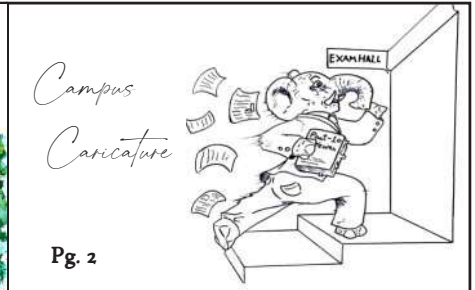


Pg. 3



Pg. 1



Pg. 2

Illustrated by Anushka Jitani, XI



# REPUBLIC DAY

-Jigme Pao Tamang, Deputy Editor

Independence from the British Crown way back in 1930, setting our fates down this path that we tread today.

We are now celebrating our 75th Republic Day, and upon taking a glance at our past, the contrast between what our nation used to be and who we are now is astounding; from being pushed back by China during the 60s to becoming the fourth strongest military globally, or rising to become the 5th largest economy in the world since Independence. The India, of today is reminiscent of our nation's glorious past, be it in academic excellence, technological advancement, military or financial might; with Universities that show up on world rankings, or our 23 IITs that have produced alumni who have gone on to establish themselves on a global scale - our nation has truly embarked upon apotheosis.

We are now riding the crest of the wave of development - our country is rapidly developing even today - and global estimates show that India is projected to become one of the largest economies in the world in just a few years. It is now upon us to continue this trend and continue striving for greater glories.

We celebrate Republic Day to commemorate the day our Constitution came into effect. It exists to remind us of the incredible day when India as a country truly came into being after establishing the pillarstone of all countries, the constitution. While this event does not sound very magnificent, we must remember that it was only after this that the nation we know today arose out of a past which had denied us of "the principle of one man, one value" and denied equality in our socio-economic life. We celebrate Republic Day because it was on this day that we, as a nation - through the Indian National Congress, declared our

# S. Jaishankar's Changes

-Aditya Panigrahi, XII

Subrahmanyam Jaishankar, who assumed the role of India's External Affairs Minister in May 2019, has ushered in a significant transformation in the country's foreign policy. Leveraging his extensive diplomatic expertise and a keen understanding of global affairs, Jaishankar has introduced a novel perspective to India's international engagements. This article delves into the core aspects of India's foreign policy during his tenure, highlighting the nation's focus on strategic partnerships, regional connectivity, and a proactive stance in addressing global challenges.

At the heart of India's foreign policy under S. Jaishankar lies the strengthening of strategic partnerships with key nations across the globe. Recognizing the importance of a multipolar world order, India has actively pursued closer ties with major powers such as the United States, Japan, and Russia. These partnerships have been characterized by increased collaboration in defense, economics, and a shared commitment to upholding a rules-based international order.

Jaishankar's emphasis on strategic autonomy has allowed India to pursue its national interests while simultaneously engaging with multiple partners. India's foreign policy under Jaishankar places significant emphasis on regional connectivity and economic diplomacy. The flagship initiative, the Act East Policy, aims to fortify India's engagement with Southeast Asia and the broader Indo-Pacific region. Initiatives like

the India-ASEAN connectivity project and the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) are instrumental in boosting regional trade, connectivity, and people-to-people exchanges. These endeavors have not only augmented India's economic integration but have also reinforced its role as a responsible regional power.

Jaishankar has placed particular emphasis on India's "Neighborhood First" policy, recognizing the significance of strong relationships with neighbouring nations. India has diligently pursued robust engagement with South Asian countries, including Bangladesh, Nepal, and Sri Lanka. The focus has been on enhancing connectivity, promoting economic cooperation, and jointly addressing challenges such as terrorism and climate change. India's efforts to provide COVID-19 vaccines to neighbouring countries during the pandemic exemplifies its commitment to regional cooperation and solidarity.

India's foreign policy under S. Jaishankar has undergone a strategic transformation, characterized by a proactive and dynamic approach to global engagement. Jaishankar's leadership has anchored India's presence on the global stage, with a commitment to shared interests, mutual respect, and inclusivity. India's foreign policy under Jaishankar offers a vision for a more interconnected and prosperous world.

*Campus Caricature*

## Rush Hour

*Illustrated by Mashunsing Keishing, IX*





## CULTURAL OLYMPIAD PERFORMING ARTS

The AVS Dance and Music school participated in the 12th Cultural Olympiad of Performing Arts from 17th November 2023, organized by ABSS's Global Council of Art and Culture, along with Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok, Thailand.

The results at a glance:

Dance:

Anushka Iyer- Silver Medal

Unnati Agarwal - Bronze Medal

Ishita Rahman- Silver Medal

Shaphiana Swargiary - Bronze Medal

Jezreel Glow- Meritorious award

Jestina Kalita- Meritorious award

Music:

Changkham Phukan - Golden Star Award with Gold medal

Krishna Tibrewal - Silver Medal.

Drishan J. Bora- Meritorious award

Vaibhav Baheti - Meritorious award

Gaushikraaj Langthasa, Mrinmoy Kalita, Darsh

Sharma (trio)- Meritorious award

Heartiest congratulations!



## THE AVS UNIVERSITY FAIR

The AVS University Fair 2023 was a significant event held at Café Lawn on 14th of Dec 2023. The primary objective of the fair was to provide a platform for students to interact with representatives from 40 universities and explore various academic opportunities. The fair saw active participation from students, faculty, and 40 university representatives who showcased their respective institutions. The diverse range of universities contributed to the fair's success, offering students a comprehensive understanding of potential academic paths. The AVS University Fair 2023 proved to be a resounding success and set a promising precedent for future events.





# ANNUAL ATHLETICS MEET 2023

Reported by Siddhi Priyadarshani, IX

On the 12th of December, The Assam Valley School hosted the prestigious Inter-House Athletics and march past competition. Col. Rajvir Sharma was the highly esteemed Chief Guest for the afternoon. It was an amazing and memorable event. Each House displayed a tremendous amount of dedication and hard work in their performance. For months, the students had been tirelessly devoted to making this event a success. Attendees were captivated by the displays of talent, discipline, and determination throughout the event.

The event was a resounding success, with the audience thoroughly impressed by the performances of the students from each of the houses. Jinari-Manas' performed brilliantly at athletics, while Subansiri-Namdang's controlled and disciplined performance at match past left a lasting impression on all who witnessed it. The horses of the riding squad put forth a masterful display, leading the way for the others and showcasing their superb skill and grace.

The Chief Guest, Col. Sharma in the closing speech, provided valuable insight into the importance of discipline and sports. After the choir's stirring performance of our school song, the state and national anthem followed, concluding the ceremony on a high note. The entire event was a magnificent showcase of our commitment to excellence and achievement.

The results:

Athletics	March Past
1st Jinari Manas	1st Subansiri Namdang
2nd Bhoroli Lohit	2nd Bhoroli Lohit
3rd Kopili Dhansiri	3rd Kopili Dhansiri
4th Subansiri Namdang	4th Jinari Manas





# GRADUATION CEREMONY FOR THE CLASS OF 2024

*Reported by Jigme Pao Tamang, Deputy Editor*

Adieu to the Class of 2024! AVS proudly presented its graduating batch to the world on 13th of December, 2023. This was where dreams were born. And this is where our young students have metamorphosed into bright young people ready to take on the world. The Chief Guest of the evening, Bremley W.B. Lyngdoh, Founder & CEO of Worldview Impact Foundation and EcoFriend World, graced the event with his presence. His speech on the environment, its sustainability, and the contribution of young people to build a better life, was extremely inspiring, and created the perfect atmosphere for the last hoorah of the 2024 Batch. The students of the graduating Batch were presented

with their silver elephants, the school's mascot that signified their journey as an aviator. A batch worth remembering, the Batch '24 stood as a united front as they prepared to put on their big boy and big girl shoes and head onto a world unknown. Tearful goodbyes, new beginnings, glittering futures, evergreen memories, graduation caps, the last dance and a promise to stay in touch, marked the occasion. We proudly congratulate each and every student of the 2024 Batch for every drop of their sweat and tears during their days at school. Grueling hours spent in the MSB, every bit of ache felt when seated in their toy units and not forgetting every memorable café treat have not gone to waste.





# IN CONVERSATION:

*Amidst the busyness of Graduation, the AVE Editor-in-Chief along with Reetisha Daimari and Tivona Narzary caught a moment with Mr. Bremley W.B. Lyngdoh, the Chief Guest of the evening for a conversation.*

**AVE:** You left home at 17 to pursue a goal: that requires immense conviction and commitment. What pushed and motivated you into this? What were your biggest inspirations?

**BWL:** Well my late father was the Chief of our clan and growing up, he would take me onto these magical walks in our forests, speaking to me about how important it is to take responsibility for our forests and all that grows there. He truly did set a benchmark for me to thread the path of an environmentalist. My dad was an incredible inspiration for me, telling me that not a single seed nor leaf should be taken from the ancient and sacred forests without asking permission from the forest spirits. Brother D'Souza was also a factor for pushing me towards this goal. He was always so supportive and wonderful to me, and we were his favourite boys, if I do say so myself.

**AVE:** Climate change is something that is influenced by all of us. As an expert, what do you think our school can do to take care of our biodiversity?

**BWL:** There are many things that can be done by AVS, I believe. Something I always say that can be applied here as well is 'think globally, act locally' which is, well, self-explanatory. I feel that maybe the graduating class could plant trees as perhaps a last hoorah. Imagine if that goes on for even 5 years, a hundred-something people planting a hundred-something trees, filling the gaps of the previous batch as the years go on. A truly spectacular sight that will surely spread to other schools. With a campus as wide and wonderful as this, locally sourced food must also be an alternative to food that is brought in from thousands of miles away. Could you imagine the carbon emissions caused by transporting food with such a large amount of people? With locally-sourced food, that emission would be decreased incredibly and you can also support local farmers and businesses. These are just ideas, of course, you young and bright people must think of more ideas to improve the school. Another thing that I believe needs attention is that of the lives of the people who live in and around the school like the tea-pickers, for example. We must do something for the women in places like these by looking into their living conditions, how their families actually function and help them in whatever way that we can, we must.

**AVE:** What advice do you have for the students of AVS, especially those who wish to walk the same path as you?

**BWL:** Be the ambassadors of your people. You must advocate what you want for your people and your state. You must be able to go back to your state and do something to help people. I mean, how cool is that? Hundreds of kids with the knowledge and exposure

to help their tiny state flourish and they go back and do just that. We must always keep the fire going for our tribes and traditions, and keep our hearts in the right place, only then will many other dreams grow.



# ALUMNI NEWS



AVS students have always been talented in the field of design and we are incredibly overjoyed to congratulate our very own Meisen Jamir for having received the 'Outstanding Graduation Project' Shanta Keshavan and N Keshavan Endowment Award at India's top design institute, National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad, for her project titled "Ladakh Diaries." Her unique approach to utilising the local symbolism of Ladakh in a new and inventive approach resulted in wonderfully translated and visually striking outcomes. We congratulate Meisen wholeheartedly and wish

Janice Pariat has been awarded the 2023 Sushila Devi Award for the Best Book of Fiction for her novel, 'Everything the Light Touches'. The award will be presented to her at the Bhopal Literature Festival, which runs from January 12 to 14. 'Everything The Light Touches' weaves the intricate experiences of four different travellers over time and history. Pariat presents an innovative picture of the evolution of knowledge and the self through the sciences, literature, and history. Janice Pariat was chosen as the first Editor-in-Chief of the Assam Valley Express during her time in school, a testament to her talents even at a young age. We congratulate Janice for her achievement!

## AVS STUDENTS TAKE TO THE SKIES

Three of AVS NCC Air Cadets, Nazifa Noorine, Priyani Sharma and Dayanita Das experienced first-hand microlight flying at the Air Force Station in Borjhar, Guwahati, as co-pilots with an IAF pilot on January 8, 2023. The students, accompanied by the Master-in-charge (NCC) Mr. Abhinav Mishra, were ecstatic and dubbed it their best day. Their happiness was evident as they stood proudly, shoulder to shoulder, posing for photographs with the pilot and the aircraft.



## KHELO INDIA YOUTH GAMES 2024

Whether it is academics or sports, AVS students never fail to impress the world with their skills. We are thrilled to announce that School Captain Aarnav Dutta is all set to represent AVS at the Khelo India Youth Games to be held from 19th to 27th January, 2024, at Indian Squash Academy, Tamil Nadu. The 6th edition of the Khelo India Youth Games 2024 will welcome nearly 5000 athletes across the nation. We wish Aarnav all the best!





# 67TH NATIONAL SCHOOL GAMES

AVS students have proved their mettle yet again by qualifying in the Squash trials for the 67th National School Games held in Pune. Schools from different parts of Assam participated in the event in the categories of U-14, U-17 and U-19. Nine students from AVS have made it to the finals, the details of which are given below:

Boys Under-14: Archanamarun Bailung, Tushar Malik

Girls Under-14: Adrika Dey, Nihakrika Goswami, Nayanika Borah

Boys Under-17: Abhigyan Roy Sarkar, Aarnav Dutta, Harshil Beriwal, Kritartha Kaushik



# ICS CALENDAR 2024

The painting of Dhani Poddar, Art Captain 2024-25, has been selected for the ICS Calendar 2024, and has bagged the 'Special Mention' Award in the Fourteenth International Painting Competition 2023 organised by the Institute for Career Studies, Lucknow. The award stood out among the 1300 paintings from 240 schools across India, the Middle East, Bangladesh, and the USA that brilliantly showcased the students' creative talent, each presenting a unique palette of expression in capturing the essence of the theme "Travel Diaries."





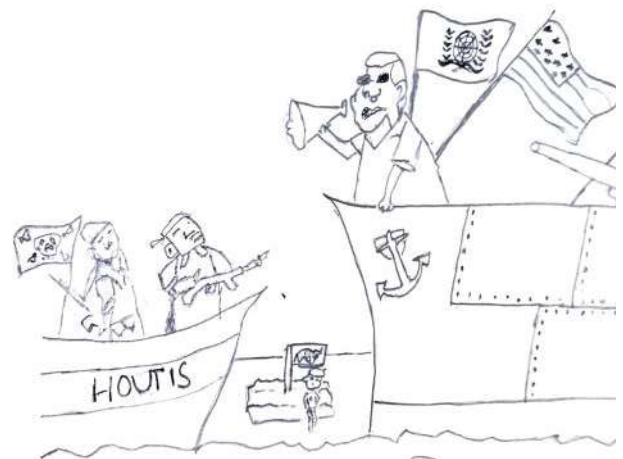
# EXPERIENCE JAPAN

Two students of The Assam Valley School, Naitik Bhilwara and Ikalu Ahozhe participated in the 9th National Level Painting Competition and Exhibitions titled 'Japan on Canvas' conducted by Experience Japan. Naitik secured the winning position while Ikalu won the Outstanding Performance Award. The prime objective of this competition, held from October 1, 2023 to December 1, 2023, was "to make students learn and explore bonding between two great nations (India and Japan) and showcase their learning, talent, skills on canvas."



## THE OUTPOST

Although 2024 began with a youthful burst of energy, the year ahead looks one filled with conflict. India's trade across the Red Sea has the potential to lose billions of the Houthi scare. While the USA and UK run a joint operation across the Red Sea, India has several deployments in the Indian ocean to tackle the piracy. Maldives new 'India-Out' and 'China-in' policy could mean another Sri Lanka-like bankruptcy. India celebrated Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's birthday with joy. The 75 th Republic Day of India was celebrated with aplomb with President Macron as the Chief Guest for the occasion.



Illustrated by Dhairini Kharwa, XI



## Ripple #216

-Rianna Irom, IX

The beast beneath my bed likes  
to chase me relentlessly,  
It stares back at me from the  
vanity,  
Whispering to me in a fleeting  
dream—  
“Guilt,” is the name it shares  
with me.

## Tongue Of Slip!!

1. “The turns have tide.” -Vibe Zhimomi, X  
(It seems that Michael Scott has a rival.)
2. “I can forgot.” -Zaheen Shah, X (You’ve forgotten your grammar too.)
3. “When the ice frozes.” -Archit Phukan, IX  
(Are your braincells frozen instead?)
4. “I was about to drank this water.”  
-Jupitora Das, XII (Your water priveleges have been revoked until further notice.)
5. “He was classing the calm down.”  
-Anukriti Kashyap, XI (Woah, woah, calm your brain first.)

## Keep It Reel!

*Before it all passes*

-Tivona Narzary, XI



Editor-in-Chief: Atoti Zhimomi  
Deputy Editor: Jigme Pao Tamang

Correspondents: Tanveer, Aanya, Neilginryan, Rianna and Siddhi P

Design & Layout: Atoti

Illustrators: Imnalemla and Ssara

Photography Credits: Reetisha and Tivona

Mistress-in-Charge: Ms. Sarmistha Paul Sarkar

Publisher: The Assam Valley School, P.O. Balipara, Dist. Sonitpur, Asom-784101, India

E-mail: ave@assamvalleyschool.com

Telephone: 09678074320/08812009627 Website: www.assamvalleyschool.com

Patron: Dr. Amit Jugran, The Headmaster of The Assam Valley School



The views expressed in articles printed are the authors' own and do not necessarily reflect those of AVE or its editorial policy.