



SOMAIYA
VIDYAVIHAR

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Vol 1 | Issue 9
May 2026

SOLO



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VOICES

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ABOUT SOMAIYA VOICES

Voices, the official student media body of Somaiya, is more than just a platform; it is a reflection of who we are as a community.

Every laughter-filled fest, every achievement big or small and every story that often goes unnoticed is something Voices strives to ensure is heard, remembered, and celebrated.

At its heart, Voices is about people. It is about students who dream big, teachers who inspire, and moments that bring us all closer together. Through newsletters, social media and creative storytelling, we aim to capture not just events, but the emotions, the energy and the spirit that make Somaiya feel like home. Our team of writers, designers and creators pours passion into every piece of work because for us, it is not just content, it is connection.

Each story we share is a reminder that Somaiya is not just an institution; it is a living, breathing family with countless voices waiting to be heard.



MEET OUR LEADER – Dr URMI THAKKAR

At the heart of Somaiya Vidyavihar vibrant student community stands - Dr Urmi Thakkar, a passionate microbiologist, dedicated leader, and the guiding light behind VOICES.

Since 2011, she has been instrumental in uplifting education across Somaiya's rural schools. Today, as the **Dean of Student Welfare and Head of Campus Administration**, she supports and oversees hostel operations and the welfare of more than 35,000 students.

Her philosophy is simple yet powerful; learning should go beyond books. Through her vision and compassion, she continues to shape a campus that is inclusive, responsive, and empowering, where every student feels heard, valued, and inspired to grow.



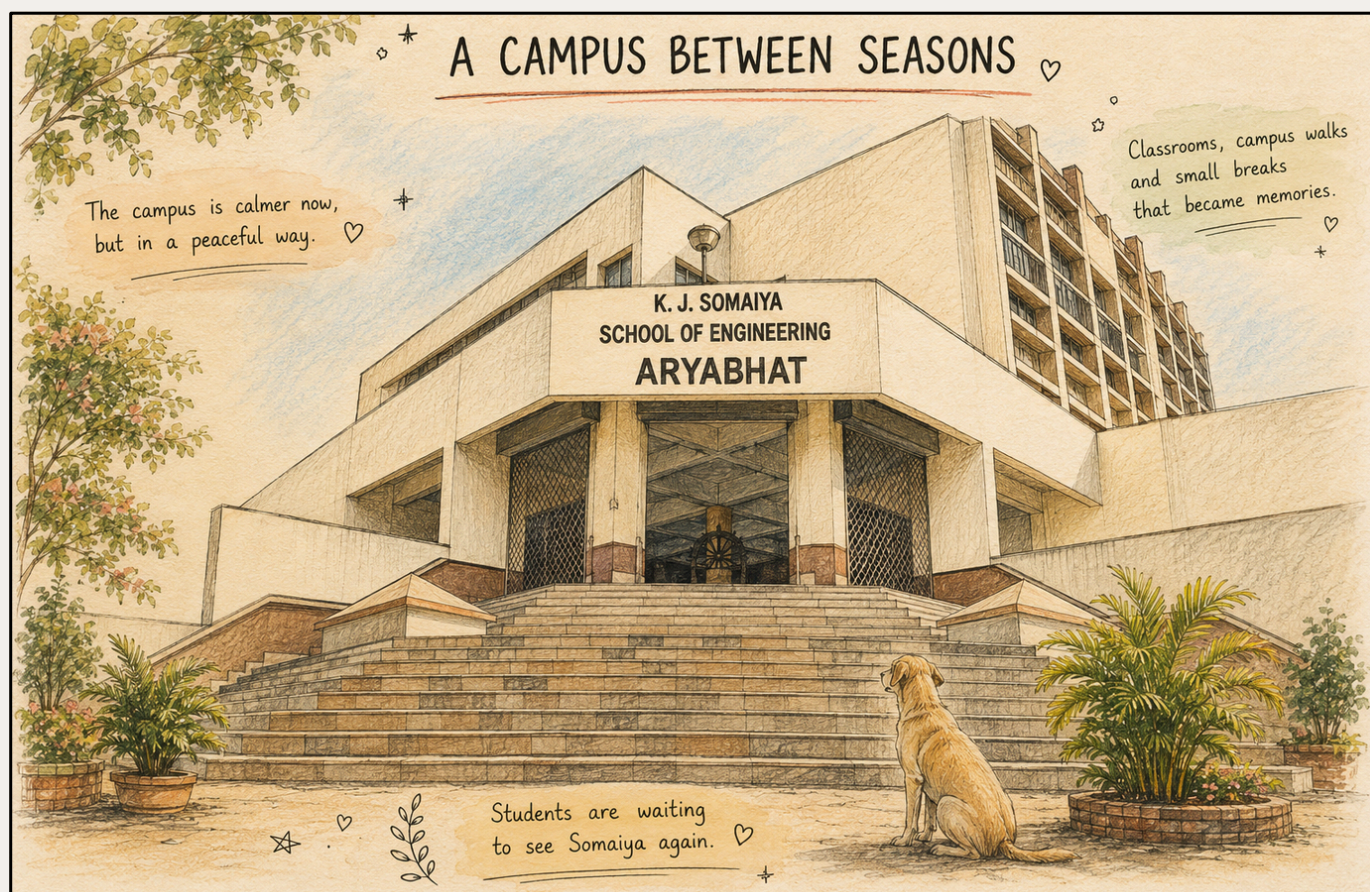
A CAMPUS BETWEEN SEASONS

May came softly to Somaiya, like a page turning slowly in an old notebook. The campus felt calmer than usual, but never empty. The classrooms rested after months of voices, discussions, presentations and last-minute submissions. The corridors held the memory of hurried footsteps, familiar faces and students moving from one lecture to another. The pathways glowed quietly under the summer light, carrying the warmth of all the days that had passed too quickly. Everything felt familiar, only a little slower, as if Somaiya was keeping its stories safe until everyone returned.

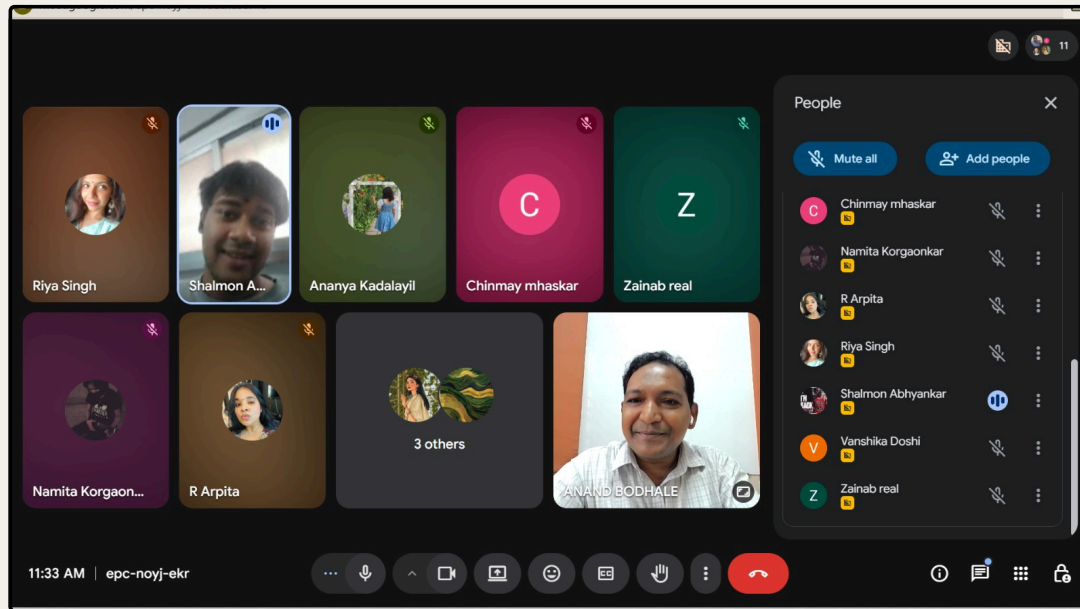
Govinda canteen might have been new to the campus, but it had already found a place in students' routines. Its cheese grilled burger, the tables students chose, and the comfort of sitting there with familiar faces had quickly become part of Somaiya's everyday life. The engineering canteen had its own place in their hearts too, especially for those who missed the Chinese that became part of their college routine. These were never just meals. They were small moments of comfort, served between lectures, laughter and long days.

More than anything, students missed the simple things that once felt ordinary. The classroom they walked into every day, the seat they usually picked, the campus walks that happened without planning, and the small pauses between lectures that slowly became memories. They missed seeing the same buildings, crossing the same paths and feeling the quiet confidence of being in a place they knew well. May made these everyday moments feel softer and more precious. It reminded everyone that a campus became special not through one big memory, but through the little ones that quietly stayed.

Even the dogs and other animals of Somaiya seemed to understand this season. They moved around the campus in their own gentle way, waiting for the humans of Somaiya who fed them, called them by names and made them part of daily life. Their presence added warmth to the quiet corners, as if they too were holding on to the rhythm of student life. For now, Somaiya rested under the May sun, calm and patient. Soon, the footsteps would return, the canteens would fill again, classrooms would find their voices, and the campus would smile in its usual way.



→ Professional Pathways for PG Students → 04 May 2026



K J Somaiya School of Languages and Literature, Somaiya Vidyavihar University, organised a Pre-Admission Online Workshop titled “Professional Pathways for PG Students” for aspirants to the MA in English Literature and Communication Studies programme. The workshop introduced participants to the interdisciplinary nature of the programme and career opportunities in academia, research, media, publishing and digital communication.

Through interactive sessions on career planning, communication skills and professional development, participants gained valuable insights into the relevance of postgraduate studies in today’s evolving professional landscape. The workshop also provided a platform for prospective students to explore their academic interests, clarify admission-related queries and understand future career prospects

Reflecting on Tagore’s Ideas for Contemporary Society → 12 May 2026 ←

To commemorate Rabindranath Tagore Jayanti, the Dean Student Welfare, in collaboration with K J Somaiya School of Languages and Literature (KJSSLL), Somaiya Vidyavihar University, organised an Online Expert Lecture on “Relevance of Rabindranath Tagore’s Work in Today’s Time.” The session featured Prof. Debraj Moulick, Lecturer in English at K J Somaiya Polytechnic, Mumbai, who explored the enduring significance of Tagore’s literary and philosophical works in contemporary society. Drawing connections between Tagore’s ideas and present-day concerns such as gender stereotypes,



environmental challenges, emotional alienation and nationalism, he highlighted the relevance of values including equality, moral truth and harmony with nature. The lecture encouraged participants to engage with Tagore’s writings as a source of insight into humanity, identity and coexistence. The session was well received by students, faculty and staff, fostering meaningful reflection on Tagore’s enduring legacy.

Tech Transforming Sports Performance and Experience → 12 May 2026



K J Somaiya Institute of Management and Somaiya Sports Academy, under Somaiya Vidyavihar University, hosted an insightful session on Tech Transforming Sports Performance and Experience, introducing students to the evolving world of sports technology and its impact on athlete performance and fan engagement. Led by David Steele, American sports-tech entrepreneur and Director at Plug and Play Tech Center, the session offered a global perspective on innovation in modern sport.

The discussion explored technology-driven athlete performance enhancement, AI and data analytics in sports, smart stadium innovations, and emerging sports-tech ecosystems and entrepreneurship. Students, coaches, sport management professionals and aspiring innovators gained meaningful exposure to contemporary developments in the global sports-tech landscape, while also understanding how technology is enhancing both performance and sporting experiences. By connecting sports with innovation, entrepreneurship and human performance, the session encouraged students to think beyond traditional sporting boundaries and view technology as a powerful force shaping the future of sport.

Unlocking Opportunities: Career Prospects after the B.Ed. Programme → 15 May 2026

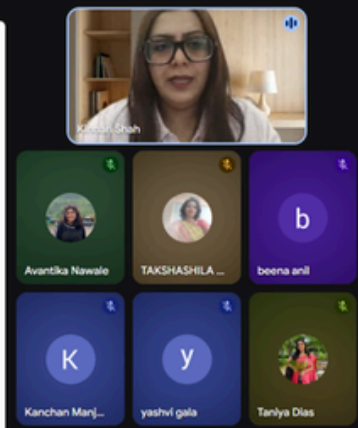
K J Somaiya School of Education, Somaiya Vidyavihar University, organised an insightful webinar on Placement Opportunities after the B.Ed. Programme for aspiring educators and teacher trainees. The session featured distinguished alumna Ms Kinnari Kotecha, currently associated with the Training and Development Department and School Audits division at The One School IB and the Narayana Group of Schools. Drawing upon her extensive national and international experience, she highlighted the diverse career avenues available to B.Ed. graduates, including opportunities in international schools, curriculum development, teacher training, academic coordination and educational leadership. She also emphasised the importance of communication skills, digital competence, classroom innovation and continuous professional learning in enhancing employability. The interactive session provided valuable guidance on career planning, interview preparation and professional growth, enabling participants to gain a broader understanding of the evolving education sector and its expanding professional opportunities.

Kinnari Shah (Presenting, annotating)

Educational - Corporate Sector Jobs

1. Subject Matter Expert (SME)
2. Curriculum Developer
3. Instructional Designer
4. Research & Development heads (Academics)
5. Content Lead for educational platforms
6. Training & Development | Pedagogy | Phonics| Soft skills | Life skill
7. Academic Dean
8. Audit & Implementation





285 STUDENTS, ONE UNFORGETTABLE SUMMER CAMP

The Somaiya Trust Summer Camp 2026 brought together 285 students from six schools across Maharashtra for ten days of learning, exploration and unforgettable experiences. Designed to take learning beyond textbooks, the camp encouraged students to step out of their classrooms, discover new interests and build meaningful friendships in a vibrant and engaging environment. With the support of dedicated teachers and mentors, participants were introduced to new ideas, experiences and opportunities that made every day both exciting and enriching.

Participants explored a wide range of academic, creative and experiential activities, including RIDDL workshops, brainstorming sessions, presentations and hands-on learning opportunities that encouraged curiosity, collaboration and creative thinking. Sports formed an important part of the experience, with students enthusiastically participating in football, basketball, volleyball, badminton, swimming, athletics, chess and judo, helping them develop teamwork, discipline and confidence. Creative activities such as drawing sessions, stop-motion animation and interactive competitions added another dimension to the learning experience, allowing students to express themselves and discover hidden talents.

One of the most exciting highlights of the camp was the Mumbai Darshan tour, where students visited iconic landmarks such as the Gateway of India, Nehru Planetarium, the Zoo and Girgaon Chowpatty. Educational visits to the Somaiya Ayurvihar Campus and K J Somaiya College further introduced participants to healthcare facilities, nature-based learning and advanced academic spaces. The camp concluded with a vibrant closing ceremony celebrating the achievements, experiences and memories created throughout the programme. More than just a summer camp, it became a journey of learning, friendship and personal growth, leaving students with lasting memories and experiences they will cherish for years to come.



Somaiya Summer School Programme 2026: A Summer of Discovery

The Somaiya Vidyavihar University Summer School Programme 2026 brought together 167 students from Grades 9 to 12, representing diverse educational boards from across India. Over three weeks, participants stepped beyond their regular classrooms to experience university life through academic exploration, hands-on learning and meaningful interactions with peers, mentors and faculty members.

Through faculty-led sessions, experiential activities and collaborative projects, students explored multidisciplinary fields while developing essential skills such as critical thinking, creativity, communication and problem-solving. The programme encouraged learners to ask questions, discover new interests and gain exposure to subjects and opportunities beyond the school curriculum. Career guidance sessions further helped participants understand emerging fields of study and make informed decisions about their future educational journeys.

Sports and wellness activities complemented the academic experience by promoting teamwork, resilience and holistic development. As the programme concluded, participants received Certificates of Completion in recognition of their dedication and active involvement. More than a summer programme, it became a platform for learning, self-discovery and growth, reflecting Somaiya Vidyavihar University's commitment to nurturing curious, confident and future-ready learners.



CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE AT THE SOMAIYA 7S CRICKET CHAMPIONSHIP 2026



Demonstrating the values of teamwork, resilience, and sporting excellence, the **Somaiya 7s Cricket Championship 2026**, organised by Somaiya Sports Academy, brought together students, faculty members, and sports enthusiasts for an exciting day of competitive cricket on 7 May 2026 at the Somaiya Ayurvihar Campus. The tournament provided a dynamic platform for participants to showcase their talent, strategic thinking, and team spirit while fostering a sense of camaraderie across the University community. Following a series of closely contested matches, Kanha Tigers emerged as Champions, with Kaziranga Rhinos securing the Runners-up position and Hemis Snow Leopards claiming Third Place. Individual performances added to the excitement of the championship, with Mr Aazaz Khan being recognised as Best Batter for his remarkable innings of 118 runs, Mr Sushant Gaikwad receiving the Best Bowler award for taking six wickets, and Mr Sohanlal Dhiman earning both the Best Fielder award for taking three outstanding catches and the Top Performer of the Series accolade. With over 50 participants representing various institutes, the championship successfully celebrated athletic achievement, healthy competition, and the enduring spirit of sport that continues to enrich campus life.



What I Learnt at Sameerwadi

As part of the Nature's Basket programme organised by Somaiya Vidyavihar University, I had the opportunity to visit Sameerwadi, Karnataka. What I expected to be a routine industrial visit turned out to be an insightful experience that showed me how sustainability can be incorporated into large-scale industrial operations.

The most fascinating part of the visit was learning how a sugarcane processing complex transforms by-products into valuable resources. I learnt how bagasse is used for power generation, press mud is converted into bio-fertiliser, and molasses is utilised in ethanol production. Seeing these processes in action helped me understand how industries can effectively convert waste into wealth.



I also enjoyed interacting with industry professionals, whose practical insights helped bridge the gap between classroom learning and real-world applications. The clean, green, and well-maintained campus further demonstrated how industrial growth and environmental responsibility can coexist.

Overall, the visit broadened my understanding of sustainable practices and showed me how innovation can play a vital role in creating a more sustainable future.

By Prachi Mishra

FY B.Sc. Data Science

Somaiya School of Basic and Applied Sciences

Somaiya Vidyavihar University



ज्ञानादेव तु कैवल्यम्

Knowledge Alone Liberates

PLACEMENT CELL: BUILDING CAREER-READY GRADUATES



VIKRANT WAGHMARE
 Training and Placement Officer
 SVU

Focus Areas

- Campus recruitment drives
- Resume, aptitude and interview training
- Career counselling and industry interaction
- Internships, live projects and PPO support

Building Career-Ready Graduates

The University Placement Cell bridges academic learning with industry expectations by connecting students with reputed employers and preparing them for professional success.

The Placement Cell also maintains recruiter databases, tracks placement outcomes, strengthens industry partnerships and engages alumni for mentoring and networking. Through training, counselling and collaboration, it ensures that students are well prepared to meet the challenges of the professional world.

Particulars	Statistics
Companies Approached	237
Highest Package (LPA)	₹ 51.72 Lakhs
Average Package (LPA)	₹ 8.63 Lakhs
Median Package (LPA)	₹ 7.5 Lakhs
Total Offers	360

Campus Recruitment

The cell organizes placement drives where leading companies visit the university to identify and hire talented students across disciplines.

Employability Training

Regular workshops on resume writing, aptitude, group discussions, interviews, communication skills and professional etiquette help students perform confidently.

Career Guidance

Mentoring sessions, expert talks and industry interactions support students in choosing suitable career paths and understanding current market trends.

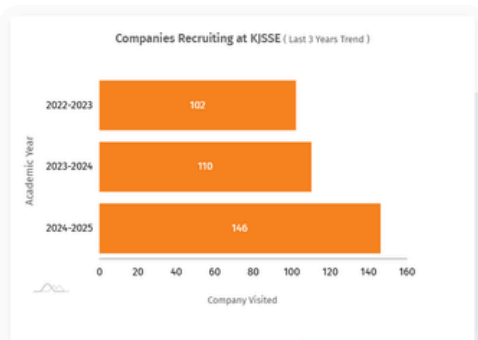
ज्ञानादेव तु कैवल्यम्

Knowledge Alone Liberates

Industry Exposure

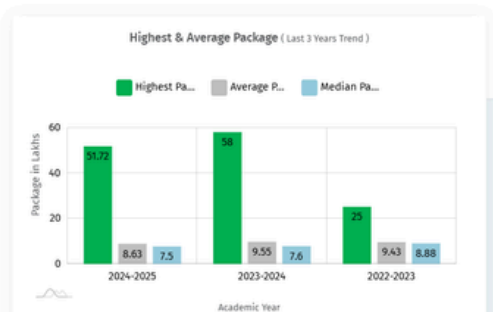
Internships, live projects, industrial visits and technical competitions give students practical experience. Many internships also lead to Pre-Placement Offers (PPOs).

Companies Recruiting at KJSSE (Last 3 Years Trend)



Academic Year	Company Visited
2024-2025	146
2023-2024	110
2022-2023	102

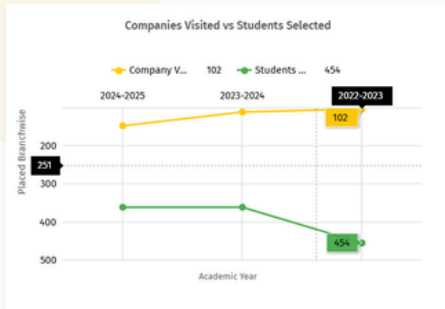
Highest & Average Package (Last 3 Years Trend)



Academic Year	Highest Package in Lakhs	Average Package	Median Package
2024-2025	₹51.72	₹8.63	₹7.5
2023-2024	₹58	₹9.55	₹7.6
2022-2023	₹25	₹9.43	₹8.88

Companies Visited vs Students Selected

Academic Year	Company Visited	Students Selected
2024-2025	146	360
2023-2024	110	360
2022-2023	102	454



WHAT DOES YOUR MONDAY COFFEE SAY ABOUT YOU?

Your Coffee Says More Than Your Attendance

At Somaiya, Monday mornings begin with a decision that might be more important than choosing where to sit in class: where are you getting your coffee from?

Some students never look beyond Maggie House.

For them, a black coffee from Maggie House is the official start of the week. It is where plans are made, deadlines are discussed, and ambitious promises are quietly made to oneself. You will often find students reviewing presentations, talking about internships, or convincing their friends that this semester will be different. Whether those plans survive the week is another matter entirely.

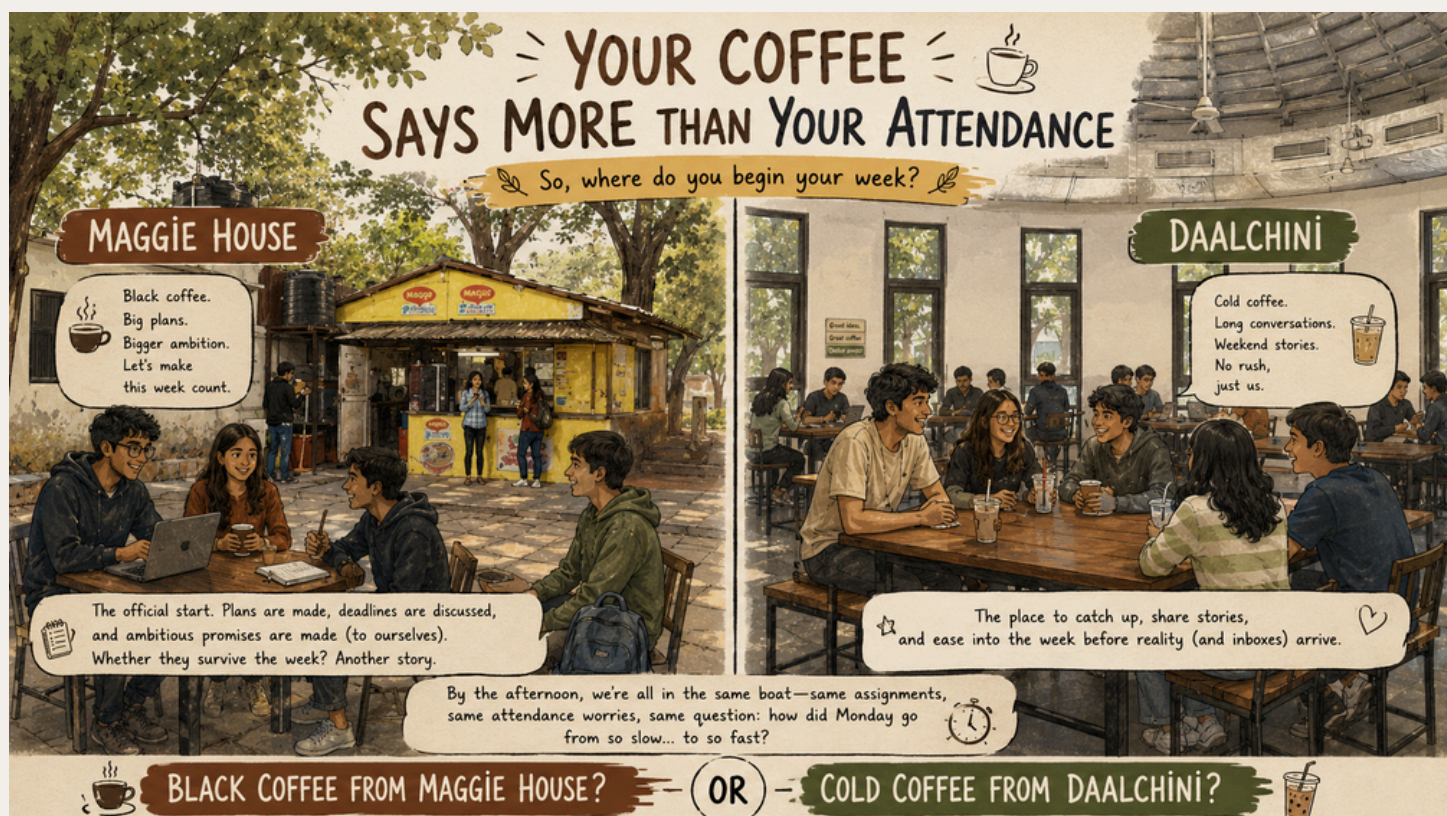
Others head straight to Daalchini.

A cold coffee from Daalchini has its own loyal following. The pace is slower, the conversations are longer, and nobody seems particularly concerned about what is waiting in their inbox. It is the place for catching up with friends, sharing stories from the weekend, and easing into the week before reality inevitably arrives.

The interesting part is that neither side is wrong. By the afternoon, the Maggie House crowd and the Daalchini crowd are usually discussing the same assignments, the same attendance concerns, and the same question of how Monday has managed to feel both painfully slow and surprisingly fast.

So, where do you begin your week?

With a black coffee from Maggie House or a cold coffee from Daalchini?



Dreams That Never Die

Gazing up from the crowd;
A little one amongst them all.
He lived to experience the stage;
The sheer thrill of watching stories unfold.

But one day it occurred;
What if I was up there?
A question that was often laughed upon;
"Oh, how foolish are you to have dreams like these?"

While others dreamed of numbers and stability;
He dreamed to express.
An urge to be bathed in the spotlight;
Bringing the scripts to life.

Yet here he is in the light of others;
Walking a road they chose for him.
A steady life and a decent pay;
Everyone seemed relieved.

The dream never faded;
It was suppressed quietly.
Defending it became exhausting;
What else could he do?

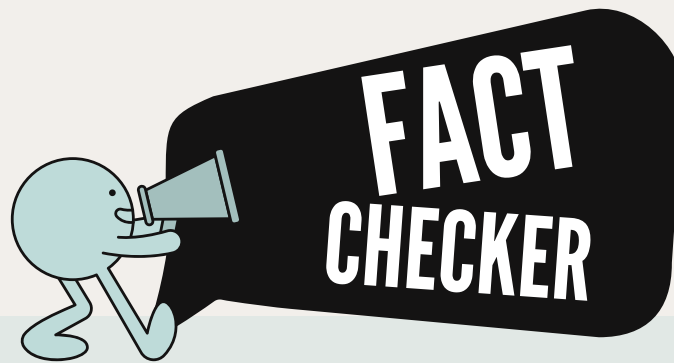
So here he is;
Performing certainty with a scrambled mind.
And that's the strangest thing;
I guess he became an actor after all.

-Aiza Mistry
SY B.Sc. Psychology

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RULES AND REGULATIONS

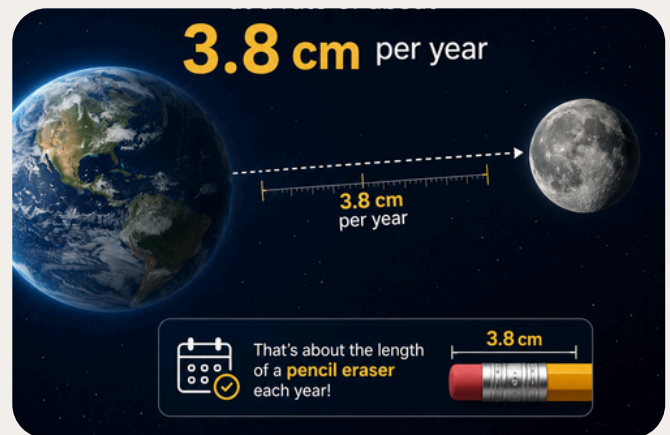
- Some numbers are already filled in at the start; these are called givens or clues.
- The given numbers cannot be changed.
- Every empty cell must eventually contain one digit from 1 to 9.
- No number can be repeated within the same box, row, and columns.



"Your monthly dose of curiosity"

DID YOU KNOW?

- THE MOON IS MOVING ABOUT 3.8 CM FARTHER AWAY FROM EARTH EVERY YEAR.
- THE SAME SIDE OF THE MOON ALWAYS FACES EARTH DUE TO TIDAL LOCKING.
- THE MOON HAS NO ATMOSPHERE, SO THERE IS NO WEATHER OR WIND.



TO POWER A SMALL LED LIGHT BULB.



DID YOU KNOW?

- HUMANS SPEND ABOUT ONE-THIRD OF THEIR LIVES SLEEPING.
- YOUR BRAIN STAYS HIGHLY ACTIVE WHILE YOU DREAM.
- SLEEP HELPS STRENGTHEN MEMORIES AND SUPPORTS LEARNING.

DID YOU KNOW?

- YOUR BRAIN USES ABOUT 20 WATTS OF POWER ROUGHLY ENOUGH TO LIGHT A SMALL LED BULB.
- ALTHOUGH IT MAKES UP ONLY ABOUT 2% OF YOUR BODY WEIGHT, IT USES AROUND 20% OF YOUR BODY'S ENERGY.
- THE HUMAN BRAIN CONTAINS APPROXIMATELY 86 BILLION NEURONS THAT COMMUNICATE THROUGH ELECTRICAL AND CHEMICAL SIGNALS.

Team Voices

Know the brains behind Voices!

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