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AMITe poll

With more than 30K COVID-19 positive cases in a day, do you think the country should be put on lockdown once again?

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

To vote, log on to
 www.theglobaltimes.in

POLL RESULT
 for GT issue July 13, 2020

Do you agree with the govt's decision to fast track the SARs-CoV-2 vaccine?

Yes	No	Can't say
65%	17%	18%

Results as on July 16, 2020

Coming Next
 Grand old tales continued

The wisdom of the old

Tales Of The Storytellers Themselves, Recounted By The Youngsters

“Learn from the experiences of your grandparents,” averred the honourable PM Narendra Modi in the 66th edition of his monthly radio programme labelled ‘Mann Ki Baat’. Asking his young listeners to spend quality time with their grandparents, he banked on the wise and old of the world to prepare the young for a better future. For their lived experiences the times they survived, the choices they made, the chances they took- act as a starlight for young gazers like us, no matter how lost we are. In our grandparents, we can confide our weaknesses and fears; from them, we will always receive strength and courage. From enlightening us like a tutor to loving us like a true friend, they leave no stone unturned to give us the best of this world and beyond. Here, GT brings you some such larger than life tales of our story-tellers our grandparents, narrated by their very own grandchildren.

Utilise resources wisely

Grandparents are a little bit parent, a little bit teacher and a little bit friend. And my grandfather has been exactly the same to me. A person with a golden heart, my grandfather makes me laugh, makes me feel safe and makes me feel loved. He has always motivated me by saying that children these days have many opportunities to learn from and many avenues of entertainment, so they must utilise the resources wisely and succeed in life. While talking to him about his school days, he shared that back in his days, the only way to learn was through books because the schools weren't technologically equipped. But now, children can develop themselves and their talent and spend more time playing organised sports and doing cultural activities. He also shared his childhood memories with me and reiterated how he was a shy child and used to go to his grandfather's school where the head master and the teachers used



Samara Chauhan (inset) illustrates the story shared by her grandmother & narrated by her sister, Samaya

to take care of him and that he enjoyed his school days very much. At that time, schools did not have chairs and tables and the students used to sit on the floor. As a child, he was always a diligent who would listen to his teachers and complete the home assignment on time. Well, all of these anecdotes by my grandpa fill me up with inspiration, and I hope I can be half as good as him.

Sanjana Chauhan, AIS Pushp Vihar, VII D

Stand up against the wrong

My grandmother will always be my personal superhero because she never gives up on me. She is my role model in a sense that if I am a seed, then she is my nurturer who lets me germinate. One of the best things that has happened during this lockdown period is that I got to spend quality time with my family especially with my grandparents. Every day we have *hawan* with the whole family after which my grandmother recalls memories and tells us various stories from her childhood which have powerful inspirational messages. One of my favourite story from her childhood is the story of milkman. When my grandma was a child, a milkman used to deliver milk

to her house. One day she observed that he would mix water into the milk to increase the quantity. My grandmother explained to him that what he was doing was wrong and that if he continued doing it, she would inform the whole neighbourhood. Consequently, he got scared and never mixed water in the milk again. With this real life experience of hers, I realised that there is no age for standing up against the wrong. All one needs is the spirit to speak up and bring a change, the way my grandma did at such a young age. My grandmother is like a pillar of strength for me and I can never thank her enough for encouraging me to be the best version of myself.

Samaya Chauhan, AIS Pushp Vihar, VII A
 (Continued on p6-7...)



All about leadership

In Tête-à-tête With Roman Brenner, A Leader Who Sets Examples



Roman Brenner, President (retired), CTI Industries Inc.

Shaurya Agarwal, AIS MV, XII I

This world is known by its leaders. They are the pillars that hold it all together and the mould that shapes everything that matters. Roman Brenner, a leader in electro mechanical assembly industry, president (retired) of CTI Industries Inc., throws light on the subject. A special guest at the Felicitation Ceremony, Batch of 2019, held at AUUP, he gave Amitians a sneak peek into the world of leadership.

Quality leadership

To be a good leader, one must always keep some things in mind; the first among them being leading with example. I owned factories with 900 people reporting to me. Their shift would start at 6:30 am in the morning. I used to reach factory at 6:00 am in the morning and take a walk around the factory so that all my teammates knew that they weren't working alone, their chief was also working with them, like a teammate, an equal. Secondly, a



Roman Brenner with GT reporter

good leader always gives feedback to others and ensures that there is something positive in the feedback. Do not reprimand others, especially in front of other people. Thirdly, a good leader must maintain sync in an organisation. It is important that everyone must move in the same direction, towards a common goal.

Diversifying leadership

Growing up, I always felt industrial engineering is interesting so I went ahead to pursue that. One should always study the subject of one's choice, that's the only way to succeed and explore your full potential. My son is a lawyer; my daughter is in a different profession. Everyone has taken up dif-

ferent fields as per their interests and expectantly, that diversification will result in them turning into good leaders in their fields.

Indian leadership

Well, I have to say that I have studied in varied places - Poland, Israel et al. I am not aware of education system in India. But on the basis of the numbers I saw at Amity University, results seem to be very good and competitive on the global level. I see quality in Indian education. I think the know-how of Indian people is really very good. I have been managing four factories in Toronto and there are some twenty Indians working there; they are quite dedicated employees.

Nourishing leadership

I visited Amity school for the first time in 1998 to speak about education and life in Canada. Now, on my second visit to Amity University, I am very much impressed to see the progress made in the past 21 years. If we have knowledge, then the world is ours. So acquiring knowledge is important. In this time we have made huge progress in terms of leadership. Today, the most essential skill a CEO must have is good knowledge of technology, but the humanitarian aspect of leadership still exists and must always be kept in mind.

The unlit Olympic torch has been taken to space several times.



Olympics facts

India This Week

Rashi Garg, GT Network

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



India sets Guinness World Record

News: India's 2018 tiger census entered the Guinness Book of World Records for being the world's largest camera trap wildlife survey. Camera traps with motion sensors were placed in 26,838 locations across 141 different sites. Moreover, India has fulfilled its target of doubling tiger numbers four years in advance of its promised 2022 deadline with a significant increase in the wild cats from 2,226 in 2014 to 2,967 tigers in 2018 in the country.

Views: India creating a Guinness World Record is indeed a piece of splendid news amidst the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. I remember those times when there were 1411 tigers left in the country. But, now we have surely come a long way. With multiple campaigns and well thought ground work, the efforts put in by the authorities has shown remarkable improvement in the tiger count. They have taken so many steps to save the rich flora and fauna, making our country the biggest and secure habitat for the tigers in the world.

Ayushi Goel, AIS Gurugram 43, XII C



Floods wreak havoc in Assam

News: In what seems to have become an annual occurrence, floods wreak havoc in Assam. More than 22 lakh people have been affected and 76 people have died. The entire Brahmaputra valley region, which includes the Kaziranga National Park area, has submerged under the rising water. 51 animals were confirmed dead, 100 were rescued while many were reported to be straying in the nearby villages.

Views: Almost every year, we come across news channels broadcasting ground reports of flood struck areas from different corners of the country, Assam being one of them. Exponential deforestation, building dams with unsatisfying draining systems has added up to bring us where we are. It's high time that we improve the existing as well as already exploited environmental resources.

Gauri Singh, AIS Vasundhara 6, XII C

Google to invest \$10 billion in India

News: Technology giant Google recently announced that it plans to invest over 75,000 INR crore in India within 5-7 years to accelerate digitisation in the fifth largest economy of the world. By way of equity investments, partnerships and other arrangements to accelerate, Google would focus on enabling affordable access to the internet and to information for every Indian in their own language.

Views: Google's recent investment announcement could be a big boost for India especially when the Centre is clamping on Chinese tech firms. For Google too, it is a chance to grab a share in the tech market of a country which has the second largest internet users globally. With India's digital-centric economy all set for immense growth, it remains to be seen what role Google's mega investments in India will play in this transformative journey.

Chhavi Chawla, AIS Vasundhara 1, XII B



India to buy oil reserves abroad

News: In what seems to be a tactical move, India has decided to buy oil reserves in US. The MoU signed between the countries at present caters to begin co-operation on strategic petroleum reserves. While there is also an advanced stage discussion going on to store crude oil in US strategic petroleum reserve to increase India's strategic oil stockpile.

Views: With the coronavirus pandemic impregnating not only the world populace but also the world economy with its indiscriminating venom, India's decision to create its first overseas stockpile in the US is nothing but wise. This strategic move is bound to act as a cushion to India's reserves in times of need as well as strengthen the already budding India-US relationship. It is indeed a big move, as India must retain its position in the world and keep a strong step forward.

Aditi Banerji, AIS Noida, XII I



Around The WORLD

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



USA

Twitter accounts hacked

Popular microblogging site Twitter faced one of the worst security breaches in the company's history when the verified accounts of prominent US figures such as presidential candidate Joe Biden, former US president Barack Obama, CEO of Tesla Elon Musk, etc were hacked and used to solicit cryptocurrency. The magnitude of the breach seems to suggest that the hackers were working on the system level rather than individual accounts.

CHILE

Dogs to sniff out COVID

The Chilean police is in the process of training four dogs-golden retrievers and a labrador, to detect individuals infected with coronavirus. While the virus has no particular smell, being infected by it can cause metabolic changes in the patient's body which can be identified through their sweat, which the dogs will be trained to identify.



POLAND

Incumbent President wins second term

After a tough competition by fellow challenger Rafal Trzaskowski, the incumbent president of Poland, Andrzej Duda emerged as the winner of Poland's presidential elections. President Duda won 51.21 per cent of the votes while Trzaskowski garnered 48.79 per cent, making it a close call.



CHINA

Human testing gets green signal

An early stage human test for a coronavirus vaccine has been approved by China as reported by Shanghai Fosun Pharmaceuticals, its local partner. The testing is to be carried out using the mRNA technology of German firm BioNTech. The vaccine, dubbed BNT162b1, is one of the two current projects.



INDONESIA

Flash floods hit the country

At least 21 people have been reported dead and 23 missing after flash floods and landslides ravaged through the Indonesian Island of Sulawesi. The floods have been reported to be triggered by torrential rains that led to three rivers overflowing. Hundreds of people have been displaced and over 1600 have been forced to take refuge in temporary shelters.



INDIA

Army gets special financial powers

On account of the border conflict with China, Indian armed forces have been granted special financial powers by the Ministry of Defense for individual capital procurement programme worth 3000 INR crore. The move by the Defense Ministry will decrease the timeline for procurement of orders and help the armed forces to meet their operational requirements on a quicker basis.

News Flash

- ▶ **Singapore:** People get the first glimpses of critically endangered lemur twins after the zoo reopens post lockdown
- ▶ **Australia:** Researchers have devised a test that can determine coronavirus in 20 minutes using blood samples



2012 London Games was the first Olympics where all participating countries sent female athletes.

Graduation day at AUMP

A Magical Day Full Of Awards, Thunderous Applause And Inspirational Words



Dr Aseem Chauhan supervises a project



Felicitation of eminent guest with honoris causa at the convocation ceremony

AUMP

Oly Banerjee & Muskan Agarwal
BJMC IV, AUMP

The day was brimming with exuberance and exhilaration. Shining black robes were swaying along with the pleasant winter morning breeze. Adding to this shimmer, were the countless shining faces adorning the show. To be precise, it was nothing less of a splendid moment for everyone at Amity University, Madhya Pradesh. February 29, 2020, was the day when the university's remarkable journey touched a significant milestone with their first ever convocation ceremony. Here's what the day entailed.

A for awe-inspiring!

The atmosphere was regal and nothing less. The event saw the presence of Dr Aseem Chauhan, Chancellor and Chairman of Amity University Madhya Pradesh, as the honourable chief guest. The formal ceremony commenced with the arrival of the academic procession, led by the Pipe Band of 25 Pipers, comprising the chief guest, faculty, members of AUMP alumni association, as well as other esteemed dignitaries. The proceedings on the dais commenced with lighting of the lamp of knowledge and wisdom, followed by Dr Aseem Chauhan declaring the convocation open.

U for unparalleled!

The ceremony was given an auspicious start with the invocation of goddess Saraswati. Following this was a warm welcome address by Lt Gen VK Sharma, Vice Chancellor, AUMP, who bestowed his blessings on



The batch of 2019 poses with esteemed dignitaries

the students for a bright and eventful future. Taking over this session was Dr Aseem Chauhan, who shared with the students that their commendable feat wouldn't have been possible without the relentless guidance of their parents and mentors throughout the years. He also propounded his vision of a better India by sharing the mantra 'GREAT', i.e., the combination of global, resilience, entrepreneurial thinking, ability to adapt and think beyond the boundaries, as the key to overcoming any and every barrier. The audience cheered immensely when he congratulated each and every student for finding their own paths towards a bright future.

M for magical!

Undoubtedly, every moment of the day was magical and precious for the future

representatives of the country. This was the defining moment of their lives. As the graduands happily marched their way to receive their degrees, exhibiting their zeal and happiness, pride was brimming on the other side of the stage, in the eyes of the parents. What followed in the course was the conferring of honorary doctorate to guest Dr AK Singh, director general, Life Science, DRDO, and honorary professorship to Col R Balasubramanian, VSM (Retd), senior advocate, Supreme Court, and Sh. Sanjay Singh, UNICEF, Head of Madhya Pradesh, for their notable achievements and experiences.

P for perfect!

What do you call it when loud cheers resonate across the whole ambience? You call it perfect! And in such a perfect scenario, were invited some of the meritorious gems from the outgoing batch to share some nuggets of their remarkable journey with their alma mater. Dr Dhruv Sabharwal blessed with the opportunity to work as an assis-

1,963 graduands

received their graduation as well as post-graduation degrees along with 16 PhD degrees.

70 gold medals,

70 silver medals and 67 bronze medals were awarded to meritorious students.

14 All Round

Best Student trophies as well as 14 Sh. Baljit Shastri Awards were conferred upon deserving students.

tant professor at Amity School of Communication, AUMP, said, "AUMP has given me this opportunity where I have experienced positive changes not only in my students but myself also." He thanked Amity University for bringing this proud moment in his life as he received the doctoral degree. A similar gratitude was expressed by the recipient of the all-round best student's trophy, Niharika Bhowmik, "I feel fortunate and privileged to have walked up the stage in front of so many people and to have received such a prestigious award from people who seem like distant stars, people who have achieved great heights in their respective fields." And the perfect sayings didn't end here, Arun Singh Tomar, one of the recipients of Sh. Baljit Shastri Award shared that, "Education is not just about going to college and getting a degree. It's about widening your knowledge, something that AUMP has done for me in real." Manish Dubey reiterated, "As a student in Amity my college life has made me open to all fields of study by providing me with the option to choose what interests me the most as well as taking on responsibilities and challenges." As the nostalgic and boisterous session came to an end, the ceremony concluded with the trumpets singing the national anthem. All the graduands and their delighted parents went back home with lifetime memories of being a proud Amitian.





'Current' generation

This Energy, That Energy; The World Is Full Of Energy But Not A Joule To Use

Imaging: Deepak Sharma, GT Network



Saanvi Vaish & Shagun Jain, XII
AIS Pushp Vihar

Generation by generation, have we only found a few generations? The first thing that strikes us when we talk about any kind of generation is electricity generation, isn't it? But is science ever truly limited to what is mentioned in our textbooks?

There is more to energy and its generation than what meets the eye. If one looks close enough, they would be genuinely astonished to find some of the strangest ways in which energy gets generated in our daily lives.

Chasing cheese

Hamsters sure are popular pets, especially in the western countries. They

might look small and cute but do not underestimate them because of their body size. In fact, they have enough potential to charge mobile phones. Hamsters have been used as research subjects in the past, testing nanotechnology designed to capture mechanical 'bioenergy' produced by them. Nanogenerators, with the help of hamster's erratic running, convert the mechanical stress to electric

potential. Now, it might be a bizarre way to generate electricity, but it is undoubtedly eco-friendly.

Hard hitting notes

Numerous movies have shown opera singers breaking glasses with their high notes (We are looking at you Fat Lady in the portrait!). Unlike all other times, movies have at least this one thing sci-

entifically correct. Like every other material on earth, glass has a resonant frequency. It is the speed at which the glass vibrates when disturbed by an environmental stimulus like light and sound waves. If the pitch of an opera singer matches or crosses this frequency, the glass will vibrate itself to debris. But, there is no need to stay cautious around all vocalists, as only some can achieve such a frequency.

Opposites attract

Have you ever faced trouble judging if a person is a 'positive influence' or a 'negative' one? No worries! Just shake hands with them and see if you feel the sparks. No, I am not talking about those emotional or psychological ones, but the ones that happen at the atomic level in the body. The brief 'electric shock' we at times feel after touching another person is due to the imbalance in the number of protons and electrons in our body. This imbalance causes electrons to get excited and bounce around at the surface of our body. This makes us 'negatively charged' and thus after coming in contact with a 'positively charged' body; these excited electrons get attracted to the protons. This results in the electron leaping between the two objects with opposite electrical charges and therefore generating 'static electricity'. Mind-blowingly shocking, is it not?

Energy is being generated around us continuously, be it at a molecular level or a visible one. If we were to harness energy from such strange but renewable sources and convert them to electrical energy, an eco-friendly future could very well be a reality. [G](#) [T](#)

The veracity of virtual reality

Whether To Adapt Or Abandon? The Choice Is Really Yours

Tanisha Chawla, AIS Saket, Alumna

The overly immersive yet immensely infamous revolution of virtual reality, better known as VR, has successfully blurred the line separating life and imagination in the past 60 years. Moreover, with the emergence of the 'digitally native generation' of Gen Z, the demand for virtual reality is only furthering. And like any other form of media, it has made our lives simpler, whilst complicating it in unimaginable ways. Just like nothing in the world is black or white, VR, too, comes with its fair shades of grey. But amidst the constant criticism and scrutiny meted out to VR, we have failed to keep track of the numerous number of ways in which it can emerge as a positive force, and solve a wide variety of problems. People are keen on finding new and interesting ways of putting this technology to better use. Providing an immersive gaming experience is therefore just the beginning. VR has tremendous potential in social therapy and treatment of mental health issues. It utilises guided imagery exercises to help people battle addictions and cope with withdrawal symptoms. VR can also be used to battle depression, anxiety and insomnia, among other issues.

Moreover, it helps people gather novel experiences and escape the confines of their homes without leaving it. By getting a sense of the place beforehand, people can eliminate certain visits and plan their trips better. This would especially help people with physical disabilities, who usu-

ally find travelling to far off places particularly expensive and cumbersome. One of the best examples for this is the Kremer Museum in Netherlands, the one and only 'all virtual reality' museum where 17th century Dutch and Flemish paintings hanging in a private gallery can be viewed solely through VR headsets. In this sense, VR is to the 21st century what books were to the 18th. With the arrival of affordable and consumer-friendly headsets, the concept has increasingly and efficiently been used in education and work environments too.

However, to blindly say that VR is a blessing we have failed to recognise, would also not be entirely true. As mentioned in the beginning, it comes with both black and white. With the increased recognition for the 'internet gaming disorder' by the American Psychiatric Association, the consequences of overindulgence in such technologies have become clear and inevitable. A research by the University of British Columbia stated that VR has all the hallmarks of addiction- be it the development of tolerance, increased cravings or stress upon withdrawal; and this is essentially what makes it dangerous.

In addition to creating a generation of lethargic zombies with raccoon eyes and expressionless postures, VR can also lead to extreme consequences such as seizures, hallucinations, nausea and loss of spatial awareness if used for more than 30 minutes. In simpler words, just like we can 'feel' an uncomfortable shoe even after taking it off, we could face 'Virtual Reality Sickness' even

after taking off our VR device.

History has time and again taught us that no revolution can be assessed to be good or bad. One can either choose to adapt to it, or hold their ground and oppose it. The modern revolution of VR is somewhat similar- one can make a complete use of its benefits while taking the downfalls in stride or they can just simply pay no heed to it at all.





The six colours in Olympic rings – blue, yellow, black, green, red, and white– were chosen because every nation's flag contains at least one of them.

Sharing stories



Dr Amita Chauhan
Chairperson

Dear Amitians, I loved reading this edition as experiences of someone's life always inspire, encourage, and empower. As a mother to my Amitians, I have a penchant for telling stories

which I keep sharing with you all the time because they help imbibe virtues which I wish to nourish your being with. Besides, stories, be it fiction or real life experiences, are also a great way of forging everlasting bonds of love, which you all are doing with your grandparents.

India is a land of stories; here every village has local fable. From 'Hitopadesha' to 'Panchatantra', stories are the soul of our nation, our heritage, which has been passed on to generations verbally, in written form, or as a dance form and traditional theatre. This art of storytelling and writing not only imparts life skills, but also develops your linguistic abilities, writing, vocabulary and your ability to express. This edition with some real stories of grandparents of Amitians stands testimony to their experiences and insights, all inspiring and full of wisdom.

For, when you tell a story, you touch lives and when you listen to a story, you touch your own soul and transform. I always encourage educators at Amity to teach through stories. I urge upon every parent to read, tell or share an experience of your life with your child every day. The story time you gift them today will one day become a story of your life. Make it count! [G](#)[T](#)

Tell a tale!



Vira Sharma
Managing Editor

I remember how as a young child I used to squabble with my siblings about sleeping next to *Dadi*, as she would tell the most adventurous stories in the world. Some real, some fictional, some self-coined, those tales

would imprint our hearts and leave us entertained for long. While listening stories from grandparents is one way, there are many others too. The world itself is a beautiful story. In India, our dance form 'Kathak' itself means 'telling a katha or story'. Our folk 'Pandvani' is one of the oldest heritage art of storytelling. Similarly, Daastangoi is the oldest Persian art of storytelling by artists called 'Dastaangos'. This art is famous for being never written anywhere. All the stories have been handed down over the generations orally. The beauty is that when another Daastango would come to the same village, he would start the new story exactly from where the last one left it. All this without meeting him, without any notes shared. How they did that remains a mystery but probably articulate talking, engaging interactions and forging soulful bonds did the magic. But as the world progressed, storytelling took a backstage, and we got busy in our lives. The magic of storytelling needs to be woven back into our lives because not only are these our heritage but they are the treasure trove of wisdom. Let's rekindle those bonds. [G](#)[T](#)

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Rewriting history

Are We Leaving The Right Legacy For Our Future Generation?

Imaging: Ravinder Gusain, GT Network

Maansi Anand, AIS Vasundhara 1, Alumna

History is defined as 'the study of past events, particularly in human affairs'. Thankfully enough, our ancestors have given us quite a lot to study in the name of history. Whether it is the iconic Taj Mahal or ancient relics that offer you food for thought for a lifetime, our historic worth is as much as a million Kohinoors. As a Gen Z, I have braved through those long history lessons and also the plight of memorizing the dates that follows eventually. But now having grown up a little, and with the little (emphasis on little) wisdom I have gathered, I think it isn't me but our ancestors who have shown real valour, for they are the ones who left us a history, a history we will cherish. Our scriptures with the wisdom they offer, wisdom so rooted and yet so evolved, it can solve all of the world's problems in a way that technology hasn't been able to, or our iconic monuments for that matter, all form a part of our history, a history created by our ancestors and passed down to us.

Nature will once again run its own course and all that we are creating today will be passed down to our future generations, again all in the name of history. But this time around, will this history be one worth cherishing? I mean, look around. We have perhaps created scrolls and scrolls of newsfeed, impregnated with bickering, memes and trolling. It amuses me to think what a student in the year 3000 will think of us when he goes through the umpteen memes on every issue of social relevance – perhaps that we were a funny and creative generation, a socially conscious one or maybe one that floundered all its time pouting and taking selfies. We inherited a pristine Taj Mahal



and robust Red Fort as historical souvenirs. And we shall pass on them just the same, albeit a yellow Taj Mahal and a slightly battered Red Fort, along with a few others lost in between the abyss of our concrete jungle.

Being the country of flavours, it is the responsibility of every Indian citizen to leave behind a legacy that bursts with taste. And we sure did. We devised Uber eats for our *tinda* moments, came up with molecular gastronomy, fused every cuisine with every other

cuisine. We may have forgotten to preserve our own past in this quest of creating the future, but it is an all-together different thing. *Benamkheer*, *tit-koh*, *phulkaripulao* - names you might have never heard of, and perhaps never will.

No, don't get me wrong. I am not really a part of the millennial bashing club. But, I often wonder if a kid like me, a 1000 years from now, will have similar thoughts on 'history'. My only fear is that we might come across as perhaps stupid, or something? [G](#)[T](#)

Show me how!

They've Done Their Bit, It's Your Turn Now

Rhea Suri & Aadithya Aravindh
AIS Mayur Vihar, Alumnus

As a kid, I wanted to know everything. "Who is that?" "Where are they going?" "Why are they going there?" These are mere examples of the darts that I threw at my mother every time she took me out for a walk, and I bow down to her for how she tackled each one of them without losing her mind. Thank you for being ever so patient with me, maa. Thank you for teaching me that curiosity helps us empathise; wanting to know things makes us understand them better.

And I'm sorry; sorry that I fail to understand your issues with the modern technology; how I don't take the time to explain you things that you find complicated; when I just laugh it off when you ask me, "How does this work?" Sorry that I give in to annoyance so easily while you patiently waited for years before I called you 'Maa'.

You've sat with me through late nights when I had a test the next



day. You've held my hand and taught me to write; sung poems like the cutest songs just so I would learn them. You knew what was important for me and you always made sure that I learned it by heart. Thank you for being so persistent. Thank you for giving me the adequate amount of push and letting me learn at my own pace.

Thank you for teaching me patience and I'm sorry that I can no longer remember it. Sorry that I'm so in-

considerate when you come around asking me things about shopping online that you don't understand, or when you ask me, "When will my order arrive?" or "Are you sure they haven't cancelled it?" Maybe if I wasn't an annoyed Gen Z drowned in my own itty bitty problems, I would have understood how my parents struggle with this technology that I have grown up with, but maybe it isn't too late to do that today either, isn't it?



Dear Editor,

This is in reference to page 10 article 'A fight for their right' published in the GT edition dated July 13, 2020. The discussion between Mother Earth and Human was an enlightening read. The article really helped me gain insight into a different perspective altogether and cemented the ideology in me to push forward the call to 'go green'. The lines- "Whatever is happening is in the favour of all of us. It is your wakeup call" really brought a much-needed sense of optimism, a breath of fresh air into a world currently in despair. The way the writer touched upon every wave of harm caused by human beings along with words of sensibility from mother Earth is truly appreciable. [G](#)[T](#)

Ananya Sharma, AIS Vas 6, XI E

The first official Olympic mascot was Waldi, the dachshund, at the 1972 games in Munich.



The wisdom of the old

Tales Of The Storytellers Themselves, Only This Time Recounted By The Young

Continued from page 1...

Learn to be kind and caring

In this lockdown, my grandmother not only became a friend, but also a storyteller to me, who recited exciting tales to me every day that took me to faraway lands in the comfort of my own home. One of the tales that touched my heart was the tale of God and Brahmin. Once upon a time there lived a poor Brahmin who would pray to God every day and in return of his devotion, God gave him all the wealth he wanted. But to test his nature, God disguised himself as a beggar and went to his house, asking for food, but the Brahmin lied and said that he didn't have any and told the beggar rudely to go away. At that very instance, all his wealth disap-



peared. This tale taught me that we always need to be kind and caring to everyone around us and to never be too proud of materialistic things. Kindness and compassion for all is exactly the lesson everyone needs to learn, especially right now.

Nabhansh Tyagi
AIS Gurugram 43, VI B

When together, you can win

I was eager to know if something of gravity had happened in the previous eras. To fulfill my curiosity, I went to my grandparents asking about it. There, they began reminiscing the most talked about war between India and Pakistan, back in 1965. My grandfather told me that he was as young as 12 years old when this event happened. He said, "Once, Pakistan's aircraft entered India at night when we were sleeping. So, to protect India, our Air Force retaliated by attacking them. My grandpa also narrated that in the evenings, everyone followed 'Black Out' - a government practice that asked citizens to switch off all the lights of their houses so that if the enemy tries to target the cities aerially, they could not differentiate between the forests



and the residential cities. The government had also dug many holes in empty plots of land. Citizens were instructed that in case of any danger; the alarms would ring and all of them would have to hide inside the holes and cover their ears. In the end, our

country won. We had never been prouder. If all the citizens wouldn't have joined hands together, then the fight would have been a difficult one," Grandpa exclaimed.

Pavni Talwar
AIS Mayur Vihar, VII D

Let hope prevail

Sitting in the balcony one evening, my grandpa recalled the fatal Asian flu of his times. He elaborated on how, in the summer of 1957, just like every year, people from Madras (my grandpa's childhood home) thronged to the Ooty (now Udthagamandalam) Botanical gardens for the annual flower show. Children from the many residential schools, including my grandpa's, were also amongst the attendees. But little did anyone realise then that a flu had travelled with the crowds up into the hills. Within a few weeks,

half of my grandpa's schoolmates were down with the influenza; he was one of them. The relapsing illness affected his lungs and it took weeks for him to get back on his wobbly feet - helped along by injections of penicillin, hot fomentation with ash from the wood fire in the kitchen as there were no gas or electric stoves in those days, and a high-protein diet. But today, with COVID-19 outbreak, he despondently exclaimed, "I feel vulnerable again." Regardless of which, a vaccine he says was made back then and

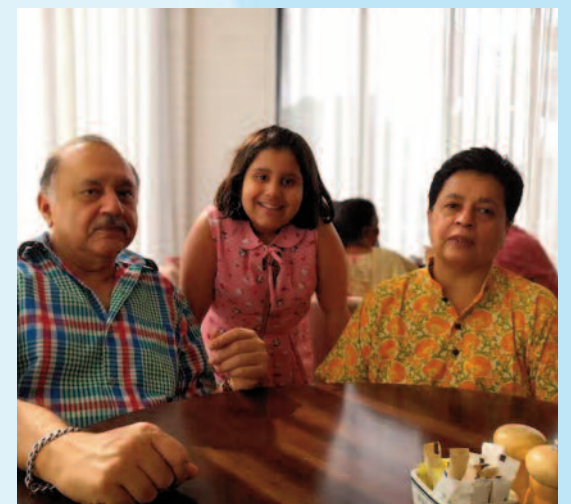


a vaccine he says will be available this time too. Fingers crossed!

Shivansh Singh
AIS VYC Lko, VI

Find joy in everything

One of my favourite things to do has been to spend time with my grandparents and every time I would be with them, they would tell me fascinating stories of their childhood, especially my grandmother. She told me that, unlike video games and mobile phone games, she used to spend her playing hours with the kids of her colony. They used to enjoy outdoor games like *pithu*, rounders, hide and seek, kho kho, badminton, hopscotch and *langdi-taang*. My grandmother loved climbing trees as a little girl. She and her friends would write each



other letters to communicate as there were no smartphones. My grandfather, on the other hand, used to visit zoos and museums with his parents and every summer vacation, he loved riding the train to visit his grand-

parents in Meerut. Hearing their childhood stories made me realise how amazing it is to be a child and to enjoy everything that life gives us.

Ananya Sud
AGS Gurugram, V

Salute the soldiers



Years ago, around 1965, the city of Jaipur was not as playful as it is today. As narrated by my grandmother, terror was lurking in every house. Every day the newspaper brought heart-breaking news of martyrs. Jodhpur was the most

bombed Indian city of the 'Indo-Pak 1965 war'. As reported, more than two hundred thousand pounds of bombs were dropped in. My grandma recalled that her parents had forbidden them from playing outside or even stepping out for a minute. It sounds like the present lockdown except the former was full of terror. With the ever-growing fear among people, it seemed almost impossible for things to get back to normal, but, with *hum honge kamiyaab* in their hearts, they all knew that India would surely overcome. With teary eyes and a cup of tea in her hands, she said "Things were tough in those times, but our brave heart soldiers were tougher." This unforeseen conversation made me realise the eternal trust that we all have in our soldiers. Here's a salute to them!

Devanshi Rawat
AIS Gurugram 46, VII B



The worth of a rupee

Once, while visiting my grandparents, my parents were discussing the rising prices in the markets. Prices of almost everything seemed to see a hike, from vegetables to wheat and pulses, along with other groceries. Hearing this, I asked my grandparents how the scenario was decades back, when they were young. They said that everything was very cheap in the olden times. One rupee could get you a kilo of pure *desi* ghee whereas now it costs a whopping 800 INR or so. During the old

days, people used to deal in 'annas'. Before India became independent, a rupee was divided into 16 annas instead of 100 paise as it is currently. The common proverb 'soleh aane khara' or 'soleh aane sach' finds its origins here. When the concept of 'paise' was introduced, 25 paise was called 'chavanni' or 'char-anna' and 50 paise was called 'athanni' or 'aath-aana'. Learning about the olden currencies and their value, especially from my grandparents was an entirely novel experience and gave me a new perspective towards things and their value.

Kanishka Sharma
AIS Vasundhara 1, VI D



1912 saw the last Olympic gold medals made entirely out of gold.

Recalling a close call

“*Aj kal ke bachhe, uff*” – we kids have all been tormented with this phrase since the very day we took birth. Reason? Well, I sought to look after it one day and trust me when I say, I have learnt a lesson for life. On being asked, my grandmom narrated to me the tale of my great grand father, Mr Chaman Lal, a handsome young man, who studied in pre-partition Lahore (now in Pakistan). India was then a British colony – silent protests against their rule were rampant; a noticeable one was that of the famous Jallianwala Bagh in Amritsar. To join the protests, my great grandpa along with his friends, travelled to Amritsar on foot on the dreadful day of April 13, 1919. Sneaking into the mob, my grandpa was shouting slogans with the rest, when suddenly General Dyer ordered the massacre. The gates were sealed, forcing him to hide in a small tunnel along with one of his friends, as the others were all shot dead. They hid there for hours, crawling sideways to catch a breath, and



were finally rescued, narrowly escaping death. The anecdote left me in tears, which my grandmom gently wiped off with her pallu, teasing me for my frail heart.

Avishi Agarwal
AIS VKC Lko, VII B

All you need is some patience

My grandparents were born in the 1940s. So, when I asked them to stir up their memories, they told me about one very eventful time of their era- the smallpox epidemic. It happened in 1974 and killed many people in a span of just four to five months. Although it was a global issue, India was the country that bore the major brunt of it, with almost 80% of the total cases around the world originating here. My grandpa recounted, “Many people survived but were either disfigured or blind.” Adding to this, my grandma expressed, “People started taking precautions. They stopped meeting each other and stayed at home. Highly hygienic conditions were mandated in every household. Everyone consumed hot water with neem leaves to keep the disease at bay. Soon, with the intervention of the World Health Organisation (WHO), people were educated



about the disease through its smallpox eradication programme and the disease was brought to a stop. By 1980, smallpox was certified as non-existent from the world.” They told me that

one must be prepared for any crisis, one must spread positivity and remain patient, to sail through any crisis.

Anushka Sharma
AIS Noida, VII E

Always help the ones in need



My maternal grandfather was a great storyteller and would tell me anecdotes from his life all the

time. There was one particular incident from his past that fascinated me a lot. The year was 1962 and India

and China were at war. He told me that during the ongoing war, lights had to be completely off during night time. Nights were the time for total blackouts. People were allowed to step out of their houses for only a limited period of time. Being in Agra, the situation was tense as news reported that Chinese war planes were going to attack the Taj Mahal. That period was a difficult one; food availability was low and safety was at risk. But despite it all, my grandfather not only kept his family safe, but also helped the poor patients that knocked on his door. He was truly one of the greatest people I knew.

Utkarsh Govil
AIS Vasundhara 6, VII D

Simplicity is blissful

I really like to spend my time with my grandparents. They often talk about their childhood and youth. My grandfather told me that back in 1978, their town faced a tornado and a flood which they had never witnessed before. Scooters and cycles were lying in the sewers and roofs had blown off. Since TV was not so common, they decided to visit the damage inflicted area and that is when life became adventurous for them. Also, there were no televisions, phones or laptops in 1970s. Their only source of entertainment was to play out on the streets with their friends. When he first bought a generator and an AC, nobody else in the entire neighbourhood used to have one. They were considered as luxuries 40 years ago but nowadays, everybody takes them for granted. They used to study under the shade of a tree during the day and had a lamp post for the night. They mostly slept



on the terrace because there was less availability of space. Yes, such was life back then - a world which is quite unfathomable for us to imagine.

Nitya Jain
AIS Saket, VII A

Don't be hopeless just yet

“Would we be able to see the dawn of 2021?” I asked my grandparents one day. “Why not?” said they. I couldn't fathom the actual source and depth of their resilience until they re-

counted the tale of their parents to me. My grandpa described life under British rule, especially that between 1896 – 1921, when bubonic plague killed around 10 million people in India. Though he wasn't born as yet, his parents were a witness to it all. Burdened by those days of misery, he confided in me how his

parents coursed through and eventually, survived the deadly plague. Living in a *kaccha ghar*, with no means of communication like mobile phones, TVs, or radios, they were already living a life on knife-edge. The plague, the deadly rodents that came along, worsened it all for them. With lack of awareness and an equal scarcity of medical facilities in the village, life for them was too horrid to even comprehend now. He emphasised on how they never even received an antidote for it; either it wasn't made or it simply wasn't distributed in the villages. But they persevered still. “You are here because they were hopeful,” remarked my grandma just then and I couldn't agree more.

Manavi Chandra
AIS VKC Lko
VII A

Life is unpredictable



“It was October 31, 1984,” said my maternal grandma as she began her narrative on what took place for them on a normal shopping day. As Nani's cousin sister was going to get married real soon, the wedding arrangements were in full swing. She along with her sister, my 5-year-old mother and

8-year-old uncle, planned to visit Delhi's famous Karol Bagh market. On the way, their bus was attacked by some people who de-boarded the Sikh commuters and started thrashing them. Everybody in the bus was scared, with no clue as to what exactly was happening. Nani was scared too, as she had two

little kids with her. The bus driver, however, managed to slip through and dropped them at the market. The marketplace was no different. It was all a chaotic situation; people were closing their shops and rushing to safe places. They somehow managed to save their lives and reached home safely after a ride of about three long hours but nonetheless it was relieving. And as my Nana switched on the news, they found that the then Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi was assassinated. Life sure is unpredictable!

Kavya Shukla
AIS VYC Lko, VI
(To be continued...)



London holds the record of being the only city to have hosted the event 3 times – 1908, 1948 and 2012.



Imaging: Ravinder Gusain, GT Network

Pic courtesy: Sakshi Verma, AIS Vasundhara 6, XII

Storywala

A trap

Devesh Pasari, AIS Gur 46, XI

Albert Welt Gortsby was sitting on a park bench. It was past evening and dusk was setting in. This was the time, when in his estimation, individuals who had experienced defeat in their lives used to sojourn unrecognised. After a while, an elderly gentleman came and sat next to Gortsby. He at once judged the old man to be a lonely person of no consequence.

After being seated there for a short time, the old man left, and his place was occupied by a young man, better dressed than his predecessor but equally downcast. The young man sat

down uttering a loud oath, as if he was disgusted at a loss. After much hesitation, Gortsby asked the man what was the matter, and he gave him a rather convincing story of being a visitor to London.

The man told Gortsby a sad story about him setting off from his hotel to buy a hat and realising on coming back that he had lost his way and could not remember the name of the street his hotel was on. The man further described that the tan brown coloured hat that he bought, had fallen off somewhere on the way, and that he was now stranded in the big city without money. And unless someone would help him with some money, he would

The man told Gortsby a sad story about him setting off from his hotel to buy a hat and realising on coming back that he had lost his way and could not remember the name of the street his hotel was on.

have to spend the night in the streets.

At first, Gortsby didn't buy the story that the man had just narrated, and felt that the vivid description of the hat was a smart move for anyone to believe it. So, believing that Gortsby did not trust him, the young man walked away. After a minute or so, looking on the ground, Gortsby spotted a brown hat lying below the bench on which the young man was sitting. He felt ashamed of having doubted the young man's story and went away to look for him.

On finding him some distance away, he apologised and gave him his brown hat and some money. The young man walked away with the hat and money. When he returned to the park bench, he found the old man who was sitting on the bench earlier, looking for something. Upon being questioned, the old man said that he was looking for a brown coloured hat which he must've dropped somewhere. Having realised how he had been fooled by a very clever young man, Gortsby muttered to himself, "Oh no! it was a trap!"

WORDS VERSE

All I ever wanted

Riya Ramkumar, AGS Noida, XII

Hope,

When I opened my eyes to find
A place and purpose of belonging

Fear,

When I lost my grandfather
Left with a void, I kept longing

Invasion,

When my parents greeted my abuser
Into our home with open, ignorant arms

Solitude,

When all ships were nothing
But drowned memoirs of endless harms

Broken,

When left with gaps of uncertainty
The light got in through my bruises

Collapse,

When beeping monitors and blood
Couldn't overcome my little snoozes

Change,

Then newer beings and better places
Became more than just a temporary fix

New hope,

For, I opened my soul's eye to see within
I saw what my dewy eyes could never see

Love,

All I ever wanted and all I ever needed
Was nothing else but me, just me.



My Icarus

Aakarshika Singh, AIS VYC, XII F

Wandered off as a silent feather
Not knowing where to reach
As alone and hurt as one could be
In search of solace and peace
I walked past your magnificence
You were beautiful and heavenly
I turned to ask if you are the one
You smiled and whispered instead
"Follow me; I'll give you the sun"
Smiling through tears, I tailed thee
To find unity and impromptu solstice
You finally did as you pledged me
You gave me the sun, its vibrancy
While I sat there devouring anon
Ignoring the burns it caused me
And smile in the pain you did inflict
On how my inner Icarus breathes.



Sakshi Verma

Catch your dreams

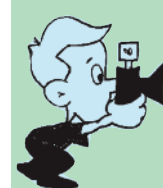
Sakshi Verma, AIS Vasundhara 6, XII

Material required

- 6 inches' embroidery hoop
- Yarns (black & white)
- White jute or paper cord
- White pom poms
- Small black beads
- Colourful feathers
- Hot glue gun
- Pair of scissors

Method

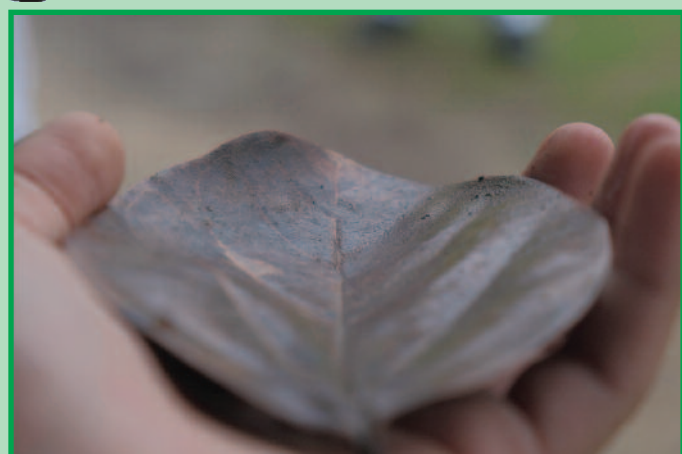
- On the embroidery hoop, tie a double knot using the white yarn.
- Now, using hot glue, wrap this white yarn over and around the hoop until 3/4th of it is covered.
- Secure it with a double knot at the end.
- Repeat the process with the black yarn to cover the unwrapped part (the remaining 1/4th part of the hoop).
- Once the entire hoop is covered, take the white jute cord to form a half-moon web.
- For the web, tie a double knot of the white jute cord on one end of the white yarned frame of the hoop.
- Now, from the working end of the jute cord, make a loop around the embroidery hoop and pull the working end from within the semi-circle like in a half-hitch.
- Make several such loops, forming a half-moon web and once you reach the end, tie a double knot to secure it and snip the extra cord.
- Now, take 5-6 pieces of jute cord and extend them downwards from the white yarned frame of the embroidered hoop.
- To extend them, take a cord and with it form a clove hitch on the hoop.
- Repeat it with the other cords as well.
- Now attach feathers to the open ends of the extended cords with the help of hot glue.
- Take a pom pom and stick a black bead in its center. Repeat it with all the pom poms.
- Glue these pom poms over the clove hitches formed on the hoop earlier.
- Now, on the top of the hoop, double knot a piece of black yarn (over the black part) and a piece of white yarn (over the white part and slightly longer than the black yarn).
- Tie them together and cover this knot with a pom pom.
- Form a knotted loop with the working end of the extended white yarn to hang it.
- Your crescent moon dreamcatcher is ready!



CAMERA CAPERS

Shagun Jain, AIS Pushp Vihar, XII

Send in your entries to
cameracapert@theglobaltimes.in



Leaf lines deeper than those of palm



Sailing leaves, sinking stones



A little beauty, a little pain



The motto of the Olympic Games is the Latin phrase 'Citius, Altius, Fortius' meaning 'Swifter, Higher, Stronger'.

Through the window



Short story

Abhay Sharma

AIS Vasundhara 1, VII

In a small dingy hospital room, two beds lay adjacently occupied by Sameer and Vicky. Both recuperating from a serious accident they had just encountered. Sameer lay next to the bed near the window sill, always looking out of the window. Each time Vicky inquired about Sameer's never ending interest in the world outside the window, Sameer would paint a vivid image of the world outside. Sometimes it was fluffy clouds, sometimes a bright and fiery sun.

On days, he would talk about the sky taking hues of black and grey, ready to pour. At first, Vicky felt good hearing these de-

scriptions, thinking he would recover soon, and it would soon be time when he would experience all of these descriptions in flesh and blood.

But as time passed by, Vicky's fractures refused to heal and he became irritated with Sameer's descriptions. He began to resent Sameer, who in comparison to Vicky had less injury.

It was another lazy evening and another day of Vicky and Sameer lying in their respective beds, when Sameer began to describe the world outside. Vicky who by now had enough of Sameer and his descriptions, gave up in **exasperation**. "Enough Sameer! I can't see the rainbow, attached to this wall. And unlike you I have a lot of pain to bear, so forgive me for not being able to

He looked at the vacant bed and the window, Sameer's peep-way into the world.

enjoy your scenic descriptions." When Vicky woke up the next morning, he was surprised to not find Sameer next to him. He asked the nurse, who told him that Sameer was discharged this morning. Vicky felt bad for the way he spoke to his friend last night, but at the same time he also felt a sense of relief. He looked at the vacant bed and the window, Sameer's peep-way into the world. He requested the nurse to be shifted to the bed next to the window and the nurse happily complied.

As soon as Vicky lay on his new bed, he eagerly looked out of the window, but was disappointed. He could not see the sun, the clouds or the passers-by that Sameer spoke of every day. Instead, what stood there was a simple red brick wall. Perplexed, he asked the nurse how was such a tall wall built overnight. "The wall has always been there," replied the nurse. "But then how could Sameer see all of what he saw?" Vicky asked, surprised and baffled. The nurse smiled and said, "Your friend lost his vision in the accident. Probably he saw through his soul."

So what did you learn today?
New word: Exasperation
Meaning: A feeling of intense irritation



Coco & orange rasgulla

Mehar Selhi, AIS Vasundhara 6, IV

Ingredients

For Coco Cooler

Rasgulla (medium sized).....1
 Vanilla ice-cream1/2 litre
 Dry fruits (chopped).....1/4cup
 Saffron strandsto garnish
 Coconut waterenough to dip rasgulla

For Orange Rasgulla

Rasgulla (medium sized).....1
 Mint leaves (chopped)8-10
 Raspberry (chopped)8-10
 Minute Maid Pulpy Orange400 ml

Procedure

For Coco Cooler

- Squeeze the sugar syrup from the rasgulla and keep it aside.
- In a separate bowl, pour coconut water and dip the squeezed rasgulla. Leave it to freeze overnight.
- Now, take two scoops of vanilla ice-cream in a serving bowl and let it come down to room temperature.
- Once the ice-cream melts a bit, top it with saffron strands and mix well.
- Place the coconut water soaked rasgulla in a bowl with the saffron mix ice-cream.
- Garnish it with chopped dry fruits.
- Your Coco cooler is ready. Serve chilled!

For Orange Rasgulla

- Squeeze the sugar syrup from the rasgulla and keep it aside.
- In a separate bowl, pour 200 ml of Minute Maid Pulpy Orange and dip the squeezed rasgulla in it. Leave it to freeze overnight.
- Now, pour the remaining Minute Maid Pulpy Orange in a serving bowl.
- Place the Minute Maid orange soaked rasgulla in this bowl.
- Top it up with chopped raspberries and mint leaves.
- Your orange rasgulla is ready to be served.

POEMS

My lovely mom

Harshil, AIS MV, III

God can't be everywhere
 And so he made mother
 We fear coming on earth
 When we take birth
 Then God assures us
 This angel will be with us
 Forever and beyond
 Showering her love abound

Whenever we feel sad
 She makes everything rad
 Forgiving all our mistakes
 Like a piece of cake
 She is my best friend
 Making my worries end
 She is the sun in my day
 Whenever I feel astray
 She looks after my dreams
 For her my love is supreme.



The generosity

Krishang Vyas

AIS Gurugram 46, VIII

O' my dear Lord
 Each particle of dust
 Each grain is a gift to us
 Each second is a chance
 To do something for others

Like a rolling line of buckets
 Passing through a well
 Filling and emptying
 Just giving and giving

Like a generous tank

Every drop of water
 Makes a new life
 To fulfill your purpose
 To feed a million mouths
 Over your palms' reservoir

O' my dear Lord
 Such flow of thy grace
 To give me strength
 To lift up someone else
 Is unseen and untraced.

It's Me

Know Me

My name: Nitya Bansal
My Class: KG C
My school: AIS Vas 6
Born on: February 4

My Favourites

Subject: Art
Friend: Anaaya Rajput
Game: Hide and seek, football
Cartoon: Peppa Pig, Marsha and the Bear
Mall: Natick Mall
Food: Rajma and rice
Book: Colouring books
Teacher: Minakshi Jalali ma'am

My Dreams And Goals

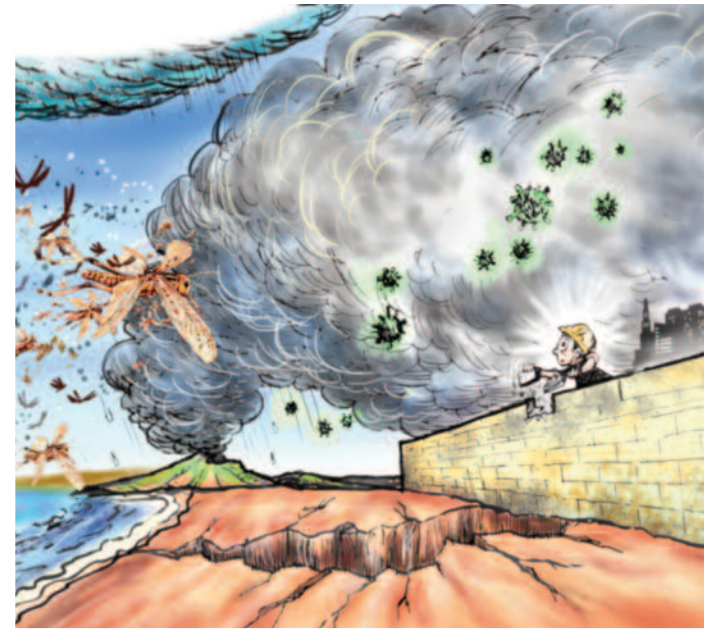
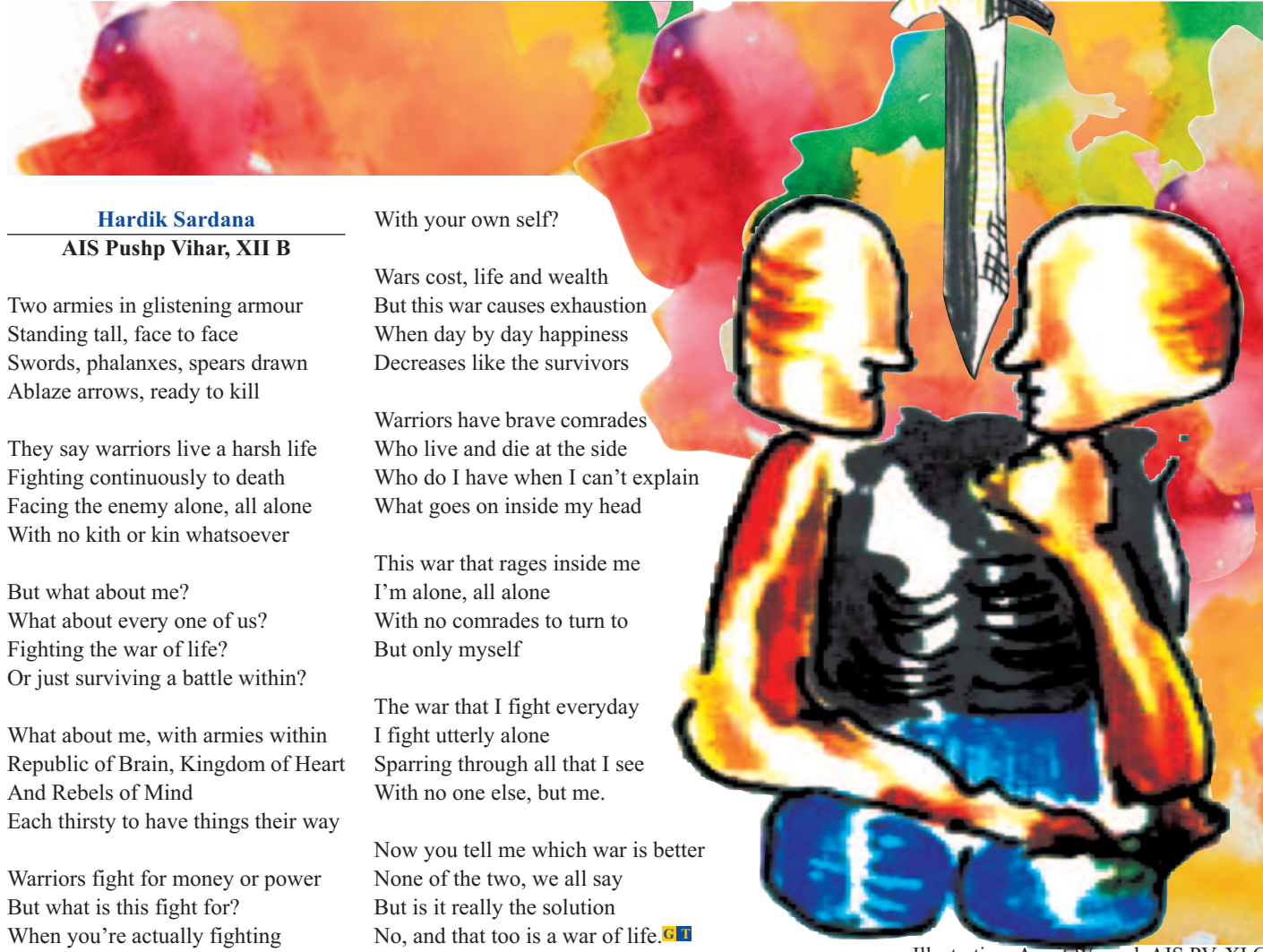
Hobby: Dancing and colouring
I like: Animals
I dislike: Loud voice
My role model: My teacher
I want to become: A doctor
I want to feature in GT because: I want to be recognised by everyone and it's the best platform to let people know about me.

In the year 1900, cricket was last seen as part of Olympic Games, where Britain and France, took the gold and silver medals respectively.



WORDS VERSE

The war of life



Behind the mask

Tarushi Tiwari

AIS Mayur Vihar, XII G

A force in all its fury
The human went too fast
Using every bit on earth
That nature wanted to last

Exploitation at its fullest
Was entitlement, oh! smart
Just parched sanctuaries
A sight to a terrible start

Algorithms and languages
We claim to be our domain
The nature gave gentle clues

But clueless we remain

Vowed to reduce C footprint
Still adding tons of refuse
Advantaging our ally
We still inflict the bruise

Earth, water, sky dominated
To fulfil our petty task
A break the nature deserved
But knew was too much to ask

So deciphering and decoding
Is no more a simple task
The nature sent its task force
To put us behind the mask. **GT**

With your own self?

Wars cost, life and wealth
But this war causes exhaustion
When day by day happiness
Decreases like the survivors

Warriors have brave comrades
Who live and die at the side
Who do I have when I can't explain
What goes on inside my head

This war that rages inside me
I'm alone, all alone
With no comrades to turn to
But only myself

The war that I fight everyday
I fight utterly alone
Sparring through all that I see
With no one else, but me.

Now you tell me which war is better
None of the two, we all say
But is it really the solution
No, and that too is a war of life. **GT**

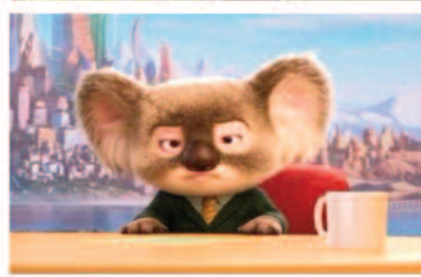
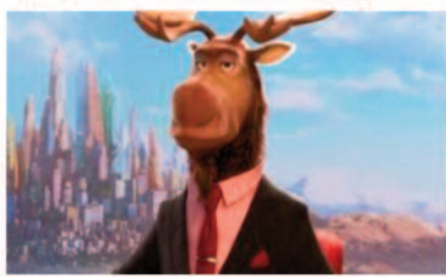
Illustration: Amrit Warwal, AIS PV, XI G

CORONA TIME IN THE ANIMAL KINGDOM



Let's Look At How Animals Around the Globe are Faring

Graphic: Siddharth Johar, AIS Noida, XII F



no nasty nimrods.

Well, baby birdie, all we can say is enjoy while it lasts. Now, coming to you straight from the aquarium in Chicago is Edward and Anne, the penguin couple.

Ed: I told you sweetheart; we will get to see the day when we can go beyond those petty cages. Yesterday, —

Anne: Oh, would you let me speak, so, yes, for the first time in 10 years we have been set free here. The overburdened supervisor let us out to roam about the aquarium without any of those exasperated visitors. When are they going to become endangered, I wonder!

Lastly, witness the reaction of our exclusive guest, Mr. Bobby Bat.

Bobby Bat: All the horror movies in the world couldn't instill the fear of me that this contemptible virus did. At least, now I know, I won't end up as food in somebody's dinner plate today.

Thank you, Mr. Bat for your insight. It surely is a spirited age in the animal land!

The current pandemic has proved many things and among that, the superiority of nature. It has corrected the balance that human race so callously dismantled. We have been acting out of our collective understanding of desire, insensitivity, and ego, consuming all life forms for our taste and greed. If humanity is to survive, we have to mend our ways. This is nature's distress call, to awaken our senses to love, respect and appreciation for all forms of life.

19:45

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER/ @ZODIACTV5



Shubhika Garg, AIS Noida, XII I

Courtesy to our highly streamlined and efficient journalism networks, we are well aware of how the coronavirus has turned the world upside down. But what you don't know is what a jovial time it is for the animal kingdom. We bring you the happy animals from around the globe, expressing just how much they are enjoying the cur-

rent scenario! (With sanitizers by their side and on a video conference, of course)

Coming to you from a now clear canal in Venice is our Danny the Dolphin.

Danny Dolphin: Ah, been here when I was a child, 60 years is a long time to visit your hometown. But believe me fellas, you will like the water without big

boats and floating trash and-

Well, it seems we have an interruption from China, or is it Japan? It's Baby Bird!

Baby Bird: Ah, I couldn't agree more with you, sir. I am 5 years old and this is the first time in as long as I can remember that I get to fly and play freely in the sky. No dust, no pollution, no airplanes and definitely



Up until now, only four athletes have won medals in both Winter and Summer Olympics: Eddie Eagan, Jacob Thams, Christa Luding-Rothenburger and Clara Hughes.



Amity shines in CBSE 2019-20

Amitians Carry Forward The Legacy Of Excellence By Scoring Top Notch Marks

Being the pioneers of holistic modern education blended with tradition, for more than 28 years, excellence at Amity Group of Schools is a habit. The group has a well drafted history of surpassing its own records in academics, extra curriculars, sports, CBSE board exams, competitive exams, national and international forums, etc. Year on year its students set high benchmarks of achievements only for their juniors to notch it up a next level. Amity Group of Schools is a boulevard of learning where the young change makers and global citizens of tomorrow are nourished every moment with engaging and exploratory learning. The core strength and key driving force behind such constant victory trail is the lofty vision of eminent

educationist Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and RBEF who wishes to nurture happy young minds creating a happy world.

In her own words, "For the last five years, students of Amity Group of Schools have been the All India Rank holders in the first five positions. In 2017, the all India topper, Raksha Gopal was from Amity International School, Noida. This year too, Amitians have brought myriad laurels to the Amity family. While I laud the students, I also want to congratulate the teachers, who have toiled as hard to script the stellar success story constantly every year, winning new horizons with flying colours. I wish to heartily thank all my advisors, principals and staff, for it is their sheer hard work

and immense dedication that has led Amity to the pinnacle of glory time and again. My heartfelt gratitude to all the parents who have always shown tremendous faith in Amity and have always extended their co-operation."

Here we present a glimpse of stellar supernova of success in CBSE meticulously scripted by spirited and bright students of Amity Group of Schools:

Navya Rastogi of AIS Noida topped Class X CBSE with 99.4% with the highest schools average being 90.49% achieved by AIS Gur 43. With cent per cent pass results of Class X, it's heartening to see that 1013 of 1971 (51.4%) students scored above 90% and 241 scored perfect hundreds. 384 students scored above 95%.

In Class XII CBSE, 1846 students appeared, out of which 1007 (54.5%) students secured 90% and above and 230 scored a perfect hundred. The highest school average of 91.5% (this year by AIS MV) is also a constant rise from 87.3% in 2017-18 and 88.2% in 2018-19. Tanmay Khandelwal from AIS MV and Vidhi Batra from AIS Noida, topped Class XII with 98.8%. 465 students scored above 95%.

Surpassing all hurdles and exceeding all expectations, bettering their own milestones, 'Achievement' is a legacy and 'Excellence' is a habit at Amity. The young turks of Amity have surely made a lifelong friendship, or in better words, a special 'Amity' with excellence! 🏆📖



Student presents a special tribute to teacher

Devotional spirits

A Tribute To Almighty

AIS Mayur Vihar

An online devotional singing competition was held on July 3, 2020 for the students of Class IX under the aegis of Saptak, the Indian music society of the school. Competing students sang a variety of devotional songs right from Krishna bhajans to Gurbani shabad, from Marathi traditional bhajans to Carnatic devotional songs. Atharav Santosh Gupta won the first prize, R Shreeja bagged the second position and Vidisha Bhattacharya secured the third position. Varad Lele and Avni Gupta both won special awards. Students also made a special video as a tribute to teachers on Guru Purnima. The virtual event was enjoyed both by the parents as well as the students. 🏆📖

Amifest 2020

Annual Commerce And Humanities Fest

AIS Gurugram 43

Students from Class XI-XII celebrated the 6th Amifest 2020, the annual commerce and humanities fest, virtually on June 27, 2020. This was for the first time that the event was held online and students participated with great zeal and fervour. A total of seven exciting events were held that included 'Quaranti'natika' - a skit competition in which participants portrayed their daily experiences and moments of joys during lockdown. Young minds expressed their concern for racial discrimination in 'CD painting'. Creativity was abuzz when Amitians created fusions of various ad clips in 'AD' mal-gamation: Ad - Mixing'. In economics quiz 'InQUIZitive: Eco-Quiz' participants put their



Product proposed in contest

knowledge of basic concepts of industry, business, finance, brands, stock market exchange, companies, start-up etc, to test. The start up event 'Invent'preneur' saw entrepreneurs of tomorrow creating business plans and pitching them for investments. Under 'Drafting Manifestos' young minds showcased writing party manifestos for dealing with migrant workers problem during COVID-19. 'Mind Regale - Psychology event' had participants present a five minutes clip of popular song, video, film or advertisement and explain the psychological aspects of the same. Some participants also composed poems and presented their psychoanalysis. The virtual celebration culminated with *ganesh vandana* and *kathak* performance by the students. 🏆📖



A student holds placard to create awareness

Online assembly

Talking Population

AIS Vasundhara 6

The first ever virtual assembly to mark the 'World population day' was held by the students of Class VII on July 10, 2020. The well-planned assembly began with the chanting of Gayatri Mantra, followed by news reading, sports round up and weather report presented by students. Two students read out short articles on population problems around the world and how increasing population affects limited natural resources the planet has. The e-assembly was also witnessed by parents who were impressed by the indomitable team spirit and strength of the Amitians to rise to every challenge. It was a meticulously coordinated and well conducted assembly on the virtual platform which ended with an integrated video of students in school uniform at home raising placards with slogans pertinent to the theme of the day. The assembly ended with children singing the school song in unison. 🏆📖



In this painting, I want to depict that experiencing racism has an intense impact on people's health and welfare resulting in the feelings of sadness, anger and depression. Because of the recent case of George Floyd, the whole world is protesting. Not only in the western countries, racism is happening in India as well. Due to COVID-19 in India, the main targets of such racism have been the people from the north east.

An entry for the Amifest by Yana Bhanot of AIS Gur 43, XI D



Phone vs Polaroid

Who Is The Better Photographer? And It's Finally Answered

Prabha Jha

AIS Gurugram 46, XI

The ring is all set. The audience awaits as Phone enters flexing its mega pixels. From the other side, emerges Polaroid, setting its reel. Both stand facing each other now, coming together to end it, once and for all. The spectators hold their breath as the war begins.

Round 1

Phone: Hey there, Pals. Back in trend again, now, are we? Which unfortunate chap did you dupe into buying you again this time?

Polaroid: Watch your tongue when you talk to me, boy. Unlike you, I never go out of fashion. Yes, I might be high maintenance, but my photos are aesthetic for Instagram users and I am

an essential part of scrapbooks. And you? The leader of the crumbling clan of selfies. You're a new player, child; don't mess with the veteran!

Audience: oooooohhhhhh

Score: Polaroid – 1, Phone – 0

Round 2

Phone: You're all talk, oldie. I, on the other hand, am a total value for money. I can click thousands of selfies whereas you go off before one can finish saying 'lights, camera, action!', and remind me if you have a backup? I think not!

Polaroid: But I have the power to capture memories and print them instantly. What do you have?

Phone: More than you, that's for sure. Your picture quality makes my mega pixels weep, and every time I see you, I can't help going 'New phone, who dis?'. OK boomer!

Audience: Woahhh!

Score: Polaroid – 1, Phone – 1

(Suddenly, the hall shakes as a massive figure wearing a hood enters. Phone and Polaroid gasp.)

DSLR: What's up, mates? I heard there was a photography contest here, so the king has arrived. Which one do you think is better?

Phone and Polaroid: N-no, of-off course not, boss. We know y-you are the king, you are unbeatable.

DSLR: Yeah, I thought so. You've wasted enough time. Now, get back to work, both of you.

Phone and Polaroid: Ye-yes, sir! *(The audience goes berserk at the sudden turn of events. Roaring and screaming, they lift DSLR on their shoulders whilst Phone and Polaroid are pushed out of the ring, bruised, beaten and forgotten.)*

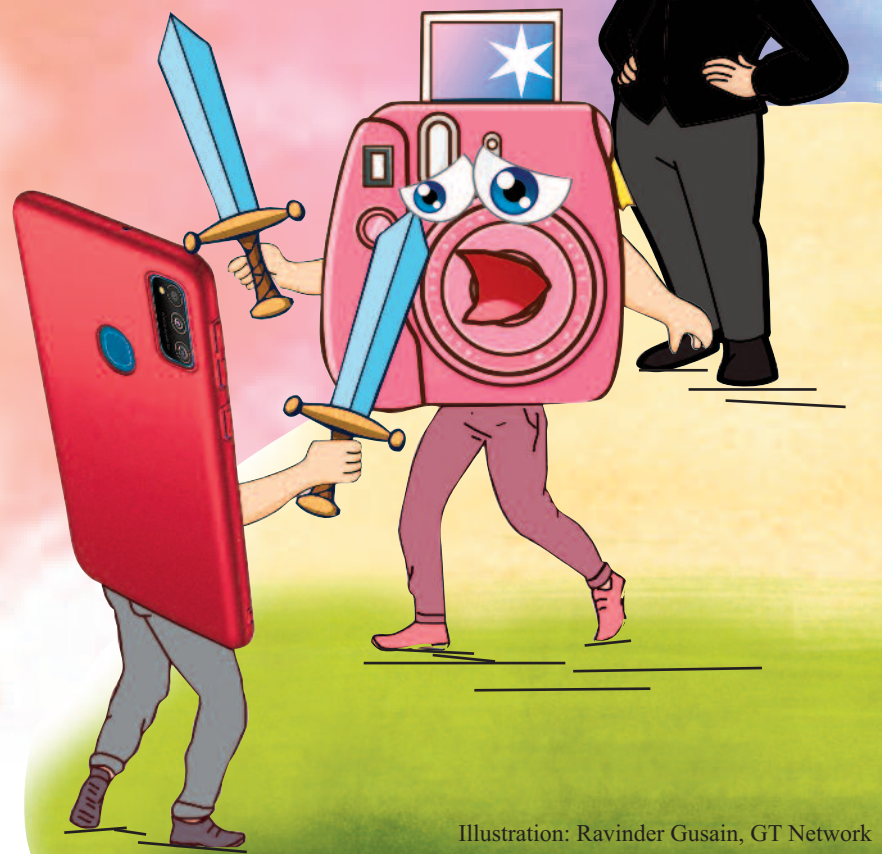
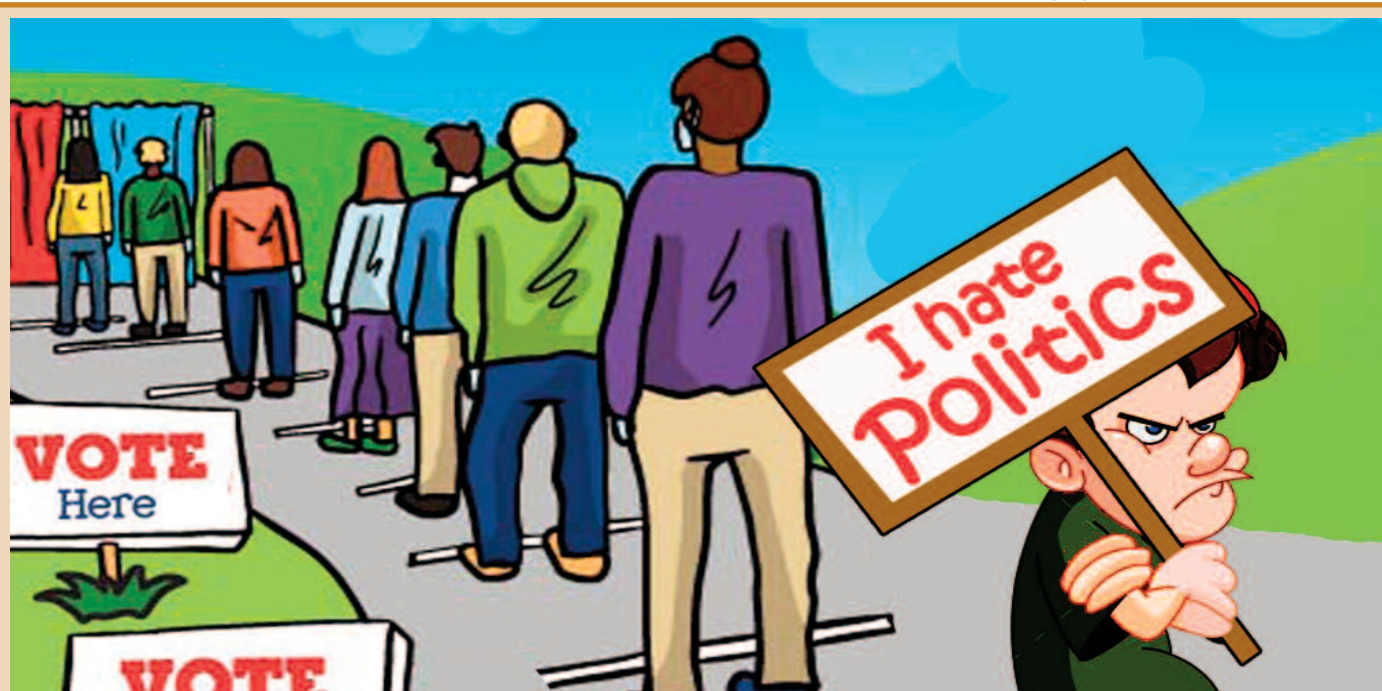


Illustration: Ravinder Gusain, GT Network

Imaging: Ravinder Gusain, GT Network



To vote or not to vote

For It's A Weighted Decision Not To Be Taken Lightly

Isha Agarwal & Saanvi Vaish, XII

AIS Pushp Vihar

You'd think a country with a combination of a large population and a solid democracy will be the perfect cauldron for a massive turnout at the voting stands, and yet the empty streets on the voting days seem like a gigantic satire. As we sit on the brink of any elections nearing, here are some excuses that are voiced out, to not let our voices be heard.

"My favourite candidate has no chance!"

And you sitting at home are definitely skyrocketing their chances. Continue your leisure stay in bed, and further lessen the chances than what it could have been.

"I hate all of them!"

Magic mirror on the wall, who does the

reader hate less of 'em all? You could, either wait eternally for the answer or actually Google them to make an informed decision.

"I don't like politics!"

I believe you and every other Indian politician who has ever said it. And why should you 'like' politics anyway? It's not like it decides anything of importance like, the fate of the country?

"I don't care!"

Six days ago you tweeted blaming government for the 5 minute electricity blackout in your locality. Today, you tweeted about one pothole, blaming the government. Please tell us more about how you 'don't' care.

"What's the point of voting for the lesser of two evils?"

Exactly that: you will be voting for the lesser

of the two evils. Allow us to jog your memory: in 2016, citizens of a country named USA thought the same thing regarding their presidential elections and they are still crying over the answer.

"My vote does not matter!"

We don't know where you are gaining all your information from but we surely know it ain't Google. Do you even know what a democracy is? Not with you at this point.

"I don't have the time or energy!"

Honestly, we also do not have the time and energy to make you understand the basic principles of society.

The excuses are boundless. There are a thousand more excuses we can make but, there is only one decision to take. So, the next time go and hit the button.

Rights of an article

Don't Believe, Read It Now!

Praman Bansal

AIS Gurugram 43, Alumnus

Every living thing on this Earth has some rights. But wonder what rights an article from the newspaper would demand if it comes to life? Read on to know:

- I have the right to speak only and only in the right 'content'.
- I have the right to look 'foreword' to what other articles are talking about.
- I have the right to 'blurb' out whatever I want.
- I have the right to not (genre)lise anything and everything I come across.

- I have the right to leave 'margin' for any scope of improvement possible.
- I have the right to 'leaf' the scrupulous information.
- I have the right to give cr(edit) to the writer.
- I have the right to 'bulk up' thoroughly on suspense.
- I have the right to have no more 'editions' once I am done.
- I have the right to not be (plag)ued with inauthenticity.
- Finally, I have all the right to see 'print' at the end of the day.

Agree or not, but only if we allow an article to exercise its rights, would we enjoy the final outcome published in the newspaper.

Illustration: Ravinder Gusain, GT Network

