

**UNITE  
FOR  
GOOD**

**Rotary**  
Club of  
**ORGAN DONATION  
INTERNATIONAL**



**LET'S  
INSPIRE !**

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# NEW STEP

Weekly Bulletin of the Rotary Club of Organ Donation International

**Happy  
Holi**



**UNITE FOR GOOD** Rotary Club of **ORGAN DONATION INTERNATIONAL** **LET'S INSPIRE !**

**ROTARY CLUB OF ORGAN DONATION INTERNATIONAL**

**ROLE OF NGOS IN ORGAN DONATION**

 <b>Rtn PHF Ritika Gupta</b> Inspire President Rotary Club of Organ Donation International	 <b>Rtn Lal Goel</b> Founder & Charter President Rotary Club of Organ Donation International	 <b>Rtn MPH Aalok Singhi</b> Founder & Chairman Mitasha Foundation Indore
<b>Rtn Ruby Agarwal</b> Inspire Secretary	<b>Rtn Jyoti Galada</b> Member	

**Time & Date: 8 PM on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2026**  
Watch live on <https://www.youtube.com/@gyan8932>

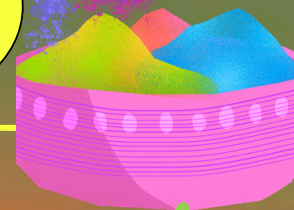


**"Give life twice – once when you live it,  
and once when you leave it."**

**DONATE ORGANS**

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BY INSPIRE SECRETARY RTN RUBY AGARWAL FOR ROTARY CLUB OF  
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## FROM THE DESK OF CHIEF MANAGING EDITOR



**Dear Fellow Rotarians and Esteemed Members,**

The accidental death of 10-month-old Baby Alin from Kerala has sent a wave of grief and introspection across India. While the nation has united in profound praise for the parents' selfless decision to donate their infant's organs — a noble and life-giving act — this tragedy demands that we also pause to ask a harder question: Could this death have been prevented? This is a compelling case for strict enforcement of the Motor Vehicles Act and a genuine cultural shift towards child safety — because grief alone is not enough.

This month, four organ donation programmes were organised in Thane, Indore, and Mangaluru, raising awareness and reinforcing our club's unwavering mission to inspire life-saving pledges across communities.

Our President-Elect, Rtn Hemalatha Bhandari, has gifted us a beautiful poem, "Legacy Beyond the Clock, Extending Life's Duration." It is a moving reflection on the timeless gift of organ donation — we are certain it will touch your heart.

In our popular "Healthy Food-Healthy Organs" segment, our Inspiring Secretary, Rtn Ruby Agarwal, shares a refreshing and mouth-watering recipe for Healthy Thandai, perfectly timed for the festive spirit of Holi. This issue's "Interesting Facts About Our Members" spotlight celebrates one of our esteemed club members, offering a warm glimpse into the remarkable individuals who make our Rotary family so very special.

As we celebrate the joyous festival of Holi this week, this issue of New Step is dedicated to its vibrant colours and the spirit of togetherness it brings.

**One body, many colours. One pledge, many lives.  
This Holi, let your love outlive you — donate organs.**

Yours in Rotary,

**IPP Rtn Lal Goel**

Chief Managing Editor

Founder & Charter President

## KERALA'S 10-MONTH-OLD BABY ALIN'S ACCIDENTAL DEATH: A WARNING TO SOCIETY AND A CALL FOR A SAFER FUTURE



**Rtn Lal Goel**

Founder & Charter President,  
Rotary Club of Organ Donation International  
Chairman: Organ Donation India Foundation & GYAN

### **The Tragedy That Shook a Nation**

The recent accidental death of 10-month-old Baby Alin from Kerala has sent a wave of grief and introspection across India. While the nation has united in profound praise for the parents' selfless decision to donate their infant's organs — a noble and life-giving act — this tragedy demands that we also pause and ask a harder question: Could this death have been prevented?

The answer, according to the law of the land and the evidence of road safety science, is an unambiguous yes. Baby Alin did not have to die. And therein lies the urgent warning this tragedy holds for every family in India.

### **The Law That Was Ignored**

Section 194B(2) of the Motor Vehicles Act mandates the use of child restraint systems — commonly known as car seats — for young children travelling in motor vehicles. This is not a suggestion. It is a legal obligation, enacted specifically to prevent fatalities like the one that claimed Baby Alin's life.

Globally, road traffic injuries are a leading cause of death among children under five. Properly installed child car seats reduce the risk of death in a crash by up to 71% for infants. This is not merely statistics — it is the science of survival. When a vehicle is involved in a collision, an unsecured infant becomes a projectile. No parent's arms, however strong, can hold a child safely against the physics of a crash.

Baby Alin's parents, like countless Indian parents, may not have been aware of this law. Or perhaps, like many others, they may have considered it unnecessary for a short trip. This is the cultural blind spot that India must urgently address.

## **Organ Donation: Noble Act, Difficult Context**

As someone deeply involved in organ donation advocacy, I believe organ donation is a noble, life-saving act. But organ donation should never become a consolation prize for preventable negligence. A life saved through donation is sacred — but a life lost due to avoidable carelessness is a societal failure.

The decision of Baby Alin's parents to donate her organs is, without question, an extraordinary act of compassion. Lives have been saved as a direct result. The nation's gratitude is appropriate and sincere.

However, praising this act without equally acknowledging the preventable circumstances of the death risks sending a dangerous signal to society. It must be said clearly — not to punish grieving parents already devastated by loss — but as a societal learning: the tragedy began with non-compliance with a law designed to protect children. A society that mourns avoidable child deaths while turning a blind eye to the cause does a disservice to every child yet to be born.

## **The Larger Issue: Prevention Before Donation**

India continues to struggle with compliance with road safety regulations. According to global road safety data, India accounts for one of the highest numbers of road fatalities in the world. Yet child car seat usage in India remains extremely low, enforcement of child restraint laws is weak, public awareness about infant road safety is minimal, and many parents wrongly believe holding a baby in arms is safe.

In contrast, countries like the United Kingdom, Australia, and the United States enforce strict child restraint regulations with heavy penalties and strong public education campaigns. Compliance is high because enforcement is real.

India cannot afford symbolic laws. We need cultural change backed by enforcement.

## A Roadmap for the Future: Seven Pillars of Child Road Safety

If Baby Alin's death is to carry meaning beyond grief, it must catalyse systemic change. The following roadmap outlines concrete, actionable steps for government, civil society, and every Indian family.

### 1. Rename Section 194B(2) as "Alin's Law" — and Enforce It

In the United Kingdom, the landmark organ donation legislation is known as Max and Keira's Law, named after Keira Ball, a nine-year-old whose organs saved the life of Max Johnson, among others. The law carries their names because their story made it real, gave it a human face, and ensured that the public would remember not merely a legal provision but a child. That is the power of naming a law after those whose lives gave it meaning.

India should do the same. Section 194B(2) of the Motor Vehicles Act — the child restraint law that, had it been followed, might have saved Baby Alin — must be formally designated Alin's Law. This is not a symbolic gesture alone. It is the most meaningful homage a nation can pay to a child who cannot speak for herself. Every time a traffic officer checks for a car seat, every time a parent reads a road safety notice, every time a hospital hands new parents a safety leaflet, the name Alin should be present. She should be remembered not only as a donor, but as the child whose death became the turning point that made Indian roads safer for every infant who follows her.

The Motor Vehicles Act's child seat mandate under Alin's Law must move from paper to practice. Traffic police across India must be trained, equipped, and directed to check for child restraint systems as part of routine enforcement. Fines must be meaningful, consistent, and applied without exception. A law that is not enforced is no law at all — and a law that bears a child's name carries a moral weight that demands it be taken seriously.

### 2. A National Awareness Campaign

The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, in partnership with state governments, should launch a sustained, multilingual public awareness campaign on child road safety. Hospitals, maternity wards, and paediatricians should be enlisted as frontline educators — informing new parents about car seat requirements before they leave

the hospital with their newborn for the very first time. This campaign should carry Baby Alin's name and story at its heart.

### 3. Affordable Access to Child Car Seats

One significant barrier to compliance is the cost of quality child car seats, which can be prohibitive for low- and middle-income families. The government should consider subsidising car seats for economically weaker sections, reducing GST on child safety equipment, and encouraging domestic manufacturing to bring prices down. Safety must not be a privilege of the affluent.

4. Integration into Driving Licence and Vehicle Registration Processes  
Child safety information should be embedded into the process of obtaining a driving licence and registering a vehicle. Every new driver must be tested on child passenger safety laws. Vehicle registration renewal communications should include child safety reminders. These are low-cost, high-impact interventions.

### 5. Civil Society and Rotary Engagement

Organisations like Rotary International, with its deep roots in communities across India, have a vital role to play. Rotary clubs can organise free child seat installation clinics, community education drives, and distribute informational materials in local languages. Civil society can bridge the gap between government mandates and ground-level behaviour change.

### 6. Media Responsibility

The media, which rightly celebrated the family's generosity in organ donation, must also fulfil its responsibility to inform. Every report on child road fatalities should mention Alin's Law and the life-saving statistics that back it up. Journalism that informs is journalism that protects.

### 7. A Data-Driven National Child Road Safety Dashboard

India should establish a publicly accessible, state-wise dashboard tracking child road traffic fatalities and injuries, car seat compliance rates, and enforcement statistics. What is measured is managed. Transparency drives accountability, and accountability drives change.

## Conclusion: Let Alin's Life Be a Turning Point

Baby Alin lived for only ten months. In her brief time on earth, she gave life to others through the gifts her parents chose to offer. But civil society owes her something too — the commitment that no other child will needlessly die in a car because parents did not know, or did not comply with, the law.

In Britain, Max and Keira's Law changed how the nation thinks about organ donation. In India, Alin's Law must change how a nation protects its children on the road. That is a legacy worthy of her name.

Let us honour Baby Alin not only with tears and praise for her parents' generosity, but with action. Let every parent who reads this story buckle their child in. Let every government official enforce Alin's Law. Let every hospital educate new parents in her name. Let every Rotarian spread the word.

A society is measured not by how it mourns its lost children, but by how fiercely it protects the living ones. Baby Alin's death is a warning. Let us heed it.

**LET'S MAKE INDIAN ROADS SAFER FOR EVERY CHILD**

# ALIN'S LAW



**TIME TO NAME THE CHILD ROAD SAFETY LAW  
AFTER BABY ALIN.**

**NO MORE PREVENTABLE CHILD DEATHS.  
ACTION IS NEEDED NOW!**

### SEVEN PILLARS FOR REFORM:

1. Rename Section 194B(2) of the Motor Vehicles Act as "Alin's Law"
2. Strict enforcement of child car seat use nationwide
3. Launch a national awareness campaign on child road safety
4. Make child car seats affordable and accessible
5. Integrate child road safety into driving license processes
6. Engage civil society, including Rotary, to educate parents
7. Establish a national child road safety data dashboard

### Rotarian Lal Goel

Founder & Charter President  
Rotary Club of Organ Donation International  
Chairman, Organ Donation India Foundation & GYAN



*Rotarian Dr Kamal Jain, Chair of the Organ Donation Committee, Rotary Club of Organ Donation International, in association with the Giants Group of Bhiwandi, organised an Organ Donation Awareness Drive at Nazrana Compound. The initiative was rooted in the inspiring philosophy of "Recycle Life" — a reminder that a single act of giving can create ripples that echo through eternity.*



## FREE HEALTH CAMP ORGANISED BY MAA CHAMELI DEVI AROGYA SEVA & CHAMELI DEVI INSTITUTE OF PHARMACY



*A free health camp was successfully organised under the banner of Maa Chameli Devi Arogya Seva and Chameli Devi Institute of Pharmacy. During the event, extensive awareness was spread among participants regarding eye donation and organ donation, highlighting their importance and the profound impact these noble acts can have on the lives of others.*

*In addition to the awareness sessions, registration forms for eye donation and body donation were also filled out by enthusiastic participants, taking a meaningful step toward contributing to humanity.*

*The initiative was led by Rotarian Uma Jhanwar of the Rotary Club of Organ Donation International, whose dedication and efforts made this event a great success.*

## COMMUNITY EVENT OUTREACH METHODOLOGY FOR ORGAN DONATION AWARENESS



11 February 2026 | Mangaluru

As part of its Decennial Celebrations and in observance of National Donor Day, Kanachur College of Nursing Sciences, Mangaluru, organized a large-scale Community Outreach Rally and Educational Campaign featuring a powerful Mime Competition to promote organ donation awareness. The initiative was powered by the Youth Red Cross (Kanachur Nursing College) and the Rotary Club of Organ Donation International, under the DHATRU (Donating Humanity and Transplanting Hope) initiative of Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences.

The rally was flagged off by Dr. Haji U.K. Monu, Founder Chairman, KIET®, who aptly remarked, "Organ Donation is great work — a service that brightens the lives of others."

More than 600 students and faculty members participated in the disciplined cavalcade, marching from Kanachur Hospital (Main Gate) to Sea Ground, Deralakatte, raising impactful slogans and carrying placards that highlighted the life-saving importance of organ donation.

The formal assembly witnessed the presence of over 400 community members along with distinguished dignitaries, including:

- Mr. Nagaraj S., Sub-Inspector, Konaje Police Station
- Mr. Sattar C.M., President, Belma Panchayath
- Dr. Shanawaz Manipady, Dean, Kanachur Institute of Medical Sciences
- Rtn PHF Dr. Rohan Monis, Chief Administrative Medical Officer, Kanachur Hospital & Research Centre and Medical Director, RC Organ Donation International
- Dr. Anjan Kumar, Medical Superintendent, Kanachur Hospital & Research Centre
- Dr. Molly Saldanha, Principal, Kanachur College of Nursing Sciences
- Prof. Shereen Joseph, Vice Principal
- Mrs. Irene Saldanha, Nursing Superintendent
- Mrs. Jossyi Paul, Deputy Nursing Superintendent

In a significant moment, all Nursing College faculty members took the Organ Donation Pledge and ceremoniously submitted the pledge document to the Dean, symbolizing institutional commitment.

Students presented a compelling street play that creatively conveyed the importance of organ donation to the public. Dr. Anjan Kumar elaborated on organs that can be donated during life and after brain death. Mrs. Divya, Faculty and Youth Red Cross Coordinator, guided the community on the process of registering for organ donation through the NOTTO (National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organization) website.

The initiative received strong appreciation from the Police Department and Panchayath leaders for effectively spreading awareness and inspiring society to embrace organ donation as a noble gift of life.

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## EDUCATIONAL CAMPAIGN OUTREACH

## METHODOLOGY FOR ORGAN DONATION AWARENESS



**13th Feb, 2026 - Mangaluru :** Continuing the Decennial Celebrations of Kanachur College of Nursing Sciences, an Intercollegiate Mime Competition across Nursing Schools and Institutions of Mangaluru was organized at the Kanachur Auditorium on behalf of the DHATRU initiative under Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences - under the theme "A Silent Act, A Lifelong Impact", with the aim of creating awareness about the importance of organ donation and its life-saving impact.

This competition had a great response of 10 teams from colleges participating on this unique platform. The competition was evaluated by a distinguished panel of judges comprising Rtn PHF Dr. Rohan Monis - Chief Medical Administrative Officer, Kanachur Institute of Medical Sciences and Medical Director, RC Organ Donation International; Fr. Ligoury Crasta, OCD - Administrator, Ryshivana - Institute of Spirituality, Ranipura Mangalore and Dr Fouzia Hameed - Associate Professor, Department of Forensic Medicine, KIMS, Mangalore. Their expert judgment, valuable feedback, and encouragement greatly contributed to the success of the event. The 10 teams performed blissfully.

The outcome was - this competition was leveraging personal stories thus creating a multiplier effect.

This mime act displayed the importance of educating & engaging the community - donors being ambassadors - the importance of awareness and pledge - wide spread local awareness - the expanse and reach as conversation moves reaches places and trust expands - providing accurate information - countering common misconceptions. The interconnectedness and importance of Organ Donation was explicitly displayed in these well researched mute acts; which created a WOW expression amongst the judges.

In the felicitation addresses - Fr Ligoury expressed that the humane nature of man which is kindness is the most important and we need to imbibe this quality for a civil society. Dr Fouzia emphasized that Organ Donation is the highest form of gifting and you can give life to another human. Rtn Dr Monis described the various forms of donation and what organs can be donated - insisting that these students are the future ambassadors of this message; thus 'Normalizing the Conversation'.

The winners of the competition were honored with cash prizes for their excellent performances.

1st place was won by Laxmi Memorial College of Nursing Sciences. The 1st & 2nd places were earned by Kanachur College of Nursing Sciences.

The goal of these programs is to move people through a clear progression: from unawareness, to understanding, to positive attitude, to action (registering), and finally to advocacy. The more consistently and broadly that progression is supported, the more lives can ultimately be saved.

# “Legacy Beyond the Clock, Extending Life's Duration”

## **ORGAN & TISSUE DONATION**

*Ticking clocks don't dictate the soul's deep pace,  
In every heartbeat, find a rhythmic grace.  
Minutes are treasures we must learn to steer,  
Ensuring we cherish those we hold most dear.*

*Make every hour a chance to sow a seed,  
Act with a purpose that meets a greater need.  
Nurture the moments, for life is but a breath,  
And look past the shadows, even defying death.  
Give of yourself when your journey finds its end,  
Extending a lifeline to a stranger or a friend.  
Mark your legacy not in gold, but in breath,  
Erasing the silence and the sting of death.  
New hope is gifted through the choice you make,  
Time lives on forever for another's sake.*

*Time is a gift we manage today,  
But a Legacy we can give away.  
Be an organ donor; let your life extend,  
Giving time to another, even at the end.*



**Rtn Hemalatha Bhandari**  
**President Elect**

## HEALTHY FOOD - HEALTHY ORGANS

# Healthy Thandai Holi Special



Rtn Ruby Agarwal  
Inspire Secretary

# HAPPY HOLI

### Ingredients



- 2 cups chilled milk (or almond milk for vegan)
- 15 almonds (soaked & peeled)
- 6-8 pistachios
- 1 tbsp melon seeds
- 1 tsp poppy seeds
- ½ tsp fennel seeds
- 3-4 green cardamom pods
- 4-5 black peppercorns
- 5-8 strands saffron soaked
- 1-2 tbsp jaggery powder OR 2-4 soaked dates or 1.5 tbsp monk fruit sweetener or stevia as per taste
- dried rose petals or 1 tsp Gulkand



### Method

1. Soak almonds, pistachios, melon seeds, fennel, cardamom, peppercorns, rose petals and poppy seeds. (overnight)
2. Grind everything (except milk) into a smooth paste.
3. Add chilled milk and blend again.
4. Strain if you prefer smooth texture (optional).
5. Garnish with soaked saffron & chopped nuts.

**Serve chilled & Enjoy!**

# NEW STEP

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**Rtn Kalaimani Padmanabhan**  
**Club Member**

**Name:** Kalaimani Padmanabhan

**Mobile:** 9176652889

**E-mail:** freindlykalai@gmail.com

**Profession:** Senior Software Architect

**Family:** Living with my parents, wife & 2 kids  
(A daughter & a son)

**Favourite Food:** Curd Rice

**Favourite Holiday Destination:** Goa

**Favourite Book:** Famous Five series , Nancy Drew series

**Favourite Song:** "Kanne Kalaimane" by K.J.Yesudas

**Favourite Quote:** "Never Give Up"

**Date of Birth:** 28th July

**Wedding Anniversary:** 21st October

**Your presence on social media:** Twitter, Facebook

**Why did you choose to become a member of RC Organ Donation International:** To contribute towards a social cause



**SCAN  
ME  
FOR  
QUICK  
PLEDGE**

**(Pledge your Organs to donate only after talking to your family members)**