

**UNITE  
FOR  
GOOD**

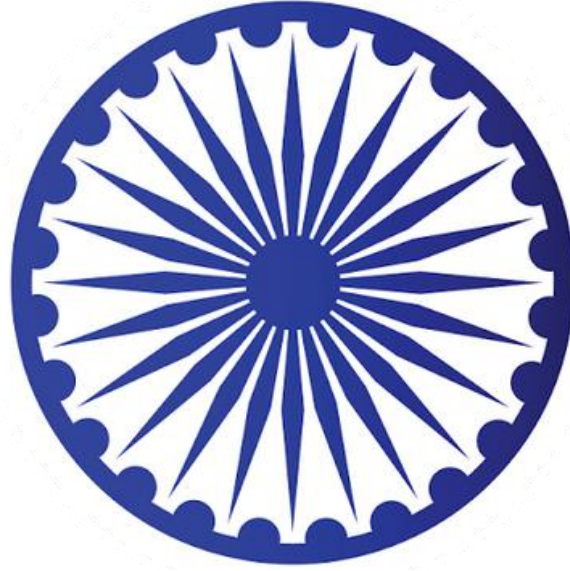
District 3142  
**Rotary**  
Club of Thana West



# संतोषम्

Monthly Bulletin

August 2025



## KNOW YOUR MEMBER



**Rtn Dr. Sohan Thakur**

**Rtn Francesco Arezzo**  
RI President 2025-26

**Rtn. Harsh Makol**  
District Governor 2025-26

**Rtn. CA Santosh Kadam**  
Club President 2025-26

**Rtn. Harshvardhan Surve**  
Club Secretary 2025-26

**For Private Circulation Only**

**Meeting Venue: Shrimati Savitridevi Thirani School, Vartak Nagar, Thane (West)**

**Meeting Timings: Every Wednesday : 07:30 pm**



## FIRST CLUB ASSEMBLY OF TITEN YEAR 2025-26



The **Rotary Club of Thana West** marked an important milestone with its **First Club Assembly** for the Rotary Year 2025-26, held on 9th July 2025 guided by President CA Rtn. Santosh Kadam with this year's theme—TiTen Year: Unite for Good—the assembly set the foundation for a year of impactful service, strategic planning, and united action. The meeting began with a warm acknowledgment of the club's proud legacy as it enters its 54th year of service. Board members and committee chairs shared their project plans, strategic goals, and innovative ideas, fostering an atmosphere of open dialogue and collaborative thinking. Key focus areas included membership engagement, sustainable community service, youth and vocational programs, contributions to The Rotary Foundation, and enhancing the club's public image.

President Rtn. Santosh Kadam emphasized continuity, accountability, and creativity in executing projects, urging members to adopt measurable outcomes, transparent reporting, and strong community partnerships. The assembly also reviewed and approved the Club Constitution, Budget, and By-laws, providing a structured framework for the year ahead.



**Assistant Governor Rtn. Hemali Shah** graced the occasion, offering valuable insights on Rotary's 10 Thrust Areas and encouraging greater membership growth, TRF contributions, and meaningful Service Month projects aligned with district priorities. The session was marked by enthusiasm, professionalism, and the active participation of both senior and newer members. As the assembly concluded, it was evident that the Rotary Club of Thana West is prepared not only to serve but also to innovate, evolve, and lead with heart in the TiTen Year.





## IPDG DINESH MEHTA SHUKRIYA



A heartfelt Shukriya celebration of IPDG Rtn. Dinesh Mehta, on 19th July 2025, expressed gratitude, appreciations and recognitions etc. The evening was made even more special with the proud display of awards and recognitions earned by Rotary Club of Thana West in AWESOME year under Presidentship of Rtn. Kanwal Tikoo. The awards presented by IPDG Dinesh Mehta to club.

- *District Governor's Award – Presented to Rotary Club of Thana West, President Kanwal Tikoo – Awesome Club Award.*
- *Award of Appreciation – Presented to Sriram Seshan for Avenue Chair (TRF Programs).*
- *Membership Award – Presented to Rotary Club of Thana West, President Kanwal Tikoo – Second Highest Position in Membership Growth (Tier-II Clubs).*
- *Award of Appreciation – Presented to Suchit Gadkari for Joint District Secretary.*
- *Award of Appreciation – Presented to Smita Gumaste for Assistant Learning Facilitator.*
- *Award of Appreciation – Presented to Dr. Parekh for Completing 50 Years in Rotary.*
- *Award of Appreciation – Presented to Suresh Deshpande for Completing 50 Years in Rotary.*



## DG HARSH MAKOL INSTALLATION

On 5th July 2025, the grand installation ceremony of District Governor Rtn. Harsh Makol for the TiTen Year was held in an atmosphere of pride and celebration. The Rotary Club of Thana West was honoured during the event for its outstanding commitment to The Rotary Foundation (TRF). Our club was felicitated with a prestigious citation in recognition of its generous TRF giving of \$5,000, reflecting our shared belief in Rotary's mission to create lasting change in communities across the world.

This recognition not only underscores our dedication to supporting impactful humanitarian projects globally but also stands as a testament to the collective effort and generosity of our members. The evening was marked by inspiring speeches, camaraderie, and a renewed pledge to strengthen Rotary's service ideals throughout the TiTen Year.





## ROTARY CLUB OF THANA WEST ORGANIZES MEDICAL CAMP FOR IDA EMPLOYEES



On 19th July 2025, the Rotary Club of Thana West, in association with Siddhivinayak Hospital, Thane, conducted a comprehensive Medical Camp for the employees of In Defence of Animals (IDA). The initiative was part of the club's ongoing commitment to community health and wellness, extending support not only to people but also to those working tirelessly for animal welfare.

The camp aimed to assess the overall physical fitness of IDA's dedicated staff and included a range of essential health services such as Complete Blood Count (CBC), Chest X-ray, Blood Grouping, Blood Pressure Monitoring, and General Physical Examination. A total of 54 beneficiaries availed themselves of these free medical check-ups, gaining valuable insights into their health status.



The employees of IDA—who devote themselves to rescuing, treating, and rehabilitating animals—often put the needs of animals before their own well-being. This camp was designed to ensure that these unsung heroes receive the healthcare attention they deserve.



The event was marked by meticulous organization, professional medical supervision, and a warm spirit of service. The presence of the medical team from Siddhivinayak Hospital ensured high-quality diagnostic services, while the Rotary Club of Thana West members ensured smooth execution. Speaking on the occasion, **Club's PP Sriram Seshan** emphasized the importance of caring for caregivers & expressed gratitude to IDA for their dedicated work in animal welfare. The camp concluded on a note of mutual respect and gratitude, with a promise to continue such collaborative efforts for the betterment of both human and animal communities.





## FOUR SUCCESSFUL SERVICE PROJECTS IN A SINGLE DAY – ROTARY CLUB OF THANA WEST

On 26th July 2025, under the TiTen Year initiative, the Rotary Club of Thana West successfully conducted four impactful community service projects at Lodha Splendora, Ghodbunder Road, under the guidance of President CA Santosh Kadam and Club Secretary Rtn. Harshvardhan Surve.

The projects included free general health check-ups, dental check-ups, and eye check-ups for local security guards and domestic workers, along with a blood donation camp organized for residents of the area.

The presence of **Dr. Teli, Additional Civil Surgeon, Civil Hospital, Thane** added great value to the occasion.

Dr. Teli praised Rotary’s efforts and highlighted the importance of such activities in the community, especially emphasizing that **“One blood donation can save four lives.”** He assured continued support from Civil Hospital Thane for such noble causes. The dedicated medical team from Civil Hospital rendered their services with compassion, making the event truly inspiring.

The success of these projects was made possible through the hard work of club members and volunteers. Dr. Rakhee Desai and Dr. Sohan Thakur, members of Rotary Club of Thana West, personally attended to the medical and dental services. Dr. Vaishali Nabar’s team from Wavikar Hospital conducted the eye check-ups, benefiting many attendees. Past President Rtn. Suchit Gadkari, Treasurer Alpana Gadkari, Past President Dr. Sunil Katkade, Venkatesh Agrawal, Manjiri Surve, and Mahesh Desai were also present to motivate and support the project team.





## IPP KANWAL TIKOO SHUKRIYA

On 26<sup>th</sup> July, RCTW family celebrated IPP Kanwal Tikoo's Shukriya, the event hosted the evening with music awards, and many more surprises. RCTW members, Co Presidents of IPP Kanwal, PDG Dinesh Mehta, PDG Kumar Kewalrmani, DGN Chandrahas Shetty, and many more grace the event with their presence. The Shukriya has his own charm by performance of RCTW members as well as dignitaries visited.









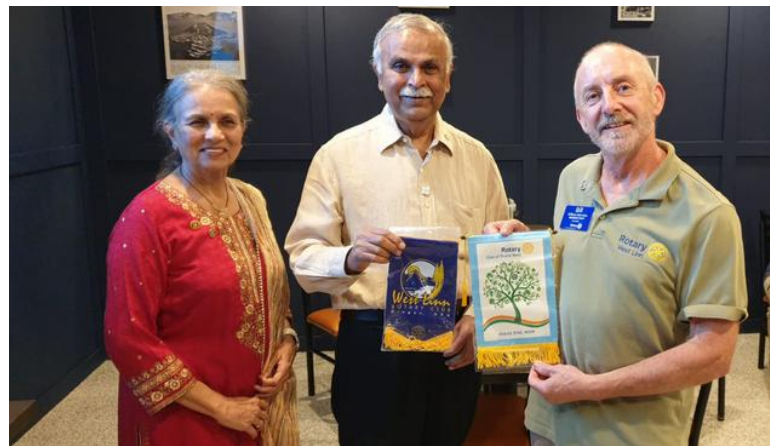
## FROM THANE TO THE USA – BUILDING BRIDGES FOR GLOBAL GRANTS –PP RTN SHRIRANG DESHPANDE

We had gone to USA to stay with our daughter and son in USA. During our stay, we had opportunity to visit some local Rotary Clubs.

**Rotary Club of West Linn in Portland, Oregon** invited me as a speaker for one of their meetings. I exchanged the flag with **President Bill Marriam** and presented the projects our club has been doing particularly under global grant. They were highly impressed and showed keen interest to sponsor a project in future.

The second club I visited was **RC of Fort Collins, Colorado**. This club, established in 1918 is one of the oldest club. Its strength is 125. They have a paid lunch meeting every week. I exchanged flags with **President David Dunne**. They gave me opportunity to address the club. I gave them idea of Global grant projects we have been doing for last six years. I also invited them to be a global partner.

The initial response is positive. It was a great experience to visit international clubs and networking with them may pave way for global grants in future.



## ROTARY CONNECTIONS ACROSS CONTINENTS (CALIFORNIA VISIT) –PP RTN DR. SUNIL KATKADE

From May to July 2025, me and my wife visited California, USA, where he attended meetings of three Rotary clubs.

At the **Rotary Club of Saratoga**, a senior and well-organized hybrid club. I attended a lunch meeting with my grandson Rayansh, exchanged flags with the President. Rtn. Chuck Swan, and shared about our club's projects. Two guest speakers spoke on student mental health, including a Hollywood actor-director.

**In Santa Cruz**, we joined a lively 7:15 am breakfast meeting discussing community projects in Uganda, thanks to transport and stay arranged by President. Rtn. Peggy Pollard.

At the **Rotary Club of Cupertino**, we attended a hybrid lunch meeting, exchanged flags with President. Rtn. Kathy Yates, and connected with Rotarians, including three Past District Governors. My proposal for our projects received interest from multiple office bearers, fostering future international collaborations. She honoured us by wearing saree.





## AASTHA KA PARVA – MAHAKUMBH

### A VIRTUAL WALK THROUGH MAHAKUMBH – DR. LUCKY S. KASAT

The Rotary Club of Thana West audience was recently treated to a truly enlightening session by Dr. Lucky S. Kasat, who took everyone on a virtual journey through the Mahakumbh Mela. Blending his motivated personal experiences with meticulous research, Dr. Kasat not only described the grandeur of the event but also shared the spiritual metaphor behind it—how the right approach to such a pilgrimage can “enhance the throb of life.”



The Mahakumbh, recognized by UNESCO as an Intangible Cultural Heritage, is a testament to India’s enduring traditions. Dr. Kasat began by highlighting that 13 Akharas participated this year, including Kinnar Akhara, Dashnam Sannyasini Akhara, and Mahila Akhara, reflecting inclusivity and gender equality. Saints from Russia and Ukraine joined hands in a prayer for peace, while the event’s website received 33 lakh visitors from 183 countries within a week.

A temporary city of 4,000 hectares was established, complete with 30 pontoon bridges and 800 multilingual signages. The government even declared the Mela area as a new district. The Bhashini initiative ensured real-time translation in 11 languages, while BSNL activated 90 BTS towers to keep pilgrims connected.

From 2,69,000 pathway plates to an International Bird Festival, the infrastructure was massive. Healthcare was robust, with a 100-bed central hospital, 133 ambulances, and even river and air ambulances. Safety was paramount—2,750 AI-powered cameras, drones, underwater surveillance, and over 50,000 security personnel ensured order.

Fire safety was strengthened with 351 firefighting vehicles, articulating water towers, and 2,000 trained fire staff. Multi-disaster vehicles, remote-controlled life buoys, and deep-water barricades protected lives. The cyber police station countered scams, while the Banking at Call service brought financial access to every corner of the Mela.

Travel was made easier with 81 new flights, while cleanliness was maintained by 10,200 sanitation workers and 1,800 Ganga Sevadu. Under Vidya Kumbh, schools were set up for workers’ children, and housing colonies were built for sanitation staff. 233 Water ATMs, Miyawaki forests, and river waste removal machines kept the environment healthy.

The Mahakumbh also became a hub for world records—from the largest cleanup drives and handprint paintings to e-rickshaw parades and collective hymn chanting.

Dr. Kasat concluded by reminding everyone that the Mahakumbh is not just a gathering but a living example of faith, planning, community effort, and unity in diversity. His session left the audience inspired, better informed, and deeply connected to the cultural and spiritual essence of this colossal event.

The talk was not only a journey through the Mahakumbh but also an invitation to live life with the same passion, organization, and purpose that this festival embodies.



## KNOW YOUR MEMBER (KYM)



**RTN. DR. SOHAN THAKUR**

**A Journey Rooted in Values, Driven by Purpose**

Dr. Sohan Thakur, Founder & CEO of DentAll United, is a dedicated dental professional with a B.D.S. from S.P.D.C., Wardha, and an MBA in Hospital Administration from ICFAI, Hyderabad. His career has been shaped by experiences with reputed names in dentistry, allowing him to refine his skills. Guided by the core values of discipline, empathy, and precision,

## **Dr. Thakur draws deep inspiration from his family.**

His father, Mr. Bhimsingh Thakur, exemplifies leadership and discipline. His mother, Mrs. Padma Thakur, a respected litigation lawyer has instilled in him a sharp eye for detail and mental resilience. Dr. Thakur is a proud father to his energetic and curious 5-year-old son, Master Shivaansh Thakur, and a grateful husband to Mrs. Hema Thakur, whose quiet strength and constant support have been instrumental throughout his journey.,

## **Introducing DentAll United**



Born from Dr. Thakur's desire to support and uplift the dental community, DentAll United is a pioneering platform designed to empower independent dental practitioners. It offers comprehensive solutions to streamline practice operations, adopt new technologies, and maintain clinical autonomy in an increasingly commercialized healthcare landscape.

## **Transforming Lives, One Clinic at a Time**

DentAll United addresses the common struggles faced by independent dentists—ranging from patient acquisition and administrative burdens to lack of access to quality resources. By providing tailored support in clinic setup, management systems, training, and compliance, DentAll United allows practitioners to focus more on patient care and less on operational headaches. Through this initiative, Dr. Thakur is helping dentists reclaim their time, autonomy, and passion—reshaping the future of independent dental practice across India.



## WHY I'M ROTARIAN



**PP RTN SHRIRANG  
DESHPANDE**

It was invited to join Rotary Club of Thana West by President Justin David in the year 1979. It was an honour and I gladly accepted it. The club then had members mostly from small scale manufacturing industries in Wagle Ind. estate. Many of them were startups and over the years have grown into large setups. I was privileged to be associated with such brilliant entrepreneurs and doctors, who later became my life long friends.

Right from the beginning, the club imbibed rotary principles in the members and I believe that it has shaped my character. Rotary also gave me opportunities to serve the community.

One of the major initiative I remember was when Rotary launched Polio eradication program. At that time, the government machinery was not fully geared up to give polio doses all over India on a single day. We Rotarians came forward and manned the booths. We personally gave polio doses to the children in slums.

Another major project I had opportunity to play a major role was mega project “**Enviro-safe**” under PP Kalyan’s president ship. More than 1 lakh people visited the exhibition at Gaodevi maidan. The entire club worked as a team but contribution of Rtn Keshav Kulkarni to secure the ground for exhibition was invaluable.

One of my favorite program is ‘**International Youth Exchange**’. Both my children benefited from this program and many more children from our club followed. In return, Shobhana and I had the opportunity to host seven international students from different countries. It was an enriching experience.

Our club jointly with Inner wheel club under presidentship of Shobhana gave me full support when I came up with idea of check dam in 2003. We identified Pragati Pratishthan to implement the project. With this, we constructed first ever check dam in the area. We are pioneers and it has led to many more check dams and water projects in the area. I also had opportunity of pioneering water distribution project(नळ-पाणी योजना ) during my first stint of presidentship in 2011-12. It has also led to several such projects across the Palghar District.

In 2019, I came across Rtn Raj Khankari from RC of Maple Grove, Minnesota through my sister. I proposed a few projects to him. He came to India, visited the site and decided to sponsor a project which I had privilege to plan and execute. This established our credibility and ever since, we have been doing Global grant projects every year. I feel very happy to be the initiator of this program which has become pride of our club.

I am grateful to Rotary for giving me many such opportunities that have given me immense satisfaction. It has given me purpose in life. If every citizen follows rotary principles, the world will become a better place to live.

**Yours in Rotary,**

**Rtn PP Shrirang Deshpande**



## EXIM NEWS

# Manufacturing and exports are the only solutions to increase India's GDP growth - By Ajit H. Vora



**RTN AJIT VORA**

From toys to mobile phones, defence equipment to EV motors, production is shifting back to India—The Make in India programme is driving self-reliance, boosting production and creating jobs, thereby contributing significantly to the nation's economic fortitude.

The major entrepreneurial advance in recent decades has been the rapid growth of software, business services and digital economy-related trading firms, much of which stems from the low-cost availability of skilled labour in India. A telling example of this are the foreign-owned firms based in India that account for about 20% of global chip design, that rely on Indian workers but not on Indian entrepreneurs.

***India needs entrepreneurship to promote manufacturing and export. Our next-gen founders must be risk-takers, innovators, go getters, reformers and trendsetters.***

### Necessary characteristics

The entrepreneurship that India requires must have two key characteristics. First, it must be willing to be innovative in the sense that it takes on new products and processes as a part of its business. Second, it must be global in its marketing orientation so that it can compete with foreign suppliers in India and in global markets

A summary of the major advances we need to make Indian entrepreneurs more focused on innovation and global trade involvement is as follows:

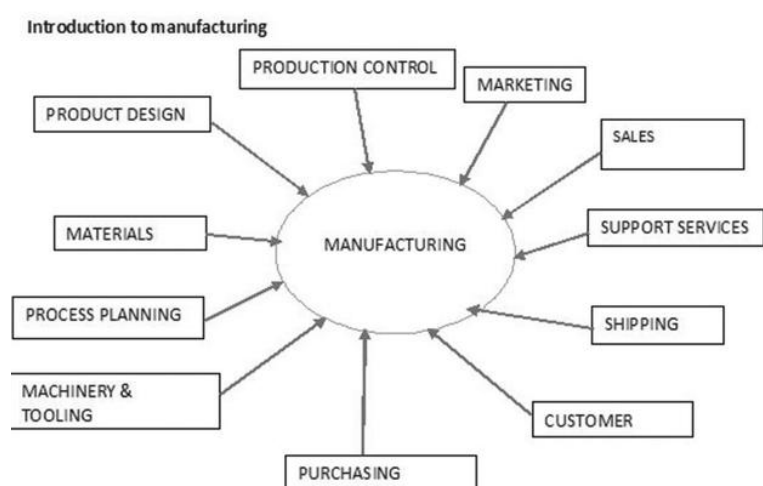
- (1) Formulate a government policy on entrepreneurship and competition that recognises the power of market forces and promotes a market-friendly environment, rather than favouring specific sectors or businesses.
- (2) Aim at controlling the power of promoters in family-owned firms, and increasing influence of domestic and foreign institutional investors on the professionalisation of corporate management.
- (3) Improve organised financial support for small enterprises, which, according to a 2017 comprehensive study, had to depend for 85% of their financing needs on informal sources.
- (4) Formulate a trade policy that creates a strong corporate incentive to rapidly expand exports.
- (5) Ensure that foreign investment promotes and leads to local supplier development and effective transmission of technological knowhow.
- (6) As India approaches the frontiers of global development, its enterprises must evolve beyond their current role as low-cost suppliers of skilled labour. They need to become significant innovators and global trade leaders.



(7) The government and the stock market must support risk-taking entrepreneurs, innovators and major global trade activists capable of positioning Indian-managed companies as key players in international trade and technology, as East Asia has done with firms like Samsung or Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company

(8) MSME entrepreneurs that need to spend any amount of money to register their products anywhere in the world, particularly for new products, new markets, and for new exporters, the government will fund the entire cost.

(9) Entrepreneurs should focus on value-added goods and run campaigns for brand-building and marketing. For example, we export a lot of rice, mangoes, agro products. Can we look at how to add value to these products? Can we run campaigns? Can we run joint campaigns to market these Indian products?



## How can we increase manufacturing activities and exports?

(a) Less Regulation - Because overregulation increases the cost of doing business by raising compliance costs. Excessive licensing, sector-specific controls, and proliferation of circulars and NOCs need to be eliminated. We must institutionalise self-certification and certification by third party professionals. All approvals must be digital with no human intervention. Regulators should not see themselves as instruments of control and overreach.

(b) Rationalise GST - GST has enabled formalisation and encouraged ease of doing business. It is time to rationalise GST rates and slabs, and simplify processes to reduce the compliance burden for small enterprises. The GST Council should work towards developing a roadmap for incorporating petroleum products, electricity and real estate into the GST regime. There are approximately 20,000 cases pending in the GST Dept. for the settlement of various disputes e.g. urgent clarifications on the eligibility for GST refunds and its interpretations.

(c) Ease of Borrowing - We must liberate financial markets to ensure adequate and reasonable business borrowing rates. RBI must create a roadmap to phase out the statutory liquidity ratio (SLR) which compels commercial banks to buy government bonds. While this enables the government to finance the fiscal deficit, it curbs the availability of finance for MSMEs and impacts the development of a commercial bond market. Freeing up the SLR requirement will help reduce borrowing costs for private businesses. It is also important to make the cost of public sector borrowing as high as that of the private sector.

(d) Make for the World - Our tariffs on intermediate goods and inputs are too high and must be brought down to push manufacturing in India. High tariffs on critical inputs, particularly in electronics, automobiles and machinery, blunt the PLI Scheme's effectiveness. They also keep Indian companies out of global value chains. Non-tariff barriers, such as quality control orders (QCOs), must be rationalised. In textiles, QCOs have killed our ability to expand in manmade fibres and create jobs. We must engage with firms in China and South-East Asia and handhold to shift their operations to India. Our approach with Apple in mobile manufacturing provides a template.

For detailed article by Rtn Ajit Vora on the topic in Exim news. Please click on below link

<https://eximin.net/newsDetails/685a31a8bf9e81c37fc6359f>



# सत्यम

AUGUST 2025

## RTN. MANJIRI HARSHVARDHAN SURVE

BULLETIN EDITOR

**Rtn. CA Santosh Kadam**  
Club President

**Rtn. Harshvardhan Surve**  
Club Secretary

### Club Officers & BoD 2025-26

President Elect - Rtn. Harshvardhan Surve  
IPP & International - Rtn. Kanwal Tikoo  
Treasurer - Rtn. Alpana Gadakari  
Sergeant-at-arms - Rtn. Prasad M. Borde  
Club Advisor - Rtn. Shrirang Deshpande  
Club Administration - Rtn. Deepanjali Mengle  
Club Learning Facilitator - Rtn. Sriram Seshan  
TRF - Rtn. Suchit Gadkari  
Membership- Rtn. Kedar Vidwans  
Membership (Women & Youth)- Rtn. Smita Gumaste  
Medical [Service Project] - Rtn. Dr. Sunil Katkade  
Non Medical [Service Project] - Rtn. Manoj Jain  
Youth [New Generation] - Rtn Harshad Mengle  
District Programs- Rtn N Kalyan  
District Trust Areas - Rtn Sadhana Vaze  
District Service week - Rtn Ameya Kane  
De Addiction Chair - Rtn Dilip Vaishayampayan  
Club Projects - Rtn. Shashikant Gaikwad  
Public Relations - Rtn. Manjiri Surve  
Vocational - Rtn Arya Patnaik

**We Meet Every Wednesday : 07:30 pm**  
**Meeting Venue: Shrimati Savitridevi Thirani**  
**School, Vartak Nagar, Thane (West)**

Members are requested to send their  
articles, achievement success story etc, on  
the Email ID mention below:  
[manjirisurve07@gmail.com](mailto:manjirisurve07@gmail.com)

**For Private Circulation Only**



FROM THE EDITORS DESK

## *A Month of Impact and Recognition*

July was a vibrant month for the Rotary Club of Thana West, marked by service, learning, and accolades.

The month began on 5th July with the installation of TiTen Year District Governor Rtn. Harsh Makol, where the club was felicitated for its TRF contribution of \$5,000.

On 9th July, the First Club Assembly set the roadmap for the year, with AG Rtn. Hemali Shah inspiring members to focus on Rotary's 10 Thrust Areas.

On 16th July, members witnessed Aastha ka Parva, an enlightening session by Dr. Lucky Kasat, offering a spiritual and cultural deep dive into the Mahakumbh.

Community service took center stage on 19th July with a Medical Camp for IDA employees, in association with Siddhivinayak Hospital, benefiting 54 individuals through comprehensive health checks. This was followed by a 26th July Mega Health Camp, offering general, dental, and eye check-ups along with a blood donation drive with association with Civil Hospital .

The month concluded with the 25th July DG Dinesh Mehta Shukriya event, where the club and its members, including senior Rotarians, received multiple recognitions for service, leadership, and milestone achievements

July truly reflected the TiTen Year spirit—uniting for good and making a lasting difference.

Yours in Rotary,

Rtn Manjiri Harshvardhan Surve



# CONGRATULATIONS



- District Governor's Award – Presented to Rotary Club of Thana West, President Kanwal Tikoo – Awesome Club Award.
- Award of Appreciation – Presented to Sriram Seshan for Avenue Chair (TRF Programs).
- Membership Award – Presented to Rotary Club of Thana West, President Kanwal Tikoo – Second Highest Position in Membership Growth (Tier-II Clubs).
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# SCAN ME & FOLLOW

