



FOR PRIVATE
CIRCULATION



Rotary Club of Bombay West

*In Service of Humanity.....
Since 1954*

THE FLYING CARPET

Club Bulletin

RI President: **Francesco Arezzo** | Dist. Governor: **Dr. Manish Motwani** | President: **Jayant Sanghvi** | Secretary: **Dr. Kamal D'Mello** | Hon. Editor: **CA Siddhant Bhide**

Volume No. 72

Issue No. 12

Published on 17th December, 2025



From the President's Desk

Dear RCBW Members & Fellow Rotarians,
December holds a special place in the Rotary calendar as Disease Prevention and Treatment Month – one of Rotary's areas of focus. This month highlights Rotary's long-standing commitment to strengthening healthcare

systems, supporting medical professionals, and improving access to essential treatment for communities around the world. From large-scale global efforts such as polio eradication to local medical camps and awareness programs, Rotary continues to place "Service Above Self" in matters of health and well-being.

At RCBW, this theme resonates deeply with our own ongoing initiatives in community health and preventive care. Our medical camps, vaccination drives, and partnerships with healthcare professionals reflect Rotary's belief that healthier communities are the foundation of stronger communities.

We also had the privilege of hosting Mr. Madhukar Zende, retired Senior Police Officer, for a captivating talk this month. Drawing from his decades of service in the Mumbai Police, Mr. Zende recounted several fascinating investigations and shared insightful perspectives on policing, public safety, and the importance of vigilance and civic responsibility. His session reminded us that strong institutions — whether in law enforcement or in community service — are built on dedication, integrity, and courage.

As we approach the festive season and prepare to welcome the new year, let us carry forward the Rotary spirit of compassion and collective action. May we continue to strengthen our service avenues, deepen our fellowship, and remain a force for good within our community.

Wishing you and your families a joyful December and a healthy, peaceful new year ahead.

Yours in Rotary,
Rtn. Jayant Sanghvi

Shruti School Students Excel at World Disability Day!

3rd December, 2025



On the occasion of World Disability Day, the Social Welfare Department arranged a Suburban District Athletic Meet on 3rd December, 2025 at Goregaon Sports Club, Malad West.

A total of 27 special schools participated in the event.

From KDN Shruti School for the Deaf, 15 students took part in two age groups: 8–12 years and 13–16 years.

Our students won 6 medals: 2 Gold, 3 Silver, and 1 Bronze!

Both Gold medalists have qualified for the State Level Athletic Meet!

– Ms. Pradnya Vedak, Principal, Rotary KDN Shruti School

LET'S
INSPIRE !

PROGRAMMES

24th December 2025 : Christmas Party Fellowship

UNITE
FOR
GOOD

A Legend's Tale: Courage, Community and Policing: The Extraordinary Journey of Mr. Madhukar Zende

3rd December, 2025



Rtn. Apurva Nanavati introduced Mr Madhukar Zende, who hatched his name into India's law enforcement history with the iconic arrest of Charles Sobhraj. Mumbai's Most Wanted, his internationally showcased biopic, brings to life a journey built on discipline, bravery and duty to society. As Rotarians, we admire and celebrate individuals who make communities safer, stronger and more united.

In a captivating evening at the Club meeting, retired Senior Police Inspector Madhukar Zende shared remarkable insights from his illustrious 37-year career with the Mumbai Police, offering a compelling narrative of law enforcement that transcends conventional boundaries.

Mr. Zende's career, spanning from 1959 to 1996, was distinguished not just by his exceptional investigative skills, but by his fundamental belief that effective policing relies on building genuine community relationships. Drawing inspiration from Sir Robert Peel's philosophy of policing as a "service," Mr. Zende exemplified the principle that police are not mere enforcers, but community guardians.

He narrated his most famous case involved the two-time capture of Charles Sobhraj, 'the bikini killer' and notorious criminal who had become internationally infamous for a series of sophisticated crimes. Mr. Zende meticulously tracked Sobhraj across multiple states and countries, ultimately capturing him in Goa in 1986 after the criminal had escaped from multiple international jurisdictions. He shared how he immediately phoned his DGP to break the news. The officer was thrilled and told him to bring Sobhraj straight to Mumbai. By the time they reached Panvel, a large police force was waiting, and a special plane had been arranged to fly Sobhraj to Delhi. Media swarmed the scene – Doordarshan aired Zende's interview, newspapers covered it nationwide, and even his nephew in New York spotted him in TIME magazine. The arrest was a result of painstaking investigation, collaborative efforts, and Mr. Zende's unwavering determination.

Soon after, Amul put up a clever billboard in his honour that said, 'Atke Paar Zende.' It was placed right across from Lata Mangeshkar's house, and she noticed it immediately as it was Amul's first expression in Marathi. She asked to meet the inspector and later attended a big

celebration with her whole family, where both Lata ji and Asha Bhosle even asked for his autograph. His fame soon reached the Prime Minister. During a visit to Mumbai, Rajiv Gandhi spotted him and stopped his car to acknowledge the inspector. For security reasons, their formal meeting was arranged the next day at Raj Bhavan, where the PM personally praised Zende and his team for their bravery.

What made Mr. Zende's approach unique was his emphasis on community engagement. He illustrated this through a powerful anecdote from the tumultuous days following the Babri Masjid demolition in December 1992. When a police vehicle near JJ Hospital was surrounded by an aggressive mob of thousands of Muslims, conventional tactics seemed futile. Instead of escalating tension, Mr. Zende leveraged his long-standing relationships within the community. Drawing upon his reputation for fairness and respect, he mobilized around 50-60 local Muslim youths who helped diffuse the volatile situation, ultimately saving the lives of police personnel. This intervention wasn't just tactical; it was a testament to his belief that policing is fundamentally about understanding and connecting with people.

Throughout his career, Mr. Zende solved numerous high-profile cases, always crediting public cooperation. "Good information comes from criminals themselves," he would say, emphasizing that successful policing depends on building trust across diverse communities.

His approach earned him multiple distinguished service awards and medals. Over an illustrious career, he became the first officer to win a Police Medal for Meritorious Service and a President's Medal for Distinguished Service in successive years. More importantly, it earned him the respect of citizens from diverse backgrounds. Even after retirement, people would recognise and appreciate him, showcasing the lasting impact of his compassionate, community-oriented approach to law enforcement.

Mr. Zende's narrative is more than a collection of extraordinary cases; it's a masterclass in human-centric policing. He demonstrated that true law enforcement isn't about intimidation, but about service, understanding, and building bridges across societal divides.

At 88 years old, Mr. Madhukar Zende remains a living legend, his stories serving as an inspirational blueprint for future generations of law enforcement professionals. His message is clear: policing is not just about catching criminals, but about creating safer, more united communities.

Gautam Chande, who had invited Mr. Zende to speak delivered the vote of thanks highlighting that Mr. Zende had taken the effort to come down from Pune for this session.

– Rtn. Tejas Sura



RCBW Hosts the DG's Official Club Visit (OCV)

10th December, 2025

The Rotary Club of Bombay West conducted its Official Club Visit on Wednesday, 10th December, 2025, marking a significant milestone in the Club's annual calendar. Under the leadership of President Jayant Sanghvi and the Board of Directors, the meeting brought together Rotary leaders as well as the Club's members to discuss achievements, future initiatives, and strategic goals.

The District Governor Rtn. Dr. Manish Motwani delivered a comprehensive and inspiring address, highlighting RCBW's exceptional contributions and setting forward-looking objectives. This was indeed a proud moment for all present. In his remarks, the DG praised the Rotary Club of Bombay West as an "iconic Club" in District 3141, acknowledging its remarkable track record of service and commitment.

The District Governor emphasized several critical focus areas for the upcoming year.

The Club's impressive achievements were comprehensively detailed, including:

- Contributing over 1.16 million dollars to the Rotary Foundation
- Maintaining 100% membership engagement
- Boasting 91 Paul Harris Fellows and 10 Major Donors
- Supporting an extensive "Back to School" project funding education for 1,532 students annually

His talk highlighted two ambitious District level projects: establishing two specialized Rotary hospitals and launching an innovative "Pink Auto" programme. The hospital project aims to create dedicated medical facilities for heart and eye treatments, while the Pink Auto Programme seeks to



empower 1,000 women by providing them auto-rickshaw driving livelihood opportunities by year 2026.

A significant moment during the meeting was the felicitation of Past President Rtn. Rajendra Ruia as an Arch Klumph Society member, recognizing his substantial contributions to the Rotary Foundation. This honour underscores the Club's commitment to philanthropic excellence and its commitment to TRF.

The meeting also celebrated a significant milestone with the announcement made by PP Rtn.

Rajendra Ruia about a Peace Centre to be installed at Symbiosis University in Pune offering a Certificate Course in Peace Studies and which is to be inaugurated on 26th January, 2026.

Assistant Governor Rtn. Ujwal Andhari introduced the District Governor while Club Secretary Rtn. Dr. Kamal D'Mello provided crucial administrative announcements, including upcoming events like the Annual General Meeting and the District Conference, DISCON 2026.

President Elect Rtn. Tejas Sura delivered the vote of thanks, expressing gratitude for the invaluable insights and guidance provided by the DG during the OCV. He committed on behalf of the Club to implementing the suggested initiatives and continuing its legacy of impactful service.

Action Agenda:

- Designate two people from the Club to ensure it becomes a 100% Paul Harris Fellow Club.
- Support the District's project to provide 1,000 pink autos driven by women, either by getting beneficiaries or donors.
- Attend the inauguration of the Rotary Peace Centre in Pune on 26th January, 2026 and encourage members to also attend the same
- Encourage at least 40 members from the Club to register for the District Conference DISCON, 7-8 February, 2025.

DG Rtn. Dr. Manish Motwani's overarching message resonated with Albert Camus' philosophy of partnership: "Let's walk together hand in hand, and ensure that we do something creditable." This sentiment encapsulated the spirit of collaboration and shared purpose that defines the Rotary Club of Bombay West. As District 3141 moves forward with its myriad goals and objectives, the Rotary Club of Bombay West stands poised to continue its tradition of excellence, community service, and transformative impact for the upliftment of the poor and downtrodden! God bless RCBW always!

– Rtn. Dr. Usha Jayachandran



**SUNSHINE
CORNER**

“Nothing is impossible for those who act after wise counsel and careful thought.”

– Thiruvalluvar

KDN Shruti School: Annual Sports Day


12th December, 2025

The programme was attended by President Rtms Jayant Sanghvi, PE Tejas Sura, VP Dr. Usha Jayachandran, Director Community Service I Mahesh Kokate, Director Youth Service PP Dr. Samapti Patel and Innerwheel Club of Bombay West President R/Ann Brinda Desai.

Students took part in a variety of athletic events and activities that were designed to help them develop their oromotor and fine motor skills. Both the students as well as the guests present enjoyed the activities and the winners were felicitated by the esteemed guests. Overall, it was an amazing event filled with fun, energy and celebration of teamwork, sportsmanship, and school spirit.

– Ms. Pradnya Vedak,
Principal, Rotary KDN Shruti School





Rotary

DIST 3141

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to Touch Lives

& LIVE BEYOND LIFE

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To know more visit
www.rotaryorgandonation.in

To pledge at
pledge@rotaryorgandonation.in

RCBW NEWS ROOM

- Nanavati hospital completed 75 years this year. Congratulations to Rtn. Apurva Nanavati and best wishes for all future endeavours!
- Rtn. Deepal Mody and Mr. Yash Mehta were blessed with a baby girl on 25th November, 2025. God bless the new born and heartiest congratulations to the parents and family!
- The blockbuster movie Dhurandhar has been produced and directed by our own member Rtn. Aditya Dhar. Rohun, son of PP Rtn. Shirish Rege and R/Ann Dr. Kavita Rege is the Associate director and 2nd unit director of the acclaimed movie. Congratulations and best wishes to both.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Rotarian Birthdays	
21-Dec.	Rtn. Kamal Narsaria
22-Dec.	Rtn. Aslam Merchant
22-Dec.	Rtn. Yazdi Tantra
23-Dec.	Rtn. Sanjiv Lathia
28-Dec.	Rtn. Dr. Srilata Bhattacharyya

R/Ann Birthdays	
19-Dec.	Mr. Sundeep Puri
26-Dec.	R/Ann Sonal Kunal Sehgal
29-Dec.	R/Ann Yashna Rushabh Shah
30-Dec.	R/Ann Usha Apurva Nanavati

Anniversaries	
18-Dec.	Rtn. Tejas Vinod Sura & Keyuri
19-Dec.	Rtn. Shyam Shah & Baiju
20-Dec.	Rtn. Nayan Chheda & Aditi
21-Dec.	Rtn. Vijay Rawal & Naina
25-Dec.	Rtn. Deepak Joshi & Sangeeta
27-Dec.	Rtn. Sanjiv Lathia & Trusha
27-Dec.	Rtn. Kamal D'mello & Joshua
29-Dec.	Rtn. Rushabh Shah & Yashna