

## SUGARCANE QUANDARY

The article **Sugarcane Juice – A Promise of Good Health** (July 2019) was very informative. The authors have narrated numerous health benefits of sugarcane juice along with its use in controlling pollution as molasses are a good source of ethanol.

Besides, vending of sugarcane juice is the most common and easiest way of employment to lakhs of unemployed youth in India. But the fundamental question is how long we can continue to enjoy the sweetness of sugarcane. Currently half of India is under severe water scarcity. Agriculture is both a cause and a victim of water scarcity. Sugarcane is said to be among the more water-intensive crops. Since we encourage our farmers to maintain better water management and crop selection in farming fields, they may stop harvesting it.

But the solution lies not in banning any crop. Development of low water consuming varieties of sugarcane along with ensuring more efficient utilisation of water will help.

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## MOST USED WRITING INSTRUMENT

The short feature **Ballpoint Pen – An Eponymous Invention** published in the June 2019 issue of *Science Reporter* was very informative. The author C. Krishnakumari explained every single point starting from the invention of the ballpoint pen in a very simple manner.

Today many people are using ballpoint pen but don't know its history. This article is just like a treasure for those who want to know about the invention and inventor of ballpoint pen. Ballpoint pen is the most used writing instrument today as compared to other writing instruments such as gel pens. The



main feature of the ballpoint pen is that its ink is thick, permanent and dries quickly so it does not spread by water whereas the ink of gel pens needs some time to dry and spreads easily by water.

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## REVEALING BLACK HOLES

It has become a regular phenomenon for me to wait eagerly for the new issue of *Science Reporter*. The June 2019 issue was formidable, as usual.

In the article **Black Holes: From Concept To Reality**, Biman Basu has given very interesting information. The Event Horizon Telescope (EHT) has brought a paradigm shift in modern observational/astronomical science. The black hole has been depicted as a cosmic monster, so voracious that even light cannot escape its clutches. The issue is also special because of the contribution of Subrahmanyan Chandrasekhar, an Indian born astrophysicist.

The short feature on the ScienTerrific Group was also of interest. I would also like to thank *Science Reporter* for publishing the article **Ceramic Waste to Eco-friendly Tableware**, because protecting the environment from polluting hazards is the prime responsibility in today's era.

**Pradip Chakraborty**  
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## REACTIONS



# Science REPORTER

## FASCINATING ARTICLE

I am a student of class 8 and regularly read *Science Reporter*. I read the cover story on Black Holes published in the June edition. The article was really fantastic, based on recent information and very informative for all age groups.

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## GREAT ADVICE

The article **Book Readers are Leaders** by K. Krishna Murty in the May issue was very interesting. He says, "Whether you move your lips while you read, or read the last pages of the book first, or smell your book before you start, or read a magazine from back to front, finish the book when you start it. After all, book Readers are leaders."

Thank you for a great job. I hope you will publish more articles like this.

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## ROBOTS ARE MERE PUPPETS

This is with reference to the cover story **When will an 'Intelligent Species' arrive?** by Shobhna Kunwar in the July 2019 issue.

I am of the viewpoint that it is next to impossible for robots to replace humans because it is a well known fact that human beings have created robots (machines). Robots merely act as puppets in the hands of their respective masters and simply work by consuming power.

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