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It seems as though all I am doing these days is simply just reminiscence as I try my best to look away from the impending doom that inches closer with each passing day—the spine-chilling Board examinations. And during these sentimental moments it's only natural that I think of the main occupant of my mind for the past year, dear reader, the very newsletter in which you are reading this right now, the Assam Valley Express. It really does seem like forever ago when I first sat in the Subansiri common room, a ball of anxiety and stood to introduce myself. When asked about my hobbies, I said that I liked to read and write. The entire room gasped and turned to Ma'am Sarmishta (later known to me as SPS) and there was no way that 11th Grade me would have ever guessed that at that moment I would be forever tied to the cream-walled room above the library.

Very soon I found myself in a

whirlwind of work, from writings to be completed, editing to be done and reports to look into. And I really do not think that I would've traded those hours for anything else. It was even sooner that I was trusted with the Editor-ship of the Room, the way that my Editor was trusted with it and her Editor before her. Over the course of my long (as well as short) tenure as the Editor, I like to believe that I did all that I could for the Room that has nursed me so. There are always moments I wish I could relive, to change the way I spoke, perhaps the actions I took. This, however, I have accepted, will follow me no matter where I go and what I do—and there will always be miles to go before I sleep. For now, though I know that the stairs will forget the way I walk and the chairs will no longer remember my scent, in between the quiet moments before I carve my initials onto the tiny badge, I hope I've done justice to my love.

miles
to go
before
i sleep.

-Atoti Zhimomi, Editor-in-Chief,
XII (ISC Batch of 2025)

TALES FROM THE EPICS: CHAPTER 2

MAHABHARAT

-Tanveer Ahmed, Cultural Captain, XI

As the devastating eighteen-day war of the great Mahabharata came to an end, a river of blood and sweat ran down the Kurukshetra. Blinded by anger and anguish, Gandhari, the mother of the Kauravas, deemed Krishna to be the root cause of the carnage and the cause of the death of her hundred sons. She cursed Krishna that his Yadava clan would perish just like her sons; and his capital, Dwarka would be submerged under the sea. Knowing well that the Yadavas could not be wiped out by any other race, she cursed that they would perish from fighting amongst themselves.

The curse slowly started taking effect and the Yadava clan started tearing itself apart; brothers fought against brothers, nephews fought against their uncles, and families were torn asunder. The bloodshed and the innumerable deaths of his people left Krishna heartbroken and traumatized. He decided it was time to leave his earthly Avatar and mortal form; and went into the forest along with his brother Balarama. The departure marked the end of a yug and the entire city of Dwarka was swept into the unfathomable depths of the sea. Yudhishthira, the king of Hastinapur and the eldest

Pandava was distressed in his castle as seven months had passed since the departure of his brother Arjuna to Dwarka and there had been no news of him ever since. Then Arjuna returned and bowed down to Yudhishthira. Tears rolled down his face as he told them about events that recently unfolded and that Krishna was gone as was Dwarka. Arjuna had also met sage Vyasa on his way back to Hastinapur, who told him that the Pandavas had served their purpose in life and that it was time for them to pass the crown to the next generation. Yudhishthira held a meeting with the Pandavas and their wife Draupadi and with Sage Vyasa's counsel it was decided that they would hand over their kingdom to Parikshit, Arjuna's grandson. He would rule Hastinapur under the guidance of Yuyutsu, the only Kaurava who had fought from the Pandavas' side. The Pandavas then set out on their journey to Mount Sumeru, in the Himalayas enroute to heaven. Their journey will test their determination and perseverance and they will face loss and make new friends.

But that is a story for another time.

On November 26, 2008, terror struck Mumbai, India, in an event that would forever be remembered as one of the darkest moments in the nation's history. A series of coordinated terrorist attacks orchestrated by a group of ten armed militants unfolded across the city, targeting iconic locations, bustling train stations, hospitals, and hotels. Among these, the 105-year-old Taj Mahal Palace Hotel, an iconic symbol of India's hospitality and heritage, became the epicenter of a violent siege that would last nearly 60 hours, leaving deep scars on the

remembering taj.

-Aanya Paul Sarkar, Deputy Editor, XI

nation's psyche. The ten attackers, trained by the Pakistani-based group Lashkar-e-Taiba, arrived by sea and split into groups to wreak havoc across Mumbai. The Taj was selected for its prominence, with the terrorists hoping to amplify their message globally. As two militants entered the Taj, they began an indiscriminate massacre, attacking guests and staff alike. Flames and smoke soon engulfed parts of the building as the militants set fires, creating a chilling scene



Illustrated by Erika Angie Riba, Editor-in-Chief, XI

broadcasted worldwide. Stories emerged of hotel employees who risked their lives to protect guests, including the hotel's General Manager, Mr. Karambir Kang, who coordinated evacuations even after losing his own family to the flames. While there are many inspiring stories of personal loss, courage and fortitude, it must be mentioned of the stellar leadership of the 70-year-old Ratan Tata who told the NSG to take down his property, if need be, but to catch the terrorists at all costs. Becoming a raging emblem of perseverance the Taj Hotel, Mumbai, opened to its guests three days after the attack.

The National Security Guard (NSG) and Marine Commandos (MARCOS) worked tirelessly to regain control of the hotel, though its complex architecture posed significant challenges. Meanwhile, Mumbaiers watched in horror as the Taj, a landmark of cultural pride, burned. In total, 31 people lost their lives

in the Taj, with the attack on the city as a whole claiming 166 lives and injuring hundreds more.

In the aftermath, India implemented sweeping security reforms to prevent future attacks, enhancing intelligence and coordination among security forces. The NSG established regional bases to enable faster responses to threats, while the Taj underwent significant restoration to reclaim its grandeur, symbolizing resilience in the face of terror.

The 26/11 attacks continue to serve as a reminder of both human vulnerability and resilience. For those who survived and the families of those lost, the tragedy remains deeply personal. Yet the Taj Mahal Palace stands tall once more, embodying the spirit of a city and a nation that, while remembering its pain, refuses to let terror define it.

CARPE DIEM

-Jentina Yaomei Shangkhu, Subansiri House Prefect, XI

As the chapter comes to a close
and the story reads "The End"
A new story unfolds
an adventure where hope transcends.

A quiet shift in the canopy
They rise from green to gold
The new batch steps forward
Walking the edge of autumn's threshold

Once saplings beneath the shade,
Now they find the sky alone.
Branches arch to bear new weight
all they've learned, all they've grown.
They've watched the upper branches sway,
heard the whispers through the hall.
Now the leaves turn, it's their day
to brace the wind, to stand tall.
Not children, not yet free
they hold each other close,
a forest in soft amber light,
hoping for what they chose.
And though the coming winter
might chill, might wear them thin,
they know roots run deep and sure,
and spring will call them in.
So let us venture, with hearts aflame,
Bracing change, a noble aim
New journey's beckon a thrilling sight,
A chance to shine with all our might.

CAMPUS NEWS

IPSC

SQUASH

The All India IPSC Squash Tournament was held in Daly College, Indore from 30th April to 4th May 2024. Our school team participated in U-14 and U-19 category. Both teams qualified to the quarter finals. Results are as follows :-

Archan Amar Bailing of Class 9 received 2nd Runner's up and Darsheel Kalita of class 6 performed spectacularly in the U-14 individual events.

U-19 category, Aarnav Dutta of Class 12 reached till pre quarters while Kritartha Kaushik of Class 12 reached the quarter finals.

Congratulations!



TENNIS

The All India IPSC Tennis Tournament was held at the Doon School from the 27th of September to the 30th of September. A total of 26 Schools participated along with AVS .

AVS U-19 team reached to the Pre-Quarter Finals.

AVS U-17 Team reached to the Quarter Finals. Lakshay Gattani reached to the Quarter Finals in Singles Individual Category.

Rajnish Sharma reached to the Pre-Quarter Finals in Singles Individual Category.

TAEKWONDO BOYS

AVS Taekwondo Team participated in The All India IPSC Taekwondo Tournament held in Birla Vidya Mandir (Nainital) from the 26th to 27th June 2024.

Overall result as follows:

U-17 Boys

1. Nani Niku-1st Position
2. Techhi Kagam-2nd Position
3. Sarthak Mahatta-3rd Position

U- 19 Boys

1. Bahabrnab Pran Nath - 1st position
2. Piyush Paul-1st Position
3. Bornil Phukon-1st Position
4. YuvrajThounaojam-3rd Position

AVS Under 19 boys won the Runner's up trophy. Congratulations to the teams and their coach.



TAEKWONDO GIRLS

On 19th April 2024 our U-14, U-17 and U-19 girls team participated in The Taekwondo IPSC Girls held at The Sanskar Valley School Bhopal.

Jasrani Thokchom won gold medal

Dweepanneeta Nath won bronze medal in U-17 category.

Congratulations to the team and their coach.



CRICKET U-17 AND U-19

The All India IPSC U-17 Cricket tournament was held in The Scindia School Gwalior. After winning the toss AVS managed to score 112/10 in a 20 overs match. Farhad Mustak, class 10, scored 55 runs. In the second match, AVS vs The Sanskaar Valley School, after winning the toss AVS to score 63 runs in 20 overs match.



AVS U-19 cricket team participated in the IPSC U-19 cricket team at Daly College, Indore. A total number of 13 teams participated in this tournament from all over India. AVS team entered the quarterfinal with better run rate after defeating The Mann School, Delhi. Best performers from the AVS team were Anuran Paul, Krishna Agarwal and Saanchit Agarwal. In this tournament, Saanchit Agarwal got the first and only hat-trick and received the Man of the Match for his achievement.



ARCHERY

All India IPSC Archery Championship was hosted by Mayo College, Ajmer. The Assam Valley School Team consisted of 13 students participating in various categories. We are delighted

to inform that, The Assam Valley School stood 1st in Under - 17 girls as well as 1st overall in the Under - 19 boys' Indian round category. Many congratulations to the team and their coach!





PREFECTORIAL BODY 2025-26

HEAD GIRL: Natasha Billimoria
HEAD BOY: Adhayan Saikia
SCHOOL CAPTAIN: Ayithe Vusshe

ACADEMICS
GIRLS: Urvee Rathi
BOYS: Vivaan Agarwalla

SPORTS
GIRLS: Prapti Prarthona
BOYS: Woto Z. Wotosa Sema

CULTURAL
GIRLS: Swastika Boruah
BOYS: Tanveer Ahmed

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YEARBOOK:
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QUIZ: Khichu Kath

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SUBANSIRI-NAMDANG: Memin Tam and Bornil Phukan

JINARI-MANAS: Zaheen Rafia Shah and Ahaan Sarawgi

KOPILI-DHANSIRI: Aatreyee Neog and Imchalong Longchari

HOUSE PREFECTS

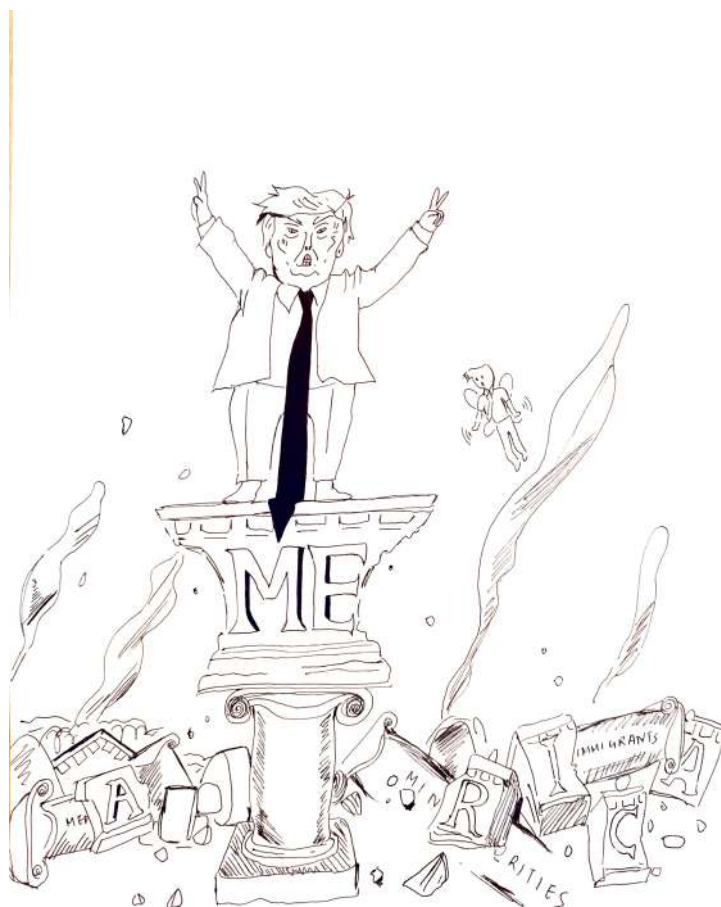
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SUBANSIRI-NAMDANG: Jentina Yaomei Shangkhui, Kavya Goel, Nani Niko and Nabajyoti Hazarika

JINARI-MANAS: Shambhavi Jindal, Arushi Jakhmola, Shorya Kanda and Neev Kejriwal

KOPILI-DHANSIRI: Meghna Baruah, Mikita Riba, Tanveer Alom Chowdhury and Tsering Lekmon

THE OUTPOST



Illustrated by Erika Angie Riba, Editor-in-Chief, XI

The global power axis tilted more than just a wee-bit when Donald Trump beat the odds and came back for a second term as President of the USA. The euphoria in America was a notch lesser than in Israel and India. The unpredictability of Trump is a concern for Europe but one thing we can be certain of is that he will hold the Red Dragon to bay. Trump refuses to allow the world a breather as he composes his cabinet at a furious pace. The new year will awaken to more possibilities. Atleast, that is what the world hopes.

Ripple #239

-Atoti Zhimomi, Editor-in-Chief
(ISC Batch of 2025)

*The badge slips and pricks
As it falls onto new palms.*

*But it settles easy on
its fresh lapel.*

*New hopes, tears, and promises.
A new change of guard.*

Tongue Of Slip!!

1. "What should I do for some extracircular activities?" - Taba Nyikum, X (*Straighten out your vocabulary perhaps.*)
2. "I have not haved." - Urvee Rathi, XI (*Well, that explains your grammar.*)
3. "Come back soonly." - Mr. Matharu (*Gone soon enough.*)
4. "He was bathening." - Shahanur Uddin, XI (*Might want to wash your brains with that water.*)
5. "Don't be cry." - Atoti Zhimomi, XII (*You're making everyone else weep with your English.*)

Keep It Reel!

Hopeful Dawns.



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