

## 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. **GT**

# Prithvi: The new caregiver

## To Shield The Healers Of Our Earth

Aditi Banerji  
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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 vanguardians - 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! [G I](#)

## ★ 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.



# The dual nature

## For Every Story Has Two Sides

Farhan Siddiqui, AIS Gurugram 46, X E

Ever since COVID-19 has knocked our doors, the world across has seen a huge transformation in every sphere of life. Be it entertainment, fitness, food or economy, every aspect, now, for sure have two sides to explore. And, this article is an attempt to bring you, all that is happening amidst this pandemic as well as a sneak-peek into both the sides of the coin.

**Michelin-level chefs vs Foodies:** No matter how much chaos and damage the pandemic has caused, it has also brought out the hidden culinary expert inside everyone. Every time we open our social media accounts, the feed always seems to be flooded with photos of Dalgona Coffee or someone's 207th snack of the day. In contrast to them, we have people who don't care about anything but eating food. They're dreaming of the lockdown getting over so that they can go meet the momos waale bhaiya, just some of the things on their to-do list. While people are wondering why there is a shortage of food items in shops, little do they know that these foodies have a year's worth of supply at their homes "Kya pata, kal ho na ho?"

**Workout freaks vs Couch potatoes:** Another oxymoronic set of this quarantine are the ones who work out and the ones who don't. The gyms might have been closed but tiger abhi zinda hai. Using this quarantine as a perfect opportunity to upload their fitness videos, they certainly portray what determination looks like. But there's nothing

to feel sad about if you don't do 50 squats a day. We have non-exercisers as well and what they teach everyone is the 'consistency' to not pick up the exercise mat. They are remarkably consistent in being an absolute couch potato, sipping cola with a bowl of chips on the armrest and they're proud of it!

**Time conscious brigade vs Procrastinators:** The lockdown has extended over a month with no one having the slightest clue when it is going to end. Not even wanting to waste a second, some people are utilising this time to finish their entire syllabus right away, because you never know bhai exams kab hojaye and better safe than sorry. Then, on the other hand, we have extremely optimistic people, the procrastinators, who believe that there is no way exams can make a comeback. This pandemic might have affected the whole world but nothing can affect their procrastinators to pick up a book and study.

**Netflix lovers vs Ramayan bhakts:** People around the world might be sad because they are stuck in their houses, but believe it or not, some are living their best lives. Who are they? The binge-watchers! With no restrictions and limits, they have sworn to finish off every Netflix and Prime original shows they can find. Showing no interest in web series, we also have people who are learning the meaning of patience, moral righteousness and more by watching epics like Ramayana and Mahabharata. Watching one episode a day with family is all the rejuvenation they need. [G I](#)



# The different kinds

## Which Corona Special Species Are You?

Manasvi Dev Kashyap

AIS Gurugram 46, XI B

There's a little girl who believes that COVID-19 is some sort of April's fool trick, a man who believes Earth will be destroyed, and a typical neighborhood aunty who strongly believes that God will surely intervene and destroy the virus just in time for her New York trip in June. Don't judge these poor creatures, because rationality is usually the first casualty of any global crisis. So chill, and read on about a few species that'd make you want to fake a cough and touch your face in exasperation.

### Chance pe dance brigade

While the world is busy in *rona-dhona* over corona, these folks see a business opportunity. From air purifiers that kill all viruses, to people selling home-made sanitizers online, everything is virus-proof. And then there are those who strongly believe that their sturdy third-world Indian genes make them invincible.

### End of the world paranoids

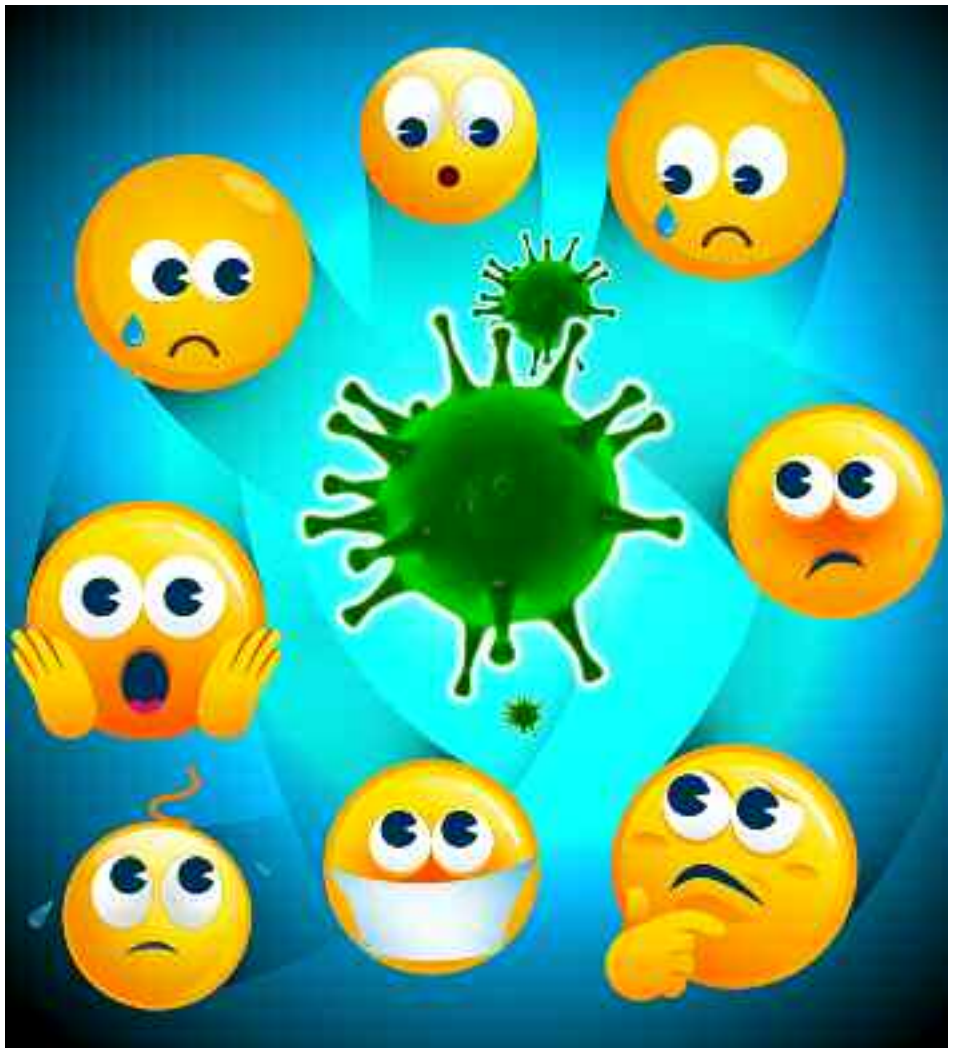
Also known as "pessimist maximus", these fellas are wracked with anxiety and drunk on Dystopian TV. Their suspicion-addled eyes judge you for a minor cough and their gothic ears are to blame for the return of the Armageddon songs on Gaana.

### Conspiracy theorists

Jumping from one theory to another, from saying that the virus has been made in Wuhan to saying that COVID-19 is God's curse, they may seem like the most confused people around. These theories increase the TRP ratings as the public sits glued to the TV, trying to find out the real culprit and curse them to eternal damnation.

### Teri Yaad Mujhe Sataye

Recently, there was news of a man phoning UP police to bring him some 'garma-garm' samosas. In the end, the police brought him four samosas but to discourage the act, the



man had to clean drains and sweep the roads. A police officer in Lucknow said that they'd been getting calls for 'paan', liquor, ice-cream and footballs. People are reminiscing memories of Starbucks, McDonald, Dominos, and CCD!

### The Party Planners

Guess who tops this list: The students who were yearning for freedom after their boards. Poor guys! Each one had a marvelous plan: parties, sleepovers, shopping, long vacations to the US, France, etc. Many had plans to watch Black Widow, Sooryavanshi, but all releases have been paused. Now they're

under house arrest with Netflix and Amazon Prime as their life-support system. And their archenemy is the person who talks of internet break-down.

'Aur Batao Kya Chal Raha Hai?' This line has become a part of every conversation; even blabber-mouths have run out of things to talk about. Some of us must've got the Hantavirus scare, which was hyped by the net. Of course, we creative fellas have cooked up Corona parody songs and are getting our wish of more holidays fulfilled. But still, let's keep our fingers crossed and hope this pandemic ends quickly (before boredom strikes again). [GT](#)

# A strange **pandemic** account

## Bizarre Epidemics And Outbreaks In History

**Divyanshi Shukla**

AIS Gurugram 46, XI G

**O**utbreaks and epidemics have been present throughout history, taking away millions of lives. They bring with themselves, the image of sickness and death. While there are some epidemics which get treated with modern medicine yet there are some whose cause itself is unknown, Here's a glance into bizarre epidemics in history that have been associated with mass hysteria or mass psychological illness.

### **The Dancing Plague**

**France | 1518**

Considered as one of the most famous epidemics in history, the frenzy kicked off when a woman, Frau Troffea in Strasbourg stepped into the street and began dancing for nearly a week until she collapsed from exhaustion. Within a week, more people were similarly afflicted, dancing beyond the point of injury. The mania took over the entire city and nearly 400 hundred people

danced to death. There have been numerous contemporary explanations to this unusual outbreak, from demonic possessions to overheated blood, the most widely accepted one being a mass spread of psychogenic disorder, usually due to extreme stress among the working classes.

### **The Laughter Pandemic**

**Tanzania | 1962**

They say laughter is the ultimate cure. But what happens when the laughter itself needs a cure? The laughing pandemic originated in a boarding school, where three young girls started to cry uncontrollably during class. Initially, the laughter was considered abnormal but it gradually spread to half of the school by the end of the day and the school was forced to shut down. The immense laughter condition just like a wildfire spread through the nearby surroundings as the laughter came in fits that lasted for 7 days at least. It's believed that the pandemic had nothing to do with humour but was purely a result of an outburst of extreme emotions.

### **The Biting Mania**

**Germany | 15th Century**

This epidemic started with a German nun, who began to bite her fellow nuns in the monastery. Later, this developed into mass hysteria, sweeping all across Germany, Holland, and Italy, characterized by 'an unexplainable yet collective compulsion among people to bite each other', surprisingly only impacting nuns. One of the few theories explains this outbreak was the cause of stress and mass psychological disorder.

### **The Sleeping Sickness**

**Kazakhstan | 2013**

A recent one, the sleeping sickness epidemic, began when people in the Kalachi village of Kazakhstan, randomly started dozing off for days and weeks. They woke up only once in a while, not recalling what had happened to them. Hundreds were hospitalised and treated, but the situation kept repeating itself. Of the many theories, one of the most common ones is a psychological disorder due to the gases released from nearby mines, others say stress, but the real reason remains unknown. [G I](#)

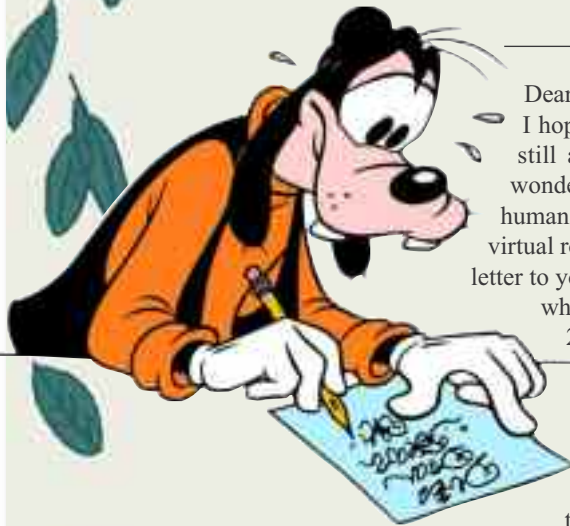




# *A letter to the future...*

## ...If It Managed To Survive The Wrath Of Nature

Ritisha Roy, AIS Gurugram 46, IX G



Dear homo novus,

I hope 2030 is treating you well. I am not even sure whether humans are still alive or whether the Earth is still in existence. You are probably wondering why I am referring to you as Homo Novus. Well this is because humans have probably transformed their original body into automatons and virtual robots, sustaining in a world of artificial intelligence. I am writing this letter to you right now, almost a decade prior, as a reminder of an era when the whole world was turning upside down. About all that was lost and won. 2020. It was the year, expected to bring joy, prosperity and many other gifts, and lead us to see the world with a better perspective. All was going hunky-dory until the uninvited deadly guest, the dark devil, Coronavirus came in. This virus infected small parts of the world but gradually brought its entire army to attack mankind. What happened next? We fought it instantly with our super laser guns, and corona, terrified by our inhuman strength, ran away forever.

Nope, you know that didn't happen, but it would have been cool, right? Sadly, corona is going on to become a heinous global pandemic, a pandemic I am living right now. Many people are losing their lives, and the economy is deteriorating. The whole world is quarantined. Now as I write this letter, one question bugs me- what if nature did this to us as a punishment? Over the years, nature suffered a lot. Choking on poisonous fumes, while getting tired of global warming, what if nature realized that this was enough? Humans have always been ruthlessly taking advantage of our poor mother nature and she has retaliated by grounding the entire population.


While mankind is caged right now, Mother Nature is finally breathing and thriving. Instead of honks of vehicles we are listening to the long-lost chirping of birds. Instead of waking up to filthy smog filling the air, we have beautiful white marshmallow-shaped clouds drifting in the summer blue sky. The wild has started to flourish, while we humans are doomed to stay in. Millions of doctors, medical forces and security forces are trying their best to banish this gruesome virus, while constantly risking their lives.

We are all exasperated, but we cannot slow down our progress, because ease is a greater threat to success than hardships and downfalls. Even the bible says, "Watch out! He who loves to fall asleep and the folding of hands, destruction and negativity shall set upon him like a thief." We must be aware of nature's wrath and use her gifts wisely. I hope we soon learn that we aren't the only inhabitants of earth.

We dream to see a world full of beauty and miracles rather than living in destroyed and devastated trashcan-like surroundings. I hope you will always remember that even though the bad is inevitable, it is our decisions which alter the big picture. And most importantly, praise and be grateful to the motherly affection and love nature provides us with. I really hope nature doesn't remain mad at us for too long. I hope the future would be a better place than now.

Till then, long live and prosper!

Yours lovingly,

Yourself, in the year 2020 



# Expectations Meet Reality

## Time That Should Have Been VS It Is

Ananya Agarwal

AIS Gurugram 46, XI E

2020 – the leap year where we expected one additional rest day, and the universe gifts us unlimited. After almost 3 months into lockdown, we cannot help but fantasize about how 2020 would have turned out if it weren't for 'villain of the decade' Coronavirus. But then again, reality doesn't let itself be forgotten for much longer, does it?

**Expectation:** The vibrant start of a new academic session where new friends are made and new things are learnt.

**Reality:** The pandemic situation created a lockdown which seemed to limit us to our homes for a long time, consequently eliminating shopping, having dinner in the most exquisite restaurants, outings, movies in cinema halls, travelling, etc. However, on the good side, we're learning to do the household chores and experiencing the joy bonding with our families.

**Expectation:** The Boards batch of 2019-20, after burning the midnight oil, would finally sigh with relief. After a whole year of "Boards hai beta, padh lo!", they would finally enjoy independence.

**Reality:** As all their plans of independence were cancelled, they had to restore to staying in and using texts and calls to bridge the gap between them and their buddies. But there still are some who find themselves hanging in mid-air with exams still hovering over their heads as they struggle to keep a track of their

examinations dates and officially getting promoted.

**Expectation:** The world will be a happy place with events taking place every month everywhere as scheduled, inviting tourism, crowds, and news.

**Reality:** Nope. The coronavirus turned our lives tops-turvy. The wait for the 2020 Olympics is not over and stretches on for yet another year. With Cricket tournaments, Cannes film festival, Oktoberfest, book fairs, and so many more major events either getting postponed or cancelled, everything is got to wait this year. The music concerts which attracted so many people now seem to have lost their melodies. The reign of tourism seems to have come down. And news channels are filled with so-called live updates of increasing COVID-19 cases.

**Expectation:** Summer vacations would add up another tick against 'exploring the outside world'.

**Reality:** The coronavirus seems to have planned things differently for us, making travelling a dreadful dream. This time we would spend time playing Ludo, solving assignments (not), attending online classes, binge-watching, and most essentially eating all that we lay eyes on.

Yes, nothing went on as expected. But let's see, would we have got a 3-month holiday otherwise? No. So, until this pandemic ends, let's enjoy the quarantine just as it is. Let's keep our ideal reality a daze, and be hopeful it soon comes alive. [G T](#)



## POEM



## A story for the history books

Srusti Mishra, AIS Gur 46, XI I

The roads are all now confused  
Due to this strange, eerie silence  
Birds now sing in the morn light  
Without worrying about their plight

But there's a fear beneath it all  
With new cases on the rise each day  
While some make it, some do not  
As heroes in the hospitals fight

Still lies in it is beauty for all  
As the skies light up every night  
With a light show of a thousand stars  
Our Mother heals, so will humanity

Try and notice the revelation in it all  
As you sing to lost bonds, and friends  
There is an intimacy in spending time  
With family that was lately neglected

There is a sense of history in it all  
There will be stories about it someday  
They'll speak of a virus that ravaged  
Of humans, how humanity salvaged [G T](#)