

The DownTowner

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Club Meetings

7th June 2025 – The club meeting held on this day took place at **Federation House, Thane West**, at **8:00 PM**. The highlight of the evening was an engaging session titled *"Sommelier – Insight into Wines and Tasting"*, led by **Jhankar Gadkari**, a seasoned corporate speaker, consultant, and TEDx presenter. Jhankar offered members a delightful and informative tête-à-tête, sharing valuable insights into the world of wines through an interactive and enjoyable experience.



Club Meetings

14th June 2025 – a **Joint Board of Directors (BOD) meeting** was held at the **Rotary Centre, Ghantali**, bringing together the outgoing and incoming board members for a collaborative discussion. The session served as a vital platform for reviewing the achievements of the current Rotary year and planning for a seamless transition into the next. Key agenda items included project evaluations, upcoming initiatives, and strategic goals. The meeting reflected the spirit of teamwork, continuity, and shared leadership that defines Rotary governance.

“Great ideas take shape in Rotary boardrooms — but they create impact in the world outside.”

— Anonymous Rotarian



14th June 2025 – The club meeting was held at Rotary Centre Ghantali where our Awesome Club Secretary **Rtn. Biju** shared insights from the two best-selling books he has authored. The session offered members a glimpse into his writing journey and the ideas behind his successful publications.

**Each Meeting, each Project,
each Smile is a step towards
a Better World.**

Club Meetings

21st June - a joint meeting was held in collaboration with the **Rotary Club of Thane West** at **Thirani School, Thane**. The speaker for the evening was our own **Rtn Colonel Praveen Kumar**, who delivered a powerful and insightful talk on **Operation Sindoor**. His address offered a deep understanding of the operation's significance and its impact on India's evolving counter-terrorism strategy, leaving the audience both informed and inspired.



Rotary
Club of Thane Downtown



WEEKLY MEETING

JOINT MEETING WITH ROTARY CLUB
OF THANE WEST

SPEAKER TOPIC:
OPERATION SINDOOR



DATE

JUNE 21, 2025
SATURDAY



TIME

AT 07.00 PM
VENUE: THIRANI
SCHOOL,
THANE W

Speaker

**Rtn Col Praveen
Kumar**



Fellowship - 7.00 to 7.30 pm

Meeting - 7.30 to 7.45 pm

Speaker Session - 7.45 to 8.30 pm

Operation Sindoor represented a significant turning point in India's counter-terrorism strategy, signaling a move away from prolonged strategic restraint towards a more assertive and calibrated military-political response. Launched in the aftermath of the **Pahalgam terror attack**, the operation involved targeted air strikes on terrorist camps across the border. The name "**Sindoor**", symbolically drawn from the sacred red vermilion used in Hindu rituals, underscored the operation's cultural and emotional resonance.

Contd.....Widely regarded as a landmark action, it marked a bold shift in India's stance on tackling cross-border terrorism. The slogan for **Operation Sindoor** — *"Naari Shakti, Desh Ki Shaan – Sindoor Tiranga, Ek Pehchaan"* — translates to *"Woman Power, Pride of the Nation – Sindoor, Tricolor, One of*



This powerful message underscores the dual themes of national pride and the strength of women. The operation is also linked with patriotic chants such as **"Indian Army Zindabad"** and **"Bharat Mata Ki Jai,"** which echo the nation's unity and unwavering support for its armed forces. Launched in response to terrorist attacks, Operation Sindoor embodies India's assertive stance against terrorism while celebrating the spirit of courage, especially that of Indian women.



IFRM Event on 14th June at Kuvega

14th June 2025 – IFRM 'Shukriya' Celebration for the Year 2024-25

The IFRM 'Shukriya' celebration for the Rotary year 2024-25 was held on 14th June 2025 at Kuvega. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from our club members, who contributed to the vibrant and musical spirit of the evening. Distinguished attendees included **DGND Rtn. Chandrahas Shetty**, **CP Rtn. Prakash Rao**, **IFRM Chairman Rtn. Mahesh Gowande**, **Rtn. Biju**, **Ann Reshma**, and **Dr. Sneha Kokate**, among others. It was an evening filled with gratitude, fellowship, and joyful harmony, truly reflecting the spirit of IFRM.



“Music is the universal language of mankind.” “Where words fail, music speaks.” “Life is like a beautiful melody, only the lyrics are messed up.” “Music is the language of the spirit.”

Club Project for Katkari Community at Sudhagad Pali

On 15th June 2025, a visit was made to Sudhagad Pali along with PE Sunil S.Joshi, Rtn. Pranav Bhosekar, and PP Rajesh Mittal, had organized an Aadhar Card awareness campaign for the Katkari community. As part of this initiative, an Aadhar Card Kendra was also established to help community members access various government schemes and benefits. The campaign aimed to empower the tribal population by ensuring they had the necessary identification to avail of welfare programs, marking a meaningful step towards social inclusion and support.



In Thane, the Katkari community belongs to one of Maharashtra's Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs). Traditionally forest dwellers, the Katkaris were once known for extracting catechu from Khair trees. Today, they continue to face multiple challenges, including poverty, restricted livelihood options, and social marginalization, much like their counterparts across the state.



Rotary & Service

"Rotary changes us and those we serve. I believe we can change the world one life at a time."

— *Paul Harris, Founder of Rotary*

District Orientation Program

The Director Orientation Program (DOP) of RCT Downtown was successfully held on Sunday, 22nd June 2025, from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM at the office of PP Rtn. Rajendra Shinde. Attended by all members of the Board of Directors, the program proved to be an engaging and insightful session that laid a strong foundation for the upcoming Rotary year. The event featured a series of well-structured sessions delivered by experienced Rotarians.

PP Rtn. Domnic Paul led the first session on New Generation Services, emphasizing the role of Rotaract and Interact Clubs. DS Rtn.

Nilesh Likhite spoke on managing club and trust finances, offering clarity on budgeting and cash flow management. DS Rtn. Madhavi, who also played a key role in guiding the overall program, conducted a session on the ten thrust areas of the district, aligning them with RI goals.

GS Rtn. Srijit concluded the orientation with a session on the roles and responsibilities of the Board, stressing the importance of collaboration and leadership synergy.

The program was further enriched by the presence and contributions of AG Rtn. Randhirsinh Rathod and a surprise visit from PDG Rtn. Kailash, who shared valuable insights on effective club functioning.

The event was graciously hosted by PP Rtn. Rajendra Shinde, whose warm hospitality and seamless arrangements ensured a smooth and pleasant experience for all. **The DOP not only equipped the BOD members with knowledge and clarity but also set a collaborative tone for a meaningful Rotary year ahead.**

District Orientation Program ...Contd...



Some pictures from the District Orientation Program.



Meeting held on **24th June 2025** at the residence of President-Elect Sunil S. Joshi for the preparation of the Titen Installation Ceremony.

A compassionate heart is Rotary's most valuable asset.

TiTen Installation Ceremony

28th June 2025 – Installation Ceremony of Titen President Rtn. Sunil Shripad Joshi at Ambrosia, Satkar Residency at 6.30pm.

The grand Installation Ceremony of **TiTen President Rtn. Sunil Shripad Joshi** was held on **28th June 2025** with great enthusiasm and elegance. The evening commenced with the ceremonial **lamp lighting**, gracefully performed by the dynamic **President Rtn. Shantaram Shet**.

The event was graced by esteemed dignitaries, including **Chief Guest PDG Rtn. Prafull Sharma, DGND Chandrahas Shetty, Rtn. Bharti Shetty, AG. Randhirsinh Rathod, DS Rtn. Madhavi Kharote, GGR Rtn. Shrikrishna Bhatt, Club Secretary Rtn. Biju Gopalan, and Secretary-Elect Rtn. Prashant Karkhanis.**



The ceremony began with a soulful **invocation in Sanskrit**, beautifully recited by **Annet Dnyanada**, setting a spiritual tone for the evening. **Contd.....**

TiTEN Installation Ceremony...Contd...

Contd.....This was followed by a serene and heartfelt rendition of the **Ganesh Vandana** by **Sarala S. Joshi** and **Rtn. Veena V. Joshi**, mother and aunt (*Kaku*) of President Sunil Joshi, adding a personal and emotional touch to the occasion.



THE MAGIC OF ROTARY Stephanie Urchick R.I. President 2024-25

awesome Dinesh Mehta District Governor 2024-25

Rotary

UNITE FOR GOOD

Francesco Arezzo R.I. President 2025-26

10 TITEN Harsh Makol District Governor 2025-26

Rotary Club of Thane DownTown
Club No. 79059 R.I. District 3142 Charter Date: 07.05.2008

Installation Ceremony
of
Rtn. Sunil Shripad Joshi
as
TiTEN President
along with
Board of Directors for the year 2025-26
Chief Guest: PDG PRAFULL SHARMA
on
Saturday, 28th June 2025
Ambrosia, Satkar Residency

Rtn. Shantaram Shet Club President 2024-25

Rtn. Biju Gopalan Club Secretary 2024-25

UNITE FOR GOOD Francesco Arezzo R.I. President 2025-26

Rotary

TITEN Harsh Makol District Governor 2025-26

Introduction of the TiTEN CLUB PRESIDENT
RTN. SUNIL SHRIPAD JOSHI

Stephanie A. Urchick 2024-25 President Rotary International

Mário César Martins de Camargo 2024-25 President Rotary International

UNITE FOR GOOD

THE MAGIC OF ROTARY

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TiTEN Installation Ceremony...Contd...



Titen Club President Sunil S. Joshi received warm congratulations following his induction and heartfelt acceptance speech. The moment marked the beginning of his presidential journey, celebrated with appreciation and support from fellow Rotarians.

ONGOING PROJECTS

- Matoshree Vriddhashram, Khadavli – cataract operations, health care, adoptions & medicines.
- Yashodhan high school - students adoption & felicitation of SSC Topper students.
- Mother & child care project
- Divya Prabha girls home(food grains project)
- Igatpuri school(medicines & food grains)
- Cricket tournament for Blind
- Sanitary Napkins to female inmates of Thane Jail

OTHER PROJECTS

- Global grant project for providing drinking water in tribal areas like: Wada, Trimbakeshwar, Palghar
- Project for Katkari community at Sudhagad Pali
- Project for women empowerment by upgrading labs in Government Industrial training institute for girls.











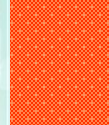








TiTEN Installation Ceremony...Contd...

Induction of New Members – Awesome First Lady Aparna Shet and Ann Mita M. Gowande
The club proudly welcomed **Aparna Shet** and **Mita M. Gowande** as new members during the ceremony. Their induction was made even more special with the blessings and words of encouragement from **Chief Guest PDG Rtn. Prafull Sharma** and **AG Rtn. Randhirsinh Rathod**, marking a meaningful addition to the Rotary family.
Welcome to the Club Rtn Aparna Shet and Rtn Mita Gowande.



"Rotary does not wait for change — it leads it."
— Inspired by Rotary's vision for leadership and community

Rotary Club of Thane DownTown welcomes **TITEN BOD 2025-2026**

		Francesco Arezzo R.I. President 2025-26						Harsh Makol District Governor 2025-26	
Rotary Club of Thane DownTown TITEN Club President & Board of Directors 2025-26									
 Rtn. Sunil Joshi Club President	 Rtn. Shantaram Shet Immediate Past President	 Rtn. Prashant Kharkhanis Club Secretary	 Rtn. Amol Yeola Club Treasurer	 Rtn. Biju Gopalan President Elect	 Rtn. Mahesh Gowande Vice President /& Director Services	 Rtn. Saurabh Joshi Sergeant at Arms	 Rtn. Sujit Deshpande Joint Secretary	 PP. Sunil Joshi Director Membership	
 Rtn. Bhushan Patil Director Club Admin	 P.P. Nilesh Kadam Director TRF	 Rtn. Pravin Patil Director Vocational Service	 Rtn. Joy Dasan Director PI / Public Relations	 Rtn. Aaruni Bansal Director International Services	 PP. Rajendra Shinde Director Youth	 CP. Prakash Rao Club Mentor	 PP. Ajay Durve Club Learning Facilitator	 PP. Prashant Gujar Chairman Thrust Area	



“Rotary is where ordinary people come together to do extraordinary things.”

— Anonymous

TITEN ANNS



“A great Rotary club is not defined by numbers, but by the impact it creates, the lives it touches, and the fellowship it nurtures.”

— Inspired by Rotary values



Thane DownTown Rotaractors

Snapshots of Fun

CP Prakash Rao expressed his heartfelt appreciation, deep admiration, and affection for Ann Jyoti, acknowledging her unwavering support and presence in his journey.

•"तुझ्या प्रेमाची
साथ असावी,
हृदयाची बात
असावी, ...



"Flowers are like friends; they bring color to your world."

Happy Announcements

Birthday's

- 06-Jul Saanvi d/o Rtn Pravin & Ann Prachi Patil
- 07-Jul PDG Venkat Gadwal Founder Father of the Club
- 08-Jul PP Manish Shah
- 09-Jul Rtn. Shivram Shetty
- 09-Jul Soumitra s/o Rtn Vishwas & Ann Vaidehi Sathe
- 16-Jul Rtn. Manish Basle
- 16-Jul Ann Nalini w/o Rtn Manish Basle
- 17-Jul Ann Aarti w/o PP Arun Doshi
- 17-Jul Ann Rita Joy w/o Rtn Joy Dasan
- 19-Jul Kairav s/o PP Arun & Ann Aarti Doshi
- 21-Jul PP. Arun Doshi
- 23-Jul DGND PP Chandrahas Shetty
- 28-Jul Ann Prachi w/o Rtn Pravin Patil
- 28-Jul Shaurya s/o Rtn Shantaram & Ann Aparna Shet
- 31-Jul Sourysh Biju s/o Rtn Biju & Ann Reshma Biju

Anniversary 's

- 07-Jul Rtn Amol & Ann Pradnya Yeola
- 07-Jul PP Shirish & Ann Varsha Khanwalkar
- 12-Jul PP Rajat & Ann Nandini Passi
- 16-Jul PP Rtn Rajesh & Ann Anita Mittal

Best Wishes
from

Rotary Club of Thane DownTown