

"India has two million Gods, and worships them all. In religion, all other countries are paupers; India is the only millionaire."  
-Mark Twain

## INSIDE



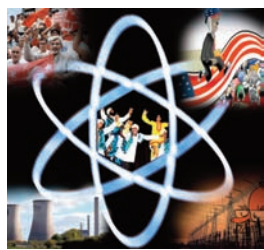
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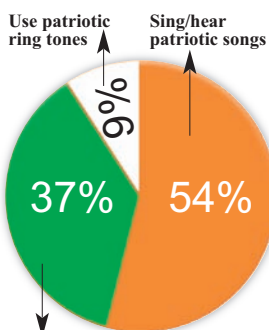


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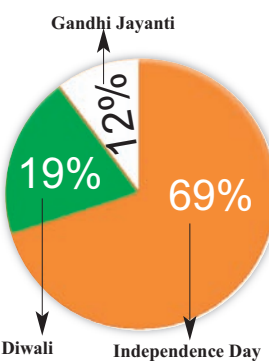
## POLL

**The Independence Day poll conducted among Amity school students reiterated the patriotic fervour and sprung up some interesting results.**

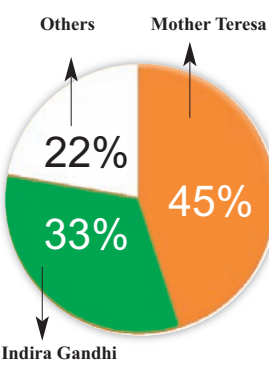
*What is the one thing you would like to do to give the day a patriotic feel?*



*If there were to be only one national holiday, which one would it be?*



*If Gandhiji is 'Father of the Nation', the mother of the nation would be-*



# THE GLOBAL TIMES

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AN AMITY INITIATIVE

## Proud to be Indian

As India celebrates 61 years of independence, Anushka Sibal of AIS Saket, discovers the spirit of Indianness

Come August, and one finds nationalistic fervour catching on everywhere; across cinema theatres, traffic-lights, in ring tones, e-mails and TV channels. The spirit of India lights up, spilling Indianness and blends with the myriad hues around it. What is so unique and special about this spirit of Indianness that makes us feel proud? Is 'being Indian' uncritically applauding our nuclear muscles? Or is it metamorphosing from wearing mini-skirts to saris and banning Valentine's Day? Or does it secretly imply that we must write about earthquakes in Bhuj and pot-bellied children on pavements? Or is it manifested in our unshakeable ability to use skills as engines and spirituality as fuel? In the rapidly evolving India, while our clothes have changed, the body is more robust and competitive; the soul of Indianness is still alive. A 42 year old vendor who sells vegetables, making a few hundreds each month, is a proud Indian. "Mere liye bhartiya ka matlab hai sabhyata. Aur woh mujhe bahut sakoon deti hai," he says. For Vandana Misra, school counselor, Indianness is a way of life. "It doesn't mean wearing a particular attire or having a certain kind of food. It is a way of thinking and has now become my lifestyle. I have grown with it and will die with it too". "Indianness is my culture and karma", believes Mr Sumedh, a teacher. For Amogh Sharma, a student, Indianness is a feeling he has been trained on. "Life will suddenly seem widowed without this," he quips. The pride and aspirations rooted in an Indian for centuries is what binds them together.

On the lighter side, Shashi Tharoor, career strategist at the UN, pointed out the strong

**Amole Gupte, Script Writer**

What makes me proud as an Indian is the 5000 years of wisdom that we have humbly given to the world without any ego and conceit.



**Darsheel Safary, Child Actor**

I love everything about India. There are so many beautiful places to visit. I'm proud that India is about unity in diversity.



discriminators of Indianness in a leading national daily, which include *Doodhwallas* (salient features of India); *Election symbols* (lend both colour and clarity to our political landscape) and *dance* (has a curiously schizoid status in India. The revival of classical dance since Independence has helped Indians rediscover a precious heritage of great beauty and skill)

Our diversity is as much a source of India's greatness – and of Indians' pride in their nation as her antiquity. This is as true in Goa as it is in Gujarat, in Jammu & Kashmir as much as in Kerala, in Manipur as much as in Madhya Pradesh, weaving a thread of unity and harmony, a way of life throughout India since time immemorial. "India", says Amole Gupte, writer TZP, "is a land of great people. As a humanist, I think India has given to the world people like Gandhiji, Baba Amte, Gautam Buddha and Mahavir. When I see these bastions from past history, what makes me proud as an Indian is the

5000 years of wisdom that we have humbly given to the world without any ego and conceit. I feel at home in India. I'm comfortable here – comfortable with the stink and the squalor and the innumerable paradoxes that India is all about." "Indianness is a sense of belonging, that makes me feel comfortable and gives me solace," says Kathak maestro Birju Maharaj.

To quote Guru Rabindranath, "The tie has been as loose as possible, yet as close as circumstances permitted. This has produced something like a United States of a social federation, whose common name is Bhartiya."●



**In a candid tete-e-tete with Kathak maestro Pandit Birju Maharaj, Managing Editor-Vira Sharma, unfolds the enigma that surrounds his simplicity and love for the dance form**

"Ta Thai'. Have you ever looked at these words closely. 'Ta' is straight, 'Thai' has a curve. One is male, the other female. And when they join to make 'Tat', they create the world in which we live our entire life," said Pandit Birju Maharaj in an exclusive interview with The Global Times. His thought provoking conversation brought forth the passion, simplicity, humility of a legendary Guru, whose name is synonymous with 'Kathak'.

Man is so caught in his day to day life, that he loses touch with reality. To discover life, one needs to snatch away the blinkers from one's eyes and experience the truth. Pandit Birju Maharaj truly sums up the essence of life when he says, "We all keep looking for something in life. For 20-25 years I did the same. When I emerged out of the well of my 'Ch-hand', I found the universe dancing. With an honest effort, I have tried to give this dance form to others the way I see it - pure, unadulterated and free." From dancing in the courts of Nawabs to the international 'arena stage', Birju Maharaj's journey into the world of Kathak, left its trail, inspiring and evolving, capturing the hearts of all.●

**More on page 6**

## A7

### The Global Voice of Gen Z

**Exit G8. Surrounded with controversy, it failed to connect with the masses. Enter A7, the new voice of India, representing the youth, on concerns that impinge on today's generation. GT presents a range of issues that the Amity schools would like to raise, through this platform**

**Child Labour**

"It is an irony that even after 50 years of independence, childhood in India is in the shackles of shameless labour. Children still work in beedi manufacturing units, in road-side dhabas, small factories and even electroplating units. This is really a deplorable and heart wrenching scene. It is heartening to note that the government has taken note of the matter and implemented some legislative measures; we still have to go a long way," says **Pulkrit Dua (IX), AIS Vasundhara.**

**Education**

The current education system that continues to emphasize on the marking



Photo Courtesy: AIS Noida

system and rote learning method, has drawn a lot of criticism from all quarters. "Doing away with the marks system shall definitely reduce the depression level amongst children especially when they see all the 'parrots' getting full marks, even though they haven't understood a bit of it. Instead, knowledge should be based upon conceptual understanding," says **Aarushi Jain (VIII D) of AIS East Delhi.**

**3Ps: Performance, Peers & Parents**

"The present generation is burdened with the 3P's (Performance, Peer and Parent Pressure). The rapid overpopulation of our country clubbed with the uncountable opportunities available in the current world

have created too much of tension for youngsters and even adults. There is someone competing with you for every little thing. But emphasizing the problems of the teens, academic and peer pressure is something that is ruining the lives of many," says **Shivangi Kakkar (IX-A) of AIS Pushp Vihar.**

**Reservation**

Unable to understand the government objectives and reservation quota figures for SC/ST/OBC, they definitely prick the raw nerve of today's youth. "It is absurd to imagine how merit can be compromised for caste while considering one's eligibility for admission in any educational institution. It is equally amusing why the government's education policy is so dependent on reser-

vations and the 'creamy layer' being blatantly abused by generations when the intended objective of reservations has been accomplished by one generation of a family," laments, **Kritik Soman (IX A) of AIS, East Delhi.**

**Substance Abuse**

Substantial substance abuse among teenagers is a global concern. Warns **Shivangi Kakkar:** "Several dangerous drugs having adverse effects cause one to get addicted and ruin their future. Youngsters need to learn to be assertive, and strongly refuse any such offers made by anyone, be it their trusted ones or strangers, and immediately consult an adult, no matter how childish it may sound."●

# Rajasthan gives quota to Gujjars

The Rajasthan government signed an agreement with the Gujjars on June 18, 2008 promising 5% reservation in the state to a new separate category including Gujjars and recommendation to the Centre for Gujjars to be included in the Social Tribes list for reservation in Central Services. For the aforesaid inclusion, the Gujar’s leader, Colonel Bainsela called off the 27-day agitation. When groups like Meenas strongly opposed the Gujar demand, the Rajasthan government promptly clarified that the existing reservation quotas would remain untouched. Rajasthan CM, Vasundhra Raje announced 14% reservation for poor among forward castes and sects. Including a few more,



the fresh reservation quotas which have risen from 49%-50%, breach the supreme courts upper limit of 50%.  
**Comments:** After 61 years of independence, do we really need reserva-

tions? If so, then should the criterion be caste or more logically and scientifically, economic affluence? Due to lack of opportunities and resources, merit and talent is sacrificed.●

## Blasts Rock IT City

**Mallika Khera & Shriya Sitaram**  
AIS Noida

Serial blasts in Bangalore struck terror on July 26 blasts. Eight blasts in 35 minutes fragmented the lives of common man raising the question of safety once again.  
**Comments:** Ankita Zutshi, AIS Noida: Blood and cries can break even an animal, then how do these terrorists, being humans, cannot feel this pain. Gauri Agarwal, AIS Noida: Security needs to be tightened up. People too should be more alert and not panic. These blasts are undertaken only to threaten and terrorize people as much damage was not caused. I pray the Government acts on the warning bell. ●

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

# The big race Obama Vs McCain

**Apula Singh & Mrida Lakhmani**  
AIS Saket

The United States Presidential election of 2008, scheduled for November 4, 2008 has proven to be a roller coaster of events. The presidential race has been marked by several historical firsts, one of which is the globalization of the campaigning. There is no doubt



## Camera, lights, but no action

**Apula Singh & Mrida Lakhmani**  
AIS Saket

The Supreme Court on the 22nd of July directed the media to exercise restraint while reporting on the Arushi - Hemraj double murder case. The newspaper and television journalists are suggested to report the case with objectivity so as to not cause any prejudice to the reputation of the teenager’s family and friends. Also the petitioner has requested the police of all states to ensure no information is leaked to the media regarding a criminal case while its investigation is pending.  
**GT Views:** The SC direction on the reporting pattern of print & visual media is a welcome relief. Lack of sensitivity in reporting, simply to shoot-up the circulation and TRP’s is a human crime. ●

## Nuke’s back on the track

**Apula Singh & Mrida Lakhmani**  
AIS Saket

On 18th July 2005 when U.S. president George W. Bush and Indian PM Manmohan Singh reached a bilateral agreement on civilian nuclear cooperation as envisioned in the joint statement but the decision still lingers on. It faced criticism from outsiders and even the Congress ally; Left created a lot of commotion in the Parliament regarding the same.

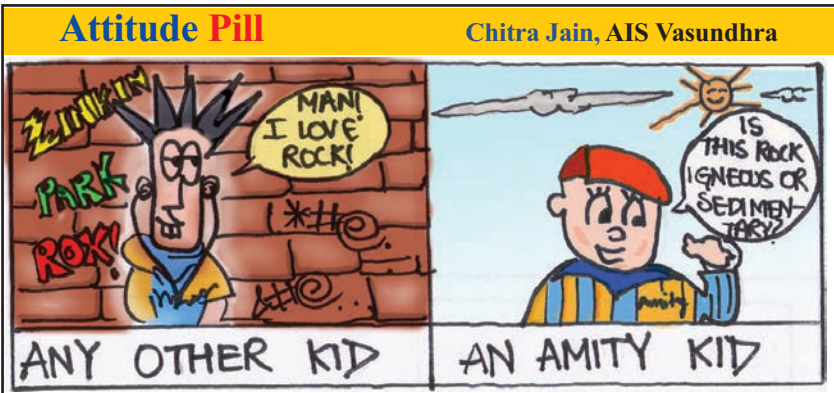


**GT Comments:** The trust vote was carried out on July 22nd and the congress secured the majority though with some bribery claims and also at the cost of its reputation. Now what the country awaits is a stable decision on the proceedings of the nuclear deal....let us see what the IAEA has in store for us ●

## UPA wins vote of confidence

**Mallika Khera & Shriya Sitaram**  
AIS Noida

The UPA win of the Vote Of Confidence in the Lok Sabha paved its way for reforms- both economic and social.  
**Comments:** Says, Avantika Sinha, East Delhi resident: I always believed in the Congress party. I am very confident about the UPA’s future policies and looking forward to it. Comments, Tanushree Nair, Amity University, Sec-125: At least now political uncertainty has ended. We are hopeful that we shall now push ahead with crucial economic reforms.●



“News with Views”. This unique effort aimed at honing the ‘newsy seventh sense’ makes an interesting read. Reporting on the top-of-the-top national and international news with a youth perspective, Amitians display a lot of sensitivity and vision.

# Thoda courage thoda magic

**Akanksha Gupta**  
AIS Pushp Vihar



On the night of 17th July ’08, the driver of Supratim Dutta slept while driving. When the car neared a construction site of metro, an angular iron rod ran through the car and Dutta’s body. So courageous, he even managed to call his mother and a few acquaintances and remained conscious all through the welding to cut the iron so that he could be taken out of the car as well as when the rod (5 feet) was taken out of him via surgery. It is believed to be God’s miracle that he is still surviving.

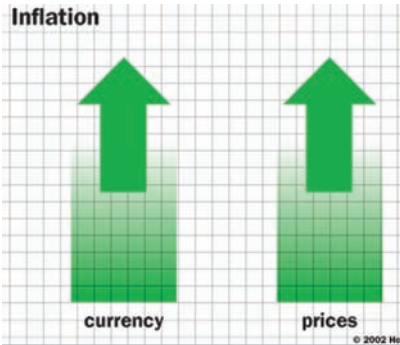
**Comments compiled by Mallika Khera & Shriya Sitaram, AIS. Noida**  
Says Vidusha (XI) AIS. Noida: This shows that God exists inside everyone. The strength he displayed is truly motivating. I pray for his well-being. Opines, Vasundhra Garg (XII) AIS Noida: We can deduce from this incident that fixity, grit and determination can bring miraculous changes in one’s lives. Quips, Ashish Thakur, Kendriya Vidyalaya: It really inspires me to hear of stories where one sails through difficult situations. Such a big rod, being wielded in front of his eyes must have been horrifying. It really signifies- “Thoda courage, thoda magic”.●

## Inflation: Cutting a hole in your pockets

**Apula Singh & Mrida Lakhmani**  
AIS Saket

In July 2008, the inflation rate reached 11.91% which is the highest in 13 years and is even expected to touch higher. This is more than 6% higher than a year earlier and almost three times the RBI’s target of 4.1%. The high inflation rate has affected the prices of all the commodities, be it food grains, vegetables, fuel prices or even the items of our daily use. The dramatic increase in inflation will have both economic and political implications for the government, with an election due within the year.

**Comments compiled by Mallika Khera & Shriya Sitaram, AIS Noida**  
Palak Mahanot (XII) AIS Noida: This



is burdening the common man. There is around 20% rise in the prices of all essential commodities. All household budgets are shaking.  
**Views,** Riya Mehta, Alcohn International School: Our purchasing power is decreasing. It is really difficult to save money nowadays. Opines, Latika Singh, Presentation Convent: Price rise is badly affecting our household budget. The Government should immediately take stringent steps to curb this malaise otherwise the BPL families will find it very difficult to survive.  
**GT Views:** Agreed, inflation needs to be curbed. Experts believe that it is time for us to rethink on our exchange rate policy to tackle inflation now. Question arises: Are we ready? ●

## SAARC adopts action plan

**Mallika Khera & Shriya Sitaram**  
AIS Noida

India and other SAARC (South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation) members have adopted a three-year action plan to combat climate change. The SAARC region is most vulnerable to climate change and thereby seriously affecting our agricultural output.  
**Comments:** Admits Mallika Khera, AIS. Noida: It will affect production, cripple our vital infrastructures, diminish our natural resources and limit our development options. Says, Divya Sharma, Engineering Student: The increase in atmospheric temperature in the world has drastically affected the daily life of every person. This step, I hope will make our environment more clean and safe.



that the Iraq War has centered heavily in the campaign, and Obama’s objection to long-term troop presence and repeated calls for a withdrawal within 16 months has formed a central spotlight of this campaign. However, John McCain vows to keep troops in country as long as necessary.  
**View:** Now the world awaits November 4 when the President of U.S. will take his oath for the office. ●

## France rejoins NATO



**Mallika Khera & Shriya Sitaram**  
AIS Noida

France rejoined Nato Command after 42 years. President Nicolas Sarkozy launched a major overhaul of the French military, cutting back the armed forces, beefing up intelligence and setting a course for France’s return to NATO command.  
**View:** According to Latika of Presentation Convent, “In the light of recent terror attacks in different parts of the world, France joining the command of NATO is a smart move to secure the safety of the nation. Many a people feel that India must also adopt these high tech military techniques to confront terrorism.”●

# Gadget maze



Every time you think you know it all, there enters a new gadget in the electronic world that is bigger, better and more exciting!

**Nikita Srivastava**  
AIS, Noida

## Scene I

*Vikram: Mom can I play on the PSP?*  
*Mom: Not before you do your homework! Then a war of words and finally...*

*Mom: OK, but only for half an hour.*  
Familiar, isn't it? Eight year olds fighting with their mothers for virtual play time or older siblings trying to study while the younger ones spend hours on the computer. Are children with I-pods PSP's, cell phones and X-Boxes getting trapped in a gizmo net?

## Scene II

*Vikram: Please give me 'Spiderman' CD.*  
*Mom: Enough! Now go out and play!*  
*Vikram: But I need to exchange it with 'Road Rash' CD.*  
*Mom: Road rash? Will you go out and cycle, play badminton or football?*  
*Vikram (sulking): All right.*

Computer to PSP and X-Box, have we become stagnant? Can we teens imagine, even for a second, life without mobiles and I-Pods? These gadgets have become our constant companions; they connect us instantly to our friends, play songs for us when we are lonely and are always there by our side (literally!). Welcome to the 'Great Gadget Maze'! It is the most unimaginable and extraordinary maze you will ever enter. Each time you think you're reaching the end, it evolves into something bigger, better

Technology is upgrading itself every hour. One is torn between what is best and what one can afford. Mankind is at the verge of a gadget war!

and more exciting. You turn right and see the I-pod 30 GB, you turn left and notice the I-pod 60GB, and you turn around and whoa! There sits the I-pod 120 GB in a neat, petite box. You buy it, and six months later, the 160 GB I-pod is released and you cannot believe it has happened! Technology is upgrading itself every hour. One is torn between what is best and what one can afford. Even at the workplace, the phone one carries decides one's position; the more complex it is and the more one has spent on it, the bigger is one's image. All around, people are pitting their gadgets against those of others. Maybe, humankind is now at the verge of a new World (Gadget) War!

*Vikram: Mom, I scored 3 goals today!*  
*Mom: Really? I thought you were playing badminton.*  
*Vikram: I'm talking about FIFA Street mum. Goodnight! •*

## Plugged in!

**Indeoneel Das**  
AIS, Saket

From cell phones to blenders, computers to cameras, we are plugged into a wired world. Poor boredom is vanquished – thanks to whacky web sites, pranks, puzzles, trivia games and even the comparative study of one's height and weight to that of a celebrity is no longer incredible, but possible. Right from fun learning to linguistic skills, the web is an amazing world. Don't worry if you are going to Italy and want to greet your hosts in their lingo-linguistic, the skills are just a click away.

Another gift of latest technology is the mobile phone. What can cell phones not do? These days everybody owns mobile phones, right from rickshaw pullers to CEO's. Amongst my family of four, we have three mobiles including a Nokia N73, a Nokia 6080 and a Nokia 6060. Mine helps me in so many ways; it connects me to the internet, enables me to be in touch with everyone, it can click pictures and is a very good entertainer whenever I get bored. Another useful and fanciful creation of technology is MP4 players, which are hot favourites with children and adults alike. Mobile phones and MP4 players are slowly creeping their way to the second level of man's necessities.

Well, it is techno 24x7; aren't we all swept over by the techno-tsunami? I think we are. Somebody please unplug me from the wired world! •

## Entangled in electronics

Are we having too much of technology? Read on to find out..



Pic Courtesy: Ojaswini

**Ojaswini**  
AIS East Delhi

“Beep, beep,” goes the mobile that doubles as alarm clock waking you up religiously each morning lest you miss the school bus. You get up, switch off the AC and drag yourself to the washroom. Sulk! You have to use your own hands to brush your teeth but worry not, for electronic tooth brushes are already on the way. Our lives have got so entangled in electronics that we care little for their damaging side effects. Each day, we spend at least

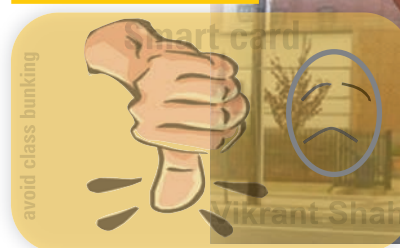
two hours on the mobile phone. Do you know these gadgets radiate electro-magnetic energy? Don't worry, they don't harm much, they just damage the brain nerves, make people nervous and can cause cancer! That's all!

Now let's ponder a bit about man's best friend - the computer. Well, PC's a device that each of us use, that too for long hours. Doctors believe that regular sitting on the computers can cause spinal and upper limbs problems, and also have fatal effects due to blood clotting. Please don't panic, that only happens if we sit for long hours without taking breaks.

Now how many us do that? Let's turn to the musical, handy head phones. I think it's my duty to tell you that our dear headphones can actually turn us deaf. That's only if it is played on a very high volume. I'm sure none of you is doing that, right? And yes, one more thing, excessive use of headphones weaken our reflexive muscles and many cases have been seen where headphones have even burnt the ears.

Oh! Nowadays it's so hot. I can't imagine my life without an airconditioner. I want AC 24X7. While traveling, it's there in my car; as soon as I return from the school I stand before it and even every mall I visit is air-conditioned. No, don't worry. I'm not going to provoke you all against it. Just that it dries the skin by absorbing moisture from the surroundings and makes your skin itchy which wrinkles fast. Maybe, we don't see any difference right now but one day you'll get up and see your face aging 20 years early! Do you have headaches or catch cold very easily? Maybe one of its main reasons is continuous change of temperature. From the heat directly to the ice age and then from the ice age directly to the heat!

I've been writing for quite a while now on my laptop. So I'll take a short break before my posture plays havoc in my life. I had never thought, writing an article could be so dangerous! •



## Beware! Smart cards are there!

**Shantanu Dey**  
AIS Pushp Vihar

School bunkers, there's bad news for you. Some schools in Delhi like- Father Agnel School Gautam Nagar, have introduced the smart card system which will definitely prove to be a nightmare for shirkers. However, parents would be happiest as it will put an end to their worries.

Smart cards are devices attached to school identity cards; they have a sensor which detects whether the child has entered the school campus or not. As soon as s/he enters the school, the smart card sends an SMS to the child's parents informing them that their ward has reached the school. And the same is repeated when the child leaves the school. Smart cards have some drawbacks, though. A student of Father Agnel School explains, “The sensor of the smart card was so strong initially that whenever we passed by the school gate, it sent an SMS to our parents that we had left the school and this

created total chaos!”

What if Amity gets smart cards? Quips an VIIIth grader, “Smart cards will prove to be very good as parents will be assured of their child's security.” On the contrary, a Xth grader laments, “They will be very harmful for bunkers as we won't get a chance to sneak out of school!”

Bane or boon, there's no escape from technology. There's a ray of hope for students as for smart cards, one needs a lumpsum amount which all schools may not want to spend. So just keep your fingers crossed. On the whole, a smart card is an excellent way to monitor a child's security. It will save the attendance hassles for teachers, and children will be accountable for themselves. •

*Great! Here we have a budding reporter, who actually pens a real story from his surroundings. Kudos for your 'Aware and Alert' reporting. Can we have more?*



## Best out of (e)waste

**Anantdeep Singh & Digant Pandey**  
AIS Noida

In an era when gadgets get outdated in six months flat, the problem of e-waste or electronic waste is raising serious solicitudes. Once an electronic good (anything from a computer to a calculator) is hackneyed, we throw it into landfills under the tag of e-waste. “Since these components are non biodegradable, they remain in soil and can lead to toxicity and even death,” says *Anusha Gupta of AIS Noida*. 50 million metric tones of e-waste is generated per annum in the world. E-waste recycling, where e-waste is melted and rejuvenated into electronics, appears to be the paramount solution. The method is economically feasible and environmentally hale but maybe not the only ingredient needed to cook the dish of environmental success. It's time to create vigilance in masses. •

# Two wings to fly

Procheta Chattaraj  
AIS Sec 43 Gurgaon

The secret of health for both mind and body is not to mourn for the past, not to worry about the future or not to anticipate troubles, but to live the present moment wisely and earnestly. My father followed this astounding policy when his former company, Punjab Wireless, faced a lockout.

“He didn’t lose hope and understood that men succeed when they realize that failures are the preparation for their success”

Though our world turned upside down, my father stood by us, sturdy as a rock

## Flavours of Life

I was about five years old at that time, yet I could sense the disappointment and grief that engulfed my family. The whole world around us went topsy-turvy. While my mother would pray all day long; I saw my father struggle hard to find ways for the company to reopen. But he failed. Though disappointed, he didn’t lose hope and understood that men succeed, when they realize that their failures are the preparation for their success. He decided to start afresh and leave Chandigarh forever. This devastated my mother who was completely crestfallen at the prospect and why wouldn’t she be? We had our own house in Chandigarh, our friend circle and everything about the place was special. My father took a job with Hexacom Limited. The first year was ignominious. But as days passed into months and months into years, my father got promoted as General Manager and my mother became the Cultural Secretary of a social organisation named Durgabari. Though our world turned upside down, my father stood by us, sturdy as a rock. He felt that life is a journey with many ups and downs and there is nothing to be gained by talking about what is beyond repair. His firm determination helped him tide over the hurdles and come out successful. True, God teaches us by means of opportunities, so that we have two wings to fly and not one. ●

## It’s my life

Teenagers have a breezy life. Says who?

Shreya Mathur, AIS Noida

People say that teenagers have a breezy life. Such people were obviously born adults. Each day starts with a perpetual haze around me and I dress, eat and get out of the house as if my mind and body are two separate entities. Once inside the school, the haze gets dimmer by a mosaic of angry teachers, unfinished homework and demanding friends. This mosaic revolves constantly before me like some effervescent impressionist painting for six hours each day. During these six hours, I’m subject to a motley of emotions, sufficient for two Bollywood movies which, as a bizarre coincidence, would last roughly six hours. Once I get back home, this mosaic is upstaged by a Shakespearean melodrama where the tragic leads are my parents and their monologues, the lectures I receive for not doing my homework, not studying, talking too much on the phone, putting the cat on fire, etc.

In between all the chaos, I have tuitions to go, sports to play, newspapers to read and TV to watch and all such other things that adults have created to prevent teenagers from taking over the world. Meanwhile the perpetual haze is still with me, enveloping my world in a grayish cocoon. But I still manage to plough on, eating junk food that is part of every teenager’s balanced diet, watching the odd movie once a week, chatting on the net for a measly two hours a day and so on and so forth. And, at night when I get ready for bed, I discover the reason for the pesky haze – my dirty spectacles. ●



# Let’s beat the stress

Your genes, personality and life experiences, all influence the stress response in your body

Palak Grover  
AIS East Delhi

It’s not uncommon to hear ourselves talk with friends and family members about the difficulty we have in managing the challenges, obstacles and stress of everyday living. In our fast paced world, many people deal with frequent or even constant stress. It seems like we need to do more and more just to keep up. There are always new chapters to learn, homeworks to complete and assignments to submit. Then there are relationships with friends and family to maintain. Most of the time we are stretched to a breaking point, always rushing around in frenzy, juggling too many demands. Your genes, personality and life experiences, all influence the stress response in your body. For example- one person may find it stressful to work on an assigned project. Someone else might enjoy the creative aspects of that project. Not all stress is bad. Scientists believe that a moderate amount of stress helps you to prepare for the challenges you’ll encounter during the day.

## 10 signs of stress

- Difficulty getting to sleep and early

- morning waking
- Increased irritability and restlessness
  - Increased sensitivity to criticism
  - High blood pressure and headaches
  - Acute anxiety
  - Loss of concentration
  - Sense of isolation and loneliness
  - Getting tired easily
  - Blaming others
  - Always feeling that something needs to be done and that you cannot simply sit and relax.

## Managing stress

**Don’t** deny or suppress your emotions, this adds to the stress. Don’t be afraid to cry. Crying relieves anxiety and pent up emotions.

**Do** not add to your stress by thinking about what ‘might’ happen. If you find yourself asking ‘what if’, tell yourself ‘so what!’

## Stress Busters

**Make** connections. Good relationships with friends and family are important. Make an attempt to reconnect with people. Accepting help, support from those who care about you can alleviate stress. **Don’t** rush to argue every time someone disagrees with you. Keep a cool head, and save your argument for things that really matter. Better still; try not to argue at all. **Feeding** your body the right food is essential to manage stress. Be sure to follow a healthy eating plan. During stressful sessions people tend to skip meals. Avoid this.

**Meditate.** Meditation helps settle your mind so you can think calmly throughout the day. The goal is not for immediate relaxation but to increase serenity. It is an important tool to achieve mental clarity and health. There is scientific evidence that it can improve blood pressure and relieve pain and stress.

A meaningful activity helps relieve tension. This can be a hobby or doing volunteer work for a cause that benefits others. Playing with and caring for pets can help you relax. Although you may feel that you are too busy, making time to do something you like can help you relax and distract your mind.

**Don’t** try to be perfect. No one is. And expecting others to be perfect can add to your stress level too (not to mention put a lot of pressure on them!).●

To Shreya Bansal

Good friendship doesn’t need any promises, any terms or conditions. It just needs two wonderful people - one cool like me and one cute like you.

Nandini Deipakk,  
AIS Gurgaon -43

To Ishita,

Friendship isn’t about whom you have known the longest, who came first or who cares the best. It’s all about who came and never left. That’s you!

Harman Taneja, AIS ED

To My lovely friend Reyanka

The glory of friendship is not the outstretched hand, nor the kindly smile; it’s the spiritual inspiration that comes to one, when s/he discovers that someone else believes in him and is willing to trust him with his friendship. One such friend is you.

Procheta Chattaraj, AIS Gur 43

To Manvika and Kusha,

A memory lasts for ever and never does it die. True friends stay together and never say good bye! And this is our friendship.

To Ojaswini,

No special words, no drama, nothing impressive, only a small thing from the bottom of my heart. Wish you a very cute smile. Forever.

Harman Taneja, AIS ED

To Malika, Mehak, Raghavi, Dhvani,

Here’s wishing you a great life ahead. May God bless you all.

Palak Grover,  
AIS ED

To Raghav Mittal & Abhishek Soni,

Friends are many but the best is the one who knows your secrets but hasn’t told anyone as yet.

Aditya, AIS Noida

To Ria AIS Noida

I will battle with time and trash all hurdles to take you to your destination because your happy face is my fulfillment.

Isha Gupta AIS ED

To Savi, Chitra, Yakshi & Alankrita,

When I was upset, you stopped me from getting sunken eyes. When I was happy, you cried with me tears of joy. You kept encouraging me, even when I failed, You appreciated me for whatever I am. All I want to say is THANKS for being there for me.

Ruchismita. AIS Vasundhara

Teachers play an important role in our life. When was the last time you thanked your teacher for all that s/he has done for you? Through the GT Message Column, send your message to your teacher at - The Global Times, AKC House, E-27, Defence Colony, New Delhi 110024, and win exciting prizes too.

## Counsel’s Korner

Guest Column: Pooja Bagrodia  
Counselor, AIS East Delhi

With exams round the corner, how do I manage with so many activities vying for my time?

Ishita, 12

It’s important to know which activities are more important than others. Make a

list of them and then make a time chart as to how much time should be given to which one. Compensate for the time lost during the week by doing extra revision or extra learning at weekends. You can also ask your good friends to keep a check on your time chart.

Most of my classmates are in some or

the other group, especially those with the most popular girls. I feel lost and alone. Please help.

Rakhi, 13

You must figure out what is attracting you to the most popular group. Try to get involved in some of their activities. Also, you can find out what the rest of your classmates (those not in that group) are interested in, maybe they have similar likings as you have. Hope you aren’t attracted to the big group just because others are!●



Aditi Pathak  
AIS Noida

Whilst everyone is humming the popular tunes of latest preoccupation, yes, I am talking about *Jaane Tu Ya Jaane Na*, probably everyone's favourite film, can anybody forget that pretty heroine who wore those lovely berets in exquisite colours? She has certainly set the trend for the classes of 2008! So what are you waiting for? Get a bunch of friends together and go shopping to make your uniforms stand out. On a serious note, in school, we cannot be dressing up like our favourite celebrity fashion muse or a prima donna who is dressed up by professional stylists in the latest couture which we all aspire for. We have a school code which we cannot violate but there seems to be absolutely no harm in making a classic statement while wearing our uniforms.

# Style up uni-form with many-Andaaz

Shirts hanging out and laces untied?  
Dudes, smarten up your school wardrobe!

We need to learn how to dress peppy and incorporate our individual and unique style into it. This is merely because your daily attire reflects your personality in a big way. Wearing a well cut uniform throughout the year and teaming it with a smart blazer in the winters gives you a lot of self confidence and you can manage to look really poised. If you can carry off this look, then hats off to you because usually one only seems to be impressed when someone's shirt is hanging out and their laces are untied. Believe me, you will trip one day! Setting a trend is really easy and if you take pride in doing it, then you will have a lot of fans sooner or later trying to imitate you. Some trends are really revolting but everyone goes out to try it out just because everyone else is doing so.

Before creating your neat and smart look for school, you need to see if you have your things together. You need to smell really nice because you may not notice but people cannot bear your body odour. But that doesn't spell exorbitantly priced perfumes; a good deodrant will do the magic. Your uniforms should be sparkling and crisp and your hair should be very clean and silky. Use a satin or tartan headband to put your hair back and use a light lip smacker. For the gentlemen, please apply your hair gel moderately. If you wear glasses, then buy a funky frame and if you wear braces, change their colour from time to time. Your school bag tells a lot about you. If it is a really plain bag, then you could acces-

surise it with a few bag charms or the usual key chains. A simple scarf or badge can also do the trick. Do not lose hope girls because your uniform is now a *salwar kameez*. If you review other schools uniforms, you'll realize how much you love the fabulous grey pleated skirt for middle school and the striped shirts. Even the *salwar kameez* is a very Indian way of dressing and take heart, it'll only last for a year or two in your entire school life. Schools are temples of learning where uniforms bring about similarity and generate a feeling of belonging. Where else can one get a feeling of oneness and togetherness than in a school, and the one thing that brings it about is, undoubtedly, uniforms. So, let's rejoice in the dignity of our uniforms. ●



Models: AIS Saket, Photo: Pankaj Mallik

## Uniform norms

Mrida Lakhmani, Apula Singh &  
Kanika Sharma  
AIS Saket

A school uniform sounds boring and mundane. Wearing the same dress, everyday to school with the exception of birthdays (thank God for small liberties), squeezes out half the energy as children step into their citadels of learning. Spot-on uniform trends and more.

### Uniform on purpose

The word 'uniform' itself serves its basic purpose. It was basically introduced to

maintain equality in school, but it has come a long way from simple designs to polo shirts, culottes and jumpers, from dresses decided by teachers to those designed by reknowned designers.

### A global trend

Across the globe, the uniform code seems to vary from country to country and school to school. While Australia has compulsory school uniform or else a hefty detention, Canada opts for a no uniform rule with severe consequences against indecent or offensive clothing. Germany has never had uniforms and in Russia, they were abolished in 1992.

### Designer School Wardrobe

Imagine wearing designer school uniform to school. Calorx School, Ahmedabad hired fashion designer Niraj Paul to design uniforms. According to Niraj, the new design brings excitement to the students who always want something different and exciting.

### Are school uniforms best?

In a sense yes, because they promote uniformity of status in school, provided they are student friendly and not worn by the students out of contempt. So dear Amitians, if you want to look smart, learn to love your uniform, because its not the uniform which make you look hip or beautiful but it's the little heart that beats underneath those clothes that makes you the best!●

# Ouch! Fashion hurts

Dhwani Jain  
AIS East Delhi

**Doctor:** Dear trendy, do you know that all the 'high fashion' items you wear are hazardous for health?

**Trendy:** What rubbish? Without them, my life would be incomplete. Now look at my long earrings, high heels and low waist jeans. Aren't they cool?

**Doc:** Agreed. You definitely look great with those danglers, but those big and heavy earrings can even tear your earlobes and necessitate surgery.

**Trendy:** Ok, do you also have problem with high heels? Tell me who doesn't want to look tall?

**Doc:** But if you rely on high heels for looking tall all the time, it may cause bone fractures in case your feet turns inwards. Wearing high heels is a walking talking orthopedic disaster.

**Trendy:** But I don't look good if I don't wear heels.

**Doc:** There is no need to do away with heels. But at least don't wear those high heels that may cause problem in your legs.

**Trendy:** Look at my jeans! Can you wear jeans as hip as mine?

**Doc:** I don't even want to try.



**Trendy:** Why not? They looks so nice!

**Doc:** Wearing body hugging jeans around the waist can cause nerve depression. They may lead to severe pain and numbness outside the thigh.

**Trendy:** So you mean to say that all these trendy things can cause great harm to the body?

**Aunt:** It's great to stay cool but not to be foolish. To be fashionable is good, but when it gets dangerous, it may be harmful. So beware. Remember, "*Dikhawon par mat jao, apni akal lagao.*"●

# Mouth watering quickies

Palak Grover & Harman Taneja  
AIS East Delhi

top of it and gently press. Enjoy!

### Curd sandwich

**Ingredients:** 1 small onion finely chopped; 1 cup beaten curd & bread.

**Method:** Mix onion and curd, add salt to taste. Optional (Add sliced tomato and potato). Now toast the breads without butter or cheese. Put the curd on it and spread it slowly. Place another slice on

### Teen Flavour



### Bread pizza

**Ingredients:** Onions, capsicums, home made cream, rava & pepper.

**Method:** For the topping: toss finely chopped onions and capsicums with salt and pepper. Add 1tea-spoon cream. Spread a layer of the mixture over the bread and shallow-fry it on the frying pan. Ready for a break?●

# Happier, healthier, holier

Yoga is the the latest trend, with no bones to mend

Udita and Vipanchi  
AIS Saket

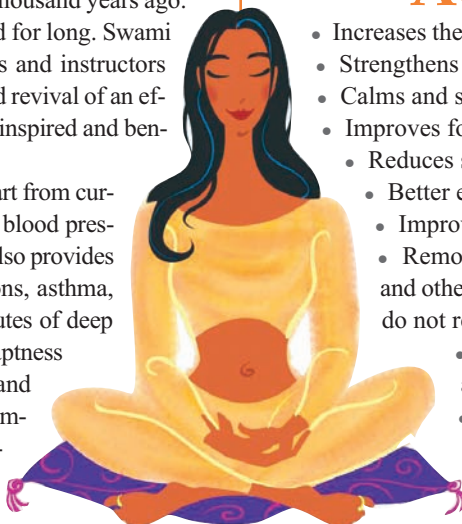
### Fitness Mantra

References of our Vedas defining the philosophy, practice and profits of yoga are available in 'Upanishads' and 'Puranas. The main credit for systematizing yoga goes to Patanjali who wrote 'Yoga Sutra', two thousand years ago. Yet, this precious art of health was ignored for long. Swami Ramdev created buzz among yogic saints and instructors with his arresting straight-forward talks and revival of an efficacious and liberal form of yoga that has inspired and benefited crores of people all over the world. The advantages of Yoga are numerous. Apart from curing widespread and common diseases like blood pressure, hypertension, obesity and diabetes it also provides medication for incorrigibles like Parkinsons, asthma, piles and cancer and that's just by 20 minutes of deep breathing. What makes it versatile, is its aptness for all age group-toddlers, adolescents and adults. Moreover, it can also be easily accommodated with the hectic schedule, which explains for more and more celebrities resorting to Yoga as a healthy life style op-

Harness the power of yoga and gain the 3-fold advantage of Fitness + Freedom from Stress + Everlasting happiness. ●

### Advantages

- Increases the rate of metabolism (to aid weight loss)
- Strengthens the immune system
- Calms and steadies the mind
- Improves focus and concentration
- Reduces stress
- Better emotional control
- Improves physical control of the body
- Removes waste products as Carbon Dioxide and other toxic gases from the body, so that they do not remain in the blood stream.
- Promotes healthy body, calm mind, and inner serenity
- Strengthens and helps control of the diaphragm; improving abdominal tone and singing capacity.
- Maintains overall fitness



"Kids are really incredible, in terms of how much they dive into this and just take it as a given. They'll be the ones who really bring the web lifestyle into the mainstream." Bill Gates

# To India, with love

“Ask not what your country can do for you - ask what you can do for your country.”

-John F Kennedy



Dr. Amita Chauhan  
Chairperson

India steps into the portal of its 61st Independence and my heart swells with pride. This is one moment I ensure to celebrate with my students; watch their spirits soar as the national flag flutters, shaking hands with the free flowing wind

and echoing the national anthem.

Patriotism engulfs the nation, blending us into colours of saffron, white and green.

The virtues of nationalism, patriotism and unity, seeped in the educational fabric of this institution flows in its every breath. I take immense gratification from the fact that the school has done the nation proud with its presence in national and international forums. This summer, when four Amitians walked the red carpet at the International Animation Film Festival in France as the youngest jury members representing India, I felt immensely honoured. My students are my pride. It has been my earnest wish to see them excel and bring glory to the nation.

Leading India towards a scientific global superpower, entrenched in its rich social and cultural roots, I am proud to see the rich display of talent at Vasudha. The reservoir of scientific temperament, moulded through this platform, is a promising effort towards building future noble laureates, a vision shared by our Founder President, Dr Ashok Chauhan.

Having travelled widely internationally, earning name and fame, coming to India was not by chance. It was with a purpose to repay the nation what it had invested in me. It was an opportunity to sow and watch the rich harvest, flourish each day. Today, it is a dream, that I see through the eyes of the Amitians. The dream of a united secure and powerful India. A dream we all share. So, let's join hands to give our nation our best and let our dreams see the light of the day. Jai Hind. ●

# Going back to school!

Vira Sharma

Barely one month old, my tryst with Amity felt like going 'back to school'. My classes commenced and there I was attending edit meets, interacting with a bunch of exciting, enthusiastic Amitians bubbling with exuberance. As talents unfolded, I could already see The Global Times ahead.

The experience of churning out this pot-pourri, carefully weaving letters into words and sentences and elucidating the Amitian flavour was an absolutely stimulating experience.

The inherent spirit to compete and excel resulted in each school delivering a superior output. In their competition to excel, I sensed its biggest strength. What if we get together and churn out one story in the true Amitian spirit? The challenge to weave the schools into one entity, gave rise to A7 (The chain of 7 Amity schools), a platform to raise issues concerning the world, stirring opinions, generating views and sensitizing the youth to be more responsible and conscientious.

From celebrating the spirit of independence to voicing youth concerns, developing their skills to view news with a perspective to savouring the flavours of life, interacting with celebrities, sharing the world view of Birju Maharaj to toying with the concept of fairies with little ones, The Global Times serves a pallet to every taste bud. The freshly instituted GT crown, has been conferred upon China for ensuring a grand Olympic sending the message: 'We have arrived'.

Your valuable mails are our treasure trove. So get ready to pour your heart & enjoy reading. ●

# Experience Independence

Patriotism is not just about wearing tricolour or using special ring tones. It's more about sincerely loving one's motherland

Poornima Kharbanda & Anushka Sibal, AIS Saket

As I host my tri-colour on this Independence day, I see my country's progress. I see my citizen's success. I see India, mapping the success route imprinting its strength and power in the national and international arena. India today, is perceived as a rapidly developing country inviting interest and investment from across the globe. If that was our objective, then yes, India achieved what it set for. But, a closer look at reality, gives a completely different picture that requires pondering.

A peep into the pre-independent India swells our heart with pride as we watch the Mahatma leading the way, guiding his people through the dark and difficult alleys of slavery towards brightness and freedom. On the contrary, today, we are disheartened to see poverty, hunger, illiteracy and terrorism nibbling at the root of our

country's social, political and economic fabric, slowly and steadily, while we bask in the glory of economic development.

The virtuous 'Patriotism', is a feeling the new generation experiences only twice a year (Independence and Republic day). For most youngsters, the immediate response blurted is, "Patriotism, pardon me!"

We often talk of qualities such as discipline, love, respect, sincerity. Patriotism, the love for our country, a manifestation of these qualities, is forgotten and lost. The glory of material comfort has steadily eroded the patriotic values as we watch it fading away in the glitter and glamour of our



How many of us spend time even to think of improvising our country? The glory of material comfort has steadily eroded patriotic values.

# “Dance is the rhythm of my life”

Pandit Birju Maharaj shares his passion and love for dance in an *exclusive interview* with The Global Times Reporters

*When did you discover your leanings towards dance and music?*

My rendezvous with Kathak began early at the age of 3. Hailing from the Lucknow gharana, I would often accompany my father to the *Talim Khana* (dance class) and to the darbars of Kings and Nawabs. The Nawab of Rampur was so fond of me that he would actually tell my father, not to come without me. At times I would be woken up at midnight to perform for him and then in my childish way I prayed he would die so that I did not have to get up from my sleep! A good learner, I realized I could actually perform and recite flawlessly to everyone's surprise and delight. Thus I travelled with my father, perfecting my love for dance and securing a job as a dance teacher at the tender age of fourteen at Sangeet Bharatiya Sansthan in Lucknow.

*You have travelled extensively, sharing and teaching Kathak. Please share some interesting episodes with us?*

From dancing in the courts of Nawabs to the international 'arena stage', my journey into the world of Kathak has been a very enriching experience. One incident I recall was when I went for a performance to U.S. I was perplexed when I had to perform on an 'arena stage' where you have the audience all around you. Nevertheless, my troupe and I gave the entire performance changing direction with each step, silently giggling away. The next day when I read in the papers about the performance being appreciated by all, we had a good laugh!

*What has been the impact of dance*

*in your life?*

Dance is the poem of which each movement is a word. Dance is the rhythm of my life. It is an expression in time, movement, happiness, joy, sadness and envy. Kathak is so much a part of me that I can feel it flowing

man can sing a song in tune if he has heard it 300 times. However it is sad, that the medium is being used to promote mediocres who walk away with Rs 50 lakh cash awards, while the real talent lies hidden, lost and obscure.

*What message would you like to give*



Pt Birju Maharaj with TGT reporters

“Patience is the foremost quality that every student needs to imbibe.”

in my veins and every breath I take. We are inseparable.

*How should we revive the declining interest of the youth in classical dance forms?*

Television and cinema have a great influence on people. One dance direction for Madhuri Dixit in Devdas shot me to instant fame. Hence this medium, should be thoroughly harnessed to promote Indian classical dance forms in an interesting manner. Instead we find reality shows, which have nothing new to offer. Dance and music is not just about presenting something already there. Even a lay-

*to the students?*

Patience is the foremost quality that every student needs to imbibe. For, patience teaches concentration as well as develops the physical, mental and emotional balance to succeed. Life offers many temptations in the path to success. Patience enables to overcome them. Whether you be a doctor or an engineer, let the rhythm in your pen and the wave in your voice make your life a beautiful experience. ●

(As told to Meghna Bansal & Charu Gupta, AIS Noida and Shantanu Dey & Ankita Naik, AIS Pushp Vihar)

# Hindi hai hum

Shubham Thukral  
AIS, Saket

It is often stated with pride: “Hindustaniyon ki bhasha -Hindi!” Hindi, the mostly widely spoken language of India, is among the 22 languages spoken in India and recognized by the Indian constitution. There are 'official languages' in the state (Hindi being the official language in 10 states) and at central level, but no 'national language'. Though Hindi holds an important status in our constitution, it does not enjoy the same privilege amongst its people. 'English' rules the roost.

The success of the recent 'Idea' mobile advertisement struck an instant chord with the audience. “I am eating mango,” a simple English sentence spoken by a villager learnt from his daughter who in turn learns from her 'mobile wale teacher' raises the self esteem of a common villager, raising others' eyebrows. Be it the media or our inability to shrug the age old years of mental slavery, the pride in speaking English over Hindi remains. With the introduction of English medium schools, Hindi suffered a further setback. Over the years, it metamorphosed into 'Hinglish'!

At this juncture, we introspect: Is there a need to speak in Hindi? Yes, there is. There is a need to understand the importance and joy of speaking one's own language. We should take pride in using it. Hindi is not outdated. It has just lost its charm, because of our neglect and false sense of pride. Think of five situations in a day when you can switch back to using your 'bhasha' rather than conversing in English. Once you practice this, you will surely do justice to it, by reviving it. ●



The Global Times is the best newspaper that could be for children. It provides us with a platform to post our thoughts and showcase our talents. It has given me many useful tips for preparing for my exams. The interview of Nikita Khattar, Class X CBSE NCR topper, also inspired me a lot!

Ruchismita Bhattacharjee  
AIS, Vasundhara

‘As glass is to water, correspondence is to mail.’

... and a pallet of creativity is to 'Global Times'.

Global Times – a pot-pourri of vistas – has embed the temperament of myriad young minds, casting a blazing trail on which a new generation shall find its way. Smiles are the dumb-mouths of joy, but the joyous gives voice to his happiness. And many Amitians have indeed given voice to their deepest of emotions which flow in this tide of tidings. In the volume 2, issue 2 of 'The Global Times', the poem, 'A psalm of life' was a poignant expression of life, knitted in words of charisma. Kiddies Korner encompassed beautiful poetry, as effusive morning dew upon leaves. There is no exception to the rule that by extending the boundaries which define the class-limit for publishing the poems, students of higher classes too shall be able to pour their thoughts in this chalice of knowledge. It will indeed be a stepping-stone for the senior students in their endeavour to become powerful poets of Amity.

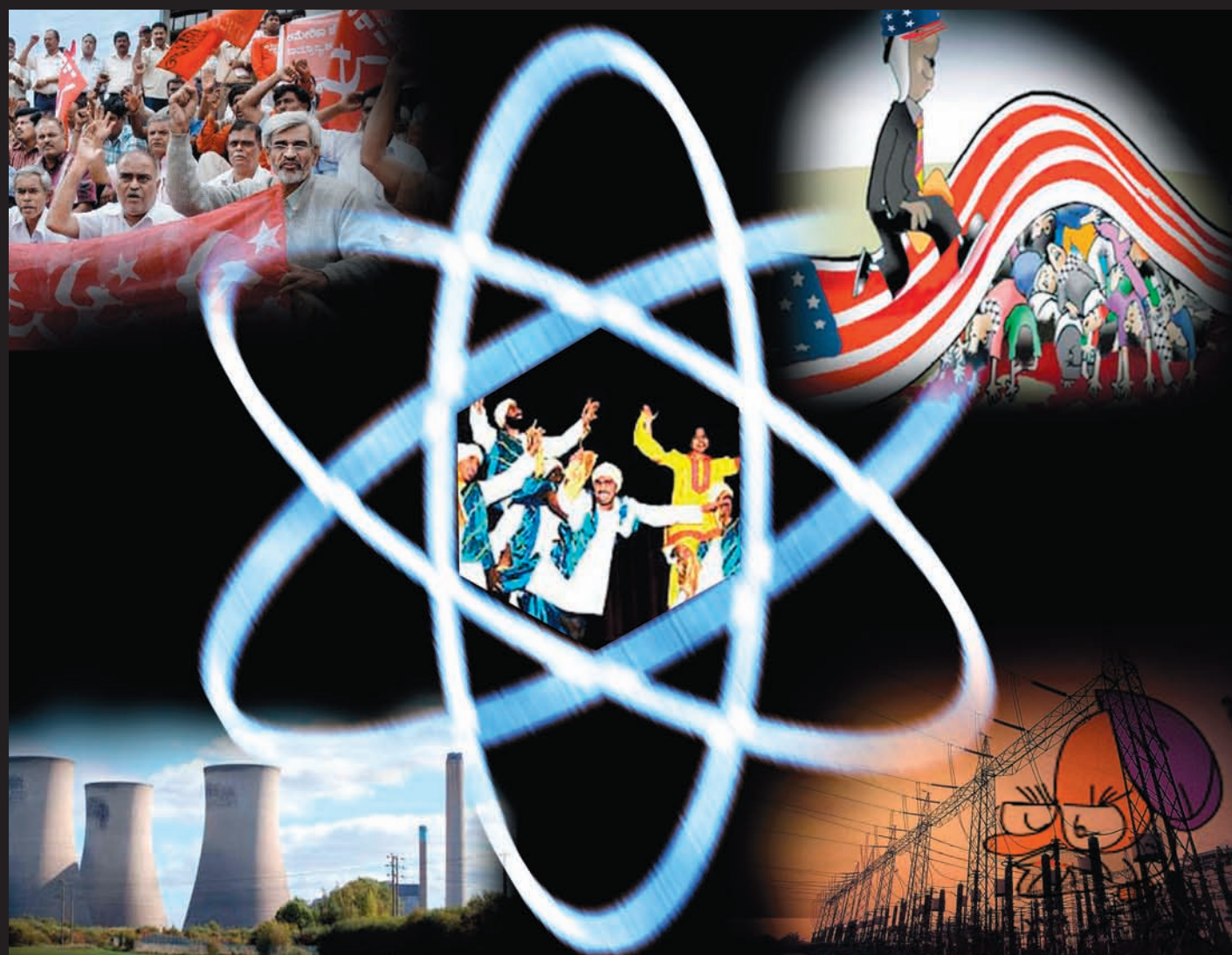
Ashish Magoo AIS, Saket

Write to tbanerji@amity.edu

# NUCLEAR FUSION

The Nuclear-deal uprore had the nation standing on its feet. Is it the magic potion to our nation's progress or just another political gimmick? **Satrajit Sahani** of **AIS East Delhi** gives a complete low-down on the nuclear issue. Read on to know everything about it ...

Imaging: Pankaj Kumar Mallik



## Indian needs

**W**hat's the hurry to allow ourselves to be trapped in the US policy of 'either you are with us or against us'? Indian leadership needs to review all aspects of the deal and go slow with such an expensive deal. We need to address the concerns of the people and some valid points raised by the people and need a clear study on the pre-and post deal scenario.

**I**ndia has rich natural resources and is able to produce excess energy, if they utilize the same. For example, we can use hydro power, wind energy, thermal energy, solar, wave, hydrogen and other such energy sources, which is a vast potential for India and not much damaging to environment and cost effective.

**I**ndia needs a better national energy policy and more investment and focus on Research & Development. Whether its USA or India, it's vast energy need for petro-products and dependency on other country leads to a disastrous end at the hands of bullying OPEC nations. We should not live at anybody's mercy.

## Nuke treaty : Deal with it!

The deal is good but could have been negotiated better. There are some points that are worrisome and could create bottle necks in the nation's progress. We have only got the 'de-facto' status and not the 'de-juro' status.

K Kumar, Journalist

"They say, nuclear deal has something to do with providing electricity and the nation's progress. I only know for sure that my household budget has overshot by 50%."

Nutan Karjee, Housewife

The nuclear deal is definitely not good for the nation's health in the long run. Our leaders are also not taking any stern steps in this regard. They give importance to their personal issues over the national interest. This is a serious matter and should be dealt with seriously.

Sunita Sahni, Teacher

### Background

**W**hat is NPT? NPT (Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty) grants the access of civilian nuclear technology to its signatories from each other as well as nuclear fuel via the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG\*) in exchange for International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)-verified compliance of the NPT tenets.

**India's Stand:** India does not sign, as it feels that NPT is very biased creating a club of "nuclear haves" and a larger group of "nuclear have-nots" by restricting the legal possession of nuclear weapons to those states that tested them before 1967, who alone are free to possess and multiply their nuclear stockpiles. The treaty also fails to explain on what ethical grounds such a distinction is valid. India insists on a comprehensive action plan for a nuclear-free world within a specific time-frame and has also adopted a voluntary "no first use policy".

**NSG\*:** An informal group led by US to control exports of nuclear materials, equipment and technology.

### India's Nuclear Approach

**Step 1:** India signs The Civil Nuclear Cooperation Agreement on March 2,

2006 in New Delhi, between George W. Bush and Manmohan Singh following an initiation during the July 2005 Summit in Washington.

**Step 2: The 123 Agreement:** The 123 Agreement of Indo-US nuclear deal refers to Sec. 123 of the U.S. Atomic Energy Act. We bring some highlights.

■ The terms of engagement operationalizes the treaty agreement between India and USA for transfer of civil nuclear technology.

■ The next step is to enter into agreement with the IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency) for safeguards of the civil nuclear reactors to be set up under the 123 agreement and to enter into an agreement with the NSG (nuclear suppliers group) for supply of nuclear fuel i.e. uranium for the civil nuclear reactors.

■ Once it is approved by the US Congress, then the deal is complete and India and USA can enter into nuclear commerce i.e. supply of nuclear reactors, transfer of technology, supply of nuclear fuel etc.

### Political Fallout

**UPA:** Regards that the expertly drafted and dexterously negotiated nuclear deal

is absolutely essential and advantageous to the country's national interests in every respect. It even put to stake the most sought after office in the land for the sake of a national imperative in the face of dire political opposition all around

**NDA:** The main opposition party, that laid the groundwork for the deal, criticized the deal saying that the deal in its present form was unacceptable to BJP and wanted the deal renegotiated. It asked the government not to accept the deal without a vote in the legislature.

**Left Front:** The primary opposition to the Nuclear deal in India, comes from the Communist Party of India (Marxist) and its parliamentary allies (CPI, RSP, AIFB). On November 17 the left parties had provisionally agreed to let the government initiate talks with the IAEA for India specific safeguards which indicated that they may support. The CPI(M), an external parliamentary supporter of government as it stipulates conditions that in some areas are more severe than the clauses in either the NPT or the CTBT. It formally withdrew its support to UPA-led government on July 8.

**Others:** In 2006, several top Indian nuclear scientists had written an appeal to



Indian Members of Parliament to ensure that "decisions taken today do not inhibit India's future ability to develop and pursue nuclear technologies for the benefit of the nation." Also, in November 2007, former Indian Military chiefs, bureaucrats and scientists drafted a letter to Members of Parliament expressing their support for the deal.

### The Pros & Cons

■ Resolves India's economies growing need for energy demands to secure its energy needs of coal, crude oil, and natural gas.

■ Spurs India's economies and bring in \$150 billion in the next decade for nuclear power plants of which US wants a share too.

■ A credit extended to India and not Pakistan based on its strong non-proliferation record and stable democracy

■ Increase the production of nuclear power generation from 4,000 MW at present to 20,000 MW in 10 years.

■ It shall indirectly increase our dependence on other nations for nuclear fuel rather than striving towards developing our own resources. Eg: Tarapur.

■ We cannot ensure regular supply from other nations due to their policy changes in their respective countries.

■ It is vulnerable to terrorist attack and nuclear leak through human error, theft of fuel. ●

There is a great campaign going in the media that if the deal is not pushed, the Indo-US relation is going to suffer. It is quite wrong and such threats should not be taken into account. There is a perception among poor people in India that US always protects the elite's interest. The deal has nothing to do with the lives of more than 1 billion (US) citizens. Hence, such opposition from the people's side against such deal is quite natural.

Dr. Sanjay Sarup, orthopedic, Max Hospital.

From what I understand, we are giving America the right to develop nuclear power. We are allowing ourselves to be overpowered by the US.

Shantanu, Student

Comments compiled by  
Amlaan Kumar  
(V-F), AIS Noida

# The Beijing Bells toll

Harsh Khatri  
AIS Saket



The Beijing Olympics that commenced amidst much fanfare on August 8, shall witness 10,500 athletes competing in 302 events in 28 sports (165 men's events, 127 women's events, and 10 mixed events), one event more in total than in Athens. Officially known as the 'Games of the XXIX Olympiad', the 2008 Summer Olympics is truly an international multi-sport event. The program for the Games, similar to that of the Athens Games held in 2004.

### The host: China

"The winning of the 2008 Olympic bid is an example of the international recognition of China's social stability, economic progress and the healthy life of the Chinese people," said the Vice Premier of China. It was a conscious decision of the Chinese government to promote the games to highlight China's emergence on the world stage. The construction of all thirty-one Beijing-based Olympic Games venues commenced in May 2007. Almost 85 percent of the construction budget for the six main venues was funded by US \$ 2.1 billion



### Official Music

'Light the passion, share the dream', the official theme for the torch relay with the English version was performed by the 106 contestants of Miss World 2007. The official song included for one-year countdown was the number "We Are Ready" with a version recorded by Jackie Chan and 'Beijing Huan Ying Ni' (Beijing welcomes you) for the 100-day countdown celebration. "I am a Star" and "Smile Beijing" were selected as theme songs for the Beijing Olympic Volunteers Committee.

### 2008 Olympic Torch

**The design:** It is based on the traditional scrolls and a traditional Chinese design known as the 'Propitious Clouds'. The flame can remain lit in 65 kilometers per hour winds, and in rain of up to 50 mil-

limeters per hour.

**The relay:** It commenced on 24 March 2008, in Olympia Greece and concluded at Beijing, on 31 March, passing through every continent except Antarctica. A total of 21,880 torchbearers were selected from around the world by various organizations and entities. The flame was even carried to the top of Mount Everest, covering 108 kms long 'highway' scaling the Tibetan side of the mountain especially built for the relay.

**Interference inertia:** Despite human and natural interference, the flame reached Beijing safely. Wide-scale protests to China's human rights abuses and crackdown in Tibet, trouble in London with several attempts to douse the flame was followed by the flame being extinguished in Paris. Changing the

course of route, the American leg in San Francisco was altered, with the remaining legs moving with less controversies. The natural devastation of 2008 Sichuan earthquakes affecting western China further delayed the run.

### Beijing Stadium: a masterpiece

Beijing National Stadium, nicknamed the "Bird nest" (because of its nest-like skeletal structure) features a lattice-like concrete skeleton forming the stadium bowl with a seating capacity of 91,000 people. Located in the Olympic Green, it occupies 21.4 hectares, stretching upto 333 meters from north to south and 298 meters from east to west. The stadium offers a decorative sound-proof, wind-proof, rain-proof, and even UVA protection to its already impressive body. ●

### Olympic logo

The official logo titled 'Dancing Beijing' features a stylized calligraphic character 'jing' (national capital), referring to the host city.



The emblem combines a traditional Chinese red seal and the calligraphic character with athletic features.

### Mascot



They are the five Fuwa ('good luck dolls'): Beibei, Jingjing, Huanhuan, Yingying, and Nini roughly corresponding with the five elements of Chinese philosophy: water, metal, fire, wood and earth. The colours of Fuwa, represent the colour of the five Olympic rings that stand for the five continents. When their names are put together - Bei Jing Huan Ying Ni - they say "Beijing welcomes you", thus offering a warm invitation.

### Slogan



同一个世界 同一个梦想  
One World One Dream

One World, One Dream, calls upon the world to unite in the Olympic spirit. It was chosen from over 210,000 entries submitted from around the world. ●

## Let's play fair

Saksham Banga  
AIS Noida



I love to play my favourite sport Cricket with the spirit: "Play fair with the spirit of the game." When Pakistani player Mohammed Asif

was charged with doping at IPL, I was dejected. Honestly, players should play sincerely and not spoil the spirit of the game. By taking drugs, you not only cheat yourself but also your fans and countrymen who hold you in high esteem. Every player should be mentally and physically tough and not get involved in such outrageous act. ●

### THE GLOBAL TIMES Crown..

..goes to China for hosting the Beijing Olympics despite all odds. First, it was the Olympic flame controversy.

This was followed by effectively combating terror threat. With tickets completely sold out, China deployed all its machinery and resources to stall rain during the opening ceremony. Surely it sent out the message ... 'rok sake to rok lo.' Anybody? It left no stone unturned to ensure the Olympic triumph. Focus, with determination, is the key to success.



# The art of Fencing



Aarushi Jain  
AIS East Delhi

Fencing is a major sport played in many parts of the world. But are all people really aware about this awesome sport? If you don't know about fencing, then just read on.

Fencing is the art of armed combat involving cutting, stabbing, or bludgeoning weapons directly manipulated by hand, rather than shot. Three weapons that survive in modern competition of fencing are foil, épée, and sabre. While the weapons fencers use differ in shape and purpose, their basic construction remains similar across the disciplines. Every weapon has a blade and a hilt. The hilt consists of a guard and a grip. The guard is a metal shell designed to protect the fingers. The grip is the weapon's actual handle. A fencing bout takes place on a strip, or

### In Fencing, a great deal depends on being at the right place at the right time.

piste, which, according to the current FIE regulations, should be between 1.5 and 2 meters wide and 14 meters long. There are at least three people involved: two fencers and a referee. The referee may be assisted by two or four side-judges (also known as corner-judges). The arrival of the electronic scoring apparatus has rendered them largely redundant.

Foil and sabre are governed by right of way rules, according to which the fencer who is the first to initiate an attack (by straightening the arm). Commonly but incorrectly it is said that the person who

parries receives right of way. Instead, the person who parries must initiate an attack to gain right of way; parrying just eliminates the opponent's right of way and grants the defender the right to make a riposte. In the event of a double touch (both fencers landing a hit at the same time), only the fencer who had right of way receives a point.

A great deal in fencing, depends on being in the right place at the right time. In general, Olympic fencing has put a premium on balance, speed, and athleticism in footwork, somewhat diluting orthodoxies regarding the classical stances and methods. To a degree, this has led to increasing resemblance between fencing footwork and that of other martial arts, with the significant caveat that a scoring "touch" requires almost no power behind the blow, only timing and the ability to manipulate distance. So, keep Fencing! ●



### Communication tuned-in

The Beijing subway system doubled its capacity to accommodate the huge rush for games, including direct links to Beijing Intl. Airport. Metro cars fitted with video screens showing the latest news and events during the games. Cellphone signals available, ensured all communication devices in the metro stations or underground. A new five-level emergency alert system for extreme weather and security threats were implemented to ensure smooth and safe transportation of the viewers.

### Inky pinky ponky Beijing bells the pollution donkey

In the last moment, one month prior to the commencement of Olympics, efforts were made to make Beijing a pollution-free venue. Traffic restrictions, factory closures and industrial cut-backs were enforced to bring blue skies and easy breathing for athletes. And when that was not enough, they went inky-pinky-ponky. On a sunny day, only cars with even licence plate numbers were allowed on the city's wide avenues and special Olympic lanes were empty. Cars were banned on alternate days depending on whether their licence plates ended in odd or even numbers.

### Speilberg walks out

Steven Speilberg, the Hollywood director quit as an artistic adviser to Beijing. Reason: China was not doing enough. It has spent billions of dollars on the Chinese capital but done nothing about the protesting Tibetans and pollution, it's main problems. ●

**Dear friends,**  
The Global Times Summer Special X'press that commenced ahead of the Summer break, received a number of entries as it crossed its myriad fun-filled junctions via mails and e-mail. We definitely enjoyed viewing the entries while you had the fun ride. And now we bring to you the results of this magnificent journey.

**Photo Journalism**

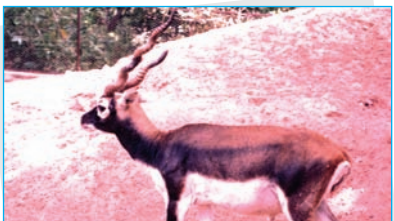
Whoops! This section received the maximum entries. Wannabe photographers are definitely on a rise.



**First Prize**  
**Raghav Paul, V, AIS East Delhi**  
*'Baby elephant enjoying heavy rain at Royal Chitwan National Park, Nepal'*



**Second Prize**  
**Harshit Singh, VII, AIS, Vasundhara,**  
*'In this world everybody has his space'*



**Third Prize**  
**Aditi Sharma, III C, AIS, Noida**  
*Endangered Beauty*



**Special Mention:** Abhinandan, III A, AIS East Delhi

**I-Care Junction**

**First Prize:** Aakanksha Chhokra, XI-A, AIS, Saket  
.... for her inspiring interview of Mr. Dinesh Arya, a 35 year old successful businessman who is working tirelessly to help the needy and poverty-stricken people and those suffering from Thalassemia, by showering affection and providing monetary support.

**Heritage Junction**

**First Prize:** Barkha Jain, VIII A  
**Second Prize:** Megha Jain, X C

**Bookworm Junction**

**First Prize:** Daksh Chhokra, AIS Gurgaon

**Movie Junction**

**First Prize:** Aishwarya Sharma, VII A, AIS Noida

# Fairy tales

**Anushka Singh & Nikita Narula**  
**AIS Pushp Vihar**

The culture of reading fairy tales is being passed on from the older generations to the upcoming generations. That is the same as saying that the generations are playing passing the parcel game with the culture of reading fairy tales. Our parents read them in their childhood days, we read them in our childhood days and now we see our cousins reading them. Have you ever wondered what this culture of reading fairy tales is and that too the same ones like Cinderella and Red Riding Hood being followed till date? Well, I'm sure it has a lot to do with the mystical and magical world of imagination that most of us likes to be trans-



ported to, even if for a short time. The author of Cinderella and Red Riding Hood was Charles Perrault and were published in the 17th century. This means that the culture of reading fairy tales started in the 17th century and has become very popular amongst children since then. Thus, children hear about them from their parents and enjoy it thoroughly. We hope that this culture of reading fairy tales keeps passing on. ●



**Bhavna & Sajal**  
**AIS, Sec. 43, Gurgaon**

**Student:** Nurse! Nurse!  
No one pays attention to me.  
**Nurse:** Next!

**Teacher:** Here is your report card.  
**Ben:** I don't want to scare you, but my dad said if I didn't get good grades, somebody was going to get spanked.

**Teacher:** Can you name the seven continents?  
**Phil:** I don't have to. They have already been named.

**Cafeteria worker:** Why do you keep spitting on your food?  
**Steve:** I thought you might want some feedback.

**Ryan:** What's that in my food?  
**Cafeteria worker:** Ask your science teacher. I can't tell one insect from

another.

**Carl:** My brother copies everything I do!  
**Nurse:** Why is he acting like an idiot?!

**George:** Mom, does God go to bathroom?  
**Mother:** Why do you ask, my child?  
**George:** I heard dad saying "Oh! God are you still inside?" in the morning.

**Riddle:**  
**Q.** Why did the police search the boring teacher's classroom?  
**A.** They'd heard there'd been a kid napping.●

## The Inevitable Suffering

**Ashish Magoo, AIS Saket**

I am a flower  
Undernourished in a deserted vale  
From haunts of tempest and thunder  
Now detached and pale.

I was shed in a brook  
And so sighed in temporary relief  
'Cause the waves lash'd and shook  
And took me for an unprepared ordeal.

So whirling with the eddying waters  
And cascading with the waterfall  
Thrust by sleet and downpours  
In the hail of the fall.

And curse my sedentary existence  
The water wild went o'er me  
And little could I move my petals  
Which soon desolated me.

Yet some loyal remained  
As my forlorn hope  
But even then I was made  
To doubt my faith and troth.

I flow, still, relentlessly  
Though numb and cold this season  
To see the spring sunshine and lily  
Somewhere beyond the horizon.●



**Peehu Gupta, AIS Noida**

## Joys of friendship

**Ruchi Avtar, AIS Vasundhara**

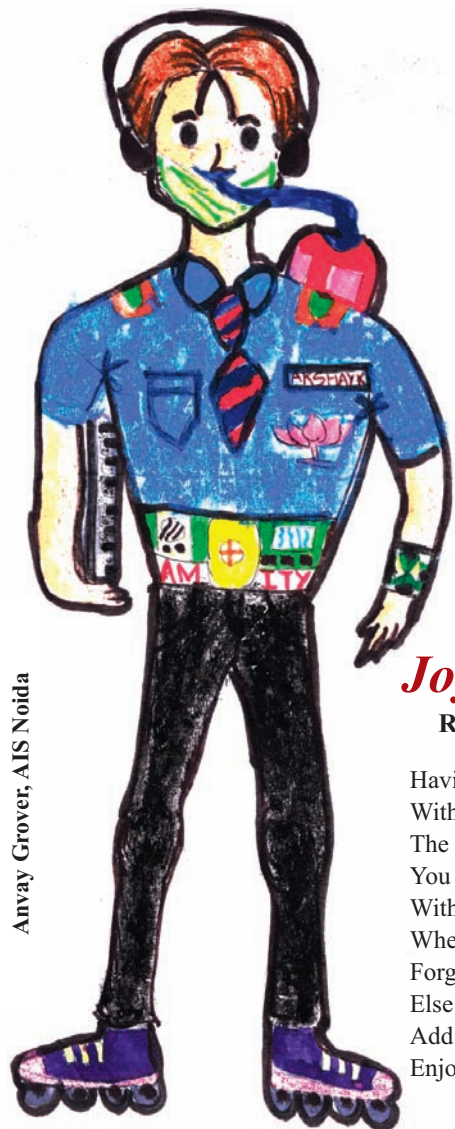
Having friends is joyous best,  
With them you can laugh and jest.  
The help that they give selflessly,  
You cannot repay with money.  
With you they want to play,  
Whether its night or day.  
Forget not to appreciate your chum,  
Else you will be pretty glum.  
Add new friends one by one,  
Enjoy a life full of fun!●

## Mother India

**Procheta Chattaraj, AIS Sec 43, Gurgaon**

O' mother! Thank you for the love showered,  
Your caring touch is like the dew drops.  
Heritage and culture are the wealth of your land,  
Towards neighbours you extend a helping hand.  
Your ethics and morals are your pride,  
On the eve of any festival you look like a dazzling bride.  
You are the messenger of harmony and peace,  
Here we all live in absolute bliss.  
I respect you from the depth of my heart,  
O' mother INDIA! Together towards progress we depart.●

**Anvay Grover, AIS Noida**



## Are we really free?

**Akanksha Gupta, AIS Pushp Vihar**

Are we really free!!  
Even after 61 years of independence  
Poverty and misery are in abundance  
Government, insensitive and corrupt  
Plans programs and policies only on paper but do not resurrect.

Aids and subsidies are there indeed  
But do not reach the poor in need  
Policy failures everywhere erupt  
Committing suicides, farmers cut promises abrupt.

School buildings without roofs and altar  
Teachers without pay, classrooms without desks,  
Midday meal without scheme, always faulters.

Hospitals without doctors, wards without nurses  
Maintenance and sanitation are sin,  
Frauds and mismanagement but always win.

Unsafe water to drink and bathe,  
Still relieving under open sky  
Epidemics and diseases are order of the day  
While officials and law-makers make hay.

Tolerance is our cultural heritage  
Yet, daily accidents occur due to road rage,  
Many women are still trapped in their home-cage,

So news is always depressing on the front page.

Child labour is rampant everywhere,  
But the government does not care,  
Reservations serve the political ends,  
Kills merit and talent, but who cares!  
Are we really free, after forcing British to flee?? ●



**Saanika Baga**  
**AIS Noida**

# Protecting Intellectual Property Rights

Amity

Innovation Incubator

Corporate giants like Microsoft, IBM, Ranbaxy, Novartis, Coca-Cola, Gillette have been widely admired for their success and growth rate. But what is it that makes them stand apart? It is the Intellectual Property portfolio, including patents, design & trademark, which is the active ingredient in their success. Keeping this in view, Amity Innovation Incubator (AII), which helps entrepreneurs realize their dreams through a range of infrastructure, business advisory, mentoring and financial services, organised a day long seminar 'Protecting Intellectual Property Rights' at Amity University Campus, Noida. The seminar, being held in collaboration with India Juris, Trademark and Patent Attorneys, focused on the commercial aspects of IPRs, enforcement of IPRs, design and geographical indications, trademarks and copyrights. The seminar included interactive sessions on 'IPR Laws and Regulatory Framework', 'Patents', 'Trademarks and Copyrights', 'Design and Geographical Indications', 'Enforcement of IPRs' and 'Commercial aspects of IPRs'. Mr. Sameer Rastogi of Indian Juris, an International Law Firm focused his deliberations on the commercial aspects of Intellectual Property Rights. Drawing an important comparison be-



## Important global IPR websites

<http://ipindia.gov.in> (India)  
<http://www.wipo.net> (WIPO)  
<http://ep.espacenet.com> (EPO)  
<http://www.surfip.gov.sg> (Singapore)  
and <http://www.jpo.go.jp> (Japan)

tween the number of patents that are filed yearly in India vis-a-vis US, he said that US PTO issues nearly 200,000 patents every year whereas Indian PTO granted 15,262 patents during 2007-08. This does not mean that Indians are not creative or competitive but simply points to the fact that the area of IPRs needs awareness at grass-root levels. Suggesting ways to

commercialize the patent, he further said that "a direct way of monetizing a patent is to base a company on its patent and develop a business around that technology. He also shared some important facts about auction of IPRs, which helps the companies to expand into new markets or to enlarge their product lines and services and also, advantages of such actions. Another speaker from Patent Office, Delhi cleared the mist around design and geographical indications and registration process in India. Elaborating on the features of design necessary for registration, she said that the features of design must be new, original, distinct and clearly visible. The design must not be disclosed to the public anywhere by publication in tangible form, or by use in any form prior to the filing date." Talking about the benefits arising out of registering the design, she commented that the registration of design facilitates appearance of that design which in turn promotes marketability of product. Over 30 delegates from start-up companies including Techtribe, India Juris, Patent Office, Anand & Anand, GVC, Semantics and Visuals, Efextra, Glue Design, Ambio Research, TIE, Creative Vistas, Lex Orbis, Teva Pharmaceuticals, Fox Mandal attended the stimulating sessions of the seminar. ●



Tree plantation by the new batch

## A heartwarming start

Amity International Business School welcomes new batch of students

Sampada Sansara, ANN

An enthusiastic batch of young, bright, spirited and passionate students joined the AIBS family this year and commenced their two years rigorous training with one of the best and largest International Business Schools of Asia. A structured Orientation Programme was conducted for them with an aim to imbibe the schools philosophy, explore their creative talents and inculcate management lessons through practical experience of organizing events such as community lunch. A solemn ceremony of 'Havan and Puja' was organized to seek the blessings of God Almighty. The students were imparted first lessons and advice on communication, thinking out-of-the-box and their code of conduct during their tenure at the institute, all using researched letters/stories of role models, specially designed exercises

and interactive sessions.

Sports forms an integral part of activities at AIBS, hence the students took part in sports events every day after classes. They were also joined-in by not only their faculty but also the Pro VC-AUUP and DG AIBS. The students were divided into groups namely: Achievers, Believers, Creators, Dreamers, Enhancers, Facilitators, Go-Getters, Hi-Flyers and Innovators, with various scheduled events that ensured that they work hard and put in over sixteen hours of work from day one. Besides academics various sports, culture, debates, quizzes, discussions and deliberations held, ensure the overall development of the students. Each group of students section took a step forward for relationship building and nurturing by planting a tree, which will be looked after by the students during their stay, a small symbol of their development as an Amitian. ●

## RAW lecture

As Dulat, Former Chief, RAW delivered lecture on the topic "Terrorism & Its Impact on India" at Amity University Campus, Sector-125, Noida. In his lecture Mr Dulat briefed the audience regarding the history of terrorism in India. He said that India is an old victim of terrorism. He narrated many instances of terrorist strikes in major Indian cities and assassination of great leaders like Late PM Smt. Indira Gandhi, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi and Chief Minister Beant Singh. Mr. Dulat discussed the cause, consequence and future plans for tackling terrorism. Dr. Ashok K. Chauhan, Founder President, Amity University said that he is grateful to Mr. A.S. Dulat for presenting lecture on such a strategic topic which revolves around National Se-



Participants at the RAW workshop

curity of the country. Faculty, Senior officials of Amity University and RBEF were present during the lecture session. ●



Top: Amity's French jury with CM Sheila Dixit; With State Education Minister Arvinder Singh Lovely

## Excellence award

Amity Gurgaon-46 is proud to announce that the school has been selected for the State Award under the 4th Computer Literacy Excellence Awards for Schools- 2007 instituted by the Dept of Information Technology, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, Government of India. The award consists of a trophy along with a cash prize of Rs 1.5 lakhs. It will be handed over by the Honourable Minister for Communications and Information Technology, Government of India at an award distribution function scheduled to be held on 28th August, 2008 at Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi.

## Applauding excellence

Amity Saket boasts of an iridescent board result in 2007-2008. The school accredited and acknowledged the meritorious performance of the achievers in the Felicitation Ceremony. The event held on 5th August was presided by the inspirational presence of Chairperson, Dr. (Mrs.) Amita Chauhan. In her congratulatory address, the Chairperson

lauded the unfading endeavour of the Principal, teachers and the parents towards the attainment of towering percentages. The event witnessed the felicitation of the Principal, Vice-Principal, teachers and achievers of classes X & XII. Truly, it was a day dedicated to steer students towards still higher summits of glory. ●



## Van Panchayats

Amity School of Natural Resources and Sustainable Development organised a two-day training workshop on 'Role and Potential of Van Panchayats/JFMCs for Sustainable Livelihood' organised at Dehradun from July 4-5, 2008. The workshop was inaugurated by Banshidhar Bhagat, Minister for Forest, Environment and Transport, Government of Uttarakhand. The Study material book was also released by him on the occasion. K L Arya, Principal Chief Conser-

vator of Forest, Uttarakhand Forest Department and Managing Director, Uttarakhand Forest Development Corporation, Government of Uttarakhand was the Guest of Honour. Prof. B K P Sinha, Director, Amity School of Natural Resources and Sustainable Development highlighted the objectives of the workshop. Around 125 persons comprising Deputy Forest Officers, Rangers, Forest Guard, Van Sarpanch, Village Pradhans, Van Samiti Members, NGOs and others attended the workshop. ●

## Entertainment with a purpose

Amity International Schools as an Academic partner to WorldKids Foundation organised Delhi's organised first ever, week-long "WorldKids International Film Festival" for children from July 25 to 31, 2008. The festival was inaugurated by Delhi CM Shiela Dixit, Additional President,



CM Sheila Dixit presenting memento to Amole Gupte, Script writer TZP

RBEF and Chancellor Amity University, Rajasthan Aseem Chauhan, Script Writer TZP Amole Gupte and Festival Director, Manju Singh by lighting of lamp amidst chanting of Holy Saraswati Vandana by students of AIS, Pushp Vihar. The fest dedicated to the spread of 'Entertainment with a purpose' was a window to value based entertainment. ●



# Earth unearthed

I read, I forget. I see, I remember. I do, I understand.



Vasudha: 1. AIS Saket, 2. AIS East Delhi, 3. AIS Vasundhara 4. AIS Sec 46, Gurgaon, 5. AIS Pushp Vihar, 6. AIS Noida, 7. Amitasha, 8. Amity Indian Military college

Vasudha, the brainchild of Dr. (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson Amity Schools, is not only a befitting tribute to Planet Earth, but is also the first initiative of Amity International Science Children Foundation (AISCF).

The launch of Vasudha (Amity School Children Science Congress) was followed by an orientation programme for teachers, a student-teacher orientation programme in respective schools, progress monitoring workshop and first level assessment of projects. The process culminated with the first level of presentation assessment organised for all the 10 schools from July 18 to Aug 2, 2008. The best three projects from each class evaluated by an eminent panel of jurists from Dept of Science & Technology, Govt of India, Vigyan Prasara, NCERT and Delhi University, qualified for the next level to be held in September. Chairperson extended her thanks to Uzzwal Madhab, Adviser-Science Com-



munications and Jyoti Arora, Project Coordinator and Resource Person, for making the Vasudha challenge possible.

**AIS Noida** (July 18-19): Chief Guest for the day Dr. Ashwini Kumar Bohra, expressed his delight at the incorporation of innovative topics in the exhibition. Projects as Rooftop Rain-water Harvesting, Algae Bioreactors, E-Waste Management, Green Buildings, Geothermal Energy, Home Vermi Composting, Water Purification by Bioremediation and Wasteland Management, amongst others were displayed.

VASUDHA UPDATE *					
School	Proect tally	Selected projects	School	Proect tally	Selected projects
AIS East Delhi	160	20	AIS-46	138	30
AIS Noida	700	100	AIS Vasundhara	19	3
AIS Pushp Vihar	38	6	Amitasha	16	6
AIS Saket	172	24	(Saket+Noida)		
AIS Gur-43	76	25	Military school	8	3

**AIS Gurgaon 43** (July 21): The projects were displayed under various categories for different classes. Chairperson inspected all the models and interacted with the students.

**Amity Indian Military College Manesar** (July 21): The students presented thought provoking models on different types of pollution.

**AIS Saket** (July 23): Some commendable projects displayed included Solar Disinfection of Water, Stain Removal Techniques, Wind Energy Generation, Paper from Water Hyacinth

and Solar Powered School.

**AIS Gurgaon 46** (July 25): Students presented projects on Flora and Fauna, Underwater World, Global Warming, Life in Polar Region and Caring & Valuing Vasudha. Two street plays written and directed were performed by the students at Galleria Market in DLF area and few residential areas. Kulvinder Singh Saini, Dr. Madhu Pant, Rekha Aggarwal, Dr. Anita Gulati and Dr. Vinod Aggarwal graced the day.

**AIS Pushp Vihar** (July 30): The school displayed 38 models out of

which 6 were selected. The models and presentation skills were applauded.

**AIS Vasundhara (July 31):** Numerous projects like *Mooh Chidhate Koode ke Dher* – *Hal Milne Mai Nahi Hai Der*, E-waste disposal, *Pradushit Pani Hamne Jani Aapne Mani*, displayed were also among the selected projects. Children from neighbourhood government schools were also invited on the occasion.

**AIS East Delhi** (Aug 1 & 2): Guest of honour, Sr. Scientist Dr. Subodh Mohanti, Dr. B K Tyagi, from Vigyan Prasara and eminent jury members graced the occasion. Projects such as cutting down domestic waste, hospital waste disposal, bio-plastics, best uses of waste hair, safe disposal of toys and herbal plants were exhibited.

**Amitasha** (Saket, July 23 and Noida, Aug 1): Through nukkad natak, the students spread the message of team work and environment related issues. (\* Approximate figures) ●

## Grand Parents day



Amity, International School, Vasundhara celebrated Grand Parents day on July 19, 2008. The

celebration that aimed at enduring the family values, included grandparents of class VII to IX students, who were invited on the occasion. Through dance, skit and personality pageant, the students paid tribute to their grandparents for their contribution towards the society and strengthening the familial bonds. The event put together by the students and teachers under the able guidance of the school principal was highly appreciated by all.●

### Top of the Tops

## Cracking the

As per Mark Twain's philosophy, ignorance and confidence are must haves to achieve one's goals; ignorance, so that one yearns to know more and confidence, to be able to imbibe all one needs to succeed. Here, CBSE toppers of 2008 spill the beans on their winning recipes to overcome the boards with flying colours.

### Maths

"It pays to practice Mathematics. I used to take one sample paper everyday and it helped me to time myself. Also, it is important to catch hold of as many practice papers as possible."

**Shweta Balachandran AIS Noida: 100**  
"Mathematics is not a subject which can be read overnight. It requires a lot of practice and that too regular. This helped me secure the marks that I got. Also, the support of my teachers and parents cannot be forgotten. I owe my success to them."

**Saloni Kapil, AIS Sec 46: 99**

### Social Studies

"Read the course book thoroughly. Pictorial study is of utmost importance;



some chapters can be studied in tabular form. I looked up newspapers for topics like disaster management and stuck up tables of events over my study area."

**Shivani Airi, AIS Gur 43, S St: 100**  
"I was really weak in S St, but I worked hard with test/sample papers to convert my weakness into my strength."

**Nandita, AIS Gur 43, S St: 100**

### English

"I read the course books many times and referred to the TOI's editorial to enhance my vocabulary. It's important to present one's answers well, so I made sure that I wrote in good hand writing, besides highlighting the important points. Speaking in English with my friends and family also kept me in good stead."

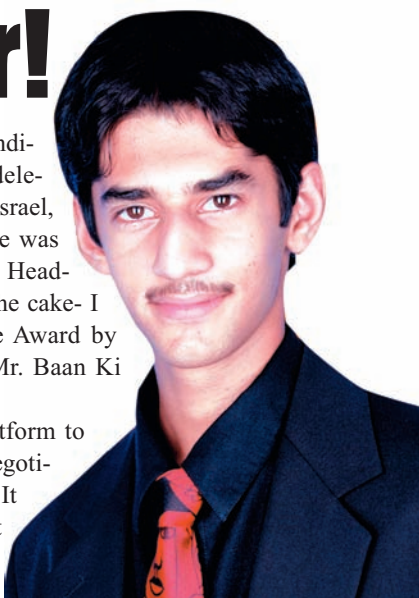
**Shivani Airi, Gur 43, English: 97**

## Magnificent MUNer!

Akhil Bhardwaj  
AIS Saket

To those who aren't acquainted with the concept of MUN- it is a conference in which students get a chance to play the roles of ambassadors of various countries to different committees in the UN. The purpose is to focus on pressing issues that face the world and to engage in debate about the foreign policies of the nations and about solutions to the problem. I was selected as a part of a 4- member team to participate as a delegate in the UNA-USA Model United Nations in New York City on the basis of my performances at past MUNs in Delhi. I was given a scholarship by Merrill Lynch for my

travel, stay and conference expenditure. Attended by over 3,600 delegates from the US, UK, Spain, Israel, Japan, China, etc the conference was held within the United Nations Headquarters in NYC. The icing on the cake- I was awarded the Best Delegate Award by Secretary General of the UN, Mr. Baan Ki Moon with a pat on my back. UNA-USA gave me a great platform to develop my skills in debating, negotiating, savoir-faire and diplomacy. It made me take a stand on different issues, ready to take on the society and the world at large. ●



## Jhanak Jhanak Payal Baaje

Dancing her way to Limca Book of Records



**Payal Mathur**, a class IX student of **Amity International School, Noida** set the stage ablaze with her record breaking and stupendous Kathak performance for continuous 24 hours from 6:00 am on July 14 to 6:00 am on July 15, 2008 at D Block Auditorium, Amity Campus, Sector-44, Noida.

The little challenger, with the blessings of living legends Pt. Birju Maharaj, Ustad Iqbal Ahmad Khan, successfully carved her name in the prestigious Limca Book of Records (LBR). For the first time in entire UP and Delhi /NCR, she per-

formed for 24 hours continuously. Kathak exponents and her Gurus Nalini and Kamalini ji encouraged her. Throughout her performance she seemed determined enough to make it to the glory of success. She danced on both live music and recorded music. The zeal and enthusiasm of the spirited Payal didn't wane with the passing of the day. Her parents, relatives and siblings cheered her intermittently. Dr. (Mrs.) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity International Schools and Ms. Mohina Dar, Principal, AIS Noida motivated her with their presence. Talking about her meticulous preparation for the non stop performance, she said that she started practicing in the beginning of May this year for long stretches, almost 14 hours continuously. Gradually, she increased her stamina and finally decided to go for LBR. She modified her diet pattern as well and shed some weight too. Apart from dancing, Payal is also a good painter, an approved drama voice for All India Radio and has anchored many shows on television.●



Pragya Singhal & Mehak Bhatnagar  
AIS East Delhi

*Diamond studded skies  
A dark velvety night  
A beautiful fairy flutter  
Glowing wig with a brilliant light  
A Wand in her hand,  
Crown on her head  
Long flowing hair  
Makes one stop and stare!*

What is similar in them – Harry Potter, Secret World of Fairies, Barbie and Thoda Pyaar Thoda Magic? Yes, you might have guessed – Magic! When we talk of magic, a familiar word springs in our mind – fairies. Adored by

## Fairies in Wonderland

Only if all fairies like Rani Mukherjee (remember TPTM?) could be real, the world would be so beautiful. But, are fairies for real?

one and all, fairies are the symbol of joy and happiness. And why only fairies, there are angels, pixies, and the like that young children connect with magic. Many questions soar in our minds: Do fairies exist or are they just a figment of our imagination? What do they look like? What would it be to be a fairy? Says Disha Gupta, a pre-schooler, “I love fairies because they have golden hair and carry a magic wand that can fulfil any-

one’s wish.” For Anupam, a four year old child, fairies are fantasy except for the Tooth Fairy. “I know she is real because I always get a rupee coin when I put my fallen tooth underneath my pillow,” he exclaims with a glint in his eyes. A toothless grin hides a broken tooth under a pillow, wishing for the tooth fairy to visit and leave a gift behind. “I would like to have wings like fairies, so that I could fly to school and back,” wishes Diya (II-D),

AIS East Delhi. “Fairies do not exist. They are simply imaginative creatures from granny’s stories,” says Shashvat (IV B), AIS East Delhi. The belief of children makes it a crime even to ask the question, whether fairies exist or not. These magical creatures enchant and allure young children. Though ‘yes’ opinions may differ, but one has to agree that even the thought of a fairy, brings a smile to everyone’s face. ●

## Film Review

### Thoda Pyaar, Thoda Magic

Rating: ★★<sup>1/2</sup>

Cast: Rani Mukherjee, Saif Ali Khan, Ameesha Patel, Rishi Kapoor  
Director: Kunal Kohli

Anwesha Padhy  
AIS Vasundhara

There is pyaar and there is magic too. But none is available until the interval. In the first half, all you get to see is a business tycoon Ranbeer Talwar (Saif) attending award functions and getting involved in a hit-and-run case. He is appointed as the foster pop to the orphaned children by a court order and the trouble begins. Children hate him and want revenge. Enter Geeta (Rani Mukherjee), a fairy sent to Earth by God (Rishi Kapoor) to



solve the family’s problem. Rani’s bringing in tranquility, love, and bonding to the household forms the rest of the story. Rani as an angel is nice and enthusiastic and prevents your mind from going off the radar. Saif as a rich, spoilt brat comes naturally to him. But, it’s the children who actually catch your attention. If you want a little magical charm in your life, go watch it. ●

## Game Review



Rating: ★★★★★<sup>1/2</sup>

## Worthy of a ‘Gamer’ title

Mayank Joneja & Ainesh Bakshi  
AIS Noida

Crysis aka the PC killer, so called because of its high system requirements which would make one cry, ‘Bloody Murder’, is a game which has revolutionised the way the common gamer would look at PC games especially in the FPS (First Person Shooter) genre. Set in the year 2020, it revolves around US Marines (what’s new?), wearing ‘Muscle Nanosuits’ which grants access to the character to enhance its strength, speed, armour and stealth (wherein you can become invisible). We play ‘Nomad’, a member of the Elite soldiers who are sent to a tropical island in North Korea to investigate a supposedly ‘Classified’ operation run by General Kyong. The operation is thought to be after an inexhaustible power source which is exponentially more productive than nuclear power. According to the General, it would give him all the power he needs to build up an arsenal capable of bringing Armageddon to the USA. But it’s not so, as the operation is after an ‘out-of-the-world’ element and mind you, it is not the regular “shoot-em-aliens-up” game. There’s an intriguing twist in the tale. It is worth all the bells and whistles you hook up onto your PC because of the divine graphics and gameplay experience that it has to offer. So all-in-all, a must buy for any person who considers himself worthy of the title of a ‘Gamer’. ●

When boys of 8-10 years old love to play cricket and football, Raghav Paul of AIS East Delhi is hooked to a camera. The sight of him holding a camera may just appear like a young lad fidgeting with a gadget, but when the pictures are clicked and developed, one is taken aback at their amazing beauty. Arush Dua of AIS East Delhi in a tete-a-tete with Raghav.

### Tell us something about yourself?

I am a 10 year old boy studying in Class V. My hobbies include swimming, playing cricket, visiting wild life sanctuaries, travelling and photography. I am also very tech-savy.

### When and how did you develop a fantasy for photography?

I owe it a lot to my family. My father is a freelance photographer. My grandfather is also a photographer. Hence I naturally picked up this hobby. Infact I began clicking photographs when I was four. During weekends, I always carry my camera and click lots of snaps.

### Do you aspire to take photography as your career ?

No, photography is my hobby. In fact, I

## Magestic shutterbug



Favourite photograph: Seagulls at Yamuna; Inset: Raghav



want to be an Architect or an Engineer. The marvels of architecture all around the world amazes me.

### What type of camera do you use?

I use Nikon D-50 SLR and Digital Cameras.

### You have taken part in several competitions. What has it been like?

I have taken part in 4 international, 5 national and inter-school competitions. I look forward to making new friends.

Inputs by Satrajit, AIS East Delhi ●

## Top accolades received

- First Prize in BBC International Website, 'Generation Next Photography Competition'. Awarded with Nikon D-50 Digital and his picture voted top percentage of votes. <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/6220402.stm>
- Second Prize in WHO International Photo Contest 2005-6 titled 'Images of Health and Disability'. Won, US \$ 750 and the picture published in their ICF; website: <http://www.who.int/classifications/icf/site/photocontest2006/winners/DChildren%20Winners/index.html>
- Third prize in ‘The Big Picture 2006’, photo contest conducted by ‘Amity School of Communication’.
- Special Mention Award in Sanctuary-ABN AMRO Wildlife Photography Awards 2006 where he competed with all top wildlife photographers.
- First Prize in On-the-spot Photo Contest at Horlicks Wizkids 2007.
- 3 Gold & 2 Silver medals in The Fourth International Children’s Art Exhibition of China, 2008. ●

Shivangi Kakkar  
AIS Pushp Vihar

If you use instant messaging(IM) on your computer, you may be familiar with the acronym LOL (Laughing Out Loud). But what about BRB, TTYL or ROFL? Especially among teenagers,



## Wlcmm 2 IM langwaj

you’re just as likely to encounter IM-speak in the real world as you are on your desktop. The phenomenon of written IM slang crossing over into speech is manna for linguists. Professor David Crystal, who has written extensively on language and the Internet, observes: “I see a brand new variety of language evolving, invented really by young people, within five years! It’s extraordinary.” This virus attacks millions of victims, every second, and addicts them all to the funky IM lingo! Though teens do admit having used IM or SMS lingo for a negative effect, several others believe this is just another stage in the journey of English. It has actually enhanced the language with over 200,000

words! “They extend the range of the language, the expressiveness, the richness,” says linguistics professor Crystal. Sure, they still commit the classic blunders with an increasing number of students submitting class work containing words that may confuse adults but are part of the teens’ everyday lives. Believe it or not, but this code language connects millions of children over the globe and helps them relieve their stress. It is considered to be one of the few networks that directly affect a child’s psychology, be it in a good or bad way. It might get you teen to start using abusive language, but might also convince him to stay off of addictive hazards like drugs. May God bless the IM lingo! ●

