

July 2025

Rotary

NEWS PLUS



Blood donation and bird baths

Team Rotary News

RC Varanasi Kabir, RID 3120, in a recent case of urgent medical need, provided timely blood to a patient at a cancer hospital as part of its project titled *Rakt Daan Maha Daan*. The initiative was part of an ongoing district-wide blood donation campaign.

During the peak summer, members also launched *Project Seva*, where they placed water pots on rooftops and balconies to help birds survive the intense temperatures.

The club also participated in the *Sourya Tiranga Yatra*, a patriotic rally organised in support of Operation Sindoor, the military offensive in response to the recent terror attack in Pahalgam. The rally, held from Kashi Vidyapith to Sampurnan and Sanskrit



A club member placing food and water in her balcony to help birds survive the intense heat.

Vishwavidyalaya in Varanasi, was joined by several Rotary clubs. The *yatra* recognised the military's decisive response and their continued efforts to strengthen national security, thus boosting the public image of the club in this historic city. ■



Club members at the *Sourya Tiranga Yatra*.

On the cover: A mega tree planting drive at Gulwanchi village undertaken by RC Solapur Smart City, RID 3132.

Recycled cycles for tribal students

Team Rotary News

Old cycles were refurbished, made usable and then presented to 41 rural students by RC Mumbai Kandivli West, RID 3141, with the beneficiary names and their village names displayed on the vehicles.

As students had to walk miles daily to and from school, “our cycle project will drastically reduce their travel time to school and back. The cycles will improve their school attendance and also their personal well-being,”

said Raghunath Prabhu, club secretary (2024–25). *Project Recycle the Cycle* has made a big difference to the lives of tribal students in Garad and Juni Jawahar villages of Palghar district of Maharashtra.

The project cost of ₹48,000 was funded by member contributions and a donation from SAS Foundation. The children sang a ‘thank you’ song for the Rotarians after receiving the cycles as a token of gratitude. ■



RC Mumbai Kandivli West president Devsingh Shahani (2024–25) presents a bicycle to a student at a tribal village in Palghar district.

Bareilly medical camps boost PR

Since 2002, monthly health check-up camps are being held by RC Bareilly Metro, RID 3110, which has reached out to thousands of rural patients who don’t have access to medical care.

In addition to regular medical camps, the club organises specialised camps like the ones

focused on dengue awareness and cardiac health with the support of local hospitals.

After diagnosis and consultations by doctors, free medicines are given to the patients. Over the years, the Rotary health camps have boosted the public image of the club in and around Bareilly town as patients from nearby villages attend it for the treatment of their chronic diseases for free or at nominal cost.

Recently, a tree planting drive was held with the participation of large numbers of Rotarians in which fruit-bearing and native trees were planted, and the event was widely covered in the local newspapers. ■



A monthly health check-up camp in progress.

Mega tree planting drive in Solapur

Team Rotary News





Club members plant saplings.

As part of its ongoing efforts in protecting the environment, RC Solapur Smart City, RID 3132, in collaboration with Gulwanchi Gram Panchayat, launched the first phase of its mega tree planting initiative which aims to plant over 500 saplings. The drive began with the planting of 100 saplings at Gulwanchi village in June this year.

Recognising that 'Protecting the Environment' is one of the seven focus areas of Rotary, the initiative is part of the club's commitment to sustainable

development and community engagement. Taluk forest officer Sachin Joshi inaugurated the planting drive and spoke on the need to take up afforestation in a large scale to restore the ecological balance.

In his address, club president Akbar Nadaf said the "mega greening mission is an investment in our planet's future, and the club will continue to be at the forefront of social, environmental and humanitarian service projects in the region."

Gulwanchi panchayat chief Sunil Jadhav, secretary

Basavaraj Birajdar and project director Yoginath Kudte took part in the planting drive. Past presidents and senior members including Mahesh Salunke, Nagesh Shendge and Satyam Dudhnakar were also actively involved in the project which saw local villagers and volunteers of Chhava Pratishthan doing the field work with enthusiasm.

The event concluded with a pledge to protect and nurture the newly-planted trees, with follow-up drives planned in the coming months. ■

AI smart glasses for visually-impaired students

Team Rotary News

RC Ghaziabad Smart City, RID 3012, under a CSR initiative, distributed 240 Jyoti AI Pro Smart Glasses with a stand to visually-impaired students of Delhi University and its affiliated colleges. The handover event was held at the Delhi University.

The smart glasses, developed by Torchit Electronics, are designed

to assist visually-impaired individuals by recognising objects, identifying currency and colours, interpreting text in multiple languages, and offering other vital support using advanced AI and computer vision technology.

Vikas Gupta, registrar of Delhi University, PDG Prashant Raj Sharma, RID 3012, attended the event and appreciated the initiative and the club's

efforts towards inclusive education. A training session on the use of the AI device was also conducted by Torchit Electronics. The programme saw the participation of university faculty, staff, students, and members of the club.

The CSR project was led by PDG Subhash Jain, who said that "the device aims to support independent mobility, accessibility, and literacy for



Club members along with Vikas Gupta, registrar of Delhi University, and PDGs Prashant Raj Sharma and Subhash Jain.



Beneficiaries receiving the AI smart glasses from Rotarians.

visually-impaired individuals.” The project, with a total cost of \$42,500, was supported through a CSR contribution of \$27,000 from Ferolite

Jointings and \$ 15,500 from the Rotary club.

Club president Deepak Kumar Agarwal expressed his gratitude to “Ferolite Jointings

managing director Ashok Kumar Sharma, as well as other stakeholders and partners involved in the successful execution of the project.” ■



club matters



RC Karur Young Gen



RC Trichur



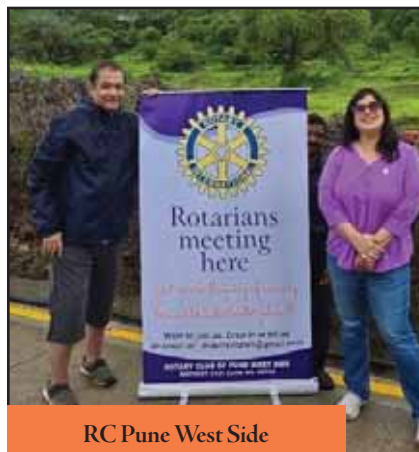
RC Moradabad Sanskar



RC Coimbatore Mid Town

RC Karur Young Gen — RID 3000

A family get-together was arranged with 60 members, Anns and Annets taking part with enthusiasm as the DJ and the event organiser kept the fun moments alive. It lasted for three hours with music, dance and laughter followed by dinner.



RC Pune West Side

RC Trichur — RID 3205

Lt Col (retd) Rajasekharan Nair was conferred with the Veteran Achiever Award by the South Western Command Lt Gen Manjinder Singh for his 'selfless service to humanity'. The award was presented at the artificial limb distribution camp under *Project Walk Again* for which he is the primary contact.

RC Moradabad Sanskar — RID 3100

Under *Project Manavata hi Seva*, wheelchair was given to a physically-challenged girl. As the girl can't walk, the fully-equipped recliner chair will aid her movements. AG Sharmitabh Sinha and Anshu Gupta helped the girl to receive the wheelchair.

RC Pune West Side — RID 3131

A Rotary standee, a flex banner, was designed to inform the public what Rotary is all about in a nutshell. It displays a big Rotary Wheel logo in the centre, and a headline 'Rotarians meeting here' with a catchy tagline.

RC Coimbatore Mid Town — RID 3206

Rotamid Awards were given to six individuals who excelled in their professions, thus contributing to public welfare. Each awardee was selected for their dedication, service, and impactful work. They exemplified RI's motto of *Service Above Self*.



RC Kollam Residency



RC Gadarwara



RC Nagercoil



RC Sambalpur

RC Kollam Residency — RID 3211

A sightseeing tour was organised for club members and their families that created a bonding among Rotarians. They visited some of the scenic spots in Kerala, had fun throughout the day, and returned home with a rich experience that will linger in their mind's eye for a long time to come.

RC Nagercoil — RID 3212

A tree planting drive was conducted at the Rosavanam International School to mark World Environment Day (June 5) with PDG Jacintha Dharma as guest of honour. Saplings were planted by students and Rotarians on the campus.



RC Patna Kankarbagh

RC Patna Kankarbagh — RID 3250

A water cooler kiosk was set up at a busy square to provide chilled water to the public. IPDG Bipin Chachan inaugurated the water booth in the presence of Bihar DGP Alok Raj. The water cooler unit will benefit at least 500 people each day.

RC Gadarwara — RID 3261

Club members led by its IPP Manish Jaiswal donated blood at the Government Hospital to mark Blood Donation Day (June 14). Senior member Minendra Daga gave a talk on the diverse service projects of the club. *Khichdi* was served by Manav Sewa Sangh, and certificates were given to donors.

RC Sambalpur — RID 3261

A mega blood donation camp was held on the first day of the new Rotary year at the club hall, and a total of 150 units of blood was collected. The blood bags were delivered to hospitals and blood banks. The maiden event of the year was covered in the local dailies.

Compiled by V Muthukumaran

For moms and mother nature

Team Rotary News

In a move to support mothers and young children, Rotary Club of Kushinagar, RID 3120, inaugurated a baby feeding room at the Kasia Roadways bus station in the town of Kushinagar.

The facility was officially opened by Love Kumar Singh, regional manager of the Uttar Pradesh State Road Transport Corporation.

Speaking at the event, Singh praised the initiative and highlighted the need for

such amenities in public spaces to help mothers care for their children with dignity and privacy. Club president Waheed Ali said, “The facility addresses the lack of safe spaces for breastfeeding mothers in public areas and reflects our club’s commitment to maternal and child welfare.”

Club secretary Ajay Kumar Singh thanked the guests, transport authorities, and fellow Rotarians for their support in executing the project.



The new baby feeding room at the Kasia Roadways bus station at Kushinagar.

The club observed World Environment Day (June 5) with a tree planting drive at Hiranayavati Ghat in collaboration with the Municipal Council. Around 50 saplings of fruit-bearing and shade-giving trees were planted, and participants pledged to plant at least one tree each and contribute to a cleaner, greener environment.

Municipal Council chairman’s representative and club patron Rakesh Jaiswal spoke about the urgent need for afforestation to tackle rising global temperatures. Club member Vijay Gupta delivered the vote of thanks. ■

Club members participating in the tree planting drive.



100 school toppers felicitated

Team Rotary News



Students being felicitated by club members.

RC Suratgarh, RID 3090, organised a special award ceremony at Suratgarh Public School to honour 100 students from 30 schools across the city for securing top positions in Class 10 and 12 board exams (2024–25).

The event celebrated academic excellence and aimed to inspire students

to pursue their goals with dedication. Each topper received a certificate of excellence, with special appreciation given to achievers from government schools.

Club president JK Arora, project chair KK Dang, PDG Rajender Taneja, and Parveen Arora were present at the ceremony. Arora highlighted the importance of education

in shaping the future. Two new members were also inducted at the end of the ceremony.

The event concluded with a vote of thanks by club secretary Sunil Chhabra, who acknowledged the efforts of fellow Rotarians and thanked school principals Shweta Bedi and Subhasini Devi for their support. ■



School principals Shweta Bedi and Subhasini Devi were felicitated by the club.

An inter-club meeting in Sri Lanka

Team Rotary News



RC Nagercoil Elite president Sivathanu Pillai (left) and RC Nuwara Eliya president Sabiskaran at the inter-club meet in Sri Lanka.

Members of RC Nagercoil Elite, RID 3212, led by its president Sivathanu Pillai (2024–25) had an inter-club meeting with their counterparts from RC Nuwara Eliya, RID 3220, in Sri Lanka and exchanged their respective flags.

The Rotarians two countries focused on strengthening exchanges between the two clubs, “we gave yellow cotton bags to Lankan Rotarians urging them to avoid plastics to protect the environment,” said Pillai. The two sides also shared project ideas that can be jointly undertaken by both the clubs. “We donated grocery items and biscuits to children at a special home, and this is our 110th project for the year,” he said.

RC Nuwara Eliya president Sabiskaran felicitated the guests from India at their fellowship meet. ■

Rotary upgrades open-air gym

Under the ‘Fitness for All’ banner, RC Bombay Airport, RID 3141, has upgraded an open-air gymnasium at the scenic Bandra Bandstand Promenade. With contributions from its members and regular users of the gym, the fitness arena was re-equipped at a total cost of ₹5 lakh.

The club also added new play equipment for children at the existing space, adjacent to the gym, where outdoor toys and fun artefacts were available for toddlers. Now open to the public for regular use, the gymnasium is attracting hundreds of fitness buffs and trainers each day.

Also, the renovated open-air gym has boosted the public image of the club around the vicinity of Bandra Bandstand. ■



RC Bombay Airport immediate past president Apurva Patel (seated left) and members at the upgraded open-air gym at the Bandra Bandstand Promenade, Mumbai.

Chopda Rotarians support farmers

Team Rotary News

Rotary Club of Chopda, RID 3030, has its focus on farmers' wellbeing. The club constructed a check dam in Krishnapur village to conserve water and enhance underground water levels in the village. This facility is now benefitting around 175 farmers who are happy to see their wells recharged and irrigation canals flow with copious water especially during the summer season.

The club conducted health camps for lactating and expectant mothers at the two primary health centres in Satrasen and Virwade villages. Protein powders, vitamin supplements and delivery kits were distributed to the beneficiaries. "We distributed iron and calcium tablets, along with the delivery kits, so that both the mother and newborn are taken care of during childbirth," said Bhalchandra Shivaji Pawar, club secretary (2024–25). This maternity welfare project was conducted "keeping in view the neglect of women in rural and tribal areas



A medical check-up in a village.

where medical facilities are nonexistent." Manohar Dhivare of Avanta Foundation supported the club's initiative.

In a mega anti-plastic drive, the club members distributed 100 cloth bags to the shoppers and the public at the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj

Chowk, a busy square in Chopda. "We empowered SHG women who were given sewing machines and cloth material to sew cotton bags," said Pawar.

Multipurpose health camp

Students of Prerna Matimand Vidyalaya, Chopda, were screened for eye, dental disorders and other health issues by a team of three doctors at a medical camp. "The health check-up camp addressed the various health issues of students to promote their physical well-being, and also create awareness on the need to adopt a healthy lifestyle," he said.

Then DGN Rajesh Patil (2026–27) flagged off an ambulance at the Rotary Bhavan, Chopda, and "this vehicle will bridge the gap in healthcare services in the nearby rural areas," he said, and added it would provide efficient and affordable medical services to the poor families. ■



Rotarians at the check dam site in Krishnapur village.

RID 3011 clubs host thalassaemia seminar

Team Rotary News

A thalassaemia awareness seminar was conducted by RC Delhi Safdarjung, RID 3011, with the support of 17 other Rotary clubs and Rotaract and Interact volunteers from the district. “The aim was to empower the incoming clubs and district leadership to carry forward the mission of thalassaemia awareness and screening across RID 3011 and beyond,” said Priya Oberoi, club president (2024–25). The seminar had a tagline *Ek pahal zindagi ki aur* which translates into ‘A step towards life’.

Multiple sessions focused on early diagnosis, preventive care, and the importance of blood donation to save thalassaemia patients. An array of speakers including RRFC N Subramanian, a past governor,

PDG Ramesh Aggarwal, Dr Rahul Bhargava and Dr VP Chaudhary gave detailed presentations about various facets in tackling this blood disorder.

In his inaugural address, DG Mahesh Trikha praised the lead club and the project team for hosting the one-day thalassaemia seminar with the support of district clubs and Rotaractors. “The discussions served not only as a source of valuable information but as a call for collective responsibility from the Rotary world,” said Priya.

A key highlight was the performance by Thalassaemia Warriors as they shared their strength and anecdotes while handling patients through an engaging skit and dance show. Their participation brought to life the human side of this medical

condition, thus calling for spreading awareness and proactive screening of communities.

The participation of three blood banks added another layer of significance to the seminar as the officials shared their experience and insight on working with patients, “thus highlighting both challenges and success stories in managing the disease through community support,” she said. “The united front put up by RID 3011 clubs showed our commitment to make thalassaemia awareness a major healthcare initiative across our district.”

Project chairperson Mona Puri ensured a smooth conduct of sessions that gave a lasting impression among the delegates. ■



From Left: RID 3011 IPDG Mahesh Trikha, RC Delhi Safdarjung IPP Priya Oberoi, project chairperson Mona Puri and Sujata Trikha at the thalassaemia seminar in New Delhi.



A section of audience at the seminar.

100km endurance run by a Rotarian

Team Rotary News



RC Dharashiv public image director Suraj Kadam holding the club banner (left) at the Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj Chowk in Dharashiv, earlier known as Osmanabad, as he was greeted by club members after completing his journey.

On the occasion of Shivrajyabhishek Sohala Din (June 5–6), that marks the coronation of Chhatrapati Shivaji at the Raigad Fort, Suraj Kadam, the public image director of RC Dharashiv, RID 3132, completed a 100km non-stop endurance run that demonstrated his physical fitness, helped the club in public image building, and also turned the spotlight on protecting the ecology as it coincided with World Environment Day

The endurance run was not only a personal fitness challenge, “but also a creative and inspiring way to spread Rotary’s message in the community,” said Kunal Gandhi, club secretary (2024–25). Suraj Kadam ran for 15 hours to cover 100km and he was accompanied by co-runner

Duttatraya Tekale for the entire duration, and other runners — Pradeep Khamkar (51km), and Indrajeet Patil, Abhijeet Patil and Amole Mane (partial run).

Through this endurance activity, Kadam and his team conveyed a message to the community: “Every individual should engage in activities that are pollution-free, health-oriented, and nature-friendly. Fitness journeys like running promote fresh oxygen intake, reduce stress, and contribute to personal and planetary well-being. Such non-polluting physical activities not only strengthen individuals but also protect our environment, reduce carbon footprints, and inspire a cleaner, healthier tomorrow.”

Further, Gandhi said, “to my knowledge, this is the first time a

Rotarian in our district has achieved a feat of this kind. It stands as a unique Rotary moment with a new benchmark for one’s commitment to inspire his community.”

In this long-duration run, he was supported by a medical, route safety, vehicle and field coordination teams consisting of Rotarians, besides route runners and energy boosters — all of which kept the spirit of Suraj Kadam alive and kicking till he completed his mission. Professor Satish Kadam, his father, was a pillar of support as he silently supported his son’s journey with his blessings.

RC Dharashiv was earlier known as RC Osmanabad, “but after the city’s name was changed by the local government, we wrote to RI and got our club’s name changed accordingly,” said Gandhi. ■

Rotary reaches out to Railway workers

Team Rotary News



Rotarians distribute refreshments to Railway workers at the accident site.

In a show of community support, RC Amalner, RID 3030, provided water and raw mango juice (*keri panna*) to around 700 Railway workers engaged in the restoration of railway tracks, signalling systems and high-tension power lines in the aftermath of a train accident that disrupted rail services.

The club members reached out to the frontline Railway workers involved in the restoration of rail facilities under challenging conditions during harsh summer for two days. “We distributed mango juice and water at the accident site and the officers from the Western Railway and Bombay Railway divisions complimented our team for a swift response,” said Taha Bookwala, club president (2024–25).

He said the club members distributed refreshments to ensure proper hydration and relief for Railway workers exposed to severe heat in peak summer. ■

A bus transit shelter in Umroli

A bus transit shelter was set up by RC Umroli, RID 3141, with a donation from Sagar Giridhar Patil, managing trustee of Sarita and Suresh Bhupal Bahirseth Trust, Mumbai.

AG Ninad Save, the then club president Sagar Gharat, along with Rotarians from other Rotary clubs,

were present at the inauguration of the transit shelter for bus commuters. “The Rotary bus stop shelter will address the dire need of commuters in Umroli and other nearby areas. We look forward to take up many such impactful projects in the future,” said Gharat. The project cost of ₹2.50 lakh was funded by the donor’s trust. ■



Rotarians at the newly-inaugurated bus stop shelter in Umroli.