



# ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY SEAFACE CLUB BULLETIN



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RI PRESIDENT

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DISTRICT GOVERNOR

**SONAL DOSHI**  
PRESIDENT

**Editor : PP Rtn Ramola Mahajani**

**Executive Editor : Rtn Pinki Dalal**

August 2025

from the President's desk Friends,

**Namaste!**

## **GREETINGS FOR THE FESTIVALS IN THE MONTH OF AUGUST**

With the Monsoon having done more than a good job all in Mumbai, we are rest assured of a steady supply of water for survival and routine activities. However, this is no time to relax. With increased pollution, global warming and depleting natural resources, it is important that we as Rotarians read the warnings in the sky, air and water and continue to spread awareness among our communities – especially the youth to ensure we can enrich the world for the future generations. Our club has used all opportunities to spread awareness among the school students through our Interact Clubs. Installation of Interact clubs of Modern High School and B.J.P.C. Institution was heart warming when children and we spoke about environment, tree plantations, saving natural resources and do the need based projects.

Installations of all our Interact clubs were done in a formal manner. Enthusiasm of children was contagious.

Our club needs more hands to carry out various programs and projects. I appeal to all our Rotarians to bring in new members who share the ideal of Service Above Self. More younger members will not only increase the fellowship but will also make Rotary Service stronger, vibrant and more exciting.

We have some exciting new projects that have greater visibility apart from fulfilling the needs of the community and the underprivileged. We shall be organizing medical camps. We shall also be giving an inverter, lockers and toolkits to the hostel accommodating orphan tribal children in Palghar District. We can do much more for that hostel with your generous donations. Looking forward to your whole hearted support.

Rtn Sonal Doshi  
President

## **A Bright Start: Rotary Sea Face Installation 2025-26 : Welcome Pres. Sonal Doshi**



The Rotary Club of Bombay Sea Face held its Installation Ceremony on Sunday morning at the MCA Lounge, BCA Club, Churchgate. The event commenced at 10:30 a.m. with the ceremonial lighting of the lamp, signifying the start of a new Rotary year under the leadership of President Rtn. Sonal Doshi.

The program was graced by Chief Guest DG Dr. Manish Motwani and a distinguished gathering of Rotary leaders, including DGE Rajan Dua with partner Priti, PDG Dr. Bal Inamdar with Dr. Nilima, PDG Shashikumar Sharma, PDG Arun Bhargava with Seema, Principal Aide Dr. Indumati Gopinathan, CC Monica Grover, Avenue Heads Rtn. Saurabh Sonawala and Rtn. Dilip Shah, Rtn. Nirav Shah, Rtn. Manish Gyani, Rtn. Devang Goradia, DS Rtn. Aditya Singh, AG Rtn. Navnit Ajmera, and several Co-Presidents from District 3141.

The program, compered with warmth and style by Rtn. Bhuvan Ajmera and Rtn. Kalpana Khira, featured a creative skit titled "Doshi vs. Doshi". Written and enacted by Rtn. Gopi Ajmera, the skit portrayed President Sonal Doshi's dynamic personality and legal expertise in a humorous courtroom setting, drawing enthusiastic applause.

In his keynote address, DG Dr. Manish Motwani shared his vision for the Rotary year, spotlighting flagship projects such as the Pink Rickshaw Project to empower women through self-sustained mobility. The Club pledged its immediate support to this initiative.

President Sonal Doshi set a strong philanthropic tone for the year by announcing a donation of USD 15,000 to The Rotary Foundation, followed by ₹1 lakh pledged by Rtn. Yogesh Parikh.

A Celebration of Generosity The ceremony became a landmark moment for fundraising, with members and supporters contributing generously: Cancer Treatment Fund: ₹11 Lakhs (Rtn. Nilesh Suchak) Pink Rickshaw Project: 18 rickshaws pledged (led by Dr. Kulin Kothari, Nemish Sayani, Kalpana Khira, Dhiren Shah, Pinki Dalal, Arun Shah, Purna Mehta, and Preeti Gada) Medical Projects: ₹15 Lakhs (Dr. Mahesh Kapadia) Major Donors: Rtn. Samir Parekh and Rtn. Nitin Doshi (Endowment commitment) CSR Contribution: ₹50 Lakhs (Narayana Healthcare) Vice President Rtn. Tejaswini Modak delivered the vote of thanks, acknowledging the presence of district leaders, donors, and members. The ceremony concluded with a



## REFLECTIONS - AUGUST 2025 : EDITORIAL

Greetings friends.

As I start to pen a few thoughts, we're well past the half way mark of this very wet but celebratory month of August.

The word "August" comes from the Latin word "Augustus," which means "inspiring reverence or admiration". Today, the word "August" is often used to describe something that is impressive, majestic, or awe-inspiring, its commonest usage being "August gathering".



Importance of the month is marked by the All India Congress Committee session in Bombay on 8 August 1942, when Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi launched the 'Quit India Movement'. It is also known as August Movement or August Kranti.

The beginning of auspicious Shravan, Friendship Day, Rakshabandhan, Janmashtami, scintillating Govinda pyramids, start of Rabi-UI-Awal, culminating in the Ganpati Festival dot this eventful month.

In the Rotary calendar, August is designated as Membership and New Club Development Month. This month is dedicated to focusing on membership recruitment and retention within Rotary clubs worldwide. It's also a time to celebrate the contributions of existing members and the positive impact Rotary clubs have on their communities.

More on the above as you read on.

PP Rtn Ramola Mahajani

### RAKSHABANDHAN

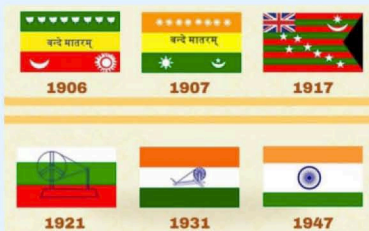
#### Where did it all begin?



Legend says, when Rani Karnavati, the widowed queen of the king of Chittor, realised that she could not defend against the invasion by the Sultan of Gujarat, Bahadur Shah, she sent a rakhi to Emperor Humayun. The Emperor set off with his troops to defend Chittor. Celebrated on the full-moon day of the Hindu month of Shravan, this festival of Rakshabandhan/Rakhi celebrates the love of a brother for his sister.

PP Rtn Ramola Mahajani

### DID YOU KNOW?



Our National Flag wasn't always the Tricolour we know today. From 1906 to 1947, our flag has evolved with India's freedom struggle and through six versions - each capturing the spirit of its time. Today's Tiranga, adopted on July 22, 1947, unites saffron for courage, white for peace, green for growth, with the Ashoka Chakra at its heart.

PP Rtn Ramola Mahajani

### AN IDIOM: IT'S RAINING CATS AND DOGS



We've often heard this term and here's why.

Odin, the Norse god of storms, was often pictured with dogs and wolves, which were symbols of wind. Witches, who supposedly rode their brooms during storms, were often pictured with black cats, which became signs of heavy rain for sailors. Therefore, "raining cats and dogs" may refer to a storm with wind (dogs) and heavy rain (cats).

So the next time there's pelting rain, look out for our furry friends landing in puddles.

PP Rtn Ramola Mahajani

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#### A Celebration of Generosity

The ceremony became a landmark moment for fundraising, with members and supporters contributing generously:

Cancer Treatment Fund: ₹11 Lakhs (Rtn. Nilesh Suchak)

Pink Rickshaw Project: 18 rickshaws pledged (led by Dr. Kulin Kothari, Nemish Sayani, Kalpana Khira, Dhiren Shah, Pinki Dalal, Arun Shah, Purna Mehta, and Preeti Gada)

Medical Projects: ₹15 Lakhs (Dr. Mahesh Kapadia)

Major Donors: Rtn. Samir Parekh and Rtn. Nitin Doshi (Endowment commitment)

CSR Contribution: ₹50 Lakhs (Narayana Healthcare)

Vice President Rtn. Tejaswini Modak delivered the vote of thanks, acknowledging the presence of district leaders, donors, and members. The ceremony concluded with a sumptuous lunch curated by Sergeant-at-Arms Rtn. Nisha Shah, creating an atmosphere of fellowship and celebration.

The installation of President Rtn. Sonal Doshi and her new Board sets a vibrant and service-driven tone for Rotary year 2025-26, truly embodying the spirit of "Service Above Self."

Pinki Dalal



# An Evening to Remember: Vocational Awards Night

Pinki Dalal

On the evening of 30th August, South Bombay felt like it had paused to take a deep breath. Manoj Jarange Patil's morcha had brought parts of the city to a standstill. The streets weren't silent—some patches were heavily jammed, traffic crawling painfully slow under a heavy, rain-laden sky.

Yet, within the warm embrace of Wodehouse Gymkhana—a charming colonial club that has witnessed decades of Mumbai's history—a different kind of energy was building. The Rotary Club of Bombay Seaface (RCSF) had gathered for its Vocational Awards Night, and as the doors opened, the hall filled with warmth, laughter, and anticipation.

This year's awards were especially remarkable. The club was honoring three stalwarts of Indian cinema, names that have shaped generations of storytelling:



Subhash Ghai, the legendary "Showman," whose films are stitched into the fabric of our memories,

Mohit Suri, a new-age director whose Saaiyaara joined the ₹500-crore club,

Komal Nahta, the honest, razor-sharp critic and trade analyst whose integrity has made him a trusted voice in an often turbulent industry.

Having all three under one roof felt almost surreal. What made it more heartwarming was how it all began—not through layers of formal requests or industry favors, but with one simple, heartfelt call from President Sonal Doshi to Komal Nahta.

When Komal took the stage, his words silenced the room. He spoke not just of cinema but of gratitude, sharing how Sonal had once fought a legal battle for him, giving him back his lifeline at a moment when he felt defeated. That evening, his presence wasn't just as a celebrated film critic; it was as a man deeply touched by kindness, standing in front of a community that had stood by him.

The venue itself felt alive with charm. Guests who braved traffic jams and diversions to join in. By the time the evening began, the room was buzzing—full of anticipation, warmth, and pride.

What followed was nothing short of magic. Komal Nahta guided a candid, deeply engaging conversation with Subhash Ghai and Mohit Suri. The legends spoke of their journeys, the art of storytelling, box-office highs and lows, and the quiet struggles behind the glamour. Hearing Subhash Ghai felt like revisiting the golden age of cinema; Mohit Suri's sincerity and humility were equally moving, showing that success and warmth can go hand in hand. The trio's openness and humor made the room feel like a living room—intimate, alive, and unforgettable.

The awards themselves were presented with dignity and heart:

PP Yogeshbhai Parikh honored Subhash Ghai,

PP Leena Shah presented the award to Mohit Suri,

PP Tanveer Hawa felicitated Komal Nahta.

PP Harsha Ghadiali had introduced Subhash Ghai. R'ann Falguni Shah had introduced Mohit Suri and Parul Mody had introduced Komal Nahta. AG Navnit Ajmera was present with partner Forum.

The heartfelt vote of thanks by Rtn. Manishi Vora reflected the warmth of the evening perfectly.

The celebrations continued over cocktails and a lovingly curated dinner, thanks to the meticulous planning of Club Service Director Parul Mody and the dedication of Sargent at Arms Nisha Shah.

What began as a rainy evening in a gridlocked city transformed into a night of laughter, connection, and inspiration. This wasn't just an award ceremony—it was a reminder of the power of community and the bonds of gratitude. With such a memorable event, RCSF has truly achieved a new height, setting a benchmark for camaraderie, thoughtfulness, and celebration.

It truly was an evening to remember.





## First Fellowship Monsoon Magic

The Rotary Club of Bombay Seaface hosted its first fellowship of the year on August 4th at the elegant 20 Downtown, Churchgate, setting the mood for a memorable evening of Monsoon Magic. The evening, themed around the romance of the rains, was hosted with warmth and style by President Rtn. Sonal Doshi and Rtn. Nitin Doshi.

The highlight of the program was a captivating blend of poetry and music celebrating the monsoon. Eminent poet Mukesh Joshi masterfully compered the show, while talented singer Sheetal Ambekar enchanted the audience with her soulful renditions of evergreen rain songs.

Dressed in shades of blue to match the theme, members and guests embraced the spirit of fellowship over a delightful spread of food and fun, making it an evening to remember.



### Meeting with Dr. Ila Shah, Rotary Club of Charlotte Hall, Maryland, USA

Rtn. Nitin Doshi, husband of President Sonal Doshi, had the privilege of meeting Dr. Ila Shah, a distinguished senior Rotarian from the Rotary Club of Charlotte Hall, Maryland, USA, and a long-standing supporter of our Club's Global Grants. The meeting took place over lunch at Waldorf and served as an excellent opportunity to strengthen ties and express gratitude for her ongoing support.

An updated report on our Club's projects, prepared by PP Rtn. Yogeshbhai Parikh, was presented to Dr. Ila Shah, along with our Club flag, which she warmly appreciated. Rtn. Nitin also met her husband, Dr. Vinod Shah, and their family, all of whom are engaged in the medical profession and manage multiple medical centres in Maryland.

We are pleased to share that Dr. Ila Shah has assured her support for our major projects in the future, further reinforcing the strong bond between our Clubs.

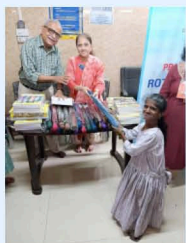


### Eco-Friendly Ganapati Idol-Making Workshop by RCSF

The Rotary Club of Bombay Seaface organised a special workshop for 50 students of Modern High School, teaching them to make eco-friendly Ganapati idols.

With clay in their hands and devotion in their hearts, the children began crafting idols while singing aartis and bhajans. Their excitement and enthusiasm filled the room, and the idols they created were truly beautiful.

President Sonal Doshi, along with Rtn. Tejaswini Modak and Rtn. Preeti Joshi, were present to encourage and support the young participants.



### Notebook and Rain Gear Distribution by Rotary Club of Bombay Seaface.

On 2nd August 2025, the Rotary Club of Bombay Seaface conducted a heartfelt service project dedicated to supporting families of differently abled individuals. The initiative focused on providing essential educational and monsoon supplies to those in need, creating a ripple of joy and gratitude among the beneficiaries.

A total of 21 school-going children were given notebooks to aid their studies, while 52 umbrellas were distributed to the families—especially for the parents, many of whom are differently abled. The thoughtful gesture aimed to offer both encouragement to the children and practical relief to the caregivers during the ongoing monsoon season.

The event was held in a room made available by Mr. Avdhoot Rane, who, despite his own physical challenges, continues to be a strong and compassionate force for the differently abled community. His quiet dedication and consistent efforts added a special dimension to the event.

President Rtn. Sonal Doshi and her partner Rtn. Nitin Doshi were present.

The project benefited 52 individuals and was carried out at a total cost of ₹40,000. The warmth, smiles, and glow of happiness on the faces of those present reaffirmed the impact of small acts of kindness and the spirit of Rotary in action.



### Installation Ceremony of Interact Club - B. J. P. C. School.

On 21st August 2025, we celebrated the installation of the Interact Club at B. J. P. C. School.

President Rtn Sonal Doshi, Vice President Rtn Tejaswini Modak, Director - Partners in Service PP Rtn Gool Ghadiali and PP Rtn Deepak Khambhati graced the occasion with their presence.

The outgoing President presented a detailed report of 2024-25, while the new President shared an inspiring vision for 2025-26. Adding to the excitement, the young office bearers of the Interact Club enthusiastically unfolded their wonderful plans for the year ahead.

The Principal, Mrs. Daisy, along with the Rotarians, motivated and blessed the children, encouraging them to take up service with passion and commitment.



### On 15th August 2025, the Rotary Club of Bombay Seaface hosted the Installation Ceremony of the Interact Club of Modern High School.

President Sonal Doshi, Club Secretary Rtn Dr. Meena Kothari, IPP Rtn Minal Turakhia, Vice President Rtn Tejaswini Modak, and Director - Non-Medical Projects Rtn Preeti Joshi graced the occasion.

The event was well-organised and inspiring. Outgoing President Tanisha presented a detailed report of the 2024-25 term, while Incoming President Janish shared the plans and vision for 2025-26.

The Principal of Modern High School, Dr. Swati, along with fellow Rotarians, offered heartfelt blessings and encouragement to the young Interactors, making the ceremony truly memorable.