

The DownTowner

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The Object of Rotary is to inspire and nurture the ideal of service as the foundation of meaningful and ethical enterprise. It emphasizes building relationships as an opportunity for service, upholding high ethical standards in all professions, integrating service into personal, business, and community life, and fostering international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a worldwide fellowship of business and professional leaders.

Club Meeting

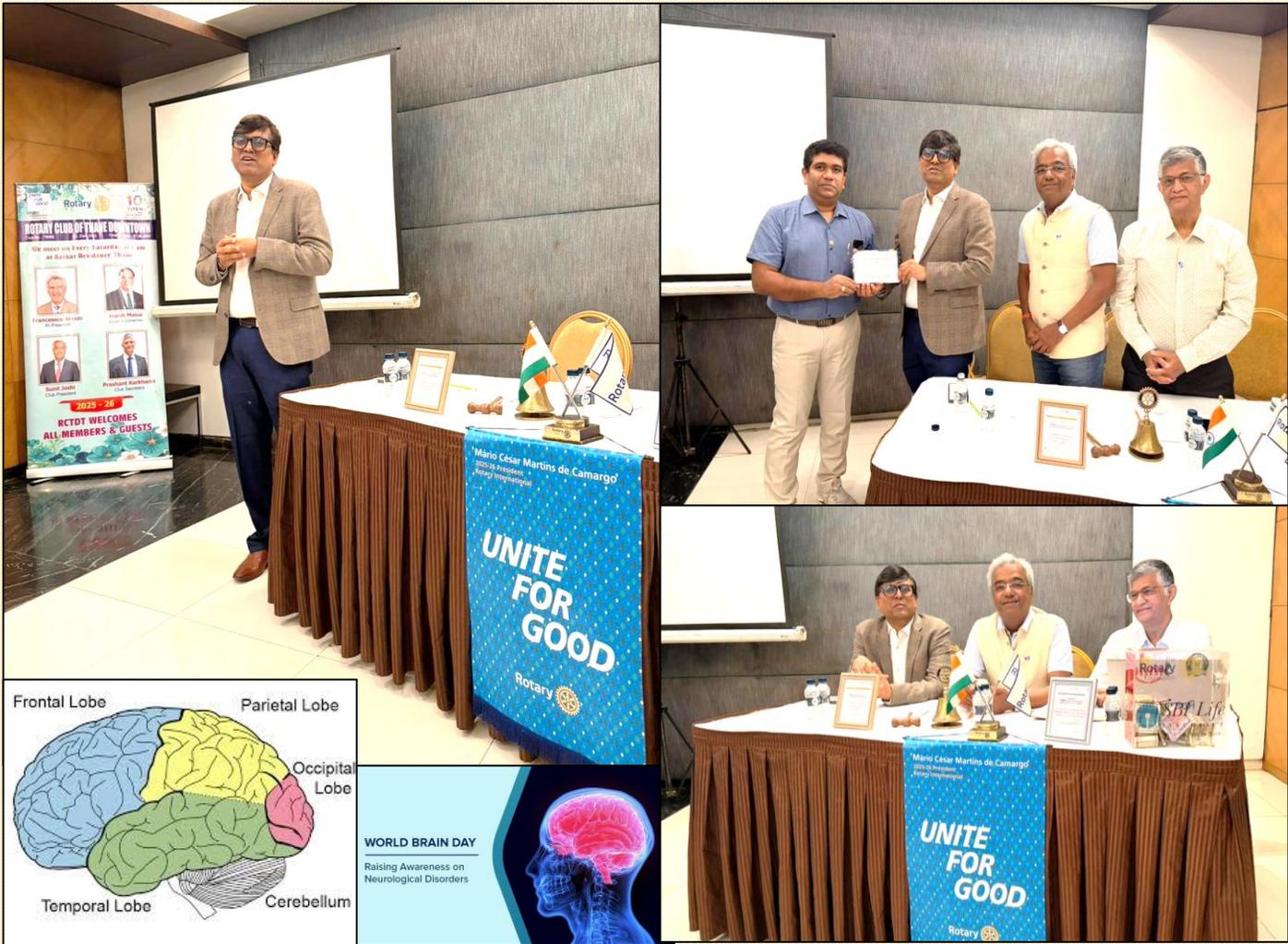
11th January 2026: The meeting was held on Saturday at Satkar Primerose. We had a valuable opportunity to deepen our understanding of **Estate Planning**—covering nominations, joint ownership, succession planning, and the relevant legal framework. Although these subjects are rarely discussed openly, they proved to be critically important for all of us.

Our member, Rtn. Guru Shukla, took the initiative to bring this important topic to our club at the meeting. Rtn. Guru, is a senior professional associated with Ladderup Group, shared insights from one of the leading firms specializing in estate planning and related services. **Speakers: Ms. Priyanka Shetty** – An Estate Planning expert with over 15 years of experience and a Chartered Trust & Estate Planner. **Ms. Arwa Gandhi** – In-house legal expert who ensured that all advice and documentation were fully compliant with applicable laws and legally enforceable. The session was engaging, insightful, and highly beneficial. We sincerely thank all Rotarians and Anns who attended in large numbers and made the Saturday event a great success.



Service Above
Self and One
Profits Most
Who Serves
Best

Club Meeting



17th January 2026: The weekly club meeting was conducted from 8:00 to 9:30 a.m. at Satkar Primerose. Our guest, Dr. Deepak Ahiwale, was introduced by President Sunil, and the vote of thanks was delivered by IPP Shantaram.

The session highlighted the vital role of neuroscience and neurology at every stage of life—from children and teenagers to adults and seniors—and provided meaningful, practical insights that could positively influence our daily lives. We were indeed fortunate to have our distinguished guest speaker, Dr. Deepak Aiwale, who shared his expertise and perspectives on brain health, neurological well-being, and their relevance in everyday living.

A recipient of the The Economic Times Conclave Award for Exemplary Work in Neurology (2019), Dr. Aiwale was a life member of the Multiple Sclerosis Society of India and had several national and international publications to his credit. He was practicing in Thane, offering expert and compassionate neurological care.

Proud Moment for the Club

Our Club proudly received three prestigious honors at the Awesome District Awards, marking a significant achievement for all of us.

Best Project for Senior Citizens – in recognition of our meaningful and impactful service initiatives dedicated to the well-being and care of senior citizens.

Best Vocational Project – acknowledging our efforts in promoting professional excellence, skill development, and vocational service in the community.

3rd Place in TRF Collection (Per Capita) – a testament to our strong commitment and generous contributions toward The Rotary Foundation.

These accomplishments reflect the collective dedication, teamwork, and service spirit of every member of our club. Congratulations to each one of us for this proud moment!



DGN's CORE TEAM LAUNCHED

The DGN's Core Team was officially launched on 18th January 2026 at Milor Inn in a well-attended and vibrant ceremony.

The event marked an important milestone as the newly formed Core Team was formally introduced, setting the tone for the vision, goals, and direction for the upcoming year. It was an inspiring gathering that reflected strong leadership, unity, and a shared commitment to service excellence.

The launch created an atmosphere of enthusiasm and purpose, motivating everyone present to work collaboratively and strive toward achieving impactful and meaningful initiatives in the year ahead.



With President Nominee Mahesh Govande and President Nominees of other clubs with DGN Chandrahas and RI Director Gurjeet Singh Sekhon (RY 27-29) during the function

Highlights from the DGN Core Team Launch Event



Highlights from the DGN Core Team Launch Event



Rotary Peace Center opened

It will offer a diploma programme in Peace & Development Studies



A glimpse of the inaugural function

SIU Lavale campus.

Rotary International President Francesco Arezzo (2025–26) said the new center reflects Rotary's long-term commitment to building peace through education. "In this interconnected world, peace can no longer be viewed as an abstract ideal. It must be cultivated through institutions that combine knowledge, ethical leadership and action. Rotary believes sustainable peace is built when education empowers individuals to serve beyond borders and think beyond divisions," he said.

For Dr. Vidya Yeravdekar, Principal Director of Symbiosis and Pro-Chancellor of SIU, the center holds special meaning as it coincides with Symbiosis' 55th anniversary.

"The establishment of the Rotary Peace Center aligns closely with the core values of Symbiosis. Founded on the ideal of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam, our mission has always been to bring together students from across India and the world to promote international understanding and brotherhood," she said.

The Rotary Peace Center at SIU will admit up to 40 Rotary Peace Fellows every year.

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Pune Sports City, one of Pune's most active Rotary clubs, known for its long-term work in healthcare, education and community development.

Located on Symbiosis' 400-plus acre Lavale campus, the Rotary Peace Center brings together the shared vision and values of Rotary International and Symbiosis. The programme is designed for professionals working in government bodies, non-profits, humanitarian organisations and development agencies who want to strengthen their skills in conflict resolution, policy, governance and sustainable development.

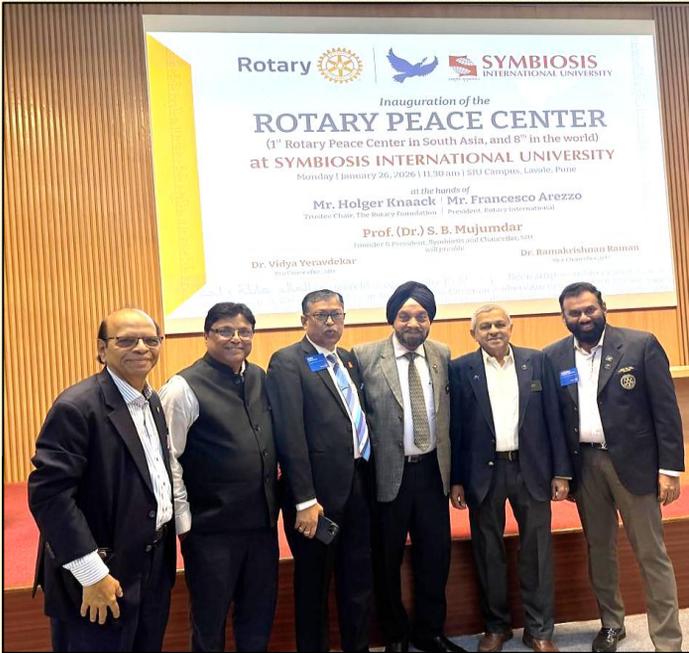
As part of the peace-focused initiative, Peace Poles were installed at Symbiosis Vishwabhan and on the

In a major step toward promoting peace, dialogue and global cooperation, Rotary International inaugurated a new Rotary Peace Center at Symbiosis International University (SIU) in Pune on Monday. The center will offer a fully funded one-year postgraduate diploma programme in Peace and Development Studies, aimed at mid-career professionals working in peacebuilding and development sectors across Asia.

The inauguration was part of a combined celebration that also marked 30 years of service by the Rotary Club of

The Rotary International Peace Centers are prestigious institutions dedicated to promoting peace and conflict resolution worldwide. Established in partnership with leading universities, these centers offer fully funded fellowships for peace and development studies.

Rotary Peace Fellows are trained in areas such as conflict prevention, mediation, public policy, and sustainable development. Since their inception, the program has produced thousands of peacebuilders serving in governments, NGOs, international organizations, and communities globally. Through the Rotary Peace Centers, Rotary continues to advance international understanding, goodwill, and lasting peace across the world.



Nation Builder Award Ceremony

On 31st January 2026, the ceremony was held at Thirani School from 4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The event was graced by the esteemed presence of DGN Chandras Shetty as the Chief Guest and Rajendra Ahire, Chairman of Vartak Nagar Shikshan Mandal, as the Guest of Honour. The ceremony was dedicated to recognizing and honoring teachers for their invaluable contribution to society and their vital role in nation-building.









Rotary Co Presidents 2025-26



The Nation Builder Awards are a heartfelt initiative to recognize and honor teachers for their outstanding contribution to shaping young minds and strengthening the foundation of our society.

These awards celebrate educators who go beyond academics, inspiring values, character, and responsible citizenship among students.

By acknowledging their dedication and selfless service, the Nation Builder Awards express gratitude to teachers who play a vital role in building a stronger and more progressive nation.



List of Teachers who were awarded **THE NATION BUILDER AWARD**

Shiv Samarth Vidyalay

Mrs Lalita Sudhakar Daware

Mr.Devidas Shrirang Sanap

Mr.Jagan Khatriya Vasave

Mr.Sanjeev Hemraj Rathod

Dr.Bedekar Vidya Mandir

Mrs.Kalpna Maruti Vaghule

Mr.Mohan Shankar Shelvale

Mr.Sanjay Chudaman Talele

Mrs.Kalpna Virendra Borwankar

Sou.A.K.Joshi Eng Medium School

Mrs Manisha Sali

Mrs.Namita Joshi

Mrs.Gauri Mohile

Mrs.Anushka Sarpotdar

Smt.Savitrivedi Thirani High School

Mrs.Mitali Sachin Sawant

Mrs.Vandana Jitendra Nandvalkar

Mrs.Suvarna Govind Lilka

Mr.Hemant Subhash Sawant



Project: Matoshree Medicines



PP Nilesh Kadam and PP Sunil D. Joshi efficiently completed the regular monthly distribution of medical supplies to Matoshree Vrudhashram, ensuring that the facility remained adequately stocked to address the continuing healthcare needs of its residents.

A Noble Contribution by Our Dedicated Member

We gratefully received a generous donation of ₹25,000 from **PP Rajesh Mittal** towards a **Pediatric Heart Surgery**, marking the special occasion of **Sakshi's birthday**.

Heartfelt thanks to PP Rajesh and Sakshi for their thoughtful generosity and compassionate gesture in supporting this noble cause.



Rotarians dedicate their time, skills, and resources to serve communities through meaningful and sustainable projects.

From education and healthcare to environmental initiatives and peacebuilding, voluntary service drives positive change at both local and global levels.

It is this spirit of selfless service above self that truly defines Rotary.

Republic Day Celebration



The Republic Day celebration was proudly held on 26th January 2026 at Yashodhan School with great enthusiasm and patriotic spirit. The program commenced with the unfurling of the National Flag, followed by the singing of the National Anthem, filling the atmosphere with pride and unity.

Students presented inspiring cultural performances, including patriotic songs, speeches, and dances that beautifully reflected the values and spirit of our Constitution. The event served as a reminder of our duties as responsible citizens and the importance of upholding the ideals of justice, liberty, equality, and fraternity.

The celebration was a meaningful and memorable occasion, fostering a sense of national pride and collective responsibility among all present.

Happy Announcements

Birthday's & Anniversary's

02-Feb	Rtn Vishwas & Ann Vaidehi Sathe
04-Feb	Rtn Dr. Rajesh Butala
05-Feb	Rtn Manish & Ann Nalini Basle
06-Feb	Rtn Abhijeet & Ann Nayana Bhavsar
07-Feb	Nachiket s/o PP Shirish & Ann Varsha Khanwalkar
08-Feb	Rtn Shantaram & Ann Aparna Shet
08-Feb	Shivaansh s/o Rtn Akash & Ann Tripti Singhal
09-Feb	Ann Tripti w/o Rtn Akash Singhal
10-Feb	Rtn Aparna w/o Rtn Shantaram Shet
13-Feb	Ann Pavana w/o Rtn Prashant Karkhanis
14-Feb	Rtn Ratul Lahiri
14-Feb	Rushika d/o Rtn Dr Dhiraj & Dr.Saloni Agrawal
16-Feb	Dyananda d/o Rtn Sunil S. & Ann Harshada Joshi
19-Feb	Disha d/o PP Chandrahas & Rtn Bharti Shetty
21-Feb	PP Rtn Imshu & Rtn.Aaruni Bansal
21-Feb	Rtn Dr Dhiraj & Ann Saloni Agrawal
21-Feb	Chinmay S/o PP Govind & Ann Mangala Patkar
24-Feb	Rtn Sunil S. & Ann Harshada Joshi
24-Feb	Arjyo S/o PP Jayanta & Ann Bansari Dey

Best wishes from

Rotary Club of Thane DownTown