

**UNITE
FOR
GOOD**

District 3142
Rotary
Club of Thana West



संतोषम्

Monthly Bulletin

December 2025

DISEASE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT MONTH



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

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

For Private Circulation Only

A PILLAR OF GLOBAL GRANT EXCELLENCE: RTN. RAJ KHANKARI AND ROTARY CLUB OF THANA WEST

Global Grants are among Rotary’s most powerful instruments for creating sustainable, long-term impact, and the success of such initiatives is deeply rooted in strong partnerships and trusted leadership. For the Rotary Club of Thana West, one such unwavering pillar of support has been Rtn. Raj Khankari of the Rotary Club of Maple Grove, whose association with our club has significantly strengthened our Global Grant journey over the years.

Rtn. Raj Khankari’s contribution to Global Grants goes far beyond formal collaboration. As a seasoned Rotarian with deep insight into The Rotary Foundation’s grant framework, he has played a pivotal role in guiding, mentoring, and supporting the club through multiple Global Grant projects. His clarity on compliance, sustainability, and stewardship has been invaluable in shaping robust grant proposals and ensuring smooth execution.



Rtn PP Raj Khankari

The partnership between the Rotary Club of Thana West and the Rotary Club of Maple Grove, along with other international partner clubs, stands as a model of effective global collaboration. These partnerships have enabled the successful implementation of impactful projects, particularly in the areas of healthcare and disease prevention—directly benefiting communities in need while building local capacity for long-term outcomes.

What truly distinguishes Rtn. Raj Khankari is his consistent personal involvement and accessibility. From the conceptual stage to final reporting, he has remained closely engaged, offering strategic inputs and ensuring alignment with TRF guidelines. His steady support has helped the club uphold the highest standards of transparency, accountability, and impact—hallmarks of successful Global Grant projects.

In recognition of his invaluable contribution and deep bond with the club, Rtn. Raj Khankari is also an Honorary Member of the Rotary Club of Thana West. This honor reflects not just his professional support, but the trust, friendship, and shared Rotary values that define his relationship with the club. His presence has strengthened the confidence of our members and reinforced our ability to think globally while serving locally.

As the Rotary Club of Thana West continues its journey in the TiTen Year and beyond, the role of committed global partners like Rtn. Raj Khankari remains central to our success. His continued association inspires the club to aim higher, collaborate better, and deliver Global Grant projects that truly embody Rotary’s mission of “Doing Good in the World.”



DISTRICT SERVICE WEEK PROJECTS

The month of November was especially significant as Rotary International observes District Service Week, a dedicated period aimed at encouraging clubs to intensify community-focused initiatives through collaboration, inclusivity, and sustainable impact. The purpose of District Service Week is to bring Rotary's core avenues of service to the forefront—vocational, community, cultural, and educational—while fostering strong partnerships between clubs and the district.

As part of District Service Week 2025, Rotary District 3142 curated a structured schedule of projects across the month of November, enabling clubs to co-host diverse initiatives that address societal needs while promoting fellowship, learning, and community engagement. Actively aligning with this vision, our club co-hosted multiple impactful projects in collaboration with District 3142, each reflecting Rotary's commitment to meaningful action and collective service.

As part of District Service Week, our club actively co-hosted multiple impactful projects in collaboration with Rotary District 3142, focusing on service, skill development, cultural awareness, and community engagement. Each initiative reflected Rotary's commitment to meaningful action and collective service.

A key project of the week was the Job Fair held on 15th November at Devrambhai Laxman Bhoir Degree College, Bhiwandi. The objective of the Job Fair was to create employment opportunities and career awareness for students and job seekers. Several companies from diverse sectors participated, interacting directly with candidates and guiding them on career pathways. The event received wide appreciation and media coverage, highlighting its relevance and impact on youth employability.

On 8th November, the club co-hosted Quizzable, an interactive and engaging quiz event conducted along with District 3142. The program promoted learning, teamwork, and fellowship among participants while encouraging a spirit of healthy competition and knowledge sharing.

Adding a reflective and socially engaging dimension, Susanvad was conducted as part of the service week. This initiative encouraged meaningful dialogue on social issues, values, and responsible citizenship, creating a platform for thoughtful interaction and awareness.

The Heritage Walk on 22nd November offered participants a unique opportunity to explore and appreciate the region's rich history and cultural heritage. The walk successfully combined learning with fellowship, allowing members and participants to reconnect with local heritage while strengthening community bonds. All these projects, conducted during District Service Week, demonstrated strong coordination with Rotary District 3142 and showcased the club's dedication to service across diverse focus areas—employment, education, culture, and community dialogue.

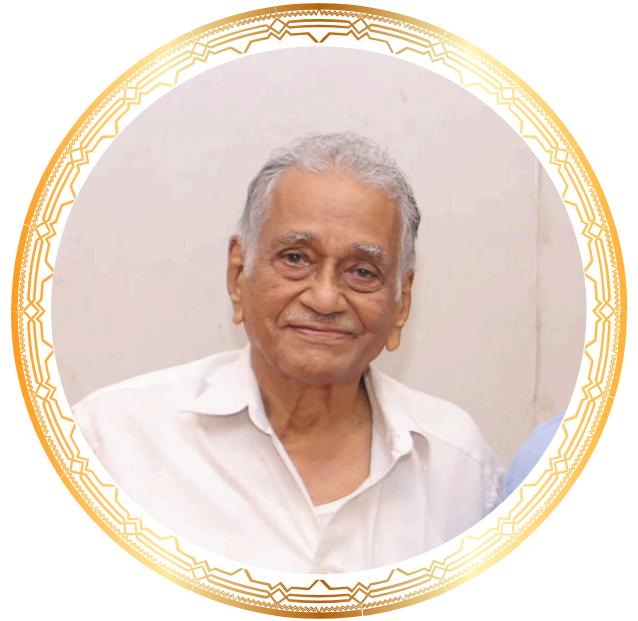
Through these collaborative efforts, the club reaffirmed its commitment to Service Above Self, making District Service Week a truly impactful and memorable experience.

“FROM HEALING HANDS, TO THE WORLD OF ROTARY – REFLECTIONS OF A ROTARIAN DOCTOR”

A JOURNEY OF CHARTER MEMBER FROM 1972 TO 2025

Way back in 1969, I started my medical practice in the fast-growing industrial township of Wagle Estate, Thane. Although the area was largely industrial with limited residential development, my confidence grew when I met Mr. Vamanrao Desai—a respected rubber technologist and family friend. He offered me a part-time role as a medical adviser in his company and soon introduced me to the world of Rotary.

When Mr. Desai became President of the Thane Main Rotary Club, he involved me in various community service projects in and around Wagle Estate. This exposure eventually led to the formation of our own Rotary club in 1972, with Mr. Arukia as the first President. I was officially inducted into Rotary Club in that year.



PP Dr. Suresh Deshpande

Over the years, I had the privilege of contributing to several impactful projects. One of our earliest major initiatives was an eye camp that received an overwhelming response from senior citizens of remote areas in Thane, who were suffering from untreated cataracts. Our efforts, supported by the Thirani Trust, helped restore vision and improve countless lives.

I have been chairman of Pluse Polio project for a number of years. During the project we also distributed lunch packages to the staff on behalf of our club. My wife Mrs.Urmila was also the founding member of Innerwheel club of Thane.. During her presidentship she adopted Thana wala Deaf and Dumb school. This project is still ongoing to date.

My Rotary journey extended beyond healthcare. I participated in welfare activities in tribal villages and supported cultural development, including sponsoring a Canadian exchange student Ms.Debbie, who even performed traditional Lavani at the district conference that year. She later formed a close bond with my daughters and is still in contact with them on social media. I have also been fortunate to attend fellowship as visiting Rotarian during my travel to Kashmir and to Washington USA which was an interesting experience.

Looking back, my involvement with our club members has been deeply fulfilling. The fellowship with our club members has been enjoyable. The opportunity to serve the community, build meaningful relationships, and contribute to transformative projects has made this journey truly satisfying.

Yours in Rotary,
PP Dr. Suresh Deshpande

LIFE IN ROTARY- FROM ROTARACT TO HONORARY MEMBER

I am indeed very honoured to be the Honorary Member of Rotary Club of Thana West... the club stands out in the district as one of the oldest club of Veterans... Being a Honorary Member is a feeling like standing beneath a grand rainbow...

Rotary indeed has transformed my life... my association with Rotary started a long-long ago when I was a just minor student... Group of Seniors in the region used to arrange lectures in local Rotary Hall on various topics like Science, Literature and even on budget... just out of curiosity, I started attending... Later I learned that it was Rotaract Club... Thus Rotary started honing my life... and I never knew when I was in Rotary...

Later as I grew up in academics and science, the Rotary clubs started inviting me for the guest talks...invariably I would exceed the time... but Rotarians would give an apt ear...

I was engaged in the Literacy Mission of Government of India... and that proved to be a turning point... With the University, we were instrumental in imparting Functional Literacy to over hundred thousand people in Mumbai region... We received state recognition... what followed up was that I was invited by Rotary Club to participate in the Group Study Exchange Programme... RI District 3140 selected me as the GSE Team member... and Rotary truly started shaping my life...

We were paired with a rich Industrial District in Brazil... and the experience is life changing... We were taken to the Space Centre, Aircraft Factories, Industries, Education Institutions, Environment above all the grand AMEZON... and the military centres too... first time in life I could touch a Real Satellite... and will never forget the Guard of Honour at the military centre... a spine-chilling experience to be cherished for the Lifetime...

Rotary imparted leadership training, awakening in me the true spirit of Rotary.. for creating a meaningful change locally and globally and kindling the sense of Service above Self... It has widened friendship crossing boundaries being a part of global family...

The same richness of Rotary Spirit I experience in the Rotary Club of Thane West as the honorary member... What I experience is the personal bond with the members... the club is full of passionate, very talented people who are eager to serve...events, services and fellowship which I look forward... Seen a lot... done a lot... yet miles to go...

What I imbibed, I try to give back in fellowship and service... I dedicate it all to Rotary!

Yours In Rotary,
Prof (Dr) Siddhivinayak Barve,
Rotary Club Of Thana West



K2K – RIDING FOR PEACE, ENVIRONMENT & HEALTH: A MEMORABLE FELLOWSHIP MOMENT



The arrival of the K2K IRMR riders during their pit stop in Navi Mumbai was truly a moment of pride, inspiration, and Rotary fellowship for all of us at the IFMR 3142 – Thane Suburbs Sub-Chapter. Along with all Navi Mumbai host clubs, we had the privilege of welcoming and felicitating this remarkable team on 9th November 2025 at Grande 51, CBD Belapur.

The K2K (Kanyakumari to Kashmir) Ride, captained by Rtn. Ajith Ram, Ride Captain from Rotary District 3191 (Bangalore), is a monumental national initiative driven by the core theme of “Peace through Environment and Health.” Beginning from Kanyakumari on 4th September, three teams set out on Eastern, Central, and Western routes, collectively covering 43 Rotary districts across Zones 4, 5, 6, and 7. The scale of the initiative is awe-inspiring—14,000 km across the three routes, culminating in an incredible 1,30,000 km combined journey, ending at Amritsar.



When the team arrived in District 3142, they were warmly received and felicitated in the presence of our TiTen District Governor Rtn. Harsh Makol and First Lady Rtn. Priya, who encouraged the riders with inspiring words and wished them a safe and successful journey ahead. The event was further enriched by the presence of District Officers Rtn. Rajesh Verma and Rtn. Biswaranjan Sabat, along with club officers and members. The evening reflected true Rotary camaraderie, friendship, and fellowship, beautifully complemented by a lively Bhangra performance, which the IFMR riders thoroughly enjoyed.

It was honoured to attend the felicitation along with our Sergeant-at-Arms, Rtn. Harshvardhan Surve, representing the IFMR Thane Suburbs Sub-Chapter.

The spirit of the K2K journey continued the following day. On 10th November, our Sergeant-at-Arms Rtn. Harshvardhan Surve, along with his spouse Rtn. Manjiri Surve, proudly joined the riders for a flag-off ride from Ibis Hotel, Turbhe to Ghodbunder Road, Thane. This symbolic ride reinforced Rotary's message of unity, peace, and purpose on the road.

The K2K ride is not just a motorcycle expedition—it is a powerful movement that embodies Rotary values, national integration, and service with purpose. Being part of this journey, even briefly, was an enriching experience for our sub-chapter and a reminder that when Rotarians ride together, they truly ride for a cause greater than themselves.

Yours in Rotary,
Rtn. Deepa Suresh, President
IFMR Thane Suburbs Sub-Chapter



KNOW YOUR MEMBER (KYM)

A Journey of Drive, Purpose, and Giving

Born on May 14th in Meerut, Uttar Pradesh, Varun Chandna grew up in a business family that taught him the values of hard work, gratitude, and perseverance. From those humble beginnings, he set out on a journey to contribute to India's growth story – one driven by passion, purpose, and belief in progress.

For over 16 years, Varun has been an integral part of the Indian automobile industry, working with some of the nation's most trusted names – Mahindra, Tata Motors, Bajaj, and now Ashok Leyland, where he serves as Zonal Manager. Through these years, he has not only built a successful career but has also played a part in shaping India's automobile legacy.

Yet beyond the professional milestones, Varun's heart beats for adventure and humanity. A passionate biker, he once embarked on a soul-stirring Himalayan ride under a UNESCO mission, connecting with ancient tribal communities and experiencing the untouched beauty of the Great Himalayas. The journey left him with a deeper understanding of life, culture, and compassion.

In Mumbai, Varun stands among a rare few – **one of only 13 active blood platelet donors, quietly giving life where it's needed most.** His acts of kindness are a reflection of his belief that true success lies in service. Guided by this belief, he joined Rotary International, determined to give back to the society that has given him so much. In his words:
"Everything I have today is a blessing from God. It's my time to return that blessing – through love, care, and service to others."

Varun Chandna's story is one of purpose – of a man who drives not just vehicles, but change.



RTN VARUN CHANDNA





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

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FROM THE EDITORS DESK

The month of November stood out as a vibrant period of service, learning, fellowship, and achievement, with multiple impactful initiatives co-hosted with Rotary District 3142, reinforcing Rotary's commitment to social development, cultural engagement, and capacity building.

A major highlight of the month was the Job Fair held on 15th November at Devrambhai Laxman Bhoir Degree College, Bhiwandi, which also received coverage in the leading Marathi daily Nagvet. The Job Fair aimed to bridge the gap between education and employment by providing students and job seekers a valuable platform to interact directly with recruiters. Several reputed companies from diverse sectors participated, offering career guidance and opportunities. The enthusiastic participation made this initiative a meaningful step toward youth empowerment and employability.

Adding a thoughtful dimension to the month's activities was Susanvad, a dialogue-based initiative that encouraged meaningful conversations on social awareness, values, and responsible citizenship, aligning with Rotary's focus on peace and community building.

On 8th November, members actively participated in Quizzable, an intellectually stimulating quiz event co-hosted with District 3142, promoting teamwork, knowledge sharing, and fellowship.

The month also featured a culturally enriching Heritage Walk on 22nd November, enabling participants to reconnect with the city's rich history and architectural legacy while strengthening bonds within the Rotary family.

November also witnessed a Felicitation Ceremony and Flag-Off Ride of the K2K Riders of the Western Zone, celebrating the spirit of peace, environment, and health. The event reflected camaraderie and strong inter-district fellowship, marking Rotary's support for impactful national initiatives.

Adding to the month's pride were individual achievements: Rtn. Manjiri Surve's participation in "Rotal 25" in the Dance category (Age Group 36-50 years) showcased Rotary's encouragement of talent beyond service. Rtn. Sadhana Vaze's interview with Kanchan Adhikari on Leopard Adoption highlighted Rotary's commitment to wildlife conservation and environmental awareness. Annet Anvi Harshad Mengle's First Place at the Killa Mahotsav brought laurels to the Rotary family, celebrating youth excellence and cultural heritage.

Together, these initiatives reflect a holistic Rotary approach—blending service, culture, learning, fellowship, and personal achievement. November truly demonstrated how Rotary, through collective effort and partnership, continues to create lasting impact while living its motto of "Service Above Self."

Rtn Manjiri Harshvardhan Surve
Bulletin Editor

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

1st Dec Rtn Deepanjali Mengle
5th Dec R/Ann Kranti Jejurikar
7th Dec Rtn Manjiri Surve
13th Dec Rtn Ajit Vora
18th Dec R/ Annet Arya Mengle
20th Dec R/Ann Manisha Jain
22nd Dec Rtn Dr. Sunil Katkade
23rd Dec R/Ann Tanvi Tasgoankar
28th Dec Rtn Dr. Keshav Kulkarni

5th Dec Rtn C Ramdasan & Sasi
12th Dec Rtn Arya Patnaik & Jayanti
18th Dec Rtn Suchit & Alpana
21st Dec Rtn Dr. Kanchan & Varad
25th Dec Rtn Kedar & Tejaswini

CONGRATULATIONS



R/Annet Anvi Mengle, daughter of Rtn Harshad & Deepanjali Mengle, received First Place In Killa mahaostav.



Press Release about the Job Fair Project we Co-Hosted with District



Pre- PELS , Silvassa, Zone 1 Team of Parivartan yearr win the Grand Skit award, best supporting actor and best actor female with Best Dance couple and Best Dressed Male for theme party

SCAN ME & FOLLOW

