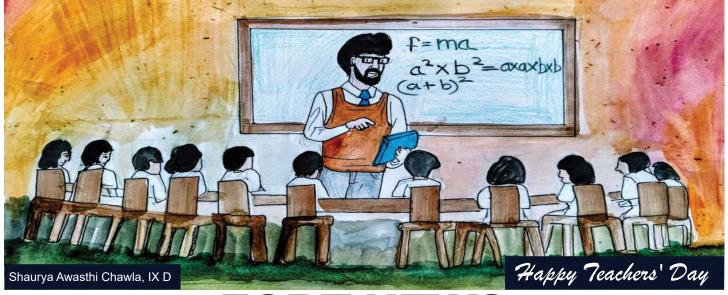


REVIEW

NUMBER: 1143 | MONDAY, 1 SEPTEMBER 2025

THE SCINDIA SCHOOL FORTNIGHTLY NEWSLETTER

रिव्यू রিভিউ ரிவ்யூ రివ్యూ రివ్యೂ റിവ്യൂ રિવ્યૂ ਰਿਵਿਊ रिव्ह्यू बिভিউ ରିଭ୍ୟୁ रिभ्यू रिभ्ह्यू রিভিউ रिभ्यू رويو



FORT NEWS

Weather Report

The past fortnight at Gwalior Fort has been a full-blown monsoon drama: heat, humidity, and rain doing their daily rehearsals. Daytime temperatures hovered around 29°C, briefly hitting a high of 36°C on August 17th, with lows of 25°C keeping the nights just sticky enough. Humidity stayed determined at 87–100%, proving once again that the monsoon here comes with its own "steam room" package.

The Rain God seemed in an especially mischievous mood this fortnight. On 14th August, he threw such a heavy downpour that the march past was almost washed away. Not satisfied, he returned on 23rd August to pour buckets over the field, postponing the Junior House Football match (the only ones happy were the defenders who didn't have to chase the ball in the puddles). Still, the Fort looks glorious. Moss has rolled out its green carpet across the old steps, neem and peepal stand sparkling from head-totoe washes, and bougainvillea blooms like confetti after a festival. Peacocks have taken dance lessons, mynas and parakeets run a live commentary from the walls, while monkeys host their daily gymnastics on the ramparts.

कनिष्ठ वर्ग अंतर्सदनीय हिंदी वाग्मिता प्रतियोगिता 2025-26

कनिष्ठ वर्ग अंतर्सदनीय हिंदी वाग्मिता प्रतियोगिता 2025-26, 26 जुलाई 2025 को प्रार्थना सभागार में आयोजित की गई। प्रत्येक सदन से चार —चार प्रतिभागियों जिसमें से दो गद्य और दो पद्य खंड में भाग लिया। हिंदी विभाग, हृदय से सभी सदन प्रमुखों का धन्यवाद ज्ञापित करता है कि उन्होंने अपनी बुद्धिमत्ता एवं शिक्षण प्रयासों से नई—नई उत्कृष्ट कहानियों, व्यंग्य खोजों और प्रस्तुतियों तैयार करवाईं। सामान्य से हटकर कुछ करने की प्रतियोगिता 'साहित्यिक' बन जाती है। सभी वक्ताओं ने उत्कृष्ट प्रदर्शन दिखाया। निम्नलिखित विद्यार्थियों को प्रतियोगिता का सर्वश्रेष्ठ वक्ता घोषित किया गया।

गद्य खंड –

I **राहत पंवार** II अगस्त्य सिंह पद्य खंड –

I किपश बंसल II उत्कर्ष बंसल सदनों के स्थान निम्नवत रहे –

I निमाजी II कनेरखेड़ III जनकोजी IV दत्ताजी

Dream catcher's workshop

A Dream Catcher-making workshop was held on 27th July by Ms Sagarika Pradhan, our special educator. The workshop blended cultural learning



with hands-on craft. The workshop allowed the students to make gifts ahead of Raksha Bandhan, each Dream Catcher woven by love, care and affection.

आज तक हिंदी वाद-विवाद प्रतियोगिता 2025

वसंत वैली स्कूल में 7 अगस्त 2025 से 8 अगस्त 2025 को आयोजित आज तक हिंदी वाद-विवाद प्रतियोगिता 2025, में हमारे विद्यालय से युवराज सेतिया, अर्णव



जोशी और अयान अग्रवाल ने उत्कृष्ट प्रदर्शन दिखाया। दिल्ली व देश के अन्य भागों से 32 प्रतिष्ठित प्रतिभागी विद्यालयों ने अपनी वाक्पटुता और तर्कशित का प्रदर्शन किया। यह क्षण हमारे विद्यालय के लिए गर्व का था कि हमारी टीम के तीनों सदस्य प्रथम चार विद्यालयों में स्थान पाने में सफल रहे। इस सफलता ने हमारे विद्यालय को सेमीफाइनल तक पहुँचाया जिसमें 7 विद्यालय चयनित हुए। निम्नलिखित प्रतिभागियों को अपने प्रदर्शन के पुरस्कृत किया गया –

सर्वश्रेष्ठ वक्ता – **अर्णव जोशी** सर्वश्रेष्ठ वक्ता – **युवराज सेतिया**

TEDx SCINDIA

The Scindia Old Boys' Association organised an independent Ted event, inviting Old Boys, Faculty and the Senior School Prefect to share their life story and wisdom with the students, who were keen to listen on 13th August 2025. The speakers included:

Dr. Saji Varghese – Dr. Saji's address emphasized how simple ideas, inspired by empathy and observation, can spark



ideas for transformative innovations. He shared his journey which included inventing coconut-leaf biodegradable straws, which empowered rural women and helped the environment; encouraging youth to tap into everyday potential and create social impact. His talk highlighted the power of simple, innovative ideas to create lasting change.

Mr Raj Zutshi (Ex-Vivekanand, 1977)

– An Actor, Mr Raj Zutshi shared his journey from school to college and



into films. Coming from a family of literature, he highlighted how storytelling shaped his path and career. Known for roles in movies like Lagaan and Qayamat Se Qayamat Tak, Zutshi captivated the audience with reflections on life, art, and the value of staying true to one's passion.

Mr Alok Kumar Ghosh – A faculty member at The Scindia School and an inspiring sculptor, Mr Ghosh shared his remarkable life story. The embodiment of art on campus, Mr Ghosh transformed



his passion into a career despite being a survivor of polio. He spoke about the early struggles of his life — being unable to walk and therefore missing out on attending school like other children, and later the challenges of traveling long distances during his college years even after completing his diploma. Despite these hardships, his perseverance led him to success as both an artist and an educator. Today, under his guidance, students at The Scindia School develop the rare and expressive skill of sculpting. His journey stands as a shining example of resilience, dedication, and the power of pursuing one's passion against all odds.

Ayaan Agrawal – The Senior School Prefect (SSP) of The Scindia School. Ayaan shared the ups and downs of



his journey at Scindia, his speech revolving around a metaphor with a deep meaning, which was, "Still Waters Run Deep". He beautifully elaborated on this metaphor with examples from his inspiring journey from being an ordinary student to discovering his potential and now, standing proudly as the SSP of The Scindia School.

Ms Yogita Bhayana – A women activist who spoke about her transformative journey from being an aviation engineer to becoming a leading voice for women in India. She shared how she chose to step away from her career in engineering to fight against domestic and sexual violence, dedicating her life to justice and empowerment. Through her organization 'PARI', she offers survivors not only legal support and emotional aid but also the dignity they deserve to rebuild their lives. Her talk reflected courage, conviction, and a deep commitment to turning pain into power for countless women across the country.



Mr Gagan Khosla (Ex-Je, 1974) – Successful entrepreneur, he shared his remarkable journey of becoming an endurance athlete later in life. Reflecting on his school days, he spoke about never making it into the playing eleven, an early challenge that eventually inspired him to seek out other paths of achievement. He described



how encounters with long-distance cyclists riding for charity motivated him to take up training himself. At the age of 60, he successfully cycled from Leh to Kanyakumari, covering more than 4,300 kilometres in just 29 days to raise funds for The Scindia School. Six years later, at 66, he went even further, completing a 6,000-kilometer ride across India in 37 days to support child education initiatives. His story left the audience with a powerful message that it is never too late to push boundaries, discover new strengths, and dedicate one's efforts to a greater cause.

Mr Gaurav Jain (Ex-Mj, 1991) – Founder of FSN, the visionary who built India's largest cold chain logistics company from the ground up, shared his inspiring journey of reinvention and adaptability. His story highlighted how purpose-driven growth can shape success against all odds. Reflecting on his own school days, he candidly admitted that he was not among the most recognized personalities during his time at Scindia. Yet, through determination and resilience, he went on to create an enterprise that transformed India's logistics landscape. The key lesson he left the audience with was clear: true success is not defined by early recognition, but by persistence, adaptability, and the courage to reinvent oneself.



Mr Rudra Bhanu Solanki (Ex-Ja, 2007) - Skydiver and Founder-CEO of Skyhigh India, he spoke about his journey of pioneering structured skydiving in India. From creating the



country's first international drop zone to helping shape aero-sports policy, his work has brought safety, recognition, and opportunity to adventure sports. Sharing stories of leaping from 10,000 ft, mentoring young skydivers, and building India's presence on the global map, his talk highlighted fearless perseverance and the power of turning passion into national progress.

Welcoming the Batch of 1985

The school had the privilege of welcoming back the Batch of 1985 on 14th August 2025, whose energy and enthusiasm filled the campus with nostalgia and pride. Grateful to the alma mater that shaped their lives, the Old Boys were warmly received at the morning assembly by the Principal.



A special Talkhouse followed, where a panel of five distinguished alumni shared their journeys and insights. The session was moderated by Mr Sanjay Moolji (Ex-Mj, 1985), with panellists representing diverse fields: Dr. Mustaq Ahmed (Ex-Vivekanand, 1985) -Government Sector, Dr. Manish Baijal (Ex-Md, 1985) - Medicine, Mr Yashwant Mahadik (Ex-Sh, 1985) -Corporate Sector and Mr Harshwardhan Dhanwatey (Ex-Sh, 1985) - Wildlife Conservation & Social Service. They inspired the young Scindians with experiences from their respective fields, encouraging them to shape their own career paths with courage and purpose. Later, the batch visited SOBA House and, in the evening, joined the community for the moving cultural

programme 'Ek Shaam Shahidon ke Naam.'

79th Independence Day Celebrations

The 79th Independence Day was celebrated with great pride and patriotism at The Scindia School. The day's events began with the assembly of contingents from eight senior houses, one from junior school and the Batch of 1985 at the Madhav Field. The Chief Guest, Maj. Gen. Guljeet Singh Jamwal, AVSM, SM (Ex-Vivekananda, 1984), was warmly welcomed by the horse-riding team and introduced to the faculty by the Principal, Mr Ajay Singh.

The National Flag was hoisted at the Madhav Pavilion, followed by the singing of the National Anthem. The Chief Guest, accompanied by The Principal, The Head of Sports and The Senior School Prefect, proceeded to inspect the contingents. The march-



past, led by the spirited tunes of The School Brass Band, was a grand display of discipline and unity, with Maj. Gen. Jamwal taking the salute. The Brass Band later captivated the audience with a lively performance.

In his speech, The Principal reflected on the true meaning of freedom, while Maj. Gen. Jamwal shared fond memories of his time at the school. He expressed his deep gratitude for the role the school played in shaping his life and career, acknowledging the faculty for their dedication in nurturing future leaders. Maj. Gen. Jamwal also paid tribute to the sacrifices made by those who fought for the nation's independence. The Principal then presented a token of appreciation to the Chief Guest, and the judges were also felicitated.

Following the formal proceedings, the dignitaries, faculty and the students moved to the 'Astachal', where the Chief Guest, The Old Boys of the Batch of 1985, and the Principal participated in a tree-planting ceremony. Floral tributes were offered at the statue of Mahatma Gandhi, followed by

students' speeches on freedom fighters and a heartfelt patriotic song. The dignitaries, faculty members then proceeded to the mess (thanks to the rain God) for breakfast, where The Old Boys were felicitated by Principal Sir and Vice Principal Ma'am.

Assembly on Janmashtami

The school celebrated the global spirit of Janmashtami with vibrant cultural performances on 16th August 2025 in the assembly hall. The Hindi Dramatics Society presented a lively 'Handi Phodo' play, filling the hall with tradition, energy and joy. Adding to the festive spirit, Naman Mittal on the flute and Shaurya Singhal on the mandolin performed a melodious musical piece that captivated the audience.

IPSC Dance Competition 2025

Eleven students from our school, Pranav Agarwal, Paarth Sharma, Chavi Chawla, Abhijay P. Singh, Anaggh Naduvath, Shaurya Jain, Krishnam Bajoria, Mann Panara, Arpit Lohia, Satvik Mittal and Amay Agarwal, made their debut at the All India IPSC Dance Competition held from 14th to 16th August 2025 at Rajmata Krishna Kumari Girls' Public School.



The team competed across all four categories, winning the Guru's Choice Outstanding Performance Award in Hybrid Beats (Western Dance). The Classical Duet by **Pranav Agarwal** and **Krishnam Bajoria** stood out as the only male entry among twenty-five schools, while the team's spirited Bhangra performance in Folk Dance was applauded for its energy and synchronization.

Junior School Youth Parliament – Second Edition

The MUN Society successfully conducted the Second Edition of the Junior School Youth Parliament on 17th August 2025, with the agenda: "Deliberation on the Feasibility, Implementation, and Societal Implications of the Uniform Civil Code under Article 44 of the Indian Constitution."

A total of forty-eight parliamentarians, with twelve representatives from each house, took part in the session. Upholding parliamentary procedure, The House elected its leaders, with **Suraj Kumar Agarwalla** chosen as the Speaker and **Ishaan Chokhani** as the Deputy Speaker.

The session was graced by judges Mr Chetan Bhatia and Ms Mahima Nanda, whose guidance and insights enriched the proceedings.



The young parliamentarians impressed with their confidence and maturity, presenting well-reasoned arguments both in support of and against the Uniform Civil Code, while some advocated a balanced, phased approach. The event proved to be a remarkable platform for juniors to step into the shoes of legislators and experience the vibrancy of democracy.

Awards:

Best Parliamentarian – **Rudraksh Jindal** (Rahul Gandhi)

Most Ethical Parliamentarian – **Rahat Pawar** (Rajnath Singh)

Most Promising Parliamentarian – **Vedant Jaiswal** (Amit Shah)

Emerging Parliamentarians – **Divit Gangwal** (Kanimozhi Karunanidhi), **Manvik Naga** (Narendra Modi)

Special Mentions – **Zaid Insaf** (Shashi Tharoor), **Yuvaan** (Dr. S. Jaishankar), **Avneesh Jhunjhunwala** (Dimple Yadav)

PI SUMMIT

The school hosted the Pi-Summit, an Inter-School event on 18th and 19th August 2025, bringing together ten schools from across India. The event was inaugurated by Prof. Niladri Chatterjee, IIT Delhi, who highlighted the role of mathematics in shaping future innovations.



A special attraction was the Vedic Mathematics Workshop by Mr Gourav Tekriwal, introducing students to unique mental calculation techniques.

The competition featured four challenging rounds:

Pi-TOTYPE (Math Models) – won by Scindia Team 1 (Sahil Kilhore, Korounganba Rajkumar, Abhikshit Narayan)

Pi-RATES QUEST (Presentation) – won by Vidya Devi Jindal School, Hisar.

Pi-RATES DEN (Problem Solving) – won by Scindia Team 2 (**Bhavya Jain, Rajvirr Agarwal, Chirag Jalan**). Pi-PI Ka Hisaab (Quiz) – won by Scindia Team 2.

After a close contest, Vasant Valley School, Delhi was declared the Overall Winner, with The Scindia School, Team 2 as Overall Runner-Up.

The event concluded with a heartfelt vote of thanks, appreciating the contributions of the school administration, mess, health centre, teachers, students, and support staff who worked tirelessly behind the scenes to make the summit a grand success. Special thanks were also extended to the participating schools and their Principals for encouraging their teams and supporting this academic celebration.

Inter House 'A' Group English Debate

The Inter House 'A' Group English Debate was held on 14th and 15th August 2025, featuring three engaging rounds. The contest began with Block and Tackle, followed by the British Parliamentary round and culminated in the Asian Parliamentary format, where Jayaji House and Madhav House debated the motion, 'This House Believes that Pacifism is a more justifiable solution than militarism in the 21st Century.'

The following students were awarded as the Best Speakers: -

Side Proposition - Ayaan Shah Side Opposition - Ayaan Agrawal Winner- Madhav House (Kavin S. Chhatwal, Ayaan Shah and Sahaj Agarwal)

Overall House positions are as follows:

I Madhav II Jayaji
III Mahadji IV Daulat
V Shivaji VI Ranoji
VII Jeevaji VIII Jayappa

Workshop on Quiz

Mr Ajay Poonia (Ex-Sh, 2006) conducted an engaging workshop for the Quiz Club students on 18th and 19th August 2025. The sessions introduced participants to innovative approaches to quizzing and sharpened their critical thinking. On the second day, students had the unique opportunity to experience "Trivia Pirates", an interactive quiz game designed by Mr Poonia himself, making the workshop both informative and enjoyable.

Trinity Workshop for Students

The school recently hosted a Trinity Program from 19th to 21st August 2025 for the students of Classes VI, VII, VIII and IX, aiming to enhance their critical thinking and speaking skills. The program comprised three interactive sessions, each designed to build the ability to think on one's feet and express ideas with clarity. The facilitator, Ms Ritika Ratna, captivated the students through engaging activities such as presentations on hobbies, passions, and goals. While encouraging participation, she also offered subtle corrections, helping students refine their communication skills. Through these sessions, the syllabus of Trinity Levels 3 and 4 was successfully completed, thanks to the combined efforts of both the facilitator and the participants.

HCL Jigsaw

The first round of HCL Jigsaw's sixth edition was conducted for the students of classes VI to IX and thirty-three students were selected from our school. The second round was conducted on 21st August 2025 and the result for the same is awaited.

Le Frehindi

The Frehindi organisation held an interactive session on 21st August which briefed students about the international Frehindi spell bee competition and its fee structure. It ended with a mock spell bee competition in which winners were facilitated with Vincent Van Gogh Auto portraits.



SOBiR Programme by Mr Prabhu

The school hosted a series of workshops under the SOBiR (Scindia Old Boys in Residence) programme conducted by



Mr Prashant Prabhu (Ex-Md, 1967) from 21st to 23rd August 2025. Mr Prabhu is a former Asia-Pacific Head of Michelin and currently a faculty member at North Carolina State University. Addressing the students of classes XI and XII, he shared deep insights into the modern economic landscape, commerce and emerging developments in the global business world. His vast experience enriched the sessions, offering students a unique perspective beyond textbooks. He also visited the Madhav House common room, where he interacted informally with the boys, recalling his days at the House and how those experiences shaped his journey.

TERI workshop

A workshop by The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), was held on 23rd of August. Students of class VI to



IX and XI attended the workshop. The focus of the workshop was to spread awareness about healthy lifestyle and promote "Mission LIFE (Lifestyle for Environment)". The speakers were:

Ms Pallavi Singh, Associate Fellow, TERI

Dr. P. K. Bhattacharya, Associate Head, KRC TERI

Akhand Pradeep Rai, Class XI, Jayappa House

Dr. Dipankar Saharia, Senior Director, Social transformation & Strategic Alliance, TERI

Mr Aditya Kumar Agarwal, Assistant Professor at MITS, Gwalior

The students pledged to take efforts to change their lifestyles to contribute to the environment and "Mission LIFE". Another highlight of this event was

the fact that Dr. Dipankar Saharia is an Alumni of The Scindia School.

The Middle-Group General Quiz

The Middle-Group General Quiz was held on 24th August 2025, with Daulat, Jayaji, Shivaji, and Ranoji competing in the finals. Conducted by Quizmaster Mr Kamlesh Singh, the event tested students' knowledge of Science, History, Geography and Current Affairs through engaging rounds like Infinite Bounce, Audio Visuals, and Double Trouble. In a nail-biting finish, Jayaji House edged past Daulat to claim the top spot, while the other houses put up commendable performances. The House positions are as follows: -

I Jayaji II Daulat III Shivaji IV Ranoji V Jayappa VI Mahadji VII Jeevaji VIII Madhav

READ Workshop

The READ workshop for the junior school was held on 24th August. The focus of this workshop was to enlighten the students in the field of literature and develop their reading skills. This would also help the students to learn the skill of creative writing and would also help them improve their vocabulary and grammar. Each student set a goal to read at least one book per month.

Class VII visit to Fort Biosphere

The students of class VII visited the nursery and the meadows in The Fort Biosphere. The students learnt about a variety of flora and fauna and engaged in activities that contributed to helping nature thrive such as making seed bombs. This enriched their knowledge and renewed their perspective about plants and animals around us.

Visit of Dr. Piotr A. Świtalski

Dr. Piotr A. Świtalski, Head of Mission at the Embassy of the Republic of Poland in New Delhi, visited our school and interacted with the Principal, Mr Ajay Singh on 26th August 2025.

Young Thinkers' Conclave

A delegation of ten students- Dhir Bharat Jhunjhunwala, Swarit Varshney, Sahil Kilhore, Shiv Shah, Shaurya Krishna, Khush Todi, Sahaj Agarwal, Koroungamba Rajkumar, Suraj Kumar Agarwalla and Lakshya Tulsian, accompanied by Mr Anoop V, participated in the Silver Jubilee Commemorative Young Thinkers' Conclave 2025, hosted by Mayo College Girls' School, Ajmer, from 22nd to 25th August 2025. The

event brought together bright young minds from leading schools across the country to engage in thoughtful dialogue, critical analysis and collaborative discussions on pressing global and social issues.

Suraj Kumar Agarwalla received the Best Performer Award in 'Theatrics Unleashed' (English Dramatics), a reflection to his talent and dedication.

The Scindian Podcast

The fourth episode of the Scindian Podcast was premiered on 27th August 2025 on the YouTube channel of the podcast. This episode featured Mr Raj Zutshi (Ex-Vivekanand, 1984), one of the famous actors in India who has worked in the industry for years.

Ganesh Chaturthi

हमारे विद्यालय में गणेश-चतुर्थी का उत्सव 26 और 27 अगस्त 2025 को हर्षोल्लास के साथ मनाया गया। पहले दिन दोपहर लगभग 12 बजे, शिक्षक एवं छात्रगण बैंक ऑफ बड़ौदा के सामने एकत्रित हुए, जहाँ विद्यालय की सुचारू प्रगति और सफल कार्यों के लिए



भगवान गणेश की पूजा-अर्चना की गई। पूजा के उपरांत विधिवत गणेश-स्थापना की गई। दूसरे दिन, विसर्जन के अवसर पर, रंगों से सजे हाथों और भावनाओं से भरे हृदयों के साथ, सभी ने मिलकर भगवान गणेश की प्रतिमा को शोभायात्रा के रूप में सूरजकुंड तक पहुँचाया और वहाँ विधिपूर्वक विसर्जन किया। कार्यक्रम का समापन इस प्रार्थना के साथ हुआ कि आने वाला वर्ष विद्यालय के लिए और भी समृद्धि, सफलता और खुशियाँ लेकर आए।

Inter House Senior Group Music Instrumental Competition

The school conducted the Inter House Senior Group Music Instrumental Competition on 27th August 2025, the event revolved around the theme of 'Western Notes'. The event presented instrumental covers of mesmerizing songs like 'Counting Stars', 'Rasputin'



and 'Shape of You' etc. The following houses earned the top 3 positions-II Madhav I Jeevaji III Shivaji

Student vs Staff Hockey Match

The student vs staff hockey match was played on the occasion of the National Sports Day honouring the hockey Wizard Major Dhyan Chand on 29th August 2025. The match was played with full team spirit and enthusiasm. The staff team won the match with a score of 2-1.

Old Boys' News

Anubhav Sachan 2023) (Ex-Ja, has achieved a historic milestone, the becoming first Indian to win the UK University Polo Championship The proud Scindian (SUPA Nationals).



His journey, which began on The Scindia School's horse-riding field in 2021, reflects the school's commitment to nurturing courage, resilience, and leadership. This victory underscores our mission to develop world leaders who dare to pursue extraordinary achievements.

80 words around the world

Hurricane Harvey 2.0? No, storm Idalia just drenched Florida, but locals still queued at Starbucks-Meanwhile, priorities. robotaxi trials had their first hiccup when one car politely bowed to traffic for 20 minutes. In India, monsoon floods turned Bengaluru into Venice, minus the gondolas, plus mosquitoes with pilot licenses. Over in Europe, farmers blocked highways with tractors—Greta Thunberg approved, commuters less

जब धराली रोई और पहाड़ भी चुप हो गए श्री जगदीश जोशी, अध्यापक - हिंदी विभाग

मैंने धराली में कुछ समय बिताया था, वहाँ की हर गली, हर बगीचे, हर मुस्कान से जूड़ाव महसूस किया था । आज जब यह हृद्यविदारक घटना सूनी, तो ऐसा लगा मानों किसी ने मेरी अपनी रगों में बहते लहू को जकड़ लिया हो। रूह तक काँप उठी और आँखों के सामने वही पहाड़, वही लोग, वही खुशियाँ सब मलबे में दबे नज़र आए । धराली की पहाड़ियाँ अब भी खामोश खड़ी हैं, लेकिन उनके सीने पर ऐसे गहरे जख्म हैं, जिन्हें वक्त भी शायद जल्दी नहीं भर पायेगा । जहाँ कभी सेब के फूलों की महक और पर्यटकों की हँसी गूँजती थी, वहाँ अब सिर्फ टूटे घर, बिखरे सपने और आँसुओं से भरी आँखे हैं । चौतरफा पसरा मलबा, जमींदोज हो चुके सैकड़ों भवन और उजड़ी गलियाँ मानो पुकार रही हों -''क्या हम कभी फिर जिंदा हो पाएँगे?'' आज सरकारी मशीनरी मलबे के बीच उम्मीद की कोई किरण ढूँढने और पीड़ितों के आँसू पोंछने में लगी है। मशीने वहाँ तक पहुँच नहीं रही हैं, हृदयविदारक दृश्य है धराली का । इस पीड़ा को वही समझ सकता है जिन्होंने अपनों को खो दिया । हर सांत्वना के बीच मेरे मन में वही सवाल फिर उठ रहा है कि क्या जिन लोगों ने इस जलप्रलय में अपना सब कुछ खो दिया, क्या हम उनके बिखरे सपनों में खुशहाली के रंग भर पायेंगे ? और अगर भर भी पाए, तो क्या वे रंग उतने ही गहरे होंगे, जितने कभी थे? मेरे कुछ परिचित लोग बता रहे हैं कि धराली ने 500 करोड़ रुपये से अधिक का नुकसान झेला है। लेकिन ये आँकड़े सिर्फ पैसों का नहीं, बल्कि जीवनभर की मेहनत, यादों और रिश्तों का हिसाब हैं। कई लोग यहाँ की खुबसूरती और पर्यटन की असीम संभावनाओं से खिंचकर आए थे। उन्होंने अपने घरों को होमस्टे में बदला, सेब के बागानों के बीच होटल और रिसॉर्ट खड़े किए। मगर किस्मत ने इतनी बेरहमी से वार किया कि पलक झपकते ही सब कुछ मलबे में बदल गया । मेरे एक परिचित भूपेंद्र ने साथियों के साथ मिलकर तीन करोड़ रुपये की लागत से रिसॉर्ट बनाया था, सेब के बगीचों के बीच खड़ा किया था एक सपना। आज वहाँ सिर्फ पत्थरों का ढेर और टूटी लकड़ियों का ढाँचा बचा है। उनकी आँखों में कभी भविष्य के लिए चमकते सपनों की जगह अब वीरानी का अंधेरा है। रजनीश पंवार जी का होमस्टे, उनका घर, उनका बगीचा सब कुछ बह गया । अब सिर ढँकने के लिए जगह नहीं है । जय भवान का 50 से अधिक कमरों वाला आलीशान होटल, जो कभी हर मेहमान के लिए खुले दरवाजों से उनका स्वागत करता था, अब सिर्फ यादों में है। धराली के अनिगनत लोग भूपेंद्र, रजनीश, जय भवान जैसे सबने अपने जीवन का हर तिनका इस माटी में जोडा था । और अब सब कुछ बह गया। हाँ, जिंदगी का नियम है कि वह आगे बढ़ती है, और शायद एक दिन ये जख्म भर भी जाएँगे । लेकिन दर्द ये है कि कोई नहीं जानता ? वह दिन कब आएगा ? और जब आएगा, क्या धराली उसी ताकत, उसी सौंदर्य और उसी मुस्कान के साथ खड़ी हो पाएगी ? कभी धराली की पहचान सिर्फ पर्यटन नहीं थी यहां सेब के बागानों से हर साल करीब 20 करोड़ रुपये का कारोबार होता था । लेकिन अब वे बाग, जो कभी लाल-लाल सेबों से लदे रहते थे, बस टूटी डालियों और बिखरी पत्तियों की उदास तस्वीर बनकर रह गए हैं। आज धराली की हर गली, हर पत्थर, हर टूटी दीवार मानो कह रही है- हम फिर उठेगे --- मगर पता नहीं कब, यह हमें भी नहीं पता । शायद यही अनिश्चितता, यही इंतजार, सबसे बड़ा जख्म है। और फिर भी, इस माटी से जुड़ने, इसे सीने से लगाने की चाह अब भी बाकी है। शायद यही चाह, यही जिद, एक दिन धराली को फिर से खड़ा कर देगी - पहाड़ों की गोद में, मुस्कुराते आसमान के नीचे, वैसे ही जैसे वह कभी थी। किसी ने सही कहा है -उत्तराखंड सी हो गयी है जिंदगी, खुबसूरत तो बहुत है मगर आपदाएँ भी कम नहीं । प्रकृति इतनी निर्दयी क्यों होती जा रही है इस प्रश्न का उत्तर हम सब को ढूँढ़ना होगा !

World Photography day

World Photography Day, celebrated each year on 19th August. The day commemorates the 1839 announcement of the daguerreotype by the French Academy of Sciences—a photographic process developed by Louis

Daguerre that was gifted freely humanity, to making photography accessible the masses and igniting a global revolution image-making.





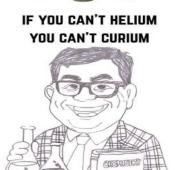


Happy Teachers' Day

Made by - Chavi Chawla XI-A and Sanatan Agarwal. XI-C

ORS-INO DOCTOR-INO





KARL MAX II



SILENT KILLER



THE NIGHTINGALE



JULIUS CAESAR
IS THE NAME OF MY DOG



GUITAR-INO DHRUV-INO



DO YOU KNOW HOW MANY BATCHES I HAVE TAUGHT?



NO LAB DURING THE NIHARI



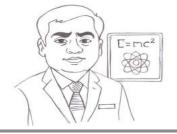
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IRON MAN



SENDING THE DRAWING IN



THE LAST LESSON



LIFE IS NOT AS SIMPLE AS MATHS



THERE IS A TRICK
UP MY SLEEVES



A Race Through Time Ryan Batra, XII C

As the current Athletics Captain of our school, I have often looked up to the achievements of those who once stood where I stand today. Their stories, told with pride in dormitories and on the track, have always inspired me. But nothing could have prepared me for the moment I met and raced with Mr. Harshwardhan Dhanwatey (Ex-Sh, 1985), the Athletics Captain of 1984–85.

It began with a simple invitation—yet it felt monumental on 15th August 2025. I was about to meet someone who had carried the same responsibility decades before me, long before I was even born. I had heard of his speed, his leadership, and the way he carved a legacy that still echoes in our lanes. Meeting him was like touching the roots of a tree whose branches I now belong to.

When he arrived, his presence was striking—not just because of the athlete he once was, but because of the humility he carried. In our conversations, time seemed dissolve. We spoke of the pride and the weight of captaincy, of early morning practices, of the discipline Athletics demands. And though years separated our journeys, the essence of what we shared as Captains was the same. Then came the race. A 400-meter dash—not to decide a winner, but to celebrate a bond. As we ran side by side, I realized it wasn't just a race. It was a moment where history and the present sprinted together, where the baton of leadership was silently passed. Every stride was a reminder that I wasn't alone; I was running with the spirit of all those who came before me. That day taught me something profound: captaincy is not just about speed or strength—it's about legacy. It is about carrying forward



pride, inspiring others, and leaving behind something that outlives your own time on the track. I finished that race with a heart full of respect, a mind brimming with motivation, and a spirit forever bound to those who once wore this mantle.

Astachal Speaks: Answers in Silence

I am Astachal, the place where silence speaks more than words. Every evening, as the sun dips behind the hills, I listen to the hearts of the boys who sit before me—some restless, some lost, some quietly searching for answers.

Among them was a boy. Bright, full of potential, but slowly being pulled into the wrong company. His teachers had noticed—their gentle reminders turned into firm warnings. His housemaster called him again and again, urging him not to lose his path. His class teacher tried to guide him with care, but to the boy, it all began to feel suffocating.

At home, he shared his confusion with his parents. They told him simply, "Listen to your heart." His friends, laughing by his side, said, "Ignore all this advice—enjoy life, this is your time." Torn between voices pulling

him in different directions, the boy felt trapped in his own thoughts. One evening, burdened by this storm within, he walked slowly towards me. He sat on the steps, dressed in his white kurtapyjama, watching the sunset paint the sky in gold and crimson. The cool breeze touched his face, and he closed his eyes. It was then that he heard a sound—a clear, young voice of a junior student reciting a short poem. Simple words, but carrying the weight of truth: ''संगत का असर है गहरा,

जैसे रंग चढ़े कपड़े पर।
सचे मित्र और बुज़ुर्ग की बातें,
बचाती हैं जीवन की राह पर।
मन चाहे भटके लाखों ओर,
पर सही राह दिखाए सिर्फ़ बड़ों का जोर।
'सत्संग' से मिलता है उजाला,
गलत राह पे है अंधियारा ही ठिकाना।''

The boy listened. Slowly, the chaos

within began to settle. The words pierced his heart, reminding him that right company builds a man, while wrong company destroys even the strongest. He looked at the horizon—the setting sun seemed to whisper: "Every ending has a lesson, every silence a truth."

I, Astachal, have seen this dilemma before. Many boys have come to me with confusion in their hearts. Some answers they could not find in books or in lectures. But here, in this quiet, they found them. Not in noise, not in arguments, but in silence. That boy stood up with new strength. He had understood—the voices of elders were not suffocation, but guidance. The laughter of wrong company was not freedom, but a trap. With the sunset behind him and conviction within him, he walked back—not away from himself, but towards the person he was meant to be.

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"If Astachal is the soul of the school, the Review is the mind of the school."

