

“Success is getting what you want. Happiness is wanting what you get.”  
Dale Carnegie

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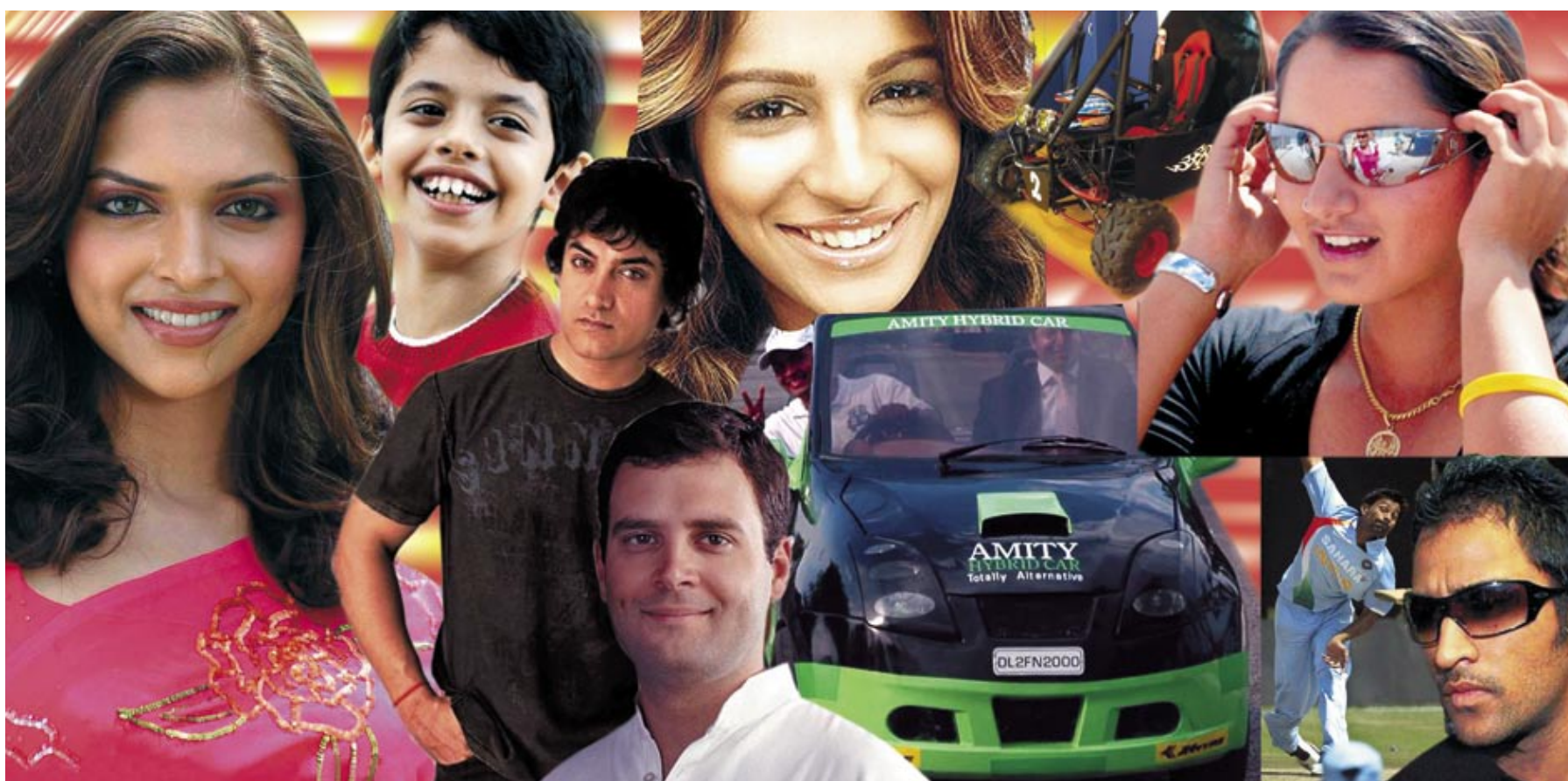
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# The face of new India

The new Indian is a global citizen who knows what he wants, keeps up with the latest trends and enjoys life; and yet, is tradition bound and family oriented

Tulika Banerji, ANN

A land of snake charmers and elephant safaris no more, India has metamorphosed into a hi-tech nation. Forward-looking, tech savvy and dreaming big; the new Indian is a global citizen who knows what he wants, is sure of his priorities, keeps up with the latest trends and knows how to enjoy life. Meet the face of new India. Youngsters of today are hip and fancy free, living life on their own terms; yet, they are tradition bound and family oriented. They have it in them to make it big with sheer determination and a fierce chutzpah. They believe in only one thing-themselves. They look up to customs but are not duty bound to follow their predecessors. They would rather

traverse on a path less traveled and learn from their own mistakes. They are bright, brave and earn others' respect by the sheer power of self belief and excellence.

Take Praveen Kumar, the new golden boy of cricket. Hailing from a small town Meerut, he braved all odds, financial woes and parental opposition, to diligently practice his forearm strides. No wonder, his tireless striving helped him secure a well deserved spot in the international cricket

**The youngsters of today are hip and fancy free, living life on their own terms; yet, they are tradition bound and family oriented. They believe in only one thing - themselves.**

arena. With the Kanshiram Khel Ratna and IPL booty in his kitty, the young lad's efforts have just begun to pay off.

While on cricket, how can one not mention skipper, MS Dhoni? The guy, whose hairdos attract as much attention as his master strokes on the field, has stunned one and all by going back to college. Not one to rest on his laurels, Dhoni recognized the value of formal education, thus creating a shining example for youngsters to emulate.

At a time when Bollywood biggies are busy launching their children, there comes debutant Deepika Padukone who walks away with a Filmfare trophy mesmerizing the audience with her histrionic skills and ravishing beauty. Not to forget little wonder Darsheel, who won a million hearts with his very first movie. Glamour quotient notwithstanding, stars do have a sensitive side to them. An intense actor, Aamir lends passionate support to the causes he believes in; be it Narmada Bachao Andolan or the struggle to impart justice to the victims of Bhopal gas tragedy. Singer and VJ Anushka Manchanda actively participated in the 'Batti bujhao' campaign in Mumbai,

doing her bit as a responsible citizen.

Youngsters may be judged by their flashy persona and upfront attitude, but there is more to them than meets the eye. Despite his royal lineage, the new youth icon Rahul Gandhi, worked as a financial assistant before politics came knocking. An unconventional leader, he shares meals with tribals and yet, believes in the power of English as an effective communication tool. The youngest of the Gandhi clan practices what he preaches.

Be it innovations or path breaking discoveries, India is the way to go. Close on the heels of Amity Hybrid car, a crop of nine innovative youngsters from Amity School of Engineering and Technology have designed India's first Baja vehicle. The vehicle has bagged Chairman's Best Effort Award by Pawan Goenka.

Indians are a rare breed, ingenious and strong willed. To recall the lyrics of a famous ad jingle, "It's great to be young"; anywhere in the world, youth is one of the best stages of life. But today, not only is it best to be young, but it's a good time to be an Indian, too. Cheers to the spirit of young India!●

## Stretch your limits

“If you don't stretch, you don't know where the edge is”

An engineering degree from NITIE Roorkee and a cushy job at Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) thereafter; what more does a young person want from life? But for **Ujjwal Banerjee**, these accomplishments meant little as his heart lay elsewhere. Barely three years into his stint with TCS, he gave it all up to join Akanksha, a Mumbai based non profit that works for the upliftment of street children. His latest claim to fame is being one of the eight finalists in Lead India-a Times of India initiative. In conversation with **Tulika Banerji**, Ujjwal comes across as a down to earth, soft spoken and well read person who believes, “If you don't stretch, you don't know where the edge is.”

**Tell us about the Lead India experience and your most memorable moment there.**

Lead India was very special and I learnt a lot in a very short duration. Meeting accomplished personalities from different walks of life was quite a humbling experience. More than anything, the way people took interest



**“Always look at problems with an attitude of addressing them.”**

in the contest, was very appealing. I could feel that people are looking for a revolution in the political scene and want to do their bit to make a difference. The reaction from students was also very encouraging. My most memorable moment was

winning from Mumbai and another one was losing at the national stage. I can say with pride that I got a flavour of both victory and defeat at a public forum.

**What prompted you to give up a prestigious career with TCS?**

The incling toward doing something substantial for children took shape during my MBA days. Even during my stint with TCS, I volunteered with different institutions which were working for the cause of children. Over a period of time, I realised that I should put all my efforts in the direction where my heart lay.

**How did your family react to your decision?**

There was resistance in the beginning but soon, they realized that it was not a knee jerk reaction. It was more of a gradual transition from doing something over the weekend to taking charge of the initiative on a full time basis.

**What is your take on the system of education in India?**

The education system in India is in

contd. on pg. 4

## YOUTH POWER

### Calling the torchbearers

*Do you feel propelled to take the mantle of transforming India into the country of your dreams, in your own hands? Do you have the fire in your belly to rise above your personal, selfish needs to serve those of the country as a whole?*

**Amity announces ‘YOUTH POWER’ - the search for a young, dauntless and trustworthy leader who can lead from the front and take the country to new heights.**

A new youth icon will be selected on the basis of the following parameters:

- Academic excellence
- Extra curricular achievements
- Social activities
- His/her vision for a new India

An eminent panel of judges will decide the winner after exhaustive

rounds of interview, talent round, debate and quiz.

If you have it in you to be a youth icon whom the youngsters of India can look up to, send in your CV along with a passport size photograph, two recommendations and an essay on **‘My vision for a new India’** in not more than 300 words.

Send your entries to:

Tulika Banerji, AKC House, E-27, Defence Colony, New Delhi; or  
write to: [tbanerji@amity.edu](mailto:tbanerji@amity.edu)



# Most wanted!

## Career in forensics

Shefali Gola

Have you ever felt like Sherlock Holmes, a magnifying glass in one hand and a camera in the other, carefully scrutinising the area where you lost your priceless 100 rupee note? Well, if you have an eye for detail, and a zeal to uncover the truth, then you have the makings of a forensic expert.

Forensic science can be defined as the science which is used in the court of justice. In other words, it is the scientific study or investigation of crime. With the day-to-day development of science and technology, the concept of crime as well as methods adopted by criminals in its commission, has undergone a drastic change. Criminals are exploiting science to further their wicked intentions. Forensic science has come into existence to keep up with tech-savvy criminals.

A forensic scientist has to deal with material exhibits pertaining to various crimes like murder, rape, dacoity, burglary, fraud, embezzlement, cyber and wildlife related crimes. To analyse various evidences, divisions such as ballistics, biology, chemistry, lie-detectors, physics, serology, toxicology, etc. are established. In these departments, examination of evidences such as blood, saliva, bones, explosives, poisonous substances,

weapons, impressions and prints, animal or plant remnants, forged documents, etc. is done to prove or disprove the association of the exhibits to a particular crime or criminal.

From the very first step of investigation of a crime scene, to providing the results and managing the records,

have become easy with the help of forensics department. In the infamous Nithari case, the bones were identified to be those of minors by forensic experts. In the Jessica Lal murder case, they were ballistic experts who revealed the sequence in which the crime took place, and thus brought

## Institutes

- Amity Institute of Behavioural Health and Applied Sciences, Noida
- National Institute of Criminology and Forensic science (NICFS), New Delhi
- Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University, New Delhi
- St. Xavier's College, Mumbai
- Asian School of Cyber Laws, Pune
- Dr. Harisingh Gour University, Sagar
- Indian Institute of Information Technology, Allahabad
- Allahabad Agriculture Institute, Allahabad
- Panjab University, Chandigarh
- Punjabi University, Patiala
- University of Mississippi
- University of Central Florida
- Loyola University, New Orleans
- Kaplan University
- University of Phoenix

the accused to the gallows.

Forensic science is broadly grouped into three: medical, laboratory and field science. It is a vast field comprising forensic pathology, psychiatry, psychology, etc. Field sciences deal with crime scene investigation.

**Eligibility:** To take up a masters course in forensic science, one needs to have a degree in B.Sc., B.Pharm, BDS or applied sciences.

**Job prospects:** One can find employment with law enforcement agencies, police, legal system, investigative

## Career



I want to do M. Tech from Amity. Please tell me about the fee structure and if any stipend is provided.

Vivek Kr Gupta

Eligibility for M.Tech: MCA/M.Sc (CS/P/M/Stats)/BTech. The student will have to appear for AMCAT exam and a personal interview. There is no stipend given. Log onto: [www.amity.edu/amcat](http://www.amity.edu/amcat)

I want to do BFA or BCA but I have passed only 10<sup>th</sup> from Rajasthan board. I have 5 years work experience in IT.

Gautam Lal Kalal

We do offer BFA/BCA but the eligibility is 10+2. You can complete 10+2, through open school, as that is a pre-requisite for all degree courses.

I'm in class 12th, studying PCM with computers. I want to take up computers (engineering/computer related courses) as a career. Please guide me about the entrances.

Akshat Shah

Some engineering entrances are:

- AMCAT (Amity Common Aptitude Test) by Amity Institute of Information Technology
- Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) conducted by IITs
- All India Engineering Entrance Examination (AIEEE) conducted by CBSE.
- State Level Engineering Entrance Examination (SLEEE).
- BITSAT conducted by Birla Institute of Technology & Sciences
- CEE or Combined Entrance Examination conducted by Delhi University for Bachelor of Engineering
- Common Entrance Test (CET) by Guru Govind Singh Indraprastha University •

For queries, email to: [careerguidance@amity.edu](mailto:careerguidance@amity.edu)

## The perfect score

Valambal Balachandran  
AIS, Noida

Mathematics is referred to as the 'Queen' of all subjects. It is an integral part of the study of most professional courses. Unfortunately, there is a phobia for mathematics among students. To overcome this phobia and score perfect marks in the subject, students should keep the following in mind:

■ Math is learnt by doing problems. The problems will help you learn formulas and techniques that you need to know, as well as improve your problem-solving prowess.

■ Each class builds on the previous ones. Attend classes regularly and do homework every day. Falling a day behind puts you at a disadvantage. Falling a week behind puts you in deep trouble.

■ Previous material is always being reviewed as new material is taught. Most of the concepts are related to each other. Identifying and learning the key concepts will hold you in good stead. Don't be afraid to ask questions from your teacher. Any question is better than no question at all.

**While solving problems:** It is very important to first understand the problem and identify what the question is asking you to solve. Make sure that you do not interpret the question incorrectly. After solving, read the problem again to check whether the answer which you have arrived at, is reasonable.

**While studying for the exam:** Prepare and practice all concepts thoroughly. Get adequate sleep on the night before the exam.

**During the exam:** Go through the entire paper. CBSE follows a set pattern of questions and the time limit is generally mentioned at the top of the paper. Read the instructions before starting. Begin with problems that you are absolutely confident of. Work by the clock and as quickly and continuously as you can, while writing legibly. Read the questions carefully, and solve all parts of each problem, preferably at one place. •

## Amity Institute for Competitive Exams

### IIT-JEE

As more and more students turn their dream of becoming engineers into reality studying at scores of colleges in the country, the one name that commands immediate attention and respect is that of IIT, which represents the dreams and ambitions of thousands of young students. There is no unique way of cracking IIT-JEE. What the IIT looks for in an examinee, is a thorough understanding of fundamentals coupled with the ability to think laterally, a powerful combination that can subdue even the most ominous looking problem with an elegant solution. To clear IIT, one needs a conceptual approach. One can't crack the examination by just cramming the formulae.

**Some tips that will help you succeed:**

■ Solve the paper in the pattern you have evolved through previous practice sessions; do not be innovative at that moment by trying something new.

■ Keep your eyes on the watch while solving the paper. Do not panic. Time management is of utmost importance.

■ Last year's matrix matching has nearly 20% weightage; though these questions are easy, they are quite tricky. Hence, solve them carefully and preferably in the end.

■ Objective questions with more than one correct choice (if introduced) should be handled with utmost care.

■ While solving the paper, if you think you have solved enough questions to secure around 40% marks evenly in all subjects, then the remaining time should be utilized to maximize your score.

The admission to IIT is the first step towards becoming a good engineer. Getting there is an achievement, but what is more challenging is to sustain the academic excellence thereafter. •



### AICE programmes for IIT-JEE/Medical

- Synchro Study Programme (class XI)
- Two years classroom programme -TCCP (class XI)
- One year Classroom Contact Programme - OCCP (class XII)
- Accelerated Classroom Contact Programme-ACCP (post class XII)
- Foundation Course (classes IX & X)

Contact: 9810687824, 9818750084, 9810236681, 9810178470

### ENGLISH JUMBLE-3

- |             |            |
|-------------|------------|
| 1. KYENMO   | 6. KRHAS   |
| 2. PREDSI   | 7. QIDSU   |
| 3. OERHS    | 8. UOMES   |
| 4. LAEHW    | 9. CPAEKCO |
| 5. ELIUSRQR | 10. AZREB  |

**Answers:** 1. MONKEY 2. SPIDER 3. HORSE  
4. WHALE 5. SQUIRREL 6. SHARK 7. SQUID 8. MOUSE  
9. PEACOCK 10. ZEBRA

### Solutions (Puzzle 2)

**Sol.1:** Let the length of each square =  $x$  cm  
 $\Rightarrow$  the area of each square =  $x^2$  cm.  
 As the length of the chessboard is 24 cm and 2 cm is the length of the border, so area of the inner square =  $64 \times x^2$   
 $\Rightarrow (20)^2 = 64 \times x^2$   
 $\Rightarrow 400 = 64 \times x^2$   
 $\Rightarrow x^2 = \frac{400}{64} = \frac{25}{4}$   
 $\Rightarrow x = \pm \frac{5}{2}$

Since the length is +ve quantity  
 $\Rightarrow x = 2.5$  cm

**Sol.2:**  $\triangle ABD$  is a right triangle, right angled at  $D$   
 $AD = 20$  cm and  $BD = 10$  cm

$\therefore \tan \angle BAD = \frac{BD}{AD}$   
 $\Rightarrow \tan \angle BAD = \frac{10}{20} = \frac{1}{2}$   
 $\Rightarrow \tan \angle BAD = \tan 45^\circ$   
 $\Rightarrow \angle BAD = 45^\circ \dots (i)$

$\triangle ACD$  is a right triangle, right angled at  $D$  such that  $AD = 20$  cm and  $DC = 20\sqrt{3}$  cm

$\therefore \tan \angle CAD = \frac{CD}{AD}$   
 $\Rightarrow \tan \angle CAD = \frac{20\sqrt{3}}{20} = \sqrt{3}$

$\Rightarrow \tan \angle CAD = \tan 60^\circ$   
 $\Rightarrow \angle CAD = 60^\circ \dots (ii)$   
 from (i) and (ii) we have  
 $\angle BAD = \angle CAD + \angle CAD$   
 $= 45^\circ + 60^\circ = 105^\circ$

**Sol.3:** If two circles touch internally then distance between their centres is equal to the difference of their radii.

So,  $AB = (5 - 3)$  cm = 2 cm  
 Also, the common chord  $PQ$  is the perpendicular bisector of  $AB$ .

$AC = CB = 1$  cm.

From right triangle  $ACP$ , we have  
 $AP^2 = AC^2 - CP^2$

$\Rightarrow CP = \sqrt{24}$  cm.

$\Rightarrow$  Area of  $PCB = \frac{1}{2} \times \text{base} \times \text{height}$   
 $= \frac{1}{2} \times \sqrt{24} \times 1$   
 $= \frac{\sqrt{24}}{2}$  cm<sup>2</sup>

### How To Crack the CBSE Subject: Math





# Next big thing is very small

The bean shaped car is another feather in Ratan Tata's flourishing pedigree

Mallika Khera & Shriya Sitaram  
AIS, NOIDA

**The fast paced auto industry**  
Transport is a crucial element in the development of a country. New models of road transport are being innovated and invented in all parts of the world. The Indian transport industry is strengthening with each passing day and

automobile market. The 'Lakhtakia' as they call it, has indeed generated quite a buzz among the Indian populace. One of its kind, this bean shaped four wheeler is another feather in Ratan Tata's flourishing pedigree; a man who believes, "A promise is a promise." More than half a million people visited the pavilion of the mini car in the short period of a week. Worth 2500 USD,

the cost of getting a BMW serviced! In other words, it possesses the right CQ (Cost Quotient) for the Indian roadies, unbelievably priced at Rs. 1,00,000. Certified by the Bharat 3 and Euro 4 standards, the Nano is safe, eco-friendly and fuel-efficient, giving a mileage of 20 km/litre. The after-effect of the expo is clearly visible in the booking



earning adulations worldwide. We are gradually producing a strong auto industry, which is expected to expand the Indian market by several millions by year 2010.

**The miraculous 'Nano'**  
The auto expo in Delhi and Detroit, registered an overwhelming response from consumers worldwide, highlighting the increase in demand for cars as a result of rising income levels. The much sought after 1-lakh car, Tata's Nano, has revolutionized the Indian

Nano has a 623 cc (33hp) engine and is 21% more spacious than the oldest known people's car, Maruti 800. Designed by the Institute of Development in Automotive Engineering, Italy, this little wonder has a rear engine making it very similar to Fiat 500. The Nano is about to turn the dream of every Indian to own a car, into reality. Even auto drivers are planning to buy the Nano as a suitable replacement for their auto-rikshaws. Feasible and economical, this car is priced at

technique. The first 2.5 lakh cars are to be distributed to the customers through a lottery system.

**Will Nanoism last?**  
It is very clear that the public is very positive about the Nano and are quite enthusiastic about owning it. But the corporate world is skeptical about its success, as the cost effective materials used in the car may not be so qualitative in the long run. Nonetheless, as India is a land of consumers, it is safe to say that the Nano is here to stay.●

# A peep into wonderland

Amazing facts, startling discoveries and innovations

**Pencil'led'**  
The first pencil was made by tying together a bunch of graphite sticks. Then it was decided to push the graphite into the inside of a hollow wooden stick. Joseph Rechendorfer was the first person to put a piece of rubber onto the top of a pencil, making it easy to rub out mistakes. The average lead pencil can draw a line that is almost 35 miles long. One can write approximately 50,000 words in English with just one pencil.

**Sticky glue**  
Glue dates back to prehistoric times. Artists used to mix dry colours with raw eggs and plant juices to make sticky paints for cave murals. Later, ancient Egyptians and other people learned to make stronger glues

by boiling animal bones and hides. Nowadays, glue is made using synthetic substances.

**Winged wonders**  
The largest butterfly in the world is the Giant Birdwing from Solomon Islands. The female can have a wing span of over 12 inches, that's over a foot long! If she lands on your nose; she can cover your face. The smallest butterfly ever found was only half an inch long lengthwise. The colour in a butterfly's wings does not come from pigment. It is produced by light reflected by their transparent wing scales. Stranger yet, no moth or butterfly eats solid food (though some butterflies drink nectar); some can not



even take in moisture. The life span of most butterflies is very short, usually just enough to lay their eggs.

**As big as a whale**  
The blue whale is the largest animal on earth. The heart of a blue whale



is as big as a car, and its tongue is as long as an elephant. A 160 ton blue whale is equal in weight to 30 bull elephants, or 1830 adult humans weighing 175 pounds each. It has been calculated that a single breath from a mature blue whale can inflate up to 2000 balloons. There are up to 10,000 gallons of water, equal to 256,000 glasses of water, in each mouthful of an adult blue whale. Of course, they don't swallow that salt water; they use their baleen to strain it out.●



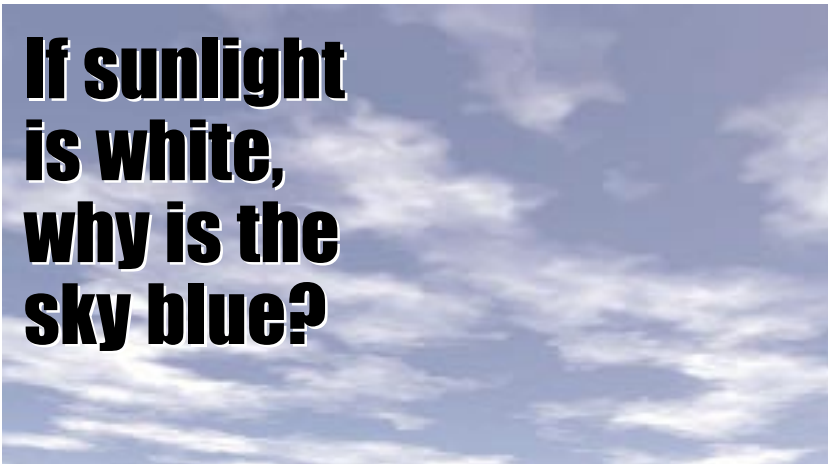
Karan Saharya AIS, Noida

**Envisage something so incongruous, something which can suck you like vacuum as soon as you touch its periphery, soak up all light, and obliterate all information. Gives you goose bumps? Perhaps yes, but this is the veracity, and it is something so perplexing that it has baffled scientists since the very moment it was discovered. Here is everything you ever wanted to know about the mysterious black holes.**  
A black hole is a zone of space with an amazingly powerful gravitational field from which nothing can escape, even electromagnetic radiation, making the interior invisible. However, black holes can be identified if they intermingle with matter outside the event horizon, for example, by sucking in gas from a star. The gas is captured, heated up to very high temperatures, emitting large amounts of radiation in the process.  
The idea of something so queer was first described by Einstein's theory of general relativity, developed in 1916. This theory predicts that when a large enough amount of mass is present

# Black hole: a faceless wonder

A black hole is a powerful gravitational field from which none can escape

within a sufficiently small region of space, all paths through space are warped inwards towards the center of the volume, forcing all matter and radiation to fall inward. Although general relativity describes a black hole as an empty space with a point like singularity at the center and an event horizon at the outer edge, the description changes as soon as quantum mechanics are applied. Rather than holding captured matter forever, they may slowly radiate a form of thermal energy called Hawking radiation. But these are nevertheless mere hypotheses, and nothing can be said for certain. The 'No hair' theorem states that black holes have only three major properties: mass, angular momentum and electric charge. So any information or energy therein is destroyed. This is the black hole information paradox.  
In a nutshell, this is what a black hole is - terrifying. It has unknowingly played the buffer zone between relativity and quantum mechanics, enemies since their inception. But what they really are, and what will eventually happen to black holes, can only be seen in the course of time.●



John Tyndall was the first one to explain the blue colour of the sky

**The sky is blue-ever wondered why? The day-time sky is usually blue while at sunset, the colour orange becomes more prominent. This happens because molecules in the air scatter blue light from the sun in the morning, more than they scatter red light. In the evening, the converse happens as blue light gets scattered away from the line of sight. Sunlight is actually white in colour. Isaac Newton used a prism to discover that white light is made up of seven colours of the rainbow. The visible part of the spectrum ranges from red light with the longest wavelength and violet with the shortest wavelength. John Tyndall was the first one to explain the blue colour of the sky in 1859. He discovered that when light passes through a clear fluid, the shorter blue wavelengths are scattered more strongly than the red. You can try a simple experiment to demonstrate this. Fill a tank/ tub with water. Mix a little milk or soap in it. Shine a beam of white light through it. From the side,**

**the beam can be seen by the blue light it scatters; but the light seen directly from the end is reddened after it has passed through the tank. This is known as the Tyndall effect.**  
**Sunset yellow:** When the sky is clear, the sunset will appear yellow, because the light from the sun has passed a long distance through air and some of the blue light has been scattered away. If the air is polluted with small particles, the sunset will be redder.  
**Blue moon:** The moon and the clouds appear white because they consist of particles larger than the wavelengths of light, which scatter all wavelengths equally. Some mountainous regions are famous for their blue haze. A forest fire or volcanic eruption may fill the atmosphere with fine particles, being the right size to scatter red light. This gives the opposite of the usual Tyndall effect, and may cause the moon to have a blue tinge. This is a very rare phenomenon leading to the phrase 'once in a blue moon'.●

Source: www.math.ucr.edu



# A man with a mission: Mukesh Ambani

Tagged the world’s richest Indian, this business tycoon is on his way to take the global economy by storm

Mukesh Dhirubhai Ambani calls the shots in the Indian business milieu. Inflowing revenue, technological and infrastructural progress and stock exchange, take turns to pay obeisance to this Ambani heir, who has been tagged as the world’s richest Indian, and has all it takes to put Indian business acumen on the world map.

**Education:** Mukesh Ambani joined Reliance in 1981. After completing his engineering from University of Mumbai, department of chemical technology, he went to Stanford to complete his MBA. However, his educational pursuits took a back seat as he gave up his Stanford education after a year, to assist his father’s ongoing efforts to build the Patalganga petrochemical plant.

**Professional life, the beginning:** Once at Reliance, Mukesh wholeheartedly dedicated himself to initiating its backward integration from textiles into polyester fibres and further into petrochemicals. What followed was a group of 60 novel manufacturing facilities with technology so futuristic that it boosted the output of the company by over 12 times.

**The feather in the cap:** Mukesh Ambani has earned adulation for creat-

ing the world’s largest grassroots petroleum refinery at Jamnagar, India, with a present capacity of 660,000 barrels per day (33 million tonnes per year) integrated with petrochemicals, power generation, port and related infrastructure, at an investment of Rs 100000 crore (nearly 24 billion USD).

**Information communication in its new Avtaar:** With a network that has in its scope as many as 1100 towns and cities across India, Reliance Infocomm, offers state of the art mobile technology at the lowest entry and service costs anywhere in the world. A brainchild of Mukesh Ambani, Reliance Infocomm offers the full range of voice, data, video and value added services, on the strength of 80,000 kilometers of optic fibre-based terabit infrastructure. Dhirubhai Ambani’s death and the property dispute and the division that followed, have left Reliance Infocomm in Anil Ambani’s lap.

**Family life:** Mukesh Ambani is the elder son of Dhirubhai Ambani and Kokilaben and is married to Nita Ambani with whom he has three children Akash, Isha and Anant. He has a younger brother Anil Ambani and two married sisters, Nina Kothari and Deepika Salgaocar.●



- Ranked 42nd among the *World’s Most Respected Business Leaders* and second among four Indian CEOs featured in a survey conducted by Pricewaterhouse Coopers and published in Financial Times.
- Conferred the World Communication Award for the *Most Influential Person in Telecommunications in 2004* by Total Telecom
- Chosen *Telecom Man of the Year 2004* by Voice and Data magazine, September 2004
- Ranked 13th in Asia’s Power 25 list of *The Most Powerful People in Business* published by Fortune magazine, August 2004
- Conferred the *Asia Society Leadership Award* by the Asia Society, Washington D.C., USA, May 2004
- Ranked No.1 for the second consecutive year, in *The Power List 2004* published by India Today, March 2004

# Free for all Gandhigiri

A curious mix of idealism coupled with rebellious streaks is evolving today

Aishwarya Singhal  
AIS, Noida

Sixty years after independence, the only things we seemed to associate the name Mahatma Gandhi with were roads, and dirty statues garlanded twice a year. However, a few months back, there came along a film (Lage raho Munnabhai), that changed more than the box office fortunes; it changed the way a nation looked at its own self.

Now we had a curious mixture; a hybrid if you will, of man’s highest ideals combined with what had become the identity of a rebellious and perhaps, confused generation. We had Gandhigiri, a fun way to handle the problems that the common man encountered everyday. It had non-violence and truth as its basis, the very framework of Gandhism. But it also had the chutzpah and the sheer cheek that one associates with the *bhais* and *dadas* of *aamchi* Mumbai. A friendly voice on a radio station gave tips on everything from selecting a groom to needling pension from a corrupt official. We now had a weapon that even the weakest of the weak could wield with great power.

But the big question is : can we convert this philosophy into something tangible and incorporate it in our daily lives? Each act of Gandhigiri shown in the movie is something that can be done by normal men and women. Anyone can clean a stain, raise a voice against injus-



Gandhiji once said, “Strength does not come from physical capacity. It comes from an indomitable will.”

tice and not get cowed down by the high and mighty. The only thing that one needs is the courage to stand up and be counted. As the Father of the nation once said, “Strength does not come from physical capacity. It comes from an indomitable will.”

It is up to you to get out there and change the world. And remember, if you can fight your battles with a smile on your face and love in your heart, even defeat will bring the satisfaction of a day well spent.●

## Stretch your limits

contd. from pg. 1

dire need of an overhaul. The concept of education needs to be revisited. The frustration of students, job hopping nature of professionals, disillusionment with civil society and insensitivity to violence are fallouts of gaps in education. The biggest gap is the inability to help individuals understand where their innate potential lies. Students choose professions chasing material aspirations and many a time, tend to get frustrated and demotivated. Just because there is a boom in IT, it doesn’t mean that everyone can be a prized software programmer.

**What motivates you to keep moving forward?**

I draw inspiration from the teachings of Vivekananda. His thoughts have influenced my approach towards life significantly.

**What is the cause that you are most passionate about?**

I want to work for education reform at all levels. My dream project is to open internet kiosks in Indian villages to educate and benefit farmers, children and adult learners.

**Your message for students.**

Never get restricted in the safe confines of your family and friends. Follow your dreams instead of following those around you. Always look at problems with an attitude of addressing them. You never know how much can be attained if strong willed and action oriented people get together.●

# The other side of the super cop

Kiran Bedi exudes exceptional warmth, unlike the image she portrays

Akanksha Khanna, AIS Saket

Special people are special not because they have position, power or accolades. These are just incidental. They are special because they have courage of conviction, a strong self-belief and a compelling need to put right the disorder around them. And that pristine uncluttered thought and exuberant love, is what epitomizes one such special person - Kiran Bedi. She lit my day one morning and ignited my life, when I spent those special moments with her. She is an example of a life well lived, detractors notwithstanding. Kiran Bedi has been an iconic figure for me and it had always been a dream to meet her. Just as my grandmother, who is a close associate of Kiran Bedi, told me that she was going to meet her, I decided to accompany her. From far, I saw a sporty figure jogging towards me. As the figure came closer, I realised that it was the lady herself in a yellow sweat shirt. I was completely intrigued by the aura of her dynamic personality and charismatic presence. Nevertheless, behind the khaki uniform, there is a subtle woman with a deep sense of spirituality. A trailblazer, Kiran Bedi is admired and loved by many. Even as a child, her determination and self-discipline were apparent in her inclination toward sports. She won many titles including the Junior National Lawn Tennis Championship, Asian Lawn Tennis Championship and All-India Inter State Women’s Lawn Tennis Championship. She broke new ground by joining the Indian Police Service in 1972, the first woman in India to do so. At a time when it was thought that women would not make good police



Akanksha Khanna with Kiran Bedi

## Awards

- Mother Teresa Memorial National Award for Social Justice (2005)
- Pride of India (1999)
- Joseph Beuys Award (1997)
- Lion of the Year (1995)
- Father Machismo Humanitarian Award (1995)
- Mahila Shiromani Award (1995)
- Magsaysay Award (1994) for Government Service
- Asia Region Award for Drug Prevention and Control (1991)
- Woman of the Year Award (1980)
- President’s Gallantry Award (1979)

officers, Kiran Bedi fought her way to prove otherwise. Though she has taken voluntary retirement citing pursuant of “strong academic and social interest”, she will always remain one of the most celebrated police officers, an ardent social worker and a very sought after inspirational speaker. Kiran Bedi saw her role as a police officer as an opportunity to help people. Her

greatest challenge came in 1994 when she was promoted to the rank of Inspector General of Prisons and given the responsibility of managing Tihar prison. It was a place rampant with corruption, where prisoners were denied basic human rights. The first thing she did was to maintain a complaint box, which she personally took care of. She acted upon the complaints promptly, and

soon, illegal power of guards over prisoners dissipated. Bedi encouraged prayer and meditation; introduced literacy programs. She began a course in Vipassana, an ancient technique of self-purification. Thus, she was successful in reforming the toughest prison in India. Kiran Bedi has set up two voluntary organisations, Navjyoti and India Vision Foundation that reach out to thousands of poor children to meet their primary education needs. The organisations also cater to adult literacy in women, provide vocational training in slums, rural areas and prisons, besides meting out treatment for drug addicts. Her social activities have won her many national and international awards, including the Serge Sotiroff Memorial Award by the UN. In a short span of time that I spent with her, Kiran Bedi touched me deeply. Despite her image as a hard task master, she exuded tremendous warmth. Her positive attitude and zest for life, seemed to rub off on me. I have yet to meet a person who is so versatile and knowledgeable; yet so down to earth and humane. Clearly, her counseling skills motivated and inspired me. Another defining aspect of Kiran Bedi’s awe-inspiring persona is her firm belief in research. She is an epitome of hard work and perseverance. She advised me to widen my horizons, think out of the box and respect the dignity of labour. Being such an influential person that she is, she is bound to leave a permanent imprint on one’s mind. No wonder, she has been voted the most admired woman in the country! This meeting was a once in a lifetime opportunity and has definitely made me wiser and more knowledgeable. I will cherish this interaction for the rest of my life.●





# Indian legacy, western pride

Branded objects have become ego boosters for the youngsters

Aru Talwar AIS, Saket

One are the days when a child would be ecstatic upon receiving a simple and small, but priceless gift - a favourite coloured shirt, a pair of shoes or a pair of jeans and the exuberance would be evident on his/her face. If one peeps into the contemporaneous world, one will find youngsters sticking up their noses at anything

devoid of an international brand name. How can they possibly possess something as uncouth? If it's not a Reebok; neither an Adidas, nor a Nike, how can it possibly be theirs? This is the bandwagon that the teens of today have unduly stepped into. Even a simple pair of socks needs to carry with it a brand, otherwise it will not, under any circumstances, find its way into their closet. Youngsters of today have a certain standard to live up to as they feel that a

branded object, be it anything from gadgets to garments, boosts their morale and earmarks them as the elite group. We Indians blindly relate to this process as the prophets did to passing sermons. Isn't it high time we forgo this malpractice and learn to appreciate what is truly ours? It is time we learn to extol the lovely intricate designs made by our cottage industries rather than a 'label' that is embroidered callously on the garment. A very wise person had once said, "Stale bread at home is better than roasted meat abroad". This is not all. There is yet another dimension to the typical Indian psychology. The same Indians who travel abroad, have a totally contradistinct approach to the very same fabric. They will invariably shell out a huge amount to buy a product which would have costed peanuts here, proclaiming, "It brought back memories from our country". Such, is the perplexing human mind! Where does this love go when we are in our country? When will we finally learn to value things when we have them and not regret our haughtiness later?●

## Health capsule

### Going nutty over peanuts

In addition to being kids' favourite sandwich filling, peanuts pack a nutritional punch and offer a variety of health benefits. India, Africa, and



China are the leading peanut producing countries. Peanuts are a rich source of protein (roughly 30 grams per cup after roasting). According to the Protein Digestibility Corrected Amino Acid Score (PDCAAS), peanut protein is the nutritional equivalent of meat and eggs for human growth and health. Peanut oil works wonders for the skin. Peanuts are a good source of niacin and thus contribute to brain health, brain circulation and blood flow. Roasted peanuts are far richer in antioxidants than apples, carrots or beets. [www.whfoods.com]

# The 'brand'wagon

The rapid growth of foreign brands in India is paving way for neo-colonialism

Divya Sohal AIS, Noida

If one thinks that colonialism ended with the end of the British rule in India, it's time to rethink. Lying underneath the various meanings of neo-colonialism is a tacit understanding that colonialism should be seen as something more than the formal occupation and control of territories by a Western metropole. Neo-colonialism suggests an indirect form of control through economic and cultural dependence. It may seem far fetched but it will eventually lead to colonization of India at the hands of foreign brands due to our growing dependence on them. There's a cultural phenomenon in India that is quite pervasive. If you own something that's from abroad, it

sets you apart from your peers.

How would you describe an upscale and brand conscious Indian's closet? Louis Vuitton, Prada and Chanel handbags, Gucci sunglasses, designer outfits and Sergio Rossi shoes, jostle for shelf space. "We just love brands," says Rahul Sharma, a 16 year old, brand crazy Indian.

Owner of three restaurants in Bombay and Goa, two lifestyle stores in Delhi and an export business, Chaudhri, 30, says, "I think it is fabulous that India has become a great luxury goods market. Upscale Indians are super trendy." Unable to withstand the pressure of the marketing blitz of MNC brands, the local brands have been forced into rebranding. It would be a challenge for local vendors to quickly revamp



their visibility through marketing. They should leverage key channel partners for joint marketing initiatives. Such programs haven't been undertaken in smaller cities; so local vendors can get a head start there.

Bollywood star Shah Rukh Khan believes, "India cannot hide behind the

fact that it is a developing country anymore. Indians now want to own products that inspire awe and envy." Can the French sell cake to people who, not long ago, had to scramble for bread? Given the ambitious plans luxury brands have for India, they seem to think so.●

## The Global Times Student Edit Body

**AIS East Delhi:** Aditya Kumar, Ojaswini; **AIS Gurgaon (sec-43):** Nikita Ojha, Anusha Bhat, Aneesh Sharma, Kritika Grover, Ritika Ganju; **AIS Gurgaon (sec 46):** Vaishali Singh, Neha, Meha Puvani, Maitreyi Murali; **AIS Noida:** Mayank Juneja, Karan Saharya; **AIS Pushp Vihar:** Dhruv Singhal, Nikita Bakshi; **AIS Saket:** Jigyasa Chauhan, Poornima Kharbanda; **AIS Vasundhara:** Anupriya Shukla, Shreshth Khare

## Glam gran

### Stay fit, granny's way

Mukta Kaul  
AIS, East Delhi

The best therapy is diet therapy. A well balanced diet can take you a long way. Green chillies can do wonders as they contain Vitamin C. They help in curing nasal congestion and also assist in clotting blood.



Mushroom, a healthy, fat free food is rich in minerals and plant chemicals. It also boosts our immune system. We all know that water is the elixir of life. However, drinking too much water can be dangerous. Water dilutes the sodium level of the body. If you drink excess water after exercise, you can gain more weight rather than shedding it. The extra water gets stored as excess liquid in the body.

A celeb who has attained star status by styling people's hair, that's Javed Habib for you. Hailing from a family of hair dressers (his grandfather was stylist to Jawahar Lal Nehru), Javed has taken hairstyling to heights unattained before. Here, he reveals some of his secrets as he chats with Aditya and Ojaswini of AIS, East Delhi.

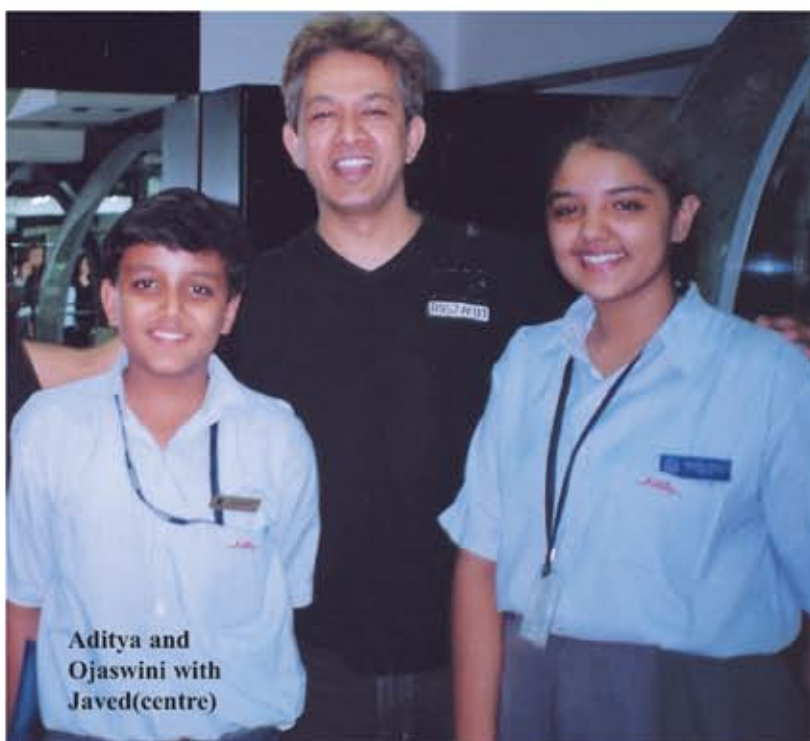
**Ojaswini: Who has been your inspiration?**

**Javed Habib:** No one, really. I was quite confused when I had to choose between hair dressing and hotel management. It was during my stint at a hair dressing institute in London that I was fascinated by the glamour in the hair dressing profession. I was 19 then and it was the best phase of my life. London also taught me respect for labour. Before that, I wouldn't even think of sweeping the salon myself.

**Aditya: Can you share some of the problems that you faced?**

**Habib:** I came back from London with an English attitude that didn't go well at that time. To top it all, hair styling was not accepted as a profession. To overcome the initial glitches, I taught hairstyling. I have conducted over 300 seminars by now. Teaching taught me perfection.

# A date with Javed Habib



"I am not a page 3 person. I don't drink and smoke. I would like my work to speak, so I let my scissors work."

**Ojaswini: What kind of a person are you?**

**Habib:** I am not a page 3 person. I don't drink and smoke. I don't party much. I'd rather be with my wife and

two kids. I would like my work to speak, so I let my scissors work.

**Aditya: How important is hair styling in a person's life?**

**Habib:** Hairstyle defines one's person-

ality. If you have a good hair style, it creates a 'feel good' vibration in you. The first thing that you do in the morning is to look at yourself in the mirror and your fingers automatically run through the hair.

**Ojaswini: Who is your favourite celebrity client?**

**Habib:** I am a common man's hair dresser. All my clients are celebrities for me. I met my wife at the salon. A lot of people assumed that ours was a love marriage, but it was actually a client marriage! (breaks into laughter)

**Aditya: Should kids go for funky hair cuts and hair dyes?**

**Habib:** Children below 18 should not try chemicals. They should go for neat cuts and use good shampoos. Experiment when you are in college, but not in school. Once you are in college, there are less restrictions and no dress code. That is the time when you can play with colours and styles.

**Aditya: Your formula for success?**

**Habib:** Be true to yourself and your profession. There are no short cuts. This way, growth may be slow, but the foundation laid is very strong.

**Ojaswini: How does it feel to be the best in your field?**

**Habib:** I just want to work. I am not in any number race. I am a professional and not a style guru. I want 'Habib' to become a gharana for hair dressing!●



# Rediscover yourself

“A journey of a thousand miles must begin with a single step.”

Lao-Tzu



Dr. Amita Chauhan  
Chairperson

The new session has brought with it a new dawn, a new season; the world around has turned anew. The multihued flowers, the twittering birds, the sparkling leaves, all seem to rejoice in the beauty of a new beginning. To me, each day is a new dawn and each child, a light of new hope. I look forward to each day with the excitement of a child, curious to explore the infinite canvas of possibilities called life. I am eager to see beyond the obvious, traverse paths untraveled and conquer the invincible. Each day, the purity of thought and the spring in the steps of young students who walk the corridors of Amity, ignite me.

I know there is an immense reservoir of latent talent, waiting to be unearthed. I can almost visualise the future unfold in front of my eyes. I see hope in the innocence of childhood and strength in the gay abandon of youth. India of today is what the young want it to be. Through the platform of this paper, I want to give voice to your vision and become the wind beneath your wings. Rise and soar. Conquer the world with your conviction.

No river can return to its source, yet all rivers must have a beginning. The new session is the beginning of the river of ‘Youth Power’. This year, we salute the spirit of youth, the spirit of leadership. Let Youth Power blaze your senses and awaken your soul. Let it fire your imagination to transcend the confines of your own expertise and ingenuity. Let the magical, and almost inexplicable quest for knowledge, implore you to discover new facets of life. Let it discover a new you. ●

# Would you like French fries with your samosas, sir?

Roshan John  
AIS, Saket

Be it the saffron clad sadhus dancing to Britney Spears’ tunes, or the devout *brahmins* munching juicy chicken from KFC, it seems that the west has left an indelible mark on Indian culture. The cowboys from Texas are here to stay! With the world growing faster than the politician’s kitty, the word ‘globalization’ has never been as significant as it is now. Technology has not only been able to bridge distances between people but it has also brought about a change in their lifestyles. The spillover effects on fashion, food, music, and values are all too evident. The ever-shrinking mini skirt and low waist cargos have replaced the traditional *kurtas* and *salwar kameezes* that were so indispensable some years back. The ornate bangles and *malas* of yore have been substituted by murderous looking spikes worn on the wrist, and chains which cause neck aches more than looking good. Our tongues have become used to pizzas and burgers dripping with cheese that form the staple diet of our voluminous western counterparts. Green vegetables and herbs which kept us running for so long, are a strict no-no now. Rock music and fusion are the new flavours of the season. A renowned *tabla* artist like *Ustad Zakir Hussain* is known to the youngsters as the ‘*Wah Taj!*’ guy; such is their outlook.

Today, people often refer to and discredit the older generation as the past; little realising that there is no future without a past. They do not understand that the single minded aim of attaining material goods by overriding morals and virtues will bring about the nemesis of man. For Gen-Y, ethics and values are responsibilities they do not want to shoulder any more. The way things are moving, it seems that within a few years, we too, would be like our Western comrades - overworked, overweight and unable to fit into our minis!

## DEBATE

East  
Vs  
West



Akhil Bhardwaj  
AIS, Saket

I’m reminded of an incident that took place in my classroom, when our economics teacher asked us for our opinion on who would make an effective manager- a manly man, a womanly woman, a manly woman or a womanly man? It took only seconds for the ‘macho’ men and the feminists of the class to engage in a sprawling argument. After the dust settled, it was evident that the answer clearly was - a manly woman or a womanly man. By similar logic, it is only a fusion of the spirit of the east and the scientific prowess and progress of the west that will finally put the lid on the debate - which is best, east or west?

Our love story with all things foreign, though seems recent, is not that recent after all. Even during the British rule, anything from the overseas was close to Indian hearts. Though the Swadeshi and Boycott movements soon changed that, we were never able to completely break free from the association that we held so dear. This relationship has now been mended and is blossoming beautifully, thanks to technology and globalization playing matchmakers. Who would have, otherwise imagined, banking from the comfortable confines of one’s home? In this brouhaha about Indians aping the western culture, we should not forget that it is a two-way relationship. The West is embracing our culture like never before. With Bikram Choudhary’s Yoga acquiring worldwide fame, it is commonplace to see bikini clad women performing the *suryanamaskar* on the beaches of Florida. Even Hinduism is gaining popularity, with the US Senate beginning its session with *Gayatri mantra*!

However, we should never lose the power of distinguishing right from wrong and good from evil. As Albus Dumbledore says in Harry Potter, “We must all make the choice between what is right and what is easy!” East and West have to finally meet somewhere. ●

# Soul curry for Gen-Y

Pooja Bagrodia  
AIS, East Delhi

Humanity, today, is one word that is overused and underrated. How much of the school curriculum is centred around such universal, spiritual principles? No other person today has more power than a person placed in a position of teaching and it is this power, that can ignite soul fire across generations, on an unprecedented scale. Final exams at the end of every academic session, glean syllabic knowledge gained by students over the year. But how many of us, both students and faculty, stop and gauge our growth over time? Do we intro-

## (In)SIGHTINGS

spect about the amount of knowledge gained over the years? Rarely, I believe. We hardly spend time pondering about the world around us, our choices, the universe, and our purpose in it. Whether or not we are learning anything new ourselves, is something we are least concerned with. Who is it that I am choosing to become? Am I responding as a person or reacting as a crowd? Moving beyond meditation, hands on activities (centred around Penny Jenkins’ research work) and honest discussions help students share and implement universal human values of tolerance, dignity, acceptance, understanding, respect, faith, courage and positivity. Demonstrative and practical learning is the best mechanism to develop the mind of a child. These activities have been a grand success with students thus far, and are indicative of the amount of work that can be done creatively with our children in the future. ●

Dear teachers & parents, write to [tbanerji@amity.edu](mailto:tbanerji@amity.edu) to share your thoughts on something that has touched you deeply.

# Fools go where angels fear

Tulika Banerji

Panchatantra tales, a collection of ancient fables in verse and prose, have been iconic since days of the yore. One such anecdote is about three fish, Anagatavidhata, Pratyutpannamati and Yadbhavishya, who lived happily in a pond, unspoilt by the rigours of human intrusion. One fine evening, the pond was accidentally discovered by some fishermen who decided to catch fish from there, at the crack of dawn. Hearing the conversation of the fishermen, the three fish were in a state of panic. Anagatavidhata (the one who can foresee danger in time) said to the other two, “It’s time to migrate to a safer place tonight itself. If we stay any longer, we will fall into the fishermen’s trap and that will be our nemesis. Wise men have said that the weak should flee when attacked by those who are more powerful.” Pratyutpannamati immediately agreed to the suggestion and declared, “He who can prosper anywhere does not die in his own land clinging to sentiment.” Both the fish fled but Yadbhavishya failed to grasp the gravity of the situation. He stayed on thinking that he must not leave the land of his forefathers and that God would eventually take care of him. As expected, the next day, the fishermen took a big catch from the pond and Yadbhavishya was one of them.

The simple fable is so relevant in the present context. It endorses the fact that one must be able to sense imminent perils and act accordingly. Waiting incessantly for fate to take care of oneself is mere imprudence. True, we cannot question destiny; but entrusting everything in its hands is calling for trouble. God helps those who help themselves. ●

# Quest for quality

Hansika Chopra & Shagun Arora  
AIS, Saket

If it is ‘Made in India’, it must be fake. We have surely come a long way from the days when people had a blind faith in this myth. Today, India is the leading manufacturer of many leading global brands. The best quality raw material and skills are available in abundance here. What factors brought about such a change in this ‘Made in USA’ besotted nation? Are we already on the path of globalising the economy? India is now the second fastest growing economy of the world next only to China. Globalisation, laden with the mocking mindset of the people, brings to us, a boastful, status-conscious world. It has been a growing trend among global brands to set base, establish their factories here and produce goods which are then exported to

various countries and distributed in India as well. Dubai, which is known for its extravagant shopping festivals and world famous quality of goods, holds a stock of not less than 40% Indian made goods. Another myth that still exists in the 21<sup>st</sup> century is that for an Indian brand to be successful globally, it should be associated with a foreign entity. The most pertinent example would be of one of the hottest mail websites, hotmail.com. It is a widely held notion that the tag of Microsoft gave it due respect, which is a total falsification theory, because hotmail was the widest used social net-

Globalisation, laden with the mocking mindset of the people, brings to us a status conscious civilisation.

## Reader’s voice

Amity’s newspaper has evolved as a centre stage which endeavours to bind the members of the Amity Universe. I appreciate the efforts of your team in organising a creative writing workshop that involved the students in putting together this one of a kind, highly innovative newspaper. Now, it has truly become an endeavour by the students, for the students, of the students. Going through each page of the second issue was an enriching experience. The article, ‘Is the coin, coining



conscience?”, beautifully reinforced the idea of working in tandem for a better society, instead of longing for materialistic things. Kudos to the entire team!

Dr. (Mrs.) Rekha Ranade  
Principal, Sec-43, Gurgaon

The second issue made delightful reading. The articles were quite topical and once again exemplified the vast treasure trove of creative talent that abounds Amitians. I extend my hearty congratulations to the editorial team for their mammoth effort. Today, as we stand on the threshold of another academic session, it’s time to plan for the future. Life favours those who value time. Time teaches us the perfect chemistry that comprises planning, organizing and moving consistently on the path we have chosen for ourselves. While trifles make for this perfection, perfection in itself is no trifle. So children, work for the achievement of your

goal with unwavering determination. Humility and integrity are part of the Amitian code of conduct and the touchstones of true knowledge and infinite growth. Minds stagnate and become ignorant in the absence of the same. It is now for you to explore, expand and develop your skills by participating in the multifaceted activities at your disposal. May the new session set aside your past hurdles and grant you success in all your efforts.

Mohina Dar  
Principal, AIS Noida

Send in your views and articles to [tbanerji@amity.edu](mailto:tbanerji@amity.edu)



# Can a guy and girl be 'just friends'?

S. Balachandran, AIS Noida &  
A. Khanna, AIS Saket

**'W'**e are just good friends', how often have we heard the oh-so famous cliché? The moment two members of the opposite sex are spotted together, everyone jumps to the conclusion that there's something going on between them. Is a platonic relationship between the two sexes an absolute myth? Movies like 'Harry met Sally' and 'Hum Tum' have tried to depict a fairly accepted fact, that there cannot be 'only friendship' between a boy and a girl.

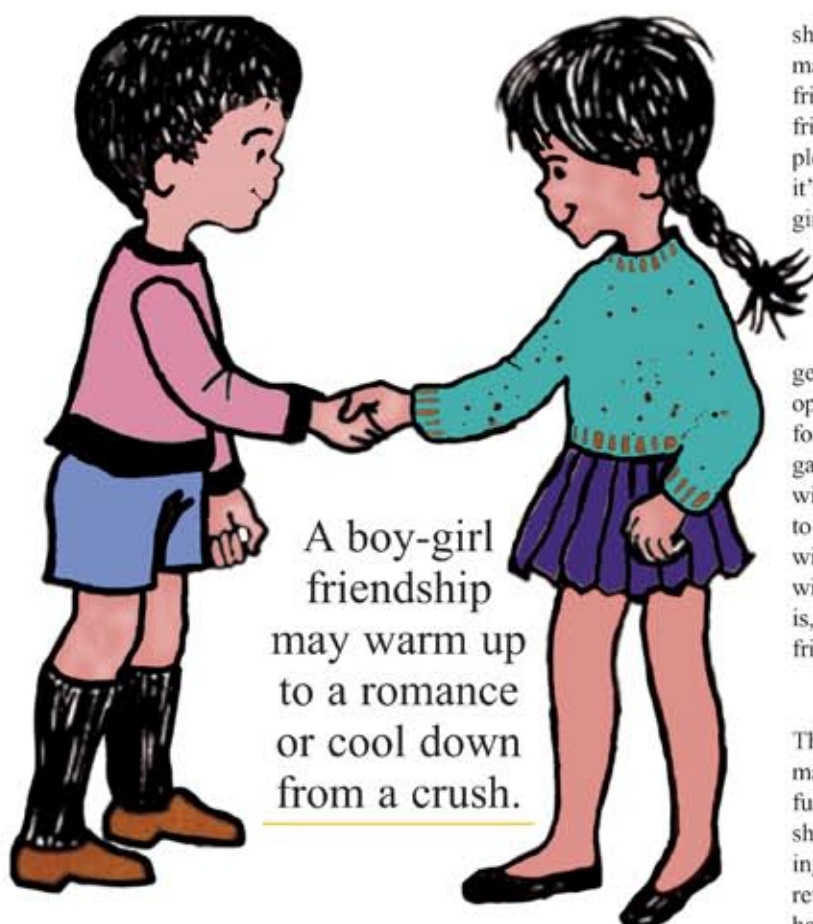
## A stronger bond

Sometimes, a boy-girl friendship can turn out to be the best in the world, even better than same gender friendships. Friends of the opposite sex have some wicked advantages. One can get an honest opinion out of them and the understanding of the other sex just becomes a tad easier. As humans, we must learn to co-exist with people of all kinds. A boy-girl friendship provides that extra edge, when one becomes familiar with the behaviour patterns of each other. The inherent mutual respect fosters a stronger bond.

## Basic instinct

It is commonly believed that guys are hardly ever interested in girls for friendship, and view them as objects of attraction first and then as real people. It all boils down to how the friendship really started, whether there was any physical attraction in the first place. While,

Mixed friendships have an extra edge; one gets familiar with the idiosyncracies and behaviour of the opposite sex



A boy-girl friendship may warm up to a romance or cool down from a crush.

there are instances where physical attraction is a factor to contend with, it rarely is so overwhelming that it would make a 'no strings attached' friendship impossible.

## Social stigma

Any guy-gal relationship in India, be it friendship or a romantic one, till recent times, was taboo. And while growing up, even though we have been advised on what to do and what not to do with boyfriends, we were never taught how to be friends with the opposite sex. We were all raised to assume that guys

and girls who were emotionally attached, were also romantically linked. A mixed friendship would warm up to a romance or cool down from a crush. Friendship for mere friendship's sake was rare. Love torn Bollywood films haven't helped either, as they invariably show childhood friends ending up as eternal lovers.

## Mistaken notions

There can be an unadulterated friendship between the two sexes, without a sexual connotation playing the devil. Astha (name changed)

shares her opinion, "Everybody makes such an issue out of boy-girl friendships. Some guys can be your friends and some can't; it's that simple. People are individuals first and it's not fair to group all guys and girls together. Friends come in all sizes, ages, colors and genders."

It is almost impossible to be friends with every one. People with common interests tend to gel with each other. Sometimes, opposites attract as there is scope for sharing and learning. Guys and gals can hang out with each other without being physically attracted to each other. A girl can be in love with one boy and still be 'friends' with five others. So the bottom line is, yes, guys and girls can be 'just friends' if they really want to be so.

## Make it work

There are some simple rules to make mixed friendships successful. Don't cross the line of friendship ever, without the understanding that it may be a point of no return. If you know your friend harbours deeper emotions toward you, you must never take advantage of those feelings to control your friend or get him/her to do what you want. Never give in to physical attractions without knowing that it could change the friendship forever and in an irreversible way. Respect the fact that you will have different perspectives on important things because hey, you experience the world culture from two opposing realities. Accept that there will always be people who scoff at the validity of opposite-sex friendships and that they are the ones who are losing out, not you.●

# A page from a teen's diary

My mom was at the gate, seething with rage

Yamini Singh  
AIS, Noida

**I** had the time of my life today. All five of us (i.e. four of my friends and I) went to Entertainment City after school as it was the last day of exam. The experience was awesome. We tried out all the rides, though my favourite ones were 'Fallin' Out' and 'Rock n Roll'. In 'Fallin' Out', there was a vertical tower around which there was a ring, where we were seated. Up went the ring, slowly and steadily to the top of the tower. And then, it was allowed to fall down with a speed so furious that our stomachs churned and the whole world went topsy-turvy. Oh! What a thrilling experience! Before we realized, it was evening and by then, we were ravenous. So off we went to the nearby mall and ordered pasta and sandwiches. They seemed like the best sandwiches I had ever tasted. In my gay abandon, I had completely forgotten that I had to reach home by 7.30 pm, and it was 7'o

clock already. My mom had agreed to send me on condition that I got back in time. We hurried back home in a mad rush, but couldn't avoid being late by a good half hour. I knew I was in for real trouble. My mom was there at the gate, seething with rage, or so I thought. For neither did she raise her



voice, nor did she warn me with dire consequences. Instead, she firmly told me it that was the last outing that I had with my friends in class Xth and went away. I was left gaping. Probably, she thought that I was grown up enough to realize my mistake. Deep down, I knew that her anger was ephemeral and that, she would ultimately forgive me. After all, moms are moms.●

# Manners - gone in a puff of smoke?

Gone are the days of chivalrous lads and dainty dames; punks and roadsides rogues are in vogue today

Kanchan Joneja, AIS Noida

**L**illian Eichler Watson once said, "Don't reserve your best behaviour for special occasions. You can't have two sets of manners, two social codes - one for those you admire and want to impress, another for those whom you consider unimportant. You must be the same to all people." Well, Gen Y doesn't seem to be much on manners these days. To find a polished lad or lady is like finding a needle in a haystack. Etiquettes are the fundamental building blocks of a child's personality. But, good manners can't be injected or given in pills or even transferred through genes. Gen Y feels that being rude and using foul

language is cool, but fails to infer that people's outlook towards them turns in the negative by such behaviour. Gone are the days of chivalrous lads and dainty dames; punks and roadside rogues are commonplace today. Youngsters truly need to realize the worth of 'sanskars' which are undoubtedly valid till date. They must understand that being polite or courteous doesn't just earn them brownie points, rather, makes them good human beings, and that's what counts in the long run.

We should take upon ourselves the onus of improving our lot, for we do not want a future, where our kids will say, "Once upon a time, people used to thank each other!"●

# In sync with a sibling

Beyond rivalry and toy competition

Debjani Das, AIS Saket

**M**y second bundle of joy came nine years after my first born, much later than what medical researchers would categorize as 'the ideal gap'. Initial contemplation and concern grappled me like all others. Will my younger one be overshadowed by the elder? Will they ever have anything in common? But, time has dissolved all fuzzies and brushed aside the tall bookish claims. I fondly recall my elder son lobbying into my ears, "Mom, can't we give the little one oral vaccination instead of a prick?" Seeing big brother's eyes welling with tears, I realized the innate reservoir of love which knew no rivalry, no toy competition. Many times, I have observed the big hands grasp the tiny



ones' with care unbound. Both my sons are absolutely in sync with each other, seemingly unaware of the age gap between them.●

# You, me & hum

Kirti Tandon, AIS Pushp Vihar

**V**adanya, my boisterous one year old, is stiff competition for her teenage siblings, aged 15 and 16, vying not only for my attention but also theirs. The first time she said 'Ma and Pa' were lost in the celebration of the day she uttered 'bhaiya and didi'. Her eyes light up at their

sight and they keep their ears cocked to even a single wail from her, even in the deep of the night. It's a beautiful relationship, an enigma to watch and cherish. They both may have ceaseless arguments, throw tantrums and have their mood swings; but a little tentative tap on the door of their rooms or a bump heard anywhere in the house, and off they rush towards this little bundle of joy who is still learning to walk and explore her own new world.

# Counsel's Korner

*My sister is overweight and has started taking her figure rather seriously. She avoids going out and is turning into a recluse. How can I help?*

Nimisha, 15

It is good that your sister has decided to tackle her weight problem which may aggravate in future. Be her friend by joining her in walks; encourage her to join a gym or yoga center where she will follow a fitness regime and meet friends who are equally fitness aware. Help her feel good about her choices. *My younger brother is into wrong company. He stays out with his friends and neglects his studies.*

Arjun, 18

Try being a partner, not a parent. Participate in his fun, meet his friends. As a friend, you can sift the bad from good and highlight the good. Instead of telling him to study, help him study and encourage him to compartmentalize his life-have separate time for fun and studies.

*My father has remarried and I don't get along with my stepmother at all. I want to forge good relations with her, but how do I go about it?*

Ashmit, 14

Adjusting with a step parent is as challenging for the child as it is for the parent. Start with offering to help her; like laying the table and making your bed. However angry you may be, do not be disrespectful. She will eventually learn to trust and love you.

Write in to [psjamwal@amity.edu](mailto:psjamwal@amity.edu)



## Sports calendar

### Taekwondo champs



The young champions of AIS Sec 46, Gurgaon, brought laurels to the school by bagging nine medals in the Dushyant Kumar Memorial Taekwondo competition that was organized in Blue Bells Model School, Gurgaon. **Mayank Yadav, Prakriti Nanda, Rajat Yadav, and Kushagr** were awarded gold medals

in various categories. Silver medals were bagged by **Shaili Yadav, Santosh Singh, Mihir Anmol, and Vipul Yadav**. In another category, bronze medal was received by **Saloni Singhal**. Principal Ms Neeti C Kaoshik congratulated the winners and motivated them to scale greater heights.●

### Galav cricket club: inter state match

An Inter-state (school) Cricket Tournament by Galav Cricket Club (Sanjay Katoch Memorial Tournament) at Bal Bhawan Stadium, Gwalior. The cricket team of AIS

Vasundhra bagged some of the best titles in the tournament-Best Batsman, Best Bowler, Most Consistent Bowler and Promising Player and Promising Bowler of the tournament.●

### Annual Fitness Fiesta for seniors

AIS Noida organised Amity Fitness Fiesta (Senior), a colourful annual sports bonanza with great fanfare. Mr Kieran Dowling, Ambassador, Embassy of Ireland, was the Chief Guest. Special trophies were awarded to eight students for their extraordinary performance in the following fields: Vedavati Vidya Lankar Shield for Indian Heritage and Values: **Venu Bhanot** Late Baljeet Shastri Shield for Best All Rounder: **Swetha Balachandran** Dhananjay Mohan Cup for Innovation in Science and Creativity: **Vidushi Garg** Europa India Foundation Cup for Distinction in Sports: **Mohit Singh** Chairperson's Appreciation Award: **Ritika Mittal** Late Betty Malkani Award for Topping in Class XII: **Monica Chaturvedi**



Sudev Best Musician Award: **Ranbir Gandhi** Supriya Sabharwal Award for Best Artist: **Aruna Rao**.●

# Making the right moves

Parimanjan Negi has been playing chess since he was four years old

**P**arimanjan Negi created history by becoming the youngest ever Grandmaster norm as well as the youngest ever International Master of the country by winning the Hastings International Chess Congress at Hastings, England. The class IX student of AIS Saket started playing chess when he was just four years old. His father, JBS Negi, who was also Parimanjan's first coach, reveals, "He displayed exceptional sharpness even at that age, when the other kids were attempting to decipher the difference between circles and squares." True to its philosophy, the school promotes his stupendous achievements on the chequered board by providing an annual scholarship of two and a half lakhs. An unstinted academic support is extended to Parimanjan by organising special coaching for him. After he claimed the Delhi State U-12 title when he was just 6 years old, it became evident that this was no mere hobby. Parimanjan's first brush with international limelight was when he won the Asian Under-10 title at Tehran in 2002. He went on to win the Commonwealth title in Under-10 category in 2003. However, bigger success came in the winter of 2003 when he achieved his maiden



International norm during the Bad Wissen tournament at Hamburg. Parimanjan got his remaining norms in the Dubai Open, Sort Open in Spain and Essent Open in Holland in 2005. The year ended splendidly for the Delhi boy as he claimed his International Master Title in December, 2005. A simple upbringing has played a key role in shaping this child prodigy. In an age where children schedule their lives around television shows, it comes as a surprise that there is no television in the Negi household. "We did not buy a TV so that Parimanjan did not get distracted," inform his parents. Parimanjan, who looks like any other boy of his age, reads Harry Potter, Thomas Hardy and Salman Rushdie. He loves music and does not care much for fame and glory. "I want to win against the best," says the baby faced genius.●

### Tiger Woods Standing tall



**Full Name:** Eldrick Tiger Woods  
**Friends call him:** Tiger  
**Born:** December 30, 1975  
**Current position:** World's No. 1 Golf player  
**Child prodigy:** Playing from age two  
**Amateur debut:** Junior World Golf Championship  
**Professional debut:** Greater Milwaukee Open  
**Books by him:** Written a best-selling golf instruction book *How I Play Golf*; also written an instructional column for Golf Digest  
**Victories:** Amateur wins- 11; PGA tour wins- 61; European Tour wins- 6; other professional wins: 17  
**Records:** Most PGA Tour Wins  
Youngest player to win 5 PGA Events  
Youngest player to achieve No 1 world rank  
Highest prize money for one year.●

## The perfect shot

**A**mity is an institution which works to develop their pupils into all-rounders. It has been and always will be parents' delight to enroll their tiny tots in Amity as they are sure that Amity will help them carve a niche for themselves in all spheres. **Tushar Sirohi**, of AIS, sector 43 Gurgaon, has added many feathers to the school's cap. An ace archer, his shots are so perfect that he has bagged many prizes and has paved his way to the nationals. Tushar has participated in the championship organised by the all India asso-

ciation for archery. He also participated in 15th Haryana State Rural Sports Tournament at Jind, organized by the department of Sports & Youth Affairs, Haryana and making his way to the finals was a cakewalk for him. Tushar did the school proud by winning laurels at the state level championship organized by the Sports & Youth department, government of India and won a bronze medal. He proved himself at the home turf too, as he won the gold medal in the under 15 category and was adjudged the best archer at the inter school championship held at AIS



sector 46, Gurgaon. The boy with the perfect aim has a long way to tread and many more milestones to achieve. With the talent he has displayed so far, Tushar is sure to make a mark for himself.●

Principles associated with sports are in the decline mode. Politics, rascism and controversy seem to rule the field

**Aditi Seth & Arjun Hans**  
AIS, Saket

“The important thing in life is not the victory but the contest; the essential thing is not to have won but to have fought well,” said Baron de Courbertin, founder of modern Olympics some eons back, or so it seems now. For, the principles that he so fervently spoke about, are dying a painful death. Today, the whole world appears hooked to one and only principle, “Winning isn't everything, it is the only thing”. It has been a few weeks since the infamous cricket match (*read* battle) at Sydney. The Indian and Australian teams have since made up, but hard feelings still persist. Charges of referee

bias and racism have affected the game in a big way. Steve Waugh, former Australian Captain, stated that, the feelings generated by the match have the potential to change the relationship between the two countries. It makes one ponder how sports have affected politics and international relations throughout the years. Governments have often used international sports to demonstrate their superiority over others. During the Cold War, USA and USSR (former Russia), which had capitalist and communist forms of government respectively, used the Olympics to prove the superiority of one system over the other. USA boycotted the 1980 Moscow Games and USSR did the same in the 1984 Los Angeles Games. Hitler also made good

## A battlefield called playground



use of the time Germany hosted the Olympics (in 1936, Berlin) to show off New Germany after World War I. Politics seem to meander into just about every international sport, especially the

most popular ones. It is common knowledge that India and Pakistan have a long standing rivalry in cricket due to ill feelings generated by the partition. Both countries consider a victory over the

other to be a matter of vengeance. The Brazilians and the English are known for their football fanaticism; the FIFA World Cups often bring along with hooliganism, racism and controversy. There is, evidently, a gradual decline of the values and principles that were associated with sports. Politics, racism and controversy rule the field. A sport is not a playground for governments to field their policies. Sports are believed to bridge differences among people but petty politics simply destroy whatever relations are built through sports. Sportsmanship, meeting new people and making new friends are relegated to the background. How can we prevent the sporting spirit from sinking into oblivion? We must re-educate the people about sports, starting with children. They should value the principles that the modern Olympics and all competitions started with. We must do this now, for if we wait and tarry, it would be too late to restore one of the greatest pillars of civilization as we know it. ●



## Amity International School, Vasundhra

The cuckoo:  
Chitra Vardhan



# Chak de!

Divyanshu



The master blaster Amitians of Vasundhra believe, “Think big, and do big.”

leadership quality, a team comprising Skand, Dheeraj Kalra, Aman Atal and Mohit Sharma have qualified for the National level Science Project on analysis of plant growth of ‘*Periformospora indica*’ (a symbiotic and helpful fungus). Skand was also awarded the best scholar award in mathematics. He has participated in various debates and declamation competitions and has emerged victorious.

**Chitra Vardhan** is the ‘cuckoo’ of our school. This class IX student has a melodious voice that is a treat to the ears. She has brought laurels to the school by being one of the eight fortunate finalists of ‘Little Champs’ of Zee TV, pitted against one lakh contestants. She emerged triumphant in the Inter-School Singing Competition organized by Sa-Re-Ga-Ma, in which over 150 schools from Delhi and NCR partici-

pated. Chitra has been selected in ‘Voice of India’ aired on Star Plus from North India, Delhi region. At national level, she bagged the 3<sup>rd</sup> position in a programme on *Sadhna* Channel.

**Divyanshu Saxena** of class VIII, though small in stature, is chasing big d r e a m s .

An agile dancer, he has performed before personalities like Mrs. Sonia Gandhi and Dr. Man Mohan Singh. Divyanshu is not only a deft dancer but also a marvelous cricketer, having played in the Punjab League and Venu Mankad Tournament. **Krishna Lalit Singh** of class VII, is another Yuvraj in the making. He has been selected for under-16 Venu Mankad Cricket School Nationals to be held in Mumbai.

These master-blaster Amitians are doing big because they are thinking big. With their undaunted spirit and hard work, they are all set to take tomorrow in their stride!●

The youngest of all Amity schools, AIS Vasundhra has nurtured achievers, who are putting their best feet forward to conquer the world. As days are turning into years, the latent potential of the students is coming to the fore. With our heads held high, we share the achievements of our star Vasundhrites.

**Skand Bharadwaj** of class IX brings perfection to everything he touches. Apart from being an outstanding student, he is the star athlete of our school. He enthalls the audience by his oratory skills. Making use of his

# Create newspaper in a day

‘Create newspaper in a day’, a series of workshops organised in Amity schools, to harness the creative genius of children, saw the confluence of hundreds of imaginative youngsters who enthusiastically brainstormed to conceptualize a contemporary newspaper. The atmosphere was charged with palpable excitement as the young minds ideated, researched and penned down features within a given time frame, in true journo style. We salute the little wonders who have surpassed our expectations with their astounding command of the English language and in-depth knowledge of diverse issues.

## Participants

**AIS Pushp Vihar:** Surbhi Gupta, Nikita Narula, Anushka Sinha, Tvisha Goswami, Kaveri Modayil, Gunveen Kohli, Mehek Khanna, Shefali Jauhar, Aayushee Sharma, Shayla Singh, Riju Singh, Heba Safawi, Kritika Dhawan, Shivangi Kakkar, Nikita Bakshi, Dhruv Chawla, Pranjal Jain, Rituparna Chatterji, Aashna Gupta, Nikita Vijji, Aatresha Biswas, Shenjit Basu, Humaira Jhunjunwala, Shivangi

Sinha, Lavanya Thakur, Vrinda Tayal, Surbhi Agarwal, Arka Sain, Ansh Mahajan, Chitra Jain, Ruchismita Bhattacharya, Sanjivni Ahuja, Siddharth Uppal, Arushi Nagpal, Pulkit Dua, Pranjal Saxena, Rishabh Jain, Skand Bharadwaj, Aman Atal

**AIS Noida:** Saumya Dikshit, Shibani Sondhi, Divya Sohail, Ishita Ray, Vibhuti Puri, Sanchi Arora, Sanober Khan, Digant Pandey, Karan Saharya,

Rana, Bhuvan Ravindran, Nishant Roy, Prerna, Aishwarya Singh, Ambika Vadehra, Avyav Kumar, Maheep Tripathi, Kabir Lal, Venkat Shukla, Ashima Khanna, Aishwarya Singhal, Aditya Singha

**AIS Saket:** Anantika Jain, Sukriti Luthra, Agrim Singh, Aditi Seth, Mahima Kaul, Poornima Kharbanda, Sukanya Natrajan, Mallika, Puneeta Ahuja, Indroneel Das, Shagun Gupta, Sanjana Mohan, Urmimala Das, Jigyasa Chauhan, Arjun Hans, Srishti Luthra, Mohita Das, Neha Ahuja, Vishaak Saraf, Prerna Sahani, Sabyasachi Jha, Aekaansh Verma, Sidhanth Chatwal, Vidit Uppal, Siddhartha Kurapati, Akanksha Khanna, Hansika Chopra, Deeksha Kalra, Aru Talwar, Shagun, Yasha Dawra Sangamitra Apurva, Somil, Shubham, Neerja Raheja, Kritika Lamba, Sadhvi Kapoor, Pavuni, Aanchal, Mehal Jain, Kartik Khanna, Sana Kohli, Tanya Chawla, Yash, Eepsita Mishra, Anoushka Sibbal

**AIS Sec 43, Gurgaon:** Nikita Ojha, Vir Saran, Aparna Shankar, Pallavi, Shivangi, Barun Parukh, Mitali, Aishwarya, Tanya, Apoorva, Shivangi Mittal, Sajal Gupta, Bhavna, Harsh, Tanvi Bakshi, Procheta, Bhubhneswari, Saksham Agarwal, Anjali, Lavanya, Soumya, Aneesh, Neil, Shweta, Anusha, Vignesh, Avirudh, Nakul, R. Maya, Harshita Bansal, Purva, Palash Pandey, Anshul Asri, Kritika Grover, Rikita Ganju, Gaurav Ladwal, Namita Sethi, Gayatri Sreenivasan ●



Chandra, Dhruv Singhal, Siddhant Bhatia, Shantanu Dey, Ashish Sharma, Sanjay Buddhiraja

**AIS Vasundhra:** Atmaja Chowdhury, Harshit Singh, Jai Gambhir, Prapti Alok, Pratyush Kumar, Shraya Singh, Khushboo Sharma, Vivek Sadhu, Shreshtha Khare, Shubhi Singh, Swaraj Bose, Divyanshu Bhuwalka, Rishabh Karwayun, Aman Chabra, Akshay Pahwa, Aditya Negi, Aanchal Jain, Aditi Sharma, Rupali Maheshwari, Kirti Jaiswal, Saumya Josan, Osheen Srivastava, Sambhawi

Mayank Joneja, Varun Sen Bahl, Isha Chauhan, Kshitij Lauria, Ankita Zutshi, Aishwarya Sharma, Neharika Gupta, Aditya Singh, Shreya Parmar, Tazmeen Siddiqi, Bhavika Govil, Baanie Sahani, Meenakshi Singh, Piyush Kashyap, Rajat Verma, Karan Saharya, Anantdeep Singh, Divij Joshi, Parthivi Narang, Rishabh Sharma, Nikunj Rakyen, Zubin Bhatnagar, Raghav P. Mittal, Mallika Khera, Shriya Sitaram, Bhargavi Reddy, Amogh Tolay, Parth Singh, Aimesh Bakshi, Parin Agarwal, Mitul Girotra, Divig Goshi, Saniya

# Kaleidoscope

## In the land of the rising sun

A group of eighty-five prominent educators from 36 countries were invited by the Japan Foundation to visit Japan to receive training; conduct inspection in educational, cultural institutions; introduce aspects of their respective cultures to Japan and deepen the mutual understanding between the Japanese and overseas educators. The Principal of AIS-46, Gurgaon, Ms Neetii C Kaushik was a part off this elite group. During the course of the visit, a formal reception was hosted by the Japan Foundation and Overseas Educational Society of Japan inviting 27 representatives consisting of policy makers, Principals, Vice Principals and Education Officers from different countries. It was also attended by the representatives of the Ministry of Cultural Affairs. Apart from attending a briefing on the Education in Japan conducted by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology and a lecture by Mr. Welfield John, Professor of International University of Japan on modern and contemporary Japanese history, the glorious five days were spent in visiting various Junior high schools and elementary schools. On behalf of the representatives from all the countries, Ms Neetii C Koashik proposed the vote of thanks in the Tokyo Seitoku University Junior and Senior High School, which was applauded by one and all. As a brief respite from their busy schedule, the group was taken to Hiroshima and the Miyajima Islands. The visit included a trip to the Atomic Bomb site and, museum and a journey to Kyoto by the super fast Bullet Train.

Deeply impressed by the environment in Japanese schools, Ms. Kaushik firmly believes that commitment, adherence to values and perseverance can do wonders for our education system; and has plans to implement all that she has learnt in this trip, to take Amity to yet greater heights.



## Art gallery

‘Chitrakan’, an Inter-School Art Competition was organised at AIS Gurgaon-46. Fifteen schools participated in the event and the overall trophy was won by DPS, Gurgaon. The runner up trophy was bagged by AIS, Saket.

## Star drummer: Mayank

Mayank Joneja of Class IX, AIS Noida gave his practical examination conducted by a teacher from Rockschooll in collaboration with Trinity Guildhall (a part of Trinity College London) from UK. He scored an overwhelming 94% in his first ever



practical drums exam for the ‘Debut’ grade that is the first out of a total of nine grades. He has secured the 1<sup>st</sup> rank in his training at Noida School of Rock (NSR) as well as other exam centers in Delhi and other parts of the country. He took it up in March last year and has developed a keen interest in this hobby. With the Certificate of Distinction under his belt, he has already performed in a number of concerts with his band. Mayank is sure to rock the world.

## RANK & BOLT

Air India organizes an annual contest: the RANK (Race for Awareness and Knowledge) & BOLT (Broad Outlook Learner Teacher) awards to felicitate excellence in school teaching across the country. Out of the 2,200 entries received, 120 candidates were called for the interview at the State level. AIS, sector 46 is proud that six of its teachers were among these chosen few. Sonia Jagga was declared as the District winner of Gurgaon and also the State winner in the Delhi & NCR region. She was then invited to another



Sonia Jagga (L), Deepshikha Srivastav

round of interviews in Mumbai to select the National Winners and was judged a runner-up at the national level. The state winners were taken for an ambassadorial visit to Singapore. Ms Deepshikha Srivastava, also of AIS 46, was adjudged the District Runner Up.

## Bird watch

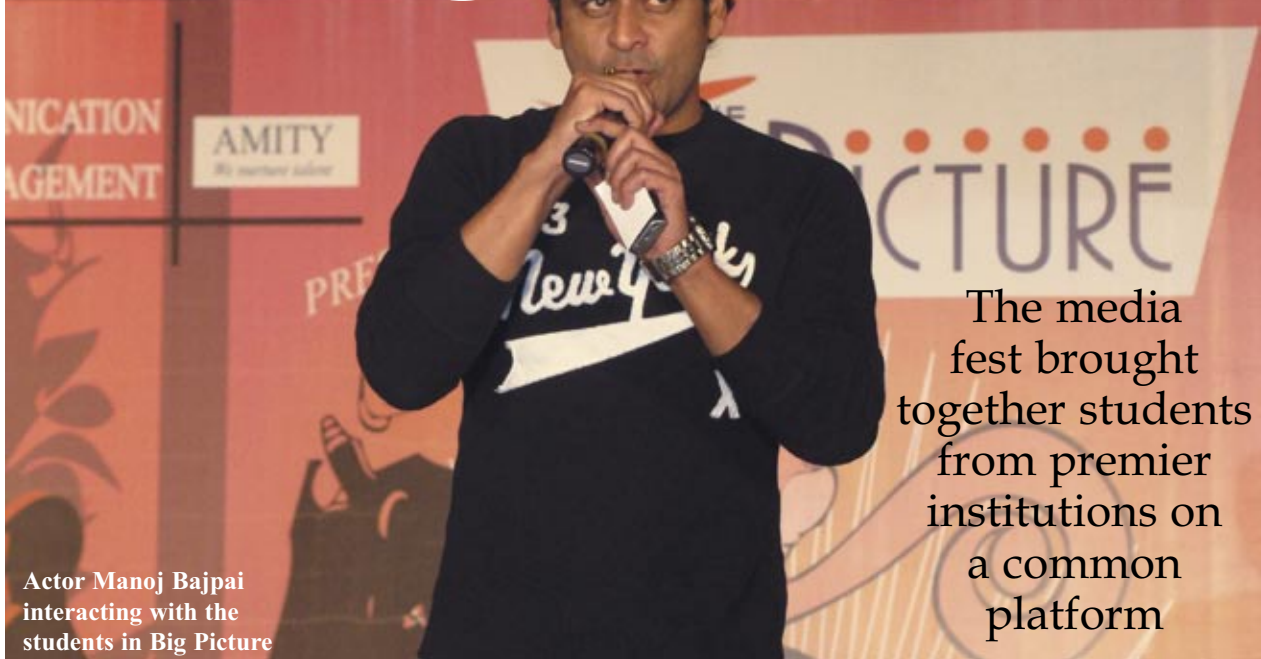


Anand Arya during the workshop

A bird watching excursion was organized by **Amity Educational Resource Centre** for students of AIS Noida and Mayur Vihar. Anand Arya, a renowned bird-watcher of Delhi, led the expedition to the **Okhla Bird Sanctuary** and spoke to the students about the beautiful feathered creatures. Armed with binoculars, camera and soaring spirits, the Amitians decided to capture and take note of the peculiar habits of birds in their natural habitat. They saw many species of birds and marvelled at their habits, feeding and migration patterns. The aim of the programme was to sensitize the students about the biodiversity around them, so that they take care of it. Truly, it was an amazing experience, one that the Amitians would remember for a long time to come.●



# The big picture



The media fest brought together students from premier institutions on a common platform

Amity School of Communication and Amity Institute of Event Management inaugurated their mega media festival 'Big Picture', a culmination of the hard work and labour of students, at Amity University, Noida. The festival brought together media students from various institutions across India to showcase their talents in various fields and interact with media professionals. The festival was inaugurated by the Chief Guest, Asha Swarup, I.A.S and Secretary-Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, followed by a seminar on 'Media and Social Metamorphosis' by eminent personalities such as Alok Mehta-Editor, Outlook (Hindi); Tara Sinha-Member Advisory Council, IIT & Chairperson- Advertising Committee, ASOCHAM; Kavita Sharma- Principal, Hindu College and Maj. Gen. Vinod Saighal- Defence Expert.

Pricking the balloon of glamour associated with the media, Alok Mehta said that people enter the media starry eyed and fascinated with the glamour generally attributed to the industry. But the hard core reality is that the stories which appear are not just a day's or hour's work, but a result of thorough



Students got to showcase their talent in contests like *nukkad natak*, face painting, etc.

investigation and research spread over several months. Shedding light on the growing importance of media, Kavita Sharma- Principal, Hindu College said that in today's globalised world, the role of media has become very important. It challenges the establishment, brings out startling facts and reveals the plight of people. She stressed that 'ideas' are the most powerful tools to change the world and they can be exercised in three ways- violence, wealth and knowledge.

Media magazine 'The Beat' published

by Amity School of Communication was also released during the two day event. A short film, 'Manjushree' made by a student on destitute children was also screened. A spectacular photo exhibition showcasing the exquisite works of students was also displayed. Students showcased their talent and creativity in several inter-collegiate competitions like concept creation, report writing, 'Khel Khel Mein- Cartooning', 'Chehre Pe Chehra- Face Painting', 'Ran Neeti- Ad Mad', 'War of Beats- Disc Jockeying', street play, torture chamber and 'Synergy-choreography'.

Several colleges and media institutes including JIMS, Apeejay, NRAI, IP University, Kamala Nehru College, NIFT, NIFD, Dayal Singh College, Atma Ram Sanatam Dharma and various Amity Institutions participated wholeheartedly.

During the evening, star cast of film 'Jugaad' based on the sealing in Delhi emanated their radiance amongst the aficionados. Bollywood star, Manoj Bajpai glamourised the evening by his presence. He, along with the director of the movie, Anand Kumar interacted with the gathering about their new flick. All in all, a rocking show!●

# The magical AURA

Over 20 colleges locked horns in the mega festival

Amity School of Business organised its 5th annual two day management festival 'Aura' at Amity Campus, Sector-44 Noida. The mega management festival aims to test the undergraduate students on strategic management, balanced and seasoned stride thus bringing forward the skills of agility, speed and multi-tasking.

H.E. Kemal Muftia, Ambassador of Bosnia and Herzegovina in India, R.M. Sharma, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Law & Justice, Vijayendra Khare, Chairman, Labour Advisory Board, Govt. of India, Yogi Patel- Chairman, Pratham (NGO); Dr. Ashok K Chauhan- Founder President, Amity University and Prof. Alka Munjal-Director, Business School of Amity inaugurated the festival.

Over 20 colleges across the country including Christ College, Bangalore; KLE College of Business Administration, Hubli; Symbiosis, Pune and SBRR Mahajan College, Mysore participated in the management festival and locked horns in management games such as Caribbean conquest, Gale force, Elixir, The devil and deep blue sea, Mighty Maynard



and Hit that plank.

**Results**

**AURA trophy:** Christ College, Bangalore

**Management Games:**

Human Resources : Symbiosis, Pune

Marketing : Christ College, Bangalore

Strategy : Mahajan, Mysore

Finance : Christ College, Bangalore

Best Manager : Mr. Ravi, KLE's Society, Hubli

**Stand-Alone events:**

Ad-Mad: Amity School of Insurance & Actuarial Sciences

Dramatics: Amity School of Insurance & Actuarial Sciences

Business Quiz: I.M.T, Ghaziabad

Western Dance: LSR College, Delhi.●

## Ignited souls of Amity

Amity School of Fashion Technology organized a Fashion Presentation 'Ignition' at Amity Campus, Sector-125 Noida. It was an endeavor of third year students of Amity School of Fashion Technology who had designed, fabricated and created the entire ensemble. The event provided a platform to the creative and innovative efforts of the students.

The fashion presentation had three themes- 'Eclectic Styling', 'Salad Days' and 'Thread to Fabric' which were presented by the students who sashayed on the ramp wearing motley



of fabrics and designs. The presentation was a perfect riot of colours.●

## Pioneering concept cars

Amity students design India's first four wheel drive Baja vehicle



Amity School of Engineering and Technology (ASET) has added another feather to its cap by designing India's first 4 wheel drive Baja vehicle. The vehicle is the proud winner of Chairman's Best Effort Award by Pawan Goenka, President, Mahindra & Mahindra India and Narain Karthikeyan, F1 racer at BAJA SAE India event held at Pithampur, Madhya Pradesh.

Team METTLE Baja vehicle and Amity HYBRID Car were on display at AUTO EXPO 2008 held at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi. The BAJA vehicle has been highly appreciated by Pawan Goenka, (President), Behram Dhabhar, General Manager (Vehicle Development) and Sudhir Kashyap,

Senior Manager of Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd.

Amity team known as Mettle comprised of 9 members: Varun Aggarwal (Captain), Abhinav Kumar, Nitin Sharma, Gundeep Singh, Sourabh Kumar, Vibhore Trehan, Akshar Tandon, Nishit Shankar, Sorabh Vij. Keshavendra Choudhary was their faculty advisor. The global Baja competition aims to excite and stimulate innovation amongst the students of Indian engineering colleges while fostering a competitive spirit.

Amity Team - Mettle's goal was to design and build an original operational prototype of a rugged single seater, off-road recreational four-wheeler catering to the non-professional, weekend enthusiast. ASET has the distinction of having qualified the grueling selection process of SAE India and was invited to participate in this highly coveted and fiercely contested event based on stringent rules. The team worked tirelessly over six months and successfully built from scratch, India's first 4 wheel Drive Baja vehicle. The vehicle was widely appreciated by industry veterans, motor enthusiasts and sponsors.●

# All in good fun

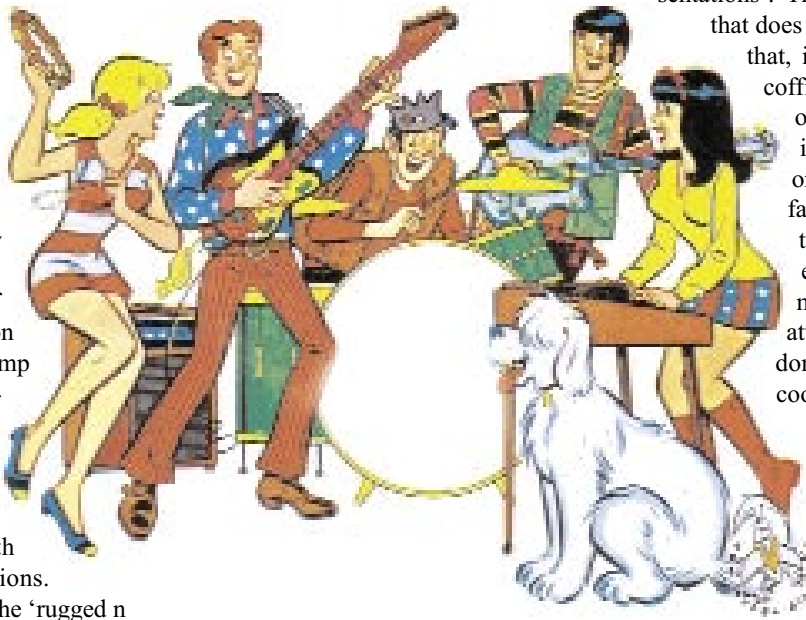
Bindaas guys, introverts or the page 3 types, you'll find them all here

Jai Mirpuri, BBA Amity Univ

A local hunk from Delhi called out to a fresher outstation *vidyarthi*, "Hey dude! Wassup?" unaware of the "Hello *Sirji!*" trend that is prevalent in small towns. But who knew that the leap from the so-called *vidyarthi* to

an ultra-cool dude would happen at the blink of an eye! Look at him now - Tommy Hilfiger glares paired with a Levis cap; ears pierced to match his gelled hair; and low waist jeans! If that's the kind of stylish transformation one is looking for, jump into my universe- Amity University where the maiden over is played by seniors who bowl over freshers with their ragging sessions. The safest place for the 'ragged n

tough' raggers is the roof top café, *Olympia*. One of the traditional ways in which a junior is supposed to ask a senior's name is by taking a pledge by raising one hand, "Sir, may I have the single pleasure, double honour and triple satisfaction of asking your great grand gracious name?"



The moment one becomes a week old at Amity, one gets an idea of the religious following of 'groups' which surprisingly come in different varieties. '*Haridwar*' is the gang of touch-me-not girls. They mostly dress up in long kurtas with their note books following them like boyfriends. The hottest group is the '*Page 3*' types, comprising big shots. They wear the coolest and the most expensive brands. Among other groups are boarders, school friends and introverts, to name a few, and the *bindaas* guy gangs!

Two concepts that are firmly entrenched in every Amityan's mind are 'attendance' and 'power point presentations'. There is a famous joke that does rounds on the campus that, if one would open the coffin of a dead Amityan, one will find him giving presentations! The only power tool that the faculty can possibly use to clip the flying feathers of the mischief mongers is to cut their attendance. All said and done, our campus is a cool place where we connect with friends, have harmless fun with juniors, play innovative games, besides learning invaluable lessons in life.●



The picture below, was taken by wildlife filmmaker Mike Pandey. Wear your thinking caps and send us a caption for this picture. The best caption will win a special prize. Email your entries to tbanerji@amity.edu



Winners of caption contest

- Ist: ‘Calm before storm’  
Ritika Bohra,  
XI E, AIS Noida
- IInd: ‘I dream, I execute and I lead’  
Mallika Khera,
- XI G, AIS Noida
- IIIRD: ‘Spotted beauty’  
Nitish Pattanayak,  
VII A, AIS East Delhi
- Special prizes
- ‘The eyes say it all’  
Chitra Jain,  
VIII A, AIS Vasundhra
- ‘Will you be my friend?’  
Raghav Jetli,  
AIS Noida
- ‘Save the soul of the wild’  
Ankush Jain,  
VIII A, AIS Vasundhra



Go Green

Conservation begins at home

Live lightly on earth and save money at the same time. Filter your tap water for drinking rather than using bottled water. Not only is bottled water expensive, but it produces large amounts of container waste. Make your own cleaning supplies. Using simple ingredients such as baking soda, soap and vinegar, you can make cheap, easy, and non-toxic cleaning products that really work. Save money and improve your indoor air quality.

Budget in the piggy bank  
The time is ripe for some financial planning

Tulika Banerji, ANN

If you stayed away from the budget, thinking it has nothing to do with you, it's time to broaden your vision. For, the budget is as relevant for students as it is for a bureaucrat or a farmer. Cutting short the heavy lingua franca that whizz past your cerebrum, here's all you need to know about budgeting your own piggy bank.

**What's hot, what's not**

**Drive away your blues:** Excise duty (tax charged on goods produced within the country) on bikes has been reduced from 16% to 12%; so two wheelers are likely to cost less. Those of you, who had been longing for a new travel companion, can now think of actually driving your dream.

**Couch potatoes:** It's not before long that the cable network will bite the dust, giving way to the en vogue dish TV. The duty cut on set top boxes (device that

connects a television to an external source of signal) simply means that more of you will have access to unlimited channel surfing opportunities.

**Networking fundas:** With wireless data cards exempted from excise duty, there's a fair chance that internet connections will be cheaper. So, if you don't have a net connection at home, its time to get one now.

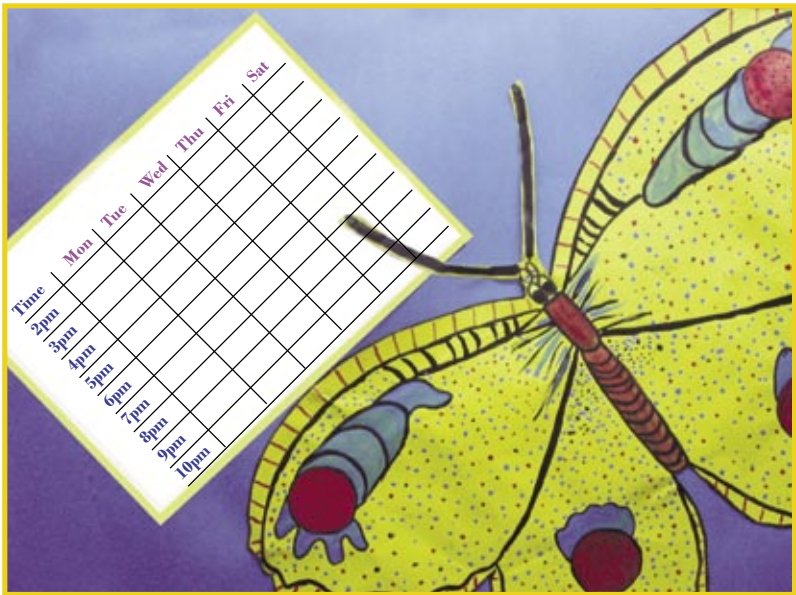
**Music mantras:** Prices of Ipods and PMPs (portable media players) are going for a dive. The excise on convergence products got reduced to 5%, which implies that all MP3 and MP4 players will attract reduced prices.

**Gaming geeks:** The budget has not taken kindly to gaming aficionados. With the excise duty going up by 4% on packaged software, locally made titles including most Play Station 2 games will be dearer. However, the good news is that, the price hike if any, is likely to be

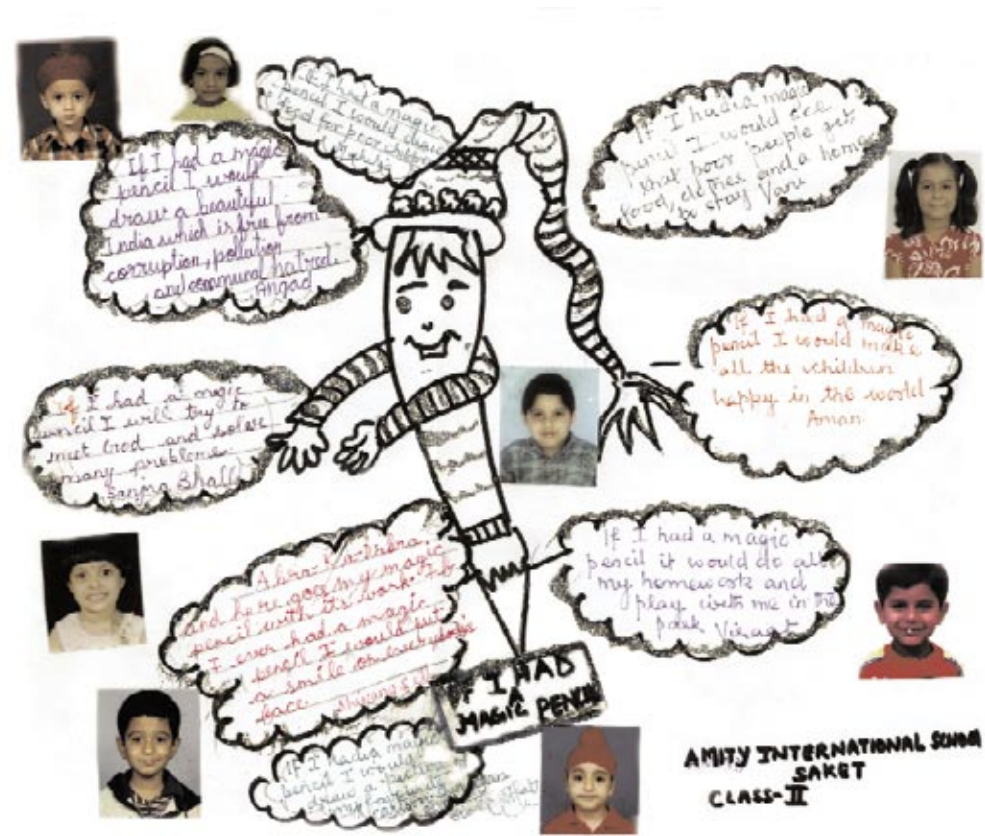


marginal and won't affect the industry that is already infested with piracy.

**Food junkies:** Junk food, or processed food, gets a duty cut of 2%. But, the relief is so negligible that it is unlikely to have any impact on the prices. So, you can guzzle down your favourite soft drinks at the same prices to beat the summer heat. Got some extra pocket money? Now you know what to do with it!●



These prize winning exam planners have been designed by Shruti Mahajan(L) and Nehal Jain (R) of class VI C, AIS Vasundhra. Congratulations to the winning duo!



Nurture  
Kiddies Korner

Love forever  
Karan Kataria, V C, AIS-43 Gurgaon

I don't know why but  
The sparkling of stars  
The shining moon  
The morning rays of the sun  
The welcome song of the birds  
Remind me of you.  
If life gave few  
It was you  
If life gave me happiness  
It was you  
If life gave me dreams  
It was you  
Believe it or not  
My love for you, my friend, is true.

Ishita Bansal, IV F  
AIS Noida



Udit Bagla  
IV A, AIS  
East Delhi



Saundrya Mishra  
V A, AIS Sec 43

Books

Abhijay Verma IID,  
AIS Sec-43, Gurgaon

Books, I feel, are my friends  
They introduce me to the latest trends  
With them I fly to my dream land  
And make beautiful castles in the sand  
So many friends, they have brought for me  
Cinderella, Rapunzel, Aladdin and Bruce Lee!



Disha Purwar  
IV B, AIS Sec 43



# The Daughtry magic: It's not over

Chris Daughtry's band is giving to the world, a new genre of rock music

**Divij Joshi & Karan Saharya** AIS, Noida

Chris Daughtry has the world's undue attention. This last year's American Idol contender did not let losing the show, hamper his dreams. Instead he went on to form his own band, Daughtry, and its new self

## Hit Singles

"It's Not Over"  
"Home"  
"What I Want"  
"Crashed"  
"Feels Like Tonight"  
"Over You"

## Awards & accolades

2007 American Music Awards  
Breakthrough artist  
Best Adult Contemporary Artist  
Best Pop/Rock album

titled album, which is now at No.1 position in both the U.K and U.S.A charts, and is certified triple platinum. Daughtry is a new class of rock music. Many have tried to stereotype its genre and style but all in vain. Because Chris Daughtry's true strength is that he is a charismatic and endowed rock vocalist. With a captivating voice like his, it's no wonder that his album sold over a million copies in just 5 weeks, becoming the fastest selling debut album of all time. Singles like 'It's Not Over' and 'Home' show mellowness in his music while songs like 'Over You' and 'Crashed' are simply foot-tapping. Winner of 3 American Music Awards, including best rock-pop album, this band is going just one way- up. Daughtry has Chris Daughtry (vocals), Josh Steely (lead Guitarist), Josh Paul (bassist) and Joey Barnes (drummer).●



# Was Kane truly able?

A classic read of all times: Archer's Kane and Abel

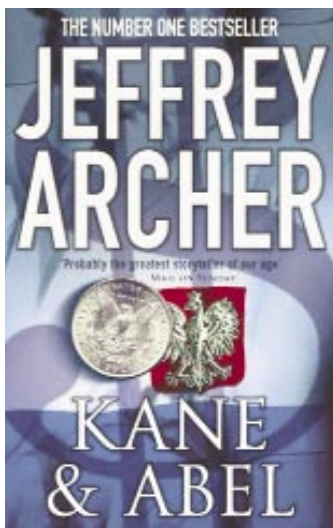
**Karan Saharaya** AIS, Noida

There are very few novels which leave an indelible mark on the readers, and change the way they think. There are even fewer which set amazingly high benchmarks for other peer novelists. Jeffrey Archer with 'Kane and Abel' in 1979, redefined the twist-in-the-tale plot, and made it so interesting, that the book completely grips the reader. The story revolves around two men, "...born on the same day on different ends of the world...with nothing else in common", whose paths and fates clash, and they intend to destroy each other. Abel Rosnovski is a strikingly intellectual Pole, hotelier and son of a dying Baron, raised by poor farmers, caught in the pandemo-

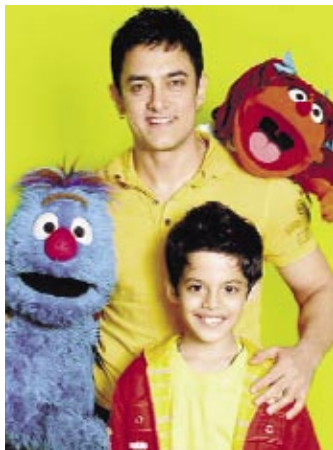


Author: Jeffrey Archer

nium of the World War, who migrates to the United States. While, William Lowell Kane, a street-smart son born in a Boston Brahmin family, brought up with a silver spoon in spite of having lost his parents early in



life, is determined to be the world's best banker. Soon their paths cross. Exciting, cynically witty and extraordinary, it is a book that has already captivated people's imagination, and continues to do so.●



Tulika Banerji, ANN

Amir Khan's directorial debut, *Taare Zameen Par* is soul stirring. The movie dwells on the dilemma of a dyslexic boy, Ishaan, for whom

# Twinkling stars

his imaginary world means much more than the usual rut of letters and numbers. The movie unleashes a compelling message conveyed by the powerhouse performance of Darsheel Safary, urging guardians to be more sensitive and careful in their approach toward kids. For those who have seen the movie, it must have stirred their hearts enough to change the way they look at children; for those who haven't, it is absolutely a 'must watch.' With Darsheel's record breaking stance of being nominated

alongside Bollywood biggies, and subsequent winning of the Best Actor (Critic's choice) in the Filmfare Awards, he sure has re-written history. This not only goes on to establish that children are super talented and

**No handicap can stop one who has the will and determination**

competent enough to challenge all grown ups; it also sends a message loud and clear, that no handicap can stop one who has the determination and will power. The sky is the limit!●



# Hamara pyara Shin Chan

He lightens hearts by his whimsical, perky antics

**Bhuvan Ravindran & Kanchan Joneja** AIS, Noida

It's 3 pm and Rohit has just got back from school. Dumping his bag on the bed, he rushes towards the television to watch his favourite cartoon, Shinchan! He is not alone. Accompanying him are his mother and college going sister, their eyes glued to the TV. That's Shinchan for you; a serial which is a recent entry in Indian television as compared to the ever popular 'Tom & Jerry' of yesteryears. Shinchan is now a household name just the way Tom and Jerry were. Kids, adolescents and even a few liberal minded aged, have turned into ardent Shinchan fans. Shinchan is the darling of everyone's heart! He is a 5-year-old boy who is extremely cute, perky, whimsical and ready to

face the world. He lightens everyone's hearts by his mischievous antics such as, watching and talking to beautiful girls like adults. Shinchan treats his pet dog, Shiro as his brother and keeps on irritating his mother, Mitsee, with his arrogant acts, as a result of which, she is forced to be indignant. He is in the habit of using wrong vocabulary during a conversation, which leads to hilarious moments in the show. Much of the humour in the series, stems from Shinchan's occasionally weird, unnatural and inappropriate use of language, as well as from his inappropriate behavior. A typical gag involves Shinchan confounding his parents by using the wrong phrase for the occasion; for example, saying "Welcome home!" when he

arrives instead of "I'm home!". And remember, when he once misunderstood wet mud to be chocolate! Funny, isn't it? And of course, how can we forget his futuristic approach towards having capsicum. He thinks that having capsicum will make him as plump and neglected as one. Shinchan loves to immitate his favourite TV character 'Action Kamen'. The zoo episode is everyone's favourite in which Shinchan tells his mom that he saw a monkey cleaning his home, which in reality, was the zoo keeper cleaning the cage! This quirky little character always wants to have a playful time and in doing so, he does things that create maximum vexation in others (I guess you know who), but still, we all love him, don't we? ●

# Little champs, not any more



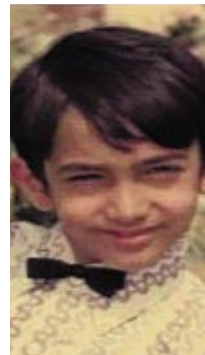
## Hansika motwani

Current teen sensation Hansika motwani began her career as a child artist and has appeared in commercials, television serials and films. Her first film as an actress is 'Aap ka Suroor' with singer-actor Himesh Reshammia.



## Aamir Khan

Aamir Khan appeared as a child artist in Yaadon Ki Baarat in 1973. In the 2-minute appearance in the title song of the movie, he enacted a role which won a million hearts. The film was directed by his uncle, Nasir Hussain, and Aamir played the younger role of Tariq, who again was his uncle.



## Aftab Shivdasani

He played the younger versions of two of the best known stars - Amitabh Bachchan and Aamir Khan. Aftab was seen in Mr. India which also starred choreographer-director Ahmed Khan as a child artist. Subsequently, he did many films like Shahenshah, Chaalbaaz, Awwal Number, C.I.D. and Insaniyat before making his grown up debut in Ram Gopal Varma's 'Mast'.

## Urmila Matondkar

Urmila's debut film as a child artist was not Shekhar Kapur's 'Masoom', as is commonly known, but Shyam Benegal's 'Kalyug'. Interestingly in her debut film, Urmila didn't play a girl but a boy. In Masoom, she became a popular face as the eldest of the kiddo trio. Her song 'Lakdi Ki Kathi' is still one of the most popular children songs. Jugal Hansraj who played Urmila's kid brother in the movie, was paired opposite her in his film 'Aa Gale Lag Jaa'.

