COVID-19 outreach effort: Graphic novel on COVID awareness by Arvind Ramanathan, inStem

Dr. Arvind Ramanathan has created an informative graphic novel which was launched on COVID-Gyan website recently. This was done in collaboration with Sonia Sen from DBT’s Institute for Stem Cell Science and Regenerative Medicine (inStem), Bangalore.

Graphical narration (colloquially referred to as ‘comics’) has a rich history in our culture, with series such as Amar Chitra Katha demonstrating the trans-generational power of this medium. As a faculty at inStem with deep interests in cartooning and graphical narration, Dr. Arvind’s effort in developing this comic is to create awareness in non-specialist readers, especially children, about the current health crisis. The comic is based around two curious young children Bharath and Fatima who learn about COVID-19, the immune system, and vaccines from their uncle Raman who is a scientist too. We hope that this effort with anticipated translations into local languages will serve as a widespread platform for science education and communication. As an awareness campaign, this 20 paged graphic novel is released a daily bulletin here.
Here’s a snippet of the cover page of the graphic novel titled ‘Bharath and Fatima Learn about COVID-19’.

Link: [https://www.instem.res.in/](https://www.instem.res.in/)

**Contact details:**
Amrita Tripathy,
.tripathy@instem.res.in
(Communications team)