

DS MUNdamentals

Issue No. 4 | 18th August 2025

The Doon School
Model United Nations



Where Justice Wears a Red Tie

At DSMUN, youth wear the world's burdens as lightly as their accoutrement

Page 1

Interview

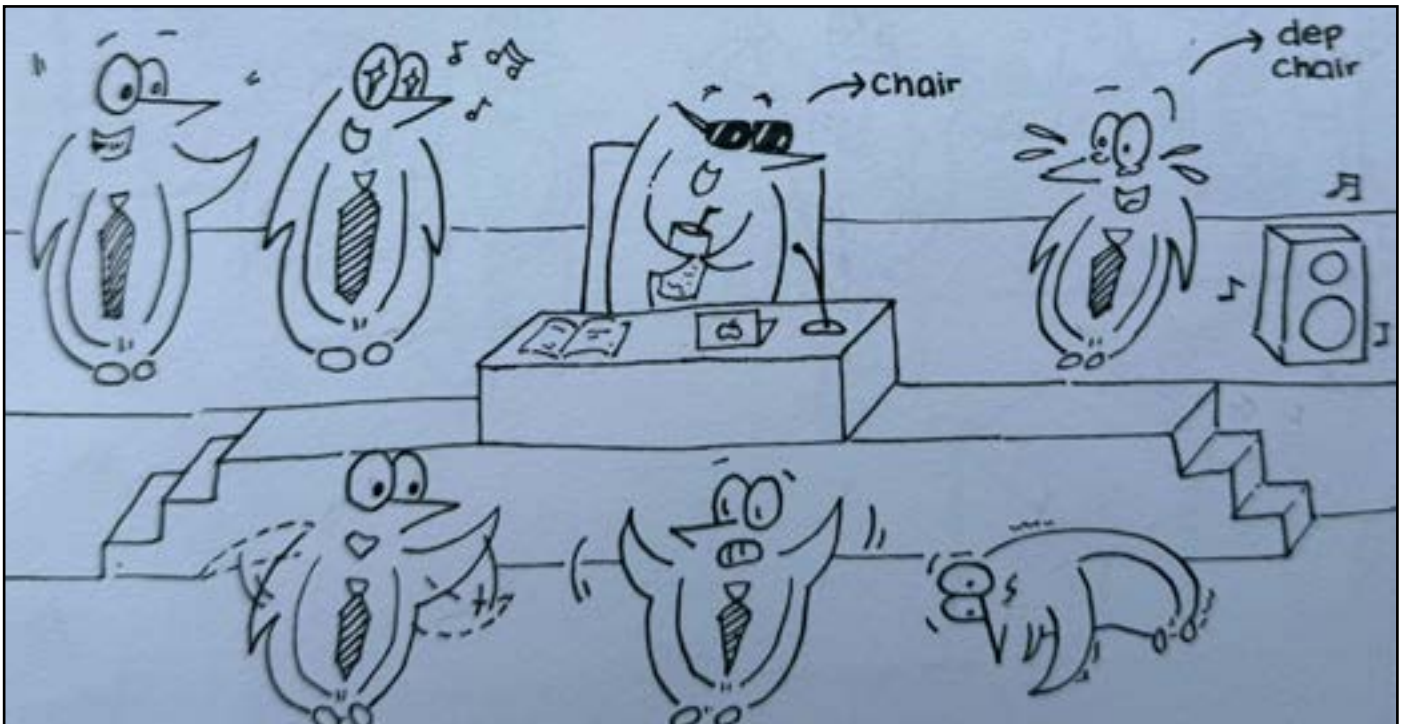
A story from engineering to advocacy

Page 3

The DOSCARS

Because every committee deserves an award show as dramatic as its debates.

Page 6

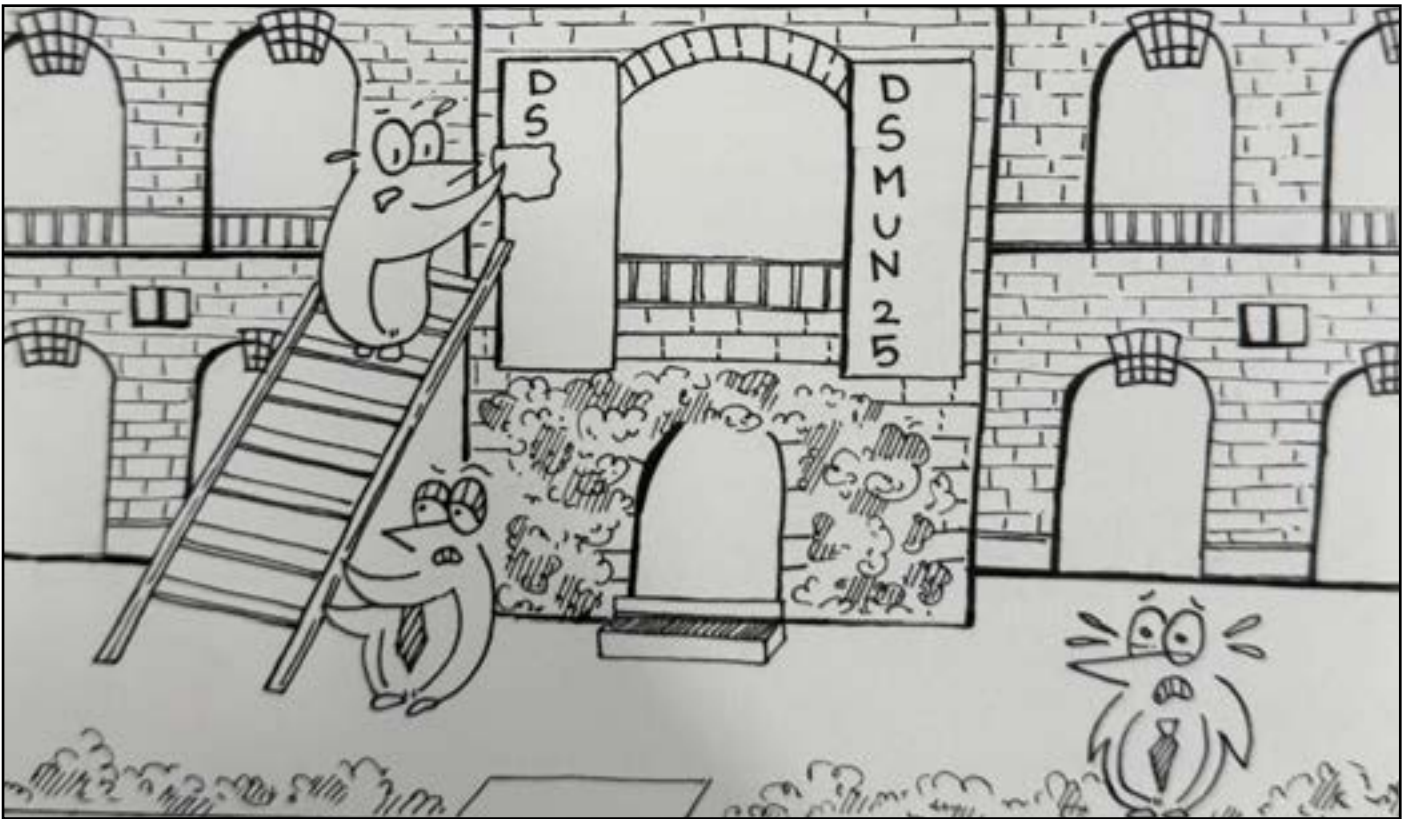


Day 3

A Blaze of Glory. DSMUN 2025 was a radiant flash of brilliance in the cold darkness, tearing through the drudgery of routine. The summit of the conference offered a breath of relief after a marathon of committee sessions. It bestowed not only valuable feedback, but also lighthearted reprieve through comical Motions of Entertainment (MoE), whose thrill pervaded all.

The Closing Ceremony was graced by Mr Amitabh Kant as Chief Guest, a retired 1980 batch IAS officer who served as the chief executive officer of NITI Aayog. Drawing upon his vast diplomatic and administrative experience, he emphasised the enduring importance of diplomacy as a cornerstone of reconciliation and progress.

DSMUN 2025 concluded not merely as a runway for displaying dignified accoutrement, but as a demonstration of the fruits of conviction, discipline, and dialogue. In its scale, execution, and spirit, the conference held a mirror to the ideals it sought to uphold, proving that when responsibility is placed in the hands of the youth, it is not only met, but exceeded. In a world often characterised by discord, this year's edition stood as a resolute reminder that the architects of tomorrow's peace are already among us.



Where Justice Wears a Red Tie

What makes DSMUN so special?

Is it the green intimacy of Chandhbagh —

the rain that runs its fingers through each & every moment that we share in a shimmer of shared experience:

or:

Is it the children:

whose innate sense of justice is stronger than ours;

who blend passion & privilege into a pact to do right by the world:

who wear polished blazers but speak of poverty with the purest of intentions —

who with their gavels freely take on the guilts & griefs of the world:

Red silk ties matching perfectly with the immediate & unflinching wearing of responsibility?

This is what it means to be at DSMUN: a director of change. a harbinger of hope. an agent of empathy.

- Trishala Vardhan, Master-in-Charge DSMUNdamentals

Interview With Siddhart Sinha



NEST Society: What has been the most performative leadership lesson you've learned from working so closely with Amitabh Kant and other senior policy makers?

Mr. Sinha: Well, I think that's a tough one, but I think one of the most important things is essentially conviction and listening to divergent viewpoints because often, policy makers are surrounded by people who are yes men who sort of always agree with things that are discussed, and/or there are situations where there may be one idea that's floated and nobody really opposes it. And, just because nobody fears, expressing a divergent viewpoint. And this thing is especially prevalent in policy and government circles, where hierarchy often assumes importance over diversity of views.

And I think one thing that I've learned with Mr. Kant is that he is very, very open to very divergent views. In fact, he's asked; he actually goes out to ask and asks people, "Tell me what is wrong with this." So, I believe one thing that I've really learned from him is to listen to divergent viewpoints, not always be surrounded by yes men. And I think the most important thing is that he empowers people; he gives people agency.

And when I went on to work at Google, and when I was leading my own teams, of course, I used to supervise Mr. Kant's team as well. That is something that I've always trickled down, which is to make people feel empowered and trust in what they have to say.

One of my first lessons with Mr. Kant was when

he asked me to work on something super important. And he had to send it, let's say, to someplace very important. And he asked me if I'd taken a look at it. And if I thought it was absolutely fine. And I said, "Yes, I have." And he just took it at face value, and he ended up sending it forward.

Now, one of the things that came out of that was that if somebody is actually trusting you so much, then you automatically, the next time you go with somebody, go in with full conviction and full dedication, because you know that somebody trusted you once so it's a sort of reverse mechanism of trust, wherein the first go, I just put my trust in and say, "Okay, fine, what you're saying is right, or what you're doing is correct." And that automatically makes you empowered that maybe this is something that, well, if this person trusts me, I absolutely need to put in my best.



NEST Society: Sir, currently in school we are planning on committing to a net zero energy drive. How would you suggest we go about this?

Mr. Sinha: So, I'm an electric engineer and this is part of what I do. My focus at Yale also was on geothermal energy within the campus, in fact. I think there are a lot of things you can do to reduce a) reduce/optimize the energy consumption.

So these lights in the cafe seem to serve aesthetic purposes, so you know what you can do is install cheap daylight sensors so that they automatically cut off when not needed. Similarly, you can ensure that all air conditioners and products you procure are 5-star at energy efficiency.

Now, you can focus on solar panels. Solar energy is the key. The problem with net zero, though, is that there is an energy interdependence. See, today is not a sunny day. That means today, you won't be relying on solar energy; you go back to consuming from the grid, which reduces progress. The solution to this is to set up localized battery storage. So that even when there is a cloudy day, the solar energy stored during the day provides an alternative to consuming from the grid. And I think this is literally the first and the easiest thing that can reduce so much energy wastage and it's actually not expensive at all and the government gives a lot of subsidies.

See, today, for sustainable purposes, you can do composting and waste separation. But the challenge with this is methane. See, methane is a more potent greenhouse gas than carbon dioxide, so how much are we cutting methane? And the second thing is, how do you make the campus net zero? See, today, renewable energy companies—what they do is they use carbon-free energy. So today, a lot of renewable energy companies are signing carbon-free energy power with private consumers. What this means is that let's say Adani's solar plant is in Gujarat. All I'm saying is that if you are paying x amount for energy, regardless of whether the energy is coming from Gujarat or not, as long as you are getting it from Adani's solar plant, you are going for renewable energy so your net energy emissions are lower. See, the advantage isn't solar. Solar can't power devices that require a lot of energy. But LEDs are the solution. Even a 300W solar panel can power 30 9W LED lights.



NEST Society: Sir, seeing as you've helped projects like Google's air management solutions, what area of technology, to increase climate action, do you see the most potential in?

Mr. Sinha: Two things are very important. One of those things is pumped geothermal, pumped storage. Pumped storage solutions essentially work on intermittency. Renewable sources, be it wind or solar, they're intermittent in nature. So you cannot go net zero, you cannot go carbon-free if, when the sun goes off, you're still being powered by coal-fired power plants. The solution is something called Gravity Energy Storage Systems (GESS).

Now, what happens in Gravity Energy Storage Systems is, if you think about the hydropower project, when renewable energy is in excess during the day, you operate pumps. When renewable energy is in excess, being generated, you pump all of this water uphill. And then, when the demand for renewable energy goes up and there's no supply, you can release the water. So it's acting like a natural gravity-based storage system. That's the beauty. Pumped storage, which is a part of the Gravity Energy Storage System, is a big solution. India is developing almost about 1,000 gigawatt hours of pumped storage capacity. There's a company called Greenko building these large-scale pumped storage projects across India.

The second technology is green molecules. Green molecules would be things like green hydrogen,



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In every challenge, there is
an opportunity

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green ammonia, and green methanol. Hydrogen is actually a fuel source. In India, the strategic advantage is that the sun is in abundance, which makes renewable energy extremely cheap. The cost of renewable energy in India is just about 2.6 rupees per unit, the cheapest in the world. To use this energy, you basically split water into hydrogen and oxygen through hydrolysis. Oxygen gets released into the atmosphere. Hydrogen becomes a fuel. Hydrogen can be used to fuel trains, buses, and also hard-to-abate sectors. Green hydrogen is very good for these sectors, which are very difficult to decarbonize. These are sectors like cement and steel. Cement and steel together contribute almost 20% of global emissions, along with fertilizer industries. By producing hydrogen, you're actually able to decarbonize these industries because many processes earlier being done with coal and gas can instead be done with hydrogen.

Now, of course, the energy required for electrolysis is in high demand. That's where pumped storage comes into the picture. So what you're creating is a 360-degree path. You have solar, you have wind. Solar and wind are used to split water and produce green hydrogen during the day, or when solar and wind are at their peak. But that energy is also being used for pumped storage. The water is then released when the sun goes down. That ensures that green hydrogen is produced 24/7.

India has a National Green Hydrogen Mission. The country has a very ambitious target of producing about 15 gigawatts of electrolyzer capacity for

manufacturing green hydrogen. India has already met its Paris Agreement commitment of 50% energy from renewable resources five years in advance. The 2030 target was already reached by 2025, with 50% capacity renewable. But renewable capacity does not mean 50% of energy comes from renewables, because solar only produces during the day. At night, you're still consuming a lot of energy. That doesn't change things.

The other interesting thing I think will be a game changer for India is data centers. We talk about AI all the time—Perplexity, ChatGPT, DeepSea. But all of them consume massive amounts of energy. Today, the global consumption of data centers, which are the brains behind AI models, equals the annual energy consumption of France. By 2030, they will consume as much as India's total energy consumption. That is how much energy they take up.

So, while everybody talks about AI, what we need to focus on now is building green data centers. Data centers, where all these GPUs process information, must be made net zero. The question is: how do you make them consume less energy? That is where solar and wind come in. It's not just about implementing more AI, but making AI efficient at the same time. Green data centers are very interesting because they also provide core benefits. To cool a data center, you need air conditioning, which requires energy. You also need a lot of water. Now think about this: if you build a data center in a rural community in India, you can use wastewater to cool it down. In the process, you've given the village a water recycling plant, which they didn't have before.

The DOSCARS

1. UNSC – “Best Drama Series”

Where vetoes land harder than the Inception cliffhanger, and everyone struts like premature victors

2. DISEC – “Most Likely to Start World War III Before Lunch”

For delegates who think “strategic deterrence” is the answer to everything, including coffee shortages.

3. Lok Sabha – “Loudest Committee”

Noise level: A Metal Concert in the Front Row. Procedure: who knows. Entertainment: unmatched.

4. The Black Vault – “Best for Paranoid Roleplay”

Like a conspiracy podcast, but everyone’s in blazers and overusing the word ‘classified.’

5. The Nanjing Crisis – “Highest Blood Pressure Award”

Where the timeline shifts faster than delegates can say “Point of Information.”

6. The Artemis Commission – “Most Likely to Argue Over Who Owns the Moon”

Comic con disguised as space policy.

7. ICC – “Most Likely to Trigger a Diplomatic Incident Over an LBW”

Where cricket stats turn into foreign policy, sledging counts as diplomacy, and the real crisis is who gets to host the next World Cup.

8. ECOSOC – “Monopoly Masters”

Fighting over fake budgets with more passion than actual governments.

9. UNHRC – “Politest Roasts”

The home of “With all due respect...” followed by absolutely no respect.

10. UNODC – “Most Creative Smuggling Scenarios”

Where delegates invent crimes so wild Netflix might green-light them.

11. SPECPOL – “Most Likely to Bring Up Space for No Reason”

Come for territorial disputes, stay for asteroid mining debates.

12. IPC – “Best Gossip Column in the Making”

Journalism meets espionage — MUN’s unofficial Ministry of Truth.

The views expressed in articles printed are their authors’ own and do not necessarily reflect those of the DSMUNdamentals or its editorial policy

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