Name / Organisation	Level of Recognition	Grade	Brief Description
International Economics Olympiad	International | National	11th Grade	The first round of the competition involved numerous participants, and after a rigorous examination process, I advanced to the next round along with the top 250 participants. The first and second stages were Economics and Finance questions spanning across ICSE, CBSE, IB and A Level 12th Grade Curriculum. It had rigorous fast-paced olympiad analytical and theoretical questions. Final rank of AIR 29, which reflects my dedication, hard work, and passion for economics.
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Challenge The winning solutions get shared with policymakers for implementation consideration, impacting more than 35.3 million refugees around the world	International	9th-12th Grade	More than 60000 students across 80 countries submit resolutions per each year's UNHCR theme. 2 times 'Best' Winner & 1 Special Mention. In 2020, we wrote a resolution to improve mental health for refugees at schools by having activities to counter social isolation and increasing training for resources. Won the Best Award In 2021, we wrote a resolution revolving around the idea of partnering up with community leaders to boost vaccination rates. Won the Best Resolution Award. In 2022, received a Special Mention for the framework of implementing vocational programs in refugee communities. By providing monthly subsistence allowance during training, offering employment assistance, establishing ties with local businesses for hiring, and funding the creation of refugee-employed factories and farms.
Common Law Admissions Test	National	12th Grade	CLAT (Common Law Admission Test) is a highly competitive entrance exam in India for admission to leading law schools. With a rigorous selection process, CLAT attracts thousands of aspiring lawyers annually, making it one of the most fiercely contested exams in the country. The acceptance rate varies from 1% to 5% with more than 60,000 test takers Will be receiving my results and my rank in mid-December 2023.
Model United Nations	International | National | School	8th-12th Grade	Assistant Director at Harvard MUN India in 2023 out of their most competitive applicant pool (3-4% acceptance rate) Assistant Director at Harvard MUN Dubai in 2021 Best Delegate at Harvard MUN India (One of the most competitive MUNs worldwide, and the most competitive in India) in a committee of 100+ people. Participated in 33 MUNs (informal and formal) with 23 Best Delegate awards
Trinity College of Music, London Artist Practical Exam conducted by exam officers from the college.	International	3rd-12th Grade	Trinity Grade 8 Level Pianist in Classical Piano (Last grade - currently) Practical Exams have sight reading, aural, improvisation and musical theory. Completing Grade 8 in music theory is equivalent to completing undergraduate music theory requirements at most US schools
Basketball	National | Regional	6th-12th Grade	Played at the Junior NBA 2020, representing my school team Captained my house (Adventurers) in Basketball 9-12th Grade Team in 10th Grade and secured 1st place. Played various interschool tournaments since 6th Grade winning multiple accolades and trophies. Recently won 2nd place at Mallya Aditi Basketball Tournament
Subject Toppers	School	9th & 10th Grade	9IGCSE Grade Inventure Academy Subject Topper in Physics and Business Studies 10IGCSE Grade Inventure Academy Subject Topper in Business Studies and Economics Only 1 subject topper award and to get this you must have to have the highest marks across all internal assessments, formatives and exams.

Name / Organisation	Grade	Brief Description
Stanford University and New York University Stern (Research Student)	12th Grade	Competed successfully among thousands of high school seniors and freshmen to secure a position as the sole researcher student from India and one of five international students out of 60 interns. Collaborated with Stanford University and NYU on a research project led by Professor Zhou from NYU Stern. Our goal was to replicate human behaviour and decisions using Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) and fully connected Neural Networks (NN). We achieved a 93% accuracy rate in predicting user actions, termed "cloning." Currently, I'm part of Phase 2 of the project, focused on enhancing accuracy and expanding on initial results and methods, exclusively with NYU. Published in Stanford's Journal https://theinformaticists.com/2023/10/09/behavior-cloning-bc-of-human-policy-via-logged-data/
University of Cambridge (Research Student)	12th Grade	Merit-scholarship recipient, specialising in Computational Economics under Professor Cassese and PhD Student, Arun Kumar. Currently researching the intersection of economics and advanced computational methods, focusing on high gallbladder cancer rates among rural women in the Gangetic belt. Using network sciences, we analyse connections between this health issue and the broader economy, particularly the impact of gallbladder cancer on women in rural communities. The research study aims to reveal insights for targeted interventions and policies in healthcare, financial planning, and increased testing. This research position positions me at the forefront of innovative interdisciplinary research in Economics, Public Policy, and Public Health. Potential to impact the lives of more than 200 million women
Authentic Knowledge	11th Grade	I, along with my mentor, the CTO and Vice President of Reliance Jio, developed programs to address biases in AI systems, focusing on racial, historical, and socioeconomic biases. These programs target image-data-driven, structured-data-driven, and natural-language-driven models. The initiative aims to enhance model proficiency and accuracy. A detailed 69-page research presentation on findings and processes is available at https://www.aashnakumar.com/_files/ugd/382cec_2ca984593e8a41b6a4d61f74781417e8.pdf.
Amazon Published Author https://www.amazon.com/author/aashnakumar-economist	11th & 12th Grade	Authored "The Scorecard Revolution: Redefining Economic Success," where I created a new metric which is a regression model called, the Holistic Progress Indicator (HPI). This emphasises well-being over material wealth. I examine global progress, highlighting disparities between economic growth and citizens' quality of life, noting that many developed countries fail to give their citizens a good standard of living. Book available at https://a.co/d/f3Y6Oaf (1st Edition published in December 2022, 2nd Edition published in October 2023) Authored "The Techpreneur: A Gen-Z Guide to Business and Innovation" which is a concise, engaging manual offering practical advice for young entrepreneurs navigating the modern business landscape. Focused on Gen-Z, it explores the intersection of entrepreneurship and technology, emphasising its role in reshaping traditional models. Using case studies and personal insights, the book advocates for embracing technology as a fundamental aspect of contemporary business, aiming to inspire the next generation of innovative leaders. Book available at https://a.co/d/h5n16Yu
Independent Research	11th Grade	1. Virtual Carbon Currency, putting a price on carbon: This article proposes a "carbon fee and dividend" approach to combat climate change by taxing carbon emissions and returning the collected funds to individuals or businesses. It suggests using blockchain for a virtual carbon currency, addressing challenges in current carbon pricing and emphasizing its transformative potential. I developed an extensive Python program to implement this. https://www.aashnakumar.com/_files/ugd/382cec_465398fab101481482809d7de95c7f2c.pdf?index=true 2. Navigating Economic Policymaking Through the Lens of the Lucas Critique: This article challenges the traditional use of the Phillips curve in economic policymaking by examining the impact of the Lucas critique. It argues that attempts to manipulate correlations through policy interventions lead to unstable relationships. The article advocates for a dynamic, adaptive policy approach, citing examples like Sweden in the 1990s and Japan's "Abenomics," and suggests that the Lucas critique enhances policymakers' ability to navigate an evolving economic landscape effectively. https://www.aashnakumar.com/_files/ugd/382cec_16c3b9c60f8046ddbcd230079fba7f01.pdf?index=true
Blog Writer	10th, 11th & 12th Grade	I've been authoring the blog "bananaStOnCKs" since 2021, exploring Economics, Philosophy, and more to challenge norms and broaden perspectives. I express my unique perspective by wearing funky banana-themed socks, adopting a "why not" lens for my idiosyncratic thoughts. https://www.aashnakumar.com/bananastoncks

Area / Organisation	Grade	Brief Description
Adhyapana	8th, 9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Grade	Spent 3+ months developing and hand-stitching EmpowHer, a low-cost, sustainable sanitary napkin with bamboo fibre and pocket liners, hand-delivered to underprivileged women. The pad is around 40% cheaper than the ones on the market currently, while also being sustainable. www.adhyapana.live/empowher. Created a Java platform offering menstrual care guidance (videos/guides/modules) in Hindi, Kannada, Tamil, Telugu, Urdu, Punjabi, Bengali, Gujarati, Marathi, Malayalam, and Sindhi. Ran campaigns to break the stigma around sustainable cups and taboos surrounding menstrual healthcare. Sustain and fund over 100 women's menstrual health hygiene for the next 3-5 years. www.adhyapana.live
United Nations	9th & 11th Grade	Under the United Nations 'Mission Possible' Program, I started, along with 3 other students, our mission, called Campaign Kalyana, to promote and deliver healthcare and support women's empowerment. https://wfuna.org/global-citizenship/6-months-of-mission-possible/ Raised 1,48,000 INR to curate COVID-19 kits with sanitisers, soap & masks. This further led me to start my own initiative, Adhyapana, details are written above. I also participated and discussed on the ECOSOC Youth Forum in 2023 to voice out on various issues and problems related to the Sustainable Development Goals specific to India.. https://www.un.org/en/ecosoc-youth-forum-2023
Outreach, Community Service and Volunteering	8th, 9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Grade	Facilitated in organising and creating the History syllabus and curriculum for Grades 7 and 8 of Ramagondanahalli Public School for Peer 2 Peer Teaching Program Part of the Reading Buddy Program at Inventure Academy where I regularly read books to Santoshi Das, an underprivileged student during COVID-19 to ensure she had continued academic support I help raise funding and organise charity events to get money to buy instruments for underprivileged children, through Artem, an Inventure student-run organisation. https://bit.ly/artemcharityevent Part of the Stop India Spitting Campaign with community activist Odette Katrak. I did a walk around my neighbourhood aiming to increase awareness and promote no spitting. https://bit.ly/stopindiaspitting In 8th Grade, I would teach Grade 5 underprivileged students Math and English throughout the year. Spent nearly 5 hours per week, totalling up to 260 hours. My team & I won 3rd place at the Inter House Changemaker Challenge at Inventure for my project idea of Educational initiatives and outreach, where I created 'Crimson' - a platform that gamifies education to combat the challenges faced in COVID-19
Barefoot College	10th Grade	Barefoot College is an organisation started by Bunker Roy in 1972, he was awarded the Clinton Global Citizen Award, along with young activist Malala Yousufzai, and Time's 100 Most Influential People for his work. As a Barefoot College Youth Ambassador, I raised 50,000 INR for women in need in terms of menstrual health care and safety, part of the #ImPURE campaign fundraising and awareness. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Barefoot_College
School Spirit	6th - 12th Grade	I was the youngest member to ever join the INMUN (Inventure MUN) Executive Board in 9th Grade. INMUN 2020: Assistant Director in DISEC INMUN 2021: Assistant Director in UNSC INYP (Youth Parliament) 2022: Director of Civil Society and Under-Secretary-General INMUN 2023: Director of Lok Sabha and Under-Secretary-General Primary Pianist in the School Band (performed in productions in 5th Grade, 8th Grade, and also performed for the Inventure Short Movie in 9th Grade) https://youtu.be/iSrjBuiEesA?si=vwc9GuOnAwy1IQ1g Part of the organising team for the 'Graduating'' Assembly for 12th Grade, with organising 100 peers to showcase a moving up final performance. Study Buddy Mentor of Mathematics and Economics. Received Study Buddy Mentor of the Month Award Represented Inventure at the Round Square Event called Postcard from Shirakatsy Lyceum, a school in Armenia on February 8th 2023. https://bit.ly/rsconferencearmenia Represented Inventure at the Round Square Event in 2021 on 'Fostering Feminism'

Inventure Academy Youth Parliament 2022	11th Grade	Managed and helped organise a nationwide event with 350 delegates, leading the Civil Society Committee for Inventure Youth Parliament 2022. Oversaw a public white policy paper on post-pandemic education to share with the Bangalore Political Action Committee. https://bpac.in/ Engaged & interacted with 300+ government school students over 8 months to understand their experience with post-pandemic education, specifically assessing infrastructure & teacher upskilling. Utilised the data and questionnaire insights to create a comprehensive white paper targeting the pain points we identified. Recommendations include private-public partnerships, mental health awareness, and reforms in the Indian education system, such as mandating psychology students to complete residencies with the underprivileged for enhanced mental health support.
Debate and Dialogue Club at Inventure Academy	10th, 11th and 12th Grade	Founded the Debate & Dialogue Club in 2021, mentoring 120+ students to refine communication and critical thinking skills. Led dynamic weekly sessions covering diverse topics such as foreign policy, effective research, UN bodies and the British Parliament. Taught impactful debate techniques, fostering intellectual and personal growth. Continuously adapted teaching strategies in 2.5+ hour sessions per week for the entire school year.
New York Academy of Sciences	8th, 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th Grade	Accepted in the Junior Academy for New York Academy of Sciences with an extremely selective acceptance rate. https://www.nyas.org/programs/global-stem-alliance/the-junior-academy/ Worked on 3 major research projects in the challenges listed below: 1. Combatting COVID-19 Worked on a project called 'TecHeroes'. Amidst the global COVID-19 pandemic, I collaborated internationally with Colorado students to create a Java-coded app using OpenCloud Source. The app enables users to check store occupancy via their smartphones, utilising Google data. Inspired by Arogya Setu, it also tracks people in a specified area. Additionally, the app features a global, anonymous mental health forum, along with webinars and podcasts to support well-being. https://www.aashnakumar.com/_files/ugd/382cec_8e42aef8e81e4ab0ad908aff8f93a467.pdf 2. Sustainable Chain of Transportation https://bit.ly/sustainabletransportnyas This research project focuses on designing and marketing an environmentally friendly ship powered by hydrogen combustion through electrolysis, cam structures, and primarily solar panels. The goal is to create a sustainable maritime transport solution, reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Solar panels absorb energy during the day, powering the ship's motor and electrolysis for hydrogen production. Surplus energy is stored in batteries. The combustion of separated hydrogen and oxygen makes the ship 50% more efficient than traditional fuel-powered vessels. Contingency plans include using gym-generated energy and a cam-like system for added safety. 3. Green Textiles https://bit.ly/greentextilesnyas This research project focuses on creating environmentally friendly practices in the textile industry by implementing a closed-water system. The system involves redirecting water used in production to generate electricity through turbines and then filtering and reusing the clean water. This approach aims to minimise the industry's environmental impact, particularly in terms of water and energy consumption, contributing to sustainability and aligning with the Sustainable Development Goals.
Dhan Sathi	11th & 12th Grade	Dhan Sathi is my multilingual platform designed to hopefully enhance financial literacy and empower underprivileged individuals in India. www.dhansathi.org. I run a financial blog and engage in conversations with underprivileged individuals in my area about the latest government schemes they can avail. Users can voice input their data and concerns, accessing a list of 740 central sector schemes and 65 centrally sponsored schemes. I cross-reference inputs, providing up-to-date information on government aid. I assist in identifying the most suitable schemes for their specific issues through a user-friendly interface, enabling informed decisions.
Fortis Healthcare	10th Grade	Did 2 certified course-internships in 'Clinical Psychology' and 'Pro-Social Peer Moderator Program' https://www.aashnakumar.com/_files/ugd/382cec_3b948b96670845bfab8bf09f5a325c12.pdf
Entrepreneurship	10th Grade	1. Young Business Entrepreneurs Tycoons Top 500 contestants from 20000+ students with an idea of a multifaceted health monitor (Oxygen rate, blood pulse etc.) that connects users with their family through Arduino and IOT chips. The competition is funded by multiple Silicon Valley companies, Harvard University and HKUST. https://joinytbc.com/ 2. TISB Brand-Y Competition Xavage https://www.tisb.org/news/2021-10-08/xavage-back-in-business Finalist at The International School Bangalore Brand-Y Competition with my seniors at Inventure

Hi! I'm Aashna, a high school student from India passionate about addressing global socio-economic problems.
I've explored key books like "The Wealth of Nations," "The General Theory of Employment, Interest, and Money," and "Poverty and Famines" to deepen my understanding and seek potential solutions through Economics and Public Policy.

Aashna

My passion for Economics and Public Policy fuels my mission for gender equality. I aim to empower women by integrating gender issues into innovation, leveraging my coding skills for technology-driven solutions tailored to their unique needs. Economics helps analyse systemic factors contributing to gender inequality, while Public Policy and technology offer opportunities for innovative solutions.

My goals!

Passion-Driven Mission: Fuelled by my love for Economics and Public Policy, my personal mission is to catalyse gender equality.

Empowering Women: I aspire to empower women by weaving gender perspectives into innovative solutions, utilising my coding skills to craft technology-driven answers tailored to their unique healthcare needs.

Understanding Inequality: Delving into Economics allows me to dissect systemic factors contributing to gender disparities, providing a comprehensive understanding of the challenges.

Innovation Nexus: By intertwining Public Policy and technology, my goal is to innovate and ensure women have equitable access to healthcare, thus contributing to a more inclusive future.

College and Beyond

Economics Research for Policy Impact
- Conduct in-depth economics research, focusing on areas intersecting with public policy.
- Strive to understand systemic factors contributing to gender inequality.
- Aim to drive policy changes, particularly addressing issues in women's menstrual healthcare.

International Impact with United Nations and World Bank
- Aspire to work for international organisations, especially the United Nations and the World Bank.
- Collaborate with experts to contribute to policies and programs combating gender inequality.
- Advocate for the recognition and fulfilment of unique needs of women on a global scale.

Holistic Approach to Gender Equality
- Merge academic pursuits with dedication to social initiatives for a holistic approach.
- Create meaningful change in women's lives by breaking down barriers through public policy.
- Strive to contribute to a world where women are empowered, and their contributions are recognised and celebrated.