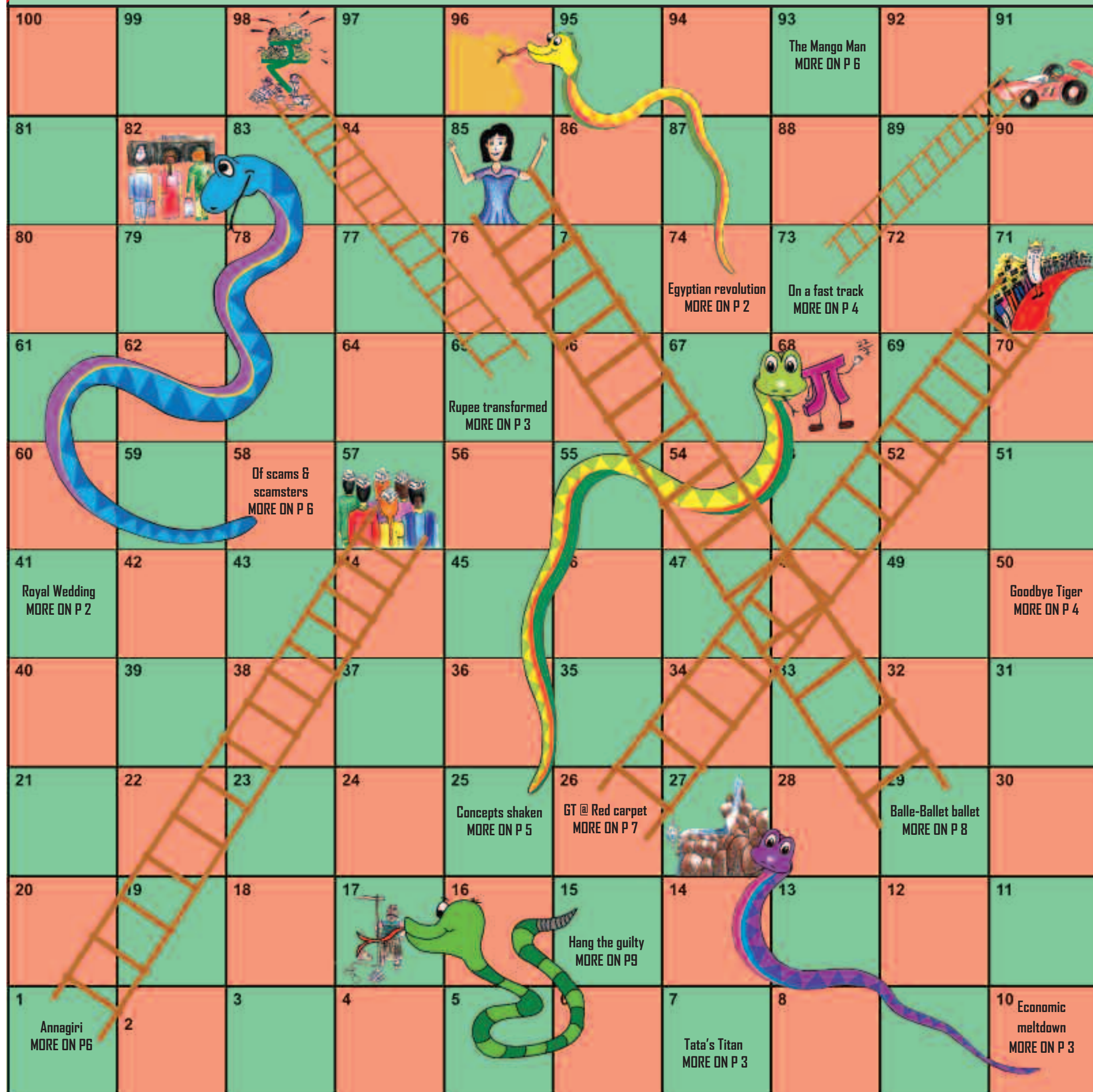


Let's play Movers & Shakers



MOVERS

Hey! I am 'Step-up ladder' and I like to move-it, move-it! Flip through this special edition to move through all the happy and oh-so-nice things. *Smiles*

SHAKERS

Hello there! This is 'Shake snake'. No! I don't sting or bite, but I do shake up things and the scene in a not-so-nice way, of course. *Smirks*



SPECIAL THANKS TO ILLUSTRATORS: Manisha Pundir, XI, AIS Saket; Aalvee Damle, XI, AIS Saket; Vaishali Jain, XII, AIS Vas-6; Seher Malik, Alumnus, AIS Noida; Ishita Sinha, XI E, AIS Noida; Vishruti Jain, IX, AIS Noida; Anaisha Gautam, XI J, AIS Noida; Mitul Govil, IX, AIS Noida; Debolina Goswami, Neharika Chamachi, Apra Agnihotri, Harini Subbaraman, Aniruddh SVS (Amity Institute of Biotechnology) and Sanchay Goswami (Amity School of Communication)



“Working for GT makes me feel that I am still very much a part of Amity. Besides, making illustrations and caricatures is something I have always enjoyed.”

Illustrator Seher Malik, Alumnus, AIS Noida



WORLD NEWS

Get ready for a roller coaster ride with The Global Times as it exclusively brings to you the highs and lows, ups and downs of the year 2011 uncensored. **Supriya Chaudhary**, ASCO takes a journey back in time and recapitulates events that made news and hogged headlines across the globe round the year

United Kingdom

- A million people line the streets and two billion tune in via television/computer to see Kate Middleton marry Prince William. Middleton receives rave reviews for wearing a modern, but restrained wedding dress.
- Violent riots spread throughout London after the shooting of a 29 year old local.
- The News of the World, a British newspaper owned by Rupert Murdoch closes after several allegations that the paper's journalists hacked into voicemail accounts.

France

- France bans the wearing of full veils in public, citing security reasons, becoming the first European nation to impose the ban. The ban causes protests in Paris and several other cities.

Italy

- Italy's Senate passes another round of austerity measures as a last reftort to save their economy from debt crisis.
- Flood ravages northern Italy.

Libya

- The Libyan civil war ousted the de-facto ruler - Gaddafi from power, who was later killed. The National Transitional Council was recognized as the legal representative of Libya by the United Nations.

Egypt

- The Egyptian revolution of 2011 shook the very nerve of the 'three decade old' dictatorship of Hosni Mubarak, whose regime was overthrown, resulting in the fall of the autocrats.

Norway

- A government building was bombed and 77 people were killed by a young right wing fundamentalist nationalist-Anders Behring Breivik. He saw multiculturalism as a major threat to the patriotic values of the country.

Pakistan

- US troops and CIA operatives kill Osama bin Laden in Abbottabad, Pakistan, a city that houses a military base academy.
- Two suicide bombers attack a paramilitary training center in Pakistan killing 80.

Myanmar

- Myanmar democracy icon Aung Suu Kyi plans to return to politics.

India

- Cutting across the vast spectrum, social activist Anna Hazare's clarion call against corruption received a tremendous response. Though, his demand for setting a strong Lokpal is yet to be met, the movement did result in unprecedented mass awakening.
- India lifts ICC World Cup after 28 years, beating Sri Lanka in finals.
- The country becomes the proud host of Indian Grand prix.
- CWG and 2G scam take India several notches higher on the International Corruption Index.

Iran

- Iran's nuclear program has been creating waves across the world. America and Europe seem to be the most threatened, as they suspect Iran for making nuclear weapons.

Saudi Arabia

- The Saudi monarch granted women universal adult franchise in Saudi Arabia. It came as a huge surprise for the straight laced Saudi kingdom that practices strict separation of sexes and even bars women from driving.

Japan

- Japan's economy continues to be third largest in the world, despite economists predicting a slowdown after tsunami.
- Japanese Parliament elected Yoshihiko Noda as their PM.

Business bounce

Tata's young titan

All Illustrations: Debolina Goswami
Amity Institute of Biotechnology

The search for a successor to Ratan Tata has ended with the coronation of 43 year old Cyrus Mistry, the low profile son of construction tycoon Pallonji Shapoorji Mistry.

“Soft spoken, highly qualified and down to earth Cyrus Mistry will prove an ideal successor to Ratan Tata. Under his able leadership, Tata conglomerateration will reach new heights.”

Sanghamitra, MSW, Amity Institute of Social Sciences

Apple is the future

The newly launched iPhone 4 and iPad 2 from Apple took the market by storm. iPad 2 was billed as a magical device for browsing the web, reading and sending e mails and photos.

“Apple’s new tablet is one of its kind. Undoubtedly, Apple has shaped the consumer tablet market. iPhone 4 is a symbol of excellence. It’s easy-to-use interface and vast application make it the world leader. Way to go Apple!”

Sakshi, BTech, Amity School of Engineering and Technology

Tele-boom!

The Indian telecom market is the second fastest growing telecom industry in the world. The credit for the same goes to government’s supportive and liberal policies. Over 150% growth in telecom services is projected in the next 5 years.

“It is great to know that Indian telecom industry is growing by leaps and bounds and has earned the distinction of being the world’s fastest growing industry and second largest telecommunication network in the world after China.”

Babina, MSW, Amity Institute of Social Sciences

New Indian Rupee

Indian currency Rupee has acquired a new symbol, all thanks to Uday Kumar, a student of Indian Institute of Technology. The rupee which was so far referred to by abbreviations like Rs and Re became globally recognized as ₹, just like dollar and its symbol \$.

“It is great to have a new look and design for official Indian currency.”

Illustration: Smita Jain



Another economic meltdown

The United Nations has warned that the world is on the brink of another recession, projecting that global economic growth will slow down further in 2012.

“With US already reeling under economic slowdown, the news that world is on the brink of another recession is very disheartening. This will spell doom for countries like India and China, which were propelling the global economy.”

Rajan Jain, Alumnus
Amity School of Business



RECESSION

End of good times

Kingfisher Airlines is struggling to raise funds to reduce the \$1.4bn debt it has accumulated due to rising petrol prices and high taxes.

“The nose diving fortune of Kingfisher airlines is an indicator that we need to open up aviation sector to FDI.”

Prashant, Amity School of Engineering and Technology



2G: Raja of all scams

“The 2G scam worth 1.76 lac crores has dealt a heavy blow to the nation’s image. The current ranking of India on the International Corruption Index indicates the same.”

Illustration:
Ravinder Gusain



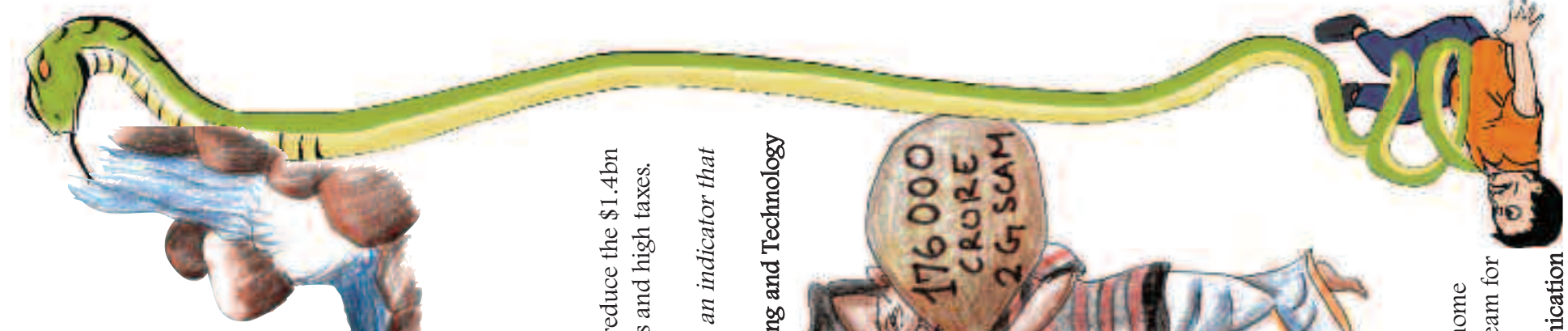
Jatin, Amity Institute of
Space Science and Technology

The EMI shuffle

Increase in EMIs due to rising interest rates and reset of teaser loans put an additional annual burden of about Rs 6,000 crore on home loan borrowers.

“All thanks to Reserve Bank of India (RBI) increasing interest rates on home loans every now and then, purchasing a home has become a distant dream for the common man.”

Shivani, Amity School of Communication



“I had always been interested in sketching. Sometimes during lectures I would occasionally end up doodling comical images of my classmates. But this is the first time I have experimented with renowned figures.”

Illustrator Debolina Goswami, Amity Institute of Biotechnology



“I am superexcited this is the first time that caricatures drawn by me are going to be published.”
Illustrator Sanchay Goswami
Amity School of Communication

All Illustrations: Sanchay Goswami
Amity School of Communication



World Champions

India finally brought home the World Cup after 1983. This win was important for India not just because it had been a long dry spell but also because this was Tendulkar’s last world cup.

“Regaining the coveted World Cup after 28 years is like writing a glorious chapter in the cricketing history of India.”

J Vignesh, BJMC, Amity School of Communication

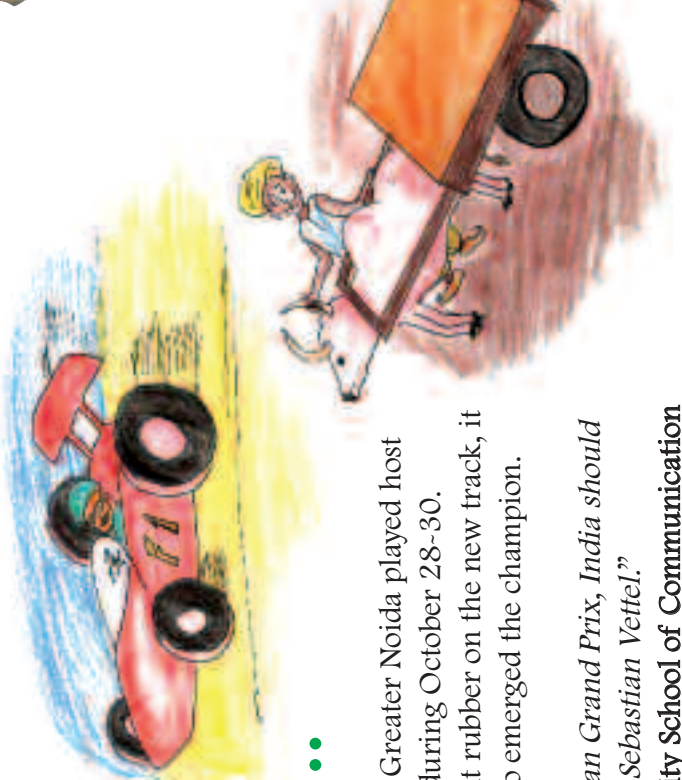


Sehwag’s double whammy

Swashbuckling batsman Virender Sehwag slammed maiden double century against West Indies in ODI to become the second batsman after Sachin Tendulkar to achieve the benchmark.

“Sehwag has taken the world by storm by scoring double ton in ODI.”

Parul Ritvik Sood, BJMC, Amity School of Communication



On a fast track...

The Buddh International Circuit in Greater Noida played host to the first ever Formula One race during October 28-30. While all F1 superstar drivers burnt rubber on the new track, it was Red Bull’s Sebastian Vettel, who emerged the champion.

“After successfully hosting the Indian Grand Prix, India should now focus on producing an Indian Sebastian Vettel!”

Karan Manral, BJMC, Amity School of Communication



New innings

Star Indian cricketer Gautam Gambhir, 29, tied the nuptial knot with Delhi girl Natasha Jain, 27, in a low key ceremony on Oct 27.

“Clean Bowled by a beautiful maiden, Gambhir is all set for a special innings of his life. All the best!”

Shubhankar Tripathi, BJMC, Amity School of Communication

Far from victory

Despite enjoying a lead of 3-1, India lost to Belgium with 3-4 in the finals of the Champions Challenge Hockey Tournament in Johannesburg.

“The Indian Hockey team needs to pull up its socks after a dismal performance at the Champions Challenge Trophy.”

Anuvrat Parashar, Amity School of Engineering & Technology



Goodbye Tiger

“The death of Mansur Ali Khan Pataudi popularly known as ‘Tiger’ is not only a terrible loss to the cricketing world but to humanity at large. A philanthropist with a golden heart, his death marks the end of an era. May his soul rest in peace.”

Pravesh Parekh, Amity Institute of Biotechnology

Return of match fixing

The ghost of match fixing has come to haunt the cricketing world again. The conviction of Salman Butt and Mohammad Asif coupled with the recent allegations by Vinod Kambli against Former Indian captain Mohd Azharuddin, suggest that more skeletons are going to tumble out of the cupboard.

“James Bond has got a new business, this time the cricketers are under the scanner.”

Priya, Amity School of Design

Common shame

The probe by Central Vigilance Commission probing the alleged corruption in various Commonwealth Games related project has revealed alleged misappropriation of money amounting to about Rs 8,000 crore. However, CBI has finally caught up with the chief organizer of graft tainted games for a case related to a Rs 141 crore.

“Law should target other big fishes too. The chief organizer is just a pawn. Such scams only tarnish India’s image that is trying to establish itself as a sporting nation.”

Babua, Alumnus, Amity School of Communication



Tech talk

Anna rules Facebook

The Facebook Memology 2011, which captured the top ten Facebook status trends during the year, ranked Anna Hazare and the Jan Lokpal Bill at the top in most mentioned in status updates. Sample these status updates:

Shalini Agarwal, Teacher, AIS Gur 43 – “Took part in Anna Hazare Support Rally: Amazing experience.. India step out!”
Sanskriti Sidana, XII, AIS Saket – “Come out to support Anna, support the nation.”

Simran Sachdeva, X, AIS PV – “Go Anna!”

All Illustrations: Aalvee Damle, XI, AIS Saket

Its raining gadgets

It was a downpour of gadgets this year for India. iPhone 4, iPad, Nokia Lumia 800, HTC Flyer Tablet, Samsung Galaxy note and many more tech inventions made their way into the Indian market.

“I think gadgets are brilliant and now that we have millions of them with trillions of cool features, life is even more simpler and enjoyable.”

Vishnu Sinha, XII, AIS Noida

Touching ‘Akash’ affordably

What China can do, India can do even more affordably. Case in point – Akash, the world’s cheapest tablet. Priced at a mere Rs 2,276, this 7 inch tablet was produced in an attempt to boost the country’s educational programme.



Birdie chirps in India

In a bid to reach out to more Indians, Twitter offered its users the option to switch to Hindi.

“Twitter in Hindi is a great thing because now more Indians will be able to use the site. Besides, this also shows that Hindi is an important language, which just can’t be ignored on any social networking site!”

Brinda Taparia, XII, AIS Noida



“It feels awesome at the end of the day, when you look back to see some amazing work you have done.”

Illustrator Aalvee Damle, XI, AIS Saket

Google-Govt at loggerheads

With the government asking social websites like Google and Facebook to stop uploading derogatory content, the stage was set for controversy. The result was Google refusing to remove any material just because it was considered ‘controversial’. The search engine giant said it was already complying with the law of the state.

$$\frac{22}{7}$$

Concepts shaken

If academicians have their way, students may have to well refresh their concepts. The first concept that may be stirred is the value of Pi. Long standing at the value of 3.14, the new value of Pi may soon be 6.28. Another fresh concept could be the addition of two new elements Livermorium and Flerovium in the Periodic table at the 114th and 116th spot respectively.

Let HER be

Reports of sex surgeries being conducted to change the sex of the girl child shook the entire nation. The surgeries were conducted on the pretext of rectifying genital defects. However, the reports of the same were later rubbished.

“The concept of sex surgeries is akin to that of pre-natal sex determination and abortion and will only result in more extreme attitudes against women. We need to prevent this from happening.”

Kirn Hans, XI, AIS Saket

Not so innovative India

While India may be developing at a fast pace, it still has a long way to go on the innovation front. The list of the 100 most innovative organisations in the world, released by Thomson Reuters did not find a single Indian name.

Illustration: Aniruddh SVS
Amity Institute of Biotechnology

“I am very excited about the GT special Edition. Working on it was doubly interesting because of its unconventional illustration based format, which made us put down our pens and pick up the paintbrushes for a change.”

Illustrator Harini Subbaraman, Amity Institute of Biotechnology

Annagiri

Anna Hazare’s movement to cleanse the government from the scourge of corruption saw Indians rallying behind him in full force. The septuagenarian’s war cry to bring in a strong Lokpal bill received an overwhelming response from the common man on the street.

“The decision to have a Jan Lokpal in place should be left to the Parliament. Anna is just a crusader, not the decider.”

Priyanshi Bahadur, BJMC, ASCO

Bol Bachchan

Kaun Banega Crorepati has ceased to be a mere game show, it has rather become a medium to establish a generous connect. And the credit for achieving this feat goes to host Amitabh Bachchan whose humility and friendly behaviour keep the viewers glued to the idiot box.

“I think even my grand children will enjoy watching KBC. The host of the show kept the viewers hooked to the TV.”

Harini Swaminathan, Amity Institute of Biotechnology

The reluctant prince

Away from the glare of the public, Rahul Gandhi, the scion of Gandhi dynasty is rewriting the political lexicon of the Congress in his own way. Though the young Gandhi is clearly focused on strengthening the Congress base, he refuses to take on any official designation.

“It is time that the onus is put on Rahul to lead. I believe he can bring the much needed freshness in the government.”

Debolina Goswami, Amity Institute of Biotechnology

Azim Premji: Noble indeed

Inspired by a strong belief that a strong educational system is essential for sustaining economic growth, Wipro Chairman Azim Premji has donated \$2 billion to further the cause of education.

“Premji is a remarkable example for those who have benefited enormously from India’s economic expansion and are looking for ways to give back.”

Ishan Rai, Amity Institute of Biotechnology

“Working for GT was special for me as I rediscovered my passion for cartooning.”

Illustrator Neharika Chamachi
Amity Institute of Biotechnology

Not-so-comic tale

Anant Pai – the creator of Indian comics and the man behind the popular ‘Amar Chitra Katha’ suffered a heart attack and left for his heavenly abode on Feb 24, 2011. While Pai’s death left us sad, the death of MF Hussain was spurred with even more grief as the painting genius died in exile. He was living in London and lamented not being able to live in India due to death threats and legal cases over paintings that Hindu groups described as obscene.

Silencing the media

The country’s ace crime journalist (Editor, Special Investigation, Mid-Day) Jyotirmoy Dey better known as J Dey was shot dead on a crowded street in

Mumbai in broad day light on November 25, 2011. The message sent was loud and clear: Don’t You Dare! Murder most foul, it was. Dey’s murder put the spotlight on increasing attacks on journalists and the freedom of the Press.

The Mango man

The decision of the Planning Commission to peg urban poverty line at Rs 32 drew flak from the ‘Aam Aadmi’ who termed the move as irrational.

“I don’t understand what methodology was employed to arrive at this magical figure. I think the government is ignorant of the double digit inflation that is spelling doom for the aam aadmi.”

Alisha, BJMC, Amity School of Communication

Of scams and scamsters

Scams are not new to the Indian subcontinent. However, the year 2011 was marred by a series of scams. Be it 2G, CWG, Adarsh Housing society scam or cash for vote scam; the scams offered a staple feed to the Indian media. High profile dignitaries continued to make news through the year for purportedly moving in and out of high security Tihar jail.

“The government has set an example by arresting high profile leaders. It should convict them for their crime so that it acts as a deterrent for others.”

Surya Dev Agarwal, Amity Institute of Biotechnology

Hail GT

GT goes weekly

“At Amity, we always believe in offering our students the best. Making GT weekly was an earnest attempt to broaden the platform that The Global Times offers to the students. The painstaking process seems to meet its worth when I see my student express their views and share their opinions on such an intellectual platform.”

Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan
Chairperson, Amity group of Schools



GT @ red carpet

The second leg of GT Awards was held amidst much fanfare and razzmatazz. The event got a thumbs-up from both the audience and the guests alike.

“The personal touch and the warmth at GT Awards 2010-11 was unparalleled. The effort to recognize each student was evident. I could feel the place pulsating with only one emotion ie pride.”

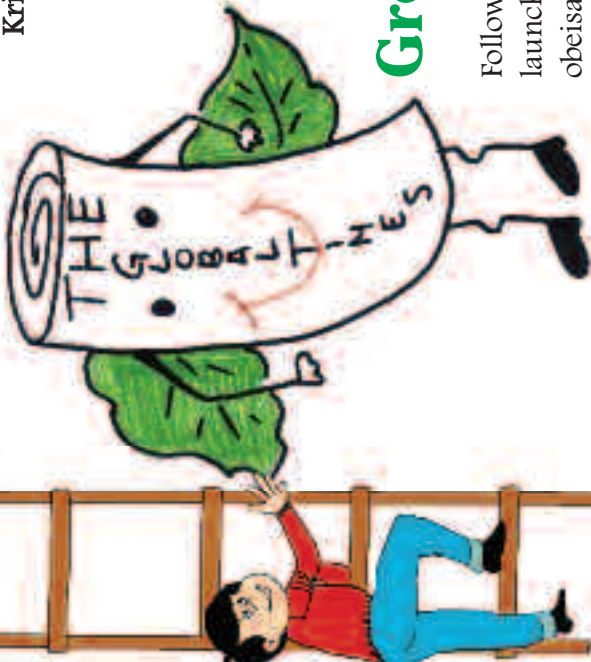
Ms Poonam Goel, Judge, GT awards

Youth Power

Now in its fourth year, the Youth Power programme that sensitizes the youth to their surroundings, has witnessed numerous moments of awe and pride. Youth Power 2010-11 was no different.

“I could not believe that I had won. YP 2011 saw some really tough competition.”

Kritika Dhawan, AIS PV
YP 2011 Winner



Green newsprint

Following Amity’s philosophy of ‘in-sync with the environment’, GT launched a special ‘Green Edition’, with each of the 12 pages paying obeisance to Mother Earth.



I am free

GT celebrated freedom, the photographic way by organizing ‘I am free - Picture it’ contest. The photo contest saw a massive response and was a huge hit.



On 24 mm

While GT awards 2010-11 had numerous breathtaking moments, it was the GT movie that stole the show.

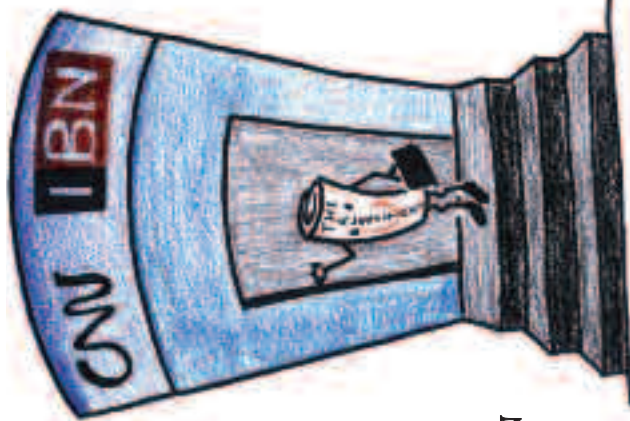
“It is not every day that we roll out a movie like this. The effort and toil that went into the movie seemed worth it, when you have so many people lauding your efforts.”

Agrim Sachdeva, Director, The GT movie

Tête-à-tête with CNN-IBN

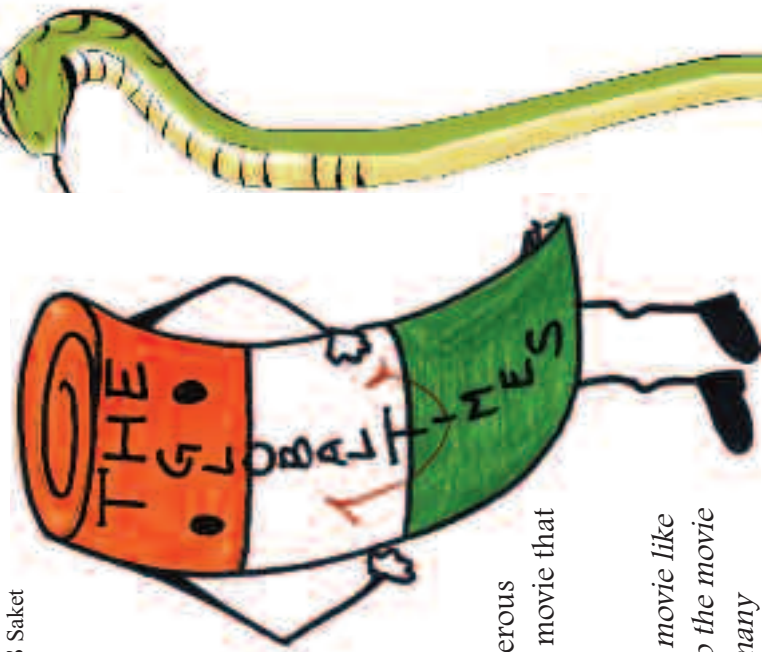
GT lead Amitians straight to CNN IBN’s office as students participated in the talk show - ‘Yuva’ discussing Vivekananda and his ideologies. “The students from Amity were a pleasure to work with and every panelist had great things to say about them. Undoubtedly, they became the centre of attraction of the show by posing some heavy duty yet relevant questions.”

Gaurav Alagh, Producer, CNN-IBN



Global acclaim

GT launched a special edition on the occasion of ‘World Freedom of Press’ day, which was followed by a series of workshops. The special edition was appreciated by World Association of Newspapers (WAN) and was also featured in their magazine.



“Making so many illustrations at one go was so much fun. I had the option of going for my school trip or coming to the GT office to work for the special edition. And I am so glad, I chose the latter.”

Illustrator Manisha Pundir, XI, AIS Saket

All Illustrations: Manisha Pundir, XI, AIS Saket

“The Global Times is such an amazing platform that gives you the opportunity to showcase your talent. I have never contributed to a newspaper before. I feel thankful.”

Illustrator Anaisha Gautum, XI J, AIS Noida



Acknowledgement & chances

“2011 was a happy year. First, I was selected for ‘Odyssey of the Mind’ and then as the USG IT at AIMUN. The video I made for the AIMUN closing ceremony was appreciated by everyone. To have so many people stand up for you and applaud your efforts is an all new high. And to top it all, being recognized by Chairperson ma’am in front of so many people is like the amazing-est thing ever.”

Aditya Batra, XII, AIS Saket



Illustration: Mitul Goyal, IX, AIS Noida

In love with the written word

“Writing has always been my first love. This year gave me the chance, rather chances, to do the thing that I love the most – writing. First, I had the chance to write for GT and then I got selected for the Global Press at AIMUN, which meant more writing. And then not to forget my blog, which has turned awesome-er this year. Hey, I suddenly feel happy.”

Illustration: Vishruti Jain, IX, AIS Noida

Snigdha Shahi, X, AIS Noida



Illustration: Vishruti Jain, IX, AIS Noida

BFF in a day

“The happiest day of the year would be when I met my best friend. It’s true that you do not make friends in a day. But, this time around it was different. I happened to talk to this girl, generally, and by the end of the day we were talking about everything

under the sun. We clicked so well. Later, the same girl turned out to be my best friend. It has been five months since then and I cherish every moment that I spend with her.”

Sarina Mulchandani, X, AIS Vas-6



Illustration: Ishita Sinha, XI, AIS Noida

Balle-Balle ballet

“Happiest thing this year? Oh! It’s got to be ballet! Ballet was something I always wanted to learn since I was a kid due to my apparent fascination with Ballerina. And when I was finally allowed to pursue it after so long, my happiness knew no bounds.”

Yashasvinis Mathur, AIS Gur 46

“GT has always inspired me to do things that I like the most - making illustrations and writing.”

Illustrator Vishruti Jain, IX, AIS Noida



Sad. Sadder. Saddest.

“I barely passed in class eleventh. I didn’t get the award for the Best Graphic designer at GT Awards this year. In June, I had a big fight with my friend and we haven’t spoken ever since. This one was real bad. Need more?”

Raunaq Singh, XII, AIS Saket



Illustration: Ishita Sinha, XI, AIS Noida

MUN...no MUN

“Everyone looks forward to AIMUN, including me. But, God had different plans for me this time around. I was down with Chikungunya just a few days before AIMUN and couldn’t make it to the conference. It was really sad, especially when I had been preparing so hard for it. I missed meeting all my friends, whom I wanted to see for so long.”

Kritika Dhawan, XI, AIS Pushp Vihar

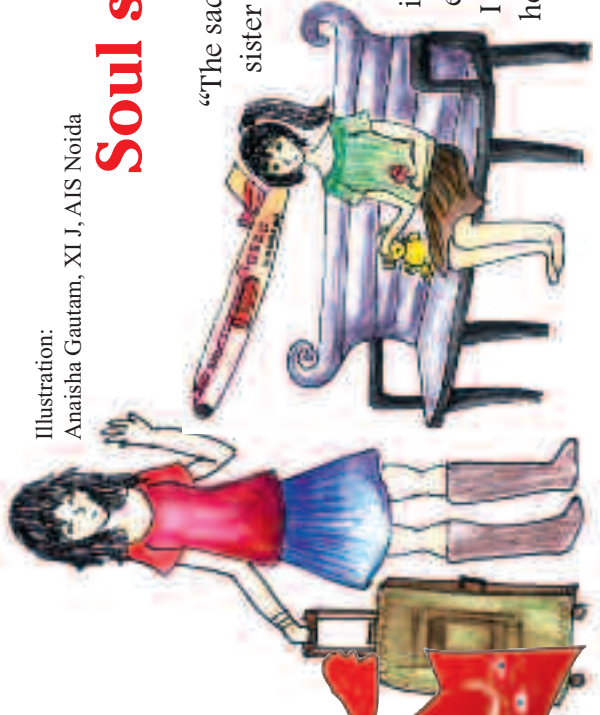


Illustration: Anaisha Gautam, XI J, AIS Noida

Soul sisters

“The saddest moment of 2011 would be when my sister left for Germany forever. After her college got over, she came back home for 6 months. I wasn’t so happy at first to have her back home. But, then she became the most important part of my life. I shared each and every thing with her. And the day she left, I sobbed behind closed doors. I miss her. A LOT.”

Neelakshi Khanna, AIS Gur-46



Illustration: Ishita Sinha XI, AIS Noida

Puppy love

“I love my dog. I just love him. And then, there was a day, when the vet told me that my dog wouldn’t survive for long. My dog’s kidney as well as liver had failed. It was like my world had come to an end. And I just couldn’t stop crying. It was really sad. But, luckily my dog survived. I feel grateful.”

Angad Singh, X, AIS Gur 46



Illustration: Anaisha Gautam, XI J, AIS Noida

Forward '12

“I am new to Amity and have never done something like this before. It was my first stint with GT and that too at their office.”

Illustrator Mitul Goyal, IX, AIS Noida

“It was the first of its kind experience for me. You get to draw what you want. It just cant get better than this.”

Illustrator Ishita Sinha, XI, AIS Noida



A better you

“I want Indians to acquire better civic sense. If this value gets instilled in our citizens we will surely be able to make India a clean, beautiful and safe nation.”

Archit Sharma, Amity School of Engineering and Technology

Illustration: Debolina Goswami
Amity Institute of Biotechnology



Percentage outage

“I want the education system in the country to be revamped. The 100 % cut off set by a prestigious college in Delhi University sent shivers down the spine of most of the students vying for admission. The government should set up more institutions of learning and also make higher education affordable.”

Anuvrat Parashar, Amity School of Engineering and Technology

Illustration: Vaishali Jain
XII-B, AIS Vas-6



Medal marathon

“After staging a coup in the Commonwealth Games 2010, I want India to top the medal tally at London Olympics 2012.”

Surya Dev Agarwal, Amity Institute of Biotechnology

Illustration: Aniruddh SVS
Amity Institute of Biotechnology



From Swiss To India

“The money that has been stashed away in Swiss banks should come to India and used for constructive purposes. It is high time that our country gets its dues back.”

Arushi, Amity School of Communication

Illustration: Aniruddh SVS
Amity Institute of Biotechnology



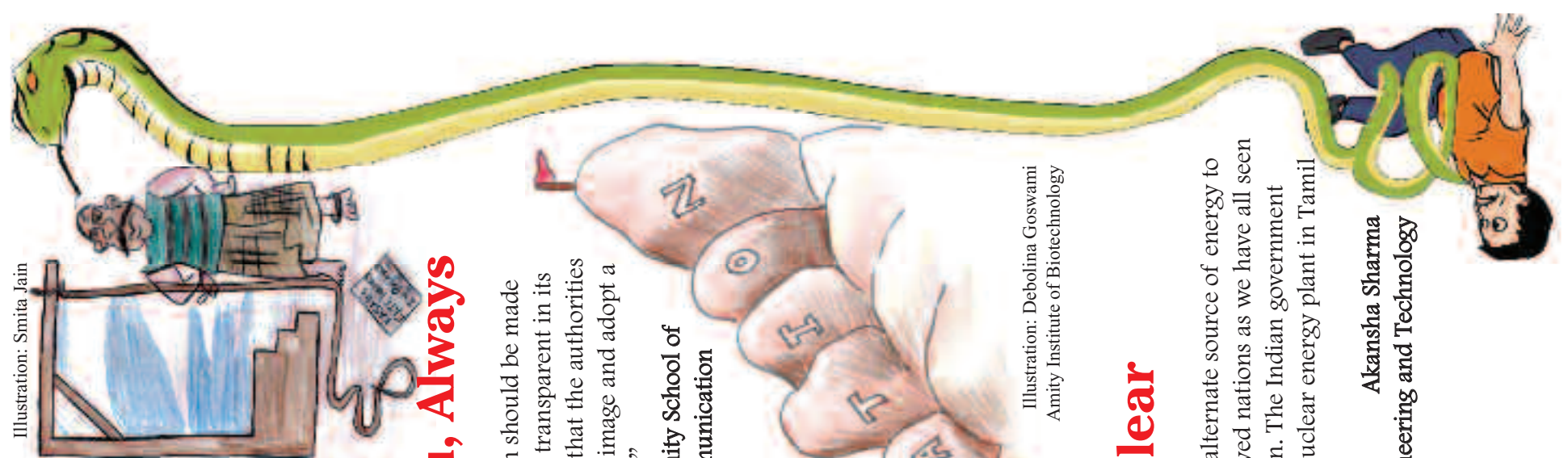
SHAKERS & MOVERS

Hang the guilty

“Instead of wasting so much public money in the upkeep of Ajmal Kasab, the government should hang him so that people think twice before launching any terror strike against a nation.”

Harini Subbaraman, Amity Institute of Biotechnology

Illustration: Smita Jain

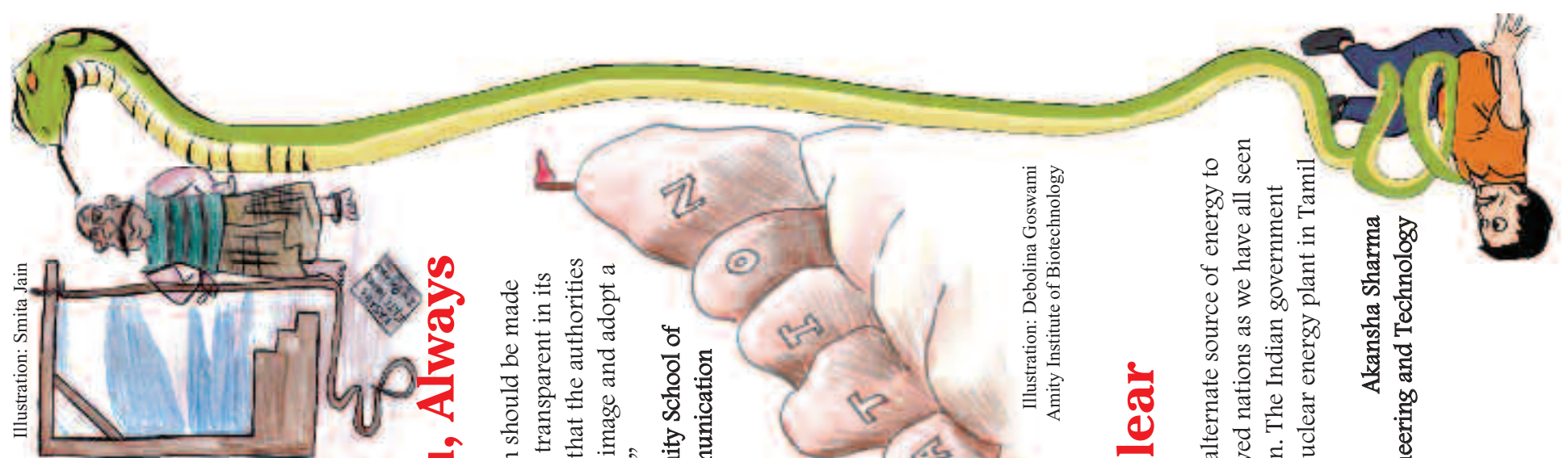


With you, For you, Always

“The police administration should be made more efficient, clean and transparent in its operation. It is high time that the authorities work on revamping their image and adopt a citizen friendly approach.”

Ashutosh Bose, Amity School of Communication

Illustration: Debolina Goswami
Amity Institute of Biotechnology

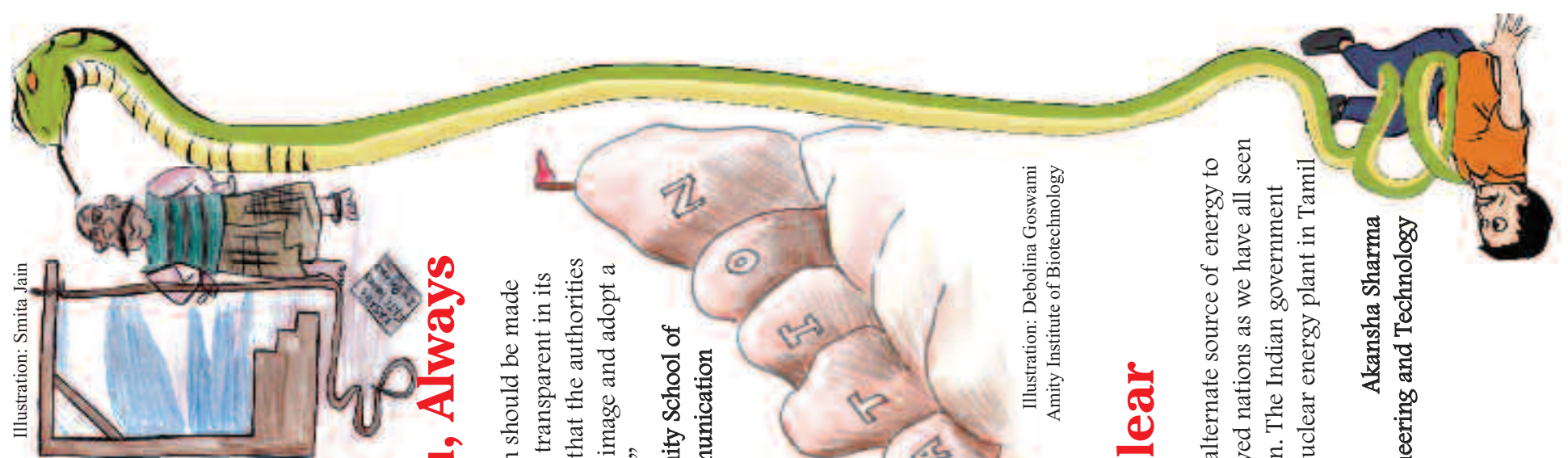


Burst the inflation bubble

“I want the inflation to come down. So that the budget of *aam admi* is not upset and every citizen has access to food and medical facilities.”

Bhawana Anand, Amity School of Communication

Illustration: Debolina Goswami
Amity Institute of Biotechnology



Alternate to nuclear

“I want the scientist to turn to other alternate source of energy to meet the requirement of energy starved nations as we have all seen the fall out of nuclear energy at Japan. The Indian government should revoke the decision to build nuclear energy plant in Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra.”

**Akansha Sharma
Amity School of Engineering and Technology**

Illustration: Apra Agnihotri, Amity
Institute of Biotechnology



Story Time

Storytelling and listening to well-told tales encourage children to use their imagination. Strong imagination helps build self-confidence, personal motivation, vocabulary and attention span. Storytelling encourages children to explore their unique expressions and heighten their ability to communicate thoughts and feelings. It's a great way to remind children that their spoken words are powerful, listening is important and clear communication is an art.

Terradiddle Dee!

Amiown Noida's 'Terradiddle Club' invited its aspiring Amies to come along with their parents to be part of a story telling session through 'Draw & Tell' and a song. The children and parents were given a warm welcome with a speech and Ami badges. The glass window was adorned with painted jungle animals, apt for the story telling session. The children were at their creative best as they created a jungle scene on chart paper through art and craft with cutouts of animals and trees while singing the jungle rhymes. The parents too sang along.

On a Lion Hunt!

After the art and craft activity of the jungle scene, the parents and children were involved in the song 'Going on a Lion Hunt' and they all jointly followed its actions. The little ones enjoyed imitating the actions throughout the narration. To recap the story, the children were invited to place the picture flashcards on the floor in sequence with the narration of the story, followed by open ended questions.

Dreams & Tell

The parents were explained another aspect of story telling, i.e. draw & tell. They were told how this form of story enhances curiosity and engrosses them in the narration by improving communication skills. The children and parents enjoyed the story narration. The parents too were invited to narrate a story with hand puppets as props.

Mums' Tale

As mums Boogie Woogie-d to the Birdie Song, Amies had the time of their lives playing farm, doing craft and snacking up. Join the fun

Mothers hold their children's hands for a short while, but their hearts forever.

Anonymous

A mother is a precious gift of God. She is never alone in her thoughts. She thinks twice, once for herself and once for the child. To celebrate Mother's Day, Amiown Noida invited the mums of Amies on November 7. It was an opportunity for the mums to get an insight into Amiowns' classroom practices as well as join the growing learning community as active learners. The mothers were welcomed with heart shaped badges, which they wore happily.

Old Mac Donald had a farm!

As a part of the theme 'Farm Animal', mums and kids enjoyed various games, and art & craft integrated into the theme. *Pansy* section children



Master Chef mum!

Displaying their cooking prowess, mums made *Bhelpuri* and cheese sandwiches in various shapes like heart, rectangle, circle and triangle. The kids enjoyed helping out their mums. Everyone enjoyed the snack time and thanked



That's where our farm friends live!

FUN IN FARMVILLE

Although the Amies of Amiown are young, they have nonetheless begun to build their own concepts in a variety of subjects. Children like to learn. Their brains are designed to absorb knowledge. Anything that stimulates their instinct becomes an immediate attraction for the child. Preschool children are just learning about the world around them, including animals. They generate curiosity and intense interest in children. As the ongoing theme for December month-Animals, Amies of Amiown Noida enhanced their knowledge about Pet Animals & Farm Animals.

Pet, the best bet!

Kids and pets go together like strawberries and cream. Pets share a great bond with children and teach them empathy, compassion and respect. Pet animals were introduced in the class through pictures of a dog and a cat, etc. Their homes, food, young ones and sounds were discussed. The thematic table in the corridor had the model of a dog and a cat, which fascinated the kids. Children enjoyed making Origami dogs and pasting them on kennels coloured by them.

F for FARM!

Children were introduced to farm as an introduction to 'f' sound. A farm was set up in

the classes wherein the entire farm scene was created replete with farm animals, their homes and babies. During Circle Time, the children were given an insight as to what is a farm? What are the different types of farms? How they benefit us? A story was narrated to the children and they were able to associate the farm animals with their sounds. The children built a cow shed collaboratively with a shoe box by paper tearing, pasting and sticking broomsticks on it. They pasted grass and straw on the roof to build the cow shed. Children revisited their knowledge about shapes while making 'a pig' with cutouts of circle, oval, triangle and rectangle. They pasted 9 egg cutouts on a worksheet to learn about the number 9. It was fun to watch them make a stable by pasting ice cream sticks and making the mane and tail of a horse with wool. Learning about something completely unfamiliar is relatively hard. It's much easier to learn more about something that they are already familiar with. Concrete learning is the crux of the methodology of teaching at Amiown. Thus, children were introduced to the various farm products and by-products like milk, butter, cheese, wool, vegetables, fruits, grains, pulses, wheat and eggs. The learning was reinforced by matching the products and by-products with the corresponding animals.



Serve Better

Amitasha Noida

Beauty, Amitasha Noida, VI

“On September 9, my school mates and I visited Amity University, Noida for a workshop on hospitality organised by Ms Taruna Barthwal, Head, Amity Career Counseling and Guidance Cell (ACCGC). An expert chef taught us how to make delicious dishes like sandwiches, pizza, fried eggs, etc. All Amitasha Noida and Saket students took keen interest. We were also given a demonstration about different elements of hospitality in restaurants like how to lay the table for lunch and dinner, the art of napkin folding, how to attend phone calls, the art of preparing the bed etc. It was an amazing experience. I extend my heartfelt thanks to Chairperson Ma’am for giving me and all the other Amitasha students this golden opportunity.”

Child rights

AIS Noida

During the week from December 5 to 9, 2011, Class III students of AIS Noida took learning to a higher level when they learnt about the ‘Rights of the Child’ as a part of celebrating World Human Rights Day, which is celebrated annually across the world on December 10. Learning became creative and concept based as the students, in small groups, crafted catchy slogans on the rights of the child, which they wrote on placards for display. The activity was a part of Amity’s commitment to imparting holistic education.

A whiff of Swiss air

On an edutrip to India, the Swiss delegates got a taste of all things Indian as they undertook a tour of Delhi, as well as went on a visit to Agra, the land of the Taj



A delegation of 8 students and 2 educators from Kanton Schule, Wettingen, Switzerland visited India from October 2-13, 2011. AIS Noida students put up an entertaining cultural show. Kritvi Methi (Class X) revisited the summer trip of Amity students to Switzerland. Jyoti Arora, Head AERC, gave a presentation on Swiss programmes with Amity. The guests for the programme were: Mr Martin Strub, Charge d’Affaires of Switzerland; Mrs Bettina Diem, Education Department Kanton of Argau; Mr Marc Buchmann, IB coordinator, Kanton Schule, Wettingen; Ms Sarah, Cultural secretary, Swiss Embassy; Ms Katherina, Educator and Ms Divya Arora, National Director, AFS. Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools, launched Amity Swiss Club in association with Swiss Embassy. The programme culminated with the national anthem of both the countries, followed by a special lunch.

Delhi Haat stole their heart: On October 5, the delegates visited Akshardham and were impressed with its art and architecture. They also had a chance to learn about Indian values and wisdom. A delectable lunch at Lazeez in Chanakyapuri was rounded up with a visit to Delhi Haat, where the delegates got the taste of a traditional Indian village market and enjoyed shopping.

City Guide: On October 7, the delegates visited the Lotus Temple and were impressed by the teachings of Bahai faith and their peaceful method of praying. They also visited the Qutub Minar and the cultural *gali* of Kingdom of Dreams.



Swiss Skills

AIS Mayur Vihar

Swiss educators Mr Marc Buchmann a veteran educationist and Ms Katherina Merker visited Amity International School, Mayur Vihar on October 13. The delegation

was accorded a warm welcome by school Principal Mrs Sarita Aggarwal. The visiting faculty conducted English and German workshops and discussed how language can be integrated with other disciplines to broaden the horizon of young learners.

The land of Taj: On October 8-9, the Swiss delegation, along with one host student and teacher Ms Smitha Raman went for a two day and one night sightseeing trip to Agra.

Gurgaon Sojourn: On October 10, AIS Gur-46, along with Amity Global School, Gurgaon hosted the delegates for a day, where, they learnt ‘Tie and Dye’, designed costumes with newspapers & chart papers and cooked a few Indian delicacies. Mr Buchmann taught ‘Theory of Knowledge’ and Ms Katherina took an interactive English class for the students.

Swiss Embassy: On Oct 11, the Swiss students and educators along

with Ms Bettina Diem, Principal Mrs Renu Singh, Mrs Mohina Dar, (Senior Consultant, Amity), Jyoti Arora (Head AERC), Jyoti Arora (Headmistress Noida), Ms Smitha Raman and host students visited the Swiss embassy for a tete-a-tete with the Ambassador H.E. Mr Philippe Welter.

Project Amitasha: Impressed by Amitasha students, Ms Bettina Diem during a special interaction, extended support to the cause of girl child by sponsoring a project.

School Time: On October 13, the Swiss delegation spent the day at AIS Noida learning how to make Madhubani paintings, which they took home as souvenirs. Mr Marc Buchmann, took an English class for Class X while Ms Katherina took a German language class for Class X and XI. They also visited Amity University campus at Noida. An interaction with Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan marked the culmination of the ten day long programme organised by Amity Education Resource Center.

A ‘Grand’ Day

AIS Mayur Vihar

Class I students of AIS Mayur Vihar showered their love and appreciation for their Grandparents by celebrating Grandparents Day on Nov 30, 2011. The programme began with the lighting of the lamp amidst chanting of *shlokas* by the school choir. Thereafter, a special song composed exclusively for the Grand Mothers ‘Grandma, we love you’ was sung by the children. A warm welcome with words of appreciation and gratitude was given by Principal Mrs Sarita Aggarwal. This was followed by a foot thumping dance on *Bal Hanuman*. A play with the message, *Parishram hi safalta ki kadi hai*, was staged by the children of class II. The day concluded with all the Grandparents joining in for interesting, innovative games. The programme brought the children closer to their grandparents, thus strengthening bonds, making each other feel important, wanted and special. Small gifts made by the children were presented to the grandparents as a symbol of love and regard for the limitless and selfless love bestowed upon them.



Save energy

AIS Vasundhara-6

On October 19, students of class VI & VII participated in a workshop on ‘Save Energy and Preventing River Pollution’ under the guidance of School Counselor, Ms Meenu Bhargava. The workshop was planned and conducted by the students, for the students. It began with a video on how people waste resources and what precautions can be taken to save them. Harshika Chinwal and Riti Jaiswal (Class VI), left everyone amazed with their skill of involving the audience. Class VII depicted how people pollute rivers by throwing plastics and other wastes, and how dangerous they can be for aquatic animals through a short role play. Ashvita Bagai and Ritika Sharma (VII B) handled the assembly brilliantly. Anmol Baluja’s PPT on water pollution was highly appreciated. A special mention to Shaurya Sharma, Aniket and other students of Class VI & VII who facilitated the execution of their presentation. Principal, Ms Sumita Athley, congratulated students for their performance and the passion.

“Working for the Closing GT edition was a whole lot of fun. It not just gave me the chance to something I already enjoy, but it also added so much to my portfolio.”

Illustrator Vaishali Jain, XII B, AIS Vas-6

Illustration: Vaishali Jain, XII, AIS Vas-6

The singing genius

Singing legend Asha Bhosle sang another perfect tune as she made her way into the Guinness World Records for the maximum single studio recordings. The 78 year old singer has a record number of 11,000 songs to her credit in over 20 Indian languages since 1947.

Illustration: Vaishali Jain, XII, AIS Vas-6

Illustration: Vaishali Jain, XII, AIS Vas-6

Katrina rings, Kolaveri sings

While everyone was still wondering ‘Why this Kolaveri Di’, the soup song made its way to be the top downloaded track on mobile in the year 2011. The song fetched a record number of 2,10,000 music downloads within 18 days of its launch, beating all previous records. In the Bollywood segment, Katrina Kaif continued to be the leading lady by fetching the highest number of mobile downloads for the third year in a row.

Illustration: Seher Malik Alumnus, AIS Noida

NO(minations) awards

A R Rahman, with his double Oscar nominations in the year 2011 for Danny Boyle’s 127 Hours (Best Original Score and Best Song- If I Rise with Dido) failed to touch his previous glory and couldn’t bring the anticipated Oscars to the nation. And what’s more? He missed out on the Golden Globe too. Better luck next year!

Filmi chakkar

Whopping budgets, lavish sets, exotic locales, best star cast and you have the perfect recipe for a Bollywood Blockbuster..right? Wrong! At least 2011 says so. None of the movies this year could match up their precedents in term of box office collections – read Dabangg, My Name is Khan, Three idiots and the like. A little reworking Bollywood?

“I have grown up watching these superstars and listening to the melodious voice of Jagjit Singh. Their death is an irreparable loss to the industry and art lovers across the globe. May their souls rest in peace?”

Shreya, Amity School of Engineering and Technology

Illustration: Harini Subbaraman Amity Institute of Biotechnology

“2011 was definitely a year of multi-starrers and big budget films, but that is no more the trick to please the audience. How else would you explain the debacle of movies like RA.One?”

Anugya Gupta, XII, AIS Pushp Vihar

No entertainment for Delhi

Seems like music fans in the Capital will have to wait for long to be able to experience the live magic of music mozarts. The Capital in the year 2011 saw many international music concerts (read Enrique, Bryan Adams and finally Metallica) being cancelled at the last hour, leaving the fans and the Capital dithering and entertainment deprived.

“It looks like the jinx is there to stay for the entertainment deprived Capital! Alas! Fans may just have to live on music CDs and worn out posters before Delhi gets to host a successful music concert yet again?”

Chitra Jain, XII, AIS Vas-6



Star struck India

2011 has been the year of international acclaim for India with the foreign celeb quotient flowing into the Indian territory. Julia Roberts, Tom Cruise, Metallica, Bryan Adams, Pitbull, Akon and many others visited India this year, adding a *videsi tadka* to the *desi* entertainment and glamour scene.

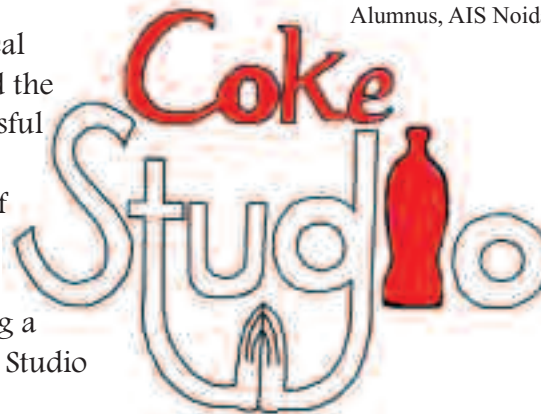
“Tom Cruise is my favourite actor and it was so good to have him in India. And it would be so much fun to have others come to India too. Hint: Bradley Cooper.”

Prakriti Sharma, XII, AIS Noida

Namaste Coke Studio

Illustration: Seher Malik Alumnus, AIS Noida

Coke Studio, the popular musical television series finally knocked the Indian doors after three successful seasons in Pakistan. The show brings together varied genres of music under one banner and gives musicians the chance to create their music LIVE. Packing a mini concert into a show, Coke Studio enthralled Indian music lovers.



“I always used to YouTube Coke Studio and discuss with my friends how amazing a concept it is. We had the privilege to see and hear them in India. And it surely in one word was LEGENDARY!”

Shivangi Singh, XII, AIS Noida

The last twinkle

2011 saw many evergreen stars twinkle for one last time. Dev Anand, Shammi Kapoor, and ghazal maestros Bhupen Hazarika and Jagjit Singh bid their final goodbyes, leaving their ardent fans grief struck.

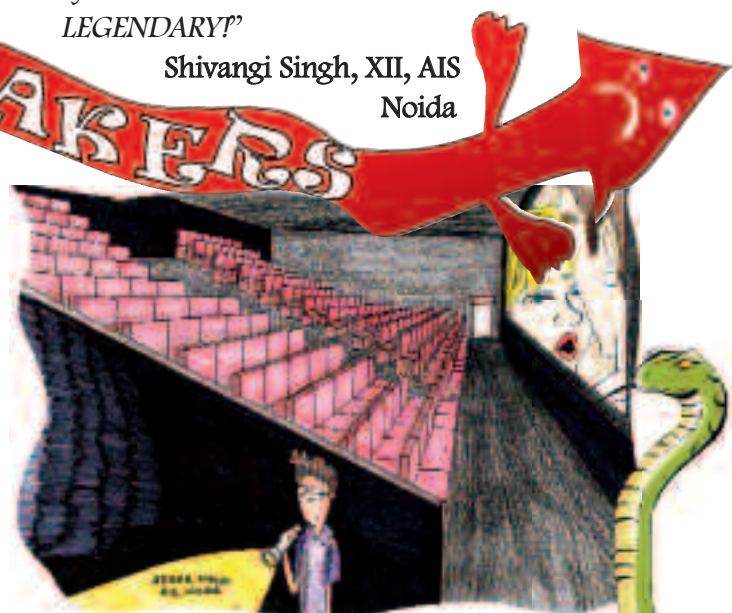


Illustration: Seher Malik, Alumnus, AIS Noida

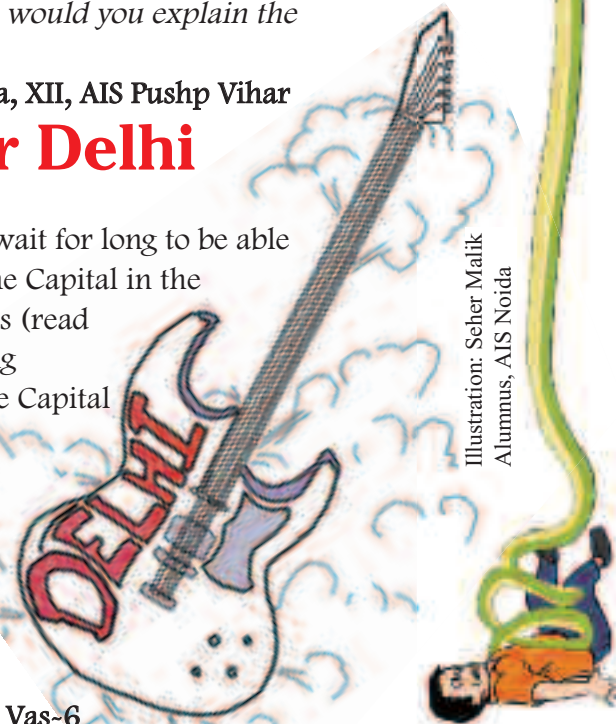


Illustration: Seher Malik Alumnus, AIS Noida