

## BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY



### From the President's Desk



Most RCB members are distinguished in their own fields of activity whether it's business or professionals such as doctors, lawyers, industrialists. As the leaders in their field they are a leading light and an example for other fellow citizens to emulate. As members of RCB they also share a passion of giving back to society and looking after the

greater good.

This makes them model citizens the community can truly live up to. However, to complete a sense of satisfaction for one's self one also needs to cultivate an interest in art and not just some other hobbies such as golf/tennis/squash. This is because art is a reflection of the times we live in and holds up a mirror to society and gives expression often to the unsaid in society.

You can be passionate about any or many art forms. These aren't just limited to sculpture or paintings but in its widest sense, includes everything from writing (poetry or prose as several of our members have done by publishing a book or more), dancing (these range from the traditional such as Bharatnatyam to Salsa and the Waltz), music (the Indian repertoire itself is huge from Carnatic to tabla/santoor/basuri wadan, Hindustani classical, devotional to Bollywood and Indie pop and rock and roll).

The sum and substance is that engaging yourself actively in some art form that you are passionate about, whether as a spectator or participant (one needn't always need to be a connoisseur par excellence) can help you discover a side to yourself that you never knew existed. Who knows you may reach the commanding heights of that too and inspire your children to develop their God-given abilities more holistically.

Indeed art has been used for development and healing in societies around the world including those recovering from war and strife torn situations. Going forward we will hopefully incorporate appreciation of fine art too in our Bhavishya Yaan programmes so that we help these individuals truly blossom.

## *The Indian Constitution A Mixed Success*



The RCB meeting of 10th January saw an impressive turnout of people to hear Dr Chintan Chandrachud, Associate, Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan LLP London . The happy occasion saw RCB President Dr Mukesh Batra announce that Past President (PP) Dr Rumi Jehangir had through the AH Wadia Trust made a donation of Rs 25 lakh towards the HTEC while JK Helene Curtis made a donation of Rs 13.93 lakh and Raymond UCO Denim Rs 10.5 lakh for Urban Conservation for the Asiatic library. "Our sincere thanks also to Hoshang Nazir for his donation and Rotaryanne Seema Makhija for her \$1000 donation to the Paul Harris Fellowship.," said Dr Batra.

**Today's Meeting: Seema Mehta**  
-Director, Chandan Nritya Bharati

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Introducing the speaker Rtn. Subrato K Mitra said he had blue chip qualifications with a PhD from Cambridge and graduate degrees from Yale and Oxford. "His father is a judge in the Supreme Court and in line to be a potential Chief Justice of India following in the footsteps of his grandfather Justice YV Chandrachud. It's a tough subject and I look forward to what lies ahead of us," said Rtn. Mitra.

Dr Chandrachud focused his talk on the 70 years of the Indian constitution on how the Supreme Court (SC) has interpreted the Constitution and how it may do so in the future. "I will sandwich my criticism between praises," said Dr. Chandrachud. He said the Indian constitution has been a resounding success when one considers it in comparative terms and one keeps in the cultural and linguistic diversity of our country. "Most scholars at that time had predicted doom for our constitution. Constitution law expert Sir Ivor Jennings had said it's too long and detailed to survive beyond 10 years," elucidated Dr Chandrachud.

He said his study of Constitutions since 1789 (the year the US constitution was enacted) to 2012 suggests that the average lifespan of a Constitution is 19 years. "In that respect the Indian



constitution has already lasted more than thrice the average. What's more it's considered along with that of South Africa as a gold standard in Constitution design," said Dr Chandrachud.

He also debunked the popular notion that a constitution succeeds only when an economy is prospering and growing. "This wasn't true of India in the 1980s though even then it was considered a foremost document," he added. The central role of the SC is seen in the fact that it has bound the constitution and the nation together. The court's prominent judgements were often cited in newspapers more

than those issued by the executive with just one paper referring to them as many as 200-400 times in the course of a year.

"Though the Indian constitution is pretty detailed and long at 450 articles and 12 Schedules there is plenty of interpretation to do as many statutes such as the Right to Life have been left understandably vague such that they can be interpreted in the light of specific cases brought before it," said Dr Chandrachud. The judgements of the Supreme Court according to him have been influenced by three different approaches. In the first phase the apex court focussed on the plain meaning of words in the Constitution. From the 1970s onwards they looked at the statutes in the context of the broader structure of the Constitution. "This approach allowed the court to enumerate rights not specifically set out in the statute such as the Freedom of Information and the Right to privacy," said Dr Chandrachud.

One change in the approach of the apex court of our country has also been in the way the SC hears cases. Whilst earlier they were heard by a large panel of eight or so judges including the Chief Justice of India today they are head by smaller benches of two or three judges. This is despite the fact that the strength of the SC has increased from around eight judges including the Chief





justice of India (CJI) to around 31 today. "Even though the composition of the SC has changed dramatically they can no longer afford to sit in panels of exceeding five judges. The casualty of this has been well reasoned judgements," says Dr Chandrachud.

Today 12 to 13 panels of two to three judges take decisions." There is not one Supreme Court but several SCs sitting in one place, The 12 different panels of judges in effect decide cases differently," asserted Dr Chandrachud. Unlike earlier where large panels of judges decided cases of monumental importance today this job is delegated to panels of two to three judges. "There is a relationship between the structure of a court and the reasons it gives for its decisions. "Panels of smaller number of judges often lead to less reasoned judgements as they don't engage as much in sophisticated reasoning as dissenting opinions are usually absent in smaller judge benches," said Dr Chandrachud.

He feels that the quality of reasoning has fallen under this approach and has led to a situation where the outcome of cases often depends on which bench they go before." A decision of two three judge bench today is less likely than before to represent the opinion of the whole court. We now have a situation akin to Panchayati

eccelectism where panels may decide cases divorced from precedent and established interpretation of the statute and based on their self conceptions of their role as sentinels of democracy, cleansers of political process and making decision based on that," he added.

According to him this has led to varying interpretations of the same statute. For instance a 2013 judgement of the SC suggests that the right to vote is a statutory right that can be given and also taken away but none of the above vote judgement suggests that the right to vote is a right guaranteed by the Constitution. He also gave other examples of such inconsistencies such as the National Anthem case where in its two page order the court failed to provide a reasoned basis for invoking the principle of national patriotism as a the principle underlying its order.

While there has been some increase in the number of constitution bench judgements in recent times less than a percent of cases brought before the apex court are decided by such benches. "This may be because unlike the US or the UK Supreme courts which hear less than a 100 cases a year, the Indian SC deals with as



many as 60,000 cases annually. This severe stress is affecting the quality of reasoning," said Dr Chandrachud. As a result of this the SC is under severe pressure and its dockets are overflowing. According to him the only way to deal with this situation may be to restrict access to the court of final appeal to allow it more time for considered judgements without being overtly stressed.

"Courts are expected to adjudicate rather than vote. The failure to give sophisticated reasoning underlying the judgements makes it look as if the SC is voting rather than adjudicating on a matter," he added. He said that public opinion including censure on the decisions of the court should be welcome up to a point and contrasted how the Indian press is largely restrained in its criticism of court orders.

"The Indian constitution is a success story but there is much to worry about," he concluded.

Giving the vote of thanks Rtn. Mudit Jain said this is the third generation in the family that follows in the tradition of being distinguished lawyers. "Thank you for summing up the topic" concluded Rtn. Jain.



# New Rotarians

## KUMAR AJAI



**Classification** : Banking  
**Company** : Yes Bank  
**Designation** : Director  
**Address** : Yes Bank Ltd, IndiaBull Financial Centre, Tower 2, Floor 22, Cabin No.10, Parel, Mumbai - 400 012.  
**Phone** : +91 22 241 16098 **Mobile:** +91 96192 72893  
**Email** : ajai.kumar3@gmail.com  
**Residence** : 2601, Tower C, Ashok Towers, Opp. Bharat Mata Cinema, Parel East, Mumbai - 400 012.  
**Phone** : +91 22 241 16098  
**Birth Day** : 26 June, 1953 **Joined Rotary:** 19 May, 1977  
**Wedding Date** : 11 November, 2016 **Blood Group:** O -  
Non Excused | Non Vegetarian



**Spouse/Partner:** KUMAR MEENAKSHI  
**Company** :  
**Designation** :  
**Address** :  
**Phone** : **Mobile:** +91 96192 72897  
**Email** :  
**Birth Day** : 6 December, 1958 **Blood Group:**  
Non Excused | Non Vegetarian

## KHUSHRUSHABI SOHRAB



**Classification** : Legal : Corporate Law  
**Company** : Talwar, Thakore & Associates  
**Designation** : Managing Associates  
**Address** : 3rd Floor, Kalpataru Heritage, 127 M G Road, Mumbai - 400 001.  
**Phone** : +91 22 661 36935 **Mobile:** +91 98215 13457  
**Email** : sohrab82@gmail.com  
**Residence** : Planet Godrej, Tower Aqua, Flat 802, 8th Floor, K K Marg, Mahalaxmi, Mumbai - 400 011.  
**Phone** : +91 22 230 16257  
**Birth Day** : 30 November 1982 **Joined Rotary:** 7 May 2016  
**Wedding Date** : 30 October 2010 **Blood Group:**  
Non Excused | Non Vegetarian



**Spouse/Partner:** KHUSHRUSHABI DANEESH  
**Company** :  
**Designation** :  
**Address** :  
**Phone** : **Mobile:** +91 98202 87811  
**Email** : daneeshd@gmail.com  
**Birth Day** : 10 January 1984 **Blood Group:**

## MASTER ZEENIA

**Classification** : Management : Hospitality  
**Company** : Xenia Hospitality Solutions LLP  
**Designation** : CEO  
**Address** : 201, Mothibai Wadia Building, S.A.Brelvi Road, Horniman Circle, Fort, Mumbai - 400 001.

**Phone** : +91 22 228 73567 **Mobile:** +91 99309 86780  
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**Residence** : 25th Floor, Sterling Towers, Hughes Road, Gamdevi, Mumbai - 400 007.



**Phone** :  
**Birth Day** : 15 February, 1987 **Joined Rotary:** 21 June, 2016  
**Wedding Date** : 30 November, 2011 **Blood Group:**  
Non Excused | Non Vegetarian

**Spouse/Partner :**  
**Company** :  
**Designation** :  
**Address** :  
**Phone** : **Mobile:**  
**Email** :  
**Birth Day** : **Blood Group:**

## MEHRA SANJIV

**Classification** : Management : Sports Event  
**Company** : Saran Presents Pvt.Ltd. (Saran Sports)  
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**Phone** : +91 22 220 49435  
**Birth Day** : 19 December 1961 **Joined Rotary:** 28 April 2016  
**Wedding Date** : 29 January, 2011 **Blood Group:** ORH+  
Non Excused |

**Spouse/Partner :**  
**Company** :  
**Designation** :  
**Address** :  
**Phone** : **Mobile:**  
**Email** :  
**Birth Day** : **Blood Group:**

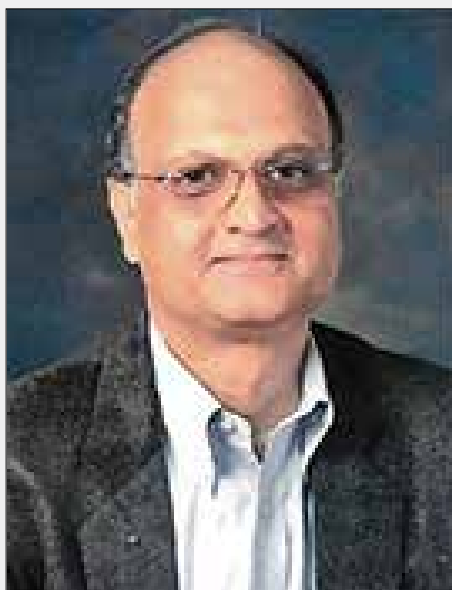
## PDG Gulamhusein(Gulam) Vahanvaty

**P**DG Gulam A Vahanvaty (GV) is a man that many Rotarians and Rotaryannes would know. The only Indian on the Rotary Peace Centres Committee, PDG Vahanvaty is a member of the Governing board of Mumbai First, a trustee of The Mohalla Committee Movement Trust that aims to maintain communal harmony in Mumbai, a trustee of the Public Concern for Governance Trust and the Chairman of the Stewards who exercise jurisdiction over all racing matters of the Royal Western India Turf Club Ltd.

RCB is privileged to have him as its member. He is very passionate about the six focus areas of The Rotary Foundation (TRF) and has been at the forefront of a number of initiatives. He also has the distinction of being Rotary Foundation's Advisor to District 3272(Pakistan). In the first year of the new district 3141 which comprises of Mumbai and Mumbai suburban areas, The Gateway caught up with our new member. Presenting some excerpts from the interview:

**The Gateway (TG) :** How do you see the interaction between Rotary International (RI) and the clubs in India?

**(GV):**The Rotary Foundation (TRF) promotes international cooperation and the use of funds in the best way possible across the six focus areas of TRF viz. : Peace, Water & Sanitation, Basic Education, Literacy, Economic, Community Development, Maternal & Child Health Disease Prevention & treatment. Rotary has been in the forefront of eradication of polio worldwide. Rotary International (RI) joined hands with the (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) CDC USA, UNICEF and the World Health Organization. Before this concerted effort, Polio claimed as



many as 1,000 lives a day worldwide. When the polio vaccine was found to be so effective, RI started promoting this to save lives. Today there are only three countries in the world where polio is still endemic - Pakistan, Afghanistan and Nigeria.

**TG:** Today there are a number of organisations such as Giants and Lions who engage in social work. How is Rotary different from these?

**GV:** I think every single organisation that you mentioned is doing great work in their own sphere. The focus should be on how we can work together and complement each other.

Rotary differs from other clubs in its membership requirement in that you have to have a vocation to be invited to join it. Rotary also differs from them in having limits on the number of people of a particular vocation that can be admitted to membership in any Rotary Club. This is what makes Rotary such a great cultural mix.

**TG:** Take us through your journey in Rotary

**GV:** Till 1978 I was unaware of Rotary. The first time I came to know about it

was when I read about the Group Study Exchange programme of TRF. I applied for this and was selected. This was the first time that I got to know what Rotary was and what it did and its true international flavour. When I came back I kept in touch and was invited to join the Rotary Club of Bombay Downtown in 1979. I remained as a member of this club till 30 June 2015. Having lost my wife and facing some inconveniences due to change of venue and time for meetings, I resigned from membership of that club in 2015. I joined RCB on July 1, 2015.

**TG:** What made you choose RCB to become a member?

**GV:** I had friends in RCB and I am grateful that the Club invited me to join. Also in my previous role as PDG I had seen RCB doing many outstanding projects that truly benefitted the community. I have seen clubs all over the country and I admire RCB for the projects it undertakes and I can safely say that there is no club in the entire district or even our country that matches its work. I would venture to say that RCB is the best Rotary club in terms of its commitment to serving the underprivileged.

The quality of our Club's Presidents is outstanding and each one brings his/her own gravitas to the position while, maintaining continuity on key initiatives such as the Hasanali Tobaccowala Eye Centre project at Talwada or Bhavishya Yaan. It has committed Rtns. such as Dr Rumi Jehangir and Dr Rahim Muljiani who have given their all to the club. The HTEC at Talwada in Maharashtra is truly something to be proud of.

RCB was also the first Rotary Club of the city and it sponsored two other clubs which then sponsored others. So in a sense this is the mother club of all clubs in Mumbai city. No less a person than Kalyan Banerjee, Trustee Chair of Rotary Foundation and Past President of Rotary International has said that

## Cheekh

On the occasion of International Women's Day, i.e., 8th March, the Rotaract Club of Jai Hind College brings back its flagship project 'Cheekh'!

Cheekh, as the name suggests is the loud yet feeble cry for help by a woman exploited by the patriarchal society. The Rotaract Club of Jai Hind College aims at making this call heard nationally and sensitizing the masses to the adversaries of the women who are bought and sold, and very conveniently reduced to a commodity. Cheekh is a campaign against women trafficking which highlights the victimization of the women we have outcaste from society through depictive flash mobs at various public places like International Airport, Malls and Flea markets.

Come join us as we realize the need for change and take the first step towards making it.

RCB is one of the best Rotary Clubs in the world.

RCB is a terrific club and I am happy that I have been invited to join it.

**TG:** What things do you think RCB does well and what should it do better?

**GV:** RCB is a very big club and this means it takes time to assimilate new members. Given this size, constant efforts need to be made to ensure members assimilate and get to know each other. It's a tough job but I think the club is doing it well.

In terms of projects, I think RCB should continue to build on its Bhavishya Yaan program and the HTEC. These are great and should be continued. I am aware that in the past, conscious efforts were made to induct younger members and this has resulted in the average age of the club coming down. Such efforts should continue in the future too.

Each president of RCB has brought his/her strength and focus to its outreach programmes. Dr Sonya Mehta's focus was art and culture. The restoration, conservation and maintenance project of the prestigious Asiatic Society library opposite Horniman Circle in Mumbai, was undertaken under her watch. Dr Batra has been going all out for health initiatives. Incoming President Ramesh Narayan, I am sure will bring his own leadership qualities and focus to bear too.

**TG:** When do you think RCB will produce a District Governor?

**GV:** I feel that RCB, given its status and the work being done, should have produced many more District Governors, and I am confident that a RCB member will be DG of this District soon.

## Bhavishya Yaan Committee

What do you do with your used laptop?

Here's a good use you can put it to.

Abhishek Gupta is an alumni of your Club's Bhavishya Yaan program. He is studying in the First Year Junior College at the Elhinstone College. He has also doing an internship at the Pomegranate Edu Workshop where he is shaping up rather well. A laptop is something he needs to help him with his film editing etc. at the internship.

So if you have a used laptop in good working condition you could be the wind beneath the wings of young Abhishek.

And if you want to donate a few new laptops to the Bhavishya Yaan program, you are most welcome to do that as well.

At least you have the satisfaction of knowing its surely going for a good cause.

Contact Chairperson Bhavishya Yaan Committee **Satyan Israni** on **9821220255**.



## Forthcoming Events

### • Jan 19, 2017

**In Camera** - 6:30 p.m  
Film by **Nisha Pahuja**  
"The World Before Her".  
Hosted by Amita & Ravi Seth at  
Ocean House, Worli

### • Jan 24, 2017

Speaker - **Bhushan Gagrani**  
- MD, CIDCO  
"Vision for Navi Mumbai".

### • Jan 31, 2017

Speaker - **Dr. Farad Taraporewalla**  
- "Resent trends in replacement  
surgeries".

### • Feb 07, 2017

Speaker - **Mr. Rishi Kapoor**  
Lifetime Achievement Award

### • Feb 14, 2017

Speaker - **Dr. Benaifer Kutar** -  
" True Love - The skill of Parenting  
and Grand Parenting"



## 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

Bhavisya 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 GORWARA

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

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## NEXT WEEK'S SPEAKER

# Bhushan Gagrani, IAS

Vice Chairman & Managing Director, CIDCO

**S**hri Bhushan Gagrani is a Vice Chairman & Managing Director, CIDCO. Gagrani is a 1990 batch IAS officer who has done PG MCom, PG MA, LLB, MBA and PhD as well. He has been MIDC's CEO since 2012. Gagrani has earlier worked with the tourism department, medical and public health department.



## Birthdays & Anniversary Greetings



Dr. Akshay Batra  
25 January



Pradeep Chinai  
25 January



Vivek Himatsingka  
25 January



Sherebanu Baldiwala  
26 January



Biswajit Chakraborty  
26 January



Manoj Patodia  
28 January



Ulhas Yargop  
28 January

### Rotaryanne

24<sup>th</sup> - Rangita Bhatnagar

24<sup>th</sup> - Anahita Pandole

## Anniversaries

24<sup>th</sup> - Manek & Cyrus Guzdar

24<sup>th</sup> - Damini & Kirit Kamdar

24<sup>th</sup> - Anita & Nalin Parikh

24<sup>th</sup> - Rinku & Vineet Suchanti

25<sup>th</sup> - Seema & Mr. Prakash Makhija

25<sup>th</sup> - Nandini & Dr. Rajeev Narvekar

26<sup>th</sup> - Priti & Pradeep Gupta

26<sup>th</sup> - Manju & Mahendra Sanghi

27<sup>th</sup> - Padma & Dinesh Lal

27<sup>th</sup> - Samira & Kasimali Merchant

27<sup>th</sup> - Heena & Kasturbhai Sheth

28<sup>th</sup> - Gauri & Vijaykumar Jatia

28<sup>th</sup> - Neeta & Deepak Kapadia

28<sup>th</sup> - Aparna & Venkat Ramaswamy

28<sup>th</sup> - Seena & Vinay Sanghi

29<sup>th</sup> - Irma & Pradeep Chinai

29<sup>th</sup> - Munira & Peshwan Jehangir

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### Statistics for last week's meeting

Members present	117
Rotaryannes	04
Visiting Rotarians	01
Guests	02
Rotaractors	07
Total attendance	131
Community Service Box Collection	- ₹1,000/-