

# CENTRAL TURF

PRESIDENT: RTN. Cmde AJAY CHITNIS | HON. SECRETARY: RTN. DELSHAD KARANJIA

EDITOR: RTN. VIPEN MALHOTRA

## TODAY

The dynamic situation that exists today in the world calls for a deeper understanding of India's role. That is what we will hear about at our upcoming weekly meeting on Saturday, April 20, 2024, at the Poona Club Conference Hall 1. Guest Speaker Lt. Gen. (Dr.) D. B. Shekatkar, PVSM, AVSM, VSM (Retd), who will give us a talk on "Emerging World of 21st Century ,Role and Impact of India in the World Affairs"



LT GEN Dr. DB Shekatkar, PVSM, AVSM, VSM (RETD) a highly decorated officer who served the country in the 1965, 1971 and 1999 wars are one of those rare human beings in the same league as Field Marshal Douglas Macarthur, Sir Winston Churchill and our own Field Marshal SHFJ Manekshaw, who could wield the sword as well as the pen.

Amongst the many achievements in his distinguished career, the unique and probably most noteworthy one is being able to prevail upon a record number of terrorists in Kashmir (1267) trained in Afghanistan and Pakistan to give up terrorism and lead a normal life. This is a "record" probably in the world, after world II war where terrorists indoctrinated by "Religious Fundamentalism" gave up terrorism.

In addition to being a "man of action", he is also a "man of letters" having obtained a) B.Com. M.A. in Strategic Studies, M.Sc. and M.Phil. in Defence Studies, Ph.D. in Management Science, Post Graduate Diploma in Ecology and Environment, Post Graduate Diploma in Weapons and Equipment Management. He has completed another Ph.D. on Maoist/Naxalite violence and 3rd Ph.D. in "Psychological Warfare and Role of Media".

LT GEN Dr. DB Shekatkar is Chancellor of Central Sikkim University.

**The venue for this enlightening session is Poona Club Conference Hall 1, with the program commencing at 6:30 p.m. The meeting will be followed by a Fellowship drinks and dinner, graciously hosted by Rtn. Shireesh and R'Ann Mukta Nadkar.**

Traditionally, a half-hour pre-meeting Fellowship will commence at 6:30 p.m., leading to the official start of the meeting at 7 p.m.

Looking forward to your presence!

## From the President's desk



Yet another week has passed, and we are also passing through a heatwave, with temperatures soaring into the forties. Despite the heat we have been active with our projects, and were in a Village called Saumbre, in Maval Taluka, for the inauguration of the Maths Lab, donated entirely by Rtn. Giri Sakhrani. It is a very interesting concept and should prove to be an effective addition in helping children overcome their 'fear' of Mathematics. Please read the details later in this bulletin.

On Thursday, 18 April, the Annual Summer Camp RYLA, was inaugurated at the Jagruti School for Blind Girls at Alandi. It was a well-attended event, and has always been the highlight of the calendar of Jagruti School. Rtn. Anil Bora and Rtn. Shashi Saxena attended the event along with yours truly.

Many Rotarians had expressed their desire to take part in projects while responding to the Member Satisfaction Survey conducted earlier. Despite adequate notice of these projects/events, the turn-out is very low. Consider the fact that RCPC was the main sponsor for the Jagruti School Summer Camp, and Inner Wheel sponsored a Fun-fair; only 3 RCPC Members attended the inauguration function, whereas 10 IWC members were present. I guess it is too hot to travel all the way to Salumbre or Alandi!

We have a line-up of very interesting activities and meetings; Installation of the newly Chartered Rotaract Club at Christ University on Tuesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> April, a talk by Rtn. Giri Sakhrani on his momentous ride from Manali to Khardungla on the 27<sup>th</sup> of April, a talk by Anu Aga on the 4<sup>th</sup> of May. Look forward to seeing you all in good numbers.

## The Week That Was

From Rtn. Delshad Karanjia

### A triple celebration

RCPC members turned up in large numbers on Saturday, April 13, 2024, to celebrate three festivals — Gudi Padwa, Eid and Baisakhi — at Hotel Shantai. Everyone was in a festive mood, and the tempting snacks and dinner were enjoyed by all.

The showstopper of the evening was singer Uma Nene, who belted out popular old and new Hindi film hits for more than two hours non-stop, performing both the male and female parts for each song. Her vocal range and versatility were extraordinary — it was an incredible one-woman show!

### President's Announcements

- In his salute to the Spirit of Giving, President Ajay Chitnis acknowledged generous donations from Rtn. PP Rakesh Bhargava, Rtn. Giri Sakhrani, Rtn. Delshad Karanjia and Rtn. Vinay Biyani.
- President Ajay announced that the Math lab at Gram Prabodhini Vidyalaya in Salumbre village would be inaugurated on April 16, 2024.
- The Inaugural Function of RYLA — Summer Camp at Jagruti School for Blind Girls in Alandi — would be held on April 18, 2024.
- The date for installation of the Rotaract Club of Christ University in Lavasa would be announced shortly.

### Celebrations

We offered birthday greetings to Rtn. PP Arvind Saraf.

Wedding anniversary greetings were offered to Rtn. Aseem and R'Ann Alka Srivastav, Rtn. Sanjiv and R'Ann Tanuja Agarwal, Rtn. Vimal and R'Ann Krishna Saboo, and Rtn. Rajesh and R'Ann Dr. Pushpa Yadav.

## *Installation of Maths Lab at Gramprabodhini School, Salumbre, Taluka Maval*

**From Rtn. Cmde Ajay Chitnis**

Last July, we conducted an Eye Checkup Camp at this rural school, where 450 students from nearby villages study, from Class V to Class XII. During the Camp, the Principal and Mathematics Teacher informed us that the students parents are mostly farmers or Brick-kiln workers, and are themselves not in a position to teach their children even basic maths at home. Thus the students were very weak in this subject. They requested for help to set up a Maths Lab.

A maths lab is a place where students and teachers work together to help students understand math concepts, practice skills, and develop study skills. It can also be a place for students to work with each other on similar material, and for teachers to provide one-on-one tutoring.

Maths lab contains games, puzzles, and other materials that students can use to explore mathematics, learn, and develop an interest in the subject. The activities appeal to a wide range of students, including those of different ages and mathematical proficiency.

We were fortunate that Rtn. Giri Sakhrani agreed to donate Rs 2,50,000/-for the project, which adequately covered the requirement of funds. The Maths lab has been developed by Mr. Rahul Kokil, Director of Manthan, an education development organisation. He has taught at Dnyan Prabodhini for 12 years and specialized in Mathematics and other subjects.

The Lab was inaugurated by Rtn Giri Sakhrani and yours truly on 16 April 2024. The Children who have been trained for two days were able to explain effectively the Number Line concept and the Pythagoras theorem. The Teachers and the Principal expressed their gratitude and assured us that with this addition, they will show better results in Mathematics.





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## *Inauguration of RYLA – Summer Camp at Jagruti School for Blind Girls, Alandi*

**From Rtn. Cmde Ajay Chitnis**

RCPC has supported the Summer Camp RYLA at the Jagruti School for over 20 years, and this has always been the highlight of the school year for the students. This year too, they have planned a slew of activities to help the students to learn new skills through this medium. The Inauguration Function was attended by Rtn Anil Bora, Rtn Shashi Saxena and yours truly. The President and 9 members of the Inner Wheel Club of Pune Central were present. The Chief Guest for the function was a young man, who has made a name for himself in Hindustani Classical Music, Viraj Joshi. Grandson of the all-time great Pandit Bhimsen Joshi, Viraj certainly is a chip of the old block, not only as a singer, but also as a mature speaker. He held the audience spellbound.

Rtn Anil Bora presented two “Alexa” – Talking Dolls to the school. These dolls, after being gifted were quickly changed into the school uniform and were a great hit among the students. The Inner Wheel Club conducted a Fun-Fair for the students, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all.



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# CENTRAL TURF



## Top 25 Rotary Clubs Membership Wise

From Rtn. IPP Uday Dharmadhikari

### TOP 25 ROTARY CLUBS MEMBERSHIP WISE (WORLD WIDE) as on 17<sup>th</sup> Apr 24

Rank	District ID	District Desc	Club Name	Club ID	Member Count
1	3020	INDIA	Vijayawada Midtown	22695	799
2	5750	USA--(Oklahoma)	Oklahoma City	1709	582
3	6860	USA--(Alabama)	Birmingham	4026	578
4	6900	USA--(Georgia)	Atlanta	4107	476
5	6200	USA--(Louisiana)	Baton Rouge	2600	469
6	3640	KOREA--(part of Seoul)	Seoul-Hansoo	28384	459
7	3640	KOREA--(part of Seoul)	Seoul Gangseo	16514	455
8	6760	USA--(Tennessee)	Nashville	3828	438
9	3056	INDIA	Kota	15110	429
10	6250	USA	Madison	2696	411
11	5170	USA--(California)	San Jose	501	400
12	5340	USA--(California)	San Diego	936	383
13	5840	USA--(Texas)	San Antonio	1921	359
14	3141	INDIA--	Bombay	15492	357
15	6710	USA--(Kentucky)	Louisville	3735	352
16	5680	USA	Wichita	1598	348

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#### TOP 25 ROTARY CLUBS MEMBERSHIP WISE (WORLD WIDE) as on 17<sup>th</sup> Apr 24

Rank	District ID	Country	Club Name	Club ID	Member Count
17	3000	INDIA	Karur	15918	339
18	6270	USA--(Wisconsin)	Milwaukee	2744	335
19	5610	USA	Downtown Sioux Falls	1461	334
20	6780	USA --(Tennessee)	Chattanooga	3848	328
21	3192	INDIA	Bangalore	15766	327
22	2580	JAPAN	Tokyo	14051	323
23	6150	USA	Little Rock	2522	317
24	7120	USA-- (New York)	Rochester	4811	303
25	3011	INDIA	Rohtak Scholars	87891	300
USA - 16		INDIA - 06	Korea - 02	Japan - 01	

Data Compiled By PDG RAJESH AGARWAL  
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## From the Editor

Contributions from Rotarians, R'Anns and spouses are welcome! If you have an anecdote, a joke, a poem or painting or anything interesting, please feel free to email it to [vipenm56@gmail.com](mailto:vipenm56@gmail.com) with cc to Gajanan.

## Upcoming Events

- 23 April: Installation of Rotaract Club of Christ University, Lavasa

## Next in line

- **April 27** — Guest Speaker Rtn. Giri Sakhrani will talk on "Reliving Manali to Khardungla - Ride of a Lifetime"
- **May 4** — Guest Speaker Ms. Anu Aga will talk on "Embracing Life Through The Experience Of Death"
- **May 11** — Guest Speaker Addl Director General Vijay Chafekar PTM, TM (Retd.) will talk on "Indian Coast Guard"
- **May 18** — Brainstorming Session RY 2024-25

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## *Birthdays and Anniversaries*



### **Rtn / R'Ann**

Rtn. Bal Agarwal  
R'Ann Archana Biyani  
Rtn. Pradip Keluskar  
R'Ann Neena Malhotra  
Rtn. Pankaj Mehrotra

### **Birthday**

April 20  
April 21  
April 21  
April 23  
April 25



### **Member and Spouse**

Rtn. Shireesh and R'Ann Mukta Nadkar

### **Wedding Anniversary**

April 25