

August 2023

Rotary

NEWS PLUS



Empowering youth for environmental protection

Team Rotary News



Members of RC Bhopal Hills along with Rotaractors of Radharaman group of institutes.

Aimed at fostering youth engagement and environmental awareness, RC Bhopal Hills, RID 3040, led by president Kunal Singhal, organised

a project in collaboration with Radharaman group of institutes. The project focused on equipping students with vital skills for the future.

Under the guidance of PDG Dhiran Datta,

and event chair and director of Youth Services Anil Kumar Gupta, a series of motivational talks, interactive workshops, and engaging discussions were held. These sessions were designed to encourage college students to participate in community activities through Rotaract clubs.

A highlight of this initiative was the saplings plantation by Rotarians and Rotaractors of Radharaman group of institutes. "The lush college campus saw the addition of over 125

medicinal plants, marking a significant step towards promoting green practices and a sustainable environment," says club president Singhal. He says the project has "dual significance. It not only imparts essential skills but also instills a deeper understanding of the importance of our planet for generations to come."

Under the banner "Each One Plant One," a sapling plantation drive was organised for the Rotarians across RID 3040. Members of RC Bhopal Hills planted a sapling at their homes. The impact of this drive extended to social media platforms, as participants shared images of their newly-planted saplings. ■



A Rotarian plants a sapling at home as part of the club's Each One Plant One initiative.

On the cover: A woman rides an autorickshaw presented to her by RC Nasik, RID 3030.

IFCR stall draws visitors in Melbourne

Team Rotary News



PRIP Shekhar Mehta at the IFCR booth at the Rotary Convention, Melbourne. IFCR chairman KRP Sarathy is on the left.

A stall set up by the International Fellowship of Cricket Loving Rotarians (IFCR) at the House of Friendship during the Rotary Convention in Melbourne (May 27–31) attracted “impressive footfalls which included PRIPs Shekhar Mehta, Holger Knaack, PRID Mahesh Kotbagi, RI director Muhammad Faiz Kidwai from Pakistan, RID Jessi Harman, Australia,

and many current and past district governors from around the world,” said KRP Sarathy, world chair, IFCR.

Also, IFCR celebrated its 30th anniversary on the sidelines of the Rotary Convention. “I was instrumental in chartering more than 12 IFCR chapters in Rotary districts across India and also country chapters in Nepal, Greece, Bangladesh and West Indies,” he said.

He would be chartering a new IFCR chapter in Uganda in RID 9214 under the leadership of Rita Tinka.

Sarathy was appointed as world president of IFCR during the Rotary World Festival in Melbourne in 2019 and would hold office till the next festival scheduled to be held in Feb 2024 in Chennai. He was the past president of RC Secunderabad, RID 3150. ■

A new pond at Patalganga



A barren land was converted into a pond.

A barren land of 1,000-sq metre was excavated up to a depth of two metres for collecting rainwater in a successful rainwater harvesting project by RC Patalganga, RID 3131.

Club IPP Reshma Kurup led a team of Rotarians to complete the RWH project in this rural belt which now got a rainfed pond that will recharge the groundwater table through percolation. Also, the surface water can be used for both agricultural and domestic purposes. ■

Projects galore by Mumbai club

Team Rotary News

RC Bombay Mahakali Heights, RID 3141, kickstarted the Rotary year by organising a *langar* at a gurudwara.

A blood donation camp was held at the Andheri railway station, collecting 114 units of blood.

The club distributed sanitary pads to girls residing in Shankar Wadi slum. Addressing a critical need, this gesture supports the menstrual health of young girls. Further extending help to the underprivileged children at the slum, the club provided



Above: A beneficiary puts on the Jaipur foot.

Left from top: A blood donation camp at the Andheri railway station, Mumbai.

Members of the club donating food to children from the slums.



nourishing food to them. Jaipur foot was given to two beneficiaries.

The club appreciated doctors through meaningful events at dispensaries across Andheri, recognising their service to the city.

Considering the monsoon season, the club distributed umbrellas in Appapada, Mumbai. ■

A Rotary Park at Nagapattinam

Team Rotary News



Nagapattinam Municipality official inaugurates Rotary Park in the presence of Rotarians.

A Rotary Park was inaugurated by RC Nagapattinam, RID 2981, with the support of Nagapattinam Municipality and VPN Eye Hospital at Velipalayam.

Club president K Karthikesan presided over the inaugural in which PDGs R Palanivelu, Govidaraj and DGN Baskaran, municipality chairman Marimuthu and other civic officials were present. The project was done as part of state government's *Namakku Name* (we for ourselves) scheme.

Thanks to the efforts of the past president DV Muthaiah, a labourer who had lost one of his hands in an accident was fitted with an artificial limb at a hospital in Hyderabad. The total cost of ₹60,000 for fitting the upper limb was borne by the club. ■

A dialysis machine worth ₹8.5 lakh was donated by RC Tirupur North, RID 3203, to its Tirupur North Rotary Dialysis Centre being run in partnership with the local corporation and the Tanker Foundation.

Club president P Mahesh Babu and dialysis centre chairman MD Balasubramaiah were present at the handover event. At present, the dialysis centre has 22 machines which reach out to at least 2,000 patients with kidney ailments each month. ■

Tirupur dialysis centre expands capacity



A new dialysis machine being inaugurated.

Autos for women

Team Rotary News

Rotary Club of Nasik, RID 3030, gifted auto rickshaws to six underprivileged women to help them earn a livelihood and be economically strong.

The auto rickshaws painted in vibrant pink were handed over in two phases — the first phase was presided over by IPDG Anand Jhunjunuwala and DG Asha Venugopal handed over the vehicle keys to four women in the second phase in the presence of club members and the beneficiary families.



DG Asha Venugopal presenting an autorickshaw to a woman in the presence of the members of RC Nasik.

A Rotary garden in Moradabad



On World Environment Day (Jun 5) the club launched a mega tree plantation programme on the MIT premises in Moradabad. The club's IPP Sharmitabh Sinha and then secretary Rajeev Saxena urged all members to plant saplings on the campus, and named the green hub 'Rotary Club Harit Upvan'.

State forest and environment minister Arun Kumar Saxena was the chief guest at the club's greening campaign. The club members, along with the MIT staff, vowed to nurture the saplings.

A seminar on environment care was organised after the tree plantation event. Various ways and best practices were discussed with the participation of experts in the field. ■

Greening Kushinagar

Team Rotary News

Rotary Club of Kushinagar, RID 3120, has set a target of planting 500 saplings across the town during this year. The project was inaugurated at a primary school where club president Wahid Ali and programme coordinator Ajay Singh, along with club members, planted 21 saplings of Ashoka and peepul trees. The saplings were protected with tree guards and the Rotarians sensitised the students to nurture the saplings until they grow.

The municipal council of Kushinagar and the forest department of Kasia are also partnering with the club in this endeavour. The municipal council chairman Rakesh Jaiswal

presided over the inauguration of the greening project.

In another endeavour, the club began the new Rotary year by gifting bicycles to 51 girl students of Classes 6 to 12.

“The beneficiaries were identified after consulting with the school, and based on the distance they had to commute and the family’s financial background,” said the president. ■



Above: Club members present bicycle to a student.

Below: Rotarians after planting a sapling at the school venue.



An Interact workshop in Ahmedabad

Team Rotary News

Around 120 Interactors, Rotakids, school staff and Rotarians took part in a one-day workshop hosted jointly by RCs Ahmedabad Suryoday and Ahmedabad Greater, RID 3055, with the aim to build team spirit, creativity and imagination among children. Dr Bindu Shirsath from Rotary E-Club of Empowering Youth, RID 3132, was the chief facilitator.

While the resource person delved into basic information about Rotary, Interact and Rotaract,

“we had interactive sessions on poster-making, Interactors and Rotakids jointly designed the Coat of Arms, they got to know the importance of Four Way-Test, and learnt the global service activities of Rotary,” said Arup Sinha, president, RC Ahmedabad Greater. Four Rotakids clubs, eight Interact clubs, school coordinators and Rotary advisors took part in the interactive sessions.

The Youth Protection Policy of Rotary and the need

for awareness on cyberlaws were also explained by Bindu to the gathering. Sanskaar Gupta shared his experience as a youth exchange student for around 10 months in Minnesota, US. His father Bhanu Gupta, chair, Youth Exchange, RID 3055, spoke about the benefits of RYE programmes for the students aspiring to become global leaders.

Rtns Monish Kohli and Dhiraj Pojara informed that 12 dental check-up camps will be held for Interactors/Rotakids and a bootcamp on software coding and



Above and left: Rotakids display their Coat of Arms designed by them.



Rotakids hold the info sheets on their flood-relief work.

virtual reality technology will also be conducted for students this year.

Donation to Himachal flood-relief

In a show of empathy for the flood victims of Himachal Pradesh, 40 Rotakids of Vishwabharati English Medium School and Abhijat Vidyavihar came together to mobilise ₹8,001 with help from their parents, teachers and the community at large. RC Ahmedabad Greater came into the picture and helped the donors to connect with DG Arun Mongia and AG Rohit Karol, RID 3080.

In a certification of appreciation, the DG thanked the Rotakids for their efforts to help the flood affected and also praised the club for facilitating the transfer of relief amount. ■

Cricket for the blind



Cricket kit being presented to a participating team.

The district club service team of RID 3192 organised a cricket tournament called *Trinetra* for the visually-challenged. It was a 16-over match between the teams — the Cricket Association for the Blind in India (CABI) and the Samarathanam Trust for the Disabled. The event was sponsored by RC Bangalore North West and Rotary Bangalore Ulsoor. RC Bangalore also pitched in with its support.

DG Srinivas Murthy, district sports chair Rachel Shetty, CABI president Mahantesh Kivadasannavar, and its general secretary John David attended the programme. ■

D 2981

RC Chidambaram Central

More than 30 nurses were given shields and mementos at the Cuddalore Government Dental College to mark World Nurses Day in a joint event with the Pradhan Mantri Bharatiya Jan Aushathi Kendra People's Dispensary. Then AG M Deepak Kumar, college principal Dr K Rajasigamani, People's Dispensary owner N Kesavan and charter president Mohammed Yasin spoke on the occasion.



D 2981

RC Chidambaram Mid Town

Charter day was celebrated with district membership chair SR Ganesh as chief guest. He presented gold medals and mementos to charter president Gnana Ambalavanan and charter members. Cuddalore district blood donation association president Ramachandran, past president Thillai Govindaraj and Vasudevan, an elderly man, filled the forms for organ donation. Prof Venkatachalapathi, HoD, Yoga department, Annamalai University, was inducted as new member.



D 2981

RC Nagapattinam

More than 200 students and 150 staff at the College of Fisheries Engineering, Nagapattinam, were screened at a dental camp on the campus with the help of Rotaractors. College dean N Manimehalai and RC Nagore then president-elect Himayath Ali were guests of honour. Club IPP P Karthikeyan presided over the medical camp. Dr J Senthil Kumar gave a talk on oral hygiene.



Matters



D 2981

RC Pennadam

A wheelchair and stretcher were donated to a primary health centre at Ganabathykurichi village. Both the utility items would facilitate easy transport of patients to and from the treatment ward. The PHC in-charge thanked Rotarians for the donations. The hand-over of utilities also enhanced the public image of the club.



D 2982

RC Sankagiri

Flags were exchanged with host clubs and speeches were given on Rotary's efforts in peacebuilding, environment projects, End Polio and avoiding e-waste in the course of a two-day car rally taken jointly with members of RC Erode Emerald. The motorists started from Erode and reached Goa, travelling a distance of 1,700km across five RI districts. The motorists took part in an RLI programme at RID 3170.



D 3000

RC Pudukkottai City

A painting competition was held for students of Municipal Middle School to create awareness on road safety. Prizes were given to the winners. Dr R Durai Nagarathinam who got a special award from former Australian cricketer Brett Lee for his Dr Durai's Diabetes and Foot Care Specialities Centre was honoured by the club IPP R Sivakumar. Dr Nagarathinam distributed prizes to the students.

D 3000

RC Srirangam

Warm blankets were donated to pregnant women and mothers at the primary health centre, Thiruvanaikovil. A BP apparatus was also donated to the PHC. Medical officer Dr Nisha presided over the event. Food and cold drinks were distributed to devotees at the Vayalur Murugan temple in Somarasampettai village, Trichy. The event was sponsored by the incoming treasurer Arivazhagan.



D 3011

RC Delhi Heritage

The club sponsored 100 free eye surgeries including cataract for senior citizens at Vrindavan in partnership with the Koshika Foundation, Delhi, and Dr Shroff's Eye Care Institute. Patients were taken care of with free medicines and comfortable stay at the hospital premises. The project enhanced the public image of the club in the neighbourhood.



D 3030

RC Bhusawal Railcity

A water kiosk was installed near a busy traffic junction so that commuters can have access to clean and cool drinking water during summer. This water booth will benefit around 4,000 people a day. During the 22nd Charter Day event, Vocational Excellence Awards were given to individuals who had not only excelled in their work, but also contributed to the uplift of the society.





D 3030

RC Nasik West

More than 200 teachers from 100 government schools attended a workshop on 'Handwriting analysis and personality development'. Rtn Paresh Chitnis urged teachers to identify students with deviant behaviour through their handwriting. It was a lively interaction on issues like sexual, physical abuse, emotional stress and guilt feelings that children suffer and the duty of teachers to provide the right counselling to them.



D 3053

RC Bikaner Marudhara

In memory of his late parents, Rtn Magharam Suthar sponsored the construction of two disabled-friendly girls' toilet blocks at the Government Secondary School, Gharsisar, at a cost of ₹1.5 lakh. School principal Karuna Solanki thanked Rotary for the sanitation blocks and presented mementos to club IPP Kailash Kumavat and the donor. Club's then vice-president Shakeel Ahmed said the project led by then secretary Prem Joshi used best material for the building.



D 3054

RC Jaipur Pink City

The birth anniversary of Rotary founder Paul Harris was celebrated at the BR Memorial Mook Badhir, a school for the differently-abled run by an NGO working for the homeless children. A cake was cut to mark the occasion, followed by a delicious lunch for children. Rotarians sponsored the food and assured help including donation of essentials.

D 3080

RC Kharar

A traffic awareness and road safety camp was conducted at the Kharar bus stand with sub-inspector Sukhwinder Singh giving a lecture on the need to obey traffic rules and safety norms. Reflector tapes and reflectors were pasted on commercial vehicles, three wheelers and motor trolleys by the project team led by Vikas Shukla to prevent accidents in the night. Safety jackets were donated to traffic police.



D 3090

RC Faridkot

Three air coolers were donated to the special home of the Indian Red Cross Society, Faridkot, for the children and elderly. Also, ceiling fans were given to the Government Primary School, Bazigar Basti. Food grains were distributed to 10 TB patients adopted by the club at the Civil Hospital, Faridkot, as part of its monthly project. Ration and other essentials were donated to an underprivileged patient Harjinder Singh of Machaki Mal Singh village.



D 3090

RC Patiala Mid Town

A painting competition was held for children of Buddha Dal Public School at Masti ki Pathshala on Mother's Day. Club IPP Bhagwan Dass Gupta distributed summer t-shirts and refreshments to the children. The special event was organised by Rajpal Kaur Mast, founder, Masti ki Pathshala, with the help of school teacher Anu. Children displayed paintings and sketches of mothers with their imagination.



Matters



D 3100

RC Moradabad Brasscity Stars

Bicycles were distributed to 230 girl students in the presence of then RID AS Venkatesh, IPDG DK Sharma, DRFC Lalit Gupta and EMGA Rajiv Sharma under the district's *Project Divya Balika Shree Cycles*. Among the beneficiaries, 10 girls from Shishu Vatika Inter College got the cycles from this club. IPDG Sharma informed the plan was to distribute 1,000 bicycles to school girls.



D 3100

RC Muzaffarnagar Vishal

An inverter and two battery trolleys were donated to a government primary school at Rampur village by the then club president Pawan Kumar Goyal in the presence of Rotarians and teachers. The electrical gadgets will provide uninterrupted power supply to the classrooms, which will enhance the learning experience of students.



D 3110

RC Bisauli

Four baby warmers were donated to the community health centres at Bisauli, Rudayan, Asafpur and Dahgavan in the presence of Budaun chief medical officer Pradeep Kumar at the Rotary Dinesh Madhu Hospital. The CMO appreciated the work of Rotary in the field of mother and child health and said the baby warmers will protect the newborns at these health centres. The health officials thanked the club for the medical devices.

Women achievers awarded in Ballarpur

Team Rotary News



PDG Mahesh Mokkalkar presents the citation to an awardee in the presence of club office-bearers.

Eight women who had excelled in diverse fields were felicitated by RC Ballarpur, RID 3030, with Ashtabhujya Stree Shakti Samman Awards.

PDG Mahesh Mokkalkar presented the awards to the women achievers in an event.

Citation mementos, potted saplings and shawls were presented to Jayshree Patel, social worker; Dr Kavita Tank, homeopathic physician; Dr Jyoti Gaikwad, medical officer, urban primary health centre, Ballarpur; Dr Sapna Jain, dentist; Anita Pandhare, principal,

Balaji High School, Bamni; Neeta Verma, weightlifter; Shruti Lotane, founder, Zoomitra Pitchless Foundation, Ballapur; and Varsha Urkude, ASHA worker from Visapur.

The awardees thanked the club for recognising their work with the felicitation. ■

Skilling orphaned girls in Haridwar



Orphaned girls with Rotarians at the Aanchal Trust, Jagjeetpur.

To enhance the skills of orphaned girls, RC Haridwar Central, RID 3080, distributed *kurtis* (a close fit tunic for women), paints, dupattas and 50 metres of cloth for inmates to practise sewing embroidery at the Aanchal Trust, Jagjeetpur village near Kankhal in Haridwar district of Uttarakhand.

Club IPP Ajit Tomar, members Manish Mehta, Manvendra Pathak and Anil Dewan were present during the distribution of *kurtis* and fabrics to the orphaned girls. “Three months ago, we had installed a water purifier and water cooler at this special home. Our members will continue to donate essentials for the welfare of these girls in future too,” said Anil Dewan, past president of the club. ■

Striving for a crime-free society

Team Rotary News



Club members greet the jail superintendent MM Marigowda and other staff at the Central Jail, Dharwad.

RC Dharwad Midtown, RID 3170, organised a programme at the city's Central Jail for the convicts. Psychiatrist, Dr Aditya Pandurangi, delivered a lecture on the role

of an addiction-free society in creating a crime-free environment. In a separate talk cardiologist Dr Prakash Ramangoudar stressed on the relationship between physical and mental health. He

explained that nurturing physical well-being contributes greatly to achieving mental peace and stability. Jail superintendent MM Marigowda praised the efforts of RC Dharwad Midtown. ■

Special children enjoy circus

It was an exciting and memorable day for the 120-plus differently-abled children and their families as they were entertained by trapeze artistes at the Great Bombay Circus, thanks to RC Coimbatore Meridian, RID 3201, for this initiative to engage special children with fun activities.

Speaking on the *Project Emerging Smiles*, club president Govindarajan said, "spending a day with special children filled with joy and excitement on their faces is a most satisfying one for us. We distributed a sweet and snack kit with smiley ball to everyone." The initiative comes under 'One Rotarian one project,' a district programme, and was sponsored by two Rotarians at a cost of ₹25,000. ■



A child with her parents at the Great Bombay Circus.

D 3110

RC Izatnagar Bareilly

A one-day awareness campaign on water conservation was conducted with interactive sessions on two topics at the Sports Stadium, Bareilly. Rtn SK Suri presided over the event that was attended by 100 Rotarians and sportsmen. To mark Holi Milan, a cultural evening was hosted at the BCCT Auditorium. Club members took part in the PETS/SETS at the Sparsh Lawn, Bareilly.



D 3110

RC Kanpur Aryans

Nitin Sachar and Yukti Sachar have come forward to sponsor the education of Vaishnavi, a Class 6 student, whose family was unable to meet her school expenses. They presented all the books, notebooks and school uniforms worth ₹7,000 to the girl in the presence of her father Dharmendra, club's charter president Bhakti Vijay Shukla, IPP Mayank Gahoi, then secretary Arpit Gupta and Gopal Shukla. The family thanked the sponsors for the gesture.



D 3131

RC Pune Tilak Road

Two one-day RYLAs were conducted for Interactors at the Sumati Balwan School, Pune, under the topic 'With great power comes great responsibilities'. Multiple sessions were conducted to educate the children about the changes that take place in their anatomy during adolescent age, sexual abuse and how to emerge successful by tackling life's challenges.



Matters



D 3170

RC Karwar

A WASH in School project was inaugurated at the Asha Nayak English Primary School, Karwar, by IPDG Venkatesh Deshpande. He also handed over steel barricades to the traffic police for regulating the flow of vehicles in the town. Both the projects enhanced the visibility of the club in the neighbourhood.



D 3170

RC Kolhapur Royals

A set of smart toys for brain games was donated to Aavdhut School for special children at Ambapur village near Kolhapur. The faculty thanked Rotarians for the gesture as it would benefit 80 differently-abled children who could make use of the toys to enhance their learning capacity. Then club president Savita Patil handed over the play games to the teachers.



D 3191

RI District

An online crash course was provided to over 10,000 students facing Common Entrance Test in Karnataka at a nominal cost of ₹40 per student under *Project Sankalp*. In a joint initiative with RIDs 3181, 3182, 3170 and 3160, the Class 12 students of rural schools were taught online for 45 days. PDG KP Nagesh inaugurated the project in the presence of IPDGs Vommina Sathish Babu, Venkatesh Deshpande and Prakash Karanth.

D 3204

RC Pilathara

Two wheelchairs were donated to the Manav, a special home for the differently-abled in Thalassery. A cultural programme was held to usher in new year with Anns and Annets presenting dance and musicals. The Rajasthani folk dance by the Anns was the highlight of the celebration.



D 3212

RC Sivakasi

The club donated 1,000 cloth bags to members of Rotaract Club of Arasan Ganesan Polytechnic College, Sivakasi, in the presence of college principal M Nandakumar, Rotaract coordinator SV Elangovan, past AG G Rajagopalan and Rotarians. Rotaractors took up a 'Save Earth' awareness campaign with teachers and students displaying embroidered yellow cloth bags (*manjapai*) to drive home the message.



D 3231

RC Vellore North

IPP C Ravindran handed over the baton to the incoming president D Sivakumar at the installation in which PDG CR Chandrabob and AG M Balaji were the chief guests. Education material worth ₹6,000, notebooks, a bicycle and wheelchair were distributed. Around 100 dining plates (₹10,000) were donated to the Government Boys HS School, Katpadi, for the midday meals.



Matters



D 3240

RC Dharmanagar

Vocational Service Awards were presented to three eminent persons — Haricharan Sharma (music), Kanak Dhar (bamboo industry) and Suman Das (floriculture) — for excelling in their profession and creating young talent that led to employment generation in Tripura. Club IPP Subir Som presided over the ceremony. Around 65 Rotarians and the public were present at a Asha Kiron event led by the then Literacy chair Prasenjit Chakraborty and Som.



D 3262

RC Bhubanewar Meadows

As part of charter day celebrations, the club honoured charter members — PDG Aswini Kar, past presidents Bijoylaxmi Kar, Sukumar Dash, Prabir Mohapatra and Gopal Agrawal. IPDG Pravudutta Subudhi and DG Jayashree Mohanty complimented the charter members for their selfless efforts. A cake was cut to mark the 10th charter day which was attended by Rotarians in large numbers.



D 3291

RC Calcutta Mayfair

Under *Project Samman*, 20 senior citizens were honoured with ₹20,000 in cash, utensils, dinner sets and a pressure cooker each at an event. Despite odds, the awardees take care of their families as they are their sole breadwinners. IPDG Ajoy Kumar Law and PDG Utpal Majumdar were present.

Compiled by V Muthukumar

Improving health and education in Coimbatore villages

Team Rotary News

RC Coimbatore Vadavalli, RID 3201, has taken an inspiring step, *Project Kaumarabhrityam*, a medical camp providing antenatal care for pregnant women and children up to five years. It was organised in collaboration with PSG Rural

Medical Centre at Vedapatty, near Coimbatore.

The medical camp marks the beginning of a 12-month programme aimed at benefiting 5,000 women and children across 25 villages. This collaborative effort also involves various primary health centers (PHC).



DGE N Sundaravadivelu (left) and club president Ramesh Subramaniam honouring Dr Jenit, head, PSG Rural Medical Centre at Vedapatty village.





Above and below: Scenes from the antenatal camp at Vedapatty village.



The medical camp provided essential services, screening 63 pregnant women and their children. Free blood tests for sugar and haemoglobin were conducted on pregnant women and children. The project was inaugurated by DGE N Sundaravadivelu.

Another project, The English Club at MSSDHS School, Coimbatore, led by R Murali, aims to enhance the English language skills of rural students. The club has started an Interact club in this school which has completed three years. Interactors celebrated its third anniversary with a tree plantation drive along with the Rotarians.

Akshaya Pathram, an initiative to distribute food to the underprivileged, was carried out at SVS, a special school for autistic children, in Koundampalayam, Coimbatore. ■

Assam students experience Maharashtrian hospitality

Team Rotary News

The New Generations Service Exchange (NGSE) team of RID 3131 ventured into an inter-state exchange programme with RID 3240. The district hosted three participants — Lipokmongla Lemtur, Merina Chetri and T Waichang Longchar from Assam.

They successfully completed their internship in 'Child psychology, counselling and effective teaching strategies' at the DIC's English Medium School, Nigdi Pradhikaran, Pune, Maharashtra. The exchange

students were sponsored by RC Dimapur and were hosted by RC Chinchwad-Pune. The participants were from Mount Mary College, Chumukedima, Nagaland.

The internship was a well-designed programme through which the participants not only got knowledge of their respective field of study but also had the opportunity to understand the Maharashtrian culture, lifestyle, customs, traditions, heritage and values.

The youngsters were welcomed by host parents Anna Prashant Joshi



Clockwise: Visit to Ishwarpuram, a home for students from the North East; RID 3131 Rotarians felicitate the participants; DG Manjoo Phadke (7th from L) and RID 3131 Rotarians with the NGSE team after the marathon.



NGSE participants — Lipokmongla Lemtur, Merina Chetri, and T Waichang Longchar — with the staff of DIC's English Medium School, Pune.



and Harsha Joshi of RC Chinchwad Pune. They were briefed about their internship programme and daily schedule in an orientation meeting. The training in child psychology was accompanied by practical lessons in teaching in the classrooms. The formal training consisted of varied co-curricular activities, such as learning basic German language, reciting Hindi poems, lessons in dance and an art workshop.

Variety of experiences

After the internship hours, the participants had a variety of experiences through the activities organised by the host district NGSE team. They enjoyed the



Rtrs Sameer Ganpule and Aryan Awate with the participants at the Shaniwarwada fort built in 1732 by the Peshwas.



heritage walk through which they visited the historical sites of Chinchwad, a place of significance in Pune. They visited the renowned Savitribai Phule Pune University and were awed by the gorgeous architecture and the lush green ambience.

Their podcast on the local radio station — Infinity — showcased their NGSE internship experience. The industrial visits in the Pimpri Chinchwad MIDC area broadened their horizons. In their presentation at the weekly meeting of the host club, they talked about the cultural heritage of Nagaland. The exchange students met DG Manjoo Phadke and visited her home club, RC Pimpri Elite. They participated in the Apla Pune Marathon, hosted by RCs Pimpri Elite and Chinchwad-Pune, and were felicitated by DG Manjoo Phadke.

Other memorable events include visiting a home for the students from the Northeast at Ishwarapuram in Phulgaon, a movie watching experience, an art gallery and metro station. The three of them loved the Maharashtrian cuisines that they feasted at Rotarians' homes. Vaidehi Joshi, president of RAC Ramkrishna More College, along with Rotaractors Sameer Ganpule and Aryan Awate, took the youngsters to Shaniwarwada, Lal Mahal, Agakhan Palace and the UNESCO designated site, Pataleshwar Caves.

Their interaction with Girish Prabhune at the Samarasata Puranrutthan Gurukulam, Chinchwad, opened new vistas of knowledge for them. He elaborated on the skill-based education system implemented at the gurukulam, and appealed to preserve their tribal culture by transliterating the literature in the local tribal language into the Devanagari script.

Shilpagauri Ganpule, director, NGSE, RID 3131, coordinated the programme with DG Manjoo and DG Nilesh Agarwal, RID 3240, and was supported by the district Rotarians for its smooth execution. ■

Helping flood victims in Delhi

Team Rotary News

Rotary Club of Delhi Mayur Vihar, RID 3012, set up a relief camp in Mayur Vihar area and distributed snacks and beverages for the farmers and their families who were evacuated from their huts on the banks of the Yamuna River that was swelling due to the recent floods in the city. They were relocated to makeshift tents on the pavements of Mayur Vihar. DGN Amita Mohindru visited the stall and appreciated the club's activities.

In another initiative, the club members visited the District Jail and distributed dresses and sarees to the women prisoners lodged there. Sanitary pads and stationery items were distributed to students at Dastak, an NGO in Trilokpuri, East Delhi. ■



Members of RC Delhi Mayur Vihar distribute snacks to flood victims.

Promoting writing skills in students



Students inaugurate the wall paper that displays the essays written by them.

Rotary Club of Akola, RID 3030, has put up a wall paper at a municipal school in the city wherein the essays written by students are displayed. "We felt that it will motivate other students too to write an essay on a topic and get their articles featured on the wallpaper," said club member Radheshyam Modi.

The club is actively promoting reading habit and writing skills in youngsters by gifting them books and installing libraries in schools. ■