

January 2021

Rotary

NEWS PLUS



An all-women's club installed at Kolar Gold Fields

V Muthukumaran

Rotary Club of KGF Prime, RID 3190, has sponsored RC KGF Prime Angels, an all-women's club, and the charter was presented to it on Nov 16 by Rotary International. DG BL Nagendra Prasad installed the charter president Mamatha G Raghu and charter secretary Dr Anuradha Mouni, along with the club's board of directors, in a gala event at the Rotary Hall on the premises of Vinayaka group of institutions, Kolar Gold Fields.

In his address to the gathering, DG Prasad said, "many such clubs are in the pipeline in the district as they will be inspired by this new all-women's club." Congratulating the women members for forming an exclusive club, he said, "there is a need for handholding this new club and all the support will be extended to it by the district office-bearers."

District trainer KP Nagesh said women must be motivated to come forward to take up leadership positions in Rotary as "they have contributed significantly in many fields proving their ability time and again by breaking the glass ceiling."

Rtn Harini Ravindranath, the new club's advisor, has given an orientation to the newly-installed office-bearers and members. Noting that women constitute 23 per cent of global Rotary membership, she said a great transformation is taking place with many of them "coming forward to join Rotary clubs." They are no longer confined to their



DG BL Nagendra Prasad felicitates RC KGF Prime Angels charter president Mamatha G Raghu.

homes as "they want to explore opportunities to develop professional skills and build leadership skills."

Assistant governor Lakshmi Sasstry, RID 3190, inducted the charter members of the club. In her acceptance speech, club president Mamatha said she has drawn a roadmap covering all avenues of service for her members. "With strong commitment to RI's goals, we will focus on issues such as maternal health, child care with special preference to girl children," she said, and added that she want to forge special bonding among members and also cultivate a good relationship with other clubs in Kolar and RID 3190.

Rtns Beligeri Shivakumar, Srinivasa Murthy, Gopalareddy and Girish from RID 3190 took part in the installation ceremony. A team

of Rotarians from RC KGF Prime, the sponsoring club, including Dr Senthil Kumar, Titus Gladson and Joshua Daniel took care of logistics to make the event a grand success.

Recalling the historical occasion that led to the entry of women into Rotary, DP Muniyappa, past president, RC Kolar Gold Fields, said following the US Supreme Court ruling in 1987 that Rotary should not exclude women in their clubs, the Council on Legislation in 1989 voted to admit them into Rotary clubs worldwide. RC Durate gave the first membership to Dr Sylvia Whitlock and since then women's membership in Rotary was going steadily, he noted. "RIPN Jennifer Jones from Canada will become the first woman president of Rotary in 2022-23," he said. ■

On the cover: A potter selling his wares in Agra. RC Agra Taj City promoted an initiative to support local vendors.

Improving child health and empowering women in Kashi

Team Rotary News



Women being trained in tailoring at the Entrepreneur Centre, Kashi.

RC Kashi Varanasi, RID 3120, is trying to change the lives of underprivileged and malnourished children in the city. Recently the club adopted five children below age six, suffering from malnourishment. The joint

initiative with the district magistrate office aims to feed more than 200 children and old people every day in Kashi.

All the children adopted by the club belong to the Shivpurva region in Varanasi. The club provides fresh

fruits, nutrition supplements and food grains to the mothers if these children fortnightly at the cost of ₹5,000.

The Women Entrepreneur Centre, Varanasi, owned by the club president Shyam Rastogi trains women in tailoring and then makes them self-reliant by helping them get jobs in self-help organisations and also provided them with a sewing machine to work from home. In the last eight years the centre along with help of the club has trained over 100 women from Varanasi.

Currently, the club is training 12 women at the centre and plans to enrol more women in the future. Women with basic stitching knowledge or a passion for stitching can approach the centre directly. The project cost has so far touched ₹90,000.■



Children being adopted with the aim to provide them with good food and nutritious supplements.

Rotarians cheer up the elderly

Team Rotary News

The members of RC Nagpur Fort, RID 3030, visited Panchavati, a home for senior citizens, and entertained them with film songs and dance. Club president Madhav Kukde distributed sweet packets to them. Past presidents Sunil Ambagade, Milind Hastak and Rtn Capt Naranje belted out some melodious songs for the inmates. A dance performance was given by Rtn Sayee Dandekar.

An Interact club was installed at the Navyug Vidyalaya, Kothi Road, with principal Dr Maya Gaikwad welcoming the Rotarians. In his address, Kukde spoke on some of the global projects of Rotary and how the youth movement is critical to the growth of this organisation.



An award-winning photo of Swachh Bharat Abhiyan.

The club joint secretary Ram Nakkanwar explained to the students the principles of Rotary such as the Four-Way-Test. Capt Naranje, director, medical services, Rtn Warankar, director, community services, and Rtn Abhay Khsirsagar were present at the event.

Rangawali contest

An online Rangawali competition was held during the festive season to motivate and nurture young talent. Videos were invited from the participants to authenticate that their Rangoli designs were their own.

The e-kolam contest received a good response from Nagpur schools with the Smita Patil High School alone sending 10 videos to the jury panel. A sketch on Swachh Bharat Abhiyan drawn by Achal Paramanand Hatwar from the Smita Patil School bagged the first prize.

While Gauri Deorao Mahure's portrayal of Happy Family from the same school got the second prize and Ann Meena Tidke won the third prize for her theme presentation on Rangawali. ■



Some of the members of the Panchavati old age home.

Covid awareness rally, food distribution in Mysuru

Team Rotary News

Rotarians
at a Covid
awareness rally.



With an aim to create awareness among the residents of Mysuru on ways to protect themselves against Covid infection, RC Mysore South East, RID 3181, took out a rally that focused on social distancing, wearing masks and washing hands regularly to contain the pandemic. DGE Ravindra Bhat was the chief guest at the event that saw the participation of Chamaraja legislator L Nagendra

and ward councilor M Shivakumar taking part in the rally. “We passed through the main roads of Mysuru to create awareness among the public and commuters on Covid prevention,” said M Mohan, club secretary. A van was pressed into service with posters carrying Rotary messages to the public.

On World Food Day (Oct 16), the club members distributed nutritious food packets and

fresh fruits to the needy families. “Consuming healthy food is important during the pandemic and we came together to give away freshly-prepared food to the underprivileged families during the pandemic,” he said.

A campaign was taken up to create awareness on World Cancer Awareness Day in which DG Ranganath Bhat, district secretary Vikramadatta and club members spoke on the need to adopt a healthy lifestyle to ward off diseases.

In a thoughtful gesture, the club donated a wheelchair to an old age home at Vivekananda Nagar to help the elderly inmates. Under a district WinS project, the club took up renovation of toilet blocks in girls and boys schools in Mysuru. “Both the toilets were in pathetic condition and we cleaned and repaired them for use by students,” said Mohan. The school authorities thanked the club for the sanitation work that ushered in better hygiene among students. ■



Food packets being distributed by the club.

RC Agra West honours teachers, celebrates Polio Day

Kiran Zehra

Appreciating the role of school teachers as nation builders and also emphasising their role in making good citizens of the future, RC Agra West, RID 3110, presented the Nation Builders Awards to distinguished teachers from the Army Public School and Swami Bagh Agra School. In two different award ceremonies and in the presence of PDG Naresh Sood and District Literacy chairperson Maya Shrivastava the awards were given to 12 teachers from the two schools.

The awardees were individually honoured by with certificate of appreciation in recognition of their service to society and their achievement. They were chosen after an extensive survey conducted by the club following the norms and guidelines under Rotary's TEACH initiative. "The survey to choose the best teachers includes questions to be answered by the students, headmasters and the teachers themselves, ensuring that there is no bias and favouritism



PPE kits being distributed to frontline warriors.

involved in the selection for the awards," says club president Rajeev Rajput.

The club along with members from the Indian Medical Association celebrated Polio Day. The club highlighted the efforts of Rotary in making India polio-free and how Rotary clubs in India can participate in the distribution of Covid-19 vaccine throughout India.

As part of covid relief activities, the club distributed PPE kits

to KB Patel Charitable Hospital and Swami Bagh Nagar Panchayat workers. Over 200 healthcare workers received the kits. This was followed by PPE kits distribution for the sanitation workers.

Members carried out a food donation drive at the Ram Lal Vradha Ashram. Dinner was offered to 250 inmates of the home. The dinner was sponsored by the club president and served by club members. ■

A grand dinner being served to inmates of Ram Lal Vradha Ashram.



In a whirlwind drive against Covid infection across the town, members of RC Manora Pattukkottai, RID 2981, distributed *kabasura kudineer*, an herbal concoction, to around 5,000 people. Rtns AS Veerappan, AK Kumar, R Jeevanantham, TRS Lakshmi Raja, Magendran and R Jayaweera Pandian sponsored the distribution of the herbal concoction to the people.

The club joined hands with the Saran Clinic to provide homeopathic medicines to 60 people. Physician Dr Kavitha interacted with the beneficiaries on taking preventive measures against the pandemic with a healthy lifestyle. Around 40 Rotarians were involved in this project.

Two persons were honoured for their 'selfless service' to the community. Health officer Annadurai and K Vivekanandan, a spiritual person, were felicitated with Best Servant Awards by the club. Two sewing machines worth ₹12,000 were donated to needy women to provide them a source for sustainable income under the vocational service project.

Installation ceremony

MS Selvaraj was installed as the club president along with Suresh as secretary and K Selvakumar as treasurer for the new Rotary year in a gala event. At a Covid medical camp, 500 patients were given treatment at

Rotarians take up Covid awareness drive in Pattukkottai

Team Rotary News



Food packets being given to needy families by RC Manora Pattukkottai president MS Selvaraj.

the Sai Baba temple, Valavanpuram. An awareness camp on coronavirus was also held by the municipality officials at this camp. Another such camp was also conducted in which preventive treatment was given to around 500 people at Kasangulam, a residential locality.

To celebrate the birth anniversary of former Tamil Nadu CM K Kamaraj, the club members provided

a sumptuous lunch to students at the Panchayat Union Primary School, Adirampattinam, as part of Education Development Day. Rtn R Shankar sponsored the food items that benefitted 115 school children who were also given snacks, masks and water bottles. Doctors Day, Chartered Accountants Day, Auditors Day and Annapurna Day were celebrated by the club members. On Food Day, freshly-prepared food packets were distributed to the needy families at Udhayasooriyapuram.

Covid medicines

Immunity medicines against coronavirus were given to Rotarians and their family members. Over 300 people were given homeopathic pills, Arsenicum Album 30, as a preventive step against the pandemic. The various anti-Covid campaigns and relief work enhanced the public image of Rotary in and around Pattukkottai. ■



Auditors being feted on Chartered Accountants Day.

A virtual marathon fundraiser by RC Nasik Road

V Muthukumaran



Rotarians during the marathon.

A virtual walkathon, cyclothon and marathon was conducted by RC Nasik Road, RID 3030, as a fundraiser event to build toilets and handwash stations for rural schoolchildren. “The event was a grand success in which nearly 1,200 participants from 18 states of India and over 16 countries made it a memorable occasion,” said Dr Amit Gangurde, club president.

The virtual event was planned in a such way that all the participants could walk, cycle or run their chosen distance at any time on Nov 1 and in wherever they were in the world, either individually or in small groups maintaining the regulations in force for the pandemic situation. DG Shabbir Shakir flagged off this event at noon, IST, and the multiple events ended with a vote of thanks given by

District Sports chair Suraj Jehangir Chaudhari, past president of the club. While president-elect Dr Snehal Gangurde gave the vote of thanks at 11.59pm on Pacific Standard Time.

PP Mahesh Salve, an avid runner, and Dr Amit Gangurde came up with the idea of holding the virtual marathon to raise funds during the pandemic. They then appointed a team of Rotarians from their club to plan and implement the event. Suraj Chaudhari communicated with DG Shakir, runners and cyclist associations throughout RID 3030.

Rotarians took to social media with the event details for almost a month with all the district clubs and non-Rotary groups being flooded with appeals for registration, along with the videos of participating local icons and brand ambassadors, district dignitaries including PDGs, DGE, DGN, AGs, etc.

The Facebook page of RC Nasik Road was also updated many times a day with the latest news of the event and was liked by a large number of visitors. “Nearly 20 lakh persons were made aware of the event making it a huge PR exercise for the flagship project of this club, that is, building toilets and handwash facilities in rural schools, which we have been doing since 2014,” said Dr Gangurde. RCs Boxhill Central, Melbourne; Concord, US; and six other clubs from Australia and the US partnered to make the virtual marathon a much talked about global Rotary event.

AG Kunal Sharma, Rtns Dr Rochna Rai Sharma, Hemant Shidhaye, Vibha Patil, Saumitri Das, Firdaus Kapadia and OP Srivastava contributed a lot of efforts and time in organising the event. They were guided by DGE Ramesh Meher, DGN Anand Jhunjhunwala, President Enclave chair Gurmeet Singh Rawal, Rtn Naresh Shah and AG Deepa Changrani. ■



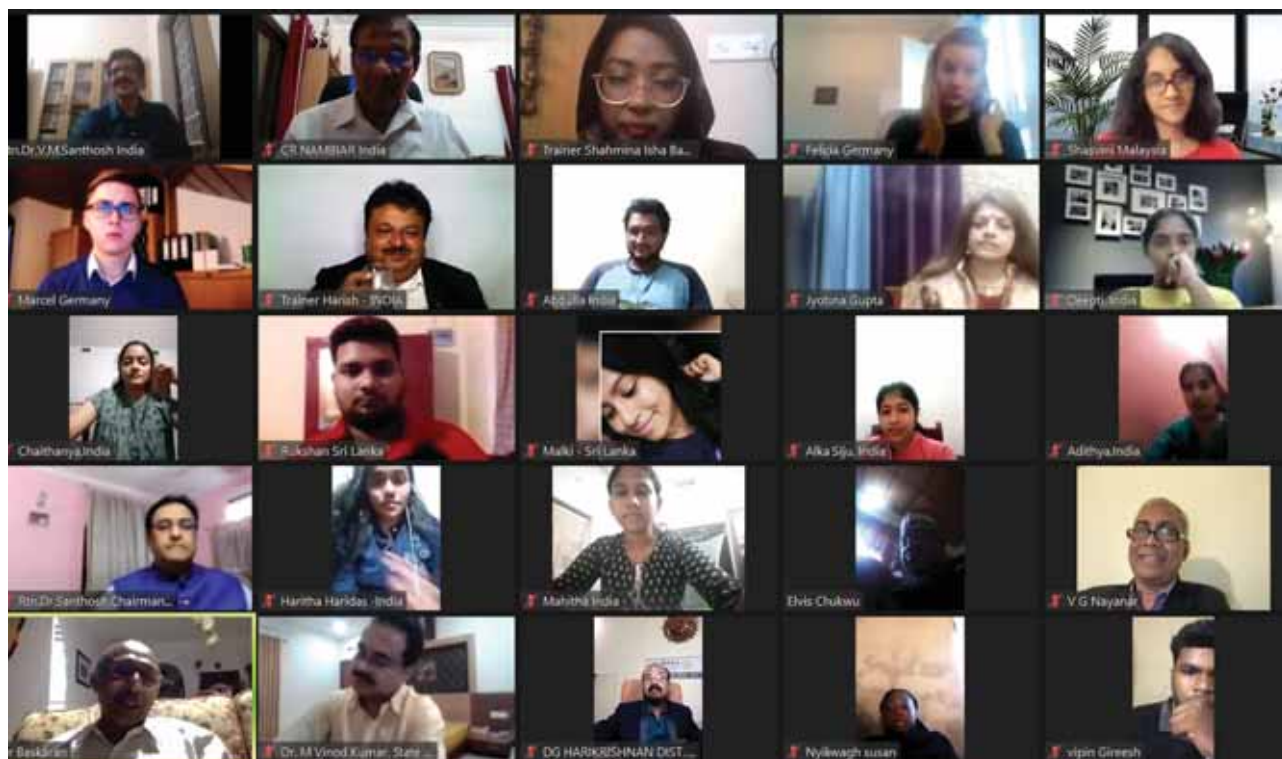
A cycling event being flagged-off as part of the virtual fundraiser.

Training leaders beyond boundaries

Team Rotary News



RIDE Mahesh Kotbagi



DG Dr Hari Krishnan Nambiar

Rotary Club of Payyanur, RID 3202, organised a one-day International RYLA titled 'Voice Out' in December which was inaugurated by RIDE Mahesh Kotbagi. The virtual event, presided over by DG Dr Hari Krishnan Nambiar, had 60 participants from 14 countries including Canada and Japan. The resource persons included Rtn V Harish Kumar from Erode, Jyotsna Gupta from Jalandhar and

Shahmina Isha from Bangladesh. PDGs V G Nayyanar from RID 3202, Dr Bhaskar Gopalakrishnan from RID 3300, Malaysia, and Elvis Chikku from RID 9125, Nigeria, participated in the valedictory programme and complimented District RYLA chair Harish Kumar, Event chairman Dr Santosh Sreedhar and the club members for curating an interesting range of topics which will help groom the youngsters effectively. ■

D 2981

RC Thanjavur South

Best Teacher Awards were given to 10 assistant professors and HoDs at the Bon Secours College for Women along with a Service of Excellence for Women's Empowerment Award. At the Little Scholars Higher Secondary School, 17 teachers were given the awards.



D 2981

RC Tiruvarur Midtown

To mark its charter day, the club felicitated its charter president V M Annadurai at an event in the New Bharat Higher Secondary School, Tiruvarur. Former Assistant Governor V K S Arul was the chief guest.



D 2982

RC Attur Midtown

Diwali was celebrated by holding silambam, a traditional martial art, display by students. The club joined hands with the State Fire Services personnel to create awareness on safe and accident-free Diwali. Handbills and masks were given to the public.





D 2982

RC Sankagiri

Nine new RCCs were inducted and two Rotary clubs were installed by the club president Dhivahar. The club has now inducted around 250 members across RCCs in the presence of DG A K Venkatesan and other district office-bearers.



D 3000

RC Pudukkottai City

A pollution-free Diwali was celebrated at the Municipality Middle School, Santhaipettai, in partnership with the Road Safety Awareness Association. Club president K Arumugam spoke on the importance of wearing masks and following social distancing norms. School headmaster Vijaya Manickam and Rotarians took part in the event. A demo was held on how to burst crackers in a safe manner.



D 3011

RC Delhi West

The club joined hands with RAC of Geetanjali Delhi to take up a mega cleaning project of Naini Lake and its surrounding areas for three days. Twenty Rotarians and Rotaractors were involved in the lake clean-up project which would hugely benefit the residents of Model Town.

D 3011

RC Delhi Connaught Place Raisina Hills

The club joined hands with the Delhi Langar Seva Society to distribute over 500 freshly-prepared food packets to needy families at the Labour Chowk, Sector 49, Noida. In another initiative, the club recommended three underprivileged students for *Aajeevika* project, a skill development centre in Daryaganj, being implemented by RC New Delhi and NIIT.



D 3030

RC Chandrapur

Senior Citizen's Day was observed by visiting the Matoshri old age home and engaging 35 inmates in fun games and lively interaction. A grand dinner was arranged for them. Masks and sanitisers were also distributed.



D 3040

RC Bhopal Hills

A steel mobile stretcher and a wheelchair were donated to Civil Hospital, Berasia, in the presence of DGE Col Mahendra Mishra, club president DC Verma and secretary SB Singh. Rtn Rajesh Jain handed over the medical equipment to the hospital authorities. Rotarians, doctors and staff from the hospital took part in the hand-over event.





D 3040

RC Indore Royals

Rtn Virat Mehta, a physically-challenged person with implants in his lower body due to road accident, came forward to set up a food kiosk to another person with physical disability in Indore so that he can earn a decent livelihood without having to beg.



D 3053

RC Jodhpur Garima

The club gave 100 cotton masks with End Polio Now message and 1,500 ply masks to DCP (Jodhpur) Dharmendra Singh Yadav. Also, 100 printed masks with EPN logo were given to nursing staff who go out to give polio drops across the city.



D 3060

RC Surat East

An artificial limb fitment camp was conducted in which 117 amputees were fitted with 153 prosthesis. The camp was held in partnership with RC Emory-Druid Hills, Atlanta, US, RID 6900, and the Narayan Seva Sansthan in the presence of DG Prashant Jani. The project was funded by the American club.

D 3080

RC Mussoorie

A two-day polio awareness rally was taken in partnership with Rotaractors and stickers were pasted on windows of shops and retail outlets. A World's Greatest Meal (WGM) dinner was hosted by club president Neeraj Gupta and Rtn Deepak Agarwal at a local restaurant. An amount of ₹1.25 lakh was raised at the event.



D 3110

RC Hathras City

The club constructed a toilet block at a government school in Hathras. The WASH project enhanced the public image of Rotary in the locality.



D 3120

RC Ballia

An online essay competition on the New Education Policy was held for students. Twenty-five participants took part in the contest and the winners were given mementoes and certificates. Twenty Rotarians were present at the virtual contest and the project cost ₹20,000.





D 3131

RC Poona West

Diwali gift hampers worth ₹1.8 lakh comprising products made by NGOs and special homes were delivered to corporates. The club put up products for sale at Grahak Peth's Baner Balewadi branch, Pune, as this store gets excellent footfall. This decision helped the NGOs to raise ₹25,000.



D 3131

RC Pune Shivajinagar

The club arranged a training for the inmates of Apte School for Deaf and Mute on handling the sanitiser machine and spraying the disinfectant solutions at public places. As the students were badly hit by the lockdown, the training will help them to generate income and be financially-independent.



D 3132

RC Solapur MIDC

Under the leadership of club president Vitthal Vanga, the members pooled in funds and distributed over 300 *chaddars* (blankets) to the flood-hit villagers in Rampur, Goudgaon, Mirajgi and Itgi villages of Akkalkot taluk of Solapur district.

A plantation drive by Agra Rotarians

Team Rotary News

When DG Dinesh Chandra Shukla, RID 3110, suggested the district team to dedicate their activities towards planting trees and undertake other environment care programmes, the Rotarians were quick to respond.

Rotary Club of Agra Taj City observed Doctors' Day (July 1) by presenting 75 doctors with a jade plant each and planted native trees such as neem, amla, peepul and gulmohar at 11 hospitals. Club president Dr Narendra Malhotra dedicated a week as Green Agra Week wherein the club members enthusiastically planted a total of 8,000 saplings around the city. Recognitions were given to Rotarians who had done some outstanding activities during the week. The club also partnered with other NGOs in promoting the greening drive.

Club member Harvijay Singh who had planted 5,000 saplings was declared the 'Environmental-ist of the year.' Rotarians Dr D V Sharma planted 2,000 saplings;



A health camp with Covid precautions.

Prabhat Mathur, Sameer Mathur, Moti Lal Jain, Amitabh, Sanjay Goyal and Dr Amol Shiromani planted 50 saplings each. Malhotra and his son Dr Jaideep planted 250 saplings in the Suraj Bhan Colony. All the members were recognised with certificates and a jade plant each.

In another initiative, the club vigorously promoted use of locally made articles during this festive season. "Supporting our local

vendors is our way of enhancing their livelihood," says Malhotra. He urged every club member to each identify a local vendor who needs help and circulate his name and address in the social media so that people go and buy from him and help him. "It was a very beneficial activity and we were able to popularise several quality vendors and talented craftsmen. The local people, including our Rotarians, were happy to buy artefacts and gifts for the festive season from these vendors."

The club, in partnership with Smrithi Sanstha, an Agra-based NGO, donated a fully automatic wheelchair to Kanchan Kumar Ahluwalia, a resident of Dayalbagh, who was suffering from paralysis.

A free health camp for women was organised at the Malhotra Maternity Nursing Home. Close to 100 women received consultation at the camp. All tests were carried out at discounted rates and social distancing norms were strictly followed at the camp. ■



Rotarians at a green drive.

Cattle care

Team Rotary News



Rotarians feed a cow at a veterinary medical camp.

RC Manmad, RID 3030, organised a medical camp for cattle. Veterinary doctors treated the animals for illnesses and recommended healthy feed for

them. Vaccinations against diseases were also administered as part of the camp.

The club organised a week-long blood donation camp in the city to

combat shortage of blood products faced by hospitals. Aradhana Udhyan Kendra, a Jain organisation, partnered with the club for the camp. ■

Blankets for the needy

Every year RC Alwar, RID 3054, distributes blankets in winter to the underprivileged and destitute people who sleep on platforms. Vikas Gupta, the club's secretary, said that the blankets are distributed by the club members who go around the city at night trying to find people in need of blankets. This year the club distributed 200 blankets at many places in Alwar. ■



D 3160

RC Sullurpet

The club donated school benches worth ₹45,000 to the ZP High School at Kotapolur village under a district grant. Children's Day was observed at the ZP Girls High School by conducting games and contests for students. Prizes and certificates were given to the participants.



D 3181

RC Mysore West

The club donated an LED solar streetlight to Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya at DMG Halli, Mysuru. Club president Raghavendra Prasad, secretary Dinesh Kumar and past president Hanumanthu, among others, were present at the hand-over event.



D 3201

RC Coimbatore Vadavalli

The club's RCC donated masks to over 100 sanitary workers of the city corporation and created awareness on wearing it to protect themselves against Covid. The project enhanced the public image of Rotary.





D 3202

RC Kasaragod

DG Dr Harikrishnan Nambiar flagged off a cycle rally to mark World AIDS Day. A red ribbon candle lighting was also held in association with the ART Centre at the General Hospital, Kasaragod.



D 3202

RC Payyanur

A 10-metre-high clock tower is under construction at the gateway of Payyanur-National Highway at the Perumba bridge. The project, including a family park, worth ₹10 lakh is expected to be completed shortly and will be a Rotary's public image monument. Payyanur legislator C Krishnan laid the foundation stone for the structure.



D 3211

RC Kottayam Southern

The club installed a Gandhi statue at the Kottayam collectorate in front of the district panchayat office. The precinct was named Rotary Gandhi Peace Square and the statue was unveiled by former CM Oommen Chandy. The Rotary premises will boost its public image.

D 3211

RC Kuruvilangad

DG Dr Thomas Vavanikkunel visited the newly-created environmental park by the club along with the district office-bearers, club president and panchayat officials. He appreciated the club for developing a civic facility that will be of great importance to the residents.



D 3211

RC Tiruvalla

AG Nanda Kumar Varma handed over keys to a five-star Snehaveedu costing ₹6 lakh to Thampi TA, a native of Puramattom, Tiruvalla, in the presence of club president NT Abraham and other members. The project enhanced the public image of Rotary in the locality.



D 3212

RC Karaikudi

The club inducted 20 new members including a woman to shore up its strength. PDG Jessiah Villavarayar was the chief guest. Club president KV Jayaprakash Mohan and secretary A Muthusamy worked hard for inducting the new members. A generator set was donated for public use at Pallavangudi village in Sivaganga district.





D 3231

RC Pernambut

Fifty women were given completion certificates after being trained at the tailoring centre being run by the club for the past one year. At present around 100 women are being trained at the vocational centre. Tamil Nadu Minister for Labour and Wakfs Dr Neelofer Kafeel was the chief guest. PDG K Jawarilal Jain was the guest of honour.



D 3291

RC Calcutta Laketown

RID 3291 banners were placed at the polio immunisation centre of South Dum Dum Municipality where 20 health workers are covering the nearby localities having over 1,500 children under vaccine coverage. A similar banner was placed at the Sarbojanin Durga Park at the Laketown.



D 3291

RC Calcutta Metropolitan

Dry rations were given to girl students at the Pace Universal Centre since April 2020. Around 225 students were benefitted. During the Literacy month, 72 students were awarded for their regular attendance at the online classes.

Compiled by V Muthukumaran