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Rotary

NEWS PLUS



Breast cancer screening camp in Puducherry

Team Rotary News

The Rotary Club of Pondicherry Marina, RID 2981, organised a breast cancer detection and awareness camp in various localities of Puducherry with the help of the Mammogram on Wheels which was donated during the Rotary year 2021–22 through a global grant to the Vinayaka Medical College and Hospital.

The camp was inaugurated by PDG A Mani; DGND P Anandan, DRFC D Ravi and AG K Kandan were present. Five Rotary clubs of Puducherry — RCs Pondicherry Galaxy, Aerocity and Phoenix — also co-hosted the camp. Around 50 women benefitted from the project.

RC Pondicherry Marina installed two Interact clubs at the TTSTN Government High School and the Nandanar Government Girls Higher Secondary School. Sports equipment were given by the club to these

two schools. Seminars on rainwater harvesting were conducted for the students in the both the schools with an aim to educate the children on water conservation. Painting and essay competitions on the theme were also organised for the students.

In another initiative, the club hosted a fashion show for young women from marginalised families to showcase their skills and give them an opportunity to get on stage. A crash course in personal

grooming, makeup, stage exposure and media coverage was imparted to the participants by grooming specialists engaged by the club.

Other initiatives of RC Pondicherry Marina include a blood donation drive for the Mundiambakkam Government Medical College and Hospital in the neighbouring town Villupuram, and a ROTA sports event for the city's school and college students. ■



Members of RC Pondicherry Marina with students of one of the newly-chartered Interact club.

Below: PDG A Mani (5th from R) with club members at the breast cancer screening camp.



On the cover: Students of the Government Intermediate College, Daunk (Uttarakhand), at the digital lab set up by RC Hardwar.

Facelift for a transgender home

Team Rotary News



RID 3142 IPDG Dinesh Mehta (right, black jacket) unveils the plaque at the inauguration of the renovated premises of Kinnar Asmita, a special home for transgenders in Kalyan. Also seen are members of RCs Thane Royales and Bhiwandi BKC.

Under a district grant of RID 3142, a dilapidated home of transgenders in Kalyan was renovated in a joint project by RCs Thane Royales and Bhiwandi BKC, thus benefitting over 30 members living at Kinnar Asmita, a non-profit engaged in improving the livelihood of LGBTQ community.

The seeds of *Project Samanita* were sown during a Raksha Bandhan celebration and CPR training session at this special home last year, when Rotarians saw the grim reality of the

building — unstable electrical wiring, water leakage, broken floor, poor sanitation and dimly-lit rooms. At that time, the two partner clubs came together to renovate the transgender home under the district grant's 75:25 matching model. The renovation project got a boost with generous contributions from donors and support from the Thane North Star Trust.

The clubs were able to do a set of work — complete overhaul of electrical wiring, plumbing repairs, upgrading toilets and washrooms, smooth flooring, bright lighting solutions

and ventilation, and a safe hygiene, all of which ensured a dignified living condition.

In his message, IPDG Dinesh Mehta said projects like this showed “how Rotary can touch lives in the most meaningful way.” He complimented the two clubs for their coordination, empathy and dedication in finishing the renovation work in time.

Sohini Dam, immediate past president, RC Thane Royales said *Project Samanita* was not just about “bricks and plumbing. It brought dignity, safety and belonging to the transgenders.” Echoing the same view, Hrishikesh Patil, IPP, RC Bhiwandi BKC, said, “the project reflects the true spirit of Rotary, that is, *Service above Self*. This is not just a renovation work; it is a statement: our transgender community deserves safe spaces and unconditional respect.”

Rotarians, donors and community leaders gathered at the inaugural of the renovated building of Kinnar Asmita. The event concluded with a community lunch, *Annadaan*, thus reflecting community bonding and solidarity. ■



The new-look dormitory (left) after the renovation.

A digital learning centre in Hardwar

Team Rotary News

The Rotary Club of Hardwar, RID 3080, and Rotary Club of Bangalore West, RID 3192, collaborated to install a fully-equipped computer lab at the Government Intermediate College, Daunk in Tehri Garhwal, Uttarakhand. The project focuses on providing quality digital education and global exposure to students from a geographically isolated area where access to technology is extremely limited.

The school is located in a remote hilly region where mobile

connectivity is extremely poor, internet access was non-existent and students had little or no exposure to computers or digital learning, said club president Alok Saraswat. So both Rotary clubs envisioned a project that could bring long-term transformational change to the lives of students.

The project included installation of 15 computer systems, high speed internet connectivity, CCTV cameras to monitor academic progress and classroom activities, and a dedicated internet tower, as the area lacked any viable network infrastructure.

The project was spearheaded by Pankaj Pandey of RC Hardwar and RID 3192 CSR head Naveen Kolavara. DG Ravi Prakash inaugurated the lab at the school in the presence of the district education officer VP Singh, Saraswat, president-elect Nila Madhaba Sahu, AG Vikas Garg, RC Bangalore West president Yogesh Pachisia, and members of both the Rotary clubs. RCs Hardwar and Rishikesh Divas distributed uniforms, track suits, school bags, stationery material and snacks to students.

Speaking at the inauguration, club president Saraswat said, “A new

The new digital lab set up by RC Hardwar at the Government Intermediate College in Daunk, Uttarakhand.



era of education is set to begin for the children of Daunk. Rotary shall continue to pursue such meaningful partnership projects in the future.” He informed that the total project cost was ₹20 lakh, and both the Rotary clubs pooled resources and successfully completed the project in the true spirit of service.

The club has been reaching out to the underprivileged in several ways during this Rotary year.

Providing lunch to children residing in orphanages is a priority service of the club. Various corporates pitch in with their support for the endeavour. In another initiative, the club members pooled in funds to provide household items to the newly-married daughter of a barber who sought Rotary’s help.

Over 500 units of blood was donated to the Manya Charitable Blood Centre in Hardwar through eight blood donation camps organ-



Club members serving lunch to children.



DG Ravi Prakash (R) at the Har ki Pauri ghat after handing over a public address system to the Hardwar Police.

ised by the club since the beginning of this Rotary year.

Woollen blankets were distributed to street dwellers to help them combat the winter chill. Furniture, a public address system and a weather clock were provided to the police post at the Har Ki Pauri location, famous as the Ganga Aarthi site.

A Rotary Wheel was installed at the locality to boost Rotary’s public image as thousands of tourists throng the site to watch the Ganga aarti, an evening ritual performed every evening for the Ganga River.

“This contribution to Hardwar’s most prominent landmark is a useful initiative in the public interest.

A public message system is essential at a busy religious site like Har Ki Pauri, and this location is also ideal for promoting Rotary’s identity to the community,” said president Saraswat. DG Ravi Prakash handed over the material to the police personnel on behalf of the club. ■

club matters

RC Pondicherry Phoenix



RC Nasik



RC Kallakurichi



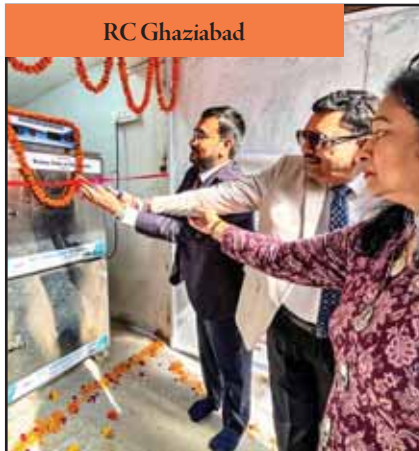
RC Sagar



RC Pondicherry Phoenix — RID 2981

Around 60 units of blood was collected at a blood donation camp held with the support of JIPMER Blood Bank and 70 volunteers. Certificates of commendation were given to all the donors, and the event boosted the public image of Rotary.

RC Ghaziabad



RC Nasik — RID 3030

Three blood donation camps were held simultaneously at the Rotary Hall; BLVD Hotel; and Dr Vasantrao Pawar Medical College. Janakalyan Blood Bank and the one at the medical college hospital provided equipment and staff. Over 150 units of blood was collected.

RC Kallakurichi — RID 2982

DG P Sivasundaram was the chief guest a special event titled *Lifeline of the Nation* held to honour 107 farmers who were given fertiliser sprayers, and draped with shawls as a token gesture for the agricultural work they are doing. All of the were treated to a grand dinner.

RC Ghaziabad — RID 3012

DGE Amit Gupta handed over a freezer box to Shri Jagannath Charitable Cancer Hospital which will help the relatives of the deceased patients. He praised club president Vipin Goel for taking up this critical project.

RC Sagar — RID 3040

On World Cancer Day (Feb 4), in a joint session with the IMA, local chapter, Rtn Talha Saad, a senior doctor at the BMC Hospital give an awareness talk on the disease. Club members distributed chocolates to students at the Kendriya Vidyalaya School No 4, Sagar, on Children's Day (Nov 14).

RC Jodhpur Garima



RC Haripad Greater



RC Ludhiana Greater



RC Gadarwara



RC Jodhpur Garima — RID 3053

A four-day winter clothing collection drive was organised at many places with donation boxes placed in vantage points. The citizens dropped their clean, winter wear which were then sorted, packed and distributed to needy families. Lekhhika Choudhary, Asian yoga champion, was one of the supporters.

RC Blood Donors Varanasi



RC Haripad Greater — RID 3211

Food items, diapers and other essentials were provided to elderly women at an old age home. Rotarians interacted with them and assured that they would be taken on a fun outing soon. The elders thanked the club for the daily essentials, and for spending time with them.

RC Ludhiana Greater — RID 3070

Warm clothes, shoes, toys, blankets and other daily essentials were distributed to the less privileged families under *Project Neki Di Dukaan* (shop of kindness), which is aimed to spread joy and compassion. It was done in collaboration with the ABC Magical World School.

RC Blood Donors Varanasi — RID 3120

Charter president Rajesh Gupta was honoured by the UP Blood Transfusion Council, Lucknow, at an event to mark the birthday of PM Narendra Modi. UP chief minister Yogi Adityanath presented the award and citation to Gupta. He had donated blood over 100 times to many hospitals and blood banks.

RC Gadarwara — RID 3261

Around 350 students were screened for various health issues by a team of nine doctor and medicines were given to needy at a health check-up camp held at the Government Kanya Naveen Vidyalaya. Club president Surendra Sahu coordinated for the success of the camp.

Compiled by V Muthukumaram



Rotarians with sanitary workers holding Diwali gifts at the Sivapuri panchayat village.

Diwali gifts to sanitary workers, students

Team Rotary News

Ahead of Diwali, the festival of lights, four sanitary workers at the Sivapuri panchayat village were presented with new clothes, sweets and savouries by RC Chidambaram Central, RID 2981, as

part of recognising their daily work in keeping this village clean, devoid of litter and garbage.

The club acknowledged their “tireless efforts in maintaining cleanliness and public hygiene for the community,” said club president

Hari Krishnan. This donation brought smiles on the faces of conservancy workers, thus spreading the light of Diwali, love and respect to those who work “selflessly for the betterment of society,” he said. The project cost ₹8,000.

In a similar initiative, the club’s Rotaract chair I Yasin donated new clothes (₹3,000) and ₹1,000 each in cash to two sanitary workers as a mark of appreciation of their dedicated service. Four daily wage labourers were gifted with clothes, each worth ₹2,000. Diwali gift packages worth ₹20,000 were donated to four differently-abled persons at an event at the Faisal Mahal, Chidambaram, which was attended by club members.

With the aim to spread joy and festive cheer ahead of Diwali, 15 students at the Panchayat Union Primary School, Aalkondanatham, were given new clothes, sweets, crackers and *Thirukkural* books, all worth ₹35,000, by the club members. “Our gesture brought joy to the students which gave us satisfaction of lightning lives with love and learning,” said the club president. ■



RC Chidambaram Central president Hari Krishnan presents Diwali gifts to a child at the Panchayat Union Primary School.

Desk-benches for Tiruvannamalai school, TN

Team Rotary News

Three sets of desk-benches worth ₹25,000 were donated by RC Tiruvannamalai, RID 3231, to the Maruthuvambadi Middle School in this temple town in north Tamil Nadu.

Club president Santhosh Kanagaraj was present at the handover event, and the project was sponsored by Vignesh Nagarajan, a club member. The classroom furniture will enable students to sit comfortably and facilitate easy learning through the day.■



Club president Santhosh Kanagaraj and other members at the hand over of desk-benches to the school.

A women's club donates 150 wheelchairs



RID 3011 DG Ravi Gugnani (4th from left), to his left PDG Mahesh Trikha, and RC Delhi Safdarjung president Teena Kapoor (2nd from left) at the distribution of wheelchairs.

Following instructions from RID 3011 DG Ravi Gugnani, members of RC Delhi Safdarjung donated 150 wheelchairs to differently-abled individuals in

underserved communities. Club president Teena Kapoor led the community initiative.

The women's club in the national capital also arranged an eye

check-up camp for senior citizens at the Andrews Ganj Basti, an underserved community. Free spectacles were distributed to needy patients.■

Food distribution drive in Tirupattur, TN

V Muthukumaran

Taking up a series of community welfare and educational projects, RC Tirupattur, RID 3231, has shored up its public image by reaching out to the needy families and students in this small town and its surrounding hamlets near Vellore in north Tamil Nadu.

A series of food distribution initiatives under two banners — *Atchaya Pathiram* (inexhaustible vessel) and *Amutha Surabi* (eternal bowl) — has benefitted thousands of people as Rotarians take turns to serve freshly cooked food during temple festivals, at bus depots, government hospitals, birth anniversaries of club members, and other social and community events. Both the food distribution drives are held weekly, reaching out to hundreds of beneficiaries, at prime locations in Tirupattur with a club member sponsoring it on every occasion.

Areas in Tirupattur district such as the site near Loveone factory on Pudupet Road, Government Hospital complex, District CHANGE Women's Home and Boomi Thai Old Age Home, Mookkanoor village, are some of the places where the weekly food distribution is being done by a group of club members.

Next on the priority list of the Tirupattur club is its greening mission where saplings are being planted at government, private schools, colleges and polytechnics across villages and towns on a regular basis. Tree plantation is also done at the Amritalaya College of Education, Tirupattur, with around 50 Rotarians taking part along with students and faculty. Even the public take part in such eco-friendly initiatives by the club members.

Former President Abdul Kalam's birthday (Oct 15) was celebrated at the Government Girls HS Secondary, Natrampalli, with Rtn R Kirubakaran distributing text books, uniforms and sweets to around 350 students. In another event, fire and disaster prevention training was imparted with the help of department personnel to 500 students at the Vedha Matric HS School, T Veerapalli village with Rtn I Anji as chief guest.

Welfare assistance and certificates were issued to 100 students who had earned black and colour belt karate at the Vedha Matric School. Ceiling fans were donated to CHANGE Old Age Homes, near Loveone factory, which would benefit around 200 inmates.



Food is distributed under *Amutha Surabi* and *Atchaya Pathiram* projects on a weekly basis. RC Tirupattur president P M Panneer Selvam is at the centre.

Diwali celebration

Former block education officer M Gomathi, a club member, was the chief guest at the Diwali celebration at the Rotary Hall, Tirupattur.

She distributed new clothes, sweets and crackers to destitute inmates of Uthavum Ullangal, an orphanage, District CHANGE Women's Home, and Mahatma Gandhi Old Age Homes. More



Mega tree planting drive at the Amritalaya College of Education, Tiruppatur, with the participation of Rotarians, students, faculty and the public.

than 200 Rotarians and beneficiaries took part in the Diwali gala.

Children's Day event

In collaboration with the Sri Bangaru Sai Kanagarthi Dharmasala which provides rest houses for pilgrims, the club distributed sweaters and stationery kits worth ₹40,000 to 100 students on Children's Day (Nov 14).

BEO Vathamoothan was the chief guest at the event presided over by club president PM Panneer Selvam and coordinated by its secretary C Ravi Varman. "The mega initiative for school children further strengthened our commitment to support underprivileged students, and all our members came

together to serve the community with dedication," said club president Selvam.

Raincoats were distributed to 100 homeless workers at Vaniyambadi and 100 farmers at Nadukuppam village near Pudur Nadu Hills to shield them from monsoon rains. Also, fertilisers were given to 100 farmers at Puliur village, Pudur Nadu Hills, with Rtn DB Devarajan as chief guest. In a similar initiative, paddy seeds were distributed to 100 farmers in Kombai village with Dr B T Vignesh, a club member, presiding over the event.

Eye testing and surgery camp was held at Bommikuppam village in which 200 people were screening for sight disorders. ■



Raincoats distributed to needy families in remote villages.

Promoting women's wellness

Team Rotary News

RC Club of Hosur Angels, RID 2982, organised a walkathon titled 'She Walks Saree' to raise awareness on women's health and fitness. Over 500 women, including students, nurses, homemakers and working professionals participated in the event.

Dressed in blue sarees, participants walked 3km across Hosur, drawing attention to the importance of active living. Nutritious snacks and fresh fruit juices were distributed to reinforce the message of healthy choices.

The walkathon was attended by Hosur deputy mayor C Anandaiah and RID 2982 DG Sivasundaram's wife Sudha Mathidevi, who appreciated the initiative and urged women to prioritise their health, highlighting the need for regular physical activity.

"This walkathon is part of our club's public image project and reflects our commitment to women's empowerment and community engagement. We plan to organise more such programmes in the future," said club president Harika Haribabu. ■





Club president Harika Haribabu flags off the walkathon along with club members and Hosur deputy mayor C Anandaiah.



A participant poses with her child at the selfie booth during the walkathon.

Rotary club installs UPS system for tribal school

Team Rotary News

A government primary school in the hill village of Piliyur, Yercaud, serving 93 tribal children, has received a critical power upgrade with the installation of a 2.5 kW uninterrupted power supply (UPS) system by RC Neyveli Lignite City, RID 2981.

The Panchayat Union Primary School had smart boards installed in three classrooms under a government scheme and was also equipped with internet connectivity and CCTV surveillance supported by local villagers. However, these facilities remained largely underutilised due to recurrent electricity outages.

Power supply at the school was erratic, often lasting only a few minutes at a time, with frequent low voltage, breakdowns and prolonged outages caused by natural disturbances. During the monsoon season, electricity disruptions could extend for several days, leaving classrooms poorly lit and affecting students' ability to read and write.

Responding to a request from the school, the club installed the UPS system at a cost of ₹50,000. The new system ensures uninterrupted lighting and power backup, enabling the effective use of digital learning tools and safety infrastructure.

Biscuit packets were distributed to the students. ■



KK Srinivasan, president of the club, hands over the UPS and battery to the school management.



Rotarians, along with the students, at the Piliyur Panchayat Union Primary School.

A paediatric heart hospital near Hyderabad

Team Rotary News

The Rotary Club of Lake District Moinabad, RID 3150, in association with the Rotary Club of Fort Wayne, RID 6540, has helped establish the Sathya Sai Sanjeevani Hospital for Child Heart Care

and Research at Siddhipet near Hyderabad. The global grant project worth ₹2 crore came up following a request from the Sathya Sai Sanjeevani Hospitals which has branches all over India, offering free healthcare services to all,



Children being treated at the Sathya Sai Sanjeevani Hospital.

irrespective of caste, creed, religion or economic status. There is no cash counter in the hospital.

When the hospital approached RC Lake District Moinabad, DGE Uday Pilani, after discussions with the hospital CEO Ravi and senior staff, decided to extend Rotary's support for the operation theatre, and medical equipment for the NICU and other wards.

The facility is now benefitting hundreds of children from downtrodden families from across villages around Hyderabad. The hospital is regularly conducting cardiac and other medical check-up camps in these villages and offers its service free of cost to children with health disorders. ■

Celebrating Bhai Dooj with villagers

The members of the Rotary Club of Solapur Smart City, RID 3132, distributed sarees and festive snacks to women folk at the Gulwanchi village near Solapur, on the occasion of Bhai Dooj.

Bhai Dooj, a festival celebrating the bond between brothers and sisters, carries a deep cultural meaning, the expression of love, protection, and goodwill, said the club's past president Mahesh Salunke.

By distributing sarees and festive food, the club sought to ensure that no sister in the community should feel left out during an important festival.

Club president Akbar Nadaf spoke about the importance of women's empowerment and financial freedom, and informed them that the club will come up with a skill training

programme to help them with a sustainable livelihood.

The village sarpanch Jadhav urged the villagers to plant a sapling per household in the village. RCC Gulwanchi president Suhas Bhosale and Shraddha Kawade coordinated with the village community and the Rotary club. ■



Rotarians with women at Gulwanchi village near Solapur.

Mental health camp in Dindigul

Team Rotary News

In partnership with its Rotary Blossom-Mission Mental Health Centre, RC Dindigul Queencity, an all-women's club in RID 3000, hosted a mental healthcare camp.

Dr R Balaguru, psychiatrist, screened the patients with mental disorders and children with autism, and provided medicines. He also gave an awareness talk and explained precautions to be taken for those suffering from mental health issues. Also, drug-addicted persons were given counselling and medicines to support their recovery.

Christmas was celebrated by the Interactors of the Luxor World School with the special children at the Rotary Blossom Centre in a joyful manner. The students gained awareness about the treatment being given to the children through discussions with both their parents and the Blossom staff. To spread festive cheer, the Interactors staged cultural performances which brought smile on the faces of children. An Interactor dressed up as Santa Claus and entertained the Blossom inmates. Gifts and snacks were distributed to all the participants.

The Interact students of TPKN Matric HS School conducted a plastic collection drive, both

Right: School and college students at the HPV vaccination camp under *Project Cervicure*.



from the school campus and their homes, which was appreciated by the Queens. They also gave a pep talk on the common issues faced by school children like how to overcome bullying, and the ways to face other peer challenges.

More than 1,000 girls and boys were given HPV doses at the two-day vaccination camp under the club's flagship *Cervicure* project. The Queens camped at the Government Hospital, Dindigul, Medical College and Hospital,



Christmas celebration at the Rotary-Blossom Mission Mental Health Centre.

Above: RC Dindigul Queencity president Rajathi Kamalakannan gives wellness kits and medicines to a patient at the mental health camp.

Nursing College, Gurumuki Vidhyashram, Dharshini Hospital, Parvathy Arts and Science College, Prasiddhi Vidyodaya School, NPR College and SBC academy to oversee the vaccination camp.

Egypt trip

As part of their annual jaunt, the Queens travelled to Egypt in December last year. They visited the iconic Pyramids and Luxor Karnak Temple, learned about their purpose,

precise construction, and the remarkable engineering skills of ancient Egyptians.

During the journey, they got to know about each other well including their food preferences, likes and dislikes. The shared experiences during this foreign trip further strengthened their bonding. The Egypt visit gave them deep insight into the religious, cultural and architectural finesse of Egyptian temples. ■

The Rotary Club of Bangalore Lakeside, RID 3291, has been actively collaborating with corporates to reach out to communities with service projects related to enhancing literacy, healthcare and hygiene.

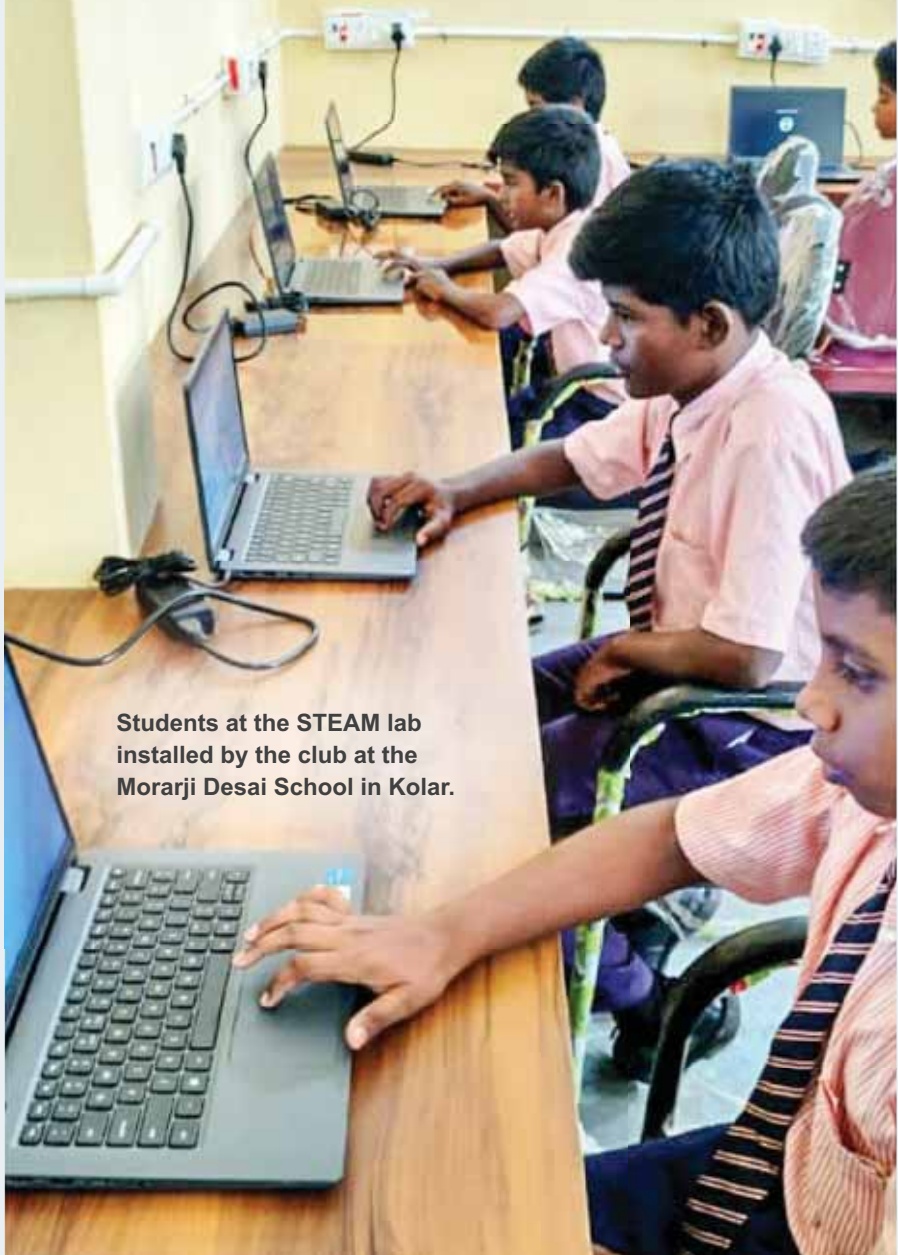
The club, along with Optiv Security India, set up a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics) lab at the Morarji Desai Residential School in Kolar. The ₹6.5 lakh project will give the students “enriched opportunities to learn, grow and explore a future in technology,” says DRFC and the club’s past president Kashinath Prabhu. The lab included computers and accessories, relevant software and furniture.

A CSR initiative of ITC Filtrona enabled the club to provide medical support to children affected with type 1 diabetes. The club, with guidance from the Karnataka Institute of Endocrinology and Research, sponsored insulin, needles, strips and glucometers, and provided nutritional counselling and awareness programmes to benefit 30 children. The CSR grant of ₹15 lakh was provided by ITC Filtrona for the project.

Type 1 diabetes is a chronic autoimmune condition primarily diagnosed in children and adolescents. Children with T1D require lifelong insulin therapy, regular monitoring and lifestyle

Rotary-corporate partnership in Bengaluru

Team Rotary News

A photograph showing several young students in school uniforms sitting at a long wooden table in a computer lab. They are focused on their laptops, with their hands on the keyboards. The room has a bright, clean atmosphere with white walls and visible power outlets on the wall.

Students at the STEAM lab installed by the club at the Morarji Desai School in Kolar.



Project coordinator Kashinath Prabhu and club members with students and their parents at the scholarship distribution event.

management. In India and many developing countries, the high cost of insulin and lack of awareness significantly impact families with limited resources, says Prabhu.

A partnership with Pai & Pai Chemicals helped provide scholarships worth ₹6 lakh to 21 meritorious students from underprivileged families. This financial support will

enable them to pursue quality education without financial constraints.

Another CSR partnership to the tune of ₹5.5 lakh helped promote menstrual health among adolescent girls in rural and semi-urban areas. Volunteers from the club distributed sanitary napkins to students in government and government-aided schools,

and installed automatic napkin vending machines and incinerators in schools to promote menstrual hygiene.

The Rotary Club of Bangalore Lakeside aims to install automatic water generator units in 100 locations including schools, colleges, hospitals and public places with CSR or NGO partners. ■



Rotarians with children with type 1 diabetes.