

THE GATEWAY



DISTRICT 3141

Celebrating 96 Years of Service

UNITE
FOR
GOOD

Bulletin of the Rotary Club of Bombay

VOLUME 67 ISSUE NO. 8 AUGUST 19, 2025

This Tuesday, Aug 19th

Ms. Elizabeth Mehta,
Founder-Director
of Muktangan to be
felicitated with Rotary
Club of Bombay
Somchand Parikh Award
for Best Teacher.

Nazim Shaikh, Lifeguard,
Mumbai Waterfront,
Gateway of India to be
felicitated with Rotary
Club of Bombay Bravery
Award.

MR. SANJIV BAJAJ, CHAIRMAN & MANAGING DIRECTOR OF BAJAJ FINSERV, IN CONVERSATION WITH PP VINEET BHATNAGAR



PP Vineet Bhatnagar:

So, we'll start with family businesses. We are seeing that many next-generation heirs prefer to manage family investment offices rather than run family businesses. You have a long history of a family-run business house. How do you think business families can change the scale and scope of their traditional businesses, or even set up new businesses in India?

Mr. Sanjiv Bajaj:

So, Vineet, Uday made this statement a couple of months ago, right? It became a bit of a buzz for a while. I think the more important issue for us to recognise is that about 30 years ago, in a country like India, if you had a significant family business or you came from wealth, access to capital automatically gave you a

significant edge over others — people who may have been great entrepreneurs with a great idea, but who had to wait six months outside a bank branch to get a loan to start their business. We were losing out on the entrepreneurial ability of Indians. The venture capital world, private equity and private credit have opened this up dramatically, and you know it from your own business.

To me, India has opened up, as we can see. Look at the current generation of start-ups. You have a Zomato, which is a start-up; you have a Zerodha, which is a start-up by first-generation entrepreneurs; you also have a Bajaj Finserv Asset Management, which is a start-up by an older group. We are on a much more even playing field, which didn't exist earlier. That is something to be recognised

and celebrated, because it is a huge opportunity to unleash millions of Indian entrepreneurs, not just a few business houses that, for whatever past success of earlier generations, had capital.

Now, in such a situation, you can invest in other businesses and give them a lease of life. There's nothing wrong if a next-generation individual says, "I don't have it in me to spend 14 hours on the shop floor, deal with the GST authority, run around to get land clearances, or bribe five others to get things done on the ground. I have the capital, and there are ten other people showing the energy — I will support them." Nothing wrong with that, as long as those ten people exist.

At the same time, you see enough older businesses where the younger generation

COMING UP

Aug 26th, Tuesday Meeting



Ashish Hemrajani, Founder and CEO, BookMyShow will address the Club.

Sept 2nd, Tuesday Meeting

A fireside chat between **Milind Deora and Cyrus Broacha** on India at the Crossroads of Culture and Power

Sept 9th, Tuesday Meeting

Mr. Bhushan Gagrani, Municipal Commissioner will address the Club on Vision for Mumbai City.



— myself being already the fourth generation in my family, with the fifth generation having started working — still exhibit the same hunger as those first-generation entrepreneurs.

We've had a great era. Forget the current tariff situation — that's an unfortunate distraction and a reality we have to deal with. Perhaps that's a separate question. But I think, where India is poised right now, the next 20 years are ours. They won't come automatically; we have to work to make sure they do.

Well said. So I guess this entire thing of family offices having built reserves, with the next generation looking to reinvest that in other businesses, has the capacity for a multiplicative outcome.

Absolutely.

What are the two most important values or lessons that you must have learnt from your late father, Shri Rahul Bajaj?

Well, many things. There are many things you observe in elders, and you pick up some of those. I'll tell you what I didn't learn from him — his aggression and his ability to speak for 30 minutes on an issue that took three minutes! Arunji is here; I'm sure he was a victim of that as well. But more seriously — not only his hard work, but he was a perfectionist in everything he did.

It didn't matter to him whether it was a small issue or big. I remember once, I must have

been in college — a teenager — when I got back home late at night, around 11 or 11:30, at our factory campus in Akurdi, outside Pune. My parents' room and my brother's and my room were opposite each other. I could hear a hum later in the night and was wondering about it. As an inquisitive kid, I put my ear to the door and heard him singing something. The next day, my mum told me he had gone to Bombay to be the chief guest at the 125th anniversary of Cathedral, his school, and he was remembering the anthem to make sure he could sing it without a paper the next day.

So, he was very much a perfectionist. What does that mean? He was prepared. One of the things anyone who interacted with him learnt, was: if you were in the room with him, presenting an idea or defending a point of view, you had better be thoroughly prepared — because he was. He never went to bed until he had finished all his reading for the day, and never before 2 a.m. He never left the office until his table was clear of all documents.

Being thorough is something people can tell you about, but when you see it day in and day out, it influences your own methods.

The other quality was humility. While many of the younger crowd may have seen him on television as a very outward, aggressive speaker, he dealt in the same manner with a security guard, a driver, a friend, a politician, or the Prime Minister of any country. He would converse equally with all.

I remember, from the Bajaj Auto days, a small Gujarati restaurant called Mayur nearby, famous for its thalis. We used to go there for dinner once a month. One evening in the 80s — before mobile phones — we finished dinner early, but our driver had gone for his meal. We were wondering how to get home and the restaurant

manager was trying to call the factory to arrange another car. Suddenly, my father appeared, having hailed a rickshaw. We all got into it, and he was happily chatting with the driver: "How much do you earn? How is the rickshaw," because it was a Bajaj rickshaw. He thought nothing of it while the rest of us were still trying to get a car to get home.

The third quality was his openness to listening. As much as he had a strong point of view and spoke aggressively, he loved to discuss and debate. In my case, I listen first, then speak. In his case, he spoke first, but he did listen. Listening is a very important trait, one many of us forget as we get into senior positions.

I see this with many friends and peers — if you get reasonably successful, you often make the mistake of associating that success entirely with yourself, forgetting how much the world conspires in your favour. If you have humility, work hard, listen, and involve others, you are in a stronger position to succeed. These were all learnings that came not from him telling us directly, but from absorbing them.

So these have indeed shaped you and your ways of thinking? Excellent. Let's move into the most important part of your journey — Bajaj Finserv. With deep roots in manufacturing for the Bajaj Group over multiple generations, what made you pivot to the services sector? We would be very happy to hear your journey with Bajaj



Finserv as the largest NBFC in India. I noted in the statistics that it is two-and-a-half times bigger than the next one, with a market capitalisation of Rs. 5.5 lakh crore. It's a fabulous story — we're waiting to hear it from you.

I worked ten years in Bajaj Auto before moving to our financial services, between 1997 and 2007. Around 2005, you could see glimpses of the new India. The economy was growing at 8-9.5%, there was tremendous hope and opportunity. We knew our time had come. Even then, we had seeded a few businesses through Bajaj auto. Bajaj Finance, as it is now called, was then Bajaj Auto Finance, started in the late 80s by my uncle, Deepak Bajaj, to finance our own motorcycles, scooters, and three-wheelers. At that time, banks did not do consumer financing.

We had also started two insurance companies with Allianz in 2001. We saw that if the Indian economy grew at 8-9%, financial services typically grew at two to three times that rate, because you have a much wider reach — your customers are not limited to one sector.

FOR A
COMPLETE
TRANSCRIPT
OF THE TALK
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ANANDA YAAN BRINGS WELLNESS, CREATIVITY, AND COMMUNITY TO SENIORS

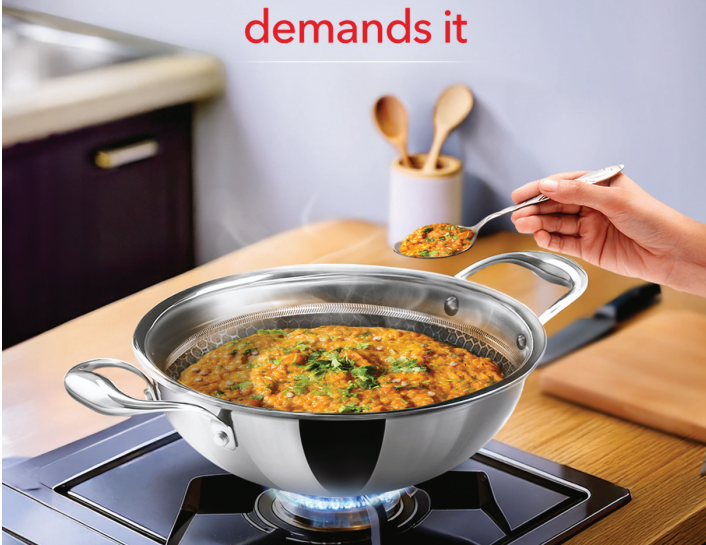
August was a month of wellness, creativity, and togetherness at the Ananda Yaan Centres in Byculla, Mazgaon, and Dadar. Key highlights included the launch of a Physiotherapy Van benefiting 150 seniors, a touching Friendship-themed storytelling session, and a lively Karaoke event in collaboration with the Rotary Club of Bombay.

Members also attended a Mental Health Awareness Session and a Health Check-up, where medicines were distributed to 60 participants. Excitement is now building as 35 members prepare for a Bollywood-Themed Fashion Show. Through such initiatives, Ananda Yaan continues to bring dignity, joy, and purpose to the lives of seniors.



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TUESDAY MEETINGS AT ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY



Rtn. Ptn. Jaya Prasad and Rtn. Anjani Rawat



President Bimal Mehta & Rtn. Nailah Emmambokus from Rotary Club of Bagatelle Mauritius



Visiting Rtn. Bernhard Steinruecke and Rtn. Jagdish Malkani



PE Manish Reshamwala and Mr. Paritosh Rungta



PP Nirav Shah and Rtn. Ptn. Rajul Parikh



Rotarians Gautam Doshi and Akhil Sanghi



Rotarians Mudit Jain and Ajai Kumar



PP Nirav Shah, PP Kalpana Munshi and Rtn. Ramesh Dhir



Rotarians Zaheer Memon, Akhil Sanghi, Gautam Doshi, Pulin Shroff, Rina Deora, Mudit Jain, Jt. Hon. Secy. Rhea Bhungara, Rtn. Ptn. Ushma Doshi, Rtn. Ptn. Madhavi Sanghi, Rtn. Ritu Prakash Desai, Rtn. Farokh Balsara and PE Manish Reshamwala



Rtn. Miral Shah and guest speaker Mr. Sanjiv Bajaj



Rtn. Sushil Chandiramani and Rtn. Pulin Shroff



Rtn. Zaheer Memon and Rtn. Uday Sanghani



Rtn. Ptn. Ushma Doshi, Rtn. Ptn. Madhavi Sanghi and PP Nirav Shah



President Bimal Mehta thanks speakers Sanjiv Bajaj and PP Vineet Bhatnagar for their time spent with the Club



A full house at the meeting



ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY DIALYSIS CENTRES

Sr.No.	Centre / Location	Address	No. of Machines	Charges for Poor Patients
1	Aastha Hospital, Manor	First Floor, Rais Arcade, Palghar-Wada Road, Manor District Palghar 401403	3	Free
2	Platinum Hospital, Mulund	Neptune Colorscape, Dumping Rd, Siddharth Nagar, Mulund West, Mumbai 400080	2	Free
3	Sukh Sagar Hospital, Dahisar (Rotary Dialysis Centre)	Lokmanya Tilak Rd, Mhatre Wadi, Dahisar West, Mumbai 400068	2	800
4	Shatabdi Hospital, Govandi (Rehbar Foundation)	Rehbar Foundation Malik Rakia Khatoon Dialysis Centre, 1st Flr. Shatabdi Hospital, Centenary Building, WTP Marg, Deonar, Govandi East, Mumbai 400088	3	Free
5	Shatabdi Hospital, Kandivali	Swami Vivekananda Rd, Kandivali, Fateh Baug, Kandivali West, Mumbai 400067	2	Free
6	Samarpan Dialysis & Thalassemia Centre, Ghatkopar	Aaradhya Edu-Health Centre, , H-wing, 3rd Flr., Aaradya One Earth, Naidu Colony, Pant Nagar, Ghatkopar East, Mumbai 400077	14	300
7	Lifeline Medicare Hospital, Charkop	Near Rustomjee Meridian, Charkop Gaon / Village, Kandivali West, Mumbai, 400067	10	300
8	Dr. M.L. Dhawale Memorial Trust Hospital, Palghar	Boisar Rd, Opp. S.T Workshop, Industrial Co-Op Estate, Palghar 401404	3	250
9	K.J. Somaiya Hospital & Research Centre, Sion, Mumbai	Somaiya Ayurvihar, Eastern Express Hwy, Sion East, Mumbai 400022	10	Free
10	Acharya Shri Ramesh Dialysis Centre, Andheri East, Mumbai	316 B-Wing, Dattani Plaza, near Safed Pool, Sakinaka, Andheri Kurla Road, Andheri(East), Mumbai 400072	10	Free
11	Mallika Hospital, Jogeshwari	Sharma Estate, S V Road, Jogeshwari west, Mumbai Maharashtra 400102	4	Free
12	Symbiosis University Hospital & Research Centre, Pune	Pune Dnyan Marg, Mulshi Rd, Lavale, Maharashtra 412115	8	Free
13	Swami Shraddhanand Hospital, Vasai	Near Shankaracharya Samadhi Mandir Navale, Nirmal, Vasai (W, Vasai-Virar, Maharashtra 401304	6	Free
14	Adhikari Lifeline Hospital, Boisar	Adhikari Lifeline Hospital, Nagzari, Boisar	9	Free

To know more reach out to:

Rtn. Swati Jajodia +91 9821028587 swati@spentose.com

ROTARIANS SMASH INTO THE NEW SPORTS YEAR

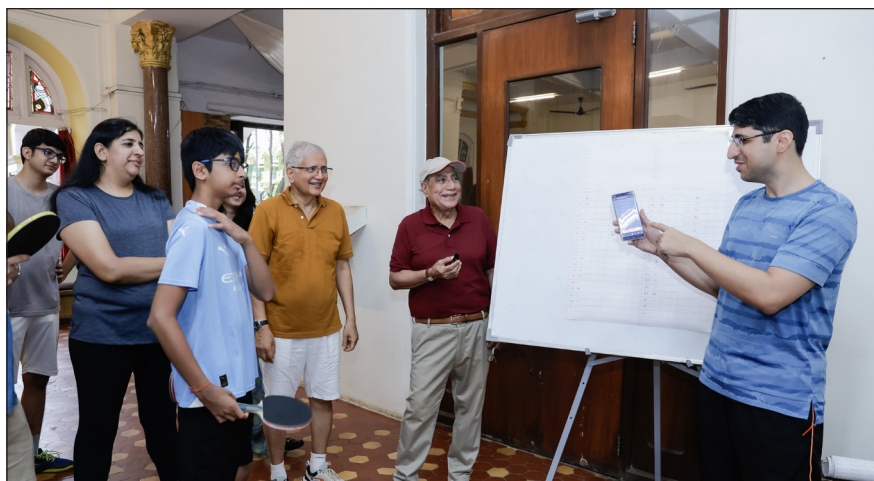


Skill and enthusiasm were on show as 36 Rotarians and kin turned up on Sunday, August 10th, 2025 for our Club's Eighth Table Tennis Fellowship held, as before, at the YMCA at Colaba.

Chairman Rtn. Hiranmay Biswas (Moy) welcomed everyone for being present on a Sunday morning and the proceedings were kicked off by Rtn. Jamshyd Vazifdar explaining the format, after which participants were paired up and divided into two groups.

Group A consisted of 8 pairs: Rtn. Farhat Jamal and Rtn. Ptn. Chetan Daiya, Rtn. Jaymin Jhaveri and Rtn. Ptn. Priyanka Jatia, Rtn. Jamshed Banaji and Rtn. Hiren Kara, Rtn. Mehernosh Dotivala and Dhrishni (daughter of Rtn. Mehul Sampat), Rtn. Aashish Contractor and Rtn. Sushil Chandiramani, Rtn. Mudit Jain and Uttkarsh (son of Rtn. Mudit Jatia), Rtn. Anuj Arenja and Rtn. Mahesh Khubchandani, Rtn. Ptn. Kaavya Chandiramani and President Bimal Mehta.

Group B consisted of 7 pairs: Rtn. Saumil Kothari and Rtn. Mehul Sampat, Rtn. Akhil Sanghi and Rtn. Hursh Meghani, Rtn. Vivek Himatsingka and Rtn. Anand Dalal, Rtn. Sanjiv Saran Mehra and Rtn. Christopher Bluemel, Rtn. Mihir Mody and Advay (son of Rtn. Akhil Sanghi), Rtn. SV Prasad and Rtn. Jaidev Merchant, Rtn. Moy Biswas and Rtn. Ravi Fotedar.



The participants were cheered on by Kanchi Daiya (daughter of Rtn. Ptn. Chetan), Dev Chandiramani (son of Rtn. Sushil), PE Manish Reshamwala, IPP Satyan Israni, Rtn. Ptn. Delna and Rtn. Jamshyd Vazifdar.

After each pair had played the others in the group, League tables were formed based on points won. In Group A, the pair of Rtn. Ptn. Chetan and Rtn. Farhat brushed aside all challengers as they took the number one spot with 6 wins out of 6 games. The second-place spot in group A went to Rtn. Aashish and Rtn. Sushil.

In Group B the number one spot was taken by the pair of Rtn. Anand and Rtn. Vivek. Second place went to the pair of Rtn. Akhil and Rtn. Hursh.

The next phase of the tournament saw the pair of Rtn. Aashish and

Rtn. Sushil face off against Rtn. Akhil and Rtn. Hursh in a 21-point, "3rd place match". This was won 21-13 by the pair of Rtn. Aashish and Rtn. Sushil.

The overall winners were decided in the match where Group A winners Rtn. Ptn. Chetan and Rtn. Farhat played Group B winners Rtn. Anand and Rtn. Vivek. After some great rallies and super shots, Rtn. Anand and Rtn. Vivek emerged as the winners.

Once the perfectly orchestrated matches concluded, trophies were presented to the winners and runners-up by President Bimal Mehta along with Sports Chairman Rtn. Moy.

Sports Committee chairperson Rtn. Hiranmay Biswas and Rtn. Jamshyd Vazifdar thanked everyone in attendance, who then continued their fellowship over light refreshments.



BHAVISHYA YAAN

GK MARG CELEBRATES INDEPENDENCE DAY WITH PRIDE

The Independence Day celebration at Bhavishya Yaan's GK Marg was an inspiring showcase of the children's talents, featuring patriotic poetry, songs, dances, and speeches. Students performed with rhythm, energy, and heartfelt expression, capturing the spirit of the motherland and celebrating India's diversity, unity, and cultural heritage. The primary section's vibrant performances added charm, reflecting innocence, enthusiasm, and growing confidence. Each

act not only entertained but also deepened appreciation for the day's significance. A highlight of the event was the lively extempore quiz session, where students demonstrated impressive knowledge, quick thinking, and a strong patriotic spirit. The celebration left the audience proud and moved, creating lasting memories of a day dedicated to honouring the nation.



GK MARG CELEBRATES JANMASHTAMI AND RAKSHA BANDHAN WITH JOY

Alongside Independence Day, Bhavishya Yaan's GK Marg celebrated the vibrant festivals of Janmashtami and Raksha Bandhan, bringing cultural awareness and joy to students. For Janmashtami, children marked the birth of Lord Krishna with songs, stories, and creative activities, learning about his message of love, righteousness, and devotion. In honour of Raksha Bandhan, they crafted beautiful rakhis for their siblings, symbolising love, protection, and mutual respect between brothers and sisters. These festivities not only showcased the children's creativity but also deepened their appreciation of India's rich traditions, values, and heritage, making the celebrations both meaningful and memorable.



GK MARG STUDENT EXCELS IN STATE SCHOLARSHIP EXAMINATION

As in previous years, selected students of Bhavishya Yaan's GK Marg appeared for the prestigious State Government Scholarship Examinations conducted at the Maharashtra level, in which all State Board schools participate. To support their efforts, students received scholarship preparation books, and teachers worked diligently to train them for success. The school is proud to announce that Supriya Yadav has achieved Merit Marks at the Mumbai District Level. She will receive scholarship funds from the State Government to support her studies after Std. 10, a testament to her hard work and the dedication of her mentors.



VISIT TO THE MANKHURD CENTRE FOR NEURODIVERGENT CHILDREN



On August 12th, 2025 a team from the committee visited the Mankhurd Centre for Neurodivergent Children to assess its current needs and plan initiatives for the year ahead. This visit, discussed at the previous committee meeting, was particularly significant for Rtn. Dr. Viraj Sanghi, as it was his first time at the centre. His aim was to gain an understanding of its day-to-day functioning and explore potential areas for improvement.

Accompanying him was PP Ramesh Narayan, a respected humanitarian with prior experience in autism-related initiatives at the district level. Both visitors expressed their appreciation for the efficiency and dedication with which the AWMH team manages the programme.



During the visit, Rtn. Dr. Viraj reviewed several individual files, focusing on how the progress of each child is tracked. He commended the meticulous maintenance of medical histories and progress notes. The centre caters to children who attend with their parents for both special education and occupational therapy. Currently, the occupational therapist visits only twice a week, with mothers being trained to continue exercises at home. The educationalist is present daily, conducting morning and afternoon batches. Many children also attend mainstream schools for part of the day.

A pressing requirement identified was for a speech therapist, as many children struggle to express themselves verbally and require specialised intervention.

Following discussions with staff and some parents, the team outlined the following priority initiatives:



1. Appointment of a full-time occupational therapist for all five days of the week.
2. Engagement of a speech therapist at least twice a week.
3. Medical camps for children not currently receiving regular medical attention, though most were found to be under medical care.
4. Recruitment of a trained psychologist to conduct IQ assessments and track progress over time.
5. Implementation of a standardised Excel-based system, to be provided by Rtn. Dr. Viraj, for recording assessments and progress for each child.
6. Procurement of additional orthotics and an adjustable walker to support mobility needs.



The morning proved to be both productive and enlightening, setting a clear agenda for the year ahead. The visit concluded on a cheerful note, with the children leaving happily carrying bags of snacks and chocolates.

Special thanks were extended to Sunny for his unwavering support of the centre and its mission. The visit reinforced the committee's commitment to enhancing the services and facilities available to these children, ensuring they have the resources and care needed to reach their full potential.



PATRIOTISM AND PRIDE AT BY PRABHADEVI SCHOOL

On August 15th, 2025, Prabhadevi School celebrated Independence Day with great enthusiasm and patriotic fervour. The event began with the hoisting of the national flag by the Principal, accompanied by members of various clubs, including Rtn. Vinay Rajgarhia and Rtn. Anjani Rawat from the Rotary Club of Bombay.

The celebration continued with the singing of national songs, filling the atmosphere with pride and unity. Students delivered speeches on Independence Day in different languages, with the Bhavishya Yaan students presenting their speech in English. Cultural performances

followed, including songs and dances that showcased the students' talent and love for the nation.

A special moment came when students recognised for outstanding academic performance in 2024–2025 were awarded small tokens of appreciation.

The programme concluded with energising drill exercises, bringing the school community together in a spirited display of discipline and teamwork.



79TH INDEPENDENCE DAY WITH UNITY, PRIDE, AND CULTURAL SPIRIT

BHAVISHYA YAAN NMJ SCHOOL

On Friday, August 15th, 2025, Bhavishya Yaan's NMJ School celebrated the 79th Independence Day with great enthusiasm, joined by Bhavishya Yaan students and the entire school community. Despite heavy morning rains, everyone gathered at 7:30 am, their spirits undampened.

At 8:00 am, as the rain paused, the flag hoisting ceremony took place. This year, the honour was given to a parent, who was deeply moved by the experience. Upholding school tradition, NMJ invites different individuals each year for this role—last year, a Police Official had hoisted the flag.

Following the flag hoisting and the National Anthem, Primary students sang patriotic songs, filling the grounds with a sense of pride. The two Principals, along with some Primary students, delivered inspiring speeches. Cultural performances followed, including dances, with the Yoga Dance by BY Primary students standing out for its uniqueness.

Senior BY students from Standards 9 and 10 delivered impactful speeches in English on Amrit Kaal and New India and Her Progress, leaving a strong impression on the audience.

The event was attended by both Principals, the BY Mentor, BMC and BY teachers, students, and parents. The celebration concluded with *ladoo* distribution by BMC and toffees by Bhavishya Yaan, ending a truly memorable day.



SATELLITE SPREADS SMILES THIS INDEPENDENCE DAY

AT TATA MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

On August 13th, 2025, the Rotary Satellite Group hosted a heartwarming Independence Day celebration at Tata Memorial Hospital's OPD Play Area. The event was graced by President Bimal Mehta, PE Manish Reshamwala, and Rtn. Vandan Shah, whose warmth and energy brought smiles to the children's faces.

Between 11.30 am and 1.00 pm, over 110 children took part in the joyful programme. Proceedings began with Satellite member Chandni Gupta delivering a short, engaging talk on the significance of Independence Day, followed by a mesmerising bubble show by Anant Shinde. The children then sang the National Anthem with pride before joining an energetic Zumba and dance session led by Roshan Singh, filling the space with laughter and movement.

The Rotary Satellite Group ensured the celebration was both joyful and meaningful by distributing 100 stationery kits, 350 chikkis, and donating over 90 children's books in Hindi, English, and Marathi to the hospital's library.

The event was made possible through the support of the ImPaCCT Foundation and Officer-in-Charge, Shalini Jatia. Special thanks go to organising members Rishabh Makhija, Jehan Vidhani, Ayush Contractor, Dev Shah, Suditi Shah, Chandni Gupta, and Meha Shah, as well as attendees and supporters Ishti Agrawal, Rhea Patel, Neil Rajgarhia, Krisha Jain, Ish Rungta, and Aashnee Gajaria.

This first event of the Rotary year truly reflected the spirit of Service Above Self, bringing joy, hope, and inspiration to the young warriors of Tata Memorial Hospital.



KRISHNA JANMASHTAMI CELEBRATED WITH JOY AT LIGHTHOUSE

At Lighthouse, children from Jr. KG to Std. V marked Krishna Janmashtami in simple yet deeply meaningful ways. The youngest enjoyed storytelling, colouring pictures of baby Krishna, and a lively dance inspired by the Dahi Handi tradition. Older students began with an Aarti, listened to

the story of Krishna's birth, shared their interpretations, and ended the celebration with chocolates served from a beautifully decorated pot.

The event was filled with laughter, music, and shared moments of joy, reflecting both

the spirit of the festival and the values of togetherness. Through such celebrations, The Lighthouse Project continues to guide children's growth in knowledge, creativity, and spirit, lighting their paths one festive story at a time.



FREEDOM IN FULL BLOOM AT RCB LIGHTHOUSE



WHERE PATRIOTISM MEETS YOUNG TALENT

This Independence Day, the RCB Lighthouse was alive with the colours of the tricolour, the sound of children's laughter, and the spirit of community. RCB President Bimal Mehta, PP Shernaz Vakil, PE Manish Reshamwala, and CWC Chair Rtn. Meher Vakil joined hands with Macchimar community head Mr. Patil, Lighthouse children, and their parents to mark the occasion in true Rotary style—blending purpose with celebration.



President Bimal Mehta inspired the young audience, reminding them that freedom is not just a gift but a responsibility, urging each child to do their part in helping the nation flourish. Rtn. Meher, reflecting on seven years of community partnership, expressed heartfelt thanks for their unwavering support and congratulated them on their brand-new hall.



The day's programme was a kaleidoscope of performances—Junior KG's joyful dance, Senior KG's soul-stirring patriotic song, and Classes 1-5 dazzling with confident speeches about freedom fighters and a compelling skit on life before and after Independence. Yoga and Taekwondo demonstrations added a disciplined edge, showing the holistic growth Lighthouse fosters.

One of the most touching highlights? The entire celebration was steered by Lighthouse alumni—children who once entered as wide-eyed Senior KG students and have never let go of the bond. Now returning every Friday, they guided the programme, hosted a lively quiz that had Rotarians on their toes, and ran the show without a single teacher touching the mic—a testament to true student leadership.

The celebration also embraced Parsi New Year, with a cake brought by Rtn. Meher Vakil, symbolising joy across cultures.

Among the smiling faces in the audience were Ms. Bhavna Daftary, the project's primary donor, whose generous support makes

Lighthouse's work possible and who joined in the celebrations with heartfelt encouragement for the children; Inner Wheel President Roopal Thakkar, whose motivating words inspired the young performers; PP Nandan Damani, Rtn. Ptn. Malti Jain, Rtn. Rajesh Shah, Rtn. Mihir Mody, Rtn. Charu Agrawal, Rtn. Pilloo Aga, and Rtn. Dilip Dalal, along with many others whose presence added warmth to the day. Snacks and sweets, thoughtfully arranged by Rtn. Meher and Rtn. Charu, were savoured by every child.

As the festivities wound down, gratitude filled the air—for Ms. Bhavna Daftary, the Vidya teachers, mentor Manisha Ahuja, Rtn. Ptn. Ekta Shah, and all who keep the spirit of freedom alive in the next generation.



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ROTARIAN BIRTHDAYS



AUGUST 19
Rtn. Laxmi
Maneklal



AUGUST 20
PP Rajnikant
Reshamwala



AUGUST 24
Rtn. Manoj
Israni



AUGUST 19
Rtn.
Madhusudan
Ruia



AUGUST 23
Rtn. Sanjay
Agarwal



AUGUST 24
Rtn. Narinder
Nayar



AUGUST 20
Rtn. Pradeep
Gujarathi



AUGUST 23
Rtn. Dushyant
Dave



AUGUST 24
Rtn. Dr. Viraj
Sanghi



AUGUST 25
Rtn. Kaushal
Mehta

ROTARIAN PARTNER BIRTHDAYS

AUGUST 19
Rtn. Ptn. Jyoti
Doshi

AUGUST 20
Rtn. Ptn. Ruby
Patch

AUGUST 21
Rtn. Ptn. Irma
Chinai

AUGUST 22
Rtn. Ptn.
Manju
Sinha

AUGUST 19
Rtn. Ptn.
Sujata
Vaswani

AUGUST 20
Rtn. Ptn.
Navaz
Pochkhanwalla

AUGUST 21
Rtn. Ptn.
Samira
Merchant

NEXT TUESDAY:

Ashish Hemrajani, Founder and CEO, BookMyShow will address the Club.

Ashish Hemrajani is the Founder and CEO of Big Tree Entertainment Pvt. Ltd., which operates BookMyShow, India's leading online entertainment platform. Since founding the company in 1999, he has expanded its reach globally while also driving social impact through BookASmile. A passionate sailor and follower of Vedanta, Ashish is committed to nurturing future leaders and entrepreneurs.

Rotary Club of Bombay
Celebrating 96 Years of Service

SPEAKER SESSION 26 AUGUST 2025



Ashish Hemrajani
Founder & CEO
Book My Show



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ROTARY CLUB OF BOMBAY 2025-26	
TRUSTEES	
ARRFC & PDG Sandip Agarwalla	PP Nandan Damani
PP Ashish Vaid	PP Framroze Mehta
Rtn. Ishraq Contractor	
OFFICE-BEARERS	
President Bimal Mehta	
IPP Satyan Israni	PE Manish Reshamwala
PN Vineet Suchanti	Honorary Secretary Farhat Jamal
Joint Honorary Secretary Rhea Bhungara	Treasurer Manish Sampat
CENTENARY YEAR COMMITTEE	
ARRFC & PDG Sandip Agarwalla	President Bimal Mehta
Additional Director PP Vijaykumar Jatia	
President Bimal Mehta	
Fund Raising	PP Vineet Bhatnagar
Investments	Mehul Sampat
CSR, Reporting & Compliance	IPP Satyan Israni
PN Vineet Suchanti	
Classification & Membership	PP Nandan Damani
Information	ARRFC & PDG Sandip Agarwalla
Overseas Scholarships	Rtn. Niloufer Lam
Director Pradeep Chinai	
Attendance	Mahesh Khubchandani
Programmes	Rina Deora
Sergeant-at-Arms	Khurshed Poonawala
Director Sherebanu Baldiwala	
Public Awards	Anand Dalal
International Programmes	Christopher Bluemel
Water Resources	Siddharth Bhimrajka
Animal Welfare & Wildlife conservation	Bipin Vazirani
Legal Aid and Awareness	Tahera Mandviwala
Director Siddharth Bhimrajka	
Child Welfare	Meher Vakil
Elder Day Care Centre, Alibaug	PP Ashish Vaid
Urban Nature Habitat	Jamshed Vakharia
Ananda Yaan	Kaushal Mehta
Transformation Salon	Ratna Kapoor Sharma
Director Renu Basu	
Rural Development	Pulin Shroff
Heritage, Art & Culture	Aditya Somani
Museum & Contemporary Arts	Priyarsi Patodia
RCB Medical Centre, Talwada	Chairman Emeritus PP Dr. Rumi Jehangir
	Mihir Mody
Sports for all	Abhishek Saraf
Anusuya Devi Tappar College	PP Pradeep Saxena
Director Akhil Sanghi	
Bhavishya Yaan	Jagdish Malkani
IT Innovation Labs	Nikhil Sanghai
Adult Literacy	Runit Shah
ESS Curriculum	Gautam Doshi
Scholarships	PP Preeti Mehta
Night Study Centre	Jamshyd Vazifdar
Director Swati Jajodia	
Cotton Green Clinic	Dr. Mehernosh Dotiwala
Cancer Aid	Farokh Balsara
Early intervention in Neurodivergent Children	PP Shernaz Vakil
Dharamshala	Miral Shah
Dialysis	Swati Jajodia
Director Mudit Jatia	
Website, Social Media & Public Image	Laxmi Maneklal
Bulletin	Abhinav Aggarwal
Fellowship & In-Camera	PP Vineet Bhatnagar
Assimilation	Akhil Sanghi
The Rotary Foundation	PP Vijaykumar Jatia
Director Jaymin Jhaveri	
Sports / Yoga	Hiranmay Biswas
Paediatric Heart Surgeries	Natasha Treasurywala
Rotaract Clubs	Amee Tanna
Satellite Club	Murad Currawalla
Interact Schools	Mudit Jain