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Dr. Daphne Pillai
Founder President

Ms. Namrata Saxena
President

Ms. Preeti Pawar
President- Elect

Ms. Yvette Lee
Immediate Past
President &
Programme Action
Co-ordinator

Ms. Susanna Cherian
Hon. Secretary

Ms. Mamta Patil
Hon. Treasurer

**Ms. Munawira
Kotyad Pillai**
Club Extension &
Membership Officer

Dr. Smita Dalvi
Communication &
Publicity Officer

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

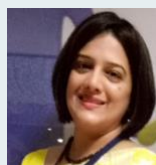
Dear Soroptimist Sisters,

It gives me great pleasure to address you through this newsletter, as we celebrate the dedication of SIBC in educating, enabling and empowering women. Over the past year, our programs and initiatives have touched the lives of countless girls and women, providing them opportunities for education and skill development, healthcare and many more. Remarkable progress has been made towards the achievement of SDGs with celebration of UN days spreading awareness and initiating action towards their achievement.

Thank you once again for your unwavering commitment and dedication. I am honored to serve as SIBC President and look forward to witnessing the impact we will continue to make together.

Namrata Saxena

President



FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Hello there,

In this newsletter, we bring you the highlights of SI Bombay Chembur's pursuits and endeavors in the year 2022-23.

The year witnessed our club reaching the milestone of completing 25 years of service in Soroptimism. This occasion was celebrated in October with pomp and pageantry, a few glimpses of which are included here. The enthusiasm continued for us to carry out our flagship projects and new ones. We anchored various UN days to create awareness, educating about rights and issues, and inspiring action among the young people. The newsletter carries a brief snapshot of these activities.

Happy Reading!

Smita Dalvi

Communication
Officer



June 2022 - May 2023

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SoroFesta



The Silver Jubilee celebrations of Soroptimist International of Bombay-Chembur was held on 15th October, 2022 at the Illusions Banquet Hall at Acres Club, Mumbai. Soroptimists from clubs various clubs across India joined in the celebrations – SI Bombay North, SI Bombay West, SI Bangalore, SI Calcutta, SI Pune Metro East. We extend our deepest gratitude to them for being a part of the celebrations.

SoroFesta

Silver Jubilee Celebrations



THE SILVER JUBILEE ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

PROGRAMME SCHEDULE

Day: 15th OCTOBER, 2022 (SATURDAY)
Time: 11.00 A.M. - 03.00 P.M. (IST)

1. Welcome Dance
2. Welcome Address - Ms. Namrata Saxena, President of SIBC
3. Reminiscence - Dr. Daphne Pillai, Founder President of SIBC
4. Project Presentation - Ms. Yvette Lee, PAC of SIBC
5. Address - Ms. Nisha Ghosh, President Elect, NASI of India & Director PR & Marketing, SIGBI
6. Address - Dr. Rema Ramchandran, Director, SIGBI Trading & PAC, NASI of India
7. Release of 'SoroFest' - Ms Jyoti Mhapsekar, Co-Founder, Stree Mukti Sangathana
8. Formal Group Photograph session
9. Violin performance - Ms. Mabel Chan, Member of SIBC
10. Dance Performance - Lavani
11. Vote of Thanks by Ms. Preeti Pawar, President Elect, SIBC
12. Cutting of the Cake - Celebration of 'SoroFesta' - Silver Jubilee of SIBC
13. Fun and Frolic
14. Lunch and Fellowship

SoroFesta

Silver Jubilee Celebrations



SoroFesta

Silver Jubilee Celebrations



SoroFesta

Silver Jubilee Celebrations



Visit of SIGBI President and Program Director



SI Bombay Chembur hosted **President Cathy Cottridge** and **Program Director Lindsay Green** from Soroptimist International of Great Britain and Ireland (SIGBI) on the Mumbai leg (18-20 February, 2023) of their India visit. Their programme included meeting the clubs, project presentations, fellowship lunch and dinner and outings. A few beneficiaries of SIBC's adult literacy drive were also invited to interact with Cathy and Lindsay.



Soroptimist Excellence Award 2023

conferred on Ms Swathi Mukherjee

On the International women's Day, Soroptimist Excellence Award 2023 was conferred on **Ms Swathi Mukherjee**, Managing Trustee, **Vatsalya Foundation**, an NGO which is a pioneering organization that works with street children in the city, through its multidimensional approach of outreach, child- to-child contact, support centers and open shelter home among others.

The award carries a citation, a trophy and a donation by SIBC to the foundation.



SDGs Served through Programme Action



Programme Action: 2022-23

**The Power of a Second Chance:
Adult Literacy**

English for Specific Purposes

Project ASHA

ADARSH: Village Adoption Project

16 Days of Activism

Miscellaneous

Celebration of UN Days

The Power of a Second Chance: Adult Literacy

Under the banner of our flagship programme, “Power of a Second Chance”, this year, SI Bombay Chembur identified the need of spreading computer literacy to those women who did not have an access to formal education.

A 3-week course on Computer Literacy & Skills was devised and offered in May 2023.

Women living in slum communities in Chembur were the beneficiaries. They were taught basics of MS Office, usage of the internet and how to be safe from cybercrime. Our member Ms. Preeti Pawar (President Elect) co-ordinated the course with the help of IT staff at Chembur English High School.



English for Specific Purposes

SIBC in collaboration with Mahatma Education Society's Pillai HOC College of Arts, Science & Commerce, Rasayani organised the **'English for Specific Purposes Workshop' for the Students at Pillai Skill Development Institute** from 22nd February 2023 to 3rd March 2023.

The objective of the programme is to enhance language and communication skills of the participants.

Various topics of spoken language were covered in the training: Formal and Informal Greetings, Conversations, word games, and Role plays, story-telling. Tips for grooming and effective body language were also shared. The students were given many exercises and practice sessions to improve their self-confidence.

During the valedictory function, the participants showcased their English speaking skills by making short introductions and presenting skits about different states of India. Our founding President Dr. Daphne Pillai addressed the participants and presented the certificates.



16 Days of Activism 2022

The 16 Days of Activism for no Violence against Women and Children Campaign (25 November to 10 December) was observed by SIBC with great enthusiasm and a sense of purpose. Our focus has always been primarily on education.

We believe that the first step towards putting an end to gender based violence is raising awareness among girls and women about their rights and prevailing legal system within which they can seek protection and resolution.

With this in mind, we organised separate sessions in which invited experts provided detailed guidance to women. topics of domestic violence, sexual harassment at workplace, protection of children against sexual offences etc.

Stree Mukti Sanghatana and individual lawyers were partners in the project.

Some highlights are as follows:

Advocate Ujwala Kadrekar spoke to B.Ed. students of Pillai College of Education and Research, Chembur.

Dr. Karuna Malviya, an expert in criminal law and gender justice to speak to the class IV women employees of Pillai Campus, Panvel.

Adv. Rajashree Damle spoke to Night Degree college students on legal rights of women. a 2-day workshop for the girls of Mahatma Junior College of education, Chembur.



Project ASHA

SI Bombay Chembur in association with NGO, Don Bosco's Nerul helped two women entrepreneurs from marginalised communities by giving them **financial aid** for their businesses. After a need assessment and interview with a few women of the Don Bosco Skill Development Course, **Rajeshwari Lalmani** and **Amina Mustaq Sayed** were chosen and given financial aid of ₹ 5,000/- (each towards helping build their small businesses of opening vegetables stalls. This initiative will help these women start and grow their businesses, eventually aiding them in their journey to financial independence. SIBC will continue to support and mentor them through this process.



ADARSH: Village Adoption Project

SIBC members visited their **adopted village, Warmali** for a talk on gender violence for the village women. Biscuits, colour boxes and books were distributed to the children of the village and discussions were had with the women about the issue of lack of water source in the village.



Miscellaneous

Bharat Nutrition Week

SI Bombay Chembur celebrated the 'Bharat Nutrition Week – 01 to 07 September' along with with **Edukidz International** chain of preschools, to reinforce the values of healthy eating habits among kids



Awareness on Narcotics and Drug Abuse

SI Bombay Chembur and Chembur English High School with **Chembur Police Station** conducted an awareness session on narcotics and drug abuse for the students in the age group of 14 to 16 years.



Project Sashakt

Soroptimist International Bombay Chembur in collaboration with **Stree Mukti Sanghatana** conducted a 2-day workshop in December, for the girls of Mahatma Junior College of education, Chembur. The workshop covered topics on rights, sexuality and gender equality.



Medical Testing Camp

SIBC in collaboration with the Women Development Cell of Pillai College of Architecture conducted a testing camp for measuring the



random blood sugar, hemoglobin levels and bone density of female students and staff of Pillai Campus. **Dr. Kirti Samudra** (M.D. Physician and Diabetologist) along with her lab technicians tested and counselled 206 girls and women.

Blanket Collection and Distribution Drive 2022-23

SIBC distributed around 250 blankets and 3 boxes of warm clothes to street dwellers in Navi Mumbai in January 2023. This was much needed with temperatures dropping in Mumbai. 500 biscuit packets were also distributed among children living on the street.

Fundraising

Jumble Sale

Our most awaited fundraiser, the annual Jumble Sale was back with a bang after 3 years at Chembur English High School and K.M. Vasudevan Pillai Campus Panvel on 7th and 13th October respectively.



Old Newspapers Drive

Members conducted a Raddi collection drive at Raheja Acropolis, Chembur to be sold to a recycler. Another fund-raiser with an environmental consciousness



Celebration of UN Days: 2022-23

SI Bombay Chembur observed the following UN Days in collaboration with various schools and colleges in different campuses of Mahatma Education Society

- ☐ **World Environment Day**
- ☐ **International Day of Yoga**
- ☐ **International Literacy Day**
- ☐ **World Mental Health Day**
- ☐ **‘Fistful of Grains’ - International Day for the Eradication of Poverty and World Food Day**
- ☐ **World Science Day for Peace and Development**
- ☐ **World Toilet Day**
- ☐ **International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women**
- ☐ **World Cancer Day**
- ☐ **International Day for Women and Girls in Science**
- ☐ **International Women’s Day**

Celebration of UN Days

CHEMBUR ENGLISH HIGH SCHOOL
in association with
SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL BOMBAY CHEMBUR (SIBC)

On the occasion of **World Environment Day**
celebrates
Environment Week

THEME : SAY NO TO ONE TIME USE PLASTIC

- Short film
- Cloth bag making
- Best out of waste kitchen gardening
- Poster making

Date : 22nd - 24th June

ALL WE NEED IS LESS

THERE IS NO PLANET B

REDUCE REUSE RECYCLE

MES's Pillai College of Education and Research, Chembur
in collaboration with
Soroptimist Welfare Association (SIBC)
celebrates
WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 2022
Theme: Conserve Indian native flora and fauna

4th June, 2022
Time: 10.00 am

Venue: Multipurpose Area, Ground floor MES's Chembur Campus

Soroptimist International BOMBAY CHEMBUR
in association with
edukidz
INTERNATIONAL
PRE-SCHOOL & DAYCARE
A unit of Vidyashree Educational Development Ltd.

Tilak Nagar | Kharghar | New Panvel

Celebrates
WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY
USE
ECO BAG
thanks

20/6/22

RADIANT MINDS
PRESCHOOL, DAYCARE & ACTIVITY CENTRE

Soroptimist International BOMBAY CHEMBUR

International literacy day
8th September, 2022

Donate your
books and educational toys for those
who don't have any and spread the
cheer of reading and learning !

"शिक्षित होंगे सभी जन,
विकसित होगा मेरा वतन !"

SIBC is registered as Soroptimist Welfare Association

Soroptimist International Bombay Chembur
in Association with
Mahatma Education Society's
Mahatma Night Degree College of Arts and Commerce,

Organizes a Workshop on
"Yoga for Humanity"
On Tuesday 21st June, 2022
Venue: Ground floor multipurpose hall of the college campus
Time: 7.00pm to 8.15pm

Resource Person
Dr. Shilpa Chatterjee
Senior Yoga Teacher at Kishalayashram, Mumbai

21 June
International Day of Yoga

Organising Team
Workshop Chairperson: Dr. Shilpa Chatterjee
SIBC President: Ms. Namrata Saxena
Counsellor: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Lata Krishnan
Co-Counsellor: Asst. Prof. Teacher Pawan NIOS PU

WORLD TOILET DAY
19 NOVEMBER 2022

Ar. Mayur Shinde Founder of MADCE in Mumbai

Ar. Kalpit Ashar Founder of MADCE in Mumbai

WORLD TOILET DAY is a design practice involved with the discipline of Architecture and Urban Design. The mission of the studio lies in transforming every day mundaneness of our cities into holistic and fulfilling experiences through the medium of design.

This project, 'The Toilet Menstruator' dreams about future of public sanitation infrastructure in our cities and villages. It explores possibilities of transforming urban engineering systems into holistic public spaces integrated with everyday lives of people. The studio has received Social Innovation Award for the year 2018 from Mr. Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India, Ministry of External Affairs and NITI Aayog.

The Soroptimist International Bombay Chembur (SIBC) in association with
MES Pillai College of Architecture, New Panvel (PCA)
Announces
NIRMAL 2022
An Inter College Architecture Design Competition
An initiative on the account of
WORLD TOILET DAY

THEME - ROADSIDE TOILET FACILITIES
Special Guest Lectures by **Ar. Mayur Shinde** and **Ar. Kalpit Ashar**
Founders of MADCE on 26th November

PRIZE -
1st Prize - Rs. 1,00,000/-
2nd Prize - Rs. 50,000/-
3rd Prize - Rs. 25,000/-
Poster Check Award - Rs. 1,000/-

Last date of registration - 28 November
Last date of submission of competition entries - 11 December

Register before 28 November 2022 at: registrations@nirmal2022.org
Contact: Dr. Arun Kumar, Assistant Editor - NIOS PU, Kharghar - 400 014, Chembur - 400 014

Celebration of UN Days

Soroptimist Welfare Association (SIBC) and
MES's Pillai College of Education and Research, Chembur
in collaboration with
Stree Mukti Sanghatana

observes

International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women

Expert Talk - Women Rights and Laws

Advocate Ujwala Kadrekar

Stree Mukti Sanghatana

on Saturday, 26th November, 2022
Room No: 404, 4th Floor
Time: 12.00 noon onwards

WOMEN'S RIGHTS

SIBC is supported by Soroptimist Welfare Association

Soroptimist International BOMBAY CHEMBUR
in Association with
edukidz
INTERNATIONAL
PRE-SCHOOL & NURSERY
A Child Education & Development Centre

Tish Roper | Khushi | Ravi Parrot

Bharat Nutrition Week.

Observed From
1st - 7th September Annually

National Nutrition Week
is aimed at creating awareness about
health and nutrition.

**EAT WELL FOR A
HEALTHY & HAPPY LIFE**

Nutritious
tiffins

Fruit salad
making

Healthy & Junk
food - Games

Made with PosterMyWall.com Plot no-29,Sec-8,Khanda colony. 7045772729/9819325569

Soroptimist Welfare Association (SIBC)
in collaboration with
MES's Pillai College of Education and Research, Chembur
organises Expert Talk on

**ROLE OF TEACHERS IN DEALING WITH CHILDREN
UNDERGOING TREATMENT FOR CANCER.**

Dr. Sandra Pinto
Former Deputy General Manager (Education)
and Principal, CanShala

Date: 6th February, 2023
Time: 11.00 am
Venue: 404, 4th Floor, Chembur Campus

Soroptimist International Bombay Chembur
in association with
Pillai Group of Institutions
welcomes

MS. SWATHI MUKHERJEE
Managing Trustee, The Vatsalya Foundation
Recipient of the
Soroptimist Excellence Award 2023

on the occasion of

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

Date: March 8, 2023 | Time: 2-3 pm
Venue: Conclave 1, Dr. K.M.Vasudevan Pillai Campus
An Initiative of the Social Service Committee

Shree PCE PCA PMS

MES's Pillai College of Education and Research, Chembur
in collaboration with
Soroptimist Welfare Association (SIBC)
organises

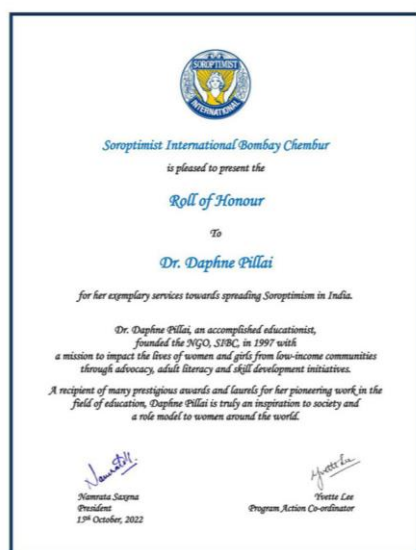
Expert Talk on
International Day of Women and Girls in Science
MY LIFE - MY SCIENCE; CHALLENGES FACED BY WOMEN IN SCIENCE

Dr. Shobhona Sharma
Senior Professor (Retd.)
Tata Institute of Fundamental Research
INSA Honorary Scientist at Institute of Chemical Technology, Mumbai

Date: 11th February, 2023
Time: 11.30 am
Venue: 404, 4th Floor, Chembur Campus

SIBC is supported by Soroptimist Welfare Association

Member Achievements



Dr. Daphne Pillai was presented with a 'Roll of Honour' by SIBC members for contribution as an educationist and her exemplary services in Soroptimism.

She also received a patent for 'New Methods of Education to Meet Post-Covid Requirements', from German Patent and Trademark Office

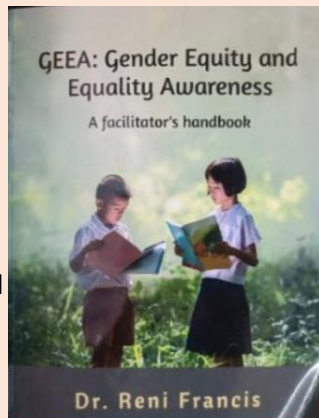


Ms. Yvette Lee was elected as Communication Officer on the NASI Board for the term 2022-2024. In her tenure, she is bringing in a fresh energy to the post.



Dr. Reni Francis was presented the award for Best Principal by Icons of India on the occasion of Intl. Women's Day-2023.

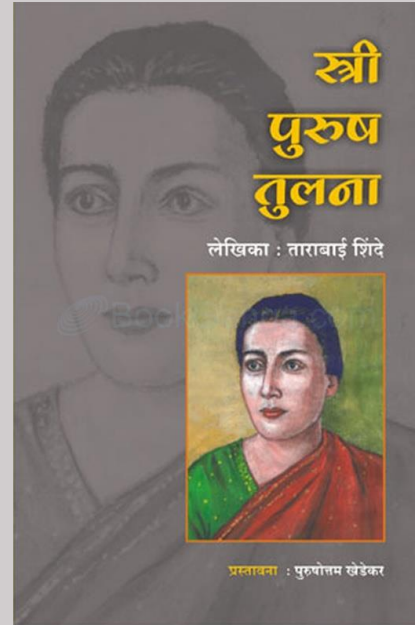
She also published a book on Gender Equity and Equality Awareness.



Ms. Preeti Pawar received the Shiksha Gaurav Puraskar at the 4th National EduLeaders Summit held at NESCO Compound, Goregaon.

Did You Know?

Tarabai Shinde (1850-1910) is credited with creating the first piece of feminist literature in Marathi. She came from a high caste family and was educated at home by her father. She worked with Savitribai Phule to improve the life and circumstances of lower classes. She gave voice to the terrible punishment meted out to young Brahmin widows, who, with no males to protect them, were prey to abuse from male relatives and often became pregnant. She wrote on this in a diatribe titled, '*Stree Purush Tulana*' or 'A Comparison Between Women and Men' in 1882.



Source:

'Changemakers - The Extraordinary Lives of Ordinary Women in the Bombay Presidency' -- exhibition at Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya (CSMVS)

