

## BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY



### From the President's Desk



It is almost impossible to find someone who doesn't feel a strong connect to music. Not everyone can sing or play an instrument, but most of us can probably reel off a list of songs that often make us feel happy even after a bad day.

No wonder a Greek philosopher once said, "Music gives a soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination and life to everything." I can't agree more. As a doctor, I have seen music 'therapy' calm anxiety and ease pain in patients. It provides a pleasant diversion during chemotherapy or a hospital stay. Music has the power to manage negative emotions such as stress and has proven benefits in relaxing muscular and psychological tension.

Ever wondered why a lullaby soothes a new born, a sad song consoles the grieving, a happy song evokes happy memories and a patriotic song like 'Aye mere watan ke logon' moves most of us to tears? Isn't it wonderful that music touches our hearts? In fact, some studies even indicate that music affects foetal brain development. Garbha sanskar music, Mozart, have all been associated with a number of benefits for both mothers and babies.

Talking about children, there is an interesting research that suggests that children who are exposed to music achieve good results in academics. That just brings a thought to my mind. What if our children at Bhavishya Yaan get an opportunity to learn music? I am sure there would be many who would love to learn music. Couldn't we Rotarians fulfill their wish?

Just donate some money or an old music instrument like a Guitar, Drums, Harmonium or a Tabla. Once the instruments are in place, we can appoint qualified music teachers to train the students. Tying up with the Shankar Mahadevan Academy could be a good idea. Let's breathe new life into old music and bring some music back into the life of our youth.

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14/21  
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## Love - What Is It Good For?



**W**ould life be worthwhile if it were not for love and its intoxicating effects? On Valentine's Day, the Rotary Club of Bombay hosted a debate as part of the special occasion to answer that very question.

The debate, moderated by Rotarian Sabira Merchant, Miss India trainer and actress, began with the first speaker from team proposition, Rotarian Haresh Jagtiani. A past president of the RCB, he set the direction for the debate by defining the motion simply as "life filled with indifference or hate is awful," he journeyed through the different phases of life and the importance of love at each stage. Haresh analysed the influence of love on teenagedom

**Today's Speaker:** Pankaj Udhas - '30 Years of Chithi Aayee Hai'



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especially, asking "What would a teen do today if he could not post his love on Instagram or Facebook?" Furthermore, he also evaluated the role of love in "settling down" - even in arranged marriages. "The only thing that is arranged," he argued, "is the matrimonial ceremony. After that, you cannot show indifference to your mother-in-law's dog, if not your mother-in-law herself." Finishing off on a humorous note, he welcomed the next speaker onto the dais to contest his stance.

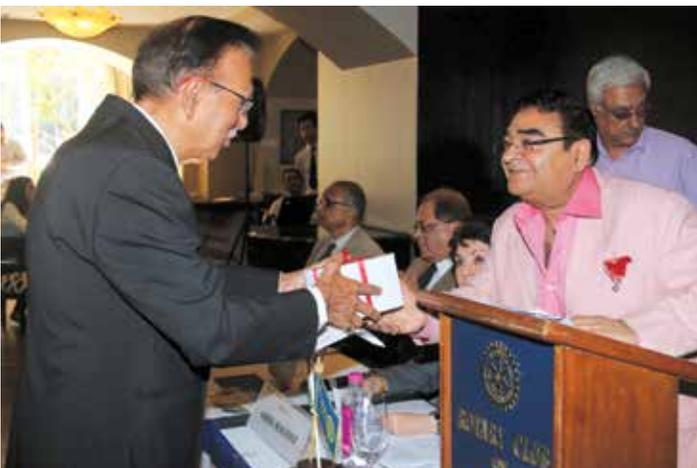
To introduce the opposition team's position on the motion, Rotarian

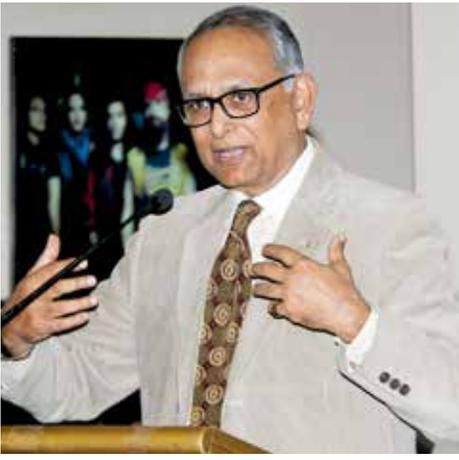
Pochkhanwala took to the stage. As a lawyer who specializes in civil and constitutional law, he highlighted the lack of definition provided by the proposition team. "What kind of love?" He asked, accentuating the differences between physical, emotional, maternal, and other kinds of love. Choosing to discuss the physical form first, he rebutted that the choice to have children is our natural tendency to mate and procreate. Moreover, he stated that there is no reason to "get bound into a family life, when we can roam the world free and do what we want instead." Rather than being "bound

and cornered by love," we must realize that it is just a practice of "selfishness and emotional blackmail," and that "there is a life without love, and a fulfilling one at that."

To rebut Rtn. Pochkhanwala's claims and make some of his own, Rtn. Pradeep Saxena, another past president of the RCB, was welcomed to the podium. In order to emphasize his imminent argument, he began with a bite of rhetoric, asking "mirror, mirror on the wall, who's the fairest of them all?" Rtn. Saxena contended that "the most major love of our lives, is ourselves," and used Facebook to further demonstrate this notion. "It is a great instrument to promote ourselves. Whatever we accomplish, we publish on the social media website." He asserted that romantic love may drive us, but it is not the only thing, as the love we have for ourselves can help us achieve great things in life.

However, to make the debate more interesting, the next speaker to follow Rtn. Saxena was none other than his daughter, Prakriti Poddar. A life coach and managing trustee of the Poddar Foundation, Rtn. Poddar attempted to debunk the many "myths of love" that are so prevalent in our society. Commenting on the societal issues of depression and suicide due to unrelinquished love, she asserted





that our current "concept of love is skewed," and noted how even "wars are fought for the love of gods," or even in the case of Greek mythology, women. Ending the debate, she asked, "is it really love that matters?"

To close the discussion, Rtn. Merchant noted the "soul-searching" she underwent along with the audience, throughout the debate. After a discussion where both parties delved into the past, present, and future to assess whether life could possibly

be worthwhile without love, a show of hands was called for in order to choose the finalists who swayed us with their argumentation and oration.

After a quick count and figurative drum roll, it was clear. The proposition team had unanimously garnered the audience's votes. Perhaps love truly does make the world go round.



## Legally Speaking

### SC asks why private FM stations can't air news

The Supreme Court has questioned the Centre's refusal to allow private FM stations and community radio service operators to air news and current affairs programs. A PIL filed by a NGO called Common Cause contends that "the government could not control flow of information and its decision was unconstitutional and violative of right to freedom of speech and expression".

The Centre has said it was not possible to grant FM stations and community radio service operators permission to air news as several anti-national radical elements within the country and also abroad can misuse it for propagating their own agenda. According to the PIL, India is perhaps the lone democracy where the dissemination of news and current affairs programs on radio remains a monopoly of the Government-owned broadcaster.

### EPFO Obligation on Principal Employer

The Employees Provident Fund Organization (EPFO) has issued a circular on February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2017 annexing a letter to employees clarifying that it is the obligation of the Principal Employer to ensure compliance under the Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 in respect of employees engaged by or through contractors and, advising employers to enter and verify details of contracts and payments on the EPFO portal.

### Delhi HC stays Neighborhood Criteria on Nursery Admissions

In a major relief to parents seeking nursery admissions for their child in the state of Delhi, Justice Manmohan of the Delhi High Court has granted a stay on the notification issued by the Delhi Government which stated that nursery admission would preferentially be given to students who reside in the same neighbourhood as their school. These two notifications were issued on December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2016 and January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017. These notifications stated that a child residing within the radius of 0 to 3 kilometres from the school would be given preference during the time of admissions.

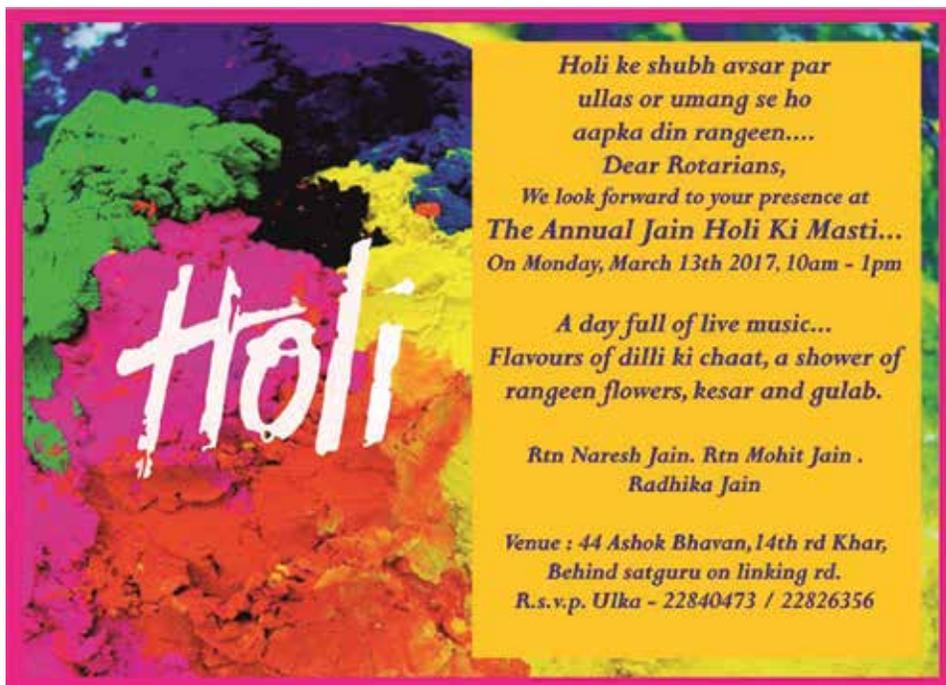
### Changes in Passport Rules

- Wider options for proof of date of birth.
- Name of only one parent or legal guardian required.
- Number of annexes has been cut down.
- Marriage certificate not mandatory for married applicants.
- Easy rules for orphaned children.
- Adoption deed not required for domestically adopted children.

This column with brief legal news and updates is compiled by Rtn. Natasha Treasurywala, Partner at Desai & Diwanji.

For any suggestions/questions, please email her at [ntreasurywala@desaidiwanji.com](mailto:ntreasurywala@desaidiwanji.com)

Our Rotarian lawyers are invited to contribute to this column.



*Holi ke shubh avsar par  
ullas or umang se ho  
aapka din rangeen....*

*Dear Rotarians,  
We look forward to your presence at  
The Annual Jain Holi Ki Masti...  
On Monday, March 13th 2017, 10am - 1pm*

*A day full of live music...  
Flavours of dilli ki chaat, a shower of  
rangeen flowers, kesar and gulab.*

*Rtn Naresh Jain. Rtn Mohit Jain .  
Radhika Jain*

*Venue : 44 Ashok Bhavan, 14th rd Khar,  
Behind satguru on linking rd.  
R.s.v.p. Ulka - 22840473 / 22826356*



**SAD DEMISE**

ॐ

**Shri Ram Murti Mehra**  
(February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2017)

**Deeply Mourned**  
Husband of Swaraj Mehra  
Father of Sonia Gulati,  
Nisha (Monia) Mulchandani & Tonia Mehra  
FIL/o Surendra Gulati &  
Prakash Mulchandani  
Grand Father of Soni & Vishal

ॐ

*Sandeep Agarwalla receiving a special citation  
from TRF trustee chair elect Paul Netzel*



**Rotary Tennis Tournament on February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017**



Number of people who took part in the Tennis Tournament :  
Total 120 participants - 70 boys 50 girls  
RCB was the Co-Host

**Football Tournament**

**The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Football Tournament**

will be held on  
**March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017, Saturday,**  
from 5-7pm. at the NSCI.

*This is a short format a five-a-side football match for Rotarians,  
a penalty-kick contest for lady Rotarians and Partners,  
and a penalty-kick contest for children of Rotarians.*

We hope to replicate the success of the 1st tournament,  
held last year, if not do better.

Those interested in playing are requested to register their name,  
by February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017, with either

Jamshyd Vazifdar  
jamshydv@gmail.com  
9821435558

OR

Satyan Israni  
satyan.israni@gmail.com  
9821220255

**Forthcoming Events**

- **Feb 23rd, 2017**  
**In Camera** - 6:30pm. Krupa Ghandhi - **'How to take good pictures on your mobile phone'** hosted by Rtn. Ramesh Mehta
- **Feb 26th, 2017**  
**Fund Raiser** - The Asiatic Society, The Tondal Durbar - 6:30pm
- **Feb 28th, 2017**  
**Speaker Sameer Dua** - Author 'Creating a future that matter'
- **March 4th, 2017**  
Football Tournament at NSCI 5pm - 7pm
- **March 6th - 13th, 2017**  
**Fellowship to Bhutan**
- **March 7th, 2017**  
**Speaker - Ashwini Bhide** - MD, MMRCL 'Mumbai Metro - The project that would change the life of Mumbaiers'
- **March 14th, 2017**  
**District Governor visit to RCB**
- **March 21st, 2017**  
**Speaker Parveen Pardesi** - Principal Secretary, Office of The Chief Minister, Maharashtra. 'Return of Tigers to Maharashtra'
- **March 30th, 2017**  
**In Camera** - 7 p.m. Talk by Reyna Rupani - "Health is in your hands". Hosted by Malti & Mudit Jain @ Shikhar Kunj, Altamount Road
- **April 4th, 2017**  
**Shri Pravinchandra V. Gandhi Award for Excellence** in public life presented to **Nita Ambani** at The Taj Mahal Palace Hotel

# Know your Rotarian - Manoj Israni

## The Rotary Foundation Major Donor

**W**e are delighted to feature once again our longstanding member Mr. Manoj Israni (Bombay District 3140), Managing Director of Blue Cross Laboratories. This time we asked him about his motivation to join Rotary, what he enjoys the most about the club, what drives him as an AKS donor to regularly donate to the Rotary Foundation and his message to the rest of us to continue giving. We take immense pride. It was a privilege to catch up with him and gives us sense of immense pride to call him a fellow Rotarian. Let us all take inspiration from his words and work towards contributing our very best to the club.

(The gateway) **TG:** What motivated you to join Rotary?

**Rtn. Manoj (MI):** After almost working 15 years in my company I had a lot of free time on my hands. I could have done a lot of things during this free time but was recommended that Rotary would be a great platform to join especially RCB. Prior to this I had got many Paul Harris Fellow awards from various clubs, probably one every year. So when the time was right I decided that Rotary was the best organization for me to join.

**TG:** What do you like about the Rotary Club of Bombay?

**MI:** RCB is a very prominent club of district 3141. It also has a huge membership. Many of the rotarians especially the senior ones I have



known since my childhood days. South Bombay as you are aware is a very small well knitted community where almost everyone knows everyone. RCB fits this profile. So when I go for a social engagement it's really nice meeting up with people from the same club. Also the fellowships are well organized. The speakers are most of the time quite good. The combination of good speakers as well as good fellowships is what I like about RCB the most. But again coming back to the main point are the members who I can connect with, some of whom I have known for years.

**TG:** You are an AKS donor. What motivates you to donate regularly to the Rotary foundation?

**MI:** I truly believe that donating is an on going process. You can't just donate once and forget about it. The whole purpose of joining an

organization like Rotary is to make a difference in the world. Some of us get down to doing hands on work for charity and some of us, because of time constraints prefer to donate. I don't see the point in joining an organization like Rotary where one can't do either. I think it's the responsibility of each one of us to contribute in some way or the other to ensure the continuity of Rotary as an organization for the betterment of our country or the world as the case maybe. The Rotary Foundation is doing good work and I know the money I donate is being put to good use. That's what is important.

**TG:** Your message for other Rotarians to inspire them into giving.

**MI:** Honestly I can only say that donating is a self realization process. You actually can't force someone to donate. It has to come from within. I can only share my experience with others but giving is upto them. Everytime I have contributed I have never seen my money diminishing. In fact it has grown more than before. But there was no expectation from my side that today I am donating so tomorrow my money will grow. It doesn't work like that. The point I am trying to make is that if you can make a little difference in the world do it and do it selflessly. As Mother Teresa once said "If you can't feed a hundred people, then just feed one".

## UPDATED LIST OF PRESIDENTS

### ROTARIAN

Dr. Rahim Muljani	1982 - 83
Nanabhai Davar (D)	1983 - 84
Vithal Palekar	1984 - 85
Mahendra Sanghi	1985 - 86
Arjun Bulchandani	1986 - 87
Dadi Engineer (D)	1987 - 88
Adi Mulla (D)	1988 - 89
Ramu Pandit (D)	1989 - 90
Dr. Jayanti Kothari	1990 - 91
Vikram Kamdar	1991 - 92
Ajit Deshpande (D)	1992 - 93
Ahmed Ibrahim (D)	1993 - 94
Arvind Jolly	1994 - 95
Dr. Kekoo Kavarana	1995 - 96
Nalin Parikh	1996 - 97
Rajnikant Reshamwala	1997 - 98
Dr. Adi Dastur	1998 - 99
Haresh Jagtiani	1999 - 00
Dr. Zerxis Umrigar	2000 - 01
Arun Sanghi	2001 - 02
Sandip Agarwalla	2002 - 03
Mrs. Kalpana Munshi	2003 - 04
Ajay Kanoria	2004 - 05
Gul Kripalani	2005 - 06
Harry Singh Arora	2006 - 07
Dr. Rumi Jehangir	2007 - 08
Ashish Vaid	2008 - 09

### ROTARIAN

Nandan Damani	2009 - 10
Pradeep Saxena	2010 - 11
Paul George	2011 - 12
Nowroze Vazifdar	2012 - 13
Nirav Shah	2013 - 14
Shailesh Haribhakti	2014 - 15
Dr. Mrs. Sonya Mehta	2015 - 16
Dr. Mukesh Batra	2016 - 17

## ROTARY CLUB OFFICERS

### TRUSTEES 2016-17

Rtn. Dr. Rahim Muljiani  
Rtn. Arvind Jolly  
Rtn. Arun Sanghi  
Rtn. Dr. Adi Dastur  
Rtn. Dr. Mukesh Batra  
Rtn. Dr. Sonya Mehta  
Rtn. Ramesh Narayan  
Rtn. Jagdish Malkani  
Rtn. Meera Alreja

### OFFICE-BEARERS 2016-17

President	Dr. Mukesh Batra
Immediate Past President	Dr. Sonya Mehta
President-Elect	Ramesh Narayan
President Nominee	Jagdish Malkani
Honorary Secretary	Manish Reshamwala
Joint Hon. Secretary	Framroze Mehta
Hon. Treasurer	Meera Alreja

### DIRECTOR: RAMESH NARAYAN

Membership & Info	PP Nowroze Vazifdar
Membership Development	Pradeep Chinai
Club Trainer	Deepak Kapadia
CSR	Shivkumar Israni

### DIRECTOR: MUDIT JAIN

Fellowship	Ritu Prakash Desai
Assimilation	Mahesh Khubchandani
Sergeant-at-arms	Roda Billimoria
In-camera	Rekha Tanna
Attendance	Bipin Kapadia

### DIRECTOR: ANUJ ARENJA

Fund raising	PP Sandip Agarwalla
Program	Poornima Advani
PR	Vineet Suchanti
Bulletin	Hoshang Billimoria
Social Media & Website	Murad Currawala
Sports	Jamshyd Vazifdar

### DIRECTOR: ASHOK JATIA

Bhavishya Yaan	Satyan Israni
Legal Aid	Natasha Treasurywala
Vocational Training	Sunny Pariyaram
Scholarships	Zinia Lawyer
Rotary Public Awards	Shernaz Vakil

### DIRECTOR: DR. ASHISH CONTRACTOR

Chairman Emeritus Talwada	PP Dr. Rahim Muljiani
ADMC Talwada	Dr. Sorab Javeri
HTEC Talwada	PP Dr. Rumi Jehangir
Yoga	Sitaram Shah
Cancer Aid	Madhusudan Daga
RCB Clinic - Cotton Green	Manoj Patodia

### DIRECTOR: SAMIR CHINAI

Animal Welfare	Priyasri Patodia
Environment	Manoj Patodia
Asiatic Society	Aditya Somani
Nutrition	PP Dr. Zexis Umrigar

### DIRECTOR: RAVINDRA FOTEDAR

Water Resources	Rohan Dalal
Senior Citizen	PP Ashish Vaid
Women's Empowerment	Dr Rajeev Narvekar

### DIRECTOR: SHIV DEV GOROWARA

The Rotary Foundation	PDG Gulam Vahanvaty
Youth Exchange Programs	Vijay Jatia
Atlanta convention 16-17	PP Nandan Damani

### DIRECTOR : JAIDEV MERCHANT

Interact	Bipin Vazirani
Rotaract	Mehul Sampat

### DIRECTOR : JAGDISH MALKANI

District Thrust Area	Alok Sekhsaria
District Coordinator	PP Pradeep Saxena
E-Administrator	Bimal Mehta
Rotary Service Carnival	PP Harry Singh Arora

Regd. No. MCS/091/2015-17; R.N.I No. 14015/60. WP P  
License No. MR/TECH/WPP-89/South 2015

Email : [rotaryclubbombay1@gmail.com](mailto:rotaryclubbombay1@gmail.com)

## NEXT WEEK'S SPEAKER

### Sameer Dua – Author "Creating a future that matters"

Sameer is committed to transforming lives of people around the world and believes that everyone in this world is a possibility of happiness, success and extra-ordinary achievement. He empowers people to know what they really love in life and supports them in getting that in their life so that they lead a life full of joy, success, and fulfilment.

Having spent 24 years in the field of management and leadership education, he has discovered the generative power in human beings, and how each individual has a choice in what he or she creates. In his first book, he talks about how each one of us, in every area of our life, has an almost certain, probable, default future. He invites individuals, teams, and organizations to get skilled in creating a future of design, rather than that of drift.



Sameer is about to complete his second book in the area of generative leadership, and this book will be released early 2017.



## Birthdays & Anniversary Greetings



Rtn. Deepak Kapadia  
21<sup>st</sup> February



Rtn. Nadir Modi  
22<sup>nd</sup> February



Rtn. Shiv Dev Gorowara  
24<sup>th</sup> February



Rtn. Ramesh Narayan  
24<sup>th</sup> February



Rtn. Ramon Kripalaney  
26<sup>th</sup> February



Rtn. Anar Shah  
27<sup>th</sup> February

### Partners

21<sup>st</sup> February - Ptn. Swati Dalal  
22<sup>nd</sup> February - Ptn. Dina Nayar  
23<sup>rd</sup> February - Ptn. Achala Shah  
24<sup>th</sup> February - Ptn. Indira Kotak  
26<sup>th</sup> February - Ptn. Dr. Sailesh Hathi  
Ptn. Aruna Jagtiani

### Anniversaries

21<sup>st</sup> February - Rtn. Moshin & Ptn. Nafisa Contractor  
Rtn. Bharat Kumar & Ptn. Neerja Taparia  
22<sup>nd</sup> February - Rtn. Dr. Anand & Ptn. Brinda Shah  
24<sup>th</sup> February - Rtn. Vibhay & Ptn. Manju Sinha  
Rtn. Karl & Ptn. Yasmin Divecha  
27<sup>th</sup> February - Rtn. Vijay & Ptn. Geeta Dhawan

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Ph: 23705200 /01/ 02 / 03.

Email: [indigopress@gmail.com](mailto:indigopress@gmail.com).

### Statistics for last week's meeting

Members present	137
Rotaryannes	04
Visiting Rotarians	02
Guests	03
Rotaractors	02
Total attendance	148
Community Service Box Collection	- ₹1,100/-