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ON WAR FOOTING

-Dr. Amit Jugran,
Headmaster

**WHAT
MAKES
THE INDIAN
ECONOMY
SO WEAK
DURING
THE CRISIS?**



Far away from India lies narrow waterway called the Strait of Hormuz, situated between the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman. We may seem unrelated to it in our daily lives, yet this narrow passage affects the lives of millions of people across the globe, including us. The Strait of Hormuz sees a large portion of the world's oil and gas being transported across. Whenever tension arises in that

region, the supply of fuel becomes uncertain. Due to this uncertainty, the prices of petrol, diesel, cooking gas, electricity, transportation, and other such essential commodities increase globally. As India is an energy-importing nation, the heat of this tension is felt almost immediately. We need to grasp India's position as an exporter and importer. India is a net importer. Last year, India imported \$980

billion worth of goods and services, whereas it exported only \$870 billion, which means there is a deficit of \$120 billion every year.

The two major imports are crude oil and gold. India imports almost \$130 billion worth of crude oil and \$72 billion worth of gold ever year.

Whenever we have to buy certain things from our country, we need to pay into dollars by converting our rupees into dollars, which makes the dollar strong and the rupee weak.

As 50% of India's oil is imported through the Strait of Hormuz, today only 190 ships pass through the strait compared to the earlier 3,000 ships. This has led to a hike in crude oil prices from \$63 to \$110. That is why the war is a problem for India, as large imports of gold and crude oil will continue to hurt us. Many may think that these global events only hurt large industries and the government. However, as a Headmaster, I realise the

Running a school under these circumstances requires careful management of resources. The school depends heavily on electrical power, and conservation of energy must become everyone's priority. When fuel prices increase, commodities become costlier. The impact is felt both by parents at home as well as by the school administration. The challenge may not just be financial, but also a moral and educational lesson.

Schools must become places where students learn to handle resources

responsibly, develop enough discipline and an understanding of sustainability to use resources wisely. Like other schools, ours has taken some positive steps toward renewable energy by installing solar panels to reduce electricity costs and promote clean energy. However, it is not yet fully sustainable, as the school still depends on conventional energy. That is why schools must develop a culture of conservation. Every litre saved, every unit of electricity conserved, and every meal not wasted matters now.

Conservation of energy is no longer just an environmental slogan, but an educational necessity.

The future belongs to those who use it wisely and not only produce it.

For over a century, Assam has had a deeply troubled relationship with the question of Bengali migration within its borders. Illegal immigration from Bangladesh remains one of the state's most fiercely debated political and social issues, often viewed not merely as an economic concern, but as a threat to identity, security, and political control.

The roots of this anxiety go back to the colonial period, when British administrators began documenting the migration of Bengali Muslim peasants into Assam. Over time, these concerns became embedded in Assamese political consciousness and scholarship. The issue intensified during and after the Bangladesh Liberation War in 1971, when large numbers of migrants crossed into India. This created a growing fear among many native Assamese communities that unchecked migration would eventually alter the demographic balance of the state, weakening the Assamese language, culture, and social structure in their own homeland.

At the heart of the debate lies the idea of a "demographic threat", the belief that rapid population

identity -Rahan Islam,XI crisis

change could gradually erode indigenous identity and political representation. It was

within this context that measures such as the National Register of Citizens (NRC) as well as the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) emerged. The NRC was designed to identify legal citizens in Assam and traces its origins to the Assam Accord of 1985, signed after years of anti-immigrant protests led by the All Assam Students' Union and other such Assamese nationalist groups. The Accord fixed March 24, 1971, as the cut-off date for citizenship in Assam: those who entered before this date would be recognised as citizens, while those arriving later would be considered illegal migrants. However, when the updated NRC was published in 2019, nearly 1.9 million people were excluded, triggering widespread

concerns over documentation gaps errors, and the possibility of statelessness. Both the central and state governments have framed the issue as one tied closely to national security and the protection of Assamese identity.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has repeatedly spoken about protecting the country from "illegal infiltrators," while CM Himanta Biswa Sarma has strongly linked illegal immigration to questions of security, demography, as well as cultural preservation. The revision of the NRC therefore became not just an administrative exercise, but a politically charged attempt to address one of Assam's longest-running complex concerns.

TALES FROM THE EPICS

The Origin of Athens

-Aahil Faraj, IX

- VIII

Under the fierce blaze of the midday sun, the sacred hill of the Acropolis of Athens stood silent as the gods themselves descended to decide the fate of a city yet unborn. The people gathered below, their faces turned upward in awe, for this was no mortal quarrel but a contest between powers older than time. First came Poseidon, lord of the restless seas. His great trident gleamed like lightning in his grasp. With a thunderous cry, he struck the stone of the hill. At once, the earth split open, and from its wound burst a mighty torrent of water, rising high and shimmering like liquid silver beneath the sun. The crowd gasped in wonder. It was magnificent, wild, and terrible in its beauty. But when they rushed forward to drink, their joy turned

to disappointment. The water was bitter with salt, unfit for thirst and useless for the fields below.

It was a gift of power, yes, but not of life. Then came Athena, grey-eyed goddess of wisdom. She did not thunder or rage. Calmly she stepped upon the rock, and with a single touch of her hand, summoned forth a small olive tree. Its trunk was twisted, its leaves pale and humble, and many among the people murmured in doubt. It seemed too plain, too fragile to rival the splendour of the sea. Yet Athena spoke softly: this tree would endure when storms had passed. Its fruit would nourish generations, its oil would bring light to darkness, healing to wounds, and wealth through trade. It was not a gift for wonder,

but for wisdom. They named their city Athens, in honour of the goddess whose quiet gift promised not glory for a moment, but greatness for all ages. And from that humble tree grew a civilisation whose roots would stretch through eternity, bearing the fruits of thought, art, and freedom for the world to share.

The people understood. Their choice was made.

IPL 2.0

-Nishanta Bora, XII

Cricket has seen a major rise in popularity in England in recent years, largely due to the success of the "Bazball" approach introduced by coach Brendon McCullum and captain Ben Stokes, along with the growing success of the new format or league, The Hundred. Bazball has transformed Test cricket in England by promoting an aggressive, attacking, as well as entertaining style of play. This modern approach has not only helped England achieve strong performances but also attract younger fans who previously considered Test cricket dull or slow. The exciting nature of Bazball has also increased stadium

attendance and overall viewer interest. At the same time, The Hundred, launched by the England and Wales Cricket Board, has played a significant role in bringing new audiences to the sport. The tournament also shares a strong connection with India.

Indian women cricketers such as Smriti Mandhana and Harmanpreet Kaur regularly participate in the competition, increasing Indian interest in English cricket. In addition, Indian business groups have invested more than one billion dollars into the league, helping attract audiences from the Indian Premier League as well. MI London (formerly Oval

Invincibles) has been acquired by the Ambani family, owners of Mumbai Indians. Manchester Super Giants (formerly Manchester Originals) have been acquired by the RPSG Group, owners of Lucknow Super Giants and Sunrisers Leeds (formerly Northern Superchargers) is now owned by the Sun Group, owners of Sunrisers Hyderabad.

Southern Brave has been taken by the GMR Group, co-owners of Delhi Capitals. The main strategy behind expanding cricket's popularity outside India is to attract Indian audiences amongst others, and England has successfully achieved this. As a result, English cricket has experienced significant growth in both popularity and viewership.

Campus Caricature

DANCING ELEPHANTS*

Illustrated by Austin
Nameirakpam, VIII

**In reference to the recent Inter-House
Dance Competition 2026*



CAMPUS NEWS

INTERHOUSE DANCE COMPETITION

This Saturday witnessed the highly anticipated Inter-House Dance Competition, featuring four vibrant categories: Classical Solo, Semi-Classical Group, Folk Dance, and Western Dance. The spectacular evening was evaluated by an esteemed panel of judges, including Ms. Mousumi Mahanta, Mr. Pinku Priyam, and Mr. Ripunjyoti Ghosh.

The performances kicked off with a graceful classical performance by Bhoroli-Lohit, offering a beautiful tribute to Lord Shiva. However, Jinari-Manas ultimately stole the show in the Classical Solo category, with Neala Thokchom winning the judges over through a mesmerizing Manipuri dance portraying the story of Lord Krishna. In the Semi-Classical category, Bhoroli-Lohit delivered a highly memorable routine, executing a complex, breathtaking fusion of Bharatnatyam, Sattriya, Manipuri Raas-Leela, Odissi, and Kathak to proudly snag the runner-up spot. The Folk Dance segment saw an absolutely spectacular, high-energy Lavani performance by Subansiri-Namdeng, who comfortably managed to win the category.

The Western Dance category was dominated by Kopili-Dhansiri with a deeply moving, contemporary routine. Their piece showcased the journey of a young girl who loses her innocent trust in the world but finds immense inner strength against life's harsh realities, delivering a powerful message of resilience and women empowerment. Subansiri-Namdang claimed the ultimate victory as overall champions, followed by Bhoroli-Lohit as runners-up, with Jinari-Manas and Kopili-Dhansiri taking third and fourth places in the overall competition.



Photography by Mahi Choudhary, XI

HEADMASTER'S GOLD MEDAL DEBATES

The prestigious annual Headmaster's Gold Medal Debate, held on May 19, 2026, witnessed an intense and thought-provoking exchange of ideas on the motion: "This House Believes That Justice is More Important Than Mercy." Representing the Proposition were Indapher Nongpiur, Aahil Faraj, Kainat Naser, and Udayveer Singh, while the opposition team comprised Rianna Lingjel Irom, Pahal Bajaj, Kohana Kakati, and Shveni Sachdev.

The Proposition argued that justice forms the backbone of a stable and fair society. The speakers maintained that laws and punishments ensure accountability, and that excessive mercy can sometimes encourage crime and inequality.

Drawing examples from legal systems and historical events, they emphasised that justice protects the rights of victims and prevents society from descending into disorder. One speaker pointed out that without justice, mercy could become biased or selective rather than fair. The opposition, however, argued that mercy humanises justice and allows room for compassion, forgiveness, and reform. They highlighted how rigid justice without empathy can often become cruel, especially in cases involving poverty, ignorance, or genuine remorse. Using philosophical ideas and real-life examples, the speakers argued that mercy has the power to heal individuals and societies, and that some of history's greatest leaders are remembered not for punishment, but for forgiveness and understanding. Each participant spoke with remarkable confidence and eloquence, keeping the audience deeply engaged.



Photography by Mr Bhupendra Matharu

MR HARINARAYAN RECOGNISED FOR HIS ARTISTRY

On the 19th of May, 2026, Mr. Harinarayan Baruah had remarkable honour bestowed upon him by the Hon'ble President of India at Rashtrapati Bhavan.

As one of our school's eminent artisans, Mr. Harinarayan Baruah was recognised for his significant contribution to the design and production of the Invitation Kit for the "Republic Day At Home 2026" celebration held on 26th January 2026. The prestigious collaborative project was undertaken in association with the President's Secretariat, Rashtrapati Bhavan, and the National Institute of Design (NID), Ahmedabad. Mr. Baruah played a pivotal role in spearheading the preparation of the traditional Assamese musical instrument "Gogona" for the Assam page of the invitation kit. Working closely with skilled crafts persons and artisans, he contributed



extensively towards developing the design, tone, sound, size, as well as the aesthetics of the instrument. He also imparted his knowledge of natural dyeing on silk to the artisans involved in crafting the traditional 'Eri' shawls.

ALUMNI NEWS

Kekhriesilie Rio, an alumna of The Assam Valley School, Tezpur (Captain of the Riding School, Batch of 2018,), has created history by winning the Grand Prix in France, marking a landmark achievement for Indian equestrian sports.

The competition was held on 19th April at Haras de Liverdy, France. The competition was a Grand Prix class, which was the biggest class of the show at the height of 135. This competition was a build up to my upcoming Asian games qualifiers for the Asian games at Aichi -Nagoya, Japan 2026.



Ripple #270

- Rianna Lingjel Irom,
Editor-in-Chief, XII

*In the midst of the
Meitei valley,*

*A youth had fallen
into the Loktak
Where the waters of truth
stripped him of mortality,*

*Revealing him in
all of his divine glory
The Serpent God, Pakhangba.*

Tongue Of Slip!!

1. "I got yelling because of you." - Nandika Dutta, XII (What you need is a Total English textbook.)
2. "The tuutal distance of the hypotenuuse." - SZA (Now calculate the total distance to the English Department.)
3. "Don't waste the trash." - Aahil Faraj, IX (It seems that you've wasted your English lessons.)
4. "You highered my expectations." - Aastha Potsangbam, X (You've certainly lowered ours.)
5. "When I was first the newcomer..." - Udayveer Singh, X (You certainly seem new to English.)



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