

## BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY



### President's Message



Dear friends,

There are some important updates I need to give you'll.

Firstly, work is currently on to convert the Ajit Deshpande Medical Centre (ADMC) at Talwada into a really modern and comfortable place for our patients and doctors. Towards this, three new dental chairs have been ordered. A new X'Ray machine (digitised) has been ordered. And five air conditioners have been ordered, one for each of our facilities there. Tara Deshpande is also looking at getting a Warli artist to paint parts of the walls (Warli originated in and around that region). That should really make the centre look and feel fantastic. After all, a medical centre that caters to over 18,000 poor adivasi tribals a year needs to be a showpiece of our Club.

Secondly we are embarking on an ambitious Centre for Vocational Excellence with our old and trusted partner YMCA. About 3800 square feet of prime space at Agripada will be converted into a skills development centre for mainly underprivileged members of the local community. We have a tried and tested track record with the "Y" and are very confident this will turn out to be one of the flagship projects of your Club. We are grateful to our friends at Bharat Serums and Vaccines who have indicated a willingness to help us make this a reality.

On the 28th. at 4.30pm please join us to inaugurate the ambitious solar installation at the CSVS Museum. Bittu Sehgal has kindly consented to be the guest of Honor. As you are aware your Club (the Environment Committee) is playing a major role in helping the Museum to get a Platinum LEED certificate. Something very commendable.

Finally I look forward to meeting all our members on the 25th. evening at 7pm at the Taj Vivanta (President) Hotel Cuffe Parade for our last meeting of the Rotary Year. Please send your RSVP's to the Rotary office.

Thanks and warm regards,



Ramesh Narayan

### Shiva's Fight for the Seeds



With an unending list of accolades and accomplishments up her sleeve, Dr. Vandana Shiva's introduction already had the audience awestruck. Dr. Shiva was originally trained as a physicist, who used to "sleep and dream the quanta," until her attention turned to agriculture after the two tragedies of 1984: the eruption of Punjab violence and the Bhopal gas tragedy.

At the time, she was working for the UN University over conflicts of resources where she did a study on the Green Revolution to discover that "green was not very green; it was basically the introduction of chemicals, which sadly were evolved during wars to kill people." Chemical

Today's Speaker **Subodh Tiwari**



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fertilisers are created similarly to explosives, by fixing atmospheric nitrogen using fossil fuels. Her research indicated that all pesticides are derivatives of Zyklon B, poison gas, and other hazardous toxins. As she delved deeper into her research, Dr. Shiva discovered that it appeared pests were being killed - but every insect had been declared as a pest and 75% of bees have disappeared as a result. Unfortunately, we are ingesting these pesticides, corrupting our bodies, and exposing ourselves to diseases.

Talking about her founding project, Navdanya Farm, she elaborated on the research and work they do. Navdanya Farm, when translated means "Nine Seeds Farm," is a national movement to protect the diversity and integrity of living resources, especially the native seed. They not only work towards saving seeds, but the farm grows 200 varieties of crops and 740 ready-to-plant varieties of rice. Further to this, Navdanya has 120 community seed banks around the country that host 4,000 varieties of rice. Some varieties are tolerant to salt and were distributed after the 2014 Orissa cyclone-tsunami, while some are drought-resistant crops.

"75% of the problems in the world right now are related to the agriculture we do," said Dr. Shiva, reiterating the importance of organic and ethical agricultural practices. Listing the disadvantages of chemical agriculture, Dr. Shiva not only attributed the drying up of rivers and desertification of land



Rtn. Poornima Advani introduces the Guest Speaker



Ms. Vanessa of SNEHA is presented the Rotary Anita Parekh Award for Women Empowerment to the society of Nutrition, Education & Health Action by President Ramesh Narayan & Rtn. Nandan Maluste

to the phenomenon, but even displayed how the refugee crises around the world are related to agriculture.

Chemical agricultural practices use up more water, thereby reducing the supply of groundwater, causing rivers to dry up. Soil water retention statistics display the gravity of the problem even better: To hold 80,000 litres of water in 1 hectare, soil composition must include at least 0.5% of organic matter. Dr. Shiva was requested to conduct a study for the Maharashtra government to recognise why, despite the constant supply of water, there just never seems to be enough. This is because of dry areas. A new study shows that 24 billion tonnes of soil is lost because we are exploiting soil and anticipates that, due to the misuse of land and drying up of lakes, climate change will displace 700 million people. Studies have also linked the Syrian and the Nigerian refugee crises to the desertification of land caused by their exploitation.

Quoting Ancient Vedic texts, Dr. Shiva declared, "In this handful of soil is your future. Take care of it, and it will take care of you. Destroy it, and it will destroy you." In one of her many lectures, an audience member approached Dr. Shiva and reaffirmed, "If the root is ecological, the solution has to be ecological. No amount of bullets will bring livelihoods." Dr. Shiva spoke

about the concept of "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam," a Sanskrit phrase meaning "the world is one family." Though often quoted, we rarely live our lives in tandem with the expression.

She started the work of saving seeds because she strongly believes that, "it is obnoxious that a handful of the industry that made chemicals that could kill [can] turn [around] and pretend to be inventors of seed." She believes that nobody can create the seed, the seed creates itself; GMO is simply a "God, Move Over Signal."

Attending a meeting in Geneva in 1987, the attendees discussed intellectual property rights, ensuring that every seed was patented. That is when Dr. Vandana Shiva decided to dedicate her life to saving seed. Since then, she has been instrumental in breaking the illusion that the seed is an invention, ensuring it does not sink into our laws. She worked tirelessly for Section 3(J) of the Patents Act, which specifically states that plants (or any part thereof), including seeds and their varieties, are not patentable. She then urged our Rotarians to support the upholding of sovereign laws that advocate for our civilisational ethics and the recognition that we are all a part of the earth family.

Inspiring the Rotarians, Dr. Vandana Shiva ended her talk with a roaring standing ovation and a determination in the air to work towards a truly greener future.



Happy Birthday Rtn. Jaymin Jhaveri



## Shankar Mahadevan sings for Ananda Yaan

Shankar Mahadevan stole the hearts of the elders and Rotarians who were assembled at the Byculla Centre of Ananda Yaan, the widely acclaimed Elder Day Care program of the Rotary Club of Bombay on June 12th, 2018.

The program began with Chairman Alok Sekhsaria and Co Chair Chris Bluemel welcoming the guests. Chris enumerated the various activities that had been done in the Ananda Yaan centres.

President Ramesh Narayan thanked Shankar Mahadevan for being there, and said that Ananda Yaan had truly achieved its mandate of spreading happiness among the underprivileged elders

at Byculla and Dadar Sea Link. He added, that in doing so, the members of the Ananda Yaan Committee were the happiest people of the lot.

Six members of the Dadar centre then presented what they had learned from the Shankar Mahadevan Academy and its Joy of Music program. The three songs were appreciated by all.

And then Shankar Mahadevan, with great humility said the most important thing he cherished was the blessings from the elders.

He then sang with his normal panache and thrilled the large crowd that had gathered even outside the centre.



Chris Bluemel Co-Chair AY addresses the gathering



Alok Sekhsaria Chairman AY makes a few announcements



Ms. Sheilu Srinivasan of Dignity Foundation presents a token to Shankar



AY Members awaiting the guest of honour



Rtn. Preeti Mehta & President Ramesh Narayan present musician Shankar Mahadevan and token of thanks

### My President

"Innovative President full of ideas to serve the needy, with his heart in the right place, constantly thinking of new projects and ways and means to strengthen the club finances for various projects atleast for the next three years. As if this was not enough, getting unmatched publicity for the club projects was the icing on the cake."

Take a bow Ramesh.

All the Best.  
Shivkumar Israni

## The Four Way Test by Suresh Jagtiani

Rotarian Paul George during his presidency motivated the first video production of the four-way test by our Club. Since the earlier plays were enacted 'live' twice, it was decided to produce a movie - but in Hindi. Many of the Rotary Clubs all over the country are far more comfortable with Hindi movies than English.

Our Sitaram Shah was the ideal choice for portraying the managing director of a near bankruptcy firm who strategized to prevent collapse by resorting to tactics which test the very fabric of our four-way test. Succeed he did, whilst maintaining the principles of our four-way test to the hilt. Shyamnivas Somani, Madhusudan Daga and yours truly provided the essential support. Kalpana Munshi played the narrator and the voice of conscience. This was staged and well-received at our Rotary as well at a few other rotary clubs.

At the Rotary Club in Dubai, they were keen to host the film, and even though there were English subtitles, the need for an English version was unmistakable.

I discussed this with my friend and our then Rotary president Shaileshbhai Haribhakti. He was all for it. However, we needed a naysayer who would continuously question the ethics of the strategies used even though they ultimately led to benefits for all concerned. Our Priyasari Patodia was the obvious choice, since she questioned the ethics even before we got started. My participation completed the picture. Ajay Gupta, our then Rotary governor was "gung ho" at the concept and shares this in the opening scene.

Our Sabira Merchant provided me with the original script of the play. Sitaram did the translation in Hindi. However memorising and rehearsing the lines both for the Hindi and English versions was totally outside the scope of the participants.

And so the entire script was transposed into related short snippets predictably linked to each other. Each participant was fully aware of what led to the scene and what would follow, and the part that he or she needed to play. Hence,



the innovation and the dialogues are all impromptu in every scene. The overall effect is for you to judge. Aside from driving home the tenets of the four-way test to the viewer, the original creators of the play ensured suspense laced with Mirch Masala, both borrowed generously.

The Hindi version was completed within three weeks in Sitaram's office and the English in just four days at Shaileshbhai's board room. Suresh Jagtiani

## Child Welfare Committee Update



Child welfare committee of RCB has organised a summer camp for street

children at Chowpatty. These children could thus spend their summers learning various things and enjoying playing together. Children look forward to learning computers through the year which was introduced to them for first time at this centre as RCB donated computers to the centre. Around 50-60 children regularly attended the dance, art, craft, yoga and computer classes. Many children went to the museum to attend various workshops in photography,

puppet making, weaving, quilling. Grand finale was organised at Salaam Baalak day shelter on 8 June which they showcased their learnings through the camp. The children performed a dance on a bollywood song and did a yoga and computer presentation. Committee member, Rotary Anne Ekta Shah gave the prizes to students with full attendance and who gave their hundred percent to the summer camp.



## LETTERS TO RCB

To:  
The Rotary Club of Bombay

From:  
Sarla Kripalani  
(wife of Rotarian past President Dr. Nari  
Kripalani, Hyderabad Sindh)  
(Mother of Rotarian Manjeet Kripalani)

Dear Rotary Club,

I read in the Rotarian (may 2018 issue) that the Rotarians have planted a "Tree of Friendship" in Iceland.

This resonated with me. Many decades ago, in the 1940s, my father-in-law, Rao Bahadur Dr. Manghanmal S. Kripalani, had started, as a Rotarian in Hyderabad, Sindh, a "Garden of Friendship" on a small plot of land, maybe 10ft x 10ft of lawn, in the compound of the premises of the Masonic Lodge in Hyderabad Sindh, in the camp area. He was the President of the Rotary Club and also a Grand Master of the Masonic Lodge, and the meetings of the Lodge in Sindh were held in those premises in Hyderabad.

It was my father-in-law's dying wish that some of the ashes after his cremation be strewn in the "Garden of Friendship" in Sindh, which he started and maintained before the Partition of India.

He died in 1972 in Bombay. Mr. Kishinchand Malani, a Rotarian or a Free Mason, was leaving Mumbai for Karachi, and at our request, kindly assented to take a small urn containing the ashes of Dr. Manghanmal Kripalani.

Mr. Malani was kind enough to take the ashes to Hyderabad, and upon arriving at the "Garden of Friendship," planted them under a shrub which by then had grown into a tree. Had he not been able to do so, then my parents, Mr. & Mrs. Gobindram Bhavnani, would have made the trip to Hyderabad, as Mr. Malani lived close to my parents' home in Karachi.

Now I hear that the Masonic Lodge is being pulled down, and a two storey building is coming up on the ground that was a Garden of Friendship, a Rotarian's dedication.

5th June, 2018  
World Environment Day

## Reliance Foundation Fact Files

### "Learning how to make low-cost organic manure in my backyard. My farm yield has doubled!"

- Vijay Kewat, Shahdol, Madhya Pradesh



Vijay was struggling to buy expensive, urea-rich manure. Reliance Foundation taught him technical methods of composting; the manure enriched the soil on his farm, and his cucumber yield doubled.

*These stories testify to Reliance Foundation's undying zeal to create equal opportunities for growth and prosperity in India.*



Touching over 12 million lives with support for Rural Transformation, Health, Education, Sports for Development, Livelihoods, Disaster Response, Arts & Culture, and Urban Renewal.

## 50 students supported for Graphic Design course

As a part of the Rotary at 90 program, your Club has supported 50 underprivileged children to do a course in Graphic Design with the help of the Dharma Bharathi Mission.

The first batch of students will begin their course on June 8th. and will be well on the way to a good vocational diploma and hopefully a better life.

## The Gateway Appreciation

Baroda, 7 June, 2018  
Pres. Rtn. Ramesh Narayan  
RC. Bombay  
Dist. 3141(17-18) MUMBAI (M.S.)

Dear Rtn. Rameshji,

I thank you for your club bulletin "the Gateway" (No.1-45) downloaded from your club website for which I am indeed grateful to you.

I found your bulletins interesting, informative and most expressive in contents with excellent design and art work with photographs of several highlights of your club activities exemplarily compiled and edited by your Editor for which my compliments for an excellent job!

Club bulletin is an important tool through which the Leader reaches out to his/her readers with information and inspiration. Let me tell you that you have utilised this tool most effectively to motivate and invigorate your Rotarians through your Editor through ROTARY: MAKING A DIFFERENCE for which you deserve the highest acclamation and admiration from the Rotarians of your Club for which my heartiest compliments and congratulations!

Congratulating you once again for your bulletins and providing exemplary leadership to your club in (17-18) through ROTARY: MAKING A DIFFERENCE and looking forward to CMR sent with my last letter duly filled in latest by 31 July, 2018 - if not inconvenient to you.

With Rotary Greetings to all members and warm personal regards to both of you from myself and Indumati.

We remain, Your Friends,  
JAGMOHAN KATAKIA  
PDG Dist. 3040(94-95)  
23- B, Kunj Society, Alkapuri, BARODA 390007(Guj)

cc: Editor

Congratulations for your excellent bulletins throughout the year and it was an exhilarating experience for me to go through each and every issue for which my heartiest compliments and congratulations!

## Rotarians making wishes come true!

Our column Rotarians making waves usually carries a picture and some news about a Rotarian in the news.

But then there are those Rotarians who make news without being in front of the lens themselves. And Rtn. Biswajit Chakraborty (BC) is one of those. The news report published here is about making the wishes of a physically unwell child come true. To me this is a manifestation of the true Rotary spirit. Let's try and make the wishes of every child come true.



Way to go BC!!

### Thalassemic teen turns chef for a day



Kulbhushan Jadhav with his parents and staffs of Sofitel Hotel

Bella.Jaisinghani  
@timesgroup.com

**Mumbai:** Sixteen-year-old Kulbhushan Jadhav, who suffers from thalassemia, wanted to become a chef at a five-star hotel ever since he started helping his mother in the kitchen at age 12. The dream came true, if even for a day.

On Sunday, the Dombivli teenager was invited into the kitchen of Sofitel Hotel at BKC. Kulbhushan was thrilled when the sous chef dressed him in an apron with his name embroidered on it, and a cook placed a tall white hat on his little head. Executive chef Neeraj Rawoot showed him how to cut vegetables, and then taught him to cook Spanish flautas (spring rolls served with avocado mole and sour cream). "I was happy my mother liked what I cooked," said a pleased Kul-

bushan, who plans to pursue hotel management.

For a few hours at least, the boy was able to put the rigours of his ailment aside. "Kulbhushan suffers from thalassemia major. Since he was four months old, he has been undergoing blood transfusion every 21 days. The treatment saps his energy and comes with side effects," said his mother Priya, who works in a hospital. Kulbhushan studies in class X at Charu Bama Mhatre Vidyalay at Kopar. His father works in a lamination studio.

This interaction was arranged by Make A Wish India, which has helped fulfil the desires of over 50,000 critically ill children nationwide. CEO Deepak Bhatia said, "Our volunteers approach the parents of children undergoing treatment in hospitals and explore the kids' desires."

## Forthcoming Events

- **25<sup>th</sup> June 2018**  
7pm Last Meeting of Rotary Year 2017-2018 followed by drinks & dinner at the Presidential Ballroom, Taj
- **26<sup>th</sup> June 2018**  
**No Meeting**
- **27<sup>th</sup> June 2018**  
**In Camera Musical Extravaganza**  
hosted by Sweta & Pranay Vakil
- **3rd July 2018**  
Installation Ceremony of incoming President Mr. Vijay Jatia 7pm onwards at The Regal Room, Trident

**PRESIDENT RAMESH NARAYAN**

AND THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY

REQUEST THE PLEASURE OF YOUR COMPANY AT THE

INSTALLATION CEREMONY OF

INCOMING PRESIDENT

**VIJAY KUMAR JATIA**

AND HIS TEAM (2018 - 19)

ON TUESDAY, 3<sup>RD</sup> JULY 2018 AT 7.00 P.M.

AT THE REGAL ROOM, HOTEL TRIDENT,

NARIMAN POINT, MUMBAI

CHIEF GUESTS:

TRF TRUSTEE - **GULAM VAHANVATY**

RI DIRECTOR-ELECT - **DR. BHARAT PANDYA**

GUEST OF HONOUR:

DISTRICT GOVERNOR - **SHASHI SHARMA**

PROGRAMME:

7.00 P.M. FELLOWSHIP | 7.30 P.M. MEETING COMMENCES

8.45 P.M. FELLOWSHIP & MUSIC | 9.15 P.M. DINNER

DRESS: FORMAL

CONTRIBUTION FOR MEMBER'S

GUEST: RS.4500/- PER HEAD

RSVP RASHMI KOTIAN: +91 22 2288 2495



## ROTARY CLUB OFFICERS

### TRUSTEES 2017-18

Rtn. Dr. Rahim Muljiani  
Rtn. Arvind Jolly  
Rtn. Arun Sanghi  
Rtn. Dr. Adi Dastur

### OFFICE-BEARERS 2017-18

President	Ramesh Narayan
Immediate Past President	Dr. Mukesh Batra
President-Elect	Vijay Kumar Jatia
President Nominee	Preeti Mehta
Honorary Secretary	Manish Reshamwala
Joint Hon. Secretary	Bimal Mehta
Hon. Treasurer	Shiv Kumar Israni

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Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)	Ishraq Contractor
Global Grant Committee	Vineet Suchanti

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Outstation Fellowship	Anar Shah
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Sergeant-at-arms	Roda Billimoria
In-camera	Rekha Tanna

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Rotary Public Awards	Shernaz Vakil

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ADMC	Dr. Mehernosh Dotivala
PRVEC	PP Dr. Rumi Jehangir
Yoga	Sitaram Shah
Cancer Aid	Farokh Balsara
RCB Clinic - Cotton Green	Manoj Patodia

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Environment	Rajesh Shah
Urban Conservation	Rohan Dalal
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Elder Care Committee	PP Ashish Vaid
Women's Empowerment	Framroze Mehta

### DIRECTOR: HOMI KATGARA

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Youth Exchange Programs	Peter Born
Ananda Yaan Committee	Chairperson Alok Sekhsaria Co-Chair Christopher Bluemel

### DIRECTOR : ANUJ ARENJA


Interact	Prakriti Poddar
Rotaract	Murad Currawala
Young-at-Heart	PP Rajnikant Reshamwala

### DIRECTOR : PREETI MEHTA

District Thrust Area	Deepak Kapadia
District Coordinator	PP Pradeep Saxena

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**Nandri**  
**Shukriya**  
**Thank You**  
**Danke**  
**Merci**

*Please join us with your partner for the last meeting of  
the Rotary year 2017-18.  
And for cocktails and dinner thereafter  
Guest Charges Rs.4000/- per head*

**Venue:**  
 Presidential Ballroom, Hotel Taj Vivanta (President)  
 Cuffe Parade, Mumbai 400005.  
 Date: 25th June 2018 • Time: 7pm. • Dress: Formal.

**Devi and Ramesh Narayan**  
 (President Rotary Club of Bombay)

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



## Birthdays & Anniversary Greetings



Rtn. Ajit Lalvani  
19th June



Rtn. Sunil Vaswani  
19th June



Rtn. Sudarshan Chokhane  
22nd June



Rtn. Raj Ajmera  
23rd June



Rtn. Vandan Shah  
23rd June



Rtn. Abhishek Saraf  
23rd June



Rtn. Dr. Rajeev Narvekar  
24th June

### Partners

21st June - Ptn. Gopi Vaid  
24th June - Ptn. Amita Sheth

### Anniversaries

20th June - Rtn. Ramesh & Ptn. Devi Narayan  
21st June - Rtn. Sudarshan & Ptn. Renu Chokhane

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### Statistics for last week's meeting

Rotary Club Bombay Members	134
Partners	08
Visiting Rotarians	01
Guests	04
Rotractors	01
Total attendance	148
Community Service Box Collection	₹ 3,000/-