

TRAMPLING IT

"Make America Great Again"

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a homage to Srimanta Sankardev

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Campus Caricature



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As summer fades and winter waits, we find ourselves drenched in rain, muddied yet moving forward. Despite the lingering heat, we stride on through the chaotic yet beautiful medley that defines school life. With the promise of a busy semester comes the assurance of excitement and memories waiting to be made. Aviators, welcome to Founders'.

-Tanveer Ahmed, Cultural Captain, XII

ACHIEVEMENTS & LEGACY

-Aanya Paul Sarkar, Deputy Editor

The Assam Valley School has shaken off its holiday hush and resumed its familiar rhythm as a buzzing republic of ideas, rehearsals, and teenagers dashing between commitments with the determination of marathoners who never actually trained. After the welcome lull of the break, the campus has sprung back to life—and what a life it promises to be: a semester brimming with exhibitions, productions, and interhouse practices that will fill every corridor with the sounds of debate, drama, and the occasional guitar riff or drumbeat from the Music School, reminding us that talent is rarely quiet about announcing itself.

The break, of course, was not uneventful elsewhere. The world beyond Balipara staged political dramas of its own, with

*"And yet within
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distant..."*

Donald Trump once again in the spotlight, wielding tariffs like blunt instruments of diplomacy. Whether foes or friends, no one seemed spared. Despite China's

hand in funding and defending its "friend of all seasons," Pakistan, Prime Minister Modi is set to visit China for the upcoming SCO meet. Amid this constant churn, a glimmer of progress appeared in the government's announcement of long-awaited and much-needed reforms in agriculture and investment.

And yet, within AVS, the tempests of geopolitics feel distant, softened by the daily theatre of school life. Here, the stock most prized is enthusiasm, the currency is collaboration, and the only inflation worth noting is the ever-rising decibel level of interhouse cheers.

MAHAPURUSH

a homage to Srimanta Sankardev

-Tanveer Ahmed, Associate Editor

While Assam remembers and celebrates the contributions and legacy of the saint and guru Srimanta Sankardev, it is essential for us to pay homage to the polymath who wasn't just a spiritual leader, but was a one-man revolution who reshaped Assam from the inside out. In a time when society was tangled in caste, ritualism, and empty formalities, Sankardev cut through the noise with clarity, purpose, and courage. He didn't just preach 'bhakti', he lived it,

breathed it, and used it as a tool to unite people who were divided by birth, class, and power.

The most remarkable quality of Sankardev is how ahead of his time he was. While the rest of India was still drowning in caste politics, he was out in the streets amongst the common people, spreading the true message of God, the message of unity and brotherhood. This act took a lot of courage, especially in the 15th century.

Sankardev was a cultural giant. He built a whole new ecosystem, 'Borgeet' for music, 'Ankiya Naat' for theatre, and even translated sacred texts into the local tongue so that regular people, not just scholars, could access them. That was real empowerment. Today, when we talk about reformers, unity, and breaking barriers, Sankardev's blueprint still stands tall. He didn't just give Assam a faith, he gave it a voice, a rhythm, and a soul.

TALES FROM THE EPICS - V

The Lyre and the Trickster

-Aahil Faraj, VII

Apollo was the kind of god everyone admired—poised, radiant, and the undisputed favourite. (Or so he claimed; if you asked Zeus, the story might have been different.) Meanwhile, Hermes, though just a baby, had an uncanny knack for causing trouble in the most inventive ways.

One day, Hermes decided he needed a bit of excitement. While the gods were busy with their celestial affairs, he slipped out of his cradle, snuck across the fields, and stole Apollo's cattle. But he didn't just take them—he cleverly drove them backward to leave misleading tracks, making it nearly impossible for anyone to trace their path. Clever, right? Mischievous, but undeniably clever.

It wasn't long before Apollo realized his beloved cattle were missing. Furious, he stormed straight to Hermes, demanding answers. However, Hermes, lying peacefully in his cradle as if he hadn't a care in the world, feigned innocence. "Cattle? What cattle? I'm just a baby!" he

protested, wide-eyed and utterly unconvincing.

After much back-and-forth, Hermes finally came clean. But rather than simply confessing, he revealed a gift—something truly extraordinary. From within his tiny hands, he presented a lyre, crafted from a tortoise shell. Apollo, intrigued, took it cautiously. The moment he plucked its strings, a mesmerizing melody filled the air. The music was pure magic, enchanting even the radiant god himself. Hermes, ever the trickster, struck a deal. In exchange for the lyre, Apollo would give him all of the cattle. Surprisingly, Apollo agreed, unable to resist the instrument's allure. From that moment on, their rivalry transformed into mutual respect.

Though one was a mischief-maker and the other a golden idol, the two gods found harmony in their own way—a divine bond forged through music and trickery.

TRAMPOLINE IT

“Make America Great Again”

-Chingkheingambi, XI

In his presidential campaigns, Donald Trump vowed to “Make America Great Again” (MAGA), promising to restore U.S. manufacturing jobs and reduce economic dependence on rivals. Central to this pledge were sweeping tariff measures aimed at correcting what he described as decades of “unfair trade.”

The roots of this problem stretch back to the Cold War. Henry Kissinger’s strategic opening to China in the 1970s was intended to drive a wedge between Beijing and Moscow. In pursuit of this “triangular diplomacy,” Washington encouraged trade and investment, shifting manufacturing to China in hopes of binding it to the global economy and weakening the USSR. The unintended consequence was the meteoric rise of China as a manufacturing powerhouse, one that now challenges America’s economic primacy.

A turning point came in 1980, when the U.S. granted China “Most Favoured Nation” status. What was meant to normalise relations fast-tracked China’s industrial growth. Years later, the same arrangement was rebranded as “unfair trade,”

providing Trump with the justification for tariffs. While the U.S. was right to recognise the danger of overreliance on imports, Trump’s blunt approach ended up isolating Washington more than Beijing.

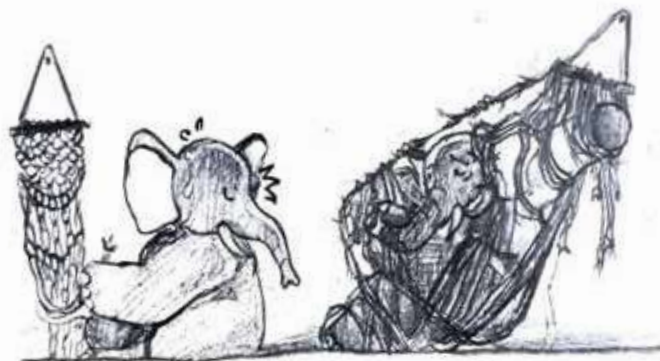
The tariffs were not limited to China. Trump imposed steep duties on allies as well, including a 50 per cent tariff on India, citing its continued purchase of Russian oil as indirectly funding the Ukraine war. India—a long-standing U.S. partner with shared geopolitical interests—was suddenly treated as an adversary. The inconsistency of U.S. policy strained alliances, weakened trust, and revealed how national security was used as a catch-all justification for protectionism.

Ironically, rather than isolating China, the tariffs pushed Beijing, Moscow, and New Delhi closer together. China and Russia deepened economic and energy cooperation, while India, facing U.S. pressure, found more room to manoeuvre between the blocs. What was intended as economic leverage for Washington became a catalyst for alternative alignments, weakening America’s position.

Campus Caricature

*in knots**

-Austin Nameirakpam, VII



*The Macarame segment during the 9th Srijanyam at AVS.

CAMPUS NEWS

ROUND SQUARE

On 13th August, 2025 the Round Square Committee of The Assam Valley School organized its Zoom Postcard Call where twelve schools participated from four countries- India, Namibia, South Africa and UAE engaging in a discussion around the theme- 'Glitched: Tech versus The World'. Students were divided into Baraza groups where thought-provoking discussions and insightful questions were asked which engaged students in meaningful conversations around themes like woke culture, cultural appropriation versus cultural appreciation, powerful role of online content and social media among others.



JAPAN TRIP

The Careers Department of The Assam Valley School organized an educational trip to Japan for classes 8, 9 and 10 from 5th August to 14th August, 2025 where twenty-four students were accompanied by Headmaster, Dr. Amit Jugran and Head of Careers, Mr. Devesh Prajapati.

On this nine-day visit to the country the students explored the rich Japanese culture, their advanced technology and educational system. In Tokyo they visited University of Tokyo, Asia Pacific University and Seikei High School.

They also went on a tour of some iconic landmarks including Tokyo Skytree, Hakone Sulphur Valley, Toyota Tecno Museum, SCMaglev and Railway Park, Sensoji Temple, Nezu Shrine and Hiroshima.

The trip left the students filled with invaluable lessons in history and culture along with an experience of rich values Japan embodies- gratitude, cleanliness, helping others, happiness and futuristic thinking!



IPSC DANCE FESTIVAL

IPSC Dance festival was organised by Rajmata Krishna Kumari School, Jodhpur from 13th August to 16th August, 2025 in which twenty-six IPSC Schools participated. The Assam Valley Dance School won the following:

Spriha Kashyap and Urvashi Bora received outstanding Authentic Performance Award

Tatha Katha Group Traditional Choreography:

Nayanika Borah, Khyati Borah, Pragyashi Shravani, Rishita Baruah, Spriha Kashyap, Tanesha Pegu, Ishita Rahman and Anjali Pandey achieved the Outstanding Authentic Performance Award



IPSC DRAMATICS

IPSC Dramatics was held at The Emerald Heights International School in Indore from 26th July to 28th July 2025 with over ten students participating from AVS. While the competition honed the students' skills in impromptu thinking, improvisation and ensemble work it also improved their confidence levels through healthy interaction, collaboration and creative expression with peers from different reputed schools.

Results of the competition are:

Natasha Billimoria- Special Mention in Nonverbal Performance category

Best Text in Hindi Playwriting Competition

Congratulations to the winners!



Ripple #254

-Tanveer Ahmed, XII

Blood darkened
Kurukshetra's field.
He raised fading eyes, thighs
torn apart.
A final thought lingered—
Would life have been
different—
Had his father not been the
Blind King?

Tongue Of Slip!!

1. "Write the something."- Mr. Umesh Singh (Which Law of Newton is this?)
2. "I am Laptopsing."- Adhayan Saikia, XII (You are supposed to be Head Boy-ing.)
3. "Who was the name of the boy?"- Aanya Paul Sarkar, XII (Let's call him who.)
4. "It is your bad."- Chinkheingambi, XI (No it is yours.)
5. "I was by accident."- Sneha Ngangom, XI (Well, Clearly.)

Keep It Reel!

Winners

-Rianna Lingjel Irom, XI



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