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Rotary

NEWS PLUS



98th Annual Children's Treat in Kolkata

Team Rotary News

For the 98th consecutive year, RC Calcutta, RID 3291, has brought smiles to the faces of underprivileged and orphaned children through its Annual Children's Treat. This tradition initiated 97 years ago, has become the longest-running community service project of the club.

Back in 1925, the inspiration for this heart-warming initiative came during a regular Tuesday lunch meeting at the Grand Hotel, Calcutta. Rotarians and their Anns noticed street children eagerly waiting to ask for alms as they returned to their parked cars. The approaching Christmas season heightened the sense of compassion, leading to *Project Children's Treat*.

An anonymous letter suggested that instead of distributing alms, Rotarians could use their cars to take underprivileged children on a drive to Barrackpore or the Botanical Gardens, initiating the first Children's Treat on December 28, 1925.

The inaugural event saw 200 children from five Kolkata institutions

being chauffeured to the Botanical Gardens for a day of feasting and sports. The format of the programme and the spirit behind it have remained unchanged. Over the years, the event has evolved, with

the number of children increasing, and the venue shifting to accommodate the growing participation. Since 1993, the Annual Children's Treat has found its home at Nicco Park in Salt Lake, Kolkata.



Children enjoy a joy ride at the Nicco Park.



Children at the Annual Children's Treat.



Rotarians, Anns and Interactors serve lunch to the children.



Interactors with a group of children.

This year Rotarians and Interactors gathered at the Rotary Sadan, where 30 buses were sent to various schools and institutions across Kolkata. The buses picked up around 1,500 children, many of whom were orphans and special children, to transport them to Nicco Park for a day filled with fun.

Rotarians and Interactors did not just assist in transportation but also acted as escorts and guides throughout the day. The children then enjoyed rides, indulged in snacks, and were treated to a grand lunch that included vegetarian and non-vegetarian dishes served by the Anns.

After lunch, entertainment followed with music and magic shows and the children bid farewell to the Rotarians and Interactors at 4pm. Ice cream and soft drinks were served before they boarded the buses back to their respective institutions. Each institution received sports items as gifts, and every participating child went home with a gift hamper. ■

‘Education on Wheels’ for disabled

Team Rotary News

Former Kerala DGP Rishiraj Singh flagged off a mobile literacy project titled *Education on Wheels* initiated by RC Edappal, RID 3204. The project aims to inculcate basic education and arithmetic skills at the doorsteps of disabled children who were unable to go to schools.

DG Sethu Shiv Sankar and club president K Dileepkumar were present at the launch of the literacy van. In another initiative, 50 electric kettles were distributed to the disabled persons by the governor and the retired IPS officer. Around 2,000 students and their parents attended the two-day awareness campaign against drugs with the



Former Kerala DGP Rishiraj Singh flags off Project ‘Education on Wheels’ in the presence of DG Sethu Shiv Sankar and RC Edappal president K Dileepkumar.

tagline ‘Say no to drugs and yes to life’. The students were from high, higher secondary schools and those

pursuing UG courses. DG Sankar and Dileepkumar addressed the students. ■

End Polio seminar, rally in Jamshedpur



An End Polio rally being flagged off in Jamshedpur.

An online seminar on End Polio Now hosted by RC Jamshedpur Mid Town, RID 3250, to mark World Polio Day saw the participation of 500 Rotarians from across the four zones in India.

PDG Deepak Kapur, chairman,

RI’s India National PolioPlus Committee, and DRFC Rajan Gandotra addressed the gathering. A PolioPlus Society was launched with Kusum Thakur, district polio chair, giving an introductory talk on the new body, urging Rotarians to become its members.

A polio awareness rally was flagged off with Rotarians driving cars, while some others using two-wheelers to create awareness among the public. Also, street plays were held to drive home Rotary’s global efforts in eradicating polio. ■

On the cover: Children enjoying their day out as part of the Children’s Treat project of RC Calcutta, RID 3291.

Mental health counselling for teachers

Team Rotary News

Dr Selvarani Manoharan being honoured by RC Sivakasi past president K Jayaprakash.



Ann S Selvarani Manoharan, psychologist, gave a one-to-one counselling to teachers at the Rotary Matric School, Vembakottai, in a mental health awareness camp hosted by RC

Sivakasi, RID 3212, to mark Mental Health Day (Oct 10). She also addressed the teachers.

The guest speaker was honoured by past president K Jayaprakash, joint secretary

of the school. AG MN Manoharan, club president AS Kalirajan, past president N Ganesa Moorthy and past AG G Rajagopalan were among those present at the event. ■

Hygiene awareness event at Kanpur



(From third left) RC Kanpur Aryans charter president Bhakti Vijay Shukla, school principal Sant Ram Dwivedi and club president Rajeev Katiyar, along with guest speakers.

Around 400 girl students and 20 teaching and non-teaching staff at the Jay Narayan Vidya Mandir Inter College took part in a health and hygiene awareness programme hosted by RC Kanpur Aryans, RID 3110.

Charter president of the club, Bhakti Vijay Shukla, inaugurated

the awareness seminar in the presence of school principal Sant Ram Dwivedi, event coordinator BN Acharya, club president Rajeev Katiyar and Rotarians. Prof Seema Dwivedi, gynaecologist from GSV Medical College, gave a talk on menstrual cycle and the importance of cleanliness and hygiene to

ward off diseases; while dietitian Anuradha Singh urged students to take green vegetables and avoid junk foods for a healthy lifestyle. She gave special emphasis on morning breakfast.

Shukla felicitated Dr Seema with a memento, while club president Katiyar honoured Anuradha Singh. ■

Diverse, impactful projects in Nainital

V Muthukumaran

A mega health check-up camp was organised by RC Nainital, RID 3110, at the Government Primary School, Bagar village, in Pokhara block with over 100 people being examined by a doctor from BD Pandey Hospital, Nainital. Medicines were distributed.

Around 200 students and 11 universities took part in an education fair held at the Mohan Lal Sah Balika Vidya Mandir, an inter college in Nainital. “The students were able to converse with the varsity officials directly and decide which career they want to pursue in future,” said Narinder

Kumar Lamba, club president. The career fair turned out to be a meeting point for universities that offered guidance and clarity to students aspiring to pursue higher education, he said.

Maiden installation

AG Vikram Syal was the chief guest at the first installation of the Interact Club of GD Goenka Public School, Rudrapur. “It was a memorable event, marking the start of a new chapter of service at this school,” he said. RID 3110’s Interact Committee chair Anil Joshi, RC Haldwani president Sunil Joshi and RC Rudrapur president Hemant Singhal were also present at the investiture.

As part of *Beti Padhao Beti Bachao* programme at the Boat House Club, tuition fee of 10 underprivileged girls from Classes 6–12 was donated to their school principals by Diwan Singh Rawat, vice-chancellor, Kumaon University, on behalf of the club. “The annual expenses of 10 girl students for seven years will be met by the club,” said Lamba.

Martial art exponent Jyoti Durgapal taught self-defence techniques to girls at a 15-day training camp held at the Mohan Lal Sah Balika Vidya Mandir. International medallist Maneesh Mandal was the



Above: Interactors at a cleanliness drive in Nainital.

Right: A martial arts training workshop in progress.



chief guest at the valedictory session of the martial arts camp which was led by project chair Jitendra Shah.

At the Universal Sikai All India Karate Championship held at the Mehra Sports Complex, Haldwani, Interactors from the Interact Club of Naukuchiatal, sponsored by the club, won five gold, four silver and one bronze medals. Adnan Vahanvaty, chairman, Mental Health and Wellness Committee, RID 3110, conducted a series of webinars on issues like breath control, managing stress, dealing with anxiety, and tackling ego et al. As a sound healer and transformation coach, he interacted with Rotarians with useful tips for leading a stress-free, relaxed life.

Four amputees were taken by ambulance to a hospital in Ghaziabad for fitting them with prosthetic limbs. "The measurements for the patients were taken at the hospital and they will be fitted with artificial limbs free of cost," said Limba. During the cervical cancer vaccination drive, 10 girls were inoculated at the BD Pande



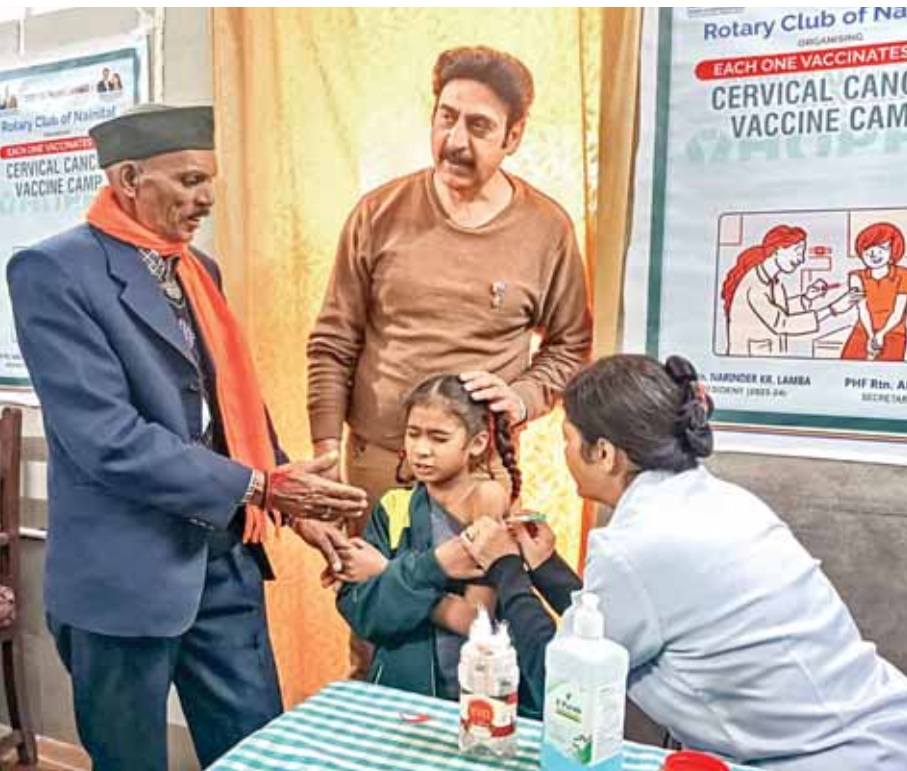
Above: A health check-up camp at a primary school.

Below: At the cervical vaccination camp for girls.

Hospital, and overall, the club had administered vaccine to 100 girls.

On the occasion of Mahatma Gandhi's birth anniversary, *shramdaan* (voluntary labour) was done as part of a mega cleanliness drive with the support of Interactors from the Long View Public School and Naukuchiatal. "Through collective efforts, we brought to life the vision of a cleaner India, embodying the principles of striving for a cleaner and healthier environment," said the club president.

Likewise, cleanliness drive was held at the St Mary's Convent College with their Interactors sprucing up the campus and spreading awareness among the students on the need to maintain the surroundings clean without litter for a healthy ambience. As part of the Swachh Bharat Mission, the Interact Club of St Josephs College, Nainital, took up a cleanliness drive titled *Ek Tareekh Ek Ghanta Ek Sath* (one date, one hour together). Students gathered in small groups, picked up plastic bits and pieces, wrappers, bottles etc to clean the neighbourhoods and leave a positive footprint. ■



Kidathon to raise awareness for juvenile diabetes

Team Rotary News



An address being made about juvenile diabetes. Club president Reshma Ramesh (third from R) and Dr Krishnan Swaminathan (second from L), founder, Idhayangal Charitable Trust, are also in the picture.

Rotary E-Club of Metro Dynamix, RID 3201, along with the Idhayangal Charitable Trust, organised the ‘Kidathon 2023’ to sensitise society about Type 1 diabetes, also known as juvenile diabetes, an autoimmune condition that occurs in children when the pancreas does not produce enough insulin, a

hormone that regulates blood sugar. If left untreated, over time, diabetes can damage the heart, blood vessels, eyes, kidneys and nerves, causing chronic problems and early death. A child that receives treatment can lead a normal, healthy and long life.

Over 700 participants comprising children under 15 who are Type 1 diabetic,

participated and walked around the Race Course in Coimbatore. This walkathon is part of the club’s marquee project — *Combat Juvenile Diabetes* — under the leadership of club president and project director Reshma Ramesh, taken up in association with the Idhayangal Charitable Trust founded by endocrinologist Rtn Dr Krishnan Swaminathan.

The E-Club, in association with the Trust, has rolled out the ‘Juvenile Diabetes Aid’ under various categories of projects such as *Project ChillFix* (donation of mini refrigerators to store insulin), *Project Abhaya* (donation of painless needles), for close to ₹1 crore via CSR initiatives and fund raising. “This has enabled us to touch the lives of several young children suffering from juvenile diabetes,” said Reshma.

ICMR, in its national study in 2022 reported that every year in India at least 15,000 new cases of Type 1 diabetes are being reported in kids below 14 years.

The walkathon was flagged off at Race Course, Coimbatore by district collector Kranti Kumar Pati. ■



Participants at the Kidathon event.

Badminton bonds Rotarians

Team Rotary News



Participants of the tennis tournament.

Forty Rotarians from various Rotary clubs of Visakhapatnam participated under various categories in the Rotary Badminton League conducted by RC Visakhapatnam Central, RID 3020, in the city.

“The idea for this tournament was given by DG Subbarao Ravuri to promote better bonding among Rotarians of various clubs. The event brought us together and served as a platform for us to

share ideas on diverse topics for the betterment of our society,” said host club president Musthri Begum.

The tournament was inaugurated by international badminton champion Usha Sree. ■

Interactors entertain senior citizens



Interactors with gifts for senior citizens in front of an old age home.

The members of Interact Club Prayaas-Ek Koshish, of the Blue Bird High School, Panchkula, visited an old age

home and distributed essential items such as shawls, blankets and nutritive supplements to the inmates there. The Interactors spent the day with the senior

citizens, interacting with them, listening to their life experiences and playing indoor games with them.

The club is sponsored by RC Chandigarh Central, RID 3080. ■

D 2981

RC Chidambaram Central

With the support of Mishrimal Mahaveerchand Jain Trust, glucometer machines were donated to the Government Medical College and Hospital, Cuddalore. Hospital dean Dr C Thirupathi received the machines. A special cream for treatment of burns, fire mishap victims and post-surgery scars was delivered to medical superintendent Dr Junior Sundaresh by former AG M Deepak Kumar.



D 2981

RC Mayiladuthurai Kings

The club is providing funeral rites to the unclaimed bodies at the mortuary of the Government Hospital, Mayiladuthurai. Recently, 121st corpse, that of a woman, was received from the hospital by project director Ayyasamy who gave it a decent burial in the presence of policemen. This gesture to the abandoned bodies lifted the public image.



D 2981

RC Nagapattinam

Sweets and fruit-bearing trees were distributed at the RCC Training Centre, Abaranadari, ahead of Diwali. Club's past president P Karthikeyan was the chief guest. AG Avarani Ananthan, RCC advisor R Venkatesan, past president Somasundaram and club secretary P Yuvanraj were present at the venue. Rotarians greeted the RCC volunteers and praised them for their community work in the village.





D 2982

RC Villupuram

Chandrayaan-3 project director Veeramuthuvel's father Palanivel was honoured at his house near Rotary Mahal for the success of the moon mission. Club president Kanya Ramesh, secretary Anbalagan and treasurer Suresh Kumaran felicitated the ISRO scientist's father in the presence of past AGs Siva Thyagarajan and Saravanakumar. Tasty food was served to around 200 people under *Project Annapurna* at a cost of ₹5,000.



D 3000

RC Madurai Sangamam

Delicious breakfast was served to patients and their attendants at the Government Hospital, Balarengapuram, under *Project Akshayam*. Regional coordinator Murugananthapandian was the chief guest. Past secretary T G Praveen Kumar sponsored the food distribution project to celebrate his birthday in advance. Twelve members took part in the event which boosted the public image of the club.



D 3000

RC Pudukkottai City

DGE Raja Govnidasamy inaugurated a three-in-one medical camp in which around 200 people were screened for diabetes, got their lungs examined and counselled for dental hygiene. The health camp was held at the Tiruvapur Saurashtra Council in partnership with the Duraisamy Nursing Home and Prashant Pulmonary Specialist Centre. Club president B Asokan gave a speech.

D 3011

RC Delhi South

Rtn HK Chopra, a cardiologist at the Mool Chand Hospital, was honoured by the government with release of a postal stamp having his image. He had published 12 medical books which made him a global name in heart care.



D 3011

RC Gurgaon

Fifty children of an orphanage at Nathupur were taken to a Hindi movie *12th Fail* at the PVR Cinemas, followed by a grand lunch at the Ambience Mall, Gurgaon. The children enjoyed the fare as it preceded Diwali. Fodder was given to cows at the Shri Gaushala, Mahavir Chowk. Also, ₹11,000 was donated to the Gaushala Sabha by club president Manish Aggarwal.



D 3012

RC Pilkhuwa City

Rotarians distributed *khichdi* (a special pudding) to devotees at the ISKCON temple. Along with Anns, they celebrated raksha bandhan at Apna Ghar Ashram, a special home. Jute bags were distributed at a local market in an anti-plastic awareness drive. Deworming tablets were given to students at the DAV Public School. Books were donated to the library at the Lala Shambhu Dayal DAV Inter College.





RID 3012

RC Sonepat Midtown

Twenty-five new members were inducted at a special event in which a cultural programme was staged to welcome the new Rotarians. The new members were given saplings. The assimilation meet also saw members, along with their families, interact and greet each other.



D 3020

RC Visakhapatnam

In a joint initiative, the club along with RC Vizag Diamonds has given over 180 mattresses to girl students living in the social welfare department hostels across the four revenue districts. The district target is to reach out to 2,360 students staying at 22 hostels, thanks to cloud funding on Milaap App.



D 3030

RC Nagpur Metro

Over 400 patients including children were examined and medicines distributed at the medical camp held in partnership with Vajaha Foundation and Vidarbha Tribal Doctors Association at the Siddheshwari Gond Basti, a slum colony. Raksha bandhan was celebrated at Jiwhala, a hostel for orphaned girls and those from the North East and remote areas of Vidarbha region. Grocery was donated to the girls' hostel.

D 3040

RC Barwani City

Patients of the Trauma Centre at the District Hospital were made aware about cleanliness and hygiene under *Project Kayakalp*. A cleanliness pledge was taken with club secretary Suhas Yadav administering the oath. Dr Anita Singer was present at the event. The club is a partner in the rejuvenation campaign under the National Health Mission in the city.



RID 3053

RC Bikaner Marudhdara

PDGs Rajesh Chura and Arun Prakash Gupta spoke about the club's milestone projects at the installation of new office-bearers. Advocate Puneet Harsh was honoured with the Best Rotarian Award. Installation officer Anil Maheshwari and AG Rahul Maheshwari administered the oath to new club president Anish Ahmed. IPP Kailash Kumawat recalled the service projects done last year (2022–23).



D 3060

RC Surat Hazira Bay

Saplings were planted at Vansva, Damka and Rajgari villages. RCC Vansva president Jyotiben Patel and school principal Jayantibhai Patel took part in the greening mission at the Vansva Primary School and Santoshi Mata Temple. RCC Damka president Diptiben will nurture the coconut trees in Damka village. While RCC Rajgari president Kiran Patel planted trees at the Rajgari Primary School.





D 3080

RC Roopnagar

A Miyawaki forest was developed with the plantation of over 1,000 varieties of trees at the Gurudwara Shri Head Darbar Kot Puran Sahib, Ropar. Earlier, more than 100 saplings were planted at the Sant Baba Sewa Singh Memorial School in Nurpur Bedi taluk. As part of traffic awareness drive, stickers and reflectors were pasted on vehicles, medical camps were held for motorists, and lectures given on the need to follow traffic rules.



D 3090

RC Faridkot

Deputy DEO Pawan Kumar presented citation awards to 14 teachers who had excelled in their service at an awards ceremony in the Officers Club. Two of the awardees Jasbir Jassi and Rajan Kumar spoke on the 'selfless work' being done by the teachers. Club president Arvind Chhabra, secretary Manpreet Brar and project chair Gagandeep Singla took care of the arrangements.



D 3090

RC Sri Ganganagar City

DG Ghanshyam Kansal inaugurated a cattle shed worth ₹2.11 lakh which will provide a comfortable home to bovines and help in providing quality milk. Club president Nagar Mittal, secretary Rakesh Goyal and project chair Vishwa Bandhu Gupta were present at the *gaushala*. The project lifted the public image of the club in the locality.



Participants, along with Rotarians, at the National Para Wheelchair Table Tennis Tournament in Chennai.

Para Wheelchair Tournament

Team Rotary News



Two participants competing at the tournament.

On World Disability Day, RC Madras Chenna Patna, RID 3232, organised the second edition of the Rotary National Para Wheelchair Table Tennis Tournament at the Jawaharlal Nehru Indoor Stadium in Chennai. In collaboration with the Tamil Nadu Wheelchair Table Tennis Association, the event welcomed close to 30 wheelchair-bound players nationwide.

The tournament, featuring five categories based on different disability levels, was inaugurated by John Alex, CSR head at Equitas Bank, along with club president Vidya Alagu Perumal, event chairman Debasis Mohanty, and Tamil Nadu Wheelchair Table Tennis Association Secretary Arockia Micheal Roy.

During the closing ceremony, DG Ravi Raman handed out cash prizes totalling ₹1.15 lakh. A table

tennis table worth ₹70,000 was gifted to the Tamil Nadu Wheelchair Table Tennis Association to support and encourage para players.

The competition aimed to provide a platform for wheelchair-bound sports enthusiasts, raising awareness among the general public. Due to its positive reception, the Rotary Club of Madras Chenna Patna has committed to hosting this event annually to continue promoting inclusivity in sports. ■



Students along with Rotarians at the prize distribution event of the Rotary Football League.
Bottom: Rotarians at the blood donation camp.

Promoting football in Mumbai schools

Team Rotary News

RC Mumbai Kandivali West, RID 3141, conducted the Rotary Football League to empower children by promoting health through football.

This inter-school football championship began in 2022. This year, the championship took place at Poin-sur Gymkhana, Kandivali West. The knockout rounds featured eight teams each for under 14 and under 16 age groups.

Additionally, an exhibition match of under 16 school girls was introduced. Cambridge School Kandivali emerged as the winner, with Xaviers School Borivali securing the runners-up position. The long-term vision for the Rotary Football League is to establish it as an aspirational tournament that all schools would want to participate in, making a significant impact on the lives of future leaders.

With focus on empowering the marginalised sections, the club completed a beautician course programme for commercial sex workers as part of *Project Navdurga*. Certificates were distributed to 30 women who completed the course. The club donated two sewing machines at the cost of ₹75,000.

Recently the club organised a blood donation camp at Kapol Vidyanidhi College, collecting 53 units of blood.■



D 3110

RC Agra Neo

Around 80 patients were diagnosed at the health check-up camp held at the Deepshikha Nursing Home. This clinic attracts over 2,000 patients daily. Pre-event publicity was done through posters, banners and distribution of flyers to inform the public. A panel of 15 doctors examined the patients.



D 3120

RC Allahabad South

Cash prizes and certificates were given to the winners of 'on the spot' essay competition for inter college students in memory of Acharya Mahavir Dwivedi and to mark Hindi Diwas. Over 100 students from 22 colleges took part and club president S K Jha honoured the winners. Nation Builder Awards were presented to five teachers by Sanjay Kumar Srivastava, vice-chancellor, Nehru Gram Bharti University, Prayagraj.



D 3120

RC Kushinagar

More than 300 fruit-bearing trees and shade plants were distributed by setting up a green stall at Gandhi Chowk, Kasia. Club patron Rakesh Jaiswal was the chief guest at the saplings distribution camp. Club president Wahid Ali said the aim was to create awareness on the need for a maximum number of planation drives to enrich the environment.





D 3150

RC Guntur Vikas

A retail bunk with snack items (₹50,000) for a tea stall was donated to a disabled person who had lost his two legs in an accident at Matur village. The beneficiary thanked Rotary for providing a source for livelihood. The club is reaching out with multiple projects for the vulnerable people in the town.



D 3160

RC Bhalki Fort

DG Manik Pawar distributed Nation Builder Awards to 35 teachers who were evaluated by the club for their performance. He also gave helmets as part of Road Safety Awareness session in which DSP (Bhalki) Shivanand Pavadshetty and ARTO Mohammed Jaffer Sadiq gave talks on the importance of following traffic rules. Stoles and jute bags with Rotary logo were presented to the awardees.



D 3160

RC Davangere

A health camp was held for the Jain community at the Sukshema Hospital. Likewise, policemen and their families at the Davangere Police Station were screened with SP Uma Prakash inaugurating the medical camp. A wall at the Mavintop Hospital was painted with images to spread the message of cleanliness and boost the public image.

D 3170

RC Gajendragad

At the cataract eye check-up camp held at the local government hospital, 103 patients among 400 screened were chosen for surgery at the M M Joshi Eye Care Hospital, Hubballi. The patients were divided into three batches and sent to Joshi Hospital. All the club members took part in the camp and made it a success.



D 3203

RC Bhavani Komarapalayam

A Bluetooth speaker and chairs were donated to the Government Middle School. Also, ₹50,000 was given to a girl student to cover her school fees and other expenses. To facilitate people to take bath on the Cauvery river bank, concrete steps were built at a cost of ₹9 lakh. Health food was distributed to pregnant women at the primary health centre in Mylambadi village.



D 3203

RI District

TRF has issued a Certificate of Appreciation to this RI district for 90 per cent compliant of stewardship requirements for global grant projects during the tenure of IPDG Elangkumaran (2022–23). Trustee vice-chair Bharat Pandya congratulated the district office-bearers including the IPDG, DRFC S Sivaprakash, district trainer PDG A Karthikeyan and DGSC Shanmugasathish for being recognised for the grant compliance.





D 3212

RC Sivakasi Diamonds

Notebooks and guides were given to 55 students of Government Children's Home, Mallipudur, to support their education. A sumptuous lunch was provided to inmates of an old age home at Naranapuram village; and saplings were planted at the PSNL College of Education, Mettamalai. Club president Saradha led from the front.



D 3231

RC Vaniyambadi

Nutrition supplements (₹8,700) were given to 60 pregnant women at the upgraded PHC. During the 251st eye camp, around 170 patients were screened, and 94 were chosen for surgery. The eye camps are held every third Sunday of the month. At the blood donation camp held at the Imayam Arts and Science College, 26 units of blood was collected.



D 3250

RC Patna City Samrat

DG S P Bagaria handed over keys of e-rickshaws (₹1.5 lakh each) to two families hit by Covid. He plans to distribute 100 such e-vehicles through DDF to provide self-employment. Bicycles were given to three meritorious girl students at the Gandhi Arya Kanya Vidyalaya. Rotary scholarship of ₹10,000 was given to school toppers.

Compiled by V Muthukumar

Eye camp in Nabha

Team Rotary News

Around 285 people benefitted from an eye camp organised by RC Nabha Greater, RID 3090, in memory of Kailash Sharma, mother of club member Lalit Sharma. Seventy-five cataract surgeries were performed at the camp and spectacles were distributed to 110 people with eyesight disorders.■

Patients waiting for checkup after undergoing cataract surgery.



Celebrating Diwali with children



It is a 20-year-old tradition of RC Madurai North West, RID 3000, to celebrate Diwali with the children residing at the Madurai Sevashram, an orphanage in the city.

This year the club members visited the orphanage and distributed new clothes, foot wear, umbrellas, fire crackers, sweets and toiletries to the children. Saris were gifted to the caretak-

ers, and dhoties and shirts were distributed to the securities and the male staff. The club also provided groceries for a month to the orphanage which takes care of girl children from ages six to 20.■

RC Coimbatore Millennium does service

Team Rotary News



Club members at an anganwadi after donating utensils and toys.

RC Coimbatore Millennium, RID 3201, provided stainless steel containers to six anganwadis in the city. Around 150 children were given mats and toys. Rajesh Kumar was the project chairman.

A projector worth ₹15,000 was donated to the Swami Vivekananda Sewa Maiyam,

a tuition centre in Thadagam, a city suburb. The club, along with RC Coimbatore Sai City and Kovai Diagnostic Centre, organised a walkathon to raise awareness on diabetes. Around 700 participants including school and college students, and general public participated in the 3km-walk which was inaugurated by Deputy Commissioner of Police

M Rajarajan and IMA president Dr Doraikannan.

The club donated ₹7,500 as education aid to Jessica, who hails from an underprivileged family, to help her pursue her studies. In another initiative, the club served meals to 100 senior citizens staying in an old age home in the city. The project was sponsored by club president K Yuvaraj. ■



Cooked food being served to residents at an old age home.

Rotary Bal Vatika at Bilaspur

Team Rotary News

RC Bilaspur, RID 3261, has not only beautified the campus of the Rashtriya Pathshala, Bilaspur, a school for underprivileged children. The club has also added a playful touch with the development of a vibrant garden and play area. “This project goes beyond just aesthetics... it’s a carefully designed space to foster both physical and cognitive development. We believe every child deserves access to a nurturing

and stimulating environment for holistic development. The garden and play area represent our commitment to enhance the educational experience for children from economically-weaker background,” says club president Ashish Agrawal.

The play area boasts age-specific installations, encouraging physical activity, social interaction, and imaginative play. The club recognises the importance of play



Rotarians look on as children play in the newly set-up play area.



Children enjoying a ride.

in a child's development and aims to provide a safe and enjoyable space for learning and growth. The success of this heartwarming project is due to the collaborative efforts of the club and the generous support from individual donors. "This initiative not only beautifies the school ground but is also

expected to improve attendance and reduce dropouts," smiles Agrawal.

The inaugural ceremony saw the school children exploring the new garden and play area. Club members, school officials and local dignitaries celebrated the positive impact of this Rotary project. ■