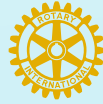


The Lighthouse

Rotary
Club of Madras



WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF MADRAS

ISSUE 34
February 22
2026



SERVICE ABOVE SELF

BIRTHDAYS 🎂	
Rtn Punkaj Sachdev	18 th February
Rtn Doulat Jain	19 th February
Rtn Ashok Doshi	20 th February
Rtn Archana Shri Sanjay	22 nd February
Rtn Rahul Saraogi	23 rd February
Sangeeta Dugar, Spouse of Rtn Vijay Dugar	19 th February
Sherral, Spouse of Rtn Reji Joseph	19 th February
Niyati Abhay Mehta, Spouse of Rtn Abhay Mehta S.	20 th February
Reena G R, Spouse of Rtn Rajasekar Gorantla	20 th February
ANNIVERSARY 🎉	
Rtn Dr Sharon Krishna Rau & G Lakshminarayanan	16 th February
Rtn Ramakanth Akula & Niharika Akula	16 th February
Rtn Siddharth Ganeriwala & Harsha Sajani Ganeriwala	16 th February
Rtn Anil Srinivasan & Archana Kalyansundar	17 th February
Rtn Dr Yashwanth Kumar Venkataraman &	17 th February
Dr Nilaya Reddy V	
Rtn Nagarajan M S & Savithri	17 th February
Rtn Ravee Malhotra & Meenakshi	19 th February
Rtn Bharath Shetty & Mahalakshmi Rangabashyam	19 th February
Rtn Raghu Kailas & Shvetha Jaishankar	20 th February
Rtn Rajasekar Gorantla & Reena G R	20 th February
Rtn Karthik Srinivasan & Hema	20 th February
Rtn Sriprakash Shastry & Preethi S Kashyap	22 nd February
PP Rtn Ravi Katari & Tehzeeb	23 rd February



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Rtn Prasanna Rajagopalan

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Rtn Sandhya Sridhar

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Bulletin Design:

YATRTECHS

**NO MEETING
ON
24.02.2026
Tuesday**

Send in your articles, news and stories for consideration in the Lighthouse bulletin to: lighthouse@rotarymadras.in
Stay updated with our very own RCM magazine!

Rotary Club of Madras (RCM)

Minutes of the 32nd Weekly Meeting held on 17/02/2026 1.30 pm
at Hyatt Regency, Teynampet, Chennai

CALL TO ORDER

The 32nd weekly meeting was called to order by the President at 1:30 pm. At the outset, the President informed the members of the sad demise of Rtn Shaktivel Raja V Sp who had passed away the previous day. Members observed a minute of silence in his memory.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the 31st weekly meeting was confirmed.

SPECIAL RESOLUTION

The President then requested a Special resolution be passed at the 32nd Weekly Meeting permitting a fourteen (14) day notice period, in lieu of the usual twenty-one (21) days, as a special case to facilitate the passing of certain resolutions pertaining to the Centennial Committee. The Extraordinary

General Meeting of the General Body shall be convened on 10th March 2026 at 13:30 hours at Hyatt Regency Chennai, Teynampet, Chennai. This shall constitute the requisite fourteen (14) day notice. The General Body accepted the resolution unanimously.

WELCOMING ADDRESS

The President extended a warm welcome to Probus Club members Mr Pandurangan and Mr Rajendran, spouses of members and the two guest speakers of the day.

REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES – PREVIOUS WEEK

The President provided a brief update on the club's recent activities:

- Sustainability Fair held at Primrose School, followed by a marathon, organized by the Environment Committee.
- Tai Chi Session conducted by the Holistic Team. Appreciation was conveyed to Rotarians Abhay, Shanno, Rajesh Mani, Shakti and Girish for hosting the session.
- RCM Quiz Night at Amir Mahal, which was well attended and appreciated by members. Special thanks was extended to Rtn Prashanth S. Kharche for organizing the quiz, Rtn Ateeq Ur Rehman and Rtn Abdul Kareem Sait for coordinating with the hosts, Rtn Arunachalam Palaniyappan and Rtn Rajesh Mani for execution and Mr Mohammed Asif Ali, son of the Prince of Arcot, for curating the digital quiz. The evening concluded with dinner for all attendees.
- Blood Donation Drive at Loyola College collected approximately 631 units of blood — about 50% more than the previous year. The members applauded this significant achievement.
- Medical Camp conducted at His and Her Place.
- Appreciation was expressed to Rtn Vikram Jalan for liaising with Hyatt Regency to maintain high food standards.

District Conference: The upcoming District Conference was announced. The club has registered 100% participation. Members were requested to provide their name for badge printing to Mr S Venkatesh and Mr N J Varadarajan, who will assist members at the venue.

- It was noted that at the district 3206 Conference in Ooty, octogenarian alumni of PS High School Mylapore were honoured. PDG Krishnaswamy was among the awardees. The President congratulated him.
- The Distinguished Alumni Service Award 2026 was conferred upon PP Rtn K K Raman by IIT Madras. The club congratulated him. PP Rtn K K Raman announced a donation of Rs.10,000 to Boys Town in gratitude for the honour.
- Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM): The President informed members that the EGM notice regarding Centenary Committee was being prepared and had been circulated to the Board for approval. The EGM has been scheduled for 10 March 2026. As the statutory 21-day notice period could not be met, the President sought approval from the house to issue a 14-day notice. The members approved the proposal unanimously. This resolution will be included in the formal notice to be circulated by the Secretary.

SECRETARY'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Rtn Prasanna Rajagopalan made the following announcements:

Perambur School Toilet Inauguration: 25 Feb 26 at 11:00 am

Irumbedu Homes Inauguration: 1 Mar 26 at 9:30 am

Joint Meeting with Rotary Club of Kilpauk:

Guest of Honour – Minister for Industries, Thiru T.R.B. Raja on 1 Mar 26

Anniversaries for the week.

Next Weekly Meeting: It was also announced that there would be no meeting on 24 Feb 26. The next meeting will be a joint meeting on 1 Mar 26, with further updates to follow.

FUNDRAISER CLOSURE – “DONATE A TOY: THE ART OF QUILTING”

Rtn. Sandhya Sridhar invited Rtn. Roshan Cyrus Poncha to brief the house.

Rtn. Roshan shared that the quilting fundraiser,

featuring handcrafted quilts made by her mother (a quilter for 35 years), was successfully concluded in just two days.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS:

Rs. 4.35 lakhs raised

52 patchwork balls to be donated to VHS.

A similar initiative was previously conducted in Mumbai with donations to the Tata Memorial Pediatric Cancer Ward.

Special acknowledgements:

Rtn. Suman Voora – Rs.30,000 quilt

Rtn. R. Ravi Shankar – Rs.50,000 quilt

Rtn. M. Balasubramaniam (AVM) – Rs.10,000 donation

The President conveyed the club's heartfelt appreciation and announced that a letter of gratitude would be sent to Rtn Roshan's mother.

RCM PREMIER LEAGUE (RCMPL) UPDATE BY RTN RACHNA MURALIDHARAN:

The RCMPL tournament has progressed successfully with strong participation.

Teams that have qualified for the Semi-Finals:

Ampa Avengers – Owned by Rtn. Arun Palaniyappan

IVS Lions – Owned by Rtn. Rajesh Somasundaram

ShivSu Warriors – Owned by Rtn. Shiv Kumar

India Winners – Owned by Rtn. Bharat Shivkumar

Semi-finals begin on 1 Mar 26 at 7:30 am.

Finals at 3:00 pm, followed by Valedictory at 4:00 pm.

A Fellowship Carnival will also be held on 1 Mar 26, including a tennis ball tournament. Members, spouses, and children were encouraged to participate in large numbers.

GUEST SPEAKER SESSION:

The main program featured social media influencers Ms. Shamshad Begum and Ms. Shitija, who addressed the gathering and interacted with members on the role and impact of social media.

Rtn. Mohit Bajaj moderated the session.

The interaction was engaging and informative, and the speakers were presented with a commemorative book titled 97 Years of Our Legacy.

VOTE OF THANKS:

The Vote of Thanks was delivered by Rtn Prasanna Rajagopalan.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the President adjourned the meeting.

FROM INFERTILITY STRUGGLES TO MILLION-VIEW REELS: THE POWER OF AUTHENTIC INFLUENCE



The Weekly Meeting of the Rotary Club of Madras featured a dynamic session centered on the evolving world of digital influence, nutritional science, and the business of authenticity. Moderated by Rtn Mohit Bajaj, the

discussion brought together two distinct yet complementary voices in the social media landscape: Shitija, a nutritionist and founder of "Fit Chef," and Shamshad, the effervescent food influencer behind "Begum's Choice."

THE JOURNEY TO INFLUENCE

The session began with a poignant look at the personal struggles that often precipitate public success. Shitija shared her deeply personal narrative, recalling a moment in 2016 when, after years of unexplained infertility and failed IVFs, she stood in front of a mirror with tears streaming down her face, unable to recognize herself. This "breaking point" led to a 30-kilogram weight loss journey over three years, where she not only transformed her body but also her mindset, eventually becoming a

certified nutritionist to help others realize they have "a lot more power than we know we do".

In contrast, Shamshad's entry into the digital space was fueled by her "happy-go-lucky" persona and genuine love for food and hosting. A former model, she now commands an audience of nearly 350,000 followers, with one viral reel about cooking crab amassing 11 million views—a number the moderator jokingly noted equals the population of Belgium.



REDEFINING THE INDIAN DIET AND "NATURAL OZEMPIC"

A significant portion of the talk was dedicated to de-bunking myths surrounding Indian cuisine. Shitija argued against the trend of vilifying the Indian diet, stating that the traditional structure of food, rich in fiber and natural fats is sound. The issue, she noted, lies in

modern modifications and the consumption of packaged goods. Her advice was practical: rather than abandoning traditional staples like dosa, one should enhance them by adding protein sources like satu, paneer, or tofu to the batter.

Addressing the buzz around weight-loss drugs, Shitija offered a "natural Ozempic" alternative focusing on high satiety. She shared a recipe combining Greek yogurt, blueberries, cacao, and an egg to create a dessert so filling that "you will not be able to eat 10 pieces of". She

also emphasized the necessity of reading food labels, warning that if a consumer cannot identify 50% of the ingredients, the product is likely unfit for consumption—a rule she applies strictly to "healthy" protein bars which can often be worse than chocolate.



THE BUSINESS OF TRUST: "REGULAR PEOPLE" VS. CELEBRITIES

The conversation shifted to the lucrative economics of content creation. Shamshad highlighted the massive shift in advertising, noting that brands now prefer influencers over traditional movie stars because influencers are viewed as "regular people that you can bank on". While celebrities might endorse products they never use, influencers build their careers on trust.

This trust translates into significant revenue.

Shamshad revealed that top influencers can earn up to 40 crores annually, with brands willing to pay 10 lakhs for a single 50-second reel. However, maintaining this income requires strict ethical boundaries. Shamshad noted that she rejects nearly 90% of the brand inquiries she receives including offers from major corporations like Coke and McDonald's because she would not serve those products to her own children. "Trust is everything in today's day and age," she affirmed.



BALANCING PUBLIC PERSONAS AND PRIVATE LIVES

Both speakers touched upon the complexities of living online. Shamshad described her superpower as being "selectively attentive," ignoring trolls to focus on positivity. As a single parent, Shitija emphasized prioritizing fitness without guilt, teaching her 10-year-old son healthy habits through observation rather than just instruction.

The event concluded with lighthearted banter, highlighting the chemistry between the

two—Shitija having previously trained Shamshad. While Shitija advised Shamshad to use "much lesser oil" in her cooking, the two found common ground on the importance of movement, advising a 10-minute walk after every heavy meal to manage glycogen spikes. The session ended on a humorous note regarding culinary authenticity, with Shamshad declaring that "Vegetable Biryani" does not exist for it is merely Pulao, drawing laughter and applause from the audience.

THE ILLUSION OF REALITY: BALANCING PUBLIC PERSONAS AND PRIVATE LIVES

The discussion took a deeper turn during the Q&A session when Rtn Sandhya Sridhar raised a probing question regarding the nature of influencer fame. She observed that unlike traditional actors whose roles are separate from their identities, influencers broadcast their actual lives, creating a seamless and perhaps intrusive blend of "real life" and "reel life." She asked how this unique form of "celebrity-dom" impacts their personal families. Shamshad's response offered a revealing glimpse behind the curtain. She candidly admitted that while

her content appears spontaneous, it is actually "extremely engineered." She clarified that what the audience sees is a curated reality, estimating that nearly 70% of her personal information and daily life remains strictly private and off-camera, ensuring a boundary that remains between her family and her followers. Shitija however said that what she put out on social media was her true to her life's learnings, which began about the time of Covid, when she discovered new ways to good health and fitness.

BUZZER, BIRYANI & CROWNS AT AMIR MAHAL!



RCM's quiz night at the iconic Amir Mahal came with a fun new twist — an app-based format, all done on the phone. The questions were relatively easy, but the real challenge was speed: fastest fingers scored the points, so

there was zero time for Google Baba. Any number of teammates could answer, but a wrong response meant minus points — making every tap a thrilling mix of confidence and caution.



A special highlight was Nawabzada Mohammed Asif Ali elevating the music round by playing the piano — effortlessly elegant and absolutely memorable. Nawab, also an RCM member, spent time chatting and adding to the warmth of the evening.

And then came the feast — outstanding

biryani as expected, a vegetarian spread that was just as lovingly done as the non-veg, and the iconic dessert that never disappoints. To top it all off in true Rotary style, the Rotary Royals arrived with crowns as part of their outfits and generously shared them to literally crown the quiz winners. Classic RCM: sharp minds, big hearts, and a spectacular night.



RCM has lost yet another young Rotarian

— Sakthivel Raja V Sp

It is hard to even put this into words. It feels unreal. Shocking. Heartbreaking. And deeply, painfully sad. Within a span of just three months, we have been forced to face this unbearable truth again — that life can change in a second, without warning, without mercy.

What do we learn from this?

That life is not guaranteed.

That tomorrow is not promised.

That the people we love, laugh with, and work alongside... can be taken away far too soon.

And so, in this moment of grief, let us also pause and reflect.

Let us live with magnanimity.

Let us live with gratitude.

Let us live with gentleness, because we never know when a conversation will be our last.

May we never miss the chance to say a heartfelt "Thank you" to someone who stood by us.

May we never carry pride so heavy that it stops us from saying "Sorry" to someone our words may have hurt.

Because the most painful regret is not what we did — it is what we didn't say, what we delayed, what we assumed we had time for.

Rest in peace, Sakthivel.

You will be remembered.

And you will be missed — more than words can ever express.

- Rtn Manasa T Pillai

The Art of Quilting Fundraiser

RCM launched a small, sweet, and meaningful fundraiser titled The Art of Quilting, featuring exquisite, hand-quilted art items lovingly created and donated by Mrs Dolly Nanavati of Mumbai, mother of our own Rtn Roshan Poncha. Mrs Nanavati comes from a proud Rotary family—her husband is an Ex-Rotarian of over 50 years from the Rotary Club of Bombay 3141.



The Quilt Collection

All items were completely handmade by Mrs Dolly Nanavati:

- 2 large quilts proudly purchased by Rotarians R Ravishankar and Suman Voora
- 2 runners
- 67 quilted toys (balls, ducks & baby elephants)

Each piece was sponsored for Rs. 5,000.



A Swift and Heartwarming Response

Donations opened via QR code at the club meetings. In just two days, over 50 Rotarians and spouses came forward. Announced on Monday and fully sponsored by Thursday night, every single item was claimed.

Rtn AVM Balasubramaniam generously donated Rs. 10,000 towards HPVax after all the items were spoken for.

Funds Raised

With each item sponsored at Rs.5,000, the fundraiser raised a total of:

Rs.4,35,000 in support of RCM's HPVax Project.

What Happens Next

All 67 quilted toys will be gifted next week to children in the wards at VHS, bringing smiles while supporting a life-saving cause.

With Heartfelt Thanks

- Mrs Dolly Nanavati, for her beautiful craftsmanship
- Rtn Roshan Poncha, for her dedication and passion
- All Rotarians and spouses who made this a resounding success.

Special thanks to Rtn Rakesh Jaiswal, who first sowed the seed of this idea by introducing Roshan to Sandhya at a Rotary Club event.

WHILE THE PROS PLAYED, THE ROOKIES SLAYED!

On 30 Jan 26, the TNGF greens saw double the action! While our seasoned golfers were locked in a focused battle for the Annual RCM Merchants & Bankers trophies, the "non-golfers" decided it was time to show them how it is really done! The Putting Competition turned the practice green into a theater of cheers, gasps,

and "beginner's luck." Families and first-timers traded their spectators' seats for putters, discovering that the short game is a lot harder (and a lot more fun) than it looks! With attractive prizes on the line, the atmosphere was electric—proving that at RCM, you do not need a handicap to have a winning spirit.



A total of 37 enthusiastic participants which included families of Rotarians made sure there was more noise on the practice green than the cheering crowd for the Golfers on the course! Rtn M Balasubramaniam the generous benefactor that he is, yet again, hosted the

entire event with Azurina and Indian Terrain chipping in with Gift vouchers for the winners and runners-up. Rtn Nimish handled the entire competition with the help of the TNGF course staff.



THE RESULTS

Men

Winner – Rtn. Yashwant Kumar Venkataraman

Runner up – Rtn. Vipin Sachdev

Ladies

Winner – Ann Sowmya Arjun

Runner up – Annette – Vedah Chordia

See you all next year- till then...Au revoir!

-Rtn Srinivasan Muthiah

Five persons honoured at CavinKare Ability Awards '26

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Five persons with disabilities from across the country were honoured at the 24th CavinKare Ability Awards for transcending barriers. The event was held here on Saturday by CavinKare Private Limited in collaboration with Ability Foundation.

The Special Recognition Award went to Sunil Jain, a chartered accountant and founder trustee of Astha, from Bengaluru. Mr. Jain, who was treated for polio, now helps persons with disabilities enjoy sports.

The Award for Eminence was conferred on Jitender Aggarwal of Gurugram who lost his vision due to macular degeneration. He is the founder of Sarthak Educational Trust, where he works toward ex-



The event was conducted by CavinKare Private Limited in collaboration with Ability Foundation.

panding education and employment for persons with disabilities.

The Mastery Awards were received by Arivuraja Thangavelu of Kattumanarkoil, Shiv Kumar Sharma of Chandigarh, and Chandra Mouli Dwarapureddy of Narsipatnam.

Deepika T.C., captain of the World Cup-winning blind women's cricket team, and Thanya Nathan, who is set to become Kerala's first visually impaired

judge, felicitated the recipients. "It is truly inspiring to see how individuals with disabilities continue to rise above constraints and create their own milestones," said C.K. Ranganathan, chairman and managing director, CavinKare Private Limited.

Jayshree Raveendran, founder and executive director, Ability Foundation, said that each nominee represents the potential for growth and success.



Kudos to our Rtn Jayashree Raveendran and her ABILITY FOUNDATION, for the sustained service that they render to the differently abled by not only mainstreaming them, but also honoring their achievements.

COMMUNITY IN ACTION

RCM Partners with ICE to Ignite Climate Action in Chennai

When the Rotary Club of Madras (RCM) partnered with the Institute for Climate and Environment (ICE) as community partner for a Sustainability Carnival and Primathon, it was more than a collaboration — it was Rotary's values of service and fellowship brought to life on a climate stage. The two-day event, held on 14th and 15th February 2026 at Primrose School, Chennai, was entirely curated by ICE, with RCM's support amplifying its reach and

impact. Chief Guest President Rtn. Nikhil Raj along with Director Youth Services Rtn Suman Voora and Director Community Services Rtn Suresh Arimapu planted the very first tree contributed by Rtn. Sunil Shanker under ICE's new rewilding initiative, ROOTS (Restoring Our Original Tree Systems). The sapling — a Manoranjitham tree — now stands at Primrose School as a start of the initiative's goal: one million trees to be planted within three years.

THE PRIMATHON: RUN FOR OUR CITY OUR FUTURE

On 15th February, students, parents, and educators laced up for the Primathon — a 1.5-kilometre run flagged off by our very own Rtn Sessa Sai District Chair _____ representing the 1.5°C global warming limit set by the Paris Agreement. Every stride was a statement; every participant, a climate advocate in the making. The run was supported by eco-friendly T-shirts made from sustainable materials, modelling the very values the event sought to instil.

YOGA: WHERE SUSTAINABILITY BEGINS WITHIN

ICE's approach to sustainability was refreshingly different. Grounded in Triguna Theory, it recognizes that lasting environmental change must begin within. A yoga session was included to help cultivate Sattva — inner clarity and balance. The idea is simple: when we are balanced within, we naturally make better choices outside. We consume mindfully, waste less, and treat our surroundings with care. Sustainability, in this view, is not just a policy — it is a way of being.



A CARNIVAL THAT TAUGHT BY DOING

At the Sustainability Carnival on 14th February children and teachers explored hands-on workshops curated by sustainability practitioners:

1. Waste segregation and composting demonstrations by Nilayaan
2. Bio-enzyme awareness sessions by Miracle

Enzymes

3. Photography, art and environmental responsibility by Anjali Ponni Rajkumar
4. Screening of the documentary "Mouth of The River" by Parvathi Nayar
5. Sustainability Quiz by Shakthi Girish
6. Compost Workshop by ROKA



A PLEDGE SIGNED, A CERTIFICATE EARNED

Attendees across both days signed a Climate Action Pledge — a personal commitment to carry sustainable habits back into their homes, schools, and workplaces. Every donor, partner, volunteer, and participant received a Certificate of Climate Action from ICE, recognizing their contribution to building a more sustainable world.

For Rotary members who attended, it was a tangible reminder that service has many forms — and that choosing to show up for their city is itself an act of fellowship.

The Rotary Club of Madras is proud to have stood alongside ICE as its community partner for this initiative. The events were financially supported by Rtn Fharzana Siraj , B&G Solar Pvt Ltd and Kaleesuwari foundations.

Rs.25 LAKHS FOR A HEALTHIER TOMORROW



What a milestone moment at Karnataka Bank's Founders Day in Mangalore — a proud step forward for our HPV Vaccination Program!

In a powerful affirmation of purpose and partnership, we received the official commitment letter from the Managing Director of Karnataka Bank for 25 lakhs towards our HPV vaccine initiative. This generous support will directly strengthen our mission to safeguard adolescent health and prevent HPV-related cancers through timely vaccination and awareness.

A heartfelt note of gratitude to PDG Ganapathi and PP Rtn Chella Krishna for facilitating this

wonderful support and helping turn intent into impact. Special appreciation as well to President Nominee Ganesh Ananthakrishnan, Director-CSR, Rtn Krishnamurthy Vijayan, Rtn Visvanathan, and the entire team whose meticulous coordination and behind-the-scenes effort made this moment possible.

This was more than a cheque or a letter. It was a statement of faith in preventive healthcare, and a reminder of what becomes possible when institutions and service-minded leaders come together with clarity and conviction. Onward — with gratitude, momentum, and purpose.

SUNRISE, STILLNESS & SUPERCHARGED VIBES AT KOVALAM



The Vibe

On Valentine's Day weekend, the "Holy Tai Chi Vibe" group gathered for a serene and energizing session that participants described as a "beautiful meeting of minds and matter". Set against the backdrop of Girish and Rtn



Shakthi's beach house, the morning offered a perfect setting for a "sublime communion with nature," incorporating the elements of Bhoomi (Earth), Akash (Sky), Jal (Water), Ahaar (Food), and Aham/Atma (Self).



The Session

The Tai Chi session was led by instructor Rose, whose guidance made the morning truly special. Participants praised the session as

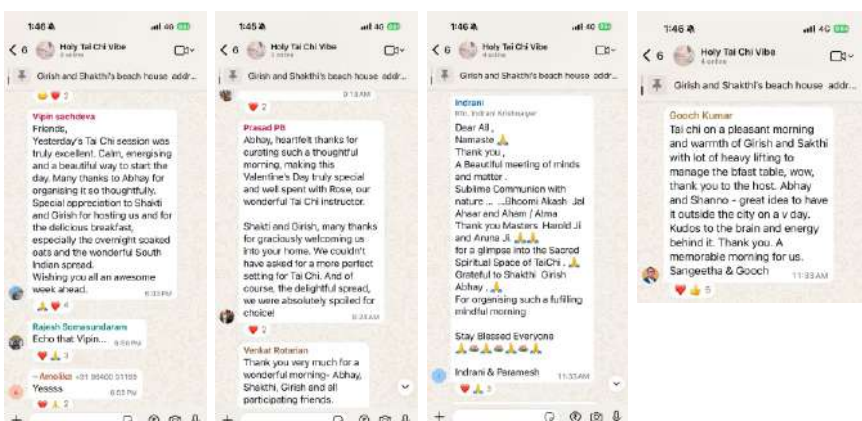
"calm, energizing," as a "beautiful way to start the day". Special gratitude was also extended to Masters Harold Ji and Aruna Ji for providing a glimpse into the spiritual space of Tai Chi.



The Hospitality

A major highlight of the event was the warm hospitality provided by the hosts, Girish and Rtn Shakthi. Friends expressed immense gratitude for opening up their home, which was described as the "perfect setting". The

breakfast spread was a unanimous hit, with special mentions of the overnight soaked oats and the wonderful South Indian spread. As one attendee noted, it took "heavy lifting to manage the breakfast table," and guests felt "spoiled for choice".



The Organizers

Kudos went to Rtn Abhay (and Rtn Shanno) for the "brain and energy" behind the event. Attendees thanked Rtn Abhay for curating such a thoughtful, fulfilling, and mindful morning outside the city, making the drive (even from Nungambakkam) well worth it.

Attendee Sentiment

- "A memorable morning for us." — Sangeetha & Rtn Gooch
- "Well worth the drive." — Rtn Bala Ramachandran
- "Calm, energizing and a beautiful way to start the day." — Rtn Vipin Sachdeva
- "We couldn't have asked for a more perfect setting." — Rtn Prasad PB

RYLA 2026: WHERE LEADERS WERE LIT (AND LITERALLY ON THE DANCE FLOOR)

On 7th and 8th Feb 2026, students from various schools came together for a power-packed RYLA Camp, organized by the Rotary Club of Madras at the Brahma Kumaris Retreat Centre, Sunguvarchatram.

Day 1 kicked off with high energy as we were addressed by Mr. G. Keerthivasan, Deputy Superintendent of Police, setting the tone for discipline and leadership. This was followed

by a super-fun jive class and a fitness test conducted by Squadron Leader Unni Nair, keeping everyone on their toes, literally. The evening soared with exuberant cultural performances by the participating schools and ended on a euphoric note with a soulful DJ night, where the dance floor became the place to be.



Day 2 began on a serene note with a calming philosophical discourse by Mr. Ratan Kumar, leading into an electrifying session titled "The Magic is in You" by Mr. R. Parasuraman, which left every student motivated, energized, and happily grooving to the upbeat closing dance score. Adding a unique flavour to the camp were sessions that introduced us to diverse worlds—culinary sciences with Mrs.

Rachel, and diplomacy with Rtn Sesha Sai. The camp concluded with a heartfelt valedictory ceremony, a proud moment where leadership, teamwork, and unity truly came together. More than just a camp, RYLA became a journey, helping students build connections, uncover hidden talents, and learn leadership in the most engaging way possible.





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