

Food For Thought

Mantra for happiness

In the war of temptation between heart and mind, always: heart should win when concerned with others; and mind should win when concerned with self.

INSIDE



Halla Bol, P 2



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AMITEpoll

The best way to teach values are through...

- 1.Moral lectures
- 2.Self Practice
- 3.Other mediums as theater, debates, etc

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THE GLOBAL TIMES

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Leading the way, Amity is setting new paradigms by redefining the moral code of conduct. It is high time that others follow suit.



Smita Jain, GT Network

Moral values form the basis of human essence. It is difficult to conceive human development in the absence of these values. A firm believer in the prophecy that education and values are inseparable; Amity nurtures Human Values in its students through the year in its true signature style.

Moral values revisited:

Moral values – a thing of the past? Says who? Not when you have institutions like Amity singing out the moral anthem aloud with its Human Value Quarter (HVQ)! Upholding the spirit of human values, Amity devotes the first three months of every year, celebrating these values under the umbrella of Human Value Quarter. Commencing on January 28, the celebrations reach its finale with the birthday of Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools, Dr. (Mrs.) Amita Chauhan, on April 27.

Endorsing the novel initiative, Chanda Akhauri, President, Amity Humanity Foundation opines, “The society today is witnessing breakdown of moral values. The recent years have seen unprecedented rise in incidents of violence. These growing complexities in the society have revived the interest in value education. Through Human Value Quarter, students are encouraged to internalize whatever they have been taught as moral values.” Supporting the celebrations, Prof. RK Dargan, Director, Amity School of Communication shares, “Celebrating Human Values are not only necessary, but a MUST. The children here are given ‘sanskars’ which are essential to shape their personality. This initiative taken by Amity is indeed laudable and other universities should follow suit.”

At a time, when need finds more priority over values, inculcating a strong moral base indeed is worth a Nobel Prize or Bharat Ratna. Airing similar sentiments, Shalini Agarwal, teacher at AIS Gur-43 shares, “This initiative by Amity

Celebrating Human Values

will help in restoring the lost values in the children. Activities as ‘Grandparents day’ teach children values such as care and share.”

Celebrating values Amity style:

Bid adieu to boring moral lectures as Amity believes in not preaching but celebrating Human Values. Using innovative methods, the institution penetrates values at the most basic level, where moral policing fails to reach.

“Boring moral lectures make no impact. At Amity, we use innovative mediums like street plays, essay writing and slogan writing to send out an everlasting message,” says Nandita, ASCO student. Ms. Praveen Ravindran, teacher at AIS Noida agrees, “At Amity, paramount importance is given to human values. A plethora of activities are organised through out the year to inculcate human values. Be it Vasudha, Sports Day, Annual Day, or Earth ; all activities carried at Amity have human values as the underlying theme.”

Imaging: Pankaj Mallik

Sensitizing the young: It is not unusual to come across an Amitian who is passionately involved with ‘Save the Tiger’ movement or devoting time for ‘Teach India’ campaign. All this comes naturally to them. Charita, AIS No “The various activities conducted under the ambit of Human value celebrations makes children come forward and serve the society. This move would help in building a healthy society.”

Practicing what we preach: Nothing works better than self practice. In its true signature style, events at Amity commence with a Havan. Even the guests are welcomed with potted plants instead of flower bouquets. “Human values can never be taught in the confines of the classroom. They can be inculcated either during childhood or learnt through experiences in life,” says Apoorva Agarwal, a student of ASET.

The LAW of success

H.E. Mr. Shekhar Dutt, Governor of Chattisgarh on the country’s legal system as the roadmap to success

Shreya Ganguly, Amity Law School

While the country’s legal system has always been at the receiving end of controversy, it is the legal system that makes for our core strength. It is the strong judiciary that holds a diverse nation like ours together. H.E. Mr. Shekhar Dutt, Governor of Chattisgarh and Former Deputy National Security Administrator talks about the country’s legal excellence and how it can serve as the foundation stone for nation’s development.

On importance of law...

Looking at law as a controlling mechanism devised to maintain order among the people is a myopic view. I consider law as something

which sustains and holds the people together, and binds them into one country. No country can develop without having a rule of law. Ours is a country of diversity, with each state having its own culture, language, customs, festivals and religions. It is our constitution and law that assures them of equality, justice and binds them together. In India that social reforms like abolition of Sati pratha, equal rights to women, & prevention of child marriages have been made possible by enacting relevant laws.

On legal strength...

I think India’s biggest strength lies in its legal system. It is a country of law abiding citizens, where law is held in great sanctity. In India, one has to follow a legal route to even set up a small factory. Starting from land acquisition to arbitration, numerous legalities are involved. You can find the best legal minds in the country, which is a big plus. The law fraternity in the country definitely has a very bright future.

On good governance...

Good Governance requires accessibility, accountability, predictability & transparency. To ensure all this an ‘independent Judiciary’ is must. But, we cannot ensure development and welfare only by enacting laws. Honest and sincere im-

ALS students interacting with His Excellency



Pic: Ravinder Gussain

plementation of law is important too.

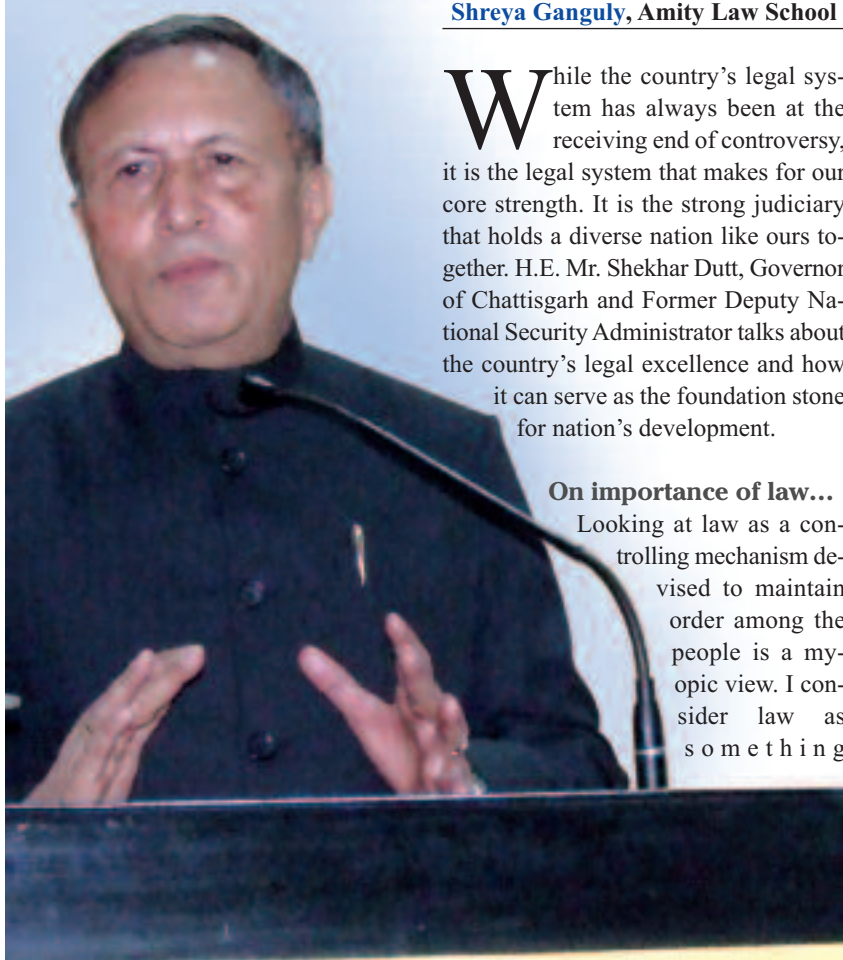
On RTI...

Right to Information Act has brought revolutionary changes in the administration and the awareness level of people. It was brought into being to provide information to general public. The only exception to this is the information related to security that comes under the purview of national and state security. Many cases of misuse of power and financial irregularities have been brought to light by the whistleblowers using ‘Right to Information’. The act has been shrouded into controversy from the time of its inception. The RTI has been set out for a participatory development to which you and I are

partners and we have the right to know. However, it is really difficult for any institution to share all the information, which explains the bureaucratic conflict pertaining to the act.

On India as a super power...

India has a vast untapped potential, which needs to be channelized. If you invest in this country, the wealthy brains of this nation will surely show a bright tomorrow. Even though we are prepared to face the western world, we are still lagging on the political, economical or cultural front. And that I think is the challenge that lies ahead of us. With dedicated efforts and strong will power to bring change, we can meet this challenge well.



His Excellency Mr. Shekhar Dutt, Governor of Chattisgarh enlightens the students at Amity Law School, Amity University Uttar Pradesh

“Don’t judge each day by the harvest you reap, but by the seeds you plant.”
 -Robert Louis Stevenson
 Contributed by Sukhda Monga, AIS Gur-46



Scheming, malicious: Do not let them con you

Smita Jain, GT Network

“Chand Sikkon mein bikta iman dekh raha hoon.
 Logon ka pet kat te jhootho baiymaan dekh raha hoon.
 Kaisa Karishma hain dekho is andhe kanon ka
 Kursiyon par choron ko virajman dekh raha hoon.”



Illustration: Ravinder Gusain

Corruption in India is nothing new. In our daily lives we have either been a witness to or a victim of thriving corruption. It could be in the form of an autorickshaw wallah manipulating the meter to jack up the reading or a government officer taking bribe to transfer a file. According to Transparency International’s latest international ranking, India stands on 87th spot. This revelation is a matter of great shame for a country of one billion. However, it would not be an exaggeration to term CWG and 2G as mother of all scams that have so far rocked the na-

tion. The recent accusations and charges of corruption against the top leadership have dealt a deadly blow to India’s image.

The startling disclosure by former Telecom Minister Arun Shourie that Prime

Minister Manmohan Singh knew about the 2G Spectrum scam in 2009 is mind boggling. Can we still call Prime Minister Mr. Clean? Shourie claims that there were more people, not just A Raja who benefited from the 2G scam. If Raja got

10 % then what about the rest? President of Commonwealth Games, Organizing Committee Suresh Kalamdi is right when he says he has been singled out given the fact that he was responsible for merely 5% of the total CWG budget? Let’s see what our Amitians have to say about this.

by him is reflective of the high moral values and ethics that he stands for.”
 - Harini Swaminathan, AIB



“Though, we can’t give a clean chit to Kalamdi, we cannot blame him for the entire fiasco too. Sports Ministry, Delhi government

and Urban Development Ministry and other government departments involved in the infrastructure development should be also brought to book.”

- Babua Biswas, ASCO



“Why single out one small fish when the entire pond is dirty. It is not right to single out Kalamdi, Sports Ministry and Urban Development Ministry should equally share the blame.”

- Anuvrat Parashar, ASET



“The pressure by UPA (United Progressive Alliance) partners would have forced Prime Minister to stay mum. The JPC probe ordered

The column ‘Halla Bol’ is aimed at not only building consensus against the social evils plaguing the society, it also forces us to introspect. There are many forums in the country where you can voice your opinion. However, if we really want to win this battle, it is high time that we join hands and fight together. Halla Bol!

Gain vs Pain

Widely seen as taxpayer and market friendly, Union Budget 2011-12 signals taxing times ahead for the youth and their pockets.

Anshika Rai, Rachita Sagar & Shruti Priya
 Amity School of Economics

Imaging: Ravinder Gusain

Get ready to pay more next time you order your favourite pasta or check in a hotel for a vacation. The Union Budget has pricked the hopes of the young and restless who were looking forward to the budget with great anticipation.

Lows

Readymade problems: Put off your plans to buy your favourite Versace, Gucci etc as branded readymade garments are all set to become expensive. They will now attract 10 per cent excise duty. So, frequent your visits to

flea markets- Sarojini Nagar and Janpath to get that fab look. **No more Instant:** Prices of ready to eat foods- macaroni, juices and flavoured milk are all going to increase as they are now under excise duty net. So, give instant foods a skip and instead savour the taste of home cooked food

Gadgets Calling: Domestic mobile handsets and the imported ones are set to cost 1% and 5% more respectively, courtesy the increase in central excise duty. The price of PC’s will increase marginally. A concessional 5% excise duty to be levied on microprocessors will push their prices up by ₹ 60.

Stationery Wagon: Stationery items widely used by school children like text books, fountain pens, geometry boxes, colour boxes and pencil sharpeners will now attract a similar levy. Educational text books are also expected to become costlier as paper used in printing them will no longer be exempted from excise duty.

Glitter Game: Branded jewellery will burn a deeper hole in the pockets as they will now attract 1 % excise duty.

Check in Cheque out: Get ready to pay more next time when you check in a hotel for a family vacation.

Candyman: Candy makers might be forced to phase out 50 paisa candies from the market due to the hike in excise duty from 4% to 5 % on confectionaries



Highs



Smart phones: If you thought that proposed increase in prices of mobile handsets will make the mobile accessories dearer, you are in for a pleasant surprise. accessories like hands-free and headphones continue to enjoy

the total exemption of custom duty like that of last year budget.

Silver Lining: Enhance your collection of silver trinkets, accessories and precious stones as this year’s budget exempts them from central excise duty.



“The budget is not very impressive. The 1% excise duty on educational goods is

leading to a 5% increase in prices. It could have been avoided wherein we talk about a welfare economy.

Himalaya Monga
 ASET



“It would not make much of a difference as my parents bear that cost. The spiraling prices of imported mobiles and branded garments are going to make us opt for Indian stuff.

Chitrangada Singh
 XII, AIS Noida



“The Finance Minister has not kept the interest of the youth in mind. Increased prices of processed food is going to burn a hole in the pocket of hostellers. I am not happy with the budget.

Priyanshi Bahadur
 ASCO

News Reels



Kultheja Ponnada, (BJMC), ASCO

Godhra Verdict: A special fast-tracked court in Gujarat has upheld the conviction of 31 accused while acquitting 63 in the case of torching Sabarmati Express coach at Godhra in 2002 that killed 59 passengers.

Babri case: The Supreme Court issued notices to senior BJP leaders LK Advani, Murli Manohar Joshi along with Shiv Sena Chief Bal Thackeray and 18 others on a petition by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) challenging their discharge in the Babri Masjid demolition conspiracy case.



Bofors Case: The Bofors pay-off scandal that cost Rajiv Gandhi the 1989 polls was finally swept into history with a Delhi court allowing the CBI’s plea for withdrawal of criminal charges against Italian businessman Ottavio Quattrocchi. 18 years after Quattrocchi who was charged with criminal conspiracy and cheating, fled to Malaysia, Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Vinod Yadav accepted the agency’s plea to let him off, saying it had cost the exchequer ₹ 250 crore.

Union Budget 2011-12: The Union Budget, presented by Pranab Mukherjee for FY2012, is a growth oriented budget that seeks to build on growth drivers through infrastructure and social sector development; address challenges of food inflation and fiscal man-

agement and promotes inclusive growth. Overall, the budget focuses on areas requiring significant investments, while seeking to take forward the process of fiscal consolidation.

Railway Budget 2011-12: The 2011 railway budget aims at increasing the number of trains and freight carriers; production of wagons, coaches and locos. Gauge conversion, doubling of tracks and laying of 1000 km of railway tracks are also on the agenda.



Earthquake rocks Christchurch: Hundreds went missing as rescuers struggled to find survivors after a devastating earthquake measuring 6.3 struck Christchurch, New Zealand’s second largest city. The Government declared a national state of emergency.

Libyan Crisis: The protests that first sparked off in Tunisia has spread to other parts of Middle East. Egyptian revolution saw a series of demonstrations, marches, acts of civil disobedience, strikes and violent clashes between protesters, security services and supporters of Mubarak. Libya also saw uprising and confrontations against Muammar Gaddafi’s 42-year rule. The protests have forced thousands to flee.

Tsunami wreaks havoc: Japan’s most powerful earthquake since records (140 years) struck the north-east coast near Sendai City with the magnitude of 8.9 Richter on Friday 11th March, 2011, triggering a massive Tsunami. The towering wall of water unleashed disaster as it washed away homes, tossed ships inland, deluged farmlands, set nuclear plant ablaze, rose plumes of smoke and claimed thousands of lives. The extent of damage to is yet to be fully accessed. This seventh strongest quake in the history was 160 times more powerful than what devastated Christchurch.



kahani every Coaching ki



With numerous coaching institutes mushrooming in every nook and cranny, students have some new names added to their list of favourite hangout zones.

Ruchismita B & Chitra Jain
XI, AIS Vas-6

One can bet on the big guns that every 1 in 20 high school students reading this article spend their hours lurking around the campus of what we Indians call 'Coaching Institutes'. While many of us are well versed with the concept, there are only a handful of people who really know what all is done there, of course apart from attending heavy duty lectures. We sneak a peek of cram schools across Delhi and NCR and bring you the inside story.

Where's the fun at?

1. Resonance Institute for engineering aspirants, 15, Pratap Nagar
2. Aakash Institute for medical professionals, Sector 18, Noida

Awkward silence or gibberish talks?

It's tragic enough that you have to sacrifice jaywalking in the evening with pals or catching the coolest movies, all thanks to unending coaching classes that

often take up your entire evening; but having to put up with strangers isn't ripsnorter either. To befriend or not to befriend, that's the question. Says Payoja Agarwal, DAV, Dayanand Vihar, "On the first day at Aakash, all I could think





was 'Who are these strangers sitting next to me and practically burning the board with their gazes?' But soon you realize that they are very much like you and it only takes one smile to break the ice."

Soon, barging across all barriers, you make great friends, sailing in the same boat of unbelievably enormous and

tough syllabus. What about the dreaded competition with coaching mates, as you may call them? Yashika Sharma, AIS Vasundhara-6, opines "Of course, you're competing for a fistful of places against practically the entire nation so competition pours in. But you gotta do your best and have fun along the way."

Food For Thought

With massive IQ explosions inside the classroom, it is imperative to chill outside. After the long lectures, 'ek break toh banta hai'; as students head to the nearest eating joints for a chit-chat session and to grab a bite. Seated conveniently in the heart of Atta market, Noida with popular food chains at a walk's distance, students at Aakash have a plethora of options available. Ronald's Mc Donald takes the lead here! Tasty and affordable is what they vouch for. No surprise Aakashites contribute to half of Mc D's annual revenue. KFC ranks second, closely followed by the GIP. Don't let long study hours make you wary of joining coaching institutes. Enjoy these new fun 'addas'.  

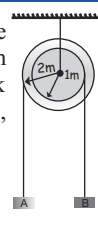
Amity Institute of Competitive Examination

Presents Brainleaks-05

FOR CLASS XI - XII

In the pulley system shown, if radii of the bigger and smaller pulley are 2m and 1m respectively and the acceleration of block A is 5 m/s² in the downward direction, then the acceleration of Block B will be

- (a) 0m/s² (b) 5m/s²
(c) 10 m/s² (d) 5/2m/s²



3 correct entries win attractive prizes

Last Date: 5th April 2011

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

Send your answer at The Global Times, AKC House, E-27, Defence Colony, New Delhi - 24 or e-mail your answer at amityglobaltimes@gmail.com



Get wise, stream wise!

At the outset, I would like to extend my best wishes to the first batch of Class X students who have appeared for the CCE exam. I am certain that you must have done well and before you know you'll be accepting congratulations for your fine results.

Having crossed one bridge you are now faced with the crucial decision of choosing the right stream in class XI – a decision often beset with a lot of anxiety and confusion on the part of students and parents alike. This tepidness is not out of place since your choice impacts the course of career you have charted for yourself. While good performance in a particular subject in Class X can be indicative of the student's hold over the subject, it cannot be considered as a benchmark for the level of aptitude he or she may have in the same. Your involvement, aptitude and interest in the concerned subject will be the driving force behind your performance two years down the line and open doors to potential career paths. So, the choice of

stream- Science, Commerce or Humanities in Class XI should be arrived at only after you have taken stock of your interests.

Taking several aspects of your personality into account - the activities you enjoy doing and the subjects you like reading or talking about most, can help you figure out your preferred course of study. Having a role model and seeking advice of parents can also prove helpful in this regard. I am sure our career counseling sessions must have assuaged your anxiety and indecision. Remember what works for your friend, need not work for you too. Amity endeavors to provide the best possible education choices. We ensure that we equip our students with the necessary skills to succeed in today's competitive job market. Each one of you has a dream to achieve and we want you to know that we are there with you to help you realize it. After all, the heart of education, it is said, is the education of the heart.

May you all find your true avenues and live life humming a joyous tune. I wish you a highly rewarding year ahead.  

Principal's Pen



Ms. Renu Singh
Principal, AIS Noida

SCHOLASTIC ALERTS

Institute/College: The Institute of Company Secretaries of India
Exam: Examinations in June & December
Course: CS Foundation Program
Last date of submission: 3/31/2011
Website: www.icsi.edu/www.icsi.in

Institute/College: IIT Kharagpur's Law School, Jindal Global Law School, UPES, KLE Societ's Law College, Mysore etc
Exam: LSAT(Law School Admission Test) on 30/04/2011
Course: Syr. B.A. LLB
Last date of submission: 18/04/2011
Website: www.pearsonvuedia.com/lSATindia

Institute/College: Amity University, Haryana
Exam: Ref. Website- www.amity.edu/gurgaon
Course: Management, Engineering, Computer Science/IT, Biotechnology, Communication, Fashion Designing & Tech, Liberal Arts, Architecture & Planning
Last date of submission: 29/4/2011

Institute/College: Maharshi Markandeshwar University, Ambala
Exam: All India Common Entrance Test (MMUCET-2010)
Course: MBBS/BDS
Last date of submission: 30/4/2011
Website: www.mmmullana.org

Taruna Barthwal, Resource coordinator,
Amity Career Counselling & Guidance Center

Bright alma mater, Brighter alumnus

Smita Jain, GT Network

Amity University has been churning out some of the brightest minds, creating a legacy that current students try matching up to. One such distinguished alumni who has been associated with the University right from its inception and has carved a niche for himself in the media industry is Piyush Jain, Chief Operating Officer IBN7. In a candid chat with The Global Times, Piyush, a student of the first batch of Amity Business School talks about his association with the University, success story and more...

Tasting Success: It has been a very interesting journey and I think I still have a long way to go. I was recruited from the campus by TV18 (now Network18). At that time it was a production house doing some shows for different channels. I have been associated with TV18 since then in various capacities... Sales, Marketing, Corporate Affairs, etc. Now I am looking after IBN7, a premier 24-hr Hindi News channel of the country. The company's founder Mr. Raghav Bahl has been my inspiration and mentor throughout.

"Amity is the only University which offers an amalgamation of traditional values like honesty and integrity with a modern infrastructure and great faculty."





Piyush Jain,
Chief Operating Officer, IBN 7

Benchmark of student life: Generally people like to talk about awards and accolades that they have won during their student life as benchmark events of their life. However, I prefer to differ a bit. The most exciting event of my student life at Amity was holding the Management Fest called 'Trends96'. It was the first time that our organizing skills were put to test and we proved our mettle.

Industry Insight

Proud to be an Amitian: I joined Amity University in 1995 to pursue Masters in Business Management. I owe a lot to this great institution; it provided me with a strong foundation to build my career and that's how I am where I am today. Amity proved to be an ideal training ground as

it emphasized on practical approach towards learning.

To Sir with Love: Though Founder Sir Dr. Ashok K. Chauhan never taught us, his ardent desire to make Amity University the most sought after University in India, his leadership qualities and great vision made him my source of inspiration. I am and always will be thankful to him.  

Changing Land Use Patterns

Dr. S.N Das, Chief Director, All India Soil and Land Use Survey, Ministry of Agriculture in conversation with Kushagra Shrivastva, VIII, AIS Noida about sustainable land use and more...

How do we define Land-use? What is Land Use Pattern?

Land is a geographical entity comprising soil, water and vegetation. The way in which it is used is called Landuse. To make it simpler, the practices that mankind indulges in using land is Land-use. Land-use planning means the scientific, aesthetic and orderly disposition of land, resources and services with a view to secure the physical, economic and social efficiency, health and well-being of urban and rural communities.

Why is it important to monitor Land Use Pattern (LUP)?

Monitoring is important because if our practices exceed land potential i.e the level to which land can support sustenance, the land will degrade. To avoid degeneration of land, soil maps are generated to ascertain the suitability of soil type at the time of planning cities. Then

land capability is ascertained and finally land budgeting is done for allocating land for various purposes in order to support sustainable development.

What are the methods employed to detect LUP of a particular area?

The traditional method to detect LUP is the manual survey using topographical maps. The modern method uses remote sensing through satellite imagery. It helps collect multi-spectral and multi-temporal data, providing information for understanding the urban land cover changes. The digital format of data col-

lected provides a suitable platform for data analysis, update and retrieval.

What are the factors affecting LUP and what are the changes seen in LUP in Delhi-NCR over the past 20 years?

The major factors affecting LUP are physical, social, economic and institutional framework of the area. The major changes in LUP for Delhi-NCR are urbanization and industrialisation. The city limit is increasing everyday. Pollution and population density too are increasing, altering the LUP to a great extent.

How do these factors affect earth?

It alters the urban land use patterns and causes loss of productive agricultural lands, forest cover, surface water bodies, and increases level of air and water pollution. Land-use change (e.g. conversion of forest into agricultural land) can trigger CO₂ atmospheric concentration, con-



Understanding thy land Dr. S.N Das with Kushagra Shrivastva

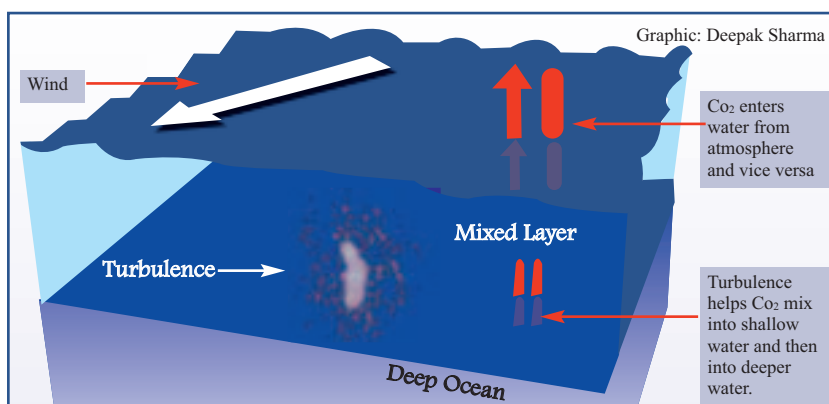
tributing to climate change.

What are the challenges faced by the government in determining LUP?

The main challenge is land tenureship. A piece of land erstwhile is owned by one person but later it's divided between

his sons and grandsons, making it difficult to ascertain who the actual owner is. This poses a problem at the time of acquiring the land for planning. To tackle such issues, government is modernizing its land records and opting for digitalisation of Cadastral level maps.

Land-use change (e.g. conversion of forest into agricultural land) can trigger CO₂ atmospheric concentration



Oceanic Climate

Our world is a water world. The ocean covers 70% of Earth's surface and makes for 97% of water on Earth. The ocean plays a significant role in whatever happens with the environment.

How does the ocean soak up energy and CO₂?

The ocean does an excellent job of absorbing excess heat from the atmosphere. The top few meters of the ocean store as much heat as the Earth's entire atmosphere. So, as the planet warms, it's the ocean that gets to absorb most of the extra energy. The ocean also absorbs carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, wherever air meets water. In addition, it also absorbs the carbon dioxide as generated by aquatic plants and animals. However, with the increasing level of CO₂, the ocean is becoming more acidic and everything in it is paying a price.

How does the ocean affect the climate?

One way the ocean affects the climate in places like Europe is by carrying

heat to the north in the Atlantic Ocean. Way up north, cold water in the North Atlantic ocean sinks very deep and spreads out all around the world. The sinking water is replaced by warm water near the surface which then moves to the north. Scientists call this the Great Ocean Conveyor Belt.

The heat carried north helps keep the Atlantic ocean warm in winters, helping warm the nearby countries as well.

What is the role of salt in the ocean?

Oceans have the highest salinity of all water bodies. The amount of salt in ocean water also affects currents. When salty ocean water freezes, the ice can no longer hold the salt. Instead, the salt mixes with the water below making it saltier and heavier. Glaciers, land ice and icebergs are made of fresh water, but what happens when this ice melts? If too much fresh water ice melts in the North Atlantic, the water could become less salty. As a result the Ocean Conveyor belt might get affected, making Europe freezing cold.

(www.climate.nasa.gov/kids/)

Azolla: A potential biofertilizer

Mitali Mathur, IX C, AIS Gur-43

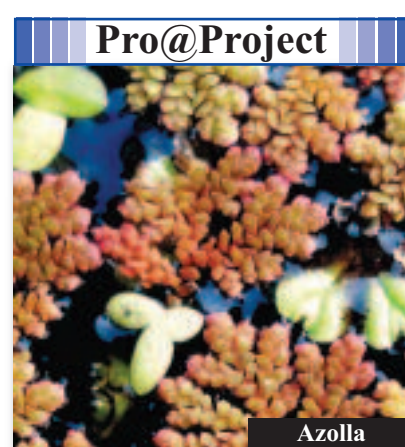
The increasing dependence on chemical fertilizers for better crop production and ramification of their usage on soil's fertility, got team members Mitali Mathur (IX C), Souparnika Krishnan (IX D), Anuja Das (IX D), Mrinalini Kumar (IX D) and Narayani Chawla (IX C), AIS Gur-43, thinking. It was from here that the idea of the project 'Improving Soil Quality using Azolla' emerged. Azolla, a water fern fixes nitrogen in water crops on symbiosis with blue green algae. It is a bio-manure, that offers quick nutrition to the crops. The project aims at improving land quality using natural resources.

Objective:

- To study about Azolla, trace its growth in polluted water and its effect on quality and fertility of soil.
- To popularize Azolla as a green and dry manure and generate the need for a small scale industry based on Azolla.

Methodology:

- Conducted interviews of 25 gardeners of HUDA parks and society parks to find



Azolla

the type of fertilizers used by them.

- Collection of information about Azolla from all available resources.
- Visited National Institute of Blue Green Algae to enquire about the advantages and challenges of growing Azolla.
- Experimented to grow Azolla in 4 different pots, each with different types of water - tap water, beer factory effluent, septic tank and soap water.
- Collected two soil samples- Sample 1 from a potted plant and Sample 2 from a garden. Added azolla (as collected from the above mentioned pots) to both the soil samples. Testing of pH, electrical conductivity and organic carbon of soil

before and after addition of Azolla.

- Organised 'Grow Azolla' drive in Amity and societies to increase awareness about its cultivation.

Observation & Results

- Gardeners interviewed were only using chemical fertilizers and not Azolla.
- The quality of both the soil samples improved after addition of Azolla
- Azolla grew in all types of water, except soap water in which it died the next day.
- The pH of soil reduces:
Sample 1: 8.3 to 7.43
Sample 2: 8.8 to 7.8
- The electrical conductivity of soil decreases:
Sample 1: 0.47 to 0.27
Sample 2: 0.64 to 0.14
- The organic carbon of soil increases:
Sample 1: 0.34 to 0.76
Sample 2: 0.21 to 0.82 .

Future and feasibility

With Azolla being eco friendly and economical, it is an useful solution for effective soil management. Also, it can grow in waste water and effluents, thus revolutionizing their purification and usage.

Scientific pride

- The project 'Improving Soil Quality using Azolla' made the cut to the National level of the NCSC (National Children Science Congress), a forum offering opportunities to young students to stimulate their scientific temperament and understand scientific methodology.
- The group bagged gold medals, certificates and 'overall performance' sheet with 'A' Grade.



Team members (L to R): Mitali Mathur, Mrinalini Kumar, Narayani Chawla, Anuja Das and Souparnika Krishnan

Imaging: Deepak Sharma

Pink V/S Blue



Shreya Gauba & Aastha Garg,
AIS MV, X B

Men are from Mars & women are from Venus. If men are like cold ice-cream, then women are hot chocolate syrup; if men are hard wood then women are soft pillows. We all have grown up hearing this. The conflict between these two distinct species has existed from time immemorial and still continues. These wonderful creatures are not only physically different, their mental make up are also ways apart. Let us see how different these two species are when it comes to facing daily teenage problems.

When someone teases them: No prizes for guessing what a girl will do in a situation like this.....she will cryyyy her heart out.

"I still remember I used to hide in the washroom and cry if someone passed a nasty remark or made a bitter comment. Unlike boys I never thought of settling the score with the transgressor," says Resham Kapoor, a student of class X-D, AIS MV. However, this is not the case with our betenoire's. "All the guys of my class are ready for a fight, whether they are involved or are just mute spectators to something of this kind," says Achintman Singh of X-D AIS, MV. The boys do not need any excuse to imitate their superheroes. They are ready to take to the battlefield with their so called 'gang'.

When they make a mistake: If our wonderful creatures from Venus are caught on a wrong foot, they are full of remorse and suffer from guilt pangs. Despite long

consolation and counseling sessions and innumerable visits to the ice cream parlour they keep on worrying about the consequences. Recalling a similar incident Mansi Dua, a tenth class student of AIS MV shares, "I lost my answer sheet two years back. Although, I did not receive any scolding from my teacher yet I kept feeling guilty for a long time. From that day onwards I ensured that I kept my things at the right place and took care of them as if they were priceless diamonds." Meanwhile, boys consider themselves to be too 'perfect' to commit any mistake. They love playing the blame game. But if 'by any chance' they happen to admit their mistake, they do not let minor things hassle them and continue to maintain a cool demeanour.

Idea of having fun: The girls see no

harm in being branded "shopaholics". Their innermost desire is to possess anything that falls in the Prada, Versace, Louis Vuitton etc bracket. "When I shop, the world seems to become a better place to live in. Nothing can make up for that pleasure. We can roam in the market for hours just to find a perfect handbag to match our dress," says Aashriya Sharma, X D, AIS MV. Well, boys will be boys.....they just can't sit at one place for long. They love to roam on the streets teasing, playing etc rather than whiling away their time gossiping. Unperturbed by the scorching heat or freezing cold, these creatures love to skip and play. To sum it all, girls and boys might be two different species that live together on this earth to create an amazing, fun filled world. They may be as different as black and white but when put together they create a beautiful pattern. 🇮🇳

URBAN DICTIONARY

Bored of the usual mundane drab words? It's time to revamp your word dictionary with stylish, trendy, innovative words that have seeped into our urban lingo.

Chillax: Chill+relax
Chillax! that's the new combo word. It means calm down or take a chill pill.
Yes, this ODE (Oxford Dictionary in English) is exasperatingly kid friendly.

Jeggings: Jeans+leggings
Worried about wardrobe malfunction, jeggings (between jeans and leggings) may be safer.

Frenemy: Friend+ enemy.
They belong to a special category of friends that you hang around with despite the fact that you dislike them. The source of conflict in this kind of friendship may stem from varied reasons as competition, jealousy, love, greed etc.

Did u know! More than 2,000 new words and phrases, including riveting English like "rasta roko" have been included in the ODE. Now even the Queen of England would need a dictionary to understand proper English. 🇮🇳

A holiday to remember

Caught in the midst of countless reptiles, eyes, scaly skins, my holiday was nothing less than a living nightmare.

Imaging: Deepak Sharma

TRAVELOGUE Part I

I am basically a conservative and 'safety first' type of a person and I think that is a sensible point of view to have. I feel, if animals or reptiles are to be viewed, a few iron bars are a must. Our government in its wisdom has spent a lot in the development of zoos, where the distinction between the visitor and the exhibits, is very clearly defined. But, my parents begged to differ. My family, one day, suddenly decided that I lack adventures in my life (as if!). As usual, the greatly vaulted democratic values and children's rights collapsed at the very first hurdle, and a trip was planned to a horrifyingly named place; 'Reptile Island' in the interiors of Orissa. I had no choice but to lump it and the distinction between the exhibits and the spectators was going to get blurred. On reaching, we met my relatives and made our way towards a huge river. As we stood on the banks, we saw a large boat coming towards us. A mere glimpse at the dirt in the boat and I announced that under no circumstances would I get in the boat. My parents thoughtfully nodded their heads in agreement. They said I could get a cleaner boat and pointed to a tiny canoe floating in the water. They said it would be better as it was very cheap. "Why is it cheap?" I asked suspiciously before getting in. "Well, this boat has overturned four times resulting in the death of 6 people." I suddenly realised that I could put up with bit of dirt! We started our journey, and I must say it was beautiful - the setting sun, pinkish-orange sky, mangrove lined banks and sparkling water. I put my fingers in the water to enjoy the cold refreshing water. Our boatman started chattering away excitedly but since I couldn't understand, I ignored him. As his chattering grew in volume, I asked my



Aashna Agarwal
X, AIS Gur 43

cousin what the boatman was gibbering about. "Oh, he's just warning you about the crocodiles in the water. They say that it's impossible to put your fingers in the water for 5 minutes without them being reduced to 3", came a prompt reply. I hurriedly removed my hand (my cousin looked distinctly disappointed; having missed on an excellent anecdote). After a long time, we finally managed to catch a glimpse of the island's coast. Our happiness was momentary because soon we caught sight of countless crocodiles at the edge. Having no prejudices against dying either in water or on land, we walked

the ramp from the boat to the island, trying to find a patch of land or water, free from crocodiles. This proved to be a difficult task as the place was flooded with tails, skin, scaly hands, feet, yellow eyes, and sharp teeth. Feeling like a delectable piece of someone's lunch, we followed a narrow path which lead to the guesthouse. There were many deep holes alongside the path. "Are these rabbit holes?", I asked. "No, snake holes," the caretaker replied. We finally reached the house. It had a broken gate, a little bit of wall, and something like a fence. Each room had a feeble light bulb & a wired mesh,

reminding me of the houses in horror movies. The caretaker, who was apparently concerned, tipped us to check the rooms for reptiles before sleeping, which I'm sure was very kind of him. While I lived all scared, my parents seemed to be having the time of their life. Hello...parents are supposed to be responsible people, not the type who glory in the jungles of nowhere. They should be worried about their innocent children, ME! And when I tried to point out this, they scolded me for being pessimistic. At night, when we were all sitting in the verandas, we noticed something rather strange... 🇮🇳

To be concluded in the next edition

“An eye for an eye will make the whole world blind.”

Mahatma Gandhi.

Contributed by Ananya Sethi, AIS Saket



Invaluables

“Try not to become a person of success, but rather try to become a person of value.”

Albert Einstein





Dr. Amita Chauhan
Chairperson

Ever since we are born, we are taught to learn and imbibe values. Values are often discussed by all, defined by few and learnt by even fewer. But what exactly makes ‘values’ valuable? Values define who we are; they guide the wonderful journey called life.

In the present age, when values undergo a definition change for ‘each to his own’ and are re-examined as per convenience, there are principles like honesty, empathy, compassion, patience and integrity which hold the ground steadfast nevertheless. It’s imperative for all to understand that these are not just simple good habits to be learnt, but the foundation stone of life.

The effect these values have in the life of younger people is determined by the way they are taught. It must come to them in the most natural manner, without preachy or sermonizing undertones. It is the duty of all parents and we as educators to take up the task of inculcating values in children from the tender years to ensure that they grow up to become role models.

Education holds no purpose till the time it doesn’t enrich a person with values. It’s only value education that can make any person successful and progressive in the truest sense of the word. Here at Amity we aim to offer such value education to the child. The Human Value Quarter organized at Amity is just a humble addition to the life long process that inculcating values calls for. So all my Amityans, give value to all what is to be valued, cherished and imbibed. Get going to build it, grow it and reap the rewards.  

Value of Pai





Vira Sharma
Managing Editor

When we talk of values, it’s imperative to mention the invaluable contribution of Mr Anant Pai, popularly addressed as Uncle Pai. Recently awarded with the Lifetime Achievement Award at the first Indian Comic Convention, the sudden demise of the master story teller is a definite loss to all of us. GT remembers him as a man, who promptly replied to our request for an exclusive interview for GT that was featured in issue dated April 16-30, 2009

The impact of his powerful Amar Chitra Katha (ACK) creations changed the way people could read or tell a story. Accompanied with life like visuals, the image cast such a strong imprint that I vividly recall visualizing every scene in the film Jodha Akbar as if, I had already been there. The credit for this goes to the precise description in the comic

Akbar, one of the many ACK series. Even before I studied Mughals as a part of school History syllabus, I was familiar with Babur and the Battle of Panipat. Thanks to Uncle Pai. Who says history is boring? A part of every child’s growing, linking almost three generation to Indian values and mythological stories, he accomplished to deliver what every generation is still struggling with...imparting the right values. His invaluable lessons on values and character building continue to live in every age, connecting us to our cultural heritage, mythologies and historical literature.

While the value of the mathematical Pi remains confined within the territory of 22/7, there is no substitute for the value of PAI.  



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“India and Gabon: Towards sharing of resources and exchange of information”

says, Desire Koumba, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Gabon to India during his visit at Amity’s management fest - INBUSH

Shilpika Saxena

Amity School of Engg. Technology

Tell us about the relationship between Gabon and India.

Well, it’s been really great. The two nations share good mutual understanding and support. Our country has been in constant dialogue with the Indian Embassy located in our country in regard to the enhancement of terms between the two nations, especially in the field of education and commerce. Talking of education, we are working on different policies pertaining to sharing of resources & exchange of information, between the two countries. And I must appreciate the way Amity University has shown interest in this regard.

Do you think information sharing endeavours are of help in this era where any information is a click away?

I truly agree with the kind of advancement that the world is witnessing in the field of information and communi-

cation. But virtual experience cannot be equated with the real one. A student retains more of what he is taught in class by a teacher rather than what he abruptly browses on internet. It can only serve as an additional recourse for fetching information not as the primary one.

How is the education system in your country?

The education system in our country

encourages overall development of a child. It is on the lines of keeping the child both physically fit and mentally well-informed. In this age of globalisation, we want our kids to stay updated about things that are happening around, so that they are adept to face any competition at the global grounds. Our talks with Amity are also a part of this policy.

So, how far has this communication resulted into concrete conclusions?



“Our education system encourages overall development of the child. It is on the lines of keeping the child both physically fit and mentally well informed.”

Everybody needs Inspiration



A positive approach towards life and little dose of inspiration is all that you need to break the biggest of deadlocks

Vallari Suharsh, X J, AIS Noida

*Everybody needs inspiration, everybody needs a song
A beautiful melody when the night’s so long
Cause there is no guarantee that life is easy
Yeah when, my world is falling apart
When there’s no light to break up the dark
That’s when I, I, I look at you*

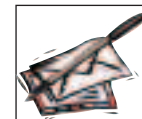
- Miley Cyrus

These words from the famous Miley Cyrus’s album ‘Everybody needs inspiration’ can easily make you ponder where you are, what you have, what you want and what you believe in. It makes you question your own thoughts, actions and desires. Life throws ample situations when you feel very sad and low. There are times when you term your dreams ‘hopeless’ as you get too tired of trying to get closer to them. While majority succumbs to the harsh realities, there are others who choose to take them in stride and tide over the obstacles. These are the inspired souls. Do you belong to the same category? If not, infuse a little dose of inspiration and you are all set to live bang on. Quite contrary to general belief, inspiration to get going, brushing past all roadblocks need not necessarily

come from a motivational speaker or a role model around. Even the smallest of things and simplest of word like ‘You can do it’ can set your inspiration graph soaring and help you traverse through the bumpy ride with ease.

The trick is to infuse inspiration in your everyday life. All it takes to see the brighter side of life and feel inspired is to change your perspective. For instance, why let peer pressure discourage you? Instead, find out something in your friends that you can really look up to. Young children with their incredible ability to develop new skills, should be a revelation to all of us. Remember, when they begin walking - starting by rolling over and not being able to flip back again. Then, the first time they can roll onto their front and support themselves; the first crawl when they are not quite sure how they did it, but can’t wait to do it again. Hang on to that childish enthusiasm and refusal to be beaten. As Frank Tibott said, “Action generates inspiration”, simply keep working at it. Irrespective of what inspires you, simply turn it into a reality by putting in all what you have. It’s ok to be knocked down, but what is more important is to dust yourself off and continue to press forward to the mark.

So, live inspired and who knows you will soon become an inspiration to others too.  



GT M@il

GT- A perfect read!

I am a big fan of Global Times. I eagerly wait for each edition and read it as soon as I get it. I especially like to read the Big Story as it gives a complete overview on a particular subject. I also like the sports section, which is really worth reading. I feel that The Global Times is already a complete newspaper and it does not require any more articles, but some crosswords, puzzles and some more comics would make it more attractive and interesting. Here is hoping that The Global Times continues to offer happy reading for years ahead.  

Oishee Bhattacharyya,
IX B, AIS Gur-46



PEARLS OF WISDOM

Control mind, Control life

Niharika khanna,
VIII A, AIS PV

“One who has control over the mind is tranquil in heat and cold, in pleasure and pain, and in honor and dishonor; and is ever steadfast with the Supreme Self.”
- Bhagvad Gita

This quote is very relevant in today’s time when the youth is being misled by a few deceitful minds to carry out mayhem and disharmony across the world. Today, the mind of the youth is plundered with devious thoughts and wrong religious teachings, making it numb against rationalisation.

With growing intolerance and hatred in the society, I feel that it is only a rational thinking approach that can solve any problem. Try to maintain your cool and take decisions with a control on your mind and emotions. If majority of the population learns to master their mind, the world at large will surely be a much better place to live in.  

Old values with a modern twist

Talk human values and old is definitely gold and may be even platinum. Try them to enjoy the conventional charm!

Stirred but not shaken! Try the adaptive version of the conventional values if the old ones don't fit your bill.

Want your old wine unadulterated or prefer it in a new bottle? Our beloved human values are served both ways. Take a sip of the two and enjoy the heady concoction called life. Here's a toast to the spirit of Being Human!

Bhawna Tuteja, GT Network

We twist, we twist, we twist... goes a song so true to us. We have twisted the regular vadapav with choicest dressings to make it the burger, given the old Indian sari a remake with the halter neck blouse & presented the old *shinkaji* in a new crystal jar to serve it as lemonade. The twist fever has rubbed on to human values too, something that trail along, since the pre-historic times. With its principled base well preserved, the values of today come laden with modern toppings. Join us as we dig into this sumptuous moral platter.

Honesty is the best policy

Something that Benjamin Franklin said matter-of-factly went on to become one of the most significant human values. Speak up the truth else you would be walking on a tightrope of numerous lies. Being dishonest is the perfect way of sending out greeting cards to trouble (Remember Pinocchio?). Better safe and honest than sorry! Of course, speaking up the truth does take some courage, but you were never a coward. Or were you?

Traditional wisdom

"Honest people are like candles. Blow all of them off and you are sure to see darkness all around."

Mitali Mathur, IX C, AIS Gur-43

A useful lie is better than a harmful truth

So says Bhagwad Gita! And when you have holy books dictating the facts, who are we to question. Sometimes, it is okay to give a diplomatic version of the truth else the ball may land on the offensive side of the court. Besides, a lie that brings a smile can never be awful as compared to a truth that brings a tear. She: Honey, do I look fat?

He: Of course dear! *gets slapped* Ow! So, you see honesty is the best policy barring a few occasions.

Modern vista

"Sometimes it is okay to not say the truth that can hurt someone."

Agrim Sachdeva, XI, AIS Saket

Speech is silver, silence is golden

Silence speaks louder than words. Danielle Duez, a French phonetics specialist at the University of Provence offers proof. He studied the speech patterns of various French politicians and revealed that the more powerful the politician, the more slowly he spoke. The silent treatment sometimes may prove to be more effective than electrocution. Have someone attacking you verbally? Stay shut and let them know that you are not interested. Slap without sound!

Traditional wisdom

"Silence can prevent wars. It has its own beauty of expressing what words can't."

Shruti Malik, XI A, AIS Gur-43

A man without words is a man without thoughts

Sometimes, mute language may not convey as much as words, worth a few decibels. Say it out loud and have your point made clear rather than giving the other person the liberty to misconstrue it as arrogance or fear. Besides, your silent language can be quite frustrating for anyone who appreciates mature communication. After all, decode-the-silence is not a game everyone can play.

Modern vista

"At times, it's best to not say anything at all. But sometimes, it's better to speak up. It's just better to say the truth and let the other person know what you think."

Meghna Kaushik, XI, AIS Saket

Look before you leap

After all, it is better to be safe than sorry. Let your thought process take the dais before you push the go button. Knowing

the plus and minus of the task that lies ahead helps you gauge your chances, how bright or dim they may be. You do not have to be a human calculator but a man with a basic common sense, who can evaluate the basic pros and cons before accepting the baton.

Traditional wisdom

"It is important to look ahead whether it is studying for the exam or getting dressed for a party."

Vaishnavi Shridhar, XI C, AIS Noida

He who hesitates is lost

Don't leap and you have lost the race already! We all have our moments of regret of not walking up to the cute girl/guy. Opt for the 'go-getter' rule else the winds of caution are sure to blow you away. Do the *chance pe dance* or *alvida kehte rehna*. Follow this three step formula if you do not wish to lose: Spot the op-

portunity >> Grab it quickly >> Make the most of it. (Fourth – Thank us for this advice)

Modern vista

"Opportunities do not come knocking your door every day and you never know what they bring for you. Be prepared and grab them whenever they come."

Aanchal Sukhija, AGS Gur-46, A level, Year 1

Forgive and forget

Jaane bhi de na yaar... goes the rule of thumb for those who wish to take a chill pill. Get over the mistake that came at your cost and enjoy the feather-feel. The idea is quite cool, as suggests the high TRPs of the popular American TV show – 'Forgive or Forget'. And if psychological benefits don't just seem enough, then take a look at the physical benefits of forgiveness—lower blood pressure, stronger immune system, reduced stress, & lesser headaches. So, if a single 'it's okay' has so much to offer, then just say it!

Traditional wisdom

"Forgive and you will end up light minded and make another friend. Everyone should be given a chance to rectify their mistakes."

Rashika Sood, X A, AIS MV

Give someone enough rope and he will hang himself

To err is human and to forgive is divine. But, who wants to take the divine path when being human is fun and realistic too. Unless you want to be Mr XYZ For-granted, you can continue to jog on the unconditional forgiveness marg. And if you think that the act has uni-dimensional damage, think again. While you

end up being the dented loser, the culprit becomes the pro-mistake maker. So, the next time you are encountered with the unforgivable, follow the mantra of – "I may not forgive, but I certainly can forget you."

Model: Neha Tripathi
Imaging & pic: Pankaj Mallik

While the purists vouch for Test Cricket, modernistas are awed by T20. Human values too comes in both packages—old & new. Whether you savor the dish in its original form or relish it with a modern tadka, the choice is all yours.

Modern vista

"Even though forgiveness is a blessing, sometimes it can have negative repercussions. The one being forgiven constantly may go on to any limits, which could be harmful in the long run."

Shweta Ahluwalia, Teacher, AIS PV

Beauty lies in the eyes of the beholder

It's all in the mind (including beauty)! Now you know why mothers think of their crooked toothed children as angels with pearly smiles and interpret their hoards of fat as simply cherubic. Scientists at Groningen University, Netherlands in a recent study concluded that most of us think of our long term partners as the most gorgeous thing. So, the next time someone tells you that you are ugly, ask them to go for a mental detox.

Traditional wisdom

"I may go to a place sans shopping malls or picturesque scenes and still find it beautiful because I connect to it."

Shalini Agarwal, Teacher, AIS Gur-43

Clothes make the man

While they say that don't judge a book by its cover, it is actually the cover that sells the book. The best bottle can sell even the worst of wine, forget just old. Go a little wrong with the bottle, and the contents may not even be noticed. A crisp shirt and linen trousers will definitely add more to your personality than a crumpled tee would (Lousy was never in!). After all, *jo dikhta hai woh bikta hai!*

Modern vista

"Even if you look like Aishwarya Rai, but are absolutely unpresentable, then even the most optimistic person would not care much."

Mehak Bhatnagar, X C, AIS MV

Cut your coat according to the cloth

Imagine the plight of Mr. XS when put in the boxing ring with Mr. XL. Only if poor XS had acknowledged the limits of his physical strength! For those who wish to avoid similar fate, a reality check with the limitations is a must. Yeah, you can go ahead and buy that filthy expensive watch now only to miss out on other important requirements later.

Traditional wisdom

"It is human nature to keep wanting more, which creates the need to set limits. Till the time we do not set limits, we will never be clear of what we want."

Swatika, IV year, B.Tech (ESE), ASET

Sky is the limit

Actually, that is passé too. When human species has already skyrocketed to the moon and other planets, sky is a limit of the times gone by. Define peripheries and you are sure to be a board member of Success Ltd. For the ones who dare to gamble are the ones who hit the jackpot.

Modern vista

"We should not be afraid to try new things because you never know what may be in store for you."

Shivangi Mittal, X A, AIS Gur-43

“Try not to become a man of success, but rather try to become a man of value.”

Albert Einstein

Contributed by Utkarsh Sahu, AIS Gur-43

Jeetega India?

Imaging : Pankaj Mallik



...asks the heart of every cricket enthusiast in the nation. In a country where we eat, drink & live cricket, the answer could make or break a million hearts.

Amlaan Kumar, VIII E, AIS Noida

The World Cup fever has caught on with everyone. The television commercial breaks, hoardings, FM chatter and Sachin's confident claims and India's striking win against Australia in the quarter finals, raise every Indian spirit and hope to win this World Cup. Cricket mania grips the nation, cricket fanatic Bablu gives latest updates from Tata Sky and bookers stealthily take their positions. Amidst much speculation, the big question remains - Kya India jitega?

Probability Factor

This is certainly India's year so far as it concerns Cricket. With a spate of successive victories in the last few years under the leadership of Captain Cool MS Dhoni, expectations are bound to go high. First, it was the ICC T20 world cup, then Border-Gavaskar trophy, India New Zealand series and now its going to be ICC World Cup...so says the probability figures.

Home Turf

This is a golden opportunity. Playing World Cup on Indian turf, with Indian spectators can be a great morale booster. What drives the cricketers is the love of their fans. Besides, acquaintance with the pitch helps too. And here we have all the factors in our favour. Cheering Fans...do you hear that?

The real threats

The ride to World Cup seems to have a patchy road map. This World Cup has

been a mixed bag with countries like Australia, Sri Lanka, England, Pakistan, South Africa who did all they could to win the World Cup. Then there are the Dark Horses like New Zealand, West Indies that are less likely to win. The Minnows though not taken seriously, did give stiff competition. Remember Ireland's win against England! And where does India stand in this categorization? As of now, India does stand on the stronger side of the fence inching closer to World Cup finals, with every step. Fingers crossed!

Player Surprises

With Yuvraj Singh leading India to a surprising win in the quarter finals, India does have surprise packages in its kitty. The player holds the record of winning the coveted 'Man of the match' title for four consecutive times in this World Cup tournament.

Strengths and weaknesses

If India is to get the World Cup, Team India needs to fortify its strengths and strengthen its weaknesses. With legendary Sachin Tendulkar, all rounder Yusuf Pathan, a balanced MS Dhoni, southpaw Gautam Gambhir and precocious Virender Sehwag, the batting front is in full swing. The concerns over bowling and fielding need immediate attention especially after when India ended up in Tie with England. India posted a total of more than 300 runs, yet drew with England.

With so many factors pointing towards India's win, *lagta toh hai ki India jeetega.*

WORLD CUP trivia

Originally, Cricket World Cup was known as the Prudential World Cup.

Cricket World Cup has been played in every cricket playing continent, something Football and Rugby World Cup are yet to achieve.

Legendary cricketer Kapil Dev has one of the greatest innings in World Cup 1983- 175 against Zimbabwe. The innings were never recorded or broadcasted because the BBC cameramen were on strike.

Viv Richards is the only player to have played both World Cup Cricket and World Cup Football.

During one of the first matches in the first world cup, Sunil Gavaskar batted through the entire innings, scoring 36 runs in 60 overs.

Sachin Tendulkar is the only player to have played five editions of the World Cup.

The first hat-trick in World Cup Cricket was achieved by former India pace bowler Chetan Sharma against New Zealand during the 1987 World Cup.

The only World Cup Cricket Trophy won by the Indian Cricket Team was damaged during a violent rampage on the Indian cricket board's headquarters by the Hindu nationalist group Shiv Sena.

Trained to shoot

Gunjan Sharma, GT Network traces the journey of Kunti Malik, from a brilliant shooter to Director, Amity Shooting Club.

Amity has always been a pool of achievers. It not only amasses extraordinary students but also has a skilled faculty to its credit. Case in point - Kunti Malik, Director, Amity Shooting Club!

Fruits of success

An ace shooter, Kunti Malik has several achievements to her credit. She held sway in South Asian games, 1995 by clinching three golds and one bronze medal. Her score of 558 in '25m sports pistol' stole the show at Asian Games. This triumphant record remained unbeaten for more than a decade. And that's not it! The sharp shooter has a Commonwealth victory too. She bagged a silver medal in the First Commonwealth Shooting Championship in 1995. While Ms Malik has her cap loaded with several feathers, success to her has not come easy. She had to traverse a difficult terrain before she could finally make it to the top. The death of her husband at an early age, left her alone coping with two kids.

While she struggled at the personal front, things in the professional arena were not smooth sailing either. "At that time, it was very difficult to get through. There was a lot of lobbying involved, which was difficult to break." She is thankful that the present lot does not

have to face similar struggles, "Today media is playing a positive role against the dirty politics in the selection of players. Also, technology has made it possi-

ble to have fair decisions without raising many eyebrows. So, it is just the training, the player needs to focus on." Well, clearly a case of success well deserved!

Young at heart

The international shooting champion made her way from National Shooting Championship to Coordinator of Sports

Committee, Commonwealth Shooting Championship 2010. She was the senior most player to get selected for the trials of recent CWG Shooting championship. Despite her age, she managed to reach the last stage of the trials. "I have expertise in my technique and the generation gap between me and young players cannot impede me from shooting," she says confidently.

From player to trainer

Having hit the target herself, Ms Malik has now taken over the role of a trainer. She is currently training 25 girls and 12 boys at the Amity Shooting Club, who are winning National and International championships. She believes that shooting requires an extremely focused approach which can be gained only by appropriate training. "Shooting is not an inborn talent. It is nurtured over time. A shooter has to be free from the whole world. It is not just about training on field but also about training of brain and emotions," she shares.

Her success as a trainer is evident from the fact that her student Mansi Singh, CSE, B. Tech (2007-2011) bagged a silver medal in National Shotgun Championship, 2010. Another student, Ketan Nagpal, Amity Business School has qualified to become a National Shooting Player.

At gunpoint Kunti Malik
Director, Amity Shooting Club



Painting: Sanskriti Gupta, IV A, AIS Saket



Illustration: Ravinder Gusain

SHORT STORY

Himadri Seth, IV C, AIS Noida

It was a cold winter day. Sakhi and I were playing outside our house. It was getting dark when all of a sudden, my mother called us inside. “Just a second Mom”, I shouted, but mothers stern look forced us to get back immediately. “Mom, why did you call us home so early?” we asked in unison. “A vampire has entered our colony. He comes out from small narrow streets at night and attacks whoever he spots around”, she replied in a worried voice. We were got so scared hearing that we immediately went to bed without having any food. The ext day we both sat together and thought of a plan. As the night approached we quietly went outside and latched the door so that mummy would not know about our plan. We roamed

around the streets searching for the vampire. We were hiding ourselves behind the walls and trees so that no one could spot us. Suddenly Kriti pulled me back and asked me to be quite. We heard the sound of abnormal footsteps. We were shivering with fear but we gathered courage and stood there holding the net, which we had got from home to capture the vampire. We saw him standing at a small distance. He had long hair like scattered weed over his face, with sharp teeth and eyes gleaming like a torch light. He was wearing a long black gown and holding a candle in his hand. As he walked towards the net our heart beats fastened, but the vampire went right through the net and disappeared. It took us a few moments to be normal again. Then, we returned home heartbroken. Another shock awaited us. We found no

Have you met a vampire?

one at home. We called for mom and dad but there was only a deadly silence. As we went to the kitchen, we saw what we never dared to imagine. A knife was lying on the floor and blood was spread over it. We were scared out of our wits and stood frozen. Suddenly the door of kitchen swung open and we were surprised to see mom standing there. We ran down and hugged her. “Why are you hugging me like this?” she asked out of surprise. “Just like that Mom” said Kriti with a secret smile on her face. I asked her curiously about where she had gone at late night. “I cut my finger while chopping onions. It was bleeding very much so I had gone to get some band-aids” said mom. She told that dad had to go to Mumbai for an urgent trip, so he was not coming home that night. We heaved a sigh of relief and had dinner happily. We decided never to deal with a vampire, just in case it exists!



Mosquitoes

POEMS

Bharat Kumar VI D, AIS Gur-46

Mosquitoes are a menace, in the world today. They have become so powerful, that they can take our sleep away. Malaria, Filariasis, Dengue, are words we hear again and again. They are hazardous, deadly, precarious and cause everyone a lot of pain. The female mosquito causes malaria, which fever and shivering brings. Nobody from this disease is spared, Be it Paupers or Kings. Filariasis is not caused by mosquitoes. But spreading it is their task. When you see a patient afflicted with filariasis, you feel like hiding behind a mask. Dengue is a disease on the rise, the blood is what it directly affects. The platelet count and haemoglobin drops, A deadly boon given by these insects. The government has taken its measures, to try and control its spread.

To certain extent they have succeeded, but we still live with a lot of dread. This dread finds its way to my dreams and culminates in nightmares. The whole world is taken over by giant mosquitoes and there is no place for humans to spare. We on our part must make an effort For everybody this warning must heed. Don't allow water to remain stagnant, so that this insect can't breed.



My Dreams

Smriti Sapra V D/ W-B, AIS Noida

I am an 11 year old girl, I have many dreams before me, To make life rosy and beautiful. I am an 11 year old girl, I have many promises to fulfill, To make life happy and pleasant. I am an 11 year old girl, I have many duties to perform, To make life purposeful and meaningful. I am an 11 year old girl,

I have many things to do, To make my parents and school proud of me. I am an 11 year old girl, I have great tasks before me, To make my country great and prosperous. I am an 11 year old girl, I have a great responsibility, To make the people realize That helping poor and needy should be the aim of life.



It's me

My name: Arohi Saini
School: Amity International School, Vasundhra, Sector-6
Class: II-D
Birthday: 29 August, 2003
My hobby: Dancing
My role Model: Jhansi ki rani
My best friend: Pratyeksha
My favourite book: 365 Fairy tales
My favourite mall: V3S mall
My favourite food: Maggie noodles
My favourite subject: Hindi
I want to become: A dancer
I want to feature in GT because: It is a good way of making more friends

Majestic elephants

My Vist to Zoo

I am not the only lazy fellow !!

I am not a monkey, my forefathers might be!

Laalach aahaa laplap....

Pics & Captions by
Satvik K Krishna, V E/ W-A, AIS Noida

Do not tease

International business Horizon-INBUSH 2011

Gunjan Sharma,
 GT Network

13th Annual research conference and business summit “INBUSH” 2011 was organized by Amity International Business School (AIBS) and Amity Global Business School (AGBS) from February 23-25, 2011. The theme of the three day conference was “Leadership challenges in creating and leading new generation”.

Introducing INBUSH 2011 (Dr.) Gurinder Singh, Pro Vice Chancellor, AUUP & Director General, AIBS and AGBS said, “The purpose of INBUSH is to ignite a fire of determination in all the budding management leaders.” Dr. Ashok K. Chauhan, Founder President, RBEF opined that the youth of the country is privileged to have been born in a nation where the education provided to students is enriched with rich values, ethos and culture, a tradition which cannot be copied or replicated. Enriching Plenary sessions followed the inauguration wherein distinguished corporate leaders and ambassadors contributed their expert views on the topics such as ‘Strategies for capacity Building’, ‘Transformational challenges and strategies for growth’ and ‘Recession & Debt Crisis’.

Dr. Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools presided over the Plenary session attended by Principals of various schools and colleges. She highlighted the role of leaders in creating and



All Pics Courtesy: Amity Media Cell

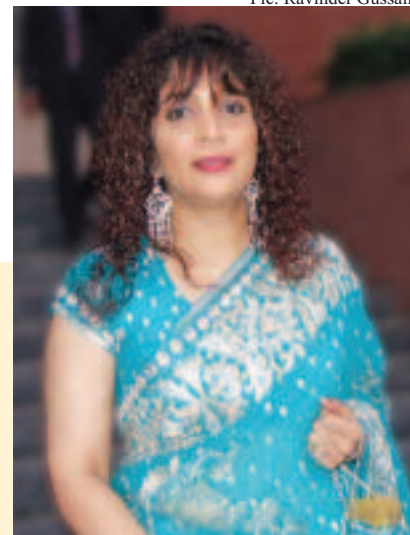
Esteemed Panelists: ● Dr. Ashok K Chauhan, Founder President, RBEF, ● Dr. (Mrs). Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity group of schools, ● MS. Shahnaz Hussain, Chairman & MD, Shahnaz Group of Companies, ● Mr. Mahashay Dharampal, Chairman, ● MDH Group of Companies, ● Mr. Jayant Chaudhary, Member of Parliament, ● Prof. Dinesh Singh, VC, University of Delhi, ● Maj. Gen. K. Jai Singh, VC, AUUP, ● Mr. Gurcharan Das, Chairman, Centre for Civil Society, ● Padmashree Irshad Mirza, Chairman, Mirza International Ltd., ● Mr. Anil Sharma, Chairman & MD, Amrapali Group, ● Mr. Vsevolod Rozanov, President and CEO, MTS, ● Mr. Sandeep Kaliah, CEO, Valvoline Cumins Ltd, ● Shri S.K. Chaturvedi, Chairman & MD, PGCI, ● Shri Somenath Ghosh, Chairman & MD, NRDC

leading new generation educational institutions. Deliberations and discussions on thought provoking topics by prolific speakers and leaders unfolded during three days of “INBUSH”. Different categories of ‘Amity excellence awards’ were conferred upon eminent academicians and industrialists. Distinguished

diplomats present on the occasion were honoured with gold medals. Different inter college competitions including business quiz, business debate, ad mad competition and business plan competition were also conducted. Various renowned institutions of the country such as IMT Ghaziabad, IIM Calcutta, Delhi School of Economics, Fore School



Pic: Sanwle, ASCO



Pic: Ravinder Gussain



Tour de sky

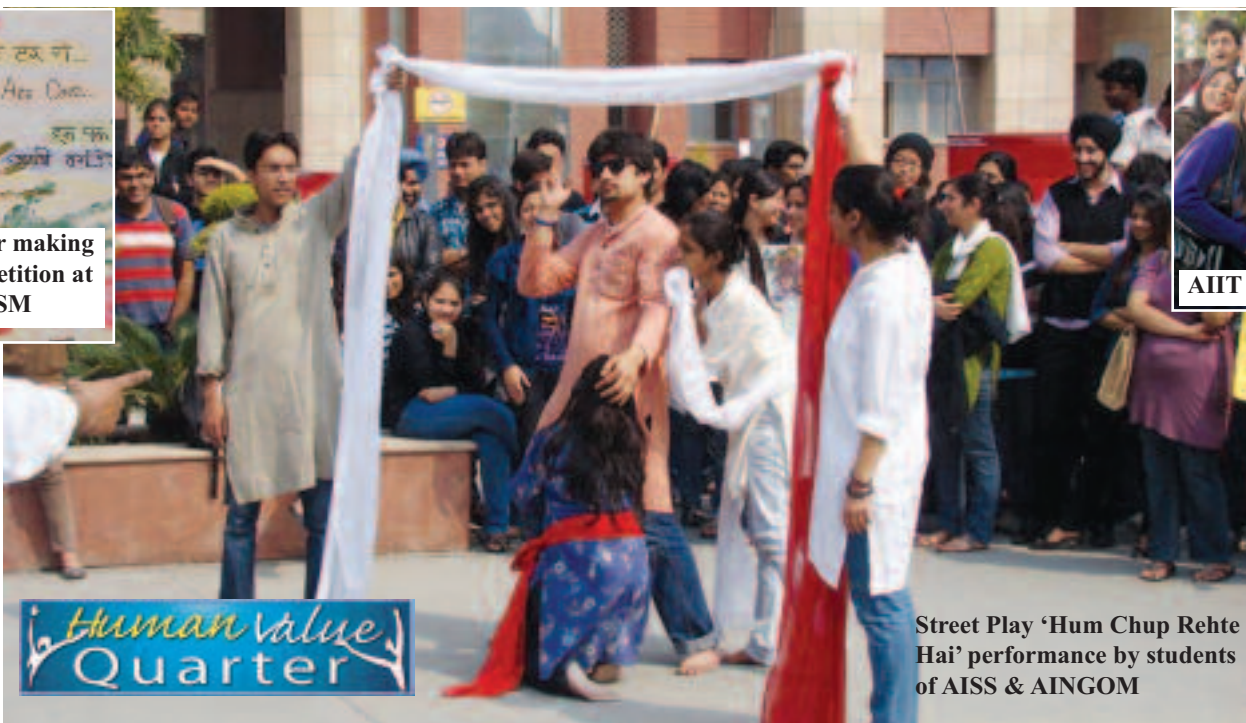
Swarnita Anil
 B.Tech- M.Tech, AIAERS

Amity Institute of Aerospace Engineering Research & Studies in association with Amity Institute Of Space Science & Technology, organised ‘Tour de sky’ (literal meaning Towards the sky and where innovation is a tradition). An exhibition was organized where students from different institutes across the country came to put up their models on display. Dignitaries including Dr. Amitabh Verma, Director, ITS Engineering college, Major. Gen. K. Jai Singh, Vice Chancellor, AUUP and Dr. V.K. Jain, Director, Amity Institute of Advanced Research & Studies were present at the event. The highlight of the exhibition was the ‘Great Moon Buggy’ as prepared by the students of Amity for the 17th NASA Great Moon Buggy competition. Other attractions included the Da Vinci machine, autonomous night watchman, solar bug, water rocket and many more. The air show, comprising of acrobatic stunts of planes and armada of machines was a major hit and enthralled the audience to the hilt. 📺

Human value service in action



Poster making competition at AICISM



Street Play ‘Hum Chup Rehte Hai’ performance by students of AISS & AINGOM



AIIT students interacting with SOS children

An array of activities including various competitions, awareness campaigns, seminars and many more are being organised at Amity University to mark the celebrations of Amity Human Value Quarter being observed from January 28 to April 27, 2011.

Amity Institute of Competitive Intelligence and Strategic Management (AICISM)
Theme: Youth and Road Safety; Secularism; Kar Seva

Poster making and essay writing competitions were organised to create traffic awareness. Visits to heritage sites were also organized to promote secularism. Students donated clothes and books to the children in an orphanage and participated in Kar Sewa at Gurudwara.

Amity Institute of Education (AIE)
Theme: Preserving Indian heritage through teaching strategies

An inter college paper presentation was organized on the topic ‘Innovative teaching strategies for preserving Indian Culture and Heritage through Education’. A lecture by Dr. Mahesh Vidhyalankar, Prof of Hindi, Delhi University was also organized on ‘Life and Values’.

Amity Institute of Horticulture Studies and Research (AIHSR)
Theme: Human health and nutrition

The major areas of the awareness campaign included importance of fruits and vegetables for better nutrition, importance of flowers for aesthetic values and kitchen gardening. A drive for planting at least one medicinal plant for good health was also initiated. The students also visited Agricultural museum and Indian Agricultural Research Institute.

Amity Institute of Information Technology (AIIT)

Theme: Health and education of underprivileged
 AIIT conducted an on-the-spot essay writing competition on the topic

‘Human values- A boon for the institution’. The best three essays would be awarded and published in the annual souvenir of AIIT. The students also visited SOS children village in Faridabad.

Amity School of Engineering and Technology (ASET)

Theme: Prevent corruption; Work for socially underprivileged and senior citizens

An essay writing competition was conducted on the topic “Increasing political corruption in India reflects a decline in Human values”. A youth photo challenge was also organized on the theme

“Human values”.

Amity Institute of Telecom Technology & Management (AITTM)

Theme: Helping the orphans

The students visited Ramakrishan Mission Orphanage where they interacted with the children about their aim in life. Various events like interactive session, quiz, talent show, race etc. were conducted in which the children enthusiastically participated. Students gave refreshment and distributed prizes brought from their pocket money.

Amity Institute of Social Sciences (AISS) & Amity Institute of NGO Management (AINGOM)

Theme: Nurturing green; Self awareness

The students performed a street play titled ‘Hum chup rehte hain’ to spread a wave of self awareness. A signature campaign was also conducted which united the diverse and vibrant thoughts of people using single piece of cloth as its medium. 📺

(Compiled by Gunjan Sharma, GT Network)

Little Amitiations celebrate Annual day

AIS Noida

The annual day for Nursery wing A & B was held at AIS Noida on February 18 and 19, 2011 respectively. The theme of the first day was 'Incredible India' where as the second day commemorated the wonderful performances put up by students on the theme 'Susanskrit India'. The event was graced by the presence of Smt. Leelawati Shastriji, fondly known as Ammaji; Dr. (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of

Schools; Mrs. Renu Singh, Principal, AIS Noida; Mrs. Roopma Singh, Consultant, Amity Primary Schools; Ms. Shivani Kapoor, Coordinator, Nursery & KG and other esteemed guests. The event teed off with the lamp lighting ceremony and melodious rendition of *Shlok* by the school choir. Another song by the same choir, "*Amber ke ham jag mag tare*" set the mood for the day. Delivering the welcome address School Principal, Mrs. Renu Singh said, "Incredible India's unity in diversity is our country's most potent characteristic. In-



dian history is testimony to the fact that diversity does not pull people apart. In fact, it brings them closer." The cultural programme depicted three different eras of India - ancient, medieval and modern. The act exemplified the story of the evolution of man and how the Vedic culture teaches us 'simple living and high thinking' to finally attain enlightenment. The lively description of the united spirit of many individuals working towards achievement of lofty goals left the audience amused. The grand finale of the day '*Mile sur mera tumhara.*' eloquently summed up the amazing journey through time guided by the little ones. The cultural programme on the second day showcased the composite and pluralistic culture of India. "The distinctiveness of our culture lies in its geographical diversities, natural wealth, population and people's attitudes" shared Mrs. Renu Singh. The audience was mesmerized with the wonderful cultural programme presented by the little ones. They took the audience on a beautiful journey, covering six states to showcase the beauty and richness of India's glorious heritage. The energetic finale 'Jai Ho' drove home the message that India is famous



Little ones welcome the guests at AIS, Noida

for its cultural diversity, tolerance of difference and receptiveness to foreign influences. Ms. Roopma Singh proposed the vote of thanks for the occasion.

Shashi Ranjan welcomed the eminent guests and parents.

The programme began by invoking God's blessings through *hawan*. An art exhibition was also organised which portrayed the artistic powers of the young budding artists from primary classes. The audience was virtually left spellbound by a song presentation by the little Amitiations which was followed by a musical drama based on the story of: 'Snowwhite and seven dwarfs'. The meritorious students were felicitated on the occasion. Dr.(Mrs.)Amita Chauhan showered her blessings on the students and encouraged them to become good humans. The programme culminated with the singing of the school song and National Anthem.  

AIS Noida wing A presents Incredible India



AIS Vasundhra, Sec-6



The annual day of the Nursery wing of AIS, Vasundhra Sec-6 was organized on February 21, 2011. The theme of the programme was 'Darpan-Goodness reflects goodness'. The Chief Guest for the evening was Ms. Ritul Joshi, Prime Time Anchor, Aaj Tak. The event also garnered the presence of Dr. (Mrs.) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and the parents. School Principal, Ms.

Amity Global Quiz

Akansha Gupta,
X A, AIS Pushp Vihar

AIS Pushp Vihar

An inter school Amity global quiz was hosted by Amity Global School, Pushp Vihar on January 27, 2011. A team of three students from ten different schools participated in the competition. The quiz comprised five rounds based on general knowledge, language & litera-

ture, science & technology, music & dance and mathematical reasoning. During each round, the students were on their toes to answer every question within a time span of 30 seconds. It was an exuberant and enlightening experience for all the participants. First prize was bagged by the team from AIS, Pushp Vihar and team from AIS, Mayur Vihar was declared the runner up. The third position was shared by AIS Saket and AIS Gurgaon, Sector-43.  

Fitness Fiesta 2011

AIS Noida



AIS Noida organised their annual Asports day 'Fitness fiesta - Panchatva'. Dr. Sead Avdic, Ambassador of Bosnia and Herzegovina to India graced the sports meet as the Chief guest. Sh. Zafar Iqbal was the Guest of honour. Dr. (Mrs.)Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools, Ms. Fedila and Ms. Lillu (Both First



Secretaries Political & Education from the Tanzanian High Commission), Col. Ahluwalia, Sports Advisor along with the other esteemed guests were also present on the occasion.

The marching contingents of four houses marked the beginning of the lively sports meet. The meet was declared open by release of pigeons and balloons in air. School Principal Mrs. Renu Singh emphasized the impor-



tance of Panchatva and explained why it was chosen as the theme. Various innovative races like *chalo chalen ambar ki or, sarp nauka daud, pahiyon ki chaal* and many more not only tickled everybody's funny bone but also turned out to be a heart pulsating experience. The marvelous finale reciting "*Anavansh-sports day mana rahe hum*" proved to be a remarkable and inspiring show.  



Over the moon with Mr. Jean Pierre Harrison



Gaurav Pati, Vanshika Boobna, Maitreyi Swaroop and Mahika Kaul, Class IV students of AIS, Pushp Vihar got the unique opportunity to meet Mr. Jean Pierre Harrison, Late astronaut Kalpana Chawla's husband. Mr. Jean is known for inspiring many people to reach out to the stars during his career as a flying instructor.

The students interact with Mr. Harrison on the eve of book release function of biographical account of Kalpana Chawla. The book titled "The edge of time" is authored by Mr. Jean Pierre Harrison, who knew her most closely. The book is in the honour Kalpana Chawla who lived too briefly, but during her life, made spectacular achievements against great odds.

AIS Pushp Vihar

Gaurav Pati presented a beautiful portrait of the astronaut to Mr. Jean. Overwhelmed by this gesture, he autographed the portrait and presented it as a memoir to the school. Students enjoyed a motivational and enlightening interactive session with Mr. Jean. He said, "My most memorable moment as a flying instructor was to teach Kalpana how to fly a plane. I strongly feel that it is one of the most difficult thing to teach anything to a person you are married to!" Going down the memory lane Mr. Harrison revealed the side of Kalpana Chawla which only few people know. He said, "Her family's legacy was one of triumph over tragedy. For Kalpana Chawla the dream of adding to her family's legacy materialized when she went into space in 1997 as the first Indian woman to do so." He gladly obliged the school groups to pose for photographs. The meeting not only boosted student's confidence but they also got to know more about the life of the eminent astronaut.  



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Act like an Amitian

From University canteen to TV screen, Shambhavi Sharma has come a long way!

Priyanka Raja & Apoorva Agarwal
 ASET

Waiting at the 20th floor of Le Meridien to meet Shambhavi Sharma, the young girl who made everyone go gaga over her bold, *bindaas* and fun loving attitude, with her stint in Roadies was exhilarating. An ex-Amitian, she was in town to promote her first show on TV - **Chajje Chajje Ka Pyaar**. Dressed pretty in a pink kurta, she greets us with a broad smile as we

introduce ourselves as students from Amity, “Now, I can feel at home with you guys.” Having reckoned the role of an adventurer in Roadies 5.0, she is all set to charm you away and your mummy too with her girl next door avatar in her acting debut. “Roadies was a show that youngsters liked, but at the same time the show doesn’t appeal much to the elder generation. Hence I thought to do a show which the mummies also like,” says Shambhavi.

Talking about her all new show she says, “Chajje Chajje Ka Pyaar is not a love story. It is basically a story about two families and the bond that they share. It talks about various emotions like friendship, animosity, trust and respect.” She plays the role of a “typical Delhi girl who is bubbly, blunt and energetic. A strong headed girl who always saves Dhruv (the male protagonist) from falling into trouble.” Shambhavi feels

that in her real life she is very close to her on screen character-Ginny. While she steps ahead in the limelight quite confidently, she does spark off smiles at the mention of her past. Ask her about her stint with Amity and she gets all emotional, “I just completed one year in Amity and it was the most memorable time of my life. Given an opportunity, I would love to be back in the campus for events.”

Remembering her last days at Amity, Shambhavi recalls promising her friends to be back in no time. “I was really upset at leaving all my friends. Everyone kept telling me that this would be my last visit here and I’ll be gone forever. But,

I kept assuring them, that it was just a matter of few months before I’ll be back to my classes.” Well, if only!

Shambhavi says she is still in touch with her friends at Amity and Deepender, Sakshi, Kabir and Vedant are still close to her heart. “I miss everything about Amity,” she says. “The long walks in the basketball courts, hanging out at maggi point, going to ‘Atta’, attending the fest- ‘Sangathan’, teachers...” she smiles as she mentions it all. I also used to play volleyball during Sangathan, but I remember we lost.” Her hostel life, tasty rolls at gate no 2, her old room 304 and her roomies make up some of the most special moments of her life. Signing off, she wishes all Amitians good luck, encouraging them to “pursue their passion and listen to their heart.”



Pics: Niloy Mahalanbish, BJMC, ASCO



Kahani Gadbad si

Love us or hate us, but you can’t ignore us, say TV soaps as idiot-box-addicts find it hard to stay away

Sankalp Dikshit, XI, AIS Noida

Getting late for a movie is among the worse things that can happen to anyone. And to top it all, you are made to sit for another five minutes due to some silly superstition, it makes things even worse! My family, a guided by their love for TV serials follow these superstitions, just like a sincere student who follows the rules laid by CBSE. What they see is what they tend to replicate in reality too. Serials have been an integral part of our idiot box since the time television saw daylight. These daily soaps have proved to be a great source of entertainment for bored house wives. But who could imagine that they would conquer the television industry and rule for innumerable years to come! Television soaps follow a systematic strategy of increasing the craving of their ever-greedy viewers. They first drag a scene (which is apparently com-

mon to all the soaps), perhaps they then show the death of the big eyed vamp (who actually wins over the goodie-goodie heroine all the time) and finally they make a big fool of us by showing that the heroine was dreaming! All this “*nautanki*” lasts for some good five to six episodes. During these dragged episodes, the TRP shoots, big amount of moolah rushes through and in all this mess, we (the dumb viewers), first criticize the soap, then promise to discontinue watching it and finally break our “big promises” by again getting hooked to it, like ever before! No wonder such shows successfully manage to win our hearts and minds. Whether we like it or not, this *kahani gadbad si* will continue forever.



“Your Christ must have been a Hindu saint”

BOOK SHELF

Read by: Pallavi Majumdar, Asst. Prof, Amity School Of Communication (ASCO)

Name of the book: Holy Cow: An Indian Adventure

Author: Sarah Macdonald

First Impression: This is an autobiographical work of Sarah Macdonald, an Australian reporter who follows her fiancé to India and having been a journalist I was curious to accompany her on the adventures.

Favorite character in the book: Sarah Macdonald, who is the protagonist and the writer. I love her for her witty sarcasm, her fears, her horror and her colorful description of India’s many faces of spirituality.

Memorable quote from

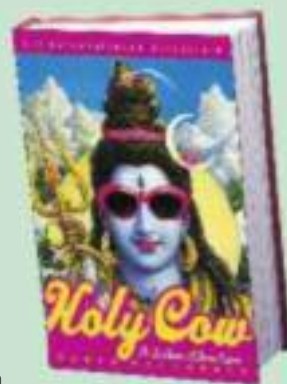
the book : “Your Christ must have been a Hindu saint”

Particular mood to read: It’s a good book to pick up while traveling, especially by train, when one can watch all the hues of this country and its people from Sarah’s eyes.

One time read or another reading required: It’s a simple and entertaining read, but I would like to pick it up again to understand the “seeking instinct”.

Why would you suggest this book to others?: The book gives a good peek into two of world’s favorite topics: India and Spirituality.

USP: I enjoyed the book’s irreverent stance - it was like travelling with a friend and feeling free to observe and comment on everything that crosses one’s path.



Camera Caper

Clicked by Aryan Abraham, IV C/Wing B, Amity International School, Noida.



MIRROR IMAGE



ROAR MY LION, ROAR



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