

Rotary



THE MAGIC
OF ROTARY



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ROTARY CLUB OF MUMBAI WEST COAST

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District Governor - Rtn. Chetan Desai

Club President - Rtn. Dr. Seemaa Negi

Club Secretary - Rtn. Saurabh Patel

CNN Editor - Rtn. Machindra Borhade

President writes....



The Magic Of Rotary : *A Year Of Service About Self*

Dear Fellow Rotarians,

As I stand today, in Rotary's embrace,
I've learned so much in this noble space.
Through service above self, I've come to see,
The power of giving and the joy of unity.
Each day brings a chance to lend a hand,
To uplift the fallen and help them stand.
With every project, with every care,
We sow the seeds of hope, everywhere.
From the heart of our club, I've come to know,
The value of kindness and helping others grow.
As a leader, I've learned that service is true,
When you give without asking, the world feels new.

The joy of change, the smiles we bring,
In service above self, our hearts take wing.
As President, I've seen how much we can do,
Together as one, we make dreams come true.
Through struggles and challenges, we've found
our way,
Strengthened by service, we rise each day.
In every project, in every smile,
We walk together, mile by mile.
In Rotary, we've learned what it means to care,
To serve without hesitation, always aware.
For the world needs love, kindness, and light,
And Rotary is here to make it right.

Yours in Rotary,

Dr. Seemaa Negi

President, Rotary Club of Mumbai West Coast

The Editor's Desk



**Dear Rotarians and Rotaractors,
Greetings!**

As we continue our journey of service, let us remember the words of Paul Harris: ***"Whatever Rotary may mean to us, to the world it will be known by the results it achieves."***

Rotary is not just an organization; it is a movement of hope, compassion, and action. Each project we undertake, each life we touch, and each effort we make brings us closer to a world of greater understanding and peace.

Let us keep serving with passion, leading with integrity, and inspiring those around us. Together, we can create lasting change!

Yours in Rotary,

Machindra Borhade
CNN Editor

Dimple Tanwar
CNN Co-editor



TOGETHER, WE SEE A
WORLD WHERE PEOPLE
UNITE AND TAKE ACTION
TO CREATE LASTING
CHANGE – ACROSS THE
GLOBE, IN OUR
COMMUNITIES, AND IN
OURSELVES.

Rotary



In This Issue

The Month That Was

Mark Your Calendar

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Recognitions

Special Feature

**Success,
Thy Name Is Rotarian**

**Rotary Stories
(International and National)**

The Month That Was

1st March 2025 : Celebrating Uniqueness: Empowering Parents of Special Children
Sanjeevani International School, Dahisar

The Rotary Club of Mumbai West Coast organized an enlightening and interactive session titled "Celebrating Uniqueness" for the parents of special children at Sanjeevani International School, Dahisar, on 1st March 2025.

The session was conducted by Dr. Mihir Parikh, a distinguished expert in child development and special education. Designed to empower parents, the session provided valuable insights and practical tools to help

them embrace their children's uniqueness while fostering an environment of support, acceptance, and growth.

Dr. Parikh's approach was both informative and inspiring, encouraging parents to focus on their children's strengths rather than challenges. He emphasized the importance of celebrating individual differences and recognizing that each child's journey is unique. The session covered key aspects such as behavioral management, emotional well-being, and effective communication strategies that parents can incorporate into daily life.

The interactive format allowed parents to ask questions, share experiences, and engage in meaningful discussions, creating a supportive and encouraging space for all attendees. Dr. Parikh's practical tips and personalized guidance equipped parents with a deeper understanding of their children's needs, enabling them to create a nurturing and empowering environment at home.

The session concluded with a renewed sense of hope and inspiration, as parents left with the confidence and knowledge to celebrate their children's uniqueness. The Rotary Club of Mumbai West Coast remains dedicated to supporting families of special children through impactful and empowering initiatives.

This significant event was successfully led by Project Chair Rtn. Sunita Shetty, whose efforts ensured its meaningful execution.



Celebrating Excellence in Skills & Education!

March 3, 2025: Visit to Palghar Blood Bank

PDG Dr. Balkrishna Inamdar, PP Vishnu Bhat, PP Satish Thakur, Rtn. Dharmendra Arya, and Rtn. Narayan Swami visited our Club's second Blood Bank project in Palghar.

Now in its final stages of completion, the Blood Bank will be fully operational soon. Blood storage has already commenced, with approximately 40 to 60 bottles being utilized monthly. In the near future, collection and other key activities will begin, further enhancing its impact.

This initiative is set to be a significant boon for the region, addressing a critical shortage of blood and ultimately saving precious lives.



Visit to Palghar Blood Bank: A Step Towards Saving Lives

4th March 2025: Inauguration function and Handover of Upper and Lower GI ERCP Scope at Dr R.N Cooper Hospital, Vile Parle

The Rotary Club of Mumbai West Coast, in collaboration with a leading corporate partner, facilitated a significant donation to the Municipal Hospital to enhance its medical infrastructure. This donation includes a high-tech, advanced system equipped with the latest 4K technology, which will greatly improve the hospital's ability to serve the underprivileged patients.

This cutting-edge system is destined to benefit thousands of poor beneficiaries by providing early detection capabilities, especially in the diagnosis of GI (Gastrointestinal) Cancer. Early detection of such diseases is critical, and this technology will play a crucial role in saving many lives. The 4K technology ensures clearer and more accurate imaging, significantly improving the diagnosis process.

This is a first-of-its-kind initiative in municipal and government hospitals across Mumbai, setting a new standard for healthcare in these institutions. The introduction of this high-tech system marks a pivotal step in making advanced medical care accessible to those who need it most, ensuring that quality healthcare reaches the most vulnerable communities. The donation represents a commitment to community welfare, improving the health and lives of many in need.

Kudos to Project Chair PP Satish Thakur, PDG Dr. Bal Inamdar, Dr. Neelam Navagare, and Rtn Abdul Baig for their tremendous efforts in making this CSR project a reality.



Inauguration & Handover of GI ERCP Scope
at Dr. R N Cooper Hospital

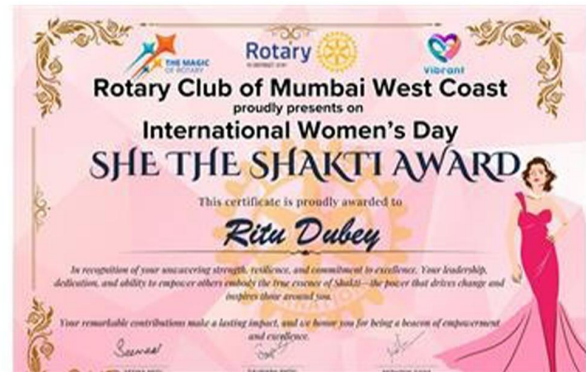
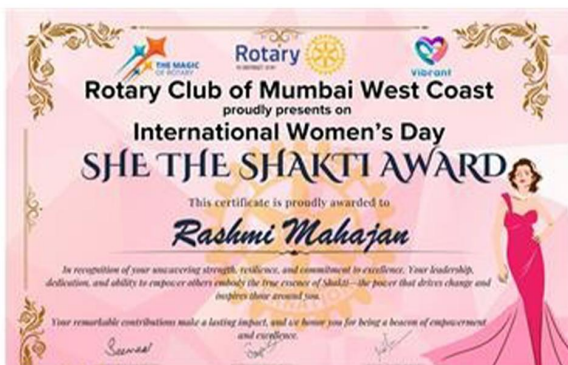
8th March 2025: Women's Day Celebration, Sanjeevani International School, Dahisar

The Rotary Club of Mumbai West Coast celebrated Women's Day by felicitating all the women with the prestigious 'She the Shakti Award'. Though the celebration was held digitally, the response was overwhelming, as the event brought together the female brigade of the club in a powerful show of support and recognition.

The She the Shakti Award was presented to almost 36 women who have shown exemplary leadership, commitment, and service, empowering others and making a difference in their communities.

The event was an acknowledgment of their dedication, resilience, and contributions to various causes, both within and outside the club. It was a heartfelt tribute to the women who have empowered others and paved the way for progress. It was a moment of collective pride, as each woman was celebrated for her unique journey and impact.

The Rotary Club of Mumbai West Coast remains committed to promoting gender equality, empowerment, and celebrating the strength of women in every sphere of life. Rtn. Rashmi Mahajan was served as the project chair.



Rtn. Rashmi Mahajan and Ritu Dubey
honoured on International Women's Day

11th March 2025: Inauguration & Handover Ceremony of Fully Automated Biochemistry Analyzer

The Rotary Club of Mumbai West Coast, in collaboration with CSR partner GIC Housing Finance Ltd, proudly donated a state-of-the-art Beckman Coulter AU5811 Clinical Chemistry Analyzer to the Department of Biochemistry, Grant Medical College & Sir JJ Group of Hospitals.

This high-capacity analyzer, capable of performing 2,900 tests per hour, is designed to analyze biological samples such as urine, plasma, and serum. It will significantly enhance the hospital's diagnostic capabilities, benefiting up to 3,000 patients daily. Moreover, the system can be upgraded to handle 10,000 tests per hour, making it a game-changer for medical diagnostics.

This ₹1.5 crore project stands as a testament to Rotary's commitment to advancing healthcare and ensuring faster, more accurate diagnoses, ultimately impacting thousands of lives.

A huge round of applause to Project Chair Rtn. Vishal Mundra, Director Dr. Neelam Navagare, and CSR Coordinator Rtn. Abdul Baig for their relentless efforts in making this initiative a reality. Special thanks to Rtn. Vishnu Bhat and Rtn. Jyotsna Gaikwad for their presence and support at the inauguration.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our mentor, PDG Dr. Balkrishna Inamdar, for his invaluable guidance throughout this project.

This is truly a remarkable achievement—a shining feather in our club's already illustrious cap!



Inauguration & Handover Ceremony of the Fully Automated Biochemistry Analyzer at the Department of Biochemistry, Grant Medical College & Sir JJ Group of Hospitals



"Acknowledging Dean Dr. Pallavi Sable and Sir J J Group of Hospitals for their support for project"

13th March 2025: 'Holi for a Greener Tomorrow' at Sanjeevani World School, Dahisar

The Rotary Club of Mumbai West Coast celebrated Floral Holi with the students of Sanjeevani World School, Dahisar, promoting environmental awareness and sustainable practices.

Believing that celebrations can serve as a powerful tool to unite communities for a meaningful cause, this event focused on eco-friendly Holi alternatives. Students learned about the environmental impact of traditional Holi celebrations and were encouraged to use natural floral colors, which are safer for both human health and the planet.

The event emphasized mindful celebrations while highlighting the importance of protecting our ecosystem. By fostering a greener, cleaner Earth, Rotary aimed to inspire young minds to be conscious of their ecological footprint and embrace sustainable traditions.

A heartfelt thanks to Project Chair Rtn. Dharmendra Arya for leading this beautiful initiative. This celebration was truly a "wow" moment for a healthier planet!



President Dr. Seemaa Negi enjoying an eco-friendly Holi celebration with the students

16 March 2025 : Blood Donation Camp at Meenatai Thakrey Blood Bank, Goregaon (West)

The Rotary Club of Mumbai West Coast organized a successful Blood Donation Camp in support of the Rotaract District's Mahadaan initiative. This collaborative project involved our partner Rotaract Clubs, who played a key role in raising awareness and encouraging participation. Rotaractors created awareness through college campaigns and outreach to the local community, informing them about the importance of blood donation and the camp's details. Their efforts led to a significant turnout, with people visiting the blood bank to donate.

The camp was a great success, contributing vital blood supplies to the local blood bank and making a positive impact in the community. This event highlighted Rotary's commitment to healthcare and service to humanity, and showcased the power of collaboration for a noble cause.



Rtn. Jyotsna Gaikwad with Sky City Rotaract Club and Saraf College Rotaract Club members at Blood Donation Camp

16th March 2025: Health Check Up camp at Mandapeshwar, IC Colony, Borivali West

The Rotary Club of Mumbai West Coast organized Aarogyam, a free health check-up camp, in collaboration with the Rotaract Club of Saraf College. This initiative provided general and specialized health services, including physiotherapy, dental check-ups, eye check-ups, and a general body examination.

The camp, aimed at supporting slum families, benefited 150 individuals, including many school and college children and their families from the local area. The event provided essential healthcare services to those who would otherwise have limited access to such facilities.

By supporting the Rotaract Club of Saraf College, Rotary reinforced its commitment to community service and healthcare accessibility, making a positive impact on the lives of those in need.



Doctors and Rotaractors coming together to serve the community at the health check-up camp

17th March 2025: Shivjayanti Utsav Drawing Competition Felicitation

The Rotary Club of Mumbai West Coast celebrated Shivjayanti with great enthusiasm, hosting a drawing competition in which 180 students participated. The event aimed to honor the legacy of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj and inspire creativity among the youth.

Students were encouraged to express their admiration for Shivaji Maharaj through their artwork, showcasing talent and artistic skills. The competition was followed by a felicitation ceremony, where the participants were recognized for their outstanding creativity and dedication.

This event not only celebrated Shivaji Maharaj's legacy but also fostered artistic expression, creativity, and a sense of community. The Rotary Club of Mumbai West Coast remains committed to empowering youth and promoting cultural values through such engaging initiatives. Rtn. Jyotsna Gaikwad was the Project Chair of this event.



Students honored by Maharashtra Navnirman Sena and the Rotary Club of Mumbai West Coast

21st March 2025: Celebrating Tomorrow, Today – Honoring Our Future Leaders!

On Friday, 21st March, Rotary Club of Mumbai West Coast hosted a special evening dedicated to celebrating our children—the torchbearers of tomorrow. The event, titled "Celebrating Tomorrow, Today", honored the achievements of our children and grandchildren in fields like academics, sports, arts, innovation, and social service.

The evening featured an inspiring panel discussion moderated by Rtn. Dr. Seemaa Negi, with Shreyaan Daga (young entrepreneur and Shark Tank/KBC fame), Rtn. Rajesh Kushte, and Rtn. Nagraj Shetty as panelists. The discussion centered around work-life balance, following one's passion, and the importance of resilience in facing challenges. The panelists shared valuable insights, encouraging the youth to pursue their dreams and remain steadfast in their efforts.

This memorable event celebrated the next generation of leaders, reminding us that by empowering our youth, we are shaping a brighter and more sustainable future.



Pride of Our Club: Felicitating the Bright Minds of Tomorrow

22 March 2025: A program 'Strong Roots, Mighty Wings'

The Rotary Club of Mumbai West Coast, in collaboration with Sanjeevani World School, organized a truly unique and heartwarming event for students from Play Group to Grade V. Over 1,367 students and their parents came together to joyfully participate in an A to Z activity that bridged generations and celebrated both tradition and innovation.

The event began with a fun worksheet where parents filled in the letters A to Z, recalling childhood classics like A for Apple and B for Ball. However, the real surprise came from the students, who presented two innovative A to Z themes:

A to Z of Indian Legends & History, featuring figures like

A for Ashoka the Great,
B for Baji Rao,
C for Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj,
...all the way to Z, bringing India's glorious past to life.
A to Z of Modern Technology, showcasing today's innovations such as
A for Artificial Intelligence,
B for Blockchain,
C for ChatGPT,
...and more, demonstrating how the young learners are aware of global advancements while staying rooted in Indian culture.

The event's objective was to instill deep-rooted Indian values (sanskars) while empowering students with knowledge of cutting-edge technology, equipping them for the ever-evolving world.

The event also included a soulful surprise that touched every parent's heart. Students lovingly made their parents sit, offered them flowers, and performed three symbolic rounds (parikrama) around them, replicating the gesture of Lord Ganesha circling Lord Shiva and Goddess Parvati. This act symbolized that for children, parents are the entire universe.

Following the parikrama, the children bowed down and touched their parents' feet to seek blessings, a beautiful and rare gesture of respect. The emotional atmosphere moved many parents to tears of gratitude, love, and pride.

Parents expressed their heartfelt appreciation to the school for nurturing not only knowledge but also wisdom, respect, values, and vision, ensuring their children grow into compassionate, confident, and culturally grounded individuals. The event was a perfect blend of tradition and innovation, embodying the ethos of the School: "Strong Roots, Mighty Wings." Rtn. Nagraj Shetty served as the Project Chair.



Dr. Seemaa Negi interacting with students

23rd March 2025: Aksa Beach cleanup, Aksa - Malad

The Rotary Club of Mumbai West Coast, in collaboration with the Smiti Socialwork Foundation, successfully conducted a Beach Clean-Up Drive at Aksa Beach on 23rd March 2025. The event saw a tremendous turnout of 267 volunteers, including Rotary members, local community members, and passionate environmental enthusiasts.

The volunteers worked tirelessly to collect plastic waste, debris, and other litter scattered along the beach, contributing to a cleaner and healthier environment. The initiative highlighted the importance of community involvement in preserving natural resources and protecting coastal ecosystems.

The drive also aimed to raise awareness about the environmental impact of plastic waste, emphasizing the need for sustainable practices to reduce pollution.

The event was a great success, fostering a sense of civic responsibility and environmental stewardship among all participants.

The Rotary Club of Mumbai West Coast and Smiti Social Work Foundation remain committed to environmental sustainability and will continue organizing such impactful initiatives to keep our beaches clean and promote a greener planet. Rtn. Rashmi Mahajan served as a Project Chair.



Project Chair Rtn. Rashmi Mahajan with club members at Aksa Beach

29th March 2025: BOD Meeting

The Board of Directors Meeting was held on 29th March 2025 at the residence of our President, Dr. Seemaa Negi.

During the meeting, the board reviewed preparations for the upcoming Pre-OCV and OCV, and the President conducted a comprehensive review of all completed projects.

Members also deliberated on several important matters concerning the club's activities and direction. We were honored by the presence of PDG Dr. Bal Inamdar, who offered valuable insights and guidance to the board.



Expressing gratitude and appreciation to our inspiring leader.
A heartfelt gesture after a productive BOD meeting at our President's residence

April

Mark your calendar



- **7 April** – PRE-OCV MEETING
- **7 April** – CPR WORKSHOP
- **10 April** – Anemia Mukht Bharat Abhiyan – Silvasaa
- **14 April** – OCV MEETING
- **16 to 22** – RCMWC along with our Collaborative partner OLL are hosting Ms. Heather Anderson (MSW) Secretary General, UNESCO Clubs & Associations, USA along with her 2 colleagues.
- **17 April** – Flag Exchange with Ms. Carol Anderson from West Virginia in the United States.
- **18 April** – Eduleaders felicitation event with Ms. Heather Anderson, Mr. Peter Moon, Rtn. Carol Anderson in Pune
- **19 April** – Eduleaders felicitation with Ms. Heather Anderson, Mr. Peter Moon, Rtn. Carol Anderson in Mumbai

Birthdays and Anniversaries Of April

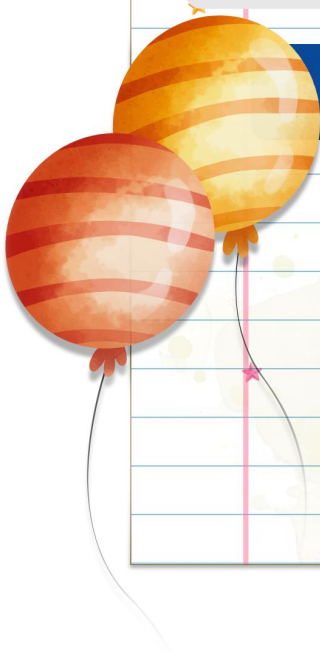
April

Birthdays

- ★ 2 April : Rtn. Ajay Naik
- 21 April : Dr. Aditya Tare
- 23 April : Dr. Anamika Gursahani
- 24 April : Dr. Prajakta Talathi

Anniversaries

- 13 April : Rtn. Vikas and Rtn. Uma Upadhyay



Recognitions

Congratulations PDG Dr. Bal Sir !



PDG Dr. Balkrishna Inamdar was felicitated during Presidents Elect Learning Seminar in Negombo, Sri Lanka(PELS 2025).

He was invited as a Resource Person in the Seminar. He spoke on 'Be Unreasonable'. His session drew lot of appreciations and discussions.

He was also facilitated in breakout session to Presidents on Membership, wherein he generated new ideas on Membership Development and retention.

Grace in Giving: An 82-Year-Old's Gift of Hope



At the remarkable age of 82, Mrs. Ranjana P. Jain has become our oldest hair donor, generously donating 28 inches of her hair to support cancer patients through the Swaroop Project, in collaboration with VCare Foundation. Her selfless gesture has deeply touched hearts and inspired a ripple effect of

kindness, with individuals now donating hair across various cities in India.

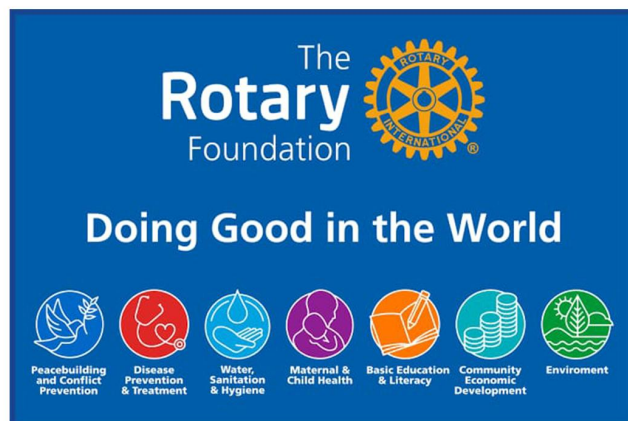
Mrs. Jain is the proud mother of our esteemed RCMWC member, Dr. Sujata Singhi, who also serves as the District Avenue Chairperson – Vocations, Mumbai North.

For the benefit of our members, we're proud to share that our club has launched the Swaroop Project in partnership with VCare Foundation. This ongoing initiative encourages hair donations, which are then used to create free wigs for cancer patients—a small act that brings immense dignity and confidence to those battling the illness.

To date, 21 donors have come forward to support this noble cause. The project is being efficiently led by Project Chair Rtn. Anjali Karandikar.

A special mention goes to Ms. Sunita Shetty, owner of Exhale Salon, who plays a vital role in this project. She not only leads the hair collection process but also offers free haircuts to all donors—a wonderful gesture that adds even more heart to this mission.

Let us continue to spread hope, compassion, and smiles—one strand at a time.



Special Feature



The Healing Power of Art: How Art Therapy Promotes Emotional Well-Being

Author : Rtn. Meghna Kushte

Art therapy is a therapeutic approach that utilizes creative processes—such as drawing, painting, and sculpting—to help individuals express their emotions, manage stress, and heal from mental and emotional challenges. Unlike traditional talk therapies, art therapy offers a non-verbal form of communication, allowing individuals to express feelings that words may not fully capture. It harnesses the power of creativity to foster self-awareness, emotional release, and personal growth.

The Connection Between Art and Healing

Art has long served as a universal language of expression, transcending the limitations of spoken words. Engaging in creative activities often brings about emotional release, helping individuals process complex feelings in a safe and non-judgmental space. Whether creating new pieces or interpreting existing ones, the act of engaging with art can lead to profound healing.

Art therapy also taps into the mind-body connection. Creating art activates both the emotional and creative centers of the brain, encouraging healing from within. Through painting, drawing, or sculpting, individuals can express emotions they may not be able to verbalize, leading to relief, clarity, and emotional regulation.

Benefits of Art Therapy :

1. Emotional Expression

Art therapy provides a valuable outlet for expressing emotions that are difficult to put into words. For those experiencing trauma, grief, or anxiety, art can help externalize feelings and bring them into clearer focus. Often, emotions buried deep within are released through creative expression in a healthy and constructive way.

2. Stress Relief

Creating art can be incredibly calming. Much like meditation, it promotes mindfulness by encouraging focus on the present moment. Immersing oneself in the creative process helps quiet the mind and reduces levels of cortisol, the stress hormone, thereby lowering overall stress.

3. Self-Awareness and Personal Growth

Art fosters introspection and self-discovery. Through the creative process, individuals often uncover hidden thoughts, desires, and emotions, increasing their self-awareness. This insight can lead to personal growth and a deeper understanding of oneself, especially when explored with the support of a therapist.

4. Improved Mental Health

Art therapy is effective for individuals dealing with depression, anxiety, PTSD, eating disorders, and substance abuse. It provides a safe space to explore and process emotions,

which can improve mood, promote relaxation, and build a sense of empowerment.

5. Non-Verbal Communication

For those who struggle to express themselves verbally—such as children, individuals with speech impairments, or trauma survivors—art offers a powerful alternative form of communication. It allows emotions and experiences to be shared without the need for words.

6. Increased Confidence

Completing a piece of art, especially one that reflects personal emotions or thoughts, can bring a strong sense of accomplishment. This success boosts confidence, enhances self-esteem, and instills a sense of control over one's emotions and life challenges.

Common Art Therapy Techniques

Drawing or Painting: A direct and expressive method, allowing individuals to explore their feelings through color, shapes, and lines.

Sculpture: Working with clay or other materials allows individuals to physically mold and shape their emotions.

Collage: Using cut-out images or materials to create a visual representation of complex thoughts and feelings.

Creative Writing or Journaling: Often combined with visual art, writing helps deepen the exploration of thoughts and emotions.

Mindful Art: Focuses on the sensory aspects of creating art—like the feel of the brush or texture of clay—to ground individuals in the present moment.

Art therapy is an incredibly powerful tool for healing, offering a non-verbal, expressive way to address emotional struggles. Whether used as a standalone treatment or alongside traditional therapy, it provides a holistic approach to improving mental well-being. By engaging in the creative process, individuals can release pent-up emotions, gain insights into their inner worlds, and find peace and relaxation.





Topic: The REAL Solution to Corruption and Bribery: Building an Ethical Culture

By Author : Dr. Sujata Singhi

(Best seller awarded author, National Award-ee, International TEDx and Keynote Speaker, Scientist of Sound Medicine, Certified and Licensed Life and Business Coach, Spiritual Scientist and Corporate Wellness Expert)

The REAL Solution to Corruption and Bribery: Building an Ethical Culture

The overall outlook for India remains positive with its economic growth expected to accelerate. Sadly bribery and corruption continue to pose a significant challenge in India, threatening said economic growth. Not only has it stunted the country's growth but it has also held back the economy from reaching new heights.

Many many scams have been committed over the last few years. Perpetrated or said to have been perpetrated by powerful people. Those same people who have the position to safeguard the countries resources and image but who have allegedly misused their status and standing in society, to do the exact opposite.

Recent news reported in the media, currently is with regard to corruption with in business.

Whether it is Vijay Mallya or Nirav Modi or Lalit Modi, these highly "successful" men have been hogging the limelight with their loot and scoot antics. These are the high profile absconders, with their net worth, and their looted amounts, going into thousands of crores. But there are a huge amount of lower rung copycats who thankfully are dealing with smaller amounts but when added up together, reaches alarming and threatening heights.

Transparency International, a Berlin based NGO working against corruption, spoke to nearly 22,000 people across 16 countries in the Asia-Pacific to understand the levels of corruption in the region. While India remains the most corrupt country in this region, with 69 per cent bribery rates, Japan came out as the least corrupt nation, with a 0.2 per cent bribery rate, the report said.

The present Government, which came to power on promises of curbing corruption, is working in the right direction. Report by the same Transparency International showed that 51 per cent Indians believe that the government is doing well in keeping a check on corruption. Though this figure might have changed, based on the current scam hogging the headlines.

Faced with a crisis of confidence in the management of its state-run banks, the government has promised action.

However this is denting the economy in a big way.

As we all know and umpteen studies have shown, corruption invariably increases:

- Transaction costs mostly borne by the middle and below classes while the super rich go, or seem to go, scot free
- Uncertainty in the economy

- Lowers efficiency all round
- Inhibits the development of a healthy marketplace
- Distorts economic and social development
- Promotes cynicism and distrust

Corruption, real or perceived does hurt the economy. It forces investors to rethink venture strategy and creates an unfair competition in a twisted free market.

So what is the real solution to Bribery and corruption. Wherever we turn to, in the world, whether to developed countries or emerging regions, one thing is very evident. Progress is being stifled by corruption and bribery.

If we look to logic then the best way to solve this dilemma would be through processes, structures and rules.

Whatever logic throws up by way of a solution, they are all doable to a certain extent to curb corruption and bribery.

However the main and foremost solution would be senior leadership setting an example. This means the captains of industry and the leaders of the government, showing by example that being ethical is actually good for business in this 21st century scenario.

This does not stop here. They also have to proactively demonstrate and encourage it. Water flows from top to bottom, and an ethical work culture also has to follow that route. The top management have to set the standard and the rest will mostly follow.

What is happening nowadays is the top management is setting the trend with regard to corruption and bribery and this is causing an inversive effect, and contributes to promote C & B on all levels.

Case examples are the three infamous persons mentioned above. All they cared for were themselves and their greed got the better of them. They were all captains of industry and they all corrupted the pools of business around them having no thought for the effect their actions would have on the banks in question, the companies and the thousands of people who work for them and the country in general.

Leaders have to be the best they can be. They have to lead transcending their personality. They have to be ethical and empathetic. These kind of leaders can help find a long term solution to corruption and bribery.

Tolstoy said, "Everyone wants to change the world, but no one wants to change themselves". Exceptions to this, leaders who are not scared of changing themselves, are the leaders who will bring about a long term solution to corruption and bribery.

A study by IBM in 2015 highlighted that Millenials are more interested in their bosses being ethical, fair, transparent and sharing information. While the earlier generation rated 'recognition from their manager' very highly. As millenials are taking over, focus on being ethical is being promoted and this is going a long way in bringing about a change.

Longterm solution to C & B is to build enduring societies based on suitable ethical behaviour.

An upsetting issue is that for many people in India corruption is not actually the problem, it is the solution.

Corruption is the process that gets a child into a good school or gets a person the vital health care needed. So for many, corruption provides a consistency and stability that they comprehend, is the way to get themselves what they want, when they want it.

This does not mean they actually like bribing someone, just that they are safe in the conviction that things can get done.

This has to change and it can, with a lot of effort and education. What it requires is an ethos of transparency, accountability and efficiency in administrative and financial management. On the flip side prevention fails because people use their intelligence or cunning as one may call it, to circumvent the system or the rules in an organisation and hence the handling of corruption then becomes reactive.

Looking around the world India can draw comfort from countries like United Kingdom and Senegal who have actually improved their ratings as they moved up the Corruptions Perception Index 2017.

Of course quite a few countries also slipped down that same scale like Australia. Another country, Hungary slipped from 55 to 45 over 6 years, becoming one of the more alarming examples.

Ironically New Zealand, Australia's geographic neighbour is ranked first on the scale making it the highest ranked with Denmark a very close second.

John Knights, an expert in Emotional Intelligence and a thought leader in 'Transpersonal Leadership' says what is needed now in this 21st century to challenge the scourge of Corruption and bribery is "Transpersonal Leaders".

Simply put it is – Leaders who extend beyond the personal or individual and who go beyond the usual limits of ego and personality.

They are radical, authentic and emotionally intelligent and caring.

They help imbue in the organisation ethical and emotionally intelligent behaviours right into the DNA of the organisation.

They help build strong, empathetic and collaborative relationships within and also with all the stakeholders.

They also help create a performance enhancing culture that is ethical, caring and sustainable.

We are living in the 21st century. The age of information. Knowledge is power. Communication is fundamental. Knowledge and information is available to everyone. It therefore becomes imperative that the leader is the person who has the required knowledge in time.

Most leaders today are ego-based leaders. Their decisions are usually driven by profit, power and recognition.

Reward is the final result.

But the world has changed. The ways we do transactions has changed. This has been created by social and technological change. As also by Globalisation and the growing concern for the future of our planet.

This has resulted in an unprecedented change in the demands of leadership over the last 10-15 years.

So when emotionally intelligent leaders, who go beyond their egos and make decisions factoring in other stakeholders, that according to John Knights, in business terms, is what 'spirituality' is.

Bringing in 'spirituality' in business is what is going to be key in combating or at the very least managing corruption and bribery.

This is the solution in our 21st century to tackling corruption and bribery, which is slowly destroying the very fabric of our country as it is also in many countries of the world today.

Once again pointing out that water flows from top to bottom, we have to ensure that leaders who have the 'spiritual' quality are nurtured and fostered to take over the reins and this will gradually filter down through the ranks, positively affecting the hierarchy at all levels.

This will take huge investments of all sorts, but it will slowly but surely, obliterate or at least better manage corruption and bribery.

Dr. Sujata Singhi has been conferred with five Doctorates and two D.Litts, and has published five pioneering research papers in international medical journals, establishing Sound as Medicine.

She holds three World Records and seven National Records, with over 500 global honours and recognitions in her illustrious career spanning 25+ years, during which she has impacted the lives of more than 500,000 people worldwide.

An ISO-certified International Speaker, Trainer, and Coach, Dr. Singhi has also served as a resource person and trainer for IAS and IRS officers of India.

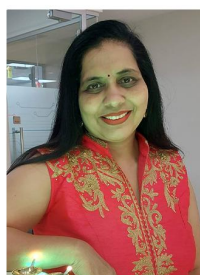
Upcoming Certification Course in Sound Medicine

Dates: 1st – 3rd May

Location: Mumbai

For more details, visit: www.sujatasinghi.com

Success, Thy Name Is Rotarian



Rtn. Neelam Patil

A Life of Purpose, Passion, and Service

Born and raised in the vibrant suburb of Malad in Mumbai, I come from a modest middle-class family where love, warmth, and support were the cornerstones of our lives. My parents

have always treated me like their cherished princess, nurturing me with unwavering affection and encouragement—values that have profoundly shaped who I am today.

Academically, I pursued a Bachelor of Science in Physics, which laid the foundation for strong analytical and problem-solving skills. I currently serve as a Manager at Panasonic Life Solutions India Pvt. Ltd., where I am grateful to contribute meaningfully to the organization while continuing my professional growth.

Beyond the corporate world, I am an avid explorer of the arts. Each year, I challenge myself to learn a new art form—an endeavor that not only fuels my creativity but brings me immense joy and fulfillment. Travel is another passion that feeds my soul. One of my most treasured experiences was riding a Royal Enfield Bullet through the breathtaking landscapes of Leh Ladakh during my 50th birthday month—an unforgettable adventure shared with my best friend.



I am deeply honored to be a member of the Rotary Club of Mumbai West Coast, a privilege made possible through the generosity of Mr. Rajesh Kushte. From the moment I joined, I felt a sense of belonging. The warmth and encouragement of the senior members have been instrumental in inspiring me to take on impactful projects.

My first initiative with the club—a proud moment—was the successful delivery of an ambulance to Varse village near Roha, a project that received heartfelt appreciation from Mr. and Mrs. Inamdar. With the inspiring leadership of our President, Ms. Seema Negi, and the support of project chairs Rtn. Anjali and Rtn. Sunita Shetty, I also took part in Project Swaroop by donating my hair to support cancer patients—an experience that deeply reaffirmed my commitment to making a positive difference.

Furthering my love for creativity and community engagement, I conducted two interactive workshops for schoolchildren: one on mandala art and another on origami. These sessions, supported enthusiastically by my fellow Rotarians, allowed me to connect with young minds and nurture their artistic expression.

At my core, I am someone who treasures family, thrives on creativity, and finds true purpose in giving back to society. My journey so far has been one of growth, learning, and heartfelt service—and I look forward to embracing the future with gratitude, passion, and hope.

Rotary Stories : National and International

2024-25 Annual Fund Challenge

Brought to you by Trustee Dr. Bharat Pandya and Zones 4,3, 6 & 7 RRFCS

District Recognition	Club Recognition
1. Champion: District achieving an Annual Fund per capita of \$200 or more	1. Platinum: Minimum \$25 contribution by each member along with an Annual Fund Per Capita of \$200
2. Platinum: 100% members contributing \$25 or more to the Annual Fund, or the district reaching an Annual Fund per capita of \$175 or more	2. Gold: Minimum \$25 contribution by each member along with an Annual Fund Per Capita of \$100
3. Gold: At least 75% of members contributing \$25 or more to the Annual Fund, or the district reaching an Annual Fund per capita of \$150 or more	3. Silver: Minimum \$25 contribution by each member
4. Silver: At least 50% of members contributing \$25 or more each to the Annual Fund, or the district reaching an Annual Fund Per Capita of \$100 or more	

Eligibility Criteria: To be eligible for district award, district needs to achieve 100% Clubs Giving with minimum \$100 from each club

PAUL HARRIS SOCIETY CHAMPIONSHIP AWARD

From each Zone, District with highest new PHS members (minimum 20 new PHS members) with an overall eligibility of 80% (percentage of PHS members fulfilling their commitment) will be eligible for this award

Dear Rotary Leader,

The Annual Fund Challenge is back with exciting new criteria to boost your chances of success! Spread the word across your district and club groups to help more clubs beat the challenge and make 2024-25 a record year for Annual Fund Giving!

Regards,
Annual Giving Team
RI South Asia Office



NOBEL LAUREATE TAWAKKOL KARMAN LEADS SPEAKER ROSTER FOR 2025 ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION IN CALGARY, CANADA

Yemeni journalist Tawakkol Karman promotes peace and women's rights.

The first woman from the Arab world to win the Nobel Peace Prize will address Rotary International's 2025 convention, which takes place from 21-25 June in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. Tawakkol Karman has endured persecution and imprisonment for speaking out in favor of democracy and women's empowerment.

"In the most trying circumstances, both before and during the Arab Spring, Karman has played a leading part in the struggle for women's rights and for democracy in Yemen," said Thorbjørn Jagland, chairman of the Norwegian Nobel Committee, announcing the Nobel Prize in 2011. Karman shared the award with Ellen Johnson Sirleaf and Leymah Gbowee.

A journalist and human rights activist, Karman organized numerous protests against the repressive regime of Yemeni president Ali Abdullah Saleh from 2007-2011, acquiring the nicknames "mother of the revolution" and "the iron woman." In 2005 she founded Women Journalists Without Chains, which trains journalists, reports on efforts to silence the media, and promotes women's rights.

Time magazine included Karman on a list of 17 of "History's Most Rebellious Women" and named her one of its 100 Women of the Year in 2011. Foreign Policy magazine has included her among its Top 100 Global Thinkers. The Tawakkol Karman Foundation builds schools, fights poverty, and supports health care in Yemen.

Source: Rotary.org

Thank you!