

October 2022

# Rotary

## NEWS PLUS



# Twinning pact with five Pakistan clubs

## Team Rotary News

**D**G Pawan Agarwal, RID 3110, inaugurated a multidistrict webinar that facilitated five twinning agreements (MoUs) between Indian and Pakistani clubs with the aim to foster peace and brotherhood between the two countries. “The concept of twinning sister clubs with Pakistan will nurture friendship,” he said and lauded Past AG Anil Ghai, convener and director, Indus Peace Park Society (IPPS) and his counterparts in Pakistan for taking up this initiative.

RIDE Anirudha Roy Choudhary recalled his Pakistan visits and congratulated RID 3110 for taking up this cross-country project in a big way. DG Lalit Khanna, RID 3012, said his district Rotarians will visit Kartarpur shortly and expressed happiness that his home club, RC Delhi North, has twinned with RC Multan Cantonment, RID 3272, the home club of DGN Salman Mubarak.

IPPS president PDG Kees van der Pol, RID 5080, from British Columbia, Canada, presided over the webinar.

DGN Mubarak, one of the IPPS directors, expressed his good wishes and support to the 10 clubs which have entered into twinning agreements. RC Quetta Bolan Valley president Ayaz Mehmood, RID 3271, gave an account of the ravages wrought by floods in his district; while RC Mirpurkhas president Mir Ubaidullah Talpur also spoke on the plight on flood victims.

RC Nainital, RID 3110, president Babita Jain assured to host members from Pakistan and her

club was twinned with RC Karachi Centennial. In all, four clubs from RID 3110 and one from RID 3012 were twinned with clubs in RIDs 3271 and 3272 from Pakistan.

While wishing Ghai for his efforts through the IPPS, DGE Masroor Khan, RID 3271, said his home club, RC Islamabad Downtown and its sister club, RC Kanpur, will chip in with their contributions. IPPS director Sayeda Simran Hassan, a former AG, thanked DG Agarwal and the Indian Rotarians for making the webinar a success. IPPS convener and RID 3110 peace chair Anil Ghai thanked Rotarians for the flood relief projects in Pakistan and

providing food, shelter and other essentials to the flood victims. It was RI director Faiz Kidwai who first mooted the idea of more clubs from India and Pakistan entering into twinning agreements which was supported by Intercountry Committee convener Deepak Talwar and its national president Navdeo Chawla and IPPS president Kees van der Pol.

It was announced that 15 more clubs will be twinned by third week of October with backend work handled by Sayeda Simran who had designed the flyers, MoUs and certificates for the twinning clubs. About 100 Rotarians attended the zoom meeting. ■



**On the cover:** Sherpa Ang Dawa holding the Rotary flag given by RC Coimbatore Cotton City, RID 3201, on the Mount Everest.

# Health check-up camp at Sonipat

Team Rotary News



A patient being examined for blood pressure.

**R**C Sonapat Midtown, RID 3012, in association with Madanta Multicity Hospital, organised a mega health check-up camp at the Rotary Community Centre in Sonipat. Around 200 people benefitted from the camp.

Medicines were distributed to the patients. General parameters such as blood pressure, blood sugar and ECG tests were also carried out at the camp.

On Sept 5, Teachers' Day, the club felicitated 40 teachers in the

presence of Raj Kumar Anayat, vice-chancellor of CRA University, Murthal (Sonipat). Geeta Chabra, district education officer and Lalit Batra, special invitee, Haryana Government Bureau, were the guests of honour. ■

## Inspiring women Rotarians

**R**C Waltair, RID 3020, hosted a seminar — Rotary, my highway to success — for women Rotarians and other women who had shown interest in joining Rotary, as part of the club's golden jubilee celebrations.

The programme was chaired by the club's women member promotion chair Nandini Sengupta, and it was attended by women Rotarians from 12 Rotary clubs in Visakhapatnam. The women members were trained in membership, planning service projects and raising funds



An interactive session at the seminar.

for TRF. Prospective Rotarians were given a peek into the world of Rotary with additional

focus on how it transforms the person, while transforming communities. ■



# PRIP Shekhar Mehta visits Golden Temple

## Team Rotary News



PRIP Shekhar Mehta and Rashi, along with IPDG Parveen Jindal (centre) and RID 3090 Rotarians, at the Golden Temple, Amritsar.

PRIP Shekhar Mehta and spouse Rashi, along with other Rotarians, visited the Golden Temple in Amritsar following an invitation from RI District 3090.

IPDG Parveen Jindal made the arrangements with the help of district secretary Parvesh Rehan. After praying for world peace at the Sikh holy temple, they went to the Wagah border to witness the Beating Retreat ceremony and douse themselves with patriotic fervour.

Everyday the raising and lowering of national flag are performed by the BSF and the Pakistan Rangers, each side trying to outsmart the other with valorous parade while lowering their respective flags and folding them according to the protocol. "The presence of past RI president Mehta created an ambience of brotherhood on both sides of the border, apart from enhancing the public image of Rotary in this part of the world," said Rtn Naveen Garg. ■

## Saplings donated to Pune students

Six-month-old saplings were distributed by RC Pune Royal, RID 3131, to 300 students of Sau Pratibha Pawar Vidyamandir Madhyamik Vidyalay under *Project Grow Green*.

"The students were given observation notebooks and special bags by Sandip Sonigra, co-founder, Orange County Foundation, to plant the sapling and nurture its growth," said club president Rajendrakumar Saraf. Students were briefed on how to write down their observations on the notebooks given to them. "At the end of the academic year, they will bring more than one-year-old trees to the school for a plantation drive," said Saraf.

The greening mission cost ₹5,950 that includes the expenses for buying the saplings, special bags, notebooks and soil, all



RC Pune Royal president Rajendrakumar Saraf (3<sup>rd</sup> from L, back row) and Rotarians along with students holding saplings and notebooks.

sourced from the Orange County. Uniforms were donated to 20 students of Matrubhasha Balak

Mandir at a cost of ₹7,000 in the presence of Saraf and project director Arati Deshpande. ■



# Coimbatore Rotary club's flag flies atop Mt Everest

## Team Rotary News

**T**he flag of RC Coimbatore Cotton City, RI District 3201, was placed recently on Mount Everest by Sherpa Ang Dawa. The club members had handed over the flag to him at an altitude of 8,849 metres with a request to plant it on the peak of Mt Everest when he scaled it.

"We had gone to Mera Peak in Nepal during April-end for a summit hosted by RC Kathmandu Kantipur, RID 3292. We met Sherpa Dawa and his wife. They hold a record of climbing and summitting Mount Everest as a couple in a record time of 55 hours. We gave our flag to the Sherpa with a request to plant it on the Everest. It could make a good public image for Rotary," said club secretary Kumarpal Daga.

The Rotarians exchanged flags with Rotary clubs of Kathmandu Kantipur, Kathmandu New Road and Montreal Canada. "We also placed our national flag and Rotary flag in Khare (5000 meters), the highest tea shop enroute to Mera Peak. This is the first Rotary flag to be placed there," he said. ■







RC Bhalki Fort president Prabhu Kote (left) and Rotarians at the decorated jeep during Tiranga car rally.

## A colourful Tiranga car rally at Bhalki

Team Rotary News

To celebrate the 75<sup>th</sup> I-Day as Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav, RC Bhalki Fort, RID 3160, organised a Tiranga car rally from the Bhalkeshwar Mandir, Bhalki, which was flagged off by past AG Dr Amit Asture and AG-elect Dr Vasant Pawar at around 5pm.

The car rally passed through important junctions and landmarks in the city before returning to the starting point, travelling a distance

of 10km. “The club’s Annets took part in large numbers, adding vigour to the Rotarians driving the cars,” said Prabhu Kote, club president. A jeep fitted with a colourful name-board of the club and portrait of Goddess Shakti decked up with tri-colours enhanced the public image of the club in the neighbourhoods.

### Mahadaan camp

A blood donation camp was also inaugurated to mark I-Day at the Shedole Hospital, Bhalki, by senior civil judge Mallikarjun Appasaheb Ambli, judge Anand Konnur and additional civil judge Abhinay from the judicial first-class magistrate court.

“Over 110 units of blood was collected by the blood bank at the BRIMS Hospital, Bidar, thanks to donations from Rotarians, doctors, advocates, hospital staff and citizens,” he said. Certificates were given to all the donors by Kote. A large number of Rotarians were present at the *Project Raktha Daan Maha Daan*. A donor Sidram, who pedalled 4km from his village, was felicitated by the club. ■



Club president Prabhu Kote (R) along with civil judges at the blood donation camp.



# TRF Grants seminar at RID 3090

## Team Rotary News

**R**IDE T N Subramanian presided over the TRF grants and Pre-AG meet at Sangrur in the Punjab, organised under the leadership of DGE Ghanshyam Kansal. Rotary coordinator PDG Gurjit Singh Sekhon, DG Gulbahar Singh and S Mandeep Singh Sidhu, SSP of Sangrur, were also present.

Around 2,500 delegates from 102 Rotary clubs from Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan attended the seminar. RIDE Subramanian wished DGE Kansal and his team a great year of service and fellowship. DGE Kansal announced his plans to establish three eye hospitals, one each in Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan, during his tenure. ■



RIDE T N Subramanian (centre) with DG Gulbahar Singh Retole (2<sup>nd</sup> from L), DGE Ghanshyam Kansal (3<sup>rd</sup> from R) and PDG Bagh Singh Pannu at the TRF Grants seminar in Sangrur.

## Grocery packs distributed in Madurai



**T**he Rotarians of RC Madurai Sangamam, RID 3000, provided grocery kits to the parents of

students studying in the Madurai Veeraganur Government Higher Secondary School in memory of late Rtn Inbavanan

who was a former club president.

Club president Vanjinadan presiding over the distribution

event said that the kits would be a great help to the families now with Diwali round the corner. ■

# A medical camp for drivers in Agra

Team Rotary News



The eyesight of a bus driver being examined.

A special medical camp for drivers was organised by RC Agra, RID 3110, in association with the Indian Oil Corporation, at Swagat Mohini Fuelling Station, Mathura Road. The camp began with a brief session on tobacco and cancer by senior oncology consultant from SN Medical College,

Prof Dr Surabhi Gupta. Dr Manoj Yadav addressed the dental issues of the drivers while Rtn Dr Alok Mittal diagnosed patients for ear, nose and throat issues.

He also explained to the drivers the consequences of chewing tobacco and smoking cigarettes. Dr Surabhi Gupta provided consultation for 50

tobacco chewing drivers for the possibility of cancer in them.

An optometric technician checked the eyesight of the drivers and over 60 drivers with eyesight problems were given free spectacles. The drivers were screened for diabetes and blood pressure at the camp. ■

## Educating women on neonatal care



RC Karad, RID 3132, with the help of its members — gynecologist Bhagyashree Patil, paediatrician Shruti Shah and nutritionist Pallavi Yadav — organised

a session for new mothers and pregnant women to educate them on how to take care of the newborns and also encourage them to breast-feed their baby.

The programme was presented in association with the Venutai Chavan Upazila Rugnalay where the women come for their regular monthly check-up. ■



# A Smile Walk gets traction in Chandigarh

V Muthukumaran

A 'Smile Walk' was conducted by RC Chandigarh Midtown, RID 3080, to mark the golden jubilee year of the Indian Prosthodontic Society (IPS) near the Sukhna lake with the participation of over 150 people including Rotarians and IPS members. While the IPS members were in lime green, Rotarians and Rotaractors wore t-shirts at the walkathon.

Addressing the participants and the public, club president Dr Sanjay Kalra, who also heads the IPS, Chandigarh chapter, gave an overview of the prosthodontics branch of dentistry and "its importance in restoring smiles by replacing the missing teeth." IPS secretary Dr Samar Teja also spoke.

Rahul Sharma from the Lotus Dance Academy conducted a Zumba workshop as a warm-up before the walk and the session was enjoyed by everyone. One of the happening spots was a selfie stand where Rotarians and dentists gathered for snaps to have a record of this gala event. "A relay torch was carried during the walkathon to highlight the significance of the event. Around 50 consultations



RC Chandigarh Midtown president Dr Sanjay Kalra (third from Left) with Rotarians, Rotaractors and members of the Indian Prosthodontic Society at the walkathon.

were given at the dental camp hosted by the Smile Express team and the walk ended with refreshments to all," said Anup Sharma, joint secretary, RC Chandigarh Midtown.

## Nation Builder Awards

Chandigarh education secretary Purva Garg gave away Nation Builder Awards to 39 teachers who had excelled in their profession. Noting the good work being done by Rotary clubs to improve literacy in the rural areas, she said, "the poor performance of students in Board examinations after the pandemic is a matter of great concern."

She invited Rotarians to partner with the

Chandigarh administration in adopting at least five schools for library audit and upgrading reading facilities by taking up a mega book donation drive. "Rotary can extend volunteer support for remedial teaching to improve the performance of students at the Board exams next year," she opined.

Purva congratulated the awardees and motivated them to shape the country by upgrading their classroom teaching skills. "A very organised methodology is being followed to select the best teachers by students and peers and those shortlisted were uploaded on the RILM website

for recognition every year. So, it becomes the responsibility of the awardee to stand up to the expectations of the government and Rotary and work for achieving 100 per cent literacy in the country," she said.

At a weekly club meeting, Bhavna Dhuriwala, motivational speaker and happiness coach, gave a talk on how to lead a happy life. "You should come out of the self-made shell to get a feeling you are a king. Do not fear, if you want to achieve success," she said. She conducted some interesting exercises with Rotarians to drive home her message. ■

D 2981

## RC Aduthurai

A freezer box was donated to Kottur village panchayat to facilitate the last rites of the dead. It was handed over to the panchayat president by PDG A Mani during the installation of club president Dr C Arulraj and his team. The project cost ₹80,000.



D 2981

## RC Nagapattinam

Over 300 patients were screened at the heart check-up camp inaugurated by district collector Arun Thamburaj at the Municipal Girls HS School. The camp was held in partnership with the Billroth Hospitals, Chennai. Among the patients, 27 were sent to Chennai for further treatment. District medical chair M Palaniappan and AG B Chandrasekhar spoke on the occasion.



D 3000

## RC Madurai Metro Heritage

An Annets club was sponsored with the induction of 20 members. Charter president Rasika and secretary Sheetal were installed by Rtn Nirupama Srinivasan at a gala event. Interact club presidents of CSR and Sitalakshmi Schools honoured the new Annets office-bearers.







**D 3012**

## **RC Delhi Mayur Vihar**

Around 100 patients were examined at the health camp organised jointly with the Neo Hospital and Dastak, an NGO. Also, ECG test was done on patients following doctor's advice. The beneficiaries were given tips on adopting a healthy lifestyle.



**D 3012**

## **RC Sonapat Midtown**

I-Day was celebrated with hearing and speech-impaired children at a special home. A sumptuous lunch was provided after which Rotarians donated play equipment for the children and an inverter for the home. Sub-divisional magistrate Shashi Vasundhara was the chief guest.



**D 3020**

## **RC Visakhapatnam**

Rtn Dr Mohan Maharaj and his team were felicitated with Covid Warriors citations for their selfless work during the pandemic. Club president B Madhu gave the certificates to the awardees. Healthcare Workers' Week was observed to honour doctors and volunteers.

**D 3030**

## RC Bhusawal Railcity

A club officers' training seminar, COTS, was organised with PDGs Mahesh Mokalkar, Rajiv Sharma and Shabbir Shakir as main speakers. This was followed by a gala dinner and karaoke for over 120 delegates from 17 clubs at the IFRM, Jalgaon. Club president Dr Makarand Chandwadkar was the event convener.



**D 3030**

## RC Chopda

An eco-friendly Ganesh Utsav *pandal* contest was conducted for public and households with three prizes in each category. Hareshwar Ganesh Mandal erected by the ladies bagged the first prize. Club president Rupesh Patil gave the prizes to the winners.



**D 3030**

## RC Nagpur Metro

School kits consisting of school bag, uniform, tiffin box, water bottle, books, raincoat and snacks were distributed to 150 children of prisoners at the Central Jail, Nagpur. The project was done in association with RCs Nagpur West, Nagpur North and Rashtriya Sewak Sangati. Project chair Dr Keshav Walke coordinated the event. It was a good PR initiative of the clubs.







**D 3040**

## **RC Hoshangabad**

Grocery bags consisting of rice, wheat, pulses and cooking oil were donated to Bhavishya Nishakt Vishesh Vidyalaya, a home for the physically-challenged and elders. Rotarians interacted with the inmates and assured them of necessary help in future. Club president Pradeep Gilla presided over the event.



**D 3054**

## **RC Himatnagar**

Over 25,000 pilgrims availed the services of *Project Visamo* that set up a special camp for devotees visiting the Ambaji temple. Breakfast and tea, apart from health check-up, were provided to thousands of devotees on all four days of the project. PDG Dr Arun Parikh and former state minister Rajni Patel inaugurated the mega service camp.



**D 3070**

## **RC Amritsar East**

PDG Man Mohan Jerath installed the new club president Vishakha Bhatia, secretary Vanita Khanna and other office-bearers at an investiture. The event gave an opportunity for members to network and share notes with district Rotarians.

**D 3090**

## RC Bathinda Cantonment

Around 150 patients were examined for blood pressure and blood sugar at a health check-up camp. Nation Builder Awards were given to teachers at a gala event to mark Teachers' Day at the Think Canadian Institute. The awardees thanked Rotary for recognising their service.



**D 3090**

## RC Patiala Royal

Forty units of blood was collected at a blood donation camp held jointly with the Lifeline Blood Bank. DG Gulbahar Singh Retole appreciated the club for the camp as it will benefit patients under critical care. PDGs Bagh Singh Pannu, Sawtantar K Passy and AG Ramanjeet Singh Dhillon were present. Club president Rekha Maan and secretary Harvinder Kaur made the arrangements.



**D 3132**

## RC Wai

On Doctor's Day, medical professionals were honoured with a laminated quote from Swami Vivekananda stating that "it is not possible to be 100 per cent sure about diagnosis by a doctor and hence, don't call doctors either god or criminal." Similarly, on CA Day, the auditors were given a framed quote which states, "CA are not just two alphabets, but its a symbol of trust, ethics, integrity and independence."







**D 3141**

## **RC Mumbai Ghatkopar West**

A seminar for transgenders was conducted with the support of Kinner Maa Trust and Vastalaya Trust. Over 100 dry ration kits were distributed. Four transgenders who opted for driving lessons were felicitated and 20 others were trained in vocational skills. The project cost of ₹65,000.



**D 3142**

## **RC Dombivli Midtown**

A transgender event called *Shravan Haldi Kukum* was held jointly with Sudhashree, an NGO. Conceived by Ann Madhuri Joshi and past president Dr Leena Lokras, the event saw a lively interaction between Rotarians and the LGBTQ community. Club's DEI director Jitendra Nemade and past president Sanjay Patil were present.



**D 3142**

## **RC Dombivli West**

Rotary t-shirts were given to policemen who took part in a 15km run conducted exclusively for them to mark *Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav* on the eve of I-Day. In all, 267 personnel received the t-shirts across four police stations and one traffic sub-division at Dombivli.

# Clubs in RID 3190 to form seven RAGs

## Team Rotary News

An awareness seminar on Rotary Action Groups (RAGs) was hosted by RC Bangalore Down Town, RID 3190, in partnership with the district's International Service Avenue.

DGN Satish Madhavan spoke on the global reach of Rotary, its multifaceted projects, the advent of RAGs, and the impact of polio immunisation as one of the top priorities of Rotary over the last 45 years. Madhavan called upon Rotarians to include community volunteers in their service projects and motivated "everyone to join RAGs to serve society across borders."

Club's service projects chair Raghu Allam recalled the origin of RAGs, its primary role, the freedom it gives to serve beyond borders, enabling its members to share knowledge, networking, lifting the public image of Rotary which will help to increase its membership. "There are 27 RAGs in the world,



### Above

Rotary Bangalore Down Town president Tejaswini Jaisimha (3rd from R) along with delegates and speakers at the RAG seminar.

### Below

A special publication of Rotary Bangalore Rajarajeshwarinagar Centennial being released by Rotarians during the event.

and nine were active in RID 3190," he said, and urged clubs to form new RAGs.

Dr Ravikumar, Dr Lavanya Kiran, Shankar Subramanian and Suman Shankar, all Rotarians from different clubs, delivered talks on avoidable blindness, MHM, multiple sclerosis, Alzheimer's disease and dementia. Earlier, RC Bangalore Down Town president Tejaswini Jaisimha welcomed the delegates, followed by a presentation by ISDs Rashmi Tankasi and Shankar Sastry on cultural exchange, International Days, Rotary Foundation, global grants, RAGs etc. Following the interaction, seven clubs have decided to form RAGs covering mental health, literacy, peace and domestic violence, among others.

In all, 140 Rotarians from 28 Rotary clubs took part in the RAG seminar held at the Rotary House of Friendship. In his closing remarks, PDG Dr PM Bhansali summed up the role of RAGs in expanding the outreach programmes of Rotary. ■





# Greening Channapatna

## Team Rotary News

**R**otary Bengaluru Harmony, RID 3190, led by its president Subramanian, is in the process of creating a 'Rotary Harmony Vana' at the Police Training School campus in Channapatna. A massive afforestation programme will see the planting of over 1,000 saplings of fruit-bearing trees. The programme was inaugurated by PDG KP Nagesh and 100 Rotarians participated in it.

In another initiative, the club organised a health check-up camp for the students of the Gubbalala Government School in Bengaluru. Twenty doctors were present at the camp to screen over 250 students. The camp included ENT, eye, dental and gynaecological screening, and tests for anaemia and allergies. Medicines and spectacles were provided to those with related disorders.

The club members enjoyed a fun time at the cooking studio of master chef Shazia Khan where they were divided into 35 teams for a cooking contest. The programme was inaugurated by DG Jeetendra Aneja. ■



### From top

Rotarians at a plantation drive in Channapatna.

Rotarians at the cooking studio of master chef Shazia Khan.

A student being examined at the health camp.

**D 3160**

## **RC Dharmavaram**

An IOL camp saw 265 patients being examined and 156 selected for operation. All facilities including transport, food and accommodation were arranged. The medical camp was held in partnership with the Sankara Eye Hospital. I-Day was celebrated at the Yerraguntla Government High School.



**D 3160**

## **RC Dharmavaram Midtown**

An IOL camp was conducted jointly with the Sankara Eye Hospital, Bengaluru. Over 300 people registered as outpatients and 201 were referred to hospital for operation. Transport, food and accommodation were arranged by the club. Spectacles were also given.



**D 3170**

## **RC Dharwad Midtown**

A tree plantation drive was conducted at the Rotary Dharwad Midtown School in which 12 Rotarians and school staff explained the importance of protecting the environment to children. The project was held to mark World Environment Day. Club president Harshakumar Turmari was present at the venue.







**D 3170**

## **RC Hubli**

Woollen sweaters and winter caps were distributed to 60 children and 20 elders at an orphanage-cum-old age home being run by the Sneha Education Society.

Club president Jitesh Panchal and secretary Mohit Dand gave away the clothing. The club assured help and other donations in future.



**D 3170**

## **RC Hupari**

During the installation of new office-bearers, the club donated 30 bicycles to students for commuting to and from school. The beneficiary families thanked Rotary as the cycles will lessen the daily hardship of going to school for their children.



**D 3203**

## **RC Karamadai**

As the first service project for the year, 52 pairs of eyes were donated to the Aravind Hospital. DG Elangkumaran and club president Magesh submitted the filled-in documents to the hospital manager at a special event. The project earned goodwill for the club among the public.

**D 3203**

## RI District

DG B Elangkumaran honoured Dr Mahendran, an entrepreneur and educationalist in Pollachi, for his service in the presence of over 200 Rotaractors at the installation of DRR Shreevarshan and his team at the district assembly. The DRR made a presentation titled 'Vision into Action' for district Rotarians.



**D 3212**

## RC Karaikudi

Over 120 children were screened at the cardiac camp held in association with the Apollo Hospitals, Chennai. District collector Madhusudhan Reddy inaugurated the medical camp. A couple of educational grants were given to students at the 72<sup>nd</sup> Charter Day attended by Rotarians and their families.



**D 3231**

## RC Vandavasi

Vandavasi Primary School headmaster K Shanmugam and assistant teacher S Vijayalatha were honoured by DGE P Bharanidharan with Nation Builder Awards at an event in Rotary Society Nallammai Ramanathan Hospital. Rtns S Kumar, BN Anbalagan and club treasurer Dominic Saviour spoke on excellence in teaching. Club president S Karvannan presided over the event.







**D 3250**

## **RC Jamshedpur Mid Town**

Around 1,500 people across age groups were inoculated at the Covid booster vaccination camps held on three different days in partnership with the Lalita Narayan Sansthan. The camps lifted the public image of Rotary with good feedback from the residents.



**D 3262**

## **RC Berhampur East**

A mega job mela was conducted at the club premises with district skill development chair Srinivas Mahapatra presiding over the event, the brainchild of project chair Jayant Patro. Around 200 students got job offers from the Chennai-based TPI Composites India. Forty teachers were honoured with Nation Builder Awards in the presence of additional DEO Pabitra Mohan Sahu.



**D 3291**

## **RC Kolkata Urbana**

Rtn Jyoti Sapru conducted two weekend counselling sessions on 'Stress and relaxation' through online platform. Simple relaxation tips were given to the participants for mental well-being including some dos and don'ts for beating stress, avoiding depression and anxiety. She led a team of Rotarians to distribute sanitisers to schoolchildren and less privileged families.

Compiled by V Muthukumaran

# Teachers honoured in Phagwara

## Team Rotary News

**R**C Phagwara Midtown, RID 3070, organised a celebration to honour teachers of Sri Jain Mahaveer Model School, Phagwara. All the teachers of the school were given citations for their selfless contributions towards education.

“It is the teacher who guides the students towards a better life. This is our way of showing them respect,” said club president Raj Kumar Heer. The teachers also received gifts as a token of appreciation from the club.

Members distributed milk and biscuits to underprivileged patients at the ESI Hospital, Phagwara. The club has been sponsoring the monthly ration for a widow. The ration includes wheat flour, rice, dal, pulses, oil, and spices

At a Covid vaccination camp set up by the club in association with the Civil Hospital near the Phagwara bus stand, 100 doses were administered. ■



**Above:** Club members with the widow who receives monthly ration from the club. **Below:** Teachers of Sri Jain Mahaveer Model School along with club members.





# Supporting the differently-abled

## Team Rotary News

**R**C Ballygunge, RID 3291, has been supporting the differently-abled students at the Institute for the Handicapped and Backward People by not just spending time with them. But also giving them an opportunity to perform at club events. Recently at a panel discussion on women's empowerment hosted by the club the students from the institute performed a cultural dance. Club members Rupanjana De, Nanda Ghosh and TEDx speaker Saira Shah Halim were the panel members.

At the event, ₹25,000 was handed over to Dr Fuad Halim whose clinic provides dialysis at a minimum cost of ₹50. The money will be used to develop the facility. Another ₹35,000 was given to Luthafa Khatun, an RCC member for the construction of a ladies' toilet at a girls' school in a village near Ballygunge.

A sewing machine was donated to a cancer survivor from the Pavlov Hospital to help her earn a regular income. The club also conducted an eye camp under *Project Rotavision*. Close to 130 patients were screened for vision-related issues and 108 out of them received spectacles. ■



A panel discussion on women's empowerment hosted by the club.

**Below:** Differently-abled students of the at the Institute for the Handicapped and Backward People performing at a club event.



Club members at the Institute for the Handicapped and Backward People.

# Belur Rotarians take out a bike rally

Team Rotary News



Rotarians express solidarity during the bike rally.

A motorcycle expedition was taken up from Kolkata to Ladakh by RC Belur, RID 3291, with a 'Save soil' theme. During their motor rally, the Rotarians

engaged the public on issues such as kitchen waste management, plantation drives and creating awareness on to need to adopt 'Go Green' lifestyle to protect the environment.

The bikers also spread the message of road safety and keeping our cities and towns clean by disposing of garbage in an eco-friendly manner. ■

## I-Day event at a Kolkata orphanage

Children at the Asian Sahyogi Sanstha India (ASSI), an orphanage and a shelter home for destitute

children in the age group of 3–16 years at Kestopur near Kolkata, staged a cultural show to celebrate the 75<sup>th</sup>

Independence Day as part of a gala programme hosted by RC Calcutta Samaritans, RID 3291.

New Town inspector in-charge Bimal Das, ASSI area director Pradip Mandal and its president Gita Sarkar were present along with a few Rotarians during the flag hoisting.

A variety of cultural skits was presented by children to mark Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav that included patriotic songs, dances and solo instruments. The I-Day programme at the orphanage ended with cake cutting by Rotarians in the presence of children. A grand lunch was also provided to the ASSI children and faculty. ■



Rotarians participate with children in cake cutting at the orphanage.



# Essentials donated to old age home

## Team Rotary News



Rotarians gift a cupboard to the old age home.

Members of RC Bhusawal Railcity, RID 3030, visited Matoshree Vriddhashram, an old age home in Jalgaon, and spent time with the inmates. Apart from

individual gifts for them, the club donated two cupboards and daily essentials.

The club felicitated 16 teachers from 16 schools with RILM Nation

Builder Award for their outstanding work on the eve of Teachers' Day. A well-defined and systematic process was used to access all the teacher's performance in the classroom. ■

## DEI initiative in Jalandhar



Club members along with Dhananjay Chouhan and her partner, transgender Rudar Pratap Singh.

As part of the club's Diversity, Equality, and Inclusion initiative, RC Jalandhar Helping Hands, RID 3090, invited Dhananjay Chouhan, president, Saksham Prakriti Welfare Society, an NGO that supports the LGBTQ community in Chandigarh, Punjab and Haryana, for a talk at a recent club meet. Club president Nupur Sandhu said "organising events like these create and support diversity and inclusion which will strengthen Rotary." ■

# Rotarian trailblazers of Thoothukudi

V Muthukumaran

**N**utritional kits were given to lactating and pregnant women at the primary health centre in Mappillaiyurani village by RC Tuticorin Trailblazers, an all-women's club at RID 3212, during the Breastfeeding Week celebrations. Charter president Dr Flora Juanita gave a speech on maternity and child care urging the beneficiaries to have nutritious and

a well-balanced diet for delivering healthy babies. Club president T Malarvizhi, secretary A Prathima, treasurer K Prema and Rtn Dr Rajeshwari interacted with the paramedical staff and patients.

Under the district's overall project theme of *Support girl children* for the current year, 10 sets of uniform were donated to girl students from poor economic background at the Tiruchendur

rural block of Thoothukudi district. Addressing 70 students, Malarvizhi insisted on the importance of education in shaping one's life and explained about the role played by Rotary in almost eradicating polio from the world. "The uniform distribution event created a good public image for us in this village and also reinforced the district goal of supporting girl children with educational grants and other aids," said Prathima, club secretary.

## Grocery donation

Over 30 differently-abled children at the Truthful Trust Caring and Training Centre greeted the Rotarians as they donated grocery bags worth ₹5,000 which would last for a month. Rtn Thanam Radha had contributed for this service project.







**Above:** Club president Malarvizhi and her team taking a selfie with children from economically-backward families at Tiruchendur rural block in Thoothukudi.

Rotarians joined hands with the Rotaractors from RAC Holycross Homescience College to plant 75 saplings as part of I-Day events at the primary health centre in Madathoor village.

#### Club's Rotaract chair

Dr S Mathuravalli, Rotaract club president L Maria Leonit and secretary Priyanka, along with Rotaractors, planted saplings at the health centre in presence of Rtn Flora, city health officer Dr Arun Kumar, sanitary officer Stalin Packiya Nathan and Swachh Bharat Mission animator S Arjun.

Malarvizhi and Prathima coordinated the plantation drive which got a good feedback from the local residents and patients.

#### Installation projects

During the installation of the club's new office-bearers, horticulturist M Murugesan was honoured with a commendation award for planting 18,000 trees. He was supported in his greening mission with the drip irrigation facility provided by the club. Two ceiling fans were donated to the Anbu Ullangal Trust, a home for the old age and differently-abled people at Kootumbuli village, at the investiture; "This donation of fans



Club president Malarvizhi hoisted the national flag at the Government Extension Middle School, Thoothukudi, to mark the 75<sup>th</sup> year of Independence. A variety of cultural programmes was staged by students as part of *Ilakiya Mandra Vizha*, a literary fest to mark I-Day. "We donated stationery items and distributed prizes to the winners of the literary fest at this government school," said Prathima. Charter president Flora, Rtns Thanam Radha and Rajini Tatia, among others, greeted the students.

**Left:** RC Tuticorin Trailblazers president T Malarvizhi presenting a nutritional kit to a beneficiary at the primary health centre.



DGE R Muthiah Pillai presents an award to horticulturist M Murugesan for taking up a massive tree plantation drive during the installation of new office-bearers. Also seen are club president Malarvizhi and her team.

(₹5,800) will benefit 110 inmates at the old age home.”

Citation awards were given to school students across Thoothukudi rural area and volunteers for their performance at the Reading Marathon competition as part of *Illam Thedi Kalvi* (education at doorsteps), an initiative of the state education department. Rtn Dr Flora contributed \$1,000 to TRF at the installation. DGE R Muthiah Pillai (2023–24) delivered a special address as chief guest and presided over the installation of club president Malarvizhi and her team for 2022–23. AG R Rathakrishnan (zone-14), past AGs Dr T Arulchezian, chair, district awards committee, and M Balamurugan, district coordinator, felicitated Malarvizhi and her team. The club’s annual magazine *Trail Times* was released by the dignitaries.

With the help of DG VR Muthu, the club arranged a guest lecture by Jayanthasri Balakrishnan, a retired professor from PSG College of Arts and Science, Coimbatore, and motivational speaker, at the

Alagar Public School, Thoothukudi. Titled *Yathumanaval 9.0*, the event was conducted jointly with RC Virudhunagar and the Interact Club of Alagar Public School; the event gave an opportunity for students to learn about the different ways to sharpen their skills and intellect for a bright career. AG Rathakrishnan and PAGs D Vijayakumari and Balamuguran were present at the speaker event. In the presence of headmaster, uniform sets were donated to 10 students at the SAV School, Thoothukudi. Rtn Flora, community service chair Sornalatha,

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Citation awards were given to school students across Thoothukudi rural area and volunteers for their performance at the Reading Marathon competition as part of *Illam Thedi Kalvi* (education at doorsteps), an initiative of the state education department.

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Malarvizhi and other Rotarians took part in the uniform distribution.

### Green campus

During her tenure as club president, Rtn Flora gave a speech on the Rotary’s Four-Way Test and the value of being a Rotarian to students and faculty at the Fisheries College and Research Institute (FCRI), Thoothukudi, a constituent of TN Dr J Jayalithaa Fisheries University (TNJFU), as part of a tree plantation drive at the campus.

TNJFU vice-chancellor Dr G Sugumar pointed out that planting trees in a massive way throughout the year is the only hope for humanity to protect the environment. A pledge was administered to the staff, students and other audience to mark National Integration Day. Rtns Malarvizhi, Geetha and Balamurugan took part in the plantation drive. The vice-chancellor, dean in-charge and Rotarians planted 10 saplings at the college campus. FCRI dean in-charge NV Sujathkumar welcomed the gathering. ■