



# THE GATEWAY

BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY



for private circulation only | [www.rotaryclubofbombay.org](http://www.rotaryclubofbombay.org)

Vol. 55

Issue No. 06

Mumbai

August 6 to August 12, 2013

Pages 8

Price ₹ 3/-

## *“We are the leaders we are waiting for” - Arun Wakhlu*



**G**ood afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. Let me start off by expressing my deepest gratitude to all of you — to Ume-Haani, Nirav, Sameer, Subhash and Deepak, for this opportunity to talk to you on the theme of Leadership - the Business Challenge.

When we say Namaste in India, what do we mean? I salute the Divine in you, the Sacred in you, which is the same as the Sacred in me.

It's nothing more than saying that I remember that place in you in which the entire universe dwells — the eternal space of truth, of peace, of silence — which is also in me. And how this links to leadership and the challenges that we have is what I want to address today.

Recently, I heard two dogs talking to each other, two dogs from Pune — that's where I live. One dog was telling the other dog, “I've got some good news for you.” So the other dog got very curious. “What is this good news?” he asked. So the first one said, “The world is going to the dogs.”

But look how beautiful the earth is; I'm tempted to say she's hot, really hot. Global warming, along with other issues provides scope for businesses to play an active role in rectification. I am told by Sameer and the others here that a large part of you are into business. If you just take the 100 largest economic entities in the world — countries and organisations — and you stack them up, out of the top 100, 45 are corporations. To just give you a feel of this, the revenue of Walmart is greater than the GDP of 174 countries, including

Sweden, Venezuela and Saudi Arabia.

The reason I'm saying this is that, as Rotarians, as business leaders, as leaders in our field, we have a huge potential to do good in the world. I was absolutely thrilled and delighted to see in this beautiful newsletter that the theme is ‘doing good in the world’ and that's really what it's about.

Let's understand this whole thing from the lens of business and the lens of leadership. What I

intend to do is share a bit about the challenges we are facing. What does it have to do with leadership, and what action can we as leaders take going out of here? What is the one thing we can do? Because we are the leaders we are waiting for. There is no one who is going to save anybody or anything, it is you and me and us. So, let's look at the challenges.

First thing's first — is business for life or is life for business? Is business for life, that our life

should be flourishing, thriving, happy, healthy, joyous, our heart should be functioning well, or is it the other way round — that my life has to be sacrificed at the altar of business. Well, business is for life. This is the context we need to remember. Primacy is of life itself. But is that really how it is? Do you think that people are flourishing and thriving in all businesses? No. There is lots of stress, tension and greed.

It is life that is paramount.



**Today's Speaker (August 6, 2013) : Dr. Sunitha Krishnan on 'Women's Empowerment'**



And, is life working for all? In a recent talk by somebody at Tata Consulting Engineers, the speaker said that every index of social justice in India over the last 60 years has gone from bad to worse. Even though the GDP (apart from other measures of social justice) is rising, inequity is increasing. Ladies and gentlemen, it's not working for all. But can we have a world where everyone can thrive and flourish — every single person? A world with spiritual and material abundance and a world with social justice. Can we create together a kind of world where the environment is happy? I think this is the challenge — a world that works for all people. If you look at organisations, Richard Branson, one of the most enterprising and creative entrepreneurs I know, says, "Never go into business purely to make money. If that's the motive, you're better off doing nothing." Money is a means, it's not an end. Oxygen is very important for life, we can't do anything without oxygen. However, what kind of life would it be if a person is just collecting oxygen? Collecting cylinder after cylinder, from a hundred to five hundred. It's not going to work. Therefore, I think many people need to kind of revisit this and get this part clear.

The second thing is, any sustainable business (any business that has to last 100, 200, 500 years is one in which every stakeholder finds value — the environment is finding value, team members are finding value and customers

are finding value. If the people in India and China started consuming like the average American, how many planets do you think we would need? Five planets. Where are you going to get those planets? Therefore, sustainable business is what it's all about.

Many people in organisations feel like this. We do consulting work with many organisations and when we ask them, "Are you happy? Are you using your full potential?", the answer is no. And when we ask, "What do you want?", they say, "Can we be like this? Can we be free? Can we be more joyous? Can we be more enthusiastic and energetic?" Do you relate to this? The other thing we found in businesses, and again in the government and everywhere else is that departments don't talk to each other. What do you think happens when people don't connect and talk? There is wastage. Wastage of taxpayers' money. So there are huge challenges out there.

So these, ladies and gentlemen, are some challenges. Now the question is, where does leadership come in? What does this have to do with leadership?

Everything we need on the planet, every kind of resource — technological, material, knowledge — everything is there, to create a world that works for all. If you look at Bombay, all the know-how, all the money, all the talent, every single thing is there, but it's like yarn lying unwoven, and the tapestry is missing. Can we as leaders make these

connections? Can we collaborate instead of competing with each other? Like the brain, continuously connecting, linking, integrating — can we make this happen? Can we become conscious of the spiritual dimension and integration that drives everything else? Because if we remember that deep down no matter what the nation, there's one common core, one common heart, one common world, and so on, this can happen. Leadership driven from this space can happen, and it drives everything else.

If we remember this inner power, this inner silence, awareness and peace and let our actions, thoughts and words come from this, believe me, the kind of leadership that is created is amazing.

The centre of Rotary's symbol is really symbolic of this. Can we come together and hold on to that axle and bring everything else together? Do you think Rotary can have a role to play in making Mumbai a better city? We as citizens and as leaders need to take action to be able to make a difference. What is needed is leadership — somebody to initiate that action. Governments are not going to do anything. It is we who can make a difference and I think it is key for everyone

to start doing something very, very simple. If everyone contributes even in a small way, the world can be transformed. Initiating these small acts is what leadership is about, and I would simply say, you are the missing piece, we are the missing piece.

But let's not take it too seriously. Let's work together to create a world that we are proud to hand over. Let's be playful, let's not take ourselves too seriously; believe me, the divine energy is waiting to work through us if we open our hearts, and Rotary is one of the most beautiful opportunities for this energy of leadership for a new world to flow — humanity is infinite, there are no limitations.



99 year old Rtn. Haso Thadani felicitated for his donation of Rs. 25 lakhs



# THE ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY 2013-14

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Membership Development- Shailesh Haribhakti
Classifications and Membership- PP Dr. Adi Dastur
Information- PP Harry Singh Arora
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ADMC Co-Chair Oral Health- Dr. Rajeev Narvekar	Rotary Public Awards Chair- Dr. Sonya Mehta
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Cancer Aid Co-Chair- Dr. Aashish Contractor	Vocational Training and Night Study Centre Co-Chair- Ashwin Ramesh
Polio and Differently Abled Chair- Shyamniwas Somani	<b>H. Economic and Community Development ( Community Service)</b>
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Heart care and Health Chair- Dr. Aashish Contractor	Old Age Homes and Senior Citizens Chair- Naresh Kumar Jain
Heart care and Health Co-Chair- Rekha Tanna	Old Age Homes and Senior Citizens Co-Chair- Subash Gogia
<b>C. Water and Sanitation</b>	Rotary Community Corps Chair- PP Kalpana Munshi
Director- Alok Sekhsaria	Rotary Community Corps Co-Chair- Sheila Bulchandani
Water and Sanitation Chair- Jagdish Malkani	<b>I. Economic and Community Development ( District Thrust Area)</b>
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<b>D. Maternal and Child Health</b>	Promotion of Arts and Culture Chair- Priyasri Patodia
Director- Sunny Pariyaram	Promotion of Arts and Culture Co-Chair- Manoj Israni
Maternal and Child Health Chair- PP Kalpana Munshi	Low Cost Shelter Chair- Jamshed Banaji
Maternal and Child Health Co-Chair- Sheila Bulchandani	Low Cost Shelter Co-Chair- Subash Gogia
<b>E. Basic Education and Literacy (Youth Service I)</b>	Mid-day Meals Chair- Jayesh Jhaveri
Director- Madhusudan Daga	Mid-day Meals Co-Chair- Gaurav Nevatia
Bhavishya Yaan Chair- Preeti Mehta	
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Education Scholarships and Loans Chair- Roda Billimoria	
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# “ Make the world a better place”





# Alisha Chinai wows the audience





# Eat everything, eat healthy



# Donate money and stay involved





# Recapping the month gone by - July 2013

*At his installation meet, President Nirav said that this Rotary Year, he would like to make the world a better place. Wasting no time at all, the Club has gotten off to a great start by involving itself in many projects that are sure to benefit society.*

## Economic and Community Development:

Rotary Umbrellas were donated to the RCC members of Sewree.

An RCC Programme for the distribution of notebooks to 150 children at Wadala RCC at Corba Mithagar, Wadala along with the Polio Committee Chairman was undertaken.

Rotary District 3140 plans to build Low Cost Houses. Rotarian Haso Thadani has donated Rs.25 lakhs in memory of his wife Late Devi Haso Thadani for the Low Cost Shelter project at Shilonde village.

A sum of Rs. 21 lakhs has been collected to for the Uttarakhand

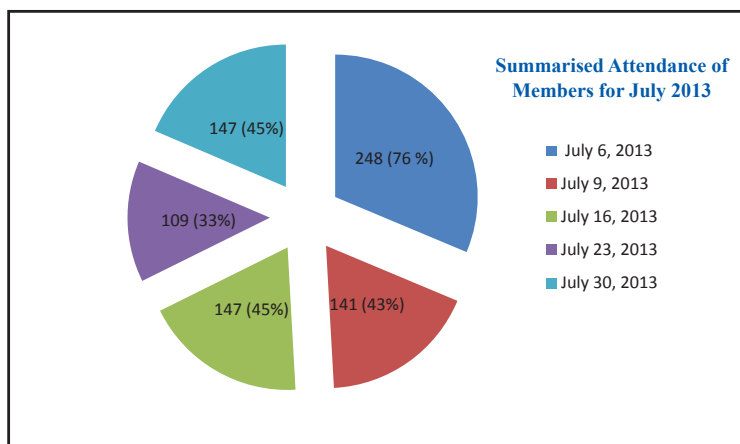
floods, to help with housing, food and other supplies.

The Senior Citizens Committee Chairman, Rtn. Naresh Kumar Jain organised a 'Musical Housie' with residents of the F.S. Parukh Dharmashala at Khareghat Colony. Director Rtn. Sunny Pariyaram. Rtn. PP Kalpana Munshi, Rtn. Rantan Tanka, Rtn. Naresh Kumar Jain and R/anne Preeti Tanka attended the event.

## Basic Education and Literacy:

The Interact Club of The Scholar High School paid a visit to Asha Daan an orphanage in Byculla.

## Summarised attendance for July 2013



## Summarised Attendance of R/anns for July 2013

Meeting	R/anns present
July 6, 2013	88
July 9, 2013	10
July 16, 2013	10
July 23, 2013	3
July 30, 2013	8

The Rotary Year that started this July 2013, has seen a marked improvement in terms of attendance. *The year started off on a high note with 501 people attending President Nirav's Installation Meet on July 6, 2013.*

Post this, the meeting held on July 9, 2013 saw 141 members in attendance and the meeting held on July 16, 2013 was attended by 147 members. The meeting held on the 23rd of the month, was attended by 109 members, despite the heavy rains that swamped the city. The last meeting of the month, held on the 30th, saw 147 members in attendance.

## Anita Parikh Award for Empowerment of Women



Sunitha Krishnan, founder and General Secretary of 'Prajwala' — an eternal flame, is an eminent anti-trafficking activist, internationally known for her fight against girl child trafficking for the purposes of commercial sexual

exploitation. A survivor of sexual assault herself, Sunitha has committed her life to being a full-time volunteer in Prajwala. She has been instrumental in rescuing hundreds of women and children from commercial sexual exploitation and has helped them lead a dignified life. In June 2013, she was nominated to the Andhra Pradesh Women's Commission in recognition of her service to women and children.



## ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY

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### Rotary's six areas of focus



Peace and conflict prevention/resolution



Disease prevention and treatment



Water and sanitation



Maternal and child health



Basic education and literacy



Economic and community development

### Doing good in the world

# Happy Birthday



**Darabshaw Davar**  
August 7



**Camellia Panjabi**  
August 7



**Hormazdiyaar Vakil**  
August 8



**Dr. Sorab Javeri**  
August 10



**Indru Lalwani**  
August 11



**Nowroze Vazifdar**  
August 11



**Venkat Ramaswamy**  
August 12

### The statistics for the meeting on Tuesday, July 30, 2013 are as under:

Members present	147
Visiting Rotarians	01
Rotaryannes	08
Guests	02
<b>Total attendance</b>	<b>158</b>

## Spouses

<b>Rajani Daftary</b>	<b>August 8</b>
<b>Rekha Narang</b>	<b>August 9</b>
<b>Sunita Saxena</b>	<b>August 9</b>
<b>Amita Haribhakti</b>	<b>August 11</b>
<b>Vera Umrigar</b>	<b>August 12</b>

### Nandita Das and Subodh Maskara will be speaking on 'Stepping out of my comfort zone' on August 13, 2013

**P**rominent actress Nandita Das dons many hats. Her fiery passion to make a difference is evident from the choices she has made in her personal life and career. Nandita has acted in over 30 feature films in ten different languages with many eminent directors such as Mrinal Sen, Deepa Mehta, Shyam Benegal and Mani Ratnam among others. Firaq, her directorial debut feature film, premiered at the Toronto Film Festival in 2008. She has also been on the jury of the Cannes Film Festival. The French Government conferred her with the Knight of the Order of Arts and Letters — their prestigious civilian award. Nandita continues to advocate issues of social justice, especially those of women, children and marginalised communities, through various platforms, both in India and abroad. Recently, Nandita



has written, directed and acted in the play 'Between the Lines', which deals with gender inequalities, along with her husband Subodh. The play has garnered praise from both critics and audiences across the country.



Subodh Maskara is an entrepreneur who has started several businesses in his career spanning 20 years. From making television sets for leading brands, an internet company, a publishing venture, angel investing in start-up companies, to starting a factory that recycles plastic bottles and an event management company. Subodh did his MBA from the prestigious Kellogg Graduate School of Management, Northwestern University, USA. In 2011, he decided to step back from the hectic corporate life to pursue his passions. He is currently acting in a play called 'Between the Lines' with Nandita.

### Forthcoming Meetings

August 13  
**Nandita Das and Subodh Maskara** on  
 "Stepping out of my Comfort Zone"

August 20  
**Amla Ruia** on  
 "Silver Rain Drops - Ancestral Practices of Water Harvesting"

August 27  
**Dr. Ramakant Panda** on  
 "Future of Medicine & Healthcare"

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**Regd. No. MH/MR/South-109/2012-14, R.N.I. No. 14015/60**  
**Posted on Wednesday, August 7, 2013**