

BULLETIN of ROTARY CLUB OF SURAT WEST



Spark

Rotary Year **2024-25**
Charter Date : **30-4-96**
R.I. Dist. **3060** Zone **4-B**
Club No. : **31549**
Vol. **29**

R.I.PRESIDENT :

RTN. STEPHANIE URCHICK

DIST.GOVERNOR :

RTN. TUSHAR SHAH

CLUB PRESIDENT :

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16/2024-25

NEXT MEETING

*** Monday,02 December**

Program: Official Visit of District Governor
Rtn. Tushar Shah



Venue: Ora Hall, 1st Floor, The Amore, Near V. R. Mall.

Time: 8.00-8.40Pm- DINNER
8.45 Pm onwards: Meeting

Dress Code: Men: BLAZER
Spouse: Formals

MUST Attend meeting for all Rotarians and Spouses.

Wedding Anniversary Greetings

Rtn. Sham- Seema Shah- **December 03**
Rtn. Mukesh- Aditi Jain - **December 07**
PP. Dilip-Kusumji Gulwani- **December 08**
Rtn. Nirmal- Dharti Mandlewala-**December 09**
Rtn. Nilesh-Dr. Mona Shah – **December 11**
PP. Amit- Pooja Gajjar - **December 12**
Rtn. Vishal- Archana Khator- **December13**
Rtn. Rakesh-Shivani Mandlewala-**December 14**
PP. Tinish- Hem Mody **December-14**
Rtn. Archana- Milind Thakare -**December 24**

Birthday Greetings

December 08: **Rtn. Raghav Khaitan**
December 09: **Rtn. Dr. Shikha Samaiya**
December 25: **Ann Nilima Devendra Shastri**
December 26: **Ann Sneha Amit Agrwal**
December 30: **Rtn. Anirudh Garg**

Forthcoming Programs

- **Sunday, 22nd December: Eye Cataract Surgery Camp at Vansda.**
- **Monday, 16th December: Meeting of Club Board of Directors**
- **Wednesday, 18th December: Annual (Election) Meeting**

Program of The Official Visit of District Governor

Rtn. Tushar Shah

Monday, 2nd December 2024

**3.45 pm: Arrive at the residence of President PDG Devendra Shastri.
11, Shivangi Bungalows, Shri Polly Umrigar Road, Umra.**

***RECEPTION**

**4.00 pm to 5.00 pm: Meeting with President, Hon secretary and President Elect
At the Residence of President PDG Devendra Shastri**

5.15pm: visit to the workplace of **Rtn.PP Amit Gajjar. (SPCB)**

**6.00 pm: Club Assembly in the board room of Hon secretary Rtn.PP Tinish Mody Plot
No.572/B/1, Adarsh Society, Opp. Electric Sub Station, Athwa Lines.**

7.00 pm: Club Assembly concludes.

***Rest and Refresh**

**8.00 pm: Regular meeting of Rotary Club of Surat West at The Amore, near V R Mall
preceded by DINNER.**

Profile of District Governor Rtn. Tushar Shah



Tushar, an individual whose life is a testament to the power of humility and compassion. With an incredible ability to listen deeply and genuinely connect with others, Tushar stands out not only for his philanthropic efforts but also for his enduring commitment to social service. Whether it's through direct community outreach or behind-the-scenes support, he consistently demonstrates a selfless dedication to making the world a better place. His humble nature and genuine care for others are not just qualities but guiding principles that shape every aspect of his life.

He believes we cannot fight new wars with old weapons and so he is very adaptive to the changes for the good of the society. He is also committed to empowering and guiding the next generation, ensuring that his support extends to nurturing young minds and helping them thrive.

Tushar has dedicatedly done justice to every responsibility he shouldered in Rotary. And so, his Rotary journey has been a strong force in shaping him as a leader. He has enjoyed the Rotary programs such as Group Study Exchange to USA and Rotary Friendship Exchange to Brazil & Bangladesh.

Academically he is a Chemical Engineer from Dharamsinh Desai Institute of technology, Nadiad. Professionally an entrepreneur in the business of Automation and Process Instrumentation.

Married to Rtn. Nehal Shah a successful entrepreneur for more than 25 years of service in the travel sector. She also shares the same values of service to society. Nehal has been the charter president of Rotary Club of Surat Tapi and serves on the Rotary Youth Exchange Committee.

The affinity for Rotary flows in the family, **Shivani has served as the District Rotaract representative and is also a Rotarian.** A Postgraduate in Human Resource Management, she is settled in Canada with her husband Harsh.

Son Samarth is also a Rotary Alumni and is currently pursuing his master's in business Analytics from Northeastern University, Boston.

Both Children are Youth Exchange rebounds from Germany and are Paul Harris Fellows.

Tushar & Nehal's love for Rotary reflects in their keen participation in Rotary International Conventions, marking the latest score of 10 conventions. They cherish great memories and bonds of friendship with friends from across the continents through Rotary Exchange Programs.

As recipients of the Major Level Donor II recognition, the family's philanthropic endeavours reflect their unwavering commitment to making a positive difference in the world. With a passion for literature and a thirst for knowledge, Tushar finds solace in serving society while indulging in his love for reading and travel.

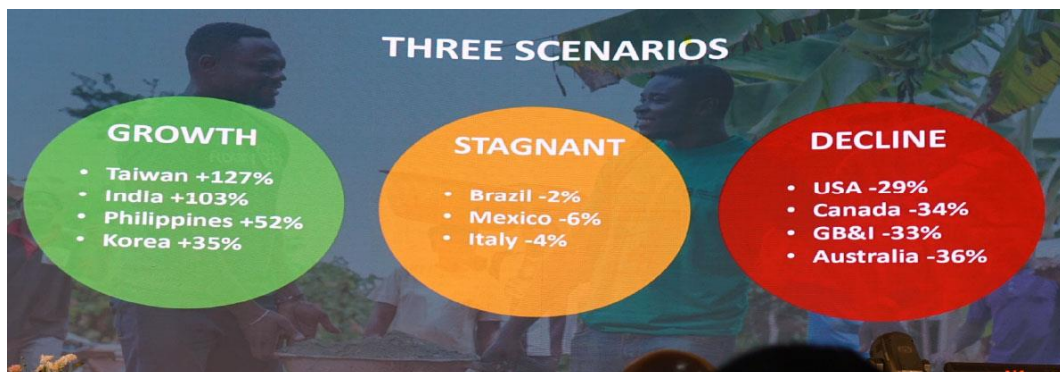
The couple strongly advocates - The main purpose of life is not to simply stay alive, but to be of service to others

Startling fall in numbers a huge concern

(Excerpt from Article by Rashida Bhagat in November issue of Rotary News)

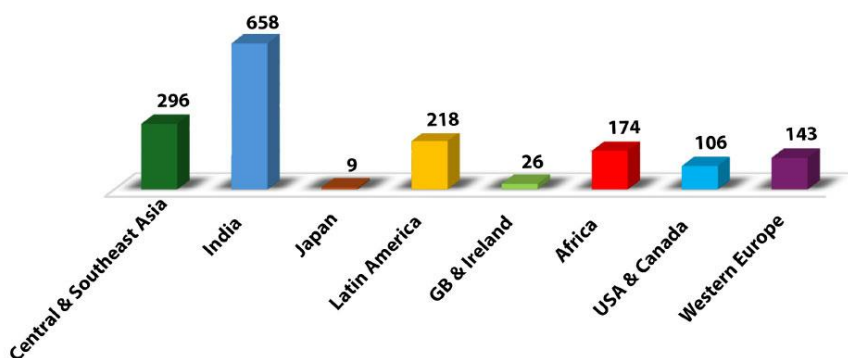
Did you know that the US, the country where Rotary was born, has lost over 100,000 members in the last 20 years? Probably not.

Expressing grave concern at the declining membership of Rotary, particularly in some parts of the world, with only a few regions, prominently India, being an exception at the Vision 2030 Conclave in Madurai, incoming RI President Mario de Camargo said he distinctly saw three scenarios in Rotary.



The first was the scenario that gave hope; the scenario of growth where the numbers said Taiwan had grown at 127 per cent, India at 103 per cent, Philippines at 52 and Korea at 35 per cent. "All of them are in Asia. **In the last 20 years, India has grown from 85,000 to 172,000.** You might ask why 20 years? That is because I do not believe in those spikes in membership that are created artificially... fake clubs with fake Rotarians. We must grow sustainably and healthy, and long term."

New clubs chartered 2021-23



Showing another chart on the formation of new clubs, the RI President-elect revealed some more interesting numbers. **Between 2021-23**, Central and Southeast Asia had created 296 new Rotary clubs, **while India alone had created 658 clubs.** "That shows how and why India is growing; there is a clear co-relation between the number of new clubs and the growth. Japan, which is also declining, created only 9, Latin America 218, Great Britain and Ireland (GB&I) created 26 clubs, "and that reduced the average age of Rotarians in GB&I from 79 to 73 years old. I'd like to know who would want to join a club where the average age is 73? You want a succession, and you want to leave a legacy. What legacy are you going to leave in a club where the average age is 73," he asked.

Sweater Distribution Project- November 27



Wednesday 27th November morning our club members reached SMC school no 199 and happily participated in Sweaters Distribution Project. 200 Sweaters were distributed. Thanks to the anonymous Rotarian donor who contributed Rs 52,400 for the Project. 40 Sweaters are distributed to the children of Bachpan day care centre, Sachin GIDC.

Following Rotarians were present and participated in the project.

Rtn.PP Tinish Mody, Rtn.PP Ashit Kothari, Rtn.PP Mitesh Bhagat, Rtn. IPP Sonal Shah, Rtn. Vijay Nihlani, Rtn Sanjay Jalan, Rtn Gaurang Goel (Project coordinator), Ann Ritu Goel, Ann Kavita Bhagat and President PDG Devendra Shastri

Kudos to Project Manager Rtn Gaurang Goel for his painstaking efforts!!

Excerpt of 5th Meeting of Club Board of Directors- November 27



The board meeting of the board of directors was held on Wednesday, November 27, 2024 at **Avadh Utopia, hosted by Sergeant-at-arms Rtn. Vijay Mevcha.**

The following points were discussed and passed by the board.

President PDG Devendra Shastri welcomed everyone, after which the **minutes of the last board meeting** were read out by Hon. Sec. PP Tinish Mody and passed.

Financial Status of the club was reviewed and discussed. It was decided to present the provisional Profit & Loss account in the club's Annual Meeting.

Preparations for the district governor's official visit (OCV) was discussed and finalized.

President PDG Devendra Shastri presented the half day schedule of DG. Tushar Shah's visit. All committee chairmen to prepare current and updated reports of the Rotary year till date.

It was decided to hold **Club's Annual election meeting on December 18th ,2024.**

It was decided to hold **Vocational award ceremony meeting in January 2025.**The names of institution and candidates was to be finalized at a later date.

For the months of January and February 2025, tentative projects were reviewed and thought upon, including the limb prosthetics service project jointly with other clubs of surat area.

The board authorized president **PDG Devendra Shastri to vote for the election of DG for RY 2027-28**

President PDG Devendra Shastri will be the host for the next board meeting to be held in December 2024.

President PDG Devendra Shastri thanked everyone for their wholehearted participation and the meeting was adjourned after the **vote of thanks by PN. Dr. Vijay Shah.**

The Board meeting was attended by; President PDG Devendra Shastri, Vice President and PE Dr. Parag Shah, PN Dr. Vijay Shah, IPP Sonal Shah, Hon. Secretary Rtn. PP. Tinish Mody, Jt. Secretary Rtn. PP. Ashit Kothari, Hon. Treasurer Rtn. PP. Hitendra Mody, Rtn. PP. Bankim Sitwala, Rtn. PP. Setu Gandhi, Rtn. PP. Bhavesh Shah, Rtn. Sanjay Jalan and Sgt-At-Arms Rtn. Vijay Mevcha.

Organ Donation Awareness Program- November 28



A morning well spent at The college of Rtn Archana Thakare (T. N. Patel PTC college) for Organ Donation Awareness Project.

100+ audience listened to Shri Nilesh Mandlewala, President Donate life who enlightened the audience about importance of Organ donation. His speech was followed by video presentation which was deeply heart touching and brought tears in eyes of many.

Rtn Archana Thakare and her staff members made perfect arrangements for the meeting.

Our club was represented by Rtn.PP Tinish Mody, Rtn.PP Hitendra Mody, Rtn.PP Vivek Goel, President PDG Devendra Shastri and Project coordinator Rtn Archana Thakare.

Kudos to Rtn. Archana ji for her painstaking efforts in organizing this noble project.

WHAT IS ROTARY?

Fundraisers



Helping the community

What you see before joining

What you see once you join

Teamwork and communication skills



Opportunities for collaboration and networking

New friendships and connections



International aid, travel and worldwide friendships

Speaking and professional development opportunities



Rotary



"A Rotary club gives us an opportunity that no social, political, or specialized business club can do. It is strong on the human side; it stands for the individual, unfetters him, appeals to his originality, brings out his latent powers, and puts him at his best by extending him the full measure of his confidence and appealing to the best that is in him — 'service not self.'"

~Glenn C. Mead
1912-13 RI President

The Rotary Foundation



DID YOU KNOW

What impact can one donation have?

- For as little as 60 cents, a child can be protected from polio.
- \$50 can provide clean water to help fight waterborne illness.
- \$500 can launch an antibullying campaign and create a safe environment for children.

WWW.ROTARY.ORG



Do You Know!!!



The Speyer wine bottle, also known as the Römerwein, is the world's oldest known unopened bottle of wine. It dates back to the 4th century AD, during the Roman Empire, and was discovered in a Roman tomb near Speyer, Germany, in 1867.

Here's a bit more about this fascinating artifact:

Description: Material: The bottle is made of greenish-yellow glass with two dolphin-shaped handles. **Contents:** The bottle contains a mixture of liquid and a solid resinous substance, which likely helped preserve the wine. The liquid is believed to be olive oil, used as a sealant, and the remnants of the original wine. Volume: About 1.5 liters.

Historical Significance: Purpose: The bottle was likely buried with its owner as part of the Roman tradition of providing goods for the afterlife.

Preservation: The wine has survived for over 1,600 years thanks to the seal and the addition of olive oil, which kept air out.

Display: The Speyer wine bottle is currently housed at the Historisches Museum der Pfalz in Speyer, Germany. It remains sealed and has never been opened for analysis due to concerns about its preservation.