THE GATEWAY

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COMING UP

March 7th, 2023:

What's The Good Word with Rtn. Sabira Merchant.

March 8th, 2023:

Holi Fellowship hosted by Rtn. Naresh Jain & Rtn. Mohit Jain.





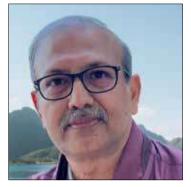








5th February, 2023



President Vineet Bhatnagar

"A PERSON OR A SMALL TEAM, COMMITTED TO A CAUSE BIGGER THAN THEMSELVES, CAN ACHIEVE ABSOLUTELY ANYTHING."

The word commitment kept coming up in my mind as I listened to Santosh Pise, founder of IndoScience Trust, and N Sudheer Kumar, Director of Capacity Building Public Outreach of ISRO, our speakers last Tuesday. Both use their

love of science to further its awareness in their individual and organisational capacities.

In living in accordance with commitments they have made to themselves, Sudheer Kumar, Santosh Pise and others like them also shape the lives of others as a consequence of their own commitment.

Have you ever had good intentions that you were unable to carry out? I am reminded of all my unfulfilled new year resolutions, made in public (in front of my family) on new year's day and broken in private for 364 days thereafter.

I struggled to comprehend this gap in my intention and outcome. Eventually, I

PRESIDENT VINEET
BHATNAGAR'S ARTICLE
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realised, my resolutions were made as promises to others whereas they should have been commitments to myself.

A PROMISE IS AN AGREEMENT WE MAKE TO THE WORLD WHEREAS A COMMITMENT IS AN AGREEMENT WE MAKE TO OURSELVES.

A commitment is not an obligation; it is a psychological attachment to something one intends to continue. As it is your attachment, it is internal to you.

However, a commitment is not merely a personal mission statement but a process that requires a plan. Funnily, having a plan grounds you to the commitment itself



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and is what differentiates it from other fleeting ideas or intentions.

So, let us pause. Consider that you are at a choice point and ask yourself – What are you deeply committed to? It does not matter if it's big or small but search for an answer to this question and make a commitment, not a promise.

It is perfectly reasonable to have more than one commitment and also varying degrees of commitment. The moot point is - Is there a way

> for us to increase commitment towards things that matter more to us, and which shape our lives in a positive way?

There are 4 factors which, when considered together, offer a good predictive value about the degree of our commitments.

=> Treasures (joy)/
Troubles: Do the
treasures / joys that
you get from being
committed to your
goals outweigh the
trouble that you
undergo to achieve

them? If yes, then it is worth taking those troubles because what awaits you is satisfaction. Satisfaction is a huge predictor of commitment. We are looking at the net of treasures less troubles.

=> Investment: We intuitively know that to achieve something of greater value, we need to deeply invest ourselves – our time, talent, passion, hurt.... all these are our contributions that directly affect our level of commitment.

=> Choices: Seldom do we have a single commitment; most of us could be committed to multiple things – jobs, family, relationship, social work etc. It is fair to say that more choices offer more potential commitments so, to have a high degree of commitment to a single thing, one has to prioritise and sometimes even let go of those commitments which come in the way of a more important commitment.

Commitment isn't something we often discuss. Despite the lack of attention paid to it, when we choose to commit ourselves, we create the foundation and structure of our lives and lives of others who are in the fold of our commitment.

A commitment shapes our life and is the foundation to great accomplishments. Santosh Pise & Sudheer Kumar are living proof.



ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY PRESENTS THE SOHRAB GODREJ SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AWARD TO MR. SUDHEER KUMAR N, DIRECTOR CBPO, ISRO (L) & MR. SANTOSH PISE, TRUSTEE, INDOSCIENCE EDUCATION TRUST (R)



MR. SUDHEER KUMAR N, DIRECTOR CBPO, ISRO

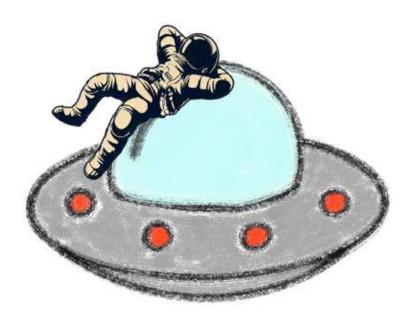
The Godrej family has been rendering a tremendous service to India and it's an honour to receive an award from them on behalf of the Indian Space Research Organisation. As for the Rotary Club of Bombay, the faces of all its members, the different professions they come from and their contributions, it speaks for itself. My humble request to you now is that since you are driving this society, please devote a small portion of your resources – time, money, patronage, or your connections – to the student community.

This is where we stand – students are the life of India. If you inculcate this culture (scientific temperament) in students, especially in the ages of 15 to 18, it is going to transform the entire society and country in space. We have started an outreach programme to make students science aware. So far, science has been mostly seen in a pursuit of employment. Instead, science must

be implemented in every walk of your life. The scientific development and transformation that must take place to keep you, your environment healthy, your country, and your world healthy. The kind of transformation that is happening across the globe – be it in solar weather, which is impacting the earth, monsoons which are impacting our entire economy and livelihood, or water resources and natural calamities, one has to understand the fundamentals of science – if a kid tells you about it, you will hear it. When your son, grandson tells you, "Mom, don't do this," you won't. That is the power kids, students and children have.

So, please devote a portion of your valuable time and resources to the development of school students and, especially, rural children. That is going to change the order of the entire society. People like Santosh Pise have become ambassadors, going to the students, disseminating knowledge, filling gaps.





MR. SANTOSH PISE, TRUSTEE, INDOSCIENCE EDUCATION TRUST

Thank you for finding me worthy of receiving this award, I am humbled. The journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step and I remember the first step I took, in 2009, when I left a job and a handsome monthly salary to found Indoscience Education Trust, which I started for love of science and space.

I had two dreams: the first was to become a pilot and second was to become a space scientist. Unfortunately, neither dream was fulfilled. With IndoScience, I visit schools on Saturdays and spend time with students to build a love for science in them. I am seeing my dream of being in space through these children. For many years, from 2009 to 2012, I relentlessly, tried to enter ISRO but was unsuccessful.

I remember the day I met Mr. Himanshu Pandya Sir. He gave me two and a half minutes to explain my mission. That, too, was while walking from the canteen to the reception area. By God's grace, I was given another meeting and that lasted for 3 hours. I haven't looked back since. I felt I had been born again as I plunged deeper and deeper into the most prestigious institution, the ISRO. From 2012 until 2023, I have conducted 99 space exhibitions. On February 13th, 2023, we will be hosting our 100th.

I invite everyone to see how students are actually

working on space technologies, explaining everything about satellites, rockets, space and the future of India. Another breakthrough was in 2019 when I was entrusted the task of creating a team of school students who would build a real time satellite and launch it into this space. This programme was named Bhavishika; its first batch began in 2020 and successfully completed two years of training. As per schedule, a student-made satellite will be launched into space by ISRO because of the support rendered by our advisory team members and all students and all our volunteers

Once again, thank you for this precious award which I will always cherish.

ROTARIANS ASK

Mr. Sudheer, what are the current projects ISRO is working on? What are the benefits of space research in our day-to-day lives?

At present, ISRO's main emphasis is the Gaganyan programme, the Human Space Flight Programme, given by the Government of India to put two to three people in space and bring them back safely. In addition, there is Chandrayaan III scheduled during this year and another mission called NISAR. NASA-ISRO synthetic Aperture Radar is earth observation for the global community. There are also other long-term projects like our Venus mission SHUKRAYAAN, our solar weather study DISHA, and others.

As for the benefits of space research, India has huge land use and land mass but no means to identify which is the correct choice for our economic growth. 60% of our farmers are small farmers; is there a way to make more money than through cash crops? Medicinal plants like papaya, for example, brings ten times the yearly revenue. Secondly, soil fertility, soil moisture which decides water demand. What is the amount of water stored in the surface bodies? How much water is the monsoon going to yield? What is the demand

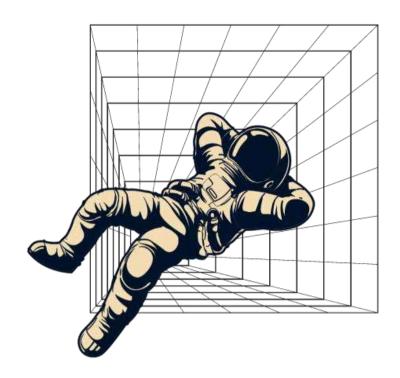
that a crop requires? Imagine a software and artificial intelligence which is implemented across the country to develop a model. I think, India can feed the entire world. I was travelling with an Israeli scientist 25 years ago in Hyderabad and he said, "What do you do with this land? If you give it to me, I'll feed the entire world." We are unable to do it because of technology.

SPACE TECHNOLOGY HAS TREMENDOUS APPLICATIONS BUT WE SHOULD BE AWARE OF HOW TO PUT IT INTO USE, MAKE IT MORE ACCESSIBLE TO ENTREPRENEUR DEVELOPMENT SHOULD BE THERE. We should not feel shy to say that we are working on horticulture, agriculture, or fish culture. Today, how many inland water bodies are not being put into use even though they are very much suitable for fish culture. That is why the Ministry of Fisheries is bringing about a blue revolution.

This is what the Government of India is aiming at: how to make the technology applicable to generate revenue on all fronts, be it mines, urban development, road surface transport, forest, fish, or agriculture. What are all the ways in which the value change will be integrated to technology? Space finds roots in each and every area.

What is the government doing to bring about the concept of space education at a much earlier age as a curriculum? Secondly, can I bring my son to ISRO or either of you for you to guide him in what kind of work he or any of our Bhavishya Yaan kids can do?

The government is supposed to make policies and framework, it is not designated to implement them. But we have to create a platform to do so. To answer your question, we have introduced an e-learning platform, ISRO Portal, ISRO Stem (https://www.isro.gov.in/Students.html). At present, the portal has 25 chapters on basic space science education. It is a certified course that

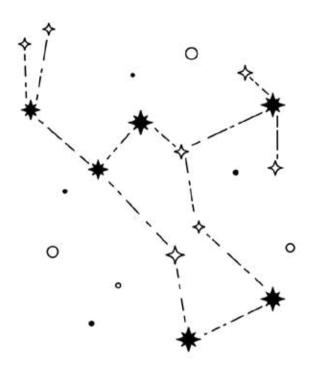


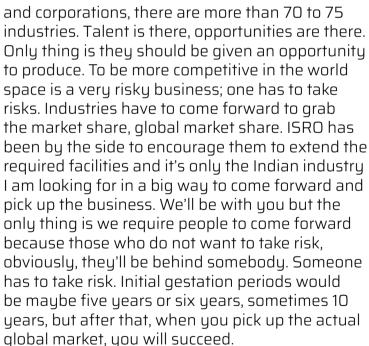
gives you a good idea of what space science is. In addition, I have submitted proposals to CBSE to introduce three optional courses on space science technology. It is under consideration, and we have been pursuing it for the last year. It is 60:40 where 60 is teaching and 40 is practical. If you have friends in the Ministry of Education, please push it through. In addition, there are more than 78 space tutors across the country who promote space education. He (Mr. Pise) is amongst them; we give them the curriculum and some kind of material and exposure.

They go to different schools, establish clubs, and propagate space science education. We have started these ventures in the last two years and you will see its impact in a few years.

Besides ISRO, is there a lot of private activity in developing space, startups related to space industry and private satellites?

A good number of startups is doing well: Agnikul, Skyroot, Dhruva Space, Digantara. There are more than 60 to 70 startups pursuing different components, whether it is robotics, artificial intelligence, green propulsion, space component, RF components. There are more than 30 to 35 active startups pursuing space technologies. But ISRO is helping them in sharing the facilities, extending the mentorship, policies, framework, or any kind of help that they require; ISRO is mandated to do it. When it comes to MSMEs





Everyone is in a race to launch satellites. But we nearly had an accident recently between a defunct satellite and a rocket stage. So, what do we do about the debris floating around in space?

Debris management is a headache not only for us but for all space faring nations. Added to that, OneWeb's LEO constellation (UK Government

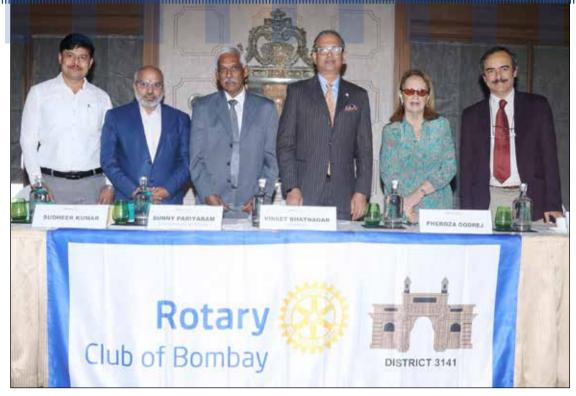


+ Bharti Global) is doing almost 600 satellites, Starlink (Space X) is doing a thousand satellites. Amazon is doing a couple of hundreds of satellites. It is a nuisance, obviously, but the UN is going to make a law or convention that will make national space agencies responsible for bringing back their debris. Digantara is working on debris monitoring and tracking. Right now, what do we do when our satellite gets nearer to debris? We maybe change the direction, slow it out, mitigate the risk. When I was in Dubai last year, a couple of countries came forward with different technologies such as how to grab the debris and bring them back, and how to use lasers to burn the debris in space. So, people are working on this problem.

When do you expect an Indian to land on the moon?

First, we are working on a human space mission. This is building the capability for Indian space organisations to just take the people safe and bring them back. Then the next step is going to the moon; already, with Chandrayaan III, we are demonstrating a technology on how to land and probably when these two are successfully executed, subject to budget availability because Indian space is capable. But every space programme is run based on the priorities of the government and the budget allocation. If the government gives us a good budget, it may not be very far.

TUESDAY @ TAJ





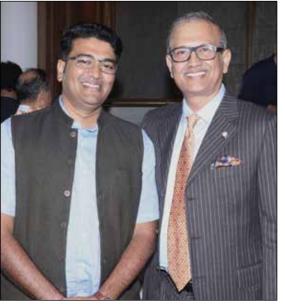
















ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY THANKS ITS TRF DONORS

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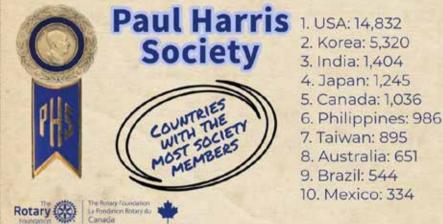




ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY THANKS ITS TRF DONORS

Arigatou gozaimasu





Rtn. Miral Shah signs up for the prestigious Paul Harris Soceity (PHS). This means a written commitment to give USD 1000 to TRF, year on year. Rotary Club of Bombay has just three PHS members: Past TRF Trustee Ghulam Vahnavaty, PP Nirav Shah and, now, Rtn. Miral Shah.

1. What is the Paul Harris Society (PHS)?

The Paul Harris Society recognises Rotary members and friends of The Rotary Foundation who contribute US\$1,000 or more each Rotary year to the Annual Fund, PolioPlus Fund, or approved Foundation grants.

Paul Harris Society recognition was administered by districts until it became an official Rotary Foundation recognition program in July 2013. Its purpose is to identify, engage, and thank members who have the ability and desire to make substantial annual gifts to help communities close to home and around the world.

2. Who are Paul Harris Society members?

Globally, more than 20,000 people are members of the society, which was established in 2013. These dedicated donors share a desire to give

substantially and empower Rotary clubs to change lives in their community and around the world.

3. How will membership to PHS be recognised?

New society members are presented with a certificate and chevron at a district or club event in a way that is culturally appropriate and comfortable for the member. Paul Harris Society coordinators visit the club or district to honor new members themselves or make sure that another Rotary officer makes arrangements to do so.

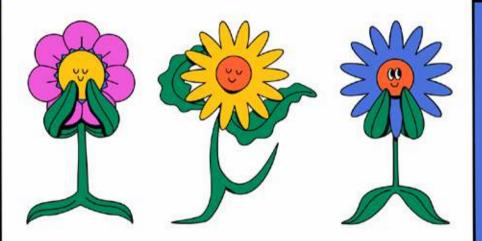
4. Also, how I can join the Paul Harris Society?

You can join the Paul Harris Society by doing any of the following:

- · Complete the online sign-up form. Go to the Paul Harris Society page (rotary.org/phs) and choose Join.
- · Email or call Rotarys Support Center (rotarysupportcenter@rotary.org, +1-866-9-ROTARY) or the Rotary International office that serves your area.
- · Mail a completed Paul Harris Society sign-up form to The Rotary Foundation.

EXCELLENCE

never happens by chance and it almost always becomes a habit for those who we consider as benchmarks of excellence.



You need to have the hunger to excel. The emphasis here is on what 'you' want, not what others want. Make sure the goal is something you set for yourself, because unless it is, chances are you don't really want it.

~ President Vineet Bhatragar on striving for excellence

YOUNG INNOVATORS EXHIBIT AT ROTA SCIENCE COMPETITION





Why are our temples so crowded? Why can't we manage overcrowding better? These questions arose in the minds of our Innovative Lab students from ST Kadam School, Palghar – Sakshi Vinod Gupta, Khushi Rajendra Kadam, Maya Sunil Gaangoda and Gargi Ganesh Desle of standards 8 and 9 when they visited temples in their home villages.

Owing to all the training they have been receiving from past one year in the Innovation lab enabled by Rotary and Grok, they came up with a solution: an Automatic Count and Entry System that solves the problem of overcrowding in closed spaces like halls or religious places which can lead to injuries or even loss of life.

They used IoT and 3D printing technology to create their working prototype using the Grovator Platform. The system will continuously monitor the count of people entering and exiting the space and automatically open or close the gate, ensuring that only a permitted number of people are allowed inside the space at all times.

Recently, on January 28th and 29th, 2023, Rotary International District organised the Rota Science Event – an interschool science competition and exhibition for students from classes 6 to 10 for various schools all over Maharashtra. Students were asked to venture deep into science to create innovative systems.

Our students participated and exhibited the Automatic Count and Entry System solution at the competition.

The judges appreciated the way our students presented their ideas and, among 62 teams their project won a consolation prize. We are very proud of the confidence they showed.

We are also thankful to Grok Team mentors and the school's teachers for supporting and encouraging the students.

This is only a start to moving to greater heights. Rotary Club of Bombay is happy to see our students solving real problems using science and technology and implementing their ideas to creating a smart world.

Congratulations to our Rtn. Sunita Mandelia on her Marathi medley fusion with a flavour of lavni









Rotal, a platform to showcase the singing and dancing talent of the Rotary members and their families, was initiated more than two decades ago.

Rotary Club of Bombay is proud that our member, Rtn. Sunita Mandelia, participated in this programme held on January 29th, 2023, at the Veer Savarkar Hall at Shivaji Park. She won the third prize in the 'solo, female, dance, above 55 years' category. She performed on a Marathi medley fusion with a flavour of Lavni. She had also participated in Rotal 2019, where she won second prize for her Kashmiri dance. She won first prize in both semi-finals.



CELEBRATIONS

Member Birthdays



Rtn. Ravindra Fotedar



FEBRUARY 10 Rtn. Mayank Kummar



FEBRUARY 11 Rtn. Hiren Kara



FEBRUARY 11 Rtn. Hita Tolia



FEBRUARY 12 Rtn. Manoj Murarka



FEBRUARY 13 Rtn. Hormusji Cama



FEBRUARY 13 PP Arun Sanghi



FEBRUARY 13 Rtn. Miral Shah

Rotarian Partner Birthdays

FEBRUARY 7

Rtn. Ptn. Zarine Davar **FEBRUARY 7**

Rtn. Ptn. Honey Harish

FEBRUARY 9

Rtn. Ptn. Sunil Sood **FEBRUARY 10**

Rtn. Ptn. Dilnavaz Meghani

FEBRUARY 10

Rtn. Ptn. John Franklin

FEBRUARY 12

Rtn. Ptn. Farah Batra

FEBRUARY 12

Rtn. Ptn. Reema Kothari

FEBRUARY 13

Rtn. Ptn. Lalita Koshu

FEBRUARY 13

Rtn. Ptn. Sandhua Merchant

FEBRUARY 13

Rtn. Ptn. Marzban Patel

Anniversaries

FEBRUARY 8

Rtn. Ptn. Dr. Narges & Rtn. Dr. Sam Mahaluxmivala **FEBRUARY 9**

> Rtn. Ptn. Kavita & Rtn. Anand Dalal **FEBRUARY 9**

> Rtn. Ptn. Vatsala & Rtn. Ashok Jatia

FEBRUARY 9

Rtn. Ptn. Anshuma & Rtn. Runit Shah

FEBRUARY 11

Rtn. Ptn. Namrata & Rtn. Dr. Ashok Kirpalani **FEBRUARY 11**

Rtn. Ptn. Mridula & Rtn. Nandan Maluste **FEBRUARY 11**

Rtn. Ptn. Rita & Rtn. Subhash Sagar

FEBRUARY 11

Rtn. Ptn. Gopi & PP Ashish Vaid

FEBRUARY 12

Rtn. Ptn. Amisha & Rtn. Vivek Himatsingka



NEXT TUESDAY'S SPEAKER



NEEMA
MAJUMDAR,
SPEAKER,
AUTHOR,
TEACHER AND
CONSULTANT
ON THE
PRINCIPLES OF
VEDANTA

Neema Majmudar has a unique combination of personal background, international exposure, education and depth of spiritual knowledge which makes her an inspiring writer and teacher of Indian Philosophy.

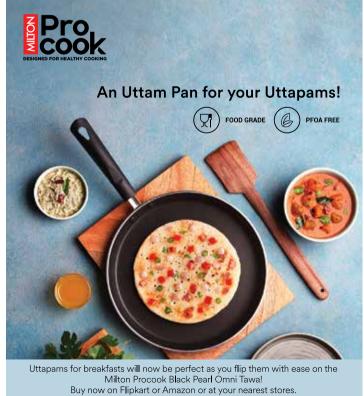
She has studied Indian Philosophy with Swami Dayananda Saraswati, a well-known contemporary teacher of Advaita Vedanta (Non Duality) in the tradition of Adi Sankaracarya and a scholar in Sanskrit.

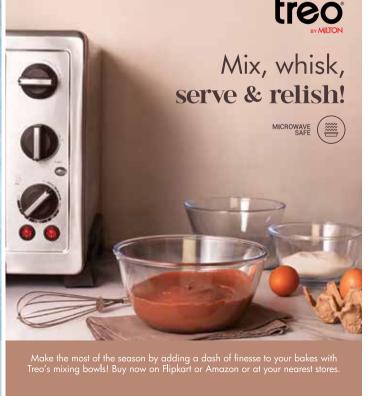
In addition to the traditional Vedic studies, Neema Majmudar has number of years of experience as a professional with the United Nations in field of economic and social development in New York, Thailand and Fiji. She also has Masters Degree in International Affairs from Columbia University, New York.

Since 1999, Neema has been giving conferences, conducting seminars and retreats across the world in the domain of Personal Development and Philosophy. The seminars and retreats she conducts with her husband Surya Tahora incorporate concepts of Indian Philosophy with Western Psychology, Ethics, Physics, Neurobiology and Management.

These activities are aimed at guiding individuals and leaders of various organisations to be more objective, dynamic and compassionate in an increasingly interconnected and complex world.

She and her husband have co-authored the book 'Living the Vision of Oneness', which expounds the ways in which the vision of Bhagavad Gita and Veda can be utilised in daily life.





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







Projects Review