



Hoi and Namaste!

Welcome to The GISA Newsletter, a brand-new monthly newsletter whose purpose is to keep us all entrenched in and aware of the happenings back home, and our life here.

In this space, we will write about the GISA events of the month, provide organizational updates, and create a space where our readers can send in their thoughts and pictures on the theme of the month.

We hope you enjoy reading our content!

Until next time,
GISA Board 2020



GISA Events of the Month

Almanac Release on 9th September

GISA released its almanac entitled Prasthāna, highlighting its history and allies while detailing its mission statement for the new academic year. Prasthāna signifies departure, meaning to embark on a new and exciting journey.

Ambassador's Visit on 21st September

The Indian Ambassador to the Netherlands, HE Venu Rajamony, will be visiting Groningen. While he is here, GISA plans to host a Q&A session with Mr. Rajamony as both an online and physical event, so stay tuned to our social media as we announce more details!

Noteworthy News

PM Modi raises issue of feminine hygiene on I-Day

On the 74th Independence Day, the Prime Minister Narendra Modi attempted to break long-standing taboos on menstruation by speaking about the importance of sanitary napkins and feminine hygiene, touting the government's initiative of providing 5 crore women with sanitary pads for Re1.

The PM's address was a step in the right direction towards acknowledging and bolstering the essential conversation on women equality and healthcare, but there remains much work to be done.

Educating young men and women on the process and handling of menstruation is still necessary, and school policies must reflect these priorities as well.

jokEs

Why was the broom late?

It overswept!

Additionally, an emphasis on greater choice is required in the selection of hygiene products, as well as on disposal techniques in schemes. Troublingly, the issues outlined above affect relatively richer nations as well. Even in the Netherlands, one in ten young women can't afford feminine hygiene products.

You can contribute to the campaign 'De Bovengrondse' for providing menstrual products in the NL [here](#), and to an Indian period awareness fundraiser 'Goonj' [here](#).



Recipe of the Month

Cauliflower curry

Ingredients:

- 1 cauliflower
- 1 diced onion and tomato
- 1 tbsp oil (any)
- 1 tbsp ginger-garlic paste
- 1/2 tsp turmeric
- 1 tsp salt
- 1 tsp garam masala
- 1 tsp of cumin powder
- 1 tsp of coriander powder
- Coriander for garnishing

Method:

1. Cut the cauliflower into bite sized pieces and soak them in lukewarm water
2. Heat a pan and add the oil
3. Fry the onions and the ginger garlic paste for about 2 minutes until translucent
4. Fry the onions and the ginger garlic paste for about 2 minutes until translucent
5. Add the tomato and fry for 2-3 minutes
6. Add the spices and mix. Cover the pan and let it simmer for 2-3 minutes
7. Add the cauliflower florets and mix. Cover and cook for 2-3 minutes
8. Add 1 cup water and let it simmer for 5 minutes
9. Check the cauliflower floret if cooked, or simmer for 5 more minutes
10. Once done, garnish with coriander and serve hot!



Noteworthy News

Understanding the National Education Policy 2020

On July 29th 2020, the Indian Parliament signed into existence the third ever National Education Policy, which, as the name suggests, is a comprehensive legal framework which guides the development of education in the country.

The traditional 10+2 years school model has been broken down into several stages- 5+3+3+4, a move expected to decrease the pressure and difficulty of the 10th Board exams and give more emphasis to formative years. In addition, the bill states that only Hindi and the local language will be taught until the 5th grade, raising questions about the desirability of a non-

English education for the nation's 200+ million poor population.

The NEP also has implications beyond higher education- it has allowed foreign institutes to offer university education without barrier, attempting to gradually increase the quality of higher education facilities.

Despite the sweeping changes issued, the NEP is a non-binding policy, since education is the realm of both the Centre and State. It requires the joint implementation of states to enforce completely, which it aims to do by the year 2040.

Dive into the policy [here](#) .



Short Read of the Month

Dear reader, as the corpse of the old year disintegrates, and the new academic year takes its place, a new, revamped GISA board forms alongside it. And with the new board comes a new promise. You can rest assured that come hell or highwater (or deadly global plague), we'll try our very best to bring you and your fellow student as close as digitally possible through our cultural events. Find out more about our new board on [Instagram!](#)

On another note, our Independence Day pub quiz was a happy success to kick off the year, and only a taste of the hopefully enticing events we're planning to offer ahead. While we're working within the city-imposed

a few offline events coming up in the next month or so, so do stay tuned to our social media to know more! Additionally, before we wrap up this newsletter, we would like to introduce a new offering from our organization - GISA Coins, tokens that you can win at any of our contests and quizzes. In exchange for a predetermined quantity of Coins, you can gain food and drink at future GISA events, as per your fancy. While most of our events in the foreseeable future may be only sparingly offline, you can hold onto your Coin until the outside world doesn't seem so scary anymore.

Your feedback on the newsletter would help us improve its quality immeasurably! You can send us your thoughts at gisa@rug.nl