

VIBE

TOGETHER WE CAN, TOGETHER WE WILL



Rotary
District 3141



**Governor's Monthly Letter,
Issue 7, January 2025**



ROOTS TO WINGS



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INTERNAL ARC TESTED AS PER IEC 61641 (Ed 3.0:2014)



**Drawout Panel
& PLC Panel**

**Future Ready ETHERNET Based
SMART Panel & iMCC Panel**



**Merry Christmas
&
Happy New Year
2025**



Rtn. Mona & Rtn. Manish Gyani

From the EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



Dear Vibrant Family,

As we step into the second half of this magical Rotary year, let us pause to reflect on the remarkable journey we've shared so far. The first six months of our Vibrant Year have been nothing short of extraordinary, marked by milestones that stand as a testament to the collective efforts of our 6,500 spirited Rotarians across RID 3141.

Our district has thrived under the unparalleled synergy of our Vibrant Presidents, Core Team, Nucleus Team, AGs, ALFs, Avenue Chairs, and every member who embraced the theme "Magic of Rotary" and brought it to life. From impactful CSR initiatives and literacy programs to health projects and membership growth, each of you has played a pivotal role in transforming our shared vision into vibrant reality.

Together, we have demonstrated what is possible when we unite with purpose. The remarkable membership growth that has propelled our district to the numero uno position, the accolades received for our CSR projects, and the countless smiles brought through community service are all reflections of your unwavering dedication.

But, my friends, this is just the beginning. The magic we've created calls us to aim for even greater achievements in the months ahead. Let's dream big and act boldly, ensuring our projects touch more lives and create a legacy that inspires generations. Let us strengthen our clubs, amplify our avenues of service, and make RID 3141 a shining beacon of hope and excellence.

As we welcome the New Year, I wish you and your families abundant happiness, good health, and continued success. May 2025 be a year of fulfillment and joy as we carry forward the momentum of this Vibrant Year.

Together, we can—and together, we will—continue to build on the magic of Rotary, making our clubs irresistible and our district unparalleled.

With gratitude and pride in our Vibrant Family,

Chetan Desai
Rotary District 3141 (2024-25)

"Together we can, Together we will."



On the Cover:
Project Udaan for the rural youth

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The Essence of Vocational Service Month

Happy New Year 2025 to you and your loved ones!

As we mark the midpoint of this Rotary year, I reflect with pride on the journey we've undertaken together. Our district is brimming with activity, with each project standing as a testament to the dedication and impact of our members. These initiatives illuminate communities and exemplify Rotary's spirit of service.

As we step into 2025, let us carry forward the blessings of 2024 with grateful hearts, striving to change lives—including our own—through joyful and ethical generosity.

January marks Vocational Service Month on the Rotary calendar, a time to celebrate business and professional life as the foundation of Rotary. Vocational Service fosters honor, integrity, and trust in business. Across our district, Rotary clubs and the Vocational Team have excelled over the past six months. This month, we honor individuals who exemplify professional excellence and ethical conduct, reinforcing our shared commitment to Rotary's Four-Way Test and meaningful contributions to society.

I recently came across a statement: "We are in the business of helping others; we are Rotarians." This perfectly captures the essence of Vocational Service in Rotary. As business owners, employees, and dreamers, Rotarians lead in their fields while extending a helping hand through their vocations. Rotary uniquely unites us as principled professionals committed to humanitarian service within and beyond our district. Through our diverse vocations, Rotarians create magic and transform lives.

Diversity remains our strength, a principle dating back to Rotary's early years when the classification system was introduced. This approach ensures a variety of talents and perspectives for effective service. Honoring our diverse professions through Vocational Service is



a cornerstone of Rotary, empowering us to achieve more together.

We value your feedback and ideas for future newsletters to keep you informed and engaged. Your input helps us strengthen the Rotary community.

As Albert Schweitzer said, "Success is not the key to happiness. Happiness is the key to success. If you love what you are doing, you will be successful." Special thanks to the amazing GML team for their dedication and passion.

**Ashish Tapiawala,
District Coordinator, Publications**

From the MANAGING EDITOR'S Desk

2025

A Year of Renewed Purpose



THE dawn of 2025 invites us to reflect on what we've achieved this far and the legacy we have created together. The ethos of Rotary is about channelising one's compassion into action, and this Vibrant year, we've had the opportunity to deepen our service and expand our reach, all while embracing the spirit of friendship and camaraderie. May the new year continue to be one of growth, joy, and peace within.

Team VIBE-X wishes Rotarians and their families a meaningful year ahead. We leave you with fond recollections of our VIBE-X issues till date, a repository celebrating the indelible footprints of your collective efforts.

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Managing Editor

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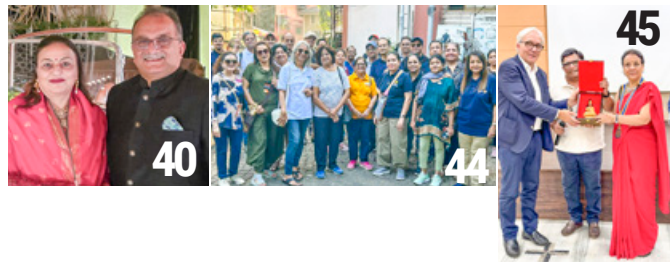
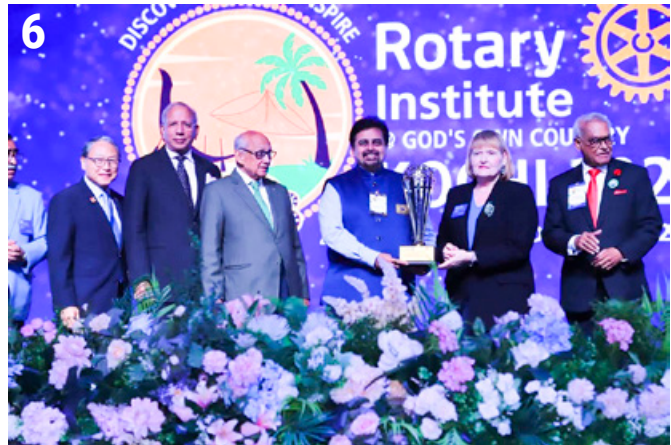
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The Heart of Rotary: **TOGETHER, WE SHINE**



Dear Vibrant Rotary Family,

As the calendar turns to a new year, I find myself reflecting on the transformative journey Rotary has embarked on during the first half of this vibrant year. Serving as the First Lady of Rotary District 3141 has been a deeply enriching experience—one that has reinforced my belief in the boundless strength of relationships and collective action.

Rotary, for me, is not just an organization; it's a family. In this family, every smile shared, every hand extended, and every milestone celebrated adds to the magic we create together. Whether through heartfelt initiatives like vibrant Anganwadis or lifesaving efforts such as pediatric heart surgeries, the dedication of our Rotarians is a testament to the power of unity. These projects not only transform lives but also remind us of the incredible impact we can achieve when we work as one.

I've had the privilege of witnessing my husband, DG Chetan Desai, lead with unwavering passion for The Rotary Foundation. His commitment inspires me and reinforces the importance of serving with purpose. What moves me most, however, is the warmth and inclusivity of our Rotary family. It is this spirit of togetherness that transforms challenges into opportunities and dreams into reality.

As we welcome 2025, let us celebrate our achievements while staying focused on the road ahead. Let us cherish our bonds, support one another, and amplify the magic of Rotary through our actions. Together, we shine brighter. Together, we make a difference.

To all Rotarians and their families, thank you for your incredible spirit, love, and contributions. Here's to another year of shared dreams, meaningful service, and unshakable togetherness.

Yours in service and fellowship,

Jwala Desai
First Lady of Rotary District 3141



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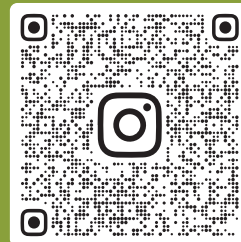
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VISUAL VIBES

Stories from the Institute Floor with DG Chetan Desai

WRITTEN BY RTN SREE NANDY, MANAGING EDITOR



The Rotary Institute at the Grand Hyatt, Kochi, held on the 6th, 7th, and 8th of December, was a space which united leaders, inspired ideas, and redefined the power of service. Vibrant DG Chetan

Desai, First Lady Jwala Desai, Past District Governors, and members of the Vibrant team made RID 3141's presence felt through award ceremonies, performances, and active participation.

In these snapshots, witness the vibrant energy and moments that shaped the canvas of connections, ideas, camaraderie at the conference.



Conference Theme



The traditional Boat Race with Rotary leaders



The Welcome

RECOGNITIONS FOR RID 3141



WITH WORLD LEADERS



With RIP Stephanie Urchik



With RIPN Sangkoo Yun

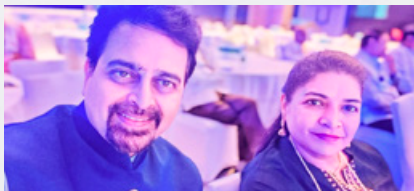


With TRF Trustee Dr. Bharat Pandya and RID Raju Subramanian

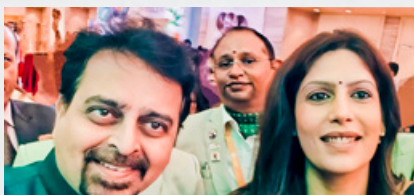
FUN AND FELLOWSHIP



CONFERENCE FRAMES



DG and First Lady



DG with Keynote Speaker Palki Sharma Upadhyay



Building Connections

CONFERENCE SNAPSHOTS



RIP Stephanie Urchik



Convener RID Anirudh Roy Chowdhury



Conference Chair Dr. John Daniel



RIP Nominee Sangkoo Yun



RID T.N. Subramanian



RID Ghim Bok Chew



TRFT Marty Peak Helman



PRIP Raja Saboo and
Mrs Usha Saboo



PRIP K R Ravindran



PRIP Kalyan Banerjee



PRIP Shekhar Mehta



Rhonda Beth Stubbs, RI Director and Treasurer



RIDE Muruganandam



RIDN Tom Gump



PRID Venkatesh



PRID Kamal Sanghvi



PRID Mahesh Kotbagi



PTRFT Gulam Vahanvaty

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



DEI Panel Zainab Patel, Annika Fernando & Sreemoyi Bhattacharya



Palki Sharma Upadhyay



Dr. Shashi Tharoor Member of Lok Sabha



Puneet Chhatwal MD & CEO, The Indian Hotels Co Ltd



Kailash Satyarthi Global Thought Leader and Social Reformer, Nobel Peace Laureate 2014



Shloka Nath, CEO, Climate Collaborative



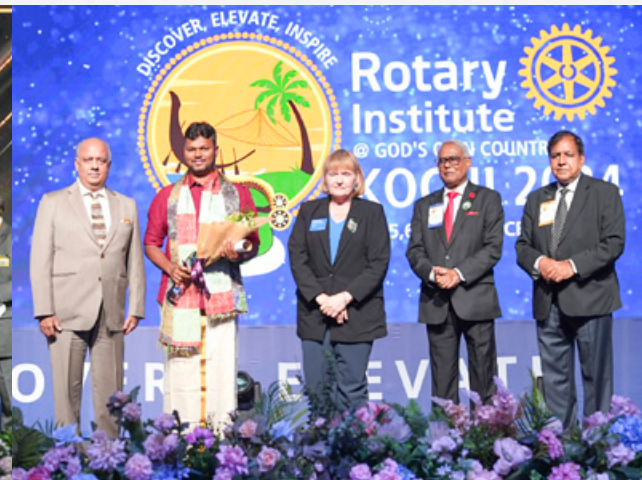
Sonam Wangchuk Indian engineer and innovator



Sunil Vyasapra, Director, Motherland Joint ventures



Changemaker Awards-Winner_ Economic & Community Development- Child Health Foundation



Changemaker Awards Winner- Water Conservation and Water Resources - Nirmal Raghavan



Changemaker Awards-Winner_ Economic & Community Development- Child Health Foundation



Changemaker Awards-Winner Literacy Shradha Shringarpure

BREAKING NEWS: RIPN TO VISIT DISCON

RIPN Sangkoo Yun will be the RI President's Representative for Samanvay DISCON scheduled on 1 and 2 March 2025.



Vibrant DG Chetan Desai with RIPN Sangkoo Yun at the Jio World Convention centre , the venue for DISCON 2025



New Leaders, New Horizons

INSTALLATIONS OF VIBRANT PRESIDENTS



Rotary Club of Umroli: A Vibrant Start to 2024-25

The Rotary Club of Umroli proudly installed Charter President Rtn. Sagar Gharat as the Vibrant President for the Rotary Year 2024-25, along with his Board of Directors, on December 15, 2024. The club, with its 33 members representing diverse classifications, embarked on this new chapter with enthusiasm and commitment.

The installation ceremony was graced by District Governor Chetan Desai, New club advisor Rakesh Mishra, DGND Deepak Jiandani, Dist. Coordinator (Membership) Sandip Kedia alongside the presidents and members of RC Palghar, RC Boisar-Tarapur, RC Dahanu, and RC Manor. Special acknowledgment was extended to RC Boisar-Tarapur, the parent club of RC Umroli, for its continued mentorship and support.

This momentous occasion marks the beginning of a vibrant year, as the club gears up to make a meaningful impact in the community through dynamic initiatives and collaborative efforts.

COMPILED AND EDITED BY NARESH BAJPAI

OCV HIGHLIGHTS:

Strengthening Bonds and Vision



ROTARY CLUB OF MUMBAI NARIMAN POINT

Date: Wednesday, 16th October 2024
Chief Guest: DG Rtn. Chetan Desai
Attendance: 75 (Rotarians, Spouses & District delegates)
TRF Announcement: 1,000 USD
AKS Announcement: NA

Major Project/Event Announcement:

- 1. Charity Fundraiser – Shaan Se**
Successfully held on November 30, 2024, at Tata Theatre.
- 2. Umang – Senior Citizen Talent Show**
Scheduled for January 11, 2025, at Birla Matushri Sabhagruh. District Governor Rtn. Chetan Desai has graciously accepted the invitation to attend as the Chief Guest.



ROTARY CLUB OF MUMBAI SALT CITY

Date: Friday, 13th December 2024
Chief Guest: DG Rtn Chetan Desai
Attendance: 35 (Rotarians, Rotaractors & Interactors)
TRF Announcement: None
AKS Announcement: Nine

Major Project/Event Announcements:

- 1. Donation of Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy Unit**
Donated to Hiramongi Charitable Hospital to enhance healthcare services.
- 2. Mobile X-Ray Units and Diagnostic Equipment for Raigad District**
Proposal to acquire mobile X-ray units and diagnostic equipment for quick diagnosis and management of tuberculosis in Raigad District. The project, with an estimated cost of over ₹50 lakhs, is proposed for funding through Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust.
- 3. Ambulances with Basic Life Support for Raigad District**
Plan to acquire and distribute ambulances equipped with basic life support to health centers in Raigad District. The project, estimated at ₹18 lakhs, is also proposed for funding through Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust.
- 4. Fundraiser Concert**
Organize an evening concert featuring a renowned South Indian playback singer in Mulund to raise funds for ongoing projects.



ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY NORTH WEST MALAD

Date: Friday, 4th October 2024

Chief Guest : DG Chetan Desai, AG SB Prasad, Deepak Jiandani, Membership Director Sandip Kedia, LF Sampat Ayangar, DC Anita Pansari

Attendees : 80 (Members and dignitaries)

TRF Announcement: 1,000 USD

AKS Announcement: None

Major Projects/events or Announcement

1. **Health Initiatives**
Breast cancer detection camp.
Eye checkup camp for rickshaw drivers.
2. **Empowerment Projects**
Distribution of bicycles to NCC girls from SNDT College.
Donation of sewing machines to support livelihood.
3. **Infrastructure and Facilities**
Installation of toilet seats in underserved areas.
Establishment of a women's cricket team to promote sports and inclusivity.
4. **Education and Community Development**
Adoption of two Aanganwadis for holistic development.
Creation of a library in Kashmir to foster learning and literacy.
5. **Public Relations**
Enhanced Rotary PR initiatives to increase community outreach and awareness.
6. **Rural English Medium School Project**
Total project cost is ₹8 crore, with ₹4 crore already arranged. The remaining funds will be sourced through CSR and other channels.
7. **Enhancing the Nursing Institute**
Strengthen the institute by enhancing resources and increasing student enrollment.
8. **Expanding Free Cataract Surgery Services**
Extend our eye hospital's reach to provide more free cataract surgeries, covering the entire region.



ROTARY CLUB OF MUMBAI COASTLINE

Date : Tuesday, 1st October, 2024

Chief Guest : DG Chetan Desai

Attendance : 37 (Members, Dignitaries and Visitor)

TRF Announcement : 425 USD

(\$100 - Kalpesh Joshi, \$300 - Kavitha Sethi & \$25 - Natasha Shah)

AKS Announcement : None

Major Project/Event Announcement:

1. **Breast Cancer Screening Camp**
Successfully conducted at Khar Gymkhana on August 17, 2024.
2. **MUNZIL – 5th Edition**
Hosted at Atlas Skilltech University on September 21-22, 2024, as part of the Model United Nations initiative.
3. **Pediatric Heart Surgery Initiative**
Touching Little Hearts program in collaboration with District 3141, providing life-saving surgeries for children. An anonymous donor has pledged ₹1,25,000 for a pediatric heart surgery.
4. **Aanganwadi Projects**
Three impactful Aanganwadi projects undertaken in partnership with District 3141 to support community development.



ROTARY CLUB OF MUMBAI (CHEMBUR)

Date: Saturday, 21st December 2024
Chief Guest: DG Rtn Chetan Desai
Attendance: 44 (Rotarians, Inner wheel, Family, Guest & One prospect member)
TRF Announcement: None
AKS Announcement: None

Major Project/Event Announcements:

1. The key suggestion was to focus on inducting new members and securing CSR funds.
2. The Director (TRF), who also serves as our Corporate CSR Fund provider, has been requested to attend the event on January 12th and the DISCON.



ROTARY CLUB OF MUMBAI WESTERN ELITE

Date: Saturday, 5th October 2024
Chief Guest: DG Rtn. Chetan Desai
Attendance : 118 (Members & Dignitaries)
TRF Announcement: 2,50,000 USD
AKS Announcement: NA

Major Project/Event Announcement:

1. **Mega Medical Camp**
A comprehensive health initiative providing essential medical services to the community.
2. **Kashmir Trip – Project National Integration 'समन्वेष'**
The club's Kashmir Sojourn, as part of Project National Integration 'समन्वेष', aims to foster unity and integrate Kashmiris into the mainstream. The club proudly serves as the lead host for this impactful initiative.



ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY QUEEN CITY

Date: Thursday, 28th November 2024
Chief Guest : DG Chetan Desai, PA Deepak Jiandani, CC Radhika Mehta, AG Purna Mehta, and DS Rohan Dalmia
Attendees : 90 (Rotarians, Anns, Rotaractors & Dignitaries)
TRF Announcement : 2,00,000 USD for the year 2024-2025
AKS Announcement: None

Major Projects/events or Announcement

1. **RCBQC Dream Run**
Scheduled for December 22, 2024, at Fashion Street, Cross Maidan.
2. **Two-Day Mega Medical Camp**
Planned for January 11-12, 2025, at Phoenix, Parel West. The camp will include comprehensive health services such as cancer detection, eye checkups with free spectacles distribution, blood tests, and other medical screenings.

ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY AIRPORT

Date: Monday, 14th October, 2024

Chief Guest: DG Chetan Desai

Attendance: 114 (Members & Dignitaries)

TRF Announcement :

1. Major Donor Level 2

PP Sumant and Suchitra Naik generously donated USD 25,000, achieving Major Donor Level 2.

Rtn. Paresh and Preeti Bhagat contributed USD 25,000, also attaining Major Donor Level 2.

2. Major Donor Level 1

President Apurva and Mona Patel became Major Donor Level 1 by donating over USD 10,000.

Rtn. Dr. Kanir and Nina Bhatia reached Major Donor Level 1 with a contribution exceeding USD 10,000.

Rtn. Manoj Shah joined Major Donor Level 1 by donating more than USD 10,000.

3. Paul Harris Society (PHS) Membership

Rtn. Dhruvi Shah pledged to become a PHS member, committing to donate USD 1,000 annually.

AKS Announcement: Club has one AKS Couple as of now, Rtn PP Nitin & Harsha Mehta.

Major Project/Event Announcement:

1. Ranshet Ashramshala Classrooms

Construction of the second-floor classrooms is progressing rapidly and is expected to be ready for inauguration by the end of November or early December.

2. Shrink & The Nut – Mental Health Project

This impactful initiative with Rotaractors and college students was a resounding success, promoting mental health awareness and support.

3. Mega Health Camp "Arogyam"

Scheduled for October 20 at Nehru Nagar, this camp aims to provide health checkups for approximately 600 individuals from the lower-middle-income group.

4. AED Machine Donations

As of October 14, 25 AED machines have been donated to various railway stations and institutions.

5. Global Grant for Pediatric Heart Surgeries

A Global Grant application for pediatric heart surgeries is currently in progress.

6. MUN Conference at DGMC

The Model United Nations Conference, organized with Rotaractors at DGMC, was a tremendous success.

7. CSR Grants

Two CSR grant agreements were signed, marking a significant step toward funding impactful projects.

8. Achievements So Far

As of October 14, RCBA has completed 29 projects totaling ₹3.43 crores, benefiting 11,825 individuals.



3. Rotary Cricket League

A cricket tournament among Rotary clubs will be held on January 26, 2025, at Parel West.

4. Blind Cricket Tournament

A three-day cricket tournament for visually impaired participants from eight states is scheduled for March 2025.

5. Adoption of Five Aanganwadis

The club has adopted five Aanganwadis to support and enhance early childhood education and development.



COMPILED AND EDITED BY NARESH BAJPAI

Transforming Lives:

ROTARY AND THE SPINE FOUNDATION'S IMPACT IN INDIA AND BEYOND

INFORMATION COURTESY: RTN. ELS REYNAERS, ROTARY CLUB OF MUMBAI SOBO



SINCE its inception in 1998 by renowned spine surgeon Dr. Shekhar Bhojraj, The Spine Foundation has been a beacon of hope for individuals suffering from debilitating spine issues. With a mission to provide “quality spine care for all,” the foundation addresses one of the top five health concerns in rural India: back pain and spine-related ailments. For many in these areas, a spine injury not only causes immense physical pain but also prevents the sole breadwinner of the family from earning a livelihood, leading to severe financial distress.

The Spine Foundation has established Rural Spine Care Centres (RSCCs) across India, from Maharashtra to Assam, where top spine surgeons volunteer on weekends to perform free surgeries. These centres, in collaboration with local government or charitable

hospitals, ensure no end beneficiary pays for their treatment. Alongside surgeries, the foundation emphasises local capacity-building by training doctors and physiotherapists for long-term patient rehabilitation. Patients are identified through trusted ASHA workers in the community, ensuring those most in need receive care.

The Rotary Club of Mumbai SOBO partnered with The Spine Foundation through a Global Grant to support spine camps in three RSCCs in Maharashtra: Nandurbar, Ambajogai, and Gadchiroli. With a total contribution of USD 61,988 (₹50,83,040), this initiative funded 146 life-changing surgeries. Each surgery, costing approximately ₹34,815, has had a profound impact, enabling patients to regain mobility and restore their livelihoods.

Rotary’s efforts extend beyond India. Through a collaboration with Rotary Club of Gand Maritime, Belgium, The Spine Foundation’s surgeons have also conducted life-saving surgeries in Burundi, Africa’s poorest country. A notable case was a 5-year-old girl, Maïssa, suffering from severe scoliosis. Since November 2023, the team has returned to Burundi thrice, treating more patients and offering them a renewed chance at life.

Rotary Club of Mumbai SOBO and its local and international Rotary partners exemplify the spirit of Rotary through this impactful project. The partnership with The Spine Foundation is a testament to Rotary’s ability to create meaningful, global change by alleviating suffering and transforming lives.

EDITED BY MAHERA GOEL

ROTARY AND ADAPT JOIN HANDS FOR EMPOWERMENT AND INCLUSION

CONTRIBUTED BY DC MONA SHAH



Avenue: Disability to Ability, Rotary District 3141
Mission: Disability friendly access drive across Mumbai
 REQUESTING CLUBS TO IDENTIFY AREAS WHERE WE CAN INSTALL RAMP FOR EASY MOVEMENT OF WHEELCHAIRS AND MOVE FROM DISABILITY TO ABILITY

Join The Movement

Please Contact Us
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 +919820235133 Rtn.Manju Uttamchandani

Rtn. Chetan Desai District Governor
 Rtn. Mona Shah District Coordinator
 Rtn. Kala Sridhar Avenue Chair
 Rtn.Savita Govilkar Avenue Chair

THE ADAPT Fest, a celebration of inclusion and empowerment, marked a significant milestone in the collaboration between Rotary District 3141 and ADAPT (formerly the Spastics Society of India). The event showcased their shared commitment to creating a world where every individual, regardless of ability, can live with dignity, independence, and opportunity.

Graced by Padma Shri Dr. Mithu Alur, Founder and President of ADAPT, and Ms. Malini Chib, author and activist, the occasion was further elevated by the presence of Rotary District Governor (DG)

Rtn. Chetan Desai, First Lady Jwala Desai, Avenue Chair Kala Sridhar, Savita Govilkar, and Zonal Chairs Ramesh Narayan, AV Suresh, and Manju Uttamchandani, along with dedicated Rotarians from the team.

DG Chetan Desai, a visionary leader and proud Rotarian since 2004, was lauded for his impactful tenure. In his address, he emphasized Rotary’s unwavering dedication to fostering accessibility and inclusion.

A highlight of the event was the ceremonial donation of a cheque by DG Desai and Rtn. Ramesh Narayan to Dr. Alur, symbolizing the partnership’s commitment to breaking barriers. The launch of a pivotal campaign aimed at raising awareness about wheelchair accessibility further underscored the collaboration’s intent to build a

truly inclusive society.

This initiative will be spearheaded by Rotary’s “Disability to Ability” team, which will coordinate media outreach and club-level efforts to ensure widespread impact. The campaign goes beyond physical infrastructure, striving to transform societal attitudes and foster inclusion at every level.

As the event concluded, the collective spirit was captured in a group photograph, along with a shared vision of turning awareness into tangible action. DG Desai’s inspiring words reinforced the belief that, together, Rotary and ADAPT will pave the way for a more accessible and inclusive future for all.

“Coming together is the beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success.” This powerful sentiment continues to guide their mission of empowering every individual.

We appeal all club presidents to come forward and join the movement to make Mumbai accessible.

EDITED BY SREE NANDY



UDAAN: SHAPING LIVES, BUILDING FUTURES

Soaring to New Heights in District 3141

CO-HOSTED BY 22 CLUBS AND ONE NGO

- Beneficiaries: 8,000 students
- Schools Covered: 25
- Rotarians Involved: 60
- Retractors Involved: 2
- Volunteers Involved: 50

LEAD CO-HOSTS:

- RC Queens Necklace
- RC Bombay

PLATINUM CO-HOSTS:

- RC Ghatkopar West
- RC Vasai

GOLD CO-HOSTS:

- RC Bombay Bay View
- RC Bombay Metropolitan
- RC Ghodbunder Mumbai
- RC Mumbai Elegant
- RC Mumbai Juhu
- RC Mumbai Mulund South

SILVER CO-HOSTS:

- RC Bombay Airport
- RC Bombay Chembur West
- RC Borivali
- RC Chandiwali Mumbai
- RC Manor Highway
- RC Mumbai Dahisar
- RC Mumbai Green City
- RC Mumbai Kalakar
- RC Mumbai Neo
- RC Palghar
- RC Umroli
- RC Upper Kandivali
- RC Virar
- BHUMI Waste Care Eco Foundation



The Rotary Club of Wada, in collaboration with District 3141, celebrated the fourth successful year of Project UDAAN, a flagship initiative under Rotary's RYPEN (Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment). This transformational project continues to inspire and empower rural youth, fostering leadership, confidence, and a vision for a brighter future.

YEAR-ON-YEAR IMPACT

This year, Project UDAAN touched

the lives of over 8,000 students across Wada Taluka and nearby regions. The initiative has become a beacon of hope for students, parents, and educators alike, showcasing Rotary's unwavering commitment to uplifting rural youth. With the active involvement of 60 Rotarians and 50 dedicated volunteers, UDAAN has grown into a cherished tradition that equips students with the tools to dream big and achieve their goals.





EMPOWERING YOUTH THROUGH RYPEN

Aligned with the values of RYPEN, Project UDAAN emphasizes personal and professional growth. By connecting students with inspirational mentors and role models, the initiative offers practical guidance to help them overcome challenges and pursue their aspirations. The Rotary Club of Wada's localized focus ensures that rural youth not only feel motivated but also empowered to shape their futures.

STRENGTH IN COLLABORATION

The success of Project UDAAN is a testament to the power of collaboration among Rotary clubs in District 3141. Led by Rtn. Nikunj Jhaveri (RC Queens Necklace) and RC Bombay, supported by Platinum Co-hosts RC Vasai and RC Ghatkopar West, along with Gold and Silver Co-hosts, the initiative exemplifies Rotary's spirit of unity. Contributions from 22 clubs and one NGO have elevated the scale and impact of the event, demonstrating the strength of collective action.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

Under the leadership of District Youth Service Chair Piyush Shah, with the guidance of District Governor Chetan Desai & President Prafulla Bokand(RC Wada) and Project Advisor Rtn Amit Patil the event achieved remarkable milestones.

- **Dynamic Speakers Across India:** 30 experts from sports, education, entrepreneurship, and social service inspired students at 25 schools and colleges.
- **Wider Reach:** Over 8,000 students participated, gaining renewed confidence and direction.
- **Mentorship Opportunities:** Students interacted with speakers, receiving personalized career and life guidance.
- **Inspiring Acts:** Speaker Mr. Vishweshar Dhrashive pledged to fund the higher education of an orphaned girl in pharmacy, showcasing the transformative impact of the project.

IMPACT BEYOND EDUCATION

Project UDAAN is more than just a program—it is a movement that nurtures dreams and builds a limitless future. As it completes another successful year, UDAAN reaffirms Rotary's mission to uplift and transform lives, united in the vision of a brighter tomorrow.

Project Udaan 2024 was chaired by Rtn. Rhushikesh Patil with Rtn. Sashank Thakre serving as the Project Convener.

COMPILED AND EDITED BY NARESH BAJPAI



PROJECT DISHA:

Lighting the Path to Empowerment

WRITTEN BY: RTN. RAVIND MITHE, PROJECT CHAIR AND RTN. SHRUTI DHARAMSI, PRESIDENT RC MUMBAI GHATKOPAR WEST
PREZ SHRUTI DHARAMSI, RC MUMBAI GHATKOPAR WEST

SINCE 2022, the Rotary Club of Mumbai Ghatkopar West has been sponsoring Radharaman Abhyasika, Tagore Nagar-3 and Sidharth Abhyasika, Surya Nagar, Vikhroli annually under the Samutkarsh Project of the Seva Sahayog Foundation. These centres have become transformative hubs of learning, positively impacting young lives through academic success and holistic development.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

At Radharaman Abhyasika, four students passed their 10th standard exams in 2023-24, achieving remarkable results, with the highest score being 80%—all

without external coaching. This year, all 22 students from 5th to 8th standard successfully cleared their first-term exams with excellent grades, a testament to the teacher's dedicated guidance and support.

At Sidharth Primary Abhyasika, the focus is on first-generation learners from 1st to 4th standards. Through consistent and rigorous teaching, students are building strong conceptual foundations in languages and mathematics, paving the way for future academic success.

HOLISTIC DEVELOPMENT

The Abhyasikas emphasize holistic growth beyond academics.

Engaging activities such as games, competitions, and cultural celebrations help children develop essential soft skills, including:

- › Teamwork and collaboration
- › Self-confidence and discipline
- › Empathy and understanding
- › Proactiveness and initiative

These efforts nurture well-rounded, confident, and responsible individuals equipped to face life's challenges.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The programs owe their success largely to the active involvement of parents and the local community. By fostering strong relationships and encouraging participation, the Abhyasikas have created a supportive environment for students, ensuring sustainability and continued growth.

AN INSPIRING STORY

One inspiring story is that of Ansh Dhotre, a 3rd standard student at Sidharth Primary Abhyasika. Despite being deaf and mute, Ansh communicates through gestures, excels in drawing, and participates enthusiastically in activities. His peers have embraced him, fostering an inclusive environment where he feels valued and empowered.



EDITED BY SREE NANDY

Vibrant



The Magic of Rotary:
Turning Challenges into Possibilities



GREEN MILES ON TWO WHEELS: BICYCLES DONATED BY ROTARY CLUB OF LOKHANDWALA KANDIVALI

Club President: Rtn Priya Shenoy

Area of Focus: Environment Sustainability; Tribal Welfare

Location of Project: Regular club meeting

Date of Execution: 17th November 2024

Project Description

On Friday, 8th November, Rtn Kailas Mahajan proposed refurbishing unclaimed bicycles from his society for children in Kalmacha Pada, an Adivasi village near the Sanjay Gandhi National Park. The Board unanimously agreed, recognising the potential to promote outdoor recreation on wheels of environmental sustainability. By 13th November, five bicycles were refurbished at a cost of INR 7,500, thanks to generous member contributions. On 17th November, the Club handed over five bicycles and two scooties to the village children. This rapid initiative exemplifies the transformative power of vibrant action—creating magic from everyday opportunities and spreading joy through community service.

Number of Beneficiaries: 07

Rotarian-hours Spent: 05

Value of the Project: INR 7,500/-

Sponsors/Partners: Members of Rotary Club of Lokhandwala Kandivali



SAFE DRINKING WATER PROJECT BY ROTARY CLUB OF LOKHANDWALA KANDIVALI

Club President: Rtn Priya Shenoy

Area of Focus: Water, Sanitation and Hygiene; Happy School

Location of Project: Raj High School, Damu Nagar, Kandivali East

Date of Execution: 23rd November 2024

Project Description

To ensure access to clean, safe drinking water and promote students' health, the Rotary Club of Lokhandwala Kandivali installed an Alfaa UV water purifier at Raj High School. This initiative led by PP Anu Srrivastava, Director Community Services (non-medical), will prevent waterborne diseases, reduce absenteeism, support physical growth, and create a healthier, more productive learning environment.

The inauguration ceremony was attended by Vibrant President Priya Shenoy, IPP Mehul Rajparia, and Rtn Dr Ambujam Iyer. The school's trustee, principal, and staff members expressed heartfelt gratitude for this meaningful contribution, highlighting its significant impact on the well-being of the students.

Number of Beneficiaries: 850

Rotarian-hours Spent: 12

Value of the Project: INR 14,000/-

Sponsors/Partners: IPP Mehul Rajparia and Rotary Club of Lokhandwala Kandivali Charitable Trust



DAZZLE AND DELIGHT - A JEWELLERY MAKING WORKSHOP BY ROTARY CLUB OF MULUND

Club President: Rtn Seema Sudhir Joshi

Area Of Focus: Community Economic Development (Skill development)

Location of Project: Dode School (Mulund East)

Date of Execution: 23rd to 26th November 2024

Project Description

The Rotary Club of Mulund hosted a captivating three-day jewellery-making workshop at Dode School. Over ten hours, four skilled trainers guided students in crafting a range of accessories, including bangles, bracelets, earrings, necklaces, and mangalsutras. This immersive experience ignited students' creativity and equipped them with professional skills. By designing and creating their jewellery, students gained firsthand experience and a deeper appreciation for the artistry and craftsmanship involved in this field. The workshop empowered them to explore a potential career path. The Project was attended by President Seema Joshi, Secretary Tara Malde, Ansuayaben Shah, Nutan Dhulla, Rajendra Dhulla, and Aparna Rane.

Number of Beneficiaries: 20

Rotarian-hours Spent: 30

Value of the Project: INR 13,000/-

Sponsors: Common Fund of Rotary Club of Mulund



THE FUTURE IS GREEN: ROTARY CLUB OF MUMBAI MAHIM LEADS CLIMATE ACTION PROJECTS

Club President: Rtn Vidula Kshirsagar

Area of Focus: Environment

Location of Project: Khanivali Village, Wada

Date of Execution: 14th November 2024

Project Description

Three major development projects were inaugurated under the leadership of Sarpanch Mr. Bharat Hajare. The club donated a plastic crushing machine to support the village's plastic-free initiative. Operated by local women and rag pickers, the machine will crush plastic waste, which will be sold to recycling factories, generating income for the community. Two sanitary pad vending machines and an incinerator were installed in a local school to enhance sanitation and waste management. 150 tall trees were planted along main roads to create shaded green pathways. The Club's involvement also extended to a spiritual retreat at Govardhan Eco Village, where 25 club members enjoyed a rejuvenating stay.

Number of Beneficiaries: 3400

Value of the project: INR 2,30,000/-

Sponsors/ Partners: Self - Club finance



SPREADING LIGHT AND HOPE: ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY BAYVIEW

Club President: Rtn Rajni Barasia

Area of Focus: Medical

Location of Project: BMC Eye Hospital at Bombay Central

Date of Execution: 28th November 2024

Project Description

The Rotary Club of Bombay Bayview proudly donated a Phaco machine to the BMC Eye Hospital, Bombay Central. This advanced equipment will enable essential surgeries like cataract removal, retinal detachment repair, and vitrectomy, restoring vision and transforming lives for countless underprivileged patients. The hospital, known for providing free surgeries, serves the poorest sections of society, offering hope and healing to those in dire need.

By supporting this cause, the Club is creating a lasting impact in the community.

Number of Beneficiaries: 3,600 annually

Rotarian-hours Spent: 200

Value of the Project: INR 24,00,000/-



FULFILLING WISHES OF CRITICALLY ILL CHILDREN: ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY BAYVIEW

Club President: Rtn Rajni Barasia
Area of Focus: Medical
Location of Project: Parel
Date of Execution: 7th December 2024.

Project Description

The Club fulfilled the wishes of nine children facing critical illnesses. A wish is more than just a dream; it plays a vital role in a child's healing journey. Studies show that granting wishes can help children build physical and emotional resilience needed to combat illnesses, improving their quality of life. The smiles on their faces as they received their cherished gifts were truly priceless. Despite their health struggles, these children radiated happiness and gratitude. This heart-warming experience brought joy, hope, and positivity to their lives, leaving a lasting impact on all involved.

Number of Beneficiaries: 9
Rotarian-hours Spent: 20
Value of the Project: INR 50,000/



AED (AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR) INSTALLATION AND CPR TRAINING BY ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY AIRPORT

Club President: Rtn Apurva Patel
Area of Focus: Disease Prevention
Location of Project: Ulhasnagar and Mahim
Date of Execution: 27th November and 5th December 2024

Project Description

The 31st AED was installed at Ulhasnagar Railway Station on 27th November, with enthusiastic participation from local Rotarians and railway staff, who actively engaged in CPR and AED usage training. The program concluded with thoughtful snack boxes and chocolates gifted by the Rotarians. The 32nd AED was installed at Mahim Railway Station on 5th December, in the presence of generous donors, President Apurva Patel, Avenue Chair Rtn Dr Krishna Kumar, Rtn Harsha Mehta, Dr Sitakumar from Western Railway, and our dedicated heart marshals, Mehernosh and Snigdha. These installations mark significant strides in enhancing public safety and emergency response capabilities.

Number of Beneficiaries: Public at large
Rotarian-hours Spent: 3 at each location
Value of the Project: USD 1600 at each location
Sponsors/Partners: Rtn Vishu and Poonam Lala; Shobhana and Rtn Pravin Shah



PROJECT SHIKSHA BY ROTARY CLUB OF BORIVLI

Club President: Rtn Harish Chandarana

Area of Focus: Basic Education and Literacy

Location of Project: Madhyamik Ashramshala, Parli, Wada

Date of Execution: 28th November 2024

Project Description

Under the Basic Education and Literacy Initiative, the Rotary Club of Borivli launched Project SHIKSHA to empower students in their academic journey. The club distributed 21 Apekshit books to 192 students in 10th and 12th standards, equipping them with targeted study materials for their board exams. This thoughtful initiative aims to enhance exam preparation and drive academic excellence. Coordinated by Rtn Dr Dharmaji Shinde, Project SHIKSHA reflects the club's unwavering dedication to nurturing young minds, fostering brighter futures, and supporting education as a cornerstone for personal and societal growth.

Number of Beneficiaries: 192

Rotarian-hours Spent: 15

Value of the Project: INR 61,000/-



BREAST CANCER SCREENING CAMP BY ROTARY CLUB OF MUMBAI KANDIVLI WEST

Club President: Rtn Devsingh Shahani

Area of Focus: Disease Prevention and Treatment

Location of Project: Charkop, Kandivali West

Date of Execution: 23rd November 2024

Project Description

The Rotary Club of Mumbai Kandivali West, led by Vibrant Medical Director Rtn Dr Amola Parikh and Vibrant Youth Director Rtn Reema Wahi successfully conducted its first Breast Cancer Screening Camp at Ekveera School, Charkop, Kandivali West, in collaboration with the Rotary Club of Mumbai Nova. A total of 77 beneficiaries, including school teachers, were screened, with five detected having lumps. Vibrant Medical Director Rtn Dr Amola Parikh provided counselling to those affected. The initiative was met with heartfelt gratitude from the beneficiaries, reflecting Rotary's commitment to promoting health awareness and early detection in the community.

Number of Beneficiaries: 77

Rotarian-hours Spent: 35

Value of the Project: INR 25,000/-

Sponsors/Partners: Members of Rotary Club of Mumbai Kandivli West



FOOD DISTRIBUTION BY ROTARY CLUB OF BORIVLI

Club President: Rtn Harish Chandarana
Area of Focus: Annapoorna
Location of Project: Shatabdi Hospital, Kandivali East
Date of Execution: 2nd, 9th, 16th, 21st to 23rd, and 30th November 2024

Project Description

The Annapoorna Food Distribution Project, in collaboration with the Ram Roti Foundation, provided 2,750 meals to patients and their relatives at Shatabdi Hospital on multiple dates. Beyond nourishment, the initiative educated over 50 women on government health schemes, enhancing their awareness and access to resources. Spearheaded by Director Harish Davda, with contributions from Rtn Sumedha Rao and generous donors, including Rotarians Trupti Sampat, Gita Sampat, Kamlesh Pipaliya, Mudrak Lalaji, T.S. Bhardwaj and Bhadrash Nathwani, the project exemplified Rotary's commitment to service and community upliftment through compassion and teamwork.

Number of Beneficiaries: 2,750
Rotarian-hours Spent: 96
Value of the Project: INR 42,000/-



HEALTH AWARENESS CAMP AND CPR TRAINING BY ROTARY CLUB OF MUMBAI WESTERN ELITE

Club President: Rtn Vinay Khetawat
Area of Focus: Community Health and Awareness
Location of Project: State Reserve Police Force Campus, Jogeshwari- East
Date of Execution: 9th November 2024

Project Description

The Club organized a Health Awareness Campaign at the State Reserve Police Force campus with a focus on holistic well-being. Rtn Arun Wadhwa and his team from District 3141, conducted a CPR workshop and a stress management session equipping the participants with life-saving skills and techniques to manage stress. Dr Darshan Jhala from Lilavati Hospital delivered an expert talk on cardiac health. On-site health checkups, including blood sugar and blood pressure testing, were conducted. A blood donation camp, supported by Sion Hospital, saw 22 donations. Additionally, Pranic Healing consultations and handwriting assessments were offered by few club members and spouses.

Number of Beneficiaries: 180
Rotarian-hours Spent: 105
Value of the project: INR 35,000/-



PROJECT FOR SPECIAL CHILDREN BY ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY SEACOAST

Club President: Rtn Nitin Shah

Area of Focus: Community Service

Location of Project: Shree Trust's Swami Parijnanashram Educational and Vocational Centre for the Handicapped, Virar West

Date of Execution: 14th October 2024

Project Description

On October 14, the Club successfully conducted a heartwarming project at the Shree Trust's Swami Parijnanashram Educational and Vocational Centre for the Handicapped in Virar. Together, they installed a Digital TV screen, distributed uniforms, and provided sports equipment to support the special children of our community.

This Project spread joy and created an impact that left all the stakeholders happy that together, they are moving towards creating a bright future for the beneficiaries.

Number of Beneficiaries: 253

Value of the project : INR 1,40,000/-



DENTAL CHECK-UP CAMP ORGANISED BY ROTARY CLUB OF MUMBAI SHER-E-PUNJAB

Club President: Rtn Jotinder Singh Ahluwalia

Area of Focus: Disease Prevention and Treatment

Location of Project: R.C.Maruti High School, Andheri West

Date of Execution: 5th December 2024

Project Description

To promote oral hygiene and address dental health issues, a "Free Dental Checkup Camp" was organized at R.C. Maruti High School, benefiting 348 students from grades 8 to 12. Conducted by Dr Sonam and Dr Monica, the camp aimed to identify dental issues and traces of tobacco addiction. Jointly held with the Interact Club of Maruti Veers, 75 students were found with dental abnormalities and received detailed checkup reports. Discounts were offered for further treatment. The initiative emphasized the importance of oral health in preventing cavities, gum disease, and bad breath while enhancing students' confidence and overall well-being.

Number of Beneficiaries: 348

Rotarian-hours Spent: 12

Value of the Project: INR 2,000/-

Sponsors/Partners: Interact Club of Maruti Veers



EMPOWERING STUDENTS THROUGH SELF-DEFENCE: ROTARY CLUB OF MUMBAI SHER-E-PUNJAB

Club President: Rtn Jotinder Singh Ahluwalia

Area of Focus: Basic Education and Youth Empowerment

Location of Project: Guru Nanak High School, Sher-e-Punjab Society, Andheri East

Date of Execution: 16th November 2024

Project Description

The Rotary Club of Mumbai Sher-e-Punjab organized a Self-Defence Seminar at Guru Nanak School, Sher-e-Punjab, led by expert trainer Mr. Ramchandra Chatri, a Blackbelt with over 30 years of experience. The session introduced students to basic self-defence techniques, weapon use, and self-protection gadgets.

Students enthusiastically participated, practicing techniques under expert guidance. The interactive seminar inspired them to pursue self-defence, boosting their confidence and preparedness. Special thanks to Guru Nanak High School's management and project partners for supporting this empowering initiative's success.

Number of Beneficiaries: 350 students and 20 teachers

Rotarian-hours Spent: 12

Value of the Project: INR 2,000/-

Sponsors/Partners: Interact Club of Guru Nanak Brave Hearts; Chingari Shakti Foundation



INSTALLATION OF DIGITAL BOARDS BY ROTARY CLUB OF MUMBAI GHATKOPAR WEST

Club President: Rtn Shruti Dharamsi

Area of Focus: Basic Education

Location of Project: Pune Vidya Bhavan, Ghatkopar East

Date of Execution: 27th November 2024

Project Description

On November 27, 2024, the Rotary Club of Mumbai Ghatkopar West inaugurated four advanced digital boards at Pune Vidya Bhavan, Ghatkopar East. Graced by DG Chetan Desai, First Lady Jwala Desai, DGND Deepak Jiandani, and club leaders, this INR 4,80,000/- initiative, generously facilitated by Rtn Kumar Pillai is a game-changer for education. The state-of-the-art boards offer 3D visuals, interactive tools, and immersive digital content, simplifying complex concepts and fostering creativity and critical thinking. Empowering students with modern skills, this project underscores Rotary's commitment to innovation and shaping brighter futures through impactful education initiatives.

Number of Beneficiaries: 1475 students and 43 teachers

Rotarian-hours Spent: 40

Value of the Project: INR 4,80,000/-



GIFTING GREEN PERIODS UNDER MASIK CHAKRA BY ROTARY CLUB OF MUMBAI GHATKOPAR WEST

Club President: Rtn Shruti Dharamsi
Area of Focus: Basic Education
Location of Project: Jhunjhunwala College, Ghatkopar West
Date of Execution: 5th December 2024

Project Description

The Rotary Club of Mumbai Ghatkopar West, in collaboration with Rotary Club of Mumbai Ghatkopar, held a menstrual cup awareness session led by President Rtn Shruti Dharamsi. The session highlighted the health, hygiene, and sustainability benefits of menstrual cups while encouraging eco-friendly practices and breaking menstrual stigma. Interactive discussions with students and faculty promoted understanding and empowered participants to adopt sustainable menstrual health solutions. The initiative educated attendees on conscious choices for a healthier life and greener planet, leaving a lasting impact and driving change toward sustainability.

Number of Beneficiaries: 82 girls and 5 teachers
Rotarian-hours Spent: 10
Value of the Project: INR 3,000/-
Sponsors/Partners: Inner Wheel Club of Mumbai Ghatkopar; The Department of BMS at Ramniranjan Jhunjhunwala College



GREEN GOLD PROJECT BY ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY QUEEN CITY

Club President: Rtn Ajay Agrawal
Area of Focus: Vocational and skill development
Location of Project: Maharashtra
Date of Execution: 7th and 8th October 2024

Project Description

On October 7th and 8th, 2024, the Green Gold Project was launched under the Vocation Avenue, with participation from R.I. Districts 3141, 3142, 3131, 3030, 3060, 3170, and 3132, along with nine Rotary clubs. The Rotary Club of Bombay Queen City led the initiative, coordinating a two-day residential vocational training program for 100 farmers from across Maharashtra. Organized by PP Rtn Ralphy Jhirad, Director - International Service, the program covered residue-free farming, conservation, poultry, goat farming, grafting, and agro-industry, including field visits to Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Baramati. Zydex Agro played a key role in training and empowering farmers with sustainable practices.

Number of Beneficiaries: 100
Value of the Project: INR 4,15,000/-
Sponsors/Partners: Rtn Sandeep Bajoria, Rtn Ravindra Patodia, and Rtn Dinesh Sharma from Rotary Club of Bombay Queen City

COMPILED BY ANU SRRIVASTAVA, SHELLY GUPTA, SASHIKALA CHARLES, HAIMA DESHPANDE AND EDITED BY ANU SRRIVASTAVA AND K V PREMRAJ

One Year TO INSPIRE!

Let us get to know the Movers and Shakers of 24-25, the Vibrant Presidents who are all set to lead with passion and resolve.

ROTARY CLUB OF VASAI: RTN NANDAKUMAR WARRIER

- Why did you choose to become the Vibrant President:** An opportunity to cast valuable changes into the Society by leading a team of efficient Rotarians.
- The most beautiful moment of your Rotary journey so far:** My father witnessing me getting collared as the President of our Club.
- What will be the signature project of your Presidential tenure:** PINK Auto for women empowerment, and Rotary Medical Center.
- Which is the Vibrant Year attribute that you, as a Club, most relate to and why?** Trustworthy, as the members of our Club are committed to their visions, with the involvement of senior and seasoned Rotarians.
- What are the Vibrant Focus Areas that you would like to work on ?** Economic and Community development, Basic Education and Literacy, Disease Prevention and Treatment.



Profession: Process Consultant for Small and Medium Enterprises.

Club Name : Rotary Club of Vasai.
Membership Strength : 25 .

Key Projects : Zilla Parishad School renovation, Annapoorna, Blood donation drives, Cataract camps, Organ donation awareness programmes, Women empowerment, and spreading literacy.

Family: V.P. Haridas Warriar: Father.
Rohini Nandakumar: Wife.
Gayatri Nandakumar: Daughter.
Favourite Cuisine: Traditional South Indian.
Favourite Holiday Destination: Egypt.
Favourite Book: Murder on the Orient Express (by Agatha Christie).
Quote I live by: Give Time Some Time, And For Sure, The Time Shall Change Your Time.

ROTARY CLUB OF MUMBAI DOWNTOWN SEA LAND : RTN DR ARUN D SAWANT

- Why did you choose to become the Vibrant President:** To help the community and derive happiness on execution of stewardship Projects.
- The most beautiful moment of your Rotary journey so far :** Getting awareness of the system of Global Grants for the well-being of the deserving needy community.
- What will be the signature project of your Presidential tenure :** Breast Cancer screening camps for the weaker sections of the Society including the tribal women, Projects for deaf children with speech disabilities, Monthly lectures of substance etc.
- Which is the Vibrant Year attribute that you, as a Club, most relate to and why :** Visionary because our Club believes in looking ahead.
- What are the Vibrant Focus Areas that you would like to work on ?** Health and Environment.



Profession: Educationist and Environmental Scientist, Former Vice Chancellor.

Membership Strength : 45 .

Key Projects : Measures for mitigation of floods, Upgradation of water management for sustainable agriculture, Adarsh Village programme etc.

Family: Dr Sudha A. Sawant – Spouse.
Pushkar A. Sawant – Son.

Favourite Cuisine : Sea food.

Favourite Holiday Destination : Munnar, Kerala.

Favourite Book : Yayati (by V.S. Khandekar).

Quote I live by : A Busy Man Always Finds Time.

ROTARY CLUB OF GHODBUNDER MUMBAI: RTN ASHUTOSH ANJALI VISHWANATH THAKUR

1. **Why did you choose to become the Vibrant President:** To spread the motto of love in our community. Our family is a member of the much-loved ANAMPREM family.
2. **The most beautiful moment of your Rotary journey so far:** Installation of RO water filter in Maljipada, Vasai, for access to pure water. It was heartening to note that about six hundred children benefited from this initiative.
3. **What will be the signature project of your Presidential tenure:** Promoting the cause of environment through usage of Solar energy.
4. **Which is the Vibrant Year attribute that you, as a Club, most relate to and why :** Visionary because our Club believes in looking ahead.
5. **What are the Vibrant Focus Areas that you would like to work on ?** Projects related to usage of solar energy and other projects benefiting the community



Profession: Energy Auditor (i am a Solar Grid Engineer).

Club Name : Rotary Club of Ghodbunder Mumbai.

Membership Strength : 50 .

Key Projects : Educational, and those related to environment sustainability.

Family: Anjali: Mother. Tanvi: Daughter. Milind – Nishigandha – Brother and Sister-in-law. Bhaas: Nephew. Twixx: Family pet.

Favourite Cuisine: Any Indian food.

Favourite Holiday Destination: Any location in India.

Favourite Book: The Mahabharata.

Favourite Songs : Songs from old Hindi films and Ghazals.

Quote I live by : Bring Change In The Life Of One Person And Educate Any One Person.

ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY HARBOUR VIEW: RTN KAJAL DHALL

1. **Why did you choose to become the Vibrant President:** The opportunity it affords to contribute towards a positive change, both locally and globally, keeping in view Rotary's motto of Service above Self.
2. **The most beautiful moment of your Rotary journey so far:** Witnessing the joy on the faces of the children who received prosthetic limbs through our Club's support. It was a humbling experience to witness their newfound hopes and being the recipients of their silent Blessings.
3. **What will be the signature project of your Presidential tenure:** Facilitating access to education to the needy children in our locality (through scholarships, mentorships, assistance etc), and projects for the welfare of stray animals.
4. **Which is the Vibrant Year attribute that you, as a Club, most relate to and why:** Inclusive, because our Club believes in an inclusive environment which fosters the active participation and involvement of all our members.
5. **What are the Vibrant Focus Areas that you would like to work on ?** Educational Projects for the needy, and Projects for the welfare of stray animals.



Profession: Homemaker.

Club Name : Rotary Club of Bombay Harbour View .

Membership Strength : 18 .

Key Projects : Medical and Educational Projects.

Family: Pearl: Daughter.

Favourite Cuisine: Thai.

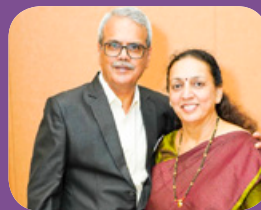
Favourite Holiday Destination: Singapore.

Favourite Music: Mehdi Hasan's Ghazals.

Quote I live by: The Time Is Always Right To Do What Is Right- by Martin Luther King Jr.

ROTARY CLUB OF UPPER KANDIVALI: RTN MAHESH BHATKAL

1. **Why did you choose to become the Vibrant President:** A deep desire to serve my Country and community. My association with the Art of Living foundation has instilled in me the values of service & compassion. My three-decade work experience has equipped me with the skills to lead our Club for rendering effective service to the community.
2. **The most beautiful moment of your Rotary journey so far:** My installation as the Club's President, witnessed by DG Chetan Desai , fellow Rotarians, and other dignitaries present.
3. **What will be the signature project of your Presidential tenure:** Construction of Ferrocement water storage tanks to address the water needs of tribal communities in Dahanu, Palghar & Wada districts.
4. **Which is the Vibrant Year attribute that you, as a Club, most relate to and why :** Inclusive, because our Club believes in making a tangible difference, through commitment & dedicated efforts, in the lives of those in need.
5. **What are the Vibrant Focus Areas that you would like to work on ?** Water conservation, Sanitation, Promoting basic education & literacy, Maternal & Child health, Development of the community



Profession: Embedded Engineer.
Club Name: Rotary Club of Upper Kandivali.
Membership Strength: 35 .
Key Projects: Sanskar and Intuition programmes, English speaking courses, Donation of Books and Bags, Sustainable development through Ferrocement Water Tanks, and promoting Health & Hygiene.

Family: Maithily Bhatkal: Wife. Apurva: Daughter. Kiran: Son-in-law.
Favourite Cuisine: Indian.
Favourite Holiday Destination: Mahabaleshwar.
Favourite Music: Soul Mantra by Chandrika Tandon.
Quote I live by: Empowering Individuals And Communities Through Meaningful Action .

ROTARY CLUB OF MUMBAI 25: RTN SANJAY KEJARIWAL

1. **Why did you choose to become the Vibrant President:** I took the onus of starting the Club for my locality and was fortunate that all those gathered elected me to lead.
2. **The most beautiful moment of your Rotary journey so far :** The dental check-up Project at Little Star School in which 5 dentists participated to help 300 school children get their teeth checked up.
3. **What will be the signature project of your Presidential tenure :** Facilitating reliable and sustainable health offerings for the needy in our areas, organizing free of cost health check-up camps etc.
4. **Which is the Vibrant Year attribute that you, as a Club, most relate to and why :** Inclusive, because our Club believes in a democratic set up, and carrying with us as many people as possible.
5. **What are the Vibrant Focus Areas that you would like to work on ?** Medical and Educational Projects for the needy.



Profession: Entrepreneur – Exporter of Fashion Garments.
Club Name : Rotary Club of Mumbai 25.
Membership Strength : 25 .
Key Projects : Dental check-up camps, CPR Workshops for the neighbours, and various assistance rendered to the local public schools.

Family: Swati Gupta Kejarawal : Wife. Nandini Kejarawal : Daughter. Madhav Kejarawal : Son.
Favourite Cuisine : South Indian and Italian.
Favourite Holiday Destination : Kodaikanal and Paris.
Favourite Book : All novels authored by Malcolm Gladwell.
Quote I live by : Just Do It .

ROTARY CLUB OF VIRAR : RTN NANDKISHOR KASAT

1. **Why did you choose to become the Vibrant President:** To build a network in Rotary and execute Projects that align with Rotary's core values.
2. **The most beautiful moment of your Rotary journey so far:** The recovery of my ailing daughter (in Mehsana), courtesy the prompt response (to my call for help) by Fellow Presidents : Rtn Ananthalakshmi and Rtn Siddharth Udeshi, and PDG Rtn Maulin Patel (who used his good offices to connect with a local Doctor in Mehsana - Dr N.T. Patel – for my daughter's treatment). This incident reinforced my feelings that Rotary is indeed one Family, and I am truly blessed to be a Rotarian.
3. **What will be the signature project of your Presidential tenure?** Online Moderator seminars for 10th and 12th standard students in Maharashtra.
4. **Which is the Vibrant Year attribute that you, as a Club, most relate to and why?** Inclusive, because it resonates with our Club's ethos.
5. **What are the Vibrant Focus Areas that you would like to work on ?** Education.



Profession: Educationist.

Club Name : Rotary Club of Virar.

Membership Strength : 10 .

Key Projects : Education, Medical Projects, and Community Projects.

Family: Prof Rajesh Kasat: Brother. (Chartered President of RC Virar). Dr Ashna Kasat: Wife (Medical Director – RC Virar). Nishi Kasat: Daughter (was an Interactor in school). Hriday Kasat - Nephew. Interactor.

Favourite Cuisine : Indian (Biryani).

Favourite Holiday Destination : Mountains and Beaches.

Favourite Book : Imagining India – The Idea Of A Renewed Nation (by Nandan Nilekani).

Favourite Music : Songs from old Hindi movies, and Star Trek.

Quote I live by : Live Long And Prosper.

ROTARY CLUB OF WADA: RTN PRAFULA BHIMRAJ BOKAND

1. **Why did you choose to become the Vibrant President:** To bring innovative ideas and impactful initiatives to our Club and execute Projects that align with Rotary's core values.
2. **The most beautiful moment of your Rotary journey so far :** Witnessing the joy and gratitude on the faces of the beneficiaries as well as students and our members during our Club's (Udaan 4.0) Rypen and Ryla programmes.
3. **What will be the signature project of your Presidential tenure :** Education and Healthcare, as well as provision of clean drinking water to schools in our areas. Collaborations sought.
4. **Which is the Vibrant Year attribute that you, as a Club, most relate to and why?** Inclusive, because it resonates with our Club's theme of Empowerment of communities through our initiatives and collective effort.
5. **What are the Vibrant Focus Areas that you would like to work on?** Education and Literacy, Environment and Sustainability, Community Health, and Hygiene.



Profession: Proprietor, Mangalraj Jewellers.

Club Name : Rotary Club of Wada.

Membership Strength : 26 .

Key Projects : Tree Plantation drives, Free of cost medical camps, and scholarships for the underprivileged students.

Family: Rupali Prafula Bokand – Wife (Rotarian).

Favourite Cuisine : Indian (including Laddoos for Dessert).

Favourite Holiday Destination : All Hill Stations.

Favourite Book : The Success Book (by John Randolph Price).

Favourite Music : Classical music.

Quote I live by : Service To Mankind Is Service To God.

ROTARY CLUB OF MUMBAI 101: RTN VIVEK JAIN

1. **Why did you choose to become the Vibrant President:** To implement sustainable projects, which can be worked upon year-on-year.
2. **The most beautiful moment of your Rotary journey so far :** The Smile on the faces of school children to whom we distributed school stationery and Sweets during Independence Day celebrations.
3. **What will be the signature project of your Presidential tenure :** Medical Camp and Blood Donation Drives – 1000+ persons participated in the camps held by us - we had donated 600+ Spectacles, and Collected 100+ bottles of Blood.
4. **Which is the Vibrant Year attribute that you, as a Club, most relate to and why :** Visionary – we believe in looking ahead. Our Club believes in having a roadmap for many years to come.
5. **What are the Vibrant Focus Areas that you would like to work on ?** Healthcare and Education for Marginalized families.



Profession: Technical Consultant .
Club Name : Rotary Club of Mumbai 101.
Membership Strength : 13 .
Key Projects : Healthcare and Education.

Family: Shibha Jain – Wife. Samyak – Son. Aditya – Son.
Favourite Cuisine : Traditional Indian.
Favourite Holiday Destination : Any Hill Station.
Favourite Music : Songs of the 90s.
Quote I live by : Live And Let Live.

ROTARY CLUB OF MUMBAI CUFFE PARADE : RTN ERRICK ELAVIA

1. **Why did you choose to become the Vibrant President:** A deep desire to serve the community, under the leadership of DG Chetan Desai.
2. **The most beautiful moment of your Rotary journey so far :** Witnessing the smiles on the faces of beneficiaries of our Projects; and the feeling of oneness & fellowship in our Club.
3. **What will be the signature project of your Presidential tenure :** Water Wheels Project, Jaipur Foot Project, Anna Daan, and Paediatric Heart Surgeries. Collaborations sought.
4. **Which is the Vibrant Year attribute that you, as a Club, most relate to and why :** Inclusive, because our Club believes in fostering connections and creating a supportive environment where everyone feels valued and included . The focus is on a collaborative approach for the overall well being of the community.
5. **What are the Vibrant Focus Areas that you would like to work on ?** Outreach to the local community, Anna Daan, Wellness & wellbeing of Senior Citizens, and Medical Projects.



Profession: School Principal.
Club Name : Rotary Club of Mumbai Cuffe Parade.
Membership Strength : 25 .
Key Projects : Anna Daan, Baghbaan, Masik Chakra, Organ Donation, Medical Projects, Environment Conservation, Women & Girl Empowerment.

Family: Maneck Elavia – Father. Hutokshie Elavia – Mother. Favourite Cuisine : Chinese, Gujarati and Parsi Cuisine.
Favourite Holiday Destination : Europe and USA.
Favourite Music : Abba, Music of the 80s and 90s.
Quote I live by : Service Above Self.

COMPILED BY T S BHARADWAJ AND EDITED BY K.V.PREMRAJ

Get recognized for "DOING GOOD IN THE WORLD"

CLUB RECOGNITIONS

(Commitments / Actual Contribution)

Vibrant Club : More than \$500000 / Platinum Club : \$250000 - \$499999
Diamond Club : \$125000 - \$249999 / Gold TRF Club : \$60000-\$124999
Silver TRF Club : \$30000-\$59999 / EREY / 100% Foundation Giving Club
New 100% PHF / Retaining as 100% PHF Club / 100% PHS
Rotary's Promise Club / End Polio Now Club / Polio Champion Club

INDIVIDUAL RECOGNITIONS

(Commitments / Actual Contribution)

New Arch Klumph Society member / New Major Donor level 4/3/2/1
New PHS member / New Benefactor / Bequest / Legacy Society
New PolioPlus Society / End Polio Fellow / Individual giving \$ 5,000+

VIBRANT FOUNDATION RECOGNITION EVENT

Sunday, 12th January 2025
7:00pm

Courtyard by Marriott
Andheri East, Mumbai

Rtn. Chetan Desai
District Governor

Welcome to Co-host this prestigious event

Platinum : ₹ 35000/- (8 seats complimentary)

Diamond : ₹ 16000/- (4 seats complimentary)

Gold : ₹ 8000/- (2 seats complimentary)

Registration ₹ 2650/- per person

Rotary Club of Borivli

Account number: 146722010000870

IFSC Code: UBIN0914673

Bank: Union Bank



: Lead Host Club :
Rotary Club of Borivli

Rtn. Harish Chadarana
Club President
9821240242

Rtn. Manish Gyani
Convener
9820317774

Rtn. Ashish Tapiawala
Co-Convener
9867297260

Rtn. Mukesh Thakkar
Club TRF Director
9820076376

COUNTDOWN TO HISTORY

POLIO CHAMPION CLUB

Contribute INR 1,000
per capita to
PolioPlus Fund and
get this Zonal level
recognition
certificate for club.

POLIOPLUS SOCIETY MEMBER

Commit to contribute
USD 100 each year to
PolioPlus Fund of TRF
till the world is
certified Polio-Free.



END POLIO FELLOW

Contribute
INR1,00,000/- to
PolioPlus Fund of TRF
and get recognized
with this national level
recognition.



DRIVING IMPACT AND NATION-BUILDING

Featuring AKS Nikunj and Kanan Jhaveri

VIBE-X: You are a celebrated AKS member of District 3141. In your philanthropic journey, was this a milestone you always envisioned, or did it happen organically over time?

Nikunj: For me, true giving is when it comes without expectation of return. I agreed to be an AKS member in the hope of inspiring others to consider giving more.

VIBE-X: You have been contributing generously to various club, district, and global projects over the years. What impact do you wish to see from this sustained giving?

Nikunj: My giving journey and aspirations have evolved. Initially, I focused on projects where I could meet beneficiaries and witness the direct impact. Currently, I aim to support initiatives that contribute to nation-building, enabling non-profits to collaborate with the government and redirect resources for effective use.

VIBE-X: Is philanthropy a family legacy or part of your personal mission?

Nikunj: Giving has been part of our lives since childhood for both Kanan and me. Kanan's father was the first AKS member in Asia, while my parents inspired me with their willingness to help others,



especially in medical care.

"Giving back" is now a core value for me and my companies (Systems Plus Group), which have committed a percentage of profits to social causes, even before the CSR Act.

VIBE-X: How do you find the functioning of The Rotary Foundation different from other foundations or NGOs?

Nikunj: The Rotary Foundation stands out for its thorough due diligence and expert cadre visits, especially for Global Grants. Its low administrative costs and matching funds through districts and global networks make it unique.

VIBE-X: What is your preferred fund within The Rotary Foundation, and why?

Nikunj: Initially, I preferred directed gifts. With decreasing global

matching funds, I now prioritize contributing to the Annual Fund, hoping to restore matching percentages seen 10 years ago (as high as one-to-one or one-to-two).

VIBE-X: You are brilliantly spearheading the Vibrant Anganwadi initiative. What other areas of focus interest you?

Nikunj: My work spans health, education, livelihood creation, and uplifting marginalized communities, including transgender individuals and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). My key criterion is that non-profits focus on scalability and measurable impact at community, state, or national levels.

VIBE-X: What are your thoughts on the evolving role of corporate CSR in supporting Foundation projects?

Nikunj: CSR presents a significant opportunity for Rotary clubs in India. The CSR India Grant model enables impactful, well-designed projects to be presented to corporates, leveraging these funds as excellent matching resources for individual donors. For example, the Anganwadi project mobilized ₹3 crore from individual donors and foundations, supported by ₹75 lakh in CSR contributions.

INTERVIEWED BY SREE NANDY

EVENTS THAT IGNITE CHANGE



WRITTEN BY: AAYUSHI THAKKAR, CHAIRWOMAN PUBLICATIONS, ROTARACT DISTRICT 3141



THE MILLENNIAL SUMMIT

Yashwantrao Chavan Auditorium, Mantralay, 17th November

As The Millennial Summit 2024 concludes, we celebrate a remarkable gathering of visionaries who inspired the youth to dream bigger and aim higher. Six incredible speakers shared their transformative journeys, each delivering powerful lessons: resilience, innovation, inclusivity, entrepreneurship, community service and sustainability. Their words sparked ideas, challenged norms and empowered the next generation to take charge of the future.

This summit wasn't just an event, it was a movement, fueled by passion, purpose and endless possibilities. Here's to the connections made, the minds inspired and the change yet to come. The journey has just begun!



TECHNOVATE

Technovate was a remarkable two-day event that went beyond the typical hackathon. With over 50 teams participating, it brought together innovators, designers, and developers for a weekend of creativity, collaboration, and coding to tackle real-world problems.



Participants worked tirelessly to develop impactful solutions, aided by professional mentors and fueled by lively discussions (and plenty of coffee). The event was a hub of innovation, with late-night brainstorming, dynamic teamwork, and a shared commitment to making a difference. Technovate was more than just a competition; it was a platform for realizing ideas and making meaningful connections. We hacked for a brighter, more innovative future!

INTERACT WEEK

Interact week was an event, filled with a week full of interactive activities with school kids and Interactors. Event consisted of Exciting animal races, self development activities and hilarious animal charades, etc. Brought laughter and excitement to young minds. The Club members successfully took part and fostered connections, built confidence, and created unforgettable memories with these bright young stars.

Together, we made a difference and spread joy, leaving a lasting impact on the children and our community.

This event showcased the power of teamwork and community service, leaving a lasting impact on all involved.



EDITED BY SREE NANDY

From Brazil to Mumbai:

A STORY OF GROWTH, GRATITUDE, AND TRANSFORMATION

First person experience sharing by a visiting RYE participant - Isabella from Brazil

COURTESY: DISTRICT AVENUE CHAIR FOR YOUTH SERVICES II (RYE) RTN. HIMA DALAL
CONTRIBUTED BY PANKAJ PHATARPHOD, AVENUE CHAIR FOR YOUTH SERVICES I AND DISTRICT INTERACT CHAIR



My name is Isabella, I'm 18 years old, and I'm from Brazil. I am currently participating in a long-term Rotary exchange program. I have been in Mumbai for four months now, and the only phrase that truly captures the essence of this city is "the city that never sleeps."

Here, everything happens all the time, every second. This intensity seems to reflect the country's essence—a blend of energy and tradition. Many people feel nervous about coming here, but I decided to take a chance. I arrived alone, with only average English skills. Today, four months later, I can understand a little Gujarati and Hindi, and my English has improved more than I could have imagined.

Living in India during this time has

changed me profoundly, shaping my attitudes and perspective. I've learned to be independent. One example of this is learning to navigate Mumbai's trains with the help of my host mother and sister. Now, I feel like a true Mumbaikar!

One of the most impactful aspects of living here is the genuine respect and care people show each other. It's heartwarming and beautiful—something I don't often see in other places. In many countries, the elderly are neglected and undervalued, but here they are treated with deep respect and love. Another quality that stood out to me is gratitude. People here express heartfelt thanks even for the smallest kindnesses, which is truly lovely and something I think the world needs more of. It's a practice I've seen across Asia and occasionally within families back home in Brazil.

These past four months have taught me to appreciate the little things in life even more, and they've helped me grow as a person.

One unforgettable experience was witnessing Paryushana, a

Jain festival unlike anything I've seen before. During this time, five Maharaj Sahibs stayed in my host family's home, and I had the opportunity to observe their way of life closely, hear their stories, and learn about their philosophies. Over those eight days, I realized that material possessions—be it a luxurious house, a fancy car, or the latest gadgets—ultimately mean nothing after we leave this world.

Through these interactions, I found myself reflecting deeply. What initially seemed strange and unfamiliar became something I now cherish and miss daily. The Maharaj Sahibs have the purest hearts I've ever encountered, and as I told them, one day, I aspire to be like them. Perhaps not in this life, but someday, I hope to follow their path.

This transformative experience was only possible because of my host mother, Shruti Dharamsi, the president of the Ghatkopar West Rotary Club. As a Jain herself, she provided me with this divine opportunity, one that I will carry in my heart forever.

Thank you so much, dear mother!


EDITED BY SREE NANDY

INNER WHEEL IMPACT


Inner Wheel's mission is to nurture impactful projects and deliver aid that transforms lives across the globe.

WRITTEN BY JYOTI KOTAK – DISTRICT EDITOR, INNER WHEEL DISTRICT 314



 **IWC Bombay Airport Tiara:** Distributed food kits to underprivileged transgender individuals at Prayas Ek Koshish, Amboli.




 **IWC Bombay Bandra:** Donated slides, swings, and sports equipment to Little Angels Special School for autistic children.




 **IWC Chembur Tiara:** Donated a generator to the National Association of the Blind in Khandala.



 **IWC Mumbai Nariman Point:** Donated 22 stainless steel three-seater benches to Baba Ambedkar Railway Hospital.



 **IWC Bombay Kandivli:** Provided toys, games, puzzles, books, and stationery to the pediatric ward for cancer patients at St. Jude's Hospital.

EDITED BY SREE NANDY

A Journey Through History: HERITAGE WALK AT KHOTACHIWADI

WRITTEN BY RTN K V PREMRAJ, TEAM SANSKRITI



ON the morning of December 8th, 38 Rotarians, led by Rtn. Kalpana Khira, embarked on a two-hour heritage walk through one of Mumbai's most enchanting yet overlooked corners — Khotachiwadi. Nestled in Girgaon, this picturesque neighbourhood stands as a silent witness to the city's evolving narrative, where history lingers in the air despite the relentless pace of modernity.

Khotachiwadi, a charming village established in the late 18th century by a Pathare Prabhu named Khot, was originally home to a close-knit community of East Indian families. Its colonial-era cottages, characterized by iconic wooden frames, expansive verandas, and external staircases, have stood the test of time, bearing witness to Mumbai's transformation. Today, only 28 of the original 65 houses remain, as the skyline of towering skyscrapers encroaches upon this slice of history. Each house, with its unique charm, tells a story of simpler times when the streets resounded with the echoes of a bygone era.

The East Indian community, a distinctive group within Mumbai's Christian population, traces its origins to Indigenous people converted to Christianity by

Portuguese missionaries during the 16th and 17th centuries. Over the years, they developed a unique identity, blending Indigenous customs with Christian traditions. The term "East Indian" emerged to distinguish them from other Christian groups, marking their cultural and religious heritage.

As the Rotarians wandered through this living museum, they were transported to an era where cultural traditions and a slower pace of life prevailed. The walk unveiled the hidden tales of Khotachiwadi's residents, whose lives were intricately intertwined with the rhythm of the neighbourhood — from the quaint architectural marvels to the strong bonds between neighbours. They discovered stories of community, festivals celebrated with fervor, and traditions lovingly passed down through generations.



However, the clamour of construction now threatens to drown out these whispers of history. The unique identity of Khotachiwadi, with its vibrant blend of Portuguese architecture and East Indian Christian culture, teeters on the brink of extinction. The old is steadily yielding to the new, and with it, the heritage of this beloved enclave risks fading into a distant memory.

Among those who participated in the walk from the District Sanskriti team were District Coordinator Jhankar Gadkari, and Directors Kamlesh Kharade, Kalpana Khira, Girish Waingankar, Smita Puranik, and K. V. Premraj. Of the 38 participants, 11 hailed from the Borivili club.

The heritage walk concluded with a delightful local breakfast — a final taste of a vanishing past. As the shadows of modernity loom larger, threatening to erase this historical gem, the walk served as a poignant reminder of the importance of preserving our cultural legacy.

EDITED BY SREE NANDY

SERVICE BEYOND BORDERS

INFORMATION COURTESY: RTN. PP. KIRAN PATEL, ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY NORTHWEST MALAD



Honouring Rt Urban Bossard by PP Kiran Patel and President Dr Mangla Joshi

SINCE 1972, Rotary has been home to countless acts of service, but the cross-border commitment of Swiss Rotarian Urban Bossard stands out as a shining example of Service Above Self. His unwavering dedication to the Uchat School in Maharashtra exemplifies the true spirit of Rotary.

In 2019, Rtn. Kamlesh Seth introduced the Rotary Club of Zug, Switzerland, to projects led by the Rotary Club of Bombay North West, including the Millennium Eye Hospital in Mumbai and the Uchat School in Wada Taluka. Deeply moved, Rtn. Urban visited Uchat to witness its challenges firsthand. He connected with students, teachers, and the local community,

igniting a journey of transformative support.

Returning to Switzerland, Rtn. Urban secured 10,000 Swiss francs from his Rotary Club for school infrastructure improvements. This marked the start of a lasting partnership. Over the years, his efforts extended through the involvement of the mayor of Baar, Walter Lipp, and his wife, Madeleine, a hospital matron, who rallied doctors and hospital staff for contributions.

Even during the pandemic, Rtn. Urban's commitment did not waver. In 2021 and 2022, he continued supporting Uchat remotely, and when travel resumed, he returned with Madeleine and their son Luca. They provided further assistance, including funds for a much-needed school bus.

In October 2024, Rtn. Urban visited Uchat for the fourth time, accompanied by Madeleine, Luca, their daughter-in-law Nadine Schwender, and Dr. Karin Stadlin, Past President of the Rotary Club of Zug. Over four days, they immersed themselves in school activities, engaging with students and witnessing the profound impact of their contributions.

The Rotary Club of Bombay North West honored the team at a special meeting, celebrating their enduring commitment. The unwavering efforts of Rtn. Urban and his family have transformed Uchat's educational landscape and



uplifted the community, making their story a powerful testament to Rotary's ability to unite hearts and hands across the world.

Let their journey inspire Rotarians to transcend borders and foster global goodwill. Together, we can continue building bridges and creating lasting change, embodying the true essence of Rotary.



EDITED BY MAHERA GOEL

A Miraculous Escape for Rotarians: Close Encounter with Tigers at Ranthambore

AS NARRATED BY RTN RAJIV PUNATER, ROTARY CLUB OF MUMBAI SOBO

WHAT started as a peaceful afternoon visit to the Trinetra Ganesh Temple at Ranthambore Fort turned into a heart-pounding brush with death for Rotarians Rajiv Punater and Mahera Goel on November 6, 2024. After an exciting early morning safari at Ranthambore National Park, where they spotted a tigress and a bear, they embarked on an afternoon exploration of the historic fort, unaware of the extraordinary ordeal ahead.

THE ENCOUNTER

Around 4:30 p.m., as they descended from the temple toward the Navlakha exit gate, a stray tiger appeared on the path, sending shockwaves through the crowd. Three women walking ahead screamed in terror, and one fell to the ground. Miraculously, the tiger bypassed them without harm. Moments later, the tiger turned its focus toward Rajiv and Mahera.

Reacting quickly, the duo jumped over a metal handrail into a small opening filled with dense bushes. To their horror, the tiger followed, ducking under the rail to confront them. Standing just inches away, it locked eyes with them for what felt like an eternity. As silent prayers filled the air, a stone thrown by another visitor distracted the tiger, prompting it to turn away. Mahera seized the moment to run



downhill. But as Rajiv stood up, a second tiger, previously unnoticed, struck him from behind. The tiger briefly pursued him, causing deep injuries, before returning to join the first tiger uphill. This fleeting opportunity allowed them to escape downhill and reach safety.

The ordeal lasted nearly 90 harrowing minutes as chaos unfolded, with approximately 700–800 tourists trapped in the area. Astonishingly, reports later revealed four tigers had been seen in the vicinity, creating a high-risk situation. Locals shared that despite prior reports of tiger activity near the Navlakha gate for three days, the Ranthambore Forest authorities took no precautionary action or communicated with the tourists.

This grave negligence has sparked an urgent call for improved safety measures. Rajiv and Mahera emphasised the critical need for proactive wildlife management and visitor protection at national parks. They have urged authorities to take



immediate action to prevent such incidents in the near future.

A MESSAGE FOR VISITORS

This experience has left an indelible mark, both physically and emotionally. Rajiv offers heartfelt advice for anyone visiting wildlife reserves:

- 】 Always stay inside your vehicle, even at sightseeing spots or monuments.
- 】 Avoid walking anywhere on foot, regardless of how safe it seems.

Rajiv expresses gratitude for this second chance at life: “We are blessed to have survived and will strive to live with greater purpose. We are grateful to both God and the tigers for sparing us.”

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District 3141,3142



Opportunity for Exhibitors to Elevate their Business



1st & 2nd March 2025
at Jasmin Hall 1,
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Timing : 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Special Exclusive Offer for Rotarians

Exhibition Stall Details

Total Stalls	65
Stall Size	3 x 3 mtr.
Cost for Prime Stall	₹ 1.5 Lakh + GST
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Visitors	2500 + HNI Visitors
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11 Stalls Already Booked... Hurry Up!	

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