

The Gateway



BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY

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THIS TUESDAY

**Dr. Natasha Bijlani
Khubchandani
on Stress Busting
Strategies**

COMING UP

November 14th, 2024:

An exclusive walk with
the curator and designer
of People of Mumbai -
Exhibition at Mumbai
Gallery.

Details inside.

November 16th, 2024:

Rotary Club of Bombay
Mentorship Programme.

Details inside.

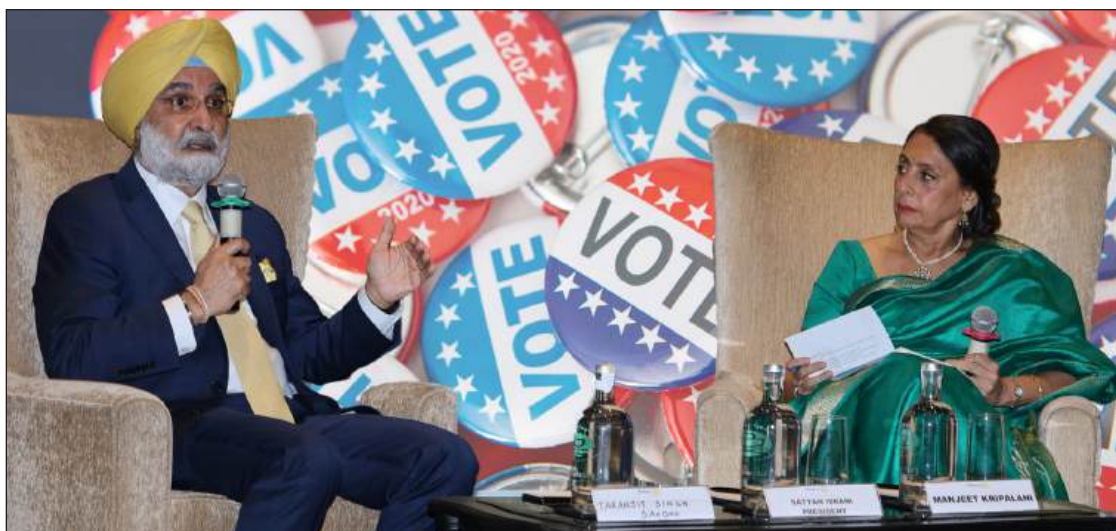
November 19th, 2024:

Renowned columnist,
author & global thought
leader, Fareed Zakaria,
host of Fareed Zakaria
GPS on CNN.

November 26th, 2024

Paralympic Gold Medalist
Harvinder Singh to be
felicitated Rotary Club
of Bombay Arvind Jolly
Award for Excellence in
Sports

Mr. Taranjit Singh Sandhu, India's ambassador to the United States in conversation with Rtn. Manjeet Kripalani on the US elections 2024 impact on India and the world.



What are the three or four main issues in this election? You've observed them all closely, Taranjit, over the last four years.

- The first notable point about the US election system is that a candidate can win the popular vote but still lose the election. In India, whoever secures the popular vote generally wins, but the US has had four cases to the contrary — most recently in 2016, with Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump. This is why media outlets hesitate to make predictions. Furthermore, only seven states, the “swing states,” are expected to influence the outcome. Why should that be? Logically, larger states like California, with almost 60 electoral college votes, should have more impact. However, due to the American electoral system, which the framers established, certain states tend to cancel each other out. For instance, California generally votes Democrat, and Texas Republican. This pattern has led to recent elections where seven smaller states, representing around 80–90 electoral votes, make the ultimate difference.
- Now, to address the main issues. As in any democratic election, this one has its key issues. Firstly, there's the cost of living. The US is in a unique position where inflation is reportedly decreasing, yet the cost of living remains high. Economists could explain the specifics, but simply put, it's an after-effect of COVID-19, which has impacted essential goods. Whether it's in stores or at the petrol pump, when fuel prices are high, people often blame the government. So, cost of living works against the current administration, creating a kind of anti-incumbency effect that benefits the opposition.
- The next major issue is immigration, which connects with law and order, racial dynamics, and foreign perceptions. Immigration itself has various facets — legal, illegal, and family-related. Public perception, however, is that immigration has increased the cost of living and made life more challenging. For example, law and order often link to immigration in people's minds, and this perception has grown since the pandemic. During COVID, with cities under lockdown, crime was lower. But once the economy reopened, crime rates also rose, with certain groups often perceived to be responsible.
- Another key issue is women's rights, particularly around abortion, which is critical in this election. Women comprise about 54%



of the electorate, and if turnout among women is high, it could favour the Democrats, which would be surprising to many. Historically, the assumption was that women would have low turnout, but they turned out strongly in 2022. So, bear this in mind.

- Of course, foreign policy also has a role, though limited. Middle Eastern tensions, the US response, Ukraine, Russia, and the China issue are all important topics. There are many more issues, but these are some of the core ones likely to shape the election and potentially impact us as well.

Before we move on to the India-US bilateral relationship, in which you are an expert, let's discuss America's international standing. Clearly, America's influence on global events has diminished, as seen with the Russia-Ukraine War, the Israel-Hamas conflict, the rise of BRICS, and other developments. How will the incoming President — or the incumbent, if they remain — have to address this? What steps will they need to take to either reverse some of these changes, move forward, or at least accept new global leadership dynamics?

- My response will be extempore, not deeply premeditated. When COVID began, several Indian channels interviewed me, and there was a perception that the US had lost its power. I'd like to ask you a straightforward question, and I encourage you to answer it honestly in your mind. If you had to choose a scholarship for your child from Russia, China, or America, where would you send them? I think the laughter answers that. The United States is a technology powerhouse. When we discuss India-US relations, I'll return to this point.
- During COVID, many thought it was the end for the US.



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Yet, within a year, they developed the RNA vaccine — a technological milestone with the potential to impact not only COVID but also cancer and other diseases, as those with scientific expertise have observed.

- We recently witnessed Israel's advanced technology in the current conflict. Where do you think that technological innovation originated? Many articles have highlighted the advancements in defence systems, specifically air defence, which offers insights relevant to us as well, much like the technology seen in the Russia-Ukraine war. That said, the world is constantly changing, and the US itself recognises that it no longer holds sole dominance. This shift is evident in new multilateral alliances: the Quad, the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework, the India-Middle East-Europe Corridor, and, of course, BRICS.
- COVID demonstrated that international crises are not limited to any single country. Many countries attempted isolation, yet COVID still penetrated. The US today needs to approach international relations with an open, multi-country perspective, as demonstrated during the pandemic and beyond. Once we turn to US-India relations, I'd like to briefly discuss how that relationship has evolved into a partnership.

Thank you. That brings us to the US-India relationship, which now appears to be on stable footing with bipartisan support. There are several dimensions I'd like to explore with you, beginning with technology, then economics — especially China Plus One and de-industrialisation in the US. I'll bring up a third area after these.

- As you noted, I've had the privilege of serving three terms in the US, although it wasn't planned that way. My first visit was in 1997, followed by the 1998 nuclear tests and resulting sanctions on India, and then the landmark 2000 visit by Bill Clinton. He visited your city, and I recall a New York Times photo showing Clinton dancing in Jaipur on one half of the page and taking a decoy plane to Pakistan on the other half. That 2000 image sent a clear message, and US-India relations have advanced significantly since then. I've observed this transformation over the last two-and-a-half decades.
- In the early stages, Bill Clinton initiated a strategic realignment, which was further developed by George W. Bush through the nuclear agreement, then by President Obama, and later by President Trump, whom I accompanied on his 2020 visit to India. Trump was captivated by the crowds in Ahmedabad, as you'd expect. When he arrived, he remarked on it being "Modi's hometown." Finally, we have President Biden. In 2023, we witnessed an unprecedented level of support for the India-US partnership. Biden opened the White House to over 8,000 Indian Americans — unusual from a security standpoint, as even a few guests can be a challenge.



**FOR A
COMPLETE
TRANSCRIPT
OF THE TALK**

**CLICK
HERE**

A 'MEASURE' OF KINDNESS THIS DIWALI


The Child Welfare Committee of the Rotary Club of Bombay extends heartfelt thanks to Rtn Sunish Anand for donating 125 steel scales, manufactured by his company Kriteel Shiwa,

to students of Lighthouse, Bhavishya Yaan, and street children of Salaam Baalak. The children were delighted to receive these gifts during their Diwali holidays.



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TUESDAY MEETINGS AT ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY



Speaker Taranjit Singh Sandhu and Rtn. Manjeet Kripalani



President Satyan thanks speaker Taranjit Singh Sandhu and Rtn. Manjeet Kripalani for her time spent with us



Rtn. Puneet Chhatwal introduces the guest speakers



President Satyan wishes Rtn. Natasha Treasurywala, Rtn. Jagdish Vora and Rtn. Ratna Kapoor Sharma a happy birthday



Rotarians Aditya Somani, Arish Dastur, Anita Patel, a guest and Rtn. Manjeet Kripalani



Rotarians Akhil Sanghi, Rhea Bhungara, Rahil Shah and Gautam Doshi



Rotarians Dr. Rohini Chowgule and Roda Billimoria



Rotarians Rajyalakshmi Rao, PP Dr. Mukesh Batra, Ashok Chinai and Miral Shah



Rtn. Ujjwala Singhanian, Rtn. Swati Mayekar, Rtn. Rina Deora and Rtn. Ptn. Malti Jain



Rotarians Vineet Suchanti, Siddharth Bhimrajka, Rina Deora, Akhil Sanghi and Gaurav Nevatia



Rtn. Miral Shah, Rtn. Ptn. Gautam Mehta, Rtn. Ptn. Rajul and Rtn. Anand Parikh, Rtn. Pranay Vakil, Rtn. Mahesh Khubchandani and Rtn. Akhil Sanghi



Rtn. Ptn. Natasha and Rtn. Mahesh Khubchandani, Rtn. Puneet Chhatwal, Rtn. Ptn. Malti Jain and Rtn. Anand Dalal



Rotarians Pranay Vakil, PP Shailesh Haribhakti, Premnath and a guest

Rotary
Club of Bombay



AN EXCLUSIVE WALK WITH
THE CURATOR AND DESIGNER OF
people of mumbai

Exhibition at

MUMBAI GALLERY

CHHATRAPATI SHIVAJI MAHARAJ VASTU SANGRAHALAYA, MUMBAI

DATE NOV 14, 2024

TIME 4 - 6 PM

FEE RS 500 /-

CAPACITY 30 PERSONS

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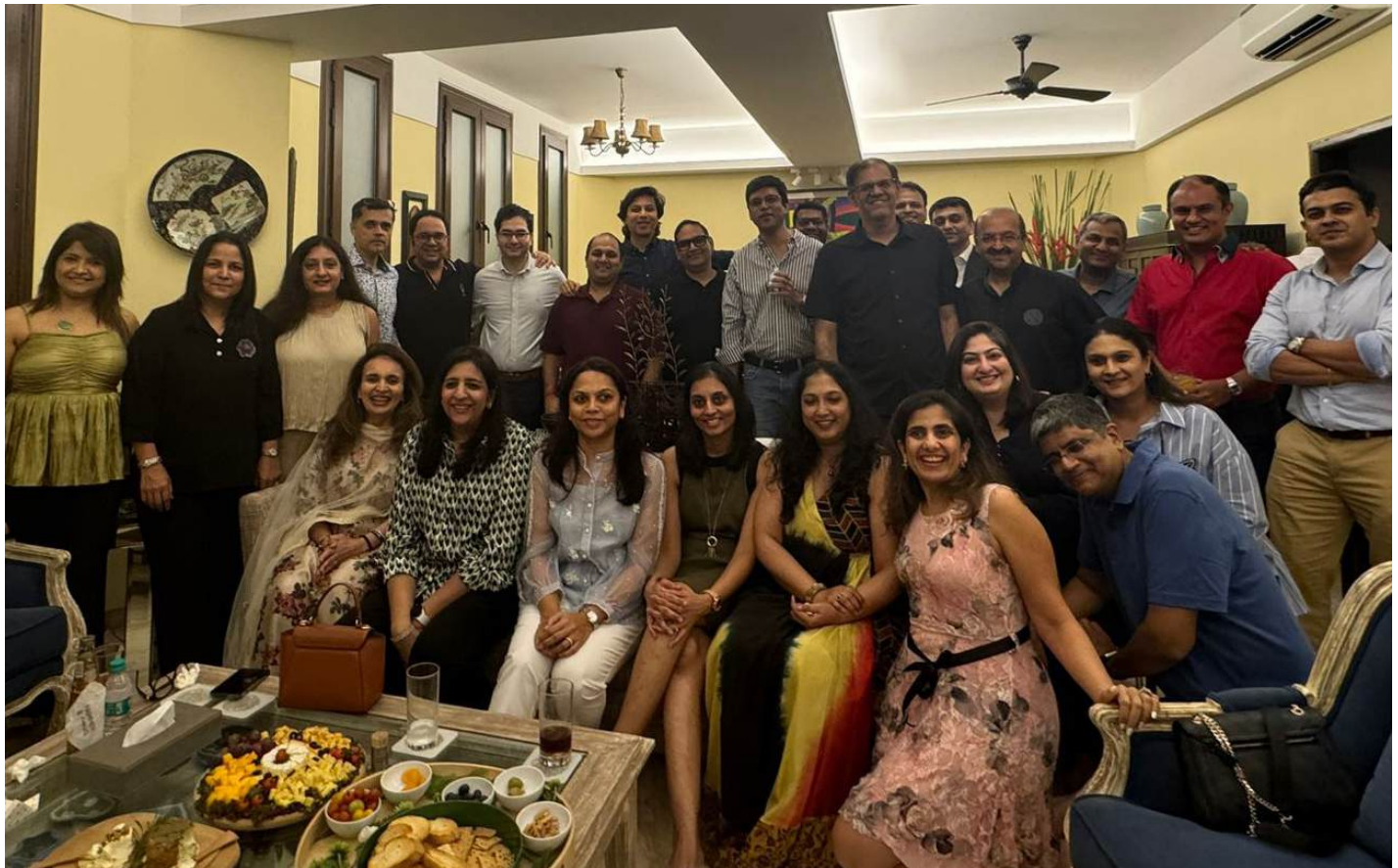
RASHMI KOTIAN

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FIRST ASSIMILATION EVENT OF THE YEAR 2024-2025

Hosted by Rtn Ptn Rinku and Rtn Vineet Suchanti





Johnson & Johnson Team Praises Dharamshala Operations

The recent visit of the Johnson & Johnson team to Dharamshala proved to be a resounding success. Their afternoon tour left them highly impressed with the quality of work, facilities, and the overall operations at Dharamshala. The visit's primary objective was to assess VCare's scope and the quality of its work, as well as to evaluate its partnership with the Rotary Club of Bombay (RCB). The team expressed satisfaction with the thorough discussions and collaborative approach

demonstrated during the visit, indicating a positive outlook on the ongoing partnership.

Special thanks to Tanvie, Sujit, and the entire team for their exemplary coordination and dedication in presenting the programme so effectively. Their efforts highlighted the impactful work at Dharamshala, strengthening the connection between Johnson & Johnson, VCare, and RCB, and showcasing the commitment towards community welfare initiatives.



CWC - Mothers enjoyed a hands-on session exploring chakra and colour therapy meditation



Diwali Cheer for Salaam Baalak Children



children, asking about their daily nutrition provided by RCB. The children shared how much they look forward to the hot meal RCB provides — often their only substantial meal of the day.

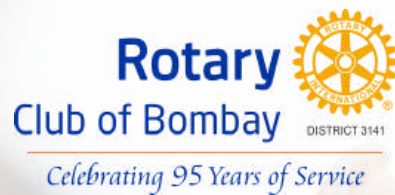


Members of the Satellite Club, Suditi and Meha Shah, along with Rtn Ami Jagtiani, distributed Diwali treats. Rtn Meher Vakil generously brought 500 snack packs to last through the month and discussed adding nutritious options to their meals. The children enjoyed hearing about Rotary Partner Matt's home country, America, and shared stories and laughter with the RCB team.

To celebrate Diwali, the Child Welfare Committee of the Rotary Club of Bombay (RCB) organised a joyful afternoon for 45 street children at the Salaam Baalak Centre in Chowpatty on 22nd October. Committee Chairman Rtn Vandan Shah and Co-Chair Rtn Rajesh Shah engaged with the

RCB extends warm thanks to the Salaam Baalak trustees for helping make this heartfelt celebration possible.





**SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE
and
PRESIDENT SATYAN ISRANI**

warmly invite you to join us
for the launch of our

ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY

MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

SATURDAY

16

NOVEMBER

at 4 pm
at The IMC Chamber of
Commerce and Industry

[CLICK HERE](#) for directions

Your time, guidance, and insights have the power
to shape the future of our RCB scholars.

Join us in this transformative journey to help them navigate their
academic paths and prepare for successful careers ahead.

We look forward to your participation in making a lasting impact!



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Bhavishya Yaan Schools' Literature Festival 2024: Celebrating Rabindranath Tagore

Bhavishya Yaan schools in Colaba, Prabhadevi, and GK Marg held Diwali celebrations with a literary exploration of Rabindranath Tagore's works for students from grades 4 to 9.

The Colaba branch's full teaching staff, including computer teachers and CC, launched the festival with discussions on Diwali and past festivals featuring authors like Roald Dahl and R.K. Narayan. Prasad Sir and Sabiha Ma'am

narrated 'Kabuliwala', while Sylvia Ma'am presented 'Wishes Come True'. Ruchi Ma'am supervised board decorations, with Sonakshi's artwork earning praise from Vandana Ma'am. Pushpa Ma'am managed logistics as students engaged in story-themed puzzles and creative activities.

At Prabhadevi, after morning prayers and Diwali discussions, students crafted diyas in pairs. The students enthusiastically noted the lyrics Tagore's 'Ekla Chalo Re'

and documented his inspirational quotes.

GK Marg School took an interactive approach, with students creating charts and drawings about Tagore's life after biographical presentations. Their insightful responses demonstrated a deep appreciation for his literary legacy.

Across all locations, screenings of 'The Kabuliwala' and hands-on activities brought Tagore's work to life for a new generation.





MONTHLY PATIENT COUNT

Director	Rtn. Renu Basu	
Committee chair/co-chair	Rtn. Mihir Mody / Rtn. Meera Alreja	
Name of the Committee	RCB Medical Centre, Talwada	
Patients visited / treated		Oct-24
PRVEC	OPHTHALMIC OPD	1039
	SPECT GIVE DURING THE MONTH	96
	OPERATIONS	44
	THE PATIENT KEPT FOR TREATMENT	07
	IOL	35
	YAG LASER	11
	GREEN LASER	--
	KERATOPLASTY	--
TOTAL		1232
ADMC	GENERAL OPD	1459
	DENTAL OPD	74
	PEDIATRIC OPD	39
	PATHOLOGY LAB	60
	TB PATIENTS	--
TOTAL		1632

Director	Rtn. Renu Basu	
Committee chair/co-chair	Rtn. Dr. Mehernosh Dotivala / Rtn. Reema Damani	
Name of the Committee	Cotton Green	
Patients visited / treated		Oct-24
COTTON GREEN	HOMEOPATHY	338
	DENTAL OPD	224
	OPHTHALMIC OPD	77
	PAEDIATRICS OPD	40
	GENERAL OPD	103
	PATHOLOGY LAB	11
TOTAL		793



NEXT WEEK:

RENOWNED COLUMNIST, AUTHOR & GLOBAL THOUGHT LEADER, FAREED ZAKARIA, HOST OF FAREED ZAKARIA GPS ON CNN.

Fareed Zakaria is a prominent journalist, author, and host of CNN's weekly international affairs show, Fareed Zakaria GPS. Known for his insightful analysis and in-depth interviews, Zakaria has featured world leaders like Joe Biden, Narendra Modi, Vladimir Putin, and thought leaders such as Elon Musk and the Dalai Lama on his show since its debut in 2008. Beyond television, he's a prolific columnist for The Washington Post and the author of five bestselling books, including The Post-American World and Ten Lessons for a Post-Pandemic World. His work has earned him a Peabody Award, two Emmys, and global recognition as a "Top 10 Global Thinker" by Foreign Policy magazine. Zakaria also writes Fareed's Global Briefing, CNN's popular daily newsletter. He holds a bachelor's from Yale and a Ph.D. from Harvard and is celebrated for his contributions to journalism, education, and global discourse.



ROTARIAN MEMBER BIRTHDAYS



NOVEMBER 14
Rtn. Dr. Saumil
Kothari



NOVEMBER 15
Rtn. Vivek
Kothari



NOVEMBER 17
Rtn. Akil
Hirani



NOVEMBER 18
Rtn. Freyaz
Shroff

ROTARIAN PARTNER BIRTHDAYS

NOVEMBER 12
Rtn. Ptn. Yasmin
Divecha

NOVEMBER 13
Rtn. Ptn. Bharti
Gandhi

NOVEMBER 16
Rtn. Ptn. Nidhi
Aggarwal

NOVEMBER 18
Rtn. Ptn. Jita
Kapadia

ANNIVERSARIES

NOVEMBER 12
Rtn. Dr. Rajiv & Rtn. Ptn.
Aradhana Agarwal

NOVEMBER 12
Rtn. Farokh & Rtn. Ptn.
Dr. Soonnu Balsara

NOVEMBER 12
Rtn. Samir & Rtn. Ptn.
Shailaja Mogul

NOVEMBER 18
Rtn. Sameer & Rtn. Ptn.
Radhika Kaji

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Director Siddharth Bhimrajka

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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. Mehernosh Dotivala
Cancer Aid	Farokh Balsara
Committee for Neurodivergent Children	PP Shernaz Vakil
Dharamshala	Naresh Pachisia & Miral Shah
Dialysis	Swati Jajodia

Director Mudit Jatia

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Bulletin	Abhinav Aggarwal
Fellowship & In-Camera	Ritu Desai
Assimilation	Vineet Suchanti
The Rotary Foundation	PP Vijay Jatia

Director Jaymin Jhaveri

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Paediatric Heart Surgeries	Natasha Treasurywala
Rotaract Clubs	Sidhant Jatia
Satellite Club	Murad Currawalla
Interact Schools	Mudit Jain
Scholarships	PP Preeti Mehta