

Rotary RI Dist 3141 *Let's* **Inspire**

When You Change Your Thoughts, Remember to Also Change Your World | Ignite. Connect Transform. | The I-N-S-P-I-R-E Way Building a Culture of Connection and Purpose

GOVERNOR 'S MONTHLY INSPIRE GML E-BULLETIN JANUARY 2026

When Algorithms Take Jobs, Skills Must Take Charge

PINKI DALAL

The age of Artificial Intelligence has arrived with the promise of efficiency, speed, and limitless possibility. But beneath the optimism lies an uncomfortable truth the world can no longer afford to ignore: technology is eliminating work faster than societies are preparing people to replace it. AI does not just disrupt industries; it disrupts lives. Clerical roles, routine service jobs, and predictable tasks are vanishing, not because workers have failed, but because the system has changed. In this new world order, the real crisis is not technological unemployment, it is human unpreparedness.

For decades, we were told that education was the great equaliser. Today, that promise is faltering. Degrees are multiplying while employability is shrinking. Classrooms continue to produce graduates, but markets demand skills. The uncomfortable reality is that knowledge without application has limited currency in an AI-driven economy. As machines learn faster, humans must learn smarter. Vocational education is no longer an alternative stream for the few; it is the survival strategy for the many.



AI thrives on repetition, pattern, and predictability. Human relevance, therefore, lies elsewhere in judgment, adaptability, hands-on competence, and ethical decision-making.

Vocational education prepares people for precisely this space. It trains individuals not for static careers, but for movement, transition, and reinvention. In an era where one job will not last a lifetime, vocational skills offer something more valuable than security: resilience.

Across the world, economies are being forced into a hard reset. Apprenticeships are replacing empty credentials, reskilling is overtaking recruitment, and work-based learning is emerging as the most honest form of education. This is not ideological reform; it is economic necessity. Nations that fail to skill their people for relevance will not just lose productivity, they will inherit inequality, frustration, and social fracture.

Rotary's emphasis on vocational service, therefore, feels less like tradition and more like foresight. Long before AI entered everyday vocabulary, Rotary recognised that dignity of labour is the bedrock of social stability. Vocational service does not offer sympathy; it offers capability. It does not wait for disruption to arrive; it prepares communities to face it. In a world obsessed with innovation, Rotary quietly focuses on what truly sustains societies skilled, confident,

self-reliant individuals.

Rotary District 3141's Pink Auto Project captures this philosophy with striking clarity. At a time when many jobs are disappearing behind screens and algorithms, the project places women visibly and confidently in the public workforce. This is vocational education responding to reality, not nostalgia. By training women to drive, manage, and earn independently, the initiative does more than create livelihoods, it asserts that empowerment must keep pace with change. Each PinkAuto on the road is a reminder that while machines may replace tasks, they cannot replace human agency.

The AI revolution will not wait for policy debates or comfort zones. It is already rewriting the rules of work. The real question is not whether jobs will disappear, but whether people will be prepared to adapt. Vocational education offers that preparation. It is the most direct, dignified, and democratic response to a world in flux. As algorithms take charge of routine work, skills must take charge of human futures. And in that transition, initiatives rooted in vocational excellence like those championed by Rotary will decide not just who survives change, but who leads it.

Turning the Page to Hope: Welcome 2026



As we step into 2026, we wish you a year filled with hope, warmth, and renewed purpose. May the days ahead bring fresh beginnings, gentle strength to embrace new challenges, and quiet joy in life's simple moments. Thank you for being part of our journey, your trust and inspiration give meaning to every word we create. Here's to a thoughtful, compassionate, and fulfilling New Year.

Happy New Year 2026!
~ Inspire Editorial Team

WHY VOCATIONAL EDUCATION MATTERS IN THE AI AGE

As Artificial Intelligence reshapes the world of work, the greatest challenge is no longer job loss but human unpreparedness. Degrees alone are failing to guarantee employability, while skills, adaptability, and hands-on competence are becoming the new currency. Vocational education equips individuals to thrive where machines cannot—through judgment, resilience, and real-world capability. Initiatives like Rotary District 3141's Pink Auto Project demonstrate how skill-based empowerment can create dignity, independence, and relevance in a rapidly changing economy. In an era of disruption, vocational excellence is not a fallback option; it is the foundation for sustainable, inclusive progress.

Beyond employment, vocational learning restores confidence and purpose by connecting education directly to livelihoods. It enables continuous reskilling, allowing individuals to adapt as industries evolve rather than be left behind. By strengthening local economies and promoting self-reliance, vocational initiatives help reduce inequality and social instability. Most importantly, they ensure that technological progress advances human potential, not marginalises it.



27 Jan 1947 – a memorial

DOWN MEMORY LANE



Dr Lucky S Kasat
Advisor – GML 25-26
Consultant Pediatric Surgeon | TEDx
Speaker | Author

Paul P. Harris, founder of Rotary International, left a lasting legacy of service, inspiring a global movement dedicated to humanitarian work. His memory is honored at the Paul Harris Memorial in Chicago, a site reflecting the roots and vision of Rotary worldwide.



In lieu of flowers

Paul P. Harris, the founder of Rotary International, died on 27 January 1947 in Chicago at age 78, after a prolonged illness. Before his death, he made it known that he preferred contributions to The Rotary Foundation in lieu of flowers. By coincidence, days before he died, Rotary leaders had committed to a major fundraising effort for the Foundation. In the 18 months following his death, The Rotary Foundation received \$1.3 million, which helped support the Foundation's first program — scholarships for graduate study abroad.



Mount Hope Cemetery

He was interred at Mount Hope Cemetery in Morgan Park neighborhood of Chicago, Illinois, next to his close friend and first Rotary President, Silvester Schiele.

Rotary Club of Blue Island, IL makes its annual pilgrimage to the gravesites to honor the significance of "this place" and to memorialize that they were in essence in the presence of the "seed" and "roots" of a worldwide organization today known as ROTARY INTERNATIONAL. It would be known as the "lighthouse" for many service organizations to follow.

'Paul Harris Memorial'

A large 'Paul Harris Memorial' with a granite monument, benches, and flags stands at the

site, used for Rotary events. It was during his pilgrimage of 1985-86 that Governor Dr. Cedric Pope, District 645, conceived the idea of creating a memorial for Harris and Schiele and realized the importance of securing the land between and around their two gravesites.

Under his leadership, assisted by members of RC Blue Island, IL and other Rotary clubs, that land was secured as well land needed to assure easy access to the memorial site. The 8-foot granite memorial monument, unveiled by the then current president of RI Charles Keller, was dedicated on Dec 2, 1987.

A brick walkway was completed, provisions were made for dis-

playing the flags of all countries with a Rotary presence and the 10 granite benches for sitting and reflecting were installed. The Memorial site is frequently used by RI to conduct memorial services & meetings.

All money to create this memorial has come from Rotary Districts, Rotary Clubs and individuals, at no cost to Rotary International. Funds (in units of \$100.00 US) can be donated to Paul Harris Memorial, a not-for-profit organization, c/o Tom Drake, Treasurer PHM @ 1000 E. 9th, Lockport, Illinois 60441 USA.

Paul's autobiography, My Road to Rotary, was published the following year.

Paul P. Harris rests at Mount Hope Cemetery, Chicago. Honored with the Paul Harris Memorial, his wish for Rotary Foundation donations sparked early scholarships. Rotary pilgrims commemorate the seed and roots of Rotary International through an enduring lighthouse of service worldwide impact.





Stronger Together: Reflecting on Service, Fellowship, and the Road Ahead

As we step into 2026 and cross the halfway milestone of the Rotary year, District Governor Dr. Manish Motwani reflects on a journey marked by service, leadership, fellowship, and shared purpose. His message is one of gratitude, optimism, and a renewed call to action for every Rotarian across the district.



**INSPIRED
MOMENTS**

Dr. Manish Motwani
Dist Governor, 25-26

My Dear Inspired Rotary Family,

As we welcome 2026 and reach the midway point of the Rotary year, this is a moment to pause, reflect, and celebrate the collective journey of service, fellowship, and impact. The past six months have showcased the true spirit of Rotary—driven by commitment, collaboration, and a shared passion to make a difference across our communities.

Warm greetings to each one of you, and my heartfelt wishes for a very happy and fulfilling 2026!

As we cross the halfway mark of this Rotary year, I find myself filled with gratitude, pride, and joy as I reflect on the journey so far. The last six months have truly flown by—packed with energy, purpose, and impactful action across our district. Everywhere I go, I see Rotary at work, touching lives and creating hope.

Six Months of Purpose, Progress, and Pride

This remarkable progress is a result of collective leadership and teamwork. I sincerely applaud our club presidents and their boards for their vision and meticulous planning, and I thank our core district team for their unwavering support. Your commitment has not only delivered meaningful service projects but has also strengthened the spirit of fellowship that defines Rotary. You inspire me every single day.

Celebrating Fellowship and Looking Ahead with Hope

While we have worked with dedication, we have also celebrated together—and those moments matter. Our time together in Georgia was truly special. The warmth, laughter, camaraderie, and shared experiences reminded us that Rotary is as much about friendship and joy as it is about service. These memories reinforce the bonds that make our Rotary family so strong.

As we now look ahead, I am especially excited about our upcoming District Conference on February 7th and 8th, to be held at the wonderful Sahara Star, Santa Cruz. The District Conference is the heartbeat of our Rotary year—a true festival of ideas, inspiration, learning, and fellowship.

Rotary District 2026
Inspiring, Serving,
Transforming Our Communities

Welcome 2026!

Six Months of Purpose, Progress, & Pride

Compassion & Care for Those in Need

Join Us for the Journey Ahead!
Together in Service & Fellowship

An enormous amount of thought and effort is going into curating an exceptional experience with outstanding speakers, enriching sessions, powerful stories, excellent networking opportunities, and memorable entertainment.

Why the District Conference Matters

For our newer members in particular, I cannot stress enough how transformative the District Conference can be.

This is where Rotary truly comes alive beyond your own club—where lifelong friendships are formed and the larger Rotary family is experienced in all its diversity and strength. Imagine learning from achievers and thought

leaders spanning science and technology, public life, social leadership, and even well-known personalities from the world of cinema and beyond—all under one roof, in a comfortable and inspiring setting. If you haven't registered yet, I urge you to do so at the earliest. This is one experience you should not miss!

Your Voice in Shaping the Conference

If you know of exceptional speakers or thought leaders from any field who could add value to the conference, I would be delighted to hear from you. Please feel free to reach out to me directly.

January: Vocational Service Month

January, as we know, is Vocational Service Month—a time to celebrate skills, dignity of work, and sustainable livelihoods. I hope clubs are planning meaningful vocational initiatives during this month.

Pink Auto Project: A Flagship of Empowerment

One flagship project especially close to our hearts is the Pink Auto Project. This is a powerful initiative that truly reflects Rotary's commitment to empowerment and inclusion. With an ambitious target of 1,000 autos, it will require the wholehearted support of every club. I am confident that, together, we can achieve this milestone and create lasting impact.

Compassion in the Season of Celebration

As the weather turns pleasant and we step into the New Year with renewed hope, let us also remain mindful of those who need our support the most. While we celebrate with our families and friends, let us continue to extend a helping hand and work collectively to make aspirations come true for the less fortunate.

Moving Forward—Together in Service

Thank you once again for your dedication, enthusiasm, and unwavering commitment to Rotary. The road ahead is filled with promise, and I look forward to continuing this wonderful journey—together, in service and fellowship.

With warm Rotary regards and best wishes,
Dr Manish Motwani
District Governor

Where Service Begins at Home

Six months into this Rotary year, my heart is filled with gratitude and quiet joy. This journey has not been ours alone—it has been shared by spouses, children, and families who walk beside every Rotarian, enriching our service with love, encouragement, and togetherness. Rotary truly comes alive when service and family move forward hand in hand.

MAHEK'S VIBES



Dr Mahek Motwani

Aesthetic Gynecologist
and Cosmetologist
First Lady, Rotary District 3141
2025–26

Dear Rotary Families of District 3141,

As I sit down to write this message, I do so with a quiet smile and a heart full of gratitude. We are already six months into this Rotary year, and what a beautiful journey it has been — not just for our Rotarians, but for their spouses, children, and families who walk beside them in ways both visible and unseen.

Where Service Meets Fellowship

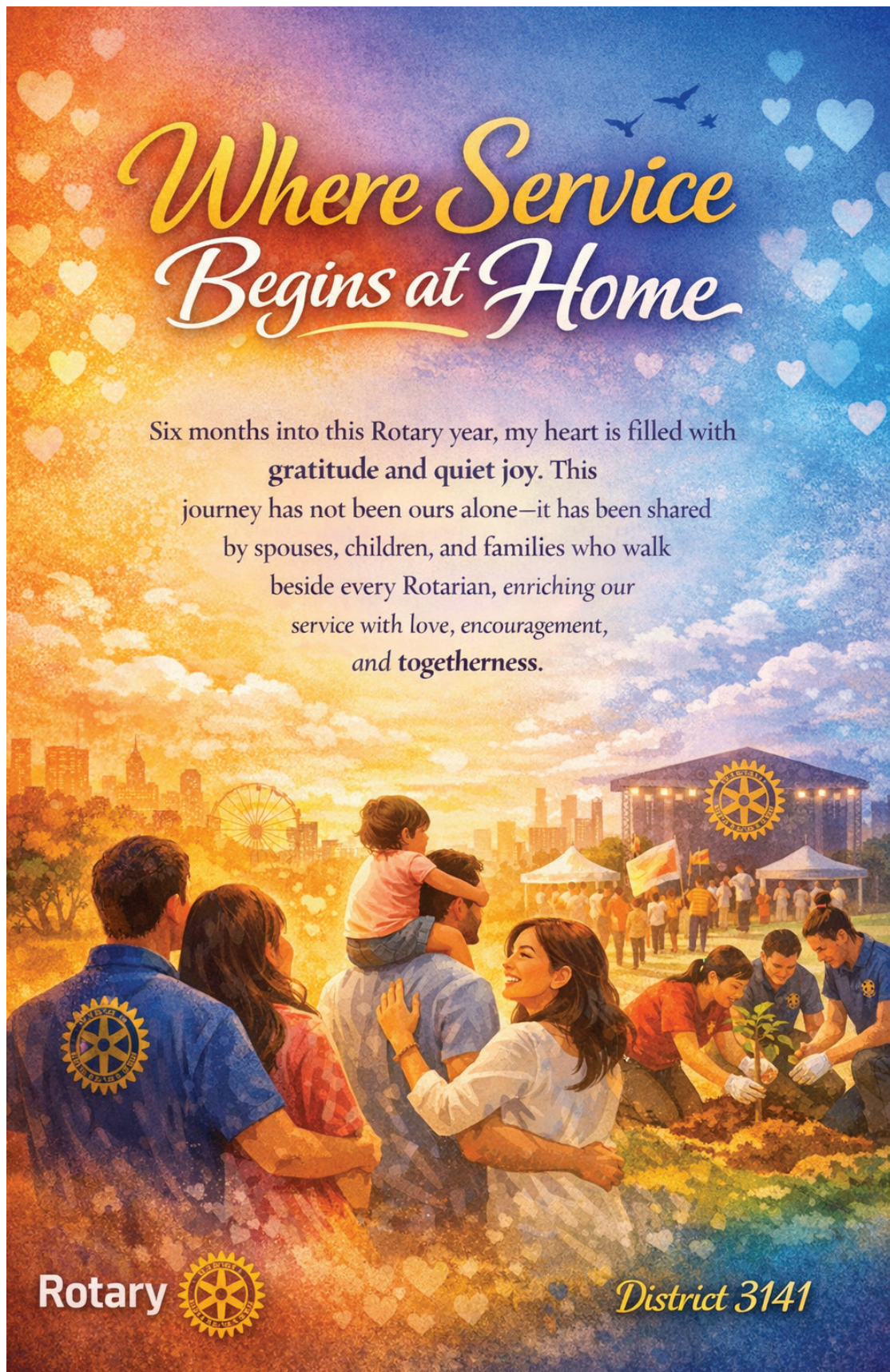
These months have been a wonderful blend of service and fellowship. I sincerely hope that all of you — members and spouses alike — have been enjoying Rotary in its fullest sense: the joy of giving, the warmth of friendships, the laughter at gatherings, and the pride of being part of something larger than ourselves. Rotary, after all, is not just what we do for society; it is also what we build within our families and friendships along the way.

The Quiet Strength of Families in Rotary

I have been delighted to see spouses participating, families coming together at events, and children quietly absorbing the values of empathy, sharing, and service. These moments — the shared meals, conversations, travel, and time spent together — are just as important as our projects. They are what make Rotary life rich, meaningful, and sustainable.

Caring for Ourselves While Caring for Others

I believe the Breast Screening and Servical camps we are doing are such powerful projects where we stress on early detection. While I am glad that we have been doing a large number of camps for them, my wish that even you as Rotary Family should get the tests done, at regular intervals. These are as important for us as for others! So if you haven't done it for yourself, I urge you do. Fast! Take good care of yourselves too!



An Invitation to Experience the District Conference Together

As we now look ahead, there is one experience I would especially love

Six months into this Rotary year, my heart is filled with gratitude and quiet joy. This journey has not been ours alone—it has been shared by spouses, children, and families who walk beside every Rotarian, enriching our service with love, encouragement, and togetherness.

for our Rotary families to look forward to — the upcoming District Conference. While it is often spoken of as a flagship Rotary event, I truly

believe it is equally engaging and rewarding for spouses and families. Beyond the learning sessions and inspiring speakers, the conference

A heartfelt tribute to Rotary families, blending service, fellowship, wellness, and shared experiences that strengthen our Rotary journey.

is about connection, exposure, shared experiences, and creating memories together.

Where the Spirit of the Rotary Family Comes Alive

It is a space where spouses meet like-minded friends, where families bond over conversations and laughter, and where one gets to witness the larger spirit of Rotary — its diversity, warmth, and collective energy. For those who are new to Rotary life, this is often where the true magic of the Rotary family is felt most deeply.

An Invitation from the Heart

I warmly encourage you to attend the District Conference not just as supporters, but as participants — to enjoy, to engage, and to be part of the celebration that Rotary truly is.

Carrying Joy into the Second Half of the Year

As we move into the second half of the year, my hope is simple: that Rotary continues to bring joy into your homes, purpose into your actions, and togetherness into your lives. Let us keep creating spaces where families feel welcomed, spouses feel included, and every member feels that Rotary is not just an organisation they belong to — but a family they cherish.

With Gratitude and Warm Wishes

Thank you for being the strength behind every Rotarian, the quiet encouragement behind every act of service, and the warmth that keeps the Rotary wheel turning so gracefully. With affection, warmth, and optimism for the months ahead, wish you and all in your families a very happy 2026!

Dr. Mahek Motwani
Aesthetic Gynecologist and
Cosmetologist
First Lady, Rotary District 3141
(2025–26)

The Fourth Window: "A Better You"

UNPLUGGED



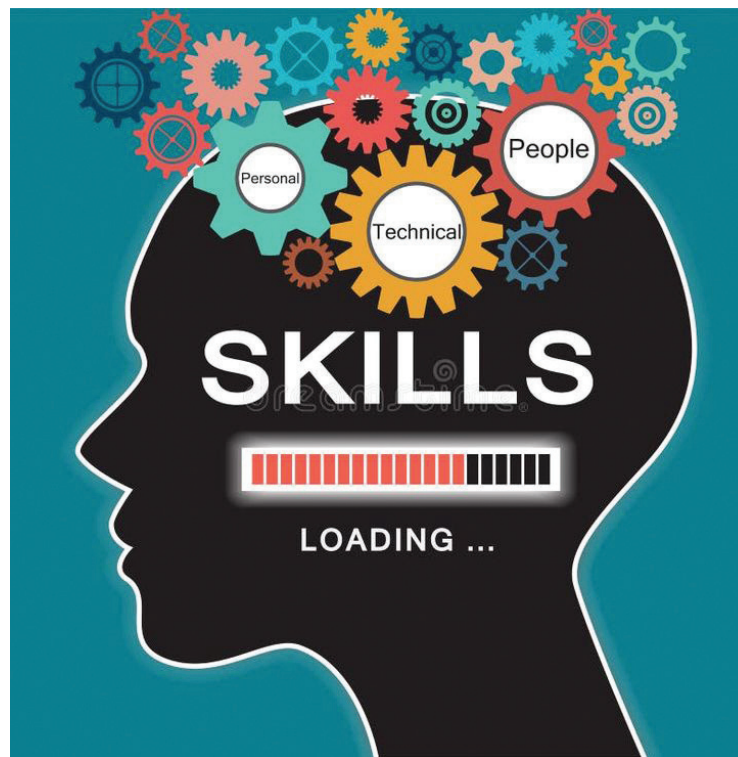
Rtn Bharat Pandya
TRF Trustee, 2022-26
RI Director, 2019-21
RI Treasurer, 2020-21

vocational expertise to my club and community. On the other, it reflected inward, compelling me to examine my own self my attitudes, my thinking, and my actions.

Yes, the first three windows represent Club Service, Community Service, and International Service. But the fourth window Vocational Service is different. It reflects the very core of Rotary. I firmly believe that vocational service is the true window to Rotary. It is vocational service that has given Rotary its credibility and character.

January is Vocational Service Month, an ideal time to focus on vocational service through our club projects and activities. If there is one defining feature that clearly differentiates Rotary from other service organizations, it is that our membership is rooted in vocation. Vocational Service is about sharing and learning from one another's professions, applying our professional skills in service, mentoring young people, recognizing excellence, and focusing on skill development especially for the youth.

Vocational Service calls upon us to empower others by using our unique skills and expertise to help them discover new professional opportunities and interests. Vocational excellence and integrity are inseparable pillars of Rotary's vocational service. Vocational awards do justice to both these



to vocational service one that touches our daily lives and personal standards of behaviour. It is the realm where we are accountable only to ourselves. Simply put, it is about applying the principles of the Four-Way Test to our own lives. Integrity in words and deeds is timeless and it must begin with us.

Values are intrinsic to our lives. They give strength to our character. I once had a dream in which God said to me, "Just build a better world."

"How?" I asked. "The world is vast and complicated, and I am so small and insignificant."

And God, in His wisdom, replied, "Just build a better You."

Let us strive to become better individuals, so that we may build better clubs and create communities that are better places to live in. That is our vocational opportunity. The greatest reward for doing good is the opportunity to do more.

**Seize that opportunity.
Enjoy Rotary.
Enjoy yourself.**

Dr. Bharat Pandya
Trustee,
The Rotary Foundation
RI Director (2019-21)
RI Treasurer (2020-21)

ideals. By recognizing individuals who practise their professions with passion, perseverance, excellence, and integrity, Rotary not only honours them but also

sets inspiring benchmarks for others to follow. This, indeed, is a meaningful way to celebrate Vocational Service Month. There is also an intangible dimension

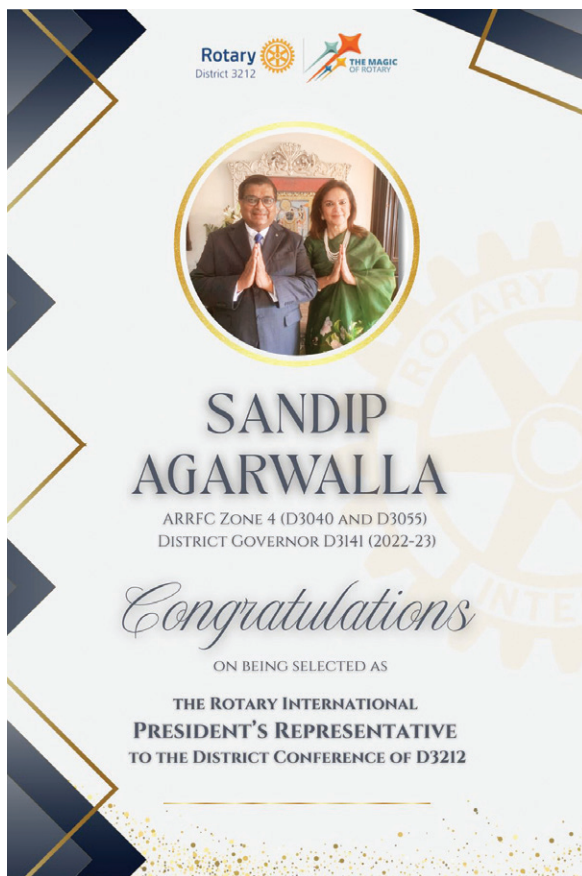
Alpha DG Sandip Agarwalla Appointed RI President's Representative

Rotary International has appointed Alpha District Governor Sandip Agarwalla as the Rotary International President's Representative to the District Conference of District 3212.

DG Agarwalla represents ARRFC Zone 4, which includes Districts 3040 and 3055. His selection reflects his exemplary leadership, deep commitment to Rotary values, and continued service at the district and zone levels.

As the RI President's Representative, DG Agarwalla will convey the vision and message of the Rotary International President at the District 3212 Conference, while also strengthening inter-district fellowship and collaboration.

The Rotary fraternity extends its warm congratulations to Alpha DG Sandip Agarwalla on this prestigious appointment and wishes him great success in this important role. This appointment further underscores Rotary International's confidence in DG Agarwalla's ability to inspire, connect, and lead across diverse districts. His presence at the District 3212 Conference is expected to add strategic insight, motivation, and global perspective to the deliberations. DG Agarwalla's journey exemplifies Rotary's spirit of service above self and commitment to sustainable impact.



A Life Dedicated to Service and Rural Upliftment

Rakshaben Mehta, a name synonymous with rural upliftment and selfless service, was a towering pillar of Inner Wheel District 314 and Inner Wheel India. Her lifelong commitment to social causes and her quiet yet powerful leadership left an indelible mark on the organisation and on countless lives she touched.

Born into a family of freedom fighters, Rakshaben imbibed Gandhian values from an early age and lived them with rare integrity. Her work with Mani Bhavan, Kushtarog Niwaran Samiti, and the Balwantrai Centre continued tirelessly till the very end, reflecting her deep compassion and unwavering sense of duty.

Rakshaben's leadership was defined by commitment, consistency, and grace. Her radiant presence at Inner Wheel gatherings inspired generations of members to serve with humility and purpose. She created a seamless blend of tradition and contemporary thought, making her leadership both rooted and relevant.

A pioneer in the Inner Wheel movement, she was the First Association President of Inner Wheel Clubs in India. She was also a proud recipient of the



organisation's highest honour, the Margarete Golding Award, conferred by International Inner Wheel in recognition of her

exceptionally commendable and selfless personal service to the community.

It was a moment of immense pride for Inner Wheel District 314 when, under her convenorship, it hosted the Golden Jubilee celebrations AMARA on 22 August 2025—an event that reflected her vision and lifelong dedication to Inner Wheel ideals.

Rakshaben Mehta will be deeply missed for her wisdom, warmth, and rare ability to harmonise convention with a progressive ethos. Her legacy of service, simplicity, and strength will continue to guide and inspire all who had the privilege of knowing her.





A New Year, A Renewed Commitment to Rotary Values

ECHOES OF SERVICES



PRID Ashok Mahajan
Past Rotary Foundation Trustee

Dear FelDear Fellow Rotarians,

As we welcome the New Year, I extend my warmest wishes to you and your families. May the coming year bring joy, good health, and renewed purpose into your lives.

January is not just the start of a calendar year—it is a reminder that every new beginning carries a fresh opportunity to deepen our commitment to Rotary and to the world we serve.

Today, more than ever, the world needs Rotary—our compassion, our integrity, our leadership, and our unwavering belief in doing good. With greater challenges around us, our responsibilities too have grown. And with those responsibilities comes our call to rise higher.

For over 120 years, Rotary has been guided by its timeless values: Service, Fellowship, Integrity, Diversity, and Leadership.



These values build our character, shape our culture, and give meaning to every project and every act of kindness we undertake.

In the year ahead, our outcomes matter more than ever. We must strengthen our contributions to The Rotary Foundation, ensuring

that hope reaches every corner it is needed. We must expand our service—providing clean water, promoting education and literacy, supporting health and maternal care, protecting our environment, and empowering women and youth.

And at the heart of it all remains

our No.1 global priority—Polio Eradication. Rotary started this fight, and Rotary must finish it. The world is watching, and history is calling.

As we pursue these goals, let us remember that great outcomes come only from great culture. Our newly sharpened Rotary Action Plan re-

minds us to:

- Increase our impact
- Expand our reach
- Enhance participant engagement
- Adapt to a changing world

These guide our direction—but our values and character determine how far we go.

Let us serve with deeper purpose. Let us give with greater generosity. Let us lead with uncompromising integrity. Let us embrace diversity and celebrate fellowship.

This year, let us pledge not only to achieve more, but to do so without ever compromising our Rotary values—the roots that hold us together. For fruit grows only when the roots are nurtured.

As we step into this New Year, let us carry Rotary's legacy with pride, humility, and hope.

Together, rooted in our values and energized by our Action Plan, we will continue to do good in the world—more boldly, more compassionately, and more effectively than ever before.

Wishing each one of you a purposeful, impactful, and inspiring New Year.

Let us make this year a milestone in Rotary service and Rotary spirit.

United in Service, Unstoppable in Impact

Dear FelDear Fellow Rotarians,

There is something truly extraordinary when people unite for a shared purpose. I have always believed that the results of such unity far exceed what any individual can achieve alone. In Rotary, we see this every day—how collaboration transforms ideas into action, and how collective goodwill can move mountains. When we act together, not for recognition but for a greater cause, ordinary efforts turn into extraordinary results.

The Polio Eradication Campaign is a perfect example. Thousands of Rotarians across the globe, working tirelessly and selflessly, have brought us closer than ever to a polio-free world. Every vaccination, every awareness session, every community reached is proof of the power of Service Above Self, honesty, and integrity. When we put these values first, we can achieve what once seemed impossible.

The same spirit drives our local projects. From providing clean water, supporting education, promoting health, to planting trees and restoring public spaces—every initiative gains far greater impact when our thoughts, energy, and actions are united. Unity magnifies our service, strengthens communities, and inspires hope. The ripple effect touches lives in ways that individual effort



alone cannot.

Collaboration also builds Rotary's image. People see our dedication, honesty, integrity, and the results of our collective action. It inspires trust, admiration, and encourages new members to join—not for accolades, but to be part of something bigger than themselves, where shared purpose and selfless service truly matter.

Fellow Rotarians, our greatest strength lies in standing together. Each one of us, with sincerity, integrity, and dedication, becomes part of a force capable of transforming lives. By serving united, we multiply the impact of our projects, uplift communities, and leave a lasting legacy of hope.

Let us embrace collaboration, put Service Above Self at the heart of everything we do, and lead with honesty and integrity. Together, we do more than serve—we illuminate paths, inspire change, and create a better world for generations to come.

**With Rotary spirit and gratitude,
Ashok Mahajan**

Director, Rotary International (2007-09)
Trustee,
The Rotary Foundation (2009-13)
SMILE SERVE SACRIFICE SATISFY

TOGETHER, WE LIGHT THE
PATH OF CHANGE



Women's Empowerment Initiative by Rotary Club of Mumbai Dahisar

Flagging Off of 10 Pink Autos for Empowering Underprivileged Women Through Sustainable Livelihoods Initiative



**RTN. RAJENDRAN
UNNIKRISHNAN**

Under the District Thrust Area and the guidance of District Governor Dr. Manish Motwani, the Rotary Club of Mumbai Dahisar successfully implemented a Women's Empowerment initiative on Sunday, 9th November, by donating 10 Pink Autos to 10 underprivileged and deserving women from Mira Road, Ghatkopar, Bhandup, and Mulund.

This impactful project was executed under the CSR initiative of LEAP India Limited, led by its Founder and Managing Director, Mr. Sunu Mathew.

The ceremonial handing over of the keys and flagging

off of the 10 Pink Autos was graced by:

- Rotary International President (2025–26) Rtn. Francesco Arezzo
 - District Governor RI District 3141 Dr. Manish Motwani
 - Mr. Sunu Mathew, Founder & Managing Director, LEAP India Limited
 - Rtn. Jayant Pawar, President, Rotary Club of Mumbai Dahisar
 - Rtn. Rajendran Unnikrishnan, Chief Project Coordinator
 - Sr. Rtn. Ramesh Motwani
 - PRID Rtn. Ashok Mahajan
 - PDG Rtn. Shrirang Prabhu
- The event, held at Mulund, Mumbai, highlighted Rotary's unwavering commitment to women empowerment

through livelihood generation, skill development, and inclusive growth.

The project received valuable support from the Rotary Club of Mumbai Bhandup, with President Rtn. Seema Kshirsagar, along with Rtn. Shashikant Ghosalkar, Rtn. Natarajan, and Rtn. Kavita Agarwal, who played a crucial role in identifying deserving beneficiaries.

Addressing the gathering, Rotary International President Rtn. Francesco Arezzo expressed deep admiration for Rotary in India and its impact-driven initiatives. He remarked that India continues to inspire the Rotary world through its scale, dedication, and community-centric approach.

In his inspiring address, District Governor Dr. Manish Motwani complimented the Rotary Club of Mumbai Dahisar and the Rotary Club of Mumbai Bhandup for flagging off the first batch of 10 Pink Autos. He emphasized that the initiative would significantly transform the lives of the beneficiary women and enable their children to pursue higher education. Dr. Motwani further an-

nounced that under the District Thrust Area, and in coordination with District Project Head – Pink Auto, Rtn. Alka Murli (President, Rotary Club of Deonar), the District aims to donate 1,000 Pink Autos to needy women by June 2026. He highlighted the project's long-term sustainability and its potential to create empowered women entrepreneurs with a positive ripple effect across communities. He also appealed to Inspire Presidents and members to actively support the Pink Auto initiative.

Responding to the appeal:

- Inspire President AKS Rtn. Noopur Desai generously committed to funding 100 Pink Autos.
 - AKS Rtn. Sonal Agarwal too generously committed to funding 20 Pink Autos.
 - AKS Rtn. Nikunj Jhaveri and AKS Rtn. Dilip Shah announced an inspiring matching contribution scheme, pledging USD 700 for every USD 1,000 donated by others, for up to 100 Pink Autos.
- Mr. Sunu Mathew, Founder and Managing Director of LEAP India Limited, ex-

District 3141 announced an ambitious vision to donate 1,000 Pink Autos by June 2026, backed by inspiring commitments from Rotary leaders and CSR partners.

pressed his strong confidence in partnering with Rotary and reaffirmed LEAP India's continued commitment to supporting women empowerment through its CSR initiatives. He emphasized that empowering a woman transforms the future of the entire family.

Rtn. Jayant Pawar, President of the Rotary Club of Mumbai Dahisar, expressed heartfelt gratitude to LEAP India Limited and Mr. Sunu Mathew for their consistent CSR support over the past four years. He also thanked District Governor Dr. Manish Motwani for providing the club a prestigious platform to flag off the first batch of Pink Autos and committed to sponsoring another batch of 10 Pink Autos before June 2026.

District Project Head – Pink Auto, Rtn. Alka Murli, informed the gathering that the

District is actively supporting women with driving training and appealed to Rotarians to identify at least one woman and assist her in becoming self-reliant.

The event was attended by over 200 Rotarians and received extensive coverage by the press and electronic media.

The 10 beneficiary women expressed their heartfelt gratitude to the Rotary Club of Mumbai Dahisar, Rotary Club of Mumbai Bhandup, Rtn. Rajendran Unnikrishnan, Rtn. Shashikant Ghosalkar, and Mr. Sunu Mathew of LEAP India Limited for their encouragement, guidance, and support in helping them begin a meaningful and dignified livelihood journey.

The project was successfully executed under the guidance of Project Coordinator Rtn. Rajendran Unnikrishnan.

Rotary Club of Mumbai Dahisar empowered 10 underprivileged women by donating Pink Autos, enabling sustainable livelihoods and reinforcing Rotary's commitment to women-led economic independence.

Official Club Visit – RCM Rising Stars



The Rotary Club of Mumbai Rising Stars was privileged to host District Governor Dr. Manish Motwani for its Official Club Visit. Despite his demanding schedule, Dr. Motwani graciously accommodated the club by rescheduling the visit and attending on the first day of

Rotary Service Week.

His insightful observations and motivating words left a strong and positive impact on our young members, who greatly appreciated his warm, friendly, and approachable leadership style. The visit was further enriched by the pres-

ence of Principal CC Rtn. Krishna Kumar Agarwal, CC Rtn. Deepak Gupta, and AG Rtn. Pankaj Jaiswal, who, despite being engaged in Eye Camps for their respective clubs, took time out to share their valuable guidance.

OCV : RCM GEN X



The Official Club Visit of RCM GEN X took place on October 9, 2025, at The Club, commencing with a productive and smooth closed-door meeting between the District leadership—including DG Dr. Manish, the CC, DS, and

AG—and our office bearers. A highlight of the evening was Dr. Manish's engaging session with the Interact Club, where he motivated the young members to undertake meaningful service projects. The general discussions were highly encour-

aging for all members, and we extend special gratitude to AG Mrs. Pushpa Suryamurty for her excellent coordination of the event. It remains a distinct privilege to serve as President under Dr. Manish's inspiring leadership.

OCV : RC Mumai Mid-west



Dr. Manish Motwani, District Governor, being felicitated with a bouquet by a Rotary lady member, symbolizing respect, gratitude, and Rotary fellowship during the meeting of the Rotary Club of Mumbai Mid West.

OCV : RC Mumbai iconic



Members of the Rotary Club of Mumbai Iconic share an inspiring and cheerful moment on 19th November 2025, as an interaction with Dr. Manish Motwani, District Governor, elevated the OCV meeting into a powerful exchange of motivation, energy, and renewed enthusiasm for Rotary service.

RCM Elegant Plus OCV at The Fairmont, Mumbai | 4 October 2025



The OCV of RCM Elegant Plus was held at The Fairmont hotel, Mumbai, in the 4th of October 2025.

OCV : RC Queen's Necklace



Rotary Club of Queen's Necklace, Mumbai, during a warm and memorable interaction held on 17th November at the Malabar Hill Club, celebrating fellowship, service, and encouragement for young minds.

Urban Vocational Upliftment: A Historic Alliance for India's Future

Rotary District 3141 and CII Forge a Landmark Partnership for Youth Empowerment



RTN. RAJENDRA
UNNIKRISHNAN

Mumbai, 18th December 2025 History was scripted today as Rotary International District 3141 entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), creating a powerful alliance dedicated to transforming vocational education and youth empowerment in India.

The MoU was formally signed by Dr. Manish Motwani, District Governor 3141, and Mr. Dayal Kangne, Manager, CII Centre of Excellence on Skills, at the CII Skill Centre, Atal Bihari Vajpayee Kaushal Vikas Kendra, Kandivali East, Mumbai.

A Moment of Historical Value

This collaboration is not merely an agreement, it is a historic milestone in Rotary's journey of service. For the first time, Rotary District 3141 has partnered with India's premier industry body to create a structured pathway for underprivileged youth to access skills, employment, and dignity of livelihood.

It represents a turning point in vocational service, where community outreach meets industry expertise, ensuring that the nation's youth are not left behind in the march toward progress.

Shared Vision and Impact:

The partnership is built on three pillars:

- » **Skill Development** – equipping youth with industry-relevant training
- » **Employability** – bridging the gap between education and meaningful careers
- » **Sustainable Livelihoods** – ensuring long-term empowerment and self-reliance



Rotary District 3141 will mobilize communities, encourage enrolment, and provide support for food and accommodation, ensuring that financial hardship never blocks opportunity.

Training Domains of the Future

The MoU opens doors to diverse and future-ready sectors:

- » **IT & Cybersecurity, Data Management** – with DSCI & NASSCOM
- » **Retail & Customer Service** – careers in modern trade and e-commerce
- » **Beauty & Wellness** – powered by L'Oréal and VS Global
- » **Hospitality & Food Services** – with Jubilant Food
- » **Apparel & Fashion Design** – supporting India's textile growth
- » **Housekeeping & Facility Management** – with Kalpataru

- » **Gaming & Animation** – with Cosmos Gaming & Animation
- » **Manufacturing & Technical Skills** – supported by ITS and Blue Star
- » **Financial Services** – in association with Bajaj Finance

Leadership Behind the Vision:

This historic step was made possible by the foresight and dedication of: Rtn Rajendran Unnikrishnan, Group Avenue Head, Urban Vocational Upliftment

Rtn Santosh Shinde, Co-Chair, Rotary Club of Mumbai Dahisar Their relentless efforts have ensured that this partnership will leave a lasting legacy.

Witnesses to History:

The ceremony was graced by in-



Rotary District 3141 and CII signed a historic MoU in Mumbai to strengthen vocational education, industry-linked skills, and youth employability, creating sustainable livelihood pathways for underprivileged youth across future-ready sectors.

Inspired Presidents and Rotarians including:

Rtn Rajendran Unnikrishnan, Rtn Deepak Kher, Rtn Santosh Shinde, Rtn Rakhee Sunil, Rtn Pushpa Suryamurti, Rtn Girish Waigankar, Rtn Prashant Mishra, Rtn Kala Sridhar, Rtn Shariika Kaul, Rtn Sharbani Banerjee, Rtn Jayant Pawar, Rtn Shailla Rege, Rtn Jawahar Thakkar, Rtn Sadanand Nadkarni, Rtn Ketki Niser, and Rtn Priya Shenoy.

A Legacy for Generations:

This MoU is more than a partnership—it is a historic pledge to India's youth. It reaffirms Rotary District 3141's commitment to vocational service and sets the stage for a skilled, self-reliant, and empowered India.

The day will be remembered as a defining chapter in Rotary's mission of service, where vision met action, and history was made.

The Millennial Summit 2025

A Historic Celebration of Ideas, Influence & Impact

On 16th November 2025, the iconic Royal Opera House, Mumbai, witnessed the grand success of one of the most high-energy and breakthrough events of the year The Millennial Summit 2025. Hosted with immense passion by the Rotaract District 3141 with Rotary Club of Mumbai Nariman Point and the Rotaract Club of Mumbai Nariman Point, in collaboration with Eraya Marketing Agency, the summit brought together some of India's brightest minds, dynamic creators, and influential leaders under one roof.

What began as an ambitious idea months ago unfolded into a record-breaking summit featuring renowned personalities such as Shantanu Naidu, Shashank Khaitan, Saher Bhamla, Kunwar Amar, Meghna Pant, Dino James, Radika Bajoria, Shivam and DJ Raahil Mehta and several industry experts across media, entrepreneurship, entertainment, finance and digital innovation. With over 130 clubs represented and over 650+ of attendees filling the historic theatre, the atmosphere was



charged with excitement, dialogue and inspiration.

The Millennial Summit was designed to spark conversations that matter from creativity and leadership to resilience, storytelling and the evolving world shaped by young changemakers. Every session was met with roaring engagement, reflective questions and deep insights that resonated with the youth of today.

This year's edition stood out not only for its star-studded

speaker roster but also for the unparalleled teamwork behind the scenes. From planning to execution, the organising team displayed outstanding dedication, overcoming challenges with unity and a shared vision. Their relentless efforts transformed the summit into a full-house spectacle that will be remembered for years.

Beyond the glamour, the summit remained rooted in the core values of the Rotary and Rotaract movement com-

munity, collaboration and youth empowerment. It created a platform where young leaders could learn, exchange ideas, and build connections that spark future impact.

As the curtains closed at the Royal Opera House, one thing was clear:

The Millennial Summit 2025 wasn't just an event it was a milestone, a movement, and a moment of pride for the entire district.

L. A. N. S. - Learn A New Sport



L.A.N.S (Learn A New Sport) is an initiative designed to encourage participants to explore and learn a new sport every quarter. This year, we introduced an exciting twist giving clubs the opportunity to independently execute L.A.N.S sessions. For Quarter 2, the initiative was successfully conducted by:

- Rotaract Club of Ruia College
- Rotaract Club of Sathaye College
- Rotaract Club of Jai Hind College
- Rotaract Club of Mumbai Ghatkopar
- Rotaract Club of Mumbai Jewels
- Rotaract Club of Medicrew
- Rotaract club of Lala's college
- Rotaract Club of Mumbai

Midtown We kicked off Quarter 2 with an energetic Hockey session at the Astro Turf- Bandra, witnessing an enthusiastic turnout of 50+ participants. The event came to life through the dedicated efforts of our Club Sports Director, who gained hands-on experience managing a large-scale sporting activity. Meanwhile, our team focused on driving promotions, ensuring remarkable participation and excitement.

This session was more than just learning a new sport. It fostered focus, discipline, teamwork, and stronger inter-club collaboration. With such a strong start, Quarter 2 has set a vibrant tone for the months ahead, and we're excited for the many engaging and impactful sporting experiences yet to come.

RYPEN - PHASE 02



The final leg of the Rotary Youth Program for Enrichment (RYPEN) was held on the 23rd of November, 2025, at Jeevan Dhara Kanya Ashram, Dahanu. This year's edition was especially impactful, as it was conducted for over 500 rural female students between the ages of 5 and 15, with the aim of nurturing their holistic development and empowering them with essential life skills.

The event commenced with a powerful and insightful self-defence session that equipped the girls with techniques to protect themselves in challenging situations. This was followed by an informative ses-

sion on menstrual hygiene and nutrition, an important step in helping young girls understand their bodies and prioritise their health.

After two intense and meaningful sessions, the atmosphere transitioned into something lighthearted, and undoubtedly the children's favourite segment: Dance. Led by our talented Rotaractors, the girls enjoyed an energetic and fun-filled session. The final session of RYPEN '25 addressed a crucial topic of the digital age: Cyber Security. Students were guided on how to stay safe online, recognise digital threats, and protect themselves from cyber risks.

Aside from the ongoing sessions, Rotaractors also immersed themselves in the day by cooking meals for the children and participating in their favorite activities, such as langdi, learning traditional tribal dances, and playing interactive games. The pupils, in turn, conveyed their gratitude with touching performances put forth by groups of different ages, leaving the team deeply moved.

RYPEN was a celebration of community, learning, and empowerment. The smiles, energy, and gratitude of the girls reaffirmed the purpose of the initiative: to spark confidence, awareness, and joy in young minds.

L.A.N.S

LEARN A NEW SPORT

Focus

Teamwork

Discipline

Collaboration

50+ PARTICIPANTS, ONE AMAZING EXPERIENCE!



From Enterprise to Empathy: The Legacy of AKS Nikunj Jhaveri

• K. V. PREMRAJ

There are lives that shine because they achieve. And then there are lives that shine brighter still because they choose to share that achievement with the world. AKS Nikunj Jhaveri belongs to this latter constellation of human beings, whose story is not merely about a rise in business, but about the steady beat of a heart that has never forgotten the needs of the common person. His life is a reminder that wealth is not measured by the zeroes in a bank account, but by the hope it generates in the lives of others.

Nikunj's journey began not in gilded corridors but in the raw alleys of resilience. Born into a family that knew both abundance and austerity, he grew up with the memory of a sudden fall. His great-grandfather's speculative missteps wiped out the comfort of an opulent home in Ahmedabad, compelling the family to shift to a single-room chawl in Andheri. It was a brutal descent, but one that carved in the young boy an instinct that has defined his life: never to succumb, never to settle, always to strive. His mother, a woman of iron will, kept repeating one mantra — her children would never work for someone else; they would carve their own destinies. That belief, instilled with fierce conviction, propelled Nikunj into some of the finest schools, into IIT Bombay, and eventually into the world of technology — a world he entered by accident when he first laid his hands on an Apple II computer. What began as curiosity soon became passion, and what started as a teenage exercise in copying software transformed into a lifelong pursuit of innovation, enterprise, and leadership.

From those playful beginnings, Systems Plus was born. It was 1987 — long before startups had playbooks, angel investors, or glossy media tags. There was only grit, instinct, and the desire to serve. Nikunj built Systems Plus with one simple philosophy: treat every customer as if they were your best friend. Friendship demanded trust, generosity, loyalty, and honesty. And it paid off, for customers rewarded this with repeat opportunities and second chances. It was not surprising then that Systems Plus found its way into Pepsi's offices — first in India and then across forty countries worldwide. His company grew, his name grew, his reach grew. But what grew strongest was not his balance sheet; it was his conviction that business must always carry a human face.

This conviction only deepened when the vulnerabilities of enterprise became visible. At one stage, 95 percent of his business came from Pepsi. When corporate winds shifted, Nikunj learned — painfully but powerfully — that no single customer must ever hold the future of so many lives in their hands. He restructured, diversified, and carried forward a



Together in vision and values — Nikunj and Kanan Jhaveri, turning success into service.

lesson that would also shape his philanthropy: never let generosity depend on one source. Spread your wings, spread your trust, spread your blessings.

If business was his foundation, philanthropy became his calling. He poured his energy into causes of health, education, livelihood, and social inclusion. But his style of giving was never impulsive or perfunctory. He did not believe in writing a cheque and walking away. For him, giving was stewardship. He evaluated the integrity of those he partnered with, often offering small grants of five or ten lakhs — observing how they reported back, how accountable they were, and how willing they were to accept mentorship. If they passed that test, he opened the doors of his formidable network, often channeling Rotary's resources into causes that merited scale. His philanthropy is therefore not just an act of charity; it is an act of cultivation — of building ecosystems of trust and delivery.

One of the finest fruits of this approach has been his work in healthcare. Years ago, he took a leap of faith and invested in the creation of a cardiac hospital. The questions that clouded its inception were many: Would it sustain itself? Would doctors seek profit over purpose? Would it truly serve the poor? With time, those questions found their answers, not in words but in deeds. In just four years, that hospital performed over eleven thousand surgeries — sixty percent of them entirely free for patients, made possible by leveraging government health schemes. Thirty crores of rupees were mobilized, not from deep pockets alone but through smart partnerships. And each of

those numbers is not a statistic — it is a father who returned home to his children, a grandmother who lived to bless another wedding, a young man who regained the strength to pursue his dreams. That is the arithmetic of empathy that Nikunj believes in.

From that success was born a vision much larger: the creation of Rotary Hospitals as visible Centres of Excellence across the country. For too long, philanthropy has stopped at the cheque. Buildings have risen, but often without governance, process, or sustainability. Nikunj is determined to change that. His dream is not merely to construct hospitals but to seed institutions of service that can endure, scale, and inspire. He wants Rotary not just to be known for its donations but to be recognized for world-class hospitals that carry its name with pride.

Already, plans are in motion — a cardiac centre in Deonar, an eye hospital in Mulund, another cardiac facility in Kandivili, an oncology centre in Sion, and many more in the pipeline. For each, the model is the same: not just capital expenditure, but governance structures, operational excellence, accountability, and processes that ensure longevity. He has seen what works in one cardiac centre and now seeks to replicate that model across geographies, creating a chain of hope under the Rotary banner.

There is something magnetic about this vision. Hospitals usually carry the names of industrial houses, billionaires, or corporations. Nikunj dreams of a day when ordinary citizens of India will point to these institutions and say: this is Rotary's gift to us. Not Ambani, not Tata, not Apollo — Rotary.

A Vision Beyond Wealth

For AKS Nikunj Jhaveri, success is not defined by profit but by purpose. From humble beginnings in a chawl to creating global impact through Systems Plus and Rotary, his journey is a testament to resilience, compassion, and visionary leadership. His dream — to build Rotary Hospitals as Centres of Excellence across India — reflects his belief that true legacy lies in service, not stature. For Nikunj, giving is not charity but stewardship — a lifelong commitment to transforming lives with empathy, accountability, and hope.

for selfless service — which remains the North Star of his life. The second is wildlife, where every four to six weeks he disappears into forests, camera in hand, renewing his spirit in the company of tigers and elephants. And the third is his grandchildren — the silent inheritors of a legacy he is shaping not through inheritance but through example.

Yet, for all that he has done, Nikunj insists it is never enough. He remains restless, always searching for the next project that can touch not dozens but thousands, not hundreds but millions. He is not interested in modest impact; he is obsessed with scale. It is not enough to work with one school — he wants to change the way education is delivered across the country. It is not enough to support one hospital — he wants Rotary Hospitals to redefine healthcare access across India. It is not enough to inspire one generation — he wants generations unborn to know that philanthropy is not an option; it is a responsibility.

The most telling expression of his vision lies in how he wishes to be remembered. He has no desire for his name to be etched on plaques or celebrated in speeches. His deepest hope is that people will do what he is doing today without needing to know his name. Anonymous service multiplied endlessly — that is the true legacy he seeks.

In Nikunj Jhaveri, Rotary finds more than an AKS donor. It finds a pioneer of thought, a visionary of scale, and a custodian of compassion. He is proof that one man's journey — from a chawl in Andheri to global boardrooms — can become the foundation of hospitals in forgotten villages, surgeries for the poorest patients, and futures for children who might otherwise be left behind. His life is a sermon that needs no pulpit: live with purpose, give with love, and build institutions that will outlast you.

For every Rotarian reading this, the question is not whether to admire him. The question is whether to emulate him. If a man who has achieved so much can still measure his wealth in the number of lives he saves, what stops the rest of us from becoming, in our own ways, philanthropists of time, talent, or treasure? This is not just Nikunj Jhaveri's story. It is a call to each of us — a reminder that Service Above Self is not a motto; it is a destiny.

That is legacy. That is service. That is what turns an idea into a movement. And under his stewardship, Rotary Hospitals are already beginning to breathe with this possibility.

What makes his journey even more compelling is the humility with which he speaks of it. He does not see himself as a benefactor but as a trustee — entrusted with resources that must be deployed for humanity. He insists that his children and grandchildren must grow not with entitlement but with a sense of stewardship. The Rihaan and Amara Shah Jhaveri Endowment Fund is a tribute not to wealth but to continuity — a reminder to the next generation that giving must outlive the giver. His children, already managing the family business, tell him gently: "Let us earn the money, you spend it." And so, he spends it — on lives, on hope, on futures.

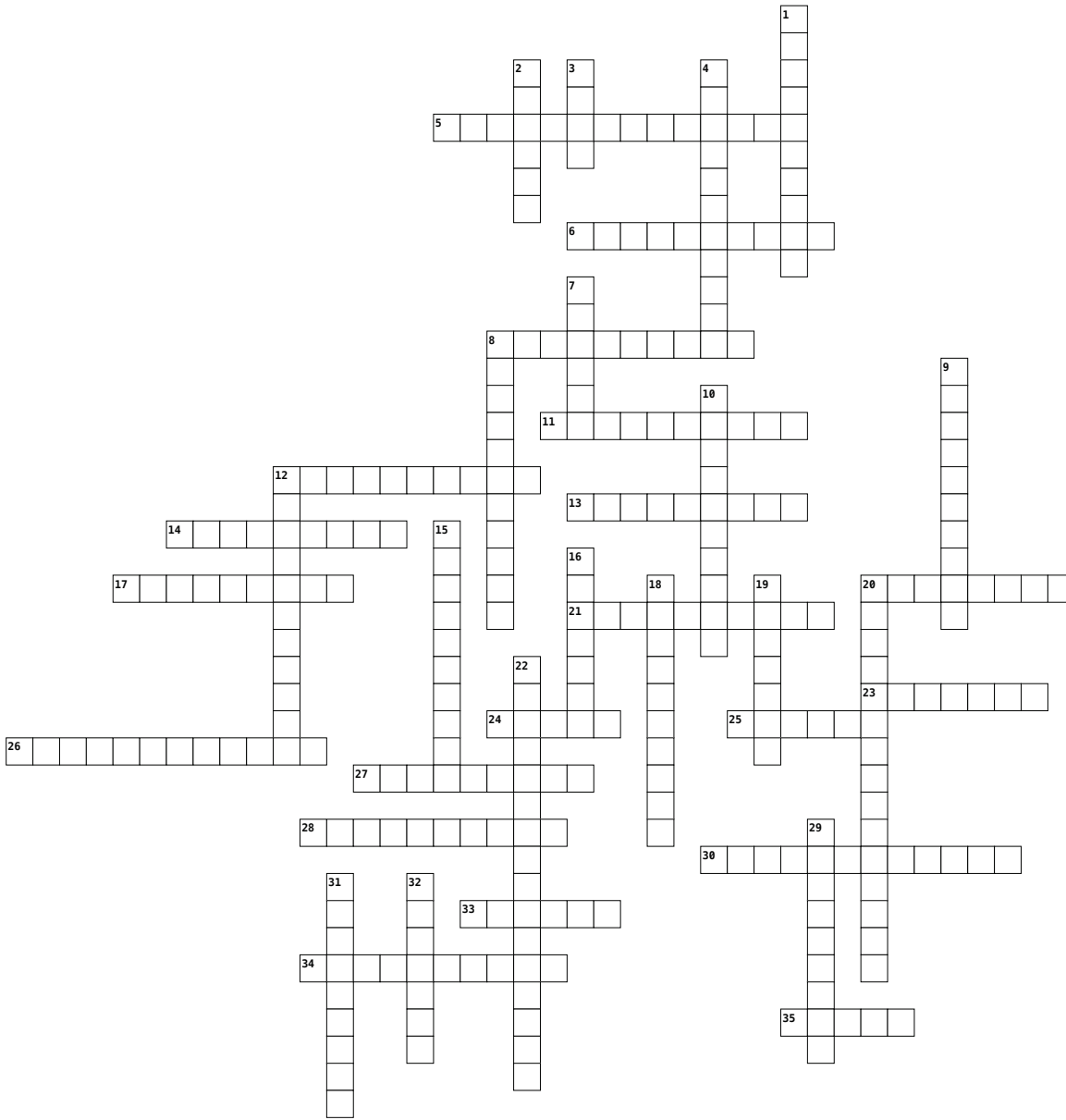
Beyond the boardrooms and hospital wards, Nikunj has three passions that animate his soul. The first is Seva — the Sanskrit word





CROSSWORD PUZZLE

QUOTES 'n QUIZ is a compilation of quotations by the great and famous in absorbing puzzles. It consists in solving or decoding the quotations with given clues.



Across

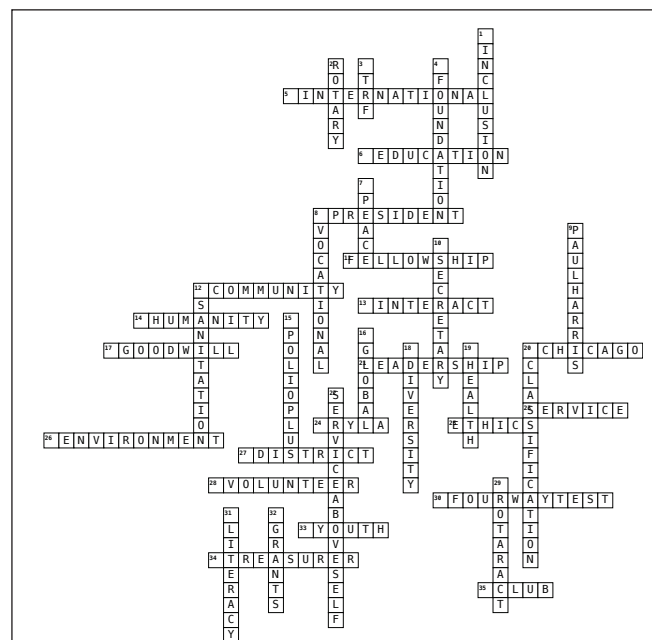
5. venue of service that promotes global understanding and peace.
6. Sector where Rotary works through scholarships and schools.
8. Elected leader of a Rotary club for one Rotary year.
11. Spirit of camaraderie and bonding among Rotarians.

Down

1. Ensuring participation of all sections of society.
2. International service organization bringing together business and professional leaders.
3. Abbreviation for The Rotary Foundation.
4. Charitable arm of Rotary supporting global and district grants.
7. One of Rotary's key areas of focus worldwide.

<https://crosswordlabs.com/view/2025-12-18-102>

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A Year of Service, Growth, and Impact : Pres. Minisha Oberoi



PRES. MINISHA OBEROI
RC of Mumbai Shere Punjab

Rtn. Minisha Ahuja, President of the Rotary Club of Mumbai Sher-E-Punjab, blends compassion, creativity, and commitment to drive impactful community initiatives focused on education, health, environment, and empathy.

BY TEAM INSPIRE

Minisha Ahuja, a graduate of Montclair State College, balanced family, business, and academics, earning an MCom while supporting her husband's venture. After 25 years as an Administrator, she founded the Gur Samarath Foundation in 2021 to support education for the underprivileged and joined the Rotary Club of Mumbai Sher-E-Punjab in 2023. Passionate about animal welfare, Kathak, Gurbani kirtan, vastushastra, and occult sciences, she also runs "The Vastra Mela," a thrift store initiative for those in need.

The Rotary Club of Mumbai Shere Punjab is still in its early years, having been chartered in August 2023.

Having been part of Rotary for about a year and a half, its transformative power has become evident—not only in shaping individuals but also in strengthening communities. While initial connections had no ties to Rotary, today, close bonds have formed with fellow Rotarians, showcasing the deep camaraderie and sense of purpose the organisation fosters.

This year, the club will focus on key areas crucial for community development. Health and disease

prevention will be prioritised, particularly in raising awareness about mental well-being and dementia in elderly women. Support systems will be strengthened to ensure better care and understanding of these issues. Basic education and literacy initiatives will be enhanced, ensuring that underprivileged children have access to quality education through feeship programs and literacy support. Investing in education is essential for individual empowerment and community upliftment. Environmental sustainability will be another area of focus, with efforts to promote awareness, encourage sustainable practices, and involve communities in conservation projects. Protecting the environment is critical to ensuring a healthier future for generations to come. Animal welfare and empathy will be promoted through RAW (Rotary for Animal Welfare), supporting rescue and rehabilitation programs while fostering compassion for animals, especially among children. Leadership development and youth empowerment will be central to inspiring individuals to take initiative and drive positive change, fostering a culture of continuous growth within the club and beyond.

A well-structured plan has

BUILDING COMPASSIONATE COMMUNITIES

Under Minisha Ahuja's leadership, RC Mumbai Sher-E-Punjab champions holistic growth—empowering youth, supporting education, promoting mental wellness, protecting the environment, and advocating animal welfare. With empathy at its core, the club is shaping a future rooted in service, sustainability, and collective transformation.

been set in motion to achieve these goals. Awareness campaigns, health camps, and workshops on dementia care, mental health, and digital and substance de-addiction will be organised in collaboration with healthcare professionals. The RISE (Rotary Initiative to Support Education) program will be strengthened by partnering with schools, establishing libraries, and implementing a feeship program for underprivileged children. Environmental initiatives will include tree-planting drives, community clean-ups, and sustainability workshops, with active involvement from women and children. RAW activities will be expanded by supporting local animal shelters, hosting awareness events, and sponsoring a free "Animal Mobile Clinic Ambulance." Leadership training sessions will be

conducted for club members and youth, encouraging them to take on leadership roles within various projects and initiatives. Platforms will be created for young individuals to participate in cultural events, competitions, and skill development programs, ensuring they have opportunities to showcase their talents and ideas. Efforts will also be made to establish a skill centre, providing vocational training and employment opportunities for community members.

This journey is about creating a meaningful impact—small steps leading to big changes. Through dedication, collaboration, and a shared vision, the club aims to strengthen its efforts and make a lasting difference in the community.

Rooted in Purpose, Rising with Compassion: Pres. Eric Elavia

BY UMA JAJODIA

In a world where small actions often lead to the greatest impact, Eric Elavia, the newly appointed President of Rotary Club of South Cuffe Parade embodies the quiet strength of purposeful leadership. With over 30 years in the field of education as a school principal, Eric brings more than just professional experience to the table—he brings heart, empathy, and an unwavering commitment to community.

For Eric, education has always been more than academics—it's about nurturing individuals, building inclusive spaces, and creating environments where every student and teacher feels seen, supported, and empowered. His professional life is a reflection of that vision, and now, he's bringing that same energy into his Rotary leadership.

Outside of his professional role, Eric is deeply invested in culture, service, and self-growth. Whether it's participating in community programs, traveling to learn from different perspectives, or curling up with a book that challenges his thinking, he approaches life with the same passion for learning that he encourages in others. At his core, Eric is defined by integrity, kindness, and a belief in lifelong

A VISION FOR IMPACT

President Eric Elavia's priorities for Rotary Year 2025–26 reflect a deep understanding of both community needs and human potential. His five key focus areas are:

- » Youth Empowerment & Education – Building platforms for learning, leadership, and opportunity.
- » Health & Wellness – Promoting accessible healthcare and preventive well-being initiatives.
- » Women's Empowerment – Creating avenues for skill development, independence, and inclusion.
- » Environmental Sustainability – Encouraging mindful living and ecological responsibility.

growth—a belief that guides both his personal choices and public commitments.

So what inspired him to take on the role of Club President? For Eric, it was a natural next step in a journey of giving back. Having spent six active years as a Rotari-

an and having been a part of various initiatives, he felt the call to do more—to take on a role that would allow him to bring people together, build momentum, and scale the impact. "I saw the presidency not just as a responsibility," he says, "but as a purpose-driven opportunity to collaborate, energize, and innovate while staying true to Rotary's core values."

As he steps into this new role, Eric has clearly defined areas of focus, each rooted in empathy and community need. His top priorities for the year are Youth Empowerment & Education, Health & Wellness, Women's Empowerment, Environmental Sustainability, and Fellowship within the Club. These are not just projects—they are passions that come from both his personal experiences and conversations with fellow members.

"Youth have potential, but they often lack the support system to reach it," he explains. "Empowering them means supporting families, schools, and communities." Health, he believes, is the bedrock of any thriving life, and access to care should never be a privilege. His work will also focus on giving women tools and platforms to take charge of their lives—an area where he's seen the power of change firsthand.

Eric's environmental focus

stems from a long-term vision: "The future belongs to those who care for the present. Each effort we make—be it planting a tree or educating about sustainability—adds up." At the heart of all these causes is his belief that a Rotary club is strongest when it is engaged, united, and driven by a sense of shared purpose. "We're better when we grow together," he says.

His roadmap for the year is practical and thoughtful. He aims to set clear priorities, build strong committees, create partnerships with like-minded organizations, and most importantly, measure and celebrate progress along the way. A big part of his vision is about strengthening the spirit of fellowship—making sure that every member feels included, appreciated, and inspired to contribute.

As Eric Elavia takes the helm of Rotary Club of South, he brings with him not just a plan, but a presence—one that is calm, clear, and deeply committed. With compassion as his compass and community as his cause, his leadership promises to be a year of action, connection, and meaningful progress.

Here's to a year of service with heart. Under Eric's leadership, Rotary Club of South is not just stepping forward—it's stepping forward together.



PRES. ERIC ELAVIA
Rotary Club of South Cuffe Parade

"True leadership begins with empathy and ends with impact," says President Eric—a guiding principle for a year dedicated to service above self. For him, leadership is not about authority, but about authentic connection—understanding people's needs, inspiring them to act, and celebrating their contributions.



PRES. ADV. CHANDRAPRABHA KHONA
RC Downtown Sealand

Rtn. Advocate Chandraprabha Khona, President of Rotary Club of Mumbai Downtown Sealand (2025–26), blends five decades of legal expertise with a lifelong passion for service and empowerment.

Back in the Driver’s Seat

BY RAKHEE MEHTA

At a time when most might consider slowing down, Rtn. Advocate Chandraprabha Khona is stepping into a familiar role with fresh energy. As she takes over as President of the Rotary Club of Mumbai Downtown Sealand for 2025–26, she brings with her a wealth of experience, an unwavering commitment to service, and a heart that beats for justice and compassion.

Though officially inducted into Rotary in 2018, Chandraprabha’s Rotary roots run deep. Married to Rtn. Bankimchandra Khona—a Rotarian since 1985 and an influential district leader—she spent many years as a supportive Rotary Ann. “Rotary was always in my life,” she smiles. “Eventually, the members insisted I join—and I’ve never looked back.”

Within six months of joining, she was President-elect, and went on to lead the club during its Golden Jubilee in 2020–21—a year that earned them the prestigious Platinum Citation. That leadership stint was marked by landmark projects and meaningful fellowship. Now, in a time of transition and dwindling membership, she’s returned—not for titles, but to revive the spirit of



Rotary.

A practicing civil advocate for over 52 years, Chandraprabha is no stranger to leadership and resilience. Trained in mediation, she’s served as Secretary and Vice President of the Association of Women Lawyers and led the Inner Wheel Club of Bombay Downtown. Her work through the All India Federation of Women Lawyers has taken her across the country, tackling issues like domestic violence, child protection, and inheritance rights. “Law and service go hand in hand,” she believes. “It’s not just about knowing the law—it’s about using it to empower.”

In Rotary, this mindset has translated into impactful service. During her previous presidency, she spearheaded the construction of seven check

dams in Palghar, transforming local agriculture and access to clean water. This year, she aims to build on that legacy—repairing old dams, creating model villages, and enhancing water conservation efforts.

But she’s not stopping at rural development. Chandraprabha’s urban focus includes a bold new initiative: supporting undertrial women prisoners. Plans are underway for legal aid, health camps, vocational training, and motivational workshops. “We want to help them reclaim their dignity,” she says. “Rehabilitation begins with hope.”

Chandraprabha is equally passionate about revitalizing her club. With the average member age now at 60, she’s on a mission to bring in fresh talent—particularly from the 45+ age group. “We

need new energy, but also people who share our values,” she says. To nurture stronger bonds, she’s reinstating fireside meetings—informal, engaging gatherings that foster fellowship and friendship. “When members feel connected, they show up—not just for Rotary, but for each other.”

Outside Rotary, her world is as rich as her professional and service life. Her family is a legacy of law and service—her husband, daughter, daughter-in-law, and father-in-law all share the legal or social space. Her son chose the creative route with a career in media, and her grandsons remain her greatest joy.

And then, there’s travel. Having journeyed to over 50 countries and explored almost every corner of India with her husband, Chandraprabha sees travel as an educator. “It keeps you curious, humble, and grateful,” she reflects. As she begins this new chapter, Chandraprabha Khona’s vision is clear: to lead with heart, create lasting impact, and inspire a new generation of Rotarians. With her wisdom, courage, and indefatigable spirit, the Rotary Club of Mumbai Downtown Sealand isn’t just in good hands—it’s in the hands of a leader who embodies the very essence of “Service Above Self.”

Leading with Positivity: Pres. Sunil Devnani

BY MAGGIE MAYNARD

Sunil Devnani, best described by his hashtag #AlwaysBePositive, embodies enthusiasm, purpose, and dedication as the dynamic President of the Rotary Club of Bombay Seacoast (DN Nagar, Andheri). A true Bandra boy at heart, Sunil is happily married to Sheela and is a proud father of two sons and a doting grandfather.

Professionally, Sunil is the Founder and CEO of Inofitt Systems, an office solutions company, and ErgoYou, a pioneer in ergonomic space design. His ventures collaborate with India’s leading architects, furniture manufacturers, corporates, and institutions to create innovative, people-friendly workspaces.

A Rotarian since 2004, Sunil has remained an active and committed member for over two decades. “Rotary is No. 1 in social service,” he says. “It’s the perfect platform to drive impactful change—and the camaraderie it offers is unparalleled.”

Despite a demanding professional schedule, Sunil lives by his mantra, “Life is Effortless,” and credits Rotary for allowing him to make a positive difference in the lives of individuals and communities. When asked what he cannot live without, his answer

comes instantly—“My family, my life, and my Rotary.”

Sunil draws deep inspiration from his favorite book, *The Empty by Todd Henry*, which urges readers not to leave their best work undone. “What do you need to empty yourself of today?” he asks. “A project you’ve been putting off, a conversation you need to have? Take that step today—get moving!” For him, this philosophy mirrors Rotary’s own ethos: using our time, talents, and resources to create lasting impact.

Focus Areas of His Presidency

During his term, Sunil’s primary focus areas are agrarian development and education.

Agrarian Empowerment

The club’s flagship rural initiative supports small-scale farmers in Maharashtra’s Nanded district, helping them adopt sustainable agricultural practices. The goal is to enable better irrigation, allowing farmers to cultivate second or multiple crops instead of leaving land fallow after the first harvest. By promoting crop rotation and sustainable water management, the project helps improve incomes and minimize seasonal risks.

In collaboration with Sanskriti Samvardhan Mandal, an NGO working closely with farmers, Rotary Club of Bombay Seacoast sup-

ports innovative irrigation solutions. This marks the club’s fourth project in the Vidarbha–Nanded region under its agrarian development initiative. Earlier efforts included desilting, widening, and deepening local rivers and water bodies, and repairing check dams to ensure year-round water availability for farming communities.

Mission Shiksha

Another key focus of Sunil’s leadership is Mission Shiksha, which empowers underprivileged youth across Maharashtra to pursue higher and vocational education. Since its inception in September 2021, the initiative has supported 63 students, including 17 from Nanded, disbursing ₹29.2 lakhs in scholarships.

Students are enrolled in 1–3 year vocational courses such as nursing, agriculture, hospitality, and culinary arts. Selected after a thorough screening process, they receive full financial assistance—on the condition that they maintain good academic performance. Currently, the club supports 10–12 students annually, with an average grant of ₹45,000–₹50,000 per student.

Other Notable Initiatives

In February 2025, the club donated sewing machines and electric

atta-mixing machines to women beneficiaries at a mega medical camp in Karjat, which served over 800 attendees.

They also provided Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) to the BKC, Santacruz, and Juhu police stations, as well as to Siddhivinayak Temple and the Veermata Jijabai Bhosale Botanical Udyan and Zoo (Byculla Zoo), ensuring public safety in key locations.

The club further mentors its Rotaract Clubs at Lotus College of Optometry and Sardar Patel College of Engineering, nurturing the next generation of socially conscious leaders and ensuring Rotary’s legacy of service continues with renewed vigor.

A Vision with a Ripple Effect

As Club President, Sunil finds immense fulfillment in leading with vision, strategic planning, and a united team. “The ripple effect of what we do today will be felt for generations to come,” he says with pride.

His journey—from entrepreneur to empathetic leader—reflects the essence of Rotary itself: to live with purpose, serve with joy, and lead with a heart that always stays positive. With his trademark optimism and boundless energy, President Sunil Devnani continues to inspire everyone around him to dream bigger and give more.



PRES. SUNIL DEVNANI
Rotary Club of Bombay Seacoast

Radiating optimism and purpose, Rtn. Sunil Devnani, President of Rotary Club of Bombay Seacoast, blends entrepreneurial vision with compassionate leadership, inspiring impactful service through agrarian development, education, and community empowerment.



Empowering Youth to Dream Big: Pres. Vishal Thakkar



PRES. VISHAL THAKKAR
Rotary Club of Mulund

Rotarian Vishal Thakkar, President of Rotary Club of Mulund, is dedicated to empowering underprivileged youth through education, mentorship, and opportunity — turning dreams into achievable realities.

BY PARUL SHAH

Rotarian Vishal Thakkar, President of the Rotary Club of Mulund, is a man on a mission — to uplift, educate, and empower underprivileged youth. With over two decades of unwavering dedication to Rotary, Vishal brings a deep sense of purpose to his new role, driven by a belief that every young person, no matter their circumstances, deserves the chance to dream big and achieve even bigger.

Vishal's journey with Rotary began 20 years ago, rooted in a desire to serve society and create meaningful change. Today, as he takes the helm of the Rotary Club of Mulund, his focus is clear: reach out to youth from economically and socially disadvantaged backgrounds, and provide them with the tools, guidance, and motivation to succeed.

"My goal," says Vishal, "is to help poor and hardworking young people understand their potential. I want to show them that their dreams are valid — and achievable."

At the heart of Vishal's leadership vision is education. He firmly believes that knowledge is the most powerful tool for transformation. During his tenure, he aims to actively work with

youth from slums and municipal colleges, ensuring they not only have access to basic education but also the mentorship and ideas that help them grow.

"We need to do more than offer resources," Vishal explains. "We must offer hope, direction, and practical guidance. These youth already have the fire — we just need to give it the right fuel."

Through awareness drives, motivational talks, and skill-building workshops, Vishal plans to bring education to life — not as a textbook concept, but as a pathway to real-world success.

One of the standout aspects of Vishal's plan is his commitment to grassroots engagement. He doesn't believe in waiting for people to come to Rotary — he believes in going to where they are. His roadmap involves visiting slums, interacting with families, and speaking directly to college students in municipal institutions.

"I want to understand their challenges first-hand," he says. "Only then can we offer solutions that actually work."

His goal is to bridge the gap between privilege and poverty by becoming a visible, reliable figure in the lives of these young individuals — someone they can turn to for support and encour-

EMPOWERING DREAMS, BUILDING FUTURES

President Vishal Thakkar's year focuses on empowering underprivileged youth through education, mentorship, and real-world opportunities. His initiatives include motivational talks, grassroots engagement, and skill-building workshops aimed at igniting confidence and purpose among young minds. By connecting Rotarians, educators, and mentors, he hopes to create a support network that nurtures potential and transforms ambition into achievement. Vishal's vision is clear — to ensure every young person, regardless of background, believes they can dream, learn, and rise.

agement.

Vishal is also keen to foster a community that champions the dreams of these youth. He envisions creating a network of mentors, educators, and fellow Rotarians who will rally behind this cause — sharing knowledge, offering career guidance, and opening doors of opportunity.

He believes that when young people are surrounded by those who believe in them, their confidence soars. "They need to hear someone say, 'Yes, you can do this.' That's often all it takes to change a life."

As President, Vishal Thakkar's

efforts are already inspiring others to join his mission. His authenticity, clarity of purpose, and hands-on approach are setting a new benchmark for community-driven leadership within the Rotary movement.

In a world where many talk about change, Vishal is out there making it happen — one conversation, one visit, one life at a time. With his vision, compassion, and unshakable commitment, Vishal Thakkar is not just leading a Rotary Club — he's leading a movement to help every child dream, believe, and rise.

Driving Transformation: Pres. Rushikesh Patil

• TEAM INSPIRE

Rtn Rushikesh Patil, the dynamic President of the Rotary Club of Wada, stands as a testament to dedication and innovation. A financial consultant by profession and a founding member of RC Wada, established in 2018, his Rotary journey began with the encouragement of his colleague and Rotarian friend, Rtn Rakesh, who inspired him to take on the mantle of Club President. Born into a family steeped in social service, Rtn Rushikesh witnessed the transformative power of Rotary in his village from a young age, which instilled in him a deep commitment to the cause.

Reflecting on his seven-year Rotary journey, Rtn Rushikesh speaks of great joy and satisfaction. The club's members, all under the age of 40, exude enthusiasm and dynamism, making RC Wada the youngest club in the district with 23 vibrant members. The blend of fellowship, projects, and meetings fosters a strong bond among its members.

During his presidential term, Rtn Rushikesh focuses on two to three key projects. One flagship project is RYPEN (Rotary Youth Program for Enrichment), a significant initiative conducted for the past four years. Another noteworthy effort is the School

EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES, ENRICHING LIVES

Under Rtn. Rushikesh Patil's leadership, RC Wada is championing transformative initiatives — from the RYPEN youth enrichment program and school kit drives to an ambitious Lake Revival Project. Focused on sustainability, education, and fellowship, his vision extends to forming a club trust for CSR partnerships and expanding membership. With a spirit of innovation and teamwork, RC Wada continues to make meaningful strides toward lasting community impact. The club's forward-thinking approach reflects Rotary's core values — service, integrity, and fellowship — inspiring young leaders to create real change. Each project is a step toward a more empowered, self-reliant, and greener Wada.

Kit Distribution Project for rural school students, aimed at supporting education for underprivileged children.

Looking ahead, Rtn Rushikesh envisions a Sustainable Environment Program. He has identified lakes in Wada Taluka in dire need of revival and hopes to initiate a Lake Revival Project. This project includes beautification, tree plantations (inspired by the Miyawaki forest method), boating facilities, and gardens, transforming the lakes into scenic tourist attractions. Already in discussions with the Gram Panchayat and local au-

thorities, this project promises to enhance the area's natural beauty, provide water facilities to farmers, and elevate Rotary's public image in the region.

Membership development and retention are also top priorities for Rtn Rushikesh. While the club enjoys a youthful membership, he aims to attract experienced and retired individuals whose knowledge and availability can greatly benefit the club's activities. He plans to organize Campfire Meetings and Fellowship Programs to strengthen member bonds and encourage active participation.

Another ambitious goal is the establishment of the club's Trust, enabling RC Wada to receive CSR funds and donations from various sources, thereby facilitating larger community welfare projects.

Rtn Rushikesh highlights the club's active participation in district-level projects. A notable initiative involved the installation of a Solar Energy Plant on the river. Despite challenges like equipment theft, the club played a crucial role in filing police complaints, coordinating with local authorities, and assisting with insurance claims to restore the project.

In collaboration with RC Bombay, the club supported the IT Lab Project in a local school. This project offers Robotics Training, 3D Technology Training, Basic Computer Courses, and JEE/NEET Foundation Training for students from the 8th standard onwards. The initiative empowers girls from Marathi medium schools by providing them with opportunities to learn advanced skills without leaving their hometown.

With a clear vision for membership growth and impactful projects, Rtn Rushikesh Patil is determined to lead RC Wada towards greater achievements, ensuring that the club continues to serve the community with unwavering dedication and passion.



RTN. RUSHIKESH PATIL
President of Rotary Club of Wada

Rtn. Rushikesh Patil, President of Rotary Club of Wada, blends youthful energy with visionary leadership, driving impactful projects in education, environment, and community empowerment across rural Maharashtra.



Engineering Change: The Leadership Story of Rtn. Bipin Kulkarni



RTN. BIPIN KULKARNI,
RC Rotary Club of Mumbai MaKaBo

Rtn. Bipin Kulkarni, President of Rotary Club of Mumbai MaKaBo, exemplifies visionary leadership, blending innovation, service, and heartfelt community commitment.

● **K.V.PREMRAJ**

Rtn. Bipin Kulkarni's journey is one that seamlessly blends innovation, service, and leadership. As the newly appointed President of the Rotary Club of Mumbai MaKaBo, Bipin brings not only professional expertise but also a heartfelt commitment to community impact.

Born and raised in Kolhapur, Maharashtra, Bipin's early life was shaped by values of perseverance and discipline. After earning his Diploma in Electronics Engineering from Walchand College of Engineering, Sangli, he began his career as a service engineer, traveling extensively across India. These experiences offered him invaluable exposure to the country's diverse industries and people.

A turning point came in 1987, when he was selected through a competitive process to join a project at IIT Bombay's Physics Department, where he set up Electronics and Microprocessor Labs. Originally a five-year project, Bipin completed it in just three years—an early testament to his efficiency and results-driven mindset.

In 1991, Bipin followed his entrepreneurial calling, leaving the comfort of a government job to enter the fast-evolving telecom industry. As a franchisee for Meltron, he began

a rewarding entrepreneurial journey that led to the founding of four successful ventures in EPABX systems, voice communication, and call centre technologies. His firms have served prestigious clients such as Raj Bhavan, Mahanagar Gas, Mumbai University, and UDCT, among others.

Despite his demanding career, Bipin's heart was always inclined toward community service. In early 2024, inspired by the impactful work of RC Mumbai MaKaBo and mentored by then-President Rtn. Sanjay Agarwal, he joined Rotary. His enthusiasm and leadership quickly stood out—within 15 months, he had actively contributed to over 15 service initiatives, including school support projects at ZP School, Sa-fale, adolescent health awareness programs, and the Annapurna food initiative.

Having already served as Director (Membership Development) and Club Secretary, Bipin demonstrated strong organizational and collaborative abilities. Now, as President, he steps into his new role with a clear vision and thoughtful planning.

He acknowledges the challenge of balancing professional and Rotary commitments and plans to address it through structured time management and effective delegation. "I believe in empowering members with clear responsibilities so that every

individual contributes meaningfully and feels a sense of ownership," he says.

For the year ahead, Bipin's vision is ambitious yet grounded—to double the club's community impact, enhance TRF (The Rotary Foundation) contributions, and expand membership. With a current strength of 22 members, he aims to focus on quality engagement, mentorship, and forming strategic partnerships with like-minded organizations.

What truly distinguishes Bipin as a leader is his people-centric philosophy. Deeply guided by Rotary's motto, "Service Above Self," he strives to align each project with members' personal passions. Through one-on-one interactions, he identifies what motivates them: "When people are emotionally invested in what they do, service becomes a joy, not an obligation." He also emphasizes mentorship and celebrating small wins to sustain motivation and teamwork.

During his term, Bipin has outlined three core focus areas for the club:

Child Education and Wellness
Women's Health and Empowerment

Youth Entrepreneurship
These align with both community priorities and Rotary District goals, reinforcing his belief that meaning-

ful change begins at the grassroots.

Beyond his professional and Rotary pursuits, Bipin is a man of varied interests. A lover of classical music, he enjoys listening to soulful compositions, reading, and painting. His daily meditative walks are moments of reflection and calm—a grounding practice that helps him stay centered amid a busy life.

Family plays a vital role in Bipin's journey. His wife, Medha, is a trained classical vocalist who has performed on All India Radio and several stages in Mumbai and Pune. Their son, Dhruv, a national-level swimming medallist, now works at Cag Gemini in Pune after completing his B.Tech in Mechatronics. Sharing his father's passion for Indian classical music, Dhruv is also studying Japanese and preparing for the N3 proficiency exam.

When asked about his role model, Bipin cites Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj as his enduring source of inspiration. "His courage, integrity, and compassion are timeless lessons in leadership," he reflects.

As he takes the helm of Rotary Club of Mumbai MaKaBo, Rtn. Bipin Kulkarni embodies the perfect blend of corporate acumen, empathy, and visionary leadership. His journey is a reminder that even in the busiest professional lives, there is always room to serve—and to lead with purpose.

A Lifelong Rotarian Rebuilding Legacy with Purpose

BY RACKHEE MEHTA

Rtn. Jaipal Shah, President of the Rotary Club of Bombay Harbour, stands as a powerful symbol of Rotary's enduring spirit — for him, service is not an obligation but a lifelong oath. With an extraordinary 53-year journey in the Rotary movement, beginning as a passionate Rotaractor in 1972, his life is deeply woven with commitment, courage and compassion.

His Rotary journey began at the Rotaract Club of Bhavan's Somani under the mentorship of Rotary Club of Bombay Midtown. By 1976, he had already distinguished himself as a dynamic youth leader. In 1984, after establishing his professional foundation, he joined Rotary as a Charter Member of the Rotary Club of Bombay Harbour — the same club he now leads with renewed purpose. Across four decades, he has served in every avenue of service, earned over 200 awards, and was honoured as Rotarian of the Decade in 1994. A Five-Star Paul Harris Fellow with impeccable 100% attendance since charter, he lives Rotary as a way of life, not a chapter of it.

Under his guidance, Bombay Harbour is witnessing a remarkable revival. His presidency is driven not by title, but by responsibility. When the club faced the threat of closure, Jaipal stepped forward to protect its legacy. Committing to a rare two-year

SAFEGUARDING A LEGACY OF SERVICE

When the Rotary Club of Bombay Harbour stood on the brink of closure, Rtn. Jaipal Shah didn't step back — he stepped up. With steadfast commitment and clarity of purpose, he took on a rare two-year presidency to rebuild and rejuvenate the club. His leadership has already strengthened membership, revived enthusiasm, and rekindled the Harbour spirit. A firm believer that "service begins where comfort ends," Jaipal mentors young Rotarians, instilling in them the values of discipline, compassion, and continuity. His mission — to ensure Rotary's flame never fades, but shines brighter with every generation.

term, he has set the club on a path of renewal — strengthening its membership from 24 to 36 and infusing it with fresh leadership potential.

His leadership style blends discipline with empathy, ensuring every member feels valued and heard. He believes in building leaders, not followers, and personally mentors every incoming president to prepare them for future challenges. His open-door approach and weekly fellowship meetings have reignited the club's sense of belonging and purpose.

Beyond administration, Jaipal is deeply focused on service with sustainability. Among his greatest contributions to community service is his transformative work in sanitation. In collaboration with Rotary Club of Powai, he has been instrumental in building over 140 toilet blocks in Mumbai's slum communities — a mission that began during the pandemic when most stayed

indoors, but he continued travelling daily from Marine Drive to Vasai to serve.

Together, they have set an ambitious and historic goal:

To build 1,000 toilets across the district, restoring dignity, hygiene and health to thousands of underserved families. For Jaipal, true service is measured not in numbers, but in lives uplifted and futures changed.

His compassion extends far beyond infrastructure. Under his initiative, the club has adopted several schools, providing sanitation facilities, water filters, and digital learning tools. He also spearheads vocational training drives, ensuring that communities don't just receive help — they gain independence.

Parallel to his Rotary life, Jaipal is a respected first-generation industrialist, leading Unipack Machines Pvt. Ltd. and Unipack Autemi Filters Pvt.

Ltd. Yet, despite global business success, his greatest pride lies in Rotary — in building institutions, grooming leaders and touching human lives. A compelling orator, he has addressed more than 400 gatherings across India and abroad, from the USA and Europe to Asia and Africa, inspiring audiences with his belief in the three M's of giving — Mind, Money and Moments.

What sets him apart is his humility. Whether speaking to a hall of 500 or mentoring a single Rotarian, his warmth and wisdom leave a lasting impression. His energy, even after five decades, remains as infectious as his smile.

He continues to champion collaborative service across clubs, often acting as a bridge between generations — connecting senior Rotarians' experience with the enthusiasm of younger members. His message to every Rotarian is simple yet profound: "Don't count the years you've served; count the hearts you've touched."

Today, as he leads Rotary Club of Bombay Harbour through one of its most defining chapters, his mission remains crystal clear: to rebuild, to renew, and to ensure that the flame of Rotary burns brighter for generations to come.

For Rtn. Jaipal Shah, leadership is not about chairing meetings — it is about safeguarding a legacy of service, one act of compassion at a time.



RTN. JAIPAL SHAH
Rotary Club of Bombay Harbour

With 53 years of Rotary devotion, Rtn. Jaipal Shah exemplifies service, vision, and leadership — a man whose life's purpose is to serve humanity through Rotary.

THE ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY MULUND

The Rotary Club of Bombay Mulund Valley was honoured to host the Official Club Visit of District Governor Rtn. Dr. Manish Motwani on 13th October 2025 at Hotel La Flame, Avior, Mulund West, along with CC Captain Rtn. Ravi Jeswani, DS Rtn. Ashok Singh, AG Rtn. Siddharth Daftary, and ALF Rtn. Vikram Swaroop. The closed-door meeting and club assembly were conducted under the leadership of Club President Rtn. Sanjay Patel, supported by Club Secretary Rtn. Shilpa Goel and Club Treasurer Rtn. Mamta Kotak, with enthusiastic participation from club members, partners, the Rotaractors' leadership team, and RCC members. The occasion was further enriched by the presence of PDG Dr. Rtn.



Jayant Kulkarni, PDG Rtn. Kumar Kewalramani, PDG Rtn. Harjit Singh Talwar, and DGE Rtn. Deepak Jiandani. During the visit, the District Governor shared valuable guidance on membership growth and retention, Fireside Meetings, Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening, Cervical Cancer

Vaccination, the Pink Auto project, and the importance of building a strong networking and referral culture. The meticulously planned visit, with all OCV documentation duly presented, concluded with a warm Diwali fellowship, making the evening meaningful, inspiring, and memorable.

OCV: RC SION

Inspired District Governor Rtn. Dr. Manish Motwani paid his Official Club Visit on 14 December 2025, accompanied by his District team, with the meeting held at GCC Club followed by a fellowship lunch. In his address, he appreciated the Club President, Secretary and members for their impactful community service initiatives and systematic maintenance of club records.

As part of the visit, two new members—Dr. Maya Prasad, Gynecologist and IVF Specialist, Proprietor of ANSH Fertility & IVF Centre, and Mr. Omprakash Sekseria, Director, Environment Seva Foundation—were inducted into the Rotary family. The DG also felicitated seven members on achieving Multiple PHF



status, released the club's quarterly bulletin GOODWILL, and acknowledged the efforts of its Editor, PP Rtn. Narendra Singh. The Official Club Visit was con-

ducted smoothly and reflected the spirit of fellowship, service and effective leadership demonstrated by the club office bearers and members.

Successful Surgical Intervention for a Child with Hirschsprung Disease from Mozambique

A Connection That Sparked a Mission

In 2023, during a business visit to Mozambique, Rtn. Hiten Mehta of the Rotary Club of Bombay East visited the Rotary Club of Maputo as a fellow Rotarian. What began as a warm exchange of fellowship soon evolved into a meaningful connection—one that would later give rise to a powerful humanitarian mission.

A year later, the President of Rotary Club of Maputo reached out to Rtn. Hiten with an urgent appeal. A young boy from an economically challenged family was suffering from Hirschsprung disease, a complex congenital condition requiring specialised paediatric surgical expertise unavailable in Mozambique.

For the family, the prospect of travelling across continents for life-saving treatment was financially and logistically impossible.

Rotary Steps In Compassion Without Boundaries

Without hesitation, Rtn. Hiten approached District Governor Rtn. Dr. Manish Motwani for support. Demonstrating swift leadership and deep compassion, DG Manish immediately mobilised resources and facilitated free surgical treatment at the prestigious Lokmanya Tilak Municipal Medical College & Sion Hospital, Mumbai.

While the Rotary Club of Maputo coordinated international travel for the child and his parents, Rtn. Hiten

When Rotarians unite across continents, boundaries dissolve and humanity shines brightest.



Mehta and RC Bombay East President Rtn. Pradeep Dongre arranged essential surgical consumables, including staplers, and ensured post-operative medications were provided.

Through this seamless collaboration, Baby Ernesio Guele received world-class medical care—entirely free of cost.

Excellence in Medical Care

Upon arrival in Mumbai, Baby Ernesio was evaluated by the Pediatric Surgery Department at Sion Hospital under the guidance of Dr. Paras Kothari, a highly respected expert in advanced congenital surgeries.

Hirschsprung disease is characterised by the absence of nerve cells in segments of the intestine, leading to severe constipation and intesti-

nal obstruction. The surgical team performed a Modified Duhamel's Procedure, a proven technique that restores bowel function by connecting healthy, nerve-containing intestine to the rectum.

The surgery was conducted successfully, and Baby Ernesio made an excellent post-operative recovery.

Healing Beyond Medicine – Bridging Language and Culture

Caring for an international family brought unique challenges. Ernesio's parents, Rosa and Lourenco, spoke only their native Mozambican language and had limited understanding of English, making communication regarding surgery, nursing care, and recovery particularly challenging. The medical team responded with

sensitivity and innovation, using:

- » Simple and clear explanations
- » Visual demonstrations
- » Mobile translation tools

Repeated and patient counselling sessions

This culturally compassionate approach ensured the family felt reassured, informed, and supported throughout their journey.

Decisive and compassionate leadership by DG Rtn. Dr. Manish Motwani Medical excellence blended with empathy at Sion Hospital

Effective resource mobilisation by RC Bombay East and RC Maputo

Shared humanity that transformed a child's future

Today, Baby Ernesio is on the path to a healthy life living proof that when

“Service knows no borders when humanity is the purpose.”

Rotary acts, lives are changed.

A Story of Hope and Global Fellowship

This initiative stands as a shining example of what Rotary can achieve when Rotarians across nations unite with a common purpose. It is a story of hope, healing, and global fellowship where compassion transcended borders and humanity triumphed.

Indeed, humanity prevails across borders and Rotary lights the way.

ROTARY STUDY CENTRE, KHUPRI VILLAGE

A Collaborative Educational Initiative of RI 3141

On Saturday, 29th November 2025, the Rotary Study Centre—an initiative of the Rotary Club of Mumbai Dahisar—was inaugurated at Khupri Village, Wada Taluka, Palghar District. This landmark project was undertaken in collaboration with the Khupri Gram Panchayat and supported by RC Sher E Punjab, RC Bombay, RC Vasai, RC Metropolitan, RC Hanging Garden, RC Bombay Airport, RC Bombay Kandivli, RC Mumbai GenX, RC Mumbai Juhu, RC Bombay Khar, RC Wada, the Inner Wheel Club of Bombay Central, and Rtn. Kaajal Thadani.

This fully air-conditioned study centre, designed to provide a modern and enabling learning environment, is equipped with a state-of-the-art library, seven computers, a laser printer, three CCTV cameras, ten study tables, high-speed internet connectivity, and a smart digital display. These facilities will help students gain exposure to the latest technologies and bridge the educational gap between rural and urban learners. At



any given time, the centre can comfortably accommodate 45 to 50 students in a peaceful and conducive atmosphere.

The modern library houses a collection of 1,000 books catering to competitive examinations such as CAT, NEET, CA, IAS, IPS, IFS, CS, Engineering, and more, along with books covering general education and academics. These books have been provided under the PADO Bharat Project with the support of the Ratna Nidhi Foundation.

Addressing the gathering at the inauguration, Chief Guest PDG Shrirang Prabhu encouraged the children of the village to make optimum use of the centre to gain knowledge and

achieve their life goals. He expressed confidence that the Rotary Clubs would one day feel proud to see top bureaucrats of the country emerging from Khupri Village. Presidents of all participating clubs also spoke on the occasion, appreciating the project, extending their best wishes to the students, and advising them to fully utilise the facilities available at the centre.

Sarpanch Mr. Kishor Pawar expressed his heartfelt gratitude to all the Rotary Clubs for helping fulfil a long-cherished dream of the village. He mentioned that this is the first study centre of its kind in Wada Taluka and specially appreciated Chief Project Co-

ordinator Rotarian Rajendran Unnikrishnan for his vision, conceptualisation, and dedicated efforts in bringing this impactful project to fruition for the benefit of both students and adults of Khupri Village.

The smiles on the children's faces truly reflected the success and meaningful impact of this initiative. The project is expected to benefit nearly 1,200 students and adults through computer education, adult literacy, and access to multiple educational and literacy programs. In addition, the centre will serve as a hub for various multi-purpose educational activities.

The inauguration ceremony was graced by Rotary Presidents Jayant Pawar (Mumbai Dahisar), Ketki Niser (Metropolitan), Pragna Mehta (Bombay Airport), Prashant Mishra (Bombay Kandivli), Dennis Abreo (Vasai), Rushikesh Patil (Wada), Anantalakshmi (Mumbai Juhu), and Miniishaa Oberoi (Sher E Punjab), along with Past President Sharad Jain (Dahisar) and Assistant Governor Jyoti Gandhi (Bombay Kandivli).



RC BOMBAY EAST

Humanity Prevails Across Borders

When service is guided by compassion, geography fades into insignificance. This truth was powerfully demonstrated through an inspiring international humanitarian initiative jointly undertaken by the Rotary Club of Bombay East and the Rotary Club of Maputo, transforming the life of a young child from Mozambique and reaffirming Rotary's enduring belief that humanity comes first.

The story began in 2023 when Rtn. Hiten Mehta of the Rotary Club of Bombay East, during a business visit to Mozambique, attended a meeting of the Ro-

tary Club of Maputo as a fellow Rotarian. What started as a simple exchange of fellowship soon grew into a meaningful bond rooted in shared values and service. A year later, this connection became a lifeline for Baby Ernesio Guiele, a young child from a financially challenged family suffering from Hirschsprung disease—a serious congenital condition requiring specialised paediatric surgical expertise unavailable in Mozambique. For his parents, Rosa and Lourenco, seeking treatment abroad seemed impossible.

Recognising the urgency, Rtn. Hiten Mehta immediately

reached out to District Governor Dr. Manish Motwani. Reflecting exemplary Rotary leadership, DG Manish swiftly facilitated free surgical treatment at Mumbai's Lokmanya Tilak Municipal Medical College and Sion Hospital. The Rotary Club of Maputo coordinated international travel for the child and his parents, while the Rotary Club of Bombay East, under the leadership of President Rtn. Pradeep Dongre, ensured the availability of critical surgical consumables and post-operative medicines. Every step was executed with seamless coordination, driven by a shared mission—to save a

young life.

At Sion Hospital, Baby Ernesio was treated by the Pediatric Surgery Department led by Dr. Paras Kothari, whose expertise in complex congenital surgeries ensured world-class medical care. After detailed evaluation, the surgical team successfully performed a Modified Duhamel's procedure, restoring normal intestinal function. The surgery was smooth, and Ernesio's recovery was encouraging, marking a turning point in his young life.

Beyond medical expertise, the team faced a language barrier, as Ernesio's parents spoke only



RC BOMBAY SEACOAST

Kitchen for Jawans at Snowy Peaks

A matter of immense pride for our Seacoasters family.

A full-fledged kitchen and dining hall has been donated by Rtn. Harish Shani for our brave Army personnel serving in the snow-clad, rugged Himalayan ranges along the LOC. These are the men who stand guard every single day, protecting our nation in freezing temperatures where survival itself is a challenge.

Life at these posts is beyond words—minus temperatures, icy winds cutting through layers of clothing, days without sunlight, and miles of treacherous terrain. Yet, our soldiers remain unwavering, defending every inch of our motherland with discipline, courage, and an unshakeable spirit.

With the newly donated facilities, these heroes can now enjoy piping hot meals—a small comfort that means so much in such extreme conditions. The joy and gratitude expressed by every soldier was truly heart-warming.

As a gesture of love, they have affectionately named the new facility "MOM'S KITCHEN."

This is not just a contribution—it is a tribute to the sacrifices of our soldiers and a reminder of how a small act of kindness can touch lives standing at the frontline for us all.

Thanks to Ankush Jain & Vicki Prabhu for their support.



their native Mozambican language. Yet compassion bridged the gap. Through visual aids, mobile translation tools, simple explanations, and repeated counselling, the medical staff ensured the family felt informed, reassured, and respected throughout their stay. Care extended beyond treatment—it upheld dignity and empathy.

Today, Baby Ernesio is on the road to good health, carrying a story that transcends borders. This initiative stands as a testament to what Rotary can achieve when clubs across nations unite with trust, urgency, and heart. When Rotarians join hands across continents, boundaries blur, hope travels freely, and humanity shines brightest.

RC BOMBAY JUHU BEACH

Vision Beyond Sight – The Blind Chess Championship



On 8th November, the Rotary Club of Bombay Juhu Beach proudly hosted Vision Beyond Sight, a Blind Chess Championship conducted in association with the Mumbai Suburban District Chess Association. The event emerged as a moving tribute to resilience, intellect, and the limitless power of the human mind.

A total of 42 participants competed in a 15-minute rapid chess tournament played in the Swiss League format, with 24 players holding international FIDE ratings. The championship began at 8:00 a.m. and concluded by 2:30 p.m., with well-planned breakfast and lunch arrangements ensuring a comfortable experience for all. The registra-



tion fee of ₹300 per participant was fully refunded, and a prize fund of ₹25,000 was distributed among the winners.

What made the day truly memorable was the infectious joy, enthusiasm, and grace displayed by every participant. Watching the players touch the chess pieces, memorise the



board, and visualise each move without sight was both inspiring and humbling. Their ability to rely purely on memory, spatial awareness, and strategic thinking transformed the game into a remarkable display of mental strength and focus.

More than a tournament, the championship stood as a power-

ful reminder that vision extends far beyond eyesight, and that true strength lies in the mind. The Rotary Club of Bombay Juhu Beach feels privileged to have witnessed and supported such exceptional sportsmanship and positivity.

The total cost of the project was ₹1,31,000.

ROTARY CLUB OF MUMBAI JUHU

Implementation of Rain Water Harvesting Project in Tribal Ashramshala, Dahagaon



President: Rtn. Ananthalakshmi Ramesh
Venue: Adivasi Ashramshala, Ambivali, Shahapur, Maharashtra
Project Value - Rs 1,50,000/-
Number of Beneficiaries: 3500+
Names of Rotarians instrumental in executing the Project: Rtn. Mukul Jain, Club Secretary



key focus area of Rotary's environmental initiatives.

The visiting RCMJ team received an overwhelming and heartfelt welcome from the students, who expressed their excitement and gratitude for the club's support. The Ashramshala campus—spread across a serene tribal region—has been developed thoughtfully and provides a positive learning environment. However, the team also observed several gaps in infrastructure and amenities, where additional support may be beneficial. RCMJ will assess these needs in detail to explore potential future interventions.

The Rotary Club of Mumbai Juhu marked an important milestone with the inauguration of the Rain Water Harvesting (RWH) system at Adivasi Ashramshala, Dahagaon, Vashind. President Rtn. Ananthalakshmi Ramesh, Secretary Rtn. Mukul Jain, Rtn. Amarjit Sabharwal, and Rtn. Damanjit Kaur visited the school to formally commission the project and interact with the students and staff.

The RWH system, implemented by RCMJ, is designed to significantly recharge the ground water table, providing long-term environmental and social benefits. Its impact extends well beyond the school boundaries:

- 360 students of the Ashramshala will benefit through improved water availability for drinking, sanitation, and daily use.
- More than 3,000 people residing in four neighbouring villages will also experience improved groundwater levels, reducing their dependence on external water supplies.
- The project contributes meaningfully to sustainable water management, a

As part of the visit, RCMJ distributed notebooks to all 360 students, ensuring they are better equipped for their academic year. The club also arranged snacks for every child, adding a moment of joy and celebration to the day's proceedings.

This project stands as a testament to RCMJ's dedication to creating long-term, sustainable impact in underserved communities. By improving water security for the school and surrounding villages, RCMJ continues its mission of transforming lives through thoughtful, needs-based service with this project having lasting community impact.



Three Years of Wine, Fellowship, and Refined Indulgence



The Rotary Fellowship of Wine Lovers of District 3141 celebrated its third year with a series of refined evenings that beautifully blended fellowship, fine wines, and elevated experiences. Under the discerning leadership of Chairman Nilesh Barfiwala and his committed team, each event was thoughtfully curated at some of Mumbai's most sought-after venues across South Mumbai and the Western Suburbs. These evenings were designed to stimulate the senses, awaken the connoisseur within, and create moments of shared appreciation for wine and companionship.

Every gathering enjoyed a warm and enthusiastic response, with many members attending alongside their



partners. Reflecting the Fellowship's inclusive ethos, participation was also extended to partners and friends on a chargeable basis, with considerate non-wine options available for those who preferred them. Special attention was given to the selection of wines, ensuring only the finest labels were served and that

no wine was repeated, thereby enriching the experience with novelty and excellence at every event.

The year unfolded with memorable evenings that included a wine dinner accompanied by a live saxophonist at Bombay Gymkhana on 15 September 2024, a beautiful-ly curated wine-pairing dinner

at ODE Restaurant crafted by celebrity chef Rahul Akerkar along with sommelier Sonam Rai on 3 February 2025, and a dinner featuring free-flowing wines at Hakkasan, Bandra on 20 March 2025. An event at Eve, Worli proved to be the icing on the cake, offering exceptional wines paired with outstanding cuisine, while the final gathering at NMACC Art Café on 26 November 2025 brought the year to a graceful close. Photographs from these evenings have already been shared.

As the famous Italian proverb reminds us, age and glasses of wine should never be counted. Members interested in becoming part of this growing Fellowship are welcome to connect directly. With warm regards and best wishes.

ROTARY CLUB OF MUMBAI NEO

Digital Learning for Stress-Free Academic Excellence

President Rtn Anand Bhadkamkar

The Ideal Study app is a powerful learning tool designed to help SSC students achieve stress-free academic success.

This initiative offers comprehensive study support at an incredibly affordable cost, ensuring that every student has access to the resources they need to excel. The app is available for Marathi medium, English medium, and semi-English medium. After Exams free career guidance is also provided in the app. By offering maximum practice sets, students gain confidence, reduce exam fear, and aim for outstanding results



Rotary Club of Mumbai Neo has so far distributed the app to nearly 517 students across 4 schools including Versova Welfare School, Shreeram Nagar Welfare School, Adarsh Vidyalaya and Probhodini School with the total value of the project Rs 916000/-
Project Coordinator Rtn Hemang Jangla

Volunteers: Rtn Kala Sridhar, Rtn Mehek Wadhwa, Rtn Daksha Bhagwat and Rtn Suresh Jayram

It is an academic lifeline for students, bringing happiness to families at the same time embodying Rotary's commitment to literacy and youth empowerment.

ROTARY CLUB OF UMROLI

Empowering Education Through Essentials: RC Umroli Supports Rural Students at ZP School

Understanding that meaningful education begins with meeting basic needs, the Rotary Club of Umroli, with the support of co-host club Rotary Club of Mumbai Coastline, implemented a focused initiative aimed at strengthening access to education for rural students at ZP School, Umroli.

The project, Essential Kits Distribution to ZP School, was carried out in collaboration with the MaanRey Foundation, with generous support from Mrs. Manasi Dalal. Executed on 13 November 2025, the initiative addressed the everyday challenges faced by students from economically disadvantaged families, where lack of basic resources often becomes a barrier to regular school attendance and learning.

Under the leadership of President Rtn. Sagar Gharat, the Rotary Club of Umroli facilitated the distribution of 86 comprehensive essential kits, each designed to support a



child's needs for an entire academic year. The kits included shoes, sweaters, uniforms, raincoats, school bags, books, stationery, food items, and personal clothing—ensuring that students were adequately prepared for school, seasonal changes, and daily life.

The need for the project was identified through surveys conducted by Rotarians in consultation with local school teachers, allowing the intervention to be both relevant and impactful. With a total project cost of ₹5,59,000, the initiative directly benefitted 86 students, easing the financial burden on families while

fostering dignity, confidence, and continuity in education.

Though simple in execution, the project is expected to have lasting outcomes. By equipping children with essential resources, the initiative supports consistent school attendance, improved self-esteem, and a more focused learning environment.

Through this collaborative effort, RC Umroli, with the partnership of RC Mumbai Coastline, reaffirmed its commitment to Basic Education and Literacy, demonstrating how well-planned, need-based service can quietly but powerfully transform young lives.

ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY BAYVIEW

Service Meets Tradition: Rotary Club of Bombay Bayview's Group Wedding Initiative

In keeping with Rotary's enduring commitment to Service Above Self, the Rotary Club of Bombay Bayview, under the leadership of President Rtn. Sonali Shah, undertook a deeply meaningful humanitarian initiative that restored dignity, hope, and social inclusion to underprivileged members of the community. The Club sponsored a 21-couples' group wedding and kanyadaan ceremony, addressing a significant social and economic challenge faced by families with limited means.

The project, thoughtfully led by Project Head Rtn. Vidya Moorjani, was held in Borivali, Mumbai, in collaboration with Raipur Dharmalaxmi Janseva Trust, an organisation known for its sustained efforts in organising dignified group weddings for economically disadvantaged couples. Traditional Indian weddings often place immense financial pressure on families, further intensified by societal expectations surrounding dowry and lav-

ish ceremonies. Recognising these realities, the Rotary Club of Bombay Bayview stepped forward with a compassionate and sustainable intervention.

Through this initiative, 21 couples were able to solemnise their marriages in a respectful and joyous environment, free from the burden of excessive expenses. Going beyond the ceremonial aspects, the Club ensured practical support for the newlyweds by gifting 21 mixers and suitcases, essential household items that symbolised both care and foresight. These contributions provided immediate assistance while enabling the couples to begin their married lives with greater confidence and stability.

Implemented between October and November 2025, the project saw the active involvement of Rotarians and their spouses, who contributed time, effort, and resources to ensure its successful execution. With a total project cost of ₹57,750, the initiative directly benefitted 42 individuals, while also creat-

ing a broader social impact by promoting values of equality, simplicity, and shared responsibility.

Group weddings represent a powerful and sustainable model of community service. By optimising resources and discouraging unnecessary extravagance, they challenge regressive social norms and foster inclusivity. This project not only provided financial relief but also conveyed a strong message against dowry and social stigma, reinforcing Rotary's role as a catalyst for positive social change.

Through this impactful initiative, the Rotary Club of Bombay Bayview reaffirmed its commitment to Community Economic Development and Social Equity. By giving these couples a dignified beginning, the Club—guided by inspired leadership and dedicated teamwork—helped strengthen families and build a more compassionate society, one meaningful union at a time.



RC BOMBAY SEAFACE

Kala Kutir: Where Art, Skill and Purpose Come Alive

RCSF long-awaited skill development project in the field of art, “Kala Kutir”, was formally inaugurated this morning at Gram mangal, Aine Village, District Palghar, marking a significant milestone in our journey of meaningful service. The inauguration took place in the gracious presence of Mr. Ramesh Panse, Trustee of Gram mangal; renowned scientist Mr. Anil Kakodkar; and the visionary architect of the project, Mr. Pratik Dhanmer. They were joined by the dedicated staff of Gram mangal and a strong gathering of fellow Rotarians, whose presence added warmth and collective pride to the occasion. Set amidst lush greenery, Kala Kutir stands as a strikingly beautiful structure harmoni-



ously blending nature, design, and purpose. The inauguration ceremony was followed by the felicitation of Mr. Ramesh Panse and Mr. Pratik Dhanmer, and was enriched by insightful addresses from PP Uday Kulkarni, President Sonal, Mr. Anil Kakodkar, Mr. Pratik Dhanmer, and Mr. Panse, each high-

lighting the transformative power of art, skill development, and community partnership. The cultural programme added colour and vibrancy to the morning. Children of Gram mangal presented a captivating tribal dance, followed by an energetic and graceful Kathak performance



by a young, exceptionally talented dancer both performances drawing heartfelt applause from the audience. The programme also coincided with a RYLA session for Vanita Vishram students, creating a beautiful platform for interaction and bonding between urban youth and Gramman-

gal's tribal children. These shared moments of learning and joy truly reflected the spirit of inclusivity and leadership. The event concluded with a delightful lunch, enjoyed by all in a spirit of fellowship. We express our deep gratitude to PP Uday Kulkarni for envisioning this project and



bringing it to life, Rtn. Heeru Tejwani for her tireless efforts in execution, and IPCA Laboratories for generously funding the project through their CSR support. Kala Kutir is not just a structure it is a promise of creativity, empowerment, and hope.

RCSF, successfully organised an HPV Vaccination Camp yesterday at Modern School, Sikka Nagar, benefiting 100 girls and women, including students, teachers, and helpers. The project began on a deeply auspicious note, with the lighting of the lamp, Ganesh Stuti, and the chanting of the Gayatri Mantra, setting a serene and divine atmosphere for this meaningful initiative. We extend our sincere appreciation to PP Dr. Pankaj Parekh for his unwavering support and dedicated ef-

HPV vaccination camps by RCSF

forts. Our heartfelt gratitude to Rtn. Nilesh Suchak, whose generous sponsorship made the entire project possible.

Doctors from our Club Dr. Meena Kothari, Dr. Raksha Mangaldas, Dr. Meena Vora, and Banganga Centre doctor, Dr. Shalini Soni for their invaluable presence and hands-on support during the vaccination process. A special note of thanks to IPP Minal Turakhia for seamless



coordination with the school authorities, ensuring smooth execution of the camp, and to Rtn. Anil Popat for facilitating the necessary medical supplies.

RCSF successfully organised one more HPV vaccination project for girls and lady staff (ages 9 to 46) at Chanda Ramji School on Thursday, 11th December, starting at 8:30 am. The vaccine plays a vital role in preventing cervical cancer.

ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY BAYVIEW

Extending Warmth That Sustains Learning for Tribal Communities

In regions where winter cold can quietly disrupt daily life, access to something as simple as warm clothing can determine whether a child attends school or stays home. Recognising this often-overlooked reality, the Rotary Club of Bombay Bayview, led by President Rtn. Sonali Shah, undertook a thoughtful winter relief initiative aimed at supporting tribal communities in Rajasthan, India.

The Sweater Distribution Project, guided by Project Chair Rtn. Vidya Moorjani, addressed a clear and pressing community need. Many children in these remote tribal areas lack adequate winter clothing, making the colder months particularly challenging. Exposure to harsh temperatures affects not only their comfort and health but also their ability to attend school consistently—interrupting learning at a formative stage.

Implemented between October and November 2025,



the project involved the distribution of 839 sweaters to children across the identified communities. While modest in appearance, each sweater represented warmth, protection, and reassurance—enabling children to continue their daily routines with greater ease and confidence. The initiative directly benefitted 839 individuals, with a total project cost

of ₹1,34,913, supported through dedicated planning and approximately 50 man-hours of effort.

Beyond immediate relief, the project was designed with sustainability in mind. By helping children remain healthy and comfortable during winter, the initiative contributed to reducing seasonal absenteeism and supporting uninterrupted

education. Regular school attendance not only strengthens academic continuity but also fosters confidence, discipline, and long-term personal development—outcomes that extend well beyond the duration of the project.

The need for the intervention was identified through direct community assessment and observation, ensuring that



the support provided was both relevant and impactful. This ground-level understanding reflects Rotary's emphasis on responsive service—where solutions are shaped by genuine community needs rather than assumptions.

Through this quiet yet meaningful initiative, the Rotary Club of Bombay Bayview reaffirmed its commitment to

Basic Education and Literacy. By addressing a fundamental barrier to learning, the Club demonstrated how thoughtful service can create enduring change. Sometimes, it is not grand gestures but simple acts of care that leave the deepest impact—offering warmth, preserving dignity, and keeping the doors of learning open for those who need it most.

THE ROTARY CLUB OF PALGHAR

Dignity, Inclusion, and New Beginnings through Community Service

The Rotary Club of Palghar demonstrated Rotary's spirit of compassion and inclusion by organising a Mass Marriage Ceremony for two differently abled couples on 8 December 2025 at Vitthal Mandir Hall, Palghar. The project was conceived with the objective of supporting differently abled individuals in beginning their marital journey with dignity, social acceptance, and community support.

Marriage is a significant milestone in one's life, yet for differently abled individuals, social and financial barriers often make this journey difficult. Recognising this gap, the Club stepped in to create a respectful, inclusive platform where the couples could celebrate their union in the presence of family members, Rotarians, and the local community. The ceremony was conducted with simplicity and grace, ensuring that the focus remained on the emotional significance of the occasion rather than extravagance.

The project benefited 20 individuals, including the couples and their immediate families, and was completed as a one-time initiative at a total cost of



₹50,000. Beyond the tangible support, the initiative sent a strong message of social inclusion, reinforcing the belief that dignity, love, and companionship transcend physical limitations.

The project was led by Project Head CC Rtn. Bhagwan Patil,



with guidance from President Rtn. Sanjay Mahajan and Project Chairman Rtn. Swati Patil, supported by PE Rtn. Bhushan Save and First Lady Rtn. Shaila Mahajan. The Club also expressed heartfelt gratitude to the Rotary Club of Mumbai South Cuffe Parade for their generous dona-

tion, which played a vital role in the successful execution of the project.

Through this meaningful initiative, the Rotary Club of Palghar reaffirmed its commitment to equity, empathy, and community-centred service.

THE ROTARY CLUB OF PALGHAR

5th Rotary Palghar Open Karate Championships 2025



The Rotary Club of Palghar successfully organised the 5th Rotary Palghar Open Karate Championships 2025 on 7 December 2025 at Vitthal Mandir Hall, Mahim Road, Palghar, from 8.00 a.m. to 10.30 p.m. The project was undertaken with the objective of promoting youth development, physical fitness, discipline, and self-confidence through structured sports engagement.

Martial arts such as karate are widely recognised for their role in building mental resilience, self-control, focus, and respect for rules and authority, especially among children and young adults. With this perspective, the Club designed the championship as an open platform to encourage participation from across Palghar and surrounding regions, enabling young practitioners to compete, learn, and grow in a professionally managed environment.

The championship benefited 165 participants, covering multiple age groups and skill levels. Events were conducted in an organised and systematic manner, ensuring fairness, safety, and inclusivity. The programme provided young athletes with exposure to competitive sports while reinforcing values such as sportsmanship, perseverance, and confidence. For several participants, the championship served as an important motivational milestone, encouraging continued engagement in disciplined physical activity.

The project was implement-



ed at a total cost of ₹1,25,000. It was led by Project Chairman Rtn. Ajay Mishra, with staunch support from Co-Chairman Rtn. Kalpesh Patil and Secretary Manish Pimplae. The success of the event was further strengthened by the active involvement of club members and office bearers, including Rtn. Jagdish Bharadwaj, First Lady Rtn. Shaila Mahajan, Vice President Rtn. Ganesh Ghuge, Smittej Purav, Youth Director Sagar Patil, Sudhanshu Dube, PPN Ninal Shah, and Rtn. Narayan Girase.

The project also received generous financial support from donors. Shri Sachin Lohkade contributed ₹25,000, while Rtn. Ganesh Ghuge and Rtn. Shankar Gauda donated ₹5,000 each, enabling smooth execution of the event.

Through this championship, the Rotary Club of Palghar effectively advanced Rotary's focus on youth empowerment and community development, reinforcing the message that structured sports initiatives play a vital role in shaping confident, disciplined, and responsible citizens.

THE ROTARY CLUB OF MUMBAI MULUND SOUTH

Project WIDE: Rotary Mumbai Mulund South Champions Maternal Health Education



The Rotary Club of Mumbai Mulund South, under the dynamic leadership of President Rtn. Sapnesh Neema and First Lady Rtn. Trapti Neema, conducted an impactful awareness session for 100 Anganwadi women under Project WIDE, guided by DG Dr. Manish Motwani and Avenue Chair Dr. Saumya Agarwal**.

The session titled **पोषण भी पढ़ाई भी** focused on maternal nutrition and healthy pregnancy practices — balanced diet, vitamin supplementation,

moderate exercise, and avoidance of harmful substances. The trained Anganwadi workers will now take this vital message back to women in their communities and schools, ensuring a multiplier effect.

The talk was led by PP Dr. Aparna Padgaonkar, supported by the RCMMS Medical Team including Dr. Sameer Sadawarte, and Dr. Gurneet.

This project was ably supported by Zonal Coordinator Project WIDE Rtn. Jagruti Parekh, along with Ekatamic



RCM Mulund South empowered 100 Anganwadi women through Project WIDE, promoting maternal nutrition, healthy pregnancy practices, and community outreach under expert medical guidance, leadership excellence.

Bal Vikas Prakalp Mulund Nagri, Bal Vikas Prakalp officials and Anganwadi leaders.

With this initiative, Rotary

Club of Mumbai Mulund South continues its commitment to women's health, education, and community upliftment.



Planting Hope for a Greener Tomorrow: Rotary Club of Mumbai Sher-E-Punjab's Inspiring Plantation Drive at Dream Park



The Rotary Club of Mumbai Sher-E-Punjab, under the leadership of President Rtn. Minishaa I. Oberoi, successfully conducted a plantation drive at Dream Park, Thakur Village, Kandivali, on Saturday, 15th November 2025. Marking Children's Day, the initiative carried special significance, with active participation from students, reinforcing the importance of environmental responsibility from a young age.

The project was led by Rtn. Minishaa I. Oberoi, who also served as Project Head, with support from Rtn. Kiran Srivastava. The drive was organized in collaboration with Friends of Trees, Rotaract Club of JES College Parivartan, and JES NSS, showcasing strong inter-organizational cooperation in support of environmental sustainability. The initiative aligned with Rotary's Areas of Focus on Community Economic Development and Supporting the Environment.



The objective of the project was to beautify Dream Park by planting saplings in open spaces that were prone to garbage dumping, thereby discouraging littering and promoting a cleaner, greener environment in a densely populated residential area. Conducted between 7:00 am and 9:30 am, the club adopted 10 pits and provided 230 saplings along with compost and essential tools.

A total of 45 students and 3 Rotary members actively participated in the drive, making it a hands-on and educational experience. The initiative received appreciation from civic authorities, with BMC of-

ficials and local BJP representative Mr. Dave visiting the site and commending the club's efforts toward restoring and maintaining green public spaces.

The community need for this project was identified through direct engagement with local stakeholders. Mr. Subhash from Friends of Trees approached Rtn. Minishaa I. Oberoi, highlighting concerns regarding littering and neglect of green areas at Dream Park. Responding promptly, the Rotary Club of Mumbai Sher-E-Punjab extended its support to rejuvenate and preserve the park.

The project was completed at a total cost of ₹14,000

and is expected to benefit approximately 80 community members, while contributing to long-term environmental well-being. The event concluded with an experience-sharing session at the park's amphitheatre, leaving participants inspired and committed to nurturing the saplings and safeguarding their environment.

Through this impactful initiative, the Rotary Club of Mumbai Sher-E-Punjab demonstrated its continued dedication to environmental stewardship and community engagement. By transforming neglected spaces into thriving green zones, the club not only enhanced the beauty of Dream Park but also inspired collective responsibility among citizens to protect and nurture their shared environment, paving the way for a cleaner, healthier, and more sustainable future.

Rotary-Rotaract MUN Sparks Global Climate Debate



The Rotary Club of Bombay Pier successfully hosted the District Rotary-Rotaract Model United Nations, simulating a United Nations General Assembly on the global issue: "Loss and Damage caused by Climate Change should be funded by developed countries."

For the first time in Rotary history, Rotarians and Rotaractors came together to represent 45 countries, engaging in intense policy statements, rebuttals, amendments, and crisis simulations that reflected real-world diplomacy and debate.

The event was graced by Zoru Bhatena, renowned environmentalist, as Guest of Honour; HE Adrianna Ma'am, Consul General of Mexico; District Governor Dr. Manish Motwani, Chief Guest; and HE Viraj Kulkarni, Hon. Consul General of Cyprus.

Lively deliberations, moderated and unmoderated sessions, points of order, and emergency simulations kept the house charged with energy, while judges closely evaluated every move. The session was led by Dr. Quresh Maskati and Rtn. Apurv Gangar, Secretaries General of the Rotary-Rotaract MUN, with national flags proudly displayed.

District Governor Dr. Manish Motwani applauded the Rotary Club of Bombay Pier for its strong commitment to youth empowerment and commended Convener Neha Doshi

for her outstanding leadership and dedication, supported wholeheartedly by the host club.

The MUN successfully met Rotary's objectives of promoting global awareness, public speaking, diplomacy, leadership, and critical thinking—reaffirming the club's commitment to creating globally conscious citizens.

Winners:

- » **Best Dressed:**
 - Team India** – Snehal Katkar, Omkar Patil (RC Virar)
 - Bhutan** – Yajat Raheja (Rtr Mid-Town)
 - Saudi Arabia** – Meet Jain (Rtr Lala Lajpatrai)
- » **Best Teams:**
 - Ireland** – Rtn. Bharti Chandra (RC Ghodbunder) & Rtr Shankhadeep Jana (Rtr Athena)
 - France** – Rtn. Nishir Gordhandas (RC Mid-Town) & Rtr Nirbhay Oberai (Rtr Lala Lajpatrai)
- » **Best Speakers:**
 - Abdur Rehman Mirza** – Switzerland (Rtr Downtown Sealand)
 - Ashit Mehta** – Columbia (RC Bombay Central)
- » **Special Mention:**
 - China** – K. Ramchandran (RC Deonar)

A heartfelt thank you to all co-hosts who contributed to the success of this landmark event.

ROTARY CLUB OF BOISAR-TARAPUR

Dignity, Inclusion, and New Beginnings through Community Service

The Rotary Club of Boisar-Tarapur successfully concluded the fifth phase of its ongoing project, Distribution of High-Protein Nutrition Food Packs to MDR-TB Patients, on Saturday, 20 December 2025, at the premises of Ichchapurti Shri Ram Mandir, Boisar.

Under the leadership of Club President Rtn. Ram Narayan Goyal, with Project Coordinator Rtn. Dr. Parag Kulkarni and Project Chairman Rtn. PP Vinayak Padamwar, high-protein nutrition packets were distributed to 30 Multi-Drug Resistant Tuberculosis (MDR-TB) patients. The project, valued at ₹30,000, aims to support patients undergoing prolonged and intensive TB treatment.



Also present at the programme were Club Secretary Rtn. Shailesh Agarwal, Rtn. Omprakash Mishra, and TB Health Officer Mr. Amit Jadhav. The speakers emphasized that tuberculosis is a chronic illness requiring complete and timely treat-



ment, and that MDR-TB patients often need extended medical care, sometimes including hospitalization. Adequate nutrition, particularly protein-rich food, plays a vital role in improving immunity and aiding recovery.

This initiative aligns with



the vision of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi for a TB-free India by 2025. The Rotary Club of Boisar-Tarapur has been consistently distributing nutritious food packets every month to 30 MDR-TB patients, made possible through the generous support of Bha-



geria Industries Limited and contributions from several Rotarians.

President Rtn. Ram Narayan Goyal expressed gratitude to the donors, collaborating partners, medical officials, and fellow Rotarians for their continued support. He also urged the

beneficiaries to adhere strictly to their medication schedules and maintain a balanced, nutritious diet. Rtn. Dr. Parag Kulkarni and TB Health Officer Mr. Amit Jadhav shared valuable health guidance and wished all patients a speedy and complete recovery.

Small Habits, Big Impact

A Healthy Tomorrow Begins Today

In a nation where lifestyle diseases are taking a growing toll, awareness becomes a duty, not a choice. Rotary's commitment to preventive healthcare shows how informed communities can build healthier futures.

Essence of Wellbeing

PINKI DALAL

Health does not begin in hospitals, it begins in awareness. In India, where ancient traditions like Ayurveda and Yoga have long taught the value of balance and prevention, it is ironic that lifestyle diseases have become our biggest health threat.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), nearly 60% of deaths in India today are caused by non-communicable diseases (NCDs) such as heart disease, diabetes, cancer, and respiratory disorders, many of which are preventable through awareness and timely intervention.

We often associate healthcare with doctors, hospitals, and medicines. But real health begins with understanding our bodies, our environment, and the early signs of imbalance. Prevention is not a slogan; it is a national necessity.

India spends nearly 70% of its healthcare expenditure on treating diseases, not preventing them. Yet, studies show that every ₹1 invested in preventive health can save up to ₹20 in treatment costs.

Regular screenings for blood pressure, blood sugar, cholesterol, and certain cancers can detect illness early. For instance, cervical cancer, which claims over 70,000 Indian women each year, is almost 100% preventable through vaccination and early screening. Similarly, over 40% of heart attacks occur in individuals under 55, often without prior symptoms making annual check-ups a vital shield.

Awareness also saves lives. A 2023 study in The Lancet showed that two-thirds of Indians with hypertension remain undiagnosed, and half of those diagnosed do not take regular medication. Early detection, followed by simple management, can reduce

**YOU ARE
YOUR OWN HEALER**



the risk of fatal heart disease by more than 40%.

Prevention, therefore, is not passive, it is active care. It's knowledge, access, and community effort working together.

Rotary has always believed that Service Above Self begins with compassion and what is more compassionate than preventing suffering?

From the historic victory of Polio Eradication to mass health camps across the country, Rotary's presence in India has been both persistent and profound. The National Polio Immunization Drive, once supported by

Rotary and the Government of India, prevented over 1.5 million children from paralysis every year a timeless reminder that prevention can transform generations.

Today, Rotary clubs across India are extending this spirit into new frontiers screening for breast and cervical cancer, organizing heart check-up drives, mental health awareness sessions, and vaccination campaigns for children in underserved communities.

Every project, big or small, echoes the same truth: awareness saves lives.

District 3141: A Model for Preventive Health

Rotary District 3141 has shown how consistent service can shape healthier communities. Mumbai's clubs regularly organize free medical camps where citizens can test for diabetes, blood pressure, and anemia conditions often undetected until they become severe. During the Rotary Service Week Rotary our District 3141 has done fantastic job.

In the past year alone, tens of thousands of people across Mumbai have benefitted from eye check-ups, blood donation drives, cancer screenings, and cataract surgeries supported by the district's clubs.

Mental health, often overlooked, is also being brought into the conversation. Awareness programs in schools and senior centers highlight early signs of anxiety, depression, and loneliness. In a country where one in every five adults faces mental health challenges, such efforts bridge both compassion and care. When we make awareness accessible, we make prevention possible.

India's young population with nearly 65% under the age of 35 is both our greatest strength and our biggest responsibility. The habits and awareness we build today will define the nation's health tomorrow.

Preventive healthcare is not just a personal choice; it is a social duty. When a

Awareness and prevention are India's strongest shields against rising lifestyle diseases. Rotary's dedicated initiatives—from screenings to mental health programs—prove early care, education, and community action save lives.

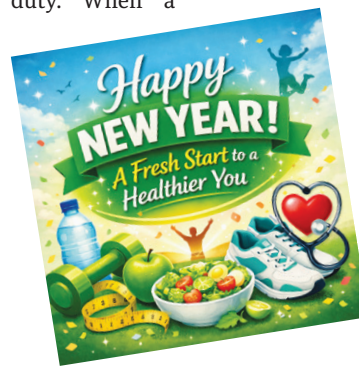
Rotarian arranges a health talk, a company conducts annual screenings, or a parent educates a child about hygiene, each becomes a silent soldier of national wellness. The pandemic reminded us how fragile health can be but it also showed how awareness, science, and community can save millions when they act together. The lesson remains clear: prevention is the foundation of resilience.

Health is not a matter of luck; it is a matter of learning.

When we educate a community, we empower it. When we screen early, we safeguard families. When we care for our environment, we protect future generations.

As Rotarians, let us continue to lead from the front not with fear of illness, but with faith in awareness and the power of prevention. Let every camp, every drive, and every conversation remind people that healthy nations are built not in hospitals, but in homes, schools, and hearts that care enough to act early. Because prevention isn't just about avoiding disease, it's about ensuring that India's future remains strong, aware, and alive.

Pinki Dalal
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BY BOOK POST

IF UNDELIVERED
PLEASE RETURN TO,

DR MANISH MOTWANI

AASTHA HEALTH CARE,
OPP CHHEDDA PETROL PUMP,
MULUND COLONY, OFF LBS RD,
MULUND WEST, MUMBAI 400082

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