

# THE GATEWAY



**Rotary Club  
of Bombay**



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Bulletin of the Rotary Club of Bombay  
<http://rotaryclubofbombay.org/>



## DG Arun Bhargava on his Official Club Visit to Rotary Club of Bombay

Rotary Club of Bombay is a place that every DG has always had, in their hearts, that they should visit. Everyone doesn't get the opportunity; however, the benefit of being a Governor is that I can come here at least twice a year.

The first time I came here was for your installation. And the second time I have come here is now, Manoj. So, my real test is to be able/worthy to be called here a third time. I have invited myself here because this is a 94-year-old Club; you do some projects that become a milestone in India; like, Talwada.

I don't know how many of you remember this project. I asked Manoj if it's been 25 years since this project but he also doesn't

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Rotary  
Club of Bombay



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remember. Do you know how long this project has been going on? 42 years. You have been doing a project for 42 years. It's not easy. Be it manufacturing companies, business houses, for a community, for a good job, 42 years ago, there must have been a fire in someone's heart to start a small hospital in a far-away area.

After that, people maintain it for a year or two. Those who come later, whether they are leaders, or the elderly, whether they continue or not, it's never certain. In this District, in our Clubs, I have seen so many projects that were started, and they were very good, and useful for the community. But over the next few years, they were closed or called off.

I have requested a visit to the Talwada hospital; I want to see how it is going on, it has been so many years. Like the eye hospital in Talwada, there is another Club, Rotary Club of Bombay Hill South, which has an eye hospital in Pali. I think they have maintained this project for more than 15-20 years.

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The second project is your Bhavishya Yaan project. A boy you invited to your Club, who used to be supported by Bhavishya Yaan – I was told that this boy was a low-income group member who lived in the *jhoadpatti*. He was selected by a member of your Club and, by doing so, you have made him a part of the future. He was sent to Germany or somewhere else with your scholarship. When that boy returned, he gave a speech at the same meeting of this Club. There was confidence in his speech, that whatever work your Club takes over, it will shape someone's future. If you make the future of one person, there is a chain reaction. You have made a future for a child; we don't know how many more futures that one child will shape.

Today, I met the students of the Rotaract Clubs. There are 13 Clubs like it, here. Many clubs have formed Interact Clubs. Some have one, some have two, some have three. But it is not important to make 13 Interact Clubs; what is important is to keep the members of the 13 Clubs – students, schools, teachers, and coordinators – motivated every year, to remain connected to Rotary. This is not an easy task; it happens only when you have a legacy.

The next president is Satyan. If you don't have any old history or legacy or continuity, you may not be able to continue your project. You may not be able to do it. But any project, as a matter of fact, a lady from an Interact Club told me that her Club is 22-23 years old. Do you think this is an easy task? It's very impressive. Whenever I go to another Club in our district, or go to meet people from Mumbai, I



talk about District 3141, so, generally, people have a respectful attitude towards District 3141.

And, in that, the Rotary club of Bombay is like an institution, a holy place, for people. There is so much to learn from the Rotary club of Bombay. Manoj, you will remember, about a month ago, I had a Governor who was the Governor of Gujarat, and I got a message from him. I had forwarded it to you. He wanted me to attend a meeting of Rotary Club of Bombay so that I can learn from here and implement it in my District. It is a very important thing for you that a Governor himself wants me to learn from here.

Why is this? Because the systems you have created every year, the procedures you have created, your outgoing Presidents have created a legacy, an impression. And that impression is not false. The work you do for the community, I saw your report again last night. I was asleep midway through flipping the pages because there is so much that you are doing. You do so many projects. You have continuity. I want to congratulate you for this.

Most of the time, the Governor will say an OCV is the President's exam. And every day I hear that today is our President's exam. Sometimes, I think that this is not the President's exam; this is the Governor's exam. Every OCV is a Governor's exam. If your Club functions properly, that is your President's success. And if all the Clubs in my District do the right thing, which they do the right thing, then that is my success. So, if a Club does not work properly, then it is not the

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President's failure, it is the Governor's failure.

About 7-8 years ago, I heard that Secretary General John Hugo of Rotary International was given an additional designation of a CEO. If they wanted to meet a big donor, there would be a problem. How can the secretary meet Bill Gates? Bill Gates will meet only the CEO of the company, not the secretary. So, when you make the chief of Rotary Club a chairman or CEO of the Club, you automatically give an image that Rotary is a corporate. And if it is a corporate, then apart from the product, there is always a process, a procedure, and a product. I always see in Rotary that there is a procedure to do any work.

I know a Governor, and I went to his district, and I saw that every Club has its own procedures. We were talking about bylaws, a constitution, and they are all part of the procedure. Is there any small deviation in it? There are many clubs that do that; there are very good, big, and expensive projects. But after the project is over, small lapses are left.

Like, a Club did a medical camp recently. There were 200-400 people who had their medical check-ups done. There were 10-12 doctors, and so

on. The community was very happy, the members were also very happy, everyone was very happy. After a week, a problem occurred that was they were not able to find bills for Rs 20,000. You can understand that if the bills were not getting paid, the treasurer will ask where the bill is. And this small problem is that he didn't get the bill, he gets into a fight, and the Governor gets a complaint that it is like this.

So, my job is that your project is equal, your members are happy, your systems are equal, your accounting is all right. Now, it would be wrong to check in the Rotary Club of Bombay that what they did wrong. It can never be wrong, because you have a system, you have an office in your permanent office, which is what this is. The office staff of your Club, maybe the ones sitting there, I want to tell them that you are so connected with the Rotary Club of Bombay, and you maintain everything properly.

If you agree that this is the exam of the Rotary Club of Bombay or Manoj's exam or my exam, then I will not hesitate to say that the Rotary Club

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passes, then I will pass. And if the Bombay Club fails, then I will fail.

Looking at the entire gamut of papers that came to me, I spoke about it. I can say one thing that if the Rotary Club of Bombay is given a single score below distinction, then it will be the Governor's fault, not your fault. This is my day of learning; I always learn. Today, the children of the Interact Club are also sitting here. When you talk, I always learn something new from you. Today, I learned something from you. The members of the Rotaract Clubs who are here today, we learn from how much they do, what they do.

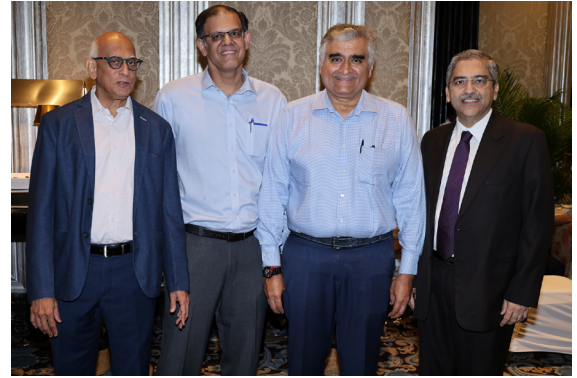
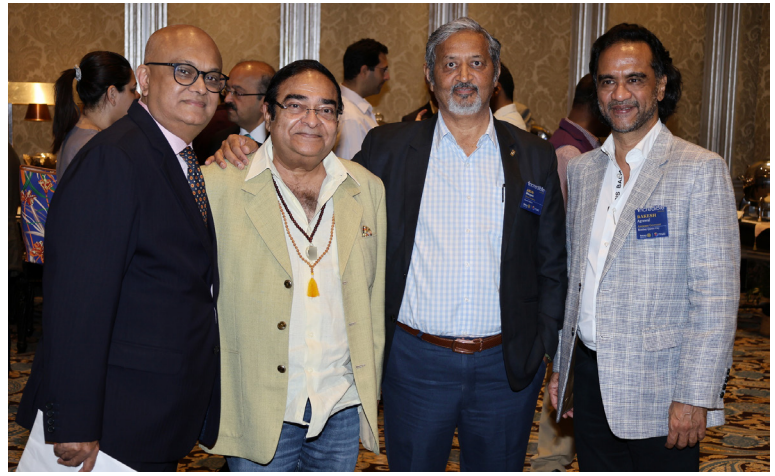
So, today, you called me here, Manoj. You gave me the opportunity to complete my responsibilities. All of you are here. I would like to thank you all for coming here today. I have to listen to you. I hope this is not our last meeting. I want to know about your Talwada hospital project. If anyone has any work for me, or needs my help or if you have any complaints for me, or do you have any complaints from the way we work in the District? Or, how can we improve in the District? You have suggestions. I will always be present in front of you for all of that.

### **Rotary District 3141 gears up for grand conference on February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

PP Sandip Kedia, Rotary Club of Mumbai North End also addressed RCB members, extending a warm invitation to the District's grand conference on February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at Nesco Banquet, Goregaon. The event, a highlight in this incredible year, promises engaging talks from renowned speakers across the country. With over 1,000 Rotarians registered, the conference aims to showcase the impactful projects undertaken by the 113 clubs in the district. PP Sandip urged members to participate, register, and not miss this opportunity for fellowship, learning, and celebration on a non-working Saturday. The Rotary Club of Mumbai Northern, as the host, invites all Rotarians for a day of camaraderie and inspiration.







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## Rotaractors of RCHR spread joy with “Bag Full of Happiness”

In a heartwarming initiative, the Rotaract Club of H.R. College embarked on the “Bag Full of Happiness” project on January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024, aiming to bring smiles to the faces of the elderly. Dedicated to 55 ladies from Ananda Yaan’s Dr. E. Moses Road centre, and supported by 25 Rotaractors, the Club ventured into a day filled with creativity and camaraderie.

The project involved painting beautiful tote bags, fostering the inner creativity of both the Rotaract members and the elderly participants. Engaging in conversations throughout the artistic activity, the Rotaract members built strong bonds with the ladies, making them feel loved and valued.

Using plain white tote bags, acrylic paints, and brushes, the participants painted their own bags, experiencing a sense of accomplishment and satisfaction. The realization of spreading happiness beyond personal circles to the entire community resonated with the Club members.

As the project concluded, laughter and joy filled the atmosphere, with everyone dancing together, carrying away not just tote bags but a bag full of happy memories. The Rotaract Club of H.R. College expressed heartfelt gratitude to the Ananda Yaan committee and Rotaract committee of RCB for providing opportunities to create meaningful experiences like these.





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## RC Jai Hind organises Makar Sankranti activity

An intriguing Makar Sankranti activity was conducted by the students of the Rotaract Club of Jai Hind on January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at Bhavishya Yaan Byculla. The event proved to be interactive and skilful, showcasing the creativity of the participating students.

Enthusiastic students took part in crafting origami kites, employing various unique ideas to create kites in celebration of Makar Sankranti. The activity not only allowed them to showcase their creativity but also served as an educational experience.

Both primary and secondary students had the opportunity to learn important facts related to Makar Sankranti, enhancing their understanding of the cultural significance of the festival. The craft activity was met with genuine enjoyment from the students.

As the class came to a close, students were treated to Til-Gud sweets, thoughtfully distributed by members of the Rotaract Club. The event successfully combined fun, education, and celebration, leaving a lasting impression on all participants.



**Members, please note that we have tied up with Masina Hospital for a great discount for our members, family, and friends.**

To avail discount kindly contact PP Vijay Kumar Jatia on email along with a brief medical history: [vkj.rotary@modernindia.co.in](mailto:vkj.rotary@modernindia.co.in)





## Padmashree PP Dr. Mukesh Batra receives prestigious 'Maharashtra Jan Gaurav Puraskar'

Renowned homeopath, Padmashree Dr. Mukesh Batra, was bestowed with the esteemed 'Maharashtra Jan Gaurav Puraskar' by the Governor of Maharashtra, Shri Ramesh Bais, at a ceremony held at Raj Bhavan, Mumbai on January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024. The recognition, presented by the Sapna Subodh Saoji Charitable Trust, acknowledges individuals making significant contributions to society.

Expressing his gratitude, PP Dr. Batra, Founder and Chairman of Dr. Batra's® Group of Companies, said, "This recognition is not just a personal accolade but an acknowledgment of the growing popularity of homeopathy worldwide and its impact on improving the quality of life."

The award ceremony also felicitated other distinguished personalities, including Sachin Pilgaonkar, Padmashree Anup Jalota, Sudha Chandran, and Juhi Babbar.

PP Dr. Batra, synonymous with modern

homeopathy, has played a pivotal role in promoting its benefits globally through over 200 clinics in seven countries. In addition, PP Dr. Batra is actively involved in philanthropy. He established the Positive Health Foundation in 2011, operating 175 free homeopathy clinics that have impacted over 1 crore underprivileged lives. His commitment to education is evident through the Dr. Mukesh Batra scholarships for deserving homeopathy students.

Apart from his medical endeavours, PP Dr. Batra's passion for photography has supported NGOs, and his musical concerts have benefited Old Age Homes. As the Former Chair for Health and Fitness of the Indian Merchant Chambers and Co-Chair for AYUSH (Homeopathy) for CII, PP Dr. Batra continues to advocate for homeopathy.

Dr. Batra's Positive Health Foundation, the CSR arm of his group, runs 192 free clinics and grants scholarships to aspiring homeopathy students.



# Ananda Seva of 4 cataract surgeries for underprivileged



In most people with poor vision from cataract, the opportunities of regaining good vision and resuming normal daily activities are excellent. But many seniors from not so privileged backgrounds do not have enough savings, and some do not have their next generation taking care of them in their need.

But none have access to a world-class facility for getting a free cataract surgery like our RCB's Ananda Yaan members do.

Thanks to Dr Sanjeev Upadhya and his super-efficient team at EYE-Q VISION CARE, our elders are operated with dignity, love, and care. Dr Upadhya has operated for more than 20 such patients for free. Thanks to RCB and Rtn. Christopher Bluemel that they also got to put high-quality lenses free of cost.

Mrs Mangala Kamtekar, Mrs Sangita Mhatre, Mrs Neeta Ghadi, and Mrs Ramesh Pote are in gratitude towards Rtn. Christopher for his generosity and Dr Sanjeev for restoring their eyesight with cataract surgery.

Mrs Sangeeta has an ageing retired husband and a son who is unemployed and thus was postponing this surgery for a long time.





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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 लहान मुलांचा दवाखाना	2 to 5 / २ ते ५	2 to 5 / २ ते ५
Blood Tests / रक्ताची तपासणी	9 to 12 / ९ ते १२	9 to 12 / ९ ते १२





## THIS WEEK'S MEETING



## SPEAKER SESSIONS

TUES | 16 | JAN



**POOJA DHINGRA**

Founder, Le15 Patisseries & Packaged Foods, Author



**ADITI DUGGAR**

Director & Founder, Masque & Urban Gourmet India Pvt. Ltd.



**GAURI DEVIDAYAL**

Co-founder, Food Matters Group

# Food 2.0

## *What the future holds.*

In conversation with  
**Rtn. Farhat Jamal**



**The Ballroom, The Taj Mahal Palace Hotel**

Lunch at 1 pm. Meeting at 1.30 p.m. Guest Attendance Charges Apply. Visiting Rotarians - ₹300 Guest - ₹400 (Additional charge for Lunch)

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## NEXT WEEK

Born on May 8<sup>th</sup>, 1965, Martin Maier is a Swiss national who grew up in his Swiss town of origin, Solothurn, where he finished his education and obtained a Diploma in Advanced Studies of International Relations. He is married and has a daughter.

Martin Maier joined the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs in 1991 and was subsequently posted to Spain, Libya, Thailand, Portugal, Ecuador, Zimbabwe, and Germany. Prior to his current assignment as Consul General of Switzerland in Mumbai, he has served in Switzerland as the Deputy Head of Economic Affairs at the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, Head of Foreign Interests in the Islamic Republic of Iran, and Consul General in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam.

In August 2022, Martin Maier assumed his duties as Consul General of Switzerland in Mumbai with jurisdiction over the States of Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala,



Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, as well as Andaman & Nicobar, Daman & Diu, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, and Puducherry. Since December 2023, Consul General Maier has been the elected Dean of the Consular Corps in Mumbai.



## Rotarian Member Birthdays



**JANUARY 16**

Rtn. Prakash  
Jotwani



**JANUARY 16**

Rtn. Darious  
Irani



**JANUARY 16**

Rtn. Arin  
Master



**JANUARY 17**

PP Haresh  
Jagtiani



**JANUARY 18**

Rtn. Ratan  
Tankha



**JANUARY 19**

Rtn. Farhat  
Jamal



**JANUARY 19**

Rtn. Gaurav  
Nevatia



**JANUARY 20**

Rtn. Rohan  
Dalal



**JANUARY 21**

Rtn. Meera  
Kumar



**JANUARY 21**

Rtn. Ashok  
Minawala

## Rotarian Partner B:

**JANUARY 21**

Rtn. Ptn. Benaifer Bi

**JANUARY 22**

Rtn. Ptn. Madhavi S

## Anniversaries

**JANUARY 18**

Rtn. Ptn. Nidhi &  
Rtn. Abhinav Aggarwal

**JANUARY 18**

Rtn. Ptn. Swapana &  
Rtn. Manoj Murarka

**JANUARY 19**

Rtn. Ptn. Megha &  
Rtn. Vineet Kedia

**JANUARY 19**

Rtn. Ptn. Avadhesh &  
Rtn. Sunita Mandelia

**JANUARY 19**

Rtn. Ptn. Dr. Anahita  
& Rtn. Darius Pandole

**JANUARY 20**

Rtn. Ptn. Rajul &  
Rtn. Anand Parikh

**JANUARY 20**

Rtn. Ptn. Navaz  
& Rtn. Jimmy  
Pochkhanawalla

**JANUARY 21**

Rtn. Ptn. Gulrez  
& Rtn. Ishraq  
Contractor

**JANUARY 21**

Rtn. Ptn. Meghal &  
Rtn. Jaymin Jhaveri

**JANUARY 21**

Rtn. Ptn. Sunita &  
PP Pradeep Saxena

**JANUARY 21**

Rtn. Ptn. Reshma &  
Rtn. Sohel Shikari

**JANUARY 21**

Rtn. Ptn. Shama &  
Rtn. Devindra Nath  
Thukral

**JANUARY 22**

Rtn. Ptn. Malini &  
IPDG Sandip Agarwalla

**JANUARY 22**

Rtn. Ptn. Purvi &  
Rtn. Anand Shah



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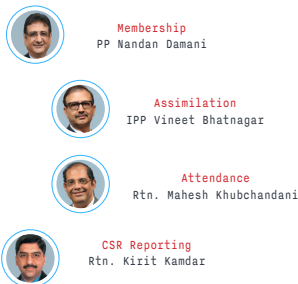
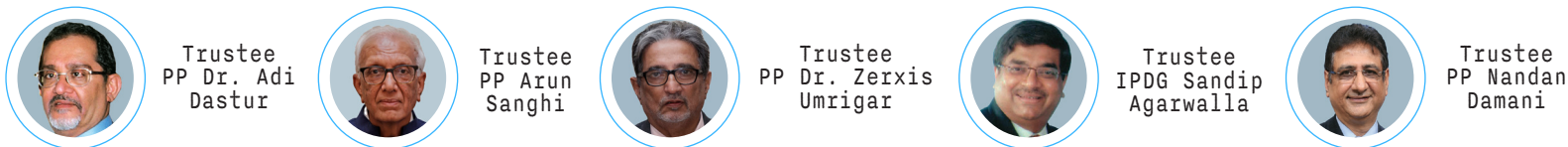


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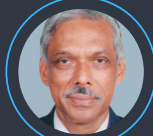
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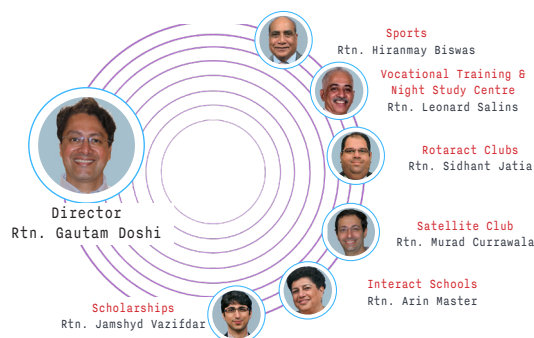
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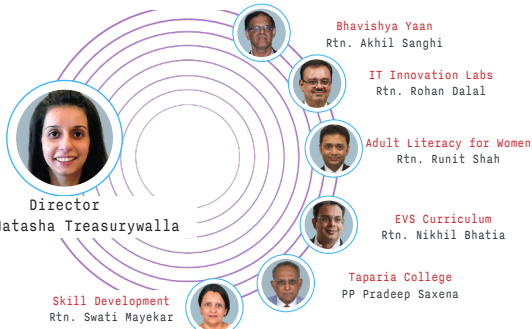
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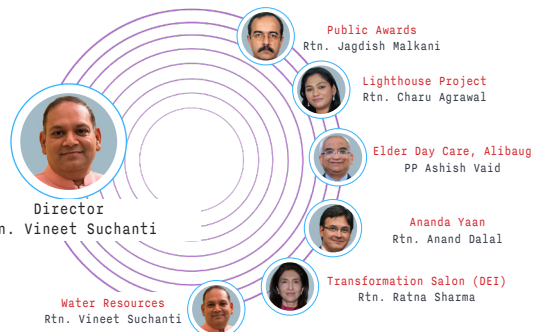
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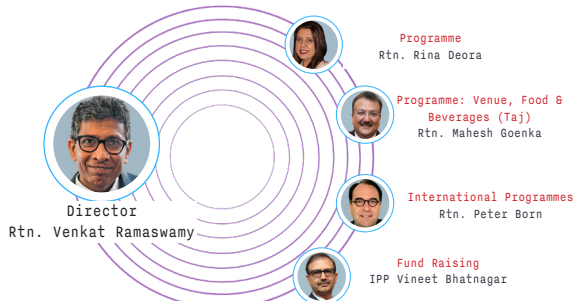
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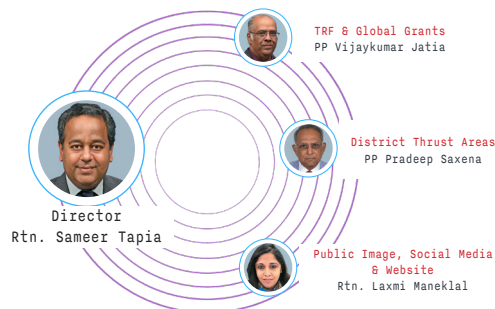
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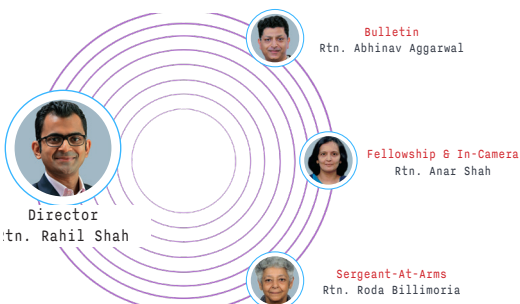
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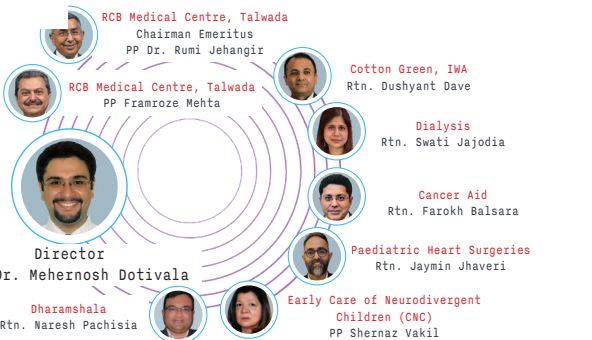
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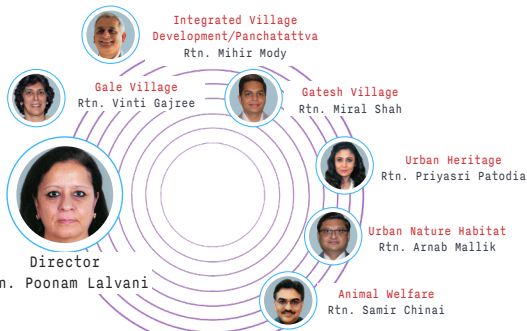
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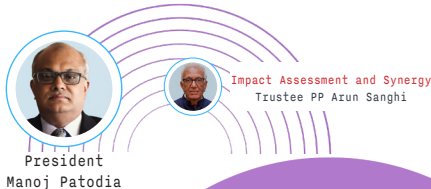
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