

REVIEW



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Dear Readers,

Each edition of the Review has presented us with the kaleidoscopic array of activities which is embedded in the fervent and vivid pictures of the year captured in the publication. Today is an exceptional day, as we move into the 125th year of the history of this great institution. The Scindian sojourn is all about a process of self-discovery. It is an attempt to discover the self through the musings at the Astachal beside the silhouette of the eternal pilgrim set against the mellow amber of the skyline. It has provided Scindians, generation after generation, with an unparalleled experience.

In such a regal setting where the stones speak history in all its grandeur, year after year, we have steadfastly nurtured the dreams of our Founding Father by a sound balance of quality educational programmes, state-of-art facilities, dedicated faculty, and an open-door policy with parents. It has chiselled our students into young men who carry "the stamp of self-discipline, of character, of chivalry, of

dignity, and of good behavioural qualities on which higher citizenship is based."

As a school that imparts transformative learning, the boys at the Fort undertake multifarious activities under Round Square, Labour work, Adventure activities, Cleanliness Drives and Tree Plantation work. This inculcates a sense of humility which no classroom education can venture to create; it is only teamwork and camaraderie that shall ever seek to venture into such foreign lands. One such wonderful project is the Scindia School Ecology Project and the Water Conservation Project at the Fort which bespeaks of the mettle of Scindians in protecting the flora and resources at the Fort.

Today, I join all of you, as we proceed forth to relish the fruit of our labour. I wish a happy Founder's Day to all.

Ajay Singh
Principal, The Scindia School

EDITOR'S NOTE



Dear Readers,

This special issue of the Review is a creation of the 'thinking minds'. We at Scindia believe in breaking through the stereotypes. The current issue is replete with articles of varied interests and genres. It talks about the need to come together as the 'human brethren' to preserve the environment. You will see glimpses of the Scindia School Ecology Park Project. The edition also looks back nostalgically on the times gone by. It is also a chronology of events and experiences in the eventful life of the School. As we enter into the 125th year of this great institution, we have tried to make this year's Review more interesting and we hope to set a benchmark for the upcoming Editorial Board of the next year.

Founder's day is not just a day; it is a rewarding festival in a Scindian's life. It gives every Scindian a platform to showcase his talent. So, as we stand on the last day of this rewarding year, only to bow down in obeisance and enter into another year in the history of this great institution.

LONG LIVE SCINDIA!

Parv Rajesh Agarwal
Editor in Chief

Fort News



The Scindia School has been ranked as #1 in the category of Vintage Legacy Boys' Boarding Schools in Madhya Pradesh and #2 in India. Mr Dipak Haksar, Member of the Board of Governors received the award on the behalf of the Principal. Many congratulations!



21st His Highness Maharaja Madhav Rao Scindia Memorial Debate, 49th Platinum Jubilee Debate and Inter School Quiz were hosted by The Scindia School from 28 September to 1 October 2022. Ten teams of renowned

schools from all over the country participated in it- Vasant Valley School, Delhi; Emerald Heights International School, Indore; Punjab Public School, Nabha; Mayo College Girls' School, Ajmer; Sunbeam School, Bhagwanpur; Mayo College Boys' School; Vidya Devi Jindal School, Hisar; Pinegrove School, Subathu and The Scindia School, Fort Gwalior. The Vasant Valley School was announced the Winner of the His Highness Memorial Debate. The Scindia School became the Runner Up. The Platinum Jubilee Debate was declared open on 29 September 2022 by the Principal, Mr Ajay Singh. The Vasant Valley School and Emerald Heights School went into the Finals. Vasant Valley School won the debate and Emerald Heights were declared the Runner Up. The Platinum Jubilee Quiz was held on 1 October at 10 am in the Assembly Hall. The famous Quizmaster, Mr Ajay Punia conducted the quiz. The Scindia School won the Quiz and Sunbeam School were declared the Runners Up. The prize distribution ceremony was held, and the teacher escorts and the judges were presented with mementoes and certificates. With this the event was declared closed by the Principal.

On 2nd October 2022, Gandhi Jayanti was celebrated in the School. In the morning the *Shramjeevis* put up a



wonderful *Bhajan Karyakram* after which they were served with lunch. In the evening, a Special Astachal was held in the Assembly Hall in which floral tributes were paid to the Mahatma.

Ayushmaan Rai and Swejeet Taparia participated in PI-Quiz conducted by IIM Indore. Swejeet Taparia secured 3rd rank all over the country. Congratulations !



The festival of Dusshera was celebrated with much pomp and splendour at the Fort. The effigy of Ravan was set on fire and the chants echoed through the air.



20 students of the school escorted by three teachers namely, Ms Sudha Sharma, Ms Mrinal S Bhatt and Mr



Yogesh Sharma participated in VISION 2022. The event was held from 28 September to 30 September 2022 and was hosted by Mussoorie International School. The school

bagged the first position in both Music and Stand-up comedy events and second in the Mime event. The school also bagged the 'Second overall performance'. The Scindia School hosted the Grand Finale of the



9th Edition of the Nanhi Chaan National School Essay Writing Contest. 17 finalists from schools across 11 States competed for the top spot. The topic for this year's contest was 'Indian culture what does it mean?' and saw participation from 30000 students representing 200 schools spread across the length and breadth of the country. The semi-finals of the contest were held on 10 October 2022, wherein the shortlisted finalists had to write an essay on the topic- "How important is the freedom of the press". In



the evening, the judges interacted with the participants so as to know them better in an informal setting. On 11 October 2022, the grand finale of the same was held. Brass Band performance, the group discussion, cultural programme including the wonderful dance performance and the musical



bonanza, all added to the splendour of the event. Sumaya Beri from The Vasant Valley School and Kshemaahna Nagi from the Vidyashilp Academy, Bengaluru were



adjudged the Winner and Runner Up respectively. The finale was graced by Mr Harpal Singh - Chairman,



Nanhi Chhaan Foundation; Mr Rajendra Pawar - Patron, Nanhi Chhaan, Ms Sharmila Bakshi - HOD Vasant Valley, Mr G. Parthasarathy - Diplomat; Mr Deepak Kapoor - Chairman, Save the Children India and



eminent personalities from education and other fields. Speaking about the event, His Highness Jyotiraditya M Scindia said, "We at The Scindia School are pleased to host



the ninth edition of Nanhi Chhaan National School Essay Contest 2022. Apart from providing the best infrastructure for learning, our endeavour has always been to not only impart knowledge but also to instill strong ethics and a



sense of community wellbeing and focus on a holistic and all-round development of our children who will create a positive influence on society going forward."

"Where the mind is without fear and the head is held high" - Rabindra Nath Tagore

The Scindia School
Established 1897

Mr Devendra Bhatnagar (Ex- Ja, 1974)

Possibly the famous poet had Scindia also in mind.....

A school resolute, 125 years on the rock has stood
Laughter rings clear on the faces of its young wards
Heads thrown skywards, firm chins, clear of eyes
The ramparts unroll the history amidst passage of time
Each year sending forth to share with the world
Values learnt, minds broadened, brotherhood upheld
Every year adds to the learning and maturity within
The trees that shade have enlarged their reach across
Limbs energized by the care imparted, room for growth
And serenity conducive to the shaping of fine citizens
"Begins with me", says the Fort on the hill- I am the cradle

I have witnessed the birth of an idea and now the fruit
Of teachers soldiering on to better thousands of you
Dreams shaped where the sun sets at the Astachal
Bright eyed at sunrise to absorb the days offerings
In the classroom, on the sports fields or contemplating
No better temple of learning exists; teachers are mentors
"For Life" adds the alumni body, as they lovingly look back
Here amidst the grandness of scale, setting and surroundings
Humility, inclusiveness, knowledge lead one to excel in life





The Urgency of Saving Our Ecosystems

Aditya Singh, XI A

I find Earth homely for two reasons. The first reason that makes it home for me is the presence of humans and the second, is nature. Out of everything I have ever seen, I have never seen something as diverse and 'calling' as Earth's beautiful nature. But recently, the things that make Earth's nature beautiful- the ecosystems, are declining.

For millions of years, Earth has been blessed with life, and the different common points where diverse organisms meet, are known as ecosystems. These ecosystems form the habitat of these organisms, ranging from the shelter they live in, to the pond they drink water from. But it is not just animals who live in an ecosystem, we humans too have ecosystems, and this is the point where we interact with our surroundings. We depend on our ecosystem, as well as on other organisms in that ecosystem for our survival. We get our food from it, we get our shelter from it, we live there together with our species, and it provides us with every kind of resource we need. But it is important to understand that using these resources carelessly and neglecting the bad effects of it can lead to destruction of the entire ecosystem. And something similar to this has been happening lately.

We humans have selfishly been using the resources for our profits without showing concern towards what is happening to the environment, and that has damaged our ecosystems to a great extent. We have been recklessly cutting down trees, carelessly contaminating water bodies, continuously polluting air and doing a lot of other things which is destroying the ecosystems. We have been destroying both, the living, and the non-living components of ecosystems. Seeing the speed of this destruction, it can be concurred that acute climate change is not far from happening. In the past decade, we have seen a rise in the number of people who are getting affected from this and are also becoming aware of what is happening to their ecosystems. Many studies have been conducted, and many articles have been published to create awareness about this. But the change that is required to prevent this harm further needs to begin at our own homes at an individual level. We ourselves need to give birth to a revolutionary change by bringing in small changes in our everyday living. We must be determined to restore our ecosystems and save them from further harm.

We start by being aware of what is exactly happening, and

how we are responsible for it. We must look in our everyday lives and know what all, of our daily chores leaves carbon footprints behind. Then according to the kind of chore, we must find alternatives and solutions to help reduce the carbon footprint. A lot of things which we do in our everyday lives, leaves carbon footprints like, driving cars, barbeque, burning dry leaves etc. All these things when combined of many individuals, leave a very large carbon footprint. Similarly, large industries are also leaving large carbon emissions. While already, this is creating problems like global warming which can harm our ecosystems tremendously, we are increasingly cutting down more and more trees which is making the situation much worse. Trees take in carbon dioxide and release oxygen, which cools down the earth preventing concentration of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. But, cutting down of trees and deforestation is on a rise, which is reducing our opportunity to reduce the amount of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. Cutting down trees is also taking away the beauty and life forms of the ecosystem. Many other life forms depend on trees and forests for their survival and this is harming them too.

I think the first step towards restoring ecosystems is planting more and more trees and recovering the forest cover of

the planet. We can do this by planting small plants in our backyards, parks, or even keeping potted plants inside our homes. I live and study in a boarding school, which is located on a small mountain. This gives us the advantage of witnessing and preserving more than 300 different types of flora, and fauna on the very Fort in which I dwell. My school regularly conducts community service programmes for preserving the plants and I actively take part in them. I get the opportunity to plant more trees, relocate them to different and safer places and help in protecting them. I consider this a very important step towards restoring our ecosystems. But there are also other things that need to be done in order to restore our ecosystems. We can take electric, or public transport to reduce carbon emissions from fossil fuels. We can avoid using plastic to stop the destruction of marine ecosystems. We can switch to green energy and numerous other things should be done to reduce our carbon footprints.

Our ecosystems, and our planet is our responsibility, and when they are in danger, it is us who should do everything to protect it because as said a thousand times — "We have not inherited this planet from our forefathers, we have borrowed it from our children."

Liberation through Self Expression

Ayaan Shah, IX D

So I was asked to hold a singular ability clutching it defiantly as the world washes all the other skills away; I would choose Self Expression.

Decidedly, self-expression to me is the most important thing that I can think of. I realise the passionate disagreement that must ring through any collectivist institution; the priority of personal fulfillment- a trivial checkbox to check on a forgotten list and yet to some extent, I also understand this!

The capricious demands and egomaniac thoughts of school children are questionable at best. It is so easy to arrange them in a clean, wrought iron, utilitarian system, for all, diamonds are made under heat and pressure.

But at the end of the day such an analogy is notoriously deceptive. We aren't gemstones, all lusture and no substance, meant to be sharpened and adorned. We are like saplings, complex and dynamic, resilient and

curious. Slowly cramped in this plot of ideas, the thirst for knowledge deteriorates, and secret dreams decay!

We suffocate ourselves in mundane armour, unable to face the intense whirlwind of emotions, community and our individuality. Maybe it takes only one to be vulnerable in an uncaring world to fill it with compassion.

Self-expression maybe in a miniscule- doing things that you love, saying the things that you mean and anything that you do without cowering under the pressure of others' expectations. Yet self-expression rejuvenates, more so, it liberates.

I don't say that this tiny piece of writing solves any basic issue or that it provides quick fixes or solutions, not do I claim to be in a position to answer it. But I put forward a dream, where each individual is equipped to express himself. Would then we be more fulfilled, more understanding and stronger than ever?

विश्व एक परिवार है।

अर्णव जोशी, कक्षा-9 'अ'

हमारी संस्कृति में “वसुधैव कुटुंबकम” की सोच सदा से ही चली आ रही है। हम सारी पृथ्वी को अपना कुटुंब अर्थात् परिवार मानते हैं। परिवार मानते हुए परिवार में जिस प्रकार के उथल-पुथल, खिंचाव-तनाव, स्नेह-प्रेम आदि होते हैं, हमारा मानना है कि विश्व के सभी देशों का आपसी संबंध भी उसी प्रकार का होना चाहिए लेकिन क्या यह संबंध उस प्रकार के होते हैं? शायद नहीं। प्रत्येक छोटे या बड़े देश अपने-अपने स्वार्थ को लेकर चलते हैं और इसके कारण आपस में लड़ते रहते हैं। मैं यह नहीं कहता कि परिवार में आपस में झगड़े नहीं होते लेकिन युद्ध की जो विभीषिका विश्व-स्तर पर दिखाई पड़ती है उससे निश्चित रूप से यह नहीं लगता कि हम लोग एक परिवार हैं।

कई लोगों का मानना है कि मानव को बनाने वाला भगवान है और कई लोगों का मानना है कि हम विज्ञान के किसी चमत्कार से बने हैं परंतु बनते समय हम सब एक से थे बिना किसी भेदभाव के। आज इस दुनिया में संसार का बँटवारा हो चुका है। हर कोई एक दूसरे को मानव की तरह नहीं परंतु हिंदू, मुस्लिम, सिख, ईसाई आदि की तरह पहचानता है। पूरा विश्व एक बहुत बड़ा परिवार है और लोगों को उसमें एक साथ बिना बैर के रहना चाहिए पर ऐसा करने में हम कई हजार सालों से असफल रहे हैं। इस असफलता का मुख्य कारण है स्वार्थ, लालच, जलन आदि जैसी चीजें जो एक मनुष्य को अपने वश में कर लेती हैं और उसे स्वार्थ छोड़कर और कुछ दिखाई नहीं देता। प्राचीन काल में हुए सारे युद्ध केवल और केवल मनुष्य के अधिक से अधिक धन और अधिकार प्राप्त करने के लालच के कारण हुए हैं। सिकंदर महान ने लगभग आधी दुनिया को जीतकर अपना नाम इतिहास में तो लिखवा लिया परंतु इसकी वजह से न जाने कितने लोगों ने अपनी जान गँवा दी। अगर हमें पूरे विश्व को एक

परिवार बनाना है तो हमें शुरुआत से ही अपनी सोच बदलनी पड़ेगी। हम न जाने कितनी बार किसी गरीब व्यक्ति को देख उसके बारे में एक नापसंद भरी विचारधारा बना लेते हैं भले ही हमने उस व्यक्ति से बात न की हो हम हमेशा उसके बारे में गलत ही सोच लेते हैं। इससे हमें पता चलता है कि हमारा समाज तकनीकी रूप से कितना भी आगे बढ़ जाए, हमारी विचारधारा अभी भी पुरानी है विश्व को एक परिवार बनने में कई हजार साल लग जाएँगे परंतु उसके लिए हमें शुरुआत आज से ही करनी होगी।

दूसरी ओर देखें तो हम पाएँगे कि आज विश्व के सभी देश एक दूसरे के ऊपर निर्भर है जिस प्रकार परिवार में आपसी निर्भरता होती है उसी प्रकार आज भी कई देश कई मामलों में एक दूसरे के ऊपर निर्भर हैं। तो वहाँ भी स्वार्थ के होते हुए भी कहीं न कहीं पारिवारिक वातावरण दिख जाता है विशेषकर जो देश आपस में मित्र हैं और समय-समय पर एक दूसरे की मदद करते हैं। इस मित्रता को हमें और फैलाना होगा। इसके लिए हमें कई कदम उठाने पड़ेंगे।

इसके लिए सबसे पहला कदम होना चाहिए कि हम दुनिया से हर प्रकार के सैन्य बल और हथियार हटा दें क्योंकि कई साल पहले इन चीजों के कारण दो युद्ध विश्व हो चुके हैं, हमें आपसी विश्वास बढ़ाने की आवश्यकता है, एक दूसरे की मदद करने की आवश्यकता है। प्राचीन काल में हुई चीजों को हम बदल तो नहीं सकते परंतु हम उन्हें दोहराए जाने से रोक सकते हैं आज भी कई देशों में रंग के आधार पर भेदभाव होता है और इसे काफी हद तक रोका भी गया है। मेरे विचार से “विश्व एक परिवार है” कहना पूर्ण रूप से उचित नहीं होगा क्योंकि मनुष्य जाति को कई बड़े बदलाव लाने होंगे, विश्व एक परिवार तब तक नहीं बनेगा जब तक हम एक दूसरे को एक मानव के रूप में नहीं पहचानेंगे।

एक विचार :

(गाँधी जी एवं शास्त्री जी की जयंती पर विशेष)

श्री गणपत 'स्वरूप' पाठक, हिन्दी अध्यापक

किसी पर लाँछन लगाना कितना आसान होता है और विपरीत परिस्थितियों में जूझते हुए, आदर्शों को बनाये रखना कितना कठिन होता है।

जब भी कभी गाँधी जी का नाम आता है, तो सत्य और अहिंसा बरबस स्मरण हो आती है। मगर, साथ ही स्वतंत्रता संग्राम के कई ऐसे वाक्य स्मरण हो आते हैं, जिनमें गाँधी जी की भूमिका को लेकर, बहुत लोग उनका अनादर भी करते हैं।

एक वर्ग उनकी श्रद्धा से पूजा करता है, उनका सम्मान से नाम लेता है। मगर आचरण में उनके 'सत्य-अहिंसा', 'सादा जीवन, उच्च विचार' वाले सिद्धांतों को एक ओर कर देता है या अनदेखी कर देता है, यह कहकर कि आम जीवन में संत नहीं बना जा सकता है।

वहीं, दूसरा वर्ग उनके अहिंसा और निस्वार्थ प्रेम की घोर आलोचना करके, उनके राजनीतिक फैसलों पर पक्षपात का आरोप मढ़कर, उनके 'मानवीयता', 'रामराज्य' और 'ग्राम स्वराज्य' के सपनों को दरकिनार कर देता है जो कि भविष्य के 'सभ्य समाज' को बनाने के लिए बहुत अहम बातें हैं।

कहने का अर्थ है कि हम अपने उद्देश्यों और स्वार्थों के आगे 'मानवीय मूल्यों' का बलिदान कर देते हैं।

गीत: जीवन का अंग

हिया चतुर्वेदी, कक्षा-10 'अ'

यह संपूर्ण सृष्टि संगीतमय है। कहते हैं कि संसार की शुरुआत ही संगीत से हुई है। झरनों से झरते पानी का स्वर हो या नदियों का कल-कल, पक्षियों का कलरव हो या पत्तियों की सरसराहट, प्रकृति की प्रत्येक घटनाएँ संगीत की लय से जुड़ी रहती है। संगीत मन को शांति प्रदान करता है। चारों वेदों में से एक वेद “सामवेद” पूरी तरह से संगीत को समर्पित है। संगीत शांति प्रदान करने वाला होता

कुछ पल के लिए, हम अतीत के पन्नों से गौतम, गाँधी, हिटलर, मार्क्स आदि को हटा भी दें और बस ये देखें कि इनके न रहने से क्या वो बातें अस्तित्व में नहीं हैं, जिन पर इन्होंने अपने समय में जोर दिया। हम पायेंगे कि सब कुछ वैसा ही है, बस पात्र बदल जाते हैं।

तो फिर किस बात के लिए किसी व्यक्ति को, क्यों लाँछन देना या फिर किसी आदर्श के लिए, किसी की भक्ति क्यों करने लगना? क्या हम वैसे नहीं रह सकते, जैसे कि हमारे आसपास के लोगों को हमारी जरूरत है? क्या हम किसी व्यक्ति की व्यक्तिगत निर्बलताओं के लिए उसे क्षमा नहीं कर सकते? ये जानते हुए भी कि हम भी उन निर्बलताओं से अभी मुक्त नहीं हुए हैं।

मैंने जो बात कही, वह बस एक विचार है। ये विचार कहाँ से आया? कदाचित्त तब आया, जब मैं सारी दुनियावी बातों से अलग-थलग था। निर्लिप्त। अपने में खोया हुआ। तब शायद मैं ईश्वर के निकट होऊँ! हालाँकि, मुझे यह भी नहीं मालूम कि जिसे मैं ईश्वर कह रहा हूँ, वह वास्तव में क्या है? वह है भी कि सिर्फ एक विचार है!!!

मानसिक पीड़ा को कम कर सकता है। यह बात वैज्ञानिकों ने भी सिद्ध की है कि अगर हम शिशुओं के सामने कोई मधुर संगीत बजाएँ तो वे बहुत देर तक शांत रहते हैं। वैज्ञानिकों ने पाया है कि संगीत एक ऐसी विधा है जिसमें मस्तिष्क के दोनों भाग एक साथ कार्य करते हैं जिससे कि हमारे सोचने की क्षमता का विकास होता है इसीलिए छात्र जीवन में प्रत्येक विद्यार्थी को किसी न किसी प्रकार से संगीत से अवश्य जुड़ना चाहिए।

इतिहास- पुराणों में भी इसका उल्लेख है। विद्या की देवी सरस्वती को भी वीणा बजाते हुए दिखाया जाता है, नारदजी एकतारा लेकर सारे लोकों की यात्रा कर लेते हैं। गुप्त साम्राज्य के शासक समुद्र-गुप्त को भी उसके एक सिक्के पर वीणा बजाते हुए उकेरा गया है। विभिन्न राजाओं व महाराजाओं के दरबार में भी संगीतकारों को संरक्षण मिलता था। ग्वालियर के राजा

मानसिंह ने ध्रुपद गायन की शुरुआत की। अकबर के दरबार में तानसेन प्रमुख थे तो उस समय बैजू बावरा और तानसेन दोनों ही स्वामी हरिदास के शिष्य थे। कबीर, सूर, तुलसी और मीरा सभी ने अपनी-अपनी रचनाओं से संगीत को आगे बढ़ाया।

संगीत इंसानियत को अभिव्यक्त करता है। यह कला कुछ ऐसी है जो हमारे दिल को छू जाती है। कोई फर्क नहीं पड़ता अगर आप किसी भी धर्म या जाति के हों, सबको संगीत पसंद होता है। हम सब मानते हैं कि एक गाना जरूर होता है जो हमारी भावनाओं को अभिव्यक्त करता है। मैं संगीत के बारे में जितना बोलू, जितना लिखूँ कम है, जब एक बार संगीत आपके दिल को लगता है तो कोई दर्द नहीं होता, कैसा भी मन हो, हमें सबसे पहले संगीत की याद आती है यहाँ तक कि संगीत ने इतिहास में भी एक महत्वपूर्ण स्थान पाया है।

ग्रासदी युद्ध की

यश जैन, कक्षा-11 'स'

युद्ध कब, कहाँ अच्छे और धाराधर होते हैं।
यह तो बस तबाही के मंज़र होते हैं।
हार और जीत की लड़ाई में
चाहे विजेता हो या पराजित
नतीजे तो बस बंजर होते हैं।
कहाँ किसी को परवाह है किसी के दर्द की
पेड़ जब जड़ से टूटे तो फिर कब हरे होते हैं।
इतिहास गवाह है इस युद्ध की क्रूरता का
हिरोशिमा और नागासाकी अभी भी रोते हैं।
सम्राट अशोक शांति का संदेश देते हैं।
फिर भी हम सब नासमझ
कब इसे दिल पर लेते हैं।
युद्ध कब, कहाँ अच्छे और धाराधर होते हैं।
यह तो बस तबाही के मंज़र होते हैं।
जो हारते हैं वे तो मिट ही जाते हैं
और जो जीतते हैं वह बहुत कुछ खोते हैं।

जल जाते हैं जंगल, नदी विषैली होती है,
मिट जाते हैं गाँव के गाँव, शहर वीराने होते हैं।
कहीं पर माँ रोती हैं, कहीं सिंदूर उजड़ता है,
कहीं पर भाई अपने भाई की मय्यत पे रोता है।
क्या यह जानता कोई नहीं, सब अनजाने होते हैं?
युद्ध कब, कहाँ अच्छे और धाराधर होते हैं।
यह तो बस तबाही के मंज़र होते हैं।
किसी को सबक सिखाने का यह कौन-सा तरीका है?
क्या इस तरह का जघन्य कार्य किसी आदमी का है?
हारती ही नहीं, मानवता ज़ार-ज़ार होती है,
आने वाली पीढ़ी के लिए बस हाहाकार होती है।
यह युद्ध भविष्य के लिए, विषैले बीज बोते हैं।
युद्ध कब, कहाँ अच्छे और धाराधर होते हैं।
यह तो बस तबाही के मंज़र होते हैं।

Through the Scindian Lens

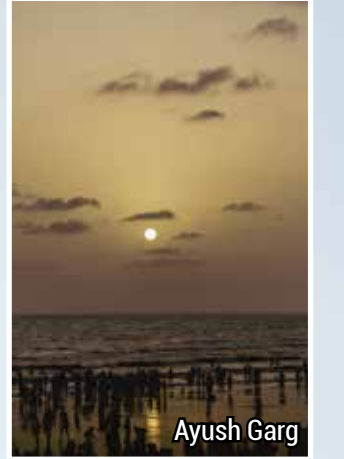
Entries for the Photography Competition



Ayush Garg



Satkrit Poddar



Ayush Garg



Pragesh Mauli Maurya



Ashutosh Khemka



Ashutosh Khemka



Pragesh Mauli Maurya



Pragesh Mauli Maurya



Satkrit Poddar



Ashutosh Khemka

Priceless Vignettes



Photo of school building taken from the north side



School building with a view of Padma Sarovar



Erstwhile Junior School, now Heritage Block



School building



Cross Country Race

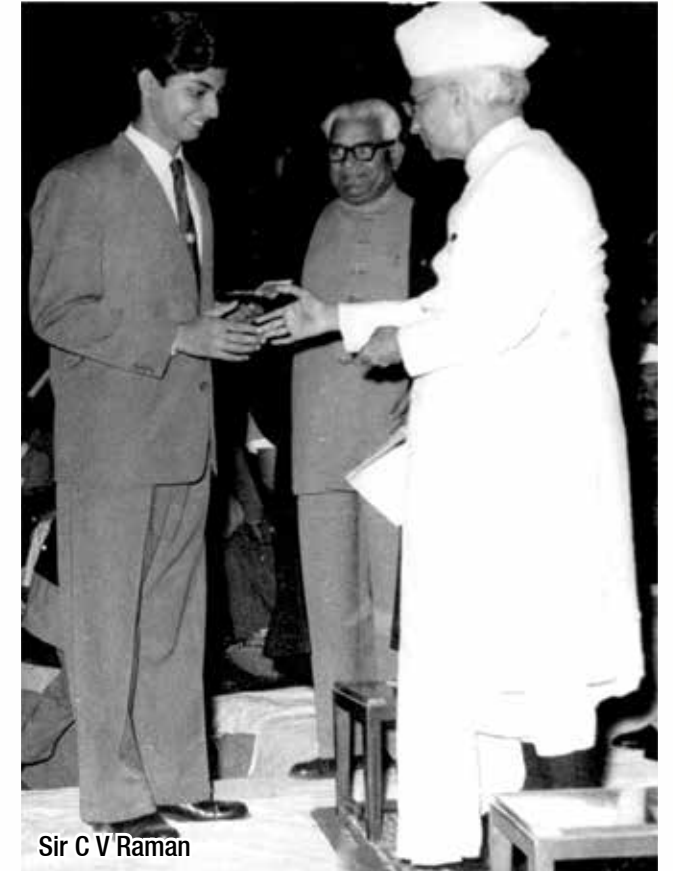
Priceless Vignettes



Late H H Maharaja with Nawab Pataudi and the Cricket Team



Dance performance on the steps of Teli temple



Sir C V Raman



Swimming Competition



Athletics Meet



Pandit Nehru with the boys



Ganesh Chaturthi

Old Boys' News



SOBA Kolkata held the Annual General Meeting on 25 September 2022 and the following members were elected to form the new body of members. The new team of SOBA Kolkata is as follows:

Patron: Anil Buchasia; **President :** Arun Kumar Bhagat; **Senior Vice President:** Beni M Roy ; **Vice President :** Lajpat Prasad; **Secretary :** Tuhin Singhi; **Jt. Secretary:** Rishab Jain; **Treasurer :** Raj S Chopra **Jt. Treasure:** Rajat Kayan

Executive Members: Satyajeet Roy, Gopal D Agarwal, Raju Parkhani, Anil Beriwalla, Kamanashish Sen, Abhishek Bhuwalka , Avijit Mukherjee, Kaushik Chatterjee, Indrajeet Dasgupta, Aman Mookim, Shaunak Bagaria



SOBA Nagpur organized a Blood Donation Camp in Nagpur on 2 October 2022.

SOBA Kanpur organized a Blood Donation Camp in the city on 2 October 2022.



SOBA Kolkata organized a Blood Donation Camp in Kolkata on 2 October 2022.

Back to Nature - The Scindia School Ecology Park Project

Mr Anubhav Sarkar, Faculty

“Look deep into nature, and then you will understand everything better.” - Albert Einstein

The Scindia School is located atop a rock plateau with 120 acres of lush, diverse flora and fauna, one of the best spots in our country for students to co-exist with nature and deepen and harmonise their experience with the natural world. With the participation of children of various ages who have lived and studied at our school over the years, we have focused on promoting sustainable goals in the fields of water conservation and plant and animal life preservation.

Over the last two years, The Scindia School has been working on one of its kind, Rewilding Project around the campus. This project is the brainchild of one of our members of the Board of Governors, Mr Harpal Singh. The project aims to build a living laboratory of the different plants that are native to the region growing around the different areas of our campus. In addition, we are ensuring that Scindians continue to develop sensitivity to sustainable development and ecological practices. The idea of developing our very own Eco Park to maintain environmental balance that will work hand in hand with the already existing Water Harvesting Project run by the school is one of the biggest recent highlights of the school.

The initial phase of the project was undertaken virtually (due to the pandemic) with several long meetings with the different stakeholders involved in this large-scale project. The school has been collaborating with two accomplished resource persons – Mr Pradip Krishen and Mr Fazal Rashid on this project. Both Mr Krishen and Mr Rashid have experience of redesigning challenging landscapes and converting it to something magical with added diversity of grasses, plants, shrubs, and trees, thus making the place very rich in flora and fauna.



During the initial stages of the project, after we finalized a group of dedicated ground staff led by our *head mali* Mr Vinod Kushwaha, a lot of the work done was focused on developing the nursery adjacent to the Vice Principal's



residence. Designing of raised beds with compartments to seed different species of plants, sunken pits to safeguard and store the plants that will be procured from different government and private nurseries and will be later on planted around the different areas of the landscape, understanding soil mixture ratios that will be used during planting, and such; all was being done in and around the nursery.



The regular visits and guidance from our resource persons has always been an important part of this project. They brought years of experience with them and helped us understand the complex network of interaction that occurs at various levels within an ecosystem. We have always



been fascinated by how they use scientific names for different plant species, and many of us have picked up the scientific names as well, patting ourselves on the back for learning something new. We feel a step closer to achieving Mr Harpal Singh's vision of creating a living laboratory for everyone to appreciate and learn about ecosystem management and conservation, with each visit they make to the school to observe progress and lay out a new plan of action.

Most of the plants we have planted around the sites near Khamba Taal, and Chamriya Taal have been procured from

Rao Jodha Desert Rock Park Nursery, Jodhpur- a nursery managed by the Bhind government along with some local nurseries around Gwalior. In addition to planting various saplings native to the region and suitable for growth and development in Gwalior's climatic conditions, we have also added a rich diversity of grasses in the school's meadow area. Mr Krishen and Mr Rashid identified the meadow area during one of their visits to the school. This beautiful piece of landscape amidst its rocky terrains which overlooks the city at a distance is located between the Khambaa Taal, Chamriya Taal, and Katora Taal, and is a very unique feature of the school. We are now testimony to a significant and magical transformation of that landscape. We have constructed two stone pathways for the public to walk on and interact with the various types of grasses and shrubs that grow there. We hope to see a rich addition of more varieties of insects and microfauna in the coming years, which will remind us that the path we all took to protect and restore the natural habitat was important and successful.



We have already noticed increased insect activity in the areas where native trees and shrubs have been planted. Aside from the ongoing rewilding, another goal of the project is to completely eradicate invasive species from the campus, particularly "Subabool." These invasive species, which have a rapid growth and proliferation rate, degrade soil quality and make it difficult for native species to obtain enough nutrients for growth and development. While Subabool removal has been difficult due to their roots going very deep inside the ground and requiring a lot of effort and force to pull them out, our ground staff has been working tirelessly to ensure that no stone is left unturned in the removal. However, the very fact that we have been able to create awareness about why this invasive species



should be removed and help everyone understand the impacts if it didn't happen, is a major step in establishing sensitivity towards the environment.

We are currently in a very unique stage of the project in which we are focusing on designing 'pergolas' and benches that will be placed around the meadow area and acquiring raw materials for the same. The addition of benches for visitors to sit and enjoy the view of the meadow area while watching the sunset in the distance will add another level of purity and calm, allowing us to connect with nature on a deeper level. We are also working on developing signage boards that will educate visitors about the project by displaying a timeline of the various activities that have taken place to restore and redesign the natural landscape along with a list of insects and birds that can be found in the region, as many botanical parks and nature reserves do.

The new nursery behind the Teli temple has also been built. The flooring has been designed using massive stone slabs, and large stone-based raised beds were also designed. These stone raised beds will be used to display the various plants growing at our nursery and allow Gwalior residents to purchase plants to plant in their homes, offices, gardens, and so on. Weekly reporting to highlight the various scope of work being done has also been undertaken.

We hope that in the coming years, students, teachers, and other Scindian community members will continue to look after and maintain this landscape, protecting it from degradation and preserving this beautiful landscape that has become significant to the school. Students are eagerly participating in various activities related to the Ecological Park Project, developing comprehensive and critical thinking skills in order to comprehend the dynamics of ecological restoration, sustainability, and conservation. A project like this will continue to provide the tools needed for anyone interested in pursuing a career in ecosystem management, forestry, agriculture management, conservation biology, or sustainable development.

My Country

Sahaj Agarwal, VIII C

History shows us that people were jealous,
And they even tried to conquer us.

Some succeeded and tried to get our protests
stopped

But we eventually came out on the top.

But we got independence just to become slaves to
an unwanted religious discrimination,

Still we have grown way beyond everyone's
anticipation.

Days have gone when we couldn't grasp what was
in front of us,

Now the whole world looks forward to us.

May it be agriculture, we have become masters of
that field.

May it be technology, we have become advanced
than anyone could ever foresee.

Perseverance, self-discipline and love is what we
live with,

People think we haven't grown in the last many
years but that is clearly a myth.

Published by :

The Principal,
The Scindia School, Fort, Gwalior

Staff Editors :

Dr Smita Trivedi (English) and
Mr Manoj Mishra (Hindi)

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Printed by :

Galaxy Printers, Gwalior



ESTD. 1941

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

FOUNDER'S DAY SPECIAL

20 October 2022