

Established in 1936



The Doon School WEEKLY

Saturday, March 14 | Issue No. 2399



Regulars

2

Poetry

3

The Week

Gone By 4

Crossword

Musician's Corner 4

Returning India's Daughter

Arjun Singh and Aryan Chhabra write on the recently banned film documenting the Delhi rape case.

While you sit down and read this article, a woman is currently being raped somewhere in our country. An act of such nature occurs every twenty minutes in a nation whose government describes as 'safe and secure'. This same government has also banned an interview in the popular documentary 'India's Daughter' which, in documenting the horrific rape that shook the nation, it reveals the customary gender dogma that has ravaged this country for so long, and hampered the progress of the nation.

'India's Daughter' is a highly controversial documentary regarding the rape of Jyoti Singh also known as Nirbhaya. Needless to say, her case caused furor and outcry among the Indian population with many demanding the immediate execution of the rapists in 2012. Along with revealing the horrific acts performed on that December night, it also reflects a belief in India that women are, "as responsible for rape as men", a notion that is used to criticize a woman for exercising her personal liberty. The banned interview, which is with one of the convicts, reveals an intensely prejudiced view of women that is harbored by many Indians. Another surprising revelation is a similar sentiment among upper-class Indians, putting to rest stereotype that such beliefs exist only, "within the underprivileged". The fact that the rapist's lawyer issued a statement in which he argued that, "it is nature itself" which makes the woman weak, is a testimony to the fact that all segments of society are plagued by these beliefs. Our government, which is supposed to uphold and promote civil rights, is not able to enforce laws that punish offenders who commit such horrendous crimes. Apart from being tainted with inefficiency, more than 250 members of parliament have charges of serious offences against them. Moreover, the fact remains that girls are not provided with the consolation and care that they require after a rape. Instead, their families view them with contempt, and consider it a bane to be living with them under the same roof as it is a, "disgrace" in the eyes of society. In lieu of these views, victims are often evicted from their homes and forced to fend for themselves, regardless of their age.

The prevalent practice, exemplifies the politically incorrect view of women's status in both urban and rural areas. These represent actions by which men have used women's abuse as a tool for the retention and augmentation of their dominance, to the extent that these practices are now interwoven within the real fabric of our social customs. These corrupted beliefs are what prevent total equality of all persons as guaranteed by the constitution and irrespective of a gender. Abhorrent views are not limited to rape. They have stretched into every sphere of a woman's life: education, work, leisure and even household chores, these views prevent women from making independent decisions and leading a life to which they are entitled, forcing them to live with a set of compulsions laid down by men. It is for these reasons that protective measures have become necessary to secure women from the external dangers which they face. To change these beliefs would mean to subvert aspects of instilled customs that have languished in India for generations, making the task evermore arduous. Even today, a prison psychiatrist can say that the accused rapists were normal people with anti-social beliefs.

So how do we change the system to prevent such actions in the future? The answer lies within our own behaviors and attitudes, and incidents like Nirbhaya's and others prompt us to contemplate the reality of our nation. As the youth of India, we must recognize cases like Nirbhaya's and recognize the incorrect dogma that has flourished in India. We must not look down upon women, a belief that must come from the heart and not be observed for the sake of political correctness. When we truly believe that women are equal, reforms will come on their own and the process of subversion will take place. It will not be a quick reform, and it will require hard persistence. But it can happen if the youth is ready to break the shackles of inequality.

Change is only possible with the right ingredients, and India's Daughter is one such ingredient. Effectively banning documentary because of one interview will deprive its intended viewer ship (Indians) of the perspective required to initiate this ideological reform. The documentary covers the truth, and the truth will contribute to the suffrage of the Indian female who longs to climb out of the beliefs that constitute our nation's dark abyss.



Regulars

Stagecraft

The following have been awarded for their achievements in **Hindi Dramatics**:

Trophy for the Best Actor (Juniors): Divij Mullick

Trophy for the Best Supporting Actor (Juniors): Shikhar Trivedi and Naman Agarwal

Trophy for the Best Supporting Actor in a Female Role: Nalini Malaviya

Best Actor in a Female Role: Atrey Bharghava

Congratulations!

Praecisione

Samarjit Singh represented **Uttarakhand** at various **national-level shooting competitions** held during **February** this year. At the **National Games** held in **Kerala**, he participated in the **Senior Pistol** category and secured the **21st** rank. In the **Kumar Surendra Singh Memorial Shooting Championship**, he competed in the **Free Pistol, Sports Pistol** and **Air Pistol** events, securing the rank of **4th, 6th** and **7th** respectively.

During the **selection trials** for the **Indian Shooting Team**, he was ranked **2nd** in the **Sports Pistol**, **3rd** in the **Free Pistol** and **5th** in the **Air Pistol** categories. Consequently, he has been selected to represent **India** in the **Junior World Cup** to be held at **Germany** and the **Czech Republic** in **June** later this year.

Mazel tov!

AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 WORDS

In an audio recording, a leader of the Boko Haram has allegedly sworn allegiance to the Islamic State. In a night-time military exercise mishap in the United States, 11 went missing in a helicopter crash. An Indian court summoned former PM Manmohan Singh over a corruption scandal involving coal mining licenses. Recently, the controversial documentary film - India's Daughter was banned by the Indian Government on grounds of portraying the country in a poor light, a move that invited much criticism.

"It is labour alone that gives dignity to man"
Jawaharlal Nehru

LAMDA

The following have been awarded for their achievements in **LAMDA Examinations** this year:

Highest marks attained in Grade 4: Aarsh Ashdhir

Highest marks attained in Grade 5: Anant Jain

Highest marks attained in Grade 6: Smayan Sahni and Tushaar Sharma

Highest marks attained in Grade 7: Amol Pajni and Smrithi Nair

Congratulations!

Yoga

Utkarsh Agarwal had been appointed as the **Boy-in-Charge** of the **Yoga STA** and **SUPW**.

We wish him a fruitful tenure!

This Week in History

44BC: Julius Caesar was assassinated by high-ranking senators.

537: The Goths laid siege to Rome, and demolished one of the greatest empires in history.

1451: Amerigo Vespucci was born, the Italian navigator after whom America is named.

1493: Christopher Columbus returned from his first journey to the New World.

1879: Albert Einstein was born.

1894: Coca-Cola was sold for the first time in bottles.

1943: The famous diarist of World War Two, Anne Frank died in a German concentration camp.

UNQUOTABLE QUOTES

It's about whether you understood or not understood.

SBL, we understand.

I didn't catch the ball.

Shiven Dewan, you also missed something else.

How is possible?

KPS, unbelievable right!

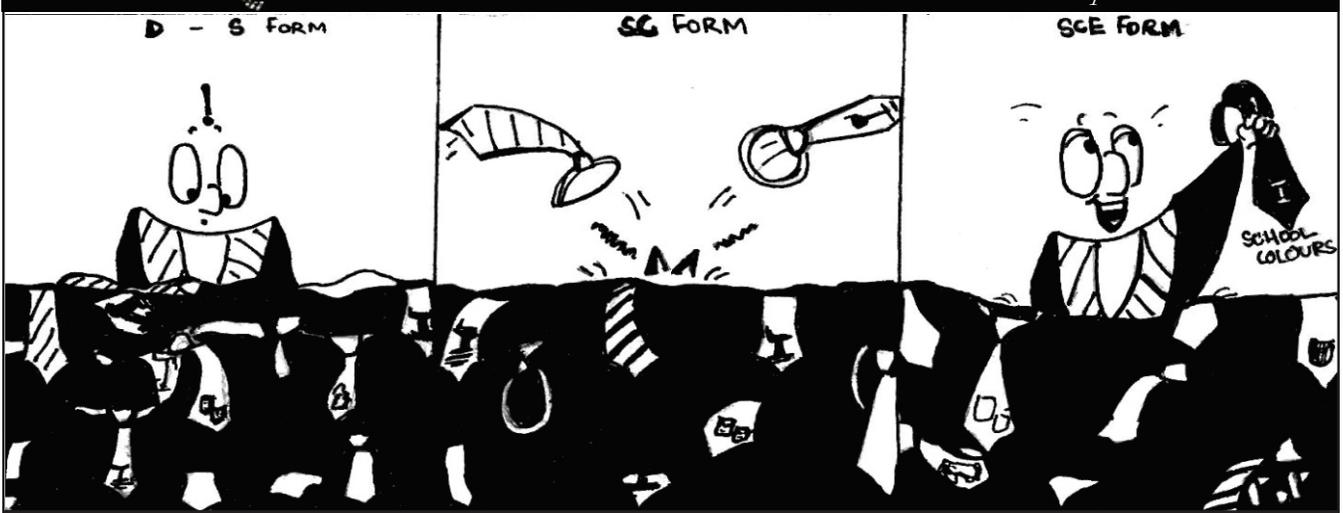
Both the two of you are here.

Ravshaan Mangat, but your grammar is absent.

Dosco Doodle

Of Suits and Ties

Anirudh Popli



The Neophyte

The Doon School Weekly interviewed Ms Ruchi Sahni who recently joined the School.

The Doon School Weekly (DSW): Could you please tell us a bit about yourself and your experience in the field of education?

Ms. Ruchi Sahni (RHS): I've been teaching for the past fifteen years. I started my career as a teacher and then the coordinator for classes nine and ten and I've also been a coordinator for teacher care development and student exchange programmes. During this course of time, I've handled a lot of different jobs, and I think, what keeps teaching alive is interacting with students.

DSW: What prompted your decision to join The Doon School?

RHS: Doon has a revered name in the field of education and secondly, I have a family residing here. I belong to Dehradun, so coming back and working at Doon was an opportunity not to give up.

DSW: What have you found to be unique in The Doon School?

RHS: What I find really mesmerizing about Doon is the way it develops the attitude and the character of a student and makes them disciplined and sincere. It provides a student with a range of activities which is necessary for an all round education.

DSW: Boarding schools like ours have often been branded as archaic or that the education system is too old and not applicable to the world today. What do you feel about this issue?

RHS: I follow the maxim that old is gold. However, in this modern era, with the rapid advancement of technology, we want everything to be done in a matter of seconds. The School has a well balanced system of the old and the new. I think that a boarding school education is very relevant even today as it teaches one to be independent and also to be great members of the society.

DSW: How do you think that you will benefit from and contribute to School in the future?

RHS: I think it will be a good learning experience because this school has a history attached to it. The kind of exposure and the platform that is going to be here added to the magnitude of work is going to be enormous. As far as my contributions to school are concerned, I would like to contribute in any way I'm asked to or whenever a student approaches me, I could give him some form of help and guidance. If students, after passing out from here, return years later still remembering my name, it would make a really strong impact and I think that is a fine job done by a teacher.

| Poetry |

Disruption of Harmony

Nachiket Jain

Inside a prosperous beehive,
Once upon a time,
Lived a number of bees in clans
which enjoyed different rhymes.

They worked together,
For the glory of their hive-
Under the old bees-
The Old Five.

Everything worked smoothly
For the bees were glad.
They could enjoy their rhymes freely;
No need for clad.

Prosperity flourished in their hive-
Credits to the Old Five.
For they managed the bees well,
Looking at their schedule, anybody could tell.

The Old Five believed in the conventional ways-
What their ancestors had taught them.
It had taken them through difficult days,
And happiness it had brought them.

“For your hive to be prosperous
You must abide by this Golden Rule:
The bees must be happy,
With their heart must you never duel.”

The Wise Four understood the importance of this
rule,
The One? Oh! He was a fool.
There were ‘free bees’ in this clan,
Whose rhymes the One just could not stand.

One day he fixed his hair,
And then by using the power of his chair,
Announced the ban on the rhymes of the clan.
This was a doomed plan.

The Wise Four approached him
And begged him to reconsider
For the plan had come to effect;
The absence of those rhymes began to hinder.

Soon the prosperous hive,
Was prosperous no more in thought.
So, the bees decided to leave
And the hive began to rot.

The Week Gone By

Madhav Singhal

While our ATs and SCEs have presently gotten their second wind, the rest of the School has immersed itself into their books. One can find a group of academicians near the Accounts Office and the Tuck Shop furiously turning pages in desperate attempt for a last minute revision. On the other hand, our ISC pursuers have certainly begun to feel the pressure and many are found trying to finish at least one-fourth of their syllabi. Coffee- the elixir for marks- is much in demand and is being gulped down, much to the dismay of the CDH staff, in the missing cups of the dining hall.

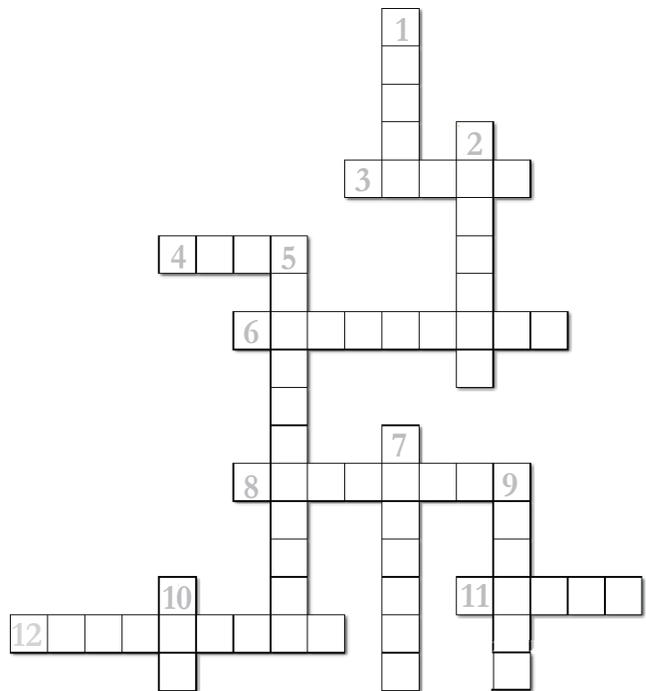
Despite the ongoing examinations, our hockey players have been practicing diligently and our Cricketers are found in the nets daily. A group of students from the Groton School are currently on a visit and are participating in a Social Service Project. Meanwhile, it is noteworthy that the number of lost books in School has sharply increased. Speaking of books, the Autograph-books are in full circulation containing content spanning across various genres and often spared of censorship. After all, "Honesty is the best policy".

Our ATs have been forced to attend the daily assemblies, depriving them of sleep after their long all-nighters. Awards are being out handed out generously and there are still more to come for the Prize Giving Ceremony is here, heralding the fact that the time for the SCEs to leave has come. Mixed emotions are floating in the atmosphere. The School Captain has been working overtime and we hope that his speech will filter out well through his own AV setup. Our musicians are all set for the 'Auld Lang Syne' and will surely give the SCEs the farewell they deserve. For the rest of the School, it is going to be an opportunity to replenish their stocks and large hand-bags are expected to be in fashion. However, for the masters, it signals the deadline for correcting papers- something that both students and masters dread.

On a parting note, it will be the last formal assembly for the Batch of 2015 as students. The Rose Bowl, for them, would come alive; one last time. Then it will again, for the next batch, but the circle will stay immortal.

The Crossword

The Musician's Corner



Across

3. largest instrument in the world.
4. known as the father of Western Classical Music.
6. One of the most famous Jazz musicians who also sang - 'What a Wonderful World'
8. a style of singing in which the instrumental sounds are made by the singer.
11. Pt. Ravi Shankar is the foremost player of this instrument.
12. the Oboe belongs to this family of instruments.

Down

1. a band recently broke weddings for this song.
2. the 'King of Pop'.
5. the precursor to the piano.
7. lead singer of the band 'Queen'.
9. the stage name of Tim Bergling.
10. the number of Beatles members still alive.

Note: All musicians mentioned above are referred to by their surnames.

Answers to This Week's Crossword:	
Across	3. organ
6. Armstrong	4. Bach
8. Capella	5. harpsichord
11. sitar	7. Mercury
	9. Avicii
	10. two
Down	1. Sugar
	2. Jackson
	5. woodwinds
	7. Queen
	9. Bergling
	10. Beatles

Source: <http://worksheets.theteacherscorner.net/make-your-own/crossword/>

Online Edition: <http://www.doonschool.com/publications/the-doon-school-weekly/latest-issue>

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