

# The DownTowner

Vol 004 | October 2025

Charter Date: 7<sup>th</sup> May 2008

Wishing  
all our  
Club Members  
and their families  
a very  
Shubh Deepawali!



# The DownTowner

Vol 004 | October 2025

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# Club Meetings



**6th September 2025** – The Club meeting, held at **Prime Rose, Satkar Residency, Thane West**, featured our very own **Dr. Dhiraj Agrawal**, who delivered his **classification talk on Dentistry**. He conducted an engaging and interactive session titled *“From Stone Tools to Laser Cool!”*, sharing profound and up-to-date insights that captivated the audience.

The evening began with a warm introduction of the speaker by **President Rtn. Sunil S. Joshi**. Following Dr. Dhiraj’s inspiring presentation, **Rtn. Guru Shukla** proposed a heartfelt vote of thanks. A key highlight of the session revolved around fundamental yet often-overlooked questions on **Dental Health**, such as:

- How do smoking and alcohol affect oral health?
- Is sugar the only cause of cavities?

**Dr. Dhiraj Agrawal, MDS**, has been practicing since 2014 and is attached to over 50 clinics. He also serves as a visiting consultant at **Lilavati Hospital, Mumbai**, and has been running his own private clinic since 2018.

Through his talk, Dr. Dhiraj guided members to rethink their understanding of dental care, leaving them with deeper awareness and appreciation for the importance of oral health



# Club Meetings

**13th September 2025 – Club Assembly was held at Satkar Residency.**

## **Agenda for the Assembly:**

1. Reading of minutes from the last Assembly held on 5th July
2. Reading of minutes from the current BOD meeting dated 6th September 2025
3. Navratri Celebration – Dandiya Night
4. Club Picnic
5. Project Updates
6. District Events
7. Account Status
8. Club Membership
9. Pre-OCV scheduled around 5th October (Saturday)
10. OCV scheduled for 25th October
11. Any other topic as raised by the Chair



The Power of Rotary is solidly rooted in our clubs... each of you represents one of those spokes and when all the spokes of the cog work together, we can climb mountains





# Club Meetings

**20th September 2025** – The weekly Club Meeting was held at Satkar Residency, Thane, featuring **Dr. Anjali S. Puntambekar**, a renowned Physiotherapist with 29 years of experience. She was introduced by President Rtn. Sunil S. Joshi, and a vote of thanks was proposed by PP Rtn. Shirish Khanwalkar.

Dr. Anjali conducted an engaging and interactive session on the **“Mind Your Posture”** concept, emphasizing how posture influences one’s thought process, mood, and personality.



## Key Topics Covered:

- Essential components and factors contributing to an ideal posture
- Causes and impact of postural deviations
- Methods to prevent and correct postural issues
- Posture-enhancing and relaxation exercises

The session left members with valuable insights into the deep connection between physical posture and overall well-being.





## Club Meetings

**27th September 2025** – The weekly Club Meeting was held at the residence of **President Rtn. Sunil S. Joshi**, focused on discussing the **adoption of new bye-laws** ahead of the upcoming **General Assembly**.



## BOD Meeting

**6th September 2025** – The Board of Directors Meeting was held at the residence of President Rtn. Sunil S. Joshi from 7:00 p.m..

### Agenda for the Meeting:

- Reading of minutes from the last Assembly held on 5th July
- Discussion on Navratri Celebration – Dandiya Night
- Club Picnic planning
- Project Updates
- District Events review
- Account Status update
- Club Membership discussion
- Pre-OCV scheduled around 5th October
- OCV scheduled for 25th October



# Project – Medical Supplies - Matoshri

On **7th September 2025**, the Rotary Club of Thane Downtown carried out its monthly medicine donation to Matoshri Vrudhashram, Khadavli.

**IPP Shantaram Shet and PP Nilesh Kadam** visited the ashram to personally hand over the required medicines for its residents.



## Club Members Bond in Hyderabad





# Teachers Day Celebration

On 13<sup>th</sup> September a heartfelt Teachers' Day celebration was held at Punyatama Prabhakar Sharma School for Special and Physically Challenged Children, Igatpuri, graced by President Sunil Joshi, Club Secretary Prashant Kharkhanis and PP Nilesh Kadam.



In India, Teachers' Day is celebrated on September 5th to honor Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, who once said, "Instead of celebrating my birthday, it would be my proud privilege if September 5 is observed as Teachers' Day."

Ancient India's *Gurukul* system was one of the world's earliest educational models emphasizing lifelong teacher-student bonds — the essence of *Guru-Shishya Parampara*.



## Prospective Project: Katkari - Phase II

**Ladies Toilet Block Project | Raigad District, Maharashtra | 2025-26 | Location:** Panchayat Samiti Office, Karjat.

The Panchayat Samiti Office in Karjat serves as an important administrative hub for nearby Zilla Parishad schools and a central store for Aanganwadis. Around **100 Aanganwadi Sevikas** visit daily for training and official work, with numbers rising to **450-500** during large programs.

Despite this heavy footfall, there is **no dedicated Ladies Toilet** in the premises, causing inconvenience to visitors. The **Ladies Toilet Block Project - Phase II** aims to address this essential need, ensuring proper sanitation, hygiene, and dignity for women staff and Sevikas.





# International Fellowship visit



**Rtn. Amol Yeola, Treasurer of the Rotary Club of Thane Downtown, during his visit to Japan,** had the privilege of exchanging the club flag with the Rotary Club of Fukui, Japan, RI District 2650.

This exchange symbolizes the spirit of international fellowship and mutual respect that Rotary stands for. It reflects the shared commitment of Rotarians across the world to promote goodwill, understanding, and service beyond borders. Such interactions strengthen global Rotary connections and open avenues for future collaboration on community and humanitarian initiatives between the two clubs

## DYK (Did you KNOW)

Here are the common terms used:

**Club Visit / Make-up Meeting:** When a Rotarian attends a meeting of another Rotary club (in India or abroad) to maintain attendance and foster fellowship.

**International Visit / International Make-up:** Specifically used when this visit is to a club in another country.

**Rotary Friendship Visit or Rotary Fellowship Visit:** When the purpose is primarily to promote goodwill, cultural exchange, and international understanding — sometimes arranged as part of

**Rotary Friendship Exchange** programs.



# BHONDLA & DANDIYA RASS CELEBRATION

On **Sunday, 28th September 2025**, the day commenced with a regular club meeting, during which a briefing was given on the completion of the District Grant Project at Gotsai. Birthdays of Rotarians, Anns, and Annets were also recognized. The proceedings began with *Ganesh Vandana* and *Durga Devi Aarti*, marking the start of the *Bhondla* celebration, which was followed by vibrant *Garba* and *Dandiya* festivities.





# BHONDLA & DANDIYA RASS CELEBRATION

Bhondla songs were presented by Ann. Varsha and Ann. Manjiri, while the identification of *Khirapat* was conducted by Annets Dnyanada and Sumukh.

**Bhondla** (also known as *Bhon:dla*) is a traditional Maharashtrian festival celebrated by women and girls during the Navratri period, typically from the first day of Navratri until **Kojagiri Pournima**. The festival is a tribute to nature's abundance, marking the end of the monsoon and the arrival of the harvest season. It is celebrated with joyful singing, dancing, and traditional games. A symbolic elephant figure is drawn and worshipped as part of the rituals, and the festivities conclude with the sharing of a special sweet known as *Khirapat*.





# BHONDLA & DANDIYA RASS CELEBRATION

Dandiya is a traditional folk dance and festival closely associated with the Hindu celebration of Navratri, observed across India, particularly in Gujarat and Maharashtra. It features energetic and rhythmic group dancing, where participants use decorated sticks called “dandiyas” to create rhythmic beats in harmony with traditional music, celebrating the worship of Goddess Durga. The dance symbolizes the victory of Goddess Durga over the demon Mahishasura, representing the triumph of good over evil.

In modern times, Dandiya has evolved into a vibrant social event that brings communities together, fostering unity, joy, and cultural pride. People of all ages participate, dressed in colorful traditional attire, making it a lively expression of India’s rich cultural heritage and festive spirit





# BHONDLA & DANDIYA RASS CELEBRATION

The celebration concluded with the felicitation of the best performers, conducted by our esteemed judges, PP Shrikrishna Naik and Ann. Supriya Durve





# Project with Rotaract Club

**21st September 2025, 8:00 AM | Seven Square Academy**

Rtn. Aparna Shet honored the event as the Judge for the Elocution Competition, an initiative organized by the Rotaract Club of Thane Downtown.

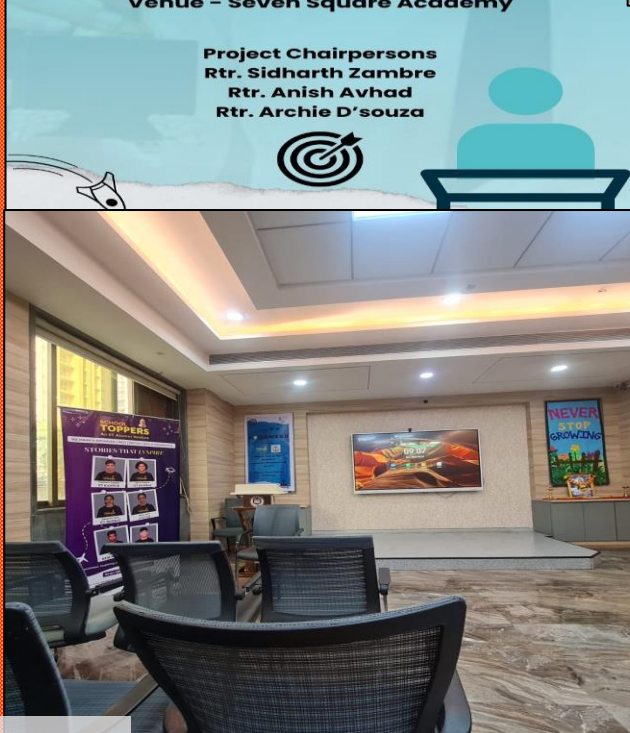
## Eloquence 8.0 – Powered by School Toppers

This extempore competition was designed for students of grades 8, 9, and 10 from various schools. It served as a platform to showcase their oratory skills, build confidence, and nurture the art of public speaking.

Winners will receive an exclusive opportunity to speak at *RC Thane Downtown's Next Think* event.



The poster features a blue background with a silhouette of a person speaking at a podium. At the top, it says "Rotaract Club of Thane Downtown" and "SCHOOL TOPPERS". The main title "ELOQUENCE 8.0" is in large, bold letters, with "Powered by SCHOOL TOPPERS An IIT Alumni Venture" below it. The text reads: "An extempore competition for students We're not just here to say 'speaking is important.' We're here to solve the gap between ideas and impact To give young voices the stage they're missing." The date and time are "Date - 21st September (Sunday) Time - 8 AM Onwards" and the venue is "Venue - Seven Square Academy". At the bottom, it lists the project chairpersons: "Project Chairpersons Rtr. Sidharth Zambre Rtr. Anish Avhad Rtr. Archie D'souza".





# IFRM 3142 – Saaz-e-Ghazal

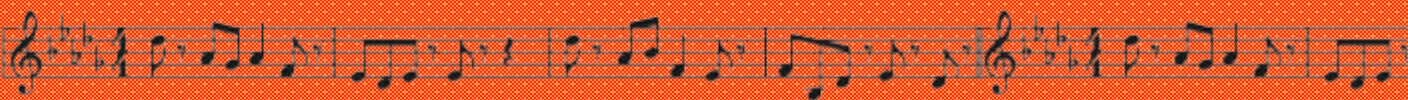


On 22nd September 2025 there was IFRM 3142 – *Saaz-e-Ghazal* event at Kuvega .A memorable evening filled with music and fellowship!

Outstanding performances by **Ann. Dr. Sneha** and **Rtn. Biju** – truly “*Ek Se Badhkar Ek!*” 🙌 Exceptional leadership showcased by **Rtn. Mahesh**, under the guidance of **DGN Chandrahas Shetty**.

If you have a passion for music, **IFRM (International Fellowship of Rotarian Musicians)** is the perfect Rotary Fellowship for you. Our members hail from countries across the globe, with musical talents ranging from professional artists to those who simply enjoy playing music on their phone or computer. What unites us all is a shared love for music! 🎵

As one of the earliest Rotary Fellowships established, IFRM continues to bring Rotarians together beyond club boundaries—connecting hearts through the universal language of music



IFRM's mission is to strengthen Rotary fellowship through the joy of music — inspiring clubs to sing together, hosting musical performances at Rotary gatherings, and uplifting community and school music initiatives.



# Celebrating Excellence – Our Members Recognized by Rotary Foundation!

On 22nd September 2025, Rtn. Bharati, DGN Chandrahas Shetty, Rtn. Prakash Guha, PP Prashant Gujar, and President Sunil S. Joshi were felicitated for their valuable contributions to The Rotary Foundation.



The **Rotary Foundation** is the public charity arm of **Rotary International**, a global network of service-oriented professionals. It transforms donations into sustainable projects that promote world understanding, goodwill, and peace by focusing on improving health, supporting education, alleviating poverty, protecting the environment, and more. **Founded in 1917**, it funds a wide range of humanitarian and educational efforts, most notably its long-term commitment to polio eradication.



# Project: Flood Relief Program of Rotary

We have deposited a cheque of ₹50,500 towards the Punjab Flood Relief Fund. A heartfelt thank you to all the members who contributed to this noble cause. The cheque has been successfully deposited into the beneficiary's account.



## Flood Relief Program Of Rotary



**Together, We Can Rebuild!**  
**PUNJAB/HIMACHAL/JAMMU&KASHMIR**

# HUM 4

Humanity to support flood-affected families in Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, and Jammu & Kashmir.

## How You Can Help

✓ **Food & Water**  
Ready-to-eat food, biscuits, baby food, milk powder, packaged water.

✓ **SHELTER**  
Plastic sheets, tarpaulins, tents, blankets, mats.

✓ **Clothing**  
New undergarments, cotton clothes, slippers, towels, raincoats.

✓ **Hygiene**  
Sanitary pads, soap, shampoo, toothpaste, mosquito repellents.

✓ **Medical**  
ORS, first aid kits, essential medicines, masks, sanitizers, water purification tablets.


✓ **Utensils**  
Cookers, plates, and other essential kitchen items.

✓ **OTHER**  
Candles, matchboxes, torches, batteries, solar lamps, cattle feed.

✓ **MONEY SUPPORT**  
Rotary District 3070 Events and Publications (2025-26)  
A/C No.: 639010210000058  
IFSC Code: BKID0006390  
Bank of India, Kapurthala Branch

**YOUR SUPPORT CAN MAKE ALL THE DIFFERENCE**

In August 2025, devastating floods struck Punjab, India, impacting over 1,400 villages spread across 13 districts.



कर्मचारी शाखा, थाना (वेस्ट) - 400 606  
Vartak Nagar Branch, Thane (west) - 400 606  
IFSC Code : UBIN0562335

VALID FOR 3 MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF ISSUE  
दिनांक DATE 25 09 2025  
DD MM YYYY  
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PAY Rotary District 3070 Events & Publications (2025-26) या धारक को OR BEARER

रुपये RUPEES Fifty thousand five hundred only

₹ 50500 -

Thank You...

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



Rtn. Aakash Singhal

"Wishing you a wonderful year ahead filled with great success and happiness."

With best wishes from :

Titen President Sunil S. Joshi & First Lady Harshada

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Rtn. Aakash Singhal on his special day for his generous donation of INR 50,000 towards two pediatric surgeries. Your act of kindness will make a lasting impact and bring smiles to many young faces. Wishing you a very Happy Birthday once again — may you be blessed with health, happiness, and prosperity!

– BOD, RCT Downtown



## Donation from Ashida Electronics

We are delighted to share that our club has received a generous donation of **₹3,00,000 from ASHIDA Electronics** on 29th September 2025. This thoughtful contribution will significantly aid our ongoing efforts to uplift and support those in need. **Our heartfelt gratitude to PP Rtn. Shri Shrikrishna Naik and Smt. Ashatai B. Kulkarni for their trust in us and their continued support.**

**PP Shrikrishna Naik Sir, Asha Tai, and Vrushali Vahini have always been strong supporters of our Club and its initiatives.** They continue to be among our key CSR partners, contributing generously to our projects and community welfare activities. Their unwavering commitment and belief in our mission inspire us to strive harder towards creating meaningful change. The Club deeply values their continued association, encouragement, and trust, which play a vital role in helping us reach out to more lives and make a lasting impact.



**With a legacy spanning over 54 years of excellence, Ashida stands as a proud symbol of India's *Make in India* initiative—reflecting the nation's spirit of innovation and manufacturing prowess. As a torchbearer of India's engineering strength, Ashida continues to lead the way in electrical protection and control systems, driving progress, technological advancement, and the country's economic growth.**



## Happy Announcements

### Birthday's & Anniversary's

- 01-Oct Rtn Mahesh Gowande  
02-Oct Ann Varsha w/o PP Shirish Khanwalkar  
02-Oct Rtn Dr Rajesh and Ann Bandana Butala  
04-Oct Annet Araohat s/o Dr Milind & Ann Dr. Sneha Kokate  
05-Oct Annet Maitreyi d/o Rtn Pranav & Ann Manjiri Bhosekar  
05-Oct Annet Tejas s/o Ashutosh & Ann Shilpa Bhalerao  
07-Oct Dhruv s/o PP Chandrahas & Rtn Bharti Shetty  
08-Oct Rtn Joy Dasan & Ann Rita Joy  
13-Oct PP Nilesh Kadam  
13-Oct PP Rajat Passi  
14-Oct Rtn Sachin Salvi  
18-Oct Annet Pooja d/o Rtn Prashant & Ann Pavana Karkhanis  
19-Oct Rtn Saurabh Joshi  
20-Oct Rtn. Joy Dasan  
23-Oct Shaivi d/o Rtn. Akash & Ann Tripti Singhal  
24-Oct Ann Jyoti w/o PP Prakash Rao  
25-Oct Annet Riya d/o Rtn Manish & Ann Nalini Basle  
26-Oct Rtn. Dilip Kand  
28-Oct Annet Himanshi d/o Rtn Dr Dhiraj & Dr Saloni Agrawal  
29-Oct Ann Nandini w/o PP Rajat Passi

Best wishes from

**Rotary Club of Thane DownTown**