



THE DAILY MUNTRA



OPENING CEREMONY

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OPENING CEREMONY

The ceremonial lighting of the diya, sparked off the beginning of DAIMUN 2017. Aaryan Thakkar, the Secretary-General, set the stage for a lively discourse, prompting the audience to reflect over the theme of this year's conference- Nationalism: the New Divide. His rousing speech centered around the role of Model United Nations in shaping the leaders of tomorrow, stimulating the eager delegates in the audience to use this platform constructively to create the changes they want to see.

Lt. Gen. D. S. Hooda delivered a thought provoking address about the challenges India faces in creating a peaceful, secure, and stable future, especially considering its current trajectory, and the political volatility of our national neighborhood. The simmering sentiment of intolerance fuelled by the identity politics used by national leaders was summed up eloquently by the Lt. General, "along with the barbed wire placed along the borders, there is barbed wire placed across our minds". He spoke about the paradigm shift in the nature of war, with civilians being brought to the frontline of modern warfare due to the influence of social media, the disruption caused by non-state actors such as the Islamic State and Taliban, and the rise of information warfare.

While Lt. Gen Hooda outlined the conflicts India faces on a global scale, Mr. N. Ramachandran spoke of the deepening divisions within the country. His call for a revamp in India's internal security, governance, and criminal justice systems was reinforced by the personal stake the country's youth have in creating the future. He focused on the connotations of the word 'nationalism', underscoring the stark contrast between the interpretations using the example of Hitler's anti-Semitic propaganda juxtaposed by Gandhi's patriotism that galvanized the subcontinent. Mr. Ramachandran reminded our audience of the 16th Sustainable Development Goal, for peace, justice, and strong institutions, while also mentioning India's low rankings on the world peace, development and business indices emphasizing the long road ahead.

Our speakers raised pertinent questions for the youth sitting in our audience, who brought up the issues of the Armed Forces Special Powers Act as well as the military surgical strikes on Pakistan that occurred last year. Sharing his perspective on Model United Nations, Mr. Ramachandran stressed the significance of the roles delegates play at a conference, which allow them to gain a perspective on diplomacy and international relations that is necessary for future world leaders.

Yashwini Sodhani & Gayatri Meswani



How SPECON Lit Up Today

Despite the cloudy morning, SPECON could be one of the **brightest** committees today. There was mild yet **bright** classroom **lighting**, **brilliant** debate and **blindingly** non-perfect resolutions.

The Lamps – The Presidents **lit up** the room with their soft presence, guiding the delegates through the dark room of nervousness. They were the happiest smug-smiley ones, while the other delegates were busy rushing across the room, pleading for signatories.

The Bulbs – DPRK like a **Syska LED bulb**, was efficient, effective and **light years** ahead of anyone else in committee. Being one of the first to have their '**light-bulb moment**,' their resolutions received sufficient signatories.

The Candles – Mexico and Iraq among many other earnest delegates were dedicatedly typing away at their laptops throughout the lobbying session. But beware, come too close and they might just **burn** you with their sassy clap back. You can see the sweat dripping off their foreheads, much like wax from a **candle**.

The Fairy Lights – Somalia and Pakistan **shone** subtly in the room, making it more beautiful and **lighter** while also cutting through the tension. The '**little-batti**' logistics members also livened up the room with excited expressions when assigned a task.

The Matchsticks – Some people when rubbed the wrong way can **spark** a fight, but beware, in doing so they might just **burn** themselves out. The delegate of IMF-I-Have-No-Voting-Rights could easily **spark** a wrangle. Caution: Don't play with **fire**, you'll will soon strike out.

The Moons – The so-called delegate of 'India' (formerly known as Yemen) much like the **moon**, he has many phases to his personality. The delegate could disappear only to be found in **crescent**-shaped expressions elsewhere. He was the **illumination** to the boring lot!

- Suakshi Soni and Vani Dadoo

SCuse me, how dare you?

The President's warm hazel eyes were the only calm in a storm of verbal battles and egos raised higher than placards. The Chair's attempts to make peace further divided the committee into pieces. Sadly, with debate, quantity trumped quality. Some handpicked highlights:

1. UN Charter Rap Battle - The Delegate of Japan, despite being a 'first-timer', assumed that he knew more about our DSG's favourite book. Not taking offence to his intellect lightly, Navya overwhelmed him with articles and clauses, secretly pleased to have found a mini-Naevy.
2. Jordan All the Way- The Delegate of Jordan's enthusiasm compensated the lack of female delegates. She demonstrated the legendary effect of girl power, convincing Israel to give up its settlements in Palestine before committee had even begun to deliberate on the matter.
3. Let's make it P15- When the Delegate of Japan, with all sincerity, declared, "Israel is a peace-loving nation", the delegate of Jordan was unable to hold back her sarcastic suggestion that Israel be made a part of the P5. Naively, Japan suggested the creation of a new SC with a P15, because.... why not?
4. Arctic Kaaha, France Kaaha? - The Delegate of France's red outfit warned none to approach. Sadly, this being the only noticeable aspect of France in committee, we don't blame the delegate of Norway for questioning their presence in the Arctic issue in the first place.

- Niyoshi Parekh and Salonee Kumar

CHAPTER I PURPOSES

The purposes of the GA6 Legal are:

To collectively form a resolution as flawless as the Delegate of Sri Lanka's sparkly outfit choices.

To maintain a professional environment as formal as the committee's footwear (including but not limited to barefeet, sneakers and disco shoes).

To prevent the breaking out of a logistics war (which has potential to be a greater threat than nuclear warfare).

To maintain levels of debate and articulation as dramatic as THE ABSOLUTELY OSCAR-WORTHY DELEGATE OF RUSSIA. ABSOLUTELY.

To be as dedicated to the agenda as the Chairs arte to constantly feed themselves and pose for the paparazzi.

To preserve the committee's debate to levels as high as WTO's pitch, Norway's amplitude, Admin member's heels and the Delegate of France's urges to sleep.

CHAPTER II MEMBERSHIP

The original Members of the GA6 Legal shall be the states which unsuccessfully applied and/or rejected by every other post at this conference including but not limited to the SC, ECOSOC, Press and logistics.

CHAPTER VI PRINCIPLES

The GA6 Legal promises to possess absolute zero principles when checking out the absurdly calm and Chicken-Little-resembling Chair involved.

CHAPTER VII REGIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

This committee shall ensure that all blocks formed are not racially discriminatory and are all inclusive. (Note: The 'gora-block' is a myth)

CHAPTER VIII ACTION WITH RESPECT TO THREATS TO THE PEACE, BREACHES OF THE PEACE, AND ACTS OF AGGRESSION

The GA6 recognizes that any productive resolution formed by its members is bound to be ripped apart and eaten uncooked by the Deputy Secretary General and therefore, promises to resort to Portugal's 'I'll-just-nod-till-this-ends' attitude.

By Hitanshi Badani

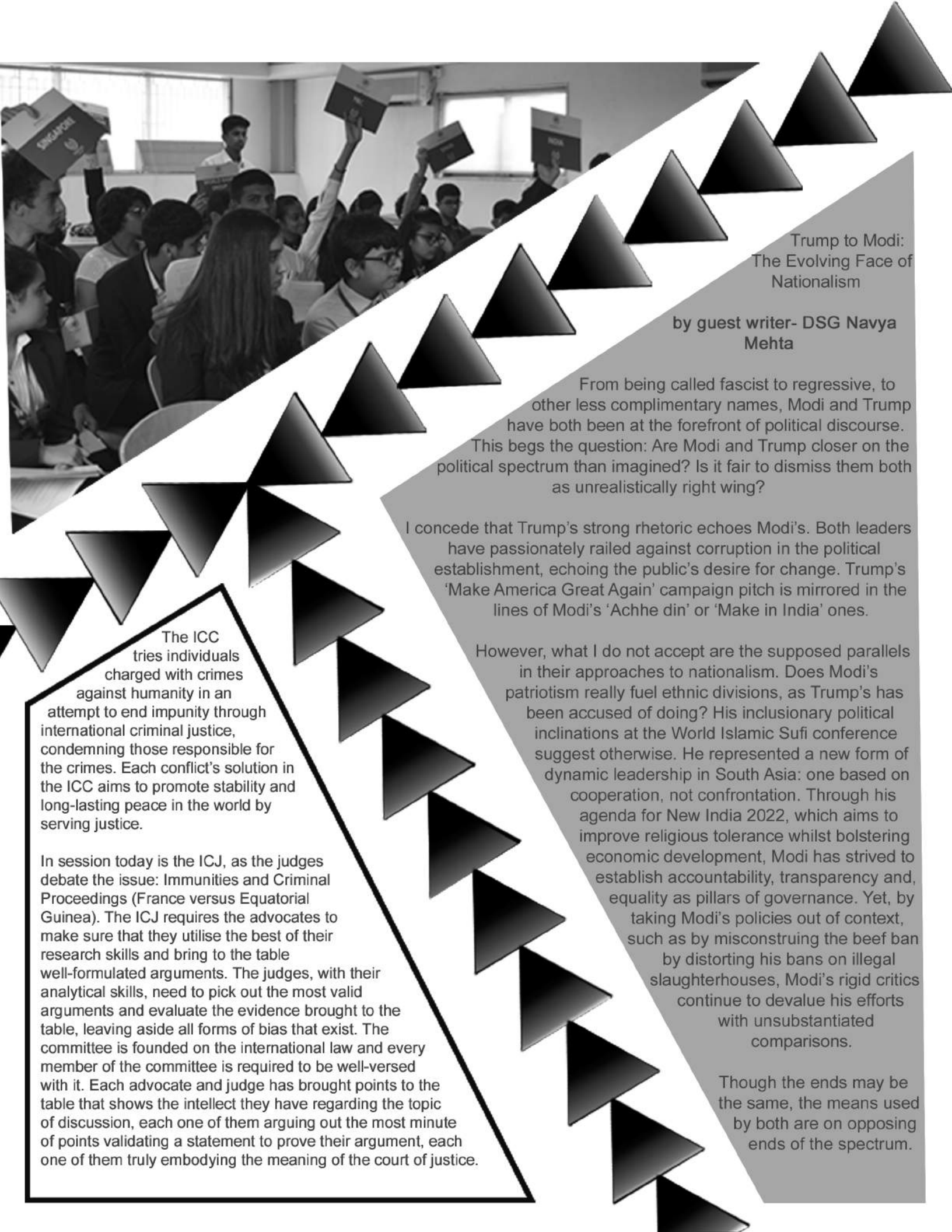
Introducing...
The International
Courts!

- Tania Nair

This year at DAIMUN, we not only have the International Court of Justice (ICJ), but also the International Criminal Court (ICC) as part of the proceedings. With the ICJ already part of the DAIMUN, introducing ICC this year initially posed a challenge for the Chairs of the committee. However, they have overcome every hurdle and have presented DAIMUN participants with a new territory to explore. The members are introduced to a new set of problems to argue about and come to a consensus about these cases of international justice.

The ICJ's primary goal is to settle global issues with accordance to the international law and to give opinions on legal questions that the United Nations refers to the court.





Trump to Modi: The Evolving Face of Nationalism

by guest writer- DSG Navya
Mehta

From being called fascist to regressive, to other less complimentary names, Modi and Trump have both been at the forefront of political discourse. This begs the question: Are Modi and Trump closer on the political spectrum than imagined? Is it fair to dismiss them both as unrealistically right wing?

I concede that Trump's strong rhetoric echoes Modi's. Both leaders have passionately railed against corruption in the political establishment, echoing the public's desire for change. Trump's 'Make America Great Again' campaign pitch is mirrored in the lines of Modi's 'Achhe din' or 'Make in India' ones.

However, what I do not accept are the supposed parallels in their approaches to nationalism. Does Modi's patriotism really fuel ethnic divisions, as Trump's has been accused of doing? His inclusionary political inclinations at the World Islamic Sufi conference suggest otherwise. He represented a new form of dynamic leadership in South Asia: one based on cooperation, not confrontation. Through his agenda for New India 2022, which aims to improve religious tolerance whilst bolstering economic development, Modi has strived to establish accountability, transparency and, equality as pillars of governance. Yet, by taking Modi's policies out of context, such as by misconstruing the beef ban by distorting his bans on illegal slaughterhouses, Modi's rigid critics continue to devalue his efforts with unsubstantiated comparisons.

Though the ends may be the same, the means used by both are on opposing ends of the spectrum.

The ICC tries individuals charged with crimes against humanity in an attempt to end impunity through international criminal justice, condemning those responsible for the crimes. Each conflict's solution in the ICC aims to promote stability and long-lasting peace in the world by serving justice.

In session today is the ICJ, as the judges debate the issue: Immunities and Criminal Proceedings (France versus Equatorial Guinea). The ICJ requires the advocates to make sure that they utilise the best of their research skills and bring to the table well-formulated arguments. The judges, with their analytical skills, need to pick out the most valid arguments and evaluate the evidence brought to the table, leaving aside all forms of bias that exist. The committee is founded on the international law and every member of the committee is required to be well-versed with it. Each advocate and judge has brought points to the table that shows the intellect they have regarding the topic of discussion, each one of them arguing out the most minute of points validating a statement to prove their argument, each one of them truly embodying the meaning of the court of justice.



FINGER LICKIN' GOOD



**WHEN THE CLOCK HAND'S ONLY MOVED
2 MINUTES SINCE YOU LAST LOOKED AT IT**



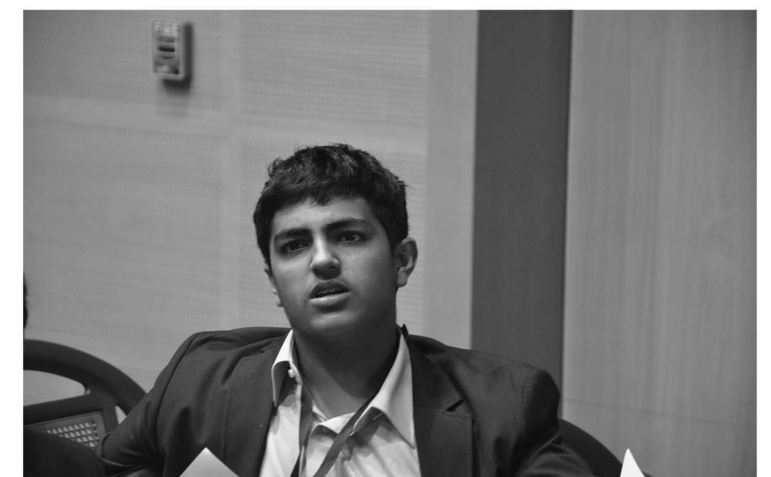
WHEN SOMEONE ASKS TO WORK ON A RESOLUTION DURING LUNCH



WHEN A YOU SEE A PERFECT 10 RESOLUTION



YOU CAN'T BE FACTUALLY INCORRECT IF YOU DON'T USE FACTS



WHEN SOMEONE VIOLATES YOUR SOVEREIGNTY



COME OVER TO OUR BLOC, WE HAVE DJIBOUTI



EYES ON THE PRIZE



I AIN'T TAKIN' NO CHIT FROM YOU



WHEN YOU SEE A FOOD COUPON BOOKLET LYING UNATTENDED

DISEC - STAR WARS

**BELIEVE IN THE SPARS!
(OR WAS IT STARS?)**

WRITING - PRIYANKA IYER
ART - TWISHA SHAH

Libraty:
This delegate attempted to convey 'total opposition' to the resolution, but appreciated its arguments with unexpected diplomacy... Maybe it's not always best to weigh the pros and cons.

Aq-war-ius:
The world's visionaries, these delegates use their fins to swim freely forward. Funny the delegate of Finland had little to say about the future...

Leoder: The delegate of the USA leads the pack with the first motion, introducing the first resolution - true to the spirit of the lion!

Gemini:
The delegate of Russia tried to demilitarise the Houthi rebels alone. Maybe having an ally/twin could've helped. Yemeni crisis? More like Gemini Crisis!

Terrorus:
"ISIS will retaliate with drones", claims the delegate of Sweden as he (ironically) challenges the delegate of the US. So much for stability and peace.

Cancer: 'Oh Crab!' goes the delegate of the USA, when the delegate of Russia pierces the resolution repeatedly with her pincer attacks.

Scorpio:
The delegate of Sweden is steadily climbing up the scorporate ladder, especially with his frequent visits to the Chair!
wink wink

Savagittarius:
The rise of VNSAs, 4th generation warfare ... new weapons featured heavily--let's go back to the good ol' days of symbols, bows and arrows.

Ar(i)es: South Africa confidently declared, "Ceasefire regions and negotiations aren't needed to solve transnational conflicts". Behold the God of War!

Capricon:
This delegate is quite sneaky. Though initially agreeing to support a reso, they they backstabbed their allies and attacked it instead! *cough* delegate of South Africa *cough*

Spy-ces: Germany, Turkey and South Africa whispering in the back corner lit my spy-radar right up. Something smells fishy!

Virgood: Overall, I'm convinced- the delegates virgood!

MUN First Aid Kit for
ECOSOC

1. Wound Dressing: To prevent the blood gushing out of the gaping wounds created when your resolution is not passed. (It really is not the end of the world!)
2. Sticky tape: An important component of the kit, it keeps the mouths of annoying, repetitive delegates shut. (Attention Delegate of UK!)
3. Thermometer: A handy tool for when the temperature rises in committee.
4. Soothing balm: Usable after your amendment is torn apart by the delegates of Russia. ("vague...pointless ...completely useless!")
5. Painkillers: A headache is unavoidable considering the extreme volume of the delegates (Columbia and China and Norway). But, what you can do is pop in a painkiller while pretending to comprehend what the delegate is saying.
6. Distilled water bottle: A reprieve for the parched throat, after you're done talking and boring all the other delegates to an eternal sleep.
7. Eye wash: Eyes are an important body part and no one wants to go blind. Carry some eye wash to protect those eyes from the flashiness of 'certain' delegates. (You know who you are!)
8. Pocket knife: An instrument to tear through the other delegates' resolutions. Everyone wishes they had one of these.
9. Compass: A tool extremely handy for the logis, considering they seem completely clueless about where to go.
P.S. "Please refrain from using personal pronouns!"

-Jayani Mehta

APQupid

This DAIMUN, prepare yourself for an alliance story like no other. Coming to theatres near you, this year's bloc-buster release:

APQupid.

Meet the Expert of Russia. She's charming, funny and looking to form a new alliance. She's been desperately searching for her one true ally since yesterday's lobbying session. She is independent and adamantly stands by her views. She may be persistent and intense, and deep inside, she just wants to bicker like an old couple with someone to amend a clause.

Her best friends, the Experts of Singapore and China, have had enough of her problems. They are eager to see their bloc member find herself someone to constructively debate with, so couple debate nights aren't ruined by an awkward third wheel.

How about the eligible Expert of France? He's got everything the Expert of Russia is looking for: a stance on the topic, a foreign policy and a will to fight for a clause. The Experts may be opposites, but whatever the Expert of Russia lacks, the Expert of France makes up for it. The two would seem like an ideal pair of associates, but can they put their differences apart and come together to make a committee-approved clause?

In an ideal world, the two Experts could spend their DAIMUN happily together. But the universe seems to pull these star-crossed allies apart. The Experts of Pakistan and Nepal seem to come in between the pair.

While they may seem to support their allies, in reality, tensions run high when the four come together in the same room.

Can these alliances survive till the end? Can their support for each other triumph over the opposition from others? Can the Presidents' united stance with their coordinated red outfits bring the committee together? Head to the nearest committee-theatre to find out!

-Apurva Bhandari

Are you a SPECialist?

Is this your first MUN?

YES

NO

Have you gone up to your Chair and curtsied yet?

Have you gotten Best Delegate before?

YES

NO

NO

YES

What are you waiting for?

Certified SPECPOL-ished

Have you been subservient enough to use the word "comprehensive" yet?

NO

YES

Try harder

Did you raise your placard upside down (indicating that your Head of State is dead)?

NO

YES

You're doing SPEC-tacularly!!

Good luck, you're probably getting deported :-(



Fictional United Nation (F.U.N.)

The Minister for Magic: (booming voice) Delegates decorum! Welcome! This Emergency Special Session of F.U.N. has been requested by the Delegation of Mount Olympus. On the agenda for today is "The Question Of The Missing Olympian Artefact". Olympus, you have the floor, you may present your case.

Delegate of Mount Olympus: Thank you, Honourable Chair. Yes, for the umpteenth time 'someone' (pauses and glares at Hades) has decided to rob the Holy Olympian Senate. Only this time it's an object and not a person*! The hideous crime: the legendary Apollo's Bow and Arrows

Minister: Any Points of Inf-?

Delegate of Westeros: (Pounding his fists on the table, and rising out of turn) What about our issue? We've done our waiting! Twelve years of it!

Minister: ...I really will be tempted to send you to Azkaban if you don't raise your placard, Delegate! I asked for Points of Information! Also, that isn't even your story!

Delegate of Capitol: Ugh, arrows remind me of Katniss Everdeen. Westeros is right. This is a waste of the assembly's time, I could've been having my beauty sleep.

Westeros: Please, you'd probably call an Emergency Special Session if you lost your fake eyelashes!

Capitol: But was it celestial bronze or imperial gold?

Olympus: Does it matter?

Capitol: Gold is all wrong for Zeus' skin tone.

Olympus: You're missing the point--Hades stole the bow and arrow and took it to the Underworld!

Minister: We keep wild unfounded accusations out of--

Underworld: Can I just reply in chit form? (Passes chit to Olympus, smirking)

Olympus: (reading out) "Lol @ you"....?!

Westeros: Why are we still discussing this redundant topic? People are dying out there! (pointedly) Quite often actually. Every episode actually.

Capitol: Factual inaccuracy! It's 23 volunteers each year!

Underworld: I agree with Westeros. This topic is useless, it doesn't deserve comprehensive resolutions.

Capitol: (shrilling) Point of Personal Privilege!! This is a crisis! My nail polish chipped.

Westeros: Knew it!

Minister: That's not in F.U.N. procedure. Delegates decor--- SILENCIO!

***Greek Myths 101 for those with misplaced childhoods:** reference to 5000000 BC, when Hades decided the best way to make his crush, Persephone, fall in love with him was to kidnap her... déjà vu?

-Chitvan Bansal, Roshni Rangwani, Tania Nair



