the ruiAITE monthly
MOVING BEYOND PAPERS

THE EDITORIAL

Hello there, folks!

First of all, we would like to wish you a very Happy New Year on behalf of our entire team of The Ruiaite Monthly! Just as the New Year brings with it an aura of joy, hope, love and positivity, we would like to present you our very first edition of the year 2018 with the same level of love and positivity.

Let's check what every column has in store for you all this time. To begin with,BuzzAround gives us a reality check by talking about the Bhima- Koregaon issue that recently crippled Mumbai and Pune for two entire days, whileCareerWise brings to us the "wise career options" in the Indian Film Industry. Op-Ed, is still in the reverie of the New Year,has penned down all the things that are new and trending among the young and the elderly. Taking the New Year theme ahead, Behind The Scenes talks about what resolutions our Ruiaites are planning to break (oops.. .we meant to say "make"!). Along the same lines, Insight brings to us a very interesting theme called 'New Year, New Me', but with a small twist. Open Forum fascinates us with tales of Dystopian societies. Tech Tricked follows the YouTube trend and brings to us the 'Science Rewind of 2017 ' whereas Science of Everything chalks out the hits and misses of 2017. Fictionally Yours brings to us the last episode of the 'Fated to the Sword' series, with even more exciting twists and turns. This time around, Safarnama has decided to help us explore our very own backyard called "Mumbai", but from a true traveller's eyes. Reporting brings to us the hip and happening updates on UA'17 and other events. In Student's Corner, you shall see yet another magnificent piece of poetry by our amateur. After all the reading business, go check our Artwall for a visual treat connected to the city!

Now then, Ruiaites, go ahead, begin your new year with a bang! How to do that, you ask? Read your very own Ruiaite Monthly! Duh!

THE TRUE JEWELS OF RUIA

For decades now, Ramnarain Ruia Autonomous College has had a glorious tradition of felicitating those of its distinguished alumni who have etched a significant mark in their respective fields of work. This year as well, the Ruia College Alumni Association has organized the prestigious Jewels of Ruia award ceremony at 4 pm on Saturday, 20th January, 2018, in the college auditorium. During this ceremony, Mr.Ronald Mendonca and Smt.Ashwini Bhide-Deshpande shall be conferred with the Jewel of Ruia Award whereas Ms.Archana Shukla and Ms.Renu Savant will be felicitated with the Rising Star of Ruia Award. Here are a few details of the award recipients.

Mr. Ronald Mendonca

- Mr Mendonca was in Ramnarain Ruia College for the period 1962-66 and completed his post-graduation in Zoology with distinction.
- During his Ruia College days, he was part of the National Cadet Corps, which endeared him to the uniform.
- Mr.Mendonca joined the Indian Police Service in 1968, and had an unblemished record in the police force until his retirement in 2001.
- In Maharashtra, he served as Superintendent of Police at Ahmednagar, Nagpur, Yavatmal, Satara and Nashik, and as Commissioner of Police in Nagpur, Thane and Mumbai. His last posting (2000-2001) was as Director, Anti-Corruption Bureau, Maharashtra.
- After his retirement, Mr.Mendonca served as a member of the Civil Service Reforms Committee, Government of India and the Maharashtra State Security Committee.
- Mr.Mendonca has received many accolades during his career including the Presidents Police Medal for Distinguished Service, and the outstanding Konkani Award, presented by Dr.T.M.A. Pai Foundation, Manipal.

Smt. Ashwini Bhide-Deshpande

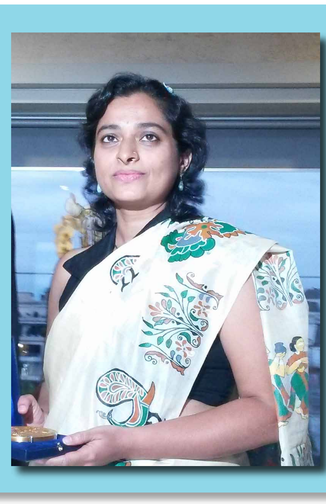
- Vidushi Ashwini was with Ruia for the period 1977-1981. She graduated in Microbiology and obtained her Master's from Haffekine Institute . She was the recipient of the University Gold medal at both Graduate and Post Graduate levels. This true scholar obtained her Ph.D. in Biochemistry from BARC. It was only then that Dr.Ashwini was faced with the decision – academics or her first love-music! And it was victory for her music lovers!
- Ashwini, with her complete devotion to music, is today one of the top artistes of India. She excels herself not only in Khyal Gayaki but also in other types such as Thumari, Dadra, Bhajan, Abhang
- She is a great composer and has published two books on self-composed Bandishes and devotional compositions - Rangarachanajali I & II, both of which have received rave reviews for their musical creativity and artistic presentation. Ashwini has performed not only in India but has travelled across the globe participating in prestigious conferences
- Ashwini received Sangeet Natak Academy Award in 2014, "Ganatapaswini Mogubai Kurdikar Samman" in 2014 and "Pandit Mallikarjun Mansoor Award" in 2013, Government of Maharashtra Sanskrithik Puraskar in 2011,the Rashtriya Kumar Gandharva Samman in 2006, Pandit Jasraj Gaurav Puraskar in 2005 and many others.She has received the State Level Tarktirth LaxmanShastri Joshi Puraskar for her translation of Madam Curie's biography, in which her mastery over Marathi language as well her aptitude towards science is seen.

Ms. Archana Shukla

- Ms. Archana Shukla completed her B.Sc. in Microbiology from Ruia College in 2004.
- Being an excellent journalist, she is currently designated as Assistant Editor (Rural Affairs) to CNBC TV 18.
- She travels extensively to the interiors of the country to track the stories or developments in rural India.
- She reports, anchors and produces the widely acclaimed TV series "What's Ailing Rural India" for CNBC TV18. It's series known to depict ground realities and connects rural India to the mainstream news viewers
- Ms.Shukla has won several laurels for her contribution to the field of journalism, like Exchange Media News Broadcast Award (ENBA) 2015 in the category of 'Best Continuing Coverage by a Reporter', the prestigious Ramnath Goenka Award 2016 for Excellence in Journalism in the category of 'Business and Economics' and the Mumbai Press Club's RedInk Award 2016 in two different categories, as the 'Best Business Journalist' and also in the 'Health and Wellness' category.
- A self-motivated, fearless and determined individual with good communication skills, she has also reported from Ground Zero during Mumbai terror attacks, bomb blasts in Mumbai and floods in rural Uttar Pradesh.

Ms.Renu Savant

- Ms.Renu Savant did her BA in English Literature from Ruia College and MA from University of Mumbai, and later, worked as a journalist with Indian Express.
- Prior to joining FTII, she has assisted senior artistes and practitioners like Kamal Swaroop, Madushree Dutta and Chetan Datar
- Ms.Savant was a student of film direction at FTII and has won two National Awards- Special Mention in 2012 and for her film 'Aaranyak' Golden Lotus for Best Direction (Short Film category) at the 62nd National Awards 2015, awarded by Government of India, presented by the President of India.
- After graduation, she got the Early Career Fellowship from TISS, SMCS. This Fellowship helped her complete her first long duration film – "Many Months in Mirya".
- It is worth noting that she has been felicitated by the Cesar Academy of Cinema Arts and Techniques, at the UNESCO headquarters, Paris, and has also been selected to participate along with National Award winning directors of 33 countries and to present out short films in Athens, Rome and Paris in 2016.
- She also won the John Abraham National Award for Best Documentary at the SiGNS Film Festival, 2017, given by the Kerala State Chalachitra Academy.



REPORTS

UTSAV AAROHAN

A Celebration of Celebrations.

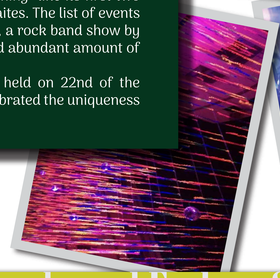
December for Ruiaites is a month completely dedicated to celebrations. And in December 2017, Ruia witnessed its annual grand celebration -'UTSAV AROHAN' once again. The annual college festival of Ruia, this year continued its legacy of celebrating in a grand style.

The celebration started on 19th December. All the college students welcomed the festive vibe by dancing to the beats of Dhol-tasha, in a miruwnuk, led by Ruia's very own students. The day witnessed several other events, such as writing, singing, dance competitions and signed off with a bang of the 'War of DJs' event. The night was lit, and the students bid the day goodbye, until next morning.

The second day of UTSAV AROHAN, started off with all new vigour among the Ruiaites. Second day was nothing less. The entire college was occupied by mostly students, some participating, some managing the events, but all enjoying at the same time. The 'Street dance' was the highlight of the day. The well organised and delightful day came to a halt, until the next day because, 'Utsav abhi baaki tha',

21st December, third day of UTSAV AROHAN, was equally "happening" like its first two days. Being the last day, it encountered the largest turnout of Ruiaites. The list of events continued the third day, with the mega event being 'High Voltage', a rock band show by the rock band MH-43. It was a day filled with joy, excitement and abundant amount of energy among the ruiaites.

Samanvay, a day dedicated to all the departmental fests was held on 22nd of the December. Almost all the students and teachers of the college celebrated the uniqueness of their departments, and wrapped it for the year. Until next time!



Vaishnava Philosophy and Ecology Seminar

Ramnarain Ruia Autonomous College in collaboration with Bhakti Vedanta Vidyapith Research Centre came together to organize a successful one day international seminar on Vaishnava philosophy and ecology on 15th December, 2017. The seminar was attended by more than 120 students and teachers across Mumbai. Vatsala Pai, the HOD of philosophy in Ruia Autonomous college welcomed the dignitaries and paper presenters Gauranga Dasji (director of Govardhan Eco Village) , David Habberman (prof. Indiana university, U.S.A), Ferdinando Sardella (assistant prof. Stockholm university), Kenneth Valpey (research fellow in Oxford university for hindu studies), Kamla Srinivas (assistant prof. S.I.E.S college) and Dr. Himani Chaukar assistant prof. Ramnarain Ruia Autonomous college). Miss Aparna Verma, a third year philosophy student, hosted the seminar. Prof. The Vice principal, Vaibhavi Palsule Ma'am, introduced Mr. Gauranga Das who said that people look up to and turn to India for its philosophy and he further introduced the two speakers. He lightened the atmosphere and made everyone laugh and stated some really interesting facts about how India influenced the world economy for 1800 years, governed by the thought processes that came from the philosophical schools. David Habberman gave the keynote address, titled "Environmental possibilities in Vaishnava Anthropomorphism: Case of mount Govardhan" and set the right tone for seminar. He talked about the relationship between religion and ecology. He said that there is now a change in attitude and that religion and ecology are merging concepts. This was followed by a speech from Ms. Kamla Srinivas who talked about Rabindranath Tagore as the one pioneer of Vaisnavism and therefore talked on the lines of Bengali Vaishnavism and also about the moral relationship of man with the environment.

The second session began with a classical dance performance by Mihica Bakre, a third year philosophy student, which was well received by the audience. This was followed by a speech from Prof Ferdinando Sardella about personalism. His paper presentation revolved around Bhakti Sidhanta which he interpreted as not abstract but immanent.

After that came in Ravi Gupta with his paper titled "trees in trouble and humans in need". He spoke about how religion and nature are closely knit in India- grounded in sacred traditions. Dr. Himani Chaukar presented a paper titled 'understanding nature: a comparison between Vaishnava and tribal perspectives'. Prof Kenneth Valpey spoke about the Vaishnava ecology engagement with bovinity. Lastly, the valedictory speech was delivered by Prof. Shubhada Joshi (former HOD of philosophy University of Mumbai) which marked the end of the event.

The perspectives offered were eye opening and refreshing for all. The seminar was a huge success and was highly appreciated too. It has set a high benchmark for future events that will be organized by the department.

VISITORS FROM FRANCE!

During its second ever Student Exchange Program, the French Department of Ruia hosted 12 French high school students along with their 2 professors from the 11 th of December to the 21 st of December, 2017.

The prestigious Exchange Program was organized in collaboration with Lycée St.Esprit, a high school based in the Brittany region of France. A noteworthy particularity of this unique program is that each of the French students stayed with their Indian correspondent at their place, while the French professors resided with the Department's professors.

During the course of 10 days, the students and teachers together explored the city of Mumbai thoroughly. As per the schedule devised by the Department, the French delegation was taken to various neighbourhoods and tourist spots of Mumbai for sightseeing, starting from the very first day, with a brief tour of the college and its vicinity. Later, the French were also taken to the Gateway of India, CSMVS Museum, Flora Fountain, Marine Drive, Parsi Colony, Khotachiwadi, Dhobhi Ghat, Dharavi, and Shivaji Park.

The program's primary focus being the exchange of cultural values and traditions, many specific activities were undertaken to achieve this goal. For instance, a two-day workshop was organized for the French students in order to inculcate Indian artistic heritage through dance forms like Bharatnatyam and art forms like Warli. Besides, a special conference session was also organized in the Conference room, wherein the French students presented the different aspects of France through geography, music, history, gastronomy, etc. To top it all, the French Department organized an "International Dialogue", giving the audience an opportunity to tempt their curiosity by asking questions about the French culture to the French students. They enjoyed clarifying the doubts posed by the inquisitive audience.

Not to forget the fact that the French and the Indians alike had tremendous fun while embarking on a shopping spree and roaming around the Colaba Causeway as well as the malls. The French students and teachers also relished the Indian cuisine, although many of them found it impossibly spicy!

Such was the bond that developed swiftly over those 10 days that it became very difficult to bid adieu to each other when the time of departure arose. Nevertheless, the Indian students may rest assured with the fact that they are scheduled to visit France in May 2018, when they shall have yet another chance to spend time with their newly made international friends!

Buzz Around

Celebrations turn Catastrophic

On New Years day, in Pune, the annual celebration of the victory of the Mahar's in the Bhima-Koregaon battle quickly turned sour. The celebration turned riotous when a young man was hacked to death and five others were injured in Pune on 2nd January, 2018. As a result, Prakash Ambedkar, grandson of B.R. Ambedkar and the leader of the Bharipa Bahujan Mahasangh, called for a state-wide Maharashtra 'bandh' on Wednesday, 3rd January 2018.

The Battle of Koregaon was fought between the British East India Company and the Peshwa army at Koregaon Bhima in 1818 with nearly 500 Mahar soldiers under the East India Company. Given their untouchable status at the time, they were denied entry from the Peshwa army and thus this victory is of great significance for the Dalit community. In 1851, the British erected a memorial pillar at Bhima-Koregaon to honour the soldiers who died in this battle. Since 1st January 1927 it has become the site of commemoration for the same. This year ended in violence when the members of Hindu outfit holding saffron flags took objection to this celebration and pelted stones upon the Koregaon war memorial. The ripple effect of this was violence and vandalism across Maharashtra. Tensions remained high in Pune. Mobile phone networks were jammed in the 4 km radius. A group of protesters set fire on a fire brigade truck in Bhima-Koregaon.

Many areas of Mumbai came to standstill as the local trains were paralysed by 'Rail Rokos', and city highways and roads blocked by demonstrators. Thousands of shops and eateries were forcibly shut down and Schools were declared an off day. Autorickshaw and taxi unions kept their vehicles off the streets. Mumbai Metro was suspended after protesters tried to enter stations. Hundreds of commuters were locked in at various stations. Mobs targeted parked vehicles. BEST buses, shops, hotels and other commercial establishments in affected areas remained shut. Parts of Mumbai that remained blocked due to protest included Eastern Express Highway, Chedda Nagar junction, Vashi Naka, and Amar Mahal junction in Chembur, Dharavi, Ghatkopar, Mulund, Dadar and Worli.

Maharashtra's former chief minister Ashok Chavan called the incident an intentional attempt to sour Dalit-Maratha relationship.

Swara Jamdar

(Right - Top to Bottom)
Vandalism, 'Rail Rokos' and 'Rasta Rokos' across the city by the demonstrators. The Mumbai Police did their best to manage the situation.

(Left)
Prakash Ambedkar, grandson of B.R. Ambedkar and the leader of the Bharipa Bahujan Mahasangh

Simply Put

Assam NRC

What is NRC? 1

The National Register of Citizens (NRC) is a register of the names of Indian citizens. The NRC was first prepared in 1951. Currently it is being updated across Assam to include the names of people [or their descendants] who appeared in the NRC 1951, or in any of the Electoral polls up till the midnight of 24 March, 1971, which would prove their presence in Assam. The NRC and Electoral polls together is called Legacy Data.

What are the requirements for updation in NRC? 2

In order to be included in the updated NRC, there are two requirements:

A. The person's name should be present in the Legacy Data.

B. Any one of the admissible documents issued upto 24 March 1971 and proving linkage with that person should be available.

Application forms have to be submitted to be included in the updated NRC. These application forms will be verified. Based on the verification of particulars submitted, an updated NRC will be prepared. Citizens will receive another opportunity to submit claims, objections, corrections etc. before publication of the final NRC.

How will the NRC be updated? 3

The NRC will be updated as per the provisions of the Citizenship Act, 1955 and the Citizenship (Registration of Citizens and Issue of National Identity Cards) Rules, 2003. As such, eligibility for inclusion in updated NRC shall be determined on the basis of the NRC 1951, Electoral polls - 24 March 1971 and in their absence the list of admissible documents issued upto the midnight of 24 March, 1971.

Why is it necessary to bring out an NRC in Assam? 4

The NRC is being updated in Assam to detect Bangladeshi nationals, who may have illegally entered the state after the midnight of 24 March 1971, which is considered to be the cut off date. This date was originally agreed upon in the 1985 Assam Accord, signed between the then Rajiv Gandhi government and All Assam Students Union (AASU). In July 2009, Assam Public Works (APW) an NGO, petitioned the Supreme Court for identification of Bangladeshi foreigners in the state and deletion of their name from the voters list of India.

What is the current status of NRC in Assam? 5

Assam, which faced influx from Bangladesh since the 20th century, is the only state having an NRC, first prepared in 1951. The much awaited first draft of the NRC was on Monday i.e January 01, 2018; published with the names of 1.9 crore people out of the 3.29 crore total applicants in Assam recognising them as legal citizens of India. The rest of the names are under various stages of verification, according to the **Registrar General of India Sailesh.** As soon as the verification is done, another draft will be published.

What will happen if a Citizens name does not appear in the first list? 6

NRC state coordinator Prateek Hajela has ruled out the worries of those whose names are not published. Asked about the possible timeframe for the next draft, the RGI said it will be decided as per the guidelines of the Supreme Court - under whom the preparation process is being monitored - in its next hearing in April 2018. The entire process is expected to be completed in the year 2018. However, if a citizens name is missing , he/she can file an objection and request that the name will be included after submitting the requisite documents to the NRC centre or online on the official website (www.nrcassam.nic.in).

(Top)
Photo taken on the occasion of signing of memorandum of settlement on the Assam problem between the Government representatives and representatives of the All Assam Students Union and the all Assam Gana Sangram Parishad in New Delhi on August 15, 1985. (PD:VNM/August, 1985, MS26/AA/Assam)

(Left)
Logos of All Assam Students Union (AASU) and National Register of Citizens

Riddhi Solanki

Top 10 News

1. Supreme Court sets free the 2g scam victims
2. Superstar Rajnikant launches his political career by starting his own party
3. Mumbai and Pune unrest due to Koregaon-Bhima violence
4. BJP wins the Gujarat and Himachal Pradesh elections but opposition sees it as a win-win situation
5. Pakistan government doesn't respond to Kulbhushan Jadhav's case
6. Fire at Kamala Mills and nearby places takes 14 lives in Mumbai
7. Rahul Gandhi is elected as the National Congress Party's new president
8. India destroys Sri Lanka in all the cricket series
9. First AC local runs on the local route of Mumbai suburban railway service
10. Veteran actor Shashi Kapoor passes away

Chinmay Parulekar

Joe Weisenthal
@TheStalwart

1997: World's best human chess player gets destroyed by computer.
2017: World's best chess computer gets destroyed by Artificial Intelligence program that had only learned about chess a few hours earlier.

Pushkar Bhatlekar

"Unconditional war can no longer lead to unconditional victory. It can no longer serve to settle disputes. It can no longer be of concern to govern powers alone."

- John F. Kennedy

Adya Shreya

CAREER WISE

The film industry is one of the biggest industries not only in India but all over the world, and it shows no signs of slowing down. At some point in life, all of us have dreamt of being able to be a part of the glitz and glam of showbiz. Here are some careers that you can take up behind the silver screen...

CASTING DIRECTORS

Casting Directors organize and facilitate the casting of actors for all the roles in a film. This involves working closely with the director and producer to understand their requirements, and suggesting ideal artists for each role, as well as arranging and conducting interviews and auditions. Once the parts are cast, the Casting Director negotiates fees and contracts for the actors, and acts as a liaison between the director, the actors and their agents.

Casting Directors must have an extensive knowledge of actors and their suitability for a particular role. On larger productions, Casting Directors may supervise casting assistants, who will support and assist them in this work.

What is their job?

In pre-production, Casting Directors must liaise with both the director and the producer, who rely on the Casting Director to assist them to assemble the perfect cast for the film. Consequently, Casting Directors must have in-depth and up-to-date knowledge of new and existing acting talent. They are responsible for matching the ideal actor to each role, based on a number of factors, such as the actor's experience, ability, reputation, availability and box office appeal. Casting Directors also work closely with production accountants to prepare the casting budget.

Casting Directors organize and conduct interviews and auditions for each part, and are also in charge of offering each actor an appropriate fee to appear in the film, as well as drawing up and negotiating the terms and conditions of contracts with agents, once casting is complete. Casting Directors need a vast knowledge of a huge range of actors, and an extensive understanding of their abilities, as well as a thorough appreciation of changing talent trends within the film industry.
This requires a strong instinct for acting talent, great dedication and commitment. A deep passion for the craft of acting is essential. Excellent communication and interpersonal skills are vital in order to liaise with a range of people, including other production staff, talent agents, and the actors themselves.

Negotiation and organizational skills are also invaluable for agreeing actors' fees, and arranging the terms and conditions of their contracts. In order to cast the ideal actor for a key role in a film, directors and producers have to be highly selective, and therefore be extremely demanding, so it is vital that Casting Directors are patient, hardworking and diplomatic at all times.

Essential knowledge and skills:

Casting Directors must have a wide knowledge of cinema and actors. An interest in the theatre and stage actors is also a prerequisite. A basic understanding of how to operate a video camera (framing, focus, etc.) is also an advantage. Casting Directors must be computer literate.

Key Skills include:

Excellent communication skills,
Ability to recognize talent,
A good memory,
Excellent organizational skills,
Precise attention to detail,
Ability to take and give direction,
Knowledge of the requirements of the relevant health and safety legislation and procedures.

As Casting Director, one earns 25 to 45 thousand per month in India . The salary can vary depending upon the company hiring them. It is definitely an interesting job if one possesses the skills mentioned above.

ADR (AUTOMATED DIALOGUE REPLACEMENT) / DIALOGUE EDITORS

What does an ADR/Dialogue Editor do?

Dialogue Editors start working on a film well into the picture editing process. All the lines of dialogue are carefully scrutinised for problems. These might be technical, such as the sound of traffic over an actor's line, or a performance-related problem. In some cases, an actor might mispronounce a word or be inconsistent with an accent.

Using an editing software programme, ADR/Dialogue Editors cut between a number of takes to create clean, crisp lines of dialogue. If this is not possible, Automated Dialogue Replacement is used.

In a nutshell, dialogue editing is all about making sure that all film dialogue is in the right place, checking the quality of the dialogue sound and working with actors to re-record dialogue where necessary.

Qualification requirements:
You will need a postgraduate in Arts, Music, Electronics, Maths, or Sound Technology. You can also take HND qualifications. Apart from these one must also-
•Have an excellent knowledge of acoustics
•Understand sound recording and audio post production processes
•Be able to manipulate and work sound for the moving image
•Have excellent listening skills.
ADR/Dialogue Editors may be freelance, or they may be employed by an Audio Post Production House.

SCRIPTWRITING

If your head is brimming with imagination and you are craving to tell a story that will be applauded by the masses in the television screen, then scriptwriting is the ideal career, to dole out that creative writer in you. Screenplay writers create a plot, characters and dialogue in a motion. If you want to play with the words and weave a magic, then scriptwriting is not your style, as this is much closer to the comic book style.

Also, you need to be a true fan of movies. Desiring to change the industry pattern is detrimental to your career. Earning a Bachelor's degree in creative writing and film production from Mumbai Film Academy or some other institute will give a boost to your career.

Also, with the advent of technology, try making a short film with the proper screenplay format and collect audience response on it. Some books that can help to shape your writing skills are 'Save the Cat by Blake Snyder', The Art of Dramatic writing by Syd Field'.

A writer should travel the world with curiosity and fascination. Lastly, for survival in this competitive market, one needs courage and flexibility because you will be perished if you are not thick-skinned and adapting.

PRODUCERS

A film producer is responsible for overseeing all aspects of the creation and production of a film, such as the conception and writing of the story, the acquisition of funding, and the artwork used for retail release.

While there are a number of other professionals who assist film producers, such as directors, cinematographers, and editors, it is the film producer who makes sure that all the production components are working together through all phases of the filmmaking process.

Travel is often required, and producers often work long hours, sometimes even in unpleasant weather conditions.

There are no specific educational qualifications required for a film producer. However, some qualifications in a related field will definitely help. Thus, a post-graduate in Mass Communication or a Diploma holder from TV or Film industry can enter in the field of production. There are a lot of diploma and certificate courses which one can engage in to enhance one's skills and knowledge of production. Good communication skills, along with a high degree of patience and endurance will help a producer in the long run.
There's no age limit as to when a person should start producing or enter this field. The salary of a film producer in India ranges from 4,90,000 to 6,00,000 per year, depending upon the projects undertaken and his/her experiences.

Some of the colleges that offer Filmmaking courses are:
1) Film and Television Institute of India (FTII), Pune
PG diploma and PG certificates in various courses.
www.ftiindia.com

2) Whistling Woods International, Mumbai
Course in direction, cinematography, editing, acting.

3) Zee Institute Of Media Arts (ZIMA), Mumbai
Course in direction, cinematography, editing, acting and production
www.zimainstitute.com

CINEMATOGRAPHY

Another name for a cinematographer is the Director of Photography (DP). It is the cinematographer's job to get the right moment that the director wants captured on camera. The director coordinates with the cinematographer about how he wants each shot captured, and then the cinematographer has the job of using the cameras to fulfill the director's wishes.

A graduate or undergraduate degree in cinematography is needed from a college or university. You can also complete a certificate course in that area to prove that you know something about the field. To become a cinematographer, the person is required to graduate or pass their HSC examinations. A strong portfolio of experience is needed for you to be accepted as a qualified candidate.

There are also many opportunities available for advancement and recognition in terms of awards.
One of the biggest perks about becoming a cinematographer is that, in the future, there is expected to be a huge demand for them, thus ensuring that cinematographers find work when they look for it.
Each job is different, as it is a different film or television program, and so the job isn't monotonous either.

Computer skills are necessary if one wants to become a cinematographer, because special effects and technological knowledge are needed for this career. A cinematographer also needs to have a vision and imagination to picture what the camera shot will look like before it is captured. The difference between a cinematographer and a camera operator is that a cinematographer plans what the camera operator will do. People who wish to become cinematographers may do internships on major film or television sets, or they can enter the field by filming commercials or instructional videos.
Life can be hard; mainly because of the long hours that the individual has to put in. However, working towards a film or television show is something gratifying.

Behind The Scenes

Resolving The Resolutions

It's the start of a new year, the occasion for new beginnings and the event marking endless possibilities. The first thing that the words 'new year' brings to our mind apart from the midnight excitement are those little promises we make to ourselves- our New Year resolutions. Even though this practice began in the west, it has become an inseparable part of our celebrations too. We have the best intentions at heart when we resolve to make some little or big changes in our life. Whether we stick to them or not is a whole other matter.

The history of this tradition goes back as far as 4,000 years to when the ancient Babylonians became the first people to make New Year resolutions. For them new year began in mid-March on the day of the spring equinox. They celebrated with a twelve-day festival known as Akitu, where they crowned a new king or reaffirmed their loyalties to the existing one.

They also made promises to their gods to pay their debts and return borrowed items. Honouring these promises meant gaining the god's favour and doing otherwise meant inviting their anger.

There was a similar tradition in Rome in 46 B.C., when Roman general Julius Caesar altered the calendar so that the new year began on 1st January. The month of January is named after the Roman god Janus and had special significance for the Romans. Janus, the two-faced god of choices and 'beginnings and endings' was believed to symbolically look backwards into the past and forward into the future. The Romans offered sacrifices to the god and made promises of good conduct for the next year.

For early Christians, Watch night services, created in 1740 and held on New Year's Eve or New Year Day included readings from Scripture, hymn singing and it was an occasion to reflect on past wrongdoings and resolving to do better in the future.

Did You Know?
Most people don't keep their New Year's resolutions.
(You're Not alone my friend!)

We talked to some Ruiaites about the last year's resolutions and their status right now:

I had made two resolutions last year: Learning singing and making my write ups reach more people. I couldn't complete the first resolution, but I did open an account of my write-ups named 'readandheal' on Instagram and gave it a good start. Even though it wasn't a resolution, I had seen dreams of getting fit last year. But, I have ended up gaining more weight instead.

-Hitakshi shah, SyBsc

I owned a keyboard for the last 6 years but didn't practice much because of my laziness. It was my 10th grade when I made a resolution to practise on my keyboard two hours, each Sunday. I didn't miss any Sunday and also shifted my practice to a friend's house after a while, as my neighbours wanted quiet weekends. I also started jamming at my friend's place and at the end of the year we performed for 2 hours in our school's annual function. It was really a very proud moment for me as I could see that my practice paid off really well.

-Nipun, SyJc

A new year always begins with some enthusiastically made resolutions, which look like they might make our life better, but each one witnesses his/her own spectacular failure as time flies and the year ends. Hence this time, I have made a resolution to "Complete all the previous resolutions". One of them, was going on a fitness regime: eating healthy, living healthy. I would say that this one was partially successful, because I "tried" eating healthy food which I am finicky with (but gave up after a while), and I exercised a lot...cute folks at the park motivated me to be there everyday and jog. I found beauty in the park a lot better than jogging. This in turn, elevated my mood and improved my mental health! I would say, a partial success is better than a complete failure!

-Gayatri Godbole, SyBa

Did You Know?
The most common resolution made is to increase the amount of exercise that one gets.

Even though making New Year resolutions has become a secular practice now, there are many parallel traditions in various cultures and religions around the world. New Year's Eve is a universal holiday and nowadays everywhere around the world, people bring in the New Year with fireworks, parties and toasts to a prosperous year ahead. Although, this time we bring to you some of the world's most unique and peculiar way of celebrating this joyous holiday.

DENMARK

A weird Danish New Year tradition is throwing breakable dishes at the neighbours' door. Strangely, this makes them happy instead of getting annoyed. The family with the hugest tower of broken plates, glasses, cups and other crockery is considered to be the luckiest one because it means that they have lots of loyal friends. So next time if your crockery breaks during New Year, remember – "CRACKS ઋણ છે!"

BRAZIL

Bringing in the New Year along the beach always seems like a great idea. Well, Brazilians liked this idea so much so that they have a tradition based on the same. In Brazil, many locals believe in wearing white clothes symbolizing peace and throwing white flowers into the ocean as an offering to the goddess of the sea. Another one of their tradition dictates that jumping seven waves will bring good luck in the coming year giving you just the perfect excuse to unleash the child within.

Did You Know?
Saving money, being a nicer person, learning a new skill are some more common resolutions made every year.

BOLIVIA

New Year's Celebration is just incomplete without food, and especially, sweets. Each country has its own tradition when it comes to cooking. On New Year, people in Bolivia prepare sweets with a twist. This one is especially catered for people with a sweet tooth. Bolivians bake a coin in any sweet dish such as a pastry or a pancake and whoever finds the coin within the sweet dish first, is said to be very lucky. That person is believed to have a great successful year with good health and wealth. Now, for us, eating sweets will never be the same!

FINLAND

Ever heard the phrase- "Everything happens for a reason."? The Finnish people seem to believe in this phrase more than anyone else. This is because they have this peculiar practice where they pour molten tin into cold water and then interpret its shape. For example, if it resembles a heart, then it's considered as a sign of a romantic year. If it looks like a vehicle, then you are expected to have a travel filled year. Each one can have their own interpretations of the shape of the cast tin making this practice very subjective and personal.

Diy You Know?
Around 38% of people claim to NEVER make a resolution.
(hey those 38%, we hope you are reading the article. *big smile*)

CHILE

Festivals are the time where we miss our deceased loved ones the most. Around 15-16 years ago, a family in Talca, Chile jumped over the local cemetery fence to spend their new year with their father who recently passed away. And with that began a new tradition, where the Chileans now spend their new year's eve in their local cemetery which helps them feel reunited with the persons they've lost. This may seem depressing but somewhere it helps to bring a ray of new hope into their lives.

A change is always welcomed by our brains; it loves fresh starts and new experiences. So how about changing your resolutions and trying some new ones? One prime example, drawing from the earlier sentence: 'I'll try something new every week'. This will be an engaging and enjoyable resolve, also helping you to learn new things. 'I'll read and finish a book every month' might help you with your vocabulary and will only add to your wisdom. Since most of the resolutions are self-centred, perhaps the best one would be: 'I'll help someone in need, twice every week'. We all are brothers and sisters on this madhouse of a planet, so we need to stand for each other, to uphold humanity. There's nothing nobler than making and sticking to a resolve that will better our social bonds and also contributes to making our society a better place than the one we were born into.

Did You Know?
Almost 50% of people start thinking about the resolutions from December 1st.

Dear Me: An Insight into Insight

This month, Insight decided to add its own twist to 'new year, new me' by writing a letter to ourselves. Read on to find out more about the stories, ideas and horoscopes of the members of Insights!

Dear Me,

It's the 2nd day of the New Year and you have already done many of the things you had resolved not to do. Well, that's just you being you, right? And that's exactly what you did the previous year too. Lived the way you're.

But you know what? It's time to have a new motto to live by this year - Live the way you're, after coming out of your comfort zone. Because you see this skin that you're made of has layers and layers to it; explore it. The thoughts that run wild in your mind sometimes that you dismiss as foolish - say them out loud. Do more of this, what you're doing right now - write to yourself.

If I had to describe 2017 in a word then it would be confusing. There were ups and downs; Downs and ups. A little bit messed up? But in the end, the year's ride is surely going to make one hell of a story. And it's all about the story. Don't forget. If nothing goes right, go to sleep; works for you pretty well.

As far as writing my own horoscope is concerned, 2018 will be as unknown as any year is, so gear up for a crazy ride. Untangle it slowly to avoid screwing up. Take leaps of faith here and there. And yes, detox from the internet; it might be injurious to health.

Yours truly,

Himani Joshi, SYBA

Dear Me,

What is it that you were counting until the first few months into 2017? The days. And, yes, awaiting the eighteenth year because seventeen is just a filler year; trying to look into the future with rose tinted glasses; a new beginning, a new way of life and dreading it too. One decision, one leap, several thoughts, countless advices, all at the edge of the valley.

What is it that you started to count a few months ago? Nothing. Live in the present. There's no need to individually quantify some things. I asked questions, had patience, and received answers. But there are setbacks too. Maybe you are just looking somewhere else and asking the wrong questions. Why is it raining today? Oh, I scored only decent marks in exams. Why is it not raining today?

There are expectations and then there are experiences. And sometimes there are regrets. Why didn't I have one more scoop of the black currant ice cream at the party? The past, the present, the future. But what exists now is only real. Rest takes up unwanted space in the mind.

Instead of looking up your horoscope, even if it's for fun, think of the best at hand, being humble, curious, accepting changes and letting go of mistakes. And the next year's letter will be more humorous.

Your well wisher, sometimes,

Tanvi Padia, FYBA

P.S - Improve your communication skills and stick to your diet!

Dear me,

If someone made a song about my 2017, they would name it "The only way out is through" and it would either be as emo as a 21 Pilots song or as upbeat as Camila Cabello's Havana but nothing in-between. And if that doesn't explain my year, I don't know what does.

A quick recap of my year would include sweating, eating peri-peri fries, exploring psychology, large skies, meeting my brother, learning embroidery, crying, doubting, and laughing at myself.
Each year, I learn acceptance a bit more. It's like playing a video game where you keep unlocking higher levels. In a nutshell, from 2014 to 2017, I've grasped the meaning of acceptance as promoted by social media (2014), the depth of acceptance as understood by life experiences (2015), the facets of acceptance as applied to both the body and the mind (2016) and finally beginning the journey of acceptance towards improvement (2017). Next year, I hope to unlock acceptance of unpredictability. And here's why; when I started 2017, I was optimistic; I had outlined goals for myself to achieve. But I did not expect the rollercoaster I was strapped on to take the amount of turns and trajectories that it did. And it was only now, a few minutes ago when I sat down to write my goals for 2018, that the point of uncertainty really drove itself home. How could I plan a whole year ahead of me when I know I'm not even going to be the same person by the end of it?

That's why while writing my horoscope this year, I've chosen to only outline the basic themes I want to live by. This includes raising my level of independence, the state of my mental well being, the amount of art I'm going to create, and also reducing my intake of peri-peri fries.

Saee Patkar, TYBA

Dear Me,

Well, 2018 began in the most different way. Never had I thought of welcoming the New Year, far away from your family. And that's what makes 2018 unique.

You have successfully crossed 2017! That's actually a big thing, because the past year was nothing less than a super-fast roller coaster ride. But all I want to say is that, you have made me proud. 2017 was indeed a transforming year; you held me strong, through thick and thin.

You have grown from the negatives into a much positive being. I'm so glad that my over possessive girl finally learnt to let people go. And most importantly, you have started giving yourself the space and time that was much needed. And I hope you will continue these good habits in the next year too. You have pushed yourself out of the comfort zone by challenging your fears, giving up on unwanted presences, living independently, and most important of all, giving yourself another chance - all these were things I never thought you'd agree to; but you are trying your level best, and you will surely make through. It's necessary that you make mistakes, but you no longer hold onto the guilt. Rather reflect on your regret and work to improve on it. You are healing, you are growing, love!

You have learnt a lot in the past year, and it's time you implement the same. Now in 2018, one thing I wish you to deal with is your temperament. Your anger and emotional instability have set you back many a times. So, let that be your goal for 2018? I won't set up any Resolution or Bucket list for 2018, as you have always been a free spirit, doing stuff that amused you. But please clear off your To-Read list girl! It's getting longer day by day. And also, one more request. At least this year, visit those places which you have Googled and taken screenshots of. Let free the explorer and foodie in you!
I know you are a person who prefers facing the situations as they come up, so planning how 2018 should be isn't you. But just remember to, 'Live your day on your own terms, and don't look back.' It may seem selfish but it's not. Make yourself the priority. The year has begun in an unexpected way, so make this Mystery tour worth remembering!

My ideal Horoscope for 2018 would be that the coming year will be filled with unthinkable opportunities and huge responsibilities. There will be times when your schedule would be hectic and surroundings tense. Your calibre and dedication will be put to test. So, you have to stay calm and focused. You will need to balance all activities piously to achieve your goal. It will be a fun-filled year, with tremendous hard work and emotion-packed experiences. Just don't let your social support collapse.

Waiting to hear from you soon. Write to me often, love! It feels good. Till then, take care and don't overthink. All the best!

Yours sincerely,

Sara Chavan, FYBA

Dear me,

Before anything else, congrats on making it through 2017. A passed year weathers and soils your being and 2017 was no different. You might not be able to summarise 2017 in just few lapses but what you can instead do is absorb; cherish each raw moment in its absolute vulnerability. If you ask yourself what you have embodied, you might as well be surprised. A survey of your learning encompass being unregretful, humble and most importantly tolerant. You know right, how does it feel to settle for something less?

Well, you comprehend the feeling and you did not settle for less. At times, you questioned your self-worth for its relevance in the composition of universe. These questions still might bother you, but what you did not have back then and have now is faith in your uniqueness. Movies, music have shaped you immensely and you should appreciate them for the same. Some things went out of order and hence you shall truly past them and march forward. Remember one thing, what made you vulnerable once; made you stronger later.

For my ideal horoscope for 2018; never stop learning. Excite yourself. Give a shot at new things. Don't be too calculative. And most importantly, follow the horoscope.

Until next year,
Yours only,

Rohan Pawar, TYBSc

OP-ED

Yes, it's that time of year again! The time of the year we turn over a new leaf. When we think of New Year, the first and foremost thing that strikes our mind is "new year resolutions" followed by new habits and the new of everything. This shows how much the word NEW means to us. And so, here we are with everything new that's happening around! Right from music to technology to memes, we have a lot in store for you!

Happy Reading!

NEW IN-TREND RESTAURANTS AND CAFES

The Junkyard Cafe

Remember the 'Best out of Waste' Competitions held at our schools? Well, this fellow took it damn seriously and created a cafe out of 'Junk' which has American, North Indian and Mediterranean food. The reviews for this Hill Road based cafe are mixed. But, if you visit this place then you get to click some really cool selfies!

Jail - Behind the Bar

Have you ever imagined yourself sitting in a jail and being served Continental, North Indian, Chinese or Italian dishes alongside a 10-page bar menu by 'prisoners'? Then, this is the place for you.

Pratap's Wild Dining

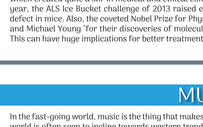
A jungle themed restaurant located in Andheri where you can relax and enjoy good quality food without the constant fear of a lion pouncing on you.

OPEN

NEW FOOD

Rolled Ice cream

Also known as "Thai stir-fried ice cream", it is trending in most cities across the United States. Watching it being prepared is as exciting as eating it. A milk based ice cream is poured onto a frozen metal plate and spread across the surface. When the ice cream freezes, it is scraped into rolls and placed in a cup. Finally, you can ask for your own favorite toppings such as marshmallows, chocolate sprinkles, hot fudge, etc.



Charcoal

Nowadays, black-colored foods have been showcased on a social media ranging from cupcakes to pastas. Activated charcoal is the byproduct of burning coconut shells, wood or other plant materials which gives it a black color. Unsure about its side-effects?? Well, don't worry! It's totally harmless and is different from consuming food that has been burnt!

Tacos

It's one of the most globally accepted Mexican dishes. It's composed of corn or wheat flour rolled around a filling which includes vegetables, seafood, chicken, pork etc. (In fact anything of your choice!) It can also be filled with seasonal ingredients to make it more special! We are sure, you must be thinking about your next visit to the restaurant especially for tacos! You don't need to think much. Almost every corner has a taco truck!!

MEDICINE

2017 was a big year in medicine. A head transplant was carried out on two corpses this year in November which created quite a stir in medical and ethical communities alike. In one of the most positive news of the year, the ALS Ice Bucket challenge of 2013 raised enough money to identify the gene responsible for the defect in mice. Also, the coveted Nobel Prize for Physiology was awarded to Jeffrey Hall, Michael Rosbash, and Michael Young 'for their discoveries of molecular mechanisms for controlling the Circadian rhythm'. This can have huge implications for better treatment of sleeping disorders.

MUSIC

In the fast-going world, music is the thing that makes us sit back, relax and enjoy our peacetime! Though the world is often seen to incline towards western trends filled with varieties, yet there is still a decent amount of people who are keeping the traditional and classical music alive in the hearts of people! These days the trending music and hits include music from eminent musicians, singers, and bands like Eminem, Chainsmokers, Coldplay! The latest song Perfect by Ed-Sheeran has crossed 397 Million views in just a couple of weeks! Another music that appears to be trending is collaborations of famous singers or music which mixes two or more songs in two different songs like Vidya Vox mixes Bollywood and Hollywood music!

We found that these three are the latest trends in music!

1) Despacito - Luis Fonsi & Daddy Yankee ft. Justin Bieber
2) Attention - Charlie Puth
3) That's what I like - Bruno Mars

NEWEST TRENDS IN BOOKS

It's time to listen

With the growing human tendency to multitask, Audiobooks have been seeing a surge lately. This coupled with a constant desire to be entertained every single minute of the day, Audible the biggest producer and retailer of audio-books has found its business booming.

Breathe in the scent of words again

In spite of technology taking over our lives, more individuals were seen observing a 'digital detox' and turning to printed books, evident from the plunging of E-books and resurgence of Paperbacks.

Spare the words and let colors flow from your pencils on the book

Johanna Bransford's adult coloring books have sold over a billion copies. Colouring is realized to be a calming process and probably even takes us back to childhood.

DATING TRENDS

Benching

You are going well with your crush, who leads you for a significant while and then suddenly stops communicating as if they evaporated into thin air and you are left clueless. These commitment phobic people seek attention from more than one person at a time. So, in case you are stuck in one such relationship, don't worry! You are not the only person they are Benching.

Zombieing

The person suddenly withdraws all forms of communication and leaves you hanging. When you decide to move on, they reappear out of nowhere. This is just like a zombie coming back from the dead.

Stashing

You are madly in love with this particular person. The person has met everyone you know, even that long-lost friend of yours. However, you haven't met anyone important from their life nor do you know when or if you'll meet one. There is a high possibility that the person is appearing available to the people he/she knows and hence is not very keen on introducing you to them. Our take on it? This relationship is going nowhere.

MEMES

Memes are a staple of any youngster's social media experience. "A guide to introverts" by stand-up comedian Biswa Kalyan Rath is one of the most hilarious memes doing rounds right now. Originally meant to be a self-deprecating jab to introverts like himself, the image has now been edited multiple times and has been made funnier than it already is. Another meme gracing our feed is the "Expanding Brain". Basically, the more 'expanding' the brain is, the more absurd ideas it comes up with. Another favorite of ours is the "Living in 3017" meme. Originally from Twitter, the meme calls out the absurd life hacks people find for everyday problems suggesting that maybe they belong to the next millennium.

TECHNOLOGY TRENDS

The Internet of Things (IoT) and Smart devices

IoT includes smart connected products which are constantly gathering data, connecting to other devices and sharing that data all without human intervention. The voice-enabled personal assistant like Google home are examples of an IoT devices in our houses, connecting smartphones, fit-bits and many more.

Artificial Intelligence

The massive increase in data due to IoT has led to devices working faster. The more devices learn the more accurate they become. Computers today can see, read, listen and answer your every command. Even read your emotions and mind. Creepy, isn't it?

3D Printing

The invention of 3D printing is benefiting manufacturing. Here, the object is created by adding layers of materials which can be anything; plastic, metal, concrete even chocolate or Human tissues. Creation of complex shapes at cheaper rates has thus, become possible.

NEWEST TRENDS IN CAREER

Drone Expert

Drone Expert- Just a decade ago, we must have laughed over the idea that shopping could be done while sitting before your computer screen, and the day isn't far away when we would sigh over a home delivery made by an artificial object. Amazon, one of the largest online shopping portal is hiring drone pilots and experts to drop things off in just about 30 minutes.

User Experience Expert

User Experience Expert- Human-computer/technology interaction has become an ingrained aspect of everyday functioning. Considering how important it is to make this experience easy for a user, companies are investing heavily in UX researchers and designers.

Social Media Consultants

Social Media Consultants- Facebook and other social media handles have helped to bridge the gap between a company and customers, and develop a personal connect. As a consequence, Social media content creators and marketing experts are in good demand.

CAREER

TRENDING PLACES TO TRAVEL TO!

2018 is here! And you must be thinking about a new dream destination on your bucket list! Well, we can help you out with three options that are IN trend. So, get ready to revise your bucket list and pack your bags! Gute Reise!

"Portugal", a dream destination with a combination of rich history and modernity, innovative art, stunning views and of course super-friendly people! It offers greatest hits of Europe at a pocket-friendly rate being awarded as the second-best value destination in Europe after Bulgaria. It's well-known for its beaches with the largest artificial underwater park, food, longest running empires, cork production and the list goes on... Well, did you know that the oldest bookshop in the world is in Portugal? So, all the book lovers out there; you ought to visit this place someday!

Leh-Ladakh is on every travel enthusiast's list of places to visit before they turn 30. Visiting Leh-Ladakh would be a mesmerizing experience as these places have a number of attractions including ancient monasteries, royal palaces, wildlife safaris, adventure activity spots, other religious sites and much more. It's both a popular winter as well as summer holiday destination.

Bali, an island in the Indonesian archipelago, is considered as one of the most loved destinations for a perfect vacation. The charm of this city lies in the enchanting temples with its unique architecture and distinctive landscapes. Due to a large number of cultural, historical and archaeological attractions and a wide range of accommodations it is one of the world's most popular island destinations and the one which consistently wins travel awards.

But friends, these are not the only new things that are happening around. The fashion industry is bringing back all the trendsetters of the 90s, right from bell bottoms to goth- inspired slip dresses, and it has deeply impacted our style sense. Much anticipated movies like the Avengers: Infinity War and Jurassic World: the Fallen Kingdom have kept us waiting for 2018 to come. The employment industry will have a boom this year with the most demanding job being IT Security Architects and Data Analysts. 2018 is not a happy year for all the Game of Thrones enthusiasts around the world as there won't be any season airing this year. While these are the 'expected' things that 2018 will serve us, we're sure that there will be new and surprising (and sometimes shocking) events too, same as how 2017 served us. Let us hope that a new year opens up new exciting opportunities for each one of us. More importantly, let us hope we are able to fulfill our New Year resolutions planned. Happy New Year!

OPEN FORUM

The mythical world of

DISNEYLAND

One doesn't need to be a kid to appreciate the most magical place in the world. Disneyland is a place which everyone right from children to adults wish to visit at least once in their life. It's a place that people talk, fascinate and even make conspiracy theories about. Even though only one Disney Park was made under the direct supervision of Walt Disney, each and every park is similar yet distinct in its own way.

There is no possible way of knowing everything about this mythical place, but here are some of the facts that will make you want to visit it as soon as possible -

• The million dollar idea, literally. - Walt Disney first had the idea of building a theme park when he took his daughters to a merry go-round. It later ended up making him millions of dollars just within its opening year.

• Originally - Walt Disney envisioned Disneyland in Burbank, CA, right across the street from Walt Disney Studios.

• It's NEVER closed! - There were only three recorded days in history where the park had to remain closed.

• The most popular attraction at Disneyland, and in the entire world, is Pirates of The Caribbean. - And for the first few years, real human skeletons were used as attractions. Spook bomb!

• Secret Menus! - Disneyland's secret menu items are hiding in kitchens at both Disneyland and Disney California Adventure. Anyone can order these "undercover" items but you just have to know to ask for them. Multiple blogs are dedicated to unveiling these secret items.

• Conspiracy theories - Many blogs as well as YouTube videos uncover the various rumors and theories surrounding the mysterious world of Disney. Everything from Ghosts to the Death of Walt Disney is very much talked about. Ultimately, it only raises curiosity and the number of people visiting the parks keeps increasing on a yearly basis.

All things aside, it is said that the atmosphere there is too magical and it can't be explained, it can only be felt. Being surrounded by something that brings happiness to millions and has been doing so for 60 years brings on all kinds of artistic inspiration. The rides, the fireworks and the live shows can make anyone feel young at heart no matter how old they are. Once you're in there, it seems as though the outside world has disappeared. Besides, it's the ONLY socially acceptable place in the world to wear Mickey Mouse ears.

The festivities of Hippie Culture

GOA CARNIVAL

Float parades, lip-smacking food, music, dance...basically, four days of insane fun! The carnival in Goa includes all this along with acrobatics, theatrical displays, artistic performances and much more. The state is famous for its vast beaches, a chill vibe, and a Sushegaat life; but that isn't everything.

Started by the Portuguese in the eighteenth century, this Carnaval, as it is called in Portuguese, is continued by the locals and the Government as it proves to be a major boost for the state's tourism. The Carnival usually takes place in February and it is one of the smaller celebrations of the carnival festival worldwide. The float parades, held in Panjim, Margoa, Vasco, and Mapusa, have people dancing along on the streets, entertainers showcasing their talents and people in colorful outfits.

Bright colors, floats, celebrations and traditional rituals are all a part of this Carnival. It begins by choosing a large, old man to play King Momo (derived from the Greek God of poets and mockery, and not the dumplings), who throws open the carnival and is later crowned, which is a very popular ceremony. He has a court which consists of fire eaters, dancers, and other revelers, and encourages people to eat, drink and just enjoy on all four days. Also, this festival has been very convenient for making confessions of love to one's most admired sweetheart.

The festival ends with the Red and Black Ball which takes place on the last day. Wearing their best outfits and masks for this ball, which is held in Club National in Panjim, people enjoy to the fullest. The festival is worth attending for its energetic and enthusiastic display, and also because Goa is the only state in our country where such a carnival takes place. Other than Rio, Goa is the place to be, for this Carnival, which is a burst of energy and colors.

As a side note, the Carnival this year will be from 10th to 13th February, and the entry is completely free.

DISTOPIAN TIES

"It was a bright cold day in April, and the clocks were striking thirteen."
— George Orwell, 1984

A dystopia, alternatively Cacotopia, Kakotopia, or simply anti-utopia is a community or society that is undesirable and/or frightening. Coined by Sir Thomas More, the antonym of utopia literally translates as "not-good place". A dystopia is a society characterized by a focus contrary to the author's ethos, such as mass poverty, public suspicion, a police state or oppression. They figure prominently in fictional worlds and have become exceedingly popular with young adults in the last few decades.

Some dystopias are blunt, while some hide behind the facade of a supposed utopia. All the specifics depend upon the creator or author, who uses them to provide fresh perspectives on problematic social and political practices in the real world. They were originally meant to be read as political warnings. The authors were influenced by the social and political events of their times. This is why dystopian fiction is incredibly diverse and heterogeneous. Today, dystopian fiction also draws upon current concerns like pollution, climate change and technology. This style has become popular with the younger audience and most recent young adult movies and novels feature or reference dystopia.

The first modern works of dystopian fiction came from the famous English author H.G. Wells. The most famous example of dystopian writing is George Orwell's 1984, which tells the story of a futuristic society in the state of permanent war. Ruled by an oligarchical dictatorship, citizens of that world are kept under surveillance and mind control. The main protagonist is a member of the ruling party who slowly realizes that he must rebel against his masters.

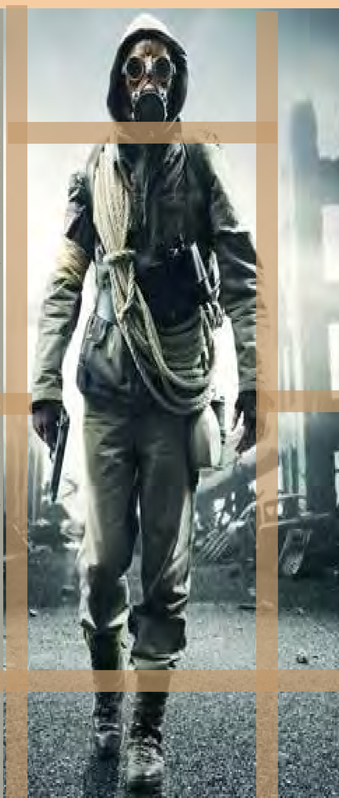
Aldous Huxley's novel- Brave New World is considered as a parody of utopian fiction. It depicts the life in the futuristic city of London where advanced human reproduction and new sleep-learning techniques has managed to create dystopian society. "Fahrenheit 451" is one of the best-known novels by American writer Ray Bradbury. It is set in a society that tightly controls the flow of information between its citizens. The protagonist is a fireman who is tasked to destroy all books that are banned by the ruling government.

Other famous dystopian works include Anthony Burgess's 1962 novel- A Clockwork Orange set in future England that has extreme youth violence, and details the protagonist's experiences with the state intent on changing his character at their whim. Margaret Atwood's The Handmaid's Tale describes a future United States governed by a totalitarian theocracy, where women have no rights.

The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins, The House of the Scorpion by Nancy Farmer, Divergent by Veronica Roth, The Maze Runner by James Dashner, and Delirium by Lauren Oliver are a few examples of recent young adult dystopian fiction.

Apart from novels, film history is full of movies that managed to very realistically depict future dystopian societies, filled with desolate landscapes, oppressive governments and subjugated people who strive to become free. 1984, A Clockwork Orange, Fahrenheit 451 are film adaptations of the novels. A Boy and His Dog is a 1975 dystopian science fiction movie adaptation based on Harlan Ellison's novel. Blade Runner is a cult science fiction film directed by Ridley Scott. Other movies include V for Vendetta, Children Of Men, Death Race, Planet of the Apes, Resident Evil, Mad Max and its sequels, and The 5th Wave.

Dystopian fiction has a dynamic character and hence appeals to several age groups. Syreeta McFadden noted that contemporary dystopian literature and films increasingly pull their inspiration from our worst imaginings, making it often hard to distinguish between entertainment and reality. It is becoming a part of our consciousness to wonder what the future will hold and whether our worst thoughts will be part of reality. Perhaps that is why dystopia is so interesting; it distracts us from the real while still planting doubts about everyday situations. Hopefully the world can fulfill the authors' dreams by learning from those flawed societies and eventually coming closer to a utopia.



TECH TRICKED

THINGS IN TECHWORLD 2K17 WHICH GOT THEIR ASS KICKED

1.CYBERSECURITY.
2K17 was a year when nothing seemed safe! Bombshell hacks were revealed one after another, from an Equifax breach that compromised almost half the country to global ransom campaigns that cost some companies millions of dollars to cyberattacks highlighting the alarming vulnerability of our personal information. There are many to gossip about, but the two which showed how cybersecurity sucked this year:

.Equifax:

Cybercriminals penetrated Equifax (EFX), one of the largest credit bureaus in July and stole the personal data of 145 million people. It was considered among the worst breaches of all time because of the amount of sensitive information exposed, including Social Security numbers. The company only revealed the hack two months later. It could have an impact for years because the stolen data could be used for identity theft.

i.WannaCry:

The WannaCry ransomware attack was a May 2017 worldwide cyberattack by the WannaCry ransomware cryptoworm, which targeted computers running the Microsoft Windows operating system by encrypting data and demanding ransom payments in the Bitcoin cryptocurrency. 200,000 computers were infected across 150 countries. And above all, the cyberattack has been linked to North Korea.

2. R.I.P- JUICERO

Juicero was a startup which no one in the Silicon Valley would ever like to mention. It was truly the biggest laughingstock of 2K17. The Wi-Fi-enabled juicer came with proprietary packets that it squeezed into juice. It cost $400 (after an initial price cut from $700). Eventually videos popped up showing that you could squeeze the bags with your own bare hands (rendering the Juicero device completely unnecessary). People saw the startup as a symbol of wild excess, and the company shut down after just 16 months in business.

3. ISRO FAILS.: It was a black day for Indian space programme as it suffered a serious setback after its workhorse rocket Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) failed to deliver India's eighth navigation satellite into its intended orbit. The 1,425 kg Indian Regional Navigation Satellite-1H (IRNSS-1H), which was launched at 7 p.m. on board the PSLV, was declared unsuccessful after its heat shield failed to separate. Hope this never happens again.

4. APPLE FAILS

Smart speakers are something every music lover would love to have in their house. But heirs of Steve Jobs don't seem to be smart enough to get this task done. Apple could have been the first to introduce a smart speaker; the company had reportedly been working on such a product for two years when Amazon announced its Echo in 2014. Three years later, Amazon now has six smart speakers, Google has three, and even Microsoft came out with one, but Apple seems to have none. The company has already postponed the release of this product from 2017 to 2018. We hope that it makes it to the market next year.

6.GOOGLE FAILS

Just as the movie Pixels failed at the theatres, two google products: The Pixel 2XL phone and Pixel Buds completely failed to meet Google's standards. Pixel Buds wireless headphones creators showed no intelligence to the hardware and designing of this product and the sound quality is so-so — not a thing you want to hear if you've just shelled out $159. Whereas the Pixel 2XL had serious issues with its display system.

5.SNAPCHAT SPECTACLES.

Only 0.08% of Snapchat's users bought these camera sunglasses. Hundreds of thousands of pairs of spectacles sit rotting in warehouses after the company bungled the launch. So why did it fail? Because you can't post directly from the glasses, it sends video clips to your phone and you can't apply the app's popular face filters. Moreover the entire idea of these spectacles was superlame!

TECHNOLOGIES WHICH SLAYED IN 2017

Apple Face ID

Apple Face ID initially faced criticism from people who swore by Android, saying that the feature was already in use by Android phones. However the Android face ID had its problems. So what made Apple Face ID such a success? When apple announced the iPhone X last month—its all-screen, home-button-less, unlock-with-a-look flagship—it placed an enormous bet on facial recognition as the future of authentication. For hackers around the world, Face ID practically painted a glowing target on the phone: How hard could it be, after all, to reproduce a person's face—which sits out in public for everyone to see—and use it to bypass the device's nearly unbreakable encryption without leaving a trace? Pretty damn hard, it turns out. In an experiment, Gadget reviewer David Pierce served as would-be victim. Thousands of dollars were spent on every material imaginable to replicate Pierce's face, down to every dimple and eyebrow hair. However, the Face ID saw through this facade and didn't unlock the phone.

Tesla Roadster

Tesla Roadster started the brand Tesla Motors. After almost a decade, Tesla decided to
update its Roadster. And it gave it a huge update. It goes from 0 to 100kms in 1.9 secs! That is faster than a $2.2 million dollars Buggati Chiron. The Roadster costs from $300,000 which gives it a huge success as it gives better performance at a much lower
price.

SpaceX

What made Space X different from other space companies was its ability to reuse rockets again and again. This helped in reducing the costs tremendously. Space X's Falcon 9 rockets were used in this endeavor since early 2011. After more than two years of landing its rockets after launch, SpaceX finally sent one of its used Falcon 9s back into space. The rocket took off from Cape Canaveral, Florida, sending a communications satellite into orbit, and then landed on one of SpaceX's drone ships floating in the Atlantic Ocean. It was round two for this particular rocket, which already launched and landed during a mission in April of last year. But the Falcon 9's relaunch marks the first time an orbital rocket has launched into space for a second time.
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Apple Watch

In 2017, Apple Watch officially became the most popular watch on the planet. It
surpassed Fossil, Rolex, and other incumbents to become not only the most popular wrist
computer on earth, but the most popular watch
period. Furthermore, during the unveiling
of the Apple Watch Series 3, Apple CEO Tim Cook also mentioned that in Q2 2017, the
growth of Apple Watch was up 50% year-over- year.

Nintendo Switch

Nintendo's last console, the Wii U, was a failure. Nintendo's new console, the Switch, is a runaway success. One of the main reasons was that the fact that the Switch was much easier to use. Nintendo learned from the previous failures of Wii U and learned quickly
from it.

Ethereum
After a bitcoin-crazed 2017, Ethereum comes as breath of fresh air in the cryptocurrency world. At its simplest, Ethereum is an open software platform based on blockchain technology that enables developers to build and deploy decentralized applications. Like Bitcoin, Ethereum is a distributed public blockchain network. Although there are some significant technical differences between the two, the most important distinction to note is that Bitcoin and Ethereum differ substantially in purpose and capability. Bitcoin offers one particular application of blockchain technology, a peer to peer electronic cash system that enables online Bitcoin payments. While the Bitcoin blockchain is used to track ownership of digital currency (bitcoins), the Ethereum blockchain focuses on running the programming code of any decentralized application.

-Atharva Bidwalkar

TECHNOLOGIES THAT WILL RULE IN 2018

Super Maglive Train:

Chinese researchers have recently been looking into the next phase of train transportation, beyond even Maglev technology. China and Japan already have very fast Maglev trains that are capable of reaching over 260 miles per hour, but the new next-generation Maglev technology, dubbed super Maglev, will apparently be even faster. Super Maglev is built on the same Maglev technology, but it encapsulates the train in a vacuum tube, further reducing air resistance, allowing for higher, mind- boggling speeds. Researchers claim that such enclosed-tube Maglev systems could see

Titan Arm:

The Titan Arm is the work of a team from the University of Pennsylvania, and a strength-enhancing upper-body ex skeleton that will help you lift an extra 40 pounds. Granted, it's a far cry from the Powerloader we see and love in the Alien films
but the Titan Arm was designed with a more-humble goal in mind. The Titan Arm is built to help rehabilitate people who've suffered serious arm injuries or strokes as well as provide some extra strength and protection for anyone who lifts heavy objectsfor a living.

Aerofex Aero-X:

If you're a Star Wars fan, the Aerofex Aero-X, a real-life equivalent of the Star Wars speeder bike, is definitely something you'll want to keep your eyes on. The Aero-X is the result of more than 15 years of research and development. Powered by a water-cooled 240 horsepower engine and two large rotors, the Aro-Xcan hover at an altitude of 12 feet and at speeds of up to 45 miles per hour power. It can also carry up to 310 pounds. Also, as a result of this extended research and development period.Aerofex claims to have overcome the dangerous coupling effect that can arise due to using two rotors, ensuring that the Aero-X will be safe and easy to control.

-Shubham Borhade

Cave2:

Cave2 is a hybrid reality environment that lets artists, scientists and engineers become fully immersed in their research. The Cave2 is a 360° wraparound structure consisting of 72 LCD panels, a 20-speaker surround sound system and a 10-camera optical motion tracking system. With 3D glasses, scientists and engineers will actually be able to virtually experience and move through anything of their choosing, whether it's the human body or planets in the solar system. The Cave2 holds an immense amount of potential, especially for ituations involving large amounts of data requiring visualization.

Jet Pack International H202:

Jet Pack International are making great strides in jetpack technology H202 and H202-Z jetpacks. As the name suggests, both the H202 and H202-Z are hydrogen peroxide-fuelled jetpacks that will allow users to fly at up to 77 miles per hour at a maximum height of 250 feet. So farthought, the higher-capacity H202-Z is only capable of a maximum flight length of 33 seconds and a maximum travel distance of 3,300 feet.

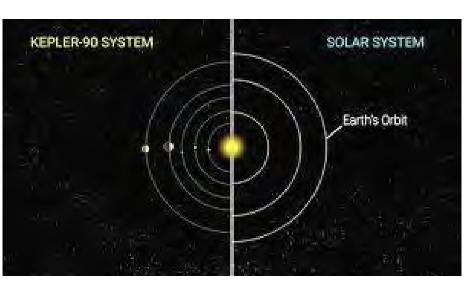
SCIENCE OF EVERYTHING

This January, SOE warms you with the path breaking research in science of 2k17. We hope to imprint your minds with the same and provide raw experience through their journeys.

Science Rewind 2017

12 December

Kepler-90i is a super-Earth exoplanet with a radius 1.32 that of Earth, orbiting the early G-type main sequence star Kepler-90 every 14.45 days, discovered by NASA's Kepler spacecraft. It is located about 2,545 light-years (780 parsecs, or nearly 2.4078×1016 km) from Earth in the constellation Draco. The exoplanet is the eighth in the star's multiplanetary system. As of December 2017, Kepler-90 is the star hosting the most exoplanets found. Kepler-90i was found with the transit method.



Rohan Pawar

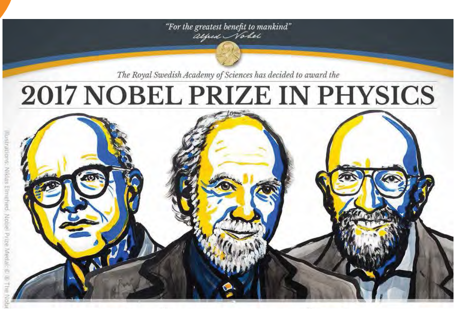
11 November

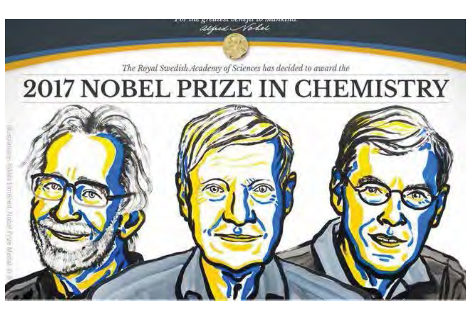
"Very Worrying Finding" in the stomach of the deepest creatures of sea.

The study, led by academics at Newcastle University, by Dr. Alan Jamieson found that animals from trenches across the Pacific Ocean were contaminated with fibres that probably originated from plastic bottles, packaging and synthetic clothes.
An estimated 300m tonnes of plastic now litters the oceans,with more than 5 trillion plastic pieces – weighing more than 250,000 tonnes ,currently floating on the surface. Around 8m tonnes of plastic enters our oceans every year. According to Dr.Jamieson, "Once these plastics reach the deep-seafloor there is simply nowhere else for them to go, therefore it is assumed they will simply accumulate in greater quantities."

Vaishnavi Dabholkar

10 October



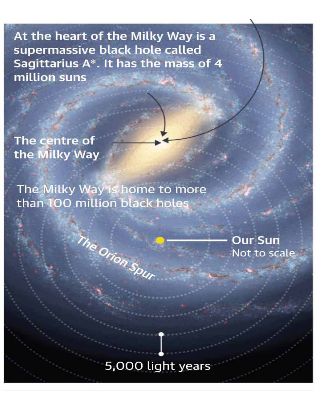


Nobel Prizes in Stream	Researchers	Description
Physics	Rainer Weiss, Kip Thorne and Barry Barish	On 14 September 2015, the universe's gravitational waves were observed for the very first time. The waves, which were predicted by Albert Einstein a hundred years ago, came from a collision between two black holes. It took 1.3 billion years for the waves to arrive at the LIGO (Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory) detector in the USA. Gravitational waves are an entirely new way of observing the most violent events in space and testing the limits of our knowledge.
Chemistry	Jacques Dubochet, Joachim Frank and Richard Henderson	**Cool microscope technology revolutionises biochemistry** We may soon have detailed images of life's complex machineries in atomic resolution. The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2017 is awarded to **Jacques Dubochet, Joachim Frank** and **Richard Henderson** for the development of cryo-electron microscopy, which both simplifies and improves the imaging of biomolecules. This method has moved biochemistry into a new era.

Dhruv Rathod

9 September

An invisible behemoth will rank as the second largest black hole ever seen in the Milky Way after the supermassive black hole known as Sagittarius A* that is anchored at the very centre of the galaxy.
Cassini spacecraft orbited Saturn from June 30, 2004, until Sept. 15, 2017.The probe ended its life with a plunge into the ringed planet's atmosphere.The mission is known for discoveries such as finding jets of water erupting from Enceladus, and tracking down a few new moons for Saturn.



8 August

Paleontologists from the Museo Egidio Feruglio in Argentina have discovered and described a new supermassive titanosaur species.
Patagotitan mayorum is the largest animal to walk the planet and one of the most complete titanosaur with length 122 feet (37 m) and weight about 69 tons.

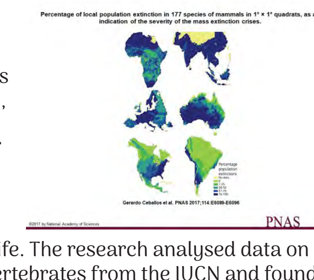
In an effort to improve the efficiency of natural photosynthesis, a researcher Sakimoto at the University of California, Berkeley, has created cyborg bacteria. He worked with naturally occurring non photosynthetic bacterium, Moorella thermoacetica.
These bacteria were trained to grow and cover their bodies with tiny semiconductor nanocrystals that act as efficient solar panels for harvesting sunlight.

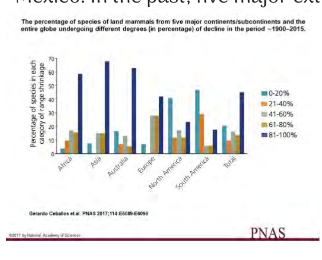
Swara Jamdar

7 July

World on the brink of Sixth mass extinction, Anthropocene –

Scientists warn that the Earth is experiencing the sixth mass extinction, the Anthropocene extinction, driven by mankind, in a recent study, conducted jointly by researchers from Stanford University and National Autonomous University of Mexico. In the past, five major extinctions due to natural disasters have been identified, wiping out 50% to 90% of the wildlife. The research analysed data on 27,500 species of land vertebrates from the IUCN and found that nearly half of the 177 mammal species surveyed lost more than 80% of their distribution between 1900 and 2015. Human activities are driving this biological annihilation.

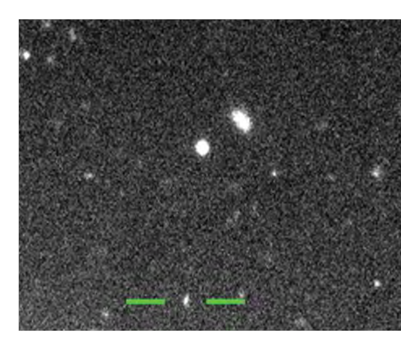




6 June

Two new moons!

Jupiter is already know to have 67 moons, and now add two more to that! The two new moons were discovered by researchers from the Carnegie Institution for Science in Washington DC, using the Magellan-Baade reflector at Las Campanas Observatory in Chile. The moons are yet to be named, and are currently being referred to as S/2016 J 1 and S/2017 J 1 – where S stands for Satellite, and J stands for Jupiter. Both these moons are found to move in opposite direction to the Jupiter around its axis. Also, the team believes there are still more to be found!



Rewriting our species' history

At an archaeological site located in western part of North Africa in Morocco at Jebel Irhoud, the origin of our species Homo sapiens was rewritten. Remains of skull, bones and jaws found at the place was identified as being from early members of our species, dating to about 315,000 years ago. This indicates H.sapiens appeared more than 100,000 years earlier than we thought. Most researchers have placed the origins of our species in East Africa about 200,000 years ago.

Yash Acharya

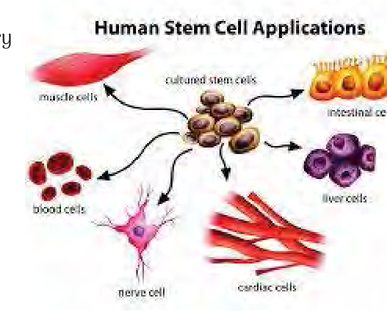
5 May

Retina synthesis

A synthetic, soft tissue retina developed by Vanessa Restrepo-Schild, a 24-year-old doctoral student and researcher at Oxford University's Department of Chemistry using biological, synthetic tissues and developed in laboratory environment , offers fresh hope to visually impaired people.

Making cells

In an attempt to create blood stem cells in the lab, Daley and his colleagues started with human pluripotent stem cells – which have the potential to form almost any other type of body cell.
The team then searched for chemicals that might encourage these to become blood stem cells.
After studying the genes involved in blood production, the researchers identified proteins that control these genes and applied them to their stem cells.



Aditi Rane

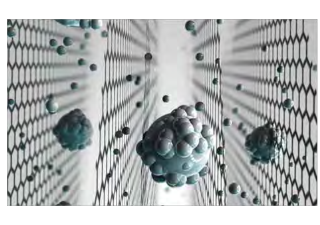
4 April

An ocean of opportunities!

New research demonstrates the real-world potential of providing clean drinking water for millions of people who struggle to access adequate clean water sources. National Graphene Institute demonstrated the potential of filtering out nanoparticles, organic molecules and even larger salts from sea water by developing Graphene-oxide membranes. However, the ability to filter common salt requires even smaller sieves!

A step towards treatment!

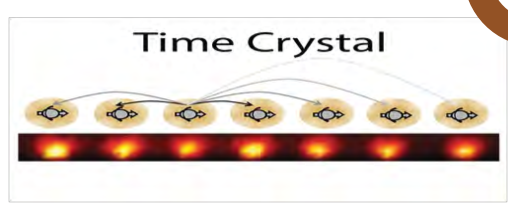
Researchers identified two drugs: Trazodone and dibenzoylmethane (DBM) that could potentially block cell death in all neurodegenerative brain diseases. Trazodone is a medication used for the treatment of depression, while DBM is a compound currently undergoing testing as an anti-cancer drug. They have prevented brain cell death in mouse models of neurodegenerative disease and humans trials are next to come!



3 March

Meet the time crystals!

A bizarre state of matter with an atomic structure that repeats not just in space, but also in time, allowing them to maintain constant oscillation without energy. These time crystals are special because they could allow physicists to create stable quantum systems, and make quantum computing a reality.

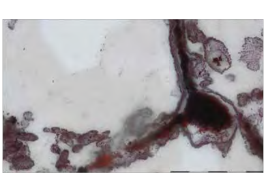


Life! Older than expected!

Researchers report evidence of possibly the oldest forms of life on Earth. Putative fossilized microorganisms were discovered in hydrothermal vent precipitates in the Nuvvuagittuq belt of Quebec, Canada, that may have lived as early as 4.280 billion years ago, not long after the oceans formed 4.4 billion years ago, and not long after the formation of the Earth 4.54 billion years ago.

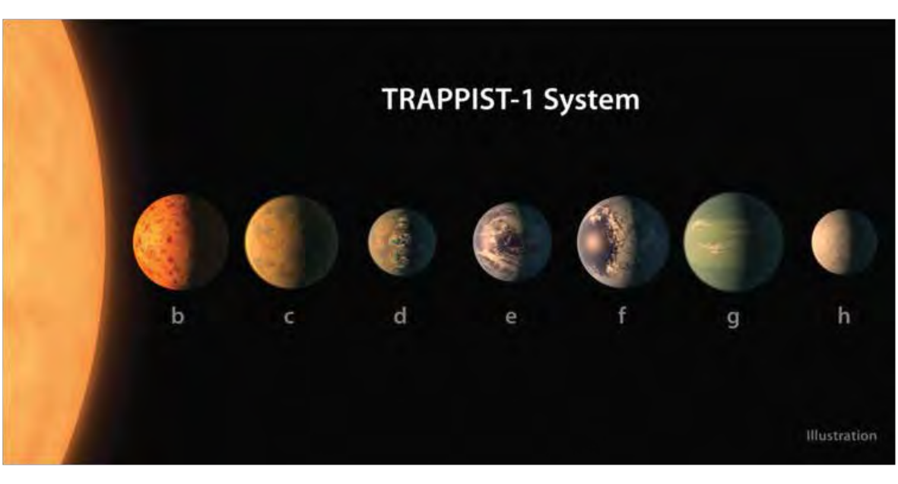
Vignesh Lokare

2 February



Discovery of 7 earth like planets

In the month of February, 7 Earth sized planets were found by astronomers as declared by NASA. It was the first time that so many planets of this kind were found around the same star. The star, TRAPPIST-1, an ultra-cool, red dwarf star is located around 40 light-years away from earth. The planets are also very close to each other. If a person was standing on one of the planet's surface, they could potentially see geological features or clouds of neighbouring worlds, which would sometimes appear larger than the moon in Earth's sky. Three of the planets reside in the "habitable zone" around the star, where calculations suggest that conditions might be right for liquid water to exist on their surfaces.



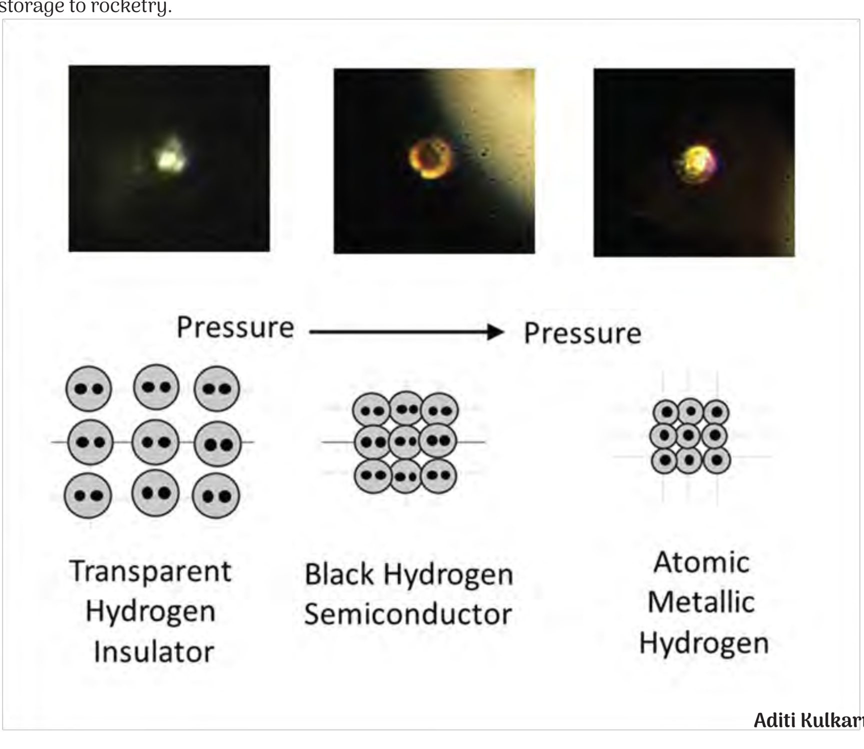
1 January

SpaceX Rocket Launch

2017 started with a successful rocket launch by SPACEX. They launched a recycled rocket with recycled capsule after the explosion of Falcon 9 in September 2016. This mission was the first in a series for client Iridium, that will see it deploy 70 satellites in a network for voice and data communication.
SpaceX Rocket Launch

Metallic Hydrogen

For the first time in the world, scientists created metallic hydrogen by applying almost five million atmospheres of pressure to liquid hydrogen. Hydrogen, element number one on the periodic table, is the most basic atom, just one proton with one electron. However, in its metallic state, hydrogen could act as a genuine superconductor and could revolutionize everything from energy storage to rocketry.



Aditi Kulkarni

SAFARNAMA

MUMBAI MERI JAAN...

Happy New Year, Ruiaites!
Now that we have all turned over a new leaf with the beginning of the new year, Team Safarnāma has decided to present you an article with a twist. Usually, we take you to a wide array of domestic as well as international dream destinations, be it classic or offbeat. However, this time around, we would like to show you the splendid beauty of the colossal metropolis that we call our home - Mumbai!

Where Time Stands Still.
It's been 70 years since European powers vacated our country. However, not before etching their legacy in stone for posterity. South Mumbai bears testimony to the grandeur of 300 year-long colonial reign that metamorphosed the city. Here, time too is stuck in reverse.
The most striking symbol of British Raj, Gateway of India is a brilliant example of Indo-Saracenic architecture with certain roman influences. Seated right in its backyard is the Taj Mahal Palace, an architectural marvel that brings together Moorish, Oriental and Florentine styles. A short walk away from the luxurious hotel is the Royal Bombay Yacht Club. Nestled in a Colaba alley, this imposing Gothic structure continues to harbour one of the most elite clubs of the city. Moving a few blocks north, one comes across what was once known as the Royal Alfred Sailors' Home, the current Headquarters of Maharashtra Police. From this Indo-Gothic masterpiece, a street leads us to the heart of the Fort George area and the real jewels of South Bombay. Elphinstone College, Army and Navy Building, and Esplanade Mansion (previously Watson Hotel) are reminiscent of the bustling Victorian culture.
10 steps from here stand the Venetian-Gothic Mumbai University Convocation Hall, our homegrown Big Ben - the Rajabai Clock Tower and the glorious, pure Gothic, Bombay High Court. Opposite these resplendent buildings, across the Oval Maidan is where Art Deco enjoys the pride of the perch. Shiv Shanti Bhuvan, Moti Mahal, and Eros theatre are reminders of Bombay's short-lived fascination with this style of buildings. The city continues to bask in the glory of sheltering the second largest collection of Art Deco buildings in the world, right after Miami.
Heritage walks are organized for enthusiasts to admire the fine artistry and craftsmanship of these monuments. So, see you in SoBo?

Mumbai - A Shopper's Paradise

It would sound very clichéd to call Mumbai the "New York of India", but it is an apt description for the city of dreams. A compact mix of modern and traditional, the whole vibe and feel of this city is unparalleled. Mumbai is also a shoppers' paradise which offers a little something for everyone. Home to all the major brands of the world, it also provides a good bargain for people who are on a budget and do not want to leave a hole in their pockets.
It would be all too perfect to begin this extravagant shopping experience from the Colaba Causeway, which is like an everyday carnival! It offers you an astonishing variety of handicrafts, books, jewelry, crystals, brass items, incense, clothes...you name it!
Nestled in the heart of Mumbai's Muslim district, between crowded streets and crumbling buildings, you'll find Chor Bazaar. This fascinating market has a history spanning over more than 150 years. Its name means "Thieves' market", and has an interesting tale behind it. The name was derived from the British mispronunciation of its original name of Shor Bazaar, meaning "Noisy Market". Eventually, stolen goods started finding their way into the market, resulting in it living up to its new name!
If you want to see the locals shops, you must head to Crawford Market. This old-style market, housed in an historic colonial building, specializes in wholesale fruits and vegetables. This is one place in Mumbai where the Indian saying of "sab kuch milega" certainly applies!
Mumbai is truly a place where you can shop till you drop with several markets and malls spoiling you for choice.

The Perks Of Being Hungry In Mumbai

For any teenager, the first step towards freedom is entering college. As a college student, local trains and outside food becomes a daily story. You are starving and the lecture doesn't start for another 15 minutes? Go grab a chilli cheese toast from the mandatory sandwich wala uncle opposite your college!
Mumbai being a mélange of different cultures, every culture has contributed to the existing plethora of famous dishes that Mumbai is famous for. From vada pav to paper rava dosa, from puran poli to delicious pani puri, Mumbai offers the best of everything.
Zesty and strong flavours go into the making of Maharashtrian food and the family restaurant 'Aaswad' in Dadar is the perfect stop to satisfy your cravings. You want to gorge on the perfect vada pav? 'Shiv vada pav' outlets are spread all over Dadar and Matunga. Another iconic eatery famous for Maharashtrian snacks like misal pav and Shankar pada is the 78 years-old 'Aram' eatery right outside CSMT station. Entering the quaint area of Matunga, one cannot miss the famous South Indian eateries. 85 years-old 'Ramashreya' is perhaps now a landmark and a strong evidence of the city's diversity. If would be surprising, if you don't have to wait for at least 10 minutes for a table at meal times. Mumbai is home to the Parsi community as well. So, it's not surprising that the exotic Irani cafes "Cafe Britannia" and "Kyani's" to name a few - add their own charm to the city. Bun Maska with Irani Chai is the perfect snack to a rainy evening.
No wonder, you will find almost all students in Mumbai facing a financial crisis due to delicious frankies and spicy dabelis as well, for, after all, Mumbaikars are spoilt for choice when it comes to food!

Mumbai's Locals
If Mumbai were a living organism, then the local trains would be its arteries and veins, without which everything would come to a standstill. Every person that takes the local train associates it with different things.
While a regular might loathe getting onto the train out of disgust of the sweat, heat and crowd, it is surely an adventure worth embarking upon for a traveller or a visitor.
Once, I was waiting at the station to catch my 9:52 train. As usual, the trains were running late due to the heavy rainfall that had occurred earlier that morning. A long 15-minute wait produced a train that looked like an elephant squeezed into a lion's cage. A few passengers got down, but that did not make much room for anyone to alight. I was already running late and didn't intend to miss a lecture, so I decided to take that train. It isn't as simple as it seems, to manage to barely plant your feet on the footboard and cling onto the door for your dear life. As the train sped ahead, the cold wind sent a chill down my spine; every train signal and electric pole would make me clench harder onto the railing. I could see the train make its turns, I could see the dark clouds gathering in the sky and I could feel the adrenaline being pumped in my blood. It was the first time that I had gotten so

Things To Do In The Maximum City!
Are you a traveller?
Is your wallet loaded?
If not, you can travel in our very own city, by following these cool suggestions!
> Book a bed at HORN OK PLEASE (Bandra).
The owner of this hostel thinks luxury is overrated and hence, they put you in the thick of things, for you to make memories, friends and have the juiciest bits of Mumbai. They make sure that you leave with a part of Mumbai embedded in your soul.
> Cycle your weight off.
Go on a bicycle tour to see Mumbai as you have never seen it before - calm and peaceful . At 6 AM, while the most of the city is only beginning to wake up, you can take advantage of the near-empty streets and cool air and visit the must-see sights and the city's hidden gems. And finally, at the end of the tour, you can even relish on some 'garma garam idlis and dosas'! Yum!
> Heritage walk at the Naval Dockyard.
Admire the Naval Dockyard in a different way this time around. On every first Sunday of each month, we have heritage walks conducted for Indian nationals. You can see numerous ferries departing from the dock and you may even spot fishermen going about their daily business of fishing.
>Qawali in Mahalaxmi.
Bored of the same old rock music? Well, Mumbai is always at your rescue! We have several places of worship, but none matches the elegance of Haji Ali. Visit this famed shrine to enjoy some incredible Qawali music sessions, the perfect music for the soul!
We are sure this article must have given you some insights into the lesser known side of Mumbai, and we are even more certain that you must have learnt at least something new about your home city. After all, even after living in a certain place for years together, one may never get to uncover every single aspect of it. With that thought in mind, we hope that you shall continue exploring our vast city relentlessly. Good luck, Mumbaikars!

FICTIONALLY YOURS

• FATED TO THE SWORD •

FATED TO THE SWORD (PART 3)

Kiara stood there looking at everybody expecting an answer from them. Krish spoke on their behalf, "Kiara, I understand your frustration but you need to know that they were sworn to secrecy. And about their loyalty towards you, don't doubt their friendship even for a bit. Their feelings were genuine." Before Kiara could retort, the atmosphere around them changed. There was smoke everywhere and a silhouette appeared before them. Kiara stood there flabbergasted as her friends bowed before him. He looked like the ancient guardians with a white robe and a staff in his hand. His voice boomed as he spoke, " Ah! I see that you all have found your Queen. She truly looks like her ancestor - the same eyes and the same fervor with a glint of defiance for something that is not acceptable. Pleased to have finally met you, Kiara. Destiny has a lot in store for you. You have the POWER TO MANIPULATE THE PAST, MINGLE WITH THE PRESENT AND PREDICT THE FUTURE. Legends know me as The Wise One but you can call me Sensei." Facing everyone else, he said, "The responsibility given to you all is by no means easy. You need all the aid that you can get. Oh Mighty Chosen Ones, I am present here to handover the PORTAL to you all. It can be summoned and be accessed only if all of you combine your powers together." With these words, he vanished from where he was standing and reappeared in one corner of the Hall.

They looked at each other. They felt as if some force field was pulling them towards each other. Soon, everybody held their hands and formed a circle with Krish and Kiara in the centre. "Channelise your energy and focus it towards them", Sensei advised. They stood there with their eyes closed, deeply focused that even a rustle of a leaf would not be able to break their trance. And what happened next was a magical sight to watch. The energies of the Chosen ones emerged in colourful rays as it merged on reaching Krish and Kiara. The both of them were surrounded with white light which shot up into the sky. And down came stars, sparkling around the magical duo creating the most enchanting sight. As the stars reached the ground, the Earth began to shake and up came a magical box placed on a crystal white pedestal. Kiara and Krish seemed to be in a trance as they approached the box and opened it. "Place your right palms on the plate in the Box." The plate seemed divine for it was moulded for two palms and had fierce looking creatures drawn around it. No sooner did they place their hands in the hollow area, a portal appeared right next to them. When they looked into the portal, they could see their lives right before their eyes – right from their birth till the present moment wherein they were standing in the Hall. They could visualize their inner strengths and future battles. And then, all these scenes vanished into thin air. And out of nowhere, they felt a sudden surge of energy rushing through their veins. Their senses and reflexes became sharper as they felt more powerful. And it was at this very moment that they realized that the fate of the future of the world truly rested in their hands. Their tryst with destiny had begun and the only choice they had was to emerge victorious at the end.

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Is this all? I have opened the portal and have made a gateway for all the power gems and magical sources to enter in this realm. Is this the end of my journey?", Kiara questioned perplexed. " No! Infact your journey has just begun, my child. Along with the good, even the evil forces have entered this dimension to join hand with their master. It's you and your team who have to train harder to master all the power sources. Also, remember, even the evil forces are after the power sources. So you all have to acquire them before they do. Farewell my children, time has come for me to depart, but your mission hath not deviate at any cost", and the sensei disappeared into thin air.

Silence had seized the room. Krish spoke up as he was the first to recover out of the mystical trance, "we have been entrusted with this huge responsibility and I know we all are really very young to take it up. But if we are in this together, I am sure we shall reach our goal." Kiara spoke up soon after, "We have all been chosen for a reason. Until this very moment, I was unsure of my purpose and yet now I feel as if I have been born for this. From this very moment, I pledge that come what may, we will defeat the evil and prove that the triumph of good over evil is not a mere fable." Everyone seemed to agree with Kiara's words as rejecting her command seemed almost impossible.

"And thus, began the life of these young lads who conquered the world with their powers and charmed all the people to entrust their faith in magic. These warriors were never forgotten and every Earthian is proud of them." "Wow grandma! This is so cool. Who are these warriors? Can I meet them? How did they fight against the evil forces?", a young child asked. "That my young lad is a story for another time. But let me tell you a secret. They are closer to you than you think." The kid ran away. Kiara stood there smiling at him and as she turned, she found Krish who lovingly winked at her with a grin.

THE END

- SHRUTHI NARAYAN

[Hello there! I'd like to thank all of you for supporting my story. This happens to be the last chapter of "Fated to the Sword! The next story will be written by Aditi Patil. See y'all in the next academic year.]

ROAMING AROUND THE CITY

THE ART AND CULTURE OF BLOCK PRINTING

Somewhere, in a small housing of Damar Galli, there lives a family. A family who has managed to keep the ancient art of BLOCK PRINTING using Natural Ingredients alive. Thus, to bring into light, the art work which requires tremendous energy to make it beautiful, but with the designs which are at the same time very intricate, Team Art Wall visited the Block Printing Unit of 'PRACHEEN', and talked to Mr. Sarfraz Khatri, who strives to take this tradition ahead.

Q1) How old is this institution?
"PRACHEEN" is specialized in Block Printing on natural fabrics since last 100 years, and I'm proud to say that I'm the 5th generation in this field. Our motive is to provide our clients, with the best quality, 100% natural products, and thus, our fabrics are absolutely organic, and the dyes are made out of natural components.

Wooden Block

Q3) How are these dyes made and processed?
We obtain raw materials from the whole of India. For example, we receive blocks of Indigo from parts of South India, like from the State of Andhra Pradesh. Once we lay our hands on the raw materials, a paste is made by us in our unit, and it is used to dye the cloth or use it for the intricate prints on the fabric. The shades of the colors vary every time, because it entirely depends upon the natural material that we receive. And as we use no chemicals for the coloring process, each piece is unique with respect to its color and design. And, that's the beauty of working with natural elements.

Organic colours used for dyeing

There are more than 100 blocks at the unit

Q5) Tell us about the blocks used for printing.
In the olden days, stone carvings or wooden carvings were used for impressing the designs on the cloth. Our blocks, now, are wooden, and they are hand carved. The blocks which we have in our unit are 70-80 years old. Apart from the hundreds of blocks here right now, there are more in the storage room downstairs. We tend to modify the designs as time progresses, in keeping with the demands of younger generations. I, and my father, we design the blocks ourselves. I get inspired to design the blocks from the ancient book of designs, and once it's final, we send it for getting hand carved. We have our own block maker.

Printing with natural dyes

Q7) What maintains the colors on the fabric?
For that, a process named "HARDA TREATMENT" is very important. In this stage, the cloth, after dyeing with a color is soaked in a 'Harda bath' (it's a nut) which locks the colors on the fabric. If we skip this stage, all the color would rinse off after washing. With this solution, the colors are made permanent; years after, the cloth might wear off, but the colors stay intact.

Symmetrical design on a fabric

Q9) What is the international status of this art form?
We have been working with various designers in the fashion industry like Donna Karan of DKNY, Rohit Bal, and other young fashion stars. We also export our products.

Product put up for drying

Design on a block

Q2) Could you walk us through the history of this art?
Using Organic Colors is not a new concept, but the art of vegetable printing and dyeing has its roots in the period of Indus Valley Civilization. It's a very ancient, traditional art, which has been inspired from the "Ajrak" Block Printing business, which uses natural dyes for printing on a fabric. It originated in Sindh (which is now in Pakistan), and has gained prominence in the Kuttch region of Gujarat. The fabrics are printed with stamps or blocks, with special designs. It has been practiced in India since more than a century, but it also existed in very tiny amounts, in some parts of the West as well.

Process of printing a dupatta

Q4) In organic versus synthetic, where does natural stand?
Synthetic dyes have their own merits and drawbacks. Basically nowadays, people prefer synthetic dyes because they are easily obtained, and are convenient for mass productions, being easily accessible and cheaper. Using synthetic dyes is a quick process, unlike working with natural components. They have their drawbacks, like they may lead to skin allergies due to the chemicals present in them. Organic dyes are 100% natural, non-allergic, non-toxic, and eco-friendly. We get to use the most beautiful, earthy tones extracted from nature. We fabricate colors from plant roots, herbs, flowers, etc. And the most satisfying thing would be that as the material ages, instead of the color fading away, it matures, and looks even brighter. But the process can stretch up to 2 months for a product. But when it comes to quality, patience and hard work go hand in hand.

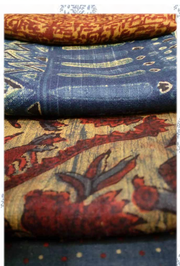
Blocks stocked at the unit

Q6) What techniques do you use for printing?
It's a very long process, this block printing. Talking from the start, it covers altogether 13 different steps. For this reason, it could take 2-3 months of one product to take shape. It begins from removal of starch from the cloth that we want to print on. Secondly, we use the resistor technique in which, before dyeing the cloth, it is treated in mud and lime. It's kind of a natural preservative.

Process of dyeing the fabric

Artisan working with block

Q8) What types of fabrics do you print on?
We print on Cotton and Silk. Whatever the fabric might be, it is 100% pure. It is not mixed with any other thread.



Finished product

Q10) Tell us about your prospects.
We modify our designs with a view to maintain the motives of the ancient designs, and cater to the demands of the modern youth. People are not motivated to join this industry because of the hard work and strength required to do these jobs ..but, there's a need to preserve our own art culture and tradition. We look forward to encourage our new generation to work for promotion of this art, and to provide our clients with the best quality natural products.

*www.pracheen.com

Le Nouveau Commencement

Elle sonne à la porte,
C'est la nouvelle année !
C'est le temps de répandre
la joie qui est née !
Travaillez dur,
Profitez de nouvelles opportunités !
Et allez ! Serrez dans les bras,
La prospérité !
Libérez – vous,
De vos mauvaises habitudes !
Faites votre mieux,
dans votre travail et vos études !
Faites des efforts
Faites une nouvelle promesse !
Voilà la joie augmente
Et les soucis disparaissent !
"Soyez dans le present !"
Vous rappellent les rayons de soleil !

Suivez votre passion,
Éloignez – vous de l'orgueil !
Confrontez les obstacles,
N'hésitez pas !
Choisissez votre chemin,
Faites un petit pas !

Soyez motivé,
De cœur et d'dâme !
Atteignez vos objectifs,
Mais n'oubliez pas votre dame !
Soyez courageux et
Acceptez de nouveaux change-
ments !
Allez- y, bonne chance pour
Le nouveau commencement !
Écrit par- Rajlaxmi V. Padiyar,
SYBA – C

RESOLUTION AND GOA PLANS..
Banata har koe hai
Par batata koe nhi hai
Sochtaa har koe hai
Pr nibhata koe nhi hai
Jo banata hai
End me wahi banjata h
Aur ye hum sbh ke beech "RESOLUTION"
kehlata hai
Ek aur h jiski yahi zindagani hai
Hai ye wahi jaha bohot sara pani hai
Aur ye jagah hum sbhke liye jani mani hai
Jitne plans hum iske liye banate hai
Utni bar ye hume banata hai
Bas Isliye shyad
"PLANS TO GOA" and "NEW YEAR
RESOLUTION "
Bhai bhai kehlata h
Bhai bhai kehlata h

YourQuote.in

-Mahima Alekar

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