

# VIBE

TOGETHER WE CAN, TOGETHER WE WILL



Rotary  
District 3141



**Governor's Monthly Letter,  
Issue 6, December 2024**



# TOGETHER FOR TOMORROW



## Landmark Projects of Rotary Club of Borivli



# RAJENDRA KINARIWALA MEMORIAL ROTARY BORIVLI EDUCATION CENTRE



## GYAN PRAKASH FREE COACHING CLASSES

**GYAN PRAKASH- Free Coaching Classes for the underprivileged.**

Our Mission is to Transform the Lives of children and their Families Living in poverty by providing access to quality education. Under this mission of literacy, Rotary Club of Borivli, has started this initiative of providing free coaching to students of std 9th and 10th since last ten years and benefitted 4000+ students. The purpose of starting this program was to provide access to students of Std. 9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> appearing for their Boards exams & could not afford costly coaching fees and yet be in competition with their counterparts. In the academic year 2023-24, around 700 students took benefit at 15 different centers. These centers are spread between Dahisar to Kandivali, East and West areas.

Qualified Teachers are appointed to take classes in Maths, Science, English, Hindi and Marathi subjects. The school principals and parents are satisfied as there is an average increase of 10-15% in students performance at Boards exams. There are students securing marks above 85% - 90%.

Seminars on time management, career counselling, etc. are arranged. Medical check up camps to keep them hail and hearty for their exams are arranged. Picnics and birthday celebrations make them joyful during the year.

This program is carried out in fond memory of our past president, under "RAJENDRA KINARIWALA MEMORIAL ROTARY BORIVLI EDUCATION" banner. Working together we invest in the lives of the children & youth, build healthy environment they need to thrive & empower them to create lasting change in their own lives and communities. Gyan Prakash is achieving milestones each year in this mammoth endeavor.



*Free Coaching to needy brilliant  
students of Std. 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>*

*Contact for Details*

**Rtn. Harish Chandarana**  
**9821240242**



# From the EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Dear Vibrant Rotarians of District 3141,

As we embrace the month of December, designated as Disease Prevention and Treatment Month in the Rotary calendar, we are reminded of one of the most critical areas of focus of Rotary International—ensuring healthier lives and creating sustainable healthcare solutions for all. This month calls on us to redouble our efforts to address pressing health challenges, from combating non-communicable diseases to improving access to basic healthcare services.



Our district has always been at the forefront of impactful health initiatives, and I am proud to see many of our Vibrant Clubs planning projects that align with this vital cause. From organizing health camps and vaccination drives to supporting long-term healthcare infrastructure, these efforts not only save lives but also foster hope in communities that need it most.

A historical milestone for RID 3141 as on 23 November 2024 we inaugurated the Rotary Centre at Dharavi, made possible by the noble deed of Rtn. Ashwin Shetty, who generously provided his premises for worthy community service projects. In collaboration with RC Mumbai SOBO, and thanks to the untiring efforts of Rtn. Els Reynaers, this centre will serve as a hub for healthcare, education, and skill development, making a tangible impact in one of Asia's most underserved areas. This month also brought a moment of great pride for District 3141, as we celebrated the election of Rtn. Deepak Jiandani of RC Mumbai Mulund East as District Governor for the year 2027-28. His resounding victory reflects the trust and confidence Rotarians have in his vision and leadership. Congratulations, Deepak—your journey ahead promises to inspire and uplift our Rotary family! Kudos to DGE Manish for organizing an outstanding Pre-PETS in Jaipur, a gathering that combined learning, fellowship, and inspiration for our future leaders. Similarly, my heartfelt compliments to DGN Rajan for his proactive approach in announcing his core team, setting a strong foundation for his year. Such efforts highlight the continuity and strength of leadership in our district. Finally, let us applaud IPDG Arun for the grand success of the District Trophy and Awards event in Lonavala. It was a celebration of excellence, honouring the tireless contributions of clubs and individuals who went above and beyond to make a difference during his tenure.

As we move forward in December, I urge all clubs to amplify their efforts in disease prevention and treatment. Together, let us address healthcare inequities, educate communities, and provide innovative solutions that can transform lives. Wishing you a December filled with the joy of service and the warmth of fellowship. Let us continue to spread the Magic of Rotary, bringing health and hope to all!

Warm regards,

**Chetan Desai**

**Rotary District 3141 (2024-25)**

*"Together we can, Together we will."*



**On the Cover:**

RID 3141's Children's Day initiatives

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Dear Rotarian Friends in District 3141,

***Warm greetings to the cherished Vibrant Rotary community as we present the December edition of our Governor's Monthly Letter (GML).***

As the seasons transition, let us also embody the timeless spirit of Rotary—Service Above Self. Rotary continually offers opportunities to serve and grow, and as the world improves, so does our potential to make a difference. The primary goal of our GML, VibeX, is to share the inspiring activities and selfless service of our dedicated Rotarians.

As we approach the year's end, it's a moment to reflect on our progress and achievements relative to the goals set at the start. Reflecting on November's edition, we emphasized that sharing Rotary stories inspires others and encourages participation in our mission.

December marks Rotary's Disease Prevention and Treatment Month—a time to reaffirm our commitment to combating diseases and fostering healthier communities globally. Illness impacts not only health but also economic and mental well-being. Prevention is critical, and we must invest energy in raising awareness and implementing effective treatments. Holistic health has always been essential for balanced growth, and we urge all to prioritize this mission at home and within our communities.

While infectious diseases remain a significant challenge, chronic conditions like heart disease, diabetes, and cancer—often linked to lifestyle and social factors—are

growing concerns. Rotary addresses these issues by supporting immunization, improving water and sanitation, and launching impactful health initiatives worldwide.

Our district clubs have shown incredible dedication, from setting up clinics and organizing health camps to hosting blood donation drives and supporting polio eradication. They've also conducted cataract surgeries, youth competitions, distributions to the needy, and celebrations of extraordinary achievements. These initiatives elevate Rotary's public image and amplify its positive impact.

Let us continue expanding access to health services and championing prevention. Together, we can build a healthier, disease-free world.

Team GML appreciates each club's outstanding contributions, providing a platform to showcase their impactful work.

Thank you for your dedication to Service Above Self. Stay active, stay healthy, and keep spreading the joy of living a healthy life. Enjoy reading this edition of VibeX!

**Ashish Tapiawala,  
District Coordinator, Publications**



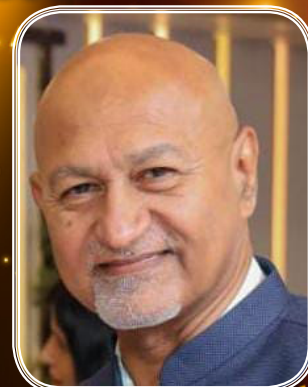
# Congratulations!

**Rtn. Deepak Jiandani of RC Mumbai Mulund East is declared elected as DGND of RID 3141**

**Total Valid Votes: 206**

**Votes cast in favour of:**

**Rtn. Deepak Jiandani: 138  
Rtn. Dilip Shah: 63  
Rtn. Deepa Goenka: 5**





# From the MANAGING EDITOR'S Desk



Rotary  
District 3141



## Celebrating Children's Day – A Commitment to the Future

**C**HILDREN'S Day is more than just a date on the calendar; it is a celebration of innocence, potential, and the limitless possibilities of our future. Rotary clubs in RID 3141 collectively honoured this special day by nurturing young minds and empowering them to lead fulfilling lives.

The celebrations, aligned with Rotary's mission of promoting health, education, growth, and overall well-being, included a series of impactful activities. Highlights included a trip to the Nehru Science Centre, a talent showcase by children battling cancer, the renovation of a home for specially-abled children, medical camps, a book donation drive, the distribution of educational mobile apps, a ventriloquist show, a visit to the naval airstation, and much more.

As we celebrate the joy and promise that children bring to our lives, let us remember that investing in their future is not just an act of kindness—it is a shared responsibility. Every child's laughter should echo with hope, and every dream must be given the wings to soar.

Amidst the Assembly elections in Maharashtra, the election of the District Governor for 2026–27 brings renewed energy and leadership to Rotary. We extend our heartfelt congratulations to Rtn. Deepak Jiandani and look forward to working together to create a world of lasting change.

**Sree Nandy**  
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# BE A CHEERFUL GIVER TO THE ROTARY FOUNDATION

Dear Rotary Leaders,

As Alexander the Great lay on his deathbed, he made three final wishes, each with a profound message.

"My physicians alone must carry my coffin," he said, "...so people may understand that no doctor can truly save us from death."

He continued, "I want the path to my grave strewn with gold, silver, and jewels from my treasury," to remind people that not even a fraction of one's wealth accompanies them beyond this life.

Lastly, he wished for his hands to dangle from his coffin, "to show that I entered this world empty-handed, and empty-handed I leave."

Through these words, Alexander reminds us that no matter the extent of our possessions, we cannot take them with us. There is a timeless truth in his message: what we hold back, we lose; what we give to others, we truly gain.

While human nature may incline us to keep careful accounts of our earnings and expenses, this focus sometimes causes us to overlook the deep joy that comes from giving without expectation. As Rotarians, let us ask ourselves: are we cheerful givers? If the answer is yes, there is no better place to give than The Rotary Foundation, where our contributions go toward doing good in the world.

With warm regards,

**Ashok Mahajan**

**Director, Rotary International (2007-09)**

**Trustee, The Rotary Foundation (2009-13)**



**SMILE · SERVE · SACRIFICE · SATISFY**



Together in Fellowship  
and Service:

# MESSAGE FROM FIRST LADY JWALA DESAI



*Dear Vibrant Rotary Family,*

As we approach the close of another eventful year, I am filled with gratitude and admiration for the commitment and enthusiasm that each of you brings to our vibrant district. My journey as the First Lady of RID 3141 has been an eye-opening experience, and I am continually inspired by how Rotary's magic touches lives through fellowship and service.

Rotary is not just about its members but also their families, who stand as silent supporters and active contributors to its mission. It is this involvement of partners in Rotary's endeavours that strengthens the fabric of our vibrant district. Together, we have the power to create an indelible impact, sharing in both the joy of fellowship and the fulfilment of service.

This December, as we reflect on the milestones we've achieved, I urge all partners to actively participate in our district's fellowship events and service projects. Whether it's through joining hands in a community initiative or simply attending a club event, your presence makes all the difference. Let's continue this rich tradition of unity and inclusiveness, which defines RID 3141.

On this occasion, I also wish to extend my warm congratulations to Ujwala Jiandani, the First Lady Designate of RID 3141 for RY 2027-28. Her partner Deepak Jiandani's resounding victory in the DGND election is a testament to the trust and faith the district has placed in them. I am confident that Ujwala's grace, leadership, and dedication will take our district to new heights, continuing its legacy of excellence.

Let us all work together to build a future where our bonds grow stronger and our contributions more meaningful. After all, Rotary is more than an organization—it's a family, and together, we can achieve the extraordinary.

Wishing you all a wonderful festive season filled with joy, warmth, and the magic of Rotary!

Yours in service and fellowship,

**Jwala Desai**  
**First Lady of Rotary District 3141**



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# Spreading Smiles, HOPE AND IMPACT: RID 3141'S TRANSFORMATIVE INITIATIVES ON CHILDREN'S DAY

## *A New Chapter for ADAPT: Rotary's Commitment to Empowerment*

The Rotary Clubs of Marine Drive Mumbai and Mumbai Downtown Sealand have proudly unveiled the renovation of ADAPT's Upper Colaba Centre Building, a transformative initiative for this iconic institution (formerly known as the Spastic Society of India).

This landmark project was inaugurated by DG Chetan Desai, marking a significant milestone in the journey of creating a more inclusive and supportive environment for individuals with special needs. The comprehensive renovation of the building's exteriors was accomplished under a CSR grant of approximately ₹18 lakhs from a corporate donor, complemented by an



additional ₹2 lakhs contributed by Rotary. This collaborative effort was led with vision and dedication by Rtn. President Arvind Katakdhond of Rotary Club of Marine Drive Mumbai and Rtn. President Dr. Arun Sawant of Rotary Club of Mumbai Downtown



Sealand.

This revitalization not only enhances the centre's physical infrastructure but also reinforces Rotary's unwavering commitment to making a difference in the lives of those who need it most.

## *Empowering Through Health: Detection Camps in Tribal Schools of Palghar District*

In Palghar district, where genetically transmitted anaemias such as Thalassemia and Sickle Cell Anaemia are prevalent, Rotary District 3141 took the lead in addressing this pressing health challenge. Under the focus area of Maternal and Child Health, the district organized detection camps for students in grades 8 to 10 across tribal schools.

The camps aim to screen around 23,000 students, identifying and managing conditions early to ensure proper care. Additionally, follow-up counseling for children, their families, and teachers will play a crucial

role in preventing the birth of children with severe disorders.

"Children and adults with Thalassemia or Sickle Cell Anaemia traits require different treatments than those with nutritional anaemia. Early detection is not just about treatment; it's about prevention and awareness," said Dr. Nilima Inamdar, Avenue Chair for Anaemia and Blood Donation.

The cost per child for testing is ₹160, and Rotary Clubs have appealed to sponsors to adopt children for testing to support this impactful initiative.

## *Breaking Taboos: Menstrual Hygiene Awareness-Masik Chakra*



Rotary Club of Bombay Powai in collaboration with Rotary Club of Mumbai Ghatkopar West and Rotary Club of Nariman Point, conducted a session on Masik Chakra—Period Awareness and Menstrual Hygiene Management at Green Lawns English High School.

The two-hour session engaged 100 girl students through an informative video, an interactive Q&A session led by RCB Powai President Rtn. Shruti, and the distribution of educational comic books *Menstrupedia* and chocolates, sponsored by RCB Powai. Additionally, 100 cramp relief pads, sponsored by RC Nariman Point, were distributed.

This impactful initiative, led by President & project head Rtn. Shruti with passion and enthusiasm, emphasized the importance of menstrual health, empowering young girls with knowledge and resources for better hygiene management.

## *Digital Learning Through Mobile App Distribution*

Rotary Club of Mumbai North Island advanced its mission of fostering education through technology by distributing Educational Mobile Apps to students in two schools.

At Gandhigram School, Vile Parle, 80 students received the app in a program attended by the Club President, Secretary, and Literacy Director, Rtn. Suhas Ambhiye. Following this, 40 students at Vidyanidhi School, Juhu, were also empowered with the digital resource.

This initiative aims to enhance learning experiences, providing students with access to modern educational tools and supporting their academic progress.





## Harbor of Heroes – A Naval Tale

Children's Day took on a unique and inspiring dimension this year with multiple Rotary Clubs organizing visits to the Naval Air Station, Colaba, for students to witness a special Static Air Display. The district event, coordinated with the Indian Navy by Rtn. Arun Garg, provided students with an unforgettable opportunity to understand the Navy's pivotal role in national security and life-saving operations.

At the Naval Base, the day began with a video presentation highlighting the Navy's heroic missions and the crucial role of its aircraft in rescue and relief operations. Students were then introduced to the Chetak helicopter and two other advanced aircraft, with detailed explanations of their life-saving and operational capabilities. The hands-on exposure gave children a glimpse of the Navy's technical expertise and discipline, transforming abstract ideas of naval life into tangible realities.

**Rotary Club Bombay Uptown** arranged the visit for school children's offering a thrilling introduction to the Navy's operations Led by President Rtn. Suman Agarwal.

**Rotary Club of Bombay Kandivli & Mumbai Millenials** arranged the visit for 31 students from Thakur RamNarayan Public School, Dahisar to attend this remarkable event. Students were enthralled by the real-life demonstrations of naval life, which had previously been confined to the screen. "It was a Children's Day to remember—rich in education, inspiration, and joy," shared President Dr. Sadhana Edvankar.

**Rotary Club of Borivali** arranged the visit for two Interact Schools, Shree Dyaneshwar & Priyadarshini. President Harish Chandarana and First Lady Sonal Chandarana made sure the visit was well-coordinated, from transportation to refreshments ensuring that the students and their teachers had a smooth and enjoyable experience.

### Impact

The visits highlighted Rotary's dedication to education and fostering national pride, inspiring young minds to dream bigger. Beyond celebrating Children's Day, the initiative honored the Indian Navy's spirit of service, resilience, and excellence, leaving a lasting impression on every student.



## *Sustainability Meets Service: Diwali Donation Drive in Palghar*

The Rotary Club of Chandivali Mumbai combined sustainability with social responsibility in their flagship Diwali donation drive. In partnership with the Swiss NGO Tasna, they distributed upcycled footwear, mats, and school bags to children in Palghar, made entirely from recycled materials like old flex and apparel.

The drive not only brought joy to the children but also highlighted the importance of sustainable living. The Tasna team, visiting from Switzerland, actively participated in the event, connecting with the children and fostering a spirit of global solidarity.



## *Transforming Lives with Smiles & Laughter*



Rotary Club of Mumbai Sher-E-Punjab brought smiles to the faces of 100 underprivileged children from Angel Xpress with a joyous celebration at Mahakali ALM Park, Poonam Nagar. The event featured games, gifts, Bollywood music and dance, snacks, and a captivating ventriloquist show by renowned comedian Mr. Rajkumar Javkar of Laughter Challenge (Raja aur Rancho) fame.

The children thoroughly enjoyed the festivities, as did the 14 RCMSEP members and 7 Angel Xpress teachers, who danced and celebrated together in the spirit of fellowship.

The teaching staff expressed heartfelt gratitude to RCMSEP for this memorable event. Special thanks to the ALM Park management and Angel Xpress for their support. The project, led by Deepak Wadhwa and Seema Bhoocher, aligned with RI themes of Community Development and Annapoorna.



## Bringing Smiles of Hope

The Rotary Club of Bombay North, in collaboration with the Rotaract Club of Churchgate, hosted a heartwarming Children's Day celebration to uplift the spirits of young cancer patients. The day began with joyful games like Passing the Parcel and Simon Says, filling the room with laughter and camaraderie.

To encourage self-expression, a stage was set where the children showcased their talents through singing, rhymes, dancing, and poetry. Their confidence and creativity were inspiring, bringing tears of joy to many present. Rtn. Dr. Anjali Patil addressed parents, discussing cancer-related concerns and answering their questions in a compassionate and supportive manner.

The event concluded with the distribution of thoughtfully curated gifts, including bags, snacks, chocolates, tiffin boxes, crayon hampers, and fancy pen stands, leaving the children with cherished memories. These gifts were generously sponsored by Rtn. Shibani Gandhi, Dr. Naseem Padaria, PP Rukhsana Khan, and Rtn. Jummana Saifuddin. The celebration saw active participation from Rtn. Dr. Anjali Patil, PP Rukhsana Khan, Rtn. Jummana Saifuddin, Rtn. Zohar Attari, Rotaract Club President Rtr. Shirley Singh, Rtr. Shazmeen Khan, and Rtr. Rishik Singh. Together, they ensured the event was a meaningful and uplifting experience, spreading hope and joy among these brave young souls.



## Inspiring Young Minds



The Rotary Club of Bombay Bayview organized an enriching **field trip to the Nehru Science Centre** for 500 students of S.S. Sahney High School to celebrate Children's Day.

The senior students participated in an insightful seminar by a Russian scientist on **Atomic Energy**, broadening their understanding of this powerful scientific domain. Meanwhile, other students immersed themselves in exciting

educational experiences, including: **The Science Odyssey**, exploring the fascinating wildlife of Australia.

A mesmerizing **3D Science Show** featuring marine life.

**Science on a Sphere**, which unveiled the wonders of our solar system.

The trip was a blend of fun and learning, offering students an opportunity to expand their horizons in science and discovery.

## Reflections: A Day of Unity and Purpose

This Children's Day, Rotary Clubs exemplified the essence of service by touching the lives of thousands of children across India. From health camps and educational initiatives to celebrations filled with love and laughter, their efforts reinforced the importance of community-driven action. Children are the future, and by investing in their health, education, and happiness, Rotary Clubs are not just celebrating Children's Day—they are shaping tomorrow.

Due to space limitations, not all club projects could be featured; however, each initiative brought joy and created memorable moments on Children's Day.

**Rotary Magic: Together, We Make a Difference!**

EDITED & COMPILED BY NARESH BAJPAI

# RIPE MARIO

## in the City of Dreams

### Touching Lives: At SRCC Hospital



FROM THE WALL OF DG CHETAN DESAI

On the morning of September 24, 2024, I had the privilege of visiting SRCC Hospital in Worli alongside RI President-Elect Mario César Martins de Camargo, RID Raju, PDG Rajendra, and a group of enthusiastic Rotarians. We chose

to showcase this remarkable project to Mario, a facility that has transformed lives through over 5,000 surgeries in just seven years. This initiative holds a special place in my heart.

The visit was profoundly inspiring, as we witnessed the unwavering

dedication of Rotarians and the exceptional staff at SRCC. A truly magical moment unfolded when a young beneficiary—a little girl whose life had been changed by this initiative—embraced Mario in a heartfelt hug, symbolizing the gratitude of thousands of families touched by this project.

This unforgettable experience reaffirms the incredible power of Rotary to create lasting change. Together, we can continue to bring hope and healing to countless children, one precious life at a time.

## A Magical Evening with Rotarians

A REPORT BY PREZ SUBHASHISH MAZUMDAR, RC MUMBAI JUHU

On Tuesday, October 24, the Rotary Club of Mumbai Juhu hosted a district event with RI President-Elect Mario César Martins de Camargo as the Chief Guest. The well-organized meeting was held at 'The Club' in Juhu, with an impressive turnout that included 14 members of the College of Governors, two of whom were from RI District 3142. RID T.N. 'Raju' Subramanian, in his address, emphasized the responsibilities of Rotarians, while DG Chetan Desai delivered an outstanding presentation highlighting District 3141's activities and achievements during



the first 85 days of the Rotary year. RIPE Mario delivered an impactful and engaging speech, infused with humour, focusing on the critical themes of membership, continuity, and partnerships. He shared thought-provoking insights and bold statements on these topics, leaving the audience inspired. A particularly memorable moment was when he quoted from Tomasi

de Lampedusa's *The Leopard*: "If we want things to stay as they are, things will have to change." The evening was marked by excellent fellowship and dinner, both before and after the meeting, creating a truly enjoyable and memorable experience for all attendees.

EDITED BY SREE NANDY





# New Leaders, New Horizons

## INSTALLATIONS OF VIBRANT PRESIDENTS



### Rotary Club of Mumbai West Coast

The Rotary Club of Mumbai West Coast proudly installed Rtn. Seema Negi as the Vibrant President along with her Board of Directors for the Vibrant Year 2024-25 on 29/06/2024.



### Rotary Club of Mumbai Khar

The Rotary Club of Mumbai Khar Andheri proudly installed Rtn. Kirti Ajmera as the Vibrant President along with his Board of Directors for the Vibrant Year 2024-25 on 08/07/2024.

Distributed raincoats to Mumbai's iconic Dabbawalas, ensuring they can continue their exceptional service even during the rainy season. This thoughtful initiative not only supported these dedicated workers but also strengthened our Rotary's brand image as a community-focused and compassionate organization.



### Rotary Club of Mumbai GenX

The Rotary Club of Mumbai GenX proudly installed Rtn. Denish Shah as the Vibrant President along with his Board of Directors for the Vibrant Year 2024-25 on 03/08/2024.

COMPILED AND EDITED BY NARESH BAJPAI

# “LIGHTING THE PATH: ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY JUHU BEACH’S SOLAR INITIATIVE”



**T**HE Rotary Club of Bombay Juhu Beach (RCBJB) is proud to announce a remarkable milestone in its ongoing commitment to sustainable development and community empowerment. The club has been selected as a key distribution partner for an inspiring event co-hosted by Porsche, Liter

of Light's India chapter, and Power Pack.

On October 30, 2024, the historic Gateway of India became the backdrop for a stunning art installation titled "Field of Dreams: A Pathway to a Brighter Future." This installation, which has been officially recognized

by the Guinness World Records, featured an extraordinary display of solar-powered flower lamps. The lamps served as a powerful symbol of hope, innovation, and the transformative potential of renewable energy in creating a brighter future.

Building on this momentum, the





Rotary Club of Bombay Juhu Beach took a significant step forward by hosting a hands-on workshop on October 15, 2024, focused on the assembly of solar study lamps. This workshop, held in collaboration with Liter of Light's India chapter and Power Pack, engaged 100 enthusiastic students from Vidhyanidhi School.

Our District Governor, Chetan Desai, joined the event, further amplifying the importance of this initiative as a vehicle for both education and sustainability.

The initiative continued to gather momentum, and on November 11, 2024, RCBJB successfully completed the first phase of solar lamp distribution at Sai Baba School in Haloli. In this phase, 250 solar lamps were distributed to

students, along with an additional 27 lamps provided to the residents of Tamsai Village in Palghar—an area that often faces power outages. The generous support from the Rotary Club of Manor Highway helped bring this project to fruition. The response to the distribution was overwhelmingly positive, with heartfelt expressions of gratitude from the recipients and the school principal. These solar lamps will provide much-needed light for studying, even in areas where access to reliable electricity is limited.

A documentary is being created to highlight the transformative work of the Rotary Club of Bombay Juhu Beach. This film will be shared globally to highlight RCBJB's dedication to bringing positive change to communities

and shining a light on the power of renewable energy.

RCBJB remains deeply committed to its mission of empowering individuals and communities through sustainable solutions, and this collaboration with Liter of Light and Power Pack marks a significant step toward building a more resilient, brighter future for all.



SCRIPTED BY LATA DESAI AND  
EDITED BY K.V.PREMRAJ

# Vibrant

*Sprinkling Magic: Making Dreams Come True for the Underserved.*



## **BOMBAY QUEEN CITY RECOGNISES VISUALLY IMPAIRED CHILDREN**

**Club President:** Rtn Ajay Agrawal

**Area of Focus:** Basic Education and Literacy

**Location of Project:** Marine Lines

**Date of Execution:** 15th October 2024

### **Project Description**

On 15th September 2024, the Rotary Club of Bombay Queen City (RCBQC), in collaboration with the Blind Welfare Organization, honoured 125 visually impaired students from Mumbai who excelled in their 10th, 12th, and BA/BCom exams. The students received walking sticks, Braille books, pen drives, and cash prizes. President Ajay Agrawal, Chief Guest DG Chetan Desai, Principal Aide Deepak Jiandani, along with Rtn Arun Bharaskar, Rtn Vijay Singhal, Ann Rachna Singhal, Rtn Shivkant Khetan, PP Rtn Ralphy Jhirad, PP Rtn Anup Gupta, PP Rtn Girish Agrawal, Rtn Anil Goenka, Rtn Vinay Khandelwal, and Ann Renu Khandelwal, graced the occasion with their presence.

**Number of Beneficiaries:** 125

**Rotarian-hours Spent:** 45

**Value of the Project:** INR 2,00,000/-

**Sponsors/Partners:** Akhil Bhartiya Agarwal Sammelan





## WORKSHOPS ON EMPOWERING YOUTH ON MENTAL HEALTH AND HYGIENE ORGANISED BY ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY BAYVIEW

**Club President:** Rtn Rajni Barasia

**Area of Focus:** Youth Empowerment

**Location of Project:** Different schools in Mumbai and Dahahu

**Date of Execution:** July to October 2024

### Project Description

The Rotary Club of Bombay Bayview, in partnership with the Rotary Club of Addiction Prevention, organized impactful workshops in urban and rural schools to promote mental health awareness and addiction prevention. These sessions empowered students, teachers, and parents with essential knowledge, fostering resilience and early intervention among youth. Topics included mental health, addiction risks, menstrual hygiene, and good touch vs. bad touch awareness. By training educators, engaging parents as prevention allies, and reaching marginalized communities, the initiative created a supportive environment for long-term impact. With follow-up support, Rotary is fostering healthier, resilient communities and empowering the next generation for a brighter future.

**Number of Beneficiaries:** 2,500

**Value of the Project:** A few thousand

**Rotarian-hours Spent:** 150

**Sponsors/Partners:** Rotary Club of Addiction Prevention



## THYROID AND EYE CAMP ORGANISED BY ROTARY CLUB OF MUMBAI GHATKOPAR WEST

**Club President:** Rtn Shruti Dharamsi

**Area of Focus:** Medical

**Location of Project:** Vidhya NGO, Powai

**Date of Execution:** 8th November 2024

### Project Description

The Rotary Club of Mumbai Ghatkopar West organized a successful thyroid and eye camp at Vidhya NGO, offering free health check-ups and screenings to promote early diagnosis and care. Rtn Rajpal (Netrodya) sponsored the eye check-up, Rtn Hemang Jangla funded the thyroid camp, and Rtn Nikunj Shah covered additional expenses. Special recognition goes to new member Kalpana and Vice President Shaline for their leadership in executing this impactful initiative, which emphasized thyroid health and vision care for the beneficiaries. This collaborative effort showcased the club's commitment to enhancing community health and well-being.

**Number of Beneficiaries:** 84 women and children

**Value of the Project:** INR 12,000/-

**Rotarian-hours Spent:** 25

**Sponsors/Partners:** Netrodya and Vidhya NGO



## BOMBAY BAYVIEW CELEBRATES DIWALI WITH PURPOSE: SPREADING LIGHT, JOY, AND HOPE

**Club President:** Rtn Rajni Barasia

**Area of Focus:** Sanskriti

**Location of Project:** Different NGOs in Mumbai

**Date of Execution:** All of October 2024

### Project Description

This Diwali, the Rotary Club of Bombay Bayview, in collaboration with Inner Wheel Clubs, illuminated over 1,850 lives. They gifted 100 solar lights to tribal families in Dahanu, bringing electricity for the first time. The club distributed 750 grocery hampers to underprivileged families, cancer patients, and the visually impaired, and served 1,000 meals to NGOs, hospitals, and old-age homes. Festive joy extended to 150 individuals with new clothes and 100 paediatric patients at JJ Hospital with toys and supplements. Through these compassionate initiatives, the club exemplified the true essence of "Service Above Self," spreading light, hope, and happiness.

**Number of Beneficiaries:** 3,000

**Value of the Project:** INR 7,50,000/-

**Rotarian-hours Spent:** 100



## ROTARY SAMARPAN BLOOD STORAGE CENTRE LAUNCHED BY ROTARY CLUB OF MUMBAI GHATKOPAR WEST

**Club President:** Rtn Shruti Dharamsi

**Area of Focus:** Medical

**Location of Project:** Zynova Shalby Multispeciality Hospital, Ghatkopar West

**Date of Execution:** 18th October 2024

### Project Description

The Rotary Club of Mumbai Ghatkopar West inaugurated a Blood Storage Centre at Zynova Shalby Multispeciality Hospital under the Rotary India CSR initiative, ensuring accessible blood supply across Central and Western suburbs. Spearheaded by Alpha DG Sandip Agarwalla, Past President Jayesh Badani, and TRF/CSR Director Bhadresh Thakkar, with USD 25,000 CSR funding from Kremoint Pharma, and vibrant President Shruti Dharamsi's dedication, the project marked a milestone. The initiative, guided by Rtn Yogesh Zaveri, was inaugurated by DG Chetan Desai, Rotary Youth Exchange student Isabella, and AG Mahima Dand. Gratitude to Zynova Shalby for generously providing space. Together, we transform lives!

**Number of Beneficiaries:** 200

**Rotarian-hours Spent:** 50

**Value of the Project:** INR 20,000/-

**Sponsors/Partners:** Samarpan Blood Bank





## DIWALI GOODIES DISTRIBUTION FOR UNDERPRIVILEGED AND SPECIAL CHILDREN BY ROTARY CLUB OF LOKHANDWALA KANDIVALI

**Club President:** Rtn Priya Shenoy

**Area of Focus:** Sanskriti - Celebrating cultural traditions

**Location of Project:** 1. Anudatt Vidyalaya and Saraswati Vidyalaya, Kandivali East

2. Gharkul Public Charitable Trust- Day Care Centre for Special Children, Prabhat Colony, Santa Cruz East

**Date of Execution:** 19th and 28th October 2024

### Project Description

The Rotary Club of Lokhandwala Kandivali celebrated Diwali, spreading festive joy and supporting the underprivileged. Led by PP Anu Srivastava, they distributed treats to 1,411 children at Anudatt and Saraswati Vidyalaya.

At Gharkul Day Care Centre, the enthusiastic Rotarians celebrated Diwali with special children, who enjoyed dances, a magic show, and received sweets and gifts. The event concluded with a donation to Gharkul's founder, spreading warmth and smiles.

**Number of Beneficiaries:** 1,463

**Value of the Project:** INR 88,000/-

**Rotarian-hours Spent:** 12

**Sponsors/Partners:** Members of Rotary Club of Lokhandwala Kandivali



## CATARACT AWARENESS CAMP BY ROTARY CLUB OF LOKHANDWALA KANDIVALI

**Club President:** Rtn Priya Shenoy

**Area of Focus:** Fight against blindness (Cataract)

**Location of Project:** Aarey Milk Colony, Goregaon East

**Date of Execution:** 10th November 2024

### Project Description

As part of our 'Cataract-Free Vicinity' initiative, the Rotary Club of Lokhandwala Kandivali, in collaboration with L.M. Patel Rotary Eye Hospital, Malad West, and Naata Foundation conducted an eye check-up camp for underprivileged tribal residents of Aarey Milk Colony. Over 35 reading spectacles and 40 bottles of eye drops were distributed. Led by Medical Director, PP Anuja Saha, we have successfully performed over 1,500 cataract surgeries with a 100% success rate. Additionally, 25 villagers were identified for free cataract surgery at L.M. Patel Eye Hospital.

**Number of Beneficiaries:** 75

**Rotarian-hours Spent:** 08

**Value of the Project:** Actual - INR 3,050/- ; Notional - INR 82,500/-

**Sponsors/Partners:** L.M. Patel Rotary Eye Hospital and Naata Foundation



## INAUGURATION OF VOCATIONAL SKILL DEVELOPMENT CENTRE BY ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY QUEEN CITY

**Club President:** Rtn Ajay Agrawal

**Area of Focus:** Adult Literacy, Skill Development

**Location of Project :** Kandivali, Bhayander, and Vasai

**Date of Execution:** 2nd October 2024

### Project Description

On 2nd October, DG Chetan Desai inaugurated the Vocational Skill Development Centre for Specially Abled Children at UMANG Special Schools. Dr Bhawana Kerkar, Clinical Psychologist and Founder of UMANG Charitable Trust, oversees three special schools in Kandivali, Bhayander, and Vasai, catering 132 students. The Rotary Club of Bombay Queen City, led by President Ajay Agrawal, introduced initiatives to enhance vocational training programs across these schools, including back-office skills like computer training, bakery, pottery, and festive crafts. Additionally, the vocational training was linked with the BOSCH Skills Development Program of District 3141 to help successful students secure employment opportunities.

**Number of Beneficiaries:** 132

**Rotarian-hours Spent:** 48

**Value of the Project:** INR 12,00,000/-

**Sponsors/Partners :** Rtn Ajay Agrawal, Rtn Surendra Ruia, PP Rtn Vinod Bhimrajka, Rtn Dr Arun Gupta, Rtn Hiren Gosalia, and Gopal Tulsyan



## TRAINING WORKSHOP ON DE-ADDICTION THERAPIES BY ROTARY CLUB OF ADDICTION PREVENTION

**Club President:** Rtn Siddharth Udeshi

**Area of Focus:** Mental Health and Addiction Prevention

**Location of Project:** Muscat, Oman

**Date of Execution:** 2nd November 2024

### Project Description

We are excited to share our club's first international project of the year—a Smoking Cessation Therapies workshop at Oman Dental College, the premier dental institution in a country without a Rotary Club presence. As part of the Continuing Professional Development (CPD) program, the workshop attracted dental students and practitioners from Muscat, adding unique insights into tobacco use within the Arab world. With interactive tools like live quizzes, case studies, and role-play exercises, the session was engaging and impactful, promoting Rotary's mission of global health education and outreach. This meaningful collaboration highlighted Rotary's potential for cross-border community impact.

**Number of Beneficiaries:** 75

**Rotarian-hours Spent:** 20

**Value of the Project:** INR 60,000/-





## PHYSIOTHERAPY EQUIPMENT DONATED BY ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY SEA FACE

**Club President:** Rtn Minal Turakhia

**Area of Focus:** Disease Prevention and Treatment

**Location of Project:** Sir JJ Hospital

**Date of Execution:** 30th September 2024

### Project Description

The Rotary Club of Bombay Sea Face, in partnership with the Association for the Welfare of Persons with a Mental Handicap, donated essential physiotherapy equipment to support the development of mentally challenged children aged 1 to 5 years. This initiative aims to enhance their physical well-being and overall quality of life.

**Number of Beneficiaries:** 1000

**Rotarian-hours Spent:** 10

**Value of the Project:** INR 3,00,000/-

**Sponsors/Partners:** Association for the Welfare of Persons with a Mental Handicap



## WHITE CANES AND ESSENTIALS DONATED BY MUMBAI KANDIVLI WEST

**Club President:** Rtn Devsingh Shahani

**Area of Focus:** Community service and development

**Location of Project:** National Association for the Blind, Worli

**Date of Execution:** 19th October 2024

### Project Description

The members of the club visited the National Association for the Blind (NAB) in Worli, extending impactful support through donations: INR 82,500/- for 330 white canes, INR 20,000/- for visually impaired education, INR 12,500/- for 40-bed sheets, and INR 10,000/- for a lunch sponsorship. The visit and contributions were warmly appreciated by NAB, strengthening the club's commitment to empowering the visually impaired and enhancing their quality of life.

**Number of Beneficiaries:** 40

**Rotarian-hours Spent:** 30

**Value of the Project:** INR 1,25,000/-

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



## ROTARY CLUB OF MULUND INSTALLS WATER COOLER AT SENIOR CITIZEN CLUB

**Club President:** Rtn Seema Sudhir Joshi

**Area of Focus:** Baghbaan- Uphar (essential in hot weather)

**Location of Project:** Virangula, Mulund East

**Date of Execution:** 14th October 2024

### Project Description

The Rotary Club of Mulund, in collaboration with the Inner Wheel Club of Mulund, has installed a much-needed water cooler at the Virangula Senior Citizen Club in Mulund (E). This valuable addition will serve the club's members—known for their active engagement and esteemed reputation across Maharashtra—for years to come. Special thanks to President Seema Joshi, Secretary Tara Malde, Ansuyaben Shah, Nutan Dhulla, Rajendra Dhulla, and Ruby Luggani for their support in bringing comfort to this vibrant and well-regarded community of senior citizens.

**Number of Beneficiaries:** 1000

**Rotarian-hours Spent:** 20

**Value of the Project:** INR 28,000/-

**Sponsors/Partners:** Sanika Joshi (Daughter of Vibrant President Seema Sudhir Joshi)



## PRE-DIWALI JOY OF GIVING EVENT BY THE ROTARY CLUB OF MUMBAI, LOKHANDWALA ANDHERI

**Club President:** Rtn Surajit Basu

**Area of Focus:** Handing over gifts for househelp, chauffeurs, and other building staff

**Location of Project:** Andheri West

**Date of Execution:** 27th October 2024

### Project Description

The Pre-Diwali Joy of Giving Event is a heartwarming initiative organized by the Rotary Club of Mumbai, Lokhandwala, Andheri. As part of the event, giveaway items were collected from the residents of approximately 450 flats in the area. These items were then distributed to the security staff, house helpers, gardeners, electricians, chauffeurs, and other support staff members who work tirelessly behind the scenes to maintain the smooth functioning of the community. The thoughtful gesture of giving brought immense joy and brightened the spirits of the underprivileged staff members. The smiles on their faces were a testament to the impact of this kind-hearted initiative, making the festive season even more meaningful for both the recipients and the donors alike.

**Rotarian-hours Spent:** 350

**Number of Beneficiaries:** 175

**Value of the Project:** Around INR 5000/-





## MEGA DENTAL CHECK-UP CAMP BY ROTARY CLUB OF BORIVILI

**Club President:** Rtn Harish Chandarana

**Area of Focus:** Medical

**Location of Project:** Borivali East

**Date of Execution:** 11th October 2024

### Project Description

Rotary Club of Borivili organized a successful dental check-up for 422 Ramkrishna High School and Cosmos High School students. A team of 6 doctors from MGM Hospital conducted thorough examinations. The renovated computer lab facilitated the event. New Rotarians Trupti Sampat and Dr Kanak Ganguli, along with RCB members, actively participated. Students who received dental hygiene education, and those needing further treatment will be referred to the hospital.

**Number of Beneficiaries:** 520

**Rotarian-hours Spent:** 35

**Value of the Project:** INR 1,00,000/-



## DIWALI CELEBRATION WITH ASHRAM SHALA BY ROTARY CLUB OF BORIVILI

**Club President:** Rtn Harish Chandarana

**Area of Focus:** Community Service

**Location of Project:** Annasaheb Dhamane Ashram Shala, Kaman

**Date of Execution:** 25th Oct 2024

### Project Description

Rotary Club of Borivili inaugurated the newly renovated classrooms at Annasaheb Dhamane Ashram Shala, Kaman, sponsored by Matushri Niranjanaaben Nanalal Shah (EUROBOND). The event included a Diwali celebration with 650 students, where they were provided food, shoes, and firecrackers, and enjoyed a lively DJ session. Special thanks to Chief Guest Rtn. PP Manish Gyani, Project Chairman Rtn. Kamlesh Pipaliya, and other team members Rtn. Rakesh Sheth, Rtn. Vikram Shah, and Rtn. Harish Davda for their dedication. The project enhanced the students' learning environment and brought festive joy to their lives.

**Number of Beneficiaries:** 650

**Rotarian-hours Spent:** 300

**Value of the Project:** INR 5,00,000/-



### DIWALI CELEBRATIONS WITH SPECIAL CHILDREN BY ROTARY CLUB OF MUMBAI DAHISAR

**Club President:** Rtn Avinash Naimpally

**Area of Focus:** Happy School

**Location of Project:** Virar

**Date of Execution:** 24th Oct 2024

#### Project Description

Like every year, Rotary Club of Mumbai Dahisar members celebrated Diwali with Special Children at Virar School. Apart from distributing sweets to the children and arranging for entertainment program for the children, the club also sponsored equipment for starting their new papier mache made handicraft products unit. Project Chair: PP Sanat Shah

**No. of Beneficiaries:** 275

**Rotarian-hours Spent:** 60

**Value of the Project:** INR 44,000/-

**Sponsors/Partners:** Members of RC Mumbai Dahisar



### KARVI FESTIVAL BY ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY SEACOAST

**Club President:** Rtn Nitin Shah

**Area of Focus :** Living with the Nature

**Location of Project :** BNHS - Goregaon

**Date of Execution :** 29th September 2024

#### Project Description

What an unforgettable experience! The Karvi Festival brought us closer to nature's rarest beauty—the blooming of the Karvi flowers after 8 years! From vibrant butterflies to proud Rotary moments, this day was a celebration of passion, unity, and purpose. Special thanks to Dr Ashok Kothari for his dedication in organizing the event and DG Chetan Desai for gracing us with his presence.

Here's to more moments of growth and inspiration A big shout-out to PP Dr Ashok Kothari, whose passion and dedication ensured the event was seamlessly organized and thoroughly enjoyable for all. We were also honoured to have DG Chetan Desai join us for the trail, making the day even more special. As reported by President Nitin Shah

**Number of Beneficiaries :** 60

**Value of the Project:** INR 30,000/-





## EKLAVYA TRIBAL RYPEN BY ROTARY CLUB OF PALGHAR

**Club President:** Rtn Arun Patil

**Date of Execution :** 26th and 27th October 2024

**Location of Project :** Nandore Ashram Shala.

### Project Description

The event was inaugurated by DG Chetan Desai in the presence of many district dignitaries and was attended by over 270 students from various schools and colleges. Speakers delivered insightful talks on diverse topics, enriching students' knowledge. Topics included Mental Health for Education, Organic Farming, Personality Development, Social Media De-Addiction, Animal Care and Snake Bites, and Entrepreneurial Mindset. Students performed skits on various themes, adding an engaging and creative touch to the event. A major highlight of the Eklavya Tribal RYPEN was a complete airport model with a live demonstration, which captivated attendees.

RYPEN was attended by the presidents of Rotary Clubs of Boisar, Tarapur, Manor, Wada, Virar, and Vasai. Prizes were awarded to students for skits and a drawing competition.

The event concluded with a session by the Chief Guest, Rtn Nikunj Jhaveri.

**Number of Beneficiaries:** 270

**Rotarian-hours Spent:** 18

**Sponsors/Partners:** Neon Foundation, Kamla Group Companies



## WOMEN EMPOWERMENT & DONATION OF SAREES AND SWEETS TO TRIBAL WIDOWS AND VILLAGERS BY ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY KANDIVLI

**Club President:** Rtn Dr Sadhana Edvankar

**Area of Focus:** Community Welfare & Economic Development

**Location of Project:** Dongaste, Village Wada

**Date of Execution:** 1st November 2024

### Project Description

The Rotary Club of Bombay Kandivli celebrated Diwali with tribal widows and villagers of Dongaste village, Wada, for the fourth consecutive year.

The celebrations took place at the Shree Krishna Upasana Centre in Dongaste, Wada. The club gifted sarees and sweets to 50 tribal women, sponsored by Rtn. Dr. Mamta Jain.

Notably, the tribal women wore sarees that had been gifted to them by RCBK during last year's celebrations. RCBK has also empowered these women by training them to produce masalas, which they now sell in the local market, earning a sustainable livelihood.

The event was attended by Project Chair Rtn. Kalpana Menon, VP Rtn. Mahendra Modi, PP Rtn. Jyoti Gandhi, and JS Rtn. Laxman Prasad.

**Number of Beneficiaries :** 50

**Rotarian-hours Spent :** 20

**Value of the Project :** INR 18,500/-

**Sponsors/Partners :** Self Funded



## JOY OF GIVING AT DIWALI BY THE ROTARY CLUB OF MUMBAI ELEGANT AND ROTARY CLUB OF MUMBAI ELEGANT PLUS

**Club President:** Dr Nidhika Bahl and Rtn Karan Gupta

**Area of Focus:** Community Economic Development

**Location of Project:** St. Catherine's Home (Andheri West) and Mera Sapna Foundation (Andheri East)

**Date Of Execution:** 30th & 31st October 2024

### Project Description

RCME and RCME Plus celebrated Diwali with underprivileged children at St. Catherine's Home and Mera Sapna Foundation. They distributed 200 clothing sets, 150 stationery kits, and 100 Diwali hampers. The initiative was sponsored by Ruchika Suri, Dr Arlene Ghosh, and Nitika Arora. RCME Plus's Yuvika Gera also participated. The event was supported by AG Ruma Desai, President Nidhika Bahl, and TRF Director Rani Wankawala.

**Number Of Beneficiaries:** 450

**Rotarian-hours Spent:** 75

**Value of the Project:** INR 3,50,000/-

**Sponsors/Partners:** Ruchika Suri, Dr Arlene Ghosh and Nitika Arora



## MEDICAL CAMPS BY MUMBAI MULUND EAST

**Club President:** Rtn Ananthlakshmi Iyer

**Area of focus:** Medical

**Location of Project:** Kashaba Jadhav Garden and Tarun Utkarsh School, Gavanpada

**Dates of Execution:** 5th October and 26th October 2024, respectively

### Project Description

Mega medical camps were organized with the Rotary Club of Bombay Powai as co-hosts. Awareness topics included anaemia, diabetes, hypertension, oral cancer, breast cancer, cervical cancer, and family planning (FP). Tests conducted for beneficiaries included haemoglobin and blood sugar tests as well as eye screening. Spectacles were distributed on the spot, and custom orders were arranged for others. Cataract detection tests were also conducted. Counselling sessions by FPAI were also provided to the beneficiaries.

**Total Number of Beneficiaries:** 307

**Rotarian-hours Spent:** 26

**Sponsors/Partners:** L&T Realty & Rotary Club of Bombay Powai.





### 3-DAY ANNAPOORNA DRIVE FOR BHANGARWADI FIRE VICTIMS BY ROTARY CLUB OF MUMBAI SHER-E-PUNJAB

**Club President:** Rtn Jotinder Singh Ahluwalia

**Area of Focus:** Community Development and Annapoorna

**Location of the Project:** Fire breakout site at the Slums of Bhangarwadi, Andheri East

**Date of Execution:** 1st, 2nd & 3rd November 2024

#### Project Description

On November 1st, a devastating fire ravaged Bhangarwadi's slums and shops. Rotary Club of Mumbai Sher-E-Punjab, with the support of Gurudwara Sri Guru Nanak Darbar, swiftly responded. They organized a night-long relief effort, distributing food and water to over 200 affected individuals. Rtn Gurpreet Singh aided the Fire Brigade by providing a water supply.

The next day, the team surveyed the damage and provided lunch packets to victims and police. Annapoorna service continued for several days, providing meals to the affected families. This selfless service highlighted the true spirit of Rotary, demonstrating their commitment to action and community welfare.

**Beneficiaries:** 50 to 200 on different days.

**Rotarian-hours spent:** 48

**Value of the Project:** INR 10,000/- (Most of the Langar was voluntarily sponsored by the Gurudwara)

**Sponsors/Partners:** Gurudwara Sri Guru Nanak Darbar; Sher-e-Punjab Society, Andheri East; Club members and local donors.



### FREE EYE CHECK-UP FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN OF RC MARUTI HIGH SCHOOL BY ROTARY CLUB OF MUMBAI SHER-E-PUNJAB

**Club President:** Rtn Jotinder Singh Ahluwalia

**Area of Focus:** Disease Prevention and treatment

**Location of the Project:** R C Maruti High School, Andheri East

**Date of Execution:** 28th August 2024

#### Project Description:

RCMSEP organized a free eye check-up for 574 students of RC Maruti School. 28 students were found to have eye problems and were referred to Powai Hospital for advanced tests or glasses. Rtn Minishaa I Oberoi, Youth Director and PE, led the project. Dr Jatin Ashar's Multi Eye Speciality Hospital provided the optometrists, and the Rotary Club of Mumbai Ghatkopar supported the event.

**Beneficiaries:** 574

**Rotarian-hours spent:** 35

**Value of the Project:** INR 1,045/-

**Sponsors/Partners:** RC Mumbai Ghatkopar, Dr Jatin Ashar's Multi Eye Speciality Hospital

# Harbour of Heroes: A NAVAL TALE

INFORMATION COURTESY: RTN DR ARUN GARG DISTRICT COORDINATOR, EVENTS / SPORTS / ROTAL

**T**HE District 3141 Vibrant Events Team partnered with the lead host, Rotary Club of Mumbai Millennials, to celebrate “Harbour of Heroes” with the Indian Navy on November 14th and 16th, 2024. The program aimed to showcase the Indian Navy’s defence and disaster management capabilities while inspiring school students through an immersive learning experience.

Highlights of the Event:

## DAY 1: VISIT TO NAVAL AIR STATION – INS SHIKRA (14TH NOVEMBER)

District Coordinator for Events, Rtn Dr Arun Garg, and Convenor, Retd Cdr B. K. Ahluwalia and several Rotarians inaugurated this event.

341 students, teachers, and 63 Rotarians from 13 schools across Mumbai participated in this enriching experience.

Students and their teachers



were taken to INS Shikra, where they explored the operational capabilities of the Naval Air Fleet. The visit began with a short documentary that showcased how the Navy’s air assets contribute to warfare and disaster relief efforts.

Participants were introduced to four different helicopter models—

CHETAK, SEAKING, DHRUV, and ALH MARK III—through an in-depth briefing on their usage in various scenarios. A highlight of the day was witnessing a live demonstration of the CHETAK helicopter conducting a civilian rescue operation and its ability to land on a warship.







## DAY 2: VISIT TO NAVAL WARSHIPS – INS TEG AND INS TARKASH (16TH NOVEMBER)

District Governor Chetan Desai, District Coordinator Events Dr Arun Garg, Avenue Chair Events Neeha Khetan, and Convenor Retd Cdr B. K. Ahluwalia inaugurated this event.

A remarkable 867 students, teachers, and 74 Rotarians from 28 schools across Mumbai participated, making it a day to remember.

The second day featured visits to two advanced naval warships, INS Teg and INS Tarkash. Attendees were given a firsthand look at the Navy's cutting-edge armaments and witnessed live demonstrations of their capabilities.

Rotary Clubs coordinated with schools to ensure smooth participation and entry to the naval sites. Both days were meticulously organised, and the Indian Navy provided refreshments for all attendees, ensuring a comfortable and engaging experience.

All participants appreciated the event, particularly the students, who were inspired by the Navy's state-of-the-art technology and commitment to national service. The program was a shining example of Rotary's mission to engage and empower communities while fostering collaboration with key institutions like the Indian Navy.

Special recognition goes to RC of Mumbai Millennials under the leadership of Rtn Onkar Sarang

and his dedicated team for executing this large-scale event with precision and passion.

Harbour of Heroes truly brought to life the values of leadership, teamwork, and service, leaving a lasting impression on all who attended.

## A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THE NAVY:

Flag Officer Commanding in Chief, Western Naval Command, Vice Admiral Kochar COS, Rear Admiral Sundip Verma CSO(P&A) WNC, Cmde JP Chiplunkar Cd EDO WNC, Cdr Sinha WNC, Cmde Iyer CO Shikra, Lt Cdr Asutosh Shikra, Lt Cdr Akshay Sibnis Tarkash, Lt Sanat Tarkash, Cmde B K Ahluwalia, VSM(Retd).

EDITED BY MAHERA GOEL



# “Celebrating Peace Through Words”

## THE ROTARY WRITING FOR PEACE AWARD AT LITERATURE LIVE – THE MUMBAI LITFEST

INFORMATION COURTESY: RAJIV PUNATER, ASSISTANT GOVERNOR, DISTRICT 3141

**T**HE Rotary Writing for Peace Award recognised renowned writer Urvashi Butalia at The Mumbai LitFest on Sunday, 17th November 2024, at NCPA Mumbai.

This prestigious event also celebrated the power of literature with a dynamic weekend of engaging sessions, book launches, and captivating performances featuring over 125 speakers and performers from 13 countries. Esteemed figures like Gulzar, Jane Goodall, Pico Iyer, Christopher Merrill, Farrukh Dhondy, Arundhati Subramaniam, and William Dalrymple added brilliance to the festival. Key highlights included the Great Debate, the Lifetime and Poet Laureate Awards and the Sultan Padamsee Awards for Playwriting.

The Rotary Writing for Peace Award, established in 2022 by Rotary District 3141's Peace Avenue, was instituted by Rotarians Rajiv Punater along with Mahera Goel and Ravi Budhiraja. Partnering with Tata Lit Live!, the award honours writers who promote peace and goodwill, amplifying the message of harmony in challenging times.

This year's recipient, Urvashi Butalia, was celebrated for her pioneering work in women's rights and social justice. As the co-founder of Kali for Women and Zubaan, India's first feminist publishing house, Butalia has given voice to untold stories of marginalised women. Her seminal book, *The Other Side of Silence*, shed light on the experiences of



women during the Partition of India. Her other works, including *Speaking Peace* and *Breaching the Citadel*, explore themes of gender, justice, and conflict. Beyond her literary contributions, Butalia's activism has raised awareness about domestic violence, discrimination, and gender inequities. A recipient of the Padma Shri, she continues to inspire with her unwavering commitment to justice and equality.

The award was presented by Chief Guest District Governor Chetan Desai, alongside Rotary SOBO Charter President Rajiv Punater, Rtn Mahera Goel, Rtn Ravi Budhiraja, and Antoine Lewis from the Mumbai LitFest.



Aligned with Rotary International's focus on peacebuilding and conflict prevention, the Rotary Writing for Peace Award celebrates the transformative role of literature in creating a more equitable world. Together, Rotary and the Mumbai LitFest amplify the global call for peace and unity through this inspiring initiative.

EDITED BY MAHERA GOEL



# One Year TO INSPIRE!

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

## ROTARY CLUB OF MUMBAI WEST COAST: RTN DR SEEMAA NEGI

1. **Why did you choose to become the Vibrant President:** To lead with energy and innovation, continuing our Club's legacy of creating a lasting impact.
2. **The most beautiful moment of your Rotary journey so far.** Witnessing the joy on the faces of the children who were the beneficiaries of our Projects, the solidarity amongst our members in raising funds, the transformative impact of our initiatives, and the heartfelt gratitude from beneficiaries after completing our Projects, all of which highlight the true spirit of service and unity.
3. **What will be the signature project of your Presidential tenure.** The Nation Builder Award Ceremony, honouring 225 outstanding Educators from 92 cities across India, celebrating their remarkable contributions to shaping the future through education, and presenting special Lifetime Achievement Awards to individuals with a lasting impact on society.
4. **Which is the Vibrant Year attribute that you, as a club, most relate to and why?** Visionary- because it reflects our commitment to forward-thinking leadership, innovative project planning, and a clear focus on creating sustainable, long-term impact in our community.
5. **What are the Vibrant Focus Areas that you would like to work on?** Promoting peace, supporting education, protecting the environment, and improving overall health and well-being in our community.



**Profession:** Educator, Life Coach & Decluttering mentor.

**Club name:** Rotary Club of Mumbai West Coast.

**Membership strength:** 68.

**Key projects:** Various CSR initiatives focusing on medical and non-medical areas, including the Nation Builder Award, Rashmi Project, Anaemia and Cancer awareness & detection, along with many other transformative, society-driven Projects.

**Family:** Anil Negi – Husband. Adwiitaa Negi – Daughter (who proactively supports the various initiatives of our Club).

**Favourite Cuisine:** Indian.

**Favourite Holiday destination:** Nature's Bounty.

**Favourite Book/Music:** -The Bhagavad Geeta.

**Quote I live by** I am because WE are.

## ROTARY CLUB OF MUMBAI DAHISAR - RTN AVINASH NAIMPALLY

1. **Why did you choose to become the Vibrant President:** Leading a charity organisation poses various challenges like - funding, regulations and volunteer management. I wanted to take up these challenges first hand.
2. **The most beautiful moment of your Rotary journey so far.** Planning and executing my first project after joining Rotary – as a Project Chair. It was a Malaria Awareness camp at a local school.
3. **What will be the signature project of your Presidential tenure. (Mention if you are looking for collaborations for any project?)** Setting up a skill development centre in Dahisar. Any club that wants to collaborate can email me on rtn.avinashn@gmail.com
4. **Which is the Vibrant Year attribute that you, as a club, most relate to and why?** Inclusive – include and involve people from diverse spectrum of society. Each one is unique and each one can play a vital role.
5. **What are the Vibrant Focus Areas that you would like to work on?** Paediatric Heart Surgery, Breast Cancer Screening, Vision against Blindness.



**Profession:** Microsoft Certified Product Expert / Technical Trainer

**Club Name:** Rotary Club of Mumbai Dahisar

**Membership Strength:** 51

**Key Projects:** Rotary Dialysis Centre

**Family:** Mother (Pushpa), Wife (Priya), Daughter (Pavitra), Son (Herambh).

**Fav. Cuisine:** Nothing can beat hot dal-rice with aachar.

**Fav. Holiday Destination:** Any place that quiet, with fresh air, clear skies and greenery.

**Fav. Book / Music:** Instrumental by Kenny G, Yanni and Vanessa Mae.

**Quote I live by:** It's not how much we give, but how much love we put into giving.

## ROTARY CLUB OF MUMBAI WADALA EAST: RTN AMAR ANNASHEB CHAVAN

1. **Why did you choose to become the Vibrant President:** My devotion to humanitarian causes inspired me.
2. **The most beautiful moment of your Rotary journey so far :** Every moment spent in the execution of our Club's projects.
3. **What will be the signature project of your Presidential tenure :** Tree plantation - for environmental sustainment.
4. **Which is the Vibrant Year attribute that you, as a Club, most relate to and why :** Visionary. Reason : Our Club believes in looking ahead.
5. **What are the Vibrant Focus Areas that you would like to work on ?** Tree plantation, and Blood Donation camps.



**Profession:** Entrepreneur (Rubber and Garment industries).

**Club Name :** Rotary Club of Mumbai Wadala East.

**Membership Strength :** 32 .

**Key Projects :** Blood donation camps, Eye camps, and Tree plantation .

**Family:** Namrata – Wife ( Rotarian). Apurva – Son... Anuja ( Daughter-in-Law). Tanaya – Daughter.

**Favourite Cuisine :** Indian Vegetarian.

**Favourite Holiday Destination :** Mahabaleshwar.

**Favourite Music :** Songs from old Bollywood movies.

**Quote I live by :** Live And Let Live.



## ROTARY CLUB OF MUMBAI CITY : RTN VIKASH AGARWAL

1. **Why did you choose to become the Vibrant President:** To bring innovative ideas & fresh energy in our Club, empower our members, enhance our community impact, and inspire potential members to join our Club.
2. **The most beautiful moment of your Rotary journey so far :** Witnessing the joy on the faces of the autistic and specially abled children with whom we celebrated Navaratri . It was a heart-warming experience that reinforced the true essence of Rotary.
3. **What will be the signature project of your Presidential tenure :** Comprehensive Vocational Training and Empowerment programme for underprivileged women, with focus on financial literacy, skill development and development of entrepreneurship skills. Collaborations sought.
4. **Which is the Vibrant Year attribute that you, as a Club, most relate to and why :** Visionary. Reason : It resonates with our Club's focus on Innovation, the idea being to attract new talents while staying committed to Rotary's core values.
5. **What are the Vibrant Focus Areas that you would like to work on ?** Education and Empowerment of the community around us, including economic empowerment; and Environmental Sustainability coupled with Clean Energy and Waste Management initiatives.



**Profession:** Entrepreneur ( Construction & Mining).

**Club Name :** Rotary Club of Mumbai City.

**Membership Strength :** 40 Plus .

**Key Projects :** Navaratri celebrations with Autistic and Specially abled children; Women empowerment and Vocational training programmes, Orchestra to support blind students; Food donation drives, and Cleanliness drives .

**Family:** Preeti Agarwal – Wife ( First Lady). Surendra Kumar Agarwal – Father. Satyabhama Agarwal – Mother. Haarshi – Daughter. Vatsal - Son. Ujesha – Daughter.

**Favourite Cuisine :** North Indian and Chinese.

**Favourite Holiday Destination :** Switzerland.

**Favourite Book :** The Monk Who Sold His Ferrari ( by Robin Sharma).

**Favourite Music :** Songs from old Bollywood movies ( classics).

**Quote I live by :** Service above self.

## ROTARY CLUB OF MUMBAI MAKABO: RTN SHUBHADA NANDKISHOR MANJREKAR

1. **Why did you choose to become the Vibrant President:** To do impactful social work with the realization that sky is the limit as far as giving back to the Society is concerned.
2. **The most beautiful moment of your Rotary journey so far :** Witnessing the joy and gratitude on the faces of the children we supported through our educational initiatives – a reminder of the profound impact we could have on the lives of the needy .
3. **What will be the signature project of your Presidential tenure :** Project Annapurna as well as Projects for the underprivileged children.
4. **Which is the Vibrant Year attribute that you, as a Club, most relate to and why :** Visionary. Reason : Our Club relates to innovation ( which is linked to the Visionary attribute) as we continuously seek newer ways to serve, connect, and create positive change, all the while staying relevant to the needs of our community.
5. **What are the Vibrant Focus Areas that you would like to work on ?** Education, Health, and Environmental Sustainability aligning with Rotary's global priorities while addressing local challenges.



**Profession:** Entrepreneur ( Event Management).

**Club Name :** Rotary Club of Mumbai Makabo

**Membership Strength :** 24.

**Key Projects :** Annapurna .

**Family:** Rtn Nandkishor Manjrekar – Husband. Rutuja Manjrekar – Daughter. Yash Manjrekar – Son.

**Favourite Cuisine :** Konkani – especially sea food.

**Favourite Holiday Destination :** Rishikesh, Hampi, Amsterdam.

**Favourite Book :** Swami ( by Ranjeet Desai).

**Favourite Songs :** Hindi film songs, Marathi Bhav Geet.

**Quote I live by :** You only live once, so live well.

## ROTARY CLUB OF MUMBAI BHANDUP: RTN ASHA NARANG

1. **Why did you choose to become the Vibrant President:** Inspiration from DG Chetan Desai which fuels Presidents to reach their full potential.
2. **The most beautiful moment of your Rotary journey so far :** The warmth and appreciation from beneficiaries of our Projects; in fact, a beneficiary held my hand to express her thanks after a successful eye surgery .
3. **What will be the signature project of your Presidential tenure :** Spreading financial literacy to street vendors and combining this with skill development through Bosch training for the underprivileged youth in our community.
4. **Which is the Vibrant Year attribute that you, as a Club, most relate to and why :** Resilient. Reason : Hardship is temporary, and having the strength to return with undiminished energy is the way to approach challenges.
5. **What are the Vibrant Focus Areas that you would like to work on ?** Basic Education and Literacy.



**Profession:** Engineering Consultant ( mainly into Power back-up and Solar).

**Club Name :** Rotary Club of Mumbai Bhandup.  
Membership Strength : 41.

**Key Projects :** Cataract Free Bhandup, Pink Autos .

**Family:** Ashok Narang – Husband. Rudra Narang – Son. Kushagra Narang – Son.

**Favourite Cuisine :** Rice and Thai Curry.

**Favourite Holiday Destination :** My birthplace – Himachal Pradesh.

**Favourite Book :** You can win ( by Shiv Khhera).

**Quote I live by :** We make a living by what we get, we make a life by what we give.

## ROTARY CLUB OF MUMBAI NATIONAL PARK: RTN SURESH NAIDU

1. **Why did you choose to become the Vibrant President:** To unite our Club's energies towards the common goal of service, turning dreams into reality, empowering communities, and building a legacy of compassion, connection & change.
2. **The most beautiful moment of your Rotary journey so far:** When my son introduced me to the audience during my installation as the President of our Club; and expressed his confidence in my ability to lead the Club towards growth, and for impactful service to the community .
3. **What will be the signature project of your Presidential tenure :** Transformation of Anganwadis into well equipped early childhood education centres; and preventive healthcare initiatives such as screening for detection of anaemia & thalassemia; early detection of Breast & Cervical cancer, and mental health awareness programmes. Collaborations sought.
4. **Which is the Vibrant Year attribute that you, as a Club, most relate to and why :** Visionary. Reason : It resonates with our Club's ethos.
5. **What are the Vibrant Focus Areas that you would like to work on ?** Health and Wellness ( both physical and mental health ) via the various initiatives outlined above ; Education and Empowerment of community; and Environmental Sustainability.



**Profession:** Entrepreneur ( Sales & Rentals of Copiers/ Printers).

**Club Name :** Rotary Club of Mumbai National Park.  
Membership Strength : 43.

**Key Projects :** Transformation of Anganwadis, and Screening for detection of Breast & Cervical cancer .

**Family:** Manjula Suresh – Wife ( IWC Member).  
Sohan Naidu – Son. Harsh Naidu – Son.

**Favourite Cuisine :** South Indian.

**Favourite Holiday Destination :** Manali & Phuket.

**Favourite Book :** Rich Dad Poor Dad ( by Robert Kiyosaki and Sharon Lechter).

**Quote I live by :** Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.



## ROTARY CLUB OF PALGHAR: RTN ARUN KANHA PATIL

1. **Why did you choose to become the Vibrant President?** To make a positive impact, and to lead initiatives for the improvement of our community, and beyond.
2. **The most beautiful moment of your Rotary journey so far :** My installation ceremony as the President of our Club.
3. **What will be the signature project of your Presidential tenure :** Community kitchen for the homeless, low-income families, and individuals, facing food scarcity.
4. **Which is the Vibrant Year attribute that you, as a Club, most relate to and why :** Resilient and Visionary . Reason : Our Club focusses on creating meaningful and sustainable change in our community, aiming to leave a lasting and positive legacy, through our collective efforts.
5. **What are the Vibrant Focus Areas that you would like to work on ?** Disease treatment and prevention ( Cancer).



**Profession:** Civil Engineer.

**Club Name :** Rotary Club of Palghar.

**Membership Strength :** 84 .

**Key Projects :** Rotary Dialysis Centre, Community Kitchen, Solid Waste Management, Mother & Child Health Care.

**Family:** Priti Patil– Wife ( IWC President).

**Favourite Cuisine :** South Indian.

**Favourite Holiday Destination :** Konkan.

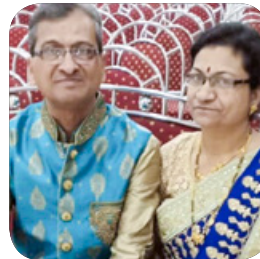
**Favourite Book :** Wings of Fire ( by Dr Abdul Kalam and Arun Tiwari ).

**Favourite Music :** Kanada Raja Pandhari Cha ( by Pt. Bhimsen Joshi ).

**Quote I live by :** Be A Good Person But Don't Waste Time To Prove It.

## ROTARY CLUB OF MUMBAI MARVELS : RTN NITINCHANDRA V. KHASGIWALA

1. **Why did you choose to become the Vibrant President?** To make a lasting change amongst the underprivileged individuals, and in every underprivileged community .
2. **The most beautiful moment of your Rotary journey so far :** Obtaining the Gong, Gavel, and Collar from our beloved DG Chetan Desai.
3. **What will be the signature project of your Presidential tenure :** Camps for spreading awareness about Club Foot, Knee Transplant, and Blood Donation Camps.
4. **Which is the Vibrant Year attribute that you, as a Club, most relate to and why :** Accountable. Reason : Accountability runs in our Club's DNA.
5. **What are the Vibrant Focus Areas that you would like to work on ?** Medical and Educational Projects.



**Profession:** Entrepreneur.

**Club Name :** Rotary Club of Mumbai Marvels.

**Membership Strength :** 29 .

**Key Projects :** Blood donation camps, Camps for spreading awareness about Club Foot, and Knee Transplant.

**Family:** Jyoti – Wife. Aarju – Daughter. Samaira – Grand Daughter.

**Favourite Cuisine :** South Indian Vegetarian.

**Favourite Holiday Destination :** All beautiful locales in our country – Bharat.

**Favourite Music :** Songs from old Bollywood movies.

**Quote I live by :** Dosti Mein No Ego, No Sorry.

## ROTARY CLUB OF MUMBAI MULUND SOUTH : RTN DR SACHU RAMALINGAM

1. **Why did you choose to become the Vibrant President:** To execute great service Projects with a wider outreach of our Seva for the greater good of the community as a whole .
2. **The most beautiful moment of your Rotary journey so far :** The warmth and appreciation from beneficiaries of our Projects, and the realization that collective actions have a positive impact on a wider section of the underprivileged including the elderly, the underprivileged children, orphans, needy schools etc.
3. **What will be the signature project of your Presidential tenure :** ( A ) The Rotary Chess Championship for the visually impaired ( this Championship event was held this year on 13th October – to commemorate the World Sight Day and the World Cane Day ). We wish to execute this Project every year. Hence, collaborations sought. ( B ) Project Roshni which aims to facilitate 100 corneal transplant surgeries to restore eyesight to the needy.
4. **Which is the Vibrant Year attribute that you, as a Club, most relate to and why :** Inclusive. Reason : The dynamism and enthusiasm brought about by the sheer joy of serving a wider section of the community
5. **What are the Vibrant Focus Areas that you would like to work on ?** Medical ( including Corneal Transplant surgeries, Paediatric Heart surgeries, Detection of Breast & Cervical Cancer), Education, and those related to Disability.



**Profession:** Educationist.

**Club Name :** Rotary Club of Mumbai Mulund South.

**Membership Strength :** 65.

**Key Projects :** Medical ( including Corneal Transplant surgeries, Paediatric Heart surgeries, Detection of Breast & Cervical Cancer), Education, and those related to Disability.

**Family:** K. Ramkrishna – Husband ( Hon Rotarian) .R. Hemmenth Kumar – Son (Rotaractor).

**Favourite Cuisine :** South Indian.

**Favourite Holiday Destination :** The Himalayas.

**Favourite Book / Music :** All Spiritual books, and all Spiritual music.

**Quote I live by :** I live by my soul path and purpose to do service above self, to live beyond the "I."

Rotary Dist 3141 | vibrant | THE MAGIC OF ROTARY  
Avenue Disability to Ability, RID 3141 is proud to associate with

### ADAPT Fest 2024 Dance, Drama, Music & Art

Date: 1st - 4th December 2024 | Time: 5:30 p.m. onwards  
Venue: Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya (Museum)

Make Mumbai Wheelchair Accessable



Honorable Chief Guest

**DG Chetan Desai**, District Governor  
on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2024 at 5:30 pm

Listen to inspiring stories from remarkable people and appreciate performances and artwork created by gifted artists with disabilities

**Dr. Mithu Alur**  
Founder Chairperson, ADAPT

**Ms. Malini Chib**  
Trustee, ADAPT  
Diversity officer, TATA Sons



Celebrating Inclusion, Empowering Lives!

**Mona Shah**  
District Co-ordinator

**Kala Sridhar**  
Avenue Chair



# The Spirit of Generosity: HONOURING THOSE WHO GIVE BACK

Featuring: The 'Shah' of Giving: AKS Nirav and Devina

**VIBE-X:** You are nicknamed Nirav 'TRF' Shah and known in the Rotary world for your passion and consistent commitment towards the Foundation. Comment.

**Nirav:** The Three T's – Treasure, Time, and Talent – should be contributed by Rotarians every year. Leading by example, Devina and I have chosen to donate to TRF to support sustainable and impactful projects.

**VIBE-X:** Is giving a legacy that runs in your family or has there been a life occurrence that led you on to this path?

**Nirav:** Giving is a legacy of my entire family, including my late father (a Rotarian). The Shah family has cumulatively given 100 years of service through Rotary. My brother-in-law, Mr. Ajay Piramal, inspires me a lot through his work via the Piramal Foundation.

**VIBE-X:** The Rotary Foundation has been rated as a 4-star charity by the Charity Navigator for 16 years in a row. How do you find it to be different from other foundations/NGOs?



**Nirav:** TRF enjoys stewardship in managing and reporting Global Grant and CSR (India) Grant projects. It also has the lowest administration and fundraising charge, about 8%, compared to 30% in other NGOs.

**VIBE-X:** What is the fund of your choice and why?

**Nirav:** The Annual Fund is the best fund among the 5 (Five) funds of TRF as it funds Global Grant projects thus making them 3 'B's (Bigger, Bolder and Better) and, in turn, more impactful.

**VIBE-X:** Given a choice, which specific areas of the community

need would you like to address with your contribution?

**Nirav:** Rotary International supports seven Areas of Focus. Devina and I prefer to donate to Education.

**VIBE-X:** What do you feel about the evolving role of corporate CSR in supporting projects of the Foundation?

**Nirav:** CSR (India) Grants are a new avenue of TRF in India only. CSR and Non-CSR funds can cumulatively make the projects bigger and more impactful.

**VIBE-X:** How can we, as a community of Rotarians, celebrate and inspire more individuals to embrace the spirit of giving?

**Nirav:** Leading by example is essential for every Rotarian. By demonstrating generosity and contributing to TRF, one can inspire others to follow suit.

INTERVIEWED BY SREE NANDY

# THE ROTARY FOUNDATION

## SPECIAL TRF RECOGNITIONS BY DISTRICT FOR 2024 – 2025

### (1) SPECIAL TRF SUPPORT SCHEME TO HELP NEW MEMBERS ACHIEVE PHF / MPHFS

A Special TRF Points Matching Scheme is introduced to support NEW MEMBERS achieve PHF / MPHFS wherein donor contributes INR 15,000/- only to ANNUAL FUND for achieving PHF or MPHFS (up to PHF+8) recognitions.

### (2) SPECIAL TRF POINTS MATCHING SCHEME TO HELP ACHIEVING PHF / MPHFS

A Special TRF Points Matching Scheme is introduced wherein donor contributes only 1/3rd of the balance amount to ANNUAL FUND for achieving PHF or MPHFS (up to PHF+8) recognitions. This scheme is also available for Non-Rotarians.

### (3) VIBRANT TRF CLUB

A special recognition certificate given to the Club that contributes a total of USD 500,000 and above during Rotary Year 2024 – 2025.

### (4) PLATINUM TRF CLUB

A special recognition certificate given to the Club that contributes a total of USD 250,000 to 499,999 during Rotary Year 2024 – 2025.

### (5) DIAMOND TRF CLUB

A special recognition certificate given to the Club that contributes a total of USD 125,000 to 249,999 during Rotary Year 2024 – 2025.

### (6) GOLD TRF CLUB

A special recognition certificate given to the Club that contributes a total of USD 60,000 to 124,999 during Rotary Year 2024 – 2025.

### (7) SILVER TRF CLUB

A special recognition certificate given to the Club

that contributes a total of USD 30,000 to 59,999 during Rotary Year 2024 – 2025.

### (8) SPECIAL RECOGNITION FOR EXISTING 100% PHF CLUB

A Special Recognition Certificate for Existing 100% PHF Club by District for maintaining status of 100% PHF Club by 31st May 2025.

### (9) SPECIAL RECOGNITION FOR CLUB ACHIEVING 'ALL TIME HIGH YEARLY GIVING'

A Special Recognition Certificate for Club achieving 'All Time High Yearly Giving' to TRF during Rotary Year 2024 – 2025.

### (10) SPECIAL RECOGNITION FOR CLUB ACHIEVING '100% GROWTH IN TRF GIVING OVER PREVIOUS YEAR'

A Special Recognition Platinum Certificate for Club achieving '100% Growth in TRF Giving over previous year' during Rotary Year 2024 – 2025. (Minimum USD 100 per member)

### (11) SPECIAL RECOGNITION FOR CLUB ACHIEVING '75% GROWTH IN TRF GIVING OVER PREVIOUS YEAR'

A Special Recognition Diamond Certificate for Club achieving '75% Growth in TRF Giving over previous year' during Rotary Year 2024 – 2025. (Minimum USD 100 per member)

### (12) SPECIAL RECOGNITION FOR CLUB ACHIEVING '50% GROWTH IN TRF GIVING OVER PREVIOUS YEAR'

A Special Recognition Gold Certificate for Club achieving '50% Growth in TRF Giving over previous year' during Rotary Year 2024 – 2025. (Minimum USD 100 per member)



# Current Developments in Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) in India

WRITTEN BY DC CSR AKKSHAY MEHTA

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) in India is rapidly evolving, addressing societal challenges while adhering to regulatory frameworks. Key highlights of the current trends and developments on CSR spending among high CSR spenders include:

## 1. EMPHASIS ON INNOVATION

CSR strategies are evolving from traditional models to more innovative and transformative approaches. High-risk, high-impact initiatives leveraging new technologies, particularly in education, literacy, and skill development – a lot of them aimed at women, are gaining traction.

## 2. HEALTHCARE AND EDUCATION AS PRIORITIES

Healthcare and education account for about half of the total CSR spending in India - Preventive healthcare, capex for healthcare, skill development, digital learning are key drivers in this space. Other areas such as poverty alleviation, women's empowerment, rural development, and environmental sustainability also see significant investments, collectively accounting for 70% of CSR expenditures.

## 3. INTEGRATION OF TECHNOLOGY



The integration of AI and other technologies in CSR programs is transforming implementation and evaluation processes. Companies are adopting data-driven approaches to improve the measurement of social impacts and streamline stakeholder engagement for greater efficiency and transparency.

## 4. COLLABORATIONS AND PARTNERSHIPS FOR SCALE

Collaborative CSR initiatives are on the rise, involving partnerships with governments, NGOs, and other corporates. These collaborations aim to scale the impact of CSR initiatives, as exemplified by the Government of India's recent internship program, which saw corporate partnerships create meaningful societal changes.

## 5. FOCUS ON DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION (DEI)

DEI has become a central focus in corporate agendas, influencing both CSR initiatives and internal

corporate operations. Companies are striving to create inclusive environments and address systemic inequities through targeted programs and initiatives.

## 6. VOLUNTEERING AND EMPLOYEE PARTICIPATION

CSR has evolved into a strategic tool for HR and brand building. Corporates are engaging employees through volunteering programs that also serve as team-building exercises. This employee-driven philanthropy is not only enhancing social impact but also strengthening workplace culture.

Corporate India's CSR journey is transitioning from compliance-focused activities to becoming a strategic enabler of brand expansion, employee engagement, and large-scale societal impact, at scale.

Takeway for Rotarians – stay abreast of this evolution of CSR, innovate and involve Tech in your projects, think of scaling the project with collaborations and partnerships, and focus on impact.

And remember - if we meet this Checklist, we can probably have a CSR partner for life!

Welcome to CSR 2.0!

EDITED BY SREE NANDY

# Service Unlimited: INNER WHEEL UPDATES



*Inner Wheel is committed to advancing programs, services to uplift the lives of women and children worldwide. This goal is accomplished through a network of members who selflessly contribute their time and resources.*

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



**IWC Deonar** held its flagship fundraiser event, the "Good Vibes" exhibition, on the 23rd and 24th of October 2024. The funds raised from the event will provide a high-protein diet for 101 TB patients over six months.

- » Beneficiaries: 101
- » Total expenses for 6 months for 101 TB patients' kits: INR 2,27,250



**IWC Mulund Hills** felicitated 51 BMC teachers, heads of BMC schools in Mulund, the head Yoga and PET teacher, and a retired BMC teacher.



**IWC Bombay Midwest** organized a card-making competition for street children at Shelters Don Bosco, Wadala. The children were given materials to create beautiful handmade cards.



**IWC Bombay** donated 4 ergonomic wheelchairs and 1 hydraulic OPD stretcher, ready for use, to Karuna Hospital in Borivali.



**IWC Bombay Pier** conducted a cervical cancer prevention camp at Guru Harkrishan High School for 100 students. Each student received a packet of 20 sanitary napkins after the Gardasil vaccination, which has an efficacy rate of 84%.

- » Beneficiaries: 100
- » Amount: INR 4,15,000



**IWC Bombay North Island** distributed 100 blankets to 100 cancer patients at Shri Sant Gadge Maharaj Dharamshala Trust in Dadar and provided them with refreshments.

EDITED BY SREE NANDY



# INCUBATING GROWTH



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

## ORACLE



Oracle, a new initiative by Team Human Resource Development, was designed as an intimate space for sharing stories and wisdom, bringing together newcomers and veterans. Through thoughtfully curated sessions and a creative truth-or-dare segment, Oracle captured the true spirit of Rotaract: to learn, to grow, and to lift each other up.

## THE ROTARACT PLACEMENT CELL

The Rotaract Placement Cell



was dedicated to empowering Rotaractors as they transitioned into the professional world. It offered networking opportunities and hosted in-person job fairs, allowing members to engage with potential employers. With over 40 companies partnering with us, we successfully facilitated more than 120 job offers.

## ROTARACT SKILL PROGRAM



Team HRD 2024-25 launched a new quarter-long initiative called the Rotaract Skill Program, chaired by Rtr. Sanchaita Deb. This project gave Rotaractors the opportunity to learn new skills at zero cost, directly from professionals who had been part of the Rotaract movement.

The program included four categories:  
Stage Crafts (Performing Arts)  
Artistry (Art & Decor)  
Verbal Mastery (Communication & Linguistic Skills)  
Tech Trek (Technical Skills)  
Phase 1 of the project took place on 19th October 2024 at RJ College, Ghatkopar.

## BUDDY COUNCIL

The Buddy Council is an ongoing, year-long initiative by Team HRD. District Council Members acted as Buddies and were paired with



clubs based on their needs and preferences.

In Phase One, from July to December 2024, we established over 30 pairs of clubs and buddies. Under the visionary leadership of Rtr. Shweta Chaube and Rtr. Stephanie D'Mello, the Buddy Council worked toward fostering growth, district unity, and sustainable impact.

## RMUN (ROTARACT MODEL UNITED NATIONS)



R-MUN '24 was held on 20th October 2024 at Amulakh School, Marunga East, with more than 130 participants representing different nations and deliberating on pressing global issues. The event featured two committees:  
UNGA: This committee focused on restoring peace and harmony in the Middle East through meaningful conflict resolution measures.  
International Press: This platform allowed participants to step into the role of journalists, exploring the media's perspective in the context of a Model United Nations.

EDITED BY SREE NANDY

# Transcending Boundaries:

## ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE

CONTRIBUTED BY PANKAJ PHATARPHOD, AVENUE CHAIR FOR YOUTH SERVICES I AND DISTRICT INTERACT CHAIR  
 WRITTEN BY FANTINE BOCQUET- A VISITING RYE PARTICIPANT FROM FRANCE  
 FACILITATED BY HIMA DALAL, DISTRICT AVENUE CHAIR FOR YOUTH SERVICES II (RYE)



I was lucky to experience festivals like *Ganpati*. I've never seen anything like it—so many people! Coming from the French countryside to Mumbai, I'm amazed by how people come together here to celebrate their gods. The warmth and friendliness of the Indian people are truly heartwarming.

I've been here for three months, and I already feel like I've grown and changed. I feel happier and more mature. Choosing India was the best decision I could've made. Initially, I thought of going to Japan, but exploring India has been incredible.

*Ganpati, Navratri, Diwali...* I loved each festival. Participating in pujas, wearing kurtis, seeing the flower markets in the streets—India is so colourful and extraordinary. I love India, my host family, and am deeply grateful to Rotary for this experience.

*Namaste!*

*Maru naam Fantine che*, and I'm from France. I live in Epinal in District 1790. I arrived in India on the night of July 19-20 at the Mumbai airport. Since then, I've experienced so much of India's rich culture, Hinduism, amazing food—everything here is vibrant and colourful.

The weather here is so different from back home. The first month

was tough; I felt like I was in a heatwave! I travelled to Vadodara with my host parents and to Nagpur for the Rotary Resonance meeting, both of which were wonderful experiences. I love Gujarati culture and have even learned some Gujarati words because my host family speaks it! The food is delicious, and I adore how the language sounds—it's beautiful. *Mane doodh pak bave che!*



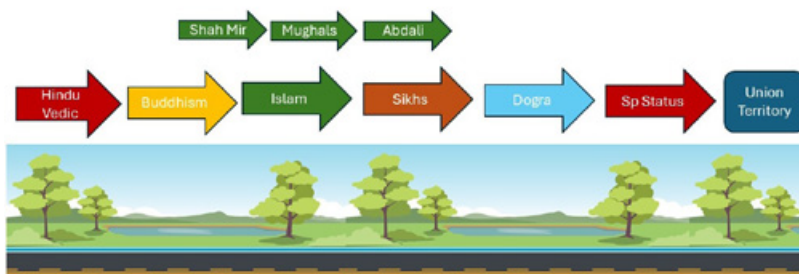
EDITED BY SREE NANDY

# Understanding 'KASHYAP-MIR'

India has always mystified the world. Even more mystifying is its past—not because it is shrouded in mystery, but due to the deliberate creation of global perspectives in an attempt to craft a balanced narrative.

WRITTEN BY JHANKAR GADKARI, AVENUE CHAIR, SANSKRITI

## The Road Map of Kashmir



## UNVEILING THE VALE OF KASHMIR

For centuries, India was home to great Sanskrit scholars, with the banks of the Vitasta (Jhelum) and Sindhu (Indus) nurturing some of its most eloquent teachers. Many of the greatest Sanskrit poets were born in and wrote from this valley. Indian philosophy, rooted in the Vedas, finds its origins in this very land.

### Here are just a few notable contributors:

- **Panini:** Known as the "Father of Modern Grammar and Sanskrit."
- **Patanjali:** Author of the *Mahabhasya*, an important commentary on Panini's *Ashtadhyayi*, and the *Yoga Sutras*.
- **Charaka:** Renowned author of the *Charaka Samhita*, a foundational text in Ayurveda.
- **Abhinavagupta:** Philosopher and scholar of aesthetics and

- Kashmir Shaivism.
  - **Vasugupta:** Composer of the *Shiva Sutras*.
  - **Kshemaraja:** A philosopher and commentator on Shaivism.
  - **Anandavardhana:** Poet and theorist known for the *Dhvanyaloka*.
- And there are countless more.

Kashmir's monumental contribution to the world has been overshadowed by dominant narratives. Today, when the world seeks peace and tranquility, it is

ironic that the Indian concept of *Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam*—the universal brotherhood—has been excluded or diluted in global discourse.

Not many are aware of the *Gardez Ganesha*, a historic statue found 40 kilometers from Kabul, or the *Bamiyan Buddhas*, magnificent symbols of shared heritage, destroyed in Afghanistan. Similarly, while students worldwide recognize the Hindu Kush mountain range as a geographical landmark separating Afghanistan and Pakistan, few know that ancient Sanskrit literature referred to it as *Uparisena*, meaning "mountains beyond the reach of eagles."

The term "Hindu Kush" itself is a tragic misnomer, meaning "Hindu killer." It reflects the harsh



## The Gardez Ganesh.

Was discovered in Gardez, near Kabul .  
It was installed by a king named Khingal.



Sharda Script

The Idol of Maha Vinayaka was installed by  
**Maharajadiraja Shahi Khingala** in the 8<sup>th</sup> Year of his rule.





reality that countless prisoners of war perished in its unforgiving conditions while being marched to Afghanistan by invading forces.

The Sharada Peeth, once a thriving university and knowledge center on the banks of the Kishanganga River (now in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir), is another forgotten gem. It had its own script, the *Sharada*, which belonged to the Brahmic family of scripts. Inscriptions in this script can even be seen on the *Gardez Ganesha*.

Taxila, another ancient university that flourished around 1000 BCE, was regarded as the benchmark for education in its time—comparable to today's Harvard and Oxford.



### The Kalash ,

Chitral District in northern Pakistan.  
Hindu Kush mountain range.

The inhabitants of the valley follow a religion similar to the Historical Vedic religion.

Even the Kalash people, residing in the Chitral District of northern Pakistan in the Hindu Kush mountains, maintain a religion strikingly similar to the historical Vedic tradition.

Over 2,000 towns and villages in Kashmir have had their Sanskrit names replaced, symbolizing a systematic erosion of cultural identity. This is a case of cultural disintegration and the imposition of a universal narrative.

Kashmir is a land of complexity, steeped in dichotomies and contradictions. The Vedas and Upavedas are believed to have originated here, and as Kalhana, an ancient historian, observed, it was the "gateway of knowledge to the world." Once acknowledged as such, it is now largely forgotten.

Kashmir—Kashyap-Mir (the land of Rishi Kashyapa)—deserves understanding, not erasure.

The iconic Paisley design is yet another testament to the creation of a universal perspective. It is a signature motif found in nearly all Kashmiri shawls, particularly the exquisite and luxurious

Jamawar shawls, which were historically exported to European elites. Originally part of a flourishing cottage industry, these shawls were meticulously handcrafted. However, with the advent of mechanized looms, England began producing these shawls mechanically, faster and at lower costs.

This shift dealt a devastating blow to the renowned Jamawar artisans, whose craft industry collapsed nearly 90 years ago and has never fully recovered. The name of the English town where these mechanically produced shawls were made—Paisley—became synonymous with the design. Today, the pattern is universally recognized by this English town's name, rather than its true origin.

The design itself is inspired by the meandering course of the river Vitasta (Jhelum), its shape resembling a mango and its seed. In Kashmir, it is still known as कयिरु (Kairu), कुइरी (Kuiri), or कोय (Koi). Sadly, this connection has faded elsewhere, leaving its original identity largely unacknowledged.



# THE CHALLENGE TO SURVIVE

**T**HE hard-fought elections for the 15th Maharashtra Assembly has seen the decimation of the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA), whose constituents do not have the singular strength to sit on the chair of the Leader of the Opposition. This will see a hard pitched political tussle between MVA constituents, Congress Party, NCP (SP) and the Shiv Sena (UBT) to occupy that position.

The decimation of the Opposition parties has also put in line the political survival of the Raj Thackeray led Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS) and the Shiv Sena faction headed by Uddhav Thackeray, a former chief minister. Either the warring cousins Uddhav and Raj Thackeray join hands to give a thrust to their political survival or face the certainty of fragmentation. For both the Thackerays, the results of the 2024 Maharashtra Assembly polls, come as a shocker because they were heavily invested in positive results for revival and survival.

Since the shocker, the best way out may be to join their combined forces to stay relevant.



Furthermore, given the political aspirations of the partymen of the Sharad Pawar led NCP faction as well as the Congress Party it will be a daunting task to keep their MLAs within the boundaries of their parties. In the days since the election results declared on November 23, there is talk of some MLAs from the constituent parties of the MVA already dialling those who matter in the BJP, Shiv Sena (Eknath Shinde faction) and NCP (Ajit Pawar).

Political analysts predict that there could be sizeable movement from the MVA to the Mahayuti (BJP, SS (Eknath Shinde), NCP (Ajit Pawar).

The high-pitched campaign across Maharashtra by both the Mahayuti and the MVA saw the eyes of India watching this State. Though perceived to give both the ruling combine as well as the opposition parties a close race to the finish, the results shocked everyone.

From the results it has emerged that the re-elected Parag Shah, from the Ghatkopar East constituency, is the richest MLA in the 15th Maharashtra Assembly. The average assets of the newly elected MLAs in 2024 are ₹43.42 crores, which is nearly double the average of ₹22.42 crores in 2019. The number of "crorepati" MLAs has risen with five legislators declaring assets exceeding ₹100 crores.

Politically, it will be interesting to watch events unfold in Maharashtra in the coming days, for post-election results when all analysts failed in their predictions, few are willing to lay wagers on the next chief minister.

It will also signal a long haul to survival for those who lost the elections.

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