



## Beyond the Classroom

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# Votes for Sale

-Vibe Zhimomi, XII

“IT’S A BIT LIKE A MAN COMPLAINING HIS SPETACLES ARE BLURRED BUT REFUSING TO CLEAN THE LENSES HANDED BACK TO HIM.”

With the Bihar elections looming on the horizon, the political atmosphere is once again charged with slogans, marches, and accusations. The Opposition, led by Rahul Gandhi, has raised the slogan of “Vote Chori” (vote theft) and launched the “Vote Bachao Yatra” in Bihar. The campaign is intended to galvanize support and highlight what the Opposition claims are serious irregularities in the electoral process. Rahul Gandhi has gone on record accusing the Election Commission of acting in favour of the ruling BJP, alleging that there are lakhs of incorrect entries in the voters’ list. While the rhetoric is sharp, the irony is even sharper.

Gandhi opposes the Systematic Information Revision (SIR) programme — a measure specifically designed to clean up the voting lists and eliminate inaccuracies. It’s a bit like a man complaining his spectacles are blurred but then refusing to clean the lenses handed to him. This contradiction reflects a larger challenge within the Opposition: a lack of unity in both message and method. While slogans like “Vote Chori” may capture headlines, they are no substitute for coordinated strategies or constructive proposals. The Congress and its allies appear fragmented, each pulling in different directions while trying

to present a common front against the BJP.

For the BJP, this is fertile ground. The ruling party continues to project itself as the stable alternative, promising governance, development, and consistency. Prime Minister Modi’s emphasis on Atmanirbhar Bharat and India’s growing economic clout provides his party with a narrative of progress, which contrasts with the Opposition’s emphasis on protest and allegations. The debate over the voters’ list, however, does highlight a deeper issue: the need for transparent, trustworthy electoral rolls. Indian democracy thrives only when every citizen’s vote is counted accurately and fairly. Systems like SIR may not be perfect, but they are a step toward strengthening faith in the process.

# Beyond the Classroom



The cultural energy extends beyond campus. Students actively participate in interschool events and celebrations such as Teachers' Day and Rongali Utsav. The dance and music teams compete at the prestigious Pune Fest, preparing rigorously to represent the school with excellence.

AVS also has a strong presence at IPSC (Indian Public Schools Conference) cultural events, which bring together schools from across the country. From dance and music to literary and IT fests, these platforms allow students to pursue their interests and talents on a national stage. One of the most significant events is the Founders' celebration, which showcases the creativity and dedication of AVS students across disciplines—dance, music, painting, design, and theatre. Every performance and exhibit reflects weeks of planning, collaboration, and hard work. Cultural life at The Assam Valley School is not merely about competition but about nurturing talent, teamwork, and expression. It is this spirit of creativity and commitment that makes the school a thriving cultural community.

-Urvashi Bora, XI

At The Assam Valley School, every cultural occasion is a celebration where all students participate wholeheartedly. Newcomers often do not expect to sing, dance, or act, but their first challenge arrives with the Newcomers' Evening, which draws them into the school's vibrant cultural life. Beyond this, the year is filled with interhouse activities like dance and music competitions, debates, and one-act plays, giving students



opportunities to showcase their skills in a spirited yet friendly environment. These events demand commitment, effort, and relentless practice.

The Dance and Music School is a constant hub of activity during the summer semester, alive with choir rehearsals, band sessions, piano and percussion, graceful dance routines, and even the gentle notes of a flute.

# इुदीहा कन्थो\*

*\*Remembering Dr. Bhupen Hazarika on  
his 100th Birth Anniversary*

Dr. Bhupen Hazarika, widely known as Sudha Kontho, was one of India's greatest cultural icons, remembered as a singer, lyricist, composer and filmmaker whose works carried deep social meanings. Born in 1926 in Assam, he grew up surrounded by folk traditions that inspired his music. His songs were not just melodies, they were powerful messages about humanity, unity and social justice. Hazirika often wrote about the struggles of common people, weaving together themes of love, harmony, brotherhood, etc.

What made his music unique was the way he mixed Assamese folk music with modern elements, creating symphonies that were simple yet beautiful. He strongly believed that music could bring people together and break down barriers of caste, class, or religion.

Bhupen Hazarika introduced Assamese culture and folk music to Hindi cinema and national

“His songs were not just melodies. they were powerful messages about humanity, unity and social justice.”

\*Nector-throated

audiences, making local traditions global. He wrote, composed and directed films, earning awards like the National Film Award for Best Music Direction, Dadasaheb Phalke Award, the highest honour in Indian cinema, and Bharat Ratna, India's highest civilian award.

Bhupen Hazarika believed that labour and creativity were keys to building a strong and united society. Even now his music and message echo in houses, streets and silent halls, inspiring Assamese pride and reminding the people of the strength in togetherness and hope. His songs, ‘Manuhe manuhor bhabe’ and ‘O Ganga behti hon kyon’, is a clarion call to people to preserve and protect humanity and remain a reminder of perseverance to a world torn in strife.

We often hear that we should protect the green cover of AVS. Yes, it is important — but it is equally vital to be part of it. Trees and plants are not just the school's background; they clean our air, calm our minds, and make the campus feel like home.

Focusing on the environment is not only a duty but also an investment. It's not just about protecting nature but also about connecting with it. Being involved means more than planting a seed. It means caring for it, watering it, and watching it grow alongside you. We depend on trees for life itself for our homes, our future. If they disappear, we soon will too.

One idea I love is giving each house at AVS its own patch of land. Imagine every corner of the school blooming with a unique personality! One house could build a cozy gazebo surrounded by roses and fairy lights. Another might grow

## Growing Futures

- Aanya Gupta, X

sunflowers and herbs. Each space could become a living art project. Students could even dedicate trees to memories or graduating batches, tying ribbons with notes to be rediscovered in the future. Involvement like this transforms the green cover from a backdrop into a place to relax, connect, and build memories. It teaches us responsibility, teamwork, and how small actions like planting a seed can grow into something beautiful, a space to call home. So yes, let's protect our school's green cover. But more importantly, let's grow with it.

# Campus Caricature

## Penalty\*

Illustrated by Erik Angie Riba, Editor-in-Chief, XII



\*During Inter-House Football

## CAMPUS NEWS

### UPPERSCHOOL HINDI DEBATES

The Upper School Hindi debate took place on the 30th of August on the topic “Is Artificial Intelligence (AI) Harmful to Humanity?” The event witnessed enthusiastic participation and thought-provoking arguments from both sides. Speaking for the motion, Shrishti Baid (Jinari), Shabahat Ansari (Bhoroli), Viddhi Chopra (Subansiri), and Pahel Bajaj (Kopili) argued that AI, while efficient, reduces creativity and human connection. They cautioned that overdependence on machines for communication, studies, and decision-making could ultimately make humans slaves to technology.

Speaking against the motion, Tanveer Ahmed (Namdang), Aarushi Jakhmola (Jinari), Shreeshtee Paul (Bhoroli), and Shambhavi Chauhan (Kopili) emphasized that AI is merely a tool created by humans. They highlighted its benefits in saving time, increasing productivity, and driving industrial growth. According to them, the responsible use of AI can lead society toward progress and a brighter future. After a spirited contest, Kopili (Dhansiri) secured 1st place and Bhoroli (Lohit) won 2nd place.





# NORTHEAST BASKETBALL



The highly anticipated 1st North East Basketball Tournament 2025, an inter-school basketball championship hosted by AVS, this summer was an impressive display of young talent and fierce competition. Eight teams battled it out on the court: Mount Carmel School, Mizoram, Pearly Dew School, Shillong, Livingstone School, Dimapur, St. Francis De Sales School, Narengi, St. Edmund's School, Shillong and two squads from AVS—the Black Team and the Blue Team.



The matches kept spectators on the edge of their seats. The qualifiers saw dominant performances from Pearly Dew, Mount Carmel, St. Edmond's, and the AVS Black Team, securing their places in the semifinals. In a nail-biting semifinal clash, Mount Carmel, Mizoram and the AVS Black Team advanced to the finals.



The championship match between Mount Carmel and the AVS Black Team was a true spectacle. Mount Carmel School from Mizoram emerged victorious, defeating AVS Black with a commanding score of 96-52. Jason Vanlalhruaia of Mount Carmel was named the Most Valuable Player (MVP) of the tournament.

# STATE AQUATIC CHAMPIONSHIP

The Assam Valley School Swimming Squad participated in the 32nd Assam State Aquatic Championship 2025, at the Dr. Zakir Hussain aquatic complex, Sarusajai stadium, Guwahati, from the 2nd to the 4th of July, 2025.

The result is as follows:

## 1. Aariyan das (group II)

100 mtr breast stroke, 12th position and 100mtr free style 22nd position.

## 2. Ryuu Saikia (group II)

50mtr breast stroke 19th position and 100mtr breast stroke, 12th position. 50mtr and 100mtr free s tyle, 29th position and 19th position.

## 3. Niran Aadi group (III)

100mtr free style 29th position and 100mtr breast stroke 14th position.

## 4. Thungbenthung R Kikon (group I)

50mtr back strokes, 16th position.

## 5. Ethan J M Blah (group I)

100mtr free style, 16th position and 50mtr butter fry 15th position

## 6. Nivran jung Thapa (group I)

100mtr free style 19th position and 50mtr back strokes 14th position

## 7. Mashun Singh Keishing (group I)

50mtr back strokes 16th position

## 8. Shamiksha Ghorawat (group I)

50mtr butter fry 8th position

## 9. Aarohi Agarwal (group I)



## Ripple #256

-N. Chingkheinganbi  
Devi, XI

*Hungry, the Old Wolf awaited his supper—*

*Little Red Riding Hood, who was  
expecting to see her grandmother.*

*The cottage had been empty,  
So he crept in and dressed like an old lady.*

*In his old age, his hunger made him blind*

*As he paid the recently aged bloodstains*

*On the floorboards no mind.*

## Tongue Of Slip!!

1. "Don't perceive wrong." - Urvee Rathi, XII  
(Make sure your English is right.)
2. "Prove them and their arguments fall flat today." - Tanveer Ahemd, XII (You should start your English lessons in 3...2...1. )
3. "Extremely much." - Erik Angie Riba, XII  
(Your vocabulary seems extremely limited.)
4. "Are you dog of afraid." -Bhavni Devi Kshetrimayum, XII (When your hands don't work like it used to before.)
5. "You should start the beginning and ending on yourself." -Aanya Paul Sarkar, XII  
(And you should start paying attention to your grammar.)

## Keep It Reel!

*Intemission*

-Rianna Lingjel Irom, XI

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