

Rotary News *Plus*



All ears for doing good

Smart tools for the **visually-challenged**

Team Rotary News



Some of the beneficiaries of smart cane project.

Smart canes, low-vision aids and tools, and a software training centre for job placements have made a world of difference for the visually-impaired and the credit goes to RC Mumbai South, D 3141, for rolling out these welfare schemes at the National Association of the Blind at Prabhadevi.

DG Prafull Sharma inaugurated the projects for the visually-impaired in the presence of Club President Arun Agrawal, PP Dr Keiki Mehta and other prominent Rotarians in November last year at a gala ceremony. A team of 40 Rotarians had extended their support and expertise in the implementation of these projects.

Electronic canes

Over 100 electronic canes or smart canes were distributed to the beneficiaries. These are simple white canes with a small digital

device at knee level which when switched on senses and vibrates when it comes within three meters of obstacles, blocks, hurdles or potholes. The cost of each cane is ₹3,750. “The digital stick helps the visually-impaired to walk with confidence and really helps while climbing or descending inclined surfaces,” says Nargis Gaur, Secretary, RC Mumbai South.

DG Prafull Sharma while being interviewed by the media explained the “beauty and the usefulness of these canes which would enable the beneficiaries to walk freely on the streets.”

The second project was the distribution of low-vision aids to the partially blind. Often those having low-vision are unable to compete in the society, but at the same time their disability is such that they can’t be classified as visually-challenged. The club has evaluated such persons with low-vision and the appropriate

visual aids were prescribed for them. “These vision aids were given free as part of our larger project since 2015 where Rotary is lending a hand to the visually-impaired,” explained Gaur.

Software training

Despite computer training, the visually-disabled were unable to get jobs as the companies are reluctant to spend on the special software required for them. In partnership with NAB, the club has set up a training centre where they are equipped with necessary skillsets for computer applications. This indigenous project will help the visually-impaired to get jobs once they are trained in various aspects of the software.

The club has been doing this project since 2015 with regular upgradation based on the industry needs and requirements of the visually-impaired. ■

RC Vijayanagar helps students from underprivileged backgrounds

Kiran Zehra

In most ways, some of the students of Shathashruna Vidya Samsthe, Taverekere, Bengaluru are normal, active children despite their hearing-impairment. They love to run and play and smile with the other students in the campus. Rotarians of RC Vijayanagar, D 3190, wanted these children to be more confident and have equal opportunity in the future, based on their skills and not impairment.

An assessment done by ENT specialist Dr Geetha Nandakishore from Colombia Asia earlier revealed that their hearing condition needed to be attended to without delay. On her suggestion, all the 36 children



Hearing aid being fitted for a child.



were given hearing aids for both the ears. A total of 72 hearing aids were provided at a cost of ₹6.48 lakhs.

The club is also planning to conduct cochlear implant surgeries for five children below the age of four.

RYLA for rural youth

The club hosted a RYLA at a rural government school in Beldhara, Tumakur. Close to 240 students participated in the event, following which the club donated 24 benches, 30 Kannada to English dictionaries, 250 geometry

boxes and conducted a WinS session in the presence of DG Asha Prasanna Kumar.

Skilling Dancers

An annual theme-based dance event conducted by the club dubbed “Prathibanveshne” in its eighth edition was conducted at the KASSIA Auditorium, Vijayanagar. Over 250 students from 35 schools participated in the day-long programme. Manasa Joshi, a renowned Kathak dancer and a cine artiste, graced the occasion. ■

Canadian Rotarians say 'Holi hai'

Kiran Zehra

In a joyful interaction, the Canadian Rotarians were smeared in *gulal* (Holi colours) by their Indian hosts at the Rotary Club of Vrindavan Heritage, D 3110. Dressed in white, the Rotarians who came to India under the Rotary Youth Exchange programme were given a traditional welcome. They enjoyed a day-long celebration of Holi, replete with colours and Indian cuisine. ■



Polio rally creates awareness in Mandvi

Team Rotary News



Mandvi Police Chief Gamati Shaeb flagging off the cycle rally on the eve of National Immunisation Day.

A five-km cycle rally was organised by the Rotary Club of Mandvi, D 3054, on the eve of National Immunisation Day to spread awareness of polio eradication. Rotaractors and Interactors also took part in the event which was flagged off by Mandvi Police Chief Gamati Shaeb.

"The cycle rally was to inform the general public that India is polio-free and if we wish to keep it that way we should immunise every child in Mandvi," said Bhavin Ganatra, Vice-President, RC Mandvi.

Rotary Day was observed at the 75-year-old Jain Ashram

which has over 120 elderly people, differently-abled, mentally-challenged and abandoned people. The Rotarians and their families reached out to the Ashram inmates by engaging them with games and recreation. Also, sumptuous meals were provided to the inmates. ■

Developing a bond with the community

Team Rotary News



A blood donation camp at Mudarangadi.

Medical camps, rallies to create awareness on a host of social issues and community outreach have been the hallmark of Rotary Club of Padubidri, D 3182. A blood donation camp was organised at Mudarangadi Church hall in partnership with the Rotary Community Corps, Al Jamiya Young Men's Association, Nagarbrahma Sthana Mudarangadi and Catholic Sabha.

The camp brought together the entire community drawn from various faiths for the noble cause of donating

blood to the needy patients. Over 70 people donated blood to Ajjarkad district hospital in Udupi. Moulana Mohammed Zaki inaugurated the camp in the presence of Mudarangadi Panchayat Chief David D'Souza, Zone 5 AG Hariprakash Shetty and Club President Rameez Hussain. Rtn Pradeep Acharya gave an inspiring talk on blood donation and Club Secretary Sandeep Palimar gave the vote of thanks.

Dental camp

The Pre-University College in Hejmadi saw frenetic activity when a dental camp was organised by the club, in association with the Inner Wheel club and a team of doctors from Shrinivas Dental College, Mukka, attracting hundreds of people in the village.

Over 125 people were screened, of which 110 were given further treatment. Hejmadi Panchayat President Vishalakshi Puthran and Student Alumni Association President Sudheer Karkera were the chief guests at the dental camp. Rameez Hussain welcomed the chief guests and detailed the number of project activities being undertaken by the club for the welfare of the local community. ■

Young talent honoured by club

Kiran Zehra

Priyanak Khot, a 12-year-old judo champion, was honoured with Wings of Service Award by the Rotary Club of Kolhapur Midtown (D 3170) and its Rotaract Club of Midtown Phoenix for fresh talent in Kolhapur. The hearing and speech impaired girl had competed with normal children to win the bronze medal at a national-level sports event. ■



Fellowship, training at RC Patiala Midtown

V Muthukumaran

Fellowship and social projects have been central to a slew of outreach activities of RC Patiala Midtown, D 3090. The adult education camp in Central Jail, Patiala, offered the inmates a window to enhance their literacy skills and thus become useful to the society in the long run.

Peanuts and snacks (*rewaries*) were distributed to the prisoners during Lohri celebration and SSP (Jail) Rajan Kapoor chaired a special meeting. “We donated ₹5,000 for the purchase of a sewing machine which will benefit the women prisoners,” said Akash Bansal, Club President. On the polio front, a polio immunisation camp was organised at a dispensa-

ry in Yadavindra Colony with the civil surgeon Dr Harish Malhotra presiding over the inauguration.

Over 500 children were administered the vaccine at the dispensary.

Training seminar

A district seminar was held at the Rotary Bhawan with past governors giving valuable insights and



An adult literacy camp at the Central Jail, Patiala.

sharing their experience with the club presidents and secretaries. The meeting was chaired by DGE V B Dixit.

It was an occasion to update one's knowledge on healthy living and fitness quotient as a team of medical specialists from Prime Hospital gave lectures to Rotarians and invited guests. Dr Anita Gupta, Principal, Rajindra Hospital and Medical College, Patiala, was the chief guest. Dr Naveen Jindal spoke on diabetes and thyroid, while Dr Upinder Singh spoke on "Facts and myths about



RC Patiala Midtown President Akash Bansal feted by PRIP Rajendra K Saboo.



A child being given polio drops.

bones". Dr Tinku Takia gave a talk on radiation oncology (cancer).

R-Day gala

Tricolour was hoisted at the Rotary Bhawan with the Rotarians taking the salute. Sweets were also distributed to mark the occasion. "Once again, the national flag was unfurled at Apahaj Ashram in the city and the inmates enjoyed a delicious lunch sponsored by the Rotarians," said Bansal.

Fellowship, DJ party

A fellowship meeting along with a DJ party was held to celebrate the birthdays and marriage anniversaries of Rotarians. Bouquets were presented and greetings exchanged followed by a cake cutting for a gala celebration.

Rotarians and guests enjoyed themselves at a DJ musical that played some of the popular numbers and hit songs. ■

Rotary cheer in Smriti School

Rotary Day was celebrated along with the Annual Day at Smriti Convent School by the Rotary Club of Varanasi East, D 3120. A new Rotaract club and a new Interact club were chartered to mark the occasion which was followed by a series of cultural shows put up by the school children. ■



Grand rally before Polio Day in Kundara

V Muthukumaran

A massive polio awareness rally was organised by the Rotary Club of Kundara Central, D 3211, with a large turnout of Rotarians, Anns and members of

Scouts and Guides making it a grand event.

Over 500 students from 28 schools from Kollam took part in the rally with banners and placards that put the

spotlight on End Polio Now campaign.

The polio rally started from Elampalloor temple ground at 8.30 am and passed through the main road of Kundara town and

the Mukkad junction, a busy area, before reaching the Rotary Hall.

Special polio booths

A public meeting was addressed by Club President S Nandakumar. Kollam Mayor V Rajendrababu was the chief guest at the polio awareness class organised for the participants by the club.

In coordination with the taluk officials, the Rotarians arranged transport for trouble-free visit to the booths by the parents with their children.

"We had deployed 130 volunteers to look after the 41 booths that were set up in Kundara and Perinadu areas. Four special booths were completely managed by our club on the occasion," said S Nandakumar, Club President. ■



Upholding Rotary image in Bikaner

V Muthukumaran



DG Raj Kumar Bhutoria along with members of Rotary Club of Bikaner.

Greeted by children and glowing with a warm reception given by the school authority, PDGs Frank Wargo and Knut Johnson from the US presented new desks and benches to a government primary school at Gharsisar, a Jat village in Bikaner. And it was a proud moment for RC Bikaner, D 3053, who had donated the furniture as part of their Happy Schools project with PDG Arun Prakash Gupta presiding over the event in the presence of DG Raj Kumar Bhutoria, Rotarians, teachers and students.

During his visit, DG Bhutoria and first lady Rtn Saroj Bhutoria discussed with the Club President Kishan Mundhra the on-going projects and community activities of the club. “He enquired

about the nature of our service projects and motivated us in his inspiring speech,” said Dinesh Acharya, Secretary, RC Bikaner. AG Om Karnani accompanied the Governor during his club visit.

Water cooler installed

In partnership with State Bank of India, the club had installed a water cooler at Nokha Railway station in the presence of DG Bhutoria and Municipal Chairman Narayan Jhanwar. The facility will offer rail passengers a much-needed relief from the sizzling heat with a cool potable water running in its taps throughout the year.

Gala fellowship

The club along with Inner Wheel members and Rotaractors organised a *Holi Milan Samaroh*

(Holi get-together). “Rotarians along with their families gathered in strength and exchanged greetings. Traditional Holi songs were followed by a sumptuous dinner,” said Acharya.

In a show of gratitude, the club hosted an *Aabhar* programme (thanksgiving event) to all Rotarians, Rotaractors and Inner Wheel members who had made the district conference held in Bikaner a grand success.

Eye camp

An eye screening camp was held at Tilak Nagar in the neighbourhood, in partnership with Vaishya Agarwal Samaj and Acharya Nanesh Rotary Netra Chikitsalaya. Over 100 patients were examined, of which 12 were chosen for free cataract operation. ■

Rotary in action at Pudukkottai

V Muthukumaran

Waterman of India Dr Rajendra Singh from Alwar, Rajasthan, visited Pudukkottai and inspected Puthukkulam, a huge pond suffering from poor maintenance and gradual erosion.

After the grand reception accorded by the Rotary clubs in Pudukkottai, he addressed Rotarians on the need to conserve lakes, tanks and other water bodies for passing the same to the future generations. "In earlier times, the kings and royalty took utmost care to preserve our water bodies. But now time has come to take measures for preserving the sources of fresh water to ensure a better future for the younger generation," he said.

RC Pudukkottai City (D 3000) President S Parthiban felicitated Dr Singh and assured him that

Puthukkulam tank spread over 3.5 km will be restored to its original glory.

Cyclists duo

Peddalling all the way from Himachal Pradesh, the duo MJ Pavan and Bhagyashree Sawant from the Rotaract Club of Bangalore Orachards, D 3190, were given a rousing welcome by the Rotarians in Pudukkottai. They were attempting a Guinness record for cycling throughout India to spread the Rotary's message of End Polio Now.

DGND A L Sokalingam, D 3000, Assistant Governors Maruti K Mohanraj, S Thangamani and Municipal Commissioner N Subramanian were present to honour the cyclists. The cyclist duo accompanied the Rotarians to distribute

road safety manuals to the public and the students across the town.

Mother Language Day was celebrated at Municipality Middle School. AG Mohanraj, who is also the President of Road Accident Prevention and Rescue Association for Public Welfare, spoke on the "uniqueness of Tamil language" by tracing its ancestry.

Time has come to take measures for preserving the sources of fresh water

to ensure a better future for the younger generation.

Dr Rajendra Singh



RI Director C Basker inaugurating 'Annamittakai' project in Pudukkottai.

Also seen: AG Maruti K Mohanraj, PDG Muruganantham and DGN Zameer Basha.



Cyclist duo MJ Pavan and Bhagyashree Sawant distributing road safety manuals to the public.

School headmaster S Vijayamanickam welcomed the Rotarians for the special meet which was attended by over 300 people.

National Science Day

February 28 is observed as National Science Day as the Nobel Prize was announced for scientist C V Raman on this day. RC Pudukkottai Palace City organised a grand exhibition at the Middle School. In



An oratorical contest at Mother Language Day event.

The clubs in Pudukkottai will be distributing leftover foods, dishes at weddings and other ceremonies to shelter homes and orphanages.

his address, Dr K H Salim, managing director, Team Specialty Hospital, lauded the students for displaying their scientific projects and experiments.

Over 400 students exhibited their scientific knowledge through projects and demos. AG Mohanraj was present along with Rotarians. RC Pudukkottai Palace City President R

Muthusamy thanked everyone for making the Science Day an exciting one for the students.

Annamittakai

From April, the clubs in Pudukkottai will be distributing leftover foods, dishes at weddings and other ceremonies to shelter homes and orphanages in the town. "DGND Sokalingam's

spouse Rtn Bhavani has donated the utensils for carrying the food and we only need to hire delivery vehicles for distribution," informs AG Mohanraj.

The project *Annamittakai* (feeding hand), he hopes, will be received well by the public as there are many hungry people and destitute homes in need of such food on a regular basis. ■

Rotary eye camps popular in Vuyyuru

V Muthukumaran



Here is a club that has earned a pride of place for organising eye and dental camps on a regular basis for school students. In a month, RC Vuyyuru, D 3020, holds at least 3–4 camps for children of primary schools in which they are taught oral hygiene too as part of the WASH initiative.

As part of its ongoing activities, the club held two eye-cum-dental camps at Zilla Parishad High Schools in Vuyyuru and Penamakuru with over 500 students being screened for ailments. Free toothbrushes, pastes and medicines were distributed to the needy students at both these camps.

A similar camp was organised at Success College which benefitted nearly 200 youth at the campus. Toothbrushes and pastes were given to the needy. “We conducted a medical camp at Marrivada village where, apart from eye and dental check-up, free blood grouping was done and over 200 persons had benefitted from this special camp. Moreover, we identified 16 persons for eye operation and they underwent surgeries as and when they preferred,” said Syed Anees, Secretary, RC Vuyyuru.

Digital classroom

District Governor G V Ramarao inaugurated a digital classroom at a

Zilla Parishad School in Vallurpalem in the presence of Club Counselor Rtn G Venkateswara Rao, AG K Srinivasa Rao and other local VIPs. A laptop, LCD projector, educational CDs and other accessories were donated by the District 3020.

In another programme, the club counsellor presented a digital screen to VKRM School which was also given a laptop, LCD projector and educational CDs which will aid the e-learning of students.

WASH project

The club organised an awareness programme on hand wash and hygiene at MPUP Urdu School. “A poster with hand

wash procedure and its importance was put up to sensitise children on sanitation habits as part of WinS programme,” said Anees.

Two families who lost their homes in a fire mishap were given financial aid of ₹5,000 each by the club. They were also given utensils, clothes, blankets and fans, among other household utilities, worth ₹10,000.

A pulse polio camp for immunisation was put up at Vuyyuru bus stand. “We are holding polio camps on a regular basis and activities are held without let-up to create awareness on polio immunisation for children,” added Anees. ■

A homecare nursing course for girls

Team Rotary News

A programme to equip girls with skills in homecare nursing was successfully completed by RC Chandigarh Midtown, D 3080, in partnership with the Child and Women Development Corporation.

What is noteworthy is that all the 58 students have completed the six-month course including the two-month clinical training at the Government Multispecialty Hospital, Sector 16 and Society for Rehabilitation of Mentally Challenged (SOREM). The extensive training is aimed to induct the skillsets required for taking care of the elderly, sick patients and also people with special needs.

The passing out ceremony was organised by the club and IPDG Raman Aneja gave away the certificates, along with a kit consisting of BP apparatus, stethoscope, hand sanitiser and apron to the paramedics.



Paramedics with certificates at the passing-out ceremony.

Senior Rotarians took part in the event along with the Rotary Community Corps representatives who are the mobilisation partners for motivating students from colonies and villages of Daddumajra and Malloya.

The placement process for the candidates have already begun and

a few girls have taken up job offers from clinics and hospitals.

Happy with the results, the students shared their experience with the Rotarians, while Aneja said the homecare nursing course was tailor-made for girls who should serve the patients with smile. ■

Helping students make career choices

Kiran Zehra



More than 100 youth and their parents attended a seminar on aviation-based learning and career opportunities, organised by the RC Solapur North, D 3132.

This initiative of the club was to draw students' attention to explore careers outside the mainstream. A globe-trotting woman pilot, Esther Bhandare, addressed the

gathering and interacted with the students. The educational event was promoted through local newspapers, TV channels and FM radio. ■

D 2981

RC Cuddalore

A polio awareness rally was conducted from St David's Higher Secondary School to mark World Polio Day. A tree plantation drive was undertaken and certificates were given to the participants.



D 2982

RC Namakkal Poultry Town

During the Charter Day celebration, the club donated ₹75,000 to fund its Rotree Day, a tree plantation drive in the town which has been well-received by the community.



D 3000

RC Madurai North

The club's Anns Committee organised a Sports Day that also included a number of competitions for the speech and hearing-impaired children at Kamak Higher Secondary School for the deaf. Prizes and gifts were distributed to over 170 children.





D 3030

RC Chopda

A medical camp was held in association with Inner Wheel club for children and pregnant women at a public health centre in Vaijapur, a tribal area. As many as 140 malnourished children and over 90 pregnant women were examined and free medicines were given to them.



D 3030

RC Nashik Smart City

More than 200 numbers of blind sticks were distributed to the students of Omkar Apang Pragati Society at an event. Charter President C Santaram gave the sticks to the visually-impaired students.



D 3052

RC Udaipur

PRIP Kalyan Banerjee spoke on the topic "Importance of social services in life" at the platinum jubilee event of PDG Dr Y S Kothari at Opera Gardens hall. PRIP Raja Saboo delivered a message through video link.

D 3053

RC Bikaner Midtown

Five houses that were destroyed by a cracker factory blast were rebuilt by the club and given to their owners. State Minister Devi Singh Bhati and legislator Gopalji Joshi took part in the inauguration of new houses.



D 3054

RC Bhuj Flamingo

As a tribute to the late playback singer Mukeshji, the club organised a musical night on his death anniversary in which some of his popular songs were rendered by the Rotarians and their family members.



D 3060

RC Senoras Jamnagar

An acupressure workshop for quick healing was held for women at Haria School campus. Yogacharia Geetaben Ahya trained 45 women on how to use acupressure points through demonstration.





D 3070

RC Jammu Elite

The club has sent a visually-impaired person (31) since birth for eye surgery to Amritsar in association with RC Hoshiarpur Midtown, District Chair Eye Donation J B Behl and Zonal Chair Eye Donation Sunil Kumar Sawhney. The patient got his vision after the operation.



D 3070

RC Nakodar

As part of Swachh Bharat Mission, the club members installed dustbins at all the main chowks and crowded places in the city, thus earning the goodwill of the community. It also gave much visibility to Rotary's image.



D 3080

RC Karnal Midtown

An awareness rally was held under Swachh Bharat Mission after paying tributes to Mahatma Gandhi. Over 30 Rotarians, Anns and Rotaractors took part in the event to sensitise the public on keeping their surroundings clean.

D 3110

RC Agra West

A German team visited Jai Devi Hospital at Delhi Gate as part of their charity work. The host Rtn Dr Gaurav Mahesh Gupta organised the programme in which senior Rotarians were present to felicitate the German delegation.



D 3120

RC Kashi

Fans were donated to Prathmik Vidyalaya at Bachhav as a step towards making it a Happy School. A dustbin and cleaning tools were also provided to keep the school campus green. The students took a pledge for cleanliness.



D 3120

RC Lucknow Baradari

An Oxygen Concentrator was donated to King George Medical University (KGMU) at a cost of ₹58,000. KGMU Vice Chancellor M B Bhatta, Club President Anil Agarwal and other Rotarians were present.





D 3131

RC Pune Sinhgad Road

A flower shredding and composting unit was inaugurated in partnership with the municipal corporation and by joining hands with RCs Pune, Pune Yuva and Pune Parvati. The machine has the capacity to process 25 MT flowers.



D 3132

RC Aurangabad Cantonment

Lokanagan Mahotsav was held in which 52 groups participated to showcase cultural diversity and rich traditions of their society.



D 3141

RC Mulund Hills

School books worth ₹1.50 lakh were donated to needy students in and around the neighbourhood. The beneficiaries thanked Rotary for the thoughtful gesture which will aid in their education.

D 3141

RC Mumbai Borivali East

A vocational centre for the differently-abled was inaugurated in partnership with RC Deonar and National Society for Equal Opportunities for the Handicapped (NASEOH). The centre will train persons with disabilities on specific skill sets.



D 3142

RC Thane Metro

An integrated computer for e-learning was given to Sharada Vidya Mandira, a primary school, and Lahoti Vidyalaya, a secondary school at Angaon. The cost of the project is ₹4 lakh. A solar power system was donated to each school (₹15 lakh) to meet the energy requirements.



D 3170

RC Belgaum Midtown

Solar lights were installed at 30 houses in Chapoli village in partnership with Selco and KVG Bank. PDG Avanish Potdar inaugurated the project at the houses of beneficiaries. The total project cost ₹3 lakh.





D 3170

RC Karwar

A convention for women SHG at Laxmi Kalyan Mantap in Kadwad village attracted over 200 people mostly women. Dr Rajlaxmi, a psychologist, gave an informal talk for the Annettes and Inner Wheel members at Rotary Shatabdi Bhavan.



D 3201

RC Palghat

A purified drinking water plant was inaugurated at the women and children ward of the government hospital. The project cost ₹1 lakh and Panchayat chief Shantha Kumari inaugurated the plant.



D 3202

RC Tirupur Gandhinagar

A high-tech wheelchair (₹7,500) was donated to Vinothini (28) who is affected by muscular dystrophy. Rotarians went to her home and found her unable to move. Her father, a farmer, received the wheelchair.

D 3212

RC Golden Aruppukottai

A mega rally to create awareness on dengue, road safety, pollution, tobacco and overuse of plastic was organised in partnership with a local arts college. Over 300 students took part in the event flagged off by legislator KKSSR Ramachandran.



D 3212

RC Yarn Nagercoil

A two-day cancer detection and awareness camp was held at Azhagapuram in Kanyakumari district. Over 60 women had benefitted from the camp. Also, 60 saplings were distributed to the local people.



D 3231

RC Kanchipuram East

DG Jawarilal Jain laid the foundation for constructing toilets at the Government Girls HS School. Over 4,000 girls are studying in the school without the adequate number of rest rooms and this project will fulfil one of the basic requirements of the students.





D 3240

RC Gauhati South

Teachers' training is being taken up at Geetanagar Prathamik Vidyalaya, Hatigarh Vidyalaya and two volunteers are paid an honorarium of ₹2,000 each per month for teaching at Rashtriya Hindi Shiksha Sadan, Ulubari.



D 3240

RC Green Land Silchar

Two adult literacy centres exclusively for women were inaugurated at Chengduar Basti and Chengduar Bagan as part of TEACH programme. Each centre can accommodate 35 females who will be taught how to read, write and basic skills by the Rotarians.



D 3261

RC Sundargarh Town

Clothes were distributed to an old-age home at Rabandihi village benefitting 25 women and 15 elderly inmates. The club also donated blankets to orphans at Kalpataru Ashram and Adruta Children's home.

Compiled by V Muthukumaran

A Rotary CARE for cardiac patients

V Muthukumaran



Rotarians with Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs).

An initiative to provide emergency cardiac care, the I CARE project of RC Bombay Airport, D 3141, has roped in police personnel from Bandra and Khar police stations, ambulance and fire brigade crew, along with people in large housing societies, who are being trained on emergency procedures to treat patients suffering from sudden cardiac arrest.

An Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) costing ₹75,000 was donated by the Club Medical Director Bharat Dhanki to Khar police station in the presence of doctors from Holy Family Hospital. "This initiative started for the Bandra and Khar areas could be

the forerunner to taking I CARE to the district level and covering the greater Mumbai region," said Ujwal Andhari, President, RC Bombay Airport.

With the guidance of Holy Hospital Medical Director Dr Armida Fernandez and Dr Brian Pinto, HOD of the Cardiac Department, regular training in emergency procedures for extending timely help to patients suffering from cardiac arrest is being given to police teams from Bandra and Khar police stations. "The club is also training people in housing societies, gymkhanas and promenades at Bandstand and Carter Road (sea-front localities) to offer emergency aid to patients," he said.

Further donations of AEDs have been planned for Khar police station and for the police patrol vans, for which the club has solicited donations. "A 5-minute video clip explaining the entire cardiac resuscitation procedure using the AED is being planned for which we need a sponsor for ₹1 lakh," he said. The short film will send the message across schools, colleges, housing societies and promenades, he adds.

Rotary Club of Bombay Airport is in the forefront of promoting and sponsoring emergency cardiac care through the "I CARE" project under the auspices of Holy Family Hospital's Cardiac Department. ■

Mega donation for schools at Katpadi

Team Rotary News

A mega donation programme was held by the Rotary Club of Katpadi, D 3231, at the government higher secondary school in Sathuvacheri. Computers, water purifier, fan

and education-related material were given by the Rotarians. Vellore Institute of Technology Vice-President K V Selvam, the chief guest, gave away the donations to the beneficiaries.

Kalam Day at school

It was a celebration of different kind at the government school when the students and the teachers marked the birth anniversary of former president APJ Abdul Kalam with a number of contests and special talks.

Selvam was the chief guest at this event. Past President C Venkatesan addressed the students about Kalam's dream and his pet theme of Vision 2020.

The club, in association with Sri Ramana Maharishi Eye Hospital and Vellore Blind Care Association, organised an eye camp at the Government Boys Higher Secondary School, Katpadi. Over 200 people from the neighbourhood attended the camp. ■



Adult Literacy Centre in Sambalpur

Team Rotary News

With support from Parmeswari Bai Memorial Trust, the Rotary Club of Sambalpur West, D 3261, started an Adult Literacy Centre at a slum in Sakhipara.

The centre was inaugurated by DG Harjit Singh Hura and had enrolled 30 women to begin with. Literacy material was distributed to them.

"The beneficiaries were informed of the importance of learning basic alphabets and words. As per the agreement, the centre will continue for three months during which period it will try to reach out to as many adult learners as possible such as maid servants and daily wage labourers," said PP Suresh Tibrewal, Chairman, Community Services, RC Sambalpur West.

On the eve of Children's Day, the club distributed garments, slippers, toys to slum children which was appreciated by the local community and the media. ■

