# THE GATEWAY





#### June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024:

Save the date for President Manoj Patodia's Shukriya Nite, and the last meeting of the Rotary Year 2023-24. Details inside

#### July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024:

Installation ceremony of incoming President Rtn. Satyan Israni and his team (2024-25).

#### <u>Details inside</u>

Members, please note that RCB has tied up with Masina Hospital for a great discount for our members, family and friends. Details inside



Bulletin of the Rotary Club of Bombay

http://rotaryclubofbombay.org/



Volume 65 Issue No.36 April 16,2024 For private circulation



### Keki Mistry, CEO, Housing Development Finance Corporation on the unfolding story of India

In today's address, I would like to share my views on the Indian economy and my perspective on India's immense growth potential.

The financial sector, which is hugely underpenetrated (I'll talk a little more about that later), will play a crucial role in leading India's growth story, as finance serves as the backbone of any economy anywhere in the world. Against the uncertain global backdrop, India has increasingly been in the spotlight for being the fastest-growing major economy. I am extremely optimistic about the future of our economy. India's economic growth has surpassed global expectations, as it was much better able to manage its economy due to a confluence of factors such as sound government policies, strong macroeconomic fundamentals, inherent domestic demand, an extremely successful vaccination drive during the COVID period, timely regulatory

#### Article continues on Page 2

interventions, and continued reforms which have ensured India's long-term growth.

In recent years, India's economic growth has surpassed expectations. At the onset of COVID-19, RBI was proactive with its monetary easing and liquidity support, and I think RBI really needs to be commended for the host of measures it introduced. During the peak of the COVID crisis, in order to augment liquidity in the system, RBI reduced the reverse repo rate, cut the cash reserve requirement, conducted targeted long-term repo operations, and introduced refinancing facilities for financial institutions.

The gradual lifting of the lockdown restrictions by states saw both demand and consumer confidence come back very sharply from September 2020. There has been really no looking back thereafter, excepting for a very short period of time when you had the



Winners aim for nothing less than Gold. The same mindset can add the gilt edge to your portfolio.

#### 45 years | 15 countries | 1.5 Million clients USD 47 billion assets

Talk to us on 022 2483 1919 | Toll free no.: 1800 221 331 | contact@phillipcapital.in

#### EQUITIES | CURRENCY DERIVATIVES | INTEREST RATE FUTURES CORPORATE BONDS | PMS | SLB | INVESTMENT ADVISORY

Investment in securities market are subject to market risk, Read all the related documents carefully before investing For registration and detailed disclaimer, kindly visit www.phillipcapital.in impact of the second wave of COVID. And the government has increased the GDP target for the year from 6.5% to 7.6%. In fact, the GDP growth for quarter three, for the financial year for the current year, the third quarter, far exceeded the analysts' expectations by growing at a very impressive 8.4%.

Now, you must understand that this 8.4% compares to global averages, which are significantly lower. If you look at the Western countries, the growth rate would typically be in the 2-3% range. In that context, we are at 8.4%, foreign investors acknowledging India's growth prospects. India as an emerging market clearly stands out. The IMF has estimated India's GDP growth to be 6.7% during the year, which will ensure that India remains the fastest-growing large economy in the world. However, in my view, the IMF is significantly underestimating India's growth.

The onset of the Russia-Ukraine war saw spiralling oil prices, and inflation started hitting the Indian economy from April 2022. RBI reined in inflation through a series of calibrated measures. RBI has increased the repo rate by 250 basis points, which is 2.5%, since May 2022 to a current level of 6.5%. To further contain inflation, RBI has focused on withdrawing excess liquidity in a gradual and nondisruptive manner. As a result of such measures, average surplus liquidity has fallen steadily from about rupees 7.8 trillion in January and February 2022 to an average liquidity deficit now, of about one trillion rupees.

Inflation has largely been reined in and stood at 5.09% in February 2024, with core inflation being under 4%. This shows that RBI's disinflationary monetary policy is working its way through the economy. The Finance Ministry also needs to be commended for not becoming overzealous in its stimulus package during the pandemic. If India had not kept the fiscal positioning check during the pandemic, inflation levels could have been out of control as we have seen in most of the Western economies. In my opinion, both the government and the RBI did a truly outstanding job in managing the economy during the last four years. This has contributed again in my view in a very significant manner in making India the fastest-growing major economy in the world.

I truly believe that there is no better place to be in the



world than in India right now. I talk to international investors regularly and during my interaction with them, the feedback about India is extremely positive. The image of India has improved by leaps and bounds. A major part of this positive image stems from the efforts being made to improve the business environment by bringing in greater transparency through a stable and fair regulatory regime. India as an emerging market clearly stands out from the others. Foreign investors acknowledge India's growth prospects and are appreciating the policy measures that are being implemented. These policies are aimed at improving the day-to-day lives of people and capitalising on geopolitically triggered shifts wherein India can become a preferred destination in the supply chain of major global companies.

There is also a huge trust on digitisation across all sectors of the economy, especially in the financial sector. There are several important indicators which reflect India's strength in the global economy. There is no other economy in the world today that currently has the capacity to absorb the scale of investments that India can, or has the growth potential that India offers. I would like to highlight some of these facts. Firstly, India's favourable demographics.

- India accounts for 17 percent of the world's population, which means that one out of every sixth person in the world is an Indian.
- More importantly, 66 percent of this population is below the age of 35 years.
- Secondly, India's middle class is estimated to rise from about 250 million individuals currently to about 800 million by 2030.
- India is a domestic consumption-based economy with private consumption forming more than 50% of the economy.
- According to a report by Morgan Stanley, India will become the third largest economy globally by 2030. It is estimated that the number of households with incomes in excess of Rs. 30 lakhs per annum will rise five-fold to 25 million by 2031.
- Further, the per capita income is expected to rise from about US \$2,300 currently to about US \$5,200.
- India is poised to become the third largest consumer market behind the US and China.
- Consumer spending in India is expected to grow

Article continues on Page 4

from about US \$1.5 trillion at present to nearly US \$6 trillion by 2030.

- There is strong growth in high-frequency indicators such as E-way bills, railway freight, highway toll collections and GST collections. For example, GST collections grew by 12.5% year-onyear to 1.68 trillion as of last count. And we have seen now that for 32 consecutive months the GST collection has been in excess of rupees 1 trillion.
- The government has kept the fiscal deficit under control. For financial year 2024, India's fiscal deficit has been revised downwards to 5.8% from the earlier estimate of 5.9% of the GDP.
- According to the Finance Minister, the budgetary deficit is expected to be further moderated to 5.1% of the GDP in the financial year 2025. Now you must know that lower fiscal deficit will mean reduction in inflation because there is lesser amount of government borrowing.
- One needs to commend the government for not introducing populist measures during an election year. Further, India's external debt is extremely manageable at 18.6% of GDP and is the lowest amongst the major economies worldwide, and particularly the emerging markets.
- Bank credit in India has picked up over the past year and has remained in double digits since April 2022.
- As of end January 2024, the overall bank credit grew by 16.1%.
- Retail credit growth was strong as well, with personal loans growing by 18.4% and housing loans by 16.7%.
- Whilst deposit growth has not picked up with the same pace as credit growth, banks are intensifying their deposit collections to meet the credit demand.
- The Indian banking system has been very resilient. Since March 2021, there has been a steady decline in the NPA ratios of banks. They have declined from 7.3 per cent in March 2021 to a decade low of 3.9 per cent in March 2023, and as of September 2023, NPA levels have further improved to 3.2 per cent.

- The balance sheets of the corporate sector are now significantly stronger with a much lower level of leverage than what it historically used to be.
- The RBI is acknowledged globally for its extremely effective supervision of the Indian financial sector and for guiding economic growth without the high inflation that the Western countries are facing.
- The RBI has been extremely proactive. In November 2023, RBI increased the risk rates on unsecured loans by 25 basis points for banks and NBFCs. This was done in order to prevent any systemic risk that these types of loans could pose in the future.
- India's foreign exchange reserves are at a very comfortable level of about US \$626 billion as of early March 2024, which covers over 11 months of imports. This makes India the fourth largest holder of reserves in the world after China, Japan and Switzerland.
- Further, India achieved record remittances from non-resident Indians, which touched about US \$107 billion during the financial year 2023. In the first half of financial year 2024, inward remittances had crossed US \$48 billion.
- The RBI has intervened time and again to support the rupee so as to contain volatility and ensure orderly movement of the currency. Measures are being implemented to ensure macroeconomic and financial stability.
- Over the past one year, the rupee has been stable by and large and has been in the 82.5 to US \$83.5 range. Until March 12, 2024, the rupee had depreciated by 0.6% against a US \$1 on a year-onyear basis compared to a 4.8% depreciation in the Chinese Yuan.
- Financial penetration in India is extremely low, which implies a huge potential for growth. For example, the mortgage to GDP ratio in India is 11% compared to between 20% and 30% in East Asian economies, 69% in the UK and 52% in the US. We are only at 11%, which means the penetration levels are so low that the growth opportunities that you would see in the years ahead will be enormous.



- Similarly, you will see that with all financial service products, not just mortgages. I am not giving you the other data, but if you look at consumer loans, look at car loans, look at any financial product, penetration levels are very low.
- Insurance penetration in India stands at 4.2% of GDP compared to a global average of 7%.
- Similarly, India's mutual fund penetration is only 16% of GDP compared to 149% in the US and 75% in the UK. This means that with a population of 1.4 billion people, barely over 2% invest in mutual funds and equities. The potential to grow therefore is enormous.
- There is a huge potential for more youngsters to become patient long-term investors in equities and mutual funds. We are moving in the right direction. For example, in 2014, the combined assets and the management of all mutual funds hit the 10 trillion rupee mark. In just three years, in 2017, it doubled to 20 trillion. As of February 2024, the assets and the management of mutual funds touched an all-time high of rupees 54.5 trillion. Interestingly, 57% of the industry investor base are retail investors.

• Indian equity markets are the most favoured amongst emerging markets. For instance, over the last 12 months till March 12, 2024, Indian stock markets have grown by about 27-31% depending on which index you are looking at, while Shanghai had a decline, not a growth, a decline of 7% during the same period.

It took the Bombay Stock Exchange 21 years from 1986 to December 2007 for the Sensex to touch 20,000 points. From February 2020, which is a month before the pandemic hit India, till now, the Bombay Stock Exchange Sensex has increased from the 40,000 mark to over 73,000 points currently, which is a nearly 80% increase.

With the increase in penetration of smartphones and with internet connections facilitating ease of doing online transactions, there has been a sharp increase in D-mat accounts from about 40 million in the financial year 2020 to nearly 139 million currently.

This is a nearly three-and-a-half-time increase. The financialization of savings augurs well for the Indian economy.

Flagship government programmes such as the

Article continues on Page 6

JAM Treaty, which is Jan Dhan-Aadhaar-Mobile technology have helped in implementing direct benefit transfers on a massive scale.

The introduction of a unified payment interface that allows customers to make digital payments using a smartphone is helping India to transform into a cashless society. UPI is the most preferred payment product by volume, accounting for 75% of the total transactions during the financial year 2023.

According to a report by PricewaterhouseCoopers India, UPI will achieve a milestone of 1 billion daily transactions by 2027.

Lastly, India is expected to be a \$1 trillion digital economy in the financial year 2027; this will be one fifth of the total economy at that point in time.

I do believe that India's pace of reforms will continue; sound regulatory policies and implementing structural reforms will help India attain even faster economic growth in the years to come.

Now, the one key challenge that India faces is its dependence on oil. The trajectory of oil prices needs to be watched closely as India imports over 80% of its oil requirement and is the third-largest importer of oil in the world. Oil prices have a direct impact on both inflation, the current account deficit, and the GDP. According to a report by CII, a \$10 increase in oil prices reduces GDP by about 30 basis points. A 10% increase in crude oil prices puts a 20-25% upside risk on inflation. For every \$10 increase in oil prices, inflation is estimated to increase by 37 basis points and the current account deficit by nearly 30%. Thus, the Oil Import Bill has a very large influence on India's current account deficit. You may have read that India has been included in the Global Bond Index, and this will immensely help strengthen the rupee over the long term.

India will be included in the JP Morgan Global Bond Index in June 2024 and in the Bloomberg Global Aggregate Bond Index from January 2025. Various estimates suggest that India's inclusion in the global bond indices will attract amounts in the range of about 25 to 30 billion US dollars annually to begin with and rise to about 50 to 60 billion US dollars subsequently. According to estimates again by Morgan Stanley, India's bond inclusion could attract foreign investment of between US dollars 170 to 250 billion over the next decade. However, FDI flows in India's debt market have many advantages, so it's important to understand these.

- Firstly, there will be greater demand for Indian government securities which will lead to higher prices and lower yields and this will result in cheaper government borrowing and therefore help the fiscal position.

- Secondly, it will help the government to fund more infrastructure projects which will result in more job creation.

- Thirdly, corporate bond yields will come down as they are all benchmarked to the GSA yield.

- Fourthly, more flows into government bonds will mean more liquidity available for banks to lend.

- And last but not least, foreign fund flows will steady the foreign exchange market. This may partially obviate the necessity for RBI to increase interest rates to counter any future increase in interest rates by the US Fed.

In conclusion, the macroeconomic fundamentals in India remain extremely strong, consumption trends will sustain, and India should continue to leverage its strength in technology. I expect the reform process to continue in the months and years ahead. A strong government focused on growth, a very well-regulated system, and enormous growth opportunities in the economy make India the perfect destination for foreign capital. India is continuing to climb up the growth ladder. I remain extremely optimistic about India's economy. India has a strong domestic consumption-based economy, and penetration levels are so low in India that the scope for businesses to grow is enormous.

Several global leaders have unanimously said that India is probably the most attractive destination for foreign investment. India's young population offers a huge opportunity for growth, and in that sense, we are less dependent on global factors than most other countries. I truly believe that as long as we continue to focus on financial sector reforms and enabling policies, India will continue to grow from strength to strength on the global stage.





## TUESDAYS WITH THE ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY

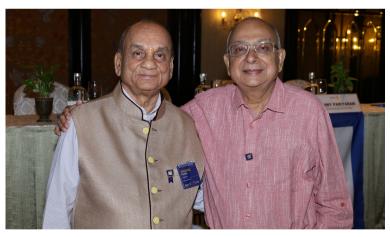














# AND IT'S A WRAP!







On April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024, the Rotary Club of Bombay made a significant impact on Rural India by launching the Integrated Village Development Project in Khardidpada & Kharpadpada villages, Jawhar, Palghar, Maharashtra. This initiative, supported by Frashogar Charities and Indian Oxides and Chemicals Pvt. Ltd., was a testament to the Club's commitment to community development.

Led by President Manoj Patodia, the group embarked on a journey of approximately 5 hours each way, navigating challenging terrain to reach the remote villages. Despite the scorching hear and demanding conditions, they were warmly welcomed by villagers adorned in traditional attire, expressing their gratitude through dance and music.

Interacting with the villagers revealed the tangible impact of the project, reinforcing the belief in its sustainability and inspiring continued efforts in rural development, particularly focusing on solar power.



Through this initiative, the Rotary Club of Bombay, with donor support, positively impacted over 346 rural citizens across both villages. Each family received solar backup lamps.

In addition, (i) 7.5HP solar pumping systems to enable water lifting across 14 farmlands in Kharpadpada (ii) 1HP solar pumping system to enable water lifting for storage at Khardidpada, at four centrally placed locations, (iii) 21 strategically



placed streetlights to ensure safety and security, (iv) 350W Solar systems for ZP School Khardipada that provides access to lights, a fan, and an electrical output, were executed to bring about 360 degree transformation.

Despite exhaustion on the journey back, the team remained motivated by the project's profound impact, reaffirming their commitment to the Rotary motto of "Service before Self."



Cook the healthy way with Milton ProCook's Triply Stainless-Steel range made of best-in-class food grade material. Get it from your nearest store, and from Amazon or Flipkart

Explore the new range of school bottles and tiffins at your nearest store and on Amazon or Flipkart.

# In-Camera event 'Demystifying AI' delights RCB members



The Fellowship & In Camera event organised an In-Camera event "Demystifying AI" on April 3rd, 2024. It was wine and cheese hosted by Rtn. Priyasri Patodia at Priyasri Art Gallery, Worli, Mumbai.

The speaker, Ms. Supriya Bhuwalka, is the founder of a company Coding & More and involved in training both adults and children. She gave us an insight into the world of Artificial Intelligence – understanding its scope and limitations as well as its application in our daily lives. It was an engaging and interactive evening with a wide range of views and perspectives shared by the speaker as well as the audience.

Over 30 Rotarians and their partners attended this In-Camera event and appreciated the opportunity to know more about artificial intelligence. The audience also enjoyed the wine and delicious appetizers at a lovely venue with a fabulous view of the sea and sunset.

On behalf of those present, President Manoj Patodia thanked the speaker Supriya Bhuwalka and the gracious host Priyasri Patodia as well as the Fellowship committee for planning this informative evening.



# RCB-supported Anusuya Devi Taparia Junior College empowers Adivasi students

Established in 2004, Anusuya Devi Taparia Junior College has become a beacon of hope for underprivileged Adivasi students in rural Maharashtra, thanks to the collaborative efforts of the Rotary Club of Bombay and the Adivasi Seva Mandal Mumbai.

Under the dedicated leadership of the Principal and teachers, the college has achieved unprecedented success in the Higher Secondary Certificate (HSC) examinations, consistently maintaining unbeatable results from 2004 to 2024. Recognised for its excellence, the Department Of Tribal Development, Thane, awarded the college the prestigious title of "Adarsh Kanishth Mahavidyalya" in 2008-2009.

Recently, a local NGO donated Rs 2.8 crore for the construction of a modern boys' hostel, accommodating 400 students. This hostel, with modern amenities, will foster a conducive environment for learning and growth. competitions and the Annual Science Exhibition, showcasing their talents and fostering innovation. The college also emphasises environmental conservation through its "One Student One Tree" tree plantation programme.

Moreover, the college offers lectures on career guidance and health, empowering alumni to succeed in various fields such as medicine, engineering, and public service. Cultural heritage is celebrated, with efforts to preserve traditions and organise national festivals and events.

The Principal extends heartfelt gratitude to the Rotary Club of Bombay for their support, which has been instrumental in the college's journey towards excellence.

With its commitment to educational excellence and holistic development, Anusuya Devi Taparia Junior College continues to pave the way for a brighter future for Adivasi students in rural Maharashtra.

Apart from academics, students excel in sports



# RCB's training and planning session

On April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024, PE Satyan Israni and Rtn. Ptn. Naveena organised the Training, Orientation, and Planning Session for the incoming directors, chairs, and co-chairs of the Rotary Year 2024-25. The venue was the prestigious Harvard Business School Classroom at the Taj Lands End, Bandra.

The programme agenda included presentations on various topics, including the history of Rotary, the roles and responsibilities of directors, chairs, and co-chairs, Rotary accounting processes and budgeting, fundraising strategies, and committee planning. There were also breaks for fellowship and refreshments.

The day commenced with fellowship over breakfast followed by the first session featuring speakers addressing specific topics such as:

- "Hum Honge Kaamyaab" by Jaiprakash Kabra
- "How well do you know Rotary" by IPDG Sandip

Agarwalla, providing an overview of Rotary's mission, vision, and core values.

• "It's time to take charge - Roles and Responsibilities of Directors/Chairs/Co-Chairs" by PP Fali Mehta and PN Bimal Mehta, outlining the roles and responsibilities of directors, chairs and cochairs within the Rotary Club of Bombay.

• "Number Crunching - Nuances of Rotary Accounting Processes and Budgeting" by Treasurer Kirit Kamdar and Treasurer Elect Mehul Sampat, providing an overview of Rotary's accounting processes and budgeting procedures.

• "Secret Sauce of Legacy Projects - Bhavishya Yaan and Ananda Yaan" by PP Ramesh Narayan, discussing the What, How, and Why of such projects.

• "It's a Class Act! - A Harvard Case Study on Planning and Execution" by Rtn. Moy Biswas,



# sets tone for 2024-25 leadership

offering insights on the importance of planning and execution in projects, using the HBS Classroom as a real-life illustration.

• "Savdhaan Rahein, Satark Rahein - Importance of Regulatory Compliances" by Rtn Ishraq Contractor, providing insight into recent developments in regulatory compliances by Rotary clubs and the perils in case of defaults.

• "Sabse Bada Rupaiya - Strategies for Fundraising, TRF, CSR and Impact Assessment" by PP Vijay Jatia and PP Nirav Shah, discussing strategies for fundraising, impact assessment, and corporate social responsibility.

This session was followed by a sumptuous lunch at the Konkan. The second session began with "Think Big, Dream Big, Act Big" by IPDG Sandip Agarwalla, challenging incoming leaders to think ambitiously for their committees and projects. Motivated Directors, Chairs, and Co-Chairs then presented their plans for the upcoming year, detailing various projects and specifics.

This was followed by "Manoj Ke Mann Ki Baat -Learnings from the current year" where President Manoj Patodia shared valuable insights with all participants.

The day concluded with closing remarks and a vote of thanks by PE Satyan Israni.

The highlight of the day was Mr. Jaiprakash Kabra's session, captivating participants with his stories and anecdotes, setting a motivational tone for the entire day.

The programme was well-attended and highly appreciated by all, providing informative and helpful insights for incoming leaders to better serve the Club.

## BY explores UP



Bhavishya Yaan students of G.K. Marg and their teachers kicked off their summer camp on April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023, with a theme centered around Uttar Pradesh. Students from both the primary and secondary sections delved into various aspects of the state, starting with understanding its geographical location on the Indian map. Through informative sessions, they learned about the state's cuisine, clothing, art, culture, and historical monuments.

Using engaging tools such as PowerPoint presentations and descriptive videos, major cities and significant facts about Uttar Pradesh were vividly described to the students. To infuse fun into learning, BY teachers organised activities like paper basket making, chana-chat preparation, and exciting games such as bingo, chinese whisper, and hangman, all aimed at enriching their vocabulary with terms related to Uttar Pradesh.

Students showcased their creativity through poster making, depicting interesting facts about the state, and illustrating its iconic monuments. Additionally, they enthusiastically participated in drawing the Uttar Pradesh government's welfare scheme logos, gaining insights into important public programmes. Under the guidance of their teachers, secondary students meticulously crafted a model of the Ram Mandir, displaying dedication and skill in its completion.

The finale saw our children sharing their newfound knowledge about Uttar Pradesh, a home state for many.



## Innovative minds soar at MuSo

Last week, 9th-grade students from Bhavishya Yaan's Dr. Ambedkar school had the opportunity to visit the Museum of Solutions (MuSo). MuSo offers an engaging and interactive platform for children to explore the realm of science through its various exhibits. As they explored the museum's three floors, students found themselves immersed in a world of possibilities. Guided by knowledgeable facilitators, they not only gained knowledge but also actively participated in hands-on activities. Their experiences at the Museum of Solutions inspired them to become agents of innovation and advocates for a better world.

The Make Lab proved to be a paradise for every child. Students were divided into groups to brainstorm, design, and innovate using technology. The carpentry room particularly appealed to the boys, where they were introduced to both traditional carpentry tools and modern machines capable of performing tasks with ease and sophistication.

One floor of the museum was dedicated to the theme of water. Students had the opportunity to learn about and empathize with the lives of Kohli fishermen, immerse themselves in the mangrove forests, and observe life in these unique ecosystems.

The museum authorities kindly provided snacks for the children during their visit.

# BY students prepare for life beyond school with a finishing programme



At YMCA Bombay Central, Bhavishya Yaan students recently participated in a transformative week-long finishing school programme. This initiative, attended by students from all six BY schools and some Night Study Centre attendees, aimed to prepare them for life beyond school. Fresh from their Board exams and eagerly awaiting results, these students stand on the threshold of entering junior colleges. The annual finishing school initiative is designed to ease their transition from the familiar school environment to the challenges of adulthood.

Throughout the week, students delved into crucial topics such as Peer Pressure, Goal Setting, Career Counselling, Personality Development, Etiquette, Confidence Building, and Life after School. These sessions utilised various methods, including engaging lectures, PowerPoint presentations, workshops, interactive games, and demonstrations to provide diverse learning experiences.

Led by seasoned facilitators renowned in their respective fields offered insight and wisdom: Sarita Shetty (certified life and parenting coach on peer pressure), Vasundhara Jakka (corporate trainer and NLP trainer on goal setting), Amar Prabhu (Principal Don Bosco, ITI Institute), Jhanvi Vissanji



(counsellor and life-skill trainer on etiquette), and Rtn. Ptn. Avaan Vakharia on mind the gap, Rtn. Ptn. Jaya Prasad on milestones and reflections, and Deepa Shetiya (life-skill teacher of NGO Vidya).

With nearly 100 students attending daily from 10 am to 1 pm, the program ensured comprehensive preparation for the challenges ahead.

Each session was followed by snacks, fostering a supportive environment for students' growth and development. The culmination of the programme on April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024, included final sessions focusing on crucial topics such as Cyber Safety and Milestones in Education, along with reflections on their achievements.

After the sessions, students worked in groups to create charts summarising their daily learnings, followed by presentations to share their insights and takeaways with the class. Outstanding presentations were rewarded with small gifts, fostering camaraderie and celebration among the students.

The finishing school programme at YMCA Bombay Central plays a vital role in equipping students with the necessary skills and knowledge to navigate the challenges of adulthood, ensuring they are wellprepared for the journey ahead.

# Summer tales at Lighthouse!





Our Summer Camp 2024 at Lighthouse Project embraced the timeless art of storytelling with Storyland, offering a plethora of benefits for our Jr. KG and Sr. KG students.

Immersed in interactive narratives, children naturally honed essential skills for academic success and beyond. Each day was brimming with enthralling stories, followed by themed activities and crafts. Puppets ignited imaginative play, while songs and drama breathed life into tales – from mischievous monkeys to resilient pigs.

Exciting games like Magnetic Fishing and Water Games injected thrills, while reciting rhymes enhanced language and memory development. Movement and dance sessions not only energised the children but also nurtured problemsolving and teamwork.

As the day ended, campers tapped their feet to catchy tunes like "We Like to Move It" and "Stomping in the Jungle," concluding their journey with blissful memories and newfound skills.

The camp eventually wound down with a captivating finale on April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024. Rtn. Vandan Shah extended a warm welcome to parents and children, setting the stage for an inspiring evening.

Rtn. Ami Jagtiani delivered



a motivational speech, stressing the significance of regular attendance at Lighthouse classes and commending the children's clear English diction during the skits. Rtn. Charu Agrawal thoughtfully provided colouring books and crayons as takehome gifts for the children, while Rtn. Meher Vakil conducted a final dress rehearsal, bolstering the children's confidence before the performance.

PP Ramesh Narayan expressed gratitude to Ms. Manisha Ahuja from NGO Vidya, RCB's education partner, and all the Lighthouse teachers for their



unwavering dedication.

The children captivated the audience with their renditions of the fables "The Three Little Pigs" and "The Ant & Grasshopper," reciting rhymes with clarity, and charming everyone with their lively dance to "Madagascar: We Like to Move It Move It!" The musical piece "Stomping in the Jungle" had the children dancing and searching for animals in the jungle, leaving the audience thoroughly entertained.



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



# Lighthouse children have snow adventure

33 children and 4 teachers from the Lighthouse Project had an unforgettable experience at Snow Kingdom, the largest theme park at R City Mall, Ghatkopar, thanks to RCB. Equipped with sterilised cold weather clothing, they marvelled at the indoor wonderland filled with replicas of seals, penguins, and snow deer — a first-time snow experience for many.

Their joy knew no bounds as they frolicked in the snow, sliding, jumping on trampolines, and even attempting to build snowmen under the guidance of their teachers. The excitement continued at the 12D theatre, where VR glasses transported them to prehistoric times and futuristic rides, offering an immersive journey complete with special effects.

Ending the day on a high note, they enjoyed a scrumptious meal at their favourite McDonald's. Although the 5th standard students were sad about leaving Lighthouse, news of alumni classes starting lifted their spirits, turning an amazing day into a truly fantastic one.



# Rotary Club of Bombay Dialysis Centres



# **BOMBAY COTTON MERCHANT AND MUCCADAM ASSOCIATION LTD.**

# **ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY**

# FREE CLINIC

ADDRESS: NEAR COTTON EXCHANGE BUILDING, OPP. RAM MANDIR, 5 MINUTES WALK FROM COTTON GREEN RAILWAY STATION, COTTON GREEN (EAST), MUMBAI – 400 033 PHONE: 022-2373 7301 In-charge - Ms. SHILPA PAWAR

	Tuesday / मंगळवार	Friday / शुक्रवार
Drbatra'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 मुलांचा दवाखाना	2 to 5 / २ते५	2 to 5 / २ते५
Blood Tests / रक्ताची तपासणी	9 to 12 / ९ ते १२	9 to 12 / ९ ते १२



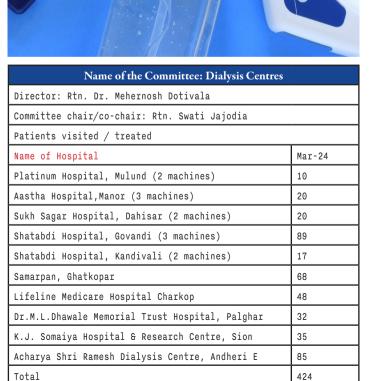


## Medical statistics



atients visited / treated Mar-24				
Cotton Green	HOMEOPATHY	182		
	DENTAL OPD	197		
	OPHTHALMIC OPD	57		
	PAEDIATRICS OPD	31		
	GENERAL OPD	46		
	PATHOLOGY LAB	8		
	Total	521		

irector: Rtn. Dr.	Mehernosh Dotivala	
committee chair/co <sup>.</sup> P Framroze Mehta ,	-chair: ⁄ Rtn. Dr. Rohini Chowg	ıle
Patients visited /	treated Mar-24	
PRVEC	Ophthalmic OPD	1407
	Spect Give during the month	118
	Operations	64
	Patients kept for treatment	6
	IOL	57
	Yag Laser	14
	Green Laser	-
	Keratoplasty	-
	Total	1666
ADMC	General OPD	975
	Dental OPD	125
	Pediatric OPD	47
	Pathology Lab	84
	TB Patients	34
	Total	1265





speaks about WOMEN IN CORPORATE WORLD How to become an inspiring leader

> In conversation with Rtn. Tahera Madviwala

CK NAYUDU HALL CCI, CHURCHGATE LUNCH AT 1 PM. MEETING AT 1.30 P.M. GUEST ATTENDANCE CHARGES APPLY VISITING ROTARIANS -₹300 GUEST -₹400 (ADDITIONAL CHARGE FOR LUNCH)

# rotaryclubofbombay.org | O F @rcb1929 | incredible

### ON APRIL 23<sup>rd,</sup> 2024

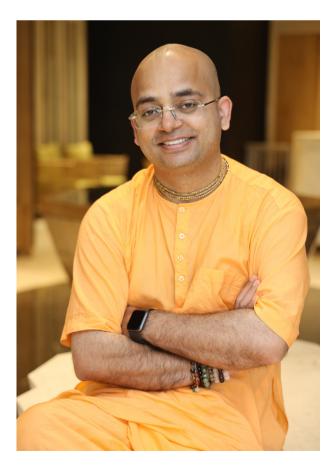
Nityanand Charan Das, renowned spiritual counselor and a practicing monk at ISKCON Chowpatty, Mumbai

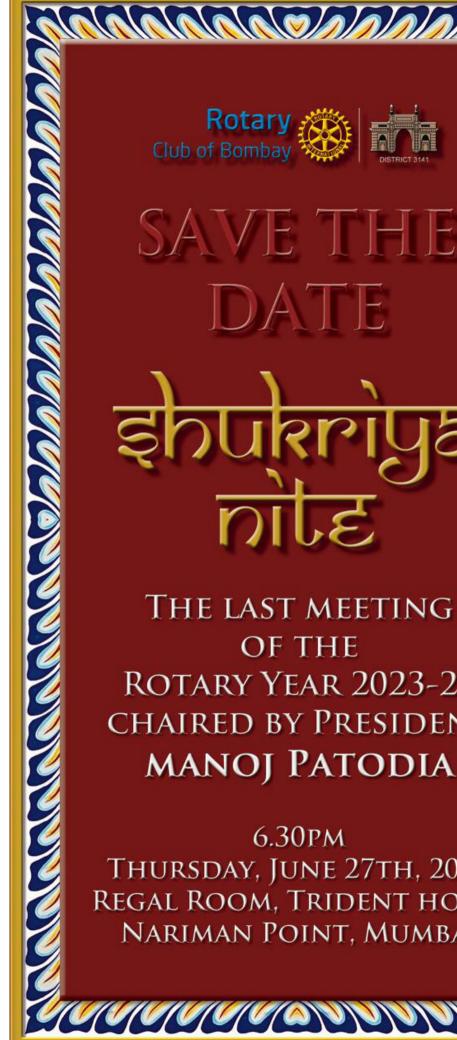
Nityanand Charan Das is a disciple of Radhanath Swami and the author of five books. He guides people of all ages, especially youth, to lead purposeful lives.

Serving in various capacities in deity worship, organising festivals/events and pilgrimages, and as a Kirtan leader, he has built, through his outreach, a vibrant spiritual community in Mumbai and from different parts of India.

He travels extensively, giving insightful sessions on the ancient wisdom of the Bhagavad Gita, Shrimad Bhagavatam, Ramayan, and Mahabharat in a simple yet profound way that resonates with all age groups. His discourses are held in every major city of India and in almost 50 countries across the globe.

Despite a childhood dream of joining the army, he became a monk at 24, building a vibrant spiritual community in Mumbai and beyond. His message: "Spiritual Life is not a life of Rejection. It is a life of Connection."







# SAVE THE DATE



THE LAST MEETING OF THE ROTARY YEAR 2023-24 CHAIRED BY PRESIDENT manoj Patodia

6.30pm Thursday, June 27th, 2024 **REGAL ROOM, TRIDENT HOTEL** NARIMAN POINT, MUMBAI

## Rotarian Member Birthdays



Rtn. Puneet Chhatwal



APRIL 16 Rtn. Dr. Sanjay Desai



APRIL 16 Rtn. Vibhay Sinha



APRIL 18 Rtn. Manish Reshamwala



APRIL 19 Hon. Rtn. Mukesh

n. Rtn. Mukes Ambani



APRIL 19 Rtn. Suresh Agarwal



APRIL 20 Rtn. Vijay Dhawan



APRIL 20 Rtn. Vinod Juneja



APRIL 21 Rtn. Naresh



## Rotarian Partner Birthdays

APRIL 20

Rtn. Ptn. Poonam Dave APRIL 21 Rtn. Ptn. Nisreen Tapia

APRIL 22

Rtn. Ptn. Bijal

Kara

### APRIL 20

Rtn. Ptn. Pervin Jehangir

#### APRIL 20

Rtn. Ptn. Rita Sagar

#### APRIL 21

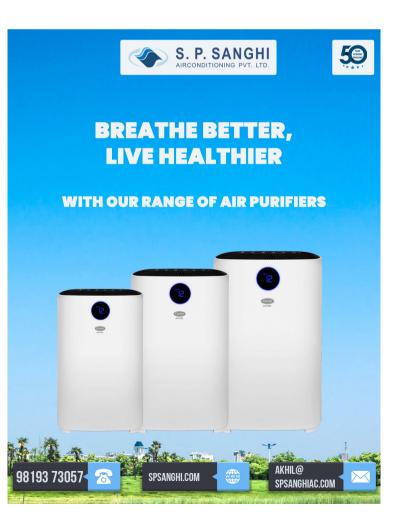
Rtn. Ptn. Nita Bhambhani

### Anniversaries

APRIL 17 Rtn. Ptn. Anisha & Rtn. Arjun Jolly

#### APRIL 19

Rtn. Ptn. Swati & Rtn. Yogesh Mahansaria







\*

\*

\*

# SAVE THE DATE

INSTALLATION CEREMONY OF INCOMING PRESIDENT **RTN. SATYAN ISRANI** AND HIS TEAM (2024-25) 12 NOON TUESDAY 2ND JULY, 2024 REGAL ROOM, TRIDENT HOTEL NARIMAN POINT, MUMBAI

\*

### TRUSTEES OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY

