

VASANT VALLEY

T O D A Y

Dear Reana,

Nostalgia seems to be taking over me as I write this letter to you today. Amidst Serena's description of her love-hate relationship with the newsletter, Zoya's accurate summary of her tenure as "reigning Queen," and Sahil's wise advice of letting others lighten your load, the Letter to the Editor seems to have become a newsletter tradition. Two years ago, if someone told me I'd get to be a part of this tradition, I would never have believed it. Yet here I am, garnering all the advice I have to offer and recollecting the incredible twelve months I have spent as the Editor of Vasant Valley Today.

To put it simply, the newsletter has been my best friend and worst enemy. My best friend on the days that it has offered me the freedom to make those six pages my own creative space, and my worst enemy when I have stared at blank boxes on those very six pages, wondering how to fill them. As a warning, let me make it clear: the newsletter will bully you, badger you and often drive you frantic. Yet, at the end of the year, when you open the thick folder of your very own creations of blood and sweat, you will realise that the newsletter will always be your greatest pride.

As many others have said before me, this job encompasses more than just being able to write and edit well. You have to know how to lead - when to be an authoritative leader with a "no nonsense" attitude (when you don't receive articles on time!), and when to be a receptive leader, open to ideas, suggestions and opinions. A mix of both, I have realised, is a must. As an Editor, you are also a creator. Format, design, font selection, image placements, and invigorating content - all, at the end of the day, are a reflection of you.

SCHOOL WATCH

Speed math winners:

Class 8: Kayra Dhar

Class 12: Armaan Gandhi

English Impromptu Competition:

Class 6:

1st- Sitara Sachdeva and Ayaan Aggarwal

2nd- Arhaan Babar and Veda Kalra

Class 7:

1st- Amaera Kher

2nd- Priyansha Sapra and Ritika Panwar

3rd- Nylah Dhawan

Class 8:

1st- Devangana Jain

2nd- Mannat Kukreja and Kabir Behl

3rd- Amaara Dalmia

Class 9:

1st- Anirudh Vats

2nd- Girdhar Chandok and Sara Jayakumar

Class 10:

1st Siddhant Nagrath

2nd Saarthak Khosla and Advaita Sehgal

3rd Jai Relan

Class 12:

1st Jai Kapoor

2nd Shrijeet Kolley

3rd Vedika Bagla and P. Sai Leshanth

The next one year will probably be your most challenging one yet. There will definitely be moments when you'll feel overwhelmed with the academic pressure, the never-ending college applications, maintaining your social life and at the same time navigating through the most frustrating InDesign software. It is during these moments that you will understand the value of the twenty brightest minds you have at your disposal - the Editorial Board. Amidst BuzzFeed quizzes and bouts of loud laughter in the library, midnight texts for article submissions, races from the server room to the photocopy room, and frantically folding each supplement issue, I cherish the friendships I have made within the Ed Board over the past one year. Always remember the newsletter is a group effort. Without the support of the Editorial Board, teachers and volunteers, coming out with a new issue every fortnight would not have been possible.

“ Make this newsletter your own - push beyond potential, set high standards, and don't be afraid to flaunt a job well done ”

Not so long ago, when I received my own "Dear Anahita," I remember, for the first time, feeling burdened with responsibility. Suddenly, the pressure to protect the legacy Sahil had left behind felt real. You may be feeling pressurised as well, but use the pressure to your advantage. The newsletter is yours now - own it, nurture it and keep it safe as I'm sure you will.

It feels unreal, and slightly surreal, to not have any more deadlines to meet, articles to plead for, and volunteers to pester. I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has helped me during my reign to make the newsletter what it was. As I write what will be my last few words for the newsletter, it feels weird to bid goodbye to you, the Editorial Board and of course, Vasant Valley Today. I am immensely comforted with the fact that I am leaving my greatest achievement in your able hands, and I am sure it will be well taken care of.

All my love and best of luck, Editor. I know you'll be absolutely amazing.

Love, Anahita

U.S - IRAN RELATIONS

Pulling out of Nuclear deals, explosion of Japanese tankers and shooting down an unmanned US drone were just the beginning of the now well known conflict between the US and Iran. But now, tensions have heightened. A full-fledged war between US and Iran is highly probable.

T On 2nd January, US Secretary of Defense, Mark Esper notified
H the government that Iran and various groups were planning an attack
E in the Middle East that would threaten the US interests there. The next
F day, US drones attacked the Baghdad airport. The blast aimed to kill
I Qassem Soleimani, the head of Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps
N (IRGC) Quds Force. Abu Mahdi-al Muhandis, the deputy commander
A of Iran-backed militias known as the Popular Mobilisation Forces, was
L also killed. Soleimani was behind Iran's entire military strategy. The Pen-
S tagon justified the attack by blaming Soleimani for conducting a series
T of attacks in Iraq which killed a US contractor and four other service
R members. They also accused Soleimani of planning an imminent attack
A on Americans in that region.

The assassination of Soleimani was the last straw for the Irani-
S ans. Jayad Zarif, the Foreign Minister of Iran, claimed that the attack
T was against International Law. President Trump threatened to attack 52
R Iranian sites if Iran retaliated. Iran decided to abandon the nuclear deal
A limit. On 8th January, Iran launched 22 missiles from 2 different sites
W but unsuccessful in causing any damage to the US.

What is frustrating is how concerns such as winning elections, seem
? to be more important than issues like climate change. The need of
 the hour is to come together and fight for our planet. Yet our politi-
 cal leaders continue to shirk their responsibilities and play the blame
 game. What saddens me the most is that US and Iran have completely
 given up on negotiations. Each one is consumed by their own thirst for
 revenge. This vengeance we seek destroys nations; however, we always
 fail to see this until it destroys us. We must question ourselves and the
 decisions we take. We can be the destroyers of this world. But, we can
 be the saviours too.

-Shyla Uppadhyay,10

Conversations with a Communist

Durga Basu of class nine had the pleasure of interviewing Mr. Doraisamy Raja, a renowned politician, former member of the Rajya Sabha and leader of the CPI party.

Q1: Keeping the past few years in mind, what has lead to the support of Hindu nationalism?

Some people believe nationalism is synonymous with supporting a religion. The Bharat Mata we talk of is a construct, and I've often reiterated that my Bharat Mata is working in the fields or banks. The BJP has created Hindu nationalism to go with their sectarian, fascist agenda.

Q: Successive governments have used various excuses to curb freedom of speech. What are your thoughts on the right to dissent?

Dissent is a part of democracy. It must always be acknowledged, and the problem addressed. Today, you're labeled based on your opinion- if you question the government you are anti-nationalist, and if you criticize its policies you are an 'Urban Naxalite'.

Q: Our government has been slashing taxes for economic growth, but this has proven to increase inequality. What are a few things that can help the economy?

There is unprecedented inequality in our capitalist society. On Independence Day, Mr. Modi said that we must respect the wealth creators. However, workers- the wealth creators- aren't even getting minimum wage!

Q: The entire country has erupted into protests against the CAA/NRC. What is a better way to deal with illegal immigration?

As someone who comes from a village and does not have a birth certificate, I think the NRC discriminates against those in the lower echelon of society. First, Kashmir was plunged into turmoil after BJP abrogated Article 370, and now the same is happening to the rest of the country with the CAA.

- Durga Basu, 9

Your Resident Educated Indian's views on the Award Season

Greetings, fellow citizens (if ye still be)! It's your Resident Educated Indian here. These past few weeks have been quite tumultuous for the country, I'm sure you'd agree. Since the government has done such a stellar job in handling the situation, I'd like to give them awards of my own:

- **Best Costume Design:** While the "Mufflerman" look is trending in Delhi, the ultimate winner is none other than our very own Serene Saffronizers, lead both for and by the people.
- **Best Cinematography :** This goes to our Prime Minister's camera crew - the dedication they show by following him everywhere is truly astounding. It was heartwarming- they even managed to film private moments with his beloved mother! The One-Shot effect was even better than that of 1917.
- **Best Original Screenplays:** These, I believe, are Arnab Goswami's interviews with our PM. They're so great, in fact, that even popular comedians have praised Goswami for it (so much so that they were ready to find a spot in the no-fly list!).
- **Best Supporting Actor:** According to me, this goes to our very own Ambani, who happened to be the Producer too!



All the best to the Nominees and hearty congratulations to the Victors!

-Prithvi Oak and Sanaa Sharma, 12

My name is Prisha. I am 8 years old. I love to read the Far Away Tree book. My birthday comes on 21st October. My favourite subject is Maths. I love my mother and father very much. My best friend is Riana and she is in 3A. I love to play with my friends after breakfast and lunch. When I grow up I want to be a teacher. I like to play soccer. I love unicorns even though I know they are not real. **Prisha Singhi III - C**



High and lows of Boarding School

Ugh! Signed Alicia "Morning already!" "Yes sleepy head wake up. We're sick and tired of you and your sleeping. Rain or shine you'll have to get up", ordered Betty. This was the usual commotion in the North Tower of London's best boarding school. Finally, when everyone was up and about and the room was spic and span, they headed down for a hearty breakfast. After enjoying a finger licking meal everyone headed towards their classrooms. In the lesson they talked about something rather interesting, about the high and mighty people who worked day and night to earn their fame and fortune. Suddenly, our prim and proper teacher noticed that her stunning silver ring was missing, so she requested us to look every nook and cranny of our classroom. That's how we spent the next two lessons feeling like we were at her beck and call. Sooner or later the ring was found and we headed for our next class. "Yes, English is over!" shouted Amy. "We're finally out of that stuffy classroom", chirped Olivia. "Don't forget Navya, the games captain is going to come down hammer and tongs on us if we don't move heaven and earth to win the match", exclaimed Betty. That's how these friends stand through thick and thin with each other everyday in boarding school. **Avanti Chopra V - C**

THE LOST PETS

The day had finally arrived when all my friends had decided to meet each other. We moved heaven and earth to plan a get together. We were gathering to solve a cloak and dagger mystery. Someone was plotting and trapping innocent children from my neighbourhood. Lots of pets had gone missing and people had looked high and low for them without any success. We made a plan and conducted our investigation which progressed in leaps and bounds. We soon found the gang responsible for this hiding in an empty house. We fought hammer and tongs with them and busted their gang. Soon we called the police and they arrested the gang of thieves. Everybody praised us and we were over the moon, indeed we had solved the mystery and got everybody's pets back. Happiness was back in our neighbourhood and everything was normal again. **Anant Agarwal V - C**

Morning on My School Days: My mother was yelling, I could hear it loud and clear. "Bhoomi wake up its 7o'clock already and you need to go to school." I wanted to sleep more, wanted to drift away in my sweet morning dreams. I lazily opened my eyes and mumbled, "Two minutes more mummy!" She was running to and fro, getting ready for her office and making my breakfast. She pulled me up then and there from the bed and pushed me to the washroom. "Go, get ready, hurry up." I slowly completed my morning routine. By and large this is what happens everyday on a school morning. Mummy leaves the bedroom neat and tidy before she leaves for office. Soon I am ready for school, to meet and greet another day. **Bhoomi Sarkar V - B**

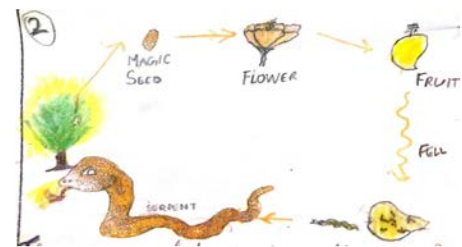
पर्यावरण

है बड़ा हरा-भरा हमारा पर्यावरण,
पर कुछ खराबी है जिसके हम हैं कारण,
जैसे अपनी खुशी के लिए मानव ने,
मारे हमारे प्यारे मुक पशु बेचारे |
प्रदूषित हो जाता है पर्यावरण,
वाहन इसका है सबसे बड़ा कारण,
वाहन का धुआँ उड़ता है,
नाक में धुआँ भरता है |
किसान परीली जलाते हैं,
हम सबको सताते हैं,
समूह में प्लास्टिक जाता है,
पानी में गंदगी फैलाता है |
ढेर सारे पटाके जलाती है दिल्ली,
परेशान होते हैं जानवर, जैसे कूते और बिल्ली,
दिल्ली की सड़के हो रहीं हैं कड़े से गंदी,
समझता क्यों नहीं कोई भी बंदी या बंदी |
हम पेड़ काटकर छीन रहे हैं हरियाली,
विकास के नाम पर प्रदूषित हो रही है दिल्ली,
नल को खुला छोड़ के लोग पानी बहाते,
काश लोग यह बात समझ पाते |

-आयशा गोयल 5-A

My Story On The Creation Of Earth

1. At the beginning, Earth was a dull, flat and lifeless place with the only light coming from one tree. One day, it grew a magic seed.
2. The magic seed turned into a flower, which grew



- into a fruit. It fell, cracked and out came a female serpent which carried another seed in it's mouth.
3. She journeyed all over the Earth to find a perfect place for the seed to grow. Her slithering body created mountains and oceans.
4. The serpent found a perfect place to grow her seed. The place, we call today -Vasant Valley School, New Delhi, India.
5. The seed grew into "The Tree Of Life" from where all the species sprang out.
6. After her work was done, the serpent coiled herself around the Earth to rest while her eyes became the Sun and Moon. **Namyaa Munjal IV - C**



SPEAKERS' FORUM



On 7th February 2020, we hosted our fifth annual Speakers' Forum where students from 19 schools came together to hone their creativity, analysis and speaking skills. It was a marvel to see students from many, many different backgrounds come together and learn from each other.

BOOK DISCUSSION (7&8)

'Keeper of the Lost Cities' by Shannon Messenger, follows teen elfs as they face various hardships and moral dilemmas. The highlight of the discussion was the Buzzer Round, where a series of enthusiastic bangs startled us after each question. Many arguments were made proposing and opposing certain topics. Once we were done, we conducted the most popular event of all- the Treasure Hunt! The crowd left happily and we knew that all our hard work was worth it in the end. -Kaavya Saha,7



ORAL INTERPRETATION

Impassioned, powerful, dramatic and truly inspiring renditions of well-known poetry. These were the joys the audience got to experience on 7th of February. In the Oral Interpretation competition, we could almost hear the flutter of the 14 participants' nervous hearts as they anxiously awaited for the daunting competition. The event was an amalgamation of beautiful poems and wonderful, powerful recitations of world-famous poetry, such as "The Highwayman", "Caged Bird" and "O! Captain! My Captain!". Words and text took a backseat to themes, expressions, gestures and emotions as each participant came up with the ecstasy of performance in their eyes and stunned the audience with their renditions of amazing poetry. - Sumaya Beri, Tvisha Jerath, 9



BOOK DISCUSSION (8&9)

This year, for the 5th edition of Speaker's Forum, the book "Taken" by Erin Bowman was the lucky pick. We follow the life of Gray, as he navigates a world outside of his comfort zone, while plagued by the Heist; his inevitable disappearance on his eighteenth birthday, as such is the fate of every boy in the gloomy town of Claysoot. Sitting in that room, one could feel the zeal of each and every participant seeping out of their pores. Raised hands and shy smiles adorned every single person as they eagerly shared their opinions. Some people believed that the novel was a warning against the dangers of future technology, and its potential to eradicate humanity. Others thought the novel was encouraging curiosity, telling readers not to be blind followers, but rather search for the truth. - Shyla Upadhyay,10



TALL TALES

Exaggerations, creativity, talent and writing- these were all exhibited in the Tall Tales competition. Students had one hour to prepare a story and rehearse how they were going to present it. All the participants presented their tall tales in front of our teachers, the respected adjudicator and our audience. Valuable feedback was provided to every participant. After the competition we were sent to the Vasant Manch where we got the results, prizes were distributed and bid farewell to the other schools. It was a great and inspiring experience for the participants and the audience. It was a platform for students to showcase their skills and creativity.

- Mannat Khukreja,8



TURNCOAT

The Turncoat Debate was captivating to watch. Participants managed to handle the sudden and contrasting change in perspective with grace under pressure. Some did it so well, that the audience was often in agreement with opposing views, unconsciously nodding their heads. Listening to people counter arguments — that less than a minute ago seemed rock solid— was truly impressive. Watching students speak so confidently and eloquently on current socio-political events, or the youths alleged addiction to social media showed us that awareness is self taught, and that these students had gone the extra mile.

-Sara Jayakumar,9



SLAM POETRY

The topic assigned was "Not Finished Yet", and it was lovely to listen to the diverse set of pieces presented. The topic allowed for much range, given that interpretations varied from self-image to procrastination. Some of the renditions were infused with overflowing amounts of passion and theatricality, with some participants falling on their knees for extra effect. Others made use of deafening silences that affected the audience just as much as exaggerated words.

-Siddhant Nagrath, 10



MICROFICTION Valentines Special



Class 6, *Red Rose*

Silky, bright red and beautiful! Don't get so caught up on the petals, remember the thorns...
-Khandro Mevo

On Valentines, lots of people get red roses, umm well, I might get some roses from my friends, oh! Who am I kidding? Me, getting a rose? Impossible!
-Maheeka Saraf

Class 7, *Chocolates*

Chocolate, melting in my mouth, dark and rich, taking me to the Cacao farms in South Africa, to Aztec times. Wrapped in a silver foil, I unwrap another piece.
-Kavya M. Saha

The gift of sweet chocolates was a desperate attempt to mask her bitter personality.
Tirath
-Inika G.

Class 8, *Admirer*

The world will collapse but I'll be there for you. Your problems and my problems will collide!
Chopra
-Aadya

On Valentine's night the moon was full and she was all alone, walking on the street. The lights were flickering, but she had no admirer, only a dead rose.
-Omisa Bahl

Class 9, *XOXO*

The brave soldier gets a letter from his wife, the only time in a month that he can be happy and rejoice. She signed off XOXO.
- Anantveer Bagrodia

Hoping he would reply, she poured her heart out into the letter and signed off with just four letters, XOXO.
-Shreyasi Jindal

Class 10, *Date*

As she got ready to get married to a man she'd never met, she realised she hadn't ever been on a date.
-Ambika Saklani

"Well, fancy seeing you here", flirted chance.
"Nonsense," replied death "You did not have a date with me"
- Navya Prakash

Class 12, *Passion*

Bound together by the rainbow hues of their pride, their passion was misunderstood by all except them.
- Simran Kumar

Parts of my mind are entangled with fantasy,
and the others are consumed with a everburning flame,
To right wrongs that are far bigger than me,
A passionfruit is supposed to be sweet, but only it's idea is sweet to see.
- Sanjana Singh

Rest in Peace, Mamba

"The moment you give up, is the moment you let someone else win"

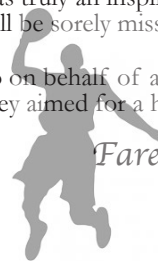
-Kobe Bryant

One of the best basketball players in the history of the game, Kobe Bryant was a legend who inspired and continues to inspire a whole generation of basketball players. He died on the 26th of January at 41 years of age in a helicopter crash which killed nine people- including his 13-year-old daughter, Gianna. Reporters say she was still in his arms when they found them. They were their way to cheer on a youth team in a basketball match. The crash happened near Calabasas, California though the reason for the crash are still not known. It is thought that it may have been due to the bad visibility in the area that day.



A hardworking player and loving father, the five-time NBA champion had a profound impact on the world of basketball- helping spread the NBA worldwide. His famous "Kobe move" caused his name to be common amongst even those who knew nothing about basketball. He was truly an inspiration and his death came as a shock to everyone. He will be sorely missed by all basketball fans worldwide.

So on behalf of all the kids who grew up shouting "Kobe!" everytime they aimed for a hoop:



Farewell legend, you shall be missed.

-Jehan Bhandal,10

MICROFICTION (BUSTED!)

"Valentines day is around the corner, and so are our exams. So I suggest we all be passionate about hitting the books instead of hitting on each other?"

Wise words! Hopefully everyone is currently practicing what is being preached above.

"Valentines day has never been a special occasion for me as cupid never found the times to hit me with an arrow of love."
Not to worry dear, better luck next time!

"Wanna collab on the 14th of Feb?" *wink* *wink*
Please keep in mind that the microfiction slips are not ways to profess your love for your seniors, although, we must applaud your confidence.

"Life without passion is like Rahul without Anjali"
What a filmy dialouge!

"Todays date is 03/02/2020, Yesterdays date was 02/02/2020"
Sincere thank you for informing us sir

Note to the Class 12 students:

Please refrain from quoting Drake songs in your microfiction: your hotline is never going to bling if you continue with this behaviour.

VASANT VALLEY NEWS

ALUMNI EDITION

Four students from our school, Mrudang Mathur, Amnaya Sheel khosla, Shreyas Kadaba, Abhiveer Arjun who passed out in the year 2014, have been granted an Indian Patent for their Innovation 'Double Door Waste Bin.'



They had made a prototype of this innovation in the year 2008 for the IGNITE competition which is organized by National Innovation Foundation. They were in class 7 at the time



They had received a prize for the same from Dr. Abdul Kalam.

वोट के नाते; नेता के वादे

"मोहल्ले की बदब हटाएँगे, बिजली मुफ्त में लाएँगे फुटपाथों से कचरा सौफ कराएँगे, काधे को दाम गिरवाएँगे!"

चुनाव के समय ऐसी पंक्तियाँ रोज़ की बात हैं। इन बड़े-बड़े वादों के आधार पर नेता चुनाव जीतने का प्रयत्न करते हैं। लोकतंत्र में हर एक नागरिक का वोट बहुत महत्वपूर्ण होता है। उस एक वोट के लिए नेता हमें सर आँखों पर बैठाते हैं और रामराज्य के सपनों की दुनिया दिखाते हैं। माना कि कभी इंदु का चोट बन कुछ नेता समाज के लिए कुछ भला काम करते हैं मगर इनकी संख्या अन्य भ्रष्ट नेताओं से बेहतर कम है। चुनाव के समय वोट धन-दौलत से भी ज्यादा महत्वपूर्ण हो जाता है। यात्राओं में ऐसा प्रतीत होता है कि चुनाव का परिणाम निकल चुका है और जीत पहले ही हासिल हो गई है। कुछ व्यक्ति मौका देख चुनावी बारात में जड़कर ऐसे नाचते हैं जैसे भाई की शादी हो गई हो, और यही नाचने वाले व्यक्तियों को आराम से मुफ्त प्याज़ के सपने दिखाकर राजनीति के जादूगर उनसे वोट खींच लेते हैं। नेताओं के बीच आज-कल मुकाबला बढ़ता जा रहा है और वे एक-दूसरे को टक्कर देने के लिए बड़े-बड़े वादे करते हैं और धर्मो को सुरक्षित करने का वादा करते हैं मगर चुनाव के बाद ही पता चलता है कि वास्तव में कितना बिजली पानी मुफ्त दिलाते हैं या कितनी सड़कें बनवाते हैं। इस विषय पर एक ही बात कही जा सकती है: नेता के वादे-वोट के नाते ही बनकर रह जाते हैं।

- अनिरुद्ध वत्स 9-C

BREAKING DOWN THE BUDGET

Its been a taxing year for the government- this budget determines how we'll get out of our slump

१ फरवरी, २०२० को वित्त मंत्री निर्मला सीतारमण ने अंग्रेज़ों के समय से चलती हुई गुलामी की परंपरा के मुताबिक बजट की ब्रीफिंग करने की जगह, बजट के कागज़ात को एक लाल मखमली कपड़े में बही खाता के रूप में प्रस्तुत किया था। भारत का पहला बजट १८ फरवरी, १८६० में 'इस्ट इंडिया कंपनी' के जेम्स विल्सन द्वारा प्रस्तुत किया गया था। अंग्रेज़ संसद के मुताबिक सं २००० तक बजट शाम के ५ बजे ऐलान किया जाता था अपितु अब इसे सुबह ११ बजे पेश किया जाता है। वार्षिक वित्तीय विवरण के प्रस्तुति के पूर्व हर वर्ष हलवा खाने का समारोह होता है जिसके पश्चात वित्त मंत्रालय के अधिकारी किसी के संपर्क में नहीं रह सकते हैं और बजट पेश होने तक वे वित्त मंत्रालय में ही रहते हैं। इससे बजट की गोपनीयता को सुनिश्चित किया जाता है।



The Finance Minister, Nirmala Sitharaman, presented the budget proposals for 2020 amidst a severe economic slowdown. Budget 2020 was focused on 3 major themes - 'Aspirational India', 'Economic Development for All' and 'A Caring Society'. She elaborated that under the Aspirational India theme, the budget will cover water, sanitation, and education.

A new set of income tax rates has been introduced. A taxpayer can opt for the structure that is beneficial for them, forgoing some benefits in order to pay lesser taxes. However, once a person opts for the new tax structure, they cannot switch back. Not only will this possibly increase the complexity of the taxation system with several different tax rates, but it also puts taxpayers in a serious dilemma, for which ordinary people aren't always equipped to take a decision. Rs 99,300 crore has been allocated for the education sector. To create a standard for those wishing to study in India, a US-like SAT exam is to be held in African and Asian countries. Additionally, online education programmes are going to be offered. This is a very significant step, because a vast proportion of people in India lack access to quality education. By utilising the wide reach and power of the internet, we can provide a major boost to the education system.

The Kisan Rail is to be run for the transportation of perishable goods. This will be beneficial for the farmers, as a lot of their produce is affected due to lack of storage or climatic factors. Timely transportation of their crops will help them sell their harvest at better prices in the market. The online national organic products market - 'JaiVik Kheti Portal' is to be strengthened. Rs 1.7 lakh crore has also been allocated for transportation. This is essential in order to facilitate easy commutes across the country. Increased usage of public transport will also help reduce vehicular pollution. Hopefully, all these measures will not only help in developing good infrastructure in India, but also in strengthening the rural sector. Only time will tell whether the bold ideas put forth in the budget are as wonderful in reality as they seem on paper.

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