

January 2025

Rotary

NEWS PLUS



Fun fair for children

Team Rotary News



Children enjoying nutritious snacks.



A participant receiving a gift hamper from a Rotarian.



Rotarians along with children at the Bal Mela.

RID 3100 Rotary India Literacy Committee organised a *Bal Mela* at Gautam Buddha Park, Kanshiram Yojna, Moradabad, for underprivileged children. The event was conducted by Rotarian Sharmitabh Sinha, co-chairman of the literacy committee and member of RC Moradabad, in collaboration with Parivartan the Change, a local NGO.

Stationery items, fruits, clothes, chocolates and biscuits were distributed to the children.

The fair included sports activities such as football, cricket and badminton, along with educational and entertainment programmes. Health and nutrition-related information was also shared.

The event aimed to provide equal opportunities for underprivileged children. Senior Rotarians including PDGs Lalit Mohan, BS Mathur and Rtn SC Agarwal were present at the fair to support and encourage the children. ■

On the cover: Participants of the Art Mela organised by RC Kalyan City, RID 3142.

RYLA @ Tirunelveli

Team Rotary News



PDG Muthaiah Pillai presenting an award to a RYLA participant.

A three-day residential RYLA was organised by RC Tirunelveli West, RID 3212, at the Sri Jayendra Saraswathi Swamigal Golden Jubilee Higher Secondary School.

Around 50 students from

various schools in the surrounding towns such as Tenkasi, Thoothukudi and Kanyakumari participated in the programme which was inaugurated by DGND Ebenes Bensam. RYLA chairman Ravindran presented

a series of well curated sessions aimed to develop the leadership and communication skills of the students.

PDG Muthaiah Pillai was present at the valedictory session of the programme. ■

Dialysis machines for government hospital



The Rotary Club of Kushalnagar, RID 3181, provided two dialysis machines to the Government Hospital in Kushalnagar with support from the Central bank of India.

The facilities were inaugurated by Kodagu district MLA Manthar Gowda. ■

A dialysis machine being inaugurated at the hospital.

Noble work by a transgender

Team Rotary News

As part of its DEI initiative, Rotary Club of Kalyan City, RID 3142, recognised Madhuri Sarode Sharma, a transgender, with the Rotary Vocational Excellence Award for her contributions to the LGBTQ community. This annual award, presented by Rotary's Vocational Service Committee, is given to individuals who have achieved notable success in their professional field and demonstrated an unwavering commitment to serving the community through their vocation.

Madhuri and her husband Jay Rajnath Sharma made headlines as they became the first transgender couple to marry in a traditional ceremony in Mumbai. Sharma who comes from a deeply conservative religious background, defied societal expectations and family pressures to marry Madhuri.

For over 25 years, Madhuri has been actively involved in supporting and empowering the LGBTQ community, working alongside various NGOs and organisations. Currently, she serves as a counsellor at MITR Clinic, India's first healthcare centre dedicated to transgender individuals. She provides vital guidance and emotional support to individuals navigating the complex challenges of identity and societal acceptance. She is also an LIC agent, probably the first transgender in that role in the country.

Beyond her professional work, Madhuri is passionate about arts, especially dancing and acting, which she uses as a medium for

self-expression and awareness. She co-founded DEY Taali, a skill development initiative in Talao Pali, Thane, aimed at equipping transgender individuals with practical skills for better employment opportunities. This programme has empowered many community members, giving them the tools to earn independently and live with dignity. Through DEY Taali, Madhuri continues to support her community, advocating for economic independence and reducing stigma against transgender workers.

At the club's awards event, Madhuri addressed the audience



Right: RC Kalyan City past president Yakub Bhetasiwala and club president Hycenth distribute food at the Yakub Manzil.

Below: Madhuri Sarod Sharma (L) receiving the Vocational Excellence Award from RC Kalyan City president Hycenth Bhetasiwala. Club secretary Nikhil Ashok Parmar is seen on the right.





in an interactive session, clearing myths and addressing concerns.

The club, in association with the Paryavaran Dakshata Mandal and National Urdu High School and Junior. College, hosted the 'City Kalyan Nisarg Mela and Art Mela 2024' in December 2024. The event brought together over 800 students from 25 schools, promoting creativity, environmental awareness and sustainable practices. Competitions such as nature photography, flameless cooking, best out of waste etc saw good participation from the children.

Nature-related exhibitions and stalls had a good number of foot-falls. Educational activities included pot-making workshop and air pollution awareness. The club awarded the Green School trophy to the Asra Foundation Kalsekar School for their enthusiastic participation and for winning maximum prizes.

On Children's Day the club provided meals to 700 children of ragpickers.

The club partnered with GPlus Heart Hospital to organise a cervical cancer awareness programme at the St Jude High School, Kalyan. Over 450 participants, including young girls and the school staff, were the audience. A session on UTI focused on causes, prevention and long-term health implications of the infection.

The club marked World Blind Day (second Thursday of October) by distributing grocery kits at Yakub Manzil that supports 60 visually-impaired people from the Jai Hind Blind Association. The project was led by past president Yakub Bhetasiwala who, along with club president Hycenth Bhetasiwala and secretary Nikhil Parmar, distributed essential items such as rice, dal, oil and toiletries.

The club sponsored an Interact club in the MJB Kanya Vidyalaya and distributed coupons to Class 10 students for installing the Ideal Study App on their mobile phones and computers. "This app will provide valuable resources and tools to help students excel in their studies," said Hycenth.

The club, along with the Interact Club of Millenium English School and Paryavaran Dakshakta Mandal, celebrated National Wildlife Week with an informative workshop for school students. Resource persons were engaged to educate children about biodiversity, role of wildlife in effecting pollination, and the perils of deforestation and habitat loss. ■



A pottery workshop for Interactors as part of the National Wildlife Week celebrations.

Gift of mobility

Team Rotary News

RC Rajkot, RID 3060, in partnership with the Inner Wheel Club of Rajkot, launched the *Gift of Mobility* initiative, providing Prabha Foot prosthetic legs to 67 beneficiaries. These prosthetics, designed for flexibility and durability, enable recipients to walk, run and sit comfortably,

restoring their independence and dignity.

The project was spearheaded by Chandresh Manwani and Ketan Joshi, with the support of club president Nikhil Uchat and secretary Pankil Padhariya. Valuable guidance was provided by Rtn Sharad Sheth from RC Jamnagar. ■



A person being fitted with a prosthetic limb.

Improving eyesight of villagers

Around 250 people benefited from an eye check-up camp organised by the Rotary Club of Nasik, RID 3030, at Zari, a remote hamlet.

Forty villagers diagnosed with cataract are being treated in batches with the club's support at the Subhadra Netralaya in Nashik.

People with vision defects were identified and spectacles were provided to them. The Sanay Foundation that works with the people in the hamlet helped to conduct the camp. Doctors spread awareness about healthy diet, hygiene and sanitation among the villagers during the course of the camp. ■



A villager being treated at the eye camp.

Promoting organ donation in a big way

Team Rotary News

As charter president of RC Organ Donation International, RID 3141, Lal Goel gave a series of guest lectures/talks to promote the cause by creating awareness among professionals and the public at large on the need to pledge their organs.

On Doctors' Day, he called for including organ donation in the college curriculum during his keynote speech at the United University, Prayagraj. The event honoured top doctors in the presence of vice-chancellor Dr Anand Agarwal and pro-chancellor Dr Jagdish Gulati. While addressing students at the Thakur College of Science and Commerce, Mumbai, he pointed out the gender disparity in organ donation, noting



RC Organ Donation charter president Lal Goel (4th from left) along with club members.

noting that while 80 per cent of living donors are women, only 19 per cent of them are recipients. The event brought together Rotarians, Rotaractors, faculty members and students.

In a similar event at the Sri Madhusudan Sai Institute of Medical Sciences and Research, Bengaluru, he urged the medical professionals to create awareness in the society on organ donation. The institute director Dr Raghupathi said they would set up an Organ Transplant and Retrieval Centre offering free transplant surgeries.

During his visit to New Jersey, US, Donate Life USA honoured Goel for his contribution in creating awareness

on organ and tissue donation in India. In his speech, he shared his vision for expanding his work through campaigns and workshops. Goel exchanged club flags with Carrie Sharpshair, president-elect, RC Philadelphia, one of the oldest clubs in the US formed in 1911.

An MoU was signed between his club and RC Organ Donation UK led by its charter president Kirit Misty with the aim to collaborate, share notes on best practices, and hold joint programmes on organ donation. At an awareness seminar in Mumbai, Goel gave a talk on xenotransplantation — fixing non-human cells, tissues and organs on a human body — and its research in the presence of DG Chetan Desai and ROTTO director Akshay Shukla.

The club hosted an online meeting in which filmmaker Anirban Bose and Lalitha Raghuram, director, Mohan Foundation India, gave inspiring talks on organ donation. Goel is also the chairman of Organ Donation India Foundation and GYAN.■



Goel exchanges club flags with RC Philadelphia, US, president-elect Carrie Sharpshair during his visit to the United States.

club matters

RC Diamond Dahod



RC Lonand



RC Phagwara South East

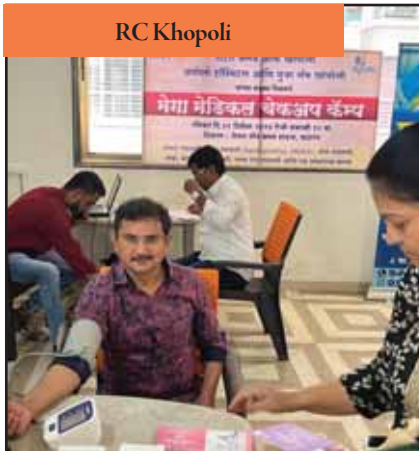


RC Bombay Sea Face

RC Diamond Dahod – RID 3040

Edible millets, sponsored by PDG Gajendra Narang, were distributed to underprivileged children at Inгри and Faliya villages near Dahod in Raisen district of MP. A two-week cleanliness campaign across the town lifted its public image.

RC Khopoli



RC Lonand – RID 3132

Every second Saturday of the month, the club holds a free eye check-up and cataract detection camp in which hundreds of patients, mostly elderly, are benefitted. The ongoing project has lifted the public image of Rotary in Lonand.

RC Phagwara South East – RID 3070

Around 400 students took part in an on-the-spot painting competition held for schools in Phagwara under the leadership of club president Mandeep Singh.

RC Khopoli – RID 3131

Over 100 patients were diagnosed and given consultations at a mega medical camp held with the support of Apollo Hospitals, Navi Mumbai, and Pooja Laboratories, Khopoli.

RC Bombay Sea Face – RID 3141

Physiotherapy equipment worth ₹3 lakh were donated to the paediatrics department of Sir J J Hospital with the support of All Within My Hands (AWMH), a local NGO, to provide treatment to mentally-challenged children (1–5 years).



RC Gudur West



RC Anchal



RC Ichalkaranji



RC Jamshedpur Green

RC Gudur West – RID 3160

One-month groceries and bedsheets were distributed to physically-challenged people on World Disabled Day (Dec 3) in a joint initiative with RCs Gudur Town and Tirupati. The project was sponsored by Rtn Yealsiri Gopala Reddy.



RC Erode

RC Anchal – RID 3211

Wheelchairs and fans were donated to the Government Taluk Hospital, Punalur to mark Kerala Formation Day (Nov 1). The club's service project chairperson Leena Jacob handed over the donated items worth ₹30,000 to the hospital authorities.

RC Ichalkaranji – RID 3170

More than 1,750 students attended a lecture event on the topic 'Youth: Physical and mental health' in which Dr Anil Madake and Dr Pallavi Anuje gave an audio-visual presentation. The event held in two sessions dwelt on a range of issues including reproductive growth, adolescent issues and academic growth.

RC Erode – RID 3203

Over 45 college students (18–23 years) participated in a multidistrict RYLA at a resort in Salem, Tamil Nadu. DG Suresh Babu inaugurated the event, while PDGs P M Sivashankaran and Shanmugasundaram were the guests of honour at the valedictory session.

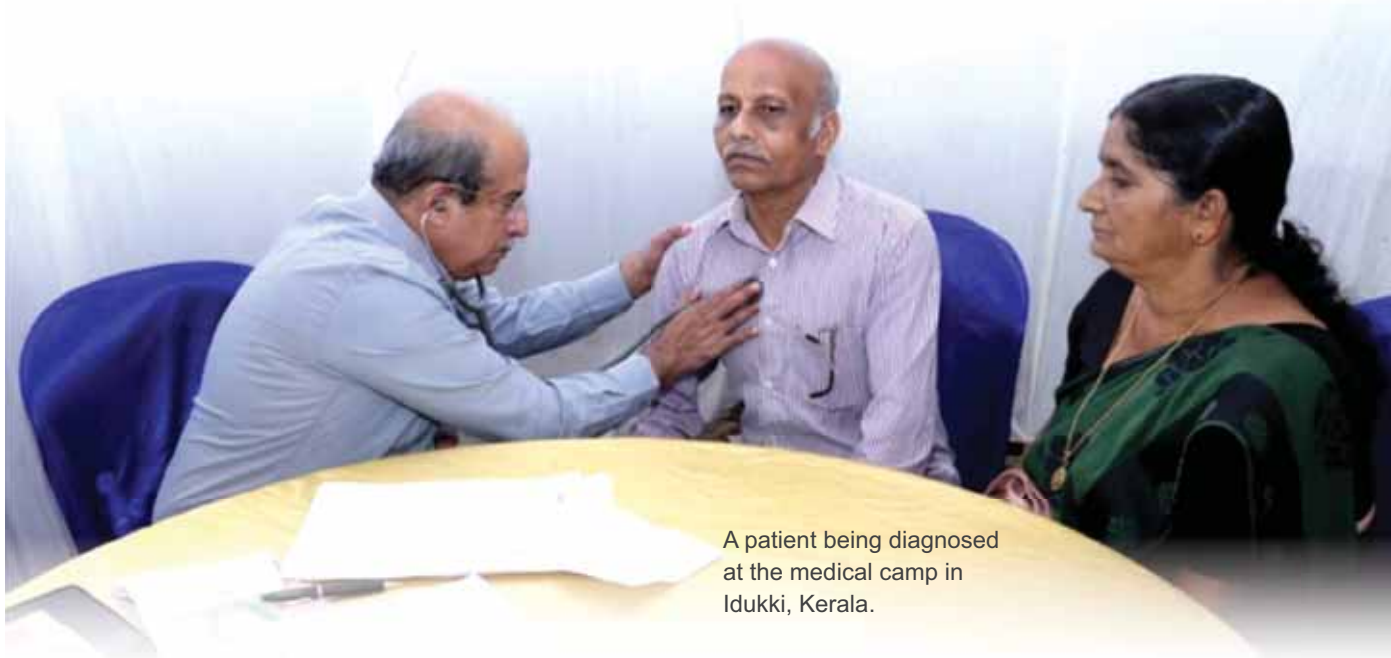
RC Jamshedpur Green – RID 3250

Dr Nirmal Kumar gave a talk on HIV for students of GNM School of Nursing at the MGM Hospital, Sakchi, to mark World AIDS Day. The club has adopted six HIV positive children whose parents had succumbed to AIDS; they are given nutritious food for six months.

Compiled by V Muthukumar

A medical camp screens 2,000 people in Idukki, Kerala

V Muthukumaran



A patient being diagnosed at the medical camp in Idukki, Kerala.

A multispecialty medical camp was organised by RC Cochin Global, RID 3201, in Idukki, Kerala, in partnership with the Malankara Orthodox Church and the St Gregorios Charitable Trust with a panel of 30 doctors screening over 2,230 patients for various chronic diseases and giving consultations.

Club president Sujit Jos, an orthopaedic surgeon, led a multidisciplinary team of specialists from reputed hospitals which conducted a number of medical tests such as bone marrow density test, x-ray filming and foot pressure mapping on patients after they were examined. Indian Medical Association, Cochin chapter, chairman Dr VP Kuriyipe and its president Dr Jacob Abraham were among the doctors who handled the huge influx of

patients, said Joby Thattil, joint secretary of the club. While inaugurating the medical camp, Devikulam former MLA A K Moni noted this was “most probably the biggest camp the Idukki district has seen” and lauded the initiative of the Rotary club.

With the aim to create awareness on the daily challenges and hurdles being faced by the visually-impaired, White Cane Day was observed at the Infopark, Kochi, as part of *Project Surya*. Under this project, the club is providing computer education to visually-impaired students over the last 17 years. “So far, we have trained over 1,200 students with visual disability, and offered job placement to 60 per cent of the trainees,” said Thattil.

Most of the alumni of *Project Surya*, who are now working in top firms, along with the 18th

batch of the computer training centre, were present at the White Cane Day event. In a mark of solidarity with the visually-impaired, DG Sundaravadivelu, along with MPEDA chairman DV Swamy, FACT-chief vigilance





RC Cochin Global president Sujit Jos (sitting, 2nd from Left), along with his club members and their families, during their fellowship trip to Vietnam.

officer Soorya Thangappan and AG JJ Thomas, and other participants blindfolded themselves and walked a distance. RID 3201 TRF chair Jayashankar and actor Sudheer Sukumaran were also among the walkers.

An audio-visual presentation of *Project Surya* was given which was appreciated by the gathering, while some of the alumni recalled their journey so far as they were able to climb up the corporate ladder, thanks

to the computer training given by the club.

Vietnam trip

It was an exciting trip to Vietnam for 22 Rotarians, along with their families, as they were bowled over by the scenic landscape and architecture in Hanoi, capital city, Nin Binh, Halong Bay and other places.

The visiting Indian Rotarians had fellowship dinner with members of RC Hanoi and exchanged flag with its past president David Gao (2023-24). "Following it, RC Lausanne, Switzerland, president Gerhart Neisslein, and Rtn Derk from Canada, now living in Hanoi, and his Vietnamese wife Hun joined us at the dinner," said Thattil. They talked about opportunities for joint projects, and "we all had a memorable fellowship with the Swiss, Canadian and Vietnamese Rotarians," he added. ■

RID 3201 DG Sundaravadivelu leads the blind walk in a show of solidarity with the visually-impaired on White Cane Day.



Lunch served to senior citizens

Team Rotary News



RC Madurai Sangamam president S R Ganesan serves food to inmates at an old age home.

A sumptuous lunch was served to 40 elderly inmates at the Sai Trust Old Age Home by RC Madurai Sangamam, RID 3000, under *Project Akshayam*. Raja Muthiah HS School founder Ravi Parthasarathy, a Rotarian, was the chief guest at the event.

The food, sponsored by the club's past president G Sony Gowtham, was served to the elders by president S R Ganesan and AG RMA S Rajeskanna. Club members Prakash and Jeeva Anandam, who celebrated his birthday on the occasion, also served the food making it a special occasion for him.

"*Project Akshayam* is a testament to our club's goal to serve the community and making a positive impact on the lives of the elderly," said K V Baskaran, club secretary. At the event, six Rotarians served food costing ₹3,500 to 40 inmates at the old age home. ■

Drinking water plant at school

An RO plant was installed by RC Kumbakonam East, RID 2981, to meet the drinking water needs of 400 students and 20 staff at the Little Flower Matric School.

With a capacity of 500 litres, it will be able to supply potable water 24x7, thus providing clean water for students and teachers.

The project cost ₹1.2 lakh was met by the club members. During the inauguration of the RO plant, the school authority thanked the club for this facility, thus fulfilling a dire need of this school. ■



RC Kumbakonam East president M Senthilkumar (centre), along with students and staff, at the inauguration of an RO plant.

An eye camp and a Diwali celebration

Team Rotary News



An eye check-up in progress.

RC Tirupattur, RID 3231, conducted an eye testing and surgery camp at the Government Higher Secondary School, Vishamangalam village, Tirupattur. Chaired by club member Dr V Vinothini, the camp benefitted 250 patients, with 30 individuals selected for free eye surgery.

The club celebrated Diwali at SRDPS Home in Pachal village, Tirupattur taluk. PDG JKN Palani joined the event, where sweets, new clothes and crackers were distributed to destitute girls and women residing at the home. ■

Supporting students

RC Nellore, RID 3160, awarded ₹65,000 in scholarships to 13 government school students in Nellore, Andhra Pradesh. This annual initiative was attended by the district educational officer and club members.

Students with Rotarians after receiving their scholarships.



Water purifiers at Chopda police stations

Team Rotary News

Water purifiers were installed at the city and rural police stations of Chopda, a small municipality in Jalgaon district of Maharashtra, in a joint initiative between RCs Chopda and Jalgaon Stars, RID 3030.

The water purifier units would ensure clean drinking water to the police personnel, thus promoting their health and hygiene, said Balachandra Pawar, secretary, RC Chopda. Similar initiatives were taken up by other organisations like the *Catch the Rain* campaign by the National Water Mission in Jalgaon, and “now Rotary has pitched in to ensure clean water to police officers in the district,” he said.

At a seminar for senior citizens on National Diabetes Day, Dr Amit Hartalkar and



Rotarians and police personnel at the installation of a water purifier at the Chopda police station.

Dr Lokendra Mahajan spoke on the need for adopting a healthy lifestyle for a disease-free living. The duo also gave tips and suggestions for diabetes prevention at old age. The event held in partnership with the Senior Citizens Association is

a precursor to other initiatives RC Chopda will be taking up such as regular health check-up, workshops on healthy eating and exercise, and collaborations with healthcare experts, all of which will reach out to senior citizens. ■

Shoes, sweaters for girl students

Shoes and sweaters were distributed to 450 girl students at the Bhai Kahn Singh Government Senior Secondary School by RC Nabha Greater, RID 3090, that brought cheer among them.

The RI district’s chief advisor Amjad Ali and IPDG Ghanshyam Kansal were the special guests on the occasion.

The school project worth ₹1.29 lakh was initiated to perpetuate the memory of Rotarians Kusum Sharma and Lalit Sharm’s mother, and reflected the club’s priority for community welfare and empowerment of girls ■



PDG Ghanshyam Kansal (4th from right) and senior Rotarians of RID 3090, along with students, at the Bhai Kahn Singh Government School.

Deaddiction workshop in Muscat

Team Rotary News



Dental students and doctors at the workshop on deaddiction therapies in Muscat.

Around 75 dental students and dentists took part in a training workshop on deaddiction therapies conducted by RC Addiction Prevention, RID 3141, its first global project of the year, at the Oman Dental College in Muscat.

The workshop is part of the continuing professional development (CPD) initiative of the club, and the event was interactive with diverse participants giving their perspective of tobacco use in the Arab world, enriching the cultural dynamics of

the discussion. As Oman did not have Rotary clubs, the workshop held at a cost of ₹60,000 created an impact among the students and professionals who learnt about the values of Rotary and its global reach. ■

Saree Run raises funds for polio

Around 350 women participated in the Rotary Saree Run organised by the Rotary Club of Seven Hills Dharwad, RID 3170, in Dharwad, Karnataka. The event was organised to raise funds for Polio.

In another initiative, the club donated solar bulbs to a government school and to a household. ■



Participants of the Rotary Saree Run.

Fundraising through a walkathon

Team Rotary News



DG Sharat Pai flags off the walkathon.

The Rotary Club of Karwar Paschim, RID 3170, organised a walkathon which had a participation of 600 individuals. This is an annual event of the club to raise funds for its service projects.

DG Sharad Pai flagged off the walkathon in the presence of club president Laxmikant Tendulkar, secretary Jaydeep Patil, assistant governor and zonal coordinator. ■

Providing drinking water to students

Rotary E-Club of Empowering Youth, RID 3132, installed a water purifier in a village school to ensure safe and clean drinking water for the students, staff, and villagers who come to the school to fetch water for drinking.

DGN Jayesh Patel inaugurated the project and urged the children to use water judiciously. The equipment costing ₹56,000 was sponsored by club members Nandini Jaggi and Rohan Gandhi. ■



Water filter installed at the village school.

Orphanage renovated

Team Rotary News



Club members inaugurating the renovated orphanage.

RC Salem Phoenix, RID 2982, completed a service project worth ₹1.35 lakh to benefit children at the Annai Sathya Ilam, an orphanage for children aged 4 to 15 years.

The project included restoring a damaged dormitory, repairing 62 cupboards, painting the building, and providing 25 new mattresses. The refurbished dormitory was opened on Dec 15 in the presence of Badri Narayana Gupta, assistant governor of RID 2982.

Club president Hemanth stated that the club is committed to serving society and encouraged others to share their needs with the Rotary. The project was funded by the club. ■

Sewing centre inaugurated



Club members, along with Charu Chaudhary, vice-chair of the Uttar Pradesh State Women's Commission, at the inauguration of the sewing centre.

RC Kushinagar, RID 3120, inaugurated a free sewing training centre at the Gandhi Chowk, Kasia in Kushinagar. The initiative aims to empower underprivileged women and girls by providing them with a three-month free sewing training course to promote self-reliance.

The centre was inaugurated by Charu Chaudhary, vice-chair of the Uttar Pradesh State

Women's Commission. She commended the club's efforts, calling the initiative a significant step towards women's empowerment and an inspiration for others.

Club president Wahid Ali highlighted the centre's goal of equipping women and girls with skills to achieve self-reliance. Club secretary Ajay Kumar Singh delivered the vote of thanks. ■

Wheelchair, stretcher for Shimla hospital

Team Rotary News



RC Shimla Midtown president Ravi Kant Jain (2nd from Left), along with other members, donates a wheelchair and a stretcher to the health centre at the Rajiv Gandhi Government Degree College, Shimla.

To facilitate a hassle-free transport of patients and sick people, RC Shimla Midtown, RID 3080, donated a wheelchair and a stretcher to the health centre at the Rajiv Gandhi Government Degree College (Kotshera) at Chaura Maidan, Shimla. College principal Dr Gopal Chauhan was present at the handover event.

Tanuj Gupta, an engineer, spoke about the safety measures during electrical work at a training seminar in which 46 electricians attended who were presented with gifts. The workshop was sponsored by Nandi Cab Elektrik Co, Ahmedabad. More than 100 units of blood was collected at a blood donation camp held at the HP National Lawa University, Shimla, with the support of college Rotaractors. Himachal Pradesh NLU vice-chancellor Preeti Saxena was the chief guest. ■

Laptop donated to a medical student



RC Kottai Pattukkottai president Rajasekaran donates a laptop to college student Soundarya who is studying medicine.

With the aim to encourage aspiring students, RC Kottai Pattukkottai, RID 2981, donated a laptop worth ₹50,000 to Soundarya, a medical college student hailing from an underprivileged family. She passed out of the Government HS School, Pattukkottai, and has joined a medical college through merit.

Club president RG Rajasekaran donated the laptop to Soundarya in the present of her parents and Rotarians at her home. She thanked Rotary for the gesture as the computer will enable her to keep abreast of latest developments in medicine, and also prepare well for the exams. ■

Water storage tank for govt school

Team Rotary News

Following a request, a 2,000 litre-water tank (Sintex) was installed at the Government HS School, Thamanyakanpatti, by RC Karur Young Gen, RID 3000, at a cost of ₹36,000.

RC Karur past president Veera Jawahar, a major sponsor of the project, inaugurated the water tank at a simple event. As the students and faculty did not have access to municipal water supply, “they depended on borewell and the school authority requested for such a storage facility after which we took up the project,” said V Ravindrakumar, club secretary. The Sintex tank would benefit over 200 students, apart from teachers, at this school.



Rotarians and senior teacher Prema Ravi in front of the new Sintex tank at the school.

At the same event, Prema Ravi, a senior teacher, was presented with Nation Builder Award certificate as “she was the key coordinator for all

Rotary projects at this school,” he said. Club president S Nirmal and Jawahar jointly presented the citation award to the teacher. ■

Cancer screening camp in Mumbai



Rotarians with doctors at the breast cancer screening camp in Kandivali, Mumbai.

Over 75 patients were examined at a breast cancer screening camp organised by RC Mumbai Kandivli West, RID 3141, at the Ekveera School, Charkop, in partnership with RC Mumbai Nova.

Among them five were detected with a lump and counselling was given to them by Dr Amola Parikh, medical director of RC Mumbai Kandivli West.

Kandivali Rotarians donated over 300 white canes (₹82,500), a cash amount of ₹20,000 for the education of the visually-impaired, 40 bedsheets (₹12,500), and ₹10,000 for providing lunch for students at the National Association of the Blind, Worli. The project costing ₹1.25 lakh in all would benefit around 40 visually-impaired students of the institute. ■