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Rotary

NEWS PLUS



On World Health Day, RC Sivakasi, RID 3212, hosted a mental health counselling session for students and teachers of Rotary Matric HS School, Viswanatham, in partnership with Beauty Manas, a siddha clinic.

Beauty Manas psychologist S Selvarani addressed students and teachers in separate groups and offered them tips for improving their mental health and happiness. More than 100 villagers were screened by the mobile eye clinic, flagged off by DG Jacintha Dharma, at the Kalaimagal Higher Secondary School, Thiruthangal. Major Donor Dr B Anilkumar, club president MN Manoharan, AG G Rajagopalan, secretary R Natarajan, treasurer A Raja Sankar and club trainer Rm Thiayagarajan were present at the venue.

Two ceiling fans were donated to the Mudalipatti-

Sivakasi students gets mental health counselling

Team Rotary News



RC Sivakasi president MN Manoharan addressing students at a mental health counselling session.

More than 100 villagers were screened by the mobile eye clinic, flagged off by DG Jacintha Dharma, at the Kalaimagal Higher Secondary School.

Thiagarajapuram Nadar Primary School to provide respite from scorching summer heat for students under the district theme 'Healthy and happy students'. A new Interact club was installed at the Rotary School in the presence of DG Jacintha, AG Rajagopalan, and district secretary Alexander Manuel.

Manoharan congratulated the new Interact office-bearers and extended support for their service projects. Rtn VS Raveendran, a past president, handed over an endowment fund of ₹30,000 to Rtn S Maheswaran, secretary, Rotary School, on the occasion. ■



Club president Manoharan greeting the charter president of a newly-formed Interact Club at the Rotary Matric HS School, Viswanatham.

Computer training for students in Delhi

Team Rotary News

With the aim to bridge the digital divide, RC Delhi Ananta, RID 3012, is holding computer classes for less privileged students at its Education Centre on the second floor of its Ananta Charitable Hospital which was inaugurated in January.

The club distributed computer literacy certificates to 60 students who had recently completed the basic course at the RC Delhi Ananta Education Centre. "Eighty more students have enrolled at the training programme and we have a target to reach out to at least 400 students this year," said Amitansu Satpathy, club president. Satpathy and club secretary Sanjay Kaushik distributed the certificates to the students.

Speaking at the event, the club president said they would open



Students with computer training certificates at the Ananta Education Centre in Delhi.

around 12 computer centres this year at a cost of ₹1 crore and he has asked other Rotary clubs to provide space for the Ananta Centre to open computer classrooms across

the national capital region. "Each centre costs ₹8 lakh each and it can be sponsored if there is an assurance to attract 400 students a year in each centre," said Satpathy. ■

Professionals honoured on Women's Day

To mark Women's Day, RC Ichapuram, RID 3020, honoured Dr Swati from the government hospital and D Indira, school teacher, for their service to society. Club president D Krishna Murty Reddy, secretary D Madhu

Kumar and other Rotarians were present at the felicitation event.

A series of sport events — kho kho, kabaddi, volleyball and athletics — was held under its youth service programme to motivate youth and showcase their

talent. In one such event, district education officer K Apparao was the chief guest. Physical education teachers of various schools were present in large numbers.

At a legal literacy camp held at the Rotary Hall, District Legal Services Committee chairman Intiyaz Ahmed, who is also an additional judge, spoke about the provisions of Motor Vehicles Act, Free Legal Aid Act and other laws of public interest. Circle police inspector D V V Sateesh Kumar and sub-inspector V Satyanarayana were also present, along with club president Murty Reddy and Rotarians. "We gave a cash assistance of ₹15,000 to Janaki, a Class 9 student, who had disability in one of her hands to take care of her medical expenses," said Murty Reddy. ■



RC Ichapuram president D Krishna Murty Reddy garlanding Paul Harris bust in the presence of Justice Intiyaz Ahmed, police officers and club members at the Rotay Hall.

Nashik children enjoy Rotary's hospitality

V Muthukumaran

Every year, students of Ashram Shalas, government schools for tribal students in remote *padas* (Adivasi hamlets), are hosted by RC Nasik, RID 3030, in a star hotel in Nashik where they are treated with sumptuous breakfast, lunch and snacks, apart from recreational activities and motivational lectures.

Project *One Dream Day* is a five-year-old programme in which students spend almost a day in a grand hotel and are shown various housekeeping facilities such as rooms, kitchen, storage, laundry etc. "For the last two years, Covid put a break on all such activities. But with the easing of restrictions, we have revived it again. However, students of Ashram Shalas

were on summer vacation and hence we invited students from Unnati School, Nashik, which caters mostly to the children of economically weaker section of society, to make their dreams a reality," said Rtn V G Deodhar, primary contact and additional secretary, Projects, RC Nasik.

Interactors from the Fravashi International Academy, a club sponsored by RC Nasik, helped the Rotarians in providing a dream day for 72 students, both boys and girls, who were accompanied by three teachers at the BLVD Hotel, Nashik. The programme began with a handwash demonstration by Interactors.

After breakfast, the hotel staff took the children to many



sites within the hotel complex to explain the various procedures involved in running the hospitality facility. Prathamesh Rahalkar, an interior designer, then regaled the children with his caricature sketches. “Students took part in drawing and learning the art. Rtn Laxman Wagh then talked about the importance of environment and urged the students to plant trees on their school premises,” said Deodhar.

In his talk, Sunil Chandak, founder, Udyogwardhini, urged the students to “dream big and aim high to become entrepreneurs rather than searching for jobs.” The club’s past president Manish Chindhade called upon students to study hard to achieve success



Left: Children from the Unnati School along with Rotarians and Interactors at the BLVD Hotel, Nashik.

Above: Students enjoy tea and snacks.

in life. Rtn Dr Rachana Chindhade spoke on oral hygiene and gave tips on the correct method of brushing teeth and maintaining oral health.

President-elect Praful Bardiya joined the students in dancing to the tune of Marathi hit numbers which everyone enjoyed. “After tea and snacks, we bid adieu as they boarded the bus back to their school. With the success of the *One Dream Day* programme, after a two-year gap, we hope to continue with this in a grander scale from next year,” he said. Rtn Urmi



A solar streetlight being installed at a tribal hamlet in the presence of RC Nasik members.

Dinani was supported by club members in executing the project and club president Dr Shreeya Kulkarni was present throughout the event to make the programme a grand success.

Turbo ventilators

More than 200 girls benefited from the installation of 14 rooftop turbo ventilators and mosquito nets on all 18 windows of a girls hostel at the Dhondegaon Ashram School near Nashik. The project was done through CSR funds from Autocomp and Nashik Rotary Charitable Trust. The ventilators ensured free air circulation and good sunlight, while the mosquito nets checked the vector menace for the girls living in the hostel.

Around 200 smokeless *chulhas* (earthen stove) were distributed to villagers of Bhati, Wangan, Khirpada, Kahando and Kohil *padas*, bordering Gujarat. "With the use of this *chulha*, the health

People living in these forest areas have to worry about the intrusion of wild animals preying on their livestock.

of women will improve as there will be no smoke while cooking and it uses 50 per cent less wood than the traditional *chulha*. The project was funded by Autocomp and our club's charitable trust," said Deodhar.

Solar streetlights

Despite electricity now reaching even the remote *padas* of Maharashtra, villages still suffer darkness as strong winds, cyclones or falling trees snap the power lines frequently. "In faraway

villages, it takes a long time for restoration of power supply. Meanwhile, people living in these forest areas have to worry about the intrusion of wild animals preying on their livestock, besides endangering their lives too," said Deodhar.

"Only if the tribal areas are lighted during late hours, wild animals will not venture near human settlements. Even if they intrude, villagers can take precautions."

To remove fear in the minds of villagers, the club installed 18 solar streetlights in nine hamlets with funds from Autocomp. Following the due diligence process for spending CSR funds received in association with the Nashik Rotary Charitable Trust, the club installed the solar lights at the hamlets including Kahandol, Wangan, Bhati and Khir, small forest *padas* bordering Gujarat. "In the next phase, we plan to install solar streetlights at 15 more *padas*." ■

Water tank donated to rural school

Team Rotary News



DG Rajasekhar Srinivasan (left) inaugurates a water tank at a government school near Coimbatore in the presence of club's charter secretary Suresh Gokuldas (2nd from R) and Rotarians.

As part of its golden jubilee celebrations, RC Coimbatore Midtown, RID 3201, on its charter day donated a water tank to the Rural Government Higher Secondary School at Vagarayampalayam, near Coimbatore. The school has a strength of over 1,500 students who come from 15 villages in the area. The tank will help to store and use water for

various purposes at the school.

The capacity of the underground water sump is 14,000 litres while the overhead tank can store up to 4,000 litres. The tank is run by a 1 HP motor.

The project is dedicated to late PDG P Jagatheesan, the charter president of the club. This project was sponsored by Suresh Gokuldas, the charter secretary of the club. ■

WinS facility inaugurated at village school in Odisha

Team Rotary News



With an aim to improve the school environment and promote Rotary's WinS initiative RC Sambalpur, RID 3261, built two toilet blocks and installed three handwash stations at the Government High School, Sahaspura, a village near Sambalpur, Odisha. The project was inaugurated by IPDG Manjeet Singh Arora in the presence of then club president Rashmi Ranjan Mahapatra and secretary Alekhika Pani (2020-21).

"Promoting handwashing in school and maintaining sanitation facilities like toilets, menstrual hygiene management have resulted in increased attendance and enrolment," says Rashmi. She also points out that "parents expect a good school to have a healthy and clean environment for their children."

Club members planted saplings on the school campus after the inauguration of the sanitation facilities. ■

IPDG Manjeet Singh Arora planting a sapling at the Government High School, Sahaspur, after inaugurating toilet blocks and handwash stations.



Grooming women entrepreneurs

Team Rotary News



Rotary Club of Kumta, RID 3170, organised a Women's Entrepreneurship Encouragement Workshop at the Rotary Centre in the city. The one-day event had a participation of over 100 women.

Motivational talks, soft skills training and money management techniques were some of the topics covered at the meet. ■

Eleven Rotary clubs of RID 3201 and 15 clubs of RID 3203 came together for an Inter-district Friendship Exchange programme hosted by RC Coimbatore East, RID 3201, along with RC Coimbatore Saicity and Tirupur Bharati.

DGs Rajasekhar Srinivasan (RID 3201) and K Shanmugasundaram (RID 3203) were the chief guests. DGND N Sundaravadivelu, PDGs Dr E K Sagadhevan and PM Sivashankaran also participated in the friendship programme.

A bicycle rally — *Cycling for Peace* — was also part of the event and it had the participation of Rotarians from both the districts.

Rtn R Vijay Krishnan, secretary of RC Coimbatore East, was the programme coordinator. ■

Inter-district Friendship Exchange



PDG E K Sagadhevan, DG K Shanmugasundaram, DG Rajasekhar Srinivasan, along with Rotarians and rallyists, at the exchange programme.

D 2981

RC Kumbakonam Central

On the eve of Rotary Day (Feb 23), a 15-day self-employment camp for women was organised. They were taught income-generating livelihood skills such as baking cake, candle-making, blouse design work and floormat making. The project was done with the support of ISHWAR, a local NGO that engages the physically-challenged.



D 2982

RC Salem Metropolis

A lecture meeting on the Salem Smart City Project was conducted with the support of RC Salem Cosmos. Corporation commissioner T Christuraj gave a detailed presentation on the subject, following which he answered questions from Rotarians in the interactive session.



D 3000

RC Pudukkottai City

A utility shelter was created for the students at Mathur Vallalar Home at a cost of ₹1.25 lakh. Club president G Marimuthu presided over the handover event in the presence of PDG A L Chokkalingam, charter president K Naina Mohammed, president-elect R Sivakumar, past presidents and Rotarians. The students' home president Dr S Ramadoss welcomed the Rotarians.





D 3012

RC Kundli

Over 160 students and teaching staff took part at the cancer awareness camp organised at the Government Girls Higher Secondary School, Nangal village, in partnership with the Indian Cancer Society, New Delhi. The awareness camp was held to mark Women's Day and benefited senior girls of the school.



D 3012

RC Sonapat

Staff and factory workers donated blood at a blood donation camp conducted at the LT Foods in association with the Red Cross Society. The medical history of each donor was checked by the paramedics. Sixty-five units of blood was collected and handed over to the Government Civil Hospital. Club president Gaurav Luthra gave certificates to all donors.



D 3020

RC Visakhapatnam

Rotary Day was celebrated as Rotary Day of Service. A drawing competition was held for Interact clubs on the theme of 'Rotary ideals and actions', while senior Rotarians were felicitated. Also papers were donated to the Nethra Vidyalaya, a blind school; and groceries were given to Gnanananda Ashram which is taking care of 40 orphans.

D 3100

RC Muzaffarnagar Samarpan

The faculty of SIP Abacus Centre were honoured on Women's Day. During the interactive session, the instructors and centre head shared their views on how their lives had changed from being a homemaker after joining this brainstorming education system. They were given mementos by Rotarians.



D 3110

RC Bisauli

A diabetes camp was conducted at the Rotary Dinesh Madhu Hospital in which around 170 patients were tested for blood sugar. To mark Teacher's Day, the club honoured 17 teachers from various schools in a gala event.



D 3110

RC Budaun Central

Diwali was celebrated with a fellowship meet in which Rotarians and their families wished each other. Dhanteras, Choti Diwali, Deepotsav, Govardhan Puja and Bhai Dooj wishes were also exchanged at the festival get-together. Club president Mukesh Maheshwar spoke and greeted everyone.





D 3110

RC Pilibhit

A special postal cover to mark the golden jubilee year of the club was released. In the last 50 years, cold water drinking stations were installed across the city, Sulabh toilet blocks were built and Rotarians had offered various services to the Muktidham temple.



D 3120

RC Pallia Kalan

Rotarians distributed pamphlets to create Covid awareness at an event organised by the Dainik Jagran and the Nagar Vyapar Mandal to pay tribute to those who died of the coronavirus. The merchants were urged to display the handbills for the shoppers to take precautions. The club serves kitchdi on *Bada Mangal*, an auspicious Tuesday on which Lord Hanuman is worshipped, at the Chauraha Railway station for the poor children and families.



D 3131

Rotary E-Club Pune Diamond

A two-day career guidance seminar was held for children of police personnel who had passed Classes 10 and 12 at the Police Recreation Hall, Shivajinagar. ACP Dr Jalinder Supekar inaugurated the event. PDGs Dr Deepak Shikarpur, Abhay Gadgil and club president Pawan Joshi interacted with the students.

D 3160

RC Gudur

An RWH unit was inaugurated by PDG Surendra Bommireddy at the GSR Municipal High School in the presence of Swachha Andhra chairperson Ponaka Devasenamma and municipal commissioner B Srikanth. The facility was sponsored by Rtn Sridhar Reddy Bandi in memory of his late father Bandi Venu Gopal Reddy, a charter member. Club president N Bala Krishnam Raju coordinated the project.



D 3160

RC Gulbarga Sakhi

Sanitary napkins were distributed to women at the Rajapur slum area in Gulbarga. The beneficiaries, all of them main servants, were told to adopt menstrual hygiene through best practices for healthy life. The MHM project enhanced the image of Rotary in the locality.



D 3170

RC Bailhongal

PolioPlus booths were set up at various places to mark National Immunisation Day. MLA Mahantesh Koujalgi inaugurated the first booth in the presence of club president Mahesh Bellad, secretary Dr Mahantesh Kallibaddi and event chair V G Patil. Around 800 children were given oral drops and a polio awareness rally was taken by students.





D 3170

RC Kumta

DG Gaurish Dhond handed over an ambulance and critical care equipment to the Government Hospital, Kumta, in the presence of IPDG Sangram Patil, legislator Dinkar Shetty, AG Nagaraj Joshi and hospital AMO Dr Ganesh Naik. This GG project costs around ₹1 crore.



D 3181

RC Belthangady

With the aim to reduce malnutrition among children, 54 nutrition tin packets were distributed to underweight students from nearby villages through anganwadi teachers. Club president Sharathkrishna Padvetnaya, secretary Aboobakker and Ann Naveena Shetty distributed the tins in the presence of panchayat officials.



D 3181

RC Puttur City

DG AR Ravindra Bhat and Puttur MLA Sanjeeva Matandoor flagged off a Rotary's PR van sponsored by AG Surendra Kini. The van carried posters and banners of End Polio Now with a call to the public to join the club. Covid awareness stickers were distributed to car owners; and an amount of ₹5,000 was donated to sub-inspector (traffic) Ram Naik for their service as Covid frontline warriors.

Shantigram Rotarians donate for noble causes

V Muthukumaran

A number of charitable activities are being done under the Project *Share a Smile* of RC Ahmedabad Shantigram, RID 3054, including donations to old age homes and supply of essentials to poor families in the city. In the first phase, monthly provisions and other daily needs were donated to an old age home run by Jan Sadhna Trust in the presence of the Adani Township and Real Estate Company (Atreco) CEO Sunil Sharma and Adani Enterprise director Vinay Goel.

In the second phase, basic necessities were distributed to the slum colonies in and around Gandhinagar, reaching out to poor children and their families. The third phase of

Share a Smile project was organised at the Shantigram township itself. "All our members took part in the third phase as the aim was to spread smiles within the township, especially to benefit the residents of its labour colony," said club president Col Ajay Kumar Pathak.

Atreco extended help to the club by allotting the Promenade Hall for the project, while Rajagopal, head, Shantigram Utility Services Private Ltd (SUSPL), and his team provided the manpower to make the project a success in this township. "We gave three tokens to each woman at the labour colony so that they can pick any three items of their choice for their households," said Pathak. The idea of the coupon system was that of Rtn Anubha Kabra.

Pathak and Rtn Amit Kabra worked to lay out all the donations and household articles given by the residents with the help of Rtns Vaishali Pathak, Saroj Chordia and Anubha Kabra. "We distributed all the household items and utility articles like sparingly-used clothes and furniture among others on a Sunday afternoon," said the club president. "The children of Rotarians and their relatives too joined in the distribution to spread the smile among the have-nots."

Share with Needy

Another successful project was *Share with Needy* which was conceptualised to reach out to people who find it difficult to survive. Rtns Sudesh Jain and Kapil Singhal visited a number of places and interacted

RC Ahmedabad Shantigram president Col Ajay Kumar Pathak (left) and secretary Anil Chordia (3rd from L), along with Anns, while sorting out the clothes and household items for distribution.



with officials and the public, before identifying the Kailash Dham, an old age home, and a gaushala in Pethapur, Gandhinagar, which are in dire need of support. “A call was given to residents of Shantigram township to help these two institutions with donations and also by other means,” said Pathak.

Rations as requested by officials of the Kailash Dham were procured by Pathak, the items were packed and loaded in vehicles. “Our Rotarians made liberal contributions and residents gave cheques to be handed over to the old age home.”

Jain, club secretary Anil Chordia, Singhal, Rtn Bhanu Pratap Singh, along with president Pathak, his wife Vaishali and son Aayush, visited the old age home. “We had a satisfying time interacting with the elderly inmates. We handed over the rations and cheques to the home manager and obtained the receipt from him. We gave the 80G certificates to the donors after completing the event.”

At the district seminar on CSR funding organised by



Beneficiary families after receiving the goodies at the distribution centre.

RC Ahmedabad North, a six-member team was led by Pathak and “we had a good exposure to the world of corporate social responsibility. The event was supported by Rtn Anil Singh, mentor of RC Ahmedabad Shantigram.” Rtn Sudesh Jain and his wife donated two cheques for girls’ empowerment projects which was one of the pet themes of RI President Shekhar Mehta.

A cardiac medical camp was conducted in partnership with the KD Hospital for the residents of the Shantigram township. Rtn Dr Krunal Tamakuwala, interventional cardiologist, led a team of doctors and paramedics in diagnosing patients. Free BP, body mass index, blood sugar and ECG tests were taken as part of screening the patients. “The aim was to guide and provide cardiac care to residents and consultations to people having heart ailments. The heart camp was a huge success as a large number of residents benefited from it,” said Pathak.

A district-level seminar on Child Development was held at Mehsana with Rtn Anupama Singh, district vice-chairperson on the subject, giving a presentation. She was felicitated by RID 3054 for her contributions to the cause of child development by RC Mehsana, the host club.

Defeat Diabetes campaign was conducted as part of Rotary Service Day. A team led by Dr Kuntal Gajjar, club treasurer, trained the paramedics for the medical camp, while Rtn Sharad Gattani, public image director, was the project coordinator. The medical camp was also extended to the residents of the township. ■



Club president Ajay Kumar Pathak and volunteers at the Share a Smile project.

D 3182

RC Kadur

A rally was conducted with 200 students to create awareness on e-waste and plastic waste management. Around 5,000 handbills were distributed across the town. Later in the day, an oratorical contest was held for students of 18 high schools and the top three winners were given prizes worth ₹10,000. The event created a buzz in the town.



D 3190

RC Bengaluru Harmony

A toilet block was renovated at the Gubbalala Government School. In all, seven handwash stations were renovated along with commodes and urinals. DG Fazal Mahmood, district secretary Harini and Rtms Srinivas and Satish, district office-bearers, were present at the inaugural event. Club president Ashwini Masti presided over the inauguration.



D 3203

RC Mettupalayam Prime

Annet Ashvi Pradhanya, daughter of Dr Aravinth Karthikeyan, charter president, showed the way to happiness through her demonstration at the Isha Foundation of Sadhguru Jaggi Vasudev to mark National Girl Child Day. The month was also observed as Girl Child Awareness month.





D 3203

RC Sakthi Nagar

Polio awareness campaign was taken up in villages with a jeep carrying Rotary posters on End Polio Now and Rotarians distributing handbills. Through the mic, they drove home the need to eliminate the diseases from the world and the multifaceted role played by Rotary over the decades.



D 3212

RC Karaikudi

A Covid vaccination camp was conducted with the support of the municipal corporation in which around 400 people were inoculated. Also, a general health check-up was done on all vaccinated people by a panel of doctors. The project lifted the public image of Rotary in the neighbourhood.



D 3212

RC Sivakasi

A lecture meet was held with past AG V K Sembulingam, also joint secretary, RID 3212, giving a presentation on one of Rotary's focus areas — Peace and Conflict Prevention/Resolution. He made the event interesting by giving lots of facts that were illustrated with anecdotes. He also answered the queries of Rotarians at the interactive session.

D 3212

RC Sivakasi Sparkler

Around 250 people were screened at an eye camp jointly hosted with RC Sivakasi Diamonds with the support of the Aravind Eye Hospital at the Alangulam Government HS School. Seventy-six patients were chosen for surgery; food and transport were arranged for them. Also, 48 patients were given free spectacles. Project director SP Rathinam was supported by members of both the clubs.



D 3212

RC Tirunelveli Twin City

Five conservancy staff were given stainless steel containers as part of 75th Independence Day events at the Sutthamalli Panchayat Union School. The club also gave cleaning solutions and dust bins for maintenance of the toilet block at the school. Grocery items, blankets, sarees and a rice storage container were donated to an old age home; while ceiling fans were given to three government schools.



D 3232

RC Madras Chenna Patna

Under Project *Mellinam*, the club distributes handbills and holds events to create awareness for early detection of breast cancer. The GG project worth ₹37.5 lakh is implemented at the four PHCs and the club plans to screen 14,000 women over a year. RC Catarqui, Canada, is the global partner, while RC Madras North East is the local partner of the project.





D 3232

RC Madras South West

Around 300 students of MB Jain School were screened by Rtn Dr Manju Kulkarni and her team at the eye camp. It was found that more than 25 per cent of them have vision problems requiring spectacles. Health check-up camps are being conducted at regular intervals.



D 3261

RC Rourkela Queens

An adult literacy programme was started with 15 students at Sitalpada village near Rourkela. At the *Neki ki Dukan* project, the Rotarians distributed sparingly-used clothes to less privileged families. A new satellite club was sponsored in September last year.



D 3291

RC Calcutta Dhakuria

Club members distributed literacy kits at two places — Udaan, a home for the children of sex workers at Sonagachi, a red-light area; and Rupayan, a home for the destitute children at Kankurgachi. Club president Soma Roy distributed the study kits. The children thanked Rotarians for the study material.

Compiled by V Muthukumaran

Mega diabetes screening camp in Bailhongal

Team Rotary News



A veterinary camp for livestock at a village near Bailhongal.



A health check-up camp for children.



Teachers being honoured with Nation Builder Awards.

Following a call from DG Gaurish Dhond, RID 3170, urging all Rotary clubs of the district to organise diabetes screening camps under the *Defeat Diabetes* campaign, RC Bailhongal organised a camp at the KSRTC bus depot in the town. Over 250 people were tested for blood sugar and dieticians and diabetologists spread awareness on how to keep the blood sugar in check.

Club president Mahesh Bellad, secretary Dr Mahantesh Kallibaddi, community service director Raj Metgud and project chairman Dr Mahantesh Gadag were present at the camp.

This project was part of Rotary India's *Defeat Diabetes* campaign and an official attempt was made to qualify for the Asia Book of Records for the maximum number of blood sugar tests conducted in a day through the 'One nation, one day, one million' initiative.

A paediatric health checkup camp organised by the club benefitted 200 children. Paediatricians prescribed vitamins and distributed nutritious diet packets to the mal-nourished children.

The club organised a healthcare camp for animals, in association with the National Animal Disease Control Programme at Bevinakoppa, a village near Bailhongal. Veterinary doctors attended to the animals.

The club honoured 35 teachers with Nation Builder Awards. ■

RC Deonar honours unsung heroes

Team Rotary News

Nine professionals drawn from various fields were recognised by RC Deonar, RID 3141, with the 'Blue Ribbon Awards'. The awardees directly or indirectly contribute significantly to the society at large, and live by Rotary's motto, *Service Above Self*, said club member Vivek Khandelwal. The club hosted the eighth edition of Blue Ribbon Awards recently.

Rahul Shewale, member of parliament, was the chief guest and AKS member Rtn Kulbhushan Jetly was the guest of honour. Club president Sudhir Mehta welcomed the delegates to the programme.



Rtn Kulbhushan Jetly honours an awardee in the presence of club president Sudhir Mehta.

The award recipients include ophthalmologist Dr Manish V Sharma; Ganesh Chandolkar who is serving in the Solid Waste Management Department of the Bombay Municipal Corporation; Malan Anil Mhatre, a teacher in a municipal school; firefighter Shriram Shankar Parab is at the forefront putting out fires, delivering emergency medical care, and more than anything else, saving lives; Raju Tukaram Salunkhe, a police sub-inspector in the Anti Terrorist Cell; autorickshaw driver Padmanath Sukhadeo Gite who has saved people's lives in extreme crises; Kantilal

Vora, a fifth generation entrepreneur who runs a 50-year-old grocery shop; chartered accountant Ganesh Shanbhag; and animal welfare activist Bimlesh Navani.

Shewale recognised the club's service activities during the pandemic.

Club member Vishnu Kamat has been spearheading the Blue Ribbon Awards seamlessly since its inception and this year he was ably supported by Rotarians Shanmukha V, Tushar Gangoly, Capt Sekhar, Moksh Juneja and Vishal Dassani.

Club president-elect Vidhya Subramanian delivered the vote of thanks. ■



Rotarians with the Blue Ribbon Awardees

Ambulances donated to Puducherry Government Hospital

Team Rotary News

On the occasion of 117th Rotary Day (Feb 23), RC Pondicherry Midtown, RID 2981, under a CSR partnership with Straive Spl Technologies and Gothi Charitable Trust, donated two hi-tech ambulances worth ₹60 lakh to the Rajiv Gandhi Women and Childcare Government Hospital.

The keys of the ambulances were handed over by Puducherry CM N Rangasamy and Lieutenant Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan to the hospital authorities in the presence of DG S Balaji.

District trainer PDG A Mani and DGE V Selvanathan along with other Rotarians were present at the event. ■



DG S Balaji handing over the ambulance keys to Puducherry CM N Rangasamy and Lieutenant Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan.

A guest lecture on natural farming

A guest lecture on natural farming was organised by RC Mahemadabad, RID 3060, with the aim to improve soil fertility. The event was mooted by Amiben, wife

of Rtn Dr Brijesh Kumar, and it was preceded by a publicity campaign on the social media to attract farmers to the lecture meet and help them in their farm productivity.



A lecture on natural farming hosted by RC Mahemadabad.

Guest speaker Kishor Jobanputra, a farm expert from Halvad town in Gujarat and now a resident of Borsad in Anand district, gave a detailed presentation on the need to take up natural farming in a big way. “Adopting natural farming not only benefits mankind, but also prevents the environment from being endangered,” he said.

Through demonstrations he stressed on the importance to revive soil fertility as rapid use of fertilisers over the decades had led to its degeneration. At the end of the lecture, farmers from in and around Mahemdavad interacted with him to clarify their doubts. The guest lecture was done in partnership with the Ranchodrai Mandir Seva Samiti. ■

Car rally for women

Team Rotary News



Rotarians of RC Lucknow Rajdhani and RID 3120 after the car rally at the Phoenix Palassio Mall in Lucknow.

RC Lucknow Rajdhani, RID 3120, in association with the Times Group and Phoenix Palassio Mall, Lucknow, organised *Divas on Wheels*, a car rally and treasure hunt for women drivers. Over 50

women participated in the event. Both the drive and the treasure hunt were divided into seven legs covering a distance of 60km, and was flagged off by Laxmi Singh, the IG of Lucknow.

Post the rally, all the participants received certificates while winners were awarded gift hampers. This was followed by an entertainment programme.■

Government teachers felicitated

Under the Rotary India Literacy Mission initiative, RC Bangalore Koramangala, RID 3190, felicitated 150 government teachers with Nation Builder Awards. The programme was jointly hosted by RAC Koramangala. These teachers were felicitated for their contributions towards enhancing the quality of education. One major component of the Teacher Support vertical of the Rotary India Literacy Mission's TEACH programme is recognising outstanding teachers through Nation Builder Awards. This award aims to felicitate teachers after a detailed evaluation process.■



Celebrating Women's Day

Team Rotary News

Personality development, yoga and self-grooming were topics of discussion at the Women's Day event organised by RC Chennai

Korattur, RID 3232, in partnership with RCs Chennai Nalamboor, Alanthur, Madras Pallava, Chennai Rainbow and Chennai Accord.

Dr Sumedha, wife of DGE Dr N Nandakumar, as chief guest gave suggestions on how to be self-confident and face challenges in life in her special talk to mark the occasion. Yoga trainer Dr Sankara Subramaniam, self-grooming expert Dr Jayalakshmi Ramadoss and psychologist Dr G V Kumar delivered their guest lectures and interacted with the Rotarians and Anns. "It was an enjoyable programme and our members gave full support to make it a successful one for all of us including the partnering clubs," said R Kalaiselvi, president, RC Chennai Korattur. ■



RC Chennai Korattur president R Kalaiselvi (2nd from L) being honoured by Dr Sumedha, wife of DGE N Nandakumar, at the Women's Day event in the presence of guest speakers.

Cricket tournament to sponsor orphanage

A four-day cricket tournament was organised by RC Jabalipuram, RID 3261, to raise funds for constructing a new building for Matruchhaya Sewa Bharti, a home for orphans up to 18 years of age.

"Eight teams played league matches for three days at the Velodrome at the Ranital Sports Complex, Jabalpur. We conduct a cricket tournament each year for charity causes," said club president Hemal Chheda. On the fourth day, semifinals and finals were played between RC Sanskardhani, RID 3261, and Punjab Youth Club in a 10 overs-a-side match. The youth club from Punjab successfully chased 109 runs in 10 overs to win the tournament.

The club collected ₹75,000 from the tournament which was appreciated by the chief guest



DG Sunil Phatak presenting the trophy and cash certificate to the winning Punjab Youth Club team at the cricket tournament in the presence of DGND Akhil Mishra to his right.

DG Sunil Phatak. He contributed ₹25,000 at the venue, thus making a total amount of ₹100,000 for the orphanage building.

DGND Akhil Mishra and AG Arun Khard were also present

at the tournament finals. "The entire proceeds will go to raising the new building for the orphans whose life we are striving to make it from good to better," said Chheda. ■

Rotary Vandana Awards for Tulu artists

Team Rotary News



Tulu artists Bhojaraj Vamanjoor and Aravind Bolar being honoured with Vandana Awards by RC Mangalore Central in the presence of PDG Dr B Devdas Rai (3rd from right) and club president Rama Shesha Shetty (centre).

Eminent Tulu theatre artists Bhojaraj Vamanjoor and Aravind Bolar were conferred with Vandana Awards for the “exemplary achievements and in appreciation of their invaluable contributions in the field of Tulu art and culture” by RC Mangalore Central, RID 3181.

The coveted award was jointly instituted by the club and Rotaract Club of Mangalore City. At a gala ceremony, DCP N Shashikumar, the chief guest, congratulated the awardees and praised Rotary for its community service and “also recognising achievers and honouring them.” In his address, the Awards Selection Committee chairman PDG Dr B Devdas Rai said felicitating

achievers in society was part of club’s vocational service project. He said Vamanjoor and Bolar fully deserved the award as they have made “unique contributions” in the field of entertainment and Tulu film industry.

The coveted award was jointly instituted by the club and Rotaract Club of Mangalore City. At a gala ceremony, DCP N Shashikumar, the chief guest, congratulated the awardees.

In their acceptance speech, the awardees said, “it is a privilege to accept the Rotary honour which is valuable among the awards we have got till now.” Club president Rama Shesha Shetty presided over the event. AG Raghavendra released the club’s weekly bulletin *Centor*. Club secretary Jagannath Shetty presented the monthly report. Among those present were past president Prakash Chandra, president-elect Saibaba Rao, DRR Deryl Steven D’Souza and Rotaract club president Nishan. Rtr Arjun Prakash, club secretary, gave the vote of thanks. The event was sponsored by Rtns Nithin Shetty and Srinivas Shetty. ■



An infertility camp in progress.

Career guidance for girls

Team Rotary News

A career counselling workshop was organised by RC Sivakasi Sparklers, RID 3212, for Class 12 students in a government girls' school in the town. They were given guidance on choosing the course that would suit them best for their future career goals, and the colleges offering the courses. Career consultants urged the young girls to equip themselves with soft skills that would give them a better edge when they seek employment after graduation.

Around 60 couples visited an infertility treatment camp organised by the club in Sivakasi. Eleven Siddha doctors treated them and distributed medicines worth ₹25,000. The camp was coordinated by Rtn Sheikh Moideen Sayeed.

As part of the club's Rotary Day celebrations, the members donated ₹25,000 to a young cancer patient to help him tide over the exorbitant medical costs. ■



A young cancer patient gets financial assistance.



A career counselling session in progress.

A cancer awareness seminar in Bhubaneswar

Team Rotary News

Rotary Club of Bhubaneswar Meadows, RID 3262, organised a seminar on cancer awareness in association with Kriiaa Foundation. Dr Saurav Kumar Mishra, an oncology consultant at the Apollo Cancer Centre, gave a guest lecture. He spoke on the quality of life to be maintained for cancer patients, pain palliation, care during pregnancy, survivorship, sexual life, dietary habits, mental health, self-image and financial management during cancer treatment.

The club also conducted a vaccination



Above: A beneficiary at the vaccination booth at the IMS Hospital, Bhubaneswar.

Below: Rtn Dr Arati Satpathy being felicitated at Madhurmayee Ashram.



drive at the IMS and SUM Hospitals for children between 15 and 18 years. This was also part of the club's celebrations to mark the 117th year of Rotary. This drive was organised in association with the ICICI Foundation and benefited 50 children.

Club member Dr Arati Satpathy, a gynaecologist, conducted a menstrual hygiene awareness session for girl students of Madhurmayee Ashram. ■