

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Friends,

My very warm greetings to each of you.

A few days ago, India launched Chandrayaan-2, its second lunar exploration mission after Chandrayaan-1 a decade ago. The launch of Chandrayaan-2 brings back fond memories. First, of our very

own Mission to Future, for our Municipal school children, Bhavishya Yaan project, which also was launched a decade ago thanks to PP Rtn. Ramesh Narayan. Now, we celebrate the 10th anniversary of Bhavishya Yaan, which has grown from one school with 40 children to six schools with 1600 children.

We doff our hats with appreciation, pride and gratitude to each and every of our Rotarian and Rotarian Partners who have been associated with this programme, donors, mentors, our partners in service: Vidya and Infotroopers, Municipal Corporation of Mumbai, each of the six Municipal schools, their principals, teachers, staff and above all our 'Bhavishya Yaan' students. May our tribe increase manifold and may we do even better.

The 10th Annual Day was celebrated with much gusto and joy. A very well planned event, with great skits and performances by our enthusiastic Bhavishya Yaan children. A very big thank you to our very own Rtn. (Dr.) Indu Shahani, the ISME Rotaractors and all at ISME for their invaluable support.

The Chandrayaan-2 launch also brought back memories of our trip to the Indian Space Research Organisation in July 2015 to Sriharikota and Bengaluru, organised by PP. Rtn. Sandip Agarwalla, during PP. Rtn. (Dr.) Sonya Mehta's tenure. Chandrayaan-2 launch makes every Indian proud. Kudos to our ISRO scientists, technicians and their entire team.

This week we had another wonderful speaker, Javed Ahmad, who shared his experiences as a top cop, a 1980 batch IPS Officer and 39th Commissioner of Police, Mumbai and, amongst other posts held then, as a diplomat as India's Ambassador to Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in 2015.

We all must be so looking forward to our first Fellowship trip of this Rotary year to Puducherry and Mamallapuram. More on this upon our return.

Once again, a reminder to all who haven't yet made their ticket bookings for our 'Sonu Nigam Live in Concert' show on Tuesday August 27th at Tata Theatre, please don't give this event a miss, with an appeal to extend your support to our Club's fund-raising event. I sincerely and earnestly appeal to all, please join and team in with our members to raise a large fund for our Club's various projects in community service.



President Preeti Mehta



TOP COP TO TOP DIPLOMAT

Former Commissioner of Police, Mumbai and more recently India's Ambassador to Saudi Arabia, **Javed Ahmad** reflects on changing political relationships

POLICING in India or a big state like Maharashtra or a metropolitan area like Mumbai is a challenge. This is not just because of the number of people, but also the rollercoaster nature of our vibrant democracy. We have a vibrant media and a plethora of NGOs looking at the governance. Therefore, it is a challenge as well as a boon to get a lot of feedback to improving things. Mumbai is probably the safest city because of Mumbai and Maharashtra Police.

In 2002, we did a big study with McKinsey which has now become part of governance and lead to Citizen Facilitation Centres (CFC) or Nagarik Suvidha Kendra. Under this, we covered all the services not covered under law e.g. music performance licences, arms licences, restaurant licences etc. Overnight, it changed the perspective about the Mumbai police. This study became bigger and provided easier and faster services.

The other thing we began was interacting with the public via the Twitter account of the Mumbai Police. Except for Bengaluru, no other city had a robust Twitter account. It was



a bit of a challenge because knowing the Mumbaikars, media, NGOs, we could be roasted. But we took the plunge in November-December 2015 and, today, the largest number of followers of any government Twitter handle is of Mumbai police with over 4 million people.

02 THE BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY



A visiting Rotarian exchanges banners with President Preeti



PP Rtn. Pradeep Saxena, President Preeti Mehta and Rtn. Ashok Minawala



PP Rtn. Rumi Jehangir, PE Rtn. Framroze Mehta and Rtn. Homi Katgara



President Preeti Mehta inducts Rtn. Ajay Garg

In terms of security, Mumbai has had its unfair share in the 90s or 2003's series of bomb blasts, and also the terrorist attack of 26/11. I have found large improvements in the city and the people's involvement to make it safer counts. In hindsight, most of the diplomacy that I learned was from Maharashtra and Maharashtra Police.

Presently, the relationship between India and Saudi Arabia is at an all-time high. Since last week, we have seen that there is something or the other happening in the Middle East that has the potential to blow up at a violent level. It affects us as the Indian diaspora in these countries is so huge. For example, Saudi Arabia is two-thirds the size of India but had about 3 million Indians at its peak. Last year, if I am not wrong, about 11 million dollars came from Saudi Arabia as revenue. So, if there is an upheaval in these areas, it will impact the local Indians and they will need to be relocated. It happened in Kuwait and Yemen three years ago when we successfully evacuated Indians as well as foreigners.

Saudi Arabia is the head, in terms of GCC and it plays a major role in OPEC. In the last two years, they have also been a big player along with the non-OPEC countries in stabilising the prices of oil which had dipped, four years ago, to \$30 per barrel from \$100-150. Now it has stabilised to \$60-68.

The third perspective of Saudi Arabia is that they have started looking at the East as a way to diversify

their international policy. India features very highly in this regard. The way they look at India is vastly larger than what we perceive being inside. Therefore, the expectation from India as a country or a power is much bigger than all these years. This has been taken up by the present government. The kind of chemistry the prime minister has with the crown prince... When I was leaving, there was a function of the Indian diaspora. The waiter at the five-star hotel came to me and said that he had never been more proud of being Indian than in the last three years because of what India means to these places. That is largely because of the leadership and the response of the Indian Government to Indians in any trouble abroad.

If we get a call from a person that he is distressed in the middle of the desert, we respond in 24 hours if not earlier. This is because a large part was played by Mrs. Sushma Swaraj who increased the level of response across the world. There was an Indian family travelling via Saudi Arabia to America and their passport was damaged in transit. We got a new passport delivered to them at the airport by a simple tweet that: 'if I don't get the passport rectified now my entry to the US at the immigration would not be possible.' This would not have been possible earlier.

Therefore, because of our successful evacuation of many Indians from Yemen, the ambassadors would informally talk that if they wanted to be evacuated, they would like to be evacuated

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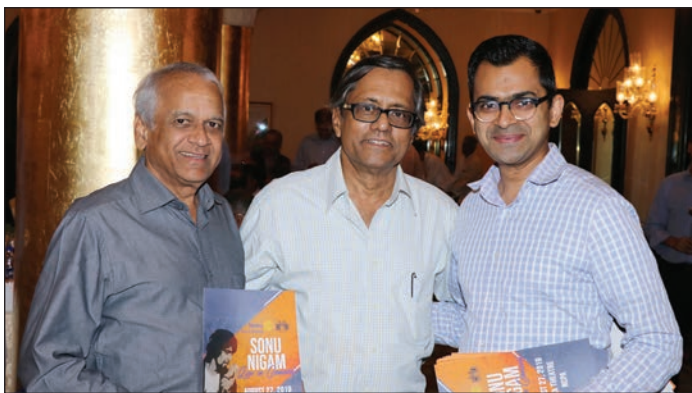
THE BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY 03



President Preeti wishes Rtn. Peter Born for his birthday



Rtn. Akhil Sanghi, Rtn. Sabira Merchant and Rtn. Ptn. Malti Jain



Rtn. Pradeep Chinai, Rtn. S K Mitra and Rtn. Rahil Shah, holding brochures for the upcoming Sonu Nigam fundraiser



Rtn. Ramesh Dhir and PP. Rtn. (Dr.) Rahim Muljani

with us because if it is India, it would be safe. This is the kind of difference.

Four years ago, the Saudi Royals were looking at the investment from the sovereign funds for infrastructure and the figure that had come was a few hundred million US dollars. When the crown prince visited in February, he left on the table 100 billion dollars as a beginning. One of the biggest reasons is the kind of chemistry the leadership has.

What is your perception about the weather in Saudi Arabia? Hot? Desert? Six months of the year Saudi Arabia is pleasant – more pleasant and most pleasant. From November onwards, you have to switch off the AC. You go as low as 2° to 0° degree

temperature at night from November to April. The sun is beautiful. There are days you have to put on the heating. The fruits and vegetables you get – the best annar, figs, olives, oranges.

The restrictions on women have been minimised. We now see many women in the workplace, driving under the governance of new crown prince. From Infrastructure to processes, a 300 billion dollar new city has come up on the Red Sea with SEZ.

I would like to see a lot of Indians in the Red Sea tourism project.

OYO has struck a beautiful

deal in Saudi Arabia by simply projecting what is the best requirement for their country. Saudi Arabia has also become economically conscious that they cannot splurge money. Therefore, they would like to spend money on things that give them value for money. Lastly, the services – defence – in which we have a big role.

So, what do the Indian embassy and the Saudi Arabian embassy do? Like most embassies, we go in for diplomacy which is our bread and butter, to increase our relationship and engagement. We have an Indian diaspora with which there is always some or the other issue. We have the Haj operations and arrangement has to be made by the Indian mission on the ground which can be a huge challenge. The

Indian embassy is involved in indirectly running 10 Indian international schools catering to Indians. The largest Indian school in the Eastern side has 16,000 kids in one school, the second had 12,000, and Riyadh had 10,000. So, you are looking at universities of schools. And I have not seen politics anywhere in India as much as I have seen in these schools. Sometimes, even to get a person out of jail is a challenge.

However, the experience as the Indian ambassador was that of a great honour and pleasure. The most satisfying part is the level of national engagement. What we have achieved as a country – it can only go forward and not slide back. If you can, grab it, because it is a very happening place. Saudis love Indians.

BY TURNS 10

TEN years back India launched Chandrayaan – a vehicle to the Moon while Rotary Club of Bombay launched Bhavishya Yaan – a vehicle for uplifting the future of underprivileged children!

The Bhavishya Yaan programme (BY) of the Rotary Club of Bombay celebrated its annual day and 10th anniversary with much pomp and fanfare at the ISME Campus in Lower Parel, Mumbai.

BY was started in February 2009 at the Dr. Ambedkar School in Worli with just 40 students and is now in its 11th successful year improving the lives of 1600 students in six BMC schools! What a stupendous achievement!

The wonderful afternoon was strung together by BY mentor Avaan Vakharia who expertly hosted the entire event. BY Chair Rtn. Jamshed Vakharia began the proceedings by giving a glimpse to the distinguished gathering about the BY Programme followed by President Rtn. Preeti Mehta who shared her thoughts with the audience. She also acknowledged everyone for attending the programme and encouraging the students and expressed her gratitude to Rtn. (Dr.) Indu Shahani who graciously provided her infrastructure and auditorium to host BY's 10th anniversary celebrations.

Preeti and Jamshed also specifically mentioned all the donors, the earlier Chairperson of BY and all the mentors over the years. They thanked the knowledge partner Vidya

and their team led by Mrs Neeta Pradhan and Tech Partners Info Troopers and their team led by Mr Niranjan Rao & Mr Girish Rao. A special shout was also made to PP. Rtn. Ramesh Narayan who has been the pillar of the BY programme since its inception. Special thanks were also due to Mr D Sivananandan, Mr D K Raikar, Mr V Ranganathan, Ms Delnaz Palia, Mr Homi Bhabha and Vishal Desai of Colors. These wonderful people have supported the programme in their personal or official capacities. It is this joint effort by one and all from every spectrum of society that has made the BY programme what it is today. Most of the students have gone on to pursue higher education and diverse careers ranging from film making to hospitality to engineering to law. The programme wouldn't have been successful and won international and national accolades without this support. Many other Rotary clubs have started modelling their education related programmes on the basis on the Bhavishya Yaan programme. A true feather in the cap for the Rotary Club of Bombay!

A short film on Bhavishya Yaan followed after the introductory speeches. The theme was "Seven Deadly Sins" - the seven traits of man or cardinal sins according to the Christian teachings are pride, greed, lust, envy, gluttony, wrath and sloth.

Each of our schools chose to depict one sin through a play and sought to share their



Chief guest Tara Sutaria sings 'Somewhere over the rainbow' for BY students and guests

learnings on the same. Colaba School portrayed Gluttony, GK School – Pride, NMJ – Sloth, Byculla – Wrath, Prabhadevi – Envy and Ambedkar School – Greed. Each of the plays / song performances / dance performances was followed by school alumni sharing his / her experiences of the Bhavishya Yaan programme and explaining how it has impacted their lives. Abhishek (Colaba school), Pooja (GK MArg), Vedant (N M Joshi), Mamta Jadhav (Byculla) and Deepika Pawar (Ambedkar school) shared their experiences and profusely thanked the programme, teaching and support partners and Rotary Club of Bombay for transforming their lives!

Thereafter, it was time to welcome our chief guest, Student of the Year actress Tara Sutaria. She came onto the stage amidst thundering applause and fanfare. The

children and the elders were extremely excited to see this star who recently made her sensational debut in Student of The Year 2. Avaan even coaxed Tara into singing a wonderful rendition of the song "Somewhere Over the Rainbow" from Wizard of Oz.

Thereafter, Tara gave away prizes to the students who had passed their 10th from all the schools.

Although the audience lusted for more, but all good things need to come to an end and so did this afternoon!

The importance of the programme could be gauged from the various attendees – more than 350 in number including Past Presidents, Donors, Mentors, Knowledge and Tech Partners, Rotarian and guests who attended the event and cheered and encouraged all the students!

Well done, Team Bhavishyayaan !!

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THE BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY 05



Rotaractors



BY students perform the peacock skit



Rtn. Ptn. Avaan Vakharia, Rtn. Rajesh Shah, Rtn. Madhusudan Daga, Rtn. Manish Reshamwala, Rtn. Satyan Israni, PP Rtn. Arun Sanghi, Tara Sutaria, President Preeti Mehta, Rtn. Shivkumar Israni, Rtn. Manoj Patodia and Rtn. Jamshed Vakharia



BY Chair Rtn. Jamshed Vakharia and Rtn. Ptn. Avaan with Tara Sutaria



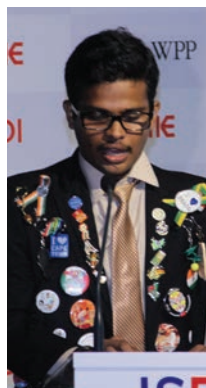
BY Chairman Rtn. Jamshed Vakharia, Tara Sutaria, Rtn. (Dr.) Indu Shahani and PP Rtn. Ramesh Narayan



Tara Sutaria with BY mentors Rtn. Ptn. Priyanka Jatia, Rashmi Bapna and Rtn. Ptn. Beena Yargop



Rtn. Satyan Israni, Rtn. Manish Reshamwala, PN Rtn. Shernaz Vakil, Tara Sutaria, President Preeti Mehta and PE Rtn. Framroze Mehta



BY toppers Deepika, Pooja and Vedant



President Preeti and Rtn. Ptn. Avaan Vakharia with BY teachers



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.

06 THE BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY

JAL JEEVAN WATERS THE HOPES OF VILLAGERS



THE RCB water committee has been busy. Three more villages were supplied with safe drinking water facilities through the Club's Jal Jeevan programme for rural Maharashtra.

On July 12th and 13th, 2019, our Water Resources Committee members Rtns. Abhishek Saraf and Akhil Sanghi, together with RCB's project manager Nikhil Sonawane, inaugurated water plants in Rajderwadi (Nashik), Nagaon Khurd (Jalgaon) and Navanagar

(Nandurbar) villages.

Villagers were grateful to receive these water filtration plants which would provide the children, women and men with disease-free, clean, drinking water. The beneficiaries kindly expressed their gratitude through a mix of welcomes, including a village gathering, *pandal*, *dhol*, *tilak*, *tika*, garland and a shawl respectfully draped on the shoulders of the visiting Rotarians.

ROTARACTORS LEARN FROM NELSON MANDELA



WITH an aim to pay tribute to the late Nelson Mandela, the International Service team of the Rotaract Club of Hinduja College undertook an initiative called Nelson's Legacy. This event was carried out in two different Municipal schools (Aryan Education Society and Shirodkar School) for four continuous days. Four different sessions were held from July 16th to July 19th.

On Day 1, a dance session was conducted where students learned dance moves. This helped the students to not only



learn but stimulate a great interest in dance and movement.

Day 2 was all about Yoga, where the aim of the sessions was to make students do something different besides their academic work, which would help them in keep their body physically fit.

Day 3 celebrated Nelson Mandela's International Day. A session was organised which helped students interact and bond with each other. Activities were conducted and expertly facilitated by District Council Members



Rtr. Prakhyat Shetty, Rtr. Siddhita Gawde and Rtr. Aman Singh.

Day 4 was the final day of the event. It focussed on a motivational speech by Rtn. Rohan Dalmia and Rtr. Gopi Gupta. In this session, the speakers encouraged students to follow their hearts and dreams.

More than a hundred students attended the event and the feedback was extremely positive. Thank you to all the team who helped organise such a wonderful event.

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THE BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY 07

TAKING ELDER CARE TO A NEW LEVEL

DISTRICT 3141 has launched an awareness drive for Ananda Yaan. Aligned to the initiative, our partner Campaign For Good is seeking creative entries for this awareness programme from young professionals in the advertising industry.

Campaign India, the leading advertising magazine is proactively promoting the contest. Other national newspapers like Free Press Journal and DNA have chipped in as well. This campaign is being promoted by the International Advertising Association (IAA) India Chapter and the winners will receive a coveted IndIAA award on the prestigious IndIAA Awards stage on August 26th. The award will

be presented to the winning creative team by the District Governor and RCB President.

A dream jury of senior CEOs chaired by Suresh Narayanan, Chairman of Nestlé India, will review and judge the entries on August 7th. The winning campaign must be promoted on and offline, in our networks, societies and clubs. This is an issue close to each one of our hearts and we look forward to your resounding support this autumn.

Thanks to the Avenue team at District 3141 Chaired by Ramesh Narayan Dr.Mona Shah and District Chairman Alok Sekhsaria and their team, who have been working tirelessly to set up this unprecedented initiative on behalf of the elders in our communities and for our Club.

Save
the Date

PARSI NITE

AUGUST 19, 2019

MUSIC COCKTAILS
DINNER

DETAILS TO FOLLOW

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MILTON

WARM UP TO
A GOOD COMPANY!



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Next week's speaker

VIKAS Dilawari is a practicing conservation architect with nearly three decades of experience in the field of conservation. He has done his double Masters in Conservation from School of Planning and Architecture (New Delhi) and from the University of York (with a distinction). He was the Head of Department of Conservation Department at Kamla Raheja Vidyanidhi Institute of Architecture (KRVI) Mumbai from its inception in 2007 till Aug 2014.

His practice has successfully executed several conservation projects (about 50) ranging from prime landmarks to unloved buildings of Mumbai. A total of 16 of his projects have won the UNESCO ASIA PACIFIC Awards for Cultural Preservation in South East Asia. He was also instrumental



with INTACH Mumbai Chapter to nominate CSMT or erstwhile VT station as a World Heritage Site (WHS) in 2004.

His recent project includes the restoration of Flora Fountain a Grade I building of Mumbai for the MCGM where not only the three-tiered fountain has been restored but also is water engineering and surrounding landscape.

Architect Dilawari has lectured and written extensively on the subject of Conservation, nationally and internationally.

His topic: Mumbai's Heritage and Conservation Champion, an exceptional story

ROTARIAN BIRTHDAYS



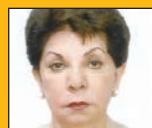
JULY 31
RTN. ARIF
LOKHANDWALLA



AUGUST 3
RTN. AJAY PIRAMAL



AUGUST 3
RTN. ABHISHEK
SHARMAR



AUGUST 4
RTN. SABIRA MERCHANT



AUGUST 5
RTN. BHARAT TAPARIA

ROTARIAN PARTNER BIRTHDAYS

JULY 31
RTN. PTN. SUNAINA KEJRIWAL
AUGUST 2
RTN. AVAAN VAKHARIA

ANNIVERSARIES

JULY 31
RTN. PTN. SHALINA & JAI ADVANI
AUGUST 3
RTN. PTN. RADHIKA & GHANSHYAM SHETH
AUGUST 5
RTN. PTN. BIJAL & HIREN KARA

Forthcoming events

JULY 31: Pondicherry Trip

AUGUST 6: Vikas Dilawari
Conservation and
Heritage Architect

AUGUST 13: Anant Goenka



MD and CEO of CEAT
Tyres

AUGUST 19: Parsi Fellowship
Night

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

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

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PP Rtn. (Dr.) Adi Dastur	PP Rtn. Arun Sanghi

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President-Elect	Rtn. Framroze Mehta
President-Nominee	Rtn. Shernaz Vakil
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Young At Heart	Rtn. Ramesh Mehta

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Urban Heritage	Rtn. Natasha Treasurywala
Environment	Rtn. Madhusudan Daga

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Yoga	Rtn. Sitaram Shah
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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 Muljiani
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

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