**CBSE Secretary Graces Annual Function at MPVM**

Maharshi Patanjali Vidya Mandir celebrated its Annual Function on 13th December, 2019 with full gusto and enthusiasm. The theme of the Annual Function was “Hamari Sanskriti, Hamari Virasat” and was attended by many Principals and dignitaries from the city. The Chief Guest who graced the grand occasion was Shri Anurag Tripathi, the Secretary of CBSE, Delhi and the Guest of Honour was Ms. Svetta Arora, Regional Officer CBSE, Prayagraj.

The Parents and guests of MPVM were ushered into a musical environment as the School Band “Resurgence” presented “21 Guns, Lay Down Your Arms” in the Rock style. The Chief Guest and the Guest of Honour were given a formal welcome by the NCC Girls of the school. The School Choir sang the Ganesh Vandana when the Ceremonial Lamp was being lit by the Chief Guest. The cultural programme began befittingly with a Durga Stuti endorsing one of the important concerns of the school towards Women Empowerment.

The Principal of Maharshi Patanjali Vidya Mandir, Smt. Sushmita Kanungo accorded a warm welcome to all the guests. She expressed her gratitude to Sri Anurag Tripathi for accepting the invitation and coming all the way from Delhi to attend the Annual Function. Thereafter, the Principal read out the school’s Annual Report highlighting the school’s achievement in the current year and the great heights that the school has been scaling.

Sri Ravindra Gupta, Treasurer of MPVM Samiti and the Hony. Secretary Dr. Krishna Gupta honoured the Chief Guest and the Guest of Honour by presenting tokens of gratitude and the Principal of MPVM read out a Citation presented to the most honourable Chief Guest. Dr. Krishna Gupta spoke highly of the achievements of Mr. Anurag Tripathi whom she described as a dynamic, vibrant and inspiring person and a proponent of experimental education. Dr. Krishna Gupta also appreciated the contribution of the Guest of Honour Ms. Svetta Arora towards important projects related to CBSE schools. During her speech she looked back with nostalgia at the time 33 years ago when MPVM was opened with a vision of an integrated education system that would impart cultural values alongside a progressive and scientific approach to provide holistic education to the students.

The students from Class I to VI presented an athletic medley showing the importance of sports, aerobics and various forms of physical exercises. The English School Band presented Rabindranath Tagore’s “Ekla Chalo Re …” in a unique blend of Western and Indian style and the celebrated Earth Song “Mother I feel your under my feet …” Students mainly from the Senior Secondary Section made a presentation highlighting Bollywood and Doordharshan tunes based on Hindustani Classical Music. A Hindi play based on the historical Character Kautilya “Yugpurush Chanakya” demonstrated the dramatic skills of the MPVM students. The MPVM girls made a colourful presentation on Folk tunes and steps of Haryana, Kashmir and Gujrat while the school boys came forward with a powerful patriotic dance in the contemporary style ‘Lions of India’, depicting the sacrifice and bravery of our Armed Forces. Two meaningful presentations were made by the students of Patanjali Sarva Shiksha Prarambhik Vidyalaya and Mahila Swavalamban Prashikshan Kendra showing the importance of our cultural heritage and the need to strengthen women especially those belonging to the ecomically weaker section of the society. The English Compering done by Piyush Tripathi (12 A2), Anshita Singh (11 D) and Gauri Pundi (11 D) enhanced the beauty of the programme which blend beautifully with the occasional entry of the puppets to make it more entertaining and meaningful.

The Chief Guest in his speech spoke highly about Prayagraj and its education. Addressing the gathering he humbly described himself as a student of the city. He reminded everyone that education that cannot wipe out social evils is meaningless. He detailed out the history of ancient Prayag and related it to the theme of the Annual Function and told the students the importance of preserving one’s culture and values. His message to the Parents was to groom their children not just to be academic achievers but sensitive citizen. He appreciated the hard work of the teachers and inspired them to help pupils to become creative and innovative. Not to make robots but citizens with creative, communicative, innovative skills and beautiful smiles. He addressed the students to develop the right attitude towards life and become responsible to their country.

The Guest of Honour Ms. Svetta Arora appreciated the function and told the students not to better anybody but themselves. She reminded the audience about the extraordinary role of the teachers as true torch bearers who can light generations and motivate students through their experiences. She also reiterated the need to empower and sensitize children to understand their roles and responsibilities in society.

The Annual Function ended with the School Song in Hindi, followed by the Vote of Thanks extended by the Sr. Secondary Incharge Mrs. Mrignainy Arya. The cultural extravaganza formally ended with the National Anthem. The guests and the parents were then taken around to view the Science Exhibition and the Art Gallery that showcased another dimension of hardwork of the multitalented students of MPVM. The day ended with guests and parents appreciating the theme and the quality of the programme.