

Name of the event: 77th Independence Day Celebration**Type of hours:** Area Hours**Venue:** Sophia College, Mumbai**Date:** 15th August 2023**Time:** 8 am to 11 am**Number of volunteers:** 65**Number of Beneficiaries:** 600**A Brief Report of the event:**

The NSS Unit and Department of Physical Education and Sports of Sophia College celebrated this 77th Independence Day like every year. Everyone was excited to celebrate the efforts and actions of everyone who fought for making our country free. More than 600 students of Junior and Senior College stood there with pride in their hearts. The program was hosted by Sister Rosa who gave everyone a warm welcome and the program started at 8am with a Patriotic Song which was sung by the NSS Unit of Sophia College. Our Principal Dr. Anagha Tendulkar Patil Ma'am hoisted the National Flag at 8:15 am. Then all the students saluted the flag and sang the National Anthem together which was followed by Prayer for the Soldiers and the Country. The prayer was followed by a pledge under Panch Pran which was taken by all. The program ended with another song sung by the NSS Unit. Our Principle addressed the Importance of Independence Day and gave wishes to everyone. She talked about the connection between Independence Day and Republic Day and why we should celebrate both with pride. As the program ended, there was a Peace March to August Kranti Maidan which was organized by the Department of Physical Education and Sports, and the NSS Unit participated with 65 volunteers, the secretary and the program officer, Dr. Vaishali Pachunde. As everyone marched for 2.5kms to August Kranti Maidan, they recited the Slogans "VANDE MATARAM", " JAI JAWAN JAI KISAAN", "HAR GHAR TIRANGA", "Bharat Mata Ki Jai" etc. At August Kranti Maidan, our Principal felicitated the 'Gandhi Smriti Stambha' and everyone sang the National Anthem. This is the ground from where Mahatma Gandhi gave the clarion call of 'do-or-die' for independence and therefore, every year, our students march till August Kranti Maidan and pay their tribute to the Gandhi Smriti Stambh. 600 volunteers recited the slogans again and it echoed all around the Maidan. The celebration then came to an end and everyone was dispersed. A feeling of patriotism and pride was inculcated in the hearts of all the students when they celebrated Independence Day. It was a mesmerizing day to remember our great leaders, soldiers who lost their lives to protect our Country. JAI HIND!



