

3Rs of Quarantine



Dr Amita Chauhan
Chairperson

In Sanskrit, there is a notable verse, ‘Utsaho Balwaan Arya, Na Asti Utsaah Param Balam’ meaning there is no greater force in the world than our passion and our spirit. In tough times like these, my heart goes out to every person in quarantine. Health issues, emotional and mental enigmas, are constant challenges that they are facing every day. However, it is these challenges that bring a scope for change in society when infused with the power of spirit and passion. So, I see ‘quarantine’ not as ‘isolation’ but a huge opportunity for human beings to do 3Rs: Rewind (revisit past), Relook (into thoughts and actions) and Reset (correct what went wrong). Isolation has the opportunity to become a force of change for creating a happy world. And this holds true for all my Amityans, who are brave, perseverant and passionate. The creative expressions of these children during this period can inspire future generations to treat creativity as an imperative aspect of human existence rather than a mere extracurricular activity. Their experiences of overcoming challenges, evolved perspectives towards life, feelings of more care and compassion for life, shall go a long way in inspiring our youth to be more positive, sustainable, minimalist and compassionate to let every life on mother Earth thrive. [GFI](#)

Prithvi: The new caregiver

To Shield The Healers Of Our Earth

Aditi Banerji
AIS Noida, XII I

Drop by drop maketh the ocean – the aphorism weighs heavier in our existing status quo, where every life counts and every endeavour matters in warring against the baleful novel coronavirus. And to make matters worse the ones making every life count are the ones jeopardizing theirs. Determined to safeguard them vanguardians - doctors, nurses and policemen, from this contagion, Delhi students, Saurav Maheshkar, Class XII and Nishant Chandna, Class X from KIIT World School, and Aditya Dubey, class XII from Modern School, together invented the prototype robot ‘Prithvi’.

“Since, we are all into robotics, we couldn’t help but look for a technological solution to this problem. We couldn’t sit back and look at our caregivers suffer. As is the case with other arenas, social distancing was the solution in the healthcare sector too,” says Aditya on how Prithvi was conceptualised and then germinated, from an atom into a full grown robot.

And so the journey commenced. “With the entire nation in a lockdown, we collaborated through Twitter chat and WhatsApp, breaking up the project into tasks for efficient execu-



Aditya Dubey

Nishant Chandna

Saurav Maheshkar

CORONA WARRIORS

Pandemics know no boundaries, and neither do warriors who battle them. This special series, running across Quarantine editions of all Amity schools, is an ode to those fighters. Highlighting stories of young change makers from within and outside Amity, this special series has been curated by young reporters across various Amity branches.



tion. I took care of the software, for instance and Nishant assembled and designed the body of the robot, while Aditya worked on the features of the robot,” shares Saurav. However, coordination was not the only obstruction in this tripartite venture. Limited avail-

ability of the required equipment was another challenge. Nishant elaborates, “While the structure of the prototype is cardboard based, the hardware is made of Arduino micro-controller as the internal inner circuit. For the transport system, we used simple motors ripped off from an existing project, reusing the devices and spare parts already available at our homes.” Leaving no stone unturned, with efforts that ran through the day and spilled into the night, Prithvi was thus made ready for the world within two weeks. “The caregiver robot can be used to carry essentials like food and medicines to the patient, helping our medics to easily manoeuvre the robot to and fro the patients’ room or



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Prithvi: The new caregiver

bed. It is equipped with a display screen and video calling facility that further allows the doctors and the patients to converse with each other. All this takes place through a specialised app, which is still under-development and would take a little more time to be completed. An additional thermal scanner arm can also be easily added to it, which will enable it to measure the temperature of the patients and communicate the same to the caregivers," added the trio. Everything, with a production cost of just 5000INR. Budget friendly, ain't it?

Prithvi, literally meaning 'Earth', is a symbol of hope, a promise for better times to this corona-sick world. Even though it is a prototype still, but if incorporated with a high grade software and other industrial improvements, can effectively solve the problem for those never off duty; how, is what is left to be seen. In the meantime, we salute the efforts, so keen! [G T](#)

★ WORLD TEENAGE REPORTING PROJECT COVID-19

The World Teenage Reporting Project, COVID 19 is a global collaboration of teenage reporters in newsrooms around the world who produce stories about what their peers are doing to help during the Coronavirus pandemic.



Quality-time amidst Quaran-times

An Account Of Fun Things To Do During Quarantine

Ishani Singh, AIS Noida, XI

Leaving behind all the hysteria and frenzy that Coronavirus pandemic has created, let's ponder on the bright side by using the power of smile to reverse the tone of the situation!

Netflix and chill

The first and foremost is, of course, the much-clichéd 'Netflix and chill'. You can save the world sitting on the couch at your home, watching Netflix and chilling, what better can anyone desire? Otherwise too, the quarantine need not be necessarily thought of as confining yourself within the walls of your home, there are many positive aspects to it. You finally get a break from your life away from all the hustle and bustle, living in solitude.

Always better together

It's an unquestionable fact that quarantine is an ideal time for family bonding. From the busy office-going parents and the elderlies of the house, who otherwise get bored sitting alone at home, to school-going children, all of them spend the entirety of the day below one roof.

Work from home

On second thoughts, is it actually 'work

from home'? This new strategy is an exceptional excuse for working people to spend more time with their families. From playing board games to turning rooms into cinema halls, from self-curated apartment tours to mouth-watering dinner menus consisting of one dish made by each family member.

Hands on household chores

As all the domestic helpers from servants to car-washers are barred from entering houses, colonies and societies, the children comprehend the monotonous household work. The entire family gets to work- dusting the shelves, sweeping the floor, laying wet clothes on the line, ironing the dry clothes while mom cooks food, even the odious household tasks seem to be full of fun and frolic.

The comedy house

With all the people together in the house, the house is no less than a comedy house. There are chuckles and laughter as the family switches on its humorous mood. From the father shaving his moustache to the mother singing Bollywood songs, from the sister trying new makeup looks to the pet learning how to play dead, all seems to outweigh the negativity of the ongoing pandemic. [G T](#)

The fear of the uncertain

Coronavirus Anxiety As A Weapon In The Hands Of The Writers

Kreetik Thakur, AIS Noida, XII D

Looking at the perfect exponential graph that the new coronavirus is drawing for us, people wearing masks and refusing to leave their homes has become a common sight. Of course, the virus is to be taken seriously and cautionary measures should be taken, but road accidents, or for that matter, BPA in plastic and addictive substances, have much higher mortality rates. Yet, we don't find a lot of people this anxious about them. Why is that? The answer lies in the novelty and uncertainty that comes with any new outbreak. In fact, this very anxiety of the unknown and new, juxtaposed with calmness regarding known fears has been termed as the 'Coronavirus Anxiety'. So, what does this mean for the author who wants to make his readers feel the same anxiety, to ball up and quiver under their desks after reading his terrifying work? A lot of authors of the early twentieth century faced the problem of their horror books not being frightening enough. After all, they were writing for an audience that had just come back from wars. Their audiences had seen blood and gore in real life; they had seen devices capable of obliterating people in a fraction of a second. After such exposure, writings of people rising from the dead and haunting the living simply wasn't exciting anymore. This is where writers like Franz Kafka gave birth to an entire new sub-genre in the industry, to the point

where the word 'Kafkaesque' became a synonym for something ordinary that had an uncertain eeriness attached to it. He wrote of common scenes, with ordinary characters in ordinary places, but the audiences could feel the fear and anxiety because of the nip in the air, the weird moist dripping of

faucets and the feeling that something lurked behind them, hidden. Even in the movies today like 'Birdbox', the artistic choice of not showing the monsters plaguing the world adds immensely to the fear the viewers feel for

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the lives of the protagonists. Existentialist writers like Albert Camus and Jean-Paul Sartre wrote books with characters detached from everyday life, after recognising the

absurdity of everyday objects and motions. Camus' first line from the book 'L'etranger' – "Aujord'hui, mamanestmorte. Oupeut-êtrehier, je ne sais pas." (Today, mother died. Or yesterday, I don't know) serves as a quintessential example of this style of writing, where uncertainty was more terrifying to the human mind, than knowing the number of limbs and razor-sharp teeth a creature had.

As proof of the relevance of such works, Camus' 'La peste' (The plague) has seen a tremendous increase in sales over the past few weeks after the onset of the coronavirus, to the point where it is almost impossible to find the book in stock on services like Amazon, as publishers struggle to make enough copies. For, not knowing whether or not one made the right choice, or how dangerous something really is, is indeed one of the scariest things an author can make his readers confront, similar to how this coronavirus outbreak is for us at the moment.



Koi inhe quarantine corona!

A Glimpse Into Some Of The Bizzare Statements

Aditi Banerji, AIS Noida, XII I

Even quarantine cannot control pados' wali aunty from giving her oh-so-intellectual gyaan on every miniscule thing happening around! Be it Sharmaji ki beti, onion prices or desi weight loss techniques, she can break headlines with her gossip anytime! Unable to leave the coronavirus alone; let's see what she heard from around the block, as she locks her vision on her next target.

“Mujhe kuch nahi hoga”

Apparently, a few people among us have already found a secret vaccine to this life threatening disease despite the continuous effort being made by doctors all over the world to find a cure. Or maybe they believe their immune system can take on the world single handedly! Touché! God, bless their delusional hearts!



“Hey! Let's meet, I've got a long off”

5 minutes of silent claps for those who choose to remain oblivious to the deteriorating state of human lives around them. Kudos for blocking the date for the long delayed party right in the middle of supposedly being quarantined. So much for not being able to cancel it one last time.

“Being quarantined is so bad! Goa rocks!”

‘Will catch up once I'm back from Goa.’ Wait, is Goa COVID immune? Since the time we became aware of the first case in Delhi, people's first instinct has been to book a flight to Goa. With less population density here, we can definitely fight Corona!

“Happy vacations beta”

Enjoy your time to the fullest, kids! Go out, have fun, play, and exercise and enjoy all the other fruits that are forbidden to us right now! If labeling being ‘quarantined’ as ‘vacations’ isn't an insult to Corona, then I am not sure what is! While taking the funny road out might seem like an easy option, it is high time all of us take the COVID-19 seriously! It's time to view each other as part of humanity rather than viewing ourselves as individual beings. [G T](#)

Oh, How The Times Have Changed!

Shreya Saxena

AIS Noida, XII N

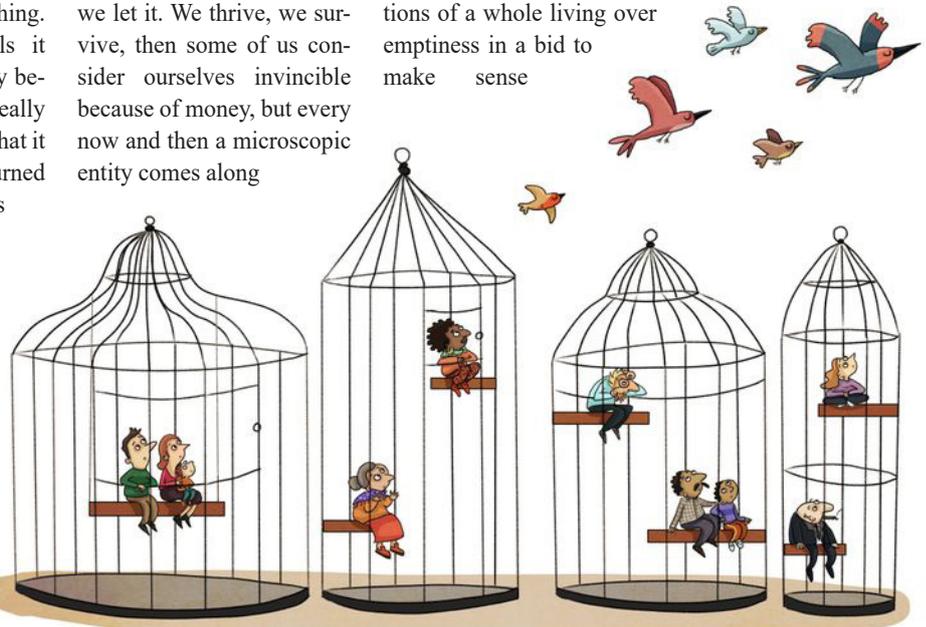
A seasonal sun-drenched landscape streets lined with vendors, the light trickling through the cloths covering the market and stalls, colorful earrings, dupattas, kurtas, children laughing, a unique energy flowing from everywhere to everywhere. But now, it's no more. All we have today empty airports, railway stations, playgrounds, roads, empty school hallways, almost as if life itself was erased. Not being able to experience things like we used to really does take a part of yourself out, it makes you partially empty. The word “apart” itself symbolizes two objects with distance between them, with emptiness between them or in a better

Quarantimes

phrased manner ‘a part’ of something taken away, a fraction of something. The world today feels it and so do you, in a way being away, being apart really does make you realize that it was the best of times turned into the worst. It was the age of wisdom, age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of light turned into the season of darkness, it was the spring of hope followed by the winter of despair. The times are tough, but we will survive. Haven't we always?

Fear in all its forms never stopped us and neither did we let it. We thrive, we survive, then some of us consider ourselves invincible because of money, but every now and then a microscopic entity comes along

to make us realize that we are not, that we are fractions of a whole living over emptiness in a bid to make sense



politically, socially, and in this process risk the human race, quite literally, as can be seen. The times have changed so have the rhymes – “A mask a day keeps the doctor away”. [G T](#)

The lessons learnt

Corona: A Call For Finding The Good In The Bad

Samiksha Dubey, AIS Noida, X A

As it happens every single year, this time, too, plans were made. This time, too, the outgoing batches of class X and XII were eagerly awaiting their board exams to come to an end. But now what? Exams have bid goodbye, but the apprehension has not left even a single soul. Thanks to the recent addition in everyone's lives: Corona. We certainly knew when the most dreaded of exams would be over, but little did we know that there are more dreadful times to come, shattering every post-exam plans and hopes. All we are left with is the option to FaceTime our friends, because, of course, social distancing is the need of the hour. So, now sanitising the way through our lives and locked in our homes, we gotta do what gotta do, right? We gotta live. But now being at homes, we do realise that going out is just optional. It has taught us the art of resisting our urges because those can wait, but health cannot. Even though, every year, we were bestowed with two long months of summer vacation in schools,

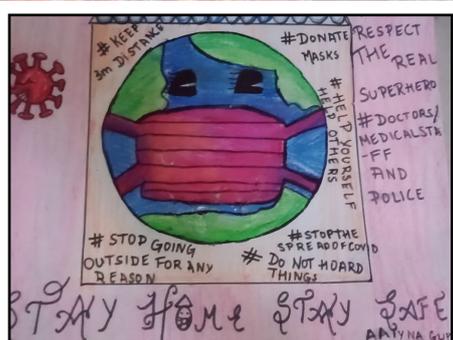


but we never realised the value of home. Now, amidst the sibling rivalries, the fight for the remote, deciding who will water the plants and who'll do the dishes, we sure have learnt the true meaning of 'home sweet home'. And if we talk about the outside world; yes, we do crave a plate of hot momos with chilly chutney; we do reminisce our everyday struggles of hitting the gym or even going to the park to achieve that fitness goal. Only

if we were as motivated during New Year's, as we are now. Well, life has its own ways of teaching us the most basic lessons in the most extraordinary ways. Now the outbreak of corona has brought our sensible side to the fore. But another important thing it managed to do is to improve our vocabularies. Quarantine, social-distancing, sanitising- all these part of the usual vocabulary, but the next time you go out (ofcourse post the lockdown), be

assured that the rickshaw pullers and auto drivers effortlessly pulling off these terms. We bet that will bring a smile on your face. If we are to be real, the truth is that the whole world has been reeling under a catastrophic upheaval. But what underlies is the good things that we can draw from these negative times. The lessons that we have learnt; the lesson that we are never to forget these lessons (because we tend to do that most of the times). [G I](#)

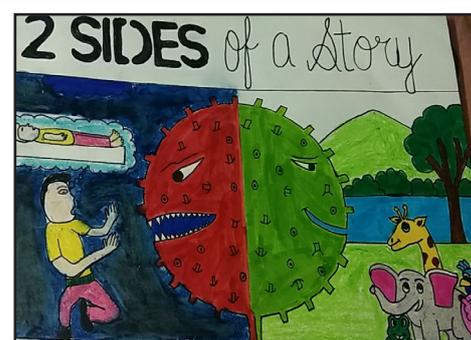
Artistic Expression



Aaiyna Gupta, AIS Noida, VII K



Shashish Shukla, AIS Noida, VI D



Samriddhi Gaur, AIS Noida, VIII D