

Workshop for Teachers by Gwalior Sahodaya Samiti – 29th November 2025

The 3rd Workshop of the 2025–26 session of the Gwalior Sahodaya Samiti was successfully conducted on 29th November 2025 at ECS School, Vicky Factory Choraha, Link Road,



Workshop for teachers

Gwalior. The workshop, scheduled from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM, brought together faculty members from various schools to engage in discussions on contemporary trends in science, education and technology.

The session was graced by esteemed resource persons from Amity University, including Prof. Dr. S. P. Bajpai, Dr. Anurag Jyoti, and Dr. Dinesh Sharma, who shared their expertise across diverse topics. The workshop focused on three key areas: Science, Scientists and Society, Career Opportunities in Biotechnology and AI in Education.

Participants, including Mr Akhil K. Lakshmanan and Mr Akash Sharma, gained valuable insights into the relationship between scientific research and societal development, understanding how scientific advancements influence everyday life and educational practices. The session on biotechnology familiarised teachers with emerging career opportunities in this rapidly evolving field, enabling them to guide students more effectively. Further, the discussion on artificial intelligence highlighted its applications in teaching, learning and assessment, equipping educators with strategies to integrate AI tools into modern classrooms.

The workshop also aimed to enhance digital awareness, encourage collaboration among teachers and promote professional growth within the Gwalior Sahodaya Samiti. By exploring advancements in science, biotechnology and AI, the workshop empowered teachers to deliver future-ready education, fostering innovation and critical thinking among students.

Overall, the workshop was a meaningful and enriching experience that strengthened the professional capabilities of participating faculty and reinforced the commitment of Gwalior Sahodaya Samiti to provide teachers with continuous opportunities for learning, collaboration and pedagogical excellence.

Health Check-Up Camp

The Ladies Club of The Scindia School organised a Health Check-Up Camp for the Support Staff and their families on Sunday, 11th January 2026, at the School Health Centre within the School campus.

The initiative was led by the Ladies Club President, Mrs Anamika Singh, reaffirming the club's dedication to the health and well-being of the school's support staff.

The programme was efficiently coordinated and conducted by Agarwal Hospital & Research Institute and ASG Eye Hospital. The general check-up was supported by the school RMO, Dr Laven Govender, the physiotherapist,



Health Check-up Camp

Dr Manvendra Singh Bhadoria, and other medical staff, including Ms Akansha Singh and Mr Kaushal Kant Saxena ensuring comprehensive care for all participants.

A large number of support staff and their families participated in the camp and benefited from the medical check-up. The initiative played a vital role in educating participants and creating awareness about preventive healthcare and timely medical intervention.

District Table Tennis Tournament

The 3rd Gwalior District Ranking Table Tennis Tournament 2025–26 was successfully held from 6 to 7 December 2025 at Jiwaji Club, Gwalior, witnessing enthusiastic participation and competitive performances by young players. In the Under-13 category, Vihaan Surana (KD) displayed remarkable skill and

determination to secure a position as the 1st semifinalist, while Pritam Patel (JN) delivered an impressive performance to emerge as the runner-up. In the Under-15 category, Niel Agarwal (MD) advanced confidently to become the 1st semifinalist. The tournament served as an important platform for nurturing emerging talent and promoting excellence in district-level table tennis.

Endurance Beyond Academia

Mr Saptarshi Bhattacharyya, Faculty in English, exemplified the synthesis of intellectual rigor and physical endurance through his noteworthy participation in two major long-distance running events in December 2025. On 14 December, he successfully completed the Careathon 8.0 Half Marathon, covering 21.1 kilometres with the starting and finishing point at City Centre 1, Salt Lake, Kolkata, achieving a commendable race time of 2 hours and 51 minutes. This performance reflected sustained discipline, resilience and a deep commitment to personal excellence beyond academic pursuits.

Continuing this remarkable journey, on 21 December, he participated in the Tata Steel World 25K, completing the 25-kilometre course, starting and ending at the historical Indira Gandhi Sarani (Red Road) in 3 hours and 36 minutes. Recognized as a World Athletics Gold Label race, the Tata Steel 25K stands among the most prestigious road-running events globally, attracting elite international athletes and nearly twenty-five thousand runners from across the world. Traversing iconic landmarks such as Fort William, Victoria Memorial, Park Street and Rabindra Sarobar, the event celebrates Kolkata's cultural vitality and collective spirit. Mr Bhattacharyya's participation symbolized perseverance, balance and inspiration, affirming that scholarly dedication and athletic endurance can coexist to shape a life of purpose, discipline and holistic achievement, embodying the Scindian spirit.

Smart Champ Quiz 2025 (Season -1)

The Scindia School Shines at the HP Smart Champs Quiz

Chirag Raj Goel (Class IX) and Rahat

Panwar (Class VII) represented The Scindia School at the prestigious HP Smart Champs Quiz, held in Mumbai from 23 December to 27 December 2025. Throughout the competition, the students displayed exceptional intellectual acumen, confidence, and composure, distinguishing themselves among some of the brightest young minds from across the country.

Following several rounds of rigorous and meticulous screening, the team qualified for the first on-site round conducted in Mumbai. Their journey through the competition was marked by remarkable teamwork, strategic insight and depth of knowledge. In the semi-finals, they delivered an outstanding performance, scoring an impressive 315 points, the highest score in that round.

The quiz was hosted by acclaimed actress Ms Sanya Malhotra and featured eminent personalities including Ms Dhvani Bhanushali, Mr Shikhar Dhawan and Mr Aparshakti Khurana, adding to the prestige and excitement of the event.

Their exceptional performance propelled them into the final round, which unfolded as an intense and exhilarating contest marked by rapid-fire questions and nail-biting moments. After a fiercely competitive finale, The Scindia School secured the coveted position of Second Runners-Up, an achievement that stands as a testament to their dedication, intellect and perseverance.

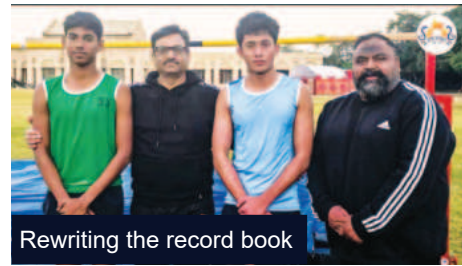
In recognition of their excellence, the team was awarded HP AI laptops, Smart Tank 580 printers, Stinger headphones and precision-designed computer mice. Their success not only reflects their individual brilliance but also underscores The Scindia School's enduring commitment to fostering analytical thinking, curiosity, and academic excellence.

History Hurdled at High Jump

History was rewritten on the Athletics Field during the 85th Inter-House Athletic Meet as two exceptional performances elevated Scindia's sporting legacy to unprecedented heights. In a display of remarkable athleticism and composure, Lakshya Agarwal cleared an impressive height

of 1.70 metres in the high jump, setting a formidable benchmark. Rising to the occasion with equal determination, Aditya Raj Pandey surpassed this mark with an outstanding leap of 1.73 metres, shattering a long-standing record that had remained unbroken since 1966.

Their achievements were not merely a triumph of physical ability but a testament to unwavering focus, disciplined preparation and quiet confidence under pressure. What began as a routine afternoon of competition was transformed into a historic moment that will be etched



in the annals of Scindia's sporting heritage. Lakshya Agarwal and Aditya Raj Pandey have set a new standard of excellence, inspiring future athletes to strive higher and believe in the power of perseverance.

SOBA Second Presidents' Conclave in Kolkata

The Scindia School Old Boys' Association (SOBA) successfully concluded the second edition of its Presidents' Conclave in Kolkata, marking a milestone in the alumni body's distinguished 66-year journey. Held from January 9 to 11, 2026, the three-day conclave brought together Presidents and senior representatives from SOBA chapters across India and overseas, reflecting the growing strength, unity and global reach of the Scindia fraternity.

The conclave served as a vital platform for dialogue, collaboration, and strategic reflection, reinforcing SOBA's enduring commitment to responsible leadership and collective vision. Deliberations focused on strengthening alumni engagement, fostering meaningful contributions to education, and aligning efforts with broader goals of social responsibility and nation-building. The presence of diverse voices from across generations underscored the association's ability to blend tradition with contemporary perspectives while remaining anchored to the values imparted by The Scindia School.

The deliberations of the Conclave were intense and future-focused. Central to the discussion was the historic Planetarium Project, a vision to make The Scindia School the first in India to house its own planetarium. Leaders from 23 chapters discussed about fundraising strategies and



implementation. A poignant moment during the session was the presentation of the PILLAR OF SOBA AWARD to Mr Anil Buchasia (Ex-Vivekanand/Daulat, 1981), honouring the steadfast dedication to the alumni network. This was followed by a press conference, attended by over 30 media personnel, eager to cover SOBA's social initiatives and the school's roadmap for the future.

Through thoughtful discussions and shared resolve, the conclave reaffirmed SOBA's role as a custodian of the School's legacy and a catalyst for future progress. The successful conclusion of the event stands as a testament to the alumni body's dedication to honouring the past while shaping a purposeful future for The Scindia School and the wider society it serves.

मकर संक्रांति और लोहड़ी: उत्सव, स्मृतियाँ और संकल्प दिवित देसवाल, कक्षा 11

मकर संक्रांति का पावन पर्व हमारे विद्यालय में इस वर्ष भी अत्यंत हर्षोल्लास और धूमधाम के साथ मनाया गया। विगत वर्षों की परंपरा को निभाते हुए, रंग-बिरंगी पतंगों के संग हम सभी ने खुले आकाश के नीचे उल्लास के क्षणों को जीया और त्यौहार के आनंद में सराबोर हो गए।

इसी उत्सव की कड़ी में दौलत हाउस में 13 फरवरी की संध्या को लोहड़ी पर्व के लिए विशेष एवं स्नेहपूर्ण व्यवस्थाएँ की गई थीं। शाम ढलते ही भैया द्वारा पहले से ही इकट्ठी की गई लकड़ियों से अग्नि प्रज्वलित हुई और जैसे ही रात्रिभोज के उपरांत हम सभी वहाँ पहुँचे, वातावरण लोहड़ी के रंग में पूरी तरह रम गया। जलती हुई अग्नि के चारों ओर गूँजते पुराने गीतों की मधुर धुनों पर नृत्य करते हुए हम सभी भाव-विभोर हो उठे। एक के बाद एक विभिन्न कक्षाओं के विद्यार्थियों की प्रस्तुतियों ने पूरे माहौल को रोमांच, उमंग और उल्लास से भर दिया।

कक्षा 12वीं के छात्रों ने अपने अनुभवों और विचारों से हमें जीवन के अनेक महत्वपूर्ण पाठ सिखाए। उन्होंने इस पर्व को सदैव पूरे जोश और उत्साह से मनाने का आग्रह किया तथा एकता और परंपरा के महत्व को रेखांकित किया। युवराज सेठिया ने सिंधिया स्कूल में अपने चार वर्षों की यात्रा के अनुभव साझा किए, जिन्हें सुनकर हम सभी अत्यंत प्रेरित हुए। उन्होंने हमें अपने लक्ष्य पर केंद्रित रहने, हाउस का नाम रोशन करने और यह संकल्प लेने का संदेश दिया कि गुरुद्वारा ट्रॉफी इस वर्ष भी हमारे ही हाउस में रहे।

भव्य सैनी ने खेलों में अधिक समर्पण और निरंतर अभ्यास पर बल दिया तथा अनुशासन को सफलता की सबसे बड़ी कुंजी बताया। शिवांश ने विनम्रता का महत्व समझाते हुए कहा कि जीवन में आगे बढ़ने के लिए स्वयं को सदैव छोटा बनाए रखना आवश्यक है, क्योंकि अहंकार से आज तक किसी को कुछ प्राप्त नहीं हुआ। भव्य मदान ने अपनी सदाबहार मुस्कान के साथ बिना अधिक शब्दों के ही हम सभी के दिलों को छू लिया। उन्होंने गर्व के साथ बताया कि इस वर्ष हाउस ने तीन स्पोर्ट्स कैप्टन और तीन स्कूल प्रीफेक्ट, और तीन हाउस प्रीफेक्ट दिए हैं और इस उपलब्धि को दोहराने की जिम्मेदारी अब आप सभी की है।

ऋतुपर्ण ने अपनी सादगी से एक गहरा संदेश दिया और मुस्कुराते हुए कहा कि आपका अगला लक्ष्य मेरा क्रॉस कंट्री रिकॉर्ड तोड़ना होना चाहिए। इन सभी विचारों और संदेशों ने वातावरण को न केवल खुशनुमा बनाया, बल्कि हमें नई जिम्मेदारियों और नए संकल्पों से भी भर दिया।

हाउस मास्टर श्री जगदीश जोशी ने अपने संक्षिप्त उद्बोधन में कहा कि मकर संक्रांति एवं लोहड़ी जैसे पारंपरिक पर्व हमारी सांस्कृतिक विरासत के महत्वपूर्ण प्रतीक हैं। ऐसे आयोजनों के माध्यम से विद्यार्थियों में भारतीय परंपराओं के प्रति सम्मान, आपसी सौहार्द, अनुशासन और सामूहिक उत्तरदायित्व की भावना विकसित होती है। मैं इस सफल आयोजन के लिए सभी विद्यार्थियों एवं संबंधित स्टाफ को हार्दिक बधाई देता हूँ और आशा करता हूँ कि हमारे विद्यार्थी भविष्य में भी इसी ऊर्जा, एकता और सकारात्मक दृष्टिकोण के साथ विद्यालय और हाउस का नाम रोशन करते रहेंगे। अंत में मूँगफली और रेवड़ी की मिठास के साथ इस सुंदर संध्या का समापन हुआ। ईश्वर से सभी की सुख-समृद्धि की कामना करते हुए, हम सभी ने यह संकल्प लिया कि अगले वर्ष भी इसी उत्साह, एकता और उमंग के साथ इन पर्वों को पुनः मनाएँगे।

Power, Paradox and The Global Order : South African Ambassador Visits The Scindia School Akhand P. Rai, Class XI

The interview with His Excellency, Professor Anil Sooklal, South African Ambassador to India offered a wide-ranging and incisive analysis of the contemporary global order, with particular emphasis on the challenges confronting the United Nations, shifting notions of power and the concerns of the present generation. The Ambassador observed that the



United Nations, especially the Security Council, has been steadily weakened by its outdated structure, the misuse of veto powers and the failure to implement meaningful reforms. He highlighted how unilateral military actions, withdrawal of major powers from UN bodies, non-payment of dues and repeated violations of international law have further paralysed the multilateral system. Despite these shortcomings, he stressed that the UN remains indispensable, as no viable alternative exists to collectively address global challenges.

Reflecting on global power dynamics, he noted that power today extends beyond military and economic strength to include technological capability and soft power. Drawing on examples such as cultural diplomacy, sports, yoga and civilisational influence, he illustrated how nations project influence by winning hearts and minds rather than through coercion alone. Addressing students, he expressed concern over the growing anxiety among youth caused by global instability, rapid technological change, and economic uncertainty. He emphasised adaptability, resilience, and multi-skilling as essential attributes for the future. On artificial intelligence, he argued that regulation is both necessary and possible, underscoring the importance of a rules-based international order to ensure technology serves humanity responsibly rather than becoming a destabilising force.

Ex Irish Prime Minister Visits The Scindia School Suraj Agarwalla, Class XI

A student interaction session with His Excellency Dr Leo Varadkar, former Prime Minister of Ireland, was held on 22nd January during the school assembly in the Assembly Hall. Following his address to the gathering, Dr Varadkar engaged in a thoughtful and wide-ranging question-and-answer session with students, offering valuable perspectives on leadership, public service and the role of young citizens in a democratic society.

Responding to a question on leadership, Dr Varadkar identified integrity and empathy as its most essential qualities. He emphasised that effective leadership is rooted in an honest understanding of people's concerns and the courage to make principled decisions, even when they may be challenging or unpopular. On the subject of career choices, he



reflected on his own transition from medicine to politics, advising students to view their professional journeys as evolving pathways rather than rigid plans. He encouraged them to pursue their interests while remaining open to opportunities that allow for meaningful service to society.

Addressing the theme of failure, Dr Varadkar candidly acknowledged that setbacks are an inevitable part of any career. He noted that failure plays a vital role in shaping character, fostering resilience, humility and sound judgement. When asked about handling pressure and public criticism, he highlighted the importance of self-discipline, perspective and strong support systems, stressing the need to distinguish constructive feedback from unwarranted noise.

Dr Varadkar also spoke passionately about the role of youth in sustaining democracy. He urged students to remain informed, engaged and active, whether through dialogue, volunteering or participation in civic life. Concluding the interaction, he advised students to cultivate critical thinking, curiosity and a commitment to lifelong learning.

Special Assembly : Panel Discussion Suraj Agarwalla , Class XI

As part of the Golden Jubilee reunion celebrations of the Batch of 1976, The Scindia School organised a panel discussion on 25th January, focusing on the theme “The Role of The Scindia School in Shaping Character and Life Values.” The session brought together students, faculty members and distinguished alumni of the Golden Jubilee Batch of 1976 to reflect on how the institution contributes to personal development beyond academic achievement. The event was initiated by Mr Dipak Haksar, Member of the Board of Governors, who set the tone by inviting the panelists and the moderator onto the stage. The session was moderated by Suraj Agarwalla, representing the student body. The panel comprised Colonel Ravi Prasad (Retd.) (Ex-Ranoji), Professor Vivek Sarkar (Ex-Jayaji), Ms Kaumudi Aga (Ex-Shivaji), Mr Saumitro Sen (Ex-Jayaji), Mr Sarvesh Malhotra (Ex-Ravindra/Jyotiba), and Mr Vijay Jaini (Ex-Mahadji). The discussion opened with reflections on the values and habits developed during school life. Colonel Ravi Prasad emphasised discipline as the most significant trait he carried forward from The Scindia School, stating that it later became a core strength throughout his career in the Indian Army. Supporting this idea with a lighter anecdote, Mr Jaini highlighted punctuality as an important habit developed at school. He humorously added that this habit of over-punctuality continues in his personal life, often becoming a subject of jokes from his wife, thereby illustrating how deeply school routines shape long-term behaviour.

On the influence of the Gwalior Fort environment, Ms Kaumudi Aga shared that growing up amidst the greenery and open spaces of the campus instilled in students a lasting appreciation for nature and environmental awareness. Adding to this perspective, Mr Saumitro Sen recalled how their history teacher made learning interactive by organising treasure hunts across the

fort and integrating the geographical and historical significance of the campus into lessons. He noted that such experiences made learning more engaging and helped students form a deeper connection with their surroundings. While discussing discipline and structure, Professor Vivek Sarkar observed that although the school’s discipline might initially appear strict, it eventually becomes an internalised system of self-regulation. He explained that this upbringing unconsciously develops clarity about what to do, when to do it and how to approach responsibilities. The other panelists supported this view, collectively agreeing that such discipline later translates into professionalism, accountability and organised thinking in adult life.

The theme of confidence balanced with humility was addressed through a personal anecdote shared by Mr Sarvesh Malhotra. He recounted an incident from his school days when he arrived late to the assembly as his bicycle had a flat tyre and responded somewhat arrogantly to a teacher who questioned him. As a result, he was asked to take four rounds of the Madhav Field. He described this moment as one of his earliest and most effective lessons in humility. This incident was received with laughter and appreciation from the audience, with other panelists joining in, reinforcing how small disciplinary actions at school often leave lasting moral impressions.

The panelists also reflected on how The Scindia School prepares students to face failure with dignity. They collectively observed that setbacks at school were treated as learning experiences rather than punishments, encouraging students to grow emotionally and develop resilience. According to the panel, this mindset helps individuals face professional and personal challenges with confidence and maturity. When offering advice to the present generation, the panelists emphasised the importance of patience, consistency, ethical behaviour and self-discipline, particularly in a fast-paced world driven by instant gratification and digital distractions. In this context, the panelists referred to Ralph Waldo Emerson’s words, “Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail,” encouraging students to think independently, take responsibility for their choices and focus on building strong character alongside academic success.

In conclusion, the panel unanimously agreed that the true legacy of The Scindia School lies not in examination results or rankings, but in the kind of individuals it produces — responsible, grounded, value-oriented and socially conscious citizens. The session concluded with a formal vote of thanks by the Senior School Prefect, Ayaan Agarwal followed by the School Song and a group photograph of the alumni, marking a meaningful and reflective engagement between generations of Scindians. The session proved to be deeply insightful and inspiring, leaving students with a strengthened understanding of leadership, responsibility and the power of individual contribution in shaping society.

Tradition, Togetherness and Timeless Tribute Suraj Agarwalla , Class XI

The 77th Republic Day was celebrated with great pride and patriotic fervour at The Scindia School, Fort , Gwalior on the 26th of January, 2026. The occasion was graced by the presence of the Chief Guest, Mr Vivek Sarkar, Dean of the College of Computing at Georgia Institute of Technology, and an alumnus of the Golden Jubilee Batch of 1976.



Unfurling the Flag

The celebrations commenced with the Chief Guest, Mr Sarkar being introduced to the faculty members followed by the ceremonial march past, which showcased discipline, unity, and the spirit of the institution. A total of ten contingents participated in the parade, including the Batch of 1976, a combined Junior School contingent representing all four houses, the eight Senior School House contingents and the Scindia School Brass Band.



The Scindia School Brass Band



Panel discussion

The parade was commanded by the Deputy Senior School Prefect, Shresth Agarwal, who led the formations with precision and confidence.

The participation of the Golden Jubilee Batch of 1976 in the march past added a special significance to the event, symbolizing continuity, tradition and the lasting bond between the school and its alumni. The presence of former students marching alongside the current generation created a powerful visual of shared heritage and collective pride.

The formal proceedings at the podium included addresses by the Chief Guest, Mr Vivek Sarkar and the Principal, Mr Ajay Singh. In his speech, Mr Sarkar reflected on the importance of education in shaping responsible citizens and highlighted how institutions like The Scindia School play a crucial role in nurturing leadership, integrity and ethical thinking. The Principal, in his address, emphasized the significance of Republic Day as a reminder of the values enshrined in the Indian Constitution and urged students to uphold the ideals of democracy, unity and social responsibility. Both speeches collectively reaffirmed the importance of integrity, sovereignty, constitutional principles and democratic and republican values, encouraging students to contribute meaningfully to society and the nation.

This was followed by a special Astachal performance, conducted by Deputy Senior School Prefect, Ayaan Chintan Shah, which further reflected the discipline, coordination and ceremonial excellence of the school. The special Astachal programme commenced with a tree plantation ceremony followed by paying floral tribute to the Father of the Nation and concluded with group photographs of the Golden Jubilee batch. Following the formal celebrations, the Chief Guest, alumni and dignitaries were invited for a special breakfast at the Principal's Bungalow, which provided an opportunity for informal interaction and reflection.

Thereafter, the Old Boys of the Batch of 1976 embarked on nostalgic visits to their respective houses, accompanied by their family members. These walks through the campus allowed them to reconnect with familiar spaces, teachers and students, and to share memories across generations of Scindians. The interactions reflected the enduring emotional connection the

alumni maintain with the institution and highlighted the school's role as a lifelong community rather than merely an academic space.

The Republic Day celebrations thus stood as a meaningful blend of tradition, patriotism and alumni engagement. The presence of the Golden Jubilee Batch alongside current students reinforced the timeless values of The Scindia School and celebrated its continuing legacy of shaping disciplined, responsible and value-driven citizens of India.

A Mellifluous Evening Pranav Agarwal, Class XI

On 23rd January 2026, the Music Department of The Scindia School organised a refined and evocative musical evening titled "Triveni Saarang Sangam" on the auspicious occasion of Basant Panchami. Held in the school assembly hall, the programme transformed the space into a sanctuary of classical art, resonating with cultural grace and spiritual serenity befitting the festival of learning and music.

The evening featured spellbinding performances by five distinguished maestros—Ustad Abdul Mazid Khan, Ustad Abdul Hanif Khan, Shri Abdul Hanif Khan, Shri Shahrukh Khan and



Shri Salman Khan. Through the soulful strains of the Saarang, the artists wove a tapestry of melody, emotion and tradition. Each rendition reflected the depth, discipline and timeless beauty of Indian classical music, leaving the audience profoundly moved. The seamless harmony of notes and the expressive power of the instrument created an atmosphere of quiet reverence and admiration.

Students, teachers, and staff members attended the programme in large numbers and expressed deep appreciation for the opportunity to witness such an authentic display of musical heritage. The concert concluded with resounding applause, marking the evening as both memorable and enriching. The event stood as a testament to the school's commitment to nurturing cultural awareness and

artistic excellence.

Respect, Recreation, Recognition Pranav Agarwal, Class XI

On 26th January 2026, the Social Service League of The Scindia School organised a special sports programme for the support staff of the school and their family members, to commemorate Republic Day in a spirit of unity, dignity and inclusiveness. The initiative reflected the school's commitment to recognising and celebrating the invaluable contribution of its support staff, who form the backbone of the school community.

The programme was held in the Oval Field and was designed to foster teamwork, mutual respect and collective joy. A wide range of sporting events was organised, including shot put, kabaddi, high jump, long jump, 400-metre and 600-metre races, spoon race and several other recreational activities. Participants of all ages took part with remarkable enthusiasm, displaying commendable sportsmanship, determination and



camaraderie throughout the day.

The atmosphere was vibrant and uplifting, as laughter, encouragement, and applause echoed across the field. To honour their efforts and participation, winners of the various events were awarded blankets as a thoughtful token of appreciation.

The programme concluded on a joyous and fulfilling note, successfully reinforcing the ideals of equality and togetherness. By blending celebration with compassion, the event transformed Republic Day into a truly meaningful and memorable occasion for all involved.

Astachal: In the Stillness, We Find Ourselves Ranveer Chauhan, Class XI

I joined The Scindia School in Grade 6, in 2020. Back then, Astachal was a place we juniors only heard about.

Seniors spoke of it quietly, almost like it was something you had to grow into. For two years, I would cross the campus and wonder what really happened there. When I finally entered senior school and moved to Shivaji House, I didn't just see Astachal. I felt it.

Rooted in 1933, Astachal is the waterhole of our school, but for us, it is something much deeper. We sit there



in simple kurta-pyjamas, in silence, facing the water and ourselves. Those few minutes slow everything down. In that stillness, I end up thinking about the smallest things and the biggest ones. What I did wrong. What I did right. What kind of person I am becoming.

Like almost everyone here, I have presented Astachal many times, sometimes in Hindi, sometimes in English, sometimes only with "Om." And after the silence, when teachers guide us for the rest of the evening, it feels like we rise from Astachal lighter, clearer and a little more aware.

Astachal, to me, is comfort. It is honesty. It is peace. It is where I meet myself, without noise, without pretence and somehow, that always feels enough.

एक बस तू ही नहीं है।

गणपत एस. पाठक, हिन्दी विभाग

अमर-जीवन पथ के
सामने के बगीचे की घास छिल गई है
शुक्ला मुक्ताकाश मंच का मुखड़ा
सजीला हो गया है
बड़ा मैदान बारिश में
हरा-भरा सजा-सँवरा है
जैसे कल ही
शुरू हो जाएगी कदमताल
पंद्रह अगस्त की घनघोर तैयारी
हाउसों के बीच बाल्टियों की मारा-मारी
एक-दो-एक के
जोर और जोश के स्वर
पढ़ाई के लिए
एक छोर से दूसरे छोर तक
पैदल जाने को तत्पर
मुख्य पथ पर

रूँ अकेले चलते चलते
ये दृश्य सजीव हो उठते हैं
शिक्षक, भैया आपको न पाकर
सिहर उठते हैं कि
सब कुछ तैयार है, चाक-चौबंद है
बस एक तू ही नहीं है।
(खोया साल 2020, सिंधिया परिसर छात्रों के बिना)

Ashes Beneath the Rain: Who Should Be Responsible for Climate Change? Chirag Jalan, Class X

The night the sky turned black, I remember the sound more than the sight — the wind howling like it had a memory, tearing through the streets of Kolkata, breaking windows, drowning voices, ripping away what we called home. I remember holding my grandmother's trembling hands as Cyclone Amphan devoured our neighborhood. And when the water finally receded, the silence that followed was heavier than the storm itself. In that silence, I realized — this wasn't a natural disaster. This was a man-made punishment.

The earth once whispered; now it screams. And we, its supposed guardians, are deaf.

There is something haunting about watching your childhood drown. About seeing the mango tree you grew up climbing lying, split open on the road. About seeing your grandmother's medicines float away like dead fish in muddy water. That night, Amphan took away not just homes, but dignity — the illusion that humanity still had control. People called it fate, an act of God, but no — this was the revenge of ignored warnings, of decades of greed, of arrogance disguised as progress.

I still remember the news anchors saying, "Amphan has caused \$13 billion in damage." But what about the cost of a lost family? What about the cost of fear that stays when rain begins to fall again? Who will measure that? Who will pay for that?

Let's stop pretending that the Earth is changing on its own. It's not. We are changing her. With every forest we flatten for highways. With every industry we build upon wetlands. With every silence we maintain when corruption eats through environmental policy.

According to the World Meteorological Organization (2024), the past eight years have been the hottest in human history.

India's average temperature has already risen by 0.7°C since 1900, and if this continues, by 2100, our coastal cities — including Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata — could be partially underwater.

The UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) warns that over 40 million Indians could be forced to migrate internally by 2050 because of floods, droughts and rising sea levels.

Climate change doesn't discriminate, but our system does. The rich install air purifiers; the poor inhale poison. The elite escape to hill stations; the tribal communities are crushed beneath the hills that collapse on them. In Himachal Pradesh this year, landslides took hundreds of lives — not because of rain alone, but because mountains were dynamited for profit. Who is accountable for that blood? The rain? Or the greed that made the rain fatal?

The Paris Climate Agreement of 2015 was humanity's great promise — to limit global warming to 1.5°C. Every country stood under the same sky and said, "We will protect this planet."

And then, there's the United States — who withdrew from the Paris Agreement, claiming it was "bad for business." What does that imply? That the planet's survival is a trade deal, negotiable on profit margins?

The climate crisis is not only about melting ice; it's about melting ethics. It's about a world that refuses to change until the fire reaches its doorstep. But let me tell you — it already has.

Meanwhile, in India — my land of contrasts — where we worship the cow as 'Gau Mata' and call the Earth 'Bharat Mata', the rivers we revere as goddesses are suffocating under



chemical waste. The air that carried the Vedas now carries PM2.5 particles far beyond the WHO's safe limits. Political speeches overflow with "development" promises, yet Delhi chokes every winter under a toxic haze, and Mumbai floods each monsoon like an open wound.

And yet, what do we hear in our political rallies? Speeches about faith, about temples, about borders — but never about glaciers melting faster than trust. We are a nation that can spend ₹2,700 crore on a statue but cannot spend ₹200 crore to strengthen the embankments that protect villages from floods.

In India, over 75% of districts are vulnerable to climate-related disasters. Farmers are committing suicide after crops fail due to unpredictable rains. Women in Rajasthan walk five kilometers daily for a pot of clean water.

In Odisha, children study under open skies because their schools were swept away by cyclones. And in Delhi, the air is so thick that breathing has become a form of slow dying. We stand at the edge of a cliff — and we are still arguing about who pushed whom. So, who should be responsible? Everyone. But not equally. The human race must bear the shame of its ignorance. But corporations must bear the weight of their greed. And governments must bear the guilt of their betrayal.

Responsibility without power is guilt; power without responsibility is crime. We can no longer hide behind the myth that "every small action counts" — not when the powerful undo a million of them in a day.

If the top 20 economies don't cut their

emissions by half in the next decade, no amount of personal recycling will save us. That's the harsh truth.

But there is hope — not in speeches, but in solutions that sting. First, we must redefine development — not as GDP growth, but as ecological balance. A highway is not progress if it destroys a forest. A factory is not success if it poisons a river. Progress should no longer be measured in cement, but in clean air.

Second, we must implement Green Taxation — industries that pollute must pay the real price. Carbon taxes should fund renewable energy in rural areas, where solar and wind can truly empower lives.

Third, climate education must become a mandatory part of school curricula. Children should not grow up learning that the Earth is infinite. They must learn that it is fragile. Just as we teach history to remember wars, we must teach climate to prevent extinction.

Fourth, renewable energy revolution. India's solar mission must not just be a headline; it must be a household. Every rooftop should become a generator. Every city should become a carbon-neutral zone by 2040.

Fifth, and most importantly — accountability. If ministers can be jailed for corruption, why not CEOs for ecological crimes? If the law can protect monuments, why can't it protect the mangroves? Because ultimately, climate change is not a crisis of carbon — it is a crisis of character. We must learn to live not as owners, but as trustees. The Earth doesn't belong to us; we belong to it. This is not our

inheritance to exploit — it is our duty to preserve. As Mahatma Gandhi once said, "The world has enough for everyone's need, but not for everyone's greed."

So before the next storm comes — and it will come — let us remember that denial is death. That inaction is not neutrality; it is complicity. That every second we waste is another child's future slipping underwater.

The time for polite conversations has passed. This is not a debate; this is a demand. For clean air. For safe water. For moral sanity. For the Next Dawn, Let not the Earth's cry fade to dust, Nor oceans weep beneath our lust. Let us rebuild, not just repair, A world our children can inherit fair. If we could wound the world with greed, We can also heal with word and deed. The sky we broke — we can restore, But only if we care once more.

(In November 2025, Chirag Jalan of Class 10C, Jayappa House, authored the above essay for the final round of the 13th Nanhi Chaah Essay Writing Competition, held in Royal Global School, Guwahati. Written with the intent of addressing the urgent need to combat climate change and escalating global ecological crises, the essay draws inspiration from his personal experiences and reflects his bold, thought-provoking views on governmental action. Selected from over 50,000 entries nationwide, his work stands as a testament to the power of young voices to inspire awareness, curiosity, and change. Chirag was awarded a cash prize of ₹30,000, two trophies, and a personality development course at NIIT University, Neemrana.)

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

