

Midtowner

WEEKLY BULLETIN OF ROTARY CLUB OF RAJKOT MIDTOWN • CLUB 31287 • R.I. DISTRICT 3060

rotaryclubofrajkotmidtown
/RotaryClubofRajkotMidtown

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2024 - 2025

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Highlights

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COUNTDOWN BEGINS FOR OUR FLAGSHIP PROJECT, CYCLOFUN ... DO PARTICIPATE



MEETING DETAILS

DATE : 21st March 2025
DAY : Friday
TIME : 8.30pm Dinner
VENUE : D.P.M.C Lalitalay
PROGRAM : Scholarship meeting It would be an honour to have Shree Vipulbhai Vachhani, MD of Jaivel Aerospace, UK, as our esteemed guest.. We are giving scholarships to 28 deserving students and will be supporting them for all 4 years of their education. Scholarships are arranged and funded in memory of Manjulaben Mehta by Shri Tapulal B Mehta Charitable Trust. The programme shall be conducted by Rtn Vikrambhai Sanghani, who manages the project since it's inception Do attend in large numbers

WELCOME : Rotarians, Anns



BLOW CANDLES ON - Many many happy returns of the day!!



Gopal Unadkat
18th March
98250 18018



Naimee Khakhar
19th March
98252 87870



Bharat Ghodasara
20th March
98240 55363



Ashish G Mehta
21st March
9909700200



CLUB NEWS

Superb media coverage of our 8th March meeting wherein we felicitated 70 women from 108 Team.. congratulations once again Divyeshbhai Aghera for the brilliant concept

1) Our flagship project CYCLOFUN is round the corner.. preparations for the same are going on in full swing... do participate in large numbers RML, required staff for the event.. please spread the word. Interested candidates, please contact our library front office

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2) Eye camp was held on 12th March, Wednesday at Mahadev school (no 144.. run by government). 254 children were screened and spectacles were distributed to the beneficiaries.. kudos to president Divyeshbhai Aghera



3) A camp for diagnosis and awareness for MMR was organised on Sunday, 16th March, jointly by RCRM and Pujit Rupani trust

4) We need two families to host one student each for two days (30&31 March). Please spread the word and help to finalise two families as early as possible All students shall be reaching Rajkot on 30/03/2025 evening and needs to be hosted for 2 nights i.e 30/03/25 & 31/03/25 Rajkot hosts to take care of stay & also sightseeing on 31/03/25 (Dolls museum, etc..) Rajkot has 2 students 1 male & 1 female, so they have to host additionally 8 students (2 female & 6 males) + 1 Shilpa Bahurupi 1/4/25 - Rajkot to Jamnagar Humsafar 22923 @ 12.12 pm, 1/4/25 - Rajkot to Anand / Baroda / Surat OKHA RMM EXP 16734 @ 13.20 pm

By above trains all students return back to their respective places So come forward and hosts these students.. it's a different experience all together (the exchange programme)

5) Annet Devansh Harshbhai Vora returned from Mexico after 7 months (exchange programme) welcome home



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ROTARY INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Rotary recognized six members and alumni as People of Action: Champions of Peace in January. This honor celebrates the recipients' work to build peace around the world. Their ambitious and wide-ranging efforts include teaching technical skills to refugee children and promoting sustainable agriculture. The honorees exemplify Rotary's values and the dedication it takes to make a lasting impact.



FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Who Brought Railways to India? The Untold Story of Jagannath Shankarseth Jain

When asked who introduced railways to India, most people would answer: The British!

But that's not entirely true. The British were merely the sellers. In reality, the vision of bringing railways to India belonged to an Indian—Jagannath Shankarseth Jain! History Distorted by Past Governments

To hide India's true heritage, past governments made serious distortions in history. While the British are often credited with introducing railways to India, very few know about the immense contributions and efforts of Jagannath Shankarseth Murkute Jain.

The Vision for Indian Railways

On September 15, 1830, the world's first intercity train ran between Liverpool and Manchester in England. This news spread across the world, reaching Bombay (now Mumbai), where one visionary individual dreamed of bringing trains to his city.

At a time when even America was just beginning to develop its railways, this man, living in British-ruled and economically struggling India, dared to dream of rail transport. Most would have dismissed him, but he was no ordinary man.

Who Was Jagannath Shankarseth?

Jagannath Shankarseth, also known as Nana Shankarseth Jain, was a wealthy businessman from Mumbai's Murbaad region. Coming from a generationally rich family, his father was a renowned moneylender to the British during the British-Tipu Sultan war, amassing great wealth. Nana Shankarseth was his only son, born with privilege but also immense intelligence and vision.

Educated in English and administration, after his father's passing, he expanded his business empire. Unlike others who bowed before British rule, British officials themselves sought his blessings and support. Many influential British figures became his close friends.

His Contributions Beyond Railways

Shankarseth wasn't just a businessman; he was a pioneer of education and public welfare. He played a crucial role in establishing:

Bombay University, Elphinstone College, Grant Medical College, Law College, JJ School of Arts, Mumbai's first school for girls, The Birth of Indian Railways

In 1843, Shankarseth envisioned a railway in Bombay. He discussed the idea with his late father's close friend, Sir Jamshedji Jeejeebhoy, and later sought legal advice from Sir Thomas Erskine Perry, a British judge.

Surprised but intrigued, the three of them co-founded the Indian Railway Association. At that time, the British government had no plans for Indian railways. However, when influential Indians like Shankarseth, Jeejeebhoy, and Perry pushed for it, the British had to take it seriously. On July 13, 1844, they submitted a formal proposal to the government. The British administration authorized a preliminary study on railway



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expansion from Bombay. This led to the formation of the Bombay Committee, bringing together British officials, traders, and bankers to establish the Great Indian Railway, now known as Indian Railways.

India's First Train Journey

On April 16, 1853, at 3:30 PM, India's first train departed from Boree Bunder Station (now Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus, Mumbai) to Thane. The train, consisting of 28 coaches and 3 locomotives, was beautifully decorated with flowers for its maiden journey. Among the passengers on this historic trip were Jagannath Shankarseth and Jamshedji Jeejeebhoy Tata.

A Salute to Jagannath Shankarseth Jain

His vision and determination played a foundational role in India's railway development. While history often credits the British, it's time we recognize the true pioneers like Shri Nana Jagannath Shankarseth Jain.

Let's share this invaluable information with friends and family and give due respect to one of India's greatest unsung heroes.

Salutations to Shri Jagannath Shankarseth Jain

Wikipedia: Jagannath Shankarseth

Contributed by Dr. Bijal Thakkar



BRAIN GYM

Let's do some Brain gym with this puzzle.

These puzzles use word positioning, orientation, and repetition to form familiar phrases or idioms! So give it a try!! Adapted and forwarded

Contributed by Ritaben Chauhan

