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Coalition Politics: The Future of India

Arth Gupta writes on the feasibility of a coalition government in society.

"Perhaps one did not want to be loved so much as to be understood." -George Orwell

These words aptly describe the deep hankering that defines the human race, as our desire to be understood surpasses all our needs. It is human psychology that we tend to connect with those who have similar opinions and ideologies like that of our own. There are three things humans crave more than anything else, empathy, identity and power. Empathy to be a part of society, identity, to be a part of it, and yet be different, and power, to control it all. However, this is not merely a random choice, for it is years of evolution that is responsible for this nature of our own. Aristotle once said, "Man is a social animal," and that is what truly differentiates the human race from any other species on the planet, our need to live in a society, our need to have a social life. This is the reason why we as a species have chosen to live in societies that constitute an organized political system, for order is the nature of being. These political systems over the world have adapted, changed and have also been reduced to various other forms, depending on the need of time, place and situation.

When one talks of such political systems in the modern day world that govern societies, the institution of a democracy is one that stands out distinctively from the rest, not only because it is a system that prevails as a majority on a global scale but also because it is a reiteration of the fundamentals of humanity, of freedom of choice and human rights. A democracy is essentially a form of government where the eligible citizens of the nation are free to elect their leaders, either directly or indirectly through a process of election and voting. Thus, in a democracy, there is scope for the formation of a coalition, a situation that arises if a single party majority is not attained so that various smaller parties together can come together and form a coalition government. This is a situation that often arises when there is a minimum majority vote required for a party to come into power

" A coalition should essentially have a shared mandate and provide a broader perspective and a better solution towards any problem. "

From a psychological point of view, it is obvious that a coalition government is likely to be formed when two or more parties have similar ideologies and opinions regarding the country. However, humanity is also characterized by individuality, and history is testament of the fact that the humans will go beyond any limit to protect their individuality or their unique identity. Be it the NAM movements in South-East Asia post World War 2 or the Tibetan protests, all prove that identity is something that humans crave. The point of clash in a coalition government arises here, when two parties have views which are similar, but not congruent to each other. Since both parties do not often merge and become a single party in a coalition, it becomes essential to them to preserve their own identities, for that is what got them elected and in a position to form a coalition in the first place. When this clash of ideologies

takes place within the same government that comprises different political parties, it leads to ineffective administration and policy paralysis, for the individual parties are in dilemma since preserving their own identity takes precedence over anything else.

This leads to the perversion of the intended meaning of the system of a coalition government or an alliance. The purpose of the coalition formed should be to add different perspectives to the issue being addressed and lead to a well informed decision, one that would be more productive for the masses. A coalition should

(contd. on page 5)



Regulars

Anthologists

The following boys have been awarded the **Reading Award** at various levels for the year **2014**:

Juniors Category

Silver Awards:

Kushagra Kar, Devang Laddha, Armaan T. Verma, Aayush Chowdhry.

Bronze Awards:

Rishit Thakur, Raghav Sanjiv Dalmia, Shashwat Bansal, Kanav Agarwal, Ojaswin Verma, Ranvijay Singh, Suyash Chandak

Mediums Category

Gold Awards:

Chaitanya Gulati, Advait Ganapathy, Mohd. Omar Chishti, Devansh Sharma, Aryan Rahul Chhabra.

Silver Awards:

Tushaar Sharma, Yash Mittal, Manraj Singh Sra, Divij Mullick, Jashan Kalra

Bronze Awards:

Bhuvan Verma, Arjun Singh, Suchet Khurana, Hitansh Prakash Nagdev

Seniors Category

Gold Awards:

Guruansh Singh Gambhir, Kartikeya Jain

Bronze Award:

Vallavi Shukla

Well done!

This Week in History

1864: The Confederates routed the Union at the Battle of Mansfield.

1994: Kurt Cobain was found dead.

1959: The first astronauts were introduced.

1865: General Lee gives his final address to his men.

1770: William Wordsworth was born.

First they ignore you, then they laugh at you, then they fight you, and then you win.

Mahatma Gandhi

Artistic Ingenuity

Eklavya, a leading educational organization, held a **National Level Art Competition** which required participants to paint works based on pieces by **Gulzar**, the eminent author and film director. Amartya Tirtha Bhowmick and Pratham Bansal’s entries for this competition have been selected to be displayed at the **Bharat Bhavan Art Gallery, Bhopal**:

Congratulations!

UNQUOTABLE QUOTES

He are not eating.

Hamza Hussain, but your grammar is malnourished.

Where is the laddoos?

Ekamvir Singh Guron, grow an appetite for English.

I am sleeping without shirtless tonight.

Tegh Singh Sandhu, so have you made up your mind?

My house is the goodest.

Kartik Malik, that is evident.

Where are my practicals notebook?

Angad Singh Trehan, lost.

Right now I didn’t bit it.

Karanvir Singh Mann, we hope you are not rabid.

I went to saw the Commonwealth.

Shiven Dewan, boasting.

He telled him!

Arjun Singh, did he?

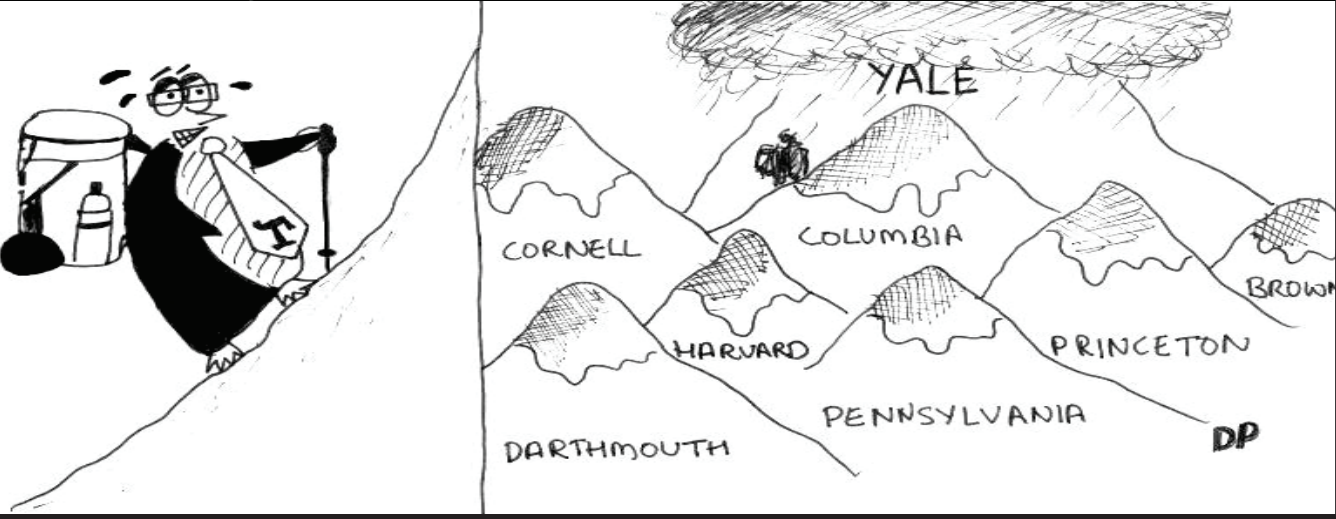
AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 WORDS

French air traffic controllers went on strike on Wednesday, prompting the cancellation of 40% of flights across France. The Indian government is looking to wrap up Operation ‘Raahat’ with almost all the estimated 4000 Indians in Yemen evacuated safely from the war zone. Taiwan has begun rationing water supplies to more than one million households as it tackles the island's worst drought in years. The Indian Prime Minister has announced relief for rain-hit farmers, and increased their compensation by 50%.

Dosco Doodle

For Hills To Climb

Dbrruv Pais



RSIS-Rudraprayag

Rahil Chamola

On The 30th of March 2015, a group of delegates from various schools part of the Round Square group moved towards the town of Rudraprayag in order to go work in the village of Chaka as part of a Round Square Regional Project. The boys and girls came from schools such as The Sanskaar Valley School Bhopal, The Indian School Oman, The Indian High School Dubai, Maharani Gayatri Devi School Jaipur, Emerald Heights Indore and Vivek High School Chandigarh along with The Doon School. The boys and girls, a total number of , were to help in the rebuilding of a school which had been destroyed in the flash floods that enveloped the hills of Uttarakhand in 2011. The school was running even now, but on borrowed land in the form of a few tin sheds. Our main purpose for this trip was to help in the transport of bricks over the course of the next days. Due to the terrain being hilly, it was not possible for the bricks to be loaded onto trucks, hence the cost of manual transportation was astronomically high, leading to huge inconvenience in the construction process. The construction site was half a km from the drop spot of the bricks, and that too up a steep incline. Over the next five days of work(from the 31st to the 4th), the boys and girls worked on an average of 5 hrs a day, and by the end of five days had managed to lift almost 5000 bricks and take them to the work site. This was also done under experimentation, as new methods were constantly devised and applied by the delegates, leading to greater efficiency and less effort. However, the purpose of this project was not to do labour, but rather to promote a sense of understanding, an understanding of how the simplest tasks in the hills become back breaking, an understanding of how the people lived on, despite the hardships that had befallen them. When the delegates visited the makeshift school, it was indeed an emotional sight to see how the school kids were, even without access to proper facilities living on and being strong even in the face of hardship. We even attended a cultural festival at the school on the last day, which was marked by The Doon School boys singing 'Lab pe aati hai' and a display of Bhangra skills from the students of Vivek High School. On the evening of the 5th we trekked to a place called ,marked by a beautiful lake situated next to grassy dunes. The last two days of our midterm were marked by a trek to Tungnath, one of the five naths. There had been immense snowfall there, and so made the trek hard without any proper equipment. The highlights of this trek were the dangerous snow slides that we improvised to make getting down the mountain easier. This trek was certainly another feather in our cap, considering that we did not have any proper equipment, yet did it successfully.

Throughout the time we worked on this project we saw how the villagers attitude towards us gradually changed. Resistance was gradually replaced by a slow acceptance, and as the work progressed we found

more and more villagers coming down to thank us for our work. The Doon School and the member schools of Round Square cannot bring about change alone, they can only inspire it. For when the people rise to the challenge, that is when true change shall come. In its own way the Doon School's work is symbolic, and in my opinion this Round Square project lived up to the Doon School's ideal of Social Service to perfection.

Harsil

Raghav Kapoor

On Friday, the third of April, we, the Oberoi House C form embarked on a journey to Harsil for our midterm expedition. It was a long drive to Harsil with many stops for meals on the way. We finally reached Harsil by 6:30 that evening. We were staying at a GMVN Tourist Rest House in Harsil. That evening we were allotted our rooms and since everyone was exhausted from the ong journey, we just ate dinner and went to sleep. The next day, our plan was to trek to see the 'sapt-taal' meaning seven lakes. We had a difficult trek and even encountered snow on the way to the lakes. On reaching the first lake, one of my formmates lost his footing and fell into the icy cold water. Luckily, we managed to pull him out before he was harmed. He borrowed extra clothing from everyone who had any and with great pride managed to continue trekking. We were unfortunately unable to see all the seven lakes as after reaching a particular height, many of my friends started losing feeling of their limbs and were unable to move on. The next day, we trekked to a village about five kilometres away from the rest house and visited a temple where we saw the beautiful idol which had been brought down from Gangotri during the winters. We then further trekked to another temple. On the third day, we simply walked to a waterfall about two kilometres away from the GMVN and returned as that afternoon we had to travel down to Uttarkashi where we spent the night in the local GMVN. On the last day, we left Uttarkashi at 5:30 in the morning to return to The Doon School. On the way we got bread and butter sandwiches and had a treat at McDonalds before returning to the school. It was a truly enjoyable and memorable midterm filled with trekking and adventure.

Dayara Bugyal

Ritik Chamola

These midterms, 23 boys and girls, escorted by VKL and MNP, set out for Dayara Bugyal, a beautiful, high altitude meadow near Uttarkashi. After 14 hours, we reached Barsu and camped there for the night. The next day, we trekked all the way uphill to Barnala Taal, and stayed there. Due to bad weather the next day, instead of going to Dayara Bugyal as planned, we trekked to Lake Barnala Taal, and enjoyed the scenic beauty of the area. After lunch, we made our way back

(contd. on page 6)

Behind the Scenes

The Doon School Weekly *recently interviewed Mr Danish Husain, who came to school for a film workshop*

The Doon School Weekly (DSW): How did you get involved in dramatics, how did it start?

Danish Husain (DNH): Well, I used to work in banks, and I also wanted to have a Clark Kent type of a life, a double life but I wasn't good at anything. I couldn't sing, I couldn't play any instruments, I wasn't good at sport, there was really nothing which I excelled at. But I do recall that the couple of plays and performances I did, in school and college, I really had a good time on stage. I used to mimic my professors when I was doing my Masters at my university, so at every freshers and farewell party I would be invited to do a special number to imitate some faculty member. So I felt that there's something I could do which is theatre. I contacted a very well known theatre director in Delhi that time, Bally John, and I asked him if I could join his theatre group and he told me to come over, and that's how my journey began. I used to work in banks in the daytime and in the evening I used to go and rehearse with Bally. That continued for 3 years, me working in banks and doing theatre. After three years, I decided that I was tired of counting other people's money, and was not going to work in the bank, and since I anyway enjoyed working on the stage, I resigned from the bank and became an actor.

DSW: What type of acting do you enjoy? Do you prefer theater or film?

DNH: Cinema and Theatre are two very different mediums, both require a certain skill set to be a good actor. Unless you understand, you cannot comprehend these mediums, and won't be able to excel in both. That's why some of the cinema actors may not be great theatre actors or vice-versa. There are very few actors like Naseeruddin Shah, Om Puri, Pankaj Kapoor or Irrfan Khan who excel both in cinema and on stage because they comprehend and understand both the mediums. In cinema acting, the thing is that the camera is right there, there is more immediacy between the camera and the actor. The camera is right on your face, it is like a wire leaning at you. So it is important that when you act in front of a camera you don't project, because the camera can capture the slightest movements of your face, so if you project it gets magnified, so it is essential to control yourself when you are performing in front of a camera, whereas, it is the opposite when you are performing on a stage. You need to project more, as I said in the workshop, by the time your performance reaches the last row it dissipates, therefore the person who is sitting in the last row would only get some percentage of your performance. Your voice will fade away and your expression will be lost because of the distance, so the impact won't be the same as the impact on the person

sitting in the first row. Theatre requires you to project yourself, it is part of your stage presence. But in cinema your expression becomes important to control. When you understand what both mediums require and you are sound in the technicalities, you are able to adapt to these mediums.

DSW: Would you like to give one last piece of advice to our budding actors?

DNH: Lewis McNeice was a very famous Irish poet. Somebody once asked him what advice he would like to give to the young budding poets. He said that young budding poets should read the newspaper, should be interested in politics, should know history, should be well versed with culture, should have a taste of good food, should enjoy wine, should enjoy women's company, should have a lot of heartbreaks and should live life. That is the same advice I now give to the actors, you should basically live your life. The more you live life, the more things you experience, the more you engage with people around, the more you read literature, the more you read poetry, the more you watch cinema, you watch people, you cut across barriers, cut across boundaries, meet all sorts of people, visit every sort of place you can think of, and when you do that you would have lived a complete life, you would be more adept and you would be more skilled at representing various people.

| Poetry |

An Autumn Morning

Shubham Dhiman

When the morning birds
will touch the autumn cloud,
And the least leaf of our
gardens will touch the grounds.
When the happiness of millions
will be lost in dark nights,
And the mornings will be
cold, empty and without lights.
Just remember the last name
and the promises of that love game.
Those sweet memories and
Bitter smiles, lost connections
And walks of million miles.
They'll never change, those days you left behind.
Maybe you'll find them,
Buried deep in your mind.
Just remember that when it'll end,
At the gates, you'll find a long gone friend.
'Cause you never felt that love
He always gave you.
He spent his life running after you,
Painted his life with the colour
Of your eyes but never got the glittering hues.
In the end, he painted it all black
And lived his life singing the blues.
When that last day came,
His heart was the only one to blame,
He took his last breath with your name
Shutting the doors to the whole world,
He slept forever in that ending flame.

(Contd. from page 1)

essentially have a shared mandate and provide a broader perspective and a better solution to any problem. Due to this characteristic of a coalition government, it is often termed to be better than a minority government as it provides a shared mandate and multiple opinions in times of national crisis and matters of national importance. For efficient functioning of the government, individual parties must compromise on their ideologies and come to a common consensus, for failure to do so will lead to political slowdown. Also, many a times, smaller parties that are a part of the coalition are inexperienced at handling power effectively. A local example for this would be the first coalition government that was formed in India, under the leadership of Prime Minister Morarji Desai, from 24th March, 1977 to 15th July, 1979 which did not even live long enough to complete its full term, thus proving the point that coalitions may often lead to policy paralysis. Even the last government, led by Dr. Manmohan Singh, the United Progressive Alliance, was a coalition government, which slowed the economic growth of the country, led to ineffective administration, corruption and eventually slowed down national progress. If we address this argument on a global scale then we see that in Germany, post World War 1 – in the Weimar Republic, there were more than sixteen coalition governments that formed and failed, for the clash of ideologies was too great for a national issue to be addressed. Therefore, in countries like India, where there is great population, multiple beliefs and diverse ideologies, Coalition Governments are more likely to fail than to be a productive political system for the nation, as the individual ideologies and interests of the individual parties would surely clash at some point or the other, and would then fail to provide effective solutions.

The question that remains is, “If not coalition governments, then what?” The answer is not as simple as many think it is. It is argued that because coalition governments would debilitate political systems, single party majorities would always prove to be more effective. However, this again is not true, as apart from empathy and identity, we always want the ultimate: power

The most important benefit of any party, if it is elected as a single party majority, is the existence of ultimate power. Power, in the true sense of the word: political and constitutional. When there is an undivided ideology that rules the nation and there exists a single opinion that prevails in the parliament, decisions that are taken, are more efficient and productive, for there is no delay in forming collective opinions regarding issues at hand. As a result, the government can work more methodically and lead the nation to the path of development and progress. A key element of a single party majority is also that of planning, as the party is clear in terms of the goals that it wants to achieve and the path it needs to take in order to do so. In a coalition government however, multiple systems and opinions exist and it is difficult for all to come to common ground and decide one path that must be taken. As a result, the decision often becomes ineffective by the time it is taken, for example the delayed decision of the Coal-Gate scam in India, where the UPA did not take a decision, firstly for it was unable to take one due to the clashing ideologies that prevailed and secondly as it had to gather support for the upcoming elections. The current NDA government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi is a single party and statistics are enough to speak for their decisions. Trade increasing by 10.2% and Inflation dropping to 7.31% are a testament to what single party majorities can do for the nation.

However, when speaking of absolute power that comes into the hands of a single party majority, John Dalberg-Acton’s profound words resonate in one’s mind: “Power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely,” and this is a situation that may arise when it comes to single party majorities holding all power. A single party majority

“What we need is education for the masses so that they may make a well informed decision about who they want to elect.”

may misuse its power due the hubris of having won the election single handedly, and when that happens, it will become egotistical in its actions, and will jeopardize the growth of the government and the nation. A great example of this would be the autocratic regime of Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi during the years 1966 to 1977 who, during her tenure, not only imposed an unwanted emergency but also took control of the media by using her authority. After the revocation of Emergency and the general elections in the year 1977, the single party majority and Morarji Desai became the Prime Minister of India by leading the Janta Party. However, his coalition government too, failed. Thus we see that it is neither coalition governments nor single party majorities that prevail, but efficient governments that do.

In conclusion, I think it would be apt to use the clichéd statement, “Excess of everything is bad” to describe both coalition and single party majorities. What we need, is a check and balance system to make sure that regardless of the nature of the government, power is not misused. What we need is Education for the masses so that they may make a well informed decision about who they want to elect. For only when we have these two for the nation, will we able to elect a government that would be competent enough to understand its role in the functioning of the nation.

(Contd. from page 3)

down to Barsu in unrelenting hail, and spent the night there. We left for Uttarkashi the next day. On the way, we visited the Nehru Institute of Mountaineering. On reaching our hotel in Uttarkashi, we feasted on maggi for dinner, and then spent time sitting around a bonfire, talking and relaxing. We started early for Dehradun the next day. These midterms were extremely rewarding and an unforgettable experience.

The Week Gone By

Rishabh Agarwal

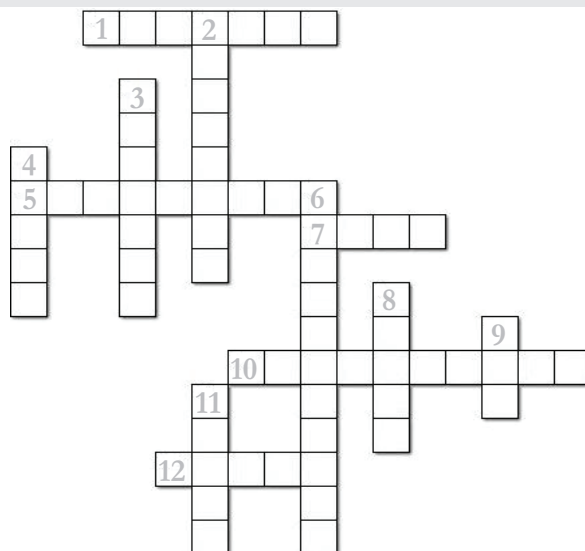
School is bursting into the second half of the term with a sense of change in the atmosphere, with the incoming, returning and outgoing students. Speaking of outgoing students, many have started receiving the fruits of the hard work they put in over the past two years and the 'Ivy Man' seems to be the topic of every conversation. We wish them all the very best of luck for their upcoming tests and hope to see some record results soon. It is rather amusing to watch the incoming D-Form find their way through school and reminiscing about the times we were in their place, in the wrong attire, or the in the wrong classroom, or trying to decode the complexities of a change-in-break.

The School is at full strength and students already seem to be extremely occupied so soon after the mid-term break. Campus is rife with lights and sounds late into the evenings, what with the ongoing play, dance and music practices in the various houses. With many students juggling between more than one activity in the evenings, hopefully the teachers will empathize with the 'sleepy heads' during classes. Hockey seems to have already taken off with great enthusiasm on the part of the students and one must watch out whilst standing on the main field for the various balls soaring in all directions. The P.T. competition is in a few weeks and various leaders can be seen working hard at training with their squads to present a good display of an activity central to the ethos of the public school system.

The sense of change also results from an important legislation that was passed in the School Council this week that has lifted the ban on 'Macs' Various SC's will be seen carrying in these new shining machines when they return from their outings; that is if they make it through the parent- teacher meeting. In an elaborate debate the SC's emerged victorious with the Council finally giving in to their well formed arguments and proposed deal. All in all, there is an awful amount of activity happening on campus and it is easy to get lost in this kind of an unchecked environment. Hence special caution should be taken to avoid losing focus from academics and other important pursuits.

The Crossword

World Cup '15



Across

1. Which outfielder took the most catches in this World Cup?
5. Which team topped the ICC ODI list?
7. Who was the first cricketer to take a hat-trick in the 2015 World Cup?
10. Which player made the most centuries in this World Cup?
12. Which bowler bowled the most maidens in this World Cup?

Down

2. Which team came last in Pool A in this World Cup?
3. Which player made 237 runs in this World Cup?
4. Who scored the first ever double century during this tournament?
6. Against which team did Australia score 417 runs?
8. Who was the highest wicket taker in this world cup?
9. Which team scored the lowest runs in this World Cup?
11. Which Indian cricketer scored the highest runs in this world cup?

Note: All players mentioned above are with reference to their surnames.

Answers to This Week's Crossword:

1. Rossouw	8. Starc
2. Scotland	9. UAE
3. Gupta	10. Samakara
4. Gayle	11. Dhoni
5. Australia	12. Boult
6. Afghanistan	
7. Finn	

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

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