



## Food for Thought

“No man loses his freedom except through his own weakness.”

-Mahatma Gandhi

“Competition is a painful thing, but it produces great results.”

-Jerry Flint

“Character, not brain, will count at the crucial moment.”

-Rabindranath Tagore

“Man does not attain freedom from action by abstaining from action. Nor does he reach perfection merely by ceasing to act.”

-Bhagvata Gita

“Get up and set your shoulder to the wheel- what is this life for? As you have come into this world, leave some mark behind. Otherwise where is the difference between you and the trees and stones?”

-Swami Vivekananda

“Do what you can, with what you have, where you are.”

-Roosevelt

“The world makes way for a man who knows where he is going.”

-John Dryden

## OBA POLL !!

*Does the Public School education make a difference in the child's grooming?*

YES	NO
87%	13%

## DID YOU KNOW

- The School Campus started with 407 acres, now reduced to 232 acres.
- The School Dinning Hall had the largest roof without pillars in the state.
- The School Number 1 belongs to Mr. Mahanta
- The name of the first School Prefect is Mr.AK Roy.
- One of our Old Boys, Shri Dinkar Sharma, is a “Shankaracharya”, based at Jagadguru Matha,Bhanpura.
- We had a Mr.Newton (a la Sir Issac Newton), as one of our first teachers, to the envy of all.
- Our teachers' salary was more than a college lecturer in the formative years.
- The first Poultry Farm of the state was inaugurated in the School.

## ANNUAL REPORT-2009 OF OBA,SSB

At the outset I extend a hearty welcome to all Obeean on the occasion of the 39th Annual General Body Meeting of the Old Boys Association, SSB.

### Welcome:

The OBA extends a very happy and warm welcome to Captain KS Noor,IN, Principal, SSB and the Chairman of OBA. We hope the School will reach its zenith under his dynamic leadership.

### Visits:

1. Our School being a part of this holy land of Orissa has not only produced army officers but also spiritual visionaries. Ex-student Sri Dinkar Sharma, School No.396, who is now His Holiness Jagadguru Shankaracharya Dibyanan Tirtha of Jagadguru Matha, Bhanpura visited the School on 3rd Feb 2009. While addressing the cadets and staff members in the School Assembly Hall, His Holiness Jagadguru recalled his sweet and sour memories of his childhood days and appealed to the cadets to safeguard the honour and welfare of our country. He blessed the cadets and advised them to maintain the purity and perfection in life.

2. One of our illustrious alumni, DIG BK Patsahani, School No.614, of the Indian Coast Guards paid a visit to the School on 28th Feb 2009. He delivered a motivational talk to our cadets and members of staff in a special Assembly arranged in his honour.

3. It was a proud moment for our School that one of our eminent alumni, Mr.Anup Behera, School No.681, working as a scientist in USA visited the School on 17th July 2009. He advised our cadets to develop a competitive spirit and aim high so that they can reach their goals.

4. Brig.LC Patnaik, School No.727, visited the School on 21 July 2009. He delivered a motivational speech “ABC of a Good Student”, which enthralled all cadets and tuned their tender minds to cultivate leadership traits to become successful leaders.

5. Mr.KC Mishra, School No.18, Mr.PC Basa, Mr.MS

Padhi,IAS, Major KK Nayak, Capt.JP Patnaik, Lt.Col.Amulya Panda, Lt.Cdr.Dinesh Swain, Mr.Anirudha Mishra, Mr.MK Barik, and Mr.DP Behera paid visits to the School on different occasions and interacted with the staff members and cadets.

### OBA Sponsored Projects and Activities:

1. Our honourable alumnus Lt.Gen.JK Mohanty, School No.16 has contributed Rs.7 lakh for the infrastructural development of his House,viz.Godavari House. We are indeed overwhelmed by his generosity.

2. It had been a long cherished need of our cadets and staff members to have an Ambulance for the School. An Ambulance was donated by the eminent Obeean brothers Mr.PL Mohanty, School No.345 and Mr.KL Mohanty, School No.452 on 8th March 2009.

3. It is said that the Joy of Giving knows no limit. With a deep sense of contentment I wish to inform you that our alumnus Col.JK Satpathy, School No.1024 has donated Water-Cooler cum Purifier for our cadets for each Hostel during the year 2009.

4. A health check-up camp for the cadets was organised on 2nd Apr 2009 in the School Infirmary by a host of Obeean doctors, viz. Dr. N Padhi, Dr. SC Mohanty School No.1524, Dr.Dr.CS Sirka Schol No.1802 and Dr.Ajay Jena.

5. It is my immense pleasure to inform you that the members of the OBA fraternity have generously contributed sum of Rs.One Lakh Twenty Thousand towards the School fees of some needy and deserving cadets studying in the School during the year 2009.

6. 30 cadets of Class XI of our School attended an Adventurous (Mountain Climbing) Camp in Sikkim on 9th May 2009 and they were looked after very well by our illustrious Obeean Lt.Gen.PK Rath, School No.240, during this tour.

7. 58 cadets of Class XI visited the NDA Kharakvasla, Pune on 23rd Nov 2009. One of our alumni, Maj.GD Nayak, School No.2918, made all the arrangements for the tour and

extended all help to them.

### Conclusion:

Dear Obeean, today you all are here because you love your Alma Mater. I strongly feel that your love for the School has a center but no circumference. This is the place where you discovered your hidden talents. Your heart must be remembering the colourful memories of a beautiful childhood. You may not give money or matter but can give your time, advice, suggestions, encouragement and share your opinions, wisdom and outlook with the blooming cadets which will give them a new direction to excel in life. Certainly it will raise the inner conscience and abilities of our cadets and subsequently the School will reach new heights of glory.

Thank you very much for having taken a day out to attend this meeting. Before we part, I wish you perfect health and A Happy and Prosperous New Year. Let the New Year bring good fortune and happiness for you and your family.

JAI HIND

**Mr.PK Mohanty**  
General Secretary  
OBA, SSB

## EDITOR'S VOICE



After a lot of thought, deliberations and heart-breaks, we have finally

sat about to bring out, rather resurrect, our good-old Newsletter to coincide with the OBA Day, 27 Dec 2009. Having taken up this task, I dare say, we intend to have this new 'Avatar' in a completely new format of a Tabloid to keep with the times. While we will print this limited edition in B & W to begin with, the coloured edition will be posted in our equally rechristened website [www.ssboba.org](http://www.ssboba.org), with additives like audio and video clips of our activities. The free-size PDF format on the website can be downloaded/printed by anyone for further circulation. Not to sound “self-effacing”, it is impressed (as the chosen Title of the Newsletter proclaims) upon OBEEANS that save for this edition which is more an exercise in making a new beginning rather than in perfection; to suggest, contribute and propagate the ideals behind it to reconnect amongst us in the true spirit of the OBEEAN Movement. Let us rise to the occasion.

**CDR. Debi Padhi,IN(Retd)**  
School No.156

## STOP PRESS! GLIMPSES OF THE SCHOOL ANNUAL SPORTS DAY-22 DEC 2009



# OUR ALMA MATER:A RECALL

## SAINIK SCHOOL BHUBANESWAR

1. **Brief History:** Sainik School Bhubaneswar was started by Late Shri Biju Patnaik the then Chief Minister of Orissa on 15 Jan 1962 in an adhoc government accommodation. The new building and infrastructure was brought up within two years at the present location under the personal care of Shri Biju



Patnaik and was inaugurated by Pt Jawaharlal Nehru on 08 Jan 1964.

2. **Location and connectivity :** Sainik School Bhubaneswar is located in the Capital City of Orissa in the close vicinity of Utkal University, Vani Vihar just 2 Kms away from National Highway. The distance of the school from Air Port is about 10 KMs and from Railway Station it is only 8 Kms.

3. **Climate and geographical features of the area/region and peculiarities:** The climate is temperate in Bhubaneswar like any other coastal city of India. There are many places in and around Bhubaneswar that are visited by the tourists throughout the year. Bhubaneswar is also known as the City of Temples.

4. **Features & Facilities, layout of the Campus :** The school is spread over 232 acres of land in the prime locality in Bhubaneswar adjacent to Utkal University. It is well connected with rail, road and air by virtue of being located in the capital city of Orissa. It also has ample opportunities to avail facilities

of modern day development and new trends in the field of education through close co-operation with other institutions.

(a) **Outdoor Training Facilities:** The school has one athletic ground (Gandhi Mini Stadium), 6 football fields, three handball fields & two hockey fields. It also has a majestic parade ground with a Saluting Dais where the inauguration stone unveiled by Pt Nehru stands as testimony to the foundation of the school. The school also has an obstacle course to train cadets for facing

Service Selection Boards to join NDA. The school has a multigym and is going to have a Swimming Pool, which is under construction.

(b) **Hostel Facilities:** The cadets are housed in 10 hostels with capacity of 60 cadets each. Each house consists of five dormitories along with 8 bathrooms and toilets. Each hostel also has Housemasters suit to accommodate Housemaster/ Hostel Supdt & Matron. It has facility of students corner as anteroom. Each cadet is provided with a fully lined bed, a cupboard and an American chair to read and write.

(c) **Dinning Facilities:** The school has a huge Dinning Hall to accommodate all 600 cadets, teachers and hostel supdts backed by equally large pantry, cookhouse, ration store and bakery. It has modern cooking facilities like steam idly cooking unit, automatic food processing units and an electric oven for baking. The complex is rightly christened as 'Annapurna'.

(d) **Medical Facilities:** The school complex encompasses a 12-bedded hospital with one doctor and two medical assistants to cater for the medical needs of the cadets. In addition, specialists are called

from time to time to meet the health requirements of the children. Super specialists are also made available at the time of need from various other hospitals in the city.

(e) **Market Complex:** The school has a fully developed Market Complex having facilities of Post Office, PCO, Cyber Café, Police Outpost, Wet Canteen and CSD Canteen adequate enough to meet all the requirements of the cadets.

5. **Infrastructure:** The classrooms and offices are housed in a 'U' shaped three-storied majestic building popularly known as 'The School Building'. The building houses Administrative Offices on its front in addition to Library, Assembly Hall, well equipped Laboratories, Computer Lab, Language Lab, Mini Conference Hall and an Audio Visual presentation room named after the founder Principal Wg Cdr P N Zutshi. The school building also has a well equipped Workshop and Music Room.

6. **Activities:** The school undertakes various academic, sports and co-curricular activities as part of its curriculum to train the cadets for overall development.

(a) **Academics:** School organizes academic routine in a manner befitting to excel in CBSE and UPSC test for NDA. Being located in the capital city of Orissa, it also avails facilities of highly qualified resource personnel of various other academic institutions as well as coaching centers in order to keep the cadets abreast with the latest developments required to appear in the UPSC.

(b) **Sports:** Sports training is an integral and compulsory part of school curriculum to make cadets physically fit and mentally robust in general as well as equipping them to achieve success in service selection boards for NDA. Hockey, football, basketball, volleyball, cross-country and athletics are the main sport events in which regular training is imparted. Services are also taken from the Sports Authority of India coaches in the city. School also regularly participates in the Sahodaya

School Complex Tournament for CBSE affiliated schools of Orissa and wins positions in almost all sport events every year.

(c) **Co-curricular Activities:** School conducts debates, declamation, quiz, painting and cultural competitions on regular basis as annual events. Besides, cadets are sent to participate in various competitions all over India. The school also takes part on regular basis in such events organized by Sahodaya Complex for CBSE schools in Orissa. Visits to NDA and other military establishments are also organized. The school has good infrastructure for training of fine arts and Art gallery to demonstrate creative activities of the boys.

(d) **Adventure Activities:** Cadets are sent every year for rock climbing training to HMI Darjeeling, National Adventure Institute Pachamrhi and other adventure camps organized by Sainik Schools society. In addition various other activities like cycling expedition, Para-sailing and trekking are organized from time to time to instill the spirit of adventure in the cadets.



(e) **NCC:** NCC being an integral part of cadets training is conducted on regular basis under the aegis of the NCC GP HQ Cuttack. Annual Training Camp, National Integration Camp and Republic Day Parade Camp are some of the events in which cadets of SSB actively participate. Four NCC contingents including our School Band feature every year in the Republic Day and Independence Day State Parade winning laurels.

## Achievements:

7. **Outstanding achievements of the alumni:** In consonance with the achievements of the cadets, so also has been of the Old Boys Association of the school. It has a 35 years old legacy with 325 life members cherishing their memories of togetherness in the school and their constructive contribution towards the facility development of the school. A Cyber Café, opened in the name of his mother by Mr. R K Tripathy, IAS, an ex-student of the school by donating Rs.5,00,000/- (Rs.5/- Lacs), is testimony of the bond of old boys for their school. A proudly standing Martyrs Memorial, to honour the supreme sacrifice by fourteen cadets of this school, constructed and dedicated to the nation by the OBA, is a beacon for the generation to follow.

8. So far, approximately 600 cadets have joined the Defence Forces in the officer cadre through NDA alone. In addition, many cadets have got their commission through other entries. This school also has

been honoured by the achievements of its cadet's through various Civil Services like : IAS-14, IPS-07 and Allied Services-09. Several ex-students have become Ministers in the State of Orissa and Nagaland. The cadets making foray in the fields of Medical, Engineering, Merchant Navy are a plenty and are doing the school proud. The highest-ranking officers presently are two Lieutenant Generals, two Air Marshals and many other senior officers.

We await the day when one of them dons the Chief's mantle and paves the way for the School's progeny to follow their footsteps to eternity.

# OBEEAN MEMORIES

## FROM THE ARCHIVES



## FROM THE RECENT OBEEAN ACTIVITIES

*OBA DAY AT SCHOOL*



*OBA MUMBAI CHAPTER*



*OBA DELHI CHAPTER*



*OBA CTC-BBSR CHAPTER*



**Forgive Me My Son**

Forgive me my Son  
 For I cannot send you to a School  
 Where I went as a child.  
 A school, which was nothing but a school of Life.  
 I don't know of any school  
 Where on the first day you go, shivering in your bones  
 Yet come out after years feeling like a King  
 And live like one, for ever.  
 Such a great school I cannot ever find for you  
 Where knowledge is not imparted, but live it  
 I cannot give you a school, a place where  
 You hurt your knees too bad, in the harsh deep red gravel  
 Yet laugh even after bleeding profusely.  
 Umpteen times you fall, you rise up untiringly, like phoenix  
 For this is the first place where you become a man  
 Before anyone knew.

Forgive me my Son,  
 For I cannot find you a school  
 Where the food for you is not the meal but the  
 Spirit of living a life so full,  
 Where every living thing has a name, even do teachers.  
 Where the galloping gait of the physical trainer  
 Is an embodiment of life so full  
 That you would never mind his scolding  
 For he would pat your back at the end of the day, lovingly.  
 So would you never mind, a mid night roll-call  
 Nor would you bother a back breaking pack parade  
 Or the peculiarities of the maverick men  
 Who were entrusted with the task of making you a man.  
 A place where you can go on numerous adventures,  
 Right from stealing unripe guavas and chikoos  
 To swinging the tarzan's rope or climbing or learning to do so  
 The solitary big wall of the obstacle course  
 Where you learn the lives' lessons  
 By making a short cut run through the athletic field  
 Or from the spirited barbs of the Doc in the infirmary,  
 To the ignominy of the 'sick line',  
 Where you can seek comfort of refuge.  
 Yet all would clamour up to the call of serious duty  
 When the time came,  
 Be it was to provide succour to flood or cyclone relief,  
 Or even to managing traffic in the city,  
 You kept the name of the school flying high.  
 Forgive me my son,  
 I cannot find such a school for you  
 Where we lived not because we had to  
 But we willed ourselves to the causes of  
 Service, Duty, Knowledge and Bravery  
 The four mottos of the school  
 And we knew it was for the Nation we were groomed so.

Forgive me my Son,  
 I cannot find a school for you  
 Whose teachers not only taught  
 But reached out to you, with open arms  
 Ate with you, played and paraded with you  
 People who were embodiments of virtue,  
 Subdued love and great conviction,  
 Never in greed but always there for your need,  
 This is the only place where  
 Your great teacher knowing fully well  
 That it was his last class of his life  
 Would create a laughter for you  
 In the midst of the most difficult lesson of physical sciences  
 And we all laughed along with him, with tears in our eyes  
 Never forgetting his lessons  
 For in his death he taught us the best lesson of life  
 The motto of our school – embedded in his eternal soul  
 No son I cannot ever find such a school for you,  
 Which is the abode of saints and martyrs.  
 All teachers in their whites were no less than saints, and  
 The kids who strode on the dusty gravels of this school,  
 Were the men who gave their sweat, blood and lives for the Nation,  
 Unflinching, without even a thought.

Forgive me my Son,  
 For I cannot find you a school  
 Like Sainik School Bhubaneswar,  
 A school that was, for me and for all of us  
 And has remained with us in our collective memories,  
 Ever since.  
 I cannot find you such a school, in your time  
 Forgive me my Son. A school that was, for me and for all of us  
 And has remained with us in our collective memories,  
 Ever since.  
 I cannot find you such a school, in your time  
 Forgive me my Son.

**Bigyan Mihir Patnaik, 01.12.2009, Nagpur**

*Ed.: The predicament of Bigyan highlights the present circumstances and is indicative of the sentiments every Obeean father is fraught with. Any suggestions !*

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