

The Gateway



BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY

VOLUME 66, ISSUE NO. 35, MARCH 11, 2025

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THIS TUESDAY
Official Club Visit -
DG Chetan Desai

COMING UP

March 13th, 2025
Launch of 3 prestigious programs.
Details inside

March 14th, 2025
The Annual Jain Phoolon ki Holi.
Details inside

March 18th, 2025
Ananya Birla to be felicitated with
Rotary Club of Bombay Young Woman
Achiever Award

March 22nd, 2025
Rotary Club of Bombay Shakti Awards
2025. Details inside

March 25th, 2025
A fireside Chat on the India-Middle East
Europe Economic Corridor: Reshaping
Trade & Connectivity with Amit
Bhandari & Sifra Lentini moderated by
Rtn. Manjeet Kripalani

March 26th, 2025
In camera & Animal Welfare committee
- Panel Discussion followed by Wine &
Cheese Evening. Details inside

March 29th, 2025
Rotary HDFC Dharamshala turns 2 -
Project tour. Details inside

April 22nd, 2025
Ameet Hariani to be felicitated with
Rotary Club of Bombay Indira Kotak
Award

June 24th 2025
Shukriya Nite. Details inside

July 1st, 2025
Installation Ceremony of Incoming
President Bimal Mehta and his board of
Directors. Details inside

*"Success is liking
yourself, liking what
you do, and liking
how you do it."*

— Maya Angelou

DR. M.S. KAMATH, HON. SECRETARY OF THE CONSUMER GUIDANCE SOCIETY ON CONSUMERISM IN 2025



Thank you, I am particularly grateful to the Club for having invited me to speak today. There are many good people around whom I can call by their first names; one of them is your President. You may call him Mr. President, but I have the liberty of having worked with him and calling him Satyan.

My professor in medicine always used to say, "The worst time to talk to an august audience is immediately after lunch." I never understood the significance of that until I became a speaker myself. As a medical person, I can tell you that after you have a heavy meal, your blood sugar rises a bit. If you see, anywhere in the animal world, after a meal, the animal sleeps. So, it is natural that the moment you have a meal, you start feeling sleepy. Why I am telling you this is that if some of you find your eyes drooping a bit, don't worry. This is natural. Give in to your instincts. But avoid snoring and avoid falling on the person next to you. These are the two key things which can happen, so if you avoid these two things, then you are good.

You can do one nicer thing, which I discovered not as a doctor, but after I started attending consumer courts, having done my Master's degree in Law. I used to go to Consumer Court and see the judges. Most of the time, they sat at the table with their arms folded and looking right in front. I used to wonder, is there some judicial mandate that they should sit like that? One day, for some reason, I just walked down the aisle on that side, but the judge was looking right in front. I was wondering, I said, what is happening here?

In another court, a few days later, I tried the same trick. This time, I walked to the other side, thinking that maybe this guy has one eye which is not up to the mark, and he cannot see the left. The same thing happened. He was looking right in front. Then I tried this in multiple courts and found that the judges do not waver; they look just straight ahead. One of those days, as I was walking up and down, something happened, and I had to make a point very strongly, so I banged the table and said, "But my Lord," and the judge was startled when I did that. Then, I understood for the first time, thanks to my knowledge of both medicine and law, that judges have mastered the art of sleeping with their eyes open.

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It is a very difficult art. You must practise it hard. Only then can you master it — your facial muscles, your eye muscles, your eyelids. The reason I am telling you all this is that if you feel sleepy, go ahead and sleep. No problem. You can also then become a judge of the High Court. I will recommend you for a good position somewhere there.

Many people ask me — particularly when I teach at the Tata Institute of Social Sciences — some of the brightest students who come there, they ask me, “Sir, what is this? You have done your medicine and then law, which is a totally different subject.” Then I tell them, you know, one of the things which I like very much is Maggi hot and sweet tomato chilli sauce — it’s different. That category is different. Why should you be run of the mill? It is different.

So let us come straight away to consumerism. I chose consumerism today because it is a subject that is at the heart of everybody. Consumerism is an extremely important subject for all of us consumers. But fortunately, or unfortunately, we are doomed consumers. The definition of the word ‘consumer’ is a doomed word. It’s a D-Day word — you know, doomsday word.

Now why? In English, the word ‘consumer’ — an option for it is ‘customer’ — jo kasht karke martaa hai (‘one who dies after doing a lot of hard work throughout his life’). Now, you’ll say that’s just a coincidence. Stop. There may be other definitions also. I said, alright, let’s translate it into Hindi. What is it in Hindi? Upbhokta — jo sabse jyada bhogta hai (‘one who consumes the most’). Then you come to our local language, which is Marathi. It is grahak. And the equivalent for that is giraik — somebody pulls a fast one on you. So, whatever language you are in, the consumer is doomed.

But is this the way it should be? Is this the reality of life? Let us see quickly.



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Who is a consumer? One who purchases goods — everybody knows. But there is also another one — one who makes use of services. People tend to forget this. I’m not saying we always forget — a small percentage of people forgets that somebody who uses services is also a consumer.

This is the best saying I have heard: “Consumer is king.” Is the consumer king? I was speaking just last week to a student in one of the colleges. I said, “Is the consumer king?” He said, “Kaisa king?” He said, “You buy a brand-new mobile; it goes out of order within a month or two. It’s got a warranty of two years. You must go to the service fellow and say, ‘Sir, please repair this.’ He says, ‘Just come back after two months.’ You say, ‘What is wrong with you? I just bought this a few weeks back.’” So, understand, without a mobile, a college student is worse than naked. Sometimes they forget their books. Sometimes they come half-asleep — don’t mind their hair, et cetera. But the mobile will always be there. For them, college students and mobiles are inseparable. In fact, I am worried that a time will come when children will be born with mobiles. Some jugaad will come, and it will say, ‘Bachche ke saath hee mobile badhne do (‘let the mobile grow with the child’).’ Let the mobile also grow along with him. Let it be part of his body. That is the state of affairs.

So, this student says, “Sir, I have to beg that guy to please fix it in 4–5 days. I need it urgently. All my girlfriends call me on that number only.” These may or may not be good reasons, but the reason is there. All my appointments are there. My college attendance is there. When I copy in the exam, I copy from there. All of this is on the mobile. And you say consumer is king?

If you want to verify the statement that the consumer is king, I don’t know how many of you do this: travel in Bombay’s local trains. I just travelled in one yesterday evening. I travel pretty frequently just to see what the atmosphere is like, and I try during peak hours. It’s unbelievable. There are people on top of the train. There are people on the side of the train. It says to seat 75 people, but there are 375 people inside.

I read in a newspaper that about 14 people die every month because they fall off, either because they’re standing at the gate, and they lose their grip or something hits them, and they die. 14 people die every month. But traveling in the train, it’s quite an enlightening experience.

If you stand in the corridor, enlightenment is at its maximum. You know why? There is one guy who is standing on your right foot. There’s another guy with a bag which is pressing against your right knee. On your left side is a guy whose elbow is in your ribs. All of them are squeezing you from all sides. Tell them the consumer is king. The crowds are unbelievable.

One of my students shouted to me. When I said, “Tell them the consumer is king,” he said, “Sir, Sir, please don’t do that.” I said, “Why?” He said the word will spread around in the compartment: some madman is standing there and giving a lecture that the consumer is king. And tomorrow morning...



ANANDA YAAN RELIVES HISTORY WITH CHHAAVA



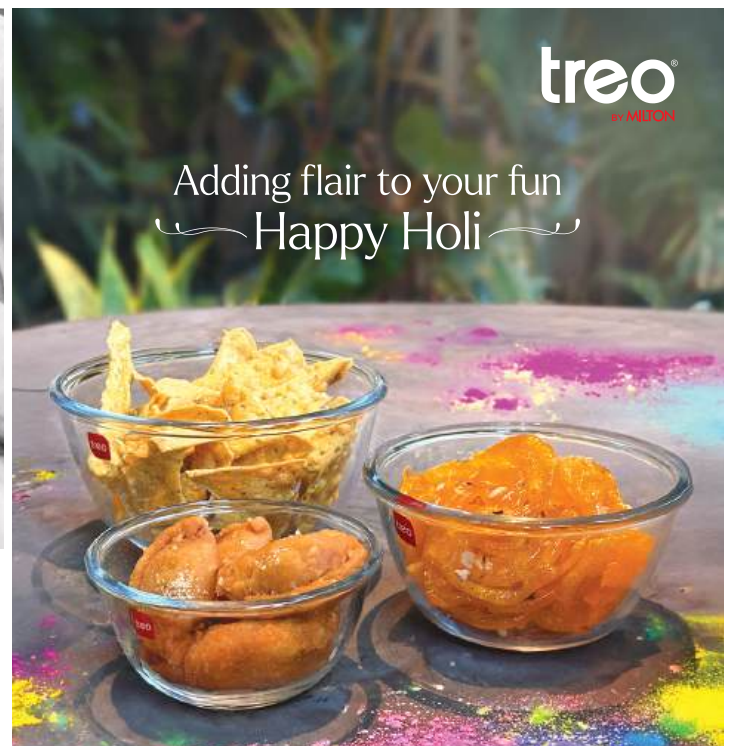
Ananda Yaan recently organised a special screening of Chhaava for its members, offering them an unforgettable cinematic experience. The historical action film, based on the life of Sambhaji Maharaj, the second ruler of the Maratha Empire, left the elders in awe. With its powerful storytelling, grand visuals, and captivating performances, Chhaava brilliantly portrayed the bravery, sacrifice, and legacy of the Maratha warrior. The elders were thoroughly engrossed in the gripping narrative and impressive battle sequences, praising the film for its authentic depiction of history. For many, this outing was not just entertaining but also a proud reminder of India's rich heritage.



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TUESDAY MEETINGS AT ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY



Rtn. Sandeep Puri introduces the speaker



President Satyan wishes Joint Honorary Secretary Rtn. Akhil Sanghi for his birthday



President Satyan thanks speaker Dr. M S Kamath for his time spent addressing the Club



Our speaker, Dr. M S Kamath regales the audience at the Taj Mahal Palace Hotel, Mumbai



Rtn. Mahesh Khubchandani asks a question



Rtn. Pranay Vakil asks a question



Rtn. Mudit Jain proposes a vote of thanks



Rtn. Jairaj Purandare, Rtn. Ptn. Malti Jain and Rtn. Meera Kumar



President Satyan with visiting Rotarian PP Swapnil Padeshi, Rotaractor Rupali Biramane and Interactor Shoumik Chourasia





INVITES YOU TO THE LAUNCH OF 3 PRESTIGIOUS PROGRAMS

THURSDAY 13 MARCH 2025



Career Learning Foundation Centre (CLFC)

at S.T. Kadam School, Palghar

IT Innovation Laboratory & Career Learning Foundation Centre (CLFC)

at S. D. Vartak School, Boisar

Dialysis Centre (with 9 machines) at Adhikari Hospital, Boisar

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Mahansaria

SCHEDULE FOR THE DAY

Departure from Mumbai
 Start: 7:00 AM

Stop 1: ST Kadam School, Palghar
10:30 AM
S T Kadam School, Boisar - Palghar Rd,
Gothan Pura, Palghar, Maharashtra 401404
 [Click for Map](#)
Halt Duration: 45 min
 Departure: 11:15 AM

Stop 2: S D Vartak School, Boisar
11:35 AM
S. D Vartak School, MIDC, Tarapur,
Boisar, Tal Palghar, P-203, Vidya Nagar,
Khaira, Maharashtra 401501
 [Click for Map](#)
Halt Duration: 60 min

Lunch at S D Vartak School, Boisar
12:45 PM – 1:30 PM

Stop 3: Adhikari Lifeline Hospital,
Nagzari, Boisar
1:50 PM
Adhikari Lifeline Hospital, Nagzari, MIDC Road
Naka, Boisar, Maharashtra 401501
 [Click for Map](#)
 Departure: 2:35 PM

Return to Mumbai
 Arrival: 5:30 PM

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A JOURNEY THROUGH TIME: LIGHTHOUSE VISITS MUSEUM

Thirty-eight enthusiastic children from the Lighthouse Project, along with four dedicated teachers, embarked on an exciting field trip to the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya. From the very moment of arrival, the young explorers were drawn into a world of history and storytelling that promised to make their day unforgettable.

The adventure began with an introduction to the traditional art of Kaavad storytelling. The Kaavad—a vibrant, toy-like wooden box that unfolds to reveal intricate panels—served as a captivating portal to tales of old. Traditionally used for narrating mythological and Panchatantra stories, the Kaavad offered a unique way of storytelling that

brought the narratives to life, eliminating the need for devotees to visit a temple. The children listened, wide-eyed, to an enchanting story about an elephant, setting a magical tone for the rest of the day.

As we moved through the museum, the children were enthralled by a diverse range of exhibits. They marvelled at the stunning collection of taxidermied birds and animals, which were so meticulously preserved that they seemed ready to spring to life. Ancient coins, intricately carved stones, and exquisite jewellery from different eras drew fascinated gazes and sparked curious questions. The section dedicated to the Indus Valley Civilisation was particularly

engaging, offering a glimpse into the advanced culture and daily lives of people who lived thousands of years ago. The children were intrigued by the artefacts, which included miniature seals, pottery, and tools that spoke volumes about the ingenuity of our ancestors.

The textile gallery proved to be another highlight. An impressive array of fabrics and patterns showcased India's rich artistic traditions, with the vibrant colours and intricate designs leaving the children in awe. Their excitement grew in the section dedicated to the legendary Maratha ruler, Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj. Here, they observed his armour, traditional attire, and weapons, along with

detailed models of forts that seemed to narrate tales of valour and strategy from a time long past.

The most thrilling part of the visit was undoubtedly the exhibit featuring a real Egyptian mummy and her preserved hand. The children were both fascinated and slightly spooked by this rare artefact, making it a standout memory of the trip.

As the day drew to a close, it was evident that the visit had been not only fun but also deeply educational. The children returned with bright eyes and a newfound appreciation for history, art, and culture, making this an enriching experience that would stay with them for years to come.



EMPOWERING VILLAGES: A BEACON OF HOPE IN PALGHAR

The Rotary Club of Bombay (RCB), supported by long-time donor Sumitomo Chemical India, recently marked a significant milestone in their ongoing partnership with the implementing NGO, Chirag Rural Development Foundation. Together, they inaugurated the 5th consecutive Integrated Village Development Project in the remote villages of Bhoyepada, Vanipada, and Khoste Gavthan in Vikramgad Taluka, Palghar. This initiative reflects a steadfast commitment to uplifting rural communities through sustainable and life-changing interventions.

Thanks to the unwavering support of RCB and Sumitomo, over 900 tribal residents now have access to essential resources crucial for sustainable rural transformation. A substantial 19.5KW of solar power has been deployed across these villages, directly benefiting 160 families who received portable home solar systems and household filters. These solutions have been instrumental in addressing two fundamental challenges: access to clean water and continuous lighting. Additionally, the School and Anganwadi at Bhoyepada have been equipped with energy solutions, brightening the path to education for the community's youngest members and replacing prolonged darkness with opportunities for engaged learning.

Among the most impactful interventions has been the installation of solar-powered irrigation systems. These systems have revolutionised agriculture for 54 farming families by providing a reliable water source for year-round cultivation. As a result, over 11 acres of land have already been brought under cultivation, with crops such as onions, groundnuts, and gavar thriving within the first month of irrigation. This rapid transformation was further supported by seed donations from another dedicated Rotarian. Each component of the project was complemented by capacity-building activities, ensuring that community members could maximise the benefits of the new solutions and take an active role in their own development.

The inauguration ceremony was a vibrant affair, attended by President Israni, distinguished Rotarians, and the management of Sumitomo Chemical. It commenced with a traditional welcome, the rhythmic beats of drums echoing a profound sense of gratitude and hope. For the villagers, this event was not merely about expressing thanks but a heartfelt embrace of those who had become architects of their future. The transformations witnessed extended beyond mere infrastructure, revitalising the very spirit of these communities. Conversations sparked by the occasion highlighted the need for deeper engagement with the stakeholders to align future interventions more closely with the community's aspirations.

The project's success did not go unnoticed, capturing the attention of both national and regional media. The coverage underscored the profound impact of the initiative, inspiring a broader conversation on sustainable rural development and the power of collaborative efforts in changing lives for the better.



MUSIC, MYSTICISM, AND MEMORIES IN JODHPUR



The Blue City... the city of music and mysticism — a group of 26 RCB members visited Jodhpur for three days to attend the much-anticipated Sufi festival, held every year in this beautiful city when the weather is equally welcoming.

Despite early planning by the Fellowship Committee, it was a challenge to secure hotel rooms at Taj Hari Mahal. As a result, the group checked into Taj Hari Mahal and Ranbanka Heritage Hotel in two groups.

On the first evening, we rushed to attend the music repertoire at the historic Mehrangarh Fort, which loomed up on a hill, lit up in all its magnificence! This exotic venue was to host all the evening performances during the festival.

The early mornings at Jaswant Thada were picturesque and beautiful. The music performance started at 7 a.m., and over the next hour, we all witnessed the sunrise and gazed in awe at the beautiful structure as it glowed in the morning sunlight — it was sublime.

Sufi music is a devotional form of music inspired by Sufism, the mystical branch of Islam. It aims to bring listeners closer to the divine through spiritual lyrics, melodies, and rhythms. Sufi music often features instruments like the harmonium, tabla, dhol, and ney (reed flute) and emphasises repetition and deep emotional expression to create a trance-like state, drawing listeners into a spiritual experience.

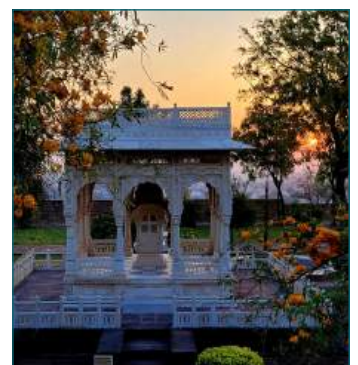
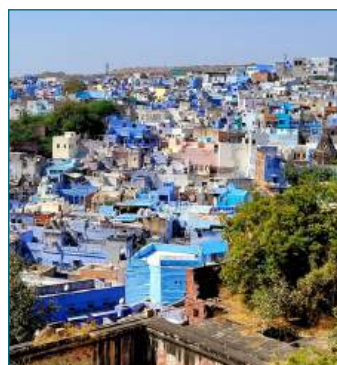
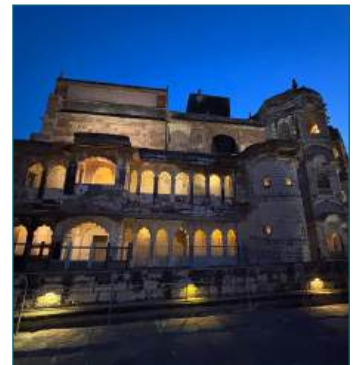
This year, however, the line-up of musicians from different parts of the world was less influenced by Sufism. The festival was accordingly titled “The Sacred Spirit Festival”. Unfortunately, what we experienced over the three days did not have a spiritual or trance-like effect on us. Much of the music was fusion and not what we had expected to hear.

With the fellowship came the amazing Rajasthani cuisine, beginning at Raas with its fusion menu and ending with the 31-course authentic thali at Gypsy Restaurant. Every dish,

though vegetarian, was a complex combination of amazing flavours — authentic and delicious!

Our last night at Khass Bagh — a Royal Mansion — was an outdoor dining experience where the royal family had displayed their absolutely stunning collection of vintage cars and Jeeps. Dining under the stars was a splendid way to celebrate the end of our Sufi sojourn.

- PP Shernaz Vakil





THE ANNUAL JAIN PHOLOON KI



Dear Rotarians,

We look forward to your presence on

Friday 14th March

10am to 1pm

at 44 Ashok Bhavan, 14th Road Khar.
Behind Satguru on Linking Road.

Join us for

Live music | Flavours of Dilli ki chaat
Shower of Rangeen Flowers | Kesar & Gulab

Rtn. Naresh Jain. Rtn. Mohit Jain Radhika Jain

RCB's VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT SUCCESS IN CHANDRAGAV

The Rotary Club of Bombay, in collaboration with Indian Oxides and the Narayan family, inaugurated the transformative Integrated Village Development Project at Chandragav in Jawhar, Palghar, this month. Facilitated by the Chirag Rural Development Foundation, this partnership marked the 40th Integrated Village Development Project by the Rotary Club of Bombay, showcasing the power of collaborative action for sustainable transformation. By addressing both immediate needs and long-term empowerment, the project set a new benchmark for rural development.

Chandragav, a picturesque village nestled deep in the Jawhar hills, witnessed this significant occasion with great enthusiasm. The event was attended by President Israni, esteemed Rotarians, media, guests, and, most importantly, the grateful villagers. The Rotary Club of Bombay had a unique opportunity to

witness the real impact of their efforts through the countless stories shared by the local community.

The Integrated Village Development Project not only enhanced community safety and security through solar household solutions and an extensive street electrification programme but also laid the foundation for equitable learning opportunities for rural students. The solar-powered Integrated Anganwadi Development Programme and the Integrated School Development Programme were instrumental in combining energy access with education and development capabilities.

One of the most significant impacts of the project has been on the farming families of the village. In this phase, 17 farming families gained access to year-round irrigation, and with the promise of sustainable prosperity, over a dozen more farmers are eager to enrol in the

next phase. Solar power has indeed become a beacon of hope for the 700+ tribal villagers of Chandragav, thanks to the generosity of the Rotary Club of Bombay's members.

The success of the Integrated Village Development Programme is evident in the transformation of over 40 villages in Palghar, ensuring that 249KW of solar power benefits more than 13,800 rural citizens. The project's remarkable achievements received significant media coverage, with over 100 news stories in both national and regional media. The media spotlight captured the resilience of the villagers, the project's innovative approach, and the profound changes in the lives of the community members. Through heartfelt stories of stakeholders who were both shy and proud of the changes, the coverage highlighted the far-reaching impact of the project and the unwavering commitment of the Rotary Club of Bombay.



LIGHTHOUSE - LEARNING IN NATURE'S CLASSROOM



Since our classes were non-functional due to the community hall being in use, we took the learning outdoors and had a wonderful time exploring the garden today!

The students of Sr. KG were thrilled to discover the beauty of nature around



them. Their curiosity was sparked by vibrant flowers like periwinkles and marigolds, tall, shady trees that provided shelter, and various types of leaves and branches. The children were especially fascinated by the busy ants at work and colourful butterflies fluttering around.



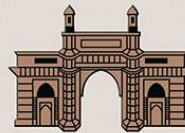
To wrap up our nature-filled adventure, the children enjoyed colouring sheets featuring different flowers, bringing their garden experience to life through art. The day was a perfect blend of learning and fun, leaving the young explorers eager for more outdoor lessons!



MONTHLY PATIENT COUNT

Director	Rtn. Renu Basu	
Committee chair/co-chair	Rtn. Swati Jajodia/ PP Vijay Jatia	
Name of the Committee	Dialysis	
Patients visited / treated		Feb-25
DIALYSIS	Platinum Hospital, Mulund	7
	Aastha Hospital, Manor	18
	Sukh Sagar Hospital, Dahisar	20
	Shatabdi Hospital, Govandi	108
	Shatabdi Hospital, Kandivali	25
	Samarpan, Ghatkopar	83
	Lifeline Medicare Hospital Charkop	38
	Dr.M.L.Dhawale Memorial Trust Hosp. Palghar	20
	K.J. Somaiya Hospital & Research Centre, Sion	38
	Acharya Shri Ramesh Dialysis Centre, Andheri E	54
	Rotary Yoda Dialysis Centre, Symbiosis Hospital	100
	Swami Shraddhanand Hospital, Vasai West	62
	Mallika Hospital, Jogeshwari West	36
Total		609

Rotary
Club of Bombay
Celebrating 95 years of service



DISTRICT 3141

SHAKTI AWARDS

CELEBRATING POWERFUL WOMEN

6.30 PM

SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 2025
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and

PRESIDENT SATYAN ISRANI

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FOLLOWED BY A
WINE & CHEESE EVENING

WEDNESDAY

26

MARCH

5.30 pm - 8.00 pm

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Worli, Mumbai 400018

HOSTED BY RTN. PRIYASRI PATODIA

ESTEEMED PANEL

MODERATOR



BITTU SEHGAL

Environmental Activist | Writer |
Founder Sanctuary Nature Foundation



DR. VIBHU PRAKASH

Wildlife Biologist | Extensively associated
with internationally acclaimed Vulture
Conservation Programme



MEET ASHAR

Lawyer | Animal Rights Advocate | With
focus on cruelty to animals and
law enforcement



RTN. ARISH DASTUR

Scholar of Religious Studies |
Former World Bank Urban
Sustainability Specialist

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ANANDA SEVA BY ANONYMOUS ROTARIAN

ANANDA YAAN MEMBERS VISIT THE STATUE OF UNITY AND JUNGLE SAFARI: A JOURNEY OF UNITY, REFLECTION, AND ADVENTURE

The recent trip of Ananda Yaan members to the Statue of Unity and the nearby Jungle Safari was a beautiful blend of cultural enrichment, spiritual reflection, and adventurous exploration. The visit, aimed at strengthening the bonds of unity among the group members, also provided an opportunity to reconnect with nature and experience the diverse landscapes of India.

The Statue of Unity: A Symbol of National Unity

The journey began with the Ananda Yaan members paying a visit to the Statue of Unity in Gujarat, which is not only the tallest statue in the world but also a tribute to one of India's greatest leaders, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. Standing at a towering height of 182 metres, the statue represents Patel's tireless efforts to unite the diverse regions and people of India post-independence. For the Ananda Yaan group, this was more than just a sightseeing experience; it was an opportunity to reflect on their shared values of unity, peace, and service.

Members gathered at the base of the statue to pay tribute to Patel, whose leadership continues to inspire millions. Many reflected on the importance of unity and integration in their own lives and how they could contribute to fostering harmony and understanding within their communities. The journey to the statue served as a reminder of how collective efforts can lead to monumental change, much like the unification of India in the years following independence.

Exploring the Monument Complex

The Ananda Yaan group then toured the Statue of Unity complex, which houses a museum, exhibition hall, and an audio-visual gallery. These spaces showcase the life and legacy of Sardar Patel, along with the monumental effort that went into creating the statue itself. Members were moved by the historical exhibits, which displayed the story of India's unification, and they marvelled at the engineering marvel that is the statue. The museum provided a chance for introspection, encouraging members to reflect on their own contributions to society and

how they could make a positive impact on the world.

In addition to the statue, the group also visited the Valley of Flowers and Sardar Patel Zoological Park, which are located in the vicinity of the statue. These areas offered a peaceful and serene environment, allowing members to connect with nature and rejuvenate their spirits. The tranquil surroundings were perfect for moments of silent reflection and meditation, deepening the group's bond with one another and reinforcing the importance of unity in all aspects of life.

A Thrilling Adventure at the Jungle Safari

After immersing themselves in the legacy of Sardar Patel, the Ananda Yaan group set off for an exciting visit to the nearby Jungle Safari, located in the heart of the Sardar Patel Zoological Park. This excursion brought a sense of adventure and excitement to the trip, offering members the chance to experience India's diverse wildlife up close.

The Jungle Safari is home to a variety of animal species, including tigers, lions, leopards, deer, and a wide range of birds. As the group boarded open safari vehicles and ventured into the lush landscapes, they were able to witness the natural beauty of the region and observe these majestic creatures in their natural habitat. The safari was not only an opportunity to experience the thrill of wildlife but also to reflect on the delicate balance of nature and the importance of preserving the environment for future generations.

Unity in Nature: Lessons from the Safari

For Ananda Yaan members, the safari was more than just a thrilling adventure. It was also a powerful reminder of the interconnectedness of all living beings and the importance of living in harmony with nature. As the members watched animals interact with each other in their natural environment, they reflected on the lessons that nature can teach us about cooperation, resilience, and coexistence.

The experience also prompted discussions about the importance of preserving wildlife and protecting the planet. Many members were moved by the sight of endangered species



and understood the critical role they play in maintaining ecological balance. The safari thus became a metaphor for the way human beings must work together, respecting the diversity of life around them while ensuring a sustainable future for all.

Strengthening Bonds and Renewing Purpose

The combination of reflection at the Statue of Unity and the adventure of the Jungle Safari gave Ananda Yaan members the opportunity to bond on a deeper level. Shared experiences, whether in spiritual contemplation or in the excitement of wildlife sightings, created lasting memories and strengthened the sense of unity within the group. The visit provided ample opportunities for group discussions, where members exchanged ideas on how they could contribute to building a more compassionate, united world.

For many, the trip was a reminder that unity is not only about human relationships but extends to our relationship with nature and all living creatures. Just as Sardar Patel worked towards uniting India's diverse states, the Ananda Yaan members recognised that unity also involves working towards the harmonious coexistence of humans, animals, and the environment.





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Dharamshala
is turning 2!

29TH MARCH 2025

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**JOIN US FOR A PROJECT
TOUR FOLLOWED BY A
CELEBRATORY LUNCH.**

Room No. 1601 & 1602, 5D building, 16th flr.
Mhada Transit Camp, Bombay Dyeing Mill
Compound, Cemetery Lane,
Bhoiwada, Parel, Mumbai - 400012

[CLICK HERE](#)  [for directions](#)

Rotary
Club of Bombay
Celebrating 95 years of service
Celebrating 95 years of service



DISTRICT 3141

SAVE
THE
DATE
SHUKRIYA
NITE
TUESDAY
JUNE 24, 2025
DETAILS TO FOLLOW



SAVE THE DATE
24TH JUNE 2025

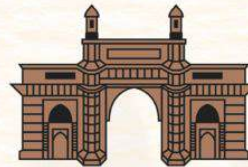
PRES. SATYAN'S
**SHUKRIYA
NITE**

AFTER-PARTY WITH
DJ SUKETU
KING OF BOLLYWOOD REMIXES





Celebrating 96 Years of Service



DISTRICT 3141

INSTALLATION *Ceremony*

FOR INCOMING PRESIDENT
BIMAL MEHTA
& HIS BOARD OF DIRECTORS



SAVE THE DATE

01 | July
2025

NEXT WEEK:

ANANYA BIRLA TO BE FELICITATED WITH ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY YOUNG WOMAN ACHIEVER AWARD

Ananya Birla's latest venture into the Indian Beauty & Cosmetics industry is set to redefine multiple categories with unique and innovative brands, launching nationwide through 2025. This move highlights her remarkable journey as an entrepreneur. At just 17, Ananya founded Svantra Microfin, now India's second-largest and fastest-growing NBFC-MFI, impacting over 45 million lives across 19 states with pioneering financial solutions. Beyond business, Ananya is a committed mental health advocate. Since 2020, the Ananya Birla Foundation has partnered with 25+ nonprofits, benefiting over 30,000 people in five states. Recently, she introduced Sophius, an AI platform, at IIT Bombay, with global expansion plans. As a Director on the Aditya Birla Group's strategic body, Ananya continues to influence multiple sectors with her visionary leadership.



ROTARIAN MEMBER BIRTHDAYS



MARCH 11
Rtn. Niloufer
Lam



MARCH 11
Rtn. Dr. Phiroze
Soonawalla



MARCH 12
PP Shailesh
Haribhakti



MARCH 14
Rtn. Swati
Mayekar



MARCH 15
Rtn. Ram
Gandhi



MARCH 15
Hon. Rtn. Uday
Kotak



MARCH 16
Rtn. Siddharth
Mehta



MARCH 17
President Satyan
Israni



MARCH 17
Rtn. Rajendra
Shah

ROTARIAN PARTNER BIRTHDAYS

MARCH 11
Rtn. Ptn. Akshay
Singhania

MARCH 14
Rtn. Ptn. Nasreen
Contractor

MARCH 16
Rtn. Ptn. Meenal
Patodia

ANNIVERSARIES

MARCH 11
Rtn. Ptn. Arti &
PP Arun Sanghi

MARCH 13
Rtn. Ptn. Rashna &
Rtn. Soli Cooper

MARCH 14
Rtn. Ptn. Jita & Rtn.
Bipin Kapadia

MARCH 17
Rtn. Ptn. Hemlata &
Rtn. Dr. Devendra Saksena



ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY 2024-25	
Trustees	
PP Dr. Adi Dastur	ARRFC & PDG Sandip Agarwalla
PP Nandan Damani	PP Ashish Vaid
	Ishraq Contractor
Office-Bearers	
President Satyan Israni	
IPP Manoj Patodia	PE Bimal Mehta
PN Manish Reshamwala	Honorary Secretary Rhea Bhungara
Joint Honorary Secretary Akhil Sanghi	Treasurer Mehul Sampat
Additional Director PP Framroze Mehta	
PN Manish Reshamwala	
Classification & Membership	PP Nandan Damani
Information	ARRFC & PDG Sandip Agarwalla
Finance & CSR	Treasurer Mehul Sampat
Director Sameer Tapia	
Attendance	Maresh Khubchandani
District Thrust Areas	PP Pradeep Saxena
Sergeant-at-Arms	Roda Billimoria
Legal Aid and Awareness	Tahera Mandviwala
Director Venkat Ramaswamy	
Public Awards	Anand Dalal
International Programmes	Christopher Bluemel
Taparia College	PP Pradeep Saxena
Fund Raising	PP Vineet Bhatnagar
Director Siddharth Bhimrajka	
Water Resources	Siddharth Bhimrajka
Lighthouse	Vandan Shah
Elder Day Care Alibaug	PP Ashish Vaid
Ananda Yaan	Kaushal Mehta
Trans Salon (DEI)	Ratna Sharma
Director Rahil Shah	
Integrated Village Development with Chirag	Ravindra Fotedar
Panchatattva Gale Village	Vinti Gajree
Urban Nature Habitat	Jamshed Vakharia
Heritage, Art & Culture	Aditya Somani
Animal Welfare	Priyasri Patodia
Director Gautam Doshi	
Bhavishya Yaan	Akhil Sanghi
IT Innovation Labs	Abhishek Saraf
Adult Literacy for Women	Runit Shah
EVS Curriculum	Nikhil Bhatia
Programme	Rina Deora
Vocational Training & Night Study Centre	Wrinda Rajgarhia
Director Renu Basu	
RCB Medical Centre, Talwada	Chairman Emeritus PP Dr. Rumi Jehangir
	Mihir Mody
Cotton Green Clinic	Dr. Mehmosh Dotivala
Cancer Aid	Farokh Balsara
Committee for Neurodivergent Children	PP Shernaz Vakil
Dharamshala	Naresh Pachisia & Miral Shah
Dialysis	Swati Jajodia
Director Mudit Jatia	
Website, Social Media & Public Image	Laxmi Maneklal
Bulletin	Abhinav Aggarwal
Fellowship & In-Camera	Ritu Desai
Assimilation	Vineet Suchanti
The Rotary Foundation	PP Vijay Jatia
Director Jaymin Jhaveri	
Sports / Yoga	Hiranmay Biswas
Paediatric Heart Surgeries	Natasha Treasurywala
Rotaract Clubs	Sidhanth Jatia
Satellite Club	Murad Currawalla
Interact Schools	Mudit Jain
Scholarships	PP Preeti Mehta