

# Rotary

NEWS PLUS





# Peace seminar calls for global harmony

## Team Rotary News

A one-day peace seminar, titled *Shanti Parv*, hosted by RC Thane North, RID 3142, brought together community leaders, peace advocates and academicians, all of them giving a clarion call for a “harmonious world through dialogue, understanding and actionable solutions to promote peace at the local and global levels,” said Medha Joshi, immediate past president of the club.

Six eminent persons — Rukmini Iyer, Rotary peace scholar; Ajay Vaidya, municipal commissioner, Bhiwandi-Nizampur; Milind Patre, associate dean, MIT-World Peace University, Pune; Colonel Manas Dixit; Dr Ulka Natu, a yoga master; and Rahul Joshi from MIT-WPU — shared their vision of a global order

wherein “peace starts with us — our actions, words, and our commitment to understanding one another.” This holistic approach framed the discussions that followed, encouraging participants to reflect on their roles in cultivating peace within their communities.

For over a century Rotary has been a “driving force for peace, not just through words, but through meaningful action,” said Medha. In a world increasingly torn by conflicts and divisions, Rotary’s role in peacebuilding will only grow stronger through “new initiatives, expanded partnerships and innovative programmes.” Rotary remains committed to its primary mission of creating a more just and peaceful world, she said.

In her address, Medha said, “peace is a journey, not a destination. Together we can take steps to ensure that this journey continues, inspiring future generations to carry the torch of peace forward.” PDG Mohan Chadavarkar, then district secretary Santosh Bhide, project convener Pallavi Phoujadar, and president-elect Mamta Vanjani were among the speakers.

Earlier, addressing a media briefing on the seminar, IPDG Dinesh Mehta said Rotary Peace Centers across the world groom students in various facets of peacebuilding. “Peace is an action towards a better future, a commitment to create a safer world, and a sense of duty we all share,” he added. ■

RID 3142 IPDG Dinesh Mehta (centre), PDG Mohan Chandavarkar, DGND Chandrahas Shetty (right) and RC Thane North immediate past president Medha Joshi (left) releasing the club bulletin at the peace seminar.



**On the cover:** Participants of the RYLA programme organised by RI district 3040.

# A special soft skills workshop

Team Rotary News

**R**C Amreli Gir, RID 3060, organised a teachers' training session at the Deaf and Mute School, Amreli, under the focus area of Basic Education and Literacy.

Sixteen teachers and staff members participated in the workshop, which aimed to improve the communication skills of hearing and speech-impaired students. The training, conducted by special educator Virendrasinh Gohil from Bhavnagar, introduced advanced sign language techniques and interactive teaching tools. Club president Trilok Bhatt, secretary Nirav Zinzuvadia and members attended the session.

The club inaugurated a Rotary *Chabutaro* (bird pavilion) on the school grounds in memory of two late Rotarians, Jaysukh Jogani and Bhavin Adalja. Built with contributions from the members' families and well-wishers, the structure was formally handed over to the school. The *chabutaro* will serve as a bird resting spot and a lasting tribute to the late Rotarians' service and legacy. ■



Teachers' training session at the Deaf and Mute School, Amreli.

Students in front of the Rotary *Chabutaro*.



# TRF Alumni meet in Coimbatore

Team Rotary News

**S**eventy-five individuals who had participated in TRF's prestigious programmes, such as the GSE, VTT, Peace Fellowship, Ambassadorial Scholarship and Rotary Volunteer, met in June at the multidistrict Rotary Foundation Alumni Confluence that was held in Coimbatore.

The alumni group from eight RI districts — 2981, 2982,

3000, 3191, 3201 (now 3206), 3203, 3204 and 3231 — reunited to share the transformative experience TRF's programmes had provided each one of them as they represented India across borders.

The event was hosted by RID 3201's TRF Alumni Association led by its chair Tharun Shah. Welcoming the guests, he said that the alumni

were not just a room full of individuals but a powerful network of changemakers from across various districts, united by a common bond: the Rotary Foundation and the life-changing experiences it had offered them.

The then DG Sundaravadivelu, a GSE alumnus, recalled his journey emphasising the lasting value of the Foundation's programmes



TRF alumni Dr Bhuvaneswaran, Director, PSG Hospitals and Pamela Suresh entertaining the gathering.



in shaping leaders. RID 3206 then DGE Chella Raghavendran participated in the event. Arulchelvan, a peace scholar and a professor at the Anna University, Chennai; PDG George Sundararaj, a GSE team leader; IPDG Raja Govindasamy, an Ambassadorial Scholar and a GSE alumnus; Balavenkat, a GSE alumnus; and Dr Bhuvaneswaran, cardiologist and director, PSG Hospitals, Coimbatore, were some of the participants at the confluence.

GSE team leader Mervyn Jussy spoke on how the alumni can stay connected, mentor future participants and build a sustainable Rotary alumni network.

All the participating alumni are influential professionals, contributing meaningfully to the society and Rotary alike. "Some of the cherished moments were the self-introduction and networking sessions, which allowed everyone to share their journey, relive memories of their international experience and the Rotary values that still shape them," said Shah. ■



**Above:** PDG George Sundararaj, Pamela and other alumni.

**Below:** RID 3206 DG Chella Raghavendran (L) and PDG Asoka (2<sup>nd</sup> from R) at the meet.



# A RYLA for the less privileged

## Team Rotary News



Participants interacting with IPDG Anish Malik at the RYLA.

**R**otary District 3040 led by the then DG Anish Malik organised a Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) programme in May for children aged 8–16 living in underserved communities. For Malik, it was a “realisation of a vision. Every child, regardless

of their backgrounds, deserves a chance to believe in themselves and lead their own future.”

The participants engaged in interactive sessions designed to build communication skills, teamwork, confidence and leadership values. More than lectures, the immersive experiences helped

identify their hidden potential, igniting their aspirations.

Tarun Mishra was the RYLA chair and he was supported by the then DRR Nikunj Goyadani and co-chair Yashovardhan Kothari. The programme was co-hosted by RCs Indore Marshal, Indore Central and Indore Meghdoot. ■

## A GG helps set up a Rotary dental clinic

**T**he Rotary Club of Muzaffarnagar Mid Town, RID 3100, established a dental clinic at the Mayadevi Charitable Hospital in Baghpat, Muzaffarnagar, with the help of a global grant. The new clinic was inaugurated by RID 3262 PDG and ARRFC Debashish Mishra. DG Nitin Agarwal and Rajesh Kumar, country head, RAG for Organ Donation were also present.

The club led by its president Kaushal Krishna distributed nutritive food packets to 40 patients being treated at the hospital. Earlier, the club had provided an ambulance and dialysis equipment to the hospital. ■



DG Nitin Agarwal (4th from R) and ARRFC Debashish Mishra (seated right) at the inauguration of the dental clinic.



# Now, girls pedal their way to school

## Team Rotary News



School girls with their new bicycles.

**B**icycles were presented to 25 school girls from underprivileged families by RC Pune Central, RID 3131, as one of their first projects in the new Rotary year.

As the girls had to travel long distances to and from school daily, the bicycles would empower them with a reliable, personal mode of transport. "The cycles will enable them to reach their schools on time and without fail, giving them a better chance to

complete their education," said Uday Dharmadhikari, past president and club's director of Programmes.

During the handover ceremony, past president Brig (retd) P KM Raja said the project is not just providing a mode of transport to girls, "it is about giving them the freedom to dream, learn and rise to their full potential." Ann Radhika Malhotra sponsored the entire project in memory of her late mother.

RCC volunteers, teachers and students, apart from Rotarians, were present at the Ghorpuri Village High School and Junior College, Pune Cantonment, where the bicycles were presented to the girls under *Project Wheels of Progress*.

Many of those present described the moment as life-changing for the girls as they now would be able to complete their school education without difficulty, said Dharmadhikari. ■

## Medicines for an old age home

**H**ealth tonics, medicines and vitamin supplements worth ₹88,500 were distributed to elderly inmates by RC Nanganallur Elite, RID 3234, at the Little Drops Old Age Home in Somangalam village.

All the health supplements including tonics were sponsored by Rtms G Srinivasan and Kannan. Around 450 destitute men and



RC Nanganallur Elite president VS Gopalakrishnan hands over donated medicines to a staff at the Little Drops Old Age Home.

women are living at the old age home and "we are glad to support them with medicines and vitamins," said VS Gopalakrishnan, club

president. He led a team of seven Rotarians who interacted with the senior citizens before giving them the health supplements. ■

# club matters



RC Dindigul



RC Nasik



RC Mayiladuthurai Kings



RC Kapurthala  
Downtown

## RC Mayiladuthurai Kings — RID 2981

An unclaimed women's body was buried with funeral rites by the club members, the 131<sup>st</sup> instance when the members took up such a noble work of disposing unidentified corpses under a permanent project. Books and shelves were given to a local salon for waiting customers.



RC Moradabad (East)

## RC Dindigul — RID 3000

The club honoured around 150 blood and human milk donors at an awards event held in partnership with the Dindigul Blood Bank. A number of organisations were also felicitated with mementos, thus boosting the public image of the club in this town.

## RC Nasik — RID 3030

Reusable sanitary pads were distributed to 250 girl students at the Unnati School which draws students from the most vulnerable sections of the society. Club's Interact director Supriya Mangulkar gave a talk on menstrual hygiene.

## RC Kapurthala Downtown — RID 3070

Saplings were planted at the Government Senior Secondary School for Boys as part of a greening mission. Trees of amla, neem, gulmohar, tahil, dheu and kesia, along with fruit-bearing trees including jamun, guava, oranga and malta were planted.

## RC Moradabad (East) — RID 3100

Over 100 senior citizens and 51 women were examined at a medical camp held with the support of Max Super Speciality Hospital, Vaishali. Dr Danish checked the patients. Blood sugar, BP and bone marrow tests were also done.





RC Coimbatore South



RC Patna City Samrat



RC Tirupur North



RC Katwa

#### RC Tirupur North — RID 3203

As part of its project empowering the girl child, the club donated ₹30,000 as school fees for five years to a girl student who was also given a bicycle to reach school without hassles. A 23-year-old kidney patient was given ₹3.6 lakh for transplant surgery.



RC Alleppey Greater

#### RC Alleppey Greater — RID 3211

Under *Project House for the Homeless*, a foundation stone for a new house worth ₹6 lakh was laid by IPDG Sudhi Jabbar at Punnappra, a coastal village in the Alappuzha district of Kerala. The housing project is aimed at homeless people who were selected after proper scrutiny.

#### RC Coimbatore South — RID 3206

Hygienic towels were given to 50 mothers of newborns at the Government Medical College Hospital, Coimbatore. The Turkey towels will keep the babies warm as they cuddle up while being embraced by their moms. The maternity project lifted the public image of the club.

#### RC Katwa— RID 3240

IPDG Sukhminder Singh inaugurated a purified cool drinking water booth at the Bharati Bhawan High School, Katwa, under a district grant project. Club president Rupesh Agarwalla, secretary Manisha Sain and other members were present. The school authorities thanked the club for the water kiosk.

#### RC Patna City Samrat — RID 3250

At the state-level inter-school chess tournament, 140 students competed in three categories at the Jesus and Mary Academy, Patna. The championship was held with the support of the Interact club of the academy, and the event coordinated by club president Abhishek Patrick turned out to be a successful one.

Compiled by V Muthukumaran

# Tribal women get goats

## Team Rotary News

**T**he Rotary Club of Tirupattur, RID 3231, donated goats to 35 women in a tribal hamlet on the Jawadhu Hills, which is an extension of the Eastern Ghats and spread across Vellore, Tiruvannamalai and Tirupattur districts in Tamil Nadu.

Goat rearing is a sustainable livelihood option that can help tribal women overcome economic challenges and improve the quality of life for 35 families, said club president T M Paneerselvam.

The club is actively promoting literacy in the region. “We regularly visit government schools in remote rural areas and distribute learning kits such as school bags, lunch boxes, footwear and stationery items among children to encourage them to attend school regularly and focus on their studies.” Sports equipment and ceiling fans are also being donated to schools. Scholarships are distributed to meritorious students to help them pursue higher studies. Over 60 students from various

government schools in the districts received educational aid to help them continue their studies.

Students are involved in planting saplings on school campuses and volunteers from the club educate them about climate change, afforestation, hygiene and sanitation. The club has provided play equipment to anganwadis and regularly distribute nutritive food packets to the children.

An eye-screening camp was conducted recently at Vinodhini Eye Clinic in the city. Over 300

Club president T M Paneerselvam (3<sup>rd</sup> from L), gifts a goat to a woman in a tribal hamlet on the Jawadhu Hills.







- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Above     | : An eye checkup camp in progress at a school.   |
| Top Right | : Club president Paneerselvam and other Rotarians after presenting an umbrella to a street vendor. |
| Right     | : Food packets being distributed in a locality.  |

people benefitted from the camp. Spectacles were given to those with sight disorders and cataract surgeries were sponsored by the club.

Tailoring classes were conducted for 100 destitute women in Bommikuppam, a village in Tirupattur taluk. “We will help them with employment or job work,” said Paneerselvam.

Large umbrellas were given to street vendors to protect them from sun and rain.■



## A toilet for the disabled

The Rotary Club of Coimbatore Infra, RID 3206, has provided a ‘smart toilet’ at the Corporation High School in Edayarpalayam on the outskirts of the city.

Project chair Nagaraj says that the project was inspired by the plight of a student suffering from muscular dystrophy. “She discontinued education due to lack of an accessible toilet facility. We heard about her struggle and acted swiftly to construct a toilet at the school.”

The new smart toilet is designed to be wheelchair-friendly, featuring a ramp for easy access, a sliding door and spacious interior tailored for the comfort and dignity of special children. Club members supported the project with funds and building materials.

The club organises the annual Infra Turf Cricket, a fundraiser to support its projects aimed to reach children with muscular dystrophy and other disabilities.■



# Rotary reaches out in Kushinagar

Team Rotary News

**T**o mark Doctors' Day, Rotarians of RC Kushinagar, RID 3120, visited city doctors at their clinics and homes to express appreciation for their service. The doctors were presented with mementos.

Club patron Wahid Ali spoke on the importance of trust in the doctor-patient relationship. Club member Sahil Bajaj and secretary Vijay Gupta acknowledged

the role of doctors in building a healthy society. IMA-Kushinagar president and senior physician Dr Gyan Prakash Rai appreciated the club's outreach and its continued engagement in social work.

As part of *Van Mahotsav 2025*, the club partnered with the Social Forestry Division of the Forest Department to organise a planting drive and awareness seminar at the Composite School, Mundera Ratanpatti.



Club members honour a doctor.





Students and Rotarians participate in the *One Tree in Mother's Name* campaign.

Seventy saplings were planted by students and staff under the *One Tree in Mother's Name* campaign. Each student dedicated a tree to their mothers. Alongside the greening mission, free textbooks provided by the Basic Education Department were distributed to students. The club distributed school bags to 26 newly admitted students from Class 1–6. Umbrellas were also given to the chefs at various schools.

A baby feeding room was inaugurated at the Kasia Roadways Bus Station. The facility was inaugurated by Love Kumar Singh, the regional manager of UPSRTC. Ali stated that the room was created to provide mothers a safe, clean, and respectful space for infant care. ■



The newly set-up baby feeding room at the Kasia Roadways Bus Station.



# A mega farm workshop in Mandya

V Muthukumaran



Youth volunteers and Rotarians at the 'Go Organic' walkathon in Bengaluru.

**A**round 700 farmers attended a workshop on 'Organic and natural farming' hosted jointly by RIDs 3191 and 3192 at the Badami Organic farm in Byadarahalli village of Mandya district of Karnataka.

This model farm in Malavalli taluk has adopted natural farming practices in recent years creating job opportunities for rural youth and also growing over 300 healthy agro products that were sold at the local markets.

The agricultural conclave was supported by the Sampurna Savavyava Krushi, Malavalli, a local NGO engaged in bettering the lives of farmers. Many participants were actively involved

in group discussions, attended multiple sessions, and "expressed a strong willingness to shift towards natural and organic farming practices," said Shiva Kumar B.L, director, Agriculture Committee, RID 3191. "The enthusiasm and keen interest displayed by the farmers was truly inspiring."

At the workshop, large number of farmers had committed to adopt these sustainable models of farm practices in the coming days, "thus marking a step towards a healthy and environment-friendly agriculture in the near future," said Kumar.

The Badami Farm where the event was held thrives on eco-friendly, sustainable practices by using only natural resources

"without use of any chemicals and fertilisers. Every aspect of the farm, that is from soil enrichment to pest control, is managed by using time-tested organic process. This ensures the health of both the land and the produce," said Akshai Mallappa, director, Agriculture Committee, RID 3192. Through showcasing the potential of chemical-free farming, the Badami Farm has set an example of a green, healthier future "by proving that nature when nurtured with care and respect can provide us with a rich bounty," said Mallappa.

## **An offer from the Mutt**

Seer Nischalananda Swami from the Kengeri Vishwa Vokkaliga



Mutt came forward to extend his premises for Rotary events aimed at promoting farmers and their products. This gesture from the Mutt has opened up a good opportunity for Rotary clubs in RIDs 3191 and 3192 to hold events and workshops to promote sustainable farming. “By joining hands with the Mutt, Rotary can create a vibrant platform to empower farmers, showcase organic and natural products, and drive meaningful change at the grassroots level,” said Kumar.

At the farm workshop, 20 Rotarians from different clubs were honoured with the title of ‘Champions of the Environment’ for their dedication in promoting organic farming initiatives of Rotary. No plastic plates or water bottles were used throughout the workshop, instead steel plates and cups were provided to the farmers. Later on, they were collected, cleaned and reused throughout the event.

### Go Organic walkathon

The then RID 3190 (in and around Bengaluru region) had taken up many farm projects such as *Laksha Kalpavruksha* — donating one lakh coconut saplings for long-term sustainability of farmers. Recently, both the RIDs 3191 and 3192 conducted a ‘Go Organic’ walkathon to create awareness on and drum-up support for women-led Self-Help Groups. “The walkathon was aimed to mobilise the community and generate funds to empower rural women

engaged in sustainable farming,” said Shiva Kumar.

Hundreds of student volunteers and Rotarians started from the Lalbagh Gardens (West Gate), and marched with posters and banners till Buffalo Back Collective at Jayanagar, Bengaluru. All the proceeds from the event were used to create direct market linkages,

enabling SHG members to sell their produce without market intermediaries. “This direct market linkage will ensure better income and economic independence for SHG members.”

Also, the walkathon supported the development of rural women entrepreneurs by strengthening their agri-based livelihoods. ■



A mega farmers meet at the Badami Farm in Byadarahalli village, Mandya.



Rotarians and farmers with Nischalananda Swami from the Kengeri Vishwa Vokkaliga Mutt.



Steel plates and utensils are used instead of plastic material at the farmers’ conclave.

# A Tribal Health Shelter in Coimbatore

Team Rotary News



RC Coimbatore Industrial City immediate past president Uma Prabhu and her club members at the Tribal Health Shelter, Anaikatti.

A Tribal Health Shelter was set up at Anaikatti, a scenic village on the edges of an elephant sanctuary near the Western Ghats, jointly by RCs Coimbatore Industrial City and Coimbatore Legend, RID 3206, for treating sickle cell patients in

Adivasi hamlets. The medical centre will be run in association with the Nilgiris Adivasi Welfare Association (NAWA), a local NGO.

With the help of the NGO, the clubs will identify the sickle cell patients in tribal hamlets, and “they

will be treated at this health shelter,” said BA Prabhushankar, charter president, RC Coimbatore Industrial City. “The patients will also be counselled on leading a healthy life by the NAWA volunteers and doctors.” ■

## Breastfeeding Week at govt hospital



A gift bag with nutritious food being given to lactating mother.

Gift bags containing nutritious foods were distributed by RC Pudukkottai, RID 3000, to young mothers with their babies and pregnant women at the Government Hospital, Pudukkottai, at an event to mark World Breastfeeding Week (Aug 1-7).

Child specialist Dr Peter gave an awareness talk on infant care and the steps to be taken by mothers while nurturing their newborns. Later, Rotarians distributed gift bags containing nutrient supplements and baby foods to all the participants who thanked the club for the gesture. ■





Club members and students after the school bag distribution drive.

## From bags to apps

### Team Rotary News

**R**C Pachora-Bhadgaon, RID 3030, as part of its education outreach, distributed school bags to students of the ZP School, Bhadgaon. The distribution took place in the presence of club president Dr Mukesh Teli, secretary Dr Ajaysing Pardeshi and donors.

To raise awareness on child rights, the club organised a lecture on the POCSO Act and children's rights at the Nirmal International School, Pachora. The session was attended by over 800 students, along with teachers and Rotary members. Dr Teli and Dr Pardeshi were the keynote speakers.

In another initiative to support students preparing for board exams, the club distributed the *Ideal Study* App to Class 10 students. The project was conducted under the guidance of DG Dnyaneshwar Shewale and AG Kiran Deshmukh.

To mark a birthday celebration, club members led by Teli planted saplings as part of a tree planting drive. ■



Access cards distributed to students to log in to the Ideal Study App.



Students displaying important sections under the POCSO Act and children's rights.



# Healthcare projects of RC Kalyan City

## Team Rotary News

**T**he Rotary Club of Kalyan City, RID 3142, through its *Nikshay Mitra* project provides grocery kits comprising 3kg wheat, pulses, cooking oil, ground-nuts and milk to people being treated for tuberculosis at the Government Hospital, Lokgram.

The kits were sponsored by the club's past president Ramachandra Mandhane and his spouse Archana. This is a permanent project of the club with members taking turns to contribute every month for the cause.

In another initiative, wheelchairs and a stretcher were donated to the Kalyan Railway project following a request from the Central Railways. These resources will aid in moving injured individuals swiftly and safely during emergency, said the club's IPP Hycenth Bhetasiwala. Another stretcher was donated to the Kalyan Central Jail to help prison inmates during emergency.

The club organised seminars at two schools in Kalyan to introduce



**Below:** Wheelchairs and a stretcher presented to the Kalyan Railway Station.







**Left:** From second left: IPP Hycenth Bhetasiwala, past president Yakub Bhetasiwala and president Nikhil Parmar present a stretcher to the jail authorities.

**Below:** RC Kalyan City past president Ramachandra and Archana Mandane give a grocery kit to a girl undergoing treatment for TB. Past president Hycenth and president Parmar are seen on the left.



students to the impactful world of plastic surgery, “not just as a medical treatment, but also as a potential career option,” she explained. Dr Ruttuja Chavaan, an expert in plastic surgery, addressed the students.

The club, along with the Rotaract Club of Kalyan Heritage City, organised two blood donation drives in Kalyan. Over 44 units of

blood were collected. The camps were organised in association with the Bharat Vikas Parishad, Kalyan West, and the Lifeline Blood Centre. The programme was led by club president Nikhil Parmar and secretary Purva Kulkarni.

The club partnered with Tech Mahindra Foundation and RAC Kalyan Heritage City to organise a healthcare skill training

programme for youth. Sessions on effective communication and stress management were also included. Tech Mahindra’s programme called SMARTH that provides vocational healthcare skills were also introduced to the participants.

The club, along with the Rotaract club, organised a RYLA for youngsters in Badlapur. ■

# Dental events at Spastics Society

## Team Rotary News

**A** dental awareness event for parents of special children at the Spastics Society was hosted by RC Tiruchirapalli Phoenix, RID 3000, under *Project Smile of Hope*. Dr Vaishnavi Bhaskaran gave a power point presentation on how to take care of children's oral health by cultivating good habits as part of their daily routine.

Dr Balamurali gave practical tips for the clinic visit, and the ways to keep the children engaged by giving them toys and playing music to them. At a demo-table, Rotarians and consultants helped parents try the grips, brushes and

flossers. Everyone cheered seeing a young boy on stage practising a simple mouth rinse routine with help from a Rotarian.

Club president Manivel Annadurai, secretary M Raja and treasurer N Ramachandrababu coordinated with the doctor consultants for hassle-free dental session for parents of special children.

Parents were given take-home checklists that will help them to guide their children follow a healthy oral hygiene. Earlier, a dental camp was organised for children at the Spastics Society in which personalised care was given to young inmates with cerebral



Above: A doctor consultant giving a lecture for parents of special children.

Right: Rotarians plant saplings at a school near Trichy.



A dental check-up for special children at the Spastics Society, Trichy.





palsy and other motor neuron diseases.

Rotarians planted fruit-bearing trees on the campus of St Arnold Matric School, Ponmalaipatti, near Trichy, with the aim to create awareness on the need to protect the environment among the students. Teachers and students took part as volunteers.

#### **I-Day event**

Rotarians celebrated the 79<sup>th</sup> Independence Day at the Spastics Society with a crafts session, cake cutting, and fun games with special children

One memorable takeaway is the group photo session in which students, teachers, Rotarians and the staff stood closely in the corridor for that 'click' which will carry the physical evidence of the I-Day celebration. Rotarians interacted with teachers and parents of special children, and the before leaving the premises, the club members planted three saplings of neem, hibiscus and champak on the school premises. ■



# Dindigul Queens in action

## Team Rotary News

**T**he 27<sup>th</sup> Installation ceremony of RC Dindigul Queencity, RID 3000, was held in July at the RKG Rotary Hall, Dindigul. Incoming club leaders were formally inducted in the presence of Rotarians and guests. Following the installation, the club initiated a series of service activities.

Under the *Udhavum Karangal* initiative, educational support was provided to Rathika R

Prathiksha, a Class 8 student of St Joseph Higher Secondary School, Dindigul.

As part of its environmental efforts, members planted neem and coconut trees at the Directorate of Town and Country Planning, Dindigul Collectorate. The club has committed to maintaining the saplings for a year and placed hollow blocks around them.

The club continued its long-term support for children with

clubfoot, sponsoring treatment at the Government Hospital, Dindigul. Parents were also offered counselling.

A drug abuse awareness session was held at the TPKN Matric Higher Secondary School. Dr Sharmila Balaguru addressed students on how children are enticed to become drug addicts, the impact of substance abuse, and the available resources.

Eight Interact clubs were installed by club members.

Club members planting a sapling.







The installation ceremony of eight Interact clubs by RC Dindigul Queencity.

Rtn VS Baskaran administered the oath to student leaders, while Praveen Kumar, secretary of RC Karur, addressed them on responsibility and commitment.

The Interact Club of Kasturiba Sevikashram School, Gandhigram, was installed by club member Kavitha Senthilkumar. Books were also distributed under the *Puthaga*

*Siragugal* initiative to promote reading among Interact students. Ten schools received five Tamil books each.

The July month concluded with a child abuse awareness session for 250 students at the Kasturiba Sevikashram School, conducted by Hariani, founder of Matboy. ■



**Above:** An infant after the clubfoot correction surgery.



**Left:** A child abuse awareness session.

# Anti-plastic project at Nemmara

## Team Rotary News

**W**ith an aim to create awareness on the harmful effects of single-use plastics and microplastics on waterbodies, RC Nemmara, RID 3206, launched a campaign last year in partnership with the College of Applied Science, Ayalur (Kerala), local panchayat and Bhoomithra Sena Club, a local NGO.

IPDG N Sundaravadivelu, then RID 3201, launched the project which was led by AM Ramakrishnan,



IPDG N Sundaravadivelu at the launch of anti-plastic drive.

a member of RC Nemmara. During the inauguration, pamphlets were distributed and Rotarians addressed the gathering on the need to keep the waterbodies clean by avoiding plastics. They also visited nearby houses to create awareness for a behavioural change.

NSS volunteers were trained to visit homes to explain the ill-effects of plastics to the families in the local dialect. Cloth bags were distributed and people were advised not to use plastic bags. Also, the volunteers went to schools to drive home the message among students. ■

## RC Mayiladuthurai distributes cloth bags

**E**nvironment-friendly yellow cloth bags were unveiled during the visit of RID 2981 Governor J Leone to RC Mayiladuthurai Kings. After the event, Rotarians distributed the cloth bags at the bus terminus and railway station, urging the people to avoid plastics in their daily life, and instead use cloth bags to usher in a green and sustainable environment.

The distribution of cloth bags at busy junctions in Mayiladuthurai boosted the public image of the club as Rotarians also engaged the shoppers and retailers on the need to follow an eco-friendly lifestyle to preserve the earth's biodiversity. ■



RID 2981 DG J Leone (centre) launching yellow cloth bags with club members.



# A Chandigarh school gets **WASH facilities**

Team Rotary News



Students attending a session on hygiene at the school.

**T**he Rotary Club of Chandigarh, RID 3080, installed a handwash station and renovated the toilets at a corporation school in the city. After inaugurating the facilities, the club members organised

an awareness session for the students to educate them on personal hygiene and sanitation.

The club commemorated the 91<sup>st</sup> birthday of its member, PRIP Rajendra Saboo with this initiative. ■

## A government hospital gets medical devices



Club president Sangeeta Chandran and secretary Jagruti Oberoi after giving nutritional food boxes to children at the Civil Hospital.

**T**he Rotary E-Club of Empowering Youth, RID 3132, gave digital blood pressure monitors and a fetal doppler for use at the maternity ward of the Government District Civil Hospital in Ahilyanagar (Ahmednagar) in Maharashtra.

The club distributed iron-rich snacks and fruits to nursing mothers, and children being treated for various illnesses in the hospital's paediatric ward.

The project was sponsored by club president Sangeeta Chandran and secretary Jagruti Oberoi on their installation as club leaders. ■

## Quiz for students

### Team Rotary News



Students at the quiz contest.

**R**ID 3090 conducted the District GK Quiz under the leadership of DG Bhupesh Mehta and District Interact chair Manik Raj Singla. The event brought together eight Rotary clubs, 28 schools, and around 2,800 Interactors from Punjab, Haryana, and Rajasthan. More than 2,300 students from Class 8–12 took part in the quiz.

Some of the top schools include Veer Haqiqat Rai Senior Secondary School (Patiala); Sparkling Kids — The Foundation School (Patran); School of Eminence (Patiala); Sri Aurobindo International School (Patiala); and Uttami Bai Arya Girls Senior Secondary School (Bhiwani), among others.

The programme was attended by DG Mehta, three Assistant Governors, club presidents, and 19 Rotarians from all five Rotary clubs of Patiala. Winners got certificates and trophies after the results were declared. ■

## Tackling domestic violence

**R**C Pune Metro, RID 3131, has launched *Project Samvedana*, an initiative to raise awareness about domestic violence among adolescents and youth.

Conducted in partnership with the Baya Karve Woman Study Centre, the project features six interactive sessions spread over months, covering gender sensitivity, equality, empathy, emotional intelligence, power dynamics, and recognising early signs of abuse. Special training sessions for teachers are also planned.

The programme is being implemented in four Pune schools, with the first session inaugurated at Prerana School in July. The programme uses activities,



Students filling out a questionnaire during the programme.

case studies, storytelling, and scenario discussions to ensure lasting impact.

The project was appreciated by DG Santosh Marathe and featured in the district newsletter. Also, the sessions are designed for easy replication by other Rotary clubs across India and globally, with RC Pune Metro offering guidance for adoption. ■



# Scholarship for school students

Team Rotary News



Students receive scholarships at a handover event.

Scholarships amounting to ₹1.06 lakh were distributed by RC Madras Traditional, RID 3234, to 10 students of Ganeshbhai Galada Jain Girls Higher Secondary

School, Sowcarpet, to cover the tuition fees of meritorious students.

A Vocational Service Award was given to Madhavi Krishnapriya

from Imemory School, Nellore. Then DGE Vinod Saraogi unveiled the new board of the club's office-bearers for 2025-26 in the presence of Rotarians. ■

## Food served at gurudwara

Freshly cooked food was served as lunch by members of RC Ranchi, RID 3250, to around 300 devotees at a gurudwara under *Project Annapurna Seva*, thus lifting the public image of the club in the neighbourhood.

The club distributes food to under-privileged families as an ongoing project spreading smiles among the impoverished people, thanks to the contributions of all the club members through donations in cash and kind, apart from volunteering for the *Annapurna* project throughout the year. ■

Lunch being served to visitors at the gurudwara in Ranchi.



# Iconic clock tower in Patna

Team Rotary News

To mark its golden jubilee year, Rotary Club of Pataliputra, RID 3250, inaugurated an iconic Rotary Clock Tower at Dakbunglow Chauraha, a busy junction in Patna. The four-faced GPS-synchronised clock, imported from England at a cost of ₹14 lakh, blends heritage with modernity, and is designed to keep perfect time in all seasons.

The tower was inaugurated by Jibesh Kumar, Bihar Minister for Urban Development and Housing, IPDG Bipin Chachan and club members at the inauguration of the Rotary Clock Tower.

Conceived during the tenure of past president Swati Modi and executed under Sanjay Bhartiya, the current president and project chair Navin Gupta, the tower is the highlight of the club's 50<sup>th</sup> year celebration. The project was supported by the club's past presidents, the Municipal Corporation, and other government bodies.

RC Pataliputra has a legacy of doing impactful projects, including a blood bank, eye hospital, dialysis centre, Saheli Centre for women, Mukti Rath funeral service, and drinking water facilities across the city.

"The new clock tower now stands as a civic landmark and a symbol of Rotary's enduring commitment to *Service Above Self*," says IPDG Chachan. ■

Jibesh Kumar, Bihar Minister for Urban Development and Housing, IPDG Bipin Chachan and club members at the inauguration of the Rotary Clock Tower.





# RYLA on art & culture

## Team Rotary News

**R**C Hardwar, RID 3080, supported its Interact club at the Delhi Public School (DPS), Daulatpur, in organising a half-day RYLA focused on art and culture.

The event began with a welcome address by club president Dr Alope Saraswat, followed by a talk on the importance of Raksha Bandhan and the need to uphold our cultural traditions by past president Vivek Mishra.

He emphasised that festivals like Raksha Bandhan foster bonds of love and respect, and help pass on values

and traditions to the younger generation. “Celebrating our festivals is not just about rituals, but about keeping alive the spirit of togetherness that defines our society,” he said.

Club secretary Neeraj Agarwal spoke on the role of youth in understanding and preserving culture. He highlighted that young people are not just inheritors of traditions but active participants in keeping them relevant. He encouraged students to engage creatively, learn the stories behind customs, and ensure that cultural heritage continues to thrive in a modern context.

The sessions were attended by 30 participants from Class 9–11, followed by a hands-on rakhi-making workshop, which saw an additional 20 students join, bringing total participation to 50. All participants were awarded certificates of appreciation.

The event was attended by BM Gupta, club member, and Poonam Srivastava, principal of DPS, who thanked the organisers for “fostering cultural awareness and providing students a platform to celebrate and learn about Indian traditions.” ■

Students, along with Rotarians, at the rakhi-making workshop.



# A community baby shower in Erode

## Team Rotary News

**O**n World Breastfeeding Week (Aug 1–7), a community baby shower was organised by RC Erode Nexus, RID 3203, a maternal and child health project that benefitted 50 expectant mothers from the economically-weaker sections of the society. The project cost ₹2.30 lakh.

DG B Dhanasekar presented specially curated gifts to pregnant women, all of whom were given a rousing welcome before traditional rituals were performed on them. The beneficiaries attended with their families, thus creating a family-like ambience at the venue.

PDG EK Sagadhevan, Agni Steels director K Thangavelu, Shanmuga Groups director V Rajamanickam, Rtn Usha Sagadhevan, Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator N Dhavamani and AG K Ramalingam were present. Project chairpersons C S Sri Darshini and S Pratheeswaran took care of the logistics.



Expectant mothers at the community baby shower.





Nursing students and club members at the professional awareness session on breastfeeding.

In partnership with the Erode Parenting Hub, a professional awareness session on the importance of breastfeeding was conducted for 120 nursing students from various colleges.

Dr Shruthi Abhishant, fertility specialist, and Dr Menaga, a lactation consultant, interacted with the students. Through discussions and expert guidance, the session empowered the future nursing professionals to support breastfeeding mothers.

#### Health tips for new moms

Doctor Rotarians, Shruthi Rajendran, Usha Sagadhevan and Selvan, gave inspiring talks on the topic 'Breaking myths on breastfeeding for pregnant

mothers'. The health awareness session was arranged in tie-up with the Lotus Hospital and 40 expectant mothers benefitted from the event. The new mothers took a pledge to promote breastfeeding as read out by club secretary Madhumathi.

#### I-Day at schools

Eco-friendly flags were distributed to students at the Government Higher Secondary School, B P Agraharam, and Government Higher Secondary School, Kumalankuttai, by club members as part of Independence Day events.

These flags sprout into plants when sown in soil, thus creating the possibility of trees

growing up in clusters. The joy on the children's faces when they discovered this concept were inspiring for the Rotarians.

One of the Rotary sessions focused on cleanliness and waste management in which students took a pledge to maintain their surroundings litter-free as a small effort to build a cleaner India. Club president S Bharanidhar and Madhumathi led the project which fostered a spirit of patriotism with environmental responsibility among students.

Project chairpersons Vinod Kumar and Prawin Kumar coordinated the I-Day celebrations at the schools. ■

**R**C Pune Heritage, RID 3131, in collaboration with Zade Lava Zade Jagwa, a local NGO promoting environmental protection and eco-friendly practices, organised a tree planting drive at the Uttamrao Patil Biodiversity Park, Narhe Ambegaon Hill, Pune.

Amidst heavy rains, club members planted 60 trees, including banyan, peepal, tamarind, audumbar and bahaawa. These varieties were chosen for their ecological and cultural significance. “Banyan provides shade and supports wildlife, peepal is sacred and promotes biodiversity, tamarind offers nutrition and soil enrichment, audumbar attracts pollinators, and bahaawa

# Promoting eco-friendly practices

## Team Rotary News

Banyan provides shade and supports wildlife, peepal is sacred and promotes biodiversity, tamarind offers nutrition and soil enrichment, audumbar attracts pollinators, and bahaawa contributes to soil stabilisation and local greenery.

**Subhro Sen**  
club president

contributes to soil stabilisation and local greenery,” explains Subhro Sen, club president. Each member dedicated one tree, symbolising personal commitment to the environment.

The collaborating NGO will nurture these saplings for three years, ensuring their growth into self-sustaining trees, with updates provided to the club every six months to monitor progress and impact. ■







**Below:** Club members at the tree planting drive at the Uttamrao Patil Biodiversity Park, Pune.





# Promoting healthy childhood

## Team Rotary News

**R**C Shahabad Markanda, RID 3080, organised an informative programme at Nagpal Children's Hospital, Gopi Vihar, where Dr H S Nagpal and Dr Supreet Nagpal educated parents on vaccination and nutrition for children.

Dr Supreet emphasised avoiding bottle feeding. "If necessary, bottles should be sterilised in boiling water for few minutes, and the nipple cap should be closed after cleaning to prevent infection," she said and explained the importance of "mother's milk which is unique for each child. It not only provides

essential nutrients but also strengthens immunity and supports healthy growth. When fed correctly, it is the safest and most effective nutrition a child can receive."

The Anns of Rotarians organised *Project Mamta* at Siddharth Hospital, Ladwa Road, focusing on maternal and child well-being. Dr Anjali Sharma, a gynaecologist, provided guidance on nutrition, vaccination and hygiene for pregnant women.

She explained, "Proper nutrition ensures both mother and baby receive essential vitamins and minerals, while vaccination

protects them from preventable diseases, and good hygiene practices reduce infection risk. Following these steps can give children a strong foundation in life and mothers a healthier pregnancy." Free consultations and balanced diet charts were distributed to 120 women attending the programme.

The club also celebrated the birthday of Anya, granddaughter of its member Raj Kumar Garg, at Ni Aasre Da Aasra Shelter Home, Magarpur. As part of the celebration, a *bhandara* (feast) was served, and the inmates of the old-age home greeted Anya. ■

Rotarians organising the feast at Ni Aasre Da Aasra Shelter Home, Magarpur.





# Eye and homeopathy camps

## Team Rotary News



Consultation in progress at the homeopathy camp.

**R**C Shri Madhopur Sunrise, RID 3056, in collaboration with the Sankara Eye Hospital, Jaipur, and with financial support from the District Blindness Prevention Committee, organised the 70<sup>th</sup> free cataract check-up and lens implantation camp at the Chaudhary Nathuram Bhamu Rotary Bhawan.

A total of 98 patients were screened, out of

which 36 were selected for cataract surgery and sent to Sankara Eye Hospital by private bus. All selected patients underwent free cataract surgery and lens transplantation.

In addition, the club arranged free travel, food, accommodation, and spectacles for the patients. Doctors from the Sankara Hospital executed the procedures.

Free spectacles were also distributed to 38 patients who had undergone surgery in the previous camp. To date, through 69 eye camps, the club has recorded 6,427 registrations and completed 2,078 cataract surgeries. These eye camps are held on the first Wednesday of every month.

The club also organised the 459<sup>th</sup> fortnightly homeopathy camp at the Rotary Bhawan. The camp benefitted 120 patients, who received free consultations and 14 days of medicines.

So far, more than 49,000 patients have benefitted from the 458 camps held earlier. These camps, conducted every alternate Sunday, are led by Dr S L Chaudhary, who treats patients suffering from kidney stones, prostate issues, skin and stomach diseases, asthma, psoriasis, sciatica, colds, tonsillitis, allergies, migraine, fungal infections, joint pain, and other chronic ailments. ■



Club members, patients and doctors at the eye camp.