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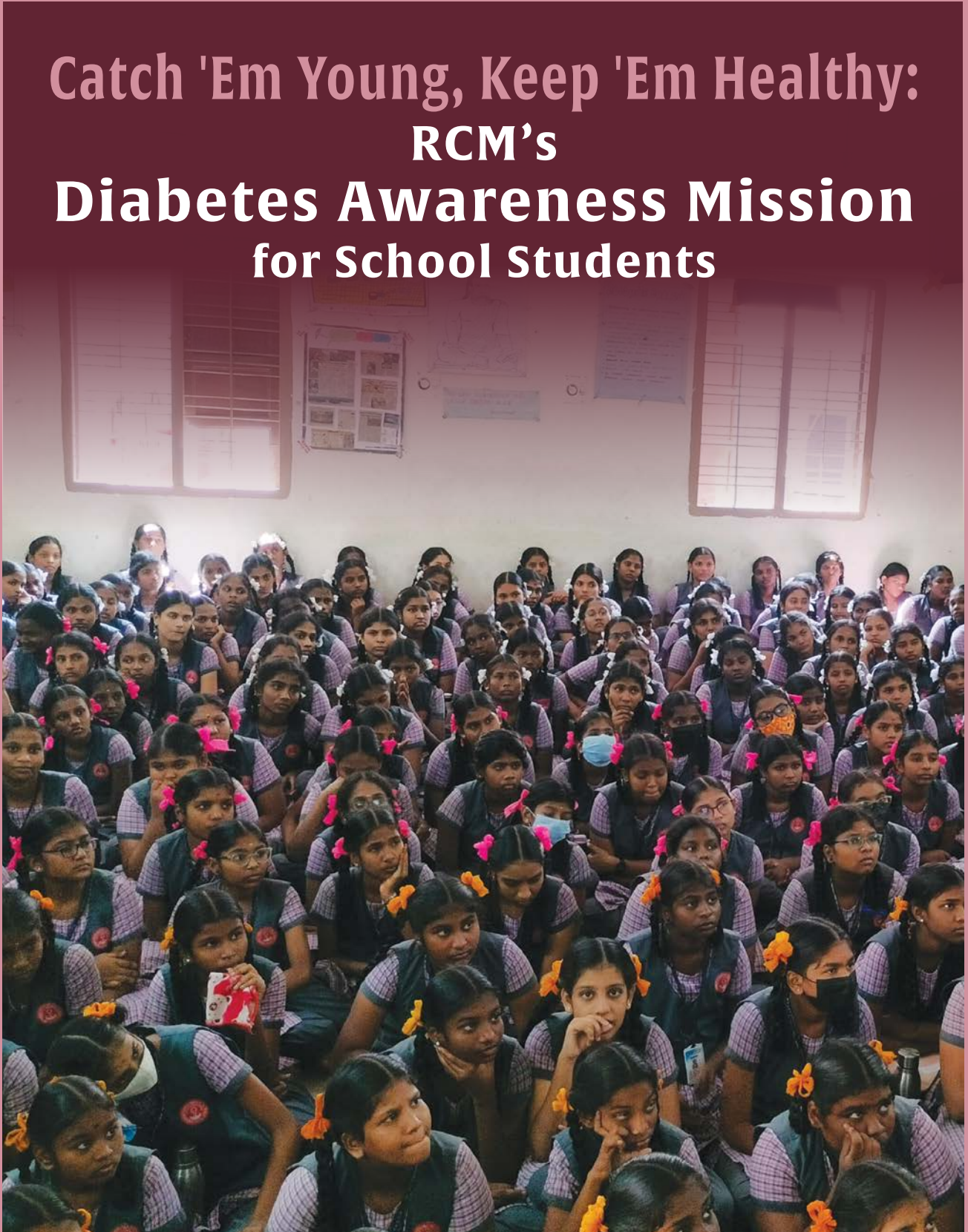
LIGHTHOUSE



BOND | BUILD | BRING CHEER

WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF MADRAS | ISSUE 32 | February 09, 2025

Catch 'Em Young, Keep 'Em Healthy: RCM's Diabetes Awareness Mission for School Students





Dear RCMers,

Spreading diabetes awareness among school students is crucial because it promotes healthy lifestyle habits at a young age - our cover story this week.



Rtn.Shivkumar Eashwaran
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Rtn.A.R.Raghunandan
Chairperson

Mr.Madhu Mathen
Co-Chairperson

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EDITED & PUBLISHED BY

Rtn. Shivkumar Eashwaran, Asst. Secretary

Rotary Club of Madras,

RAYALA TOWERS,

2nd Mezzanine Flr., 158, Anna Salai,

Chennai 600 002 Phone: +91 44 2859 1020

CONTACT THE EDITOR AT:

editor@rcmlighthouse.com

Bulletin Design:

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Visit RCM's official website

www.rotarymadras.in

CONTACT RCM SECRETARY AT:

office@rotarymadras.in

Rotary Club of Madras
Cordially invites you with your spouse to

RCM doodleblue
SPORTS SCHOLARSHIPS
31st WEEKLY MEETING

Tuesday, 11th February 2025 | 1.30 pm at Hyatt Regency, Chennai.

Chief Guest : Achanta Sharath Kamal
Indian professional table tennis player - Padma Shri Award in 2019 by the Government of India

Award Recipients:
Rithvik Sanjeevi S, S. Sankar Muthusamy, Aadya Variyath, V S Varshini, Siddhanth Gupta, Sathish Kumar

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Send in your articles, news and stories for consideration in the Lighthouse bulletin to: editor@rcmlighthouse.com Stay updated with our very own RCM magazine!

Rotary Club of Madras (RCM)
Minutes of the 30th Weekly Meeting held on 04-02-2025
 at Hyatt Regency, Teynampet, Chennai

Call to Order

The meeting commenced at 01.30 PM. Sergeant at Arms, Rtn. Jayant Hemdev collared President Rtn. Chella Krishna G. who then called the 30th weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of Madras to order and requested all members to rise for a silent invocation.

Tribute to Late Rtn. Shibu Isaac:

President Chella Krishna G. announced the sad news of Rtn. Shibu Isaac's passing and requested a moment of silence in his memory. Rtn. PP. A.S. Venkhat Ramani shared heartfelt words, recalling Rtn. Shibu Isaac's contributions to the club and his illustrious career in the army. He highlighted his deep commitment to cricket and his passion for Rotary, expressing condolences to his family.

Confirmation of Minutes:

The President sought confirmation for the 29th weekly meeting minutes, which was passed and adopted by the members, by way of acclamation.

Welcome Address

The President welcomed the speaker, Rtn. Mehul Uday Nanavati, commending his expertise in artificial intelligence. He also extended a warm welcome to visiting Rotarians, Probians and guests, including Mrs. Samyukta, a guest of our Rtn. Arjun Ananth.

Acknowledgment of Contributions:

Rtn. Sabina Narayan (International Services Director) generously donated \$10,000 (~INR 8.5 lakhs) to the Rotary Foundation.

Selaiyur Visit:

Over 55 Rotarians participated in a well-organized visit, thanks to Rtn. Sanjay Rao Chaganti and Rtn. Rajib Kumar Hota.

Melakottaiyur School Project:

A Rs.27 lakh school renovation project was fully funded by Data Patterns, facilitated by the Golf Committee and Rtn. Ganesh Ananthakrishnan. Special appreciation was given to Rtn. Dr. Anuradha Ganesan and Rtn. IPP. S. Ravi for their efforts.

Rtn. Mahinder Jain contributed INR 10.5 lakhs towards 25 desktop computers for a school run by the Rajshri Group, facilitated by Rtn. PDG. S. Krishnaswami.

Golf Tournament Report:

Rtn. Nikhil Raj provided a summary of the successful golf tournament, emphasizing the

participation of 120 golfers, multiple prizes and a well-organized prize distribution event. The tournament was supported by several sponsors, including title sponsor MIOT Hospitals (INR 30 lakhs), TI, Brigade, Apexon, Omega Healthcare and others. The Golf Committee was commended for its fundraising efforts, which contribute significantly to the club's projects.

District Conference – Sanghamitra:

IPP Rtn. Ravi Sundaresan presented an introduction to the upcoming District Conference. A theme video was played to set the stage for discussions on the conference's agenda and objectives. He further encouraged members to register for the conference, noting the involvement of fellow Rotarians in its organization.

Rtn. Rajesh Mani, Secretary Announcements

Rtn. Rajesh Mani expressed gratitude to all members for their participation in the Selaiyur meeting. He noted that, as mentioned by the President, over 55 Rotarians attended the meeting. He appreciated the members for their presence on a Sunday morning and for their keen interest in visiting the facility.

Birthdays and anniversaries of Rotarians and spouses were announced for the week.

Upcoming Meeting:

Date: Tuesday, February 11th, 2025, Time: Afternoon session, Venue: Hyatt Regency.

Agenda:

Doodle Blue Scholarships – Presented annually by Rtn. Hemant P. Chordia.

Guest Speaker:

The one and only Mr. Sharath Kamal – an exciting session awaits!

Rtn. Mehul Uday Nanavati then took a Masterclass on AI and its efficacy in all aspects of life. His talk was well appreciated by the Rotarians.

Closing Remarks:

President G. Chella Krishna thanked all attendees and contributors, recognizing the collective efforts that drive the club's initiatives. The meeting concluded on a note of gratitude and anticipation for upcoming projects and events.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned by President Chella Krishna G.



MEHUL-LADIN presents THE AI GENIE



Thanks to ChatGPT, even the layman today has experienced AI's capabilities in some form or the other. Whether it is Google search, Siri, Netflix recommendations, Banking chatbot or the Deepfake video you saw on your reels, you're already encountering AI in action every day.

But, as Rtn. Mehul Nanavati demonstrated in his guest lecture at the RCM weekly meeting, that is only the tip of the iceberg, or rather the first ripple of a tidal wave that is going to sweep us all into the new world of AI-led innovations.

To drive home his startling revelation that AI can increase one's productivity ten fold, Mehul picked up some of the assignments typically handled by RCM directors and set out to do a live demonstration of AI's capabilities.

An email from the RCM secretary to boost attendance? All you need is to type in the requirement, describe the objective and Voila! ChatGPT produces the most persuasive and compelling email in seconds! Would you like to add a dash of humour, slip in a couple of Rajinikant one-liners? No problem...Your wish is ChatGPT's command! No sooner

had Mehul typed in this requirement than a Rajini-ism laden email started rolling across the computer screen! Or, would you rather prefer a Trump-style language? Consider it done, says AI.

What, if the Director International Relations has to send out an email to RCM-ers to create awareness and interest in the Rotary International convention in Canada? Mehul proceeds to punch in the brief description of the requirement and out pops the most beautifully drafted email!

The next imaginary scenario: Bill Gates is visiting Chennai and RCM is

ChatGPT produces
the most persuasive
and compelling email
in seconds!
Would you like to
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slip in a couple of
Rajinikant one-liners?
No problem ...
Your wish is
ChatGPT's command!

required to ramp up its social media presence to catch Bill Gates' eye – one tweet per day programmed to ensure virality, is the next demand on the hapless RCM Secretary. Mehul types in a long prompt this time , adding a link to Bill Gates' profile, and before one could utter "Hey Siri", a range of tweet options carefully customized to appeal to Bill Gates' team is dished out. Tweet, Facebook Post, Insta Story – it's all a cakewalk for AI !

A new Logo for RCM's international Peace Day Celebration ? Alladin alias Mehul Nanavati starts typing out the command. His AI genie is up to the task. Before one can utter "Open sesame", a stunning logo unfolds on the screen !

Back to the imaginary Bill Gates scenario ! Apparently, the tweets have hit Bull's eye (or Bill's Eye) and his team has asked for a presentation within an hour. AI to the rescue again ! A superb 20 slide power point presentation emerges in minutes.

The AI-generated presentation is a big hit and Bill Gates sanctions One million US dollars for RCM projects ! What is more, Bill will be attending the RCM fellowship the next day ! The RCM president wants a celebratory anthem to be composed and set to tune, to welcome Bill Gates to the next day's weekly meeting !

In a pre-AI world, this would have made Rajesh Mani and Shanno Ravi tear their ample hair in despair. But why fret, when AI is there ?

Mehul types in the key elements for the welcome anthem for Bill Gates. Lo and Behold, a Rahman-worthy anthem starts belting out from the speakers !

The Aliens are not coming any time soon. But AI is here already. And it is going to take over and reshape our lives in unimaginable ways.

(Post Script :This report is not AI-generated)

- Madhu Mathen,
Co-Chair, Lighthouse Committee

Birthdays		(10th Feb to 16th Feb 2025)
Rtn. Ranjit Pendurthi		11/2
Rtn. PP. Vivek Harinarain		12/2
Rtn. Deepak Chander		15/2
Rtn. Sabina Narayan		15/2
Spouses' Birthdays		
Ann. Pratibha Kadel, Spouse of Rtn. Vijay Kumar Kadel		10/2
Ann. Dr. Aruna, Spouse of Rtn. Dr. V. Ramasubramanian		15/2
Wedding Anniversary		
Rtn. Vikram Jalan & Shailja Jalan		10/2
Rtn. Sanjay Gulvady & Priya		10/2
Rtn. E. Aswath Kumar Reddy & Y. Shahaja		10/2
Rtn. Mohit Bajaj & Nikita Bajaj		10/2
Rtn. Vivek A. Parachur & Sara B. Cherian		11/2
Rtn. Sathiam Ram & Deepa		11/2
Rtn. PP. Dr. N.V. Arulmozhi Varman & Uma Varman		12/2
Rtn. Anand Vurgese & Dr. Anila Mathan		13/2
Rtn. G.M. Udayanarayan & Saraswathi		14/2
Rtn. R.K. Jhaver & Kiran Jhaver		15/2
Rtn. Dr. Sharon Krishna Rau & G. Lakshminarayanan		16/2
Rtn. Ramakanth Akula & Niharika Akula		16/2
Rtn. Siddharth Ganeriwala & Harsha Sajnani Ganeriwala		16/2

RCM Calendar for February 2025 - PEACE AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
						FIRESIDE
HIGH COURT VISIT 2	3	Week - 30 4 Rtn Mehul Nanavati Unlocking generative AI	5	6	7	8
9	10	Week - 31 11 DOODLE BLUE SCHOLARSHIP	12	13	Full club Fellowship - Valentines 14	AI TRAINING 15
RCM Premier League Matches 16	17	Week - 32 18	8	20	21	22
Bhramputra River Cruise Bhramputra River Cruise Bhramputra River Cruise						
RCM Premier League Matches 23	24	Week - 33 25 VP Raman Awards & Launch of Annette Clubs FIRESIDE	Full club Fellowship 26	27	28	FIRESIDE

EVENTS PLANNED FOR THE MONTH

Health initiatives

1. Handover of equipment at ICH EGMORE
2. Handover / Inauguration of Mammogram at C Institute Thiruvanamalai
3. Handover of Ultrasound to RSRM
4. His & Her medical camp on 27th Feb
5. Cervical Cancer Vaccination camps
6. Diabetes Awareness sessions - 8 numbers
7. Dental Camp with GCC on an ongoing daily basis
8. Three new schools for Cervical Cancer Awareness programs

Community service

1. YWCA pond inaugural
2. Boys Town Pond Inaugural
3. Commencement of New Balwadi in Perambur



Suggest the most quirky, whacky or creative caption/blurb for this photo (Maximum 15 words). The best entries will be reproduced in the next week's edition of Lighthouse.

Mail your captions to editor@rcmlighthouse.com on or before 11th Feb.

Issue 32



Issue 31 : Best Captions

1. When Kollywood lineage collides with Silicon Valley brains, these long-lost friends prove that drama and data not only coexist, they steal the spotlight together!
- **Rtn. Hemant P. Chordia**
2. Now that's what I call a CORE! Yeh Dil Mannge More - **Rtn. PP. Vivek Harinarain**
3. Bro, I told you - this green juice is the secret to my wisdom... also my waistline!
- **Rtn. N.K. Bhatia**
4. Gaupo! Thalaivar y Periyappa!
La(la) Dhoti "Man"ia... Salud!
- **Ann. Vinolia Lobo**

No Objections!

Madras High Court Visit



As part of the New Learnings committee, under the Vocational services of the Rotary Club of Madras, event No.4 was the High Court heritage walk on February 2, 2025.

18 of us Rotarians, wives and daughters, attended this heritage tour of the 132-year-old Madras High Court, led by Senior Advocate N.L. Rajah.

The tour began at the museum and proceeded through the building, highlighting key locations like Court Hall number 1, the Bar Council's room, the former lighthouse and the dome overlooking the campus. Rajah's narrative brought the history of the building and the Indian legal system to life, covering architectural details, landmark judgments and important legal figures.

His insights on the differences between Eastern and Western approaches to uniformity and diversity, as illustrated by the court's design and traditions, were well appreciated. He also explained the



Rotarians during a visit to Madras High Court on February 2, 2025. The session was organized by Rtn. Deepak Chander and Rtn. E. Aswath Kumar Reddy.



historical significance of the area surrounding the High Court, considered the birthplace of modern India and the court's retention of the name "Madras."

The highlight of the walk was stopping at the Sheriff's gate and the long winding corridor, which was a sight to behold. A special thanks to our Rtn. Justice Dr. M. Jaichandren for organizing this through advocate N.L. Rajah and a special mention to our Rtn. Nalini Radhakrishnan, who has brought the High Court Museum to life which is also, from where the walk started. Overall, everyone felt a Sunday morning well spent with a must-see heritage building of Chennai, or rather, I say Madras.

- Rtn. Deepak Chander

(With inputs from Rtn. Nalini Radhakrishnan and Ann. Rushalini Rajkumar)



Heartiest congratulations to Rtn. Nalli Kuppuswami Chetti on being conferred the Padma Bhushan!

EMPOWERING STUDENTS AGAINST DIABETES



On January 23, 2025, The Rotary Club of Madras, in collaboration with the Indian Council for Child Welfare, Tamil Nadu (ICCW-TN) and Moongibai Goenka Girls' Higher Secondary School, organized a diabetes awareness program for students.

The objective was to empower students with knowledge to promote diabetes prevention and diabetes management.

Rtn. Abdul Kareem Sait was the chief guest. A total of 195 students from grades 7 to 9 attended the program. Mr. Vasudevan conducted an interactive session with the students, and an awareness poster was handed over to the management.

The program covered topics like, types, symptoms, vulnerable groups, causes, treatment, associated problems, healthy habits and lifestyle guidelines, including the prevalence of diabetes in India.

In Loving MEMORY OF



Rtn. Shibu Isaac

February 2, 1965 – February 1, 2025



Fireside hosted by Rtn. Karthik Srinivasan and Hema on Fri, Jan 3, 2025.
Total Attendees: 35



Fireside hosted by Rtn. PP. Rajendran Sabanayagam & Renuka on Fri, Jan 17, 2025.
Total Attendees: 53



Fireside hosted by Rtn. PP. Jayshree Sridhar & Dr K. Sridhar on Fri, Jan 10, 2025.
Total Attendees: 55

Know Your Owners

Rtn. Bharat Shivkumar



How excited are you for this year's RCMPL fellowship event?
Very excited

Which team do you consider to be your toughest competition?

We will beat all the teams and retain our trophy.

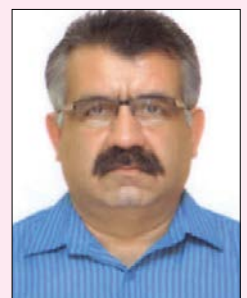
I told my team last year and am telling my team this year too "winning is not everything... it is the only thing"

Were there any specific players you were hoping to acquire this season and did you succeed in getting them?

Our marquee player Gaurav and Manager Anand handled this. I simply went along with their decision making.

How confident are you about your team's chances in winning?
100%. We will win again and retain the trophy.

Rtn. R. Ashok Thakkar



How excited are you for this year's RCMPL fellowship event?

It is a good initiative, but more RCMers must be involved, as the main aim is to raise money for charity. Even donations of 10,000 must be encourage and platinum owner, gold owner and silver owner concept can be brought in the games. Must be an event for fellowship like the full club fellowships with beer and biryani concept.

Which team do you consider to be your toughest competition?
I am not aware of the competition, I have told the team play to enjoy and build friendships, not to win or defeat your opponent, as winning is not the main aim of this tournament.

Were there any specific players you were hoping to acquire this season and did you succeed in getting them?

I don't even know the players and whether they bowl, bat or field.

How confident are you about your team's chances in winning?
I am confident that our team will play well and play with sportsmanship, and if a player falls while running the guy with the ball, we will first help the fallen player rather than think of running him out.

Happy to Announce, We Have Officially Received the Certification from The Apparel Council



Dear RCMers,

We are delighted to share the good news – a good example of teamwork within RCM!

Rtn. N.K. Bhatia suggested that, we explore getting our tailoring and embroidery training programs certified by the Apparel Council, and he connected us to them.

Taking this vision forward, Rtn. Rajib Kumar Hota, Chairperson, with the active support of Deepthi Prasanna (spouse of Prasanna Rajagopalan), has worked tirelessly over the past couple of months to meet all the requirements.

We are happy to announce that we have officially received the certification from the Apparel Council, a division of Skill India, a Government of India initiative.

Rtn. Rajib Kumar Hota got them to waive the INR 50,000 registration fee too.

What This Means for Us?

Improved Curriculum: Our program will now align with recognized industry standards.

Valuable Certification: Participants will receive certificates from the Apparel Council, which will make them more recognized and sought-after in the industry.

An important milestone towards more value-added services.

- Team Vocational Services



Republic Day Celebration at Boys Town

Cervical Cancer Vaccination Drive



of future generations. With each vaccination camp, the club inches closer to its vision of a cervical cancer-free future.

11th Vaccination Camp

On January 20th, 2025, the Rotary Club of Madras organized its 11th cervical cancer vaccination camp for the students of Shrine Vailankanni Senior Secondary School, T Nagar, in collaboration with Adyar Cancer Institute W.I.A. The camp aimed to educate and empower young girls against cervical cancer by administering the HPVax.

This vaccination drive marked a significant milestone, with 27 beneficiaries (girl children and women) completing their HPVax vaccination. The Rotary Club of Madras reaffirms its commitment to cancer prevention and education, recognizing the potential for this initiative to positively impact the health and well-being of future generations.

RCM looks forward to continuing this vital initiative and expanding its reach, furthering its mission to prevent cervical cancer.



10th Vaccination Camp

The Rotary Club of Madras successfully conducted its 10th cervical cancer vaccination camp on January 11, 2025, for the school children of Sir Sivaswami Kalalaya Group of Schools, Mylapore, Chennai, in partnership with Adyar Cancer Institute W.I.A. The camp aimed to educate and empower young girls against cervical cancer by administering the HPVax vaccine. A total of 171 students received their first dose of the HPVax vaccination, marking a significant milestone in the club's efforts to prevent cervical cancer.

The camp's success was largely due to the collaborative efforts of the Rotary Club of Madras, Adyar Cancer Institute W.I.A and the school administration. Awareness programs were conducted for school teachers and parents, emphasizing the importance of vaccination and early prevention. This initiative demonstrated the effectiveness of partnerships in promoting cancer prevention and education.

The Rotary Club of Madras remains committed to cancer prevention. This initiative has the potential to make a significant impact on the health and well-being

Shalom'25

An Evening to Remember



On February 2, the SDNB Vaishnav College auditorium buzzed with excitement as Shalom'25, a fundraising cultural extravaganza proudly presented by the Rotaract Club of Loyola, took center stage. Under the dynamic leadership of Rtr. Yogeshwaran SJ, Secretary of the host club and Chairperson of the event, and Rtr. Harish G, Event Secretary, Shalom'25 proved to be an unforgettable celebration.

The event aimed to support two noble causes: providing start-up support to transgender communities and conducting a mega food donation drive at a local orphanage. This event was made possible through the collaborative efforts of co-host clubs, including Rotaract Clubs of AVIT, ACTech, New College, SDNB Vaishnav College, Easwari Engineering College, and Women's Christian College.

Shalom'25 transcended beyond an ordinary event, evolving into a vibrant celebration of unity, love and joy. The event featured a diverse array of talented performers, each demonstrating exceptional skill in their respective competitions. The auditorium pulsed with electric energy as the crowd's enthusiastic cheers and applause filled the air throughout the evening.

As a fundraising cultural event, Shalom'25 not only entertained but also contributed to making a positive impact in the community. We are deeply grateful to our sponsors and supporters who made this event possible.



Special thanks to Rtn. Shivkumar Eashwaran for generously sponsoring this event. We also extend our heartfelt appreciation to Rtn. Balaji Chinni and Rtr. Sasi Kumar for their invaluable support. Additionally, we thank Rtn. Nimish C. Tolia for kindly providing the venue for this event.

Shalom'25 will forever be etched in memory as an unforgettable evening of joy, love, and celebration for a noble cause.

Rtn. V.S. Narasimhan

A Senior Rotarian

Narsi sir (as he is fondly called) has been an RCMer for the last 36 years. He has served RCM as Treasurer for Club funds and RCMCT. He was also a trustee for RCMCT. He is currently a Trustee in J.B. Kamdar Charitable Trust.

He has two sons working in the USA in senior positions in large corporations and four grandchildren.

Over the course of his career, he has held senior positions in various MNCs in India, Dubai, the UK and Singapore. He has been a visiting faculty member in Management Institutions of repute and has travelled the World.

And he continues to be a player in the corporate world. He is an ace in the pack for RCM. Helping to raise substantial CSR funds for various projects by working on his connections.

Year 2023/24, he was instrumental in securing Redington India's CSR support of a whopping 1.5 crore, an astonishing amount from a single donor. The President and the Board had to engage in a flurry of activity to deploy the funds into the right projects before the deadline for utilization, which they did with commitment and zeal. So much so, Redington has now committed another tranche of Rs 1.6 crores for the year 2024/25, bringing the total to 3.1 crores over two years. More importantly, this will be a long-standing relationship between Redington and RCM.

All this is due to the tireless efforts of Narsi Sir and his dedication and perseverance in building this relationship. No amount of praise is quite adequate for the untiring work he has put in to get this through.

We all know how difficult it is to convince corporates to part with their CSR allocations. This



achievement is also a testimony to RCM's track record in delivering projects on time and maintaining quality compliance. We must also congratulate Rtn. IPP. S. Ravi, Rtn. President G. Chella Krishna and the Board for the timely and quality execution of the projects.

Rtn. Ganesh Ananthkrishnan, Director (CSR) and PE for our 98th year, also deserves praise for assisting in the process with the donor.

Narsi sir is now on a roll. He has roped in another Donor, Delphi TVS Technologies, for an additional Rs 25 lakhs, with a promise for more donations this year. Furthermore, he has set his sights on two more corporates, which he hopes to close this year.

His ability to rope in potential donors, pitch RCMs credentials and convince the corporate board is quite phenomenal. I am certain that he will not only bring in more and more CSR donations but also help enhance our Club's reputation with corporations as a dependable CSR partner for project executions. That, in itself, is invaluable.

Kudos and a heartfelt thanks to you Narsi sir, from the RCM Board and RCM Members for your continuing assistance to RCM in making a tangible difference in the community. May you be blessed with good health and a long life, and continue your invaluable work for society.

We are indeed grateful and RCM is honoured and fortunate to have you as a long-serving member of our Rotary Family.

Understandably, our readers may have several questions on the modus operandi of pursuing CSR donations from corporates. Such as,

1. Power of building and using corporate connections for a good cause.
2. Power of asking.
3. Our strength in Project implementation and excellent CSR Team.
4. What homework is needed?
5. What kind of perseverance and dedication are required, etc?

At the request of our President, Rtn. V.S. Narasimhan will be speaking at our Club on Tuesday, March 25, 2025, on CSR. In the course of his talk, he will be answering all these questions and many more.

Your active participation is requested.

- Rtn. A.R. Raghunandan
Chairperson Lighthouse
Committee

Interact Club Report

Sri Sankara Vidyashramam Mat. Hr. Sec. School

COLOURS OF FRIENDSHIP



On 28th January 2025, as part of our ongoing Street Scape Project, nine Interactors and two teachers took a meaningful step forward by extending the initiative to St. Louis School for the Hearing Impaired. This collaboration was more than just an artistic endeavour; it was a bridge of friendship and inclusivity.

The walls of St. Louis School came alive with vibrant colours and creative expressions as students from both schools worked together, transforming the space into a visual delight. With brushes in hand and hearts full of enthusiasm, they painted murals that depicted themes of unity, resilience, and communication beyond words.

This initiative not only beautified the school walls but also left an indelible mark on the hearts of everyone involved. It



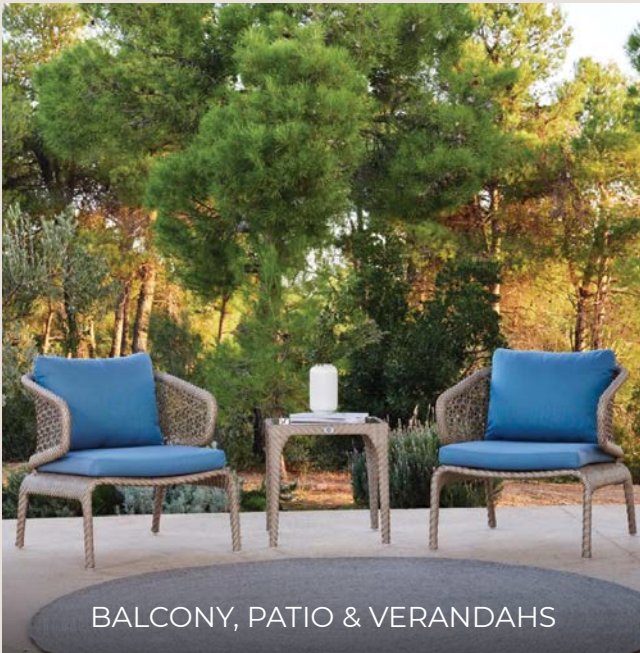
was a true testament to the fact that art transcends barriers and friendship knows no bounds.

A special thanks to the Rotary Club of Madras, whose support made this initiative possible. Their encouragement and contribution ensured that this project went beyond art—it became a platform for inclusivity and meaningful connections.

- Team Youth Service



CURATING PERFECT
OUTDOOR MOMENTS
SINCE 2009



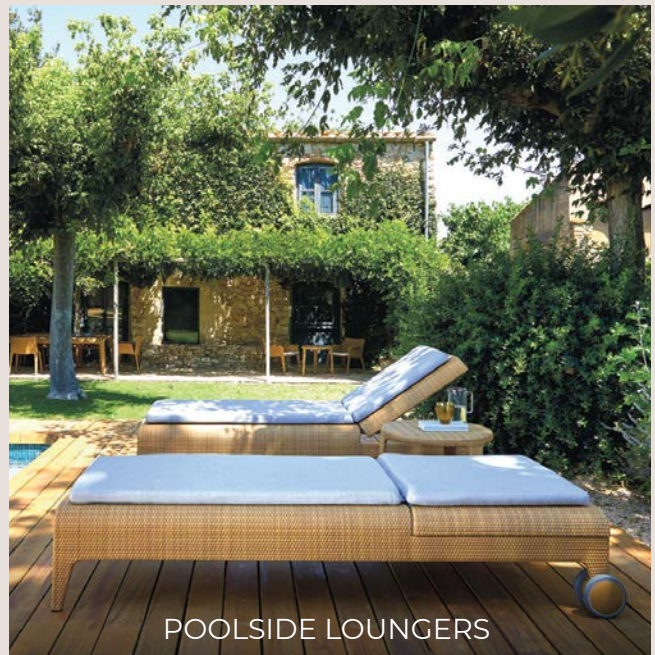
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