

VASANT VIHAR WELFARE ASSOCIATION

SPOT ON - A QUIZ

BY SHIVRAJ PARSHAD



A road that leads to a centre of arts, craft and music. Can you guess where this photo was taken? Send us your entries i.e. which Block, or landmark and a **clever caption** to hellovvwa@gmail.com. Best entries stand to win exciting prizes.

To qualify:

1. You need to be a VVWA member with an up to date subscription.
2. Only 1 entry per member, multiple entries from the same person will not be accepted.
3. Contest ends by 5th June.

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

by Gurpreet Singh Bindra



With this edition, aVVWAz takes on a bigger Avatar into a 16-page edition!

While our old articles, stories and news continue, a new series called 'VVWA Initiatives' will introduce you to the initiatives that VVWA is beginning to undertake. The Ladies club is a very important part of life in Vasant Vihar, now they also have a corner to write about their present and future programmes. Many of our youngsters, particularly the young ladies, are getting into new enterprises. We intend to feature a new entrepreneur in each issue.

On a more serious note, one of the questions that we are often asked is that what does VVWA exactly do? Traditionally, we are a bridge between Government agencies such as SDMC, PWD, DJB, MVV, BSES etc. and the residents. This is essentially a "Liaison" kind of role where we lobby and interact with them to ensure that our civic services work optimally. We try and ensure that our colony remains clean, the water and electricity supply etc. are maintained. This was and is the primary function of VVWA.

The ripple effects of the Pandemic changed a lot of things permanently within the community and VVWA. VVWA had to assume the major role and act as the go-between various government institutions, health officials, and the medical fraternity. The health, safety and well-being of the residents became our primary responsibility. Community participation became more than just a by-word and the entire community came together. Social initiatives such as 'food for the needy', 'dry rations for migrant workers' were highly successful.

Due to the increase in population and homes, VVWA has had to take on a more pro-active role in ensuring that our increased infrastructure requirements were met. To keep pace with the emerging demands of holistic development of our colony, several works need to be undertaken, which do not fall within the ambit of the Government. Rain Water Harvesting systems, speed breakers, convex mirrors etc. have now become a necessity. In addition to this, VVWA has become the apex body for implementation of the Waste Management Rules 2016 and the newly introduced Plastic Waste Management rules.

The growing population has made the security scenario and the traffic nightmares priority areas for us to address. VVWA is working very closely with the Local Police and the Traffic Police to ensure a satisfactory solution.

VVWA is committed to work for the benefit and development of the community. This is our prime responsibility.

SEEN BUT UNSEEN

by Nina Jain Bimbrahw

‘Sewerage Charges’ of 60% are applied to our water bill by Delhi Jal Board (DJB). Sewerage Systems, the sewers, the ‘naali’ - where the dirty water from our homes, bathrooms and kitchen joins with other sewers are of the street necessary. Very often these sewers get blocked, for which the DJB sends out a team headed by Mr. Rambabu Manothia to Vasant Vihar to take care of the blockage.

Mr. Manothia, who is responsible for the maintenance and cleanliness of DJB sewers in Vasant Vihar, is also the supervisor of sewers of neighbouring areas - Vasant Enclave, Vasant Gaon, Hill View Apartments, Vasant Apartments, Basant Lok, Nepali Camp, Coolie Camp, Janta flats and others. In case of emergencies, he and his team are also asked to go to Munirka and its adjoining neighbourhoods.

Accompanied by his team of a driver and 2-3 helpers he tends to 15-18 complaints daily, working even on a Sunday during emergencies. Cleaning the sewers is no easy task, he adds quickly, ‘log kooda dalte hai, aur isliye naali block ho jaati hai. Log kapada, plastic aur pata nahi kya kya phekte hai. Isko saaf karna bahut mushkil hota hai, aur samay lagta hai’. He starts his day early, reaching the office promptly at 9 am and often finishes after 7 pm.

‘Pehle to hum khud naali ke andar jaakar haath se saaf karte the. Maine khud apne haathon se, latrine bhi nikala hai. Ab to government ne machine de di hai. Is-se saaf karna ab asaan hai.’ He is referring to the sewer jetting machine that was acquired by the government 6-7 years ago. This means that he and his team do not have to physically get into the manhole to clean the clogged sewer.

About Mr. Manothia

Hailing from Bulandshahr, Uttar Pradesh, Mr. Manothia lives in Tughlaqabad with his wife, 2 daughters and a married son. His 2 daughters are married and his older son lives separately with his wife and child. He has studied till Std. 5 and then the pressure to earn a living began. Being the eldest he started with various odd jobs to make ends meet – driver, private work, peon etc., until he joined the DJB in 1997. He has been working in the sewer department ever since. His younger son is also working in the same department.

Cleaning sewers is no one’s dream job. As I conclude the interview, I notice how spotless his shirt is, and how well he is dressed, for the job that he does. Next time if any of us see him, let’s make sure that we thank him for the work he and his team do so that OUR homes do not get dirty.



Ms. TERTIA SANDHU – PAST LIFE REGRESSION SPECIALIST

by Milly Murgai



An afternoon spent with Ms. Tertia Sandhu takes you into a different world. It may sound unbelievable, but as you listen to her, you realise that there exists a realm beyond our comprehension, but one that certainly exists.

Ms. Sandhu has had “out of body experiences” since she was 4 years old. She thought that was a normal part of life and spoke about them only to her sister! She joined a therapist course in 2016, taught herself palmistry and then joined a ‘Past Life Regression’ course. It is here that she discovered her calling and pursued higher courses. She acquired a level of knowledge about herself that surprised even her! She learnt that during one former life, she had been a slave in Egypt and while in another, the head lama of a monastery in Bhutan. This helped her to understand why she felt at home when she visited the Tiger’s Nest Monastery in Bhutan. In yet another lifetime she was the queen of Barmer and said her husband’s name was Bar Rao. Post regression she looked up the history of Barmer on Google and learnt that the founder of Barmer was Bahado Rao or Bar Rao.

Why and for whom does she hold these sessions:

Several people come to her to find solutions to their problems - from teenagers to the elderly. They read about her on Facebook or hear about her from their friends. Some come out of curiosity, others because they really want to know about their previous lives. She has helped solve several issues such as relationships, health, phobias, and anxiety/stress and Inner Child trauma.

How does she do it:

Ms. Sandhu helps people go into a trance like state, by a form of hypnotism. Then they take over themselves, they see, they hear, and they feel everything they are experiencing. She does not intervene; they go down the path of previous memories on their own. She does not put ideas into their head, as they must find their own path. They soon pinpoint the incident that is the root cause of their present issues. The connection between their present issues and what happened earlier is clear and the solution also manifests itself. For example, a relationship issue may be due to the strained relationship during a previous life, a severe backache maybe due to a wartime injury many centuries earlier. Healing and forgiveness are done with the help of masters in the non-physical dimension. She guides them back to their conscious state once she feels that they have achieved the results they are looking for. In their conscious state, they remember all that they had felt, and the advice they had received.

Each session lasts for a minimum of two hours. This is not counting the half-an -hour she spends talking to them on the phone before she has a one-to-one session with them. Since COVID, she has switched to holding Zoom sessions. What an amazing synergy between the new technology and ancient spiritual systems!

Ms. TERTIA SANDHU – PAST LIFE REGRESSION SPECIALIST

continued

Her personal life:

Tertia is married to J.S Sandhu and has two sons – both practicing lawyers. She has regressed her husband thrice! She does feel very drained out after each session but realises that regression showed people a lot of insights into their lives which would not have been possible otherwise.

You can contact our very own Vasant Vihar resident, Ms. Tertia Sandhu on the phone @ 9910999991, or by email @ tertiasandhu1@gmail.com. You can also read some of her case studies on her Facebook page, Past-life journey by Tertia Sandhu.

VASANT VIHAR LADIES CLUB

by Ms. Anukampa Syal

Ladies Club Vasant Vihar needs no introduction. It is one of the oldest institutions in Vasant Vihar with over 300 members ranging from 35 years to 95 years through three generations. It was formed by a small group of enthusiastic women, early settlers in Vasant Vihar, to provide them a forum where they could meet socially and discuss matters relating to the common interests of our community.

In the monthly meetings, held on every 2nd Wednesday of the month at the Kalyan Kendra, different programmes are organised like talks, competitions, demonstrations etc. Also very popular are the entertainment programmes by members. The highlight of the monthly meeting is the delicious lunch cooked by the members themselves.

After a hiatus of two years due to covid lockdowns, the members met in March for a picnic in one of the parks. Eager to meet with their friends, the picnic was attended by many ladies. Members enjoyed games of Tambola and a sumptuous lunch cooked by the A Block Ladies. The April meeting was held at Kalyan Kendra where members were asked to come in a Fancy Dress. It was a fun morning with many members dressed in different attires. Baisakhi songs and dances were also part of the morning's entertainment.

In today's times, when neighbours do not know each other, Ladies Club has been instrumental in bringing families together and helping new entrants to get to know their fellow residents.



TOP-TIER

Vasant Vihar specials

by Surveen Singh

Breakfast is said to be the most important meal of the day and we couldn't agree more! Here are the top three breakfast places you can visit to start your day on a brighter note

Cafe Resto, Jaypee Vasant - 5 Star Luxury Coffee Shop, Restaurant in Delhi

Jaypee Vasant Continental's coffee shop is an all time classic for a luxurious and delicious breakfast. With a variety of different cuisines and an ambient environment, Cafe Resto is the perfect way to wake you up in the morning. They can serve you eggs in every way. If you haven't tried it yet, Cafe Resto is a must on your to-do list.



Bread & More

Taking its inspiration from Paris, this chic bakery serves fresh sweets and savouries each day. The picturesque outdoor seating serves as a great meeting area, making Bread & More the most instagrammable cafe in Vasant Vihar. The mouth watering and delicious food is an added delight. Their pastries are exquisite, their croissants are fabulous and their brownies are amazing.

Barista

A cafe that does not need an introduction, Barista not only has the best coffee but also the most finger licking sandwiches and wraps.

The warm staff and pleasant ambience, takes Barista to the next level. Their take-away cookies and drinks, their cold coffees and iced teas, their rolls and brownies, all contribute towards making it a great breakfast place.



Power Girls of V.V.

'POWER GIRLS' IS A SPECIAL SERIES ABOUT THE WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS AND PROFESSIONALS IN V.V.

KARISHMA JULKA



Channel [V]

Karishma participated in a fashion event with Channel [V] and her group, representing J. D. Institute of Fashion Technology, was awarded 'Best Rampage Fashion Team from Delhi'.

Stylist

For a brief period, Karishma had an opportunity to learn a lot from the head stylist of Cosmopolitan Magazine, India. She participated in the designing elements for shoots, which helped to expand her horizon in the designing field.

Creative Director

Post marriage, Karishma opened her own studio in Vasant Vihar, and is the the Creative Director of Karishma Julka Clothing.



Karishmajulkaclotthing



Karishma Julka

“IDON'TDESIGNCLOTHES,IDESIGNDREAMS.”

Meet Ms. Karishma Julka, Creative Director, Stylist, Fashion Consultant & Fashion Designer. It is a beautiful feeling when career & passion come together. She is this month's Young Women Entrepreneur.

Karishma realised her passion at an early stage as soon as she finished her schooling. She always believed in herself and was prepared to work hard. She began her journey by learning from scratch. She completed B. Sc. in Fashion Designing from J. D. Institute of Fashion Technology, New Delhi.

And today, she is a young Fashion Mogul.

"Fashion Designing give us the freedom to express ourselves through clothing." And that's how Karishma began to work as an Assistant Head Designer for Preeti S. Kapoor, where she had an opportunity to design for a lot of Bollywood celebrities too.

As she had a good eye for creativity, she opened her own studio boutique in Vasant Vihar. At present, Karishma Julka Clothing is known for simple yet sophisticated outfits paired with great accessories. She is very well known for her silhouettes, drapes & embroideries. She even started making cotton masks during COVID-19, and became extremely popular in Vasant Vihar as the 'Mask Lady'.

About Karishma's brand:

Karishma Julka Clothing - is a pocket friendly brand - for men, women and children. Meeting customers through prior appointments only, she welcomes her loyal & steady clients from all over the world. What is even more impressive is that several designers purchase from Karishma and sell her designs at exhibitions!



THE BUZZ AROUND VV

May Edition

Here are some details of all that has been happening:

Rejuvenation of the Senior Citizen's Club:

It was a delight to see the gathering of the Senior Citizen's Club once again, on the first floor of the Kalyan Kendra. After two years they had the chance to meet again and share jokes and stories. To call them senior citizens is a misnomer! They are energetic and full of the joy of living. The senior most member is over 90 and we don't think they have a joining age requirement!!

As always, we wish them good health and happiness throughout their lives.

Bomb scare in A Block Market:

On Saturday 7th May, someone left two unattended bags in the A Block market, near the Chemist Store. The police were immediately informed, and it didn't take too long for them to arrive, followed by the bomb disposal squad. They cordoned off the market and placed both the bags in a bag of sand. The bomb disposal and dog squad then examined the bags and found only old clothes and some household items! It was a bit of an anti-climax, but it also made all of us realise that the response from our security authorities is prompt and efficient.



Pruning of large "bargad" tree behind C Block Mother Dairy:

This tree had been a safety hazard for many years. It has been there for decades but due the fact that its roots did not have a chance to grow within the ground and get support, it had begun to tilt dangerously, and there was concern that it might suffer the same fate as the tree in the taxi stand area.

On Tuesday 10th May, many hours were spent trying to prune this tree. It was sad to see it standing bereft of all its branches, but we needed to do this, before a calamity occurred.

Speed Breakers:

After a long wait, PWD has finally started work on installing speed breakers on our main roads, mainly Poorvi Marg, Paschimi Marg, Munirka Marg, Palam Marg, Vasant Marg, and Street A9. We have a constant problem of speeding motor cycles, specially from Kusumpur Pahari. We also hope that the speed breakers will help decrease the chaos arising out of the school traffic.

THE BUZZ

Contd...



Scorching days and sweltering nights:

It is not just Vasant Vihar that is suffering due to this calamitous weather, all of North India seems to be reeling under it. The advent of the bel sharbat thelas, the watermelon stalls, the “daab” stalls and of course the mango sellers are all part of this blistering environment. The workers on the street look hot and tired, the stray dogs are constantly looking for shade and the birds are seeking clay water utensils. Let’s hope cooler weather will be coming around sometime soon.

Traffic chaos and reopening of schools:

These two are intertwined and one follows the other. The schools have reopened after a gap of two years and the streets have once again got jam-packed. Vasant Vihar has 17 schools in its neighbourhood and most of them have large buses, innumerable cars belonging to students, rude drivers who do not follow parking guidelines and of course all this results in angry neighbourhood residents. Early mornings and late afternoons are difficult times in our neighbourhood.

VVWA is looking for interns:

We have begun an internship program at VVWA. Presently we have two interns working with us, Surveen Singh, who is part of our Editorial Team, and Aidan Bimbrahw, who is part of our website team. Both have proven to be amazing assets for VVWA. We are now looking for more student interns to work with us. The working term will be one year, and we shall present them with a Certificate from VVWA at the end of their term. Their projects could cover aspects such as Social Media content, helping the team work on various initiatives, website management etc. Do give us a call or write to us at hellovvwa@gmail.com if you are interested.



Soul Talk with Mr. V.P. Malik

by Maj. Gen. S. P. Murgai

Meet the oldest senior citizen of Vasant Vihar, Mr. Ved Prakash Nearing 100 years, he is alert and full of energy. "God has been very kind to me except that I lost the company of my wife a little too soon," says Malik as we settle down to talk.

Born in Multan, now in Pakistan, in the year 1922, his roller coaster journey has been full of excitement.

Excerpts of my chat with Mr. Mailk:



I grew up in Lahore and the memories of my childhood are rooted in that fashionable city. We lived in a two-and-a-half storey house built by Sir Ganga Ram Trust at a monthly rent of Rs 10 per month.

Life was simple back then. In the summer, we slept on the terrace and in the winter, we slept in rooms heated with coal fire. I lost my mother when I was just fifteen years old, and was very caringly brought up by my Bhabi (elder brother's wife).

I was a bright child. After completing my graduation from DAV college Lahore, I worked as an assistant chemist in Chemical Defence Research Establishment at Rawalpindi. I was promoted to class II gazetted rank at a handsome salary of Rs 650 per month equivalent to a present day salary of Rs. 5 lakhs per month! In 1946, the British Government closed the establishment, and I joined as a junior chemist in the Fruit Technology Institute at Lyallpur. In February 1947, I married Lal Wanti, the daughter of Naib Tehsildar Malik Vishan Das Kakar, who with his wife Gulabo Devi and seven children lived in the holy, historic city of Multan.



Partition forced us to migrate to India. We landed in Delhi and initially stayed in a one room accommodation at Anand Parbat in central Delhi later shifting to a single room in Dev Nagar. Somewhere in the mid-fifties, I applied for a residential plot in the upcoming Central Government's Society at the foothills of the Aravalli hills. Vasant Vihar as it was to be named, then was an isolated rocky land. Keekar trees and thick wild bushes grew on it. It was as if the place was meant for hermits. One look at the land was enough to reject the idea of building a house! However my wife insisted that we go ahead as she wanted to build her own home.

And so began my tryst with destiny! I booked a 500 square yards plot. It was then priced at Rs 8 per square yard. However, before the allotment of land the plot sizes were redrawn and I was given a choice between a 400 or 600 square yards plot. Considering my financial strength, I decided on the 400 square yards plot. These were allotted later at the price of Rs. 32 per square yard. All my savings were used for the payment of the plot.

Soul Talk

Contd...

I once ventured to have a look at the land on a bicycle, but returned because it was impossible to reach the rugged inhospitable terrain on a bicycle. After a wait of 17 years, I was allotted a plot in D block, Vasant Vihar in 1962.

I began the construction of the house in 1971 as stipulated by the authorities. It was not an easy decision as I worked and lived in Bombay with my wife and daughter. My elder son had joined the Navy and younger son was studying at a boarding school.

Despite all the constraints, our house was constructed in eight months, for which I took four months leave at full pay initially, then medical leave, and then leave at half pay. It was during this period, that my wife developed serious medical issues and I had to return to Bombay, leaving the construction of the house at the mercy of the house building contractor. To add to our woes, I was bitten by a stray dog for which I had to take sixteen painful doses of anti rabies injections at Safdarjung hospital which was 6 kms away from the construction site.



Memories of these hardships are seared into me. I was a frustrated, harangued, lonely individual with poor finances, riding my bicycle in Delhi's summer heat and bitter winter. It cost me Rs 30, 000 to build the single-story house of which Rs 15, 000 was a government loan at low interest and the balance 15, 000 was from my personal savings and financial help from close relatives.

Initially I rented the finished bungalow at Rs 1000 per month. After moving back to Delhi in 1985, I built the second storey in 1987. Since my elder son was with me, we handled the construction together, and this time it was much easier.

I am often asked about the difference between Vasant Vihar, then and now. Everything around us has undergone an unimaginable transformation. In my estimate, almost 95 percent of the original bungalows have been demolished and turned into builder flats. However, I am contented and happy to be the denizen of my own bungalow. What happens after I am gone, does not bother me, as currently I bask in the glory of 'Laj Cottage'.

Another frequent question I am asked is what is the secret to my long life. My answer to that is, there can never be one or many reasons. One reason is definitely the social interaction among the retired and elderly at the Vasant Vihar community centre, presently named Kalyan Kendra. It is here that I find joy in sitting with my friends, sharing anecdotes, stories, jokes, poetry, birthdays. Sipping a cup of hot espresso, comfortably in an air-conditioned room I have never felt that I am alone even after losing my wife in February 2007.

My advice to present day generation is: whatever be your financial strength, look for happiness in small things. Do chase your dreams, but let your life be simple!

WATER CRISIS

by Maj. Gen. (Retd) S. P. Murgai

You asked, we answered...

Vasant Vihar is in the grip of a severe water crisis. water supply is insufficient, irregular, intermittent and muddy. There are several pockets in Vasant Vihar which do not get water supply for days and have to depend on water tankers. What is VVWA doing to resolve this unprecedented crisis?

Here is what the President of VVWA, Mr. Gurpreet Singh Bindra said:

Q. Water is a basic need. What measures are being taken by the VVWA to ensure adequate supply during this unprecedented water crisis?

VVWA is fully conscious of the fact that every summer begins with a shortage of water in Delhi. Moreover due to the rising population of Delhi and the stagnant water production, the situation becomes increasingly critical for all of Delhi, and Vasant Vihar is no exception. We are in constant touch with DJB/MVV authorities and have had several meetings with them. In fact, our day normally begins at 4.30 am as Ms. Parul Gaur and I have our first conversation about water supply for the day.

Q. 24x7 water supply continues to remain a distant dream. Why?

The 24x7 water scheme is essential in terms of technology and is vital to our water security. It is also a fact that this project has seen several delays since no activity took place for many years. Over the past two years, despite the Covid restrictions, VVWA has followed up with the authorities to ensure that this project is expeditiously completed. We have now come to a stage where the final commissioning trials are in progress.

Q. Residents are getting exorbitant water bills in spite of limited water supply. What are the reasons thereof?

The question of exorbitant water bills is a burning issue. We had initially sought the intervention of our local MLA to resolve this issue. During our meeting with the CEO, DJB few days ago it was agreed in principle that a camp will be organised in Kalyan Kendra where residents can come and reconcile their bills with DJB/MVV officials.

Our first camp was held at the Kalyan Kendra on May 23rd and 24th. Over 60 people met the officials.

WATER CRISIS

continued..

Q. There are some pockets in Vasant Vihar which do not get regular water supply and have to depend on water supply through tankers. Any steps being taken to eradicate this constant problem?

We have found that there are many shortcomings in the MVV grid lines. Wherever, there are critical areas, where water was not reaching, we have worked with MVV engineers to remove the bottlenecks. As a stop gap measure, water was supplied through tankers so that the residents do not suffer any inconvenience. Simultaneously, we have already started working with MVV on isolating these outstanding issues and carrying out improvements to our grid lines so that water reaches all the residents. The critical areas identified are streets F-3, F-5 and E-14, which are receiving ours and MVV's attention.

What are the challenges that VVWA is facing?

There has been a concerted effort over the past few years to tap our water line and divert water to the neighbouring DDA Flats, which we have and are resisting, as it is against the interests of Vasant Vihar. We have a daily allocation of 8.6 lakh litres per day (LPD). Against this, we are receiving on an average 6.0 to 6.5 lakh LPD. If water gets diverted to DDA Janta Flats, 1.5 lakh LPD would be taken out of the above figure leaving us with 4.5 to 5.0 lakh LPD which is insufficient for our needs. We are constantly fighting this. We will continue to take all steps necessary to protect our interests.

As residents, what can we do?

As we all know, water is a very scarce commodity and that we must do our best to conserve water to its fullest extent. It is our humble request to all residents to desist from using hose pipes to wash cars and clean driveways. Several homes in spite of reminders, continue to waste water in this manner. Also, water in our homes should also be better managed. While water supply is critical, restricted and controlled usage is the need of the hour.

VVWA INITIATIVES

by Parul Gaur

In keeping with the changing scenario, VVWA has/is launching several initiatives for the overall benefit of our community. Every month, I shall be writing an article featuring one of our initiatives so that everyone can remain abreast of what we are doing. Waste Management, which is now covered by Government legislation, has been featured in one form or the other.

Today, we are going to write about Plastic Waste and its elimination:

The Government has instituted the Plastic Waste Management rules 2016, which are gradually coming into force. VVWA has made elaborate plans for implementation of the Act. Before we talk about our plans, it will be necessary to let everyone know what steps, the Government has announced to control Plastic Waste. We all know that Plastic Waste has now become a huge problem all over and elimination of all plastic, particularly single use Plastic Waste has become a burning issue the world over. India is one of the largest generators of single use plastic waste and it is a very good sign that the Government has taken a serious note of it. The Government has already stated that all plastic bags will be minimum 100 microns, going on to 150 microns, effective from 1.7.2022. In addition to this non-woven plastic carry bags shall not be less than 60 Gram Per Square Meter (GSM) with effect from the 30th September 2021.

Starting 1.7.2022, the Government has announced the following measures:

- a) The manufacture, import, stocking, distribution, sale and use of the following single use plastic, including polystyrene and expanded polystyrene, commodities shall be prohibited with effect from 1st July 2022.
- b) Ear buds with plastic sticks, plastic sticks for balloons, plastic flags, candy sticks, ice-cream sticks, polystyrene (Thermocole) for decoration are banned.
- c) Plates, cups, glasses, cutlery such as forks, spoons, knives, straw, trays, wrapping or packing films around sweet boxes, invitation cards, and cigarette packets, plastic or PVC banners less than 100 micron, stirrers are also banned.

The law being what it is, VVWA has decided to launch a programme to remove single use plastic. We would like to encourage our residents to start using cloth bags for their groceries, vegetables, fruit and shopping etc. This will eliminate plastic carry bags.

Very shortly, VVWA will be offering the residents cloth bags at our cost price, which will ensure a no profit facility. Use of these bags will greatly reduce our dependence on plastic bags and will help us in implementation of the Act. We will carry out a campaign to make people aware of the harmful effects of plastic use.

SDMC has declared C-Block market to be one of four nodal markets for elimination of plastic waste. As and when the Government introduce more measures, VVWA will be in the forefront of their implementation. VVWA has formed a task force which is headed by me and has Nidhi Agarwal and Avi Arora as members. It is very important that we take all steps necessary to preserve our environment and keep it protected for future generations.

COLOURISM

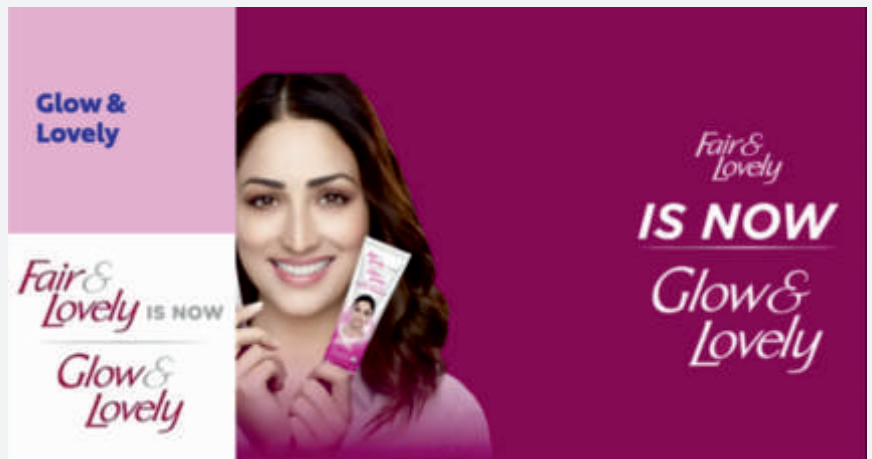
by Surveen Singh (16 years old)

Colourism is a neglected social evil that can be defined as prejudice or discrimination against individuals with a dark skin tone, typically among people of the same ethnic or racial group.

Despite being a diverse country in terms of language and culture, Indians have an obsession with fair skin. In every sector of life, fairness is used as a synonym for beauty.

From a young age, the misconception that fairer skin will get you everything in life has been instilled in the mind of young girls. Through advertisements that paint a picture wherein, you get attention and affection due to light skin, the glorification of the same is accelerated to a point that has driven young girls to be insecure due to the colour of their skin.

Not only do fairness creams create a negative stereotype against dark skin but also the endorsement by celebrities, may lead one to believe that fair is truly synonymous with beauty. However, the times have changed through awareness, education, and sensitivity. Unilever has even changed its flagship name 'fair and lovely' to 'glow and lovely' due to the backlash and controversy around the same.



Social media has drastically changed the mindset of people and tried to break the generational prejudice against dark skin. We still have a long way to go yet the progress cannot go unnoticed.

Charity begins at home, hence, each one of us must educate ourselves and the people around us to overcome this social evil and be better humans. Even if you are as bystander, if you let people make jokes and remarks in your presence, you are encouraging them, and thus becoming a part of the problem!



From the Editor,

Greetings from our editorial team.

We are delighted to present you the 2nd Edition of aVVAz. यह पत्रिका आप सबको वसंत विहार की कुछ खबरें, यहाँ के लोगों की कहानियाँ और VVWA के काम की गाथाओं से भरी हुई हैं!

Join us in this journey by sending us suggestions on who and what we should write about, and also suggestions on how we can improve it.

During these hot and sweltering days, stay indoors as far as possible, and consume our amazing, centuries old summer drink - nimbu paani!

Our two interns, Surveen and Aidan, have amazed us with their ingenuity and initiative. We watch them as they transform simple words into colourful pages in the journal and on the website (coming soon)

Looking forward to your suggestions and to better weather!





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focusing on
Customer Satisfaction.**

LOCATION OF FOCUS

- | Vasant Vihar | Shanti Niketan | Anand Niketan
- | Westend Colony | Chanakyapuri | Jor Bagh
- | Golf Links | Panchshilla Park
- | Defence Colony and Complete South Delhi.

AMRIT ESTATE AGENCY

**Realtors & Builders with a mission to
provide Real Estate Services with honesty
and dedication focusing
on Customer Satisfaction.**

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