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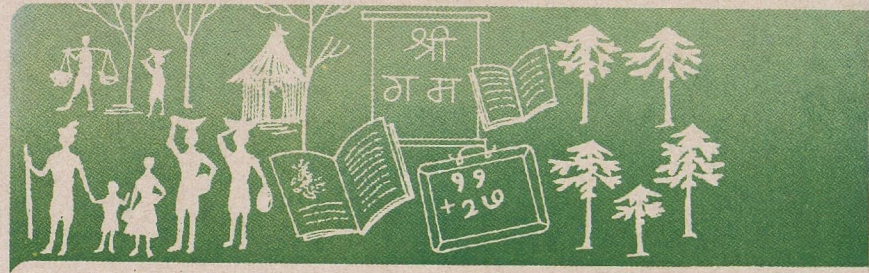


HONOR ROTARY
WITH
FAITH AND ENTHUSIASM

Governor's Monthly Letter

DISTRICT GOVERNOR
Dr. Venkatrao D. Gadwal

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT - 314



PAULO V.C. COSTA R.I. PRESIDENT

ISSUE 8: FEBRUARY, 1991



DG Dr. Venkat and Dr. Sharada with the R.I. President's Representative, PDG Manohar Lal Aggarwal, and his charming Ann Pratibha



An elephantine welcome. Two pachyderms — they may become an endangered species very soon — trumpet the arrival of Padma Vibhushan Dr. M.S. Swaminathan



His Holiness Swami Chinmayananda lights the traditional lamp to inaugurate the XXIst Conference of our District. Next to him is the Conference Chairman, PP Ram Deole. (Below) It's the turn of DG Dr. Venkat to help spread light



Thane Mayor Mohan Gupte welcomes Swamiji as Conference Secretary Pritam Ghanshamani awaits his turn. A Youth Exchange Student (right) plays the "sitar", while (below) Pandit Shiv Kumar Sharma enthralls with his "santoor"



THE 'MOTHER OF ALL CONFERENCES'

It was the "Mother of all Conferences", if one may amend the expression coined by Saddam Hussein. No other words can describe the unique experience that was shared by all 1,472 Rotarians, Rotaryans and guests who flocked to Hotel Leela Kempinski on 19th and 20th January, 1991, for the 21st R.I. District 314 Conference. Were you there? No? Well, that's just your bad luck. For, the programme devised by the District Governor, Dr. Venkat Gadwal, and the arrangements made by the Hosts, the Rotary Club of Thane, with Chairman PP Ram Deole in the vanguard (and with PDG Aziz Visram as Adviser), left nothing to be desired.

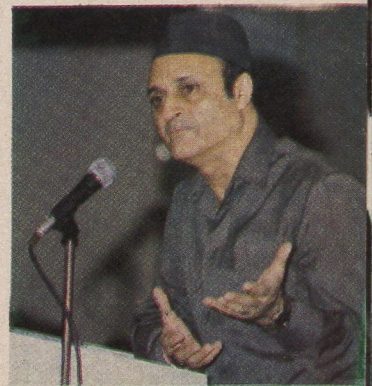
To put it mildly, the speakers were superb; the food, a gourmet's delight; the cultural events, simply enthralling. Everything that makes Rotary what it is was there for all to partake of and to share and share alike.

WE'VE DONE IT!

My dear Presidents, Secretaries and Team Members,
Greetings.

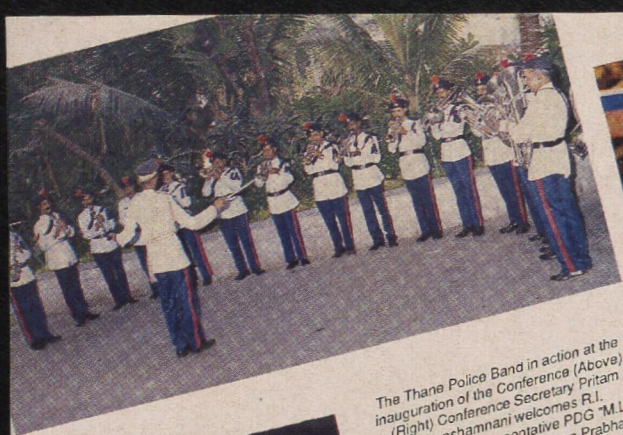
Your participation, the Conference Committee's and the Host Club's planning and perspiration, the Conference Adviser's able guidance, the Keynote Speakers' inspiration, the Chairmen's and the Presidents' co-operation and the R.I. President's Representative PDG Manohar Lal Aggarwal's and his Ann Pratibha's gracious presence all through, made the Conference an outstanding success. It demonstrated excellent team work; WE'VE DONE IT! Both Sharada and I thank all of you from the bottom of our hearts. Please keep up the same tempo for the rest of the year.

Your
Venkat



Mr. Anand S. Bose, IAS, came down specially from Trivandrum to give a keynote talk on "Youth Quake" (below left). The "guru" adjusts his "shishya's" collar. Dr. M.S. Swaminathan, who was Guest of Honour at the Conference, has no qualms about helping his one-time student, DG Dr. Venkat. From one star to another. (Below right) DG Dr. Venkat presents a memento to film star Shashi Kapoor who was with us to help raise funds for the Foundation. Finally (at right), Dr. Karan Singh, an erudite scholar, gives an extremely interesting talk on the "Vocational Field"

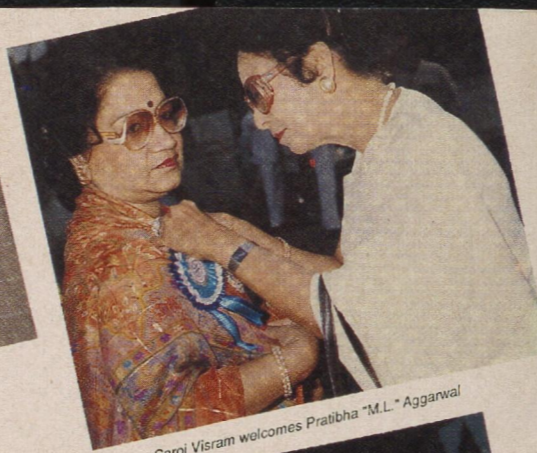




The Thane Police Band in action at the inauguration of the Conference (Above); (Right) Conference Secretary Pritam Ghanshamani welcomes PDG "M.L." Aggarwal; (Left) Rotaryann Prabhakar Aggarwal; (Below) Mainur sings Rotary songs; (Below) Conference Chairman Ram Deole takes a stab at lighting the lamp



Saroj Visram welcomes Pratibha "M.L." Aggarwal



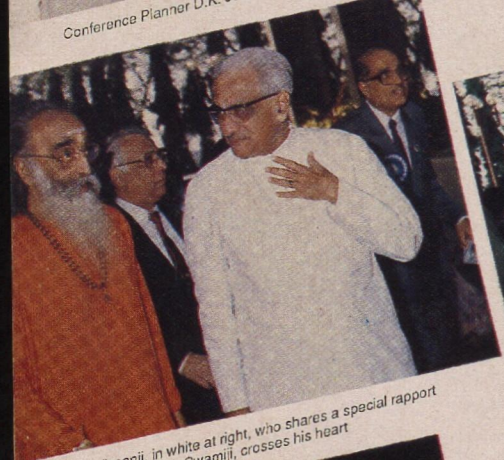
Nirmala Mohan Gupte welcomes Dr. Sharada (above) and Dr. M.S. Swaminathan (below)



Suniti Ram Deole pins a badge on DGN Sippy Rao



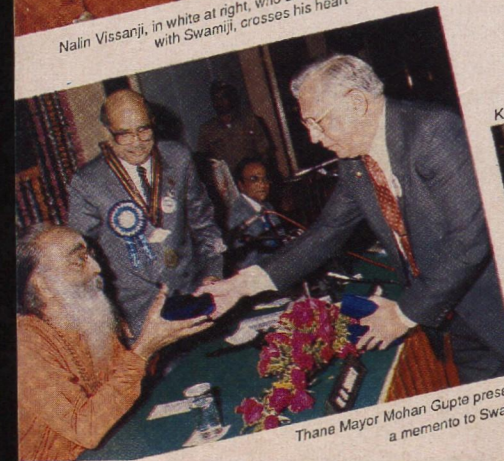
Conference Planner D.K. Joshi presents a bouquet to PDG M.P. Apte



Nalin Vissanji, in white at right, who shares a special rapport with Swamiji, crosses his heart



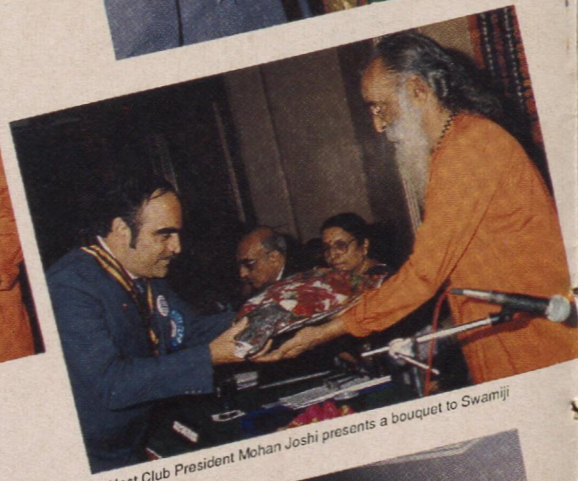
District Treasurer Hans Khimji joins Dr. Venkat in welcoming Swamiji



Thane Mayor Mohan Gupte presents a memento to Swamiji



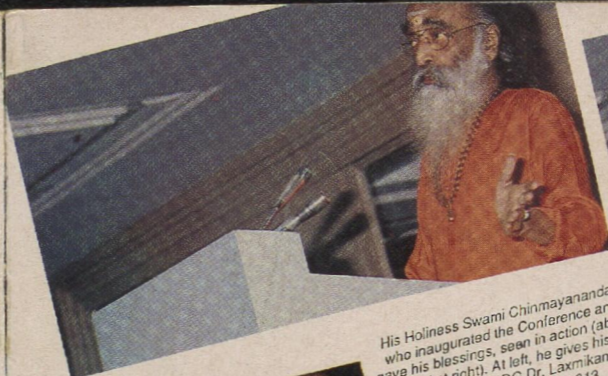
Kishu Hinduja, Dr. Venkat, Ram and Mohan accompany Swamiji



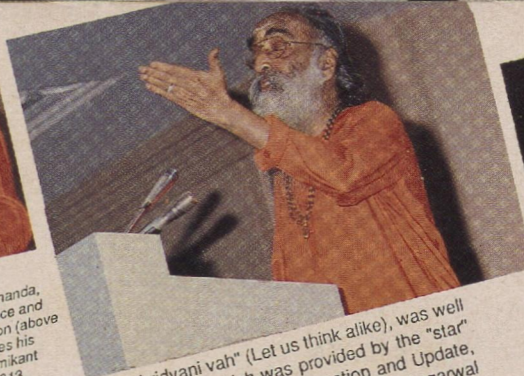
Host Club President Mohan Joshi presents a bouquet to Swamiji



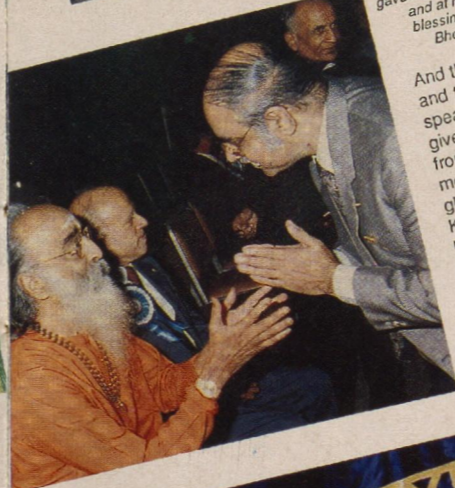
Swamiji casts a spell over the audience



His Holiness Swami Chinmayananda, who inaugurated the Conference and gave his blessings, seen in action (above) and at right. At left, he gives his blessings to PDG Dr. Laxmikant Bhojwani from District 313



And the Conference Theme, "Samana hridayani vah" (Let us think alike), was well and truly lived by all. Be it spiritual upliftment, which was provided by the "star" speaker, His Holiness Swami Chinmayananda; Rotary Information and Update, given so eloquently by R.I. President's Representative PDG Manohar Lal Aggarwal from Delhi; the need for making a happy mixture of "Environment and Development", stressed by the Guest of Honour, Padma Vibhushan Dr. M.S. Swaminathan; glamorous support for the Rotary Foundation, in the shape of film star Shashi Karan Singh; or scintillating music, as composed by Prabhakar Mathur, the Host Club President Kumar Sharma; nothing was left out. It was District 314's finest hour. But to begin at the very beginning, the Rotary songs by Rtn. Mohan Gupte, as invoked by Mrs. Vidula Bhagwat, the welcome extended by Host Club President Ramesh Joshi, the special welcome by the Thane Mayor, Rtn. Mohan Gupte, also the pair of gaily-caparisoned pachyderms (or elephants, if you will), got the Conference off to a flying start. And just in case you were wondering whether we really became air-borne, yes, there was a hot-air balloon (with a diameter of nearly 18 feet), with the message "Preserve Planet Earth", that was hoisted about 100 feet up in the air at the venue.



Swamiji had the audience rolling in the aisles with his devastatingly honest appraisal of the modern man — who seeks to "change the mirror because he doesn't look nice any longer". Service to the less fortunate, he added, should be the religion of all Rotarians. After Ram Deole listed the highlights of the Conference and invited all Rotarians to share in the spread laid out by his humble team, it was Dr. Venkat who expounded on the Conference Theme, "Let us think alike". Never before had it been as necessary, he said, for Rotarians to think on the same lines — of providing succour to the have-nots.



Flowers for the "guru". Dr. Venkat presents a bouquet to Dr. Swaminathan

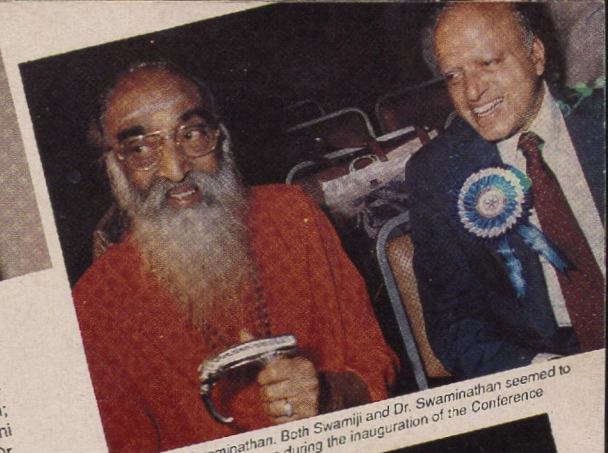
PDG Aziz Visram introduced the R.I. President's Representative, PDG Manohar Lal Aggarwal, who came down from Delhi along with his charming Ann, Pratibha. "M.L." shared Paulo V.C. Costa's message with District 314 — superb oratory by him led us to better appreciate the thinking behind Paulo's twin messages for the current Rotary year, "Honor Rotary with Faith and Enthusiasm" and "Preserve Planet Earth". PDG Jyotindra Vakli proposed the vote of thanks. And as soon as the coffee break was announced, "M.L." joined us, the members of the Rotary Clubs of Bombay South and Bombay North End, to inaugurate the special exhibition set up at the Conference venue, styled "Consumer Awareness in Action". District Chairman Shantikumar Kapadia, under the able guidance of PP Vithal Palekar, had been successful in setting up a fine exhibition, for which thanks also go to Abraham John of Bombay North End.



At the "Consumer Awareness in Action" exhibition, inaugurated by "M.L." (from left) PDG Manibhai Doshi, Abraham John of Bombay South, "M.L." (which organised the exhibition jointly with Bombay South), "M.L." Bombay South President Indravadan Parekh, District Vocational Service Chairman PP Vithal Palekar and PP Taru Lavani. (Below) B.R. Barwale (right), who introduced Dr. Swaminathan



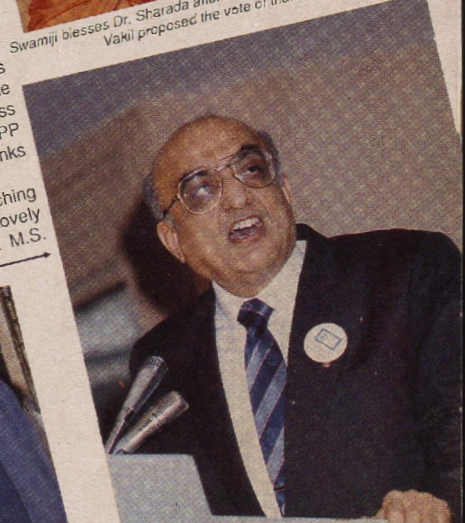
Welcome to you, too, Dr. Venkat tells PP Hansraj Marwala of Bombay Down Town (above left) as they receive Dr. Swaminathan. Awaiting a V.I.P. While Mohan Gupte stands slightly apart, Dr. Venkat (below left) exchanges a quick word with Dr. Sharada. Between them is their son, Srinivas. (Below) A special welcome to Dr. Swaminathan from the staff of Hotel Loeila Kempinski, where he stayed overnight before joining us at the Conference

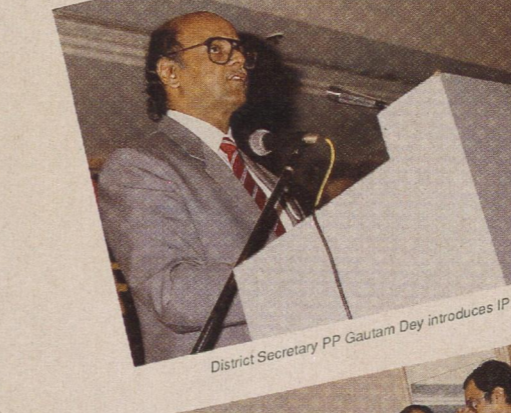
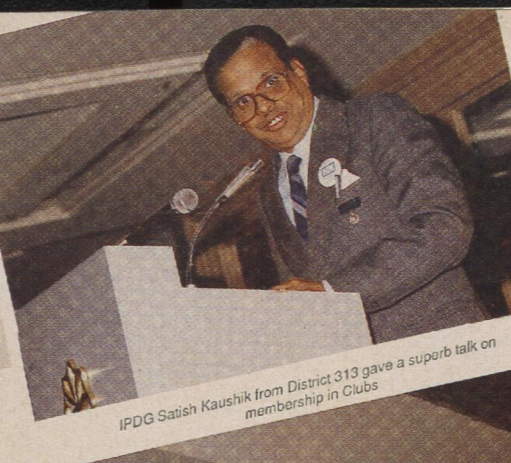
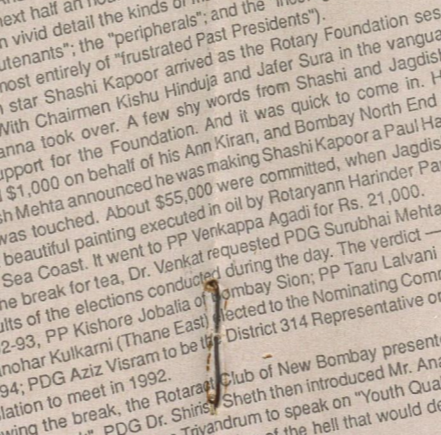
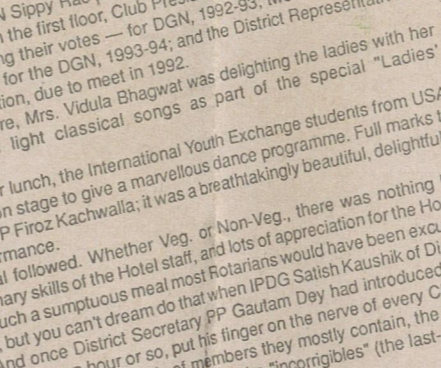
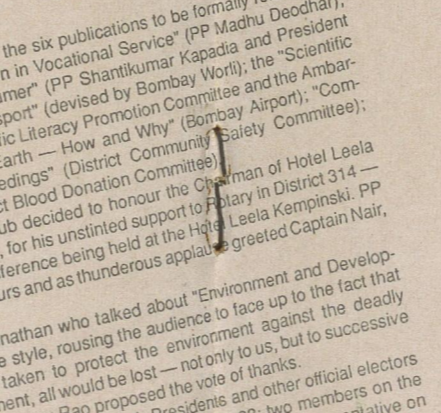
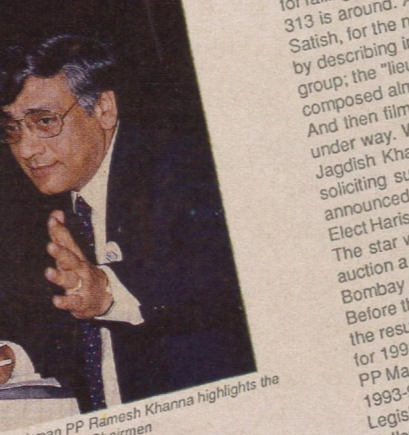
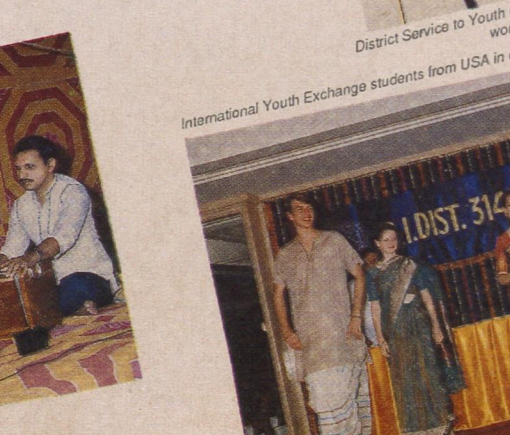
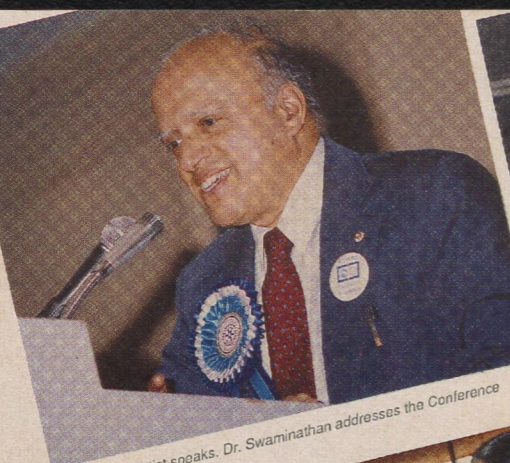
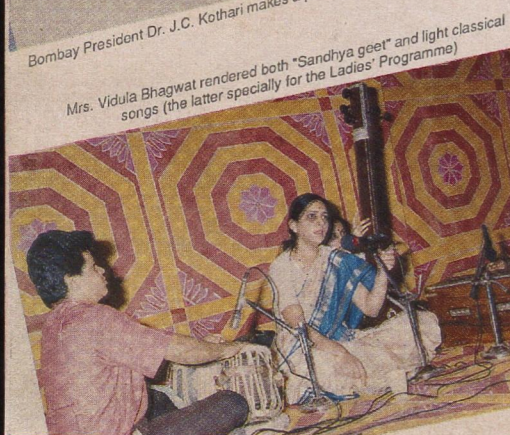
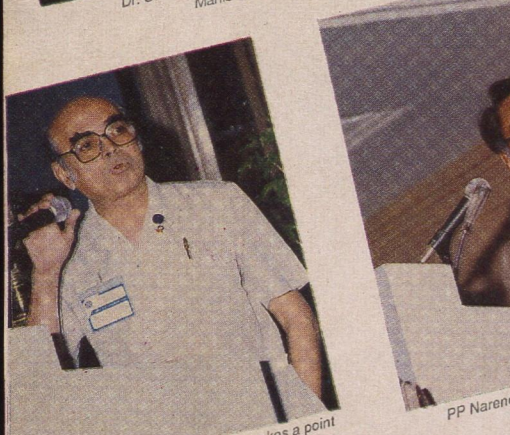
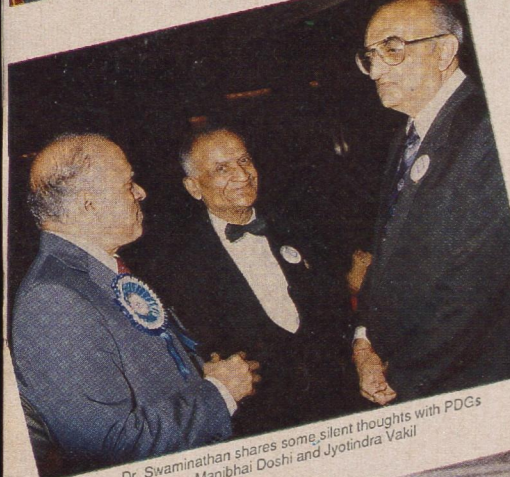


Swami and Swaminathan. Both Swamiji and Dr. Swaminathan seemed to share excellent vibes during the inauguration of the Conference



Swamiji blesses Dr. Sharada after his talk (above). And PDG Jyotindra Vakli proposed the vote of thanks (below)





And promptly Dr. Venkat called for the six publications to be formally released by Dr. Swaminathan — "A New Vision in Vocational Service" (PP Madhu Deodhar); "A Handbook for the Alert Consumer" (PP Shantikumar Kapadia and President Anmol Purohit); the "Health Passport" (devised by Bombay World); the "Scientific Calendar" (by the District Scientific Literacy Promotion Committee and the Ambar-nath Club); "Preserve Planet Earth — How and Why" (Bombay Airport); "Community Safety Seminar Proceedings" (District Community Safety Committee); "Give Blood, Save Life" (District Blood Donation Committee). In a rare gesture, the Host Club decided to honour the Chairman of Hotel Leela Ventures, Captain C.P.K. Nair, for his unstinted support to Rotary in District 314 — this was the third District Conference being held at the Hotel Leela Kempinski. PP Narendra Ballal did the honours and as thunderous applause greeted Captain Nair, he was deeply touched. And then it was Dr. Swaminathan who talked about "Environment and Development", in his own inimitable style, rousing the audience to face up to the fact that if drastic action was not taken to protect the environment against the deadly "disease" called development, all would be lost — not only to us, but to successive generations as well. DGN Sippy Rao proposed the vote of official electors were quietly busy casting their votes — for DGN, 1992-93; two members on the Council on Legislation, due to meet in 1992. In a separate enclosure, Mrs. Vidula Bhagwat was part of the special "Ladies' Programme". Before adjourning for lunch, the International Youth Exchange students from USA and Canada came on stage to give a marvellous dance programme. Full marks to District Chairman PP Firoz Kachwala; it was a breathtakingly beautiful, delightfully orchestrated performance. A sumptuous meal followed. Whether Veg. or Non-Veg., there was nothing but praise for the culinary skills of the Hotel staff, and lots of appreciation for the Hosts. Of course, after such a sumptuous meal most Rotarians would have been excused for falling asleep, but you can't dream do that when IPDG Satish Kaushik of District 314 is around. And once District Secretary PP Gautam Dey had introduced him, Satish, for the next half an hour or so, put his finger on the nerve of every Club — by describing in vivid detail the kinds of members they mostly contain, the "core" group; the "lieutenants"; the "peripherals"; and the "incorrigibles" (the last-named composed almost entirely of "frustrated Past Presidents"). And then film star Shashi Kapoor arrived as the Rotary Foundation session got under way. With Chairmen Kishu Hinduja and Jafer Sura in the vanguard, PDG Jagdish Khanna look over. A few shy words from Shashi and Jagdish sought to solicit support for the Foundation. And it was quick to come in. He himself announced \$1,000 on behalf of his Am Kiran, and Bombay North End President-Elect Harish Mehta announced he was making Shashi Kapoor a Paul Harris Fellow. The star was touched. About \$55,000 were committed, when Jagdish sought to auction a beautiful painting executed in oil by Rotaryann Harinder Paul Macker of Bombay Sea Coast. It went to PP Venkappa Agadi for Rs. 21,000. Before the break for tea, Dr. Venkat requested PDG Surubhai Mehta to announce the results of the elections conducted during the day. The verdict — DGN elected for 1992-93, PP Kishore Jobalia of Bombay Lion; PP Taru Lalvani (Bombay) and PP Manohar Kulkarni (Thane East) elected to the Nominating Committee for DGN, 1993-94; PDG Aziz Visram to be the District 314 Representative on the Council on Legislation to meet in 1992. Following the break, the Rotaract Club of New Bombay presented an interesting skit, "Napunsak". PDG Dr. Shirish Sheth then introduced Mr. Anand S. Bose, IAS, who came all the way from Trivandrum to speak on "Youth Quake". A fiery orator, he set the hall aflame, with a warning of the hell that would descend on earth in case the youth's energy was not channelised.

Dr. Swaminathan releases the "Health Passport" devised by Bombay World, with President Dossu Paymaster (above), and "Preserve Planet Earth — How & Why", brought out by Bombay Airport, with President Dhananjay Sainha (below)

The scientist speaks. Dr. Swaminathan addresses the Conference

Captain Nair of Hotel Leela Ventures, was specially honoured at the Conference. (Right) He is felicitated by Dr. Venkat and Dr. Swaminathan

IPDG Satish Kaushik from District 313 gave a superb talk on membership in Clubs

A Youth Exchange student addresses the Conference

President-Elect Harish Mehta of the Rotary Club of Bombay North End makes Shashi Kapoor a Paul Harris Fellow

Dr. Swaminathan, Barwale, D.K. Joshi, Dr. Venkat and PP Babulal Todi having a tete-a-tete during the coffee break

District Secretary PP Gautam Dey introduces IPDG Satish Kaushik

PDG Dr. Shirish Sheth introduces Mr. Anand S. Bose

Dr. Swaminathan shares some silent thoughts with PDGs Manibhai Doshi and Jyotindra Vakil

Club Service II Chairman PP Kumarappa Venkatachalam speaks about the work done by his Committees during the year so far

District Club Service Chairmen all. (From left) Suryakant Gajjar, Venki Madhu, Kishore Khona, Vijendra Malhotra and Ashok Khemlani

Bombay President Dr. J.C. Kothari makes a point

PP Narendra Ballal introduces Captain Nair of Hotel Leela Ventures

District Service to Youth Chairman PP Ramesh Khanna highlights the work done by his Chairmen

(Left) PDG "M.L." and his Ann Pratibha enjoy the colourful display by International Youth Exchange Students (below)

(Above right) PDG Jagdish Khanna auctions a painting by Harinder Paul Macker, with the proceeds going to the Foundation. Holding the canvas aloft is Kumar Hansraj; (Above) A memento for Shashi from Foundation Chairman Jafer Sura; (Right) District Club Service I Chairman Madhu Deodhar speaks; (Below) Simi Harish Mehta is felicitated by Shashi for making a contribution to the Foundation; (Left) Dr. Venkat shares a thought with Mr. Anand Bose, who gave an excellent talk on "Youth Quake"

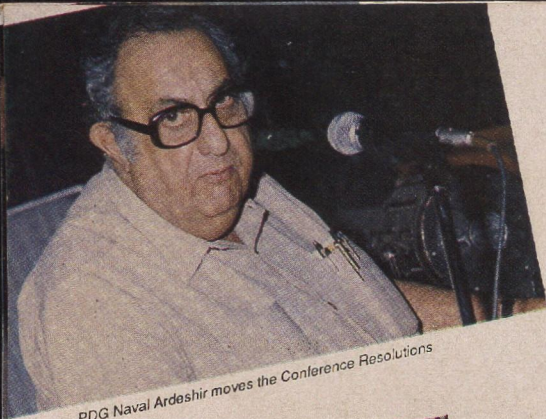
New Bombay Rotaractors present an exciting skit, "Napunsak"

Mrs. Vidula Bhagwat rendered both "Sandhya geet" and light classical songs (the latter specially for the Ladies' Programme)

International Youth Exchange students from USA in colourful Indian attire

(Left) PDG "M.L." and his Ann Pratibha enjoy the colourful display by International Youth Exchange Students (below)

New Bombay Rotaractors present an exciting skit, "Napunsak"



PDG Naval Ardeshir moves the Conference Resolutions



President Suresh Jasani of Bombay West invites all Rotarians to attend the next District Conference, to be hosted by his Club during Sippy Rao's tenure



Exchanging notes as the Conference nears an end. (From left) PDG M.L. Aggarwal, PDG Aziz Visram, Vice-President Vikram Kamdar of the Rotary Club of Bombay, District Treasurer Hans Khimji and Rotaryann Pratibha Aggarwal



The lucky winner, PP Yusuf Barot of Bhiwandi receives two return air-tickets for Singapore in the lucky draw

Key events in February
 February is World Understanding Month. More specifically, 23rd February is World Understanding and Peace Day. It is also the 86th anniversary of Rotary; and the deadline for the receipt of nominations for the 1990-91 Presidential Awards of Honour. Meanwhile, District Blood Donation Committee Chairman PP Pritpal Singh Bhatia has announced that February will be celebrated as Blood Donation Month. He has requested all Club Presidents to organise blood donation drives.



Audience participation: Rambhau Shirode, speaking in chaste Marathi, lauded Dr. Venkat for a "superb" Conference



At the Ladies' Programme. Among those in the first row can be seen Dr. Sharada, Pralibha Aggarwal and Saroj Visram

Unique Fellowship at Madh beach

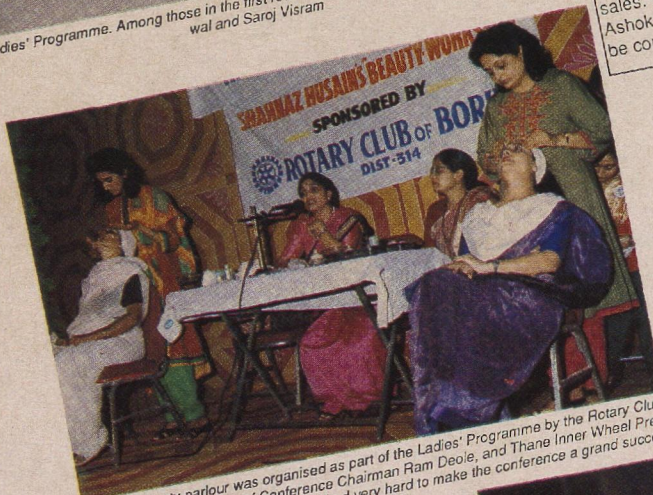
The District Fellowship Committee Chairman PP Shiv Dev Gorowara is drawing up ambitious plans for a special day-long Fellowship picnic to Madh beach near Malad in Bombay, tentatively fixed for 3rd March.



A gift for Khubo Gursahani of Bombay Harbour, who gifted the free air tickets to Singapore. He is being thanked by Dr. Venkat

Club software released

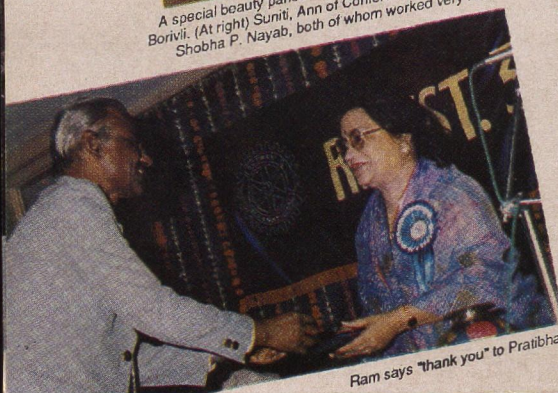
One of the outstanding features of the District Conference was the release of special software for use by all Rotary Clubs. The package, priced at a modest Rs. 200, registered brisk sales. The District Committee, with PP Ashok Khemlani as Chairman, must be complimented for doing a fine job.



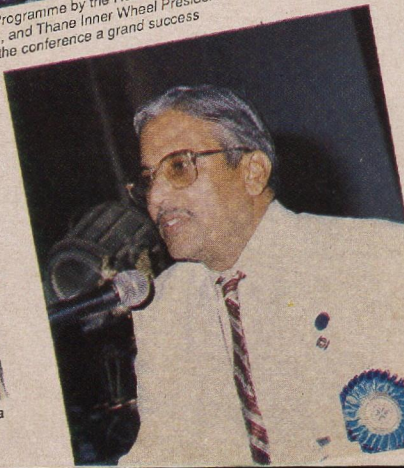
A special beauty parlour was organised as part of the Ladies' Programme by the Rotary Club of Borivli. (At right) Suniti, Ann of Conference Chairman Ram Deole, and Thane Inner Wheel President Shobha P. Nayab, both of whom worked very hard to make the conference a grand success



PDG Aziz Visram with "M.L." and Pratibha. Aziz was the official Aide during their visit to Bombay



Ram says "thank you" to Pratibha



Conference Secretary Pritam Ghanshamnani proposes the final vote of thanks (left). Great show! Mohan Gupte (above) congratulates Dr. Venkat after he declared the Conference closed

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