

THEME: BASIC EDUCATION AND LITERACY.

### **August Numbers RCBP**

Projects:31

Beneficiaries: 3141

Man Hours Spent : 337 Rotarians Involved : 158

Total Cost of Projects: Rs. 1567740

TRF Seminar: 1 Club Meeting:1 Fireside Meeting:1 Speaker Meeting:1

#### **Contributors**:

Anju Ahluwalia : Concept Kalpana Jaishankar : TRF Ruchi Shrivastava: Sudoku

Atul Pathak: Opple

Vivek Gowilkar: Proof reading

Savita Gowilkar: Annapurna Photographs Yogesh Gupta: Medical Photographs

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### Note from the editor



Basic Education and Literacy is the theme of the month. In true Rotary spirit, RCBP has been supporting and nurturing both schools and adults through education, digital learning, vocational training and financial literacy. This edition was a bit of a hide-and-seek with our interviewees — most were caught up with their busy schedules, some with exciting opportunities and others with challenging situations. After rounds of scheduling and rescheduling, just as everything finally came together, it was my turn to travel! But as always, when the end result is this rewarding, every effort feels worthwhile.

The cover page too is a reminder of how beautifully AI can help translate ideas onto digital paper. A lot of heart has gone into curating this edition, and I truly hope you enjoy reading it. And yes — RCBP rocks!



### *Inside the mind of*

### **PRESIDENT**

Dear Friends, Warm greetings to each of you,

We entered into the month of September with the nostalgic tunes of Bobby Darin's Come September echoing in our hearts—a melody that reminds us of fresh beginnings, gentle transitions, and the promise of meaningful moments ahead. Just as the song evokes a sense of warmth and anticipation, this month brings with it a renewed energy for service towards education and literacy.

Throughout September, Rotary club of Bombay Powai has been actively engaged in a range of educational & literacy initiatives that touch every corner of society—reaching both those who enjoy the privilege of self-sufficiency and those who rely on a helping hand.



The entire month was thoughtfully woven around a series of impactful projects, each resonating with the theme of empowerment through education and inclusion. From the dynamic Knowledge Quest to the distribution of the Ideal Study app, our efforts reached learners across all walks of life. We contributed books to help build libraries in underprivileged schools, ensuring that the joy of reading finds every child. Women were empowered through English language training using phonics-based methods, while members of the LGBTQ community were supported with skill-building initiatives. Vocational courses were introduced for survivors of human trafficking and second-generation community sex workers—offering them renewed hope and pathways to dignity. With each project, we've strived to uphold the belief that learning is a right, not a luxury, and that empowerment through education must be accessible to all.

From my desk, I once again with pride and conviction say-

सब का साथ Club का विकास

Together we grow, together we serve, together we build a legacy that reflects the heart of community.

Let us continue to with warmth, connect with purpose, and lead with compassion.

With warmth and gratitude,

Rtn. Anju Ahluwalia

President

Rotary club of Bombay Powai.

# fashionista

# YOGESH GUPTA

Built on Style



For him, fashion was never an effort — it comes naturally.

His first real fashion moment came at 13, with a pair of bell-bottoms — not out of rebellion, but to cover up those 'matchsticks.' That blend of necessity and expression has defined his style ever since.

What began as a gawky collegian's ramp walk soon evolved into finalist slots at professional shows.

Rooted in effortless charm, his innate sense of style continues to define everything he does.







# How would you describe your personal style — cool, classic, or quirky?

I would define my personal

style, a blend of cool and classic and yes evolving. I like wearing clean lines like tailored trousers, crisp shirts, and structured jackets, but infuse them with a modern edge-accessories that add personality without overwhelming the look. I am not afraid to experiment with texture, layering, or cultural fusion, like pairing a Nehru jacket with denim or styling kurta minimalist sneakers or a Kolhapuri or timeless Jutee. Thus, my wardrobe reflects selfversatility and effortlessly assurance, shifting from formal to casual, traditional contemporary, western to Indian. It's a style that feels expressive, aligned to my mood, comfortable and grounded, traditional yet contemporary.



My wedding dress, A Sherwani - Karnataka textured silk, in white, with embroidered collars - was a blend of elegance and heritage, paired with signature twist in Angarkha style from #FakeDesignerYogi#. It was a statement piece, and now I see why it still sparks conversation brings in endless comments to date and the controversy that I love to keep alive, after all keeping the controversy alive is part of the charm — it's not just fashion, it's a legacy.



# let's play!!

# **SUDOKU**

	4			9	6		2	7
2		9			5			
		5			7			9
8	6			2			1	
	2		7	5			3	
5				1	3	8	4	
			3			4	7	8
7		4						
9			4			2		3

SUDOKU RULES (STANDARD 9X9 GRID):

1. EACH ROW MUST CONTAIN THE NUMBERS 1 TO 9, WITHOUT REPETITION.

2. EACH COLUMN MUST ALSO CONTAIN THE NUMBERS 1 TO 9, WITHOUT REPETITION. THE GRID IS DIVIDED INTO NINE 3×3 BOXES (ALSO CALLED REGIONS, BLOCKS, OR SUBGRIDS).
3. EACH 3×3 BOX MUST ALSO CONTAIN THE NUMBERS 1 TO 9, WITH NO REPEATS

#### **© SOLVE. SCREENSHOT. WIN!**

SOLVE THE SUDOKU PUZZLE, TAKE A SCREENSHOT OF YOUR SOLVED GRID, AND SEND IT TO ANJU ON WHATSAPP AT +91 98203 10486 TO CLAIM YOUR PRIZE!



## For Each Other, Forever

Amit is the chilled-out business person who slips into serious mode when it's work, but turns into the mischief-maker when it's play.

Tejal is the spark in the room—straightforward with her words, yet warm enough to make everyone feel at home.

Together, they're the perfect blend of focus, fun and a little bit of fire.

Presenting -Tejal and Amit Sheth.

### You both have amazing chemistry... was yours an arranged match or a love match?

T: Absolutely arranged! Parents had already done all the background checks. When Amit's family came home, both brothers had come, I didn't even know which one was Amit. As per norm, we were sent to talk privately for five minutes, and only then I realized, "Oh, so this is Amit." I liked him right at the first meeting, but of course, I didn't confess.

**A:** [smiling] I was bowled over the moment I saw her—her beauty and simplicity completely won me over.

**T:** At our second meeting, I admitted that my height looks taller only because of the heels I wear.







**A:** I loved that honesty. She wanted to begin with nothing hidden. So, just to tease her, I said, "Well, my ear is fake, I take it off every night and keep it in a box." She believed me, and her family even gave my ear a playful pull to check! We still laugh like crazy whenever we remember that moment.

Yours is a joint family... which is very rare in these days. Can you describe a few instances where you both took the decisions which you are proud of till date?

**A:**Back then, eight of us—six adults and two infant boys—shared a small 2BHK.. Money was tight, so every expense had to be carefully planned. When the summer heat got unbearable, we agreed on one rule: either everyone gets an AC, or no one does. So, about 6–8 months later, we proudly bought three ACs together.

**T:** When we shifted to Powai, getting admission into Hiranandani School was extremely difficult. But I made sure not just my two boys, but all four children of the family got admission together.



**A:**I take immense pride in our joint family. Even today, the major decisions are guided by my parents. The bond of love and respect among us remains the strongest pillar of our home. The sweetest blessing, the new generation, my dikri—my daughter-in-law—also shares the same values and beliefs. With her, it feels like the circle is beautifully complete.

#### How often does Tejal sneak off to her mom's, and does she ever roll her eyes when you ask her to come back?

**A:** I'm never asked—I just find out when I get home! And how dare I ask her to come back? She decides when to go and when to return. But it becomes vacation for me!(Laughs)

T(cuts in):My mom's place is here in Mumbai, so I only go for 2–3 days at a time. Coming back for no reason isn't an option. But of course, I've come back for some meetings and then returned to my mom's.

When I went for Vipassana, it was a full 10-day gap without any communication. Amit was running a fever, but he still came to pick me up. That day, I could hear the 10-day "virah" in his voice. Normally, he doesn't express emotions, so I felt really special.

#### What is Rotary to you?

**T:**A fellow Rotarian in my building often came by asking for ice, and I thought Rotary was just a place for friendly gatherings. But a project in Karjat opened my eyes: children and families struggle for even two meals a day! That experience changed me, and now I see the immense impact of Rotary projects—I am a proud Rotarian.

**A:** When we step out of our comfort zones, we realize that poverty isn't just in the news—it's real. Tribals living very near to Mumbai, do not get even two meals a day. Basic necessities of life is a distant dream for them. It was an eye-opener, and through Rotary, I've found a way to contribute meaningfully. Have made very good friends too.











#### Opple - Opposite puzzle

Solve this....

Two words are jumbled up in each of the following items. If you find out one word, the other will be its opposite.

Example:  $TIOUN = IN \times OUT$ 

===========

- 1. Golyrbi
- 2. Gondylou
  - 3. WpnuOd
- 4. Naawmnom
- 5. Titlghfer
  - 6. Egmooc
- 7. Ydignhat
- 8. Yyiannnurs
- 9. Mmweetrrinus
- 10. Ciiavelglyt

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### **AUGUST PROJECTS**



#### **PLANET POWAI ARTICLE**



Ecofriendly Ganeshal Making Competition



50 schools benches for Govardhan Skill Centre, Wada, Palghar,



### **ANNAPURNA PROJECTS**

**AUGUST 2025** 

06

AKSHAY CHAITANYA NGO



14

RATHOD VRUDDHASHRAM



22

EKATA ABHYASIKA



07

AKSHAY CHAITANYA NGO



14

**ASHA NGO** 



26

SEED FOUNDATION



13

#### **ASHA NGO**



22

SAIDHAM VRUDDHASHRAM



30

NITYANAND OLD AGE HOME





### **HEALTH SCREENING**

**AUGUST 2025** 

02

#### SUNNI REHMANIA MASJID



09

#### GYANMANDIR VIDYALAYA



10

# ST. ANTHONY CHURCH



21

#### **LAKE CASTLE**



23

# VERONA & AVALON



23

# VALENCIA & SOVEREIGN



24

#### **GAV DEVI MANDIR**



31

#### **MAHADEV TEMPLE**





### **OTHER PROJECTS**

**AUGUST 2025** 

02

# WATER COOLER INSTALLATON

A CLEAN DRINKING WATER SOLUTION THROUGH THE INSTALLATION OF WATER COOLERS IN SCHOOL -KASTURI VIDYALAYA



10

# DISTRIBUTION OF BICYCLES

DISTRIBUTION OF BICYCLES AT DHERJE, VIKRAMGADH TO ENHANCE THE MOBILITY AND DAILY LIVES OF THE SCHOOL CHILDREN.



06

## EYE SCREENING CAMP

EYE SCREENING
PROJECT FOR SCHOOL
CHILDREN AT SHIVAM
SCHOOL AIMS TO
DETECT AND ADDRESS
VISION PROBLEMS AT AN
EARLY STAGE



12

# DISTRIBUTION OF BENCHES

PROVIDING 50 HIGH-QUALITY BENCHES TO GOVARDHAN SKILL CENTRE





### **OTHER PROJECTS**

**AUGUST 2025** 

15

# DISTRIBUTION OF STATIONERY

DISTRIBUTION OF STATIONARY ITEMS LIKE-WATER COLORS, COLORING BOOKS, PENCILS, ACTIVITY BOOKS PARK SITE ANGANWADI



17

# DISTRIBUTION OF FRUITS

DISTRIBUTION OF FRUITS AND OLD CLOTHES TO CHILDREN AT EKTA MAHILA SAMITI



21

# DONATION OF BOOKS

DONATED SCHOOL BOOKS FOR THE LIBRARY AT GREEN LAWN SCHOOL



26

# ECOFRIENDLY GANESHA MAKING COMPETITION CLAY, TOOLS AND

CLAY, TOOLS AND
INSTRUCTOR PROVIDED BY
RCBP TO MAKE GANESHA
AT GYAN MANDIR
PAATHSHALA





### **CLUB ACTIVITIES**

**AUGUST 2025** 

Cmde. Mukesh Bhargava gave an incisive and in-depth analysis of Operation Sindoor.



August Fireside Meeting was a delightful gathering, enriched by the presence of our new members



An invite from brook field for Akshay Urja Divas celebration.



# TRF SUCCESS STORY

RCBP had the privilege of hosting the very first TRF Seminar of the Inspire year. Under the leadership of **President Anju Ahluwalia**, **Convenor Kalpana Jaishankar** and the wholehearted support of Team RCBP, the seminar came together after days of thoughtful preparation and tireless effort, making it a grand success. Here is the heartfelt message from the President.



With immense pride and heartfelt gratitude, I am happy that our club once again left a successful mark in district 3141 with an extremely successful First TRF Seminar for Inspire year, where 37 clubs co-hosted & 197 guests attended the Seminar, it was hard work and many hours of meticulous planning spent by the entire team.

The spirited participation by entire TRF Seminar organizing team, and their unwavering dedication transformed the seminar into a meaningful platform for learning, sharing, and inspiring action. From insightful presentations to warm hospitality, every detail reflected the values our club hold dear.

We were privileged to host an inspiring gathering graced by eminent leaders of Rotary. Chief Guest, Past Rotary International President Shekhar Mehta, whose presence elevated the occasion with wisdom and warmth. Past Rotary Foundation Chair Dr. N Subramanian and ARRFC Kailash Nath, their insights added depth and perspective to the discussions. Listening to these stalwarts was not only a pleasure but a moment of pride for every member present.

We extend our sincere thanks to District Governor Dr. Manish Motwani for entrusting Rotary Club of Bombay Powai with the honour of being the lead host for the first Inspire year TRF Seminar. It was a privilege to contribute to this inspiring initiative and set the tone for a year of impactful service.

We extend our sincere gratitude to Rtn. Akkshay Mehta, District Convenor for the TRF Seminar, and the entire district team for their support. Their guidance and collaboration played a pivotal role in the success of the event.

Rtn. Kalpana Jaishankar led the TRF Seminar as Convenor with poise. Her calm coordination, confident delivery, ensured the seminar's smooth execution. "The entire team worked in perfect harmony for the TRF Seminar—it was truly a sight to behold. Each member carried the proceedings with a deep sense of responsibility and unity, embodying the spirit of oneness that defines our club."

With this I would Say RCBP Rocks and Members are Rocking.

Beyond the event, what does TRF truly mean for Rotarians and clubs? Who better to give us that insight than the Convenor herself. Let's hear it from the Convenor herself, **Kalpana Jaishankar.** 



RCBP organised a very successful TRF seminar and you were the Convenor of the event what was your experience?

If I were to describe my experience of organising the TRF Seminar in one word, would say: "exhilarating". It is amazing how all the pieces fell together beautifully. It was like a symphony of sorts - Pres. Anju made sure we never slackened (sounds familiar?), Pres Anju, the core team of Amit, Nikhil, Manjit were rock solid in their approach from day one managing the venue, décor, caterers and all other logistics, with Hanuman and Susan joining the core team closer to the event, the Fund Raise team comprising Ameeta, Ashok Singh, Dipa, Hanuman, Savita, Smita, Sunita Farida, and Susan, were relentless in their pursuit co-hosting sponsorship, quietly supported by Cmdre Ahluwalia, Mangesh, Krutee, Yogi, Nalini with the Creatives and google forms, with Club Treasurer Club Dilip and Secretary Nalini keeping tabs throughout of payments support at the event by Sunita, Kiran, Ameeta, Dr. Kamalini, Nalini,

Krutee and Dilip at the Registration Desks and Amit, Manjit, Nikhil, Ashok, Hanuman managing the audience, Smita welcoming guests in a traditional style, Sunita and managing the recognition certificates, Jai getting pulled in last minute and sportingly introducing a guest, Yogi managing the music, Pres. Anju, in spite of being in the thick of things, working hard to get gifts for our important TRF donors and signing personalised cards for the co-host clubs – so here was an example "When everything seems to be going right, it will". There were so many senior Rotarians from District 3141 who made sure the seminar went off very well with Akkshay Mehta leading from the front and the unstinting support from DG Dr. Manish Motwani with whom our President was constantly in touch.

RCBP Club Members cut across all lines to present the First TRF District Seminar, and once again made the district sit up and notice our club and its contributions.

# What does the term EREY stand for, and why is it considered vital for Rotary clubs?

The term EREY stands for Every Rotarian Every Year – This is a recognition given to clubs to encourage every Rotarian to contribute to TRF which then becomes symbolic of the Club's support to RI. If every member contributes 25 dollars, the club is bestowed this status. Every President aspires their Club to be EREY in their year and Rotary club of Bombay Powai has been enjoying this status for more than a decade now.

#### How does TRF utilize the funds it receives from donors?

The funds which TRF receives is disbursed in the form of four grants - district grants, global grants, disaster response grants, and Programs of Scale grants.

Very briefly,

District grants fund small-scale, short-term activities that address needs locally.

Global grants fund large-scale international humanitarian projects, vocational training teams, and graduate-level scholarships that have sustainable, measurable outcomes.

Disaster response grants are provided to Districts that are affected by natural disasters such as hurricanes, cyclones, earthquakes, and wildfires can apply for these grants to support local recovery efforts.

### Why TRF? How does it benefit individual Rotary clubs?

Several join Rotary for fellowship and for doing service to the community and to human kind. Clubs do projects for community and also come together to do projects identified by the DG at the district level to make a larger impact. When we donate to the Rotary Foundation, the Foundation transforms donations into services that can make a larger and lasting impact in the world. Funds can come back to districts through District Grants and other ways (see below), and at RCBP too, we have availed of district grants.



#### **TRF Contribution Recognition**

One can contribute to any of the following funds:

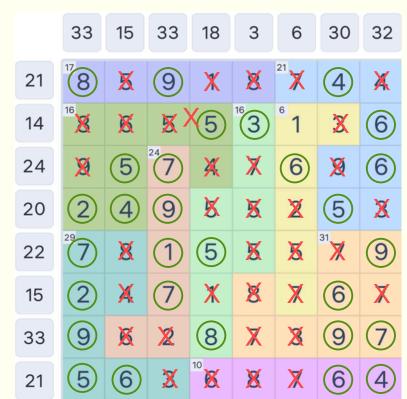
Annual Fund (Share/World Fund), PolioPlus, Rotary's Areas of Focus (Environment, Water, Sanitation & Hygiene, etc.), Global Grants, Named Funds, Endowment Fund

Paul Harris Fellow (PHF)	Contribution of US\$1,000 to Annual Fund, PolioPlus, or any approved Foundation grant.
Multiple Paul Harris Fellow	Additional contribution of US\$1,000 or more (beyond PHF).
Paul Harris Society	Commitment to donate US\$1,000 annually.
Major Donor	Cumulative contributions of US\$10,000 or more. Recognized in Levels 1–4 (Level 4 = highest).
Arch Klumph Society	Cumulative contributions of US\$250,000 or more. Recognition circles denote higher levels, with the Platinum Foundation Circle



- 1. Kalpana, Jaishankar, Akkshay, Cmdr. Ahluwalia, Nikhil, Smita, Dipa 2. Shekhar, Anju, Manish
- 3. Cmdr. Ahluwalia, Anju, Shekhar, Sunita, Kalpana 4. Manish, Anju 5. Indumati, Anju, Cmdr. Ahluwalia, Nikhil
- 6. Cmdr Ahluwalia, Nikhil, Amit, Manjit, Hanuman,

### **Number Sum**



#### winner:

Participation level: Ghost mode

### Sudoku

1	2	3	8	5	6	4	7	9
4	5	6	9	7	1	8	2	3
7	8	9	3	4	2	1	6	5
6	7	1	4	2	3	5	9	8
3	9	5	6	8	7	2	1	4
2	4	8	1	9	5	6	3	7
8	6	2	7	3	4	9	5	1
9	1	7	5	6	8	3	4	2
5	3	4	2	1	9	7	8	6

winner: Meenakshi Jain









Inspire Year President Anju Ahluwalia of Rotary Club of Bombay Powai appeals to you to support the noble cause of "Polio Eradication" Donate as much as you can — Every contribution COUNTS.



Merchant Name : Mobile Number :

Rotary Club of Powai Trust 9987154034

Please mention "polio" while donating and send a screenshot to President Anju at +91 98203 10486.





