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AMITEpoll

Is Hinglish

(a) Diluting Hindi
(b) Popularising Hindi
(c) Makes no difference

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Coming Next

Watch out for an exclusive Hindi Divas special edition

Food for all

Himadrish Suwan, AIS Saket, XII

With the government firm in its resolve to wipe out hunger by introducing the National Food Security Bill, the economists are crying foul, saying the bill would spell doom for the already sinking Indian economy. However, if the claims of the govt. are to be believed, the programme with special focus on nutritional needs of children, pregnant and lactating women, is a boon as it would bring into its purview nearly 75% of the rural population and 50% of the urban population. What needs to be seen is whether the passage of bill will hurt or help? The bill has raised a furor of opinions; here's what some had to say and what others were quoted as saying.

A game of numbers

If the Food Security Bill comes into action, it would add to the fiscal deficit. The Centre plans to spend Rs 90,000 crore on food subsidy in 2013-14, of which Rs 10,000 crore is earmarked for the National Food Security Bill. With the food bill coming into force, subsidies on various things would increase by Rs 30,000 crore, which is a huge amount.

Vansh Saluja, AIS Saket, XII

It will impose an additional pressure on the fiscal situation and would make fiscal sustainability plan of the country difficult to achieve. As a result, the expected fiscal deficit to GDP ratio is five per cent for 2013-14, which is slightly above the budgeted 4.8 per cent.

Federation of Indian Chambers of

As the Lok Sabha passes the National Food Security Bill barely eight months before the general elections, the big question is whether the Bill will ensure food for all or bear a hole into the sinking economy and further spiral inflation

Commerce and Industry
(In FICCI's Economic Outlook survey)

Kissa kursi ka

Food Security Bill is nothing but a part of vote bank politics. The government should rather utilise this amount for funding development programmes in rural India. It should ensure that people have access to clean drinking water, better infrastructure, healthcare facilities, etc. It is important to improve the existing facilities rather than launch new schemes which burn a hole in the exchequer's pocket.

Pradeep Verma, AIS Saket, XII

The opposition parties have unanimously declared the bill as a 'populist-vote catching scheme'. Though, no party or leader has openly voiced his/her anguish, but the



undivided view is that there is a dire need to improve the existing Public Distribution System.

Opposition parties

A nation's commitment

The efforts of the govt. call for a big round of applause. It is indeed a bold step and shows the government's commitment to alleviate hunger from the country.

Anurag Chiranjeev, Businessman

This is for the first time in the history of the country that any government is legislating to give its citizen the right to food.

Rahul Gandhi, Congress leader

Far from corruption

I belong to a small village in Bihar, and it is disheartening to see the quality of rice,

pulses or oil being distributed to the poor. PDS is marred by corruption and if NFSB gets afflicted by a similar virus then it will nothing but a menace for the society.

Radheshyam, a farmer from Bihar

The government plans to buy 35-40 million tonnes of the foodgrains from the farmers after the bill is implemented. Can you imagine, the government buying 40 % of the produce from all over the country and delivering it thousands of miles away to a place that is deficient in rice? It's a logistical nightmare for an honest man, and something that dishonest people will like to salivate on.

RS Seshadri, director, Tilda Riceland

For a complete lowdown on the National Food Security Bill, read pg 7

Content of Hindi films has declined...

... says veteran actor Vinod Khanna in an exclusive interview to **Smita Jain, GT Network**. Read on as he talks about his take on the transition that Hindi film industry is going through and the latest bug of period films and biopic that has the directors smitten in an exclusive tête-à-tête

What do you have to say about the quality of films that are being made in Bollywood?

There is no demand for a great story today. People just want pure entertainment. Techni-

cally, we may be at par with Hollywood but the content has declined. It seems that there is a dearth of writers, screenplay writers and novelists in the industry.

What do you have to say to about the new crop of actors that has taken Bollywood by storm? Do you think they have been able to live up to the standards set by the veterans?

Every veteran was a newcomer at some time or the other. We all grow as actors over the years. It all depends on how the audience accepts you, my first film did very well and I got a lot of work thereafter. It would not be correct to compare people belonging to two different eras. Every newcomer comes with his own destiny and unique talent. Luck also plays a very vital role in any actor's career. His success depends on the kind of films that he bags and the performances he delivers.

What do you have to say about the remakes that are being made these days?

Remake of some old films can be made but not

of classics. However much one may try, they cannot recreate the magic of 'Amar Akbar Anthony' or 'Qurbani'. These films belong to a different league. It is not possible to remake films which belong to a certain age, depict a certain society or mindset, as the taste of today's generation has undergone a drastic change.

What do you have to say about the new trend of biopic or period films in Bollywood?

Wonderful! Parallel cinema was equally popular during our time also. We had legendary directors like Shyam Benegal and Govind Nihalani who made realistic cinema. I also got to work in many such films that belong to this genre. I am very happy that the new crop of directors are very talented. They are coming up with new stories and have moved beyond the usual masala potboilers, girl meets boy romance or action thrillers. Films like 'Lootera' and 'Bhaag Milkha Bhaag' with a different storyline are doing very well; this reflects a change in the attitude of cinegoers.

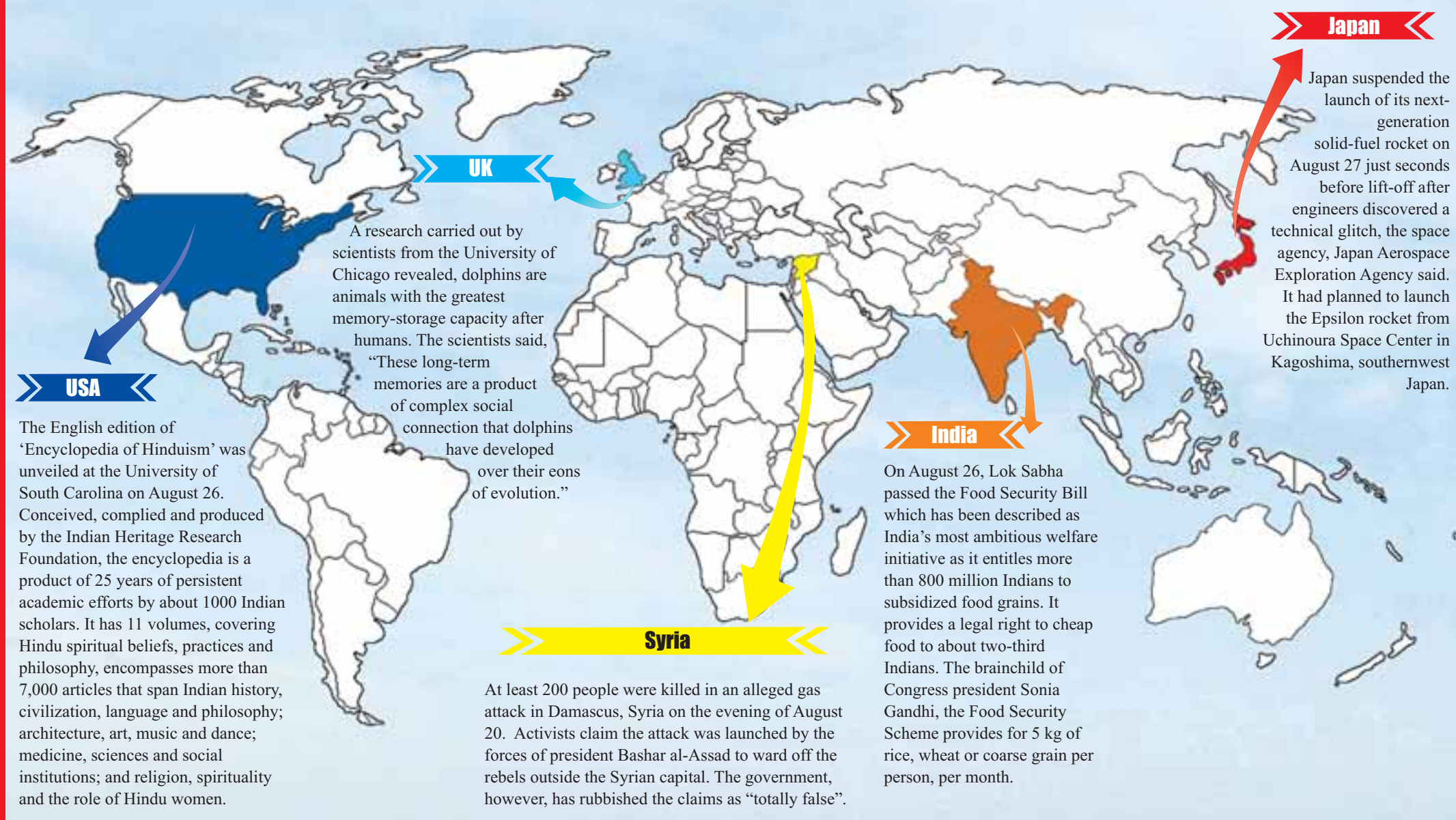


Microwave cooking was discovered accidentally, when a chocolate bar melted in someone's pocket.



World at a glance

Go globe trotting with The Global Times as it brings to you the news from across the world

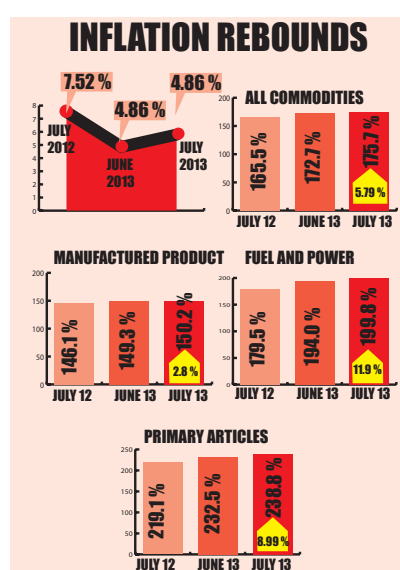


The wrath of inflation

The dramatic rise in the prices of essential commodities continues to pinch consumers... Unfortunately, even humble food items like onion have become out of reach of *aam aadmi*



"Life is like an onion; you peel it off one layer at a time, and sometimes you weep," said American author Carl Sandburg. How true! Considering today's scenario of escalating price rise, India can certainly relate to it. Every other day, soaring price of onion is leaving consumers in tears. It would be no exaggeration to call inflation the most critical economic problem afflicting the Indians. Today, the kind of inflation the country is struggling with can be clearly seen in the abnormal rise in the price of a humble staple- onion. A huge price jump has also been seen in other staples like tomatoes in the past. But at no other time did Indians witness the horrible phenomenon of spiraling prices as they do today. The cost of almost all essential commodities has sky-rocketed. It is causing a lot of stress among people who are finding it a Himalayan task to make both ends meet. Starting from the poor to the rich, inflation has spared none. Of



accelerating growth and imposing curb on money supply, an effective distribution system is the need of the hour. Support of citizens to keep a watch on unethical practices of shopkeepers is indispensable. Also, nothing can mitigate the situation unless the population growth is kept under control. Let's hear from students how the soaring prices have affected their pockets:

"While the prices are sky rocketing, our pocket money remains the same. This implies less eating out, less shopping and fewer movies."

Oditi Anand, AIS Noida, XII

"Remember that oh-so-amazing-but-insanely-expensive dress that you were eyeing for a long time? It still remains out of reach; nothing changes as such."

Venika Menon, AIS Noida, XII
Compiled by: Apeksha Rawal, Anahat Khera, Himanshi Batra, Priyanka Walia and Shivangi Juneja, AIS PV, X

Shopkeeper's survey

Name: Shyam Kumar Nath
Profession: Handicrafts shopkeeper
Age: 37

Q Is the sale of your handicrafts affected by the rising prices?

A Yes, it is affecting my sale badly. I am losing customers due to rise in the prices. Now people find my handicrafts too expensive. The sale has gone down.

Q How many customers are you losing on daily basis?

A I am losing about 60% of my customers on an average.

Consumer's survey

Name: Vikram Bhatia
Profession: Web designer
Age: 32

Q Is your purchasing power affected by the rising prices?
A Of course it is! Price rise has forced me to shop less in comparison to what I used to do earlier.

Q How has it affected your budget?

A Inflation has hit my budget hard. Before buying anything, I have to think twice. I was thinking of buying a car but seeing the price rise, I don't think I can go ahead with the plan.



Fast food restaurants use yellow, red, and orange because those are the colours that stimulate hunger.

Vow to protect women

Pic: Shourya, ALSN, Student

In a remarkable initiative, ALS, Noida pledged its support to stop violence against women

Mokshda Bhushan, Faculty, ALSN

Amity Law School, Noida (ALSN) is known for stirring the nation's conscience, with its bold social initiatives. Their initiatives have also won them the nomination of 'Best emerging law school in India' by Society of Indian Law Firms and Menon Institute of Advocacy & Legal Training. Keeping up the tradition, ALSN organised a guest lecture on 'Violence against Women' on July 3. The guest lecture was organised by the Initiative for Gender Justice and Child Rights, a cell newly launched by ALSN, under the flagship of the ALS Centre of Law and Policy (read box for more).

The eminent speakers for the day included Winnie Singh, executive director & founder, NGO Maitri and Manika Kantham, faculty, ALS Noida. The welcome address was initiated by Major General Nilendra Kumar, director, ALSN, who spoke about the need to sensitize society towards gender equality



Mokshda Bhushan (third from left), faculty, ALSN with the speakers on the occasion

Initiative for justice



The Initiative for Gender Justice and Child Rights cell, is the brainchild of Mokshda Bhushan and Manika Kantham, faculty at ALSN. It has been set up with the objective to impart gender and children rights awareness to the law students of the institute and be-

yond. Besides, the cell also aims to review gender specific laws and carry out other activities related to law, and gender and children rights such as research projects, legal literacy and gender sensitization programs for the community and society at large.

and violence against women. He exhorted the students to stop violence against women as the future of the country lies in their hands. Winnie Singh spoke about the need to instill respect and control aggression in the society so

as to stop all kinds of violence against women. She highlighted the different types of violence which exist in the society, and how each one of us can forsake these forms of violence by controlling our own behaviour. She

launched the 'One million signature campaign' in Amity University to stop violence against women, with the support of NGO Maitri. As part of the campaign, every Indian takes a pledge to stop violence against women through their own actions and show respect for women's dignity and rights. The students of ALSN showed their support by signing the pledge.

Manika Kantham highlighted the legal aspects of gender laws in India. She discussed the constitutional issues as well as law enactments in India and the UN charter. She also showcased a brief presentation on gender violence. Mokshda Bhushan, assistant professor, ALSN, delivered the vote of thanks.  

The green knight

Meet Zerín Osho, a student of ALSN, whose research on environmental law is taking her places, quite literally! Here is a first person account

Like any other aspirant, I too have a dream job, though a little tough to get, nonetheless achievable at United Nations Organization, that's where I have always wanted to be. I have always dreamt of becoming a diplomat and owning that red passport, because I have always believed that I can make a difference. As I inch towards my goal, my faith in humanity becomes stronger.

The journey

This journey started about a year and a half ago when, for the first time, I was introduced to HFC-23, one of the most powerful green house gases (GHG) at the Eco-ashram run by Public Interest Attorney, MC Mehta. I was as clueless as clueless could get, but what helped was the infectious openness and enthusiasm for the environment and climate change at the ashram.

I was then introduced to Samuel LaBudde, recipient of the prestigious Goldman Environmental Prize (1991), popularly known as the 'Dolphin man' for his efforts and contributions towards saving dolphins from slaughter and also the reason for every 'dolphin safe' label on tuna cans in the US.

Since then, there has been no looking back as I was selected to work on the campaign against HFC-23. For one year, we made policies, mitigation plans, drafted papers for think tanks and persuaded the Indian Government, particularly the Ozone Cell (Ministry of Environment & Forests) to create a formal contact group at the Montreal Protocol to dis-



cuss HFC mitigation plans and switch to safer alternatives. We faced many problems along the way, the biggest of all coming from industry stakehold-



ers who persuaded the government not to ratify the amendment as it would cause a huge difference to their profit margins, without realising that if they continued HFC-23 production, the global temperature would rise by 0.5°C by the end of the century. Cutting down on its production can make a major contribution to the international goal of keeping temperature rise to less than 2°C above pre-industrial levels; however, things should change for the better over a period of time. And the next thing, I knew was that I was being invited to the US to work formally on the campaign with the Institute for Governance and Sustainable Development (IGSD), and the staff from the US Department of State!

One step closer

I am now an apprentice to Durwood Zaelke, founder and president of IGSD and amongst the firsts in the world to talk of climate change. This is indeed a step closer to my ultimate dream, the UNO. It is a great feeling to see the US secretary address the Indian government at New Delhi and talk of HFCs, something that I, as a student, worked day and night on; India has finally started negotiating on the HFC front.

This means that we can mitigate tens and thousands of Uttarakhand kind disasters. This means that there is hope and we can still save some endangered species; we can still control methane and carbon emissions; we can still buy time and repair the damage caused over the years!  



Major General Nilendra Kumar, Director, ALSN addressing the students



Quiz biz!

ALSN organised 'Amity Quiz On Constitutional Law' (AQCL) on August 23, 2013 at Amity University, Noida. The event saw an overwhelming participation of 236 students from various law colleges across India.

The quiz was based on constitutional law, around the provisions of Constitution of India and the cases decided by the Supreme Court as reported in law journals up till July 31, 2013.

R Ambedkar and Justice H R Khanna awards were given away to the winners, while a special prize was awarded to ALSN participant Hitesh Bhatt. The valedictory event, lit up by a cultural program and skit by ALSN, witnessed Honourable Justice Fakhruddin, former chief justice, Chhattisgarh High Court; Honourable Justice B A Khan, former chief justice J&K High Court and media personality Rahul Dev leading the quiz.  

This page is brought to you by Mokshda Bhushan, faculty & Zerín Osho, student, ALSN. A special thanks to Maj-Gen Nilendra Kumar.

Book your page



ALSN Special

Do you think your department/team/club/school is cool enough to feature in GT? Get in touch with us at the following address and fetch your department a special page in The Global Times.
@ G-02A, Ground floor, Amity University or @The Global Times E-26, Defence Colony, New Delhi
Rush, it's time to hog the limelight!

Amity Law School, Noida has been nominated as the 'Best emerging law school' in India for the year 2013. The school has also won the prestigious SILF-MILAT Institutional Leadership Award 2013. This is an award to recognise best run law colleges in the country. For more on this, look out for September 9 edition.

Part 05

Uttar Pradesh

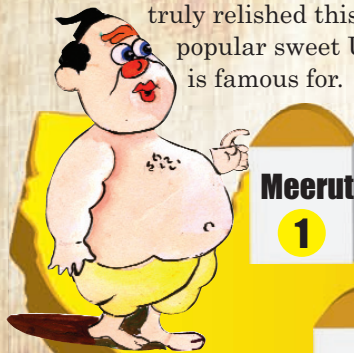
Discover
Bharat

Petu ka galiyara

One fine day, Petu, a fictional character created by AIS Vasundhara 6, set out to discover and taste the delicacies of Uttar Pradesh. Read on to know the famous food items that Petu savoured, gorged on and stuffed his tummy with on his food trail

Meerut ki Gajak

Starting his food cruise with Meerut, Petu entered the hot and humid conurbation of UP. It took no time for Petu to follow the whiff of the freshly made *gajak* being sold at the corner stall of the road. He could not stop himself and picked up one piece. The next moment, he found himself trying out all the variations of the *gajak*, namely chocolate *gajak*, *kaju roll gajak*, *mewa gajak*, *shalimar gajak*, *khasta gajak* and more. Watching the statue of Mangal Pandey, outside the 1857 memorial, with a *gajak* in his mouth, Petu truly relished this popular sweet UP is famous for.

Meerut
1

Agra ka Petha

On reaching Agra, Petu was famously reminded of the Taj Mahal, but his love was for something else. He immediately spotted them at a crowded corner, shining crystal clear. They were the popular *pethas* of Agra. Popeyed, he quickly grabbed a chair near the shop and ordered for this sweet, served dry as well as juicy. He let the shopkeeper know in advance to not stop till he gestured so. He gorged on the *angoori petha*, chocolate *petha*, *paan petha*, *kesar elaichi petha*, *khus petha*, *santara petha*, dry fruit *petha*, sandwich *petha*, *kancha petha*, mango *petha* and coconut *petha*.

Agra
3

Lucknow ki Biryani

By the time Petu found himself in Lucknow, the city of *nawabs* and *kebabs*, he was way too hungry! He asked the locals for a restaurant that served good food. Having found one, he glanced at the menu and ordered for a double 'dish of the day'. Within seconds, Petu was served hot steaming *Lucknawi Biryani*, a popular *mughlai* cuisine of UP. Its fresh aroma coupled with the sight of spices, flavour and colour tickled his taste buds. The soft clear steamed rice, with a perfect mix of vegetables, heavy dollops of *ghee*, a pinch of saffron and cardamom used as a garnishing, made Petu smile at every bite. Ah! Somebody was happy!

Lucknow
5

Allahabad ka Samosa

Having satiated his sweet tooth with *gajak*, *peda*, *petha* and *sohan halwa* already, Petu now felt an urge to flavour his mouth with something piquant. And his wish was granted as he set eyes on the amazing, innovative varieties of the *samosa*—the *masala* *samosa* of Allahabad. These small size, *aloo-less* *samosas* filled with a special mix of spices is one of Allahabad's tasty delights. Petu hogged uncountable pieces of *masala samosas* and got as many packed for his tummy. 'What a mouth-watering marvel', Petu thought, as he walked ahead.

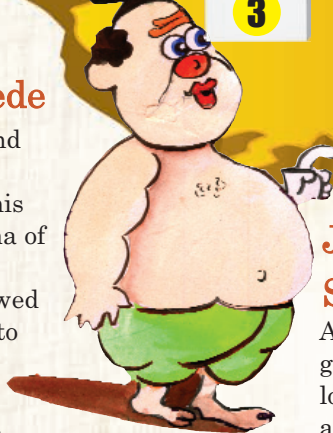
Allahabad
6

Heritage revived

Celebrating the rich and diverse heritage of India, Amity International Schools indulge in the art, cuisine, tradition, lifestyle, flora and fauna of different states. The year-long heritage activity as envisaged by Chairperson Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, aims at reviving India's rich heritage while bringing it closer to the students. GT brings to you 'Discover Bharat', a heritage series that captures the ongoing heritage celebrations at Amity Schools. It also complements the elective course on 'Heritage', soon to be launched by CBSE for senior classes. State in spotlight: Uttar Pradesh. Next in 'Discover Bharat': Watch out for a skit on the heritage of UP

Mathura ke Pede

Munching his way up and ahead, Petu reached Mathura. As he placed his foot in the city, the aroma of fresh and rich *ghee* enveloped him. He followed the aroma that led him to the sweet vendor selling *pedas*. Petu savoured these very soft and sweet *pedas*, one by one. The soft traditional folk song *rasiya* being played in the background set a romantic mood with a description of love tales of the divine couple Lord Krishna and Radha. After pampering his belly, Petu further marched on to Agra to savour the delicacy its known for.

Mathura
2

Jhansi ka Sohan Halwa


At Jhansi, the gourmand waited no longer to stuff his already half-full tummy with little packs of *sohan halwa*. Upon arriving in Jhansi, Petu had also visited the historic fort of Rani Mahal. The beauty and rich heritage of the fort mesmerized him. However, after relishing the yummy, dry fruit rich *sohan halwas* to his heart's content, Petu was

transported to another world. As the last bite of the delicious brown sweet continued to melt in his mouth, he decided to proceed to Allahabad.



Benaras ka Paan

Having toured different places without rest or regret, Petu decided to conclude his food tour, with the royal *paan* of Benaras. Benarasi *paan*, prepared with *gulkand*, grated coconut and the flavour of dry dates rolled in a betel leaf is savoured as an alternative to a mouth fresher. There are a variety of *paan* available in

different flavours. *Maghai paan* and *jagannath paan* are the signature varieties of Benaras. Petu munched as many types he could lay his hands on. Indeed, this digestive betel leaf left him feeling happy and complete. 

Contributed by
Praachi Ratra,
AIS Vasundhara 6, VIII B



Gajak from Meerut



Pede from Mathura



Petha from Agra



Sohan halwa from Jhansi



Biryani from Lucknow



Samosa from Allahabad



Paan from Benaras



There are over 1,000 different kinds of apples.

Black & white of fashion

Join **Prerna Anand**, IX F and **Komal Talwar**, IX E of AIS Gurgaon 46 unravel the fashion fundas capturing the world's imagination

What is fashion? Is it the attire one dons or the accessories one flaunts? Is it the cuisine one indulges in or the lifestyle one adopts? Fashion is a many splendoured concept that encompasses a wide canvas spreading across everything life is all about.

Know the trend

Fashion is in a constant state of flux. Fashion trends change from time to time depending on global demands, weather, culture, etc. Today, fashion is something one can't live without. It not only helps you to express your feelings in different ways, but also gives you a distinctive personality of your own. Everything that sets a trend becomes fashion. In our country, fashion is greatly influenced by the west. But the interesting part is that the west is getting influenced by India in a big way now. For instance, the innocuous *bindi* and colourful bangles, the trademark of ethnic Indian fashion, have found innumerable patrons across the globe. However, following fashion trends blindly without knowing whether they suit you or not is the biggest faux pas one can commit.

What's the fuss all about?

There is a noticeable change in the

trends followed by various generations in everything, be it the food we eat, the services we use or the clothes we wear. From *paranthas* to pastas, from *salwars* to harem pants, from *dupattas* to scarves and stoles, from telegrams to Whatsapp, from bling to minimalism, from rickshaws to metros, and more. But then again, isn't everything changing? But that doesn't mean that our basic values and ethics would undergo the fashion hammer? True, youngsters have moved from *namaste* to 'hi' but they still touch their elders' feet as a mark of respect. And despite gorging on pastas and pizzas, they still crave for *mom ke haath ki halwa poori*.

Black and white

A trend that justifies fashion which one expresses through a personal choice of design, colour, taste, etc can be defined as fashion. The trend can be a periodic one, or could stay for centuries to come. Black and white are two colours which have been considered to be the trendiest and a classic favourite of most people. This combination has been a popular choice because it works for day wear and evening wear for both men and women. The trend is all set to hit stores across the world, yet again. Black and white, the combination which emerged from the chess board, seems appealing to the eye. These colours are neutral and give a classy, clean and cool look. These days, the black and white trend is beating the runway and is a hit amongst all age groups. Designers who

delivered multi-coloured floral prints have taken to bold colour combination with a vengeance.

Flickering styles

On the global fashion front, an intermixing of cultures is in vogue. Matching the colours of one's accessories with shoes is a common practice. Colour blocking is a hot trend which has spilled over from clothes and bags to lifestyle elements like curtains and cushions. However, what is in trend today may not find favour tomorrow. Fashion changes happen nearly every season, lose track and then emerge again. For instance, the hairstyles of the early nineties like puffs and fringes, have knocked the fashionista's doors again. Today, fashion has become such an important aspect of one's life that it isn't fashion that is dependent on people, it is the other way round. Fashionable trends are changing people's lifestyle, choices and even their outlook towards the world at large. If you take a moment to reflect, you will realise how influential fashion is in your everyday life. It is just about everywhere. However, sometimes it is difficult to keep pace with the ever changing fashion. Nevertheless, all said and done, love it or hate it, fashion is here to stay. 🇮🇳



Know your safety on roads

Contributed by: Lt Col (Retd) DK Sharma, Amity School of Engg, Noida

Traffic Signs

Red circle	⊘	What should not be done
Blue circle	●	What should only be done
Red Triangle	▲	Cautionary
Blue rectangle	■	Informatory

Violation of the circular traffic signs is a punishable offence



One Way Only



Move Straight Only



Double Road Ahead



Petrol Pump

When the vehicle gets stuck in snow, mud or sand

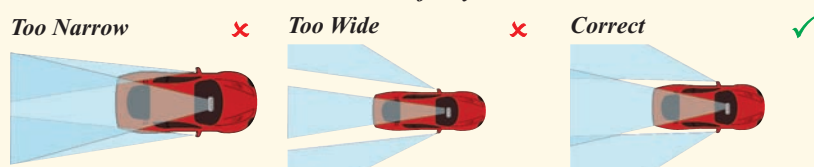


Change back and forth between first and reverse gear causing rocking motion. This will provide momentum to free the vehicle. If you find no success in a few minutes, ask for another vehicle for pulling out or use 4X4 drive, in case your vehicle has that feature.

Interesting fact about rear view mirror

In 1906, a handbook by Dorothy Levitt called 'The woman and the car' read that women must carry a hand-mirror whilst driving, so they may hold the mirror aloft from time to time, to see what's behind, while driving in traffic. This led to the manufacture of rear view mirror in 1914, which was then incorporated in cars.

Look below to see how to adjust your rear view mirror



Have feet, will dance

Brace up for a foot tapping experience as **Tushar Jain**, AIB catches up with professional dancer Vinay Khandelwal

Having performed at various award functions, the latest being the TOIFA awards held in Canada, Vinay Khandelwal is a professional dancer with hip-hop and break dance as his forte. Counted among the most sought after dance instructors in Delhi, Khandelwal has to his credit many performances in foreign locations like Macau, Seychelles, etc. Widely renowned for his unique and innovative dancing style, Vinay has all it takes to reach the zenith in the field of dance and performing arts.



Tushar Jain
Amity Instt of
Biotechnology

When did you realise your inclination towards dance?

I started learning dance at the age of 9, because I had to dance at my brother's wedding; I was forced by my mom to do so! But gradually, I felt my heart was all out for dance and within a few months, I was hooked to it. And since then, there has been no looking back.

What made you take up dancing as a career?

Honestly, I had never imagined I would take dancing as my career. But when I joined SDIPA (Shiamak Davar's Institute for Performing Arts) and kept getting opportunities to grow, I simply kept moving with the flow and ended up being in the company! I was always pas-



Vinay strikes a pose

sionate about dance but never knew that I would take it up as my career. But now that I have, I feel blessed and happy.

Dancing is quite an offbeat career option to choose, was your family supportive of it?

Luckily, my parents never had a problem with it. So, the decision to take up dance as a career was not difficult. But yes, after I completed my course in mass communication and journalism, every-

one expected that I would leave dance and pursue a career in media. But I knew I had to carry on with dance as I was passionate about it. So, I decided to go ahead and kept dancing as a career choice.

Do you think making a career in performing arts is difficult in comparison to other fields?

No, I don't think it's difficult to make a career in this field. If you love something, sooner or later you will grow in that career!

How different has life been ever since you got into dancing full-time?

Life has become completely different today! I have travelled to places far and wide; people interact with me more when they discover that I am a dancer! I love the way they react, it makes me happy. And I don't think my life would have been the same had I not been a dancer. I don't like doing anything else as much. Dance gives me happiness!

Many dancers turn into actors, singers or directors later in their career. Do you think you could also be following that trend?

I don't know what the future has in store for me! All I know is I will keep dancing, no matter what.

How much do looks matter in a career like dancing or are just dance moves enough?

Dance makes you look good. So looks are never a problem! 🇮🇳



Every teacher is a leader



Dr. Amita Chauhan
Chairperson

Everyone thinks it is the young generation in whom we see the future leaders of our world. It is true, to some extent. But who plays the greatest role in creating leaders out of our children? Their teachers! It is they who toil hard to teach the children of the world how to become better global citizens.

It is they who lead by example. It is they who bear the seeds of virtuous qualities in little children when they enter the portals of a school and nurture the little saplings with the right knowledge, right values and right guidance.

Look closely, you will realise there is a leader in every teacher. She is a leader when she holds your attention when she speaks. She is an orator when she explains the lessons so well that you remember them for life.

She ideates, explains her idea and ensures that it gets absorbed and executed by you in the best possible way. She is honest, mincing no words when it comes to refining your attitude towards everything in life.

She is committed to the task of creating fine individuals out of every child whose life she touches. She is ethical, impartial and unscrupulous. She has all the qualities of a genuine leader. As long as we continue to have good teachers, I'm confident that the youth of today will be able to successfully lead the world and usher in the change we all want to see. John F Kennedy once said, "Leadership and learning are indispensable to each other." 🇺🇸 🇮🇳

Devotion



Vira Sharma
Managing Editor

The rhythmic Krishna *bhajan* playing in my car, on the eve of Janamashatami, caught my fancy. Listening intently I was drawn towards it which got me thinking about the beautiful relationship between a devotee and the God.

The *bhajan*, narrated the story of a young devotee and her love for Krishna *lalla* that she brings with her from Vrindavan. She holds *lalla* close to her heart and cares for him as her own child, even while performing all her duties as a daughter, wife, mother and now as an old grandmother. Unable to dress her *lalla* herself on the occasion of Janamashtami, she requests her unwilling son and daughter-in-law to do so. Disinterested and distracted while dressing-up, *lalla* slips from their hands and breaks his leg. The grandmother cries bitterly, asking her son to call a doctor. Any reasoning that her *lalla* is just an idol, fails to console her. Finally, a doctor is summoned; who had to leave his patients to satisfy an old foolish lady. He hurriedly takes out his stethoscope and presses on the idol. Next moment, drops of perspiration appear on the doctor's forehead and he stands stunned as the music plays... '*Dhadak raha seena lalla ka, Murti mein the pran, Bhagat ke vash mein hai bhagwaan*'.

While this may be just a story, there was something more to it which only a devotee can unearth. Never underestimate the power of true love and devotion. If you believe in something, believe it from your heart and it will come true. How many of us have seen God? Yet, we believe in Him or why else would we chant *Hanuman Chalisa* when trapped in the dark? Or why would we worship Lord Ganesha before starting something anew? It's our belief in him that gives us consolation and strength to face our darkest fears and seek blessings for success. Because somewhere, we know, He resides in the hearts of His devotees. Celebrations like Janamashtami only reinforce our belief that He is there for us. 🇺🇸 🇮🇳

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The ad-mad world

We all love commercials that pop between TV shows. But innocent kids tend to believe everything they show. The question is, are all ads harmful?

Shawrya Mehrotra

AIS Gurgaon 43, IX

There is indeed some truth in the words 'Advertising is legalized lying', uttered by famous writer H G Wells.

'Be comfortable with who you are', reads the headline on the Hush Puppies poster. But who are they kidding? If people were comfortable with who they were, they'd never buy any products except the ones they needed, and then where would the advertising industry be?

Encashing on weaknesses

Advertisers are the interpreters of our dreams and their weapons are our weaknesses: fear, ambition, illness, pride, selfishness, desire, and ignorance. And these weapons must be kept as bright as a sword. And advertisers use this very sword to destroy the innocent world of child, their innocent dreams, their innocent plays and innocent needs.

Fed on a diet of advertisements, children start believing Maggi noodles and McDonald's burgers to be their staple



food. Advertisements of beauty creams like 'Fair and Lovely' makes young children believe that white skin as an epitome of beauty and they start believing in it blindly.

Star power further validates these advertisements, for instance, actor Akshay Kumar creates a make-believe world where aerated drinks like Thumbs Up or Mountain Dew stoke the adventurous spirit in him, making him perform impossible stunts like they're child's play. Less said the bet-

ter about advertisements of deodorants like Axe Effect where a modern Pied Piper is followed by a group of girls who are lured by his scent.

Growing on young minds

A child grows much before his age as he continues to be bombarded by a string of showers of advertisements. With time, his mind begins to read fiction as facts, possessions as virtue and superlatives as normal. What we thus have is children inoculated with mate-

rialism and fed on the 'tonic' of consumerism right from infancy.

John Condry, Department of Human Development, Cornell University, says that advertising causes conflicts at exactly the most vulnerable age for children to be in conflict with parents. It instills in them materialistic desires at an age when they should be enjoying simple joys of childhood.

Wolf on the prowl

Though, an advertisement's affect on a child is not temporary, it will have a long-term impact on our culture, our traditional beliefs and values and one which would alter the way we live or think forever. I would like to conclude through this quote by the Canadian philosopher of communication theory, Marshall McLuhan- "*The modern little Red Riding Hood, reared on singing commercials, has no objections to being eaten by the wolf.*"

The question is, do we want our children joyfully singing commercials as they become fodder for the advertising giants? I am sure McLuhan has got you thinking. 🇺🇸 🇮🇳

Wasting time is the greatest crime

Everyone who has achieved something worth achieving had one thing in common: they all made use of the opportunities around them

Jessica Jakoinao

AIS Gurgaon 46, XI

At some point in life, consciously or unconsciously, we all have been guilty of this crime: of wasting away time, resources or energy. That opportunity that we let go waste could have meant so much for someone less fortunate. Wasting away an opportunity is not only your own loss, but it is also disrespectful towards those who were not as lucky as we are. No great achiever would have achieved anything if they had not made use of the opportunities coming their way.

Since centuries, visionaries have come and gone. They all had a common vision for our nation. It was the vision of a flourishing and progressing nation. The great visionaries have not expended themselves in vain. We are a progressing nation but just not quite

there yet. How do we get there, is the question. The country's progress depends on how you use your faculties. Whether you know it or not, opportunities are all around you. You are your own weapon.

If we look a little into our past, we would realise that some of the most distinguished people belonged to poverty stricken backgrounds; but they beat all odds to leave their mark in history. For instance, mathematician Ramanujan was an impoverished Indian teenager. His parents gave him a math book on advanced trigonometry when he was eleven years old and that's when he began to derive his own sophisticated theorems. Today, his formulas have found use in everything from string theory to crystallography. There are other celebrated geniuses like Gregor Mendel (the man who propounded the gene theory was an 'uneducated' monk), Michael Faraday (this



boy from an impoverished family who worked in a London bookshop went on to discover electromagnetic induction, diamagnetism and electrolysis) and many more. This is not just a phenomenon of the past. But recently we hear a lot of success stories. Mohd. Ismat, the poor boy from Manipur topped the board exams, while an underprivileged Indian girl went to California for a degree in quantum physics and Prema Jayakumar, the daughter of an auto driver topped the CA exam! Such children deserve appreciation not

only for what they achieve, but primarily for how they achieved it. Everyone must learn to make the most of their resources. India has sufficient potential. Don't let her fall into the abysmal abyss of lost potential. Remember, it is you, the people, who form the nation and your actions determine its future. You are, your only ticket to success. So, work hard making use of the opportunities that come your way. Only then will our country's population slowly morph from quantity into quality. 🇺🇸 🇮🇳



D for determination

Ridhi Mahajan, AIS Mayur Vihar, VII D

Where there is a will, there is a way. This means that everything is possible provided one has the will power and determination to do it.

Man is different from all other organisms; his desires are innumerable and never ending. In most cases, people are unable to fulfill their desires as they do not put in the required amount of effort and commitment. All of us wish to achieve many things in life. We often tend to curse our misfortune instead of blaming and cursing our own efforts when we fail. It is not possible to achieve something by just wishing,

hoping and praying to God. We should have the will power and the determination to make it possible. Without determination, one cannot gather substantial strength to move forward on the path of one's dreams. People generally commit a mistake that whenever the scope of their plan looks even a bit dull, they give up in the middle and look for a fresh start. A person who lacks will power in the face of difficulties, will always deter from his plans; whereas a person with total commitment and determined efforts, will go on despite obstacles. Without will power and determination, one cannot achieve anything. The more we are determined to work, the faster we move on the road to success. 🇺🇸 🇮🇳

Making food a legal right



With India placed at a staggering 65th position in the Global Hunger Index, way behind countries like Sudan and Nigeria in terms of child malnourishment and mortality, the National Food Security Bill is indeed the need of the hour, but with some amends, as experts opine. **Himadrish Suwan, AIS Saket, XII** sheds light on the bill which is creating quite a stir in the parliament and is under fire from the economists too. Read on to know more ...

Food Security Bill in a nutshell

India’s health report card does not paint a very positive picture. According to the National Family Survey report released in the year 2005-06, about 40.4% of children under 3 years were underweight, 33 % of women in the age group of 15-49 years had a body mass index below normal and 78.9% of the children in the age group 6-35 months were anaemic. National Food Security Bill was formulated to address these chronic deficiencies. The Food Security Bill states-

“A bill to provide for nutritional security in human life cycle approach, by ensuring access to adequate quantity of quality food at affordable prices to people to live a life with dignity and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.”

Objective of the bill

The main objective of the bill is to alleviate chronic hunger and poverty in India. In its latest avatar, the National Food Security Bill, 2013 promises to address the extreme irony of an ambitious nation holding mountains of food in storage, while a large number of its people are undernourished or even starving. The bill is universal and does not discriminate between rural and urban poor.

The beneficiaries

Under the proposed law, the states would frame the criteria and choose the priority households for food entitlement. However, it is estimated that the bill, after coming into action will provide subsidized foodgrain to 75% of India’s approximately 833 million rural population and 50% of an estimated 377 million urban population. Under this ambitious program, the beneficiaries are entitled to 5 kg of subsidized rice, wheat and coarse grains in a month. These can be bought at prices ranging from one to three rupees.

How it works

The state-run Food Corporation of India (FCI) will be responsible for the distribution of the subsidized foodgrains through a countrywide network of Fair Price Shops.

Expenditure likely to be incurred

The govt would be spending approximately \$4 billion a year on the programme. The scheme would cost approx. Rs 1.3 lakh crore, up from current food subsidy bill of Rs 75,000 crore in 2012-13.

Salient features of the bill

- It covers 75% of the rural population and 50% of the urban population under the targeted Public Distribution System.
- The bill provides at least 3 kg of foodgrains per person per month to people belonging to general category at a price not exceeding 50% of Minimum Support Price.
- Every priority household (46% in rural areas and 28% in urban areas) would be entitled to 35 kg (equivalent to 7 kg per person) at a subsidized price of Rs 1 per kg for millet, Rs 2 per kg for wheat and Rs 3 per kg for rice monthly.
- The oldest adult woman in each house would be

considered the head of the household when issuing the ration card.

- Children aged six months to 14 years would get take-home ration or hot cooked food.
- The work of identification of eligible households has been left to states/union territories, which may frame their own criteria or use social, economic and caste census data.
- The bill also offers maternity benefit to pregnant women and lactating mothers.
- It also provides a three-tier independent grievance redressal cell.
- The government would pay a food security allowance in case of non-supply of foodgrains.

The good and bad of Food Security Bill

With the National Food Security Bill creating a political storm in the country, the common man is left wondering whether the bill would give the poor their long pending dues or make the Indian economy more sluggish by adding to the fiscal deficit. Here are some positives and negatives associated with the bill:

The good

- With Right to Food becoming legal, hunger would be wiped out from the face of the country.
- Uniform allocation of food grains at a subsidized price will ensure that the ills associated with PDS get erased.
- The bill provides nutritional support to pregnant and lactating mothers.
- It empowers women by providing food for the entire household to the eldest woman of the family under the PDS.
- It facilitates cut downs on additional expenditure by making the use of existing infrastructure like PDS and *anganwadis*.

The bad

- The credibility of PDS continues to be in doubt. About 51% of foodgrain is lost due to leakage in the existing distribution system.
- The bill does not address the problem of unemployment.
- Direct cash transfers in cases where the government is not able to make food available through PDS, is not a very good provision and deviates from the objective of the bill.
- Low food entitlements and inadequate attention to nutrition makes it unworthy of addressing the problem of malnutrition.
- Failure to define beneficiaries makes it susceptible to corruption.
- A poor grievance redressal mechanism.
- It bores a hole in the exchequer’s pocket.
- Low prices of subsidized food will distort the market forces in play.
- It would lead to a resource crunch in case of any natural calamity.

National Food Security Bill Vs Chhattisgarh Food Security Act, 2012

Chhattisgarh became the first Indian state to prevent the loss of food grains to pilferage and corrupt practices. The state is drawing praise from all quarters for not only reaching out to 90% of the state population, but also bringing into ambit small farmers, landless farm labourers and the disaster-affected. According to critics, the Chhattisgarh Food Security Act is better than the National Food Security Bill formulated by the Centre. Here is a comparison between the two.

NFSB Vs CFSA	
National Food Security Bill	Chhattisgarh Food Security Act, 2012
It is expected to cover 75% of rural poor and 50% of urban poor	It covers 90% of the state population.
NFSB will cost about Rs 1.3 lakh crore per year, while only Rs 10K crore is allocated.	The state bears an estimated cost of Rs 2500 crore.
The bill is more centralized. The Centre has the power to issue guidelines on exclusion criteria and Targeted Public Distribution System.	It is more decentralized with Gram Panchayats taking care of rationing and Gram Sabha conducting social audits.
NFSB does not specify how it will restructure the TPDS.	It led to the computerization of ration cards in PDS along with Aadhar.
NFSB does not define Antyodaya groups widely.	It brings into purview Antyodaya households which include; vulnerable groups, widows, tribals, SCs, STs and bonded labourers.
NFSB brings in its purview about 46% of rural and 28% of urban poor.	It not only gives priority to general households but Antyodaya households too.
It is difficult to implement at larger scale as it adds to fiscal deficit, subsidy burden etc.	Panchayat & municipalities are responsible for implementation of the Act.
The central legislation sets the nutritional standards and asks the state to identify and provide free meals to children who suffer from malnutrition.	Food given to children (Midday Meal) pregnant women and lactating mothers will have to meet nutritional standards in terms of calorie & protein value.
As per the NFSB, the state Food Commission can impose a penalty of Rs 5,000 on officers not fulfilling their duties.	The Chhattisgarh Food Security Act, 2012 calls for punishment under Essential Commodities Act.
It will lead to inflation as demand would rise & price of non-subsidized grain will rise, putting an extra burden on middle & higher class.	40% of the poverty gap has been wiped out due to implicit transfers through the PDS.

Remy's love for Cupcake!



The story of a compassionate girl who refuses to part ways with her pet Cupcake & her little ones

Veeshal Beotra
Amity Institute of Info Tech

Once there lived a pretty girl named Remy who had a lovely female mouse for a pet. The female mouse, named Cupcake, delivered five cute babies. Remy wanted to keep all the mouse pups at home, but her mother was strictly against it. She said sternly, “You can keep one of them. But you have got to find homes for the other four.”

“But mom, I promise I’ll take good care of them. Please let me keep them all,” Remy pleaded.
“I told you, if you can find a home for the other four, you can keep one. But if you’ll be adamant like that, I’ll not let you keep any of them,” her mother said. Remy ran off to her room, crying. Her brother George consoled her and suggested to go to dad for help.
“Daddy, mom’s not letting us keep Cupcake’s babies. She says we have to find them a new home,” Remy complained.

“Daddy, mom’s not letting us keep Cupcake’s babies. She says we have to find them a new home,” Remy complained!

“So, what is the problem, Remy?” Dad asked. “Dad, Cupcake would be sad if we send her babies away,” George replied sadly. But the kids were disappointed with their dad too, as he couldn’t do anything for their pets. After a few hours, when mother called out for Remy, she was nowhere to be found! Everyone in the family joined the anxious mom in the frantic search. They looked for her in all the rooms but in vain. However, when dad went outside, towards the basement stairs, he found the door open. “She is here in the basement,” dad informed everyone. Mom came running and saw her daughter sleeping there. Besides her were a couple of cages for the mice. Mom hugged Remy tight and said, “Why were you sleeping here alone? I was so worried for you, my child!” “What about Cupcake’s babies, mom? Would she not be worried about them?” asked George. She broke into tears, hugged George and said, “You can keep them all, baby!”

POEMS



Pooja Pasari, AIS Gur 46, VIII A

A teacher is like spring,
who nurtures new green sprouts,
encourages and leads us
whenever we have doubts.

A teacher is like summer,
whose sunny disposition
makes education a pleasure
and our life a treasure!

A teacher is like autumn,

with methods crisp and clear,
lessons of bright colours
and a happy atmosphere!

A teacher is like winter,
whose warm and wise guidance
keeps us going
when it’s snowing hard outside.

All my teachers, you do all these things
with a pleasant attitude
and loads of care.
You’re teachers for all seasons!



Forlorn

Nikita Choudhary
AIS Pushp Vihar, XI D

The plea of a child,
it was burnt before it bloomed,
reduced to ashes and scrapped.
The scherzo became the noise,
little hapless hardy became drab.

Their draconian way left him bruised,
his heart couldn’t take anymore!



Peanut burfi

Bhavna Batra, Assistant Professor
Amity Law School, Noida

Ingredients
Shelled peanuts500 gms
Fresh khoya250 gms
Sugar400 gms
Water½ cup
Cashew nuts.....to garnish

Method
■ In a pan, roast the peanuts on a low flame until they turn brownish, keep stirring constantly while roasting. Cool and then remove their covering. Grind them into a coarse powder. However, make sure you don’t grind them too much.
■ In a bowl, crush khoya and then add coarse peanut powder to it. Mix well and make sure there are no lumps. Keep it aside.
■ In a kadhai, take half a cup of water

and add sugar to it. Boil this mixture until it turns into a syrup of one string consistency.
■ Pour the sugar syrup into the khoya-peanut mixture and mix well. Make sure no lumps are formed in this mixture.
■ Now pour the mixture into a greased plate and spread it evenly using a spatula. Keep it aside for a few minutes so that it settles down well. When it is still warm, cut it into pieces of desired shape.
■ Your peanut burfi is ready. Garnish the pieces with cashew nuts.


Note: If the syrup consistency goes wrong and the burfi doesn’t set well, put it back in the kadhai and cook until it starts leaving the edges and starts collecting in the centre. However, if the syrup becomes too thick, add some water to it.



Tee quotes
T-shirts are like mobile billboards that turn the street into the world's biggest art gallery! So go grab one and flaunt your witty and headturner T-shirts.

Sudoku 42															
6				5	9										
	8	1				7									
				6		3	2								
			5	1						9					
	1	8	4			2	6	7							
	3					6	1								
		4	3		9										
			7				9	1							
					1	5				2					


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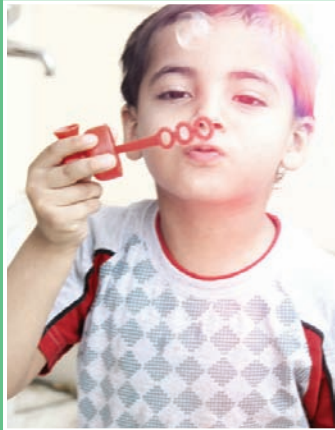



CAMERA CAPERS


Srishti Manchanda, AIS Noida, VIII E


Send in your entries to cameracapers@theglobaltimes.in














Blow away your worries

Beauty lies in simplicity

Live every moment with a smile

Engrossed

Feeling like a queen



It takes 12 honeybees to produce one tablespoon of honey.

The tale of a brave boy

Wisdom Tale



Shairyl Srivastav

AIS Lucknow, VII A

One day, Andy, a brilliant boy went to the laboratory of his father, Dr John, a scientist. Seeing him there, his father rushed to him and scolded him for coming.

Suddenly, Andy saw two guards holding two bottles, one with a blue core and the other with a red core. He snatched the blue core bottle, opened it and touched the blue core. His father scolded him for

touching the core. "The red one is dangerous as it holds nuclear power filled with radiations, to be used in wars. And the blue core was found in a meteorite that is under investigation. It holds the energy that could power the world when we run out of fossil fuels," Dr John explained to Andy.

As Andy and his father were conversing, Dr Temmna, the boss, walked in and said, "Dr. John, get Andy out of here!" After reaching home, when Andy switched on his TV, it forced out an un-

believable electric shock which blasted him out of the window.

In a flash, his body transformed into a robot-like machine and hands into guns. Fire started coming out of his feet and he started flying high. He struggled at first but later he got the hang of it.

The outer space satellite noticed him and detected it to be the blue core energy. This news reached Dr Temmna who was secretly working on a project to develop machines using the power of the cores, to invade and rule the world.

Andy wanted to tell his dad and the world about the truth of Dr Temmna. To capture Andy, Dr Temmna swallowed the red core and grew big like a monster. When Andy flew back to his house, he found the monster standing there. He punched Andy and asked him to surrender. Andy knew that the only way to defeat the monster was to put the two cores together and vaporize the monster and himself. During the fight, when the angry monster opened his mouth, Andy flew into his mouth and both of them vaporized in a flash. Andy sacrificed his life for the sake of humanity. [G T](#)

So what did you learn today?
Be brave and fight for humanity.

POEM

Sweet home

Sanya Kanwar

AIS Pushp Vihar, V B

We can stay happy and relaxed in our own house,
everyone is cheerful in their own house,
even a mouse!

Everyone wants to make their house beautiful and peaceful.
When we damage other's house,
they get as angry as a bull!



Some people live on roads,
we should give houses to these people,
So that they can be happy too!
Then, no one will have to bear pain
if we give them houses.
Everyone will be happy,
even in small lanes! [G T](#)

Brush 'n' Easel

Manasvi Sharma
Vasundhara 6, V A



Bhel puri



Gatik Yadav

AIS Gurgaon 46, III

Ingredients

Puffed rice1 cup
Tomatoes (chopped)1/2 cup
Onion (chopped)1/2 cup
Coriander leaves (chopped) ..1/4 cup
Potato (boiled and chopped) ..1/2 cup
Peanuts (roasted and salted) .. 1/4 cup
Tamarind *chutney*6 tbsp
Mint-coriander *chutney*to taste
Sev1/2cup
Papri1/2 cup
Lemon juice2 tbsp
Saltas per taste

Method

- In a large bowl, mix together the puffed rice, tomato, onion and potato. Add salt to the mixture as per your taste.
- To the mixture add lemon juice, tamarind *chutney*, mint-coriander *chutney* and roasted and salted peanuts. Mix well.
- Add *sev* and crushed *papri* to the mixture, toss gently.
- Garnish with fresh coriander leaves. You may even add a green chilli to make it a little spicy.
- Your healthy and mouthwatering *bhel puri* is ready to be served! [G T](#)

10 Fun facts!

1. You can't wash your eyes with soap.
2. You can't count your hair.
3. You can't breathe through your nose, with your tongue out.
4. You just tried number 3.
6. When you did number 3, you realized it's possible, only you look like a dog.

7. You are smiling right now, because you were fooled.
8. You skipped no. 5.
9. You just checked to see if there is a no. 5.
10. Share this with your friends to have some fun! [G T](#)

An internet forward

Jokey Pokey

Alena, AIS Mayur Vihar, V B

Santa fell in love with a nurse.
One day he said to the nurse, "I love you, sister!"
(Nurse is also called a sister).

Q One day, a snake bit a person. But even after hours of being bitten by the snake, he was alive. How?
A He was sitting in a living room.

Q When does everything become hot at a beach?
A When a micro-wave comes!

Q What is the future tense of 'the thief has stolen the money?'
A The police caught the thief!

Q If an aunty marries a cracker what

would be her name?
A Anti-crackers!

Q Why do bees have sticky hair?
A Because they use honeycombs!

Q Why was the man running around his bed?
A He wanted to catch up on his sleep!

Q What's black and white, black and white, black and white?
A A penguin rolling down a hill!

Q Why do cows wear bells?
A Because their horns don't work!

Q Why did the elephant paint his toe nails red?
A So he could hide in the cherry tree! [G T](#)

It's Me



My name: Sanskriti Negi
My class: II
My school: AIS Vasundhara 1
My birthday: January 19
My hobbies: Drawing, dancing and singing
My best friend: My dad
My favourite subject: English
My favourite teacher: Sonia ma'am
My favourite food: Pizza
My favourite game: Ghost in the Graveyard
My favourite mall: Pacific mall
I dislike: Being scolded
I like: Having fun
My role model: My mom
I want to become: A fashion designer
I want to feature in GT because: I want to become famous.

Festivity is in the air!

Fun and frolic marked the celebration of the colourful festivals of Rakshabandhan and Janamashtami at Amiown. The spirit of sharing and caring was intricately woven in the celebration



Soaked in the festive fervour!

Amiown Gurgaon

Vandana Mathur, Amiown Gurgaon, Teacher

Amiown Gurgaon witnessed the grand celebration of Rakshabandhan and Janamashtami- the colourful festivals finding their roots in the spirit of love. The little ones enjoyed the activities planned for them. The celebrations at

Amiown always provide an opportunity to the kids to understand Indian culture and imbibe values that are an integral part of our culture. Fostering the feeling of sharing and caring among brothers and sisters, Rakshabandhan celebrations were marked with rakhi making activity. Little Amies crafted colourful rakhis. They also celebrated Janamashtami by crafting Krishna's peacock feathered headgears, polishing their fine motor skills to their creative best. Showing a great deal of enthusiasm, the blooming Amies came sporting traditional dresses, resembling the human incarnations of lord Krishna and Radha. The toddlers were spellbound as they watched a movie on the life of lord Krishna. To further up the fun quotient, the facilitators too came dressed up as Krishna and Radha and danced to the soulful music, thus rejoicing every moments of festivity. Talk about celebrations and there is no way you can miss food, especially when its is festivals like Janamashtami. The KG children made sumptuous coconut laddoos for Janamashtami to celebrate the festival on a sweet note. The enthusiasm of the Amies knew no bounds as had the opportunity of swinging little Krishna's swing with their hands, thus wishing Lord Krishna a very happy birthday.



Swinging Lord Krishna



Little Radha and Krishna

Amiown Pushp Vihar

Anupreet Kaur

Amiown Pushp Vihar, Teacher

At Amiown the festivals of Rakshabandhan and janamashtami were celebrated with full enthusiasm and fervour. To celebrate the much awaited festival of 'Rakshabandhan', 'Rakhi Bazaar' was organised as a part of Amiown's Saturday Club. While the activity brought alive the festive fervour, it also aimed at inculcating values that are deep rooted in tradition. To explain the loving relationship between brothers and sisters, a moral story was narrated and then enacted by the teachers. It also conveyed the message and importance of social etiquettes such as sharing toys and food, using mats and aprons before lunch, developing healthy eating habits, respect towards elders. The tiny tots also made beautiful rakhis and diyas and decorated thalis as part of the celebrations. Making mouth-watering chocolate laddoos only added to the excitement of Amies. The little ones made chocolate laddoos for themselves by mixing

crushed biscuits, milkmaid, chocolate syrup and sprinklers. With August being the month of festivities, the celebrations scaled higher as Amies also celebrated Janamashtami. They came dressed as little lord Krishnas, beautiful Radhas and other characters from the Krishna Leela. Amies learnt various aspects of lord Krishna's life through special displays, story narrations and enactment, music, multimedia clippings and art and craft activities etc. Lord Krishna has been one of the favourite mythological characters for children as they relate to his naughtiness, intelligence and his powers. Art and craft activities were also organised in classes to help the children relate more to the festival. They made beautiful crowns and matkis which they festooned with peacock feathers, mirrors, paints, shells and crayon shavings. Any celebration is incomplete without- you guessed it right- gourmet delights! Amies were treated with yummy aloo-puri along with the lip-smacking ice-cream. The celebration came to a close with the little ones dancing on the melodious tunes of Krishna's songs and thus celebrated the spirit of the festival of Krishna's birth.

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Decked up Radha



Celebrating the spirit of togetherness

Amiown Noida

Sunila Kaul, Amiown Noida, Teacher

The toddlers of Amiown Noida celebrated the festivals of Rakshabandhan and Janamashtami with pomp and gaiety. The tiny tots made colourful and attractive rakhis using different materials like newspaper, water colour, coloured chart paper, and created beautiful patterns on them with shapes and letters. The celebration was aimed at imparting the message of peace and brotherhood. Acquainting little Amies with the rich culture of India and fostering positive attitude among them through fun-filled ac-

tivities has always been an integral part of Amiown culture, which beautifully reflects in its celebrations. On the occasion of Janamashtami, Amiown turned into Gokul with Amies dressed as Lord Krishna and Radha. Celebrating it with great enthusiasm, the little ones offered prayers to the lord and savoured laddoos as prasad. They also performed on melodious songs, revering the lord. The celebrations became more exciting when the teachers enacted the roles of Krishna, his childhood friend Radha, his mother Yashodha and gopikas. The kids enjoyed watching their teachers act. Teeming with sheer enthusiasm, Amies were also seen engrossed in decorating flutes and pots, which they later carried home.



Orange doesn't rhyme with any other word.

British Council workshop



Workshops conducted by faculty

Product Design and Industrial Design workshop: It was conducted by Dr Panch S and Elizabeth Noble from Birmingham City University & Sheffield Hallam University respectively.

Fashion Design and Technology workshop: It was conducted by Catherine Johnson and Alan Holmes from University of Arts, London and Manchester Metropolitan University.

Architecture/ Interior Design workshop: It was conducted by Gary Clough and James Engel from University of Creative Arts and University of Northampton respectively.

Digital Media/Visual Arts workshop: It was conducted by Roger Gould & Linda Nottingham from Arts University, Bournemouth and University of Wales, Trinity Saint David.



A student receiving a traditional welcome

Felicitation ceremony

AIS Pushp Vihar

A grand felicitation ceremony was held for the passing out batch of AIS Pushp Vihar on July 31, 2013. The 'Prashashti Samaroh' was held to celebrate the achievement of the top 40 achievers. The students were lauded for their achievements and given letters of appreciation by Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools.

The programme commenced with the lighting of the auspicious lamp amidst recital of *shlokas*, followed by a warm welcome by Principal, Ameeta Mohan. The programme was graced by BN Bajpai, advisor, research and development and TPS Chauhan, senior advisor. They congratulated the school for securing second position amongst all Amity schools. [G](#)[U](#)

ACCGC

Various innovative and career enhancement workshops in art and design were organised by Amity Career Counselling and Guidance Cell (ACCGC) on August 12, 2013 under the aegis of British Council. Resource

persons from different UK universities interacted with the students of Class XI and XII of Amity International School, Noida, Saket, Mayur Vihar and Amity Global School, Noida. The workshop provided the students practical knowledge about art and design. The experts also spoke about the importance of fine arts, and taking up fine arts as a

career. The students were also enlightened about various career opportunities in the universities of United Kingdom and the admission procedure to these varsities as well.

The workshops buzzed with activity as the students experimented with designs and worked hard to create their own masterpieces. [G](#)[U](#)

Independence Day celebrations



Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan celebrates Independence Day at AIS PV

AIS Pushp Vihar

Amity International School, Pushp Vihar celebrated Independence Day on August 13, 2013 with great patriotic fervour. The celebrations saw teachers dressed up in tricoloured attires, while students wore tricolour wrist bands and caps. They also painted the tricolour on their faces. Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools inspired the students to tread the path of righteousness. The chief guest for the day was Daisuke Sugita from Toshiba, Japan. After hoisting the national flag, Sugita had words of appreciation for the colourful cultural

presentations of the students and their display of patriotism. A foot tapping performance on the song 'Badhe Chalo' by the students from Japan, Germany and Slovenia left the audience enthralled. On August 15, 2013, the portals of AIS Pushp Vihar echoed with the patriotic feelings of the staff and students, who gathered for the flag hoisting ceremony. Principal Ameeta Mohan hoisted the national flag along with the young Amityans. A friendly singing competition took place between the teachers and students which saw them singing patriotic songs with great zeal and enthusiasm. The students won the song competition hands down. [G](#)[U](#)

AIS Lucknow

Varied hues of India and its freedom struggle were on display during the special assembly held at AIS Lucknow on the occasion of Independence Day. The assembly commenced with a presentation on the first war of independence, highlighting the contribution of Mangal Pandey. An enthralling dance performance by Class Nursery students demonstrated the country's tradition and culture. This was followed by a PPT presentation and a dance performance on the state of Kashmir, once known for its natural splendour which has now fallen prey to

terrorism. The students of Class VI and VII paid a tribute to the freedom fighters as they spoke about the contributions of Mahatma Gandhi, Raja Ram Mohan Roy and Dr BR Ambedkar. However, the highlight of the assembly was a presentation on the Indians who were working selflessly for making a difference in the lives of the underprivileged, the disabled and victims of earthquake and riots. The school also organised a fancy dress competition for juniors and poster making for senior students. The competition received an overwhelming response from the students and they left no stone unturned to outdo each other. [G](#)[U](#)



Students of AIS Lucknow sport tricolour outfits

Crescendo 2013



Students perform at Crescendo, 2013

AIS Mayur Vihar

Amity International School, Mayur Vihar organised Crescendo, their annual musical competition on August 3, 2013. About 22 teams from different schools of Delhi and NCR participated in the competition.

The event commenced with the lighting of the auspicious lamp amidst chanting of *shlokas*. Principal Sarita Agarwal warmly welcomed the esteemed judges and renowned musicians Ronald D'silva and Ashton. The event saw enthusiastic performances by the students. The budding musicians received a resounding applause from the crowd.

The competition concluded with the prize distribution ceremony wherein AIS Pushp Vihar bagged the 'Best keyboard player' award. [G](#)[U](#)

Monsoon gala



Students enjoy a rain dance party

AIS Vasundhara 1

To celebrate the onset of monsoon, a Monsoon Gala Party was organised for the students of Class Nursery and KG of AIS Vasundhara 1 on July 26, 2013. After the special assembly on the occasion, the children enjoyed a rain dance party. It was then time for colourful swimming costumes to make their way. With water sprinklers set, there was no holding back the kids from jumping, dancing, rolling and simply enjoying the spirit of monsoon. Enthusiastic little ones also sang 'It's raining... It's raining... la la la... It's raining... It's raining... Ha ha ha...' [G](#)[U](#)

Guests light the lamp at the inter-school Spellathon competition



Spellathon 2013

AIS Vasundhara 6

On August 17, 2013, an inter school Spellathon competition was hosted by AIS Vasundhara 6. AIS Vasundhara 1 bagged the first prize beating participants from 30 reputed schools of Delhi and NCR. The preliminary written round tested

the spelling power of students with difficult words like euphonious, sagacious, etc.

About 10 teams were shortlisted for the final round. The five rounds of the competition included Spell write, Word in a wheel, Spell well and tell, Word hexagon and Rapid fire. The score board after these rounds decided the winner. [G](#)[U](#)

Amity Got Talent



Students showcase their innate talent

Amity Global School, Gurgaon

Disha Kouli, IB2

Amity Global School, Gurgaon hosted 'Amity Got Talent' on August 8, 2013. The event marked a wonderful beginning to the academic session 2013-14.

The occasion was graced by Arti Gupta, director, AGS PYP and Puja Puri, special guest for the event. The event showcased

various talents of the students in singing, poetry and dance. The extravaganza provided the students with the opportunity to come together, socialise and showcase their innate flair.

The students performed enthusiastically without worrying about critical acclaim. The day concluded with the address of Ms Shanti, AGS IBDP coordinator. She praised the students for performing with confidence and finesse, and encouraged them to keep doing their best. [G](#)[U](#)

One can encash studies any time...



...believes Riya Vij who debuted with *Gippi*, a Karan Johar film. Here, she gets candid with **Kripi Badonia**, AIS Noida, X G about fame, size zero and how school is cool!

What was your reaction when you bagged *Gippi*?
I was on cloud nine. My mom and I were just sitting and talking when she got the call, and I jumped so high, it was a surprise I didn't break the roof! I was just so happy. And given the fact, that I had walked into the audition randomly with a friend with no hopes of being selected and had no prior experience in theatre or dramatics, the news of my selection came as a really good surprise.

How did you balance between your Class VIII studies with the shooting?
Since the entire shooting happened during the summer holidays, I didn't miss out on any studies. The shooting felt like a fun summer camp with so many other kids around too. The crew was also extremely supportive. They were there for us, at every step and dealt patiently with us even when the scenes didn't go too despite several retakes.

How similar are you to *Gippi*, your character in the movie?
I like to believe that there is a 'Gippi' in all of us. I'm similar to Gippi in a lot of ways. I'm a foodie, I'm a family person,

GIPPI 'GUPSHUP'
One embarrassing moment on the sets- Gippi falls from the chair during the first few scenes in the movie. And while rehearsing the dialogues for that very scene, I fell from the chair myself!
One embarrassing moment in school- First day of school after Gippi, I come to my class and my friend starts screaming, you're Gippi! I was really embarrassed at that time.




Kripi (R) poses with Riya Vij of *Gippi* fame

and I love to do crazy dancing and enjoy being around my friends. But then again, I am different from her in a lot of ways. I actually do care about studies, I don't really have ego issues and I'm pretty confident. And unlike Gippi, who wanted to be the head girl of her school only as part of a challenge, I would actually like to be the head girl of my school, someday, for real.

Your role as *Gippi* required you to look plump. Does size zero bother you?
The fad for size zero died way back!

Curves are the new style statement. On a personal level, I gained some 7 kgs for Gippi, and I never had a problem with it. Size zero is long gone.

What is the most important thing you have learnt from *Gippi*?
I learnt to be myself. Gippi inspired me to be happy and satisfied with what I am, rather than wishing for things to happen.

Do you want to continue doing films?
I haven't really thought about it. I would love to finish my studies first. Studies are like a blank cheque, you can cash it any time. But in acting, once you're out, you're always out. 

Hooked and booked

If you've exhausted your capacity for Indian authors and their run-of-the-mill plots, it's time for Anuja Chauhan- a new age author

Snigdha Shahi, AIS Noida, XII J


While the reading culture in India is blossoming rapidly with the likes of Chetan Bhagat on the rise, it's still a Herculean task



Anuja Chauhan with one of her bestsellers

to find a satisfactory novel by an Indian author. To find a good Indian read that is grammatically correct, not a potential *mirch-masala* Bollywood script and not written by literary elites who just can't do without the thesaurus-knows-what-it-means words and phrases is quite outlandish these days. If you have exhausted your capacity for Indian authors and their run-of-the-mill Indian plots, it's time to accost Anuja Chauhan's books, and then there shall be no looking back. Anuja Chauhan is a vivacious young writer, the parallel (definitely not equivalent) of Chetan Bhagat in terms of representing the aspirations of Indian youth, particularly the female clan, who have waited long for a day when their dreams, conflicts and lives, would be spun into fiction. Her novels resemble movie scripts, yes, but with a twist. The spirited, regular girl-next-door with an average job, average salary, average looks but extraordinary spunk is our protagonist, and all the macho and meek men are no more than supporting characters, hurling all sorts of obstacles, emotional and mental, at our superwoman. As the novels progress and you get the gist of the story, you're soon caught up in the drama, rooting for a happy yet realistic ending, and Chauhan doesn't disappoint,

Must reads
■ The Zoya Factor
■ Battle for Bittora
■ Those Pricey Thakur Girls

delivering with a finesse, humour and finality that is unique and exciting. Chauhan addresses all kinds of social issues in her novels; the nation's obsession with cricket and politics, freedom of women, fanatic superstitious fervour, etc. very delicately. The author wades through murky waters with ease, leaving just enough clues for readers to recognise the meaning behind her words. Peppered with refreshing metaphors, her writing captures the *Dilli-vali*-feel of 'Hinglish' very well, even if the themes and sub-plots aren't completely new. These topics have been addressed earlier, but never from a female perspective. So, be prepared to draw incredulous looks from people around as you laugh at highly inappropriate moments, because that's how delightful her writing is! While literary elites may frown upon the inappropriate play with language and the end of traditional writing styles, there will be enough people fawning over the same. 

GT Travels to Venice



Mahima Bhatia, AIS Gurgaon 46, IX C flaunts her copy of The Global Times at the Bridge of Sighs at Venice, Italy. The enclosed bridge, made up of white limestone connects the New Prison to the 'interrogation rooms' in Doge's Palace. The bridge's name, given by Lord Byron, comes from the suggestion that prisoners would sigh at their final view of beautiful Venice before being taken to their cells. 

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