THE GATEWAY

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COMING UP



Inauguration of 3rd Ananda Yaan centre at Community Hall, Mazgaon, at 5 pm.

October 14th, 2022: Diwali
Nite at Turf Banquets, Opp
Mini Club House, Race
Course, Mahalaxmi from
7:30 pm onwards.

November 12th/13th, 2022:

A trip to the Prakash
Padukone Academy. Venue:
Padukone-Dravid Centre for
Sports, Bengaluru.

November 25th-27th, 2022:

Fellowship trip to Tadoba, with a stay at Bamboo Forest.



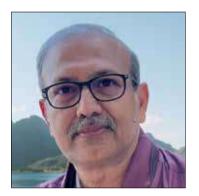








9th October, 2022



President Vineet Bhatnagar

So many of us want to see a change but very few of us can be the change. Our guest speaker this week, Amitabh Shah, founder of Yuva Unstoppable is the latter. Whilst the achievements of Yuva are well publicised and Amitabh presents his conviction very lucidly, at the core of his organisation is his commitment to bring a positive change in the lives of children and youth.

The power to bring about change is the human advantage that I referred to in my last week's article when I alluded to the man-machine equilibrium. THE ABILITY TO VISUALISE WHAT IS 'NOT THERE' AND TO FORMULATE A PLAN TO BRING IT INTO EXISTENCE IS THE 'HUMAN POWER'. Around the world, people are losing confidence in humanity's cognitive abilities and turning to solutions that deny the role of mental models. The world of 'big data' is ignoring that we are capable of conceiving things that are not captured in the present data sets.

On one hand there are 'hyper-rationalists' who place their faith in the machine and on the other are the 'emotionalists' who accept the easy answers of the mob. The truth, or more appropriately the equilibrium, lies between these two extremes.

As technology evolves, many look to AI (artificial intelligence) to remedy social ills that people have shown themselves unable to address. This, they hope, will lead humanity out of our current irrational darkness and ensure victory of reason.

They strongly advocate that AI has the potential to take

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PRESIDENT VINEET'S COLUMN CONTINUED FROM THE PREVIOUS PAGE

away decision-making from humans and place it in the computer.

Emotionalists, at the other end of the spectrum, argue that humanity's core problem is not 'too much passion' but too little. We are suffering because we do not rely enough on our gut and our instincts. They call out for a collective bonding in communities of like-minded folks.

The tension between reason and emotion, artifice and nature, deliberation and gut instinct, has shaped how we order our lives and govern our societies. We have been dealing with this basic struggle for centuries. THE **CRUCIAL INSIGHT IS THAT OUR CHOICE ISN'T LIMITED** TO THESE TWO EXTREMES AS OUR ONLY OPTIONS. WE HAVE AT OUR DISPOSAL ANOTHER STRATEGY -**HUMAN CAPABILITY TO APPLY AND REINVENT MENTAL MODELS.** The ability to frame new mental models is the human advantage of 'visualisation'.

The example of Yuva
Unstoppable shows that
we address some of our
problems without deferring to
the machine or accepting the
mob. But for that to happen
one needs to visualise a new
world and then be at the
centre of the change to create
it.





A THIRD CENTRE OF HAPPINESS FOR THE UNDERPRIVILEGED ELDERS.

Please join

President Vineet Bhatnagar

as he inaugurates the third centre of the widely acclaimed project Ananda Yaan.

Date: 10th October 2022 Time: 5.00 pm.

Venue: Community Hall, Opposite Mazgaon Court, BIT Chawl, Tadwai, Mazgaon. Mumbai 400001

Madhusudan Daga

And the Ananda Yaan Committee.



AMITABH SHAH, FOUNDER, NGO YUVA UNSTOPPABLE, ON GRATITUDE AND POSITIVE THINKING LEARNED FROM YUVA'S BENEFICIARIES

WHEN I WAS IN MY 20s, I WAS WORKING IN ATLANTA AND HAD THREE BEST FRIENDS: VODKA, TEQUILA AND MARGARITA. About 50% of my money was spent on them. My typical *Gujju* father said: "This is not our culture." So, I quit my job to come to Ahmedabad. On my flight, they were showing *Swades* and it reminded me that I too had a nanny who loved me and I decided to find her.

I found Kamla Baa in a village called Gontagaav. Baa was sitting below a tree, and she said, "Now that you have come to see me, I can die peacefully." I found out that her son was feeding her just one meal a day. At night, she was given tobacco to fool her into thinking that she was eating. Sometimes, the son would come home drunk and beat her.

I could not leave her there, so I got her home with me; she put on some weight, too. But then, I had to leave for my scholarship programme in Texas. So. I took her to Suvarna Mandir Vrudhashram in Ahmedabad, I met the person who would be Baa's roommate there and asked her whu she was in the ashram. She said that her son had told her that he was going on a vacation for two days and it had been two years since then. She asked, "Has he sent you to get me, son?" I reassured her that I would be with her for some time.

I came home and asked my mom, "What is going on in this society? I can't leave for the US; I am starting an NGO." So, it started off as a voluntary organisation. I told my mom not to tell my dad that I was going to drop the scholarship and not go back. But a mere few

seconds later, my father called me and gave me a good scolding about the scholarship. He said, "Who will marry you? How will you provide for the family and everything?" But I was firm on my decision, so he said, "I'll just feed you; the rest you have to do on your own."

So, we started a volunteer movement at this home, and it grew to 20,000 people; big companies started sending their employees to volunteer with us. Big names began to support the movement. Two years later, I went to Yale for an MBA, and declined an offer to work at JP Morgan. I had already told my dad that I was going only to come back and work on the real streets.

PM Modi was the Chief Minister of Gujarat then, and he told me that the real street work was the

work in his office. He asked me to see the farm bills, the policies for widows, the subsidies... So, I shadowed him for three years and my journey continued.

Today, we are helping 6 million children all over. Kamla Baa was my first guru; never underestimate who you can learn from.

Since upgrading our facilities and nutritional work, we have been one of the major grant recipients of the Bill Gates Foundation. He hosted us a few days back in New York. I learned a lot because there were a lot of change makers with me. We are going to work on malnutrition in the Soham Bhadra district in Uttar Pradesh.

As long as I am alive, I am going to keep doing this. When I was at Gates Foundation, I met Shereen Bhan (journalist, CNBC-TV18). I had just started the Young India Philanthropy Pledge. Gates had helped us with the Charter; more than US\$ 2 billion had been pledged. Young India is about giving at a young age. Shereen Bhan asked me for an interview, which I did.

I shared a story that gives me goosebumps. Samiksha Dubey from Bihar lost her father eight years ago. Her mother is a house help. She has an older sister and has kidney problems, so she needs dialysis. Her younger brother wants to become a veterinarian doctor, and is studying for NEET. Samiksha is working with us, under a



scholarship. She is always smiling and always positive. She teaches maths and science to her neighbourhood kids two hours a day. That makes her feel positive. So, there are ways to give beyond money. This is what we have to learn. The next time you see the maid or driver, please say thank you and be extra kind to them, take care of them. Learn from the beneficiaries, so we become beneficiaries, too.

ROTARIANS ASK

WHAT WAS YOUR INNER CALLING?

We have a tagline: Doing good is fun. When you offer help, your oxytocin, serotonin, dopamine levels go high, cortisol is low. I am around kids all the time. Children smile 400 times a day, after 18 it's 100 and after 21 they smile only 12 times. So, you can imagine being around children is so much fun. Being with children, doing good, is the best way to live life – it comes from a space of fun.

YOU HAVE ECONOMIC TALENTS; HOW DO YOU LEVERAGE THAT TO CREATE MORE MONEY FOR YOUR ORGANISATION?

India needs resources. 90% of the education budget goes into salaries and admin work. And only 7-10% to infrastructure. There is a huge need. I don't have a bank account, so we made a deal with the familu. They said if this is what you are going to do then we will feed uou. Meri zarooratein kam hain isiliue waiood mein dam hai. I told mu wife as well, that this is what I would be doing for the rest of my life. She asked me, 'Will I get two meals, and if yes, then I am in. If need be, I'll work part time.'

So, we have a structured organisation. Everyone gets paid properly, I do the fundraising in the organisation, everyone else does the execution. I go to the existing donors and ask for more. The Gates Foundation introduces me to other foundations that help.

WHAT WAS YOUR GROUND STEP WHEN YOU STARTED?

I have been to Rotary meetings all over and that was my inspiration. I thought we would call a rock band, and I realised that good food would give good attendance. We gave pizza. We held concerts and people came; we gave badges for: cool, too cool, super cool for attendance. We structured it. People would go to old age homes near them and that's how it started.



TUESDAY @ TAJ WITH AMITABH SHAH, FOUNDER, **NGO YUVA UNSTOPPABLE**

























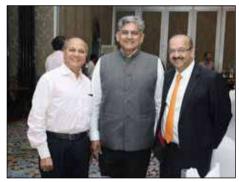




























KALINA **BIODIVERSITY PARK**

Inaguration of Kalina Biodiversity Park



Time to reset... Sound of Birds buzzing bees & the wind in the trees...

Rotary Club of Bombay

invites you for the Inauguration of newly developed

KALINA BIODIVERSITY PARK

in the heart of Mumbai City.

SATURDAY | 15th October 2022 | 10:00 AM

Venue: Kalina Biodiversity Park, Next to Eurasian Study Centre, University of Mumbai, Kalina Campus, Mumbai

Project Highlights:

- · Miyawaki forest · Sensory park · Urban Bird Habitat · Butterfly garden
- · Pond rejuvenation · Art Installations & stage

Inauguration by the hand of Mr. Deepak Parekh, Chairman, HDFC.

District Governor Sandip Agarwalla & President Vineet Bhatnagar

Scholarships for NSC toppers









THE ROTARY CLUB OF **BOMBAY AND BOMBAY YMCA** ORGANISED THE VINOD K. **NEVATIA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME** on September 26th, 2022, at the YMCA head office. The dignitaries present for this event were: RCB's President Vineet Bhatnagar. Rtn. Ateeg Agboatwala (Chairperson, NSC & VTCE), and Rtn. Leonard Salins (General Secretary, Bombay YMCA). Rtn. Salins shared that the Rotary Club of Bombay, with the help of the Bombay YMCA, runs around 20 successful night centres in Mumbai. Scholarships are provided to students for higher studies,

and they are supported in every way possible. This time, we provided scholarships to 67 students from night schools, all of whom scored above 60% in their exams. The toppers among them were Diga Rajesh Sarvaiya (from Ahilya-Sailee, NSC, with the highest score of 95.40%), Aman Murli Gupta (from Nardkarni Park. NSC) coming in second with 92.00% and Riua Dilip Morbale (from Baradevi-Loke, NSC) with 89.60%. Our warmest congratulations to them. President Vineet then reaffirmed the importance of education and reminded

attendees that India's growth lies in the hands of its youth and their hard work. Rtn. Salins thanked everyone who had donated to the scholarship and emphasised how it could not be done without their support. He also thanked the parents who supported their children with their study and asked them to continue doing so. He encouraged everyone to spread word about the Night Study Centres and the scholarship programme so that more students can benefit. The function ended with a vote of thanks by Ms. Sheetal Gupta.











Ananda Yaan stirs things up



ANANDA YAAN MEMBERS OF OUR BYCULLA **CENTRE PUT UP A STALL TO SELL CHINESE** FOOD MADE BY THEM, TO RAISE FUNDS FOR **CHARITY.** The stall was featured at an event organised by Dignity Foundation to celebrate International Day for Older Persons on October 1st, 2022.

Eight members from our elder centre in Byculla dressed up in clothes representative of China and even got a prize in the 'best dressed' category. The function was held at Hindi Vidya Bhavan school and celebrated the spirit of senior citizens as they prepared and displayed their culinary versatility.





Bhavishya Yaan goes to the cops

Bhavishya Yaan students of grades 7 and 8 of our G.K. Marg BMC school, visited Worli Police Station on October 3rd, 2022.

Police Inspector Mr. Amar Kamble shared a lot of information regarding different



departments and positions in the police service. He also spoke about different rules, guidelines, and sectors which are divided by the police into various areas and workplaces.

In addition, various types of guns and rifles were shown to children. The cops also shared some self-defence tips and tricks to ensure women's safety. Students were also told about a separate Nirbhaya police unit which is always available.

Our children noticed that a separate cabin was made available for passport work. So,



they discussed passport issues, what documents are needed to apply for a passport, and how passports are issued by the police.

The police also spoke about different kinds of cases that they solve including FIR files and more. The kids showed a more positive attitude towards the police force after their visit.

CENTURIES OF FUN FOR BY AT CSMVS

On October 1st, 2022, 31 students from Colaba Municipal School visited Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya. Our children excitedly soaked in information from across centuries.

On the one hand, there were ancient civilisations, Buddhist art, Indian decorative art and sculptures from the Gupta period and the Indus Valley civilisation and more. On the other hand,

there was
learning of the
types of animals
and birds with
whom we share
a world. The
modern history
module included
a session on
Mahatma

Gandhi and the Indian Freedom struggle by Marina Dutta.

The kids were thrilled to be



part of a session on the Indian Airforce conducted by Airforce cadets. Mementos and snacks were also offered to the children.

Lighthouse kids collect gems at Mani Bhavan







MANI BHAVAN WAS THE FOCAL POINT OF MAHATMA GANDHI'S POLITICAL ACTIVITIES IN MUMBAI BETWEEN 1917 AND

1934. Today, it's a museum and historical building dedicated to him and his work. 32 children of Lighthouse Project from classes 1 to 5 visited Mani Bhavan on October 1st, 2022.

They were happy to see the

library with its Mahatma Gandhi statue, where people offer tribute. They noticed that the stairway walls had pictures depicting Gandhiji's life, from his childhood till his assassination, along with press clippings. This was of special interest to them as most of them are studying the Mahatma in school.

The second floor had a room

that Gandhiji used during his stay and the children saw two of his spinning wheels, a book, and his bed on the floor, through a glass partition. They then entered a hall with a display of photographs and paintings from and on his lifetime.

The tour ended with PP Preeti Mehta treating all the children to pizzas and lemonade.









Inner Wheel focusses on a healthy self

Inner Wheel District 314 and Rotary District 3141 hosted Healthy Self, an interactive seminar and fair on women's health. Key speakers at the event were Gut Health Coach Ms. Payal Kothari and Dr. Snigdha Mehta, known for her pioneering work in physiotherapy for women's health. Seven booths covered various aspects of health like Homoeopathy, Ayurveda, Cosmetology, Diagnostics etc. Two of these were facilitated by our Club: Dr Batra's & Charak. The programme was well-attended by Rotarians, Partners and Inner Wheel members.



LET'S CELEBRATE DIWALI WITH

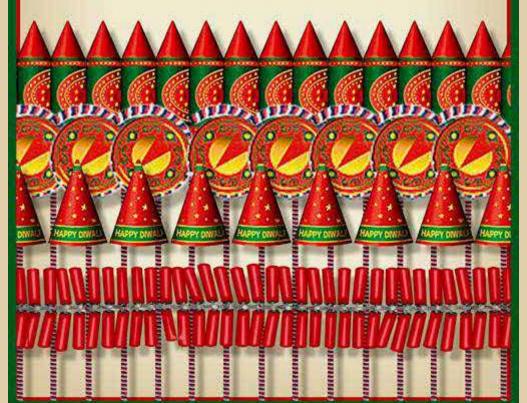
COCKTAILS, MUSIC & DINNER FRIDAY 14TH OCTOBER, 2022 7.30PM ONWARDS

TURF BANQUETS
OPPOSITE MINI TURF
CLUBHOUSE, RACE COURSE
MAHALAXMI, MUMBAI

DRESS CODE: FESTIVE INDIAN
REGISTER WITH RASHMI:
97691 40141

COMMITMENT CHARGE: Rs. 1000/PERSON FOR MEMBERS & SPOUSES

PAYMENT LINK: https://imojo.in/rcb3



CELEBRATIONS

Member Birthdays



OCTOBER 11 Rtn. Homi Katgara



OCTOBER 12 Rtn. Dr. M. Asad Karim Khan



OCTOBER 13Rtn. Farokh
Guzder



OCTOBER 15 Rtn. Pashupati Advani



OCTOBER 15 Rtn. Hursh Meghani



OCTOBER 17 PP Dr. Rumi Jehangir

Rotarian Partner Birthdays

OCTOBER 11

Rtn. Ptn. Jaya Prasad

OCTOBER 16

Rtn. Ptn. Vandana Kanoria

OCTOBER 16

Rtn. Ptn. Hemlata Saxena

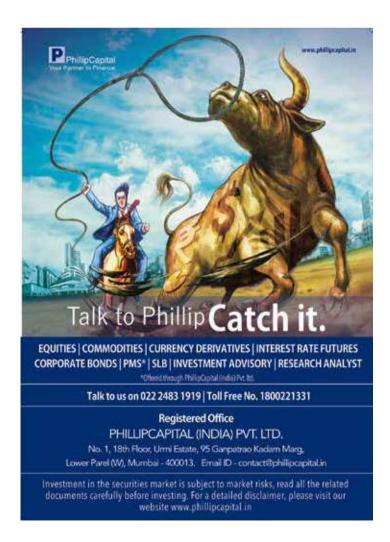
Anniversaries

OCTOBER 12

Rtn. Ptn. Dilnavaz & Rtn. Vijay Meghani

OCTOBER 14

Rtn. Ptn. Jyoti & Rtn. Rajas Doshi







Ashish Hemrajani, Founder and CEO, BookMyShow

Ashish Hemrajani is the Founder and CEO of Big Tree Entertainment Private Limited, which operates BookMyShow. Ashish started his professional journey after completing his MBA specialising in Marketing in 1997. In 1999, he gave in to his passion for entrepreneurship and founded Big Tree Entertainment.

Seeing the growth in multiplexes and the increased credit and debit card penetration

in the country, Ashish and his team launched BookMyShow in 2007.

Ashish continues to invest his energies in creating and nurturing the next generation of leaders and entrepreneurs, both within the organisation and outside of it.

BookMyShow also gives back to the society through BookASmile, the charity initiative of the organisation.





ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY 2022-2023









TRUSTEES PP ARVIND JOLLY, PP ADI DASTUR, PP ARUN SANGHI & PP ZERXIS UMRIGAR



DG SANDIP AGARWALLA



ADDITIONAL DIRECTOR PP NANDAN DAMANI

