

**“Celebration of Excellence – 2009”
at Mann Public School**

Rivers and schools have a modest beginning, but they achieve volume and speed and spread as they live on singing ‘I’m 16, going on 17,’ said Mr. BS Bhatnagar, eminent educationist who has taught at and administered several public schools in India and abroad. He was delivering presidential address on the ‘Celebration of Excellence – 2009’, a sobriquet for the annual day function of Mann Public School, Holambi (Dec.5)

Mr. BK Sood, former Chairman – IPSC, was the guest of honour.

The Chief Guest hoisted the school flag and took salute, at a smartly turned out parade—which included a combined contingent of NCC arm and air wings – under the command of school captain Bineet Chakma.

Then came a caravan of displays showcasing different skills learnt by students, viz, glittering school band, in full regalia, playing each catching melodies in elegant movements gymnastics on ground and vaulting horse, and thrilling feats of horse riding by MPS Dare Devils. (both boys and girls), like hitting targets, tackling obstacles including crossing the fire-ring.

Cultural component was provided by a comprehensive dance of 125 boys and girls who depicted the fabulous romance of seasons, round the year, with this fascinating land of– ours which keeps changing its apparel in kaleidoscopic fashion, e.g., snow-white in winter, colourful and flowery in spring, deep green in rainy and so on. The dance itself was a fusion of folk, classical and western styles. In the same vein came the 55-strong Mpsomuse (school orchestra) rendering four classical ragas, viz, Bhairav, Ahir Bhairav (morning), Kalawati and Shivranjani (midnight) which were played on traditional instruments like tanpura, tabla, harmonium, and sitar on the one hand, and western ones like upright piano, violin, synthesizer, jazz drum on the other, but in complete harmony. The compositions came from school music teachers.

MANNOSA (Old Students Association) kept up the tradition of taking active interest in the school and, as such, its secretary Mr. Sugreev S. Kihna honoured five employees of the school with presents on the completion of twenty and ten years of service. They were: [For 20 years] Mr. Jashvir Singh (teacher) and Mr. Jai Bhagwan (peon); [For 10 years] Mr. Brijesh Sharma (accountant), Mr. Birender Kumar (band instructor), Mr. Janardan (gardener).

The function also provided an occasion for the release of ‘Let’s pray before our meal’, the maiden book by Mr. JS Mann, Director MPS, which is also a maiden chronicle of life in a boarding school by a first ever public school student. Mr. BK Sood and the chief guest released the book which has received raving reviews from reputed educationists and the press.

Winners of various competitions, round the year, were given away prizes by Mrs. Meera Bhatnagar, Mr. BK Sood and the chief guest. ‘Best of the Year – 2009’ awardees were: Ankur

Kumar – horse riding boy, Tsumo Tsering – horse riding girl; Dushyant – footballer (Kesheye Panjwani Trophy) and again Dushyant – gymnast (completing a hatrick).

The 'BK Sood Principal's Award of Excellence' – a trophy introduced last year by Mr BK Sood, for all round best boy and best girl students of the year, were awarded by Mr. Sood himself to Master Ankur Kumar and Ms. Gul Jabin.

Buddhians lifted the 'Flaghouse of the Year – 2009' trophy for Buddha House.

In his annual report Cdr VK Banga (Retd.), Principal, detailed a spectrum of achievements the school made in academic, co-curricular and infrastructural fields in the year, making a special mention of Niti Rana and Neha who topped the school in XII and X Boards respectively scoring 93.4 % and 90.6% ; and of old students Vijayant Bhardwaj becoming a scientist with DRDO, Deepak Khatri, a medical officer at Lady Harding hospital and Arpit Agarwal joining IIT.

Mr. JS Mann, Director , presented the chief guest , and the guest of honour, with mementos. School Captain Bineet Chakma moved the vote of thanks.