



**UNITE
FOR
GOOD**



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ROTARY CLUB OF KOLHAPUR

2025-26



Rtn. Francesco Arezzo
RI PRESIDENT



Rtn. Arun D. Bhandare
DISTRICT GOVERNOR



Rtn. Pradeep Karande
PRESIDENT



Rtn. Nilesh Kutte
SECRETARY

Rotary

HERALD

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Rotary Club of Kolhapur Organises Organ Donation Awareness Seminar

Date: 21-02-2026

Venue : Shivaji University, Kolhapur

social responsibility and humanitarian service, the **Rotary Club of Kolhapur**, in association with the **NSS Department of Shivaji University** and **Yashodhan Foundation**, organised a significant **Seminar on Organ Donation Awareness** at Shivaji University. The seminar aimed to create awareness about the life-saving importance of organ donation and encourage citizens to actively participate in this noble mission.



The programme witnessed participation from nearly **300 students, volunteers, medical professionals, and citizens**, while around **50 organ donors and donor families** were given a platform to share their experiences and emphasise the growing need for organ donation. Their inspiring stories helped spread awareness and motivated many attendees to consider organ donation as a social responsibility. The event was successfully organised with the support and participation of several social and healthcare organisations. Members of the Rotary Club of Kolhapur played a key role in coordinating the initiative, reaffirming Rotary's motto of **Service Above Self**.

KMC Mayor's Initiative “My City, My Responsibility” Cleanliness Drive

Date: 27-02-2026



Members of **Rotary Movement Kolhapur** and **Rotary Club of Kolhapur** actively participated in the “**My City, My Responsibility**” mega cleanliness campaign organised by the Kolhapur Municipal Corporation, extending strong support to the Hon. Mayor's initiative aimed at creating a clean and beautiful Kolhapur city. **PDG Pratap Puranik** graced the occasion and appreciated the dedicated

efforts of KMC sanitation workers, and as a gesture of gratitude, donated water bottles to the municipal cleaning staff recognising their valuable contribution towards maintaining city cleanliness.

Hon. Mayor Ruparani Nikam and **Municipal Commissioner K. Manjulakshmi** participated in the own planed campaign and they **encouraged all Kolhapurkars** to actively contribute towards **cleanliness and civic responsibility**. **Rtn. Pradeep Karande**, President of Rotary Club of Kolhapur, along with club members, enthusiastically participated in the drive. The initiative also witnessed active involvement under the leadership of **Rtn. Shital Dugge**, President of Rotary Movement Kolhapur, with Rotarians from various Rotary Clubs across Kolhapur joining the campaign in large numbers. Through this meaningful participation, Rotary once again demonstrated its commitment to community service in line with Rotary's guiding principle of "**Service Above Self**," highlighting the importance of collective efforts between civic administration and social organisations in promoting cleanliness and sustainable urban development.

Heartiest Thanks and Warm Congratulations



A proud and inspiring moment for **RSSK** as we received a generous donation of **Rs. 5,00,000** from **Laxmi Civil Engineering Services Pvt. Ltd.** This noble contribution reflects a strong commitment towards social responsibility and community development. It will significantly strengthen our ongoing service projects and outreach initiatives.

This generous donation was made possible through the dedicated efforts of **Rtn. Subhash Malu**. We express our heartfelt gratitude to Rtn. Subhash Malu for his sincere efforts and unwavering support. His dedication and goodwill continue to inspire our entire team. Such generosity truly empowers RSSK to serve society with greater enthusiasm and greater impact.

Heartiest thanks and warm congratulations to **Rtn. Arvindkumar Ruia** for his generous donation of **Rs.1,00,000/-** to **Rotary Samaj Seva Kendra (RSSK)**. His noble gesture truly reflects the spirit of *Service Above Self* and demonstrates his deep commitment towards community welfare and humanitarian service. We sincerely appreciate his generosity, leadership, and compassionate outlook, which continue to inspire fellow Rotarians to serve society with greater dedication and purpose.



A proud and inspiring moment for **Rotary Samaj Seva Kendra (RSSK)** as **Rtn. Vikas Kadam** donated **Rs.50,000**, thereby completing his committed contribution of **Rs.1,00,000**. His dedication truly reflects the spirit of *Service Above Self*.

Heartfelt thanks and congratulations to **Rtn. Vikas Kadam** for his generosity and unwavering support. His noble contribution will strengthen our service initiatives and create a lasting impact.

President **Rtn. Girish Joshi** has appealed to all our Club members to generously support “Rotary Samaj Seva Kendra”. Let us come forward with a big heart and strengthen our service commitment. All Rotarians are kindly requested to contribute their donation at the earliest to “Rotary Samaj Seva Kendra” or through us. Your support truly makes a difference. We would be happy if you contact us directly.

A courtesy visit was undertaken by the members of Rotary Club of Kolhapur to Hon. Mayor of Kolhapur Municipal Corporation, Mrs. Ruparani Nikam. On the occasion of International Women's Day, she was invited as the **Chief Guest** for the club's weekly meeting scheduled on **Wednesday, 4th March 2026**, and she graciously accepted the invitation. During the interaction, **PDG Rtn. Pratap Puranik** presented the club's activity booklet and shared brief information about the club's ongoing social initiatives. On this occasion, the dignitaries of our Rotary Club of Kolhapur were present.

Courtesy Visit to Hon. Mayor Ruparani Nikam and Invitation



President **Rtn. Pradeep Karande**, Secretary **Rtn. Nilesh Kutte**, **Rtn. Pradeep Pasmal**, **Rtn. Sanjeev Chipalunkar**, and **Rtn. Ajinkya Kadam** were present

Rtn. Amit Mate Addresses Research Students at Shivaji University



An **interactive and insightful session** was conducted by **Rtn. Amit Mate** for **PhD and PG students** at Shivaji University, focusing on **industry expectations, emerging trends, and the essential skills required in today's competitive professional environment**. He shared practical guidance on **bridging the gap between academic research and real-world industry needs**, emphasizing **skill development, innovation, adaptability, and career readiness**.



The session was aligned with the objectives of the Pradhan Mantri Uchcharat Shiksha Abhiyan (**PM-USHA**), launched in June 2023 by the Ministry of Education, Government of India, to enhance the **quality, accessibility, and equity of higher education** in line with the National Education Policy 2020. The initiative was widely appreciated for **strengthening the connect between academia and industry**.



Rotary International President **Francesco Arezzo's** March 2026 Message

“The reach of community action”

Water connects us all. From a river in a remote forest to a stream running past a city neighborhood, freshwater ecosystems sustain humanity. Yet these waters are increasingly under strain. Pollution, overuse, and climate pressures remind us that protecting freshwater is a global challenge.

Rotary has always believed change begins within communities. Now we are working to see how far the impact of community action can travel. When local service is connected, measured, and shared, it becomes a force that extends beyond geography and borders.

A water project led by the Rotary Club of Panamá Nordeste exemplifies this idea. The project served Indigenous communities in Panama’s Darién province, a region accessible only by canoe and small boat. With no roads, limited electricity, and reliance on untreated river water, families faced serious health risks.

To reach these communities, Rotarians had to rethink how supplies and services could be delivered. Working with a partner club in the United States and a specialized water organization, they introduced solar-powered water treatment systems for an area without access to an electrical grid. Local leaders were trained to operate and maintain the system, ensuring that clean water would continue flowing long after installation crews departed.

The results were immediate. Children who once missed school due to illness returned to classrooms. No longer needing to haul water from rivers, adults gained time and strength to work and support their families.

What began as a water project became a foundation for healthier, more resilient communities.

This is how we extend our reach: combine local leadership with global partnerships, technical expertise, and long-term thinking.

That same spirit is at the heart of Rotary’s partnership with the United Nations Environment Programme through the Community Action for Fresh Water initiative. Around the world, Rotary and Rotaract clubs are restoring waterways, protecting wetlands, and safeguarding vital freshwater sources. By collecting data to map and measure this work, we can better understand its impact and show how local service contributes to worldwide solutions.

Data is not an end. It is a tool that helps us learn and improve so that Rotary’s service delivers real, measurable change. Each project entered and each waterway restored adds to a shared story of stewardship and responsibility. You can learn more and get involved at -

communityactionforfreshwater.org

As we observe Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Month, I encourage you to reflect on the freshwater systems that sustain your community and the role Rotary can play in protecting them.

When we connect local action to a global vision, we strengthen Rotary’s ability to make lasting change. Together, by extending our reach and working side by side, we truly Unite for Good.



Shared by - **Rtn. Ajinkya Kadam**

रोटरी इंटरनॅशनल दिवस - 23 फेब्रुवारी

“स्वतःपेक्षा सेवेला प्राधान्य” या तत्त्वाचा जागतिक उत्सव



लेखक - रोटरी मूव्हमेंट ऑफ कोल्हापूर (डिस्ट्रिक्ट 3170) 2025-26

23 फेब्रुवारी 1905 रोजी अमेरिकेतील शिकागो येथे श्री. पॉल पी. हॅरिस या तरुण वकिलाने चार मित्रांसह एक छोटा क्लब सुरू केला. उद्देश साधा होता - विविध क्षेत्रातील व्यावसायिकांनी एकत्र येऊन मैत्री वाढवावी आणि समाजासाठी काहीतरी अर्थपूर्ण कार्य करावे. त्या छोट्याशा उपक्रमातून आज उभी राहिली आहे जगातील सर्वात मोठी स्वयंसेवी सेवा चळवळ - रोटरी इंटरनॅशनल.

आज रोटरी 220 हून अधिक देशांमध्ये कार्यरत असून सुमारे 538 डिस्ट्रिक्ट, 1.4 दशलक्ष सदस्य आणि 46000 पेक्षा अधिक क्लब यांच्या माध्यमातून समाजपरिवर्तनाचे कार्य करत आहे. “Service Above Self” - स्वतःपेक्षा सेवेला प्राधान्य - हे रोटरीचे ब्रीदवाक्य प्रत्येक रोटेरियनच्या कृतीतून साकार होते.

रोटरीचे कार्य केवळ स्थानिक नसून जागतिक आहे. पोलिओ निर्मूलन मोहिमेत रोटरीचा अग्रक्रम आहे. “End Polio Now” या अभियानांतर्गत रोटरीने अब्जावधी डॉलर्सचा निधी उभारून आणि लसीकरण मोहिमा राबवून जगातील पोलिओ जवळपास संपविण्यात मोलाची भूमिका बजावली आहे.

रोटरीची सात प्रमुख सेवा क्षेत्रे

शांतता आणि संघर्ष निराकरण रोगप्रतिबंध व आरोग्य सेवा पाणी व स्वच्छता मातृ व बाल आरोग्य शिक्षण व साक्षरता पर्यावरण संरक्षण सामाजिक आर्थिक विकास ही कार्यक्षेत्रे म्हणजे मानवाच्या मूलभूत गरजांवर थेट काम करणारी दिशा आहे. रोटरी फाउंडेशनच्या माध्यमातून दरवर्षी हजारो सामाजिक प्रकल्पांना जागतिक अनुदान मिळते.

डिस्ट्रिक्ट 3170 - स्थापना व कार्यक्षेत्र

कोल्हापूर जिल्हा हा डिस्ट्रिक्ट 3170 मध्ये समाविष्ट आहे. या डिस्ट्रिक्टमध्ये दक्षिण महाराष्ट्र, कर्नाटकाचा काही भाग आणि गोवा राज्य यांचा समावेश होतो.

सन 1984-85 या वर्षी पूर्वीचा डिस्ट्रिक्ट 317 हा नव्या संरचनेनुसार डिस्ट्रिक्ट 3170 या नावाने ओळखला जाऊ लागला. या बदलामुळे प्रशासन अधिक कार्यक्षम झाले आणि सेवा प्रकल्पांचा विस्तार अधिक व्यापक पातळीवर झाला.

डिस्ट्रिक्ट गव्हर्नरची भूमिका

प्रत्येक रोटरी डिस्ट्रिक्टसाठी एक डिस्ट्रिक्ट गव्हर्नर नियुक्त केला जातो. गव्हर्नरचा कार्यकाळ 1 जुलै ते 30 जून (एक वर्ष) असा असतो.

डिस्ट्रिक्टमधील सर्व क्लबचे समन्वय, मार्गदर्शन, प्रेरणा व देखरेख ही जबाबदारी गव्हर्नर पार पाडतात. ते क्लबना विविध सेवा प्रकल्प, सदस्यवाद, प्रशिक्षण आणि रोटरीच्या ध्येयधोरणांनुसार कार्य करण्यास प्रेरित करतात.

सध्याची स्थिती व नेतृत्व

सध्या डिस्ट्रिक्ट 3170 मध्ये एकूण 147 क्लब असून 6728 सदस्य कार्यरत आहेत. हे सदस्य शिक्षण, आरोग्य, पर्यावरण, पाणी, महिला व बालकल्याण, ग्रामीण विकास अशा विविध क्षेत्रांमध्ये सेवा प्रकल्प राबवत आहेत.

या वर्षी डिस्ट्रिक्ट 3170 चे गव्हर्नर म्हणून रो. इंजि. अरुण डी. भंडारे - Rotary Club of Ichalkaranji Executive - यांनी पदभार स्वीकारला असून ते डिस्ट्रिक्टचे नेतृत्व समर्थपणे सांभाळत आहेत.

डिस्ट्रिक्ट 3170 चे प्रमुख उपक्रम

- ✓ मोफत आरोग्य तपासणी शिबिरे
 - ✓ कर्करोग व मधुमेह जनजागृती
 - ✓ रक्तदान महादान उपक्रम
 - ✓ ग्रामीण पिण्याच्या पाण्याच्या योजना
 - ✓ डिजिटल शिक्षण साहित्य वाटप
 - ✓ महिला आरोग्य व मासिक पाळी स्वच्छता मोहिमा
 - ✓ युवक नेतृत्व विकास कार्यक्रम
 - ✓ वृक्षारोपण व पर्यावरण संवर्धन
- “स्थानिक कृती - जागतिक परिणाम” या तत्त्वावर डिस्ट्रिक्ट 3170 कार्य करते.

कोल्हापूरमधील 14 रोटरी क्लब - एकजूट आणि समन्वय

कोल्हापूर शहरात सध्या 14 रोटरी क्लब कार्यरत आहेत:

- रोटरी क्लब ऑफ कोल्हापूर
- रोटरी क्लब ऑफ कोल्हापूर सेंट्रल
- रोटरी क्लब ऑफ कोल्हापूर सिटी
- रोटरी क्लब ऑफ कोल्हापूर इव्हॉल्व्ह
- रोटरी क्लब ऑफ कोल्हापूर गार्गीज
- रोटरी क्लब ऑफ कोल्हापूर हेरिटेज
- रोटरी क्लब ऑफ कोल्हापूर होरायझन
- रोटरी क्लब ऑफ करवीर कोल्हापूर
- रोटरी क्लब ऑफ कोल्हापूर मिडटाउन
- रोटरी क्लब ऑफ कोल्हापूर रॉयल्स
- रोटरी क्लब ऑफ शिरोली एमआयडीसी कोल्हापूर

- रोटरी क्लब ऑफ कोल्हापूर स्मार्ट सिटी
- रोटरी क्लब ऑफ कोल्हापूर स्पेक्ट्रम
- रोटरी क्लब ऑफ कोल्हापूर सनराइज

सर्व क्लबचे अध्यक्ष व सचिव रोटरी मूव्हमेंट ऑफ कोल्हापूर या व्यासपीठाच्या माध्यमातून एकत्रितपणे काम करतात. संयुक्त प्रकल्पांमुळे शहर पातळीवरील मोठे उपक्रम प्रभावीपणे राबवले जातात.

आरोग्य क्षेत्रातील उल्लेखनीय उपक्रम

- ✓ फिजिओथेरेपी सेंटर
- ✓ वाचा व श्रवण केंद्र व हिअरिंग क्लिनिक
- ✓ पार्किन्सन पुनर्वसन केंद्र
- ✓ राजर्षी शाहू ब्लड सेंटर (24x7 सेवा)
- ✓ कर्णबधिर विद्यालय
- ✓ हायड्रोथेरेपी सुविधा
- ✓ 'शिशूरक्षा' उपक्रम
- ✓ NICU (नवजात अतिदक्षता विभाग)
- ✓ अत्याधुनिक नेत्रसेवा व्हॅन

पुनर्वसन व विशेष उपक्रम

- ✓ 'जयपूर फूट' उपक्रम - कृत्रिम पाय वितरण
- ✓ जूदो प्रशिक्षण उपक्रम
- ✓ रोटरी नाना-नानी पार्क

शिक्षण व ग्रामीण विकास

- ✓ शालेय बस सुविधा
- ✓ ग्रामीण सोलर पॉवर सिस्टिम
- ✓ पिण्याच्या पाण्याच्या टाक्या
- ✓ मोफत सायकल वाटप
- ✓ ई-लर्निंग किट्स

सेवा हीच खरी ओळख

रोटरी क्लबचे हे सर्व उपक्रम केवळ प्रकल्प नसून समाजाच्या सर्व स्तरांपर्यंत पोहोचणारी सेवा चळवळ आहे. आरोग्य, शिक्षण, पुनर्वसन आणि पर्यावरण या सर्व क्षेत्रांमध्ये कोल्हापूरमधील रोटरी क्लब सातत्याने कार्यरत आहेत.

"Service Above Self" या तत्त्वावर आधारित ही कार्यपरंपरा समाजात आशा, आधार आणि सकारात्मक परिवर्तन घडवून आणत आहे. **रोटरी ही केवळ एक संस्था नाही, ती एक विचारधारा आहे. " स्वतःपेक्षा सेवेला प्राधान्य"- हाच खरा समाज परिवर्तनाचा मार्ग.**

रोटरी मूव्हमेंट, कोल्हापूर 2025-26
डिस्ट्रिक्ट 3170



Shared by - Rtn. Pradeep Karande

"Meditation means the mind is turned back upon itself. The mind stops all the thought-waves and the world stops. Your consciousness expands. Every time you meditate you will keep your growth."

- Swami Vivekananda



TRIVIA QUESTION ?

Question :

Rotary year starts in which month?

- A) June B) January
C) July D) April

Send your answers to Rtn. Dr. Pooja Sasurkar on **Whatsapp** 90285 26755

The names of the **First Five Members** with correct answers will be published in the next bulletin

Last week Question & Answer

Q: Which country has the second largest Rotary membership in the world?

Answer -
A) India

Answers given by -

- 1) Ann Nikita Gandhi
- 2) Ann Dhara Sheth
- 3) Ann Vaishali Taral
- 4) Ann Poonam shah
- 5) Ann Rakhi Ghodke

History: From Karvir to Kolhapur

- The Real Story Behind the Sacred City

Ancient Origin — The Land of Karvir

Kolhapur's history dates back more than two thousand years and was originally known as **Karvir**. Ancient religious texts such as *Karvir Mahatmya* describe this region as the sacred land chosen by Goddess Mahalakshmi as her permanent abode. Because of this belief, the deity came to be worshipped as *Shri Karvir Nivasini*, establishing Kolhapur as an important spiritual centre from early times.

Ambabai — The People's Goddess

While scriptures refer to the deity as Mahalakshmi, local devotees lovingly began calling her **Ambabai**, meaning "Divine Mother." This name emerged from deep emotional devotion rather than royal or religious decree. Over centuries, the temple became popularly known as the Ambabai Temple, reflecting the close maternal relationship between the goddess and the people of the region.

Kolhapur in the Ancient Kuntal Region

Historical studies suggest that during the **2nd century CE**, the Kolhapur area was part of the ancient **Kuntal (Kuntala) region**, which covered parts of southern Maharashtra and northern Karnataka. This region was known for agriculture, trade routes, and cultural exchanges, indicating that Kolhapur was an active and prosperous settlement even in early historic times.

Evidence from Ancient Names and Records

Epigraphic records, copper plates, and historical writings mention Kolhapur by various names such as **Kollagiri**, **Kolladigiripattan**, and **Kollpur**. These names are believed to describe a fortified settlement located amidst hills and valleys, showing how geography influenced the city's identity through different dynasties and eras.

The Legend of Kolhasur — Origin of the Name Kolhapur

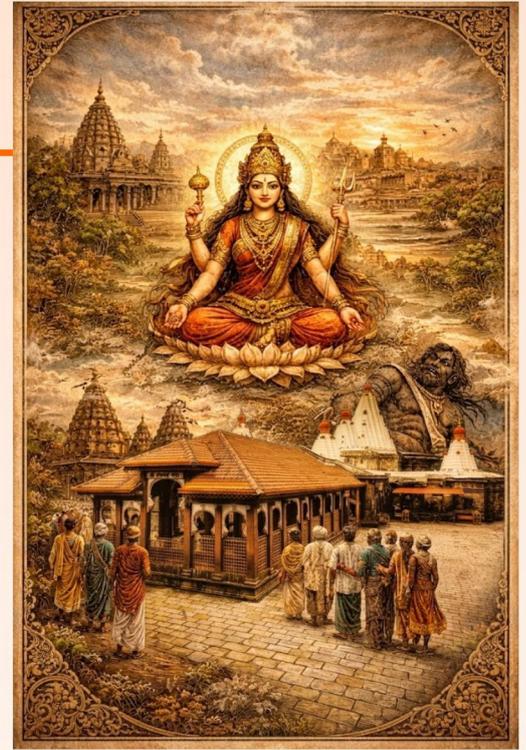
According to Hindu mythology, a powerful demon named **Kolhasur** ruled this region and troubled the people. Goddess Mahalakshmi descended to restore peace and defeated him after a fierce battle. Before his death, Kolhasur requested that the land be named after him. Honouring his final wish, the goddess allowed the region to be called **Kolhapur** — combining *Kolha* (Kolhasur) and *Pur* (city).

Rise as 'Dakshin Kashi'

Due to the continuous worship of Goddess Mahalakshmi and the presence of one of India's revered Shakti Peeth traditions, Kolhapur gradually gained recognition as **Dakshin Kashi**, meaning the Kashi of Southern India. For centuries, pilgrims, saints, traders, and rulers visited the city, strengthening its religious and cultural prominence.

Living Heritage — Karvir to Modern Kolhapur

Even today, the administrative taluka retains the historic name **Karvir**, preserving the city's ancient identity. The evolution from Karvir to Kolhapur and from Mahalakshmi to Ambabai represents not just a change of names but a living journey of faith, history, and cultural continuity. Kolhapur thus stands as a rare city where mythology, documented history, and people's devotion continue to coexist.



Shared by - Rtn. Dr. Pooja Sasurkar

Greetings

From -
ROTARY CLUB OF KOLHAPUR



Happy Birthday



- Rtn. Vijay Agarwal - 23rd Feb.
- Rtn. Suman Kedia - 23rd Feb.
- Rtn. Arunkumar Goenka - 24th Feb.

Happy Wedding Anniversary

- Rtn. Neeraj Zanvar - 23rd Feb.

Professional Profile

GUEST SPEAKER

Mrs. Ruparani S. Nikam

- **Position:** Mayor of Kolhapur Municipal Corporation (KMC).
- **Party Affiliation:** Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).
- **Election Result:** Elected in February 2026, defeating Congress candidate Sachin Maruti Shende with 46 votes against 35.
- **Significance:** She is part of the first-ever Mahayuti (BJP-led alliance) panel to secure the mayoral seat in KMC. She is the first BJP corporator to hold this position after a 5-year gap in city administration.
- **Term:** Expected to serve for an initial term

NEXT MEETING



DATE:
**Wednesday,
04th March 2026**

TIME:
5:30 PM

GUEST

Mrs. Ruparani S. Nikam
Mayor of KMC

SUBJECT

**Kolhapur City Development
& Our Responsibilities**

All Ann's are requested to join the meeting.

Venue : Rotary Samaj Seva Kendra,
Shri. Madhav Prasad Goenka Bhavan, 3rd Floor,
Smt. Kamal Govind Gundesha Hall,
Rotary Samaj Seva Kendra, Kolhapur



**wear the Rotary Pin
with PRIDE**

of approximately 15 months (Savva Varsha).

- **Background:** She contested and won from Ward No. 18 (General Category).
- **Key Focus:** Her appointment is supported by senior BJP leaders, including Higher and Technical Education Minister Chandrakant Patil, and MP Dhananjay Mahadik.



GET IN TOUCH
ROTARY CLUB OF KOLHAPUR

WE MEET EVERY
WEDNESDAY AT 5.30 PM

OFFICE : ROTARY SAMAJ SEVA KENDRA,
Madhavprasad Goenka Bhavan,
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