

# Order in the eco-court

## It's Time To Hear Nature's Case For Justice

**Yuvika Satija & Diya Kerur**  
AIS Gurugram 46, XII J

*Nature whispers, unheard for years, Now it pleads in courts, no longer in tears.* What if a river could sue? Or a forest could defend itself in court? Once dismissed as eco-fantasy, this is fast becoming the reality around the globe. The Rights of Nature movement is giving ecosystems - rivers, forests, mountains, and even glaciers - the legal standing once reserved only for humans and corporations. At its core lies an ancient truth: nature is not property, it's kin. And now it's time the law heeds its call.

### Exhibit A: Call to the wild

In 2017, after generations of Māori advocacy, New Zealand granted legal personhood to the Whanganui River. It now has two legal guardians, one from the Māori iwi and one from the government. This wasn't just a legal innovation, it was a historic acknowledgment of the river's soul. Ecuador, even bolder, enshrined the rights of Pachamama (Mother Earth) in its 2008 Constitution. Since then, courts have ordered wetland restorations, and reminded profit-driven industries that nature, too, has rights. Inspired by such bold steps, other countries followed suit. India briefly declared the

Ganga and Yamuna as living entities. In Canada, the Magpie River now challenges hydroelectric threats with its legal status. Nature is no longer voiceless - it is litigating for its survival.

### Exhibit B: Guardians

Though new in law books, this is ancient wisdom for the Indigenous. From the Andes to the Amazon, communities have long viewed rivers, forests, and mountains as sacred relatives. In India, groves are not just ecosystems, they're temples. These traditions see humanity not as owners, but as caretakers. And now, even courts are turning to Indigenous communities not just for symbolic roles, but for stewardship. Appointing Indigenous guardians is a legal and moral recognition that oral traditions carry truths the modern world is just beginning to understand. It's a quiet revolution, one that challenges old laws about ownership, extraction, and control.

### Exhibit C: The people vs profit

Since 1970 global wildlife populations have crashed by 69%. Every minute, forests

equivalent to 27 football fields are erased. In 2023, climate-related disasters cost the world 380 billion USD. Against this backdrop, Right of Nature is less a romantic dream than a survival imperative. And now, people are noticing. In Panama, river rights have stalled destructive dams; in Spain, citizens protected the Mar Menor lagoon by securing its legal personhood. From Bolivia to Ohio, grassroots groups invoke these laws to hold polluters to account, realizing that defending ecosystems in court might be the only way to defend themselves, and the world.

### Exhibit D: The legal labyrinth

Still, turning recognition into real protection is not as simple as it sounds. Take

India: when the courts declared the Ganga and Yamuna as 'living entities', they stumbled into a legal puzzle - if a river floods, who is held responsible? After major debates about this topic, the ruling was stayed. Governments fret that broad rights could paralyse development. Corporations push back, fearing economic gridlock. Even when rights are granted, enforcement is often patchy. Critics dismiss the laws as symbolic or toothless. But history reminds us - change often begins this way. Women suffrage, the abolition of slavery and apartheid, and even corporate personhood - all started as abstract ideas before being etched into laws and life.

*Continued on page 4...*



Illustration: Tapasya Aggarwal, AIS Gurugram 46, X J

Page editors: **Diya Kerur & Yuvika Satija**, AIS Gurugram 46, XII J

**What measure would have the most effective impact on Delhi AQI levels?**

A) Enforcing green initiatives  
B) Using tech solutions like cloud seeding  
C) Increasing awareness & precautions

To vote, check out our Instagram page @the\_global\_times

**Coming next**  
AGS Noida Contest Edition

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This special edition has been brought to you by **Amity International School Gurugram 46**, as a part of the 'GT Making A Newspaper Contest'. Each page of this unique edition carries a special story handcrafted by the school's editorial team as a part of the competition. The inter-Amity newspaper making competition witnesses different branches of Amity schools across India churn out their own 'Contest Edition' which are pitted against one another at the end of the year, culminating with GT Awards. So, here's presenting the **second edition** of 'GT Making A Newspaper Contest 2025-26'.

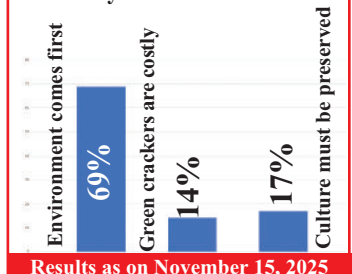
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## POLL RESULT

for GT Edition October 13, 2025

With the SC banning firecrackers, Delhi CM Rekha Gupta suggests allowing 'green' ones this Diwali. What are your views on this?



# Around The WORLD

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

## CANADA

### Measles-free no more



Canada has officially lost its measles-elimination status after more than a

year of continuous viral spread, according to Pan American Health Organization. The country has recorded over 5,100 measles cases in 2025 and two infant deaths, both born prematurely after prenatal exposure. Vaccination coverage has slipped below the required 95% threshold to maintain "herd immunity." Authorities have ramped up immunisations and surveillance.



### Szalay bags Booker

David Szalay has been named the 2025 Booker Prize winner for his novel 'Flesh', which follows the rise of an emotionally detached man from a public-housing estate in Hungary to the ultra-rich world of London. Judges hailed it as 'extraordinary' and 'unlike any other book'. The novel earned Szalay the £50,000 prize and marks the 10th win for publisher Jonathan Cape. Szalay, previously shortlisted in 2016, was praised for his spare prose and emotional depth. He beat Kiran Desai who was among the six finalists for 'The Loneliness of Sonia and Sunny'.



## INDIA

### Deadly Delhi blast

On November 10, 2025, a car exploded near Delhi's Red Fort, killing 13 people and injuring more than 20. The blast occurred in a moving Hyundai i20 that had paused at a traffic signal outside the adjacent metro station, damaging nearby vehicles and sparking a large fire. Authorities have invoked the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, handed over the case to the National Investigation Agency (NIA), and declared it a terror incident. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has vowed that the 'conspirators' will be brought to justice. Several suspects have been taken into the custody.



## USA

### Aerial bear hunt faces heat

Alaska's wildlife agency has been sued by environmental groups over a predator-control programme that allows bears to be shot from helicopters. The programme is aimed at protecting the shrinking Mulchatna caribou herd - now below 15,000 - from bear attacks. However, activists say that the 'unconstitutional' measure lacks scientific basis. According to them, 180 bears have been killed since 2023.



## GERMANY

### OpenAI loses copyright case

A Munich court has ruled that OpenAI's ChatGPT violated copyright law by using protected German-song lyrics to train its AI models and reproducing them verbatim. The verdict, in the case brought by a German music-rights society that represents 100,000+ creators, may set a precedent for AI regulation across Europe. OpenAI, which could appeal, has been ordered to pay damages and obtain licences in the future.



## GHANA

### Asante treasures reclaimed

Asante King Otumfuo Osei Tutu II has received over 130 gold and bronze artefacts from Britain and South Africa, many looted more than a century ago. The treasures - royal regalia, drums, and ceremonial gold weights - were handed to the Manhyia Palace Museum in Kumasi. The return of these goods marks a significant milestone in global efforts toward cultural restitution and the restoration of Asante heritage.



## CHINA

### First robot debate

Beijing witnessed the one-of-its-kind debate where robots faced off in a battle of wits that had no human intervention. The inaugural China International Robotics Debate Competition saw four robot teams debate on topics requiring complex reasoning. Xiaonuo, from Noetix Robotics, won the top prize by tactfully arguing the statement 'robot would dominate humans'. The robots were judged on logic, language and adaptability.

# A determined defence

Where Science Leads And Lights A Strong Path To Safety



Devangi Majumdar, XII I and  
Yateshha Kaushik, XI J, AIS Gur 46

**D**r Chandrika Kaushik, a distinguished scientist and Director General (PC&SI) at DRDO, has made great contributions to India's defence landscape. She has been instrumental in developing, producing, and integrating advanced defense systems. A strong proponent of the 'Make in India' initiative, she has helped reduce dependence on foreign imports, ensuring the creation of state-of-the-art, home-grown technology. Let's dive into her talk with GT that will inspire women to break barriers and pursue excellence in innovation.

## Glorious moments

Every time a product reaches the user, it gives me immense satisfaction.

There's a common thread connecting it all - from defining the system, conceptualising projects, development, constant review and monitoring, trials and evaluations in the field, to identifying the right industry partners, and finally seeing

Pics: Yashasvi Aggarwal, AIS Gur 46, X H



Dr Kaushik with GT reporters

the product being inducted and used. Operation Sindoor was one such opportunity, where we saw systems like SCALP, HAMMER, and several others play their part in defending our country.

## In her stride

Fortunately, I never faced any major challenges in my career. Sure, there were a few hiccups, but those are to be taken in stride. With focus on your goal, nothing can stop you from achieving what you want. As women, we need extra efforts to balance family and work. But our organisation is very supportive, and we had many brilliant mentors guiding us. Now, it's our turn to shape the next generation.

## A bright future

Today, we have the technological capability to create various defence systems — missiles, guidance systems, radars, underwater weapons, submarines, fighter aircrafts, and artillery guns. One area that

## INTERVIEW

still needs focus is propulsion and the raw materials required for these systems. We are gradually moving from 'Make in India', to 'Made in India', where the intellectual property will belong to our country, and nothing can hold us back.

## On the right path

The most meaningful recognition for me came when a leading news magazine featured me in their 'She' list. It was special as it was a recognition from the public. It made me feel that my work was truly contributing to the larger system. I live by the philosophy of the Bhagavad Gita: "Do your best and leave it." Put your focus into the work that is to be done, rather than worrying about the results. When your motivation is right, life becomes peaceful. Personally, curiosity keeps me going. I always want to know what's happening in the world.

## Message for Amitians

Think big and think independently. Whenever you come across a problem, try to find a solution yourself instead of looking for ready-made answers. Have the conviction to do what you believe is right, for the potential within you is immense.



Dr Chandrika Kaushik  
Director General (PC&SI), DRDO

## Book Review

# A quest for the untold

**Synopsis:** In Dan Brown's first novel in nearly ten years, Harvard symbolologist, Robert Langdon is once again avalanched in solving a twisted puzzle that begins with a mysterious murder in Prague, disappearance of his partner, and a chase by a powerful organisation. From decoding a secret message to uncovering one of the world's most powerful and startling discoveries about the nature of human consciousness that threatens to disrupt centuries of established beliefs, Langdon is at the centre of this enigmatic chaos using his sharp wit and quick thinking against forces unknown. This conspiracy thriller intertwines the two worlds of futuristic

**Book:** The Secret of Secrets

**Author:** Dan Brown

**Published on:** September 9, 2025

**Genre:** Mystery, Thriller and Suspense

science and mystical lore. Every page brings along with it a cliff-hanger, introduced by a barrage of dot-dot-dots and italics.

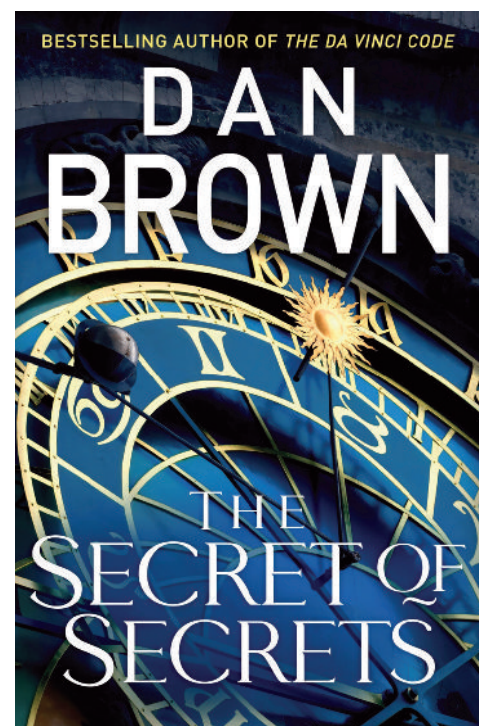
**Why is it worth reading:** This book is a propulsive and twisty paradise for those who adore solving complex puzzles, while delving deep into hidden histories and stories. The plot keeps readers on their toes as they

experience the race against time, the truth behind secret societies and global powers as well as the thrill of deciphering symbols, navigating historical landmarks through the story of Langdon who faces his deepest doubts. The book blends actual history with a fictional narrative seamlessly. Brown's writing dives into different perspectives. The cliff-hangers keep readers hooked, challenging them to think critically and understand the world better.

**Iconic quote:** "Sometimes a change in perspective is all it takes to reveal the truth."

**Rating:** 4.5/5

**Review by:** Manavi Chandra  
AIS VKC Lko, XII A



Text: Saanjh Sahay, X D | Graphic: Artha Bhoir, VIII J; AIS Gurugram 46



# Estilista

A sleek smart panel that fits right inside your closet to be your very own fashion consultant.



Say NO to fashion disaster!



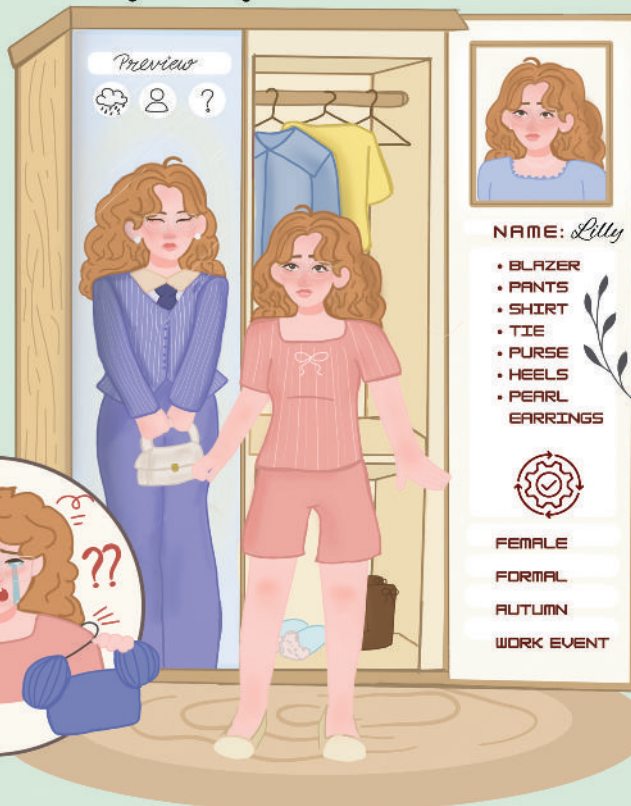
RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) sensors automatically track your clothing inventory.



AR mirror shows you outfit previews and analyses your style.



Smart wardrobe tracking panel scans and organises your clothes so nothing gets forgotten.



Adjustable settings for gender, clothing preferences, weather, and occasion through machine-learning.



Uses pro-level colorimetry and somatotyping to provide instant styling insights reserved for fashion studios.

**BEFORE:**

REMEMBER WHEN YOU WERE LOOKING AT OLD PHOTOS AND REALISED THOSE BOOTS DEFINITELY DIDN'T MATCH THOSE JEANS?



**AFTER:**

SAY GOODBYE TO FASHION DISASTERS BECAUSE YOUR PERSONAL STYLIST NOW LIVES IN YOUR CLOSET!



**DISCLAIMER:** Real scientific principles. Fictional ideas with a potential future.

## The microbial warfare

### The Truth Behind Nature's Puppet Master

Sehej Kapur

AIS Mayur Vihar, VII D

Deep in the humid under-story of tropical rainforests, a chilling drama unfolds – one that could rival any horror film. It stars an unsuspecting ant and a sinister fungal parasite with a flair for mind control. This is the story of *Ophiocordyceps unilateralis*, better known as the zombie ant fungus.

#### Conjuring ants

As the name suggests, the zombie ant fungus is a parasitic organism that infects ants to manipulate their behaviour in a sinister act of mind control. Once inside, it spreads through the ant's body and takes

charge of its muscles, forcing it to climb plants and bite onto a leaf or twig in what's called a 'death grip'.

#### The origins

It thrives in humid environments of tropical rainforests in South America, Southeast Asia and Africa. After killing the ant, the fungus uses the host's body as a nutrient source. It grows a stalk from the back of its head and releases spores into the environment - often directly onto the forest floor, so they come into contact with other ants. The fungus helps control ant populations and supporting biodiversity.

#### Real-life zombies?

The fungus' life cycle is closely tied to the behaviour and biology of the

ants, making it a perfect example of nature's 'zombies.' Although it is shown that humans can be infected by the zombie ants in the game and series 'The Last of Us', it is far from true. The fungus cannot survive the high internal body temperature of humans. Though similar species can infect insects such as spiders, and moths.

#### Fun-gi facts

The fungus doesn't control the ant's brain, it floods its body with chemicals and takes over its muscles. The ant isn't 'aware' of what's happening, but can no longer be the conductor of its orchestra. Nature's horror story, indeed! 



...continued from page 1

#### So, what's the verdict

Today, Rights of Nature laws exist in nearly 40 countries and over 400 localities. From glaciers in the Andes to sacred forests in Asia, Earth's voice is beginning to ring in parliaments and courtroom halls. Imagine a future where rivers sue for clean water, forests challenge deforestation, and glaciers file cases against fossil fuel giants, not just in protests, but in courtrooms. The trial of Planet vs Humanity is still underway. Its outcome will define not only ecosystems, but the future of our species. Will we be exploiters, or stewards? The evidence mounts. The gavel waits.

*The Earth now speaks through laws not cries;*

*Your Honour - will we listen or turn a blind eye?*

Graphic: Aaditya Garg, AIS Gurugram 46, XI B

# Talk, don't torch it

## Honing The Art Of Communication

Bhavana Iyer, XII E &  
Krishna Singh, XII B  
AIS Noida

Conversations are tricky business. A single misplaced word, an untimely pause, or even a raised eyebrow can flip a friendly chat into a mental replay marathon. Should you explain right away? Let things cool? Pretend nothing happened? The truth is, most misunderstandings don't arise from what we say, but how and when we say it. So, before your brain turns into a 24/7 talk show rerun, let's break this down.

### Read the room

You were aiming for a casual conversation, but now you're stuck replaying it like a badly cut podcast. To save yourself from daydreams about moving to a remote village and never speaking again, notice the signs first. Look at their face, their tone, or whether they're scrolling like their phone owes them money. Even with all the facts on your side, you're basically handing fireworks a lit match if you don't check the mood. Sad? Go softer. Happy? Share the

energy. Angry? Maybe wait, because storms are best tackled after they pass.

### Constructive conspiracy

"Stop assuming!" you say. Fair point. But remember, you're not a mind reader either (and if you are, that's... unsettling). A brick wall can't talk to another brick wall. The fix? Ask questions. Engage. Explore their side of the story. It's almost magical – like discovering new levels in a game you thought you'd already mastered. Facts matter, but feelings? They seal the deal.

### Hold that thought

Sure, it sounds convenient if people could just read your mind. But honestly? This thought is terrifying. Instead, explain what you meant, not what you think they assumed. Give them space to do the same. And above all, stay kind.

Misunderstandings don't vanish with silence; they dissolve with clarity and empathy. Words carry weight: some cut deeper than swords, some heal better than medicine. If you want to be heard, make sure you're willing to hear too.



## The Fleeting Rise And Fall Of The (Mat)Archy

Sanvi Bhatia, AIS Gur 46, X H

My fibres are damp with rain and sweat, and police sirens wail closer every second. Imagine, a dripping rectangle on the run from the law. This might be the last chance to tell my story, so listen closely - for after this, I may not seem so welcoming.

For 25,000 years, my species have existed. Born from bundles of reeds and straw in the Palaeolithic Age, we scraped muck off sandals before humans even invented chairs. Ancient Rome flaunted us in mosaics like the 'Cave Canem' of Pompeii, while China and Japan linked us to superstitions of warding off evil spirits. Later, we were woven from coir, rubber, even polypropylene, but my aunt tells me that the 'woven' thing wasn't happening till the Mesopotamian settlements, which was some 6,000 years ago. But my fate got its

'golden touch' in the 1800s when rubber was introduced in the doormat industry. Suddenly, I was more durable, waterproof and slip-resistant. Now that was a long walk (all over me, if I may say so) from the woven versions, which with-

ered under every weather. Yet despite all this innovation, we remained the same; walked over, ignored, thrown out when filthy. Talk about legacy. Not that my family hasn't had its proud moments. My cousin Tami of Japan was so prized that commoners couldn't touch him until the 17th century. My record-holding relatives include Matakiva from Kerala - the longest doormat in the world, measuring 101.6 metres, woven by Travancore Cocotuft Ltd, and Volotea in Italy - the largest mat on record, spanning 7.5 metres by 10 metres. I myself boast a three-stage matting system, capable of trapping dirt at 95% efficiency but no one claps for that.

What humans did admire were the Renaissance mats - luxurious

velvet creations flaunted like jewellery in noble homes. I met one once. She looked like she'd stepped out of a palace, softer than golden retriever fur. Two days later, her owners dumped her in the trash for being 'impractical.' That was the day my bristles bristled. My days of polite 'Welcome' and 'Please remove your shoes' were over.

So, when guests came stomping in, I made sure they slipped. Villain arc activated. After all, why should I bow down forever? Still, I salute the future. The smart mats measuring health data, the quirky slogan mats telling the guests to "Live. Laugh. Leave." They prove we're evolving - no longer just floor décor, but personalities in our own way.

The police torchlight blinds my eyes now. They are shouting my rights, sirens screaming in the background. All I wanted was the same respect as your guests. But here we are. Remember this: behind every villain is a doormat who finally said, "Not today."

# Success like air



Dr Amita Chauhan  
Chairperson

I have always loved telling stories as I find them the most easy and efficient way of communicating my deep thoughts with my Amitians. As the nation celebrates our women's World Cup triumph, I feel immense pride as an Indian — and, as a mother, inspired to share a story of success with you all.

Once upon a time a young boy went to the great philosopher Socrates and shared with him that he wants success in life and

so he seeks Socrates's guidance. The great philosopher asked him to come back the next day. So the boy went to him again and this time Socrates took the boy near a river and holding his hand started walking into the river, and once he reached deep waters Socrates with all his might pushed the boy's head down into water. The boy after struggling for a while managed to pop out his head from water and Socrates asked him, "What did you want?" "Success," screamed the boy, and with that Socrates once again dunked the boy's head deeper into water and this time he did not let him come out. He kept his hand over the boy's neck to ensure that his head remains inside water. After much struggle, the boy managed to come out gasping badly for air, Socrates asked again, "Now what do you want most?" "Air, air, air," gasped the boy. Socrates took the boy on the bank of the river, sat down with him and told him, "When you were dunked deep into water all you ever wanted was air, nothing else came to your mind. Success is same, it is just like air, if you want success with your entire mind, body and soul, then you must desire it wholeheartedly, just like you desired air to breathe. Just like you struggled with all your might to come out of water and get air, you have to be dedicated and work hard to be successful in life."

The Women's Cricket World Cup triumph is the result of years of relentless hard work a victory born of deep desire and determination, as essential to them as air itself. [GT](#)

## A fearless mind



Dr Arti Chopra  
Principal, AIS Gur 46

Transcending the boundaries of space and land, the knowledge was envisioned to flow freely, with confidence and fearlessness by revered poet Tagore, some decades ago. The aspiration has been a brimming reality at Amity, visible in the thoughts and expressions penned down by students in ink in The Global Times, for which we are extremely thankful to our Chairperson, Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan.

The collection of creative poems, conversations, and narratives worked upon by our editorial team for our contest issue, reflects thinking, disciplined, and synthesising minds, completely devoid of fear. The journey of thought process of emerging ideas, that could have been shaped through Vasudha, debated through MUNs, reached community through Youth Power, exchanged globally, and powered with BHAAG mantra, culminated to find a place in this contest issue. The Vedic prayer, often rendered by our Chairperson, as "Abhayam mitrat abhayam amitrat," encourages Amitians not to be afraid of failure, rather embrace it to rectify their actions. She instils among Amitians the courage to say 'No' to bullying, anger, and peer pressure to be a fearless individual. Through prayers, shloka chanting, yoga, mindfulness etc, Amitians have been empowered emotionally, socially, and spiritually to face all hurdles of life. Congratulating our EB for their efforts towards another successful issue, we celebrate every endeavour that nurtures fearless mind and a soulful learning. [GT](#)



Pic: Disha Dhir, AIS Gurugram 46, XI I

## Et tu, ALEXANDRIA?

### Hoarding: A Preemptive Response To Uncertainty

Parneka Chowdhry  
AIS Gurugram 46, XI J

From Julius Caesar to you, from 700,000 scrolls in Alexandria's library to 30 active browser tabs— we have incessantly, passionately submitted to the appeal that hoarding brings. In the third century, the Library of Alexandria was the unrivalled hoarder's haven before it was engulfed by a raging inferno. The irony, however, is that despite being reduced to ruins, it stays with us, tucked within our Google Chrome window. Owing to our constellation of open tabs; we cling not to knowledge, but to the possibility of accessing it. "What if I need this article later?" is the 21<sup>st</sup>-century way of saying, "Yes, Zenodotus, we need 20 more copies of this scroll."

The inevitability of loss and the anxiety tied to impermanence coexist in a world where it is possible to maintain the illusion of perpetuity. The

Egyptians didn't need documented knowledge for all variations of the lentil stew recipe. Similarly, you don't need last week's astrology prediction; you need comfort in the clutter for a false sense of autonomy over what surrounds you. But is it essentially bad? The endless stack of open tabs might be detrimental to your browser's health, but ultimately, it's just a preemptive response to unpredictability. Nevertheless, if it's human nature to resist change, then it is upon the laws of the world to enforce it. Like the Library of Alexandria, nothing is safe from one accidental shutdown, one auto-update, and one 'clear all history'. Try as one might to resist the truth, the trajectory of life is ungovernable. It returns; even in the form of an 'accident'. The fire that devoured the Library of Alexandria was intended solely for setting the harbour ablaze for defense. Similarly the



'minimise windows' button is in the concerning vicinity of the 'close' button. What starts as the first step to a short break may end up being the last step of your journey with the window(s).

We seldom intend to close all tabs, and neither did Mr Caesar, but the browser tabs close and the library burns — there is peace and mourning in that acceptance. That one moment of panic, and your coffee mug conveniently spilling over, suffering as a casualty is always followed by "Ah well, maybe I didn't need that anyway." New windows will prevail, opened only to be closed, and there will be more libraries, inaugurated only to be sold. In another thirty minutes, there'll be a new recipe you'll try to save, before it's gone again, lost to the power of 'reload'.

But for now, click save and close all the tabs, for the past does not need to load forever. [GT](#)

## Living with change

Dear readers,  
Another year, another edition — another collection of thought-provoking ideas and series of meetings. With every passing year, the competition intensifies, and so does the evolution we witness around us. This evolution is a gift, reminding us that change is the only constant. From the

birth of civilisation to today's youth striving for permanence, time reminds us that adaptability is our greatest strength. As educators, we experience this change firsthand. Each new batch of students brings fresh ideas and perspectives, urging us to remain flexible and guide their energy in meaningful directions. The Amity uni-

verse continuously strives to build a society where purpose aligns with the contemporary and learning evolves with time.

This edition celebrates the change shaping our world, through art and theatre, science and the internet, while reflecting on the foundations of the past to improve the present and embrace flexibility as a way of life in the future.

Happy reading!



Regina Mukherjee  
GT Coordinator

Illustration: Devangi Majumdar, AIS Gurugram 46, XII I



In the hidden corners of our planet, a few extraordinary lifeforms have mastered the art of survival, enduring for centuries and millennia. From Jellyfish to sharks, these remarkable beings unlock nature's greatest secrets of resilience. **Vibha Arya, X A, and Devangi Majumdar, XII I, AIS Gur 46**, take you on a journey through time as we explore Earth's most enduring creatures.

## Greenland Shark

### Immortal Jellyfish

**Lifespan:** Biologically immortal

**Brass tacks:** A small, translucent jellyfish with a bell-shaped body and around 90 fine tentacles. Found in the Mediterranean Sea and other warm oceans.

**What makes it resilient:** Capable of cellular regeneration and reverting to its juvenile form through transdifferentiation. This unique ability draws scientific interest for its potential in ageing and regenerative medicine.

### Antarctic Sponge

**Lifespan:** 1,550 to over 15,000 years

**Brass tacks:** Inhabits depths of 100-2000 metres under extreme cold and pressure. Growth is extremely slow, with some specimens showing no growth for a decade. Composed of siliceous, glass-like tissues with antimicrobial properties.

**What makes it resilient:** Acts as an ecosystem engineer, offering habitat and shelter to marine organisms. Its symbiotic microbes help it survive in nutrient-poor, low-light conditions.

**Lifespan:** 250 to 500 years

**Brass tacks:** The longest-living vertebrate. Lives in Arctic and North Atlantic waters, at depths of up to 7,218 feet. Grows slowly due to a low-metabolic rate. Likely scavengers, guided by a strong sense of smell.

**What makes it resilient:** Contains high levels of urea and trimethylamine oxide, acting as natural antifreeze, aiding buoyancy, and allowing it to survive year-round.

## OLD SOULS of the SEA

**Lifespan:** Over 500 years

**Brass tacks:** Native to the North Atlantic.

Characterised by two hard shells connected by a hinge, and a siphon for filter-feeding. Growth rings are used to determine age. It is one of the last surviving species of the Jurassic era.

**What makes it resilient:** Its sturdy shell enables it to burrow into sediment for protection. Studied as a natural archive, it offers valuable records of historical climate and ocean conditions.

### Black Coral

**Lifespan:** Over 4,000 years

**Brass tacks:** Found globally at depths up to 26,000 feet. Despite the name, black corals can appear white, red, green, yellow, or brown. Traditionally used in rituals and medicine, now often used in jewellery.

**What makes it resilient:** Has a tough protein-chitin skeleton that deters predators. Lacks symbiotic algae, allowing it to thrive in dark deep-sea.

**Lifespan:** Over 200 years

**Brass tacks:** Found along the Pacific coast, especially on rocky shores. Features a dome-shaped body with a hard shell and movable spines. Has five sharp teeth used for feeding and boring into surfaces.

**What makes it resilient:** Can regenerate damaged spines. Highly responsive to touch and light, helping it detect and avoid threats.

### Ocean Quahog Clam

### Red Sea Urchin

Illustration: Lavoni Raghuyal, AIS Gurugram 46, XII E



# Rooted in two hearts

Kashvi Sharma & Sanvi Bhatia, AIS Gur 46, X H

On a sweet summer morning, when all was peaceful, a seed fell from the flowers of the ancient Magnolia tree. Close to her mother's roots, a tiny seedling emerged, fragile, curious and full of innocent wonder. The gentle wind whispered through the leaves as Magnolia watched her child sway softly. "You'll be called Willow," she murmured, smiling at her daughter's slender branches. Willow was the pride of the grove – sweet and full of promise. But one night, the skies turned angry. There came a violent storm sending forth torrential rains. The elders of the forest tried to shield the sapling, yet a gust of wind tore through and broke the seedling apart. Magnolia's cries echoed through the night. Death, who often snatched lives without feeling or pain, paused this time. In a moment of rare

The elders of the forest tried to shield the sapling, yet a gust of wind tore through and broke the seedling apart.

benevolence, he whispered to the little sapling, "You will be reborn, but not as a human nor as a tree yet something in between." And so, Willow was reborn to a woman whose name was never uttered, for her daughter was not like the others. Willow had shimmering hair like green leaves and skin as brown as bark. "A witch and her daughter!" the villagers condemned them both, so the mother fled with her child deep into the forest. She named her Willow as well, for the young girl was as graceful as a Willow tree. One morning, four-year-old Willow walked through the forest, and she felt the trees were humming to her. She followed their song until the voices became loud and clear. She reached a towering Magnolia tree with looming branches,

dark leaves and soft pink flowers. The branches bent towards her, whispering, "Willow? Willow, my dear?" Then she remembered – the storm, the love, the loss. Tears welled as she whispered, "I'm here, mother. I am finally here." Magnolia's spirit trembled with joy. Never had there been a reply to her cries before. Yet, when she asked her daughter to stay, Willow hesitated. "Mother, I can't leave my human mother. She has cared for me in this life." Magnolia's voice softened, she too, was a mother. "Darling, it'll be okay. Have we learnt nothing from the goddess of the underworld, Persephone? Even she divides her time between the Underworld and Earth." From that day onwards, Willow had two homes and two mothers – one of soil, and one of flesh. Through the seasons, they shared her company – fall and winter by the hearth, spring and summer under Magnolia's shade. Willow was finally where she belonged – a child of two worlds, rooted in two hearts.



Pic: Diya Kerur, XII J | Model: Yashasvi Aggarwal, X H; AIS Gur 46

## Read Play and Win 95

Reading your favourite GT can fetch you a prize too. Complete all the boxes below. Click a picture and send it to [editor@theglobaltimes.in](mailto:editor@theglobaltimes.in) or submit your responses by visiting The Global Times website (<http://theglobaltimes.in/readplaywin/>). Three lucky winners will win a prize every week!



|                                                                       |                                                                     |                                                                |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Q.1 What is the lifespan of a red sea urchin?                         | Q.2 Mention the name of Magnolia's daughter in the story on page 8. | Q.3 Dr Chandrika Kaushik is _____ at DRDO.                     |
| Q.4 The article on Special Intensive Revision (SIR) is on page _____. | Q.5 What is the scientific name of the zombie ant fungus on page 4? | Q.6 What is the headline of the perspective article on page 6? |
| Q.7 Which object's autobiography is featured on page 5?               | Q.8 Who is the editor-in-chief of AIS Gur 46?                       | Q.9 What is the name of the theatre club mentioned on page 10? |

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

Results of Read Play & Win-94: **Lakshita Aneja**, AIS MV, IX A; **Virat Goryan**, AIS Vas 1, IV D; **Rayansh Ranjan**, AIS Noida, VII M

## Writer's block

Saanjh Sahay, AIS Gur 46, X D

The pen burns my hand  
Each word even more difficult  
A weight I can lift no longer  
I drown, forgetting to swim

Pages mock with a cold glare  
I reach out for fading words  
But the rope snaps every time  
My hands calloused, burning red

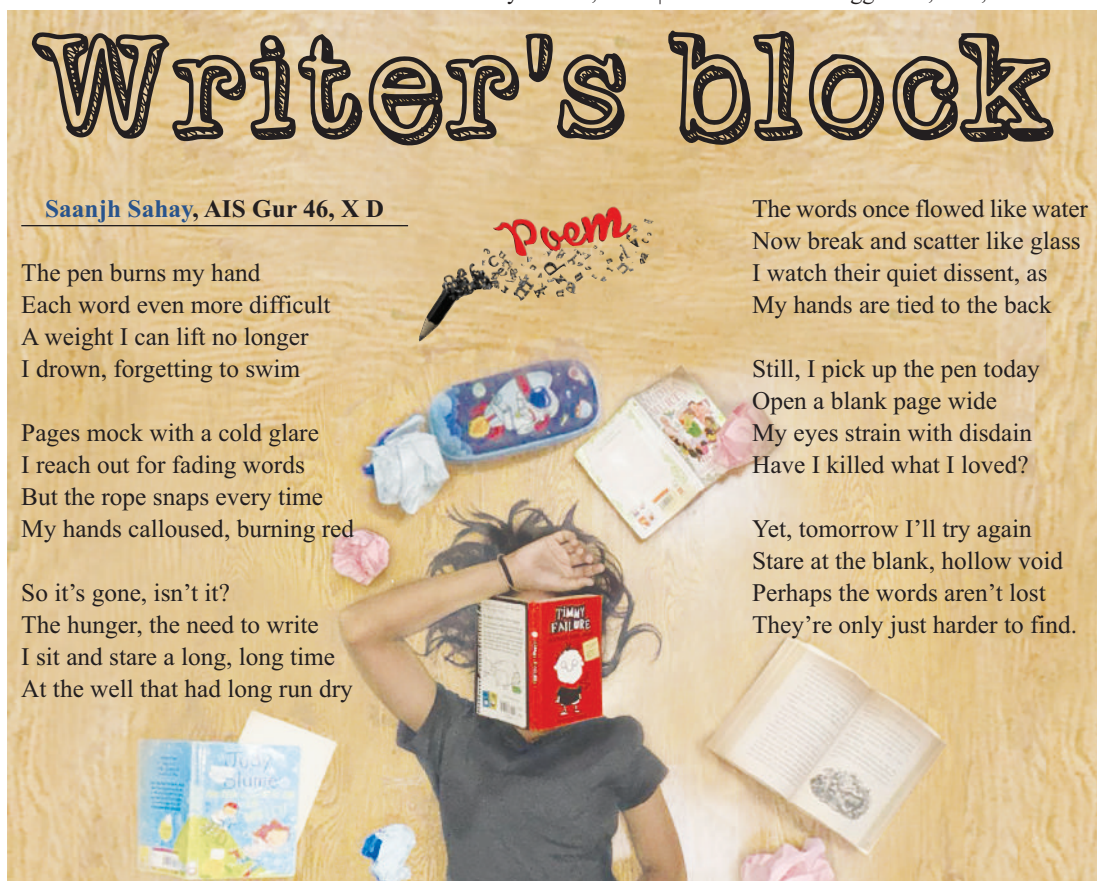
So it's gone, isn't it?  
The hunger, the need to write  
I sit and stare a long, long time  
At the well that had long run dry



The words once flowed like water  
Now break and scatter like glass  
I watch their quiet dissent, as  
My hands are tied to the back

Still, I pick up the pen today  
Open a blank page wide  
My eyes strain with disdain  
Have I killed what I loved?

Yet, tomorrow I'll try again  
Stare at the blank, hollow void  
Perhaps the words aren't lost  
They're only just harder to find.



# Counting every citizen



## What Truly Lies Behind the Selectively Imposed Roll Call

Adamyia Bhanot

AIS Gurugram 46, XI S2

With Bihar's Special Intensive Revision (SIR) making headlines, a curious journalist asked pointed questions about this massive voter verification drive and finds out what it means for Indian democracy.

**Journalist:** SIR seems to be the topic of conversation everywhere, and yet, there is so much confusion surrounding it. To begin with, could you explain what the Special Intensive Revision, or SIR, actually is?

**SIR Expert:** Of course! The Special Intensive Revision, launched in Bihar on June 24, 2025, is a large-scale verification of the state's electoral roll, or simply put, the official list of voters. Booth Level Officers, or BLOs, visited each of the previously listed 7.89 crore voters across Bihar to confirm whether each person listed was still eligible to vote, and whether their information was correct. The enumeration phase ran through late July, a draft roll was published on August 1, and petitions for corrections were open until September 1. After review, the final list was released on September 30, which showed 21.53 lakh new additions and 3.66 lakh deletions, leading to a net increase of about 17.87 lakh voters.

**Journalist:** But is there any legal basis for such an exercise?

**SIR Expert:** Undoubtedly! The SIR is carried out under Article 324 of the Constitution and Section 21 of the Representation of the People Act, 1950. These provisions give the Election Commission the authority to prepare and revise electoral rolls as

it deems necessary. The ECI can choose between a summary or an intensive revision, depending on how outdated the records are.

**Journalist:** That is reassuring, but why was such a major revision needed now?

**SIR Expert:** Well, contrary to what many people believe, such a revision is not a new invention. The electoral roll, a list of all eligible voters in each constituency along with their demographic details, is an integral feature of Indian election law. Major revisions occur periodically – the last intensive update in Bihar was conducted in 2002–03. But, since then, there have been big changes – people have migrated, new voters have come of age, and some entries are outdated or duplicated. So, the ECI decided it was time for a thorough verification to make sure every genuine voter stays on the list and no ineligible entries remain.

**Journalist:** Several media houses reported missing voters and duplicate entries. How does the Commission handle those issues?

**SIR Expert:** That's right – such issues can appear in a large-scale exercise. Some voters were shown with 'house number 0' or placeholder addresses. These are called notional numbers, used for homes without official numbering, especially in rural or unauthorised settlements. Whenever mismatches or duplicates are found, the ECI allows citizens to ask for correction.

**Journalist:** It would be helpful to

know more details about what citizens can do if they find an error in the voter list.

**SIR Expert:** Citizens can fill out correction forms such as Form 6, 7, or 8, depending on the issue. After submission, the BLO holds a hearing and updates the record if the correction is valid. If someone still feels unfairly excluded, they can appeal to higher election officers or even seek judicial review in court.

**Journalist:** Perhaps, clarity about the documents voters have to provide during this process will help those seeking redressal.

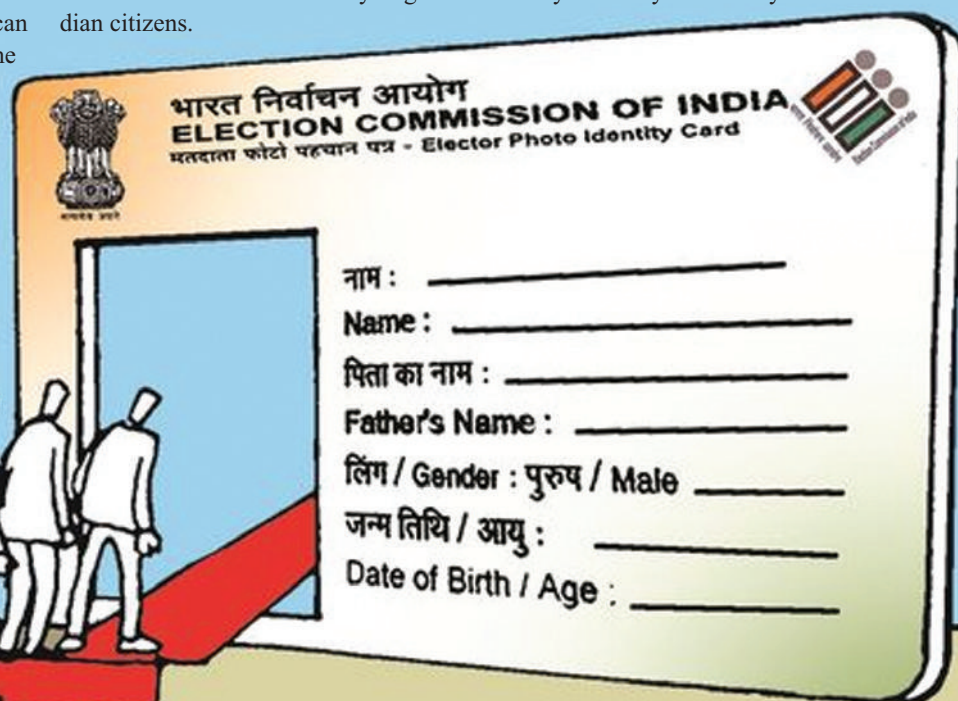
**SIR Expert:** That depends on when they were registered. Voters who joined after January 1, 2003, must provide additional documents – including proof of date and place of birth and sometimes proof of their parents' citizenship. The Aadhaar card was officially added as the 12<sup>th</sup> accepted identity document in 2025. Those who were registered before 2003 have fewer document requirements. This step helps ensure that the electoral roll contains only eligible Indian citizens.

**Journalist:** What does this mean for the future of elections in India?

**SIR Expert:** Over the decades, there has been growing concern about documentation requirements for voter enrolment, particularly for migrant labourers and informal workers who lack residential proof. As a response to illegal migration, these documentation checks have become stricter. So, Bihar's SIR is actually being seen as a pilot project; similar revision drives may be carried out in other states. The goal is simple – purity, accuracy, and transparency in electoral rolls. For democracy depends not just on voting, but also on making sure every voter's details are correct.

**Journalist:** If it's all so seamless, why is SIR being challenged by some?

**SIR Expert:** Citizens have every right to raise concerns. That is why several petitions challenging SIR are sub-judice at the moment and the law of land via the Supreme Court verdict will prevail. That's the way a healthy democracy functions!





Taravali Sharma, XII J &  
Ekam Sibia, XI I  
AIS Gurugram 46

# Curtains rise again

With Three Women Ressurecting A Theatrical Legacy



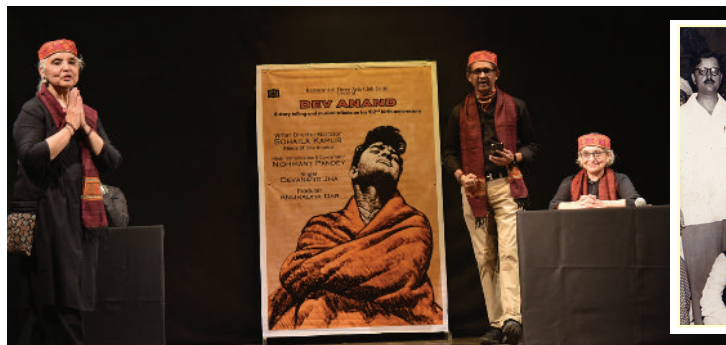
The visibly experienced brown fan creaks above, and the afternoon sunlight slants through the leaves outside a vintage Delhi bungalow. Within its quiet walls lies Three Arts Club, where three women – Anuradha Dar, Sohaila Kapur and Anuradha Kapur – are redefining what theatre means in contemporary Delhi.

## A legacy rekindled

Before Independence, the club was a tribute to music, dance, and drama. When the capital shifted to Delhi, it became a vibrant hub for creativity, until it fell silent for 25 years. Its rediscovery in 2008, coinciding with the 25th death anniversary of one of its original founders, marked the beginning of a revival. Thanks to the efforts of Anuradha Dar, Sohaila Kapur and Anuradha Kapur, the club today once again resounds with creativity. “We lit the lamp, and now the lamp remains lit,” says Kapur.

## Reinventing relevance

Reviving the club was not easy. Finances were limited, actors were



Members of Three Arts Club in action (above)  
Original Three Arts Club with PM Jawaharlal Nehru and President Rajendra Prasad (Right)

Pics: Ridhi Aggarwal AIS Gur 46, IX D

scarce, and circumstances had altered. “Old-timers had a different way of thinking,” Dar says. “The old plays were no longer applicable. But art changes - it has to.” Reinvention was the key. The women retained the club’s classic name but experimented with various mediums, effects, and forms of theatre to connect with people.

## Art unfiltered

One of their most daring productions was John Patrick Shanley’s ‘Doubt’, the Pulitzer Prize-winning play which was also adapted

into an Oscar-nominated film starring Meryl Streep and Viola Davis. “It seemed like a challenge to direct it,” Kapur admits. “The story wasn’t set in India, but its questions - about doubt versus faith, suspicion versus trust - are universal.” The production left the audience spellbound, although as Kapur observes, “Artistic plays receive less attention. But I don’t believe in dumbing down art.”

## Theatre that moves

If ‘Doubt’ was a test of their intellect, ‘Park’ was a test of their



GT reporters and crew captains

imagination. “We staged it at Triveni Kala Sangam,” explains Dar. “We realised the stairs and courtyard perfectly resembled the park itself. So, we seated the audience on the stage and used the stairs as our set.” “Sometimes we perform for just four people; sometimes we need to add extra chairs

because it’s packed. Either way, they listen.” Their production, *Kuch Life Jaisa*, shines a light on the loneliness of elderly women. “Often, as the final curtain falls, women from the audience have approached the actors, saying, “This is our story,” recalls Kapur.

## One big family

The Three Arts Club’s repertoire includes plays by Mahadevi Verma, Mahesh Dattani, and Badal Sircar, performed through readings, rhythm, and dance working simultaneously. They create their own props, finance their own shows, and construct their own sets. “We’re familiar with each other’s strengths, languages, and rhythms,” says Dar. “We all bring our creative inputs.”

The story of these three daring women is a reminder that even when cities evolve and audiences drift, some stages never lose their light. They only wait for brave hands to relight the lamp. **GT**

Pics: Yashasvi Aggarwal, AIS Gur 46, X H



Illustrators, turning imagination into ink



Editorial board of AIS Gurugram 46, the think tank behind the stories



Photographers, framing art



Writers, the word wizards



Editors, your typo's worst nightmares

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# Chintan se Chetna

From Reflection to Awakening, Amity's Journey Of Growth Shines On Annual Day



Hosts of the evening



Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Ms Pooja Chauhan and Dr Atul Chauhan



A powerful depiction of the legacy of wisdom and ethics of India

## AIS Noida

The school celebrated its annual day on October 15, 2025, based on the theme 'Chintan se Chetna, Chetna se Vikas – Amity ka Prayas'. The event was graced by Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and RBEF, along with Rohtash Chaudhary, multiple Guinness World Record holder popularly known as the Push - Up Man of India; Dr Atul Chauhan, President, RBEF & Chancellor, AUUP; Ms Pooja Chauhan, Chairper-

son, Amity Humanity Foundation and Amity School of Film and Drama; Ms Jaishree Chauhan, Vice President, Amity Finishing School; Mr Anand Chauhan, General Secretary, RBEF, and other dignitaries of Amity Education Group.

The evening came alive with vibrant cultural performances by around 1860 enthusiastic Amitians from Class VI to IX. The celebration began with lighting of the lamp ceremony, followed by 'Abhinandan Geet' and 'Antardhwani', a soulful musical rendition. Director Principal Renu Singh presented the

annual report, highlighting school's numerous achievements at national and international levels. The event also honoured outstanding students with trophies for their excellence in various fields. School alumni Vantika Agarwal, Arjuna Awardee (Chess); Sukhman Singh, India's no. 1 Amateur Golf Player; and Anish Raj, bronze medallist at the Inline Speed World Championships (China) - were felicitated with a cheque of INR 1,00,000 each in recognition of their stellar achievements. They expressed heartfelt gratitude to their alma mater and Chairperson for

her unwavering commitment towards holistic growth and development of Amitians.

Theatrical plays 'Acharya Chanakya' and 'Swami Dayanand Saraswati' staged by the students echoed Amity's ethos of wisdom, courage, and moral awakening. The event was not only a celebration of culture, creativity, and commitment, but a tribute to visionary leaders and their ideals that define Amity's enduring spirit. In her address, Chairperson applauded the students for their exquisite performances, urging them to dream big and strive for excellence. 🇮🇳



Darsh and his peers greet Lok Sabha Speaker, Om Birla

## Eloquent achiever

### AIS Vasundhara 6

Doing Amity proud, Darsh Gupta of Class IX was selected to participate in the prestigious 'Know Your Leader' event organised by Lok Sabha Secretariat from October 31 - November 1, 2025, in the Central Hall of Samvidhan Sadan (Parliament House). He earned this remarkable opportunity on the basis of his outstanding performance in a national level quiz conducted on mygov.in portal.

Darsh was among the 13 students from across India chosen to deliver a speech on the life and ideals of Mahatma Gandhi in the presence of eminent parliamentarians, including Lok Sabha Speaker, Om Birla; Minister of Culture and Tourism, Gajendra Shekhawat; Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi; and Member of Rajya Sabha, Sonia Gandhi. The event also provided him the opportunity to interact with several distinguished leaders, making it a truly inspiring and memorable experience. 🇮🇳

## AGS Noida

The school organised its 14th annual Science Colloquium 'Omnium Gatherum 2025' on October 31, 2025, under the visionary leadership of Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and RBEF. The event brought together budding scientists from 16 schools across the country and commenced with a traditional lamp lighting ceremony followed by a welcome address by school principal, Anita Paul. It featured three engaging competitions, held in both online and offline modes, designed to foster creativity, innovation, and scientific thinking among students of all age groups.

**ScipreneurX (Grades 4 – 5):** Encouraged young innovators to present science based solutions to real world challenges through prototypes and presentations. In the online round, AIS Navi Mumbai, AIS Mohali and AIS Jagdishpur secured the first, second and third positions respectively, while in the offline

## Spirit of science



School principal Anita Paul felicitates the winners

version, AIS Vas 6, AGS Noida and AIS MV emerged as the top three winners.

**Awareness Through Campaign (Grades 6 – 8):** Combined science and performance wherein students staged impactful skits on issues like e-waste management and climate change. While AIS Navi Mumbai emerged second in the online version, the offline round had AIS Vas 1 at the first place and AIS PV at the second place.

**Forum Deliberation (Grades 9**

**– 12):** Provided a platform for thought provoking debates on topics like AI and Humanity: Collaboration or Competition. AIS Navi Mumbai and AIS VKC Lucknow won first and second prize respectively in the online version while AIS Vas 1 and AIS Gur 46 bagged second and third prize respectively in the offline round. AIS Saket was declared the best interjector. The event reaffirmed Amity's commitment to nurturing scientific inquiry and innovation.

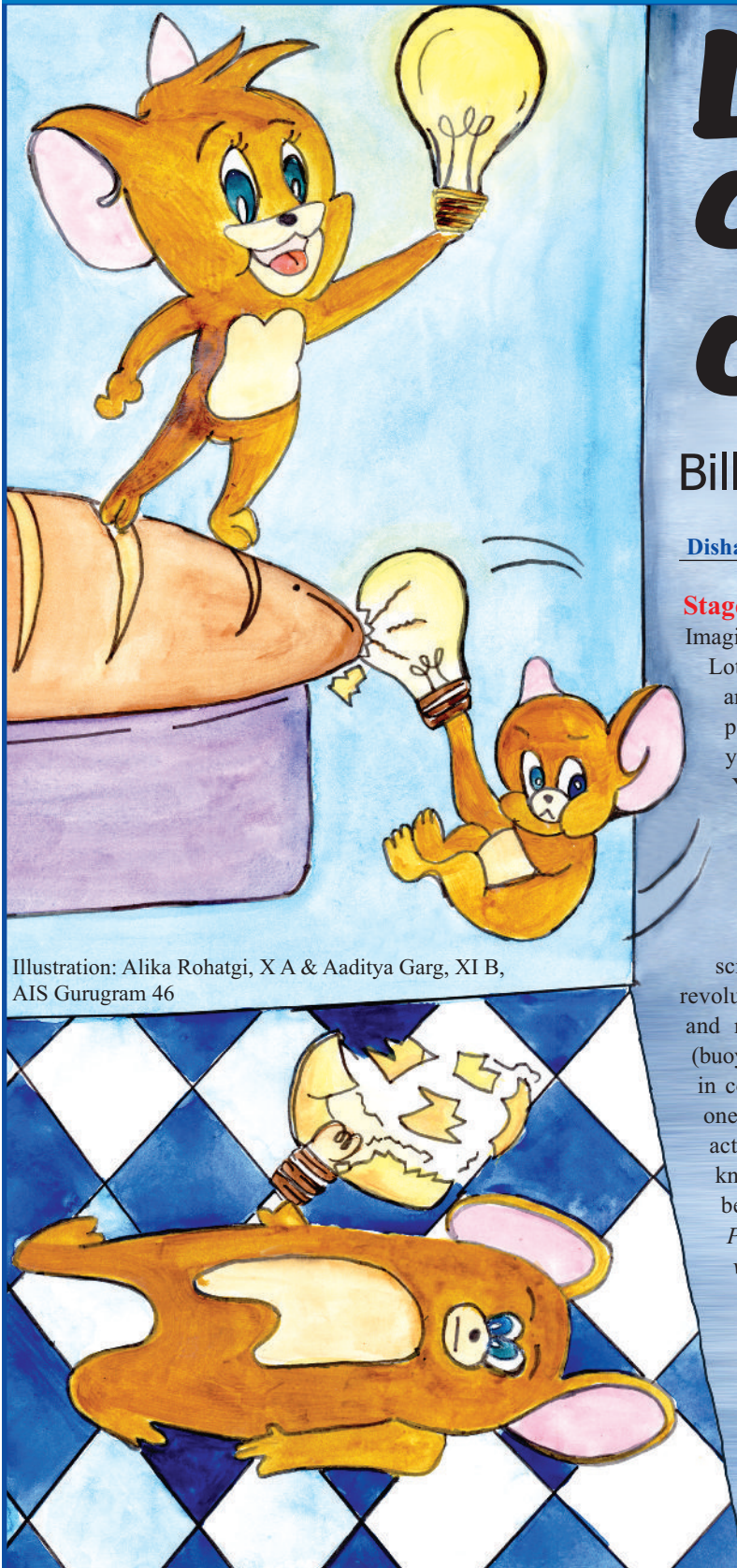


Illustration: Alike Rohatgi, X A & Aaditya Garg, XI B,  
AIS Gurugram 46

# Life cycle of an



## Billion Dollar Idea → Forgotten Journal Scribble

**Disha Dhir, AIS Gur 46, XI I**

### Stage 1: Void - 12:19 AM

Imagine an empty, barren field. Lots of potential, but hardly anything has been accomplished from it. This is how you can visualise boredom. You're practically an Archimedes reincarnate screaming Eureka, about to revolutionise the whole world, and not just that of physics (buoyancy holds no importance in comparison to this). Now, one might question what exactly 'it' is, but you don't know either and that's the beauty of it.

*PS: The odd position advice we must say really works! Who knew that hanging upside down from your bed while scrolling would make the blood rush to your head and give life to the next big thing! I knew that being on my phone instead of*

*studying wasn't unproductive.*

### Stage 2: Delusion - 1:24 AM

The idea starts to take some shape... if 'it' can be called that. I mean, surely no one else in the world had ever thought of therapy for plants before. Half-dazed, you call every friend (obviously, the whole world needs to know about this life-changing discovery) but you don't let their confused "uh...that sounds cool" to your 20-minute rant hinder you. You drift into a sequel of illusions - red carpets, phone ringing off the hook with sponsors, and bank account doing cartwheels.

*It's going to be such a struggle to stay humble, how miserable are my cousins going to be once they see my name in the Forbes 30 under 30 list, who all will I thank in my TED talk?*

### Stage 3: The build - 2:01 AM

Still on an unstoppable high, thanks to the caffeine that entered your system during the initial moments of stage 2, you bring out your laptop along with your lucky pen and journal, ready to make dreams come true. You open a million tabs and create a Pinterest board, trying to visualise the product. You create a logo, and truly, even if it's just a cir-

cle with flowers and some cursive text in it, it's absolutely perfect. You might have written zero words of actual content, but the look and aesthetic of the product are going to give Disney a run for their money.

### Stage 4: (Failure of) Execution - 11:42 AM

Once the sunlight of reality hits, or rather directly slaps you across the face the next morning, you begin to spiral. You see the remnants of your previous night — 2389 Google searches on possible patents, the manic phone calls you made, something utterly incomprehensible underlined four times in your journal. *Finishing school for pets?! Therapy for plants, what was I thinking!* Well, folks, this is it. The 20 feet drop that brings us to our demise. You and your friends laugh at your phone call that night — but silently, yet surely, you grieve the loss of something you held so dear.

### Stage 5: Rebirth 8 months later - 1:47 AM

*Wait...what about finishing school for plants and therapy for animals?* Just like any iconic 90s Bollywood movie, in whatever shape or form, trust that the idea will be back.

Pics: Advit Bhardwaj, AIS Gurugram 46, IX H



Editor-in-chief: Diya Kerur



Continuing the legacy of hard work to create masterpieces - the editorial board of AIS Gurugram 46