

# The Eagle



(A NEWSLETTER OF ONA)

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At the entrance to the Singapore museum is written a quote from their mercurial Founder Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew “ Those who do not know their past have no future”.

It is always good to keep reminding us Old Nabhaites and present students of The PPS about the origin and objective of starting this great School and its journey from the past to present. This assists us in understanding where we have come from so far and in defining whence from here?

A reminder of the origin of “THE SCHOOL SONG” follows.

At a special function organized on January 28<sup>th</sup> 1963, Mr. Terry, Principal of Thapar Polytechnic Institute (later Engineering College and now University) unveiled the School Song composed by **Mr. Michael Vodden**. The tune was set by none other than Mr. Terry himself (accompanied by his wife on the School Piano, now lying in Headmaster’s office) .

**Mr. Vodden mentioned that when he sat for writing the School song, he started with the idea of co-operative service, beginning with the individual and then widening it to School, country and ultimately the entire Mankind.** (from the Chronicles). Here is the entire Song that all true Nabhaites remember from the core of their hearts.

*While we are boys in School,  
We learn our lives to mould  
By learning how ourselves to rule  
Alert and self-controlled.  
Moving ever onwards inspired by glories past  
We “ll build a worthy future striving upwards to the last.*

*In Class and House and School  
Alone we are sure to fail,  
We must our many talents pool  
United we “ll prevail.  
Moving ever onwards inspired by glories past  
We “ll build a worthy future striving upwards to the last.*

*In work as well as play  
Our friends are close at hand,  
With all of them to help we may*

*Uplift our Motherland.  
Moving ever onwards inspired by glories past  
We 'll build a worthy future striving upwards to the last.*

*In India is our pride;  
Courageous, just and true  
We 'll serve our fellows far and wide  
Here and the whole world through.  
Moving ever onwards inspired by glories past  
We 'll build a worthy future striving upwards to the last.*

It is hoped the Old and present Nabhaites will remember the intentions of **Mr Vodden** when he wrote this song for all of us. **Mr SC Cowell (SM)** who had great ear for classical music made sure the students of his time sang the song as per the set tune. It seems to have changed over time.



Mr Vodden in Kurta payjama sitting at one of the back stairs of Junior school building. In second picture at gates of Buckingham Palace after being honoured with MBE for his service in The PPS with his wife and kids. He is holding the medallion in his hand.

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## NEWS

### For Whom the Bell Tolls

**Brig JS Chamba (J-39, 1964)** passed away in Pune where he was undergoing treatment for a terminal illness.

“It is with deep regret that I have to report the sudden demise of Brig J S Chamba (**ex J39**) after a prolonged battle with a rare form of cancer on 17<sup>th</sup> September at Pune. Bhog was held at Camp Gurudwara in Pune on 19<sup>th</sup> September. **V Adm J S Bedi (J-2) and Jagtar Bhatia (B-47, 1964)** attended. Jassi Chamba was a noble soul

who did his best to help those less fortunate. He practiced Reiki, Pranic and other forms of healing techniques. He was involved in social work in Deolali after he hung his boots from the Indian Army. We pray to the Almighty to give strength to the family to bear this irreparable loss. May his soul RIP....” **Jagtar Bhatia (B-47, 1964):** Pune. (Mrs JS Chamba, M: 09766693457) (FROM FB POST)

**Abninder Grewal (J-5, 1960-61)**, belonging to the famous “The PPS Grewal Family” (Nanokey) passed away within a year of the demise of his Old Nabhaite brother **Col Rupinder Grewal (J-6,1960-61)** .

**Col Rupinder Grewal (J-6, 1960-61) brother of Abninder Grewal**, succumbed to terminal illness. An avid Golfer, he was much loved by colleagues.

**Mr. Yogeshwar Prasad Johri (YP Johri) (Ex Maths, House Master, Senior Master)**, a pillar of The PPS for almost forty years, passed away in Lucknow.

**Alamjit Singh Ex Bursar** of The PPS lost his wife.

**Mrs Channi (Ex-Head of Junior School)**

Posted by [Gurjiwan Bhatti](#) on FB (some months ago)

“it is sad to know that Mrs Channi our esteemed former Headmistress of Junior Wing has expired today morning at her residence at Mohali. She was a wonderful human being and a great teacher. May her soul rest in peace.”

**Mr Rajinder Sibal (Ex-English)** a much admired and loved teacher of the 1960s and a gentleman to the core, if there ever was one, passed away this year.

**Puneet Katyal**, son of **Late Mr. KK Katyal (Ex-Biology)** passed away in Chandigarh .The prayers held locally were attended by many Old Nabhaites. He was brother of **Vandana Katyal Vij(R-344, 1978) and Archana Katyal Brar(R-307, 1978)**.

**SS Khera (B-522, 1981)** lost his young son in Amritsar.

The **ONA** shares the grief of the families of all our teachers and Old Nabhaites who left for their heavenly abode. May their souls Rest in Peace.

**Navin Talwar (S-79, 1969), ex-President of ONA** had a cardiac stroke a few months back. A great Old Nabhaite and a volunteer lensman for all PPS and ONA events; all the recent photographs of the PPS in the Coffee Table Book and portraits hanging on School walls have been clicked by him.

**Ram Singh (Ex-Maths Teacher) undergoes eye surgery** at Eye Infirmary, Nabha.

“**Mr. Ram Singh (Ex-Maths)**, who taught the nuances of numbers, across generations at The Punjab Public School, Nabha underwent a successful & uneventful cataract surgery with an Intra ocular lens implant at Eye Infirmary (run by **Dr Ranjit Dhaliwal (S-153,1972)**)Nabha, this morning. As per his post surgery wish, this is to inform all his nears & dears that he is hale n hearty, and thanks everyone for their good wishes”....M K Dua through FB.

Below is a picture Ram Singh and Mrs Ram Singh after the surgery.



### **Onward and Upward!**

**Brig GPS Julka (J-101, 1970)** has qualified as an International Judge for competitive sailing. Many may not know this low-profile Bursar of **The PPS** has done sailing at the international level.

**Partap Bajwa (R-203, 1973)** has been appointed President of Indian National Congress, Punjab & **Harpartap Singh Ajnala (B-45,1967)** ex-Head Boy(1967 )and ex-President of ONA has been appointed District President of the same Party in Amritsar.

**HS Dhaliwal (B-627, 1988)** Jt Secy of ONA, has been promoted as Zonal Manager (Western) of FCI and is stationed in Mumbai.

**Dr Yashbir Dewan (J-297, 1976)** has been appointed as Neurosurgeon in Max Hospital, Dehradun.

**Bhupinder Singh Dhillon (J-437, 1983), Anmol Sood(J-525,1983), Vinod Bhadu, Sanjay Nanda, N S Khroud and Karanbir Brar (B-711,1987)** were approved for promotion to the rank of Brigadier in December 2012.

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### **The PPS Touching New Heights in Academics and Outdoors!!**

**The PPS** team won last year's IPSC Athletics Championship hosted by **The PPS**.

There was also commendable improvement in the School's ISC results. Reproduced below is a news excerpt from The Tribune on the subject:

**“YPS, PPS students win laurels in ISC exam**

**Tribune News Service**

**Patiala, May 18**

Girl students of Yadavindra Public School (YPS), Patiala, brought laurels to the institute by featuring among the best in the region in the ISC (Class XII) Board results that were declared yesterday evening.

Meanwhile, Punjab Public School, Nabha, students also made a mark in the ISC 2014 exams. **Out of the total 112 students who appeared in the exams, 110 obtained a first division.**

In the science stream, **Eastpal Singh topped in the school with 93.5 per cent marks, Neena Sidhu stood second with 92.75 per cent and Gurwinder Singh and Robindeep Singh stood third with 92.5 per cent.**

In the commerce stream, **Arshdeep Singh Brar is first with 89.25 per cent, Chakshu Chhabra is second 88.75 per cent and Sevanti Goyal is third with 88.25 per cent.**

In humanities stream, **Gurman Singh and Samiksha Panda stood first with 85.5 per cent, Sukhmandeep Kaur Goraya second with 84.25 per cent and Noor Dhanoa third with 80.5 per cent.**

School Headmaster **Dr Jagpreet Singh** complimented the students on their meritorious performance and lauded the efforts of the school staff. He urged the staff and students to raise the bar even higher in the coming years”....

**Our heartiest congratulations to the Headmaster and staff of The PPS for bringing laurels to the School through the twin achievements**

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### **The PPS Prestigious Awards**

The Roll of Honour for the Year 2012-13 was received by **Arvinder Singh Babber (J-44, 1966)** at the Founders’ Day Celebrations. It was presented by none other than **Gen Bikram Singh COAS, India** who was the Chief Guest for the Founders’ Day 2012.



## **THE CITATION**



## **ROLL OF HONOUR**

### **AWARDED BY**

**THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE PUNJAB PUBLIC SCHOOL, NABHA**

**TO**

**ARVINDER S. BUBBER, CHANCELLOR OF KWANTLEN POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY**

Arvinder Singh Bubber, of the Jamuna House (J-44), passed out from The Punjab Public School, Nabha, in 1967.

He did his graduation in the faculty of sciences from Amritsar before moving to England in 1971. He then studied chartered accountancy and became a member of the largest professional accountancy group in England and Wales.

Upon moving to Canada in 1976, Arvinder continued to work in the field of finance while earning his Canadian Chartered Accountant status. With 15 years of experience of working with the government at various levels behind him, he relocated to Vancouver in 1991 and established his own firm, A.S. Bubber and Associates.

Arvinder was appointed to Kwantlen University College's Board of Governors in 2001 and served as its Chairman until January 2007, though he remained on the Board until July 2008. Following the British Columbia Government's mandate in 2008, Kwantlen was made into a University and was renamed as Kwantlen Polytechnic University, of which Arvinder was the first Chancellor.

In 2011, his appointment as Chancellor was renewed for another three years and, as Chancellor; he is also a member of the Board of Governors, Senate and Kwantlen Foundation Board.

The appointment of the Vice-Chair of British Columbia Premier's Asia Pacific Trade Council came in 2005. The Mission of the Council was to make recommendations to the Premier on opportunities to leverage the province's unique gateway location, characterized by its ports and transportation infrastructure, multi-cultural society and natural links with the Asia Pacific, in order to maximize commerce to the benefit of all British Columbians and Canadians. The Council completed its mandate in 2007.

Arvinder, in 2006, was appointed to the Simon Fraser University Presidential Advisory Council on India. He is also a member of the International Affairs Committee, Surrey Board of Trade and Simon Fraser University's Advisory Committee for the Komagata Maru Digitization Project, partially funded by the Government of Canada.

His accomplishments do not end here. Arvinder was appointed to the Fraser Health Authority's Board of Directors in 2009. Fraser Health provides a wide range of integrated healthcare services to more than 1.5 million people living in British Columbia. The health authority manages a budget of \$2.2 billion, with 23,000

employees, more than 5,000 volunteers and 2,300 physicians providing services. He is currently the Chair of the Governance and Human Resources Committee.

In December 2005, the Surrey School District recognized Arvinder for his community spirit, vision and exceptional commitment and support of education.

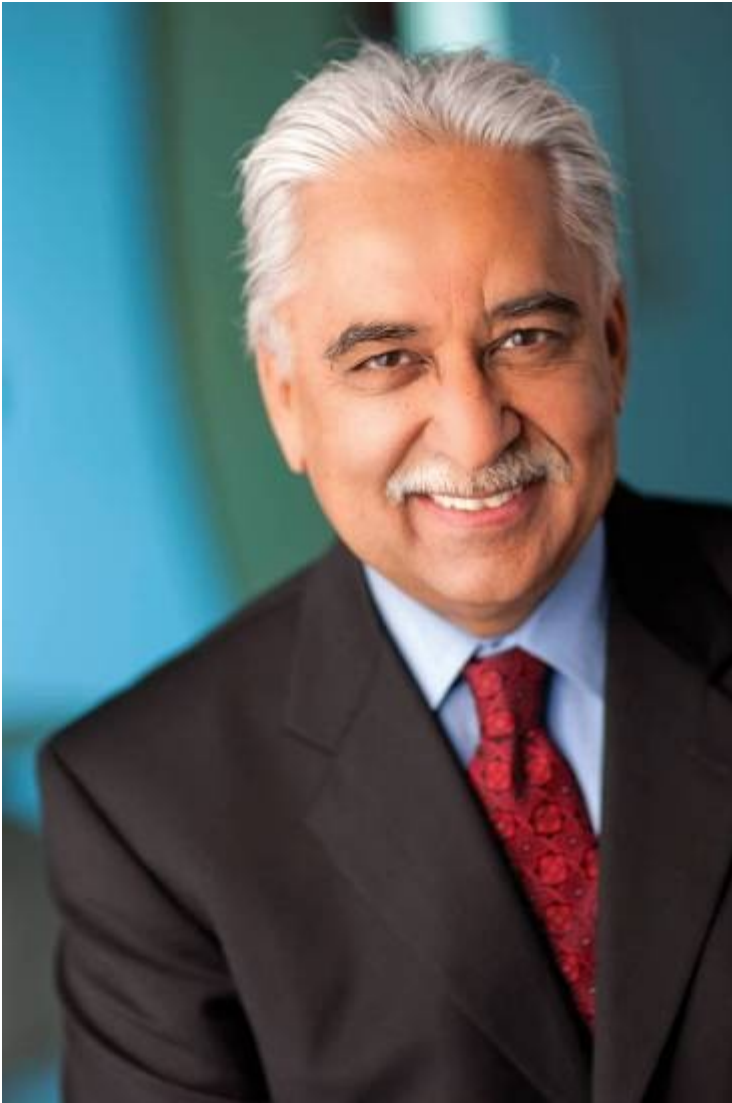
The Institute of Chartered Accountants of British Columbia bestowed upon Arvinder the rare and distinct Fellowship status in December 2009. The FCA designation recognizes Arvinder's contribution towards community service. He is also the founding president of SPARK Education Foundation, which raises funds to promote academic achievement by helping students who are challenged economically or culturally to remain in high school and attain the dream of a post-secondary education.

In November 2010, he was named Business Person of the Year by the Surrey Board of Trade.

Arvinder continues to be an active member of various business organizations and currently resides in North Delta, British Columbia, Canada, with his three children.

For attaining exceptional distinction in life as well as doing his alma mater proud, the Roll of Honour is conferred upon him for the year 2012.

*H.E. Shivraj V Patil, Governor of Punjab & Administrator, UT Chandigarh,  
Chairman, Board of Governors, The Punjab Public School, Nabha, Punjab, India 10 November*



Recent in 2012



In School (1966)



In ceremonial dress



**THE PUNJAB PUBLIC SCHOOL**  
**NABHA**  
**CLASS XI A (December 1966)**



Chairs :- Harinder Singh, Jaspal Singh Chattha, Preet Kamal Bedi, Navinder Kohli, J. K. Kora, O. P. Sharma, Vijay Parkash, Muljeet Singh Mehni, Har Anmol Singh  
 (Head Boy) (Headmaster) (Form Master)  
 Standing 1st Row :- Charanjeet Singh Aulakh, Preetinder Singh Lamba, Hardev Singh Bajwa, Vigan Bakshi, Ashok Kumar Balwani, Lakhinder Singh, Ravi Narula,  
 Jasvinder Singh Panaych, Indrajeet Singh Aulakh.  
 Standing 2nd Row :- Vinay Chhapkatti, Manjeet Singh Baroon, Atvinder Singh Babber, Ashok Dutta, Bhupinder Singh, Suresh Sofar, Pawanbeer Singh, Parampal Singh Coonar

“A Touch of Class”...Group photo of the 1966 class of high achievers. **AS Babber** is third from left in the last row. The batch had students who went on to join the IITs, BITS Pilani, AFMC, AIIMS and became eminent doctors, engineers, economists, marine engineers and defence officers.



**An Old Nabhaite with two US Presidents Bush & Clinton**



**In elite Club of FCAs**

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## Life Time Achievement Award for Ex-Teachers :

A Life Time Achievement Award has been instituted by the School for Ex-Teachers. The first such Award for 2013 has gone to **Mr OP Bhatnagar (Hindi)** who retired as the **Principal of Sainik School, Rewa**. He is remembered by his students fondly as **OPB**. **One of his greatest contributions to school was drawing the logo of the School emblem.**



**Honour bestowed by HE Governor of Punjab Shivraj Patil**



Pep talk to the students. Being an accomplished artist he usually painted the background and other sketches on for stage and other school functions. A great actor he directed some of the best Hindi plays. He even accompanied in musical events on tabla.

**THE CITATION**

**LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT  
AWARD**

**THE PUNJAB PUBLIC SCHOOL, NABHA**



**AWARDED BY**

**THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE PUNJAB PUBLIC SCHOOL, NABHA  
TO**

**MR. O. P. BHATNAGAR  
EX-TEACHER, THE PUNJAB PUBLIC SCHOOL, NABHA**

In recognition of his contribution for the promotion of true learning, by inculcating amongst the students a scholastic approach and exhibiting a rare combination of values of unimpeachable integrity, unparalleled dedication and hard work, as also exemplifying a sterling conduct throughout his tenure at PPS, Nabha. This is the first Lifetime Achievement Award to an Ex-Teacher.

**H. E. SHIVRAJ V. PATIL,  
GOVERNOR OF PUNJAB  
CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
THE PUNJAB PUBLIC SCHOOL, NABHA, PUNJAB, INDIA  
27 OCTOBER 2013**



(picture above) **Mr JK Kate** introducing the teaching staff to **H.E. Dharam Vira**, then **Governor of Punjab**. **Mr OP Bhatnagar** is in the foreground with **Mrs KP Tandon** next to him. Also seen are **Mr MN Tankha** (tallest), **Mr Mallon**, **Miss GB Malkani** and **Mr Oberoi** (Senior Master in 1960s)



**Mr OP Bhatnagar**, seated on the rocks at the bank of river **Beas** during the first **School trekking trip** led by **Mr MN Tankha** (Geography) to **Manali** and **Rohtang Pass** in the early-1960s. He was an accomplished artist with a keen interest in mountaineering. Here, he is seen totally engrossed in sketching the picturesque landscape.

As per records the **School Chronicles** both **Mr Tankha** and **Mr OPB** left the school in the same year, 1970. **Mr Tankha** joined as **Vice Principal**, **Birla Public School**, **Pilani** and **Mr Bhatnagar** as **Head of Hindi**, **Mayo College Ajmer**. “Close on the heels of **Mr.Tankha**, **Mr.O.P.Bhatnagar** also left for **Mayo College Ajmer**. **Mr.Bhatnagar**, the former **Housemaster** of **Jumna House**, popularly referred to as **OPB**, had been a versatile teacher. **Not only**

he spearheaded the Hindi Department with aplomb but was also a very creative artist. He also holds the unique distinction of being the first Secretary of the Staff Club, first Secretary of the Old Nabhaites Association and above all, the historic privilege of having given the school its inspiring logo with the flying eagle. He shared the passion for hiking and outdoors with Mr Tankha and both of them had gone for many adventures together, and it was rather ironical that both of them would leave around same time.”

Mr OP Bhatnagar retired as Principal, Sainik School Rewa.

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### **Roll of Honour 2012-13**

**Roll of Honour 2012-13 was awarded to Pawan Munjal (S-163,1970)**





**Addressing The PPS Students**

## CITATION



### ROLL OF HONOUR

AWARDED

BY

THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE PUNJAB PUBLIC SCHOOL, NABHA  
TO

MR PAWAN MUNJAL

MANAGING DIRECTOR AND CEO, HERO MOTOCORP LTD.

*Pawan Munjal (S-163) joined the School in 1966. While in School, he was an ideal student and was liked by both classmates and teachers. He did well in academics, took an active part in various extra-curricular activities and represented his House in Cricket. Music was his forte and he did very well both in instrumental and vocal music.*

*Pawan Munjal is the Managing Director & CEO of Hero MotoCorp Limited (formerly Hero Honda Motors Ltd) which produces close to half of India's motorcycles and scooters, and its manufacturing facilities in India make up a ninth of global output.*

*A graduate in Mechanical Engineering, Pawan heads a company that was set up in India three decades ago as an equal equity venture with Honda of Japan. Hero Honda dominated the Indian market like a colossus for two decades, giving Pawan the confidence to buy out Honda in 2011, and set his own course.*

*Pawan has worked hard to strengthen India's automotive future over the years. Today, Hero MotoCorp has few peers in terms of reach, market-share, technological excellence and scale of operations. Recently Hero MotoCorp became India's first automobile company to cross the cumulative production of 50 million motorcycles, the fastest in the world.*

*With his company's leadership in India well established, Pawan has now set his sights on turning Hero MotoCorp into a global corporation.*

*He has chaired the Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers' Committee on Two & Three-wheelers, besides heading groups on technology & innovation, sports and affirmative action at CII, India's most influential business congregation. He is also an active member of the World Economic Forum.*

*Pawan regularly contributes to policy-making in India as a member on the Indian Government's Development Council for Automobile & Allied Industry and the Board of Trade.*

*Several prominent awards have been bestowed upon him in recognition of his contribution to the automobile industry. He has been adjudged 'Man of the Year', by both CNBC TV 18 and NDTV Profit in the auto industry categories. He was also NDTV Profit's 'Business Innovator of the Year' in 2011.*

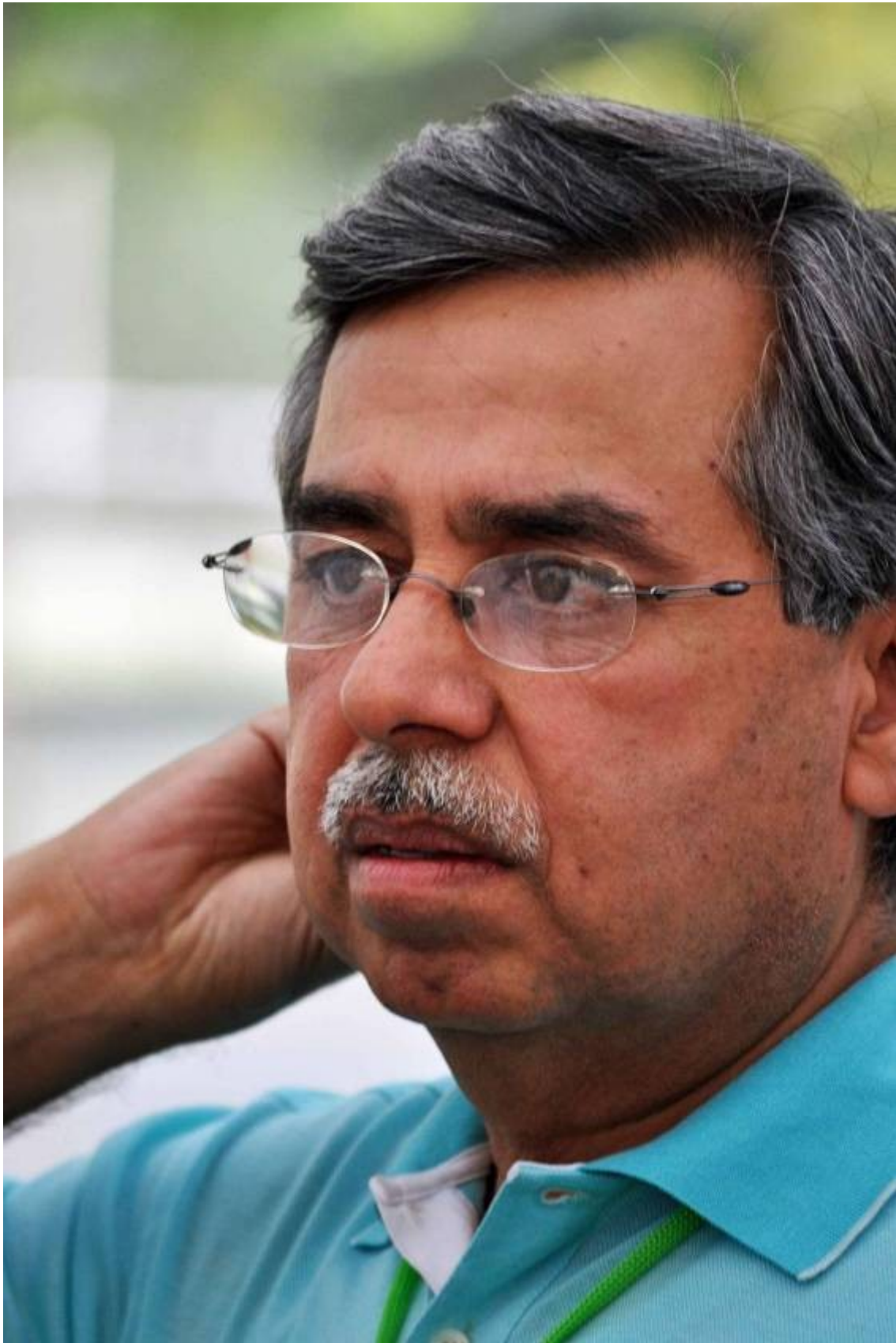
*Pawan is passionate about sports, and has been at the forefront of promoting talent in Hockey, Cricket and Golf.*

*For achieving exceptional distinction in life and doing his alma mater proud, the Roll of Honour is conferred upon him for the year 2013.*

H.E. Shivraj V Patil,  
Governor of Punjab,  
Chairman, Board of Governors,  
The Punjab Public School, Nabha, Punjab, India.

27 October 2013





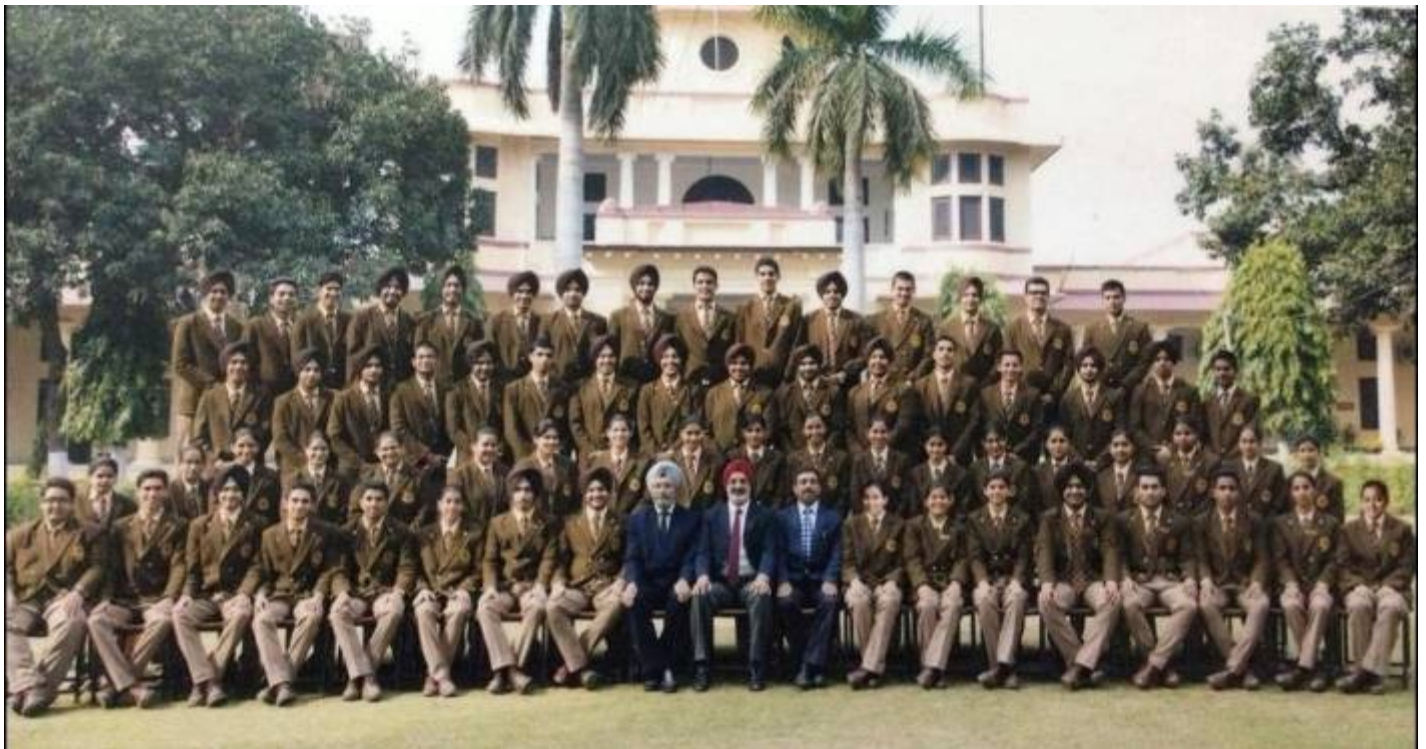
**“Pawan in thinking mode”, shot by Navin Talwar (S-79, 1969)**



With Lt Gen RS Sujlana (B-134, 1967) Ex-Chairman PPSC and Col Dr JS Panaich (R-110, 1966)

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### The Batch of 2012-13



## Honours for PPS and ONA

**BS Sidhu(S-243, 1971) appointed new DGP of Uttarakhand**



Shri B.S. Sidhu  
DGP Uttarakhand

**Hindustan Times Dehradun, September 30, 2013**

“The Uttarakhand government on Monday appointed senior IPS officer BS Sidhu as the 8<sup>th</sup> Director General of Police (DGP). Sidhu, a 1979 batch officer, replaced Satyavrat Bansal, who retired on September 30.

Soon after his name was cleared, Sidhu took over charge from the outgoing DGP Bansal. He met senior officials at police headquarters and shared his view points.

Born on the 8<sup>th</sup> of April 1956, Birindar Singh Sidhu hails from Jullundur in Punjab. He joined the IPS in 1979 and was trained at the National Police Academy, Hyderabad. Sidhu served for long in unified Uttar Pradesh. He served as SP in Moradabad, Bareilly, Varanasi and Banda and as SSP in Jhansi, Meerut and Fatehgarh. He was later allotted to the newly-carved state of Uttarakhand and joined service there in 2011. Earlier, he was on deputation to the Government of India from 2004-2008.”

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### **Army Chief Gen Bikram Singh (B-71, 1968) receives US War College Honour**



**Gen Bikram Singh being honoured in the US Army War College**

Army Chief Gen Bikram Singh has been honoured with the Legion of Merit, a US military award given for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services and achievements.

The award figures sixth in the order of precedence of the US military decorations. Worn around the neck with a purple ribbon, the award was received by Gen Singh from US Army Chief Gen Raymond Odierno on December 5 2013 during his visit to the US.

The US Army's website states that Gen Singh had helped the Indian Army to become the second largest trainer of Afghan national security forces after the US. A "full honour ceremony" was organised for the purpose at Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall near Washington during which the 3rd Infantry Regiment - the oldest active duty outfit of the US Army and known as the Old Guard - was on parade in full colonial era ceremonial attire. So far, the honour has been bestowed upon four Indian service chiefs - Field Marshal KM Cariappa, Gen Rajendra Sinhji, Gen SM Srinagesh and Admiral JL Cursetji.

During his visit to the US, Gen Singh discussed the US-India defence relationship with senior US military leadership.



**“In The Hall of Fame”** With V Bindra (B-51, 1967) from New York and Dr Trilochan Bhamrah(B-90, 1968) from Washington, DC, attended the ceremony. Both are on extreme left. They were all Beas Housmates and Trilochan was also Bikram's classmate in PPS.



With Varinder Bindra (B-51, 1967) in the US



Talking to the audience at US Army War College

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**Jasbir Ryait (B-413, 1980) awarded Punjab Rattan in Ludhiana**



**Jasbir Ryait (B-413, 1980) (on extreme left) honoured by the All India Intellectuals Conference at Ludhiana**

**"SO NEAR YET SO FAR"**

**A DISAPPOINTING NEWS FOR THE PPS FRATERNITY**

I am not sure how many Old Nabhaites are aware that **Vice Admiral Satish Soni (R-121,1971)** Flag Officer - in-Chief of Southern Naval Command, Cochin was next in line to be the Naval Chief of India after the retirement of Admiral Joshi in 2015.

The entire PPS fraternity was waiting to collectively jump with joy the second time around after Gen Bikram

Singh's appointment as COAS. What honour and applause it would have brought for our alma mater; Two of the three Service Chiefs in three years!!

Unfortunately, with the premature resignation of Admiral Joshi and appointment of Admiral Dhowan as the new Navy Chief, Satish's chances of making it have completely receded. My heart goes out to **Satish Soni** who I know, like a thoroughbred Nabhaite and Defence Officer, will take it in his stride, though luck has treated him badly. Part of a news item on the issue just before Dhowan's appointment is reproduced below. It gives the sequence of events.

**Vice-Admiral Dhowan tipped to be Naval Chief**  
**Tribune News Service, New Delhi, April 15**

Almost 50 days after Indian Navy Chief Admiral DK Joshi quit, the government has moved the file to appoint his successor. Vice-Admiral RK Dhowan may be the next Navy Chief as the Ministry of Defence has reportedly recommended his name to Prime Minister Manmohan Singh.

Admiral DK Joshi quit on February 26 following an accident on board INS Sindhuratna off the coast of Mumbai. Two Navy men were killed in the incident.

If appointed, Vice-Admiral Dhowan will have a tenure of 25 months as the Chief of Naval Staff (till May 31, 2016). Had Admiral Joshi, who had 15-month service left, not resigned, Vice-Admiral Dhowan would have retired on May 31, 2014. Service Chiefs retire at 62 years of age, while Vice-Admirals retire at 60.

The sudden resignation by Admiral Joshi effected a change in the line of succession in the Navy. Had he retired as per schedule (in August 2015), **Southern Navy Commander Vice-Admiral Satish Soni would have become the next Chief.**



**Satish Soni (R-121,1971)** receiving a book award from Air Chief Marshal Arjan Singh during school days



Receiving AVSM from President APJ Abdul Kalam in 2006.



Receiving PVSM from President Pranab Mukherjee in 2013.



## Profile



**VICE ADMIRAL SATISH SONI, PVSM, AVSM, NM, ADC**  
**FLAG OFFICER COMMANDING-IN-CHIEF**  
**EASTERN NAVAL COMMAND**

1. Vice Admiral Satish Soni, PVSM, AVSM, NM, ADC is an alumnus of the National Defence Academy and was commissioned into the Indian Navy on 01 July 1976. A recipient of the coveted 'Sword of Honour', he is a specialist in Navigation and Aircraft Direction. The Flag Officer is an alumnus of the Defence Services Staff College, Wellington and College of Naval Warfare, Mumbai.
2. Vice Admiral Satish Soni has held various important command and staff appointments in his career. The Flag Officer's sea commands include the guided missile destroyer Delhi, the guided missile frigate Talwar, the guided missile corvette Kirpan and the ocean going minesweeper Kakinada. His important staff appointments include tenures in Directorates of 'Personnel' and 'Plans'.
3. Vice Admiral Satish Soni has been the Assistant Chief of Personnel (Human Resource Development), Flag Officer Commanding Eastern Fleet, Chief of Staff of the Eastern Naval Command, Commandant National Defence Academy, Khadakwasla, Deputy Chief of Naval Staff, Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Southern Naval Command prior to taking over as Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Eastern Naval Command on 16 Jun 14.
4. A recipient of Nausena Medal, Ati Vishisht Seva Medal and Param Vishist Seva Medal for meritorious service to the nation. Vice Admiral Satish Soni is a keen sportsman and has represented the Indian Navy in Squash and Golf in his younger days.
5. The Admiral is married to Payal. Their elder son Karan is an investment banker in Singapore while their daughter Kanica is teaching in a school.

**A VERY GREAT THANK YOU SATISH FOR HAVING DONE PPS AND ONA PROUD !!**

**From Old Nabhaites, School Authorities, Staff and students of The PPS**

## THE OLD NABHAITE MUMBAIKARS

Recently, the Mumbai Chapter of ONA had its first formal meeting. The Old Nabhiates of Mumbai braved the distances and traffic problems to be together on 30<sup>th</sup> September for a Lunch meeting. Some spirit!! Below is a small write up sent by **Capt Rakesh Batta (J-158, 1973)** who put in great efforts to bring it about. Without him it may not have been possible. Old War Horse of Mumbai, presently in Pune, **Shreesh Kathavate(S-159, 1968)** too made it to the occasion. Befittingly **Ashok Balwani(R-890, 1966)** a very senior Old Nabhaite and **Captain Rakesh Batta (J-158, 1973)** were made President and Secretary respectively.

### ONA MUMBAI CHAPTER : NEWS BULLETIN

1. A small group of Defence Services Officers posted at Colaba, namely, **Capt (IN) RK Batta, J-158, Brig Rajsher S Grewal, R-251, Brig Jasdeep S Chatha, J-459 and Col NK Sharma, B-238** mooted the idea of activating the ONA Mumbai Chapter. The process was initiated by Capt R K Batta by getting in touch with the Old Nabhaities (ONs) and the response was prompt. A get together was organized over lunch on 30<sup>th</sup> Sep 12 at the Army Officers Institute, Colaba. The following ONs attended:-

	Name	House No.	Batch
(a)	Mr. Ashok Balwani	R-90	1966
(b)	Mr. Shreesh Kathavate	S-159	1968
(c)	Mr. Kishore Musale	J-169	1970
(d)	Cdr (Retd) DS Randhawa	R-138	1972
(e)	Capt.Rakesh K Batta	J-158	1973
(f)	Brig Rajsher S Grewal	R-251	1973
(g)	Col NK Sharma	B-238	1975
(h)	Col (Retd) I P Singh	R	1975
(j)	Brig Jasdeep S Chatha	J-459	1977
(k)	Mr. Raj Kumar Goel	R-285	1979
(l)	Mr. Deepinder Sandhu (Billoo)	S-413	1983
(m)	Mr. Surinder Mehta	R-606	1989

2. We were delighted to have Mr G Agarwal (Ex Teacher) amongst us. He is presently part of the glamour world of directing films. The afternoon was rich with warm interactions leading towards bonding and networking for the future progeny. Few better halves also graced the occasion. It was unanimously decided to cement the ONA Mumbai Chapter by forming a small Committee as under:-

- (a) **President - Mr. Ashok Balwani R- 90 (1966)**  
(b) **Secretary - Capt RK Batta J-158 (1973)**

It was decided to meet regularly i.e. once a quarter with an endeavour to extend the invitation to the ONs stationed at Pune to also join in.

3. The members were reminded of the Life Membership of ONA and few of those who were not life members, responded immediately with cheques.

4. It was a great afternoon, well spent, reliving fond memories of the dormitories, classrooms, the mischief and the revered teachers of our great alma mater.










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## Golden Jubilee of ONA



Ona Pps

April 15 · from FB POST

THE COUNTDOWN HAS BEGUN!!

On April 10,11&12 next year(2015) , we celebrate Golden Jubilee of The ONA.

We are expecting the greatest ever gathering of Old Nabhaites from India and abroad.

Start planning your visit now. It is time to start calling your Batchmates for a "Rendezvous 2014" in The PPS. Every batch must have one coordinator who can motivate maximum Old Nabhaites from his batch to make it. We will be keen to know which batch has the greatest attendance.

Jashanjot Singh Bhangu (S-52,1967)  
on behalf of ONA

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