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THE SCHOOL CAPTAIN'S INTERVIEW

The Doon School Weekly interviewed Ishan Sandhu, the newly elected School Captain.

The Doon School Weekly (DSW): How do you feel being elected as School Captain?

Ishan Sandhu (ISS): Over the years the School Captain has been the person who the entire School looks up to and I am honoured that the School community believes that I am worthy of this position. I feel like I have been entrusted by the students to make it a better place for them and that they will support me in my endeavours. There is a huge difference between being appointed by masters, and on being voted for by the School community. You have a sense of pride and happiness when you get to know that majority of the School community believes in you. I believe that it is a great privilege for me to be able to hold such a position in one of India's finest and most esteemed institutions.

DSW: What specific changes do you plan to bring in the School in your capacity as School Captain and why?

ISS: As the School Captain I have various roles and duties to uphold, but I believe that the crux of my role is to ensure self enforced discipline amongst the students. Each student should fulfil his duty without having been told to do so. Another important aspect of every Dosco's life is living under seniority. Over the years the relationship between seniors and juniors has however, loosened up to a certain extent. It is my goal to ensure that no junior is frightened of his senior, but still respects him. However, this respect should be reciprocated by the senior as well, thus forming a two-way relationship involving mutual co-operation.

The standard of sports at School has always been high but needs to be refined. This can be done through encouraging fresh talent by providing them with better opportunities. I also believe that 'House Spirit' has been increasing amongst the School community at the cost of 'School Spirit'. I believe that both are equally important, and no preference should be given to any one of them.

DSW: How do you plan to make the Prefectorial body more approachable to juniors in school?

ISS: At the recently held Prefect's Workshop, this issue was discussed. The conclusion at which we arrived was that prefects are not only leaders, but also mentors. I would advise the entire student body, not to be afraid to discuss relevant problems with the members of the Prefectorial Body. The Prefectorial Body is not one to be taken lightly, but will always be there when you require their help.

DSW: Do you believe that punishments are a necessity to induce and maintain a sense of discipline?

ISS: If a student knows that he is doing something wrong and still goes ahead I believe that person should be taken to task. If a person doesn't know what he is doing is wrong then he must be taught. All punishments should be given in an unbiased manner. I believe the concept of not punishing juniors at all is useless because the student body then begins to take the Prefectorial body lightly. At the end of day the only way through which true discipline can be achieved is from within; self-discipline is extremely vital.

DSW: According to you, what is the essence of leadership?

ISS: To sum up the essence of leadership is a Herculean task, for a leader has many qualities. In fact, everybody is a leader in one way or another. I believe that the most important quality in a leader is the ability to listen; he should be willing to hear everyone's opinion and only then make a decision. A leader should always remember that people are looking up to him, and so he should never do anything by which people would lose faith in him, after all a leader is a role model for many. A good leader, leads by example. In conclusion, I would like to say that a leader is one who is at the front of the line. He commands respect and appreciates that he has the support of a good team.

RAPID FIRE:

- 1) **Favourite sport season:** Hockey
- 2) **Favourite book:** Catcher in the Rye
- 3) **Favourite movie:** Cheats
- 4) **Your School life in one word:** Holistic



Regulars

GOLF

The School participated in the **Madhavrao Scindia Golf Tournament** held at the DLF Golf and Country Club in Gurgaon on February 8. The School was represented by Anant Singh Mann and Varun Sehgal. The school **won** for the second successive year.
Congratulations!

CRICKET

The **School Senior Cricket Team** played a match against **Kasiga School**. Akshay Sarawgi scored 38 runs. Rishav Raj Das took four wickets for 11 runs and Aditya Vir Roy took three wickets for 4 runs. The School **won** by 1 wicket. Well done!

The **School Mediums Cricket Team** played a match against **Anandmai Academy**. Madhav Goel scored 55 runs. The School **lost** by 26 runs.

The **Sub-Junior Cricket Team** played a match against **Kasiga School**. Udayveer Sekhon scored 37 runs. The school **lost** the match.
Good Effort!

APPOINTMENTS

The **Boy-in-Charge** of LAMDA for the forthcoming year is Shivam Sharma.

Congratulations!

The **Boy-in-Charge** of Golf for the forthcoming year is Anant Singh Mann.

Congratulations!

The **Boy-in-Charge** of the Trophy Squad for the forthcoming year is Sachin Mehra.

Congratulations!

Yuvan Kumar has been appointed the **Secretary** of the **Library Council**.

Congratulations!

The following are the appointments of the **English Debating Society** for the forthcoming year:

School Debating Captain: Pulkit Agarwal

Boy in-charge: Sayuj Dhandhanania

Congratulations!

The following are the **Sports Captains** for the forthcoming year:

Cricket: Rishav Raj Das

Hockey: Anubhav Agarwal

Soccer: Aditya Vir Roy

Basketball: Suhel Karara

Athletics: Siddharth Sarin

Swimming: Rohan Agarwal

Squash: Ishan Sandhu

Tennis: Arush Sood

Badminton: Saket Golyan

Boxing: Sartaj Singh Sidhu

Senior PT Leader: Raghav Bansal

Congratulations!

THE WHO?

Who is Sushil Koirala?

Owner of Nokia -Rishi Raj Deva

A soccer player -Tejit Pabari

An MP -Shrey Kapoor

A businessman -Deepak Dhiman

A merchant -Rishabh Dev

A bureaucrat -Shikhar Trivedi

A pianist -Devansh Agarwal

Sushil Koirala is the newly appointed Prime Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal.

Dosco Doodle *And so it begins...*
Madhav Singhal



AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 WORDS

In Syria, aid agencies are hoping to restart the evacuation of civilians from their city homes. Meanwhile, Jose Alvarenga, who claims to have spent a year lost at sea, has returned to his home in El Salvador. In the United Kingdom, River Thames has been heavily flooded and there is stormy weather with winds of speeds exceeding hundred miles an hour. Back home, Arvind Kejriwal has issued a probe into a possible scam involving gas pricing by Mukesh Ambani's company.

UNQUOTABLE QUOTES

That was not a bold!

Dhruv Kharbanda, on a hat trick.

Can we have a bathe?

Rishi Raj Deva, keeps very clean.

He entered the room from the outside.

Angad Singh Trehan, teleporter.

His arm was brokes.

Sarvagya Dhiman, is English too?

He is argumenting.

Samarth Bhardwaj, rest in peace English.

My shoelaces were unbuttoned.

Dhruv Pais, knotted.

राष्ट्रीय एकता

रोहन हुंडिया

भारत विविधताओं में एकता का एक विशाल देश है। यहाँ भाषा, वर्ण, रूप, रंग और आचार-विचारों में विषमता पाई जाती है, किन्तु फिर भी हम एक ही देश के निवासी हैं। हम अच्छी तरह जानते हैं कि राष्ट्रीय एकता एक ऐसी शक्ति है जो हम देशवासियों को उन्नति का रास्ता दिखाती है। संसार के कई लोगों ने एकता का मार्ग अपनाकर उन्नति पाई है। एकता की भावना जागृत करने के लिए श्री मोहनदास करमचंद गांधी तथा अनेक अन्य देशभक्तों ने कई आंदोलन आरम्भ किए। उनके प्रयासों को कोई भी भारतवासी भुला नहीं सकता। एकता की भावना पुराने समय की कठिनाइयों से लेकर हमारे आज के दैनिक जीवन में उज्ज्वलता का मार्ग दिखाती रही है। सही कहूँ तो हमारा देश 'विविधता में एकता' का सार है। यह देश अनादिकाल से एकता के रास्ते पर चलते हुए ऊँचाइयों को छूता रहा है, परन्तु दुर्भाग्य से आजकल के समाज में कई स्वार्थी एवं भ्रष्ट व्यक्ति भारत की एकता को अपने व्यक्तिगत हितों के लिए चोट पहुँचा रहे हैं।

आज के युग में राष्ट्रीय एकता सबसे महत्त्वपूर्ण शक्ति बन सकती है। धार्मिक, सामाजिक, आर्थिक, राजनैतिक और भौगोलिक विविधता को हम अपनी ताकत बना सकते हैं। बस आवश्यकता है तो एक स्वस्थ सोच की। हमारा संविधान हर व्यक्ति को धार्मिक, सामाजिक तथा राजनैतिक स्वतंत्रता देता है। इसके पीछे भावना यही है कि हम अपनी सोच को मानते हुए दूसरों की सोच का सम्मान करें।

बूँद - मनुष्य का जीवन

शिखर त्रिवेदी

आँखें होने लगती हैं नम, तो छलक आती एक बूँद ,
सरकती जाती वह नीचे, एक गीली सी रेखा खींचती
सारी धूल हटाते हुए -टिपक, टिपक।
रूकावट पर रुक जाती पर कुछ देर बाद,
फिर आगे बढ़ने लगती कर रूकावट पार ,
मंज़िल के लिए तरसती - टिपक , टिपक।
पहुँच गई है कपोलों तक फिर गिरने ही वाली है,
गंतव्य तक की राह आखिर में पूरी ही हो जानी है।
ऐसी ही तो होती है एक मनुष्य की ज़िन्दगी ,
वह जन्म लेता है माँ की पवित्र कोख से ,
आगे बढ़ता, कभी थम जाता ,
बुराइयों से दूर, अशुद्धियाँ मिटाते हुए ,
लक्ष्य को पाने के लिए,

वह उस बूँद की तरह

सिसकता है।

टिपक, टिपक, टिपक।

चेतावनी

चेतन्य गुलाटी

चढ़नी है प्रगति की सीढ़ी तो,
क्यों करता जल्दबाज़ी इतनी?
गिर-गिर के भी न सीखा तुमने ,
कहाँ गयी सारी होशियारी ।
क्यों रहता है सदा परेशान,
कितना लेगा सब्र का इम्तहान
कर रहा है तबाही का इंतज़ार,
क्यों है लहू बहाने से इतना प्यार ।
तबाही आई और लाखों ने जान गवाई.
केदारनाथ में मैंने बस एक झलक दिखलाई ।
सुधर जा मनुष्य, अब भी सुधर जा,
मत छेड़ मुझे, ना डाल ज़ोर मुझपर ।
कर समन्वय, पा वरदान !
कर समन्वय, पा वरदान !

पराया हूँ?

विहान भटनागर

मैं कौन? कहाँ से आया,
इस दुनिया का निवासी,
या कोई पराया ।
मैं किंकर्तव्यविमूढ़
इस बात को समझ ना पाया हूँ,
कि क्या इस पूरे संसार में
मैं ही लोगों का शिकार हूँ ।
क्यों लोग मुझे हैं मारते
क्या इतना मैं बुरा हूँ,
अनंत प्राणियों के बीच
एक अलग सा साया हूँ ।
फिर क्यों बुलाते मुझे शेर
क्यों कहते हैं वह वीर,
जब मारने से कोई डरता नहीं
चाहे वह हो गरीब या हो अमीर ।
क्यों नहीं हम रह सकते
मिलकर एक साथ,
जब एक ही दुनिया में हैं
तो क्यों ना थामे एक-दूसरे का हाथ ।
जो है सो है पर कोई बताये मुझे,
मैं कौन हूँ? कहाँ से आया हूँ?
दुनिया का निवासी, या कोई पराया हूँ?

A Hole in One

Varun Sehgal

After a short, encouraging practice round, Anant Singh Mann and I were ready to participate in the Madhavrao Scindia Golf Tournament held at The DLF Golf Course and Country Club in Gurgaon. Going into the tournament as defending champions, we had a lot of expectations riding on our shoulders but our Master-in-Charge, Mr Umung Varma made sure that we remained relaxed and only concentrated on the game.

We were excited to play on the new back nine, designed by Gary Player and considered to be different from any other course in India due to its undulated surface. The course's most prestigious hole was the Island Green. The back nine was so different from the front nine that it made it very difficult for us to adjust to the different types of holes.

The tournament was based on a stable ford point system with a credit of three-fourth of one's handicap. In this, points were awarded on the basis of one's score per hole. If a player got a double bogey or higher, he would get no points, if he got a bogey then he would get one point and so on. Players also received credit for their scores equalling three-fourth of their handicap.

As our handicaps were significantly lower than our opponents' from Scindia School, we started the round with a huge disadvantage.

After a lavish breakfast, we headed towards the 18th hole to start the round. Anant and I started well, grabbing a point each at the start. I also managed to win an iPad cover and a sleeve of golf balls for landing close to a rectangular mark in our four ball. We built up our confidence in the later holes and started to play better. Anant went on to win a box of golf balls for having the longest drive on the 5th hole. He also finished the round strongly with an outstanding par on the last hole.

After a long and well-played 18 holes, we attended the prize giving ceremony hosted by Mr Jyotiraditya Scindia. As the results were announced, I was given a scare as Scindia School was declared the winner and I really thought that we had out-played them. But the announcer immediately corrected himself and called us on to the stage to collect a beautiful trophy as well as some wonderful Taylormade putters. After receiving loud applause and lots of congratulations from Old Boys and Ex-Scindians alike, we enjoyed a well earned lunch.

We were very pleased to have won a major golf tournament so early in the year and I hope that golf will be given a more prominent role in the months to follow.

JAIPUR LITERATURE FESTIVAL

Hitansh Nagdev

A group of six boys escorted by four masters attended the Jaipur Literature Festival that was held from the 17th to the 22nd of January. The Literature festival is not only the largest in India but also serves as an excellent platform for people and students to interact with eminent authors, poets, actors, singers and dancers from diverse cultures and distant lands. The entire festival was well covered by newspapers and media channels and the presence of journalists was noticeable throughout the duration of the festival.

Like previous years, this year too authors took sessions on various topics that drew in large crowds. On the first day itself we were given the opportunity to attend any one of the six sessions that were going on simultaneously. I attended sessions that were specifically designed for students. The authors not only read out several mesmerizing stories they had written but also interacted with students on a one-on-one basis. Most importantly, they shed light on various writing techniques and gave some immensely useful tips.

Needless to say we were quite excited to share the same space as personalities like Irfan Khan and Meghnad Desai. Moreover, we also had the pleasure of listening to Artemis Cooper as he spoke about Travel Writing as well as Amish Tripathi who spoke about his best-selling 'Shiva' Trilogy. However, the real literary feast was in the form of sessions that saw Amartya Sen, Jhumpa Lahiri, William Dalrymple and Xiaolu Gou share their wisdom and literary genius with the crowds of admiring book lovers. It was in these sessions that we truly felt our horizons broaden and our love for literature and books blossom even more. Moreover, not only did we learn about the nuances of the works produced by such geniuses in these sessions, but once the sessions got over, we even had the chance to get books signed by our favourite writers!

We were also excited to hear about the participation of young poets in the festival. Snehal Kukreja, who is all of 17 years launched her collection of poems with great success! We were inspired to try our hand at writing after listening to their talks and witnessing such successful book launches.

On the last night we went for a musical evening and witnessed some wonderful performances from various musicians, a fitting end to the most brilliant festival! Now when I look back at my time spent in Jaipur, I can honestly say that I have been impacted in various ways. I never perceived literature as I have started to do now, and my new found love for poetry and story writing in no way seems temporary.

CRACKS IN THE AAP?

Pulkit Agarwal

If one had to capture, in one word, the feeling that the emergence of the Aam Aadmi Party has given rise to across the national capital, it would be 'Hope'. Hope that our politicians would finally find the heart to step out of their arrogant cocoons and embrace the truths of our society. Hope that politics in our country could be associated with honesty and accountability. And hope that the establishment could give voice to the erstwhile unheard. Today the Aam Aadmi Party is being seen as a possible game changer in the coming general elections. However, this must not lead the party to become oblivious to the fact that in this ambition itself may lie its possible fall from grace.

It is beginning to be perceived in many quarters that if the AAP was indeed so determined to make a difference, it would have restricted itself to Delhi first, govern the national capital well and then make a mark on the national stage with a track record under its belt. Moreover, that would have taught the party enough lessons to know that in politics, even if one has the right intentions, the approach needs to be a

little shrewd in order to make things materialize. It would have also earned the AAP the respect of a number of people who would have realized that it genuinely wants to prove itself in the political arena. However, now that the national ambitions are clear, skepticism is bound to come its way.

The AAP is a party that has struck a chord with the working and service class people across the country. People who were involved in various professions can now hope to have concrete political powers as well. However, if the AAP were to form the next Central Government, would it be able to handle national affairs of great importance and consequence? How would people, who have never even sat in the Opposition, know the challenges that a government faces?

Currently, the AAP is occupying a distinct political space. It is



a space that has been created due to a strong anti-incumbency wave against the Congress led UPA, and people's fear of Modi's divisive and dictatorial brand of politics. However, considering that Mr. Kejriwal has called himself an anarchist, the AAP will lose the faith that people have reposed in its liberal form of politics. In a democracy, there is absolutely no space for anarchy, even if it seems to have the mandate of a sizeable number of people. Not only would it lead to certain chaos, it would also harm the nation's image.

Voices from various intellectual spheres in India have come out in strong support for the AAP, in that they are providing India with a 'new brand of politics,' one that allows no space for incompetence, failure to deliver, undue delays and under-the-table money transactions. However, can a single-issue party make it big? Considering The Bharatiya Janta Party burst onto the scene having stressed on a single agenda, that of the Ram Janmbhoomi Mandir, it seems the AAP can pull off a similar coup. Another question that arises is that does the AAP have the resources to tackle the political heavyweights in a battle ground much larger than that of Delhi? Well, their membership drive seems to suggest so. Lastly, do they really find enough resonance with the people to break the barrier of caste-based politics in states such as UP and Bihar? Probably not!

It is unfortunate that politics in these parts of the country relies heavily on caste and religion, but it is a fact that the AAP will have to face nonetheless. Their popularity in the East is dim in any case, and doesn't look likely to pick up drastically by May. Likewise can be said of the South. And then in states like UP, where the SP and the BSP have traditionally executed an extremely poisonous form of politics, one that is based on religion and caste, the AAP might have some major cleaning up to do if it wants to make any sort of a mark. One can only hope that the 'jhaadoo' successfully cleans the situation of our politics. And even though the cleansing might not be instant, it must be a thorough, surgical catharsis, because at this point, absolutely nothing else will do!

However, if the AAP were to form the next Central Government, would it be able to handle national affairs of great importance and consequence? How would people, who have never even sat in the Opposition, know the challenges that a government faces?

RASOOLPUR REVISITED

Syed Kazmi

A group of boys, some masters, a bus, spades, shovels and other such paraphernalia are sent from Doon almost every term to Rasoolpur Village to help clean the Village premises. The trips are short and the work 'seems' extremely taxing- imagine, a group of teenagers used to the comforts of School spending a day in the scorching heat working their muscles to the bone, literally. Feel a sense of accomplishment? Well, while we bask in this false sense of accomplishment after doing 'our bit' on the periphery, the drains we clear are filled within a fortnight and the village is semi-flooded again. Thank you, for wasting your precious time! So what could be a possible alternative on a school level? It is quite simple: the village belongs to the villagers and unless they are conscious of their surroundings, there is nothing we can do to have a long lasting impact on the village. It is for this very reason that after long discussions and elaborate planning, we have reached a consensus about trying to create a new module. In lieu of the old approach of going to Rasoolpur and doing manual labour, we have decided to try and mobilize the youth of the village.

It was to put this vision into action that a group of 5 DoscOs spent the first 4 days of their winter break in the village. The idea was to create a 'Youth League', in the village, a village self-help group that would collaborate with us to increase the efficiency of the work done by us in the village. Comprising anyone from the village aged between ten and thirty years, the league has a core group of 5 of the older youth who are in direct contact with us, along with a large body of around eighty younger school-going children working under their guidance. The core group conducts discussions with all the members of the league, identifying issues faced by the village community and proposed ways to deal with these issues. The league has been carefully formulated to act as deterrent against alcohol and drug addiction, which are problems endemic to the village. This is done by channeling the energies of idle villagers into productive activities. Our focus is to motivate the youth to keep their village clean and to equip them with essential life skills. We believe this will increase the level of general awareness and boost the morale of the village youth things that this new approach will give DoscOs a more interesting, challenging, effective and interactive platform to work on.



With the help of the League we were able to efficiently distribute a large number of warm clothes collected from School to the villagers, on our very first day, a small step towards future collaboration. Also the League came up with a Rasoolpur Cricket Team which would hopefully be playing with the Doon School Cricket Team in the future as well as matches within the village itself. Interestingly, we also made use of a very old public school tradition, P.T, in order to develop coordination, discipline and fitness along with a sense of camaraderie and hierarchy amongst the league members. These qualities are essential for any organization. The League had been divided into three divisions to make it a more efficient force. Unfortunately, we were not able to put all their plans into action in the short time we had, as well as lack of sufficient planning. However, the process has been initiated and the given module will be improved throughout the year. We also plan to organize sports matches amongst the villagers and our School teams as well as create similar Leagues in the surrounding villages. Work has also been initiated on a schedule that would assign various parts of the village to the various divisions of the League for their upkeep in terms of cleanliness, with the best group being awarded a small token. We sincerely hope that our efforts bear fruit and that the village benefits in the true sense of the word.

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