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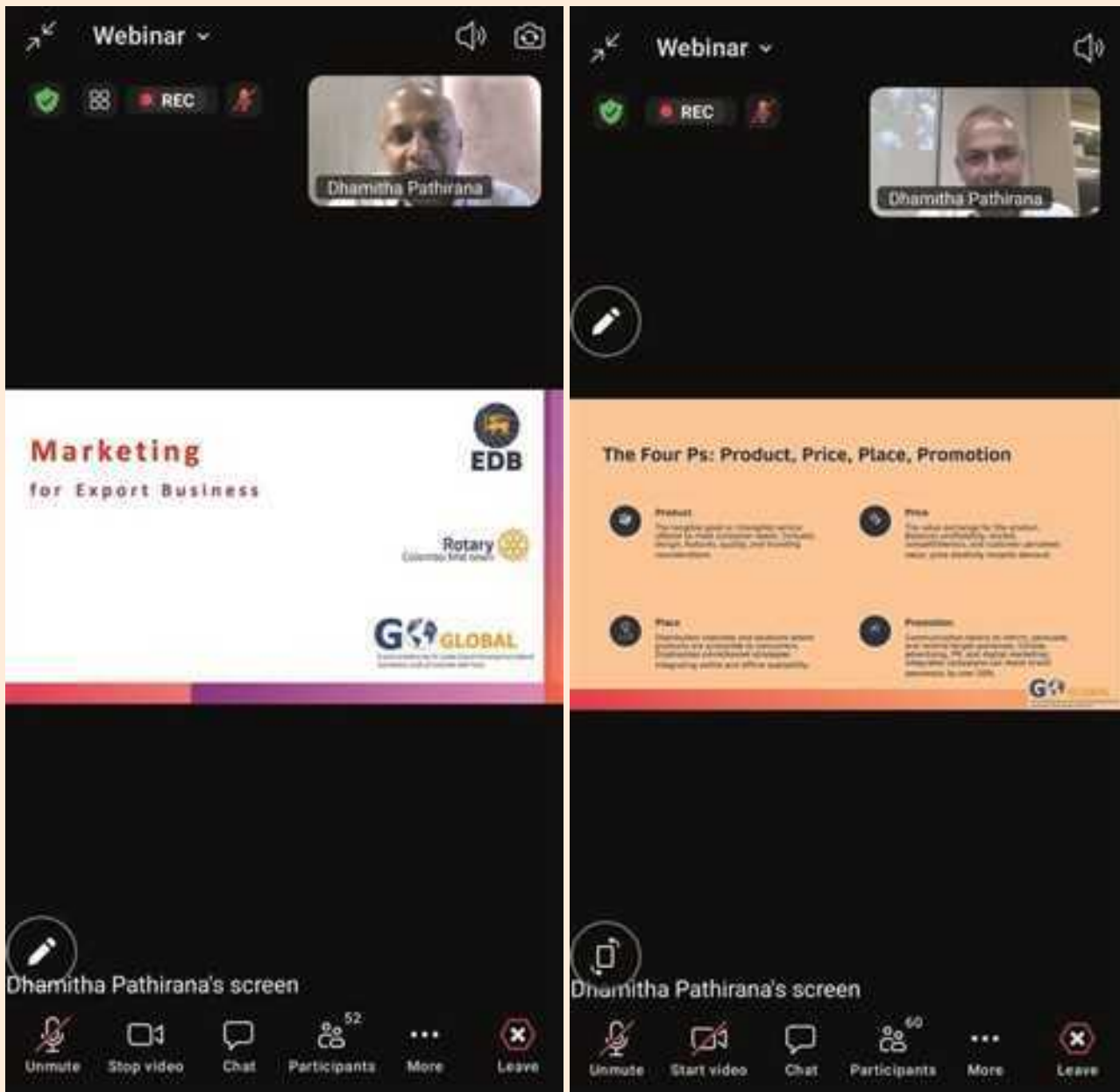
Rotary
TOWN TALK

JANUARY & FEBRUARY 2026 EDITION

EDB SME Workshop

The Rotary Club of Colombo Mid Town, in partnership with the Sri Lanka Export Development Board, successfully launched its first webinar of 2026 for export-oriented SMEs under the hashtag#GoGlobal initiative.

The webinar, Marketing for Export Business, was delivered by our very own Rtn. Dhamitha Pathirana and attracted over 50 participants—an encouraging start to empowering Sri Lankan SMEs to compete globally.



Leadership Workshop for Interactors

The Rotary Club of Colombo Mid Town organised a Leadership Workshop for the Interact Clubs of Ilma International Girls' School, Gothami Balika Vidyalaya, Zahira College, and Devi Balika Vidyalaya, titled "Unleash the Leader in You," on 24th January at the Ilma International Auditorium.

The workshop was facilitated by four leading trainers and business professionals, who shared valuable insights on leadership, teamwork, communication, and personal development. The programme provided Interactors with an inspiring platform to develop confidence, enhance leadership skills, and prepare themselves to serve their communities more effectively.



Donation of a Sewing Machine

Following the devastating impact of Cyclone Ditwah and the floods that submerged her home, Safreena was unable to continue her tailoring work, losing a vital source of income; in support of her return to livelihood, the Rotary Club of Colombo Mid Town donated a sewing machine, enabling her to resume her vocation and rebuild with dignity, with this initiative made possible through the generous support of USMAA Melbourne, reflecting a shared commitment to restoring livelihoods and creating lasting impact



Science lab equipment

As part of our post-Cyclone Ditwah recovery efforts, the Rotary Club of Colombo Mid Town, with funding support from RC Woking District (UK), donated science lab equipment to Ambathale Samudradevi Balika Vidyalaya, a school that was severely affected by the floods. The school expressed deep appreciation for the support, which contributes meaningfully to restoring learning facilities. This forms part of our wider, ongoing efforts to support multiple schools impacted by the cyclone.



Suwa Matha January

The Suwa Matha initiative of the Rotary Club of Colombo Mid Town continued for the 7th consecutive month in January at the Panadura MOH office, with monthly nutrition packs donated to 20 underprivileged mothers, supporting their health and well-being during pregnancy and early motherhood while reinforcing the club's ongoing commitment to maternal and child care.



Hosting Delegates from USA

A proud moment for the Rotary Club of Colombo Mid Town as we hosted the Rotary Friendship Exchange delegation from the USA

The evening was honoured by the presence of Past Rotary International President Rtn. K. R. Ravindran, District Governor 2025–26 Rtn. Delvin Pereira, Past District Governors, District officials, and visiting Rotarians—celebrating international fellowship, service above self, and enduring Rotary friendships across borders.



Annual Vocational Excellence Awards

The Annual Vocational Service Awards of the Rotary Club of Colombo Mid Town was held on 20th January.

We were proud to recognize two outstanding individuals for their exceptional contributions to society and our District Governor Rtn Delvin Periera was present to hand over the awards.

Ms. Sharmeen Falaldeen, Founder of Apeksha, was honored for her inspiring work in empowering visually impaired women through sewing skills training and sustainable livelihood development.

Mr. Ranil Thillakaratne, Chief Operating Officer of Lanka Lifeline, was also recognized for his remarkable commitment beyond his professional role, particularly in the areas of mental health, emotional wellbeing, and suicide prevention.

We also extended our appreciation to the Sri Lanka Export Development Board, our strategic partner for the “Go Global” project, for their continued commitment to supporting Sri Lankan SMEs in accessing global markets.

A meaningful evening celebrating service, impact, and collaboration.



Funding for Visually Impaired Entrepreneurs

In line with the RID 3220 flagship project on SME Development, the Rotary Club of Colombo Mid Town was able to award financial assistance to five deserving visually impaired entrepreneurs, in partnership with the Sri Lankan National Federation of the Visually Handicapped.

The funding was made possible through the proceeds raised by the Blind Walk, organized by the Rotary Family of Colombo Mid Town to create awareness on preventable blindness and to empower visually impaired entrepreneurs.

These inspiring individuals represent diverse fields including tea shops, sewing and tailoring, plant cultivation, and music. Their resilience and determination remind us that true vision lies in courage, skill, and opportunity.

We are proud to stand beside them as they continue building independent and sustainable livelihoods.



Suwa Matha February

The Suwa Matha initiative of the Rotary Club of Colombo Mid Town continued for the 8th consecutive month in February at the Panadura MOH office, with monthly nutrition packs donated to 20 underprivileged mothers, supporting their health and well-being during pregnancy and early motherhood while reinforcing the club's ongoing commitment to maternal and child care.



General Meeting

We were honored to host Mr. Supun Jayawardena, senior lawyer and disability rights activist, as our Guest Speaker.

His speech, “Invisible Barriers: Why Every Ordinary Decision Is a Leadership Decision,” reminded us how small, everyday choices can unintentionally create barriers – and how true leadership begins with awareness and inclusion.

Drawing from both professional expertise and lived experience as a visually impaired lawyer, Supun delivered a powerful message:

Inclusion is leadership in action.

An inspiring and thought-provoking session for us all.



Club Assembly Iftar Meeting

Our February Club Assembly was held following Iftar and Maghrib prayers at Paan Paan, Staples Street.

The highlight of the evening was an inspiring session by PDG Thariq Thulba on “The Purpose and Meaning of Ramadhan.” His reflections on discipline, empathy, compassion, and unity beautifully aligned with Rotary’s principle of Service Above Self and shared important project updates, and members actively engaged in discussions.

Grateful for the meaningful conversations, shared learning, and the strong spirit of unity that defines our club.



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