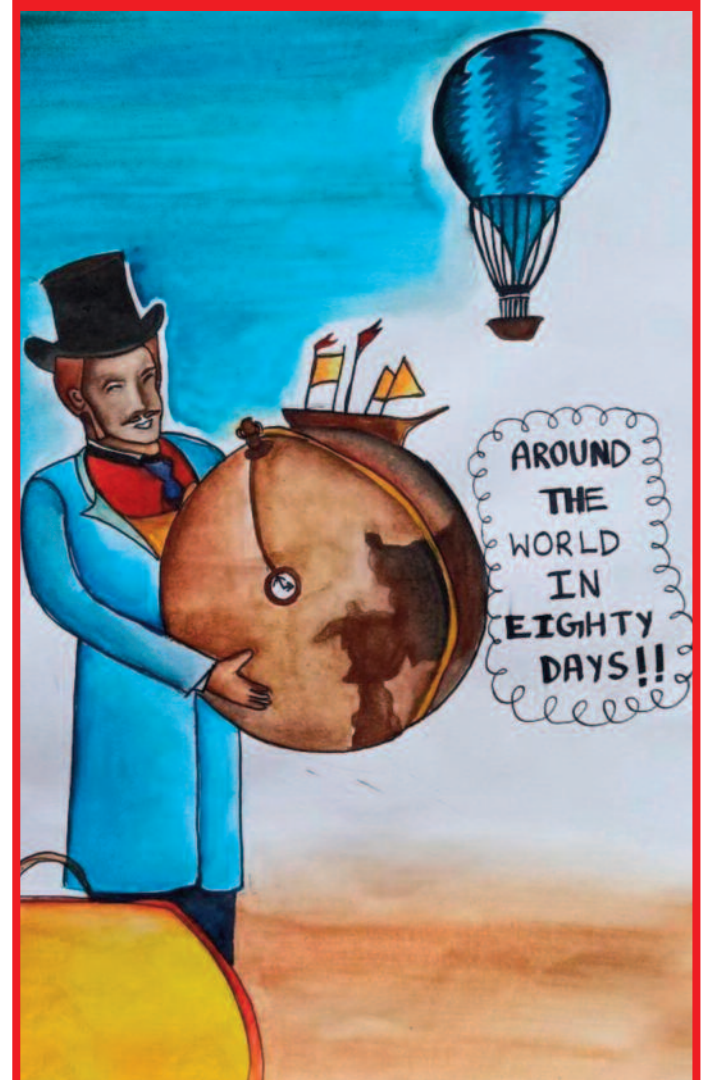
From morning until night

When Mr Sunday comes  
We clap, we run, we jump  
Enjoying every moment  
Full of laughter and fun

As fast as a cheetah runs  
Mr Sunday also rushes by  
Then slowly like a tortoise  
At Mr Monday, we sigh.

## PAINTING CORNER

Nesiha Chandrasekar & Anwasha Rath, AIS Gur 43, VIII B





Venus has thick clouds of sulphur dioxide, while Jupiter and Saturn have clouds of ammonia.



*Writing is an art and there's no better platform to exercise it than your own beloved GT! To unleash the writer in you, GT brings you a new topic every time and asks for your views on the same. Here are some intriguing responses from young writers at Amity for the prompt...*

## According to you, which sector in the new Union Budget 2022-23 should have been given priority in terms of allocation of resources and tax incentives?

### The prompt BOX

"The union budget 2022-23, presented by the Finance Minister, has focused more on the areas of banking, telecom, road transport, education, healthcare, and manufacturing among others. And even though all of them are important, in our opinion, special attention should have been paid to startups and an increase in their budget allocation. Though it has been announced that a new programme 'Raising and accelerating MSME Performance (RAMP)' will be initiated soon and the deadline for 'Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS)' will be extended till March 2023 to provide 1.3 crore MSMEs an additional credit to run their businesses. Still, we think that startups are the drivers of innovation in our emerging economy, and are extremely essential to the country. So, if we pay more attention to startups, India's economic growth will be further enhanced, and we will move one step further to achieve the goal of Atmanirbhar Bharat."

**Anika Jain & Sayed Labeeb Kamili**  
AGS Gurugram, XI

"The Indian union budget for the financial year 22-23 has presented many interesting factors; we can see that it has increased its capital expenditure by 35% to recover from the pandemic and to further commit to growth while emphasising digitisation, a step taken likely to address the slow-paced structural transformation in the country. Yes, those are the correct sectors to focus on, but according to me, the success of these targeted sectors with specific policies will only bear fruit if there is proper implementation and supervision. Further, I think that the focus for the agriculture sector should have been more on sustainable systems and circular economy than technology as it might cause trouble for small-scale farmers."

**Arnav Goel, AIS Gurugram 43, X**

"The new union budget 2022-23 has received varied responses from political parties, individuals, industrialists, and other stakeholders. The main aim of this year's budget is to fuel recovery and growth post the deadly pandemic period. Thus, it has focused more on capital expenditure across sectors like infrastructure, housing, transport, etc. However, in my opinion, the budget should have emphasised more on small-scale industries that faced a huge down-thrust due to the prolonged lockdowns. Several small stores that were shut down in different parts of India rendered a considerable section of the society unemployed, and their families hungry. Such people usually have marginal savings and rely on daily sales to sustain their business. Though the new allocation of funds is an increase from the previous year figures, one can only hope that they, along with supporting incentives, help these industries gain back their footing."

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

"India is on the zenith of recovering from the bruises COVID-19 caused especially on the education and healthcare sector. However, the announcement of the budget this year has acted as an antiseptic on the nation's bruise as it has tried to boost these sectors. For instance, to ensure smooth functioning of the healthcare sector, a total of 86,200 crore INR has been allotted, and a new programme 'National Tele Mental Health' to give people access to quality mental health counselling has been announced followed by another new platform 'National Digital Health Ecosystem'. Similarly, for the education sector, 'DESH-Stack', an e-portal for skilling and livelihood, has been announced followed by the establishment of a digital university to give students access to world class quality education across the country."

**Maira Shadab, AIS Vasundhara 6, VII D**

"Health and education, according to me, are the two sectors which should have been prioritised in the union budget 2022-23. Though both the sectors haven't been completely ignored in terms of allocation of resources, but I still believe that the government should have come up with better initiatives to make basic remedies available for everyone, especially the weaker sections of the society. Secondly, due to closure of schools during pandemic, children from rural areas and other lower rungs of society have lost two years of formal education. To make up for the same, the government should have made provisions to impart supplementary teaching and build a more resilient mechanism for learning and education as a whole."

**Arpita Singh, AIS Jagdishpur, XII**

"According to me, the development of the rural sector should have been given importance in terms of allocation of resources. Approximately half of India's poverty comes from villages. With limited resources, scarce education, and no proper infrastructure, there are many villages in India waiting to have a major transformation. Also, developing the rural sector will have many benefits like eradication of issues such as poverty and unemployment. Through urbanisation and industrialisation, villages can be transformed into manufacturing hubs which in turn would generate employment opportunities and help uplift the standard of living in the rural areas."

**Kashish Pedamalla, AIS MV, XI E**

"Every year when the union budget is presented by the Indian Finance Minister, the major focus is on sectors like education, employment, defence, agriculture, etc. However, there is one more sector that requires equal amount of attention, i.e., climate change and sustainability. Thus, the recent announcement of allocation of 19,500 crore INR from Production Linked Incentive (PLI) for the domestic manufacturing of high efficiency 280 gigawatts solar PV modules is a big move. Furthermore, the emphasis put on the promotion of chemical free natural farming methods and the co-firing of 5-7% biomass pellets in thermal power plants to reduce 38 mmt carbon dioxide annually is also worthy of appreciation."

**Pranjal Singh, AIS VYC Lko, XI**

"Whether it is the establishment of digital banks or even developing new highways, the new union budget has come out with many surprises and just as many initiatives, advancing progressions all around. However, in my opinion, the government should have focused more on the technology sector. India has the largest labour workforce globally in the technology sector, and yet corporations find themselves lacking employees when in need. With such high potential of advancement and employment in the industry, it seems like a waste not to invest in it and make the best of it for the betterment of the nation. Allocating more portion of the budget to the tech sector would have increased employment opportunities, and thus make it one of India's biggest strengths."

**S. Mysha Urooj, AIS Noida, XI H**

"It is the entire Tourism and Hospitality sector that needs policies centered around employment, income tax benefits, non-refundable one-time subsidies, incentives, access to cheaper loans, creative financing options, and capital expenditure concessions to cope with the pandemic pressures that brought everything to a standstill. And the union budget 2022-23 has aptly addressed the aforementioned issue and allocated 2,400 crore INR to the Ministry of Tourism. However, according to me, it would have been a cherry on the cake if the government would have introduced tax incentives for personal and corporate travel to help revive the travel sentiment faster."

**Niharika Roy, AIS Saket, XI D**

"India is the eighth largest country in terms of contribution to travel and tourism GDP. But the pandemic impacted this industry globally, causing a loss of almost 4.5 trillion USD. So, in my opinion, the Tourism and Hospitality sector should have been given priority in the budget in terms of allocation of resources and tax incentives. The reason behind pushing this sector is simple; the activities related to the tourism sector contribute enormously to the generation of income, employment, and foreign-exchange earnings. Though the budget has not neglected this sector and a decent amount has been granted for it to revive, the government should have also focused on selling lands to the corporate hotel chains at subsidised rates to make things better. If tourism and hospitality are firmly integrated into the structure for our country's economic rejuvenation, it can be a game changer."

**Vyakhya Agrawal, AIS Vas 1, XI D**

"With the pandemic closing in on its second year affecting operations all over the world, it is only through a new budget that India could have gotten a fiscal direction for the next year. For it highlights key sectors that the government feels need immediate attention. In my opinion thus, education is one sector that it should have focused on more. According to the budget presentation, the sector has been allotted 1.04 lakh crore INR, along with several new initiatives like One class-on TV channel, digital university, DESH-Stack e-portal, etc. However, the budget did not come up with any reduction in interest rates in educational loans, a crucial aspect that cannot be ignored because many students and their families are facing financial problems due to pandemic. Besides, the new initiatives are novel but most of them cannot be accessed currently because they require a good number of years to be framed successfully."

**Kavin Popli, AIS Pushp Vihar, XI G**

"I believe that the budget of 22-23 should have laid more emphasis on stabilising the tertiary sector and further flourishing the secondary one. The past year saw migrant workers in urban areas shifting back to the rural segment of the country, a move that left majority of them unemployed. Thus, in order to make them capable of earning once again (in a more stabilised manner this time), there's a dire need to provide more and more employment opportunities in the service sector. However, it is a little disappointing that nothing impressive has come up in the budget for the same."

**Varada Kachroo, AIS VKC Lko, X B**

**Question:** Do you think Elon Musk's dream to colonise Mars is a good idea? Send in your entries in 100-150 words to the Editor-in-Chief/GT Teacher Coordinator of your school latest by February 19, 2022.





Clouds reflect the light of the sun which causes them to appear white.



Chairperson, Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, participants and members of Amity family at the closing ceremony

# Fun with Math

## Fostering The Titans Of Math

ARDC

The twelfth Inter Amity Mental Math Quiz series was held virtually, for the students of Class I-X from January 17-19, 2022. The annual quiz envisioned by Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and RBEF, aims to develop the mathematical acumen of students by making mathematics interactive for them. For, she believes that mathematics should be taught in a fun way so that students have better understanding of the concepts. The event was successfully conducted under the aegis of Amity's Research and Development Centre (ARDC). Each day different branches of Amity Group of Schools (Delhi/NCR) hosted quizzes for different classes where the quiz was conducted in two rounds. The

first round was an elimination round, attempted by 15 students from different branches of Amity International Schools and included 8 schools of Delhi/NCR, Gwalior, Jagdishpur, VKC, VYC Mohali and Amity Global School Gurugram and Noida. The top four scorers of the elimination round were selected for the second and final round. The final round was conducted through interesting and engaging PPT's with interactive slides where six rounds of quiz were incorporated with interesting aspects like problem sums, brain teasers, and audio stories followed by rapid fire round. It created an opportunity for the participants to bring forth their hidden talent and aptitude. The quiz rounds saw the presence of eminent mathematics experts, academicians and education experts from NCERT, SCERT, DU, and other presti-

Winners Tally			
	First	Second	Third
Class I	AIS PV & AIS Saket	AIS VKC Lucknow	AGS Gurugram
Class II	AIS Gur 46 & AIS Noida	AIS Saket	AIS MV
Class III	AIS MV & AIS Vas 6	AIS Gur 43	AIS VKC Lucknow
Class IV	AIS Saket	AIS Gur 46	AIS Vas 1 & AIS MV
Class V	AIS Gur 43	AIS Gur 46 & AIS Noida	AIS Saket
Class VI	AIS Noida & AIS Gur 46	AIS Saket	AIS Gur 43
Class VII	AIS Gur 46	AIS Vas 6 & AIS Gur 43	AIS Noida
Class VIII	AIS Saket & AIS Gwalior	AIS Gur 46	AIS Vas 1
Class IX	AIS Vas 6 & AIS Vas 1	AIS Noida	AIS Gur 46
Class X	AIS Gur 43 & AIS Gur 46	AIS PV	AIS Noida

gious institutes of India. Furthermore, the closing ceremony was hosted by AIS Gurugram 46 on January 19 and was graced by Chairperson, principals, teachers, members and students of Amity Group of Schools. A creative presentation titled 'Ganit ki Mahima' performed by Amitians was the

highlight of the event. An innovative video on Mental Math Quiz presenting the highlights of the event was also showcased. The event concluded with Chairpersons address, where she encouraged young Amitians to keep trying because all of them have the potential to touch greater heights.

# Let's be kind

## Kindness, The Way Of Life

AIS Vasundhara 6

Ananya Sharma, a student of Class XII has made her alma mater proud as her essay on the topic 'Kindness' has been selected in final top 10 essays from around the world, at the Heartfulness Essay event held by UNESCO in collaboration with Shri Ramchandra Mission and Mahatma Gandhi



Ananya

Institute of Education for Peace and Sustainable Development. The result for the same was announced on December 30, 2021. Ananya will be awarded

a certificate signed by the President, SRCM and Director UNESCO and Director UNIC for India and Bhutan. Her sensitive and beautiful thoughts about the virtue of kindness which she penned down in her essay touched the hearts of the jury members. The judgement was done on the basis of theme, originality, research and attention to details, structure and flow, and conclusion. The essay competition was conducted in fourteen United Nations official languages and several Indian languages as well.

# The selfless service

## Learning To Serve Society

AIS Gurugram 46

To inculcate the spirit of serving above self and care for the world, a service learning project was initiated for Class IX. The objective of the presentation was to instil deep experiential learning among the students through a cycle of action and reflection. Under this project, students formed groups and participated in various social drives based on themes like environment protection, happy by helping others, aaj ka Bharat, healthy life and heritage. The groups then showcased their 'Service Learning' drives in an engaging virtual presentation event organised on January 15, 2021.



Students share their learnings

They also shared various activities like plantation drives, clean up tasks, donation drives, book creation, research, distributions of masks and health kits, health campaigns, interview of the elders, surveys, street plays and skits etc., which they undertook as a part of the project. They narrated their experiences and learnings from all these drives. Parents also witnessed the presentations and supported, and motivated the students.



Ramayana Committee in action at JAMUN

# JAMUN 2021

## Creating Young Diplomats

AIS Pushp Vihar

The school held its 8th JAMUN virtually for the students of Class V-VII from December 2-3, 2021. The event saw participation of over 300 delegates under the guidance of 23 executive board members. There were six committees, namely General Assembly, Security Council, Human Rights Council, Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation, All India Political Parties Meet and Ramayana along with the International Press. It was for the first time that Ramayana committee was

introduced in the event. This year, Human Rights Council deliberated on the Right to Freedom of Speech; Security Council discussed cyber safety and its risk mitigation in future. Educational Scientific and Cultural organisation deliberated upon mental health, challenges of specially abled children due to online learning and problems of accessibility of internet during pandemic. All India Political Parties Meet resolved the hypothetical situation of US embassy held hostage by terrorists. The Ramayana Committee discussed their opinions on the epic 'Ramayana'.

# Republic Day @ Amity

## 73 Glorious Years Of Indian Democracy



Budding orators recite slogans on the occasion

AIS Vasundhara 6

On the eve of Republic Day on January 24, 2022, tiny tots of Nursery C echoed the patriotic spirit with a beautiful quote "Everyone who is born on this great land has only one identity -we are all Indians." Dressed in

tricolour they did role plays of legendary national leaders like: Gandhiji, Jhansi ki Rani, Lal Bal Pal, Subhash Chandra Bose, etc. They gave speeches about the relevance of Republic Day celebration and recited slogans which had ignited the nationalistic pride and passion for freedom 75 years ago.

AIS Mayur Vihar



A student performs dance

The school held a special Republic Day virtual assembly on January 26, 2022. The spectacular show presented by the students comprised patriotic songs, patriotic dances, speeches, instrumental performances, and multiple pre-republic day activities organised for different classes.

AIS Saket

On the occasion of Republic Day, students of Class V participated in the virtual assembly, based on the theme, 'Bharat Ek Gantantra'. Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools & RBEF graced the event. The students dressed in tri colour gave presentations like dance performance, sang Sanskrit song 'Priyam



Celebrations at AIS Saket

Bharati' and narrated patriotic stories. Following which, the junior head boy and head girl spoke about the duties of Amitians as young citizens of India. In her address, Chairperson, motivated the students to become responsible citizens of India.

AIS VYC Lucknow



Young patriots deliver speech

The school celebrated Republic Day with pride and energetic performances. Yashi Singh and Adya Mishra of Class XII anchored the event. Suhani Walia (XII) delivered a speech on Republic Day and Tanisha Kapoor (XII) delivered a speech on unforgettable heroes. To make the event more engaging, students of Class X and XI spoke about the Preamble of India. Swaranjali Mishra (III) gave a dance performance, Abhigyan (VII A) and Ananya Yadav (VI A) sang a patriotic song.



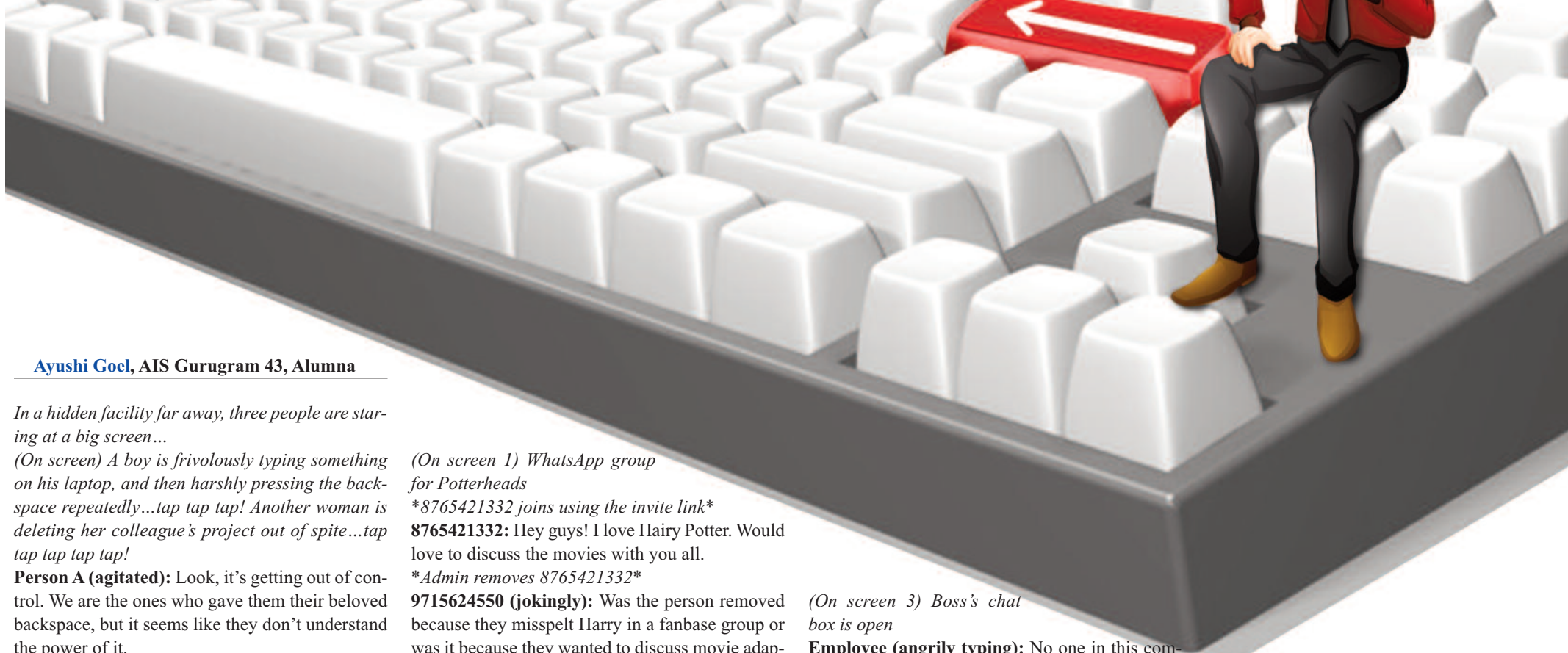
Most clouds are found within the troposphere, the lowest layer of the Earth's atmosphere.

All top quotes contributed by  
Antara Khanna, AIS Gurugram 46, VIII A



# No backspace

Teaching A Life Lesson To The Ones Who Take It For Granted



Ayushi Goel, AIS Gurugram 43, Alumna

In a hidden facility far away, three people are staring at a big screen...

(On screen) A boy is frivolously typing something on his laptop, and then harshly pressing the backspace repeatedly...tap tap tap! Another woman is deleting her colleague's project out of spite...tap tap tap tap tap!

**Person A (agitated):** Look, it's getting out of control. We are the ones who gave them their beloved backspace, but it seems like they don't understand the power of it.

**Person B:** Yes, you are right! It was our greatest gift to mankind - a single key that knows all hidden truths. We have seen it transform from a mere button on the keyboard to a necessity in daily communication, but these humans don't appreciate it enough to see its worth.

**Person C:** It aches my heart to see how they misuse this privilege; the key literally lets them vent out their true feelings with an option to delete or alter before making it public. I say we take away their rights to the backspace, and let them suffer! All agree and as a consequence, the backspace button magically vanishes from the keyboard. The next day...

(On screen 1) WhatsApp group for Potterheads

\*8765421332 joins using the invite link\*

**8765421332:** Hey guys! I love Hairy Potter. Would love to discuss the movies with you all.

\*Admin removes 8765421332\*

**9715624550 (jokingly):** Was the person removed because they misspelt Harry in a fanbase group or was it because they wanted to discuss movie adaptations? I guess we'll never know!

(On screen 2) A college student is trying to meet the deadline

**Josh (panicking):** I have to write an essay, but the deadline is in two hours. What should I do? Umm...I think I should start by writing a rough draft first, and then I can edit the errors.

\*After writing for one hour and 45 minutes\*

Finally, I am done! Let's edit it now. Well, where's the backspace?

\*rubs his eyes and checks again\*

What? It's not there? How will I submit my essay?

\*Ends up missing the deadline\*

(On screen 3) Boss's chat box is open

**Employee (angrily typing):** No one in this company likes you. Even the janitors hate you. You overburden everyone here, and we have had enough. I won't work here anymore.

\*In the very next instant, he changes his mind and decides to delete the text, but accidentally ends up sending it because there is no backspace\*

**Boss:** No one likes me? I overburden them? You don't want to work anymore?

**Employee:** Everyone adores you, sir. It was just the autocorrect.

\*Autocorrect comes to the rescue!\*

At the facility...

**Person A:** I love to see them suffer like this.

\*Person A laughs\*

**Person B (pityingly):** I know you don't want to give them the backspace button back, but I think they have been punished enough. We should return things to normal tomorrow, come on!

**Person C:** Yes, this was a good lesson for them. I hope they never take things for granted after the lesson they learnt today

**Person A:** Fine! But I hope they now understand that, in real life, there are no backspaces, so one should choose their words wisely.

\*The backspace button magically appears on the keyboard and everyone full of joy now is well aware of its importance!\*

# The lamb in the lab

Remembering The Tale Of The Sheep That Changed The History Of Cloning

Aarushi Aggrwal

AIS Mayur Vihar, XII C

As my eyelids slowly parted, the scintillating white lights almost bore a hole in my eyes. I instantly squeezed them shut and heard faint yet exciting whispers.

"Just wait for her to wake up now. We've checked the pulse and oxygen level. She's stable."

"Note the date - 5 July 1996. We made

her... I can't believe it."

"The credit goes to the mothers, too. They have been valiant!"

"Were all three mothers the same species, sir?"

"No. The one who provided the egg and the one who birthed her were Scottish Blackfaces, and the one who gave the DNA was Finn Dorset."

"A clone...brilliant! We took the nucleus of the egg-cell out, then implanted the DNA from Finn Dorset, and gave it

an electric current in order to fool the egg into thinking that it had been fertilised." All these words seemed so befuddling to me. At the onset, I thought that my ears were deceiving me. How could it be possible that these humans made me? Does it mean that they defied nature and overwhelmed biology? Sure, I couldn't comprehend the scientific terminologies that they were uttering, but one thing I knew for sure: I was an entirely new

Autobiography

species on the whole planet! I was a clone and

this concept was only what they used to hear and marvel at in movies.

"Look at her face - white as snow! This testifies that although she has been created from her surrogate mother, there is no genetic relation between the two. Else, this newborn would have taken a jet-black semblance, just as her mother's appearance."

Now it all began making sense to me. But then I heard someone asking-

"Clones have been made before, too. What's so special about her?"

"For one, she is the only survivor of the 277 sheeps we tried to clone."

I almost gasped. Nearly three hundred of us and only I lived! "She is also the first clone made from non-reproductive adult cells. Earlier clones were made from embryos, which is a bunch of fertilised cells that only need to develop. We did the fertilisation too, which was unprecedented and impossible."

Now, I see. I was the torchbearer, like Adam and Eve. I had just opened up a whole new field of science. My birth was momentous! These humans re-

ally are smarter than my breed - sheep.

"Sir, all the tests are done. She's perfectly healthy and there are no physical signs of her being a clone. She could easily fit in with other sheep!"

"We, at Roslin, got it done! What do you think about the name 'Dolly' for the new born beauty?"

Wow, I had a name! I would be called Dolly the sheep. They had named me after the singer Dolly Parton. How groundbreaking it was; how genius of these homosapiens to have created a cloned sheep!

"We can revive extinct animals with these techniques, don't you think?"

"Oh, yes! It's a huge step for the stem-cell research."

Does that imply that my birth is a pioneering attempt? Well, for someone who is as little as a foot-ruler, I am indeed a bigger prodigy!

P.S. Dolly lived a healthy life and was euthanised shortly before her seventh birthday due to the detection of a tumour in her lungs. She developed lung cancer and arthritis, but the conditions were not related to her being a clone. She gave birth to six lambs and lived a life full of glamour and happiness at Roslin Institute, Scotland, marking a success for clones.

