

An initiative by Rotary Club of Mumbai Lakers



THE LAKERS BULLETIN



The Rotary Club of Mumbai Lakers : Jul-Sep'20 Edition

President -
Rtn. Vikram Swaroop

Secretary -
Rtn. Manju Udasi

Treasurer -
Rtn. Sunil Gambani



Quote of the month

The secret of change is to focus all of your energy, not on fighting the old, but on building the new.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK



RTN VIKRAM SWAROOP

President, Rotary Club of Mumbai Lakers

Rotary has always been fighting from the frontlines when combatting diseases. We are people of action, engaging in supporting the communities that we live in. COVID-19 is no different. Though it has limited our fundraising capacities and our opportunities for directly reaching out to communities, it has not stopped us from helping the people in need, spreading awareness about mask-wearing and hygiene to combat COVID. Rotary Club of Mumbai Lakers has been leading from the forefront. We are working closely with Hiranandani Hospital, various local bloodbanks and other community partners to help spread awareness. We are also engaging actively in reaching out to the community with meals and ration kits.

The Theme for The Rotary World for this year is **“Rotary Opens Opportunities”** and the theme adopted by Mumbai District 3141 is - **VISION 2020 - Beyond the Ordinary**. Looking at the current circumstances the LAKERS chose an apt theme for the Vision Year **“When the going gets tough, the tough get going”**.

Some of the key projects planned for Vision year are following:

- Annapoorna campaign
- Little Hearts surgeries
- COVID 19 winners campaign
- Online Vocational centre
- Girl child education
- Online counselling for families
- Medical camps for Cancer check ups
- Employment opportunities for under privileged
- Joy of giving
- Plastic Free Powai

Lakers are known to spread smiles. Even when the road ahead is filled with extraordinary challenges, we will execute our projects with same passion and do it differently in this Vision year Times may be tough, but Lakers are tougher.

~ Rtn Vikram Swaroop
President, Rotary Club of Mumbai Lakers
2020 - 2021

APPRECIATION FROM THE DISTRICT

Rotary
District 3141



Sunnil Mehra
District Governor 2020-21

Dear Visionary President Vikram Swaroop ,

We congratulate you on taking over the mantle of leadership as President of Rotary Club of Mumbai Lakers on your installation on the 13th July 2020.

They say times are tough, yes, they are, but there are two ways to handle them.
Accept them and succumb to Destiny.
OR
Accept them and create your Destiny.

We all are passing through the most challenging times of our lives. But challenges are what Rotarians live up to, as they have the ability to convert challenges into opportunities.

They say, that the only way to overcome fear is to face it. I believe very strongly in this statement. But who is the one known to face fear more so on a regular basis, who ventures out serving the community in spite of the prevalent virus, to help eradicate the Polio virus, to make India Literate..... Rotarians. So no fear can deter our determination, no virus can affect our commitment.

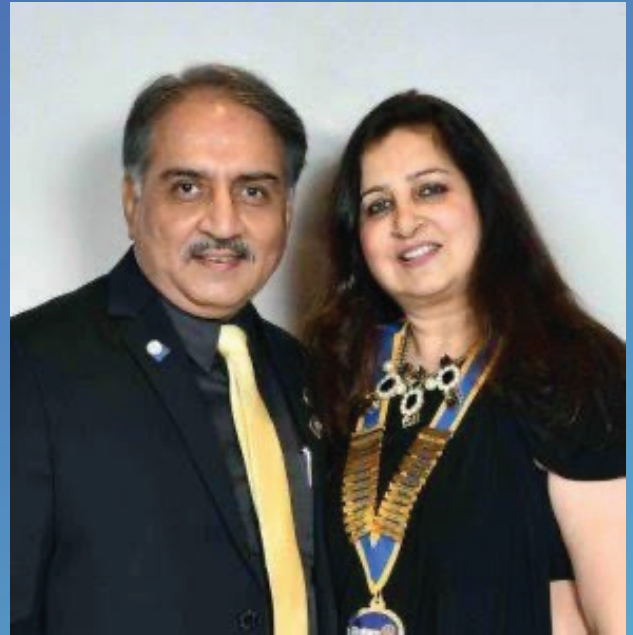
Synergising is the need of the hour. Growing together is the fundamental of our Fraternity.
Serving together is at our core.

Shilpi and I, and the entire core team, shall endeavor to support you in every step you take, every move you make, as we are truly watching you, guiding you and ensuring your dreams become realities.
Truly speaking, Visionaries shall fly high and shine bright, as they shape their own Destiny.

President Vikram & Kanu , we wish you all the success for a truly Visionary, Impactful and Powerful 2020-21.

With Best wishes

Sunnil Mehra
District Governor 2020-21



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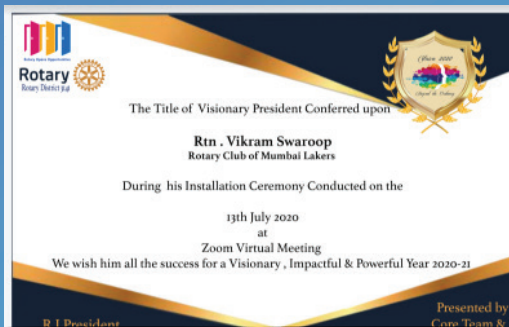


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MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS

The advent of the **COVID-19 pandemic** has increased the complexities of plastic waste management. Our current hyperhygienic way of life with the fear of transmission has increased the **demand of plastic-packaged food and groceries, use of PPE kits and disposable utensils**. The system was already inadequate and inefficient, and this added load has worsened the situation. This was the right time for us to launch the **RCML Plastic Free Powai Campaign**. This campaign focuses on the collection of multi-layered plastics for recycling. Converting recycled plastic into pellets allows for easier distribution and remanufacturing, and ultimately increases the speed and efficiency of reintroducing recycled plastic into industrial manufacturing.

The project was launched on our **Independence Day, 15th August, and the first collection drive was on the 31st of August**. In the first collection, we had a participation of **11 buildings, and 78kg of plastic was collected**. What we soon realised was that the number of people wishing to participate in this campaign was extremely high, so we had to increase the number of collections from monthly to fortnightly. Our second collection was on the **15th of September**, and we had nearly triple the amount of plastic collected the first time, with **232kg being collected, the number of participating buildings almost doubled to 20**. The last round of collection happened on **1st of October** and the number of buildings has **increased to 23 and we have collected 294kgs of plastic**. The graph is moving up, up and up.

This heartening response is a testimony to the successful launch of the **Plastic Free Powai Campaign**. Our readiness and our actions reflect the way we will respond to any future crisis in a constructive manner.



PROJECTS - MEDICAL PROJECTS

Blood Donation Camp

We were being flooded with requests for blood on all groups, the plasma of COVID-recovered patients and live donors. That's when we realised that requests were pouring in from all quarters and the blood banks were running dry. This why we decided to organise two blood donation camps. The first one was held in IIT Market, Powai, in association with Triumph Blood Bank and Freebies. We also conducted a **blood donation camp within Hiranandani Gardens in Octavius Building in association with Dr L H Hiranandani Hospital**. The camp was very well received within the community and people participated.

Our medical director **Parul Gupta** played a very crucial role in organising both of these camps, and the success of the camp at Octavius is prompting us to think about conducting many more such camps within Hiranandani and around. We collected **75 bottles of blood from these two camps**. This is RCML's way of serving the people.



: Md. Affan Shaikh
: 7 years (M)
: Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia
: CTC-PHO Hospital



: Harish Waghchoune
: 6 years (M)
: Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia
: Sion Hospital
: Dr. Sujata Sharma

Cancer Treatment For Two Kids

Rotary Club of Mumbai Lancers provided **two kids suffering from cancer treatment for a year through CPAA**.

Total money paid out was **₹ 2 Lakhs for their treatment**.

The children are very young, ages of 6 and 7 years respectively, both suffering from **Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia**.

PROJECTS - NON-MEDICAL PROJECTS

Laptop Donation



Rotary Club of Mumbai Lakers has been active in and around Powai with various projects. A few ladies of **Nahar Complex** started a school under a tree for the children of migrant labourers in **January 2007**. This venture was started by **Late Chandni Singh** and is now being spearheaded by her sister **Neelam Joshi**.

Many kids moved out of the area or dropped out for various reasons, but the few that have remained have been diligent and wish to continue their education. **Four students required laptops as they were in fairly advanced levels of education in high schools or colleges and online education is now the norm.**

Lakers were informed through their charter member **Captain Ajit Sharma** and **within 48 hours**, these four young students were equipped with laptops for their new journey.



Mr Bakshi's Classes



Even during COVID-19, when the **Rotary Vocational centres** are no longer operational, we are still continuing **Mr Bakshi's classes on Zoom**.

The kids who used to come to the centre are now attending their classes online.

It's heartening to see the attendance has barely dropped. The enthusiastic participation of kids propels us to continue classes online in the near future as well.

Mr Bakshi's classes are one bright spot in our club's activities which never fails to bring a smile to our faces.

ONGOING PROJECTS



Little Hearts

Laker, **Natasha Sejpal**, has continued to work tirelessly even during the pandemic, and the cases haven't ceased to come. The four major cases which were financed by our club, two cases along with **Rotary Club of Bombay Pier** and two cases under the **Global Grant with Rotary Club of Hanging Gardens**. Though her access to the hospital is limited due to COVID-19, her activity has only increased. Her efforts have increased as managing these procedures remotely is difficult, especially since the parents involved in these operations are from **rural areas and do not understand the nitty-gritties of the procedure**. She has however never once backed down, continuing to do her job tirelessly.

As this newsletter came into publication, there was a case which came in from **Orissa with a very critical child**. But we are sure that under **Natasha's stewardship, the child will be well, and very soon**.



Annapoorna Project

We kickstarted our year with the **Annapoorna Project** to eradicate hunger. **We have been supplying meals at a rate of ₹15 a meal. We have managed to get Star Donors, who have sponsored 1,000 meals or more, from within the community who are not Lakers.**

This just speaks of how **heart-touching the campaign** is, and how much trust the community places in our club.

In the COVID times, **ration kits** have been being distributed. This constitutes a large portion of our **COVID Relief Campaign**.

Rotary Club of Mumbai Lakers has stood like the backbone of the community, giving a voice to the requirements of the local people who really needed our help.

The support provided by us has been extremely timely during the COVID crisis and invaluable to those we touched.

ONGOING CAMPAIGNS

Stree Mukti Sangathana



Stree Mukti Sangathana has been working tirelessly in providing family counselling to underprivileged people in these COVID times over the phone. As we are all aware, instances of **domestic violence** have increased during the lockdown, and people are suffering from **mental breakdowns**. At this time, this counselling is really a blessing. Various cases of **domestic violence**, mental harassment, depression, alcoholism, petty crime and more have been reported and counselled by the social workers of SMS. Last quarter we have **counselled twenty-two cases**.



Covid-19 Relief



Rotary Club of Mumbai Lakers has been working relentlessly in providing ration kits in areas in and around Powai. We get calls from grassroots level NGOs requesting for help, and we have been able to always fulfil those requests. We have provided ration kits to widows, municipal schools, Parksite, IIT Market and Sangarshnagar.

ONGOING CAMPAIGNS

Plastic Free Powai



This is an ongoing campaign where we are aiming to **enlist all of the societies in Powai and Chandivili area to separate their MLPs**. These **MLPs will be collected every fortnight** and the **participating societies will get a certificate for their contribution to making the area plastic-free**.



Being Enabled by The Differently Abled



In our quest to Being Enabled by the Differently Abled, Rotary Club of Mumbai Lakers are working with NGO Mutually Beneficial Activities, or MBA Foundation. MBA Foundation is a self-help organisation, aiming at providing a Life with Self- Esteem and Dignity to differently-abled individuals. They spread awareness of the abilities, strengths and rights of the special needs population. We call ourselves Friends of GOD (*Groups of Differently Abled*) In order to help with their goal, the MBA Foundation is bringing to us a wonderful opportunity to support them through a yearly subscription offer. The talented individuals of MBA foundation bring to you a variety of products. For a subscription of Rs 2500/-, you will receive Rs 2300/- worth of products over the course of the year. 41

Lakers have signed up to be Friends of GODs. You too can become one by Subscribing to the offer

Wear Mask Campaign



We are conducting a public service initiative in association with LH Hiranandani Hospital and Powai Live to raise awareness as to why we need to wear masks to stem the spread of this pandemic.



Installation



Rotary Club of Mumbai Lakers hosted a **Vibrant installation ceremony for Vision 2020 President, Rtn Vikram Swaroop on Monday July 13th evening.**

It was a unique ceremony held online with all the members and dignitaries connecting over **zoom**.

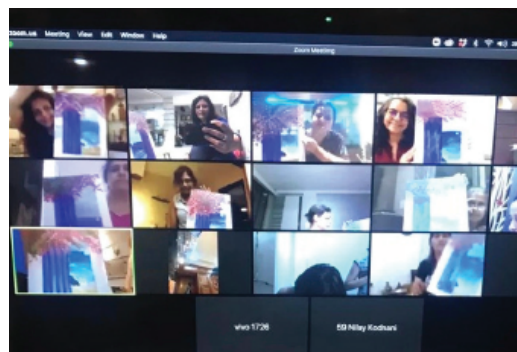
The ceremony was graced by Chief guest District Governor Rtn Sunnil Mehra, a resident of Powai along with First Lady Rtn Shilpi Mehra, past president of RCML and other District dignitaries including PDG Rtn Bansi Dhurandhar, IPDG Rtn Harjit Singh Talwar, PDG Rtn Shashi Sharma, DGE Rtn Rajendra Agarwal, DGN Rtn Sandip Agarwalla, DS Rtn Rajendra Dataye, AG Rtn Aditya Singh and other core committee members of the District 3141.



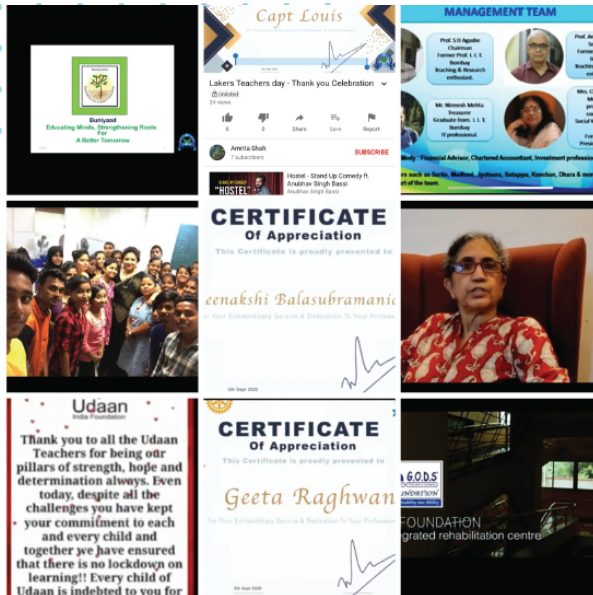
Art Escapades



Our fellow Laker and artistic **Smriti Goswami** conducted a **Zoom class for the women and children over 14**. A beautiful landscape was painted by all the participants and was a very well attended and officiated event. The participants really enjoyed and appreciated the workshop.



FELLOWSHIPS



Teachers Day Celebration

On teachers day we felicitated the teachers who are doing a great job in taking education to the underprivileged. It was a beautiful ceremony orchestrated by **Club Director Neha Gupta and Haroon Shah**. We felicitated **Captain Louis George Udaan, MBA Foundation, Buniyaad, LCCWA, Gita Raghavan from Balvihar, Shweta Rao, Manisha Ahuja of Vidya, Neelam Joshi and Anil Bakshi** for their contribution to providing education and employment to the underprivileged as well as providing special education.

The guest of honour for the occasion was **Ritika Hemdev, a fellow Laker and Principal of Sinhad College of Commerce** and the chief guest for the occasion was **Suchita Malakar, Principal of Poddar International School**.

Independence Day Celebration

The Lakers came together with their usual patriotic fervour on the **15th of August**.

On this day, we took the pledge and launched our **Plastic Free Powai Campaign**.



YOUTH INTERACT CLUB OF MUMBAI LAKERS

Interact Club of Mumbai Lakers had an election for the club posts on **3rd of August**

The postholders are:

- Rena Aggarwal - President
 - Adwait Rath - Vice President
 - Aryan Patel - Director Membership
 - Vedant Gedela - Treasurer
 - Leisha Dogra - Secretary
 - Saisriyaa Patro - Club Admin
 - Selina Vohra - Director Medical
 - Sameer Chawla - Non-Medical
 - Kimaya Gupta - Director PR
 - Ahana Thapar - Immediate Past President
- The club has **“Best from Waste”** project lined up and has started an online campaign called **‘Brightside’** which is spreading positivity through their Instagram posts in these times of COVID-19.
 - This club is unique because it is a community-based Interact Club and gives an opportunity for kids studying in different schools to interact with each other.



Rotary Club of Mumbai Lakers Hosted a Vibrant Installation Ceremony

RCML embarked its journey into new Rotary Year continuing its commitment to serve community with projects exceeding 100 one crore.

For the Rotary Club of Mumbai Lakers, the inauguration ceremony for the new Rotary Year was a vibrant affair. The event was held at the club's premises, where members and guests gathered to witness the installation of the new officers.

The new officers, including the President, Vice President, and other committee members, were introduced to the assembly. The President, Mr. [Name], delivered a speech, expressing his commitment to the club's mission and vision.

The ceremony was a testament to the club's dedication to serving the community and its commitment to the Rotary ideal of "Service Above Self".

For more info, contact: [Phone Number] or visit: [Website]

RCML - Enabling, Facilitating and Serving the Community

Rotary Club of Mumbai Lakers (RCML) has been active in and around Powai with various projects. A few of the projects are:

- Plastic Drive:** RCML has been actively involved in the plastic drive, collecting and recycling plastic waste to reduce pollution.
- Medical Camps:** RCML has organized medical camps for the underprivileged, providing them with essential healthcare services.
- Education Projects:** RCML has supported various educational initiatives, including the construction of schools and the provision of educational materials.

RCML's commitment to the community is evident in its diverse range of projects, which aim to improve the quality of life for all.

For more info, contact: [Phone Number] or visit: [Website]

Shifting from Sympathy to Empathy: Friends of GOD

Every day, we see people who are suffering. Some are poor, some are sick, some are disabled. We often feel sympathy for them, but we don't always understand their pain. We need to shift from sympathy to empathy.

Empathy is the ability to understand and share the feelings of another. It is a powerful tool that can help us to connect with others and to make a difference in their lives.

By practicing empathy, we can become "Friends of GOD" and help to create a more compassionate and caring world.

For more info, contact: [Phone Number] or visit: [Website]

BE A REPORTER - Living in Powai and you find something that picks your conscience that concerns all. Bring the matter to us. Call 98200 03158

Planet Powai

Vol. 16, Issue - 18 (18 August - 18 September 2020) YOUR FRIENDLY COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

Powai Schools Get 100% Results at SSC Board Exams, 2020

SSC Toppers at Powai Schools, 2020

Time to Reinvent

Rotary Club of Mumbai Lakers Towards its Resolve to Fight Hunger

Acting Continuously For Hunger Eradication - Thanks to Visionary Rotarians' strong resolve to fight against hunger, Rotary Club of Mumbai Lakers has been able to provide 600,000 meals to the needy in the month of July 2020 (including Festival Rats).

Stack Your Pack - A Small Effort for a Vast Difference

Rotary Club of Mumbai Lakers (RCML) along with Powai Low-Layered Plastics (MLP) has launched the 'Stack Your Pack' campaign to finally rid Powai of low-grade plastics and Multi-Layered Plastics (MLP).

Stack Your Pack

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Rotary Club of Mumbai Lakers Working Towards its Resolve to Fight Hunger

The response has remained overwhelming with not only the Rotarians contributing to the cause, but many corporates and individuals too coming forward to support the cause. LAKERS expressed gratitude to frontline warriors who despite adverse weather conditions kept feeding the poor. Hats off to YMCA, Shale India, RSS, VHP and Transgender community volunteers for their exceptional distribution service.

PROJECT ANNAPOORNA shall continue throughout the year and we urge the local community to join us and participate actively to eradicate hunger from our country by doing our bit. Please continue supporting PROJECT ANNAPOORNA with your love and contributions. At ₹15 a meal, you can make a big difference in the lives of thousands of children and elderly who wait for Annapoorna meals daily. Be a hunger warrior by sponsoring meals at ₹15/meal and fight the hunger.

PROJECT ANNAPOORNA gives donors the flexibility to choose the locality in which they want the meals to be distributed.

At a mere ₹15000 not only do you earn a thousand smiles from the people you feed, you also get featured on all our social media platforms as a star giver. Please send your contribution by transferring your donation to our trust account and avail 80C certificate.

Account Name: ROTARY CLUB OF MUMBAI LAKERS CHARITIES TRUST; Bank name: HDFC Bank Ltd; Bank A/c no. - 0239145000079; IFSC code: HDFC0000239; Bank/city: "SAVING Pan no: AABTR5509C"

For any information about our projects or to participate as a volunteer, kindly contact: Vikram Swarup at 9867697245 or write us at rotarylakers@yahoo.com. For more information, visit: www.rotarylakers.org; https://www.facebook.com/RotaryLakers

KNOW YOUR LAKERS



MILIND RANE

Promoter / Director (Resource™)

Providing technologically sound solutions to the global issues pertaining to MSW, Industrial waste, E-waste, Construction Waste and Bio-Medical waste.

Focusing on the long term goal of **"Reducing Waste"**, Resource, is tying up with various Municipal Corporations, Government bodies to push IEC projects across Residential and Commercial establishments, in the view of reducing waste by Reusing, Refurbishing, Recycling and Donating.

My reason for joining this Vibrant team of Mumbai Lakers is to make my Powai a **"Zero Waste Community"** and work on many such sustainable programs to give back to society.

