

Rotary
District 3233



Francesco Arezzo
RI President (2025 - 26)

UNITE FOR GOOD

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 3233

SYMPHONY

GOVERNOR'S MONTHLY LETTER

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UNITED VOICE OF RID 3233



SYMPHONY

GOVERNOR'S MONTHLY LETTER

ISSUE - 1

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From the Editor's Desk

Where commas behave and chaos becomes content.

What's common between a conductor and an editor? Both wave their hands wildly and hope everything stays in tune. Welcome to Symphony—our District's brand-new GML where every page sings with Rotary spirit, projects with purpose, and the occasional pun (you're welcome).

This isn't my first editorial rodeo—after steering Voice of the District last year, I return, pen in hand and caffeine in system, to help Symphony strike the right chord in every Rotarian's heart.

My sincere thanks to our dynamic **District Governor Rtn. D. Devendran** for entrusting me with this role, and to my mentors-in-arms—**DLF PDG Dr. Nandakumar** and **District Counsellor PDG ISAK Nazar**—for their unwavering support, wise counsel, and impressively long voice notes.

A big shoutout to our fabulous GML team for their sharp inputs, quicker-than-expected turnarounds, and laughter on late-night calls. To Team Praanha, for making each page look like it belongs in a gallery (not just a newsletter). And to **Raji**, the silent guardian of grammar, thank you for catching those sneaky typos before they embarrassed us in print.

Here's to storytelling that inspires, informs, and occasionally makes you chuckle. Let Symphony begin.

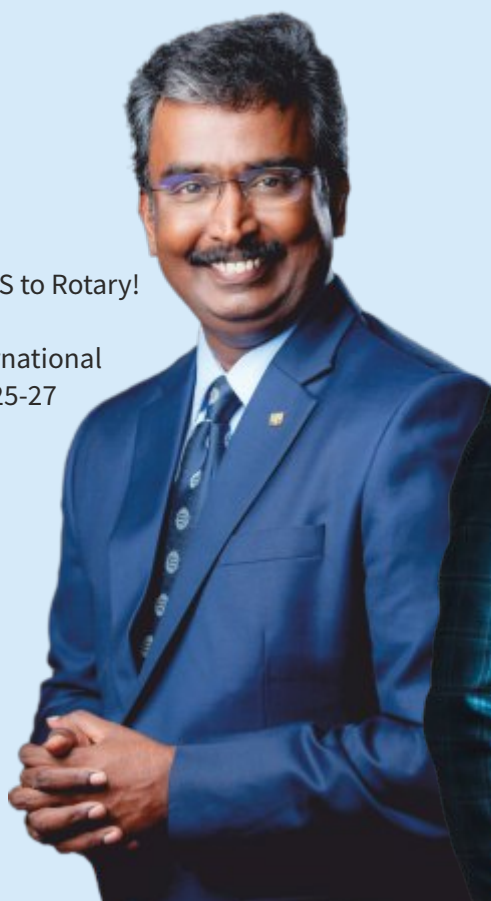
Warmly,

Rtn. Sashikumar VS

Editor – GML Symphony

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Let's Say YES to Rotary!

My Dear Rotarians of RI District 3233,

Rotary, indeed, is a glorious movement-rooted in service, fellowship, diversity, integrity, and leadership. Each of us is a proud ambassador of these ideals. And every act of kindness, every initiative, every partnership, brings us one step closer to the world we dream of—world filled with compassion and opportunity.

I extend my warmest greetings to each one of you and convey my heartfelt appreciation to DGE Rtn D Devendran and the editorial team of Symphony - United Voice of RID 3233, the upcoming Governor's Monthly Letter.

A District Governor's communication is more than a newsletter—it is a powerful reflection of the energy, commitment, and vibrant spirit of Rotary in action. May it inspire every reader to engage more deeply and lead with purpose.

Let us continue our Rotary journey—with pride, with purpose, and with passion. Together, let us elevate Rotary in all aspects, so the world may truly witness and be inspired by how we UNITE FOR GOOD—boldly and powerfully.

Wishing you continued success as you inspire, engage, and lead with excellence.

Let's Say YES to Rotary!

Best Regards
Rtn AKS Er Muruganandam M (MMM)
Rotary International Director 2025-27
#uniteforgood #sayyestorotary #mmmtrichy.



“
Together,
let us elevate
Rotary

”

In Pursuit of Excellence

- A Promising Start to 2025-26

As we begin this exciting Rotary year, my heart is filled with gratitude and optimism. The journey of 2025-26 has begun on a high note, marked by a string of impactful events and the unmistakable energy of a united district.

We are off to a purposeful start, thanks to the tireless efforts of our event chairpersons:

Bon Voyage – Rtn. Anees Bagam, AGLS-1 – Rtn. Natarajan, DOLS/AGLS – Rtn. Nevil Rayan, PELS – AKS Rtn. Ambalavanan, SELS – Rtn. Vinoth Nair, DLS – Rtn. Krishnachander, and Grants Seminar – Rtn. Neelakantan

Each of you has played a key role in setting the tone for a year of excellence. Thank you for leading with commitment and vision.

A special note of appreciation goes to our District Admin Team for launching the new ERP system – a transformative step toward seamless administration and transparency. This milestone was made possible by the dedication of Rtn. Sivaraman, Rtn. Alaguselvan, and Rtn. Lakshmanan. The introduction of the Cluster Concept for simplified and responsive administration is another leap toward strengthening our district structure.

We also commend the efforts of the District Directory Team, ably led by Rtn. Lakshmanan, whose work reflects precision and dedication. We extend our sincere thanks to all the advertisers who have supported this valuable publication.

As we look ahead, our focus on learning and development remains strong. The year 2025-26 will continue to feature District Learning Seminars, and we encourage every Rotary club to conduct similar sessions, for we truly believe that: “A well-informed Rotarian is a lifelong Rotarian.”

To all Avenue Chairs, Club Presidents, and Rotarians of our vibrant district – this is your moment to shine. Lead with passion, serve with purpose, and inspire through action.

Let this year be remembered for its unity, energy, and impact.

Let us unite for good.



**A well-informed
Rotarian is a
lifelong Rotarian**



Warm Rotary Regards,
Rtn. D. Devendran
District Governor 2025-26
Rotary International District 3233

The Journey Forward: A Legacy in the Making

PDG ISAK Nazar
District Counsellor

The charter year of RID 3233 under the visionary leadership of Governor Mahaveer Bothra has been nothing short of transformational. From launching inclusive initiatives like Golden Sparrow to celebrating legacy with *Kalankarai Vilakku* and *Valarpirai*, our district has set a powerful precedent, proving that when we unite for good, Rotary becomes a force of unstoppable impact.

As we now pass the baton to District Governor Elect D. Devendran, I see a golden opportunity not just to maintain momentum, but to soar higher. Our journey must be guided by three clear priorities – each one vital to building a Rotary that is future-ready, inclusive, and impactful.

First, we must focus on membership growth – bringing in fresh minds and young hearts. The world is full of changemakers; we just need to invite them in. Next Gen Connect, our special network of Rotarians under 40, is built for this very purpose – to attract, engage, and retain vibrant young professionals. Alongside, our beloved Annettes Clubs – a decade-old initiative now flourishing at the district level – must be nurtured as Rotary’s next generation of leaders. Let’s help them dream big and serve boldly.

Second, we must engage our existing members by empowering them to do good in ways that inspire them. Whether it’s a club project or a district-wide initiative, the magic lies in helping Rotarians find their purpose – and giving them the platform to act on it.



Third, we must raise more for The Rotary Foundation, our shared reservoir of hope. The Foundation fuels Rotary’s seven focus areas – from peacebuilding to disease prevention, from maternal health to water and education. Every rupee we raise becomes a ripple of change across the globe.

RID 3233 has made a brilliant start – but the real journey lies ahead. Let’s continue to think boldly, act inclusively, and serve purposefully. In doing so, we won’t just build a stronger district – we’ll build a better world.

Let’s unite for good. And let the legacy continue.



We must focus on
membership growth
– bringing in fresh minds
and young hearts.



We must
engage our existing members
by empowering them to do good
in ways that inspire them.



We must
**raise more for
The Rotary Foundation,**
our shared reservoir of hope.

Learning, Leading, and Lighting the Way

PDG Dr. N. Nandakumar
District Learning Facilitator

Dear Rotarians of District 3233,

Welcome to the New rotary year 2025-26!
Congratulations and best wishes to DGE Devendran
Damodaran and First Lady Archana Devendaran!

Hearty congratulations to all the New Presidents & their
teams taking over in all the clubs for the year 25-26.

The period of learning right done from the meetings in
small groups to learning to work together in
synchronised manner in the larger events like the
president elect learning seminar, secretary elect learning
seminar to the district officers learning event has been
marked by camaraderie, fun, enthusiasm & great
interest. Each one of you have exhibited curiosity to
understand core values of rotary through the varied
learning methodology.

The extraordinary support by the United Presidents,
Secretaries and their club members have no words to
describe! Each one of you have discovered what rotary
has to offer in your own way.

Along this journey you have made several friendships
which will last a lifetime The commitments made by you
in the greater good of this organisation augurs well for
the growth of rotary for the year 25-26 whether in
membership public image or the great work of the Rotary
foundation These Goals will guide you in your journey
during 25-26.

Rotary Clubs are the essence of our organisation we need
to keep that in sight we need to conduct activities to keep
our members enthused whether in club service or while
doing service projects.

Working towards clubs in which people want to join is by
creating a great club environment and culture.



Celebrating unity, learning, and
purpose as we begin 2025-26
—fueled by friendships, Rotary values,
and a commitment to serve



Over a century now rotary has survived through and is
facing trying times as the world searches for the elusive
peace when we wake up every day ! In moments like
these is I believe we need to be act to promote peace in
our communities through our activities.

I would also like to remember the great work done by DG
Mahaveer Bothra during the year 24-25 in membership
where he pushed us to think different and brought this
district to world no 1 in membership growth.

God bless Rotary !

Kottu Murase: A Grand Inaugural Celebration of the United for Good Year

by **DGND Rtn. Dr Ganapathy Suresh**

Chairman – Kottu Murase

On a vibrant evening filled with hope and harmony, the Magic Year of Rotary District 3233 commenced with a resounding start at the iconic Hotel M Central, T. Nagar, with our inaugural flagship event – Kottu Murase.

This event marked the first official gathering under the leadership of our dynamic District Governor Elect Rtn. D. Devendran, whose vision and energy set the tone for the year ahead. The name “Kottu Murase”, symbolic of a festive awakening, reflected the energy and unity that radiated throughout the evening.

We were truly honoured by the presence of our Magic District Governor Rtn. Mahaveer Bothra, who graced the occasion as the Chief Guest and delivered an inspiring keynote address that underscored the values of Rotary and the boundless potential of dedicated service.

In an unexpected and uplifting turn, the gathering was surprised and deeply moved by the arrival of Rotary International Director Rtn. Anirudha Roychowdhury, whose words of encouragement ignited excitement and pride among all present. His presence truly elevated the spirit of the event and emphasized the importance of collaboration across all levels of Rotary leadership.

DGE Rtn. D. Devendran formally introduced his core administration team, a vibrant assembly of leaders committed to upholding Rotary ideals with passion and purpose. Their collective commitment promises a year of impactful service, innovation, and inclusive leadership.



As Chairman, I was immensely proud to see the flawless coordination, vibrant fellowship, and sense of renewed commitment from all attendees. The creative ambience, cultural touches, and structured agenda reflected the soul of Rotary – service above self, with a spirit of celebration.

DGND Rtn. Dr Ganapathy Suresh





The evening began with the Lighting of the Kuthuvilakku, led gracefully by the Incoming First Lady Rtn. Archana Devendran and fellow first ladies, signifying the light of service that guides our path. This was followed by a sequence of engaging agenda segments, meticulously planned to honour tradition, introduce the leadership, and set the tone for the Year.

The event was further enriched by the participation of the Council of Governors, whose experience and presence lent gravitas and continuity to the proceedings.

“Kottu Murase” was not just an event – it was a declaration. A celebration of unity, leadership, and our unyielding commitment to make magic in the lives of those we serve.

Let this powerful start propel us through a truly United for Good year in Rotary District 3233.





Igniting the Torch of Leadership

by **Rtn. R. Natarajan**

Chairman – Assistant Governor Learning Seminar

As the city embraced the early whispers of autumn, Rotary leaders gathered at Radisson Blu, Chennai, on September 21, 2024, for a defining moment – the Assistant Governor Learning Seminar. It was a privilege and an honour to serve as Chair for this landmark event, which equipped our Assistant Governors (2025–26) with clarity, confidence, and camaraderie.

The seminar began on a vibrant note with a warm high tea and registration, followed by the traditional Kuthuvilakku lighting by our dignitaries, setting the tone for an evening of enlightenment. DG Rtn. Mahaveer Bothra formally opened the session, and PDG Dr. Nandakumar set the context with “The Why” behind this leadership training.



Rtn. R. Natarajan

Chairman – Assistant Governor Learning Seminar



PDG ISAK Nazar powerfully addressed “The What,” outlining the crucial expectations from AGs. DGE Rtn. D. Devendran brought in the “How,” breaking down the journey ahead with clarity and inspiration.



A key highlight of the evening was the Keynote Address by renowned personal branding expert Sudarsanan Ganapathy. He guided the audience on how to develop their Rotary identity beyond the role – how to be seen, heard, and remembered as transformational leaders. His talk was both practical and inspiring, leaving AGs empowered to present their best selves to the Rotary world.



The Chief Guest, IPDG Rtn. Anandha Jothi of RI District 3000, delivered a powerful address on “What is expected out of AGs.” She emphasized that beyond being a link between clubs and the district, AGs must serve as mentors, motivators, and mission-bearers.



Interactive segments like the Rotary Quiz by DGN Shriram Duvvuri and a group case study discussion led by DLF and Rtn. Ambalavanan with senior PDGs added an experiential edge. AGs also received course completion certificates as a symbol of their readiness.



I extend my heartfelt thanks to Rtn. Sashikumar VS and Rtn. B. Alaguselvan, whose coordination and creative support were seamless and meticulous.

As we ended the day with fellowship and dinner, it was clear – this wasn’t just training. It was the beginning of a transformational journey. Our AGs are now ready, not just for the role, but for Rotary’s larger purpose.



Bon Voyage & Beyond:

A Night to Remember

by **Rtn. Anees Begam**

Event Chair, Bon Voyage Celebrations

January 23, 2025, will remain a memorable evening in the hearts of over 300 Rotarians who gathered at Hotel Greenpark, Chennai, for a special purpose – to bid a warm and spirited farewell to our Governor-Elect Rtn. D. Devendran as he embarked on his journey to the International Assembly in Florida.

Guided by the wisdom of Event Advisor DGN Shriram Duvvuri and District Learning Facilitator PDG Dr. N. Nandakumar, and supported by the vision of DG Rtn. Mahaveer Bothra, the Bon Voyage Celebrations were crafted with care, elegance, and Rotary spirit.

The evening began with grace and pride –a classical dance by Radhika Suraj's troupe, followed by a series of engaging AV presentations that highlighted our district's upcoming year programs. We were also graced by past, present, and future leaders –Presidents, Secretaries, Assistant Governors, and our esteemed PDGs –each offering words of encouragement to our DGE Devendran and Ann Archana. Their presence turned the event into a historic milestone.



From meaningful felicitation moments to moving group photos, it was an evening that will be remembered by all who attended. The energy, warmth, and collective spirit of Rotary were on full display.

Rtn. Anees Begam

Event Chair

Bon Voyage Celebrations





One of the most impactful moments came from PDG ISAK Nazar, our District Counsellor, who reminded us why training is the backbone of Rotary. “When we train our leaders, we don’t just prepare for tomorrow –we strengthen Rotary’s legacy,” he said, underscoring the need for consistent learning and leadership development at every level.



As Event Chair, I was proud to lead a team that brought this vision to life. A special note of appreciation to Rtn. Sashikumar VS, our Event Secretary, whose attention to detail, seamless organization, and well-crafted creatives added immense value to the evening.



From meaningful felicitation moments to moving group photos, it was an evening that will be remembered by all who attended. The energy, warmth, and collective spirit of Rotary were on full display.



As DGE Devendran sails into his global Rotary training, we send him off with our blessings, pride, and unwavering support. And as a district, we look forward to charting new waters –together.





Inaivom Uyarvom Meet & Greet of District Officers 25-26

by **Rtn Alaguselvan B**

District Chief Coordinator

Inaivom Uyarvom, the Meet & Greet event of the District Officers of RID 3233, marked a spirited and purposeful beginning to the Rotary year 2025-26. The event brought together key district leaders, incoming officers, and committee chairs to align on vision, responsibilities, and collaboration for the year ahead.

The evening commenced with a warm Welcome Address by District Learning Facilitator PDG Dr. Nandakumar, who set the tone with inspiring messages on purpose, passion, and teamwork. This was followed by an engaging address and AV presentation by PELS Chairman Rtn. Ambalavanan, which offered insights into the enriching learning opportunities at the upcoming PELS event in Colombo.

The Council of Governors were then honoured for their steadfast contributions and mentorship – a tribute to Rotary’s enduring legacy of leadership and guidance.

This was followed by opening remarks from DGE Rtn. Devendran, sharing his vision, goals, and expectations for the year with clarity and inspiration.

DOLS & AGLS 2 Chairman Rtn. Nevil Rayan delivered a compelling address, supported by a vibrant AV, highlighting the upcoming leadership seminar in Kodaikanal. This was followed by the DLA Chairman Rtn. Krishnachander’s address and AV, outlining the structure and objectives of the upcoming DLA, which was designed to equip club leaders with the necessary skills and tools.

District Counsellor PDG ISAK Nazar added value with insights rooted in experience and encouragement for the incoming leaders, on the roles and responsibilities of a district officer. He emphasized on the fact that the District Officers themselves have to choose whether they want to be ordinary or extraordinary leaders and delivered a power packed speech, in his usual inimitable style.



Building Synergy for a Vibrant Rotary Year

This well-orchestrated meeting set a strong foundation for a dynamic Rotary year ahead – driven by leadership, learning, and collective action.

Rtn Alaguselvan B

District Chief Coordinator

The core segment of the evening was the formal introduction of the incoming chairpersons of all avenues and sub-avenues of service. Each chairperson took the stage to briefly share about their avenue and introduced their respective team members to the incoming Presidents and Secretaries. The highlight of the event was the introduction of the Partners Committee Members by the Incoming District First Lady Ann Archana Devendran.

DGE delivered his Closing Remarks, reiterating the call for commitment, collaboration, and impact. The event concluded with a heartfelt Vote of Thanks by the Executive District Secretary Rtn Balamurugan, acknowledging the efforts of all involved.

This well-orchestrated meeting set a strong foundation for a dynamic Rotary year ahead – driven by leadership, learning, and collective action.



We were honoured with the presence of DGE Rtn. Jonathan Wilding, from RID 1060, Birmingham, England, with his spouse. His team is eagerly waiting to host our district Rotarians during our upcoming international trip to London and Scotland in September 2025.



Natparangam 2025: Where Mountains Meet Minds

by Rtn. S Nevil P Rayan

Chairman, District Officers &
Assistant Governors Learning Seminar

The crisp air of Kodaikanal turned electric with energy, purpose, and Rotary spirit as over 100 District Officers and Assistant Governors gathered for Natparangam, the District Officers & Assistant Governors Learning Seminar held from March 21st to 23rd at The Carlton. Alongside Event Secretary Rtn. Raja, it was my privilege to design an experience that balanced learning with camaraderie in equal measure.

The seminar opened with tradition and inspiration. PDG Dr. N. Nandakumar, our District Learning Facilitator, set the stage with his trademark clarity and warmth. Our Chief Guest, PDG R. Madhav Chandran (RID 3201), delivered a thought-provoking keynote on the Role of District Officers, underscoring accountability and alignment with Rotary's core values. DGE Rtn. D. Devendran's heartfelt address "You Are My Strength!" stirred every soul in the room, while DG Rtn. Mahaveer Bothra called us to bold action – aiming for 1,000 new members each year in District 3233.



“ Natparangam didn't just inform – it transformed. It united minds, strengthened teams, and reaffirmed our commitment to excellence in service.

Rtn. S Nevil P Rayan

Chairman, District Officers &
Assistant Governors Learning Seminar





The learning continued with powerful plenary sessions:

- PDG G. Chandramohan inspired us with Perform to Progress and later shared insights on Rotary Etiquette.
- PDG Raja Seenivasan challenged us to navigate Challenges and Opportunities and highlighted the importance of Public Image.
- PDG R. Srinivasan spoke on Building District through Clubs and co-led Prepare to Lead with depth.
- PDG Babu Peram provided practical wisdom on Stewardship and Be the Bridge.
- PDG Muthupalaniappan energized us with Impactful Service Projects and Unlocking Club Potential.
- PDG ISAK Nazar drove home the need for delivering excellence.
- PDG Sheikh Saleem built a vision for Ideal Clubs.

The final day focused on reflection, feedback, and looking ahead. Natparangam didn't just inform – it transformed. It united minds, strengthened teams, and reaffirmed our commitment to excellence in service. My sincere thanks to each PDG, leader, and participant who made this learning journey unforgettable.

A special note of gratitude to Rtn. Venkat, Rtn. Sashikumar VS, and Event Secretary Rtn. Raja for their tireless behind-the-scenes efforts. They arrived in Kodaikanal a day in advance, meticulously ensuring that every detail – from session setup to delegate comfort – was flawlessly executed. Their dedication played a pivotal role in making Natparangam a seamless and memorable experience for all.







அறிமுகம்

PRESIDENTS ELECT
LEARNING SEMINAR - I
(RY 2025 - 26)

18th October '2024
Hotel Radisson Blu GRT, Chennai





கலைப்பறங்கு

PRESIDENTS ELECT LEARNING SEMINAR - 2 (RY 2025 - 26)



26th December '2024



Hotel Trident Chennai



A Power-Packed PELS in Paradise

by Rtn. AKS M. Ambalavanan

PELS Chairman

President Elect Learning Seminar

 April 9–12, 2025

 Colombo, Sri Lanka

The President Elect Learning Seminar (PELS) for Rotary Year 2025–26 unfolded in grand style at the Hilton Hotel, Colombo, from April 9 to 12, 2025. With a delegation of 172 members – including 132 Rotarians, 34 spouses, 4 children, and 2 service providers – the Chennai contingent brought colour, energy, and purpose to the four-day learning retreat.

The Grand Opening

The event kicked off on April 9 with a vibrant opening session. PRID Rtn. Baskar Chockalingam delivered an impactful talk on goal setting and execution, while PRIP Rtn. K.R. Ravindran inspired with personal insights on how Rotary's global connections enhanced his professional journey. The evening's gala dinner featured legendary Sri Lankan cricketer Aravinda de Silva, and ended on a high note with music, DJ, and classic hits.



PELS Colombo blended leadership training, inspiring sessions, cultural bonding, and Rotary spirit —empowering President Elects for an impactful year ahead.

Rtn. AKS M. Ambalavanan 
PELS Chairman



District 3233



Day 2: Learning in Full Swing

Owing to a rainy start, the group photo session was creatively shifted indoors. The day's learning began with Plenary Session 2 on Leadership and Goal Setting, addressed by DGE Rtn. D Devendran, District Counsellor Rtn. ISAK Nazar, and DLF Rtn. Dr. N Nandakumar. Breakout sessions on Planning the Year Ahead and Preparing to Lead allowed participants to ideate and collaborate.

The Membership plenary saw insights from PDG Rtn. Kumanan (RID 3000) and District Membership Chair Rtn. Ambalavanan. Together, the 68 President-Elects committed to a bold membership goal: a net addition of 1200 new Rotarians in 2025–26. Afternoon breakouts focused on Engaging Members and Attracting New Ones. The day concluded with presentations by Avenue Chairs outlining signature projects and plans for the year.

The night sparkled with a Goan-themed beach party at Mt. Lavinia Resort – colourful shirts, DJ beats, fire shows, and vibrant dance performances brought alive the Rotary spirit.

Day 3: Foundation, Fellowship & Forward Thinking

Plenary Session 5 focused on The Rotary Foundation, with addresses by DG Devendran, Rtn. Jaganathan, PDG Gowri, and DRFC Rtn. Neelakantan, leading to goal-setting for TRF contributions. Plenary 6 welcomed special guest Mr. Vijitha Herath, Sri Lanka's Minister of Foreign Affairs & Tourism, with traditional drummers.

Breakouts continued with topics on Fundraising, Club Management, and Meeting Excellence. After lunch, sessions on Public Image, Health & Development, and executing service projects rounded off a high-impact day. The Valedictory featured reflections, summaries by senior leaders, and the graduation ceremony for President-Elects.

The final gala dinner at Colombo's iconic Lotus Tower offered a night of music, dance, and fellowship to remember.

Day 4 was reserved for sightseeing and shopping – ending the Colombo PELS with new friendships, deeper learning, and unforgettable memories.



PELS at Hilton Colombo was a high-energy, memorable finale! Surrounded by inspiring Rotarians and icons like Aravinda De Silva, we absorbed invaluable insights and bonded with fellow leaders. Learning, laughter, and leadership blended seamlessly. A cherishable experience for Priya and me as we begin our Rotary presidential journey.



Rtn PHF Sridhar Varadaraj C.
President 2025-26
Rotary Club of Chennai Aura



PELS Colombo was exceptional! Hats off to Chairman Ambalavanan and the Council of Governors for impactful sessions. The bonding, entertainment, and leadership insights were inspiring. I return with fresh ideas, new friendships, and renewed confidence to create meaningful change in my club. A truly enriching, perspective-shifting experience.



Rtn. Sajan Syed
President 2025-26
Rotary Club of Aarch City Madras



PELS 25-26 in Sri Lanka was inspiring and energizing. The grand opening and vibrant international setting elevated the event. Enriching sessions, cultural evenings, and bonding with fellow Presidents Elect made it unforgettable. It perfectly echoed Rotary's RAP mantra—Reach, Adapt, Perform—fuelling our leadership journey with purpose and joy.



Rtn. Radha Krish
President 2025-26
Rotary Club of Guindy



Seyalarangam A Stage for Secretarial Excellence

by **Rtn. Vinod Nair**

SELS Chairman

Secretary Elect Learning Seminar



April 25–27, 2025



The Elephant Court, Kumily

SELS 2025–26, aptly titled Seyalarangam (The Stage of Action), was not just a seminar – it was a full-fledged experience of learning, bonding, and leadership. The journey began much before our arrival in Kumily, with a lively Meet & Greet on February 25 at the Alumni Club and a well-structured Pre-Departure Briefing at Presidency Club that helped set the mood and mission.

On April 25, our Rotary tribe boarded the early morning Tejas Express from Egmore, headed for Kumily via Dindigul. En route, we broke bread at Eden Garden before reaching our scenic destination – The Elephant Court, nestled in the lush Western Ghats.

We began with tradition – the Kuthu Vilakku lighting – and I had the honour of welcoming everyone to this learning odyssey. DGE Rtn. Mahaveer Bothra reminded us that a great Secretary is the backbone of every club. DLF PDG Dr. Nandakumar set the context, and PDG ISAK Nazar inspired us with a powerful keynote on vibrant leadership. The day ended on a high with an insightful address by our Chief Guest, Rtn. Gopalakrishnan of RID 3000, and a night of laughter and fellowship.

April 26 was fully packed, but never dull. PDG A. Subramaniam opened with Club Administration & Leadership, followed by PDG Nazar's session on Connect & Lead. PDG JKN Palani spoke on Public Image, and PDG R. Srinivasan brought a hands-on approach to Club Management. PDG G. Chandramohan closed the day with a spirited talk on the power of communication.



To every Secretary-Elect: you've stepped onto the Seyalarangam – may your actions light up Rotary like never before.

Rtn. Vinod Nair
SELS Chairman





Our District Officers also outlined the roles, projects, and support systems across avenues like Foundation, Membership, Youth, and Community Service, giving every Secretary-Elect clarity and confidence. The poolside dinner that night under Kumily's starlit sky was the perfect blend of celebration and connection.

April 27 began with an unforgettable Jungle Safari, because even secretaries need wild inspiration! The Valedictory was graced by PRID Rtn. A.S. Venkatesh, who left us charged with purpose. We then journeyed to Bodinayakkanur for a dazzling Gala Evening, where culture, gratitude, and fellowship closed this chapter on a high.



SELS 2025-26 was made possible by the incredible efforts of our leaders – DGE Rtn. Devendran, PDGs Nazar, Chandramohan, Srinivasan, DLF Dr. Nandakumar, SELS Secretary Lakshmanan, and an amazing team.

To every Secretary-Elect: you've stepped onto the Seyalarangam – may your actions light up Rotary like never before.





My Rotary Secretary Elect training in Kumily was an inspiring experience filled with learning, fellowship, and purpose. Grateful to Rtn. Dev, Rtn. Nazar, Rtn. Nandhakumar, and the ever-dedicated Rtn. Lakshmanan for their guidance and silent support. I return motivated, humbled, and ready to serve with renewed energy and commitment.



Rtn. Sujatha Sathish

Secretary 2025-26

Rotary Club of Madras North



Nestled in the lush greenery of Kumily's serene environment added a unique flavour to Rotary Club 2025-2026 Secretary Learning (SELS) experience. The training sessions were a blend of valuable insights of Rotary's values and leadership wisdom. Experience sharing with fellow secretaries created a sense of camaraderie that extended beyond the training. It's more than just a learning experience; it's a VIBRANT journey of growth, connection, and self-discovery.



Rtn. Priya Sathish

Secretary 2025-26

Rotary Club of Madras Midtown



SELS at Kumili...a memorable event for every incoming Secretary 25-26 for a lifetime! A well-structured learning experience in a 5-star resort, Elephant Court, combined with boundless energy, unlimited fun, comfortable travel, awesome food, friendships close to heart and rocking all-in-one as we go into RY 25-26!!! Rotary District 3233 deserves a big applause for organising the same!!



Rtn. Vaijayanthi

Secretary 2025-26

Rotary Club of Madras KK Nagar





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Arivarangam 2025: A Celebration of Learning, Leadership & Fellowship

by **Rtn. C. Krishnachander**

Chairman, District Learning Seminar

The District Learning Seminar Arivarangam, held on 18th May 2025 at the Sri Ramachandra University Auditorium, was nothing short of spectacular. Designed to set the tone for the new Rotary year, the event brought together over a thousand Rotarians and Rotaractors from across RID 3233 in a grand confluence of knowledge and camaraderie.

As Event Chair, it was my privilege to work alongside Event Secretary Rtn. Annamalay (RC Chennai Rising Stars) and a dedicated team who meticulously planned every detail. Guided by the insightful leadership of our District Learning Facilitator, PDG Dr. N. Nandakumar, and the wise counsel of Event Advisor PDG A.P. Kanna, Arivarangam became a hallmark of Rotary excellence.



Arivarangam 2025 was more than a seminar – it was a celebration of Rotary learning, leadership, and lasting friendships. I'm grateful to everyone who contributed to making it an unforgettable milestone in our district calendar.

Rtn. C. Krishnachander

Chairman, District Learning Seminar



We were honoured by the presence of RI Director Elect AKS Rtn. Er. M. Muruganandam, whose keynote address was not only inspiring but deeply energising. District Governor Elect Rtn. Devendran Damodaran captivated the audience with his vision for the year ahead under the powerful theme Unite for Good.

Beyond the structured sessions, the event truly came alive through its spirit of fellowship. Attendees were treated to a memorable culinary experience, with a sumptuous vegetarian breakfast for 900, delicious vegetarian lunch for 350, and an outstanding mutton biryani and non-veg lunch for 750. Unlimited tea, coffee, buttermilk, and sugarcane juice added to the hospitality, while the ERP team provided seamless event support for the first time in such a setting.

Our Council of Governors offered unwavering support, and the on-ground assistance from Dr. Tamizhchelvan and the entire Sri Ramachandra University staff was invaluable in ensuring the smooth execution of the event.



THE NUMBERS SPOKE VOLUMES:

- 1058 total registrations
- 65 clubs registered their full boards
- 67 enthusiastic Rotaractors participated
- 30 vibrant business stalls showcased entrepreneurial talent
- 10 breakout rooms buzzed with learning, each led by an esteemed Past District Governor



Mukkani: A Trio of Strengths for a Stronger Tomorrow

by Rtn. K. Venkatesan

Chairman, Public Image 2025-26

In Tamil tradition, Mukkani – the revered trio of mango, jackfruit, and banana – symbolizes abundance, nourishment, and seasonal harmony. Drawing inspiration from this cherished concept, our tri-avenue seminar, aptly named Mukkani, brought together the vital cogs of Rotary: Membership, Public Image, and Club Service. Just as Mukkani fruits ripen together in summer, these three avenues must thrive in unison to energize and elevate our Rotary journey.

Held on Sunday, 1st June 2025, at the MMA Convention Centre, Chennai, Mukkani was a vibrant half-day event that seamlessly blended insight, strategy, and spirited interaction. The seminar was attended by 166 participants, including 30 Club Presidents, 30 Secretaries, and key district and avenue officers – each bringing with them their passion and commitment for service.

We were honoured to have PDG Asoka from RID 2982, Salem, as our Chief Guest. A dynamic orator and seasoned Rotarian, he expertly addressed the importance of member engagement and the evolving dimensions of club experience, leaving the audience with practical takeaways and renewed inspiration.



”

Mukkani was a vibrant half-day event that seamlessly blended insight, strategy, and spirited interaction.

”

Rtn. K. Venkatesan

Chairman

Public Image 2025-26





The agenda was thoughtfully curated and delivered in two parts. The inaugural session featured powerful addresses by DGE Rtn. D. Devendran, DLF PDG Dr. N. Nandakumar, and District Counsellor PDG ISAK Nazar. Their collective wisdom laid a strong foundation for the sessions to follow.



The spotlight then shifted to the core of the program – presentations by the dedicated avenue teams:

- Membership led by Chair Rtn. Ambalavanan
- Public Image under my stewardship
- Club Service jointly steered by Chairs Rtn. C. Krishnachander and Rtn. M. Ranjith



Post a refreshing tea break, participants moved into breakout sessions for deeper discussions, customized planning, and team-level engagement.

Of course, no Rotary gathering is complete without fellowship over food. The event began with a delightful breakfast and concluded with a sumptuous lunch – reflecting our spirit of togetherness both on and off the stage.



Mukkani was more than a seminar – it was a statement. A statement that when Membership, Public Image, and Club Service grow together, Rotary becomes not just effective – but extraordinary.



VIDHAI - Sowing the Seeds of Knowledge and Service

by DRFC Rtn. L Neelakantan

On 8th June 2025, Rotary District 3233 conducted its annual Grant Management Seminar titled VIDHAI – Tamil for Seed – at the MMA Auditorium, Chennai. Over 150 attendees, including Presidents-elect, Secretaries-elect, Club Foundation and CSR Chairs, AG Designate, and District Leaders, gathered to deepen their understanding of Rotary Foundation grants and effective project execution.

The day began with a warm welcome, followed by District Learning Facilitator PDG Rtn. Dr. N Nandakumar's brief yet sharp talk on "Eligibility to Impact." District Governor-Elect Rtn. D Devendran emphasized how the Foundation acts as a "force multiplier," encouraging clubs to stretch the scope of their giving. PDG Rtn. ISAK Nazar further set the tone with a compelling message on sustaining service through structured giving.

Chief Guest, PDG Rtn. B Elangkumaran (D3203) delivered a captivating keynote, simplifying the role of The Rotary Foundation and sharing real success stories from his own district, leaving the audience energized and inspired.

Unlike conventional seminars, VIDHAI offered interactive, dialogue-driven sessions. DRFC Rtn. L Neelakantan and PDG AKS Rtn. Muthupalaniappan guided participants through India's recent trends in Annual Fund, Polio Fund, Endowment, and notably, 'Other Funds,' prompting rich discussions on the power of grants in driving contributions.

Participants explored various grant types – Global, District, Disaster Response, CSR India, and Programs of Scale – alongside Rotary's seven Areas of Focus. Practical success stories like Orange Vision Centres, Project Shakti, Sight Now, E-Nethra, Mobile Clinics, Gurucool, BOSS School Infrastructure, and Magizhankaadu brought these concepts to life.



VIDHAI was more than a seminar – it was a spark. The seeds planted here promise a harvest of impact, rooted in knowledge and driven by service.



DRFC Rtn. L Neelakantan



A deep dive into the Global Grant lifecycle followed – from community assessment to planning, budgeting, application, and reporting. Core principles like sustainability, scalability, and accountability were highlighted. The session was peppered with questions, answered by a panel of experts, including DGE D Devendran and other senior Rotarians, offering multi-dimensional insights.

The importance of partnerships – with international clubs, CSR donors, and NGOs – was tied into a focused session on fundraising. DRFC Neelakantan tackled the reluctance to ask, sharing five key traits of successful fundraisers—Curiosity, Creativity, Connection, Credibility, and Confidence – and a four-step roadmap: Identify, Cultivate, Solicit, Steward.

Stewardship was addressed by Rtn. Kesavan and Rtn. Neelakantan, underlining compliance, financial documentation, vendor payments, and reporting. CSR Chair Rtn. P.R. Balachandar explained Rotary India CSR Grants, their timelines, and distinctions from Global Grants.

Dr. Ramkumar presented the Governor's Pet Projects: Project ROSE, a mobile oral cancer detection unit, and Namma Pallikkoodam, focused on school upgrades, with 150 schools ready for adoption.

The seminar ended on a high with a fun quiz, "Crack the Grant Code," and closing remarks from DGE Devendran, who praised the participants' energy and vision.



VIDHA
SUNDAY, 2ND JUNE 2025 | 8:30 AM
ROTARY INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION
PRADEEP K. CHANDRAN - DR

150 RTH B BALACHANDAR
PRADEEP K. CHANDRAN - DR

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PRADEEP K. CHANDRAN - DR



ஐந்திணை

- A Symphony of Service in Action

by Rtn. Dr. G. Saravanan

District Secretary (2025–26)

On Sunday, 15th June 2025, Rotary International District 3233 came together for an inspiring seminar titled “ஐந்திணை”, held at the prestigious MMA Management Center, Chennai. Under the visionary leadership of District Governor Rtn. D. Devendran, the event celebrated the spirit of service and the power of Rotary to transform communities.

With over 150+ Rotarians in attendance—including incoming Presidents, Secretaries, and Avenue Chairs—ஐந்திணை was more than just a seminar. It was a spark. A starting point. A reminder that when service meets strategy, impact becomes inevitable.

The spotlight shone on Rotary’s six core avenues of service: Vocational Service, Community Service – Development, Community Service – Health, Youth Service, International Service, and Rotaract Initiatives

The event’s highlight was the presence of our Chief Guest, PDG Kalaimamani SVRM Abirami Ramanathan, who moved the audience with his thought-provoking address on how vocational strength and community development must go hand-in-hand to build a resilient society.

The day was filled with ideas, collaboration, and a renewed commitment to action. Whether it was health initiatives, youth empowerment, or cross-border collaboration, the roadmap for RY 2025–26 was set with passion and purpose.

As District Secretary, it was heartening to witness such energy in one room. ஐந்திணை was not just an event—it was a declaration that RID 3233 is ready to serve smarter, stronger, and together.



As District Secretary, it was heartening to witness such energy in one room. ஐந்திணை was not just an event—it was a declaration that RID 3233 is ready to serve smarter, stronger, and together.



Rtn. Dr. G. Saravanan

District Secretary (2025–26)



Adding depth and direction to the discussions were our district's torchbearers:



PDG Rtn. Dr. N. Nandakumar
District Learning Facilitator



PDG Rtn. ISAK Nazar
District Counsellor



Each service avenue was brilliantly represented by dynamic leaders:



Rtn. S.M. Balaji
Community Service



Rtn. Dr. S. Ramesh Babu
Community Service – Health



Rtn. M. Senthilkumar
Youth Service



Rtn. Meenakshi Perikaruppan
International Service

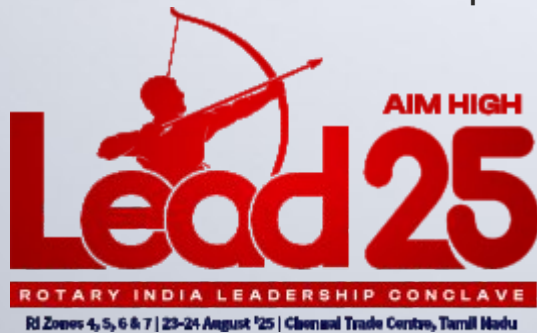


Rtn. S. Nevil P. Rayan
Vocational Service



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PDG I S A K Nazar
Special Project Chairman



PDG R Srinivasan
Chair, Accommodation Committee



PDG AKS S Muthupalaniappan
Chair, House of Friendship



PDG Dr N Nandakumar
Chair, Programme Committee



DGE Rtn D Devendran
Host



DGN Rtn Shriram Duvvuri
House of Friendship Secretary



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