


3Rs of Quarantine



Dr Amita Chauhan
Chairperson

In Sanskrit, there is a notable verse, 'Utsaho Balwaan Arya, Na Asti Utsaah Param Balam' meaning there is no greater force in the world than our passion and our spirit. In tough times like these, my heart goes out to every person in quarantine. Health issues, emotional and mental enigmas, are constant challenges that they are facing every day. However, it is these challenges that bring a scope for change in society when infused with the power of spirit and passion. So, I see 'quarantine' not as 'isolation' but a huge opportunity for human beings to do 3Rs: Rewind (revisit past), Relook (into thoughts and actions) and Reset (correct what went wrong).

Isolation has the opportunity to become a force of change for creating a happy world. And this holds true for all my Amityans, who are brave, perseverant and passionate. The creative expressions of these children during this period can inspire future generations to treat creativity as an imperative aspect of human existence rather than a mere extracurricular activity. Their experiences of overcoming challenges, evolved perspectives towards life, feelings of more care and compassion for life, shall go a long way in inspiring our youth to be more positive, sustainable, minimalist and compassionate to let every life on mother Earth thrive. 

Prithvi: The new caregiver

To Shield The Healers Of Our Earth

Aditi Banerji

AIIS Noida, XII I

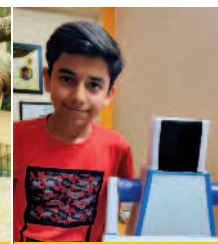
Drop by drop maketh the ocean – the aphorism weighs heavier in our existing status quo, where every life counts and every endeavour matters in warring against the baleful novel coronavirus. And to make matters worse the ones making every life count are the ones jeopardizing theirs. Determined to safeguard them vanguards - doctors, nurses and policemen, from this contagion, Delhi students, Saurav Maheshkar, Class XII and Nishant Chandna, Class X from KIIT World School, and Aditya Dubey, class XII from Modern School, together invented the prototype robot 'Prithvi'.

"Since, we are all into robotics, we couldn't help but look for a technological solution to this problem. We couldn't sit back and look at our caregivers suffer. As is the case with other arenas, social distancing was the solution in the healthcare sector too," says Aditya on how Prithvi was conceptualised and then germinated, from an atom into a full grown robot.

And so the journey commenced. "With the entire nation in a lockdown, we collaborated through Twitter chat and WhatsApp, breaking up the project into tasks for efficient execu-



Aditya Dubey



Nishant Chandna



Saurav Maheshkar

CORONA WARRIORS

Pandemics know no boundaries, and neither do warriors who battle them. This special series, running across Quarantine editions of all Amity schools, is an ode to those fighters. Highlighting stories of young change makers from within and outside Amity, this special series has been curated by young reporters across various Amity branches.



tion. I took care of the software, for instance and Nishant assembled and designed the body of the robot, while Aditya worked on the features of the robot," shares Saurav. However, coordination was not the only obstruction in this tripartite venture. Limited avail-

ability of the required equipment was another challenge. Nishant elaborates, "While the structure of the prototype is cardboard based, the hardware is made of Arduino micro-controller as the internal inner circuit. For the transport system, we used simple motors ripped off from an existing project, reusing the devices and spare parts already available at our homes."

Leaving no stone unturned, with efforts that ran through the day and spilled into the night, Prithvi was thus made ready for the world within two weeks. "The caregiver robot can be

used to carry essentials like food and medicines to the patient, helping our medics to easily manoeuvre the robot to and fro the patients' room or


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Prithvi: The new caregiver

bed. It is equipped with a display screen and video calling facility that further allows the doctors and the patients to converse with each other. All this takes place through a specialised app, which is still under-development and would take a little more time to be completed. An additional thermal scanner arm can also be easily added to it, which will enable it to measure the temperature of the patients and communicate the same to the caregivers," added the trio. Everything, with a production cost of just 5000INR. Budget friendly, ain't it?

Prithvi, literally meaning 'Earth', is a symbol of hope, a promise for better times to this corona-sick world. Even though it is a prototype still, but if incorporated with a high grade software and other industrial improvements, can effectively solve the problem for those never off duty; how, is what is left to be seen. In the meantime, we salute the efforts, so keen! 

★ WORLD TEENAGE REPORTING PROJECT COVID-19

The World Teenage Reporting Project, COVID 19 is a global collaboration of teenage reporters in newsrooms around the world who produce stories about what their peers are doing to help during the Coronavirus pandemic.

Wake Up To The Facts

Let's Fight Corona, One Myth At A Time

Aanya Moturu

AIS Gurugram 43, X B

Coronavirus has managed to rapidly take over the world. The outbreak, now declared a public health emergency of international concern, has peo-

ple completely run amok for essentials, while also having to keep distance from one another. However, this is also the time, when, more than the virus, certain myths are doing the rounds. And being misled by these myths is the last thing we want to happen during this crisis. So, here's doing away with some of them.

Myth: Coronavirus can only affect adults

Truth: Coronavirus has the potential to infect people of any age, right from an infant to someone in much later years of their life. However, older individuals with pre-existing health conditions are severely prone to this disease. Children are equally likely to contract it, but symptoms are less severe.

Myth: COVID-19 is just another flu

Truth: Although it causes illness that resembles a flu with symptoms like aches, fever and cough, but the overall interpretation of COVID-19 is far more serious, with a much higher mortality rate.

Myth: Everyone with coronavirus succumbs

Truth: COVID-19 is fatal, but not for everyone who contracts it. A report by Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention stated that 80.9% of the COVID-19 cases were minor, which did not require specialist treatment in a hospital

Myth: Cats and dogs spread coronavirus

Truth: It has not been proven that dogs and cats are vulnerable to coronavirus. According to a survey, a dog owner in Hong Kong contracted the virus, but the dog was unaffected by the same. Most of the outbreak has been caused due to human to human transmission.

Myth: Face masks are a sure shot protection against COVID-19

Truth: Face masks come off as really important equipment to shield ourselves from coronavirus; however, they do not block tiny viral particles. Nonetheless, it has the ability to block droplets and slow down the spread of the virus.

Myth: Home remedies are enough to fight coronavirus

Truth: Coronavirus is far more serious than we can think of it to be. We mostly tend to resort to self-medication whenever an illness affects us. In this case, vitamin C, essential oils, garlic, sesame oil, have been believed to make us corona resistant, however untrue. The best thing we can do on our own is to practice hand-washing and social distancing.

The town...upside down

A Look At The Bright Side Even When Corona Is Around

Saanvi Goyal

AIS Gurugram 43, IX A

As we know, God has bestowed us with a rare situation; the world is struggling to survive, and so

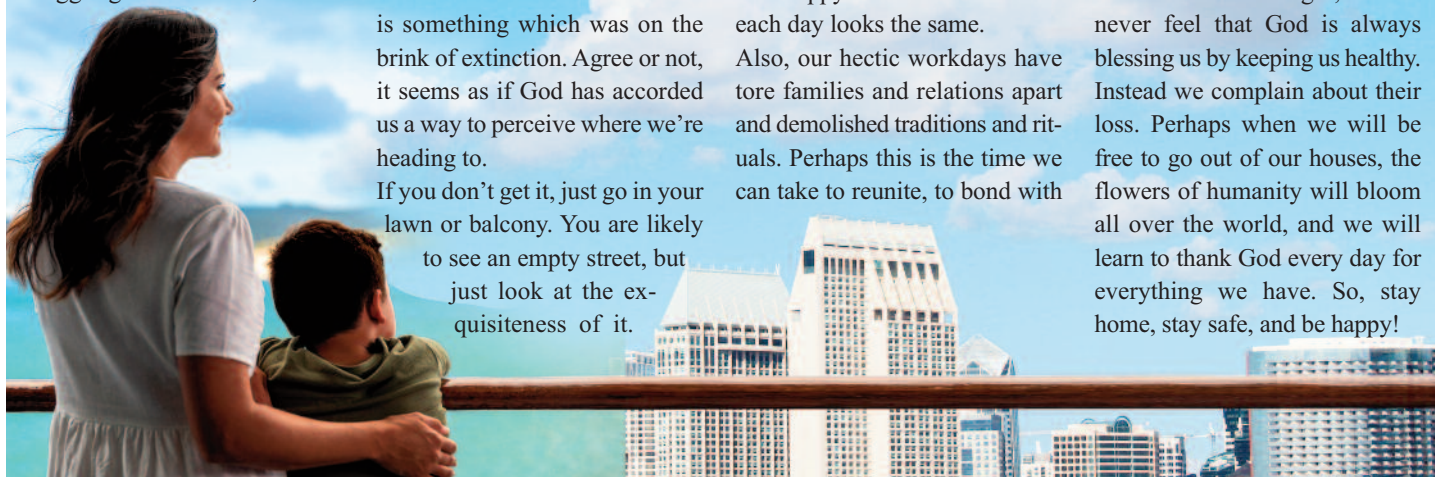
are we. All of us are constantly advised to wash hands and stay inside. But have you ever thought that this is the basic hygiene which any five year old would know, and spending time inside with those who are closest to us is something which was on the brink of extinction. Agree or not, it seems as if God has accorded us a way to perceive where we're heading to.

If you don't get it, just go in your lawn or balcony. You are likely to see an empty street, but just look at the exquisiteness of it.

The sky is merrier than ever, having less pollution to breathe in. The street is itself alluring, being less filled. The place is further enhanced by chirping of birds. Seems lively, right? Now, think how happy the world would be if each day looks the same.

Also, our hectic workdays have tore families and relations apart and demolished traditions and rituals. Perhaps this is the time we can take to reunite, to bond with

loved ones, to let our fellow creatures feel their importance and most of all, thank God for the things we usually take for granted. We humans are foolish enough to feel the gifts of mother earth as our birthright, and to never feel that God is always blessing us by keeping us healthy. Instead we complain about their loss. Perhaps when we will be free to go out of our houses, the flowers of humanity will bloom all over the world, and we will learn to thank God every day for everything we have. So, stay home, stay safe, and be happy!



The new mainstream

Things Happening Around The Globe During Corona

OjasTuli, AIS Gur 43, XII C

As coronavirus is spreading across the globe like a wildfire, it is changing the lifestyle of people and the environment around them as well. Let's do some catching up on the world and see what is happening even after all the chaos and the intimidation that the tiny microorganism has brought along.

A moment of nature replenishing

While humans are bound indoors by a coronavirus, mother Earth is getting a nice respite. All of us destroyed and exploited the planet much. Now it needs some healing too, right? After all, everyone needs some 'me' time. And the results are pretty visible as there has been a remarkable improvement

in air quality and even rarely seen forest animals can be seen roaming in the deserted streets across the globe.

A moment of joy in anxiety

People around the world are staging balcony concerts involving every neighbour. Hit the hardest by the pandemic, the Italians started a movement of balcony sing-alongs.

What was first incited by a select few, has inspired a movement across Europe. While Europe got neighbours coming together and the US got DJs blasting 'Lean on Me', India got people banging bartans and clapping together!

A moment of entertainment

Broadway shows and movies are

now at your fingertips. Okay, they were there earlier too, but finally, we have the time to watch them. And that's the reason; people around the globe are binge-watching web series on every possible online platform such as Netflix and Amazon Prime to name a few. Even TV shows are not behind; they have come up with reruns of the famous epic like Mahabharat and Ramayana.

While these are a few instances, the fact is, this tough time will vanish soon. Yet what we need to have is an optimistic outlook and keep doing things to be sane. Because, once we win the battle against the virus, what will be remembered for ages will be the way we fought against the present situation and nothing else. **GT**



The curious case of coronavirus

The Final Thoughts Of Corona Before Its Inevitable End

Ishanya Sharma & Dyuti Sood

AIS Gurugram 43, X B

They say that people see their lives with newfound clarity when every breath they take brings them closer to death. While COVID was writing down his valediction for the world, he knew it could be any time now; before the humans had a vaccine. The reality was daunting enough to snap him out of his vanity. As much as he didn't wish to admit it, he couldn't overlook the fate of his predecessors.

Day: I've lost track

Date: I don't know

Time: Still hanging in there o'clock

Any day now might just be my last day on this planet. I feel as if I have lost everything that has been built in these years. But I should've seen this coming, right? C'mon, it's 2021; it's been a whole year since I first jeopardized everyone's life. They were bound to come up with a solution. I'm just a tad bit surprised it happened so soon, or did it?

I've spent my youth making rash decisions, letting my insolence and ambition get to my brain. I have always loved travelling and still do. For years I dreamt of accomplishing the feat that

my comrades like Ebola, Swine Flu failed to. The bats taught me the importance of an army so I built one, replicating myself quickly by spreading through the environment. I wanted to establish control and I had spent eons evolving and coming up with the most meticulous plan. The only loophole in it, I had underestimated the human race. I was so close to having my way but fate had other plans for me. If only I had thought rationally!

Initially, I made quick gains; the rapidly increasing death counts aptly represented my growing power. I began to think too highly of myself as I saw economies crippling in

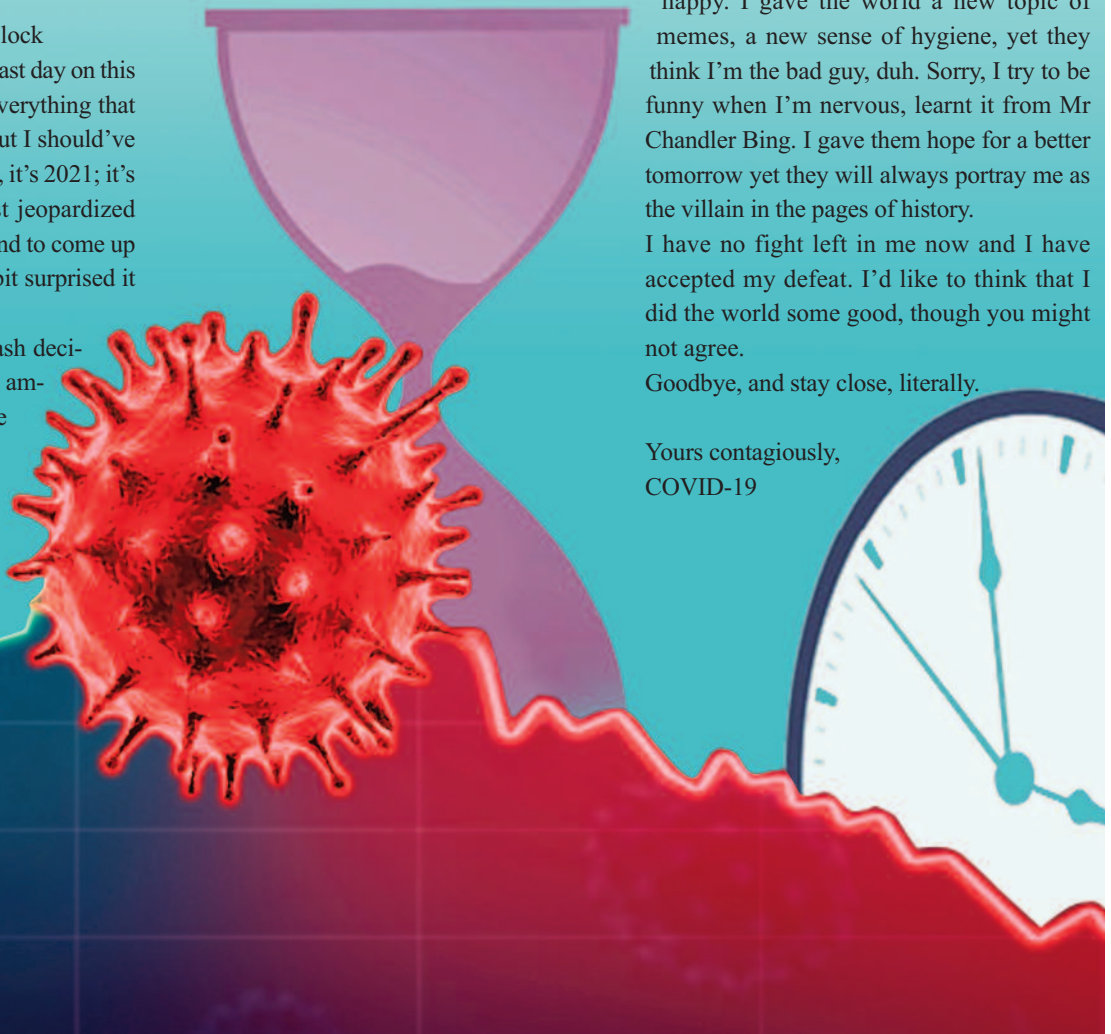
front of me. I felt ruthless. But that feeling was short-lived. A few countries took the right actions at the right time. Then came hydroxychloroquine. Not going to lie, but it took me a hard time to pronounce it right. And then the tables turned. For a while, the numbers halted and people became hopeful. I was succumbing but I overcame it. I emerged victoriously and resurfaced. That was the last straw for humans, something which deeply motivated them to wipe my existence off this planet.

Would anybody think of me positively once I'm gone? Well, at least the CEO of Zoom and others who benefited from me would be happy. I gave the world a new topic of memes, a new sense of hygiene, yet they think I'm the bad guy, duh. Sorry, I try to be funny when I'm nervous, learnt it from Mr Chandler Bing. I gave them hope for a better tomorrow yet they will always portray me as the villain in the pages of history.

I have no fight left in me now and I have accepted my defeat. I'd like to think that I did the world some good, though you might not agree.

Goodbye, and stay close, literally.

Yours contagiously,
COVID-19



The secret journal...

...Of A Quarantined Dog



Vaibhavy Darshan

AIS Gurugram 43, XI A

Day 1: Everything is so strange. My humans, who go for their walk almost every day, haven't gone out today. In fact, they looked worried and were having a discussion while sipping their chai. Something about 'COVID' and 'Lockdown'. While I got my fair share of biscuits, I couldn't help but wonder what it meant.

Day 6: Five days have gone without them going out. I am worried that something is afoot. I know how angry they get with me when I mess up their couches or beds,

but nowadays, they don't seem to mind. Lately, I have been playing with my human sisters a lot too.

Day 8: Today, we had biryani at home. I can still smell its delicious aroma in the air. Like always, I had my fair share. Human food is the best! It's so tasty. Nowadays, I don't have to wear a leash as we don't go out. I am feeling quite lazy nowadays, just chilling at home with them.


Day 11: More than a week has gone by without them leaving the house. Come to think of it, it is actually nice to have them at home. Maybe they wanted to spend more time with me. After all, who does-

n't want to spend time with this handsome face? But I miss jumping at them when they come back from office.

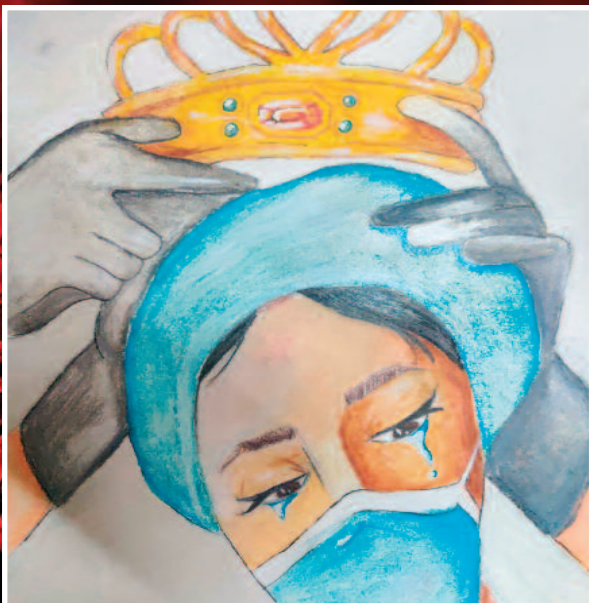
Day 14: Two weeks have gone by; I have never been this happy. Life at home has become a paradise. It's no longer a sad state of chasing my own tail alone at home. I don't even have to wait for them to come home because they are always here with me. I love it! I want this to be the new normal.

Day 21: Daytime is not bleak anymore. Although I don't go out for long walks anymore, being at home is kind of good too. I miss my friends; I haven't played with

them in so long! I can't believe I'm going to say this but I think I miss those squirrels too. Watching TV with my humans, eating and taking naps has become my new routine.

Day 25: It's been too long. It's been too long since I've had my chicken. Apparently, my humans think it will spread 'COVID.' Who knew humans could be so afraid of these words? Meanwhile, I have played a lot of hide and seeks. Turns out, I am a good finder thanks to my smelling skills. Oh! My sisters are calling me. Maybe, for another round of the hide and seek game. 

Artistic Expression



Kinjal Agarwal, AIS Gurugram 43, VII D



Aaratrika Ganguly, AIS Gurugram 43, X B