

---

## Celebrating Independence Day '20 Amidst COVID-19

Pune, Maharashtra | August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020



On the bleak Saturday morning of August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020, S.B. Patil Public School celebrated the country's 74<sup>th</sup> Independence Day. The event, which is usually celebrated with pomp and flair at the school's premises, was this time a rather low-key affair, yet it was flavoured with inspiring speeches and reverent music.

Following the code of conduct instituted by the Central and State Governments with respect to celebratory events conducted, only select staff were permitted to be present, attend and conduct the ceremony.

The event, which was recorded for an online telecast later, commenced with the hoisting of the national flag by the principal, Dr. Bindu Saini; the Coordinator for the Primary and Secondary sections, Ms. Padmavathi Banda; and the Office Superintendent, Mr. Nilesh, and singing the national anthem. Following suit, the *Zenda Geet* was then sung to which everyone paid respect to the flag and country.

Ms. Swaleha Mujawar, the CCA in-charge, compeered the programme, guiding it from its commencement through the various live and pre-recorded events to the final Vote of Thanks. After the flag hoisting, Dr. Saini spoke briefly on creating a self-reliant India, and understanding the deeper meaning of being "*aatma-nirbhar*".



Being their final year at school, Pavani Joshi and Shambavi Mahajan of grade X prepared a recording of a fusion patriotic number and danced to the song *Desh Rangeela*.

Adding further musical relish to the event was the song *Utha Hind ke Veer Saputon, Maa ne Humein Pukara Hai* performed and pre-recorded the day before by the music teachers Mr. Kuldeep Ghadge, Ms. Sulochna Pawar and Mr. Prathamesh Inamdar.

The recordings were compiled, uploaded and sent to the prime staff members who then forwarded it to the parents and management.