

— December 2025 —

Beyond Borders

Monthly newsletter from Rotary District 3170 Synergy Passport

Season's Greetings
and
Happy New Year!



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Rotary
District 3170
Synergy Passport



Vrunda speaks...

Dear Rotarians and Friends,

With the release of our sixth monthly magazine, I reflect with pride on the consistent service and dedication shown by Rotary District 3170 Synergy Passport. Each month has reinforced our belief that meaningful change is possible when we work together with purpose and compassion.

Our clubs continue to make a difference through impactful community initiatives, educational support, and social outreach. These efforts truly embody the spirit of Service Above Self and highlight the strength of synergy within our district.

I sincerely appreciate the commitment of our club leaders and members whose enthusiasm drives every project forward. As we progress further into the Rotary year, let us remain focused on sustainable service, strong fellowship, and shared inspiration.

Thank you for your continued support and unity.

With pride and gratitude,

Rtn. Vrunda Khanolker

President (2025-26)

Rotary District Conference is an annual gathering of Rotarians from a specific geographical district, focusing on networking, leadership training, service project planning, and celebrating achievements, featuring guest speakers and workshops.

These events, led by a District Governor, offer inspiration, fellowship, and opportunities to share ideas for community impact, bringing together clubs and leaders for a few days of programming.

Key Aspects of a District Conference:

- **Networking:** Connecting members from different clubs and fostering new relationships.
- **Inspiration:** Hearing from Rotary leaders and inspiring speakers.
- **Service:** Discussing and planning community service projects.
- **Fellowship:** Social events, dinners, and local activities.





RTN. FRANCESCO AREZZO
RI President

RTN. FLT. LT. K. P. NAGESH
RI Director 2025-27



ROTARY DISTRICT CONFERENCE



District Governor 2025-26 **First Lady**

Rtn. Er. Arun D. Bhandare & Rtn. Madhavi A. Bhandare

RI President Representative



Rtn. PDG. Bindi & Dato' N Rajasegaran
Malaysia

Chief Guest



Rtn. Raju Subramanian & Ann Vidhya
Rotary International Director 2023-2025

VENUE- VIJAY PALACE & LAWNS
HALOND, KOLHAPUR - SANGLI ROAD, NEAR SHIROLI.

67TH DISTRICT CONFERENCE

KEY NOTE SPEAKERS



Jayprakash Kabra

SUBJECT: EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE & ITS RELEVANCE TO ROTARY

Post-graduate in Labour Studies (University Rank 2) with 45+ years of experience in HR, Industrial Relations, and Learning & Development. Former GM-HRD with organizations like Krishna Glass, Ion Exchange, and Polychem Ltd. Founder of Mind Movers Management Consultants Pvt. Ltd., having conducted 5,300+ workshops for 250+ corporate clients in India and abroad. Renowned motivational speaker and visiting faculty at TISS, Welinkar, and other MBA institutes. Fluent in Marathi, Hindi, and English, known for practical, activity-based training blended with storytelling and humor.



Brigadier Suneel Limaye

SUBJECT: INDIA'S NATIONAL SECURITY CHALLENGES

Brigadier Suneel Limaye is a distinguished retired Indian Army officer, having superannuated on 31 August 2021 after 36 years of dedicated and exemplary service to the nation. He holds a Ph.D. in Urban Terrorism from Pune University, reflecting deep academic and operational expertise. He is a specialist in the management of high-end and critical security systems. Brigadier Limaye serves as an advisor on all security-related aspects for organizations and institutions. He is also an expert trainer for Police, Armed Forces, and security agencies, focusing on contemporary threats and counter-terror strategies.



Sanjay Malpani

SUBJECT: HAR ROTARIAN BANE ANANDI

Dr. Sanjay Malpani, Sangamner is a visionary industrialist, educationist, and healthcare philanthropist. He leads the Malpani Group, spanning FMCg, green energy, infrastructure, and theme parks, employing over 8,500 people. He is Chairman of Sangamner College (NAAC A+ Autonomous) and Founder of Dhruv Global School with campuses in India and Dubai. A national leader in Yoga and Gita education, he is an author and inspirational speaker associated with leading yoga organizations.



Neha Bagaria

SUBJECT: ADVANCING WOMEN'S CAREERS IN INDIA

Neha Bagaria is the Founder and CEO of HerKey, India's largest AI-powered platform enabling women's career growth. Founded in 2015 after a 3.5-year career break, HerKey connects 5.5+ million women with 20,000+ employers, expert learning, and networking. A Wharton graduate, she has previously founded Paragon and worked with KPMG in HR, finance, and marketing strategy. Neha is recognized as a Forbes India iPower Trailblazer for breaking stereotypes. She is also a recipient of the BusinessLine Changemaker Award 2023 for Social Transformation in India.



Dr. (Prof.) Rajan Bhonsle

SUBJECT: LOVE, SEX AUR DHOKA

Dr. (Prof.) Rajan Bhonsle, M.D. (Bom) is a distinguished Consultant in Sexual Medicine and Counseling. He is the Honorary Professor and Head of the Department of Sexual Medicine at KEM Hospital and Seth G.S. Medical College, Mumbai. He has decades of experience in clinical practice, teaching, and research in sexual health. Dr. Bhonsle is a Diplomate of the American Board of Sexology. He is also a Diplomate of the American College of Sexologists. He is widely respected for his contributions to sexual health awareness, education, and ethical clinical practice in India.



Vivek Sawant

SUBJECT: I AND AI

Mr. Vivek Sawant is the Chief Mentor and Former Managing Director of MKCL. He is the chief architect of India's first supercomputer, PARAM, and has dedicated his life to bridging the digital divide through IT literacy. Under his leadership, MKCL has reached over 10 million learners and continues to grow. He has been actively involved in several social movements in Maharashtra. He is widely admired for institution-building and creating large-scale programs addressing social challenges. He is recognized as a visionary leader committed to harnessing technology for social transformation and inclusive development.

Early Rotary service: RI History

One of Rotary's earliest service projects helped to bring public toilets to Chicago, the quickly growing industrial city in the Midwest of the United States where Rotary began in 1905. Club members didn't construct the restrooms themselves, as they sometimes do today. But just as they do today, they worked with other local groups to raise awareness of the need for sanitation in this urban area and advocated to get the project funded.

These public toilets, then known as "comfort stations," were typically underground structures at busy sites such as parks and public squares. Civic leaders and reformers in several American cities were noting a need for them, and Rotary members in Chicago were part of the movement.



Rotary founder Paul Harris and his fellow member Donald Carter worked with other club members and other organizations to make a plan to build public toilet facilities in the city and gather support for the initiative.

In October 1907, the Chicago Daily Tribune (now the Chicago Tribune) reported that the Rotary Club of Chicago had had plans drawn for public toilets in the downtown district known as the Loop. The club held a forum on the topic later that month, noting, "the topic is many-sided and can be treated to best advantage if we start with recognition of this fact and with due appreciation of its significance." Representatives from the club, the city, and other local organizations spoke at the meeting. The discussion cited the need for Chicago to keep up with the latest practices in municipal improvements and considered who would pay for the project and what impact it might have on sanitary conditions and public health in the city.

Women's access to sanitation facilities was more limited. Often the only toilets it was acceptable for them to use were in department stores, where they were expected to make purchases.

Chicago was building a new city hall at the time, and it was suggested that public toilets be constructed there. By March 1908, at least one location had been approved, and others were being considered. The City of Chicago and Cook County each allocated about US\$20,000 for the project.

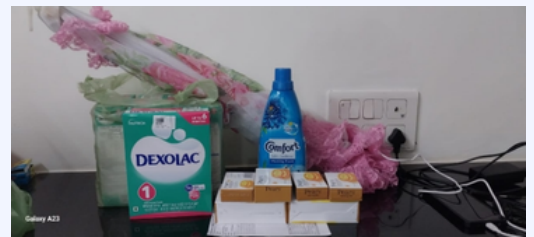
December highlights

By Secretary Anagha

Heartwarming day! Rotary District 3170 Synergy Passport, in collaboration with SVAM HSS, New Vaddem - Vasco, spread joy at Matruchaya orphanage, Ponda on 2nd December 2025, under the program Joy of Giving! Students contributed essential items like soaps, cereals, bedsheets, and more, and were moved to tears seeing the residents' smiles. A beautiful reminder that even small gestures can bring big joy! Thanks to our members and the students and staff of SVAM HSS for their kindness and compassion.



Donating essential items for babies at Matruchaya Orphanage, Dhavali on 12th December 2025 and extended support by donating essential items for babies and children. The donation included baby care products, clothing, bedding, and other daily necessities, which were gratefully received by the Matruchaya team. The staff appreciated the thoughtful contribution and the concern shown towards the wellbeing of the children. This meaningful gesture truly reflects the spirit of Rotary District 3170 Synergy Passport in serving the community with care and compassion. Project led by Rtn. Deepa Kamat



Fire Safety and Emergency Precautions awareness and training session was conducted by the fire department of Sawantwadi for the students of B S Bandekar College of Fine Arts Sawantwadi. The session included how to be safe in the kitchen, which electric items should be kept at a safe distance from each other with scientific explanation of how the gases released may be dangerous and catch fire instantly. They also demonstrated how to use a fire extinguisher in case of emergency if you have it. How to check the date of expiry of the fire extinguisher and other necessary preparations to avoid any other damage as well. More than 80 students and 10+ staff members attended the session



A total of 134 students of Shiv-Shankar Prathmik Ashramshala, Chimgaon, Kagal recieved a set of mattress, bedsheet, pillow, pillowcover and blanket.

Our member Rtn. Manish Deshpande has been associated with this institution for the last 5 years. During his recent visit with Ann Deepa on their wedding anniversary, he saw that the children do not have proper sleeping arrangements.

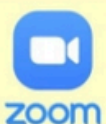
Hence he decided to give a complete set. (mattress, blanket etc.) for the girls. At his appeal.. Rotarians, Friends, relatives contributed to the noble cause.



Hosted by



Every Wednesday @ 8pm to 9pm IST - Open to all - Absolutely Free

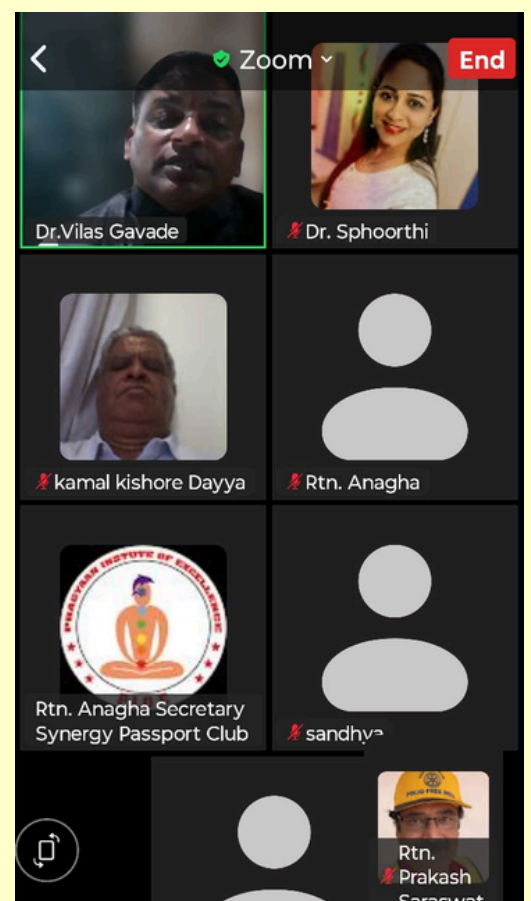


Meeting ID :828 8188 9854
Passcode : ragmhi3170



Addiction & Mental Health - 3 rd December

This was a session conducted by Dr. Vilas Gawade to understand the connection between addiction and Mental Health. Dr. Gawade wonderfully explained how people get into addiction and why. The reason to prevent them from going on that path. The major focus was substance Addict. He also discussed how a proper mental health relationship can help a person to come out of it. What family support plays a role, and the role of society when it comes to the recovery process. Thanks to Dr Gawade for the session.



Mind & Diest - 5 - 10th December

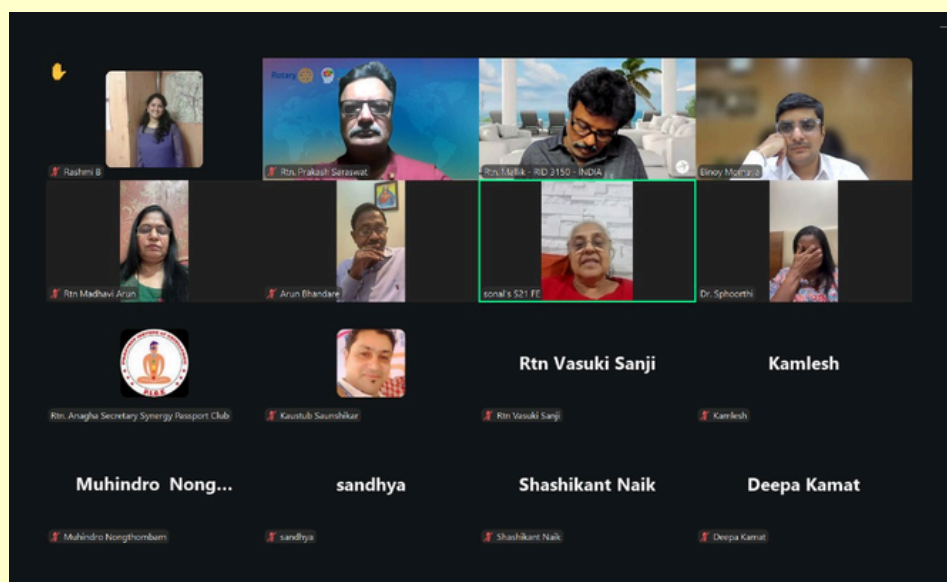
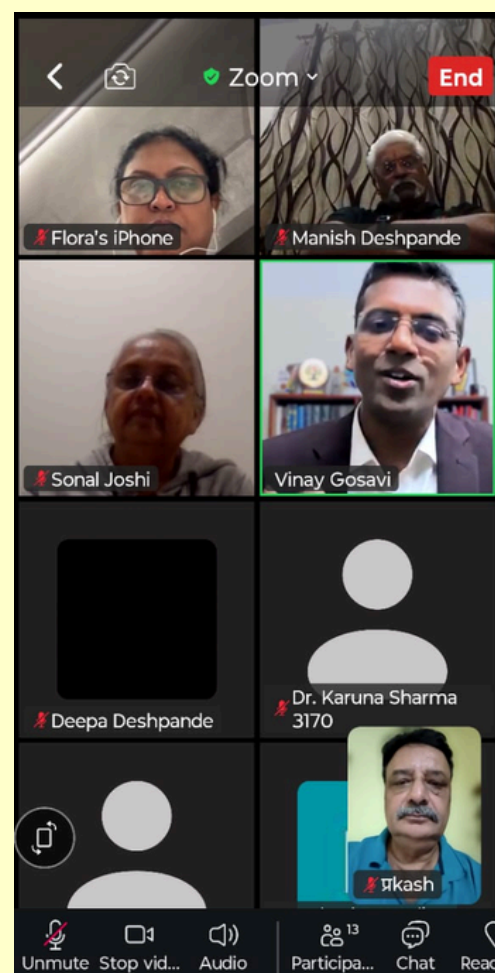
This was a very interactive session on how our thoughts, mental state, and beliefs increase or decrease the quality of the food we eat. How it further affects our physical body. Rtn. Vd. Suvinay Damle was the speaker for the session where he also briefed about why our mental well-being is equally important while cooking food, as it was told in our ancient script. How mantra chants play a role, and its effect and mind body and mental health when it comes to consuming anything in our body. How fear and guilt can cause disease and on the other hand how thankful, happiness can give positive benefits to the body when we eat food.

Broken.. Relationships - 17th December

This exciting topic was taken by Rtn. Prakash Saraswat. It was an open discussion with all participants along with his own added views of the current situation of Family Life. Different outputs were openly coming from participants regarding how to improve the quality of a family life. What are the missing factors about the quality of broken Relationship and some solution.

Self love - 24th December

The session was taken by Mr Vinay Gosavi. He discussed the importance of love vs the power of self love. He also conducted some exercises and affirmation techniques to experience self love. How self love helps in developing self confidence and a better life.



Know your members:



Navneet

Navneet Shukla is a Post Graduate in commerce and PGDBA from Bhopal (M.P.)

Past President of RC Vasco-da-gama, Joined Rotary in Year 2007-08, and in the next year won the best secretary award under Small Club Category

Master of Port and Logistics Management by profession, working as Lead Commercial at JSW INFRASTRUCTURE LTD. Mumbai

Happily married to MANJU, who is M.A in Psychology and past Rotarian of RC Vasco. All the members of his family all are Paul Harris Fellows.



Niranjana

Rtn. Niranjana Chandrakant Waichal did his Masters in Structural Engineering. He Joined family Profession in 1993 at M/s Waichal and Waichal a firm dedicated in Architectural Design and Structural Engineering which is now in service since over 57 years.

Joined Rotary in 1997 as a Chartered Member of RC Sunrise Kolhapur and led the Club as President in 2004-05 (Rotary Centenary year) Served in all 4 avenues of services. Attended Rotary International Convention in 2012. After 25 years of dedicated membership in RC Sunrise, joined as Charter-member of RC of Synergy Passport.

Apart from Rotary , associated with many other NGO's..

1. Hon. Secretary of Indian Red Cross Society, Dist Br. Kolhapur.
2. Chairman, Deccan Institute of Technology- (Runs professional Degree and Diploma courses in Interior Design as well as Valuation)
3. Treasurer, on Board of Dist. Probation and after Care Association, where Hon. Dist. Collector is the president (An home for orphan children)
4. President - Indian Society of Structural Engineers , Kolhapur Zone .

His wife, Ritu is a Chartered Accountant by profession works with RBL Bank as Asso. V.P - Credits. She is a Member and Past Secretary of Rotary Club of Kolhapur Midtown as well as Charter member & Past President of Inner wheel Club of Kolhapur Sunrise .

Blessed with Daughter *Srushti* - now in US Pursuing her Masters in Computer Science and Son *Aarav* now schooling .



Nitin

Nitin Jadhav has more than 30 years of service in cooperative Banks at managerial positions retired in oct 2021 and started 1 st Microbrewery (Beer manufacturing) in Kolhapur in sept 2023

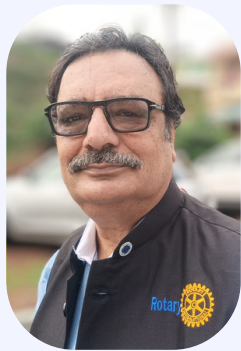
He joined Rotary Synergy Passport in year 2022-23

Spouse Jayshree is the Principal of Dr. D Y. Patil Academy, Shantiniketan, Kolhapur

He has participated in various trekking activities in Sahyadree, Himalayas, Uttarakhand and other places.

Motorcycle expedition Delhi-Leh Ladakh-Drass -Kargil-Shrinagar-Jammu

Know your members:



Prakash

Rtn. Prakash Saraswat joined Rotary Club of Vasco da gama in 1993 and held the post of President in 2001-02. Held various important posts in the Club as well District 3170 including 3 successful terms as Grants Chair. Charter member of Rotary District 3170 Synergy Passport formed on 15th August 2022.

Member of various Fellowship and Action groups. Has been the President of Rotary Global History Fellowship in 2012-14 and was awarded the 1905 Society pin at Bangkok convention amongst other Rotary International and Rotary Foundation awards.

A passionate Rotary Leadership Institute Facilitator. A Distributor of Consumer goods by classification and a traveler by heart.

Prakash and spouse Jaya both feel that we should "give till it makes us happy"



Praveen

Past Assistant Governor **Praveen Gajanan Kumbhojkar**, BE Electronics, DBM, was born on 16th December 1971.

He won 23 awards including Best Secretary, Best President, Best Club in his Rotary Presidential year at SUNRISE. He is serving in various capacities to our district. His expertise in innovative virtual district conferences was impressive. Rotary Foundation District Service Award is a recognition of his work. He was also assistant district trainer.

His ERP solution for the milk industry is now industry de facto in the region. They are related to Microsoft and SAP India. Business combinations with WeP Solutions, IBM, CISCO, EPSON, SNAPBIZ, strengthen them to provide all the services under one roof. Many milk institutes in our area have their milk testing systems in operation.

He is happily married to Rupali who is also his business partner and has a CTO at SUKRUT. Master Gaurav IIT graduate is pursuing PhD at Illinois State USA and Miss Maitreyi is studying at IIT.

His father is a well-known writer of engineering mathematics, mother Kalpana always encourages him with love and joy.



Raosaheb

Raosahaib Gondil has done his Bachelor of Architecture and his Profession is Architectural.

His Rotary information is as below:

- a) Ex. Charter Member - Rotary Club of Kolhapur Sunrise
- b) Rotary Volunteer for Polio Plus
- c) Rotary Volunteer For Inter Continental Medicare Project At - UGANDA
- d) Paul Harris Fellow Member
- e) Founder Member of Jotiba Medical Camp
- f) Best President & Assistant Governor

His Hobbies are Travelling / Reading / Farming

His wife Mrs. Lalit is an Ex. Inner Wheel Member

Their son Mr. Rahul is a Contractor and is an Ex. Rotractor
Daughter Mrs. Rohita is a homemaker.