

**Principal's Report**  
**131st Annual Prize Giving – December 7, 2013**

With the passing away of one of history's iconic leaders who helped to make better the lives of millions, President Nelson Mandela leaves behind a legacy that we must learn from. He was also a Patron of Round Square an organization which has made a significant difference in the lives of all of us at the Daly College.

Let us stand in silence in tribute to this great man and let us pray that his soul rests in peace.

Thank you.

The Hon'ble Minister of HRD for the Republic of India, Dr. Shashi Tharoor, Old Dalian Gajendra Singh Sareen, Maharaja Tukoji Rao Puar, President of our Board of Governors, Members of the Board, past Presidents & past Members, Mr. Vijay Bhatnagar, dignitaries, parents, Old Dalians, especially the Executive Committee, the silver jubilee batch of 1988, colleagues and students; a very warm welcome to this 131<sup>st</sup> Annual Prize Giving.

We are immensely proud to have the Hon'ble Minister with us today and are grateful to you Sir for honouring us.

A just and deserving introduction will take up more than my allotted time and so I will, with your permission Sir, mention only a few salient points.

Author, United Nations peace keeper, refugee worker, human rights activist, Minister of State for External Affairs and now for Human Resource Development and of course, active on social media.

Dr. Tharoor came a close second in the race to becoming UN Secretary General, an organization he served from 1978 to 2007. Apart from syndicated and other columns and articles in over a

dozen international and national newspapers and magazines Dr. Tharoor has authored 13 books, one of which is on India-Pakistan Cricket which he co-authored with Old Dalian Shahryar Khan. His books have been translated into 9 languages.

His formal education includes a PhD in Law and Diplomacy from Tufts. He was awarded an honorary D.Litt by the University of Puget Sound and a Doctorate Honoris Causa in History by the University of Bucharest.

The World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, named Dr. Tharoor 'Global Leader of Tomorrow'. He has received 7 highly respected awards including Distinguished Global Thinker Award and the Ecomienda de la Real Order Espanola de Carlos III by the King of Spain.

My task today Sir, as always, is to present a report on the last twelve months. As our students achieve more, I have to become more selective in what I present in my allotted time. Today I am restricting my report to six facets of our educational programme – Internationalism, Service, Environment, Sports, Culture and Academics. Though Round Square remains the core of this programme, our students and teachers are also benefiting enormously from other organizations that we are tapped into. For me the opportunity of Model United Nations programmes is heartening because of the intellectual stimulation these provide. As a consequence we have now identified a teacher who will oversee training and who will accompany our students on these outings.

Similarly the new programmes on offer from Young Global Group ranging from National Geographic expeditions, to leadership camps, to University visits to training with and in front of university coaches and scouts at the IMGGA Academy in Florida, to the month long attachments in New York & California with professionals in various fields, all spell new avenues of

opportunities.

There is no doubt that DC is now seen as possibly the best Indian school to partner for internationalism. The G-20 group of Iconic Heads of Iconic Schools which invited us four years ago to join them visited us in full force earlier this year. Our Chief Guest today was also kind enough to address them in Delhi, as did Dr. Karan Singh & Mr. Montek Singh Ahluwalia.

GALES a student organization from 25 plus countries has only one Indian partner, DC, and has for the very first time decided to shift for 2014 the venue of its bi-annual summit in Raffles Singapore to DC Indore. The less formally structured Global Connections group of Heads, coordinated out of Hotchkiss in Boston, and who want DC to host a conference, took your Principal on an enlightening tour of Columbia, from the mountain schools in drug cartel areas to the more affluent ones in Bogota and to the one run by Shakira, where the children told me they prefer Bollywood music to Shakira's. What most impressed me about the Columbian educational system was the clear and separate administrative policies for urban and rural education, with a view to developing education and career opportunities in the rural areas so that children from there need not move to cities for either education or jobs. Also most impressive is how, unlike in India, even the most remote schools have very modern and hygienic washroom facilities.

Another organization vital to us is AFS because of which we can send out students on scholarships, as also organize incoming and outgoing group exchanges.

Two years ago saw the initiative of a joint US, Australia & UK study of 10 schools in 10 countries that are most effectively adapting to globalisation. DC was selected in India. While this study continues, a side effect has been that post graduate teacher trainees at the 3<sup>rd</sup> best in the

world, Melbourne School of Education, have twice come to DC for their practical stint and in spite of job restrictions in India beyond the internship period, and they will be returning next year.

Also the course we run on Indian Culture continues to attract students, especially from Canada.

Now I present the statistical data:

19 students have gone out on solo exchanges to USA, Australia, Thailand, Scotland, Canada, S. Africa, Columbia, Turkey, Germany, New Zealand & Peru.

In return we hosted 12 students from 9 countries.

We also had groups coming in from Fernhill in Canada, Appleby in Canada & Ivanhoe in Australia.

5 students went on AFS exchanges to Turkey, Germany & Italy.

Uditraj Rathore is on a one year BP/AFS Global Citizens of Tomorrow Scholarship to the USA.

In exchange AFS has sent us 3 students on 12 month exchanges from Italy, Germany & Russia and a fourth for a shorter duration from Germany.

Also from AFS we had a fortnight visit from 11 students and 2 teachers from Russia.

We have had 9 overseas teachers visit us.

Mr. Kirtane attended a workshop in Germany, Mrs. Rashmi Ahuja & Ms. Sarita Badhwar in Manila & Ms. Priti Sable has been on a ten week AFS Teacher Exchange Programme to Denmark.

Mr. Rajan Potty, our SVP attended the Deputy Heads G-20 Conference at Wellington, Eton & Marlborough in the UK.

Our students escorted by Mr. Potty attended a Leadership Conference in Washington and witnessed the swearing in ceremony of President Obama.

Two students escorted by Ms. Indu Kapoor, attended the Ideas to Change the World Summit at Raffles in Singapore.

10 students escorted by Mr. Dharam Verma attended a 10 day conference at Stanford.

Mrs. Asma Ansari attended a CIE Conference in Singapore.

3 students attended the Wellington Leadership Institute's Global Social Leaders Programme in England.

78 students escorted by 6 different teachers have attended MUNs in India and one in Jordan.

20 students were awarded A Certificate in NCC. 17 students distinguished themselves and the College at an NCC Camp this month.

4 students attended a Young Leaders Conclave in Delhi.

The Annual Round Square International Conference was held in Florida and was attended by 6 students, the Principal and Ms. Badhwar.

**If internationalism is one important facet of educational experience, another is community service.**

DC students raised funds and built a two storeyed community hall in the tribal hamlet of Sanawadia.

Jr. School students hosted the young village students for Halloween and for a food fest. Also took them to the zoo and a movie and included them in sports.

Hosted a 10 day language, computer literacy and math workshop for the students of Sally Holkar's Women Weave Charitable Trust Maheswhar.

Hosted the 6<sup>th</sup> Daly-Ermitage-Choithram Eye Camp. Our joint Franco Indian team distributed 5363 spectacles and facilitated 275 successful cataract operations. In all six camps the total

spectacles distributed to those who otherwise may never have seen so well is 21461.

Two students went on an international service project to Romania and another two went to Peru.

5 students escorted by Mr. Chitale attended a service project in Jordan.

One service group went to Dehra Dun and another went to Gwalior.

However what we are most proud of is the leadership we have provided to the 41 Round Square schools in South Asia and the Gulf whose students have resolved to work on a priority basis for the welfare of the girl child for at least the next two years. DC students advertised in the newspaper and each of the Govt. & NGO schools that responded will be the recipient of Rs. 1.5 lac separate toilets for girls and boys with overhead water and underground septic tanks. These funds were raised by our students. We are proud of this because we found that the adolescent girl is unable to attend school when there is no toilet. One girl spoke of not drinking before leaving for school in the hope of avoiding a visit to the non-existent washroom. Eventually these girls are deprived of an education, remain socially and financially dependent on others and are unable to guide in later years their own families in matters of education, hygiene and nutrition.

As on date we have signed up for toilets in 8 schools. The first one at Govt. H.S. School, Siya, Distt. Dewas is now operational and I think our students deserve a big hand. Another seven will be ready by the end of January 2014.

One of our student clubs 'Bridging the Gap' has done good work in the Home for the hearing impaired and also in an orphanage and have provided drinking water facility in the Home for the visually handicapped. The students also donated to the unfortunate in Uttarkashi and have selected recipient schools in Indore for 152 chairs and 162 tables. Our students have painted the

class room walls of school for the hearing impaired.

Another of our Student Clubs is the Imaging Club which has rebranded our logo and has designed an interactive web site which will be launched in days from now.

**Environment Awareness** and Action is another important aspect of our education programme.

We have organized for DC and another 10 schools a much required workshop on Garbage Management conducted by young professionals from Auroville.

We have hosted along with IIT Indore a workshop by GRIHA on green certification and most significantly are near to completing phase 1 of our demo GREEN CENTRE where we will showcase all renewable sources of energy, composting, recycling, wall and roof gardening, organic farming and so on and so forth.

Our students have been checking pollution emissions on cars driven by parents and teachers.

And in order to share all our programmes with the students and teachers of other schools in Indore we opened a DC Resource Centre. Already this Centre has enabled 76 students and 5 teachers of other schools to go out on exchanges to Italy, Germany, Japan & USA.

Apart from exchanges and admission oriented talks by representatives of 35 American, Canadian and British Universities, a number of workshops have been conducted through the Resource Centre by AFS, Global Young Group, McMillan Group and 6 by British Council and other British organizations.

It is our belief as a leading school that our social responsibility extends to those beyond our own campus.

**The next facet to report on is sport.**

This year the achievements of our boys and girls has once again been outstanding. The maximum medals won by any school in India at the Students Games Federation of India were won by DC students.

Of the students who qualified for the Nationals:

12 are in swimming. Tanvi Satish was declared best swimmer at the 42<sup>nd</sup> State Championships.

8 are in Athletics

In the MP & Chhattisgarh CBSE Athletic Meet at Satna where 59 schools participated our U-19 boys were declared champions and Shobhit Jain with 3 golds was declared individual champion.

In Badminton 3 boys made it to the Nationals. Mohit Kukreja was declared most promising player in the U-19 section of the IPSC tournament.

Last year we were the U-19 girls basketball IPSC national champions. 5 of our top players passed out and I was pleasantly surprised to see our new team reach the semifinals this year.

Our U-17 Basketball girls won bronze in the CBSE Cluster tournament.

In Basketball 5 boys and 3 girls qualified for the Nationals.

In Chess one boy qualified for the nationals.

Two boys have been rated at the international level in Chess.

After a long dry spell our cricketers have come good. 2 boys have qualified for the nationals.

Our U-17 team won the IPSC Cricket Tournament held at YPS Patiala. Vishal Chauhan was declared best batsman.

In football 4 boys qualified for the nationals in U-14 and another 4 in U-19.

In girls football as many as 10 qualified for the nationals in the U-19 and 18 girls in the U-17 played in the Subroto Cup.

Our U-17 girls' team won the IPSC Football tournament at MGD Jaipur and our two visiting American soccer coaches deserve some of the credit for this.

In gymnastics one boy qualified for the nationals.

In hockey our U-14 girls won the all India IPSC at Indore. 12 girls were selected for the nationals.

Shivani was declared best defender and Swatiya Best Player.

The U-14 team also won the MP State Championships at Betul.

In the U-19 girls' hockey we were IPSC runners up and 3 girls were selected for the nationals.

In the U-19 Boys Hockey the team won Bronze in West Zone CBSE tournament

In shooting we are the all India boys IPSC champions in U-19 & U-17 and were placed second in U-14.

We are also the all India IPSC Girls shooting champions in U-19 & U-14 and were 3<sup>rd</sup> in the U-17 category.

In the All India Inter Schools Shooting Championships held at Pune, we won 10 golds, 4 silvers and 7 bronze.

In the SGFI Nationals again held in Pune individual Gold Medals were won by Zainab Bandoowala, Anil Kumar, Shiladitya Jamnia and Silvers by Mihika Poore and Amita Singh.

5 boys played in the Kuala Lumpur All Star Open Squash and also in the Malaysian Jr. Open at Penang.

In the IPSC boys squash with 10 schools participating, DC won in all three age groups – U-14, U-17 & U-19.

The girls' tournament could not be held for lack of opponents.

49 boys and girls qualified for the Nationals. DC hosted the Indian Jr. & sub-Jr. Open.

Our students did not perform as well as expected but 9 reached the last 16 in their respective age groups 02 in the last 8.

At the year end 16 Dalians are nationally ranked in the top 30 in different categories.

5 have been selected for the Indian team trials and Adwetiya Kasliwal has been selected for the Asian Jr. Open in Jordan.

In the tennis SGFI Inter School Division Chaitanya Chauhan won the U-14. Rushank Lunkad & Jaskirat were runners up in the U-19.

Our U-14 girls' team won silver in the IPSC at DPS RK Puram Delhi.

The U-17 boys' team won bronze and Aditya Dagaria won an individual bronze.

At an individual level Isha Budwal is close to breaking into the world top 500 in the U-16 girls.

She was selected for the National Camp. She has trained for 2 months in Spain.

Manan Navlani won an open tennis tournament in Spain.

Panya Bhalla has won her 1<sup>st</sup> national title U-14 championship series held in Gwalior.

5 students have been selected for the SGFI school team camp.

3 students have qualified for the SGFI Skating Nationals.

In totality we are currently IPSC champions in U-14 girls' hockey, U-17 girls' football, U-17 boys' cricket, U-14, U-17 & U-19 boys squash, U-19 & U-17 boys shooting and U-19 & U-14 girls shooting.

A record number of 174 boys and girls have been selected for the nationals in various games – 34 more than last year.

This calls for a special round of applause.

**This year we have gone beyond our regular Cultural activities** by throwing open to students the

opportunity to start and run any club of their choice. 25 clubs have survived the initial hiccups.

Also, Sunday lunch is being prepared for itself by one House at a time.

We hosted the IPSC Cultural Fest as also the Literary Fest. We had 700 students and 100 staff from 23 schools living with us on campus for 4 days. It was amazing to see everyone getting on so well and cheering for each other.

As in the past years DC excelled in the cultural scenario. With a total of 42 events, we won 16 of these, came second in 8 and third in 3.

I would like to share with you the photographs of our winners.

1<sup>st</sup> in Indian orchestra for the 6<sup>th</sup> time

1<sup>st</sup> in Western Orchestra for the 6<sup>th</sup> time

1<sup>st</sup> in Classical Vocal Solo for the 5<sup>th</sup> time

1<sup>st</sup> in Indian Group song

1<sup>st</sup> in Classical Solo Dance for the 6<sup>th</sup> time but more significantly Shivani Karmarkar has won this event for the 4<sup>th</sup> time in a row.

1<sup>st</sup> in Choreography

1<sup>st</sup> in Western Dance

1<sup>st</sup> in Folk Dance

1<sup>st</sup> in English Skit

1<sup>st</sup> in Nukkad Natak

1<sup>st</sup> in Turn coat debate

1<sup>st</sup> in Book Review

1<sup>st</sup> in Hindi Extempore speech

1<sup>st</sup> in Hindi Creative writing (Jr.)

Second in Classical Instrumental solo

Second in Classical Vocal solo

Second in Western Group song

Consolation prize in Fancy Dress cum Elocution

Consolation prize in Hindi Skit

Second in Creative Writing

3<sup>rd</sup> in Elocution of a Speech

2<sup>nd</sup> in Literary Quiz

2<sup>nd</sup> in Hindi Elocution

3<sup>rd</sup> in Hindi Creative writing

3<sup>rd</sup> in Hindi Vocabulary quiz

In the IPSC Visual Arts Fest held in Welham Boys' School

1<sup>st</sup> in Hand Painting

2<sup>nd</sup> in Face Painting

2<sup>nd</sup> in Conceptual Photography

In the IPSC IT Fest

1<sup>st</sup> in Collage Making

Scindia School Gwalior hosted a Science against Crime festival DC won 3 of the 6 categories and was declared overall winner.

Avni Goyal won the International painting competition organized for Round Square Schools by

Chittagong Grammar Bangladesh.

We lost the inspirational leadership of the DC Band with the passing away of Mr. Munna Khan in April. His son Ibrahim has sustained his good work and the College band is growing in numbers and in reputation.

The Centre for Cultural Resources & Training GOI awarded Pratyusha Nyati a scholarship in Vocal Hindustani Music.

DC won the DF Jack Memorial English Debate. Ayisha Ansari & Aishwarya Mahajan were placed first and third respectively.

In the Welham Girls Hindi debate we were placed 2<sup>nd</sup>. Meenakshi Mangal was placed 2<sup>nd</sup> individually.

Our juniors of Class VI have done well to be placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in Mahindra's World in Motion Jet Toy challenge.

Our students have done well in quizzing

This year we have introduced Senior & Junior Inter House Photography competitions.

**In Academics our students have shown further improvement** as is obvious from the Class XII chart of comparative results which shows we now have a class average of 84%.

The teachers and students definitely deserve a big hand.

At an individual level here are those who deserve recognition:

Stream toppers

Subject toppers

CBSE Merit Certificates were awarded to Ruhi Chhabra for Entrepreneurship, Ritvik Jain for

Math, Ashwin Kirtane for Computer Science, Krishnesh Bapat and Aayush Singhal for Pol. Science and Akash Gaur for Physics.

This batch has now gone on to University -

One boy is working as an undergraduate research fellow sponsored by NASA.

10 have joined Delhi University

11 have joined Devi Ahilya Vishwa Vidyalaya Indore

07 have joined Christ College, Bangalore

31 have joined various colleges of Bombay and Pune

15 have joined DCBS

04 have studying Law

04 are doing CA

01 is doing Hotel Management

04 are doing Medical

01 each have joined IIT, Dhanbad, NIT, Hyderabad, BITS, Pilani, Ambani Institute of Technology and IIM, Indore

05 have joined MIT, Manipal

02 have joined VIT, Vellore

10 have joined various engineering colleges of Mumbai

06 have joined various engineering colleges of Indore

02 have opted for fashion design

Some have gone overseas to the:  
University of Boston,

Yale University, Canada,

Waterloo University, Canada,

University of Toronto

University of New York

London College of Fashion Designing

Emirates School of Hospitality, Dubai

Also Vikaran Khanna is doing his PhD in Physics and Avani Bansal her Masters in Law both from University of Oxford.

The Class X CBSE results have also improved. 15 secured a perfect 10 CGPA and received CBSE Merit Scholarship. 152 secured a first of whom 60 got a CGPA of 9 or more.

DC is proud that we have offered an alternative to the CBSE of the Cambridge University IGCSE at our normal fees, ensuring a choice based on aptitude and not financial. Our very first batch of IGCSE students have done us proud.

2 students scored over 90%

Gaurav Lath 90.5%    Shivani Mangal 90.2%

Another 9 scored between 85% and 89.5%

Shivani Mangal obtained the highest marks in India in English as a second language. We are still in the learning stages and have sent 12 teachers for CIE teaching workshops.

11 teachers have completed online Stage 1 & Stage 2 training for Cambridge International Exams. We have thus chosen to enrich our own rather than import from elsewhere.

Interestingly CIE will offer a March exam in IGCE from 2015, AS level exams from 2016 & A levels from 2017. This is most welcome.

I will not go into staff development details this year except depict some of the workshops including ones we hosted in Economics, Math & Accountancy.

Mr. Indrajeet Singh Baidia retired after 18 years in the school office

Mr. Radhey Shyam Chauhan retired from the Principal's office after 33 years.

Mr. Jacob John who retired in 2010 was roped in to oversee a project which resulted in a wonderful book on 90 varieties of birds to be found in DC.

Ms. Sable has compiled a book on poems written by our students.

My sincere and heartfelt thanks to the Board of Governors for their guidance and support. The Board and the Old Dalians have been my greatest strength.

In 2011 we organized a Board meeting in Mumbai. This year the Board held its first overseas meeting in Dubai. The meeting was followed by a fun get together of approx. 90 Old Dalians at the Atlantis Hotel. It is events like this that make us feel we belong to a larger family. To our College Patrons Raja Digvijaya Singhji, Maharaja Jyotiraditya Scindia, Maharani Usha Raje Holkar & Maharaja Pushpendra Singh all of whom have visited us this year. A very special thanks to Raja Digvijaya Singh without whose support and guidance I would spend much more time in the corridors of government in New Delhi.

My thanks to all Old Dalians, parents, the Board and my colleagues who honoured me on my completing a decade at DC. I was quite relieved when I found it was not a surprise farewell party.

Also thank you DMU for conferring on me an honorary Doctorate of Literature in Education.

And to Education World for a Lifetime Achievement Award.

I am, on behalf of present and future students extremely grateful to our benefactors:

The Sanghi Hobby Centre sponsored by Old Dalian Sharad Sanghi and inaugurated by the Chief Guest earlier today.

The Mukesh Jhaveri Green Centre sponsored by Old Dalian Abhishek Jhaveri and designed by Old Dalian Dhruv Bhaskar.

The Fitness Gym & TT Centre being sponsored by Old Dalians Amitabh & Neeraj Mandloi.

The Jr. School Math Lab sponsored by the Class of 1987 and inaugurated yesterday by Mr. Gajendra Singh Sareen.

The Mittal Education Centre & Library sponsored by Old Dalian Karan Mittal.

The BCM Football Pavilion and relaid soccer field being sponsored by Old Dalian Rajesh Mehta.

The building of 1.3 KM of boundary wall which will make the campus more secure and will free it of stray dogs.

The DC Resource Centre.

The Adventure Park being sponsored by Old Dalians Anshul & Ankit Mittal. The Board saw a miniature version as also equipment to be used when it was in Dubai.

And finally the 7 crore Academic Centre which will change the face of learning in Classes XI & XII.

Of the 35 (2)(b)(ii) 10 lac sponsorships on offer, 10 have been taken by Mr. Vaibhav Jain, Mr. Siddharth Mohan, Mr. Gurpreet Singh, Mr. Rahul Neema , Mr. Saurabh Sangla, Mr. Sharang Soni, Mr. Sidharth Bhargava, Mr. Nitesh Shahra, Mr. Sameer Agrawal & Mr. Jai Desai. I urge more of you Old Dalians and parents to please come forward to support this excellent cause.

To add to the Sardar Bolia Trust Fund for overseas coaches, we had last year a donation of Rs. 100 lacs from Vikram Rajadhyaksha for a similar purpose and this will enhance the scheme for

the future. So far we have received overseas coaches for soccer from Germany, for dramatics from Canada, for basketball from Australia and for football and for basketball from the USA. This is definitely giving an impetus to our sportsmen and sportswomen. Tomorrow I meet with representatives of Cricket Australia and Cricket Victoria and may be we can revive the days of Kachibaroda, Hanumant Singh, Raj Singh, Ashok Jagdale, Devang Kapadia and others. Next year DC is one of the proposed exhibition centres for the Sir Don Bradman cricket museum which will tour India.

When Education World was ranking schools this year I received a call from them to say we are ranked one. Later they ranked us two and told me this change was because we don't have any arrangement for special education. The fact of course is that we have an excellent centre for special education with 3 full time and one part time dedicated teachers of whom we are justifiably proud.

I thank the local administration and the media for their tremendous support.

Our support staff continues to be dedicated and loyal and our parents and old students most supportive.

In conclusion I will say that the greatest challenge that lies before us is from the Central and State governments who not having established schools of excellence are now whittling all others down to a so called level playing field. The definition of a Public School is one that is open to the public on merit. Today merit is a dirty word as a result of mistrust by the government of us educators. Today Parliament has made it illegal for a potential parent to meet the Head to enquire about the school. A meeting results in a fine of Rs. 50,000 on the Head. We are to admit on a lottery system and are finding in our midst students in their teens who are neither

academically prepared, whose vocabulary is far too colourful and who are often undisciplined.

The law of the Centre and of the State does not allow me to punish, suspend or expel even severe cases of bullying, or to detain a child who has zero attendance.

This is the challenge of the future.

Even more serious, a number of schools across the nation have changed their status from secular to minority in order to avoid RTE. This does not bode well for the nation.

I am sincerely hopeful that our new team of 3 most enlightened, educated, and visionary HRD ministers, one of whom is an old student of mine, will give back to us the pride we once felt in our profession and in our education system.

Thank you!