

DUTT AND SHILPEE LAB

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SEPTEMBER 2022

**Soul is dyed, the colour of its
thoughts.**

DESCRIPTION: Ponceau stain spillage on ice.

COURTESY: AMARTYA CHAKRABORTY

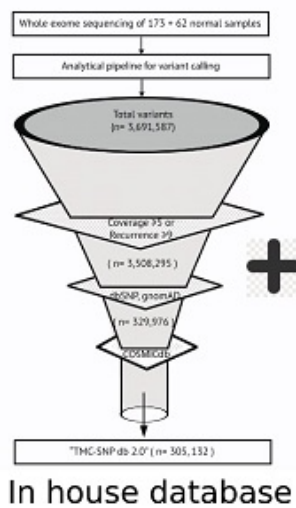
Congratulations!



India Science Wire

Latest S&T News from India

Researchers develop India-specific cancer genome toolkit



TMC-SNPdb2.0 Toolkit dbCreator dbCombiner dbAnnotator

Input:

Choose VCF files *

Browse... 2 files

Upload complete

Choose database VCF files to deplete *

Browse... 2 files

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Output prefix *

germlineDB

Enter DP *

5

Enter percent cutoff *

5

Submit

Summary

Input Files

0000.vcf 0002.vcf

Database Files

dbSNP.vcf gnomAD.vcf

Output prefix

germlineDB.vcf

DP cutoff

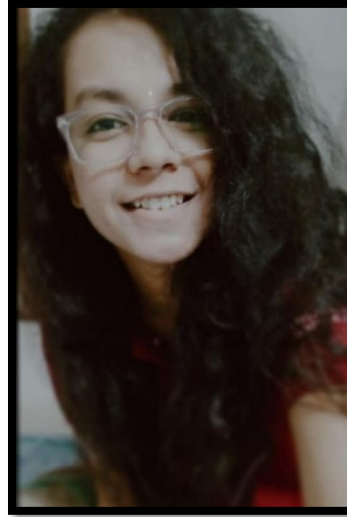
5

Percent Cutoff

5

Output

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



the Creative Corner



Where eyes stop seeing, curiosity begins.

Photography: Suhail Ahmad

the Creative Corner



Happy Ganesh Chaturthi!

Clay modelling: Supriya Hait

In Conversation with..

General Facts

By birth, my name is : Amartya Chakraborty
Pals call me : Amar, Amartya, AmartYo
I was born on : 6th August 1999
My childhood was spent at: Chandipur, a place near Kharagpur, West Bengal



Personal Life

1) *Can you describe any one ever-lasting memory about your childhood?*

The memory which I cherish so much about my childhood is going to my Grandparents. I waited for months to visit to them, and then finally when that happened it will be the best thing. It was filled with the most delicious food cooked by my grandmother and her timeless bedtime stories. Afternoons spend with my grandfather fishing in our pond and spending time with him and listening to his stories, with absolute peace of nature and only the sound of chirping birds and the sounds of the stream. It was a really great memory I always cherish.

2) *How was your college life? And, what did you enjoy the most?*

It was really great! It was packed with everything. From the constant pressure to upload assignments on time, to organizing and taking part in fests and events. Each day of college life was really vibrant. And we have friends coming from all of India, and also from abroad, so it was really great and filled with different cultures. The part that I loved the most will be the evergreen hostel memories with some crazy friends back in college. I am thankful believe that those were the best days of my life.

3) *As a child/teenager, what did you aspire to become in life? Any reasons associated with it?*

I always wanted to be a clinician; it was my dream since the childhood. I wanted to contribute something that can somehow reduce the pain and suffering of people. But later I chose to pursue a career in research, as I also felt that working on a disease and contributing something to minimize it is also a very impactful way to contribute something for it.

4) *Would you like to state a person or an event that has inspired/influenced your life?*

The one person who I would love to mention here is Swami Vivekananda. I was from a Mission School, and I grew up reading about the values from his teachings. The values which most inspired me are of love, discipline, wisdom, and selflessness. I always cherish those values which helped me find what I wanted to do, and the way of looking at our lives.

5) *Do you have any hobbies or passion apart from research?*

I have a passion for Photography. I am enthusiastic about travelling to new places and new cultures. When I was in college I also loved being associated to clubs and NGOs, which I loved a lot. Also, I love reading books, mostly non-fiction, watching series or a nice movie in my free time. Also, I used to play harmonica and synthesizer in my college.

6) *Would you like to share any ever-lasting memory associated with the lab?*

The event that I want to mention here would be my birthday celebration, which was a real surprise to me. I just entered the lab and there was my lab mates waiting with a beautiful cake. I was so happy, and then I blew the

candles and cut the cake and had a really nice time with them. We also went for lunch after that, and it was a great memory which I will cherish. Thank you for making my birthday special.

Science and Philosophy

1) *In your opinion, what is research?*

I believe it's a contribution, from us to nature. It's a way of nature knowing itself. There are a lot of things which people associate with it like achievement, fame, curiosity, etc, but all this circles around this central idea of our contribution for it. And how to use this offering for the best benefit of everybody.

2) *Why did you choose to join the Dr. Shilpee Dutt laboratory for your Masters dissertation?*

I was one of the few from our batch who have completed all their subjects for masters before its tenure, which gave me a time of one year to work on my dissertation. Though it was really hard to find a place for myself amidst COVID, I kept on looking for a place for myself. I was really interested in working on cancer, and its molecular factors that contribute to it, which really caught my interest to the works from Shilpee Dutt Lab. I really liked the work carried out and wanted to be a part of the same. I mailed Ma'am with my interests, and she accepted me be a part of her team. I am really grateful for it and the work that I do here, along with the new scientific tools and techniques that I learn and apply every day.

3) *What has kept you motivated to pursue research?*

As Siddharta Mukherjee said in his book "The Emperor of all Maladies- A biography of cancer", "*History Repeats, but Science Reverberates*" Though I am a beginner in this field, I always believe in the idea that there is always something to contribute in this long term effort for addressing a scientific question, since every time we try to address its answer we end up with more and more questions. Through it's usually followed by a years of hardwork and dedication, but it always suffices, at whatever stage we are in life, and all the efforts drives us forward and makes are more wise. I think that ideology motivates me a lot in this quest.

4) *What have been the most (a) exciting and (b) challenging scientific question you have had the opportunity to address?*

Each of the cells in the body has the similar genetic makeup, but each cell is different in terms of its phenotype, I have always wondered upon the things that tell the gene to express in a particular way, and everything that drives this phenomenon. I believe that there are more than our present knowledge on epigenetics and molecular biology, which is quite interesting to me, and also it inspires me for te present work that I am doing where a deregulation in this mechanism also contributes to the genomic instability hallmark of cancer, and its long term effects.

5) *Can you describe in brief your experiences of your tenure? And, what are your future plans?*

It's been four months since I came here and I have learned to perform Western blotting, Immunofluorescence, and PCR. I am presently learning about Immunoprecipitation and performing it. Also I love to be a part of a team where I get to discuss and learn about so many different things in out Tuesday, and joint lab meets. Though most of the things are new to me, I try to participate in the discussions and it's always great. I look forward to learn all the techniques that are being used in the lab, and their research applications which I can apply in my higher studies.