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DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



"It gives me immense pleasure to begin this year by presenting the January edition of ASE Newsletter. Academics is not just confined to classroom learning. Students must perpetually hone their skills by keeping abreast with the world around. This newsletter shall provide the students a platform for exchanging ideas and showcasing their creativity. It will also work as a stimulus to encourage ASE to organize and participate in various events with zeal and enthusiasm. The Faculty at Amity School of Economics will always be there to guide the students whenever needed. I wish my students the very best and hope the students will work hard to achieve great

THE EDITORS SPEAK...



"I am feeling proud to present yet another issue of Amity School of Economics newsletter, which serves as a platform to the students to display their skills and beautifully capture the activities of ASE. The upcoming activities at ASE will be an enriching experience that are worth mentioning. It will help them explore new avenues and in all certainty expand their knowledge by reconciling with the real world experiences. I wish all

the best to the students of ASE

Hello everyone,

First of all, a very happy new year to all the teachers, students and administrative staff who help run the department. 2017 was a year of changes, like all the years in the past. With the new year, everyone becomes optimistic and has high hopes for life in general.

Being students of economics, we all had several discussions last year which focused on implementation of GST after years of it being introduced on paper. In 2016, we had Demonetization whose effects we are still experiencing. With the new year comes New Budget which is the current hot topic among all. My point behind mentioning all of these is that we are so engrossed in discussions we forget to silence the mind.

There will always be tests, assignments, mid-terms, discussions, guest lectures, NTCC, club activities etc keeping you busy throughout. My advice to all of you is to just find 10 minutes during the day to go downstairs, take a walk around, maybe listen to music or the sound of the silence and then come back.

Life is simple and beautiful. Economi science. Find silence and you'll find th getting things done is not that rocky t You shall have structured thoughts ak Demonetization, NTCC and what not. And as Rumi quoted "Silence gives an

-Neha Thureja President, Literary Club

COVER STORY

THE UNSTOPPABLE BITCOIN

Deeksha Kumar, B.A. (Hons), 2nd Year

CRYPTOCURRENCY-RISING AND SHINING

Cryptocurrencies are disruptive economic innovation having the potential to revolutionize the current economic structure and change how banks and financial institutions operate. They have led to the emergence of new markets. Bitcoin is one such innovative concept of a decentralised, peer-to- peer virtual currency. Its functions are autonomous from any centralised influence. It is on the cloud today and even though it does not have a physical value it does have a huge digital value. Clearly, Bitcoin has become the most important

cryptocurrency today.

Bitcoins provide a solution to the double spending problem without involving any trusted third-party intermediary. It does this by distributing the transaction information among all the users on the network.

- Every transaction in a bitcoin economy is contained in a block which also contains the information about the
- previous block, forming a block chain. This block chain is available over the bitcoin network for users to
- verify whether the bitcoin being transacted has been previously spent or not. The thousands of

The revolutionary change in transaction handling has the power to change the economic structure. To bring security and enable scrutiny, central banks and financial institutions maintain a record of all the transactions undertaken by the people. Now with digital currencies, this economic power can be challenged by

people. This has led to the creation of a new autonomous body which can facilitate transactions. Ultimately, if adopted on a large scale, Bitcoins can lead to the politicization of money.

Bitcoin has surged more than 1,000 percent this year, accelerated by rising interest from retail and institutional investors who view the digital currency as a possible future means of exchange and store of value.

Major exchanges like the CME and CBOE have also legitimized the currency and investment credentials by saying they plan to introduce futures contracts to their respective exchanges, likely further supporting the price.

THE FALLOUT

It is a bit strange that a currency which is slowly becoming so popular in the country and is increasingly being used by more and more people has no standing as far as legality is concerned. It has become a public eye today.

Till now, the Indian Government has only been watching and studying how virtual currencies work. By the looks of it, probably they are going to be patient and will wait to see how the developed economies respond to it before adopting crypto-currency as it straddles two very radical and dynamic topics–

economy and technology. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) issued an advisory to public not to buy and sell virtual currency Bitcoins.

The biggest fear of the RBI, and the income tax department is that Bitcoins will help to circulate black money internationally because of the simplicity with which the digital currency can be transacted as opposed to doing it through banks which is unregulated and unacceptable in Indian financial system as of now.

SUMMING UP:

Every new currency has to face an uphill battle legally and technically. The value of Bitcoins will depend

upon the ever-fluctuating market value, if the system gets widely adopted. Bitcoins need to be accepted as a placeholder by the merchants for goods and services, just like any other currency. This has been a challenge to other digital cash options, so it is hard to say if bitcoin will be ready to face these barriers. In the view of many, there has always been a need of a decentralized currency system and bitcoin surely is a huge step towards censorship-resistant digital currency.

THE ROAD AHEAD:

2016 was the year of Bitcoin as the digital currency grew almost 79% as compared to Russian Ruble and Brazil's Real, the world's foremost hard currencies. It emerged as one of the best bet for the investors while forex trade, stock exchange trade and commodity congrats. The reasons for the Bitcoin to emerge as a whole include reduced remittance, control over the capital and also a better acceptance. It could be used for cracking down corruption as well.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS AT ASE...

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY WORKSHOP FOR SKILL DEVELOPMENT

The placement cell of ASE in its series of skill development sessions will be bringing to fore a research methodology workshop scheduled for the **8th,9th and 10th of February** at the Amity campus. At ASE, priority recognition has always been accorded to equip its students with skills and knowledge in order to excel in the professional milieu.

The workshop will be conducted by the senior research analysts from the Centre for International Projects Trust (CIPT). The focus of this workshop will be on the basics of research methodology and data analytics with the aid of R software, which are the two quintessential components for budding economists.

<u>The National Conference on</u> <u>Sustainable Development</u>

Amity School Of Economics in collaboration with the Centre of Excellence for Sustainable **Development**, Quality Council of India and the **Centre for International** Projects Trust(CIPT) is proud to organize its 3rd edition of the national conference on Sustainable Development, titled "Leveraging SDG's to drive socio-Economic **Development: Mission** 2030" on the 22nd and 23rd of March.

A glimpse of ASE's National Conference,



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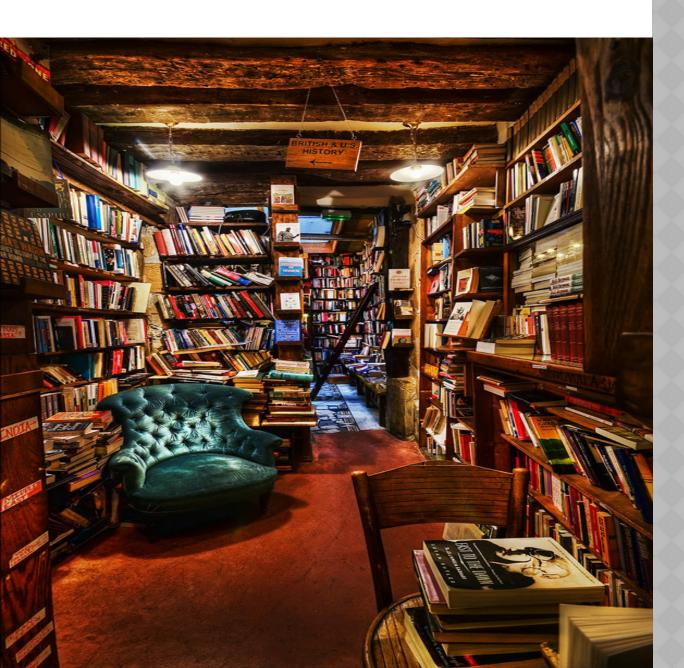
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National Conference on ng India 2030: Sustainable Development and cio-Economic Perspective and Challenges

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23rd-24th 2017 • Amity U

Lit Bits-The student zone



The World of Chaos

Families are getting smaller. Dreams are getting bigger. Closed ones are far away, Near ones , are not dearer , Brands and luxuries are rating standards, Love and kindness, considered as lust and pretence , Depression and Anxiety, common talking terms for some.

And the reason is not too hard to understand,

We are choosing 'robots' over 'humans'. But ,

We are not robots with commands , we are humans with hearts.

- Anushka Mittal, Ba(Hons), 3rd year



A day like that one

There are days when you are not able to walk out of your house with that pretty smile on your face, the one that makes people believe that you're okay. There are days when your outer shell just breaks, and you're not able to hold yourself together anymore.

There are days when the light in your eyes isn't able to shine any longer and the waterfall of tears can't be held back anymore.

There are days when you realise just how weak you are on the inside, because a cold gust of wind shatters the pieces of your heart, which you had taped together with so much strength.

There are days when you can't seem to face it anymore, you wish all of it ended, all of it stopped. And usually, these days bring with them, the tears you had been holding for so long, the memories you had buried deep within the seas of your heart and the kind of tiredness you rarely ever feel. But, these are the days which make you realise that you are human, after all. This is when you realise that you can be so much stronger, so much better and so much more, you.

And it's okay, because, the strongest of people break sometimes, the happiest of faces cry sometimes and the liveliest of souls feel dead sometimes.

The Punishment

The punishment was announced, And the culprits were asked to die, But, was that enough, to, Answer a girl's cry. Life sentence for them made, Everyone happy and contented, But the girl who beared all that,

Still lamented. Those devils tore her apart, Left her bleeding,

Paying no attention to any of her pleading. She was beaten, torn, left to die, They killed her dreams, just, For their hunger to satisfy. It took four years for the people, To claim it as a crime, God will never forgive you, Just wait for your time.

Now, God is waiting to meet you up there,

To give you the punishment, No human will ever dare. Its time to break all your spell, May you all burn in the fire of HELL..

Simran Agarwal, Ba(Hons),2nd year.

Follow your lead

What is Dream? It is something that gives a direction to life. It stops life from getting stuck. Though the human nature is such that one cannot stop visualizing a dream but there are certain things that become an obstacle in our quest to achieve our dream. These can be rejection, fear of failure, social, political or economical reasons, or even our self. Even before the child is born or knows what aim is, parents start making aims for it. So the child keeps that aim in mind and starts working towards it. Then that child starts to grow, develop a conscience, think, dream, aspire and imagine.

The realization of the previously set aim makes him fearful and less confident in the pursuit

his own dreams. There is almost negligible difference between a dream and an aim. Aim is directed towards a set goal but there can be many dreams. To choose an aim from among those dreams should be his personal decision and not someone else's. However, there are only a few people who actually work towards making a change, others just talk about it. So, instead of just speaking and discussing about making a change, make a change. Always follow your lead. Step out a little out of your comfort zone if you want to create a comfortable

Together for Peace

Down rolls the scroll of a heart, Longing for a beautiful world Cradled in the bounties of love and peace A unity of belief gently twirled.

Let the destruction flung be forgotten Let all violence cease; Let the ways of the world so function Where a hand in hand wields peace.

For all the ill mired with violence and sins Imagine an alternate universe Where war is just a figment of our imagination Where 'Separatist' is just an uncanny word Where a unified voice is there To mend the fractious ways of the world.

In togetherness we see a kernel of hope, To bring back peace to its right place Enlivening and magical the moment shall be Like the celebration of homecoming with a bird song.

-Sonali Vohra Ma , 1st year



SNAPSHOTS...



Life isn't black and white, it's a million grey areas . **Captured By-** Ritvik Saini,Ba(hons),1st year



Children see magic because they look for it . **Captured By**: Priyam Pande ,Ba(hons),2nd Year



...And every dew drop paints a bow. **Captured By:** Akash Mehta, Ba(Hons) 1st year



Whether , big or small , narrow or wide , happiness can be found in every street. **Captured by** : Anuksha Mukherjee, Ba(Hons),3rd Year