

Corona warriors



Dr Amita Chauhan
Chairperson

I hope this newsletter reaches you in the happiness and comfort of your homes. As our nation enters second phase of lockdown, AIS Pushp Vihar brings to you the second edition of

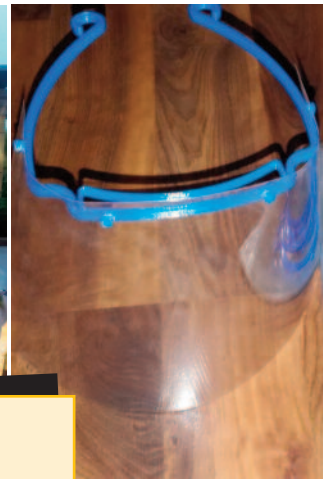
their GT Quarantine Special. I am happy to see so much of sensitivity and fire in my students to do their own bit in their fight against this pandemic.

While students from all branches are coming out with their own e-edition, from this issue onwards, we also bring to you, one real story, that runs common in all. It shall be the story of young corona warriors. These stories brought to you by GT reporters shall be featuring one initiative of any teen in and around us who has emerged as the true hero, inspiring others to beat COVID-19.

While students are doing their bit, let us also not forget the other superheroes i.e our Amity educators. Right from online classes to flipped classrooms blended learning models, from coordinating over emails to making themselves dispensable for students 24*7, they have wholeheartedly engaged their minds, souls, sentiments and precious time for their students. I am immensely grateful to every Amitian who stands as a strong pillar that holds this institution strong and surging ahead in these tough times. **GT**

'Shield'ing from the crisis

Fighting Corona, One Mask At A Time



Kreetik Thakur

AIIS Noida, XII D

The novel coronavirus brought about an abrupt chaos in our otherwise seemingly peaceful lives.

While we tried to keep ourselves safe by taking every precautionary measure possible, Satyam Mehta, a student of Class XI from AIS Noida, decided to step up and derive effectual safety measures not just for himself, but others around him. Thus, 'Faceshield' – 3D printed face mask, was born.

Phase 1: The know-how

It was in the summer of 2018 that Satyam was introduced to the concept of 3D printing, when his father suggested him to pursue a course in the same. "When my father pitched it to us, we simply laughed it off. It was after attending a session that I found it highly exciting," recalled Satyam. It was through this very course that he crossed paths with his teacher Avikshit Saras, who was

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.



inspired to make a change. So when then the crisis came knocking, the decision to create masks using my knowledge of 3D printing was an easy one," says the young corona warrior. But what Satyam struggled with was making the face mask stand out in terms of comfort, breathability and reusability.

After much deliberation, he and his teacher Avikshit, narrowed down to a minimalistic design featuring a transparent sheet of plastic that would cover a major part of the face. "Even though only one standardised size has been printed so far, it is a comfortable fit," says Satyam. Other than the comfort factor, the masks also rank in terms of usability, as they can be easily sanitised and reused.

instrumental in the production of the masks.

Phase 2: The brainstorming

"Having been a part of Amity for so long, I have always been in-

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'Shield'ing from the crisis

Phase 3: The production

Procuring the required materials for the mask production was a challenge, given the lockdown. The transparent sheets used for the masks were made of OPH plastics, keeping in mind that general plastic was harmful. He shared, "Printing one mask takes about 45 minutes but varies as per the capacity of the printer. The addition of the sheets adds another half an hour to the entire process. I wanted to create at least enough masks to be able to offer one to every helper in my sector. Thankfully, I was able to do so."

Phase 4: The distribution

"My grandparents weren't in favour of me venturing out to distribute the masks amidst this lockdown. So, convincing them was a task," Satyam remarked. However, he has currently been able to distribute around 100 masks to the local watchmen and vendors. "Some vendors and shopkeepers even came upto me for getting the masks. It felt good to see them wearing it even after a few days had passed."! 🇮🇳

Satyam also began his own fundraiser to support the daily wage workers, for which he ended up collecting over 36000 INR.

Links:

<https://covid19india.squarespace.com/>

<https://milaap.org/fundraisers/support-satyam-mehta-1>



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.



Looking Back At Historic Pandemics

Shyla Basu, AIS Pushp Vihar, XI B

Many believe that the novel Coronavirus follows a trend in being a devastating pandemic that occurs once in a hundred years. While the diseases themselves are not alike, the virus does seem to be fitting the trends of the previous centuries where the '20s were always a rocky road to travel and get by. Let's have a look!

1720 – Great Plague of Marseille

The last major outbreak of the infamous 'Black Death' or bubonic plague, arrived in Marseilles through a merchant ship called Grand Saint Antoine that contained infected passengers. While the vessel was quarantined, the owner fled, starting the epidemic. Had the one man stayed quarantined, a three year-long plague could have easily been avoided. Taking this albeit extreme example might help emphasise the principles of social distancing, and understand exactly how necessary it is for the world right now.

1820 – First Cholera Pandemic

The wave of cholera has engulfed India many a times prior to early 19th century. However, in the early 1820s, the outbreak (stemming from contaminated water) spread further, reaching as far as China and the Mediterranean Sea before subsiding. Hundreds of thousands of

lives were lost to a disease caused by something so essential to daily lives – water. Isn't going outside essential to human behaviour, too? And since social distancing is more viable than avoiding water altogether, the pandemic at hand might as well be easier to beat than the cholera outbreak

1920 – Spanish Influenza

The Spanish Flu was one of the deadly pandemics in human history. Having affected over 500 million people, it took the lives of up to 100 million – about a third of the total human population at that time. One of the reasons for the widespread of the flu was the unusual circumstances of World War I that reversed the normal pattern of human movement in a pandemic. On contracting the disease, soldiers were sent back home where they further spread the flu. However, by contrast, the World Health Organisation has credited the response in China. Entire cities were placed in lockdown and schools and work suspended, with averting hundreds of thousands of cases of COVID-19.

With the advancement in technology and comparatively lower rates of fatality than the pandemics that came before the novel Coronavirus, maybe eradicating the disease is not as hard as it was back then. Here's to hoping that we get through it without losing too much! 🇮🇳



Foretelling future

Is It Mere Coincidence?

Sachal Dudani, AIS PV, X C

Is the future predictable? In a scenario where Coronavirus has been constantly spreading, some stories of predictions related to Coronavirus are also doing the rounds. It seems social media and twitteratis knew such a pandemic was coming along for real. Even if you do not believe in prophecies, the following will make you wonder!

A man named Marco, on Twitter, had exactly predicted that the coronavirus was en route. On June 3 2013, he tweeted "Coronavirus... its coming." Isn't the resemblance uncanny? Amidst PM Modi's decision on putting the country under lockdown for 3 weeks, English cricketer Jofra Archer's tweet 23 October 23, 2017 read "3 weeks

isn't enough". Now while we don't know what the English pacer is talking, but we sure hope this is not a 'prediction' on the lockdown period (sigh).

Moreover, remember when our PM addressed the nation and urged the Indians to turn off lights and light candles/diyas or flash torches at 9:00 pm for nine minutes on April 5? Yes, at that time more tweets were dug up made by the and guess what Archer did foretell the event. Five of his tweets have been linked to the April 5 event. In his tweets, Archer said, (1) "Tell her I be looking for her with a flash light", (2) "9 from 9", (3) "Light it up", (4) "Lights out" and (5) "Shudda turn off the light". I don't think we need more proof now. I rest my case. Or wait a minute, maybe it was just coincidence. Who knows? **GT**



Bearing the **brunt** Of COVID-19 Lockdown

Shayori Dey

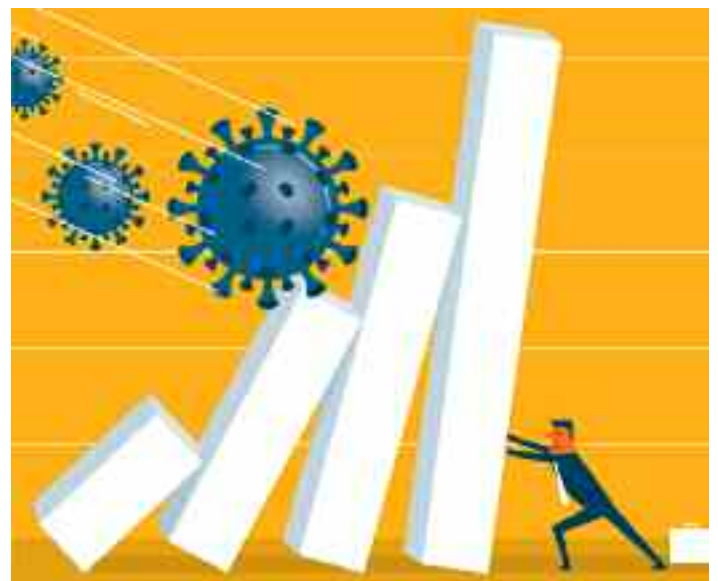
AIS Pushp Vihar, XI G

The Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India conducted a survey across different sectors and industries including manufacturing, infrastructure, services etc., and found that the economic stress on the industry arising out of the nationwide lockdown is expected to last for at least three more months. The survey noticed how the lockdown has caused a breakdown in the supply chain, from raw material to intermediators to finished goods to consumer destinations.

Experts say, the economic impact of the pandemic is likely to be a function of the magnitude and speed at which the virus is spreading and its duration of stay in India and all over the globe. Analysts have come out with varying predictions of India's GDP growth over the next one year – ranging from 1.9% to 2.5%. And according to these experts, the Indian economy will face both demand and supply dis-

ruptions. On the demand side, service sectors are bound to bear the adverse impact of the pandemic, especially sectors like trade, transport, travel, tourism, hotels, sports etc.

But the supply sector, too, will face enormous disruptions, including the supply relationship of India with other countries. The ASSOCHAM survey also found that the industry's biggest concern was lack of working capital, along with challenges in payment of salaries with output loss. As a result, experts expect 15-20% reduction in manpower cost by various industries, in the short to medium term, to contain the economic impact of on-going crisis. However, there is silver lining to the lockdown crisis. There has been an increase in demand for online services, be it for education, entertainment or for applications for online meetings and conferences. The surge in internet traffic given the work from home environment, has also given a fillip to telecom services. So, one sector's pain is another sector's gain! **GT**



LOCK DOWN

woes of sports freaks

Feeling Sad For The Empty Streets Missing The Gully

Pranav Dudani, AIS PV, XI B

There is not even the slightest requirement to introduce this topic to the readers, who are already in a state of extreme frustration. It was not so long ago that countless youngsters and adults had interesting conversations about the national and international sporting events which they had been awaiting eagerly; schedule charts were put up like prized artifacts in their rooms and their timers set to countdown. And then the world stopped in its tracks!

While watching their favorite sports has become distant dream, it is now also impossible to play any outdoor game. *(Insert Warner Brother's music in the background and read further)*. It is a struggle, a struggle which we had never experienced before, it is a fight with ourselves, a state of difficulty and distress, which requires immense resilience and strength to get through.

The trials of Corona virus which started a few months ago are now showing serious after-effects in sports arena, just like all others. The number of canceled sports events, the number of players being missed is unending and appallingly lengthy. It is during events like the upcoming summer Olympics, when the nationalist feeling of every individual is at peak. However the cancellations of these events have brought all this fervor to a stop. It is always a joy to see young and emboldened athletes get laurels for India, but it looks like the wait is going to extend for a while now. The proclamation of IPL being postponed left us all in a state of despair. Those were the days, when we would just sit with our family, a slice of pizza in our hand and hear the traditional IPL theme sound. But contrary to the expectations, an entire year of hope of seeing their team win the IPL has vanished. IPL was our last hope to see MS Dhoni after the last year's world cup, but it's all gone now.



The FIFA World Cup qualifiers are postponed as well, again depressing news for Indian football fans. Euro 2020 is postponed to 2021 and it is perceptible that Premier League and UCL matches are being missed. The NBA season is yet to start and we are unlikely to see a final between Los Angeles Lakers and Boston Celtics, even though LeBron James and Giannis Antetokounmpo were there in their most destructive and playful spirit. Even in the field of Badminton, India, Malaysia and Tokyo Open have been postponed. In tennis,

the Indian Wells, Wimbledon and Roland Garros have not been confirmed yet. All news, debates, memes, criticisms, commentary, boring after-innings shows and noise of the crowd is being missed deep in our hearts. The struggle is real, but we shall rise and not lose hope; after all everything is for our safety. Our heart is desperately waiting to see the soldiers back on the battle field hale and hearty and the insane behavior of fans...surely the world will overcome this unprecedented challenge and be back into game very soon! **GT**

COVID-19 in all its entirety

A Complete Lowdown On The Novel Coronavirus

Agrata Gupta, XI D, & Zoya Ayesha
Raza, XI B, AIS PV

While everybody will tell you otherwise, here clear some of your facts about COVID-19.

Dawn of COVID-19 on humanity

COVID-19 first came into existence in 2019 when a large number of people in Wuhan, China started to get effected with pneumonia after having an illness similar to the flu. When these people were tested, doctors realized that they had a different type of coronavirus that was never recognized before. Many forms of coronavirus already existed in the world, but this one was completely new, getting it the name - 'novel coronavirus', which meant a new strain of coronavirus. After the scientists had figured out what this strain was exactly about and how to identify it in tests, they gave it the name: SARS-CoV-2. It was given this name because it was genetically similar to the virus which came back in 2003 known as SARS.

Why 'corona'?

Now, you might wonder, why exactly is it that this family or strain of viruses is called 'corona'? Interestingly, it is so because scientists believe that these viruses have a peculiar crown like shape; 'Corona' means crown in Latin.



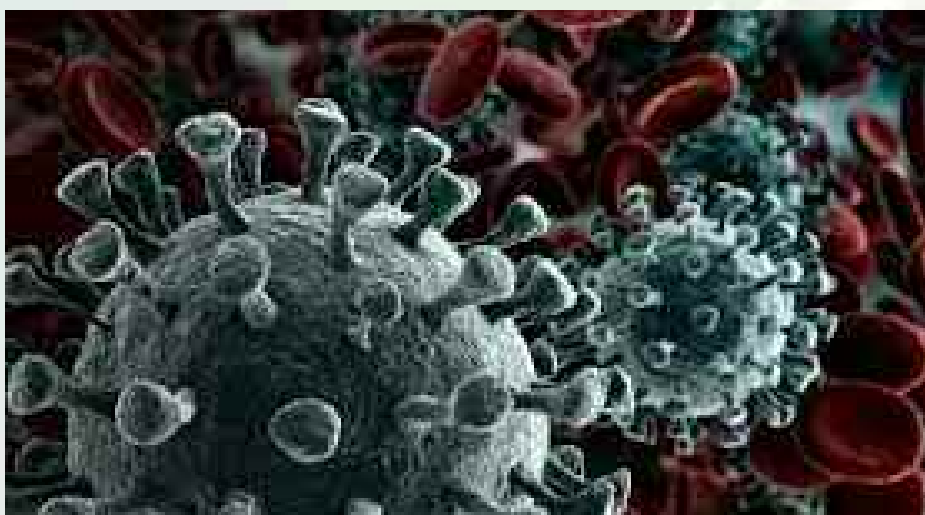
COVID-19: The virus

When a new virus enters the body, our immune system gets to know that it is not a part of our normal bodily system therefore it attacks it and tries to kill it. Afterwards, it remembers the virus so that it can get rid of it if it ever comes back again. But viruses are just like a living person, they change themselves, or we can say evolve in order to survive in the ever changing environment, making it hard for our immune system to recognize them again. And since, COVID-19 is one such alteration in an existing or pre-acknowledged strain of

viruses called 'corona', our immune system didn't recognize it, allowing the virus to enter our body.

Why is it contagious?

Viruses are microscopic organisms that can enter the living host (humans) to live and multiply. Once the virus enters the cell, the virus forces control over it and endlessly produces its own copies instead of the usual proteins. Just like this, a chain reaction begins due to which the cell dies but the carrier (human body, here) becomes contagious. Initially, COVID-19 actively reproduces itself in the throat and upper respiratory tract. Afterwards the infection goes down and reaches the lungs, causing inflammation. Due to this the first symptom is cough and then the temperature increases, making the person a COVID-19 suspect and then a carrier of this disease eventually.



While there have been a certain positive effects of this pandemic too, we have to agree that the coronavirus has disrupted the flow of our daily lives and activities. The economy will surely suffer from a major setback, taking us years to recover the world financially. As wholesome as it is to see the earth flourishing once again, the humanity may not fully enjoy it in the shadow of the incoming doom. [G I](#)

In solidarity we stand

Together We Fight, Together We Rise, Together We Survive



**Sanvi Vaish, XII C &
Arshya Gupta, XII G, AIS PV**

What do you do when you are stuck with difficult times like these? You utilize your capabilities and become compassionate towards the less fortunate ones just like Priyanka Sarkaar did. Forty years old, Sarkaar is a freelance communication consultant and deals with four NGOs. Her work speaks volumes of how each individual can contribute for a better society. Read on to get inspired:

Lending a hand

We're doing is a 'Dry ration drive' which includes ration kits of 10 kilos atta, 5 kilos rice, about 3 kilos of dal, cooking oil, sugar and salt, haldi, 2 packets of biscuits, and 2 soaps. Basically, it includes the standard ration

required for basic sustenance. We distribute these kits around Charmwood Village which is very close to the Delhi border but a little far from the main Faridabad Charm Place. We do it in small slum pockets and are covering 4 localities. We began with 100 kits and have, now, managed to go up to 260 kits. We do have people willing to support us so hopefully we'll reach around 300 kits.

Reaching out

Our primary target groups are daily wage workers like the roadside florists and people living a similar lifestyle. We also distributed some kits to the maintenance staff of our colony like the garbage pickers. You see all of them are facing a similar situation as they don't have a



steady income anymore and are unable to buy the basic ration for their family. We have been in touch with RWA so they have helped us reach many of the slum pockets around our colony. We've also been in touch with our local police and they have been informed that we were planning to go out and distribute these kits.

Overcoming challenges

While giving out the kits, one of the challenges we encountered was trying to make the people understand the norms of social distancing and its importance. We had to constantly remind them to cover their faces with masks or a rag. Most of the time people are more concerned for what we are providing them rather than spread

of the virus in the community. We also had to take care of our own health when we were coming back because we did not want to put our families or our societies at risk.

Staying together

I think that after this pandemic, we're going to emerge more compassionate so what we can basically do is look out for each other and support each other. Social distancing is very important but what I believe we need is social solidarity because during this ongoing crisis, that is the only thing which will help us survive. Moreover, during such difficult times, it is important to stay together and follow the rules and norms. I believe that as young people, you all have great potential to be the leaders of tomorrow and I hope that this will actually teach you all essential skills that you'd need later on in life. 