

August 2021

# Rotary

## NEWS PLUS



# Rotary honours corona warriors in Sonipat

## Team Rotary News



RC Sonipat Midtown president Rakesh Devgun (left) felicitating a corona warrior with a citation and memento.

**A**t a community meet, RC Sonipat Midtown, RID 3012, honoured 24 corona warriors with awards for their work at the grassroots-level in the fight against the Covid virus. Prof Joginder Singh was felicitated for setting up an oxygen plant and supporting the efforts of WHO in his locality, while Ranvir did the funeral rites of Covid victims at the burial grounds as bodies were disposed of with no human presence. “In 26 days, he cremated 76 unattended bodies as families of Covid victims were not given their mortal remains,” said Rakesh Devgun, club president.

The 12 awardees showed the society that even if one member of the society wants to bring in the change, they can make an impact, he said. The awards meet was attended by 76 Rotarians and their families.

Chief medical officer JS Puniya and DSP Amit Bhatia were chief guest and guest of honour at this event.

The club erected an Olympic wall on the premises of the district court in association with the District Bar Association, Sonipat, for everyone to write their best wishes for the Indian contingent at the Tokyo Olympics.

Chief judicial magistrate Saurabh Gupta, district judge Subash Mehla, District Bar Association president Sandeep Sharma and other office-bearers took part in the inauguration of the Olympic wall. The project was implemented jointly by the club’s past presidents Parkash Bhagat, Bhupash Chandna, Gyanendra Sachdeva and Rajesh Relan, Rtms Sunny Jain, Avinash Bhagat and Rajesh Lamba.

A Covid vaccination camp was held at the HSIIDC Industrial Estate in the presence of senior medical

officer Dr Avinta Kaushik as chief guest. “We handed over 5,000 paracetamol tablets and 2,000 face masks to Dr Avinta to meet the needs of the health department,” said Devgun. Also, tablets, masks and sanitisers were distributed to those who were vaccinated. Project chair Basant Kohli coordinated the event.

### Cycle rally

Thirty Rotarians and their family members took part in a cycle rally from Rotary Centre, pedalling through most parts of the town and met Ramesh Kaushik, member of parliament from Sonipat. They handed over a letter wishing the Indian Olympic team a success in Tokyo to the MP. The Rotarians also stopped at wrestler Bajrang Puniya’s house, a bronze medallist at the Olympics, on the way and greeted his mother. ■

**On the cover:** Members of RC Nasik-Ambad, RID 3030, visit tribal hamlets to spread awareness about Covid.



# Rotary cataract surgery camps for the elderly

## Team Rotary News



DG Anup Mittal at the launch of project *Netra*.

**D**G Anup Mittal recently inaugurated 'Netra', a monthly cataract surgery camp launched by RC Delhi South Central, RID 3011

at the Vivekanand Arogya Kendra, Gurgaon.

This is a yearlong project in which cataract surgeries will be conducted on 10 patients

on the last Tuesday of every month. The market price of such surgery is ₹30,000–50,000, but the club will perform the surgeries free of cost for

the patients, said club president Rajnish Mittal.

He presented a cheque for \$30,000 to DG Mittal during his installation. ■

## Enhancing livelihoods

**O**ne hundred and sixteen underprivileged women were given LPG iron press by RC Pondicherry Cosmos, RID 2981. The project was executed to celebrate Rotary's 116 years of service to humanity.

The total project cost ₹15 lakh. Star Health Insurance contributed ₹6 lakh from their CSR funds and the club members donated generously to raise ₹9 lakh for the cause.

The beneficiaries were given training by Priyan Agencies, an Indane dealer, to use the iron press equipment which works with LPG gas connection. Lieutenant Governor of Puducherry Dr Tamilisai Soundararajan gave the iron press to the women in the presence of IPDG Balaji Babu, DGE V Selvanathan, chief advisor PDG Mani, club president L Anbalagan, secretary S Rajendran and project chairman T Chakrapani. Project secretary T Chandrasekar made all the arrangements for the



Lieutenant Governor Dr Tamilisai Soundararajan presenting an LPG iron box. Also present are club president L Anbalagan (L) and IPDG Balaji Babu.

distribution event. Dr S Prakash, MD, Star Health Insurance, was also present at the event.

The Lt governor appreciated the club's initiative and noted that such projects would not only improve the living conditions of these families but also provide self-confidence to

the women to help them face all kinds of challenges and fight against inequalities. She invited Rotary to join hands with the government to educate the public about the importance of Covid vaccine and help in setting up vaccine camps across the union territory. ■

# Dalmiapuram lake renovated

## Team Rotary News

A three-day desilting work by RC Dalmiapuram, RID 3000, renovated the Vadugarpettai Lake under its rainwater harvesting project. With the support of companies Hitachi and JCB, the earthmovers, the club desilted the pond and its bund walls were also strengthened at a project cost of ₹2.25 lakh. “Around 2,500 villagers around the lake will benefit from the lake restoration project,” said IPP K Selva Muthukumar.

To beautify the lake, 50 saplings were planted with tree guards on the bund walls of the lake. After the waterbody was restored, its annual water harvesting capacity rose to 90,000 cubic metres of rainwater.

An RWH facility was set up at the Government Middle School in Melarasoor village with a display



Rotarians at the desilted lake with a newly-planted sapling.

board near the water harvesting pit to explain to students and teachers the procedure involved in this conservation process. The RWH project costing ₹25,000 will benefit nearby villages.

The club planted over 5,500 saplings of diverse species over a 2.2 acre-land as part of its

Miyawaki project. The Miyawaki project was inaugurated by the then district secretary, special projects, R Subramani, in the presence of former regional coordinator P Balasundaram, then district chairman, tree plantation, Ashok Periyasamy, and former AG A Ravichandran. ■

## Interactors’ meet on hepatitis

Interactors at the Ganapathy Iyer Girls High School sponsored by RC Madras Temple City, RID 3232, staged an online awareness programme on hepatitis with the help of their science teacher. Around a dozen students spoke flawlessly in English and Tamil on the causes of the disease and means to prevent it with right safeguards and lifestyle. “In pairs of two, the students divided the topics among themselves and gave a grand performance,” said Rtn Indra

Ryali, director, community services of the club.

She was beaming with pride at the end of the programme as each student spoke confidently, the youngest one in Class 6, with facts and figures related to hepatitis in the country. “What was touching was the humble backgrounds they came from, and yet each of them was motivated to give their best,” said Indra. The event was attended by 95 Interactors from the school, some with their parents and teachers. ■





# Rotary Corner in Kasaragod

Team Rotary News



**A** Rotary Corner was inaugurated at the entrance to the city from the highway by RC Kasaragod, RID 3202, which enhanced the public image of the club in the vicinity.

Kasaragod municipality chairman V M Muneer

was the chief guest at the inaugural which saw the presence of IPDG Dr Hari Krishnan Nambiar and ward councillor Hemalatah J Shetty who switched on the power supply board. This Rotary Corner has a well-decorated and neatly covered well in the

centre of a park which has relaxing chairs for the public who can access drinking water from the well.

Gym machines and work-out devices were also installed at the Rotary park to facilitate the fitness buffs who can work out in

the park in the morning and evening. The club's IPP Dr Janardhana Naik, former secretary Ashokan Kuniyeri and former treasurer Radhakrishnan were present, along with a large number of Rotarians, at the inauguration of the park ■

## A health camp in Hooghly



A patient being given consultation.

**A**round 250 patients were screened for chronic ailments like diabetes, high blood pressure and obesity at the *Know your numbers* camp hosted by RC Salt Lake Metropolitan Kolkata, RID 3291, in partnership with RC Hooghly at the Shri Kashi Vishwanath Seba Samity at Hamiragachi near Malia village.

The club doctors and technicians from the ILS Hospitals screened the patients for various health issues and 50 of them were detected with high blood sugar and BP for the first time. Free consultations were given by doctors. All patients were provided with lunch. Over 100 blankets were distributed to senior citizens at Hamiragachi village to protect them from wintery nights. This project costing ₹20,000 was sponsored by Rtn Indra Kumar Bagri, along with Anns Sushma Agarwal and Kakoli Sen. ■

# A Pune club donates smart tablets

Team Rotary News



Students at Dr Dada Gujar Madhyamik Vidyalaya in Pune with their smart tablets.

**A**s many under-privileged students could

not access online classes during lockdown, RC Pune Sports City, RID 3131, decided to provide seven-inch screen tablets with sim cards and preloaded course work as per requirements to students at four government schools in and around Pune. The club has signed MoUs with the four school principals who will be the custodians of the smart tablets, take

responsibility for their maintenance, repair and distribute these devices to students as per their needs.

At the Dr Dada Gujar Madhyamik Vidyalaya, 100 students in Class 10 were given 50 tablets to enable them to attend online classes on zoom and Google classroom. "The students are able to afford the internet data service for the devices at around ₹150-200 per month to receive the online education. Once the students pass out of Class 10, the school will give the same devices to

the next batch of 50 students," said Rtn Sandesh Savant from the club. The tablets were sponsored by Nitin Kataria with support from the club's charitable trust.

Due to lack of resources, a rural primary school in Kune village could not hold online classes. The club provided 10 tablets with preloaded course material for Classes 1-7. Since the school was closed teachers visited the localities to teach a batch of 2-3 students. The project was funded by club's Trust. The club





Rtn Ghare Rishikesh handing over a tablet to a beneficiary at the Kune Primary School.

donated 25 tablets to the government school, one of its Happy Schools, at Dhamane village in Khed taluk. Destroyed by Cyclone Nisarga (May 2020), the school is being rebuilt with concrete slabs for the roof. Though the school is closed, three students have excelled in the Class 5 scholarship exams conducted by the government, making the total number of such students to five.

The Dhamane part of the smart tablet project was funded by donations from club members, Anns and their friends including Rtms Ram Kulkarni, Nitin Joshi, Ramakrishna Rao, Ashok Gopal and Mahendra Patil.

There was a need for 22 smart tablets at the primary school in Karunj village for students to attend online classes. But the remaining 160 students are using their parents' smart

phones to access digital classes. "A global grant project by our club to renovate the school is under progress," said Savant whose family and friends, along with Rtn Sanjay Wadhwa and other donors, sponsored the tablets required at this school.

In all, 110 smart tablets worth ₹8.8 lakh were provided to government schools through member contributions and donations from well-wishers and families of Rotarians. The smart devices benefited anywhere between 100 and 400 students this year, depending on their mode of sharing the tablets. As the four schools would retain the custody of smart tablets, hundreds of students will benefit over the next 3-4 years. "Once the schools reopen, the tablets will be used as e-learning devices as they have the preloaded course work based on the syllabus," added Savant. ■



Students at Dhamane village with smart tablets.

# Agra Rotarians launch a Van Mahotsav

## Team Rotary News

In the first week of July, Van Mahotsav was observed by RC Agra, RID 3110, by planting trees on the premises of the Institute of Mental Health and Hospital, Agra, with the newly elected office-bearers led by club president Ashish Agarwal taking up the project with enthusiasm. Dr Avinash Kumar Singh and Dr Dinesh Rathore, medical superintendent of the hospital, were present at the plantation drive.

Immediate past president Dr Alok Mittal, club secretary Pradeep Mittal, trainer R L Bharadwaj and service director Yogesh Jindal, along with president-elect Mrinal Sharma, planted



RC Agra members at a tree plantation drive.

the saplings with the help of volunteers.

### Industry Award

The club has instituted RCA Industry Leadership Awards in July to promote

fellowship among entrepreneurs and honour the top industry leaders in the city. Rtn Ram Saran Mittal was chosen as the patron of the award. "Due to Covid restrictions, this

year the award was given for the exports sector only and the jury chose Puran Dawar as the first recipient of RCA Industry Leadership Award," said Rtn Manoj R Kumar.

Dawar, chairman, Dawar Group, has taken footwear industry to great heights in Agra. "Under his leadership in different capacities, he has given the industry new dimensions that not only included multi-fold growth of the footwear industry but has also witnessed immense change in the quality of life of the people associated directly or indirectly with the trade," said Kumar. He is also a philanthropist who has taken up social initiatives in Agra. ■



Dawar Group chairman Puran Dawar (3<sup>rd</sup> from L) presented with RC Industry Leadership Award by club president Ashish Agarwal (2<sup>nd</sup> from L). Also seen is IPP Dr Alok Mittal (2<sup>nd</sup> from R).



# Supporting orphans

## Team Rotary News



PDG Ganesh Bhat along with beneficiaries.

**R**otary Hubli Dharwad Covid Task Force led by its chairman PDG Ganesh Bhat gave ₹4,000 as educational aid for schoolchildren who had lost one or both their

parents to Covid in the last few months. A special team was formed to identify these children and Rotary clubs of RID 3170 came together to contribute in cash and kind for the cause. Bhat

got in touch with the Children Welfare Officer of Dharwad district and got the necessary details.

Grocery kits with six months' supply were also given to the guardians of these children.

Rotarians Dr Satish Irkal, Narasinhamoorthy, Kiran Hiremath, Anand Nayak, Karan Doddwad, Dr Vani Irkal and Shivanna Patil were present for the distribution event. ■

# Helping infants breathe

**R**otary Club of Nasik, RID 3030, in association with Ring Plus Aqua, an automobile components manufacturer, equipped the Bytco Civil Hospitals in Nashik with six C-Pap machines. The equipment will be used to treat children with respiratory distress syndrome. Each of these machines cost around ₹1.5 lakh. ■



Rotarians at the inauguration of new machines.

D 2981

## RC Nagapattinam

IPP Avarani T Anandan continued with his two pet projects — *kabasura kudineer*, an herbal concoction against Covid, and *annadhanam* (mass feeding) — throughout last year (2020–21) without missing a day. His family including his wife, president of Inner Wheel club, supported him in carrying out these two projects.



D 2981

## RC Pondicherry White Town

At the installation of new club president R Vaitheeswaran, 26 new members were inducted into the club. A video with animated content was launched to lift the public image of Rotary in this region.



D 2981

## RC Veeranam Lake City

Rice bags, 25kg each, were given to 72 Sri Lankan families at a refugee camp in Kaatumannarkovil village in Cuddalore district. Chidambaram sub-collector Madhu Balan, tahsildar D Ramadass, AG N Elangovan were present along with club's charter president C Arokkia Doss and charter secretary V Alphonse Raj.







**D 3000**

## **RC Srirangam**

More than 500 people were inoculated at the Covid vaccination camp organised with the help of the health department at the Sri Vignesh Renga Matric School, Srirangam. A number of volunteers took part the camp which was a huge success in this temple town.



**D 3011**

## **RC Connaught Place Raisina Hills**

New clothes were donated to 100 poor children at the slum colony near Jamia Nagar to ease the sufferings of their families during the pandemic. Around 70 packets of dry rations including biscuits, tea, soap with toothbrush and paste were sent to Myanmar's refugees at Uttam Nagar by Rtn Arshad Fehmi.



**D 3012**

## **RC Delhi Mayur Vihar**

A blood donation camp at the Shahdara locality in Delhi under the leadership of club's IPP Rajneesh Gupta collected over 220 units of blood. Buses were arranged by the Rotary Blood Bank to help donors reach the venue. Rotarians supported the blood bank team to make the event a success.

**D 3012**

## RC Ghaziabad North

Over 500 saplings were planted on the premises of Jeevan Asha Hospital and Rehabilitation Centre to commence the new Rotary year. Also, the club felicitated doctors treating Covid patients and hosted a Covid vaccination camp for 500 beneficiaries. DG Ashok Aggarwal inaugurated the projects which saw around 100 volunteers taking care of logistics.



**D 3020**

## RC Visakhapatnam

DG M Rama Rao inaugurated a low-cost diagnostic centre at the BNR Foundation which will benefit the poor and needy families. The medical equipment were sponsored by Kolluru VS Prasad and part-funded by contributions from members.



**D 3020**

## RC Vuyyuru

A tricycle was donated to a physically-challenged at Guduru village during the club installation. Notebooks worth ₹25,000 were distributed to students of AG & SGS Junior College, Vuyyuru. Seven doctors were honoured at the Government Hospital for their service to Covid patients.







D 3030

## RC Nasik Grapecity

The club donated five oxygen concentrators to the Jan Kalyan Samiti, an NGO, for taking care of its Covid patients. A fundraiser for this project collected ₹4.2 lakh with the flyer designed by Ann Aadhi Panicker titled *Missing O2* going viral. The project was executed by Medical Services director Renu Panicker with the support of IPP Kavita Dagaonkar.



D 3053

## RC Jodhpur Padmini

A gift-wrapping and hamper-making workshop was held for club members. Over 100 saplings were planted on the premises of Rajkiya Uchch Madhyamik Vidyalaya at Kokunda village. Also, a blood donation camp was held at Salwa Kalla village with the support of RCC volunteers.



D 3054

## RC Jaipur Pink City

A grand Holi Milan Samroh was organised at the Rotary Bhavan with a gala performance by classical singer Rtn Mohan Balodiya and his team. Project chairman OP Modi and club's IPP S S Gupta addressed the Rotarians and their families. It was an occasion for fellowship.

D 3054

## RC Pali

Due to shortage of hospital beds, the club converted its building into a Covid care centre. This was redesigned with help from JCI Pali Dynamic and CETP Foundation under the guidance of the health department. The 77-bed centre has doctors and nurses with a secure oxygen line for patients. Food is also being arranged.



D 3060

## RC Nandnagari Nandurbar

An awareness campaign on Covid vaccination was held with the support of Tathapi Trust, Pune, in which a street play was held in the presence of district collector Dr Rajendra Bharud. District primary education officer Rahul Chaudhary, club's IPP Nagsen Pendharkar and Tathapi Trust director Meera Sadagopalan were present. Street plays are being held across 200 villages in Nadurbar district.



D 3060

## RC Surat Roundtown

Charter member PDG Bharat Solanki was felicitated on Guru Purnima Day (July 24) with a title *Rotary Guru* by club president Bhavin Jariwala. Solanki has mentored a number of service projects over decades. An eye equipment, a special lens, was donated to the Civil Hospital, Surat, for detection and laser treatment of retinal disorders.







**D 3070**

## **RC Hoshiarpur Midtown**

The club has successfully operated 124 patients suffering from corneal blindness under a global grant project with the support of its global partner RC Plano Metro, Texas, US. Under Project *Give Light to Sight*, a catalogue and website ([www.rotarycornealtransplant.com](http://www.rotarycornealtransplant.com)) was launched to help the needy patients.



**D 3070**

## **RC Ludhiana Greater**

A yoga and meditation workshop was conducted with the help of Everest Yoga Institute for club members and their families. Club president Vikas Babbar and secretary Neeraj Dhir thanked Rtn Sanjeev Tyagi representing the institute. Rotary stickers with a message 'I am a proud member of Rotary' were stuck on cars of all Rotarians.



**D 3080**

## **RC Ambala Industrial Area**

Sanitary napkins and face masks were distributed to girls at Phulel Majra village by IPP Shashi Gulati. Frontline workers were honoured with corona warrior certificates at a vaccination camp held in a slum area and a blood donation camp at the Philadelphia Hospital in Tepla village received a good response from the public.

# Internship programmes by RID 3131

V Muthukumaran

As Covid pandemic shook the world in 2020, Rotary International suspended all exchange programmes under the New Generation Service Exchange (NGSE) with countries observing a global curfew to arrest the spread of coronavirus.

RID 3131 was one of the first Rotary districts to initiate an 'e-NGSE' with 'out-of-the-box' concept to promote a virtual internship programme for outbound and inbound young adults.

The NGSE team led by Niraj Mehta, district director-cum-chair of NGSE programmes (2020–21) worked strenuously to create internship opportunities for young professionals who were connected to the internship providers across the world through virtual platforms. "Thus sitting at one's own place a candidate gets connected with the internship provider globally. This e-NGSE benefited the internees as they don't need to travel at all and it opened great

opportunities for young adults desiring to climb up in their chosen profession, especially those from rural areas," said Mehta.

To begin with, the NGSE team floated two Google-based application forms for 'interested candidates' and for the 'internship providers' to create a database. After creating this, the district team reached out to Rotary clubs across the world to make them understand this e-NGSE and how it would benefit the young

adults who were looking for means to hone their professional skills.

## First ever e-NGSE

On Jan 25, 2021, RIDs 3131 and 3420 (Indonesia) exchanged candidates for the first-ever virtual NGSE programme in Rotary. While Yohan Candra (Bali, Indonesia), the inbound candidate, successfully completed his virtual internship on food processing with Kutwal Foods, Pune, in March, the outbound Akhil

 Coordinator Jany Hatanaka	 Chair Marcos Nobrega	 <b>Rotary</b> New Generations Service Exchange		 Chair Niraj Mehta	 Co Chair Kranti Shah
 Student Andalaft Joao Alfredo Fernandes	 Trainer Mohit Pachpande	 <b>Inbound Students</b> Brazil - RID 4420 India - RID 3131		 Promotion Chair Prasad Ganpule	 Program Chair Purnima Pendse
 Student Lucas Barbosa Vellardi	 Trainer Subodh Malpani	  Rotary Opens Opportunities		 Inbound Chair Asmita Patil	 Outbound Chair Deepti Poojary



Naushad, sponsored by RC Koregaon Park, had an exciting programme with Mortiz Logistics, Indonesia.

Over the last few months, RID 3131 NGSE team had forged successful partnerships with RIDs from Indonesia, Brazil, Canada and Nepal, among other countries, to exchange virtual internship students.

Already 10 students from RID 3131 have taken virtual internships at various companies through RID 4420 (Sao Paulo, Brazil) and RID 3420 (Indonesia). Mehta is coordinating with RID 3420 outbound chair Florensia Daryanto and RID 4420 contact Jany Hatanaka on the respective programmes.

A virtual felicitation meet was held for all the five inbound and 10 outbound students and four trainers who were given NGSE certificates by the district team after the completion of their respective internships. “All the five inbound and 10 outbound students had cultural exchanges with the host clubs and their families,” said Mehta. This e-NGSE is a

boon for the young adults during this pandemic and “that’s why it is getting a great response and acceptance worldwide. We from RID 3131 are really proud of initiating the e-NGSE programme globally, with the successful completion of the first virtual exchange in the world,” said Niraj Mehta.

Rtn Asmita Patil, district chair, inbound, NGSE (2020–21) was invited to make a presentation about e-NGSE at the virtual NGSE conference hosted by RID 2080 (Rome,

Lazio, Sardinia). Asmita, Rtr Riddhi Kulkarni and the first inbound student Yohan from Indonesia narrated their experiences at a virtual NGSE seminar hosted by RID 3202 (Tamil Nadu). Niraj Mehta gave a presentation at a multidistrict seminar by RID 3261, Rourkela, to mark the youth month in May 2021. A grand virtual get-together was held for all the five inbound and 10 outbound students who interacted with the participating districts — RIDs 3420 and 4420 — in May to mark the youth month of Rotary calendar.

### **Skilling young graduates**

NGSE was designed by Rotary International in 2012 to open up a platform for young adults in the age group of 19 to 30 years to provide internship in different professions. “The

candidates must have completed their graduation and aspiring for higher studies to pursue a professional career,” said Mehta.

Thus NGSE facilitated young adults to excel in their vocation or profession by engaging themselves in internship programmes of their area of interest and choice. RID 3131 is proactive in NGSE programmes since 2013 and till date has exchanged over 25 young graduates from various countries.

Similarly, the district has also hosted a team of 15 candidates from Taiwan as Group Exchange under NGSE programme. The district has established a good rapport with various Rotary districts globally by successfully completing exchanges with students from Brazil, France, Germany, Canada, USA and Taiwan. ■



NGSE facilitated young adults to excel in their vocation or profession by engaging themselves in internship programmes of their area of interest and choice. RID 3131 is proactive in NGSE programmes since 2013 and till date has exchanged over 25 young graduates from various countries.

**D 3080**

## RC Kharar

A computer system was donated to Srhi Nanoo Mal Model School, Kharar, to facilitate online classes for students during Covid lockdown. Eatables received from ITC company worth ₹3 lakh were distributed among poor children and underprivileged families in the presence of IPP Ashok Chand Attri.



**D 3110**

## RC Agra

Nutrition supplements are being given to 25 children identified by the club to build immunity in them against tuberculosis. In one such event, club's IPP Dr Alok Mittal, along with former secretary Ashish Agarwal and former director of services Dr Rajeev Bharadwaj, distributed the health kits to children. Parents were counselled to provide wholesome food to their children.



**D 3110**

## RC Hathras City

Around 70 people were inoculated at the Covid vaccination camp held at the CMO office. The club felicitated the office staff for their support in the vaccination programme. So far, the club has completed three such camps in which over 250 were vaccinated. A yoga session was arranged at the Vasundhara Enclave colony.







**D 3141**

## **RC Bombay Seacoast**

International Yoga Day was observed as Festival of Wellness with governors from more than 30 districts taking part in the online event. RI President Shekhar Mehta and Rashi, PRIDs Bharat Pandya and Kamal Sanghvi, DG Rajendra Agarwal and IPDG Sunnil Mehra took part in the Yoga Utsav. It was attended by over 1,000 Rotarians from 23 countries including the US, Canada and UK. Guru Sapna Priyadarshi performed the *asanas*.



**D 3141**

## **RC Mumbai Parleshwar**

A blood donation camp was organised at the Sathaye College, Vile Parle, in partnership with RC Bombay Seacoast and Nirankari Blood Bank under strict Covid protocol. Club's medical projects director Prachi Rane along with volunteers coordinated the event. Club president Unmesh Savant, secretary Monika and other Rotarians were present.



**D 3170**

## **RC Belgaum Central**

A dental and eye check-up camp was held at the Peeranwadi locality in Belgaum with over 250 persons being screened for oral and ophthalmic disorders. Besides free consultations, they were given spectacles too.

D 3201

## RC Palghat

A Covid vaccination camp was organised in partnership with five other clubs in Palghat. Over 1,170 persons were vaccinated at the camp inaugurated by IPDG Jose Chacko and headed by the then AG ET Janardhanan. The project created a buzz in the locality.



D 3201

## RC Coimbatore Vadavalli

The club members distributed over 100 food packets at the Leprosy Colony near Maruthamalai. Two herbal gardens were created to mark the beginning of new Rotary year on July 1 with rare plants being grown at the two green hubs. Both the projects lifted the public image of the club.



D 3212

## RC Tirunelveli West

Steam vapourisers worth ₹1.6 lakh, along with medicinal herbs, were donated to all the 40 police stations in Tirunelveli with DIG Praveen Kumar Abinapu distributing the equipment to police officers from various departments. AG A Arumugaperumal, club's IPP Paul Anna and past secretary P Selvakumar were present at the handover event.







**D 3262**

## **RC Berhampur**

A vaccination drive was conducted for the marginalised sections of society including street vendors, domestic help, conservancy staff, rickshaw pullers, auto drivers and underprivileged families. More than 1,300 were vaccinated in this mega drive. The club is supporting Berhampur Municipal Corporation in its Covid vaccination camps and efforts to curb the spread of the virus.



**D 3291**

## **RC Calcutta Lake Town**

Around 700 polio drops were given to infants at their homes in different wards of South Dum Dum Municipality and North 24 Parganas district for two days as part of sub-national immunisation day (SNID) observed by RID 3291. Rotarians also hosted a polio awareness campaign on the occasion.



**D 3291**

## **RC Calcutta Mega City**

An ICU ventilator, 7,000 PPE kits, 3,000 litres of sanitisers, 10,000 hand gloves, five fogging machines and 500 N95 masks worth ₹34 lakh were donated through a global grant project to the Ramakrishna Seva Pratishthan, a 700-bed charitable hospital in Kolkata. The project was implemented with the support of RCs Singapore and Singapore North.

Compiled by V Muthukumaran

# RC Calcutta Yuvis helps flood victims

V Muthukumaran

Reaching out to vulnerable families who are struggling to make both ends meet during the pandemic, RC Calcutta Yuvis, RID 3291, joined hands with Rotaractors and volunteers from Smile Squad to distribute dry rations to over 100 families till June-end. "Under Project *Ek Takar Bazar*, weekly rations are being given to poor families. Each food item is sold at just ₹1 and the proceeds are given to Jhulon, who had lost her husband and now helping Rotary to distribute rations to beneficiaries," said Naveen Agarwal, club president.

The ration items included rice, dal, *atta* (wheat), sugar, salt, raw gram, soybean, turmeric powder, biscuits, and puffed rice. Following the hard work put in by Jhulon in executing the project, the club got her vaccinated and has plans to hold camps to inoculate the marginalised people soon.

Four oxygen concentrators were donated to Uttarpara Kotrung Municipal Corporation for delivering the same to the Mahamaya Sishu O Matri Mangal Kendra being run by the civic body. The machines, received by corporation chairman Dilip Yadav, was funded by a district grant. An oxy concentrator was



Food and relief material being distributed at Mousuni village affected by Cyclone Yaas.



donated to Gopal Govind Bhawan at Bhadrakali village in Hooghly district. Also, an oxygen parlour was set up at the Bangur Park Community Hall with support from Rishra Municipality. To provide earning opportunity, the club donated rickshaw trolleys to five beneficiaries under a district grant.

Around 500 saplings were given to residents of Rishra village in Hooghly district in partnership with the Aditya Birla Jan Seva Trust. Earlier, the club distributed over 2,500 saplings in association with Marwari Yuva Manch at the same village at a cost of ₹2.5 lakh.

### Cyclone-relief work

Over 200 tarpaulins and 50 cartons of biscuits were distributed to villagers at the Sundarbans, a wet land, which was one of the worst-hit by Cyclone Yaas. The food and tarpaulins worth ₹1 lakh were distributed by the club's RCC at the village.

In a similar initiative, the club, along with the Bhadrakali Youth Corps, distributed food packets and other relief material to 350 cyclone-hit families at Mousuni island, Baliara and Bagdanga villages. In a joint initiative with



Tarpaulins being distributed to cyclone-hit villagers at the Sundarbans.

RC Calcutta Acropolis and Mother Teresa Jan Kalyan Mission, the club provide relief material worth ₹700 each to over 200 families at Deulbari, Debipur and Kultali

villages in South 24 Parganas district.

### Covid vaccination camp

A Covid vaccination camp was held at Barasat, a town in North 24 Parganas district, on the premises of Rama Overseas Ltd. CSR partner Ram Pyari Devi Charitable Trust sponsored the inoculation camp in which over 350 persons were vaccinated at a cost of ₹3.15 lakh.

Twenty-five low-cost toilets were constructed and handed over to the beneficiaries at Chakdah village under Project *Suchita* at a project cost of ₹3.12 lakh. A polio vaccination drive was held at ward-8 of Kolkata Municipality in which over 50 infants were given oral doses. ■



Rickshaw trolleys donated to five beneficiaries.

# Initiating behavioural change in Dharwad

Team Rotary News



PDG Ganesh G Bhat handing over the WinS trophy to the winner.

To create awareness among students and school staff on best hygiene practices and ways to keep their campus clean, PDG Ganesh G Bhat has instituted Rotary WinS Award for government schools in Dharwad district, RID 3170, of Karnataka.

“Those schools having gender-segregated toilets, providing clean drinking water to students, conducting group handwash activity and MHM programmes are eligible to contest for the award. Both students and teachers must be involved in WinS programmes,” says Bhat who is also a member

of the Rotary India WinS Recognition Committee.

Each year around 2,600 schools in Dharwad district participate in the WinS competition to win a cash award of ₹10,000, a trophy and certificate. A committee headed by the district commissioner of education, along with two Rotarians, work closely with schools to select the winner.

Yarikoppa Higher Primary School was chosen for the award last year (2020–21) and its principal Tatwate thanked Rotary “for changing our attitude towards cleanliness and hygiene.” Dharwad’s block education officer Bommakkannavar says, “Rotary’s WinS programmes is our best defence against Covid” and this award has changed the mindset of not just the students but also teachers on issues like cleanliness and hygiene.■



Rotarians along with students and teachers.



# Greening Marwar

Team Rotary News



Rotarians plant saplings.

RC Sri Ganganagar Marwar, RID 3090, planted 250 saplings at a village crematorium near Ganganagar in the Marwar region of Rajasthan. Project Mini Forest

is the brainchild of DG Parveen Jindal. Clubs in the district have actively carried out the project to green this desert region of the state. Clubs have placed banners

and posters to create awareness of the importance of planting trees and taking care of the environment at prime locations in villages and towns across the Marwar region.■

## Oxygen concentrators for rural Pune



Rotarians handover oxygen concentrators to a rural PHC.

To meet the rising demand of oxygen supply in rural Covid centres near Pune, RC Poona Midtown, RID 3131, donated 10 oxygen concentrators to PHCs in Patas, Bhigwan, Nasarapur, Velhe, Manchar, Ambi, Pusegaon, Malvan and Vengurla villages in Maharashtra. The funds for this project were raised by the club and through individual donors.■

# Plantation drive in Berhampur

## Team Rotary News

RC Berhampur East, RID 3262, celebrated *Annapurna Day* by distributing 70 food packets to the poor and underprivileged. The club also felicitated 20 doctors and seven chartered accountants. Members of the club along with its RCC members planted close to 300 plants in different school premises.■



## Rotarians perform 'kanyadaan'



Rotarians sponsor the marriage of an underprivileged bride.

Rotarians from Rotary Club of Brahmavarat Kanpur, RID 3110, performed the *kanyadaan* of an underprivileged girl whose family could not afford a wedding

for her. The club supported the girl and her family by bearing all the expenses of the wedding. The club gifted the newly-wed a bed, fridge, TV, washing machine, almirah, utensils

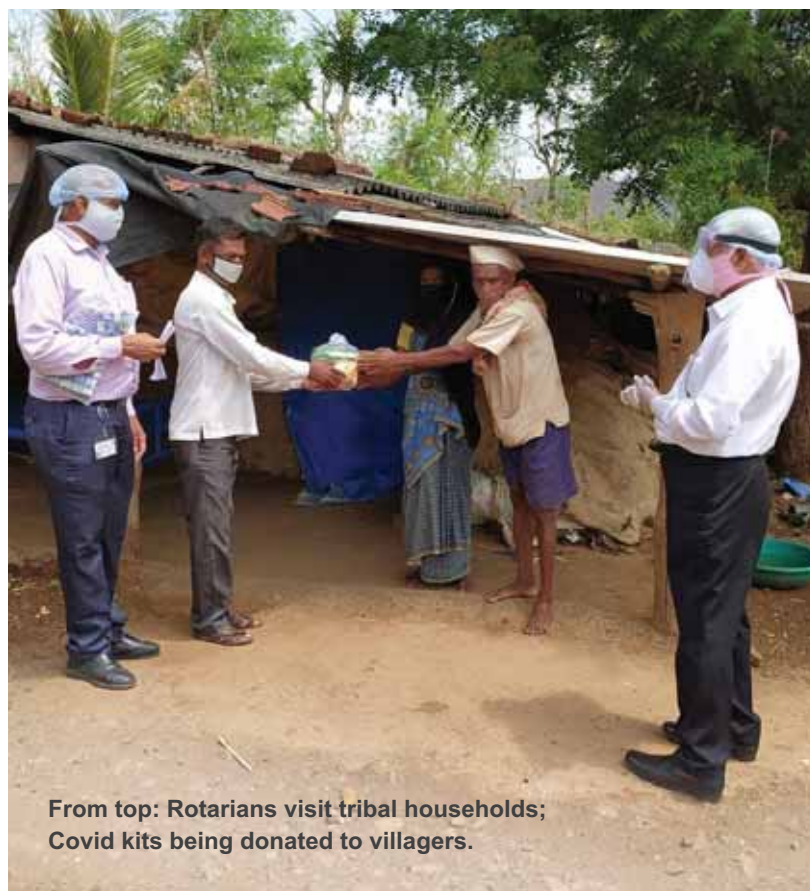
and other household items.

During the second Covid wave, the club distributed masks and ayurvedic medicines to 5,000 people in Kanpur. ■



# Covid awareness drive in tribal hamlets

Team Rotary News



From top: Rotarians visit tribal households;  
Covid kits being donated to villagers.

The members of RC Nashik-Ambad, RID 3030, along with the staff of Tulsi Eye Hospital, Nashik, visited the tribal areas of Western Dindori tehsil comprising about 145 hamlets, to educate the people about Covid and mobilise vaccination among them.

The area has about two lakh people distributed across 21,405 households and living in abject poverty. The vaccine advocacy team divided into five groups and visited the tribal households to influence the people to vaccinate and observe the Covid prevention SOPs, namely wearing masks, maintaining social distancing, washing hands and using hand sanitisers. Handbills in local language were distributed among the people.

The team distributed masks and sanitisers at the villages. Grocery kits were given to 1,000 underprivileged families. ■

# Awardees honoured

## Team Rotary News

**P**DG Dr B Devdas Rai was felicitated by his home district RID 3181 for being conferred the Service Above Self Award by Rotary International last Rotary year 2020–21. The then DG M Ranganath Bhat, PDG K Krishna Shetty and a host of Rotarians showered their best wishes on Rai at *Abhaya*, the district conference.

Noted cardiologist Dr Padmanabha Kamath was conferred the Vandana Award instituted by RC Mangaluru Central and RAC Mangalore City. IPDG Bhat honoured

Dr Kamath in a virtual event attended by the Awards Committee chairman PDG Rai, RC Mangalore Central president PP Prakashchandra and RAC

**Above:** PDG Dr B Devdas Rai being honoured by IPDG M Ranganath Bhat (R) and PDG K Krishna Shetty (L).

**Below:** Cardiologist Dr Padmanabha Kamath is awarded by club's IPP Prakashchandra in the presence of IPDG Ranganath Bhat and PDG Devadas Rai.



Mangalore City president Darryl Steven D'Souza and several Rotarians. Dr Kamath is known for initiating the 'Cardiology at doorsteps (CAD)' programme that involves a WhatsApp group with 150 members, to install ECG machines in PHCs and private clinics in rural areas to help identify heart-related problems and provide immediate assistance over WhatsApp. ■



# Blood donation for the terminally ill

Team Rotary News



RC Navi Mumbai, RID 3142, was felicitated by the Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation Blood Bank for arranging 11 blood donation camps during the last one year amidst the pandemic. The club organised the programme to help

thalassaemia patients who need regular blood transfusions. People with thalassaemia produce either no or too little haemoglobin, which is used by red blood cells to carry oxygen around the body. This can make them very anaemic.

The club organised another mega blood donation camp, in association with Tata Memorial Hospital, Kharghar, to help cancer patients. CRPF jawans supported this camp and 108 units of blood was collected.■

## Care for birds and animals



Earthen bowls being donated to residents.

The members of RC Phagwara Midtown, RID 3070, distributed earthen bowls in households to provide water for birds and animals. They instructed the residents to fill water in the bowl and place it at vantage points to help animals and birds quench their thirst.

In another initiative they visited the Guru Nanak Mission Netarheen Birdh Ashram located in Sapor village and interacted with the visually-challenged inmates there. The club members provided sumptuous food and fruit juices to them.

The Rotarians also visited the ESI Hospital in Phagwara and distributed nutritious snacks to the patients.■

# Relief work by Panvel Elite

## Team Rotary News

RC Panvel Elite, RID 3131, is distributing food and essential supplies to underprivileged families affected by Covid since the beginning of this Rotary year and intends to continue the service throughout the year. The kits are filled with groceries and toiletries enough to last a month for the beneficiaries. Club member Suniti Dixit sponsored a major part of the project.

The Anns of the club organised an ice cream-making online workshop. The programme was led by Shradha Munot, wife of club president Raj Munot. The workshop, conducted by Shwetha Bhandari from Belgaum,



A child participating in the chess championship organised by RC Panvel Elite.



Club members ready to distribute ration kits to Covid-affected families.

received over 600 registrations from various parts of the world including Australia, Sweden, Denmark, USA, UAE and Saudi Arabia, in addition to different parts of India. She presented a step-by-step demo to make various flavoured ice creams and provided tips to enhance the output. The Anns team is planning to organise similar programmes, including workshops to enhance skills of underprivileged women, as part of their vocational service activities.

The club conducted a social media campaign against single-use plastic. A video explaining its ill-effects was circulated and suggestions were invited to check its use. Viewers were encouraged to sign a pledge form to shun



single-use plastics. Project chairperson Shradha said that at least 50 families have signed the pledge and she is confident that the programme will gain momentum slowly and make a positive impact on the environment.

The club members visited the Karuneshwar Old Age Care House in Bhangar village and provided lunch to 35 senior citizens housed there. A freezer box was donated to the RSS Jankalyan Samiti, Panvel. Both the endeavours were sponsored by the president's family in memory of his grandmother Saras Manakchand Munot.

RC Panvel Elite and RAC Belgaum South initiated a mega online Tokyo Olympics Awareness drive named 'Cheer for India'. One of the main goals of this video was to get Indians to cheer for our athletes so that they receive the recognition and viewership that they so thoroughly deserve. The video was



Rotarians serve food to senior citizens at an old age home.

liked by more than one million people on Facebook. It featured one club each from all the states and UTs.

On the occasion of World Chess Day, the club organised an

online chess championship. The championship saw 129 participants. A total of 827 matches were played in two hours. It carried a cash prize of ₹5,000 for the winner. Ann Meenal Munot led this project. ■



Freezer box being donated to the RSS Jankalyan Samiti, Panvel.