

# The Doon School WEEKLY

"I sketch your world exactly as it goes." -Arthur Foot  
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## THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

From massacres to orbits – a lot has happened over the years.

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## एक रोज़ रोज़-बॉल

रोज़ बोल में छिपा रहस्य बताती एक मौलिक रचना

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## CROSSWORD

Can you figure out who these influential figures are?

Page 4

# Empowering Education

*The Doon School Weekly interviewed Dr Joseph Emmanuel, the Chief Executive and Secretary of the CISCE.*

**The Doon School Weekly (DSW):** Are there any major bottlenecks that you feel currently plague the entire educational setup in India, and how does that limit your scope of implementation of new ideas in a place like CISCE?

**Dr Joseph Emmanuel (JEL):** I wouldn't say there are limitations, but we certainly do face challenges. This is a country with a population upwards of 140 crore. As the youngest country in the world, with the largest population of young people, we have more than 35 crore people below the age of 25. This makes giving them a good education and helping them to find a decent way of life a challenge. Empowerment will happen by giving quality education, preparing our youngsters to lead a successful life when they become adults. That is the challenge we face. And naturally, when you have a target, you will find many obstacles. Resources are scarce and our socioeconomic conditions are another limitation. All these challenges can, however, be overcome through collective effort.

**DSW:** It is often considered that Indian boards are more contingent on the system of rote learning compared to curricula like the IB. How can this situation be improved?

**JEL:** Absolutely right. This arose because of resource limitation. One of the objectives of the new national education policy is moving away from rote learning towards

competency-based education. Right now, most of our schools follow a rote learning pattern. Many of these CISCE schools are exceptions because CISCE schools cater to a diverse population hailing from diverse backgrounds, particularly from the middle and upper middle class segment of society. Many CISCE schools are doing better. They are not following exact rote memorisation but that is not the case for a large number of schools across the country. The capacity of our faculty needs to be improved. Teachers in government schools and affordable private schools need capacity-building support to improve their performance in the classroom. It is this shift that will help us move forward from rote memorisation to competency-based learning. The pedagogy used in classrooms should change. At present, teaching to test is happening. This involves reading from the textbook, explaining, and asking questions given at the end of the textbook. That kind of learning is happening. In place of that, our teachers should be able to give conceptual clarity about each topic and the application of these concepts in real-life scenarios. Our teachers should be capable of explaining this in the classroom and the benefit of the teaching-learning can take a different curve altogether.

**DSW:** Do you feel like the shift away from this rank based competitive exam system towards a more holistic process is ever

going to happen in India, or is it a necessary evil?

**JEL:** It can happen. One of the challenges is our population. Our graduates are not employable because our higher education and job markets are not lined up. It's a massive exercise. Our entrance examination also tests the content knowledge of the students, not the application-oriented knowledge. Entrance examinations should also assess the aptitude, abilities, and skill sets of learners for specific higher education courses. There is also often another complaint that there is no connection between the testing that is happening in the school and the testing for the entrance examination. There is a disconnect because entrance examinations are essentially tests of elimination. For example, out of ten lakh students applying for a course, there is only a possibility for one lakh students. It's a kind of elimination which isn't based on the skill set and ability of the learner. We should focus on evolving a mechanism, wherein the most suitable students should be selected for this course. That kind of testing mechanism should be evolved in the country. We need to work towards it, but it will definitely happen.

**DSW:** What is the process for you, the CISCE, to set syllabi, and how do you make sure it maintains relevance? For example, many times, literature in Indian boards is very focused

*(Continued on Page 3)*

## This Week in History

**1770 CE:** The Boston Massacre takes place as British Soldiers fire into a crowd, killing five and leading to the American Revolution.

**1876 CE:** Alexander Graham Bell patents the telephone, revolutionising global communication.

**1917 CE:** Women in Petrograd (St. Petersburg), Russia, went on strike to protest food shortages, poor living conditions, and World War I.

**1937 CE:** Valentina Tereshkova becomes the first woman to orbit the Earth.

**1982 CE:** Canadian jurist Bertha Wilson became the first woman appointed to the Supreme Court.

### PRIMUS INTER PARES

**School Colours** have been awarded to Anant Jain, Arjun Prakash, Aryavardhan Agrawal, Avi Bansode, Udathveer Pasricha, Vivaan Sood, Veer Babaycon and Zubin Dhar.

**The Marker Cup for General Proficiency (Seniors)** has been awarded to Arjun Prakash.

**The Gentleman Sportsman of the Year** has been awarded to Arjun Prakash.

**The Vinay Sheel Oberoi Trophy** has been awarded to Arjun Prakash.

Congratulations!

“

**Feminism isn't about making women stronger. Women are already strong; it's about changing the way the world perceives that strength.**

—  
G.D. Anderson

### MEN IN BLUE

Aditya Chandiook has been awarded the **Games Blazer**.

Kudos!

### AT THE HELM

The following are the **appointments** for the **academic year 2025-26**:

**Study Council:** Soumik Agarwalla

**Mess Committee:** Aryaman Lamba

We wish them a fruitful tenure!

### UNQUOTABLE QUOTES

*You can't spell teachers without tea.*

**Avi Bansode**, one sip at a time.

*If you sleep you wont sleep until you sleep.*

**Animaya Deo**, dozing off.

*A lifetime has passed by, hasn't it ?*

**Samrat Gupta**, reminiscing the good ol' days.

*I don't want cooling effect, I want hotting effect.*

**Zorawar Singhal**, messing with the thermostat.

*I wasn't lost, I was just somewhere else.*

**Anant Gupta**, sure buddy.

*Why is it raining wethy?*

**Shiven Singh**, dry humour.

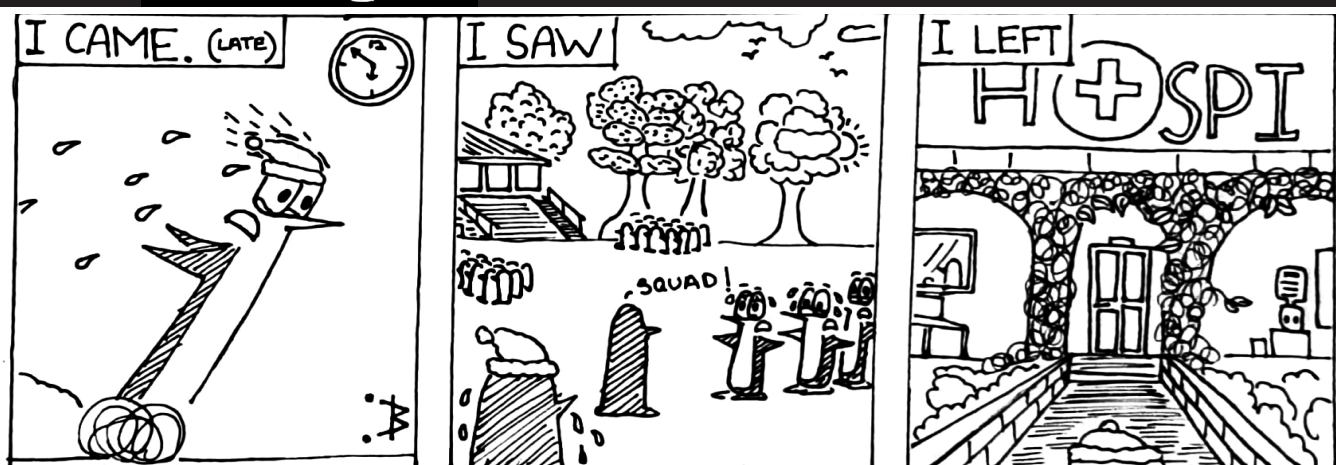
### Around the World in 80 Words

The United States announced a one-month reprieve for local carmakers before import tariffs from Canada and Mexico take effect. The European Union allocated over 800 million euros to their defence.. The Delhi authorities ordered a ban on refueling vehicles aged 10 years and above to combat air pollution. India condemned a flag-tearing protest during Foreign Minister S.Jaishankar's UK visit. The ISRO prepped Gaganyaan-1's test flight. India beat Australia and New Zealand beat South Africa in the Champions Trophy semi-finals.

**Dosco Doodle**

*Veni, Vidi, Sleepy*

*Reyansh Agarwal*



(Continued from Page 1)

on the classics and there is very little contemporary coverage.

**JEL:** CISCE has a robust system for developing syllabi. For the past one and a half decades, the council has not revamped its curriculum. Every subject has a course committee from higher education consisting of NCERT, CISCE's school system, and teachers from systems like IB, IGCSE, and CBSE. Collectively, they collaborate on developing the curriculum. Primarily being an Indian national board, The foundation of the CISCE curriculum is derived from the curriculum developed by NCERT. And based on the NCERT

curriculum, CISCE sometimes makes its additions and deletions relating to the contemporary requirement. It must be reviewed at regular intervals to keep it relevant, which is currently happening. Based on the national education policy and national curriculum framework, revamping is happening by taking inputs from the teachers and students of the affiliated schools and looking into the contemporary changes that are happening in society and academics. **DSW: How do you ensure that the boards that you run currently, the ISC and the ICSE, are competitive compared to other alternatives?**

**JEL:** CISCE, from the very

beginning, is considered as one of the best in the country and in the world. CISCE students move all across the world. It has produced 'legends' like Homi Bhabha, Ratan Tata, Rahul Bajaj, Salman Rushdie, Aung San Suu Kyi and Satya Nadella. The modern leaders, corporate leaders are all products of the CISCE system. CISCE not only prepares children academically, but it also prepares them to excel in life. It's learning for life. The holistic development and the application-oriented learning is what strengthens our students to take on any challenges in life.

## एक रोज़ रोज़-बॉल

वैभव डबराल

16, अक्टूबर, 2024, शुक्रवार का दिन था। रात बहुत हो गई थी। करीब दस बज गए थे। मैं हिंदी कक्षा में हमारे हिंदी के मास्टर जी से स्थापना दिवस के बारे में कुछ बात कर रहा था। सब लोग चले गए थे। सारी तैयारियाँ हो चुकी थीं। मैंने सर से कहा, "सर, रात बहुत हो गई है, अब मैं भी चलता हूँ, वैसे भी सारी तैयारियाँ तो हो ही चुकी हैं।" सर ने कहा, "हाँ-हाँ, बेटा जाओ, मैं भी कुछ देर में निकल ही रहा हूँ।" फिर मैं सर को 'कल मिलते हैं सर' बोलकर वहाँ से चला गया। दूसरी तरफ हमारे हेडमास्टर जी आई. टी. लैब में छात्रों के द्वारा बनाए हुए तकनीकी उपकरण व अन्य सामान देख रहे थे। वहाँ उन्होंने दो ऐसे कृत्रिम हाथ देखे जो कि सिर्फ एक बटन दबाने पर 500 मीटर दूर तक जा सकते थे और कुछ भी उठा और पकड़ सकते थे। उन्हें वह हाथ इतने पसंद आए कि उन्होंने एक हाथ अपने साथ ले जाने की सोची। उस समय मैं रोज़ बोल की तरफ से वापस जा रहा था। पता नहीं क्यों, पर जब मैं वहाँ पहुँचा तो वहाँ की लाइटें टिमटिमाने लगी। सामने से मुझे कोई आता हुआ दिखा। जब वह थोड़ा पास आया तो मुझे दिखा कि वह एक सीनियर हैं। वह सफेद कुर्ते-पजामे में थे और मेरी तरफ ही आ रहे थे। वह मेरे पास आए और ऊँची आवाज़ में उन्होंने मुझसे पूछा "इतनी रात हो गई है, यहाँ क्या कर रहे हो?" मैंने उन्हें इससे पहले कभी देखा नहीं था। मैंने उन्हें कहा "बस यहाँ पर 'फ़ाउंडर्स डे' की तैयारियों के लिए आया था।" उन्होंने कहा "अच्छा" और रोज़ बोल की तरफ इशारा करके कहा, "थोड़ी देर के लिए ज़रा वहाँ आना, कुछ काम है।" मैंने कहा, "मुझे वहाँ जाने से डर लगता है।" वैसे भी वहाँ बहुत अँधेरा था और उस समय मुझे रोज़ बोल के भूतों की कहानियाँ याद आ रही थीं जो मुझे और भी डरा रही थीं। उन्होंने बोला "डर, किस बात का डर। मैं हूँ न।" मैं 'ठीक है' बोलकर उनके पीछे-पीछे रोज़ बोल के अंदर चला गया। मैंने देखा कि रोज़ बोल के बीचों-बीच एक गड्ढा है जिसमें एक सुनहरा चिराग पड़ा है। वह सीनियर जल्दी से भागे और उन्होंने वह चिराग अपने कुर्ते की जेब में रख लिया। उन्होंने कहा, "उधर उस गड्ढे में जाकर खड़े हो जाओ।" मैं चुपचाप गया और वहाँ जाकर खड़ा हो गया। जैसे ही मैं वहाँ गया, मेरा शरीर जम सा गया, मैं सुन और देख तो पा रहा था, पर

हिल नहीं पा रहा था और बोल नहीं पा रहा था। मैं बहुत ही ज्यादा घबरा गया। तभी वह सीनियर अपने हाथों को विचित्र तरीकों से उठाने और हिलाने लगा। मैं कुछ नहीं कर पा रहा था सिवाय उसे आँखें फाड़कर देखने के। तभी एकदम से उन्होंने अपने हाथ ज़मीन पर पटके और वह एकदम से एक जिन में बदल गए। मैं और भी ज्यादा डर गया। मुझे लगा कि वह एक सपना है, पर वह ही वास्तविकता थी और यदि वह एक सपना था तो मैं जल्द से जल्द जागना चाह रहा था। उस जिन के वस्त्र भी बदल गए और उसका कुर्ता नीचे गिर गया। उसने बहुत विचित्र और भारी आवाज़ में कहा "बस एक-एक करके हर एक बच्चे को पकड़ लूंगा और बढ़ाता जाऊँगा अपनी शक्ति।" यह कहकर वह ज़ोर-ज़ोर से हँसने लगा, उसकी उस भयानक हँसी ने मुझे और भी डरा दिया। तब वह मुझे डराने और धमकाने लगा। उस दौरान हमारे हेडमास्टर जी रोज़ बोल में की गई तैयारियों को देखने आ रहे थे। उन्होंने मुझे वहाँ उस हालत में देखा। मैंने जब उन्हें देखा तो मुझे थोड़ी राहत मिली। मैंने आँखों से उन्हें उस गिरे हुए कुर्ते की तरफ इशारा किया। वह जिन वह इशारा देख नहीं पाया। हेडमास्टर जी भी थोड़ा सोच में पड़ गए। उन्हें मेरे इशारे से समझ आ गया कि उस कुर्ते में कुछ तो है जो कि काम आ सकता है। तभी उन्हें याद आया उस कृत्रिम हाथ के बारे में जो कि उनकी जेब में था। उन्होंने वह हाथ निकाला और उस कुर्ते की तरफ निशाना लगाकर वह बटन दबाया। वह जिन मुझे डराने में व्यस्त था। वह हाथ बहुत लंबा हो गया और उसने वह कुर्ता पकड़ा और उसे खींचकर हेडमास्टर के पास ले आया। तभी उस जिन ने यह सब होते हुए देख लिया। वह एकदम से हेडमास्टर की तरफ जाने लगा। पर जब तक वह हेडमास्टर तक पहुँचता, तब तक हेडमास्टर ने उस कुर्ते की जेब से वह चिराग निकालकर उसे घिस दिया। वह जिन हमेशा के लिए उसमें कैद हो गया। मैं भी बच गया। उस दिन हेडमास्टर जी ने मेरी जान बचा ली। तब से लेकर आज तक जब भी मैं मेन बिल्डिंग आता हूँ तो हेडमास्टर जी के ऑफिस में वह चिराग देखकर उस दिन को याद करता हूँ।

नोट : भले ही यह मौलिक रचना है लेकिन आपको इस कपोल कल्पना से बचना है |

# The Week Gone By

Krishiv Jaiswal

Even though the three absences in PT unfortunately stops my chances of doing the beloved standing table, it cannot really keep me away from cooking yet another Week Gone By. So here's to another week of scrutinizing and hopefully Another Brick in the (right) Wall.

From the get-go, this week has been challenging, especially for the Masters. For one, the mindfulness workshop left the Masters and the 21 guns done as outings worked out to be a 90+3 clutch for many. Moreover, the script writers were dumbfounded by a discrepancy in their plan of manufacturing the "ideal public school boys" due to a golden (or rather yellow) duck to

some of the fearful D Formers, who sadly now have 0.5 points deducted off their Scholars' Blazer application.

The School has also seen a change in mindset as the daunting Trials approach, with people who earlier set their eyes on the Champions Trophy and UCL now focusing entirely on the Champions Trophy and getting their several "tardy unexcused" removed. The tweaked saying "leave the Boards before the Boards leave you" has been exemplified perfectly in the A Formers attitude as most donned in XL *harlequin* (earlier M) and Asics shoes arrived to the fields well before their MCQ examinations. Here's something to the A Form, who presumably will soon find themselves outnumbered by any batch: while you celebrate the end of your much-dreaded Board examinations, remember that meanwhile an examiner in Uzbekistan might be checking your "brain rot" analogies.

Power, by its very nature, tends to corrupt, whether it be having an "arranged and formal discussion on the political and economic state of the world" with some counterparts in Dalanwala or executing a long-shot attempt in Ajmer where the word "mid" suddenly disappears. On a positive note, the various council meetings and the weather change suggest only one thing: we are well and deep into this term and it is only time when the amalgamation of several co-curricular competitions bite down on our sleeping schedule and an increase in the number of 'House rests'.

As I bid farewell to you lads yet another time, I just hope that the Senior Cricket matches turn out to be as enthralling as the others, and that we get to witness greatness on the Main Field for the next four days before Trials kickstart and give us a reality check. For, the truth is madder than fiction.

## Wordsearch | Famous Women

### Clues:

1. A pioneering scientist, she won two Nobel Prizes and discovered the radioactive elements radium and polonium.
2. The first female Prime Minister of the UK, she was known for her strong conservative policies and leadership.
3. A brilliant scientist, she helped discover the structure of DNA and conducted groundbreaking work in radiation research.
4. Famous for her novels, including 'Pride and Prejudice,' which explore themes of love, marriage, and social class.
5. The first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic, she disappeared while attempting to fly around the world.
6. A Mexican artist known for her vivid self-portraits that explore pain, identity, and feminism.
7. India's first female Prime Minister, she shaped the nation's political landscape in the 1960s and 70s.

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

1. Curie  
 2. Thatcher  
 3. Franklin  
 4. Austen  
 5. Harriet  
 6. Kahlo  
 7. Indira

Answers to this week's wordsearch:

Source: <https://www.theteacherscorner.net/make-your-own/wordsearch/>

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