

About Rotary Club of Bombay Kandivli

Rotary Club of Bombay Kandivli (RCBK) was chartered in the year 2001 by Rotary Club of Borivali with Yusuf Lanewala as the Charter President. Most members came from Thakur Village/ Complex, which was an upcoming township, with barely few residential complexes and now it is a well grown township. RCBK started in June 2001 with barely 14 members and many of them were from Oil companies like ONGC, etc.

Regular club meetings started on Sundays at 9.30am in the board room of Thakur College. The first year was mostly learning time, with small projects like tree plantation, cleanliness drive in shopping areas etc. Serious community service activities started next year with Rtn.Gulam Vahanvaty taking over as District Governor, our club was entrusted with the task of adoption of suburban railway station of Kandivali, where many infrastructural improvements were carried out like benches on platforms, electronic clock opposite ticketing counter on FOB, placement of garbage bins etc. In addition to sensitizing the commuters to keep the station clean. It was a great success which brought members of the club in the groove of doing public service projects in a very organised manner.

The request from the district for contribution to “The Rotary Foundation” (TRF) started coming and it was promptly addressed by giving two Paul Harris Fellow-PHF (with \$1000 contribution) and one major donor (with \$10,000 contribution) during 2002-2003. The drive continued and RCBK provided over 5 PHF & one major donor every year during 2003-4 ,2004-2005 & 2005-2006, and we became 100% PHF club in the year 2006-2007 (with about 43 members).

It was this generous contribution to TRF by a new club that RCBK came in the limelight of the district. The club was entrusted with the task of organising district assembly in 2007-2008 by incoming District Governor Rtn.Ulhas Kolhatkar.

The club has provided leadership at District level throughout from 2003 onwards with RCBK members occupying positions of District Secretary, Avenue Chair, Asst Governor, Avenue Committee Co-chair, Governors special aide etc.

The club went on growing and executed very impressive projects like solar light distribution in tribal villages (they had not seen electric light in their lifetime), toilet blocks in rural schools, rebuilding of municipal school in Kandivali, adoption of village Kunde, near Wada, health checkup camps, crematorium, water conservation projects, etc. Most notables are commissioning of Check dam project in Boisar, Tarapur by Rotary International Director Yashpal Das and flagging off our school on wheels project by Rotary International President Kalyan Banerjee in presence of ONGC Chairman Sudhir Vasudeva in the year 2009-2010. Another big ticket project that RCBK did in the year 2016-2017 with Rotary Global Grant was upgrade of toilet blocks at nine

Mumbai Suburban stations from Churchgate to Virar to International Standards which has got great appreciation from public as well as Rotary International.

It is indeed a matter of great pride for the handful of charter members to see RCBK grow from 14 members to almost 80 as of today having executed numerous projects to alleviate the lives of the underprivileged as well as community service in urban as well as rural parts of Maharashtra .

Over the years RCBK continues to do more every year and in this dream year, we have planned to provide prosthetic Jaipur Foot, participate in cataract operations, fruit tree plantations, revival of railway stations, revival of medical centres, say no to plastic, provide special sanitary napkins thru Project Red, Baghban, establish skills development centre for under privileged, slum schools upgrade, upgrade old age homes and orphanages, etc.

The core strength of RCBK are its committed members, who have always been generous donors as well as contribute extensively to the various service projects.