



The DAILY MUNtra

Newsletter 2 | 22nd October 2021



Opening Ceremony

By Anavi Kaul

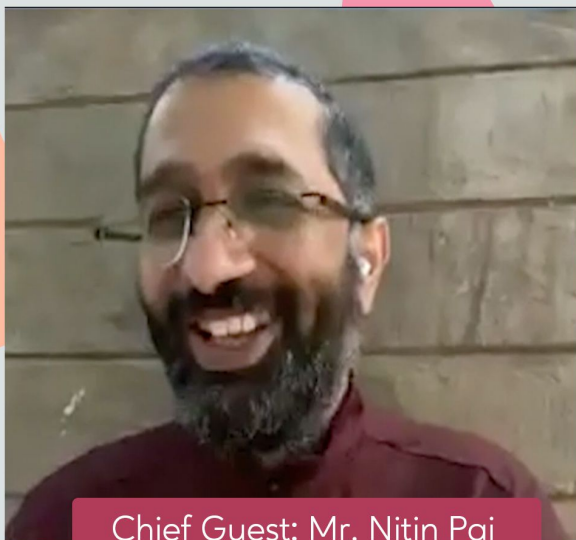
The Opening Ceremony marked the commencement of the 18th edition of the Dhirubhai Ambani International Model United Nations, India's largest THIMUN-affiliated conference. The Deputy Secretary General, Vrinda Das, opened the ceremony by greeting the delegates and all those involved in DAIMUN 2021. This year, the conference welcomes 293 delegates from 18 schools around the world. This introduction was followed by a speech from the Secretary General, Yash Fadia, where he introduced the theme for this year's conference, 'The Efficacy of Shared Sovereignty in Our Times', not only acknowledging the importance of discussions facilitated by MUN conferences in the larger global conversations of tomorrow, but also leading delegates through his own journey in MUN. To expose delegates to the nuances of international politics and diplomacy, the subsequent panel discussion expressed the views of three eminent Chief Guests. Mr. Nitin Pai is the Co-Founder and Director of the Takshashila Foundation and has more than a decade of experience at the Singapore government as a policy maker in the technology sector. Ms. Anita Bhatia is the Deputy Executive Director of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality And The Empowerment of Women. Mr. HSS Vishwanathan was a member of the Indian Foreign Service for 34 years and has diverse experiences with international relations and diplomacy.



Chief Guest: Mr. HSS Vishwanathan



Chief Guest: Ms. Anita Bhatia



Chief Guest: Mr. Nitin Pai

The panel discussed how the post-Cold War order of the United Nations could be adapted to reflect the power dynamics of today. They deliberated on how governments should direct their public policy to involve the public in matters of national importance. They also discoursed on how aid from developed countries to developing countries should be considered in the context of self-interest rather than responsibility. They acknowledged the impact of COVID-19 through discussions that revolved around the utility of forums that bolster international collaboration and how they have changed in light of the current situation.

The panel discussion concluded with a quote from Jacques Barzun: "It is a great and admirable quality to see yourself as others see you. But in international relations, it is even more admirable and useful to see others as they see themselves," reminding delegates of the value of MUN to spur necessary change, and inspiring them to do their best throughout the conference.

Illustration by Tridha Haritwal
Photography by Ananya Sachdev



LOBBYING and other social experiments

by Kashvi Barjatya

Lobbying. That one part of DAIMUN where delegates 'officially' exchange their pretentious third-person speeches and incomprehensible jargon for colloquialisms unheard of in polite company. Arbitration gives way to bribery and unsubtle coercion, as delegates abandon their self-respect and send seventeen messages in a row to a potential signatory. Bloc

formation, on the other hand, is a unique social experiment in itself, with delegates frantically trying to fuse two miserable resolutions into a borderline mediocre one. Stay within earshot of lobbying delegates for too long, and you'll notice that all their interactions begin to sound the same: "Sign this and I'll yield the floor to you every time, I PROMISE" "Sign this or I'll destroy you in the MOE," or the slightly less threatening "Sign this and I'll WeFast a garlic bread to you tomorrow."

Delegates have had rather interesting experiences with lobbying, most of which involve an astonishing amount

of disgrace. "I had to get down on my knees and beg the delegate of the USA to sign my resolution. I even chafed my uncle's formal trousers. I would send the bill to the US treasury, but, you know."

Fear not, the Press Corps at DAIMUN 2021 has a humble suggestion: add a clause to your resolution each time a mind game is utilized. The sheer size of your resolution document will make your laptop freeze, probably forever.

POV: You're a Quiet Delegate by Anushka Sonawala

Terrified at the thought of public speaking, a freshman in committee who's intimidated by other experienced delegates, or just unbothered by MUN and only present because mom forces them to be – every MUN conference has a variety of different kinds of quiet delegates, and the online experience has only provided silent delegates with the gift of excuses.

Quieter delegates usually go with the typical "my WiFi's not working" or a "my mic doesn't seem to be functioning" message in the chat. For delegates that aren't prepared for the challenging questions, or just made a speech to grace everyone with their presence but are in no mood to answer follow-ups, the classic, "My call dropped right when I was unmuting and I couldn't join back until a motion for entertainment was raised" usually does the trick.

Real talk time though – it's completely normal to be intimidated by extremely active delegates or by public speaking, especially for a first-time participant.

Nevertheless, try not to disengage when others speak, and recognize their techniques of dominating committee. Most MUNners don't win best delegate at their first attempt. Simply try familiarizing yourself with procedure! For delegates attending only because you're being forced to, you're inevitably stuck at the conference for the weekend, so try making the most of it and adding your (well-researched) two cents in.



Artwork by Avantika Kampani

Life Cycle of a MUNner

by Kashvee Barjatya

Artwork by Tridha Haritwal



1. Dressing dilemma
Nobody can see my legs anyway.

2. Aggressive virtual-hand raise to give a speech
"I am now the undisputed Best Delegate."

3. Binge-eating Donuts
Sugar load to dull the pain. Great bribery tool for getting signatories."

4. Holding the placard upside down
Maybe if I say my head of state passed away I can go home early...

5. Super hyped for MOE
"I wanted to dance with Ukraine" *sad face*

Mun Mythology

By Samika Jain

The dazzling Greek deities have come alive this year at DAIMUN.

Zeus: The king of greek gods can be found using fiery speeches to boost morale during committee. Always looking out for overall development, this delegate is the face of the committee, but don't get on their wrong side!

Poseidon: Notice the calm cool delegate who looks like he has everything in control? This delegate has a strong sense of purpose and direction, allowing him to easily navigate the "choppy" seas of DAIMUN.

Hades: Did you notice that delegate sitting next to you wearing all black? An air of mystery surrounds all these delegates. Caution! Although these delegates often choose to remain silent, when they do, it shakes the committee.

Athena: That one delegate whose fact file is thicker than your history textbook. Watch out, this delegate has been through the rules of procedure several times and knows the study guide like the back of his hand.

Hermes: This one is the delegate running around trying to lure more members into their bloc. Yes, they're the ones secretly wearing the winged Nike sneakers hidden under all that formal attire.

Hephaestus: Probably the most optimistic member in committee, this delegate will put up a rather fiery speech and give the most creative solutions to the crisis at hand.

Ares: The hot-headed delegate whose face is twisted into a permanent scowl. This delegate dives right into accusations and demands answers. With a clear command for respect, this delegate does not think twice about ripping through others' resolutions.

Hera: This delegate sashays into committee with an aura of confidence. They command the spotlight. . . and the best-dressed delegate award!

by Saanvi Agarwal

thirty seconds to five minutes The overtime speech

We all know those few delegates that extend their 30-second speech to 5 minutes, don't we? They bore half their committee with useless facts that serve to make them sound like my 6th-grade textbook. And that one delegate who thinks their speech will revolutionise the committee's understanding of politics but makes little to no difference in committee is a classic as well. It's hard enough to concentrate on a one-minute speech and think of POIs, let alone a 5-minute speech! I personally need an extra-large cup of coffee with two shots of espresso to prevent me from falling asleep. I don't know how the Chairs do it...

Over the countless hours spent listening to never-ending speeches, I've learnt a thing or two on how to ramble on in committee to avoid POIs that I'm guaranteed not to understand. Words like "to conclude" or "aforementioned" are easily replaced by, "to summarize and conclude all the points mentioned by the delegate in this speech regarding the agenda of this committee, the delegate would like to close by saying..." and, "in accordance with the point previously stated by the delegate, the delegate would like to reiterate the points stated by the delegate." Frankly, all I heard was the word delegate repeated 3467 times. Nevertheless, these rants form an miniscule portion of the speech. For the most part, speeches are just unnecessary elongated pauses serving as so-called "dramatic effects". "Delegates ... (25 sec pause), we ... (15 sec pause) are amid a devastating crisis ... (30 sec pause) and we must FIGHT (needless screaming) Thank you."

Shouts of disapproval and approval reign supreme in this mind-numbed committee, and a hasty resolution is passed to prevent another skull-torturing rant.

Photography by Sia Harisingani

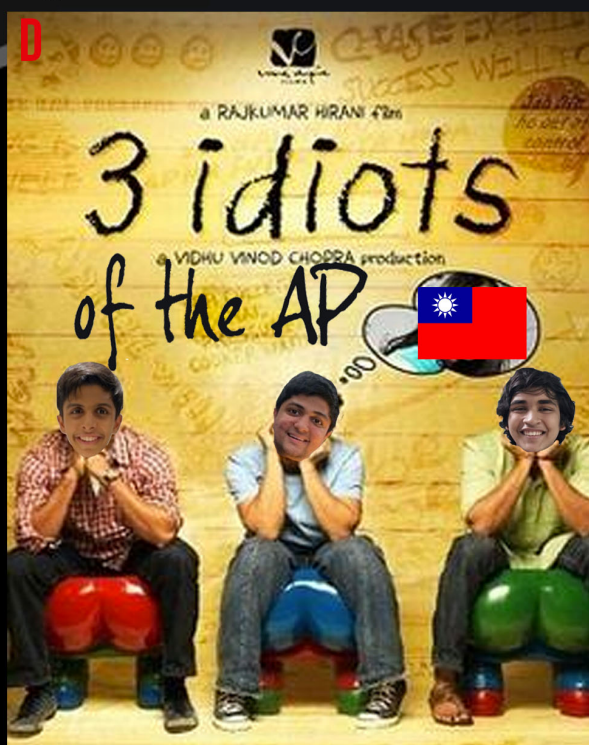


DAIMUNFLIX

Home TV Shows Movies Latest My List

Q DVD 9+

Trending Now >



APQSR: Raghav Agrawal, Moksh Jhaveri, Arnav Joshi.

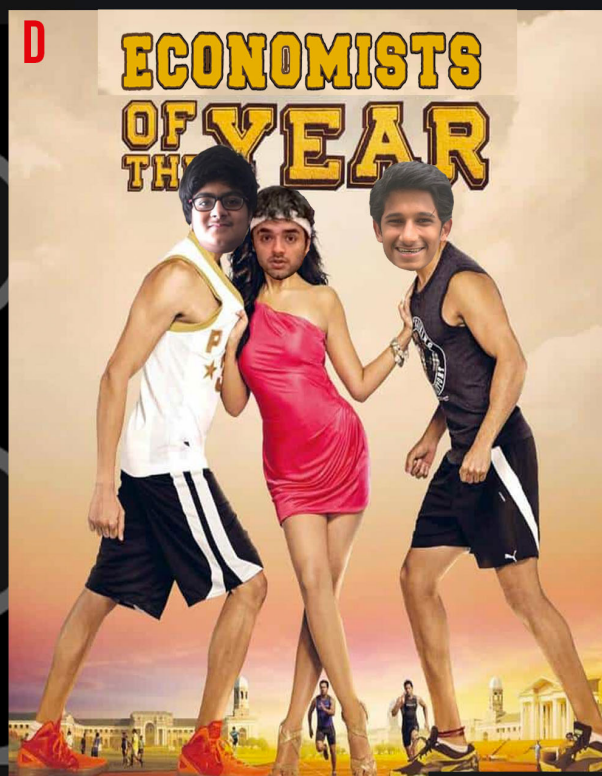
The action-packed (mildly biased?) account of the controversies enveloping China and its Surrounding Regions doesn't fail to deliver with inspired humor and performances.



YHC: Anirudh Fadia, Diya Shah, Mudit Baid

You thought sustainable development was relevant? The next generation and the latest healthcare crisis are the questions of the hour, and this new edition will astound you.

Popular on DAIMUN >



ECOFIN: Rajveer Batra, Ahaan Jindal, Rhiaan Shah

With outstanding economic thought, financial crises and bankruptcy claims galore, this classic coming-of-age rom-com delights with its twists and turns.



SC: Arav Dalwani, Kshitig Seth, Vedant Shah

You asked for new global problems? You have new global problems. An explicitly dangerous star cast comes with extreme sanctions and grandiose declarations of war.

DAIMUNFLIX

Home TV Shows Movies Latest My List

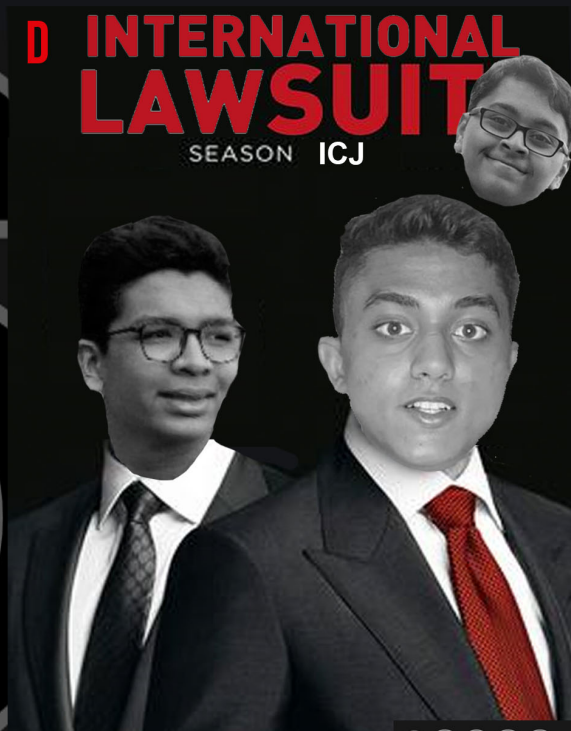
Q DVD 9+

DAIMUN Dramas >



DISEC: Ananya Mittal, Bhavesh Agarwal, Ananya Srinivasan

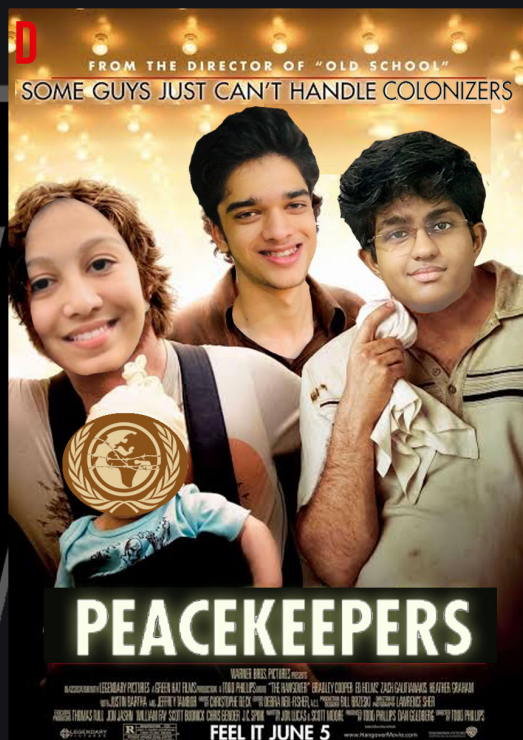
This sci-fi powerhouse takes you through the catacombs of geopolitical conflict, gripping you with remarkably graphic accounts of military power and injustice.



ICJ: Neel Maheshwari, Ishaan Shah, Devansh Desai

A classic courtroom drama, stuffed to the brim with conjecture, discrimination and external interference. (Mediation is not on the priority list)

Based on Reality >



SPECPOL: Ahaan Bhansali, Ribhav UK, Nidaa Kagalwalla

A romp filled with power-hungry non-state actors and a healthy helping of highly temperamental states and murderous colonizers.



HRC: Arzoo Usgaonkar, Dhruv Bhatia, Aakanksha Pai

This cute, family-friendly movie is one big tear-fest. Heartwarming and with real social change, it reminds you of everything good in the world, and you will walk out sobbing.

HRC: The Dismally Deprived

Human Rights of Informal Sector Workers

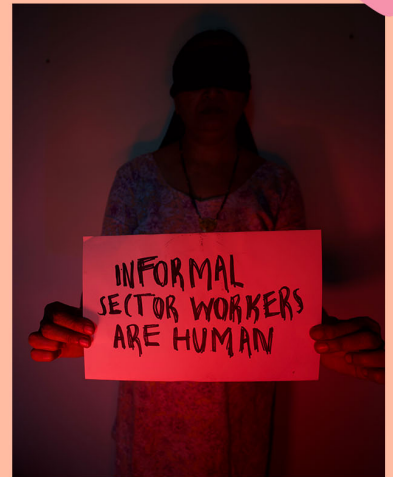
By Naiessha Nayyar, Bai Avabai Framji Petit Girls' High School

Modern-day industrial growth is contemporaneous with two billion informal labourers plummeting into indigence, a grim reality overlooked because 'there is no success without sacrifice.' Funny how the 'sacrifice' has to be the fundamental human rights of informal sector workers, comprising the diverse peoples unprotected by the state whilst engaged in economic enterprises.

This deprivation of intrinsic human rights has been exacerbated by the pandemic. Livelihoods of a billion informal workers threaten to collapse, with women being disproportionately affected since 92% of all employed women work in the informal sector in low-income countries. Ethnic minorities, especially women and the LGBTQ+ community, work routinely in perilous conditions for low wages, living in fear of harassment. Innocent children are snatched of their childhoods, vulnerable to prostitution or human trafficking. Is this the economy humanity strives to thrive within? This precarious situation impedes the ability of informal workers to actively constitute vibrant democratic societies. A democratic society loses its identity when people are denied their fundamental human rights. To preserve that identity, it is critical that gender and child-sensitive measures be implemented. Refugees,

migrant workers, micro-entrepreneurs and the self-employed cannot be forgotten, especially rural ones. Formalizing the informal sector should be a long-term goal for policymakers, but in the short-term, facilitating their transition into the formal economy by providing social protection is the way forward. Country-specific reforms that are well-defined and include assurance of basic amenities are crucial.

Inclusivity is a step forward, but not enough. The provision of quality services for varied societal groups is equally essential. In the rich tapestry of a diverse society, all the threads are equally valuable regardless of their colour. It is vital that the delegates of the committee weave that tapestry with utmost prudence and compassion.



Photography by
Zahra Kachwala

Delegates Rant About Committee

By Tavishi Kapoor

What is the most annoying thing about MUN?

It was my first time doing MUN, so I had no idea what to say!

I hate when people discuss meaningless things. I DON'T want to know! about "all the sleepless nights" you spent on the resolution!

Some delegates are so unnecessarily destructive. The whole point of MUN is to come up with solutions for the world's pressing problems, but *some* people see this as an opportunity to derail other delegates.

The amount of opposition that's there during a MUN is extremely annoying. Especially the delegates who are always first in line to ask questions when a delegate has just finished a speech, it's like they've glued their finger to the "unmute" button.

Today's session was so lengthy! I could have travelled to Mexico and back by the time the first break came around.

Why doesn't THIMUN have crises and 1 v 1????

When I'm prepared with a strong speech, I'm almost never recognized, and when I raise my hand to avoid being seen as stupid, I conveniently get recognized to deliver some of the worst speeches of my life. The irony hurts...

Illustration By
Aanya Khanchandani



Professionalism at its finest

By Ashna Gupta

There you are, in your chair, spinning lazily as you skim over this article in what you call your workspace. Ready, in your three piece suit, mentally preparing yourself for another endless call. Still, a virtual conference has its own perks.

Although teenagers representing countries may seem ironic to some, it reaches a whole new level when a simulation of the United Nations occurs in the informal sanctity of your home. Impressed delegates may nod in approval of your powerful speech, but what they don't see is your pet on your lap as you talk about extremists. You may seem to be furiously typing away, making last minute changes, but no one sees you swinging your feet, donning fuzzy cat-print socks. Of course they don't see them—you're a professional.

In the briefcase of a DAIMUN delegate

By Samika Jain



Illustration by
Avantika Kampani

Illustration by Aarna Dalal



Sometimes, though, it's too late before you realise they can see or even hear you when you yell 'oh my god, mom, I don't want to eat' or when you scream at your sibling 'for god's sake, shut the door'. They've also watched you laugh in the middle of a speech as you're on another tab watching a Netflix special.

Virtual conferences, although taxing, come with their fair share of interesting bits. No matter what food you're secretly eating at whatever strategic camera angle, you're still a professional (but if you're reading this in the middle of committee, you should probably look up from time to time).

Water bottle: An essential carried by all delegates, needed after one's throat is parched and cracked after a long speech (delegate, make your concluding remarks!) that bored the whole committee to eternal sleep.

Thermometer: A handy tool for when things take a heated turn - when the temperature rises in committee (delegates are EXPERTS at throwing subtle shade).

Earplugs: For when you want to zone out during a delegate's monologue or pretend that you didn't hear the Chair scream out "Delegates maintain decorum!"

Band-aid: To be used when your resolution is shredded by another delegate. ("Vague...completely useless...this resolution is like Swiss cheese, too many holes!")

A pocket knife: The ultimate weapon used by delegates to tear through others' resolutions.

Painkillers: A headache is inevitable after listening to unusually loud delegates (you know who you are!). However, one thing you can do is pop in a painkiller while pretending to comprehend what the delegate is saying.

Compass: An useful tool for enthusiastic first-time MUNers who forget procedure in the electric atmosphere of DAIMUN and need helpful navigation. Quick tip: refrain from using personal pronouns!

Sticky Tape: An integral part of the kit, it keeps the mouths of annoying, repetitive delegates clamped firmly shut.

Committees as **bollywood** stereotypes

by Aamanya Sejpal

SC - That side character who thinks they're better than everyone else. That superiority complex needs to be taken down a notch because this Rohan-from-Student-of-the-Year vibe is not going to earn you any friends.

DISEC - Definitely the main character of an action film, with an astonishing likeness to Ranveer Singh playing Simmba, sunglasses and all.

ECOFIN - Much like Poo from K3G, ECOFIN is definitely the coolest of them all. With styled hair, ironed blazers and heels in place, the delegates of ECOFIN are ready to take over the world.

SPECPOL - Between the can-do and don't-care attitudes and slicked-back hair, they're the Imrans from ZNMD.

AP - The AP are the "gyaani" folks. They enjoy seeing the chaos of committees around them as they calmly sip tea and pass around Digestive biscuits on porcelain plates.

HRC - HRC is the dashing hero who saves the day, rescues the love of his life, and is wickedly good looking. He is the true embodiment of Rahul from... well, take your pick of Shahrukh Khan movies.

ICJ - The ICJ are definitely the try-hards, the do-gooders, who try their best and end up getting the most done. But don't worry, they're not pretentious; they'll always help you out, just like Naina from Yeh Jawani Hai Diwani.

YHC - Much like Bunny from Yeh Jawani Hai Deewani, YHC holds an unmatched charisma and an adventurous spirit; this could be the reason for its mysterious fame despite being a first-time committee.

Press Corps - Based on our track record of bothering other committees, we would definitely be the annoying, gossipy Kitty Party aunties who somehow have the best food and are always around for a little tea-spilling session.

Admin - Even though they are "supposed" to be the most organized, the Admin is secretly scatterbrained, but also a whole different level of "bindaas" for their planning skills - just like Sulu from Tumhari Sulu.

Background art By Zahra Kachwala



By Pranaaya Jhaveri

ECOFIN

Insensitive and Ingenuine to the Indigenous

The earliest inhabitants of a certain land, whose ancestry dates back to times before invasion, continue to care for ancient land. Utilising natural resources in the best possible way and still contributing so much to our very environment. Surely, they would be revered by modern society? Unfortunately, no. Indigenous people are still victims of discrimination. The injustice imposed upon them is deplorable and outrageous. Change and equality is long overdue.

Indigenous people come from societies that developed in pre-colonial times and their community is thus considered vastly distinct from modern civilisation. They continue to face mass discrimination and poverty as a result of their exclusion from globalisation. Their culture, heritage and traditions are endangered by the menace of extinction. Their social, geographical and political exclusion is a huge factor that contributes to their poverty.

It is crucial that the indigenous population is included in the global economy. For one, it is highly immoral to discriminate against them solely based on their contrasting way of life.

Indigenous people should not be subjected to discrimination for choosing to remain on their hereditary land. After already being subjected to a plethora of historical oppression and heightened exposure to risk, regarding the degrading climate, it is highly prejudiced that they are denied political involvement and omitted from the global economy.

Compared to urban dwellers, indigenous people are extremely dependent on natural resources. In Peru, they are being coerced to move away from nature and this could be extremely detrimental. Although they are considered as "backward" in terms of modernization they have contributed the most to enhancing biodiversity.

Despite this, times are getting better for the indigenous people. Slowly, they are becoming a part of political and economic collaboration and there has been legislation passed to ameliorate the rights given to indigenous people. Over the past 2 decades, a lot has been done to advocate for the rights of indigenous people. This includes the EMRIP and UNDRIP launched in 2007, the WCIP established in 2014 and the Call for Action initiative in 2020 which ensured that indigenous struggles were realised so their rights could be protected. This also allowed them to be integrated with society without the fear of being marginalised.

Although there is tremendous progress so far, we still have a long way to go to cover and ascertain that indigenous people are secure with their rights. It is crucial to educate and communicate with indigenous people in order to achieve an empathetic response and advocate for indigenous rights.

By Tavishi Kapoor



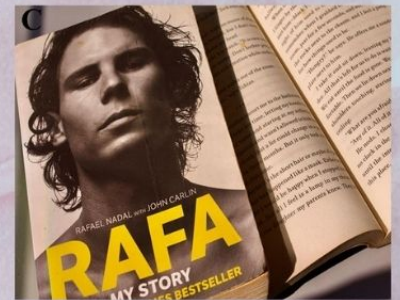
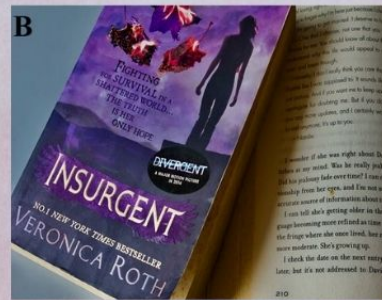
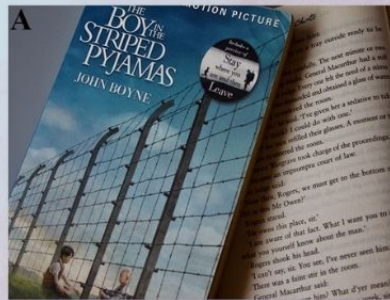
By Susmita Yanmendra and Maya Daga

WHICH COMMITTEE DO YOU TRULY BELONG IN?

**Pick
a
board
game**



**Which
book
would
you
read?**



**Pick
an
album**



**Pick
your
dream
job**



**Pick
a
best
friend**



If you chose mostly A's, you belong in HRC. If you chose mostly B's, you belong in SC. If you chose mostly C's, you belong in ECOFIN.

Quiz made by Danaisha shetty, Aarushi Barai, Vihaan mangat, Zain Bhanji