

# REVIEW-22

THE SCINDIA SCHOOL, FORT GWALIOR



TUESDAY, 15 NOVEMBER 2022 | WPP : REGN.NO.GWL.DN.11

## FORT NEWS

### The Scindia School celebrates its 125th Founder's Day

The Scindia School celebrated its 125th Founder's Day on 20 October 2022. 19 October 2022 was celebrated as the Parents' Day and Old Boys' Day. On the morning of 19 October, the entire fraternity saw the culmination of the first academic term of the session with an interaction between the parents and teachers during the Parent- teacher Interaction. The grand celebration of the 125th Founder's Day commenced on 19 October 2022. From 10 am to 1 pm, Parents' Day was held, in which the parent fraternity interacted with the teachers of their wards to know their progress in various verticals of school



Parent - Teacher Interaction

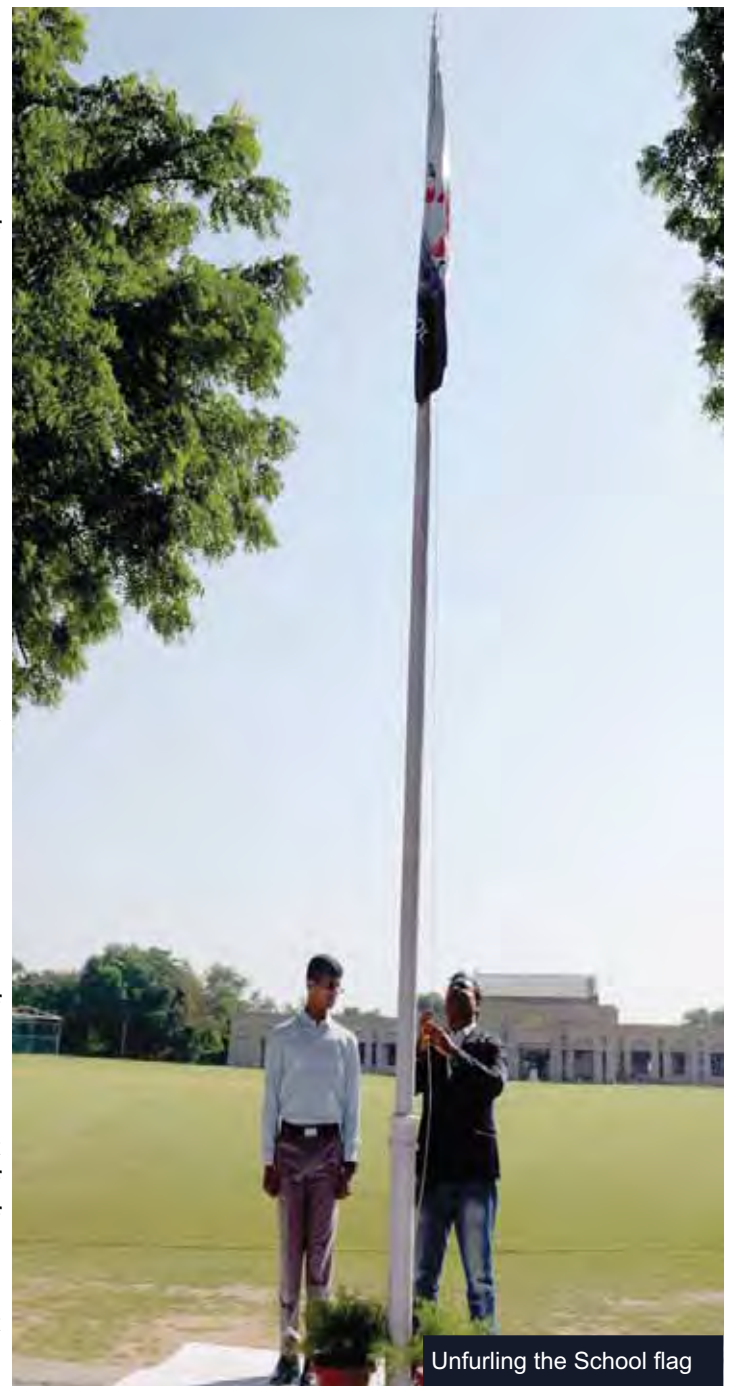
life. A cultural programme for parents and guests was held at the Madhav Pavilion from 4.30 to 5.30 pm. The Deputy Senior School Prefect, Anubhav Sachan welcomed the guests. Samridh Agarwal introduced the Brass Band as one of the finest in the country which thereafter played mellifluous tunes like Sam Bahadur and the River of Babylon. Next the Musical Band played foot tapping tunes in a medley called 'The Scindia Instrumental Mashup'. The Hindi Play 'Bhidant' was staged, and the audience was left thinking if the goal of true education is to impart rational thinking. The play-Macbeth studied the consequence of unbridled ambition. The dance, representing the essence of all women who have fought against social stereotypes, left the audience spellbound. The event came to a close with the Deputy Senior School Prefect, Vidit Gupta delivering the Vote of Thanks.

The celebration of the 63rd Old Boys' Day started at 11 am when the Cricket and Football match was played. At 2.30 pm SOBA AGM was held in the Assembly Hall. The main function started in the evening at 6 pm wherein an entertainment programme was organized by the Old Boys at the Shukla Memorial Open-Air Theatre. The 63rd Old Boys' Day was presided over by Dr Amarender Singh (Ex- Madhav, 1979) as the Chief Guest. Justice Sanjay Misra (Ex-Chaitanya, 1969, Lokayukta, Uttar Pradesh and President, The Scindia Old Boys' Association) also graced the occasion. The ceremony of lighting the lamp was observed. SOBA awards which constitute the main part of the evening, were announced. SOBA award 2022 was given to Mr Gopal Bhargava (Ex-Ravindra, 1977) and SOBA Cup 2022 was awarded to SOBA Bangalore.

On 20th October 2022 a Special Assembly was conducted in the morning. Senior School Prefect of the Batch of 1997, Mr Chaitanya Kumar (Ex-Jayaji), unfurled the school flag. School publications - Qila Quotes, Review, Nucleus, Zeitgeist, Uplabdh and Year Book were released. Tushar Saini was awarded with a Scholar's blazer for his exemplary performance in academics.

On the grand 125th Founder's Day, we welcomed Ms Mithali Raj, a recipient of Padma Shri, and the former captain of the Indian Women's Cricket team as the Chief Guest. The Chief Guest took a round of the exquisite exhibitions put up by the boys. After the brilliant

performance of the Brass Band, the school song was melodiously sung by the school choir. Thereafter the school orchestra left the audience spell bound with their cadences in 'Saaz-e-Rang', a wonderful musical composition. The Principal, Mr Ajay Singh read the Report of the year 2021-22. H H Maharaja Jyotiraditya Scindia welcomed the Chief Guest. In her speech and talk show, the Chief Guest talked about her lessons from life and congratulated the student body for the wonderful programme. Justice Sanjay Mishra (Ex-Chaitanya, 1969) was presented with the Madhav Award and the Citation was read by H H Maharaja Jyotiraditya Scindia. The ceremony of handing over the lamp by the Madhav awardee to the youngest Scindian which is symbolic of the traditions of the school, was held. Annual awards were announced, and a wonderful dance performance captivated the audience. The celebration came to a close with Vande Mataram.



Unfurling the School flag

## FOUNDER'S DAY SPEECHES - 20th OCTOBER 2022

### Principal's Report

Honourable Chief Guest, Padma Shri Ms Mithali Raj; the President, Board of Governors, His Highness Maharaja Jyotiraditya M Scindia; Members of the Board of Governors, Justice Sanjay Mishraji; Madhav Awardees, distinguished guests, parents, Old Boys, my colleagues, and dear students; I feel my heart glow with enthusiasm of a little child as we become a part of this 125th Founder's Day Celebration along with you, the most illustrious and distinguished audience.

It is my honour and privilege to welcome our Chief Guest tonight, Ms Mithali Raj, the former captain of our country's women's national cricket team who has the singular distinction of popularizing the women's international cricket for a thundering two decades, hitherto considered a man's turf; bestowed with the highest awards of the country: the Padma Shri, Arjuna award, Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna award, and several international awards including the prestigious 'Wisden Leading Woman Cricketer in the world' award, that too, the first female. She is an unparalleled cricketer to cross the 7000 run mark in one day matches, as also a torchbearer to lead and inspire her team with unfailing devotion. Ma'am we are blessed to have such an inspiring leader amongst us tonight.

This great institution which practices the exemplary Astachal, introspecting to the setting sun, is firmly rooted in the Indian ethos. A seat of transformational learning; it exhorts Scindians to push their limits in terms of efforts and consequent accomplishments. It is not a wonder then, ladies and gentlemen, that our students made us proud with their staggering Board Results with the Class X average being 89% and XII at a whopping 92%, respectively; exceptional for a Boarding School, well done!

In Class X, in a total of 97 students, 55 students scored 90% and above. Vedansh Balasaria, Advik garg, Abhimanyu Bhushan, Daksh Bajaj scored 100% in Mathematics; Ansh Garg and Hardik Shivhare scored 100% in Social Science; Vedansh Balasaria, Ayush Jain, Kushal Agarwal, Keshav Vallabh Bhagat, Pratham Jain, Dev Pratap Bansal, Krishnn Leelotpal Divyaa, Yash Jain and Shivang Jhunjhunwala scored 100% in Artificial Intelligence. Well done boys!

In Class XII, out of 81 students, 58 scored 90% and above. Ujjwal Mehrotra, Pranav Agarwal, Shubham Singhal, Shlok Sonthalia scored 100% in Accountancy; Utkarsh Gupta scored 100% in Economics; Abhey Khanna scored 100% in Painting; Shantanu Yadav, Gatik Bhonwal and Daksh Mehta scored 100% in Geography; Shantanu Yadav, Gatik Bhonwal, Pranav Agarwal, Vihaan Gupta, Khushal Agarwal, and Garvit Thakur scored 100% in Psychology; Yash Gupta scored 100% in Computer Science. Amazing, well done!

I wish to express my gratitude to the teaching and student fraternity for this wondrous feat and achievement.

Ladies and gentlemen, in a 'Public School' such as ours, the real scaffolding of learning happens outside the classroom. As soon as the students were back to school we brought them out into the field, pushing them gently through such activities as Cross Country and Walk-a-thon. Since then we have not looked back. The football season, tennis matches, hockey bouts, cricket matches, swimming contests, the distinction in Chess, and so much more has kept the young deeply engrossed and occupied. And we have stood watching them intently and wondering how much our children mean to us and how much these sights add to the quality of our lives.

Added to the sporting arena is the realm of adventure that is close to the heart of every Scindian. The school organised an invigorating trek to Markha Valley in Ladakh from 20 June 2022 to 28 June 2022. Ms Raksha Siriah and Mr Suggu Sekhar along with Vinayak Mittal, Jatin Singh, Siddhant Singh, Harshvardhan Gupta, Omitya Singh, Devansh Agarwal, and Jahaan Nagpal crossed the Kongmarula Pass at a height of 5200 mts. Well done!

Pranshu Chaudhary, Pragesh Mauli Maurya, Shlok Maurya, Yash Jain, Ritik Sachdeva, Dharmendra Singh, Akhil Sharma, Inesh Agarwal, students of class X participated in the 14 days' Adventure Course from 10 June 2022 to 25



June 2022 at the Nehru Institute of Mountaineering, Uttarkashi, the Sanctum Sanctorum of all mountain and nature lovers.

Mr Dharendra Sharma, Mr Vishesh Sahai and Mr Anil Pathania along with Sumedh Potdar, Satyam Raj, Keshav Kapoor, Yash Pathak, Bhavya Dhamija, Anubhav Sachan, Aditya Singh, Sanyam Agarwal, Arjun Bhat, Mayank Chaudhary, Vidit Gupta, Omar Sadik, Nimesh Singh, and Rishabh Parecha undertook a cycling expedition from Jispa (HP) to Chutuk (Kargil) from 19 June 2022 to 2 July 2022. The team cycled for a total of 9 days and covered more than 360 kms. The team crossed the Shinkula Pass at 16580 ft and Penzila Pass at an altitude of 14,500 ft. This spirit of accepting challenges nurtures our future 'Men of Mettle'. Well done!

This school nestled on the top of the hill, provides us with the attribute of living in harmony with nature, far from the conundrums of modern life. I may here humbly mention that the school has consistently been recognized for its herculean efforts towards water conservation spearheaded by our very own Old Boy and Vice President of the Board of Governors, Mr Rajendra S Pawar. We look forward in the coming years to be able to supply water to the city. That's giving back to the society.

And now we have the one of its kind Ecology Park which we know as the 'Fort Biosphere' that is a manifestation of this thought. The project envisaged and supported by our Board of Governors, has not looked back since its inception. Under the unparalleled guidance of our BOG Member, Mr Harpal Singhji, the experts, Mr Pradip Krishen and Mr Fazal Rashid, ably supported by Mr Gopal Chaturvedi, Ms Sangeeta Jain and Mr Jitendra Jawale, the project has taken wings. It is so heartening to see the fruit of our labour and I rejoice with you all in celebrating its success. Every Scindian shall be a deeply sensitive and conscious socio-economic citizen.

We were emboldened by various awards and recognitions that met us on our journey. We were awarded as one of the Best Education Brands 2022 by The Economic Times' initiative, Exceptional Schools of India by Scoonews and recognized as the best school for 'Community Service' under the Duke of Edinburgh Awards. Amazing! We also lead the tally of the Vintage Legacy

Boys Boarding Schools Category in Madhya Pradesh and as second all over the country as released by the Education World. Congratulations Scindia! We have much to achieve yet.

We went unbridled into the co-curricular activities this year. The school hosted a number of prime events in which approximately 200 of our students were exposed to various platforms- We hosted the 21st His Highness Maharaja Madhav Rao Scindia Hindi Debate, the 49th Platinum Jubilee Inter School English Debate, the Platinum Jubilee Quiz, the 9th edition of the Nanhi Chaa National Essay Writing Competition and the Science Fest in which the school emerged as a winner of the Science Fest and the quiz. Well Done! Our students made us proud by continuing their winning streak in various competitions beyond the school as well such as Negotium Agon Business Fest, Model United Nations Conferences, Crosswords Debates, Vox Populi Debates and a number of debating, IT, dramatics and other competitions.

According to Kurt Hahn students learn by conducting "learning expeditions which works on developing the character as well as the intellect of students. On the same 'expeditionary learning model' our students interacted with various international bodies including the British council, Education USA, USIEF and College Board and participated in short programs by Columbia University, New York Institute of Finance, University of Florida, Queen Mary University, ISRO, BSE, Harvard YLC, Brown University, University of California Santa Cruz, University College Dublin, and the University of Queensland etc. Approximately 100 students participated in numerous RS events, wherein, they interacted with students from the UK, France, South Africa, Germany, UAE, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh etc.

We have also entered into a partnership with City University of Hong Kong and Manipal University, Jaipur.

Representatives from renowned universities from India and abroad visited us because our prime drive force right now is to ensure that our students are placed at the highest universities with the top most courses.

The teaching and learning fraternity kept themselves abreast with all developments through numerous workshops and seminars. The leadership Camp, Art of Living Workshop, Bullying prevention and Empathy Building, workshop by Ecology experts, SESAME Synchrotron workshop, Cyber Security workshop, Personal Mastery workshop and many others kept us engaged and fulfilled. Remember an engaged teacher will always do wonders.

Ms Smita Chaturvedi, Ms Divya Verma, Utkarsh Gupta, Reshav Sarawgi, Aditya Agrawal, Shrey Shukla, Vedant Khare and Vinayak Mittal participated in the Round Square International Conference 2022 from September 19th to 25th at the Latymer Upper School, London, attended by more than 1000 delegates from 40 countries.

Our students have been placed, after their achievements across universities namely University College London, UK; Nanyang Technological University (NTU), Singapore; University of Manchester, UK; University of Toronto, Canada; King's College London, UK; University of British Columbia, Canada; University of Bristol, UK; University of Warwick, UK; University of Glasgow, UK; University of Illinois, USA; University of St Andrews, UK; University of Leeds, UK; Penn State, USA; Purdue University, USA; Arizona State University, USA; Bath University, UK; Queens University, Canada and Virginia Tech University, USA, respectively.

Sameep Mody and Keshav Jhunjhunwala, two amazing boys in class X, have discovered two early asteroids under the International Asteroid Research Project 2021 and it has been sanctioned and quantified by the agency. Well done, Sameep and Keshav. Ayaan Chintan Shah, another budding writer has got his story published in a children's omnibus. Congratulations!

To make our children well versed in the coming scenario with the coming world, we have commenced with profound discussions in the Scindian Talkhouse, a brainchild of our very own students, Vidit Gupta and Ayushmaan Rai.

A number of projects during the year stand completed: Jayaji House has been

renovated and shall soon welcome its students back. The Dining Hall has been upgraded, grouting and de-silting has been completed at Khamba Taal and rain water has been directed by channel network to the Taal which stands up to 8 feet above the bed.

We have a number of projects at hand to be carried out, very soon, immediately, maybe after the Founder's- Jeevaji, Mahadji, Jayappa and Daulat House are to be renovated. Junior House Astachal imitating the Main Astachal, Bungalows behind Surajkund, All-weather Swimming Pool, Multipurpose Sports Hall, Security Picket Point and the refurbishing of the Main gate will soon be accomplished.

As an incumbent of the office of the Principal since July 2022, I put forth my utmost gratitude to the erstwhile Principal, Dr Madhav Deo Saraswat, the Interim Principal, Ms Smita Chaturvedi and to the former Bursar, Lt Colonel Rajiv Saxena for supporting the school through the difficult pandemic times.

I am also immensely grateful to our Old Boys- Mr Rajiv Merkhedkar, Mr Sunit Varma, Dr Subhash Pawar and Mr Rajeev Kumar who visited the Fort under the Scindia Old Boys' in Residence Programme and shared their expertise and rich knowledge with the fraternity.

It is not that our the present boys only bring accomplishments; our Old Boys keep the flag flying even higher.

Mr Vikram Misri (Ex Md, 1981) has recently been appointed as the Deputy National Security Advisor in the National Security Council Secretariat.

Mr Nand K Agarwal (Ex Jp, 2001) has recently published a book titled "Shots – Small Tales, Big Fun" a fictional collection of eight short stories.

Dr Harsh Saxena (Ex Sh, 1988) has taken charge as President (Elect) of the MP-Chattisgarh Association of Neuroscientists.

Mr Gian Singh (Ex DI, 2005) has started a new brand -Miarcus, which specializes in making premium products for babies and mothers.

Major Aditya Pawar (Ex Md, 2003) has authored a book "From the Fort walls – How it Began"

Mr Kingshuk Bhattacharya (Ex Md, 1991) has been recently awarded for Excellence in Broadcasting at the 5th Edition of the Digital Studio Awards in Mumbai.

Heartiest Congratulations!

As the journey continues, we welcomed Ms Ritu Guglani, Faculty of French, Mr Pankaj Mishra, Faculty of Mathematics; Ms Sangeetha P, the Behavioural Counsellor; Mr Mandhaar Sharma, Head of Sports; Mr Yogesh Sharma, Faculty of Music; Mr Dhruv Sharma, Faculty of Music; Mr Vikas Soni, Physics; Mr Anoop V, Geography and Mr Anubhav Vohra, our very own Old Boy, Chef (Mess In-charge) and the Bursar, Lt. Colonel D K Farashwal. Welcome!

We bid adieu to Dr Madhav Deo Saraswat who headed the school for seven years, Ms Ahilya Shinde who served the school for more than three decades, Ms Aliya Khan, Ms Mubashir Ahmed, Mr T Achanta, Ms Priya Bhagat, Mr Manjeet Singh Benipal, and Lt Col Rajiv Saxena.

In the end, I would like to express my deep gratitude to the President, His Highness Maharaja Jyotiraditya M Scindiaji and Members of the Board of Governors for having reposed their trust in me, to participate in guiding the destiny of The Scindia School with their constant support and guidance at every step. My heartfelt appreciation for my colleagues from the academic, administrative and services wings for their tireless efforts for the welfare of the students and my personal gratitude to my colleagues, Mr Raj Kumar Kapoor, Mr Dharendra Sharma, Lt Col D K Farashwal, and of course, our Vice Principal, Ms Smita Chaturvedi for their constant support. And of course to all the parents here and Old Boys for your continued support, trust and affection.

Thank you so much !



## Welcome Speech by H H Maharaja J M Scindia

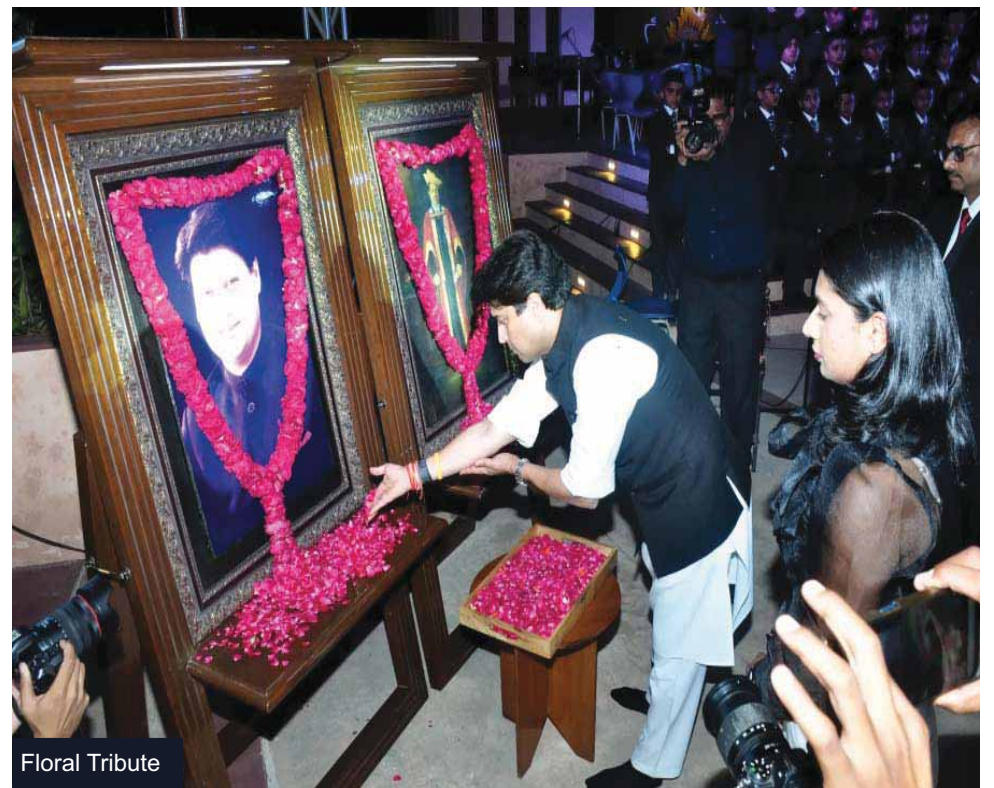
Tonight, indeed a star on the Indian firmament, former captain of the Indian team- Miss Mithali Raj, Members of the Board of Governors of The Scindia school, Madhav Awardee this year, Justice Sanjay Mishra Ji, parents, alumni, especially the class of 1997 and 2012 present in full strength this evening, members of the faculty and of course the core-essence of our being, the students present here on this historic day, welcome to the Founder's day at The Scindia School.

Before I begin, on the few thoughts that I have tonight, let me start with a story of a young immigrant who came to the shores of the United States of America in the year 1917. She could not speak a word of English. Her daughter who was in school, would come back home every evening and teach her mother, a few words of the language. The lady spent twenty years of her life saving every pence and dollar she possibly could, and by the year 1937, twenty years hence she had garnered a sum of close to two and a half thousand dollars, and then she set about her dream. Her dream was to set up a small business, manufacture, buy and sell furniture. She always wanted to open a furniture store. And however hard it was, in that era of the early 1900s, for woman to set up a business, start a business, she was driven, she was committed, she was dedicated, and she never stopped working. And there came a time, many years hence, when a billionaire investor by the name of Warren Buffet invested and bought out her company in the year 1983 for 60 million dollars. That company- Nebraska Furniture Mart in 2020 had a turnover close to 1.5 billion dollars. The lady in question- Rose Blumpkin worked until the ripe, old age of a 103. She was a woman who could not neither read nor write but she built the business. She built a business on the one precept- her single pursuit- the determination to succeed.

Therefore ladies and gentlemen, we live in a world where equality is not necessarily available to all, fairness may be hard to come by, opportunities, resources, education, may not be available in uniformity but there is no power that is strong enough to stop an idea that whose time has come, and therefore, I firmly believe that you are never defined by what you don't have, but you're defined by what you do with what you have. Henry David Thoreau once said and I quote "If you have built castles in the air, your work need not be lost; that is where they should be. Now put foundations under them" unquote. And therefore, I believe that of all the ideological-isms that surround us today in the world, there is one 'ism' that can drive change, is optimism. It is that optimism that drives self-belief. It is that optimism that gives us, human kind, the power to battle with the phenomena that the world has never seen before, such as the coronavirus and claim victory over that in times to come.

It is that optimism that powers us to adapt to a new normal and it is in this environment that we welcome all of you this year, to the Founders' Day at The Scindia school. For the last two years we have been resolute in our spirit; we have been firm in our commitment, and we have been dedicated to our cause, even though we have been bound by natural and unnatural calamities and it is the very strength of our community here. It is the very strength of our family environment in the Scindian family, that we have been able to rise even above this calamity that nature had inflicted on us. It is in this environment that through our strict SOPs, through our protocols, through the care given by family, friends, teachers and faculty, that Scindia School has blazed a trail even in a corona environment ensuring that after the hard lockdown we were the first school to start up operations within three months of the lockdown being lifted, ladies and gentlemen.

And while we talk about the trailblazer spirit, it's with a great deal of pride and honour that we have amongst us today, one of the world's most proficient women cricketers. And the reason why cricket is no longer known as a gentleman's game, but it is due to the likes of young champions like Mithali Raj ji, that today cricket has become universal. Cricket has risen across the annals of history, and please join me in giving Mithali Raj ji a warm round of applause and welcoming her here to The Scindia School. As an ardent fan of the sport and an ardent fan of hers, we welcome her for the spirit of enterprise that she represents. We welcome her for making the sport professional in every term of the word, and it is our desire that in the days on the years to come there are many more young women that follow her feet, that follow her



Floral Tribute

example, walk in her footsteps, and raise the flag of Indian cricket and the Indian flag to new heights in the days to come. Mithali ji embodies everything, in many ways that The Scindia School stands for- the values of our Founder, His Highness Maharaja Madhavrao Scindia I, when he instituted this school. We aim at nothing less than excellence and wish to see that every Scindian holds a sound value system- an inquisitive mind and a sportsman like spirit. India today, ladies and gentlemen, through the example of Mithali ji is a land of opportunities especially for young women who are coming forward to stake their claim, their rightful place in India and in the world. Some like Mithali ji are in the process of also changing the world before them and around them forever for the days to come. Mithali ji has won most of the prestigious awards in the world, right from the Wisden Leading Women Cricketers' award to the Padma Shri, the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna. However, the greatest award and reward will always be the positive change she has brought about in the area of sportsmanship and cricket. I firmly believe that she is an inspiration for our current cricket team, men and women, many who grew up seeing their Mithali *didi* play.

As it is oft repeated you cannot be, what you cannot see. Visibility is essential, visibility is one of the most powerful tools that inspire people to pursue their dreams, and I am certain Mithali ji that in your presence our young girls and boys both, will learn to dream. Alongwith learning to dream, will learn to dare and along with learning to dare, will learn to do whatever it takes to realise their dream. What is most important is the foundations that have been laid through Mithali ji's career. Her inherent trait of discipline, her inherent trait of consistency, her inherent trait of dedicating hours and days and months and years, to not only scoring runs but also scoring them with the correct technique and therefore I believe that success is a practice that is nourished with four very key ingredients. The first- discipline, the second- hard work, third- a fire from within and the fourth- empathy. All four ingredients which Mithali ji has in plentiful. Her devotion to what she does, her consistency in terms of returning to her work, no matter what the perceived success or failures, is in what you what you find success in the years to come. Even someone like Henry Ford failed twice but he concentrated on making sure that he made his product great. And another quality that Mithali ji has, is that success is multiplied when its shared and one can easily learn from her journey wherein the process of building her own career, she has helped innumerable number of players by making it viable to pursue the sport. From central contracts to getting women's cricket under the BCCI- all was successfully completed only under her tenure. And then she went on to become the captain to take India to two World Cup finals. Those were the moments, we all were glued to the TV screens.

In addition to that not only during her tenure as a cricketer but the emotional speech the day she announced her retirement and she said and I quote "I

declare that I will scout and train as many young girls as possible to take up this wonderful sport". And therefore, Mithali's journey will continue for many more years to come, we are confident. And her contribution is extremely important in the India of today because if India has to rise as a world power both in its economic sense and in its *adhyatmic* sense, as a hard power and as a soft power. *'Ekarthik shamta ke desh ke aadhar par aur ek mridyu shakti ke aadhar par'* that ladies and gentlemen will only be possible when each one of a 140 crore citizens participate in the cause of national development. And inspirations like Mithali ji will certainly pave the way for many illustrious women to follow her cause in the days to come.

I was at the Symbiosis College in Pune, a few months ago and I addressed a number of students and I interacted with them. Many talented young ladies and gentlemen and there were two qualities that I found in a lot of the students in that environment. The first, and they both speak to leadership, leadership in the 21st century- the century in which India will make a mark on the world stage. The first quality that I found there, that none of the start-ups that were being exhibited, was a one person initiative. It was a team effort from people across India, North to South of India. The second that each product that was being manufactured had a certain goodness quotient to it. There were either eco-friendly or they improved people's lives. And the lesson for all of us from that ladies and gentleman, is that if we do not invent together, we will eventually not invent at all. And as a former captain of the Women's Cricket Team, I am sure that Mithali ji knows this better than anyone else, that the whole is always greater than the sum of its part. If you indeed want to play to win, then you have to coexist, you have to adapt, you have to attune yourself, you have to adapt the strengths and weaknesses of the eleven players on and off the field. And there are ample and shining examples around us, and I hope certainly hope, that we look up to them to better ourselves and help build something bigger than our own success.

Today, ladies and gentlemen, is also a momentous occasion that beckons us next year, as we complete 125th year of this illustrious institution. This institution ladies and gentlemen, is older than independent India, and that means that this campus, this illustrious soil has been witness to every chapter in the evolution of Mother India's story. Whether it is the educational system, whether it is the aspiration of our people and whether it is the firmament, the place that India will take in the world today. So, in conclusion I do hope that as Scindia School has produced great leaders in the past and will in the future, the time-tested values of The Scindia School, integrity, honesty, patience, resilience, compassion, empathy- all of these continue to become your guiding light. Hold on to them tightly, remember do well but also do good. Thank you very much.



The Chief Guest inspecting the exhibition



The Chief Guest inspecting the exhibition

## Awards and Recognitions 2021-22

| Awards   | Awardees  | Awards   | Awardees                                   |
|--|---|--|--|
| 1. Umang Mathur Memorial Trophy (for the best Class XI Scholar)  | Satyam Raj (Mahadji House)                                      | 7. Field Marshal Cariappa Shield (for the Best Sportsman)  | Adish Sharma (Shivaji House)               |
| 2. Mahendra Mishra Memorial Trophy (for the best Class XI Sportsman)   | Anoop Korku (Daulat House)                                      | 8. Maharaja Jeevajirao Scindia Medal (for All Round Proficiency in Class XII)  | Ujjwal Mehrotra (Madhav House)             |
| 3. Maharaja Madhavrao Scindia II Medal (for All Round Proficiency)   | Mayank Choudhary (Shivaji House)                                | 9. The Khurshid Lakdawala, Jr. House Efficiency Shield   | Kanerkhed House                            |
| 4. Sam Pitroda Award (2022-23) (for the Best Innovative Project- 'Remote Controlled car that can be driven on road in the range of 1.5 kms') | Medhansh Trivedi (Madhav House)                                 | 10. Guru Hargovind Singh (Gurdwara) Trophy (for the Best House in Academics)   | Jayaji House                               |
| 5. The R. B. Pawar Medal (for scoring the highest percentage of marks in Mathematics in Class XII)   | Memoy Mishra (Daulat House)<br>Prashant Agrawal (Shivaji House) | 11. Nepal Trophy (for the Best House in Games)   | Daulat House                               |
| 6. Governor's Medal (for scoring Highest Percentage in Class XII)  | Pranay Agarwal (Ranoji House)                                   | 12. The Scindia School, Inter House General Efficiency Shield  | Daulat House                               |
|  |   | 13. Madhav Award   | Justice Sanjay Mishra (Ex-Chaitanya, 1969) |
|  |   | 14. Milestone award<br>In recognition of dedicated service to the School continuously for over Twenty years, a Silver Salver and an honorarium of Rs. 50,000/- | Mr Vishesh Sahai                           |



## Address by the Chief Guest - Ms Mithali Raj

Good evening everyone, I am honoured to be here today amongst you all and be a part of the 125th Founder's Day celebrations. I must thank His Highness Maharaja Jyotiraditya Scindia ji, Minister of Civil Aviation, Minister of Steel and Member of Parliament in the Rajya Sabha, the Members of the Board of Governors, Principal, staff and students of The Scindia School, for inviting me.



Chief Guest addressing the audience

On this momentous occasion, we must pay our tribute to the visionary, Late Maharaja Madhav Rao Scindia ji I who founded the school. Once you reach a century, you must strive to keep going harder for team scores and register an even bigger score. As The Scindia School completes 125 years today, I am sure, and I hope that the institution will go on to achieve even grander feats in the coming years and my best wishes for that.

This visit here today has stirred up memories of my alma mater, Keyes High School for Girls in Hyderabad where I studied. My school gave wings to my dreams and encouraged me to pursue my hobby which later turned into a profession. My teachers and the support staff ensured that I was able to balance academics and cricket. They allowed me to complete my studies after I attended my practice sessions. My coach prepared a special pitch for me where I honed my cricketering skills. Not only the school nurtured the cricketer in me, but it also played a huge role in shaping my personality. I am forever grateful to all my teachers who helped me in my quest of becoming a cricketer. I don't think I would have been where I am if I would have studied in any other school. I am sure that the illustrious alumni who have passed from The Scindia School will also share similar feelings about their alma mater.

The sheer range and versatility in the career fields of these alumni speak volumes about the freedom and academic nourishment that this institution provides. From the Indian film industry to politics, the former students of The Scindia School have forged prestigious and successful careers in many different regions. I am sure all of you students sitting here in attendance will also go on and create a place for yourselves in the fields of your choice.

Now, I would like to draw your attention to a fascinating fact that I am sure

many of you here are not aware of. Late Maharaja Madhav Rao Scindia ji had a tremendous passion for cricket, and we owe him a lot and here by 'we' I mean my colleagues and I, my teammates from Indian Railways, all those ex-cricketers who represent Indian Railways. It was during his term as the Minister of Railways that he provided the women cricketers with permanent jobs in the railways. He was the first to start Indian Women's Railway Cricket team, way back. In those days women's cricket was not under the BCCI; this was a massive relief for the women cricketers who had to choose between cricket and career.

Indian Railways is the biggest employer of women cricketers in India; they still are and the financial security that it provides has truly changed women's cricket in India. The Railway's Women Cricket team is known as the powerhouse of the Indian women's cricket team. Many international cricketers have come through the ranks of the Indian Railways, and I also had the honour of representing and leading the team for a long duration. I am truly grateful to Late Maharaja Madhav Rao Scindia ji for taking this initiative and allowing us to realise our dreams in the field of cricket.

As students of The Scindia School, you are very fortunate that the school takes due care of your overall personality development. In today's cutting edge competitive world to achieve great success in life, it is essential to have a healthy body and a healthy mind. When I started playing cricket, there was very little knowledge available about the fitness regime required by a cricketer or what sort of diet that the athlete must consume, which exercise should we focus on, or which deficiency we should overcome. We knew nothing about it, but times have changed for the better and all this information is just a few clicks away for all of us in today's time. I have learnt that you boys go through a fitness programme daily in the morning and then spend your evenings taking part in a range of physical activities. It is followed by Astachal which is for your spiritual nourishment which is so important in today's time. A few minutes of meditation go a long way in enriching your spiritual health. The importance of mental health is as essential as your physical health. While we try to keep our bodies fit and healthy, it is also necessary to keep our minds fit and strong. I am sure you all are taking the right step in this direction and the school is playing a pivotal role in guiding you. I am once again thankful to all of you for making me a part of this extremely special occasion for The Scindia School. The wonderful location and the rich legacy of this institution have made this an even more incredible experience. I am honoured to be at such an historic venue and speak my mind in front of respected dignitaries. Thank you for being such a wonderful host and I must thank the energetic students here for patiently listening to me though as an athlete it is for the first time that I have come up with such a speech which I think is apt for such a special occasion where I could talk about what I truly believed and feel for this school. Thank you very much for giving me this opportunity and for including me in your celebration.



Inauguration of exhibitions

## The Talk Show: Ms Mithali Raj in conversation with Mr Vishesh Sahai

**Mr Vishesh Sahai:** Good evening to the Chief Guest, Ms Mithali Raj. A very good evening to His Highness Maharaja Jyotiraditya Scindia, Members of the Board, Batch of 1997, and 2012, parents, friends, staff and ladies and gentlemen. I have this very pleasant duty of hosting this conversation with none other than the iconic cricketer with us tonight, Ms Mithali Raj. Generally, when we host a conversation, we tend to read a very detailed biography and introduce the Chief Guest, but I decided not to do anything like that today; reason being that



Ms Mithali Raj with Mr Vishesh Sahai

she doesn't need any introduction and all her achievements are there on the internet. But just to bring Mithali Raj alive to all the guests here, to open the landscape of who she is really is, I want you to hear me carefully for a few minutes before we plunge into the talk show.

In 1997, when she was 14 years of age, she was in the 'probable' of the India list. Her coach passed away in a road accident and soon thereafter she couldn't make it to the team. A 14-year-old girl, two setbacks back-to-back, her indomitable spirit carried on and in another two years' time at age-sixteen she went on to make her India debut and she scores a century in the first ODI against Ireland. In the very third test, she scores a double century which has remained a record for about two decades and if I am not wrong it's still the second highest score for any women cricketer in the world. But when all this was happening at the time when she made her debut, the Indian women's cricket was going through a turmoil. No resources, no matches to be played, dearth of sponsors, good cricketers leaving for better options because it became unsustainable and that was the time when in the skyline of uncertainties for the next two decades she stood like a tower of certainty and she not only – you know, I want to fast forward to 2005, when she led the Indian cricket team to the finals; fast forward to 2017, she led the Indian cricket team to the final. She's the thread across generations and across eras right from Diana Edulji to Jhulan Goswami to Anjum Chopra and the likes, she's seen it all. And my last line of the introduction is that she is the chief architect of building the Indian Women's Team, the core, brick by brick, in last 20 years and on 18th of October, two days ago, the BCCI has announced for a women's IPL edition in 2023. Ladies and Gentlemen, the architect is right in front of you.

So before we go on to the students for a few questions, I have one question to start with Ms Raj if you please. How do you feel your life, as a biopic on the movie screen? How do you feel about it?

**Ms Mithali Raj:** Good evening to all of you and let me first tell it's an absolute honour to be here today, to be part of your fabulous celebration of 125 years and when the production house reached out to me that they wanted to make a movie on my journey as a cricketer, I thought somebody is playing a prank. You know, I just kept the phone down, for three or four days they continuously called me up and then I felt like okay, this is something serious but I was a little hesitant because over a long career, there're so many vulnerable moments that probably I have never shared with the world. I didn't know how people would accept it or see it, but I felt it would be an appropriate platform to sort of extend my gratitude also to all those ex-women cricketers, who started the sport and continued it till 1992 where me as a young kid got into the sport and took it up and was able to play for so long. So, I felt this would be the right

medium to sort of let the world know a little bit, probably a glimpse of women's cricket, from where it is started and how far it has come. The obstacles and the challenges of all my seniors that you know they've endured to see a young budding cricketer like me to take it up; when things were very hard and to see today where women's cricket is come along way, where people appreciate and recognize all the national women cricketers. So I think, I felt like I should say yes and so many cricketers and my seniors have reached up to me and said that it was very nice movie and I hope that most of you would have seen that movie and have thoroughly enjoyed it.

**Mr Vishesh Sahai:** We did. We did. The entire school watched it. Thank you. So, can we have a few questions from the students first and then we will see how much time we have. If I can have a raise of hands. I have two boys to assist me, Shaurya and Gaurang is there.

**Ayaan Agarwal:** Good evening, I am Ayaan from class IX and my question to you is, what do you think is the biggest hinderance in women sports in India today?

**Ms Mithali Raj:** Hi Ayaan, I would not say hinderance; a lot of things have changed in the past few years. The sports culture which we as a country didn't have in the past, has developed in the last few years. Probably one of the things that I feel every women athlete had to go through is gender criticism. When it comes to sports; I feel when the men win or they lose, usually the criticism is directed to the sport, to the strategies, to the tactics, to the composition of the team. But when the women athlete loses a game, so it is directed towards the gender. She doesn't have the strength, or the women sport is like that, so it's quite boring. So, I think that is one of the common things I would say that every women athlete in our country has to endure and also the support system. Of course, it has developed and a lot of parents do support the young girls to get them into a sport and take it up as a profession. But there are still a lot many parents I feel that, who in the need to get overnight success, do not show the patience that the young girls need and their support constantly, to become a good athlete.

**Naman Dua:** Good evening Ma'am, myself Naman Dua, I am from class VIII and my question for you today is, that each time you get out for a duck so what things inspired you to score a century later, in simple words - How did you tackle your failures?

**Ms Mithali Raj:** Well, you first made it pretty hard and then you simplified it. I think, just like winning or losing, failure and success play in a loop. If you are successful there will come a point when you probably fail in certain aspects of your sport. That should not determine that you are a failure. Failures, I feel, I look at failures as an opportunity to again make an impact, to let people know that she's made use of a difficult opportunity or a difficult situation. I think, I look at failures as a source of inspiration or a motivation and even the pleasure when we get onto the ground; there are so many people who expect so many things from an international player or an athlete. Players, team expectations, family expectations, your coach and mentors, but at the end of the day as an athlete you need to understand that you are allowed, you should be doing that one aspect with your best ability and that is to go out there and use your skills to the optimum, to give performance and that can happen only when you have clarity of thought, when you are composed and use pleasure as something to propel you forward rather than push you down. I feel that failure is important. I think it is the best teacher. If I can share an experience of mine, 2013 ODI World Cup was held in India and as a captain of the Indian women's team, I felt that it that would be a great opportunity to promote the sport in our country. The format of that ODI World Cup was that the teams had to qualify for super six and eventually get into the knockouts. As a host team, we didn't even qualify for the super six. So that was quite a bitter pill to digest. It was very disappointing as a captain but I used that failure to prepare the team that I wanted in the 2017 World Cup because that was the next edition. So not many knew that the failure in 2013 is what helped me to form a team in 2017 with the lot of support from every factor like whether it was the selectors, BCCI or team management, and players. I needed all of them to be on the same page. It was difficult but not impossible, all I had to do was prepare well and work hard and do my homework well.



**Sameep Mody:** Good evening ma'am, I am Sameep and I wanted to ask you that in your two decade long career in cricket, what did you find more difficult- to tackle situations on the pitch or out of the stadium?

**Ms Mithali Raj:** I found the most difficult thing is to control my mind. You know, situations are external factors but if you have control over your mind and your emotions and take decisions where it's not impulsive. I think we will sail through but yes that comes again through very difficult and hard experiences when we do mistakes. So, I think on the field it's more about strategies, sometimes things work, sometimes don't but you learn, you always come prepared. Off the field it is more difficult because that's where I think you are not as an athlete, but you think as a person and many a times the world looks at athletes like we are God, we don't feel anything. We do also have emotions; we go through all the tough times but over the years I have felt mind is our strongest tool. The better we learn to use our mind and control it I think we fare very well in the career that we choose.

**Neev Agarwal:** Good Evening ma'am, I am Neev and my question to you is that after having achieved so much in your life, what do you now look forward to that you have retired?

**Ms Mithali Raj:** One dream of mine or one goal of mine which I could not achieve was the World Cup for India. Now that I'm retired probably not as the player but maybe in some capacity if I can again develop women's cricket or a team that tomorrow or in the next edition of the ODI World Cup they go on to win the World Cup. I think that is something is always there in my mind and if I can help in whatever capacity that I can, I will probably help.

**Ayaan Shah:** Good evening ma'am, my name is Ayaan, my question to you is that, to the best of my knowledge it was your first school that funded your first international trip and now there are so many people who are ready to trust you with their money and their funds so how does that just feel?

**Ms Mithali Raj:** Well, if somebody is going to trust you specially with their money you should feel amazing. But I think that it's the journey. Yes, those were the days we were not under BCCI, and I was very fortunate and lucky to get support from my school in terms of finance as well as even in academics. I have missed a lot of exams; I probably had nil attendance in school. But my school encouraged me to go and pursue the dream that my coach and my parents had envisioned for me and if not for their support probably I wouldn't be where I was when I was sixteen playing for India. So, it feels great I had the right kind of support at the right time, just grateful for that.

**Mr Vishesh Sahai:** Thank you, a couple more probably.

**Akshay Suman:** Good evening, ma'am, myself Akshay Suman, my question to you is that when in year 2004 captaincy was given to you, you were asked to lead the Indian women's sports team, you declined it but just before the World Cup of 2005, you accepted it. So, is there any reason behind it?

**Ms Mithali Raj:** I felt, as a 19-year-old, probably I didn't have the experience of leading the Indian team and at that point of time there were a lot many senior players in the side, ex- captains in the side and I just got into the Indian team. I thought probably, I require some more time to lead this team. I felt a senior player who is much more experienced, can lead the side. And that is why, it was purely my own decision that I felt that is a right thing to do. But two years forward, when again the captaincy was offered to me, I had gained a lot of experience in those two years as a Vice Captain of the team and I felt that I was ready to lead the team in 2005 ODI World Cup.

**Yash Jain:** Good evening, ma'am. This is Yash. In one of your interviews, you mentioned that you preferred reading books before going out to play. So, what's the secret behind the same?

**Ms Mithali Raj:** I first started reading books while travelling in trains as I said those days lot of travel happened via Indian Railways, since I am employed with railways as well. The travel from Hyderabad to Delhi is usually 24 hours and when you are the only player from your state you are travelling alone. And they say that books are your best companions while on travel. So, I started

reading books but over some games that I felt that when you sit down- waiting for your turn and your openers have a pretty long partnership and you tend to get distracted sitting outside for your turn- I felt that in those times I can rather use it, reading a book and transport myself into a different world which probably helped me to calm my nerves before a big game or a big day. And that is why I continue to read even in the midst of when the team is playing but having said that when I walk in to bat, I am pretty clear in my mind what I want to do. And without any predetermined emotions that one gets in to bat, I was very clear. So, in a way reading helped me to calm my nerves all those anxiety pangs that every athlete feels before a big tournament.

**Mr Atul Takle:** Good evening ma'am, my name is Atul Takle and I am an Old Boy of the school. My question to you is actually broken up into two parts. First part is which team did you find most difficult to play against in your career? Number two, what did you learn from those teams which you then implemented into the Indian team?

**Ms Mithali Raj:** There are two teams which I found difficult to play. One of course is England because the English: conditions they play in is always difficult for any cricketer and Australia, yes because they have a very good setup, and they always churn out young fast bowlers and as a team they are very competitive and something that I have always enjoyed on the field. Even though I don't really show my emotions on the field, but I have been a very competitive child from the very beginning. I think now the Indian team is doing much better because when you give them the exposure of playing a competitive sport at a competitive level constantly and not like once in a year or twice in a year, I think that develops that spirit in them to not give anything easy, which I have developed playing with the boys. The current generation doesn't need to do that, but they are very strong, and strongly compete against each other. So, I think in terms of skill we are very much on par with any side in the world. It's all about exposure. I am sure with the Women's IPL if it goes the way its announced scheduled next year, it will unearth a lot many talented young girls, who can be the future players who probably fulfill my dream of winning the World Cup.

**Mr Vishesh Sahai:** Thank you, we are running out of time, and I have one last question from you ma'am. What is the reference point, where do you find the grit, the resilience, the motivation to go on? What is that software?

**Ms Mithali Raj:** I think the desire to always excel and evolve as a person. When I started, the definition of success has changed for me over the years. As a 16-year-old, success was wearing the blue jersey, but when you start to score runs, the team depends on you and you want to play to the expectation of your teammates because they feel that when you are out there, the team wins and when you start to perform and people acknowledge those performances and then there would be parents coming and telling like - I want my daughter to be like you, then you feel that it's just not success there is something more and beyond your individual performance and I felt then that it was my role is just not limited to me as a cricketer- how successful I become, but what sort of an impact that I will leave, when I leave cricket. That there should be many more girls who should take up the sport. When I started, I was the only girl in a boys' academy but the same academy today enrolls hundred girls. So that probably is my legacy and that probably I would say - excellence.

**Mr Vishesh Sahai:** Indeed. Thank you very much. It's quite a coincidence that we celebrate 125 years of legacy in education, and we have somebody who has a very distinct legacy of 20 years in international cricket. Thank you so much for your time, thank you so much for giving us the opportunity to host you here and for this talk show. Thank you ma'am.



Ms Mithali Raj



## Citation of the Madhav Awardee - Justice Sanjay Mishra (Ex-Chaitanya, 1969)

An alumnus of The Scindia School, Justice Sanjay Mishra is the Lokayukta of Uttar Pradesh.

He exemplifies in his life and work the fundamental values of courage and non-discrimination that this institution stands for. Justice Mishra studied at The Scindia School from 1964 — 69. While in School, he excelled in a large range of sports, cultural events, co-curricular activities, and was a member of the School Cricket team.

After passing out from School in 1969, he went on to do a BA (Honours) from Punjab University and an LLB from Allahabad University.

He started his career as an advocate. Subsequently in 2004, he was appointed as the Hon'ble Judge of the High Court of Judicature at Allahabad, a responsibility he held till 2014. During his tenure as a Judge, he was part of several landmark judgments. In 2016, he was appointed as the Lokayukta of Uttar Pradesh. His appointment is even more significant for the fact that he is the only Lokayukta in the country, appointed by none other than the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India. The Hon'ble Supreme Court had considered the names of all the Judges who had retired in the previous 10 years; and from more than 300 names,

found Justice Sanjay Mishra to be the most suitable candidate for this sensitive and responsible post. As a Lokayukta, he is the anti-corruption ombudsman, a statutory authority probing into cases primarily related to graft, government mismanagement and abuse of power by public servants or ministers.

As an Old Boy, efforts of Justice Mishra are commendable in the restructuring process of SOBA. He actively participates in SOBA events and encourages Old Boys to engage meaningfully with SOBA and with the School.

He commands enormous respect and trust not only in the judiciary but also in the executive and the legislature for he has always approached his duty with humility, courage, and in the spirit of service. Today, School acknowledges Justice Sanjay Mishra as an Old Boy of Eminence for his outstanding contribution as a former Judge of the High Court and as the Lokayukta of Uttar Pradesh by conferring upon him the Madhav Award for 2022.

HH Jyotiraditya M Scindia

President, Board of Governors

## Address by Justice Sanjay Mishra - Madhav Awardee 2022

His Excellency, Maharaja Jyotiraditya Scindia ji, the Chief Guest of this evening, the iconic sportsman who has promoted cricket in the country and the world, where cricket was known as a men's game. Now it has become the game for both the genders. Mithali Raj ji is an icon in her own self. I welcome the Members of the Board of Governors. I thank them for having considered me for this prestigious and coveted award. I thank the Principal, The Scindia School for having invited me here today, to receive the award. I am humbled by this award and overwhelmed by the choice made by the selectors to confer upon me, the Madhav award. It is very difficult for me at this moment to gather my thoughts and put some useful information or guidance for the students because I myself; I am searching for such guidance so that I can put forth something useful for this august audience. So instead of going into all those details, I will like to mention in short, two momentous days of my life which I have shared with His Excellency Maharaja Madhavrao Scindia ji and His Excellency Maharaja Jyotiraditya Scindia ji, today. In 1969, I was a part of the cricket team. There was a triangular contest in which other schools had come to the school and His Excellency, Maharaja Madhavrao Scindia ji had also come. He came with another cricket icon, Nawab of Pataudi. After the match had concluded, probably my memory is hazy, but probably, I had scored some thing good. So

His Highness presented me with the bat with which I had batted that day and apart from presenting it to me, Nawab Pataudi took the bat from me, took out his pen and on the other side of the bat, he affixed his signature as an acknowledgement. That bat, I preserved as a valued gift to me for 40 or 45 years. When I came in the profession of Law, as a Judge of the Allahabad High Court; it appears that when I was not in the city, there was cleaning going in my house pre-Diwali. Now I think, that it was in that cleaning that the bat got misplaced. I searched it for long but I could never find it again. However, that memory in my mind of the bat being presented to me, by His Excellency Maharaja Madhavrao Scindia ji, still remains as fresh as it was on that date. Today, I am again here in the presence of His Excellency, Maharaja Jyotiraditya Scindia ji and like his father was here in 1969, with a cricket icon, his son is here with us, with a cricket icon. I thank all my well wishers and all people who have considered me deserving of this Madhav award and I want to pledge that I will continue to work for SOBA in all my capacity and all the time that I can devote. I shall be available, to all Scindians, past, present and future for any assistance that I can give to them. The Board of Governors of the School thought me fit to be awarded, this award and therefore a special thank you from me, to them. There is not much that I can say now, because of the humbling effect this award has had on me and because I am totally overwhelmed and therefore I will request you to excuse me from going any further. Thank you very much.

Long Live Scindia School, its name and its reputation.



Madhav awardee, Justice Sanjay Mishra



Release of School publications

## Vote of Thanks by Senior School Prefect - Mayank Chaudhary

Aaron Ross said and I quote: "Just take any step whether small or large and then another and repeat day after day. It may take months, maybe years, but the path to success will become clear." It was these small steps taken by our founder that have gradually yet strongly laid the foundation of this and created such a strong community which is now stepping into its 125th year. 125 years, not just of mere existence but 125 years of transforming young boys into men of mettle, men of character, men of profound personality and leaders of today and tomorrow. Good evening, Honorable Chief Guest Padma Shri Mithali Raj, President, Board of Governors, His Highness Maharaja Jyotiraditya Scindia; Principal, Mr Ajay Singh; Members of the Board of Governors, Old Boys, eminent guests, parents, teachers and my fellow Scindians- "The best way to be successful is to be fearless" these words by our Chief Guest of the evening, Padma Shri Mithali Raj, has encouraged the young generation of us millennials to be fearless in what we believe in and to remember no matter what happens in life, you will be successful one day if you believe in yourself. Thank you ma'am for gracing us with your presence today; having you amongst us surely motivates and inspires each one of us all to strive for excellence in our own fields.

I would also like to thank the Honorable President and Members of the Board of Governors for being the robust pillars of support, growth and development who have enhanced this journey of education in the most holistic way possible. We are fortunate to have a group buzzing with exceptionally talented and implausibly dedicated visionaries whose efforts have helped each one of us experience what is truly meant by educational success.

Our thanks are due to this year's Madhav awardee Justice Sanjay Mishra for being the living embodiment of the Scindian ethos. It is said that students are the gems of this institution but what many fail to recognize that it is our teachers who polish and shape these very gems which make them shine so bright. Thus on this momentous occasion, I would like to extend our gratitude to all of our teachers and staff members who have always been by our side supporting us, pushing us and guiding us throughout this remarkable journey. Sirs and madams, we as the student body definitely hope to make you proud.

I would also like to thank the Old Boys, especially the Batch of 2012 and 1997 for coming back to their alma mater to reconnect with their extended families. I am sure you all must have always observed that the more that the things have changed, the more they have remained the same. It is because of you all, that we as Scindians have learnt to value tradition and embarked upon this journey of discovery and finally understood what it means to be a Scindian. I would like to thank you all for taking the Scindian flag to newer and greater heights. I would also like to thank all the parents and guests who made sure to set aside time from their hectic schedule to witness these programmes and grace this auspicious occasion.

I would also take this opportunity to thank the entire school management whose support and expertise on all the technical details has led to the smooth and proper execution of such a grand event.

Now let me come to the most important faction of my journey here at Scindia, my batchmates, the ones who have been with me from the merriest of moments to the scariest of them, the ones whose faith and trust in me has now put me on a pedestal to speak in front of a gathering. I thank all those sitting in the last row of the OAT for creating such stupefying and perplexing memories which I am sure would stick to all of us for the rest of our lives.

This event wouldn't have been nearly as grand if it wouldn't have been the effort and sweat put into it. On that note, I would like to thank the entire student body of the school for having put in so many hours of work and for relentlessly working day in and day out which led to this event being a grand success.

I would be failing in my duties if I forget to mention the unsung heroes, our support staff. From waiting for us in the Houses to return from the practices, to waking us up on time, or preparing scrumptious meals or placing all the lights and audio visual instruments in place- these are the people who have never said no to any of our requests and have always been there to help us with a smile on their face. Thus on this occasion I thank all of these invisible hands



Senior School Prefect, Mayank Chaudhary

without whose help, this event would be humanly impossible to pull off.

Ladies and gentlemen, exactly seven years ago on this very day, a dream was created in the mind of a timid and nervous little boy, a dream to address such an illustrious gathering. Through seven years in the portals of this great institution that timid, nervous little boy has transformed into a confident young man, willing and more than happy to address such a vast assemblage and I take no credit of that. Today, I must confess in all my honesty that each student sitting over here is able to see more and further because of the vision created in us by this school; each event, each exercise, each day teaches us something new, gives us a new experience, one which enriches the mind and satisfies the heart and soul. Thus on behalf of the whole student body I would like to thank The Scindia School for instilling in us the very essence of life and helping us build a temperament to face any and every challenge that might be thrown onto us.

Albert Einstein once said and I quote, "There is nobody, who is perfect" but ladies and gentleman, boys and girls, on the contrary, all that it takes to be perfect is that Scindian effect, and that is why we say what fire was to the Stone Age, Scindia is to our character.

I thank you all once again for being a part of this 125 year old legacy.

Thank you

Good Night, Shubh Raatri,

Long Live Scindia!!



School song

## DSSP- Anubhav Sachan: Parents' Day, Welcome Speech

Good evening and a very warm welcome to our Principal, Mr Ajay Singh, dignitaries, parents, teachers and my fellow Scindians - old and new.

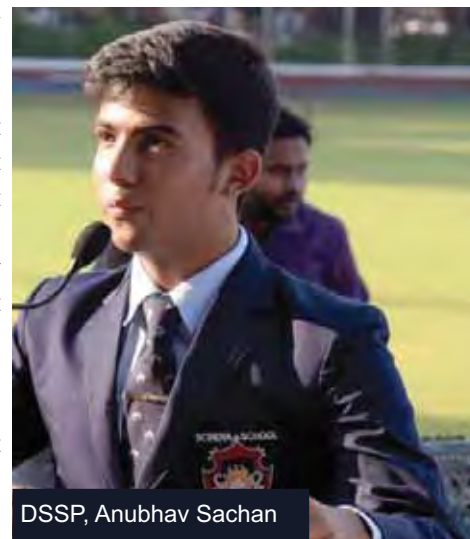
It feels like yesterday, when I - wide eyed, clutching my mother's hand, sat in the daunting orientation session. Through the barrage of words, I heard that day, one word stood out for me - legacy. At that time, I was an unlit candle, and I was unable to understand its importance. But this year, when I was given the orientation myself, I repeated the word in silent homage, now with full appreciation.

Our legacy doesn't lie in the quantity of trophies and medals; instead, it lives through the silent efforts of all Scindians' lives - correcting spelling errors, rewriting answers, running rounds of the sports field and missing a thousand goals...the Scindian legacy is the blood of the institution. It is about the thousand small victories and little moments hidden in the mundane that push us forward, almost unconsciously. That is the legacy, ladies and gentlemen, we are proud of - the one that makes Scindians compassionate, humble, hardworking and confident.

On this Founder's Day we stand still in this ever-moving world and appreciate our legacy; past, present, and emerging. When I joined the Scindia School I was like this piece of clay, gullible, confused on what my shape would be. I saw my brother, now an Old Boy, as my role model. Right from listening to his speeches and trying to copy him in front of the mirror, from working under his guidance to now guiding my juniors - I grew up. From taking forward the house values to having my name on the Honours' Board - I carried forward his legacy. This

is the kind of legacy that every little boy of grade VI carries with him.

I stand here today in front of you not because of any extraordinary talent but because I learned to put my best foot forward in whatever I undertake, and to rise above mediocrity, to make my own way by escaping from the comfort zone, taking challenges with open arms and taking opportunities as blessings. Yet the most important thing that I have learnt as a student is to accept victory with humility and defeat with grace. Hard work, perseverance and a never give up attitude is what we learn here at Scindia and that's what exactly defines the Scindian ethos.



DSSP, Anubhav Sachan

I will conclude with a quote from HH Maharaja Jeevaji Rao Scindia. He once said and I quote "The young men who go out of The Scindia School will carry in life and in their conduct, the bold imprint of this institution, the stamp of self-discipline, of character, of chivalry, of dignity, and of good behavioural qualities, on which higher citizenship is based".

Thank you everyone. This is Anubhav Sachan. I hope you have a wonderful evening ahead!

## DSSP- Vidit Gupta: Parents' Day, Vote of Thanks

Six years ago, I made a promise. Sitting right there, in grey shorts, with my mother, I told her "Mumma I'll be wearing this blue shirt one day and I'll be standing on that podium giving the speech as a school prefect". She's sitting right here, I just want to say, Mom, I kept my promise.

Good evening, Members of the Board of Governors, dignitaries, parents, teachers and my Scindians - old and new.

We have witnessed an extraordinary set of performances by the student body and I applaud the talent. It is my privilege to present the Vote of Thanks as the Deputy Senior School Prefect of The Scindia School, Fort.

I start by thanking our Principal, Mr Ajay Singh for his guidance and unconditional support, our Vice Principal Ms Smita Chaturvedi for patiently being there for our every little need and want and Bursar Lt Col. Farashwal for being the backbone of the 125th Founder's Day. I thank Mr Dharendra Sharma, Dean of Cocurricular Activities and Mr Raj Kapoor, Dean of ICT for their constant support and guidance throughout the Founder's Day practices.

My thanks are due to all the teachers who shared their lives with us in this *Rishi Galav ki Tapasthali*. They're the individuals who make this barren fort a *gurukul* and their contribution is unquantifiable. I am very grateful to Mr Raja Banerjee, Mr Manoj Mishra, Dr Smita Trivedi and all the teachers who practised with us through all those tiresome nights and made this cultural event possible with their unimaginable talent and skills.

I am grateful to the Old Boys, my seniors who watched me grow and made me what I am and the members of the SOBA here who have travelled a great distance, back to the place they call their home. The enthusiasm you bring to the programme and all the nostalgia you leave in the houses, I thank you for being here.

From the pavilion that you're sitting on to the performance stage and to the podium I am standing on here, all of it has been put up by the administrative staff and I am deeply grateful to them.

I would further like to express my gratitude towards our lovely bhaiyas, our house and department helps, who have worked day and night to make this event wonderful.

While I was backstage - I noticed the eyes of these young performers wandering in the audience, looking for someone, and then there was a sudden spark in their eyes and a glaze in their art. My dear parents, thank you for being that special someone in the audience.

I remember six years ago, I was so happy, so elated to be coming to a boarding school. My experience coming to the fort was a different one, I don't remember getting emotional, I don't remember being sentimental or getting homesick. I came here with a big smile and the fort never let my smile down. But the 12-year-old me did not understand the sacrifice that my parents made. Sending your boy away from you and not getting a glimpse of his, for spans of months is not easy but my parents did it and all the parents here are doing it. I applaud that sacrifice and I thank each and every parent here who has trusted the school with their precious boys.

In the end, I would fail in my duties if I do not thank my Scindians. None of this was remotely possible without your hard work, your support and your talent.

I thank you Class of 23 for being there through our ups and downs. I hope our last six months go just like the six years we spent together.

At 125 years of founding, when we talk about "transforming the future". I look back to the little, nervous boy at the junior school gate six years ago with his dad tying his shoelaces and the same boy as a representative of a family of over seven hundred, speaking in front of the whole school. This podium, this event, it's mythical for me. I have seen a generation of young men speak on this stage and now I'm a part of their daunting legacy. The fort transformed me and I, with my utmost conviction, believe that the fort will transform the future. Thank You all.

This is Vidit Gupta. *Sa vidya ya vimuktaye*.

Long Live Scindia.



DSSP, Vidit Gupta



## Glimpses of the Founder's Day



Tushar Saini was awarded the Scholar's Blazer



Ms Rolly Chaudhary, inaugurating the exhibition



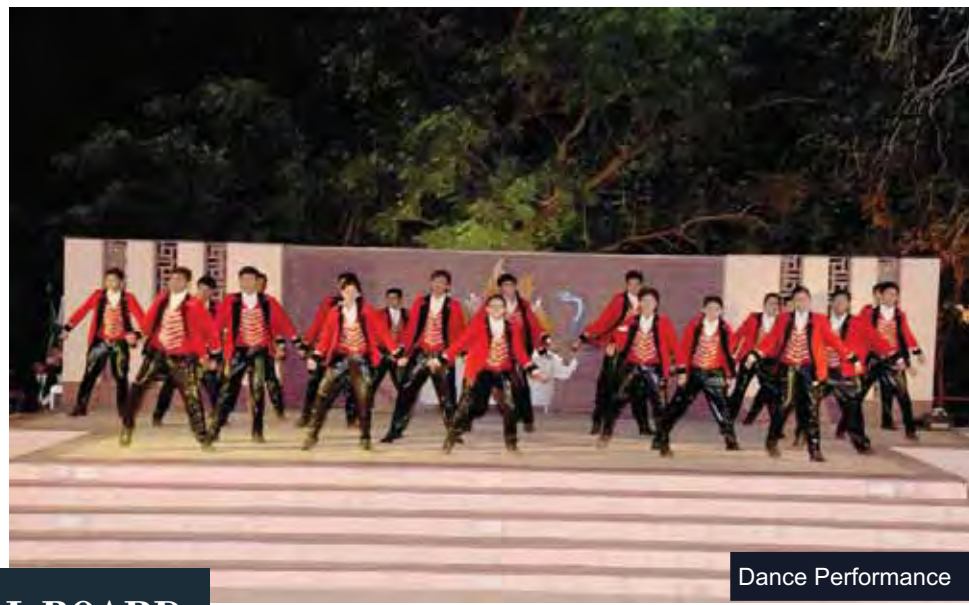
SOBA Bangalore receiving the SOBA Cup for the year 2022



Mr Gopal Bhargava receiving the SOBA award for the year 2022



School Orchestra



Dance Performance

### EDITORIAL BOARD



**Published by** : The Principal, The Scindia School, Fort, Gwalior

**Staff Editors** : Dr Smita Trivedi (English) and Mr Manoj Mishra (Hindi)

**Executive Editor** : Mr Chetan Bhatia

**Editor in Chief** : Parv Rajesh Agarwal

**Chief Creative Editor** : Aditya Singh

**Correspondents** : Amrit Singh, Anubhav Sachan, Parikshita Singh, Ayaan Chintan Shah

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

**Web Support** : Mr Raj Kumar Kapoor

**Photography** : Mr Anubhav Sarkar  
Mr Hasrat Ali

**Technical Support** : Mr Jitendra Jawale

**Printed by** : Galaxy Printers, Gwalior

**URL** : [www.scindia.edu](http://www.scindia.edu)

**OLD BOYS' SITE** : [www.scindia.edu/alumni](http://www.scindia.edu/alumni)

**NOVEMBER 15, 2022 | WPP** : Regn.No.Gwl.Dn.11

**Feedback** : [smitat@scindia.edu](mailto:smitat@scindia.edu)

**Price** : Re. 1