

# THE LIGHTHOUSE

WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF MADRAS  
ISSUE 01 | JULY 01, 2023

BUILDING RESPONSIBLE COMMUNITIES










Dear RCMers,

It's an honour to take over as Assistant Secretary for the Rotary year 2023 -24. We bring you the printed version of the Lighthouse to your homes. We hope you and your families will enjoy this showcase of RCM activities. In this edition, the 1st bulletin of this Rotary year, the 95th installation of Rotary Club of Madras, President Ravi Sundaresan and his fantastic board of directors takes centre stage.

Yours in Rotary

**Rtn. Sunita Suresh**

## Rotary Club of Madras

Rotary International District 3232

### MONTHLY CALENDAR - JULY 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25	26	27	28	29	30	1 <b>INSTALLATION</b> Special Meeting (BB) SM1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8 <b>FIRE SIDE</b>
9 <b>RCM Projects</b> @ Boys Town Society	10	11 <b>NO MEETING</b>	12 <b>Speaker:</b> <b>Mr. Bhaskar Bhatt</b> Director - Tata & Sons	13 <b>RCM Cataract Surgeries</b> VHS Hospital	14 <b>FIRE SIDE</b>	15
16	17 <b>NO MEETING</b>	18	19 <b>CHARTER NITE</b> Special Meeting (AB) SM2	20	21	22 <b>Joint Interact Installation</b> Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Mylapore
23	24	25 <b>Speaker:</b> <b>K. Annamalai,</b> President, TN BJP	26	27	28	29
30	31	1	2	3	4	5

**Rtn. S. Ravi**  
President

**Rtn. M. Susha Sai**  
Honorary Secretary

## THE LIGHTHOUSE

WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF MADRAS

### BOARD 2023-24

**PRESIDENT**  
Rtn. Ravi Sundaresan

**HONORARY SECRETARY**  
Rtn. M. Susha Sai

**IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT**  
Rtn. Jayashree Sridhar

**PRESIDENT - ELECT**  
Rtn. G Chella Krishna

**PRESIDENT - NOMINEE**  
Rtn. Nikhil Raj

**DIRECTOR - Community SERVICE 1**  
Rtn. Dr. Anuradha Ganesan

**DIRECTOR - CLUB SERVICE**  
Rtn. Vikram Chesetty

**Director - Vocational Service**  
Rtn. Vijay Balaji

**DIRECTOR - YOUTH SERVICE**  
Rtn. Balaji Chinni

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**Director - CSR**  
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**DIRECTOR - ROTARY FOUNDATION & INTERNATIONAL SERVICE**  
Rtn. Sabina Narayan

**DIRECTOR - Community SERVICE 2**  
Rtn. Bharat M Pujara

**TREASURER - RCMCT**  
Rtn. E.M.C. Palaniappan

**DIRECTOR - FUND RAISING & PR**  
Rtn. Rahul Saraogi

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**EDITOR:** Rtn. Sunita Suresh  
Rtn. Shakti Girish  
Rtn. Sharon Krishna  
Rtn. Rani Muralidharan  
Rtn. Sumit Kalra  
Rtn. Rajesh Mani

Send in your articles, news and stories for consideration in the Lighthouse bulletin to:  
[rcmlighthouse2023@gmail.com](mailto:rcmlighthouse2023@gmail.com)  
Stay updated with our very own RCM magazine!

### EDITED & PUBLISHED BY

**Rtn. Sunita Suresh**, Asst. Secretary  
Rotary Club of Madras,  
RAYALA TOWERS,  
2nd Mezzanine Flr., 158, Anna Salai,  
Chennai 600 002 Phone: +91 44 2859 1020

### CONTACT THE EDITOR AT:

[rcmlighthouse2023@gmail.com](mailto:rcmlighthouse2023@gmail.com)

Bulletin Design:

### CHARIS MEDIA WORKS

Visit RCM's official website  
[www.rotarymadras.in](http://www.rotarymadras.in)

### CONTACT RCM SECRETARY AT:

[office@rotarymadras.in](mailto:office@rotarymadras.in)





Dear RCM ers,

I feel humbled yet energized and gratified to be President during this 95th year of RCM, as we begin cruising towards our centenary.

I am fortunate to have a team of committed Board members, Chairpersons & Committee members who are all aligned with our endeavour to build responsible communities that will lead to a kinder, healthier, inclusive, and more sustainable world, thereby kindling hope in every heart.

In RI President Gordon McNally's words, "The goal is to restore hope — to help the world heal from destructive conflicts and, in turn, to help us achieve lasting change for ourselves."

The road map to this begins within and with each of us, with gratitude for our loved ones, and all the relationships that enrich us. It also affirms our continued focus as one organisation- Rotary, a movement that believes in finding the common ground in our humanity to promote good will and understanding, to make meaningful contributions to lift and transform the lives of those less fortunate than ourselves,

Together we can unleash our collective power to make a valuable difference in fulfilling what is our tag line for the year, "BUILDING RESPONSIBLE COMMUNITIES", remaining true to our RCM's motto "Service above Self". In doing so, we continue to create hope in this world.

I gratefully acknowledge each of you for your generous contributions of time, knowledge, wealth, skills, resources, effort and dedication.

Looking forward to a Rotary Year filled with meaningful project activities that make a positive impact on the lives of the beneficiaries and enjoyable fellowships that further bond RCMers in camaraderie.

**Rtn. Ravi Sundaresan**

President



## OUR LOGO

Every year we are given an opportunity to re-imagine, re-define and re-dedicate ourselves to the cause of Rotary. As a celebration of our 95th year, our team wished to have a logo that would highlight our mission even while capturing the spirit of vibrancy and immense body of work that has powered our club over the years.

The overarching vision of our team is to lead the way to a kinder, healthier, more inclusive, sustainable world, in alignment with Rotary International's seven pillars and our five avenues of service.

The theme or tag line "Building responsible communities" evolved from this recognition that all areas of focus from peace and conflict prevention, community and economic development, water sanitation and hygiene, disease prevention and treatment, maternal and child health, sustainable environment, basic education and literacy are interconnected in the accomplishing of our goal.

Our logo therefore aims to tell this story of our work, visually symbolising the robust legacy of service that we at RCM have, while also encapsulating our vision for the future as people of action coming together to build responsible communities.

Vibrant colours were chosen to emphasise the strengths we wish to show the world; strengths of resilience, inclusivity, empowerment, harmony and sustainability.

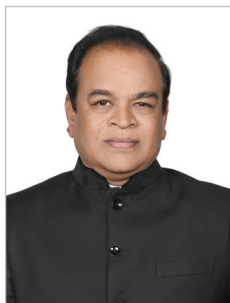
The curled leaves embody the seven areas of focus in Rotary, while the dashes below characterize RCM's five avenues of service.

The curved shape upholding the key elements sans corners and edges, denotes flexibility and yet the whole design has a structure characterizing stability with the upward curve denoting forward growth in the path ahead.

Our Rotary International theme for the year ahead is "Create hope in the world." RCM's theme for the year resonates with this, because as Jonas Salk who developed one of the first polio vaccines said, "Hope lies in dreams, in imagination and the courage of those who dare to make those dreams a reality."

RCM through our commitment to building responsible communities, nourishes this hope for a kinder, sustainable world.

## PRESIDENT RAVI HAS ASSEMBLED HIS DREAM TEAM



**Rtn. Ravi Sundaresan**  
President

Leading by example, President Ravi begins the year with a significant collection towards Rotary Foundation. His able and motivated team of directors and committee members are committed to making a worthy impact.



**Rtn. M. Sessa Sai**  
Honorary Secretary

Secretary Sessa Sai, charms us with his valuable experience, organizing skills and let's not forget that infectious smile.



**Rtn. Jayshree Sridhar**  
Imm. Past President

With her genuinely good-natured temperament, she willingly shares her practical experience, insights and goodwill, adding the support and confidence the new board needs to hit the ground running.



**Rtn. G Chella Krishna**  
President Elect

"As president Elect my role would be to help the President plan for multi year projects and enable all support as he would need. Fullest support on all matters and in particular financial matters would be my goal."



**Rtn. Nikhil Raj**  
President Nominee

"As President Nominee, I will support the Board in their endeavours. And shall continue to involve myself in areas where we can improve and change the lives of others."



**Rtn. Dr. Anuradha Ganesan**  
Director, Community Service I

A member who contributes in multiple ways, she has the potential and organizational resources to efficiently manage large scale projects. Having donned this hat before her learnings will certainly add value to this year.



**Rtn. Vikram Chesetty**  
Director - Club Service

He carries the critical job of Director, Club Service on his cheerful and capable shoulders. Having set new benchmarks during RCM's 90th year, we can look forward to a remarkable and memorable 95th.



**Rtn. Vijay Balaji**  
Director - Vocational Service

His sense of calm commitment and wealth of Rotary lineage brings fresh perspectives, ideas and new partnerships to continue and elevate this avenue of service.





**Rtn. Balaji Chinni**  
Director – Youth Service

An affable and experienced multi-term board member, with prior experience in this portfolio, he brings the value of this rich knowledge to the team.



**Rtn. Prabha Srinivasan**  
Treasurer – Club Funds & RCM BTS

This is her 4th year on the board for both Club & BTS funds. Her grit and determination has seen her weathering many a storm and bringing us to a safe port.



**Rtn. Sunita**  
Asst. Secretary /  
Bulletin Editor

With her proficiency in Public Relations and communication, she aims to deliver 52 editions of the Lighthouse next year.



**Rtn. Ganesh Ananthakrishnan**  
Director – CSR

The past Secretary brings his experience, expertise and exemplary relationship management skills to bring in CSR funds for RCM's impact worthy projects.



**Rtn. Sabina Narayan**  
Director-Rotary Foundation  
& International Service

A vibrant personality deeply committed to social causes, she aims to continue engaging and connecting RCM to clubs in different parts of the globe.



**Rtn. Bharat M Pujara**  
Director, Community Service II

With his inimitable smile and jovial Demeanor, he has been a regular donor of medical equipment to RCM. His passion for giving only adds to his desire to serve and build a healthy community.



**Rtn. E.M.C. Palaniappan**  
Treasurer – RCMCT

His calm and measured manner enables him to safeguard our RCM Charitable Trust Funds as Treasurer, ensuring continuity and stability in this avenue with huge compliance burdens.



**Rtn. Rahul Saraogi**  
Director – Fund Raising & PR

Meticulous and sunny-natured RCMer, Rahul will also be raising funds from various avenues, especially through RCM fundraisers, a lifeline to our many causes.



**Gordon R.  
McNally**  
President 2023-24

Even as we face new and serious challenges, Rotary takes care of its members and those we serve, works to build lasting peace, and embeds belonging and inclusion in everything we do. That is why I am asking everyone in Rotary to Create Hope in the World.

This year, we're prioritizing projects to support mental health. This effort is deeply personal to me. I know what it's like to see someone suffer in silence. I have also witnessed the power of personal connections, the value of discussing emotional and mental well-being, and the lifesaving impact of preventive care and treatment.

Research shows that performing acts of kindness is an effective step any of us can take to protect our well-being. And by building peace within, we become more capable of bringing peace to the world.

Building peace is the essence of Rotary. Many of our service projects foster the conditions for Positive Peace. We work tirelessly to overcome barriers and create new connections. This year, we'll promote virtual international exchanges for members to strengthen those vital connections.

Peace isn't a dream, and it's not passive. It's the result of working hard, earning trust, and having open conversations that may be difficult. Peace must be waged persistently — and bravely. Everything we do across our areas of focus has the potential to foster the hope that can make peace possible.

The spirit of connection and purpose should inspire every Rotary member. When club leaders focus on offering an excellent club experience, we retain more members and attract more prospective members. We must make our clubs as welcoming and as engaging as we can.

Our goal is to create a sense of belonging, from our club meetings to our service activities. We need to continue creating inclusive, welcoming environments where everyone can be their authentic selves. All people of action need to be able to imagine a place for themselves in Rotary — it's up to us to ensure they can do so.

Over the next year, I will be putting a focus on continuing our journey in diversity, equity, and inclusion — ensuring that Rotary reflects the communities we serve and continues to take significant steps toward accessing the full range of human talents and experiences, so that we can better serve humanity. And we will continue to empower women and girls by helping them unlock the potential already within them.

As we begin this journey together, I take inspiration from Scotland's national poet, Robert Burns, who in the 18<sup>th</sup> century spoke of all the world becoming kin, promoting "sense and worth, over all the earth." This has long been my call to action, and I share it now with you.

Let us build peace within and spread it freely. Let us create belonging and imagine the future of Rotary afresh. Let us work together joyously and Create Hope in the World. ■



# ROTARY CLUB OF MADRAS

RI Dist 3232

## The Installation of RTN. S. RAVI

as the 95th PRESIDENT

along with the Installation of the 95th Vice President













## Minutes of the Meeting - Installation of Rtn. Ravi Sundaresan as the 95 th President of RCM

The meeting started with the traditional lighting of the lamp by the dignitaries

The dignitaries were escorted to the dais

On stage: President Rtn. Jayshree Sridhar & Spouse Dr. Sridhar, PE Ravi Sundaresan & Spouse Aruna Sree, Chief Guest RID PDG Rtn Raju Subramanian, Guest of Honour DG AKS Rtn. Ravi Raman & First Lady Shobana and Secretary Rtn. Asha Mathen

Thamizh Thai Vaazhthu was sung and the MCs walked the ramp – Rtn. Jayant Hemdev, Rtn. Manasa T Pillai, Rtn. Dr. Sangeetha Viswanathan & Rtn. Dr. Vani Vijay – a brief intro about the MCs was given by Rtn. Prabha Srinivasan

Sgt-at-arms Rtn. Jayant Hemdev collared President Rtn. Jayshree Sridhar, who called the meeting to order

The customary toast was done by the dignitaries.

The MCs welcomed all & recognized the presence of dignitaries, PDGs, PPs, District Officials, Guests who attended the meeting.

Then, Secretary Rtn. Asha Mathen encapsulated the projects/events for the Rotary Year 2022-23, which received much appreciation by all present.

President Rtn. Jayshree Sridhar said that this unique presentation will give an idea of the new projects launched and complimented Secy as a pillar of support throughout the rotary year.

Further to this, President Jayshree added that this year's vision was to provide betterment in the lives of women, both in medical facilities and vocational training. Here, President referred to the oldest ongoing project, Rotary Nagar, that has benefitted enormously by women empowerment and evening tuition for the children. This crime infested locality has been completely transformed into a buzzing activity centre that helps the families. Also, President referred to the free Mammogram project at Devakottai for women who cannot afford medical treatment. These are some projects where RCM made a big difference to women. President quoted a verse from Bhagavad Gita as a blessing & a wish to PE Ravi Sundaresan for the rotary year 2023-24

President Jayshree Sridhar did the honours by installing PE Ravi Sundaresan as the 95th President of RCM amidst applause. As a first order of business President Ravi Sundaresan reciprocated by presenting mementos to IPP Jayshree Sridhar & outgoing Secy. Rtn. Asha Mathen

Incoming Secretary Rtn. M Sesha Sai received the Club Charter from outgoing Secy. Rtn. Asha

Mathen, a tradition which indicates the transfer of custodianship of RCM from one team to the next.

MCs introduced the new board 2023-24 by President Ravi Sundaresan and First lady Ms. Aruna Sree welcomed the team of Directors onto the stage. This was accompanied by and audio visuals introduction.

### TRF DONORS

PP AKS PP RANJIT PRATAP & UMA  
RAYALA COPORATION LTD - \$ 50,000

RTN G RAVINDRAN  
CENTURY FLOUR MILLS - \$ 33,000

RTN EMC PALANIAPPAN & ANN PARVATHI  
CHONA FINANCIAL SERVICES - \$ 30,000

MR & MRS SUBBAIH  
PARENTS OF EMC PALANIAPPAN - \$ 30,000

RTN DR ANURADHA GANESAN  
VINAYAKA MISSION RESEARCH FOUNDATION - \$ 30,000

RTN SHIVKUMAR EASWARAN  
CANADIAN CRYSTALLINE WATER INDIA LTD - \$ 20,000

RTN S SURESH KUMAR  
MAHAVEER ELECTRIC AGENCIES - \$ 10,000

RTN BHARAT PUJARA & ANN BHARTI  
GLOBAL WASTE RECYCLERS P LTD - \$ 10,000

RTN PS JAGDISH & ANN MEERA \$ 10,000

RTN CHELLA KRISHNA G  
CNGSN & ASSOCIATES - \$ 10,000

RTN ARVIND KUMAR SANKAR  
ARVIND CONSTRUCTIONS - \$ 10,000

RTN PP DR ARULMOZHI VARMAN  
UMA EYE CLINIC - \$ 10,000

RTN VIJAY BALAJI INDIUM SOFTWARE - \$ 12,000

SANTHOSH KUMAR & SHALINI  
PRESIDENT RAVI'S CHILDREN - \$ 10,000

RTN RAHUL SARAOGI  
INDIGO - \$ 6000

RTN PRABHA SRINIVASAN & RTN SATISH SRIDHARAN  
VENTURA PRANAS - \$ 6000

RTN HIREN B SHAH \$ 5000

RTN SABINA NARAYAN  
RAMROD ADVISORS LLP - \$ 25,000

WARTSILA FOR THEIR CONTINUED SUPPORT TO  
BTS - \$ 53,500



This was followed by the introduction of Advisory Committee, Nominated trustees, Finance Committee, & Sergeant – at-Arms

A big round of applause was given by all present for the new team of office-bearers.

Rtn PP Ravi Katari felicitated the incoming board of 2023-24 and wished them the best

Rtn PP Ranjit Pratap felicitated President Ravi Sundaresan, complimenting the vision & achievements of President Rtn. Ravi Sundaresan.

Rtn. R. Ravishankar formally introduced the 95th President Ravi Sundaresan and shared his impressive profile and Rotary awards received

Then, President Rtn Ravi Sundaresan delivered his speech.

Rtn PP. AS. Venkhat Ramani introduced the Chief Guest RID, PDG Rtn Raju Subramanian.

RID PDG Raju Subramanian applauded the outstanding work done by IPP Jayshree Sridhar and particularly appreciated the Cancer detection project. He said that this will touch the lives of many and ensure a better tomorrow and a good future. Continuity is the growth of Rotary and he emphasized on 1) Mental Health 2) Control of diabetes, which is 56%, because of lifestyle.

RID PDG referred how Rotary had saved a child who was in need of pediatric surgery and had changed a violent society to a refined one, by narrating touching incidents.

Finally, PDG said that these act of kindness helps to build relationships, save lives and give hope & future and a better place to live in.

RID PDG praised Pres Rtn. Ravi Sundaresan for the TRF commitment of \$317,000 from RCM on the installation day.

RID PDG Raju released this year club roster and the first copy was received by IPP Jayshree Sridhar.

AG Rtn. Vidya introduced Guest of Honour, DG Rtn. AKS Ravi Raman.

DG Ravi Raman praised RCM as the best performing club in South India. DG suggested the RCM can start a new club exclusively for people with challenges & give more focus on mental health, even among Rotarians who face stress and suggested a specific project which bonds RCM together.

IWC President Renu Chandra felicitated Pres Rtn. Ravi Sundaresan and spoke about the women empowerment projects planned this year. IWC Pres handed over a cheque to Pres. Ravi Sundaresan towards RCMBT

Secretary Rtn. Sesha Sai announced that the next weekly meeting is on the 11th July at Hyatt Regency at 1 pm.

Speaker: Bhaskar Bhatt, CEO Titan Industries

Secy. Sesha Sai thanked PP AS Venkhat Ramani, PP Dr Vijayabharathi, PDG JB Kamdar, PDG Krishnaswamy, PP Mohan Raman, Rtn M Balasubramanian, IPP Jayshree Sridhar for the guidance & support, Ann Kamala, Hyatt, PP Paul Jacob & Tanu and Rtn Asha Mathen.

Secy ended by saying that Success makes everyone happy and that's what RCM does consistently.

The meeting was then adjourned.

National Anthem was played. ■

Rotary Club of Madras Coromandel held the **Installation ceremony of Rtn. AKS Ravi Raman as District Governor** along with the District Team 2023-2024 in the presence of Chief Guest, Rtn. Anirudha Roy Chowdhury, Rotary International Director Elect - Zone 5 & 6 ■





## Community Services Projects of RCM to be Launched on July 9th

The Rotary Club of Madras is thrilled to announce the launch of its highly anticipated community services projects, aimed at making a positive difference in our local community. These projects, which encompass various aspects of community development, will officially commence on July 9th at 10:30 AM at the Boys Town campus in Gummidipundi.

### Water Body Management

As part of our efforts to restore and enhance the environment, the Rotary Club of Madras will undertake the restoration of the Poovalembedu Irrigation tank. This project, covering an area of 110 acres, aims to increase water storage capacity by about 63,000 cubic meters. Additionally, a one-acre water body will also be created at the Boys Town campus.

Budgeted at a total of INR 41,64,550, this project will be executed in collaboration with the Dhan Foundation, known for their expertise in environmental conservation.

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**These projects, which encompass various aspects of community development**

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### Home for the Homeless

Recognizing the importance of providing shelter for the homeless, the Rotary Club of Madras will construct 15 houses at Thathiyaarkandigai for the Irular and Narikurava communities. Each house costs approximately 3 Lakhs and will span 271 square feet, with a total budget of INR 45 Lakhs. This initiative will be carried out in association with Ahaguru, an organization dedicated to uplifting marginalized communities.

### Rural Sanitation

To promote hygiene, prevent diseases, and ensure a healthier community, the Rotary Club of Madras will construct 205 toilet blocks in JJ Nagar Palavakkam Panchayat, Uthukkottai, Thiruvallur District. With an allocated budget of INR 62 Lakhs, this initiative aims to create an open defecation-free environment and improve overall sanitation conditions in the area.

Community services committee invites all our Rotarians to join us at the Boys Town campus on July 9th, as we embark on this journey.

**- Rtn. Anuradha Ganesan  
and Community Services Team ■**



# Digital Learning

*Rotary Club of Madras Digital Learning Program For Govt & Corporation Schools*



As you are all aware, in PE Rtn Ravi Sundaresan's year, a key & unique project under Vocational Services is the **RCM DIGITAL LEARNING PROGRAM** for government & corporation schools in and around Chennai, to be implemented in association with the Rotary Clubs in the District. The Technology partner is TATA Classedge – part of the TATA Group.

We kickstarted our activity for this project with a High Tea event on June 13, 2023 held at Hotel Maris that was a resounding success. We had invited a cross section of Rotary Clubs and despite the short notice **16 Rotary Clubs including our own Next Gen club participated in the event** – and the good news is that **14 Rotary Clubs have prima facie shown great interest** to partner with us in this project, subject to their board approval. Keep in mind that a large percentage of the representatives from the clubs were President-Elects.

The Rotary Club of Madras team led by PE Rtn Ravi Sundaresan ably supported by Rtn Ravishankar, PP Rtn Dr Arulmozhi Varman, Rtn Vijay Balaji, SE Rtn Seshasai, Rtn Sanjay Chaganti and Rtn A.M. Viswanathan shared with the visiting Rotarians the RCM Digital Learning program Highlights, Objectives, Role & responsibilities.



PE Rtn Ravi Sundaresan closed out the discussion with a detailed overview of each and every aspect of the program & process that really touched a chord in the visiting Rotarians that 14 out of the 16 Rotary Clubs present were unanimous in their appreciation of the hardwork put in already by RCM to present this project and for the unique nature of the project where Rotary Clubs get to partner RCM & the icing on the cake – this project is actually their Rotary Clubs project (not RCMs) though the technology, 90% of funding all are being provided by RCM.

We expect positive confirmations by June 20, 2023 that will give the new Rotary Year a solid start.

***Rtn Ravi Bhatkal***

*Chairman, Digital Learning Program*

***Rtn. Vijay Balaji***

*Director, Vocational Services*

## BIRTHDAYS

10 th July – Rtn Rajib kumar Hota  
 11 th July – Rtn PP Dr B Biswakumar  
 11 th July – Rtn P Suresh  
 14 th July – Rtn P Shankar Menon  
 14 th July – Rtn Dr TS Chandrasekar  
 15 th July – Rtn Kamala Ramakrishnan  
 10 th July – Ann.Anita (Rtn Jagdish A Bhatia)  
 10 th July – Ann.Dr Anila Mathen (Rtn Anand Vurgese)  
 11 th July – Ann.Shameem (Rtn M Fazal Mohamed)  
 11 th July – Ann.Ruchita (Rtn Rahul Saraogi)  
 12 th July – Ann.Mridula (Rtn V S Narasimhan)  
 16 th July – Ann.Janaki ( Rtn PP PN Mohan)

## WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

11th July – Rtn Prabha Srinivasan  
 Spouse : PP Satish Sridharan  
 12th July – Rtn Shri Shakthi Girish  
 Spouse : Girish Ramdas  
 15th July – Rtn Jagdish A Bhatia  
 Ann. Anita  
 16th July – Rtn Sanjay Rao Chaganti  
 Ann.Lata Murugan

# CAPTURE THE MOMENT



Inviting ace photographers from RCM to send us captivating moments clicked on their phones. Scenes from daily life, nature at its best, people who make a difference and any image that could entrance and motivate our dear readers is welcome.

Rtn.Karthik Srinivasan will pick the Pic of the month to be published in the Lighthouse.

*Journey*



*Dreams*



*Destination*

