

the gateway

Rotary Club
of Bombay



SERVE TO
CHANGE LIVES

BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY | FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION ONLY |

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TODAY

DR. THOMAS
VIRGETS, HEAD,
CORVUSS AMERICAN
ACADEMY

& RTN. SABIRA
MERCHANT

AT TAJ MAHAL
HOTEL, 1 PM

NOTE FROM PRESIDENT SHERNAZ VAKIL



A MOTHER'S DAY WELL SPENT!

Sunday before last, on Mother's Day, an intrepid group of regulars took a trip beyond the RCB model village of Pingemen to the two new villages we were about to inaugurate that day.

We were to visit the Integrated Village Development Programme at the twin hamlets of Waghatpada and Wakadepada, impacting over 350 lives.

The villages faced acute challenges of lack of water for irrigation, lack of clean water for drinking, lack of consistent and affordable electricity, poor electrification of schools and Anganwadi, lack of sanitation facilities for part of the community, and poor street electrification.

It was early May and by 10 am it was a scorcher!

Walking into the fields to see our solar panels and pipelines in the noon-day sun took the breath out of us. However, being welcomed by the womenfolk in traditional Indian style, and laughing with the children at their newly renovated school reminded us why we were there and how we were transforming the lives of these farmers and their families.

We laughed, joked, and wished all the women sitting in obedient lines a very happy *Aai-cha Din*!

As we chatted with the farmers at the solar site, they were keen to show us their fields and what they would be able to grow with the additional water.

We supported their needs by installing a 7.5HP solar submersible pump powered by 7.5KW of solar power, drawing water across an 1800m pipeline for drinking, domestic, and irrigation.

This would enable irrigation of over 20 acres of farmlands in the first fold, reviving the agricultural economy.

We had provided each home with a UV filter for clean drinking water and a tripod solar light with mobile charging and a portable solar lamp.

To further their need for accessible water, the villagers performed *shramdaan*, pulling water to their homes and installing a tap at their doorstep.

We also provided power to the school and Anganwadi by providing one 350W off-grid solar system each, powering up the lights and fans as well as the Smart TVs provide for digitally aided learning and engaged classrooms.

In addition, a community sanitation block was built for the homes that have no access to toilets, complete with a handwash station, allowing the village to move towards an Open Defecation Free (ODF) status and better hygiene.

And, as the afternoon drew to a close, and the ladies of the village dressed up in identical yellow saris and danced for us, our hearts sang with them in joy.

These village trips to Nasik and Palghar have now become fairly routine this year, as we complete close to 20 villages in Maharashtra, before the end of June.

We have yet to inaugurate 11 villages in the Savade area which we plan to do on June 11th, 2022. Come, join us, and see how we improve and impact the lives of our farmers.

Talk to them and understand how our initiatives have supported their lives, and then get inspired to do more! ~ **President Shernaz Vakil**





ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY CONFERRED THE BRAVERY AWARD TO **POLICE NAIK PRASHANT GHARAT** AND THE PV GANDHI EXCELLENCE IN PUBLIC LIFE AWARD TO **ANAMI ROY, FORMER COMMISSIONER OF POLICE, MUMBAI. A TRANSCRIPT OF MR. ROY'S ACCEPTANCE SPEECH**



Being in the police force or a life of civil service in the government gives us an opportunity to help and serve people, to better their lives. Those who are in the higher echelons of civil services particularly can take that one decision that can make such a difference to the lives of people. God gives you the opportunity to do this. Perhaps, when in service, you don't realise that.

Maybe, people like you and me can find ways to get things done. But the common man, particularly in our system, faces difficulties in getting simple things accomplished which should come to you as a right.

I decided not to measure my success or efficiency by how quickly I cleared the papers

in front of me. Instead, I wanted to see the impact the paper was going to make to the other person, change their lives.

One time, I had come here, to Rotary, as Police Commissioner of Mumbai, and I must have done something that had shaken or disturbed people. So, they wanted to question me. But I am looking at every common man who has the right to ask the police and government on service and system. And that does not happen. We wanted to bring in transparency. We created a Citizen Facilitation Centre. People don't know the basics of where to go if they want something done. The Mumbai Police Commissioner's office issues some 27 types of licences, so create simple lines, break institutional mechanisms.

TO READ A COMPLETE TRANSCRIPT OF THE DISCUSSION, [CLICK HERE](#)

The digital India initiative has changed many things. But what you need is process re-engineering. We have a 'one-size fits all - take it or leave it' kind of attitude.

But people don't know how to take it or not to take it, so, we did process re-engineering, make things simple. Some of these initiatives had huge impact on people's lives.

In another exercise, we called all the people who wanted security clearance for their passport. The police are supposed to do this, but it remains pending for months on end and people don't get their passport. So, I put everyone - right from constables to the Joint Commissioner in my office and said they would not be allowed to leave the room until they had devised a system that would complete all passport enquiries in seven days. I said, 'You are not going out till you get a solution.' Sure enough, they did it, and we made it public.

When I saw the existing system, some 22 documents were required; I said, I can never get my passport in my life. I asked, 'Do any of you have all the documents?' No, so, I said, write that get any two of the following 10; any one of the following 11. **All verifications should be complete in seven days.** I had a dashboard, and all the passports would come before me. Everything was recorded, a clerk would tell me what was pending and what was completed. This is what we need, it is not rocket science.

I want to know what it looks like from the other side. I want all the people in public service

and public life to look at themselves and their role entirely from the perspective of the other person. Is he getting what he deserves, what is his right? There is plenty being done and plenty yet to be done.

Another thing is land records; all of you must have had experience of it, buying, selling, hoarding, transferring a land or property. What a nightmare it can be; **even today, our land records are not universally digitised. Why can't we unshackle all those things?** I have done experiments with this; some have met success and some not. But a lot of things depend on an individual. Institutionalisation is the biggest casualty in our system. Once the person who has taken the initiative goes, if the person who comes next is not interested, then it all collapses. Public service people are all willing to help and contribute. We created a bridge between the IT fraternity and the Mumbai police. All these giants of IT companies, you ask them one thing and they come with 10 solutions. **But we have not tapped the potential for the benefit of the people.** So, what you call as corporate circles and market circles, customer centricity is what we need to bring in public service and life.

Poor people, even today 62% of the population lives in slums, what is their life like? In respect to policing, what better can we offer them in terms of security? Can we make our services more targeted to them? Can anyone reach the police commissioner on the phone for their problems? Not one.



TUESDAYS
WITH
RCB



Committee News

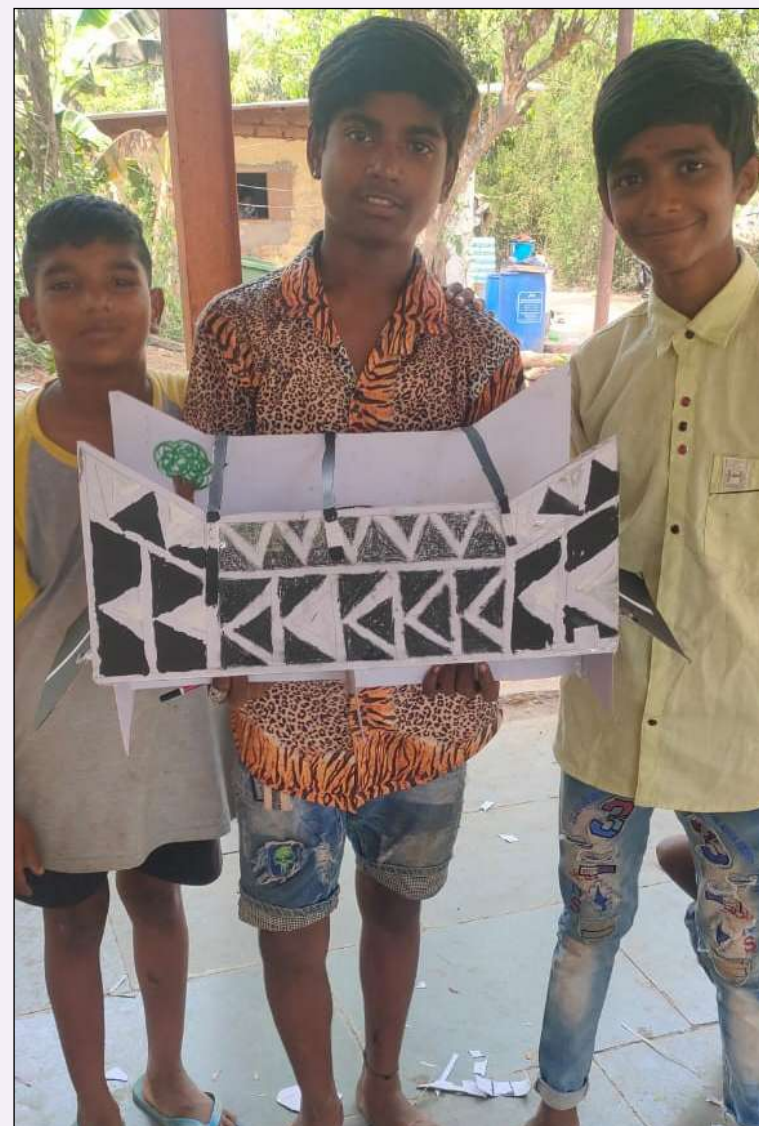
CHALAANG EXPLORES CULTURES OF INDIA

A 10-day summer camp was held for 130 tribal children of the Vaidu communities at Jogeshwari and Marol. Our education partner Vipra Foundation organised a camp which ensured that some life lessons would stay with the kids. RCB's Chalaang Summer Camp week was held from April 21st to May 3rd, 2022.

Vipra and RCB teams present on-ground oversight how the kids were taught about India's different states, the uniqueness of the language, places, dishes, and the traditional attire of its people was shown, all with a focus on developmental domains within the state.

About 30 parents participated too. The children prepared songs, dances, and speeches for the last day. Rotarians were pleased to note that most of the children confidently shared their learning in front of the audience. The parents matched their enthusiasm with pride and tears.

The camp allowed for a rapport to be built up between all stakeholders in the work that RCB is doing with the Vaidu community. These are: the parents, children, project partners and RCB.



Vipra Foundation took 60 Vaidu kids to the premiere of the new movie *Jayesh Babu Jordar*. Vipra arranged for a bus to transport them and snacks, too. It was their first such outing. And look who they met!



Committee News

DIABETES CAMP FOR ANANDA YAAN ELDERS

A diabetes camp was held at Ananda Yaan in May 2022. A professional team from NM Medical visited both Byculla and Dr. E. Moses centres and conducted blood tests for all members. After the report results, a Doctor visited both centres and consulted each member according to the result of their reports. Along with individual consultations, the doctor also facilitated a discussion on diet and the importance of exercise. RCB's Ananda Yaan Committee is grateful to NM Medical and Rtn. Rahil Shah for arranging and executing the diabetes check camp.



Dear fellow Rotarians,
Sri Lanka is currently going through a severe economic crisis, impacting the lives of all Sri Lankan citizens. Basic amenities such as food, fuel and medicine are in short supply. One of the most pressing issues at the moment is the shortage of drugs at the hospitals in Sri Lanka. The local health care system is struggling to take care of patients as basic drugs and life-saving drugs, and medical supplies like NG tubes are in severe short supply. We are in touch with the President Rotary Club of Cinnamon Hills, Colombo.

RCB is keen to help them during this harsh humanitarian crisis.

I appeal to you dear Rotarians to generously contribute to the SL Human Crisis which will help us procure the medicines and air freight them through the Consulate General of Sri Lanka in Mumbai.

Thank you for your support & consideration. Let's join hands to save lives.

President Shernaz Vakil
Rtn. Farhat Jamal, Director



Committee News

JOINT CLUB ASSEMBLY IN JUNE TO ALL DIRECTORS, COMMITTEE CHAIRS FOR THE ROTARY YEAR 2021-22 AND 2022-23

Fellow Rotarians,
A Joint Club Assembly for the Directors and Chairpersons of the Rotary year 2021-22 and 2022-23 will be held on Wednesday, June 8th, 2022 at 1800 hours at the Babhubhai Chinai Committee Room, Indian Merchants Chamber, Churchgate.

Committee Chairpersons for the Rotary year 2021-22 are requested to send their one-page Committee Report in bullet point format to the Rotary Secretariat vide email to "rotaryclubbombay1@gmail.com" on or before Monday, May 30th, 2022, with a copy to their respective Director.

Please ensure that the report includes the following points without fail: Names of Committee members, status report of projects completed during the year, number of beneficiaries and status report of ongoing projects.

The Directors, Committee Chairpersons and Co-Chairs for the Rotary year 2021-22 and 2022-23 are requested to be present at this Club Assembly and please confirm the same to the Rotary Secretariat.

New members are also requested to attend the Club Assembly and get the first-hand information of the projects done by the Club.

With warm regards, Yours in Rotary,
Rtn.Dr. Akshay Batra, Honorary Secretary

FORMAT OF COMMITTEE REPORT

- Name of the Committee:
- Director-in-charge:
- Chairperson:
- Co-Chair:
- Name of Committee members:
- Status of projects completed during the year:
- Number of beneficiaries:
- Status of on-going project:
- Number of beneficiaries:

ROTARIAN BIRTHDAYS



MAY 17

Rtn. Jamshed Banaji



MAY 17

Rtn. Partha Ghosh



MAY 18

Rtn. Bimal Mehta

ROTARIAN PARTNER BIRTHDAYS

MAY 17

Rtn. Ptn. Damini Kamdar

MAY 17

Rtn. Ptn. Shama Thukral

MAY 18

Rtn. Ptn. Kiran Bajaj

MAY 18

Rtn. Ptn. Mridula Maluste

MAY 22

Rtn. Ptn. Geeta Dhawan

ANNIVERSARIES

MAY 17

Rtn. Ptn. Neeraja
& Hon. Rtn. Kumar Mangalam Birla

MAY 19

Rtn. Ptn. Lalita
& Rtn. Joseph Koshy

MAY 19

Rtn. Ptn. Meenakshi
& Rtn. Ajai Kumar

MAY 19

Rtn. Ptn. Radhika
& Rtn. Abhishek Saraf

MAY 20

Rtn. Ptn. Divya
& Rtn. Pradeep Mafatlal

MAY 21

Rtn. Ptn. Purna
& Rtn. Sidhant Jatia

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next week

Panel discussion on the recent
Delhi High Court verdict on
marital rape

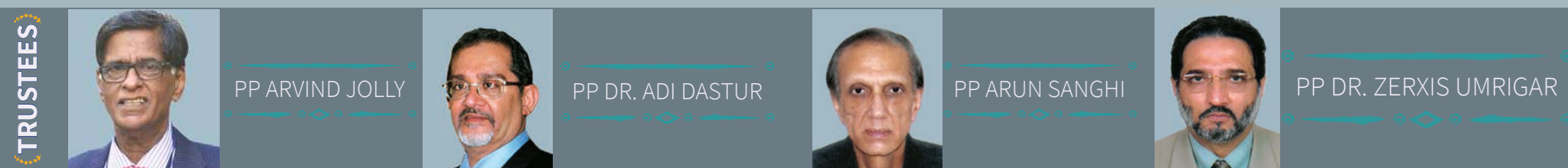
May 24th, 2022
1.45 pm,
Taj Mahal hotel

Panellists:
PP Haresh Jagtiani,
Rtn. Tara Deshpande,
Rtn. Natasha Treasurywala,
Rtn. Suhail Nathani



Rotary Club
of Bombay

ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY 2021-2022



PRESIDENT SHERNAZ VAKIL, IPP FRAMROZE MEHTA, PE VINEET BHATNAGAR, PN MANOJ PATODIA, HON. SECY. DR. AKSHAY BATRA, JT. HON. SECY. NATASHA TREASURYWALA, HON. TREASURER KIRIT KAMDAR

 DIRECTOR-IN-CHARGE CLUB SERVICE (MEMBERSHIP) RTN. PRATAP PADODE BULLETIN, SOCIAL MEDIA & WEBSITE RTN. ABHINAV AGGARWAL FELLOWSHIP & IN-CAMERA RTN. ZINIA LAWYER SERGEANT-AT-ARMS RTN. HOSHANG NAZIR	 DIRECTOR-IN-CHARGE MEDICAL SERVICE RTN. ARIN MASTER CANCER AID RTN. FAROKH BALSARA PAEDIATRIC HEART SURGERY RTN. JAYMIN JHAVERI MEDICAL CITY - COTTON GREEN, IWA & MASINA HOSPITAL RTN. DR. AASHISH CONTRACTOR TALWADA - PRVEC AND ADMC RTN. HOMI KATGARA DIALYSIS RTN. SWATI JAJODIA	 DIRECTOR-IN-CHARGE NON-MEDICAL SERVICE I RTN. JAMSHYD BANAJI ENVIRONMENT RTN. VARSHA DAIYA URBAN HERITAGE RTN. PRIYASRI PATODIA PANCHATATVA RTN. BIMAL MEHTA ANIMAL WELFARE RTN. HIREN KARA	 SPORTS RTN. SANJIV SARAN MEHRA VOCATIONAL TRAINING & NIGHT STUDY CENTRES RTN. TARA DESHPANDE INTERACT RTN. GAUTAM DOSHI ROTARACT RTN. MURAD CURRAWALLA	 DIRECTOR-IN-CHARGE VOCATIONAL SERVICE RTN. AJIT LALVANI CHILD WELFARE - LIGHTHOUSE RTN. RAJESH SHAH WATER RESOURCES RTN. SIDDHARTH BHIMRAJKA ANANDA YAAN RTN. MADHUSUDAN DAGA PUBLIC AWARD RTN. JAGDISH MALKANI ELDER DAY CARE PP ASHISH VAID
 DIRECTOR-IN-CHARGE CLUB SERVICE (INTERNATIONAL) RTN. FARHAT JAMAL PROGRAMME RTN. SATYAN ISRANI FUND-RAISING RTN. SWATI MAYEKAR INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMMES RTN. CHRISTOPHER BLUEMEL	 DIRECTOR-IN-CHARGE DISTRICT THRUST AREAS RTN. BIPIN VAZIRANI GLOBAL GRANTS & TRF PP VIJAY KUMAR JATIA DISTRICT EMPHASIS AREAS PP GUL KRIPALANI DISTRICT THRUST AREAS PP PRADEEP SAXENA	 MENTORSHIP RTN. SUNITA MANDELIA SCHOLARSHIPS RTN. ATEEQ AGBOATWALA TAPARIA JUNIOR COLLEGE PP PRADEEP SAXENA	 DIRECTOR-IN-CHARGE YOUTH SERVICE RTN. VRINDA RAJGARHIA LITERACY (BHAVISHYA YAAN) RTN. ULHAS YARGOP Skill Development RTN. S. V. PRASAD	 INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMMES RTN. CHRISTOPHER BLUEMEL