

BULLETIN of ROTARY CLUB OF SURAT WEST



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

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33/2024-25

NEXT MEETING

Saturday, 3rd May



Time: 09.00Am- 09.45 Am- Breakfast
09.45 Am onwards- Program
01.00Pm.....- Lunch

Venue: Mari Gold, Avadh Utopia,

All Rotarians and Spouses are invited. Registration free but mandatory. Details in our club's official whatsapp group.

Wedding Anniversary Greetings

Rtn. Rahul- Chaitali Mandhyan.....: May **04**

Rtn. Rajesh- Tripti Nadwani.....: May **09**

Rtn. Mayank- Ritu Deorah..... : May **11**

Birthday Greetings

Ann Kajal Vijay Nihalani:May **01**

Nipa Bankim Sitwala.....: May **02**

Rtn. Amit Desai.....: May **03**

Rtn. PP. Tinish Mody.....: **May 03**

Forthcoming Programs

*Sunday, 11th May : **Movie Fellowship**

* Saturday, 17th May : **Vocational Viit to STEAMHOUSE, Sachin GIDC.**

*Wednesday, 21st May : **Meeting of Club Board of Directors**

* Wednesday, 28th May : **Box Cricket Fellowship**

*Wednesday, 04 June : **Ladies Night**

*Wednesday, 11th June : **Jt.meeting of Club Board of Directors(24-25&25-26)**

*Monday, 16th June : **Notebook Distribution Project**

*Wednesday, 25th June : **Fellowship Dhamaka**

Rotary Wisdom

ROTARY'S VISION STATEMENT

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

As we stand on the cusp of eliminating polio, we find ourselves poised for our next challenge. The time is right to move toward realizing a new vision that brings more people together, increases our impact, and creates lasting change around the world.

To achieve the vision of Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation, we have set four priorities that will direct our work over the next five years.

ROTARY'S STRATEGIC PRIORITIES AND OBJECTIVES

INCREASE OUR IMPACT

- Eradicate polio and leverage the legacy
- Focus our programs and offerings
- Improve our ability to achieve and measure impact

EXPAND OUR REACH

- Grow and diversify our membership and participation
- Create new channels into Rotary
- Increase Rotary's openness and appeal
- Build awareness of our

ENHANCE PARTICIPANT ENGAGEMENT

- Support clubs to better engage their members
- Develop a participant-centered approach to deliver value
- Offer new opportunities for personal and professional connection
- Promote leadership

INCREASE OUR ABILITY TO ADAPT

- Build a culture of research, innovation, and willingness to take risks
- Streamline governance, structure, and processes
- Review governance to foster more diverse perspectives in

30TH CHARTER NIGHT CELEBRATIONS

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

The Rotary Club of Surat West celebrated its **30th Charter Night** on Wednesday, 30th April 2025, at the elegant Opera hall-2, Amore Banquets. The evening was a vibrant blend of reflection, recognition, and fellowship, commemorating the rich legacy and continued service of the club.

After the sumptuous meal, the program began with a warm welcome by **program co-ordinator, Rtn.PP. Bankim Sitwala**, who highlighted the essence of the celebration—not just marking time, but celebrating the impact, relationships, and legacy built over 30 years. He paid tribute to the charter members and the **visionary leadership of President PDG Devendrabhai Shastri**.

MOC Hon. Sec. PP Tinish Mody started the proceedings by requesting the **Sgt-at-Arms Rtn. Anirudh Garg** to call the meeting to order. following which the gathering stood in solemn silence to pay homage to those who lost their lives in the recent **Pahalgam terrorist attack**.

A soulful prayer was rendered by **Rtn. Dr. Shikha & Ashim Samaiya**, creating a serene and reflective atmosphere.

PDG Rtn. Devendrabhai Shastri, in his welcome address, spoke passionately about the club's evolution from a small group of like-minded individuals to a powerful force for community service and fellowship. He acknowledged the contributions of past presidents as well as each member and inspired the audience with his vision for the future.

Hon. Jt. Sec. PP Ashit Kothari followed with an eloquent recognition of the dignitaries present, thanking them for their enduring support.

Hon.Sec. PP Tinish Mody brought cheer to the celebration by conveying birthday and wedding anniversary greetings to members. District Governor Tusharbhai Shah and President PDG Devendrabhai Shastri presented mementos to fellow Rotarians marking their special days.

The **Chief Guest, DG Rtn. Tusharbhai Shah**, was introduced by **Rtn. PP Hitendra Mody**, who highlighted the DG's journey and contributions to Rotary.

A key highlight of the evening was **the felicitation of Past Presidents**. Each Past President, accompanied by their spouse, was honoured for their year of service. DG Tusharbhai and President PDG Devendrabhai presented a unique & beautifully crafted plaque **"Rotary Leadership Legacy Award"**, while First Ladies Nehalben and Nilimaben offered floral tributes to the spouses—recognizing their vital support behind the scenes.

The 30-year journey was symbolically celebrated with a **cake cutting ceremony**, joined by DG Tusharbhai, PDG Devendrabhai, and all Past Presidents. This sweet moment captured the spirit of unity and longevity of the club. The sweetness of the moment lingered—not just on the tongue, but in every heart present.

This was followed by the **induction of new member Mr. Rajesh Bansal and the re-joining member Mrs. Tasneem Doctor**. Their profiles were introduced with warmth and respect, and they were formally inducted by DG Tusharbhai, President PDG Devendrabhai, and the First Ladies Nehalben & Nilimaben. Their entry marks a continued growth of the Rotary family, to evolve and serve together.

In his inspirational address, **DG Rtn. Tusharbhai Shah** congratulated the club for its achievements and spirit. He applauded the leadership of **president PDG Devendrabhai Shastri**, the club's strong community projects, commendable contributions to TRF, and encouraged members to continue evolving with innovative service ideas and inclusivity.

As a token of love and gratitude, a special memento was presented to the **Rtn. Tusharbhai Shah** and First Lady Nehalben Shah, by **president PDG Devendrabhai Shastri and first lady Nilimaben Shastri**. **Hon. Secretary Rtn. PP Tinish Mody** made club announcements, keeping members informed of upcoming events and initiatives.

The formal proceedings concluded with a warm **Vote of Thanks** by **Rtn. PP Geetaben Modi**, expressing gratitude to DG. Tusharbhai Shah, First lady Nehalben Shah, Past district Governors, district officers and all club members and Anns.

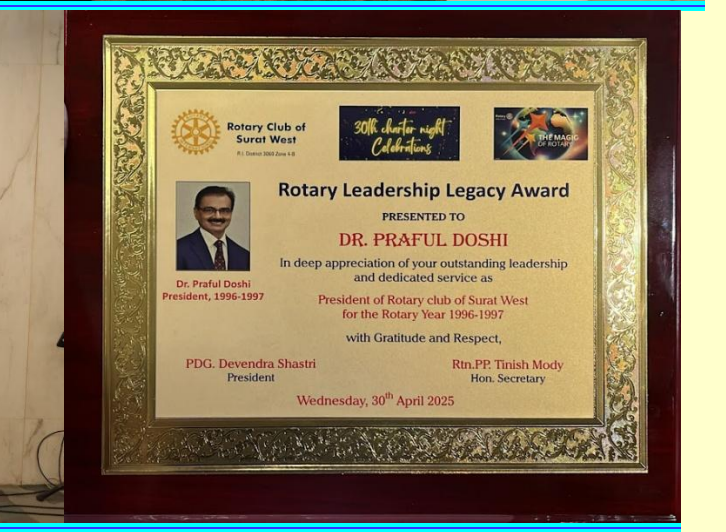
Gracious ladies **Ann. Nipa Sitwala & Ann. Rakhi Gandhi** manned the attendance desk.

The event was gracefully & seamlessly compered by **program co-ordinator PP. Bankim Sitwala** and **Hon. Sec. PP Tinish Mody**, who ensured a flawless flow of the evening's proceedings. **Hon. Jt. Sec. PP. Ashit Kothari**, both **Sgt-at-Arms Anirudh Garg & Vijay Mevcha** played a key role in the program with their exemplary service.

The night ended on a high note with a **Karaoke Night** anchored by the ever-enthusiastic **PP Rtn. Paresh Vaidya**. Members and couples sang, laughed, and celebrated late into the evening—capping off a perfect celebration of Rotary spirit and fellowship.

The 30th Charter Night was not just an event—it was a milestone, a reunion, and a celebration of a journey defined by service, leadership, and friendship. With renewed energy, the Rotary Club of Surat West now steps into a new decade—ready to serve, lead, and inspire.











Rotary's young people of action

No matter how long we've been with Rotary, we all benefit from the energy and fresh perspectives of our young leaders. It is my privilege to place this month's presidential message in the capable hands of one young leader, Vitor Joventino. In his column, Vitor reminds us how teamwork and inclusivity can spark transformative change. As you read his message, I encourage you to reflect on its insights, share in his excitement, and embrace new opportunities to learn.

— Stephanie A Urchick

I remember the exact moment when I realised the power of Rotary's youth programmes. It was a Saturday morning in Australia during my year as a Rotary Youth Exchange student. I stood among a group of young leaders at a Rotary Youth Leadership Awards event. The organisers challenged us to stand on a large tarp spread across the floor and, without stepping off, find a way to fold it in half.

At first, the task seemed simple. But as we moved, strategised, and adjusted, the reality set in — it required teamwork, agility and constant communication.

Rotaractors and Rotarians guided us, but no one dictated how to succeed. The decisions were ours to make. And then something remarkable happened. Without being instructed, we collectively decided that no one would be left behind as our space on the tarp shrank.

One of our teammates was a person who uses a wheelchair, giving us an opportunity to adapt, ensuring that he was fully part of the experience. We shifted, lifted the tarp, and reconfigured our positions, using our time to think, plan and act as a team. In the end, we successfully completed the challenge together.

As we celebrated our success, one participant said, "Society works the same way — challenges will come, but instead of leaving people behind, we must find ways to include everyone." It was such a profound thought for someone so young, yet it perfectly captured the essence of our experience.



Interact empowers young people to create service projects with real and lasting impact. Youth Exchange builds global citizens who return home with broader perspectives and stronger leadership skills. RYLA develops young leaders equipped to inspire and mobilise others. All of this is *The Magic of Rotary*, emerging through the actions of youth. These programmes are the heart of Rotary's ability to grow and adapt in a changing world.

But the success of these programmes depends on more than young leaders — it requires Rotary members who believe in their potential. I encourage you to sponsor an Interact club, host an exchange student, and support a RYLA participant. Your involvement does more than sustain these programmes; it multiplies their impact and ensures that young leaders are not just beneficiaries of Rotary but active contributors.

To those already supporting youth programmes, thank you. Your mentorship and commitment make all the difference. And to those considering getting involved, now is the time! Because youth leadership isn't just Rotary's future, it's Rotary's present.

Vitor Joventino

Rotaract Club of Penápolis, Brazil

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

NEWS MAKERS

- RTn. PP. Amit Gajjar and Rtn. PP. Hitendra Mody have been elected on the managing committee of the **Surat District Criocket Association** . **Amit is now Vice President and Hitendra is Hon. Treasurer of SDCA. Our Heartiest Congratulatuions!**



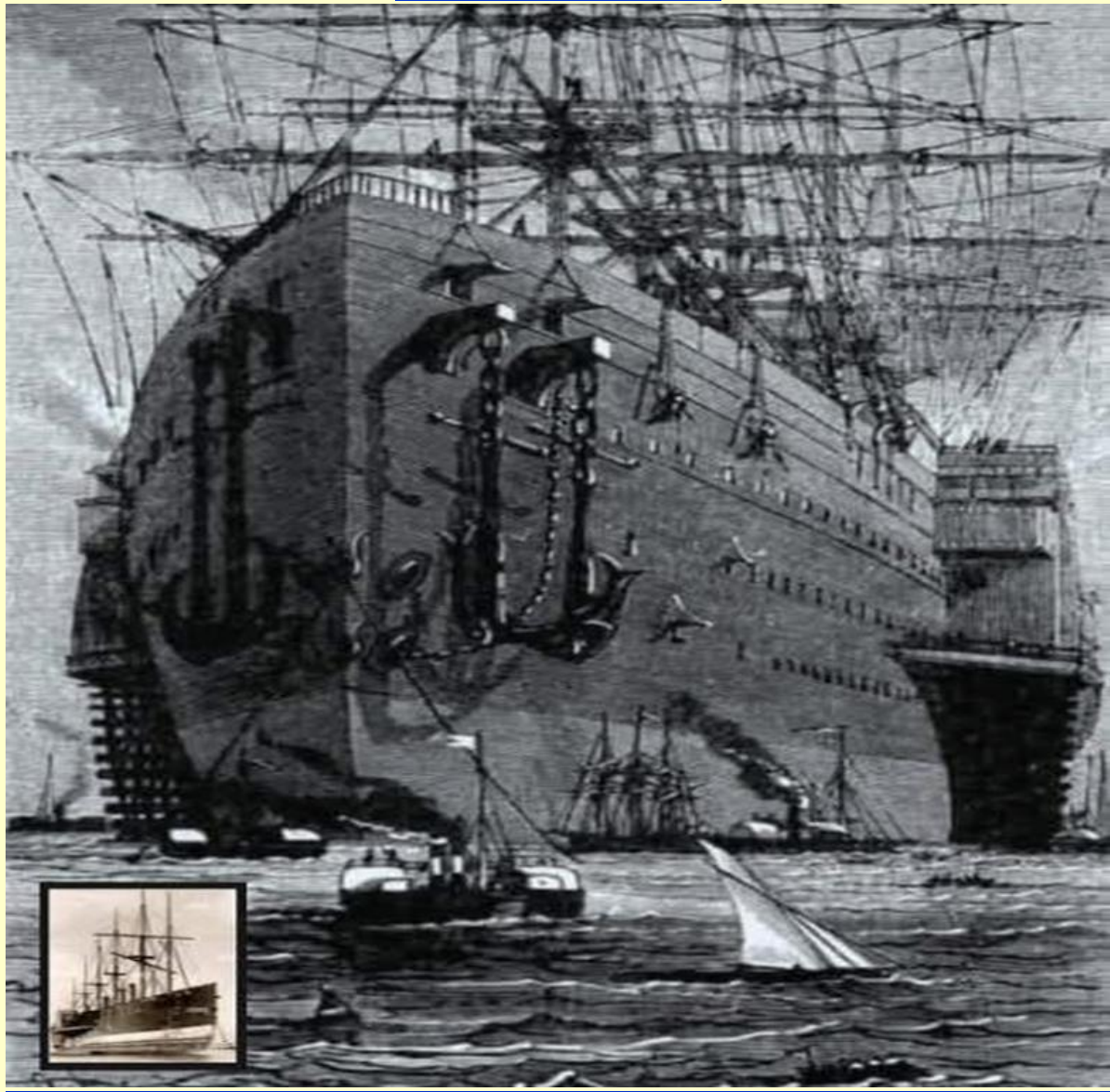
- Our Rtn. PN. Dr. Vijay Shah was felicitated and presented with Life Time Award by Hon. Home Minister Shri Harsh Sanghvi for his contribution at City, State , National and International level in the field of hemophilia. **Our Heartiest Congratulations to Dr. Vijay!**



- Rtn. PP. Shilpa Shah was felicitated on 26th April in Vadoidara by RI District 3060 for her service as **Leader of Inbound Rotary Youth Exchang student tour to North India for 20 days. Our heartiest Congratulations to Shilpa!**



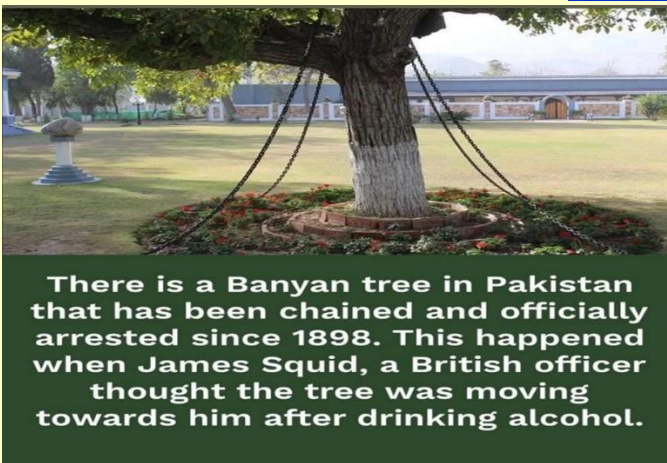
SS Great Eastern



SS Great Eastern, designed by Isambard Kingdom Brunel, was the largest ship ever built when it was completed in 1858. It could transport up to 4,000 passengers from England to Australia without refueling, making it a technical masterpiece of its time. The SS Great Eastern was equipped with sails, paddle wheels and a screw drive, marking a turning point in shipbuilding. Her length of 211 meters and her double hull were revolutionary features that were later adopted in shipbuilding.

This ship also inspired the writer Jules Verne, who wrote his story "A Floating City" based on a trip on this ship.

HUMOUR



There is a Banyan tree in Pakistan that has been chained and officially arrested since 1898. This happened when James Squid, a British officer thought the tree was moving towards him after drinking alcohol.

TEACHER:

Why is your paper blank?

STUDENT:

Sometimes silence is the best answer.