

Established in 1936



The Doon School WEEKLY



Saturday, April 29 | Issue No. 2466

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To Do Enough

Bharat Choudhary *criticises the complacent nature of DoscOs.*

Recently, I encountered a question by a student who was graduating from School. He asked me, "Have I done enough to call myself a Dosco?" I paused, looked around awkwardly and didn't answer: not because I doubted the value of his achievements, or even my own, but because I didn't quite know what 'enough' really meant.

What I now know, however, is that it has no meaning, and there can never be a standard of 'doing enough' in School. We are an institution where people can and ought to keep growing from strength to strength, and going the extra mile every time not only increases one's success but allows one to broaden their learning, which serves them well later on. To flatten out and believe one has done 'enough' just creates a mediocre environment which is bad for the School, and falls short of the excellence that is achieved by constantly pushing boundaries.

The potential we are missing out on is enormous, and it exists in DoscOs whether they recognise it or not. It is our job to harness it for our own selves, if not for the School.

Yet, the problem comes when we are constantly told that we've done 'enough', leading to the kind of stagnation I mentioned before. In this, each department in our School has seemed to ascribe a different definition of this word. For instance, if a student is Cambridge-bound, the 'college would feel he has done 'enough'. If a student

“Working towards the 'enough' status is what slowly removes the novelty of Doon.”

gets a 43/45 in his IB finals, it's said he has done 'enough' according to the teaching community. If the student holds a Games Blazer, many in the sports community would say he has done 'enough'. In a few cases, we see students who are successful in all these areas: at the end their school tenure, they are awarded a tie in recognition of doing 'enough'. There's no doubt that these people are all high achievers, but have they done 'enough'? Aren't we limiting them here?

But the problem is two-fold, since labelling the work of some to be 'enough' trickles down to others. Living in the thick of an institution where seniors serve as the role models, a boy who aspires to emulate someone who's 'done enough' prevents us from being unique. If at all he reaches that point, the boy becomes a mere reflection of someone else and not a unique 'Dosco'. Surely, having a mentor for guidance and as a benchmark is helpful, but just working towards their 'enough' status is what slowly removes the novelty of Doon. If anything, we should work to be unique, and create a diverse school that produces 'DoscOs', and not alumni who simply follow footsteps on the sands of time. It's a thought to consider.

As I write this piece, I'm aware that this matter concerns the SC-Form – the new leadership - and thus the new 'role models' of the school. Its members have come a long way since they first became DoscOs – the restless and fidgety children of twelve, who after months of heavy coaching, books and prayers got their greatest opportunity yet. As they reach the pinnacle of their six-year stint, and cap off their achievements, I would request that we not label them as having done 'enough'. We must ask them to work more, and prevent complacency across the rest of the School.

But while the SC-Form wraps up their tenures, the new D-Form arrives tomorrow to a new world called 'Doon'. Someday, they will be the future of this school, and to limit their progress with our labels would be a disservice to this institution. Here, I remember times before being a Dosco, when my sister would laugh at me every time I crossed The Chakrata Gate outside: I would stiffen up like a cadet, hoping to enter that gate. The reason was not only for a good quality academic education, but to be a part of a fraternity across that would teach me the skills to face the tough world. Those involve a drive: one that compels us to do more, and push ourselves higher and not be constrained not because we've not done enough, but because there's so much more to do.

With that, I'd conclude, since I've paradoxically written 'enough'.



Regulars

Literary Accolades

The following are the results of the **BP Chandola Hindi Essay Writing Contest**:

Juniors:

1st: Namit Nagarth

2nd: Agam Bhatia

Seniors:

1st: Amulya Agarwal

2nd: Mihir Gupta

Well done!

Scoring Centuries

The following are the results of two matches played between the School Cricket Team and the **Old Boys**:

In the **Sheel Vohra Memorial Cricket Match**, the Old Boys batted first and scored **159 in 25 overs**. The School team scored **150 runs**, and **lost** the match by **9 runs**. Harshit Agarwal scored **30 runs**.

In the match against the **Combined Old Boys XI**, the Old Boys scored **199 runs in 25 overs**. In response, the School team scored **200 runs**, and won the match by **5 wickets**. Udaivir Jaijee scored a monumental **150 runs not out**.

Kudos!

THE WHO?

Who is Sonny John Moore?

Aditya Singhee: A Criminal

Omar Chisthi: A playwright

Jaiveer Misra: An Actor

Nandil Sharma: A Cricketer

Sonny John Moore is a world renowned EDM artist and songwriter, popularly know by his stage name **Skrillex**.

"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give."
- Winston Churchill

UNQUOTABLE QUOTES

Did France ever holded a world cup?

Paras Gupta, football enthusiast.

Did they ever won?

Aryan Bhattacharjee, ask Paras.

That is very insignificant.

Ansh Raj, priorities.

What is this book?

HCY, the book critic

Go to the sleep.

ADN, sleep deprived.

This Week in History

1926 CE: Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist Harper Lee is born.

1937 CE: Saddam Hussein, President of Iraq, is born.

1945 CE: Adolf Hitler commits suicide along with his newly-wed wife, Eva Braun.

1994 CE: Nelson Mandela wins the presidency in South Africa's first multi-racial elections.

1986 CE: The Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant disaster occurs in the Soviet Union.

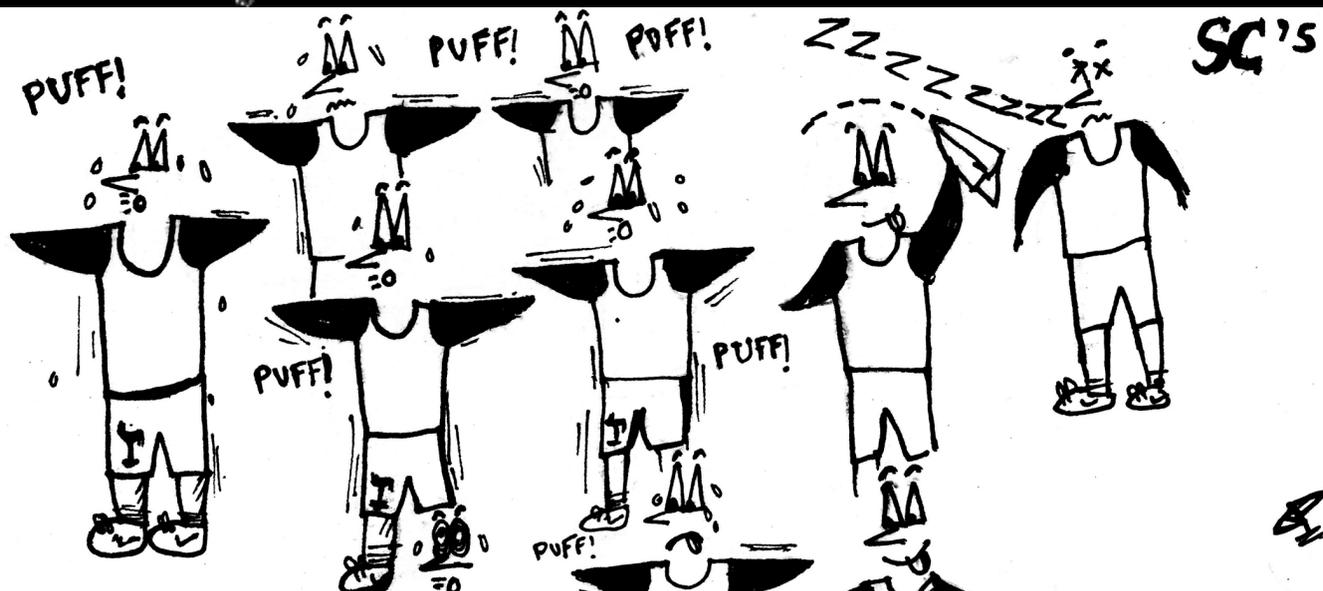
Around the World in 80 Words

The BJP retained all the three municipal corporations in the recently held MCD elections. French presidential candidate Marine Le Pen announced that she would step aside as the leader of the National Front Party. AIADMK leader and nephew of Sasikala, Dhinakaran was arrested by the Delhi police, following charges of bribery against him. Hundreds of Maoists ambushed and massacred as many as 25 CRPF personnel in Chhatisgarh's Sukma district. Yogi Adityanath scrapped fifteen holidays in UP, including Prophet Muhammad's birthday.

Dosco Doodle

Standing 'Out'

Pratham Bansal



India's Greatest Bane

Salman Mallick *highlights the incompatibility of democracy and diversity in India.*

My fellow Indians would probably baulk at what I am about to say. Whatever they may say about the 'other' religion and the 'other' ideology would immediately dissolve at even the mention of the division of India into smaller states. Yet that is exactly what I am about to talk about.

Before you disregard this article as antinational and therefore not right, do hear me out. Certain examples around the world suggest that a country which have a population which is even and homogenous in terms of its beliefs, religion, and ideals generally (in fact, almost all the time) seems to work better for its people compared to the 'foremost' democracies in the world like the US. Look at Sweden, Denmark, Finland, and New Zealand. They are consistently ranked among the top in welfare charts. Why? That is what I want to answer.

The fundamental idea of any political ideology and government is to provide equity for the entire population; not, like some people think, to win wars and diplomatic battles and gain influence in the United Nations and be a part of the United Nations Security Council and be the most powerful nation in the world. All these are just a part of the road to giving your people equity of opportunity and attain socialism.

Forgive me for my choice of words; I said 'socialism', which many people associate with communism and the erstwhile Union of Socialist Soviet Republics (the USSR). No. Communism was a path to socialism, which basically creates a situation in which all have equality of opportunity. Capitalism is also a (economic) path to socialism through the forces of the market and incentives (although it certainly doesn't look it in its current form). Democracy is also a (political) path to socialism and intends to do so through the equal representation of all people in the government.

What a democracy is supposed to do is to provide a provision for all people to be treated exactly the same by all the organs of the government (the executive, the legislature, and the judiciary). Now, the main example of that not happening is the quota system. The provision of the quota system clearly draws lines between the people as per their differences, which is not supposed to be the case in any democracy.

The fact is diversity leads to all sorts of complications in a democracy. The main idea of a democracy is to create an incentive for those vying for political power to promote welfare for their people. However, the presence of diversity in a population leads to the creation of vote banks, thus leading to politicians with questionable motives exploiting the differences amongst the people to maintain power. Another inherent disadvantage that a diverse democracy has is the prevalence of the majority. The prevalence of a majority is fine in a group of people where the people have the same basic set of ideas, values, and are basically homogenous. There, the difference is only in opinions. However, when the majority is completely different from the minority, it basically leads to the marginalisation of the minority. And when a political party sees that, it can create a set of policies which would effectively create a shortcut for these minorities out of their marginalised place into the mainstream. In India, this is the quota system.

The logical solution to this problem would be to divide the country into smaller parts, which would be similar to Partition. Again, this would bring another caveat amongst those who still remember the horrible conditions during

“What I advocate is a Union similar to the European Union.”

Partition. However, what I advocate is a Union similar to the European Union, in which economically, there are no divisions, but politically, there are. Thus, this would allow the governments of the separate 'countries' to cater to the needs of their people and only their people, while at the same time not causing any sort of economic disability due to availability of resources.

Defenders of the status quo would talk about the high rate of economic growth and development in our nation, along with our increasing stature in the international arena. But I ask you, what is the point? What is the point of having that when the basic needs of most of our population are not satisfied? What is the point when everyone does not have equal access to basic rights? If you compare the average Indian to the average Japanese, you would find a world of difference. And yet in 1947, both countries were roughly at the same position, with the Japanese devastated by the nuclear bombings.

Another point of argument would be the so-called globalization of our community and how this would lead to greater intolerance amongst the people. For that, I would ask you: does your tolerance of African people or American people depend on them being from within your borders? No, obviously not, considering that if a person is intolerant, they will be intolerant towards everyone different from him, while a person who is tolerant will always, on the other hand, be tolerant towards everyone, whether it be a gay, an American, or a Muslim.

Now, why is it that these Scandinavian nations, New Zealand, and other so-called 'welfare nations' are able to cater

(Contd. overleaf)

(Contd. from last page)

to their peoples' needs? It is all down to a greater clarity in decision-making in their legislative and executive bodies, because of the fact that they are not hampered of communal and cultural differences. Instead, they talk about constructive things like how to raise the people out of poverty using unemployment benefits, or how to account for all the food that goes waste from restaurants. In short, they talk about actual issues which would affect the ordinary man. Voting in their nations is down to the constructive benefits that the government brings for the people, not to those who would be providing the greatest quota. That is how democracy is supposed to work. It provides governments with incentives to work for the people. A diverse nation skews these incentives.

Another repetitive feature of democratic government is the hardening of 'ideology', thus leading to large-scale apathy between political parties. This leads to the dropping of common sense and the blind opposition of everything that the opposition does and says, leading to a lack of consensus. Again, this does not occur in homogenous nations. All that occurs is difference in opinion. There we are able to witness the most important, and at the same time, most rarely found democratic ideal: compromise.

This feature is seen everywhere in democracies. In fact, in the past, when the United States government had not yet given rights to people other than white Americans, there was a much higher rate of consensus (leading to greater legislation) because of the commonality that all shared. Now, we see a greater apathy between Democrats and Republicans. If the governments are the same as the people they represent, then they try their very best to provide the best for them. Thus, homogeneity breeds welfare.

In conclusion, all of the reasonable logic points toward a better chance for a good future for the Indian people if they divide into homogenous states. Various times, I have come to the conclusion that homogenous populations create better democracies, which ultimately create better welfare for the people. Now, it is simply a choice between 'the nation's power and growth', which doesn't really affect the ordinary man, as compared to your own growth and development. For greater progress, let us simply look at the models that are staring at us in the face. Let us look at these countries that are doing well for their people, and follow their lead.



Under the Scanner

The H-1B Visa | Ansh Raj

Since coming to office, President Trump has indeed not failed to live up to expectations. Unfortunately though, many of these expectations hold the promise of greatly damaging foreign trade, immigration and globalisation. Amidst the commotion created by the recent travel ban on the six Islamic countries, the Trump administration has launched yet another attack, this time the target being all the foreign employees who currently work in the United States as H-1B visa holders. Since the swearing in of Donald Trump as the 45th president of the US, as many as six bills have been proposed in both the houses calling for H-1B visa reforms, which can bring many jobs back to American citizens, and at the same time, jeopardise the livelihoods of many immigrant employees. In President Trump's unexpectedly successful presidential campaign, perhaps the most eminent promise which he made to the American population was that he would leave no stone unturned in bringing employment back to America, and that is exactly what the new legislations propose to do. Earlier, the established minimum wage of \$60,000 for the H-1B visa holders would supply firms with cheap labour, which resulted in many American jobs being given to immigrant workers. However, The High-Skilled Integrity and Fairness Act of 2017, proposed by Californian Congressman Lofgren, aims at eliminating this practice by elevating the minimum wage of these visa holders to \$130,000, which is more than double the current amount. This law, if passed, would inherently make the current foreign labour expensive, compelling the firms to hire the local employees over the foreign ones. The other bills also advocate similar reforms, with one bill restricting firms from hiring more than H-1B employees as well as prohibiting American employees from being replaced by them.

These bills unveil a horrible truth to the world- that the mighty United States of America, which is still regarded as the global superpower, has started to resort to protectionism to serve its citizens' interests. While many maintain that these policies would help America recover from its current state of high unemployment, and at the same time, open its doors to only the most deserving and talented employees, there is also a growing consensus that these policies can and will adversely affect America's economy.

However, the more pressing issue at hand is the victims of these protectionist policies. If these bills are passed, many H-1B visa holders would become unemployed. It is a known fact that 60% of Indian IT revenues come from the United States. If the mere uncertainty towards this H-1B visa reform dilemma can cause a great dip in a market capitalization of these IT industries, we can only imagine what the aftermath will be once these bills are passed. As time goes by, Indian H-1B employees, along with many others of their kind, watch with anxious hearts as the uncertainty over their future continues to loom.

Beneath the Mask

Divyansh Nautiyal provides his opinion on the importance of embracing emotions.

On numerous occasions, we as humans tend to go through situations which leave an everlasting emotional impact on us. This generally turns out in the shape of a memorable moment which leads to us being high in spirits (for example, when you win a crucial Inter-House match or succeed in achieving your desired goals) or at times this turns out to be entirely contrary (a humiliating loss or when our aspirations get crushed). The trouble approaches when an individual loses the sense to deal with such situations emotionally. Having witnessed lots of people go through such emotional turmoil and having had to face some myself, the issue prompted me to draw attention to this dilemma, that we as humans go through from time to time. Through this article, I will primarily be focusing on the necessity for individuals to realise the importance of embracing their emotions and how this actually plays an important role in shaping up the personality of an individual.

We are currently living in a world which is witnessing a consistent rise in the number of people experiencing

“ By embracing our emotions, we are relieving ourselves from the mental and emotional agony which can be destructive to our peace of mind. ”

bouts of depression, loneliness and other mental problems. These are often linked to our emotions. It has been even estimated by the WHO that by 2020, depression will become the second leading cause for diseases worldwide. I personally believe that the root cause of depression and many other mental problems is the fact that we don't accept our emotions and we more often than not repress these feelings and prevent them from being expressed. But why do we run away from them?

We run because we tend to use several ineffective ways of coping with stress. These are called 'defence mechanisms'. The most common ones are 'denial' and 'repression'. 'Projection' is another way of coping with stress. For example, when you win a match or succeed in your aspirations after a nail-biting end, or when you face defeat, the consequences of which would be far too great, an individual starts using such mechanisms. In the case of the latter and similar instances that bring upon us a negative impact, we start to ignore the truth, twist the tale when we experience the flashbacks of the same event to our convenience. We do so because accepting our emotions (which are our reminder of those events) becomes demanding of us. Hence we choose the side-track, where we ignore our emotions and pretend to be someone who was never affected by what had happened with him or her.

The Oscar winning movie *Inside Out* similarly provides us with an insight to these emotional traumas that are faced by humans. The movie revolves around the life of a girl who was trying to run away from her emotions and that gradually made her numb and insensitive making it even more difficult for her to get out of the state of depression and loneliness that she was in.

By embracing our emotions, we are relieving ourselves from the mental and emotional agony which can be destructive to our peace of mind. By doing so, we are truly accepting ourselves and not hiding or denying ourselves the reality.

When an individual runs away from the pain of accepting his emotions, the individual progressively becomes insensitive. The individual is constantly seeking for emotional comfort and attention. In numerous situations when the individual feels incapable and cannot take ownership of how one feels more often than not they choose a path of least resistance.

It is through embracing our emotions and opening up about our emotional problems that we are able to find a way out of these dilemmas. Moreover, we must encourage others to do the same so as to take steps against this problem. Most importantly, we must put in every effort toward helping individuals who are actually going through this problem and realise that we play an equal role in helping them out of this emotional trauma.

I would like to remind us all that the emotions that we try to run away from are neither good nor bad. They are simply indicators of our feelings towards situations that we face in our day to day lives. Successively moving away from our emotions distances us from our true selves. So that we are able to know ourselves better, it is imperative that we realise the significance and necessity of our emotions. As is seen in the case of any problem, running away from these emotional dilemmas only makes them grow worse and they usually tend to reappear in a form where it eventually becomes nearly impossible to solve them!

The Week Gone By

Salman Mallick

The past two weeks of the new schedule have brought about certain gaps in the School Council's planning, with the main issue of contention being the rather short gap between P.T. and first school. But it was quite obvious that the Jaipur and Oberoi House boys would be the main victims of this small gap, and considering the strict new rules about YCs from late marks and suspensions from YCs, it was not surprising that many teachers chose to be more lenient.

Physical training has been the main event this past week, with the commands of the P.T. leaders ringing through Doscocs' heads (except SCs, as you can see in the cartoon). However, it would all be over by the time this issue comes out for print, and may the best house (as it has often not been the case) win.

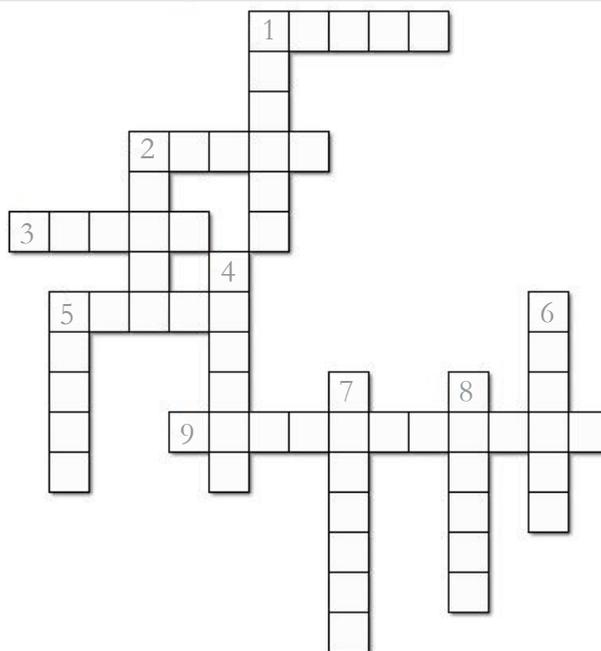
This week also witnessed the next step of the C form's journey through Doon, with them moving from the Holding Houses to the Main House. This also gave the SCs another batch to pick on, while the B formers heaved a huge sigh of relief as the burden of their 'duties' shifted. However, the main duty of the juniors as of now has been to conduct the practices for the One-Act Play, with entire forms being commissioned to act as the 'stage committee' in mosquito-infested lawns and the Rose Bowl at night. Meanwhile, the House Dance Troupes are in full swing, and practices generally go on till the late hours of the night (depending on the whims and fancies of the Dance Coordinator). The Hockey and Basketball School Teams have a busy schedule in front of them, and while both are doing the School proud, they wouldn't do as well if they're kept from their refreshments.

This week has seen the departure of the last of the SCLs, with some seeing the entire house coming out and saying their final goodbyes (one SCL in particular caught the eye, shouting "Go Oberoi!" as his car sped off).

Changes in weather have brought about many colds in the light of the increasing heat (ironically). We can also see the heat increasing in the international arena, with the US and North Korea gearing up for a potential conflict. Hopefully, we are not in for the worst.

Crossword

Comics and Cartoons



Note: All answers related to persons in this crossword refer to their surnames.

Across

1. Red _____ is the archenemy of Captain America.
2. The pen name of the Belgian cartoonist who created Tintin.
3. The lover of Joker in the Batman comic series.
5. The muscular and boorish cartoon character who does his best to attract women, but usually fails.
9. The tech-pro Stone Age family which finds the solutions to the most difficult situations.

Down

1. The cowardly slacker and friend of Scooby-Doo.
2. Barbera and _____ are the creators of Tom and Jerry.
4. The protagonist of The Jungle Book.
5. Bugs _____ is a famous character of The Looney Tunes.
6. This famous cartoon character gains strength by eating spinach.
7. The father of the Powerpuff Girls.
8. The name of Chacha Chaudhary's dog.

5. Bravo	4. Bunny
3. Quinn	3. Mowgli
2. Herge	2. Hanna
1. Skull	7. Utanium
9. Flintstones	1. Shaggy
	6. Popeye
Down	
Answers to This Week's Crossword	

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

Online Edition: <http://www.doonschool.com/old-boys/past-weeklies/>

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