



Joint Bulletin

By

*The Rotaract Club of Bombay West and the
Rotaract Club of Achievers Lanka Business School*



RID 3141

RID 3220

Rotaract Club of Bombay West

Rotaract Club Of Bombay West, today, is one of the most successful clubs in Mumbai having ranked towards the top in District 3141 repeatedly due to its innovative projects and work ethic of its members. Currently holding the tag of the Best Community Club in Mumbai District. However, every big achievement has its small beginning. Ours began on 19th April 1969 as the youth wing of the prestigious Rotary Club of Bombay West, the first baby club of Rotary Club of Bombay itself! Having been dormant for several years, the club was revived in 2017. With the new generation taking over and with fresh ideas and perspectives, Rotaract Club of Bombay West delivered quality in terms of their projects. Today, Our Signature Projects are known in the district and we strive to maintain the quality at the same standard.



Rotaract Club of Achievers Lanka Business School

The Rotaract Club of Achievers Lanka Business School was chartered on the 10th of March, 2020 under our parent club, The Rotary Club of Colombo Mid Town. The club is based in one of the leading CIMA tuition providers in Sri Lanka and is the first and only CIMA institute with its own Rotaract Club. The club is now in its eleventh year, with many successful projects to its name. Within just 10 years from inception, Rotaract club of Achievers Lanka Business School now stands toe-to-toe with several clubs than have been in existence for approximately 30 years. Despite the relative inexperience, the club, guided by able hands of distinguished past presidents has built up a reputation of carrying out one successful project after the other. The club is specially known for implementing unique projects based on different concepts

President Speaks

Warm Rotaract Greetings!

I'm delighted to be writing this in the joint bulletin of Rotaract Club of Bombay West and Rotaract Club of Achievers Lanka Business School

To me, Twin Club agreements are opportunities that we Rotaract Clubs have to widen our reach and extend fellowship with our Rotaractors all around the World. Exchanging knowledge about our cultures, conducting joint projects, celebrating International Days together are not only fun but insightful too.

Culture Exchange is one opportunity that I personally love and believe is the most impactful and knowledgeable for our Members. Getting to know about some other country in detail by a local friend is something I adore. It not only helps to share Ideas, traditions, information but is also a strong source to cultivate global intimacy.

India is famous for its strong history and an amalgamation of rich heritage and religions. It includes various forms of Dance, food and architecture as well. Hence, along with my fellow Indians, I'm a firm believer of the phrase 'Atithi Devo Bhavah' i.e. Guests are God.

It is extremely essential for us, the youth of today to have a grip on everything possible. Knowing about another country is a part of this process of learning. We, as Rotaractors, strive to spread love and fellowship beyond our country's boundaries.

It's a pleasure to have my note as a part of this bulletin which consists of so many emotions put together to collectively describe our countries and their heritages in addition to knowledge on our respective clubs and projects. I hope this helps you and your team in getting a better understanding about our country's rich heritage and culture just the way your bulletin will help us.

Lastly, I'd like to acknowledge everyone who has been a part of this twin club agreement and all the members of both our clubs. Happy and healthy life to you all.

Regards

Rtr. Aassve Shah

President 19-20

Rotaract Club of Bombay West

RID 3141

Mumbai, Maharashtra, India

President Speaks

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வணக்கம்!
Welcome!

It is with great pleasure that I pen down this message to the joint bulletin between the Rotaract Club of Achievers Lanka Business School and the Rotaract Club of Bombay West. I believe that a Twin Club Agreement is a window of opportunity to strengthen the bond between the two clubs all the while exchanging cultures and building a long lasting relationship between two clubs from different countries.

Cultural exchange is a core component of Rotary, Rotaract and Interact. It is of paramount importance in fostering a sense of global leadership and service throughout our community. Cultural exchange is sharing different ideas, traditions, and knowledge with someone who may be coming from a completely different background than your own.

Sri Lanka was long famous for its rich social diversity and the harmonious co-existence of various communities. Therefore, I am a firm believer that as Sri Lankans we always try to enhance our cross-cultural understanding.

It's important to be aware of the differences between cultures, particularly if you are volunteering, working, or living in a new country or interacting with people from a different country than your own and as Rotaractors we are constantly looking for better ways to transform the youth of our country into global citizens.

I'm extremely excited about this joint bulletin and believe that it will give a better understanding of our cultures and traditions. I sincerely hope that it will show a glimpse of the beauty of Sri Lanka and paint a picture of its wonders.

As a final note, I would like to convey my sincere gratitude to everyone involved, who worked tirelessly with dedication and commitment to make this joint bulletin a phenomenal success!

Best,

Rtr. Sathma Jayasinghe
President
Rotaract Club of Achievers Lanka Business School

RID 3220
Sri Lanka & Maldives

Our Projects

Kickoff

Sports Avenue of RCBW has repeatedly delivered extremely successful projects. At the top of that Totem pole is Kickoff. A football tournament with avid participation and well known sponsors, year after year. This Year, We Had 32 teams of open age category, 8 teams for Under-16 and another 8 girls teams in order to promote the sport further!



Whizlit

This Editorial Fest is like no other! Ranging from Quizzes to Writing Competitions to Online Debates.

Whizlit is a multi-project fest carried out by the Editorial Avenue consisting of a minimum of 10 projects per year, both online and offline events.

An Extremely successful Signature Project with avid participation due to the projects being carried online as well!



EDF (Entrepreneurship Development Fiesta)

This Mega Event carries out by the ED/PD avenue has proved to be extremely useful in providing knowledge and hands-on experience in matters relating to intellect and the industry.

EDF consists of events focusing on marketing, idea generation, resource management, sales etc.

The perfect combination of events to help you curate yourself into the perfect entrepreneur!



Happy Meals

Happy Meals is a Community Service carried out every Second Thursday of the Month. Happy Meals is an initiative to provide "Happy Food" or as we call it, comfort food to young, underprivileged kids.

Ice Creams, Fried Rice, Cake, Noodles. The type of food to bring a smile on their faces. Carried out simultaneously at 2 locations every month along with an instalment of "Mega Happy Meals" which was carried out at 3 locations, Happy Meals is the event that creates that human connection and bond with the young kids apart from seeing them extremely happy with the comfort food.



POW-HER

In today's world, awareness can go a long way, from person to person. Pow-her is an event carried out at Carmel of St. Joseph School. It typically empowered young girls with the knowledge and a teaching on how to combat a prevalent evil in society. A Self-Defence Workshop for 500+ students carried out by a Rotaractor himself, teaching the young girls how to protect and stand up for themselves. Importance of personal hygiene and washing hands was also taught. A session was also carried out on "good touch and bad touch" to spread awareness on the same.



Our Projects

Conquer Colombo

Conquer Colombo is the club's signature Club Service project and is one of the largest projects undertaken by any club in the country. It is a single day event where teams of 4 people roam around the city of Colombo, searching for specific locations where they will have to complete challenges that will test them both mentally and physically. The challenges can range from paddling a kayak in the middle of a lake, having to eat a burger within an allotted time and having to score a football penalty while also solving a chess puzzle. The event takes place throughout an entire day and sees around 600 eager participants, some of them wearing costumes and driving customized vehicles. This year, the winners were awarded with return tickets to Singapore



Project Life

The signature Community Service project of the club, Project Life looks to tackle a prevalent problem in Sri Lanka, especially in the rural agricultural communities. Chronic Kidney disease is a result of a lack of clean drinking water and Project Life targets providing clean drinking water to a selected rural community. Past projects have involved constructing a rainwater harvesting system and a Reverse Osmosis plant. The plan for this year involves digging two tube wells to support the requirements of nearly 50 rural families. Also, in the past, Project Life has been implemented in partnership with the charity organization, The Foundation of Goodness.



Jumpstart

The signature professional development initiative of the club, JumpStart is a platform for entrepreneurs with aspiring startups to get the required exposure and financial support. Startups pitch their business ideas in front of a panel of judges who give them valuable advice on how to achieve their business potential. Jumpstart 2019, saw the introduction of a shark-tank round, where already established startups presented in front of a panel of investors with the target of getting one or more of them to invest in their startup



Info Factory

The signature International Service project of the club, Info Factory is a social media platform via Facebook, Instagram and Twitter for enhancing knowledge by posting weekly facts from a selected topic. Each post reaches a considerable audience and there are also monthly quizzes to add a spirit of competition and fun

India. The rich cultural heritage, the traditions and religion going back thousands of years, the Representation on a global stage, The population of 1.36 billion. There's so much to talk about our beautiful country.

Having gained independence in 1947, India is proud to call itself the largest democracy in the World.

Our Festivals are celebrated not only in India, but all over the world, to name a few;
Diwali, Holi, Ganesh Chaturthi, Ramadan, Mahla Shivratri, Baisakhi, Raksha Bandhan, Krishna Janmashtami etc.

Festivals will later be spoken about in detail!

The Namaste 🙏, originated in India, is regarded as a sign of respect upon greeting someone. It typically means "I bow down to the lord within you"

Another Form or Tradition practiced in our country is when we touch the feet of our elders. It's another way of giving them respect and accepting their blessings when they put their hand on our head.

The Biggest Democracy in the World

Festivals and Traditions aside, Indians are at the top of so many World renowned companies like Google, Microsoft, Tata, Infosys to name a few.

Ranging from The extremely cold Kashmir to the Peninsula at Kanyakumari, our country has a diverse culmination of People, Traditions and languages with over 22 languages spoken across the country.



Now back to the fun part!

Festivals in India, as mentioned earlier are deeply engraved in us Indians.

People from different backgrounds and walks of life have so much to separate them but the festivals bring everyone together!

Festivals and Traditions of India

- **Diwali** is regarded as a prosperous time of the year with lamps being lit at homes, bursting of crackers, exchanging of gifts and donating to the poor. Autumn marks the arrival of this festival and the preparation for the same begins much in advance with people decorating their houses.

- **Holi**- The festival of colours

The arrival of spring in India is marked with the revelers covered in bright colored powder as they celebrate this festival. Usually falling in March, the festival of Holi brings with it the celebrations where people wish each other Happy Holi by applying 'gula' or colored powder on each other's cheeks. Savories, dance, music, and food are the other highlights of this festival.

- **Ramadan**- One of the major religious festivals of India, Ramadan is celebrated mainly by the Muslim sect of the Indian demographic. Ramadan is the holiest month of the Islamic calendar and is used as the period for fasting, prayers, introspection and religious contemplation. The end of Ramadan is celebrated with a three day festival of Eid-Ul-Fitr, where Muslims break their fasts by gathering together for prayers and celebration.



- **Dussehra**

This festival marks the end of the nine-day long festival of Navaratri. The day is commemorated as the day Lord Ram attained victory over Ravana, and therefore, this festival symbolizes the victory of good over evil.

It is celebrated by typically burning a statue of Ravana signifying the end of evil.

- **Raksha Bandhan**

Celebrated to cherish the bond between brothers and sisters, this festival is among the national festivals of India.

Celebrated by applying saffron tilak on the brother's forehead and tying a rakhi on his wrist, this festival holds impeccable importance for Indian brothers and sisters.

It is a way of the brother promising protection of his sister.



- **Ganesh Chaturthi**

Celebrated with much fervor and excitement, the festival of Ganesh Chaturthi revels the homecoming of Lord Ganesh. One of the most colorful and exciting 10 day-long celebrations of the Ganesh Chaturthi is initiated with installing the idol of Lord Ganesh at home to bless the house, and its members with happiness and prosperity. At the end of the ten days, this idol is taken with much pomp and show to be immersed in water.

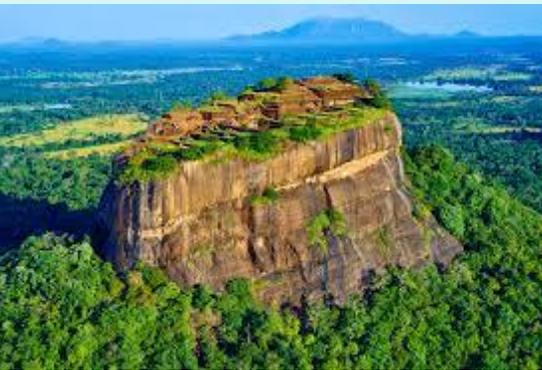
Sri Lanka is an island in the Indian Ocean off the South Coast of India which is also referred to as the “Pearl of the Indian Ocean”. Even though Sri Lanka does not have the largest size, it is home to a population of around 20 million people. The island has a varied landscape with attractive beaches across the coastline to cooler and more mountainous regions towards the center of the country.

Sri Lanka has also had a rich history dating back to nearly 3000 years. This history has been well documented through written chronicles and can be further evidenced through the historical ruins where the ancient kingdoms used to be located. Sri Lanka used to have highly developed technology for the time, as evidenced through the Jetavanaramaya, a Buddhist stupa that was the third highest structure in the world at the time of its construction as well as the ancient rock fortress of Sigiriya, where a castle, complete with a functioning water transportation system was built on the summit of a 200m high rock.



The Pearl of the Indian Ocean

As a result of these geographical and historical attractions, Sri Lanka is world famous for being an ideal tourist destination, with tourism being one of the country's major industries. In fact, in 2019 it was named as the number one tourist destination worldwide, by Lonely Planet.



Sri Lanka has had considerable colonial influence with the Portuguese, Dutch and British having varying degrees of power in the country from 1505 up to independence in 1948. The British were responsible for developing the railway and road infrastructure of the country as well as for introducing tea to Sri Lanka, which has now become the major agricultural export in the country, with Sri Lankan tea having the reputation of having superior quality.

Sri Lanka is ethnically diverse with a majority Sinhalese population, along with a considerable Tamil and Muslim population. This has resulted in a diverse religious landscape where Buddhism is the most common religion with Hinduism, Islam and Christianity consisting of sizeable minorities. This diversity and celebration of a number of cultural events is the reason for Sri Lanka being one of the countries to have the most number of national holidays. This has also extended to Sri Lankan cuisine which has been shaped by numerous influences into having unique dishes found nowhere else.

In short, Sri Lanka is a country with a diverse and friendly population and a must visit destination for any aspiring tourist with a unique mix of cultural and geographical attractions



Sri Lankan Festivals

The Sinhala and Tamil New Year is a traditional festival celebrated primarily by the Sinhalese and Tamil communities, but is also celebrated by all communities in Sri Lanka. It signifies the movement of the sun moving from the House of Pisces to the House of Aries, signifying the start of the traditional year. During the New Year period activities such as preparing the first meal of the year, consuming the first meal of the year are done according to auspicious times. Avurudu or New Year also says the preparation of dishes that are seen exclusively during this period. The New Year is also a time for reconnection among communities as during this time it is customary to visit neighbors with dishes prepared at our homes. So, the Sinhala and Tamil New Year is a time of celebration and co-operation.



Vesak is a Buddhist festival that is the full moon day in the month of May. It is celebrated as the day of birth, enlightenment and attaining of Nirvana of Lord Buddha, the founder of Buddhism. Vesak is a time for worship and all Buddhists go to the temple to take part in religious activities. Vesak also sees the hanging of lanterns from every house as well as *dansal*, which are events where food is handed out free to the public. There are also large pandols which narrate and show stories from the life of Lord Buddha, known as *jathaka* stories

Esela Perehera is a multi-day pageant held in the city of Kandy in central Sri Lanka in front of the Temple of the Tooth, where the tooth relic of Lord Buddha is enshrined. It is one of the most sacred places for Sri Lankans and the perahera celebrates the arrival of the tooth relic in Sri Lanka. The perahera is a spectacular event having elephants decked out in colourful regalia, with one elephant tasked with the most important task of carrying the enshrined tooth relic itself. The pageant is much more than elephants though, having traditional whips, dancers with rings of fire and traditional Kandyan dancers for who this will be the pinnacle of their dancing career. The perahera is one of the most spectacular events in the country and is visited by tourists worldwide.



Thank you