



POONA SERVICE WHEEL



R.I. District 3131

ROTARY CLUB OF POONA

Club 04-3131-15536

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Saturday, 16th Dec 2024

For Private Circulation Only

Secretary

President

Editor

Rtn Aarti Thacker

Rtn Maj Gen Amar Krishna, PhD

Rtn Brig Prashant Sheode

TOPIC OF THE DAY - THALASSEMIA : AN OVERVIEW

16th December 2024

Rotary Club of Poona
Thalassemia: An Overview

Guest Speaker:
Dr. Neeta Munshi

Presentation of
Certificate of Appreciation To
Adv. Harshavardhan Bhende
For Vocational Excellence

Venue: Conf Hall no 2, Poona Club
Fellowship : 6:30 to 7:00 pm
Meeting: 7:00 to 8:00 pm
Followed by Mini Fellowship
Guest charges : ₹350 pp
Madira on Payment
Dress Code: Semi Formals

Profile of Dr. Neeta Munshi

Dr Nita Munshi is a pathologist by profession with over 40 years of experience, and the ex-director of the laboratory at the Ruby Hall Clinic group of hospitals. She is a Consultant at Ruby Hall Clinic at present, offering her expertise and experience on administrative skills.

She was the Director of Quality Control & Chairperson Hospital Prevention & Infection Control for all 3 hospitals.

She is currently the President of the Thalassemia Society, Pune Chapter and is very passionate about Thalassemia, devoting a lot of her time to helping children with Thalassemia.

ADVOCATES DAY - IN APPRECIATION

Profile of Adv. Harshavardhan R. Bhende

Harshavardhan R. Bhende is an advocate with a career spanning over 13 years. He has an LL.B. from Pune University and a Masters in Management from the Bradford School of Management, (UK) and is the Founder and Principal Advocate of Regulus Advocates & Consultants, a multidisciplinary law firm.

His areas of expertise include - Drafting & Vetting Contracts, Legal Consultancy, Corporate & Employment Law, Animal & Environmental Law, Advocating for ecological and animal welfare causes, Litigation & Dispute Resolution, Representing clients at Bombay High Court, Family Courts, District Courts, NCLT & NCLAT, National Green Tribunal, and arbitration panels. Harshavardhan has been instrumental in securing favourable outcomes in landmark cases. Notably, he achieved a reported judgment from the Supreme Court in a significant airline ticket refund case, showcasing his ability to deliver justice in complex legal scenarios.

Philanthropy and Social Impact: Beyond his legal career, Harshavardhan's commitment to social welfare is evident in his role as the Founder and Managing Trustee of 'Drishaan Charitable Trust'.



ADVOCATES DAY - IN APPRECIATION CONTD.

Through this NGO, he has:

- ◆ Restored eyesight for over 150 visually impaired children.
- ◆ Provided educational scholarships to blind students, enabling them to pursue higher education.
- ◆ Organized vaccination drives, including administering Rubella vaccines to girls from various villages.
- ◆ Conducted eye camps benefiting more than 1800 individuals.

Rotary Club of Poona will be awarding a 'Certificate of Appreciation' to Adv. Harshavardhan Bhende in honour of 'Advocates Day' which falls on the 3rd of December.

EVENTS OF LAST WEEK : BOOK REVIEW - INSPIRING INDIA



The star of the show at the weekly meeting on December 9, 2024 was a book titled 'Inspiring India' written by our newly minted Rotarian Col. Virender Kapoor who is an established author of three dozen books. Instead of the usual talk by an invited guest speaker we had a discussion by a panel of four Rotarians each of whom was assigned chapters from the book to critique.

The discussion was opened by Rtn Zarir Dadachanji the "Mr. Meticulous" of our club who had, true to his nature delved deep into the subject matter connected with the chapters assigned to him viz. "A Nation Needs To Think Big" and "Make India Make". The thrust of his argument was that despite the undoubtedly impressive statistics about the size of the Indian economy, its place in the world economic order and the expected rate of growth, unless we are able to control the burgeoning population all that has been gained will come to nought.

He stressed the need for an approach based on implementation of the Directive Principles of State Policy as laid down in our constitution, namely, providing affordable nutrition, affordable education, clean air and clean water to the 60% of the population that still lives below poverty line. He concluded his remarks by asserting that India needed a participatory and not representative democracy.



Rtn. Anjali Telang was next to take the podium. 'Transforming India - Lessons From Singapore' was the chapter assigned to her. She was quick to point out that while Singapore is a remarkable success story, unlike India it had the advantages that come with a small size and a small population which was more or less homogeneous(90% Chinese). The educationist in her emphasized that the discipline and respect for law and order that are so evident in Singapore are sadly lacking in India



Rtn Arun Nayar was the third panelist to make a presentation on the chapter titled 'What Can India Learn From America In Becoming A Manufacturing Giant'. He applauded the USA for its 'Nation First' attitude which he considered worthy of emulation. He went on to point out that even though India has been pursuing the path of economic development for just a little over seventy-five years, much has been achieved in this comparatively short period.

He emphasized the Indian mind is the finest in the world as is evidenced by the number of Indian chief executives heading American tech giants and concluded that with a stable government at the centre India is sure to make rapid strides towards becoming a major force in the world economic order.

Rtn Farida Irani, the second academician in the panel, presented a fairly detailed overview of three chapter titled 1) Japan Rising From The Ashes, 2) Don't Label Us As Third World and 3) Bootstrapping India. While describing the book as "well



INSPIRING INDIA - BOOK REVIEW CONTD.



written, thoroughly researched and truly a “labour of love” she indicated that the book needed a more “concise” editing. She also pointed out other lacunae in the book such as the absence of a deeper analysis of the influence of India’s current economic progress on the country’s global standing’, lack of “actionable solutions” for meeting challenges such as “poverty, corruption and bureaucratic inefficiency”. She concluded her presentation by describing the book as “an inspiring read for those optimistic about India’s future”.

The stimulating and thought-provoking discussion brought home the fact the pool of talent amongst our membership is second to none.

A vote of thanks proposed by Air Cmdr. Sanjay Tilloo brought the meeting to a close.

By Rtn. Mandakini Tata

SAVAK MASANI ELOCUTION COMPETITION

The Savak Masani Elocution Competition 2024-25 was held on 7th Dec 2024 at S.M. Joshi Hindi Madhyamic Vidyalaya. 52 students from 16 Schools participated in the Competition.



The topics were:

‘Is renewable energy set to replace fossil fuels?’
for Jr. group (Std. 6th & 7th)

‘Globalisation: Has it helped or hindered economic growth?’
for Sr. group (Std. 8th & 9th).



The Judges, Rtn Zarir Dadachanji, Rtn Cmde Sanjay Tilloo and Ann Sunanda Luthra patiently heard all the speakers and meticulously selected the winners. All the students spoke confidently with knowledgeable content and gave their best to win the trophies.

Rtn Rumi Jambusarwalla organised the event with excellence and also sponsored the Trophies, prizes and Certificates. Rtn Daljeet Raizada, the Interact Chairperson hosted the event impeccably. Rtn Col Kohli was the perfect Time Keeper. Compiling of marks was done by Rtn Narpati Luthra and Ann Pushpa. Certificates were given to all the participants and Spouse Chandrashekhar wrote the names of each contestant.

Registration and sitting arrangements of the students were done by R/Ann Turan Desai, R/Ann Hufreez Jambusarwalla, Rtn Kamal Palia and R/Ann Pushpa.

PP Maithili Manakwad was an official photographer for the event.

Rtn Madhuri Rao officiated as Director Youth Services till the arrival of PP Sanjay Kher and did the spade work in compiling the names of participants .

26 parents and teachers were present. 12 Rtns, 3 Anns and 1 spouse were present.

THE SAVAK MASANI ELOCUTION COMPETITION CONT'D

The Winners of the competition were as follows –

Junior category

1st Prize - Palash Jain, St Arnold School

2nd Prize - Unnati Bedmutha, Erin Nagarwala school

3rd Prize - Riaan Rokde, Erin Nagarwala School

Senior category

1st Prize - Tulika Deshmukh, Orbis School, Mundwa

2nd Prize - Gobind Rajesh, St Arnold

3rd Prize - Ashna Mehta, St Arnold

Trophies

Savak Masani Trophy

Tulika Deshmukh, Orbis International Mundwa

Second Trophy

Palash Jain, St Arnold Central school

IPP NPS Bakshi and Youth Service Director, Rtn Sanjay Kher spoke few words about Rotary and Youth services.



S.M. Joshi Hindi Mahavidyalaya thanked the Rotary Club of Poona for the generous donation of a projector and screen in the closing session of the competition. Snacks were distributed to all after the event.

By Rtn Leela Madhuri Rao

GREAT INNINGS DOCTOR ! CONGRATULATIONS !



Dr. Suresh Deshpande is a reputed senior surgeon from Pune. After completing his graduation from Medical College Nagpur, he joined the Indian Air Force. He completed his M.S. in surgery from AFMC. Post working in Sassoon Hospital for 8 years he joined Ruby Hall in 1981. He continued serving till the Covid pandemic started. He has performed all types of operations, specially cancer surgery and is credited with the first successful kidney Transplant in Pune which led to further 1000 transplants.

Besides being a skilled surgeon, he is a very well-known teacher and a very kind and caring person. He must have helped at least half the members of our club directly or indirectly for their medical problems.

He was felicitated by Ruby Hall for his contributions recently with a very warm and touching function.

By R/Ann Mridula Deshpande



THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2025 - 26

Please refer to Article II, Section 1(K) of the Rotary Club of Poona By-Laws.

The Nominating Committee, after due deliberations and discussions, hereby recommends the following Board of Directors for the Rotary Year 2025-2026 :

| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| President | Rtn Rohit Mittra |
| Vice President | Rtn Aarti Thacker |
| Hon. Secretary | Rtn Qureish Shamsheer |
| Joint Secretary | Rtn Madhuri Rao |
| Hon. Treasurer | Rtn Awadhut Walimbe |
| Director - Club Service | Rtn Aarti Thacker |
| Director - Community Service | Rtn Zarir Dadachanji |
| Director - Vocational Service | Rtn Jayashree Kuber |
| Director - International Service | Rtn Vishwas Kirpekar |
| Director - Youth Service | Rtn Brig Prashant Sheode |
| Director – Membership | Rtn Ravi Gosavi |
| Director – Foundation | Rtn Col Bharat Haladi |
| Director - Public Image | Rtn Trupti Gowariker |
| Dir w/o Portfolio | Rtn Jamshed Khursigara |
| President Elect | Rtn Aarti Thacker (President in RY 2026-2027) |
| Immediate Past President | Rtn Maj Gen Amar Krishna, Ph.D |
| President Nominee | Rtn Pradeep Govil (President in RY 2027-2028) |

As per Article II, Section 1(L) of the Rotary Club of Poona By-Laws, it shall be open to the members to propose any other name or names for any of the posts of Officers or Directors. The proposal should be given on or before the weekly meeting of 23rd December, which is one meeting prior to the Annual Meeting, to the President Rtn Maj Gen Amar Krishna, Ph.D. All such proposals shall be in writing duly seconded and with written consent of the proposed members. However, if either the consenting member, the proposer or seconder are members of the Nominating Committee, the proposal shall be held invalid.

If any such valid proposal is received, it shall be processed as per Article II, Section 1(M) of the Rotary Club of Poona By-Laws.

Rtn Col Bharat Haladi, Convenor, Nominating Committee RY 2024-2025

| Dates | Birthdays & Anniversaries | Programmes Ahead | Attendance Report 9th Dec 2024 | Count |
|----------|---|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| 16 -Dec | Rtn Khozem Poonawala | 23rd December: Christmas Dinner | Rotarians | 44 |
| 18 -Dec | Rtn Brig Ajit Apte | | Anns | 18 |
| 19 -Dec | Rtn Sujata Jayawant | | Spouses | 01 |
| 21 -Dec | Rtn Sam F & R/Ann Ketayun Irani | 30th December: AGM | Guests | 00 |
| 22 -Dec | Rtn. Col Bharat Haladi | | TOTAL | 63 |
| 22 - Dec | Rtn Air Cmde Sanjay Tilloo & R/Ann Latika Tilloo | | | |