

THE SCINDIA SCHOOL, FORT GWALIOR

# REVIEW-18



THURSDAY, 15 NOVEMBER 2018 | WPP : REGN.NO.GWL.DN.11

## EDITORIAL

Arya Laddha | XI A



The Fort burst into activity on the 121st Founder's Day. Here is a panoramic view of the same.

The 121st Founder's Day Celebrations began on 20th October 2018. The Celebration was held on three days. On 20th October 2018, the Parents' Day was held. The parents were briefed about the performance of their wards. It was followed by an interesting- interactive session between Mr Martin Chalker, CEO, International Students' House, London, and the parents.

Mr Martin Chalker graced the occasion of the Parents' Day as the Chief Guest. A theatrical performance entitled- Lord of the Flies was staged. The play was based on the novel of the same name, written in 1954 by the Nobel prize-winner, British novelist- William Golding. The play focused on the reverting back of humans to their animalistic instincts in a free environment. The wonderful evening ended with a Vote of Thanks by Jai Chahar, Deputy Senior School Prefect. The day concluded with an exciting and scintillating entertainment evening at the Madhav Pavilion. Sonam Bhutia along with other students sung soothing symphonies while the dinner was served.

On the Founder's day, 21st October 2018 the School flag was unfurled by Mr Mitul Dikshit, School Captain of the Class of 1993. The different publications by the School were also released. Thereafter, the exhibitions were inaugurated by Mr Martin Chalker. All the parents and guests visited the exhibitions. The much awaited evening began with the arrival of Chief Guest in the evening. The Chief Guest on the occasion was Mr Kumar Mangalam Birla, Chairman, Aditya Birla Group. Upon arrival, the Chief Guest was introduced to the Board of Governors, citizens from Sonsa Village, prefects, faculty and staff members. The School Band greeted the Chief Guest with a lively Band performance. The talented vocalists and instrumentalists crafted a symphony entitled 'Rangeela Bharat.' After the school orchestra's scintillating and melodious performance a Band Performance was given by Mr Ramesh Sharma along with Chleopus Limboo and Garg Sajnani. After that, Principal, Dr Madhav Deo Saraswat read out the school's Annual Report for the session 2017-18. Then, the President Board of Governors, His Highness Maharaja Jyotiraditya Scindia welcomed the Chief Guest, Mr Kumar Mangalam Birla. President Board of Governors, His Highness Maharaja Jyotiraditya Scindia read out the citation for the Madhav Award. The Scindia School conferred on Mr Pradeep S Mehta (Ex - Vivekanand, 1960 - 1965), the Madhav Award as an Old Boy of Eminence for his stellar contribution in the field of Consumer Activism. Next, the ceremony symbolizing the handing over of traditions of the School by the Madhav Awardee to a Scindian was performed. Then the Principal, Dr Madhav Deo Saraswat announced the Annual Awards. The Chief Guest, Mr Birla gave away the awards which are given to students and Houses for excellence in different verticals of the School. A choreography sequence entitled 'Abhimanyu's Chakravayuh' was performed.

The third day, 22nd October 2018 was celebrated as the Old Boys' Day. The Chief Guest of the evening was Hon'ble Justice, Mr Sanjay Mishra (Lokayukta, Uttar Pradesh). This brought the three day carnival to an end.



Parent Teacher Meeting



A still from the English Play



Mr Martin Chalker



Mr Kumar Mangalam Birla meeting the School Prefects

## PARENTS' DAY SPEECHES - 20th OCTOBER 2018

### Chief Guest, Mr Martin Chalker's address

Good evening Scindia and welcome back Class of 1993. I would like to thank everybody for inviting me to be here tonight. It's a great pleasure to be part of Scindia; over the associates that we are going to be for the years to come. It has been a pleasure to go around today, to see, I am sorry, Class of 93 lose forth in the football I think, but I understand that there can be a revenge back in Cricket on Monday so that has to be interesting. It's a pleasure to be here tonight- the play here, the actors and everything that went on were amazing as it always is here, the scenery and the way that everyone welcomes me with open arms and the things that you expect from a school- that is Scindia. Thank you and I hope you have a wonderful time on Founder's Day. Thank you.



### Vote of Thanks by the Deputy Senior School Prefect, Jai Chahar

It was the day I remember when my brother graduated from this wonderful institution and left me with a note which said, "How do you look at yourself out of the millions of children who grow each day to be the best? Are you confident enough to encounter your dreams shadowed by the reality?" I ask you all this because I was unanswerable when I stepped in here, I was afraid to speak on the first day of my school. I may or may not have achieved a lot while I was here but what makes me different is the audacity to fight with my fears and stand out to represent myself as a humane citizen of this nation. Today I go out of here carrying the bold imprints of this legendary institution and with conviction I proudly say that I am a Scindian.

Good Evening Honourable Chief Guest, CEO International Student House Mr Martin Chalker, Members of the Board of Governors, parents, teachers and fellow Scindians. Today, we have gathered here to celebrate and commemorate the exquisite 121 years of Scindia School's legacy. Under this beautiful starry night, it is my proud privilege to propose a vote of thanks on behalf of the student body and acknowledge each one of you who has tirelessly worked to make this Parent's Day a memorable one.

Ladies and Gentlemen, first of all, I would like to thank Mr Chalker, for travelling a distance of more than 5000 miles just to be with us on this special day. We are also grateful to you Sir, for the two scholarships that ISH has declared for two Scindians starting 2018. I would also like to thank our Principal, Dr Madhav Deo Saraswat without whose support, this couldn't have been possible.

I would like to thank Mr Mahesh Gandhi, Dr Vikram Mathur, other dignitaries, parents, Old Boys and former teachers who are here to bless young Scindians today.

Thanks are due to all the teachers who constantly share their lives with us in this *gurukul*. Their contribution is actually unquantifiable.

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

For a parent to let their child stay away is a sacrifice and it is this sacrifice that starts a personal journey for each child and so it was for me. This journey of 6 years has evoked an insatiable desire in me to explore and discover myself.

It feels as if it was yesterday, when my mother tied my shoelaces and sent me to explore the world amidst this 160-acre oasis. Like an unbalanced chemical equation, I entered the walls of the fort with a pool of dreams and



ambitions to fulfil. Since then and till this moment when I stand here as a representative of the student body in front of thousands of people, it reminds me of the victory that I had once longed for – the victory over self-created mediocrity. Scindia has transformed me into a courageous young man with all the necessary tools to tackle life's challenges; foremost being humility and service.

Lastly, I would fail in my duties if I don't thank the student body for putting up a remarkable show of talents and working hard behind the scenes.

This is Jai Chahar, signing off!

Thank you all,

Goodnight and long live Scindia !

## FOUNDER'S DAY SPEECHES - 21st OCTOBER 2018

### Principal's Report 2018

Honorable Chief Guest Mr Kumar Mangalam Birla, Chairman, Aditya Birla Group; President, Board of Governors, His Highness Maharaja Jyotiraditya Scindia; Members of the Board of Governors, former members of the Board of Governors, Madhav Awardees, respected former teachers of the school, dignitaries from the city of Gwalior, the alumni, parents, my colleagues, dear students, ladies and gentlemen: A very good evening to all of you and my apologies that we could not start our programme today on time, because of the reasons which were not under our control at all. Nevertheless, it is a beautiful start for all of us.

Ladies & gentlemen, our Chief Guest today, Mr Kumar Mangalam Birla needs no introduction. He is among the most accomplished and respected corporate leaders of India. However, his humility and Indianness make him an adorable person and as a teacher, it is more important for me. Thank you Sir, for being here.

I also extend a warm welcome to Mr Martin Chalker, Chief Executive of International House London and Mr Sanjay Goenka, friend of Mr Birla.

Today, we celebrate our 121st Founder's Day. It is time to remember our Founder, Late Maharaja Madhavrao Scindia-I and subsequent patrons who held the rudder of the institution and guided it on its journey through the ever-changing currents of the Indian society. Their foresight and policies still keep the school relevant to its time.

As the principal, it is my honour to share with you the highlights of various activities of the School since we last met on Founder's Day 2017. As there is so much to share, this report will include only the highlights of the past year. Having said that, let me begin by emphasizing that every achievement, every single achievement of each of our students, whether being mentioned in the report or not, has made it possible for us to gather here tonight.

I will start from Academics.

Academic achievement is a pre-requisite to the years of formal education in school and college.

In class XII CBSE, we scored an average of 84% while in class X, we scaled to an average of 83%. In class XII, 28 students out of 83 and in class X, 40 students out of 89 got more than 90% marks in their Board exams.

Overall 114 students represented the school in various National, International and State level literary activities like quizzes, Olympiads, and national talent search tests.

Out of 10 students, 7 qualified for the second round of National Anveshika Experimental Science Test, and Himanshu Moojoriya of class XII got 8th position in Overall India ranking out of 50,000 participants.

I would also like to share that overall performance of our class XII students resulted into three 100% scholarships and five partial scholarships in the overseas universities. And we have done better not only in national placements but also internationally, like:

Placements in the universities such as University of British Columbia (world ranking 34), Michigan State University (World no 1 for Supply Chain management course - where our student Saksham Kalra also got 60% scholarship).

13 admissions in Delhi University for Honours' courses and other reputed institutes like National Law College, Calcutta

140 students represented the school in various sports tournaments and events. 26 were selected for nationals to play in SGFI national and open



nationals. Akshay Bhargava played in BCCI board trophy cricket representing MP. 3 participated in IPSC U-19 Squash tournament; Pavan Jaini secured third position and was selected for SGFI national games.

11 in IPSC Table Tennis; Gaurang Mahendru won bronze medal and was selected for SGFI national games. He was also adjudged as the 'Best under 16 ranking player' in the state of MP.

In the IPSC Hockey tournament, team reached till semi-final and Binay Chettri and Vishal Singh were selected for SGFI nationals U-15 and U-17 hockey team respectively.

Ishan Gangwani and Anirudh Awasthy were selected for SGFI national games for U-19 cricket National team.

School participated in 4th Karate Warrior All India Championship; Akash Phogat got a gold in Individual Bout

In the State Tennis Championship Anant Narayan Rai and Irish Rohra won a Silver Medal at the state level.

Five boys qualified for the 62nd National Shooting Championship, and Angad Sahni secured VIII position in All India Air Pistol Youth Category.

Talking about adventure and projects, adventure remained as central to all our activities as ever. To mention just a few:

19 students and 3 teachers went on a mountaineering expedition to Jagatsukh peak.

14 students and 3 teachers went on a cycling expedition from Shimla to Sissu - covering more than 400 kms.

11 students participated in the 10 days' adventure course.

5 students & 2 teacher participants went to Spiti to participate in the 5th Spiti Residential Project, during which they built a Green House for a village.

We also hosted for the third year, a Service Project in Leh, Ladakh in which 29 students and 5 teachers participated and they built two dormitories for a charity school.

Mr Dhirendra Sharma received "Certificate of Recognition for Outstanding



Service” by the National Award Authority of International Award for Young People, India for his dedicated services to the adventure activities. During the same ceremony, Prasoon Naithani, Raj Yadav, Piyush Baghel, Madhav Agarwal and Archit Bharadwaj were given their IAYP Gold Awards. Congratulations to all of you!

54 boys marched on Rajpath on the Republic Day for the 16th year in a row, without a break. Well done boys! We are so proud of you!

140 students represented the school in various extra-curricular activities like, MUN, Debating, Art & Music Competitions, IT Fest and received recognition, laurels, awards for their aptitudes in the respective fields of participation. They also stood tall for their exemplary conduct.

Aditya Parashar & Shashank Khilore came second in literary quiz at MGD, Jaipur; Yuvraj Bhatia first in photography, Kushagra Kaushik second in Cartooning in SKV, Prashant Bansal was adjudged as outstanding performer in Business Quiz at Wynberg Allen Mussoorie; Utkarsh Vats was declared the "Outstanding Analyst" for the Crisis session during The Mayo College Girls' School Model United Nations. Rhythm Kukreja was awarded the Best Speaker in F.G. Pearce Memorial English Debate.

Eshaan Agarwal and Harshvardhan Jadon's video was selected for a German band called Raggabund. 22 boys participated in the German Street Play and bagged the second position.

School also witnessed Annual English Play 'The Wonderful Wizard of Oz' and Hindi Play entitled 'Tajmahal Ka Tender' in the month of April. Approximately, 110 students participated in these two in-house productions.

On the other hand, school organized the 2nd Scindia Literary Fest, a festival to inculcate love for literature in our lives.

Our boys also got the opportunity to witness an extraordinary Rajasthani Folk Dance Performance by Bhongar Khan Mangniyar Group under the aegis of Spic Macay and a theatrical performance of Mr Abhishek Pattanaik, and Mr Darsheel Safari in a play titled "Two Adorable losers", an English Comedy about a professor from the state of Odisha and a student weak in statistics.

Nitya Mehra attended the German Youth Camp in Germany in May 2018.

Jai Sharma, Harshvardhan Jadon and Daksh Gupta participated in the Regional German Youth Camp held in Sri Lanka in June, 2018.

Community Service and Labour Work remained an essential part of our learning at the school. A rough estimate says that last year boys and teachers spent almost 71,000 man hours in labour work! Kudos to all of you! Approximately 45 students got the opportunity to represent the school in various Round Square activities like Conferences and Service Projects.

We pride ourselves in shaping our kids to be all-rounders and find their niche. We also pride ourselves to be a place where our teachers never stop growing, where our teachers are students in an equal sense as our actual students- because growth is our aim, our biggest goal; and the 'fear to not grow' our only fear. 23 teachers went for various workshops, seminars, short term courses in assessment, last year representing each and every department present in the School, which means it is almost 50%. It is a matter of pride that 7 of our teachers, namely: Mr R K Kapoor, Mr Dharendra Sharma, Ms Raksha Siriah, Mr Vishesh Sahai, Ms Supreet Bakshi, Mr Ramesh Sharma and Mr Anil Pathania were recognized by Delhi based AKS Education Foundation for their exemplary services as educators during Global Teachers Congress and Awards in Delhi. We are so proud of you my friends!

This year we organized 9 reunions where almost 200 Old Boys and their spouses visited the school round the year. The most special being batch of 1959. They came to celebrate 59th year of leaving School on 8th October. Visit of Lord Amir Bhatia (Ex-Ja, 1948) accompanied by General Dhillon and eye

camp organized by Wing Commander (Retd) Dr Nandan Khanolkar (Ex- Ja, 1958) were also the highlights of this year.

Today, over 60 Old Boys from the batch of 1993 with their families and 47 boys from the batch of 2008 are with us. Welcome! This is also the right time to mention that batch of 1993 has gifted Innovation and Think Lab to the School and we have inaugurated that yesterday. My appreciation to all of you! My appreciations are also due to Mr Vinay Modi, Ranoji 1960. He is also our Board Member who gifted 50 Lakh rupees for the SOBA House. Mr Tarun Bakshi, Chaitanya, 1965; who funded the air conditioning of the classrooms, costing round 70 Lakh rupees. Dr Timir Banerjee, 1959, contributed 18 Lakhs rupees towards scholarship fund. During the school's outreach programme various SOBA chapters not only helped the school to organize these activities but also shouldered the expenses at the group level in certain cases and some at the personal level, too. Thank you one and all. We are because you are, and I always say with conviction that Scindia School is because you are! We take pride in your progress. A special mention about Mr Gagan Khosla, Jeevaji 1974, aged 60 years, who has set a record being the oldest Indian to complete North- South India Cycling Leh to Kanyakumari category, covering a distance of over 4000 kilometers in about 29 days. A film is being made on this cycling expedition by another Scindian -Rajesh Sethi, Ranoji 1974. Following his footsteps is young Sachin Deva who did the same expedition in 23 days, last month. Well done Sachin! We are so proud of you!

In the last few months, school witnessed substantial maintenance and infrastructure related works, mainly renovation of the Junior Houses, air conditioning of the Academic Block, pavement from Academic Block to the Principal's Residence and the SOBA House. Nevertheless, anticipating the water scarcity in future, school has undertaken a mammoth task to be self-reliant through water harvesting and water conservation. This project is being headed by Mr Rajiv Kathpalia, Ex- Jayaji 1974. He is an eminent architect and conservationist.

I am taking this opportunity to make an earnest appeal to support in any manner you can do, because it needs resources, it needs perseverance; it needs very strong will power. It is crucial and one of its own kind.

At last, but something to cherish, The Scindia School has been ranked India's number #2 All Boys' Boarding School in the Education World India School Rankings 2017-18. Apart from the above overall ranking, The Scindia School is ranked #1 under the parameter of Community Service and #2 for Internationalism. The School has been felicitated as 'World's Greatest Brand' and the award of 'World's Greatest Leaders, 2017-18' was awarded by 'Asia One' to the Principal, The Scindia School. Royal Australian Chemistry Institute, Australia and AKS Foundation also honoured Principal as one of 100 Highly Effective Principals. Lately, the India Didactic Association and ABP News also recognized our School as an outstanding place of learning. And it's all because of you!

Before I end, I express my sincerest gratitude and appreciation to all present here, and all those people and groups who have been extending their support and guidance relentlessly.

I express my sincerest appreciation for the President and Members of the Board of Governors for their unflinching support and trust in me, both the Vice Principals- Dr Chitra Bankawat and Ms Smita Chaturvedi, Bursar Wg Cdr Saxena, for their dependability and professional capabilities, all my fellow teachers, admin staff and other staff for their unfailing alliance in any given situation, at last School's prefectorial board and all the students for making this Fort so vibrant by your presence and your affection.

I am also grateful to the government and civil administration, army and air force authorities for their help, whenever we turned to them for any need.

Thank you...God bless us all. Long live The Scindia School.

## Welcome speech by H H Maharaja J M Scindia

Our Chief Guest this evening, Mr Kumar Mangalam Birlaji, Members of the Board of Governors of The Scindia School, faculty, parents, the Class of 1993 and the Class of 2008 which are present in huge numbers here tonight, welcome back, my young boys, ladies and gentlemen; it indeed is a pleasure to have with us this evening, one of the flag-bearers of the new India that is rising on the world's stage, in the form of Mr Kumar Mangalam Birla. Let me at the outset, in all honesty, take responsibility for the tardiness this evening. It's not often that we politicians take responsibilities for our actions- so let me make a difference and take responsibility for the action this evening. I was on my way from Delhi, by Air India and the flight got cancelled three times because of technical problems. I was apprehensive, that I wouldn't make it to be here with you all this evening, but as through all experiences- it has taught me an experience- a lesson that in India, always trust the department that was run by my Late Father- the Indian Railways, more than any other department.

Our India, our *Bharat*, ladies and gentlemen, is the land of Bapu- Mahatma Gandhi; the land of Mother Teresa; the land where service to others has always been paramount in our DNA. Service above self, which has been every *Bhartiya Nagrik's* credo, part of our *sanskriti*, part of our *sanskar* and it is this credo when fused with the dedication of service to others and with the concept, the simple concept to be able to do good, that really is the ethos of India, an ethos of sharing and giving, evolving together as a composite in unity and harmony. And now having spent almost two decades as a public servant, but I have learnt that there is only one way to success and that is to work cohesively and diligently. Because battles and tasks are never won or are never complete alone, and therefore the idea of leadership has to be that it is important to always have your feet on the ground. It is always important to be able to stay humble, be open to diverse opinion; and yes, it is imperative, it is important to question, but it is even more important to have the patience to be able to listen. And that value of taking along the myriad voices, in our universe of 1.25 billion people. That is epitomised in our Indian ethos. But what is extremely worrisome is that, in today's India, our values are being compromised by the will of a few. Right below us, below the Fort, in Phoolbagh, is the testament to India's concept of secularism- the fact that you have a mandir, a masjid, a gurudwara, a theosophical lodge, all in one park founded by my ancestor, Madhav Maharaj the first, the Founder of our School, so that people of all walks of life, all communities, congregate together in the evening, celebrate together, spend time together. And that concept of peace, unity and harmony, unity in diversity, the strength in oneness of our country that today is what is under threat- that today is the common umbrella of our identity of being Indian. Our differences fuse into a common identity that of our Indianness and that is the concept of India that was envisioned by our leaders. That is the concept of India that I and many of my generation have grown up in.

But today as I said those values are being challenged, our essence is in turmoil, violence and hatred are replacing our ethos of peace, of harmony, of respecting diversity, castes are being pitted against each other and in this environment, we must hark back to the principles of our Founding Fathers, especially Mahatma Gandhi who once said and I quote, "Our ability to reach unity in diversity will be both, the beauty and the test of our civilisation." And so therefore to our young students here this evening there are myriad challenges in front of you today. But your challenge is not only to be successful, your challenge is to be able to share that success with the nation, to utilize that success to propel our nation forward, that is the essence of being a *bhartiya nagrik* and that also is the essence of the foresight of our Founder- Madhav Maharaj the first, at Scindia School where his whole vision was formed on the basis of developing the faculties of our students, nurturing each and every one of them into good citizens, ensuring that they are steeped in a sound value system, and equipped at the same time with an innovative, enterprising, and an enquiring spirit. This will also enable you to be able to take risks and at the same time learn from your failures.

Madhav Maharaj also envisioned a thriving Indian industry, because it is that environment that creates employment and brings about a balance in society, creating a much more egalitarian India. And it is with that vision that our Chief Guest this evening; his great grandfather, when Ghanshyam Dasji Birla visited



Gwalior way back in the early 1900s and Madhav Maharaj, spurred him on to take a leap of faith, invest in our area, and it is with that spirit that both these personas came together and the first investment by the Birla Group in 1919 was the Jiyajirao Cotton Mills in Gwalior with an initial investment of 50 lakhs, almost a hundred years ago. That investment of this group has only grown in Gwalior. Next to come was CIMMCO. After that, a fibre plant in Nagada, followed up by a cement plant in Jawad, in Nimach district which also formed a part of the erstwhile Gwalior state. And it is from thereon, that the relationships between our two families have only grown, from strength to strength. As much as I can say about the Birla Group, it's very difficult to do justice. The Birla Group today is not only the foremost leading industrial Group in India, but suffice to say one of the foremost leading groups in the world, with interests from financial services, to telecom, to cement, to chemicals, to e-commerce, fertilizers, even education. There is no aspect of community in India whose lives have not been either directly or indirectly touched by the Aditya Birla Group. Their vision has been one, to not only build a flourishing business but bounded and based on the precept of serving our countrymen and women. Mr Kumar Mangalam Birla's single minded focus on high quality and affordability, propagating the best business practices in the world has ensured that his group has remained at the forefront of global industry. The Birla name has been woven into the fabric of our nation. Not only has this family played an enterprising role in the industrial development of our nation but G D Birlaji was a very close associate of Mahatma Gandhi. Infact Mahatma Gandhi always spent his time in Birla House in Delhi whenever he visited Delhi. And the Birla family have played a very important role in the in the freedom movement, exemplifying the family's contribution and commitment to a resurgent, free and independent India.

Our Chief Guest this evening Mr Kumar Mangalam Birla started his education at the Champion School where he was four years my senior. From thereon he gained his Chartered Accountancy, went onto the London Business School for his MBA. And he recalls that his experience of doing Chartered Accountancy was probably the most four painful years of his life. And he said and I quote, "My father was keen that I become a Chartered Accountant because he thought that was the right thing for me to do. I didn't have the courage to tell him that I didn't want to do that. But now I can't thank him for having put me through it." Needless to say that he cleared the CA exam on the first attempt and passed through with flying colours. And it is this toil that prepared him for the challenges that fate was going to offer him in the years ahead.

Only at the age of 28, he took over the reins of the Birla conglomerate, where the average employee age was 56. Sounds very much like the political scenario in India where the only way you can get ahead is if you have either grey hair or no hair. Nevertheless the Kumar Mangalam Birla of today, who has proved



his mettle as a visionary leader, the fourth generation head of the storied, \$45 billion dollar Aditya Birla Group has quietly, determinedly, and without much fanfare, led his group to phenomenal heights. Over the last 23 years, under his stewardship the group has grown from a three billion dollar group in 1993 to a 45 billion dollar group as of last year. Kumar Mangalamji presents to us many great lessons- a great lesson to be able to listen, patiently and yet unassumingly. Especially in this era of excessive marketing and grandstanding, Kumar Mangalamji offers us a great lesson as he teaches many of us that from great silence comes great success. Many of the young generation look to him for maturity and sobriety, as one who shuns pomposity to silently take the road to overwhelming success. And it is his willingness to be able to experiment with new ideas, novel concepts that has led the Group to even greater heights whether it is in the area of renewable energy or other areas.

Mr Birla does not see net worth as a measure of success. And The Birla group is not interested in billions of dollars - but the security and prosperity of billions of our countrymen and women. And therefore it is no surprise that Mr Birla practices what he preaches. He has given the licence to his children to pursue their life agenda. His son who is an exemplary cricketer today, playing as part of the Madhya Pradesh Cricket Association tying back to his partial roots in our very own Madhya Pradesh. It is the Birla Group that gives back to the community, turning profit into social capital by building educational institutes, by building hospitals and one more lesson for many people in the

political environment today by building temples but building them quietly. He is very passionate about education, the Chancellor of Birla Institute of Technology & Sciences, Chairman of IIT Delhi, Chairman of IIM Ahmedabad, Chairman of Rhodes India, on the London Business School's Asia Pacific Advisory Board- what he has been able to achieve at his young age is certainly inspirational. For many of us he is an outstanding example of success, humility and noble engagement with society and it is you Mr Birla who also the seven and a half crore people of Madhya Pradesh look to, to provide investment and employment and we would like to take this opportunity to have you re-engage with our state of Madhya Pradesh and let this evening at The Scindia School be the corner stone and the linchpin of that engagement in the years to come.

So to my young friends in the audience, chart your own course, chart it fiercely, chart it independently, but at the same time keep close to your heart, the core values, exemplified by Mr Kumar Mangalam Birla - the core values of hard work, the core values of moving forward with a sense of service, the core values of inspiring billions of people. You must take risks. Never become complacent or arrogant. Keep evolving and growing because fortune favours those who take risks, work hard and believe in themselves. So ladies and gentlemen please join me in welcoming our Chief Guest tonight, Mr Kumar Mangalam Birla. Thank You very much.

## Awards and Recognitions 2017-18

Awards	Awardees	Awards	Awardees
1. Umang Mathur Memorial Trophy (for the best Class XI Scholar)	Shubham Agarwal (Jayaji House)	8. Maharaja Jeevajirao Scindia Medal (for All Round Proficiency in Class XII)	Snehil Tripathi (Madhav House)
2. Mahendra Mishra Memorial Trophy (for the best Class XI Sportsman)	Zigme Gurung (Jayappa House)	9. The Khurshid Lakdawala, Jr. House Efficiency Shield	Kanerkhed House
3. Maharaja Madhavrao Scindia II Medal (for All Round Proficiency)	Himanshu Moojoriya (Ranoji House)	10. Guru Hargovind Singh (Gurdwara) Trophy (for the best House in academics)	Madhav House
4. Sam Pitroda Award (2017-18) (for the best innovative project- 'Self Running Cycle')	Lav Asrani (Daulat House) Dewesh Karan (Jayappa House)	11. Nepal Trophy (for the best House in games)	Ranoji House
5. The R. B. Pawar Medal (for scoring the highest percentage of marks in Mathematics in Class XII)	Suryansh Goyal (Daulat House)	12. The Scindia School, Inter House General Efficiency Shield	Jayaji House
6. Governor's Medal (for scoring Highest Percentage in Class XII)	Aadya Mishra (Madhav House)	13. Madhav Award	Mr Pradeep S Mehta (Ex-Vivekanand, 1965)
7. Field Marshal Cariappa Shield (for the best Sportsman)	Reekela Bhutia (Daulat House)	14. Milestone award - In recognition of dedicated service to the School continuously for over Twenty years, a Silver Salver and an honorarium of Rs. 50,000/-	Mr Manoj Mishra



Scholar's Blazer awarded to Shubham Agarwal



Sport's Blazer awarded to Zigme Gurung

## Glimpses of the Founder's Day





## Address by the Chief Guest - Mr Kumar Mangalam Birla

Good evening, Jyotiradityaji; Principal, Mr Saraswat, Members of the Board of Governors, students, alumni, teachers and parents. I'm delighted to be here, today, on this special dual-occasion of Founder's Day and Annual Day.

I am going to start the story similar to the one that Jyotiradityaji told you about. It seems that the annals of the Birla family have recorded a little differently. So I am presenting the version as I know it and have heard about it.

It was 1919 or perhaps, 1920.

At the invitation of Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya, a group of about 40 of the most prominent figures from across the country had gathered. Pandit Malaviya was collecting funds for founding the Benaras Hindu University. At the meeting itself, its participants started to announce the amount of donation they would make. One young man, tall, dark, determined looking, announced that he would match the highest donation committed by anyone, much to the consternation of the gathering.

His Highness Maharaja asked to meet the young man. The man in question was my great grandfather, Shri G.D. Birla. And this was the start of a friendship of mutual admiration and trust.

At His Highness' behest, and with his phenomenal support, the Jayaji Rao Cotton Mills was established by Ghanshyam Dasji Birla, founded on the 9th of August, 1921. The mill flourished for decades after that, bringing to fruition the dream of both the visionaries – the setting up of a profitable cotton mill in Gwalior, despite the fact that had no raw cotton was available in the adjoining area, and also of bringing prosperity to the people of Gwalior, in turn.

The bond that they forged has remained a constant between our two families all of these decades. I have the highest regard for my dear friend – Jyotiradityaji for his many achievements. It is a friendship that I deeply value. And therefore being here, has a deeper significance for me. Thank you Jyotiradityaji for inviting me on this very special occasion.

I've always heard wonderful things about The Scindia School, that it is one of the more revered educational institutions in our country. And today, I've had the experience of seeing all its glory first-hand. I am astounded to know that the ramparts of this fort have witnessed history as it was made, harking all the way back to the daring feats of legendary personalities like Tantia Tope and Rani Laxmibai of Jhansi. And it is fascinating that the school's 121-year history is intertwined with the emergence and growth of modern India itself.

My family has been engaged in the arena of education for a few decades. And therefore when I say that it is rarely that you find a school that seeks to combine academics and extra-curricular activities, and *sanskar* with a view to inculcate in its students a life-long thirst for scholarship, curiosity and innovation as in the school. What strikes me, predominantly, is that the school, in fact, is steeped in history, in patriotic fervour amongst students, while at the same time moulding them to become citizens of the world- global citizens who will make a difference to our country and the world and will be the leaders of tomorrow.

Being here, reminds me of my school days. Those were days filled with myriad dreams, discoveries and ideas. Days of innocence, exploration, camaraderie and adventure. I made some life-long friends during those formative years – friends who have always stood by me. The knowledge and learnings then, got me started on the journey of self discovery, were gleaned in those years.

I am sure that the same holds true for all of you as well. The founders of this school intended that every student who walks these halls and learns in these classrooms achieves the very best that he can. In that sense, these are truly the character-building years for your lives. And you have some very eminent Old Boys to look up to and emulate.

Today, I thought I'd share with you some of my own learning over the years.



It's when in school that we start to think of the future, what we would like it to be – start to 'dream' of the possibilities. So, my first learning – In setting your goals, turn your gaze to the stars, toward the mightiest peak. Because only with our dreams can we imagine the impossible. And only when we imagine the impossible can we attempt to make it possible. One of my favourite quotes is: "The size of your dreams, must always exceed your current capacity to achieve them. If your dreams do not scare you, they are not BIG enough".

Get inspiration from your heroes – whoever they might be – Steve Jobs, Virat Kohli or Elon Musk. See how they boldly chose to go where no one had dared to go before. I don't know if you're aware that Tesla Motors, which is redefining the future of automobiles, was named after – inventor, engineer and futurist – Nikola Tesla. Tesla was a true genius and a prodigy someone whom I have read about extensively. He had dared to dream the unimaginable. He had imagined mobile phones and the internet way back in 1926. He had predicted that when the wireless is perfectly applied, we will be able to hear and see people thousands of miles away, as if they are right next to us. The whole world will be converted into one large brain. Tesla had the conviction and the courage to think big and dream boldly. He may not have invented the cellular phone or the internet, but his contributions to science and technology has paved the way for us to get here.

So, if you ask me – Dream big! The sky is the limit. Dreaming big, however, is not enough. As the old age saying goes – THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE TO HARD WORK. This, in fact, has been another of my biggest learnings. To achieve your dreams, you need to work consistently, dedicatedly and with unwavering commitment. Work hard. Hard work builds character, hard work gets results, and hard work creates new opportunities. Never forget that Hard Work always beats talent when talent doesn't work hard. Never forget – there is no elevator to success, you have to take the stairs. And let me assure you that the ability to work hard is a discipline, a habit – that needs to be cultivated very early in life, during your formative years.

Change today is more ferocious than it has ever been in the past. The shelf-life of knowledge is getting shorter and shorter. You need to be a life-long learner in order to stay contemporary. Therefore, an open mind that is willing to absorb like a sponge and learn constantly from changing contexts has become an imperative. I love this quote which says "Minds are like parachutes, they work best when open." The ability to see patterns that no one else is seeing, and to be able to glean unique insights give you an edge.

In fact, keen observation and keeping an open mind have helped inventors get inspired to make path-breaking inventions and come up with scientific theories that have turned the tide. It would be safe to assume that millions of people had seen an apple fall from a tree before Sir Isaac Newton did. But he



had an open mind – which led to the understanding of the concept of ‘gravity’. So the point that I am making is- observe keenly. In fact, learn to absorb from everyone and everything around you and open your mind to possibilities. Opening one’s mind to possibilities has always been the secret to humankind’s progress.

FOURTH, An important learning for me has been that your ATTITUDE determines your ALTITUDE. My father has always been my role model. He was an inspirational man, full of ideas, confidence and optimism. His greatest strength lay in his ability to pursue his goals resolutely and relentlessly until he achieved them. In the 1970s, starting a business in India was fraught with innumerable risks and hurdles. He had just returned back to India, a freshly-minted graduate from MIT. He could’ve have felt strapped down by the tyranny of the *License Raj* and he could have lost the spark within him. Instead, it was then that he envisioned a global company that would cut across borders and barriers, and set up a large asset base in South East Asia. It was his ‘never-say-die attitude’ that led to the Aditya Birla Group becoming the truly global enterprise that it is today.

So, how much you can achieve, how happy you are, lies in your hands. It depends on how you view a situation. Different people view the same situation differently. For example, how do you view failure? What happens if you fail an exam, or your team loses an important inter-school tournament? You could feel miserable and disheartened. You could blame your teacher for not teaching you well enough or the opponent team for being unfair in some way or another.

On the other hand...you could take it on the chin, decide to learn from it, Work hard so you do not make the same mistake again, ask your teacher or coach where you went wrong, and perform far better the next time around. Your attitude, “which is right here in your mind” has a big role to play in determining how high you can go and how far you can go, in achieving your dream.

To all you senior boys, I’d like to say that thought leadership is more important today than ever before. Don’t go with the crowd mindlessly. Always ask yourself “Is this the right thing to do? Do I believe in it? Is this who I am?” And act accordingly. Don’t blindly take the road taken by the others. Instead, choose your own path and be true to yourself. Each of us has been given a custom-made life, and so our life paths have to be custom-made as well. In doing so,

however, you may face some adversities. But you have to believe in yourself, have the courage of conviction. **STAND UP FOR WHAT YOU BELIEVE IN, EVEN IF IT MEANS STANDING ALONE AT TIMES.** It will give you more self-esteem than anything else. To be true to ourselves, we need a strong moral compass and unwavering values.

When I look back at my school life, there is one incident that makes me very proud even today. I was in my 6th or 7th grade, I think. Upon getting my answer sheet back, I was over the moon when I realized that I had got the highest marks in the subject. But on looking further, I discovered that the teacher had given me ten extra marks by mistake – an unintentional computing error. I decided to bring that to her notice. My friends told me that I should just keep quiet about it. But my conscience did not allow me to do that. When I look back, that is one of my most abiding memories from school, more than all of my academic achievements, medals, trophies and accolades, of which there were many.

Finally, we live in a highly-competitive culture where everything is a race. Everyone wants to be at the top! We’re taught from very early on that being # 2 is not good enough. In my opinion, however, the focus has to be on being the very best that YOU can be. If you get caught up in comparisons and competitiveness all the time, it can lead to constant insecurities and disenchantment.

It is important to ‘Run One’s Own Race’. Each person has his or her circumstances. Everyone’s skill sets and motivations are different, special... unique. Then, how can we all be a part of the same rat race?

I have seen this in my work context, that is, in a corporate setting too. Those who focus on their work and on maximizing their own potential make it to the top. Whereas others, with the same potential, who keep looking in the rearview mirror and comparing themselves to their peers constantly, lose focus and inevitably get side-tracked.

So, don’t fall into the trap of constantly comparing yourself with others. You need to be the very best of what YOU can be. Thank you Jyotiradityaji for saying such nice things about me. I will have to work even harder for living up to some of them. To all you students, you have your entire lives ahead of you. Let the world be your oyster. Make the most of it. Make your school, your family, your country feel proud of you.

Thank you.

## Citation of the Madhav Awardee - Mr Pradeep S Mehta (Ex-Vivekanand, 1960-1965)

An institution’s pride lies in the elevation of the status and constant success of the people who called it home once and still do. We at The Scindia School have been constantly cultivating a spirit of enterprise and sound intellect, infused with a sense of service in every Scindian for the last 121 years, because we realize that their prosperity and growth is integral to ours. Acknowledging such alumni, who prove to be exceptions among the kinds, has been a tradition for this institution. Belonging to the same legacy is Mr Pradeep S Mehta, a consumer activist par excellence who has carved an extraordinary niche for himself as a global thought leader.

His achievements during School undoubtedly contributed to the shaping of his multifaceted personality. After leaving School, he graduated in commerce from St. Xavier’s College, Calcutta and further enhanced his education through a spectrum of courses in Business, Law, Marketing and Management.

In the early 1980s, he founded CUTS - Consumer Utility & Trust Society and launched a Hindi monthly newspaper known as Gram Gadar, which served as a mouthpiece that helped the poor understand the government schemes vis-à-vis their social and economic relevance. CUTS has focused on consumer protection, economic policy, competition law, human development and social change. Mr Mehta has walked that extra mile to empathize with the marginalized communities not only in the developing countries but also in developed countries such as the United States of America. CUTS has grown into a global organisation with a widespread reach in over 13 countries including the United States, Switzerland, Zambia, Kenya and Vietnam among others.

Noted trade economist Prof Jagdish Bhagwati wrote in 2008 – “Not just for India, but for developing countries and indeed for the world, he is what the Japanese call – A Living Treasure”.

Currently, he is the Secretary General and Treasurer of CUTS; Chairman of the Advisory Board of South Asia Watch on Trade, Economics & Environment and the Co-Chairman of the International Network of Civil Society Organization on Competition. In addition, he has published over 1500 articles in reputed newspapers and magazines to mobilise public opinion on issues that are close to his heart.

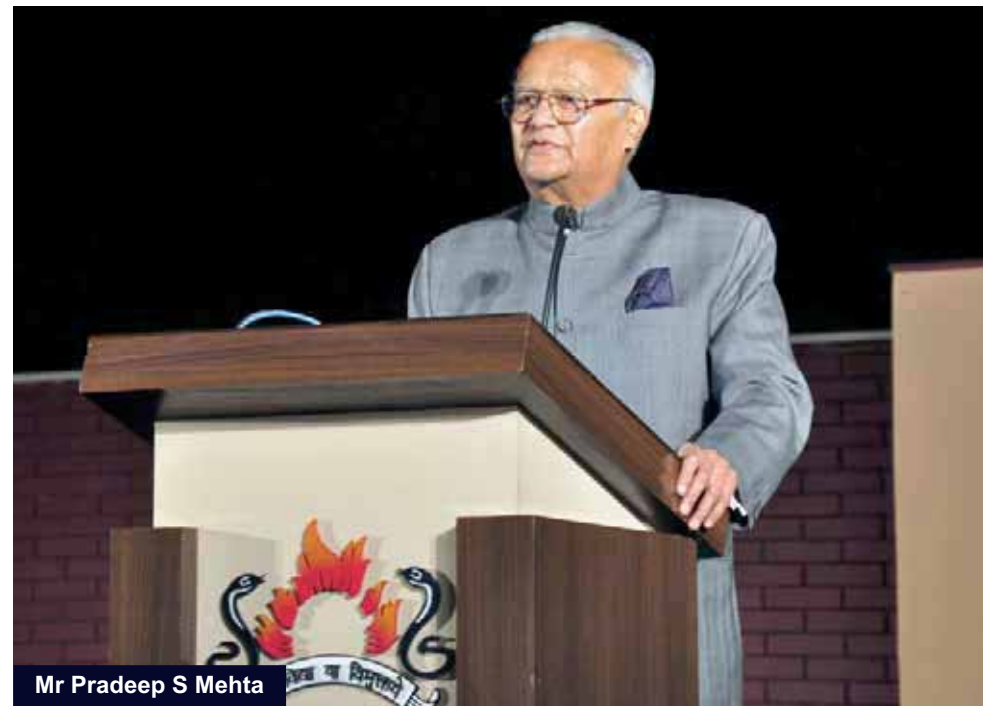
The Scindia School takes pride in Mr Mehta’s stellar contribution in the field of Consumer Activism and confers on Mr Pradeep Mehta the Madhav Award as an Old Boy of Eminence for the year 2018. His life is both an extension and an expression of the education that he imbibed at The Scindia School.



Mr Pradeep S Mehta receiving the Madhav Award

## Address by Mr Pradeep S Mehta - Madhav Awardee

Thank you very much Shri Jyotiraditya Scindia and Shri Kumar Mangalam Birla for having gifted me with this very coveted award. It is a very nostalgic moment for me, an award which is given to you by your alumni, your alma mater is probably the best that one can aim for or get and therefore as I said something which I am very proud of. I am thankful to the school to have recognized me and more importantly- I joined the ranks of three other of my batch mates who had also been awarded the same award- Madhav Award and that Jyotiradityaji would be something for you as the President of Board of Governors to look at as to what happened in 1965. What kind of diet we were given, or what kind of education were we given- I come up with the names of many of those teachers in whose memory you have various awards and that what you might say a very nostalgic moment, the kind of breed of teachers we had at that time and when I speak about my fellow batchmates- General Samer Pal Singh is here and two others-Anand Pawar and Shiv Shankar Menon are unfortunately not here- I joined their ranks in thanking the school as well as those who have received Madhav award now and those among you who may receive the Madhav Award in future, the kind of inspirational speeches that you heard from both Shri Scindia and Shri Birla, and if you followed their advice then I am sure that you could easily do what I or others have been able to do so far. Now, I was here in the School celebrating the Golden Jubilee of our batch in 2015, January 26th. That is the time when we did a march past and we joined the school march and marched along with a platoon of about twenty Old Boys from the School. That was the last memory that I have of the School and that again was something which is very memorable and I would like to compliment the batches of 1993 and 2008 for having collected here to celebrate their reunion. And I hope that they would too, continue to visit school on occasions like the Republic Day or the Independence Day as well and be able to share their views and knowledge and achievements with the school boys over times to come. So it is not a one off event but it is a continuing event, that is what I think it is extremely important. Now, the issues what we heard from various people or what kind of issues that I learnt at the school and which has shaped my career; which has shaped my character; which has shaped my destiny as well. Curiosity- which has been highlighted by the two VIP speakers before me- questioning; this is something which we often do, if we continue to do that and as pointed out to do in a responsible manner; that you continue to question things not in a destructive manner or in a negative manner but to question it in a manner that it enhances your own knowledge. And indeed, learning is a never ending thing. Well, I still define myself as a student because everyday you are learning usage. What happened in the last one year has been phenomenal. We are talking about the economy for example-things that we never imagined when we were in school so what I would only like to tell my young friends here is to be on their toes and I will conclude with that particular point but to say that the kind of atmosphere that was provided to me and my colleagues and my batch mates in School was not only teaching us curiosity but also community sense, involvement, compassion and many other of these attributes which are important for a person to be a full- fledged human being. Compassion is what- we spoke about community service- doing social service whether it was the Sonsa village service or the Labour Camp- that even taught you dignity of labour. In the sense, that it was an eclectic education, not just rote learning- studying in the school and vomiting it out sitting in the exams. And it mattered to what we did ultimately and that is where I would like to offer one piece of advice -do not be in the rat race. I know it's a very competitive world but if you're in a rat race you often lose your own, not only self respect, but also your own sense of direction at times. Now, we were in NCC which taught us discipline-one of the incidents of discipline that I would like to narrate which I learnt in school which was due to Late Madhav Rao Scindia, Jyotiradityaji's Late Father. He was three years my senior and a school prefect at that point of time. I was in Vivekananda House which was in North Block and I walking to the school with my hands in my pockets. And lo and behold he caught me and gave me four rounds of the Cricket field and an incident which I will never forget as to how important it is to be disciplined- that you don't walk around with your hands in your pockets especially when you are wearing the school uniform- you have to keep the dignity so there is another absolute that you learnt not only discipline but dignity as well, simultaneously. Then there are



several such instances which happened which has helped me to shape me- both consciously as well as sub consciously. There are many things which you learn- it is in your subconscious; it is not visible or very evident but you use it to do what you want to do. And each of us are different in character, each of us have a different manner of pursuing what we want to pursue in terms of happiness of our life or in terms of goals of our life. I chose to be a public citizen. It is not a politician but a public citizen meaning that I recognized my rights but I also recognized my duties. I am sure many of you would have learnt about Article 51 A of the Constitution of India which lists out our duties which ultimately ends in installing upon us to ensure that we continue with our spirit of reform and enquiry so that the nation constantly rises to a high level of endeavour. Now in the public citizenship that I felt, there are various ways to do it, various ways to work as a social activist. I chose the consumer movement, and that as was read out by Shri Scindia in his commendation for my award- began in 1983 through a rural wall newspaper. We reached up to villages where there is no other medium except the radio- even television in those days in 1983, not even electricity in many places in the state of Rajasthan. And that led to then, formation of Consumer Unity and Trust Society which as was pointed out has grown into a large, international NGO. I am quite happy and proud with what we have been able to do but it is not the end and again I will come back to that later. Now, the catalyst or the spark which caused CUTS to come into being was we felt to play scrabble- we play scrabble in the evenings. It was just curiosity. A matchbox requires to be containing fifty sticks but if you open it, I am talking about the 80s, the quality was very poor. We had either a weak stem or no head at all or a large head which would burn your clothes and it never contained more than thirty five sticks.

Now, if you look at the total turnover of the match boxes in India during that time it was hardly about a hundred and sixty four but the fact is that the matchbox is something which the richest of the rich and the poorest of the poor consume- like salt. Say, there is something which we can talk to people that look shortage of weights and measures is actually cheating you- it cheats you out of your money and we took up the matter with then monopolies- the District State Commission and got an improvement in the quantity of the matchsticks as well as the quality over time. I mean the price of matchbox at that time was only twenty five paise, so even if a consumer lost three paise, it did not matter but once he started realising the magnitude of what is happening, nationally- then he realised that there is something which is wrong- there is time for us to assert our rights as consumers to be able to get a thousand grams in a kilogram. We are not going to be happy with nine hundred grams for a kilo. And this shortage of weights and measures happened across the board, even today it does happen in some places but it is far better now because of far better enforcement. Now, we got the Consumer Protection Act in 1986- thanks to Rajiv Gandhi, the Late Prime Minister who was wise enough to understand the need for a law which protects consumers. Now each one of us is a consumer- even a businessman is a consumer in many ways. So there is nobody who is an exception to being a consumer in many ways. You may be able to suffer the loss but not everybody who can suffer the loss. I gave you the example of

the matchbox- in a district in West Bengal, called Midnapore, in those days, poverty was so high that poor people used to buy the number of matchsticks. So you can well understand the kind of magnitude that I am talking about. Now we got the Consumer Protection Act in 1986 which took about five years to be implemented- usual inertia, status quo-ism, funding shortages etc. and the states had to set up these consumer courts which are quite popular today and many of you will be familiar with the slogan 'Jago Grahak Jago' which has been a sort of clarion call for consumer rights. And these are your rights and therefore you must exercise them. Now, all good businesses- recognise as well as reward good consumers. It is not as if all businesses are not respecting the consumer rights. Now, in those days it was a very serious problem. We had a centrally planned economy or a command and control economy. There were shortages of all kinds. Many of you young boys may not have been aware but to have the telephone line working in the House was a monumental task; to get a line first of all. There was no era of mobile phones and all that. The whole telephone system was in the state science-monopoly of the state- Department of Telecommunications. A former Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh, who was then a Member of the Parliament had booked a trunk call from Delhi to wherever in Madhya Pradesh. He belonged to Indore and he did not- the call was not getting materialized- a lightning call. In those days you had to make a lightning call which was six times the normal trunk call charges. Now that was the kind of situation and today none of you would be able to imagine that in a split second today you can talk to somebody in the North Pole as well. You could not in those days; you could not even think of it. Now, two major cases that we handled under the Consumer Protection Act- milestones- I mean they had set up a lot of precedence as well as future direction for many of our areas- Behala Oil Adulteration Tragedy that happened in Calcutta in 1988- when about two thousand people got affected by adulterated oil mixed with a plasticizer to give it a pungent taste of mustard oil. Those who of you must be familiar with Eastern India, must have seen the mustard oil is a favorite cooking medium and you enjoy the pungency. Since mustard oil was not easily available and the adulterant was coming from Europe at that point of time and at a very low cost and that was distributed through the public distribution system and this ration shop, foolishly added this plasticizer to get some extra bucks and sell it as mustard oil. As a result two thousand people got affected and we fought a long case at the National Consumer Agency Commission. It set a very good precedent of setting a medical examination Board and compensation etc. The other important case that we fought which is again, was a long strike in Bank of Baroda in West Bengal. The point that we were able to make- again we took up under the Consumer Protection Act to assert the rights of consumers.

Usually in a bank strike or any such strike there are two sides in that calculus- the management and the workers. What we were able to prove was that there are three sides to any such strike- the workers, the management and the consumer. They are all there because of the consumer and you are running these institutions because of consumers. And since then no long strike in any bank has been in place so that was a major achievement. Let me now move on to 1991- as I said- we were in a socialist economy- things were never- I mean you either got slipshod goods or you couldn't get good service in many places. There was only one airline- Indian Airlines. And 1991 reforms ushered in a new era in India. Unlike other developing countries most of our sectors were not privatised but open to competition- like the airline sector- private airlines were allowed to come in but the Indian airlines what is now Air India was not shutdown. Now insurance in the private sector was allowed to come in but the public sector was allowed to operate in these particular areas and in competition their services improve. Indian Airlines has improved a lot in terms of at least the customer interface. And 91 reforms continued and subsequently all governments have continued with the reforms as a part of our national consensus and both the consumer satisfaction and competition has been the load star, has been the guiding principle which is I think very sensible. I think we have a new competition now in India, which we didn't have- it is a very modern competition law as was pointed out. We have been responsible for enactment of competition laws in about thirty developing countries including in India. And we have also been doing through our international offices abroad- particularly in Africa- doing a lot of south- south cooperation which is again a government policy. Let me conclude here, I have not turned seventy and one of my very dear friends as well as the person whom I admire, Suresh Prabhu, our Commerce and Industries' Minister as well as Civil Aviation Minister- in his remarks mentioned that "Pradeep is not seventy he is seventeen." So that is the kind of energy that I would like to continue and to reflect on the words made by Shri Scindia and Shri Birla- it is very important- and the same kind of advice I would also give is -work hard; be curious, never give up and this is what I have been able to do and therefore I stand before you as an example. Never give up- in my dictionary and in my organisation's dictionary we do not have the word failure, we call it deferred success. If it doesn't happen today, it will happen tomorrow. If it does not happen there must be a good sight to it that why it is not happening. So don't cry over that particular issue but to continue to move forward. Finally- be generous, adopt humility, evade ego, be generous to your fellow beings and you will see that it will pay you in the ultimate analysis.

## Vote of Thanks by Senior School Prefect - Shashikiran Gonugunta

Late His Highness Maharaja Jiwaji Rao Scindia once said and I quote, "The young men who go out of The Scindia School will carry in their life and in their conduct, the bold imprint of this great institution, the stamp of self-discipline, of character, of chivalry, of dignity, and of behavioral qualities, on which higher citizenship is based."

Good evening, Honorable Chief Guest- Chairman of Aditya Birla Group, Shri Kumar Mangalam Birla; President Board of Governors, HH Maharaja Jyotiraditya Scindia; Members of the Board of Governors, Principal Dr Madhav Deo Saraswat; Old Boys, specially of the Batch of 1993 and 2008 who have gathered here this evening in great strength, eminent guests, parents, teachers and my fellow Scindians.

Today, we have amidst us the scion of the Birla dynasty and one of India's leading business tycoons - Mr Kumar Mangalam Birla. Under his stewardship, the Aditya Birla group has become one of the largest conglomerate companies and operates in 35 different countries. Apart from being a corporate Czar, Mr Birla is also a visionary, who believes that education is the path to modern India. He is the Chairman of IIT Delhi, IIM Ahmedabad, and the Chancellor of Birla Institute of Technology & Science. Sir, on behalf of each and every member of this Scindian fraternity, I thank you once again for taking out time to be with us.

I express my heartfelt gratitude to the President and the members of the Board of Governors for being our robust pillars of support and facilitating us with an environment conducive to holistic development.

I take this opportunity to thank this year's Madhav awardee, Mr Pradeep Mehta for being a reference of courage, entrepreneurship and community service for the entire Scindian fraternity.



Shashikiran Gonugunta delivering the Vote of Thanks



My thanks are due to all the Old Boys for taking the Scindian flag to newer heights and showing us the importance of the traditions and values imbibed in school, are so imperative to take on the outside world.

Martin Luther King Jr said and I quote, "The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically; intelligence plus character – that is the goal of true education."

And therefore just like a library is futile without books, knowledge is redundant without morality. The purpose of education is to initiate a student on the path of learning, which leads to the betterment of society. On this note, I thank each and every teacher for not only empowering us with seamless knowledge but also building a moral foundation that compels us to use it for everyone's welfare.

I also thank all the eminent guests and parents who have come from far and near places to grace this auspicious occasion.

I also take this opportunity to thank my Batch of 2019, for the wonderful memories that they have created, which each one of us would cherish for a lifetime. I also thank them for their constant support and trust in me; it is because of each one of you that I am able to deliver this speech today.

I would be failing in my duty, if I don't congratulate the entire student body and the teacher in-charges, for constantly ticking their mind with creativity and putting up this show in the best way possible. I also thank the organizing committee, whose central covenant has been to ensure that everything was absolutely perfect.

Standing here before thousands of accomplished men and women, I go back five years down the memory lane, when I was just a nervous young boy who was lost in the pristine surroundings of this very Fort. This transition from a timid school boy to a confident young man, ready to take on the world is what I call the Scindian MAGIC. The school plans activities and provides experiences which not only lead to our holistic development but also inculcates in us the life lessons of integrity, teamwork, camaraderie, empathy and so on. It is these very lessons of character that are taught at Scindia that serve as a building block for any leader. The school puts you in the most challenging situations and brings the best out of you. After these four transient years at this magical place, it is with conviction that I say that creating the leaders of tomorrow is intrinsic to The Scindia School.

In the end I would like to thank all of you to have graced this occasion and for being a part of the 121 year old legacy.

Thank you. Good night and Long live Scindia.

## OLD BOYS' NEWS

6 Old Boys from the Class of 1959 visited the School on 9th October 2018. This issue is devoted to Founder's Day Celebrations and the Old Boys' visit will be covered in the next issue of the Review.

The evening programme on the occasion of the Old Boys' Day started with Mr Banjul Badil addressing the gathering and he welcomed everyone to the 59th year of SOBA. After this, Mr Rahul Kulshrestha, President SOBA addressed the gathering. He formally welcomed the Chief Guest of the evening, Hon'ble Justice, Mr Sanjay Mishra (Lokayukta, Uttar Pradesh). The Class of 1993 celebrated the 25th year of their Reunion and the Class of 2008 celebrated the 10th year of their Reunion. They were greeted with great cheer. The SOBA Cup was awarded to SOBA Lucknow. The SOBA Award for the year 2018 was given to Mr Sandeep Agrawal. The Life Time Service Award was given to Mr Gurdeep Singh Bakshi.



Felicitation of Mr Sachin Deva

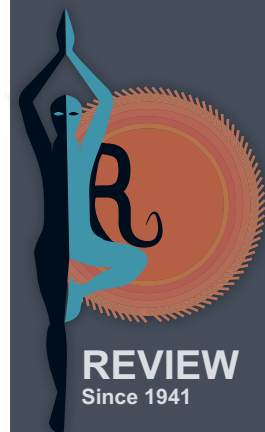


Mr G.S. Bakshi receiving the Life Time Service Award



Mr Sandeep Agrawal receiving the SOBA Award

### EDITORIAL BOARD



**Published by** : The Principal, The Scindia School, Fort, Gwalior  
**Staff Editors** : Dr Smita Trivedi (English) and Mr Manoj Mishra(Hindi)  
**Editor in Chief** : Arya Laddha  
**Associate Editors** : Abhishek Mahour, Karnik Kanojia  
**Chief Creative Editor** : Harshvardhan S. Jadon  
**Correspondents** : Aryan Nagpal, Dev Moorjani, Keshav Dudhani, Shishir Pandey, Chirag Rathi, Shlok Sonthalia, Shivansh Bansal, Harsh Jain, Pranav Wadhwa

**Web Support** : Mr Raj Kumar Kapoor  
**Photography** : Mr Kamlesh Singh  
**Technical Support** : Mr Jitendra Jawale  
**Printed by** : Galaxy Printers, Gwalior  
**URL** : www.scindia.edu  
**OLD BOYS' SITE** : www.scindia.edu/alumni  
**NOVEMBER 15, 2018 | WPP** : Regn.No.Gwl.Dn.11  
**Feedback** : smitat@scindia.edu  
**Price** : Re. 1

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