



# ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY SEAFACE CLUB BULLETIN



**FRANCESCO AREZZO**  
RI PRESIDENT

**DR. MANISH MOTWANI**  
DISTRICT GOVERNOR

**SONAL DOSHI**  
PRESIDENT

**Editor : PP Rtn Ramola Mahajani**

**February 2026**

## A Step Towards a Cancer-Free Future: HPV Vaccination Initiative Across Schools



**SONAL DOSHI**  
President

Namaste!!

It gives me immense pride to share that the Rotary Club of Bombay Seaface has successfully implemented a comprehensive HPV Vaccination Initiative across multiple educational institutions, reaffirming our commitment to preventive healthcare and women's wellness.

This project was conducted at Modern School, Sikka Nagar, Vanita Vishram School, and Chanda Ramji School, where we reached out to students, teachers, and support staff with awareness sessions followed by vaccination camps. By taking the programme directly into schools, we ensured accessibility, education, and comfort for participants and their families.

Through this initiative, over 500 girls and women (ages 9 to 46) have been vaccinated against the Human Papillomavirus (HPV), which is a leading cause of cervical cancer. The programme was executed in accordance with prescribed medical protocols, including the administration of scheduled doses to ensure long-term protection.

The entire project, with a total cost of Rs. 20,00,000. Funded by the generous contribution of Rtn. Nilesh Suchak. His support enabled us to undertake this large-scale health intervention independently, making our club one of the few to execute such a programme entirely through internal resources.

A defining highlight of this initiative was that the vaccines were administered by our own member doctors, ensuring both professional excellence and personal care. We express our sincere gratitude to Dr. Pankaj Parekh, Dr. Raksha Mangaldas, and Dr. Meena Vora, Dr.Meena Kothari for their medical leadership, dedication, and hands-on involvement in every camp. Their expertise ensured the highest standards of safety and confidence among beneficiaries.

We were also delighted by the enthusiastic participation of Dr. Shruti Vora, whose voluntary service added youthful energy to this humanitarian effort. The seamless coordination of medical supplies and logistics was made possible by Rtn. Anil Popat, whose meticulous planning ensured smooth execution at each venue.

Each vaccination camp began with awareness interactions, helping young girls understand the importance of preventive healthcare. By engaging directly with schools, we were not only administering vaccines but also nurturing informed attitudes toward health, hygiene, and early prevention.

Cervical cancer is largely preventable, yet awareness and timely action remain critical challenges. Through this multi-school initiative, our club has taken a meaningful step toward bridging this gap protecting lives today while building a healthier tomorrow.

This project stands as a testament to what collective will, professional expertise, and Rotary values can achieve. When we invest in prevention, we invest in dignity, confidence, and the future of our daughters.

I extend my heartfelt thanks to all Rotarians, doctors, school authorities, and volunteers who supported this mission and helped translate our motto, Service Above Self, into tangible community impact.



## RC BOMBAY SEAFACE AT DISCON

RC Bombay Seaface made its vibrant presence felt at DISCON, with members coming together in the true spirit of Rotary fellowship. Adding a touch of glamour to the occasion, President Rtn. Sonal Doshi and Rtn. Preeti Gada took to the ramp, participating in a fashion show that was met with much cheer and appreciation. The event was a wonderful blend of camaraderie and fun, reflecting the club's enthusiasm both in service and in celebration. A great time was had by all!



RCSF hosted a wonderful fireside meeting at Wellington Club, beautifully organised by Rtn Dr. Sarita Bhalerao and Abhay, bringing together a warm mix of new and old members. Charter member Dr. Mahesh Kapadia shared Rotary's inspiring 40-year journey and its timeless principle of 'Service above Self,' followed by Dr. Pankaj Parekh's insightful talk, while President Sonal elaborated on the value of fireside meetings. Rtn Leena Shah touched hearts with her personal Rotary journey, and members joyfully celebrated her birthday. PP Uday's call to eliminate groupism resonated with all, Dr. Yogesh Shah spoke on personal growth through leadership, and the club warmly welcomed Dr. Prem to his first fireside. The evening was a perfect blend of learning, camaraderie, and delicious food, with Dr. Sarita's gracious hospitality making everyone feel at home, concluding with a heartfelt vote of thanks by Dr. Anil.

## Mahashivratri , Evening to Remember..

Mahashivratri this year unfolded into a mesmerising, melodious evening. Our guest speaker, Mr. Anurag Patil, beautifully explained how different ragas can help us balance physical and mental well-being. Through soulful renditions of Bollywood songs based on classical ragas, he demonstrated how subtle shifts like komal and madhyam swar can instantly transform both the raga and the atmosphere.

Set in a serene, candle-lit ambience, the experience was truly calming and uplifting.

The evening concluded with delicious farali food and an enjoyable cricket match screening a perfect blend of spirituality, music, and togetherness.

We sincerely thank R'ann Sonal Shrikunj Shah for inviting and introducing this young, talented classical musician, and Director Rtn Parul Mody for the superb arrangements.

Heartfelt appreciation to R'ann Hema Parekh for the warm vote of thanks, and PP Rtn Leena Shah for gifting the beautiful painting of Lord Ganesha created by her.

Last but not least, gratitude to our Sergeant-at-Arms Rtn Nisha Shah for thoughtfully planning the menu.

A celebration of devotion, music, and fellowship.



## An Avid Collector, A Lifelong Rotarian

### Pinki Dalal

In an age of fleeting digital messages, there are still individuals who preserve history in its most tangible form through stamps. Among them is Rtn. Bharat Merchant of RC Bombay Seaface, whose remarkable journey as a philatelist mirrors his equally enduring commitment to Rotary.

For over three decades, he has passionately collected Rotary stamps and First Day Covers from more than 50 countries across five continents. What began as a curiosity during his Rotaract days soon evolved into a lifelong pursuit one that blends history, travel, culture, and service into a single, meaningful narrative.

Having served as President of the Rotaract Club of Bombay and played a pioneering role in establishing one of the city's earliest Rotaract clubs alongside his brother, Rtn. Merchant's association with Rotary spans an extraordinary 100 months as a Rotaractor alone. Even when professional responsibilities later took precedence, his Rotary connection remained steadfast. When he formally joined RC Bombay Seaface in 1997, he rekindled both his service journey and his distinctive passion for Rotary-themed philately.

Today, Rtn. Merchant is the proud custodian of over 500 Rotary stamps and around 100 First Day Covers. His oldest Rotary stamp dates back to 1948 and originates from Brazil, a prized possession that anchors his collection historically. Over the years, he and his friends would search diligently for Rotary issues during their travels abroad, often making special visits to philatelic bureaus and collectors' shops. Dealers who came to recognise his dedication would even alert him when rare Rotary stamps surfaced. The thrill of discovering an unusual or older issue, he says, has never diminished if anything, rarity only heightens the excitement.

His collection features stamps issued to commemorate significant Rotary milestones, including Silver, Golden, and Diamond Jubilee celebrations in different countries. Some issues mark Rotary conventions, while others highlight special initiatives such as the PolioPlus campaign and even unique thematic releases connected with events like expeditions and global gatherings. A substantial number of commemorative stamps were issued around 2005, during Rotary's centenary year, reflecting worldwide celebrations of a hundred years of service.

Each piece in his archive is far more than a collectible, it is a miniature chronicle of Rotary's global footprint and ideals of fellowship, goodwill, and humanitarian action.

Despite witnessing a gradual decline in traditional stamp collecting, Rtn. Merchant firmly believes the hobby retains timeless relevance. To him, stamps are "miniature ambassadors" that document history, geography, and human connection. Rather than keeping the collection hidden away, he actively shares and exhibits it so that others especially younger generations can appreciate this unique confluence of heritage and service.

Now in his seventies, Rtn. Bharat Merchant reflects that while many hobbies bring personal joy, this one has enabled him to remain deeply connected to Rotary's worldwide family. Every preserved cover, cancellation mark, and commemorative issue stands as a reminder that service transcends borders and that even the smallest artefacts can carry the legacy of a global movement.

His story is a testament to unwavering dedication: to Rotary, to history, and to the belief that passions pursued with sincerity can become a lifelong legacy.

Bharat Merchant preserves Rotary International history through rare stamps, blending passion, travel, culture, and lifelong service into a meaningful global legacy.

Rtn Bharat Merchant proudly showcases his treasured collection of rare Rotary stamps and postal covers, reflecting a lifetime of passion for philately and service.



RCSF successfully administered the second dose of the HPV vaccine to eligible girl students and female teachers of Modern School.

A special highlight of this project was the wholehearted support of our member doctors, whose professional expertise ensured the smooth and effective execution of the initiative. The medical team included Dr. Pankaj Parekh, Dr. Raksha Mangaldas and Dr. Meena Vora, along with the enthusiastic participation of Dr. Shruti Vora, daughter of Rtn. Manishi and Dr. Meena Vora, who generously contributed her time and effort to this noble cause.

We extend our sincere gratitude to all the doctors for their invaluable service, to Rtn. Anil Popat for arranging the medicinal supplies, and to Rtn. Nilesh Suchak for funding this impactful and meaningful project.



### BIRTHDAY

DATE	NAME
6 <sup>th</sup> February, 2026	Jitendra Mehta
11 <sup>th</sup> February, 2026	Bhuvan Ajmera
12 <sup>th</sup> February, 2026	Dilip Gandhi
13 <sup>th</sup> February, 2026	Rupa Desai
15 <sup>th</sup> February, 2026	Hemant Koradia
18 <sup>th</sup> February, 2026	Paresh Vora
20 <sup>th</sup> February, 2026	Bhavna Popat
27 <sup>th</sup> February, 2026	Leena shah
27 <sup>th</sup> February, 2026	Alka Vora

### ANNIVERSARY

DATE	NAME
1 <sup>st</sup> February, 2026	Jigna & Mukesh
3 <sup>rd</sup> February, 2026	Milan & Kunjan
7 <sup>th</sup> February, 2026	Uday & Seema
14 <sup>th</sup> February, 2026	Harsha & Pankaj
14 <sup>th</sup> February, 2026	Jitendra & Surangi
18 <sup>th</sup> February, 2026	Heeru & Jayashri
20 <sup>th</sup> February, 2026	Nitin & Raksha
28 <sup>th</sup> February, 2026	Bharat & Jyoti