# THE GATEWAY

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30th June, 2023



#### From the President's desk

I wish I could be like a mango tree...

All of us have seen a mango tree – I am drawn to its original nature – one where it offers its shade to every passerby; bears fruits for others every season and its branches always look down regardless of its height and flourish. A mango tree innately gives more than it takes.

Through the last one year, I have gained tremendously in terms of improving my perspective and learning about the difficulties of those who we serve. But this increased awareness has also led me to consider two things about the world around us. It is confusing, in its dichotomies and overwhelming due to the rapidly changing narratives.

We weathered a pandemic which led to ground-breaking scientific and medical advances; we see great wealth and great poverty at once; globalisation and fragmentation; climate crisis and ambitious sustainable solutions; powerful women and pushback on women's rights; and technology that both connects us and narrows our worldviews.

Amid these dichotomies, a simple but not easy mantra could be, that many of us do the most we can, with the resources at our disposal, and take irretractable steps to be a part of a meaningful change. Essentially active citizenship – an appeal that I had made during the Installation meeting. Everyone has a part to play because no one can do it alone. In that respect the chief role of a leader becomes that of connecting the dots, making the interactions within or outside a group whether cohesive or disparate – as friction-free as possible.

Rotary has been an active forum for doing good for over a century – and what makes Rotary timeless is its volunteers – YOU – your commitment, energy, creativity, and courage. Every decade presents a new set of challenges but the consistency of Rotary's impact lies in our ability, as one global family, to turn any present challenge into an opportunity, to serve the communities near or far from us. And if the challenges that we face are existential and interlinked then our responses must be integrated, transformative, and collective. We need a partnered approach that is multilateral, networked, inclusive, and global.

Rotary is indeed a platform that can be a catalyst in creating hope for many. But to do so, each one of us needs to claim the available power of active citizenship. We need to "step up and speak loudly." Let us not compromise on our ambition to serve. Let us find ways to always punch above our weight. I urge you to ensure that the opportunities afforded by Rotary do not enrich your life alone but impact as many lives as you come across that need your attention.

PRESIDENT VINEET BHATNAGAR'S ARTICLE CONTINUES ON THE NEXT PAGE



I strongly believe that human rights are the ultimate tool to help societies thrive. Let us keep it at the heart of every action and use them as our internal compass.

I wish to express my deep gratitude to all the members of RCB and their partners for the love, encouragement, support, guidance, and motivation that they gave me during the last one year.

I stand before all of you with a clear sense of awe and admiration because every Rotarian or Rotary Partner who I have called in the last one year for any help, has stepped up



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and done their part. DG Sandip Agarwalla tops the list as he has played an instrumental role in giving me the confidence to conceive, plan, fund and execute service projects. I cannot remember a moment when First Lady Malini has not sent me her encouraging notes for every bit of good news that she heard or read about RCB activities. The credit for the new record of TRF contributions of USD 1.7 mn that puts our Club possibly on the top spot in the world must be handed over to PP Vijay Jatia and his very able Co-Chair PP Nirav

I am most grateful to the number of Rotary Partners who have come forward this year to manage entire events, many were first-timers and some of them have even led new projects. I am also equally indebted to new Rotarians who have not only shown their mettle in managing our old and new projects deftly with valuable expertise but have shown true commitment to a social cause and the ethos of service.

The senior Rotarians who are the veterans of our Club have guided me to prioritise issues while managing our iconic Institution with greater discipline, transparency and with no compromise to the governance structure. I also wish to appreciate the support that I received from everyone in the Rotary office – Mr. Irani, Rashmi, Datta, Karuna, Vishnu and Chandrakant. The efficiency brought in by Leena and Dhwani from my office was noticed by our members and I had a great time working with Alpana, Freyan and Viraf who manage our weekly bulletin, social media handles and website respectively.

This year has also been a year of discovering new partners in other Rotary Clubs and Rotarians. I wish to extend my special thanks to the Rotary Clubs of Palghar and Wada as their members have shown us service opportunities for the tribals and the underprivileged in localities that are merely three hours away from South Mumbai. They have offered us their time and management bandwidth to execute and supervise some of our projects.

Rotary Club of Addiction Prevention especially Dr. Nilam Gada worked with us on alcohol and drug deaddiction counselling sessions and health camps for BMC sanitation workers. Rtn. Nargis Gaur has been tireless in her efforts to assist us in identifying beneficiaries and project managers



in Dharavi slums for adult literacy for women and malnutrition programmes for slum children. Durga provided us with reach for new programmes in the Vaidu community. I acknowledge the help of ever-so-willing Inner Wheel President Neela Parikh to do joint programs.

I wish to thank Zainab Patel of Pride Business Network for sharing the stories of transgenders and making me understand that all they need is dignity through a lens of empathy, and that they would go any distance to upskill themselves professionally to become financially independent. I wish to acknowledge the gargantuan task handled by Sree Nandy, PP of RC of Mumbai Kalakar in













supervising the writing and the creatives of 3 volumes of books on Environment Science. Rtn Ritu Bagla, Rakhee and others worked with our Rotarians in rolling out this EVS curriculum in schools in Palghar. There have been times when we have considered Rtn. Paritosh Rungta, PP of RC of Mumbai Royales to be an RCB member.

We found a great partnership with RC of SOBO and RC of Downton Sealand while convening and hosting Shakti Awards this year. President Els & Saroj, I am remembering both of you. PP Rajesh Chaudhary of RC Versova introduced us to the University of Mumbai for Bio Diversity Park - my most sincere Shukriya to each one of you.

RCB works very closely with many cooperating agencies for its projects – I sincerely acknowledge and appreciate the ongoing partnership with YMCA, Vidya, Dignity Foundation, Chirag Foundation, Asiatic Society, Chatrapati Vastu Sanghralaya, SRCC, Kokilaben and HN Reliance hospitals, IWA and Cotton Mukkadam Association, Diganta Swaraj, Grok Learning, Megasacpes. And all our Rotaract Clubs and Interact Schools.

This year we have added 3 very significant partners to our Projects – the University of Mumbai for the Bio Diversity Park in Kalina, TCS for the adult literacy programme and Tata Memorial Centre for two Dharamshalas.

There are also new Partners for Dialysis Centres – Ranka, KJ Somaiya, Lifeline and most likely Cotton Association..... these active partnerships are aimed to bring into the fold of RCB a new set of beneficiaries and we are very grateful for the opportunities shown to us. We are very hopeful that these partnerships will go stronger year after year.

The Rotary wheel moves with two forces – donor support and member volunteering. This year the support offered by HDFC Asset Management Company to 2 key projects of RCB – Bio Diversity Park and Tata Memorial Hospital – has been a game changer for our Club. Their support under their CSR initiative was more than 8 crores and their commitment to support these Projects for the next 10 years is an additional 16-17 crores. So give them a big round of applause.

PRESIDENT VINEET BHATNAGAR'S ARTICLE CONTINUES ON THE NEXT PAGE

TABLE A - RECEIPTS	IN CRORES
CSR DONATIONS	12.24
OTHER DONATIONS	3.76
CORPUS DONATIONS	1.23
GLOBAL GRANT DONATIONS	2.45
CSR INDIA GRANT DONATIONS	9.41
TOTAL	29.11

TABLE B - RECEIPTS PENDING	IN CRORES
APPROVED GG APPLICATIONS ( PEDIATRIC SURGERIES + DIALYSIS CENTRE	5.00
FUNDS FROM CSR DONORS FOR F.Y. 23-24 ( HDFC AMC + CDSL )	2.68
TOTAL	7.68

### This is perhaps a good moment to take a look at some numbers:



TABLE C - FUTURE COMMITMENTS FROM CSR DONORS UNDER MOU FOR OPEX	IN CRORES
TATA MEMORIAL DHARAMSHALA (HDFC AMC)	14.40
KALINA BIODIVERSITY PARK ( HDFC AMC )	1.40
2 - IT INNOVATION LABS ( MAHANSARIA GROUP )	0.90
TOTAL	16.70

TABLE D - TRF COLLECTIONS	IN CRORES	
TRF COLLECTIONS (\$1.69 MN)	13.83	
LESS: CONTRIBUTION MADE BY RCB TRUST FOR GG/CSR INDIA GRANTS	(3.82)	
NET COLLECTION	10.01	

TABLE E - SPONSORSHIP AMOUNT RAISED FOR RCB EVENTS	IN CRORES
DISCON IN GOA	0.90
OTHER FELLOWSHIPS	0.59
TOTAL SPONSORSHIPS	1.49

VALUE ADDITION FROM GG APPLICATIONS		
Sr. No.	GG No.	Amount USD
1	2232165	53,829.00
2	2343107	20,826.00
3	2348429	115,220.00
4	2352086	75,308.00
5	2352340	70,000.00
6	2352654	1,01,650.00
	Total	4,36,833.00



I wish to thank all my friends, mentors, well-wishers and critics. Each one has played an important role in shaping me as a person. In a very abstract manner, I take many of them with me wherever I go. Their blessings and good wishes are what I enter any room with; I wear the smile from the joys that they have left with me; I give hugs with the same warmth that I received from some of them. In many ways I have come to be a reflection of what I have received and retained. I may not remember all their words but I vividly remember how they made me feel. This year each one of you in this room has made me feel very good, and I have tried my best to reciprocate with equal vigour and sincerity. So I pray that all of you and many who are not here continue to stand by me.

I will remain immensely grateful to my family: my father in whose eyes I see only love and care, my sisters who always wish well for me, my in-laws who have been like my own parents even before we got married, my two daughters in whose company I find unending joys of life and who keep me on my toes, I can never let my guards down as there is constant repartee that goes on with them, my wife Rangita who is the silent pillar of strength for me. She allows me to chase my ideas and conviction and shows direction when asked. Ask for advice and you will get it is the mantra.

I cannot finish without remembering my mother. When 8-year-old Vineet asked his mother, "Mummy, why did you name me Vineet? There are much nicer and more powerful names starting with the letter "V": Vishal, Virat, Vikram, Vijay, Vikas... why Vineet?" She looked straight into his eyes and said, "If names can shape your personality, then there is no name better than Vineet that I can think of for you. Like every parent, I wish you all the success in life, but it is more important how you handle success. So, I wish and pray that whatever heights of success you reach you must remain VINEET - in Hindi, it means vinamra... polite, one who carries humility. I want you to be like a mango tree – which grows and flourishes every season, but its branches are always pointing to the ground. It is like a mango tree to bear fruits for others, to offer shade to everyone that sits under it. It touches the lives of everyone that comes near it. So, be like a mango tree."

Today, I am recollecting these words and reminding myself that I would like to be a mango tree. The best thing is that from where I am standing today, I can see an orchard in front of me. So, thank you infinitely for affording me a place in the Rotary Club of Bombay.



















# RCB says Shukriya!



































































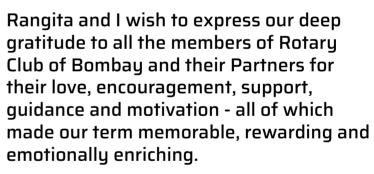


















We are proud to be a part of this iconic institution that is committed to service and remain confident that our Club will scale new heights year after year.

President Vineet Bhatnagar Rotary Club of Bombay 2022-2023



























In keeping with the Middle Eastern theme; several members enthusiastically dressed up in middle eastern attire and the venue was decorated with lanterns and bougainvillea.

President Vineet's speech highlighting the year gone by received a thunderous applause and a standing ovation from the members. This was followed by an address by the chief guest DG Sandeep Agarwala and the presentation of the rotary awards



for the year.

Once the official proceedings concluded; the guests enjoyed cocktails and appetizers. The lavish buffet spread included a wide range of Lebanese and Moroccan dishes including a fabulous mezze and a delicious middle eastern dessert counter which was much appreciated by the attendees.

The highlight of evening was the fabulous music by a live band from Goa, Ragas to Riches, which had many members included President Vineet & First Lady Rangita, letting their hair down and celebrating the very successful rotary year.

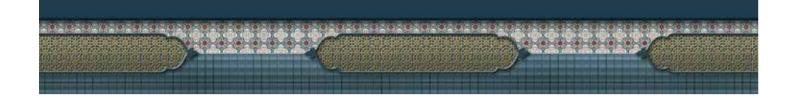
The gracious hosts thanked the members for their enthusiastic participation during the year which contributed to rotary year 2022-23 being a great success.











#### **AVENUES OF SERVICE AWARDS FOR RI YEAR 2022-23**







PP VIJAYKUMAR JATIA



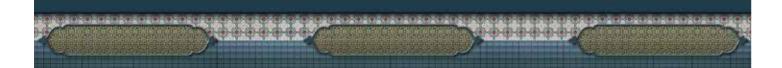
#### **COUNCILMAN FOR RI YEAR 2022-23**











#### FIRST LADY, INNER WHEEL COORDINATOR, AND JT. DISTRICT TREASURER FOR RI YEAR 2022-23







#### PRESIDENT OF THE YEAR AMONGST RID 314IFOR THE YEAR 2022-23



PRESIDENT VINEET BHATNAGAR



#### DISTRICT SECRETARY AND GENERAL SECRETARY FOR RI YEAR 2022-23









AVENUE CHAIR AND ALPHA ADVISOR FOR RI YEAR 2022-23









## **AVENUE-CO CHAIRS FOR RI YEAR 2022-23**













PRESIDENT VINEET BHATNAGAR AND THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY REQUEST THE PLEASURE OF YOUR COMPANY AT THE INSTALLATION CEREMONY OF **INCOMING PRESIDENT** 

RTN. MANOJ PATODIA AND HIS TEAM (2023-24)

11.30 AM, TUESDAY 4TH JULY, 2023

CRYSTAL ROOM THE TAJ MAHAL PALACE, APOLLO BUNDER, MUMBAI

PRIP RTN. SHEKHAR MEHTA CHIEF GUEST AND DG RTN. ARUN BHARGAVA **GUEST OF HONOUR** 

PROGRAMME 11.30 AM: FELLOWSHIP 12.15 PM: MEETING COMMENCES 1.30 PM ONWARDS: LUNCH

DRESS: FORMAL RSVP: MS.RASHMI KOTIAN - 9769140141 CONTRIBUTION FOR MEMBERS' GUEST: Rs.3500

#### **AVENUE-CO CHAIRS FOR RI YEAR 2022-23**















# **EXCELLENCE AWARDS FOR RIYEAR 2022-23**











**Rtn. Nikhil Bhatia (for EVS Curriculum):** Best Committee under Community Service - Education (donated by Late Rtn. Govind Advani)



**Rtn. Rhea Bhumgara (Tribal Upliftment):** Best Committee under Community Service - Community Upliftment (donated by PP Ajay Kanoria)



**Rtn. Rahil Shah for IWA:** Late PP Dr. P.M. Sangani Memorial Trophy for the Best Committee under Community Service - Health (donated by Rtn. Ptn. Prabhavati Sangani)



**Trustee PP Arun Sanghi:** Late Dawoodkhan S. Tyebjee Trophy for the Best Senior Citizen of the Rotary Club of Bombay (donated by Late Rtn.Taher Tyebjee)



**Rtn. Akhil Sanghi for Rotaract:** Late N. J. Vazifdar Memorial Trophy for the Best Committee under Youth Service (donated by Late PP Rtn. Dr. Jamshed N. Vazifdar)



**Rtn. Runit Shah:** Late Hans Khimji Trophy for the Best Active New Member of the Club (donated by Late Rtn. Hans B. Khimji)



**Rtn. Renu Basu:** Late PDG Santosh Agarwalla Trophy for the Best Lady Member of the Club (donated by DG Sandip Agarwalla)



**Rtn. Ptn. Nirmala Banaji:** Outstanding Service by a Rotarian Partner (donated by PPVikram Kamdar in memory of his father Late Bhagwandas Kamdar)



**Rtn. Manoj Israni:** Highest Contribution towards Rotary Foundation (donated by PP Gul Kripalani in memory of Late Vasantrao Deshmukh)



**PP Vijaykumar Jatia:** Rotarian of the year (donated by Rtn. Zinia Lawyer in memory of her mother Mehroo Irani)



**Rtn. Jaymin Jhaveri - Paediatric Heart Surgeries:** Service Award for any Avenue of Service (donated by Late PP. Taru Lalvani)



**Rtn. Ritu Prakash Desai - Fellowship & In-Camera:** Service Award for the best committee under Club Service (donated by PP Merwanji P. Patel)



**Vivek Kothari - Kalina Bio Diversity Park:** Service Award for the Best Committee under Environment (donated by President Vineet Bhatnagar)



**Rtn. Runit Shah for Adult Literacy for Women:** Service Award for the Best Project of the year (donated by Rtn. Jimmy Pochkhanawala)



Rotaract Club of Atlas,, accepted by Rtr. Dishti Doshi and Rtr. Yashvi Gandecha: Best community service project undertaken by a Rotaract Club sponsored by the Rotary Club of Bombay (donated by Rotaractor Feroze N. Patch)



One Time Presidential Award to Naresh Pachisia: Most Promising New Rotarian of the year



One Time Presidential Award to Diganta Swaraj
Foundation: Best Co-operating Agency for Service Projects



One Time Presidential Award to Rtn. Paritosh Rungta:
District Official with noteworthy support for DISCON 202223



**One Time Presidential Award to TCS:** Project Partner for Literacy in Service



One Time Presidential Award to HDFC Asset Management Company Limited: CSR Project Partner for Kalina Bio Diversity Park & TMC MHADA Dharamshala



#### BY DG SANDIP AGARWALLA

AS I STAND HERE ON THE CUSP OF THE END OF THE ALPHA ROTARY YEAR OF 22-23, "I FEEL A VERY UNUSUAL SENSATION - IF IT IS NOT INDIGESTION, IT MUST BE GRATITUDE." - SO SAID BENJAMIN DISRAELI. EMOTIONS FLOOD ME AS I REMEMBER WITH MUCH GRATITUDE, HOW MOST MEMBERS OF OUR CLUB RALLIED BEHIND ME, RIGHT FROM THE TIME I CONTESTED AND WON THE ELECTIONS.

It was the journey of many of my fellow Rotarians, young and old, who walked and many ran on, seized of the significance of our Club presenting its first District leader in 42 years. I was humbled by the overwhelming avalanche of support I received, whether it was in project execution, raising sponsorships, staging an unforgettable and outstanding District Conference, black tie dinner, WORLD RECORD **RAISING FUNDS FOR THE TRF** - OVER 1.8 MILLION DOLLARS **AND, CAN YOU BELIEVE** IT. OVER RS 65 CRORE IN **TOTAL FUND MOBILIZATION** 

Yes, my fellow Rotarians, President Vineet and his band of dedicated members of the RCB have created history. Never before in our 93-year history have such heights been scaled. Records have been smashed like never before.

PROJECTS OR OTHERWISE.

WHETHER FOR CLUB

At the District level, a frenzy of service project activities – literally hundreds and hundreds, the highest TRF contribution raised by any District in the world this year, the third highest ever TRF contribution ever raised by any District in the world, ever since TRF records are available for its 105-year old history, stood at a record shattering \$ 6



million+. I dare say we will finish closer to \$6.5 million than 6 million, if not surpass it.

I would like to mention 2 special individuals whose steadfastness of purpose have been simply outstanding – Rangita and Vineet - I can't help but feel grateful to have had you as a co-worker. You are a great teammate and an amazing human, one that everyone wishes to work alongside. I want to wish you a wonderful, happy future. Working together has been an amazing opportunity.

Vijay and Gauri Jatia, you opened your hearts and unconditional support; & your office infrastructure in wholesome measure. Your relentless drive powered me on. You're not only my colleague, you are also a huge mentor in my life. Thank you for your guidance in and out of the office.

That doesn't mean there weren't others who I owe a huge debt of gratitude. Thank you Nirav, Manish Sampat, Puneet Chhatwal, Ashish Vaid, Pradeep Saxena, Fali, Satyan, Runit, Manoj Israni, Jaymin, Preeti, Paul, Gaurav, Vivek, Vineet Suchanti, Bimal, Arunji - some thanks are in order for the number of times you have had my back and continue to support me; Khurshed, Naresh, Miral, Sanjiv Saran, Farhat, Pradeep Gupta, Renu, Nikhil Bhatia, Pankaj Baliga, Gautam Doshi, Swati Jajodia, Nirmala and Jamshed Banaji, Ratna, Akhil, Yogesh, Abhishek Saraf, Rohan, Vandana and Ajay, staff members of our Club - Eruch, Rashmi, Datta,

Karuna, Chandrakant and Vishnu, my secretary – Tina, Annabel from Vijay Jatia's office. It would take the rest of the meeting to name others, so please forgive me for assuming that these people who stood by me know who they are.

I have much to be grateful for my twin sets of parents – biological and in-laws. My late father and father-in-law always blessed me from above and have always been a huge source of inspiration. My mother and mother in law, their encouragement, motivation and praise kept spurring me on.

Malini, I always count the lucky stars that made us life partners. Thanks for all the times you helped me, motivated me, and kept me grounded. I couldn't have survived without you.

And finally, you, my dear members of the best Club in the whole world – what an awesome show you have put on for the District and the Rotary world. Thank you, thank you!

As Dalai Lama said, "The roots of all goodness lie in the soil of appreciation for goodness."

"The only people with whom you should try to get even are those who have helped you."

I hope I have been able to do just that – get even! There are no endings, only beginnings and I look forward to your continued love and affection.

Namashkar!



# **Congratulations to President Vineet!**



#### **RTN. AKHIL SANGHI**

Your passion, your enthusiasm, and your wonderful leadership kept us motivated right through the year. The wonderful fellowships organised by you throughout the year kept us all engaged in the true Rotary spirit. Thank you for entrusting me with the Rotaract Chair. You were always supportive of all the various activities we did.

You were personally involved, came and encouraged us from time to time for the various activities organised by the Rotaractors which really motivated them throughout the year.

I'd once again like to thank you for all your help and your support you gave to us throughout the year. I look I think it's been the best conference forward to your continued support in the coming years and wish you all the best in your future endeavours. Thank you.

#### **PP ASHISH VAID**

What can we say about Vineet's year? It's been one of the best Rotary years in a long, long time. I had the proud privilege of introducing him at the beginning of the year and he has really lived up to everyone's expectations and beyond.

I think the key accomplishment was the Rotary District Conference, which our club held after several years, where our own DG Sandeep Agarwalla organised the fab district conference in Goa and Vineet spared no efforts in raising funds for it, in the meticulous planning and execution of the conference and it has been a feather in the cap of RCB.

we've ever had, fund collection tremendous five million dollars is the District collection, and our Club has been the major donor to that this

Fellowships, fantastic fellowships, almost one every month, and then the outstation trips.

I was fortunate to go on two of them, one to Tadoba, and the second to Hampi, and both were just memorable trips again, meticulously planned, and great fellowship all in all. I have, of course, very, very fond memories of so many events in this

The numerous projects. I mean, it's too many to enumerate. Thank you many for a great year. That must have taken the Mickey out of you, I'm sure. But you will be a satisfied man, and you'll always look back on this year as a most memorable one in

I wanted to end by just saying your initials are VB and you are the very best VB. All the best. Everyone.

#### RTN. RHEA BHUMGARA

Thank you for the year. It's been marvellous. This is my first year handling a project by myself, and it has been an exceptional experience. and it would've been amazing had it been a full-on success, but seeing you deal with a project when we tried our very best and not to succeed as much but still to do it with such grace and poise, it has been guite an experience.

#### RTN. JAGJIT MALKANI

You have been an amazing President, besides the obvious accomplishments of your year, like the fantastic social work done in all our projects, flagship or otherwise, the fundraising, the fellowship, the hectic calendar and the face that you struck up which other people will talk about in the highlighted. I want to point out that in the Public Awards Committee, which I chair, you have been so responsive and quick to encourage.

That is a key reason why we have achieved this. We've have given out 11 awards which is not a joke, logistically. And that included great candidates like Ricku Kei. Vineet. hats off to you, more grease to your elbow, thank you for the great year.

#### KARUNA HOLKAR, RCB OFFICE

Vineet sir was very understanding and polite nature. He never treats us like a boss. He's always treated us like friends. I learned from him to be polite in every situation.

#### RTN. MIHIR MODY

Let me congratulate you for a blockbuster year the Club has had under your direction and leadership. We all felt that we were on steroids. You have led the Club from the forefront and have personally been involved in all the projects carried on by it. I'm sure at times you needed to mentally cool yourself off and therefore, the yoga sessions.

Personally, I would like to thank you for giving me an opportunity and having the faith in me to chair the IVD committee. Also, a big thank uou for actuallu sweating it out and being there for all the inaugurations through the year and showing your support to the committee. In spite of being a teetotaller, you kept all our spirits high and ensured that there were many fellowships where members with assimilate by the end of this year.

You have a bouguet of feathers in your cap that should make you proud. It's been an amazing experience working with you and looking forward to continuing the same way, all the best.

#### **RTN. PAVIT CHHADA**

I'd like to thank and congratulate President Vineet Bhatnagar for the tireless manner in which he has promoted the cause of the Rotary Foundation at RCB. He's always been very, very welcoming, warm, and approachable since day one in all my interactions with him, and I look forward to many more years and opportunities to serve together. looking forward with the best of luck.

#### **RASHMI KOTIAN. RCB OFFICE**

In my 14 years of Rotary service, he's one of the best five presidents. It was a pleasure working with him, very supportive, helpful. He was not like a boss, like a friend to me. I thank him from the bottom of my heart.

#### RTN. SANJIV MEHRA

As we reach the concluding phase of the Rotary Club of Bombay, 2022-2023, I'd like to take this opportunitu to express my deep gratitude to Vineet Bhatnagar for stirring RCB to greater heights, which has resulted not only in a greater number of projects but more funds that have been raised for all these projects. It has been his passion, his energy, his enthusiasm, his direction which have led RCB to scale greater heights.

And, for that, Vineet has been a great team leader, motivator carrying the entire team with him and always with a smile on his face. So. Vineet. thank you very much for all your efforts. It's been the most eventful and productive year.

#### PN SATYAN ISRANI

Vineet has been an absolutely fabulous president. The Club has been on a record-making spree ever since Vineet took charge. You know he has had God-level fundraising and some insane record-breaking projects. He has been without a doubt one of the best Presidents our Club has seen in its 94-year-old history. His passion and enthusiasm have been unparalleled. Vineet's level of involvement has to be seen to be believed.

He has been nothing short of inspiring to me personally, and I have enjoyed watching him from close guarters and learning from him. He has been a great mentor, a friend, a philosopher, a guide. I want to thank

Vineet, from the bottom of mu heart for a very fabulous year that you have given the Rotary Club of Bombay, and I wish you all the best. But I want to continue leaning on you, and I'm going to make sure that I don't let you get away from the Club.

#### **IPP SHERNAZ VAKIL**

What an exceptional year. We have had with two great leaders heading our District and Club. We have not only progressed our regular Club projects but completed some phenomenal projects of scale in record time. Vineet, your leadership has been outstanding. Your ability to plan, develop, and execute in a timely and effortless way is remarkable.

I know, though, how much passion and effort you have put into each project, and your personal involvement in each and every detail. Well done, Vineet. You're going to be a hard act to follow.

#### **RTN. SUNITA MANDELIA**

I endorse every word that everyone is saying. I have something very special to share. In Vineetji, I have found a younger brother. I have known him only for two years, but the bond we share is very special. A poem for him:

"KHUDA KUCH HI BANO KO ITNE JATAN SE JADDTA HAI

SHAYAD ISILYE WOH VINEETJI JAISE HASTI KI WOH RACHNA KARTA HAI

HAI KHUSH KISMATI ROTARY KI UNHE EK AISA BANDA MILA CHALIYE KYU NA HUM SAB MILKAR KARTE CHLE KHUB SARA BHLA"

#### PP VIJAYKUMAR JATIA

Dear Vineet, thank you very much for the wonderful Rotary year. You strive to work diligently towards several key accomplishments this year with a record number of sustainable projects and fundraising for projects and events of the club.

Thank you for the innovative new format for fellowship as well. Vineet, I admire your dedication, hard work, and all-around improvement in the working of the club. I'm extremely honoured and thankful for having the opportunity to work with you. Thank you and all the best.

#### **PP NIRAV SHAH**

Congratulations, President Vineet Bhatnagar. You have led the Rotary Club of Bombay very successfully, with fabulous projects such as the Kalina Biodiversity park, the Transformation salon, and the Dharamshala project with Tata Memorial Hospital, to name a few. You have done a record amount of TRF collection at USD 1.5 million, the highest in the Club's 94-year-old history.

I'd like to thank the Board, all the generous donors, and each and every one of your team members who have given the three T's - treasure, time, and talent to make the projects bigger, bolder, and better. Once again, Shukriya for everything, President Vineet, and in the end, I would like to say Jai Ho, may victory be yours, Mangal Ho, may you be blessed, and Anand Ho, may you be happy. Thank you.

#### **PE MANOJ PATODIA**

Vineet, what can I say, our bond at RCB has been special. You were absolutely great. Whether it was fundraising projects or any kind of challenge that was thrown to you, you just sailed through as if nothing happened. It was a great learning which I also learned from you, as to how to handle difficult situations and easy situations. You made everything look easy. And the best part is always smiling and always available. I never heard the word "no" from you, amazing, my friend. A lot to learn, and what a year. It will be very difficult to follow in your footsteps. but luckily for me, you are there. So I'll always look forward to your guidance and Rangita. Also, thank you very much for a wonderful year.

#### RTN. MUDIT JAIN

Fellow Rotarians, if you're here to celebrate the Shukriya night of our President, Vineet Bhatnagar, and bid him adieu as his term as president of our illustrious club, William Shakespeare, the great bard, with his uncanny understanding of human nature, has said, "Uneasy lies the head that wears the crown." Obviously, they have not met our President, Vineet, who executed his responsibilities with effortless ease, unfilled and smiling.

President Vineet has excelled beyond the beyond. Rotary is all about fellowship and community service. As regards community service, President Vineet raised over 10 crores through CSR initiatives for various enduring projects. Some of them are the biodiversity park at the University of Mumbai Kalina campus in partnership with HDFC, the dialysis machines project at KJ Somaiya hospital with CDSL Ventures, etc.

President Vineet started his year that "I am an Ordinary Man." I would like to say he has achieved extraordinary results. May your tribe multiply. Thank uou.

#### RTN. ANAR SHAH

His spirit of involving more and more people make him a real people's person, and there's something I would like to learn from him, and I wish him the very best.

#### RTN. RITU PRAKASH DESAI

I can't agree with you more, Anar. Looking back at Vineet's year, he has brought many new dimensions to the presidency. He fired on all cylinders. So from fundraising to beautiful fellowships, trips that bonded all of us, new projects, excellent, but specifically included and made space for so many more Rotarians to participate. So, he has widened the participation. Vineet brought tremendous energy and enthusiasm to the table. Vineet has packed so much into one year, he is going to be a tough act to follow. Thank you, Vineet. You have done a very brilliant job and raised the bar.

#### RTN. ANAND DALAL

What can one say about our dear President Vineet? He has so managed well our Rotary

He has so managed well our Rotary fleet,

remaining cool and calm in all this heat. The year has gone by so sweet, achieving what he has is certainly no easy feat.

In Rotary history, he certainly occupies a prime seat.

To have him as our president, and as a dear friend,

is certainly a victory.

#### **DATTA. RCB OFFICE**

I want to commend President Vineet Bhatnagar for the navigation and services to the Rotary Club of Bombay. His strong leadership, unwavering commitment, and tireless efforts have made a significant impact on RCB. President Vineet Bhatnagar is the USP of our RCB.

#### RTN. SWATI JAJODIA

Never doubt that a small committed group of citizens can change the world. They are the only ones who can, and I'm proud to say that this small group led by President Vineet has indeed made a huge positive impact on society. Vineet reminds me of the fun-loving, ever-smiling Aladdin with his magic lamp. We wish, and he provides all that we need to complete the benevolent tasks with his magical lamp. He is extremely inclusive and encouraging. In his Alpha year, we have done some amazing work.

















































It was held at the elegant Mexican Room at the Trident Hotel. President Vineet personally thanked the trustees, office bearers, board of directors and all the committee chairs and co-chairs for their support and encouragement during the past year which helped making the projects and other Club activities successful. PE Manoj Patodia thanked President Vineet for his leadership and inspiration on behalf of the attendees.

The attendees enjoyed the beautiful view and a fabulous high tea spread as well as expressed their appreciation to the gracious hosts for their warm hospitality.











# Thank you, and congratulations to RCB's TRF donors



















# RCB unveils Mumbai's first Rotary clock tower, celebrating the spirit of the city

RCB will soon amplify the public image of Rotary by having the first Rotary Clock Tower in our city.

The Clock tower is a celebration of the sprint of Mumbai. Located at the intersection of Hughes and Babulnath Temple roads in south Mumbai, the Clock Tower, funded by PP Ashish Vaid in the memory of his parents. The commencement of work of Rotary Clock Tower was done on Wednesday June 28th, 2023, at 7:15 am where DG Sandip Agarwalla, President Vineet Bhatnagar, donors PP Ashish Vaid and Rtn. Ptn. Gopi Vaid were present. The small ceremony was also attended by PE Manoj Patodia, PN Satyan Israni, PND Bimal Mehta and Rtn. Sanjiv Saran.

#### THE INSPIRATION & THE SYMBOLISM:

HARMONY IN CHAOS: The clock tower design exemplifies the beautiful harmony that exists amidst Mumbai's chaotic nature, where struggle is considered its strength.

#### **COEXISTENCE OF PAST AND FUTURE:**

The tower represents the seamless coexistence of the past and future, creating a captivating blend of elements.

STICK FIGURE WITH KEYS: A human stick figure pushing the wheel signifies Rotarians as problem solvers who stay united to create lasting change.

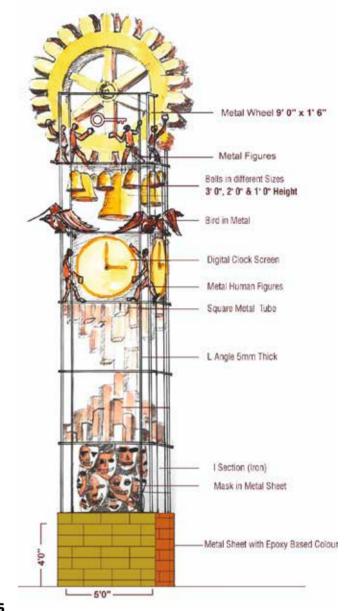
DIVERSE BELLS: The presence of differently themed bells, ranging from Portuguese to Tibetan, school bells to temple bells, serves as a reminder of how bells traditionally mark the passage of time in public places.

FREE BIRD: Symbolising individuals living without prejudice, the free bird represents freedom from any form of bias, be it racial, socio-economic, or psychological.

ABSTRACT HOURGLASS SHAPE: The hourglass shape with vertical tubes represents Mumbai's ever-growing skyline and emphasises that rise and fall are inherent aspects of time and space.

MASKS AND FACES: Representing Mumbai as a melting pot of diverse cultures and characters, the presence of masks and faces embraces the inventive spirit propelled by time.

CONSTRUCTION-INSPIRED BASE: The base material and structure of the tower signify the ongoing development of



Mumbai, reflecting the city's continuous progress. The contrasting shine enveloping the base represents the solid foundation and relentless efforts behind Mumbai's vibrant spirit.

#### **ADORNED WITH THE ROTARY WHEEL:**

The monument proudly displays the Rotary Wheel, serving as a symbol of the Rotary's significant presence and impact.

SEVEN BLOCKS REPRESENTING THE MERGING OF ISLANDS: The tower consists of seven blocks, symbolizing the merging of the seven islands that gave rise to Mumbai, a cultural melting pot surrounded by the waters of the Arabian Sea from all sides.



# RCB empowers farmers and provides water solutions in Gates village

The Rotary Club of Bombay, alongside Synergia Company Pvt. Ltd CSR, and Diganta Swaraj Foundation, have inaugurated a solar-based water pumping system in Gates Village, situated in the Palghar District of Maharashtra. This step, part of the club's renowned Panchtattva programme, marks a new era in the village's agricultural development and water management, significantly improving the quality of life for local residents.

Central to the initiative is a 7.5 horsepower (hp) solar-powered pump, primarily used for irrigation, which has transformed agricultural practices in the area. This revolution in farming has empowered 45 farmers to cultivate over 50 acres of land all

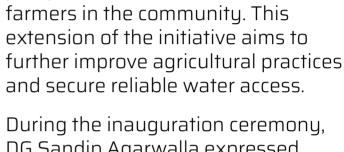
year round, lessening their reliance on unpredictable monsoon seasons. This consistent water supply has already allowed these farmers to kickstart the rice cultivation season, a first in the district, setting the stage for a successful harvest and bolstering the community's economic stability and food security.

In addition, the project has addressed domestic water requirements by installing a 2.5 hp solar pump, ensuring every household in Gates Village has access to clean, safe and reliable water throughout the day. To support this supply, three water storage reservoirs have been constructed, providing a sustainable solution for the community's water needs.



The installation of these solar pumps has had a considerable impact on Gates Village. The enhanced agricultural practices have increased crop yields and brought financial stability to the farmers, while the provision of clean drinking and domestic water has improved villagers' quality of life, especially amongst the tribal households.

In light of the project's overwhelming success, the Rotary Club of Bombay plans to install an additional 10 hp



pump, set to benefit another 40

During the inauguration ceremony,
DG Sandip Agarwalla expressed
enthusiasm for the project and
interacted with the farmers,
discussing their aspirations and the
positive changes they expect the
solar-powered water system to bring
about.



The transformation in Gates Village stands as a shining example of the power of strategic interventions and community-driven efforts in empowering communities, enhancing livelihoods, and fostering a sustainable future. It sets a benchmark for similar interventions in rural areas facing comparable challenges, showcasing the Rotary Club of Bombay's commitment to sustainable development and social welfare, and inspiring other organisations and communities to do the same.













# RCB SPREADS JOY

Joy is a precious gift, whether it is selfcare or extending help to others. At RCB, we consistently come together to spread happiness. Throughout this year, all our projects have been blessed with gifts of joy

To conclude the year, Rotarians stepped forward to distribute gifts to members of Ananda Yaan, Lighthouse, and the tribal children of Vaidu Community. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the various donors for their much-needed love and pampering.

We received a generous donation of 226 safari bags from a CSR donor, which will benefit the tribal and Lighthouse children

as they embark on their new academic year. These bags will aid them in their educational journey.

Rtn. Paritosh Rungta graciously donated 75 digital clocks for the Lighthouse children, enabling them to learn how to read time, understand numbers, and appreciate the importance of punctuality.

Rtn. Madhup Vaghani kindly donated 130 Milton Bottles for the senior citizens of Ananda Yaan and the children of Lighthouse. These bottles will serve as a practical and useful gift for hydration and well-being.

In preparation for the upcoming festival of Rakhi, Rtn. Charu Agrawal generously donated 175 Banarasi dupattas for the elders of Ananda Yaan to wear and celebrate the occasion.

PP Dr. Mukesh Batra thoughtfully provided 175 skincare kits for the beautiful women of Ananda Yaan, empowering them to feel proud of their wrinkles and age with confidence.

We express our heartfelt gratitude to all the donors who have made these acts of kindness possible, enriching the lives of those within our community.

#### **Yoga for AY seniors**

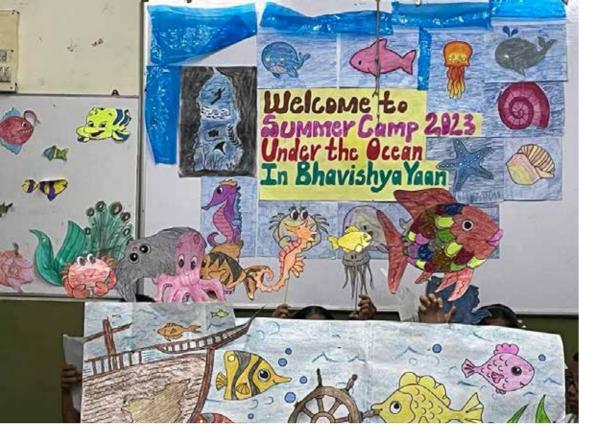


Ms. Asha Devandar from The Yoga Institute of Santacruz led a yoga session for the Ananda Yaan elders, in accordance with the International Day of Yoga protocol. She expertly taught each pose, explaining their names and associated benefits on this special occasion.



#### AY goes to the movies

Ananda Yaan Committee of RCB expresses gratitude to Ms. Prushti from Ankibai Ghamandiram Gowani Trust for providing an opportunity for 75 elders from our Byculla centre to watch a movie based on the epic Ramayana.



### NMJ Bhavishya Yaan's summer camp finale





The Summer Camp Finale of NMJ Centre took place on Saturday, 24th June, 2023. Following the start of the academic year on June 15th, NMJ Centre resumed its summer camp with the fascinating theme of "Under the Ocean." The children were delighted to return, displaying their energy and cheerfulness. Despite space constraints, the camp successfully accommodated over 100 students in a classroom.

Throughout the camp, the children were shown informative videos and taught about various aquatic creatures, plant life, coral reefs, the deepest point of the ocean, water trade and travel, water leisure and sports, as well as the gemstones found beneath the ocean.

Additionally, they learned about the









impact of human pollution on marine life.

For the finale, students from 4th to 10th standard participated and showcased their talents. The event saw an abundance of enthusiasm among the students, with performances including skits, puppet shows, dialogues between sharks and dolphins, debates, dances, and ramp walks. The Principal of NMJ School, along with the teaching staff from BMC, were invited to attend. Parents and students also witnessed the showcase of talent.

The finale concluded with the Principal, class teachers, and parents providing positive feedback on the students' performances and their ability to express themselves in English. Four NMJ BY Alumni, namely Samiksha, Anamika, Sakshi, and Sayali, played a significant role in the summer camp by choreographing, conducting regular practices, and guiding the students in their scenes and expressions.

To wrap up the event, students received goodies in the form of snacks, including chocolates, biscuits, and bananas. The BMC Principal and teachers were also treated to snacks such as hot samosas, batata vadas, wafers, and biscuits. Now that the Finale has concluded, NMJ will resume its academic curriculum from the week beginning June 26th.



**TUESDAY** @ TAJ





































# Lighthouse embraces the spirit of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam'



The theme for
International Yoga
Day 2023 is 'Yoga
For Vasudhaiva
Kutumbakam,' which
translates to 'Yoga for
the welfare of all in the
form of 'One World-One
Family.' This theme
highlights the essence of
Yoga, which unites and
encompasses everyone.

At Lighthouse, we welcomed a new batch of 20 children and parents who eagerly embraced yoga! It was a wonderful opportunity for them to experience the benefits of yoga and become a part of the global yoga community.







#### BY @ GK Marg School celebrates International Yoga Day

GK Marg School enthusiastically celebrated International Yoga Day with the participation of 56 children and 8 teachers. The Yoga coach led the session, providing expert guidance on various asanas and emphasising the significance of yoga in our daily lives. Additionally, he shared insights on Ashtanga Yoga and provided practical tips on its practice. The event was a wonderful opportunity for the school community to embrace the holistic benefits of Yoga.





#### **Celebrating a joint partnership**

Project Chirag, Rotary Club of Bombay's implementation partner in 37 village interventions, organised an event in which RCB President Vineet Bhatnagar and PP Preeti Mehta spoke passionately about their remarkable experiences in transforming the lives of over 10,500 villagers through the Integrated Village Development Programme.

PP Preeti reflected on how the IVD programme had commenced during her term and continued to make a difference. President Vineet commended the IVD Committee and Ms. Pratibha Pai, Founder of Project Chirag, for their efforts in bringing about positive change.

The event was graced by numerous donors of Project Chirag, including PE Manoj Patodia, IPP Shernaz Vakil, PP Framroze Mehta, PP Ramesh Narayan, PN Satyan Israni, Committee Chair Mihir Mody, and dedicated Rotarians such as Madhusudan Daga, Alok Sekhsaria, Manish Reshamwalla, Akhil Sanghi, among others.



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Monday & Friday-10am to 2pm

Last paper will be issued at 5.45pm

Dental: Every day from 10am to 2pm and 3.30pm to 6pm Last paper will be issued at 5.30pm

Xray: Every day from 10am to 6pm

Pediatric: Monday-11am to 1pm

Homeopathy: Thursday-2.30pm

to 4.30pm

Skin: Tuesday-10.30am to 11.30am

Friday 10am to 11am

Senior Medical Consultant:

Once a month 2.30pm

Rotary
Club of Bombay

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Xray: Rs. 100/-

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### **ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY**

रोटरी क्लब ऑफ बॉम्बे

# मोफत दवाखाना

पत्त

कॉटन ग्रीन दवाखाना, कॉटन एक्सचेंज बिल्डिंग जवळ, राम मंदिर समोर, कॉटन ग्रीन स्टेशन जवळ, कॉटन ग्रीन (पु.), मुंबई - ४०० ०३३. दुरध्वनी : ०२२ २३७३७३०१

	Tuesday / मंगळवार	Friday / शुक्रवार
Dr Batra's Homeopathy Clinic / होमिओपॅथी दवाखाना	9 to 5 / ९ ते ५	9 to 5 / ९ ते ५
Eye Clinic / डोळ्यांचा  दवाखाना	9 to 5 / ९ ते ५	9 to 5 / ९ ते ५
Dental Clinic / दाताचा दवाखाना	9 to 5 / ९ ते ५	9 to 5 / ९ ते ५
GP & Child Care Clinic / जीपी आणि तहान मुतांचा दवाखाना	2 to 5 / २ते ५	2 to 5 / २ते५
Blood Tests / रक्ताची तपासणी	9 to 12 / ९ ते १२	9 to 12 / ९ ते १२







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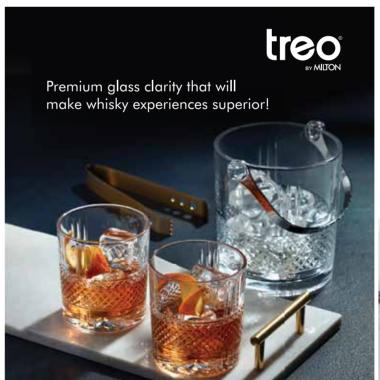
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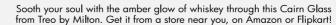


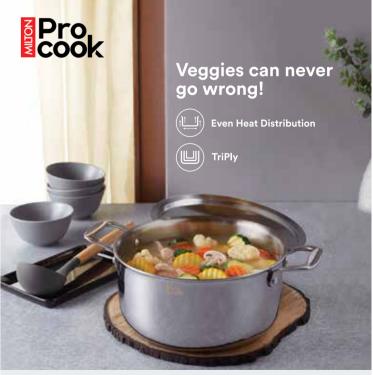
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#### DG SANDIP AGARWALLA



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**Projects Review**