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AN INSPIRING START TO 2025 REFLECTING ON THE SUCCESS OF THE AMALSADI GLOBAL GRANT PROJECT

The first meeting of 2025 marked a remarkable beginning for RC Surat, celebrating the success of the Amalsadi Global Grant project. The session opened with the National Anthem, followed by the Four-Way Test recited by **Rtn. Indravandan Shetranjiwala. President Jai Mistry** delivered a warm welcome address, outlining the purpose of the meeting—to share insights, satisfy curiosity, and reflect on lessons learned from the Amalsadi Global Grant project.

The highlight of the meeting was an engaging panel discussion moderated by Rtn. Jilpa Sheth. The panel comprised PP Tejas Gandhi, PP Ajay Mahajan, PP Kamal Gandhi, President-Elect Kundan Shah, and Rtn. Nilesh Jariwala. Members explored key aspects of the project, including the selection of Amalsadi as the location, challenges faced during implementation, teamwork, stakeholder engagement, financial arrangements and memorable experiences. The discussion emphasised the value of team work, collaboration and shared sweet memories of the project's success.

Rtn. Neeta Gandhi announced birthdays and anniversaries, followed by secretarial updates from Hon. Secretary Vineet Panchal. The session concluded with a heartfelt vote of thanks by **President-Elect Kundan Shah.**



















AMALSADI GLOBAL GRANT PROJECT COVERAGE IN ROTARY NEWS



A school comes to life

Kiran Zehra

s the Interactors from Utterbuniyadi Vidyalaya in Amalsadi, a tribal village near Surat, Gujarat, worked on their cleanliness drive, the wind seemed determined to make their job harder. "The moment we started sweeping. paper bugs and plastic bottles flew right past us like they had grown feet," says Sahil Rathod, the president of the newly installed Interact club. "We couldn't stop laughing, it was as though the wind was playing games with us. One of us even chased down a plastic bag that had taken off with the breeze."



Despite the wind, Rathod adds, "We didn't want to give up." By the end of the day, the school and streets were clean, though the Interactors were "tired and hungry but proud of our work. We showed our parent club (RC Surat, RID 3060) that we could clean and maintain the school facilities they had renovated for us," he adds.

In February 2022, the school approached RC Surat for computers, and after a visit from club members, it received 10 computers. "The visit also revealed deeper challenges. This residential school, which houses 358 students, many of whom come from underprivileged families, lacked basic amenities and faced severe infrastructure challenges. Toilets were in disrepair, access to drinking water was inconsistent, and basic hygiene practice, were neglected," says Ajay Mahajain, the project coordinator of the club.

With a ₹40-lakh global grant and RC Emory Druid Hills, RID 6900, US, as its global partner, the club transformed the school. Separate toilet blocks for boys and girls, handwash station, a 1,500-litre storage tank and a drinking water station were set up. The hostels, home to 115 boys and 90 girls, were revamped with updated plumbing, new tiles and fresh paint.

The computer lab was expanded and equipped with furniture and infrastructure to provide hands-on technology to more students. "When the school later received government funding for additional computers, those funds were redirected to build restrooms for teachers and to expand lab space," says Giridhar Tandel, the school principal.



Students learn hand wash techniques.



The new handwash station installed by RC Surat at the school.

The club members also brought their professional expertise to the project. Architect Umang Dalal handled the planning and work drawings, structural design was undertaken by Zawarch Wadia, and project supervision was managed by Kamal Gandhi. "All three contributed their time and skills, saving the project significant cost. Their expertise not only brought this project to life but also helped us to channel resources into additional improvements," says Mahajan. Recently he, along with two other club members — Dr Viral Choksi and Swetha Jajoo — conducted health and hygiene workshops for the students. To ensure the project's sustainabil-

To ensure the project's sustainability, the Interact club was installed at the school in September 2024. The Interactors play a crucial role in maintaining the improvements while developing their leadership and teamwork skills. "They diligently monitor hygiene practices, ensuring that students wash their hands with soap before meals, and after using the toilet, and take responsibility for keeping the toilets and school campus clean, fostering a culture of accountability and cleanliness," he says.

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FOUR-WAY TEST



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THE FOUR-WAY TEST
Of the things we think, say or do

First Is it the TRUTH?

Second Is it FAIR to all concerned?

Third Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?

Fourth Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

Stephanie A. Urchi

Tushar Shah

IMPORTANT LINKS













WOMEN'S HEALTH SCREENING CAMP – A NOBLE INITIATIVE BY RC SURAT

The Rotary Club of Surat, in collaboration with Alipore Hospital, Alipore, Chikhali, successfully organised a Women's Health Screening Camp on 5th January 2025 at the Jeevanbharati School Campus, Nanpura, Surat. The camp, held from 9:30 am to 5:30 pm, focused on breast and cervical cancer check-ups, addressing critical aspects of women's health.

A mobile medical van, equipped with a skilled medical team, provided screenings throughout the day. A total of 82 women registered and availed of these essential services. Medical reports will be shared by the hospital within 20 days, after which **Rotary Partner Dr. Prerna Parekh** will extend guidance and support to the beneficiaries.

The success of the camp was made possible by the dedicated efforts of the organising team and supporting organisations. Project Coordinator Rtn. Jilpa Sheth played a key role in meticulously coordinating both pre-registration and on-site registration, with invaluable support from Rtn. Vineet Panchal for hospital coordination, PP Nikhil Madrasi, the Innerwheel Club of Surat, and Surat Jugad for facilitating registrations.

Volunteers who played a pivotal role in the camp's execution included President Jai Mistry, Project Chair Rtn. Rupesh Jariwala, PP Bhupendra Jariwala, Rtn. Nainesh Master, Rtn. Rajesh Desai, Rtn. Suraj Sagar, Rtn. Meghal Baxi, and First Lady Shilpa Mistry. The presence of club members including PP Ajay Mahajan, IPP Sandeep Nanavati, Rtn. Chetan Jariwala and Rtn. Mrunal Kothari was also highly encouraging and motivating.



















SPECIAL RECOGNITION AT THE 55TH DISTRICT CONFERENCE

At the 55th District Conference in Jodhpur, held in December 2024, PDG Hitesh Jariwala & PP Bhishma Jariwala, Rtn. Ajay Mehta & Rotary Partner Naina Mehta, and Rtn. Bhadresh Khatiwala & Rotary Partner Sandhya Khatiwala were recognised for their selection to the Rotary Friendship Exchange programme. PDG Hitesh Jariwala will lead a team to Taiwan, while Rtn. Ajay Mehta will lead a team to Mexico.

Additionally, **PDG Hitesh Jariwala** and **PP Bhishma Jariwala** were honoured for the remarkable achievement of attending more than 25 consecutive District Conferences, showing their strong commitment to Rotary. RC Surat takes immense pride in having such dedicated members whose contributions continue to inspire the Rotary community.



NURTURING FUTURES: HUMF'S SUPPORT FOR EXPECTANT MOTHERS

HUMF, organised by **RC Surat** on **Tuesday**, **07**th **January 2025** sponsored by **Rtn. Neeta Gandhi** and with **First Lady Shilpa Mistry** volunteering. A team of physiotherapists from **Shree Bhartimaiya Physiotherapy College**, including **Dr. Tanisha Somani** and **Dr. Priyanka Valvi**, offered guidance to the beneficiaries.







PAL BAL AANGANWADI: PEOPLE OF ACTION

On **Saturday**, **4**th **January 2025**, healthy meals were distributed to **31** children at Pal Bal Aanganwadi, sponsored & volunteered by **Rotary Partner Amishaben Kinkhabwala**





CONGRATULATIONS!



RC Surat extends its heartfelt congratulations to Rtn. Dr. Neeta Gandhi for securing 3rd place in the recently organised marathon in Surat, aimed at supporting the education and empowerment of girls.

Key Highlights from the 1st Board Meeting for RY 2025-26

Date:4thJanuary 2025 Venue: Rajnigandha Apartment, Nanpura, Surat

1. Call to Order: President 2025-26, Kundan Shah welcomed the Board Members and initiated the meeting.

2. Appointments:

- o PP Kamal Gandhi was appointed as Club Executive Secretary.
- o Directors for Five Avenues of Service:
- O Club Administration: Deepak Gandhi
- o Service Projects: Dr. Neeta Gandhi
- o Membership: Meghal Baxi
- o Rotary Foundation: PP Dr. Ajay Mahajan
- o Public Relations: Jilpa Sheth
- o Sergeants-at-Arms: Nainesh Master, Suraj Sagar, and Chetan Jariwala
- 3. Participation in Rotary International Programs: The Board resolved to actively engage in programs such as IYE and RFE.
- 4. Vision for RY 2025-26:
 - President Kundan Shah shared plans for upcoming projects at Uttarbuniyadi Madhyamik Shala, Amalsadi, including exploring a Global Grant.

5. Additional Initiatives:

- Updating the club video and creating a brochure for service projects.
- o Enhanced mentorship and engagement of new members.
- Implementation of data collection for impact analysis of the Anganwadi project.
- o Revitalizing Rotaract and Interact activities.

Closing: The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks by Rtn. Harshad Kinkhabwala.

BIRTHDAY / ANNIVERSARY

BIRTHDAY

20th January

Rtn. Devesh Gohil

27th January

Rtn. Dipak Gandhi

25th January

Rotary Patner Sunaina Ajay Mahajan

ANNIVERSARY

19th January

Rtn. Vineet & Mehali Panchal

UPCOMING PROGRAMMES

DATE	PROGRAMME / ACTIVITY
10 th Jan.	Speaker Meeting with Dr. Joy & Dr. Megha Shah
11 th Jan.	Bal Aanganwadi sponsored by Rtn. Bhupendra Jariwala
15 th Jan.	Kite Festival Celebration at Rtn. Kundan Shah's Residence
18 th Jan.	Bal Aanganwadi sponsored by Rtn. Chandresh Sheth
24 th Jan.	Kalrav Antakshari
25 th Jan.	Bal Aanganwadi sponsored by Rtn. Dr. Ajay Mahajan
29 th Jan.	A gift of mobility : A Signature project of RI Dist. 3060
01 st Feb.	Club Box Cricket

ROTARY INFORMATION

