

# REVIEW-17

THE SCINDIA SCHOOL, FORT GWALIOR



WEDNESDAY, 15 NOVEMBER 2017 | WPP : REGN.NO.GWL.DN.11

## EDITORIAL

Dhruv Periwal | XI C



Dear Readers,

The Fort burst into activity on the 120th Founder's Day. Here is a panoptic view of the same.

The 120th Founder's Day Celebrations began on the 14th October 2017. The Celebration was held on three days. On 14th October 2017 the Parents' Day was held. The parents were briefed about the performance of their wards. It was followed by an interesting interactive session between Mr Arvind Vohra, CEO and Managing Director, Gionee India, and the parents. There was a Multimedia Presentation and career talk for the parents of students of Class X-XII in the Assembly Hall. It was followed by an interactive session in the afternoon between Class XI and XII students and Mr Vohra. In the evening, Mr Mahesh V Gandhi, Trustee Scindia Education Society and Member, Board of Governors, The Scindia School, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest and Mr Arvind R Vohra, CEO and Managing Director, Gionee India was the Guest of Honour. A theatrical performance entitled Charandas -The Thief, a play derived from a classic folk tale, was staged. Mr Mahesh Gandhi presented a token of gratitude to Guest of Honour, Mr Arvind Vohra. The wonderful evening ended with a Vote of Thanks by Kabir Saund, Deputy Senior School Prefect. The day concluded with an exciting and scintillating entertainment evening at the Madhav Pavilion. Professional choreographers and dancers were invited to conduct the 'Salsa n Jive' dance get-together.

On the Founder's day, 15th October 2017 the School flag was unfurled by Mr Sanjay Nandi, School Captain of the Class of 1992. The Sports Blazer was presented to Reekeela Bhutia, Zigmee Gurung and Akshay Bhargava for excellence in various sports in 2016-17. Suryansh Goyal was also honoured with Scholar's Award for the year 2016-17 and a blazer was given to him for his academic excellence.

All the parents and guests visited the exhibitions. It was followed by an exclusive interaction of Class XI and XII with the Chief Guest, Mr Kunal Bahl, Co-Founder & CEO of Snapdeal, in the Assembly Hall. The talk was moderated by Mr Vishesh Sahai. The much awaited evening began with the arrival of Chief Guest in the evening to witness the 120th Founder's Day programme at Shukla Memorial Open Air Theatre. The Chief Guest on this occasion was Mr Kunal Bahl, Co-Founder & CEO of Snapdeal. Upon arrival the Chief Guest was introduced to the Board of Governors, citizens from Sonsa Village, prefects, faculty and staff members. The School Band greeted the Chief Guest with a lively Band performance. The talented vocalists and instrumentalists crafted a fourteen minute symphony entitled 'Fragrance of Music.' After the school orchestra's scintillating and melodious performance Principal, Dr Madhav Deo Saraswat read out the school Annual Report for the session 2016-17. Then President Board of Governors, His Highness Maharaja Jyotiraditya Scindia welcomed the Chief Guest, Mr Kunal Bahl. Mr Kunal Bahl addressed the audience. President Board of Governors, His Highness Maharaja Jyotiraditya Scindia read out the citation for the Madhav Award. The Scindia School conferred on Mr Hitendra Ghosh, the Madhav Award as an Old Boy of Eminence for the year 2017 for his unwavering commitment, outstanding achievements and enormous contribution in the field of Sound and Recording to the Indian Cinema. Next the ceremony symbolizing the handing over of traditions of the school by the Madhav Awardee to a Scindian was performed. Then the Principal, Dr Madhav Deo Saraswat announced the Annual Awards. The Chief Guest, Mr Bahl gave away the awards which are given to students and Houses for excellence in different verticals of the School. The third day, 16th October 2017 was celebrated as the Old Boys' Day. The Chief Guest of the evening was Ms Tanushree Shankar, wife of Late Mr Anand Shankar. This brought the three day carnival to an end.



Mr Sanjay Nandi.



The Guests inspecting the exhibition.



Daulat House.

## PARENTS' DAY SPEECHES - 14th OCTOBER 2017

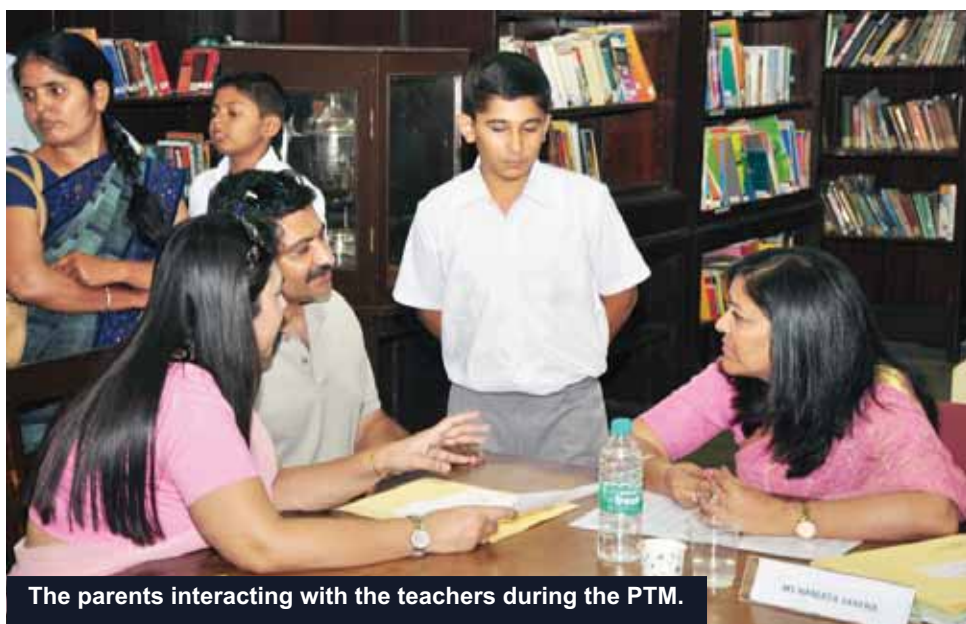
### Principal's Address

A very good evening to you all. Honourable Chief Guest of the evening, Mr Mahesh Gandhi, Guest of Honour Mr Arvind Vohra, guests, parents, teachers and my dear students. A very good evening to all, as we have gathered here for the 120th Founder's Day celebrations of the School. It is my proud privilege to welcome our Chief Guest for the evening Mr Mahesh Gandhi- Our illustrious alumnus, successful businessman, educationist, philanthropist and member Board of Governors- The Scindia School. I also take this opportunity to welcome, Mr N.K. Tewari, former Principal of the School; past teachers, Mr M.S. Bedi, Mr B.S. Dheer, Mr Lalendra Singh, Mr and Mrs D.N. Posti and Mr S.N. Upadhyay.

Ladies and gentlemen, this simple unassuming gentleman sitting amidst us is the Chairman of The Industrial Development & Investment Company Pvt. Ltd. He is the Director of several enterprises and is also connected with various religious, medical, educational and charitable trusts and social and cultural organizations. Most importantly, he is the torchbearer of our legacy and a befitting ambassador for all that we stand for as an institution. For us at Scindia he is someone who has proven to be an "investor for life" as he has given back to the alma mater in multiple ways and if I started narrating his multifarious contributions then it would take an entire evening. However I must mention that it was Mr Gandhi who was given the sole responsibility to design and release the Postal Stamp on Scindia School in 1997 -the Centenary Year. The stamp was released on the eve of "Centenary " Founder's Day and Mr Gandhi's contribution was acknowledged by the Department of Post, in the brochure released with the Stamp. Thank you Sir for being with us this evening. It is always a pleasure to have you with us.

Our Guest of Honour tonight is Mr Arvind R Vohra, CEO and Managing Director, Gionee India. Mr Vohra is credited with creating a unique business model for Gionee and has been constantly building the Sales & Distribution Infrastructure with a keen eye on brand building and making a robust support services' network. However, today I will not talk about his professional success story. I would rather focus on his success as a human being as in these commerce driven times we have in him someone whose express purpose in life goes beyond earning money, fame or success. Mr Vohra is the Trustee of Leukemia Crusaders, an NGO which financially supports the treatment of children below ten years who are battling this disease. The NGO has managed to help 235 children in more than 10 hospitals across India. As a part of the company's CSR initiatives, a certain amount from every Gionee phone sold goes to the NGO. His leadership model too is inspirational as he ensures that all members of the Gionee family are treated equally and accorded equal respect and dignity, irrespective of their role and position in the organisation. Mr Vohra it is an absolute privilege to have you amidst us.

Today being Parents' Day, let me take this opportunity to reach out to the parents. First of all thank you for trusting us with your most valuable asset-



The parents interacting with the teachers during the PTM.



The Principal, Dr M.D. Saraswat addressing the gathering.

your CHILD. I would like to reassure you that your ward is a part of an exceptional learning community. We teach your children or may I say OUR children to seek excellence over mediocrity yet we also prepare them to take a few knocks with grace and rise up each time. At Scindia the students are encouraged to care for others by becoming global citizens, and they develop a concern and active respect for the environment. In short our endeavour is to prepare the Scindians to flourish in the dynamic, competitive and challenging global environment of the 21st century. However to achieve all this and for the 'greater common good' of your child I seek your wholehearted cooperation.

Being a vibrant learning community we believe in an open door policy, hence the school academic, pastoral and administrative team looks forward to meeting parents not just during the officially designated Parent Teacher meetings like the one held today morning but at any time in the course of the amazing journey that your ward is undertaking with us. I would like to reiterate that your interest in your children's work and your presence in school are vital to foster a culture of excellence that we are aiming at. We are cognizant of the fact that all involvement depends on a foundation of good communication hence we have very thoughtfully worked out forums where you can share your concerns and opinions about school, and I give you my word that we will proactively address those concerns. On my part I do keep writing to you on a regular basis to apprise you of all developments at the school front and also to share our expectations from you. My sincere hope is that you have been keeping yourself updated about school events through our newsletter and website and been using the eportal to monitor the educational trajectory of your child. While we do have a parent representative on the Board who is a conduit for sharing parental expectations and for bringing greater clarity on school policies nevertheless I would urge all of you to devote your time, expertise and experience for strengthening our hands to create a better learning environment.

With this I welcome you once again to the Parents' Day celebrations. The students and members of the faculty have worked tirelessly towards putting up a great show yet again. Hope you enjoy the cultural programme and I'm sure going through the exhibitions will give you a peek into the diverse interests and abilities of the students, tomorrow. Do enjoy every bit of the varied experiences that we wish to offer just as much as we did preparing for it.

I wish you and your families a very Happy Founder's and a joyous Diwali in advance.

## Chief Guest, Mr Mahesh Gandhi's address

What a wonderful feeling today! I recollect performing on this stage somewhere around 1956-57 Founder's Day, and today again I am here to address you. Guest of Honour, distinguished entrepreneur, Shri Arvind Vohraji, distinguished Board Members and my colleagues, Principal, Dr Saraswatji, Principal, Mr Nirmal Tiwari and respected old teachers, respected parents, children, faculty members, alumni and SOBA members and respected guests, good evening to one and all. What a lovely atmosphere in presence of this distinguished audience, especially, parents, children and alumni. I am standing before you first as a child, parent, as a Scindian, an Old Boy and above all representing all of you. During our time, when I joined the School in 1953, we were around 250 boys in the entire school. And to the best of my knowledge, no such programmes were held and that's why this is a very special occasion for me. I joined the School in the junior section in Jankoji House way back in 1953 and passed out in 1959. Lots of parents and teachers, I think were not even born. Since then the School has purely grown from strength to strength. As a small child around eight years of age like you, my parents like yours, left me with the school escorts who came to receive us at the VT railway station with the travelling party. We, especially I had not heard about the Scindia School, nor my parents. Now, today you are so fortunate that your parents have brought you here. Now, the key word which I try to bring before you is the trust that our parents had put into the management of the school. You are very fortunate to have parents more concerned, knowledgeable, and absolutely alert about you. They have the opportunity to visit the School, have a feel of it and had wise choices before them but still chose to put you in this institution with a proper understanding. Again, the key word here is the total trust. As it is rightly said, "Child is the father of man". Scindia is the platform for providing opportunities for the grooming of your child to further to be a man. We as an institute are trying to expose the child to various co-curricular activities apart from academics which also has a supplementary and a complementary role to play in the grooming process for the child's holistic development. Now I am standing before you as a man-being your image of future. I had never dreamt this before that I would be a trustee and a Board Member of this great institution but I feel, when I pinch myself if it is the reality and this is what you see of the future of the image of you. We together as parents and administrators have a variety of concerns and issues before us- need to understand, address them together as a team as we have a common goal in the interest of the stakeholders and I am sure that together we will achieve it. Ours is a long journey and a continuous one. Together we have to complete in the Scindia vehicle, face and resolve the challenges that we meet on our way. The keyword again here is the mutual trust. All around you-achievers and alumni in various fields, you also years back came into this role, that they are today in, as a role model. I on the behalf of the Board of Governors, The Scindia School is thankful to all the parents for putting faith and trust in us and welcome all of you into the Scindia family and I am also thankful to Dr Saraswat for giving me an opportunity to share these lovely moments with all of you. Wishing all of you a very happy Diwali and a prosperous new year; thank you very much.



Mr Mahesh Gandhi addressing the gathering.

## Guest of Honour, Mr Arvind Vohra's address

Good evening everybody. First of all thank you Dr Saraswat for having me here. Well a couple of days' back you did visit my office and I was wondering what am I going to do on the Founder's day of Scindia but you know this institution has always been a kind of mystery for me and I have a kind of solved that mystery mentally within myself today. A very warm welcome to all the parents, Governing Body Members, students, past teachers, past principals, a very good evening to all of you. Something that I shared with the parents in the morning and something which I want to share with you again and as Mr Gandhi said-This relationship between a school and a parent and a student is purely based on trust. Actually you know when we send our kids in the morning and they come back in the evening we all are bothered but you actually have a lion's heart to send your ward out to stay in a different place where he probably cannot tie out his shoe laces or wear his belt properly. So hats off to the lion's heart that you all have, in trusting your wards and hats off to the people in this institute, for building careers. I would like to relate this to the way the country is emerging today. We stand on a global platform. India is, I would say an enterprise, an organization, a country which has been looked upon by everybody across the world. This country needs leaders, this country needs entrepreneurs, this country needs industrialists, this country needs various professions as you go along so I think Scindia School or the Scindians would be an important force in propelling the growth of India. This is something which I am very convinced, with what I saw today. More importantly it makes me feel that, the values, or something about which I spoke in the morning, the core values of an institute should get embodied in its every student as they go along. And for the benefit of those whom I did not meet in the morning, I would always talk about being happy; I would talk about being fearless; I would always talk about succeeding; I would talk about decision making; and last but not the least looking at the country, looking at issues which are beyond you. So once again, Dr Saraswat thanks a lot for having me here and as I have always said "I am one guy who goes back to his teachers on the 5th of September" I am 47 years of age. I graduated out of the school in 1987 but in the last 30 years, out of all the teachers that I had, six of them are alive. I make it a point to call them up and thank them for shaping our lives. To all the students out here, I will actually tell you that these are the best days of your life. Enjoy them and at the same time you all carry the responsibility of building the nation. Thanks a lot for having me here and thanks a lot for putting me face to face with young India. Thank you very much.



Mr Arvind Vohra addressing the gathering.

## “अभिभावक – शिक्षक दिवस” पर श्री अरविंद वोहरा जी का व्याख्यान

मैंने सोचा था कि कुछ बोलूंगा पर जो मैं बोलने जा रहा हूँ वह काफी अलग होगा। मैंने यही सोचा कि कुछ ऐसी बातें करूँ जो दिल को छू जाए और आपको हमेशा याद रहे नहीं तो केवल व्याख्यान सुनने से कोई फायदा नहीं होता। धन्यवाद, डॉ. साहब कि आपने मुझे मौका दिया ‘युवा भारत’ के साथ रू-ब-रू होने का। यह मेरे लिए हर्ष का विषय है।

प्रत्येक माता-पिता को यह चिंता होती है कि मेरा बच्चा आगे क्या करेगा। आज से तीस साल पहले जब मैं स्कूल से निकल रहा था तब मेरे माता-पिता की भी यही सोच थी। तब अवसर अत्यंत सीमित थे। आज के समय हिन्दुस्तान ने बहुत तरकीबें कर ली हैं और हिन्दुस्तान में इतने सारे अवसर हैं कि विदेश में या किसी देश हो या कोई व्यवसाय हो, कोई भी कंपनी हो, अगर उसे वैश्विक स्तर पर काम करना है तो हिन्दुस्तान के बाजार को कोई अनदेखा नहीं कर सकता, तो मैं सभी अभिभावकों से कहूँगा कि जो अवसर तीस साल पहले थीं और जो अवसर आज हैं उनमें बहुत फ़र्क है। जिस नज़रिये से हम लोग अवसर को देखते थे और जिस नज़रिये से आज आपको दुनिया को देखना है, उसमें बहुत अंतर है।

आप अभिभावक होकर अपने बच्चे में एक जीवन मूल्य डालें कि बच्चा खुश रहे क्योंकि बच्चा खुश रहेगा तो सबकुछ अच्छा रहेगा। यदि आप यह सुनिश्चित करना चाहते हैं कि वे खुश रहें तो उन्हें यह भी कहना पड़ेगा कि तुम भयहीन रहो। दुनिया क्या कहती है उस पर ध्यान मत दो क्योंकि दुनिया का काम है कहना। अगली बात मैं यह कहना चाहूँगा कि दृढ़ बनो। बचपन में चलते हुए बच्चा कई बार गिरता है, कितनी बार उसके घुटने छिल जाते हैं पर हम यह चाहते हैं कि वह गिरे ही नहीं, वह गिरेगा नहीं तो सीखेगा कैसे? हमें चाहिए कि हम उसे लगातार कोशिश करने दें। अभिभावक के रूप में एक और महत्वपूर्ण बात आपको सिखाना चाहिए कि तुम अपने निर्णय स्वयं लो। यदि आप अपने बच्चों को यह कहते हैं कि मैं निर्णय लूँगा तो वे सीखेंगे कैसे? अंततः आप अपने बच्चों को अवश्य सिखाएँ कि वे अपने से आगे बढ़कर सोचना प्रारम्भ करें यानि केवल अपने बारे में न सोचकर उससे ऊपर उठकर सोचें। जिन्दगी में यह सारी बातें बहुत महत्वपूर्ण हैं। आज जब हम यहाँ बैठे हैं तो यह हम सबकी सोच का ही नतीजा है।

जब आप संतुष्टि की बात करते हैं तो यह सापेक्ष चीज़ है, धन का कोई महत्व नहीं है यदि वह आपके पास बहुत अधिक है। मुझमें संतुष्टि का भाव किस स्तर पर आया यह तो मुझे भी नहीं पता है लेकिन मुझे जो लगता है कि जब मैं अपोलो हॉस्पिटल के गलियारे में बैठता था और ईश्वर से कहता था कि हे ईश्वर! यहाँ तक तो पहुँचा दिया, अब बच्चे को ठीक करा दे तब समझ में आया कि यह जिन्दगी धन-संपत्ति आदि के बारे में नहीं है और यदि मैं अपना विकास देखूँ तो मेरे व्यवसाय का विकास तब हुआ जब मैंने इन सबके बारे में सोचना बंद कर दिया तो मैं अपने बारे में यही कहूँगा कि एक धक्का लगने के बाद मुझमें संतुष्टि आई लेकिन मैं यह कहूँगा और चाहूँगा कि किसी को भी धक्का लगने के पहले ही संतुष्टि मिल जाए।

जब आप यह कहते हैं कि हमारी कंपनी किसी प्रोफेशनल कॉलेज को गोद ले लें और उसके बच्चों को हम साथ-साथ उच्च शिक्षा देते रहें और कॉलेज को यह विश्वास रहे कि उस कॉलेज की माँग यह कंपनी खुद पूरा करेगी जहाँ से बच्चा निर्भय होकर बाहर निकलेगा कि मेरा भविष्य सुरक्षित है और मैं सभी तथ्यों से अवगत हूँ। मेरे हिसाब से यही सुरक्षा, असुरक्षा का सबसे बड़ा रूप है। जिस दिन आपने यह समझ लिया उस दिन बहुत से फ़र्क मिट जाएँगे और हमें अपने बच्चों को शक्ति प्रदान करना है, उन्हें अपने पैरों पर खड़ा करना है न कि वे मदद के लिए इधर-उधर घूमते फिरें। यही कुछ कारण हैं कि हमारे यहाँ बेरोजगारी है। कई अच्छे लोगों को नौकरी



Mr Arvind Vohra.

नहीं मिलती और कुछ लोगों की किसी कारण से नौकरी मिल जाती है।

सबसे महत्वपूर्ण बात है कि आप कौन हैं और यह बात अगर आप मुझसे पूछें तो आज 47 साल बाद मुझे यह समझ में आता है कि मैं दो पुत्रों का पिता हूँ, एक पति हूँ, मैं अपने अभिभावकों के साथ रहता हूँ। एक साल से मैं एक अलग लड़ाई लड़ रहा था। मेरा परिचय है कि मैं एक पिता हूँ, कोई मायने नहीं रखता कि मैंने क्या किया। परिवार ने मुश्किल क्षणों में मेरा साथ दिया यही मेरे लिए महत्वपूर्ण है। मेरे लिए महत्वपूर्ण नहीं है कि “जियोनी” में मैंने क्या किया, आगे मैं क्या करूँगा, मेरे लिए यह भी महत्वपूर्ण नहीं है। मेरे लिए समाज-सेवा एक महत्वपूर्ण विषय है, मेरे पास ऐसे 425 बच्चे हैं जो कहीं न कहीं कैंसर से लड़ रहे हैं जिनका हम ख्याल रखते हैं क्योंकि हम व्यवसाय चलाते हैं तो व्यवसाय में उतार-चढ़ाव आते हैं, मुसीबतें आती हैं, सब चीज़ सामाजिक सुरक्षा और बीमा से ही नहीं होता तो हमने एक जन-अभियान शुरू किया है क्योंकि आज “डिस्पोजेबल इनकम” बढ़ गई है तो कभी भी हमारे 25 हजार लोगों में कोई भी तकलीफ आ जाए तो बीमा को जो करना है वह करेगा लेकिन हम लोग यह सुनिश्चित करेंगे कि वह परिवार कभी भी परेशानी में न आए।

अन्त में मैं एक अभिभावक के रूप में यही कहूँगा कि बच्चों को खुश रखिए, बच्चों को सिखाइए कि वे भय-मुक्त रहें, उन्हें अपना निर्णय स्वयं लेने दें और अंततः उन्हें अपने से बाहर आकर सोचने के लिए प्रेरित करें। साथ ही आप भी अपने आप से ऊपर उठकर सोचें और इस देश को अपना कर्तव्य समर्पित करें।



Open House Session.

## Vote of Thanks by the Deputy Senior School Prefect, Kabir Saund

Good Evening Chief Guest, Mr Mahesh Gandhi, Senior Board Member, The Scindia School; Mr Arvind Vohra, Managing Director and Chairman, Gionee India, dignitaries, parents, teachers and fellow Scindians. Today we gather here on this auspicious occasion under the clear and starry night for the 120th Founders Day celebrations here at the Scindia School. It is my pleasant duty to propose the Vote of Thanks and acknowledge all those who have made this Parents' Day a memorable one.

Today, two very accomplished, experienced, and important people sit before us. People who have inspired two very different generations, each in his own way, and have successfully carved a niche for themselves to deserve and conduct our utmost respect, Mr Vohra and Mr Gandhi.

Apart from their varied fields of interest and profession, the one thing that is similar between them, apart from their good looks, is their determination to achieve their goals and contribute to society.

As Winston Churchill once said and I quote, "SUCCESS IS NOT FINAL, FAILURE IS NOT FATAL; IT IS THE COURAGE TO CONTINUE THAT COUNTS." I unquote.

It is this very courage that pushed our Mr Gandhi to head some of the premier institutions of our country and run a successful business enterprise. It is this very courage that allowed Mr Vohra to establish a company in India and bring to it a turnover of 9500 crores in 2016. And it is this very courage to achieve perfection that has made this night so magical.

I would like to thank all our dignitaries, parents, Old Boys and former teachers who are here with us here today. I hope today has been an apt start to this year's celebrations.

Thanks are due to all the teachers and staff members, whose tireless efforts and support have brought out the best in each student.

I would like to express my gratitude to the administrative staff who worked day and night to make this event such a success.

Lastly, I would like to thank the student body for working hard and making this evening so special. It is not every day that a 17-year-old boy gets to address such accomplished men and women, at an event held at a 120-year-old school, in front of thousands of people. But that is Scindia. It puts you in the most improbable situations, and gives you the tools to handle it skilfully. And sometimes, just sometimes, it creates a moment of pure magic, pure beauty, like tonight.

Thank you, goodnight and long live Scindia.



Kabir Saund delivering the Vote of Thanks.

# FORT NEWS

The season has stepped into pleasant evenings and mornings. The knock of Winters can be felt on the Fort. Warm winds have finally given way to the cool ones.

The 120th Founder's Day went off extremely well and it was followed by Diwali vacations. After that, the Educational Camps followed. We will give you articles and reports on the camps in our 1st December issue. This issue is entirely dedicated to the Founder's Day Celebrations.

Prashant Bansal, Eeshan Sarada, Pranav Wadhwa, Shubham Sultania, and Sameer Manger went to L.K. Singhania, Gotan for participating in the IPSC IT FEST from the 9th November 2017 to 13th November 2017.

Mr Jonathan Gil Harris, Professor of English at Ashoka University conducted a workshop on 'Shakespeare in Bollywood' in the Assembly Hall on 10th November.

Krish Gupta, Aaryan Yadav, Jayant Gupta, Mayank Choudhary, Raghav Sengar, Prakhar Agarwal, Agrim Singh, Ayush Goyal, Keshav Dudhani, Sanchit Khanna, Ujjawal Mehrotra, Jazbi Yunus, Pratik Garg, Sujal Jariha, and Suyash Bansal have been selected for appearing in the Asset Talent Search Exam which will be held on the 26th of November 2017.

IPS College, Gwalior hosted the Computer Society of India Computer Quiz, Gwalior Chapter. 20 schools participated in the event. Suryansh Goyal, Eshaan Agarwal and Karnik Kanojia represented the School. They were declared Overall Winners of the Quiz. Karnik Kanojia secured the 2nd rank and Eshaan Agarwal was declared the Zonal Topper. Many congratulations!



The School team with the organisers.

## FOUNDER'S DAY SPEECHES

### Principal's Report 2017

A very good evening to all of you.

Honourable Chief Guest, Mr Kunal Bahl, President Board of Governors, H.H. Maharaja Jyotiraditya M 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 120th Founder's Day of this wonderful school.

It is my utmost honour to welcome our Chief Guest, Co-Founder Snapdeal, Mr Bahl. He has achieved a lot and scaled his way to the zenith. He has created, ladies and gentlemen, one of India's largest online marketplaces. We all know of his success, and to do full justice to my address towards him, instead of reading his achievements, I would like to read out a few lines that define the character of this person. He says "Keep Learning. No one, however gifted and talented, can know and experience everything. Hence, it is important to draw learnings from others' experiences and mistakes, so that you can be more efficient. Always be a sponge for knowledge — it helps in building a mature and deep perspective on many matters we encounter in businesses." Mr Bahl, your quote does not just apply to a business but it is that 'philosopher's stone' which keeps us aligned to the goal. With this I would like you to know that we are very happy to receive you and to welcome you to this wonderful day. Thank you for adding joy and colour to this evening's festivity and thank you for the honour.

I also extend a warm welcome to the students of the Class of 1992 and Class of 2007 who have gathered here for their Reunion. It is always a joy to receive you and experience the warmth that you bring to the School.

I also take this opportunity with all humility to welcome Mr N.K. Tewari, our former Principal of the School and other former teachers like Mr M.S. Bedi, Mr B.S. Dheer, Mr Lalendra Singh, Mr S.N. Upadhayay, and Mr D.N. Posti; welcome you sirs. It is with utmost pleasure that I also welcome representatives of International Students' House, I.S.H. London, led by Mr Martin Chalker, Executive Director of I.S.H. and his wife Mrs Ruth, Mr David O' Brien, Governor and President International Students' House Alumni Organisation, Mr Neil David Glover, Vice President of I.S.H. Alumni Organisation and Ms Jilly Borowiecka, Alumni Relations at I.S.H. and our own Dr Vikram Mathur, Governor and Alumni at I.S.H., Governor Alumni at The Scindia School. Before I read the report I would like to share a good news because I think we should start with a good news. Mr Chalker has very kindly informed me about their decision to increase the number of scholarships. From the next year they will be sponsoring two students for the Westminster College and will continue adding one more student every year, but with maximum of five at any given point of time. Thank You, sir.

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 and believe me it will be very precise.

Focusing on well-rounded education, this year's journey has been all about strengthening our core and fortifying the individuals with the Scindian ethos that plays an instrumental role in making us realize our inherent potential.

As ever the unending journey to find the right path and the right balance in the middle of mad rush and infinite choices continued this year too. We made every effort to integrate the fundamental principles of learning, which are: simple, straight, relevant and practical. As a testimony to our above efforts, I must inform you that we have gone a step further this year and we were adjudged the 2nd Best All-Boys' Boarding School in India in the Education World rankings. But I have a more important thing to say. While we celebrate our ranking this year, I would like to share my heart with you. For schools such as ours, there is no need for any external validation. We must be reminded all the time that this institution has evolved through more than a century of achievements and tradition of innovation which reflects in our alumni and is the true testimony of what we stand for. Our Old Boys, popularly called Scindians, are a microcosm of the same society that we live in. And they are spread all over the country and across the globe in search for knowledge, opportunities and

new challenges. Their contributions have made a difference everywhere and they command socio-economic prominence wherever they live, and that is the real validation and award which the school has received time and again. Now you can compliment yourself. Well Done!

This year saw some path breaking achievements and sizeable feats of success. 15 students of the batch of Class 12th, 2016-17 got admissions in renowned colleges like University of Illinois, USA; University of Wisconsin, USA; De Anza College of Technology, USA and many more. Most of these admissions are on scholarships, ranging from 25% to 100%. We can now also conduct admission test to premium UK Universities for our students in our School itself.

The School Brass Band continues to bring laurels to the School by marching at the Rajpath on the Republic Day. Reekela Bhutia was awarded for his exceptional performance. We are proud of you boys! God bless you!

To provide impetus to the finer side of our being, we tried a couple of initiatives this year. The School hosted the first ever Scindia Literary Fest in which 8 internationally acclaimed paladins of art and literature visited the Fort and enriched the students.

Under the aegis of SPIC MACAY, a play entitled 'Raj Rakta' was performed by the Naya Theatre team.

To connect the present with the past and together creating a new future for ourselves, we undertook a very small journey to Kanpur and Benaras and organized two 'Roadshows' in alliance with the SOBA chapters of Kanpur and Benares. The School presented a cultural evening entitled - 'An Evening with Scindians: Yesterday, Today & Tomorrow'. It was also an endeavour of the school to raise awareness about the importance of Boarding schools in the current scenario of education.

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

This year we saw a perceptibly enhanced thrust on academics. The revival of the Winter Study Camp for Class XII and the morning prep for all classes has been a great success. Other than the usual academic achievements in Class XII Board Examination, Jatin Rai, Jagjeet Jain and Piyush Dinkar scored 100% marks in Painting and Abhijeet Nagpal scored 100% in Political Science. Well done my boys! Shubham Agarwal qualified for the finals of the 3rd Nanhi Chaan All-India Essay Writing competition. Advait Jain of Class 7th was ranked 6th in M. P. State Astronomy Quiz organized by an NGO called Aryabhat.

This year a record 23 students were selected for SGFI National Games, which is a record in last 15 years, in various games and categories, and won 16 Medals in All India IPSC Games and other State Championships.

Zigme Gurung broke the CBSE athletics cluster record in 3000 meter race and played SGFI Nationals. Akshay Bhargava represented MP state team as Vice Captain in U - 16, Vijay Merchant Trophy organised by BCCI. The Horse Riding Team participated in Delhi Horse Show and won 10 medals. The School Hockey team participated in United for Hockey Tournament and won the Runner Up Trophy. In the last 6 months that have gone by, 6 students have made it to the SGFI National Selection to represent IPSC and MP State Tournaments in Nationals.



Principal Dr M.D. Saraswat reading the Annual Report.

Under the leadership of Mr Dhirendra Sharma and Ms Raksha Siriah the spirit of adventure remained an overwhelming force in our lives and please just concentrate on numbers! 11 students and 1 teacher attended the 12 days' basic course in skiing at Gulmarg, 81 students of Class VIII attended the Educational Training Camp at National Adventure Institute, Panchmari; 11 students and 2 teachers trekked up to Everest Base Camp to height of 18000 ft., 20 students and 1 teacher attended the Adventure Course at Atal Bihari Vajpai Institute of Mountaineering, Manali; 10 students attended a 14 days' Adventure Course at NIM, Uttarkashi; 10 students attended 14 days' Adventure Course at HMI Darjeeling; 7 students and 1 teacher attended the 7th Spiti Gold Residential Project of IAYP and trek to Kandala pass in Ladakh, were the many occasions on which we unleashed the spirit of adventure in Scindians. Just one more data with a very proud heart; 15 students from the Batch of 2016-17 received the Gold award in IAYP Award ceremony held at New Delhi. Urdes Thakur was a proud recipient of Anirudh Sharma Memorial Award for Adventure Sports. 12 students along with six teachers set out on a cycling expedition from Gwalior to Indore covering 503 kilometers in five days, navigating the tough, dodgy roads.

Service remained one of the strong pillars of our way of life. The Social Service League under Dr Bhakuni's leadership continued with its activities all throughout the year. Sonsa Day and Shramjeevi Diwas and the IPSC Service Project at Nathon Ka Pura were taken up with great enthusiasm.

The School, for the second time in a row, organized the Regional Round Square Service Project, led by the Project Leader Mr Vishesh Sahai, at Thiksey village in Ladakh. This time the project saw several international participants. The USA East Coast trip and the Paris Educational tour were also organized under Round Square under the leadership of Ms Supreet Bakshi.

The school team participated in the Jindal Art Festival 'ABHIVYAKTI' at Vidya Devi Jindal School, Hissar. The following students received awards in the respective events – Chleopus Limboo- I in Wood Carving, Chidgan Prabhu- I in Hindi Essay Writing, Sunil kumar and Aditya Rathore - II in Clay Modelling, Rohan Jain- II in Card Making, and Harshil Ashok -II in Sitar Performance.

In the 44th Platinum Jubilee Debate the School lifted the Winning Trophy. Well done my boys!

While Pavan Jaini went on an exchange to St Philips, Alice Springs, Australia, there were 2 boys who went to U.K. Anirudh Awasthy and Ishan Gangwani went to Ellesmere College, U.K. Anirudh scored 149 runs not out, consisting of 26 boundaries and a 6, the highest scored by any exchange student. Ishan was adjudged the Best Batsman. He scored the highest number of runs, 370 in 7 matches averaging 53 runs per match.

While these boys were achieving so much teachers were also working very hard to match them. Mr Gopal Chaturvedi attended a PASCH Teacher's Conference conducted by Goethe Institut in Faridabad. Mr Kamlesh Singh attended a one month long Faculty Development Programme at IIM, Indore.

7 teachers attended 'Microsoft in Education Global Training Partner Program' at Gurgaon. Ms Sudha Sharma and Ms Sangeeta Jain attended a work shop on 'Personal Social Health Education'. Under the aegis of the IBSC, a seminar on the topic 'The Self Motivated Boy: Developing 21st century Leadership', was held at the Taj Vivanta Hotel in New Delhi in which Mr Raj Kumar Kapoor, Dean of ICT and Mr Somarajan K.S., our young and energetic History teacher represented the school. Ms Anita Pandey attended the CBSE's Master Trainers' Training on English Core at Jabalpur and was complimented for her proficiency in the subject and her professional planning approach.

Under the aegis of the Seagull Foundation for Arts, a four days' conference was held on the topic 'The Idea of India' at the Yule Hall, Tollygunge Club in Kolkata. Mr Somarajan K.S. and Mr Piyush Vaishnava represented the School in the same. Dr Smita Trivedi attended CBSE's Master Trainer's Programme at Jabalpur and was selected by CBSE for training teachers for English Communicative.

Now I 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 our dear colleague, Mr Anil Sharma who worked

for more than three decades as the Assistant Librarian in the School. Mr Anil Sharma thank you very much for all your contribution!

Nevertheless, in order to enhance these academic endeavours and related successes further, the School has identified a competent person for the Vice Principal –Academics Position which will be announced soon and in our constant endeavour to ensure that every child entrusted to us not only shows an over-all improvement but also remains a happy child; the School has taken a very pragmatic step of creating a new position and identifying a person for the post of- the Head of Pastoral Care. It gives me immense pleasure to announce that the School has appointed Ms Smita Chaturvedi for this position. Ms Chaturvedi is currently heading Delhi Public School, Kashipur. Prior to joining at DPS she taught English at Mayo College Girls' School, Ajmer and was also the Housemistress. She has a rich experience of 28 years and has held assignments related to CBSE affiliation and inspection paperwork. She has deep knowledge in improving reading, writing and oratory skills. She also possesses the administrative experience of 16 years. Ms Chaturvedi, we welcome you and we hope that you have a very fruitful and fulfilling tenure with us.

All of us have seen what all has happened in infrastructure and what all is happening at present. Just a glimpse in future; a number of planned Projects are aimed at upgrading the facilities and resources. Renovation of Madhav House, relaying of all roads in the campus, setting up of air conditioning in classrooms, upgradation of Sports infrastructure at the gymnasium, basketball court, tennis court and squash court are also on the list.

For the convenience of the faculty and the staff a grocery Store has been opened near the Teli temple.

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. The alumni came from different parts of the world to show their love and gratitude for this institution which has shaped their lives in a myriad ways. The Batch of 1967, Class of 2002, Ruby Jubilee Reunion of the Class of 1976, Ranoji House Reunion and the Madhav House Reunion were the occasions which linked the past to the present and ensured the perennial flow of values from one generation of Scindians to the other.

At this point of time, we also mourn for the sad demise of some members of the Scindian Family. Mrs Santosh Kapoor, wife of Mr GK Kapoor, a former teacher in The Scindia School, Mr Lal Sahib Surve (Ex-Rn, 1946), Mr Ajit Singh Kelor (Ex-Md, 1962), Mr Prakash Sharma (Ex-Rn, 1972), Mr Atul Bhargava (1982 Mahadji), Mr Vinod Malhotra (Ex - Mj, 1965), Mr Shubham Agarwal (Ex-Shivaji, 2013), Mr V. Madhusudan Rao (Ex - Je, 1990), Mr Rajinder Singh Saigal (Ex Mj, 1967), Mr Rakesh Raushan (Ex - DI, 2011), Mr Somangshu Ghosh (Ex - Rn, 1982), Dr Shrikant Dabhade (Ex - Sh, 1951), Mr G.P. Upadhyaya, Former Librarian, Air Commodore Shekher Chauhan (Ex-Siddharth/Vivekanand, 1982), Mr Yash Kumar Singh Kasliwal (Ex- Rn, 1964), Mr Dev Khurana (Ex- Ja, 1963), Mr Anand Buchasia (Ex- Vivekanand, 1981), and Mr Rahul Bhargava (Ex- Rn, 1994).

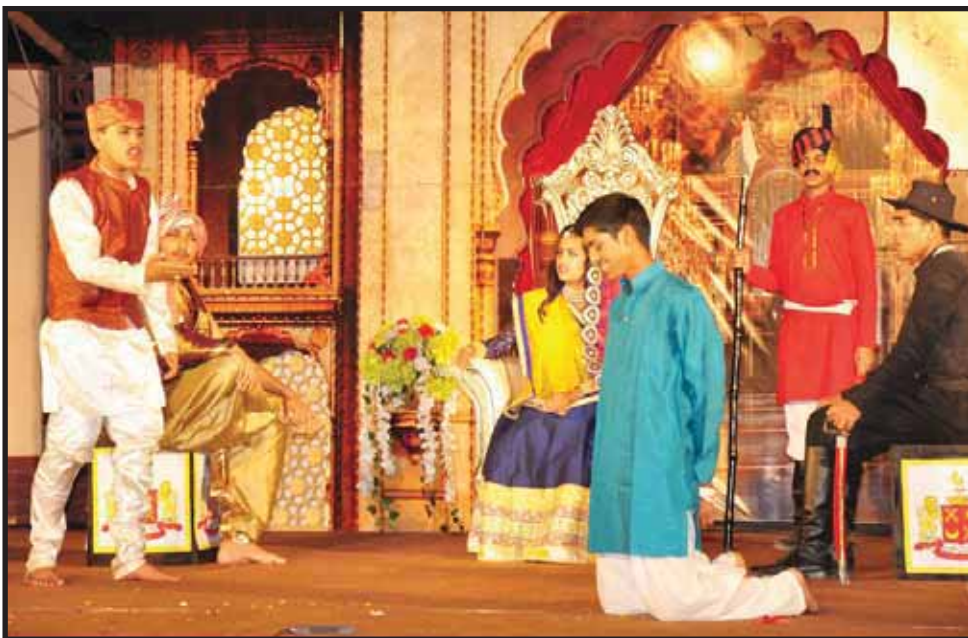
We pray to God to give strength to the bereaved family and friends to bear the loss. May their souls rest in peace. May I request all of you to kindly stand and observe a minute's silence as a mark of respect for these departed souls. Thank you very much. Please be seated.

This brings me to the end of my report. But 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. I sincerely appreciate the help that I have received from the band of bright youngsters; my Senior School Prefect – Snehil Tripathi 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 and in the end, parents and all the alumni, especially, the SOBA authorities for understanding and giving you valuable inputs all the time.

Thank you very much, and God bless you all.



## Glimpses of the Founder's Day





## Glimpses of the Founder's Day





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

Our Chief Guest tonight- the Co-founder and CEO of Snapdeal, Mr Kunal Bahl, Members of the Board, Principal, Scindia School, Dr Madhav Deo Saraswat; parents, alumni, specially the class of 1992 and 2007 present here in great strength this evening; faculty, students, and members of our community from our city of Gwalior present this evening- Martin Luther King once said and I quote "Intelligence plus character, that is the true goal of education" unquote. And therefore education isn't just to get you into college or a high paying job, but education, the purpose of education, is to be able to inculcate in you, the ability to critically think, analyse and solve. It is to imbibe in you the ability to learn how to learn and therefore an example of that- a subject that not all of us are passionate about but certainly our Chief Guest is- Mathematics and the algebraic equation; and the story about the algebraic equation is that it's not about instant gratification but a systematic way of breaking down bigger problems and toiling to get to the solution. Einstein said and I quote "Education is what remains after one has forgotten what one has learnt in school" unquote. And therefore knowledge is just not from your text books or your pedagogy or your curriculum in your classrooms, the impartation of knowledge is in from the experiential environment around you; it's from those that impact you- peers, friends, colleagues, faculty, mentors that purposely and purposefully impact your lives in the days to come.

I remember my school days, assemblies, school halls filled with young kids, young men, young men who were not identified by whether we were from Tamil Nadu or from Gujarat or from Gwalior, young men whose identity was not based on whether you are a Hindu or a Muslim or a Sikh, young men, whose identity was not based on whether you spoke Tamil or Marathi or Punjabi -all our identities were merged under the shared umbrella of our common Indian ethos and origin, and here in Gwalior we have a wonderful example of that. Just below the Fort, Phool Bagh where we have a temple, a Mosque, a Gurudwara and a theosophical lodge- a constant reminder to all of us that India is a land characterized by her diversity.

My Great Grandfather, Madhavrao Scindia the first, built that environment so that on a daily basis there was an intermingling of people, of not various faiths but people with a common soul- the thought always was that you should be recognised not by your name or by your faith, but by your character and your intent. And therefore, the refrain in India *anekta mein ekta, vasudhaiva kutumbakam*. The fact that today we are all bound by a shared destiny- that of our plurality of our diversity, our diversity in thought, our diversity in action, our diversity in terms of our expression. But that makes me worry- it makes me worry for the children of today; how can we make them believe in these ideals when the reality that surrounds us is stark different; how can we make them believe in tolerance when there is an atmosphere of intolerance around us; how can we make them believe in *ahimsa* when what we see around us is cold blooded murder and lynching. And therefore if we continue to accept this violent imposition of homogenous system of being, thinking and behaving, then our youth will not grow with the ideals of our founding fathers but with the pettiness and the divisiveness wrought by these days' emboldened bigots.

The India that we all cherish is an India that is free in mind speech and expression- an India in which equality is an indispensable reality. That is our nation, our Bharat, our India- a nation of peace, a nation of tolerance. Gandhiji once said and I quote that "If you want to cultivate this true spirit of democracy, we cannot afford to be intolerant. Intolerance betrays want of faith in one's cause" unquote. And therefore ladies and gentleman we must understand our past to be able to build an iconic future. India's foundation is at risk and it is up to the youth of today to reclaim the ideals of our forefathers. A lot of hurdles will need to be crossed and those qualities are which we try and inculcate in all of you at The Scindia School- a healthy sense of respect, responsibility and reciprocity to deal with the world around you and that in itself is a testimony to the foresight of our Founder, Maharaja Madhavrao Scindia, the first, when he instilled the values of tolerance and open mindedness steering us since 1897. His vision was to educate and develop the faculties of our wards, nurture good citizens, steeped in a very sound value system and equipped with an inquisitive yet enterprising city- a spirit that is enterprising, encapsulated in what Kofi Annan once said and I quote "Knowledge Is power, information is liberating" unquote. And therefore one of the greatest role models in front of us today that

exemplifies all of these ideals- the ideals of hard work, perseverance, dedication- for these are the values that stand with us at every juncture in life- a man who at the age of 23 decided to blaze a new path, decided that he was going to be an entrepreneur, come what may- one who fought his way through many, many obstacles while staying true to his ambition- a man who understands that success does not come easy. He has managed

to bring the marketplace to our doorstep, revolutionizing the nation's realm of online shopping. Barely in his mid thirties with both Wharton and north-western degrees under his belt, he is today an inspiration for our youth. Please join me in welcoming, Mr Kunal Bahl, CEO and Founder of Snapdeal. His decision to become an entrepreneur came about in December 2008 and when was it? It was during his brother's wedding after the *ghodi* was sent away that Kunal turned to his friend and said and I quote "Let's start a business." His friend Rohit Bansal was naturally surprised, and he said "Give me a couple of days to think about it."- and Kunal turned around to him in his normal demeanor and said, "Let's meet tomorrow over breakfast and discuss, why lose time?" and that started a path that they both walked upon- moving from a discount coupon book for restaurants, on to a mobile discount service, a discount card service, that eventually transformed itself into Snapdeal. He has realised through his toil and hard work that entrepreneurship is a very hard path and that starting a business is not child's play.

Snapdeal today has gone from being an online discount service provider to an online marketplace and today the company boasts of 10,000 employees and valuation of six and a half billion dollars but despite this roaring success he has had his share of trials and tribulations. In July they sold Freecharge, the Snapdeal owned mobile wallet service to Axis Bank and even discussed the possible Snapdeal- Flipkart merger but Kunal true to his entrepreneurial spirit turned down the idea; said- he will reform Snapdeal and come up with 'Snapdeal 2 Point 0' that will satisfy all his customers as well as investors. He believes in taking his company to a flourishing new change pattern and Steve Jobs I guess describes him the best when he says, "I am convinced about a half of what separates the successful entrepreneurs from the unsuccessful ones is pure perseverance" unquote. Today, Snapdeal is recognised the world over. It is a fortune under 40. They won 'The Economic Times Entrepreneur of the Year' award, the 'Ernst and Young Entrepreneur of the Year' award and Kunal continues to grow within his industry. He has managed to hold his ground against international giants like Amazon and now is taking his project forward onto a new growth curve. He has dreamt of becoming an entrepreneur and what a spectacular job he has done in a short period of time. So tonight ladies and gentlemen, we celebrate not just the potency of his invention, not just the appetite of risk, but also the sweep of his ambition and the values that he stands for- dedication, perseverance, and hard work, all of which, what we at The Scindia School inculcate in a student, developing the capability to compete on a global scale never losing sight of our goal. All your life my young friends, you have been taught to do well but now with this example you must also remember to do good. Kunal has stepped in to find a solution to one digital marketplace place problem but they are still many problems left in a country today for all of you to solve. He said and I quote "Starting a company is like taking a girl out, if you over think it you'll never do it", So just as Kunal has done, I wish all of you all the best in charting your own course independently and fiercely and Gandhiji once said and I quote "In a gentle way, you can shake the world". Thank you very much.



## Awards and Recognitions 2016-17

Awards	Awardees		
1. Umang Mathur Memorial Trophy (for the best Class XI Scholar)	Suryansh Goyal Daulat House	10. Guru Hargovind Singh (Gurdwara) Trophy (for the best House in academics)	Mahadji House
2. Mahendra Mishra Memorial Trophy (for the best Class XI Sportsman)	Reekela Bhutia Daulat House	11. Nepal Trophy (for the best House in games)	Jayappa House
3. Maharaja Madhavrao Scindia II Medal (for All Round Proficiency)	Suryansh Goyal Daulat House	12. The Scindia School, Inter House General Efficiency Shield	Daulat House
4. Sam Pitroda Award (2016-17) (for the best innovative project- 'Automatic Barrier System for Gwalior Fort.')	Pranav Wadhwa Daulat House Shashi Kiran Gonegunta Jayappa House	13. Madhav Award	Mr Hitendra Ghosh (Ex Ravindra, 1967)
5. The R. B. Pawar Medal (for scoring the highest percentage of marks in Mathematics in Class XII)	Sambhav Mittal Jayappa House	14. Milestone award - In recognition of dedicated service to the School continuously for over Twenty years, a Silver Salver and an honorarium of Rs. 50,000/-	Mr Raj Kapoor, Mr Dharendra Sharma, Mr Raja Banerjee, Mr Ramesh Sharma, Mr Jitendra Jawale, Ms Raksha Siriah
6. Governor's Medal (for scoring Highest Percentage in Class XII)	Harsimar Singh Ranoji House	15. Milestone award - In recognition of dedicated service to the School continuously for over Ten years, a Silver Salver and an honorarium of Rs. 25,000/-	Mr Akash Sharma
7. Field Marshal Cariappa Shield (for the best Sportsman)	Mahindra Chettri Mahadji House	16. King Constantine Medal for his selfless social service for 26 years.	Dr B.S. Bhakuni
8. Maharaja Jeevajirao Scindia Medal (for All Round Proficiency in Class XII)	Arbin Das Darjee Jayappa House		
9. The Khurshid Lakdawala, Jr. House Efficiency Shield	Kanerkhed House		

## Mr Kunal Bahl's on-stage conversation with students

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

### **Introduction by Mr Vishesh Sahai -**

*In February 2010, Mr Bahl along with Mr Rohit Bansal started Snapdeal, India's largest online market place to produce life changing experiences by this platform with millions of products from national international and regional brands with over 300,000 sellers. Snapdeal is the largest shopping destination of the country delivering to 6000+ cities and towns in India. Kunal is an engineer from the University of Pennsylvania with a degree from the Wharton School. He has been a recipient of several distinguished awards like The Prime Ministers' Award for contribution to the digital industry.*

**Question by Mr Vishesh Sahai:** There is one common connect between Mr Bahl and the Scindians and that happens to be that the way to a Scindian's heart is through his stomach. Mr Bahl is also quite a foodie and we found out that he is a 'closet food critic'. Quite frankly, I don't know what a 'closet food critic' is all about. That is something that will interest them the most so I will begin with it.

**Answer:** You know building a company is a very hard job. It requires you to sacrifice a lot of things, sacrifice having a lot of friends, a lot of activities, but one thing that I have not sacrificed is food which is probably, quite visible. Also



Mr Kunal Bahl and Mr Vishesh Sahai.

I think I derive a great joy from trying new cuisines and I don't cook, I just eat. I feel for all of us it is very important to find that one very important thing that gives you the escape, that gives you the joy in day to day jobs, in your professional pursuit- food, travel, and adventure sports. Today I saw lots of it and the students who are doing adventure sports; it is really incredible. I think it is a great way to let go off the control that otherwise you would like to have on your life.

**Question by Snehil Tripathi:** In school we learn a lot of concepts in commerce classes about how to set-up a right kind of business but in practical terms is it more important to have all that knowledge that we gain out here or is it more important to be street smart or having a sort of cunning attitude that you require; the minimal amount that you require for a business?

**Answer:** I think that education is very important. Whatever we might say about the concepts being bookish or academic and limited to the classroom but you need basic training- the basic concepts of life gravity, physics, mathematics, because in your day to day life in a subtle manner all those things will be required. Whatever you do- whether you do a job or a business- I think that this street smartness or whatever you call it comes with exposure. Really what matters is exposure- what exposure means is trying many new things, being exposed to new types of problems, being curious about the problems other people are facing in your peer group and seeing how they are solving them because that is exposure. Exposure helps you a lot in life. It is very easy for someone who is no longer studying, for example, like me to say that that studies have no value but I want to be truly honest to myself. Having your basic concepts into place is very helpful in day to day life- for example, I don't even remember what physics concept I use every day or what mathematical concept I use but I am sure I am using some that I learnt when I was your age; both are quite important.

**Question by Yohen Thounaojam:** Sir, you talked about your visa being rejected and a lot of us are applying to universities abroad for studies. What do you suggest and that we do after we have done our studies there?

**Answer:** At the end of the day you have to decide for yourself what you want to do for yourself, but I would say every time a dark cloud has shown up over my head, it had a very thick silver lining. For me at least not getting a visa to



continue abroad was probably the biggest blessing because I won't be sitting here if I got a visa. I would have been working at Microsoft. I wouldn't worry about it. You should get educated at the best institution in the world whether it is in India or outside India but then we need to come back to the country because the amount of opportunity, the amount of flux, the number of challenges, the number of opportunities that exist as a result of those challenges, the talent in our country, the amount of passion that we have is unmatched. If someone gave me a visa today saying that I can go back now, I still won't go. And maybe life was different 20-30 years ago when these opportunities were not there but India is going to be the number one country in the world in 40-50 years. You and your generation have a unique opportunity to lay the foundation stone for that.

**Question by Pranav Wadhwa: What is more important in life success or failure?**

**Answer:** I don't think one should look at it as what is more important. There is a hundred percent likelihood that both will happen to you. Success and failure often in an equal measure, hopefully, more of success than failure but I have never met someone who is only successful or only a failure. I have always felt that success is never final. Failure is also rarely fatal but what really counts is whether you have the courage to continue or not. When things are going uphill everything is great, everyone loves you. It is when you hit a trough, at that point of time the strength of your character becomes clear. At a young age if you start seeing those troughs, it actually prepares you much better. A lot of people tell me that I have done well but I actually don't remember that, I remember only the failures; the awards, the recognitions, the money, I don't remember any of them. I just remember the times that I failed, and quite many a times I failed. But at each time it is gathering your strength and saying, "I will come out of this." Keep going and you will realize that the failure period has turned into a success period. So just not to give up is the most critical thing. I won't say either- or, both will happen to you and a lot of both will happen to you. It is how you deal with success and failure that matters.

**Question by Yajur Bharadwaj: What is the relationship between creative intelligence and success in business?**

**Answer:** Creativity is a very subjective point. There is an acutely high correlation between emotional intelligence and success in life in general. I know all of you are familiar with the concept of EQ, emotional intelligence; essentially it is about how you deal with people, relationships, tough situations, that truly will govern your success in life and business as well. I don't think having a very high IQ has any co-relation with success in life or in your personal life either. But very high EQ has a very high co-relation with success.

**Question by Vishesh Sahai: Could integrity be exhibited by somebody who is high on EQ?**

**Answer:** I think they are independent of each other. You can have a very high EQ with low integrity also. Integrity by itself is such a critical pillar in life; that should be absolutely non-negotiable. Mr Tata was here last year and he is someone who truly stands for integrity, trust, loyalty more than most business people I have ever met. Fortunately, he was one of our early investors and I have learnt some of those concepts from him, although integrity is innate, either you have it or you don't have it. But obviously when you meet someone like him and think about how much success he has seen while following a high integrity approach at each point in his life; it inspires you.

**Question by Mr Vishesh Sahai: Is it possible to develop emotional intelligence and integrity through correct references?**

**Answer:** Absolutely, that is I think what great teachers do for the students and that is what parents do for their children and that is what friends should do for their peers. All of you throughout your lives will be encountering situations when you can either do the right or the wrong thing; but your continuation in doing the right thing in every such situation will land you into the right place in the end. That will earn you the respect which is a lot more than money or success. Doing a wrong thing may lead to a short term gain but will eventually lead to a bad outcome in the future; I can guarantee you that.

**Question by Aadya Mishra: Our parents often say "Padhoge likhoge banogey nawab". Often success is related to academics. What are your views on this?**

**Answer:** When I was going through a lot of activities here; the work that you all are doing is highly impressive. Academics as I said are very important because it forms the foundation of your life. Unfortunately, we do not have the same social security for people, as exists outside India, let's say in Europe or U.S. which are wealthy countries. They generally have a high per capita income; the government supports people who can't support themselves. As of now our country is not like that. In the coming years when our capita income will rise our government will take care of people who can't take care of themselves. Academics provides you security and knowledge but pursue what truly your heart wants to pursue.

**Question by Pavan Jaini: Is there any concrete road map as to how you ensure that your business keeps running or is successful?**

**Answer:** If there was a guarantee of entrepreneurship everyone would become one because when it works out it is also highly disproportionately rewarding. But there are ways to increase the chances of success where the probability of success will never be 100%. And that requires good planning before you get into a business. The most important thing is actually to have a deep passion for what you are doing. Unless you are truly passionate about what you are doing you will not be able to bear the stormy situations.

## Address by the Chief Guest - Mr Kunal Bahl



Mr Kunal Bahl.

Well thank you everyone and thank you Mr Scindia for such an amazing introduction. In the middle I was wondering if you were still talking about me. I want to thank again Mr Scindia, Dr Saraswat, the faculty, the students, the Board of Governors for having me join this great forum. It is a true privilege for me, and thank you very much. I learnt that last year Mr Tata had come to give this lecture. I have been very fortunate; Mr Tata was one of our earliest investors. He is someone I have learnt so much from. He is truly one of the greatest Indians ever. You know as I read on The Scindia School it seems like the vision of the School has always been very far sighted, starting with the Founder the Late Maharaja Madhavrao Scindia ji I. When he was very clear that the school was meant to create leaders and visionaries for an independent India eventually, and that is quite visible as I spent time with the students today. There is a great deal of ownership, passion,

energy that exists in each one of the students out here. I also learnt that this school in its quest for being ahead of the curve was one of the first schools in the country to Institute an information technology program back in 1980. Surprisingly Infosys- the IT services Bellwether started in 1981. So you can imagine the kind of foresight this School has had, but very importantly, I actually want to mention one very important thing, which I have identified about the ethos of the school and this has to do with an anecdote pertaining to Mr Scindia himself. Back in 2008 or 2009, around 2008, before 2009 General Elections- I was this young kid, I had just started this struggling startup; this was not Kunal Bahl who will be invited to one of the most prestigious Founder's day of the country; and I sent him an email saying "Mr Scindia, I think the social media thing is a really interesting thing. It may have a great impact on the future of how political campaigns are run. I would like to come and talk to you about it." Because I was always a geek so I was always looking into new technologies and back then social media was considered a technology and not something as pervasive as it is today. I remember I got a response within 45 minutes and this is a complete cold call email for the most part and he met me, he spent time with me, gave me feedback and asked me to come back. And I went back again; and we had a great discussion about this. What it taught me was that humility is such an integral part of the culture of this whole school and of everyone associated with it; which is such an integral component of



The Chief Guest being introduced to residents from Sonsa village.



Inauguration of exhibitions.

dealing with success and dealing with failure through life. The students of this School have an incredible opportunity. They should be truly proud of themselves. I have travelled far and wide. I often go to schools to meet students I would rate The Scindia School right up there in every possible way. You know I can talk about how to build an e-commerce company; I could talk about 10 things to think about before you start a company but I realised that the most important lessons I have learnt is about how do you deal with adversity and failure because don't believe the headlines. For every successful story there are dozens and dozens of interspersed moments of failure and it's very important for every person to remember that because to those who have been successful it lends them humility and for those who seek success it lends them hope. The first thing I always think about is especially, in our society and this is for the students- it is very important to never be concerned about- never be scared about what other people will say about whatever you want to do; especially being scared about the fact about what they will say if you were to fail but then you would never start anything. It is not easy to start because there is always this fear that people will judge you- but here is the good news- people will judge you anyways. And so it is important that if it's in your heart that you want to do something- just go do it. Don't wait. I remember when we started almost 10 years ago from now; we rented a small 200 square feet office which was in the basement of a rundown abandoned house in the furniture market of Delhi. We were paying 7000 rupees rent a month. It was quite an expensive office for us. And we were in the streets, in 45° Celsius weather in Delhi, we were going from one client's office to the next. People wouldn't care about what degrees we had. They cared about what we had to offer. They would keep us waiting for hours but it never broke us, never reduced our spirit because at the end of this was our passion; this was our pursuit, this was our journey. And there were many people around us at that point who said "Guys, you have this Ivy League education; you went to the IITs. What the hell are you doing with your life? Go take your jobs at Goldman Sachs, Mackenzie or one of those hallowed institutions. What you doing?" But we always felt this was our dream and we needed to protect this dream, we needed to nourish this dream, we needed to make the dream come true and with every passing day that went, we never felt the pressure that- what if we failed? What would people say? If for a second we had felt that, our entire resolve would have melted away. Secondly, success is actually never permanent; it's never final and failure is rarely fatal; it rarely kills you. What makes a difference is whether you have the courage to continue. There are enough moments in our journey when we have come to the absolute brink, absolute brink of no longer existing the following day. And it has also happened in my personal life. As a student, I remember that when I was in class 11, I was asked to pursue IIT education and I am sure many students here are doing that and I spent two and a half years of my life just doing that. And I didn't get in. After all that effort, I still didn't get in, and everyone around me was quick to call me a failure. But it didn't bother me. I kept my head down, studied, got into a good University and it worked out. We started our company in 2007- 2008. Within 2 years we ran out of money. All our savings were gone. We had only 20000 rupees left in our bank accounts. If an investor told us "come to pitch to us in Bangalore" we told them "Let's do a Skype." But we pulled out of that even though we knew that I there was not much hope. In 2013 few years later, we already raised a lot of money, lot of investors had come in but somehow the company was not going on track and we were in trouble again. The market had changed on us and we hadn't changed the business as fast as we should have and we again had one month of money left. And we kept going and someone extended us a loan and that kept the company afloat. Within a year or two we had raised another billion dollars; from a company that had only 5000 rupees left in the bank

account. At each juncture it would have been very easy to lose our resolve, lose our patience, lose all joy of coming to work every day and dealing with a tough situation. But I think that's when having a great partner, and I had the best partner anyone can have in Rohit, helps. In the end I realise that if you want to do something big, something great, it is absolutely critical to know that it is going to be tough, and it is going to take an enormous amount of energy and there will be times that things will be on that down and low but as long as you work in a spirited manner with passion and self belief that you will pull out of this and I can tell you with guarantee, you will pull out of this. Finally, dealing with failure or dealing with a low point or dealing with adversity is extremely hard, extremely tough, but I have learnt there is one great way of dealing with it- emotionally, and that is to remember that there is always something in your life that you still love. And that all is never lost and harnessing that positivity, if you know what you love- you already have, you will not want anything else. For the great students out here- love your friends; know who is the true friend who will recognise your tear not only your smiles. You just need one true friend. Love the knowledge you are getting; it will stick with you forever. Your faculty, your family is giving their lives imparting their knowledge to you. You must cherish it forever. It will last you for a lifetime even if everything else goes away. Love your health; it is very critical to stay healthy because if you are healthy, you will be able to achieve everything you set out to do. And most importantly, love your country. We have the greatest nation on the planet, absolutely the greatest. Like many of you I have travelled around the world to dozens of countries and I have seen that the culture we have, the people we have, the society we have, the opportunity we have, the food we have, is absolutely unmatched, it is unmatched anywhere in the world. Most importantly, going forward the opportunity we have, all of us here have, especially the young students here have- is unmatched. We must love that we have been brought up in a free country which has all this to offer to us- suddenly the short-term pain starts looking short-term. Always remember there is always a lot of positivity in our lives- that in the light of the deepest, darkest adversity there is always something really good. That it is very important to latch on to it. Finally, today I was in the exhibitions and I have to say I have never been this impressed at a school and all its activities and the talent and hard work that the students and the faculty put in- the metal work; the work being done with wood; the work being done with vegetable colours, the work being done using Robotics, 3D printing; you name it and the School has it all and I've never seen it before. It is absolutely incredible what the School has to offer but with that for each of the students here make sure there is a sense of responsibility that comes with it- a deep sense of responsibility. You are the 550 students in this country who have these opportunities and these facilities available to you- world class facilities. It is incumbent on you to make the most of it and become the leaders and the visionaries of this country for which the School was first setup. You know the journey throughout the last 8-10 years there were many ups and downs, but we never gave up. We came very close to giving up sometimes but we never gave up and we will never give up but there will be challenges- challenges create opportunities- opportunities to innovate opportunities to outperform expectations and opportunities to succeed. I can tell you from what I saw earlier today, in this auditorium today there is a Steve Jobs; there is a Mark Zuckerberg and look left, look right, or look at yourself, it could be you. I am so glad I was given this opportunity I want to thank the entire Scindia School for inviting me and for all the kind words and generous words that were said. I really wish all the students and faculty stay focused, stay humble, and stay blessed. I wish to be back but I know I will always throughout my life cherish this opportunity. My greatest love to all of you. *Jai Hind.*

## Citation of the Madhav Awardee Mr Hitendra Ghosh (Ex-Ravindra 1956-1967)

The Scindia School aspires to afford the best references and stimulants for the receptive heart and mind of each student, so that the inherent splendour of each Scindian can gently waft on its own throughout his life. Today we honour one such maestro of the Indian Cinema, a man of immense creativity and talent, the nationally acclaimed Sound Designer and Recordist – Mr Hitendra Ghosh.

Hitendra Ghosh graduated from The Scindia School, Ravindra House, in 1967. In the commendation letter given by the then Principal, Mr J L Dar, it is mentioned that music was his hobby and that he was a member of the school choir and orchestra. Besides music, he was keenly interested in sports and was also a cadet in the Junior Division of the NCC Air Wing Troop.

After school, he completed a Diploma in Cinema from the Film & Television Institute of India, Pune in 1974. He chose Creative Sound Designing and Recording for cinema as his profession, where he built a stellar reputation for himself over a career spanning 40 years. His larger-than-life contribution in the above field can be gauged by the fact that he holds the unique distinction of sound-editing 3500 films, the highest by any individual in the world.

He earned the National Film Award for Best Audiography on three occasions - in 1979 for Junoon, in 1986 for Ek Pal and in 2013 for Game. He has also received various other prestigious awards like the Filmfare Award, IIFA Award and Zee Cine Award. Some of the well-known films for which he has won accolades are: Kalyug, Vijeta, Jungle, Rang De Basanti, Swadesh, Jodhaa Akbar and the list just goes on.

Dedicated, humble and exceptionally good at his work, Hitendra Ghosh is a living legend of his field. His remarkable erudition for the subtler grammar of sounds used in cinema in conjunction with the visuals, led him to contribute to the vocabulary of sound design and also to explore other creative aspects in the same field. In the contemporary milieu of commercial cinema which clamours for loud music, Hitendra never ceased to be refined, artistic and so awe-inspiringly effective.

The Scindia School confers on Mr Hitendra Ghosh the Madhav Award as an Old Boy of Eminence for the year 2017 for his unwavering commitment, outstanding achievements and enormous contribution in the field of Sound and Recording to the Indian Cinema.



The symbolic handing over of the values of the School.

## Address by Mr Hitendra Ghosh - Madhav Awardee



Mr Hitendra Ghosh.

Thank you so much. I thank His Highness, Members of the Board, for giving me this prestigious award. I am very excited today. It has been almost 45 years since I was here. My parents were teachers in Junior School. My father was an art teacher here and my mother was a music teacher in the School. Later on she became the Head Mistress. We lived in a bungalow near the Saas Bahu Temple. I have an elder sister and an elder brother, who is a renowned textile designer. There are lots of memories which are there and I am just remembering my old days. I would like to tell the students one thing- other than studies there are so many extra-curricular activities. You must pay attention to them also because they may be very useful in your life later on. I have experienced this. I attended the Horse Riding Sets regularly here at School though I was not a good rider. We were shooting a film called 'Junoon' in which Mr Shashi Kapoor had to give some riding shots. But on the day of the shoot he was not keeping well. So our director, Mr Shyam Benegal knew that I was from Scindia so he asked me to wear Mr Shashi Kapoor's clothes and do the shots for the film. I was taken aback but I did do it and those shots are still there in the film. All the training that I received in School has helped a lot. Thank you once again. This is a great award for me and it means a lot to me because it has come from my own people. I feel that my parents have given me this. Thank you.



Mr Hitendra Ghosh receiving the Madhav Award.

## Vote of Thanks by Senior School Prefect - Snehil Tripathi

Honourable Chief Guest of the evening, Mr Kunal Bahl, President, Board of Governors, His Highness Maharaja Jyotiraditya Scindia, members of the Board of Governors, eminent guests, Old Boys, teachers and fellow Scindians.

A very warm evening to one and all.

It is my proud privilege to propose a vote of thanks on this day, in the presence of the youth icon Mr Kunal Bahl who runs India's largest online marketplace, Snapdeal.com, a venture that is within striking distance of a billion dollars in annual sales. Ladies and gentlemen hold your breath as our Chief Guest tonight is not just an average corporate honcho. The Snapdeal network has about 50,000 merchants selling five million products on its site, adding a product every 20 seconds. To quote Mr Bahl himself he wishes to create "life-changing experiences for thousands of small businesses and millions of consumers in India using technology as a great socio-economic equaliser". And... may I add... he has achieved all that he had set out to and more. I thank you once again Sir for taking out time to be with us.

I also take this opportunity to thank the Madhav Awardee Mr Hitendra Ghosh. We are truly inspired by your professional accomplishments. Your success story is a testimony to the fact that when talent and passion are backed by hardwork, MAGIC happens.

I express my wholehearted gratitude to the President and other members of the Board of Governors for being the pillars of dedicated support and guidance, and for enhancing this journey of education in the most holistic ways and means conceivable.

I also thank our Old Boys especially the batches of 1992 and 2007 for coming from far and near. It is because of you that we have learnt to value tradition and to grasp what 120 years of history means in action.

My thanks are due to all the teachers for equipping us with the power of knowledge and tirelessly working for us and on us, so that each Scindian, is not just academically, but also morally and spiritually robust.

I would like to express my gratitude to the parents who could come to witness this Founders' Day Celebration and have graced the occasion with their presence.

I would also like to thank my Batch... those that have been with me throughout this journey. Thank you for the absolutely amazing lifetime memories and friendships I could make with each one of you. It is due to each of you that I am able to stand up here.

I congratulate the entire student body of The Scindia School who have strived day in and day out over the past month to make this evening the grand success that it has proven to be.

Standing here in this picturesque setting amidst an august gathering is indeed a surreal moment. But let me make a confession. Today is the day I have been awaiting for the past 7 years. YES... Founder's Day...The Senior School Prefect's address. It is a day that has taken a lifetime to reach, yet it feels like it was only yesterday that I was trying on my oversized blazer and preparing for my first Founder's Day at Scindia. During these swift years school has taught me a lot...be it life lessons, or that an atom is the smallest constituent unit of ordinary matter that determines properties of a chemical element! Yet the most important thing that I have learnt as a student, is how to adapt to change, and that change, itself, is both inevitable and beneficial. I would like to share one of my favourite quotes by an anonymous person, I quote, "You are born weak, and you die weak; what you are in between is up to you", I unquote.

The Scindia School ensures that these intervening years remain eventful and meaningful. The school packs our day with varied experiences and our hearts with warm memories which are sure to last a lifetime. It is for this reason that for as long as you get to be on this timeless fort, strive to perpetuate the love and the spirit of being a humble learner, and then the magic of the Scindian



journey will change your lives forever.

In the end, I thank all of you for being a part of this delightful celebration and for making this evening even more momentous and memorable.

Good Night

Long Live Scindia!





# OLD BOYS' NEWS

The evening programme on the occasion of the Old Boys Day started with Mr Banjul Badil, addressing the gathering. After this Mr Rahul Kulshrestha, President- Central SOBA addressed the gathering. He formally welcomed the Chief Guest of the evening, Ms Tanushree Shankar, wife of Late Mr Anand Shankar, Ex- Jayaji, 1960. The Class of 1992 celebrated their 25th year of Reunion and the Class of 2007 who celebrated the 10th year of their Reunion were greeted with great cheer. Mr Rahul Kulshrestha thanked The Scindia School for organising the ACB Tournament. The Mumbai Marathon and the Road Shows in Kanpur and Benaras were other momentous occasions on which the Scindian fraternity came together. The SOBA Cup was awarded to SOBA Varanasi. The SOBA Award was given to Mr Mahesh V Gandhi, Member of the Board of Governors, The Scindia School.



SOBA Cup.



Mr Mahesh Gandhi being given the SOBA Award.



Friendly Match.



Picture Perfect.



SOBA Meeting.

## EDITORIAL BOARD



**Published by** : The Principal, The Scindia School, Fort, Gwalior  
**Staff Editors** : Mr Vishesh Sahai(English) and Mr Manoj Mishra(Hindi)  
**Executive Editor** : Dr Smita Trivedi  
**Editor in Chief** : Dhruv Periwal  
**Chief Creative Editor** : Pranav Wadhwa  
**Correspondents** : Eeshan Sarda, Hriday Soni, Jai Chahar, Rohan Khanna, Kushagra Patwari, Chirag Rathi, Surya Gandra

**Web Support** : Mr Raj Kumar Kapoor  
**Photography** : Mr Kamlesh Singh  
**Technical Support** : Mr Jitendra Jawale  
**Printed by** : Galaxy Printers, Gwalior  
**URL** : www.scindia.edu  
**OLD BOYS' SITE** : www.scindia.edu/alumni  
**NOVEMBER 15, 2017 | WPP** : Regn.No.Gwl.Dn.11  
**Feedback** : visheshs@scindia.edu  
**Price** : Re. 1

*If undelivered, please return to : The Scindia School, Fort, Gwalior - 474 008 (M.P.)*