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THE SCINDIA SCHOOL, FORT GWALIOR

# REVIEW-16



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## EDITORIAL

Mr Vishesh Sahai



### Founder's Day Special

Tradition, splendour, regalia, bonhomie packed with a touch of novelty defined the celebration of the 119th Founder's Day of the School. Like every year, the festivities were spread over three days i.e. on the 20th, 21st and the 22nd of October 2016. A slight reimagining of the programme made the three day extravaganza a lot more enjoyable and fulfilling for all.

The entire school was soaked in the spirit of joyfulness from the very beginning of the month. The sprucing up of the school campus and the beautification of all vantage points was taken up in full earnestness. The green cover that we are naturally endowed with got an added sheen through the labour put in by the school gardeners who left no stone unturned to give all our green spaces a perfectly manicured look. The late night practice sessions of the theatrical performance, the melodious strains of the school orchestra which wafted through the Fort ramparts and the buzz of the Hobby classes all contributed to the feverish build-up of the most important dates on our school calendar.

The school community rolled out the red carpet for all guests with enormous warmth. The academic block and the dining hall were bedecked with shimmering lights – mauve, subtle pink and dainty blues- which gave them a surreal appearance - all in harmony with the splendid and elegant celebration. To provide a more capacious seating area the cafe venue was shifted to the Oval field this year with a much wider variety of eateries on offer.

The excitement began on the 20th of October. The Parent Teacher Meeting in the morning helped the teachers apprise the parents of the progress of their wards. This was followed by an interactive session of the parents with the Principal and a few senior teachers. Mr Mahesh Gandhi, Dr Vikram Mathur, Ms Gayatri Singh, Mr Ravi Saund and Mr Rahul Kulshreshtha were also present for the same. This helped satisfy the parents' queries and concerns regarding various aspects of school life. The cultural evening was scheduled for the evening of the same day. The Chief Guest was Her Highness Maharani Priyadarshini Raje Scindia. A trilingual theatrical presentation entitled, 'Tagore', took the audience through the life and works of Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore. The concept as well as the performance by the students won accolades from all quarters.

The Founder's Day was celebrated on 21st October. The Chief Guest of the evening was Padma Vibhushan Mr Ratan Naval Tata, the legendary Indian businessman, investor, philanthropist and Chairman – Tata Trusts. The evening programme comprised the welcome address by His Highness Maharaja Jyotiraditya Scindia, President Board of Governors in his usual charismatic and inimitable style which always leaves the audience spellbound. The other speeches which kept the audience riveted were those of the Chief Guest Mr Ratan Tata, Madhav Awardee Dr Sushil Shah (Ex-Je, 1964) and Mr Akbar Khan, son of Lt Gen Sami Khan (Ex-Ja, 1948) who was awarded the Madhav Award posthumously.

While the orchestra ensemble entitled - 'Ragajazzmala' showcased the talent of our boys, the prize giving was an occasion to felicitate Houses and individual students for exceptional performance in academics and sports in the course of the year. Another attraction of the evening was the talk show wherein Mr Ratan Tata gave precise and illuminating responses to the questions asked by the students.

The Old Boys' Day was celebrated on 22nd October 2016 with great enthusiasm. The Chief Guest was an eminent Old Boy, Air Vice-Marshal, Shouvik Roy (Ex-Rn, 1975) who addressed the august gathering sharing his experiences of both, school life and as an Air Force officer. The various SOBA awards were announced amidst much applause and the new Executive Body was introduced to carry the good work forward. The entertainment programme comprised a musical evening by Geet Sagar, winner of X Factor India.

This brought the three day carnival to an end with the hope of carrying forward the legacy of excellence into the next year.



Ayushman Hazarika (Ex-Ja, 1991) hoisting the School Flag.



Old Boys releasing the Founder's Day special publications.



Students' talent display.

## PARENTS' DAY SPEECHES - 20th OCTOBER 2016

### H.H. Maharani Priyadarshiniraje Scindia's address

Please forgive us for arriving a little late. We were having a wonderful time with your children and I must say that you are truly blessed to have them in your lives.

Good evening ladies and gentlemen, Headmaster Dr Saraswat, Board of Governors, Parents, Old Boys, Teachers and my dear students. It gives me great pleasure to be in your midst this evening.

Thank you so much for inviting me to today's function.

The three days' Festivities celebrating the 119th Founder's Day of this great institution begin today and I am sure, like every year, the celebrations will leave you all with life long memories.

Visiting Scindia School is always a warm home coming for me. I cannot help but recall my first time here on the most extraordinary Founder's Day Celebration. I was a young bride, nervous, dressed rather embarrassingly in almost full bridal dress tasked to inaugurate the new Tennis Court. I was involved in my job when I heard my Father-in-law's booming voice proclaiming that he knew I could beat the boys at tennis. Horrified and yet not able to refuse, I was as new to Gwalior as I was to wearing a sari. I did go on to get a few points off the boys and proceeded to break my toe in the process. Of course I would never tell anyone but entering the school always brings a slight throb to my toe. Many lessons were learnt on that day. Therefore my visits to the school during the Founder's Day are undoubtedly nostalgic and most cherished.

At this time, at The Scindia School, it seems as if every stone artifact and leaf of this historic Fort has come to life. I relish soaking in the joy and energy that pervades the air of this great Institution. Moreover the wealth of talent these boys demonstrate leaves me amazed. The literary, artistic, musical and technological excellence that is on display shows us how eclectically gifted our students are and it gives us great pride in them. The exhibitions and performances also speak volumes about the exceptional mentoring that happens as a natural consequence of the shared life which is a unique characteristic at the School.

Boys, look to your alumni. Your role models are not that far away from you. You are a part of the school just as they still are and you would contribute to India just as they are doing and have done. Use this precious time during the Founder's Day to reach out to them, build relationships and practice that networking!



H.H. Maharani Priyadarshiniraje Scindia addressing the gathering.

119 years is indeed a significant milestone in the journey of any school. I am happy to see, while we have progressed and evolved over these years, we have continued to be true to the vision of our Founders. True path-breakers, they wanted to develop this place to educate a generation of young minds who would then go out and change the world. Your family at the Fort has the same hopes for you. There is an old Chinese saying, "give a seed to a potter and you shall have a Bonsai", meaning that student should learn rather than just studying and memorizing. It is immensely gratifying to see how wonderfully the children flower and blossom under the care of all their teachers and mentors here at the school. Our endeavor was and will continue to be to work under the social, academic, cultural and intellectual development of our boys so that they are prepared for life, for work and for global citizenship. We wish to instill in our students the resilience and moral character to overcome all challenges and become lifelong learners. Gathered here today, on this joyous day, we can take pride in the fact that the boys who graduate out of these haloed portals

are truly empowered or as the School motto '*Sa Vidya Vimuktaye*' states, knowledge has liberated them.

Just before I conclude, kudos to the teachers and students who have worked hard for weeks to make a memorable day. May this Institution grow from strength to strength. Let the nation benefit from the commitment and skill of the students who will go on to serve our country.

I wish you all the very best and good luck.

Thank You.



A still from the English play entitled - 'Tagore'.

## Vote of Thanks by Aditya Banka (DSSP)

Honourable Chief Guest of the Evening Your Highness Maharani Priyadarshini Raje Scindia, guests, parents, teachers and fellow Scindians.

Namaskar and Good Evening

I thank you all for being a part of this 119th Founder's Day. It is my privilege to propose a vote of thanks on the joyful occasion of Parents' Day. My thanks are due to our Chief Guest for the evening, the elegant and graceful Your Highness Maharani Priyadarshini Raje Scindia, a lady who epitomises natural style and royal grace.

Her Highness who appeared in Verve's Best dressed - 2008 hall of fame list and is included in "India's 50 Most Beautiful Women" list by Femina slips easily into the role of the New Age wife of a politician.

She straddles different worlds with ease; so be it giving her rock solid support to her husband His Highness Maharaja Jyotiraditya Scindia or formulating projects for children or even lending her fine sense of aesthetics and attention to detail at the Jai Vilas Palace and the Usha Kiran Palace she does it all with aplomb. I thank you once again for being with us.

My thanks are due to all the guests, parents, Old Boys and former teachers who have taken out time to be with us. It's overwhelming to be standing in front of you. I hope you enjoyed the show as much as we enjoyed preparing for it.

I thank all my teachers and the members of the faculty for the important role that you play by not just imparting instruction but by being a transmitter of values.

I would like to express my sincerest gratitude to the administrative staff who worked behind the scenes to make the event such a success.

I congratulate the student body for their tireless efforts for making this into SUCH an unforgettable evening.

I am at a pivotal point in my life. The path I will take is unseen yet optimistic and the path I have taken has left a clear trail. When I gather my memories of the past 7 years, I remember my best and my worst, and how each experience has shaped my personality. Scindianness, the trait that characterises us all, is hard to define tangibly as it is a way of life for all of us. Thank you Scindia for giving us the uniqueness that makes us WHO and WHAT we are today- so ready for the world that awaits us outside.

In the end I thank all of you for being a part of this wonderful evening and making it ever more momentous and memorable.

Thank you and goodnight.



DSSP - Aditya Banka delivering his vote of thanks.

## www.thecommonroom-scindia.com - The new Social Platform for Scindians

In a bid to enhance a cohesive and interactive relationship within our alumni community, Mr Ratan Naval Tata, on the founder's day, announced the launch of our Alumni Portal - "The Common Room". Designed to offer efficient and user-friendly navigation and quick access to information, the portal includes a wide array of services that includes a rich directory which will help search and connect with others in the Scindia family across the world. It also has a careers section.

Commenting on the significance of this new portal, Principal, Dr M.D. Saraswat explained that it is an integral part of the School's strategic plan to advance its relationship with its Alumni who are a part of the history of the school. The portal will allow our alumni to be deeply integrated with their alma-mater's growth and development. They can connect with the Scindian fraternity anywhere across the globe, share ideas on academic, social, economic and cultural issues, thereby drawing the fullest benefit of being a part of a well-knit collective.

On his part, Mr Bakshi, Alumni Relations Director at the school stressed that perhaps the portal's most impressive service is the 'careers section' that allows the school's alumni to log on with their email ID and look for job opportunities offered by many of the strategic partners in disciplines including Engineering, Business Administration, Arts and Sciences. "In its first phase, the Alumni Portal includes sections on school and alumni events and activities, news section, alumni success stories as well as the monthly newsletter. The



Chief Guest - Mr R.N. Tata releasing a new Web Portal for the Scindian community.

portal represents a wonderful platform that will allow us to benefit from the experiences of our alumni who are spread across the world and are our most prominent ambassadors to the world at large", said Mr. Bakshi.

We would request that you take the first step towards energizing this platform by registering yourself at [www.thecommonroom-scindia.com](http://www.thecommonroom-scindia.com) and request others to do the same. The mobile application on the Google Play Store (Android) and the Apple (IOS) version will go live shortly.



## FOUNDER'S DAY SPEECHES

### Principal's Report 2016

Good evening to all of you.

Honourable Chief Guest, Padma Vibhushan Mr Ratan Naval Tata, President Board of Governors, H.H. Maharaja Jyotiraditya M Scindia, Her Highness Maharani Priyadarshini Raje Scindia, Members of the Board of Governors, Madhav Awardees, distinguished guests, parents, My friends which means Old Boys, my colleagues, dear students and ladies and gentlemen. It is my privilege to welcome each one of you to the 119th Founder's Day of this wonderful school.

It is my utmost honour to welcome our Chief Guest, Padma Vibhushan – Mr Ratan N Tata. Skipping all that he has achieved because we all know of his success, I would like to read out a few lines he once said in which lies his greatness. They echo the profundity of the Chief Guest. He says –  
"How strange it is:

We wish to wear high brands

But we feel most comfortable in pajamas.

We wish to sit in Taj & Marriot with elite people,

But we enjoy roadside tea with friends and with people we love.

We wish to own big cars and go on long drives,

Yet we talk our heart out only while walking down a long road.

We have 65GB iPods filled with songs,

But sometimes a song on the radio brings a smile that can't be compared".

He is the man who has actually understood the life in its simplicity and not in its complexities.

Sir your presence amidst us today adds unparalleled joy and color to this evening's festivity. So thank you very much for bestowing this honor on us.

I also extend a warm welcome to the students of the Classes of 1991 and 2006 who have gathered here for their Class Reunion. It is always a joy to receive you and experience the warmth that you bring to school.

Dear Sirs, with the permission of the President, Board of Governors and with your permission I would like to present the report of the school for the year gone by.

This year's journey has been all about self-realization and self-actualization. As a community we realized that we need to delve much more than ever to enrich our lives through the experiences which we have, during our stints as per our roles be it student, parent and teacher at this 119-year-old GURUKUL. We also tried to find the right path and the right balance in the middle of mad rush and infinite choices. We made every effort to integrate the fundamental principles of learning, which are: simple, straight, relevant and practical.

Education is all about what you do with your knowledge and skills for the community and for yourself. Integrity, dedication, commitment, sense of responsibility, sacrifice, gratitude, humility, steadfastness, determination are some of the attributes which one imbibes only by being here as these are attributes which constitute the ethos of Scindia.

We have given an added impetus to all our ecofriendly endeavours. Various efforts at conservation of rain water, recycling the water from the Boarding Houses and the Dining Hall and controlling the summer fire on the wasteland of the Fort have helped enhance the green cover and in the collection of 174.74 lac liters of water in the taals. 16000 liters of water is recycled each day which is used for greening the campus through drip irrigation.

In recognition of our water conservation efforts the award jury of Aqua Foundation, an NGO working on key aspects of water, environment and humanity, has conferred the Aqua Excellence Award 2016 on The Scindia School. This award is under the categories of 'Excellence in Resource Management – 'Institutional' and 'Excellence Award for Work in Traditional Wisdom'.

On the other hand, The Scindia School has been awarded 'Best Brand School' by Economic Times. We were also ranked the 4th best All Boys Boarding School in India and the first in Madhya Pradesh by Education World.

We constantly believe in reinventing ourselves and hence this year the selection process for the Prefectorial Board was redefined. Direct voting by the student body was introduced as a new feature to give them a sense of ownership.

The revival of House Evenings proved to be a wonderful forum to the boys of each Boarding House to showcase their talents on stage.

#### Academics:

The year saw a perceptibly enhanced thrust on academics. The students were encouraged to set high benchmarks for themselves and the School provided all instructional support to help students reach there. The revival of the Winter Study Camp for Class XII and the morning prep for all classes has been a great success.

The Batch of 2016 did us proud by their performance in the Boards. It is a matter of great pride that the School topper Divyaditya Singh has secured admission in the University of Westminster on 100% scholarship. Akash Jaini and Sukanya Shukla have also got admissions to the New York University and Bates College on 100% and 95% scholarship respectively. Class X result showed a marked improvement with the number of 10 CGPAs getting doubled from the previous year.

Different members of the faculty attended workshops on 'Challenging areas in English – Core XII', on Etymology Education, on CCE and Quality in education and also those on flipped classroom, OneNote and Project Based Learning.

Dean of Studies Mr Dharendra Sharma went on a ten-day visit to different universities in Canada where he got first-hand information of the courses offered by these universities.

The School counselor Ms Divya Verma attended a three-day event organized by New York University, Abu Dhabi entitled: Global Conference on Career Counselling.

It is a matter of great pride that Mriganka Ghosh and Yohen Thounaojam were selected as Student Ambassadors of Microsoft from The Scindia School after several rounds of eliminations.

#### Sports:

In sports, our students participated in various Interschool, State level, All India IPSC, National and International Events and Championships held this year.

This year, a total 19 Students of our school were selected for SGFI National Games in the disciplines of Shooting, Soccer, Hockey, Athletics, Skating and Cricket.



Principal, Dr M.D. Saraswat reading the School's Annual report.

Akshay Bhargava represented M.P. State U-16 Cricket Team in Vijay Merchant Trophy 2015-16 and was selected for MPCA Cricket Academy for being the second highest scorer in the MP state tournament.

Vivek Singh was selected to represent CBSE National U-19 Team as Vice-Captain in SGFI National Games and Captained Gwalior division Football team and was selected to represent MP State Football team.

The School shooting team won Total 16 Medals- 6 Golds, 4 Silver & 6 Bronze in All India IPSC Tournament.

In Skating we won 1 Gold, 1 Silver and 2 Bronze at the IPSC level.

We did well even in Hockey and the team won the Bronze medal in all India IPSC Hockey Tournament.

#### **Open National:**

26 Students of our school participated in Open National Competition in Shooting, Squash, Horse riding, Archery and Crossbow Championship.

In Junior National Horse riding competition held at National Defence Academy, Khadakwasla, we won 1 Gold, 1 Silver and 2 bronze medals.

4 students were selected for National Squad trials in shooting.

#### **International Events:**

Our students did us proud by winning 2 Medals in European Cross Bow Championship Held in Portugal

- Divij Agrawal won a Silver medal and
- Urdes Thakur won a bronze medal

The School Cricket Team Played against Bishop College South Africa and won by chasing a target of 242 Runs in 30 Overs

#### **Tournaments Hosted**

1. Our school hosted IPSC U-14 Cricket Tournament which was won by Modern School defeating MNSS Rai School, Sonipat
2. We hosted 14th HH Maharaja Madhav Rao Scindia II Memorial Cricket Tournament. DPS Mathura Road won the tournament defeating Modern School, Delhi.

#### **Adventure:**

Nine students along with three Old Boys and three teachers went on a mountaineering Expedition to Yunam Peak which is at a height of approximately 20000 feet above the sea level. Pavan Jaini from Class XI and Akash Jaini (Jayaji, 2016) along with Dr Pawan Sharma made it to the summit. This expedition was led by Mr Vijay Jaini (Ex-Mj, 1976)

A group of six students Abhijit Nagpal, Aayush Jain, Aayush Shukla, Mayank Girdhar, Shaswat Puri, Urdes Thakur, Ex Scindian - Poorva Siriah, and two members of the faculty Mr Dharendra Sharma and Mrs Raksha Siriah completed a cycling expedition from Manali to Leh in month of June 2016. They covered a distance of 490 kms crossing 5 High mountain passes minimum being Rohtang Pass 13000 feet, highest 17500 feet. Kudos to them!

Overall 30 boys and 2 teachers, Mr Anil Pathania and Dr Pawan Sharma, attended 14 day adventure courses at three centres during the summer vacations.

I am happy to report that Abhijeet Nagpal, Arindam Bhardwaj, Rishabh Goswami, Samyak Kandoi, Sukanya Shukla and Siddhant Agarwala received their IAYP Gold Award.

Anirudha Sharma Memorial Trophy for Excellence in Adventure Sports along with Special Blazer was given to Sukanya Shukla and Ankit Mehrotra.

#### **Service :**

Service remained one of the strong pillars of our way of life.

The Social Service League continued with its activities all through-out the year. Sona Day and Shramjeevi Diwas were celebrated with great enthusiasm.

Twelve students along with a teacher went for a service project to a village in

Spiti. They helped in the construction of a green house.

We hosted ten schools for the 4th IPSC Service Project at the Nathon-ka-Pura Village. 70 students and 10 teachers worked diligently to help in the infrastructure up-gradation, beautification of the village hutments and raising awareness about health issues and social evils.

The students of Class X went for a Labor Camp at Dodanpura village. They helped in the construction of the boundary wall of a primary school of the village.

Staff and students continued with their efforts towards sponsorship for the girl child through the NGO Nanhi Kali.

#### **Window to the World:**

Mr Gopal Chaturvedi from the faculty of German language attended the International German Teacher's training program at Schwäbisch Hall.

A delegation of nine students went to the Wellington College, Berkshire, U.K. with Dean of ICT Mr RK Kapoor to attend a Global Social Leadership program.

16 students along with Mr Shailesh Agarwal went on a ten day educational tour to the US.

Daksh Gupta and Saksham Kalra received 100% scholarship by the Goethe Institute to attend the International German Youth Programme at Sankt Peter-Ording .

The School hosted the International German Youth Camp where we welcomed delegates from Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Iran and Pakistan.

#### **Co-Curricular Activities:**

It is a matter of great pride that for the 12th year in a row the School Band marched on the Rajpath on Republic Day. The NCC Band Coordinator's Cup for coordinating all the four bands at the NCC camp was given to Mr Ramesh Sharma.

Cadet Under Officer Param Yadav was given the NCC Cup and the Band Leader cup was given to Sarvesh Arya.

The School hosted an 'I Can' conference which aimed to instill life skills and soft skills into students and expose them to the ideas of business and social entrepreneurship. Four students received a cash prize of twelve thousand rupees each for their exceptional ideas on Corporate Social Responsibility and Intra-preneurship.

Thirteen schools participated in the second edition of The Scindia School Model United Nations conference (SCIMUN).

We hosted the third 'Swarnotsav', a music and dance competition, the HH Maharaja Madhavrao Memorial Hindi Debate, the 43rd Platinum Jubilee Debate and Quiz and the IPSC Drama festival.

The School hosted a cultural evening which was a combination of Western Music performance, Band display and the English Play 'Merchant of Venice' in the month of April to celebrate the end of a successful year.

Our boys also represented the school in various competitions held in other schools. Faizan Karim was adjudged as the best speaker in the 1st round of the Hindi debate 'AAJ TAK' held at Vasant Valley School. Akash Jaini was adjudged the best speaker at the India Today Debate hosted by the Vasant Valley School and was awarded a cash prize of INR 1000.

#### **Round Square :**

The School initiated the Regional (South Asia & Gulf) Round Square Service Project at Ladakh. 22 students from 8 schools and 6 adults participated in the project. The venture was led by Mr Vishesh Sahai and was supported by Mr Dharendra Sharma and Mrs Supreet Bakshi. The volunteers worked laboriously for nine days and built two rooms for the Boarding House at Lamdon Model School in Thiksey village – Leh.

Round Square Representative Mrs Supreet Bakshi gave a presentation on the



Service pillar of Round Square and shared best practices of The Scindia School at the International conference in Germany.

Another Round Square Service Project was organised by school at the nearby village of Nathon-Ka-Pura. The project which was led by Mrs Bakshi had a total of 39 students and 5 teachers from five schools. The delegates helped in infrastructure improvement, particularly sanitation of the village and also aimed at imparting vocational training to the village women.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to Mrs Darshana Jaini as Parents' Representative and Mr Ravi Saund (Ex - Ja, 1988), as Invited Member on the Board of Governors of Scindia Education Society, The Scindia School.

I also take this opportunity to thank Mrs Gayatri Singh for her valuable contribution as Parents' Representative on the Board of Governors and would also like to congratulate her on the wonderful performance of her son Divyaditya, who has recently graduated from The Scindia School.

#### Faculty:

I would also take this opportunity to welcome the new members of the faculty who joined us this year. We wish them a long and fruitful stay in the School. The School also bid farewell to some of our dear colleagues. We wish them all success. Mr Dinesh Siriah retired after a long and fruitful association of 35 years with the school. Mr Shitole, our security officer, retired after a long association with the School. They will always be remembered fondly by the entire Scindian community.

#### Infrastructure:

The work of restoration and conservation is being done by the Conservation Specialists of INTACH to give the 200 years old building its original look.

The first phase of the North Block Housing, consisting of six staff quarters was inaugurated by Her Highness Rajmata Madhaviraje Scindia. These restored and renovated quarters have been christened as the 'Heritage Block.' This project was undertaken by Neeraj Bhagat, alumni of the school. The second phase of the project will consist of six similar quarters and a Staff Club.

The athletic track has been re-laid. Our Cricket field and The Hockey field too have also been re-laid.

To enhance the comfort of our students we have taken up the conservation as well as interior fit-outs work for Shivaji House. Under this project, we plan to accommodate the students in a systematic manner and they will be accommodated in Rooms instead of Dorms. The House will be Wi-Fi enabled.

#### Old Boys' News :

Schools like ours thrive on the synergy and close bond between the Old Boys and the institution. We were delighted to welcome different Batches of Old Boys and reconnect with them. Members of the Batch of 1983, 1992, 1994 visited the Fort over the past few months. The School also celebrated the Golden Jubilee Reunion of the Batch of 1966.

In a bid to enhance a cohesive and interactive relationship within our alumni community, I am pleased to announce the launch of our Alumni Portal - 'The Common Room'. It is designed to offer efficient and user - friendly navigation, and quick access to information. The portal includes a wide array of services which includes a rich 'directory search' to find and connect with others in the Scindia Family across the world. It also has careers section. Thank you Mayurdhwaj Singh (Ex-Ja, 1989) for your help and initiative.

Students of the class of 1994 conducted career counselling sessions for the present students. As part of the second SOBiR programme our boys received valuable sporting guidance in Cricket and Squash from two of our sports titans Mr Harvinder Singh Sodhi (Ex -Rn, 1989) and Mr Vijay Jaini (Ex - Mj, 1976) respectively. Mr Jaini also led the mountaineering expedition to Yunam Peak.

Mr Sanjiv Kathpalia (Ex - Ja, 1966) who is currently the Senior Advisor to the Republic of Turkey, Justice Sanjay Mishra (Ex - Chaitanya, 1969) who is currently Lokayukta of UP, Mr Prashant Prabhu (Ex - Md, 1967), Mr Banjul Badil (Ex -Ja, 1988) and Mr Mukesh Manik (Ex -Ravindra, 1988) visited school

and interacted with staff and students.

I take pride in sharing that education at Scindia has not only been preparing its students in excelling their professional world but it also nurtures and strengthens their humane bit. Even after leaving school for several years and many decades, they come together under the banner of Scindia School to undertake many projects as part of social responsibility ventures like the 'Able the Disabled' project which was launched under the aegis of SOBA CARE. This year they have provided 50 Wheelchairs and 50 stretchers at various railway stations and hospitals and donated 607 units of blood in the fond memory of Shrimant Madharao Scindia, which is actually an annual event.

To name a few, noted Bollywood musicians Manmeet Singh (Ex Jayaji, 1994) and Harmeet Singh (Ex Jayaji, 1995), bureaucrat Sachin Sharma (Ex-Ja, 2000), medical professional Dr Ranjit Chaudhary (Ex Madhav- 1994), nationally acclaimed quizmaster Ajay Poonia (Ex - Sh, 2006), won accolades in their respective fields.

Amitabh Malhotra (Ex- Md, 1986) will now co-head NM Rothschild, the global investment bank in India.

Gaurav Jain (Ex- Mahadji, 1989) Founder and Managing Director of ColdEX, has received funding from major private equity funds for investments of Rs 250 crores.

Jivitesh Mazumdar (Ex-Md, 2011) was the Trainee Assistant Director of the recently released movie 'Pink'

Most important of all these is the feat undertaken by Mr Gagan Khosla ( Jeevaji, 1974). He undertook a daring cycling expedition from Leh to Kanyakumari. He covered an incredible 4300 kms, crossing five mountain passes and thirteen states which got completed yesterday at 4 PM. Mr Khosla dedicated this feat to his alma mater. He aims to collect funds which will be used for disseminating scholarships in The Scindia School. We salute his dauntless spirit and altruistic zeal.

#### Homage:

At this point of time, I would like to extend my heartfelt condolences on behalf of the entire Scindia School fraternity to the bereaved of those who passed away during the period under report.

Mr S.G. Chatterji former History teacher and Housemaster of Jankoji House who served The Scindia School for 19 years; Mr G.C. Majupuria, who taught History, Civics and Hindi at the erstwhile Junior School for more than 3 decades; We also mourn the sad demise of Mr Khan, former Housemaster Ranoji House. Madan Sethi (ex Md,1957), Mr Santosh Kale (Ex-Chaitanya, 1965), Sardar Sadashivrao Mahadik 1954, Mr Aarish Choksi (Ex - MD, 1999), Mr Madhukar Kapoor (ex-Sh,1960), Mr Anil Kanodia (Ex-Md,1968), Mr Ajay Mishra (Ex -Rn,1972) and Mr Prakash Sharma (Ex-Rn,1972).

We pray to God to give strength to the bereaved family and friends to bear the loss. May their souls rest in peace.

May I request the gathering to kindly rise and observe a minute's silence as a mark of respect for these departed souls.

Thank you very much. Please be seated.

At the end I would like to reiterate that the true success of a school is measured by the citizens that it provides to the society at large. I take immense pride in saying that we wish to continue beyond being a mere marks churning machine.

This brings me to the end of my report. Before I close, I should like to express my deep gratitude to the President and members of the Board of Governors for their support and guidance. I am also thankful to my colleagues from teaching, administrative and services wings for their team work and understanding. I sincerely appreciate the help that I have received from the band of bright youngsters; my Senior School Prefect and his team of school prefects. I am also grateful to the government and civil administration, army and air force authorities for their timely help, whenever we have turned to them in our moment of need. I would like to make a special mention of the District Education Department and the Doctors in the city for their continued support to the school.

I also wish to express my gratitude despite their strong objection; but it is my duty to do so. Members of the Class of 1965-66 contributed Rs 22,41,001 for the newly renovated Heritage Block; Mr Kantilal Vikamsey (Ex-Md, 1964) and Mr Nupur Patel (Ex-Rn, 1995) for gifting Golf Carts to the school so that we can minimize the use of diesel / petrol run vehicles in the school. A special thanks to Mr Gursharan Singh for helping the boys in putting up the wonderful orchestra performance today evening and also to Mr Abhinav Goyal and his

team for the Play on Parents' Day.

I would also like to thank all the teachers and parents for all their support, understanding and valuable inputs.

Thank you very much, God bless you all.

## Welcome speech by H.H. Maharaja J.M. Scindia

Seated with us here this evening is our Chief Guest, our esteemed, respected Ratan Tata Saheb, Members of the Board of The Scindia School, Principal Saraswat Saheb, alumni of The Scindia School present here this evening, faculty, parents, students, friends of the media.

First of all a hearty welcome to the 119th Founder's Day at our very own, Scindia School!

King of Blues, Riley .B. King once said and I quote, "Beautiful thing about learning is that no one can take it away from you". Education is empowerment. Education is the biggest equalizer in the world today.

So off goes the Chinese proverb which says that 'give a man a fish a day and you feed him for one day, teach him how to fish and you feed him for a life time'. And so these school years are the most wonderful years of your life, but along with that they are also the foundation for your adult life. Every action of yours will mould and reflect on the persona that you will take on, in the years to come. In school, all of you are taught a lesson and then given a test; in life you will be given a test that will teach you a lesson. Here at the Scindia School we focus on learning outcomes, we focus on learning outcomes that are measured not purely in terms of matrix of exams results, but we focus on ensuring that our wards get a rounded education, an education wherein, real world practical skills aid in their moving on in life in terms of their productivity and in their employability; a learning based on experiences, that possibly, you will cherish lifelong. And so, therefore, if we talk about the importance of education, what are those enablers of education? To me the most fundamental is the freedom of speech, the freedom of expression. If you cannot spread your wings, while you are in school here, then once you graduate, conformity becomes the rule. And therefore over reliance on the specifics, accepted, circumscribed systems of knowledge, I believe is the fatal flaw in our system that we here at the Scindia School aim to correct. Friedrich Nietzsche once said and I quote, "The surest way to corrupt a youth is to instruct him or her to hold in higher esteem those who think alike than those who think differently". Yes we want you all to be winners, but along with being winners, we also want you to be thinkers. And the hallmarks of the civilized society are the three Ds: Debate, Discussion and Disagreement. It certainly brings to mind that environment we are facing in the country today - *ek asahishnuta ka vatavaran jo nirmat ho chuka hai hamare desh main* - an environment of intolerance, an environment in which each one of us is told what to speak, what to hear, how to dress and what to eat. I firmly believe that stifling of the contrarian opinions and ways of living either by *Gau Rakshak* vigilantes or by suffocating debate in a democratic set up like a university, a clamp down on dissent is antithetical to the progress of our country, our society and our family. I certainly believe that India has been historically known for her openness, her ability to take in various forms of debate, dissent, ways of thinking to be able to assimilate all of that and to come out with a '*Nichod*' in the form of '*Amrit*' through which our society progresses.

And I think that we need not look very far from here. I was explaining to Mr Tata, that this *Durg*, this citadel, has a commanding presence not only over the Gwalior- Chambal region, but I believe over the state of M.P. And I think if you look down from this *Durg* not very far away, into our city, there is a park called 'phoolbagh' and in that 'phoolbagh' the park that has been set up by Maharaja Madhav Rao Scindia I, the Founder of our Institution, there is a temple, there is a Gurudwara, there is a Mosque and there is a Theosophical lodge - a symbol of pluralism, a symbol of tolerance, a symbol of secularism, where people of all faiths and all walks of life gather together under the sky to exchange their views openly and with full freedom. And I think this is the concept of India that all of us need to protect, this concept of our motherland within our families, within our societies and within our country. And the Scindia School is a microcosm

of this reality. I recall a story, some say it is from folklore. There was a north Indian grand Old Cherokee chief who was teaching moral science, values and principles to his grandson as he was growing up. Lessons about life and he said to him and I quote, "a fight is going on inside of me, a terrible fight between two wolves. One is Evil; He is anger, envy, sorrow, greed, arrogance, lies, false pride and ego. The second is good. He is joy, peace, love, hope, compassion, empathy, generosity. The same fight is going on inside you and inside every other person as well. The grandchild then looks up quizzically at his grandfather and asks the obvious question - which wolf will win? The grandfather dotingly looks at his grandson and responds - the one that you will feed." And that is the lesson for us here whether we are in school or whether we are out in society. Here at the Scindia School secularism, pluralism freedom of debates, speech and expression have been enshrined by our Founder Maharaja Madhav Rao Scindia I since 1897. He developed an environment where all wards would develop their faculties, nurture their instincts, hone their talents and pursue their potentials. And I firmly believe that it is this inquisitive, enterprising spirit that also led him to meet with the then Founder of the Tata group Sir Jamshed Ji Tata when he was looking to setup Tata steel in Jamshedpur. And that commonality of values, commonality of principles, commonality of pursuit of excellence between our Founder and the Founder of the House of Tatas led to the building of a relationship where both patrons came together to first begin the starting up of Tata Steel. And with great pride on the stage I would like to state that that relationship between two families has only grown from strength to strength - the relationship between the Late Maharaja Jiwaji Rao Scindia and J.R.D. Tata, the relationship between my father and our Chief Guest tonight Mr Ratan Tata and if I may be at liberty to say his guidance and his blessings to me as I was going through my course in life over the last 15-20 years, for which I will personally like to thank you Mr Tata from the stage today.

It gives us great pleasure to have between us, a visionary, a leader and most importantly a good human being. Now let's take a step back and try to understand what the word Tata group means for us. We season our food with their condiments, family conversations happen over a cup of Tata Tea, we drive their cars, we ride in their buses, we stay in their hotels, we use their network to communicate, we fly in their airlines, we keep their watches to keep track of time and do not forget to record the latest episode of our favorite serial on Tata Sky. I think all of us get the hint; and Mr Tata, we also have to thank you for Starbucks. And therefore it is the single minded focus, focus on high quality - the culture of probity that propagates the best human practices and business practices which ensures that this group stays at the cusp of change both through time and space.



H.H. Maharaja J.M. Scindia welcoming the Chief Guest.



### Glimpses of the Founder's Day





## Glimpses of the Founder's Day





Today we welcome among us a doyen. And I think to call him a businessman would be a disservice to him. He is much more, much larger than that. He is the giant who has left his indelible mark on the national landscape as India's biggest industrialist and biggest philanthropist. He has led India's charge into economic stardom. He has evolved as effortlessly as modern India has evolved. The undisputed icon of Industry, he has built the Tata group not only brick by brick but also click by click with Tata consultancy services. And Mr Tata I would like to tell you that here at The Scindia School you have also seen tonight a brick by brick mortar structure and a click by click talent in all our boys in the work they presented you this evening. He started his career in 1962 shoveling limestone and handling a blast furnace on the shop floor at Tata Steel at Jamshedpur. Now as the story goes, I do not know whether it is true or not, but it seems he was forbidden driving into the plant and therefore he chose not to ride on bicycle but walk with all the workers, hand in hand. And therein started his journey understanding the trials and tribulations of all his brethren and folk that he worked along with to ensure the Tata group provides a wonderful working environment for every single individual under the Tata family brand name. Therefore he has covered every sphere of possible human activity from social service to business, to entrepreneurship. But a Journalist once asked him quizzically why hasn't he thought of entering in the Indian politics and he replied in his matter of fact manner, "Well, Actually I have, a lot, in a negative way". And when the Journalist pursued and said, why not. He responded and I quote, "because I am wise" Mr Tata, let me assure you, it isn't that bad, you can still try some day.

On a more serious note, I think Mr Tata is different from any other business person we have met in our country – intensely private, a self-effacing person, one who works without any fanfare. A true gentleman: warm, dignified, unassuming and gracious. I recently heard that he, till this day, has saved his first 40 dollars xerox copy of his first paycheck. At the Tata group he has streamlined a conglomerate that encompassed many, many myriad businesses; synergized them into one composite whole. And while our economy has grown, to make us understand, the leadership that he has shown while he helmed the Tata group for 21 years till 2012, the group's market capitalization grew 33 times, revenue 46 times and net profit a mere 51 times.

That to you is the unassuming leadership of Mr Ratan Tata! He has had his fair share of triumphs and troubles. He started his career as the Director of floundering National Radio and Electronics Company better known as NELCO. This was an independent assignment and all the Tata satraps were rubbing their hand in glee waiting to see him fail. But what most people do not know is that not only he turned NELCO around to be profitable but increased its market share from a measly 2% to close to 25%. The Tata Tetley merger in 2000 is a feather in his cap and of course the much talked about Jaguar Land Rover acquisition in 2008 that has really transported Tata Motors India to the global stage and I can proudly say that in a way, as a patriotic Indian we have

taken back from the U.K. what they took from us as their colonial masters. He also has a lot of passion for the youth. He has tremendous faith in India's youth. And while he was at the helm of affairs in the Tata group, the Tata Administrative Services which all of us are very familiar with, he made sure that every single young person engaged in different verticals, got different experiences was able to rise to their own potential. And now in his new avatar, he is promoting Startups, grooming the budding talent by investing in them. Some main streams like PayTM, OLA, SNAP DEAL and other niche like Pet care portal called - Dog spot. He is an ardent pet lover. And again there is an oft repeated saying that says, around Bombay House which is the Headquarter of the Tata group you will never find a stray dog ever, 365 days in a year, that ever went hungry. Thanks to Mr Ratan Tata. Serving community is a very important thread that binds his work and passion together to give back from where you have earned and I quote Ratan Tata. He says, "Businesses need to go beyond the interests of the companies to the communities they serve". And Jamshedpur is an excellent example of that, a beacon for industries to follow on a global scale. All services from health and education are all mastered by Tata Steel. Their missionary zeal in serving communities is so much so that once a self-deprecating ad of Tata Steel said – 'we also make steel'.

Today his passion is philanthropy. His passion is to ensure the agenda of social justice in our country is taken forward. He is super active with all his philanthropic interests and he has used this channel for turning the profit back into social capital. Many initiatives, that he has looked at for helping – from potato farmers in Leh, Dairy farmers in Manipur, across the board to helping small farmers in Tamil Nadu - to water projects in Gujarat. Mr Tata studied architecture and structural engineering in Cornell and gave up a job at IBM to come back and work in the Tata group. Few years later he had very large shoes to fill after Mr J.R.D. Tata handed over the baton to him.

But he put together a tremendous repertoire and performance and we can't expect anything less, because he has emerged out of a very strong value system where good ethics, justice and fairness are old chosen bedfellows of his noble house. A sound value system is the bedrock that builds our lives. At Scindia School we develop that capability in our wards to compete globally but to house our 'sanskar', our 'sanskriti' and our 'Bharat Mata' deep inside their souls and that I believe is true soft power of India going forward.

So I urge you ladies and gentlemen, tonight to partake of his wealth of experience and let me now end with a quote from Steve Jobs and he said and I quote, ' Our work is going to fill a large part of your life and the only way to be truly satisfied, is to do what you believe is great work. And the only way to do a great work is to love, what you do. If you haven't found it yet, keep looking. Don't settle, as with all matters of the heart, you will know when you find it.

Thank you very much.

## Awards and recognitions 2015-16

Awards	Awardees		
1. Umang Mathur Memorial Trophy (for the best Class XI Scholar)	Ayush Barya Madhav House	7. Field Marshal Cariappa Shield (for the best sportsman)	Sarthak Talwar Madhav House
2. Mahendra Mishra Memorial Trophy (for the best Class XI Sportsman)	Aviral Jain Jayappa House	8. Maharaja Jeevajirao Scindia Medal (for All Round Proficiency for Class XII)	Divyaditya Singh Jayaji House
3. Maharaja Madhavrao Scindia II Medal (for All Round Proficiency)	Arbin Das Darjee Jayappa House	9. The Khurshid Lakdawala, Jr. House Efficiency Shield	Dattaji House
4. Sam Pitroda Award (2016-17) (for the best innovative project- 'The running solution Walk for a better tomorrow.')	Ayush Barya Madhav House Sarthak Agarwal Daulat House	10. Guru Hargovind Singh (Gurdwara) Trophy (for the best House in academics)	Madhav House
5. The R. B. Pawar Medal (for scoring the highest percentage of marks in Mathematics in Class XII)	Utkarsh Kumar Shivaji House	11. Nepal Trophy (for the best House in games)	Jayappa House
6. Governor's Medal (for scoring Highest Percentage in Class XII)	Divyaditya Singh Jayaji House	12. The Scindia School, Inter House General Efficiency Shield	Jayappa House
		13. Madhav Award (Ex Jeevaji, 1964)	Dr. Sushil Shah
		14. Madhav Award (Ex Jayaji, 1948) (Posthumous)	Lt Gen Sami Khan

## Address by the Chief Guest - Mr Ratan Naval Tata

Your Highness, Her highness Maharani, Mr Principal, Board of Governors and friends:

It is a great honour to be here today. But before I go any further I would like to say I now realize how difficult it is to follow a seasoned political leader, in speaking, this evening. Your Highness you have embarrassed me, in a good way, and you have left me here on a cloud which I don't deserve. In the few hours that I have spent here, I have realized what an Institution The Scindia School actually is. And how lucky are the students whose parents have given them the kind of education the School would provide. Most of us look at the education as something that we need to do; we need to have, because our CVs need schools and colleges of repute. But there is much-much more one should look at education for. The seeds of leadership that are seeded here, the seeds of ethical behavior and values are seeded here, the seeds of entrepreneurship and adventure are seeded here. You carry these on to college and you are still in a protected environment. Then you go out into the real world where you have choices to make or sometimes circumstances make choices for you. What do you do with those choices in your life will depend on those seeds which are seeded in you, in your years in school. As I went through the exhibition here this evening I couldn't help that feel that this is the school that gave the students an opportunity to partake in adventure, in athletics, in science, in the Arts. So you are getting a well rounded education, an enormously satisfying period, as you go through the school, interacting with your fellow students and presumably on an equal basis. And then you go out into the world. Unfortunately in India often you are asked who you are. Whose son you are? How much money you have? Which family you come from? And that makes a difference. The India we will love to see in the future is where everyone is equal and what you achieve is based on your merit and on your own capability. I think that is what has made America as great as it has become and as innovative and as creative as it has become. It makes no difference who you are, what your parents have done. It is based on what you have done and that gets recognized.

So I come to the end to what I want to say, as a message to all of you- as you go out into the world initially into university and colleges and later into life- what are you looking for -is it money? Is it just to be big? What will make you satisfied, when you return home at night? I will give you my views. My views are that you want to be remembered first of all for what you did and that what you did was the right decision for the right reasons, however difficult those decisions might have been. But finally we all are born in this world, we live in this world and we die and perhaps the greatest thing you could do is to be remembered for what you did and for the difference you made. The difference you make for many-many people who are less fortunate, less privileged that you can help. And in doing so for country you could enhance.



The Maharaja talked about intolerance. That is a curse that we are seeing of late, which all of us sitting in this amphitheater, this evening would like to see disappear; would like to live in an environment where we love our fellowmen, we don't shoot them, we don't kill them, we don't run them into the ground, we don't hold them as hostage but we give a bit of ourselves to them and we give and take as much as we can in our lives that we have.

So I shall end here and say that I wish the graduating class and everybody here and the students below them, all the best. Remember that you have a great responsibility as you leave here. The school has done an enormous amount for you and you may not consciously be aware of, but they have seeded many of you who will be leaders of India of tomorrow. My decisions need not be yours. If I feel that being a politician is something that I don't want to do; many of you will be politicians and many of you perhaps will never be equal to His Highness in speaking. I feel so unqualified to stand here, in front of you, after him. And I believe each one of you should look at the world and try to see that as an equal and on the basis of your merit, you do something for which you will be remembered.

Thank you very much.

## Mr Ratan Tata's on-stage conversation with students

*This on-stage conversation was moderated by Mr Vishesh Sahai - Staff Editor of the Review.*

Below is the introduction by Mr Vishesh Sahai :

Good evening, Ladies and Gentlemen.

I actually had a script with me which I wrote a couple of days ago since it is customary to introduce the person that you are hosting on a talk show. Since I was going to moderate this talk show I had prepared a short note which included some information like...How Mr Tata acquired the Jaguar and Land Rover and about his Honorary Doctorates and Padma Vibhushan. But I had to cut all that out for a reason - I had a very pleasant duty today to receive the Chief Guest. Principal Dr Saraswat and I and several others went to receive him at the airport. In that welcome note about which I was talking to you earlier, I had written a phrase - 'larger-than-life' and I would request you to just keep this phrase in mind for a few seconds and I will come back to it in a while. We went to receive him and he got out of the plane and I expected a battery of secretaries and body guards and bags and baggage. And then he arrived, very unassuming and simple. Like a good host, I waited for a while for the bags to arrive. Nothing came off that

trolley and after a while when we were all set to leave, one person from the staff at the Airport handed over a small jute bag and he said, "This is all that Mr Tata carries". And suddenly the phrase 'larger than life' had a new meaning for me and perhaps for everyone who is present here tonight. (Applause...)

Thank you ladies and gentleman. Without taking any more of your time, please allow me to start this talk show. I am assisted by two of my boys Chirag and Kartikeya. We will take a few questions from the students first and if time permits then we will go to Old Boys and parents.

**Q1. Yohen - Class XI**

**In your speech right now, you have talked about an India that we want to see tomorrow. What is that? What is the way to achieve it? What are your suggestions?**

**Ans:** The India of tomorrow that I alluded to earlier is a kind of India that we would like to see at least in our life time. It is an India where all people are equal and no discrimination based on wealth or prominence of families, but is instead based purely on merit and recognition. An India that is totally tolerant, an India where we are not intolerant about religions, practices and traditions.

An India where we respect the rights of all our citizens and of our neighbours and that we have an environment that is not regulated to the extent that we are told what to wear, what to dress, what to eat, what to say and what not to say; an India where we have freedom of speech. We have many of these attributes today but there are little pinpricks where these are being reversed and I think each one of us should combat against an India becoming intolerant and biased in its views.

#### Q2. Shubham Agarwal – Class X

**What are the top two or three ideas that a budding entrepreneur should bear in mind to create a successful and sustained business?**

**Ans:** That is a very difficult question and I wish I could answer that. I wish I knew the secret to success of each one. However, let me take a crack at it in responding to this. I think I have been partaking in startups of late and I have seen business proposals which do not on the face of it look very exciting. Then I've met the founders and I have been struck by their sincerity, their vision, their enthusiasm and that has made a difference for me to make my investment. I have often said that I am not investing in the startup but I am investing in the founder or the co-founders. History is yet to see whether those companies are successful, but I will say that the chances are of those companies being successful are higher based on their sincerity and passion that exists in the founder. That is what I can say as far as I can to your question.

**Response of the moderator:** That is an interesting take Sir; that you are not investing in the startup but you are investing in the founder.

**Response of Mr Ratan Tata:** I am paying a lot of attention to the founder because in that lies the DNA of the startup.

#### Q3. Hriday Soni – Class VIII

**Parents and teachers insist on getting high marks. What do you have to say about this approach?**

**Ans :** Well somehow I was able to get through the school and college without high marks. However, to a great extent, the high marks differentiate you from others. It is a matrix many look up to, just like we look at good institutes. So if you have graduated from a good institute, you get a plus, you get high marks that again is a plus. But for someone (like me) who has not sat at the top of the class, let me say that there is much more to your careers than high marks. Think of Steve Jobs and Bill Gates who are dropouts and never finished college but have been grossly successful in life. It is what you do with your life; and that's why I say you should not be damned because your marks are low or because you are at a disadvantage to someone else whose marks are high. You should not be dismissed in your career because you don't have high marks. You should be looked at as a person in terms of what you can offer. It is the Founder's syndrome again; how you come across, what is the passion that you have for what you are doing and how diligently you go about trying to be a leader.

#### Q4. Umang Arya – Class X

**Corruption and red tape is a huge problem in our country. Is it really difficult to be an honest businessman in India? Have you ever experienced it?**

**Ans:** The Tata group for many years refused to partake in corruption. I have never personally been approached but I am aware of several cases where we have been disadvantaged because we did not partake in what is being discussed here. And very often people in our group have come to me and said why you are doing this; you are hurting the future of the group. And the only answer I have been able to give them is that I would like to go home at night and say that I did not succumb. In answer to the last part of your question, I think what one has seen in terms of growth and performance of the Tata group, it is possible to survive and excel in the Indian environment. You just have to be resolute in your view in terms of what you should do; and one hopes that at some stage we will drive out the corruption and make it irrelevant. But right now, it is still there and you have to resist it to the extent you can and each one of you must resist so that you can go home and say that I did not succumb. This will lead to erosion of corruption in our system. I hope each one of you will carry this somewhere in your DNA.

#### Q5. Subhmanyu Lahiri – Class VIII

**Sir, will you take us through some of your early childhood influences, be it books or people?**



**Ans:** I don't know how I can contribute or bore you with my early childhood. My early childhood was in a big house with means like His Highness would have experienced. Not as big as yours (His Highness') and not as beautiful as yours (His Highness') but big nevertheless. My family had the means to give us a comfortable life, but to the credit of my parents, my brother and I were never allowed to over indulge. We were kept a little hungry in terms of what we materially had or saw. Two personalities had a profound impact on my life. One was my grandmother who was the most disciplined elderly lady I ever met and had the highest value system. Also to a great extent Mr JRD tata under whom I worked and who was more like a father to me at work than my own father. My grandmother in particular taught me to try and be dignified whatever be the situation; never to be embarrassed or to be embarrassing to anybody. Swallow whatever is there and move out of that situation with dignity. That perhaps has been one of the leading banners for me as I have gone through life. Later in life there have been people that have had an impact on me but I think my grandmother would be the one who taught me the most and Mr JRD Tata who lived a life of doing everything that he preached; and not being two faced or two mouthed in anything that he did. I owe those two people enormous debt and gratitude.

#### Q6. Eeshan Agarwal Class IX

**Sir I was reading that of late you have made investments in a wide range of startups or in other words, in the founders of future successful companies. How do you assess the risk attached with these investments?**

**Ans:** You know I was hoping that no one would ask that question. It is like falling in love with a woman. You don't necessarily just fall for her looks. You fall for how she emotionally attaches herself to you; how you get enticed with her niceness etc. In startups it is much the same. How do you really get a feel that what you are being asked to invest in is going to be successful. Is it going to make a difference to the community? Is it going to be a long term investment that you have to stick out with? Is it going to be an instant success. Is it going to be sold to a big company and you would walk away with the multiples of what you have invested. It is very difficult to say what really attracts you. PE firms look at the numbers and they are sometimes wrong. It is too early to say whether I was right or wrong. So tune in tomorrow and you may be able to find out. I can't give you anything more specific than that.

#### Q7. Abaan Khan Class IX

**Brand TATA for more than a century has been a pioneer across different markets and geographies. What is so unique about the Tata family or the Tata legacy which makes you so successful?**

**Ans :** I think if I look at India and not geographies outside India, in the last 150 years that Tatas have been there, it has been able to create a reputation of a fair play manufacturer; somebody that gives you the value for what you pay or doesn't oversell its products. There may be exceptions to that. I would imagine lot of hands would go up and say that it is not your experience – your air conditioners have failed, your car has run out or broken down somewhere, your tea is not tasty etc. But those are perhaps exceptions compared to the feeling that if Tata brings out a product it is going to be an acceptable or a good product. When we go outside India we have to build that reputation from a

scratch. And we have tried to do it with some success. The view we took more recently when I was heading the company was – acquire a company that has the same value system, same ethical standards as you do, where the management has the same kind of approach to corruption and other issues as you do. Then acquire that company because you can make it an extension of your own or

make your own an extension of that company. So one thing I would like to say is that you can't buy a reputation, you can't acquire it by acquiring another company; you have to have it. And you have to protect it, viciously protect it. And not allow it go down by short term desires of going ahead. If you can do that, then you should be in a position to build that reputation of your group or your company.

## Citation of the Madhav Awardees

### Lieutenant General Sami Khan (Posthumous) (Jayaji 1944 – 1948)

Sami Khan graduated from The Scindia School in 1948. The then Principal, Mr K C Shukla, in his commendation letter wrote, "Sami was one of the most popular students, a first class athlete, boxer, swimmer and one of the best riders". Quite certainly he saw in young Sami a potential leader and his observation stood the test of time as is evidenced by the journey of this young school boy into Lieutenant General Sami Khan.

This charming boy who displayed ample leadership qualities as a House Prefect of the Jayaji House and the School Captain, went on to be one of the most respected and decorated soldiers of the Indian Army.

The inherent attributes in Sami Khan, first got a fertile ground at The Scindia School and then were further nurtured in the Defense Services Staff College, Wellington. Sami Khan got commissioned into the Madras Regiment in the Indian Army in January 1951. As a Brigadier, he was an Instructor at the College of Combat in Mhow. He was then promoted as a Major General and commanded a Division in Arunachal Pradesh. While serving with the United Nations in Congo, he proved his mettle as a soldier and was awarded the Sena Medal for his individual acts of exceptional devotion to duty and courage, which have special significance for the Army. In recognition of his peace-time service of the most exceptional order, he was awarded the Param Vishishta Seva Medal (PVSM). Finally, he retired as General Officer Commanding in Chief, Central Command as a Lieutenant General.

Lieutenant General Sami Khan, as GOC, 15 Corps in Northern Kashmir once said, "Every man who serves at Siachen, whether decorated or not, is a hero". Such was his human understanding and appreciation of sincerity of purpose.

Lauded in the highest ranks of leadership, we today honour a man of incomparable valour and dignity - Lieutenant General Sami Khan. He is an incredible icon for our young minds to get inspired. The Scindia School aspires to cultivate in every Scindian the same spirit of altruism, courage and humility that Lieutenant General Sami Khan symbolized through his inspirational life.

The Scindia School posthumously confers on Lieutenant General Sami Khan the Madhav Award as an Old Boy of Eminence for the year 2016.



Lt. Gen. Sami Khan's family receiving the Madhav Award.

### Dr Sushil Shah (Jeevaji 1956 – 1964)

Founder and Chairman of Metropolis Healthcare Ltd and someone who is essentially a humanitarian, Dr Sushil Shah is a beautiful combination of a person who has the heart of a Doctor and the mind of an Entrepreneur. After graduating from the school in 1964 young Sushil completed his MD in Pathology and Bacteriology from Grant Medical College, Mumbai. He was also a Research Fellow of Cornell Medical Centre, New York.

Metropolis is not only a highly sophisticated laboratory but also one of the first to introduce Radio Immunoassay technique (a branch of nuclear medicine) in India for the test of Malignancy, Infertility and Pregnancy problems etc. It has earned the reputation of India's leading and only multinational chain of diagnostic centers spread across the globe.

However, in addition to his professional excellence, what makes Dr. Shah truly worthy of this award is his philanthropic spirit. He has been conducting health check-up camps for Mumbai Traffic Police, awareness camps for police women on cervical cancer, free camps for over 600 girls belonging to 'Kishori Foundation' based in Mumbai and under-privileged children of 'Future Hope', an NGO based in Kolkata for several years now.

His deep commitment to social service has earned him several honours and awards including the Rashtriya Chikitsak Ratna Award by NEHRD Organization, Mumbai, Rajiv Gandhi Gold Medal Award by GEPR, Tamil Nadu and Prominent Alumnus Award by Jai Hindi College, Mumbai.

Dr. Shah comes across as a fine example of true Scindian values i.e. a spirit of enterprise and sound intellect, infused with conviction and a sense of service. His life is an incredible timeline of these attributes, spread across all endeavours of his life.

The Scindia School confers on Dr Sushil Shah the Madhav Award as an Old Boy of Eminence for the year 2016 for his exemplary business acumen coupled with deep commitment to Corporate Social Responsibility and for his outstanding contribution in the medical field.



Dr Sushil Shah receiving the Madhav Award.



## Mr Akbar Khan's Speech (The Madhav Awardee, Lieutenant General Sami Khan's Son)

Good Evening everyone.

First of all I would like to thank everyone, on behalf of my mother, my family and of course myself. Your Highness, Board of Governors, the Principal, the Faculty, and most importantly The Scindia School fraternity. There have been many words which have been graciously said on the accolades that my father earned during his tenure, during his life. And if he was here today he would have definitely kept you entertained with all his exploits and his time here in Scindia. For me to reiterate any of those incidents would not do justice. I have attended many reunions, get-togethers, in the school, in the army with my father and all I can say is that it's a lot of fun. Friends meet friends, enemies meet enemies, but they all meet as friends. And what I've seen and what I've learnt from this is priceless. Although I have never been a part of this school, but I've been associated with another school which is on similar standards and all I can say is that there is a bond, a connection, a relationship, which a student has with the school.

A lot has been said of course about what my father did but I would like to share something about the kind of a person that he was. He was a quiet man, filled with extreme patience, righteous, brutally honest, honourable and all this with a killer sense of humour. And he made a difference not only in my life but in the lives of a lot of other people who were around him. There are many esteemed and eminent people over here and I am in no position to say much about anything that would be related to the school. But I can say one thing, and I would like to emphasize on that please, and this actually goes out to all the current students who are here. It is these moments in the school which made my father what he was. It is these values that the school instilled into him that made him what he was. So cherish these moments because these are the best days of your lives. I even wrote a speech but never went as per it. I didn't think it would do justice. So once again I would like to thank everyone. Thank you sir. And thank you all for giving us the honour to be here, to accept this award on my father's behalf. Thank you everyone.

## Address by Dr Sushil Shah – Madhav Awardee

Good Evening Chief Guest Shri Ratan Tata, President Shri Scindia, Mrs Scindia, Principal, other dignitaries, young friends and respected teachers.

You know where you all are sitting, I sat there for nine years of my childhood during Scindia School stay and used to look forward to this day with lot of excitement. It was because of two reasons, first was because it gave us three days of holidays which we all admired but the second and the more important reason was that Founder's day was one day which brought different kinds of excitement each year. Each year we felt it was different from the previous year's Founder's day. And I think this is something we used to look forward to, the maximum. In the last five to seven years, actually I have been fortunate of being a recipient of multiple awards besides some government awards e.g. entrepreneur of the year from Ernst and Young which is a very prestigious industry award and from my alma mater - Jai Hind College and Grant Medical College and now from The Scindia School. But now if you ask me; honestly I'm most honoured to get this particular award that is the Madhav Award compared to all the others. The icing on the cake is getting this award from Shri Ratan Tata who is the ultimate iconic figure of India. That really adds to the joy of it.

But the one person who would have been more proud than me for getting this award would have been my father. And I will illustrate a small episode to tell you why. You know when we were young; my father decided that we were not being taken care of properly in Bombay so he felt that we should be admitted to a boarding school. So he decided and he took off for thirty five to forty days, travelled by train and visited twenty seven boarding schools across India, right from north to south, everywhere. And after having seen all the twenty seven schools in forty days, he came to the conclusion that The Scindia School is the best for us. Having done that, he came to Gwalior and met the Principal, Mr K.C. Shukla. He went and told him that, "Sir I have gone and visited twenty seven schools and I feel this is the best for my children and I want them to be here". Mr Shukla asked him, "Why do you think ours is the best school"? My father said, "I think one of the reasons is that this is the only school which combines the Indian and the Western culture in equal proportion and more importantly it combines the Indian values with the modern values together; and I think that makes a person a complete person and that's why I want him to be here". Mr Shukla said, "Sir, thank you very much for your certificate that we are a good school but unfortunately I can't take your children because we have a capacity of five hundred students and we have a waiting list of thousands. So there is no way I can take your children in the school". So, my father argued with him and ultimately Mr Shukla wouldn't budge and he said, "Sorry I cannot admit them".

My father said, "Alright, in that case all that I will do is I will come from tomorrow, I'll sit in your outer chamber and when you will come in the morning I'll say good morning to you, when you will go back I'll say good night to you and go away". I will not disturb you. Mr Shukla said, "Why do you want to waste your time"? My father replied, "Well, it matters to me so, I'll do it." He went and sat in the outer chamber for eight days, consecutively. He used to arrive in the morning, sit the whole day and in the evening he used to say good night. On the ninth day Mr Shukla called him and said, "Dr Shah, I've not met anybody like you in my life. Why are you wasting your time over here? Don't you have anything to do in Bombay"? My father said, "Sir, I am a doctor. I have a lot of work to do but I think my children's future matters more to me than my own requirement. So till this is not done, I will not go." So then Mr Shukla said on the ninth day, "Okay, I have only one seat in my hand so, I can take only one of your sons." My father said, "No, you have to take both. I cannot do injustice to one of my sons." Mr Shukla said, "I cannot do anything for you." My father again went and sat. On the evening of the tenth day, Mr. Shukla called him and then he told him that, "I admire your perseverance; we will take both of them." So, then he said, "Sir, I have one more request for you." He said, "Now what?" He replied, "I also have a nephew and I promised my brother that he has to be admitted to this school. I cannot do only for my children; I won't be able to show my face to my brother." So, the Principal looked at him and said, "Dr Shah, I'll take all three of them but you have to promise not create any more children out of air."

So that is how all three of us got into the school. But then the trouble started. The trouble started because in those days my father used to earn a thousand rupees per month and school fees for both of us was seven hundred rupees. So, he was left with three hundred rupees. One hundred rupees he used to give to my mother to run the house for the whole month which my mother used to crib about all the time. In one hundred rupees he used to run the clinic and one hundred rupees he used to save, so that when we came back in the holidays, he can give us a good time. So, I think this was the kind of the sacrifice which he made for us and that is why I would like to receive this award on behalf of him and myself, both. Lastly, what I would like to say is that we have achieved so much in life following his advice and I think his decision of going through all this was absolutely correct. I would love if the Principal, Dr Saraswat permits me to fund one scholarship for an underprivileged child whom I would like to sponsor completely for his lifetime. And hopefully one day that underprivileged child will be receiving the Madhav award over here. Thank you very much!

## Vote of Thanks by Senior School Prefect - Mriganka Ghosh

Honourable Chief Guest of the Evening, Padma Vibhushan–Mr Ratan Naval Tata, President, Board of Governors, Your Highness Maharaja Jyotiraditya Scindia, Your Highness Maharani Priyadarshiniraje Scindia, Members of the Board of Governors, distinguished guests, Old Boys, teachers and fellow Scindians.

Aadab, Namaskar and Good Evening

I thank you all for being a part of this 119th Founder's Day. It is my privilege to propose a vote of thanks on this day, in the presence of the nationally and internationally acclaimed Businessman, Investor, Philanthropist and Chairman Tata Trusts –Mr Ratan Naval Tata.

If you do what you've always done, you'll get what you've always had. Think differently. It is THIS ideology that defines the success of our esteemed Chief Guest Mr Ratan Tata. Chairman of Tata Trust conglomerate with interests in everything from tea to steel--he is India's best brand ambassador. Infact it would not be an overstatement if I said that each one of us have surely consumed at least ONE Tata product, if not more, in our lifetime. He is someone who with his sharp business acumen, clear strategy, vision, commitment, bold acquisitions and daring initiatives turned Tata from a largely India-centric group into a global business conglomerate.

However what makes him truly remarkable is his simplicity and approachability. It is commendable that in the world of business where often competition dictates values he has a moral core that is strongly anchored, bringing to mind the proverb "No matter how the wind howls, the mountain cannot bow to it". Sir, your name breathes inspiration to budding entrepreneurs, businessmen and a sense of pride to every Indian. I thank you once again for taking out time to be with us.

I express my wholehearted gratitude to Madhav Awardee Dr Sushil Shah. Your professional excellence and philanthropic zeal both are an inspiration for us.

My thanks are due to General Khan's family for gracing the occasion with their presence. This moment is as nostalgic for us as it is for you.

I also take this opportunity to thank the Honourable President and the other members of the Board of Governors for guiding us throughout the year. We are fortunate to have in you a group of exceptionally talented and incredibly dedicated people who tirelessly create the vision to help us experience educational success.

I would like to thank all the former teachers who have been the link between



generations of Scindians. We thank you for being present with us this evening.

I also thank our Old Boys especially the batches of 1991 and 2006 for coming from far and near to reconnect with the school, their friends and teachers.

I thank all my teachers and the members of the faculty for providing us with all the necessary academic, spiritual and moral tools which will help us succeed in life.

My thanks are due to the parents who have made it to this evening and have graced the occasion with their presence.

I congratulate the student body for their tireless efforts to make this Founder's Day a huge success.



A wise man once said "The greatest journeys in life begin with the smallest steps." My journey of a lifetime began with a small step through the gates of The Scindia School. The seven years that I have spent here have transformed me in more ways than one. I have dreamt bigger, worked harder and achieved more than I could ever have imagined for myself. However I can take no credit for it. Here I must confess in all honesty that if I have been able to see more and further, it is by standing on the shoulders of giants. My personal growth became possible not because I had keener vision, or greater height, but because I was lifted up and borne aloft on the gigantic stature and knowledge that is provided in school. Thank you The Scindia School School for the height you offer.

In the end I thank all of you for being a part of this wonderful evening and making it ever more momentous and memorable.

Thank you and goodnight.



# FORT NEWS

Warm winds have finally given way to cool ones which seem to be blowing across the Fort rather frequently. The pleasant dusks and dawns are a precursor to what's about to come.

119th Founder's Day went off extremely well and it was followed by the Educational camps. We will give you articles and reports on the educational camps in our 1st December issue. This issue is entirely dedicated to the Founder's Day celebrations.

The Indian school of Business and Finance, New Delhi, conducted a 'Plyonomics' workshop at the school on 5th of October. A team comprising Prof B. Anant who teaches - Mathematics, Econometrics and Information Systems, Ms Vaani - Admissions head and Harsh Purwar (Ex-Rn, 2016) who is pursuing a BSc degree in Business and Management were on the Fort for the same. The basic idea behind 'Plyonomics' was to play with Economics. The workshop included a quiz based on real life applications of Economics, a few case studies and a Q and A session. An interesting concept of 'Learn to Re-learn' was also discussed. The concept suggests that one should pay attention to the application and implication of theoretical concepts in real life situations. Overall, it was an enriching experience for both, the students and the visitors from ISBF.

16 boys from our school participated in the IPSC U-19 Cricket Tournament 2016 - 17 held at YPS Patiala from 8th - 11th October 2016. Our team Qualified for Quarterfinals.

16 boys from our school participated in the IPSC U-17 Cricket Tournament 2016 - 17 held at MNSS Rai from 23rd - 29th October 2016.

16 boys from our school participated in the IPSC U-14 Cricket Tournament

2016 - 17 held at BK Birla Education Centre, Pune, from 1st - 6th November 2016. Our team Qualified for Quarterfinals.

14 boys from our school participated in CBSE Cluster Athletics Meet 2016-17, where Anurag Yadav of Class X won a Bronze Medal in 200m, Zigmee Gurung of Class X won a Gold Medal in 3000m and set a new Meet Record and has been selected for CBSE Nationals.

4 Boys Participated in SGFI State Football Tournament held at Neemach in October where Chleopus Limbo has been selected for SGFI National (MP Board) which will be held in Andaman & Nicobar island from 9th - 25th November 2016.

Shantanu Kulshreshtha (Ex-Ja, 2016), a seasoned debater conducted a workshop for the students of the Debating Society. He gave a talk on the skills needed to tackle the parliamentary format of debate and gave tips on how to select appropriate data and present it with panache.

The Scindia School participated in The India Today Cup 2016 English Debate held at Vasant Valley School, New Delhi held from 25th - 26th of October 2016. It was conducted in the Parliamentary format and our team was represented by Abhijeet Nagpal, Rudraksh Bali, Harsimar Singh and Anshul Singh. They were escorted by Dr Maitreyee Bishnoi. The team did well and Abhijeet Nagpal was adjudged as the best speaker in a couple of rounds of the competition. One needs to make special mention of Shantanu Kulshreshtha (Ex-Ja, 2016) and Siddhant Awasthy (Ex-Sh, 2016) who turned up at the venue to guide the participating Scindian team when they came to know about Scindia's participation in the event. Their guidance immensely motivated our boys during the event.

## OLD BOYS' NEWS

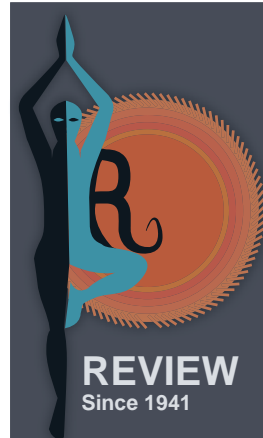
Batch of 1991 celebrated their Silver Jubilee Reunion during this Founder's Day. Ayushman Hazarika (SSP, Ex-Ja, 1991) addressed the special morning assembly on the 21st of October and gave an inspiring and nostalgic speech. He fondly remembered all those teachers and mentors who had played a significant role in shaping the personality. The Old Boys' Day was celebrated on the 22nd of October. Air Vice-Marshal, Shouvik Roy (Ex-Rn, 1975) was the Chief Guest for the function. He addressed the gathering sharing interesting snippets from his personal and professional life. He also gifted a few mementoes to the School. AVM Roy showed stunning videos of the Indian Air Force so as to inspire the

boys to join the same. The coveted SOBA Award was presented to Dr Vikram Mathur (Ex - Ja, 1974) and the SOBA Cup went to Mumbai Chapter. Geet Sagar, a renowned artist was the star attraction for the evening and he entertained the gathering with his foot-tapping numbers.

A new team now forms the Central SOBA executive committee. The members are:

Mr Rahul Kulshreshtha (Ex-Rn, 1981) – President  
Mr Banjul Badil (Ex-Ja, 1988) – Senior Vice President  
Mr Nupur Patel (Ex- Rn, 1997) – Vice President  
Mr Arun Kumar Bhagat (Ex-Mj, 1974) – Secretary  
Mr Virupaksha Kadam (Ex - Mj, 1993) – Treasurer  
Mr Gopal Bhargava (Ex - Rv, 1977) – Immediate Past President  
Mr Sandeep Agarwal (Ex - Sh, 1980) – Immediate Past Secretary

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