

April 2022

# Rotary

## NEWS PLUS



# A new Rotary club chartered in Chandigarh

## Team Rotary News



PRIP Rajendra Saboo (seated, right), DG Ajay Madan (3<sup>rd</sup> from R), PDG Praveen Goyal (2<sup>nd</sup> from L) with members of RC Chandigarh Cosmopolitan at the club's charter ceremony.

**R**otary Cosmopolitan Chandigarh, sponsored by RC Chandigarh, was chartered on March 30 at the Rotary House in Chandigarh. DG Ajay Madan presented the charter received from Rotary International to the new club's charter president Sarvesh Kaushal.

Past RI president Rajendra Saboo, a member of the parent club, congratulated the new team and said that the members of the newly-formed club shall bring in more of their respective professional knowledge, expertise and experience to work for the betterment of society through humanitarian projects.

DG Madan informed that the district, comprising Chandigarh, parts of Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, UP and

Uttarakhand, has formed 18 new clubs during the year.

RC Chandigarh president Jaspal Singh Siddhu assured that more members joining the club would further strengthen its activities, and complimented PDG Praveen Chander Goyal, the advisor to the new club, for assisting in its formation.

Kaushal, the new club's president, is a former chief secretary of Punjab. Col P S Randhawa is the club's charter secretary. Other office-bearers who were inducted into Rotary included vice-president Hardeep Kumar IAS (ret'd), former additional chief secretary, Haryana; Yogesh Garg, treasurer and VK Singh as joint secretary.

The board of directors included Nick Ruppel for club service;

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The members of the newly-formed club shall bring in more of their respective professional knowledge, expertise and experience to work for the betterment of society.

Past RI president **Rajendra Saboo**

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GS Wason for vocational service; Dr Satbir Singh for community service; Saguna Jain for international service; Gurdish Pal Singh for youth service; and Surinder Rihal will be the Sergeant-at-Arms.

Rotarians from the parent club and Rotaractors were present at the induction ceremony of the new club. ■

**On the cover:** RID 3170 DG Gaurish Dhond, along with Rotarians of RC Mapuca, at the new house built by the club for four orphaned siblings.

# Rotarians on a community service drive in Pilkhuwa

Team Rotary News



Rotarians give financial assistance to two girls for their education.



The Rotarians of RC Pulkhuwa City, RID 3012, are actively implementing various humanitarian projects in the city. They promoted Covid vaccination among the public vigorously during the pandemic and had set up booths.

Food was served to 500 people during the Makar Sankranti and the club regularly distributes packed meals to the destitute and physically-challenged. School fees was sponsored for two girls whose family could not afford their education.

A blood donation camp helped collect 90 units of blood which was then given to the Rotary Vardaan Hospital in Ghaziabad.

Recently DGN Priyatosh Sharma and DGND Prashant Raj Sharma participated in the club's Holi celebrations for its Rotarians and their families. ■

# Grocery items donated to children's home

Team Rotary News

Monthly provisions including rice, oil, dhal and other grocery items were provided by RC Sivakasi Diamonds, RID 3212, an all-women's club, for the inmates at the Cybio Children's Home at Vembakottai village.

The club is taking care of the needs of this children's home with Rotarians making regular visits and offering donations on a monthly basis. "As a special gesture, we gave a financial assistance of ₹3,000 to the mother of Divya for her surgery," said club president R Selvarani.

Charter Day, along with Thanks-giving meeting, was celebrated at a special event in which DG Jacintha



DG Jacintha Dharma provides a cash support to Divya for her surgery in the presence of club president R Selvarani (2<sup>nd</sup> from R).

Dharma felicitated charter members with mementoes. RID 3212 Youth Service chairman Uma Maheswaran was the guest of honour. Also present on the occasion was district

secretary Alexander. Rotarians with their children enjoyed a one-day family picnic to Shenbaga Thopu, a wildlife sanctuary with green hills and valleys, located around 22km from Sivakasi town.

An eye check-up camp was conducted at the Alangulam Government High School in which around 240 patients were screened and 45 persons were given spectacles. "Of those screened, 75 patients were taken to the Aravind Eye Hospital, Tirunelveli, for surgery," said Selvarani.

Teacher's Day was marked with a special event at the Rotary Matric Higher Secondary School, Viswanatham. "We provided lunch to 50 children from the Cybio orphanage and educational material including books and stationery were given to students," she said. ■



Club president Selvarani provides a grocery bag to a staff at the Cybio Children's Home.

# Rotary gives e-learning kits to Pune schools

## Team Rotary News



Reaching out to rural students, RC Pune Cantonment, RID 3131, distributed e-learning kits to three government schools in the remote region of Bhore taluk in Pune district of Maharashtra.

The project involves distributing the learning software containing state board curriculum for Classes 1–10

in both English and Marathi languages. Each e-learning kit contains one projector, screen, a mini-computer and accessories including the content software. “The schoolchildren took to this digital learning immediately and were extremely happy to study online,” said Mahindra Bhangre, the club secretary.

The project was done jointly with a donor at a total cost of ₹1.1 lakh. Club president Binayak Chaudhry, project director Rajesh Jain and Rotas Vilas Chitnis, Suresh Advani and Shilpa Korekar had contributed to the success of the e-learning kit project that will benefit tribal students. ■

## RC Hinganghat celebrates Rotary Week

Rotary Week (Feb 17–23) was celebrated by RC Hinganghat, RID 3030, with a slew of initiatives and projects. On the first day, four ceiling fans were donated to the Vikas Vidyalaya, Girad, as this region turns hot with temperature reaching 45–46 degree Celsius in peak summer. The donations will help students to focus on their classroom studies with the fans keeping them cool.

On the second day, a guidance camp for adolescent girls was organised at the Sanjay Gandhi High School, Pardha, that focused on menstrual hygiene and best sanitation practices. Project director Maya Mihani



Blankets being distributed as part of Rotary Week celebrations.

coordinated for the project and Dr Romila Khandare guided the girls. Rotarians distributed blankets and study material near the Ganga Mata mandir with project director Suresh Choudhary making

the arrangements. School bags were distributed to 20 HIV positive students in the presence of Dr Chacharkar, medical superintendent, Cottage Hospital, and medical counsellor Dr Ajay Lidbe. ■

# A Rotary Week in Malegaon

## Team Rotary News

**A**s part of its World Rotary Day celebrations RC Malegaon Fort, RID 3030, engaged in service activities for a week (Feb 17-23). Club members distributed 'talking clocks' for the blind to 25 visually impaired people. It was followed by a plastic surgery and urology camp at the Raja Hospital, Malegaon. Three patients who had suffered facial deformities due to accidents were selected for the surgery.

The club organised a Covid vaccination camp for students of Soygaon

Mahavidyalaya where around 160 students were vaccinated. Club president Arun Pathade inaugurated a cloth bank for the underprivileged. Tricycles and crutches were distributed to the disabled. To encourage local business owners to practise fairness, club members displayed the Rotary's Four-Way Test poster at 50 different shops.

On the occasion of International Rotary Day, the club organised a mega blood donation camp at the MSG College and collected 45 units of blood. ■



Club members display the Rotary Four-Way Test poster.



Club members with a beneficiary chosen for a plastic surgery.



# Club donates menstrual hygiene equipment

## Team Rotary News

**R**C Chinchwad-Pune, RID 3131, in partnership with the Indian Medical Association, Pimpri, donated three incinerators and three sanitary pad vending machines to Prof. Ramkrishna More College, Pune. DG Pankaj Shah handed over the incinerators and vending machines to the college authorities in the presence of the club's past president Dr Sanjay Deodhar. The college has a strength of 4,850 girl students and 150 female staff. ■



DG Pankaj Shah (4<sup>th</sup> from R) and his wife Priya after inaugurating the menstrual hygiene products at the college.

# Pondy Rotarians provide food to patients

## Team Rotary News



RC Pondicherry White Town president R Vaitheeswaran distributes food to patients at the JIPMER Hospital.

**A**round 300 patients at the JIPMER Hospital were served food by RC Pondicherry White Town, RID 2981, under its Annapoorna Project.

In another initiative, the club distributed 51 cages to protect sparrows and facilitate their breeding in a safe environment. A wheelchair and walker sponsored by Rtn Balaji were donated to needy persons by the club. The beneficiaries expressed their gratitude to the club.

Three BiPAP machines (mini ventilators) were handed over to Dr S Sriramulu, director, Health and Family Welfare Department, for installations at the Government Hospital, Puducherry. The club gave a cash assistance of ₹19,500 to Felix Stephen for his medical treatment as he was suffering from a chronic kidney disease. ■



# Rotary builds a home for orphaned siblings

Team Rotary News

DG Gaurish Dhond and his wife Pratima inaugurate the new home built by RC Mapuca.

In August last year, Rotary Club of Mapuca, RID 3170, had organised the Swayamrojgar, a mega health and medical equipment donation camp under the Atmanirbhar Bharat-Swayampurna Goa scheme, at the Assonora village in North Goa. Seeing the work being carried out by the Rotarians a girl approached club member Sachin Mense with a request. "She said that she, along with her three siblings, was living with an aged aunt for the last 18 years after they lost their parents. They expressed their wish to go back to their home which was in a dilapidated state and they did not have sufficient funds to get it back to shape. She asked me if I could help," said Mense.

All the four girls were helping their aunt eke out a living by doing sundry jobs and earning a paltry sum.

Mense instantly assured them of help from Rotary though "knowing less of the road ahead". He took it



The house in its dilapidated state.

up with club president Siddhesh Kotkar who readily promised to build the house. Kotkar formed a team of Rotarians comprising an architect, engineer and contractor. Club members Deepak Govekar, Sumedh Naik, Sudhir Revankar

and Dipesh Makadia supported the project.

The house was ready to be gifted to the girls on Jan 21. DG Gaurish Dhond inaugurated it in the presence of the club members and the elated siblings. ■

D 2981

## RC Chidambaram Central

Health kits, dress material and cash were distributed to 55 girl students at the Government Girls HS School with the support of Palani Babu Trust. The beneficiaries have lost either one or both the parents. The project costing ₹70,000 has covered five schools so far.



D 2981

## RC Kumbakonam Green City

Friendship Day was celebrated with a fellowship meet in which Rotarians had a get-together and enjoyed a grand feast with their family members. The event served as a platform to bond and develop camaraderie among members. They also tasted multiple cuisines that were freshly prepared and displayed at the venue.



D 2981

## RC Thruthuraipoondi

On the occasion of 73<sup>rd</sup> Republic Day, the club members donated dress material to 22 girls who are staying at a children's home on the premises of St Theresa's Girls Higher Secondary School. They were also given a sumptuous lunch by the club. The faculty thanked Rotary for the gesture.





**D 3000**

## **RC Pudukkottai Palace City**

Doctors, nurses and emergency staff including ambulance driver who were at the frontline treating Covid patients were felicitated with mementoes by club president RM Duraimani at the Independence Day celebrations at the Sri Venkateswara Matric HS School. Prizes were given to the winners of oratorical, essay and painting competitions held for students. Lucky draw was done for parents and the winners received gifts.



**D 3000**

## **RC Srirangam**

Club president Michael Judy presented newborn baby kits to mothers at a primary health centre. Women entrepreneurs were honoured with the support of Jhansi Rani Magalir Mandram, Srirangam. On World's No Smoking Day, the club created public awareness through wall posters and launching a social media campaign.



**D 3011**

## **RC Delhi South**

Over 1,300 polio drops were given to children at the 18 immunisation booths set up by the club with the help of its members and volunteers. Anti-polio posters, caps, t-shirts and gift bags were distributed to volunteer teams who were in charge of running the camps across Delhi. Children were given toffees, balloons and toys.

**D 3012**

## RC Kundli

Club members celebrated Valentine's Day with differently-abled children of Sanfort Special School at Omex city in Sonapat. School uniforms and dental kits were distributed. A sumptuous lunch was served to the children. Rotarians had fun games with the inmates.



**D 3012**

## RC Pilkhuwa City

The club donated subject books to three poor children following a request from their parents. In the past, the club has sponsored the school fees and distributed notebooks and syllabus books to underprivileged students who can't afford tuition fees and the cost of study material.



**D 3020**

## RC Srikakulam

A mega blood donation camp was held in which Additional SP Somashekar gave Heroes Awards to 50 youth organisations for their services during the Covid pandemic. The programme was done with the support of the Srikakulam Blood Bank.





**D 3030**

## **RC Chopda**

Club's past president Vilas Suklal Patil, a deputy engineer at the Lower Tapi Project being implemented by the Water Resources Department of Maharashtra, was honoured with Outstanding Engineer Award by state minister Jayant Patil at a ceremony in Pune. Top officials were present at the event. Currently, Vilas Patil is a district officer of RID 3030.



**D 3030**

## **RC Nagpur Green City**

Republic Day was celebrated at the Hingna Zilla Parishad School in Katangdhara village, adopted by the club. Club president Dr Sharda Roshankhede hoisted the national flag and distributed sweaters, drawing books, compasses, crayon boxes and soap to 26 students. Club trainer Supriya Khot gave training to 13 girls on sewing machines.



**D 3030**

## **RC Nasik**

In a major drive, around 650 people from marginalised sections like daily wagers, auto drivers and domestic help were inoculated at the Covid vaccination camp at the Rotary Hall. The project was done with the support of HCG Manavata Cancer Centre, Nashik, and with CSR funds from the Indian Valve Company.

**D 3030**

## RC Smartcity Chandrapur

A seminar on 'Youth's emotional responses' was conducted at the Sai Polytechnic, Wadgaon. Project director Dr Sharmili Poddar, club president Dr Kiran Deshpande and secretary Amol Potude took special efforts to make the event a success. Eighty students took part in the seminar.



**D 3070**

## RC Goraya

Five teachers from the Government Primary Smart School, Goraya, were felicitated with Nation Builder Awards by club president Vimal Kumar Jain. Gifts were presented to teachers and biscuits were given to students to mark International Literacy Day.



**D 3080**

## RC Mohali Midtown

A smart adult literacy programme was launched at Jagatpura village in the presence of DLCC Dr Rita Kalra and former sarpanch Ranjit Singh Rana. Ten women were enrolled on the first day and they will be imparted basic literacy with the help of software. An LCD screen was put up too.





**D 3090**

## RC Sri Ganganagar

A blood donation camp was held at the Tapovan Blood Bank as a mark of respect to Rtn Dr Sandeep Chohan for being elected as DGND (2024–25). Club president Jai Kumar Jasuja, secretary Harish Bhatia, AG Ashok Kataria and Rtn Harjit Singh Harry made the arrangements. Blood Bank president Udaypal Jhalaria urged Rotarians to continue donating blood.



**D 3120**

## RC Lucknow

Rotarian couple Kaustav Ghosh and his wife Laxmi Sorte were felicitated by club president Naresh Agarwal and other members when they arrived in the city during the *Great Indian Travel*, an ambitious journey across India to motivate small and micro enterprises hit hard by the Covid pandemic. The couple, accompanied by Rtn Vivek Misra, were from RC Navi Mumbai.



**D 3120**

## RC Pallia Kalan

Food was served to around 200 people at the Chauraha Railway station under Annapurna Project to mark Bada Mangal, a day in which Lord Hanuman is worshipped by the devotees in Uttar Pradesh. Vocational training certificates were given to 15 women for completing their tailoring course being conducted by the club.

# Focus on empowering girls in RID 3291

## Team Rotary News

**R**ID 3291, under the leadership of PDG Prabir Chatterjee, organised a women's empowerment programme under which 90 clubs executed over 400 projects. While some clubs gave out scholarships to girl students, a few Rotarians took the responsibility to sponsor

the education of girl children up to Class 12.

Bicycles were given to girl students from rural background and elsewhere clubs carried out sanitary napkin distribution drives and awareness programmes on menstrual health.

Some clubs took up the task of creating awareness on cervical

cancer through seminars and talks. Members also conducted sessions on legal aids for women to understand their fundamental rights.

Under project *Virangana*, a self-defence programme for girls aged 12–30. Over 100 girls were trained in self-defence. With the help of a psychologist and a

dietician the participants were educated about self-care and healthy eating habits.

A card with contact information of the local police station was given to all the participants in case they are faced with any emergency.

The clubs from the district in collaboration with Rotaract District



A student receives a scholarship on World Literacy Day.



Girls receive self-defence training under Project Virangana.



Locals participating in the tree plantation drive.

3291 joined hands and organised a mega tree plantation drive to sensitise the citizens about the need to protect the environment. Over 100,000 saplings were planted on the suburbs of Kolkata.

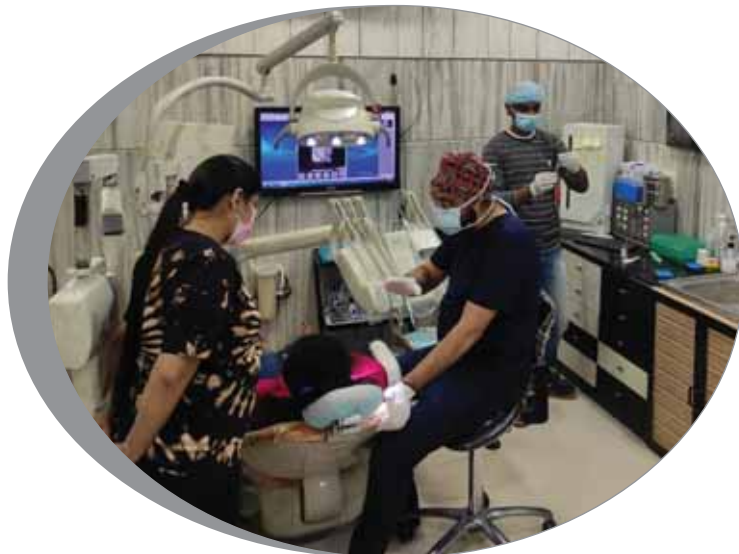
More than 100 Rotary and Rotaract clubs came together to conduct a mega blood donation camp. Over 500 people donated blood.

On the occasion of World Literacy Day 80 clubs carried out 200 literacy projects. The projects included distribution of scholarships, school bags and educational kits. A new school in the slums of Bhangar in Kolkata was inaugurated. The Abdul Kalam Primary School will enrol around 30 underprivileged children from the area. ■

**D 3132**

## RC Aurangabad East

Over 300 patients were screened for general ailments at health check-up camps across 25 hospitals to mark Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Jayanti. They were charged a token amount of ₹1 for consultations and diagnosis by 70 doctors. The camps were held with the support of Sehat Easy, a local NGO.



**D 3150**

## RC Nizamabad

A legal awareness camp was held for the girls and boys at the Manayatha Sadan, an orphanage at Dichpally village, with the support of the District Legal Services Authority. Prizes were distributed to winners of various games conducted for the inmates on Independence Day. FAC Principal District and Sessions Judge S Goverdhan Reddy was the chief guest.



**D 3170**

## RC Bailhongal

An MHM awareness session was held at a degree college in which organic sanitary pads were distributed to 800 girl students. They were told how to dispose pads in an eco-friendly way. Around 850 students took part at the career guidance programme conducted with the support of Santosh Lad Foundation at the Ganachari PU College.





**D 3170**

## **RC Kolhapur City**

An RO water unit was installed at the Vikas Vidyamandir, Padali, in Hatkanangale taluk. This will benefit around 500 students and teachers as they will now have access to safe drinking water. Club president Ravi Jadhav, Rtms Kiran Powar, Dhanaji Desai and Abhijit Pimpalkar were present at the installation.



**D 3170**

## **RC Vengurla Midtown**

A health check-up camp was held at the Jiwhala Sevashram, an old age home at Pinguli village, with the help of Rotaractors of Vengurla Homeopathic Medical College and Hospital. Blood sugar, haemoglobin and ECG tests were done. Physiotherapy was also given. Around 55 inmates benefited from the medical camp.



**D 3181**

## **RC Mangalore City**

DG Ravindra Bhat inaugurated a baby care centre, sponsored by the club, at the Mangalore Railway station. The facility will enable lactating mothers to feed their babies in privacy and in a safe environment. Also, the special cabin increased the visibility of Rotary among rail passengers.

**D 3182**

## RC Konandur

A solar inverter system worth ₹3.73 lakh was donated to the primary health centre, Humcha village, with the help of donors. Club president Kiran JP handed over the unit to Devendrakeerthi Bhattaraka Pattacharyavarya Swami after a ritual. DG MG Ramachandra Murthy was present.



**D 3201**

## RC Cochin Beachside

School bags, notebooks, stationery items, sanitisers and masks were distributed to students of the Government Lower Primary School, Udayathumvathil, near Panangad, a suburban village near Kochi. The event was held in memory of late Rtn Balachandran, a past president. AG Narendra Kumar was present.



**D 3211**

## RC Alleppey

A peace rally including a flash mob was conducted on beach road in association with the NSS volunteers of St Joseph's College for Women, Alapuzha. The rally was held to send a message of peace and brotherhood in the context of Ukrainian conflict.





**D 3212**

## **RC Tirunelveli West**

During a visit to Himachal Pradesh, club's IPP E Paulanna exchanged flags with RC Manali, RID 3070, president Bharat Khurana at a fellowship meet. In a similar event, Paulanna and Rtn Muthulakshmi exchanged flags with RC Chandigarh Midtown, RID 3080, president Salil Chopra, secretary Bhava and community service chair Pradeep Sisodia.



**D 3262**

## **RC Bhubaneswar Meadows**

Notebooks and organic pens were distributed to 100 students at the Madhurmayee orphanage where children of convicts at the Jharpada Jail were accommodated. Flag hoisting was done on Republic Day and 40 saplings were planted by club members.



**RID 3291**

DG Prabir Chatterjee and his wife Rubena took part in the *Vir Virangana* project for Rotarians of RID 3291. Martial art was taught to the participants as part of a self-defence programme. Rotarians enjoyed the workshop as trendy music was played to motivate them and create a rhythm in their floor movements.

Compiled by V Muthukumaran

# Rotary projects create an impact in Palia

V Muthukumaran

**S**paringly-used old clothes and footwear were distributed to roadside families near Bansal Honda showroom, a popular destination, on Station Chauraha Mill Road by RC Pallia Kalan, RID 3120, in the last week of December to protect them from wintery nights. The

club donated used woollen quilts, clothes, dress material and footwear to underprivileged families.

Rotarians paid tributes to late Gen Bipin Rawat, chief of defence staff, his wife and 12 other Army personnel who were killed in a helicopter crash by lighting 50 candles near the statue of Ram

Chandra Shah on Station Road. “We posted this event along with pictures on social media and this was widely covered by local media outlets,” said Sandeep Bansal, club president. Like in the previous years, a mega bonfire was lit at the Station Road junction for the homeless and destitute to stay warm during cold night. “Dr AK Kapoor from Palia inaugurated the bonfire and we presented a memento to him as a token gesture.”

Under its year-long *Stay Healthy* campaign, the club members distributed biscuits and other nutritious foods to students and teachers at the Balika Ashram Paddhati Vidyalaya. “We also refurbished their classrooms and this will benefit around 80 children in this primary school,” said Bansal.

## Gala Diwali

Rotarians came together for a fellowship event on Diwali.



RC Pallia Kalan president Sandeep Bansal (3<sup>rd</sup> from R) and his team honouring staff of the special tourist train with mementos.

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On the occasion of Hindi Day (Sep 14), a Hindi handwriting competition was held at the Kasturba Gandhi School, Palia. All the 80 students who participated were given certificates.

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“We lighted 60 candles near the statue of Ram Chandra Shah at the station square and exchanged greetings on the special occasion.” They also lit candles to mark Shaheed Diwas (Martyrs’ Day).

Masks were distributed to pilgrims on their way to Purnagiri Devi temple, Tanakpur. “We gave masks to around 60 devotees, members of Kul Ashram, Palia, who were travelling to Purnagiri by bus to attend the religious festival which is being conducted over the last 10 years in Uttarakhand,” said Bansal.

In the first week of January every year, the club used to provide tea and biscuits to the underprivileged and homeless people early morning under Project *Muskaan*. “This is one of our oldest projects and each time, our tea distribution gets good coverage in the local media,” said Bansal.

#### Railway staff feted

In a unique event, Rotarians led by Sandeep Bansal felicitated the staff of the special tourist train with the Vistadome (transparent) coaches that will take passengers through a 100km-ride across Katarniaghat wildlife sanctuary and Dudhwa National Park, two tiger habitats in



Sparingly-used clothes and woollen garments are being distributed to underprivileged families.

In the first week of January every year, the club used to provide tea and biscuits to the underprivileged and homeless people early morning under Project *Muskaan*.

the Terai region of Uttar Pradesh.

“We honoured the staff with mementos and garlands during the inaugural train journey from Mailani in Lakhimpur Kheri to Bichia in Bahraich district,” said Bansal. “Our felicitation to officials of the special tourist train was widely covered in the state media channels and also shared across the social media platforms.”

Republic Day was celebrated with grandeur at the Balika Ashram Paddhati Vidyalaya as we hoisted the national flag and distributed fruits, biscuits, toffees, sweets and candies to the children. On the occasion of Hindi Day (Sep 14), a Hindi handwriting competition was held at the Kasturba Gandhi School, Palia. “All the 80 students who participated were given certificates, while gifts with certificates were given to the winners.” Stationery items, masks and fruits were distributed to the schoolchildren. School principal Maya Singh was honoured with a memento. ■



Club president Sandeep Bansal awarding the winner of Hindi handwriting competition with gifts and a certificate.

# A mega PolioPlus campaign in Hubli

## Team Rotary News

A Polio NID booth was set up by RC Hubli Vidyanagar, RID 3170, at the OPD ward of the KIMS Hospital, Hubli, in partnership with the Urban Primary Health Centre, Maydar Oni, to mark the National Immunisation Day (Feb 27).

The club invited Dr Ramalingappa Antartani, director, KIMS, Hubli, its principal Dr Ishwar Hosamani, hospital medical superintendent Dr Arunkumar Chavan, RMO Dr SB Katkol and other department staff.

RID 3170 secretary Rajesh Salgaonkar and Rtn Ajay Menon were also present at the inaugural where polio drops were given to children. The club adopted four wards attached to the two UPHCs for door-to-door delivery of polio drops for the newborns in the locality with the help of volunteers.

Buses were arranged to transport mothers with their children to the

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All the polio immunisation booths were open from 7am to 5pm and the club with the help of MR Sakhare English Medium School and Saint Antony School arranged 15 buses with NID jingles and posters.

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DG Gaurish Dhond and spouse Pratima flag off special school buses to create End Polio Now awareness, along with RC Hubli Vidyanagar president Dr Mahima Mohit Dand and other Rotarians.

vaccination booths set up by the club in association with the UPHC. “We also provided breakfast and lunch to the vaccinators, health supervisors and drivers involved in our Polio campaign,” said club president Mahima Mohit Dand.

Rtns Prakash, Ramdas Nayak, Khatavkar and Santosh arranged food packets for the booth volunteers and vaccinators. The food was sponsored by Tilak Vikamshi. Regular visits were made by Rtns Dr Annapurna Sali and Sharmila Hemant to several booths to know the progress of the

vaccination work and “to motivate the community to bring their children below five years to the nearest booth for polio drops.”

All the polio immunisation booths were open from 7am to 5pm and the club with the help of MR Sakhare English Medium School and Saint Antony School arranged 15 buses with NID jingles and posters to create awareness about polio vaccination for the residents of Hubli. DG Gaurish Dhond flagged off the buses with polio messages and posters in the presence of assistant governors and club presidents. ■

## Pune Rotarians spruce up a PHC

### Team Rotary News

**R**otary Club of Pune Sports City, RID 3131, through a global grant project, transformed a primary health centre in the city's suburb into a Covid safe treatment healthcare facility. RCs Fort Collins Breakfast, USA, and Newent, UK, were the international partner and RCs Pune Camp and Aundh were the local partners.

Although the project was conceptualised in July 2020, it could not make a headway because of the Covid pandemic which had brought a huge pause for all activities globally. Work resumed in November 2021 and all repairs and renovations were carried out within four months. The PHC was functioning even during the renovation as it had a huge inflow of Covid patients.

The primary work included roof repair that was sponsored by RC Pune Baner, plumbing and water-proofing, false ceiling, partitions,



renovation of doctors' OPD and toilets, plastering and painting, electrical revamp with multiple points, installing ceiling fans and LED tubelights, TV, intercom and water cooler. The club also provided hospital furniture and medical equipment such as baby warmer, Boyle's Apparatus and cold chain vaccine carriers.

Finally, the staff were trained to maintain the PHC which was

converted into a Covid care facility. This health centre caters to the underprivileged residents in the suburbs of Pune, offering free outpatient services, routine immunisation for children, antenatal care for women, pharmacy, basic diagnostic testing, and routine tests for TB and leprosy, treating snake and dog bites. It is presently used as an outreach centre for large-scale Covid vaccinations.■

## Tirupur Rotarians celebrate World Polio Day



**T**he Rotarians of Tirupur participated in a walkathon to commemorate Rotary's efforts in eradicating polio from India and most parts of the world. The event was hosted by RC Tirupur Metal

Town, RID 3203, under the leadership of its president Veluswamy.

Tirupur traffic Police Commissioner P Ravi was the chief guest for the event. Commissioner of Police S Aravind flagged off the

Rotarians ready for the walkathon being flagged off by Commissioner of Police S Aravind.

rally which had an enthusiastic participation of a host of Rotarians from RCs Lakshmi Nagar, Gandhi Nagar and Meridian of Tirupur. Rotaractors and Interactors also took part in the walkathon.■

# Differently-abled children showcase their skills

## Team Rotary News

**A**s part of the Interact Week (Feb 15–23), RC Nasik, RID 3030, conducted a competition titled 'Best from Waste' for the differently-abled children. Twenty-five children, some mentally-challenged and few others with hearing-impairment, participated and exhibited their creativity by making useful items from waste.

DG Ramesh Meher felicitated the participants with gifts and certificates. ■



# Rotaractors felicitated in Calicut

## Team Rotary News



Rtrs Dhanush and Hemanth with RC Calicut Smart City president KP Sreenesh and club members.

**R**otaractors Dhanush and YB Hemanth, RAC Sishu Mandir, RID 3190, are pedalling across India to cover 26 states and three union territories totalling 25,000km in 235 days, and qualify for a Guinness World record for the longest journey in a bicycle across a single country. They are creating awareness about global warming and Rotary's literacy initiatives among the public during their travel.

The cyclists were in Calicut recently and members of RC Calicut Smart City, RID 3204, gave them a warm reception in the presence of DG Rajesh Subash and club president KP Sreenesh. ■

# An eye camp for Mahemdavad villagers

Team Rotary News



**Above:** Cataract patients being tested at the camp.

**Below:** Food being served at the camp for patients and their attendants.



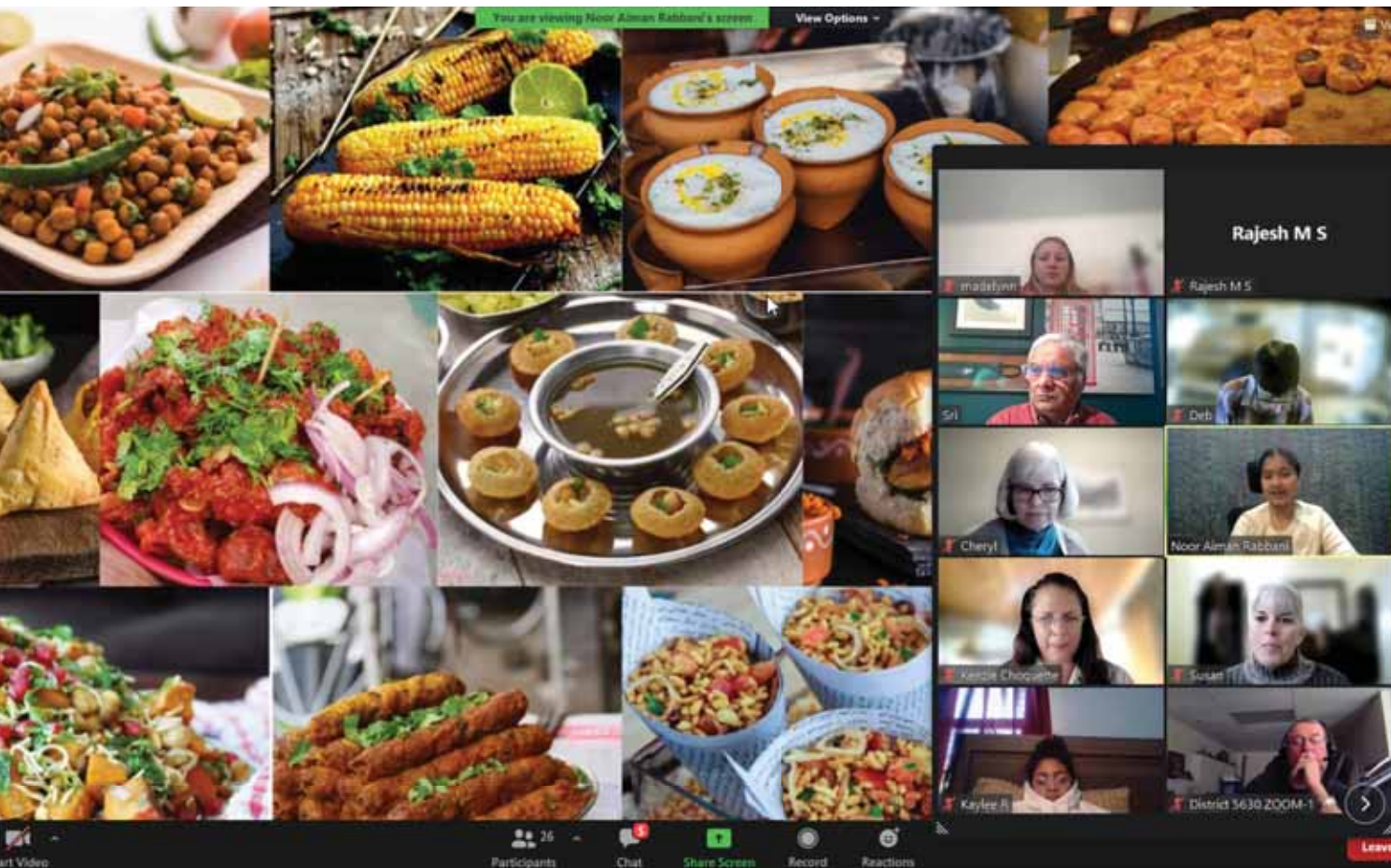
Free eye examination and cataract operation camp was organised by RC Mahemdabad, RID 3060, at the Panchmukhi Hanuman temple, Mahemdavad.

The camp was partnered by the Shri Panchmukhi Hanuman Mandir Seva Samiti and the Shankara Eye Hospital. Close to 70 patients from villages in and around Mahemdavad were tested at the camp. The club's RCC members helped with spreading the word about the camp and assisting the villagers to register. Food arrangements were also made for patients and their families.

The club celebrated the 117<sup>th</sup> founding day of Rotary by distributing stationery kits and chocolates to 117 students from underprivileged backgrounds. ■

# Virtual Youth Exchange between RIDs 3190 and 5630

Team Rotary News



**Y**outh Exchange is one of most popular activities under Youth Services avenue in Rotary as it connects the youth of the world internationally. However due to the pandemic physical meetings had come to a halt and RI has given directions to have only virtual youth exchange until July 2022.

A virtual youth exchange was launched by DG Fazal Mahmood for RID 3190 and DG Bob Mayber for RID 5630 from Jan 8 to Feb 26 to connect youth beyond boundaries in a virtual mode. PDG Rajendra Rai helped in connecting his

home district with RID 5630 in Nebraska state, USA. “After having multiple discussions with RID 5630 we were able to evolve a better framework for the VYE model, and made it far closer to a physical Youth Exchange programme,” he said.

The programme covered topics such as leadership, language, marriage, festivals, dresses, sports, history, culture and food of the respective country. The exchange participants met online every Saturday evening for 90 minutes between 7.30pm and 9pm, IST and 8am and 9.30am, US time, explained Rajesh M S, chairman for youth exchange. ■

**R**otary E-club of Pune Diamond, RID 3131, led by its president Pawan Joshi has distributed reusable sanitary pads to 250 women under the district's *Green Periods* project. The club executed the distribution drive in association with RAC Panache and an NGO, Freedom from PCOS. The project cost ₹75,000.

A session on menstrual hygiene management and its impact on women's health was conducted at the Bapusaheb Pawar Kanyashala in Pune. DGND Shital Shah, environment committee director Sameer Rupani and assistant governor Mukesh Gupta participated in the programme. Dr Khurshid Bhalla and team from the Doctors Foundation also supported the event.

#### Awards programme

The club organised a Vocational Excellence

# Promoting menstrual hygiene **in Pune**

## Team Rotary News



Members of RC E-club of Pune Diamond at a sanitary napkin distribution drive.



Rotarians with the awardees at the Vocational Excellence Awards programme.

Awards event in March, in association with RAC Panache. Dr Khurshid Bhalla, Padmaja Pravin Lakhe, Veena Kamath, Dhanashree Wagh Patil, Dr Parag Ranade and Vaibhav Pandit Wagh were felicitated for their excellence in their vocation.

DGN Manjoo Phadke was the chief guest and Rupani was the guest of honour. The club inducted two new members in the presence of DGND Shital Shah who is also the district's membership director. ■

# Covid vaccination camp in Kanpur

Team Rotary News



A dental camp in progress.

RC Kanpur Aryans, RID 3110, organised a Covid vaccination drive at the Sudarshan Housing Society. Over 100 people were vaccinated at the camp. “Rotary clubs have been relentlessly implementing the necessary response measures since the start of Covid-19. Vaccination is a powerful weapon against this pandemic,” says club member KK Anand who took the jab at the camp.

The club also conducted a dental check-up camp at Vill-Barhat, a village near Kanpur. In association with Rama Dental College, Kanpur, the camp tested and treated over 55 people. Rotarians spread awareness on the ill-effects of chewing tobacco to those at the camp.■



A Covid vaccination drive at the Sudarshan Housing Society.