

Rotary

NEWS PLUS



A Happy School in tribal area

Team Rotary News

RC Ahmednagar Priyadarshini, RID 3132, has adopted and converted a school in the tribal area of Belpandhari, near Ahmednagar, Maharashtra. The Happy School now has clean classrooms, new furniture and students dressed in new uniforms.

“We have also provided the school with a cupboard, water filter, educational charts, slate and pencil, and curriculum books. For the 25 students of the school, we have donated school bags, uniforms, footwear, tiffin boxes, water bottles, hygiene kits containing toothbrush, toothpaste, comb, nail cutter and a mirror,” says club president Shashi Jhavar. The children are from families of migrant, nomadic tribes and brick kiln workers she explains and adds that “they have to keep moving from one city to another with their parents. Poverty and lack of family planning leads to difficult situations for the children who suffer from malnutrition as well. To motivate children to develop an interest in education the club did this project.”

Members also distributed healthy food packets having nutritional snacks, dates and fruits for children aged between three to six years of age at the village anganwadi.

The president, along with secretary Devika Rele and project chair Dr Bindu Shirsath, and a few other club members, executed the



Rotarians with students of a tribal school.



project. DG Dr Om Motipawale and district literacy chair Sanjay Ghule attended the inauguration

of the project through an online conference. The cost of the food packets was ₹35,000.■

On the cover: Rotarians of RC Bangalore Lakeside, RID 3190, in a government school after setting up a library under their Project Expanding Horizons.

Project to develop Kanpur Zoological Park

Team Rotary News



Rotarians at the plantation drive at the Kanpur Zoological Park.

RC Kanpur North, RID 3110, under its 'Rotary for Environment' initiative conducted a tree plantation drive at the Kanpur Zoological Park to mark the club's silver jubilee year.

The club also appealed to general public and donors to donate funds for the development of

medical facilities for the animals at the park. "The zoo is in need of an X-ray machine, and other important medical equipment," said Sandeep Arora, the club president.

Club members planted 100 saplings of medicinal trees in the zoo and "we hope to continue this

project every month to restore and preserve the green cover in the 10,000 sqkm zoological park," added Arora. The total cost of the project was ₹1.17 lakh.

The project was highlighted in the local media which enhanced the club's public image. ■



Breastfeeding awareness at Kumbakonam

Team Rotary News

A one-day awareness programme was conducted at the Government District Headquarters Hospital by RC Kumbakonam Sakthi, RID 2981, to mark World Breastfeeding

Week (Aug 1–7). Dr Sambasivam gave a speech on the importance of mother's milk for the newborns. "We hosted a quiz programme on the benefits of breastfeeding

and presented gifts to all participants. More than 200 mothers and pregnant women took part in our events," said club president Bhooma Sowmiyanarayanan.

In another outreach, the club donated uniforms to students of Class 9 at the Government Girls Higher Secondary School, Kumbakonam. Free spectacles were given to 50 students at an eye camp for government school students in which around 500 were screened for vision problems. Over 70 donors gave blood at a blood donation camp at Darasuram, a residential colony in Kumbakonam. The club gave fruits and refreshments to all donors.

DG S Balaji presented Nation Builder Awards to 10 principals and headmistresses of government schools in the presence of legislator G Anbalagan.■



RC Kumbakonam Sakthi president Bhooma Sowmiyanarayanan (sitting, left) along with club members and students who had received a new set of uniforms.



Kumbakonam MLA G Anbalagan presenting Nation Builder Award to a school headmistress in the presence of club president Bhooma (right) and DG S Balaji (2nd from L).

Monthly RYLA at Virudhunagar

Team Rotary News

With the aim to inspire youth to become entrepreneurs, RC Virudhunagar, RID 3212, is holding a three-day RYLA each month for around 30 participants who are groomed in leadership skills through intensive sessions.

Titled 'Be an entrepreneur', the monthly programme builds skills among the trainees to become successful businessmen. "The two best participants from each batch get an opportunity to visit Singapore which will give them good exposure to global trends in entrepreneurship. DG Jacintha Dharma, district trainers and DGE VR Muthu are involved in this ongoing



A RYLA training session in progress.

RYLA project of our club," said Rtn Sudha Kalidoss, editor of club's bulletin.

AG (zone 23) Vijaykumari, club

president Rtn Gayathri and secretary Pethanatchi coordinate for the successful implementation of the project.■

Home essentials gifted to Sneha Sadan



PDG Bazil J D'Souza presenting a home mixie to a sister at Sneha Sadan in the presence of RC Hubli East president Umesh Nashipudimath and secretary Celestine Kittur.

In an outreach programme, RC Hubli East, RID 3170, donated a home mixie, grocery items and other essentials to Sneha Sadan, a special home for the destitute and elderly being run by the Mother Teresa's Missionaries of Charity. "Our donations including food packets will benefit 38 inmates at the special home. PDG Bazil J D'Souza handed over the home appliance to the sister," said Simon D' Souza, club's service director. Club president Umesh Nashipudimath and secretary Celestine Kittur were also present at the event.■

Education and healthcare projects in Bengaluru

Team Rotary News

Rotary Club of Bangalore Lakeside, RID 3190, participated in Project *Rotary Vidyaniidhi* to distribute study material and question banks to 1,000 Class 10 students of government schools in and around Bengaluru. The project was designed by the district's literacy committee and an NGO, Sahayoga, in collaboration with

the Rotary clubs of the district. The books have been specially created by expert teachers to help SSLC students with concise course materials to bridge the knowledge gap due to lack of schooling during the Covid pandemic, said club president Kashi Prabhu.

Project *Expanding Horizons* is another district project

The books have been specially created by expert teachers to help SSLC students with concise course materials to bridge the knowledge gap due to lack of schooling during the Covid pandemic.





Below: Rotarians of RC Bangalore Lakeside in front of the mobile cancer detection clinic.



From top: Club members giving N95 mask packs at a government hospital; Club president Kashi Prabhu (L) and Rotarians after distributing study material in a school.

which aims to improve library resources in government schools in the rural areas of the district. The club is working on stocking story books in Kannada and English, and science-related books in 10 government schools in Shirahatti block in Gadag. This initiative will benefit at least 2,000 students, he said.

The club, in association with the Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology Cancer Care Hospital, Bengaluru, organised a cancer awareness and screening

camp for underprivileged rural women in Kolar. Over 60 women visited the camp which was held at the Rotary Bal Bhavan in Kolar.

Over one lakh N95 masks were distributed by the club to frontline workers such as ASHA workers, PHC staff, sanitation workers of the corporation, traffic personnel, government schools and SHG volunteers. ITC Essentra and IPDP were the corporate partners for the project. ■

A special RYLA

Team Rotary News

In partnership with RCs Pune Tilakroad, RC Pune Kothrud, RC Poona Midtown, RID 3131, conducted a RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Award) programme for special students from Sevasadan Society's Dilasa Karyashala, Pune.

The club conducted games, dance and entertainment programmes, various competitions followed by a prize distribution. Also lunch was provided to all students. Over 100 students participated in the RYLA. ■

Students of Sevasadan Society's Dilasa Karyashala, Pune, participating in the games and competitions conducted by the club.

Below: Club members encouraging a special child to complete a race.



Eye camps at Sivakasi villages

Team Rotary News



Over 170 patients were screened at an eye camp at Thiruthangal village by RC Sivakasi Diamonds, RID 3212,

and 30 people were given free spectacles.

Fifty-seven patients were taken to Aravind Eye Hospital, Madurai,

for surgeries. The project cost ₹15,000. In a similar initiative, the club organised an eye and dental camp at Athikulam village in partnership with the SFR College for Women, Sivakasi.

Study material including notebooks and stationery were distributed to 65 students at the M Ramachandrapuram Gandhiji Memorial Primary School at a total cost of ₹4,500.

An RO plant was renovated at the Mathiyasenai Panchayat Union Middle School at a cost of ₹3,000. Stainless steel plates were given to students which will be useful to them during the midday meal programme. ■

Rotary helps girl's surgery

Club president R Vaitheeswaran provides a financial assistance of ₹25,000 to patient Mageshwari.



In a humanitarian gesture, RC Pondicherry White Town, RID 2981, provided a financial assistance of ₹25,000 for the medical treatment of A Mageshwari who was suffering from chronic suppurative otitis media (fluid discharge from the middle ear through a perforation) and in need of an

immediate ear surgery to avoid hearing loss. "The patient and her mother thanked Rotarians for the cash donation as it will cover the surgery cost and help her to lead a normal life," said R Vaitheeswaran, club president.

The club gave a cheque for ₹11,000 to Vishva, a student, for

his first-year college fees. As the boy's family was struggling to pay the fees, the club came forward to support him in his higher education. To prevent the spread of Omicron variant of the coronavirus, the club members distributed masks to over 250 people across Puducherry. ■

D 2981

RC Thiruvavarur

More than 50 youth donated blood to the Government Medical College Hospital, Thiruvavarur, at a blood donation camp. In another programme, the club adopted Nathapallam village and conducted a general health camp in which around 500 people were diagnosed and given consultations.



D 2982

RC Villupuram Central

Around 400 people were screened at an eye camp organised at a government high school. Municipal commissioner Surendra Shah and district officials were present at the camp with club president PV Sivakumar coordinating the event. Seventy patients were chosen for fitting them with intraocular lens, while spectacles were given to 45 people. The project cost ₹18,000.



D 3000

RC Karur

Over 100 elderly Sri Lankans residing at the Rayanoor refugee camp, Karur, were given dhotis, sarees, shirts and towels at a project cost of ₹37,060. The beneficiaries thanked Rotarians for the dress material. Club president M Balraj presided over the event.





D 3000

RC Pudukkottai Palace City

World Breastfeeding Week (Aug 1–7) was celebrated at the Raniyar Government Maternity Hospital, Pudukkottai. Municipal commissioner S Nagarajan gave away nutritious food packets, dates, fruits and biscuits to the expectant mothers. Pamphlets were also distributed. Dr Amudha and Dr Peter spoke on the importance of mother's milk to babies. Club president Durai Mani presided over the event.



D 3011

RC Delhi South Central

A year-long Project *Netra* holds eye camps in villages in which spectacles were given and free cataract surgeries were done at the Vivekanand Arogya Kendra, Gurgaon. Foldable intraocular lenses are implanted after which patients don't need spectacles.



D 3012

RC Delhi Mayur Vihar

Teej festival, a monsoon festival where married women pray for the well-being for their husbands, was celebrated. Members and their families were entertained with traditional dance and stage performance. It was also an occasion for fellowship as they met physically after a gap due to Covid lockdowns.

D 3012

RC Sonepat

Special cards for free eye check-up and spectacles were given to underprivileged people in association with Drishti Sewa Samiti, an NGO. Club secretary Dr Gaurav Dembla spoke on the health and eye camps the club will be holding in villages in the next few months.



D 3020

RC Visakhapatnam

At the alumni meet hosted by the Vizag Children's Club in Sivaji Park, Rotarians created awareness on Rotaract club and how it fosters creativity, friendship and community projects. The club members explained the objectives of Rotary and Rotaract clubs to the audience.



D 3030

RC Nasik

In a joint initiative with HCG Manavata Hospital and Indian Valve company, a Covid vaccination camp was held covering 630 underprivileged people. Rotarians advised the people on the precautions to be taken against the coronavirus. A team of 40 Rotarians and 10 Rotaractors from RAC JDC Bytco College supervised the camp.





D 3054

RC Mandvi

A five-day rakhi-making workshop was conducted for 10 disabled girls at the Andh Apang Maanav Kalyan Society's hostel. Social activist Jaya Ganatra inaugurated the training session which was conducted by expert Avani Monak Shah. Project chairperson Darshana Shah coordinated the event.



D 3070

RC Jalandhar Central

School bags were distributed to 150 students on 75th Independence Day at the National Child Labour Project Schools at Kot Ram Dass and Upkaar Nagar. The club is conducting a series of welfare programmes for society through member contributions.



D 3080

RC Shahabad Markanda

A water cooler was installed at the SGNP Senior Secondary School. The club members celebrated Annapurna Day by giving food packets to poor children. Around 65 units of blood was collected at a blood donation camp; and doctors were honoured on Doctor's Day celebrations.

D 3090

RI District

Project *Unique Pencils* was inaugurated at the Atmaram Kumar Sabha School and Shakuntala Girls School, both in Patiala, where 4,800 pencils were distributed to students. AG Rajeev Goyal organised the event in the presence of district secretary Rajiv Mittal, Interact chair Manik Singla and social worker Santinderpal Kaur Walia. After using the pencils, students can sow the seeds at the end, that will grow into trees.



D 3090

RC Sri Ganganagar

A blood donation camp was held at the Tapovan Blood Bank in memory of late Rtn Sanjay Bhatia. Around 20 units of blood was collected for thalassaemia patients. DG Parveen Jindal, club president Jai Kumar Jasuja, secretary Harish Bhatia, project chair HS Harry and the Bhatia's family were present at the venue.



D 3110

RC Aligarh Pearl

A mega rally was conducted by all the clubs in Aligarh on e-rickshaws, two-wheelers and cars with DG Mukesh Singhal, PDG Arun Jain and RAF commanding officer Ajay Sharma flagging off the event to mark World Polio Day. The rallyists and motorists went around the city including the civil lines area to spread awareness against polio.





D 3110

RC Kanpur Industrial

Project *Unnati* trains 200 underprivileged girls in tailoring, mehndi, computer accounting etc in two shifts, each having two batches of 50 candidates. Certified exams are held and Rotarians provide stitching work for the girls which fetch them regular income.



D 3120

RC Lucknow Baradari

Garments and toys were donated to 50 inmates at the Sishu Bal Griha, a state-run orphanage. The club donated the colourful items to develop the mental faculty of children.



D 3131

RC Poona North

A biodiversity park was created on Baner Hill in partnership with RCs Sports City and Warje under Project *Rotaraii*. They planted 5,000 saplings in association with Vasundhara Abhiyan on the hill and the trees will be maintained for five years. DG Pankaj Shah inaugurated the project in August.

A blood group detection camp in Mahemdabad

Team Rotary News



A blood group detection camp at the Gyan Jyot High School.



Club member being honoured by UP minister Arjun Singh Chauhan.

In collaboration with the Yash Pathology Laboratory, RC Mahemdabad, RID 3060, conducted a blood group detection camp at the Gyan Jyot High School and Saraswati Vidya Mandir, Mahemdabad.

Both students and staff members were tested and could get their blood group confirmed. Club member Dr Nirabhavi Shah explained the importance of knowing one's blood group and how it could save a life in emergency.

Club member and state minister Arjun Singh Chauhan honoured the outstanding members of Rotary, Rotaract, Interact and Inner Wheel members in the city at an award ceremony titled 'Rotary Family Bright Stars'. As a token of appreciation, the awardees were given certificates and books. ■

Conservationist Tulsi Gowda felicitated

Team Rotary News

Padma Shri Awardee Tulsi Gowda with members of RC Karwar.



Members of RC Karwar, RID 3170, visited the residence of Padma Shri Awardee Tulsi Gowda, a forest conservationist, at Honnalli village at Ankola taluk in Karnataka and donated ₹12,000 for her campaign to preserve the environment.

Known as the 'Encyclopaedia of forest', Tulsi advised Rotarians to plant trees to save the environment from degradation. She has

planted more than 30,000 saplings and had contributed immensely in preserving the environment in her village. President Ram Nath Kovid conferred the Padma Shri Award to the 72-year-old environmentalist at a ceremony in Rashtrapati Bhavan on Nov 8, 2021.

A team of Rotarians led by club president Narendra Desai and Inner Wheel members led by its

president Neha Desai visited Tulsi Gowda's residence and felicitated her. Apart from her work at the forest department, she has got many awards and honours for her contributions in seed development and conservation. Among them, is the Indira Priyadarshini Vrikshamitra Award bestowed on her in 1986 for her pioneering role in the field of afforestation. ■

Health camps in RID 3291

More than 60 Rotary clubs in RID 3291 conducted Project Positive Health check-up camps across Kolkata in which patients were screened for general diseases related to skin, dental, ENT and other organs.

A district team led by DG Prabir Chatterjee, along with PDGs, visited many of the health camps put up by the clubs with the help of their RCCs which had taken up over 240 projects on that day (Dec 26) which coincided with the Christmas celebrations. Hence, many clubs distributed blankets, cakes, food packets to spread the festive cheer. "A number of clubs in RID 3291 has been doing monthly health camps for the poor as their permanent projects," said Rtn Simmi Barua, media coordinator for the district clubs. ■



A long queue before the registration counter at one of the health camps.

D 3170

RC Hubli Midtown

The club joined hands with RC Hubli Vidyanagar to conduct a dental check-up camp at a special home for the HIV-infected children. Oral hygiene kits including toothpastes, mouthwashes, medicines, cough syrups and tissue paper boxes were gifted to the inmates.



D 3170

RC Vengurla Midtown

Art student Swapnajali Gawade presented a canvas painting to DGN Nasir Borsadwala under Project *Dawn* – Donate Around Wherever Needs, which aims to empower girls. She was given ₹5,000 to start her career. AG Rajesh Ghatwal is sponsoring all the eight clubs in Sindhudurg district of Maharashtra which have taken up this project.



D 3201

RC Cochin Beachside

A Four-Way Test hoarding was installed at a Cochin bypass road. DG Rajasekhar Srinivasan inaugurated the board in the presence of club members. The club donated equipment to the children's ward at the Cancer Institute, Chennai, as part of an inter-district project with RC Chennai Capital. Club presidents Shiyas K Hashim and Rajiv Sampath, Chennai club, presided over the charity event.





D 3201

RC Coimbatore Meridian

Under its 'One Day One Unit' project, the club collected more than 100 units of blood at its blood donation camps held throughout the year. With a target to collect 365 units, the club is holding the camps in partnership with the Indian Medical Association.



D 3212

RC Nagercoil Supreme

DGE VR Muthu was presented with Mahatma Gandhi Award for his generosity in giving to TRF at a Major Donors felicitation in the district. DG Jacintha Dharma was the chief guest. DGN R Muthiah Pillai gave a special address. Also present were DGND M Saleem, PDGs B Arumuga Pandian, H Shajahan and Dr S Sheikh Saleem. Forty Major Donors were honoured.



D 3212

RC Tirunelveli Town

Dress material sponsored by past president Dr Dhivakar were distributed to mentally-challenged people at the Deva special home at Mundradaippu village. Rtns Venkatachalam, Samuel Ravi and secretary Shanmugasundaram were present at the event.

D 3212

RC Tirunelveli Twin City

Conservancy workers were felicitated with gifts and utensils at the Independence Day event at the Suthamalli Panchayat Union School. Rotarians donated rice bags, blankets, sarees and rice bowls to an old age home as part of I-Day events. Also, ceiling fans were given to three government schools.



D 3231

RC Cheyyar Temple City

End Polio Now rally was conducted to mark World Polio Day (Oct 24) with DG WM Nirmal Raghavan flagging off the march. Anti-polio posters were distributed by Rotarians and youth volunteers to spread the message of polio eradication. The event created a buzz in this small town.



D 3261

RC Raigarh Steel City

Desks and benches were donated for the all the five classrooms at a government primary school in Kachar village as part of WinS project. Play slide was also fixed and masks were distributed at a total project cost of ₹2 lakh. The faculty thanked Rotarians for the furniture.





D 3262

RC Bhubaneswar Central

Six eminent personalities were inducted on the occasion of RI President Shekhar Mehta's birthday. PDG Narendra Kumar Mishra was the chief guest at the induction which was presided over by club president Dr Arya Kumar Jnanendra. Odisha University of Agriculture former dean Prof Buddhadev Mishra gave a special speech on Rotary. DG Santanu Kumar Pani was also present.



D 3291

RC Calcutta Majestic

A Rotavision camp was organised by the Uttar Chandanpiri Subhadaini Seva Sangha, the club's RCC at Namkhana, in which 200 people in the age group of 40-55 were screened for eye disorders. Spectacles were given to 140 patients. RC Kallolini Kolkata was the joint host.



D 3291

RC Calcutta South Circle

A two-day *Virangana* workshop was held in which 23 girls from the Kalighat Red Light area were trained in Aikido, a Japanese martial art, by expert Avijit Mitra and his team. The workshop included a calibrated diet regimen for the girls.

Compiled by V Muthukumaran

Panvel Rotary gifts books to slum kids

V Muthukumaran

To impart quality education to underprivileged children, RC Panvel Elite, RID 3131, donated over 250 notebooks, textbooks, drawing and picture books to 70 students in the age group of 3–15 years at the two slum clusters in Panvel and New Panvel under Basic Education and Literacy focus area of Rotary.

The assorted books were donated in partnership with the Robin Hood Army, a volunteer group, who will teach children on Sundays. “Project *Parivartan* aims to impart education to children from economically-weak families. Our partner, Robin Hood Army,

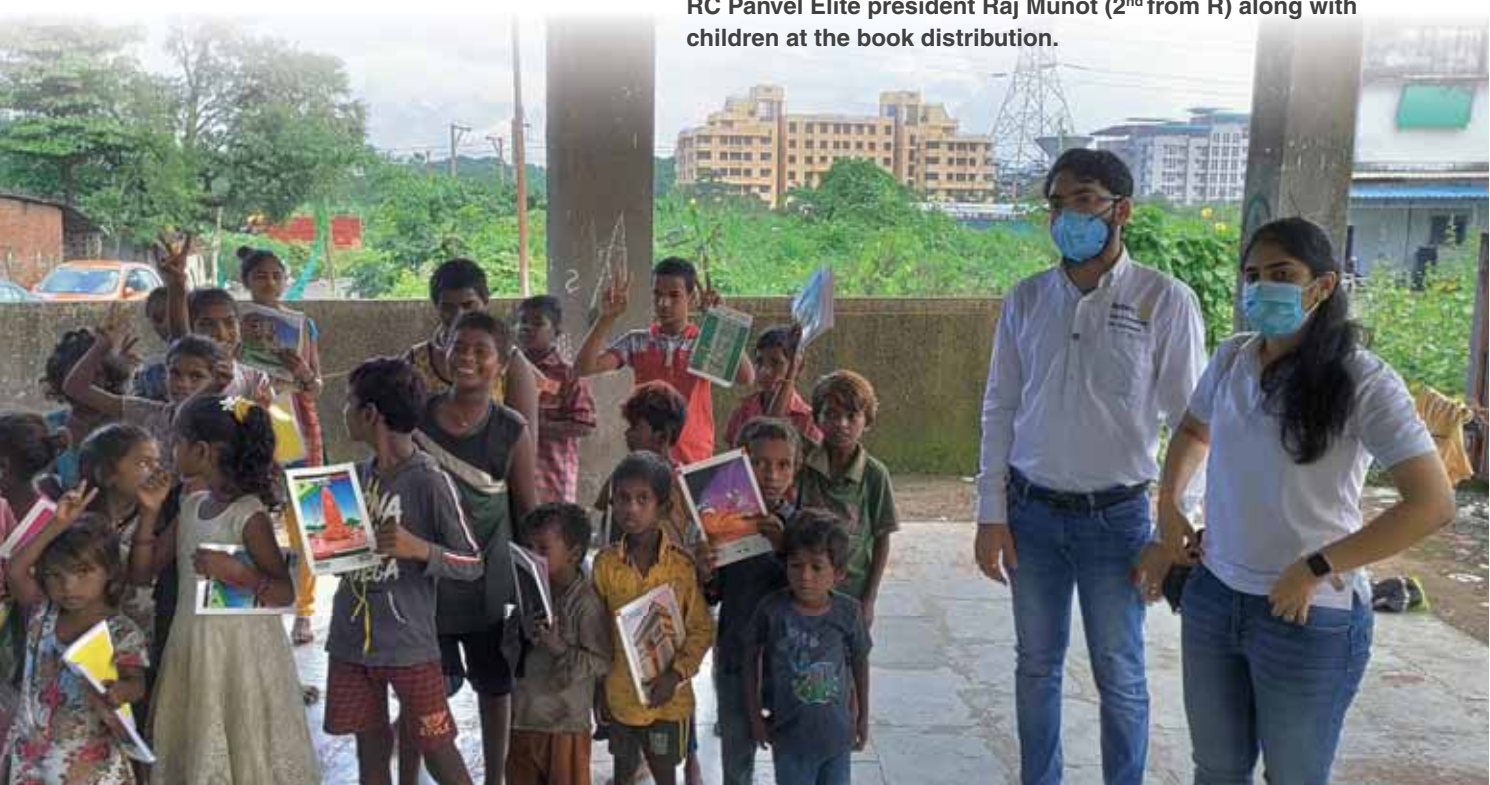
is helping us with the execution of the project,” said club president Raj Munot.

The club has set up has seven drop-off points for individuals and organisations to donate their books in a two-week long drive to collect and segregate a wide range of books for distributing the same to slum children. “The beneficiaries, living in slums, are deprived of education, healthcare and proper living conditions. We have taken up the book donation drive to help these children to study well. Notebooks for primary school students, drawing, maths and science books were part of the wide collections we have given to them,” said Munot.

Ann Durga Choudhary, wife of Rtn Navin Choudhary and also a member of Robin Hood Army, led the project and the children were happy to receive the books from Rotarians and volunteers.

In a reach out programme, the club donated napkins and gowns to 32 elderly inmates and 18 staff at the Karuneshwar Old Age Care House at Bhangar village. While the lunch and napkins were sponsored by Rtn Bhavin Jain in memory of his late father Kushalchand Labdichand Jain, the gowns were funded by Ann Jyotsna Munot in memory of late Saras Manakchand Munot. “The old age home caretaker profusely thanked us for our donations and

RC Panvel Elite president Raj Munot (2nd from R) along with children at the book distribution.





Rotary Anns at the Garba workshop.

consistent efforts to the help the elderly. We will continue to provide all necessary help to this home," the club president said.

Greeting cards to Army jawans

As a mark of gratitude, the club sent around 315 handmade greeting cards and letters from students to the Indian Army posted on the borders under the *Jai Jawan* initiative on the occasion of 75th Independence Day. The project got an overwhelming response as students at seven schools and institutions across Panvel took part and sent their cards and letters.

The greeting cards and letters were sent to 11 different Army battalions across India. "What made the project stand out was the enthusiasm among the students as they were thrilled to have got the opportunity to express their gratitude through letters/greeting cards that were sent directly to the Army battalions," said Ann Shradha Munot, chairperson, Project *Jai Jawan*. Students from Junior KG to Class 12 took part in this project which was highly appreciated by the jawans.

"We received acknowledgement letters from soldiers of 11 Maratha Light Infantry posted at the Jammu border and 12 Maratha LI at the Manipur border. One of the soldiers had a video call with the teachers of a participating school. "The heartening aspect was that some of the soldiers were moved to tears to learn that children took the effort to send greetings to them and acknowledge their service to the nation," said Shradha.

Garba workshop

A Garba dance workshop was conducted by a professional trainer Riddhi Munot in which 15 Anns took part with enthusiasm. "The dance training session was the first offline workshop of the club after its two hugely successful workshops for women which saw over 900 online registrations. We are continuing with the monthly workshop for women as we believe that Anns play a crucial role in ensuring the success of service projects and have to be kept involved with club activities on a continuous basis," said Raj Munot.

Chairs, fans to girls hostel

With the aim to ramp up facilities at a rural library-cum-hostel for girls, the club donated 15 table top chairs and eight ceiling fans to Yusuf Meherally Centre, Tara village near Panvel.

The chairs with folding table tops were sponsored by the Vatsalya Trust, Navi Mumbai, and fans were donated by Rtns Hastimal Jain, Dr Shailashree Kelkar and Manjushree Patwardhan following a 'need analysis' done at the girls hostel. Suresh Rassam, manager, Yusuf Meherally Centre, said, "we have received the donations at the right time as we have plans to start a library for tribal girls. And these chairs and fans will be useful to set up the reading hall."

Some of the fans will also be used at the girls hostel and the Yusuf Meherally Hospital, he said. "We are confident that these facilities will help the rural beneficiaries, tribal girls, in their journey towards attaining knowledge and creating a bright future for themselves," said club secretary Ritesh Munot. ■

RC Agra Grace adopts a village

V Muthukumaran

In a mega initiative to empower rural women, RC Agra Grace, RID 3110, has adopted Pathauli village, near Agra, to provide education, health services and vocational training to the female population there for three years. The all-women's club conducted a health camp in September in which doctors gave consultations and medicines to patients. "Blood tests were done and villagers were advised on healthy living," said club president Dr Jaideep Malhotra.

Evening classes to teach children have begun and the club gifted

two sewing machines for starting a tailoring class on the premises of the ISKCON temple, Pathauli. "We are holding a number of weekly programmes for women's empowerment, regular health camps, and vocational training for enhancing their livelihood. A *gaushala* (cow shelter) is being maintained by us and we have done tree plantations in this village," she says.

Raksha Sutra Bandhan

Under district Project *Raksha Sutra Bandhan* initiated by DG Mukesh Singhal, the club sent over 2,000

rakhis to Army jawans guarding the borders in difficult conditions. "Along with RCs Agra West, Agra Taj City and Agra North, we would have sent around 20,000 rakhis to soldiers."

Women Rotarians tied 100 rakhi threads to trees at the Nehru Park, promising to protect them, under Project *Vrikshabandhan*. "This is a symbolic gesture to create awareness about the importance of trees and plants for humanity to thrive on the earth. We also took a pledge to start a *toko* campaign, that is, to chide those who are seen destroying trees, or plucking their leaves and flowers, in partnership with the Helping Hand Foundation," said Dr Jaideep. On Krishna Janmashtami, Rotarians planted 100 trees at the Baptist School, Sai ki Takia, and pledged to take care of them on a regular basis.

Park adoption

Two parks on Mahatma Gandhi Road and Gurudwara Crossing on the National Highway were adopted



RC Agra Grace president Dr Jaideep Malhotra (left) honours a doctor at a medical camp held at the ISKCON Temple, Pathauli village.



Club members at the fellowship meet to mark Hariyali Teej festival.

by the club with the support of RCs Agra Taj City and the Rainbow Hospital. “We renovated the parks with necessary facilities, planted trees and created fresh meadows to beautify the green hubs. We are maintaining the parks with regular visits,” said Dr Jaideep.

A week-long breastfeeding awareness camp was organised for expectant mothers. “Our camp reached out to 1,500 mothers of newborns and pregnant women. Guest lectures and awareness sessions were held for the beneficiaries.”

A fellowship meet was held to mark Hariyali Teej, a seasonal festival in which women sing and dance to welcome the arrival of monsoon in North India. They also pray to Goddess Parvati and observe day-long fasting for their family’s prosperity. “We came out with a public message for adopting a healthy, hygienic and clean lifestyle. Also, we urged the people to take care of the environment,” said the club president.

To mark Independence Day, the club joined hands with RC Agra Taj City and the Rainbow Hospital to hold a blood donation camp in which 28 units of blood was collected.

Awareness walk

An awareness walk titled ‘Save Girl Child and Women’s Empowerment’ was conducted with the support of RC Agra Taj City, Smriti, an NGO, the Rainbow Hospital, Club 35 Plus and other partners. More than 300 students, doctors, healthcare workers, social activists and volunteers took part in the public march. “Dr Preeti Gupta from the Rainbow Hospital flagged off the march that ended at the Guru ka Taal Gurudwara. Best slogans and posters were awarded at the end of the student rally which created a buzz in the city,” said Dr Jaideep. ■



Women Rotarians plant trees on Krishna Janmashtami.

Covid vaccines for youngsters

Team Rotary News

RC Sonapat Midtown, RID 3012, organised a special Covid vaccine camp for children aged 15–18. The camp which began on the first week of January has helped 5,000 teenagers get their vaccines over a month. The club had also put up a separate booth for adults and for booster dose. Face masks were distributed to the visitors to the camp. Sonapat Chief Medical Officer Dr Jai Kishore

Club president Rakesh Devgun was felicitated by the National Human Rights Organisation, Sonapat, with the Indian Icon Award and he, along with five club members, were felicitated by the OP Jindal Global University for the club's Covid relief activities.



Club president Rakesh Devgun presents a cheque for ₹5.82 lakh to DG Ashok Aggarwal.

DG Ashok Aggarwal has launched a programme calling all clubs to participate in providing girl students from economically weak background with bicycles to help them commute to school and back. The club members pooled in ₹5.82 lakh and presented the cheque to DG Aggarwal during his visit to the club. The funds will help provide bicycles to 111 girls, said Devgun, adding that the club's

contribution is the highest in the district for the project.

Starting this Rotary year, the club members have been giving warm clothes, blankets and hot food to the street and slum dwellers in the town every Sunday. Sonapat MP Ramesh Kaushik and MLA Mohan Lal Badoli complimented the club for the project and also pitched in with their contributions for the same.■

Rotary gifts furniture to a Zilla Parishad school

Rotarians along with students at a Happy School Project.



RC Nizamabad, RID 3150, provided classroom furniture to the Zilla Parishad Higher Secondary School in Kothapet

near Nizamabad. The club has been upgrading the school infrastructure as part of its Happy Schools venture.

The Rotarians visited the school and gave a talk on the importance of hand hygiene and use of toilets to the students.■

Healthcare services in Hubli

Team Rotary News

Rotary Club of Hubli Central, RID 3170, conducted a cancer screening camp in association with the Radon Cancer Centre and the FPAI, Dharwad, at Thadkod village near Garag, Dharwad. Club member Dr Sheetal Kulgod, an oncologist, provided consultation to 75 women who visited the camp. ASHA health workers were engaged to bring the women to the camp.

In another initiative, the club conducted a dental check-up camp for the students of a government school in Hubli. Club member Dr Shruti Patil, a dentist, along with her assistants, examined 450 students. She spoke about oral hygiene practices to the children.

An online three-day RYLA was organised which had 57 participants. District Interact Committee chair Gauri Hiremath was the chief guest. Rajeshwari Sanji was the event coordinator.



Rotarians cheer a differently-abled participant at a sports event organised by the club at the RN Shetty Rotary School, Hubli.

Club president Sanjana Maheshwari gave the welcome address. Rtn Pallavi Malani, a

licensed emotional intelligence coach, spoke on how to control emotions and how to use both parts of the brain. The second day was also full of activities. Madhura Girish, a nutritionist, taught the participants how to spend a productive morning and develop positive vibes. Breakout sessions were interactive with problem-solving activities.

Rtn Shruti Hebsur engaged the children with a quiz and Dr Kiran Magavi, a professor at the Ramaiah Institute of Technology, Bengaluru, trained them in goal-setting and emphasised on perseverance and consistency.

Club secretary Anjana Basangoudar gave the vote of thanks at the valedictory. ■



A dental check-up camp in progress.

Making communities happy

Team Rotary News

Rotary Club of Purulia, RID 3291, executed a series of service projects that brought happiness and welfare for the people.

In September, the club put up a Wall of Kindness for a day wherein Rotarians and the public donated clothes and toys which were put on display. It was open to the public and around 450 people and children walked into the exhibition area, took what they wanted and left with a huge smile. Children were thrilled to get their hands on those

elusive toys that they had always wanted. "It is a way of making people happy and excited. We made sure that all the items donated were in good condition and were washed and pressed," said club president Dinesh Kumar Mall.

The club celebrated its Rotary Day of Service by distributing school kits to 30 children in Kotloi village near Purulia. The kit comprised a school bag, water bottle, a stationery pouch, colouring kit, painting books, five notebooks, two packets of noodles and other snacks and



A boy carrying the school bag and other goodies given by the club.



Children take toys from the Wall of Kindness.

chocolates. The club sponsored the education of five meritorious students for a year.

In its endeavour to protect people against the coronavirus the club provided 500 N95 masks to the District Magistrate's Office and organised a Covid vaccine drive in association with the Medico Hospital, Kolkata. Necessary permission was sought from the state health department and Covishield vaccines were administered on 6,400 people at a vaccination booth set up at the Rotary Hospital in Purulia. ■

Ensuring oral hygiene in children

Team Rotary News

Rotary Club of Tirupattur, RID 3231, organised a dental check-up camp for 200 students at the Government Higher Secondary School in Kunichi, Tirupattur. Toothbrushes and pastes were distributed to the children.

The club conducted two blood donation camps for college students at the Podhigai Engineering College and the Sacred Heart College in the town. A total of 125 units of blood was collected from donors of both the colleges. ■



A dental camp in progress.



Rotarians clean up canals

Rotarians of RC Srivilliputur Friends, RID 3212, undertook to clean the rainwater drainage canals across the town. The club had engaged three waste handling machines for six days to clear a total of 5.6km-long canals and desilt the river running through the town. The waste was collected and disposed responsibly.

The canals are totally cleared of filth and garbage and all set for the monsoon, said club president NS Velayudham. The total cost of the project was ₹1.35 lakh. ■

An e-waste collection drive in Pune

Team rotary News

Rotary E-Club of Pune Diamond, RID 3131, in association with Badve Engineering, Pune, under the initiative 'Erase E-Waste' conducted a second e-waste and plastic collection drive.

DGE Dr Anil Parmar and spouse Hema Parmar were present at the inauguration of the event. Club's environment director Sameer Rupani and project chairman Surender Gupta in the

presence of club president Pawan Joshi explained the importance of collecting and disposing e-waste in a responsible manner.

Club members also visited an orphanage and a juvenile remand home in Yerwada near Pune. A career guidance seminar was organised at both the institutions. Rotarians interacted with the students and gave them insight into career options. In the Q&A

session they also answered the queries posed by the youngsters. The programme ended with distribution of sweets. Joshi and secretary Mahesh Pawar were present at seminar.

In association with Sinsan Pharmaceuticals, Pune, the club conducted a diabetes camp where in 80 people were tested for blood sugar.■

Rotarians with students at an orphanage in Yerwada, Pune.





A diabetes camp in progress.

From Kumbakonam to Kashmir with love

Team Rotary News



RC Kumbakonam Temple City president Rm Senthil (2nd from R) and secretary TK Ganesh exchange flags and mementos with RC Kashmir president Dr Amit Wancho and secretary Manjeet Singh.

Members of RC Kumbakonam Temple City, RID 2981, along with their families, went on a tour of Kashmir on Feb 14–23. “There were about 36

persons including Anns and Annets on this family tour. We visited high altitude places like Pahalgam, Sonamarg and Gulmarg in Kashmir. We had inter-district meets

in Delhi, RID 3012, and Kashmir, RID 3070,” said Rm Senthil, club president.

The Rotarians from Kumbakonam interacted with members of RCs

Kashmir and Delhi Shahdara. “We had business session, flag exchange, fun games and lots of entertainments at the bot the meetings,” he said. ■

Furniture donated to anganwadi



Members of RC Madikeri, RID 3181, distributed chairs, plates and cups to children at the TMC Anganwadi near Dasavala village. Club president ND Achaiah and secretary Lalithaa Raghavan presented the gifts to Sujatha, the anganwadi in-charge.

The anganwadi is being run in a professional manner. “It was a pleasure to see children sitting on the new chairs and receive the plates and cups with smiling faces,” said club president Achaiah. The club’s community service director Geetha Girish, Rtms B S Chengappa, Anantha Subba Rao, Anil Krishnani and Mallige Pai were present at the handover event. ■