

Crafting with a purpose

Power Of Development In You: Glueing Lives, Building Biz, Healing All

Priyamvada Rao

AIS Mayur Vihar, XII D

One are the days when DIY (Do It Yourself) was limited to school projects or hobby classes. Today, DIY has evolved into a cultural movement that is reshaping lifestyles, work habits, and community connections. From painting a room to repurposing old garments or even cultivating a kitchen garden, DIY brings financial savvy, personal satisfaction, and social impact under one roof. Here's how:

Saving smart

DIY is an economic powerhouse. In 2021, the global DIY home improvement market was valued at \$848.2 billion and is projected to grow to \$1,278 billion by 2030. The reasons are clear: DIY saves money by eliminating the need for expensive labour, with home projects potentially cutting costs by up to 83% compared to professional services. For middle-income households, DIY has become a sustainable practice, aligning with the conscious consumption movement. It promotes healthier demand and production patterns, making sustainability a natural outcome. Additionally, DIYers report improved workplace efficiency, thanks to enhanced time management and resource utilisation skills. These

competencies often lead to career growth and higher incomes, underscoring the broader financial and professional advantages of embracing the DIY culture.

Finding peace

DIY is more than just productive - it's therapeutic. A 2010 review by the USA National Library of Medicine highlights how creative activities, such as crafting, reduce anxiety, improve mental agility, and enhance quality of life. Regular engagement in crafting has been linked to higher life satisfaction and a stronger sense of purpose than even high-paying jobs. DIY also serves as a natural antidepressant for individuals with PTSD, anxiety disorders, or depression. Its repetitive tasks have a meditative quality that lowers cortisol levels, promotes positive well-being, and activates brain reward pathways. Beyond the emotional benefits, crafting improves motor skills, offering

both mental and physical benefits.

Creating connections

DIY is a social connector. Online platforms like Pinterest, Reddit,

and Instagram have thriving DIY communities where enthusiasts exchange ideas, instructions, and inspiration. Pinterest's dedicated DIY and crafts section is a lively hub for like-minded creators to collaborate and share their projects.

DIY also fosters community support. Initiatives like crafting for charity - knitting blankets for shelters or making handmade greeting cards for the elderly - showcase the power of DIY in building stronger communities. For instance, during the COVID-19 pandemic, a study noted that DIYers sewed over 10 million masks in the United States, supporting the strained healthcare workers and highlighting how DIY can respond to societal needs.

The DIY evolution

DIY has grown from a home improvement activity to a tech-savvy sector. The OG DIY 2.0 - a resurgence of interest in traditional craftwork - emerged in the mid-20th century with people

using raw materials to create or repair items for cost-saving and creative purposes. DIY 3.0 integrated digital tools, blogs, e-commerce platforms, and online tutorials, making DIY more accessible globally. The latest DIY 4.0 represents the sector's digital transformation. Equipped with technologies like AI, IoT, augmented reality (AR), and 3D printing, DIY has entered a new era. For example, DIY retailer Hornbach's online project platform provides step-by-step guides, while home improvement chain OBI offers digital services to enhance user experience.

E-commerce has been a significant driver, with global retail e-commerce sales forecasted to grow from €4.8 trillion in 2021 to €7.7 trillion by 2026. In Europe, Germany leads with €5.2 billion in gross online revenue in 2022.

DIY is no longer just a skill to develop - it has become a way of life. From saving money and promoting sustainability to fostering creativity and community spirit, the culture of do-it-yourself equips individuals with tools for self-reliance and social impact. Whether you're improving your home, boosting your mental health, or contributing to your community, DIY empowers you to craft not just projects, but a more meaningful life. [GT](#)



THE GT POLL

SRK has finally won National Award! But the internet thinks he deserved it more for Swades than for Jawan. So which role deserved it more?

- a) Swades
- b) Jawan
- c) Can't say

To vote, checkout our Instagram page @the_global_times

Coming next

Whispers behind the paint

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[@the_global_times](https://www.instagram.com/the_global_times)

What's inside



Bridging worlds with science
Dr Archana Sharma, a CERN scientist behind Higgs boson discovery, shares how passion for STEM can ignite change and bring us closer to cosmos.

...more on page 3



Wall of fame
Ever wondered what secrets lie within the ancient stones of world's most famed walls? Uncover the strength and surprises hidden in these mighty marvels.

...more on page 7



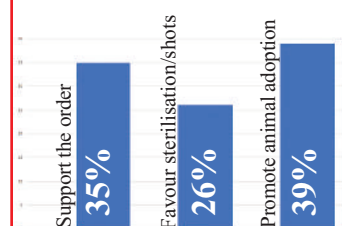
Era of Swadeshi 2.0
Read on to gain insight into the importance of 'Make in India' as discussed during panel discussion organised by YP team of AIS Mayur Vihar (2024-25).

...more on page 10

POLL RESULT

for GT Edition August 18, 2025

Following Supreme Court's directive to relocate all stray dogs from Delhi's streets to shelters, citizens should:



Results as on August 23, 2025

Around The WORLD

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



USA

RoboDoc

Google and NASA have jointly developed the 'Crew Medical Officer Digital Assistant,' an AI-powered system designed to support astronauts in managing health issues during extended missions to Mars and the Moon. Early trials indicate the system delivers reliable medical guidance, with ongoing refinement aided by medical professionals. Beyond space exploration, the technology holds promise for deployment in remote and inaccessible regions on Earth.



UK

Delulu in dictionaries

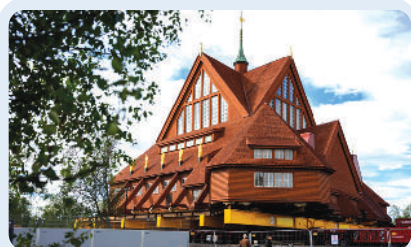
Cambridge Dictionary has added over 6,000 new entries, many from Gen Alpha's digital slang. Terms such as 'skibidi,' and 'delulu' reflect evolving linguistic landscape shaped by social media platforms like TikTok. Lexicographers note this surge in youth-driven expressions mark a shift from ephemeral slang to enduring vocabulary. Raised in a media-saturated environment, Gen Alpha and Gen Z increasingly influence mainstream English. Experts suggest these additions signify a broader cultural integration of internet-born lingo technology, and identity in contemporary society.



INDIA

India's Agni power

India successfully test-fired its nuclear-capable Agni-V missile from Odisha's Chandipur on August 20, marking a major leap in its strategic deterrence. The indigenously produced ballistic missile has a strike range of over 5,000 km, covering nearly the entirety of Asia, including northern China, as well as parts of Europe – making it a key component of India's regional security. Advanced navigation and new-age Multiple Independently Targetable Re-entry Vehicle (MIRV) technology allows Agni 5 to strike several targets with a single launch.



SWEDEN

Kiruna Church relocated

The historic Kiruna Church, constructed in 1912, is being relocated 5 kilometres across the city on August 19 due to structural risks caused by over a century of iron ore mining beneath the old city centre. The move, expected to span two days, will proceed at a pace of 500 meters per hour using a specialised wheeled transport system. Locals have dubbed the event 'slow TV,' reflecting its steady progress.



SWITZERLAND

Plasticalypse

International negotiations to combat plastic pollution have once again ended without resolution, as delegates remain divided over production limits versus recycling strategies. The talks, held in Geneva, failed to yield a consensus, with each proposal criticised as impractical. The impasse comes amid alarming growth in global plastic output - from two million tonnes in 1950 to nearly 475 million tonnes in 2022.



INDONESIA

Historical amnesia

The government has postponed the release of a revised 10-volume 'official history' series following widespread public criticism. Historians warn the project may omit or distort key episodes, including the 1965 - 66 anti-communist massacres and the 1998 anti-Chinese riots. In response, young Indonesians have adopted pop-culture symbols -such as the pirate flag from One Piece - to defend historical transparency.



CHINA

Metal and muscle

The first-ever World Humanoid Robot Games was inaugurated in Beijing, featuring over 500 robots from 16 countries competing in events including football, sprinting, kickboxing, and obstacle races. This marks a significant milestone in robotics and AI innovation. Despite technical setbacks like collapses and reliance on human intervention, the competition highlights China's strategic commitment to advancing AI capabilities.

News Flash

► **THAILAND:** Government initiates crypto-to-baht conversion for tourists ► **NORTH KOREA:** Kim Jong Un hankers rapid nuclear progression ► **JAPAN:** Defence Minister discusses defence drones with Turkey

Bridging worlds with science

Dr Archana Sharma On How To Connect Classrooms To The Cosmos

INTERVIEW

Parneka Chowdhry, XI J &
Ekam Sibia, XI I, AIS Gur 46

Dr Archana Sharma is a senior physicist at CERN, Geneva, and a global advocate for STEM education and scientific innovation. With degrees in nuclear and particle physics from BHU, Delhi University, and the University of



Dr Archana Sharma, senior physicist, CERN

Geneva, she has been instrumental in the discovery of the Higgs boson as part of CERN's CMS experiment. From being a curious student in India to becoming a leader in global science, she sits to share her inspiring journey with GT.

Lighting the spark

My love for science began in the seventh grade. I still remember the moment my physics teacher praised me for answering a question about magnets. Back then, without internet and advanced technology, we could only play with cardboard boxes and tea packets to explore the world. But that recognition made me realise that I want my future to be just like hers!

Bridging the gap

When I left India 37 years ago to study abroad, I noticed a stark difference in the education systems back at home and away from it. In India, I was a top student, but abroad, I found myself lost. The system there was so hands-on. You touched, built, experimented, and then came to theory. So, the transition was tough. I did not speak the language, but I knew I had to make it through somehow. And so, I enrolled in a second PhD, where I focused entirely on hands-on instrumentation. It helped me bridge the theoretical knowledge from India with the practical expertise, an essential component needed in global labs.

Facing Gender Barriers

Women are smart and capable, and we work incredibly hard, but we also have to cope with a lot of societal expectations. I was almost denied the opportunity to work at CERN unless I agreed to get married. Despite these hurdles, I consider myself to be fortunate enough to have a strong family support. Still, even with a stellar academic record behind me, I often felt like an outsider. It took time to find my voice, but I eventually did.

Encouraging curiosity

Indian teachers are trying hard to improve STEM learning, but the system still pushes students to chase grades. We have systems which are not fully utilised, like the Atal Tinkering Labs. Imagine if each lab could build a table-sized detector to observe cosmic rays! Schools across India could collect data and connect it to the origins of the universe! Today, you can run simple experiments at home. Start science clubs, do small projects, and share your results. And most importantly, reach out to educators in India or abroad. Someone will surely reply.

Science & spirituality

The 'God Particle', or Higgs boson, is not about faith but evidence. As scientists, we believe what we can measure. The Higgs boson explains how other particles get their mass. Think of it this way — Why is an electron light and a proton heavy? That mystery is answered by the Higgs field. It's called the 'God Particle' because it behaves like it's granting mass to everything else.



Dr Archana with GT reporters

CERN's global impact

People often ask how CERN helps the world. My answer is simple: without CERN, there would be no 'www'. The World Wide Web was born from the need for global scientists to share data. Today, every click we make — from social media to finance — relies on that. CERN's research also contributes to medical technologies, space exploration, autonomous vehicles, and even the arts. This is why I am deeply committed to building bridges between Indian talent and global science.

Message for Amitians

Read widely. But most importantly, read about Indian scientists. Everyone knows Marie Curie but ask someone to name an Indian woman scientist and they would most often be unable to do so. That is why I wrote 'Noble Dreams of India' and later turned it into 'India's Science Geniuses'. These are the stories we need to celebrate; stories that are ours. Don't just dream — do. You have every right to be in the lab, at the front of discovery, changing the world. Dream it, and then do it. That is all it takes.

Book Review

Synopsis: This story is set in the gloomy town of Protectorate, which has orthodox and bizarre rules made by leaders known as the Elders. They enforce a cruel tradition; each year, the youngest child of the Protectorate must be abandoned in the forest to appease a witch they claim will otherwise destroy them. But this rule was a means to subdue people, and the Council of Elders didn't think there was a witch at all. In truth, she did exist: Xan, a kind hearted witch who rescued each child that was sacrificed. One year, she accidentally feeds moonlight to a baby girl called Luna, filling her with powerful magic. Xan raises Luna alongside a tiny, lovable dragon and a wise swamp monster. Meanwhile, Antain, a young man who once served the Elders, begins

A sip of moonlight

Book: The Girl Who Drank the Moon

Author: Kelly Barnhill

Published in: 2016

Genre: Fiction, Fantasy

questioning the terrible tradition and the authoritarianism in the innocent town. As Luna's powers grow, truth emerges and the lies that blind the Protectorate begin to unravel, challenging the Elders' dark magic.

Why it's worth reading: This story beautifully blends fantasy, emotion, and wisdom into a timeless tale. It follows the story of a misunderstood witch, a magical girl, and a town

shaped by fear and lies. Barnhill's lyrical prose creates an enchanting world while subtly exploring various themes like love, sacrifice, hope, and the power of truth. The characters are layered and relatable, appealing to both young and adult readers. It's a book that sparks imagination while leaving you with deeper reflections on kindness, courage, and the stories we choose to believe.

Iconic quote: "A story can tell the truth...but a story can also lie. Stories can bend and twist and obfuscate. Controlling stories is power indeed."

Rating: 5/5

Review by: Anika Tripathi

AIS Noida, VII I

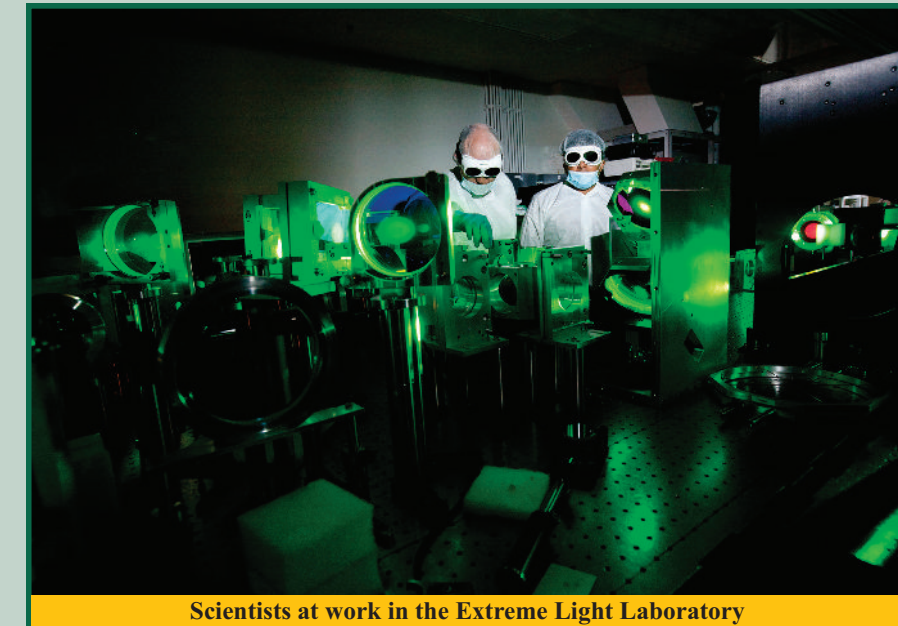


The Sun's got competition

Checking your phone in the middle of the night and being momentarily blinded by its brightness is startling - now imagine a light brighter than the surface of the sun, created inside the Extreme Light Lab. **Gavin Khattria, AIS Mohali, VIII A**, brings to you **part three** of GT's new **Extreme Science Labs** series, where we travel from the scorching arid deserts to sub-zero polar regions, from deep underground to towering mountain peaks, exploring laboratories that host some of the most daring experiments ever conducted.

Where is it situated?

The Extreme Light Laboratory is in the University of Nebraska–Lincoln (UNL), USA. This state-of-the-art laser lab spans three floors in the university's Behlen lab building and it is also home to the Diocles laser, which is one of the most powerful lasers on the planet. Nebraska, where the lab is located, has a humid continental climate, meaning it has hot summers and icy winters. But the temperatures in the lab are always controlled to lower temperatures in order to keep the laser beams stable and ac-



Scientists at work in the Extreme Light Laboratory

curate, for when it comes to science, even the tiniest of fluctuations may skew results.

Testing the unbreakable

This lab has produced the brightest light on Earth. Imagine a light so bright that it shines a billion times brighter than the surface of the sun. It has also observed changes in a vision-enabling interaction between light and matter. Those changes led X-ray pulses with the unique potential to generate images with very high-resolutions for medicine, science, security, and space exploration as well. These laser beams can help us see things at an otherworldly scale!

Built for the extremes

Since extreme science requires extreme gear, the lab boasts of temperature, vibration, and humidity control systems to avoid any disruptions. Inside the lab are three different laser systems: Diocles (0.2–0.7 PW), Diocles high rep-rate (100 TW), and Archimedes (10 TW), each more powerful than the last. And there are three target rooms, two of which are radiation-proof, and the target chambers are designed to maintain high-vacuum environments. Given the sensitive nature of their experiments, special control rooms allow scientists to operate everything from a safe distance.



Lab legends

What makes this lab truly legendary is its creation of the brightest light ever made on Earth. The researchers focused the laser to a point where it could change the way light behaves — something scientists had only theorised about before. This groundbreaking experiment was even published in the journal Nature Photonics.

Why it matters

The powerful light it creates may be used to capture super high-resolution images that help in everything from detecting cancer to scanning distant galaxies. It's also paving the way for new physics experiments with high-intensity lasers. In short, the lab is showing the world that when science meets imagination, even light can be pushed to new extremes. To sum up, this lab shows to humanity that we can do anything with the right resources like getting stunning pictures of faraway worlds in our universe.

So, the next time you see crisp images from space or lasers doing the impossible, just know, the brightest breakthrough might have come from Nebraska!

Read Play and Win
88

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

Q.1 What is the tagline of the page 1 top story?	Q.2 Archana Sharma is a _____ at CERN, Geneva.	Q.3 Which historic structure in Sweden has been relocated due to structural risks?
Q.4 The Extreme Light Laboratory is situated in _____.	Q.5 How many walls are featured on page 7 educational poster?	Q.6 Who crafted the comic strip on page 8?
Q.7 What is Advika Chaudhry's favourite book?	Q.8 What was the cause chosen by the YP team of AIS MV for YP 2024-25?	Q.9 What is the genre of the album, 'Love Yourself: Answer'?

Name: Class: School:

Results of Read Play & Win-87: **Aviraaj Singh Bajaj**, AIS MV, III A; **Kiansh**, AIS Vas 6, II C; **Bhuvika Jain**, AIS Gur 46, VIII I

Flash-on, science!

Capturing Data, Not Just Images

Kriti Verma, GT Network

If you thought selfies and scenic pictures were all that a camera could do, then you must look into scientific photography; where you will explore how scientists can see things beyond their staggering spectacles.

Microscopic media

Think of scientists as the paparazzi snapping glamorous close-ups of germs, tissues, and even those villainous viruses! Photomicrography helps them study samples, understand diseases, and create new medicines.

Capturing cosmic celebs

Astrophotography is your ticket to cosmic selfies with galaxies as

your background. With telescopes looking like space-age cannons and cameras that love long stares, astrophotographers capture celestial treasures, making the sky look more fabulous.

Split-second shots

F1 fan must love those 'quick-capture' photos clicked using ultra-fast shutters, giving scientists a VIP pass to notice what is too quick. Vice versa, in time-lapse, transition is highlighted, so stars move like shooting stars, clouds sprint across the sky.

Beyond the boundaries

Infrared photography allows us to see heat, not just light. We can see plants glow and feverish people becoming heat-beacons. It's used



in environmental science, surveillance, and medical imaging.

Forensic flashes

What if Sherlock Holmes was a photographer? UV photography reveals secrets unseen to the common eye: hidden bruises, surface damage, and chemical traces.

X-ray and MRI

Another vital scientific photography includes MRIs for soft tissues in the brain and X-rays for bones that diagnose medical conditions. Every click saves a life!

It's a SNOOZZZE

In The Hour-monious Symphony Of Clockverse

Simran Jain

AIS Gurugram 46, Alumna

Lights, Camera, Clocks, Rrrrolling and... Action!

Cameras flash onto the face of the panel moderator; none other than the 'Pendulum from the old Grandpa's clock who is about to engage the guests in a very interestingly whimsical way!

Pendulum (with a hint of envy, pluck, and competition): Let's welcome Raani saa-

hiba — the mistress of time! (everyone's on tenterhooks, faint noises become deeper) TIK TOK TIK TOK...enters the 'second hand' but still the first.

Second hand:

Hurry up! Where are the others?

Minute hand

(shouting backstage): Your majesty, give me a second, will you?

Second hand: But that'll ruin the whole Babylonian theory...1-minute equals 61 seconds...Nah Not happening!

Minute hand: Not literally silly. (All lose focus as the peal of the bell strikes their ears, DING DONG! It's the Hour hand! the well known lazybones laggard.)

Hour hand (breathing restlessly): Oh ho finally finished...

Second hand: Shut up! You get rest for a full hour.

Pendulum: I missed you all, especially the dance of my swing

while you all played with time elegantly.

Minute hand: Had it not been for this filthy modernisation bringing a new change, we would have worked hand in glove.

Pendulum: Oh, but how did you guys find time to be here today?

Second hand: Just stop moving, it's simple as that, Chintu doesn't even bother looking at the time.

Hour hand: I'm afraid he is at home today. I am quite surprised.

Minute hand: That's the trump card folks. There's no way Chintu would get up early, it's a weekend! He wants to sleep more.

Pendulum: (with curiosity)

(emotional music gets louder)

Hour hand: Following my daily routine, I get so stodgy without you grandpa pendulum, I miss your presence. (sad music plays)

Pendulum: I do too, my dearest. They could have removed the royal second hand... WHY ME?

Second hand: It's no pride in oscillating left and right aimlessly. I do not fathom it so much.

Pendulum: Hah! As if you have one? Your insignificance in this noble work is my biggest victory.

Second hand: (offended by pendulum) *Ek second ki keemat tum kya jaano pendulum babu!*

Minute hand: Wah Wah Bachan Sahab. Kya baat ki hai aapne!

Second hand: Ghadi Ka Taj Hota Hai Ek Second!

Hour hand: Wah Wah Wah!

Second hand: Stock Market Main Raj Karta Hai Ek Second! Hmph!

Minute hand: (starts clapping) Wah Wah...

Pendulum: Why did you stop so soon?

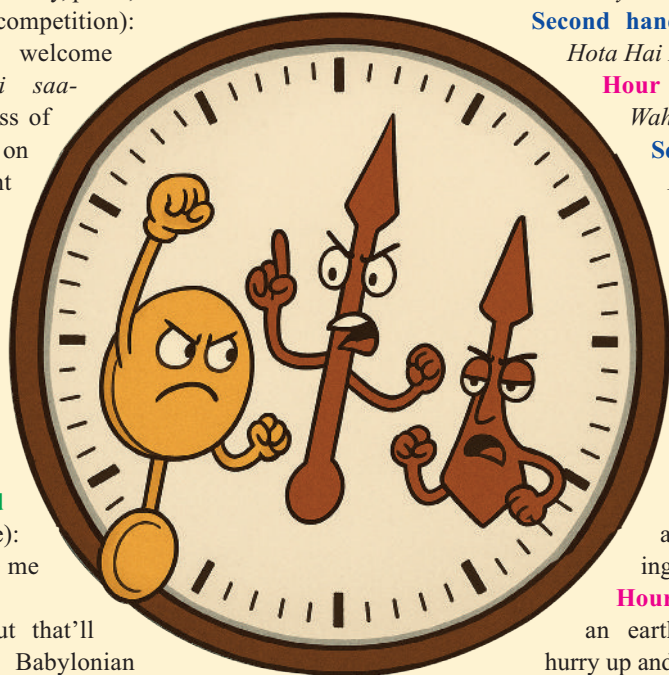
Minute hand: Don't you feel anything? It is shaking... (Dha Dha Dha)

Hour hand: I think it's an earthquake, we must hurry up and run!

Second hand: Quick, there isn't much time left to chit chat!

Pendulum: It's not the time to be punny. (Everything starts to vibrate...zzzzz. It's 6 am and Chintu had put on an alarm for the UPSC season. Large fingers move towards them with a bang!)

All together: Move back to positions before Chintu notices us. (But oh, it is just a snooze, that nearly saves all the hands today.)



Who's the man of the hour?

Hour hand: NOT MY MAN, though he is the reason why we are here today. For he and his unabating procrastination cost Shyam uncle an alarm clock.

Pendulum: Ah I see. So how do you guys pass your time here?

Second hand: (flexing his muscles) Before the gym boss question me, my key to fitness is running 24*7. (sad music starts)

Minute hand: (teary) Short form content is only what I can afford!



The art of consistency

Its All About Showing Up Everytime

Zoya Sikander

AIS Noida, XI C

We've all tried to stick to one goal, only to end up in chaos. But should we stay trapped in that cycle? Take toast: what's perfect for you might be underdone or burnt for someone else. Consistency is like building a wall, the design is up to you, but it's the cement that holds everything together. We can't be perfect from the start, so let's talk about building consistency.

Ditch the delay

First, start thinking less and acting faster when it comes to completing simple chores and everyday tasks. Our mind categorises those tasks as 'unimportant,' and we convince ourselves to delay them and never do them. What was a thread is now a tangled ball of yarn, and we ultimately lose the spark to complete the task. In the end, we feel wasted and feel guilty about the laundry pile.

Tiny triumphs

Just like we throw out the instruction manual, thinking we'll be ok without it, and then

desperately look for it later, we often disregard the small tasks. And that? Not a great idea. Finishing small tasks feels rewarding, like when your mom finally approves the onion you picked. That's rare. Bask in it.

Work now, whine later

Consistency builds responsibility, and we don't need daily motivation—just smart energy and management. Think of it this way: we all are untroubled to clean the dishes occasionally, but when we're told to do it, it awakens our inner revolution.

'Done' beats 'Perfect'

Boost consistency by setting your mood first—listen to music, meditate, or self-talk. Pair boring tasks with something fun, like grooving to music while you clean, to make them less draining. Discipline is key, but don't forget to enjoy the process. Everyone needs a little sriracha now and then!

Mistakes are very normal, but real progress means accepting slip-ups and still showing up. Forget perfection; focus on doing what requires action. Done beats perfect -Especially when it is about dirty dishes!

Adventure builds leaders



Dr. Amita Chauhan
Chairperson

With a vision to nurture confidence, resilience, and leadership in Amitians, the Amity Sports Foundation introduced Adventure Sports in 2007 with a leading outdoor activities company, with AIS Gurugram 43 proudly pioneering the initiative. Since then, the initiative has been expanded across all Amity branches in India. A wide range of in-house and days outing camps and activities have been designed exclusively for Amitians. These ac-

tivities are guided by trained mentors, enabling students to challenge themselves in a safe environment. A diverse array of activities including trekking, mountain climbing, cycling, rock climbing, exploring flora and fauna, cultural immersion, biodiversity expeditions, and even adapting to food and survival challenges has been thoughtfully curated to build character, enhance teamwork, foster eco-awareness, and enhance communication skills. These experiences increase self-confidence and offer deep engagement with nature and culture.

Besides, the jungle exposure provides a unique encounter with animals and birds living in harmony, guided by fascinating communication systems and habits, providing a practical, life-long experience.

In addition, Amity Indian Military College organises annual military training camps where Amitians undergo immersive experiences in discipline and survival skills with activities like firefighting, tent pitching, field craft, map reading, etc. Students also trek together, share bonfires, and bond with peers, learning values of cooperation, inter-dependence, patience, and perseverance. Adventure sports are our way of making Amitians familiar with the world of risk-taking and adaptability. 🇮🇳

The 'DIY' comeback



Vira Sharma
Managing Editor

This edition's top story once again brought back a flood of memories for me. It reminded me how 'Do-It-Yourself', or DIY as we call it, has always been more than just a hobby. It is knowledge passed down through generations. From rural India to the ancient Mayan civilization, people found ingenious ways to repurpose and create. Old clothes were stitched into rugs, quilts, or wall hangings, all of which were not just practical but also deeply personal.

I still recall my sister turning her daughter's childhood clothes into a quilt cover – a work of art that carried emotions stitched into every fold and pattern. Similarly, newspapers transformed into papier-mâché toys, and even leftover rice or chapatis were reinvented into new dishes! What was then termed 'jugaad' for making the most of measly resources that most people had, is now #trending, all backed by the promise of sustainability.

Today, this culture is making a huge comeback. Origami boxes, crochet items, upcycled crafts, and stitched souvenirs are reappearing not just as pastimes but as entrepreneurial ventures. What was once a necessity has now become creativity-driven business, supporting an entire DIY economy powered by personalization, sustainability, and emotion. I often come across beautiful handcrafted gifts – crochet bags, stitched covers and hand-painted décor. In the age of AI, it is reassuring to see this revival, because to me, DIY reflects the 'real intelligence', or simply put, our capacity to innovate with our hands and hearts. 🇮🇳

Lights, camera...mediocrity?

Stars Shine, Stories Dim...But Audience Holds Still

Rajbir Singh, AIS Gur 43, Alumnus

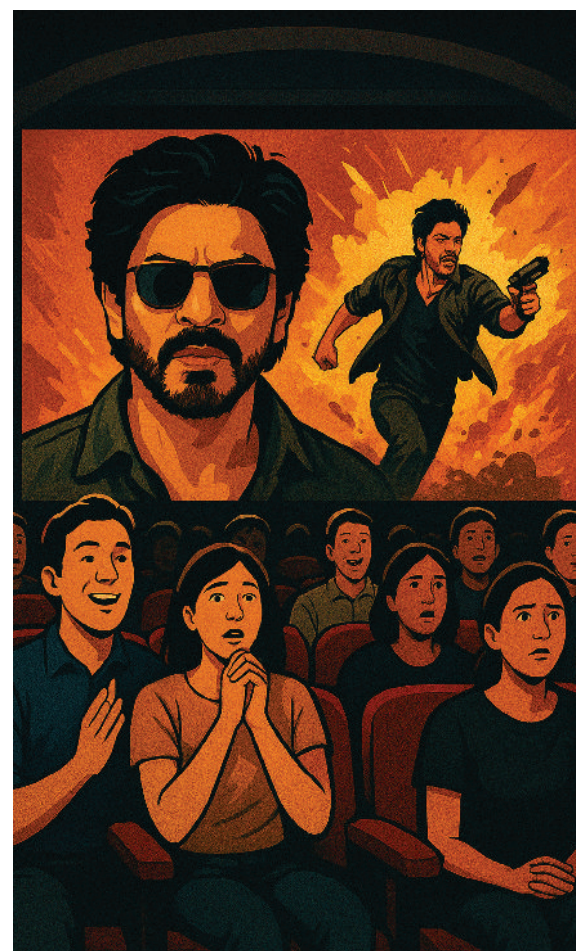
When films like Pathaan and Raees smash box office records despite being critically underwhelming, it's hard not to wonder: what are we really celebrating - cinema or celebrity? With their exaggerated action sequences, half-baked plotlines, and questionable direction, these films rode entirely on the shoulders of superstar Shah Rukh Khan. And the audiences? We clapped, we cheered, and we showed up in numbers - not for the story, but for the star. This trend reflects something deeper: our growing obsession with faces rather than the narrative of films.

As viewers, we often forget that cinema is a craft - a combination of story, vision, and performance. But today, the craft often takes a back seat, while star power drives the wheel. Gadar 2 is another example. The original was powerful, emotional, and resonant. The sequel? A loud echo with none of the emotional depth. Yet, theatres were packed again. Why? Nostalgia? Blind loyalty? Or simply a lack of better choices? This isn't a 'Bollywood only' problem. Hollywood has its share too. Films like The Nun 2, The Meg 2, and Expendables 4 were all hyped. But peel back the layers, and all you get is recycled scripts, jump scares that don't scare, and a formula that's long expired. The Nun 2, in particular, felt like a horror video game stuck on a loop: ghost jumps, grabs a face, screams - repeat. Compare that to The Silence of the Lambs or The Conjuring, where terror came from tension, not volume.

So, what changed? Us. The audience. We've become passive consumers rather than thoughtful viewers. When Martin Scorsese said

"cinema needs to be saved," he wasn't being dramatic - he was being honest. Directors like him, along with Ridley Scott, Quentin Tarantino, and Christopher Nolan, view cinema as art, not just a product. But art needs an audience that demands more than glam and gunfire.

Thankfully, a few films still fight for that balance. Oppenheimer reminded us what it feels like to be immersed in a story that matters. Barbie broke stereotypes while telling a layered, witty tale. Mission: Impossible 7 proved that action can still be thoughtful and gripping. These



films succeeded because they respected their audience and the true art.

It's time we take some responsibility. If we continue to support mediocre films just because they feature our favourite stars, we send the message that effort does not matter. But when we choose well-made films like Cuttputli, which cleverly subverts a predictable murder mystery - we give cinema a chance to evolve. The truth is, cinema isn't dying - it's waiting for us to value it again. Let's not let good storytelling become a forgotten art. Let's be the kind of audience that demands Forrest Gump, not just another Fast & Furious. Because in the end, the future of film lies in the hands of the audience and those behind the camera. 🇮🇳

Dear Editor,

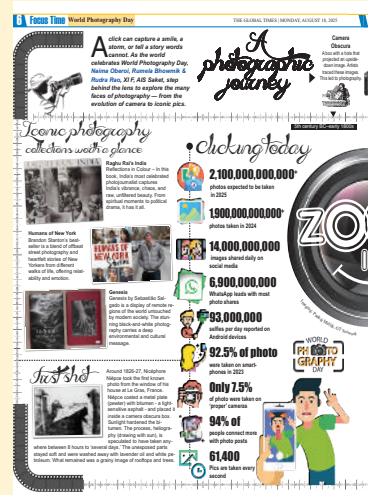
Every edition of The Global Times is a pleasure to read, and this one was no exception. Though each page was rich with beautifully written pieces, the intricacy of the special pages, that is, Pages 6 and 7, in the edition dated August 18, 2025, caught my eye particularly. It weaved together the facts on photography, leaving no space unused. Every corner was adorned with fascinating information about photography and cameras. The piece touched upon the historical significance of many famous photography collections and



GT M@il

photographs, which crafted an intriguing read. A picture embellishes the story that may otherwise go unnoticed, and from small snippets of facts to the timeline that showcased the development of the camera, this edition emphasised on the significance of World Photography Day and the importance of pictures in our daily lives. Thank you, The Global Times, for providing us such knowledgeable reads.

Krishna Rastogi, AIS Saket, XI C



Issue: August 18, 2025

WALL OF FAME

Hadrian's Wall

Marvelength: Spanning 117 kilometres across Northern England.

Historic era: Despite being massive, it was built in just 6 years by 15,000 Roman soldiers between 122-128 AD - an engineering marvel.

Building blocks: Made of stone and turf, the wall marked the northwestern frontier of the Roman empire and included milecastles, forts, and turrets to support the troops.

Now: The wall is an archaeological site and a walking trail, drawing visitors interested in Roman history and ancient military strategy.

Fun memorial: George RR Martin has credited a visit to the site in the early 1980s as inspiration for the The Wall in his fantasy series 'Game of Thrones'.



Ever wondered what secrets lie within the ancient stones of world's most famed walls? Travel through time with **Diya Mishra**, AIS Vas 6, Alumna, and uncover the stories and surprises hidden in these mighty marvels of history.

Berlin Wall

Marvelength: It stretched for a total length of 155 km around West Berlin.

Historic era: Construction began in 1961 and was mostly finished by 1989.

Building blocks: The wall consisted of concrete barriers up to 3.6 metres high, topped with pipes and guarded with watchtowers, anti-vehicle trenches, and barbed wire. It fell on November 9, 1989, marking the end of the Cold War.

Now: Remnants of the wall now stand as memorials and museums, reminding the world of the importance of unity and freedom.

Fun memorial: In 1990, a massive rock concert was held by Pink Floyd near the ruins of the wall. About 3,50,000 fans attended it.



Kremlin Wall

Marvelength: It stretches along the Moskva River, around 2,235 yards.

Historic era: The current Kremlin walls, constructed from red brick, were built between 1485 and 1516.

Building blocks: Originally built of wood, it was rebuilt using white stone, before being reconstructed with red brick by Italian architects in the 15th century.

Now: It's a government centre, cultural symbol, and home to churches, palaces, and national treasures.

Fun memorial: The Kremlin, enclosed by the wall, was camouflaged during WWII to resemble a residential area, with fake doors and windows painted.



The Great Wall of China

Marvelength: Approximately 21,000 km long, it's nearly half of the Earth's circumference.

Historic era: Construction took over 2,000 years. Most famous sections date back to the Ming dynasty (1368-1644).

Building blocks: Made of stone, brick, tamped earth, and wood, the wall includes watchtowers, barracks, signal towers, and fortresses.

Now: It has transformed from a military defence structure and symbol of imperial power to a touristic monument rooted in folklore and myths.

Fun memorial: It has graffiti! Tourists have scratched names into it for centuries - the oldest graffiti is over 500 years old.



Western Wall (Wailing Wall)

Marvelength: Located in the Old City of Jerusalem, the tallest portion of the wall above ground is 40 metres.

Historic era: It dates back to late first century of BCE, making it over 2,000 years old.

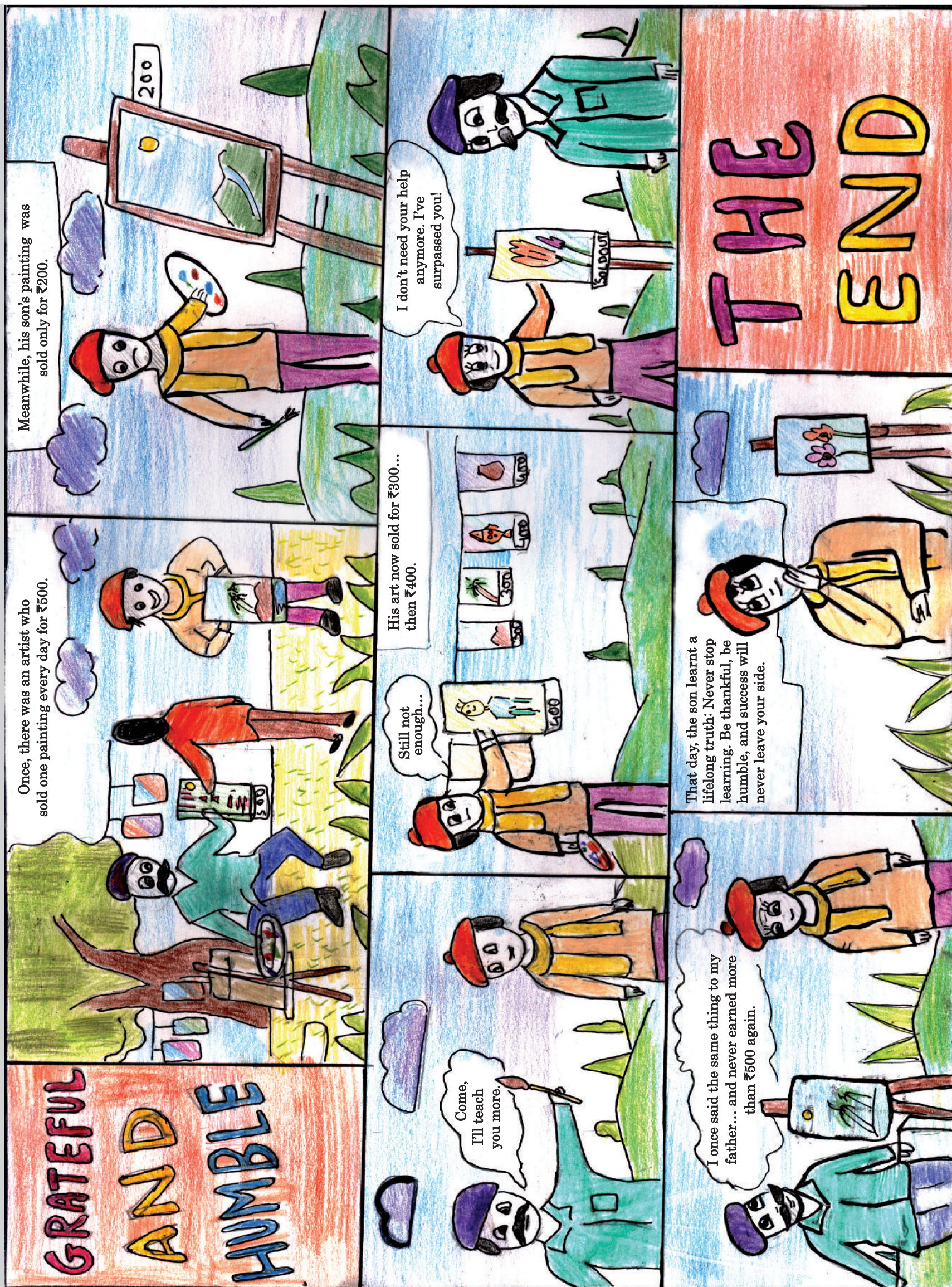
Building blocks: The wall is made of limestone blocks and displays Herodian masonry with finely carved margins.

Now: A central place of prayer and pilgrimage for Jews, it also serves as a symbol of Jewish connection to their past.

Fun memorial: People can send prayers online, and a robot places them into the wall for them! People pray there 24X7, all year round.



Inspired by the timeless tales shared by **Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan**, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools & RBEF, GT presents **part X** of a vibrant comic strip series, crafted by **Iksha Bhaduriya, XI A & Shivanshi Sharma, XI B, AIS Gwalior**



Locked, but not lost



Short Story

Adhira Verma, AIS Noida, IV L

Once upon a time, in a far-away kingdom, there lived a girl named Namasvi. Her hair shone like a river of golden sunshine and her eyes gleamed bright green. But not far from her happy home, in the shadowy forest, lived a wicked witch. Her tangled hair hung like withered vines, her nails were sharp as claws, and her heart was filled with envy. One morning, while Namasvi wandered through the fields, the witch crept up behind her. With a hissed spell, she cast Namasvi into a deep sleep. Under the cloak of night, she carried the girl away to a secret cave deep in the woods. There, with a wave of

her twisted hands, she **conjured** a shimmering cage of magic to trap Namasvi forever.

When Namasvi awoke, she found herself imprisoned. Though fear stirred in her heart, she did not cry. Instead, she began to think of ways to escape. That night, while the witch snored on a pile of rags, Namasvi tried to reach for the key dangling from the witch's pocket but it lay just beyond her grasp. And then, she noticed something strange. Each time the witch exhaled, tiny sparks of magic floated from her lips like glowing fireflies. The sparks always drifted toward the pocket where the key rested. Namasvi's mind raced. The key must be bound to her breath, it follows the magic of her slumber.

And then, she noticed something strange. Each time the witch exhaled, tiny sparks of magic floated from her lips like glowing fireflies.

Quickly, she pulled a single golden strand from her own hair and tied it into a delicate loop. As the witch breathed again, Namasvi held the strand steady, letting the sparks guide it like a thread of light. Slowly, carefully, the glowing strand floated toward the pocket. With trembling hands, she tugged at the loop until, cling, the hair snared the ring of the key. Ever so gently, Namasvi drew it out.

Just as the key slipped free, the witch stirred. Heart pounding, she pressed it to the cage lock and the bars dissolved into golden dust that swirled around her like stars before fading away. She ran through the dark forest until at last she saw the lights of her home. Breathless, she rushed into her parents' arms and told them everything. Word of the witch's wickedness spread through the village, and the people's anger forced the jealous witch to retreat into the deepest shadows of the woods. 🇮🇳

So, what did you learn today?

A new word: Conjure
Meaning: To summon



Aarohee with her tikki

Hearty soyabean tikki

Aarohee Gandhi, AIS Pushp Vihar III A

Ingredients

Soyabean granules(boiled)	1 cup
Green peas (boiled)	½ cup
Bread slice	1
Gram flour	½ cup
Cumin powder	1 tsp
Black pepper powder	1 tbs
Ginger-garlic paste	for taste
Salt	for taste
Breadcrumbs	to bind

Procedure

- To begin with, mash soybeans, peas, bread and gram flour in a big bowl.
- Add all the spices and salt to the above bowl and mix well.
- Roll the mixture into little balls and press them flat similar to the shape of a tikki.
- Using a heart-shaped cutter, cut the flattened tikkis.
- For crunch, cover the tikkis in breadcrumbs.
- In a pan, heat oil and shallow fry the tikkis on a medium to low flame or until they turn golden-brown.
- Once done, transfer the hearty soyabean tikkis on a plate and serve them hot with a sauce of your choice.

It's Me

KNOW ME

My name: Advika Chaudhry

My Class: II B

My school: AIS VKC Lucknow

My birthday: March 17

MY FAVOURITES

Teachers: Alka ma'am and Priyanka ma'am

Subject: English

Friends: Shiyanshi Srivastava and Tarush Pandey

Game: Chess

Cartoon: Bluey

Food: Shahi Paneer

Mall: Phoenix Palassio

Book: Gopi Diaries by Sudha Murty

MY DREAMS AND GOALS

Hobby: Dancing

I like: Classical songs and music

I dislike: Being ignored

My role model: My elder sister



I want to become: An IAS officer

I want to be featured in GT because: I want people to know about me.



Unnat Vohra

AIS Saket, IV A

Q. What did one pencil say to the other on the first day of school?

A. Looking sharp!



Q. What does a book do in winter?

A. It puts on a jacket.



Q. Why do calculators make a good friend?

A. Because you can always count on them.



Q. How do bees get to school?

A. On the school buzz.



Q. Who is everyone's best friend at school?

A. Princi-Pal.

Painting Corner

Prisha Goyal
AIS Gurugram 43, X D



Era of Swadeshi 2.0

'Make In India' Is More Than Just A Vision, It's A Necessity Of Our Times

Youth Power is an annual social leadership programme organised by The Global Times, where different teams from Amity schools engage in varied social causes in several stages. One of them is 'Panel Discussion' where experts from different walks of life discuss several aspects of the chosen social cause. Here's presenting **Part I** of this exclusive series, based on the panel discussions organised by YP teams for the year 2024-25, and a host of opinions as experts share their insights on 'Make In India', the cause chosen by YP team of AIS Mayur Vihar.



The panellists emphasise on building a self-reliant India

Ayurveda - 100% 'Made in India'

Panellist: Dr Nikhil Jirankaligkar

Ayurveda specialist

"Ayurveda is a 100% 'Made in India' industry - from innovation to raw materials, manufacturing, marketing and export. Ayurveda stands as a shining example of India's self-reliance. Let me share two stories that highlight



the global significance of Indian goods. Egyptian mummies were buried with muslin cloth from India. In another example, a Roman king demanded

3000 bags of Indian pepper from a defeated Greek king as payment. This shows how highly Indian products were once regarded. Today, despite Ayurveda's global recognition, it requires a lot of R&D investment. With innovation, we can strengthen this ancient system and make it more accessible worldwide."

MSMEs need to grow & thrive

Panellist: Divya Gandotra
Digital marketer

"We need to create a sustainable ecosystem that allows micro, small and medium enterprises (MSME) to grow and thrive. If we support local brands and



encourage conscious consumerism, we can create a ripple effect. MSMEs have a lot to offer - from generating employment, to helping businesses

grow. Small businesses are thriving by registering on e-commerce platforms and reaching customers worldwide. Whether it's handmade soap or millet-based snacks, people are proudly exporting goods marked 'Made in India' due to the digital boom. Moreover, due to government support, farmers and artisans can now sell directly to consumers, bypassing middlemen."

Part I



Expert Speak

Craftsmen are India's strength

Panellist: Dushyant Handicrafts promoter

"When I launched my silver jewellery brand, I met countless artisans whose beautiful handicrafts were either undervalued or exploited. I knew I had to change that. We began offering better wages and ensuring fair value for their crafts. We also introduced permanent employment opportunities to provide them with job security. We organise regular training sessions to keep artisans updated on current trends and global de-



mands. Indian-made goods were once seen as inferior, but not anymore. With strong government support and quality manufacturing, our image is transforming globally. Like China, what they did 30 years ago, we too can be a global manufacturing hub, but only if we support and empower our craftsmen consistently - not just locally, but also on a global scale."

Buy local, make a difference

Panellist: Amit Bhati
Farmer

"I would like to urge everyone to rethink what goes on their plate. Today, it is a fad to buy imported fruits and packaged snacks, but they come at the cost of local farmers and your own health. Fresh, organic produce grown using cow dung and traditional techniques is not only healthier but also supports our soil and farmers. By choosing local, you're investing in a healthier future and stronger rural economy. Farmers already face so



many challenges - sometimes our crops get infected, or we face floods and droughts. Compensation is often much less than what is needed for a farmer to survive. We also deal with a lot of taxes. So, the way you can support farmers is to buy local - it will make a much bigger difference than you can imagine."

Govt is backing manufacturers

Panellist: Harshit Aggarwal
Chartered accountant

"With initiatives like 'Make in India', our government is trying to support local manufacturers. Govt-aided innovations and boost in local production have strengthened our economy as well as increased India's GDP and has generated employment in the industrial sector. Under a scheme called Credit Guarantee Fund Scheme, SMEs have been provided with collateral-free loans. Moreover, low-interest loans are available



so that they can invest in capital, and research and development. This shift towards local production not only reduces our reliance on the service sector but also empowers Indian startups, driving them to grow and contribute to the economy. By supporting domestic manufacturing and innovation, you'll help build a stronger, self-reliant India.

Crescendo 2025

A Melodious Zenith And Euphoria Of Music



Budding artists and their harmonious rhythmic notes resonate at the music competition

AIS Mayur Vihar

The school reverberated with euphonious sounds at the 19th edition of Crescendo, the annual inter school western music competition on July 25, 2025. The event envisioned by Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and RBEF, as a platform to kindle raw creativity and rhythmic intelligence of the young minds, witnessed participation of nearly 300

musicians from 24 schools across Delhi and NCR. The participants contested in four categories namely, band, duet, solo and group, each of which were judged by a panel of jury comprising renowned musicians Ashton Vaz and Harsh Bharadwaj with alumni Samarth Iyer and Debaditya Halder. The performances showcased musical finesse of the students. Amitians clinched awards in various categories. AIS Gur 46 bagged third prize in Duet, while

AIS Gur 43 bagged third prize in group category. In individual categories, AIS Gur 46 won the award for Best Bassist; AIS Saket was declared Best Keyboardist; AIS Vas 1 was chosen as Best Guitarist; AIS Gur 46 became the Best Drummer and AIS PV won special mention. The title for upcoming vocalist was grabbed by AIS Saket while AIS Vas 6 was chosen as upcoming artist and AIS Gur 43 was declared as the most entertaining band at the music competition. [G T](#)

Inspiring young minds



Amitians bring alive the reign and times of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj in a theatrical performance

AIS Vasundhara 6

On August 12, 2025, a team of 15 students from the theatre team made it to the six teams across Delhi /NCR selected by the Ministry of Culture to perform a theatrical show on the topic *Swatantra Manch: Desh Ke Naam*, held at The Pradhanmantri Sangrahalaya. They were selected after a rigorous selection process involving all the schools of Delhi/NCR who had to submit a

script and a short video clip of drama, based upon the life of a leader whose vision had inspired the youth of today. Amitians' play, based upon the life and ideology of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, who inspires the youth of today with his beliefs in *swarajya*, justice and equality, was applauded by the audience. The chief guest for the event was Padmashri awardee Murlikant Rajaram Petkar, India's first paralympic gold medalist

swimmer on whose life the movie Chandu Champion was based.

The selected students were namely Anika Vishnu (VIII), Arshiya Teotia (VIII), Mihika Mahajan (VI), Anwita Jain (VI), Adira Gautam (IX), Presha Gupta (IX), Parth Singh (VIII), Hussain Abbas (VIII), Shourya Varshney (VIII), Shashwat Jain (VIII), Aarush Mishra (VII), Atharv Walia (VII), Prakrit Kankan (VII) and Arjun Ahuja (VII). [G T](#)



Students interact with Surbhi Singh on nutrition and health

Living healthy life

AIS Gurugram 46

A special session on 'Nutritious and Wholesome Eating' was conducted for Class VII & VIII by Surbhi Singh, senior wellness and nutrition consultant and general manager (operations), Medanta Wellness Clinic, Gurugram. The aim of the session was to create awareness among students about the importance of healthy lifestyle and mindful eating comprising a nutritious and balanced diet. Students were informed about the

dangers of junk food and how it can lead to obesity and long-term health problems. They were also given practical tips for planning balanced meals, reading food labels, and making smarter choices while snacking. Besides, they were encouraged to include more fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and water in their daily diet. The session ended with an interactive Q & A session during which students asked several questions about diet during exams, immunity-boosting foods, and the right portion sizes. [G T](#)



AIMC students enthusiastically present a skit at the Raising Day

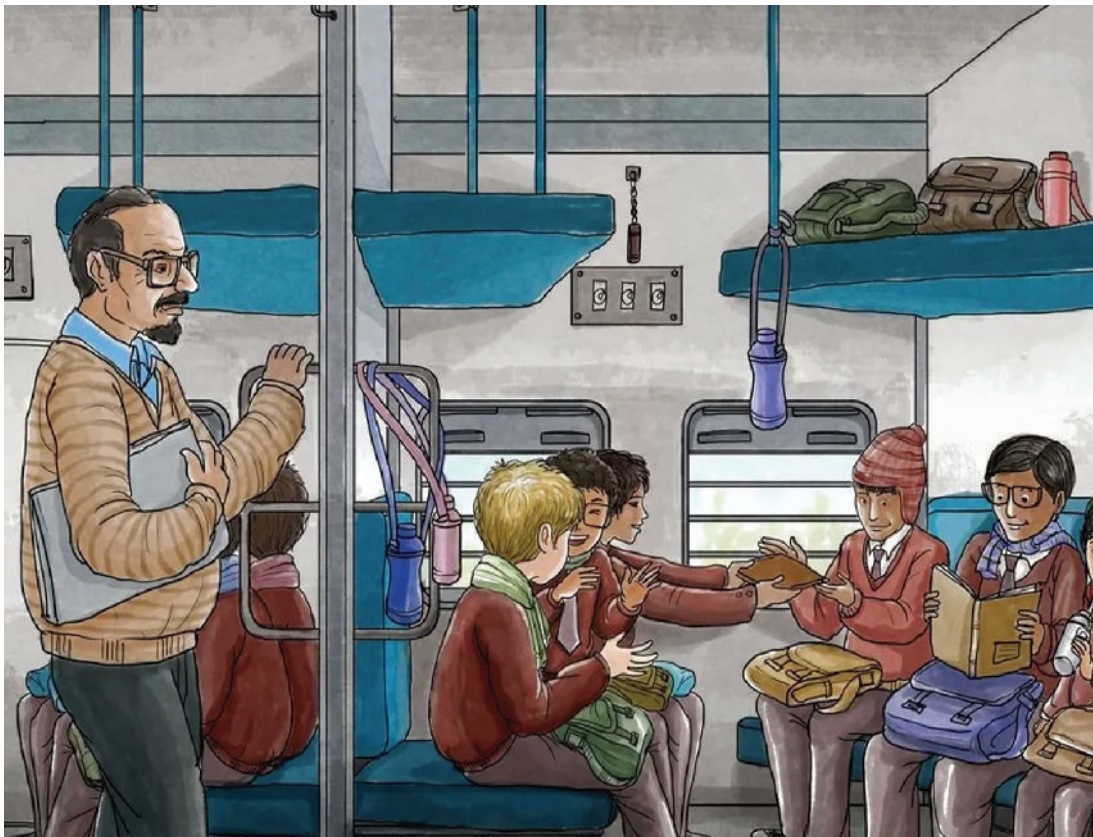
An ode to valour

AIMC Manesar

Amity Indian Military College (AIMC) celebrated its 21st Raising Day on August 2, 2025, with pride and festivity. The occasion was graced by Brigadier SK Bahl, VSM, and the first Commandant of AIMC, as the chief guest. This year's theme, 'Atmashraddha' (Self-Esteem), focused on the power of inner confidence and self-belief. The programme began with a soulful *saraswati vandana*, followed by ceremonial lamp lighting by chief guest, Headmaster, Col R C Patial, and other dignitaries. The headmaster then presented annual report, outlining the institution's achievements over the past year.

This was followed by an array of cultural performances including a Hindi skit on Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, a yoga presentation, an English skit on Gautam Buddha, an engaging magic show 'Myth vs Science', and a dynamic symphony and dance performance. An informative talk on 'Hygiene Practices for Youth' was also delivered. A key highlight of the event was alumni meet, wherein ex-students shared about their experience of learning at AIMC.

In his address, the chief guest commended dedication and passion of students and urged them to aim for even higher goals in life. The event finally concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by the Head Boy Sanskar Tomar of Class XII.



Chaos on wheels

The Unofficial Handbook Of Train Travel Chaos

Saumya

AIS Noida, XI I

Who doesn't love to travel? While most of you might enjoy road trips and a few elites opt for the skies, I, for one, can't get enough of trains. There's just something about the chaos: the loud chatter, the shaky network, the occasional hygiene horror (Aaaah! Where's the soap?). It's all oddly thrilling! Why? Because every train ride comes with characters — the kind that leave you with stories (and mild emotional damage). From chasing moving trains to accidentally boarding the wrong coach, I've seen it all. And now, you lucky rookies have been chosen to carry on the legacy. So, as any seasoned traveller would say — let's begin with who to avoid.

The 'Chew-baccas'

We have all met that one kid who insists on eating his chips twenty-four hours a day, being noisy enough to raise the dead. Now I'm all for the 'awws' and 'ahhs' as he parades around with his Crax chips, it's a societal obligation. But let's face it — this isn't a Karan Johar movie, and he's definitely not the cute kid from Kabhi Khushi Kabhie Gham.

Carriage confessions

There are some uncles and aunties who have either seen too much of life or never gone outside their hometown before. They seem to be bored enough to willingly distribute their biodata among strangers like they're asking to be robbed. And if the journey is long enough, you will get to know everything from their childhood home to what their *mama ke ladke ke bacche* are doing nowadays! Every. Single. Thing.

Snora the explorers

Never trust the cute-looking *dadi ji* carrying bags full of candies and funny stories. Sure, she looks harmless... but don't be fooled. She could be a kidnapper. And if not that, well... she probably snores. Not the gentle kind you can ignore, or even the annoying kind you learn to live with. No, her snores are loud enough to summon people from neighbouring coaches, only for them to freeze mid-step; because who wants to be the villain who wakes up a sweet old lady? Her age already works in her favour.

The Janices

Oh. My. God! There they are! With their latest Samsung phones and constant vlogging these ladies

may really make you nauseous. Alright, I guess you can take it when they scream and cry at every small inconvenience... like buffering videos. But do they seriously expect that the staff will increase the temperature of the entire train just because they don't feel like taking a grey blanket?

The ticket tricksters

Who here grew up loving Tom and Jerry? Well, my friend, you're in luck. Watching the TT's futile attempts to catch these ticketless tricksters is pure nostalgia in motion. It all begins with the bait — an empty berth — and soon unravels into a full-blown drama, complete with a spicy conversation filled with elaborate lies and pointless questions, followed by a breathless chase through the coaches, and, of course, a dramatic escape. But take it from me — as entertaining as it is, you definitely don't want to get caught in between the crossfire.

So there you have it - a guide to the chaos, comedy, and characters of travelling by train. Pack light, keep your wits about you, and for the love of all things peaceful... do not forget to carry earplugs. Because no matter how cautious you are, the stories will find you.

Album Review

Self-love calling

Album: Love Yourself: Answer

Artist: BTS

Released on: August 24, 2018

Genre: Pop, R&B



Synopsis: 'Answer' is the second part of the 'Love Yourself' trilogy. This album links the key songs in each album under this series into a single theme. It is about loving yourself, the experiences of growing up, and the thrill of adolescence. The songs are written like a novel with an introduction, rising action, twists, and conclusion. The story begins when one falls in love and goes through moments of heartbreak, loss, and slander. It isn't until the narrator looks within that he truly understands the meaning of love. The underlying message of the trilogy is that it's necessary to accept our flaws before we expect it from someone else.

Why is it worth listening: This album tells the deeply personal story of the band's complex journey with fame, delivering the universal message of unity and

healing. With powerful themes of acceptance and spiritual awakening, the album champions love above all. Packed with chart-topping hits and musical brilliance, it is another unforgettable masterpiece from the band.

My favourite song: 'Magic Shop' is my personal favourite because it is dedicated to the fans. The song is a metaphor for a magic shop which supplies happiness to its listeners.

Rating: 4.5/5

Review by: Chitralekha

Achinta Borah

AIS Vas 6, Alumna

(Chitralekha is pursuing pursuing BA (Hons) Mathematics from Gargi College, DU.)

GT Travels to Indonesia



Navika Tanwar, VII C, and Viransh Tanwar, III B, AIS Saket, pose with their copy of The Global Times in the Ubud Monkey Forest, Bali, Indonesia. This natural sanctuary, intertwined with Balinese culture, spans across approx. 12.5 hectares and boasts of 1,200 long-tailed macaque monkeys.

Got some clicks with GT while on the go? Get them featured! Send them to us at gtravels@theglobaltimes.in