

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Friends,

My very warm greetings to each of you.

**THERE ARE** some distinctive and wonderful activities that our Rotary Club of Bombay has to its credit.

In the very recent past, we have witnessed one such event – thanks to our very own Rtn. Ptn. Devi Narayan, our elders from the Ananda Yaan centres had the occasion to attend a Comedy Show by noted Comedian Raju Srivastav. This was the first event of 'Anand Seva', a unique concept, which gave us a meaningful opportunity to provide, in a small way, happiness to our elders. Thank you Rtn. Ptn. Devi and also Rtn. Madhu and Rtn. Ptn. Vandana for making this happen.

I would sincerely urge all to seize such unique opportunities of sharing happiness through the many options Anand Seva offers – sponsoring meals, picnics, lectures, fun and games, movie and drama shows, etc.

Thanks also to Rtn. Arin Master and Rtn. Ptn. Pervin Jehangir. Last week, free medical check-ups were provided to 64 children from Garden School who visited our IWA clinic.

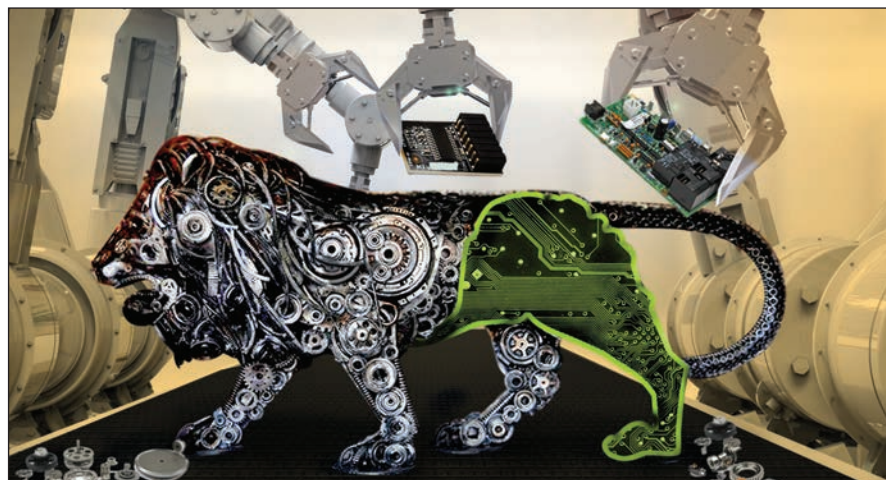
Our weekly meeting was another afternoon spent well, listening to the 'Walk the Talk' Man – Shekhar Gupta – a renowned journalist and Padma Bhushan awardee. His views on 'India Beyond 2019' may set many of us thinking about our country's future.

And, in this season of installations, our Rotaract Club of Hinduja College successfully conducted its Installation Ceremony "Junoon" on July 13th, 2019, at K.P.B Hinduja College of Commerce. I wish its Incoming President Rtr. Darshan Jain and his team all the best from all of us at RCB for a successful and eventful year ahead.

I am sure you all have already made your bookings for our fund-raiser 'Sonu Nigam Live in Concert' on August 27th at the Tata Theatre, NCPA. I would request and urge all of you to extend your support to the Committee by getting the much-needed sponsors, advertising, donations, as well as assisting in ticket sales too.



**President Preeti Mehta**



## INDIA BEYOND 2019

Shekhar Gupta takes a post-Budget look at the Narendra Modi style of leadership

**THE BIGGEST** positive of the past five years is that a lot of money/ value was delivered to poor India. There were three and a half good schemes. First: free toilets; second: housing via the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana and third: free LPG connections. The half is Mudra Loans because they are loans and not giveaways. Although, I keep telling my friends in the RBI that you will end up paying for these; just as the Punjab National Bank loans are too big to fail, Mudra Loans are too small to fail. For instance, if a vegetable seller on a cart borrows Rs. 30,000 to sell more cauliflowers and goes bust, no one is going to repossess his cart and sell it. That is why it is half a giveaway.

### MORE FOR THE POOR

The Government spent around Rs 11 lakh crores upon these three and a half schemes. This is equivalent to three years' defence budget. That much money was transferred from the exchequer to the poor. Who are the poor? They are the voters. While Malabar Hill has 40 per cent voting, the poor have about 70-80 per cent voting. So, they have the power and

he delivered value to those who have the votes. You may think that the government must have printed money. But, no, it did not. Where did this money come from?

### TAXING THE MIDDLE-CLASS

Global fuel prices went down from \$120-140 a barrel to \$50-60 a barrel. Did your pump prices go down accordingly? They may have gone down five per cent. So, as global crude prices went down, Narendra Modi upped the excise duty on petrol and diesel. We complained but we kept on paying more! He knows two things: one, for those who have money, the petrol price change does not matter. The middle class who actually suffered — the scooter or two-wheeler owner or people buying cars on EMI — they are committed Modi voters anyway. He knew that he could take them for granted. So, effectively, the middle class was cleaned out to the tune of about Rs 11 lakh crore. That money was transferred to the poor on two presumptions — that the middle class as a percentage of the poor is very small and secondly, that middle class is predominantly Hindu and that is



Rtn. Farhat Jamal introduces guest speaker Shekhar Gupta



Speaker Shekhar Gupta, Rtn. Farhat Jamal and Rtn. Ashok Jatia



Rtn. Ptn. Gautam Mehta, President Preeti Mehta and guest speaker Shekhar Gupta



Speaker Shekhar Gupta, Rtn. Manjeet Kripalani, Rtn Ptn. Malti Jain, Rtn. Farhat Jamal and Rtn. Khurshed Poonawala

committed to voting for him in any case. This whole Rs 11 lakh crore transfer was carried out on fuel and also upping taxes at corporate and other levels. That led to the big election victory!

### MARGINALISING MINORITIES

Other things happened to make the middle class and the upper crust happy. India has had a spectacular disenfranchisement of the minorities from the power structure. For the first time in India's history, and it is the sixth year now, there is only one Muslim in the Central Cabinet and that too as the Minister for Minority Affairs. It has never happened in India, no Prime Minister, no speaker, no president, no head of any forces, no head of intelligence. It is

the same with Christians. So, there has been a spectacular marginalisation of minorities from the point of power structure. The middle-class voters of the BJP are happy about this. They don't want to hurt minorities but, ultimately, they do not want to share power with them.

### PLAYING TO THE GALLERY

I am not judging this as good or bad, all I am saying is that this is how it is. The formula is simple. If you can get 50 per cent of the Hindu vote, you can rule India with the majority. This takes us to a tussle which has been going in politics since 1989. It was a crucial year since L K Advani launch his Mandir movement and VP Singh launched the Mandal movement.

What were these movements?

They were about one question: can you use caste to divide what religion can unite? Or, can you use religion to reunite what caste has divided? If Mandal succeeds then people vote on the basis of caste, so Hindus don't vote as one. If the Mandir movement succeeds then people cut across castes and vote as Hindus. For the second time, the Mandir approach (metaphorically) against Mandal won. Akhilesh Yadav was defeated, Lalu Yadav was defeated, Nitesh Kumar is in the pocket of BJP, JDS is on the ropes. All old Mandal forces were defeated and some are joining the BJP.

### GRINDING THE ECONOMY TO A HALT

There has been a downside to this. India's economic momentum has been broken,

economic growth rate has slowed. Swaminathan Iyer wrote that this budget would not take India to eight per cent growth but rather to six per cent growth. The fact is that India's economic growth rate has come down over the past five years. This is in spite of the government changing its formula of calculating growth. India's exports and imports are down.

There is a slowdown that you cannot miss. But should Narendra Modi care? He has won despite the slowdown in economy, despite the unemployment rate being highest in 45 years. These are facts that cannot be ignored.

So, should Modi care? In dollar terms, if you add inflation, anybody who has invested in the Sensex in the past five years has been pauperised. You would have



**FACT:** Rotary Founder Paul P. Harris's initial goal was to create a club of professional and businessmen for friendship and fellowship. However, he realised that Rotary needed a greater purpose. In 1907, the the Chicago Rotary Club initiated its first public service project, the construction of public toilets in Chicago.

**JULY 23, 2019**

THE BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY **03**



President Preeti wishes Rtn. (Dr.) Ashok Kirpalani for his birthday



President Preeti wishes Rtn. Pradeep Gupta for his birthday



President Preeti wishes PE Rtn. Framroze Mehta for his birthday



Rtn. (Dr.) Ashok Kirpalani, Rtn. Moy Biswas and Rtn. Ashok Minawala

been much better off keeping your money in fixed deposits in the nationalised banks which, meanwhile, have also gone bankrupt because the middle class will again pay for these banks to be recapitalised. The biggest gravy train for the upper crust is the nationalised banks because first you borrow from them, then you don't repay, then you get a loan write-off, then the middle-class and the poor again repay money and recapitalise those banks. This scheme never fails in India. Again, in this year's budget, the government is giving Rs 70,000 crore to bankrupt National banks.

### **BRINGING LENDING TO A STAND-STILL**

Private banks are afraid to lend to corporates because they know better. They

also do not lend to big infrastructure project, they lend to consumers for buying cars, house etc. Therefore, lending credit is at a stand-still. Now, will Modi restart it or not? If he has the wisdom to say that it worked for the first time but it can't work all the time. Because, 6.1 per cent employment is okay for a while but another five years of this and a lot of people will get hurt. But I will tell you one thing, that people do not change their essential style and method. You cannot.

### **MODI, THE STATIST**

The essential feature of the Modi style of governance is simply that the state is the lord and master, and he is an ultimate statist. Indira Gandhi was a statist but she, at least, had some advisors. But Narendra Modi is much more statist because he thinks there

is nothing wrong with state. He thinks it is the politicians who are dishonest and do not have brains but since he has brains and is honest, he will run the government.

So, a statist government in India will work very well. It will deliver on matters that it has to deliver. It delivered on the anti-poverty schemes efficiently and also on the areas of physical infrastructure — railways, highways, airports but not on soft infrastructure — universities, research, intellectual enquiry, these have suffered a lot in the last five years. Agriculture too has suffered a lot and will continue to suffer unless we see a dramatic change.

### **MESSAGE TO THE RICH:**

In the same budget, tax for

petrol and diesel has gone up again. But the people who vote for Narendra Modi are the same people who pay these additional taxes, so, why should he care? You are seeing a new Indian political economy that tells the rich that they are welcome to leave if they want but that he is okay with six and a half per cent growth. The new template is that the growth rate can be moderate, taxes can be high and exports can be low, as long as imports are also low.

The formula that worked once. I don't know why it should work again. I will be very happy to be proven wrong. I would love to see eight per cent growth because that will require some real reforms which, on current indications, doesn't look like is happening.

## HEALTH CHECK-UP FOR CHILDREN AT IWA



**SIXTY-FOUR** children from the Garden School visited the IWA clinic on Wednesday, July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019 for a health check-up.

The children were between four and five years old and given general and dental check-ups. Each one was also examined by the paediatrician. Their height and weight were taken by volunteers including Rtn. Arin Master and Rtn. Ptn. Pervin Jehangir.

Doctors at the IWA will review

the results from the various check-ups and subsequently visit the school to brief the parents on their child's health. Thereafter, if required, the children may be called for follow-up treatments.

The IWA monitors the progress of the Garden School children through the year. Their nutrition programme is also funded by the IWA. In keeping with tradition, each child was given a glass of milk, a banana and a chocolate after their check-up.



## Ananda Yaan kicks off 'Ananda Seva'

**ANANDA SEVA** is a unique opportunity for all Rotarians and their friends to get involved with elders. You can celebrate special days or make any day special for Ananda Yaan (AY) members by giving them experiential opportunities such as learning a new activity, participating in a *satsang*, enjoying a tasty snack or going for a picnic. Anything you like will be arranged as per your wish by the AY committee.

Rtn. Ptn. Devi Narayan was the first to avail of this opportunity by arranging to send AY elders to the Raju Srivastav Comedy Show. The Rotary Club of Bombay sponsored the comedy show for 54 members of RCB's AY centre at



Dr. E. Moses Road which is actively run by the Dignity Foundation.

This was the first outing for members of this particular centre. It was an all-ladies group that was really excited to travel to Bandra for the show. They recalled their younger days when they travelled to local fairs. This was also

their first-ever visit to the Rangsharda Auditorium.

They shared, with RCB members, that they had watched Raju Srivastav on many occasions on TV but seeing him live in an auditorium was an amazing experience. The ladies were touched and called the event a 'once in a lifetime' opportunity. They were thankful to RCB and the Dignity Foundation for a wonderful evening out. Throughout the event, the ladies laughed wholeheartedly and their happy faces made Rtn. Madhusudan Daga very joyful. Thank you, Rtn. Madhusudan Daga, PP Ramesh Narayan and Rtn. Ptn. Devi Narayan.



JULY 23, 2019

THE BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY 05



## Enabling the next generation of students at BY

**A HUGE** thank you to Rtn. Indu Shahani and her team for spending their valuable time with Bhavishya Yaan students and giving them the opportunity to attend career guidance sessions at ISME.

A staggering 217 students from the BY alumni and standard 10 attended the sessions conducted especially for Bhavishya Yaan. Each child was free to attend three sessions of his/her choice. The sessions were on management, advertising, the hotel and food industry, the information technology industry (ITI), accounting and general counselling.

The sessions were interesting and gave students an insight into career options previously unknown to them. The lecture rooms were packed with students who listened with great interest.

The ITI session arranged by Neeta Pradhan of Vidya was popular with the students who learned a variety of skills and were told of several, available, job opportunities. Enhancing the knowledge of new skills was further reinforced in the general counselling session, conducted by Chandrakant Munde. Management and advertising also captured the students' interest.

No matter what the session

or subject, a lively question-and-answer discussion followed and the team expertly answered all queries.

The Rotaract Club of ISME led by Hansika Shahani and Dhruv Parikh did an amazing job in planning the logistics and making sure the event was executed smoothly and efficiently. The sessions ended with Rtn. Indu Shahani addressing the students. She made everyone feel welcome and at home with her warmth and smiling countenance. Much to their delight, she even danced with them and promised to host a similar event again in future! The students gave her a standing ovation!

Each student and alumni was given a snack box, generously sponsored by the young Rotaractors themselves. The afternoon ended with Bollywood music and dance!

The event was attended by Rtn. Indu Shahani, Rtn. Jamshed Vakharia, Rtn. Annes Beena and Avaan, Byculia school mentor Rashmi, Neeta Pradhan and Mrs Masuma of Vidya, Hansika Shahani and Dhruv Parikh of ISME and all the enthusiastic ISME Rotaractors! A huge thank you to the team for their time, dedication and effort.



We are active on social media with over 6,500 followers. Find us on facebook, twitter and instagram with the handle @rcb1929. Find us on linkedin and youtube with the handle rotary club of bombay. Please follow us and like/share the posts.

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### Rotaract Hinduja installs new team



**THE ROTARACT** Club of Hinduja College successfully conducted its Installation Ceremony 'Junoon' on July 13th, 2019 at the K.P.B Hinduja College of Commerce. More than 150 guests attended the event. The installation was graced by the presence of Chief Guest DRR Rtr. Kushal Bhuvra while the guests of honour were Rtn. Sunita Mandelia, Dr. Antara Sonawane (Vice Principal of Hinduja College) and other dignitaries. In addition, several alumni, members, District Council members, Rtn. Freyaz Shroff, Rtn. Rashna Cooper, and numerous parents joined the ceremony.

The event started with formal protocols by the outgoing President Rtr. Vidhi Chauhan, who shared the successes achieved in the year 2018-19. This was followed by the Team Secretariat which presented the secretariat's report for the year. The core team and Board of Directors were felicitated with the "Year Completion Citations" and awarded tokens of appreciation for a successful year.

Rtr. Vidhi Chauhan delivered

her outgoing speech, supplemented by Rtr. Ammar Kanorwala, Rtr. Abid Memon and Rtr. Mira Nambiar who delivered their farewell speech to club members and their team. Outgoing President Rtr. Vidhi introduced the incoming President and handover of the collar to Rtr. Darshan Jain.

Rtr. Darshan then delivered his acceptance speech and released the theme and theme banner for the year 2019-20. This was proceeded by the induction of the core team and the new Board of Directors' team for 2019-20.

Before the induction of the new team, Rtr. Darshan Jain continued the ceremony by introducing Rtn. Sunita Mandelia who spoke a few words of thanks to the outgoing team and then provided encouragement to the upcoming team.

Rtr. Darshan Jain introduced the Chief Guest, DRR Rtr. Kushal Bhuvra, who stressed the importance of joining Rotaract activities. Rtr. Jeel Thakkar presented the first Secretariat report for the year 2019-20. The dignitaries were felicitated with tokens of appreciation.



**A ten year old looks back with satisfaction and looks ahead with confidence.**

Please join  
**Preeti Mehta**  
President Rotary Club of Bombay  
and the members of the Bhavishya Yaan Committee  
for the  
**10th. Annual Day function of Bhavishya Yaan**

Guest of Honor  
**Tara Sutaria**  
Young cine sensation

**Date: 26th. July 2019 at 3pm**  
**Venue: ISME Auditorium, 1 India Bulls Centre Parel.**

Director: **Meera Alreja**      Chairman: **Jamshed Vakharia**      Co-Chairman: **Madhusudhan Daga**



### In other news



**THE ROTARY** Club of Bombay's Rtn. S. K. Mitra attended the installation ceremony of the new President at Rotary Club of Calcutta, Rtn. Purnendu Roy Chowdhury. This year, the Rotary Club of Calcutta celebrates a hundred years. It is the first Rotary Club to be established in India.



JULY 23, 2019

THE BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY 07

## APPEAL: PHILANTHROPY WITH THE ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY

**OUR MUSICAL** fund-raiser, with Bollywood's most sought-after vocalist Sonu Nigam on August 27, 2019 at the Tata Theatre, NCPA, offers you a unique opportunity to support one of India's premier service institutions – Rotary Club of Bombay (RCB).

Come join some of the country's most illustrious philanthropists, Rajashree Birla, Ajay Piramal, Adi Godrej and Deepak Parekh, to name a few, who have joined hands with RCB in our various and dedicated community service projects, such as literacy, water conservation, women empowerment, healthcare, conservation and restoration of our urban heritage and solar power. Since 1929, the Rotary Club of Bombay has impacted the lives of over a million deserving people.

AJIT DESHPANDE MEDICAL CENTRE (ADMC) provides completely free healthcare to *adivasis* and farmers in the Dahanu area, two hours outside Mumbai. RCB plans to open a maternal and childcare ward (Project Matr - Shishu Seva) and



a prevention of disease and education centre (Project Arogya).

BHAVISHYA YAAN (BY): One of RCB's most lauded and successful projects over the past 10 years, BY has benefited thousands of children. Speak to any child in the six Municipal Schools across Mumbai and

they will tell you the hope and joy this literacy programme has brought them. BY provides after-school computer and English language skills to under-privileged children, dozens of whom have gone on to post-graduation degrees.

**ENVIRONMENT:** RCB proposes to set up an Integrated Village Development in Gumbadpada-Mokhada by setting up an 8KW Solar Hub to lift 300 litre of water per minute, storing the same in two 5000 litre tanks, to serve the village's irrigation needs and provide safe drinking water. We also propose to transform a dumping ground at the Dongri Children's Home into a vegetable garden to provide additional 150 kg per month of fresh organic vegetables.

RCB is unique in that every rupee donated is used solely towards the intended projects; RCB members bear all the administrative costs. We invite you to support our worthy causes by booking an advertisement in our souvenir, to be released at the event.

## Next week's speaker

**A THIRST** for knowledge and a desire to share and change lives led Ashdin Doctor to start three ventures:

Awesome180 ([www.awesome180.com](http://www.awesome180.com)) is a habit coaching business, designed to make lives awesome in just 180 days.

The Habit Coach Podcast (<https://ivmpodcasts.com/the-habit-coach>) A 7-minute podcast filled with actionable habits.

Wellness Habit Workshops: Workshops designed to make wellness a part of life by starting habits that can be done in 5 minutes or less.

Doctor's journey started four years ago, when he launched a new business. He was overworked, slept for about five hours a night and indulged in stress-eating. One day, while getting ready for a presentation he collapsed on the floor sweating profusely. Burnt out, low energy, fat and depressed, he decided enough was enough.



He gave himself a goal: a six-pack. One year later, he fell in love with the science of transformation. The role of hormones in the body, how stress plays a critical role in losing weight, what does a good night of sleep really mean, what are fad diets, how should you think about the food you eat, what is the role of the microbiome or gut bacteria, how the brain works, what are natural plants that have healing abilities, what is good for longevity and what is the role of fasting?

Doctor started experimenting on himself, deciding what worked, what was practical, or impractical for daily life, was the effect tangible or not? The knowledge he aggregated, he decided to pass on to others and will be sharing with Rotarians next Tuesday.

**His topic: Micro wellness habits**

### ROTARIAN BIRTHDAYS



JULY 23  
RTN. SUSHIL JALAN



JULY 26  
RTN. VINEET SUCHANTI



JULY 27  
RTN. PETER BORN



JULY 29  
RTN. POORNIMA ADVANI



JULY 29  
RTN. DEVENDRA BHARMA

### ROTARIAN PARTNER BIRTHDAYS

JULY 25: RTN. PTN. RADHIKA MEHTA

JULY 26: RTN. PTN. ARORA BIBA

JULY 27: RTN. PTN. SOHA PAREKH

JULY 28: RTN. PTN. BEENA YARGOP

## Forthcoming events

**JULY 30:** Ashdin Doctor, Habit Coach and Founder of Awesome180.

**AUGUST 6:** Vikas Dilawari Conservation and Heritage Architect

**AUGUST 13:** Anant Goenka



MD and CEO of CEAT Tyres

**AUGUST 20:** Ashwin Sanghi and PP (Dr.) Mukesh Batra

**Venue:** The Taj Mahal Palace

**JULY 31:** Pondicherry Trip

Printed and Published by **President Preeti Mehta** for Rotary Club of Bombay, [contact@rotaryclubofbombay.org](mailto:contact@rotaryclubofbombay.org); Editorial Content, Design & Layout by **The Narrators**, [thewriteassociates@gmail.com](mailto:thewriteassociates@gmail.com); Printed at Indigo Press, [indigopress@gmail.com](mailto:indigopress@gmail.com)

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

## ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY 2019-2020

### TRUSTEES 2019-2020

PP Rtn. (Dr.) Rahim Muljani	PP Rtn. Arvind Jolly
PP Rtn. (Dr.) Adi Dastur	PP Rtn. Arun Sanghi

### OFFICE BEARERS 2019-2020

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Rotaract	Rtn. Zeenia Master

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Public Awards	Rtn. Suresh Kotak
Young At Heart	Rtn. Ramesh Mehta

### DIRECTOR-IN-CHARGE RTN. PETER BORN

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Urban Heritage	Rtn. Natasha Treasurywala
Environment	Rtn. Madhusudan Daga

### DIRECTOR-IN-CHARGE RTN. HIRANMAY BISWAS

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Yoga	Rtn. Sitaram Shah
Vocational Training	Rtn. Varsha Daiya
Night Study Centre	Rtn. Jamshyd Vazifdar

### DIRECTOR-IN-CHARGE RTN. PRADEEP GUPTA

Attendance	Rtn. Bipin Kapadia
In-Camera	Rtn. Zinia Lawyer

### DIRECTOR-IN-CHARGE RTN. (DR.) ASHOK KIRPALANI

Talwada Projects	PP Rtn. (Dr.) Rahim Muljani
Phiroze R. Vakil Eye Centre (PRVEC)	Rtn. Homi Katgara
Ajit Deshpande Medical Centre (ADMC)	Rtn. Tara Deshpande
Cancer Aid	Rtn. (Dr.) Ian Pinto
RCB – Medical Centre	Rtn. Manoj Patodia

### DIRECTOR-IN-CHARGE RTN. VINEET BHATNAGAR

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The Rotary Foundation & Global Grant	PP Rtn. Pradeep Saxena
Gender Equality	Rtn. Arin Master
Skill Development	Rtn. S. V. Prasad

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Child Welfare	Rtn. Rajesh Shah
Anand Yaan / Elder Care	Rtn. Alok Sekhsaria
Scholarships	Rtn. Roda Billimoria