

THE GATEWAY

UNITE
FOR
GOOD

Bulletin of the Rotary Club of Bombay

VOLUME 67 ISSUE NO. 4 JULY 22, 2025



Celebrating 96 Years of Service

This Tuesday, July 22nd
S.V.R. Srinivas, Dharavi
Redevelopment Project
CEO, IAS and
Dr. Manjiri Kamat, Prof.
of History, University of
Mumbai, in conversation
with Rtn. Nandini
Sampat

COMING UP

July 23rd, 6 pm

Distribution of school kits to Night
Study Centre, Prabhadevi School.

July 27th, 7 am

Talwada Medical Camp, details
inside.

July 29th, Tuesday Meeting



**Anish Gawande: A Young
Politician in the Making – From
Kala Ghoda to Gadchiroli, What
It Means to Be a Young Politician
from Mumbai.**

August 8th, 7 pm

Parsi Nite @ Allbless Baug.

August 10th

Fellowship Table Tennis for
members and families, details to
follow.

MR. N.R. NARAYANA MURTHY IN CONVERSATION WITH ARRFC & PDG SANDIP AGARWALLA



Mr. Murthy was awarded the RCB Ramkrishna Bajaj award for Good Governance

It's a great afternoon. What a wonderful turnout for the legendary Mr. N.R. Narayana Murthy. I don't know how many of you recall that Mr. Murthy has been to our Club before. And when I say before, I mean long back, around 2000, when I was the programme committee chairman for PP Adi Dastur. I had made a cold call to his Bangalore office, his secretary came on the line. I introduced myself and said I was the programme committee chairman of the Rotary Club of Bombay. He said, "Will you send me an e-mail if you want to invite him?" And I did.

He called me back the next day and said Mr. Murthy was agreeable to come, but it would have to be on a date of his choice. I said, "Whatever date he chooses." And then the rest is history. It was one of his first lectures on corporate governance and I remember we had an overflowing house that day too. We are very grateful that you are here with us once again today.

Also in that meeting was our member Gajendra Patni, of Patni Computer Systems, whom you worked with initially before branching out on your own. I remember he was sitting in the first row, and you acknowledged his presence very graciously. He was thrilled to be recognised by you.

So, I would like to start our conversation today with your early years, as was mentioned by PP Vineet Bhatnagar in his introduction. You've often mentioned borrowing ₹10,000 from your wife to start Infosys. What does that moment mean to you today?

Well, there are many people and many things I owe gratitude to. One such person is Mr. Deepak Parekh. Like Eklavya observed Dronacharya from a distance, I observed that the first and most important ingredient for the success of a corporation is to benchmark yourself against the best global corporations. That's what Deepak taught me, from a distance.

When we went to seek a loan of ₹1,00,000 — my wife and I — they were so hospitable, so



kind, so nice. I said, “Somehow this appears like a Maya Jala, it’s not real.” Then my wife said, “No, wait till we get to the lawyer.” We went to the lawyer — he was also very kind, very helpful.

So, what Deepak taught me was the most important thing I learned: if you want to succeed, have the best customer focus in the world and keep improving it.

Similarly, my wife has been an extraordinary supporter. I don’t know of anybody achieving anything worthwhile in life without the unstinted support and commitment of their life partner.

It’s not just the ₹10,000 that mattered — that happened in a particular context. Two of my younger colleagues did not even have the small equity they were supposed to contribute, and I was very uncomfortable with them taking a loan from the other five people. I said, “Let me ask my wife if she can loan it to all seven of us, and then we will repay her at the earliest.” And we did.

So yes, the initial sum was given by my wife. But there were umpteen occasions when I received help, support, confidence, and encouragement from her. I won’t get into those because they are too numerous and would take too much time. I will always remain very grateful to her because, without her support, encouragement, and generosity, I don’t think I would have achieved even a fraction of what I have.

That’s wonderful. We all know, even today, how gracious and compassionate she is. And I think it started very early on when she had blind faith in you and supported you. But looking back, Murthy saab, what do you think was the most defining turning point in your Infosys journey?

There were several, but I would like to pick one.

In 1995, a Fortune 10 corporation that was working with four Indian companies came to India to renegotiate terms. They wanted us to reduce our rates. They had sequestered us in different rooms at Taj Residency in Bangalore. I had a discussion with all my younger colleagues, and they were all very insistent that we should simply accept the new terms because our competitors — TCS, Wipro, and others — were all signing on the dotted line.

But I told them I didn’t agree. If we wanted to invest more in our employees, provide better compensation, better training, and create good physical and technological infrastructure — all of that is funded by one entity, and that is the customer. Therefore, it is our responsibility to respectfully and humbly convince them.

As the negotiation progressed, it seemed they were moving from room to room, and others were signing. At around 4:30 pm, they

were to come to our room. All my colleagues voted to go along with the reduction, and I understood their concerns. They were bright and grounded in reality. We had gone public in 1993 — this was May 1995 — and the company in question made up 25% of our revenues.

They said, “We can’t imagine anyone giving up 25% of revenue so soon after listing.” I realised there was no point arguing. So, I stepped out to the reception area and made a call to my wife. I told her, “So far, you have looked after our children very well, and I’m grateful. But now, I need to make a decision that will require me to be away from home for about 300 days a year for the next three to four years.”

She said, “Don’t worry, I am 100% with you.” So, I went back, and when the representatives came, I respectfully explained why they should not insist on reducing the rates. They were not in the mood to listen because the other companies had agreed. Then, I told them, “I fully understand and respect your position, and we will transition all the work to whomever you choose, within the timeline you want, in a harmonious way.” And we did that.

I came back home, and from that day until May 1998 — five years — I went around the world. In those days, we hardly had money. We’d sometimes have dinner at McDonald’s, stay in motels near the airport — those were the only places we could afford.

Fortunately, in that journey, my two colleagues, Nandan and Phaneesh, even though they initially disagreed with me, gave their full support. The three of us together — I’m glad to say — not only made up for the loss of that 25% revenue, but actually accelerated faster than our competitors.

So, in some sense, it was a turning point because it brought to the minds of my younger colleagues that a plausible impossibility is better than a convincing possibility. And what is needed is confidence, hard work, high aspirations, and determination. I think that was a time when these words meant actual reality, and I’m very



INTERACTORS LEAD THE WAY IN ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION

On July 18th, 2025, the Rotaract Club of Mumbai conducted an insightful session at The Scholar High School for students of Classes 6, 7, and 8. Led by Ms. Kunti Oza, the session focused on waste management, proper disposal of plastic, and the *Mera Aangan Saaf* campaign.

Ms. Oza explained the importance of segregating waste into dry and wet bins, and how everyday plastic—like milk or vegetable packets—can be collected and recycled. She also encouraged students to keep their surroundings clean, including school premises, residential buildings, and nearby areas.

Using posters and placards from previous awareness drives, Ms. Oza inspired students to take action. They pledged to begin collecting milk packets every Friday and spread awareness within their homes and communities.



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TUESDAY MEETINGS AT ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY



Hon. Secy. Farhat Jamal, Fisrt Lady Aradhana Mehta, Rtn. Anand Dalal, Hon. Rtn. Deepak Parekh, guest speaker Mr. N.R. Narayana Murthy, President Bimal Mehta, ARRFC & PDG Sandip Agarwalla, Rtn. Rina Deora and PP Vineet Bhatnagar



Rotraians Rajyalakshmi Rao Meka, Dushyant Dave, Sameer Tapia, Rina Deora, PP Manoj Patodia, Rtn. Ptn. Malti Jain, Jaidev Merchant and PE Manish Reshamwala



PP Framroze Mehta, IPP Satyan Israni and Rtn. Pulin Shroff



Rotarians Sameer Kaji and Bipin Vazirani



Rotarians Jaidev Merchant, Sameer Tapia and PP Manoj Patodia



Rtn. Rina Deora, PP Arun Sanghi and Rtn. Miral Shah



Rtn. Amay Merchant, Rtn. Akhil Sanghi and Jt. Hon. Secy. Rhea Bhungara



Rotarians Azim Tapia, Vivek Kothari and Sameer Tapia



Rtn. Vrinda Rajgarhia and Rtn. Purnima Sheth



Rotarians Uday Sanghani, Abhishek Saraf and IPP Satyan Israni



Rotarian Partners Radhika Kaji, Malini Agarwalla, PP Nirav Shah and Rtn. Ptn. Malti Jain



Rtn. Rajyalakshmi Rao Meka, Rtn. Rina Deora and Rtn. Ptn. Malti Jain

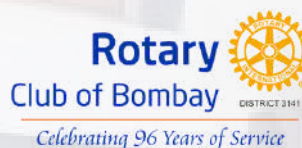


Full house for the Tuesday meeting

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FOR
MORE



President Bimal Mehta wishes PP Framroze Mehta, PP Nirav Shah, Rtn. Dr. Ashok Kripalani, Rtn. Dr. Indu Shahani, Rtn. Kiren Srivastav and Rtn. Runit Shah for their birthdays



The Night Study Centre Committee

has arranged a project visit
for an
Educational Study Material Distribution Activity
at the Rotary Club of Bombay
PRABHADEVI NIGHT STUDY CENTRE

WEDNESDAY

23
JULY

6 PM - 7 PM

Prabhadevi Night Study Centre, Ground Flr. Marvin Methodist Church,
Century Bazaar, Sai Sunder Nagar, Prabhadevi, Mumbai 4000025

Register with Rashmi
+91 97691 40141

LIGHTHOUSE CHILDREN ON A NATURE TRAIL ADVENTURE



IPP Satyan Israni treated 65 enthusiastic Lighthouse children to a memorable nature trail adventure—a day that seamlessly blended discovery, leadership, and fun. Among them were seven passionate alumni leaders and five dedicated teachers, each contributing to an experience that left a lasting impression on all.

The trail began with a unique sensory briefing. The children were encouraged to engage all five senses—to see, hear, touch, smell, and feel the natural world around them. They embraced the challenge wholeheartedly. For the first 15 minutes, the trail was filled with a calm, attentive silence—not from fatigue, but from deep listening. They tuned into the rustling of leaves, the chirping of birds, and the gentle whisper of the wind.

Every step revealed wonders—leaves in different shapes and sizes, trees bearing fruit or shedding dry leaves, hidden nests, and delightful surprises of the forest. The children, divided into seven groups led by alumni, remained engaged and enthusiastic throughout. Special mention goes to Pratibha, whose calm and disciplined leadership made her group truly shine.

The trail ended with a lively nature quiz, where the excitement was palpable. Children eagerly shared what they had observed and experienced, proving they had truly connected with nature.

The day was filled with joy—laughter, bonding, and playful moments caught on camera. A heartfelt thanks to the alumni for their warmth and guidance.

The children returned not just with happy memories, but with lessons in observation, deep listening, and leading with empathy—gifts from nature they will carry forward.



BRINGING YOUNG MINDS TOGETHER: INTERACT CLUBS MEET AT ST. AGNES SCHOOL

On July 15th, 2025, the Interact Clubs get-together was hosted at St. Agnes High School, bringing together Interactors from several city schools. The meeting began around 3 pm with Rotary Club of Bombay Interact Committee members Rtn. Mudit Jain, Rtn. Hiren Kara, and Rtn. Tejas Pawar leading the proceedings. Participating Interact Clubs included Sir J. J. Girls', Bharda, Cathedral, Scholars, and St. Agnes as the gracious host.

The gathering was further enriched by the presence of Mrs. Kunti Oza, who inspired the students with her passion for environmental initiatives. The committee members engaged with the Interactors, discussing current projects and exploring new ideas where Rotary could offer support.

The Principal of St. Agnes proposed workshops, which were noted for future implementation. Students also brainstormed collaborative projects such as visits to orphanages, old age homes, and shelter homes.

Teacher coordinators were honoured with certificates of appreciation, and the Four-Way Test frames were presented to schools to be placed in the principal's office.

The event concluded by 4 pm with the distribution of snack boxes, leaving behind a spirit of collaboration, motivation, and cherished memories for all attendees.



The Interactors expressed a sincere desire to contribute meaningfully, but they also need our support. Specifically, they are looking for:

- Book donations for underprivileged organisations
- Financial literacy programmes for the NGOs they visit
- Awareness sessions on digital bullying, nutrition, and environmental issues for their peers

I appeal to all Committee Chairpersons to share their requirements for volunteers with either Rtn. Mudit Jain or Rtn. Hiren Kara. If any Rotarians are willing to step forward and help meet the specific requests raised by our Interactors, please reach out to us. Your involvement could make a lasting impact on these young, motivated minds.

APPEAL

AND WE CONTINUE TO
MAKE A DIFFERENCE
ONE PATIENT AT A TIME

PLEASE JOIN
PRESIDENT BIMAL MEHTA
FOR A PROJECT
VISIT TO TALWADA

HIGHLIGHTS:
SICKLE CELL ANEMIA TESTING CAMP
- ADMC
EYE CHECK-UP CAMP - PRVEC

SUNDAY, 27TH JULY, 2025

DEPARTURE TIME:
7:00 AM BANDRA SEA LINK
(BANDRA END)

DR. RUMI JEHANGIR
CHAIRMAN EMERITUS

MIHIR MODY
CHAIR

DR. SHEELA KERKAR
CO-CHAIR

TALWADA MEDICAL CENTRE COMMITTEE

RSVP CLICK ON : +919769140141 (RASHMI)



MONSOON MAGIC FOR LIGHTHOUSE'S LITTLE EXPLORERS



The Junior KG class of Lighthouse embarked on a fun-filled monsoon adventure to the garden, embracing the season with enthusiasm and curiosity. Dressed in colourful raincoats and carrying little umbrellas, the tiny tots explored nature in all its rainy glory. They observed various types of leaves, admired blooming flowers, and spotted birds like crows and sparrows. Walking through the wet grass brought squeals of joy, and the hands-on experience delighted all. The children later channelled their creativity by colouring mushrooms, a familiar sight during the rains. This outdoor excursion was a refreshing change from routine, leaving the young learners thrilled.



A Birthday of Giving: Celebrating with Bhavishya Yaan Children

Rotaractor Nidhi chose to celebrate her sister's birthday in a truly meaningful way—by spending it with the Bhavishya Yaan children at G.K. Marg School. What began as a small idea blossomed into a heartwarming and unforgettable experience.

Nidhi and her guests spent quality time with the children, engaging in joyful conversations, laughter, and shared learning. They conducted a simple yet impactful activity where they taught the children how to frame basic English sentences. The children's enthusiasm and eagerness to

learn left the visitors deeply inspired.

To make the day even more special, the guests distributed cakes, chocolates, books, and pens to all the children. The bright smiles and pure excitement on the children's faces were the highlight of the day.

More than just a birthday celebration, this visit served as a touching reminder of the power of giving, the importance of education, and the joy that thoughtful gestures can bring.





ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY DIALYSIS CENTRES

Sr.No.	Centre / Location	Address	No. of Machines	Charges for Poor Patients
1	Aastha Hospital, Manor	First Floor, Rais Arcade, Palghar-Wada Road, Manor District Palghar 401403	3	Free
2	Platinum Hospital, Mulund	Neptune Colorscape, Dumping Rd, Siddharth Nagar, Mulund West, Mumbai 400080	2	Free
3	Sukh Sagar Hospital, Dahisar (Rotary Dialysis Centre)	Lokmanya Tilak Rd, Mhatre Wadi, Dahisar West, Mumbai 400068	2	800
4	Shatabdi Hospital, Govandi (Rehbar Foundation)	Rehbar Foundation Malik Rakia Khatoon Dialysis Centre, 1st Flr. Shatabdi Hospital, Centenary Building, WTP Marg, Deonar, Govandi East, Mumbai 400088	3	Free
5	Shatabdi Hospital, Kandivali	Swami Vivekananda Rd, Kandivali, Fateh Baug, Kandivali West, Mumbai 400067	2	Free
6	Samarpan Dialysis & Thalassemia Centre, Ghatkopar	Aaradhya Edu-Health Centre, H-wing, 3rd Flr., Aaradya One Earth, Naidu Colony, Pant Nagar, Ghatkopar East, Mumbai 400077	14	300
7	Lifeline Medicare Hospital, Charkop	Near Rustomjee Meridian, Charkop Gaon / Village, Kandivali West, Mumbai, 400067	10	300
8	Dr. M.L. Dhawale Memorial Trust Hospital, Palghar	Boisar Rd, Opp. S.T Workshop, Industrial Co-Op Estate, Palghar 401404	2	250
9	K.J. Somaiya Hospital & Research Centre, Sion, Mumbai	Somaiya Ayurvihar, Eastern Express Hwy, Sion East, Mumbai 400022	10	Free
10	Acharya Shri Ramesh Dialysis Centre, Andheri East, Mumbai	316 B-Wing, Dattani Plaza, near Safed Pool, Sakinaka, Andheri Kurla Road, Andheri(East), Mumbai 400072	10	Free
11	Mallika Hospital, Jogeshwari	Sharma Estate, S V Road, Jogeshwari west, Mumbai Maharashtra 400102	4	Free
12	Symbiosis University Hospital & Research Centre, Pune	Pune Dnyan Marg, Mulshi Rd, Lavale, Maharashtra 412115	8	Free
13	Swami Shraddhanand Hospital, Vasai	Near Shankaracharya Samadhi Mandir Navale, Nirmal, Vasai (W, Vasai-Virar, Maharashtra 401304	6	Free
14	Adhikari Lifeline Hospital, Boisar	Adhikari Lifeline Hospital, Nagzari, Boisar	9	Free

To know more reach out to:

Rtn. Swati Jajodia +91 9821028587 swati@spentose.com

Rotary
Club of Bombay
Celebrating 96 years of service



DISTRICT 3141

THE FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE
OF THE
ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY
CORDIALLY INVITE
YOU TO THE
PARSI NITE
WITH
MUSIC, COCKTAILS & DINNER

7.00 PM ONWARDS

ALLBLESS BAUG
CHARNI ROAD, MUMBAI

FRIDAY, 8TH AUGUST, 2025

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RSVP : CLICK ON [+919769140141](tel:+919769140141) (RASHMI)

DONOR PASSES @ RS. 2000 PER PERSON

ONLINE PAYMENT : [HTTPS://IMJO.IN/F9ZMUH](https://imjo.in/f9zmuH)

Rotarian Birthdays



JULY 23
Rtn. Sushil
Jalan



JULY 26
PN Vineet
Suchanti



JULY 24
Rtn. Vivek
Gupta



JULY 27
Rtn. Peter
Born



JULY 25
Rtn. Anirudh
Chowdhary



JULY 27
Rtn. Ameer
Tanna

Rotarian Partner Birthdays

JULY 24
Rtn. Ptn. Siddharth
Rawat

JULY 25
Rtn. Ptn. Radhika
Mehta

JULY 27
Rtn. Ptn. Soha
Parekh

JULY 28
Rtn. Ptn. Beena
Yargop

Anniversaries

July 31
Rtn. Ptn. Shalina & Rtn. Jai Advani

NEXT TUESDAY: Anish Gawande: A Young Politician in the Making – From Kala Ghoda to Gadchiroli, What It Means to Be a Young Politician from Mumbai

Anish Gawande is a writer, translator, and politician currently serving as the National Spokesperson for the Nationalist Congress Party (Sharadchandra Pawar). A Rhodes Scholar, he holds degrees in comparative literature from Columbia University and in intellectual history and public policy from the University of Oxford.

Anish is the founder of Pink List India, the country's first archive of politicians supporting LGBTQ+ rights, and a recognised advocate for inclusion and equal rights. As a translator, he has brought the poetry of Ramchandra Siras from Marathi to English. He continues to write and speak on contemporary art and literature, while also curating exhibitions at prominent art galleries across India.



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