

# Rotary

NEWS PLUS





# Sewing machines for women

## Team Rotary News

The Rotary Club of Chopda, RID 3030, gifted sewing machines to women who were part of self-help groups after training them in tailoring. The club gave them materials to stitch bulk quantity of cloth bags for distribution in the market area to discourage use of plastic bags. The Rotarians have assured the women with more business so that they can earn a livelihood through their newly acquired skill.

In another initiative, the club donated a television set to the Kamalabai Nehru Adivasi Hostel which accommodates 45 youngsters. A water cooler was donated to the Sane Guruji Vidyalaya Vadati, a rural school in a hilly region. The club organised a seminar on personal safety for girl students in a local school and educated them about inappropriate touch, setting boundaries and self-defence.

A road safety awareness session



DG Rajinder Khurana handing over a sewing machine to a woman.

was organised for students at the Sharda Classes with the support from the Urban Police office.

Cement benches were installed at the Home Guard office and other service projects include a blood donation camp at the Aaskaran

Tarachand Blood Bank and presenting Rotary Vocational Excellence Awards to nine unsung heroes such as a sanitary worker, courier delivery boy, forest guard, bus conductor, postman, watchman and a water supply department manager.■

## Freedom on Wheels



Wheelchairs and tricycles were gifted by the Rotary Club of Hisar, RID 3090, to six orthopaedically-challenged individuals at a special camp organised by the club. Deepak Bansal was the project chairman. Senior club member Pawan Rawalwasiya guided the club in identifying the beneficiaries.■

Members of RC Hisar with beneficiaries.

**On the cover:** A tree planting drive conducted by RC Salem Phoenix, RID 2982, at an orphanage.

# RIPE Mario visits Model UN Assembly in Nagpur

Team Rotary News



RIPE Mario de Camargo (centre) and RID Anirudha Roychowdhury (7<sup>th</sup> from L) at the Saraswati School. Also seen: DG Rajinder Khurana (6<sup>th</sup> from L), club president Jaishree Chhabrani (8<sup>th</sup> from L), PDGs Rajiv Sharma and Rajendra Bhamre, and DGE Dnyaneshwar Shewale.

**R**IPE Mario de Camargo, accompanied by RI Director Anirudha Roychowdhury and DG Rajinder Khurana, visited the Saraswati School in Nagpur to motivate the young participants of the Model UN Assembly (MUNA) organised by the Rotary Club of Nagpur Vision, RID 3030.

He spoke on how Rotary was instrumental in the formation of the United Nations in 1945. He went around the school, and watched the children at work and left them with the message: Small minds discuss

people, mediocre minds discuss facts, but great minds discuss ideas.

RI Director Raju Subramanian, who was on a Rotary visit to the city, inaugurated the event earlier during the day. Over 700 students from 20 schools across Nagpur participated in the day-long annual MUNA which is the seventh edition organised by the club.

The RCNV-MUNA is unique in the fact that it is the only MUNA held for State board school students as they do not have exposure to this event that CBSE board students

have, said club president Jaishree Chhabrani, adding that the club greatly subsidises the entry fee for attending this event to almost 10 per cent of what the CBSE schools charge. Breakfast, lunch and high tea are provided to all participants.

Some of the topics covered under this year's event include 'The role of children in armed conflict', 'Cyber warfare' and 'The impact of climate change on world heritage sites'. Participants formed 13 committees and debated on 13 different topics of global importance. ■

## Batting for Little Hearts

**A** cricket tournament helped raise ₹25 lakh to be used to sponsor paediatric heart surgery by the Rotary Club of Hiranandani Ivan, RID 3142, at Thane, Maharashtra. The match titled 'Batting for Little Hearts' had a participation of 12 teams. ■



Winners of the cricket tournament with trophy.



# A Rotary makeover for a Salem orphanage

V Muthukumaran

Following a request from an orphanage supervisor, RC Salem Phoenix, RID 2982, refurbished the Annai Sathya Home, an orphanage for children in the age group of 4–15, by upgrading its dormitory and putting up new facilities at a total cost of ₹1.35 lakh. The entire project funding was done with contributions from the club members.

At present, 62 children are living in the orphanage which was in “a dire need of comfortable, safe space after a portion of its building was completely destroyed,” said club president S Hemanath. “Our members worked tirelessly to restore the damaged building and improve the living conditions for the children residing there.” Going beyond the initial commitments, the club not only repaired 62 cupboards, but also completing the much-need painting and civil work. Twenty-five new mattresses were donated to ensure good sleep for children.

AG Badri Narayana Gupta inaugurated the refurbished dormitory in the presence of Hemanath who assured the orphanage supervisor that the club would support it through resources and other means in the coming years.

Later on, 25 fruit-bearing trees were planted on the premises of the orphanage so that children will be able to consume nutritious fruits in near future. Each tree was named after one of the children, thus creating a sense of ownership among them. “The children pledged to nurture the trees, so that they grow strong and healthy over time,” said the club president.

The idea of naming newly-planted saplings after the children is a way of promoting environmental stewardship and “also teaches them the value of patience, as they will eventually reap the benefits of their hard work in the form of fresh, nutritious fruits,” said Hemanath. Children also gained a better appreciation of nature and the importance of sustainability through the project, he said.

## New Interact club

Students at the Government Higher Secondary School, Maniyanoor, a rural area far away from the town, formed an Interact Club of Phoenix. “This is a first-of-its-kind Interact club in our district started by 20 students from underprivileged families,” he said.





**Above:** AG Badri Narayana Gupta presents a napkin vending machine to the teachers at the Government Higher Secondary School, Maniyanoor, in the presence of new Interact club leaders. Also seen are club president Hemanath and other Rotarians.

**Below:** RC Salem Phoenix president S Hemanath (left) and Rotarians, along with children, during a tree planting drive at the Annai Sathya Home.



AG Narayana gives a memento to Interact Club of Phoenix charter president Sujithra in the presence of club president Hemanath.



Hemanath and the club's Interact chair will guide the newly-formed club in their project initiatives. A sanitary pad vending machine was donated which will benefit around 600 girl students in the school. The machine will be replenished by Rotarians once in every 15 days; two more machines will be added and placed at a prominent spot in the school which will in the long run benefit the general public too, he said.

During the installation, Sujithra, Class 8, took charge as charter president of the Interact club. She assured that her team would take up numerous projects

for the community. After she mentioned about the plight of an 80-year-old woman who had to travel a long distance to sell fruits and snacks near the school, carrying a heavy load of edibles, the Phoenix team gave her a push cart so that "the elderly woman can carry her sale items safely to home and back with less strain."

Also, the push cash will be branded with Rotary Wheel and the club's name will be embossed on it which will boost its public image. AG Badri Narayana gave the keynote speech at the Interact installation which was attended by school teachers, local politicians and members of parent Rotary. ■



# Sports Day for children

Team Rotary News



Members of RC Calcutta Midtown with participants at the sports meet.

Over 400 children aged 8–18 from five schools participated in a sports meet organised by the Rotary Club of Calcutta Midtown, RID 3291.

Various track and field events were conducted during the

day-long fete. The corporation ground was allocated by the councillor Bishwarup Dey, and all the members pitched in to make it a grand and successful event, said club president Preeti Agarwal.

All participants were provided with breakfast, lunch and beverages and the club distributed useful items such as water bottles, lunch boxes and buckets as prizes for the winners, in addition to medals and certificates. ■

## A car rally promotes good health



RID 2982 secretary KN Rajan (6<sup>th</sup> from L) with members of the participating clubs of RIDs 2982 and 3231 campaign against plastic and substance abuse.

Members of the Rotary Club of Pondicherry Cosmos, RID 2982, along with RC Gingee Fort, and two Rotary clubs of its neighbouring RID 3231 — RCs

Tiruvannamalai and Mooncitty-Thiruvannamalai — embarked on a car rally to promote awareness about ill-effects of plastics and tobacco.

The team visited local villages, and addressed youngsters along the way. The rally was from Puducherry to Thiruvannamalai in Tamil Nadu. ■

# Eye testing, surgery camp at Tirupattur

Team Rotary News

**A**n eye testing and surgery camp was conducted by RC Tirupattur, RID 3231, at the community hall with Bommikuppam panchayat chief Thenmozhi Venkatesan as the chief guest. Over 270 people were screened, among them 32 were chosen for eye surgery, and all the expenses for the procedure will be met by the club.

In another initiative, napkin incinerator and a wireless microphone were donated to the Government High School, No 1



Eye testing and surgery camp in progress in the presence of RC Tirupattur president G Venkatesan (centre) and other members.

Kothur. Gudiyatham additional commissioner (service tax) S Parthipan gave a motivational speech for 300 students. A tree planting drive was held on the school premises.

DG M Rajanbabu handed over a water filter system to the principal of the Government Middle School, Vazhuthalampattu, which will provide clean drinking water to over 200 students.

During a mega event, the governor distributed a wheel cart to a beneficiary and a cupboard to the district library, Tirupattur. Rotarians celebrated Women's Day (March 8) at the SRDPS Illam, Pachal, a special home for destitute women and children, and the Yamaha showroom with fun games and lively interaction. Mementos and sarees were given to the admin staff and inmates of the special home for women.

Around 400 students from government schools appearing for the board exams were given welfare and stationery kits by a group of Rotarians led by J Ranganathan and G Mohan Gandhi. The Rotarians motivated the students to perform well in the public exams.

At the blood donation camp held at the Bharathidasan Engineering College, Natrampalli, 275 students gave over 100 units of blood.

More than 350 people attended a humour get-together called *Sirikkalaam Vaanga* (Come, let's laugh), a programmed held with the support of Uthavum Ullangal Kappagam, a local NGO in Tirupattur. ■



DG M Rajanbabu hands over an RO water filter unit to teachers at a government middle school. Also seen is club president Venkatesan (third from right).





RID 3000

### RC Pudukkottai City

A blood donation camp was held at the Raniyar Government Maternity Hospital, Pudukkottai, with the support of GH doctors to mark Women's Day (2025). College principal Dr S Kalaivani gave certificates to police personnel who donated blood.



## Club matters



RID 3131

### RC Pune Pride

In a joint initiative with RC Nigdi Pune, 200 desk-benches were donated to the Annasaheb Awate Vidyamandir, Junnar. Club presidents Radha Gokhale (Pride) and Suhas Dhamale (Nigdi), school chairman Chavan and principal Bhav spoke at the handover event.

RID 3231

### RC Tirupattur

Buttermilk and porridge were distributed to around 200 underprivileged people in the presence of sub-inspector of police, Jayalakshmi, from Tirupattur Town Police Station. Providing food and refreshments is an ongoing project of the club, lifting its public image.







RID 3234

### RC Chennai Port City

A fundraiser event titled *Isai Kondattam* was held for thalassaemia affected children. Dance and comedy, along with music, were performed by Ganesh Kirupa Orchestra to regale 1,500 attendees. DG NS Saravanan, DGE Vinod Saraogi and PDG J Sridhar were present.

RID 3040

### RC Indore Professionals

A singing competition was conducted for the visually-impaired with the support of the National Association for the Blind to showcase their musical skills. While cash prizes were given to the winners, all participants were given mementos.



RID 3234

### RC Nanganallur Elite

In a joint project, 340 sarees, along with some dresses, were donated to Thuli, an NGO, on Women's Day. Club president Sathish Rajasekar, along with his counterparts from RC Madras Gold Coast and two Inner Wheel clubs, handed over the garments.



RID 3262

### RC Bhubaneswar Meadows

A two-day skill development workshop was conducted at the Sai Temple, Sreeram Nagar Basti, in partnership with an NGO Sangit Samarpan. Rtn Sanju Patra chaired the session for 40 underprivileged women. DG Yagyansis Mohapatra was present.

Compiled by V Muthukumaran

# Spine care camp in Tezpur

Team Rotary News



Dr Neeraj Gupta examining a patient at the Spine Care Wellness Camp.

As many as 146 patients were screened at the two-day Spine Care Wellness Camp organised by RC Greater Tezpur, RID 3240, jointly with the Baptist Christian Hospital.

Dr Neeraj Gupta from the Indian Spine Injury Centre, Delhi, gave consultations at the camp, sponsored by Star Cement. Rtn Sharad Sethia and Rahul Baid coordinated for the success of the medical camp. “We are thankful to Dr Gupta from the Spine Centre for his dedication in treating patients. Also the arrangements made by the hospital was excellent for us to proceed with the camp which had volunteers from Mayur Furniture and our club members,” said club president Jayant Tibrewala. ■

## Road safety campaign in Chikmagalur

As part of a series of events to mark National Road Safety Week (Jan 11–17), RC Chikmagalur Coffee Land, RID 3182, conducted an awareness campaign for drivers of goods and commercial vehicles in which they were educated on the need to avoid highway accidents by taking precautions and following the road rules.

The road safety awareness event was done in partnership with the traffic police and the RTO, Chikmagalur. “We pasted reflectors of proper specifications on commercial vehicles after educating the drivers. Also, we advised them to maintain the reflectors and urged them to follow the road safety norms,” said Nagesh Kenjige, club secretary. He coordinated with club president Tanoj Kumar, and other members, for the success of the road



RC Chikmagalur Coffee Land members, traffic police and RTO personnel at the Road Safety Awareness campaign.

safety campaign held across various areas of Chikmagalur.

Around 15 Rotarians took part in the campaign, while club member Suraj MG and few others sponsored

the road safety drive by contributing to the purchase of reflector tapes which were embossed with the club's name and the signage of the traffic department. ■





## Marathon for a cause

**Team Rotary News**

Members of the Rotary Club of Kumta, RID 3170, participated in a 5K marathon to promote awareness for a 'Drug-free and cybercrime-free Karnataka,' organised in association with the Uttara Kannada District Police.

The Rotarians also participated in a blood donation camp organised by the Kumta Health

Department and Government Hospital.

On International Women's Day (Mar 8), the club honoured six women from Uttara Kannada for their remarkable achievement in various fields. Deputy Commissioner of Uttara Kanada Laxmipriya presided over the event. ■

## Balaji darshan in Vijayawada

The Rotary Club of Vijayawada Midtown, RID 3020, organised a grand 'Udayasthamana Sevalu' — an exhibition of replica of Tirupati Lord Venkateswara at a huge auditorium in the city. The event, held for two days, had 22,000 visitors. The club had engaged 500 volunteers to ensure smooth execution of the event. Prasad was distributed to the devotees. This event served as a good public image exercise making the club popular among the devotees. ■



# Teachers honoured in Surat

Team Rotary News

**R**C Surat East, RID 3060, has been recognising dedicated educators for their role in shaping young minds. To date, the club has presented 44 awards to outstanding teachers.

In a recent ceremony, in collaboration with Shri Saurashtra Patel Seva Samaj, the club honoured Vijay Makwana, a teacher at the Maharana Pratap Primary School, with the Teachers Are God Award.



DG Tushar Shah (2<sup>nd</sup> from L) honours a teacher.

Makwana has served the school for 13 years without a single day off, dedicated to the academic and personal growth of his students.

The event featured a prayer by students, a speech by teacher Ramesh Madhukiya, and the

inauguration of the school's library. School principal Mitul Jani appreciated Makwana's dedication, emphasising his vital role in mentoring students. DG Tushar Shah was also present to celebrate this achievement.■



Club members present the award to a teacher.





Rotarians along with the senior citizens at CLAPs, Thiruvallur.

## A day with senior citizens

Team Rotary News

**R**C Bangalore Skyway, RID 3191, recently visited CLAPs (Community Living Association for Parents of Special Citizens) in Thiruvallur, Chennai. CLAPs, founded by a dedicated group of parents, provides a secure and inclusive environment for special senior citizens, ensuring

lifelong care and support. The visit focused on stress management and well-being.

Rotarians conducted interactive sessions, including yoga, meditation and games. They also shared Rotary's Four-Way Test, emphasising fairness, goodwill and integrity. ■



Club members at the school.

## Tubewell for schoolchildren

**R**C Udaipur Yuva, RID 3056, installed a tubewell at a school in Old Bhawan, Udaipur, ensuring access to clean drinking water for around 600 students. ■

# Celebrating women achievers

## Team Rotary News



Club members, along with DG Neerav Agarwal and Kanpur mayor Pramila Pandey, honour an awardee.

**R**C Kanpur North, RID 3110, in association with IMA Kanpur, honoured 100 women for their achievements.

Women achievers from diverse fields including education, administration, business, social service, media, arts and sports were recognised for their remarkable contributions. The event also featured inspiring speeches and special performances. The event was held at the IMA Auditorium, Kanpur.

Club president Nishant Vadera said “We are not just presenting awards; we are acknowledging the courage, strength and perseverance of 100 incredible women. Each one of them has

faced challenges, broken barriers, and emerged victorious. Their stories are proof that when women rise, society rises with them. I thank IMA Kanpur for partnering with us in making this historic event possible.”

The event reinforced Rotary’s commitment to women’s empowerment, leadership, and healthcare initiatives. DG Neerav Agarwal and Kanpur mayor Pramila Pandey were the chief guests.

Awardees included Dr Alka Mittal, engineer Esha Sharma, social activist Ritu Singh, Dr Priyanka Srivastava, and entrepreneur Anjali Tiwari.■



Club members along with DG Agarwal and mayor Pramila.



# Providing water to a village

## Team Rotary News

**T**he Rotary Club of Bombay Sea Face, RID 3141, executed a project to recharge a borewell using rooftop rainwater harvesting in Chimpada, a tribal village in Shahapur taluk, Maharashtra. The village faced issues related to depleting groundwater levels and inadequate water supply. This project was aimed at ensuring sustainable water resources for the community.

Explaining the project, club president Minal Turakhia said that rooftop



Members of RC Bombay Sea face, RID 3141, with villagers after installing the rainwater harvesting system.

rainwater was channelled into a borewell to replenish underground reservoirs. Measures were taken to reduce surface runoff and maximise water retention. Awareness programmes

were conducted to educate villagers about water conservation.

Around 250 villagers including children benefit from this project which cost ₹1.8 lakh to the club. ■

## Roadshow for road safety

**T**hree Rotary clubs — Erode Thindal, Erode Mid Town and Erode Metro, RID 3203, organised a rally-cum-roadshow to sensitise the public on road safety. DG Suresh Babu, along with District Traffic Awareness chair Sivanantha Vadivel, Vellalar Educational Institution secretary SD Chandrasekar, district officials, Erode and Perundurai RTOs and inspectors participated in the rally. Around 250 Rotaractors also were present.

The event served to educate youngsters on the dangers of speeding and riding without helmet, respecting pedestrian crossings and giving way for ambulances, and other road safety issues. ■



The road safety awareness rally being flagged off.

# Sewing lessons for girls

## Team Rotary News

**R**C Jaipur East, RID 3056, has started a personality development project to empower students in government primary and upper primary schools. As part of this initiative, the club has launched sewing classes for girls from Classes 6 to 8 at the Government Upper Primary School, near old Mansarovar Thadi Market, Jaipur.

Club president Sudhir Paliwal and secretary Anand Maharwal inaugurated the programme. Speaking at the event, Paliwal said that students from government schools often come from under-privileged backgrounds. “Previously, our English-speaking course helped children from slums build self-confidence. Now, this sewing course will not only enhance the girls’ skills

but also serve as an employment-oriented initiative.”

Maharwal highlighted Jaipur’s “prominence as a hub for the readymade garment industry. Through this course, these young girls will have the opportunity to acquire valuable skills that can lead to employment and even

entrepreneurship in the future,” he added.

Project chair Ashutosh Bhatnagar said that the sewing classes will be conducted every Saturday by trainers Gulab Sharma and Megha Saini. He thanked the teachers and club members for their support. ■



A club member handing out fabric for embroidery practice.



Students learning to hem the edges of a cloth.