

Pratima

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Rotary Club of Pune Kothrud

Since 1989

PRESIDENT

Rtn. Dr. Vishwanath Lele

EDITOR

Ann Rucha Ambekar

HON. SECRETARY

Rtn. Neena Pangarkar

Rotary Excellence
Award (REAP)
2022-23

Mr. Siddharth Sikchi
Executive Director,
Clean Science & Technology Ltd.

MEETINGS :
EVERY TUESDAY, 7.00 PM - 8.30 PM
DAMLE HALL, OFF LAW COLLEGE ROAD, PUNE - 411 004.

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PRESIDENT SPEAKS...



A big welcome to the Chief Guest of the Rotary Excellence Award Programme (REAP) Vice Governor PDG Mohan Palesha, Guest of Honor Mr. Hanmantrao Gaikwad, REAP Awardee Siddharth Sikchi (Director Clean Science and Technology Ltd), Emerging leaders Omprakash Maurya, Bharat Gite and Yogesh Shinde, Guests for the function and my fellow Rotarians and Anns.

It gives me immense pleasure to be a part of REAP, one of the signature projects of our club. Our club constituted this award in 1990-91. Since 1990 we have been giving this award to individuals for their remarkable work in their respective professions. It is indeed a great honor to recognize stalwarts in their field. Every year we eagerly look forward to attend REAP as we get an opportunity to interact with these stalwarts and learn from their experiences.

This year our theme is Entrepreneurship and first generation self-made leaders. We are honored to recognize Siddharth Sikchi dynamic young leader for REAP Award, and Omprakash Maurya, Bharat Gite and Yogesh Shinde as the Emerging Leaders. REAP awardee and Emerging Leaders created their

organizations from scratch despite all odds, never gave up, faced the enormous challenges that came their way, and not only created employment opportunities in the country but also significantly contributed to the "Make in India" initiative.

During our interaction with Sidharth Sikchi and the Emerging Leaders, we experienced humble leadership demonstrated by them. We also have a sense of satisfaction because we found the most deserving candidates for REAP. One common thing between them is the commitment towards Corporate Social Responsibility. I am confident our association with the REAP awardees will grow year on year.

Another moment of pride for today's REAP function is our Guest of Honour Mr. Hanmantrao Gaikwad. His presence is highly valuable to all of us. I would like to sincerely thank Mr. Hanmantrao Gaikwad for gracing this function and for accepting RCPK's honorary club membership. Association with him and BVG India Ltd. will certainly help us to do meaningful activities for the youth and startups.

- Rtn. Dr. Vishwanath Lele
President 22-23.

New Vice President of India is a Rotarian - a proud moment for us !



"I am happy to say that I am also a Rotarian. Rotary has put me on a higher trajectory ever since I connected with it. I will cherish this great moment, being here on this momentous occasion."

With these words Jagdeep Dhankhar, then Governor of West Bengal, inaugurated the Centennial Summit held 3 years ago in Kolkata.

Mr. Dhankhar was an advocate when Justice B P Beri took him as a guest to a Rotary club meeting. "Hailing from a small village in Rajasthan, the experience was overwhelming for me, but I was very much impressed," he said, and recalled his association with PRID Sudarshan Agarwal in the 90s. "He guided me and I learnt the parliamentary practices from him. It was due to his efforts we had invited Sabooji (PRIP Rajendra Saboo) to the Parliament. I was a federal minister then. The moment is still vivid before my eyes", said Mr. Dhankar.



Rtn. Mohan Hirachand Palesha

Vice-Governor 22-23

Mohan Palesha was born on 09/01/1958 and did his B.E. Metallurgy from College of Engineering Pune. He has been working as a Stock and Finance Broker since 1982.

Spouse Lalitha has done B.Sc and supports him in all his endeavours.

His Son is in the business of import and distribution of furniture and accessories all over the country, under the brand name ONYX.

He is a Self styled poet, author and motivator and has a great command over English, Hindi, Urdu, Gujarati and Marathi with a unique flair for Sher-o-Shayri.

He is a regular guest speaker at various colleges in Maharashtra and other States speaking on varied topics like -

- Effective Communication
- Strategic Leadership
- 7 habits of highly effective people
- Doing good in the world
- Social Sensitivity
- Zindagi na mile Dobra

He is also a Motivational speaker and trainer for Rotarians all around the country for training events like President Elect training seminar, District Assembly, Workshops, Installations and Conferences.

In Rotary he has held the following positions -

- Charter member of Rotary Club of Pune East of Rotary International District 3131 since 1988.
- District Governor in 2011-2012
- District Rotary Foundation Chairman 2013-2016 and instrumental in collection of 3 million USD.
- District Trainer 2020-21
- COL representative 2020-2023

He has been invited at TEDx event at Allahabad in August 2017, to speak on Inspiring Curiosity Event hosted by the United Group of Institutes

He has always been a Generous donor for the cause of humanity, and has donated more than 70,000 US Dollars and attained Major Donor Level 3 of The Rotary Foundation.

Rotary Theme of the Month

Rotary theme for the month of August is Membership & New Club Development. Membership is the heart and soul of Rotary's existence and growth over the last 117 years. As we are all aware, Rotary brings together a global network of volunteer leaders who dedicate their time and talent to tackle the world's most pressing humanitarian challenges. It connects more than 1.4 million members from more than 200 countries and geographical areas. Their work impacts lives at both the local and international levels.

We all need to spread awareness of the good work Rotary does in our communities and inspire more leaders in the community to be a part of this wonderful movement.

Think of your friends, co-workers and family members who have a heart for service and would enjoy the fellowship, friendship and service opportunities that Rotary offers. Invite them to a meeting!

EACH ONE BRING ONE should be our focus area.

- Rtn. Manish Didmishe

Director – Membership



Guest of Honour

Mr. Hanmantrao Gaikwad

Born in October 1972 in Rahimatpur village of Satara district in Maharashtra, Hanmantrao Gaikwad is a first-generation social entrepreneur. He comes from a humble background. Unfortunately, he lost his father at the age of 18. He then completed his engineering in the earn-and-learn scheme.

Inspired by the thoughts of Swami Vivekananda and the life story of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, he started a non-profit Bharat Vikas Pratishthan during his college days, to serve India in his own way. Mr. Hanmantrao joined Tata Motors Pune as a graduate trainee engineer in 1994, and did good work in cost-saving. The management wanted to reward his efforts, so he asked for jobs for the unemployed youths from his village. However jobs were not available but they offered housekeeping contract and thus Bharat Vikas Group (BVG) started with 8 employees in 1997. BVG has now grown to 60000 plus people across the country with a revenue of \$ 275 million. BVG is now serving over 650 customers at 1100 locations in 120 cities in 25 states across India. BVG's prestigious customers include... Parliament of India, Rashtrapati Bhavan, Supreme Court, Hon'ble Prime Minister's Office and Residence, And many more in the government sector. BVG also serves many private companies like... Cummins, Tata Motors, Hyundai, Volkswagen, Hindustan Unilever, ITC, Britannia, Accenture etc. More than 15 airports like Mumbai, Ahmedabad, Pune, Chennai, Mangaluru etc. and over 20 temples including Sai Baba Temple at Shirdi, Golden Temple, Siddhivinayak Temple, Vrindavan Temple, Somnath Temple, Mahakal Temple, and others.

BVG also operates 1450 ambulances in Emergency Medical Services, where they assisted more than 8.5 million people and helped save over 1 million lives. In Covid pandemic, BVG helped more than 7 lakh people. They also operate a 1000-vehicle fleet in Emergency Police Services, where they have helped over 13 million people. BVG is working for humanity. It has employed more than 13000 women, who are either widows, or were deserted by their husbands. Most of the

employees come from rural background, where they may not have been able to secure a respectable employment.

He has received many awards, to name a few -

- "Maharashtrian Businessman Of the Year" award by Lokmat Media, at the hands of Hon'ble President of India Smt Pratibhatai Patil.
- "ABP Majha Sanman Award" by ABP Majha News Channel at the hands of Hon'ble Chief Minister of Maharashtra.
- Maxell Award at the hands of Shri Rahul Bajaj and Dr Raghunath Mashelkar.
- Life story covered by the Forbes India Magazine.
- BVG is also a part of the course curriculum of standard 10 and Bachelor of Commerce in Maharashtra state.
- Life story is also included in the bestseller book "Connect the Dots" by Rashmi Bansal.



With Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi at the publication of biography of Ms Arunima Sinha, Padmashri. She is the brand ambassador of BVG and the first female amputee to scale Mount Everest. BVG has supported Ms Arunima's expeditions to scale all tallest peaks in all the continents.



Mr. Siddharth Sikchi

Executive Director, Clean Science & Technology Ltd.

The entire journey of Clean Science and Technology Limited (CSTL) rests on R&D essence and Mr. Siddharth Sikchi continues to be an inspiration for all R&D endeavours at CSTL. After completing Masters of Science from the University of Manitoba, Canada (2004-2006), following his graduation (2003) in Chemical Technology from UDCT (Mumbai), Siddharth along with co-promoters Ashok Boob and Krishna Boob incorporated Clean Science in 2006 with a clear focus towards innovation and differentiation.

Siddharth has been faithful to his core competency in chemistry. His passion for chemistry has not only helped CSTL grow exponentially but also made it one of the foremost proponents of green chemistry in the country. He developed in-house catalyst systems for devising processes that were unique, novel, clean and focused on eco-friendly aspects. The initial scale-up of manufacturing operations were dovetailed to the sizeable risk appetite of global innovators. Rather than following conventional back-of-the-envelope processes, Siddharth sought to push the envelope instead.

Siddharth has been managing multiple roles at CSTL. He has constantly spearheaded R&D efforts to foray into novel products using innovation and developing global products that are niche, clean and competitive. His entrepreneurial drive and acumen for business development has helped CSTL grow profitably while gaining market share, competing with multinational companies across diverse end user industries.

Clean Science and Technology has become a truly category-defining company. It has achieved this through consistent use of innovation, in-house R&D and prudent capital allocation, which is very unique compared to the other companies operating in the same space. The company is an example of a speciality chemical company that is significantly profitable, debt free, capital efficient and has a robust business model with strong inclination towards green chemistries, sustainability and global ESG practices.

In a short span of 16 years, CSTL has emerged as a global leader in its product offerings and is now the sole manufacturer of some critical products in India. It is noteworthy to mention that 70% of the company sales come from export to global MNC's and 35% of revenue is from China. The company is a clear example that not all companies need to spend big for achieving global scale and market leadership

Mr. Siddharth Sikchi received the prestigious 'Distinguished Alumnus (Entrepreneur) Award' in 2014 at UDCT, Mumbai.

CSTL received the "First Award for Best export performance in 2016-17" at the hands of Hon'ble Minister of Industries, Government of Maharashtra.

"Winner of SME ELITE 50 Jury Round" conducted by ICICI Bank after going through a stringent selection & rigorous evaluation process

"Best Export Award" at Magnetic Maharashtra Summit 2018 at the hands of the then CM Shri. Devendra Fadnavis.



Omprakash Maurya

Founder & CEO, Diacto Technologies Private Ltd.

Vision: To be one of the most trusted global brands in the digital transformation space by 2030.

Background: Om, born in 1974, did his schooling from Mumbai, completed Engineering degree from Pune University and Executive MBA from Symbiosis. Om has more than 24 years of IT industry experience and worked for companies like Emerson, Infosys, TCS and ICICI in various roles of increasing responsibility. He also has global working experience and worked in several countries like US, Belgium, Australia, China, and Thailand and of course India.

Journey: Om was Global Director of Information Management at Emerson where he was responsible for modernization of Business Intelligence (BI) solution across \$7B global business.

During this period, Om was deeply involved in end-to-end BI solution development and deployment. Om found that BI initiatives are critical for the success of any organization, but many organizations were failing to make this successful. Om decided that this problem was big enough to be solved and this is how Diacto was born.

Om started Diacto in 2018 to provide world class BI consulting experience to every customer and deliver end to end BI solutions. Diacto believes that the objective of BI is to enable better and faster decision making and improve business performance. Diacto's secret of success is Speed, Quality and Customer Centricity.

Diacto highlights:

- Partnered with DOMO, a modern BI platform provider
- Won APAC Partner of the year award in 2021 & 2022
- World #1 DOMO Consulting Company
- Executed more than 400 projects in last 4 years globally and all have been successful
- Served more than 350 organizations globally directly or indirectly
- Customers in US, Europe, India, Australia, New Zealand, Singapore
- Delivered more than 150K consulting hours for global customers
- 80+ World Class Consultants

More than 350 global customers, to name a few:

- Domo
- Emerson
- Clayco
- Barry-Wehmiller
- Afinitas
- Elkay Chemicals
- Westernstates
- Harcourts etc.

Diacto just crossed \$2M revenue in FY 21-22.



Mr. Bharat Gite

CEO & Director Taural India Pvt. Ltd.

Bharat Keshavrao Gite is one of India's pre-eminent metallurgists. He comes from humble origins but has scaled various entrepreneurship milestones in a specialized domain through hard work, dedication and verve to remain at the forefront of innovation. His organization's mid-to-large size aluminium casting capabilities using sand moulds are attracting growing demand in wide-ranging applications like Energy, Defense, Marine, Aerospace, Automotive and Healthcare, to name a few.

An alumnus of the prestigious College of Engineering, Pune, he also has a Master's Degree from the Technical University of Aachen in Germany, compounded with an Executive Master's from Harvard Business School. After his education, he got a decade of professional experience in Germany with industry leaders like Mahle GmbH and BMW.

Bharat returned to India on a mission to enable local industry with the best technical expertise, products and vision for aluminum castings. The challenge called for knowledge and experience far removed from what the country had seen until recently. G&B Metalcasting, his first foray into entrepreneurship in 2012, was a collective of technology experts on a mission to provide cutting-edge solutions in specialized castings for the Indian industry. In time, G&B Metalcasting merged under a joint-venture with Thoni-Alutec of Germany-Poland. This formed the genesis of Taural India, the country's foremost maker of specialized non-standardized, made-to-order aluminium castings in 2020. Bringing change within and outside India, they empower India to become self-reliant in mission-critical and essential

components.

Bharat is passionate about utilizing his knowledge, expertise and experience to help the aluminium industry, particularly, scale new heights. As President of the Alumni Association of CoEP, Bharat has been instrumental in an MoU agreement with the RWTH Aachen University (Germany) for a student and faculty exchange program spanning from 2022-25. He has also organized multiple business delegation visits from the German Federal States of Lower Saxony and Thuringia to promote cross-border collaboration. Bharat is a firm believer in reversing the flow of innovation from developed markets and making India the epicenter of technology with impact for good

Over two decades, Bharat has garnered an array of achievements including:

- Presenting as a panel member at the pre-budget session 2020-21 before Hon'ble PM Narendra Modi at the Niti Aayog.
- Successfully conceptualizing and commissioning "Taural India" under the "Make in India" initiative that today provides employment to over 500 people.
- Being elected as the President of the Alumni Association of COEP; a prestigious 160 year old engineering college in India.
- Member of the Board of Directors of the Bhau Institute of Entrepreneurship & Leadership, Pune.
- Received the "Pride of Maharashtra Award" by the SME Chamber of India at the hands of India's foremost scientist, Dr. Raghunath Mashelkar.



Mr. Yogesh Shinde
Co-Founder Bamboo India.

Bamboo India mission is a Pune-based first generation startup by Mrs. Ashwini and Mr. Yogesh Shinde in the year 2016. Primary aim was to change bamboo perception from "The Poor Man's Timber to The Wise Man's timber" by providing plastic products replacement using innovative Bamboo Products like Bamboo Toothbrush, Bamboo Ear buds, Corporate Gift articles & many more.

Bamboo India's Yogesh Shinde is a first generation Social Entrepreneur from Pune. He completed Masters in Computer Management from Pune University and worked for 14 years in IT companies around the world including Europe, USA, UK region on various levels from Assistant software developer to Associate Vice President in Barclays Bank. During his 5 year stint outside India, he realised that Indian agriculture needs more innovative & new generation entrepreneurs who will work with farmers closely. So he decided to come back to India & started Bamboo India mission. Its mission is to change Bamboo perception from poor man's timber to wise man's timber. It's not only for the Income but for the Outcome

Highlights :

- United Nation appreciated Bamboo India's work and invited them to New Delhi to Participate in Start-up Innovation Exhibition on World Environment Day -2018. Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi ji appreciated their contribution.
- Invited to SAARC conference to showcase Bamboo Sector Success Story.
- In the last 6 years saved 24.2 lac kg of plastic, replaced with Bamboo Products.
- In last 5 years, increased Bamboo Toothbrushes production from 100 pieces per day to 50,000 Bamboo Toothbrushes per day
- Exporting to 18 countries worldwide, including 2400 pin codes in India
- Signed manufacturing contract with the world's biggest oral care brand to make Bamboo Toothbrushes in India.
- Received – "Tally 2022 MSME award" – Next Gen Icon -22
- Received "Bamboo Sevek 2022"

