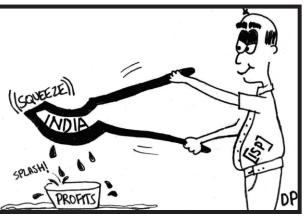


Atrey Bhargava pens down his views on internet neutrality, a recent issue of debate.

The Internet is no longer a luxury but a necessity. And just like the withholding of basic amenities can be considered a crime, similarly, the selective dissemination of information, hiding of information or even a delayed relaying of information can be considered to be a crime. The concept of Net Neutrality seeks to protect the rights of consumers and benefactors of the Internet. The underlying concept entails that Internet Service Providers (ISPs) and governments should treat all data on the Internet equally, not being biased towards any particular website of versions of content, applications and sites. Users should necessarily have complete control over the products they buy and the services they use. Net Neutrality preserves our right to an open Internet and our ability to communicate in a manner that is free and fair to all, and not just in the interests of a handful of companies. The debate started when Airtel declared that it would be charging additional charges for voice calls made via their network using applications such as Skype and Whatsapp. The company proposed such a move, either because it is

unable to cope with the demands of the market and the technologies it wants to use, or because it wants to have more profitable collaborations with other companies. In either case, the right of the consumer to choose between different applications and services gets compromised. In any case, one expects ISPs to be dynamic and keep up with the trends prevalent in the market, rather than propagating a system that comes at the cost of Net Neutrality.

Critics of 'Net Equality' on the other hand argue that ISPs need to generate larger revenues in order to continue making improvements in broadband infrastructure, laying out new power lines, enhancing the quality of services as well as keeping abreast of increased taxes and expenditures. However, they fail to recognize that increasing revenues at



the cost of Internet freedom is a very detrimental move. For instance, companies with immense capital reserves, such as Google can easily take advantage of the proposed system and effectively buy out huge chunks of market share. This will leave very little scope for new start-ups to compete or to have any sort of foothold. Thus, it is not just innovation, competition and job creation that will be inhibited, but even entrepreneurial activities and business enterprises would be adversely hit. Without Net Neutrality, the next Google or Facebook would never come up.

Net Neutrality is more of a norm than a law. Still, ever since the ISPs have requested the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) to be given control over applications and Internet websites, there has been uproar in the country, especially since the Internet has become such an integral part in the lives of so many Indians. Over three lakh emails have reached the TRAI in favour of Net Neutrality and more are yet to come. Flipkart's CEO stated that the 'situation that exists in India is akin to the apartheid of the Internet World'. In India there is no law for net neutrality, unlike countries such as the United States, United Kingdom and many others, where anti-Net Neutrality is considered a crime. Faced with severe competition amongst broadband providers, the Government too is supporting the aforementioned idea and has launched a 'save the Internet' website.

Net Neutrality has allowed companies to grow globally and has also proved to be a boon for small businesses and industries which have, in spite of their limited start-up capital, been able to flourish due to uninhibited creativity and opportunity. More importantly, it guarantees freedom and privacy to the user. It is the TRAI's responsibility to maintain such a situation, and that can happen only if it rejects the proposal of the ISPs to assume control over Internet traffic. The ISPs can take undue advantage and charge websites if they want faster access, leading to a situation where cash rich companies have undue advantage over others. For example, even if a consumer wants to by a product using Flipkart, he will be forced to go with Amazon, simply because Amazon has paid the service provider to get faster access to its website as opposed to Flipkart. More than no-Internet, users often get more annoyed with slow-Internet. Hence, they will go with any website that can be accessed quickly, leaving the others on the burner.

The TRAI has requested for consumer feedback in response to the ISPs plea for greater control over Internet traffic. It is necessary for us 'netizens' to fight for Net Neutrality and save our freedom of choice.



The Gentleman's Game

Shreyash Agarwal reports on the recently concluded Inter-House Cricket Competition.

The first two months of the Spring Term are taken up by Cricket, which is at the heart of sporting fervor in this country. This year the cricketing atmosphere in School received a further impetus due to the ongoing Cricket World Cup coinciding with the Cricket Season. The Indian team surpassed all expectations, making its way to the semi-finals where they lost to the team that was eventually going to lift the coveted trophy. Within the walls of Chandbagh, boys worked hard in order to bring the trophy back to their respective houses. Practices kick-started on the first day itself, with the senior boys getting a clear two weeks of practice before the competition commenced. Even though some argue that despite being one of the three major sports of the School Cricket does not receive as much time and focus as it should, the cricketing standards seems to have maintained themselves, despite the loud appeals of those who think that it is a neglected sport. In fact, boys were seen waking up early, sacrificing treasured sleep hours for a bit of extra time on the field. And unlike previous competitions, even the weather played good sport.

This year's Inter-House Competition witnessed several intense matches, with various individuals receiving

laurels for their sterling performances. The Seniors competition began within 18 days of the School starting the new term. Expectations were not very high in terms of the standard of matches, but many were pleasantly surprised in the course of the competition. Kashmir House got off to a blistering start when they beat Jaipur House with a margin of 40 runs, a match that saw Akhil Ranjan score 86 runs. Even though Jaipur put on a good batting display, reaching a score of 120 runs, the score was not enough to stop Akhil who was in sublime touch. The Tata and Hyderabad House Eleven match saw spirited displays, both in batting as well as bowling. With both teams being considered favourites, the match was a



keenly contested one. Tata lost its first three batsmen fairly cheaply, but was able to regain momentum due to the consistent batting of Karan Dhillon. Hyderabad went on to win the match, despite a brilliant fight back by Tata. On the whole, brilliant performances were given by Ajatshastru Singh, Mayank Aggarwal, Sikandar Suri and Madhav Goel.

Another highlight of the year was the much-improved performance of players during league matches. Hyderabad House managed to create a new record by scoring 252 runs against Tata House. Kartikey Garg went



on to score 110 runs in the match, a feat that has rarely been achieved before. Nitin Sardana single handedly guided Tata House to victory against Oberoi House when he scored 75 runs out of the grand total of 83. Nitin Sardana, Ishaan Vaish, Kartikey Garg and Divij Kapoor gave brilliant performances for their respective houses. Hyderabad House, lead by Vivek Sinhalifted the Senior as well as the House Cup.

The Junior Cup, on the other hand started after Test Week, and Juniors were seen preparing with as much gusto as their senior counterparts. This could be seen in the level of play by juniors this season. Aditya Vikram Singh scored a century for Jaipur in its match against Oberoi. Kashmir House, despite missing its

captain did well under the guidance of Shiven Dewan. The nail biting finish to the Oberoi and Kasmir Juniors One match that ended in a draw will be remembered for a long time to come. The eventual victor was Oberoi House, having displayed consistency and accuracy in all departments of the game under the leadership of Dhruv Gupta. Commendable performances were given by Aditya Vikram Gupta, Kabir Kochar, Anuman Goel and Ishaan Roy.

The points tally at the end of the season showed how close the competition was this year. There is a certain standard set by the Inter-House Competition each year when records are broken, close matches are played and talent is recognized. However, something that never changes is the atmosphere, the fact that boys always play with determination and cheer for their respective houses as if their lives depended on it, that seniors attend junior matches just to encourage the players on the field. This year too, the Inter-House Cricket Competition has all the flavours of a great Cricket season, and one can only wait patiently for the next season to start.

Desolation

Arjun Singh

An arrogant failure. That was what he was described as. On walking towards the house, many thoughts had crossed his mind. Would he be forgiven? Will he be taken back? It took a lot of courage to come to this decision. Yet, all had been in vain, for he failed to redeem his lost post.

Karma was responsible, he first thought. After all, it was his big mouth that caused termination. The ability to control his thoughts was something he'd never learnt. Whenever checked, he felt suppressed and offended rather than corrected. The thought was short-lived. Freedom of speech was, after all, the core component of a society 'supposedly' of equals. Seniors though, had over-run the place, and corrupted it with their own hierarchy. It was their whim that had brought upon his agony- for they had refused to accept his opinion. Why should he be punished for his views? The feelings of hatred, contempt and sorrow enveloped his thoughts. He began to cry and scream to express the injustice done.

Blame floated across the people involved - the boss, subordinate and his colleague. Who would form the memory that would be etched in his mind forever? The colleague: a naiveté, inept worker who somehow managed to obtain his job through extreme sycophancy. An exposé of his incompetency was the main cause of the affair. It was the boss, though, who had taken the decision to remove him. The man had suppressed his cynicism before. He had always been dissatisfied with the boss's leadership, which had often developed thoughts of resignation amongst his compatitots. Except the colleague, of course.

Yet, his hatred settled on the subordinate. The man, opulent as ever, had a certain arrogant and condescending presence that was always noticeable. Sycophancy was his key to success, and was the reason for his newfound power; making any defiance impossible. He was always successful in frustrating his mood. It was the subordinate's comments that had prompted his termination: a failure with substandard work, having no place on the job was what he'd been called. It was that man, he thought, who had inflicted the most damage to his ego and spoilt all attempts at apology. The hostility became intolerable, and soon turned into violent, uncontrollable loathing.

He felt betrayed by the firm he had worked long and hard for. Mocked by others, he would toil relentlessly. So much that his identity became dependent on his job. And now? The product of those countless hours? Nothing. He had been used, and thrown away like garbage for one small mistake. The thoughts remained as he continued his life-weak, empty and defeated.

Mankind: An Incorrigible Truth

Kushagra Kar

I am often told to, "learn to find the good in man", but sometimes this sage advice becomes hard to follow. Call me cynical, but given the past events in Nigeria, Iraq and Yemen it seems like an optimists dream to say that there is still good left in man. I am not saying that there is only darkness, but the light that remains seems to be covered by a veil of terror.

I feel that my distrust in the 'good of mankind' comes from different events which have painted an image of the world as one of crime, corruption, suffering and cruelty. Sure, we can say that people will have control and not succumb to their deepest and darkest wants, but can we say that and still believe it true when we think of the Taliban or Al-Qaeda?

It may seem wrong to judge seven billion people based on the wrongdoings of a small group of extremists, but is it wrong to lose faith in those seven billion if the people who choose to 'represent' them present a bad image? The group known as the ISIS (Islamic State of Syria and Iraq) has decided to 'represent' Islam but has put it in bad light by using its teachings as a justification for their actions. It is wrong to say that Islam is a religion that preaches violence because that is untrue, nevertheless, it doesn't stop many from flinching at the sight of a bearded man wearing white clothes and a small white cap. This is not only a stereotype but it is also a sign that people are starting to lose faith in the greater good of Islam.

To lose faith in mankind is to give up hope. But that is not what I want to insinuate, I intend to stir our conscience so we could initiate change. Not by eradicating terrorism, because doing this will only make way for more radical groups to fill the void, but by changing the way things function.

In today's day and age, fear is the biggest weapon. This method only works because people are too scared to step out of line, yet there are many who do. If people were educated, made aware of what the truth of life is, given logical reason so that fallacies dissipate, then I firmly believe change for the better will occur. All of this may sound clichéd but frankly, before we can move onto something new, we will have to establish a starting point. Something to follow and look up to.

This is something which has been stated by many, but carried out by few and I feel that the time has come to move in the direction of change, we must be purposeful and anchored firmly in hope for a better tomorrow. For all those still thinking that I am only stating the obvious route to utopia, I say, it will not be utopia, but it will be a better society. Achieving it will not be easy, but it is possible, and if we truly want a better home for our children and generations to come, this is the path which shall grant us our wish.

Letter to The Editor

Dear Editor,

This letter refers to the article *Returning India's* Daughter in the Issue No. 2399 that came in the Weekly.

After reading the recent 'Letters to the Editor' regarding the controversial documentary *India's Daughter*, I am filled with both horror and disgust.. Do they refer to the prevailing condition of gender relations in this beautiful country of ours? I hope they don't. In a country where misogyny is pervading and remains a deeply ingrained part of our social practices, the notion that we must ban a movie that highlights such beliefs is truly deplorable. A similar situation applies to the caste system (an equally abhorrent practice) which we, the secular people of India have 'abolished', officially at least.

In any case, the reports of 'progress' which we view everyday in newspapers are no real accounts of the pain, humiliation and suffering experienced by the millions of women in our country. Their conditions are far worse than portrayed. Therefore misogyny, both open and covert, must be decried and rectified by any man who cares to use words such as 'liberal, educated, modern' and the like to describe himself. 'One woman raped in 20 minutes', 'a woman raped every two minutes' are statistics which define our treatment of women. Unsettling, isn't it? It seems like the headlines we read everyday. 'Five hundred killed in train accident', 'Two hundred and fifty killed in a bombing'. For most of us, they just numbers; nothing more than a second of remorse, which adds to the argument of assertive action being required.

I do not believe that stereotyping any groupcultural, religious or ethnic-helps the situation. I do however believe that we, as the children of a modern India, who share its pride and bask in its glory, must also be responsible for its future. In spite of all its flaws and shortcomings, India's Daughter has come as a clarion call for all of 'India's children'. I do agree that it was unjust for an Indian man to be denied an internship due to his nationality, but Nirbhaya's rape was equally unjust. It presents is the way most women are treated: in buses and trains, in their jobs, their homes and throughout their entire existence. Apart from raising fundamental questions about the freedom of speech, the government's justification for banning the documentary highlight suppression of the truth to preserve reputation. It is time that we, 'India's children' wake up and do something for India's Daughter. That is not just a phrase to be tossed around, for it refers to our own mothers, sisters, wives and daughters.

Best Regards, Amaan Kazmi

|Poetry|

The Last School

Ishan Roy

A lazy boy sat in the third row, On his face was a vacant expression. He tossed and turned and fidgeted, Waiting for the end of the lesson.

He gazed out of the window, At the sunlight glistening on the building's red. If that class went on anymore, He would surely be dead.

Half a asleep he looked around, And wondered how much more. His head sprang up to the first toll of the bell, Which ended the incessant seeming bore.

> He slammed his books shut, And trudged towards the door. He looked at everyone's faces, Which had smiles galore.

Love For Nature

Ansh Singhania

The beauty of nature is bliss to our eyes. For its preservation, we should be wise. The rustling and chirping of birds, to describe these wonders makes us short of words. It provides us with life sustaining elements. Protect it before it's too late to lament. The sweet smell of grass, the fountains made of brass. Nature is a paradise, with different sides of a dice. If we are not the creators, we shouldn't be the destroyers, conserve the energy and store water in reservoirs. So lets take a pledge not to be mean, be selfless and go green !

Achilles

Arnaav Bhavanani

With eyes that pierce the darkness, he watches Mother's door. Grasps the soldier Father gave, An armored doll of war.

In time he'll be a legend, Entombed in marble bust. When the flags of Troy lie on the ground, their poles conceived of rust.

But for now he watches Mother's door And hopes she'll walk inside A Nereid's laugh, so captivating, As soft as silken tides

The Week Gone By

CC Chengappa

There will be no more breaks, midterms, holidays and everything else that we look forward to because now, there is no time to rest. Marked by strenuous treks and relatively comfortable lodging, the SC's saw their final midterms come to a fitting end. Before the sentiment had any time to kick in, however, the School community was engulfed in a storm of activity with Hockey, Inter-House Music, the One Act Play and PT all converging together at one (convenient) point. With less than two months to go for the holidays (not to mention Trials), we must truly keep calm and carry on.

This week, the much awaited Terry Fox run took place, and as always, there was hope for an extra holiday due to Baisakhi, but ultimately the two coincided much to the dismay of boys. The cause remains the same every year, but the turnout has increased tenfold since the first marathon. Seeing the Main Field flooded with white was a sight to see early in the morning and luckily, the weather did nothing to ruin the event.

As the Afzal Khan Basketball Tournament edges 4. The first Indian woman to make it to the final of closer, the Basketball team seems to be sweating it day and night to perform well this year. While the rest of the School sleeps, the team takes endless rounds of the Main Field. True dedication and hard work will surely pay off. The 25th anniversary of the tournament takes place this year, making a victory all the more special. We wish the team the very best of luck!

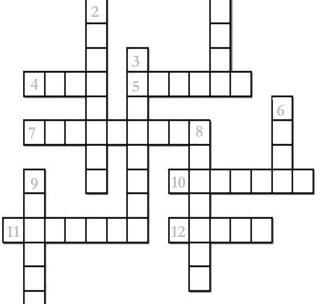
With the new trending videos on Net Neutrality, the school community appears to be aghast by the idea of a more expensive social network. The seeds of rebellion seem to have already stemmed with the latest episodes of Game of Thrones being leaked online. Let's hope this support for the net lasts longer than the official release of Season 5!

The Izhar-e-Hunar' festival at Hopetown Girls School certainly was a success as seen from this years results. Our School came second amongst a total of sixteen schools, thereby maintaining the constant success rate at the Festival!

Amidst all these events, Play practices have commenced, and this year, the School will witness the Hindi edition of the One Act Play being staged in the Rose Bowl. Directors are facing sleepless nights managing their plays, while the actors seem to enjoy the time allotted for practices. But as always, a good show is definitely expected.

The final stretch is left, and there is a storm brewing, but as we on the Weekly have often found, there is always light on the other side.

The Crossword Moguls of Mankind



<u>Across</u>

an Olympic event.

5. A German dictator, also called Führer.

7. This pharmacist created the formula for Coca-Cola in 1886.

10. The only author to achieve billionaire status by writing books.

11. He was the first black president of South Africa.

12. Born in Chennai, she is the CEO of Pepsi Co. **Down**

1. The only woman to win the Nobel Prize for multiple sciences.

2.Alfred Butts invented this game which was originally called 'Criss Cross Words'.

3.She is also known as 'Mengoubi' or 'the Iron Lady of Manipur'.

6. He is the first person to walk to both poles- north and south.

8. In 1862, he became the first Indian member of British parliament.

9. She was the first Indian-American to go into space. Note: All people mentioned above are with reference to their surnames.



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