

Established in 1936

# The Doon School WEEKLY

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

August 19, 2023 | Issue No. 2681



## THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

The birth of sound. Frigid wars. The death of a star.

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## BEYOND SCHOOL'S NEST

Life outside the walls of Chandbagh takes more than you'd think

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## THE WEEK GONE BY

Diplomats and businessmen, sporting on the side.

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# In the Labyrinth of Indian Politics

**Sai Arjun** explores the intersection of power and democracy in the labyrinth of Indian politics.

In a School full of pseudo-intellectuals like myself, I always found myself trapped in the same echo chamber of information that was circulated amongst the same age-old intellectual debates and discussions. As I now stand relatively more well-read than my A Form self, my eyes are open to knowing that I know nothing. However, given the inflated image of a Dosco, knowledge about current affairs should be deemed a requisite. It is a near-daily occurrence to overhear the Main Building corridors echo about how either the incumbent government is displaying authoritarian proclivities, or how democracy is alive and thriving in our country. According to me, neither opinion is politically appropriate.

Hence, today I took to the good old *Weekly* to try and communicate to the School about the validity of these profound political discussions and opinions that we, pseudo-intellectual Doscos, loudmouth around Campus.

First off, as much as I would love to fervently express my political opinion on the reader, that is not what this article is about. It's about providing a clear crash course on what is actually going on in Indian politics and what it represents in the status quo. So what is really going on in the Big Boss house of the Indian parliament, the Lok Sabha? What does it mean in

terms of preserving democracy? Moreover, how much knowledge should one know to have surface-level information or at least survive in those feisty intellectual circles with smug smiles all over their faces?

India right now is witnessing deep social and communal rifts on the one hand and rapid and sweeping legislative changes on the other. It is quite the time to start observing and analysing the Lok Sabha with a Google search window and a bucket of popcorn. The first front is the stormy controversy around the Manipur conflict. The Manipur conflict has multiple major reasons leading to its unravelling, but it has two epicenters. The first is the disposition of the Indian Government towards the Meitei tribe who is demanding the Scheduled Tribe status, stating reasons such as 53% of the Manipuri population being Meiteis and the Meitei's initial dismissal of the Scheduled tribes' title during the initial formation of the state of Manipur. The second is the Meitei-Kuki conflict over religious, cultural, and land differences. The Kuki tribe doesn't want the Meiteis to receive Scheduled Tribe status and the Meiteis are absolutely against the Free Movement Regime allowing Kukis to travel freely without a visa six kilometers into Indian

borders from Myanmar, saying that it has led to drug smuggling and excessive illegal immigration. There is communal violence, and there are various humanitarian crimes being committed in Manipur due to this.

Therefore, recently, the opposition coalition, I.N.D.I.A., demanded a no-confidence vote in the Lok Sabha, leading to a no-confidence motion being passed on the same. The no-confidence motion is for the purpose of seeing whether the Council of Ministers continues to enjoy the confidence of the House of the People aka Lok Sabha, but the ironic beauty of this motion is that it is close to impossible for this motion to be a success, as it is illegal for a party member of the ruling party to vote against its party's stance or change political affiliations during a party's term under the anti-defection law. Therefore, a no-confidence vote will always be defeated, which makes one question the point of the motion itself. The motion needs to be edited, but, due to the unawareness of the masses of the country, the ruling party continues to enjoy absolute power and control over the State's legislature. This is the first statement of realization I would like to dawn upon the reader, portraying the helplessness of democracy in

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## This Week in History

**1877 CE:** American inventor Thomas Alva Edison makes his most original invention, the phonograph.  
**1935 CE:** U.S President Franklin D. Roosevelt signs the Social Security Act, establishing a permanent national old-age pension system through employer and employee contributions.  
**1961 CE:** East Germany begins construction of the Berlin Wall, which serves as a symbol of the Cold War, separating East Berlin from West Berlin.  
**1977 CE:** American singer Elvis Presley, known as the “King of Rock and Roll,” dies of a heart attack brought on largely by drug abuse.

### READER’S CHECKLIST

What members of the School community have been reading to this week:  
**Avi Bansode:** *One Hundred Years of Solitude* by Gabriel Marquez  
**Krishang Agarwal:** *The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich* by William L. Shirer  
**Sagnik Biswas:** *Clarissa* by Samuel Richardson.

### LISTENER’S CHECKLIST

What members of the School community have been listening this week:  
**Abhay Varma:** *My Eyes* by Travis Scott  
**Veer Agarwal:** *I Just Wanna Rock* by Lil Uzi Vert  
**Mohammed Bukhari:** *YMCA* by The Village People  
**Neerav Bansal:** *Heartless* by Kanye West  
**Rajveer Agarwal:** *Baarishein* by Anuv Jain

“

Take action. An inch of movement will bring you closer to your goals than a mile of intention.

Steve Maraboli

# THE WHO?

Who is Usher Raymond IV?

**Vir Sandhu:** A dictator  
**Aarav Anand:** An actor  
**Aadhar Mandhotra:** A football player  
**Zohaib Choudhary:** A director

American born Usher Raymond IV is a **R&B singer-songwriter** and **recording artist**. His third album, 8701, produced the number-one singles *U Remind Me* and *U Got It Bad*, as well as the top-three single *U Don’t Have to Call*. It sold eight million copies worldwide and won two Grammy Awards as Best Male R&B Vocal Performance for Usher in 2002 and 2003.

### UNQUOTABLE QUOTES

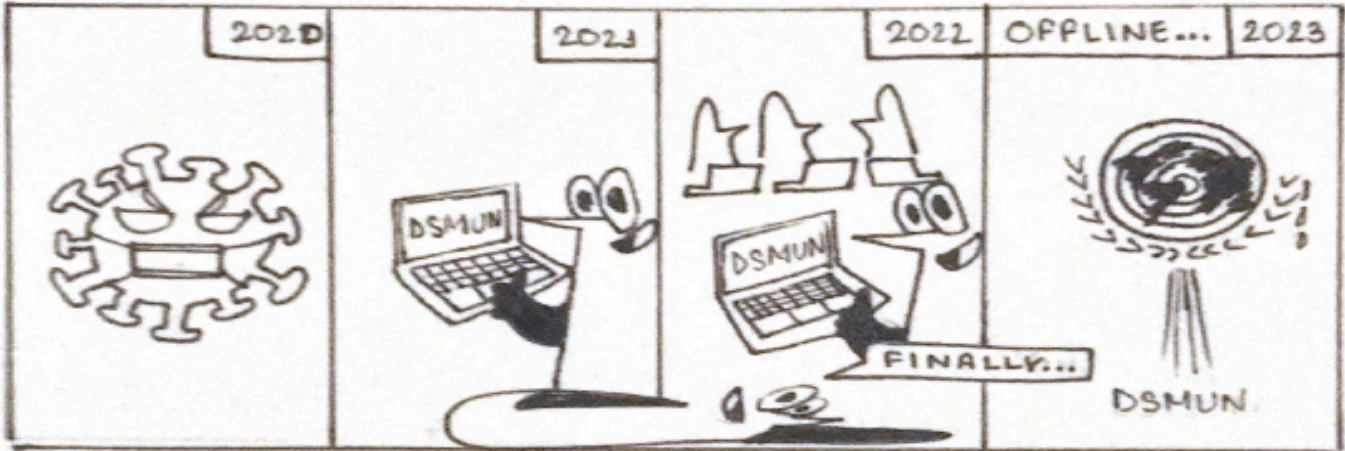
*The electrons were positive.*  
**Samarth Gupta**, Nobel Prize recipient.  
*Freedom is a metaphor for independence.*  
**Aditya Dungarpur**, modern patriot.  
*I read the movie.*  
**Kritin Goel**, reading in between the lines.  
*I am refereeing this conversation.*  
**Prabhav Jain**, oratory overseer.  
*My phone charges with my body heat.*  
**SRT**, too hot to handle.

## Around the World in 80 Words

Donald Trump was indicted on charges of racketeering and a series of election crimes. Imran Khan was sentenced to three years imprisonment and disqualified from politics for the sale of state gifts. Wildfires in Hawaii claimed the lives of 96 people, making it the deadliest US wildfire in a century. Neymar has agreed to a two-year deal with the Saudi League team Al Hilal, valued at 160 million euros. This week marks the second year of Taliban rule in Afghanistan.

Dosco Doodle

Respite  
Pragyan Goel



(Continued from Page 1)

situations like these.

Transitioning to the second illustration of the shortcomings of the existing quasi-federal governance system of our country through The Government of the National Capital Territory of Delhi Amendment Bill in the Lok Sabha. This bill essentially replaces the ordinance on control of services in the national capital.

In layman's terms, this means that as Delhi will now be under the control of the Lieutenant Governor, the executive power directly shifts from the AAP-led state government to the BJP central government. The civil services too are now under the

ambit of the BJP-led Union government, instead of the state-elected AAP government. One might wonder, how is this problematic? There are multiple reasons why this is detrimental, the first reason being, it directly stabs the federal nature of India through the soul.

Most importantly, this legislative decision proves one thing clearly along with all others, I have mentioned in this article, that the legislation is in the hands whichever party that has the majority in the Lok Sabha, which depicts the helplessness of the people in objecting to decisions made against the best interests of maintaining democracy in

India. It shows that the legislative system needs tweaking to ensure that such blind power is not entrusted to any party, as the NCT bill and constant failure of all No-confidence motions clearly display the scope of authoritarian power in the hands of any party with the majority in the Parliament.

The purpose of this article is to make sure that all the pseudo-intellectuals in our community can now hold a conversation without any outlandish claims that may make the average scholar giggle. As far as the political state of legislation in India is concerned, God save the Big Boss house.

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## Beyond School's Nest

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**Praman Narain (ex 141-T, 2009)** *writes about striking a path between achievements in School and future challenges.*

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S Form at Doon has long been an intriguing period. No risk of change-in-breaks or extra PTs, along with larger cohorts of Juniors to lord over. On the other hand, there's freedom from many of the responsibilities that fall on the shoulders of Scs. One also finds their good friends and form-mates transform into full-fledged 'scopats'. Plenty of daydreaming peepers and wide smiles at the sight of Senior Masters. Faster passage of food, School's most scarce and valued resource, to the table heads. Shoes and 'lending' skills are polished to impeccable standards

As DoscOs compete fiercely to become Prefects, Captains and Boys-in-Charge of various STAs and SUPWs, the striving for excellence prevails. The coveted Games Blazers, Prefectorial appointments, and mentions on the Honour Boards add to the aura of success. One of the salient features of a Dosco is the high standard of achievement and the unique identity it carries.

That being said, it is crucial for DoscOs to recognize that these achievements, though impressive within the School's confines, may not hold the same significance beyond its walls. Therefore, DoscOs, particularly those in S and Sc forms, should maintain a balanced perspective and prepare themselves for the challenges awaiting them in the world outside.

While excelling in School-related activities remains pivotal, DoscOs should also remain mindful of cultivating skills and knowledge that transcend the conventional school curriculum. As we transition from an era of basic mobile and internet usage to

one characterised by ground-breaking innovations such as space exploration, autonomous vehicles, nuclear fission, AI, and what not, the importance of navigating an ever-evolving world becomes even more pronounced. As systems and technologies rapidly evolve, the responsibility of navigating uncertainties becomes increasingly vital. While the confines of Chandbagh provide an environment conducive to well-rounded development, this might sometimes come at the expense of insulation.

Reaching out to alumni spread across various batches can provide valuable insights and connections that may prove beneficial in the future. Participating in internships during vacations can offer practical experience and a glimpse into real-world challenges is already happening, and this must continue. Taking extra time out to prepare for competitive tests and examinations that ensure that one finds themselves in a conducive environment for learning and growth upon passing out is necessary.

The key lies in striking a balance. While the pursuit of accomplishments and recognition within the School environment is natural, it is equally essential to look beyond those immediate horizons. DoscOs should always remember that their journey doesn't culminate with their graduation from School; in fact, it heralds the commencement of a more profound chapter in life. As they depart from the School, DoscOs carry not only the institution's legacy but also the potential to make a lasting impact on the broader canvas of life. And for that, it is imperative to be well-prepared.



# The Week Gone By

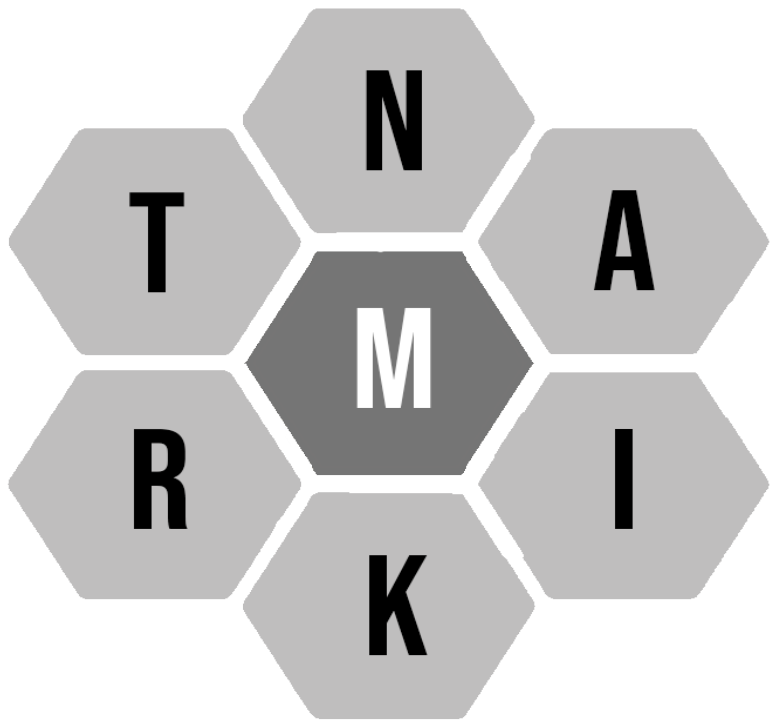
Tarun Doss

From DSMUN to its watered down version (YEC), this week has been a rather eventful one to say the least. With some scoring both on and off the pitch, the week began with a bang. On the sporting front, the School Team vs DSOBS thriller met with a disappointing yet deserving end though it proved to be a fruitful experience for the hosts as they emerged victorious at the first game of the Councils Football Tournament. Furthermore, the School witnessed the usual as

our beloved Swans continue their streak of bad luck in this year's rather prolonged Football Inter-house. Our 77th Independence Day was a particularly memorable one with our leader inspiring us with mythical encounters between a certain Austrian painter and a sportsman. To put the icing on the cake, our School's omniscient social media ensured that this momentous occasion would forever remain in our history books. But perhaps the most action-packed event this week, DSMUN, saw Doscos frantically scurrying around School in search of the best colognes and most fitted blazers as they brushed their hair and cut their nails (for once). A gentle reminder, readers, please

keep away from your own eyes or from the eyes of others. To quote Dua Lipa: "One touch is all it takes..." The evening's proceedings saw the Eagle's very own flying Jatt led astray by Fido Dido's vain attempts at finding true love. Similarly, the Nizams found themselves in a quandary, yet again, as one gentleman proved victorious over another. Like they say: vengeance is best served pink. Speaking of love, for all my fellow Sc's who are yet to succeed, do not fear as this is not the end. Perhaps there is another fated meeting scheduled for the 29th with our sisters from a neighbouring school. And for the rest of you, never forget these wise, wise words: you miss 100% of the shots you don't take.

## Wordsearch | Word It



- 1. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5. \_\_\_\_\_
- 6. \_\_\_\_\_

1. Martian	4. Ramini
2. Mint	5. Mart
3. Tram	6. Mink

Some answers to this week's Word It:

Source: <https://www.nytimes.com/puzzles/spelling-bee>

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