In Loving Memory of
Sanjit "Bunker" Roy (English Hons., Class of 1967)



It is with a deep sense of loss that St. Stephen's College mourns the news of the passing of one of its most distinguished, transformative, and revered alumni, Sanjit "Bunker" Roy (B.A. Hons. English, Batch of 1967).

Sanjit arrived in College as a gifted sportsman, going on to represent the country and win three national squash championships. Yet, profoundly affected by the Bihar famine of 1966–67 during his college years, he chose to step away from conventional career paths to dedicate his life to the service of rural India.

In 1972, he founded the Social Work and Research Centre (SWRC), widely renowned across the world as the Barefoot College, in Tilonia, Rajasthan. By training rural grandmothers from across the Global South to become solar engineers (affectionately called 'Solar Mamas'), water harvesters, and healthcare providers, he proved that the solutions to the world's most pressing challenges lie within the resourcefulness of grassroots communities.

His pioneering stewardship earned him national and international recognition, including the Padma Shri, the Jamnalal Bajaj Award and the Ramon Magsaysay Award. The Principal, Senior Members, Junior Members, and the global Stephanian fraternity extend their heartfelt condolences to his family, colleagues, and the millions of rural lives he touched and uplifted.

MAY HIS SOUL REST IN ETERNAL PEACE | AD DEI GLORIAM