

THE TOWNLANDER

BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF MUMBAI DOWNTOWN SEALAND R.I.DIST.3141

VOL.08 # ISSUE NO.8 # FOR MEMBERS ONLY # FEBRUARY 2026

PRESIDENT: CHANDRA KHONA

EDITOR: HARSHA BADKAR

FROM PRESIDENTS DESK:



**RTN. CHANDRAPRABHA
KHONA**

Greetings from president to all the dear members of the club and friends. We spent February month with youth which gave us great pleasure and made us feel younger. Our club donated 100 different types of books at Hume High School which was appreciated by the trustees and principal of the school. Many youths will be benefitted. Our club had organised RYLA for youth on 21 st and 22 nd February at Ondhe Village, Palghar. 13 Rotractors from Mumbai and 47 students from College Ondhe and Vada attended with whom we had great time. Our club inaugurated Rotaract Club of Navneet College. The function was seamless. president Daksh Rathod and his team was installed. Other charter members also were inducted. Apart from these, 6 members of our club attended District Conference on 7 th and 8 th February at Sahara Star Hotel which was mind blowing and memorable one.

It gave us great pleasure to inaugurate two solar pumps and see the farmers flourishing economically.

We are planning for bigger projects and appeal for funds will be soon made. Dear friends please donate generously for the cause. Thank you.

FROM EDITORS DESK:

Creating Lasting Impact through Service:

As Rotarians, we are committed to making a difference in our community. Through our community projects, we try to focus on spreading joy and kindness. We believe that each and every act of service, no matter how big or small, counts.

Sharing and giving back to society is a fundamental aspect of humanity. It's about spreading kindness, compassion, and generosity to those around us. When we share our time, resources, and love, we create a ripple effect of positivity that inspires others to do the same.

Giving back to society not only benefits the recipient but also nourishes our own soul. It reminds us of our interconnectedness and the importance of community. By sharing and giving, we:

- Foster a sense of belonging
- Spread joy and happiness
- Make a tangible difference
- Inspire others to give back

Let's embrace the spirit of sharing and giving back, and create a wave of kindness that transforms our community.

Let us come together to create lasting impact and inspire others to do the same. Here is an appeal to once again join us for our upcoming events and meetings to make a positive change in our community!



Dr. Harsha Badkar

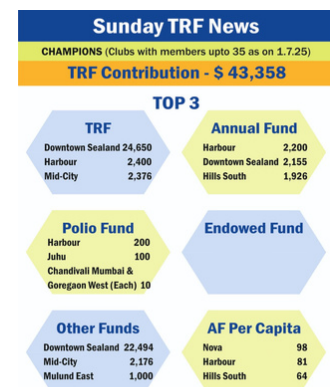
Club Achievement

TRF Recognition

As per the latest district chart, our club has secured 1st position in TRF, 1st in Other Funds, and 2nd in the Annual Fund.

Heartfelt gratitude to Rtn. G. L. Mody Ji for his generous contribution of ₹20,20,000/- towards CSR Grant India, which has significantly elevated our club's standing.

Congratulations to Director – TRF, PP Rtn. Preeti Shah, for her dedicated efforts and leadership in achieving this



District Conference - DISCON 2026

DISCON 2026 – DHRISTICON was held on 7th & 8th February and was a fantastic, well-curated district conference. Six members from our club — Dr. Srun Sawant, PP Shabbir Bhai, PP Preeti Shah, Tejal Shah, Rajesh Shah and Chandra — attended the event.

The conference featured an inspiring lineup of speakers including Deepak Vohra, Gaurav Arya, Anand Ranganathan, O. P. Bhatt and Ronnie Screwvala. The arrangements and hospitality were excellent.

A proud moment for our club was the recognition of PP Shabbir Bhai as an AKS Member for his commitment of ₹26 lakhs towards the District Global Grant for the Rotary Eye Hospital.



CLUB PROJECTS

Donation of Books – Hume High School

Under the leadership of our unstoppable Director – Community Service (Non-Medical), Dr. Bimal Malhotra, 100 books were donated to Hume High School, benefiting 250 students on 9th february.

While the books were donated to Hume High School, toys were distributed to aanganwadis at Doorstep, with more toys ready for further distribution. Her dedication and hard work truly make her a great asset to our club.

Sincere thanks to Chandra Ji, Tejal, Amul Nita Toprani for generously donating quality books appreciated by the Principal, Trustees, and Teachers present.



Rotary Youth Leadership Awards – RYLA

Our club successfully organized RYLA 2026 at Visawa Resort, Oundh Village, Palghar, with 60 student participants and Rotaractors, along with 7 Rotarians.

The two-day residential program was filled with learning, adventure, and cultural exchange. The inaugural session in the morning and second session in the afternoon were held in the hall of The Arts, Science and Commerce College, Ondhe. The college authorities welcomed all and felicitated all the Rotarians with mementos. The sessions featured motivational addresses on communication skill, Leadership, Power of Thought, by esteemed speakers Rtn. Gool Ghadiali, Rtn. Neelam Gada, Rtn. Deepak Chawla,,

Participants enjoyed village visits, interaction with tribal families, tractor and bullock cart rides, tribal dance, sports, adventure activities (zip line, Burma bridge, rock climbing, river crossing), rain dance, swimming, indoor-outdoor games, campfire, and dance making RYLA both enriching and entertaining.

The Valedictory Session included an inspiring talk by President Chandra Khona on the Theory of Abundance, followed by feedback, prize distribution, and certificates given to each participant. IPP Dr. Arun Sawant delivered the closing remarks, and PP Preeti Shah proposed the vote of thanks. A memento was presented to Mr. Milind Patil, owner of the resort.

The total cost of RYLA was ₹1,00,594/-. The program was graced by the College Principal, Trustee, Professors, and staff members.

The members attended president Chandra Khona, PP Preeti Shah, Dr. Arun Sawant, Asgar Lala, Amul Desai, PE Ramu Gadkar and chief guest Rtn. Gul Gadiyali, Rtn. Neelam Gada and Rtn. Deepak Chawla. President expresses gratitudes to

the entire team for their dedicated efforts in making RYLA 2026 a grand success.



Inauguration of Solar Pump – Chary Vedhe and Pimpleshet

Our club has adopted a village Pimpleshet where Solar pump is installed on bore well since there is abundance of underground water due to construction of check dam by our club.

The inauguration of Solar pump was done on 22 nd February by the president Chandra Khona, IPP Arun Sawant and PP Preeti Shah at Pimpleshet. The farmers are benefitted and their economic growth was witnessed. Their farms where drip irrigation is done yield plenty of vegetables grown like gerkin, cucumber, bhindi, guvar, chilli, Dudhi, methy and many more. The farmers are getting good price for the vegetables grown by them. Gerkin crop is yielding Good income and profit since abundance of product is grown in very short time and it is exported. It was sight to see the vegetables in the plants in the fields which brought so much satisfaction and happiness to the members present. A worthy impactful. Powerful and sustainable project of the club to touch the lives of the farmers most of them are tribals and make them grow economically.



Our club has adopted other villages, Chary and Chary Budruk where Solar pumps are installed on bore wells since there is abundance of underground water due to construction of check dams by our club. The inauguration of Solar pump was done on 21 st February by the Sarpanch Rajesh Ferera, president Chandra Khona, IPP Arun Sawant and PP Preeti Shah at Chery Vedhe. The solar pump was installed two days before inauguration. The president Chandra Khona has requested Sarpanch that flood irrigation to be carried out by laying pipelines reaching all the farmers surrounding the field where Solar pump is installed and there should be equal distribution of water to all the farmers and all Beneficiaries should reap the fruit of this project. The club would help in flood irrigation financially. This project of club will boost the economy of farmers most of whom are tribals. They are at present growing only seasonal crops since water is

not available. Now onwards they will be able to grow plenty of vegetables and other crops and grow economically. This project brought so much satisfaction and happiness to the members present. A worthy impactful. Powerful and sustainable project of the club to touch the lives of the farmers most of them are tribals and make them grow economically.



Inauguration of Rotaract club of Navneet College

On 13 February 2026 our club organised Charter Presentation ceremony of Rotaract Club of Navneet college in which President Daksh Rathod and his core team were installed.. President Rtn Chandra Khona presided, Rtn Ashmi Parekh Avenue chair Youth was the Chief guest.DRR Yashvardhan Chauhan,Shri Kamlesh Mishra Trustee of the College were guest of honours. Collar was put on Charter president Daksh by Chandra Khona and pin by chief guest. Charter was presented by DRR and all 27 Rotaractors were formally inducted. The program was well organised by Rotaract Club Co ordinator Ms Grishama Shah.



Vocational excellence Award

Our club proudly presented the Vocational Appreciation Award to Mr. Pankaj Shah in recognition of his remarkable 41 years of dedicated service with Dosti Realty Ltd. The award was presented by Vocational Service Director

PP Rtn. Bankim Khona at the office of Dosti Realty Ltd Club members present included Bankim Khona, Rajesh Shah, Tejal Shah, and president Chandra Khona Members present also witnessed the company's monthly staff celebration, where birthdays were celebrated, and employees completing 25, 30, and more years of service were recognized — reflecting a wonderful employer-employee relationship. Sincere gratitude to Rtn. Rajesh Shah for facilitating this meaningful project and for the warm hospitality



CLUB MEETING

Speaker meeting – Radio club

A special speaker meeting was held on 11th February at the Radio Club featuring a Panel Discussion on the Vocations of New Members. The session was superb and highly appreciated by all present.

The panelists — Bhavin Nagda, Rajesh Shah, and PE Ramu Gadkar — were interviewed by President Chandra in an engaging and interactive format. Members suggested conducting similar sessions in the future to better understand the vocations of all members.



Spouse night

Our Spouse Night was graciously hosted by PP Rtn. Preeti Shah at her residence terrace on 25th February 2026. Members gathered at 6:30 pm to enjoy a delightful

evening with a breathtaking 360-degree view of Mumbai and a beautiful sunset.The evening was filled with fun games, music, and lively participation. Special appreciation to Harsha and Tejal for adding energy to the celebration through singing and dancing, creating a joyful atmosphere for everyone.

The dinner was fabulous, with a wide variety of delicious starters and dishes thoughtfully arranged. Sincere thanks to PP Rtn. Preeti Shah for her warm hospitality, meticulous planning, and generous sponsorship of the event. Her efforts truly made the evening memorable and enjoyable for all.



Fireside Meeting –Radio Club

A Fireside Meeting was held on 28th February at the Radio Club, attended by 10 members. The meeting was hosted by President Chandra Khona.

Rtn. Preeti Shah shared valuable insights on TRF, including details of various funds and schemes under TRF and EREY. This was followed by discussions led by the President on impactful and sustainable projects, including the adoption of a village identified by the district and the proposal to open a Rotary Dispensary at the Utility Centre.

Constructive suggestions were offered by Rtn. Sadhana Patni and other members, making the session interactive and meaningful.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- AKS G.L. MODI JI for donating Rs.2,60,000/- for Solar pump installed at Cherry Vedhe village adopted by our club and Rs.10325/- for two sanitary napkins disposal machines donated at SNDT UNIVERSITY, MARINE LINES.
- PP Rtn.SHABBIR BHAI RANGWALA for donation of Rs.7000/- for dialysis of patients.
- Principal, Co ordinator Grishma Shah and trustee mr. Kamlesh Mishra of Navneet College for organising and sponsoring refreshments in event of inauguration of Rotract club of Navneet College
- PP RTN ASHMI PAREKH, DDR yashwardhan for being chief guest and guest of honour in the event.
- PP BANKIM KHONA, PP PREETI SHAH AND RTN. SHAILENDRA SHARMA FOR CONTRIBUTION OF RS 1000/- each for expenses of formation of Rotaract club.
- PP Rtn. Gul Gadiyali for being chief guest and keynote speaker and attending RYLA for both the dys. PP Rtn. Dr. Neelam Gada and PP Rtn. being Motivational Speakers in RYLA
- Mr. Milind Patil for excellent arrangements made at Visawa Resort for RYLA and Principal and professors of College of, Science and commerce, Ondhe for meticulous arrangements, felicitation by giving mementos to all of us in RYLA.
- Rtn. Preeti Shah for hosting spouse night at her terrace on 21 st floor of Saarthi building and delicious varieties of starters and sumptuous dinner mainly Gujrati cuisine enjoyed by every one.
- Rtn. Harsha and Rtn Tejal for conducting games, and housie.
- Tejal for giving gifts to winners.
- Rotractor IPP Hazel helping in conducting games.
- PE. Rtn. RAMU GADKAR FOR sponsoring the cost of bulletin for the month of January RS.1500/-
- President Chandra Khona for hosting Fire side meeting of February.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARY

Birthdays:

- 7th February – President Chandra Khona
- 13th February – Surendra Kotadia
- 22nd February – Maitri Nagda

Anniversaries:

- 3rd February – Trupti & Surendra
- 7th February – Dr. Shweta Bansal & Vinay Gupta
- 8th February – Sarla & Modji
- 13th February – Sudha & Arun Samant
- 15th February – Neera & Nandkumar Bafna
- 15th February – Bina & Ravindra Agrawal



Tractor riding



visit to Brick factory



THE EDITORIAL TEAM



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