



## A Date with Democracy

*An interview with Justice Zakeria Yacoob, retired Judge of the Constitutional Court of South Africa, by Anusha Shekar and Hafsa Sayeed*

***Given the capacities in which you have served in the legal system, what in your opinion can the judiciary do to help the society become more inclusive?***

I think that the law can greatly help. The judiciary and the lawyers have the potential to change society. However, my view is that even lawyers and judges are human beings first. They are rights activist or human rights people second, and judges and lawyers only third. So I would agree that the law only has a limited ability to achieve change. Lawyers and judges alone cannot bring about the social change in question. The law can't be the only partaker in this kind of change. Other bodies have to come together, be it economic agents or the society itself. We have got to approach this change from every direction possible. So my point again, is that judges and lawyers too must act as human beings and must take active part in facilitating such change in the social set up.

***How do you feel about Article 377, recent instances of brutal rape cases and the general plight of women in the Indian society? What, in your opinion can change this scenario?***

Each and every one of us has to change. We have to change our attitude towards this. Each and every one of us has a responsibility to help form a huge social movement in which we persuade people about what is right and what is wrong. Each one of us has to begin to believe in not just talking, but we all have to put our shoulders to the wheel, and work very hard at the process of changing thoughts, changing ideas in the minds of people.

***In an earlier interview, you had mentioned that in spite of being home to a lot of protests, India has been unable to see the same being translated into policies. How important are protests as a form of expression, for a democracy? How can this translation of protests into policy take place?***

I think protests are very important, provided they are large enough. The level of mass organization in India has not been large enough to effect change. Further, the organization of people in mass protest has not been as successful, because the leaders have not organized the same in the most scientific form and have not ensured that such mass movements are sufficiently sustained over long periods.

So say the population of Pune is sixteen crore, so a crore people protesting would be very nice. If one crore people are prepared to go to jail, even better. The authorities would then be forced to take notice and bring about change. The problem is that protests don't have an automatic feel like that or don't just happen. People will not come out automatically. You have to go door to door. You have to organize, mobilize, persuade. If you have ten crore people in Pune who are prepared to protest and go to jail, there would not be enough jails.

***You have served as a consultant in formulation of certain constitutional changes in South Africa. What were the challenges you faced in this process?***

Congress and I were together in those days. I agreed with everything that is in the constitution now. We fought with the white people, to persuade them, and we had a strong moral case. We had a majority on our side. So we managed it.

***Putting something in the constitution is merely the first step. Achieving what the leaders envision is a long and tiring process. There exists a large gap between what is put in a constitution and what is happening in reality. What has been your experience with the same?***

There is a large disconnect between the constitution and the people. How big

do you think is the elite society to which I belong? The group of people who truly believe that men and women are equal, that there people should not be differentiated or discriminated on the basis of the colour of their skin or caste or religion is very few, in both our countries.

I normally (like to) say that the constitution is useless. But it is not. It is the vision. It provides the basis for us to be able to bring about the change we desire. It makes it possible to mobilize and organize around those values. Not only does the constitution give us the opportunity, but I think the constitution also imposes upon you the duty to do what you can to create the kind of society its makers envisaged. So, in that sense the constitution is instrumental in bringing about this change.

***How do you map the caste discourses in Indian context and the discussion on discrimination, that was to be the theme at the Durban conference?***

Firstly, I don't like these big conferences. They are conferences for show. Everybody speaks about big ideas and change and that is basically the end of that. So I personally prefer organizing people at the ground level. I like the idea of people going from house to house (and convincing people to protest or to contribute to social change).

If you, as students can undertake the responsibility to persuade ten students a month to contribute to such change, by the end of a year you would have convinced one hundred and twenty people. Slowly, you have more and more people fighting for your cause. That, is far more effective than speaking at big conferences.

There have been bipolar developments taking place in India, like the recent beef ban, lynching of a man at Dadri for allegedly eating beef or the killing of two Dalit boys by Rajputs in National Capital Region Faridabad, and at the same time, many writers declining their awards and titles as a form of dissent. How do you map them in an accommodative constitutional plane?

I don't map them. I just say one is the negative and other is the positive. We just need to work towards the elimination of the negative and increase of the positive. I have come back to my old mantra, haven't I? It is every wonderful that these writers are giving up their awards. Let us hope more and more writers do that. Let's hope that more and more people at universities tell the government that they don't want any such awards and ask the government to use the same resources in improving the lives of the poor. However, just that is not enough.

How many of you called a meeting at this university to talk about these problems? Start an organization at this university for social justice. Put notices, invite people, phone up friends, impress upon them the idea. Even if you have to spend your own money, or buy them a little food and beer, it is still worth it.

***Speaking of uplifting the weaker and more exploited section of society, how do you perceive the concept of reservation in educational institutions and public offices, as is practiced in India?***

I think it is wonderful that India has reservation. If practiced properly and appropriately, it can act as effective instrument in the upliftment of the socially weak, and social change. If practiced long enough, more and more people from poorer classes will have access to good education and jobs. Eventually they would be rich enough not to need such a thing. So in a sense, we need to ensure that in the economic sector we tailor things to give priority to poorer people.

However, we must remember to make a distinction (between the classes who still need reservations for upliftment and the others) as slowly more and more people from the so called backward classes get in power. For example, I think the claim of the Patels in Gujarat that they need reservation is absolutely ill-founded. (Contd on Page 2)

## Judicial Independence or Parliament Supremacy: A Burning

On August 15, 1947, after ruling the Indian subcontinent for over 200 years, the British surrendered power and India became a free country. India adopted the path of parliamentary democracy. The British parliamentary system left a lasting impress on it and the freedom of the judiciary was taken from the USA. The doctrine of Separation of Powers deals with the mutual relations among the three organs of the Government namely legislature, executive and judiciary. Aristotle, who first perceived a specialization of function in each Constitution, developed this doctrine, which was later categorized by theorists like Montesquieu, John Locke and James Harrington.. All these theories were based on the presumption that the liberties of the people should be protected from the tyrannical and despotic rulers when all the powers are vested and exercised by the very same persons.

India wrote the longest Constitution in the world which gave powers to the three pillars of the government Article 50, a part of the Directive Principle of State Policy, separates the judiciary from the executive in the public services of the state. The Constitution lays down the structure, defines the limits and functions of every organ of the state and establishes the norms for their inter-relationship, checks and balances. Independence of the judiciary is essential for upholding the rule of law.

Since the legislature represents the people and makes laws, no one can interfere with its authority. The judiciary has to adjudicate disputes and pass the necessary order "for doing complete justice". The Supreme Court is the final authority for interpreting and pronouncing on the provisions of a law. However, there have been a number of occasions in the parliamentary history of our country when there has been a tug of war between the legislature and the judiciary as well as the executive government and courts. . In India, courts started invalidating the agriculture and land reform acts after independence in the name of violation of the fundamental right to property; on this there was conflict between the government and the judiciary. Consequently, the First Amendment was made in 1951, by which the Ninth Schedule was added and a provision was made that the laws given in this Schedule will not be subject to judicial review. In this context, Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru said, "It is not with any great satisfaction or pleasure that we have produced this long Schedule. We do not wish to add to it for two reasons. One is that the Schedule consists of a particular type of legislation generally speaking, and another type should not come in. Secondly, every single measure included in this Schedule was carefully considered by our President and certified by him". Yet, instead of repealing the Ninth Schedule, the powers were included for their political use.

In the Golaknath case, the Supreme Court gave the judgement that Chapter 3 of the Indian Constitution, dealing with the fundamental rights of Indian citizens, cannot be amended and this was considered to be judicial over-activism. Creating a stir in Indian politics, the Supreme Court gave its historic

judgment on the Keshavananda Bharati case in 1973 and during the 39th Amendment to the Constitution which said that the election of the Prime Minister cannot be defied in the Court, both of which were on the basis of violation of the basic structure of the Constitution. In 1985 there was again a clash regarding the Anti-Defection Act.. Following the decisions of the Chairmen of Assemblies like those of Mizoram, Goa, Nagaland, Manipur and UP, many kinds of disputes cropped up. There remained constant tension between the judiciary and legislature in 2006 regarding the Supreme Court's interim stay on the 27 per cent OBC quota in institutions of higher education, the judgment that in corruption issues there is no need to take permission to file case against a corrupt Chief Minister, MP and bureaucrat the recommendation of President's Rule in Bihar by the Governor that was declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court and the growing confrontation between the judiciary and Parliament in regard to the Ninth Schedule being brought under judicial review. Recently, the Supreme Court's five member bench struck down the National Judicial Appointment Committees (NJAC) law, referring to 'insularity and independence of judiciary' as an intrinsic feature of the 'basic structure' of the constitution. In the courts view, judicial independence would be compromised if the executive gains an influence in the appointment of judges.

The opinion of the people is supreme in a democracy. The people are sovereign but they use their power through elected representatives. Thus, the sovereignty of the people has been changed into the sovereignty of Parliament. The Supreme Court is not a body that can dishonor the Parliament. Edmund Burke had said, "The fire-alarm at midnight may disturb your sleep, but it keeps you from being burned at night." In the same way, the Supreme Court cooperates with the activities of the other organs of the state to ensure that the control and balance available in a developing democracy. Just as the judiciary has supreme rights in its sphere, in the same way the legislature is also supreme in its sphere under the Articles 122 and 212. So the supremacy of the Supreme Court ends where the supremacy of Parliament starts.

In the parliamentary history of India the legislature or the executive has failed in its constitutional duties several times and the judiciary has had to interfere to safeguard the provisions of our Constitution and in public interest. As corruption is rampant among top bureaucrats and political leaders, the increased expectation of the common man from the judiciary can easily be understood. The main cause of this war between the judiciary and the parliament is ill-defined by the term 'basic structure' However, it must also be realised that unless different organs of the Constitution cross the limits of each other, there is no possibility of a real tug of war between them.

-Rahul Khose  
M.Sc. Economics (Part-I)

### Date With Democracy

***contd from Page 1...What are your comments about reservation on the lines of caste, or religion as opposed to being based on economic background?***

I think caste and economic background go together. I am absolutely sure that generally a poor Dalit person is much worse off than a poor non Dalit person. A poor non Dalit person will have more opportunities to make progress, given the social fabric of the country.

***You have popularised a concept called 'naïve in extreme' at earlier instances. Could you elaborate?***

I firstly think that the pursuit of extreme changes is alright if it is for the positive. Naivety is complex if you don't understand that human beings act for selfish reasons. I think activists in India are naïve in the sense that they expect people to do the right thing without considering that they are human beings first and hence their natural instinct is to act opportunistically . I know only a few people who do things because they are the right thing to do. Most people, though, do things for their selfish reasons, first. In their endeavours to achieve radical or extreme change in policies in the society, and in law, activists as well as policy makers fail to

take cognizance of this facet of human behavior. That is the concept of 'naïve in extreme'.

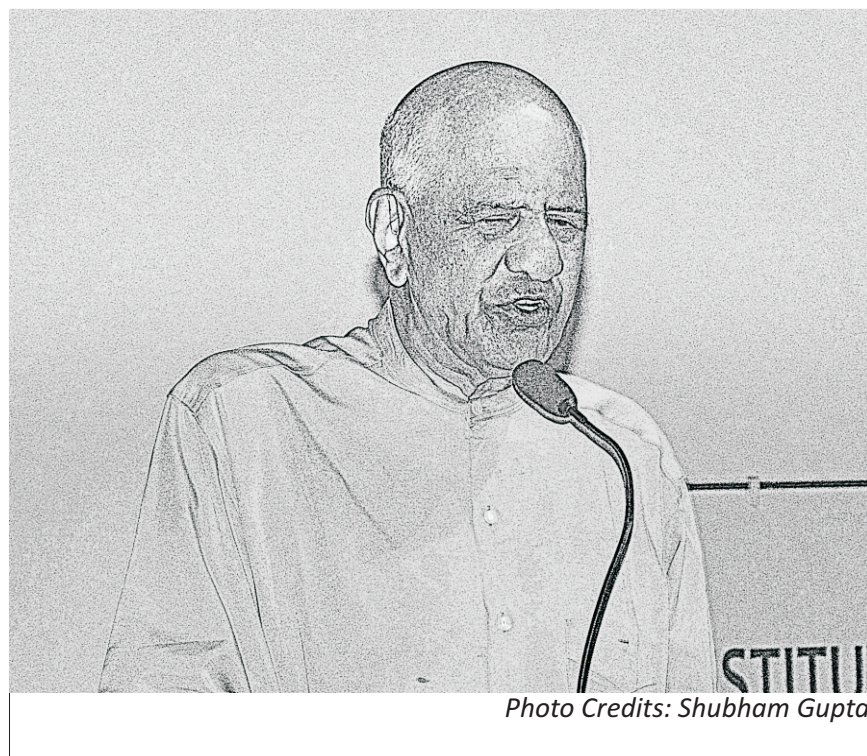


Photo Credits: Shubham Gupta

## Economique: Angus Deaton

"Those of us who were lucky enough to be born in the right countries have a moral obligation to reduce poverty and ill health in the world." these words, almost seeming to be out from the Spiderman movies are a testimony to Angus Deaton's passion to understand the poor and the dynamics that affect them.

One of India's leading economists claimed that after Richard Stone, who won the Nobel Prize in Economics in 1984 for his pioneering work in the field of national accounts, Deaton's prize is the only one for works that really affected the masses.

Angus Deaton, the Dwight D. Eisenhower Professor of Economics and International Affairs at Princeton University was born in Scotland. His father served in the army during WWI and WWII, and circa Deaton, was the one who against the wishes of the family encouraged him to read as much as he could. After completing his B.A., M.A. and D.Phil. From the Cambridge University, he worked under Richard Stone in the Department of Applied Economics.

The major highlight of his work has been the wonderful marriage of theory and empirics that is evident in his publications. Through his 40 years long career, Deaton has made remarkable progress and advancements in the field of data collection and its refining to assess the true picture. He suggested looking through the aggregate data, i.e., not believing the concepts of a rational household, or an average consumer but to carefully draft the questionnaires, and removing minute operational impediments in data collection, that would otherwise distort the results.

On similar lines, his work contributed significantly to policymaking in India in 2000, the same year for the 55th round of NSS data collection for consumption expenditure. It was in this year that NSS decided to simultaneously collect 7-day and 30-day figures for consumption expenditure, instead of just collecting the 30-day data that they usually did. If the respondent was, let's say, unable to recollect the 30-day consumption expenditure figure, which happened most of the times, the 7-day figure was roughly multiplied by four. Deaton rightly pointed out that this led to

overestimation of the expenditure data, and hence, underestimation of poverty. Consequently, the results of the 55th round were ignored.

Continuing with his obsession to understand consumption, he dug deeper. In the process, he solved one of the long standing puzzles in macroeconomics that aggregate consumption varies far less than the consumption at household level. He proved that when income rises, people increase their consumption. They perceive the increment to be permanent. But at a macro level, some lose out, thus setting off part gains in income, and consequently dampening the volatility of consumption.

Not only did he caution against the use of aggregate data to formulate policies for individuals, he also developed econometric tools for data collection that reduced reliance on randomized trials. So path-breaking is his research, that if actually interested in those fields, nobody could do without using Deaton's tools. In 1978, he was awarded the Frisch Medal for his analysis of the consumer demand in the United Kingdom. His 1980 paper on how consumption of goods depends on income and prices has been hailed as one of the most influential papers of the 20th century.

It may be particularly rare to hear any economist give weight to luck, or fortune. But Angus Deaton says luck played a huge part in shaping his father's, and in turn, his own life. His father made the great escape from poverty, but it was only his luck that facilitated him to do so. His father was lucky to live past the age of five, to survive an epidemic, to find a better job than working in a coal mine, lucky enough to escape poverty. The bowtie clad 2015 Nobel Laureate in Economics once quoted, "Escapes leave people behind, and luck favors some and not others; it makes opportunities, but not everyone is equally equipped or determined to seize them. So the tale of progress is also the tale of inequality."

*-Shubham Gupta  
and*

*Harsh Doshi*

M.Sc. Economics (Part-I)

## Chai 'Gaay, Siyahi Aur Ladai' Pe Charcha!

Humanism and pluralism should not be abandoned under any circumstance. Is tolerance and acceptance of dissent on the wane?" President Mukherjee circuitously poses a question to the present Central establishment of India, on its social ethos and credentials. Former Navy Chief Admiral L. Ramdas says, " Forced to hang my head in shame as I witness a series of assaults on our fellow citizens, especially minorities." Well, at this juncture, when we have statesmen of his stature and repute, who would not just criticise for the sake of criticising, constantly airing their repugnance, even an avowed advocate of present regime needs to spare a thought. Today, with a heavy heart I see my conscience nudging me towards making similar amend in my thought process.

It's an irony that the person at helm today, who almost singlehandedly amassed enough public support to propel his party to power, repeating the same mistake he accused his predecessor of. The mistake of 'keeping mum' and especially in the area of personal expertise. Accusation was that given the Economic acumen Dr. Singh possessed, yet he didn't utter a word against or raised caution over ill-framed Economic policies of this own Government, leading a fast-growing Indian economy onto an undesired low growth trajectory. PM Modi holds a Master of Arts degree in Political Science, has been elected as a CM for three consecutive terms in the past. He is expected to understand the nuances of society and politics with relative ease. But it is disheartening to" observe him disparaging the ongoing eventualities as mere 'unfortunate' and 'sad' one-off incidents rather than exalting an immediate eagerness to contain them, which would act as a deterrent for the errant lot.

It is said that you can fool some people all the time and all the people sometimes but you cannot fool all the people all the time. It does not require rocket science to understand that there appears to be an unholy tacit understanding between some in governmental ranks and fringe or satellite organisations as you may call them, when we have officials, leaders and office-bearers as forerunners of hateful comments and actions targeted against the ones already feeling marginalised or deprived in our society. Rather than unambiguous condemnation of such action and vehement opposition of such ill-behaved personalities, there appears to be a casual

dissent and shrugging off. Juxtaposition of the number of provocations made and the number of times substantial action being taken against them, gives us a highly skewed picture, hinting at two possibilities: Either the 'lack of courage' to take a deterring action or the 'lack of desire' to bring about a change. Both the possibilities could bear ominous dent to the structure of our diverse society and lead to weakening of a democracy.

The government seems to be erecting a delusional 'Iron-curtain', if I may say so, between a growth (and development?)-oriented face of the establishment and propagation of various kinds of hidden agenda, both of its own and their affiliates. On one hand we have programmes like 'Make In India', 'Skill India', 'Digital India', 'Start Up India Stand Up India' and so on which is trying to highlight and exploit the growth potential of India, both domestically and globally. On the other hand we have intolerance being tolerated, curbing of essential personal freedom of what to eat, what to watch, or what to write. A systematically increasing number of communal conflicts, rumour based mob-justice in complete disregard of established rule of law in a democratic set-up, uncivilised expression of disagreement by blackening academician's face, resorting to violence against deprived section of the society (A Dalit household set to fire after a quarrel leading to death of 2 infants) is being noticed.

All these, unfortunately, have the potential to mark an indelible blot on the sacrosanct idea of 'Right to Freedom of Expression' and 'Right to Fair Justice', marking a downturn for our democracy. An aggregation of basic human instinct suggests, when a society might have to make a choice between living with limited resources and amenities but in a more peaceful and conducive coexistence over a turbulent surrounding full of elements spewing venom of hatred for anything distinct from them, on any parameter, yet growing at a faster rate, the society is bound to choose the former. Thus, the above mentioned segregation is merely a fallacy which need to be done away with, else will prove to bear pernicious effect on the establishment's fortune and future.

*-Abhishek Jha*

M.Sc. Economics (Part-I)



## MANAN 2015-16

Nearly the entire institute chipped in with their inherent yet timely mode of contemplation in GIPE's first event of this academic session and for the third year running, Manan, the annual festival conceptualized by Team Equilibria, was held from 23<sup>rd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> October, 2015.

The festival was inaugurated by Air Marshal B.N. Gokhale who delivered an enlightening lecture on 'Aerospace Power and National Security'. Two important aspects of any nation is its physical and mental armaments and he linked these two aspects in a very smooth and humble way as he talked about economic aspects of defence, which is something not very often explored. Along with the inauguration of Manan, Sardar Vallabhai Patel's 140<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary was also celebrated. In the second half of the day, a public lecture by Hon'ble Justice Zakeria Yacoob, a former justice on the constitutional court of South Africa, was held. Chief Guest for this lecture was (Retired) Justice P.B. Sawant of Supreme Court of India. Justice Yacoob talked about 'The Importance of Constitutionalism and Human Right Values in The Process of Development'. Kale Hall, where the event was held, saw people not only from Gokhale Institute but also from various other fields, who had come to listen to his abiding words.

Day 2 of Manan started with the preliminary rounds of "The Big Bank Theory" followed by "Village Almighty". Both the events saw huge participation from within the institute and students seemed very enthusiastic to win. Five teams each were shortlisted for the finals of both the events. It was followed by a lunch session under the historical Banyan Tree. In the second half, the final round for The Big Bank Theory, which was a game of bank simulation, came under way. Dr. Atul Kulkarni and Mr. Yogesh Kulkarni (Faculty Members of GIPE) graced the event by acting as judges. In the first round, the participants had to act as commercial banks and make economic decisions when presented with a list of borrowers' profiles. In the second and third rounds, they had to act as investment banks and make and manage their portfolio. This event saw participants making use of their economic knowledge at disposal and engaging in intuitive debate with the judges. Jubin, Shreya and Ipsha went home with the First prize.

The second event, "Village Almighty" commenced later with Mr. Prasad Kalbhande (Faculty Member at GIPE) and Mr. Prasun (alumnus of GIPE and faculty at Symbiosis School of Economics) acting as judges. In the first round, the participants had to act as a MP and adopt a village. They were

given data on fictitious villages situated in various parts of India on which they were required to make a presentation showcasing the basic demographics, problems and the plus and minus of that village. In the second round, the participants had to prepare a budget allocating money towards solving the various problems of their village. Shubham, Samiksha and Priyanka emerged as the winner.

Day 3 was kicked off with the flagship event of Manan, The Paper Presentation. This event gave a chance to post graduate and under graduate students to present their research work. There was participation not just from GIPE, but also from various other colleges. On receiving an overwhelming response, six papers were shortlisted for the final event, which consisted two papers from FLAME University, Pune. Dr. K.S Hari, Dr. R Nagarajan (Faculty at GIPE) and Mr. Ajay Apte (Faculty at Fergusson College) presided over as judges for this event. The topics of all the six papers were widely different, ranging from Inflation Targeting to Aging Population in India to Climate Change. Rongmon Deka was announced as the winner for his paper on Fiscal Federalism. The event ended with a talk by Dr. Ravi Sinha, an activist, scholar and a former Theoretical Physicist from MIT, USA and he talked about 'Knowledge and Innovation for a Better Society', charming everyone with his powerful words and his charismatic personality. Manan came to an end with prize distribution for all the events by Dr. Ravi Sinha.

Manan, the first festival in this academic year has raised the bar for next year with more economics centric events and inviting speakers from various walks of life to come and enlighten the students of Gokhale Institute. The hard work of Manan team is much appreciated as they spent almost an entire semester preparing for it and eventually conducting the festival successfully. Hopefully, next year will be even bigger and better and will raise the bar further for the successive years.

*-Drishti Popli and Mrigansh Jain  
M.Sc. Economics (Part-I)*

## Half Widow

*His reticent resonance talked to me once  
of beginnings  
Subdued, simmering beginnings  
that we held back into our beings,  
as our memories smudged into colours of night.  
Like a disdained beauty  
Woven in her dismantling universes;  
I tie my each fiber at Hazratbal.  
My eyes contain Jhelum  
as they bleed in a melancholic routine  
A time cemented  
in my hair strands,  
as I unleash the night of my locks.  
Stories of loss circling in frenzy,  
as Lal Chowk snows to ashes.  
Your absence lurks within,  
as your verses take forms of smoke  
through this burning forlorn country.  
I linger nameless in your name,  
and yet named.  
An incompleteness haunts the remaining meanings  
through this ruckus of longing,  
as memories fission.  
Ruins of hope permeate unreachable distances  
of space and time  
A lifetime spent searching,  
gathers in a void  
but your voice echoes inside of me;*

*As I recreate details every time  
Of that last meeting.  
The smell of your cold breath  
remains on my skin,  
when you whispered;  
"Zoona, keep holding.  
Your memory is the thread of my existence..."*

*-Hafsa Sayeed  
M.Sc. Economics (Part-I)*



## The TPP, Manga and Your Health

The Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) is a proposed trade agreement among twelve Pacific Rim countries concerning a variety of matters of economic policy, about which agreement was reached on 5 October 2015 after 5 years of negotiations. As of 2011, the agreement's goal had been to "enhance trade and investment among the TPP partner countries, to promote innovation, economic growth and development, and to support the creation and retention of jobs." It is one of the flagship policies of Obama Administration which boasts of a very fancy website by the US government explaining how TPP is beneficial for any and every US Resident ranging from low income to middle income class. Together, the TPP nations account for 40% of global GDP and 24% of the world's trade in services. The deal claims to eliminate 98% of all tariffs levied by signatory countries, on products including beef, dairy, wine, sugar, rice, horticulture and seafood extending to manufactured goods, resources and energy, and services.

The major contention regarding the TPP has been the secrecy of the exact contents of the agreement. Even members of the U.S. Congress can see it only if they agree not to talk publicly about it and if they leave their pens and phones (and, until recently, their expert staffers) at the door. Apart from being covert, the agreement is very complex in nature having nearly 30 chapters. A draft chapter on intellectual property alone runs 77 single-spaced pages. Wiki leaks has been releasing several draft documents of the same since 2013 based on which various interest groups and media houses have drawn inferences commenting upon the impact the TPP will have on various economies and sectors. This article talks about two of those contentions, the copyrights infringement and patent protection.

Over a decade ago, Manga and anime in Japan was thriving in part due to the rise of fan fiction and the lawyers for official publications didn't try to shut it down. Instead, they realized that such fan fiction was often quite good for the original, official versions of the products. Rather than trying to hit fans with copyright infringement claims, publishers were willing to embrace those fans and it helped everyone in the industry. However, many in the fan fiction –dojinshi- market in Japan are now worried that the TPP may kill off that happy, mutually beneficial (even if technically infringing) setup. The issue being that the TPP may require more stringent enforcement of copyrights, even when the copyright holder has no problem with what's happening. Many experts say the Japanese anime and Manga subculture has thrived due in part to a tacit understanding in society that fan fiction should be accepted to a

certain extent to allow room for amateurs to shine. Various negotiators of the TPP probably aren't all that familiar with anime, Manga or cosplay -- but annoying fans of all three probably isn't particularly wise. While the debate on whether to sue derivative works remains to be settled, an important observation is that suing those works even when the original copyright holders have no problem is just pushing it beyond the cliff.

TPP also has implications for a wide range of health policy issues, from medicine prices to tobacco regulations. Groups including Médecins sans Frontières and Oxfam warn, for example, that the agreement could threaten the lives of millions of people in developing countries. Their concerns stem primarily from the leaked IP chapter and the effect that patents have on the prices of medicines. In the context of human immunodeficiency virus, for example, patents increase the annual cost of antiretroviral therapy from around \$100 per person to \$10,000 per person. For example, India allows patents on new drugs but not on new uses of old drugs or new forms of known drugs that do not increase therapeutic efficacy. These provisions have paved the way for generic versions of lifesaving drugs such as the cancer treatment *imatinib mesylate* (Gleevec) in that country. But such limits on patent eligibility could be outlawed by the TPP. Reports suggest that there may be some kind of phase-in period for developing-country members, but only for some parts of the agreement. Though it is less widely recognized, the TPP could also have a direct effect on health in developed countries. For example, the leaked IP chapter contemplates major extensions of "data exclusivity" provisions. These laws prevent drug regulatory agencies like the Food and Drug Administration from registering a generic version of a drug for a certain number of years — and as a result can substantially affect the prices of medicines.

Much hangs in the balance in the coming weeks and months. If the TPP agreement involving countries responsible for 40% of the total world trade includes forceful copyright provisions and the expansive provisions proposed in the IP chapter and the health care annexure, would be stepping on slippery slope.

-Udita Makhija

M.Sc Financial Economics Part II

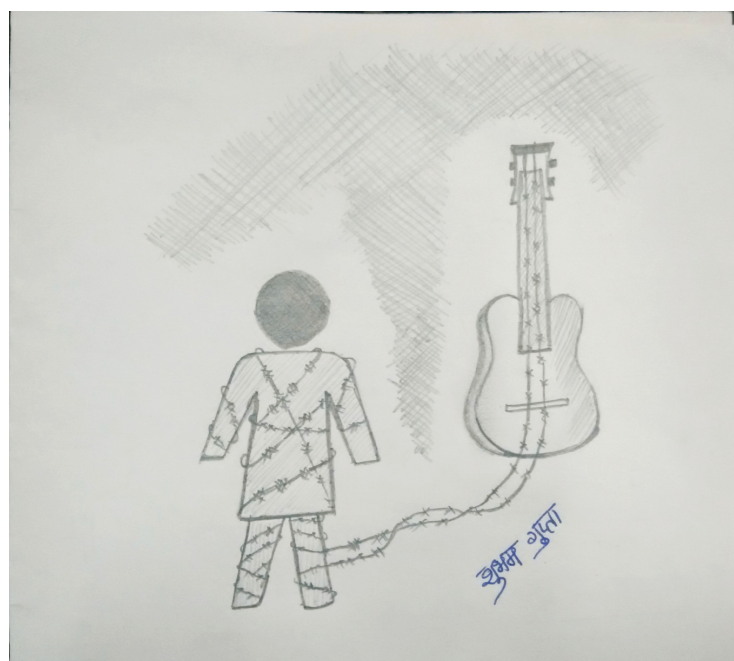
### An Expected Song

*Even as his strings danced,  
Danced evenly to his placid fingers,  
His tune didn't come out right.  
The thick buzzing of the last string,  
The one like the humming of the crankiest bee,  
The one like the murmur of a confused crowd,  
Was just one of his troubles.  
He tried fixing the one with the shiny bolt,  
He tried tightening it with all his might,  
But that was just one trouble.  
The bolt slipped off his sweaty fingers,  
Slipped; even before the tightness was achieved.  
With great difficulty even though,  
That shiny bolt was tightened.  
But that was just one trouble less.  
Just when the thick humming seized,  
Another unwanted, unpleasant sound arose.  
This one was an irritating shriek of the first string,  
The one like the cry of a distressed infant,  
The one like the scream of a terrorized teenager.  
This time too the bolt was to be blamed,  
But this time the crime was very different.  
The adjustment to this was even more difficult, more complex.  
He tried loosening it,  
He tried tightening it.  
But, if only he could achieve the perfect tension!  
A tap on the strings and a frown on the face,  
The two inseparable lovers,  
Had come to surface at once.*

*The instrument thrown in, the cover zipped up,  
The second pair.  
The evening thereafter was quiet and dark,  
None shiny strings seen,  
None mellifluous notes played,  
None sweet song sung.*

-Sudhir Swarup

M.Sc. Economics (Part- I)



### What's Your Problem?

Are you keeping your worries to yourself? Or is there something bothering you? If yes, this is your opportunity. Tell us about anything and everything that you are concerned about. Tell us, "Whats Your Problem"

**Q. What can I do to change my fake English accent especially the way I say "mummmaaahh" (mumma)? Help me! Equilibria to my rescue! Help!**

Good that you know you have a fake accent. Acceptance is the first step to recovery. I don't think that having a fake accent is such a big problem. A fake accent can help you engage in fake conversations with fake people at fake social gatherings. You can be a potential member of pseudo-intellectual clubs of the Delhi Gymkhana and Golf Links RWAs. Here I am assuming that you are from Delhi. As for your specific "mummaaahh" issue, you need to be your true self with atleast one person on this planet who wouldn't care which accent you address her in. However try to say "Maa", the Indian way. Trust me moms like that.

But if your fake accent is bothering you too much, I advise you to watch Hindi movies, not starring Sonam Kapoor( Queen of fake don't know which accent) and Bhojpuri songs, the latter being my all-time best remedy for fake accent and non-fake accent issues. Hope this helps. Send me your progress report soon!

**Q. Why can't girls cooperate with their roommates? Is it a crime to be the roommate of two people who were roommates in the first year? Told them a hundred times to not to call their friends over and talk in the room. Also what is the use of switching on the lights during daytime? My roommates have the habit of wasting electricity.**

Thank you for sharing your problem. Getting good roommates is very important to have a smooth hostel life. I will address each of your questions. I think girls can cooperate fairly well with their roommates. You can never have too much oestrogen and PMSing battles in one room! Moreover it is not a crime to have to have roomies who have been roommates before. It is however a bad choice made by you. In a room with three people, majority would always win when it comes to room issues. In your situation, the ball is not in your court. You have no bargaining power. Accept it. Deal with it. Your roommates are allowed to bring their friends over. I suggest you do the same. Hence go out there and make some friends! Let your roomies/BFFs

### WORDOKU

No letter should be repeated in the same row, column or in the 9 sub boxes in the grid. All the letters when arranged, form the required word.

		Y				O		
	M		D		S		N	
N	O						S	U
D			U		O			E
		N				P		
Y			M		D			N
E	Y			U			D	O
	S		Y		N		E	
		U				M		

And the word is...

		E			O			
--	--	---	--	--	---	--	--	--

have a taste of their own medicine. Here I am assuming you have no friends and hence you have the greenmonster of jealousy on your back. Addressing your last question of switching on lights during the day, global warming is a serious issue. Save Energy. Save Our Planet. That's Equilibria's official take on doing our bit to save planet Earth. I suggest you convey this to your roommates.

### BEFUDDLED

-by Shubhra Pratap

