

# The Lighthouse

Rotary  
Club of Madras



WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF MADRAS

**ISSUE 05**  
**August 03**  
**2025**



SERVICE ABOVE SELF

## BIRTHDAYS



Rtn Gooch Kumar A	29 <sup>th</sup> July
Rtn Krishnamurthy Vijayan	29 <sup>th</sup> July
Rtn Sankara Narayanan A	29 <sup>th</sup> July
Rtn Sathiararam Ram	29 <sup>th</sup> July
Rtn Dr Supriya Dabir Gautam	1 <sup>st</sup> August
Rtn Ashish Ahuja	1 <sup>st</sup> August
Rtn Suman Voora	1 <sup>st</sup> August
PP Rtn Gunashekar S	3 <sup>rd</sup> August
PP Rtn Ravi S	3 <sup>rd</sup> August
Rtn Prashanth S Kharche	4 <sup>th</sup> August
Dimple, Spouse of Rtn Jayant Hemdev	30 <sup>th</sup> July
Sangeetha Rajan, Spouse of Rtn Rajendra Mudaliar	31 <sup>st</sup> July
Meenakshi, Spouse of Rtn Ravee Malhotra	4 <sup>th</sup> August

## ANNIVERSARY



Rtn Ashok Banerjee & Sreejata	29 <sup>th</sup> July
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**YATRATECHS**





## Rotary Club of Madras

### 6<sup>th</sup> Weekly Meeting



Speaker:

**Dr. Sathya Sriram**

An independent advisor and educator. Her work blends deep science with practical tools for people to thrive.

Topic:

**BE HEALTHY  
BE HAPPY**

**Tuesday, 5th August 2025 | 1.30 pm**  
**Lunch : 12:30 - 1:30 pm at Hyatt Regency, Chennai.**

**Spouses are invited for this meeting**

**Rtn. Nikhil Raj**  
President

**Rtn. Rajesh Mani**  
Director - Club Service

**Rtn. Prasanna Rajagopalan**  
Honorary Secretary

**Rtn. Mohit Bajaj**  
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# Rotary Club of Madras (RCM)

## Minutes of the 5th Weekly Meeting, held on Tuesday, 29 July 2025

1.30 pm, Hyatt Regency, Teynampet, Chennai

The 5th weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of Madras commenced promptly at 130 pm on July 29th, 2025, at the Hotel Hyatt Regency, Teynampet, Chennai, called to order by the esteemed President Nikhil Raj.

### Welcome and Introduction of Distinguished Guests

President Nikhil Raj extended a gracious welcome to the highly anticipated guest speakers, Mr. Somdev Devvarman and Mr. Prajnesh Gunneswaran, both celebrated ATP tennis players, personally escorting them to the dais.

### Upholding Rotary Values: The Four-Way Test

Rtn Roshan Poncha led the recitation of the Four-Way Test, enriching the moment with a deeply personal and heartfelt anecdote from her childhood, beautifully illustrating the profound importance of honesty and truthfulness, thereby reinforcing Rotary's fundamental values.

### Confirmation of Previous Minutes and Welcome of Guests

The minutes of the fourth weekly meeting were confirmed without dissent, affirming the continuity of club proceedings. A warm welcome was extended to Probians Dr. P. Somasundaram and Mr. S. Somasundaram from the Probus Club, as well as to Rtn SP Prasad, Past President of RC Bombay Kandivali.

### Special Recognition and Generous Contribution

A moment of special recognition was dedicated to Rtn Dr. T. S. Chandrasekhar, who was lauded for receiving the prestigious SGEI Pride of India Award. In a testament to his generosity, Dr. Chandrasekhar contributed a sunshine donation of Rs.10,000.

### Key Announcements

**Club Fellowship:** Rtn Bikram Shivkumar enthusiastically announced the inaugural of Full Club fellowship of the year, scheduled for 10 August 2025, from 12 noon to 4 pm at Secret Stories, the exciting theme for the event being "Back to School."

**Youth Services Update:** Rtn Suman Voora provided a comprehensive update on Youth Services, reporting the successful completion of four Rotaract installations at AVIT, RC Chennai, RC Madras, and SDNB Vaishnav. Upcoming installations were planned for Jeppiar College on 30 July and New College on 6 August 2025 respectively.

**Medical Camp:** Members were encouraged to participate in the upcoming monthly medical camps, which would be held at His and Her clinic in Pondy Bazaar on Thursday, 3 pm to 6 pm.

**Secretary's Announcements:** Hon Sec Rtn Prasanna Rajagopalan, delivered the weekly announcements, including birthdays, spouse birthdays, and anniversaries. A sunshine collection totaling Rs. 5,000.00 was received from Rtn Jayant Hemdev.

**Upcoming Meeting:** The next meeting was scheduled for 5 August 2025 and would feature Dr. Satya Sriram speaking on the topic "Be Healthy, Be Happy."

**Main Segment:** An Inspiring Talk by Tennis Legends. The highlight of the meeting was a captivating talk by Mr. Somdev Devvarman and Mr. Prajnesh Gunneswaran. Introduced by Rtn Vijay Balaji, who eloquently highlighted their illustrious tennis careers, remarkable achievements, and significant contributions to Indian sports and tennis development in Chennai, they shared compelling experiences from their time on the court, rigorous training regimens, and inspiring personal journeys.

### Vote of Thanks and Adjournment

Rtn Himanshu Budhia delivered a heartfelt Vote of Thanks, expressing gratitude to all present. As a token of the club's profound appreciation, the distinguished guests were presented with the commemorative book "Timeless Legacy." It was noted that topics such as music and golf were earmarked for future engaging interactions. The President then formally adjourned the meeting.

## An Evening of Aces and Anecdotes:

### A Federer Cousin's Court-Side Commentary on Som & Praj's Power-Packed Chat By M. Federer (Roger's lesser-known, pretty & witty cousin)

As someone who once graced the hallowed lawn of Wimbledon—not Centre Court, mind you, but the gift shop near Gate 4, I've always felt a deep kinship with tennis greats. So, when I heard that two of India's finest racketeers - Somdev and Prajnesh were stepping into the spotlight not to serve aces but serve stories, I cleared my diary faster than Novak Djokovic clears match points.

And what an afternoon that was!

Picture this: A room brimming with tennis fans, laughter ricocheting like a forehand down the line, and in the middle of it all, two athletes-turned-sages casually unearthing the unfiltered, uncut drama of their careers. Think less "match highlights" and more "behind-the-scenes Netflix docuseries, but better."



### Somdev "The Philosopher" Devvarman

Som opened the session with the kind of poise you expect from a man who's played Andy Murray and a concert for his college mates (the guitar was involved, but that's a tale for another issue). He began by declaring that his and Prajnesh's careers didn't overlap much. "In Chennai," he said, "I was 16, he was 12. And at that age, you don't hit together. You steal each other's Gatorade." From there, he plunged into a storybook-style recounting of Prajnesh's comeback from

injury; four years of rehab, zero ranking, and "more problems than a math book." (Roger, if you're reading this, we've got a new line for your next press conference.) Som wove his words like a seasoned storyteller, lacing praise with punchlines. "He really doesn't like German food," he quipped, narrating Praj's time in Europe. "Which is probably why he kept winning. He was running away from schnitzel."

## Prajnesh “The Warrior Monk” Gunneswaran

Now if Som was the philosopher, Praj was the monk who traded his robe for a Yonex. Calm, modest, and sneakily hilarious, he shared what it was like to be unranked, injured, and undeterred. He confessed, “My body wasn’t allowing me to do what my mind wanted. So, I changed trainers, changed programs, and told myself that if it hurts, I’ll go till I can’t walk.”

Spoiler alert: He walked. Then, ran. Then, flew past the Futures, demolished the Challenger circuit, and found himself in the top 100 faster than you can say “Hawkeye Challenge.”

And just when we thought it couldn’t get more cinematic—the Asian Games bronze match story dropped like a Federer backhand slice.

Cramps. Collapse. The umpire screaming. Rain. Rolling under a chair because he couldn’t walk.

A real-time Bollywood screenplay, complete with divine intervention and a last-minute resurrection. Even my aunt Renuka Federer (who thinks tennis is soup) sat up during this bit.



## Facing the Gods: From Court 2 to Centre Stage



Then came the ATP Grand Slam tales. “I played Roger at No.1, Rafa at No.1, Novak at No.1. Andy at No.2.” Praj said. “Did you beat them?” someone asked. “No. But I played them,” he deadpanned. That, my friends, is peak athlete humour. You can’t teach that. He also reflected on how awe-inspiring it was to stand across from the greats—not in posters, but real life. “Medvedev was eye-opening,” he said. “I realized just how much higher the level gets.” Which is funny, because most members in the audience were realizing how rare humility like his, gets.

## Flashbacks, Friendships, and Federer

Som even reminisced about the 2016 Chennai pre-season camp, where four Indian talents (Som, Praj, Sumit Nagal, and Dakshin) trained in anonymity and sweat. “Eight years later,” Som said, “one is an NCAA champ, two broke the top 100, and one’s me—writing LinkedIn articles.”

Laughter erupted and applause echoed as

these two homegrown legends continued to serve life lessons disguised as tennis banter.

They spoke about courts, cramps, comebacks, and courage. But beneath the surface, what all members really witnessed was a rare double act; two warriors, bonded by bruises and belief, giving everyone front-row seats to their inner journeys.



## M. Federer's Final Thoughts

As the lights dimmed and the members left with phones full of videos and hearts full of admiration, I took a quiet moment to reflect. It's easy to admire tennis players when they lift trophies. But what Som and Praj shared wasn't about trophies. It was about the dark rooms of doubt, the pain no cameras catch, and the

choice to keep fighting anyway. Roger, you've won 20 Slams. But yesterday, your cousin witnessed two champions who've mastered something even tougher: resilience without spotlight. And that, my friend, is the real Grand Slam.

**Until next time, with love from the Federer Family Tree (side branch)  
M. Federer, Imaginary Tennis Historian | G.O.A.T. in Spirit**



## A Tribute to Dr. M. Natarajan – Our Beloved Periappa

In the journey of life, few individuals leave an imprint so profound that generations echo with gratitude. Dr. M. Natarajan, affectionately known as MN and later—as he insisted—our “Periappa,” was one such soul.

It was in 1991 that Periappa proposed my candidature to the esteemed Rotary Club of Madras, a gesture that quietly but powerfully shaped the course of my life. Having just arrived from Bombay with no social base in Madras (now Chennai), Rotary became a sanctuary of fellowship and purpose. Periappa opened that door—and as they say, the rest is history.

He was more than a guide, he was family. At our meetings, I addressed him as “Dr. MN,” only to be promptly corrected: “First, I am your Periappa. Call me Periappy.” His warmth, wit, and insistence on closeness were ever-present. Even at 95, he stunned us with his vigor. During our last visit, Paddhu and I witnessed him navigate his home with ease—recalling Club

Rotary didn't just transform my life. It reached into the lives of my family. I recall my son, who was just seven years old then, being asked what he wished to be when he grew up. Without a moment's hesitation, he declared, “I want to be a Rotarian.” That is the depth of the impact Periappa had on all of us.

events with clarity, joking with ease, and even turning off the lights and fans before descending in his stair elevator without any help. That moment wasn't just memorable; it was emblematic of the man he was, dignified, independent, and forever thoughtful. The depth of the impact Periappa had on all of us.

Today, my family and I are deeply proud to be part of RCM. The love, friendships, and opportunities we've received—including the honor of serving as President, stem from one noble introduction. All thanks to Periappa.

His legacy isn't just in the accolades or the medicine he practiced. It lives in the lives he

touched, the connections he fostered, and the spirit of service he inspired. We are truly fortunate to have been commended to RCM by Periappa.

May his noble soul rest in eternal peace and may his memory continue to guide us as Rotarians and as human beings.



**PDG (Late) Dr. M. Natarajan  
from my lens  
PP Rtn Gunashekar S**



In 1968, the seeds of Rotaract were planted at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, marking the birth of a new Rotary movement tailored for college students and young professionals.

What began as a youth engagement program soon blossomed into a global force for service and leadership. Over the decades, Rotaract empowered young minds to think beyond borders, serve with purpose, and lead with integrity.

In 2019, recognizing their growing impact, Rotary International elevated Rotaract to a distinct membership category — affirming that leadership is not bound by age, only by intent.

#HistoryOfRotary #RotaractLegacy #YouthInAction #RotaryTimeline  
#RotaractMovement #LeadTheChange #RotaryGenerations

## A Delightful Fireside by Rtn Nalini & Radhakrishnan Iyer Melody, Music & Celebration

Beneath a cloudy night sky, tall coconut and mango trees swayed to the gentle breeze. The Rotary Club of Madras witnessed a beautiful garden come to life. Yes, this was the second Fireside of the new Rotary year. Each of us was greeted by the lovely Rtn Nalini and the gracious Radha, and led to a garden dotted with elegant tables, ambient lighting and live music by none other than Nabrun Ghosh.



The night was vibrant, conversations flowed, great food, curated drinks and wonderful music set the tone for the evening's celebration. Meaningful conversations created new bonds while nostalgic songs filled the air. The abundant warmth and ease even led to impromptu dancing.

Inside their beautiful home, a wonderful dinner awaited us. Rotarians and their spouses continued their animated conversations all through dinner, discovering old connections while making new friendships. The evening was perfect to the last detail, thanks to our delightful host Rtn Nalini. As a Green Rotarian, this was my first Fireside, one that welcomed me with warmth, genuineness and fellowship, the true spirit of RCM.

**-Rtn Sheetal Bhat  
26 July 2025**



Aparajitha Vishwanath

## FRESH FUEL

1. Think of a significant lesson you've learned in life that didn't come from a classroom, a mentor, or even a book. It might have come from a surprising person, an unexpected event, or even a moment of quiet reflection. What was that lesson, and how did it fundamentally change your perspective on something important? Fortunately, three people taught me the most important lessons of my life — and none of them were teachers in the traditional sense. Abishek showed me that true kindness is priceless and seldom goes unnoticed. Udayarkar, with quiet wisdom, taught me that patience can stretch the horizon itself. And Ranjeet, tying it all together, reminded me to aim for the stars — always. Together, they reshaped how I understand ambition: not as a ruthless chase, but as a journey of kindness, endurance, and boundless vision. That lesson continues to guide how I live, lead, and dream.

2. Forget the typical "why Rotary." What's the story behind your decision to join the Rotary Club of Madras? Was it a lightbulb moment, a nudge from a friend, or a deep-seated desire to make a specific impact?

Like many people, I've watched my definition of success evolve over time. At one point, I

realized that beyond building a career, I was searching for meaning — something larger than myself. That's when Rotary Club of Madras came into focus. It offered a rare blend: the chance to engage with exceptional minds across diverse fields, and to do so with the shared purpose of service. It felt like the right place to anchor my values and expand my world.

3. Every Rotarian has that "aha!" moment, that one experience that truly shifted their perspective on what Rotary is capable of. Since becoming a part of RCM, what's been that most surprising, challenging, or deeply moving experience that's redefined Rotary for you?

Walking into a room full of strangers always brings a bit of uncertainty. That's exactly how I felt when I first walked into a

Rotary meeting — unsure of what to expect. But what surprised me most was the immediate warmth and acceptance I felt. It wasn't just polite smiles — it was genuine. In just a few months, that feeling of being instantly welcomed, no matter the room or event, has been the most moving part of my Rotary experience. It redefined what community can feel like.



## JULY 2025 DASHBOARD

Months	Nos	Event
No of special meetings	2	Installation and Charter
No of speaker meeting	3	Karthik Vellayan Subbiah, Dr Arul & Dr Chandrasekhar, Somdev and Prajnesh
Firesides	2	
Special events	1	Kaveri movie Homes for Homeless 3 Irumbedu, Home for Homeless Beerakuppam,
No of projects launched	3	Homes for Homeless Perathur
No of projects inaugurated	3	Presidency School, RSRM Hospital, ACS Hospital
No of initiatives launched	4	RKM School, BVSN, Mental awareness, Meals for the aged,
No of Interact installations	22	Various schools
No of Rotaract instalalltions	5	AVIT, Chennai, Madras, SDNB,
No of medical camps	2	Rotary Nagar, His & Her place Pondy Bazaar

## 121 Smiles and Counting: RCM's Prescription for a Better Tomorrow



In a heartwarming display of service and compassion, the Rotary Club of Madras conducted a free health camp for the children of Rotary Nagar on 26 July 2025, reaffirming its steadfast commitment to child welfare and community well-being.

The camp saw enthusiastic participation from 121 children and their families, who benefited from the care and counsel of seasoned medical professionals. Experts from three premier institutions graciously volunteered their time and expertise, focusing on the following areas:

- **Voluntary Health Services – Eye screening and care**
- **Yash Dental – Comprehensive dental check-ups**
- **Kanchi Kamakoti Child Trust Hospital – General health examinations**



This initiative stood as a powerful reminder that access to healthcare is not a privilege, but a fundamental right.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to the Rotary Nagar team, especially Dr. Sangeetha from the health team, Dr. Anisha Ashok, and all the dedicated members of the Rotary Nagar Committee whose efforts ensured the smooth execution of the event. Their collective contribution made a lasting impact on the lives of these young beneficiaries.

Together, we continue to build healthier, happier communities—one child at a time.

**- Rtn Dr Sharon Krishna Rau  
Director, Vocational Services**

## From Our Shores to Singapore: A Timeless Legacy of Friendship



In a magnificent display of international fellowship and a true embodiment of "Service Above Self," our club's very own Rtn Akur Raman recently made a momentous visit to the Rotary Club of Singapore. This wasn't just a simple meeting, it was a powerful exchange of ideas, culture, and a shared vision for a better world. During the visit, Rtn Akur had the distinct honor of meeting esteemed members of the Rotary Club of Singapore, reinforcing the bonds of Rotary across continents. The highlight of the evening was a symbolic flag exchange, a tradition that signifies unity and mutual respect between our clubs. This treasured flag will soon be presented to our President Rtn Nikhil Raj at the next meeting, serving as a powerful reminder of this new, vibrant partnership. In a gesture of goodwill and a testament to our club's commitment to literacy and legacy, Rtn Akur proudly handed over our book, "Timeless Legacy," to the Singaporean club's

**- Rtn Akur Raman Raghunandan**

President. This book represents our history, our values, and the spirit of service that defines us. Perhaps most importantly, Rtn Akur has successfully established a crucial connection with the current officer in charge of The Rotary Foundation (TRF) in Singapore. This strategic new relationship opens the door to exciting possibilities for joint projects and

ambitious Global Grants. The groundwork has been laid for our club to embark on larger, more impactful humanitarian projects, transforming our local efforts into a global force for good. lives of these young beneficiaries.

Together, we continue to build healthier, happier communities—one child at a time.

## Unleashing Tomorrow's Trailblazers: RCM's Youth Powerhouse Takes the Helm



### Chintadripet Kalyanam Higher Secondary School for Girls

Our President, Rtn Nikhil Raj presided over and formally inaugurated the service projects at Chintadripet Kalyanam Higher Secondary School for Girls. Several RCM members have been generous contributors over the years. The students were joyful at receiving scholarships and books. Rtn Dr. Sangeetha Viswanathan also participated in the event, promoting awareness on vaccination among the children.



### Rotaract Club of AVIT

The installation ceremony of Rtr Kaviya as President of the Rotaract Club of AVIT on 23 July 2025 witnessed the enthusiastic participation of over 250 Rotaractors from AVIT and other institutions. RCM President Rtn Nikhi Raj, Honorary Secretary Rtn Prasanna Rajagopalan, and Rotaract Chairman Rtn Arun Palaniappan graced the occasion, reinforcing the strong bond between RCM and the Jeppiar Engineering College. The vibrant celebration served as a powerful reminder of the potential of youth leadership and their vital role in shaping a better society.



## ROTARY OLYMPIAD 2025–26 | A Grand Celebration of Youth & Sportsmanship! Nehru Stadium, Chennai | 27 July 2025

The Rotary Olympiad 2025–26 was inaugurated by Lieutenant General Karanbir Singh Brar, PVSM, AVSM, inspiring over 1,800 students from 67 schools to compete with passion and discipline. We're proud to share that 580 Interactors participated under the umbrella of Rotary Club of Madras (RCM), making their presence felt with remarkable achievements!



## Top Highlights:

**Heartfulness International School (Team Chandrodaya)**  
Multiple medals across categories – including Golds in U/14 & U/17 Girls events Overall Championship Winner – Girls Team

**Agurchand Manmull Jain School, Meenambakkam**  
K.S. Pranav – Gold in 200M, Bronze in 100M | Stellar performance by a 33-member team

**Vidya Mandir, Estancia**  
Secured 2nd & 3rd in 400M, and 2nd in 4x100M Relay

Hats off to every young athlete, teacher coordinator, and volunteer who made this event a grand success. The spirit of the Four-Way Test shone brightly on the track!



## Jeppiar Engineering College



The 11th Installation Ceremony of Rtr Jobel Creflo as the 11th President & Rtr Johannah Styriss as the 11th Secretary along with their team of office bearers for the Rotary Year 2025–26 was concluded on 30 July at Jeppiar Engineering College. The event was attended by Rotaract Co Chair Rtn Hari Venkatesan.

Incoming officers, brimming with enthusiasm, were sworn in, taking on the mantle of leadership. The event celebrated past achievements while outlining exciting plans for community service, professional development, and fellowship. Members renewed their commitment to "Service Above Self," eager to embark on impactful projects and strengthen their club's presence within the community.

## Jeppiar University

The 3rd Installation Ceremony of Rtr Santhosh Kumar as the 3rd President & Rtr Vishnu Priya the 3rd Secretary along with their team of office bearers for the Rotary Year 2025–26 was concluded on 30 July at Jeppiar University. The event was attended by Rotaract Chair Rtn Arunachalam Palaniappan.



A cadre of incoming officers, resplendent and brimming with an unyielding fervor, were solemnly inducted, thereby donning the hallowed mantle of leadership. The magnificent convocation served as a resounding testament to glorious past achievements while unveiling a visionary tapestry of audacious plans encompassing sweeping community upliftment, unprecedented professional edification, and unbreakable bonds of camaraderie. With unwavering resolve, members reaffirmed their sacred vow to "Service Above Self," eagerly poised to unleash a torrent of impactful projects and fortify their club's indomitable presence within the very heartbeat of the community.

## Rotaract Club of Chennai

The 21st Installation Ceremony of Rotaract Club of Chennai of Rtr Deshmathi as the 21st President & Rtr Vijay the 21st Secretary along with their team of office bearers for the Rotary Year 2025–26 was concluded on 26 July at Hotel Ambica Empire. The event was well attended by Secretary Rtn Prasanna Rajagopalan, Rotaract Chair Rtn Arunachalam Palaniappan, Past YSD Rtn Balaji Chinni and District Rotaract Committee Chair Rtn Sessa Sai.



New officers, excited and ready, got sworn in. They're now in charge. This event celebrated what was already implemented, besides which the new team shared exciting plans for helping the community, helping members grow professionally, and building friendships within the club. Everyone renewed their promise to "Service Above Self." They're now keen to start important projects and make their club more visible in the community.



- Rtn Suman Voora  
Director, Youth Services

## A Golden Epoch Dawns: Rotaract Club of Madras Unveils its 57th Installation Ceremony!

Prepare to be captivated as the illustrious Rotaract Club of Madras, a veritable titan of community-based service operating under the venerable aegis of the Rotary Club of Madras (RCM), recently orchestrated its 57th Installation Ceremony – an event of profound historical significance that will forever be etched into the annals of its glorious legacy!

On the fated morning of 20 July 2025, within the hallowed confines of the prestigious Madras Cricket Club in Chennai, a grand spectacle unfolded from 10 am to 12 noon. This wasn't merely a gathering; it was a confluence of unwavering dedication and burgeoning potential, witnessed by a distinguished assembly of 8 revered Rotarians and 60 impassioned Rotaractors.

## A New Pantheon of Leadership Ascends!

The zenith of this momentous occasion saw the anointing of a new vanguard, poised to steer the club towards even greater triumphs:

Rtr. Jackson Lijo J was unanimously acclaimed as the 57th President, his vision and leadership now poised to ignite a new era of innovation and impact.

Alongside him, the exceptionally capable Rtr. Roshan Kumar G was formally invested as the esteemed Secretary, ready to meticulously chart the club's course.

Together, they stand at the helm of a formidable battalion of 45 dedicated board officials, each a beacon of commitment, united in their resolve to propel the Rotaract Club of Madras to unprecedented heights of service and distinction!

## Titans Honored: A Resounding Acclaim for Excellence!

The ceremony also served as a magnificent platform to bestow well-deserved accolades upon those who have epitomized the spirit of service: The coveted "Jewel of RCM Award," a symbol of unparalleled dedication and invaluable contribution, was regally presented to the distinguished Rtn. DGN. Dr. Vijaya Bharathi Rangarajan. Her unwavering commitment shines as an inspiration for all! Furthermore, the exalted "Peerlessness Award," recognizing singular achievements and exemplary leadership, was triumphantly conferred upon the illustrious Rtn. Dr. Kumar Rajendran. His tireless efforts as Youth Protection Officer & Chairman for Friendship Exchange 2025-26 underscore a commitment to shaping a brighter future!



This landmark event unequivocally reaffirms the Rotaract Club of Madras' unwavering devotion to the pursuit of excellence and the boundless spirit of community service. With new leadership ignited and spirits soaring, the stage is emphatically set for a year brimming with transformative projects, profound impact, and an unyielding commitment to "Service Above Self."

- Rtn Shivkumar Eashwaran

## "CAUVERY: The River of Life" Screening Sparks a Commitment to Environmental Stewardship

Last week, our Rotary Club hosted a special screening of the documentary CAUVERY: The River of Life, a powerful film that captivated an audience of about 50 members and guests. The beautifully shot, one-hour documentary follows the course of the great River, capturing its vibrant ecosystem and the lives—both human and animal—that it sustains. It brought to focus the threats of deforestation and environmental degradation facing the region.

We were honored to have with us SARA (Saravanan), the Director, his presence, along with the chief photographer Sripad Sridhar, Director of Music, Arun Suradhaa, who brought a deeply personal dimension to the morning. They graciously took questions after the screening, especially from a group of engaged teenagers. Their curiosity and thoughtful questions reflected how powerfully the film resonated with younger viewers.



### Some Quotes - "It felt like the Cauvery was alive and speaking to us."

A member remarked, "The film was a visual meditation. It reminded me of the rivers from my childhood, and how much we stand to lose if we don't act." The event became more than just a screening—it was a moment of shared reflection and renewed commitment to environmental stewardship not just of RCM but of Mankind. It made us aware, which is the first step towards change, and that storytelling of the Cauvery has the power to inspire action. Thank you to all the members and families who attended and contributed to making the morning so memorable. Special credit to Sara for ensuring the screening at no cost to the Club, at the Beautiful Tagore Auditorium. Special thanks to Rajesh Mani, for making this happen, not to forget the fabulous breakfast.



# CREATING HOMES OF PRIDE

## APARTMENTS, VILLAS & PLOTS ACROSS CHENNAI



### DRA INARA

Navalur

Luxury 3,4&5 BHK Villas  
1558 Sq.ft - 3697 Sq.ft



### DRA AVALON

Parandur

Premium Villa Plots  
590 Sq.ft - 2400 Sq.ft



### DRA ASTRA

Madhavaram

Lifestyle 2&3 BHK Homes  
1360 Sq.ft - 1695 Sq.ft



### DRA CLOVER

East Tambaram

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