Celebrating 90 Years of Service

THE GATEWAY

BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY

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President's Message

Dear Friends.

Today, we award our guest speaker Adil Zainulbhai with the Ramkrishna Bajaj Good Governance Award for 2018-19. He receives the award for his leadership in the field of international consulting, his significant contribution to the cause of good governance across corporate India, and his perceptive analysis of impactful minds that have influenced India's past and present.

We are a month away from our Club's birthday on March 19, 2019.

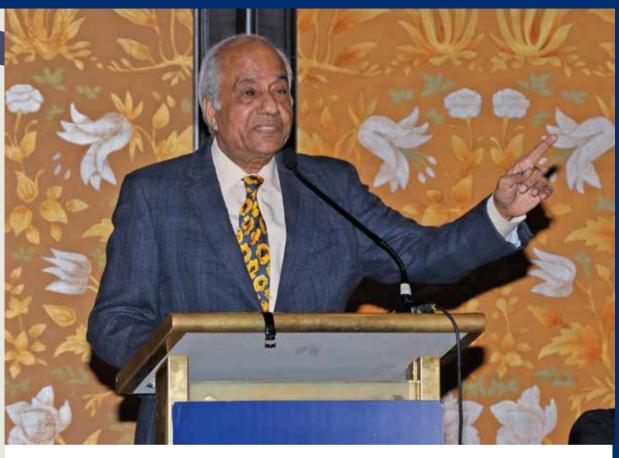


We hope to see you all at the 90th celebratory function at the Chambers Terrace, Taj Mahal Hotel on March 19 at 6.30 pm.

Thank You!



Rtn. Vijay Jatia President



JUSTICE FOR ALL

Eminent jurist, Retd. Supreme Court Judge Justice B. N. Srikrishna talks about defusing divisive situations

Scholar, jurist, administrator, Justice B. N. Srikrishna is a man of many worlds. Whether in a boardroom or engaged with the government, Justice Srikrishna speaks many languages fluently. Known for his fair assessment of tricky situations, his contribution in assessing the Bombay riots as well as the creation of Telangana has been unmatchable. Justice Srikrishna's sensibilities are the product of years of scholarly study as well as his first-hand experiences in court where, it could be said, the true nature of mankind is revealed.

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TODAY'S SPEAKER: ADIL ZAINULBHAI

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There could be no one better suited to speak on 'Depolarising India' than Justice Srikrishna as was evidenced at last Tuesday's Rotary meeting. Depolarisation, Justice Srikrishna said, was defined in physics as ensuring that light waves operate in a particular direction and not randomly – as happens normally – by a mechanism.

This understanding, said Justice Srikrishna, brings us to depolarisation in socio-political philosophy. "Normally, society has random distribution which leads to chaos. When there is such a random distribution by an external force, one tries to rearrange the distribution in such a manner that certain elements get grouped in one fashion and other elements get grouped in another. This is polarisation in society."

How does this effect an individual or a stakeholder, asked Justice Srikrishna. He suggested that it is through their own mindset which is influenced by external forces like politicians injecting poison among the people. "It breaks up the unity in society," he said, adding, "This has been happening right from 1947 till date."

Resolution of this is very simple, he said, quoting a prayer from *The Rigveda* which says 'May all our minds think alike; May all our intentions also be alike; May all think in the same wavelength, so that all of us can be happy'. This is a teaching from thousands of years ago, said Justice Srikrishna, which people are now forgetting.

It was Hitler's Minister of Propaganda Joseph Goebbels, he reminded all, who taught us that a lie repeated a hundred times comes to be accepted as the truth. Therefore, when one changes one's behaviour due to external factors, this is where the society gets affected and this is the real danger of polarisation, he said.

This happens because of two reasons, said Justice Srikrishna: "One, we tend to emphasise the difference which becomes much larger than integrating factors." Being multilingual himself, Justice Srikrishna said he is no less



RCB honours Justice B N Srikrishna with the Shri Pravinchandra V Gandhi Excellence in Public Life Award

Indian or Maharashtrian than others. "The Indianness is the integrating factor. Indians and Pakistanis are good friends abroad but enemies here; one tends to forget that we were a part of the same nation. This is because the divisive factor is emphasised."

Justice Srikrishna shared a beautiful, personal experience with the listening Rotarians. During his childhood, his grandfather performed prayers early in the morning. Always, someone in their neighbourhood would begin to sing the azaan at the same time. Instead of guarrelling with that person, his grandfather would sit there and meditate till the azaan was over and then resume his prayers. "This is the lesson that needs to be learnt," said Justice Srikrishna, "This is the real integrating factor where 'the good lord in you is no different from the good lord in me' is emphasised."

When the destination is the same, the route one uses to reach it should not effect one's behaviour, felt Justice Srikrishna. A change in attitude will help depolarise society. "Short-term political goals or agendas on the basis of religion pose a problem towards a change in the attitude towards polarisation," he said, "as one divides the country into agglomerations of religion rather than integrating it into one."

He concluded by saying, "Forget the differences and generate happiness for all because the good in you is not different from the good in me, so there is no point of argument, no need for polarisation."

The first question posed to him was by Rtn. Sitaram Shah who said that one

tended to forget these ideas when one stepped out, so what was the solution for that? In response, Justice Srikrishna referred to an anecdote by Swami Samartha Ramdas, "Practise it; don't preach it! If one has it in their heart, it will automatically come in their behaviour."

The next question by PE Rtn. Preeti Mehta was that while the audience listening to him there understood what he is saying, what about the masses outside? "Each one, teach one," answered Justice Srikrishna, "percolate the idea. It is easier to be bad and difficult to be good!"

Another Rotarian referred to the Bombay riots of 1992-93 where virtually no justice had been meted out, and asked what was Justice Srikrishna's take on it? Highlighting a verse from *The Bhagwad Gita*, Justice Srikrishna answered: "Your job is to do what is required. What happens afterwards is none of your business. Somebody else will take care of it. This is exactly what I did, I did my job. I was not accused except by Bal Thackeray but when I met him personally, he said that it was good to hear outsiders. So, ultimately, you do your work consciously."

The last question was asked by PP Rtn. Sandip Agarwalla who wanted to know which period in India, thought Justice Srikrishna, from its 70 years of Independence was the most depolarized? Pat came the answer: "Prior to Independence when we were British subjects, people had allegiance to the King. This unity which should have percolated into the pride of Indian citizens but rather, what we got into was the Hindu-Muslim polarisation in 1947. So I think that was the period."







ON THE SHOULDERS OF GIANTS, SAYS AWARDEE CRISPINO LOBO

"Thank you very much, ladies and gentlemen. We are all very aware, that when anyone receives an award, it is a recognition not only of his or her contribution but of the fact that he or she has stood on the shoulders of many that have come before them and who are also with them.

So, I accept this honour and recognition by the Rotary Club of Bombay for which I am deeply grateful but I also accept it on behalf of my colleagues and the innumerable number of donors, well wishers and enablers who silently and behind the scenes have made possible what we have done to date and brought us to where we are today. So, on their behalf, many thanks.

You may be wondering where the name Watershed Organisation Trust has come from; we call it WOTR, in short. We believe, wherever water or *paani* is the problem, WOTR is the solution.

It began 30 years ago when we were travelling through rural Maharashtra and we realised the real crisis was the lack of water. But we decided the only way you can bring water to people sustainably is to organise them to catch rain wherever it falls in the landscapes and catchments and villages they live in across the hillscapes and landscapes, stop it *in situ* and force it underground.

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Rtn. Abhinav Aggarwal (left) introducing the recipient of the Social Service Club Award for 2018-19: Crispino Lobo (below)

"Crispino has nearly 30 years of engagement in rural development. He has dealt with issues of water and agriculture at all levels — from the ground level and in policy engagement. He is on various Advisory Committees of the Government of India and has co-founded four non-profit organisations.

These institutions have collectively impacted the lives of over 3.5 million people in eight states of India. They have trained over 4.5 lakh people from 23 states and 63 countries and supported development works in over 4,300 villages.

He is a remarkable leader in the space of watershed management and development. Along with NABARD in 1999, Crispino started the Watershed Development Fund by the Government of India.

He is an alumnus of the Kennedy School of Government of Harvard University and Gokhale Institute of Economics. He has also authored and helmed several articles and books, three of which have been published internationally."

Rtn. Purnima Advani (centre) reads out the Citation

"The Rotary Club of Bombay is pleased to honour Crispino Lobo with the Social Service Club Award for 2018-19. For his profound erudition in areas of climate change and natural resource management, for his missionary involvement in empowering communities through multi-level and multi-sector development programmes, for his deep commitment to logical analysis, knowledge management, and transformational change." Signed Vijay Jatia, President

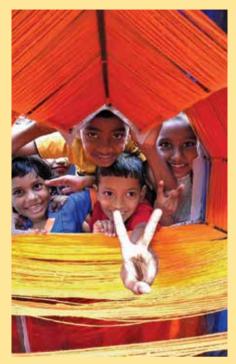
vijay jana, Preside

Lighthouse students visit Kala Ghoda Festival

On February 7, 2019, 22 students aged 6 to 10, from the Lighthouse School visited the Kala Ghoda Art Festival. Four teachers and two mothers accompanied the group. The fair, currently in its 20th year, is a muchawaited event in the cultural calendar of Mumbaikars as it showcases the best of art, music, dance and culture.

At the fair, the children were spellbound by the huge installations created using junk and waste materials while they absorbed the social messages of nature conservation, gender equality and unity conveyed through these three-dimensional means.

The students also got an opportunity to view the artworks on display at the 'pavement gallery' outside the Jehangir Art Gallery. The excursion ended at the Museum Lawns where attractive 3D models made by students from



city schools and NGOs fascinated one and all. The result was a much better



understanding of the city and its culture for all.

Continued from Page 3

The Watershed Development is, to my understanding and experience, the key to sustainable rural development. It's based on a very simple mantra: water that is rushing down the hill slopes – you slow it down; water that is running, you make it walk. And walking water, you make it stop and you force it underground.

Once water comes in a village, it kickstarts a whole cycle of transformation and development, the likes of which must be seen to be believed. People who had no food before can suddenly afford three meals. Children who could not be sent to school because they had to look after cattle and tend to the fields could now go to school.

It takes just one generation to walk out of poverty. If you can work as a community to harvest rainwater, across the area it lives in, that is where our journey began and that's the journey 30 years later. But 15 years ago, something very interesting happened. We noticed that the stream of benefits that were



Crispino Lobo receives the Social Service Club Award for 2018-19 from President Vijay Jatia

coming to the villages from our work started going down even though our technical and physical infrastructure was still working. Then, we realised that climate change was seriously affecting rural communities.

Today it is accepted that it is affecting everything in the country. It was at that time, about 10 years ago, that we decided, that the only way we could address the challenge posed by climate change is to co-evolve and acquire knowledge and to apply technology to problems. So, we set up the WOTR Centre for Resilience Studies with a two-fold

mandate: 1) To co-evolve knowledge with the communities that you wish to serve but in collaboration with all those who could make possible solution pathways and help them realise their dreams.

It was bringing science, practice and governance together in a specific geography on the ground. So that knowledge translates into action.

2) Technology; the next mandate was to identify technologies and then craft them or configure them in innovative ways such that it would enable communities to reduce their risk to climate change, increase efficiencies and increase productivity.

If we are going to impact poverty and more importantly increase the efficiency of water in this country, to apply cutting edge technology, better social forms of organisation, with appropriate governance and legal institutions, to make this possible. The journey ahead is exciting and I would welcome all of you who are passionate in taking this forward across the country. Thank you very much."

Rotary kids give back

Meha Shah (Rtn. Sitaram Shah's granddaughter and Rtn. Vandan Shah's daughter), a student of Cathedral and John Connon School, along with her friend Aman Shah (from B.D. Somani International School), has completed 120 hours of volunteering at Bhavishya Yaan. The duo is now spending alternate Saturdays at the Lighthouse School in the Bhai Bhandarwar Machimaar community to help community kids from ages four to 10. They thank RCB for giving them such a wonderful opportunity and share their experience of the last three years.

"We began our volunteering journey with the Rotary Club of Bombay nearly three years ago and have managed to learn a lot in that time under the Bhavishya Yaan project where the two of us taught English to the students of the G.K. Marg Municipal school. Our immediate challenge was to engage with the children in a fun manner while allowing them to retain what they had learned.

We wanted to take a holistic approach to teaching this subject where we tried to reinforce what they were learning in school through fun activities such as role-playing, Pictionary and Taboo. Our aim was to expose them to the English language in a way they couldn't be exposed on their own.

During the course of our teaching, we realised that children at a much younger age find it easier to adapt to the language. So, we decided to initiate this at the Lighthouse School where we are teaching children of the Machimaar village (in Colaba) between the ages of four to 10 years. We are continuing our same method of teaching to reinforce their learning while broadening their horizon.

We thought the best way to incorporate this approach is by using board games. There are certain rules and instructions that need to be followed in any board game. Playing these not only encourages kids to follow instructions but also teaches them discipline, respect for each other as well as manners. Along with this, we also play various connecting word games to improve their vocabulary.



While teaching the children, we learned much ourselves. We learned just how hard it is for our teachers to teach us when we do not want to be taught, and we re-learned some long-forgotten grammar. Finally, teaching English has allowed us to empathise with others in

ways we could never have imagined. Since reading and English have always been a passion for us, this is our way to give back to the community. We hope, by learning English, these children will gain confidence and find it easier to get jobs, and in turn uplift themselves."





Science is everywhere, not just in textbooks

Anvitaa Seksaria and Suchi Jatia, two students of the Bombay International School, began the Knowledge through Interactive Demonstration of Science (KIDS) programme on February 2, 2019. Realising that there was a disconnect between the scientific knowledge students gained from their textbooks and its real-life applications, they set out to help Bhavishya Yaan (G. K. Marg Municipal School) students in grades 7 and 8 experience science through handson projects.

Suchi's experience in teaching underprivileged students in municipal schools helped her see that many students saw science as a theoretical subject with no relevance to everyday life. Anvitaa, who conducted activities and competitions with the Bhavishya Yaan children, saw that interactive approaches worked well with children from such backgrounds.



Together, the two decided to enhance the children's scientific awareness. They discussed their idea with Rtn. Ptn. Ekta Shah, visited the G. K. Marg Municipal School, and met with the students' teachers. After this, the girls formulated their KIDS programme.

The KIDS programme involves four sessions, the first three of which introduces concepts from biology, physics and chemistry. The module culminates with the fourth session which is a science fair where the children get to showcase the knowledge gained.

Suchi and Anvitaa, along with Yajjat Seksaria, conducted the first session on February 2, 2019, on biospheres and self-sustaining ecosystems. An interactive discussion was held about ecological factors that affect human survival and how they are all interconnected. The students made their own terrariums with materials provided to them. They were then questioned on why each element was essential to their miniature ecosystem and how pollution could disrupt it.

The first two-hour session, with approximately 30 students, was a huge success. The next sessions will be on mechanics and water treatment. Anvitaa and Suchi have already started preparations for the science fair where the students will present their work to other students and visitors.

IT literacy for 90 students celebrating 90 years of service

In its 90th year, the Rotary Club of Bombay empowers underprivileged youth with free, advanced computer courses like Graphic Designing, Tally and MSCIT.

The Maharashtra State Certificate in Information Technology (MSCIT) is a popular IT Literacy course in the state. It was begun in June 2018 and culminated, just in time, on January 19, 2019, to celebrate RCB's upcoming 90th birthday. The students were taught in five batches with the support of the Dharma Bharathi Mission (DBM).

RCB thanks DBM's all-India head Paramjeet Singh and Mumbai head Farheen Peshimam for executing the programme with such efficiency. Applications to join the programme were received throughout the year and screened by Rtn. Ptn. Ekta Shah.

Children of drivers, cooks, housekeepers, construction workers, *zari* workers and auto rickshaw drivers, with average incomes of less than Rs. 12,000-15,000 a month, were selected to help further their job prospects through advanced computer training.

The course was supplemented with free life-skill training and spoken English classes by DBM so as to make them employable. Dharma Bharathi Mission is a humanitarian organisation that has been working for the last 11 years to create lasting change in the lives of children, families and communities living in poverty and facing social inequality.

All 90 youth have finished the courses successfully, cleared their exams and received their certificates.



February 19:

Speaker Adil Zainulbhai on Corporate Governance – the view from Bombay, Delhi and Washington.

February 23 & 24: District Conference at Hotel Renaissance.

February 26:



Guest Speaker Hemindra Hazari on 'Have you seen Corporate Governance?'



All Directors and Committee Chairpersons are requested to send their project write ups with high resolution pictures to

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MENU (INDIAN)

February 26, 2019

SOUP

Makai ka shorba, Assorted bread rolls & butter

SALAD BAR

Aloo mungfali chaat, Palak patta chaat, Sev papdi chaat

VEGETARIAN MAIN COURSE

Aloo gobi, Achari paneer, Bharwan simla mirch, Bhindi amchur, Mung dal tadka

NON-VEGETARIAN MAIN COURSE

Fish Amritsari, Badami murgh

ACCOMPANIMENTS

Steamed rice, Assorted Indian breads, Raita, Pickle / Papad / Kachumber

DESSERT

Malai kulfi, Anjir halwa, Cut fruit platter



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Next Week's Speaker: Hemindra Hazari

Hemindra Hazari is a Securities & Exchange Board of India (SEBI) registered research analyst with over 23 years of experience in the Indian capital markets. He has specialised in research on banking and the macro-economy. He has managerial experience of establishing profitable equities business, leading and mentoring analysts. He has worked with prominent foreign and domestic capital market firms such as UBS, Societe Generale, HSBC, ASK Raymond James and Karvy Stock Broking. In the course of his career he has interacted with prominent Indian companies, foreign and domestic institutional investors and High Net-worth Individuals. His research focuses on wealth creation by identifying under and overvalued stocks using multiple valuation methodologies, adopting top and bottom-up approaches. A regular guest on business media channels, he is respected for being unafraid to go against the consensus view on stocks and the market. In June 2011, when many analysts were

positive on the Indian economy and on corporate earnings, he (as the head of institutional equity research at a brokerage house) was one of the first analysts to caution investors regarding a demand slowdown in the Indian economy and to warn of the danger of "an extended period of lower inflation accompanied by subdued growth and investment." He will engage us with his talk on "Have you seen Corporate Governance?"

PART	MER	RIRT	HDAY	18
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FEBRUARY 21

Rtn. Ptn. Swati Dalal

Rtn. Ptn. Radhika Saraf

FEBRUARY 22

Rtn. Ptn. Dina Nayar

FEBRUARY 23

Rtn. Ptn. Achala Shah

February 24

Rtn. Ptn. Indira Kotak

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FEBRUARY 19

Rtn. Ptn. Binaifer & Rtn. Hoshang

FEBRUARY 20

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FEBRUARY 21

Rtn. Ptn. (Dr.) Nafisa & Rtn. Moshin Contractor

Rtn. Ptn. Neeraja & Rtn. Bharat **Kumar Taparia**

FEBRUARY 22

Rtn. Ptn. Brinda & Rtn. (Dr.) **Anand Shah**

FEBRUARY 24

Rtn. Ptn. Yasmin & Rtn. Karl Divecha

Rtn. Ptn. Manju & Rtn. Vibhay Sinha

BIRTHDAYS FROM FEBRUARY 19[™] TO 25[™], 2019





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MFHTA

RTN. NADIR MODI

RTN. DEEPAK

KAPADIA

NARAYAN





IPP RTN. RAMESH

RTN. ANUJ ΡΔΤΩΒΙΔ

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Club Members	133	
Rtn. Partners	07	
Visiting Rotarians	03	
Guests	01	
Rotaractors	06	
Total	150	
SERVICE BOX COLLECTION	₹ 1950	



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