

Three cheers for Amity

Saluting The Leadership Of Chairperson, Amity Group Of Schools

Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools, was felicitated with the Business World Education's Super 30 Top Education Brands 2023, under the gold category of 'K-12 Education Group of The Year Award', for her remarkable achievements that underscore the profound impact of her visionary leadership in education. This recognition not only celebrates her outstanding contributions but also serves as a testament to the transformative power of innovative educational initiatives.

A total of 161 schools were shortlisted for the award, based on the nomination submitted by them. The nomination was based on the list of their key sources of inspiration, five innovations by the individual/organisation, project results, the challenges they had encountered while implementing the projects, and additional awards they had received previously. Amity Group earned accolades from the jury members comprising Dr (Mrs) Pankaj Mittal, secretary general, Association of Indian Universities; Dr Biswajit Saha, director (Skill Education and Training) CBSE; Dr Ram Kumar Kakani, director, IIM Raipur, and Dr Anurag Bhatra, chairman & editor-in-chief, Business World.

While presenting the elevator pitch, Mohina Dar, director, Academic Projects, Amity International and Global Schools, shared with Chairperson's valuable input, "Amity's holistic focus is to ensure innovation in curriculum and pedagogy, create international researchers, and build character with a strong value system and *sanskars*. All this goes a long way in making an ideal student,

a model citizen, besides nurturing a global changemaker". As a leader with a vision, Chairperson has spearheaded numerous initiatives that have not only improved the quality of education but have also shaped the future of countless students. With programmes such as Synchro Studies, Amity Institute for Competitive Examinations, Amity Educational Resource Centre, The Global Times, Amity's Children Science Foundation, etc., Amityans have prospered. Reiterating the same thought, Chairperson dedicated the award to everyone associated with Amity, and remarked, "The innovation award in education requires a lot of love for children, and the problems that they're facing in society require innovative solutions. Every new initiative at Amity has come into existence as a solution to the problems we were facing, and that was our innovation. We are all here because of the support system of different heads and advisors here at AKC Group. This success is because of all of you. We're all blessed by God, and our Founder sir, who wishes to see the name of Amity schools recognised all over the world.

Congratulations to all of you." One of the hallmarks of Chairperson's leadership has been her penchant for innovation. Under her guidance, the institution has embraced modern teaching methodologies, incorporated technology in classrooms, and fostered an environment of creativity and critical thinking. Her commitment to excellence makes her the flagbearer of hope for the future of education. As we celebrate her success, we also look forward to the transformative changes she will continue to bring to the world of education. Indeed, winning is fun, but winning is not the only point, wanting to win, not giving up, and never being satisfied with what you've done is the point, and the journey of Amity goes on forever. [G T](#)



Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan honoured with K-12 Education Group of The Year Award



Pics: Deepak Sharma, GT Network

THE GT POLL

Bihar's caste census will pave the way for social justice in India.

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

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Coming next
AI in journalism

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What's inside

Artistry takes courage
In conversation with Uday Shankar Ganguly, as he sheds light on his life as a cartoonist, illustrator, and painter for print media.
...more on page 3

The war of Troy
A brief timeline of all the events that led up to the ten year war between Achaeans (Greeks) and Trojans as mentioned in Homer's The Illiad.
...more on page 7

Let's aim to donate
Have a look at experts debating on Organ Donation, the cause chosen by the Youth Power team of AIS Mayur Vihar (2022-23).
...more on page 10

POLL RESULT
for GT Edition October 2, 2023

Do you think the launch of 'Earthquake Alerts System' by Google, will contribute towards disaster preparedness and safeguard lives?

Yes	No	Can't say
73%	13%	14%

Result as on October 7, 2023

Around The WORLD

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



USA

Nobel Prize in Chemistry

American scientists Mounqi G Bawendi and Louis E Brus, along with Russian scientist Alexei I Ekimov, have been awarded with the prestigious Nobel Prize in Chemistry for their pioneering research in tiny crystals called quantum dots. Discovered to be exhibiting a diverse range of properties, these nanoparticles hold vast potential in emerging fields such as quantum communications, flexible electronics, miniature sensors, and the continuous advancement of solar cell technology.



UK

Oyster reef created

As a landmark conservation effort, the Zoological Society of London, in collaboration with British Marine, constructed a football pitch-sized oyster reef in the North Sea. The reef, built as part of the Wild Oysters Project, is situated a mile off Whitburn, Sunderland, and is set to serve as a home to over 10,000 native oysters. The innovative reef is also expected to foster a thriving marine ecosystem and play a crucial role in purifying North Sea waters by eliminating all sorts of pollutants.



UKRAINE

First underground school

In a bid to pioneer safety in education, the government made public its plans to construct the nation's first fully underground school in Kharkiv, its second-largest city. The move aims to guard students from daily rocket strikes, given that Kharkiv is situated less than 35 km from the Russian border. While many schools in frontline have resorted to online teaching, Kharkiv is the only Ukrainian city that has set up 60 separate classrooms in its metro stations, accommodating over 1000 students, in an attempt to provide safe, face-to-face education to its student populace.



CANADA

First black Canadian speaker

On October 3, 2023, the nation's House of Commons elected Greg Fergus as its new speaker, making him the first black Canadian to hold this esteemed position. Fergus secured the post by defeating his contemporaries Sean Casey, Chris d'Entremont, and Elizabeth May in a secret ballot. As the ceremonial speaker of the House now, he will be responsible for preserving order during debates and overseeing parliamentary procedures.



FRANCE

Bedbug infestation

Paris has been plagued by an alarming bedbug outbreak, raising worries among locals and visitors. First reported in hotels and rental apartments, the tiny pests have now allegedly taken over public places such as movie theatres and train stations. While the government is actively looking for solutions to deal with infestations, while aiding all those impacted, the search for a definite way out has been fast-tracked as Paris prepares to host Olympics 2024.



PAKISTAN

Immigrants shown the door

The government, on October 3, 2023, issued a decree asking all the illegal immigrants in the nation, including 1.7 million Afghan asylum seekers, to leave its terrain by November 1. For all those who failed to comply with the order, the government has warned forcible deportation as a possible penalty. The announcement has been made keeping in mind the recent increase in suicide bombings in the nation, 14 of which this year were reportedly carried out by Afghans.



INDIA

Rules Asian Games 2023

Having won a total of 82 medals thus far, India achieved its best ever medal tally in the history of Asian Games. The feat was made possible as Indian athletes, including race walker Manju Rani, archer Jyothi Vennam, etc., gave their best to the tournament, securing winning titles in every sport. Serving as cherry on top, Javelin ace Neeraj Chopra secured his second consecutive gold at the continental spectacle after topping the podium in 2018.

News Flash

► **China:** Chinese nuclear submarine suffered catastrophic failure, killing 55 sailors aboard ► **Japan:** Issued tsunami advisory for islands in eastern Japan ► **Kenya:** President reshuffled cabinet to optimise performance



Uday Shankar Ganguly, cartoonist

Praneel Dev, XII A &
Yashi Sharma, XII J, AIS Noida

A master of varied art forms, ranging from caricatures and portrait drawings to sculptures and paintings, **Uday Shankar Ganguly** is a **cartoonist, illustrator, and painter based in Delhi** whose name in the field is unknown to none, and his work, having made the cut in almost all leading national newspapers, is second to none. Having worked with the Times of India group in the past, he has conducted more than 200 workshops on caricatures for students and teachers across India and Dubai. As he presided over the GT Awards 2023 as a jury member, GT reporters caught up with him to know more about his eclectic journey as an artist.

Artistry takes courage

Uday Shankar On His Illustrious Journey As A Cartoonist

Pics: Suhani Goel, XII C & Anjali Gupta, XI I, AIS Noida



GT reporters in conversation with Uday Shankar Ganguly

His fascination with art

I have been making sculptures and drawing cartoons since childhood and have always been passionate about expressing my creativity. In fact, a sculpture of Goddess Kali that I made when I was a teenager is still put on display at the Kolkata Museum today. It gave me my very first paycheck of 10,000 INR, with which I paid my first-year college fees. Even though my father was against my choice of becoming an artist, I believe passion should always come first. But one should also note that the path won't always be hunky-dory. The field of art does not guarantee a stable source of income. I started off wanting to be a film director, and in order to learn more about art direction, met Satyajit Ray many times, but then I found out that I felt more comfortable as a

cartoonist. Since I was doing something I loved, it wasn't too hard for me to keep working and focusing on the future.

His preference for caricature

Even though selling a painting brings in more money, I have always preferred being a cartoonist because I enjoy exercising my spontaneity. Sometimes people do take offence because cartoons, in a way, are meant to criticise people and situations, but I often get requests from politicians asking for their caricatures. I recently did one for Bengal CM Mamta Banerjee, for instance. But being a cartoonist has some limitations too. The lack of a fixed income is a problem for beginners. Another thing is the hectic schedule; a cartoonist working for a newspaper is given barely 3-4 hours to complete

INTERVIEW

a sketch. One would also have to be on top of the latest news to make their illustrations relevant and captivating to the readers.

His experience with the world

The creativity and imagination I get to see in this field of work is honestly the best part about my job. I also get to meet and work with exemplary individuals. How many people can say that RK Laxman was their colleague? Or that one day, out of the blue, they were invited to meet one of the former presidents of India, Dr APJ Abdul Kalam? So, for me, there's absolutely nothing that can top the artistic sphere. Not even AI, for that matter. While AI can give you ten good ideas on a topic, an artist will provide you with a thousand more. Someone who is passionate about art will always pride themselves in their originality.

His message for Amitians

You have the tools that we could not even dream about having, say, three decades ago. You are a part of a wonderful schooling system that is giving you a lot of opportunities at that. Put it all to use wisely. Pick a career that suits you and do not look back.

A desk for Japan

ATPC | AUUP

Under the dynamic leadership and guidance of Dr Atul Chauhan, Chancellor, AUUP, the Amity Technical Placement Centre (ATPC) coordinated the MOU signing ceremony between Amity University, Noida, and Sekisho Corporation, Japan, on September 21, 2023, with an aim to establish a Japan Desk at AUUP in order to help students get jobs at Japanese companies. Since there has been a noticeable surge in demand for Indian engineering students in Japanese companies, Amity is making sure that its students get placed at the best organisations in India and abroad. The event commenced with an

overview of Amity Education Group by Dr Gurinder Singh, group vice chancellor, Amity Universities, followed by complete detailing of Amity Research and Innovation's initiatives by Dr W Selvamurthy, president, Amity Science, Technology and Innovation Foundation. As Anjani Kumar Bhatnagar, deputy director, ATPC, made his opening remarks, he mentioned that the Japan Desk will not only serve as a point of contact for Amity students who want to work with Japanese companies, but also for Japanese companies that wish to hire Amity students. In addition, it will help in facilitating exchange programs and promoting Japanese language courses.

Also present were Dr MK Pandey, director, Amity School of Engineering and Technology; Dr Sanjeev Bansal, dean FMS, Amity Business School; the entire team of ATPC, and other senior faculty members of Amity. The Japanese delegation included Masaki Seki, president, Sekisho Corporation; Kiyotoshi Araki, corporate planning chief, Sekisho Corporation; and Masafumi Handa, Do Thi Thu Thuy, and Eshna Sachdeva, corporate planning team members, Sekisho Corporation.

"The warm welcome we received at Amity is truly unique. The MOU signing ceremony is of a large magnitude, marking the beginning of fostering close ties with India," said Masaki Seki.



Eminent dignitaries present at the event

In response to him, Dr Atul Chauhan, Chancellor, AUUP, said, "In Indian culture, guests are treated like Gods and therefore, the presence of the esteemed dignitaries from Japan is significant for us. For any relationship to nurture, the values between the two entities must be in sync and Amity

shares a lot of common values with Sekisho Corporation. The partnership will be beneficial for students who will become future leaders in all areas".

The event was a historic moment for Amity Education Group, bearing testimony to the philosophy of 'Vasudhaiv Kutumbakam'.

In with the net

From the crack of dawn, technology stirs us with its reliable alarms, and caresses us with the cooling breeze of our ACs as we drift off to sleep, weaving its wonders into our everyday lives. GT pays homage to this silent saviour that simplifies and enhances our existence with a brand new series, unwrapping A to Z of iconic tech pieces, one letter at a time. Here's presenting the **I** in this series that changed human life as we know and live it.

Aalap Mitra, AIS VKC Lko, IX A

The tech: Internet

The inventor: Vint Cerf & Bob Kahn

How was it invented?

While it's easy to picture Thomas Edison inventing the lightbulb, because you can hold it in your hands perhaps, to imagine the internet, something so vast and formless, being invented, au contraire, is a hard act to follow. Howbeit, hard as it may be, the development of the internet can be traced back to the 1960s when engineers, researchers, scientists, and programmers collectively

began exploring the concept of connecting computer networks together. Vinton Cerf and Robert Elliot Kahn were ultimately credited with developing the Transmission Control Protocol (TCP) and the Internet Protocol (IP), the foundational protocols of the internet, in the 1970s. Their work laid the groundwork for the creation of the Internet Protocol Suite (TCP/IP) - the global network we now know as the internet.

When did we get to know it first?

Though the concept of the internet emerged with the creation of Advanced Research Projects Agency Network (ARPANET) in 1969, it wasn't widely known outside of academic and research circles at that time. However, on January 1, 1983, when ARPANET and the Defence Data Network officially changed to the TCP/IP standard, the internet, as we know it today, took birth, serving as a key moment in the history of the human world. Prior to this, the various computer networks did not have a standard way to communicate with each other.

Why do we use it?

A century ago, what would've been consid-

ered a day's task can now be completed in just a couple of minutes, all thanks to the internet. From letting us access its vast reserves of information for research purposes, communicate with others across the globe, engage in e-commerce, stream media content, proffer with means to share and store data, stay updated with news, collaborate in various professional and personal contexts - so on and so forth all at the click of a button, the internet does it all. Why would a modern man not be intrigued enough to make use of it then?

How has it helped our lives?

First developed as a means of communication during the Cold War, the internet can now be found in all the nooks and crannies of this world, transforming lives in numerous ways. For instance, it has revolutionised the way we communicate by enabling instant messaging, video calls, and social media, connecting people globally. It has democratised information, making knowledge accessible with a few clicks. Further, by offering online streaming, e-commerce, and e-learning platforms, it has



Fun fact: There are more than 1.13 billion websites on the internet today. This figure, however, keeps changing as more websites pop up and others get deleted from the internet on the daily.

revolutionised industries like entertainment, shopping, and education. It has also transformed work by enabling remote jobs and virtual collaboration. Not to mention the way it has fostered cultural exchange by facilitating global networking, and has raised social awareness by empowering activism and social movements alike. However, to say that it has only benefitted us would be incorrect too, for issues like privacy breach, cybersecurity threats, and digital divide disparities all form a massive part of our lived reality, requiring proper regulations and digital laws. [G I](#)

Off to space

Is The Outer World Truly The New Tourist Attraction?

Lakshita Agarwal, AIS Saket, XI C

No one can deny how stimulating it is to see humans explore space in fascinating sci-fi movies. Haven't we all wished we could do the same? Well, this dream seems to be coming true as private companies like Virgin Galactic, SpaceX, Blue Origin, Orion Span, Boeing, etc., are working to make space tourism feasible. While the first space tourist, Dennis Tito, had travelled to space in 2001, it has taken almost 20 years for the concept of space tourism to truly catch on. But here we are and how!

Dawn of a new space age

July 11, 2021 was a special day for those who envisioned going to space. The founder of Virgin Galactic, Richard Branson, boarded a VSS Unity Space Plane flight to suborbital space. Nine days later, Jeff Bezos of Blue Origin embarked on a similar venture aboard New She-

pard. For the unversed, Virgin Galactic and Blue Origin are private companies building spacecrafts to send private clients to space. Their suborbital flights last for a few minutes, and require two days' training and a medical history form whereas their orbital flights, on the other hand, last longer and require filling up of a more detailed form along with blood tests and X-rays.

From take-off to landing

The flight takes off from a smooth runway before the spaceship and mothership ascend together to just below 50,000 feet. Post that, the pilot releases the spaceship from the mothership. The spaceship's rocket ignites and sends the craft up to a little over three times the speed of sound. At nearly 300,000 feet above earth, the motor is switched off and the passenger is given some time to enjoy the experience. After a while, the ship descends to the thick atmosphere and lands on the same runway from which it was launched.



Is it worth the expense?

While the opportunity to experience space sounds exciting and is indeed a once in a lifetime kind of deal, the exorbitant prices make it unaffordable for the common man. The flights cost a whopping 225,000 USD on average. So, while space tourism does work like an added feather to the achievements of mankind, it all boils down to one piquant question - can all this money not be used for the development and progress of human beings on planet earth instead? Well, that's something to think about, isn't it? Stare into space to ponder upon the answer.

Desi Shark Tank

The Proposal Of Different Emotions For Mother's Equity

Pranav Manoj, AIS MV, Alumnus

Welcome to the Indian household where every decision must go through an internal conflict between a mother's logic, love, anger, and instinct. To test out how effective this panel of 'sharks' are, we are joined by Daljit Gulati today, right here in the living room of the house. He wants permission to go out to play, but had a spat with his sister earlier. Both refused to apologise and were sent to their rooms. *Bland sitar music in the background as Daljit enters*

Daljit: Hi, mom. My name is Daljit and my ask is to go down to play in exchange for a serious blow to my ego (apologising to my sister) and a two hour sit-out where I contemplate my actions.

If we had not persuaded him, Daljit Gulati's strategy would have been to pretend to have a non-serious bout of amnesia and act as if nothing had really happened beforehand.

Our esteemed readers, we need to inform you that we have no clue of what is truly going on in Daljit's mother's mind. We will try to derive what is happening by her expressions, but it will be easier to step into the Shark Tank world of the mother's mind, so here we go!

Logic: Rab da vasta! Has he done his homework today? He even fought with his sister. His demand is too ridiculous

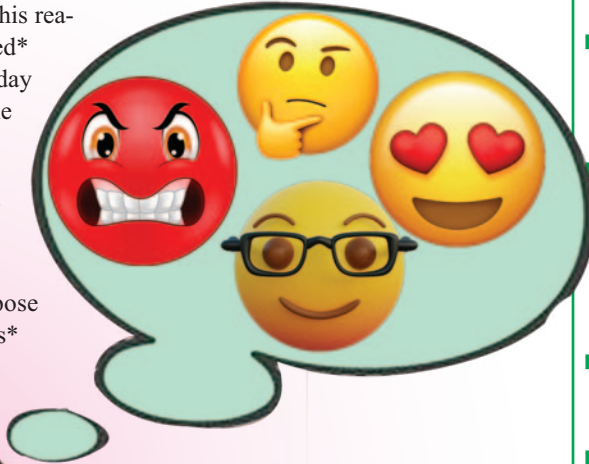
and I see no scalability in it. For this reason, I am out. *One eyebrow raised*

Love: But he has been sulking all day today. What to do? *Creases on the forehead visible*

Instinct: Iss field mai expertise nahi hai, so I am out. *Another eyebrow raised*

Love: Guys, you don't let me-

Anger: Engaging multi-purpose weapon! *Reaches out for slippers*



Logic, Love, and Instinct: *Physically hold Anger down* Wait! *Hand goes to wipe sweat from forehead*

Logic: The most I can do in the situation is help you in outsourcing scolding for Daljit to Daljit's father.

Daljit's Mother: Go back to your room now. I will talk to you in the evening.

With a forlorn look in his eyes, Daljit leaves the room

Readers, we have no clue what is truly going on in Daljit's mind now. We will try to derive what is happening by his restless pacing in his room, seeming too deep in his thought for us to interrupt him, but to truly know what he is thinking, we'll need to step into his Shark Tank setup. **GT**

(Pranav Manoj is currently pursuing BTech in Computer Science from Rice University, United States of America.)

Fact file

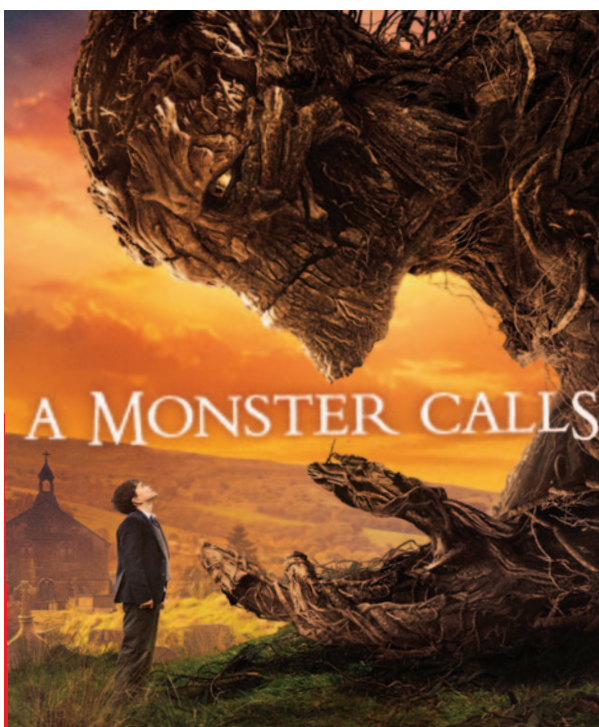
Is it fashionable?

Zoya Negi, AIS Noida, IX J

- To maintain the privileged and high-end nature of their brand, Louis Vuitton, at the end of the year, burns all their unsold bags.
- The Prada Phone by LG was actually the first ever mobile phone in the world to be entirely touch screen, six months before Apple's iPhone.
- G-Star Raw is the first brand in the world to make denim from recycled ocean plastic.
- Every outfit by Paul Smith, a renowned British designer, has a hidden secret – hidden pockets, hidden patterns on the inside of the collar etc.
- According to Guinness World Records, Gucci's Genius Jeans is the 'most expensive jeans in the world'.
- Chanel No 5 by Coco Chanel was the first ever perfume to mix together natural and artificial essences.
- To create clothes that protected people from brutal British weather, Thomas Burberry founded Burberry in 1856, when he was only 21 years old.
- The first ever stilettos in the world were designed by Salvatore Ferragamo, the famous Italian shoe designer, in 1950s, for actress Marilyn Monroe.
- After Alexander McQueen used animal and bird heads in his fashion show in 1977, PETA dumped animal guts in front of Givenchy's Paris boutique doorstep.



MOVIE REVIEW



An atypical friend

Movie: A Monster Calls
Directed by: J A Bayona
Released on: October 7, 2016
Genre: Fantasy, drama

Synopsis: Starring Liam Neeson, Felicity Jones, and Sigourney Weaver amongst other Hollywood biggies, the film actually traces the journey of Conor, a 12-year-old boy, who is devastated to learn that his mother suffers from a terminal illness. Sadly, he only has his mother and grandmother as his immediate family, for his estranged father lives in USA. Adding to his woes is the fact that he is being bul-

lied at school. In response to his changing circumstances and to further cope with it, Connor forms a new bond, which forms the crux of the movie.

Why is it worth watching: A co-production between countries like Spain, United Kingdom, and USA, this movie is a real tear-jerker as it deals with the sensitive question of coping with the loss of a loved one, especially a mother. The emotional turmoil that Conor goes through, and the human nature of denying reality when one is unable to handle trauma, is beautifully conveyed in the movie. The raw emotions portrayed by the actors make this

one a must-watch. The dialogues, too, provide room for imagery and action to co-exist beautifully and are poignant when they take centre-stage. Much is left unsaid, but refreshingly so.

Iconic dialogue: "Your mind will believe comforting lies while also knowing the painful truths that make those lies necessary. And your mind will punish you for believing both."

Rating: 4/5

Review by: Anupriya Bhatnagar
 AIS Vasundhara 1, Alumna
 (Anupriya is currently pursuing BA (Hons) Political Science from Gargi College, Delhi University.)

Nurturing educators



Dr. Amita Chauhan
Chairperson

Learning is an ongoing process, and not just for students but also their educators. Only when teachers experience professional growth and constantly expand their knowledge, they inspire their students to become better thinkers. With this aim in mind, Amity's 'Professional Development Programme (PDP)' mentors and empowers teachers to imbibe innovation in teaching methodologies and personal skills. Conducted by HR and Training department of

Amity, the programme empowers around 1800 teachers every year since its inception in 2018.

The programme keeps them updated with new educational policies as per NEP 2020. At the same time, it also equips them with instructional strategies, teaching techniques, differential learning and assessment methods. PDP trains them to integrate technology with competency-based education as per international standards. A special emphasis is laid upon assisting teachers in devising learning strategies for students with special needs and from diverse cultural backgrounds to promote equitable learning opportunities. Some impactful topics that have been covered by PDP are- inculcate reading habits in students, developing effective communication, understanding cyber security, integrating art in education, neuro-linguistic programming, enhancing health and wellness among many other dynamic and relevant subjects.

It's Time To Say Hip!Hip!Hurray!

Team Vulture Aviation comprising 12 students from Class XII, AIS Noida bagged the runner-up position in the global finale of International Space Settlement Design Competition held at NASA Kennedy Space Centre. 🇮🇳

An emotional post



Vira Sharma
Managing Editor

The Global Times, for me, has always been a Pandora box of emotions as every edition unlocks a corner of your heart bringing you face to face with countless thoughts and emotions that were ignored or forgotten in the daily hustle. This edition too tapped into nostalgia as we worked on a special feature on World Post Day. It took me back to the time when postman used to be as important as any family member and the mere sight of those blue inland letters and postcards

would lead to a cascade of emotions. The international letters were easily identified with their blue and red striped borders, and they used to be a status symbol for it meant that people receiving them had some foreign connections.

Like millions in our country, I too had my own special connect with this postal system, one that I developed during my time at college. This was the first time that I was away from home and writing a postcard to my family daily became a ritual. From telling them about the broken bulb in our room to sharing my late night maggi adventures, that postcard became my safe space. It became my connecting string to my family that was miles away.

My mother to date has all those postcards as remembrances of sweet nothings shared by her daughter. This summer when I went to my mother's house, and rummaged through those postcards, I found myself with a bittersweet longing for these open letters. Today, emojis and gifs are doing the communications for us, but I wonder if they will be able to unlock the same Pandora box of emotions another 30 years from now. Think about it. 🇮🇳

Refugee Olympics

A Competitive Pedestal For All To Dream Equally

Graphic: Dhruv Gupta, AIS PV, XII B

Moksh Gauri, XII D &
Yash Wadhwa, XI F, AIS PV

There's nothing more atrocious than being stripped off one's nationality, being deprived of the sense of belongingness that citizenship grants one, or is there? Many individuals (82 million to be precise), refugees as they are often called, would agree with the former, having been left with little to no hopes to lead a 'conventional' life. Howbeit, the dawn of October 2, 2015, with its instatement of the first Refugee Olympic Team, brought with it an unwavering beam of light that not only eliminated the shadows of exclusion, but also helped refugees regain the strength to dream. For better or worse? Let's deduce.

Moving towards inclusivity

For the unversed, Refugee Olympic Team is a group of refugee athletes who partake in the quadrennial Olympic Games despite their disputed citizenship. Having been confronted with the global refugee crisis that had seen millions of people in the world getting displaced, the International Olympic Committee (IOC), in 2015, announced the creation of this first-of-its-kind Olympic team to take part in the Olympic Games Rio 2016 - a move that gave hope to all those displaced yet adept at varying sports. Howbeit, concerns about their representation rose soon after, for these athletes came from different nations. Was this group established to guarantee a home for the displaced? Or was it part of a larger scheme to level the playing field?



Marred with criticism

Greater inclusion, creation of a non-discriminatory sports platform etc., were some objectives that this initiative aimed to fulfil. And yet hard hitting, at the same time overly concerning, criticism made its creators recalibrate their decision. With accusations of it being an illusion of inclusion - and a blatant attempt to disguise the failure of the international community as internationalism and unity, the Refugee team became a hot topic of debate. IOC, in response, expounded on how its ultimate aim behind creating the team was to change popular attitude towards refugees.

Growing achievements

After so many years of discrimination and lack of opportunity, the fact that refugee Olympians now have this team to call "their own", a team where the binding factor is more than the sport - empathy arising from having been in the same spot for years, is nothing short of remarkable. Howbeit, they still grapple with questions about money, power, and personal agency. For their "refugee" status often balks their right to ask for equal pay and non-preferential treatment. One can thus only hope that the true aim of this initiative gets recognised and translated into reality soon! 🇮🇳

A PERSPECTIVE



Dear Editor,

This is in reference to the special center spread 'Remembering the mighty man' published on page 8-9 of the GT edition dated Oct 2, 2023. As a budding writer, writing for GT was an incredibly rewarding experience for me. My article was about two movies which highlighted the life of the father of the nation, Mahatma Gandhi. Through it, I discussed how his principles of non-violence, tolerance, and social justice can

serve as guiding principles to promote peace and harmony in today's world where conflicts and violence plague societies on the daily. The crescendo of this experience was seeing my article in print. When the aforementioned GT edition was distributed, I felt a sense of pride and accomplishment. It was gratifying to know that my words were reaching my fellow students. I look forward to contributing more as an aspiring writer to the school newspaper in near future.

Shravya Malik
AIS Mohali, X A



Issue: October 2, 2023, Page 8

THE WAR OF TROY

A Comprehensive Chronology Of The Legendary War Of A Thousand Ships

Ananya Mittal, XII D &
Aadya Kapoor, Alumna, AIS Vas 6

One of the most crucial events in Greek mythology and easily the most narrated at that (Homer's Iliad, anyone?), Trojan War, the Bronze age conflict between Achaeans (Greeks) and Trojans, is still a mystery for many. Not anymore! Here's a brief timeline of all the events that led up to the decade-long war.

The golden apple

When Eris, the goddess of discord, does not get invited to the wedding of Peleus, the king of Myrmidons, and Thetis, a sea nymph, she tosses a golden apple at the party. Dedicated to 'the fairest', it causes a schism amongst the goddesses Hera, Athena, and Aphrodite.

The judgement of Paris

When the conflict deepens over who is the rightful owner of the apple, they all go to Paris, a handsome shepherd who, on being bribed with queen of Sparta Helen's love in return, chooses Aphrodite. After falling in love, Paris and Helen elope together.

The Greek armada

When the Spartan king Menelaus learns about Paris's liaison with his wife, rage consumes him and together with his brother Agamemnon, he resolves to marshal all Achaean troops to recapture Helen and take revenge against the city.

The search for Troy

When the fleet of Greek warships make its way ac-

ross the Aegean Sea, it loses track and accidentally lands in Mysia. Having found their way soon after, howbeit, they finally land in Troy, leading to a long and gruelling war. They besiege the city for nine years.

The war of nations

When Achilles decides against fighting, owing to a disagreement with Agamemnon, Zeus promises victory to the Trojans. Menelaus and Paris fight, which ends when Aphrodite snatches a knocked Paris from the field and brings him to safety.

The grief of Achilles

When Achilles refuses to rejoin the war, he sends his friend Patroclus to fight in his stead, wearing his armour. Patroclus is successful in sending the Trojans back to their city walls, but is killed by Hector, Paris' brother. Maddened with grief, Achilles re-joins the war.

The death of Hector

When Achilles enters the battlefield, he slaughters many in the Trojan force, forcing them to retreat. All, except Hector, return to the city, who only ends up being killed by Achilles later. The armies make a temporary truce to allow the burial of the dead.

The fall of Achilles

When the gods realise that Achilles has killed many of their children, they plan his death. Apollo, the sun god, guides Paris to shoot a poisoned arrow towards Achilles's heel, the only vulnerable spot in his body as it wasn't dipped in the immortal waters of Styx. Achilles soon dies as a result.

The Trojan horse

When the war keeps raging on, Odysseus devises a ruse to end it. He ad-

vises the Achaeans to build a giant hollow wooden horse filled with soldiers and send it to the Trojans. And so they do. The inscription on the horse read, "The Greeks dedicate this thank-offering to Athena for their return home."

The fall of Troy

When the Trojans fall for the ruse, thinking that the war was over, they joyfully drag the horse inside the city walls and celebrate. As they do, the Greek soldiers hidden inside the horse come out and kill the guards. The Achaean troops then enter the city and kill the sleeping population.

The great sacrilege

When the Greeks win, they kill all the prominent Trojans, including Priam, Deiphobus, and Astyanax. They destroy the temples of gods, enraging all the deities.

The journey home

When the Achaeans get ready to return home, the gods decide to show them their wrath. A storm befalls the returning fleet, killing many and letting the remanent be lost, away from their home.

Homer's heroes

Gods

Zeus: King of the gods; Hera's husband

Hera: Queen of the gods; Zeus's wife

Apollo: God of the sun; Zeus's son

Athena: Goddess of wisdom, battle, and womanly arts; Zeus's daughter

Aphrodite: Goddess of love; Zeus's daughter

Eris: Goddess of strife and discord

Achaeans

Agamemnon: King of Mycenae; leader of the Achaean army

Helen: Wife of Menelaus; most beautiful woman in the world

Menelaus: King of Sparta; younger brother of Agamemnon

Peleus: Achilles's father; Zeus's grandson

Thetis: Sea-nymph; mother of Achilles

Achilles: Son of Peleus and Thetis; most powerful warrior

Odysseus: A clever Achaean commander

Patroclus: Achilles's best friend and advisor

Trojans

Priam: King of Troy; father of Hector and Paris

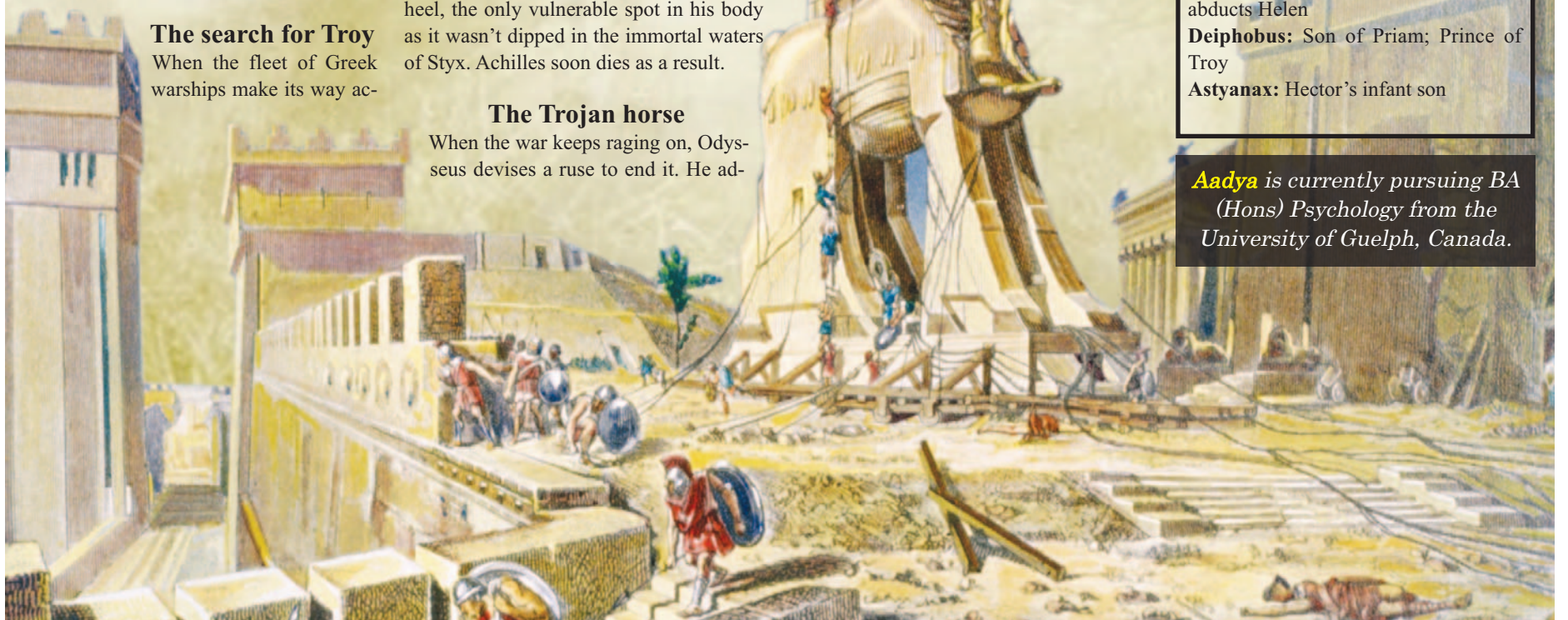
Hector: Son of Priam; Prince of Troy

Paris: Son of Priam; Prince of Troy; he abducts Helen

Deiphobus: Son of Priam; Prince of Troy

Astyanax: Hector's infant son

Aadya is currently pursuing BA (Hons) Psychology from the University of Guelph, Canada.



The black-blue eyes



Storywala

Vedika Karna, AIS Gur 46, Alumna

It was 10 at night, and Akira had been waiting for more than an hour for her train to arrive. The sky today was unusually dark, foreboding even, showing no sign of the moon or the stars. "Huh, must be the smoke and fog." She thought out loud, as her long, black hair flowed in the chilly wind. Tugging her shawl closer, she tried to find some warmth in the biting cold. As she took some paces forward next, twiddling her thumbs as she had done till then, she suddenly saw something strange running towards her. It was a man, a man who looked like death would knock on his door at any moment. He was heading straight for Akira, making her uneasy. Once he got closer, Akira got a better look

of him. He was a scrawny old man and his rags hung on his lean body as clothes do on a hanger. His bony neck and thin lips were covered with a dirty matted beard; his hair were just as bad, but what stood out were his deep black-blue eyes that observed Akira with an unreadable gleam. "What's your name, *laadli*?" the man approached her with sinister sweetness. She really didn't want to interact with a stranger and so, decided to ignore him completely. "Has your train not arrived yet?" he asked again but to no avail. "Do you want to know something about me?" he tried once more, infuriating Akira this time. "Just go away, *dada!* Don't waste my time," she retorted with fury. Upon hearing this, the stranger became furious too. His hands started tingling, and his legs, shaking. "Know that

"What's your name, *laadli*?" the man approached her with sinister sweetness. She really didn't want to interact with a stranger and so, decided to ignore him completely.

this wouldn't bode well for you. Don't test my patience. You don't know what I am capable of," he said as his voice grew thicker and louder with each word. As panic and fear thus began to grip Akira, she heard the sound of the train approaching. Without wasting any more time with the stranger, she quickly placed her luggage near the boarding gate, waiting for the train to stop. "You wouldn't dare to enter the train if you know what's good enough for you," the old man warned her. He was practically growling now. But she ignored him yet again and boarded the train regardless. As she opened the door of her cabin next, she saw a woman in her 50s smiling confusingly at her. Akira just reciprocated with a nervous smile and began to unpack. Busy with her shuffling and settling howbeit, she didn't notice something very important. The eyes of her co-passenger, the woman, were the same shade of blue and black as that of the stranger she met minutes back. "Say goodbye to the living; welcome to the pack!" The woman bellowed as she pounced on her unannounced. "Has your train not arrived yet?" Akira was seen questioning a passenger on the platform next, as he tried to make sense of her peculiar black-blue eyes. **GT**

WORDS VERSE

The world is one



Vedanshi Vatsa, AIS Noida, VII K

On the land of unity, where colours blend
A symphony of nations gathered as friends
As India welcomed leaders from worldwide
For the G20 summit, we came side by side

Amidst historic palaces and bustling streets
The heart of India, Delhi secured a stand
To discuss economies, to devise new feats
And construct a future that's fair and grand

Leaders walked through the rich tradition
Immersed in the grace of our timeless land
Witnessing our nation thriving in ambition
Where progress and culture go hand in hand

G20 in India became a stage for dialogue
To bridge the gaps, seek common ground
As the world's issues began to catalogue
A united resolve in our nation was found

All national leaders deliberated alongside
India's vision shined in the bright sun rays
A world of harmony, where peace abides
And compassion has a key role to play

G20 summit in India is a special memory
A milestone etched in the annals of time
A gathering of nations, bound by unity
Committed to form our future sublime. **GT**

Read Play and Win 33

Reading your favourite GT can fetch you a prize too. Complete all the boxes below. Click a picture and send it to editor@theglobaltimes.in or submit your responses by visiting The Global Times website (<http://theglobaltimes.in/readplaywin/>). Three lucky winners will win a prize every week!



Q.1 Name the Japanese Corporation that has signed MOU with AUUP.	Q.2 Mention the inventors of the tech 'Internet'.	Q.3 On which page can you find the short story 'Sweet honeyguide'?
Q.4 Who is the author of the poem 'The world is one' on page 8?	Q.5 Which school bagged runner up position in the global finale of ISSDC?	Q.6 What is the headline of the big story featured on page 7?
Q.7 Which school organised a panel discussion on the cause 'Organ donation'?	Q.8 The first ever stiletto in the world were designed by _____.	Q.9 By when has Pakistan asked all the undocumented refugees to leave the nation?

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

Results of Read Play & Win-32: Vansh Bhati, AIMC Manesar, X; Advait Singh Thakur, AIS PV, II C; Shivam Kumar, AIS Gur 46, V C

Jokey Pokey

Q. What did the pirate say when he turned 80?
A. "Aye-matey."



Q. Why did a scarecrow win a Nobel prize?
A. He was outstanding in his field!



Q. What do you call a fake noodle?
A. An impasta!

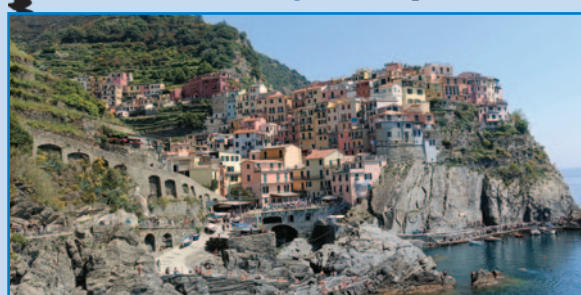


Q. Where do cows go on Friday nights?
A. They go out to the moo-vies!



CAMERA CAPERS

Rishaan Garg, AIS Belapur, II A



Capturing beauty amidst the chaos

Send in your entries to cameracap@theglobaltimes.in

A eulogy to the sky

Sanya Kalra, AIS PV, Alumna

As the harsh reality of this world
In a bid to talk in euphemisms
Assaults me to wound my poise
It so happens that I turn to sky

For only the blues have the ability
To cure my state of asphyxiation
To heal my scars, my beauty spots
With its hues, packed with perfection

The sky, a cosmos almost utopian
Though weeps oft, absolving its sins
And roars too, fighting evils of realism
So do I, in remembrance of lost kins

The gloomy clouds do fade away
And so does my hurt in the same way
As I, in a bid to cure my aching heart
Turn to sky, consciously turn to sky.

(Sanya is currently pursuing BSc in Psychology from Ashoka University, Sonapat, Haryana.)

Sweet honeyguide



Illustration: Yashika Das, XI C & Shivi Bachhotia, XII F, AIS Saket

Short story

Yashika Das, AIS Saket, XI C

Nyas stretched his arms and sighed. It had been two hours since they had left their house and were walking into the small forest in search of the honeyguide birds. “Are you sure that we will find any of them today?” he asked his mother. “I feel one is around,” his mother replied, making the “Brr...Hm... Brr...Hm” sounds. Nyas giggled at the funny noises she made. “Shh! This sound is to let the honeyguides know that we are beekeepers and are here in search of honey. If any of them hears us and are willing to help us look for a beehive, they would guide us,” she exclaimed. So Nyas and his mother started looking around. Suddenly they saw a little bird appear from the branches of a tree.

The bird flew, making its way through the canopy. “There! Come let’s follow it,” his mother said pointing towards the bird, as the two started chasing it. After a little while, Nyas asked, “Why would the bird waste its time to help us look for a beehive? What does it get in return?” His mother answered, “It’s about **coexistence**. Even we are helpful to them. We remove the bees using smoke and extract honey while the bird eat the larvae and beeswax.” Nyas raised his eyebrows and smiled. “That’s interesting! Do you always have to follow the honeyguide to get the sweet honey? Will this honeyguide take me to the sweet nectar I want?” When there was no answer, Nyas stopped to look around, but no one was there. The colour of his face seemed to fade and that tinkle of

“After a little while, Nyas asked, “Why would the bird waste its time to help us look for a beehive? What does it get in return?”

curiosity in his little eyes vanished. And while they turned flimsy, he looked in front of him and saw the honeyguide flying over a tree. With its elegant brown feathers, a sweet voice, and an adventurous sparkle in the eyes, it seemed strong and soft at the same time, just like his mother.

Tears slowly started to roll down his cheeks as he realised that he was daydreaming about his mother again. He craved the safety and company of the honeyguide. It had brought him to a beehive full of honey, but this was not the sweetness he wanted. He missed the honeyguide who guided him through the forest and through life. Life had never been the same since he had lost her. Reliving her memories, he often found himself following honeyguides, a thing that his mother loved to do until her very last days. These little birds gave him solace, like the one he felt around his mother. 🧡🐝

So what did you learn today?
A new word: Coexistence
Meaning: Living together peacefully in the same place



Namish Singh

Lion salad

Namish Singh, AIS Vasundhara 6, VI C

Ingredients

Mango (peeled)2	Gems3
Carrot (peeled)2	Spring onions1
Radish (peeled)1	Coriander leavesa few

Procedure

- Take a mango and slice it to get two big oval shapes. From another mango, cut three small D-shaped pieces to be used as ears and mouth (as in picture).
- Cut across the radish to get four circles and two ovals (as shown in the picture).
- Take a carrot and cut it to create thin slices (in picture).
- From the other carrot, cut out five long pieces (four will be legs and one will be the tail).
- Now, using the image as reference, place all the pieces together to form a lion. First place the oval-shaped mango slices for the body and face, and then add the carrots as legs and tail.
- Peel a few pieces from a carrot to create the mane and hairy tuft of the lion’s tail. Add the D-shaped mango for mouth and ears, and radish for ears, eyes, and whiskers.
- Add gems for eyes and nose, spring onion for whiskers, and some coriander leaves for the grass beneath the lion.
- Voila! Your lion salad is ready!

It's Me

My name: Nitya Mishra

My favourite teacher: Hemalata Ma'am

Mall: Fun Mall

Book: Come Sing with Me

My favourite game: Toys

My favourite food: Aloo ka paratha

My favourite cartoon: Peppa Pig

My Class: KG B

My school: AIS VKC Lucknow

My birthday: February 24

My hobby: Playing with toys

I like: Playing

I dislike: Walking in crowded areas

My role model: My father

I want to become: A doctor

I want to feature in GT because: I love reading GT and want to be a part of it.

COLOURING FUN

Click a high resolution picture (1 MB or more) of the entry and mail the same to: editor@theglobaltimes.in. The best entries will be published in GT.

Best entries for colouring fun

Mayank Kumar
AIS Raipur, V A

Prabhdeep Singh
AIS Mohali, I B

Let's aim to donate

A Pledge That Must Be Taken In Order To Remove The Stigma Around Organ Donation

Youth Power is an annual social leadership programme organised by The Global Times, where different teams from Amity schools engage in varied social causes in several stages. One of them is 'Panel Discussion' where experts from different walks of life discuss several aspects of the chosen social cause. Here's presenting **Part V** of this exclusive series, based on the panel discussions organised by YP teams in 2022-23, and a host of opinions as experts debate on 'Organ Donation', the cause chosen by the YP team of AIS Mayur Vihar.



The panellists with the Youth Power team of AIS Mayur Vihar

Enhance participation through awareness

Panellist: Dr Sourabh Sharma
Project manager, ORGAN India

"In order to give an impetus to organ donation in India, we have to focus on its awareness and knowledge. The naysayers quote religious texts prohibiting organ donation, but to the contrary, there are numerous examples where organ transplant came to the rescue, like Lord Ganesha. By addressing the lack of awareness, we can hope that we become more knowledgeable about the legal aspects, socio-psychological factors, and most importantly, the time-criticality concerning organ donation. A volition towards the noble cause of organ donation will surely happen through this awareness, but one of the challenges standing in our way is such myths regarding organ donation. In my opinion, the best way to eliminate these myths, especially amongst illiterate people from lower socio-economic classes, is to talk about it.



Because everyone knows of organ donation, but are unaware of anything beyond that, including how much time it will take, whom to contact, and if our families say something against it, how should we respond. So, we must spread this basic awareness to remove these problems. Today's generation can contribute to this noble cause by empathising with others while battling their own grief of losing a dear one."

Part V



Expert Speak

Open conversation is the way to go

Panellist: Archana Kumari
Consultant, NOTTO, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

"Engaging students creatively can be a very effective method of promoting organ donation. They can pitch this cause through art, discussions, and sports events, like organising organ donation themed days where they can invite organ recipients and living donors to share their experiences and highlight the benefits of organ donation. I urge all the students to become brand ambassadors for a healthy lifestyle and promote awareness about lifestyle diseases, as that is the best way to a healthier world. Students can discuss the same with their parents. However, I am not in full support of a pledge at their age because even if you do pledge for organ do-



nation, there are a lot of other criteria that must fall into place. Nonetheless, the point remains that engaging in conversations about organ donation will help the cause. Even if you talk to just five people and they further talk to five people and so on, a whole new society of aware people is created. If people have any doubts, they can feel free to call us at our 24x7 hotline number 1800114770 and get help with their queries."

Driving progress for organ donation

Panellist: Dr Himansu S Mahapatra
professor & head, Department of Nephrology & nodal officer, Organ Transplant, ABVIMS, practitioner, RML Hospital, New Delhi

"While scientific advancements focus on improving surgical procedures and reducing the time required for critical processes, it is our collective advancement in understanding and cooperation that will truly

drive progress in the field of organ transplantation. The fight against time starts after the organ is harvested and therein lies the real challenge – making sure that the organ reaches the recipient on time. For instance, efforts are being made to shorten the duration of declaring brain death from 16 hours to just one hour, recognising the urgency of organ transplantation. Multiple agencies, from legal and state authorities to traffic police, all have to act in concert for the best results. The time crunch is always one of the biggest problems; we have

also experienced this issue many a times. For instance, last year, RML Hospital performed a heart transplant for the first time, where we transported a heart by road from PGI Hospital, Chandigarh to RML Hospital in New Delhi in just two hours and 18 minutes. I was a part of the team working on this, and I cannot tell you how difficult a task it was to coordinate with various authorities and the traffic police for a smoother and fast transfer. Thankfully, the transfer was a success because of the combined efforts of everyone involved."





Victory smile of Team Vulture Aviation at NASA

Space designers

Amity Shines Bright At The Global Finale Of ISSDC

AIS Noida

Team Vulture Aviation comprising 12 students from Class XII of AIS Noida bagged runner-up position in the global finale of 'International Space Settlement Design Competition (ISSDC)' held at NASA Kennedy Space Centre (KSC) from July 28-31, 2023. The global competition organised by National Space Society and Aerospace Education Competitions was held in four rounds namely prelims (preliminary selection), Indian, Asian, and International.

The team from AIS Noida bagged victory for their project titled, 'Alkasol space settlement on the surface of the moon' by competing against 20 teams and 240 students from all over the world. The event began with a seminar about ISSDC, followed by the elections for com-

pany roles, in which AIS Noida was made a part of the company called Vulture Aviation and Amityians secured the following key positions in that company: Raaghav Pillai, president; Ananya Trivedi, vice president marketing; Arnav Somvanshi, vice president of engineering; Ishita Singhal, head of operations; Kushagra Sharan, head of human factors; and Harshwardhan, head of automation. The other team members who assisted the core team were Aarat Chadda, Muir Kapoor, Neil Saxena, Niamat Gill, Sanaz Hussain and Vedika Kapoor. Under the visionary guidance of

Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and RBEF, Amity International School, Noida, has been consistently bringing home laurels at ISSDC, NASA, having become its global winners thrice already. **GT**

About ISSDC

International Space Settlement Design Competition puts high school students in the shoes of aerospace industry engineers by giving them an opportunity to design a city in space. Every year the competition develops a new design challenge with its own unique requirements. The students are organised into four competing teams, to design futuristic space settlements which can provide new age space solutions. The competition helps students integrate their knowledge and skills of space, technology and communication.

Winning streak of AIS Noida

■ **Winner:** 2015, 2020 and 2022

■ **Runner Up:** 2018, 2019, 2021 and 2023

Japan comes to Amity

AIS Vasundhara 6

A one-day exchange programme 'Nihongo Partner' was organised by the school in collaboration with Japan Foundation on September 20, 2023, for the students of Class IX and X. The occasion was graced by Prof Ashok Kumar Chawla, advisor, Ministry of Education; Suman Kansotiya, deputy secretary, Ministry of Education; Hoshino, minister of economics, embassy of Japan; Hoshina Teruyuki, deputy director, Japan Foundation and Taisei Toyomaru,



Amityians with their peers from Japan cheer for the cameras

director, Japan Foundation. Several activities were conducted by scholars of Tokyo University to promote Japanese language and culture. As part of the programme, Amityians learnt Yukata wearing,

voice modulation, anime enactment and traditional Japanese games (Shitaki). While the Japanese students danced to the tunes of garba and relished some of the Indian meals. **GT**

Dhwani 2023



The tunes of patriotism resonate among Amityians

AIS Noida

The 26th inter-school patriotic group song competition 'Dhwani' was organised by the school on August 18, 2023, for students from Class VI-XII. More than 18 schools from Delhi/NCR took part in the competition that celebrated the intangible facets of Indian cultural heritage and cultivated deep-seated reverence for the nation. The event commenced with traditional lamp lighting ceremony amidst the resonating notes of *gayatri mantra*

followed by a display of the harmonious blend of music and patriotism which kindled the sentiments of unwavering loyalty and respect for the country. The esteemed jury comprised hindustani classical music maestro Sukriti Sen and tabla virtuoso Shambhu Nath Bhattacharjee. The highlight of the day was Sukriti Sen's melodious rendition of 'Jo samar mein ho jaye amar' which touched everyone's heart. The first prize was won by AIS Gurugram 43 and AIS Noida. AIS Gurugram 46 and AIS Saket won the consolation prize.



Students recreate the legacy of Indus river

Heritage of Indus

AIS VYC Lucknow

To celebrate the heritage of Indus river, students of Class IV-VIII conducted a heritage assembly on August 28, 2023. The programme, hosted by Radhika Lal and Ayushmaan Banerjee of Class VIII, commenced with the rendition of *gayatri mantra*, followed by *shloka* recital by Sarthak Johri of

Class VIII. Post which, students showcased several programmes including a video on river Indus, narrating a detailed account of its history and highlighting the significance of the river. The celebrations concluded with students of Class IV and V presenting a dance performance called 'Rauf' and a street play on the importance of water conservation which inspired one and all.

Unconventional posts

The tech-based era we live in offers us endless means to communicate with the world around us, rendering letter writing and by virtue of that, post box obsolete. To give this not-so-distant relic of our past a new lease of life this World Post Day, **Manya Aggarwal, AIS Vas 6, X C**, takes us through some of the strangest and most whimsical post offices across the globe that redefine sending posts, one letter at a time.



Penguin Post Office

Find it at: Goudier Island, Antarctica

Unique value: Situated just off the west side of the Antarctic peninsula, this post office is managed by the United Kingdom Antarctic Heritage Trust. Each year, the British charity hires four postmasters to live on the island, maintain the historic site, and cater to the thousands of tourists who visit it from November to March. The region as a whole has no running water or cell phone services to offer.

Trivia: Counting the island's resident population of Gentoo penguins is part of the postmasters' job.



China Post Space Office

Find it at: On Tiangong-1 space lab module, a docked Chinese spacecraft

Unique value: Located 343 km above the Earth, it is the only post office present in space, with a unique space zip code - 901001, of its own. It also has a ground office, referred to as the Beijing Aerospace Command and Control Center (BACC), situated in Beijing, China.

Trivia: It allows you to send letters to the astronauts in the space station.



Santa's Mailbox

Find it at: Ilulissat, Greenland

Unique value: Positioned in the iceberg capital of the world, Ilulissat, is a striking red mailbox and Santa sled that stands out in the snowy landscape. This unique post box was carved into an iceberg along with a Santa sled and created as part of an art project. It was earlier situated in Nuuk, Greenland.

Trivia: It allows you to write letters to Santa.

Susami Underwater

Find it at: Susami, Japan

Unique value: Recognised as the world's deepest underwater post box by the Guinness Book of World Records, this post box is located at a depth of 10 meters below the sea level off Susami's coast. Established in 1999 to promote the nation's ancient Kumano Kodo pilgrimage trail, it sends around 1000-5000 postcards annually.

Trivia: It encourages divers to buy water-resistant postcards and oil-based markers to write postcards.



Post-A-Nut

Find it at: Hoolehua, Hawaii

Unique value: Established in 1991, this post office lets visitors pick out coconuts, decorate them, and mail them to people across the world, except to those living in Australia and New Zealand, as the governments of these nations have strict regulations on allowing foreign produce into their territories. Notwithstanding, it sends a whopping 3000 nut-posts every year.

Trivia: The cost of your nut-mail depends on how heavy the coconut you select is.

Floating Post Office



Find it at: Dal Lake, Srinagar, Kashmir

Unique value: It is the world's first floating post office built on an intricately carved maroon houseboat fastened on the western edge of the Dal Lake. This post office lets you avail all the regular postal services available in the country while being afloat.

Trivia: Those who run the shikara business nearby also get to use the post office as a bank to deposit their savings.