



Governor's Monthly Letter 2024-25



Rotary  
District 3142



# ROTARY

The  
May  
Edition

TIMES @ 3142

- *Emerald Futures Bloom With Hope*
- *Key Legislation Shapes Rotary Future*
- *Kashmir's Tragedy Meets Rotary's Promise*
- *Patriot's Legacy Lives Through Memory*

# YOUTH SERVICE MONTH





“

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but you can't be **old** without it.

”

**Kapil Jain** (Director - Enrichwise | IIM Gold Medalist | Investor - 25yrs+)

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
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### Awesome Stories

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An Exclusive Sneak Peek



## General Officers Of Rotary International

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## What's Inside?

The magazine features a beautifully written article titled "Blossoming Futures: May's Promise in Young Hands" about Rotary's Youth Service Month (May). The piece uses rich symbolism connecting May's natural elements to Rotary's youth initiatives:

- **Interact and Rotaract** - Community service clubs for young people
- **RYLA** (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards) - Leadership development program
- **Youth Exchange** - International cultural exchange program

The TEAM GML encourages clubs to celebrate Youth Service Month and share their stories at [editor@rotarydistrict.org](mailto:editor@rotarydistrict.org), citing Paul Harris: "Whatever Rotary may mean to us, to the world it will be known by the results it achieves."

Note: While the magazine extensively covers youth service initiatives, specific information about Rotary Fellowships (interest groups) was not present in this particular article.



## Feedback Fuels Progress

Dear PP Namrataa ,

I recently had the pleasure of reading your latest publication , the Governor's monthly letter, and I was immediately captivated by its thought-provoking and uplifting content. The carefully curated articles offer insightful perspectives that resonate deeply with me, and I truly believe this publication serves as a source of inspiration for all the Rotarians who receive it.

I sincerely appreciate the effort and dedication that goes into creating such an impactful and motivational resource. Receiving it promptly on the 1st of every month has been a constant source of encouragement, and I can only imagine the late nights your team must endure to bring it to fruition. Your hard work is undoubtedly providing an invaluable service.

Congratulations on the continued success of this initiative, and I eagerly look forward to receiving the next issue on May 1st.

Best regards,  
**PRID Ashok Mahajan**

## GENTLE REMINDER!

Dear AWESOME Presidents  
#AWESOME DG CITATION POINTS:  
[July 2024 to June 2025]

The #AWESOME DG Citation Point Program

1. 03 Points Per Publication: GML Publication Coverage
2. 10 Points per Publication:
3. 'Impact Feature Spot' Participation [Limited to Only ONE]
4. 5 Points per story to Club: Publish Projects/Success Stories in Print Media[Non- Rotary]
5. 10 Points to Club: Feature in Rotary Media [Rotary | Rotary News | Rotary Samachar]
6. Club News Bulletin In-house Publication: [upload: rotaryindia.org & rid3142.org]
7. 10 pts to Club: Monthly
8. 05 pts to Club: Quarterly
9. 02 pts to Club: Biannual
10. 01 pts to Club: Yearly

Regards  
Dr. Namrataa Srivastav Awesome GML  
EDITOR 24-25

# Editor's Musings

## Blooming Emerald Futures

Rotary Times @3142 GML 24-25

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Rotary Times @3142 GML 24-25

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Errata: "This edition incorporates minor  
corrections from the previous edition.  
We sincerely apologize for any  
inconvenience these errors may have caused."

# Blossoming Futures

## May's Promise in Young Hands

*"May blooms with youth's promise in Rotary's care,  
As service and leadership flourish everywhere"  
In May's emerald light, young leaders take flight,  
Through Rotary's programs, their futures burn bright"...Savi*

As I watch the emerald leaves unfurl outside my window this May morning, I can't help but see the perfect metaphor unfolding before my eyes. Just as nature renews itself each spring, our Rotary family renews itself through our youth programs, the very focus of this month's celebration.

May has always been a month of profound symbolism. The delicate lily of the valley with its sweet-scented, bell-shaped blooms represents the return of happiness and pure devotion, much like the joy our Interact and Rotaract members bring to their communities through their heartfelt service. These young people, with their bell-clear voices, are calling us toward a better future.

The emerald, May's birthstone, carries ancient wisdom. Pliny the Elder called it "the Greenest Thing there is," and I would argue our Youth Programs are the "Greenest Thing" in Rotary! vibrant with possibility, growth, and renewal. Like the emerald's connection to truth and wisdom in ancient lore, our RYLA participants discover profound truths about leadership and their own potential.

### The Three Milkings of May

I was particularly struck by the Anglo-Saxon name for May's full moon – the "Milk Moon" or Rimilcemona, meaning "three-milkings-month." How fitting that in this month where farmers once tripled their harvest, Rotary focuses on the triple nourishment we provide our youth through:

1. **Service Opportunities** – where young leaders learn the joy of giving
2. **Leadership Development** – where potential is carefully cultivated
3. **Cultural Exchange** – where perspectives expand through programs like Youth Exchange

Just as farmers moved their cattle to fresh pastures in May, we guide our young people to new fields of opportunity, watching them thrive in environments designed for growth.

### The Colours That Connect Us

The green and lilac hues of May speak directly to our youth initiatives. Green, the color of growth, renewal, and harmony, perfectly captures the developmental journey of our young Rotarians. Studies show green calms and puts people at ease, creating ideal conditions for the mentorship that forms the backbone of our youth programs.

Lilac adds its gentle touch, symbolizing the first emotions of love and the tranquility that comes from knowing one's purpose. When our youth find their passion for service, there's a beautiful sense of peace that follows, they have discovered how they can change the world.

### The Hummingbird's Message

May's bird, the hummingbird, buzzes with excitement and brings news of good things to come. I have observed our youth program participants share this same energy, moving quickly from idea to action, pollinating communities with service, and bringing color wherever they go.

Like the hummingbird that can fly backward as well as forward, our youth have the unique ability to honor Rotary's traditions

while boldly moving us into the future. They are simultaneously our history and our horizon.

**Our Lady's Tears Becoming Tomorrow's Joy**  
The lily of the valley's nickname, "Our Lady's Tears", reminds me of the challenges many young people face today. Yet through Rotary's youth programs, these tears often transform into bells of joy. When we see a shy Interactor blossom into a confident speaker at RYLA, or watch Youth Exchange students bridge cultural divides with natural diplomacy, we witness this transformation firsthand.

As we celebrate Youth Service Month this May, I invite you to see beyond the programs and paperwork to the profound symbolism at work. We are not simply running youth initiatives, we are participating in the ancient, hopeful rhythm of spring itself. We are planting emeralds of wisdom, nurturing lilies of pure devotion, and sending hummingbirds of good news into a world that desperately needs them.

This May, join in to triple our commitment to these young leaders. Give them the fresh pasture where they can grow, the mentors who help them find their way, and the believers who know, with absolute certainty, that through them, **Rotary's Best Days** are still ahead.

How is your club celebrating Youth Service Month? Share your stories with us at [editor@rotarydistrict.org](mailto:editor@rotarydistrict.org)

After all, in the words of Paul Harris: **"Whatever Rotary may mean to us, to the world it will be known by the results it achieves."** And I can think of no greater achievement than empowering our youth to create the world they wish to see.

How are you celebrating Youth Service Month? Share your stories with us at [rt3142gml2425@gmail.com](mailto:rt3142gml2425@gmail.com) and win a space to publish your story as an exclusive Awesome story! of the month in last JUNE edition.

*Namrataa*

Fuel your creativity with...

**Dr Namrataa Srivastav**

**#RotaryTimes@3142 GML Editor 24-25**



# RI President Stephanie Urchick's Message

## Spring Renewal: The Magic of Rotary in Action

### Where Service Blooms with the Season of Renewal

As the chill of winter gives way to the warmth of spring, we have an opportunity to rejuvenate our commitments to each other and to the communities we serve.

A shining example is the Rotary Club of Windsor-Roseland in Ontario, whose members support a program providing hot meals to people facing homelessness and food insecurity. On any given evening, the Soup Shack run by Feed Windsor-Essex serves up to 130 people, offering nourishment and a sense of community and care.

Club member and Past District Governor Aruna Koushik got the club involved after seeing a news segment about the Soup Shack.

Koushik collaborated with club members to quickly approve the purchase of a stove, pots, and pans for its new permanent space. Soon after, club members met with the Soup Shack team, toured the new location, and presented a check for 3,000 Canadian dollars (about US\$2,000) to support its efforts. They also committed to volunteering their time to prepare and serve meals once the facility is operational.

This exemplifies how Rotary members can come together to address community needs, foster engagement, and make a tangible impact. By identifying opportunities for service and mobilizing resources, we not only support those in need but also strengthen our bonds with each other and with the communities we serve.

As we embrace the renewal that spring offers, let's take inspiration from the Windsor-Roseland club. Consider these ways to reinvigorate engagement within your club:

**Identify emerging needs:** Stay attuned to the evolving challenges in your communities. Engage with local organizations to understand where your club's support can make the most difference.

**Mobilize resources quickly:** When opportunities arise, act swiftly. Leverage the skills and networks within your club to gather resources, from financial contributions to equipment to volunteer time.

**Foster collaboration:** Encourage members to take initiative and collaborate on projects. Empowering individuals to lead and contribute their unique talents enhances engagement and drives success.

**Commit to ongoing involvement:** Beyond initial contributions, pledge continued support.

Regular service keeps members connected and reinforces the club's commitment to sustained impact.

By embracing these approaches, we can harness the energy of spring to renew our dedication to service and engagement. Let's seize this season as an opportunity to revitalize our efforts, strengthen our connections, and continue making a positive difference in the world.

This is The Magic of Rotary — transforming lives, inspiring hope, and creating lasting change for the communities we serve.

**Stephanie A. Urchick**  
President, Rotary International, 2024-25

In times of global volatility, our mission remains unshaken. For 120 years, Rotary has weathered world wars, the Cold War, and deadly pandemics because we stay true to our values of service, fellowship, and diversity. Despite current challenges, we remain committed to ending polio, supporting our Areas of Focus, and building peace worldwide. Now more than ever, we must transform uncertainty into action and share hope with those we serve. Rotary's strength lies in our communities and in each other, together, we will continue making a difference regardless of what lies ahead.

Sincerely,  
Stephanie A. Urchick  
President, Rotary International

Mark Daniel Maloney | John Hewko  
Chair, The Rotary Foundation | General Secretary

One Rotary Center, 1560 Sherman Avenue  
Evanston, Illinois 60201-3698 Usa. [Rotary.org](https://www.rotary.org)

*"Standing Strong  
Through Uncertainty:  
A Message from  
Rotary Leadership"*



# A Message from the District Governor

Rotary Peace Fellowship

## From the Desk of the District Governor

Dear Awesome Fellow Rotarians and Members of the Extended Rotary Family,

The Month of May is celebrated as New Generations Month in the world of Rotary. As Leaders in our profession, I believe, we all have a responsibility to try and make this world better, whether it's through our thoughts, our work, the causes we champion, the way we treat people or the values we impart to the next generation.

"We can't expect the world to get better by itself. We have to create something we can leave the next generation "

"The youth of today are not just our tomorrow, they are our today in motion" Our Districts exemplary commitment to youth development has manifested itself through various initiatives and i am particularly enthused by the Career Guidance Seminars, two of which hosted by the Rotary Club of Ambernath and the Rotary Club of Ulhasnagar Sapna Garden, I had the signal honour of presiding over. I truly believe that today's youth can gain from the guidance of experts from diverse professional fields.

I have completed over 70% of the Official Club visits and I am delighted to note how the canvas of our district has been painted with the vibrant strokes of service. From Sunrise Meetings to Evening Gatherings the passion and dedication for service, I have witnessed, is nothing short of extraordinary. What brings me particular joy is how we have collectively embraced Healthcare Initiatives. I had occasion to visit a Clinic run by the Inner Wheel Club of Thane. It has been operational since 1996 and provides dental, physiotherapy and general health services at a very nominal cost and their Trust also provides scholarships to needy and

deserving students. It seems I had the privilege of being the first District Governor to visit the facility. The Thane Municipal Corporation has been very forthcoming in their appreciation of the work Rotary has been doing for the community and in a meeting had towards the end of March we appraised the Commissioner on updates of the projects we have been jointly working on and also outlined plans for future projects.

Our Membership Growth has been very encouraging but our Goal is 100% retention and I would beseech each one of you to ensure we achieve this. We have done extremely well on the Foundation Target front but I believe being good is not good enough. We must be the best there is and set the benchmark for the future.

A Legacy is not what one does for oneself. It is what we do for the Next Generation"

First Lady, Jyoti joins me in entreating you to make these remaining weeks of the Awesome Rotary Year an extraordinary crescendo of Service and Fellowship. Let every project, every meeting, every moment of service add to the magnificent tapestry of our District's Legacy.

With deep gratitude for your unwavering dedication and untiring efforts

In Rotary Service  
**Dinesh Mehta**  
District Governor  
2024-25



# Rotary India @3142: News Flash

Youth Service : The Heartbeat of Our Rotary Future

## Journeying With Our Youth

### A Story of Shared Magic

*"In the eyes of every young person we mentor, I see not just tomorrow's leaders, but today's inspiration. Their energy transforms our service into magic, their dreams into our legacy."*

The journey of youth service over these past nine months has been nothing short of extraordinary. When I began this year as your District Governor, I made a silent promise to myself, to witness firsthand the transformative power of Rotary through the eyes of our young people. Little did I know how profoundly this commitment would shape my Rotary experience.

I remember the early morning in July when we welcomed Samuel from Brazil and Justine from France, our inbound RYE students. Their nervous smiles quickly transformed into confident grins as our district embraced them as family. Watching them experience the vibrant tapestry of Indian culture, from savouring street food in Mumbai to participating in traditional festivals, has been a joy beyond measure. Their journey through North and South India, exploring our nation's rich heritage, reminds me of Rotary's power to build bridges across continents.

Meanwhile, our outbound student Divya has been sending back stories from France that make my heart swell with pride. Her adaptability and enthusiasm represent the very best of our district on the global stage.

The RYLAs throughout our district have perhaps been my most cherished experiences. Standing at the back of crowded halls, watching young participants transform from shy individuals to confident leaders over just a few days has reinforced my faith in Rotary's approach to leadership development. At one particularly memorable RYLA in November, a young participant approached me and said, **"Governor sir, I came here thinking this was just another camp, but I'm leaving as a completely different person."** Such moments are the true rewards of service.

I have made it my mission to attend as many youth initiatives as my calendar would permit, from career guidance seminars for girls in underserved communities to environmental awareness workshops where Interactors planted hundreds of saplings. Each program spanning our seven areas of focus has shown me that our youth do not just participate, they elevate every initiative with their energy and fresh perspectives.

Our district's presidents and committee chairs have



risen magnificently to the challenge, designing innovative programs that speak directly to young people's concerns. Whether it was the clean water awareness campaign led entirely by Interactors that reached five schools, or the Rotaractors who conducted health camps in college campuses, our youth have been at the forefront of service.

The New Generations Avenue has provided the perfect framework for these endeavors, ensuring that youth empowerment isn't just a project but a fundamental avenue of service. I have witnessed clubs that previously had limited youth engagement now sponsoring Interact clubs and embracing Rotaractors as essential partners in service.

As we enter the final quarter of this "Awesome Year," I find myself reflecting on the countless magical moments shared with young people across our district. From the tearful goodbyes at youth exchange orientations to the triumphant cheers at RYLA graduation ceremonies, these memories form the most precious collection in my Rotary journey.

To our Rotaractors and Interactors, you are not just the youth voice of this awesome year; you are its beating heart. Your idealism, creativity, and willingness to challenge the status quo have inspired not just me but every Rotarian fortunate enough to work alongside you.

My deepest gratitude extends to the principals, teachers, and administrators of schools and colleges throughout our district. By opening your doors to Rotary, you have helped us plant seeds of service that will continue to grow for generations. Your partnership has allowed us to reach young minds at their most formative stages, instilling values that will shape not just careers but character.

As we move forward, I invite you to continue nurturing these connections, expanding our youth programs, and remembering that in every young person we serve, we are catching a glimpse of Rotary's brightest future.

With profound appreciation and pride,

**Dinesh Mehta**  
District Governor 2024-25



# Rotary India @3142: News Flash

Youth Service : The Heartbeat of Our Rotary Future



# Rotary India @3142: News Flash

Nurturing Young Leaders: Rotary's Pathways To Service

## YOUTH Service Programs

### District 3142 Report

- Rotary International's commitment to youth development stands as one of its most forward-looking initiatives. This report provides an overview of the three cornerstone youth programs that continue to shape future generations of service-oriented leaders across our district and worldwide.

#### • PROGRAM ANALYSIS

#### • INTERACT PROGRAM

- **Target Demographic:** Youth ages 12-18
- **Supervision Structure:** Student-led with Rotary Club oversight
- **Core Focus Areas:**
  - Community service initiatives
  - International understanding projects
  - Personal leadership development
  - Club administration and governance
- **Implementation:** Our district currently maintains 27 active Interact clubs with approximately 850 members across secondary schools. These young Interactors have collectively completed over 120 service projects during the current Rotary year, demonstrating exceptional commitment to service above self.

#### • ROTARACT PROGRAM

- **Target Demographic:** Young adults ages 18+
- **Organizational Structure:** Independent operation with Rotary sponsorship
- **Program Categories:**
  - **Community-based Clubs:** Comprised of young adults living or working within specific geographic boundaries

- **University-based Clubs:** Formed by students enrolled in higher education institutions

#### Activity Spectrum:

- Local community service engagements
- Professional development workshops
- International service initiatives
- Club fellowship and networking events

**District Performance Metrics:** The district has experienced 18% growth in Rotaract membership this year, with particularly strong performance in professional development programming and cross-club collaborative projects.

## ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE (RYE)

#### Program Variations:

##### Long-Term Exchange

- Age eligibility: 15-19 years
- Duration: Academic year (approximately 10-11 months)
- Format: Participants live with host families while attending educational institutions

##### Short-Term Exchange

- Age eligibility: 15-19 years
- Duration: Several weeks to 3 months
- Focus: Cultural immersion and host family experience

##### New Generations Exchange

- Age eligibility: 18-25 years
- Primary focus: Specialized cultural exchange combined with service project implementation
- Professional development component: Enhanced emphasis on career skills

**Current Exchange Status:** Our district is actively hosting 2 inbound students (from Brazil and France) while supporting 1 outbound student currently in France. All participants report transformative cultural experiences that align with program objectives.

#### STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

These youth-focused initiatives represent Rotary's most direct investment in future leadership

development. Analysis indicates that participants in these programs demonstrate:

- Enhanced cross-cultural competencies
- Accelerated leadership skill development
- Stronger commitment to service-oriented career choices
- Higher likelihood of lifelong Rotary engagement

Rotary International's youth service programs continue to serve as effective platforms for developing globally-minded citizen leaders. As our district moves forward, expanding these programs remains a strategic priority, with particular emphasis on increasing diversity of participation and strengthening the pathway from Interact to Rotaract to Rotary membership.

Submitted by the District Youth Service Committee May 2025



# Rotary India @3142: News Flash

Empowering & Enriching Youth: Rotary's Pathways To Service

## Youth Service Initiatives District 3142 Report

### ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE PROGRAM: CROSS-CULTURAL AMBASSADORS

Our district currently hosts two exceptional long-term Inbound RYE participants who are immersing themselves in Indian culture and experiences:

- **Samuel** (Brazil): Actively participating in cultural programs and educational activities
- **Justine** (France): Engaging with local communities while experiencing diverse Indian traditions

Both exchange students have completed extensive tours of North and South India, visiting significant cultural and historical sites that showcase our nation's rich heritage. They have enthusiastically embraced Indian cuisine, cultural practices, and our educational system.

Simultaneously, our outbound student **Divya Bhoir** continues her



transformative journey in France, where she represents our district while gaining invaluable

international exposure and cross-cultural competencies.

### ROTARY YOUTH LEADERSHIP AWARDS (RYLA): CULTIVATING FUTURE LEADERS

RYLA programs (targeting youth ages 14-30) remain our flagship leadership development initiative, focusing on essential skills development:

- Communication
- Teamwork
- Problem-solving
- Decision-making
- Goal-setting

These programs are strategically designed as immersive learning experiences that may be structured as:

- One-day workshops
- Overnight seminars
- Multi-day outdoor camps

Key success factors for RYLA implementation include:

1. Comprehensive advance planning
2. Securing engaging and inspirational speakers
3. Achieving robust participant enrollment
4. Obtaining appropriate sponsorship
5. Designing interactive and enjoyable learning modules

During our "Awesome Year," clubs across the district have successfully organized numerous RYLA and RYPEN (Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment) events with measurable impact on participants' leadership development and personal growth.

### THE WAY FORWARD: NEW GENERATIONS AVENUE

The New Generations Avenue represents Rotary's strategic commitment to:

- Youth empowerment
- Leadership development
- Long-term organizational sustainability

#### Strategic Directives for Clubs:

- Every club should implement at least one youth service program (RYLA/RYPEN) annually
- Clubs with established youth programs should focus on scaling and expanding their initiatives
- District Youth Service team stands ready to provide implementation support and resources
- Clubs are encouraged to sponsor Inbound/Outbound students for the Rotary Youth Exchange program

#### Benefits of Youth Exchange Sponsorship:

- Creates transformative impact on students' lives
- Strengthens community connections
- Fosters international understanding
- Develops lasting international friendships and family bonds

By investing in youth service initiatives, our district continues to build the foundation for Rotary's future while creating meaningful impact in the lives of young people today.

**Satish Bhojane**  
Dist. 3142 RYLA Chair.



# PRID Ashok Mahajan speaks

Foundations of Peace



## Rotary's Blueprint for a Better World

### LET HOPE BLOOM: A CALL FOR PEACE AND ACTION

In the hearts of billions around the world, there is an eternal hope—a hope that peace will one day prevail. But peace cannot truly blossom when the essential needs for co-existence remain unmet. It is this undeniable truth that drives Rotary's mission: to provide those fundamental resources that sustain life.

Peace cannot take root in a world where hunger prevails. It cannot thrive where communities are torn apart by the struggle for survival. It cannot flourish in hearts weighed down by the hardships of poverty and strife.

The Rotary Foundation, through its transformative programs, seeks to answer the urgent call of these needs. Across the globe, countless communities benefit from Rotary's life-changing service initiatives, many of which are made possible by the support of The Rotary Foundation. Rotary Districts worldwide receive crucial financial backing to implement service projects that uplift communities, change lives, and sow the seeds of lasting peace.

By helping communities overcome fate's cruellest trials—poverty, illness, and conflict—Rotary nurtures happiness and cultivates peace. Together, we hold onto the shared belief that our hope for a more peaceful world will not only survive, but triumph.

However, for this vision to become a reality, funds are essential. The lifeblood of this movement comes from the generosity of Rotarians and their networks. We must reach into our pockets and lean on the power of our connections to raise the funds necessary for The Rotary Foundation's work.

You have the power to make a difference. The Rotary Foundation stands with you, ready to support, encourage, and inspire your efforts. Now is the time to act.

#### Ashok Mahajan

Director, Rotary International (2007-09)

Trustee, The Rotary Foundation (2009-13)

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*"Peace flourishes where basic needs are met; through generous hands and compassionate hearts, Rotary plants the seeds of harmony today that will blossom into the gardens of tomorrow's peaceful world."*





**DG Dinesh Mehta & Dist TRF Team Thanks PRID Ashok Mahajanji**

**For announcing PHF Matching Scheme Donate only \$250 to Annual Fund and become PHF\*, instead of \$1000.**

**Please take advantage of the scheme Donate online or rush your cheques to TRF Team members.**

\*scheme valid between 1st May to 31st May Please rush your contributions, become PHF and "DO GOOD IN THE WORLD"



## A Tribute To The Martyrs Of Pahalgam Terror Attack ...

### A Light That Burns for Justice

*In valleys green where silence fell,  
A scream was lost, too sharp to tell.  
The coward's hand, the shadow's face—  
They stole the peace, they stained this place.*

*Innocence lies where bullets rained,  
And hearts like mine remain in chains.  
I watch, I burn, yet still I stand,  
With empty voice and trembling hand.*

*O justice, why do you delay?  
Why must the innocent be made to pay?  
Each tear I shed, a solemn vow—  
We'll not forget, not then, not now.*

*I do not wield a mighty sword,  
Nor shake the halls with thundered word.  
But still I swear by fire and breath,  
This grief will not be lost in death.*



*I'll place a light in every heart,  
A flame of truth, a rebel spark.  
And though the night is long and deep,  
That fire will burn while angels weep.*

*Until the day the scales are right,  
Until the dark gives in to light—  
Let this small voice, with sorrow sown,  
Remind the world: They were our own.*

-Dr Meenal, RC Thane East

# A Tribute From RID 3142

In the Shadow of Tragedy: Kashmir's Pain and Rotary's Promise

## Kashmir's Heartbreak and Heroes

### When Terror Struck Paradise

In the serene meadows of Kashmir, India's crown jewel, tragedy struck recently when terrorists targeted innocent tourists enjoying the breathtaking landscapes. What should have been moments of peace and wonder in this Himalayan paradise turned into horror as families found themselves caught in violence that has shocked the nation.

Across India, citizens have united in grief and outrage. Social media platforms overflow with messages of support for the victims' families, while vigils have been organized in major cities. The Prime Minister addressed the nation, condemning the attack and promising justice, while ordinary Indians have opened their hearts, donating to relief funds and offering support to those affected.

**Yet, when Service Rises Above Fear**, even in this darkness, there are stories of extraordinary courage and commitment. The Rotarians of Kashmir embody this spirit perfectly, living their motto of "Service Above Self" not just in words, but in actions that inspire hope.

In a region too often marred by unrest, a team of brave and dedicated Rotarians, led by Past District Governor Dr. Rajeev Pradhan, stepped forward with one purpose: to heal. Their mission was simple yet profound, to provide critical medical care to those who would otherwise go without. As tensions flared unexpectedly during their visit, fear rippled through both the team and the community. But even amid the chaos, these Rotarians stood firm, not out of duty, but out of love.

Rotary creates miracles, not just through medicine, but through presence, through courage, through the quiet strength of those

who choose to show up when it matters most. One such miracle is Rtn Dr. Arti. In the face of fear, she radiated calm. In the presence of pain, she brought healing. Her compassion, humility, and fierce dedication are the embodiment of everything Rotary stands for. As she steps into her new role as club president, she does so not just as a leader, but as a symbol of hope and humanity.

**Rotarians Beyond Boundaries, Beyond Self!** they look beyond themselves and know that real happiness lies in helping others. They see a suffering world and choose not to turn away, but to lean in, to give, to serve, to unite for good. The mission in Kashmir wasn't just a medical outreach; it was a declaration that no place is too remote, no situation too dire for the reach of Rotary's love.

These stories from Kashmir remind us of the deeper truth: Rotary is a gift to the world. It is a global family bound not by borders, but by purpose. In the courageous steps of Dr. Rajeev Pradhan, in the tender hands of Dr. Arti, we see that gift in motion.

As we honor their work, let us recommit to our shared vision, a world where peace is possible, where service heals, and where every Rotarian continues to plant seeds of hope, even in the hardest soil. Because together, Rotary creates miracles.

**A Debt of Gratitude RID@3142**, to the Rotarians who serve in Kashmir and countless other challenging environments around the world, we owe a debt that cannot be repaid with mere words. Your hands have healed, your hearts have comforted, and your courage has inspired. In placing service above self, you have reminded us all of the heights humanity can reach when compassion becomes our compass.

Thank you for being the light that shines brightest when darkness seems most overwhelming.

**TEAM GML 24-25**

### A Rotarian's Prayer for Peace

*In meadows green where shadows fall,  
We stand as one, both great and small.  
Our hands extended, hearts aligned,  
To heal the wounds of humankind.*

*From Kashmir's peaks to valleys low,  
Let peace like gentle rivers flow.  
Where hatred burned and fear took hold,  
May love's sweet story now be told.*

*Grant us the strength to serve with grace,  
To see the divine in every face.  
Through service true, let discord cease,  
As Rotary wheels turn towards peace.*

*In unity our power lies,  
Beneath Kashmir's eternal skies...Savi*



PM on Kashmir Is our Pride:  
<https://youtu.be/V5HetgFAIjU>



# Walking Hand in Hand

## *Partners in Service Companions in Fellowship*

**"Behind every meaningful service is a heart full of love, and beside every leader is a partner who makes the journey worthwhile. In togetherness, we find our greatest strength and create our most cherished memories."**

Dear Rotary Family and  
Fellow First Ladies,

Have you ever experienced how a simple "yes" to joining a journey can transform into countless beautiful moments that fill your heart to the brim? That is exactly what these past nine months have been for me, a tapestry of service, fellowship, and connections that I never imagined would be so profoundly rewarding.

When my husband stepped into his role as District Governor, I made a quiet promise to myself: to be present for every moment, every visit, every opportunity to serve alongside him. Little did I know that this promise would lead me through the doorways of so many clubs, into the lives of so many wonderful Rotarians, and into service projects that have touched my heart in ways words cannot fully express.

From the early morning club visits that began with dewdrops still fresh on leaves to evening fellowships where laughter continued until stars appeared in the sky. I have witnessed the magic that happens when Rotarians come together. I have held the hands of children at vaccination camps, exchanged smiles with elders at medical camps, and felt the warm embrace of Rotary spouses who have now become dear friends and confidantes.

There is something special about watching your spouse in their element, isn't there? Seeing my husband address rooms full of passionate Rotarians, witnessing his dedication to each project, observing how he listens intently to every club's achievements and challenges, these moments have filled me with immeasurable pride. Through his eyes, I have seen Rotary in a whole new light, and through this journey together, our own bond has deepened in beautiful ways.

To my fellow First Ladies in our district, I see you. I see your tireless support, your quiet strength, and your own service that often goes unnoticed. As we approach these final two months of our Rotary year, I invite you to step even further into this journey. To make these remaining weeks a celebration of connection and service. To strengthen our circle of support and friendship. Together, we can help

make the final chapter of this year the most satisfying one yet.

I am filled with gratitude to my husband for truly making me a partner in this Rotary journey, for valuing my voice, for creating space for me to contribute, and for sharing with me the profound joy that comes from service. Every Official Club Visit, every project inauguration, every fellowship has been a gift we have unwrapped together.

To all the wonderful Rotarians, presidents, and their families who have welcomed us with open arms and warm hearts, thank you. Your kindness, your dedication, and your friendship have made this journey extraordinarily meaningful. The conversations shared over cups of tea, the stories exchanged during car rides between visits, the messages of encouragement that brightened challenging days, these are the treasures we will carry in our hearts forever.

As we look toward these final two months, I am filled with excitement for the many more connections waiting to be made and the magic moments yet to be created.

This Rotary journey does not end when the year concludes, the friendships formed, the memories created, and the impact of our collective service will continue to ripple outward long after.

With a heart full of love and  
gratitude,

**Jyoti Mehta**

First Lady 2024-2025



# I

## Inner Wheels Of Compassion



### Golden Jubilee Service by Inner Wheel Club of Dombivli

The Inner Wheel Club of Dombivli marked its 50th anniversary with a meaningful visit to Asmita Kinnar Ashram at Haji Malang. The celebration was graced by IIW President Mamataji Gupta and

Association President Sunitaji Jain. Responding directly to educational needs identified by teachers, the club donated essential learning infrastructure including four chairs, two study tables, a bookshelf, and a diverse collection of spiritual and motivational literature in multiple languages (Marathi, Hindi, and English).



### Women's Empowerment Week by Inner Wheel Club of Thane Shining Stars

The Inner Wheel Club of Thane Shining Stars orchestrated Mahila Sakshamikaran Saptaha, an intensive week-long Women Empowerment program honoring Savitribai Phule's legacy. From January 4th to 11th, the club delivered comprehensive development opportunities for 50 college girls from Gramin Shikshan Sanstha, TMC College. The holistic program incorporated professional seminars, personalized career counseling, essential legal awareness sessions, practical self-defense training, educational field visits, and thought-provoking competitions addressing social issues.

Participants received certificates and gifts, with refreshments provided throughout the program.

**Jyoti Kotak**

District Editor 2024-25

IW District 314



### Sustained Nutrition Support by Inner Wheel Club of New Bombay Seaside

The Inner Wheel Club of New Bombay Seaside demonstrates unwavering commitment through their ongoing Health & Hygiene initiative, focusing on vulnerable children with HIV/AIDS. Their consistent monthly provision of high-protein, nutrient-rich food grains to orphaned children affected and infected by HIV/AIDS represents a vital ongoing support system addressing critical nutritional needs.



### Educational Technology Boost by Inner Wheel Club of Mumbai Mulund East

The Inner Wheel Club of Mumbai Mulund East has enhanced the learning environment at Shardaashram School in Thane through a targeted technology donation. By providing a desktop computer and chairs, the club has directly contributed to improving educational resources and creating a more comfortable learning space for students.



### Festival of Joy by Inner Wheel Club of New Bombay Bayside

Members of the Inner Wheel Club of New Bombay Bayside brought festive cheer to residents of Param Shanti Dham in Talaja through a heartwarming Holi celebration. The innovative "flower Holi" was complemented by interactive entertainment including songs, bhajans, dumb charades, and games. The club enhanced the residents' experience by providing specially selected dry snacks based on resident preferences and sponsoring a nutritious midday meal, creating lasting memories for all involved.



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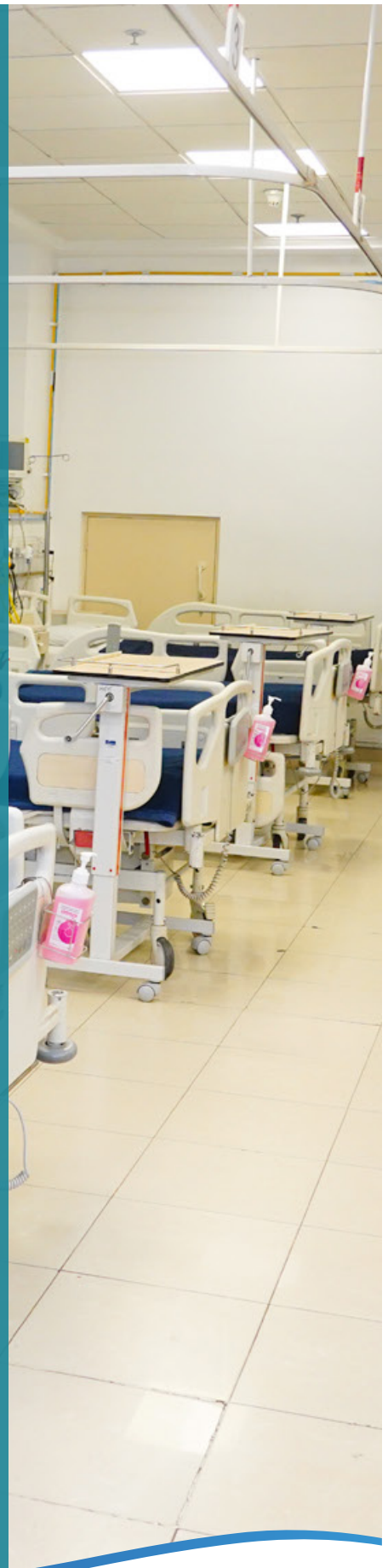


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## May District Engagement

Dear Fellow Rotarians,

May is Youth Service Month in Rotary. During this month, Rotary Clubs run activities and projects for youth development and mentorship, highlighting the important role young people plays in shaping the future. The focus is on building leadership, responsibility, and service values in young people. Rotary invests in the next generation of leaders who will carry on the tradition of service above self. Rotary clubs organize events that address community needs, such as environmental clean-ups, health camps, educational workshops, and fundraising events.

We are in last phase of 'Awesome Year'.

Now time has come to take review on our achievements. DG Dinesh Mehta has already started to meet every president in one-on one meet. Purpose of the meets is to take a stock of your club achievements. This exercise will help us to complete remaining planned activities before 30th June 2025.

As previously announced, the Shukriya function will be held on 19th July 2025. During this event, your outstanding work will be recognized by DG Dinesh Mehta. The district teams have already commenced their preparations and are diligently finalizing all necessary aspects to ensure that the event is grand and memorable.

We have observed that many presidents have not provided comprehensive information about the projects completed by their clubs in the monthly reports. We kindly request all presidents to connect with their assigned Asst. Governor or Dist. Secretary to share these achievements. This will assist the Awards Committee in creating an accurate list of club recognitions.

Please note that ONLY 60 days remain to complete this AWESOME year. Take stock of your progress, complete any remaining work, ensure proper reporting and most importantly, block your calendar for 19th July 2024 for the GRAND FINALE! Let's make these last days count and finish the year on a high note!

### Details of upcoming events:

**Event: Rotary South Asian Thalassaemia Conference**  
**Date: Sunday, 11th May 2025**  
**Contact Person: Jitendra Jadhvani (M: 8850047487)**

DG Dinesh Mehta, along with the ETN District Team, has planned to organize the Rotary South Asian Thalassaemia Conference. Team ETN has taken a leading role in planning, executing, and ensuring the successful delivery of this event.

The conference will be held at the D.Y. Patil Hospital Auditorium, Vashi, Navi Mumbai and will take place from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. The Rotaract Team is also actively involved in organizing the event.

For more details, kindly connect with the District Team – 'End Polio Now' or the Convenor, Rtn. Jitendra Jadhvani.



I'm continually inspired by the dedication and passion each of you brings. Thank you for being such an integral part of this journey—we're just getting started!

**Best regards,**  
**Rtn. Shirish Songadkar**  
 CEO & Chief Coordinator, RY 2024-25

#### 1.Friday, 2nd May 2025

– Rotary Club of Navi Bayside

#### 2.Saturday, 3rd May 2025

– Rotary Club of Thane Northend

#### 3.Sunday, 4th May 2025 (Morning)

– Rotary Club of Navi Mumbai Flamingo City (Joint Club OCV)

– Rotary Club of Navi Mumbai Valley Golfers

#### 4.Sunday, 4th May 2025 (Evening)

– Rotary Club of Namastu Navi Mumbai

#### 5.Tuesday, 6th May 2025

– Rotary Club of Ulhasnagar Sapna Garden

#### 6.Wednesday, 7th May 2025

– Rotary Club of Thane Smart City

#### 7.Friday, 9th May 2025

– Rotary Club of Bhiwandi Rural

#### 8.Saturday, 10th May 2025

– Rotary Club of Smart City Navi Mumbai

#### 9.Sunday, 11th May 2025

– Rotary Club of Thane Hiranadani Legends

#### 10.Monday, 12th May 2025

– Rotary Club of Ulhasnagar East

#### 11.Tuesday, 13th May 2025

– Rotary Club of Thane Angels

#### 12.Wednesday, 14th May 2025

– Rotary Club of Ulhasnagar

#### 13.Friday, 16th May 2025

– Rotary Club of Thane Royales

#### 14.Sunday, 18th May 2025

– Rotary Club of Millennium City

#### 15.Thursday, 22nd May 2025

– Rotary Club of Thane Metro

#### 16.Friday, 23rd May 2025

– Rotary Club of Bhiwandi BKC

#### 17.Saturday, 31st May 2025

– Rotary Club of Thane Lake City



# Membership Miscellania

The Final Quarter!

## T ransforming Momentum Into Legacy

Hey Steeve...

The countdown has begun, and you find yourself at the final stretch of a truly extraordinary year—one shaped by determination, teamwork, and an unyielding pursuit of excellence. Every initiative, every contribution, and every act of service has played a role in propelling your district forward, strengthening its foundation, and redefining the standard of commitment. The milestones achieved are a testament to the relentless effort poured into every project, membership drive, and TRF contribution. The momentum you have built is undeniable, and the impact of your actions has been felt across every avenue of service.

Yet, success is never static—it demands constant evolution, a commitment to refinement, and the foresight to build a future even greater than the legacy you inherited. Now is not the time to pause. Now is the time to harness every ounce of drive, every resource at your disposal, and every lesson learned to push forward with greater force. Complacency has no place in your journey, and this final quarter presents an unmissable

opportunity to elevate your club's standing, redefine its trajectory, and leave a mark that will inspire generations to come. Excellence isn't measured by what has been accomplished; it is fueled by the ambition to achieve more, to raise the bar higher, and to transform vision into enduring impact.

Keep your members engaged, inspired, and unified in purpose.

Strengthen the bonds that make your club resilient, ensuring that leadership transitions seamlessly and continuity is not just an aspiration but an ingrained principle. The future of your club depends on the commitment of its members, and your responsibility is to cultivate a thriving environment where no one feels expendable, where every individual recognizes their value, and where collective purpose reigns supreme. A strong, well-supported membership is the cornerstone of lasting success, and now is the time to reinforce that foundation with unwavering determination.

Step into this final phase with clarity, confidence, and conviction. Drive forward with purpose. Break barriers. Set new benchmarks. And, above all, never let the pursuit of excellence wane. Because the true measure of success is not in the milestones you reach, but in the legacy you create.

Au Revoir



Ravi Iyer  
(DMC) District Membership Chair

*"Great things are  
done by a  
series of small things  
brought together."*

- Vincent Van Gogh

"Strength in Numbers: District 3142 Shines as Growth Champion in Zone 4!"

DISTRICT 3142 CELEBRATES  
EXTRAORDINARY GROWTH: 419 NEW  
MEMBERS AND 2ND PLACE IN ZONE 4!

We are thrilled to announce that **District 3142 has secured an outstanding 2nd position among the Top 5 Districts in Zone 4** for membership growth as of March 31, 2025! With a remarkable addition of **419 new members**, our district stands tall among Zone 4's growth leaders:

- District 3141: Leading with 775 new members
- **District 3142: Achieving 419 new members**
- District 3060: Adding 371 new members
- District 3055: Growing by 338 new members
- District 3011: Welcoming 307 new members

This milestone would not be possible without DMC Ravi and our dedicated Membership Team, our Awesome Presidents, Club Membership Directors, and every passionate Rotarian of District 3142. Your dedication and collaborative spirit have transformed our growth vision into reality!

As we celebrate this achievement, let us continue building on this momentum, involving, engaging, and retaining every member. With more hands to serve, our impact grows exponentially!

#DistrictPride#RotaryGrowth  
#StrongerTogether#District3142Achieves

Together, we grow Rotary!  
**DG Dinesh Mehta**

## Awesome GML Shines Light on A Rotary Star!

A Special Recognition for a  
Dedicated Rotarian

A heartfelt shoutout to a remarkable member of  
the Rotary Club of Thane!

**PP Smita Mahajan**

Your passion for Rotary's endeavors is truly  
inspiring, and your desire to remain humble is  
a testament to your character.

While you prefer to stay out of the spotlight,  
**Team GML** simply couldn't resist  
acknowledging

**'aquarise universal'**

incredible generosity in sponsoring the  
publication of GML 2024-25.

**Thank you for everything you do!**

Mob. : 9820610343  
mahajan\_smita@rediffmail.com





### FOUNDATION IMPACT REPORT

MILESTONE	ACHIEVEMENT
<b>TOTAL COLLECTION</b>	<b>\$1.18 MILLION</b>
<b>Annual Fund</b>	<b>\$460,000</b>
<b>Polio Plus Fund</b>	<b>\$57,000</b>
<b>Endowment Fund</b>	<b>\$50,000</b>
<b>Other Funds Contribution</b>	<b>\$607,000</b>
<b>Major Donors</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>Major Gifts</b>	<b>19</b>

Total Contribution as of April 21st: \$1.18 Million

My dear fellow Rotarians,

As the Rotary year 2024-25 draws to a close, we look back with pride at the projects we've completed, the lives we've touched, and the fellowship we have shared.

But as we reflect, we must also renew our commitment to the very engine that powers our service, the heart of Rotary's global impact : The Rotary Foundation.

The Foundation is more than a fund. It is a lifeline of hope. Through it, we've sent children to school, brought safe water to villages, treated the sick, empowered women, and we have moved closer to a world free from polio.

Every dollar we give goes further, because Rotary multiplies it through global grants, partnerships, and strategic impact. When we support the Foundation, we're not just giving, but we're investing in peace, in health, in future leaders, and in a better world.

But as the year ends, we have an opportunity and a responsibility to finish stronger than ever before. We have surpassed the previous best District's TRF collection and are looking forward to setting a new normal this year. We also are looking forward to your support for the Annual Fund, which helps Clubs to do District & Global Grant based community projects.

Let us ask ourselves: Have I done my part? Can I give a little more? Can I encourage one more member to contribute? Have I reached out to any of my friends, family members and motivate them to contribute to TRF.

Whether it is becoming a Paul Harris Fellow, Major Donor, Benefactor, adding to your current giving, or simply making your first contribution in this Rotary year, it matters. We can help our clubs to be a EREY club by 100% of members contributing to Annual Fund.



Remember, giving to The Rotary Foundation is not an expense, it is an expression of belief.

Belief in a Better Tomorrow!

Belief that Change Is Possible!

And belief that we, as Rotarians, can lead that change.

Let us close this Rotary year with generosity, unity, and purpose.

Let us finish well, so that we can begin the next with greater momentum.

Because when we give, the world receives.

Thank you.

**Rtn. Chandrahas Shetty**  
**DAFSC & DGND, RID 3142**

### A Message by PDG Shrikant Indani

(Asst Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator RI District 3142)



आज हम इस रोटरी वर्ष की बात करेंगे. इस रोटरी वर्ष के यहासे सत्तर दिन बचे है मुझे चक दे इंडिया का वो जिंदगी के सत्तर मिनट वाला सीन याद आ रहा है जो । Till this moment every one performed in great way. But yet best आना बाकी है । इन सत्तर दिनों में दिखा दीजिये "Rotarians Changing Lives And Sharing Smiles "

इन सत्तर दिनों को आप अपनी रोटरी की जिंदगी के बेहतरीन ,यादगार दिन बना सकते हो ।  
ये आपके पास जो है मौका

ये अब आप पर निर्भर है की आप लगाते छक्का या चौका, जब भी आप मुड़कर इस वर्ष की तरफ देखो तो आपको ये एहसास होना चाहिए यार जो मैंने किया ये "अधभुत" था यार।

अंत में इसी तर्ज पर छोटीसी अर्ज  
Support and Donate Rotary Foundation...  
Share Magic of Rotary...





# M

### Moments That Matter

## Hands That Serve, Hearts That Care Visual Diary

*As we transition from the 10th month into the 11th... I flip through the pages of these past months, each photograph tells a story far deeper than what meets the eye. What you see are formal visits and project inaugurations, but what I have experienced is the unbridled passion of Rotarians bringing change to their communities. With pride and immense gratitude, I share these glimpses of our journey together—moments where ideas transformed into impact, and where handshakes became lasting friendships."*

Early March, 2025

Dear Rotary Family,

As I sit down with my evening cup of chai, watching the sun set over Thane, I cannot help but reflect on what an incredible journey these past weeks have been. The calendar says May has just begun, but my heart is already full of gratitude and inspiration. What a privilege it has been to witness firsthand the incredible impact our clubs are making across our district. This journey has reinforced my belief that Rotary truly is where compassionate hearts and innovative minds come together to transform communities.

When I first received those club official lists marking the beginning of my journey as District Governor, little did I know how profoundly this experience would touch my heart. Looking back at this past month, I am overwhelmed with gratitude and inspiration from witnessing the incredible impact our Rotary family continues to make.

I remember the day First Lady Jyoti and I visited the Innerwheel Clinic in Naupada, Thane. This remarkable facility has been serving the community since 1996, providing dental care, physiotherapy, and general health services at nominal charges. What moved me deeply was learning about their dedicated Warkari Sewa for Shree Mauli's bhaktagana all these years. The trust even provides scholarships to deserving students. I felt deeply honored to be the first Rotary DG ever to visit this medical center, a testament to the power of partnership between Rotary and Innerwheel.

*"You know," I shared with Jyoti as we left, "this is exactly what service above*

*self truly means, quiet, consistent commitment year after year."*

The pace has been exhilarating! I found myself at RC North's innovative "Train the Chess Trainer" project inauguration, where I witnessed the brilliant strategic thinking behind using chess to develop young minds. The enthusiasm in those children's eyes reminded me why we serve.

Career guidance initiatives by RC Ambernath and RC Ulhasnagar Sapna Garden were particularly fulfilling. Seeing young students discover their potential paths forward—their faces lighting up with possibility, reaffirmed my belief that guidance at the right time can change lives forever.

The PELS (President-Elect Leadership Seminar) for Rotary Year 25-26 was energizing! Connecting with incoming presidents, sharing visions, and watching them form bonds that will strengthen our district, these moments of fellowship are truly priceless.

*"Leadership is not just about guiding others," I found myself telling a group of eager president-elects, "it is about creating spaces where service can flourish."*

The joint medical camp organized by RC Urbania and Agarwal Samaj at Hiranandani Estate Club House demonstrated the beautiful synergy between Rotary and community organizations. Together, we really can achieve so much more!

One of the most innovative projects I had the pleasure of inaugurating was the Cloth Bag Vending Machine Installation at Gaodevi Market by Rotary Club of Thane North. What a brilliant initiative addressing both environmental concerns and practical community needs!

My meeting with the TMC Commissioner was productive and forward-looking. We discussed ongoing projects and future planning, strengthening the crucial partnership between Rotary and local government. These relationships are vital to expanding our service impact.

The Foundation Awards ceremony was a heartwarming celebration of generosity and service. Looking around the room at those committed Rotarians who had contributed so meaningfully, I felt immense pride in belonging to this organization.



The Gudi Padwa procession and pooja with RC Bhiwandi Rural connected our service to our cultural roots. There's something powerful about combining tradition with our commitment to community betterment.

***"Service becomes even more meaningful," I remarked to a fellow Rotarian during the celebrations, "when it honors and respects the cultural fabric of our communities."***

The membership induction ceremony at RCDE was particularly moving—witnessing our Rotary family grow, bringing in fresh perspectives and energy. Each new member represents new possibilities for service.

I felt deeply honored to attend the felicitation ceremony where a lifetime achievement award was presented to Baba Amte by RC Kalyan Diamond on behalf of our district. Such recognition of exemplary service inspires us all to reach higher.

The medical camp by RC Thane demonstrated once again how direct health interventions make immediate differences in people's lives. I spoke with several beneficiaries whose gratitude was palpable, a reminder of why

healthcare access remains one of our most critical service areas.

The HPV Vaccination Camp for over 900 girl children at Shri Chhatrapati Shahuji Maharaj School in Ghansoli stood out as a highlight. With PRID Ashok Mahajan and the former Mayor of NMMC present, we witnessed preventive healthcare making a generational difference. I couldn't help but think about how these young girls' lives might be saved through this simple intervention.

At the Rose Garden and Water Filter inauguration organized by RC New Mumbai Paradise, I was struck by how beautification and practical needs can be addressed simultaneously. The garden will provide joy and respite for years to come, while the water filter addresses a fundamental need.

The RYLA organized by three clubs of Navi Mumbai filled me with hope for our future. Seeing young leaders develop their skills, form bonds, and commit to service principles reassures me that Rotary's legacy is in capable hands.

Finally, the District Leadership Assembly for the coming Rotary year brought everything



full circle. The energy in the room, the collaborative planning, the shared vision—it all pointed toward an incredible year ahead.

As I look back at these weeks of service, I am humbled by the collective impact of our district's Rotarians. Every club visit, every project inauguration, every training session represents thousands of lives touched through Rotary's channels.

We do not just build projects, we build bridges between needs and solutions, between communities and resources, between today's challenges and tomorrow's possibilities.

This diary captures not just my journey, but our shared commitment to making our corner of the world better, one day and one project at a time. The true story is not written in these pages, it is written in the smiles of those we serve.

The story continues, and I could not be more grateful to be writing it together with all of you.

Until next month's adventures in service above self, In Rotary service,

Dinesh



# Rotary International: News Flash

Rotary's 2025 Council on Legislation

## Key Decisions

### Rotary Approves Dues Increase and Club Size Changes

- Representatives from Rotary districts worldwide met in Chicago on April 13-17 for the 2025 Council on Legislation, approving several significant measures to guide the organization's future.
- Major Decisions:**
- Dues Increase:** Approved raising annual dues from \$82 to \$85.50 for 2026-27, with additional increases in subsequent years to address projected deficits
- Smaller Club Charters:** Reduced minimum membership requirement from 20 to 15 members to encourage new club formation
- Optional District Conferences:** Made annual district conferences optional rather than mandatory

- Governance Testing:** Authorized the Board to test additional governance models beyond those already being piloted.
- Other Significant Actions:**
- Rejected proposed age limits for Rotaractors
- Defeated a measure limiting honorary memberships
- Approved consideration of culture and language in determining zone boundaries
- Required more detailed financial reporting and professional analysis of RI processes

President Stephanie A. Urchick emphasized the Council's importance as "one of Rotary's most powerful expressions of multiculturalism" where representatives collaborate rather than compete.



<https://www.rotary.org/en/2025-council-approves-dues-increase-smaller-club-charters>

Disclaimer: This is a summary of the original article. For the complete text and additional details, please refer to the original article at the link provided.



## Amy Tan Seeks Peace in the Skies

### How Bird-Watching Transformed a Writer's Life

Acclaimed novelist Amy Tan found unexpected joy and healing through bird-watching and drawing. In her book "The Backyard Bird Chronicles," Tan documents her journey from recognizing just three backyard birds to identifying 61 species, while simultaneously developing her skills as an artist who creates detailed bird portraits, cartoons, and naturalist sketches.

Tan also shares a profound reconciliation with her mother, who called during her battle with Alzheimer's to apologize for childhood hurts—a moment Tan describes as deeply healing.

This is a condensed summary of the original article. For the complete interview with Amy Tan, including her thoughts on bird sounds and her favorite avian visitors, please refer to the original article in Rotary magazine.



Illustration by Anna Higbie

In a conversation with Rotary magazine, Tan reveals how nature served as a refuge from her chaotic childhood with a suicidal mother. Though she initially didn't notice birds during her childhood escapes to nearby creeks, later in life she discovered that observing birds brought her into a peaceful, present-moment awareness.



Tan's approach to bird-watching evolved beyond observation. Following advice from her mentor John Muir Laws to "be the bird," she uses her novelist's imagination to practice a form of compassion—imagining herself as the bird looking back at her. This practice mirrors how she approaches understanding others.



The creative process of drawing birds provides Tan with deep satisfaction and a break from mental challenges. She emphasizes the importance of gifting ourselves time for activities we enjoy, suggesting even 10 minutes daily can shift perspective and restore a sense of control.



<https://www.rotary.org/en/amy-tan-seeks-peace-in-the-skies>

[https://open.spotify.com/episode/2QDpES8Kfp1w6nx6ftg23?si=VC6rA2KgT-yhJ\\_78-GXxuQ](https://open.spotify.com/episode/2QDpES8Kfp1w6nx6ftg23?si=VC6rA2KgT-yhJ_78-GXxuQ)

This story originally appeared in the April 2025 issue of Rotary magazine. Illustrations used with permission of Amy Tan. All rights reserved.

# Rotary International: News Flash

## Waste Not: Tackling the Food Waste Crisis

### The Hidden Costs of Food Waste and How to Change Our Habits

Food waste represents a significant environmental and economic challenge, with nearly a quarter of U.S. landfill waste being discarded food. This waste generates methane—a potent greenhouse gas, while a third of all food sold in America goes uneaten, costing the average family of four about \$1,500 annually.

#### Why We Waste Food:

- **Psychological factors:** A "scarcity mindset" drives over-purchasing
- **Misunderstanding labels:** Most date labels indicate quality, not safety
- **Time constraints:** Busy households contribute disproportionately to waste
- **Knowledge gaps:** Many don't know which food parts are edible

#### Practical Solutions:

- Meal plan based on what's already in your kitchen
- Create an "eat-me-first box" in your refrigerator
- Learn to use typically discarded parts like broccoli stalks and herb stems
- Understand proper food storage and freezing techniques
- Compost as a last resort

#### Rotary in Action:

The "Lunch Out of Landfills" initiative, started by Rotarian Joe Richardson in Maryland, works with schools to rescue unopened milk and edible food through refrigerators and sharing tables. The program has expanded to multiple schools with support from Rotary clubs and collaborates with Interact clubs to engage students in environmental advocacy.

**"The food waste issue is so glaring in this country," says Richardson. "It's no longer OK not to act."**

Disclaimer: This is a summary of the original article. For the complete details on food waste causes and solutions, please refer to the full article in the April 2025 issue of Rotary magazine or visit the Rotary International website.



You might be surprised by how long food can stay safe in your freezer: indefinitely! But that only means bacteria won't grow below 0 degrees Fahrenheit (-18 Celsius), the recommended temperature for your freezer. To avoid spoilage, food must be fresh when you buy it and still fresh when you freeze it in airtight packaging, and your freezer can't inch above 0 degrees.

Frozen food doesn't keep its quality forever. So use up items within experts' suggested time frames, or you may bite into discolored or dried out food with a taste, smell, or texture that's off.

#### Can I still eat this? How long food items stay fresh.

##### On the counter

- Powdered baby formula: One month after opening (Don't use after "use by" date.)
- Noodles (eggless): 2 years unopened
- Canned tuna (unopened): 3-5 years
- Tomatoes (after ripening): 7 days

##### In the fridge (40 degrees)

- Apples: 4-6 weeks (They go bad weeks earlier on the counter)
- Deli sliced meat: 3-5 days
- Eggs (3-5 weeks)

##### In the freezer (0 degrees)

- Frozen whole chicken: 1 year
- Bread: 3 months (when frozen)
- Frozen dinners: 3-4 months



Image credit: Jared Soares



Courtesy of John Harder

John Harder, a member of the Rotary Club of Hanalei Bay, Hawaii, helped establish collection sites for commercial food waste during his career in solid waste management, and at home he is an avid backyard composter.

Rotarian Joe Richardson, who started the project to rescue edible food in school cafeterias, says recruiting high school volunteers who care about the environment will provide a stream of potential Rotary members.



Image credit: Jared Soares

Maryland high school student Alessia Cuba saves food from the trash and recyclables while volunteering with the Lunch Out of Landfills initiative backed by Rotary clubs.



<https://www.rotary.org/en/waste-not>



## Pioneering Women Who Revolutionized Primatology

### Three Young Scientists Who Changed Our Understanding of Our Closest Relatives



**Past Rotary International President Luis Vicente Giay**

May is celebrated as Youth Service Month in the Rotary World. Past R.I. President LUIS VICENTE GIAY, coined the term "New Generations" when he shared his belief that the future of Rotary lay in involving young people in the organisation's programs and activities. In 2010, New Generations Service became Rotary's Fifth Avenue of Service and is defined in Article 5 of the Standard Rotary Club Constitution.

The idea of involving, young people to further an organisations programs and activities is not new and possibly, one of the most famous examples is the Trimate Scientists or Leakey's Angels.

Louis Leakey, was a Kenyan-British Paleanthropologist, whose work was important in demonstrating that humans evolved in Africa, particularly through discoveries in the Olduvai Gorge in Tanzania where he collaborated with fellow paleanthropologist and wife Mary Leakey.

One of Leakey's enduring legacies, stems from his role in fostering field research of primates in their natural habitats. He encouraged, three young women,

#### JANE GOODALL

<https://janegoodall.org/>  
<https://youtu.be/Vq5dKqNw92o>



#### DIANE FOSSEY

<https://www.britannica.com/biography/Diane-Fossey>

#### BURUTE GALDIKAS

<https://orangutanfoundation.org.au/dr-birute-mary-galdikas/>

to study Chimpanzees, Gorillas and Orangutans, respectively.

Jane Goodall first went to GOMBE STREAM National Park in Tanzania, to study its Chimpanzees in 1960 and spent the next six decades studying the social and family interactions of wild chimpanzees. Goodall's research Gombe Stream challenged two long-standing beliefs of the time: that only man used tools and that Chimpanzees were vegetarian. Whilst watching one Chimpanzee feeding at a termite mound, she observed him repeatedly place stalks of grass in termite holes, then remove them from the hole, covered with clinging termites thus effectively "fishing" for termites. She also observed that Chimpanzees will systematically hunt and eat smaller primates such as Colobus monkeys.

Goodall also set herself apart from convention by naming all the primates in her study instead of assigning them numbers. Numbering was a universal practice adopted to ensure there was no emotional attachment to the subject being studied. She was the only human ever to be accepted into chimpanzee society becoming the lowest-ranked member of a troupe for a period of 22 months.



Jane Goodall

Diane Fossey was an American Primatologist, who studied Mountain Gorilla groups in the Mountain Forests of Rwanda from 1966 until her murder in 1985. Accompanied by photographer, Alan Root, who helped her obtain work permits for the Virunga Mountains, Fossey began her work study in the Congo in 1967. Fossey identified

three distinct groups in the study area but could not get close to them. She eventually found that mimicking their actions and making grunting sounds reassured them, together with submissive behaviour and eating of the local celery plant.



Dian Fossey



Fossey made discoveries about gorilla vocalization, hierarchies, social relationships amongst groups, gorilla diet and how gorillas recycle nutrients. Her Book, "Gorillas in the Mist" went on to become a Best Seller.

Birute Galdikas is a Lithuanian-Canadian Primatologist, Anthropologist, Conservationist and Author. During her studies at UCLA, Galdikas met Louis Leakey and proposed a plan to study Orangutans in their natural habitat. Leakey found funding from The National Geographic Society which agreed to set up a research facility in Borneo.



Birute Galdikas

Galdikas has remained in Borneo for over four decades whilst becoming an outspoken advocate for orangutans and their rainforest habitat which is rapidly being destroyed by loggers and palm oil plantations. Her conservation efforts largely focuses on the rehabilitation of orphaned orangutans, many of whom were once illegal pets but got too smart and too difficult for their owners to handle.

Leakey's Angels or the Trimates have opened up a whole new world to us and the New Generation lived up to the faith imposed in them.

**Kumar Deshpande  
OSD**

# E

## mpowering Gen Z to Secure India's Cyber Future

### The Gen Z Cyber Warriors

(Gen Z are individuals born in the late 1990s and early 2010s)

In today's hyperconnected world, India stands at a fascinating digital crossroads. As smartphones proliferate and high-speed internet reaches even remote villages, our nation has embraced technology with remarkable enthusiasm. Yet, this digital renaissance carries with it a shadowy companion – a surge in sophisticated cybercrime that threatens to undermine our collective digital future.

The statistics paint a sobering picture. India ranks among the top three countries facing cyber-attacks globally, with an estimated 17.5 million incidents reported in the past year alone. From ransomware attacks paralyzing critical infrastructure to elaborate phishing schemes targeting vulnerable citizens, the digital battlefield grows more treacherous by the day.

Social media, that vibrant digital town square where over 500 million Indians gather daily, has become both blessing and battleground. Young Indians embrace these platforms with unparalleled fervour, yet this very enthusiasm creates fertile ground for cybercriminals. Data harvesting, identity theft, and social engineering attacks flourish in an environment where personal information flows freely and digital literacy struggles to keep pace with technological adoption.

But here is where the narrative takes an unexpected turn, the very generation most immersed in digital culture possesses the innate understanding to transform our cybersecurity landscape. Gen Z, those digital natives who navigate the virtual world as effortlessly as the physical one, represent our most valuable untapped resource in the fight against cybercrime.

It is time we embrace a powerful new paradigm: "Let the Youth Help Youth." Rather than viewing young people as vulnerable targets requiring protection, we must recognize them as potential cyber sentinels capable of leading from the front. Their intuitive grasp of emerging platforms, peer-to-peer communication skills, and authentic voices make them ideal cybersecurity ambassadors.

Imagine networks of young digital guardians spreading across India's schools and colleges, equipped with the knowledge to identify threats

and the communication skills to share that wisdom effectively. Picture youth-led workshops where complex security concepts are translated into accessible language that resonates with their peers. Envision social media campaigns designed by young creators that turn cybersecurity from a tedious afterthought into a compelling social cause.



The blueprint exists, we need only the vision and commitment to bring it to life.

Educational institutions must incorporate cybersecurity

fundamentals into curricula. Technology companies must invest in youth-led initiatives that foster digital responsibility. Government agencies must create pathways for young cyber enthusiasts to contribute meaningfully to national digital defense strategies.

And this is where you, our esteemed Rotary leaders and fellow Rotarians across the globe, enter this crucial narrative. Our organization stand at the intersection of community service, international cooperation, and youth empowerment. The worldwide network of Rotary Clubs and Interact/Rotaract programs provides the perfect infrastructure to catalyse this youth-led cybersecurity revolution.

We implore you to bring Interactors and Rotaractors to the forefront of this mission. Establish cybersecurity awareness projects that enable young members to educate their communities. Create mentorship programs pairing tech-savvy youth with experienced security professionals. Fund scholarships for promising students pursuing cybersecurity education. Facilitate international exchanges where young digital defenders can share strategies across cultural boundaries.

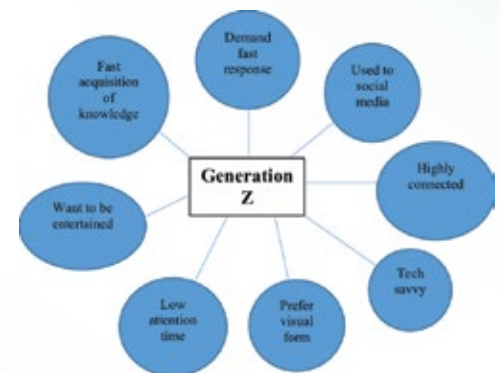
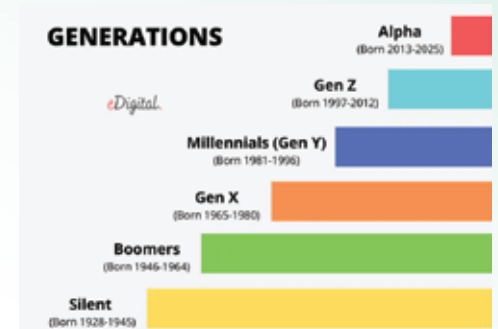


The digital world recognizes no borders, neither should our response to its challenges. Together, with youth leading the charge and Rotary providing the platform, we can transform India's cybersecurity landscape and create a model for the world. Our digital future depends not on how effectively we shield our youth from threats, but on how boldly we empower them to become the solution.

Let us bridge the generational digital divide and harness the collective brilliance of our youth to create safer digital communities across the globe.

TEAM GML 2425

Disclaimer: This article is based on personal thoughts and experiences. We invite all Rotary club presidents to share service projects executed based on this appeal in our next edition.



<https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/rise-gen-z-india-shaping-new-era-dr-bhawani-singh-rathore-6981c/>  
<https://district5030.org/bridging-generations-in-rotary-empowering-millennials-and-gen-z-for-global-impact/>

# The Patriot's Flame

In Memory of Manoj Kumar (1937-2024)



## Bharat Kumar Forever

*The Patriot Who Captured India's Heart*



***"If you want to build a strong India, you have to be patriotic."***

- Manoj Kumar

In the golden era of Indian cinema, few stars shone as purposefully as Manoj Kumar. Known affectionately as "Bharat Kumar" for his devotion to nationalist themes, Kumar etched the essence of Indian identity into the nation's collective consciousness. Through his carefully crafted films and soul-stirring melodies, he created a cinematic legacy that continues to resonate with generations of Indians.

### The Films That Defined a Nation

During the 1960s and 70s, as India found its footing after independence, Manoj Kumar emerged as a guiding light, using cinema to instill national pride and unity.

His patriotic trilogy, *Upkar* (1967), *Purab Aur Paschim* (1970), and *Roti Kapda Aur Makaan* (1974), stands as his most enduring contribution. *Upkar*, inspired by Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri's "Jai Jawan Jai Kisan" slogan, portrayed Kumar as Bharat, a farmer sacrificing personal ambitions for the nation. *Purab Aur Paschim* tackled the clash between traditional Indian values and Western influence, while *Roti Kapda Aur Makaan* addressed economic inequality in post-independence India.

### Capturing the Youth Imagination

Kumar's impact on young audiences stemmed from his ability to make patriotism emotionally engaging. His characters provided aspirational role models demonstrating that national service could be expressed through everyday choices, ethical conduct, and unwavering integrity.

His films connected rather than preached. Young viewers found in his narratives a roadmap for reconciling personal ambitions with national duty. Kumar understood that to capture youthful imagination, entertainment couldn't be sacrificed for message, his films delivered patriotic themes through compelling narratives and memorable characters.

### Melodies That Moved a Nation

If Kumar's visual storytelling stirred the mind, the songs from his films captured India's soul. Working with legendary composers, he created musical experiences that became eternal expressions of Indian patriotism.

"Mere Desh Ki Dharti" from *Upkar* stands as perhaps the most iconic patriotic song in Indian cinema. From *Purab Aur Paschim*, "Hai Preet Jahan Ki Reet Sada" became an overseas Indian's anthem, while the title song from *Kranti* (1981) demonstrated Kumar's understanding that patriotism wasn't merely about celebrating India's present, but fighting for its future.

These songs endured by distilling complex patriotic sentiments into accessible emotional experiences, felt in school assemblies, Republic Day celebrations, and community gatherings across generations.

### A Legacy That Transcends Time

Decades later, Kumar's influence remains etched in Indian cinema and culture. His films serve as reference points for discussing national identity, and his songs continue to be performed at patriotic events nationwide.

Modern filmmakers addressing nationalism owe a debt to his pioneering approach. Kumar demonstrated that patriotic cinema could be commercially viable while remaining artistically credible. His influence extends beyond film into how Indians conceptualize patriotism itself, not as grand gestures, but as everyday commitment to values, community, and social responsibility.

For today's youth navigating an increasingly globalized India, Kumar's work offers a template for balancing cultural pride with global citizenship, tradition with progress.

### The Man Behind Bharat Kumar

Beyond his on-screen persona, Manoj Kumar embodied the values his films championed. Known for his humility and devotion to craft, he approached

filmmaking as cultural service. His meticulous attention to detail reflected his respect for audiences and commitment to quality.

"I never made films for awards or recognition," he once remarked. "I made them because I had something to say about my country, and cinema was my language." This authenticity of purpose distinguishes his legacy powerfully.

### The Eternal Flame of Inspiration

What makes Kumar's work timeless is that beneath specific social contexts lies a universal exploration of loving one's country while striving to improve it, patriotism not as blind devotion, but as thoughtful engagement.

For young Indians today, Kumar's films provide emotional anchors in a rapidly changing world. They remind us that while technologies and political landscapes transform, the core values of integrity, compassion, service, and unity in diversity remain constant.

The true measure of Kumar's influence is how his vision of India continues to inspire across generations. As long as Indians gather to sing "Mere Desh Ki Dharti," as long as filmmakers draw inspiration from his storytelling, Bharat Kumar lives on.

In celebrating Manoj Kumar's legacy, we celebrate a cultural philosopher whose canvas was the silver screen and whose brushstrokes painted visions of what India was, is, and could be. His gift wasn't just entertainment but inspiration, a flame that continues to illuminate the path toward a more united, compassionate, and proudly Indian society.

TEAM GML 2425



# The Patriot's Flame

In Memory of Manoj Kumar (1937-2024)



## Ode to the Upholder of India's Soul

*Where tricolor dreams unfurled in celluloid light,  
You stood tall, our Bharat Kumar, patriotism's knight.  
With "Upkar" and "Purab Aur Paschim," you painted our pride,  
Stories of soil and sacrifice that time cannot hide.*

*Your voice echoed the heartbeat of a nascent nation,  
"Mere Desh Ki Dharti" became our generation's ovation.  
You taught us, through silver screens and golden songs,  
That to love one's motherland is where the heart belongs.*

*When youth sought heroes in changing times,  
You showed them virtue through powerful rhymes.  
"Hai Preet Jahan Ki Reet Sada" still rings in our ears,  
A melody of unity that dispels all fears.*

*The common man's struggles found voice in your art,  
While "Meri Pehchan" touched every Indian heart.  
From villages to cities, your message spread wide,  
In your characters' journeys, we all saw our stride.*

*Even as curtains fall on your earthly performance,  
Your legacy of pride blooms with persistence.  
For generations unborn will still feel your flame,  
When India's spirit is invoked with your name.*

*Rest now, Bharat Kumar, in eternity's embrace,  
Your films forever light our patriotic grace.  
In every flag that rises, in every anthem sung,  
The essence of Manoj Kumar remains forever young...Savi*



# Impact Feature

## The RCT Hiranandani Legend Rises

# H

## ow One Man's Vision Created a Rotary Legacy

### *A story of commitment, service, and unprecedented growth!*

When we told Nileshe about the opportunity to book an IMPACT feature to promote his club across RID 3142, 35+ RIDs across Rotary India & International, his eyes lit up. Here was a chance for every Rotarian to know about his club, his dedicated members, their impactful service projects, and the vibrant fellowships they enjoy.

What did Nileshe do? In his characteristic go-getter style, he grabbed the opportunity and decided to book not just one, but TWO IMPACT features in #rotarytimes@3142 GML2425, a publication that's making waves across leaders and clubs in the Rotary world!

That's what brought us to this conversation with him. And guess what? What we discovered left us inspired. Read on...

**It all started on a warm summer day...**when one man decided that service to humanity was not just a hobby, it was a calling. Nileshe Dhahifule, a name now synonymous with dedication and service in the Thane region, embarked on a journey that would transform countless lives and create a legacy of compassion.

"I believe that true happiness comes from serving others," Nileshe often says with a gleam in his eye that tells you he means every word.

And serve he has. As a proud Rotarian of Rotary Club of Thane Hiranandani Legends, Nileshe's zeal for service is so infectious that he has been unanimously elected as the President of the Club for the third time. That's not a coincidence, that is recognition of exceptional leadership.

when one man decided that service to humanity wasn't just a choice, it was his calling. Nileshe Dhahifule, a successful entrepreneur with over two decades in real estate, looked around his beloved Thane community and thought, "I can do more."

"You know what drives me every morning? "Nileshe once shared with a gleaming smile. "The possibility of changing someone's life today."

And change lives he has. Long before founding RC Thane Hiranandani Legends, Nileshe had established himself as a force in the real estate sector, working with prominent names like Swastik Enterprises, Morya Infraconstruct, and R.K. Group of Bhiwandi. But ask anyone in Thane about Nileshe, and they'll likely mention his philanthropy before his business acumen.

"During COVID, when everyone was retreating, Nileshe was advancing," recalls a community member. "He was arranging hospital beds when they were scarce, organizing food for migrant workers, and ensuring elderly residents had their essentials. The man simply doesn't know how to say no when someone needs help."

This reputation for selfless service made Nileshe a natural fit for Rotary. His passion for uplifting

communities eventually led to a historic moment, the charter presentation ceremony of Rotary Club of Thane Hiranandani Legends on June 23, 2024.

The evening at Vihang's Inn was electric. Under the distinguished presence of Past RI President R. Gordon R. McNally, Nileshe P. Dhahifule was installed as Charter Club President alongside Charter Secretary Rachitha Mulki. PDG Milind Kulkarni of District 3142 presented the charter, officially bringing the club into existence.

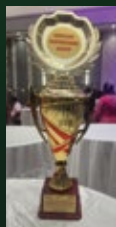
### **Rtn Asha Balasubramanian**

Despite physical challenges, Asha leads Club Administration with extraordinary dedication and resilience, inspiring members through her unwavering commitment to service.



### **Rtn Kamini Tai**

Entrepreneur Kamini Tai brings unique perspective and dynamic energy to our diverse club, embodying inclusive leadership through her active business acumen and service.



# Impact Feature

## The RCT Hiranandani Legend Rises

### How RCTHL Making History

#### A story of commitment, service, and unprecedented growth!

"This isn't just another Rotary club," Nilesh announced that evening. "This is going to be a legends club, where service and fellowship combine to create lasting change."

True to his word, Nilesh, a Major Donor to Rotary Foundation, did not waste a moment. The club immediately launched Project Annapurna, a year-long commitment to provide nutrition to over 100 underprivileged children. They established regular Annadaan services at the local mental hospital. The club organized cancer detection camps for women in collaboration with Nana Palker Smriti Samiti.

Perhaps most impactful was their vocational training initiative for women. Fifteen participants completed beauty parlour courses, with thirteen going on to start their own businesses, each supported with essential equipment from the club.

"When you empower a woman, you empower generations," Nilesh often says.

The club's ambition soon expanded beyond Thane. They spearheaded a landmark multi-district vocational training program specifically for

Maharashtra's farmers, bringing together Districts 3131, 3142, 3141, 3132, 3170, and 3030.

The club's humanitarian efforts extend to the most vulnerable, including funding life-changing eyesight operations for two children from an Adivasi pada, allowing them to see the world clearly for the first time. They've also sponsored the Interact Club of Poddar International School, Thane, nurturing service ideals in young people aged 12 to 18.

"Seeing those children view the world clearly for the first time, there is no business success that compares to that feeling," Nilesh shared after the project's completion.

What makes RC Thane Hiranandani Legends remarkable isn't just the volume of service, an impressive 32 projects in their first year, but the depth of impact. In just twelve months, this fledgling club contributed a staggering 13,93,500 INR to Rotary Foundation funds.

Now serving an unprecedented third term as President, Nilesh has assembled a diverse membership representing various professions across Hiranandani Estate. Each member brings unique talents, but shares a common commitment to Rotary's ideals of service above self.

"We are not looking for just anyone to join us," explains Nilesh with characteristic directness. "We want TRUE ROTARIANS! people ready to roll up their sleeves for service while enjoying the fellowship that makes Rotary special."

As the club enters its next year, one thing is certain: what started as one man's vision has transformed into a community of legends, each writing their own story of service. And in Thane, those stories are just beginning.

For those inspired by this remarkable story of impact and growth, the club invites you to contact them to learn more about membership opportunities and upcoming service projects.

To Follow us JUST CLICK away



- <https://rotaryindia.org/ProjectList.aspx?State=&DistID=491&ClubID=34730&CategoryID=0&Flag=1&MainFlag=2>
- <https://rcthanehirandanilegends.rotaryindia.org/Home2.aspx>
- <https://youtu.be/mtDMI0G1OyQ?t=45>
- <https://www.instagram.com/thanehirandanilegends/>

Join the legends. Make a difference. Become part of history in the making.

Ready to become part of the legend? Contact RC Thane Hiranandani Legends today to learn about membership opportunities and upcoming service projects.

Contact : Club President: +91 88280 37878  
Club Secretary Rachitha Mulki: +91 982020 1430



## Sparking Safety Knowledge *Heroes In Training*

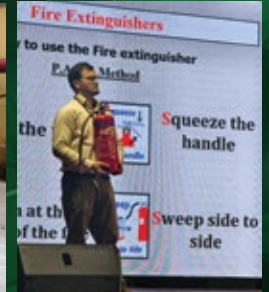
**Nearly 1,000 Students Learn Life-Saving Skills!**

In an impressive display of commitment to youth safety, Rotary Club of Thane Horizon conducted a series of life-saving fire safety workshops reaching nearly 1,000 students across multiple campuses this April! The three-part initiative delivered critical emergency preparedness skills through engaging demonstrations that turned classroom theory into practical knowledge.

Led by Rtn. Abhishek Sinha (Club Treasurer) alongside his expert team from FX Engineering Pvt. Ltd., these workshops transformed ordinary school days into unforgettable safety learning experiences. Students from grades 6 through 9 not only learned about fire prevention and response but actually got hands-on experience with fire extinguishers under professional supervision.

The whirlwind safety tour began on April 4th at Pawar Public School, Bhandup, where 400 enthusiastic students from grades 8 and 9 participated in the inaugural session. The momentum continued with a second workshop at the same campus on April 8th, reaching an additional 412 students from grades 6 and 7. Completing the trifecta, the team brought their expertise to Pawar Public School, Chandivali on April 11th, where 132 seventh-graders eagerly joined the safety

### RC THANE HORIZON IGNITES FIRE SAFETY AWARENESS ACROSS SCHOOLS!



revolution.

Each immersive 75-minute session covered critical knowledge including fire causation factors, classification of different fire types, appropriate extinguisher selection, and essential do's and don'ts during emergencies. The highlight for students was undoubtedly the live fire extinguishing demonstration where select participants stepped forward to practice proper technique under expert guidance.

The initiative represents a perfect example of Rotary's commitment to practical youth education, with Rtn. Radhika Padmanabhan (Director Projects) ensuring seamless coordination across all events, supported by Rtn. Kavita Jurnis (Club Secretary) at the inaugural session.

Through this comprehensive program, RC Thane Horizon has not only provided crucial life-saving skills to 944 young community members but has demonstrated how professional expertise within the club can create exceptional service opportunities. Now that's an AWESOME STORY worth celebrating!

Special thanks to FX Engineering Pvt. Ltd. for their technical expertise and to the administration of both Pawar Public School campuses for prioritizing student safety education.



## Awesome Nostalgic moments comes true!

Rtn. Radhika Padmanabhan,  
RC Thane Horizon



A CRICKET FAN'S DREAM 55years in the making FULFILLED! Radhika's admiration began in 1975 when, as a fifth-grader, got fulfilled her "AWESOME MOMENT" when she finally met her childhood hero, cricket legend Sunil Gavaskar.

## Business Brilliance

### RMBF'S National Conclave Unites Visionaries At Taj Santacruz

*Historic gathering of business leaders at the first-ever RMBF National Mumbai Business Conclave at Taj Santacruz.*

The Rotary Means Business Fellowship (RMBF) made history with its inaugural National Mumbai Business Conclave at Taj Santacruz, orchestrated by Chairman Dr. Ashok Sharma. This landmark gathering united over 250 entrepreneurs under one roof, creating unprecedented networking opportunities.

Distinguished dignitaries graced the occasion, including Chief Guest DG Dinesh Mehta, inaugurated the conclave in presence of Guests of Honour DGN Dr. Nilesh Jaywant, Padma Shri Dr. Yadav, and Rotary International Chairman Mr. Rajamohan Dandapani and RMBF Vice Chairman Mr. Arvind Batra. The international presence of Consulate Generals from Indonesia, Belarus, and Abu Dhabi elevated the event's global significance.

Thought leaders Mr. Amar Khakariya and C.A. G.B. Modi delivered powerful sessions on entrepreneurship and financial strategy, while Padma Shri Dr. Yadav honored outstanding business achievers during the prestigious awards ceremony.

The conclave concluded with the installation of Rtn. Vijay Wani as the new RMBF Chairman, marking a fresh chapter in the fellowship's mission to foster ethical business connections and entrepreneurial excellence across India.

Report by Team GML 2425

#RotaryMeansBusiness #BusinessConclave  
#RotaryIndia #EntrepreneurialExcellence



## Flags Unite Rotary's Global Family

### ROTARIANS UNITE NATIONS THROUGH FELLOWSHIP

*"When flags exchange hands, borders fade away, Rotary's global family proves that friendship knows no boundaries, and service speaks all languages."*

Flag exchanges in Rotary symbolize the international bond between clubs, extending friendship across borders while celebrating our shared commitment to service and fellowship around the world.

#### 1. Yuvraj Shidhaye (RC Creek Side) & RC Jakarta Sunter Centennial:

Yuvraj experienced exceptional Indonesian hospitality while attending their club meeting, exchanging ideas and building connections that transcend geographical boundaries.

#### 2. Jay Karia (RC NM Smart City) & RC Eco Preservation Kashmir:

Jay connected with Charter President Sujata

Saleem and VP Hussain, establishing new bonds between their environmental conservation efforts and our club's community initiatives.

#### 3. Milan Chandak (RC NM Smart City) & RC Locarno, Switzerland:

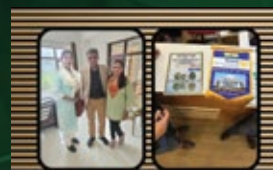
Milan exchanged flags with President Rigozzi Manuel, sharing our district's \$1M TRF contribution, pediatric heart surgeries, and End Thalassemia initiative during a warm lunch meeting.

#### 4. RC DOMBIVLI EAST Flag Exchange during international picnic with RC Azerbaijan International at BAKU

*Rotary's flag exchanges remind us that though we serve in different corners of the world, we remain united in our mission to create lasting change.*

TEAM GML 2425

Yuvraj Shidhaye



Jay Karia

Milan Chandak



RC DOMBIVLI EAST

Proud to represent our District during productive meetings, Building partnerships and exchanging Rotary traditions

#### Flag exchange visits by Rtn Ramesh Pallavoor Rotary Club Thane Northend with:

1. RC Mesa West with President Jay Paulus (March 3, 2025)
2. RC Goodyear Pebble Creek with DG Michelle Halcombe (District 5495)
3. RC Mesa with President Mark Young
4. RC Estrella with President Joe Zuccaro (incoming AG) and members

#### Flag exchange visits by Rtn Vijay Kewalramani Rotary Club Thane Titans with:

1. with PDG Annemarie Mostert (Chairperson Elect of Rotary International ICC Council)
2. DG Stephen Young (RID 9350, South Africa)

Grateful for the warm welcome and excited about our future collaborations!

#RotaryConnections #FlagExchange  
#DistrictPartnership #ServiceAboveSelf  
#RotaryInternational

Rtn Ramesh Pallavoor



Rtn Vijay Kewalramani

With His Excellency Chisano, Past President of Mozambique, DG Stephen Young, RID 9350 and PFG Annemarie Mostert, Chair Elect, Rotary ICC Executive Council

# AWESOME STORIES

The Amtes Honored

## Celebrating Champions Of Humanity

In a heartwarming ceremony that brought together Rotarians from across the region, we witnessed a truly special moment of recognition earlier this month. On that beautiful evening of April 6th at the prestigious Acharya Atre Rang mandir in Kalyan, something magical happened.

District 3142 and the Rotary Club of Kalyan Diamonds led by Awesome Club President Arvind Shinde, came together to honor two extraordinary individuals whose lives have been defined by selfless service. The room buzzed with admiration as Magsaysay Awardee Padmashree Dr. Prakash Baba Amte and Dr. Mandakini Amte received the Lifetime Achievement Award 2025 for their remarkable humanitarian work.

You should have seen the standing ovation! As our respected District Governor Dinesh Mehta personally presented the award, you could feel the profound respect filling the auditorium. The Amtes, with their characteristic humility, accepted this recognition for decades of service to tribal communities and wildlife conservation. "It was one of those rare moments in Rotary service that touches your heart deeply. Presenting the Lifetime Achievement Award to Padmashree Dr. Prakash Baba Amte and Dr. Mandakini Amte wasn't just an official duty, it was a profound privilege that reminded us all why we serve." - expressed DG Dinesh Mehta.

What made the evening truly special was not just the formal award, but the stories shared about the Amtes' journey, how they transformed lives in remote Hemalkasa, a village in Maharashtra, India, where the social activist Baba Amte established the Lok Biradari Prakalp in 1973, and since bringing healthcare, education, and dignity to thousands.

We at RC Kalyan Diamonds couldn't have been prouder to host such distinguished humanitarians and celebrate service that truly embodies the Rotary spirit of "Service Above Self."

TEAM GML 2425



### The Human Touch in Maternal and Child Health

# P

## resence, Not Pity

When I walked into Sai Sanjeevani Hospital that Friday afternoon, the atmosphere was different from most charity events I have attended. There was something deeply personal about how the Rotary Club of Hiranandani Estate (with their mission #RCHE1st campaign) Members interacted with the expecting mothers gathered in the waiting area.

"We don't just write cheques," said Awesome President Arunima Singh, an #RCHEMember1st, her eyes crinkling with warmth as she held the hand of a young pregnant woman.

This approach is not accidental. #RCHE1st, has cultivated a philosophy that sets them apart in the world of community service. They believe that true empathy can only come from direct engagement with beneficiaries, from looking into their eyes and hearing their voices tremble with both worry and hope.

"We come here to see the faces, hear the stories, and understand the journeys of these brave women," added #RCHEMember1st Project Chair Rama Sampath.

As I watched the members present their contribution of ₹1,43,000 to support 22 pregnant women through their entire term at the Divine Mother & Child Health Programme, I noticed something remarkable. There were no cameras flashing for publicity shots, no speeches dripping with pity **JUST MOMENTS of JOY WERE CAPTURED IN REAL!** Instead, there were conversations, real ones, where Rotarians sat beside these women, asking about their dreams for their unborn children.

"When you sit with someone and truly listen," explained Club Secretary Anubha Kharabe, yet another dedicated #RCHEMember1st, "you don't see them as charity cases." - she added.

"You see another human being with the same desires and fears as you. That is when giving becomes meaningful." - expressed PP Pradeep Thakur, #RCHEMember1st.

The club's philosophy echoes through all their maternal health initiatives. Their

February donation of ₹2 lakh for pediatric heart surgery and research equipment came after members spent time with families whose children needed these life-saving procedures.

In a world where charity often happens at arm's length, through apps and automated donations, RCHE's approach reminds us that compassion requires presence. Their work with Thane Municipal Hospital's Maternity Centre at Balkum and now with Sai Sanjeevani Hospital demonstrates that addressing maternal mortality isn't just about money; it is about showing up.

"We don't want our members to feel sorry for people," Club President Arunima Singh, told me as we departed. "We want them to feel with people. That is the difference between pity and empathy. And honestly, we receive far more than we give when we connect this way." she concluded satisfied.

As April's Maternal and Child Health Month draws to a close, #RCHE1st's approach offers a powerful lesson: *When we step into the shoes of others, feel their anxieties and celebrate their joys, we transform both their lives and our own."*

Oops! I got so caught up in writing this for our bulletin that I almost forgot I am supposed to be editing, not pouring my heart out! But then again, that is precisely why I am so proud to be more than just an Club Bulletin Editor, I am #RCHEMEMBER1st of this remarkable club that truly makes a difference, one personal connection at a time.

**Reported by:** Club President Arunima Singh |  
**Report compiled by:** Project Chair Rama Sampath

*When we serve with hands, not just from afar,  
#RCHEmember1st ignites the change we are.  
In every life we touch, a brighter future gleams,  
One heart, one connection, how service redeems...Savi*

In service and solidarity,  
**Story created by:** PP Namrataa Srivastav  
**#RCHEMEMBER1st**



- <https://www.instagram.com/rchenow20/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=rotary%20club%20of%20hiranandani%20estate%2C%20thane>
- <https://rchiranandaniestate.rotaryindia.org/Home4.aspx>



### Rotary Club of Thane Skyline Brings

# M

## obility to Mumbai's Busiest Station

It was a sunny Tuesday morning when the bustling Thane railway station witnessed an act of remarkable compassion. The Rotary Club of Thane Skyline, led by their dedicated President Murli Sundrani, arrived with what might seem like simple equipment to some, but represented life-changing assistance to many, brand new wheelchairs.

"You should have seen the expression on the station master's face," remarked RCTS Charter President, a long-time Rotarian who helped coordinate the initiative. "In all his years managing one of Mumbai's busiest transit hubs, he said rarely had he seen a donation so practical and immediately useful."

The timing couldn't have been better. Thane station, with its staggering daily footfall exceeding 6.5 lakh commuters, had long struggled with accessibility challenges. Elderly passengers, differently-abled individuals, and those with temporary medical conditions often faced the daunting task of navigating the crowded platforms with limited assistance.

President Murli "Murli Bhai" Sundrani, whose vision sparked this initiative, addressed the small gathering with characteristic humility. "This is not about recognition," he told the assembled Rotarians and railway staff. "It is about honoring our commitment to service above self. Every person deserves to travel with dignity, regardless of their mobility challenges."

Railway staff received basic training on wheelchair assistance protocols, ensuring the equipment would be properly maintained and readily available to those in need. Station Manager Keshav Tawade ji praised the initiative, noting that "these wheelchairs will serve thousands in the coming years, making Thane station truly accessible to all Mumbai citizens."

A sense of accomplishment filled the air as Club First Lady Reetu Sundrani, Club CP L K Barathi, Club Secretary Daly John, Club Treasurer Vijay Dodeja, and Club Director Kamal Kapoor stood together witnessing the culmination of their collective efforts. These

Rotarians, having contributed generously to fund the wheelchair initiative, exchanged proud glances as President Murli Sundrani formally presented the official documentation to the railway authorities. Each wheelchair, prominently displaying the Rotary emblem as a symbol of service and community care, did no remain idle for long. Within just sixty minutes of the handover ceremony, passengers experienced the newfound mobility these chairs provided, a testament to the immediate impact of the club's thoughtful donation.

"It is not just about the wheelchairs," explained First Lady Rotarian Reetu Sundrani. "It is about changing mindsets. When commuters see these wheelchairs in action, they are reminded that inclusivity isn't optional, it is essential."

As the day concluded and the Rotarians departed, they left behind more than just mobility equipment. They left a statement about the power of community service and the difference a small group of dedicated individuals can make in a city of millions.

#### Team GML 2425

Disclaimer: Compiled from WhatsApp reports, firsthand observations, and member testimonials. Some details may have been adapted for storytelling purposes while preserving the authentic spirit of this community service initiative.



# AWESOME STORIES

## The Tribal Farming Revival

### RC Ambernath Industrial Area

# S

## eedsof Change

### *Sustainable Natural Farming Initiative: Empowering Tribal Farmers In India*

It was a warm afternoon when I first visited the villages nestled in the remote areas of Bhiwandi, Maharashtra. The transformation I witnessed there still fills me with awe when I think about it today.

"When we first arrived, many farmers were struggling with depleted soil and rising costs of chemical fertilizers," Sandesh, the President of Rotary Club of Ambernath Industrial Area, told me as we walked through fields now teeming with life. "But look at them now."

The journey began two years ago when the Rotary Club of Ambernath Industrial Area partnered with their global counterparts from the Rotary Club of Ajijic, Mexico. Together with the Om Gagangiri Maharaj Ashirwadit Trust (OMGMT), they embarked on an ambitious mission to revitalize farming practices across 34 villages in Maharashtra.

Jeanette Monosoff from the Ajijic Rotary Club was instrumental in bridging the international partnership. "We wanted to create something sustainable," she explained. "Not just a quick fix, but a complete transformation of how these communities approach farming."

The impact was profound. Over 350 tribal families from the Warli, Malhar Koli, and Thakur communities embraced the natural farming techniques. I remember watching elderly farmers, their hands stained with the rich mixture of cow dung, leaves, and herbs, preparing natural fertilizers with pride in their eyes.

"My father used these methods, but we had forgotten them," shared Lakshmi, a Warli farmer whose vegetable yield had doubled since joining the program. "Now we're teaching our children what our ancestors always knew."

The demonstration farm became the heart of the initiative. Farmers gathered there regularly, exchanging knowledge and experimenting with different natural solutions. The distribution of 9,000 fruit and native saplings transformed once-barren patches into diverse agricultural systems, while the 500 spray pumps enabled efficient application of natural pest repellents.

Perhaps the most inspiring development was the storage and distribution hub that connected these

remote villages to markets in Mumbai and Navi Mumbai. "Before, we sold at whatever price the middlemen offered," explained Rajan, who now coordinates several village collectives. "Now we understand fair pricing and how to brand our organic produce."

The entrepreneurial training sessions were filled with laughter and serious note-taking as farmers learned about market dynamics and sustainable business practices. Women, who previously had limited roles in selling produce, emerged as confident negotiators and business leaders.

In the evenings, the sound of the Tarpa music would often fill the air as communities celebrated their cultural heritage. Traditional dances became not just entertainment but a symbol of resilience and community pride.

"The beauty of this project," Sandesh remarked during the final evaluation meeting, "was seeing ancient wisdom merge with modern sustainable practices."

The numbers tell part of the story: increased yields, reduced costs, higher income. But walking through those villages, seeing children helping their parents tend to thriving farms instead of migrating to overcrowded cities, told the real story of success.

As Jeanette summed it up in her final report, "We didn't just grow crops; we grew hope, dignity, and a sustainable future." And looking at the flourishing communities today, those weren't just words – they were seeds planted in fertile ground that continue to grow.

Reported by Awesome Club President Sandesh Namde RC Ambernath Industrial Area



#### **SUSTAINABLE NATURAL FARMING INITIATIVE: EMPOWERING TRIBAL FARMERS IN INDIA**

**Jeanette Monosoff**  
Ajijic Rotary Club  
Ajijic, Mexico

The Rotary Club of Ajijic (Mexico) and the Rotary Club of Ambernath Industrial Area (India) have partnered with the Om Gagangiri Maharaj Ashirwadit Trust (OMGMT) to launch the Sustainable Natural Farming Initiative across 34 villages in Maharashtra, India.

This Global Grant project empowers over 350 tribal families from the Warli, Malhar Koli, and Thakur communities through sustainable farming techniques, improved market access, and community development. Farmers are trained to create natural farming solutions using local ingredients like cow dung, leaves, garlic, and herbs, reducing dependence on chemical fertilizers while restoring soil health and lowering production costs.

Key project components include:

- Establishing a demonstration farm and training center.
- Distributing 9,000 fruit and native saplings and 500 spray pumps.
- Building a storage and distribution hub to connect farmers to markets in Mumbai and Navi Mumbai.
- Providing entrepreneurial training in pricing, branding, and fair trade practices.
- Integrating traditional cultural practices, like the Tarpa Dance, to strengthen community pride and resilience.

Sustainability is central to the project: natural farming knowledge will be shared farmer-to-farmer, and income from expanded market access will support ongoing success. This initiative supports multiple UN Sustainable Development Goals, including Zero Hunger, Good Health and Well-being, and Climate Action.

Rotary's global partnership is making a tangible difference – restoring land, lifting incomes, and preserving cultural heritage. Together, we are helping communities grow a healthier and more sustainable future.

Questions? Email [jeanetterotarioajijic@gmail.com](mailto:jeanetterotarioajijic@gmail.com)

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# AWESOME STORIES

A Dream Realized

RC Thane North

## The Happy Schools Story

"Can you believe it?" President Medha's eyes glistened with pride at Sangam School in Shahapur. What began as an ambitious napkin sketch during a Rotary Club Thane North meeting, transforming eleven schools in Shahapur, had once seemed impossibly grand. Now it stood completed before us..

But that was before MILAN LABS entered the picture.

Yesterday's inauguration ceremony was the culmination of months of dedicated work. Sharwari Deshpande, Director of MILAN LABS, cut the ribbon at Sangam School, the final of the eleven schools to be formally opened in the Happy Schools Mega Project. As the ribbon fluttered to the ground, so did tears from many eyes.

"This project is not just about buildings," Sharwari had said during her speech. "It is about fulfilling my late husband's vision." Her voice had cracked slightly as she mentioned Rtn. Upen Deshpande, whose passion for education had inspired the CSR grant that made everything possible. "Upen always believed that education was the greatest equalizer. Today, we honor his memory by opening doors of opportunity for hundreds of children."

The transformation of the schools had been remarkable. What once were dilapidated buildings with minimal facilities were now vibrant learning centers equipped with modern amenities, libraries, computer labs, and playgrounds. The faces of the children as they explored their new classrooms were perhaps the most rewarding part of the entire endeavor.

One of the teachers at Sangam School had approached me with tears in her eyes. "For years, I have been teaching under a leaking roof," she confided. "Now, I have a smart classroom. My students will have opportunities I could only dream of."

The Happy Schools Mega Project had begun in earnest in mid-2024, with RC Thane North coordinating efforts across all eleven schools. President Medha had been tireless, visiting sites weekly, solving problems as they arose, and rallying club members when energy flagged. The project had been completed in January 2025, though various administrative hurdles had delayed the formal inauguration until yesterday.

What made the project special was not just its scale, but the way it had brought the community together. Local businesses had contributed additional resources, parents had volunteered their time, and even students had participated in designing some aspects of their new schools.

As the ceremony concluded and we watched the children perform a cultural program to thank their benefactors, President Medha leaned over and whispered, "This is what Rotary is all about, turning impossible dreams into reality."

Sharwari Deshpande had nodded in agreement. "The best way to honor those we've lost is to fulfil their visions," she said. "Upen would have been so proud today."

As we departed from Sangam School, the last of us to leave, I could not help but feel that we had done something truly meaningful. The Happy Schools Mega Project wasn't just about buildings or facilities, it was about hope, opportunity, and the promise of a brighter future for the children of Shahapur.

And yesterday, that promise became reality.

### An Ode to Sharvari: Keeper of Promises

In grief's shadow she chose to stand tall,  
Where lesser hearts might crumble and fall.  
Sharvari's strength, a beacon so bright,  
Turning darkness of loss to guiding light.

Her husband's dream she carried with grace,  
Determination etched upon her face.  
Eleven schools now stand as proof,  
Of promises kept, beyond all reproof.

The children's laughter, the teachers' pride,  
A legacy that time cannot hide.  
For humanity shines in actions true,  
In giving others what life once withdrew.

Sharvari showed us what love can do,  
When purpose and promise see their way through...Savi

### TEAM GML 2425

Disclaimer: This account is based on reports from the April 30, 2025 inauguration at Sangam School, Shahapur, including statements by Sharwari Deshpande (Director of MILAN Labs ) and Rtn. Medha (Rotary Club Thane North). All descriptions reflect participants' shared experiences of the event.



# Club 'S'ensational

Where Compassion & Friendship Meets Action!

#RotaryTimes@3142 GML 2425 Team extends heartfelt thanks to all contributors.

Record-breaking Rotary Reporter earns "Badge of GML2425 Awesome Reporter"!



CELEBRATING 100 CLUB SENSATIONAL SERVICE & FELLOWSHIP STORIES:  
*Where Compassion & Friendship Meets Action!*



**Rtn. Radhika Padmanabhan, RC Thane Horizon,** earns "Badge of Awesome Reporting" for reporting 100 projects, including record-breaking 39 submissions for May's GML.

**Rtn. Priyeta Jha, RC NM HILLSIDE,** earns "Badge of Awesome Reporting" for reporting 100 projects, including record-breaking 19 submissions for May's GML.



## RCNM HILLSIDE

Rotary Club of Navi Mumbai Hillside joined forces with Innerwheel Club of New Bombay Hillside and D.Y. Patil Hospital interns, magic happened at Nere Village Anganwadi. Young hands learned life-saving hygiene through joyful demonstrations, turning simple hand washing into an adventure of discovery. These grassroots health champions prove that the most powerful preventive medicine often comes wrapped in smiles and soap bubbles.

*The journey continues! Your stories build our collective legacy of service above self.*



## Rotary Club Brings Warmth to Vashi Gaon

Rotary Club of Navi Mumbai brightens lives at Vashi Gaon, donating essential sarees, clothing, and nutrition packets to 50 underprivileged residents.

*"Clothing with Compassion: Where Dignity Meets Necessity"*



# Club 'S'ensational

Where Compassion & Friendship Meets Action!

## RC DOMBIVLI

At Rotary School for Deaf, 300+ students now experience learning through vibrant screens and animated feedback. Dr Speech transforms silent classrooms into interactive playgrounds of discovery, where deaf children see their voices visualized for the first time. This partnership between Rotary Club of Dombivli and Centaur Pharma isn't just about software, it is about opening doors to futures previously unimagined.

*Where technology meets compassion, silence finds its voice.*  
#EmpoweringDeafEducation #TechForAll



## RC KALYAN CITY: SERVICE IN ACTION!

Reported By Nikhil Parmar

### CHAMPIONS OF CHANGE

**ROVEX Honors Changemakers!** Sangeeta and Rev Binu from Navjeevan Centre transform lives - from ragpickers to red-light districts, creating pathways to dignity and hope.



### COOKING WITH SUNSHINE

**Solar Power Feeds Young Minds!** 500 students master eco-friendly cooking at Narendra Convent School, taking sustainable energy kits to empower households across Kalyan.



### BRIGHT IDEAS, BRIGHTER FUTURE

**School Goes Solar!** Millennium English School students cook with sunshine, tasting the future of sustainable living while learning to protect our planet.

### MEALS WITH MEANING

**Nourishing Hearts and Souls!** Annapurna project honors Late Rtn. Jiteshbhai Kariya's legacy, serving nutritious meals to 50 girls at Amcha Ghar Orphanage.



### HEALTH ON WHEELS

**Lifesaving Screenings Reach Community!** Apollo Hospitals' mobile unit brings critical mammography services to Kalyan East, making preventive healthcare accessible to all.



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# The Art of Smart Investing: Navigating Market Volatility

Market corrections are normal. But they never feel normal when you're in the middle of one.

Every few years, volatility shakes investor confidence. This time, it's geopolitical tensions and global uncertainty. But the pattern is familiar and so is the opportunity it presents.

Yet many investors panic. They stop their SIPs or pull out entirely. It feels like protection, but it's often a mistake.

## Why?

Because **loss aversion** makes us feel the pain of loss more deeply than the joy of gain. **Recency bias** convinces us that the downturn will last forever. And **herd mentality** makes it harder to stay rational when others aren't.

But the truth is that **volatility is temporary. Growth is permanent, if you stay the course.**

Corrections like these are when smart investors lean in. SIPs during a downturn buy more units at lower prices. That's long-term compounding at work.

Just look at 2008 or 2020. The investors who stayed invested through fear were the ones who gained the most on the other side.

At Enrichwise, we guide clients using our **PRAG Strategy – Protect and Grow**. It's a structured approach that focuses on discipline, not emotion, especially during such times.

## So what should you do?

Keep going. Stay invested. If possible, increase your SIPs.

To put it simply:  
Markets may dip. But your commitment shouldn't.

SIPs work best not when markets are calm, but when they're chaotic. Because that's when every rupee you invest goes further.

If you're feeling uncertain, we're here to help.

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**Kapil Jain** is the Director of Enrichwise Financial Services Pvt. Ltd and Enrichwise Insurance Broking Services Pvt. Ltd., an IIM Indore Gold Medalist in Finance and an investor for 25+ years.





## D G's Fable

### The Orchestra of Young Voices

*"When young hands join together,  
even mountains can be moved."*

#### "The Saplings' Symphony"

"I'm too small to make a difference," sighed the young oak sapling to the ancient tree beside it. "Is that so?" rustled the old oak. "Look around our forest."

"All I see are towering trees like you," replied the sapling.

The ancient oak swayed gently. "Before yesterday's storm, an elder pine stood there. Now there's a gap in our canopy."

"What happens now?" asked the sapling.

"Watch," whispered the old oak.

As sunlight streamed through the opening, dozens of seedlings stretched upward, each reaching for light.

"But they're so tiny," observed the sapling.

"Yet together, they'll heal the forest faster than one large tree could grow," explained the old oak. "The youngest members of our forest are often the most adaptable, the quickest to respond."

"Like how young humans bring fresh ideas to their communities?" asked the sapling.

"Precisely. Youth doesn't equal insignificance—it signals potential and renewal. Where we old trees stand firmly in tradition, you young ones bend with innovation."

The sapling stood taller. "So my size isn't my limitation—it's my advantage?"

"Yes," the ancient oak rustled. "Your growth is our forest's future. Never underestimate what young roots can accomplish when given room to flourish."

**Moral:** When youth combine their diverse talents in service, they create change that no single individual could accomplish alone.

Dinesh

## May Zodiac Signs & Predictions

### Taurus (April 20-May 20)

- Symbol: Bull
- Birthstone: Emerald
- Flower: Lily of the valley
- Prediction: Steady progress in relationships; financial stability approaches

### Gemini (May 21-June 20)

- Symbol: Twins
- Birthstone: Emerald
- Flower: Lavender, rose
- Prediction: Communication brings unexpected opportunities; embrace versatility

## doonmoon's Nitrous Oxide in Rotary

**PDG to Prez :** Why is that new Rtn wearing a hearing aid ???

**Prez :** Sir, that's airpod technology with noise cancellation! But this GEN - they can hear -but they don't want to listen!!



PDG Dr Mohan Chandavarkar

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