

THE TOWNLANDER

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

VOL.02 # ISSUE NO.2 # FOR MEMBERS ONLY # AUGUST 2025

PRESIDENT: CHANDRA KHONA

EDITOR: HARSHA BADKAR

FROM PRESIDENTS DESK:



RTN. CHANDRAPRABHA
KHONA

Greetings to all dear fellow Rotarians and friends. Two months are about to end-from the date I have taken over president ship and I am so happy to see that we have completed many projects in all the avenues of service. All the directors are very enthusiastic to execute some projects in their respective avenues. We could witness smile on face of seniors and ailed inmates of King George hospital when we spent some time with them after donating wheelchairs, walkers and biscuits. It was very satisfying to see thousands of students participating in various competitions, receiving ideal app on their mobiles to score high marks in 10 th std, watching magic show, learning technics of self defence and also identifying good touch bad touch, becoming aware of addictions whether digital and cyber space or tobacco, alcohol and drugs, learning on oral hygiene and getting their teeth checked up. We brought happiness in 5

families of Tribals of Wada when they were selected to get vocational training in car driving. It was rewarding project of organising 3 cancer screening camps examining 150 women and creating awareness by organising seminar on domestic violence at Navneet College, for their staff members.

This month is month of celebrations of religious festivals like Krishna Janmashtami, Dahi Handi, Raksha Bandhan, Paryushan and Samvantsary day of forgiveness, Ganesh Chaturthi, Navroz, and Onam. Wish you all happy festivals.

Now is time to initiate more impactful, powerful and sustainable projects of bigger size to benefit more members of community. The same will be shared in official chat of the club. Looking forward to your generous donations and physical support.

FROM EDITORS DESK:



Dr. Harsha Badkar

"Embracing New Beginnings: A Year of Service and Fellowship"

As we welcome a new Rotary year, our club is filled with excitement and anticipation. With a fresh board of directors and a renewed sense of purpose, we're poised to make a meaningful impact in our community. At the heart of Rotary is our commitment to service. Whether through vocational training, community development projects, or humanitarian initiatives, our members are dedicated to making a difference. This year promises to be no exception, with a range of exciting projects and events on the horizon. As we embark on this new journey, let's remember the power of fellowship and friendship that binds us together. Our club is a vibrant community of like-minded individuals who share a passion for service and a desire to create positive change. In the coming months, we'll be working tirelessly to deliver projects that benefit our community and beyond. We'll also be celebrating our members' achievements and recognizing their contributions to our club's success.

As we look to the future, let's draw inspiration from Rotary's motto: "Service Above Self." Together, we can achieve great things and make a lasting impact on the world around us.

Editor,

Rtn. Dr. Harsha Badkar

INSTALLATION CEREMONY OF THE NEW PRESIDENT



Rtn. Chandrabhabha Khona

The Rotary Club of Mumbai Downtown Sealand marked a new chapter with the Installation Ceremony of its new President, Rtn. Chandrabhabha Khona, and the Inspired Board of Directors for 2025-26. Held on July 30, 2025, at the Regent Hall, Westend Hotel, Mumbai, the event was graced by DG Rtn. Dr. Manish Motwani as the Chief Guest. The ceremony began with the National Anthem and the Inspired Song followed by a warm welcome by Rtn. Chandrabhabha Khona. IPP Rtn. Dr. Arun Sawant presented a comprehensive report on the club's activities and achievements during his tenure.

After the official exchange of the collar, DG Rtn. Dr. Manish Motwani presented the new President with a pin and gift, highlighting her leadership role. In her address, President Chandrabhabha Khona outlined her vision and plan of action for the upcoming year, adopting the Scroll of Commitment.

The evening was filled with inspiring words from the Chief Guest, DG Rtn. Dr. Manish Motwani, who shared valuable insights and encouragement. The Inspired AG, Rtn. Preeti Gadda, played a pivotal role in introducing the Chief Guest. The District Chief Coordinator, Rtn. Monika Grover, announced the upcoming District Conference, DISCON-26 (Drishtikon), and encouraged members to participate. The new President, Rtn. Chandrabhabha Khona, introduced the Inspired Board of Directors for 2025-26, comprising:

1. Vice-President: Rtn. Surendra Kotadia

2. Secretary & Sergeant-at-Arms: Rtn. Asgar Lala
3. Treasurer: Rtn. Yezdi Dubash
4. Joint Secretary: Rtn. Amul Desai
5. Joint Treasurer: Rtn. Ruqaiya Saboowala
6. Club Services & TRF Director: Rtn. Preeti Shah
7. Community Service (Medical) Director: Rtn. Ramu Gadkar
8. Community Service (Non-Medical) Director: Rtn. Dr. Bimal Malhotra
9. Vocational Director & Club Facilitator: Rtn. Bankimchandra Khona
10. Youth Service Director: Rtn. Shailendra Sharma
11. International Service Director: Rtn. Priyana Deb Choudhary
12. Membership Director: Rtn. Bharat Davda
13. Public Image Director: Rtn. Ayaz Hussain
14. Club Advisors: Rtn. Shabir Rangwala, Rtn. Girdharilal Modi, and Rtn. Ramavtar Goenka

The President also introduced and inducted the following new members:

1. Mr. Rajesh Shah, Director of Dosti groups of Builders & Developers
2. Mrs. Tejal Rajesh Shah, Advocate
3. Dr. Harsha Badkar, Principal, Navneet College, Mumbai
4. Mr. Victor Gorelykh, Director of Cultural & Science Centre, Russian House in Mumbai
5. Mr. Bhavin Nagda, The Architect

Each member of the Board and the new members were installed by Pinning them.

The Chief Guest and dignitaries released the first issue of the club's bulletin. The meeting concluded with secretarial announcements.

The event was a grand success, marking a promising beginning for the new leadership of the Rotary Club of Mumbai Downtown Sealand.

Editor, Rtn. Dr. Harsha Badkar

JALDHARA: A CELEBRATION OF MUSIC, CULTURE, AND COMMUNITY FOR WATER

Last weekend, we had the privilege of being part of Jaldhara—a fundraiser for the

Water Augmentation Program in Palghar villages. The evening stood out not only for the cause but for the way people united through music, culture, and shared humanity. The event was graced by Dr. Rajendra Singh, the Waterman of India, Dr. Arun Sawant, Vice Chancellor of Rajasthan University and Convenor, and Rtn. Chandra Khona, President of RC Mumbai Downtown Sealand. Their words reminded us that water



conservation is a collective national responsibility. The program opened with soulful tunes by Nirmeetee, a Mumbai University band, followed by vibrant folk songs and dances by Palghar's tribal communities—living stories of resilience and heritage. Watching students, professionals, families, and leaders sway together, it felt like more than fundraising; it was true bridge-building. Jaldhara was about solidarity with communities who have long been custodians of our environment. Every drop, every song, and every clap mattered. It showed that change begins when compassion flows like water—reaching where it is most needed. The funds raised will now help provide sustainable water solutions for Palghar. With hearts still echoing the rhythms of the night, we carry the commitment to keep Jaldhara alive until every village has its rightful share of water and dignity.

Regards,

Rtr. Hejal Nyaynit

Jt. Director, Community Service, RID
3141

PROJECTS IN ACTION



6th August – Addiction Awareness Workshop at Wilson College

On the same day, our club organised a 90-minute workshop at Wilson College to spread awareness about the harmful effects of alcohol, drugs, and tobacco. The session was conducted by Rtn. Dr. Neelam Gada. The students participated actively, and the session was highly beneficial in shaping their outlook.



7th August – Good Touch Bad Touch Project at Holy Name School

Led by PP Jagruti Nagda and her team of counsellors, this project sensitised 650 students through multiple sessions on child safety. The dedicated team rendered honorary service, making it a highly impactful initiative.



14th August – Prize Distribution at Hume High School

Our club organised a prize distribution ceremony at Hume High School for handwriting and recitation competitions in three languages. Nineteen winners were felicitated, inspiring children to excel in academics and cultural pursuits. The programme was greatly appreciated by the school authorities and students alike.



15th August – Flag Hoisting Ceremony

On Independence Day, 15th August, our club proudly hosted a Flag Hoisting Ceremony near the Utility Centre, organised by our enthusiastic young Rotarian Priyena. The event saw active participation from members including Bafna Ji, Rani Ji, Bankim, Preeti, Bimal Ji, Tejal, Bhavin, Maitry, Santosh, Rotaractors from Wilson College and Navneet College, along with family members and children. The fellowship was filled with joy, patriotism, and camaraderie. Special thanks to Priyena for her hard work and motivation in bringing everyone together.



15th August – Sponsorship of Girl's Education

Our club supported the education of Shavani, daughter of a single parent studying in the 8th Standard, by handing over a cheque of ₹15,000 to her school towards fees. This contribution, generously donated by Director Rtn. Ramu Gadkar, has given her the opportunity to continue her studies with dignity.



15th August – Distribution of Biscuits

On Independence Day, the Rotary Club of Mumbai Downtown Sealand distributed biscuits to children from nearby slum areas. This small act of care brought smiles to the young ones and added meaning to the day, reflecting the club's commitment to spreading happiness in the community.

CLUB MEETINGS



6th August

The meeting on 6th August featured an insightful session on "7 Chakras of the Body for Holistic Well-Being" by Mrs. Vaishali Prakash Muni. The talk deepened members' understanding of the role of chakras in achieving balance and wellness. A special highlight was the live meditation exercise conducted by the speaker, which was well received and thoroughly enjoyed by all present.



Fireside Meeting

On 30th August, President Rtn. Chandra Khona hosted a Fireside Meeting at her residence. Guest speaker Rtn. Ramon Abrol, senior Rotarian and Principal Aide to the District Governor, shared valuable insights on the Vocational Service avenue. His experience and clarity left members with a renewed perspective on Rotary's role in professional and ethical service. The evening concluded with warm fellowship over high tea and dinner, strengthening camaraderie among members.

INNER WHEEL CLUB OF BOMBAY DOWNTOWN.

In July–August 2025, our club completed 12 impactful service projects (5 in July, 7 in August), including 2 joint initiatives with the Rotary Club of Downtown Sealand.

Highlights:

- *Wheelchairs & Walkers Donation – King George Foundation Senior Citizen Care (₹10,500)*
- *Surakshit Bachpan Sessions – Secy. Jagruti Nagda at Wilson School (300 students) & Holy Name School (650 students)*
- *Educational Support – Fees for 23 students, Sishu Vihar School (₹45,000)*
- *Stationery Donation – Happy Hearts School for special children (₹10,700)*
- *Friendship Day – Art activities & music system donation, David Sassoon Correctional Facility (₹12,500)*
- *Raksha Bandhan – Chocolates & workbooks at Sewri Wadala School (₹9,000)*
- *Janmashtami – Celebration at Happy Hearts School (₹11,500)*
- *District 314 Projects – Aranya Shakti (₹10,000) & Vidya Shakti (₹20,000)*

These projects touched hundreds of beneficiaries, supporting education, health, and culture while strengthening community bonds.

President – Ashita Davda

TRF Inspire Challenge Success

Our club has been recognized as an achiever in The Inspire \$10 Impact Challenge – South Zone, reflecting our commitment to the Rotary Foundation's mission of doing good worldwide. Special appreciation to TRF Director, Rtn. Preeti Shah, for her dedicated leadership.

FOUR WAY TEST

Our club's Vocational Service Director, PP Rtn. Bankim Khona, installed a Four-Way Test Plaque at Hume High School, reinforcing Rotary's values and public image. Displayed in the school office, it will inspire truth, fairness, goodwill, and beneficial action among students, faculty, parents, and visitors for years to come.



GRATITUDE TO OUR GENEROUS DONORS

Rtn. Ramu Gadkar donation of Rs.15000/- for sponsoring school fees of girl child

Bankim Khona Donation of Rs.3700/- for 4 way test PLAQUE.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

1. Dr. Rajendra Singh, WATERMAN OF INDIA

2. Mrs. Vaishali Prakash Muni

3. Jagruti Nagda and her team for Honorary Service rendered for Good touch bad touch project

4. Dr. Nilam Gada Awareness project of Addiction

5. Rtn. Ramon Abrol Imparting Rotary knowledge in Fire Side Meeting

6. Principal Wilson College

7. Principal Hume High School

8. Principal Holy Name School

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARY

We extend our warmest wishes to our fellow Rotarians celebrating their birthdays this month.

- *Rtn. Ashok Patni - 1st August*
- *Mrs. Sudha Arun Sawant - 8th August*
- *Mrs. Ashita Bharat Davda - 8th August*
- *Rtn. Bharat Davda – 16th August*
- *Rtn. Asgar Lala – 22nd August*
- *Rtn. Monika Pathak – 24th August*
- *Rtn. Preeti Shah – 30th August*

This month's Anniversary:

- *Rtn. Ayaz Hussain & Jabeen Hussain – 16th August*
- *Rtn. Suhas Parik & Dolly Parikh – 30th August*

May your year ahead be filled with health, happiness, and continued service!

THE EDITORIAL TEAM



Rtn. Dr. Harsha Badkar
EDITOR



Rtn. Chandra Khona
PRESIDENT



Rtn. Asgar Lala
SECRETARY



Rtr. Revathi Ramesh
PRESIDENT, RCWC



Rtr. Arina Pagar
SECRETARY, RCWC