

"Dream your dreams with conviction, you will be unstoppable."  
Dr Ashok K Chauhan

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# One eye for vision - one for implementation

**T**he most outstanding thing about Dr. Ashok K. Chauhan, is his all encompassing personality. He overwhelms you with his immediate need to take your life and your vision to another level. He takes over in his belief that each one of us is special and we need to have conviction in the fact that we can over-reach. We need to have indomitable faith in the power within and have ken to dream the undreamt. This is the charismatic impact he has on people. While trying to contain his tall personality in words, people call him a visionary, a stimulating educationist, a successful entrepreneur, a role model, a steadfast guide and an unfaltering mentor.

Another aspect that shines through is his voyager like attitude to explore new horizons fearlessly. When everyone asks why, his first reaction is why not. What is the power behind his unfailing spirit, Saumya, Bhuvan (AIS Noida), Ashmani, Utkarsh (AIS Pushp Vihar) and Pavuni (AIS Saket) find out as they catch him in a reflective mood. Excerpts from the interview:

As a child, were you more academically inclined or free spirited? What did you aspire during your formative years? Please tell us a little about your educational background.

I was a mixture of both. Academic excel-

lence is very important but so are extra curricular activities. Like they say, "All work and no play, makes a Jack a dull boy". As a child, I aspired to be someone who could transform people's lives and serve humanity globally. I completed my education from different places; I did my schooling from Dhampur, Bulandshahr, continued at Meerut, doing my M.Sc. (Chemistry) there. Did Chemical Engineering with specialisation in petrochemicals, and pursued research at West Germany (now Germany).

What inspired you to become an educationist?

It was my mission to serve humanity that inspired me to become an educationist.

What is your success mantra? Please share some of the experiences that made you successful.

To be successful, one needs to love and respect people from the heart. I am very focused in my mission and about my dream and I don't let anything deter me. The secret of my success lies in my conviction. I am a compulsive fighter and pursue hard to achieve success. Even as a young boy, I had big dreams and people mocked at me as a day dreamer. But I have one thing to say to everyone who has the

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## Achievements

From humble beginnings in a small town of UP, to becoming the Head of Research and Development at Daetwyler Group, Europe, Dr Ashok K. Chauhan has aggressively pursued excellence in whatever he has done.

1. In 1973, he started his own venture from a town Celle in Lower Saxony in West Germany (now Germany), then shifted to Frankfurt area from where the group rapidly grew and diversified as the AKC Group of Companies, an international industrial and trading empire dealing in petrochemicals, and activities in various other areas, with a turnover of over US \$1.6 billion.
2. He established the first Amity

International School in 1991 in New Delhi, managed by the non-profit Ritnand Balved Education Foundation (RBEF)

3. In 1995, the Amity group expanded into higher education and in a short span of time, has grown to serve more than 50,000 students across 22 campuses, offering more than 130 courses at undergraduate and postgraduate level through Amity University (UP), Amity University (Rajasthan) and Amity Global Varsity.

4. Dr Chauhan envisions to make Amity an indomitable tool for nation building through education and training, not just in India but the world over, by setting up Amity Universities in various other parts of the globe.

# Spare the rod

ANN Correspondent

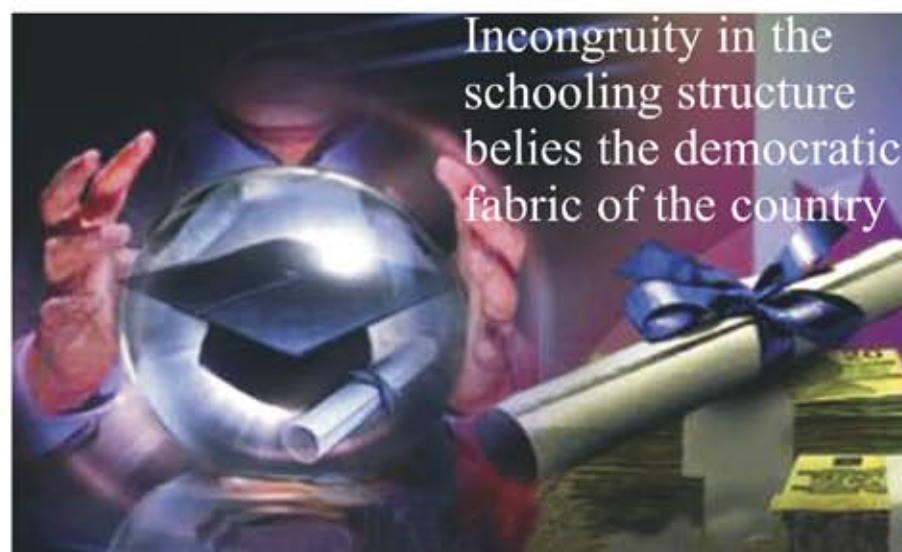
**S**chool life is synonymous with rewards and reprimands. We spend a lifetime in our alma maters amassing shields and trophies. We collect reprimands and punishments too, albeit in our memories, as memorable incidents that we laugh about later, or unpleasant parts of our past that we wish never existed.

**The last resort:** Miraculously, a number of youngsters have the impression that a little bit of spanking, conveys the message loud and clear that misbehaviour is not permissible. "One can't do away with corporal punishment entirely; sometimes raising one's hand is unavoidable", says Karan of AIS Noida. For some though it should be the last resort. Deeksha of AIS Saket, says, "The rod should be used as a tool of correction for the child, not as a weapon of abuse."

**Criminal act:** Kids who are punished more often take corporal punishment rather lightly. Quite often, they are the ones who display violent behaviour as adults. "Criminals are not born. As children, they inculcate certain habits that make them socially undesirable", says Saumya, AIS Noida.

**Consensus:** The verdict is out. Corporal punishment is undesirable; its results are short-lived. The government ban is the proverbial nail in the coffin. "A child should get a chance to justify his/her action", states Anshu Bhatnagar of AIS, East Delhi. If the cane is banished forever and methods like counseling, negative reinforcement and self discipline are applied; it may do a world of good to young, impressionable minds.

# One country one education



Tulika Banerji, ANN

Incongruity in the schooling structure belies the democratic fabric of the country

Lack of vocational content and a curriculum alienated from the industry is a cause of distress among students.

'golden' years of emancipation from extrinsic forces, the system of education leaves much to be desired. Not only is illiteracy rampant in the country, a handful of literates are being served dismal assimilation in the name of education.

Education builds the foundation of a successful life and is the sole factor

responsible for the strength of a nation. In India, the pattern of education varies from state to state. The inherent lack of uniformity in the schooling structure belies the democratic fabric of the country which aims at promoting unity in diversity.

Innumerable educational systems viz. CBSE, ICSE, UP Board, Andhra Board, and more like them, divide the country into incalculable fragments. "A restructuring at the grass root level is the need of the hour. None of the boards can claim to be the best. The aims and objectives of education need to be questioned. What are we aiming

at- churning out rote learning individuals and bookworms or intellectuals worthy of leading successful lives?" asks Dr Ritu Dewan, Headmistress, DPS Meerut.

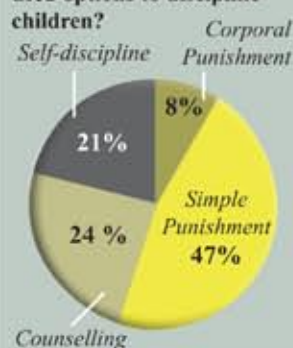
One pit leads to another. Post exams, it's time for admissions to undergraduate courses. Thousands of students through the Delhi University campus to pursue courses of their dreams. Again, they accost segregation in the form of differences in marks.

Swetha Balachandran, of AIS Noida, has a story to share. "In my family, we are four cousins, all in class 12 but will be giving a different 12th board examination. While one is under Tamil Nadu board, another is in ICSE, the third is in the British system of education under the 'A' level examination.

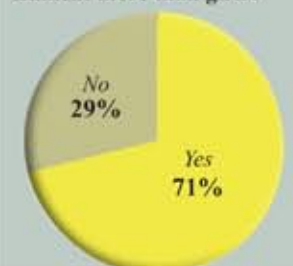
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## POLL

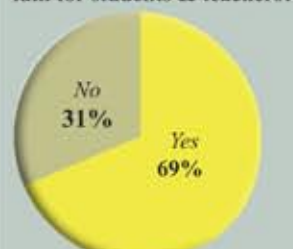
What are the commonly used options to discipline children?



Are boys subjected to punishment more than girls?



Should anger management be a part of school curriculum for students & teachers?





# Physical solutions

We live in a world that is increasingly dependent on physics and fuelled by breakthroughs into unknown physical domain. Although, we are discussing amazing things about the interaction of sub-atomic particles; unfortunately, the number of students opting for physics is falling. Here, **Vishakha Garg, AIS Noida** delves into the causes of physics phobia, how to overcome it and ways of solving physics problems effectively.

There is a declining interest in physics today. There are several reasons for the growing physics phobia. A large percentage of students indicate that they are interested in physics but are intimidated by the level of difficulty. This is because most of the high school science courses rely on learning by rote. Physics, on the other hand, deals more with quantitative skills and connections between concepts. Rote based methods do not work for Physics. Teaching methods, too, do not infuse fun into physics learning. Thus, high school students associate an extremely high level of difficulty with this discipline.

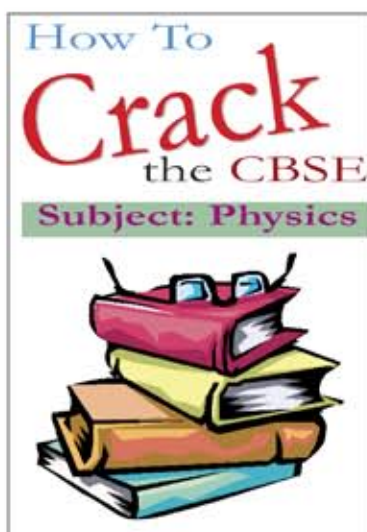
## Not so scary

Physics is still a very sought after subject. The future prospects in physics are much more than in any other pure science subject. A compulsory subject in the science stream, students opt for it, to fulfill the eligibility criteria for various competitive examinations. Few students opt for physics, purely for the love of it. However, physics is not as formidable as it appears. In order to deal with it, a fresh perspective of "can do with consistency" needs to be reinforced in a student.

## Physics Mantras

Students should listen to class lectures attentively. What they can get out of a lecture is directly proportional to what they put into it. They should try and make it an active, pro-

ductive learning experience, by asking questions and absorbing content. They should carry the textbook to school and mark all the important points in it, along with tips from



every lecture. Thus, by the end of the year, they will have one comprehensive book to study from; each page of which will be like an interactive lesson. Some students are used to scribing lecture notes. Such practices should be discouraged as the student is more engrossed in writing than absorbing the lesson. Students need to devote time to studying physics each day rather than a large amount of time once in a week. This allows the material learnt to sink in, thus keeping pace with the course. If you do fall behind, then skim the course material already covered for its most important points, and move on to the thorough study of the current

course material.

Students should not memorize physics. The temptation to memorize indicates lack of understanding. In the words of Charles M, "The equation  $F = ma$  is easy to memorize, hard to use, and even more difficult to understand."

## Problem solving

Problem solving can turn into a thrilling experience if students follow the advice given below:

1. Students should read the problem carefully to make sure they understand what is being asked before attempting.
2. They should not rush into solving; instead, first formulate a strategy for solving such as - classifying the problem according to its method of solution - Is it a 'constant acceleration problem', 'a work energy problem' or a 'Gauss law problem'?
3. It is easier and less error prone to keep the quantities as symbols until the very end (for e.g. it is easier to do algebra with the symbol 'x' than with its numerical value).
4. Students should make a sketch/graph or a circuit or ray diagram to familiarize them with the situation. CBSE exam papers are very student friendly. They have some knowledge based, some concept based and a few application based questions to cater to all types of students - the ones who can cram, the ones who understand the concept, and the ones who can intelligently apply the concepts to different situations. However, the latter will have an edge over the others.

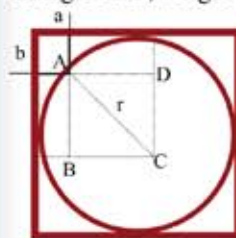
# Strain your brain

## Mathematics Puzzles-2

1. A chess board contains 64 squares. A border around the board is 2 cm wide; length of the chess board is 24 cm. Find the length of each square.
2. The altitude  $AD$  of a  $\triangle ABC$ , in which  $\angle A$  is obtuse, is 20 cm. If  $BD = 20$  cm and  $CD = 20\sqrt{3}$  cm, determine  $\angle A$ .
3. Two circles with centres  $A$  and  $B$  and of radii 5 cm and 3 cm touch each other internally. If the perpendicular bisector of segment  $AB$  meets, at  $C$  on  $AB$  and the bigger circle at  $P$  and  $Q$ , find the area of  $PCB$ .

## Solutions (Puzzle 1)

**Sol.1** We have given  $a = 1$  cm,  $b = 2$  cm  
Also we have,  
 $BC = r - a$ ,  $AB = r - b$ ,  $AC = r$   
Now using pythagorus theorem in triangle  $ABC$ , we get



$$\begin{aligned}(AC)^2 &= (AB)^2 + (BC)^2 \\ \Rightarrow r^2 &= (r-b)^2 + (r-a)^2 \\ \Rightarrow r^2 &= (r-2)^2 + (r-1)^2 \\ \Rightarrow (r-1)(r-5) &= 0 \\ r &= 5 \text{ cm} \\ \text{if } r &= 1 \text{ cm then,} \\ r-b &= 1-2 = -1 \text{ cm which isn't possible.} \\ \Rightarrow r &= 5 \text{ cm} \\ \text{Now area of the circle is } \pi r^2, \\ \Rightarrow \pi(5)^2 \\ \Rightarrow \text{Area} &= 25\pi \text{ cm}^2\end{aligned}$$

**Sol. 2**

$$\text{Let } \sqrt{1+\sqrt{1+\sqrt{1+\dots}}} = Y$$

On taking square on both the sides, we get,

$$\begin{aligned}1 + \sqrt{1+\sqrt{1+\sqrt{1+\dots}}} &= Y^2 \\ \Rightarrow 1 + Y &= Y^2 \\ \Rightarrow Y^2 - Y - 1 &= 0 \\ Y &= \frac{1 \pm \sqrt{1-4 \times (-1)}}{2} = \frac{1 \pm \sqrt{5}}{2} \\ Y &= \frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2}\end{aligned}$$

**Sol.3:** The number of students between 5th and 16th, is 10. The same is true for the other side of the circle, therefore 20 students. And 5th and 16th students are also there, so total number of students are  $10 + 10 + 2 = 22$

$\Rightarrow$  Total number of students = 22

Courtesy: Amity Institute of Competitive Exams

Answers Jumble-1  
1. SHAM  
2. CALM  
3. DENT  
4. HATE  
5. COIN  
6. DIES  
7. OVER  
8. EACH  
9. ABLE  
10. ROPE

## ENGLISH JUMBLE-2

- |            |             |
|------------|-------------|
| 1. ASSRG   | 6. LESBS    |
| 2. YIPCS   | 7. MTSI     |
| 3. LAMB    | 8. REGTA    |
| 4. UCSSESC | 9. ADBER    |
| 5. YIAMT   | 10. TMRIUXE |

Answers Jumble-2  
1. GRASS  
2. SPICY  
3. BALM  
4. SUCCESS  
5. AMITY  
6. BLESS  
7. MIST  
8. GREAT  
9. BREAD  
10. MIXTURE

# Tongue tied?

The ability to converse in a multitude of languages opens up diverse career options

Tulika Banerji, ANN

"Usted desea ser un experto de la lengua?"

Sounds Greek? In fact, that is Spanish for "Do you want to be a language expert?" Human beings are introduced to language, right after birth. Infants communicate in the language of wails, gurgles and smiles. As one grows older, language follows a definite pattern and one imbibes the language one hears around oneself. The ability to converse in a multitude of languages, especially foreign ones, opens up a vast vista of lucrative career opportunities. The globalisation of the economy has been particularly favourable for language experts. Linguists can find job openings in entertainment, public relations, mass communication, tourism, embassies, publishing, interpretation and



## Institutes offering foreign languages

- Amity School of Languages, Noida
- University of Delhi, New Delhi
- Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Jawaharlal Nehru Academy of Languages, New Delhi
- School of Languages - Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi
- Japanese Information and Cultural Centre, New Delhi
- Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi
- Benaras Hindu University, Varanasi
- Alliance Francaise (15 branches across the country)
- Goethe Institute - Max Mueller Bhavan (Located in major metros)
- Indo-Italian Chamber of Commerce,

- Mumbai
- Central Institute of English and Foreign Languages (CIEFL), Hyderabad
- Indo-Japan Chamber Of Commerce and Industry, Chennai
- Pune University, Pune
- Symbiosis Institute of Foreign Languages, Pune
- Tennessee Foreign Language Institute, Nashville
- Summer Language Institute, Charlottesville
- The Royal University of Phnom Penh, Cambodia
- Japanese Language School, Tokyo

translation, besides teaching.

**Translators:** General translators must possess a strong command of at least two languages. Of late, due to international interest in India and vice versa, there has been a growing demand for translators of

reports, contracts and various business documents. This is known as technical translation.

**Interpreters:** We've seen the likes of them in Miss World and Miss Universe contests, where they translate the partic-

"In today's world of globalisation, knowledge of foreign languages is a definite asset. Effective cross-cultural communication helps secure a better foothold in any industry. We, at Amity, seek to equip students with extra language skills to give them an edge over other youngsters", says Anita Sahni, Deputy Director-Amity School of Foreign Languages.

ipants' words in English for the entire world to comprehend. Interpretation can be a highly profitable career. An interpreter's job involves the interpretation of spoken words of one language into another. Thus, excellent communication skills are absolutely essential. Also, it is more of impromptu communication and one can't afford to make errors.

**Medical Transcription:** One of the fastest growing health care branches, medical transcriptionists are in high demand. This job requires one to transcribe doctors' reports, clinic notes, discharge summaries, psychiatric evaluations, laboratory reports, etc. Sound listening skills and knowledge of medical terms come handy in this field.

**Freelancers:** From translating books and economic papers, to online coaching and guidance, there are options galore for freelancers. Language proficiency coupled with managerial or hospitality degrees enhances one's chances of securing hefty pay packets.



I have finished my 10 +2. I want to pursue Nanotechnology in Amity. What is the eligibility and duration of the course?

S.D. Avinash Babu

At Amity, we have an integrated M.Tech course in Nanotechnology. Duration: 5 1/2 Years. Eligibility: 60 % in PCM or PCB. Kindly look out for the entrance test dates and log on to our website [www.amity.edu](http://www.amity.edu) for more information

I have completed my class XII but I did not have Math as a subject. Am I eligible to pursue BBA?

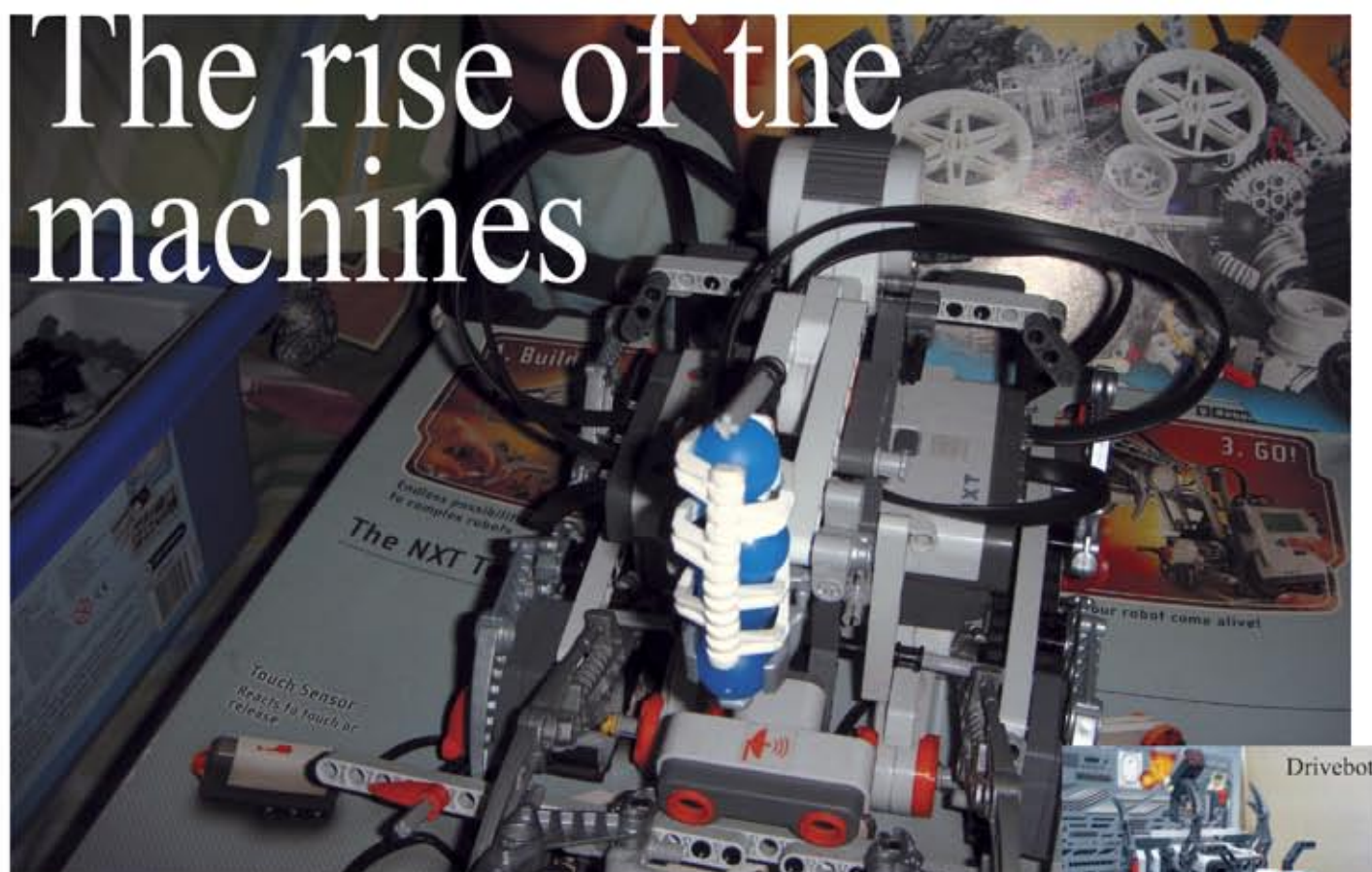
Riya Tokas

Yes, you are eligible for a BBA course. You should gather all information regarding the admission procedure, as all institutes have a different selection process.

Log on to: [Amitycare.net](http://Amitycare.net)



# The rise of the machines



The power to make robots that can fetch you a glass of water and shoot balls, is unbelievable

Ainesh Bakshi AIS, Noida

The dawn of a new era, succeeding that of the computers is on the anvil. The era of Artificial Intelligence has heralded its arrival into our daily lives in the form of a passion-Robotics. Ever since I opened my Lego Mindstorms NXT kit, my life has turned a whopping 180 degrees. The power to make robots that can fetch you a glass of water and shoot balls, is unbelievable. They can even go on surveillance missions like a

tank and switch on the TV. Performing all this by using parts from a single Lego kit and programming it through a simple PC is like a dream come true for any person interested in the technical side of things. Starting with the Robotics Club in our school Amity International School Noida, showed me new vistas of channelling my Gizmo-spirit and I got a kit from the USA on my 13th birthday, the same year. Since then, I have come a long way and watching other bots in action on Youtube or checking

out projects online has become an everyday affair for me. Some of my best creations are:

**Drivebot:** It is my first surveillance car.

**RC bot:** It can switch on the AC on a hot summer day.

**Trebuchet bot:** Flings balls at anyone who dares to enter my room without my permission.

**The bug:** It was my first walker robot that used six legs, instead of wheels, to move.

**The Warthog:** This one is my latest construction, which is an all-terrain tank and can shoot marble-like 'Zamor' spheres.●



## Driving your dream

Concept cars are mainly cars created by creative designers or an inexperienced team of car-lovers.

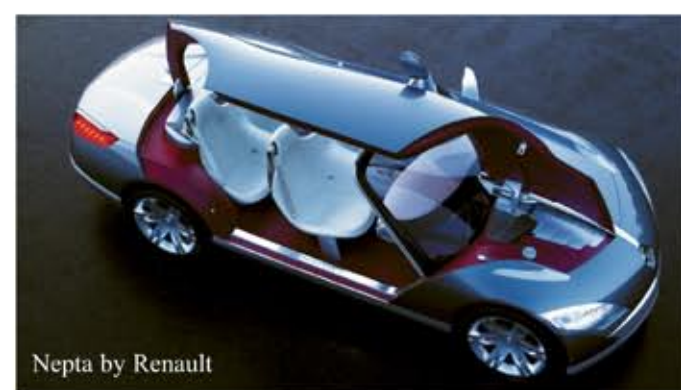
Mayank Joneja  
AIS, Noida

Every guy on earth has an unexplainable love for the mean machines; be it superbikes, choppers such as Harley Davidson, the Audis, BMWs or Lamborghinis. Among such automobiles is the breed of concept cars. Concept cars are mainly cars created by creative designers or even by an inexperienced team of car-lovers. These display unconventional systems and are generally displayed at

proportions and carefully tailored, innovative elegance are in perfect keeping with Renault's long-standing tradition in body design. Its unique opening panels and styling, which combine volume with vitality, make Nepta a truly modern vehicle."

**I-Unit by Toyota**

The 'I-Unit', shaped like a leaf is a form of 'personal mobility' that seeks to attain a greater balance of meeting both individual demands as well as that of the environment, by using Solar Power



Auto shows or Expos. The leading companies to launch such cars are Volkswagen, Toyota, Audi, Ford, Porsche, Chevrolet, etc. Some of the best designs which showcase futuristic technologies are:

**NEPTA by Renault**

In the words of Patrick le Quément, Renault's Senior Vice President - Corporate Design, "Nepta's breathtaking

and having a revolutionary waste disposal system.

**Acura by Honda**

Honda unveiled the 2008 Acura Advanced Sports Car Concept. This magnificent beast is powered by a front-mounted V-10 engine and a new high-performance rear-wheel-drive based version of Acura's 'Super Handling All-Wheel Drive'.●

## The silent stalker

Fluoride content in drinking water is the main cause of fluorosis



Debjani Das AIS, Saket

The next time your taste buds yearn for salty snacks, tempting *chaat*, *pani puri* or pickles, beware! Also, break your bond with the much yearned black tea and caution your near and dear ones against chewing their favourite *supari*/ tobacco. All of these contain a generous helping of black salt which has very high fluoride content.

Fluoride is known to cause a dreaded disease known as Fluorosis. Dr. TK Das of AIIMS, New Delhi, informs, "Fluorosis is a crippling disorder known to affect mainly the bones and joints; however, teeth in children

and some soft tissue organs like kidney and upper GIT are also known to get adversely affected." Some other major sources of fluoride are -

- Water
- Industrial pollutants
- Medicaments/ medicines

Fluoride contained in drinking water, is known to be the main cause of fluorosis. Fluoride does not change the colour, odour or taste of water and there is no way the consumer can detect it, unless tested in laboratory. In India, more than 20 states and union territories including the National Capital Region (NCR) of Delhi, are known to be endemic for fluorosis, due to the presence of high concentration of fluoride in

groundwater. Out of the different types of water filtering systems available in the market, only reverse osmosis (RO) systems are known to remove fluoride from water. The '*Is me fluoride bhi hai*' toothpastes, mouth rinses and other dental products along with certain drugs, are also reported to increase the intake of fluoride in our body.

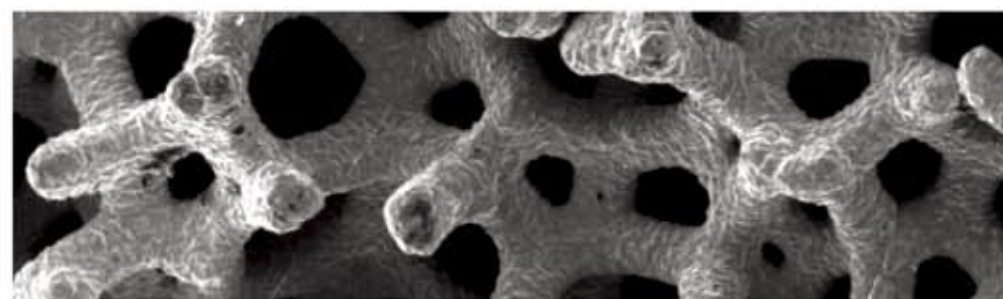
The dreaded ill effects of fluoride toxicity generally start with dyspeptic symptoms like pain in the stomach, nausea, a bloated feeling and loss of appetite. In later stages, severe pain and stiffness in the major joints of the body are observed, finally leading to a crippling condition like paraplegia (paralysis of lower limb and trunk).

Dr. AK Susheela, Executive Director, Fluorosis Research and Rural Development Foundation and eminent scientist of international repute, says, "Food rich in anti-oxidants (carrot, ginger, papaya, onion, pumpkin and garlic) and Vitamin C & E (orange, amla, tomato, almonds, peanuts, dried beans, etc.) along with a diet rich in calcium helps in combating the adverse effect of fluoride toxicity."

Therefore, in order to lead a healthy life, drink safe water, eat nutritive food and don't get enticed to buy fluoride containing toothpaste. Take care - the *silent stalker* is on the prowl!●

## Stemming stem cells

Stem cells can be tailored to beat like the cells of the heart or produce insulin like the pancreas



ANN Correspondent

Picture this. The year is 2070. In the super specialty surgical chambers of the Moon, a 10 year old boy is getting a new heart grown from his own cells. Incredulous? Maybe not. Keeping in mind the pace at which stem cell research is headed, there is a high probability of human beings being able to transplant their non-functional or defective parts of the body with organs created from stem cells.

**Stem cells: What's the buzz?**

Stem cells are those cells that can renew themselves constantly through the process of cell division. These cells have the unique characteristic of developing into specialized cells to perform specific functions similar to the various organs of the body. Stem cells

can be tailored to beat like the cells of the heart or produce insulin like the pancreas. All stem cells have three common features: they can divide and replenish themselves; they have no special function of their own; and they can be developed into specialized cells in the laboratory.

**Where are they found?**

Stem cells are of two kinds: embryonic and adult stem cells. Embryonic stem cells originate in embryos. They are sourced from eggs that are fertilized in in-vitro fertilization clinics. While, an adult stem cell is one that has not yet generated structures characteristic of a specialized cell type.

**Stem cell research**

Stem cell research has gathered momentum in the recent years primarily due to the rising demand of alternate cure for diseases which require

organ transplants. Stem cell research deals with enhancing knowledge and information about the development of a single cell into a new organism and replacement of old damaged cells with healthy cells in adult organisms. Stem cell therapy is alternately called regenerative or reparative medicine.

Stem cell therapy can provide revolutionary solutions for cell replacement in diseases like Parkinson's and Alzheimer's. Also, diabetes, osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, heart diseases and even burns can be treated more effectively.

**Career prospects**

Stem cell research offers immense possibilities as a career option. There are avenues in bioinformatics, pharmacology, molecular and cellular biology, etc.●



# “I am my own inspiration”



Pavuni Rohatgi  
AIS, Saket

“No one was ever great without some portion of divine inspiration” is a famous Latin quote. I wonder, do we, today's youth, really need inspiration? In other words, is there anybody who perspires enough to inspire? Or are we incorrectly using the word 'inspiration' instead of the more apt 'appreciation'?

I appreciate what film actors, business tycoons and politicians do. I appreciate their hard work, discipline and struggle to reach the zenith, but, am I inspired by them? My answer is NO. "One of the reasons that there are very few role models is that the world is now far more peaceful than it ever was. In the past, as modern society and the current democratic principles based on welfare state were evolving, many personalities with strong convictions, right as well as wrong in

I believe that our strength is within us. We do what we want to do. Nature has given us, all that we need in our lives.

their beliefs, were role models. Of course, film stars and singers were always role models. In today's world, everything is well established and there is little scope for individuals to stand out." says Mr. Rakesh Malhotra, Resene Paints, Fiji. I believe that our strength is within us. We do what we want to do. Nature has given us, all that we need in our lives. The catch lies in our varying abilities to identify them. I remember having read a poem in Hindi in class VII. It was a beautiful

description of how everything in the world is hidden under a sheet, which is waiting to be removed so that we can enjoy the luxuries bestowed on us by nature. The key to one's inner self, one's potential and using it optimally, lies in self motivation. Self motivation is the power to believe in your strengths and abilities and to tide over the hardships of life with success. One can achieve everything one wants to. The power has been, and always will be, within us, but nothing will happen, until we are motivated enough, to change our lives and fulfill our desires.

One may appreciate and try emulating certain qualities of people, but it is important to be self driven. When I was in class V, my teacher had put up a large chart in the class that said, 'I CAN AND I WILL'. Greatly influenced by those words, I do believe in my power to conquer the sky, the power to climb and tide over the highest peaks of adversity. I believe in the power of 'me'!●

# For a ‘noble’ cause

## Microfinance: manna for the poor

ANN Correspondent

Last year, Mohammed Yunus of Bangladesh was awarded the Nobel Prize for pioneering micro credit lending schemes for the poor, in Bangladesh. In our country too, credit schemes have been providing respite to many poor villages from the clutches of carnivorous land lords.

This is a tale of two compassionate individuals in our country who walked the same tight rope as Yunus. One is M. P. Vasimalai and the other is Chinnapillai. One, an IIM Ahmedabad graduate who decided to follow in the footsteps of predecessors like Dr. Verghese Kurien and dedicated himself to the upliftment of the oppressed in Pullucheri, a small village close to Madurai. The other, a woman who came to this village 30 years ago, as an 18 year old after she married Perumal.

Pullucheri was a village fighting the trinity of oppressive landlords, debts and unpredictable monsoons. It was a place where it was normal for the landlord to dictate and arbitrate, for people to fall sick and die and children to grow up with no education. The efforts of Vasimalai and Chinnapillai have today made it a federation of Kalinjams that has as much as 3.5 crores circulating among its members.

Before Chinnapillai got married and came to Pullucheri, she had worked as a labourer for many years from her childhood. That she had leadership skills, was proven when she became a supervisor of a small group of women, whose work she became answerable for. "I was polite", she says, "But always nagged the landlord for bet-

ter wages for my flock." It was here that Chinnapillai acquired a reputation of being a fighter. Around the same time, Vasimalai and his team arrived in Pullucheri. In a short while, they proposed the first saving scheme to the people, who were circumspect after they had been fleeced by a smooth talker who had fled with their hard earned money. Once bitten, twice shy, the denizens of the village did not easily take to the idea of larger growth through small savings.

It was the strength of personality of Chinnapillai that carried conviction in the end. She led her group to form the first savings unit: Pulluk Kalanjiam, short for

The vision of Vasimalai and Chinnapillai is a beacon of light for the underprivileged.

'the Granary of Pullucheri'. Ten women began to contribute Rs. 20 per month. The collected sum was lent to a group member who needed it the most. They charged an interest of 60% per annum. "It was a high rate", she admits, "But a fraction of the going rate of 300% plus and nothing needed to be pawned."

In six months, their Kalanjiam was lending the astounding sum of Rs.1000 per month. This gave members the liberty to start small enterprises and meet emergencies. By 1993, there were enough Kalanjams to merit formation of a federation: Vaigai Vattara Kalanjiam (Federation of Vaigai Area Kalanjams). Chinnapillai, was of course, the unanimous choice for President.

What started as a vision of Vasimalai and the daring spirit of Chinnapillai has today spread to Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh. Who knows, with ongoing efforts and achievements worth so much commendation, Vasimalai and Chinnapillai may be the Nobel Prize winners of tomorrow.●

# One eye for vision...

contd from page 1

valour to dream big, “Reach for your dreams with conviction, you will be unstoppable.”

*Every speech of yours is inspiring and manifests love for the country. What evokes such patriotic feelings in you?*

My parents and grand parents have instilled in me great values. They all had a vision to transform society and contribute to it with a spiritual and holistic approach. Also, I was brought up in a very God-loving environment. It is their values, love for our country and the desire to make a contribution to it, that I am carrying forward this legacy. They are the ones who have inspired me the most and RBEF has been derived from their names. (Ritnand – grandfather Swami Ritnand Saraswati; Bal - father Baljit Shastri and Ved – mother Ved Vati Vidyalkar)

*How do you get the confidence to address a large audience? Please give a few tips on public speaking.*

Be honest in thought and action. Speak what you think and from your heart. When you yourself have practiced and followed everything you believe in, it is easy to speak out.

*Amity is one of the leading educational names of India. What future do you foresee for Amity?*

Amity is the biggest private education/training provider in the country offering quality education to the children and youth. I have learnt a lot from the German way of teaching and learning. At Amity, the education pattern, though following the excellence in education from the Western countries, is deeply rooted in

our rich culture, morals, values and tradition. We blend the best of the East and the West. However, there is a still a long journey ahead.

*What do you expect from the students of your schools?*

I expect all the children to work hard, with a zeal to learn; be sincere and honest, and have uncompromising faith in GOD. I am sure, the combination of these qualities will make each one of our Amitians, a success story.

I often narrate to the students the word, BHAAG; B - behaviour, H - hard work, A - ambition, A - attitude, G - God.

I tell the students that they see a lot of people running in life – at the traffic signal, while boarding a train, climbing a bus, boarding a plane, etc. Seeing this, they would automatically remember the word, BHAAG and practice each aspect of it.

*How do you feel about Pratibha Patil being the first woman President of India?*

She is a very noble and respectable person and her great achievements demonstrate her confidence in India and its nationals. I am confident that she will contribute in a big way for the development of the nation.

*Your undaunted faith in God stems from... My mother. My father taught me to be confident.*

*Your message for the Amity fraternity...*

Dream big and accomplish it! Be achievers in whatever you do, no matter what obstacles befall your way. I hope that with the formal education and good values imbibed at Amity, students will achieve great heights.●

# “I cannot stand injustice!”

says Alice Garg, social worker and Godfrey Phillip Award winner 2007

ANN Correspondent

A frail demeanour but a powerful voice that jolts one from within, that's **Alice Garg**. At 66, she is neither one to be cowed down, nor one to rest on her laurels; for her, the battle against injustice and discrimination is an endless one, of which she has won only a few wars. A woman of steel and a champion of the downtrodden, Alice has bagged several national and international awards, including Godfrey Phillip Award (2007), Jannalal Bajaj Award (2003) and Neerja Bhanot Award (2000) for her contribution to the upliftment of women and children. An award, for her, is not recognition, but an inspiration and reminder that a lot more remains to be done.

**The beginning:** I was a high school teacher, but gave up the job in 1972 to set up a children's home.

**Cash crunch:** I have seen extreme poverty. There was a time when I would sell old newspapers to earn whatever extra money I could. The meager savings that I had, I put them aside to help poor and devastated kids.

**Ray of hope:** I started Balrashmi, a society for the upkeep of rag-pickers'



An award, for her, is not recognition, but an inspiration and reminder that a lot more remains to be done.

children, in 1972 with very few children and the little money that I received from my Provident Fund. Even now, all the award money that I receive is invested into Balrashmi. I'm happy to say that a lot of my children have received formal education till +2 level, and one of them, has become head constable (her voice chokes with obvious pride). **Toiling hard:** All the workers are mostly from the communities I work with- *banajaras, bawarias, kanjas and sassis*. When they are harassed,

we take them out of their community, rehabilitate them, train them and put them back in the community to enable them help others.

**Bride and prejudice:** I cannot stand injustice. I've raised my voice against *sati*, child marriage, exploitation of women, acquittal of gang rapists and *kukdi pratha* (a practice where young brides are asked to prove their virginity on the first night of marriage). Many young brides now refuse the practice.

**Self reliance:** We teach all children and women to be self reliant. That is the only way to get respect in the world. The government has been kind with funds and grants, but *we rely more on our own strength than on others' support*.

**Volunteer:** People can help in kind, if not cash. One can contribute by donating old books, used toys, clothes and also by giving time; one can narrate stories to small children or teach in the schools that we have.

**To children, the leaders of tomorrow:** This precious time will not come back. As children, you only have to do three things- eat good food, play a lot and study hard. If you work hard now, you will be able to enjoy life to the fullest.

**Woman Power:** Women are intrinsically very strong. Which is why, the government is delaying the Women's Bill of 33% reservation. They know that they cannot put down a woman's strength. They are afraid of the power of a woman.●



# 'Jean'etically yours!

Jeans, a versatile piece of clothing that's a hot favourite of the 'young at heart'

Tulika Banerji, ANN

**J**EANS - the very word brings alive the most jazzy, easy to wear, attractive, no fuss, yet stylish part of one's wardrobe. This versatile piece of clothing continues to be a hot favourite of the 'young at heart'. Team it with a lacy top and you are ready for a party, pair it with a white shirt and it makes for an evening out; just give your imagination a flight of fantasy and you are ready for almost any occasion. Jeans have traversed a long way - from the days of greasy garage uniforms to style statements, from ill fitting baggy pants to low risers and skinny ones now.

Skinny jeans are the hot flavour of the season. It's the 80s look that's back in vogue, with denim leggings that hug your contours like second skin. Perfect with long boots, they can be paired with any footwear depending on the occasion. Skinny jeans look stunning on slim ladies. For others, there are countless options to choose from. Jeans in trouser look are another wearable variety. They have a tailored finish, quite unlike the regular ones. The side pockets and comfort fit make them office friendly. Meant for comfort afficionados

and suitable for most shapes; they can be worn to work as well as lounged in. While on denims, one can't ignore the cropped pants or capris, as they are commonly known. The best part about these is that you can convert any of your regular pairs to a cropped or cuffed one by simply folding the

J JAZZY  
E EASY TO WEAR  
A ATTRACTIVE  
N NO FUSS  
S STYLISH

## Fashion fundas - celeb style

### John Abraham

Bollywood's pin-up boy has launched his signature line 'John Abraham by Wrangler'. John loves 'Biking jeans- straight legs, low rise'. Simplicity, comfort and attitude spell his style mantras.



### Salman Khan

Black and blue jeans define the style quotient of this Bollywood hunk. Salman adores tight fitting jeans. He is majorly hooked to low waist jeans, mostly teamed with white shirts or tees. Salman has bowled many female fans over



simply in denim shorts!

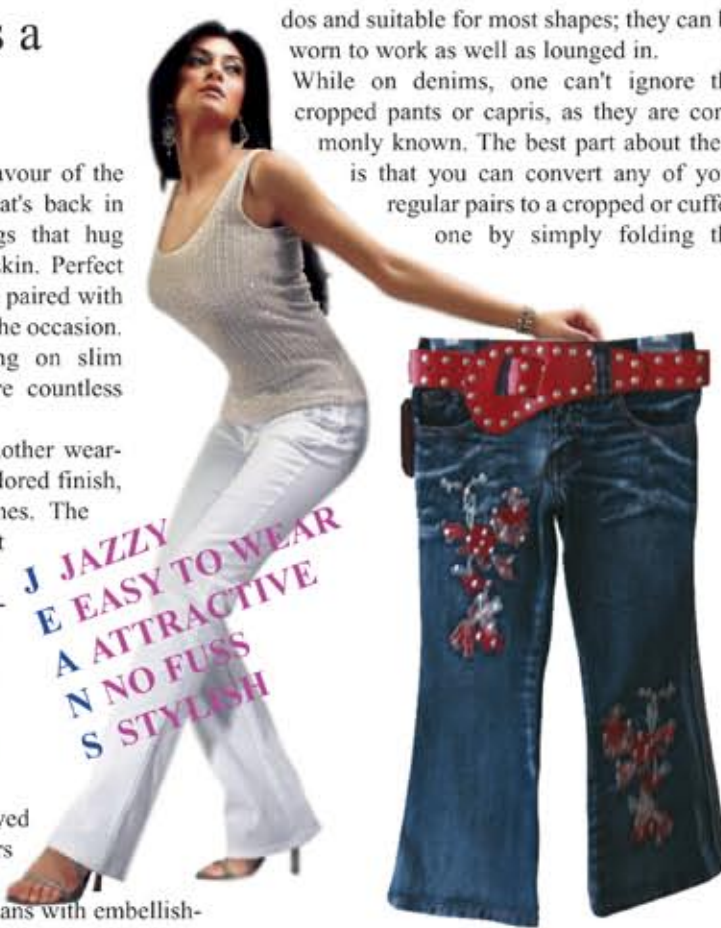
### Kareena Kapoor

The light eyed diva prefers figure hugging jeans with embellishments. She loves to go berserk buying jeans and tees.



### Priyanka Chopra

The former beauty queen is fond of comfort - fit jeans in blue, worn with shirts. A true believer in comfort, she practically lives in blue denims, preferably teamed with crisp white shirts, which are usually replaced with black ones for a more dressy feel.



# Dump the junk!

Junk food is not just a bad eating habit, it is an addiction

Ojaswini  
AIS East Delhi

**E**ver heard your kid humming to the tunes of 'No one can eat just one' and 'Kya kare? Control nahi hota?' Your heart must be swelling with pride at the little one's feat; but the pride takes a nose-dip when, instead of humming the punch lines of these advertisements, your kid starts asking you for more wafers, chocolates and burgers. It is then that the alarm bell starts to ring! Delicious burgers, mouth watering pastas, sizzling pizzas, yummy chowmien, lip-smacking momos, fizzy drinks, creamy pastries and chilled ice creams- this is not the menu list from your neighbourhood restaurant; in fact, junk food has become part and

parcel of every child's life. Today's generation has been exposed to junk food at quite an early age. Junk food doesn't need any description. We all are very familiar with it but many times tend to confuse it with fast food. Fast food, as the name suggests, is

any item which cooks fast such as 'idlis'. 'Idlis' are high in nutritional content where as junk food doesn't have any nutritional value. Do you know what you are feeding your child? Nothing but food rich in sugar, oil, too many carbohydrates, calories, fats, sodium, artificial flavouring and addictive salts! Junk food is not just a bad eating habit, it is an addiction. Salts added to these edibles are highly addictive and the regular intake of such food makes the body dependent on them and one starts yearning for more. The junk food habit is a vicious circle; it is a cycle which at first supplies us with instant energy, the effects of which are lost almost immediately thereafter. Why do we call only foreign food junk? Our samosas and



## Junktritious food

- Buy 'no cheese' burgers in place of 'extra cheese' burgers.
- Eat only brown bread and hun.
- Add vegetables such as cabbage, cucumbers, tomatoes, onions, spinach and cauliflower, etc. in your daily intake.
- Have salad along with a burger.
- Replace mayonnaise and liquid cheese with home-made chutney and hung curd.
- Choose wheat pasta over refined flour pasta.
- Avoid French fries and other salt addictive food items.
- Replace cold drinks with squash, flavoured/ butter milk, fruit juices or nimbu pani.
- Instead of munching chips, opt for puffed rice coupled with chopped vegetables and flavoured with fresh lemon juice.
- Restrict junk food to 'once' a week.

bread pakoras are no better. The oily parathas, fried tikkis and lip smacking gol-gappas can be equally unhealthy. Junk food is the root cause of many diseases such as hypertension, diabetes, high cholesterol, obesity and several heart problems. More and more children, who are consumers of junk food, are susceptible to these diseases. Research says that 30% of children in India are overweight and 1 out of 3 children has diabetic tendencies. Junk food has become a part of our lifestyle. Have we reached a point of no return? Is there no alternative? We can surely try to compensate for the 'junk' in the food by adding healthy variants to it.●

# What's your shape?

Deepti Batra,  
ANN

Neither are two facial shapes similar nor are the sunglasses that protect and enhance them. Sunglasses gently counterbalance your facial shapes and features.

To find the apt shape of sunglasses that fit your facial features, you should first know, your facial shape.

⇒ An oblong face is characterised by An angular jaw and is longer on the sides. You can counterbalance it, by- Frames with short horizontal and long vertical lines.



Big, bold sunglass frames to cover as much of the centre of your face as possible. Round and geometrical shapes can be experimented with as well. A bridge located near the middle of the frame is the best.

⇒ A square face is characterised by A strong jaw line A broad forehead Wide cheek bones The sides of the face equally match the forehead and jaw line. You can counterbalance it by- Oval frames. Slightly angular frames.

Curves at the corner of the frames to soften the look. Frames with hinges above the eye level to



lengthen the appearance. A bridge near the top of the frame adds to the length of the face. ⇒ A round face is characterised by A curvy jaw line. Less angular on the sides and cheek bones. Somewhat equal dimensions horizontally and vertically. You can counterbalance it by- Square angular frames. Low, wide rectangles and other short geometric shapes. Avoid too large or too small frames. Frames with hinges above the eye level to lengthen the look of the face. A bridge near the top of the frame, adds to the length of the face. ⇒ A heart shaped face or inverted triangular face, is characterised by A broad forehead. A soft narrowing jaw line. A narrow chin. You can counterbalance it by- Rectangular frames to give an angular look to



the jaw line. Frames that angle outward at the top corner. Wide enough to balance the jaw line. Rimless and cat-eyed shape glasses.●

## Forbidden fruit no more

"An apple a day keeps the doctor away", according to a study in the American Journal of Clinical Nutrition. When the dietary habits of more than 34,000 people were recorded, apples were one of the two foods that had the highest

correlation with reduction of both cardiovascular disease (any heart and blood vessel ailment, including coronary heart disease, stroke, high blood pressure, heart failure, etc.) and coronary heart disease (caused by narrowing of coronary arteries in or near the heart). Studies say that the other such food is pear.



## The Global Times Student Edit Body

**AIS East Delhi:** Aditya Kumar, Ankita Marwaha, Ojaswini; **AIS Gurgaon (sec-43):** Procheta Chattaraj, Siddharth Madan, Nikita Mehta, Jasmine Solanki, Shantanu Chandra, Rishabh Darbari; **AIS Gurgaon (sec 46):** Vaishali Singh, Akshay Aggarwal, Chaitanya Sood, Soha Chhaya; **AIS Noida:** Bhuwan Ravindran, Shwetha Balachandran, Aishwarya Singhal, Preeti Sampat, Venu Bhanot, Ritika Mittal, Anjana Thampy, Kshitij Lauria; **AIS Pushp Vihar:** Shantanu Dey, Ankita Naik, Aashna Gupta, Shiwangi Kakkar; **AIS Saket:** Shivika Naveen, Aanchal Dhawan, Shagun Arora, Akanksha Khanna, Pavuni Rohatagi; **AIS Vasundhara:** Ruchismita Bhattacharjee, Kristi Verma.



## Forward march



"When you have a sense of your own identity and a vision of where you want to go in your life, you then have the basis for reaching out to the world and going after your dreams for a better life."

Stedman Graham

For me, life has always been a forward looking movement. Now that the second issue of The Global Times has been released, I aspire to make it a movement for all students across the length and breadth of the country. I wish to make it a platform that every young mind wishes to use to express his/her opinion and belief. A platform that is representative of the creativity of the young India. A platform that provides a voice that reverberates in the ears of the four estates of our country and challenges them to evolve with each passing day. This is my vision for the newspaper at large. But I also have a vision for each and every student who is a part of the Amity family. That vision entails whole hearted contribution of each and every student at Amity towards the newspaper - ones who are front runners already but especially the ones who are a bit shy in expressing themselves openly. Let The Global Times be your gift to yourself. A gift that brings out the best in you and helps you realize the important role you play in building national opinion. A national opinion that will help India in graduating from a developing nation to a developed one that stands for a progressive Western view and deeply rooted Eastern values. So be a part of my vision and make it yours, for us and our nation.●

## God in small things

Nishtha Bhatnagar

विष्णु महि पूर मयूखन्दि रवि तप जेतनेहि काज।  
मौंगे बारिद देहिं जल रामचन्द्र के राज।।

**Translation:** The moon flooded the earth with her rays and nourished and nurtured every single entity that existed on earth, while the sun bestowed its warmth just as much was necessary. The clouds, on the other hand, poured as much that the farmer desired to nurture his crop/ the tilled soil needed. Such was the nature when Lord Ram Chandra Ji wielded the scepter. Such was his kingdom.

This Chowpai has been taken from the **UTTARKAND** in **RAMCHARITMANAS**. The **UTTARKAND** vividly describes **Ram Rajya** as it existed in **Dwaparyuga** of con-

### RAMCHARITMANAS RE-VISITED

**tained abundance, sustained abundance.**

In the present context, the world is suffering from deficiency of natural resources and global warming looms large. Predictions of resource extinction and severity of climatic conditions present a rather abysmal picture. The world as it was during Ram Rajya was quite antithetical to the world we reside in today. That was a world where people worshipped nature and took from it just as much as they needed. Nature too, never failed to reciprocate. It gave in bounty as it possessed in bounty. The urgency today to grab what is available and over-exploit is also reflective of our value systems as human beings. The values of moderation and sharing are a long forgotten art and the world we exist in, is the result of that callous disregard for others. The onus today lies on our shoulders to exercise temperance and moderation in our use and abuse of nature. The more we cherish, the more we would be endowed with. Thus, we will establish Tulsi Das's Ram Rajya here and now.●

# Is the 'coin' coining conscience?

Shivika Naveen  
AIS, Saket

**E**conomic boom. Business expansion. Foreign investment. Multi-billion dollar projects. When lined up like that, they make for impressive statistics. A few feats that, we, as a nation, have achieved. Progress and development have come no doubt, but the price we have paid, is invaluable. In the process, we have lost our values, morals and ethics.

In the present date and time, it might sound like something a preacher would use in his sermon, but the bottom line is that, we as a society have fallen short. For a person to be counted as successful, as well as powerful, he must be rich. Our expectations from life have sunk to an all time low, wherein we only acknowledge the power of green. Is it not distressing to know, that minting money, has become the sole purpose of our lives?

In a society, values are the foundation of harmony; of amity. But, when the recent past is taken into account, the scenario which looms large, is very depressing. From bribery to forgery and fraudulence to embezzlement, all are gnawing at the very roots of our country. According to a survey conducted by Transparency International, citizens of most countries, voted out political parties as the single most corrupt institutions. And to think, that these people hold the highest offices in India!

In a competitive world like ours, there is a constant fight for power, a struggle for supremacy. But,

somewhere along this trance, we seem to have misplaced our conscience. The little man with a goad, who would prick us every time we did something dissolute or immoral, seems to have lost his voice. *Our conscience is dead.* How else can we justify the current state of affairs?

We are known to be an ancient civilization, cultured and rooted; traditional, yet progressive; proud, yet grateful. However, today, the civilisation stands at a different altar. Exploitation of women, child labour, bribery and deception, have become everyday occurrences. The very essence of culture has been distorted. We might go further down the path of wealth in the years to come, but we are leaving behind the path not taken; the path to glory. The path, where a human is more valuable than his bank balance, or material possessions. The crass concept of materialism has slowly made its way down the strata of society and plagued every class and creed. Today, every one wants to be

well off, and they will not stop at anything, before attaining their prime goal. This level of determination is appreciable, but not when it is accompanied, by the loss of humane feelings. Brotherhood, benevolence, honesty and integrity are virtues long forgotten. It is high time that we made an earnest effort to strive for a better society. But the more urgent task in hand, is to first make a better me, and a better you. Overlook financial gains and profits, and think for once, what you want your children to become, 10 years from now. The choice is yours - value of money or value? ●

### DEBATE Money Vs Values



# Why should I switch off the light?

Aruna Rao  
AIS, Noida

**I** often dream of snow capped mountains which beckon me to ski on their slopes. However, with the ice caps gradually melting into thick streams of heated water, because of carbon dioxide emissions and the like, may be my dream will never come true. All that beckons us now is the board, "Out of Service Due to Melting Snow". Is this all that is left of our vacation?

Billion and one times, we've heard of the term 'global warming' and the various ways of preventing the same. Most of us discard this phenomenon as totally absurd or as an 'old environmentalist's' obsession. May be, we do not realize the gravity of

the situation. It's not like we're going to be young forever. Every drop in the ocean counts. Small steps like planting a tree, switching off the lights when not in use, or throwing rubbish into the bin instead of the already littered road- can make a difference. Try creating a small flora sanctuary in your garden filled with exotic flowers. These efforts are like investments on our part; a minute effort for that

**The little things we do, collect over time, like a piggy bank account, and assure our happiness in the future.**

smile and not the age old whine in the future. Who doesn't enjoy the glitz and glamour of Diwali? But, do we ever think of the slum kids who toil for months to give us a few moments of joy on Diwali? Momentary gratification it is, but we forget to notice the humongous clouds of smoke that reach out to the ozone layer and hug it, and then backstab it! We are the ones depleting the blanket of ozone.

It just needs to sink in, and sink in real deep into our hearts that the little things we do, collect over time, like a piggybank account, and assure our happiness in the future. The way you SMS a vote for your favourite Indian Idol, in the same way, try putting aside a coin of energy to save your environment. It's now or never.●

## Reader's voice

I take this opportunity to convey my deep sense of elation on the launch of the first edition of 'The Global Times'. It has the inherent potential not only to bond all Amitians but to herald a new and eloquent voice, the sound of which will reverberate far and wide, echoing the spirit of Amity, now and in years to come. Dreaming is one thing, but to bring dreams to the realm of reality requires great passion, courage, motivation and dedication. The thought on the first page of the



newspaper, "An invasion of armies can be resisted, but not an idea whose time has come", is very apt for the first issue. 'The Global Times' is tangible evidence of the unity and strength of Amity. It has provided a platform to all the Amity

institutions to express their views and ideas. The vast range of topics and issues discussed in the paper make for interesting reading, besides placing it at par with all other such publications. The paper is testimony to the liberating freedom of expression and to the ultimate consequence of the creative urge to put pen to paper. I am overwhelmed with pride at being a part of Amity Universe.

Bharti Sharma  
Principal, AIS Saket

The launching of 'The Global Times', Amity's exclusive newspaper, is a delightful occasion. The

## Velvet and Steel

There is a time for tenderness, and a time for resolve and determination

Nikita Ojha  
AIS-43, Gurgaon

**C**arl Sandburg paid an unusual tribute to Abraham Lincoln. The poet wrote, "Not often in the story of mankind does a man arrive on earth who is both steel and velvet, who is as hard as rock and soft as drifting fog, who holds in his heart and mind the paradox of terrible storm and peace, unspeakable and perfect." Lincoln's persona demonstrated how a person can possess both a will of iron and a tender heart. Nothing deterred the late President during the American Civil War from his 'noble' cause, and few persons have ever endured more criticism and detractors than Lincoln. Yet, he was no more a man of steel than one of velvet.

When General Robert E. Lee surrendered his army, Lincoln sent an unexpected message to the enemy commander. "Tell your men they may keep their horses; they'll need them for plowing," said the President. Then this, "Tell your men they may keep their rifles; they'll need them for hunting." When Lee read those words, he wept.

For each of us, there is a time for toughness and a time for tenderness; a time for resolve and a time for compassion. An iron will is not the same as an iron spirit. All life's voyages require one to change and adjust. Sometimes, being in control is what the situation demands, while, on other occasions, one can approach life with a 'no holds barred' approach. It all depends on the circumstances. However, one thing's for sure; one must possess the ability to differentiate between the two set of circumstances and identify one's role in it.

Live with an open heart and mind. Adapt, learn and compromise, if need be. Be mentally tough; your resolve and determination will overcome great obstacles along life's path. But let your heart be soft; your compassion and love will make the journey worth it.●

Neeti C. Kaoshik  
Principal, AIS Gurgaon (Sec-46)

Email your views to  
nbhatnagar@amity.edu &  
thannerji@amity.edu



# Survival of the fittest

All children face peer pressure; while some combat it, most succumb to it

Suvarna Upasani  
ANN Correspondent

“The race to be the coolest, hippest and the trendiest among your peers is high on the rise, especially among adolescents. Not trying alcohol, not having girl friends/boy friends etc., is termed as ‘uncool’ and sometimes even jerky,” says Akanksha Khanna of AIS, Saket.

All children face peer pressure - most succumb to it, while some manage to combat it. What does this oft bandied term mean? Peer pressure is a social force exerted by a group or powerful/admired individual, within a group. When in the company of like minded people, peer pressure propels one to perform well. The effects of peer pressure can



Children take to smoking and drinking to show that they’re ‘cool’ and that they ‘belong’.

be seen in things like fashion and hairstyle to more serious things like smoking and drinking. Teens follow peers to show that they’re ‘cool’, and that they ‘belong’. Children walk a tightrope between conforming to peers and not rebelling against parents. They pay a high price if they

don’t conform. They might have to deal with physical aggression, cruel teasing and even ostracism. Parents can help their children decide when to conform and when not to. Most parents tend to forget how desperately they wanted to ‘belong’ when they were children, and how awful it

felt to be left out. All parents would like their children to be sociable, even popular, but not at the cost of losing their identity and individuality.

Children need to realize that it is not necessary for friends to like the same things. If that were the case, people would just be clones of each other. A good friendship will allow one, the freedom to express one’s own opinions and the space to follow one’s own pursuits.

Aanchal Dhawan of AIS, Saket says, “Each and every child should know what’s right or wrong for him/her. In today’s world, it’s really important to know how to maintain your cool in all types of situations.” A friendship cannot always be on an even keel. Friends are bound to step on each other’s toes at some point. Friends should

be able to communicate their hurt or anger to each other. It’s not a true friendship, if they pretend that everything is fine. Children need to believe that they are individuals in their own right who deserve to be treated well by their friends, and to remind them, that friendship is a two-way street.●

# Bond with your teen

Parent-child relations reach a new altitude during teen years

Ankita Naik  
AIS, Pushp Vihar

Teenage can be a tricky time, both for children and parents. Amid adrenaline rushes and prickly pimples, a teen has a lot to worry about. Suddenly, there emerges a generation gap the size of an iceberg between teens and their parents, only the tip of which is visible. Here are a few tips on how parents can alleviate relations with their children at this crucial juncture, while keeping their position intact.

- Be an active listener
- Regulate your emotions
- Show empathy
- Avoid blaming / accusing
- Develop communication
- Express your feelings
- Trust your child
- Praise good behavior
- Show care and love

- Watch what your child watches
- Decide your values
- Discuss consequences
- Help them see another point of view



Playing together is a good bonding exercise.

- Be kind but firm
- Always give choices
- Practice relaxation
- Remember, you were once a teenager yourself!●

## COUNSEL'S KORNER

IN FOCUS: FRIENDSHIP

*I am a student of class XII and under immense pressure to perform well. However, my friend's parents are separating and I feel I should be there for her. But, I can't do that due to my studies; thus I feel guilty. Please help.*

Anamika, 17

Your friend is definitely going through a rough patch. Fix up a time in the day when you can talk to her. In that way, you will not miss out on your studies also.

*I have a boy friend. However, my parents are very conservative and refuse to talk to me unless I break up with him. I can't give him up but I don't want to disappoint my parents, too.*

Udita, 15

You need to explain to your parents what exactly it is that you share with him, which means a lot to you. At your age, it is easy to get carried away. That is what your parents are worried about. Maybe you can continue seeing him as a good friend, till such time that your parents think you are mature to have a relation with him. *My older sister is in love with a guy in her college. But, my parents are against it and threaten to take her out of college if she continues to see him. My sister has lied to them that she's broken up with him, and takes my name to go out of the house and meet him. I want to help my sister but I don't want to lie to my parents.*

Mohit, 14

If you are not comfortable lying to your parents, you should let your sister know that. Let her know ways in which you can be supportive. While you express your love toward her by supporting her in a way that you are comfortable, I am sure she will respect your feelings.

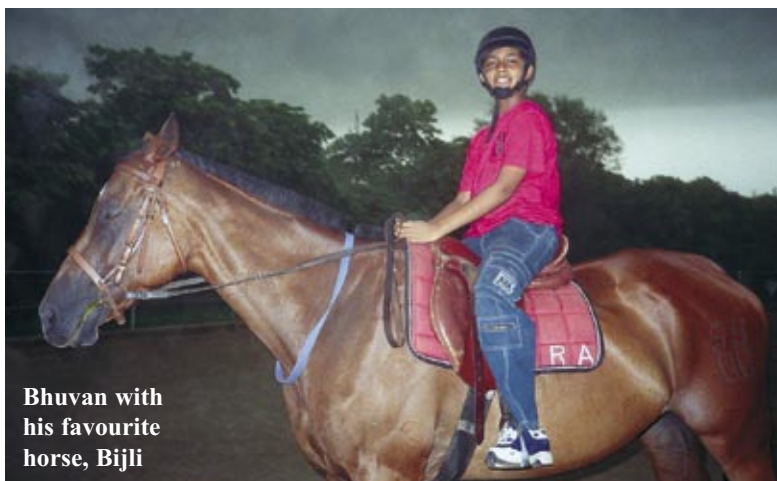
Log on to: [www.amitycare.net](http://www.amitycare.net)

# A friend indeed...

Bijli is not just a horse, but a friend who has taught me compassion and dedication

Bhuvan Ravindran AIS, Noida

Throughout the five years I've been at AIS Noida, I have learnt many things and made many friends. But the one friend I can never stop talking about is my favourite horse, Bijli. While playing cricket in the school's big playground, I would often see students riding majestically on horses in the yard at one end. I too, wanted to ride one and enrolled myself immediately at the school's Horse Riding Academy. There were many thoroughbreds in the stable but my attention was particularly drawn to a chestnut beauty whose black expressive eyes looked slightly sad. My trainer introduced her as Bijli, the difficult one. I went close to her. She sniffed and puffed her nostrils, baring her teeth as if she were smiling. She looked a perfect picture of strength and vitality. I longed to ride her. On my first ride, I found her a bit cheeky and stubborn. She would't budge even when I nudged her with my heels. That didn't make her 'difficult' - rather it was funny in an adorable kind of way. Bijli is sweet and humble while the other horses have a triumphant, 'know it all' look about them. She is humble



Bhuvan with his favourite horse, Bijli

as she is the youngest of all the horses in the barn and perhaps feels that she is not as well rated as the others. Poor Bijli! It looked as if she was saying that she had let her master down. So what if the other horses hogged the limelight? I knew deep down, that she had incredible potential, and was capable of being a tournament horse. “Not to worry Bijli, we have to win many ribbons and make a triumphant team!” I said, ruffling her mane one day. I finally took to riding her and developed a strong bond with her. I made it a point to visit the stables frequently, carrying with me her

favourite goodies - sugar cubes and carrots. Later my trainer told me that whenever Bijli hears the stable gates open, she raises her graceful head and waits expectantly for me. I enjoy stroking her brown coat and offering her the dainties after which she sniffs me around to show that she is always glad to see me as well. Although she was considered to be stubborn, Bijli obeyed all my commands. And gradually she was trotting, cantering and even galloping obediently. I think, she sensed what I had in mind for her and that affected her performance too. Tales of my strong bond with Bijli

had caught everybody's fancy. By now, Bijli had become famous among my friends, who often tagged along to meet her. On one such visit, Bijli was in a nasty mood. As my friend Sharan moved forward to pat her cheeks, she almost bit him. She never seemed to be doing it to me and I was rather cross that she did it to my friend. I admonished her for the rude behavior and she hung her head as if in shame. Just as I moved away, she tugged at my shirt. I stopped and turned. She pressed her face against my shirt and licked me as if to apologise. I didn't know what to do and was speechless at this gesture. I then realized, that the bond between a horse and rider, is stronger than one can imagine. Bijli possesses the ability to sense my feelings and respond accordingly. I am now committed to making her a competitive horse which means riding more frequently on her. My friends often ask, “Don't you get tired doing this?” How can I tell them that Bijli is not just any horse but a friend who makes me immensely happy and has taught me a lesson or two in compassion and dedication. And all that she seems to want is to feel needed, maybe important and a handful of sugar cubes.●

## Are you a true friend?

Shagun Arora AIS, Saket

*“Don't walk behind me, I may not lead. Don't walk in front of me, I may not follow. Walk beside me and be my friend.”*

Everyone longs to have friends to laugh with, to cry on their shoulders, to talk to as hours go by or

just to sit quietly with. Everyone yearns for a person whom he or she can truly call a ‘friend’ and a friendship with ‘no strings attached.’

Why is it that such a relation is hard to find today? What prevents people from being selfless? Today, friendship has taken a back seat, generous bonding is no longer a priority; the only thing that



matters is the greed to achieve a higher status. In schools too, why do people form groups? Students flock, despite not relating to some of their peers because they feel they will stand to gain in some way. True friendship multiplies our joys and divides our sorrows. To find one real friend is good fortune; to keep him is a blessing. We all need someone with whom we can share our lives,

thoughts, feelings, and frustrations. We need to be able to share our deepest secrets with someone, without worrying that those secrets will end up on the internet the next day! We always seek our own benefit while making friends. If friends are true, there is no backbiting, no negative thoughts, no turning away. Honesty and trust are the building blocks of friendship. True friendship is like a china cup; once broken can be mended, but the crack is always there.●



# Sports calendar

## Sweepstakes all the way!



**Skating sensation: Neha Singh of AIS Saket**  
 • Won gold medals in 500m and 300m races in summer skating meet in RD International School, Dwarka.  
 • Won Silver medal in Inter School Skating Championship in AIS, Gurgaon.  
 • Received bronze medals in 13<sup>th</sup> Chandu Memorial Skating Meet and 27<sup>th</sup> Delhi State Skating Championship 2007.  
 • Awarded silver medal in 16<sup>th</sup> Inter School Roller Skating Championship held at Summer Field School, New Delhi.

## Bull's eye

**Tushar Sirohi, Kshitiz and Parth** of AIS, Sec 43 bagged

the first position in the championship organised by All India Association for Archery. The victorious team won a cash prize of Rs.150 each.

## Shooting

AIS Noida came out with flying colours in the U.P. Inter School Shooting Championship held at Godwin Public School, Meerut. **Mohit Singh** won a Gold medal in the Air Rifle category. **Arpit Goel** bagged a silver medal in the Air Pistol category, while **Ritika Mittal** won a bronze medal in the Air Rifle category.

## Tennis

Amity International School, Noida hosted the CBSE East Zone Tennis Championship



2007. Playing the right strokes furiously, the host team bagged the first position in both the Under 14 years (Girls) and Under 19 years

(Girls) tournaments respectively.

## Checkmate

An inter school chess competition was organized at AIS, Pushp Vihar. There was active participation from schools all over Delhi. In the under-9 category, Modern School, Vasant Vihar was the winner and in the under-14 category, **Raghuveer Singh** of Junior Modern School came out victorious. AIS,

Pushp Vihar and Sanskriti were the runners up in both the categories.

## Giant strokes

**Samridhi Bhutani**, of AIS Saket won two silver medals



and one bronze medal in breast stroke swimming competition in CBSE Nationals, held in Chennai.

## Calisthenics

**Ritika, Saira and Nishtha** of AIS Noida bagged first prizes in the 7<sup>th</sup> Delhi Zonal Gymnastics Championship in the girls' category. In the under 12 boys championship, **Vedant, Ayush and Akshay**, also of AIS Noida, emerged victorious. ●

## MS Dhoni

Dho Dala



**Born:** July 7<sup>th</sup>, 1981, Ranchi, Jharkhand

**Current Position Held:** Captain of the Indian Cricket Team (ODI)  
**Batting Style:** Right Hand Bat  
**Bowling Style:** Right Arm Medium  
**Friends Call Him:** Mahi  
**Debut:** Bihar Cricket Team 1998-99

**Highest ODI Score:** 183 runs of just 145 balls against Sri Lanka in Sawai on 31st October 2005.

**Man of the Match:** 7 Times

**Records:** The score of 183 is the highest in ODI cricket in the second innings (Earlier record: 153 by Lara).

The innings featured 10 Sixes, the most by an Indian in an innings, and the second highest in ODI cricket. (The highest is 11 by Sanath Jayasuriya and Shahid Afridi) He broke Adam Gilchrist's record of 172 for the highest score made by a wicket keeper. ●

Tulika Banerji, ANN

Frothy waves, steep rapids, water spraying the face, a rush of adrenalin and thrill of the unexpected - water sports surely pump up the energy level and set the heart beat soaring! If the untamed, wild waters beckon you, water sports are made for you!

**White water rafting:** It involves cruising down a river in an inflatable rubber raft over boisterous waves and twirling water to experience exhilaration of a lifetime. It is for those brave-hearts who love the excitement of heading into unknown territory; are not scared of cascading waters and preferably, know how to swim. Nowadays, even amateurs can explore the easier rapids, for there are latest safety equipment available, allowing even non-swimmers to undertake a voyage. Though, there are stretches that run smoothly, to get the taste of real thrill, one must wade through troubled waters! Whether one lazily rafts down a river or enjoys the thrill of white water rafting, it is an enthralling experience. Indian rivers like Ganga and its tributaries-Alaknanda & Bhagirathi and Indus, Zaskar and Teesta make great rafting stretches. The stretch of river Ganga via Rishikesh is a particular favourite with the rafters. Water rafting is a treat to the eyes as one meanders through fine countrysides, and soaks in the wilderness. The sheer power of the river, the deathly quiet that slowly culminates in a deafening roar, and the team spirit-all make river rafting an extremely memorable experience. Also called river running, water rafting is generally offered by tour operators and travel agencies, as part of vacation trips, at affordable prices which are mostly inclusive of accom-

# 'Wet'scapade

Water sports beckon nature lovers and thrill seekers to experience the excitement of a lifetime



White water rafting



Water skiing



Scuba diving



Sailing

modation, food, lifejackets, helmets and a guide.

**Scuba Diving:** Scuba - diving (derived from scuba: self-contained underwater-breathing apparatus) is an exciting

water sport. Experience the rich and practically unexplored world of under sea by scuba diving at the Bay of Bengal at Andaman and Nicobar islands or Arabian Sea at Lakshadweep group

of islands. India is on its way to become a hot scuba diving destination for sea lovers all over the world. Unending stretches of blue and turquoise, multi-hued flora and fauna, and unspoiled sea

beds take one on a cruise like never before. Armed with scuba gear which generally comprises wet suits, fins, tanks, masks, snorkels, gloves, underwater flashlights and a dive watch, one can have a whale of a time exploring marine life.

**Sailing and surfing:** Pirates did a world of good for water sport lovers. When traders and merchants realized that they had enough of sea piracies, they began building 'jaghtschips' (jaght means 'to hunt' in Dutch) or ' hunting ships' to stalk the pirates! Sailing has its origins in Holland from where it spread to England and later, to America. Thus began the tradition of sailing in groups, also known as yatching. The huge sails require an arduous haul of strength and energy but when the gentle breeze caresses one's face, all one remembers is being in sync with the sea! The sands and surfs of Goa, Mumbai, Kovalam beach in Kerala and the peninsular coastline of India offer excellent sailing surfaces.

**Water Skiing:** Skiing on water is not very different from skiing on snow, except that one skis on water and needs to be a good swimmer. It is a thrilling sport and requires being in control. Water skiing can be a lot of fun, especially when done in groups.

The Indian landscape is replete with breathtaking stretches of water. Whether you are a nature lover or a thrill seeker, rafting aficionado or vigorous surfer, an extraordinary experience is waiting for you! ●

## Travel tip

Tourist destinations enthrall us with their scenic beauty. Help maintain that beauty by not littering on the roadsides and gardens.



# Kaleidoscope

Debates, jam sessions, dance recitals and more; presenting Amity's cultural calendar

## Spic Macay

Amity believes that academic foundation can get stronger if it is rooted firmly in traditions, and culturally nurtured. Upholding the motto 'Modernity



blends with tradition', AIS Pushp Vihar hosted a scintillating kathak recital by the veteran dancer, Uma Sharma under the aegis of Spic Macay. The students watched spell bound the electrifying performance. Her expressive body language transformed the poetic images into rich visual imagery that exuded great charm. Her rhythmic footwork had a mesmerizing effect on young students who managed to generate a renewed interest in the traditional dance form.

## Art and craft

The children of AIS Gurgaon Sec 43, mastered the art of block printing during the Handicrafts Week from 12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> Nov. The students had a face-to-face with various craftsmen who enlightened them about their skills.

## Science exhibition

Taking inspiration from the five elements, their cosmic synergies and balanced harmonies, AIS Pushp Vihar organized a Science Exhibition 'Panchtatva – the fusion of five'. The Chief Guest for this mega event was Malti Goyal, advisor with the department of Science and Technology.

## Tinkle toes

Aashna Gupta of class I, AIS Saket has shown an artistic acumen and proved her mettle in the field of dancing



from a very early age. Her enthusiasm and remarkable inclination to the classical dance form, 'kathak', leaves many an audience mesmerised. Recently, she awed

the audience by her wonderful dance recital. With such talent and innate potential, she promises to accomplish new milestones in this field.

## Painting

Soham Paul of class IV, AIS Noida won the State Level Painting Competition and a cash prize of Rs. 10,000 for his picture titled 'Global warming is harming'. The event was held under the banner of the National Campaign on Energy Conservation 2007.

## Debate

AIS, Gurgaon Sec 43 was adjudged the third best team in the debate organized by the Power Grid Corporation Of India. The team members Shivangi Mittal, Namita Sethi and Saachi Sharma put across their case strongly.

## Geomaty 2007

An exclusive and novel brainchild of the chairperson, Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Geomaty 2007 is the first ever inter-school geography competition. A total of 240 students from 26 prestigious schools from Delhi/NCR participated in the competition held at AIS Noida. The



contest comprised a geography quiz as well as map reading, marking and identification. Crossword puzzles, jumbled words, working models and Power Point presentations lent an interesting angle to the contest. Questions from the allied subjects of astronomy, geomorphology, climatology and hydrology tickled the grey cells of the contestants. DPS RK Puram bagged the rolling trophy while, AIS Noida received several individual medals.

## Interact club

The Interact Club of AIS, Noida under the aegis of Rotary Club Noida Central, celebrated Children's day by making the girls of Amitasha (a school for the underprivileged girl child run by RBEF) feel extra special. The Amitians indulged the girls in card making, games, songs and dances, and gave them gifts. The day was an instant success as it was a genuine effort to celebrate children and childhood.

## Spellathon

Ayush Sinha, of AIS Gurgaon Sec 43, bagged the first prize in the Spellathon organised by Mother Dairy at the zonal level. •

## Amity International School, East Delhi

# The Wonder Brigade

These talented Amitians of East Delhi are truly masters of all they touch; children who light up our world

Passion sparks excellence. It is what underlines 'primas interparus' – first among equals. More than equal opportunities and platforms, it is the thirst for more, and the irrepressible spirit that creates a wonder brigade; children who light up our world with their zealous presence. Today, AIS East Delhi is brighter because of the presence of such students.

"My skates are my passion", says Garvit Jain of class VIII, who has won more than a hundred medals. A skating enthusiast, he won a gold medal in the very first competition, he participated. He is now a national player qualified up to zonal level. A regular anchor of the children's program 'Kid's Island' on Doordarshan and the voice of 'Nobita' in the cartoon show 'Doraemon' on Hungama TV, Ojaswini Dwivedi of class VIII feels that "Drama is an extension of myself. It lives in me." A budding

theatre artist, she has acted in a number of children's serials; the most recent being a play which she directed as well as acted in, on the occasion of World Environment Day.

Apoorva of class IX is really 'apoorv' on the tabla (one of the few females amongst the male dominated tabla clan); it's a treat to hear her nimble fingers produce mesmerising music, leaving the audience spell bound. She has won laurels in various tabla competitions.

Ritwik Chaturvedi of class IX never knew that a chance reading of

the novel 'The Count of Monte Christo' would turn him into a budding writer, whose short stories would be appreciated to such an extent that they would be published in 'Children's World' and 'Scholastic' books.

If seniors exhibit such talent, can juniors remain far behind? No, because tiny tot Raghav Paul of class IV, is no less. An ace photographer and talented singer, he has won many competitions at a tender age when it is difficult for children to even spell the word 'competition' correctly; the most prestigious being the second prize at WHO International Photo Contest in 2005-06.

These talented Amitians of East Delhi are truly masters of all they touch; following their passions, they have shown a rare dedication and sincerity and have come out with flying colours each time. We are proud of our wonderkids. •



## Meet EDee

Hello friends! Wondering who I am? Well, I am EDee, a true blue Amitian of East Delhi, who represents Amitians unparalleled enthusiasm and passion for each and every task they take up. While scampering through the corri-

dors, I slipped and landed into the columns of The Global Times, to befriend you all and rub off some of my excitement on you. I am a cute little kid, with varied interests. In matters of studies and innovative learning, Einstein and Edison are my ideals. But, I am equally good at applying beautiful strokes on the

canvas. Lifting music comes out when my nimble fingers play on musical instruments; I can cool my heels in the dance room with equal deft. And sports, dear friends, is close to my heart for, some trophies or medals always land in my lap when this wizard on wheels puts his skates on.

EDee will keep reporting anything interesting and wonderful to you but right now, its time to say *Adieu*.

**Created By : Ms. Sonali Singh, Pooja Thakur, Ms. Neeri Bhagi, Ms. Tania Gupta and Ms. Archana Upadhyay**

# One country one education

Contd from p 1

Then there's me, who will give the CBSE board. At the end of the year, when we apply to colleges together, everyone will be judged alike, which is just not fair."

Standardisation of the curriculum with the aim of establishing the benchmark and ensuring quality control is earnestly desired. If the course structure of class XII exams is strengthened, the need to have separate entrances for engineering, medical and other undergraduate courses will be nullified. Under such circumstances, much of the labour of an average student, who slogs hard to clear competitive exams along with studying the mammoth syllabi of the boards, will be saved. Also, the number of students dropping a year for better preparation will diminish. It will also reduce students' stress and the pressure to sit for two exams simultaneously. A centralised system of education with one board across the country will make life so much simpler and untroublesome. Children of parents, who are in transferable jobs, will benefit greatly from such an endeavour. It will also facilitate transfer of credits in-between sessions.

Renu Singh, Vice Principal of Amity International School, Noida, is in agreement with the idea. "I am in favour of one board across the country, CBSE or any other. It shall be

beneficial for students, especially those with transferable and defence backgrounds."

There are astounding gaps between the requirements of the industry and the syllabus followed. The disparity therein is alarming as the students thus educated find themselves in the middle of nowhere. The lack of vocational content and a curriculum significantly alienated from industri-

system under one umbrella."

This is not to say that the present system is totally devoid of any merit. It is this very curricular structure that has enabled millions of Indians to pursue successful careers and lead efficacious lives. Our IITs and IIMs have world wide recognition. However, the existing lacunae in the school framework seem to annul the positives and highlight the negatives.



India has always received kudos for unity in multiteity. If that uniformity can be attained in education, it can reach the pinnacle of glory.

al demands is a cause of constant distress among students. To add fuel to the already raging fire of educational disquiet, the monster of reservation and quota looms large.

Sarita Agarwal, Principal of Amity International School, East Delhi, says, "CBSE is already catering to a uniform education pattern all over the country. We are using NCERT books which are available everywhere. What can be done is, expanding it more and bringing the entire

Education provides a fertile breeding ground on which the personality of an individual is shaped. India has always received kudos for its rich culture and university in multiteity. If that uniformity can be attained in the education structure, Indian education can reach the pinnacle of glory. The need of the hour is to secure a standardized curriculum, based on some predefined parameters which can serve as the benchmark for all exams nationwide. •



Sampada Sansara, ANN

## Sangathan 2007

# A riot of colours



Clockwise(l-r): Dr. Ashok Chauhan taking salute at the march past; Founder President shaking a leg with the participants; cultural programme; Ajit Chauhan being felicitated by Founder President and chairperson for winning the cricket match.

Each year, Amity campuses across India - Lucknow, Manesar, Noida and Delhi, participate in a month long mega event-Sangathan, which commemorates the birthday of Dr. Ashok K Chauhan- Founder President, Amity Universe.

This year, Sangathan saw the participation of 5,000 students who competed in 35 different sports and games including badminton, squash, basketball, volleyball, karate, judo, cricket, chess, swimming and tug-o-war to clinch the much coveted trophies.

Students, faculty members, institutional heads and senior officers of Amity Universe thronged the grounds of Amity University to celebrate the birthday of the revered Founder President. An air of colourful festivity was palpable in the atmosphere as multi-hued flag, mounted on the boundary walls, sashayed in gay abandon. The unfurling of the Sangathan Flag marked the beginning of the glittering ceremony, followed by an impressive march past by students of Amity International Schools and participating institutes.

**Unveiling of Amity University Logo:** It was a momentous occasion when the Amity University Logo was unveiled by Dr. Ashok K Chauhan and Mr. Atul Chauhan- Chancellor, Amity University during the joyful celebration. The logo represents Amity's philosophy of 'Modernity blends with tradition'. The 'shield' in the logo depicts traditions and conventions, while the 'flame' signifies wisdom and knowledge, values that the Founder President cherishes.

Dr. Ashok K Chauhan, an educationist, a philanthropist, a visionary, a mentor and a guide all rolled into one, has brought a revolution in the field of private education. Expressing his joy on the solidarity and respect shown by the entire Amity family on

Founder's Day, he said, "I'm overwhelmed at the participation of the students, staff, institutes and departments of Amity Universe." Encouraging the enthusiasm of the students, Dr. Chauhan remarked, "Amity believes in nurturing talent and that talent can only be nurtured if students believe in themselves and their potential. If students are brimming with confidence and faith, success will inevitably follow them." He was convinced that students of Amity, with their professional competence and result-oriented approach, will prove their worth to the entire world and will be assets for any organization. Speaking on the occasion, Dr (Mrs.)

"I am overwhelmed at the participation of the students and staff of the Amity Universe."

Amita Chauhan- Chairperson, Amity International Schools congratulated Amity universe for successfully organizing Founder's Day with impeccability and perfection. She called upon students to look upon Dr. Chauhan as a role model, since he has

discharged his responsibilities par excellence and has been able to build Amity Universe in such a short span of time. She urged the students to have a mission in their life.

**Sports Complex:** Mr. Atul Chauhan- Chancellor, Amity University announced a new initiative of Amity University, a state-of-the-art Sports Complex that will come up in Amity University, Noida. The Sports

Complex will comprise an Olympics size swimming pool, four synthetic tennis courts, two basket ball courts, four badminton courts, two squash courts, gymnasium, a cricket ground and a football ground.

The month long labour of the participants was finally fructified when they were felicitated with gold and silver medals, and trophies. Their faces beamed with joy as the marching contingents of AIE (Amity Institute of Education), Noida; AIS, Noida and AIS, Gurgaon (Sector 46) were declared best contingents and awarded glittering trophies.

Students from primary, secondary and the higher education of Amity Universe presented a wonderful ensemble of cultural dances and horse riding show. The celebrations were a true depiction of team spirit, camaraderie, sportsmanship and harmony in unison.●

# Moments to cherish

## Amity University Convocation

ANN Correspondent

On a much awaited and cherished occasion, the Convocation, the alumni of Amity University were conferred degrees, diplomas, trophies and medals.

The alumni, clad in black robes, with different colour scarves to represent their programs, were brimming with unmistakable enthusiasm. The procession of senior officials of RBEF and directors of various institutes of Amity University, clad in red robes, set the stage for the grand occasion. Congratulating the students in their endeavour, Dr. Ashok. K. Chauhan - Founder President, Amity Universe, said that the convocation will go down in history as a moment to be reckoned forever. He remarked that the first batch of a university is as crucial as the first troop of an army. The first batch of students serves as a window to the corporate world and paves the way for others.

Trophies were presented to the best performers including **Balan Lakshmi Narayan** - MBA (2006- 07); **Inderveer Singh Panesar** - BBA (2003- 06); **Varun Mittal** - BBA (2002- 05); **Harneet Chawla** - MBA- International Business (2004- 06); **Rajat Mittal** - MBA- International Business (2003- 05); **Smita Chandra** (Lucknow Campus) - MBA (2004- 06) and **Richa Vishnoi** -MBA Telecom (2003- 05).

Around 42 Gold Medals, 44 Silver Medals and 25 Bronze Medals were given to the deserving candidates.●

# In the name of the game



Football match



The cricket victory

ANN Correspondent

As part of the annual inter-institutional sports meet Sangathan, cricket and football matches were organized between RBEF Employees and Amity Institutions. Spectators thronged the grounds to view a spectacular in-house 15 over cricket match. The Amity Institutions team was lead by Dr. Gurinder Singh, Pro-VC, Amity University and DG- Amity International Business School and Mr. Ajit Chauhan led the RBEF Team. Amity Institutions started scoring on every ball and were able to gather 142 runs after losing 7 wickets. In a nail biting finish and post seamless performances by both teams, Amity Institutions won the match by 15 runs. The cricket match was followed by a football match

between the two teams. After the glorious victory of Amity Institutions in the cricket match, palpable excitement and occasional frisson was visible on the faces of the spectators throughout the match. Amity Institutions played the match with remarkable acumen and finesse, without giving any chance to the rival team of scoring a single goal. As a result, Amity Institutions won the match by 5-0 because of their coordination and dauntless motivation. Applauding the courage and amazing skills shown by both the teams, Dr. Ashok K Chauhan- Founder President, said that in a game, one team has to win and other has to loose. However, what matters most is the sportsman spirit. One should not get buckled down by defeat but should be determined to make a mark next time.●

# Draped in style

The fashion fiesta got to witness a plethora of sparkling hues



Chairperson Dr(Mrs) Amita Chauhan awarding the first prize to Lalita

ANN Correspondent

Amity School of Fashion Technology organized 'The draped extravaganza', a fashion show with a difference. The gala event celebrated the essence and splendour of the quintessential 'saree' in its myriad forms. The dazzling occasion was graced by the chairperson, Dr. (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Mrs. Divya Chauhan- Chairperson, ASFT, ASFA and Performing

Arts and Mrs. Mohina Dar, Principal AIS Noida.

The fashion fiesta got to witness a plethora of sparkling hues, glamour and glitterati as the drama unfolded with the students draped in the most graceful of Indian garments-the saree. The nine yard wonder enthralled the audience as they cheered and applauded the contestants with enthusiasm. Swati Mahajan set the stage on fire as she ascended in an aquatic blue saree, draped in half, over a

golden bodysuit. A sea shell necklace painted in blue added to the charm. With 'Goldfish' as her theme, she won many hearts with her fascinating description of the diminishing aquatic life.

The magical beauty of the countryside was presented aptly by Sameeksha in her theme 'Rural romance'. In a smartly worn black and gold saree, carrying an earthen pot 'matka', Sameeksha was a winner from the start. She portrayed the advancement in technology by exchanging the pot for a mobile like a true modern woman.

The essence of womanhood was captured in its entirety by Lalita with the theme 'Mother India', who draped her black and white saree with a chic spaghetti style top. She stole the show by her mesmerizing words as she demonstrated how the modern woman is capable of not only running the house, but the country as well.

Among others who stood out were Christina in a leopard print saree worn over a crème silk *churidar* with the theme, 'Wild' and Richa Gulati who depicted 'Tantra' with a drape in earthy tones accessorized by *rudraksh* and wooden beads.

The guys were not to be left behind for they infused excite-

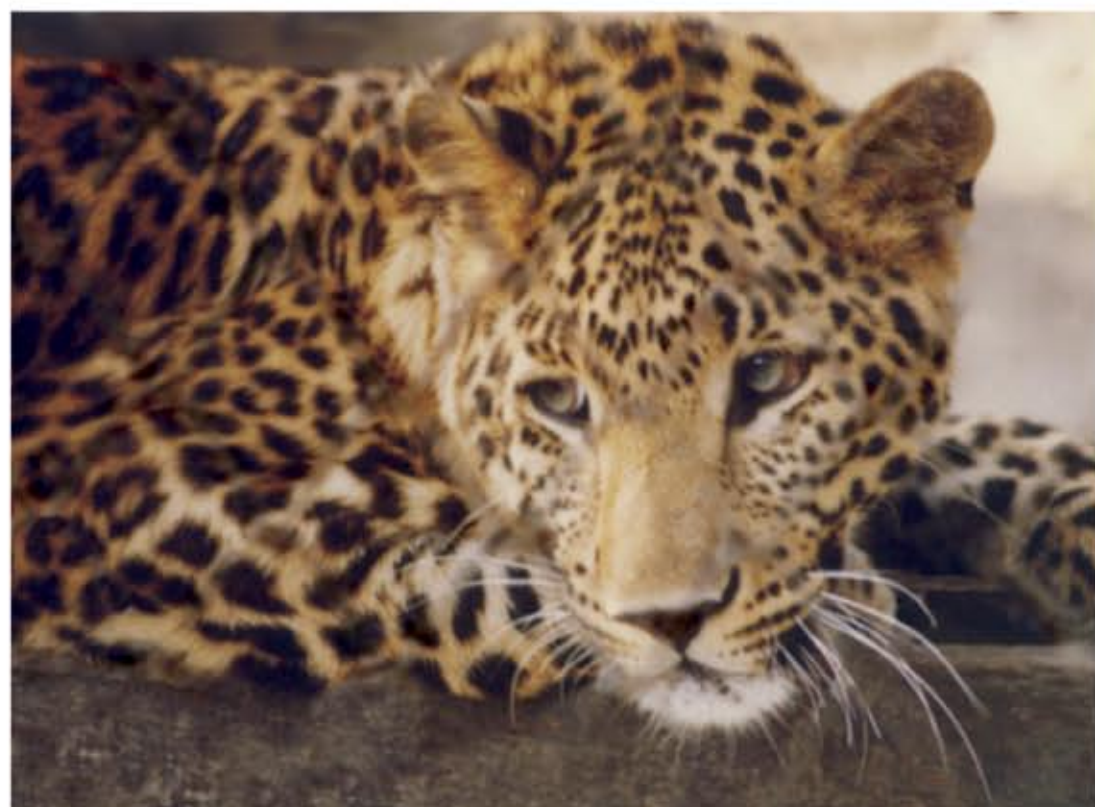
ment into the show with their semi-formal and fusion wear. While, Bharat was in a 'punk' mood as a rebel who makes his own rules, Prayas emphasized fusion in a black leather jacket thrown over a black vest.

Among the girls, Lalita got the coveted first position, followed by Swati Mahajan and Sameeksha. The icing on the cake was surely a short, but hilarious skit presented by the boys. They captivated the audience with their histrionic skills as they enacted the scene of a gym full of skinny instructors and bollywood dancing warm-ups, leaving the audience in splits.

The chairperson had words of praise for the contestants. "I am very pleased at the creativity of the students. It's amazing that the saree can be draped in so many ways. I am proud of the way they have put up such an extraordinary show, reviving the magnificence of the saree", she said. She inspired all the students to carve a niche for themselves in the world of international fashion and stressed on the importance of discipline. "To become successful, one must have a disciplined approach to life. Hard work is the only key to success." Mrs. Divya Chauhan proposed the vote of thanks.●



The picture below, was taken by wildlife filmmaker Mike Pandey. Wear your thinking caps and send us a caption for this picture. The best caption will win a DVD of Timeless Traveller - The Horseshoe Crab, a documentary by Arjun and Gautam Pandey. Email your entries to nbhatnagar@amity.edu and tbanerji@amity.edu



## Contests

### Cartoon

Budding cartoonists, let your imagination fly and design an original cartoon. The cartoon should convey a message: social, moral, satirical, humorous or any other. The best entry will be published in the next issue and receive a special prize.

### Exam planner

Come January and it's exam time. Be at your creative best and design a colourful and attractive exam planner, which will help you sail through your exam preparations smoothly. An exam planner is an enlarged version of a time table, which keeps track of the study schedule for different subjects. The best planner wins a surprise gift. Email your entries to: nbhatnagar@amity.edu and tbanerji@amity.edu

## Caught in the web!

Collins, my pet spider, inspires me in many ways

Shantanu Dey  
AIS, Pushp Vihar

The first reaction of people when they see a spider, is "Eeeks!" I wonder why? It is such a tiny creature. I find spiders quite adorable. They inspire me in so many ways. I also have a spider as my pet. I call him Collins and observe him everyday. Collins is the one I reach out to when distressed, and he really infuses me with enthusiasm. Just the other day, I was feeling left out, and had lost all hopes of scoring good marks in exams. So, I sat near Collins. He was busy making his web. The moment he tried climbing up to make it, he fell down. But he kept trying again and again. I got totally engrossed in his activity and when he finally achieved his target, I was so influenced that it cheered me up. I learnt two valuable lessons that day, of perseverance and diligence. I have christened the web 'Collinasia'. One day, while I was playing spider race with Collins, an insect came to his web. He is so intelligent that he caught the insect in his web and ate him up! Collins tricks the enemy to his web, but never gets entangled in it himself. This taught me another valuable lesson, to be smart and clever, virtues that are essential in order to be successful. I always give a piece of my food to Collins and I see that he takes the food to his web. He drops the food countless times, but eats it only after reaching the web. His patience has changed my nature from a short tempered one to a fairly patient one now. Collins now has a baby spider whom I love a lot. One day I was studying, with Collins sitting on my table. When I gave him a tiny piece from what I was eating, he kept it on his back and with the same patience, hard work and 'never-say-die' spirit, he took it to his web- Collinasia. Upon reaching there, he first gave a small piece to his young one and waited for him to finish it and then ate his part. After seeing the display of love and affection in such a small insect, I was so touched and learnt that one should love one's family and especially young ones, unconditionally. Long live the spider!•



## Go Green

I conserve to survive

We are consuming the earth's resources 20% faster than they can be sustained. Therefore, fix leaking taps, switch off lights, bulbs, fans etc when you leave the room. Walk across short distances instead of using your vehicles. *Scripps Howard News Service, 2006*

## Winners of caption contest

Ist: 'The undisputed warrior'

Sanya Verma,  
V E, AIS East Delhi

IInd: 'Searching for its soar-mate'

Aanchal Dhawan  
XI, AIS Saket

IIIrd: 'High on life'

Aditya Singha  
XI, AIS Noida

Consolation/Special prizes for East Delhi students for their whole-hearted participation

'No ground reality, can inhibit my ability'

Khanak Bhargava,  
V A, AIS East Delhi

'Freedom is divine'

Radhika Rastogi  
IV E, AIS East Delhi

'Its time to fly to a new world'

Tanmay Kumar,  
V E, AIS East Delhi



## The midas touch

Tomorrow has a place for those who demand more of themselves today. This has been proved time and again by Abhilasha Mittal, a student of class IV from AIS Gurgaon(Sec43). A truly versatile kid, for whom the world is a stage, this pretty ballerina has more than 150 trophies in her kitty not only for excelling in dance but also in sports and creative writing. She has won laurels in 'Main Hoon Star Contest' at DD Bharti, and a book review competition organised by Association of Writers and Illustrators for Children. She was adjudged 'Golden Kid' by Golden Bells School, crowned Miss Aviral by Aviral Group, and declared champ at Junior Chess Championship Haryana State Level.



She will be representing the state at the national level in Bangalore in the month of December.

## Nurture

Kiddies Korner

### My mom is the best

Aryaman Punj, class II,  
AIS Gurgaon Sec 43

My mom is the best  
You know, she never sits and rests  
Up before all,  
With her around, we have such a ball  
She ensures we never cry  
Come what may, we have to try  
This is her mission in life  
For which she always strives.

Neha Singh, IV B AIS Sec  
43, Gurgaon

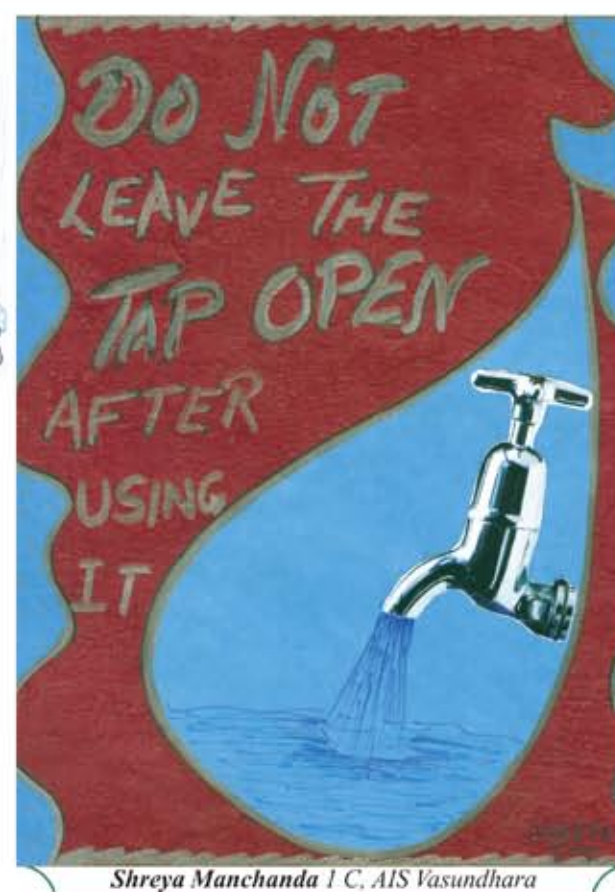


## Rain

Sriya Bose, class IV, AIS Vasundhara

Up the hill runs the train,  
Now it's time for the rain.  
Lightning, thunder sound loud,  
Because of dark grey clouds.  
Small-small rain drops  
Are best for growing crops.  
The rain sounds pitter-patter,

Making ripples on the water.  
Children have lots of fun  
Also wonder where is the sun?  
Some children ride boats,  
Some wear raincoats.  
Oh, how beautiful is the rain!



Shreya Manchanda I C, AIS Vasundhara



Purwangi IVB,  
AIS Sec 43



Neha Haldia,  
IIA AIS East Delhi



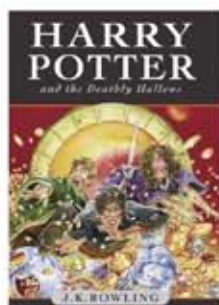
# Potter mania

Swetha Balachandran  
AIS, NOIDA

One of my friends recently asked me what all the fuss about Harry Potter was? What is so special about him that the whole world seems united in glorifying him? I think, she is part of the minority who just don't seem to get the 'magic' of Harry Potter. However, her simple question did set me thinking. With the fifth Harry Potter movie getting rave reviews and the last book of the series, 'Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows' which got released this year, Potter mania is at an all time high. From the day the first book was released till today, we just don't seem to get enough of it. Everyone seems to be familiar with 'Muggles', 'Quidditch', 'Gryffindor' and of course, 'Hogwarts'. Harry Potter has started its own peculiar language. The best part of it is that the

obsession is not restricted to kids. Potter has been attracting people of all ages. It is no longer odd for adults to be reading a children's book. Harry Potter has bridged the gap between parents and children by bringing them together on a common platform. When 'Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone', the first book of the series, came to the stands on June 26 1997, no one expected it to become the sensation it has, today. It is the surreal world created in the story that is absolutely enchanting. It captivates the fantasy world of a young orphan shunned by his aunt and uncle. It portrays the miseries and challenges faced

Potter  
obsession  
is not  
restricted  
to kids  
alone!



by him along with the dilemma that, being famous is sometimes not good. Like our lives, it is not a perfect world; this is what makes the book worth reading. Add to this, J.K. Rowling's perfect story telling technique which makes for a perfect getaway to wonderland. She not only tells the story in a captivating manner, she also is an amazing philosopher. The books are not about magic at all, they are about the classic virtues: courage, loyalty, honor, honesty, some qualities that Greek philosopher, Aristotle talked about long ago. The subtle way to talk about the realities of life in an unreal world, adds to its appeal. Potter, the phenomenon



doesn't compare for suspense, but is like the wizard's tale, unique and extraordinary. It is remarkable how a work of art has carved a niche for itself and become a world of its own - imitated, merchandised and analyzed, immortalized not by the marketers, but by its fans.

However, whatever be the reason for the success of Harry Potter, it doesn't really matter. For come what may, millions of fans all over the world will continue to throng book shops and theatres alike, to catch glimpses of their favourite boy wizard. ●

## Legends of rock

Led Zeppelin  
has sold 84  
million copies.  
Their music  
has an ethereal  
feel to it.

Gaurav Ladwal  
AIS, Noida

Led Zeppelin, one of the greatest classic hard rockers of all times, has been rated number one on VH1's hard rock list. Even after 60 years of their existence, boys still tune their guitars to the classic hit 'Stairway to heaven'. The group essayed in 1968, from the ashes of the Yard Birds. This was the band for which guitarist Jimmy Page had served as the lead guitarist after Eric Clapton and Jeff Beck. Yard Birds was the only band in history to have six albums in the UK and US charts at the same time. Led by Jimmy Page (on guitar), John Paul Jones (bass), John Bonham (drums), and the legendary Robert Plant (vocals), they were the men who introduced us to heavy metal. In album sales, Led Zeppelin was second only to the Beatles. They

have sold 84 million albums till date. Their music had an ethereal feel to it. Though rumoured to contain satanic verses, they lent a magical feel to their music. Listeners were enchanted by their heavy riffs, long fill-ins, and not to mention their half screaming lyrics. Their songs have stood the test of time and have passed on to generations of music maniacs. They experimented with all kinds of genres from the heavy metal riff *kashmir* to the soft fable-like *stairway*. The members of Led Zeppelin were musical sponges, often traveling the world, literally traipsing about foreign lands and figuratively exploring the cultural landscape via their record collections. They were as influential in the 70's as the Beatles were in the 60's. Their impact extends to classic and alternative rockers alike. From then till date, Led Zeppelin looms larger than life on the rock land-

scape. The combination of Jimmy Page's powerful, layered guitar work, Robert Plant's keen, upper-timbre vocals, John Paul Jones' melodic bass coupled with keyboard work and John Bonham's thunderous drumming made for a band whose alchemy was both enchanting and irresistible. Led Zeppelin's concert tours which became synonymous with high-energy rock and roll theatre, attest to the group's powerful and somewhat saturnian appeal at the height of their popularity. The darker side of Led Zeppelin - their reputation as one of the most hedonistic and indulgent of all rock bands - is an undeniable facet of the band's history. They disbanded in 1980 after the death of drummer John Bonham. With their motto 'Ever onward', they were and will remain, true legends of rock. ●

## The 5 most popular movies of all times

Aanchal Dhawan  
AIS, Saket

### MAGICAL MYSTERIES:

The top spot undoubtedly belongs to the purely magical Harry Potter series. Billions of people across the world have been lured by J.K. Rowling's magical trap. Starring Daniel Radcliffe as Harry and with Rupert Grint and Emma Watson as his closest buddies, these movies are just too good to miss.



**SUPERHERO:** The 2nd place is reserved for the heroic Spiderman series. With its unbelievable graphics, sounds and the flawless performances of Tobey Maguire and Kirsten



Dunst, Spiderman has cast a web on billions of people making them his loyal fans. The transformation of Peter Parker from a bespectacled geek to a superhero, who saves the world from impen-

ing peril, is amazing. So, be prepared for energy and action when you watch these movies.

**SEA PIRATES:** At no.3, is the record breaking 'Pirates of the Caribbean'. With the release of the first movie in the series, 'The Curse of the Black Pearl', people were reminded about the long lost sea world. This movie revolves around Captain Jack Sparrow (Johnny Depp) and his faithful sidekick Will Turner (Orlando Bloom), not to forget the gorgeous Elizabeth Swann (Keira Knightley). With two sequels, 'The Dead Man's Chest' and 'At World's End', the pirate series has navigated its way through treachery, betrayal and wild waters.

**THE GOOD AND THE EVIL:** At no.4 is the dark and deceptive 'Lord of the Rings' trilogy. With its three movies 'The Fellowship of the Ring', 'The Two Towers' and 'The Return of the King', it is a series with high quality digital effects. The story revolves around the destruction of the ring, and the obstacles that



spring up in the hero's path. The series based on the novel by J.R.R. Tolkien, have rocked the world and have won 17 academy awards so far.

**KID'S ZONE:** At no. 5 is the kids' favourite 'Shrek', based on William Steig's fairytale. This animated film has won the hearts of millions of kids across the globe. It features the voices of Mike Myers as the grumpy green ogre called Shrek, Cameron Diaz as the beautiful princess Fiona, Eddie Murphy as the



chattering donkey and John Lithgow as the villain Lord Farquaad. With its humour, amazing plot and incredibly cute characters, Shrek has proved to be one of the best animated films ever! ●

## If orkut be the abode of interface, scrap on!

Kshitiy Lauria  
AIS, NOIDA

In an ironic twist of fate, as I write this, Orkut, is down. The familiar message greets me, "Bad, bad server. No donut for you!" There you go, folks, the first indication that this is not your uppity CNN.com. Wacky error messages, the irreverently named 'scraps', fan-lists and, of course, the circus of users - all

populate Orkut. Started by Orkut Büyükkökten while working for Google, his '20%' project, Orkut is now one of the most popular, and populous, websites in the world. It is ranked 8th in terms of popularity and is trailing behind only one social networking site, My Space. To put that in perspective: Orkut is more popular than Wikipedia, Blogger, or eBay. In India, more people visit Orkut than Google.

Apart from the vulgar numbers, Orkut dominates the mind space of both Indian adolescents and adults. The convenient scrap system makes it easy to meet up with friends, talk about anything at all, and find new people to talk to. Any Orkut user can start a community, which is like a public forum, or a special interest group. Community members share everything that helps them connect caste votes and start dis-

cussion threads. Community membership thus serves as a filter, where you're bound to find someone who is interested in the same things as you are.



Communities form, around varied topics, something as universal as Beatles fandom, to something as esoteric as a cult textbook of physics. In fact, Orkut has been compared to a cocktail party, where, everyone is a friend of a friend, and people group together to talk.

The usual trappings of social networking sites still exist, with friends' ratings, 'fans' who indicate special reverence for the

receiver and the ability to upload photos and videos. Most of the profiles are rather mundane and mediocre. Everyone, "who wants to make friends is a likable person," nobody will, "change themselves for anything", and nobody, unfortunately, has anything more than a slippery grasp of basic grammar. And of course, human nature remains constant, so, men have long arguments, running for hundreds of scraps over - which football club is the best, and whether more friends on Orkut means anything, while women upload photos of their pet cats. ●