

## About Echoes

Introducing Ping's revamped newspaper, inspired by the original - Echoes

Page 4

## A Messy Election

A unique take on the idea of meme candidates and false hopes

Page 4

## Sports in Recap

Thrilling finals, sad losses, and so much more

Page 6



# The Parijat Wall

[Investigative] The Warden Tells Ping! About The Construction At Parijat *Jyoti Sunkara*

What started on a Monday morning with a loud screech of tyres, ended two weeks later as a peach coloured wall studded with broken glass on the top. The construction project began without warning on the 15th of September with around five to seven workers bringing in cement, sand and bricks in different sized lorries. And soon enough, the laying of bricks started. Alongside began speculations amongst the Parijaat A block residents, and really anyone else who noticed the mess created right next to the block, about what the construction project could be about.

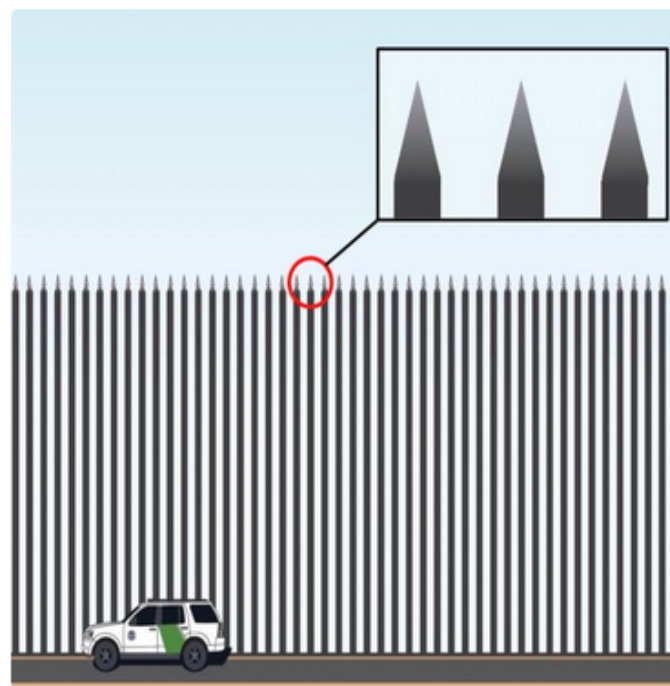
Like all situations where facts are unknown, rumours began to be created about this one as well. The rumour that a gym is what was being built stuck around for a week. Many of course, did not believe that it would **work out**. It made no sense to have three gyms on campus for starters, and absolutely no one I know was **weighting** for a gym to be built in Parijaat. So the target audience would be close to zero. A cafe or a canteen would definitely **lift the bar** for standards of living in Parijaat, but a gym, no. Before considering those anomalies in the rumour we'd have to talk about the biggest anomaly, the tree.

Beyond the black gate, the one that quite unnecessarily separates the land with the highest concentration of hair products, the girl's hostel, from the rest of the campus, there existed a cute little bench next to a big tree. The tree had a cement ring built around it, making it a perfect spot for anyone who is allowed in that area to sit or walk around, while chatting on the phone. With Greta Thunberg going **out on a limb** to make her point about saving the...

Continued on page 5

Donald J. Trump  
@realDonaldTrump

A design of our Steel Slat Barrier which is totally effective while at the same time beautiful!



131K 3:44 AM

Jyoti Sunkara  
@autocraticJS

A design of our Suspicious Storeroom Barrier which is totally effective while at the same time beautiful!



131K 3:44 AM

## DTH Comes to Warehouse

The warehouse TV setup first reported in the August edition of The Newsletter has finally been activated (and the pow-

er cables attached to the respective sockets). It currently houses a Tata Sky box that, as far as we could check, covers most channels that the average student might need.

The warehouse now also houses two pool tables, a welcome change from the exactly none that have existed on campus till date (Especial-

ly considering that it is only very recently that IIIT students have been allowed into T-Hub). Coincidentally, visits to T-Hub have halved.

The football ground finally has permanent floodlights! Operating times, we confirmed, are till 9:30 PM.

# Hyderabad's Water Shortage

How Prone is IIIT? *Pahulpreet Singh*

India is facing its most serious water crisis, and the problem is so grievous that even small children are well aware of it. For instance, my 7 year old cousin was worried about why I was going to Hyderabad if it is going to run out of water soon.

Today India ranks 13th in the list of 17 countries where water stress is extremely high - a list that contains countries like Saudi Arabia and the UAE, where large parts of the country are deserts. According to environmentalists, India has only 5 years to solve this problem before things get out of hand. With 80% of the groundwater withdrawn, over 300 million people are affected by severe drought. The challenges of the future that we have been brought up being told about, we are facing those in the endgame now. According to a report by NITI Aayog, 21 major cities may run out of groundwater by 2020. And sadly, Hyderabad ...

Continued on page 5

# IIIT's Area 51 Raid

Aliens in Parijat? *Kshitijaa Jaglan, Rishabh Khanna*

This year on the auspicious occasion of "They can't stop us all" Day our institute had an unusual event celebrating the existence and growth of memes. The event "Storm Parijat" was organised by a group of freshers. It was first hosted on the Facebook group 'IIIT-Hyderabad UG2k19' on the

18th of Sept, 2019, followed by intense promotion on Instagram.

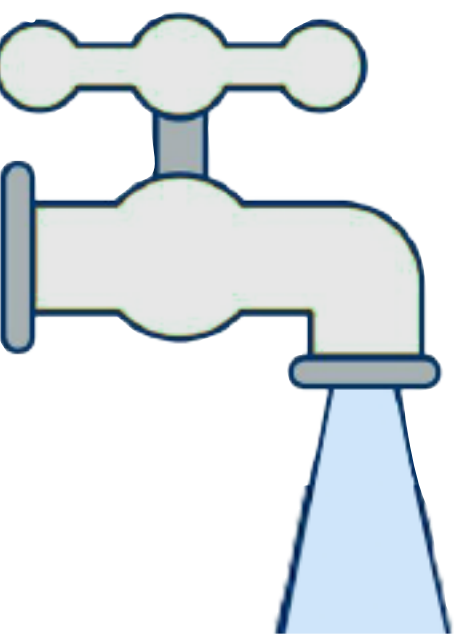
On the day of the event there was considerable participation with people ASSEMBLING BEFORE TIME

AS WELL !!! which was the opposite of what happened during their Mock Voting Session held by the Election Commission the previous

day. There were several students to coordinate the whole event. Everyone's face gleamed with excitement as they Naruto Ran from the Bakul gate to the Parijaat one playing the Avengers Theme song in the background. It was truly one of a kind, with people running in horse masks and a dog to 'end the run' with.

The event may seem like a mockery of how hard it is to enter the other gender's hostel, the organisers however stated that the event was not aimed to bring up any social issues.

The story doesn't end here. As the run began, a fake email sent to the UG1 mailing list by "Parijaat security" stating that the event had not been given permission and "we know the names of the students responsible for organising the even (sic). Pahulpreet, rishabh, MAYANK, kshitijaa are already in trouble . A long, well-thought mail was sent by MAYANK (Goel) on behalf of all 4 accused students stating that no rules were broken and they don't deserve any punishment.





# Unplugged 2019

## Another night under the lights

Two years ago, began a tradition that would forever change the music scene of IIT, Hyderabad. The people of ‘The Music Club’ were bored with the same old ideas and wanted to do something distinctive. They thought of having an acoustic evening, in a cosy and personal environment with relaxing music. No heavy drums, no guitar distortions, just an evening filled with tranquility and serenity. The club heads were highly sceptical at first as they were clueless about how such an event would turn out. It is really hard to fathom something that has never occurred before. But it turned out to be the hottest event of the semester, and ‘Unplugged’ was born that eventually became a trademark of The Music Club.

On a cool cloudy evening of October 5th, 2019, the Vindhya Canteen looked like an entirely different place. It was lit up with gorgeous yellow lights and stylish lanterns all around that would leave anyone mesmerised. The atmosphere was enchanting and it truly felt like a dream. The sound system was set up, with lots of acoustic guitars, violins, keyboard and the cajón on the stage. The First Act commenced at 7:30pm, and saw some really amazing performances. Aakash played an incredible rendition of the Pirates of the Caribbean theme song that would’ve made Hans Zimmer proud. Sarthak and Akshay performed an acoustic version of ‘Kaun Tujhe’ and Pranav nailed the high notes on “Kabhi Kabhi Aditi”.

## Abhinav Gupta (Music Club)

Then came the most awaited performance event of the night, by the band Antra. A very unique setlist that included the ‘Lazy Song’ by Bruno Mars and ‘Baitikochi Chuste’ by Anirudh Ravichander, the band captivated the audience with their acoustic renditions. RMP sang those verses on ‘Aye Udi Udi’ so effortlessly that it would’ve rendered Adnan Sami speechless. Anshul traded his guitar for the ukulele, and enthralled everyone with his unique style.

The Third Act began with Sonakshi and Manu doing their own duet of ‘Main Agar Kahoon’ that drew a thunderous ovation from the crowd. Prakrati and Vivek performed a spectacular version of ‘Rehna Tu’ by AR Rahman. Akshaya, with her incredible voice, performed Fallin’ by Alicia Keys and hit those high notes with perfection. Kritika and the Adityas, in probably their last Unplugged ever, gave a fantastic performance as always, and did more than justice to the wonderful chord progression of ‘Lost Stars’.

After all the three acts, began the encore, which saw some more delightful performances. For those four wonderful hours, no one was worried about assignments or anything else in life. Everyone gathered underneath the breathtaking yellow lighted skies and they let the music drive all their ‘trebles’ away, which has always been the main objective of the event - to be ‘unplugged’ from the

worries of life.

With 50+ performers and almost 4 hours of music, the 4th edition of Unplugged was the biggest ever. Unplugged ’19 killed it, truly owning up to its name of being the hottest event of the monsoon semester.

# Confronting Stage Fear - Toastmasters @ IIT-H

## Fighting Stage Fright Head On

## Animesh Das (Toastmasters)

IIT-H Toastmasters Club, after a 55-day hiatus, conducted its first meeting of the semester, a Freshers’ special, wherein attendees from UG-1 were introduced to the idea of Toastmasters.

An amazing line-up of speakers and a fun and enlightening table-topics session had the people engaged. All the attendees enjoyed despite the erratic pace of the events. The meeting was attended by around 30-40 people, 9 of them being Toastmasters both in-house and external and the rest being UG1, with the exception of a PG1 student. The event started with a brief history

of Toastmasters International, and we had the host explain the structure of a Toastmasters meeting, with its 3 sections - Prepared Speeches Section, Table Topics Section, and Evaluation Section. Then we had the role-players explain their roles

After that, we had a prepared speech given by TM Prathima, who attempted her 8th Project for her “Advanced Communicator - Gold” certification. Her speech, called “The fringe benefits of parenting” was based on her experiences living with and raising her 15-year-old daughter. She had the audience in splits and cracking up with her humorously

presented

observations about her 15-year-old daughter and the lessons she learned from that. Following that, as promised, we had one of the current coordinators of the Frivolous Humorous Club, Tanmay Pathak from UG-2, give a small keynote speech about how he builds up any set for his open-mic. This was basically a sneak-peek into the trade secrets of a stand-up comedian.

A brief moment of pep talks later, we had TM Prathima take the stage and inform the audience for about 5 minutes on the Table Topics Section, followed by TM Divesh donning the hat of Table Topics Master. This time, the Table Topics Session was unique since we had TM Prathima helping out each of the speakers in building a Table Topics Speech during the speech. In all, we had 4 Table Topics Speakers - Guests Vishal, Tanvi, Pranjal and TM Krishnakanth attempt to speak on the proverbs given

respectively to them. Finally, we had the Evaluation Section, presided over by TM Manideep, who presented his report after his team - TM Divesh, TM Bhavyajeet, and TM Lalitha - presented their reports.

After a quick vote for best table topics speaker, Guest Tanvi emerged victorious. The meeting ended on a high note and we had generally positive feedback from everyone.





# Megathon 2019

*Amogh Tiwari*  
(E-Cell)

## A vibrant fourth year for the hackathon

Megathon 2019 came into full swing on 28th and 29th September this year with 500 participants from across the country, and another 1000 in the online HowzHack contest. The fourth edition of this annual hackathon was sponsored by Embibe, Micron, Qualcomm and PwC (if you missed the million posters all across campus) and included problem statements related to NLP, IoT, ML, and Data Retrieval. This year's event was a significant shift from the previous years due to the absence of IIT Hyderabad, a major partner previously.

Prof. C.V. Jawahar (Dean R&D, IIIT-Hyderabad) motivated the participants for the event. He said that Megathon would provide them an experience much different from standard education as they would be required to work as a team, come up with ideas, fail and try different things out until they eventually succeed.

To keep the participants engaged, stalls were set up by Embibe and Micron where participants could go and play interesting games and learn more about the companies. Additionally, a food stall was also set up for participants' late-night hunger pangs. Free Energy drinks sponsored by our beverage partner Monster were also distributed to the participants at night.

The event saw great enthusiasm from the participants, who worked extremely hard to design innovative and efficient solutions with little or no sleep at night. Several intriguing ideas came out of the event, such as a solution that aimed to optimize water drainage during floods while pre-

venting sewage overflow using machine learning among others. Other interesting solutions included drone deployment for traffic control in cities, new algorithms to generate questions from given text, and leveraging modern data storage solutions for optimized data retrieval. After evaluations, the closing ceremony was carried out, where Prof PJ Narayanan Director, IIIT-Hyderabad, introduced the Chief guest, Padma Shri winner, Mr. BVR Mohan Reddy.. The Chief guest proceeded to share his valuable experience with the participants and gave them tips regarding entrepreneurship. His visit to megathon was out of character according to him, as he would usually spend his Sundays with family, breaking the rule to interact with youngsters. This was followed by the Prize Distribution ceremony in which, for each problem statement, the top 3 teams were awarded cash prizes of 40K, 20K and 10K along with consolation prizes. It was worth noting that many of the winning teams comprised second year students. Reiterating the fact that when it comes to hackathons, innovativeness and novelty of the solutions presented matter much more than textbook knowledge.

EVENTS

## SLC Goes All Out For Gandhi Jayanti

**But in the right direction?**

*Gautham Venugopal*

before Gandhi Jayanti, offered financial support and other incentives to clubs who would conduct events around the event. Although the SLC might not have got the response they expected, this did encourage some clubs. The Astronomy club conducted a writing contest on astronomy, during which 5 people submitted their articles despite getting only a couple of days. The quiz club conducted a quiz on the life of Mahatma Gandhi, the prelims of which was attended by 25 people. However, both the debate club's and the quiz club's events that were to be held on the 28th were cancelled due to preceding talks taking more time than expected.

Other than encouraging club activities, UG1 students were asked to attend the talk instead of the HV class that would've taken place the morning after. Even though this meant that the auditorium was full, UG1 was not as interested as one may have liked, with a large majority of the backbenchers playing mobile games during the talks. Also, the students got only 1 attendance despite attending the talks for 4 and a half hours, 3 times the duration of a usual HV class.

Every year Mahatma Gandhi's birthday, which is a national holiday goes to waste as neither does anyone want to follow his ideals nor the values that he teach, is perceived as just another holiday. In this context, even though SLC's efforts have been commendable, whether forced participation was necessary is worth pondering over.



### Was it worth it?

At a time when trade wars and terrorism fill headlines, one could say that the propagation of the Mahatma's principles has never been more important. The SLC seems to have understood this as they have made considerable efforts to get students involved in Gandhi Jayanti this year.

The celebrations which had events from 27th September till 2nd October were marked by unusually high amounts of effort by the SLC to get students to take part in activities.

The SLC arranged 2 talks on the 28th by Prof. Nand Kishore Acharya, a professor of eminence from IIT Hyderabad and Prof. Sujit Sinha, who has a Phd from Princeton. Other than these talks, SLC, almost a month

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## Editorials

UG1 faces participation restrictions yet again

It must be no news by now that UG1 are not allowed to register for The Gaming Club's workshop event, Level Up. If the directive sounds familiar to those who have been on campus for the past year or more, it's because the same rule has been in place for Megathon since its 2017 edition - albeit there was no bar to volunteering.

Earlier in the semester, an E-Cell email to UG1 calling for volunteers for Megathon had yielded no results as the Dean (A) sent a follow up stating that first years were not allowed to volunteer for/participate in "any such hackathon/megathons".

Much is hearsay beyond confirmation of these two incidents. There are rumours that no UG1 participation is allowed in "big" events in the first semester due to concerns about their alleged academic performance (which might explain the involvement of Dean (A) in the matter that would usually be taken care of by a Dean of Student Affairs, or SLC in our case). If true, this could spell trouble for long-term general student life on a campus that is already plagued by inactivity.

## A Messy Election

Meme candidates and peculiar campaigns *Mayank Goel*

"Meme" candidates have been garnering more and more votes. This is not just a statement on the increasing popularity of memes, but talks about the problems people face against Politicians as a whole. Politics has become a dark murky place, and it's looked upon with disdain.

The UG-1 elections took place recently, and five candidates were elected by the fresher body to represent them. This decision was to be made after knowing people for around 50 days, and to let them

represent you for a year. This article is about the chaos and the farce that subsequently took place.

The first part were the applications itself. Quoting a political idea from Douglas Adams, any person who wishes to wield power is precisely the person who should not be wielding it. However, such an idea may work in a comedy novel, but reality is often disappointing. As part of the application, a manifesto had to be submitted. The manifestos just stopped short of claiming to end world hunger. The idea of a fixed budget seemed incomprehensible to the enthusiastic first-years.

This was when, in keeping up with Ping!'s strong journalistic intent, I decided to help conduct a social election regarding the election. What if we could elect a meme candidate? Would such a candidate even be voted for? With numerous castes and friend groups forming their own vote banks, we reasoned that the vote base will be divided. The vast majority lies on the center though, and it was that group that we decided to sway, convincing them to vote for a meme candidate for the lolz.

The campaigning was door-to-door. We called our friends up and told them to vote for NOTA, and that our NOTA has a name. For students fueled with 'Fight Club' and 'V for Vendetta', such an idea was certainly more appealing than voting for a random candidate. We campaigned till three that night, and some more the next day. Memes and texts were shared on Whatsapp, and other people also joined in on the joke.

Even amongst these jokes, the election had very apparently taken a darker turn. Discussions near JC about whom to

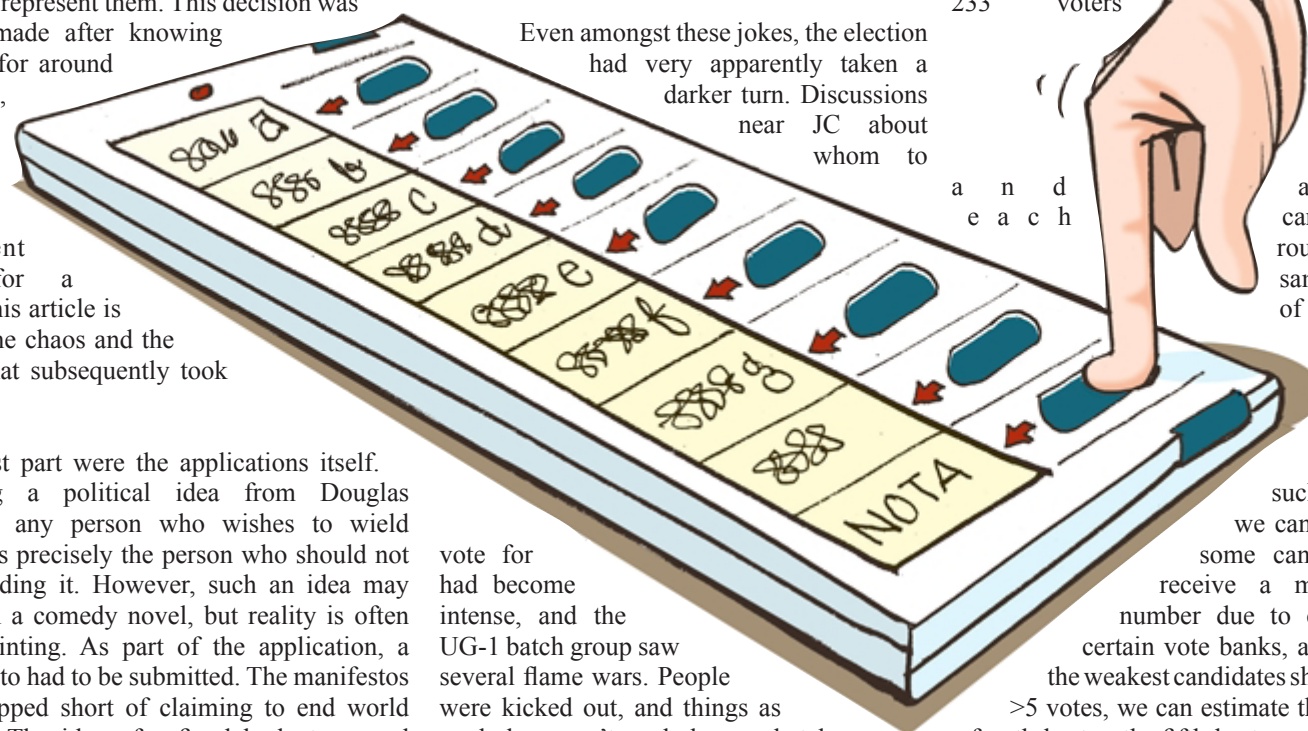
their opinion on this. One person said they liked the speech and found it "funny and relatable". Just to illustrate the fact, the speech was about failing Sports and hating OJ, so the batch was bound to relate. An estimate would say that around 20 voters were directly influenced by the campaign to vote for NOTA, and without further data it's hard to estimate just how many votes are needed to be elected as a MP. However, 233 voters among 13

candidates, assuming each candidate to roughly get same number of votes, we see that 17.92 should be the average. In such a situation, we can predict that some candidates will receive a much higher number due to curtailing to certain vote banks, and that even the weakest candidates should register >5 votes, we can estimate that being the fourth-best or the fifth-best candidate should require just an above average number of votes. (Take this case as an example. The first two candidates get 40 votes each. Therefore now 153 votes are split between 11 people. In fact, a candidate's own vote for himself counts as much as 5% of the average vote share.) This is very different from a macro election due to the fact that one can simply assume one's friends to vote for them, and thus the real power resides between the centrists. This is also a clear indicator of the classic Nash Equilibrium, where candidates must cater to the centre to gain maximum number of votes.

vote for had become intense, and the UG-1 batch group saw several flame wars. People were kicked out, and things as a whole weren't a wholesome batch experience but an indication of just how divisive things are.

The results were mildly unexpected, with some popular candidates failing to win. Another stand-out was the absence of a single girl in the MPs, perhaps unsurprisingly. In an electorate where they are about 10% in strength, getting 20% first choice votes isn't the most likely outcome. The most important news though, was how our NOTA candidate registered a win.

I went on another case-study after the win, asking friends who did vote for NOTA about



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Feel strongly about something?  
Write at  
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to see it published or to  
make us look into  
something!

Reach out to us on



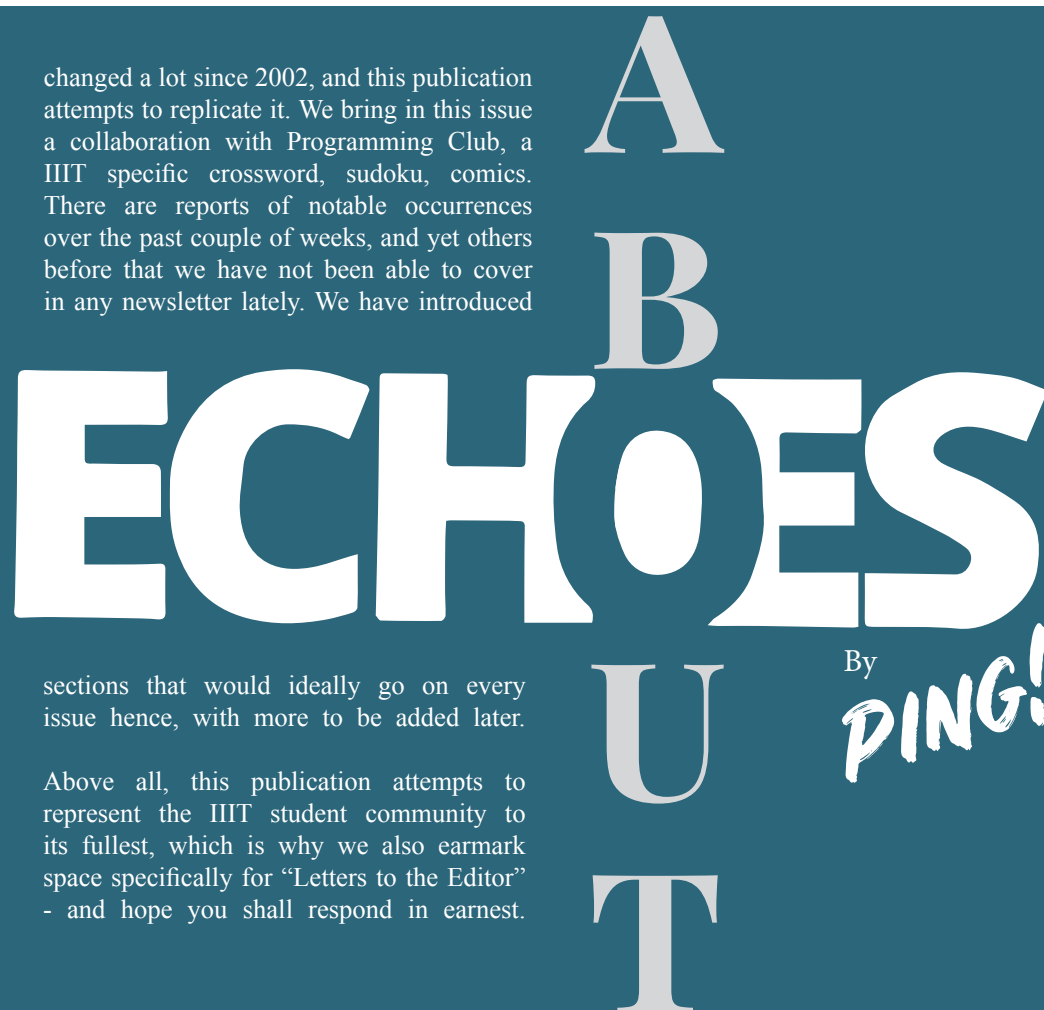
Echoes was IIIT's first publication. Back in 2002, barely months after the first batch had graduated, it came out as a four page newsletter, reporting in black and white some events that had happened on campus lately - including, among them, announcements of a "new, two storied library" that we can presume is what we have today, of new faculty, the first mention of a compulsory mess with cancellation fees for cancellations above a prescribed limit - an archival of sorts, one we can look back at today and study the past.

The Echoes of today looks back at that legacy, and tries to work from there. To serve a twofold purpose: the first, to report the news and events of campus to the greater community at large, and the second, to act as an archival of sorts: that those after may also look back and make, at the least, a cursory attempt to understand their present in the context of the times gone by and events that have occurred with them. We now offer 8 colour pages instead of 4, with much more coverage in each - global news, IIIT specific sports coverage, club updates, upcoming events. IIIT has

changed a lot since 2002, and this publication attempts to replicate it. We bring in this issue a collaboration with Programming Club, a IIIT specific crossword, sudoku, comics. There are reports of notable occurrences over the past couple of weeks, and yet others before that we have not been able to cover in any newsletter lately. We have introduced

sections that would ideally go on every issue hence, with more to be added later.

Above all, this publication attempts to represent the IIIT student community to its fullest, which is why we also earmark space specifically for "Letters to the Editor" - and hope you shall respond in earnest.





## A Prize-worthy Conjecture

Sravani Boinepelli

If you're an undergrad here at IIIT, you may recall a rather unusual email popping up in your inboxes a couple of weeks ago on the 31st of August.

The email, authored by Professor Prasad Krishnan of the SPCRC lab, called for intellectuals across campus to take up the challenge of solving a formidable linear-algebra question that he had posted outside his door (Vindhya A3-217). "And yes, I am crowdsourcing here for my research," he jovially confessed, "I hope you don't mind...". However, his champion wouldn't walk away empty-handed. The first to mail the solution to him was to win a mysterious special prize in addition to a mention in his research paper. He was even willing to negotiate more than what was originally promised, provided the victor came up with a solution he deemed acceptable.



What ensued was something out of a Disney movie, or maybe Shakespeare's Merchant of Venice (for all you Intro to Shakespeare students out there), with inquisitive students from all over campus ranging from fresh-eyed first years to optimistic PhD scholars coming to prove their worth - but to no avail. Most either came up with incomplete answers or gave up altogether.

At long last, on the 14th of September, Prof. Krishnan sent out another email, congratulating the winner, a PhD student of the name Nageswara Rao Namburu, for being the first to give him a convincing proof. He thanked all those who had taken up the challenge in particular, Animesh Sinha, Jai Bardhan, Aryan Agarwal, Maanik Arora, Sai Praneeth Chokkarapu, Thathavarthy Ayyappa Swamy, Prajneya Kumar, Aditya Morolia and Mohammad Hashim Javid, commenting that they were "all worthy of the Mjolnir!" and expressed his gratitude to the IIIT community in general for the great response.

"Though most were unsuccessful, even to try to solve an open problem (i.e. one which is not part of any textbook/solved-problems list) is itself worthy of appreciation."

## The Parijat Wall

Continued from Page 1

environment in as many ways as possible, there is no way that a harmless tree in a secluded area in college would be cut down without protest by the students. So the big question was, is the new Parijaat gym going to have a tree growing through its roof?

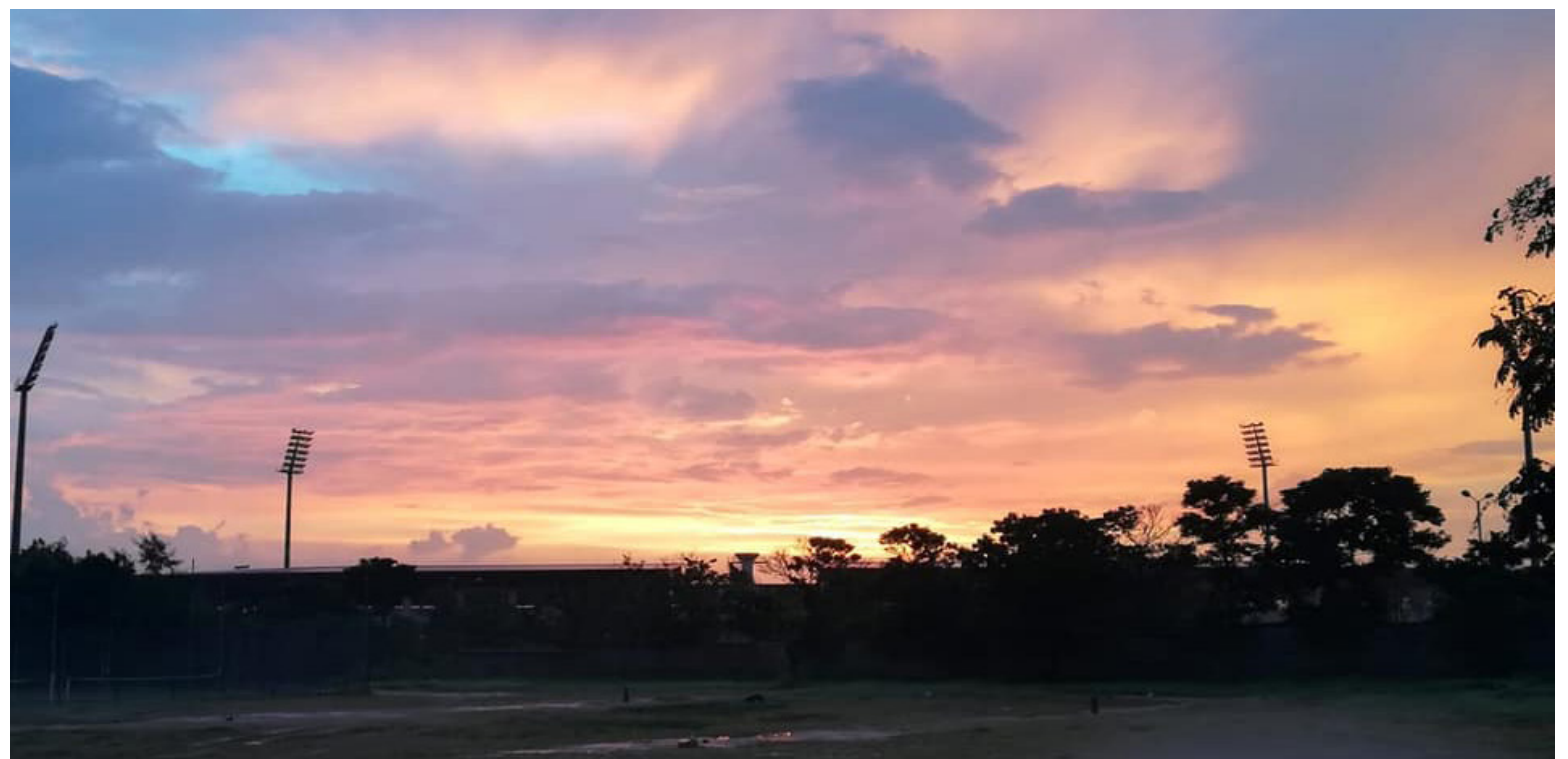
Speaking about roofs, it was obvious to everyone that there was no roof being built by the workers a fortnight into the construction. This added to the dilemma of what this entire project was about, causing a couple of Telugu speakers to finally ask the workers themselves to elucidate on what was being built. The workers disclosed that they were building a storeroom. While the workers continued to raise the roof with loud equipment, constant chatter and noisy vehicles, it was still unclear

why the said "storeroom" comprised of a single wall and did not have a roof. At this point, a couple of mails had been sent to the hostel warden complaining about the noise. No one liked having to wake up to bad sounding alarms, that weren't even set by them, for two long weeks.

Finally, on the 28th of September, we woke up to a worker free area next to Parijat A block accessorised by a high wall. With all the construction mess gone, we noticed that in all this time a second wall had been built, identical to the first one, at the back of the block, and that two walls previously enclosing Parijaat had been broken down. It seemed like an elaborate effort to cut off access to the tree.

What we didn't know however is that every

New Paarijat block has extremely large, unused basement cellars with a door to access them from the tree area. Intel from Mrs. Kavitha, the Parijat hostel warden, clarified to us that the college wants to be able to store construction material comprising of cement and tools in the Parijat cellars instead of in Vindhya rooms where it is currently being stored. And, in order to ensure that the hostel residents are not disturbed by incoming and outgoing workers and vehicles trying to access the cellar, the walls were built, completely cutting off access to the door from inside campus, and at the same time ensuring that it can be accessed from outside campus by scaling the width of the Felicity Ground, or the road leading up to the Gachibowli Stadium. This SAC approved project cost the Parijaat residents the perfectly positioned bench, tree and two weeks of sleep and drove us up the wall trying to guess what was going on.



## Hyderabad's Water Shortage

Continued from page 1

...happens to be one of them.

The factor that is responsible for the majority of this is a delayed start and sluggish progress of monsoon in Telangana, with a 29% drop in average rainfall in Hyderabad. The city primarily gets its water from Nagarjunasagar reservoir (River Krishna) and Yellampalli reservoir (River Godavari), and both of the tanks going through steep drops in water levels raises concern for the citizens.

Despite the magnitude of this problem, the Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (HMWSSB) says that there is no cause of concern and expects to tide over. While HMWSSB is looking at mitigation and plans to tackle water crisis one year at a time, Experts have warned that much larger problems loom over the city, which will only get worse with each passing year. It has been suggested that authorities, instead of pumping water from faraway reservoirs, should promote local solutions such as rain-water harvesting and recycling of sewage.

Narrowing down our perspective to the

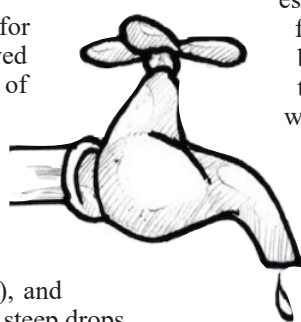
level of our campus, there are two sources from where IIIT gets its water from - HMWSSB and the IIIT borewells. Upon contacting the college authorities, they were kind enough to provide us with some data, so that we can get a clearer picture as to what exactly happens.

In a day 96 Kilolitres of the water used is

supplied from HMWSSB while 220 Kilolitres is drawn from 5 functional borewells in the campus. So the borewells play a major role in the water situation as they help us in meeting roughly

70% of our daily water needs. The campus also has three grey water filter beds which recycle 45 Kilolitres of water per day, and this water is used for landscaping purposes. Borewell recharge pits have been constructed by redirecting surface runoff, and terrace runoff from various buildings, to the nearest borewells. A sewage treatment plant of capacity 0.4 MLD (Megalitres per day) is being constructed in the campus, which is expected to be ready for use by February 2020, and the plan is to use the water from this plant for landscaping, and for flushing in the hostels toilets.

Hence we can sleep well knowing that our campus is capable of tackling the problems of the water crisis for a few more years, thanks to the water conservation practices employed including construction of water storage ponds, rainwater harvesting pits and borewell recharge pits. However, none of this should take us away from the fact that water is a finite resource, and that we, as students and citizens, should do our part in ensuring the better utilisation and conservation of this all-important resource.







## Global Sports Recap

# THE LAST ACT MATTERS THE MOST

*Tejasvi Chebrolu*

### AROUND THE LEAGUES



#### England lifts World Cup

Ben Stokes after hitting what will probably be the most talked about boundary ever



#### Wimbledon Final

Novak Djokovic after winning the Wimbledon title against Roger Federer in a breathtaking 5-setter



#### City Wins Premier League

Pep Guardiola had some interesting comments and moves as his team went on to win the 2018-19 season of the Premier League

The 2018-2019 Premier League title race has shown us why sports can be one of the cruellest, yet the most beautiful thing ever. 97 points out of a possible 114. The third-highest points tally in PL history. Only one loss. Liverpool was almost perfect. But 'almost' does not win you a title, only perfect can, especially when Manchester City are in the same league as you. 9 points behind Liverpool at Christmas after dropping points to Leicester, it seemed like a near-impossible task for Pep Guardiola and his Citizens. Liverpool ended the PL season with nine consecutive wins whereas Manchester City got fourteen. It was as if two heavyweights were trading punches. The score-lines were more like tennis scores. They seemed to be on a different level.

Liverpool first slipped up on the turn of the new year - a 2-1 loss to Manchester City at the Etihad where Aymeric Laporte cleared the ball off the line. 11.7 millimetres more and Liverpool would have won the title. Fine, fine margins. Would the title race have been this crazy if Mahrez had scored his penalty? Liverpool went on to drop crucial points at home to Leicester (took more points off the top 2 than Arsenal or Tottenham) and away at Old Trafford. Manchester City is now one point behind. Steven Gerrard's slip is on every Liverpool fan's mind.

It was the Merseyside derby when it finally happened. The wind was too strong and Salah could not finish and suddenly City found themselves ahead. Everton fans celebrated as if they had won the league. Well, they denied their Merseyside rivals from doing so. Liverpool then mustered all the fight they had, nine consecutive victories and it seemed it was going to be their day with Guardiola's men trailing to Brighton. However, it was not to be. City completed their fourteen much needed wins. They ended with the second highest PL points tally ever.

They would go onto complete a domestic treble while Liverpool would lift the Champions League after faltering the previous year to Real Madrid. A tale of twists and turns; of fine margins; of the highest quality of football.

However, the fight for the remaining two Champions League spots was the exact opposite. Poor football by Arsenal, Chelsea, Manchester United, and Tottenham Hotspurs meant that they lost more points in the final few match days than what they won. Eventually, Spurs and Chelsea showed a bit more quality and grabbed the remaining spots while Manchester United and Arsenal had to accept their fate of playing Thursday night football again. This was the third year in a row for Arsenal.

Wolverhampton Wanderers, the dark horses of the season, found themselves in Europe after being promoted. Fulham, even after all of their heavy spending could not stay up and joined Huddersfield and Cardiff in their trip back down to the Championship.

14th July 2019

Two teams without a single cricket World Cup between them. New Zealand, fresh from the defeat in the finals of 2015, had successfully held their nerves to thump India in the semi-finals while England got the better of Australia in a rather one-sided contest. While the teams were warming up in the nets, the legend of tennis, Roger Federer was playing in his 12th Wimbledon final, a record. His opponent - none other than World Number One - Novak Djokovic was the favourite to win the Championship. The sky was overcast and both the teams, and the players had more at stake than just a finals win.

For the cricketing teams, it was a chance to show the world that they were not the 'chokers' as they so frequently been referred to. For Roger Federer, at 37, it was proving that age was just a number. Novak Djokovic needed to reiterate that he was still the best in the world, despite a career plagued by injuries. Thus, every run at Lord's and every stroke of the ball was cheered with utmost passion.

The Serb won the first set but it was not easy. He had to dig deep and save his best tennis for the tie break which he went on to win 7-5. First set to Djokovic: 7-6(5). Roger Federer, however, breezed through the second set and won it comfortably 6-1. He was clearly the crowd's favourite as every pass he made was greeted with utmost enthusiasm. At Lord's, New Zealand chose to bat first and for the second consecutive time in two matches, posted a total above 240. A par total, but coupled with the fact that it was a final, it was a very competitive score.

The third set was won by the Serb again, who for the second time in the match, won a tie break. The pressure was on the Swiss, the man who almost single-handedly brought Switzerland into tennis folklore. It was predicted that if the match went on to five sets, there was no way Federer would win it. However, this was not enough to write him off. Federer clawed his way back into the match by winning the fourth set.

England, on the other hand, found runs hard to come by. England needed 15, and Stokes had the weight of a country's expectations on his shoulder - the memories of his final over in India against West Indies playing at the back of his mind.

Federer was a break up in the fifth set and it seemed like both him and New Zealand were going to do the extraordinary. However, sport still had its cruel twists up its sleeves.

New Zealand conceded a freak six, off the bat of Christchurch born Ben Stokes, as he was diving to get into the crease on time. Over at Wimbledon, Novak Djokovic had fought his way back into the set and forced the set into extra games.

England pushed hard, and for the first time in World Cup history, a final would be decided by a super over. They got off to a flying start and scored 15 runs off their allotted half a dozen deliveries. It seemed as if New Zealand were out of the tournament.

Novak Djokovic, the younger man, was known for his never-ending stamina. It seemed as if there was no way Federer was going to win the match. However, he found himself with two championship points. New Zealand hit 14 off 5 to find themselves needing 2 off the final delivery to win the tournament.

In sport, there is always going to be a winner and a loser. It was as if fate had decided that it could not allow the Kiwis to win who managed only a single off the final delivery and lost.

Yet it was not because they were the second-best team. After all, after 102 overs of cricket, both teams had exactly the same number of runs on the scoreboard. They lost because of a fine detail, they had scored 6 fewer boundaries than England.

Kane Williamson's post-match conference was heartbreaking. Never will there be a better human to grace the gentlemen's game. Any other lesser mortal would have moaned and complained about the rule. Had it been based on wickets taken throughout the duration of the match, New Zealand would be champions. But the team of gentlemen took defeat graciously. All Williamson did was break into a smile.

Federer too was unable to fight off destiny. It was the first time that a Championship was decided on the basis of a tie break. You could argue that maybe New Zealand and Federer would have won if not for the new rules introduced to make the sport 'better'. After 4 hours and 57 minutes, it would have been cruel to say Djokovic was not deserving but it would have been crueler to say that Federer was the second-best player on the court. Sport, yet again, showed us why it can be unpredictable and gut-wrenching. It remains one of the most beautiful creations of humans.



# Interhouse Cricket Matches Underway

**Houses' attempt to knock it out of the park** *Eshan Gupta, Meghna Mishra*

The inter-house cricket tournament commenced on 25th August 2019, involving a clash between all 4 houses for over a month. With the group stage ending on 2nd October 2019, Vayu topped the table with 4 wins out of 6 matches, their defeats coming off the first and the last match they played during this time. Aakash was second, also once again winning 4.

The last group stage match between Agni and Aakash was a virtual semi-final with the winner proceeding to finals. Prithvi and Agni had 2 wins each from their 6 matches and shared the third position in the table. The group stage had several nail-biting finishes, along with few one-sided matches. Vayu dominated the tournament with a great batting line up: Mittal, Shanmukh, and Shashwath playing great knocks consistently, and in bowling Vasanth and Surendra picking up wickets on a regular basis. From Akash, Anji has been taking wickets along with Saharsh and Vishal while with the bat it has been a collective team effort with everyone contributing to building the scoreboard.

Although Vayu has beaten Akash both times they have met, the finals are highly anticipated as both teams would give their best to win the title.



## MATCHDAY 1

**Prithvi: 83/8 (20 overs)**  
Avlok 15(22), Shashank 14(8)  
Vishal 17-2 Saharsh 19-2

**Aakash: 84/9 (19.3 overs)**  
Harsha 23(13) Saharsh 12(10)  
Salay 12-3 Shashank 13-3

**Agni: 122/6 (20 overs)**  
Nikhil 23(25), Rohtith 23(28)  
Mittal 15-2 Vasant 5-1

**Vayu: 114/8 (20 overs)**  
Vasant 24(13) Sashwath 23(27)  
Raghava 13-2 Nikhil 20-2

## MATCHDAY 2

**Prithvi: 91/10 (18.4 overs)**  
Vaibhaw 25(27), Swapnil 21(19)  
Raghava 11-3 Bijjam 12-3

**Agni: 86/10 (19.5 overs)**  
Bheemla 30(48), Raghav 22(27)  
Koushik 11-4 Pavan 9-1

**Vayu: 125/6 (20 overs)**  
Shanmukh 41(50) Mittal 28(33)  
Anji 34-2 Saharsh 10-1

**Aakash: 105/10 (19 overs)**  
Aditya 37(40) Vinay 20(11)  
Vasanth 17-3 Surendra 27-2

## MATCHDAY 3

**Vayu: 145/6 (20 overs)**  
Mittal 55(34) Shashwat 44(49)  
Pavan 17-2 Salay 25-1

**Prithvi: 106/10 (20 overs)**  
Srinivas 21(24) Eshan 18(23)  
Vasanth 14-3 Chandu 12-2

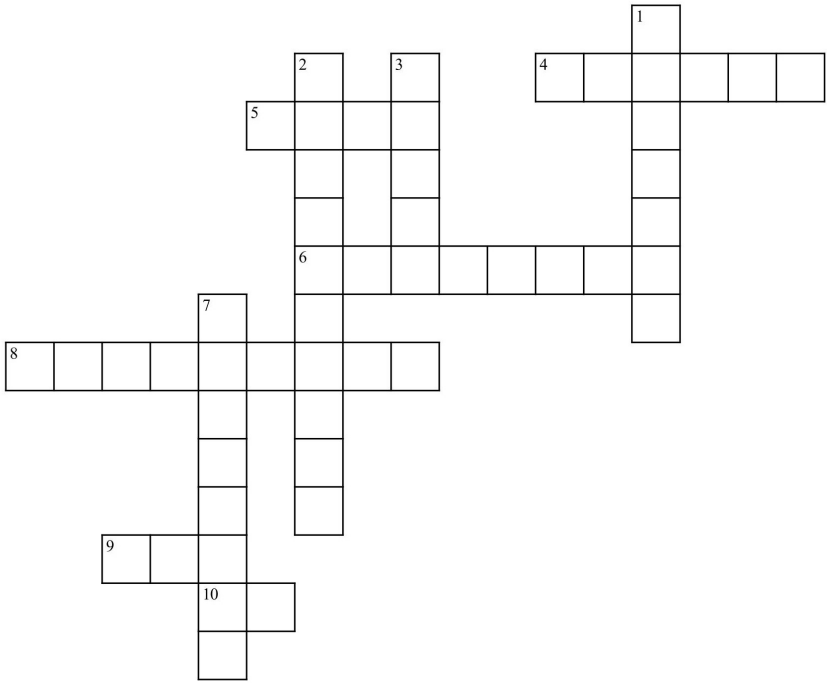
## MATCHDAY 4

**Aakash: 128/5 (18 overs)**  
Kishore 35(19) Rohan 28(31)  
Surendra 21-4 Shanmukh 9-1

**Vayu: 129/5 (17.3 overs)**  
Mittal 47(40) Shanmukh 46(37)  
Anji 21-2 Vishal 16-1



CROSSWORD



Across

- 4. Pumps us with food, drains our money
- 5. Sometimes, you just need to relax
- 6. Our answer to Coachella
- 8. One finger is all you need
- 9. From kashmir to kanyakumari, greenery everywhere
- 10. The juice,NFL,murder

Down

- 1. A bane of someone who knows not his way around
- 2. As a tourist of the world, sometimes you end up see
- 3. You shall not cross
- 7. Sewage,abstracts and more

CALVIN AND HOBBS



by Bill Watterson

SUDOKU

	5	3	9				4	2
7	6	2	8	5		1	3	
			3					
				8				
1		8	6	3	9	2		4
			2					3
3	2		7	9		4	6	
	4			1	3	9		
9	8							1

Cultural House Points

Aakash

Agni

170

190

Vayu

Prithvi

260

130

XKCD

by Randall Munroe



<https://xkcd.com/683/>

Fantastic Events  
And Where To  
Find Them

Chess Club: Online  
Tournament

Sunday, 20 October 15:00 - 17:00

FunnyBUZZnes W/ Vir Das  
- Loved Tour

Sunday, 20 October

Gaming Club: Haloween  
Event

TBA

Gaming Club: FIFA Tour-  
nament

TBA

The Dance Crew: Two for  
Tango

TBA

Programming Club's Question of the Month!

> Chess with a twist

> There is an NxM chess board. Black's king is placed at (1,1) that is at top left and white's king is placed at (n,1) that is at bottom left. All other squares have pawns placed in them. Black and white can only move their king in their turns. King can move only 1 square diagonally ,vertically or horizontally to a square if it has a pawn or opposition's king placed in it. That is it cannot move to empty squares. Once he moves to a square with pawn in it ,the pawn is re-moved. If he moves to a square with opposition's king in it, he wins. If there are no possible moves during one's turn he loses. So if white always starts first and both play optimally, who will win?. In the cases white wins, can you guess the first move he makes?