

Vocations in Vacations



Dr. Amita Chauhan
Chairperson

Dear Amityans, I am glad to see the way you all took the challenge of changing times and headed on the way towards learning and growth continuously, unfazed, unstoppable. Time flies and once again, it's time for summer vacations.

Well, it's rational on your part if you say that you have been home since more than 60 days already. But then you all have been experiencing and imbibing learning through online classes that have kept you on your toes. So it will be a nice break from the school flipped online.

Times have changed and so this summer break, be ready for experiencing the world in a different way. Use this time as an opportunity to impact lives around you in a more positive and constructive way. Many of you normally used to go out during vacations. This year that may not happen, but you can bring the world to your home with technology in your hands. Try your hands out at various vocations which otherwise you may find boring like crochet, handling tools, fixing gadgets, fabric painting, cooking, gardening, making best out of waste, etc. And continue to write for your GT Quarantine Special e-edition. Stay connected, stay blessed, stay at home and stay safe. [GT](#)

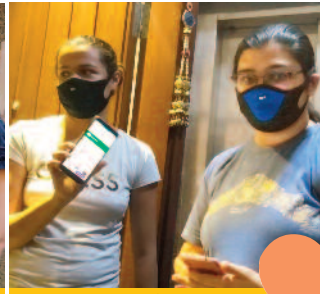
buying groceries to satisfying our need for education, all is being achieved through the digital route. In fact, it is the digital way that has been mapping the route to safety. Steps in 'AarogyaSetu', an app launched by the Government of India to track COVID-19. The app notifies users if they cross paths with someone who has tested positive for the virus and guides the user on the necessary steps for self-isolation. Sounds pretty simple – one click, one download and you are on your way to safety. But it isn't that simple when you are trying to penetrate through a population of 1.3 billion, a

M'app'ing safe routes

Battling COVID-19, With One Download



Harshaa Kawatra



Isha Agarwal



Charvi Mendiratta

Nalin Jayaswal, XI C & Suhani Malik, XII B

AIS Pushp Vihar

As COVID-19 continues to corner humanity, humans have found solace in the corner of the World Wide Web. Today, we are more reliant on technology than we have ever been. From



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.

major chunk of which is still adapting to technology. Yes, that's India for you.

And then there is another part of India that is hell bent on making impossible to I am possible. A group of three students (Charvi Mendiratta, Harshaa Kawatra & Isha Agarwal) from Amity International School, PushpVihar, set out to change things.

Persuading others around them to download the app and even helping them with the same, they were on their way to fight the pandemic. "We approached our neighbours, the security guards, relatives, to download the app. Also, we en-

gaged in personal conversation through calls and texts, explaining people the significance of the app. Sometimes, for senior citizens or support staff like the society guards, we had to download the app on their phones and teach them how to use it," shares Isha Agarwal, one of the team members. But reaching those in the immediate vicinity isn't enough, when the entire world struggles

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M'app'ing safe routes

to fight the pandemic. The battle had to be taken further, "We used platforms like Instagram and Facebook to reach out to people. We also developed a volunteer system, asking our friends to spread awareness about the app in their immediate circles," Isha continued.

The journey had begun, but came with its share of roadblocks. "One of the major challenges we encountered was working with the 50-60 year olds. Since they are not very technology savvy, teaching them how to use the app was a challenge. But since they are also the most vulnerable, this section could not be ignored either," says Charvi Mendiratta, another member from the same group.

While there was the tech challenged group on one hand, there was tech savvy on the other, bringing its own share of challenges. Harshaa, a team member, adds, "The youngsters and middle aged who were aware about the app, had their own apprehensions. Since the app requires you to switch on your Bluetooth and location settings at all times, there was a lot of scepticism about one's privacy."

So how did the team steer clear of the scepticism? "We tried to point out how hard it is to overcome the current situation. So, if it is about choosing between privacy and safety, the latter should be an obvious pick. Bluetooth and location settings only helps to determine the person's location, and helps the app to notify an individual about the active COVID-19 cases in his/her area. So, it's better to have corona in the phone on the palm than on the palm itself," she says. At present, the team has helped over a 1000 people download the app and is still counting. But as a wise man once said, the journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step, in this case a single download. [G I](#)

WORLD TEENAGE
REPORTING PROJECT

COVID-19 - HOW TEENS ARE HELPING

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.



A new perspective

How To Make The Most Of Lockdown

Raghav Gupta, AIS PV, XI C

Ever since the lockdown has been imposed, most of the teenagers like me are bored out of their minds. We all are resorting to binge watching our favourite TV shows and movies on online streaming services and playing mobile games with friends. This all is being done with minimal physical activity involved. With not knowing how many more days to go in this lockdown, we all have become quite unhealthy in our lifestyles and have made an un-conscious habit out of it. But what we can do is to try and become healthier by adding a splash of physical activity.

Many of us do not realise that many online services have become free during the course of this lockdown and many new services have recently emerged. Some ways to make life less boring is to make and follow a schedule. Small sections of this schedule are automatically filled by our sleep and meal pattern along with our online classes. In our spare time, one can work out by doing workouts available on demand on

YouTube or being live streamed according to a schedule on online gyms like Cult. Amity too is hosting online yoga and zumba classes for the students. These will help us stay fit, be happy and keep our muscles from deteriorate overtime due to lack of movement.

In fact, we can invest some time in online courses offered by reputed universities and companies like Harvard, Microsoft and Cisco. Best of all, these courses are offered for free, online and have proper certificates offered with them that are no different as compared to ones obtained by paying hundreds of dollars. AWS services, IoT basics, Media Glossary are a few of the courses offered by Amazon, Microsoft Azure Fundamental Certification courses offered by Microsoft to name a few. Moreover, these are self-paced and make it easier to slot into a schedule. Though some of these may seem like a time waste now, they can help a lot in our future with applications for universities or even jobs.

So, in short, it's high time we stop complaining and make most of the time we have got on our hands. [G I](#)

The Zoom experiment

Suhani Malik, XII B & Shraddha
Pandey, XII A, AIS PV

Types Of People In An Online Class

Time: 9:00 am

Location: Bed

Situation: Commencement of an online class

Observations:

Sample 1- The message brigade

These students start the class with good morning messages which compel the other students to start sending good morning messages too. The first 'thank you' after the class comes from them too. They're the kind of people who don't want to speak up and unmute themselves once in a while to say 'mic not working ma'am'. The emoji reactions and unnecessary gifs? That's them.

Sample 2- The bad connections

These students just can't get a good enough internet connection. They mishear everything and still try to answer on their mic. Their attempts to decipher what the

teacher is saying are hilarious. The random noises you hear isn't someone accidentally unmuting themselves; it's them trying to answer. They come and go from the participants list and sometimes even get marked absent by the teacher.

Sample 3- The multitaskers

They are here and there, and everywhere. They wake up on time; listen to the teacher while taking a look at the curricular activities planned for the rest of the day. These students are always on their toes for the class to get over so that they can move on to the next assignment.

Sample 4- The excuse makers

Whether it is the beginning of the class or the end, these students are always full

of excuses. Right from being unable to complete the assignment to not being able to answer the questions, they are always engrossed in thinking of some or the other excuse.

Sample 5: The perfect ones

Every teachers favourite, these students are always on time, freshly showered and everything. Like perfect all-rounders, they answer on the chatbox and on the mic. They have the most doubts in class and are unafraid to seek attention. Books open in front of them, taking notes diligently, they make it feel no different than the actual classroom.

This experiment shows the different types of students in an online setting. It's safe to say that students and their behaviours remain more or less the same, whether they're in an actual classroom or an online class, fulfilling their roles be it as the multitaskers, the message brigade or the know-it-alls. [G I](#)



The foodie's saga

Journey Of A Food Lover In Quarantine

Yasmin Tandon, AIS Pushp Vihar, XI C

**Disclaimer: The author is not responsible for any feelings of hunger induced after reading this article. Please proceed at your own risk.*

The quarantine period, though necessary, has been a painful time for everyone sitting at home, but a special pain runs through the stomach of a foodie who hasn't had roadside *tikki* and

golgappe in over a month. With no cafes to go to, no momos stand to devour, and no *chowmein wale bhaiya* to thirst over, the plate of a foodie seems to have undergone a lot of changes this quarantine season.

A pledge to live healthier: As the lockdown was announced, the favourite delivery apps of foodies were, too, put on a lockdown for safety measures, and so they swore that this month would be all about eating healthy. They pledged that they would come out of quarantine with a new version of themselves,



a version that is healthy and fit. Two days passed and as they found themselves stuffing their face with french fries, the dreams of being fit remained just that – a mere dream.

Food is everywhere: They say you don't know what you have until it is gone, and that seems to be completely true for every foodie. Every scroll on Instagram comes up with 10 new photos of scrumptious food, every story has throwbacks of beautiful cafes, every YouTube ad about famous *Dilli chaat*, every ad about cheese-pulls, and every second of every day is somehow about food food and nothing but food! Soon even their dreams are all about Domino's and McDonald's.

A budding chef: As the haunting dreams of food could not be tolerated any longer, foodies finally decide that they don't need a fancy restaurant to make them their favourite dish; they can do that themselves, right? As four thousand YouTube videos were watched, fancy ingredients were bought from the market, they finally started on the journey and two hours and five hundred disasters later, they wish they had left the cooking to the professionals.

A ray of hope: As their desire for junk food burns bright, the angels that are their family members take pity on them and promise to help them in their endeavour. From making momos to samosas and cakes at home, the supermom really does everything in her power to not only give them their heart's desire, but also to add a healthy twist to it for her own satisfaction. Well, someone rightfully said – the way to the heart is through stomach, and nobody knows this route like the back of their hand better than our moms. **GT**

