

Colombo

Rotary



**UNITE  
FOR  
GOOD**

*Rotary*  
**TOWN TALK**

NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2025 EDITION

## Hope on Wheels : Empowering Communities Through Bicycle Donations

The Hope on Wheels initiative is a collaborative effort between Rotary District 3220 (Sri Lanka & Maldives) and Rotary District 2982 (India).

As part of this initiative, the Rotary Club of Colombo Mid Town coordinated the distribution of bicycles to deserving students of Ariyawansha School, Beruwela. The distribution ceremony took place on Sunday, 2nd November 2025, at 1:00 p.m. at the school premises.

This event marked yet another meaningful milestone in the Rotary Club of Colombo Mid Town's ongoing journey of service and compassion.

Through Hope on Wheels, 1,000 bicycles have been donated to students and individuals across Sri Lanka—enhancing access to education, livelihoods, and economic opportunities.

This initiative stands as a shining example of how Rotary's global partnerships can drive sustainable community development and continue to pedal hope forward.



## Healing Minds Matter – Mental Health Awareness at Lalith Athulathmudali College, Rathmalana

A successful Healing Minds Matter Mental Health Awareness Program was conducted at Lalith Athulathmudali College Rathmalana today reaching over 100 Grade 8 students and their teachers through an engaging and thought provoking session.

This initiative was organized by the Rotary Club of Colombo Mid Town with the leadership of President Jananga Piyadasa and coordinated by Rtn Sajith Silva, the session was conducted by IPP Rasini Bandara, representing the Healing Minds Matter team.

It was a truly fruitful and heartwarming session, opening conversations on emotional well-being and self awareness. Plans are already underway to conduct programs for O/L and A/L students, as well as parents, to build a more mentally resilient school community.

A big thank-you to the Rotary Club of Colombo Mid Town for championing this cause and continuing to spread the message that mental health matters.



## Read & Rise Book Donation

Read & Rise – Empowering young minds through the gift of knowledge

The Rotary Club of Colombo Mid Town, in collaboration with the Rotaract Club of Edith Cowan University and Pick a Book, proudly donated over 1,000 books to four deserving schools:

- St. Sebastian Muslim Maha Vidyalaya
- Al Hakeem Vidyalaya
- Al Hijra Muslim Vidyalaya
- Thimbirigasyaya Vidyathilaka Vidyalaya

This initiative, under Rotary's Basic Education and Literacy focus area, aims to inspire the joy of reading and help children discover the power of imagination, curiosity, and learning.

Every book placed in a child's hand is a step toward a brighter, more hopeful future.



## Drug Prevention Awareness

The Rotary Club of Colombo Mid Town, together with the International Human Rights Organization, successfully conducted a timely and impactful awareness program in Wadduwa on “How to Protect Yourself and Your Child from Drugs.” The event brought together over 300 participants, including school children and parents.

Aligned with Rotary’s focus area of Peace and Conflict Prevention, the session featured valuable insights from resource persons and the presence of senior police officers, the Narcotics Bureau, local government officials, clergy, and community leaders.

The program equipped families with essential knowledge to recognize risks, understand the growing challenges related to drug abuse, and take proactive steps to stay safe and informed.

A project that truly united the community.

A sincere thank you to everyone who contributed to making this initiative a success. Together, we can build a safer and healthier society.



## EDB SME Development Workshops

Rotary Club of Colombo Mid Town is proud to partner with the Sri Lanka Export Development Board (EDB) under the Go Global Program to deliver a national capacity-building webinar series designed for export-led women entrepreneurs and SMEs.

This initiative forms part of Rotary’s ongoing commitment to strengthening Sri Lanka’s SME ecosystem and enabling women to scale their ventures beyond borders.

### Empowering Women-Led SMEs!

As part of the Rotary District 3220 SME Development Initiative, the Rotary Club of Colombo Mid Town in partnership with the Sri Lanka Export Development Board (EDB) proudly launches a new webinar series for women-led, export-oriented Entrepreneurs SMEs.

**GO GLOBAL**  
A joint initiative by Sri Lanka Export Development Board and Rotary Club of Colombo Mid Town

**ONLINE TRAINING FOR WOMEN-LED ENTREPRENEURS**  
**PREPARING BUSINESS PLAN AND INVESTOR PITCHES FOR EXPORT BUSINESSES**

**DATE** | 06<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2025 (THURSDAY)  
**TIME** | 07:30 PM TO 09:00 PM  
**ONLINE VIA ZOOM**

**RESOURCE PERSON**  
  
**Mr. Scimantha Jayawardena**  
Manager  
Group Corporate Planning & Strategy  
Hayleys Advantis Limited

[Click here to Register](#) **REGISTER NOW**

For more information:  
**Kethaki Pelola**, Assistant Director,  
Regional Development Division, EDB  
Email: [kethaki@edb.gov.lk](mailto:kethaki@edb.gov.lk)  
Tel: 011 2300716

Regional Development Division,  
Sri Lanka Export Development Board,  
No. 42, Navamsi Mawatha, Colombo 02,  
Tel: 0112300705-11 email: [rd5@edb.gov.lk](mailto:rd5@edb.gov.lk)  
Web: [www.srilankabusiness.com](http://www.srilankabusiness.com)

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A joint initiative by Sri Lanka Export Development Board and Rotary Club of Colombo Mid Town

**ONLINE TRAINING FOR WOMEN-LED ENTREPRENEURS**  
**FUNDING OPTIONS FOR EXPORT BUSINESSES**

**DATE** | 12<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2025 (WEDNESDAY)  
**TIME** | 07:30 PM TO 09:00 PM  
**ONLINE VIA ZOOM**

**RESOURCE PERSON**  
  
**Ms. Hazel Pereira**  
FCHA, CGMA (UK),  
ACA, MBA

[Click here to Register](#) **REGISTER NOW**

For more information:  
**Kethaki Pelola**, Assistant Director,  
Regional Development Division, EDB  
Email: [kethaki@edb.gov.lk](mailto:kethaki@edb.gov.lk)  
Tel: 011 2300716

Regional Development Division,  
Sri Lanka Export Development Board,  
No. 42, Navamsi Mawatha, Colombo 02,  
Tel: 0112300705-11 email: [rd5@edb.gov.lk](mailto:rd5@edb.gov.lk)  
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**Rotary**  
Colombo Mid town

## Cluster Meeting

A meaningful and inspiring evening at our Cluster Meeting! The Rotary Club of Colombo Mid Town joined hands with the Rotary Club of Colombo Regency and the Rotary Club of Colombo Down Town for an engaging session at the Royal Colombo Golf Club on 13th November 2025.

Our guest speakers, Dr. Azyan Shafeek and Mr. Praveen Vishvakumaran from Mega Life Sciences, shared powerful insights on maintaining physical and mental well-being in today's fast-paced world – a topic that truly resonated with our members.

We were also delighted to induct our newest member, Piyumi Liyanarachchi, into the Rotary family. Here's to continued fellowship, learning, and service above self!



# EDB Online Workshop for SME

ONLINE TRAINING FOR WOMEN-LED ENTREPRENEURS  
Export Documentation, Logistics & Regulatory Compliance

The Rotary Club of Colombo Mid Town, together with the Sri Lanka Export Development Board (EDB), is proud to present a special online training session aimed at uplifting women-led export-oriented businesses and SMEs. This programme is crafted to help entrepreneurs strengthen their export knowledge and confidently navigate international markets.

- Key areas covered:
- Export Documentation
  - Logistics & Supply Chain Coordination
  - Regulatory Compliance & Trade Controls

If you are a woman entrepreneur looking to enhance your export readiness, gain clarity on procedures, and learn from industry experts—this session is for you.

Join us and take the next step towards global growth!

**GLOBAL**  
A joint initiative by Sri Lanka Export Development Board and Rotary Club of Colombo Mid Town

**ONLINE TRAINING FOR WOMEN-LED ENTREPRENEURS**  
**Export Documentation, Logistics & Regulatory Compliance**

DATE | 12<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2025 (FRIDAY)  
TIME | 07.30 PM TO 09.00 PM  
ONLINE VIA ZOOM

Medium: Sinhala  
Resource Person  
**Mr. Uresh Fernando**  
Head of Commercial  
Advantis Freight (Pvt) Limited

Click here to Register **REGISTER NOW**

For more information:  
**Kethaki Peepola, Assistant Director**  
Regional Development Division, EDB  
Tel: kethaki@edb.gov.lk  
011 2300716

The Sri Lanka Export Development Board (EDB), in collaboration with the Rotary Club of Colombo Mid Town, is organizing a training programme aimed at strengthening the capacity of export-oriented women entrepreneurs and SMEs.

**Key discussion points**

- Export Documentation
- Logistics & Supply Chain Coordination
- Regulatory Compliance & Trade Controls

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Regional Development Division, Sri Lanka Export Development Board, No. 42, Nawana Moratha, Colombo 02. Tel: 0112300716 email: rdd@edb.gov.lk Web: www.srilankabusiness.com

**GLOBAL**  
A joint initiative by Sri Lanka Export Development Board and Rotary Club of Colombo Mid Town

**ONLINE TRAINING FOR WOMEN-LED ENTREPRENEURS**  
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Head of Commercial  
Advantis Freight (Pvt) Limited

Click here to Register **REGISTER NOW**

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වෙබ් අඩවිය: kethaki@edb.gov.lk  
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දුරකථන: 0112300716-11  
විද්‍යා: rdd@edb.gov.lk  
වෙබ්: www.srilankabusiness.com

## SME Packaging Workshop in Jaffna

The Rotary Club of Colombo Mid Town, together with the Sri Lanka Export Development Board (EDB) and the Sri Lanka Institute of Packaging (SLIP), organised a full-day capacity-building programme for export-oriented SMEs in Jaffna on 9th December 2025.

The session attracted more than 75 entrepreneurs and delivered in-depth knowledge on packaging fundamentals, including different packaging formats, material choices, internationally accepted best practices, and effective ways to overcome common packaging-related challenges in export markets.

A key highlight of the programme was the hands-on engagement session, where participants showcased their own products to an expert panel from the Sri Lanka Institute of Packaging and received valuable, practical insights to enhance their packaging and make it truly export-ready.



## SME Packaging Workshop in Batticaloa

The Rotary Club of Colombo Mid Town, in partnership with the Sri Lanka Export Development Board (EDB) and the Sri Lanka Institute of Packaging (SLIP), proudly conducted a full-day training programme for export-oriented SMEs in Batticaloa on the 8th December 2025.

The programme brought together over 60 passionate entrepreneurs and covered topics such as packaging types, material selection, global best practices, and solutions to common challenges.



## Cyclone Ditwah Disaster Relief – School Rebuilding Drive

Floods and landslides caused by Cyclone Ditwah severely affected Gangasiripura Vidyalaya, Gampola, particularly the school's computer lab, disrupting students' access to essential IT and digital learning at a critical time in their education.

As part of ongoing recovery efforts, Rotary Club of Colombo Mid Town donated 5 computers and tables to help restore the school's computer lab, with generous project funding from Rotary Club of Woking (RI District 1145, UK). This initiative supports the school's efforts to rebuild its learning environment and helps students return to their studies with minimal long-term disruption.

This initiative is part of our continued commitment to helping schools rebuild and restore learning environments. We will continue to do more, and we warmly invite partners, well-wishers, and supporters to join us in supporting affected schools and students.



## Mid Town for Sri Lanka (MT4SL) Cyclone Ditwah Relief & Revival Drive

Thanks to the generous contributions of our members, friends and families, we were able to raise nearly Rs. 600,000 within 2 days and donate dry-ration packs and sleeping mats to multiple relief and collection centers.

Our mission continues. We are now accepting further donations to expand our support and assist more families in need.

Every contribution will make a meaningful difference.



## AGM and new President elected for year 2026-27

The Rotary Club of Colombo Mid Town proudly marked a significant milestone with the successful conclusion of its 51st Annual General Meeting on 10th December—a celebration of leadership, service, and our enduring commitment to “Service Above Self.”

We are honored to elect Rtn. Thurab Hilmy as the Incoming President of the Rotary Club for the 2026-27 term, alongside his newly appointed Board. We extend our warmest congratulations and best wishes as they prepare to lead the club with vision, integrity, and dedication in the years ahead.

The evening concluded with dinner and fellowship, reflecting the spirit of unity and community that defines Rotary.



## Rotary Club Day Outing

The Rotary Club of Colombo Mid Town organized a Club Day outing at Regent Country Club in Malabe, bringing together members, spouses, and children for a day of fellowship and bonding. The event featured recreational activities including poolside relaxation and a Sunday lunch buffet, creating a family-friendly environment that strengthened relationships within the Rotary community. In parallel, the club extended its service impact by distributing dry ration packs to nearby families affected by the Cyclone Dithwah floods. This dual-purpose initiative successfully combined fellowship with meaningful community outreach.



Colombo



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