

Rotary

NEWS PLUS





Trophies being presented to winners at the All India Women's Chess Championship for the visually-challenged women in Honavar.

Chess championship for blind women

Team Rotary News

Rotary Club of Honavar, RID 3170, in collaboration with the All India Chess Federation for Blind, organised a national women's chess championship for visually-challenged women. There were around 56 participants from across the country. SP of

Uttarakannada Dr Suman Pennekar was the chief guest for the event. The winner of the tournament was Rathi Himansi of Gujarat; Vaishali Narendra Salvekar and Tijan Puraram Gavar, both of them from Maharashtra, were the runners up. These players will represent India

in the world championship that is scheduled to be held in China.

The club organised a cataract eye surgery camp at St Ignatius Hospital. Dr Narendra Shenoy from Udupi provided support to the club in screening 120 people; 36 patients were treated for cataract. The club has been executing this project for 52 years benefitting several needy patients.

The club also installed 20 desktop computers at the Government First Grade Degree College, Honavar. The project was in collaboration with Cognizant and Deshpande Skilling Foundation. ■



Beneficiaries at the cataract surgery camp at the St Ignatius Hospital.

On the cover: Women members from RC Hubli Vidyanagar, RID 3170, during the car rally to Goa with the aim to curb noise pollution.

An all-women's club chartered in Sri Ganganagar

Team Rotary News

Thanks to the efforts of IPDG Parveen Jindal (RID 3090) and AG Rajiv Goyal, a women's club has been chartered in the district. The newly chartered RC Sriganganagar Star Raj has 12 members. The charter was presented by Jindal to club president Khushbu Goyal in the presence of club secretary Dr Sangeeta Aggarwal and treasurer Rachita Aggarwal. As part of the charter celebration the all-women's club installed a water cooler at Maharaja Agarsen Vidya Mandir School in Sri Ganaganagar.

Club member Manju Mittal sponsored the project at the cost of ₹44,000.■



IPDG Parveen Jindal inaugurating the water cooler at Maharaja Agarsen Vidya Mandir School in Sri Ganganagar, Rajasthan.

International Yoga Day in Lucknow



Members of RC Lucknow, RID 3120, celebrated International Yoga Day. The club hosted a yoga therapeutic session in a bid to raise awareness about the benefits of yoga to improve their physical and mental health.

The session was organised at the National Botanical Research Institute, Lucknow, and was open to all. Rotarians along with their families and friends participated in the event.

“It was a pleasant surprise to

see senior citizens performing yoga in an effortless manner,” says Anil Saxena, member of RC Lucknow.

The session was conducted by Muskan Yadav from Brahmavarchas International Yoga Academy, Lucknow.■

TN minister lauds Project Mellinam

Team Rotary News



State Minister P Geetha Jeevan speaking at the launch of Project Mellinam by RC Madras Chenna Patna.

Tamil Nadu social welfare and women's empowerment minister P Geetha Jeevan praised RC Madras Chenna Patna, RID

3232, for initiating Project *Mellinam* to detect breast cancer. "This Rotary project aligned with the women's health issues which is one of the

focus areas of the state government," she said at the formal launch of the programme.

This global grant project worth ₹37.5 lakh is being done in partnership with RID 3232, Canadian Rotary clubs and TRF. In the first three months of its pilot run, the project has reached out to over 3,300 women in Chennai against the overall target of 14,000. Four nursing colleges have partnered with the club to execute the cancer-screening project in a phased manner across Chennai.

Rtn Dr Annie Grace, registrar of TN Nurses and Midwives Council is the project chair and is being supported by Rtns Praveen Mehra and Ram Kevalur. IPDG J Sridhar and DG Dr Nandakumar have appreciated the club for Project *Mellinam*. ■

Club spreads asthma awareness

RC Sultanpur, RID 3120, observed World Asthma Day to create awareness among people about asthma and to help them understand the complications arising out of it. Dr Ashish Srivastava from Sultanpur through a live Facebook session explained that in the long-term the disease causes coughing, chest tightness, breathlessness and wheezing.

Under *Nari Swabhimani Ek Abiyan*, an initiative to empower girls, the club installed sanitary napkin vending machines at schools in Gopalpur, Madhaiyan and Lambhua near Sultanpur. Club member Neerav Pandey, secretary Nimendra Goyal and Indresh Pandey were present at the installation ceremony. ■



Under *Nari Swabhimani Ek Abiyan* the club installed sanitary napkin vending machines at schools near Sultanpur.

Siddharthnagar club carries out diverse projects

Team Rotary News

Club members, along with family and friends, celebrate International Yoga Day.



At a blood donation camp, organised by RC Siddharthnagar, RID 3120, 13 volunteers donated blood. Govind Ojha, health

service director of the club, explained that a healthy person can donate blood again after a gap of 90 days. Club secretary Arun Kumar

Prajapati thanked the donors and said that “voluntary blood donation would cater to urgent requirements during emergencies or disasters.”

In an attempt to green the environment, the club has started the *ped lagao ped bachao* (plant a tree, save trees) initiative. Recently the members of the club planted saplings at the Kendriya Vidyalaya school campus in Siddharthnagar.

The club celebrated International Day of Yoga with great enthusiasm by performing yoga *asanas*. In his address to the audience, club president Jagdambika Pal highlighted the significance of yoga in “discovering inner peace, transforming body and mind. It is important that yoga is inculcated in our daily routine,” he stressed. ■

A blood donation camp organised by the club.



An eye camp at gurudwara in Sunam

Team Rotary News



Above: RC Sunam president Jagjit Singh Jaura (2021–22) at the centre along with Rotarians at the eye camp.

Right: Club president Jagjit Singh Jaura and others pasting Go Green stickers on vehicles in Sunam.

An eye check-up and cataract surgery camp was organised by RC Sunam, RID 3090, at the Gurudwara Singh Sabha, Moranwali.

Out of 82 patients who were screened at the camp, 22 were selected for cataract surgery at the Sharuti Eye Hospital, Dhuri, in Sangrur district by Dr Sharuti and his team. “After the surgeries, all the patients were given free spectacles and medicines. Transport was arranged to drop them at their homes,” said Rtn Naveen Garg. Gopal Sharma, president, Sunam

Nettar Bank Samiti, and his team extended support to the eye camp which benefitted the patients in villages in and around Sunam.

Club president Jagjit Singh Jaura (2021–22), then secretary Devinder Pal Singh and project chairmen Jagdeep Bhardwaj, Pritpal S Handa, Parmod Kumar and GS Harika made the arrangements for the successful conduct of the eye camp.

Go Green Project

Saplings were planted at different locations and Go Green stickers were pasted on vehicles to create awareness on a green environment





Club members doing *gau puja* to mark the new Rotary year.

among local people. Speaking during the green drive, Jagjit Singh Jaura said, “the club will try its best to plant as many as trees as possible to enhance the oxygen level and provide fresh air to the residents.”

Police Superintendent Alam Vijay Singh from the Police Headquarters, Sangrur, spoke

on the need for afforestation and motivated each Rotarian to plant at least five saplings a month. Then DGN Ghausham Kansal, AG Shiv Jindal, secretary Devinder Pal Singh, senior vice-president Anupreet Jaura and joint secretary Naveen Garg were present during the plantation drive.

The club extended an accident insurance cover to 697 students from three schools in Sunam. The project will help the beneficiaries to avail free medical treatment for the injuries they sustained in road accidents by utilising the insurance amount paid by the club for the school students.

New Rotary year

To kick-start the new year on an auspicious note, new club president Sumit Bandlish, secretary Shiv Jindal, DGE Ghansham Kansal and 60 other members participated in a *gau puja*. They fed the cows at the *gaushala* with fodder and jaggery and had a breakfast together as part of fellowship event.

During a tree plantation drive at the Maya Garden Colony, Bandlish said the club will plant as many saplings as possible to usher in a green environment in the community and also provide fresh air to the citizens. The green drive is being implemented by a team led by project chairman Kamaldeep Garg with support from secretary Shiv Jindal, treasurer Kamal Garg, Rtms Sanjay Bandlish and Vaneet Garg. The importance of afforestation was also stressed by the project team on the occasion. ■



Gifting bicycles to girls

Team Rotary News

With the advent of the new Rotary year, the Rotarians of RC Hubli East, RID 3170, led by club president Pramod Kamat, began their humanitarian service activities with a slew of projects. They gifted bicycles to school girls in a village near Hubli.

Large umbrellas were given to roadside vendors to protect them from the sun and the rain, and





smaller, regular-sized ones were distributed to the public.

The Rotarians provided wheelchairs to the physically-challenged.

The club members planted 50 saplings in a forest area near the town.

Two blood donation camps were organised by the club, in association with the Rastrotan Blood Bank and the Sushruta Hospital in Hubli. The camps were held at Amargol village and at the Sushruta Hospital, and 52 people donated blood at the camps. ■

Caring for the elderly

District Governor Rajmohan Nair gifted bedsheets, pillows and food, sponsored by RC Cochin Beachside, RID 3201, to the inmates of Mariyalayam Old-age Home in Panangad near Cochin in Kerala.

The Rotarians planted fruit-bearing saplings on the premises of the home. ■



D 2981

RC Chidambaram Central

An air conditioner worth ₹55,000 was installed at the eye operation theatre of the Kamarajar Government Hospital, Chidambaram. The AC will facilitate cataract surgeries which were suspended due to the non-availability of this appliance. All the members contributed to the project.



D 2981

RC Kumbakonam Temple City

Around 750 patients were screened at the 13th cardiac camp held in association with the Madras Medical Mission and City Union Bank. Free ECG, ECHO and treadmill stress tests were done on villagers at the two-day camp. IPDG S Balaji, PDG Ramesh Babu, CUB managing director N Kamakodi, legislator G Anbazhagan, project chair PS Sekar and then club president Rm Senthil were present.



D 2981

RC Muthupettai

A mega cardiology camp was held in association with the KG Hospital, Coimbatore, in which around 500 people were screened and given consultations after undergoing various tests. Most of the beneficiaries were elderly people.





D 2981

RC Pondicherry White Town

Two sanitary pad dispensers and an incinerator were donated to the Pondicherry University Community College, apart from an amount of ₹60,000 for the benefit of over 1,200 girls. An amount of ₹22,000 was given to Celine D for her cancer treatment and surgery. Food was distributed to 250 patients and their attendants at the Rajiv Gandhi Women and Child Hospital.



D 2981

RC Manora Pattukkottai

Past president N Natarajan's son Nalan Rajan (7) created a new skating Asia Book Record by covering 18.4km in one hour. District collector flagged off the event held jointly with Sai Nikhil Sports Academy. Over 200 people were tested at the eye camp at the Girls HS School with the support of Sankara Eye Hospital, Coimbatore. Among the diagnosed, 118 were chosen for surgery. A diabetes camp at the Aathikottai Panchayat Union School attracted village elders.



D 3000

RC Karur

Around 500 cloth bags were distributed at the Karur bus terminus to the commuters. Rtn Thiagarajan spoke on the need to avoid plastic bags and materials for an eco-friendly lifestyle. Club president M Balraj (2021–22) presided over the anti-plastic awareness campaign. Zonal coordinator Dharmalingam and Rotarians were present. The project cost ₹1.25 lakh.

D 3000

RC Madurai North

Over 10,000 people took part in the mini marathon (10.7km) held in association with the local police station to sensitise the public on road accidents. DSP Baskar, Rajaji Government Hospital dean Rtn Rathinavelu and IPDG R Jeyakkan distributed the prizes to the winners.



D 3000

RC Pudukkottai City

A clean-up drive at Puthukulam walker's park was organised with the support of government ITI and health department. Rtn Maruti K Mohan Raja from the ITI managing board, municipality vice-president Liakhat Ali, secretary K Naina Mohammad, commissioner S Nagrajan and other officials spoke. Club president G Marimuthu (21-22) gave ₹5,000 to a beneficiary for eye surgery.



D 3000

RC Pudukkottai Palace City

Diploma certificates from the Bharathidasan University were issued to the students of a government school by the club's IPP Duraimani. The project cost ₹15,000. In another project, teacher training certificates were given to those who had completed the programme. Eye donation forms were issued to the prospective donors. A new year gala was arranged for club members and their families.





D 3011

RC Delhi Khubsurat

Surgical items and medicines for safe delivery were donated to pregnant women from poor families at the Government Maternity Hospital, Delhi, which the club has adopted. A sewing machine was given to a less privileged girl. A Polio Plus event was conducted by the club with good response from public.



D 3012

RC Pilkhuwa City

A blood and urine testing camp was conducted at the Shri Ram Charitable Hospital for which 145 people had registered. Around 55 types of clinical tests were done to know the status of vital parameters including the health of liver, kidney, cholesterol-level, blood sugar and CBC. Dr Mukesh Sharma gave tips for healthy living by doing yoga and regular walk. AG Vipin Pratap Gupta inaugurated the health camp.



D 3030

RC Malegaon Midtown

Twenty nurses were felicitated by Dr Hitesh Mahale, district surgeon, with gifts and citations to mark International Nurses Day at the Malegaon General Hospital. Club president Rajendra Dighe (2021–22) presided over the event in the presence of secretary Sumit Bachhav, project coordinator Pravin Nikam, Rtns Vilas Sonje, Keshav Khairnar and chief nurse Rekha Mali.

D 3053

RC Jodhpur Blue City

A computer and printer were donated to the Government Primary Sanskrit School, Kumharon ki Dhani at Jatiyasani village in Luni taluk. School uniforms, shoes, notebooks and slate boards were distributed to all students. The faculty thanked the club for the donations.



D 3053

RC Merta Meera

Under Project *Muskan*, families living at a slum colony near the Government Community Hospital were given sweaters, kitchen utensils, clothes and food. Their children were given play equipment like snake ladders to play with. Sewing machines were donated to women to help them earn a sustainable income.



D 3070

RC Jammu Tawi

India Youth Mission, an initiative of the UT of Jammu and Kashmir, and Yoga Day were celebrated at the Khel Gaon National Sports Complex, Nagrota. DG Dr Dushyant Chaudhary and club president Raman Wazir (2021–22) gave Rotary t-shirts to 75 youth. They were given an introduction of Rotary and its global objectives.





D 3070

RC Khanna

The club joined hands with the Nishkam Sewa Ashram, Ludhiana, to provide daily dinner to around 60–80 patients and attendants at the Civil Hospital over the past six years at an annual budget of ₹5 lakh. This ongoing food distribution has earned goodwill for Rotary among the patients. Rotarians volunteer daily for the project.



D 3090

RC Sri Ganganagar City

A total of 65 units of blood was collected at a special camp held at the Tapovan Blood Bank in partnership with the RAC Sri Ganganagar Royals. Tapovan Bank president Udaypal Jhajaria praised Rotary for taking up blood donation camps regularly saving lives. Club president Dr Sanjeev Jindal (2021–22) organised the camp as part of the district goal of collecting 10,000 units of blood set by IPDG Parveen Jindal.



D 3090

RC Sri Ganganagar Marwar

Teacher's Day was celebrated by honouring 12 teachers with Nation Builder Awards for their 'selfless contributions' to society. The awardees thanked the club for honouring them at a gala ceremony. A large number of Rotarians and their families were present at the event.

RC Kanpur Aryans clean-up rural school

Team Rotary News



IPDG Mukesh Singhal (right) presenting the collar and charter citation to RC Kanpur Aryans charter president Dr Bhakti Vijay Shukla.

A newly-chartered RC Kanpur Aryans, RID 3110, has adopted Barhat village at Bithoor town with the help of an NGO, Kalam, and the local people. They have started the renovation work and cleanliness drive at a government primary school. "Since April, on each Sunday our club members join hands with the NGO volunteers and villagers to clean up the school premises which was filled with unwanted plants,

weeds and bushes making the playground unusable," said Dr Bhakti Vijay Shukla, charter president of the club.

The school's compound wall and name board were given a facelift with a fresh coat of painting. "Some more work is left to be completed which will be done before the school reopens after vacation," he said. Charter secretary Mayank Gahoi, treasurer Surendra Singh Rathor, project director Dr Vipin Shukla and Rtn Arpit Gupta

were present, along with club president, during the renovation work. The club has adopted the theme, *Rotary Chala Goan ki Aur*, for the year with the focus to do maximum number of projects in the rural areas which lack basic amenities.

On the occasion of Buddha Purnima (May 5), the club members distributed fresh juice (*sheetal sherbet*) to around 1,500 people at a bypass road to provide relief to the beneficiaries from the scorching summer heat. The juice distribution

was inaugurated by club vice-president Sushil Srivastava. Project director Arpit Gupta made arrangements for the success of this event.

Charter presentation

At the charter ceremony, the then DG Mukesh Singhal presented the charter citation to Dr Shukla who was given the collar by the sponsoring RC Kanpur Shikhar president Neerja Srivastava. Also, 21 charter members were inducted by the governor,

which was followed by addition of 21 more members, taking the headcount to 42 at the new club. The club magazine *Aryan* was launched on the occasion.

The club honoured three women, self-made entrepreneurs, who were badly affected during the Covid pandemic having lost their livelihood, but have now become role models to others for their grit and determination to come up in life.

“We felicitated two young men who supported us in our cleanliness drive at a primary school in a village. Also, we presented Little Kid Star Award to three-year-old Srija Rathor who is into modelling in Flipkart, thus becoming an earning member of her



Rotarians during the clean-up of a government primary school at Barhat village in Bithoor town near Kanpur.

family at this age,” said Dr Shukla.

During the charter ceremony, then DGN

Vivek Garg, PDGs Arvind Srivastav, Vinay Asthana, AGs Shushil Srivastav, Kamal Trivedi, Rtn Rajesh

Awasthi and presidents and secretaries of Rotary clubs in Kanpur were present. ■

Fellowship event in Nagpur

Take Rotary Home (TRH), a fellowship event of RC Nagpur Vision, RID 3030, was hosted by Rtns Varun Vijaywargi

and Tanushri at their farmhouse located at the Vrindavan Farms, off Wardha Road, Nagpur. Project chairpersons

Garima Gupta, Sulakshana Sharma and Manjiv Sharma made the arrangements for a lively get-together among club members. A blend of new and old, young dynamic and experienced members were part of TRH fellowship. Past president Santosh Panse gave a presentation on the 4-Way Test of Rotary. All the members and their spouses bonded with each other through music, dance and friendly games. At the end, they enjoyed the food brought by members.

Club services director Dr Madhumati Dhawad (2021–22) and past president Nilesh Panpaliya coordinated the event and took care of the logistics part of TRH, an ongoing programme of the club. ■



RC Nagpur Vision president (2021–22) Vikram Naidu, 3rd from R, felicitating members at the fellowship event.

D 3120

RC Kushinagar

Club patron Rakesh Jaiswal cut a cake to mark the 117th Foundation Day of Rotary. Club president Dr MH Khan (2021–22) and then secretary Wahid Ali spoke on the global programmes like End Polio and how it has changed the world. All the members took a pledge to expand their service activities in and around Kushinagar.



D 3131

RC Poona Midtown

Best Professional Awards were given to Shailesh Joshi, founder, Joshi Wadewale; and Sachin Gupte, director, Poona Shims, at a gala ceremony. The event was conducted in partnership with the Pune Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Ranka Jewellers. A large number of Rotarians were present.



D 3150

RC Luxettipet

A mega blood donation camp was held at the Supraja Hospital, Luxettipet, and over 110 units of blood was collected. Club president Patibandla Sri Rama Murthy (2021–22) was present at the venue and the event created a buzz in the neighbourhood. A large number of Rotaractors donated blood.





D 3170

RC Honavar

Life skills were taught at the eight-day RYLA summer camp (₹1.5 lakh) in which 85 students of Class 9 took part. Topics like public speaking, leadership, personality development and 'Connect with nature' were discussed. Around 140 children took part in a drawing competition held in association with the Canara Bank.



D 3170

RC Kumta

Under Project *Ujjwal Drishti Abhiyan*, a district project on avoidable blindness, children were screened for vision disorders at the Naveen Netralaya and Lions Revankar Eye Hospital, Kumta. IPDG Gaurish Dhond, AG Nagarj Joshi and other district office-bearers were present.



D 3181

RC Madikeri

Chairs, food plates and cups were donated to an anganwadi near Dasawala village. The centre which has 20 children is maintained well. Club president ND Achaiah (2021–22), then secretary Lalitha Raghavan, Rtns B S Chengappa, Anantha Subba Rao, Anil Krishnani, Mallige Pai and community service director Geetha Girish handed over the gifted items to the centre head Sujatha.

D 3182

RC Kadur

Local MLA Belli Prakash distributed Vidyasetu books worth ₹3.5 lakh for Class 10 students at the Vasavi Kalyana Mantapa. IPDG Ramachandra Murthy inaugurated the event. Around 3,000 students from 85 schools received the textbooks. Forty-five computers worth ₹15.7 lakh were donated to five colleges.



D 3182

RC Kundapura

Textbooks were donated to 50 special children at the Vagjyothi Deaf and Dumb School at Ampar village in Kundapura taluk. A large number of Rotarians were present at the event. The school faculty thanked Rotary for books which help the inmates learn new concepts through graphic presentations and notes.



D 3201

RC Palarivattom

Rtn Padmakumar, a major PHF-level 6, was honoured by IPDG Rajasekhara Sreenivasan for 100 per cent attendance at club meetings over the last eight years. He was recognised for his record attendance at the IMA House, Kaloar, Cochin. The then DG lauded Padmakumar for his commitment to Rotary's principles.





D 3201

RC Cochin Beachside

Sports accessories including boots and socks were donated to the Durga Sports Academy, Challakapara, in a joint project with RC Tripunithura Royale. Oxygen concentrators were donated to the Lisie Hospital, Ernakulam. A kitchen garden training was given to students at the VHS School, Panangad, under its Project *Kuttikrishi*.



D 3231

RC Vandavasi

Doctor's Day was marked by holding a blood donation camp at the Rotary Hospital, Vandavasi. Around 200 units of blood was collected. Government Hospitals in Vandavasi and Thiruvannamalai were joint partners. Club president R Karvannan, trainer S Nithyanandan and secretary K Gunasekar were present at the camp. Rotarian doctors and those from the hospitals were felicitated with mementoes. Around 140 people attended including 40 Rotarians.



RID 3291

RC Calcutta West Ridge

A thalassaemia awareness event titled *Prarambh* along with blood testing was conducted jointly with RCs Calcutta Old City, Calcutta Sun City, Calcutta Sutanuti and Rotaractors for college students. IPDG Prabir Chatterjee, event architect Rtn Dr Hom Choudhury and crusader Rtn Subhojit Roy were among those present.

Compiled by V Muthukumaran

A PHC gets a makeover

Team Rotary News

A primary health centre (PHC) in Aundh, a Pune suburb, was transformed into a Covid treatment facility by RC Pune Sports City, RID 3131, through a global grant project in partnership with RCs Fort Collins Breakfast, RID 5440, US; Pune Camp; Pune Baner; and Aundh.

“The upgradation project at Aundh Kuti Rugnalaya was conceptualised in July 2020 at the peak of the pandemic, but it has to face several hurdles in the approval process and funding issues. Finally, we started the work in November 2021 and completed it in just four months,” said Rtn Sandesh Savant, primary contact, RC Pune Sports City.

Also, due to the tough working conditions during the pandemic lockdown and labour and material issues related to running a PHC further compounded the problems. Catering mostly to the less privileged and backward people, the PHC, Aundh, offers free OPD services, immunisation for children, antenatal care for pregnant women,



The entrance to Aundh Kuti Rugnalaya after the facelift.

safe deliveries, pharmacy, basic diagnostic testing, screening for TB and leprosy, and treatment for dog and snake bites.

Repair work

A range of renovation work including roof repair, waterproofing, false ceiling, partitions, revamping doctors' OPD, plastering and painting, electrical rewiring with new multiple points, installing fans, LED tube lights, and setting up hospital furniture has been done in a phased manner to convert the PHC into a Covid care facility. "We also installed equipment including baby warmer machines and Boyle's Apparatus; a TV for creating health awareness, intercom system and



The renovated maternity ward.



Newly-installed Radiant Warmer for newborns.

watercooler as part of upgradation," said Savant.

However, in the course of the project, the executing team has to take up a lot of unplanned work such as putting new gates, building toilets etc. "We were able to provide new flooring to the new waiting room, cold chain carriers for vaccine doses, ice packs, and plumbing work with the balance amount we had," said the primary contact. After the repair work, a training programme was conducted for the paramedics and nurses to "ensure the sustainability of the project and improve the healthcare delivery for the patients."

Paschim Pune Bangiya Parishad and RC Newent, RID 1100, UK, also extended their funding support for the project. During the implementation, many inputs and suggestions given by the staff at the PHC, Aundh, were incorporated in the new Covid facility which is now providing "quality healthcare for thousands of poor families in and around the area. We are thankful to TRF and RID 3131 for providing funds to make this global grant project a reality," added Savant. ■

Hubli to Goa car rally against noise pollution

V Muthukumaran

For the first time, a TSD (time, speed and distance) car rally was organised by RC Hubli Vidyanagar, RID 3170, with an aim to sensitise the public on the growing menace of noise pollution in the country. “Our message ‘Horn not Ok please’ was taken up along the rally route

from Hubli to Goa by 40 cars, each carrying a special message to the public,” said club president Dr Mahima Mohit Dand (2021–22).

Hubli-Dharwad district collector Nitesh Patil and police commissioner Labhu Ram flagged off the regularity car rally at the KLE Tech University. Each car, besides the flagship message against noise pollution,

also took up one of the seven focus areas of Rotary to create awareness on Rotary’s global reach in community projects. “The participants reached out to the public on the way by distributing toothpastes, sanitary pads, etc. They spoke about issues like cancer prevention, soil conservation, child sexual abuse and peacebuilding in troubled



Hubli-Dharwad district collector Nitesh Patil and police commissioner Labhu Ram flag off the car rally.



IPDG Gaurish Dhond at the start of Rotary Friendship Exchange with RID 3040 led by RC Hubli Vidyanagar president (2021–22) Dr Mahima Mohit Dand (right).

times at pitstops, thus spreading Rotary’s good will,” she said.

At the end of the car rally, IPDG Gaurish Dhond, spouse Pratima and Panaji deputy mayor Vasant Agshikar distributed prizes to the winners. “TSD car rally turned to be one of the highest branded events both on the social and print media for us,” said Dr Mahima. While hoardings were put up at many locations, the total views on Instagram alone surpassed 50,000 hits.

RFE with RID 3040

As Rotary Friendship Exchange leader Dr Mahima Dand led a team of 12 Rotarians and one Interactor from RID 3170 to a five-day visit to tourist and pilgrim spots in RID 3040, namely Indore, Ujjain, Omkareshwar, Maheshwar and Mhow.

Titled as *Pyara sa Bandhan*, the visit to various places in

Madhya Pradesh was hosted by RCs Indore Galaxy, Indore Ahilya, Indore Grande, Indore Navlakha and Indore Marshals with coordination from Rtn Sarjiv Patel. The entire logistics and hospitality were arranged by Rtns Ramesh Jagtap, Kiran Jagtap, Devesh Bajpai, Virendra Tomar, Sarvagya Bhatnagar, Vikram Singh Parmar and Hitendra Parmar from RID 3040.

On the first day of the tour, the RFE team visited Bijasan

Mandir, Pitru Parvat in Indore and attended a Rotary musical programme where the then DGE Jinendra Jain gave a rousing reception to the guests from RID 3170. From there, they went to Ujjain where the visitors had darshan of presiding deities at Mahakaleshwar Jyotirlinga, Mangatlal, Sandipani Aashram, Kaal Bhairav and Avanti Parshwanath temples. “We had a grand dinner at Sarafa Chopati in Ujjain, and on the next day, we reached Omkareshwar through boating in Narmada river,” said Dr Mahima.

At Maheshwar, another holy town, the RFE team saw a women’s empowerment project being executed by a local club. On the penultimate day, “we attended an event on water conservation jointly hosted by Rotary and other NGOs.” After a gap of three years, this is the first exchange programme RID

TSD car rally turned to be one of the highest branded events both on the social and print media for us.

Dr Mahima Mohit Dand
president, RC Hubli
Vidyanagar (2021–22)



Rotarians with a rally car spreading cancer awareness message.

3170 has done successfully with RID 3040 clubs. “It was truly a beautiful experience and we thank our hosts for extending all facilities to us, especially the coordinator Sarjiv Patel,” recalled Dr Mahima.

Soap-making

In coordination with Rtn Renuka Salunke, the club organised a week-long training programme on soap and detergent-making for 13 students from three universities. “Our vocational service director Avinash Kothari conducted the training and certificates were given to all participants on Rotary founder Paul Harris’ birthday.”

A bus shelter was inaugurated jointly with RC Hubli on Kusugal Road, with support from Hubballi-Dharwad Municipal Corporation commissioner B Gopal Krishna and his predecessor Suresh Itnal. Despite

In coordination with
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rain, members from all the clubs in Hubli were present at the inauguration of the new bus stand. Former I-T chief commissioner Tilakchand Lodaya was the chief guest and the shelter was sponsored by Rtn Charanthimath.

To provide relief to pedestrians from the scorching summer, a drinking water station was inaugurated on Basava Jayanti and Akshaya Tritiya day. “The

water station is a simple, but beautiful project as it quenches the thirst of people. Also it enhanced our public image in the neighbourhood,” she said. She has made arrangements for cleaning and refilling the pots on a regular basis. Following this new water station, many Rotarians and philanthropists have come forward to sponsor similar facilities across Hubli.

Skilling women

The club joined hands with Khwaish founder Rtn Salika Nayak to provide training to women in running a beauty parlour. “The objective is to equip women with skills to set up their own beauty parlours, thus becoming financially independent and also to support their family,” said Dr Mahima Dand. Studio Fringe owned by Salika is conducting the training programme. ■

A medical camp in Bareilly

Team Rotary News

RC Bareilly Metro, RID 3110, organised a medical camp at Sadar Bazaar in Bareilly. Over 80 people were tested and treated at the camp. Club president Ashwani Saxena (2021–22) and his team helped in the registration while club member Dr Rajesh Gupta examined the patients for ENT issues.

The club has been organising this camp since 2002.■

Club members at the medical camp.



Wheel cart to enhance income



In the presence of IPDG Parveen Jindal (centre) a wheel cart was handed over to a beneficiary.

RC Mansa Royal, RID 3090, handed over a *rehri* (wheel cart) to an underprivileged man from Dalel Singh Wala village near Mansa. This will help him earn a living by transporting material using

his new *rehri*. The vehicle was sponsored by club member Dr Naresh Bansal at a cost of ₹10,000.

This rickshaw *rehri* was handed over to the beneficiary in the presence of DG Parveen Jindal

(2021–22). He appreciated the club's effort in helping a the down-trodden.

The club also donated six water campers to families living in the slums.■

Felicitating nurses

Team Rotary News



DGE Asha Venugopal with the awardees.

On the occasion of National Nurses Day Rugnamitra Charitable Trust, established by Rotary Club of Malegaon Fort, RID 3030, felicitated five nurses with Rugnamitra Seva Awards for their outstanding work. Dr Jayant Pawar presided over the event. DGE Asha Venugopal was the chief guest.

The club has chartered two Interact clubs last year — the Vidya Vikas International School Interact Club and the Educare English Medium School Interact Club.■

Promoting menstrual hygiene



Rotarians along with girls holding sanitary pads during an MHM session.

Rotary Club of Bhubaneswar Meadows, RID 3262, has been promoting menstrual hygiene among women and adolescent girls in rural and semi-urban areas around the

city. The Rotarians have so far distributed 1,200 sanitary pads in various places such as the Shree Maa Mahila Mahavidyalaya in Baripada, Mayurbhanj; the Satyabhama College for the deaf

and mute students; and in some slum localities in Bhubaneswar.

The club also organised brief lectures on menstrual hygiene which were delivered by Dr Arati Satpathy, a gynaecologist.■