



INSIDE

Knights in furry armour, P4

Nirbhaya, P7

AMITEpoll

Do you think that the three language formula introduced by CBSE will add to the stress of the students?

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

To vote, log on to [www.theglobaltimes.in](http://www.theglobaltimes.in)

POLL RESULT

For GT edition December 19, 2016

Do you think that the Lucky Grahak Yojna and Digi Dhan Yojna proposed by Niti Ayog will encourage digital transactions?

Yes	No	Can't say
82%	16%	2%

Results as on December 24, 2016

Coming Next

Winter vacations

# The seasons of 2016

December 31, 2015. The clock struck 12 and the ecstatic voices of “Happy New Year” reverberated through the air. Like every other year, 2016 brought its summer and winter; spring and fall and along with it a little something else - both sweet and sour.

**Romika Chakraborty, GT Network**, brings you the little something else of every season of the year gone by.

**The spring of 2016...**

...should have been about pleasant mornings, chirping birds and a nip in the air. Rather, the season had people enquiring about carpools in the morning, because the incessant honking on the road and the polluted air had the city juggling between ‘Odd and Even’. Unfortunately, even in its second phase, the scheme did not yield much, as the capital saw 20% hike in pollution level. But Portugal, on the other hand, was blooming, for it solely ran on renewable energy for four days. The country reached the target of zero emission as it was powered just by wind, solar and hydro-generated electricity for 107 hours.

**The summer of 2016...**

...brought heat at its peak as a referendum was passed whereby the British citizens voted to exit the European Union, in the famous ‘Brexit’. The referendum roiled global markets, including currencies, causing the British

...pound to fall to its lowest level. A havoc created as the world saw the departure of one of EU's most powerful economies. But amidst this strong heatstroke, 50 million trees were planted by volunteers in Uttar Pradesh within 24 hours as part of the Paris Climate Agreement signed on Earth Day 2016. It was a noble initiative to reduce carbon emissions, cooling things down a little.

**The monsoon of 2016...**

...was flooded with tweets- “Quicker to reach New York from Delhi than travelling between Delhi-Gurgaon.” Vehicles were submerged in water as the millennium city, Gurgaon faced mammoth traffic jam due to heavy rain-fall. And yet amidst the stagnant water and long hours of

traffic jam, the gentry was ready to take up the challenge “Gotta catch ‘em all”, Pokemon Go. The game not only brought strangers together but reportedly improved the health of many as users posted screenshots of their Fitbit step-counting app to show an increase in their physical activity.

**The autumn of 2016...**

...witnessed 1,726 terror attacks and 15,607 fatalities all across the globe. As trees shed leaves, the attacks shed thousands of innocent lives. The Brussels attack, Istanbul Airport attack or Uri attack, all signaled the fall of humanity. Amidst this hullabaloo, a change was felt and peace was established at its best at the ‘Rio Olympics 2016’. For the first time, the hijab was accepted; participation of number of women athletes increased. While Dipa Karmakar redefined courage by landing the Produnova vault, PV Sindhu became the first Indian woman to win a silver, making the nation proud.

**The winter of 2016...**

...kept us in a quandary about its severity. Whether the season will remain in its normality or will bring disappointment was the question. The season’s metamorphosis was replicated by demonetisation - a move to curb black money. Beneficial or detrimental, the answer still remains in midair. While the speculations about winters were still going, the residents living in 24 cities near the north east China were engulfed in thick grey smog, popularly known as the ‘air apocalypse’. This sudden increase in poisonous smog prompted a red alert warning, leading to closure of schools and restrictions on road traffic. Even the capital of India, New Delhi saw itself affected by the rise in smog, leading to zero visibility right at the onset of the season.

*The seasons of fall and spring, summer and winter will remain the next year. The reasons, of course, for their bliss or severity will differ. Till then, we wish our readers a very Happy New Year.*

# Indians can transform the world...

...says Sean Tompkins, CEO, RICS. The real estate honcho talks about the many sides of property - business, career and taking an eco friendly approach in an exclusive interview with GT

Meet Sean Tompkins, CEO, RICS - the world’s largest professional body covering land, property, construction and infrastructure. Having led the organisation for seven years now, he understands the nuances of real estate and construction like no other. GT reporters caught up with him during his recent visit to Amity University, Noida where he was conferred with an honorary doctorate degree in philosophy at the Convocation Ceremony 2016. Here are some excerpts.

Arunima Cheruvathoor, XI I & Gauri Jaiswal, XI E, AIS Noida

**Just another career**

Even though real estate plays a crucial role in the economy of a country, it is rather unfortunate that working in the field of real estate is still not seen as an appropriate career option. Real estate is just like any other career, with its own pros and cons.

**On the Indian road**

In India, real estate is perceived as a risky business. Ergo, most people are apprehensive about pursuing a career in the same. In fact, changing the common perception about real estate was one of the biggest challenges while setting up operations in India. In contrast, real estate is a full fledged profession in countries like UK, where it is given the same level of respect as any other profession. That said, things are changing in India and I am sure it will soon be at par with UK.

**Eco friendly development**

At RICS, it is our constant endeavour to ensure that the built environment sector achieves its global climate change commitments. Keeping in sync with the same, we recently participated in the UN’s conference for Climate Change

Sean Tompkins with GT reporters

COP21. Even as we set up operations in India, ensuring eco friendly development in the country remains our primary concern. However, rapid urban development in the country remains a major hurdle in the process. In 1900, the population was 3 billion. Come 2050, it will be 9 billion. This means that we need to build a new world for housing these people. India, with its ever-growing population, can’t do with the archaic methods of building it has at present. The idea is to build a system that complements our minimal resources.

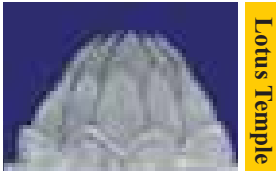
**Partners for change**

Experience and values are two things that go a long way in determining the

success of any partnership. Amity has been a frontrunner in the field of education for nearly three decades now, and is rooted in values like integrity and trust. With such a mammoth experience and unwavering commitment to values, Amity was the best partner to bring our idea to Indian platform.

**Incredible Indians**

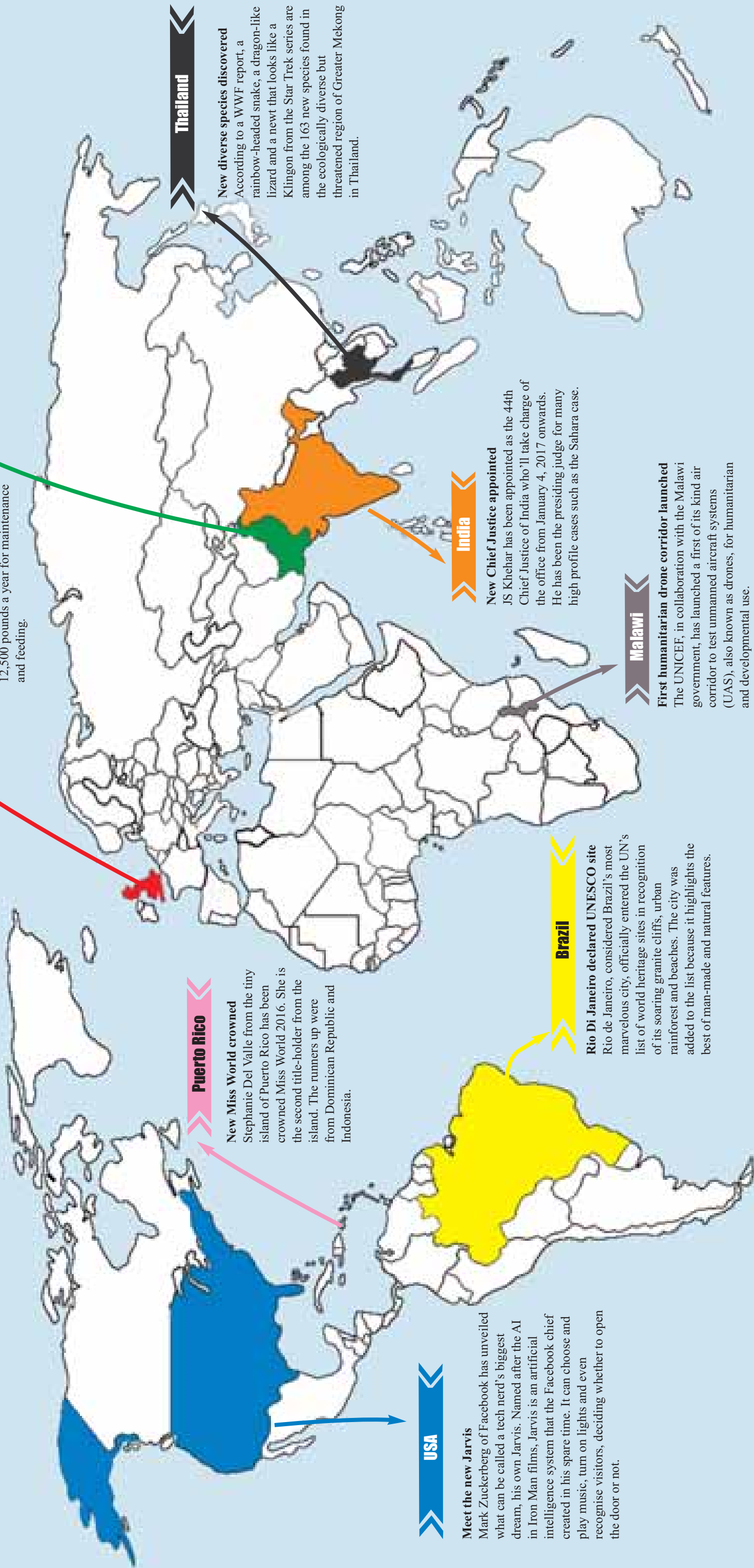
I think the most amazing thing about Indians is their passion. They have an incredible zeal to transform things around them. India has a very young and talented population, which if channelised in the right direction can bring about a revolutionary change in the entire world.



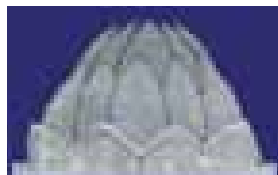
Lotus Temple

# World at a glance

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







The money for the land on which the temple is constructed was donated by Ardishir Rustampur of Hyderabad.

# A pool of HR stars

A conglomeration of HR experts discussed and deliberated the changing dynamics of the field and ways to foster the best HR driven organisations

## AIBS

Amity International Business School, AUUP organised an HR Summit under the series 'CEO Forum', in an attempt to bridge the gap between industry and academia on September 23, 2016 at AUUP. The theme of the summit was 'HR transformation through strategy and skills for a sustainable world class organisation'. The summit was inaugurated by Prof Douglas B Shaw, Senior Associate Provost, International Strategy, George Washington University; Rajeev Bhadauria, Director Group HR, Jindal Steel & Power Ltd; Prem Goswami, VP HR, R Systems; Ajay Chowdhury, President HR, SRF Ltd; Vivek Tripathi, CHRO, LAVA International; NK Sharma, CGM HR, NHAI; Prachi Sinha, India Head, NACD; Kanika Tewari, Founder and CEO, Go Diverse; Rajni Gandhi, Founder, Trax Road Safety; Prof (Dr) Gurinder Singh, VC & Director General, AIBS.

The summit focussed on helping business partners and HR executives increase both personal and organisational performance by redesigning and reinventing the HR structure and foster the creation of world class organisations. In his welcome address, Professor (Dr) Gurinder Singh emphasised on the fact that the structure, function, skills



Esteemed dignitaries share their expertise at the HR Summit





and responsibilities of Human Resource as a field are changing to meet the growing demands of a volatile market and diversity of workforce. He further added that a learning organisation, a robust HR business model and continuous upgradation of HR skills are the ways to address the immediate and future needs of any organisation.

During the summit, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between Rajni Gandhi and Prof (Dr) Gurinder Singh launched AIBS Centers of Excellence. Another MoU was inked between AIBS and BP Mukherjee to facilitate further ties.

As part of the event, Amity HR Excellence Awards were conferred upon

Rajeev Bhadauria, Prem Goswami, Vivek Tripathi, NK Sharma, Prachi Sinha, Rajni Gandhi and N Rama Krishnan.

The dignitaries present at the event enlightened the audience by sharing their expertise in the field of HR. Insightful discussions further added to the significance of the event.  

## Amity Institute for Competitive Examinations

Presents



### Brainleaks-193 FOR CLASS IX-X

What do chemists call a benzene ring with iron atoms replacing the carbon atoms?

- (a) Benzene ring
- (b) A carbon with Ferrous wheel
- (c) A Ferrous wheel
- (d) None of these

Last Date:  
Dec 29, 2016

3 correct entries win attractive prizes

Ans. Brainleaks 192: (b)

#### Winner for Brainleaks 192

1. Ayushi Rathore, VII-AFYCP, AIS PV
2. Lakshya Gupta, VIII-AFYCP, AIS Gur 46
3. Garvit Gupta, VII-AFYCP, AIS Noida

Name:.....

Class:.....

School:.....

Send your answers to The Global Times, E-26, Defence Colony, New Delhi - 24 or e-mail your answer at [brainleaks@theglobaltimes.in](mailto:brainleaks@theglobaltimes.in)

## Scholastic Alerts

### Examination: Amity JEE 2017

Amity JEE 2017 will be conducted by Amity University to offer admission to engineering UG courses for session 2017. Interested and eligible candidates will be offered seats in B.Tech Programme at campuses situated in Greater Noida, Gurgaon, Gwalior, Jaipur, Kolkata, Lucknow, Mumbai, Noida, Raipur, London, and Dubai.

**Courses:** ■B.Tech Degree ■Dual Degree B.Tech Programs, 3 Continent (India, UK & USA) B.Tech Programs ■B.Tech International Programs (Study first 2 years at Amity & last 2 years at partner university in USA/UK/Australia and earn a globally recognised degree from partner university).

### Eligibility:

#### For B.Tech Comp Sci & Engg:

■Min 60% in Class X & XII with min 70% in PCM for non-sponsored & 65% for sponsored category through regular mode from a recognised board.

#### For all other B.Tech courses:

■Min 60% in Class X & XII with min 60% in PCM for non-sponsored & 55% for sponsored category through a regular mode from a recognised board only.

(Eligibility is same for all Boards - CBSE / CIE / IB Board students)

**Application process:** Available on website

### Entrance Test: Amity JEE 2017

Amity JEE is a Computer Based Test (CBT) that will be held in various cities across the country from April 18-30, 2017 (Test date booking process

will be notified soon on the website.)

**Website:** [www.amity.edu/amityjee](http://www.amity.edu/amityjee)

### Examination: National Aptitude Test in Architecture (NATA) 2017

National Aptitude Test in Architecture (NATA) is conducted by Council of Architecture (COA) for admission to 5 year Bachelor of Architecture (B.Arch.) degree course at all recognised institutions all over the country. COA has decided to conduct NATA-2017 for admission in B. Arch, as a one-day paper based exam.

**Courses:** 5 year B.Arch.

**Eligibility:** ■10+2 or equivalent passed/appearing with Mathematics as one of the subjects of examination; ■International Baccalaureate Diploma passed/appearing, after 10 years of schooling with Mathematics as compulsory subject of examination. ■The lower age limit of the candidate is 17 years as on 31.07.2017.

■National Aptitude Test in Architecture (NATA)

Check the link for more details: <http://www.nata.in/NATA%202017%20Brochure.pdf>

### Application process:

**Online application forms available:** December 24, 2016 (Tentative)

**Last date of registration:** January 29, 2017 (11:59pm)

**Entrance Test:** April 16, 2017 (11:00am to 2:00pm)

**Website:** [www.nata.in](http://www.nata.in)

**Taruna Barthwal, Manager Amity Career Counseling & Guidance Cell**

For any query write to us at [careercounselor@amity.edu](mailto:careercounselor@amity.edu)

# BRICS Trade Fair 2016

Amitians at the BRICS trade fair met the high brows of the trade industry and gained experience of a lifetime

## Amity Business School



The students of ABS, AUUP had the opportunity to volunteer at the first ever BRICS trade fair organised in Delhi by FICCI at Pragati Maidan from October 12-14, 2016. It aimed to promote trade ties among the BRICS countries, the theme of the trade fair this year being 'Building BRICS: innovation for collaboration'. The primary focus of the trade fair was start-ups, in an endeavour to bring together young entrepreneurs from BRICS



Students of ABS participate in the fair



nations together at one platform. 25 students participated in the fair where they were divided in two groups and were assigned the task of facilitating the

delegates visiting the fair. The volunteers learnt the nuances of trade as they facilitated the delegates and the proceedings of the event.  

# The teen heartthrob

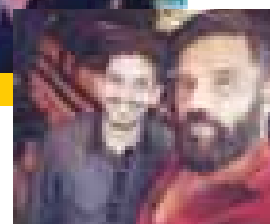
"The world believes in those who believe in themselves," says Satyam Parashar, winner of Mr Viewer's Choice Award





Satyam Parashar (Centre) with winning trophy

Satyam Parashar, a student of ALS II, AUUP, Noida won the title 'Mr Viewer's Choice 2016' at Miss & Mr Teen India Contest 2016 beauty pageant organised by Alee Club, an annual national level competition. The

mentors in the competition included notable celebrities from the industry. This year, the panel of judges included Bollywood actors viz, Sanjay Kapoor, Aman Verma,



Rohit Roy, Ashmit Patel, Manoj Tiwari, Miss India Amanpreet Wahi and Ramguru Sambita. Satyam shared his experience after winning the title, "My journey of Teen India has been very exciting and exhilarating. Meeting such stalwarts of the industry added a lot to my experience. This was not just my journey, but also a journey of my family, friends and fans who motivated and cheered me up every time I felt low. Even though I could not secure a position among the top three, winning the title of 'Viewer's Choice' was an accolade in itself. I feel proud to be a part of an organisation like Amity that has groomed me to take on projects like these and emerge as a winner."  

# Our knights in furry armour

You pop a pill and woosh! The headache is gone in a jiffy. But have you ever wondered how this pill and many others came into being? Who were the testing subjects? Our furry friends we suppose

Parnika Prabhakar  
AIS Gur 43, XI B

Tiny mice, playful pigs, fluttering chicken and sleeping dogs...aww-ed much? Well you are about to love them even more. Not only do these cute things cure us on our morose days, but also on the flu day, the headache day, the insomniac night and so on. Amused much? Well, they took those pills, those drugs before you and have been the subjects of ground breaking medicinal cures for diseases.

### Masterminds of polio vaccine

#### Mice

A virus was obtained from the brain of a mice and was cultured, as it was too small to be detected. Later, these cultured viruses were injected into monkeys and rodents, which produced symptoms of paralysis typical to polio. In due course of time, an antidote was created and that marked the end of a dark era. Did you ever think how much the rats have suffered for you and all that they have done for you? Well do that, before shooshing them away next time.

### Beauties with diabetic pancreas

#### Rabbits and dogs

Insulin, initially unknown, was a chemical that scientists found in the



pancreas of dogs and rabbits. They observed that the deficiency of this chemical prompted symptoms of a disease similar to humans - diabetes. Further research was done to find out

how these special cells can be implanted into bodies to promote the production of insulin, which was also initially done upon dogs. No wonder they can't have chocolates, not even the dark ones!

### 'I can't breathe, got asthma!'

#### Guinea pigs and frogs

Caused by sudden contraction of air passages, the drug to cure asthma was first tested upon frogs and Guinea pigs to

yield results for effective 'bronchodilators' or substances that assure instant relief and relaxation of muscles to open the bronchi. Subsequently, 'relievers' or 'preventers' were developed for those who suffered from the disease. Research for a cure is still in process, as guinea pigs remain the primary subject.

### We didn't CHICKEN out of cancer

#### Chickens

Chickens were the first subjects to have been studied for the presence and development of tumors and consequently, cancer. Later, techniques for chemotherapy and vaccines were developed using monkeys and rats. Rats yielded symptoms similar to those of breast cancer and cures were worked out accordingly. And we thought only we had major health issues.

### A piece of their heart

#### Zebrafish

Zebrafish can regenerate a part of their hearts, if cut. Though no definitive cures have been reached so far, research is being conducted to incorporate this ability to regenerate hearts among humans as well. Zebrafish embryo is transparent which makes it perfect to study how the heart grows and beats. Thus, they are largely used for research. And now, scientists are looking for the 'big fish'!

Illustration: Devansh Khattar, AIS PV, X

# Know your energy

They say 'energy can neither be created nor destroyed but can only be changed from one form to another'. So, where does it come from and go? **Devansh Khatter**, AIS PV, X, helps us find out

## Energy is...

...the strength required to get any work done. Energy is used in every action, from breathing to riding a bike to taking a nap. Energy remains constant and can be transferred from one form to another. The transferred energy can be in the form of kinetic or mechanical energy, potential energy, light energy and heat energy. The SI unit of energy is Joule.

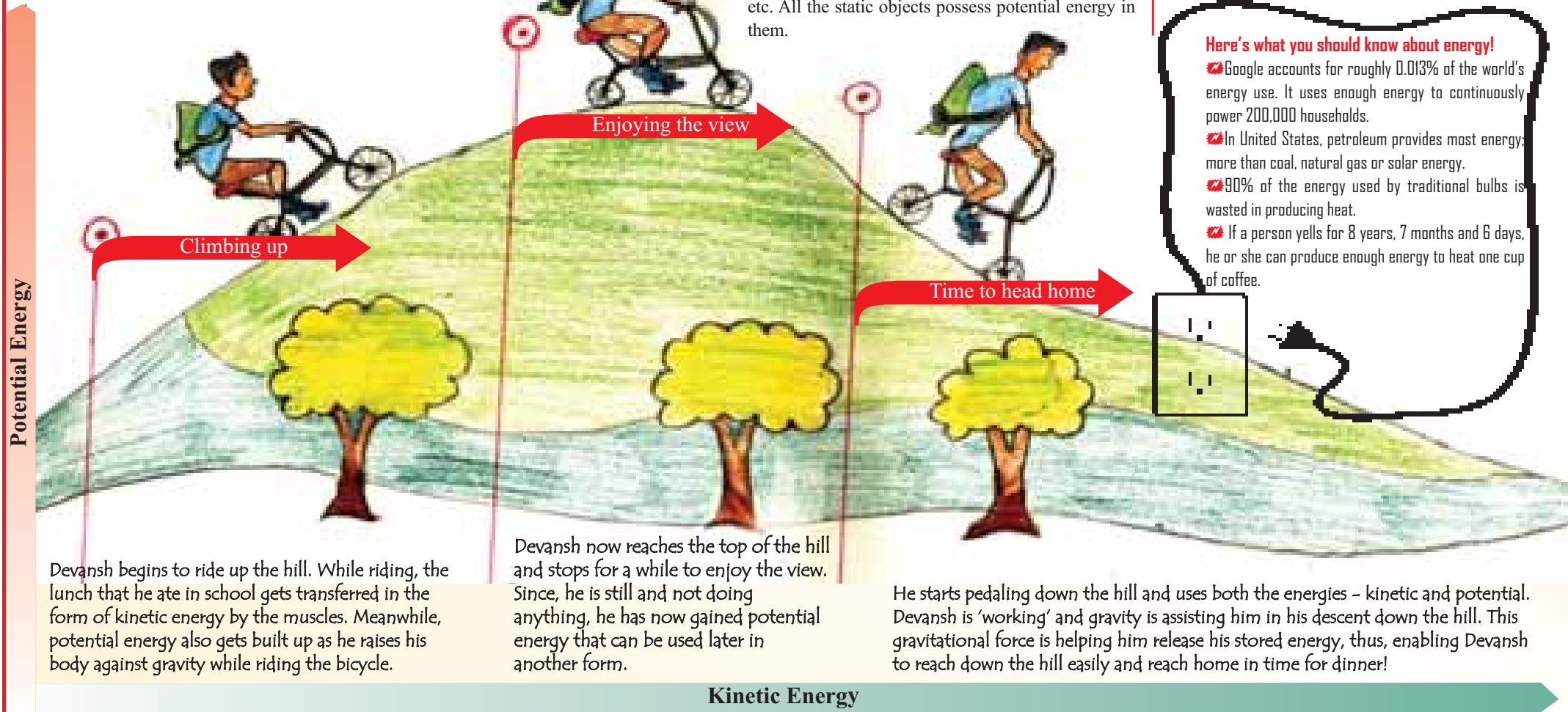
## Energy majorly exists in two forms

### Potential Energy

It is the stored energy in our body. A body possesses this energy by the virtue of its position. It is energy ready to be used and examples include a race car about to race, a bicycle on top of a hill, students waiting to go home, etc. All the static objects possess potential energy in them.

### Kinetic Energy

It is the energy used while working or in action. A person going down the lane is using kinetic energy so is the cycle cruising down the hill and the students running to their homes.





# Television- past and present

Then: The entire village sat around one small screen to witness Lord Ram’s homecoming to Ayodhya. Now: different screens in the same house showcase the entry of a wild card contestant

Samiksha Ramesh, AIS MV, IX A

It has always been an idiot box, getting makeovers from time to time: from fat to slim to curved to high definition. From stolen cable connections then to compulsory digitisation now, our companion has come a long way. But do we like the new avatar, or miss the old buddy? Let’s find out.

### Appearance

**Then:** It looked like fat Sponge Bob with two antennas for a hairstyle. When it didn’t work, it would get two hard clamps (typical Indian therapy) until it brought Doordarshan back to life.  
**Now:** The LCDs and LEDs are as thin as the models on Vogue. In the past 7 years, the average size of their crystal clear screens has grown by 37%. Can our walls keep up?

### Newshour

**Then:** A lady with a vacant stare and a straight face would have occupied our attention for an hour giving out nothing but pure news.  
**Now:** As the clock strikes 9, one can hear all kinds of allegations, debates, political tantrums but the news. Because according to sources, the “nation wants to know” everything.

### TV shows

**Then:** They were an excuse for the family to sit together for an hour of their favourite Chitrahaar to keep up with all the latest Bollywood drama.



Illustration: Deepak Sharma, GT Network

**Now:** The three shots of an angry *saas* followed by three shots of a surprised *bahu* is what occupies our television screens.

### Cartoon shows

**Then:** A one hour treat from 9-10 in the morning and then again in the evening from 6-7 for a rendezvous with your favourite Disney stars.  
**Now:** It is a source of Shin Chan inspired pranks by the little ones. Pokémon is their favourite companion while battling with Beyblades, their favourite competition.

### Many vs one

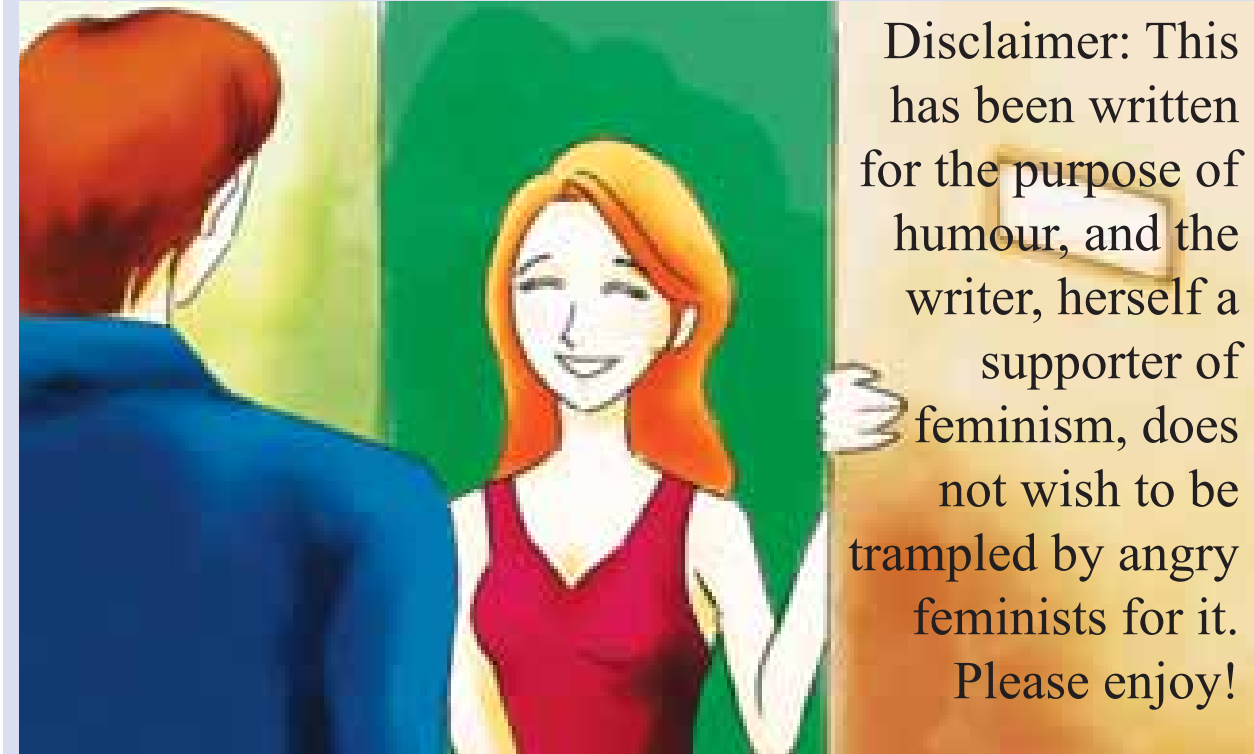
**Then:** Friends and family would all gather under one roof brewing complete chaos just to see Kapil Dev bowl the last over. And synchronised ‘oohs’ and ‘aahs’ would echo all over the neighbourhood.  
**Now:** Hotstar - go solo.

### Bioscope

**Then:** “When the era of bioscope reigned Pleasure of good movies, the working folks gained And so Doordarshan’s scheme prevailed Showing black and white movies In three parts over three different days.”  
**Now:** “All Tata Sky subscribers’ SMS the name of the movie you want to watch to 52266 from your RMN and watch your favourite movies.”

With the advent of Netflix and full TV shows on Youtube, only time will tell what form television will take next.🇺🇸🇩🇪

# Her world, his eyes



Nayesha Gandotra, AIS Gur 46, X

In a world with aware women, feminism has become the next top movement. Mostly, men support it, (after all, who are they to contradict Emma Watson?) but sometimes, it can be too much to handle. Let’s see how.

**Opening the door for her:** Poor men always have to be the ones to hold the door open while her majesty enters the building. Why wasn’t this ancient “act of chivalry” dropped like the *parda* system? After all, if women can turn the political situation of countries around, surely they can also turn a door knob.

**Paying the bill:** Taking a woman out for a meal is highly detrimental to the fiscal health of a man. For reasons best known to the waiter, who ever so gin-

gerly thrusts the bill towards the man on the table, it is the man who is always billed for picking the bill. Sure she will offer to share, but God bless the poor guy who accepts the offer, for he will soon be labelled as the most uncourteous guy on planet Earth.

**Reserving seats:** Do men not get tired like women? Or do women get a kick out of depriving poor, tired men of their seats? Nowadays, if a man is sitting while a woman is not, the man is expected to stand up and offer the seat to her, as if the work he did by pushing all those people aside was no big deal.

**The emotional factor:** If a woman shouts at a man, then she is just “emotionally stressed” and “needs support”. But God forbid if a man shouts at a woman, then he is disrespectful to

women. So now, apart from a ban on crying and basically feeling any emotions, men can’t even express anger?

**The stereotype saga:** Some people have this misplaced notion that feminism gives the right to stereotype men, while the latter has no option but to be at the receiving end of all the generalisations. If a woman claims that a man is egotistic for not asking for directions, it is a feedback that should be taken “sar ankhon par”. On the other hand, if a man dares to say that the traffic jam must be because of a woman driver, then the sound of angry feminists will be loud enough to drown out even the incessant honking of the vehicles.

Feminism is a necessary movement for the underprivileged, but women must understand that it takes two to tango.



Illustration: Deepak Sharma, GT Network

# Sleepover diaries

Still waiting to cross out sleepovers from your ‘cool teenager things’ list? You need to read this

Maansi Manchanda, AIS Gur 43, XII

### Virtual reality

So you’re going for your first sleepover? Unfortunately, sleepovers in real life and sleepovers in movies are miles apart. In real life, it goes a little bit more like this.

### “Wi - Fi password kya hai?”

The moment your friends enter your house, they’ll try their best attempt to get your Wi-Fi password so that they can remain glued to their phones all night.

### Pinterest worthy snacks? Nope!

You would usually expect to pack your stomach with a variety of junk food ranging from marshmallows and Hershey’s kisses, finishing off with a Masterchef level dinner but end up asking “30 minutes nahi toh free?”

### Crybabies they are

No sleepover is complete without that one person balling their eyes out. It could be over a fight, a friend or even grades. The sky is the limit when it comes to them finding a reason to cry.

No matter how many fun activities you plan out before the sleepover, most of you end up ditching the board games for staring at the screen all night. From playing FIFA to watching scary movies, everything we do through the night for our generation must require pixels!

### The sleeping dilemma

Every sleepover must start out with a goal for the number of hours you must stay up for but the plan never works out (Blame it on the stars maybe!). Those who planned to sleep at 1am are never able to fall asleep before 6am and those who planned to stay up till dawn start dozing before the sleepover starts.

### Morning awkwardness

Anyone who has ever attended a sleepover will relate to this- there isn’t anything worse than getting up before the host. What are you supposed to do? Go out and greet their parents? Or, just pretend to be asleep till they wake up and behave like nothing ever went wrong? Eternal dilemma!🇺🇸🇩🇪



# Dual hopes

*“I hope that in this year to come, you make mistakes. Because if you are making mistakes, then you are making new things, trying new things, learning, living, pushing yourself, changing yourself, changing your world.”*

Neil Gaiman



This time of the year usually makes me nostalgic. Reminiscing the highs brings a smile and the lows implore me to walk that extra mile. Basking in the glory of this year’s achievements, I realised that there are ‘two’ things indispensable to a fulfilling and successful life. First, are ‘mistakes’ and second, ‘people’. If you keep learning from your mistakes and choose the right kind of people to walk with in your life, nothing can stop you from leading a happy and content life. Mistakes are the greatest miracles along life’s journey. They implore you to keep trying, expanding your boundaries, and help you rise after every fall. Mistakes never let you feel complacent; instead, they push you to give your best shot. Do not ever let your mistakes pull you down. Regard them as guiding lights that illuminate your path, helping you navigate your sail in the right direction. The reason I lay extra emphasis on ‘people’ is, they are the ones who will laugh with you, cry with you and inspire you all the way. It is important to surround yourself with optimistic people who have your welfare at heart, for they will lend a positive aura to your life. Choose your ‘people’ wisely, be it your friends, life partners or even co-workers; for on them will depend how happy you are. Wishing my Amity family a very happy new year, and a successful life ahead! 🇮🇳🇮🇳

# Wrap Up

*“For last year’s words belong to last year’s language  
And next year’s words await another voice.  
And to make an end is to make a beginning.”*



While writing this year-end column, the realisation sank in of the speed at which one more year passed by. And as happens every year, time took care of all my problems, worries and anxieties. As we sit down to reflect on the good and the bad, it is always the good memories that remain which we take along with us into the New Year. Let us all pause for a minute to reflect on the highs and lows of the year (Read top story), as this slight interregnum will give us insights to prepare for the New Year. For someone truly said, “Tomorrow is the first blank page of a 365-page book. Write a good one.” The Nirbhaya story (Read page 7) penned by Amity alumnus Sarina will make you pause and reflect. Just because the year has ended, does not mean it is okay to forget the tragedy and move on. Instead, hold on to those memories, make them your strength, and work to ensure that no other Nirbhaya lives to see it again. Make sure that her life does not go in vain. Only then can we truly wrap up the year and move on in life. Move on into another New Year. This year witnessed some bold and eventful outcomes...be it Indo-Pak relations, demonetisation or the US elections. The coming New Year will bear the fruit of these outcomes. To quote TS Eliot, “For last year’s words belong to last year’s language. And next year’s words await another voice.” Till then, enjoy the winter chill and get ready to welcome a grand New Year with your loved ones. 🇮🇳🇮🇳

# Cooking controversies

When a minor response gathers the reaction of many, when harmless words take an evil form, controversies are stirred and peace takes a backseat

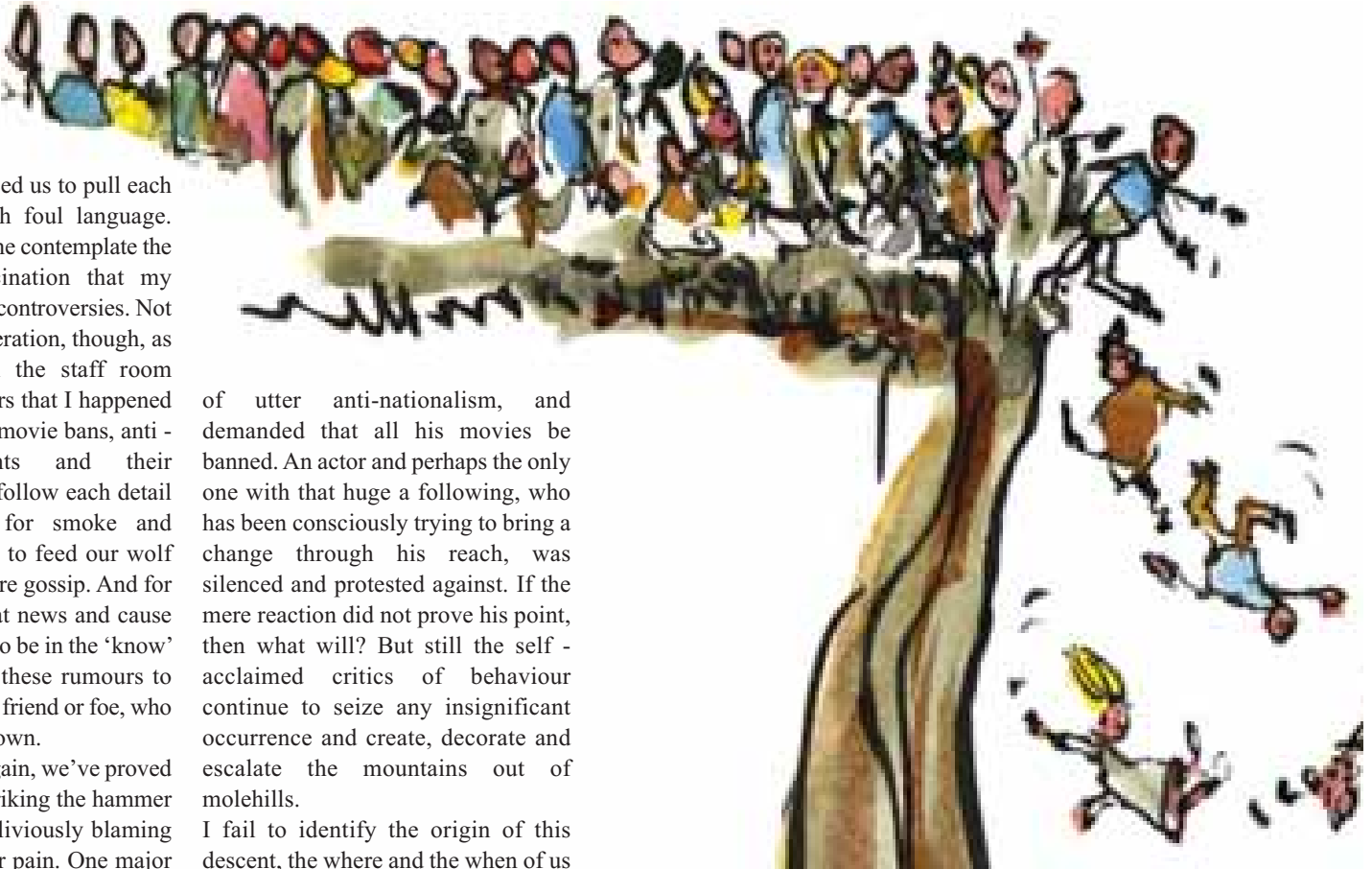
Perspective  
Vara Raturi, AIS PV, XII

At the pinnacle of frustration, I take quick steps towards my classroom, trying to obliterate the remnants of the blasphemous quarrel with a friend, swirling in my mind. For 14 years, we had been the closest of friends, yet one silly controversy about people we had never met coerced us to pull each other down through foul language. This episode made me contemplate the ever growing fascination that my generation has with controversies. Not just this certain generation, though, as is evident through the staff room banter of my teachers that I happened to hear. Beef bans, movie bans, anti-national comments and their consequences - we follow each detail ardently, sniffing for smoke and scrounging for soot to feed our wolf like hunger with more gossip. And for what? To spread that news and cause more fires, to seem to be in the ‘know’ and to quickly use these rumours to put the other person, friend or foe, who thinks differently, down. And yet, time and again, we’ve proved ourselves wrong; striking the hammer at our own toes, obviously blaming the opponent for our pain. One major

example here is how a simple, worrisome comment made by one of India’s biggest stars, Aamir Khan, about how he felt unsafe in the country because of the level of intolerance towards petty issues, ensued a rage storm from the masses. They tossed and turned this (yet another petty) pronouncement into a dire statement of utter anti-nationalism, and demanded that all his movies be banned. An actor and perhaps the only one with that huge a following, who has been consciously trying to bring a change through his reach, was silenced and protested against. If the mere reaction did not prove his point, then what will? But still the self-acclaimed critics of behaviour continue to seize any insignificant occurrence and create, decorate and escalate the mountains out of molehills. I fail to identify the origin of this descent, the where and the when of us

humans starting to make such big deals out of trivial incidents. Did a lack of thrill in our own lives lead us to pick apart every little controversy, or are we slowly turning into sadists who rejoice at the sight of mayhem? Or is it our very old ‘follow the herd’, instead of follow the heart mentality? Otherwise, why would one feel a

lump in the throat, of wanting to say something against the wave and reply with a silent nod instead? I’ll need my time to figure that out, but for now I must go and apologise to my friend, and perhaps prepare a long apology. God knows who might find this article offensive and start yet another controversy. 🇮🇳🇮🇳



# The luckiest generation

They say, if you need advice, go to your elders. Rise or fall, they’ve seen it all. And what do you call someone who knows it all? Lucky. Don’t you?

Saanya Verdia, XI & Mitali Nanda, VIII I  
AIS Noida

“Old is gold” - a phrase that holds true in its very meaning for the most experienced members of our family. They have seen the beginning and the end of most of the things that we’ve just heard about. So here’s an ode to our *nana-nanis* and *dada-dadis* for how they’ve accepted so many things every generation brings along and adapted with the changing trends over time. Here’s to the luckiest and our most favourite generation.

## We read, they lived

Our grandparents are walking history books. They have seen the death of our beloved Bapu and the rise of another ardent Bapu follower, Anna Hazare. They have seen the transition of a looted economy into a prospering and then an influential one. From partition to unison, they’ve experienced it all.

## From post boxes to mail boxes

Our grandparents have traversed the journey so far. They’ve mastered the art of writing their emotions skillfully through words, courtesy letters. They are the ones who’ve also mastered the art of writing less words with more substance, courtesy emails. Seldom do you find someone skilled in both. Look up to them, they might teach you the art of conversation.

## Deep roots

Our grandparents had at least seven siblings in each family, who together worked like a protective ring that saved them from what have become synonymous with our lifestyles- depression and loneliness. With nuclear families mushrooming in today’s generation, family ties have slackened and family members are just acquaintances we meet once in a blue moon. Only our grandparents have experienced the true essence of family as well as the security and comfort that comes complimentary with it. 🇮🇳🇮🇳



# Namaste with all our hearts



Little pearls of wisdom  
Megha Chattopadhyay, AIS Vas 1, IX

As Indian children, we have always been taught to greet everyone with a ‘Namaste’. We often observe our parents and older siblings follow the same. This ritual is practiced to show respect and has always been a part of the rich culture of India. ‘Namaste’ is usually spoken with a slight bow and hands pressed together, palms joined simultaneously, fingers pointed upwards, thumbs close to the chest. It is not only a gesture of greet-

ing but a gesture full of meaning. The word ‘namah’ means ‘not mine’, hence getting rid of the superficial egos we humans have in the presence of others. It is a symbol of surrender, gratitude and humility. We extend our humility to other souls. The act infuses spirituality in all our relationships as we acknowledge the soul rather than the body. ‘Namaste’ is considered to be a meeting of the minds. The bowing down of the head is a gracious form of extending friendship, love, respect, and humility. In Hinduism, the gesture of ‘namaste’ reiterates the belief that the life force, the divinity, the Self or the God that resides in us, resides in all. Hence, when we bow while greeting ‘namaste’, we bow to the God in others. That’s what ‘namaste’ entails, a simple word carrying a world of symbolism.





Marbles of more than 10,000 different sizes were used in the construction of Lotus temple.

# Still looking for ‘Nirbhaya’

Four years ago, a victim taught us survival, while succumbing to the evils of the society; inspiring us to be fearless through her undaunted belief in the ‘right’. Four years hence, as we pay homage to her, we look around and ask ourselves, are we fearless, yet?



Sarina Mulchandani, AIS Vas 6, Alumnus

It is like any other day in the life of a college student on a vacation. Waking up at 10:00 and still cringing about it, lazing around, wasting time checking out social media. And then, typing out an email, I realise the date. December 16. And being a girl in India, of course it made me think of the same incident the nation had gone hoarse roaring about some years back. Most of you would know this, because Facebook, Twitter and the likes don’t let anyone forget dates so easily these days. And that is another reason why this post is going to sound really run-of-the-mill. And you know

what? It’s okay. But I am going to write because it hurts. It hurts right at the spot, where it hurts the most. It hurts my sense of security and safety. And for those who feel this is a feminist groaning about women’s safety and the injustice to Jyoti (Yes, I won’t call her Nirbhaya, because she has a name and that’s what she deserves to be called by, she wasn’t wrong in any way to shy away from being named publically!), sorry to disappoint you fellas, it is not! Because crying out for anything, let alone justice, isn’t my strong suit. Never has been. I am just a person troubled to see the hate around that is eating away humanity, every

## Let’s talk...

...because we are all humans, and still one against the other. So let’s talk it out, let silence not assume greater ills. Let’s not ‘assume’ or ‘decide’, let’s talk.

single moment. Even when I am saying all this, someone, somewhere is being a victim to an experience that will deny them the right to live, or even worse, subject them to a life worse than death. Remember the Peshawar school attacks? December 16, 2014. I remember how more than 100 children were killed. I remember losing faith in humanity since then. I remember how many across the world made peace with the fact that their lives are at the beck and call of perpetrators of hate and terror. I remember. When I see people writing about every development in such cases with a pretentious hashtag with absolutely no knowledge of the gravity and seriousness, I feel irked. But at least that is harmless, inappropriate social netiquette. At least, it isn’t like an airstrike hitting a children’s hospital in Eastern Aleppo. Because that is a big deal, for those who fail to realise, IT REALLY IS. We need to stop trivialising such incidents by ranting the same old “life is about moving on” dialogue, and that every new day brings a fresh beginning.

They say we should be optimistic, that there is always hope, but no, I don’t have that kind of revolutionary hope in my heart that would help me look through the darkness, gagging lives all across the world. They say “Pen is mightier than the sword” and since I don’t really have any other strength to wage a lone fight against this distressing face of humanity in the world, and I can’t wait, I might as well join the brigade of people who are at least putting word power to good use. Yes, I am a solitary reaper, like many others, who is writing away, tugging at the tiny little strand of hope left with her. I wish to talk, even without uttering a word perhaps, just talk through these words that I am penning down. I wish to talk to all those who care, talk to so many and so loud, that it seeps through the deafening sound of violence and the numbing shrieks of innocent people falling prey to savage crimes that no one, apparently, has the power to stop. I wish to talk. Let’s talk, not just post. It’s important. Let’s talk. Will we? (This article has been taken from Sarina’s blog. Read more at sarinamulchandani.blogspot.in)

## A walk to remember

Ishani Luthra, AUUP, B. Tech (CSE)

She walked on the road  
On a pleasant autumn evening  
Smiling, as the breeze brushed her hair  
And little birds chirped merrily  
As if busy in some meeting

She entered a big park  
When she noticed a white gate  
Curiosity gripped her  
For she wanted to know  
What surprises lay there

As she paced slowly  
Towards that beautiful white gate  
Anxiety overcame suspense  
As she got nearer to the tall white gate  
That stood ten steps ahead of her  
She climbed a small fence

For the little girl inside her  
Had her curiosity at the highest level  
The little girl inside her  
Had moved past collecting pebbles

This grown up girl  
Wanted to know what beauty it held  
So, she move forward  
Slowly and steadily

And as she touched that white gate  
She realised it was cold  
As if it wasn’t a gate but a big freezer  
A freezer which attracted people like her  
And brought them in its folds

As if it didn’t contain milk and bread  
But huge piles of gold

She pushed open that gate  
Expecting a big garden full of people  
And flowers and crowd  
But instead of what she expected  
There were white clouds  
Big white clouds, white as snow  
Floating on the ground

Walking through these clouds  
As she made her way  
She forgot what her parents would say  
When they would notice  
That she wasn’t home on time  
She hoped they didn’t think  
She was involved in some crime

There were castles  
There were lakes  
All were painted white  
A stairway with umpteen stairs  
And everywhere there was light

The smile slowly turned into terror  
When she realised where she was  
People dressed in white robes  
With flowers in their hands  
And halos on their heads

She couldn’t do anything  
As she was clutched by the foreigners  
And before she knew  
What was happening  
They took her to someone

Someone they called a destiny turner

It was God, now just the two of them  
He sat calmly and she felt mayhem

On went her questions  
Her doubts and her queries  
She asked, “Where am I, what’s  
happening and why was I carried by  
those fairies?”

Then, God began  
“You are in heaven, my child,” he said  
“Why am I here?” she enquired  
“You yourself chose the end”

She said, “I apologize, I can’t recall”  
As to why this act was performed by me  
in the amazing month of autumn fall?”

God told her the story of how  
Her human body was demeaned  
He told her about the horrendous crime  
With just the mention of the incident  
All of that came back to her in no time

She remembered everything  
From the start to her entry  
In this cloudy bling  
The thought brought shivers and chills  
Quoting it made her soul sting

She recalled there was a large crowd  
The literate, the humans, the elderly  
Shopkeepers and sellers  
All stood like spectators

And she remembered  
When the court granted them bail  
Juveniles and the sons of a billionaire  
When they said it was her fault  
Her saturation was declared

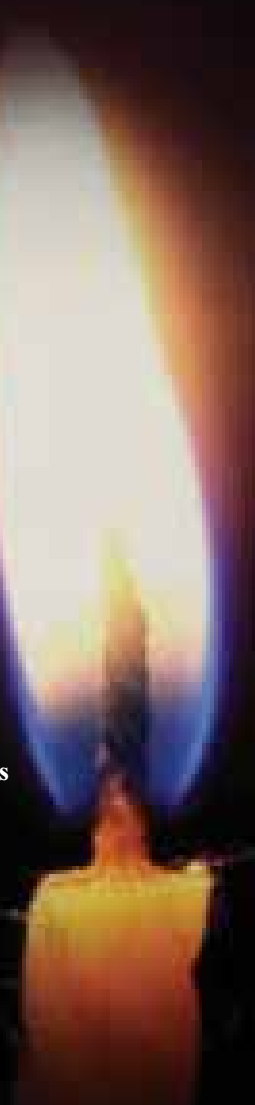
She asked God, with tears in eyes  
If he was angry with her  
God hugged her,  
caressed her and said,  
“No my child, not with you  
I am angry at myself

With my creation  
I am angry with those  
Who think they are free  
It is because of them  
That a few like you  
Lose faith in me

I created them  
And thought  
They were wise enough  
To know the meaning  
Of crossing the line  
To not make  
A million of lives tough

She looked into his eyes  
Noticing tears of helplessness  
And realised, He too was one of us

Always in a dilemma  
Always trying his best  
Yet He fails sometimes  
Because He is just like us  
A person, a figure, a ray of hope,  
Whose power, like us,  
is sometimes at test.



# Who’s a superhero



Storywala

Sanjana Jain  
AIS Pushp Vihar, X D

What a day it was, as a trail of gruesome memories kept flooding my mind. I was happy, for I was finally getting rid of him - the person who could have been my ‘superhero’. But the superhero had turned into a villain. Bringing along with him his sickening aura, ruining all that was around him. He, his lurid habits and luxuries were all he fostered for. She surrendered, persevered with his behaviour, she made sure I didn’t know anything.

That night, there was a loud knock followed by a thud. It woke me up. She was nowhere to be seen, I looked out of the balcony, the sky reflected an eerie green glow and as I moved closer to the terrace, the appalling noises became even more prominent. It was him, the villain. She sat there in a corner as her face was pale, her eyes couldn’t meet mine. And there I was, a six year old child who stood there numb and frozen with fear.

The night had matured me way more than one usually does at that tender age. She -

The morbid relation had to be broken as its toxicity was slowly destructing, eating up everyone around us.

my mother, one of the bravest women explained everything to me. She did not cover up his mess. She wanted to free herself from all of this and more than herself, she wanted me to be out of the mess. She demanded freedom. The relationship, with that man, my father was a dooming one. This was a part of my life and now, nothing could stop me from believing what I didn’t want to. The morbid relation had to be broken as its toxicity was slowly destructing, eating up, everyone around us. He not only violated her physically but also violated the pure and beautiful essence of marriage. Maybe he was not the only one to blame because even mom kept quiet. She kept her feelings shut and maybe that encouraged him to continue with his ruthless behaviour. But, on that night, that fateful night she spoke. For me and for herself! As for me, I still have my super hero, my mom. She had won the fight. All she needed was courage, and she had it in her.



## Galaxy bottles

- Materials Required**
  - Acrylic paint (green, blue, pink, turquoise)
  - Plastic bottle
  - Cups
  - Cotton balls
  - Glitter (any colour)
  - Water
- Method**
  - Take an empty plastic bottle and fill it with a few cotton balls. You can use a pencil to poke them in.
  - Now, sprinkle glitter on the top of the cotton layer.
- Next, take a cup and pour water and acrylic paint in it.
  - Mix it well and slowly pour it on the top of the cotton balls.
  - Once the cotton balls absorb the colour, add another layer of cotton balls and pour another layer of coloured water, using a different colour this time.
  - Repeat this process until the bottle is filled with cotton balls of different colours.
  - Finally, glue the lid of the bottle so that it doesn’t open.
  - Your galaxy bottle is ready!

### Read Play and Win

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](mailto:editor@theglobaltimes.in) or submit it to your GT Teacher Coordinator. 3 lucky winners will win a prize every week!

<b>Q:</b> What is the name of the AI designed by Mark Zuckerberg?	<b>Q:</b> What is the title of ‘Storywala’ on Senior Mosaic page?	<b>Q:</b> What are the two main types of energy?
<b>Ans:</b>	<b>Ans:</b>	<b>Ans:</b>
<b>Q:</b> What is the title of the story written by Samiksha Ramesh, AIS MV, IX A?	<b>Q:</b> Name one thing TV has been compared to.	<b>Q:</b> Who won the Mr Teen India contest 2016?
<b>Ans:</b>	<b>Ans:</b>	<b>Ans:</b>
<b>Q:</b> What has been described as ‘a story or event with a strong element of suspense’?	<b>Q:</b> Who has been interviewed on page 1?	<b>Q:</b> Mice have been used for finding a cure for which disease?
<b>Ans:</b>	<b>Ans:</b>	<b>Ans:</b>

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

Results of Read Play and Win-17: **Devansu Pant**, AIS Noida, VM; **Bhavesh Yadav**, AIS Vas 6, IXA; **Ojasvidara**, AIS PV IVA (Prizes will reach you in 15 days)

## Words Verse



### Retirement

Riddhi Hakhoo  
AIS Noida, VIII K

It’s not what it’s supposed to be  
This thing we look so forward to  
A time of life that’s worry free  
So much time for the things to do  
But wait a minute, something’s wrong  
Things aren’t as they should be  
The money is short, the month is long  
And so much time on my hands for me

I’m not as spry as I once was  
A lot of my energy has gone away  
This system is backwards to me it seems  
We should retire first, and work last  
Then in youth, chase our dreams  
Having life’s expectations surpassed.

### Snowy winters

Shubham Vashist  
AIS MV, VIII B

Winter comes with cold  
Fireplace crowded with young and old  
The candle burns with an eerie glow

Outside the window falls the snow  
The bears hibernate  
And the birds migrate  
The foggy weather settles in the night  
We don’t know when the sun will rise

Children cover themselves with hoods  
And wear long boots  
Start collecting fire woods  
They are in a happy mood


After the gloom, flowers bloom  
Children play, while cows eat hay  
The butterfly flies, the gloominess dies  
Days get long and a new season is on.




## CAMERA CAPERS

Maansi Manchanda, AIS Gur 43, XII B


Send in your entries to [cameracapars@theglobaltimes.in](mailto:cameracapars@theglobaltimes.in)



The memories of Kashmir



Selling hopes and dreams



Reminiscing the good old days



# The mistaken surprise

Illustration: Anju Rawat, GT Network



Joyal Patel, AIS VKC Lko, VI

It was summer vacations. Kevin was looking forward to adding to his stamp collection. Collecting stamps, after all, was the thing he loved the most. He opened his scrapbook and glanced through the colourful stamps he had collected from different places. As he sat down with his scrapbook and colours, the doorbell rang. He went to open the door and saw Max, his naughty cousin. “Hiiii!” screamed Max as he jumped on to Kevin’s bed, breaking his crayons in the process. “If this is what mom meant when she said that she had a surprise planned for me for the holidays, it is just not good!” thought Kevin. He wasn’t really as excited about the holidays now.

A few days later, when Kevin was reading the newspaper, something caught his attention. “The world famous philatelist Dick Brown’s stamp album was stolen last week,” read a news report. The report warned against a stamp stealer in town. Kevin was shocked and worried after reading it. Dick Brown was his inspiration and he felt bad for him. It struck Kevin that his stamp collection was with his friend Allan. He decided to get his stamp album back, as it would be safer with him. But Kevin had his tuitions in the evening. So, he instructed Max to collect the album on his behalf, giving him the address of Allan’s house. Max returned with the album and gave it to Kevin, who looked at the album in shock. It looked familiar, but it wasn’t

The report warned against a stamp stealer in town. Kevin was shocked and worried after reading it.

his. The back cover of the scrapbook had the name, ‘Dick Brown’ engraved. Kevin couldn’t believe that he was holding the prized, stolen stamp album of his idol. He instantly reported it to the police. They found out that Max had lost the address and went to another house with whatever little he remembered of the address. He knocked the door but there was no response. So he went in and found an album which resembled Kevin’s and had brought it home. “Silly Max,” Kevin thought but was happy to have safely returned his idol’s album. Few days later, Kevin and Max were invited by Dick Brown for dinner at his place. When his mother got to know of it, she said, “Kevin, I had arranged a meeting for you with Dick Brown but looks like you’ve already figured out your surprise!” Kevin kept smiling.

So, what did you learn today?  
A new word: Philatelist  
Meaning: A person who studies or collects postage stamps



## Choco delight

Tisha Saxena, AIS Gur 43, III

**Ingredients**

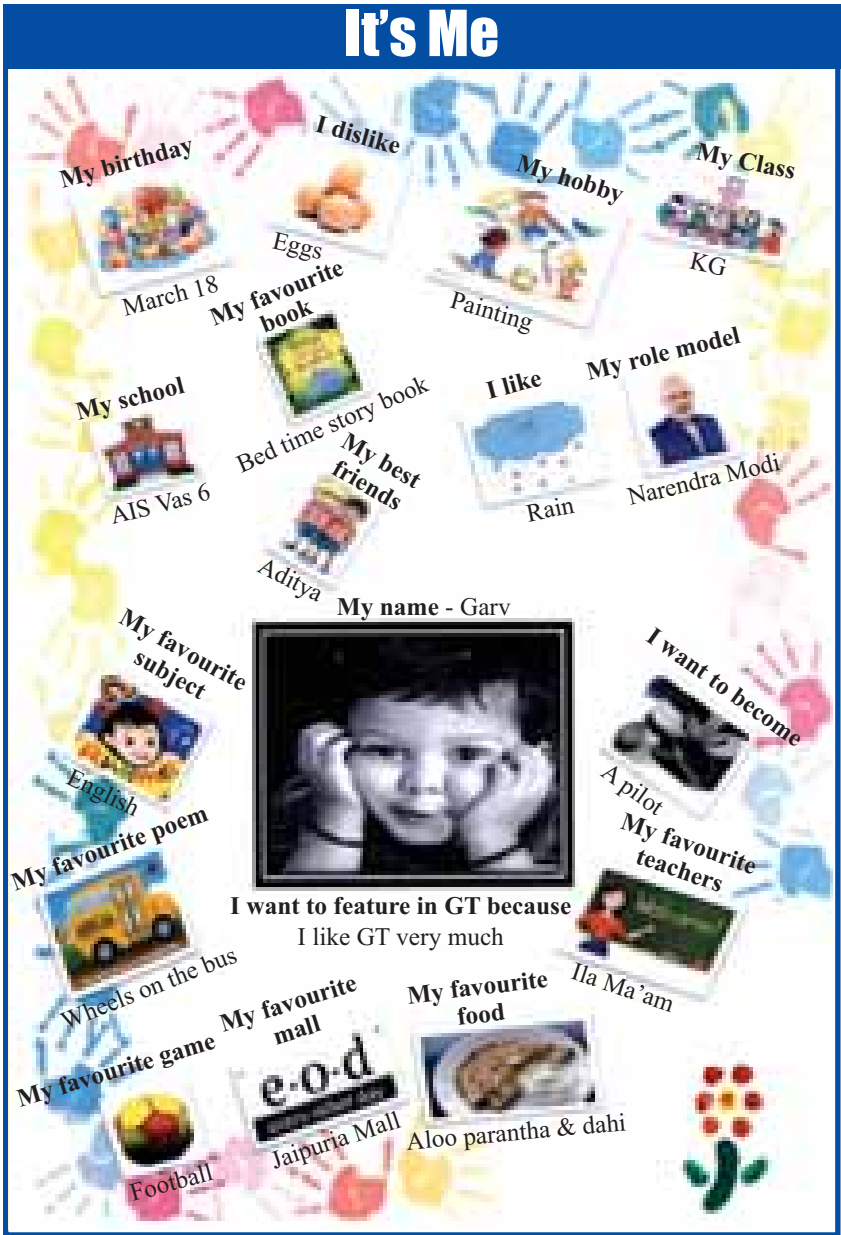
Refined flour .....1 cup  
Sugar (powdered) .....1 cup  
Cocoa powder .....½ cup  
Baking soda .....1 tsp  
Baking powder.....1 tsp  
Oil .....½ cup  
Hot water .....½ cup  
Cold milk .....½ cup  
Vanilla essence.....1 tsp  
Strawberries.....to garnish

**Method**

- Pre-heat the oven at 180 degree.
- Grease the baking tray with some vegetable oil.
- In a bowl, take flour, sugar, cocoa

powder, baking powder and baking soda. Keep aside.

- Take another bowl; add oil and hot water to it.
- Stir and let it cool down.
- Add milk and vanilla essence. Mix them well.
- Combine the two mixtures to form a thick batter.
- Pour the batter in the baking tray and bake for 5 - 6 minutes.
- To check whether the cake is baked properly, insert a toothpick. If it comes out clean, then it’s baked. If not, bake it again for a couple of minutes and see if the toothpick comes out clean this time.
- Garnish with strawberries and powdered sugar.



Riddle Fiddle

Navyam Thakur, AIS MV, IV B

1. You will find me in the past. I can be created in the present, but the future can never taint me. Who am I?  
2. Teddy bears are never hungry because they are always \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. What can you catch but not throw?

4. What kind of tree can you carry in your hand?  
5. They come out at night and are lost in the day. What are they?  
6. What goes through towns and over hills but never moves?  
7. What is round on both the sides but high in the middle?

Answer: 1. History 2. Stuffed 3. Cold 4. Palm 5. Stars 6. A Road 7. Ohio

Illustration: Anju Rawat, GT Network



## My friends

Nikhaar Chandra, AIS Noida, VII I

The day is so beautiful  
The sun is so bright  
But I’m not very happy  
For no friend is in sight

My heart is full of sorrow  
My world is so dry  
Without a friend I can do nothing  
But sit alone and cry

I am here alone

## POEMS

With tears in my eyes  
Until a friend comes and wipes them  
And walks side-by-side

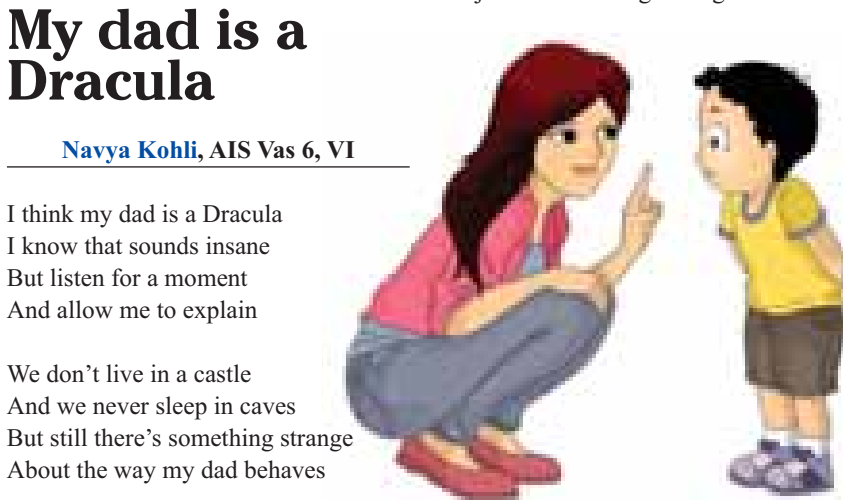
My life is so dull  
My happiness has come to an end  
Waiting for you to come  
And make my day vibrant

As you go away  
Nothing seems right  
But then you come and hug me  
And make me feel alright.

I never see him go out  
In the day when there’s light  
He sleeps all day till evening  
And leaves the house at night

He comes home in the morning  
Saying, “Man, I am really dead”  
He kisses me good night and then  
By sun rise, he is in bed.

My mom heard my question, and said,  
“You are too swift,  
Your father’s not a Dracula,  
He just works during the night shift.”




## My dad is a Dracula

Navya Kohli, AIS Vas 6, VI

I think my dad is a Dracula  
I know that sounds insane  
But listen for a moment  
And allow me to explain

We don’t live in a castle  
And we never sleep in caves  
But still there’s something strange  
About the way my dad behaves

Favourite cartoon



5 values that Tom and Jerry teach us

Debapriya Maiti, AIS Vas 6, II

- 1 They keep fighting with each other but also help one another when either of them is in need.
- 2 Jerry teaches us to never give up. He always gets his way out of Tom’s traps.
- 3 Both of them teach us to have a unique friendship.
- 4 They also teach us that we must learn from our mistakes. Tom attacks Jerry in almost the same patterns each time and as usual, Jerry escapes, because Tom doesn’t learn from his mistakes.
- 5 Confidence and wit matter. Jerry, irrespective of his size, always outsmarts Tom with his wit.

# Jingle all the way

Christmas is a time to spread love, laughter and cheer. Amies did just that as they engaged in numerous crafts activities, made wishing trees, shared gifts; making the festival merry indeed

## Because we love everyone

### Amiown Gurgaon

Christmas, a festival, is an epitome of love for all. It was this spirit of the festival that little Amies of Amiown Gurgaon celebrated this year.

The tiny tots expressed their unconditional love for their loved ones in their innocent albeit significant ways. Using the magical words 'please', 'thank you' and 'sorry', they learnt to express love and gratitude.

They were encouraged to treat their teachers, service staff and classmates with the same love and affection as their parents and friends, making Amiown a happy family.

The little ones offered help to the service staff and took care of their classmates through simple ways as reminding each other to remove the washroom badge, helping each other wear the safety guard during games period, sharing crayons and much more.

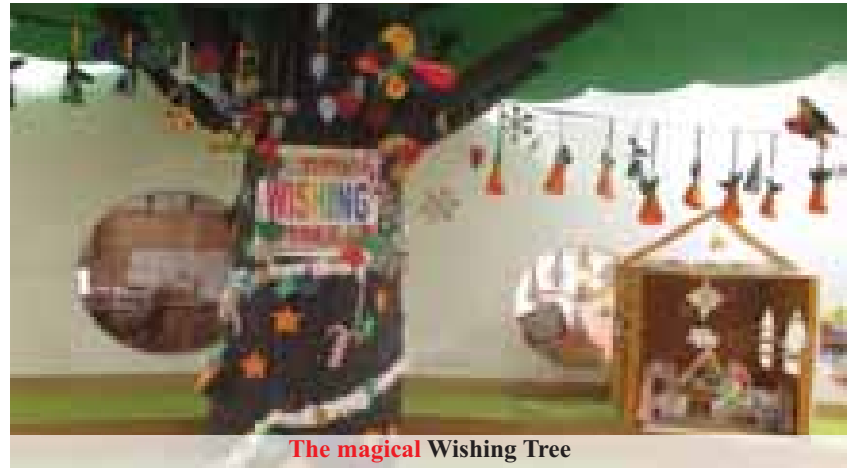
Lunch was shared and laughter reverberated, as little Amies made the best of the christmas season, making it colourful with different hues of love. 🇧🇪



Simple words mean a lot



Expressions of love



The magical Wishing Tree

## Sharing happiness

### Amiown Noida

The best thing about Christmas is coming together to share food, gifts, love and most importantly, smiles. The Amies of Amiown Noida set out to spread happiness this Christmas to make the festival even more special. From sharing toys to crayons, they indulged in the joys of the festival in the most loving ways. The tiny tots decorated a wishing tree with Christmas decorations. Each child was asked about

one gesture of their friends that made them happy. Next, they wrote these messages on the decorations with the help of teachers and hung them on the wishing tree, praying that the love stays with them forever. In a delightful session, the little ones shared loving stories with their friends, their faces gleaming with joy and ecstasy. It was a sight to behold as a wave of happiness spread at the school, the smiles of everyone around confirming that they had the merriest christmas ever. 🇧🇪



Little angels with the wishing tree

## Wishes of joy

### Amiown Vasundhara 6

Festival celebrations at preschool help children understand the importance of celebrating together. They help the young ones bond and share the happiness of festivities. Keeping this in mind, festivals are celebrated at Amiown with enthusiasm and fervour; Christmas being no exception. Christmas is a time to make a wish for your loved ones. Hence, each child was asked about their wish and the wish of their friends. These wishes were written on a wish tree made by the little Amies themselves by reusing foil sheets. All the kids happily hung their wishes on the wish tree, whilst praying for their wishes to come



true. The little ones could be seen smiling as they shared their wishes with one another. While some wanted more toys and Barbies, others wanted to meet Spiderman. Even though most wishes brought a smile to everyone's face, there were some that touched hearts like that of a young Amie who drew a scooter that she wanted for her grandpa. The children of Brave Birch celebrated the festival with their friends from Happy Holly class. Little Amies from both the classes revered in the merriment of Christmas as they shared their wishes and made new friends. Here's wishing that their wishes come true.



Live, love, laugh For it's Christmas



## A truly merry affair

### Amiown PV

Childhood is the best time to inculcate values and ideals in a child. Amiown, under the guidance of Ms Sapna Chauhan, Vice Chairperson, Amiown, constantly endeavours to impart values to the young ones that are essential for becoming a good human being. The festivities of Christmas serve as a perfect backdrop for teaching the tiny tots values like sharing, caring and loving others unconditionally. The celebrations began with little Amies sharing how they cele-

brated their last Christmas. They were also asked if they made anyone happy. Each kid shared his/her story with enthusiasm and excitement. This was followed by an array of crafts activities. The young ones had a gala time making bunting for the school corridors, beautiful Santas, snow man, wreath, bells, stockings, stars etc. As the students came together to create these beautiful items, they realised the joy of working together along with learning about the various things that are pertinent to Christmas celebrations. A special assembly was also or-

ganised wherein the children sang Christmas carols and rhymes. In the end, a special programme was organised for them by the ACERT team, who enacted the story "Dungston, the Christmas Dragon". The story presentation not just beautifully conveyed the essence of the festival of Christmas, but also captured the imagination of the young ones. Joy could be seen on the faces of little Amies as they received a surprise goody bag from their beloved Santa Claus. To sum up, the christmas celebrations turned out to be merry indeed for the little ones 🇧🇪





Over 800 engineers, technicians and artisans worked to construct the temple.

# Sports day fiesta

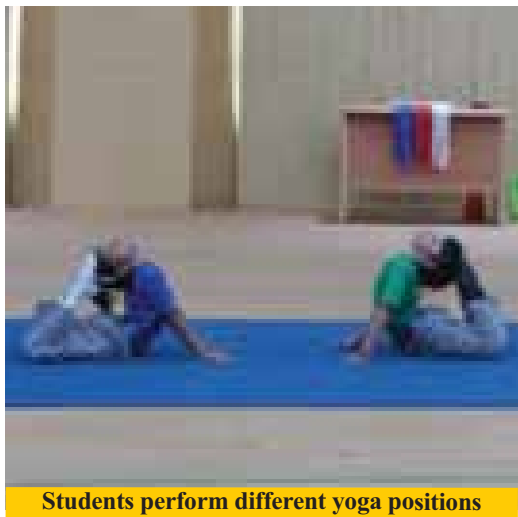
Amitians displayed true sportsmanship, camaraderie, enthusiasm and zeal as they participated in a multitude of sports activities during the sports day organised in their respective schools. A glimpse of the euphoria...



The winners of AIS Noida felicitated with medals and trophies by esteemed dignitaries

## AIS Gwalior

The school celebrated its first Sports Day with great enthusiasm and zeal on December 3, 2016. The students participated in a wide array of sports events such as relay race, hurdle race, 100m race, yoga etc. The programme commenced with aerobics. Several sports activities were also conducted on the occasion that were met with roaring applause from the audience. School Principal emphasised on the importance of sports in one's life and applauded the efforts of both the students as well as the staff. The event culminated with medal distribution ceremony. [G.T](#)



Students perform different yoga positions

## AIS Noida

On November 30, 2016, AIS Noida organised its annual Sports Day 'Fitness Fiesta'. School Principal Renu Singh addressed the gathering in her welcome speech. The event comprised a plethora of acts such as grand march past, guard of honour, karate display, aerobics display, calisthenics, bamboo drill and several others. A grand choir of 300 students enthralled the audience with their soulful songs. Colourful festive dances from various states of India were presented at the event.

The grand occasion saw the presence of Rajanikanta Verma, Senior IFS officer as guest of honour and Virendra Sachdeva, General Secretary, Delhi Archery Association and other dignitaries of Amity family. Virendra Sachdeva applauded the spectacular achievements of school in the field of sports and advised the students to participate in sports events regularly.

The cultural bonanza was followed by an exciting valedictory ceremony, wherein the students were felicitated with medals, trophies and certificates by Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools & RBEF.

Chairperson, Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan in her vote of encouraged the students and thanked the parents for their support. She emphasised on the importance of being active in life and appreciated the efforts put by young athletes. [G.T](#)

## AIS Gur 43

A total of 945 students participated in the Junior Sports Day organised by the school on December 2, 2016. The ground was decorated with flags, setting the perfect backdrop for the sports fiesta. Students came dressed in track-suits, all set to compete with one another. The chief guest for the occasion was Mala Honnati. Students from Class Nursery to V actively participated in multiple races including PEC races for one week. 82 medal sets were given to the proud achievers along with Amitasha students. Also, 14 Best Athlete trophies were given away. Col BS Ahluwalia, Senior Sports Advisor, Amity Group of Schools congratulated the sports teachers for efficiently con-



Little athletes of AIS Gur 43 with medals

ducting the event. Mala Honnati appreciated the efforts of Chairperson for providing the students with such platforms and also, the school for training the students in the field of sports. The event culminated with School Principal giving away 16 blazers to the students who secured positions in national level sports events. [G.T](#)

## AIS Vas 1

Khelkumbh, the senior annual Sports Day organised by the school on December 3, 2016 in the school premises. The chief guest for the occasion was Arjuna Awardee, Rachana Govil, Executive Director, Sports Authority of India and the guest of honour was Vimal Mohan, Associate Editor, Sports, NDTV. The event was also graced by Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and RBEF; Col BS Ahluwalia Senior Sports Advisor, Amity Group of Schools and other dignitaries of Amity family.

The celebrations commenced with marching contingents comprising four houses- Alaknanda, Bhagirathi, Mandakini & Pawani along with Amity Cadet Corps, thumbed their feet in harmony with rhythm of the school band. Sports Captain, Khushi Jaiswal and Shourya Singh Thakur conducted oath and lit the ceremonial torch. School Principal Valambal Balachandran highlighted numerous annual achievements of the school and reiterated the importance of sports in one's life. Chess display, Yoga display on ice, Malkhamb on aerial rings, formation of pyramids, Aerobics display, Karate display along with Skating race, Soccer race, Tunnel race, Canadian race, Archery race, Tug of War, stole hearts of spectators and filled them with joy. The position holders of the races were awarded with medals. Chairperson, Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan applauded the efforts of students and teachers for making the event a huge success. [G.T](#)



Achievers of AIS Vas 1 pose with certificates

## Storytelling session

### AIS Pushp Vihar

Reading not just imparts knowledge, but also paves way for imagination and creativity. To inculcate reading as a habit, AIS PV hosted a storytelling session for the students of Class I on November 25, 2016. The storytelling session was graced by the presence of Sapna Chauhan, Vice Chairperson, Amiown Schools. It was organised under the aegis of Amiown Kahani Tree in

association with Bookaroo- Children's Literature Festival. Famous storyteller and children's author, Tanya Batt and musician, Peter Forster narrated three stories viz 'The Old Lady Booster', 'The Giant's Secret' and 'The Crocodile Man' to the children with different and interesting story lines.

The duo enacted the stories in a very interesting and engaging manner, captivating the attention of the young ones. The students enjoyed the storytelling session. [G.T](#)



Tiny tots enjoy the storytelling session by Tanya Batt and Peter Forster



Dance performance by little kids

## Grandparents' Day

### AIS Mayur Vihar

The students celebrated Grandparents' day on December 6, 2016. The day commenced with lighting of lamp amidst the chanting of shlokas. School Principal Priyanka Mehta welcomed grandparents with a tulsi plant as a token of gratitude. The highlight of the

day was mesmerising dance and a play that reminded the audience about the numerous sacrifices made by grandparents for their young ones. The grandparents indulged in activities like painting and sculpture making. They also participated with enthusiasm in 'Bean Bag Relay Race', leaving them nostalgic about their school days. [G.T](#)

## Compassion for animals

### AIS Vasundhara 6

To encourage the students to be compassionate towards birds and animals, the school celebrated 'Nurturing Compassionate Citizenry Week' from November 7-11, 2016 for the students of Class Nursery & KG. The week long celebrations began with narration of tales on faithfulness of pets, presentations and discussions on companionship with animals and expressing kindness towards pets. The children were encouraged to avoid statements that demean animals such as 'I hate cats' or 'Frogs are ugly' and not to buy toys and video games that hint exploitation of animals. The final day of the celebration culminated with tiny tots bringing their beloved pets to school and sharing how they care for them, how the pet has become an integral part of the family. It was a beautiful sight to see tiny tots parade with their pets. [G.T](#)



One of the participant shares her views

# ‘Order’ing the real picture

Sharp suits, sharper statements piercing pin drop silence, suspense that leaves you biting your nails. Courtroom dramas on reel can awaken your senses, but the real picture might just put you to sleep

Megha Jha, AIS Gur 46, XII

Courts are regarded temples of justice, where proceedings are conducted with solemnity. As much as we respect our judicial system, considering the large population and the increasing number of crimes in our country, real court rooms can be a nuisance or sometimes simple non - sense.

### The Judge

**Expectation:** A clean shaven, strong scented and tall man towering over the court house. His swift walk and deep throaty voice gains him an affirmative approval, especially from the female population present in the court. He pays sharp attention to the proceedings, throwing the court in a fit of laughter with a pun here and there. Need more?

**Reality:** A rather old man who might at times finds it difficult to focus anywhere apart from the wall clock, waiting for time to tick away to lunchtime. Can’t really blame him, not everyone finds the case of a stolen buffalo as interesting. And just when you expect him to throw in a power packed verdict, he will tell you, “ek hafte baad aana”, punctuated with his I’m-not-interested expression.

### The Proceedings

**Expectation:** Every time you wonder



Illustration : Anju Rawat, GT Network

about how the hearing will proceed, you perhaps imagine the most intense conversations of your life. Well, the dream of an ideal court hearing goes something like this - hearing begins right on time, lawyers talk crisp and precise facts, the judges take decisions as quickly and efficiently as possible and no melodrama

takes up precious time.

**Reality:** Trash your dreamy expectations of smooth and effortless court sessions at the bottom of the trash can and please never try to go back to them, like ever. What’s a court hearing without a dramatic exchange of dialogues between witnesses, a few teary eyes here and

there and a lawyer who will make the least sensible remarks to win?

### The Lawyers

**Expectation:** Men and women clad in crisp white shirts and flowing black coats without even a speck of dust on them. Perhaps, you expect a handsome

Amitabh Bachchan to walk in and sweep the audience off their feet with his fluent English and eye opening statements that make you think twice about them. Gives you goosebumps, doesn’t it?

**Reality:** Sorry to disappoint you, but sometimes you’ll have to use all your knowledge of English to make any sense out of his. “Mr Sharma’s murderous choice of shirt colours even.” Get that? Neither did we. The number of sections that he’ll talk about will have your attention fixed upon the wall clock in the hope that you’ll be able to go home.

### The Justice

**Expectation:** Clear, no nonsense verdicts that do not leave you wondering about the possibilities of the convicted man being innocent. An experienced judge will use the best of his knowledge to provide justice to each person involved in the case and leave everyone with chests filled with pride.

**Reality:** You will get to hear the most bizarre and mysterious cases, most of which will make you wonder even after they have been sentenced. The verdicts will be a long and painful process at the end of which...wait, will we reach the end (*tareekh par tareekh*)?

With inputs from Shreya Yadav, AIS Gur 46, X D



Do you know what this story is about? Should we tell you the story? Or maybe you should read it. By the way, are you already ‘hanging’ in there?

Aditi Suresh, X B & Janhvi Singh, XI C  
AIS Pushp Vihar

They will have you biting your nails, pulling your hair, just wanting for all the uncertainty to get over. And sometimes when it does, you regret to have been in the place for no good, realising that it wasn’t worth your time. But then, that’s the thing about cliffhangers, you can’t predict them. A cliffhanger, by definition is a story or event with a strong element of suspense. But they are so much more. From reading a post about GOT praying for it to not turn out a spoiler to the message still in “typing...” mode, cliffhangers are everywhere. Their categories, however, is suspense no more.

### The ultimate hysteria-inducing sort

“Is Robin really going to marry Barney?” “Did Roli really poison her sister Simar’s tea?” “What is the actual answer to question 7?” “What did my best friend buy me for my 16th birthday? I hope it’s

those pair of shoes I’ve wanted since forever!” These are the sort of cliffhangers that’ll have you squealing with suspense and gripping anticipation. They are often the most fun throughout. You just hope the result is worth the wait.

### The ones with no end in sight

“Dean Winchester died 3 episodes ago, just bring him back already!” “I still haven’t got the English UT I gave 2 weeks back, this isn’t fun anymore.” These are the kind of cliffhangers that have you starry-eyed and hypnotised for a while. However, they are just stretched over too long a time span to be fun anymore. Often instead of squealing, you end up howling in despair lying at the bottom of the brook of decimated hopes and dreams, searching and waiting for the bright beacon of light, your English UT marks. Resolving this cliffhanger feels more like the end of a war rather than a happy revelation, soldiers returning home, wounded and sore from battle, solemn and in need of sleep.

GT Travels to Karnataka



Tripat Chattha, AIS Vas 6, I E poses with her copy of The Global Times at the Bandipur Tiger Reserve, situated on the Mysuru - Ooty highway, Karnataka. Set against the picturesque backdrop of the enchanting Nilgiri mountains with its mist-covered peaks, Bandipur was once the Mysuru Maharaja’s private hunting ground. Brought under Project Tiger in 1973, it is one of the best sanctuaries in India to observe and photograph wildlife.

Got some clicks with GT while on the go? Get them featured!  
Send them to us at [gttravels@theglobaltimes.in](mailto:gttravels@theglobaltimes.in)

### The not-so-cool ones

These are the kind of cliffhangers that are just pointless, the in-between-conversation, the one’s that do nothing more than putting you off. “Oh I’ll tell you later what she said about your outfit.” And then they would just evade your suspense by skewing it further, “Did you not know what Henry did at the PE class yesterday? Oh well, not that it should bother you anyway, huh.” Like, just why?

### The nonsensical and the featherbrains sort

They are most likely to drive you crazy, for they come with zero substance and abundant illogical banter. And the funny part is that you can’t even

ignore them and rather have to listen thoroughly. “Did you know, I was getting full marks in math , but because of that one silly mistake, like I didn’t write that trigo identity, the teacher should’ve understood.” “Have you seen season six of Halloween, it’s all about how season 5 of Halloween should’ve ended.” Like wow. They entered out of nowhere, kept you hanging and you couldn’t really let go of. In short: temporary ecstasy sinners.

But then all of us love these pulse escalating, nerve wrenching tidbits, for as important as going uphill and downhill is sometimes just hanging on in there. There are many more cliffs to be hung upon.