



# INDEPENDENCE DAY

Celebrating the Free Spirit of Our Nation

On 13th August 2024, the Senior wing of Gyan Bharati School celebrated the Independence Day with great enthusiasm and splendor. The school campus was beautifully decked up with flags and exquisite art installations.



The event was a grand affair, marked by the presence of our esteemed Chief Guest, Lieutenant General Mohinder Puri, PVSM, UYSM(ret.), an alumnus of NDA and INA, respected Director, Mrs. Lata Vaidyanathan, Principal Dr. (Mrs.)Mudita Sharma, Vice Principal, Mr. Sanjay Bhardwaj, along with Mr. Gaurav Mohan Puri, notable PTA members and parents.





An auspicious start to the day was the lamp lighting ceremony, followed by a heartfelt rendition of the National Anthem in sign language, passionately sung by a group of talented children, setting a tone of unity and patriotism. The highlight of the day was the Rupak, a theatrical performance titled **आगे बढ़ो**, which vividly portrayed the struggles of Indian soldiers and their relentless efforts to propel our nation to its current grandeur. Throughout the performance, awe-inspiring dance sequences and songs were seamlessly interwoven, infusing the narrative with energy and emotion. The event evoked a deep sense of pride and patriotism in the audience.





The Chief Guest, Lieutenant General Mohinder Puri PVSM, UYSM(ret.) , the Kargil veteran and a hero of our armed forces enlightened the audience with his inspiring words . He spoke about the importance of integrity, honesty and discipline in our lives and reiterated the need to take failures as stepping stones to success.

The School Director, Mrs. Lata Vaidyanathan brilliantly articulated a message that resonated deeply with the essence of the Independence Day. She recalled the martyrs, who sacrificed themselves for our country and ended her words of wisdom on a high note with emphasis on the importance of values such as diligence and integrity.



In her address, Dr. Mudita Sharma, the Principal, highlighted the significance of remembering the sacrifices of our freedom fighters, while also urging everyone to forge their own paths. She inspired the students by saying, "Don't just be spectators. Plan your destiny and pursue greatness. Each of us has an Abhimanyu within, so rise and shine."

The event culminated in the vote of thanks.





The spirit of unity and patriotism was palpable on 15th August as the school celebrated the country's 78th Independence Day. The Tricolour was unfurled during the Flag Hoisting Ceremony, led by the Director, Principal and Vice Principal and attended by the student council, teachers and parents. The ceremony began with a speech by students, highlighting the importance of the Flag Hoisting Ceremony and the significance of the 'tiranga', with each colour representing a unique thread in the rich tapestry of our nation.







The Director Mrs. Lata Vaidyanathan addressed the assembly, emphasizing the value of freedom and the responsibilities it entails. The day's events left a lasting impression on all present, reinforcing our duties as citizens and the importance of preserving the spirit of independence and patriotism.

As we reflect on this day, let us remember that independence is not just a date on the calendar but a living legacy that we must honour every day. Together, let us strive to build a nation that is strong and prosperous.

Jai Hind!





# OUR HONOURED CHIEF GUEST



## LIEUTENANT GENERAL MOHINDER PURI, PVSM, UYSM (RETD)

Lieutenant General Mohinder Puri is an alumnus of NDA, and IMA. He was commissioned into the 5th Battalion of the 3rd Gorkha Rifles in June 1966. During his service, he commanded his battalion in Mizoram and later an Infantry Brigade in the Akhnoor Sector.

General Puri was the General Officer Comanning of 8 Mountain Division, entrusted to evict the enemy in the Dras - Mushkoh Sector during Operation VIJAY. Leading from the front, he was instrumental in orchestarting some of the most decisive victories during the Kargil War like the capture of Tololing, Pt 4875 and Tiger Hill, to name a few.

The General Officer retired as Deputy Chief of Army Staff on 30 April 2006 and post-retirement, he is an active panelist and speaker at various forums. He has also authored the book titled 'Kargil: Turning the Tide



# Walk the Talk

with

## Lieutenant General Mohinder Puri, PVSM,UYSM(ret.)

On the occasion of the Independence day, our school editorial board had the distinct honor of interviewing Lieutenant General Mohinder Puri, a distinguished leader whose career in the armed forces has left an indelible mark on our nation's history. With a remarkable journey through various strategic roles and a wealth of experience in military operations, General Puri has been at the forefront of critical decisions that have shaped our defense policies and practices. Join us as we delve into his insights, experiences, and perspectives on leadership, strategy and the evolving landscape of national security.



Q.How has independent India transformed over the years according to you?

Answer:- "Much transformation has taken place over the transition of 77 years. I am fortunate to witness the change. There has been a change in the technology and automobile industries."

Q. We know that currently India remains at almost constant high alert on its shared borders with Pakistan and China. Do you think we may be headed for a similar situation with Bangladesh considering their ongoing widespread violence?

Answer: "It is too soon to talk about territorial integrity but at the same time the army should be vigilant and prepared."

Q. Your book "Kargil: Turning the Tide" covers a wide spectrum of topics, from attacks at platoon level to issues bordering on national security. It captures all the emotions and sentiments of a soldier and is of immense value to all military professionals. What prompted you to write the book, and how difficult was it for you to pen down your thoughts?

Answer- "It is not as difficult as it seems, and it provides an honest, detailed account" of the happenings of the kargil war."



# Mother India

Oh, Mother India! Why are you sad?

Why do you cry?

On this day of glory,

Why do tears fill your each eye?

Oh Mother, I know!

You mourn the gone, the dead.

Your brave sons who marched off,

To their death bed.

Mother do not be unhappy,

For the sacrifices were not in vain.

We all Indians together,

Shall share you pain.

Mother they will not be forgotten,

Those memories will never fade.

The lives lost, the blood shed,

The sacrifices made.

Your sons are the brave lions,

Who roar your name in unison,

Who wave your flag and colour,

Who never turn tail and run.

Mother, we are with you,

So never fear.

With you we shall celebrate our victory,

With you we shall shed our every tear.

by Asmita Majumdar



**CELEBRATING 78TH INDEPENDENCE DAY**











