

# RMBF NEWS

**N***etwork* **E***xchange* **W***ork* **S***ucceed*



**ROTARY MEANS  
BUSINESS  
FELLOWSHIP**



**MERRY CHRISTMAS**  
**HAPPY NEW YEAR**  
happy networking

# Editor's Note:

Dear RMBF Community,

As we celebrate the tenth year of Rotary Means Business Fellowship and embrace the dawn of a new year, I extend heartfelt wishes to each of you. May the joy of Christmas linger in your hearts, and may the coming year bring prosperity and fresh opportunities for personal growth.

I am thrilled to announce the launch of the 4th Edition of our quarterly publication, "RMBF NEWS (Network, Exchange, Work, Socialize)," on January 1st, marking the culmination of 2023. This edition showcases the vitality of our community and the myriad achievements of our members.

To enhance our communication platform, we kindly request each chapter to limit their submissions to a concise 200 words, ensuring readability and allowing us to spotlight more compelling stories from the entire RMBF network.

In our pursuit of visual excellence, we encourage the submission of portrait creatives for advertisements, occupying a quarter of a page. For inquiries regarding full-page advertisements, please reach out to [chair@rotarymeansbusiness.org](mailto:chair@rotarymeansbusiness.org).

I am delighted to share that we have officially chartered our 200th local chapter, a significant milestone in our journey of fostering connections and business excellence.

Together, let's make the RMBF NEWS a testament to our collective achievements and successes. Your engagement and contributions truly reflect the vigor and strength of our fellowship.

Here's to a year filled with continued success, growth, and collaboration in 2024!

Wishing you a joyous Christmas and a prosperous New Year!

Warm regards,  
Annet Samith Gururaj  
Editor, RMBF NEWS



# Chairman Speaks:

Dearest RMBians,

I would like to greet our distinguished RMBF community with warm Season's Greetings. This festive season gives us a chance to not only enjoy the celebrations but also to take stock of the milestones and successes we've reached together this year.

As we celebrate our group's accomplishments, I'm excited to point out a few significant turning points that have shed light on our path this year:



Successful booth at the Melbourne Rotary International Convention: We were pleased with the booth's outstanding performance at the Melbourne Rotary International Convention. Our attendance at this esteemed occasion demonstrated our power and vibrancy on a global level.

Launch of a New Website: We have launched our eagerly anticipated newest website, which has received excellent traffic and seen a surge in registrations thanks to the easy registration process. This highlights the site's accomplishment in offering a user-friendly platform that encourages interaction and connection.

Chapter Expansion: The network's entry into the African continent has been a highlight of our chapter growth. We have experienced one of the fastest growing quarters in recent times, with 15 new chapters (all of which have been very active in a short period of time). With that, we have officially chartered 200 local chapters. Our dedication to creating relationships and possibilities in various places is evidenced by the founding and expansion of multiple chapters in Africa.

Introduction of the Quarterly Newsletter: Our RMBians now consider our quarterly newsletter to be an indispensable resource. In addition to featuring motivational tales and news, the newsletter provides a venue for members to promote their companies, enjoying the advantages of heightened exposure

both inside and outside of our community.

Successful National Conclave: It is crucial to emphasize the overwhelming success of our National Conclave in Jaipur, with special attention to Rtn. Arvind Batra, Director, RMBF for turning it into a reality by quickly putting on an excellent program that demonstrated our network's capacity to establish dynamic venues for learning, networking, and international linkages.

RMB CLI and its Educational Programs: Through the provision of priceless knowledge, RMB CLI and its educational programs have enabled our leaders and members and promoted ongoing professional development.

Numerous chapters of our organization commemorated the tenth anniversary with regular meetings and other special events in their respective regions, all while continuing to strive toward our shared goal of reaching the aforementioned milestones. I want to thank the numerous chapters that have organized networking events for the benefit of other RMBians and urge everyone to sign up for the upcoming international conclave in Bangalore, which is scheduled for June 7–9, 2024.

I'm wishing everyone a happy new year full of chances and prosperity that never ends.

Best Regards,  
RMBian Sachin Gururaj,  
Chair, RMBF



*Mission of RMBF*

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**RMBIAN RAJAMOHAN  
DHANDAPANI**  
Secretary, RMBF

## From the Secretary's Desk:

These are really exciting times for our Fellowship. It's January 2024 now and we are already rejoicing and celebrating the 10th Anniversary of our Fellowship. What a significant milestone it is!!

At this time we are growing steadily and we have just completed Charter no. 200. Thanks to all those who are helping us in kick starting new chapters. Indeed you have all invested time and energy in mentoring and this is sure to pay you back manifold.

---

### Star Chapters:

**RMB**

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JAIPUR JALGAON & MADRAS**



Congratulations "Star ★ Chapters of the Quarter" - RMBF appreciates your interest in sponsoring newer RMB chapters.

*Star Chapters of the  
Quarter*

---

### real vs reel?

yes, itz real, the reel chapter of the  
Quarter:

**RMB**

**PUNE BUSINESS CIRCLE**



Congratulations RMB PBC "reel chapter of the Quarter" - RMBF appreciates you. You are seen on social media frequently. RMB PBC, keep it up!, keep it up!, keep it up!, keep it up!

*Reel Chapter of the  
Quarter*



# Word From the Board:

This text aims to demonstrate that there is hope. Since 2015, I have been working to create traction and increase the power of the Rotary Means Business network of contacts and relationships in Brazil, and since 2018 in South America.

What I've learned so far is that we need to stop looking for problems for the solutions that are presented.

RMB is one of the most powerful engagement and development tools.

Once again, the energies are renewed and shaped to become better.

Another wave is passing and we have an obligation to surf.

Brazil and South America will have an unprecedented opportunity to develop Rotary in our region, and using the Rotary Means Business tool is a must.

The hope of seeing RMB develop in Brazil and the region is finally renewed but must be remodeled and updated. What I always say is that there is no Rotary without lunches and dinners, just like there is no RMB alone. There will only be Rotary engagement where people feel good, and there will only be RMB where there are people who do not look for problems with each solution presented.

Success to all!



**RMBIAN LEONARDO  
SANTOS**

Director, RMBF



Dear Rotary Means Business Fellowship Members, as we welcome the new year, let us continue to uphold the values of integrity, service, and professionalism in all our business endeavors. Let's strive to make a positive impact in our communities and beyond. Together, let's make 2024 a year of growth, collaboration, and success.

**RMBIAN ARVIND  
BATRA**

Director, RMBF





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As a recap of the past three editions, we touched upon energy and networking by starting a conversation, “Hi, I am an RMBian!”. Let’s go further on. Hoping you all are in the warm zone to connect through the RMB network, let's remember the rule: acquiring customers is the only way to business growth. You need to identify which of the two categories suits your business: (1) Instant or (2) Nurture.

Connects and leads acquired through business network meetings come under the nurture category, while all you need for the 1st format is a budget for publicity. If you need instant results, first decide on the exact result you want and define your budget accordingly. Then taking significant actions will move you towards your goal. Otherwise, simply reach out to any RMBian and be upfront about your budget and result. In the process, you will eventually know the time it requires to achieve the desired result. My business depends on nurturing. Hence, I travel a lot, meet a lot of people, engage with them and take time to initiate business that is eventually a mutually beneficial proposition.

Recently, I visited Chennai for a family function. I added a couple of days to it, combined a multi-district Rotary project and said 'hello' to the RMBians from two newly formed chapters in Chennai. It was such a wonderful experience and we exchanged a lot to understand that we are all sailing in the same boat. Beyond all, every RMBian is a gem and an expert in his chosen field. Let’s open up dialogues with each other to prosper everyone and allow everyone to prosper us too.



**RMBIAN KALPANA  
SRILALITHA**

Director, RMBF

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RMB Kolkata



### Kaushik Sen - Brief Profile

- Financial eXpert and Author
- Working in the Financial Markets since 1995
- Working with Aditya Birla Capital since 2014
- Academically completed MBA Finance from Pune University in First Class
- Helps Individuals to do their Financial Planning
- Helps Individuals to setup Financial Distribution Business without much investment
- Charter President of Rotary Club of Kolkata Benevolence
- Current President of Rotary Means Business (RMB) Kolkata
- Financial Literacy Chair of RID 3291
- Recent Speaker at Pecha Kucha ( www.pechakucha.com )



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**RMBIAN NURVEEN RATTY**  
Director, RMBF

Dear Friends,

Greetings from Mauritius and the African Continent. 2023 has been a milestone year for RMB. Besides celebrating our 10th Anniversary, the Fellowship is witnessing considerable growth globally and especially in Africa. In the past 6 months, we have witnessed 3 new country Chapters in Africa, namely RMB Rwanda, RMB Benin and the very recent RMB Madagascar, with 3 more in the immediate pipeline. It won't be long before we will have more RMB Chapters in Africa, driving businesses and referrals not just for Rotarians in Africa, but beyond.

I seize this opportunity to wish you all a happy Christmas and an amazing year 2024 for your business. Let's keep supporting each other.

## Secretarial Report



RMBian  
Rajamohan  
Dhandapani



**185**

No. Of Chapters  
as on 1st Oct  
2023

**15**

No. Of  
Chapters  
Added Since

**0**

No. of  
Chapters  
Terminated  
Since

**200**

Current No. Of  
Chapters



[secretary@rotarymeansbusiness.org](mailto:secretary@rotarymeansbusiness.org)





# *New Chapter Leaders Bringing Fresh Energy to the Chicagoland Area!*

## **RMBIAN ANDRE L. ADAMS**

Director, RMBF



We are thrilled to announce the arrival of seven dynamic individuals who will be at the helm of our newly formed chapters across the Chicagoland Area. These remarkable leaders are poised to bring their unique expertise, passion, and vision to our community, fostering growth and collaboration. Let's warmly welcome and introduce each of them:

1. Marie Pabst (Agency Director with Other Centered Growth offering employee benefits solutions across the country) and Tom Gosche (Business Accounting Strategist) are set to lead the RMB – Northwest Suburbs Chapter. With their combined wealth of experience and dedication, they aim to create a vibrant and engaging platform for networking and development.
2. Bryant Wallace (CEO and Founder of WallScott Solutions – IT Service Provider) steps into the role of leading the RMB - Northshore Chapter. His enthusiasm for connecting people and fostering meaningful relationships promises to make this chapter an essential hub for professionals in the Northshore area.
3. Heading the RMB - West Chicago Chapter is Marina Mattingly (Founder of Restoration Coalition - specializing in Fire/Flood Restoration), bringing her strategic mindset and commitment to empowering local businesses. Her leadership is sure to spark innovation and connectivity within the Western Suburbs Chapter.
4. DeAnna Thurmond (Owner of YOR's Truly – servicing pets nationwide) assumes leadership of the RMB - South Chicagoland Chapter. Her forward-thinking approach and dedication to community engagement will undoubtedly steer this chapter toward new heights of success.
5. Taking charge of the RMB – Chicago Downtown Chapter is Aleta Williams (Founder of Loquacious Culinary Events), known for her



- exceptional organizational skills and a passion for creating collaborative spaces. Expect dynamic and insightful events under her guidance.
6. Leading the RMB – Fox Valley Chapter is Alan Kirk (VP of Business Development with Izale Financial Group), ready to spearhead an inclusive environment for professionals in the far-western region. His strategic leadership is poised to drive this chapter's impact.
  7. Last but certainly not least, Joe Kosner (Commercial Lines Account Manager) steps into the leadership role of the RMB - Naperville Chapter. His commitment to excellence and fostering meaningful connections will undoubtedly shape the chapter's success.

Each of these chapters will convene once a month on varying days, ensuring accessibility and flexibility for all members across the Chicagoland Area. From engaging workshops to networking events, these gatherings will provide valuable opportunities for professional growth and community building.

We're excited to witness the innovative initiatives and collaborative endeavors these leaders will champion within their respective chapters. Stay tuned for updates and mark your calendars for these monthly gatherings that promise to be enriching and impactful!



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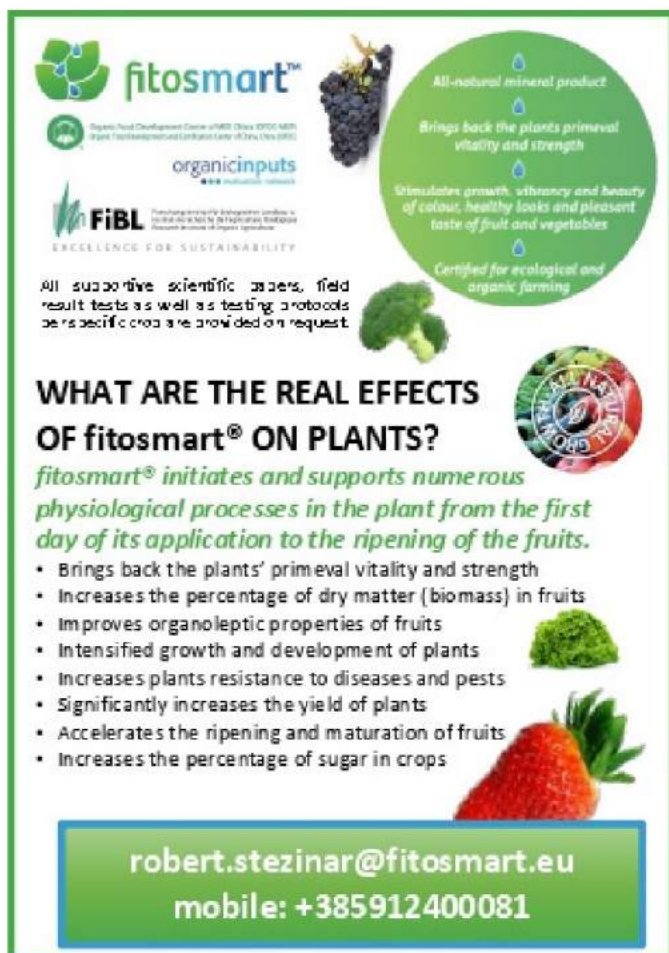


# RMB CLI – Quarterly Report

CLI conducted a special program on the adaptation of digital business and the future of computers. The speaker was Mr. Keith Sherringham from Sydney, Australia. He is an advisor on business integration and transformation, a noted author, and a speaker on the business application of ICT. Mr. Sherringham has authored over 20 papers and several books. He is regularly invited to review papers and proposals for organizations such as CRC Press, IEEE, and MDPI, including the Journal of AI. Keith is a company director, director for not-for-profits, and a fellow and board member of the Australian Computer Society. The excellent program was attended by 40+ RMBians.



**KEITH SHERRINGHAM**



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# RMB Connect 2023 – RMB Kolkata

**RMBIAN KAUSHIK SEN**

President, RMB Kolkata

RMB CONNECT 2023, the 6th edition of the Annual Business Conference of RMB Kolkata, concluded successfully after hosting a spectacular four-day mega event from December 7th to 10th, 2023. The entire event was planned and executed under the dynamic leadership of



Chapter President Rtn. Kaushik Sen. The primary objective of this gathering was to foster entrepreneurship and bolster business activities among fellow Rotarians and RMBIANS. Distinguished personalities, Rotarians and RMBIANS from across the country attended the program.

RMB Chair Rtn. Sachin Gururaj and Past President of Rotary International Rtn. Shekhar Mehta, PDG Rajani Mukherjee, PDG Ajay Agarwal, PDG Rajendra Khandelwal and District Governor Elect Dr. Krishnendu Gupta from RID 3291 and PDG SAM Showket Hossain from Dhaka, Bangladesh, RID 3281 graced the event. RMB Members from RMB Erode, RMB Bangalore, RMB Udaipur, RMB Mumbai Numero Uno, RMB Madras, RMB Jamnagar, RMB District 3142 ( Mumbai ), RMB RCN ( Nagpur ) and RMB Madurai took part in the conference.

Eminent businessmen Mr. Sunil Kumar Chaturvedi, Mr. Debaditya Chaudhury and Mr. Kalyan Kar, accompanied by moderator Mr. Darshan Dudhuria held a panel discussion that offered useful insights about doing business in Bengal. Several first generation entrepreneurs were awarded RMB Kolkata Entrepreneur Awards 2023 for achieving outstanding success in businesses. A handful of 100+ years old businesses of Bengal were awarded RMB Kolkata Business Legacy Awards 2023. Fellowship and



business networking along with dinner followed the main event on 7th December. On 8th December, RMB Routine Business Meeting was held on Cruise on River Ganges. A captivating tour of Shantiniketan on 9th and 10th December added a whole different dimension to the conference. Local television media Zee 24 Ghanta and TV9 covered the event.



The opportunity to attend the 6th Edition of the Annual Conference of Rotary Means Business in Kolkata, although only for a day owing to time constraints, was a fruitful and enjoyable one for me. Aimed at elevating the prevailing standards in business excellence, the RMB conference offers a unique platform to inspire, refer and support Rotary members in business. My personal experience of participating in this year's conference was enriched by the opportunity to interact with Rtn Kaushik Sen, President and Rtn Nilu Kedia, Secretary from RMB Kolkata. I was greatly impressed by their wisdom and knowledge and enjoyed every bit of my time with them. I also got the opportunity to interact with several fellow Rotarians, many of whom are industry leaders in their own right and possess exemplary business acumen. I believe the networking, goodwill and friendship earned and established during the conference will prove to be beneficial to all those of us who were fortunate to attend and will go a long way in transforming our professional and personal journeys. All in all, the conference was a smooth and enjoyable ride for me (Kolkata's infamous taxi rides included!) I wish continued success to RMB Connect for all their future endeavours!



**RMBIAN AMIT YENURKAR**  
Member, RMB RCN



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# RMB NETWORKING EVENT - RMB

## District 7390

**RMBIAN ALDEN CUNNINGHAM**

Past Board Member, RMBF

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United Zion Retirement Community, and Event Sponsors Caretakers Electric, Christian Brothers Automotive, and the Rotary Club of Lititz conducted a super successful RMB networking event on October 5th at the absolutely fantastic Holiday Inn Lancaster. There were 24 Rotarians, guests and family of Rotary attending from twelve Rotary clubs as follows: Carlisle, Carlisle Sunrise, Elizabethtown, Harrisburg Keystone, Lancaster, Lancaster Hempfield, Lancaster Penn Square, Lancaster Sunrise, Lititz, Mechanicsburg North, Paradise, and West Shore.

Driving the success of this event were Janelle Ellis of the Rotary Club of Lititz and Gary Davis of the Rotary Club of Lancaster Penn Square and Sales Manager of the Holiday Inn. Gary did an excellent job of seeing that we had a great venue within the hotel and making sure everyone was taken care of during the event in every possible way. Janelle painstakingly took care of event administration and coordination throughout the process and sparkled in her presentations covering not only her own club's accomplishments but representing Truist Bank super well and even covering for some of the sponsors who could not attend. Carol Cunningham did her usual fantastic job of making sure we had a great selection of photos to represent the event. Also, a shout out to our DG Fred Gellert and Immediate PDG Juliet Altenberg for supporting the event by attending thus demonstrating their strong support for RMB. Well done all!





# Installation Ceremony - RMB Calicut

**RMBIAN ADV. SUJITH SURESH**

Chapter Leader, RMB Calicut

The RMB Calicut chapter Installation Ceremony was held on 7th October 2023 at TAJ GATEWAY. The ceremonial lighting of the lamp was conducted by DG Rtn. MD Dr. Sethu Shiv Sankar.



The Installation Ceremony and Charter Presentation was a significant event for RMB Calicut, symbolizing a new era of leadership and growth. The event was organized to formally introduce and install Rtn. MPHF Sujith Suresh as the Chairman of the esteemed organization, along with other office bearers. RMB orientation session was conducted by Charter Chairman Rtn. Sreejith Panicker. The successful execution of the event and the enthusiastic participation of attendees highlighted the commitment of the Rotary community towards fostering professional relationships and achieving shared goals. The ceremony was a testament to the values upheld by RMB Calicut, emphasizing service, integrity, and collaboration in the realm of business networking.

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## **First Meet-Up - RMB Croatia**

**RMBIAN FRAN MIKULIČIĆ**  
Chapter Leader, RMB Croatia

On December 7th, the local chapter #165 of RMB Croatia organized its first Meet-up. RMB Croatia currently has 61 members, out of which 33 are also members of RMBF. Members of RMB Croatia are actively

networking with friends from Rotary clubs in Bosnia, Serbia, and Montenegro and assisting them in establishing their chapters. We plan to reach out to all our Rotarian friends from different RMB chapters because we deeply believe in supporting the success of fellow Rotarians in business

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## **Rotary Fellowship Cricket Cup 2023 - Season 2 - RMB Udaipur**

**RMBIAN KARAN GARG**  
Past President, RMB Udaipur

Udaipur witnessed the thrill of the Rotary Fellowship Cricket Cup 2023 - Season 2, hosted by the Rotary Means Business Fellowship Udaipur Chapter (RMB Udaipur) on October 7th and 8th, 2023, at the Dyumani Sports Academy. This event aimed to foster camaraderie among local Rotarians engaged in business, enhancing RMB Chapters' membership and connections.



The League Matches took place on October 7th from 3 PM to 9 PM, followed by High-Tea and Dinner. The Semi Finals and Final were held on October 8th from 8 AM to 1 PM, accompanied by Breakfast and Lunch.



The Organizing Committee, led by Rtn. Manish Jain, Rtn. Devendra Choudhary, Vinod Balchandani, and Rtn. Nishant Sharma, collaborated with RMB Udaipur Chapter leaders Rtn. Karan Garg, Rtn. Puneet Gakhreja, and Rtn. Jaismee Kaur for the event's success. Distinguished guests included Rtn. Dr. Nirmal Kunawat, District Governor (DG) of RID 3056, Rtn. Deepak Sukhadia, District Secretary-General (DSG) of RID 3056, and Rtn. Naveen Vaishnav, Charter Chairman of RMB Udaipur.

Twelve Rotary Clubs from Udaipur participated, attracting over 250 prominent Rotarians. A special friendly match showcased the Rotary Club of Udaipur Meera and the Rotary Club of Udaipur Vasudha, highlighting women's empowerment. The spirited match demonstrated their determination and passion, embodying the essence of Rotary beyond the field.

In the thrilling finale, the Rotary Club of Udaipur Udai emerged as champions, showcasing their relentless dedication and cricketing excellence. The Rotary Club of Udaipur Panna, the Season 1 winners, displayed remarkable sportsmanship as the Runner Ups.

The event concluded with certificates presented to participating clubs, sponsors, and the Organizing Committee. Rtn. Dr. Nirmal Kunawat, Rtn. Deepak Sukhadia, and Rtn. Naveen Vaishnav awarded the winning teams and top-performing players with trophies.

The Rotary Fellowship Cricket Cup 2023 - Season 2 celebrated not just cricket but also fellowship and camaraderie among Udaipur's Rotarians, leaving a lasting legacy of unity and sporting excellence.

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## **181st Joint Meeting - RMB Erode** **RMBIAN PARAMASIVAM** **United and RMB Madurai** Chapter Leader, RMB Erode United

RMB Erode United chapter conducted their 181st meeting, a Joint meeting with RMB Madurai on the 19th of December 2023 at the Rotary CD Hall, Palayapalayam, Erode. 9 New members were inducted in the meeting. All participants showcased their businesses through the Elevator Pitch. A quiz was also conducted in the same meeting and the winners were also awarded



prizes. Rtn. Saravanaraj T. conducted a seminar on “How use Google my business in your business”




**RMBIAN RAM**  
Chairman, RMB Erode Pride


## **R2R Fest, Promotion Stand - RMB** **Erode Pride**


RMB Erode Pride, a chapter with 44 members, under the leadership of Chapter Chairman Rtn. Ram are conducting unique projects to improve the bonding amongst their members. An R2R Fest was conducted on the 21st of October 2023, where each member was suggested to visit the workplace of at least two of their fellow RMBians. On that day, the members finished 73 R2Rs, and in the corresponding week, 126 R2Rs were completed. The chapter has created a promotion stand where the members of the chapter can display creatives about their business and the chapter can display its meeting information, rooster sheets, etc.





*With Best Compliments from*  
**KAUSHIK SEN**  
Charter President - ROTARY CLUB OF KOLKATA BENEVOLENCE  
Current Chapter President - RMB KOLKATA - RI District 3291  
**Mob : 9674422233**  
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INCRIB 3.0 in Kochi was a resounding success, offering delegates a feast of experiences. The spacious and well-lit convention centre, equipped with 45 numbered roundtables, hosted 300+ engaged delegates. The unique networking approach facilitated connections with 100+ participants. Sponsored by a mix



of established and emerging brands, the event featured timed sessions, insightful speakers, and a memorable networking dhamaka. With a focus on trust-building and business growth, INCRIB 3.0 set a gold standard for conferences, promoting Rotarian values and fostering dynamic connections among RMBians and beyond.



## THE FOUR-WAY TEST

*Of the things we think, say or do:*

*first*

Is it the **TRUTH**?

*second*

Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?

*third*

Will it build **GOODWILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?

*fourth*

Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?



## DECLARATION OF ROTARIANS IN BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS

**As a Rotarian engaged in a business or  
profession, I will:**

- Consider my vocation to be another opportunity to serve;
- Be faithful to the letter and to the spirit of the ethical codes of my vocation, to the laws of my country, and to the moral standards of my community;
- Do all in my power to dignify my vocation and to promote the highest ethical standards in my chosen vocation;
- Be fair to my employer, employees, associates, competitors, customers, the public, and all those with whom I have a business or professional relationship;
- Recognize the honor and respect due to all occupations which are useful to society;
- Offer my vocational talents: to provide opportunities for young people, to work for the relief of the special needs of others, and to improve the quality of life in my community;
- Adhere to honesty in my advertising and in all representations to the public concerning my business or profession;
- Neither seek from nor grant to a fellow Rotarian a privilege or advantage not normally accorded others in a business or professional relationship.





RMBF thanks [Annet Samith Gururaj](#) for his excellent contributions and volunteering as an 'Editor' to bring out this newsletter.