

## DESH APNAYEN NEWSLETTER

13<sup>th</sup> Issue, August 2016

### From the Editor's desk

Dear readers,  
Hello!

August was quite an action packed month. We hope you took a moment to enjoy the 70th Independence Day celebrations and pay respects to martyrs, leaders, politicians and various unknown men and women we owe our freedom to.

Secondly, our girls also shone through in Rio, giving us a reason to jump with joy. Sakshi Malik won a Bronze medal in wrestling and PV Sindhu won a Silver medal in badminton. What exemplary and humble ladies, both of them!



Sakshi Malik, Wrestling



PV Sindhu, Badminton

Malik became a national hero overnight after she ended India's medal drought at Rio by clinching bronze in the woman 58kg-category wrestling event. Sindhu soon followed suit, winning us our first ever silver medal in women's Badminton singles.

They were also felicitated with the 2016 Rajeev Gandhi Khel Ratna award along with ace shooter Jitu Rai and gymnast Dipa Karmakar, who lost a Bronze medal by the smallest of margins.

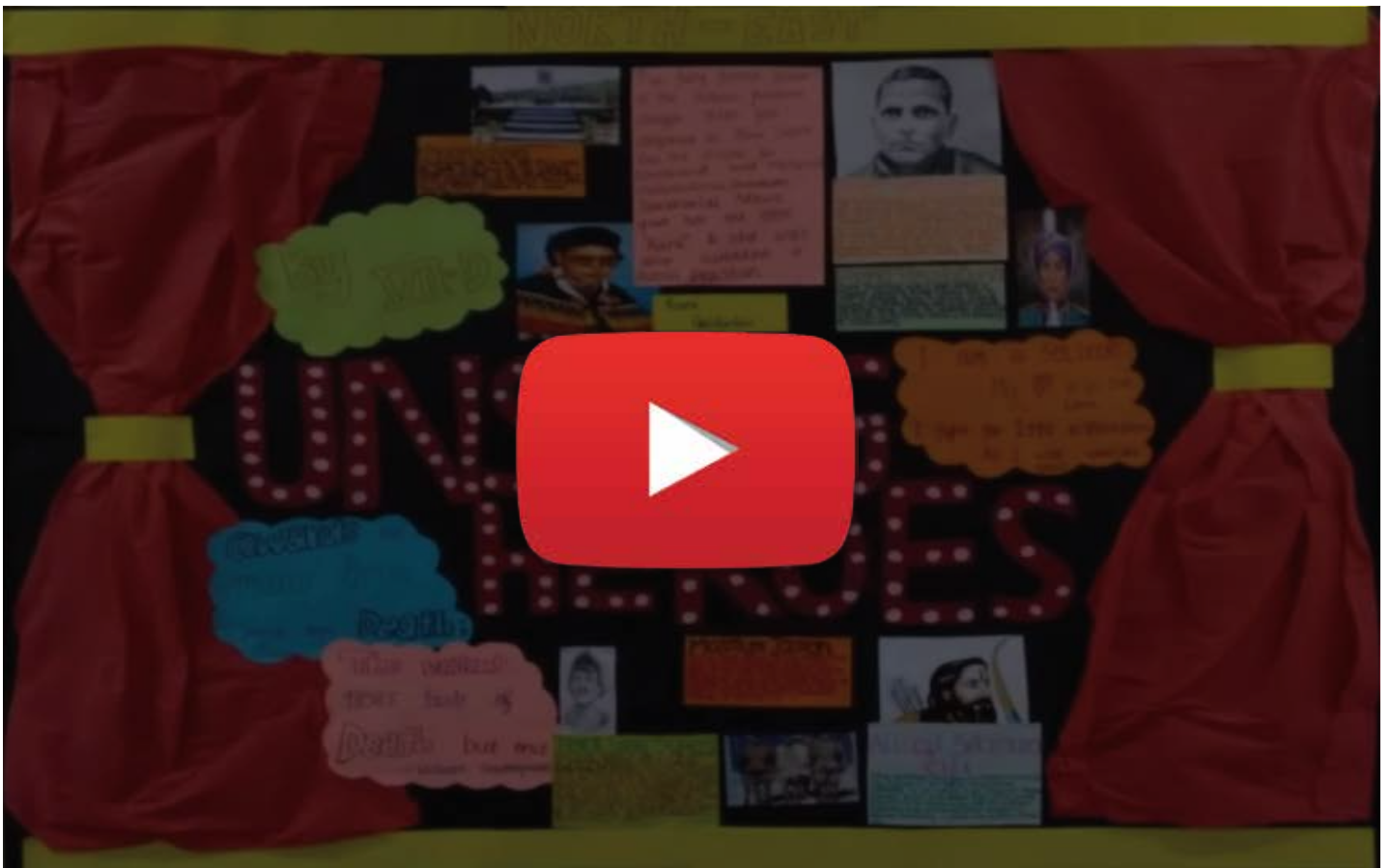
Desh Apnayen salutes all these icons of courage, determination and focus.

Aditi Mehta, Editor

## Contribution from partner schools

Seven grade students of Mumbai's Cathedral & John Cannon school wrote open letters to the Prime Minister earlier this month. Their topic was 'Unfulfilled Promises made in the Preamble of our Constitution'. These children showed immense maturity and poise as they proposed solutions to these problems as well. The children who wrote these letters were Avni Vats, Neel Maheshwari, Myrra Arya and Rythwik Salhotra. You can even read our blog on these letters by clicking on this [link](#).

To watch a video on the school's unique Independence Day celebrations, please click [here](#).



Children of grades 5, 6 and 7 also participated in an art based activity titled 'Civics through Art'. They had to create beautiful interpretations of the topics given, which were 'War and Peace', 'Right to Equality', 'Right to Education', 'National Heroes' and 'Role of the BMC In our lives'.



Children of City International School in Andheri kick started their citizenship club on the 8th of August under the leadership of Principal Ms. Madarukh Kodadwalla and HOD Ms. Effie Mathias. The entire school proudly took the Desh Apnayen Citizenship Pledge (which you can read here) and also held a patriotic song competition to celebrate the occasion. We are proud of the school and teachers!



Children of St. Mary's High School, under the leadership of Fr. Jude Fernandes, celebrated independence in various unique ways. Children started off by creating cuisines from various states of India in the colours of our flag. Then, they held an inter religious faith event where students came together and sung different prayers and shared brief notes on different religions. Finally, they spread the message on the importance of physical fitness through martial arts, especially for the youth.



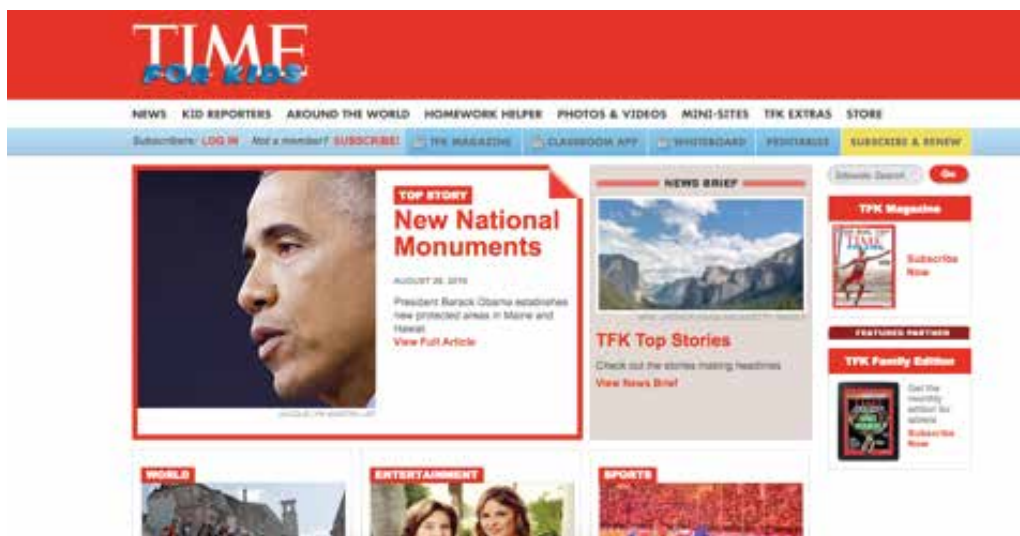
## Our Monthly Favourites

### Website of the month

Our website of the month is [www.timeforkids.com](http://www.timeforkids.com). TIME For Kids is a weekly classroom news magazine that motivates kids to read!

A powerful teaching tool, TIME For Kids builds reading and writing skills and is easily integrated across a school's curriculum, including social studies, science and math. Mainly meant for children in USA, kids in India can use the website to execute various projects and get some help with homework. The India section of the website can be found here - <http://www.timeforkids.com/destination/india>. Take the challenge about India here and see how much you know!

What's more, children can become journalists and contribute news from their area to the site. A perfect way to practice awareness and responsibility, both.



### App of the month

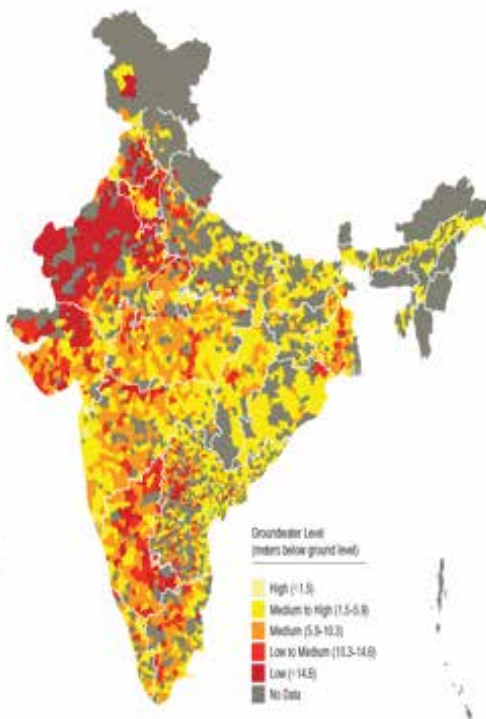
Our app of the month is Pokemon Go, the game that has taken the world by storm. Pokémon Go is a free-to-play, location-based reality game developed by Niantic for iOS and Android devices. In the game, players use a mobile device's GPS capability to locate, capture, battle, and train virtual creatures, called Pokémon, who appear on the screen as if they were in the same real-world location as the player. Pokémon Go was released to mixed reviews but despite such reviews, it quickly became a global phenomenon and was one of the most used mobile apps, having been downloaded by more than 130 million people worldwide.



## Fun and Games

In this issue, we read some wonderful letters that children wrote to the Prime Minister. We are also grappling with some other serious challenges, two of which are shown in these pictures here, courtesy the 'World Resources Institute'. Please propose solutions to these problems and share them with us on email or by tagging us as @DeshApnayen on social media!

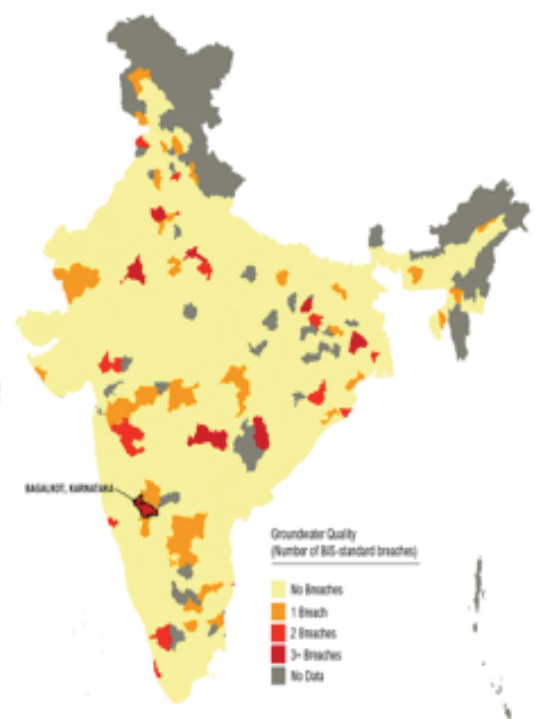
**54%**  
of India's  
Ground-  
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Decreasing



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**100**  
MILLION  
People Live  
in Areas of  
Poor Water  
Quality



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### Answers from last month's Fun and Games section:

01. Vancouver 2010 (winter)
02. Sydney 2000
03. Athens 2004
04. Barcelona 1992

05. Montreal 1976,
06. Los Angeles 1984,
07. Sarajevo 1984 (candidate),
08. London 2012,

09. Munich 1972,
10. Atlanta 1996,
11. Moscow 1980