

ROTARY CLUB OF PUNE CENTRAL

CENTRAL TURF

The Bulletin

PRESIDENT: RTN. LEKHA NAIR | HON. SECRETARY AND BULLETIN EDITOR: RTN. KRISHNA KUMAR

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Today – Saturday 18th April 2026 @ Poona Club

About DG Santosh Marathe



DG Rtn Santosh Marathe is the District Governor 2025-2026 _ District 3131.

Rtn. Santosh, a second-generation Rotarian, joined Rotary Club of Poona West in January 1996. His Father Rtn Madhubhau Marathe was the Chartered Treasurer of RC Poona West, which was chartered on June 21, 1969.

Rtn Santosh was the President in 2000-01 and since then has served in the district. He has the distinction of having worked with over 17 DGs of 3130/313.

He was the Global Grant Director for 2 years in 2021-23. He was instrumental in launching the first Solar Farm project in the Rotary World under Environment Protection Focus Area, funded with Global Grant, amongst several initiatives that saw the light of day under his leadership. Several Rotary clubs have had the privilege of his trainings – for their Board of Directors & committees.

The Rotary streak runs in the family! His wife PP Rtn Dr Tanuja was an AG in RY 2022-23 and is the Director - Global Grants for RY 2025-26. Both are level 2 Major Donors to TRF. Rtn Santosh has formed 4 Interact clubs in RY 2019-20 through his home club and led a long-term project of improving infrastructure in 103 Rural Schools. He is also involved in his Club's project of 100 Happy Anganwadis, out of which 55 have been completed.

His company Phoenix Knowledge Management Pvt. Ltd. has been providing customized enterprise applications in Finance, Supply Chain, Analytics leveraging a US Patented Digital Ledger (Pvt Permissioned Blockchain) technology coupled with AI and ML to large corporates including ICICI Bank, Axis Bank, Asian Paints to name a few. Rtn Santosh Marathe has been involved in nature, marine ecology, wildlife, birdwatching, environment education & awareness and nature photography since 1979.

PP Rtn Tanuja is a Geologist and a Gemmologist. She retired as Head of Department of Geology, Fergusson College, Pune and was the first Lady Teacher to be the Officiating Principal of Fergusson College in its 133 years history. She has been an avid mountaineer in the Himalayas and Paratrooping at Agra. As NCC cadet, she was adjudged as All India 'Best Shot' at the RD Parade in Delhi. As President of RC Poona West in RY2019-20 she received Platinum Citation along with many other accolades.

Their son, Siddharth, is a Graduate and Postgraduate in Mechanical Engineering from Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Germany working in a German company as Technical Marketing Engineer. He loves playing Football, travelling, reading and cooking global cuisines.

A true Rotarian in spirit, thought, and action, PP Santosh Marathe personifies excellent leadership, goodwill, and a strong belief that the world will be a better place because of Rotary's contribution.



Says Krishna.....
krsnarti@gmail.com

At the outset, I welcome DG Rtn Santosh Marathe to RCPC. The much-desired visit will surely be an interesting experience, and we look forward to a useful interaction.

The **District Governor (DG) Official Visit** is often viewed as the "Super Bowl" of the Rotary club year—a mix of high-stakes performance review, strategic coaching, and a family reunion. While it follows a standard protocol, the most interesting visits are those that break the "boardroom" mould and highlight the club's unique personality. So, I understand.

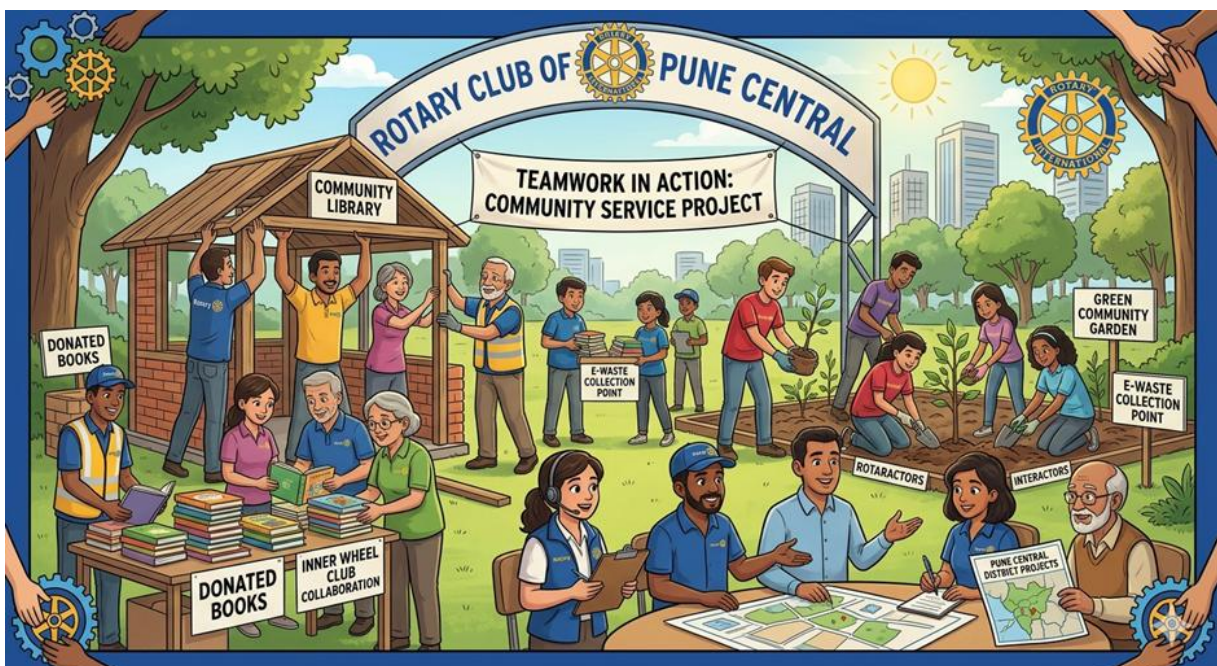
While we look forward to the visit, it becomes our responsibility as RCPC to not only welcome DG Rtn Santosh Marathe, but also to show up in large numbers.

In a volunteer-led world like Rotary, **showing up** is the ultimate currency. It's the difference between a club that exists on paper and one that changes lives.

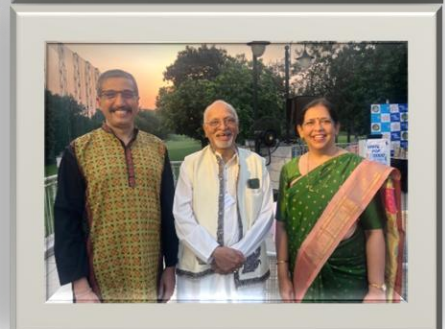
"Showing up" is such a powerful motivator in this context. It is a massive signal of **validation**. For a club that's been grinding away on local projects, having the "top brass" physically there to see their work makes the members feel seen and appreciated. It turns abstract global goals into personal connections. Motivation is contagious. When members show up in high numbers for the DG visit, it creates a "critical mass" of energy. It reminds everyone that they are part of something bigger than a weekly lunch—they are part of a **movement**. That collective energy often sparks the "big idea" for the next project. For newer members, seeing the "old guard" and the club leaders show up with enthusiasm is the best training they can get. It proves that the club's values aren't just words on a banner, but a **commitment of time**.

Hope to see everyone today. Let us put our act together and break some records here. Nothing like Teamwork.

Krishna



Club Meeting on 11th April 2026 – Bazm-e-shaayri – in Pics



RCPC visit to Mauritius

Rtn PP Ajay and R'Ann Dipti Chitnis, Rtn Giri and R'Ann Usha Sakhrani & Rtn Delshad Karanjia are in Mauritius. The Rotary Club of Flacq in Mauritius is hosting them. Rtn Sneha Jain did their travel arrangements.

We wish them an enjoyable trip.


STOP PRESS – note from Rtn **PP Cmde Ajay Chitnis**:

“The visit to RC Flacq, Mauritius has been an outstanding success. Today, we will be attending the Joint Club Meeting of RC Flacq and RCPC. I propose to announce a Biennial Exchange visit between our clubs, going forward - they visit us in 2026-27, and we visit them in 2027-28, and so on.”




Painting by Rtn Julius Rocque

Vocational visit to Western Naval Command – Mumbai – 26 April 2026




UNITE FOR GOOD

Vocational Visit to Western Naval Command in Mumbai

Date: Sunday, 26 April




Program Schedule:
06:30 AM – Departure from Pune
11:00 AM – Arrival at Naval Dockyard, Mumbai
11:15 AM – 01:15 PM – Visit to Ship and Submarine
01:15 PM – 02:30 PM – Lunch at IMSC Dhanush
02:45 PM – 03:30 PM – Visit to INS Shikra (Naval Air Station)
03:45 PM – Departure for Pune



- **Travel options:**
 - One 35–40 seater luxury bus, or
 - Two 17-seater Urbania mini-buses
- **Aadhar card copies** must be submitted in advance.
- **Only Rotarians and R'Anns** are permitted for this trip.
- **Breakfast** can be arranged enroute at a food mall.
- **Lunch charges** will be **paid on an actual basis**

Project update – She Can and She Will!



Rotary Club of Pune Central

SHE CAN SHE WILL

A Boxing talent development program for girls

7 Day Training Camp from 23rd - 29th April
At Gen Arun Vaidya Stadium, Pune

Partners : Pune City Boxing Association

A seven-day Boxing training camp for 60 girls will be held at Gen Arun Vaidya Stadium from 23 - 29th April 2026.

On the 7th day, there will be competition amongst the participating girls, and 15 women boxers will be shortlisted for specific support in terms of kit and diet and boxing training during the next one year, to prepare them to reach a podium finish at the State and National Boxing Championships.

A Press Conference to announce the above event will be held at Patrakar Bhavan at 1.30 pm on Friday 17 April 2026.

We thank our Project Convener - **Rtn IPP Brig PKM Raja** and all the donors: **Rtn Yogesh Shah** for giving a major contribution and our other donors - **Rtn Sanjiv Kumar, Rtn Shireesh Nadkar, Rtn Kanwal Guliani & Rtn IPP Brig Raja.**

Welcome our new member: Col. L M Sathe



Colonel L. M. Sathe served in the Indian Army's prestigious Rajput Regiment from 1971 to 1995 before retiring from active service. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree, an M.Sc. in Defence Studies, and an MBA. He is an alumnus of Sainik School, Satara, and the National Defence Academy, Khadakwasla, Pune.

He was inducted into operations during the 1971 Bangladesh War, in which the Indian Armed Forces played a decisive role, leading to the creation of Bangladesh and the capture of approximately 100,000 Pakistani prisoners of war. During his distinguished military career, he served in challenging terrains, including the Himalayan borders in the North East (Arunachal Pradesh and Nagaland), the deserts of Rajasthan along the Pakistan border, as well as in Kargil, Kashmir, and Punjab. He also participated in key operations in Sri Lanka, Punjab (including Operation Blue Star), and Jammu & Kashmir.

He was awarded several honors and commendations for his service.

After retirement, Colonel Sathe actively engaged in business ventures and social initiatives. He has been deeply involved in ex-servicemen welfare and community development. Currently, through his NGO, "Green Thumb," he is working dedicatedly on the rejuvenation (punarjeevan) of water reservoirs and dams to improve the water situation in Maharashtra, including efforts around the Khadakwasla Dam and lake serving Pune city.

He also supports and participates in various ex-servicemen associations and regularly conducts motivational and guidance lectures in schools and colleges. In addition, he financially supports several NGOs and social causes.

Colonel Sathe was a member of the Rotary Club of Kolhapur from 1994 to 2003, where he contributed significantly to social and charitable initiatives.

He is married to Mrs. Nutan Sathe, who hails from the Indore region. She holds a master's degree in Botany from Dr. Harisingh Gour University, Sagar, along with a B.Ed. from Udaipur University and a qualification in computer studies. She worked as a teacher at various Army stations and actively supported business operations, including accounts and financial management. She played a pivotal role in raising and educating their two daughters while her husband was serving on active duty in border areas. Mrs. Sathe continues to support and participate in social work initiatives.



Their elder daughter, Ms. Meghana, is settled in the USA, and their younger daughter, Ms. Aneesha, is settled in Australia.