

Established in 1936

The Doon School WEEKLY

"I sketch your world exactly as it goes." -Arthur Foot

May 21, 2022 | Issue No. 2644



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A Matter of Civility

Gurmehar Bedi *comments on the recent developments surrounding the Sedition Act.*

I abhor clichés. However, I must run the risk of sounding banal at the very outset. Freedom of expression is the hallmark of democracy. It is the one thought that is ingrained in the mind of any student who has chosen to pay heed to the incessant rambling in a Civics class. Yet, not surprisingly though, most people reading this article fail to recognise its importance simply because one can only understand the importance of something under the threat of its removal. Fortunately for them, the threat exists in the form of the Sedition Act (Section 124A). It is the sword of Damocles hanging over this freedom. However, before delving into the recent decision taken by the Supreme Court on this controversial law, it is imperative that the question which is undoubtedly nagging many of you is clearly answered. What is sedition?

Sedition, as per the Constitution, is the act of bringing hatred or inciting disaffection towards the Government. Even an attempt to engage in either is classified under the Sedition Act. The law against this Act was first introduced in the year 1870 by the British and several freedom fighters such as Bal Gangadhar Tilak, Maulana Azad, and Mahatma Gandhi faced the brunt of this law and were unable to escape its grip. From the cases filed against these individuals, it

became evident that the foremost purpose of this law was to quell political dissent and suppress the demand for independence from the Raj. In post-Independence India, it is used to maintain state security.

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While governments over the years have attempted to justify the continuing presence of this law in our Constitution by stating that it is used only in the rarest of instances, the threat such a law presents is far deeper than merely its usage. The very fact that freedom of any kind exists within an individual's mind means that true freedom can only be attained if the mind is put at ease. To brush this grave matter aside by referencing the law's mindless practice does not

dispel the likelihood of its usage, consequently making freedom of expression a myth. While it is understandable that freedom is never absolute, in practice, it can be maximised. However, aside from the existence of the sedition law, there are problems with its usage as well.

The primary and perhaps the most obvious issue lies in its increasing usage over recent years. Ever since 2015, the number of sedition cases filed has increased steadily with the number exponentially rising from 30 in 2015 to 93 in 2019. The cases filed against authors, political, social or climate activists, and journalists such as Disha Ravi, Vinod Dua, and Rajdeep Sardesai are a cause for grave and urgent concern. The grounds on which most cases filed against anyone critical of the establishment are flimsy, to say the least, reflecting increasing levels of intolerance and unreason. One may argue that the conviction rate in sedition cases is fairly minimal with only six convictions out of the 326 cases filed under the Centre's guiding hand from 2014 to 2019. However, this is precisely the problem. Numerous people are being charged without concrete proof or even much evidence. Whether this is a series of inadvertent errors on the part of the authorities or intentional acts

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This Week in History

218 CE: 7th recorded perihelion passage of Halley’s Comet.

1498 CE: Portuguese explorer Vasco da Gama arrives at Calicut, becoming the first European to reach India by sea.

1506 CE: Christopher Columbus selects his son Diego Columbus as his sole heir.

1713 CE: Italian composer Antonio Vivaldi’s first opera ‘Ottone in Villa’ opens at Teatro Delle Grazie in Vicenza, the Republic of Venice (present-day Italy).

1804 CE: Napoleon Bonaparte is proclaimed as the Emperor of France by the French Senate.

1991 CE: Queen Elizabeth II becomes 1st British monarch to address the US congress.

LISTENERS’ CHECKLIST

What members of the School community have been listening to this week:

- Tarun Doss:** *Floatin’* by Nic Hanson
- Bir Uppal:** *N95* by Kendrick Lamar
- HTA:** *Hey, Soul Sister* by Train
- Aryavardhan Agarwal:** *Let Me Down Slowly* by Alec Benjamin
- SIA:** *Chasing Cars* by Snow Patrol
- Adnan Shafique:** *Just Friends* by Virginia To Vegas

“

If we don’t believe in freedom of expression for people we despise, we don’t believe in it at all.

Noam Chomsky

UNQUOTABLE QUOTES

- The week is good today.*
- Anshul Kakkar**, visionary.
- I am laughing hilariously.*
- Vansavardhana Jhunjhunwala**, living a lively life.
- The running we ran at.*
- Suryansh Sood**, lightning speed.
- I made a mistake by mistake.*
- Aayan Gupta**, apologises for his mistakes.
- Here the graph changes it’s behave.*
- ABT**, GDC expert.

THE WHO?

Who is Yuki Tsunoda?

- Aaron Ashdhir:** An artist
- Aadhvan Suri:** An actor
- Dhruv Gupta:** An F1 driver

Yuki Tsunoda is a **Japanese racing driver** who is racing for **Scuderia AlphaTauri** in **Formula One**. Supported by Honda since 2016 through the **Honda Formula Dream Project**, he was the **2018 Japanese F4 Champion** and in 2019 also received backing from Red Bull Racing.

Around the World in 80 Words

Finland and Sweden submitted their NATO applications. McDonald’s was sued for misleading its consumers about the size of their burgers. Britain’s inflation rate rose to the highest level in 40 years and Australia reached peak inflation as well. Russia’s war in Ukraine fueled further increases in global food and fuel prices. Meanwhile, Lebanon conducted its first elections since 2018’s economic crisis. Newcastle beat Arsenal 2-0 in the English Premier League. Liverpool beat Chelsea on penalties to win the FA Cup.

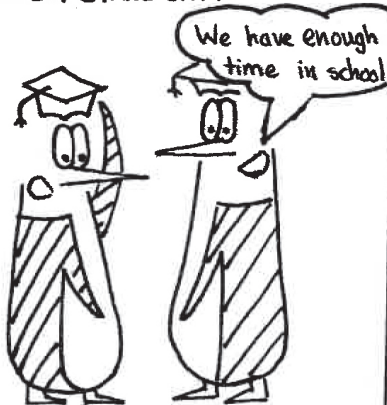
Doosco Doodle

Endgame

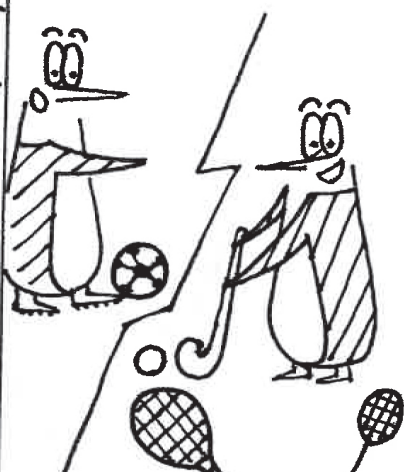
Vivaan Malik

APRIL

AFTER GRADUATION



MEANWHILE SCLS...



MAY



(Continued from Page 1)

to respond to public disapproval remains to be seen. But the mere number of convictions is not the core of the matter, but instead it is the message that is being conveyed which is of concern. The fact that the government is using this law so frequently, whatever be the reason, strikes at the underpinnings of democracy.

Recently, the Supreme Court of India took a step in the direction to restrict its usage. On May 11, the apex court instructed the Central and the State governments to keep the law in abeyance citing a necessity to re-examine it. The significance of this directive by

the Court lies in the fact that the Government must strike a balance between upholding civil liberties and state security. Moreover, it reflects the opinion of the nation on the issue. An opinion against the existence of such a law.

In my view, it is high time that the Court took a stand against the brazen breach of our freedoms and liberties. For far too long, it has plagued our society, stifling free speech, preventing constructive criticism of government policies and posing a threat to the countless people it has been enforced against, all in the name of 'preserving our sovereignty' as defined by an obsolete colonial regime of the

20th century. The British, the very creators and perpetrators of this law for Indians have themselves repealed it in 2009. Ironically however, in our nation, despite growing awareness and cognisance of social and political issues, the use of this law only seems to be increasing. Therefore, reviewing of the law by the country's apex judicial body is definitely welcome. However, it is imperative that the work started here is seen through to its logical conclusion in the 21st century context. The Government must seriously review it so that justice is done and this colonial relic is not misused by vested interests.

Goals Galore

Vir Patwalia reports on the recently-concluded Inter-House Hockey Competition.

The Inter-House Hockey Competition took place from the 4th till the 17th of May. It featured intense games between most of the Houses with the Gentlemen emerging undefeated, taking home all three cups after many years.

The Inter-House started with an intense match where Tata House won 3-2 in a close battle against the Swans with the commendable performance shown by Raghav Mundara and Aryav Agarwal. In Mediums, the Nizams beat the Eagles and drew in the Seniors category in an intense match with Gurusnanjan Singh rescuing the hopes of Jaipur House with a much-needed goal in the end. In Mediums, Kashmir House beat Oberoi 4-0 with Harsh Begani scoring a hat-trick to start off the Gentlemen's season. Jaipur was able to hold a comfortable lead against the Warriors and the Swans, with Abhyuday Kainthola showing excellent performances in both matches. They also beat the Warriors 4-2 showing their mettle.

Hyderabad House fought back, beating Oberoi in both Mediums and Seniors with excellent performances shown by Karma Kheni's hat-trick and Krishang Arora, securing the win. On the other side, Kashmir House won against the Warriors in Mediums with Arjun Prakash scoring an early goal and Neel Sahai making some close saves for the team. The Gentlemen secured the top spot in the Mediums category as a result of this win.

Tata had a quick start against Kashmir with Avi Sahni scoring an early goal but Kapil Thapli's quick brace helped the team through to victory. Excellent performances were shown by Aviman Singh and Harsh Agarwal helped them secure both the House and the

Senior Cup, despite having an intense draw against Hyderabad House where Aviman Singh was able to keep the ball in the other team's half.

Jaipur won against Oberoi in Mediums as well with Arnav Agarwal scoring two goals for their side. Day eight featured one of the most intense matches of the tournament where the Nizams and the Warriors battled it out till the very end, where a goal by Krishang Arora secured the win. Excellent performances by Neil Bulchandani and Shehzaad Shergill ensured that the audience was glued to their seats till the very end.

The Inter-House started with an intense match where Tata House won 3-2 in a close battle...

The penultimate day featured a draw between Kashmir and Hyderabad where Abhyuday Singh made some commendable saves, becoming the keeper who conceded the fewest goals in the tournament. Jaipur lost to Tata in Mediums with Anuj Joshi scoring two goals and stealing a second place from their hands, while the Senior House Cup went over to the Gentlemen as they also managed to win against Jaipur, with an excellent performance from Aviman Singh and Kapil Thapli.

Harsh Begani and Kapil Thapli were also the top scorers from Mediums and Seniors, which no doubt was what helped Kashmir House rise to the top. This was an unconventional season featuring two clean sweeps.

We Must Change To Bring About Change

Yuvraj Sarda *writes about the importance of student involvement.*

Doscors are known to be strongly attached to School. In the past, this attachment would make them strong driving forces for change in this institution. However, over the past two years that we've spent away from campus, our attachment has somewhat waned. As a result of this, fewer Doscors seem to be taking the initiative to bring about change. As a community, our response to issues has changed from being constructively critical about them to just cribbing about them. To me and to many others, this is deeply problematic.

Let's take a step back in time. Historically speaking, the School Council has been very active in taking steps to adapt the School procedures to student needs and preferences. For instance, between 2016 and 2018, the School Council discussed, passed and implemented a host of changes, some of which have drastically changed the School. These include the removal of the Dosco Cup, the drastic reduction in Inter-House Competitions and the establishment of shooting and golf as actual sports. These steps have substantially toned down our competitive atmosphere to a healthier level. Many other changes form a key part of our lifestyles today: the introduction of harlequin shirts, the change of Toy chairs, the change of School umbrellas, the introduction of B Form campus service, the digitization of all but two publications, and the inclusion of the 'None of the above' option on the School Captain election ballot. In addition to all these commendable changes, the councils were also regular in updating internet timings, weekly schedules and food provisions as per the needs of the time. Such actions have been fundamental in shaping School culture and student well-being.

Today, while the number of forums for discussion are far greater, the actual discussion and action taking place through these forums have drastically reduced. Currently, there are eight councils in School, where students, Masters, and the management sit together to discuss issues. However, the number of times these councils meet has drastically reduced - likely because the leaders of these councils were seeing their elections as achievements and not starting points for further achievements. More concerning, the action being taken in these councils has become far pettier in nature. Like the Dean (Pastoral Care) remarked in the recent Pastoral Council meeting, we are thinking only of immediate demands and not of broader cultural and pastoral issues. The lack of meetings and proper action has become the root cause for much of the discontentment we see in School today. Some

of the decisions that the School management takes are bound to raise concerns - valid or not. However, if we as the student body - the intended targets of these decisions - are not proactive in raising these concerns and proposing alternative solutions, can these wrong decisions ever be rectified? You may be right in believing that the School is on some sort of a downward spiral, but if we don't tell the appropriate bodies how to get out of this slump, nor propose

**We must remind ourselves
time and again that this is
our School.**

solutions, we cannot move onto an upward spiral.

We must remind ourselves time and again that this is our School. Everything that goes on inside it is a matter of direct concern for us. We may be concerned about the School's steps towards sustainability, but if we don't report the leaking tap or send our old notebooks to the Paper Recycling Shed, can anything really be done to change it? We may be unhappy about the fees the School charges us, but if we don't write back to the finance department seeking clarifications, can anything really be done to change it? We may be unhappy with the recent School Colours awards, but if we don't talk about it to the decision-making authorities, can anything even be done about it? We must raise our concerns to the appropriate people; we must make good use of the myriad forums available to us. At the same time, we must ensure that our concerns and suggestions are rational and that we are willing to accept that we may have overlooked some complications. You may have grown accustomed to carrying 'home bags' or using smartwatches, but if this sacrifices uniformity and threatens to divide our community into socio-economic groups, we must understand and comply. If proposals are relevant and rational, they will certainly be discussed and passed.

The next few months will be critical in re-establishing the concept of student-led change in School. However, this simply cannot happen unless you, dear reader, start taking initiative. It's not enough for just a few members of this community to be active changemakers; the councils need you to express your discontentment and give constructive feedback. Walk up to a council representative, or even the secretary, discuss your issues, and work out a solution. Join the council meetings as spectators, and respond to the surveys we will be sending out. These steps may seem small, but if we all do it, the impact will be profound.

The ‘Cool’ Syndrome

Arjun Prakash

The age-old question of what it takes to be ‘cool’ has plagued the minds of generations of young Doscos, and for good reason too. You’re basically at the top of the show, the center of attention, ‘*stud baccha*’, or whatever you want to call it, every batch has a few people who you’d think would fit this category. With that being said, each of us spends six years inside these walls, and gradually we form our own friend groups to complement our personalities, but one particularly stands out. ‘The Cool Gang’, or so the not-so-cool people would say, is a profound example.

To put it simply, a Dosco’s life is an elaborate game, and these people seem to have mastered it—ask them and they’ll tell you the same.

They are an elite group of likeable individuals who are worshipped by their Juniors. They set the standard for their batch to follow, and have trouble dealing with 2nd place. Their college CVs are littered with a long list of achievements and social initiatives that they *truly* care about. Popular would be an understatement; in fact, they are the talk of the town, with their names passing through these walls and entering others. They are accustomed to hard work and often organise Rosebowl practices without the gaze of Masters. A certain aura surrounds their ‘*Gucci flip-flops*’, energy you can’t translate into words, but rather dollar signs. Gaining entry into one of these groups is a game of strategy and politics, often requiring some sort of ego boost in your Junior years. To put it simply, a Dosco’s life is an elaborate game, and these people seem to have mastered it — ask them and they’ll tell you the same.

Having said that, why would anyone want to be a part of this group? It all sounds a bit too much to handle. Well, if you haven’t realised already, the answer is clear. For these six years, just six years, you have a priceless advantage over the others. You get the opportunity to have *tending* meaningful conversations with Seniors, further interact with Masters, and gain more likes on your Instagram posts. This will not stop people from igniting fires behind your back, but don’t worry, your friends fellow gang members will extinguish their colourful words with a rant about their *aukaat*. It may seem irrelevant in your Junior years, but as you rise through the ranks, a position in this group will help

you attain a position in others. Even after you pass out of School, people will always remember you for your contributions in continuing the legacy of fine gentlemen who have been a part of this group. And ten years down the line, you may even receive that WhatsApp message inviting you to the ~~South Delhi~~ DSOBS reunion party.

During these six years, we are left to make decisions on our own, and some can have damaging effects on our future. However, I can assure you that ‘The Cool Gang’ is a great environment to surround yourself in. It usually consists of ambitious people who would never give up on something they really want. If my words aren’t enough to convince you, just visit the Tuck Shop on a Sunday afternoon, or maybe take a look at the long line to get into the School’s annual publication.

Not everyone can have their name on the poster or in the credits section, and consequently, we put all our efforts into shaping our image and ensuring that we are surrounded by people who can help us ‘level up’ in this game...

With the formation of such groups, batches tend to form a divide between themselves by the latter stages of their School life. Not everyone can have their name on the poster or in the credits section, and consequently, we put all our efforts into shaping our image and ensuring that we are surrounded by people who can help us ‘level up’ in this game, perhaps ignoring the people who actually mean something to us. Whether this be through a spot in ‘The Cool Gang’, or a relationship with an influential Master, we do what we can to ensure that our last year in School is the most memorable one. After that point — well, who really cares? The outside world is boring and overhyped. Even if your gang members do not survive past these six years, at least you’ll have your well-deserved ‘School’ Blazers to comfort you, that is if the life-long companion thing doesn’t pan out.

The Week Gone By

Shreyan Mittal

One would think that the final stretch of a three-month long term would perhaps be relaxed and easy-going. However, as the events of this past week have shown, this last leg will be anything but easy. We witnessed the crescendo of Inter-House Competitions this week as we saw the hockey and one-act play competitions come to an end. On Monday, a controversial derby saw the Gentlemen break the hearts of Nizams to clinch the coveted clean sweep, winning

the hockey Junior, Senior, and House Cups. The Rose Bowl also saw a lot of action over the past two days as all the Houses put up brilliant theatrical performances, from absurdities to tragedies to comedies. The competition was entertaining and eventful, despite a couple of inevitable AV squad *jam-ups*, as the actors put their heart and soul into every dialogue. We also have the Inter-House dance competition to look forward to tonight, making it three Inter-House Competitions in a single week. With the scorching May sun draining our energy, let's just pray that we have enough left in store to see us out through this term. The week also saw the Sc-Leavers bid farewell as they left the walls of Chandbagh one final

time, but not without leaving their mark first. A record number of students were sighted *busting* as our Sc-L's smuggled in contraband for their last hurrah, unsurprisingly leading to broken mirrors and other misdemeanors. However, all was forgiven at the Main Gate, as whole Houses came to drop off their Seniors for a tearful farewell. As we occupy ourselves with our activities and competitions, the attendance of Doscos sees a downward trend, similar to the waning academic enthusiasm at the end of a term. As preparations for the new and improved "sustainable" Test Week kick-off, let us sit tight and wait for the holidays, which always come a week too late.

Wordsearch | Famous Dialogues

- 1. "Hasta la vista, baby"
- 2. "I'm gonna make him an offer he can't refuse."
- 3. "Jaa Simran jee le apni zindagi!"
- 4. "My mama always said life was like a box of chocolates. You never know what you're gonna get."
- 5. "You see, in their last moment people show you who they really are."
- 6. "Kitne aadmi the!"
- 7. "You mustn't be afraid to dream a little bigger, darling."
- 8. "Name's Bond. James Bond."
- 9. "How's the *josh*?"
- 10. "You can't handle the truth!"

J	O	W	U	Q	F	H	G	P	O	K	Z	C	F	W	L	F	W	H	Y
N	S	D	X	T	Z	H	X	H	B	X	U	O	A	K	V	L	C	W	Z
I	I	N	L	B	J	T	F	D	K	R	D	Q	Z	L	G	D	A	R	L
O	U	C	D	R	S	R	T	X	K	N	S	M	T	I	P	O	R	V	C
X	O	Y	H	T	I	S	U	F	A	B	S	F	G	F	G	A	H	O	W
E	X	Y	O	O	G	N	U	R	U	H	C	K	I	C	N	T	O	E	C
H	C	W	B	Q	L	B	B	C	S	N	H	U	V	L	S	F	H	T	Z
A	T	T	O	N	P	S	U	O	H	W	W	A	Q	T	K	T	R	E	U
L	Y	Q	Q	Q	T	W	O	N	A	N	A	J	X	A	K	C	I	I	S
S	L	J	I	T	Y	P	F	N	L	N	R	W	P	U	G	P	Y	C	K
T	L	G	Q	L	I	L	U	E	U	K	Z	V	Z	C	D	A	Y	D	T
P	D	Z	M	U	F	B	N	R	B	T	E	E	M	Y	E	X	I	G	A
M	R	S	K	M	A	K	X	Y	I	Q	N	U	F	D	R	Z	D	U	A
T	F	L	J	H	A	R	D	Y	F	N	E	B	R	E	S	S	G	N	J
Y	L	X	F	X	A	I	S	Z	B	B	G	C	G	I	C	D	F	S	Q
T	S	G	E	Q	G	N	V	O	E	T	G	D	S	O	Z	J	Q	B	E
D	O	C	Z	W	Q	G	H	D	L	X	E	I	J	B	M	U	E	N	E
V	F	L	Z	X	H	J	K	E	M	L	R	F	S	M	T	E	O	U	L
Q	K	Y	T	M	O	Z	N	D	B	B	B	F	N	D	C	B	B	R	X
I	U	X	U	B	Z	B	P	Q	Y	Y	R	X	N	H	A	N	K	S	F

5. Ledger	1. Schwarzenegger
4. Hanks	2. Brandt
9. Kaushal	3. Puri
8. Connery	
7. Hardy	
6. Khan	
10. Nicholson	

Source: <https://worksheets.theteacherscorner.net/make-your-own/wordsearch/#top>

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Online Edition: www.doonschool.com/co-curricular/clubs-societies/publications/past-weeklies/ weekly@doonschool.com

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