



ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

A HISTORY (1929-2007)

OF DISTRICT 3230

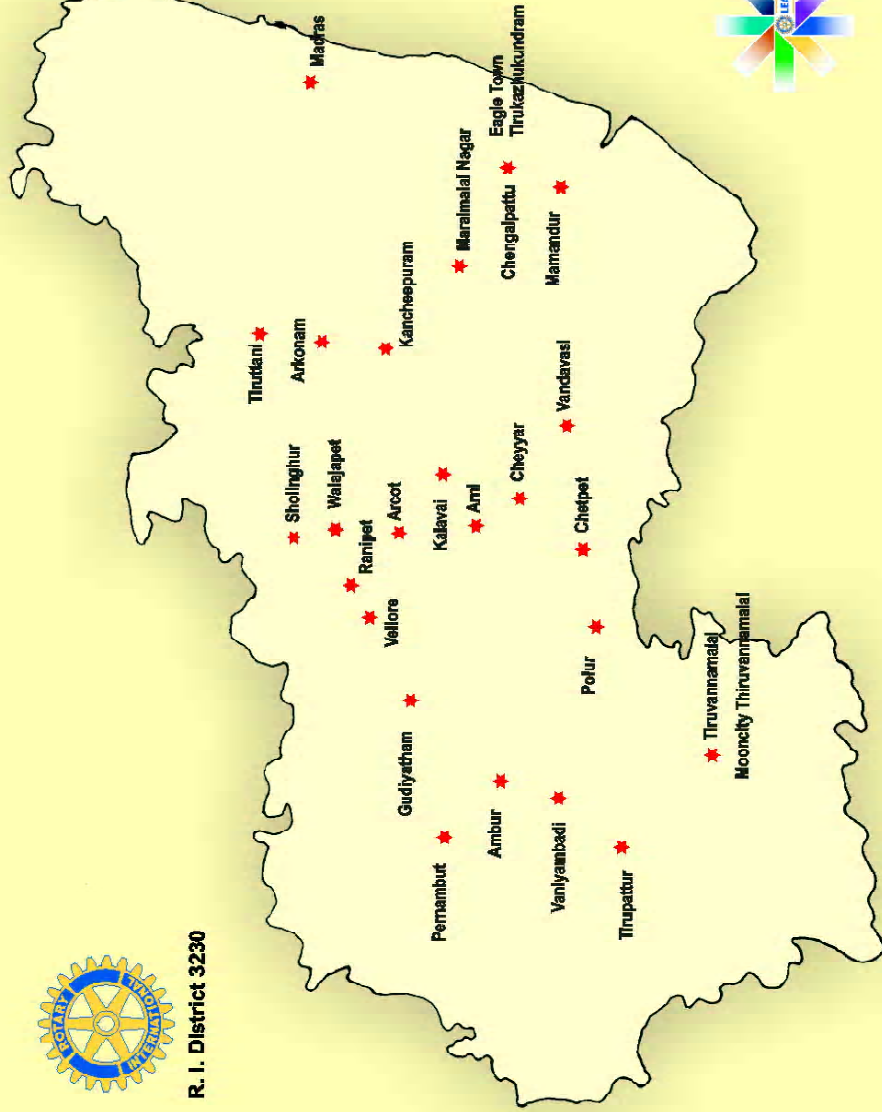


WILLIAM B. BOYD
RI President
2006-07

J.B. KAMDAR
District Governor
2006-07



R. I. District 3230





R.I. 3230

DISTRICT HISTORY
(1929 - 2007)

*“Dedicated to the Rotarians of
Yesterday & Today”*

**“The best thing which we derive from history is the
enthusiasm that it raises in us” - Goethe**

Compiled & Edited by
Rtn. ARUN K. RAMCHANDAR

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Message from District Governor



Dear fellow Rotarians

The past often shapes the present - and so it is with the traditions of Rotary. The annals of R.I. District 3230, I thought, would surely serve to inspire and encourage our Rotarians. I was lucky to find a very enthusiastic and committed Rotarian - to take on this laborious task - none other than the well known Rtn. Arun K. Ramchandar of Ranipet with 34 yrs in Rotary - and active at that !

Arun not only chaired the Committee but took upon himself the responsibility of Compiling and Editing the District History. I felt that this book should reach out to Three Thousand Six Hundred Rotarians of this District and others who would appreciate the wealth of our District History. To make it a reality.

It is not an easy task to compile information from 1929 till date and I am thankful to the various senior Rotarians and PDGs who helped provide valuable information.

My only request to you my fellow Rotarians is to read this District History which I am sure will make you proud of our achievements and our rich tradition of service to humanity. Let us "Lead the way" to continue to serve the community as best we can through the wonderful medium of Rotary.

I convey my appreciation & congratulations to each of you who toiled to make this maiden venture a reality. I truly appreciate the messages received from R.I. President, R.I. President Elect, R.I. President Nominee, and R.I. Director Elect.

I am sure you will treasure this book and rejoice over the Past and Present.

Yours in Rotary

J B Kamdar



ROTARY INTERNATIONAL



03 November 2006

To The Committee Members
Rotary District 3230

Dear Fellow Rotarians

It is my pleasure to congratulate you for your efforts in bringing out a book, highlighting the history of Rotary of your District.

Your commitment of enthusiasm and participation raises your club's level of service and fellowship. It is through committed Rotarians like you that our organization has grown from one small club to a vast international network of volunteers making a real difference in their own communities and far beyond.

2006-07 is the year when I am calling Rotarians to Lead the Way. I ask you to lead in the Rotary way, by living as a role model of tolerance, unselfishness, and integrity.

This year, I ask you to focus on strengthening your clubs in three ways. I ask you to make sure there is strong and effective club administration, the cost of membership gives good value, and that your club runs a variety of productive local and international service projects.

Please join me this year and Lead the Way to a better future through Rotary.

Kind Regards,

W.B. (Bill) Boyd

President RI, 2006-07



ROTARY INTERNATIONAL



Dear DG J.B. Kamdar,

I was simply delighted to read your communication that D3230 was embarking on the preparation of a substantial history of Rotary in your district. I am a strong believer that, in order to succeed, Rotary must be ever cognizant of its past. Given the growth of your communities, the changes in technology and the tremendous needs that can be found everywhere in the world, it is often difficult to find the time. However, if we are to be successful, we must stop and recognize what has been accomplished in the past in order to better plan for the future.

I would hope that thanks to the committee currently be chaired by Rotarian Arun K. Ramchandar, that the distinguished history of the accomplishments of Rotarians, Rotary Clubs and Rotary District will be captured and used by both current and future Rotary Leaders, of this very important part of the Rotary world. I have had the privilege, because of my several visits to South India, of knowing many of the Rotarians in your district and the surrounding districts and in particular, the many devoted past district governors who have served so faithfully over many years. Many of these still reside and participate actively in your programs and should be recognized. However there are others, who are no longer with us but hopefully the memory of their work will not be forgotten through the chapters of this history book.

This indeed is a very worthy undertaking, so I'm pleased to offer my congratulations and best wishes to all involved in this important project. I look forward to reading this book when it is finished and hopefully having an opportunity to personally meet and congratulate the authors on a job well done.

Yours Sincerely

Wilf Wilkinson

Rotary International President - Elect 2007-08



ROTARY INTERNATIONAL



JB Kamdar
D3230 R.I.
South India

Dear DG J B :

Greetings to my fellow Rotarians in the District 3230.

Happy to hear that a comprehensive history of the newly formed district is being published. This book is a great collection of records for the local Rotarians in back tracking the foot steps of their forerunners whose conviction and compassion overcame difficulties in establishment successful institution of voluntary service organization. Also it will, no doubt, contribute greatly in inspiring others who are venturesome to conceive new clubs in yet uncharted areas of the world for Rotary.

Congratulations to you and the committee chair Rtn. Arun K. Ramchandrar and its members in their relentless effort in making this possible. Sincerely hope that you will continue to Lead the Way.

Yours in Rotary.

D.K. Lee

Trustee, The Rotary Foundation &
Rotary International President - Nominee 2008-09



ROTARY INTERNATIONAL



Dear Dist. Gov. J.B. Kamdar,

History of any Institution reveals the strength of the institution and its relevance. It also is an inspirational tool for the members to promote better services and relevant action.

It is, therefore, very relevant to publish history of Rotary in south so that all Rotarians can not only learn something but pass on this learning to all Rotarians and their families.

Rotary's strength is in its membership and the best way to promote membership growth is through motivation of existing member to bring in young energetic learned and enthusiastic new members. What better way to achieve this than through a colourful history of Rotary? This will surely inform all Rotarians on the need to spread Rotary and relevant look - back into the past is the best teacher of all Rotarians.

Rotary thrives because of the many success stories that are often forgotten. Publishing a history of Rotary's quest for service and peace and of the great work done by outstanding Rotarians will be one of the most potent tool for taking Dist. 3230 to new heights.

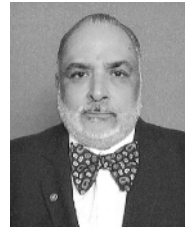
“ALL THE BEST”

Ashok Mahajan

Director, Rotary International 2007-09



R.I. DIST. 3230



Chairman's Message...

I was entrusted with the responsibility to bring out the District History for the first time by our District Governor J.B. Kamdar.

To my surprise I found information on various activities of our Rotary District over the years and about people involved. All I have done is to compile, add and Edit.

We wanted to bring out a book that will be useful to Rotarians as well as persons interested in Rotary Activities. We wanted it to be brief, readable and Quotable. If there are errors and omissions it is entirely unintentional.

I have acknowledged elsewhere the help received by me from Rotarians in bringing out the District History. I must thank Rtn. M.K. Kannan, Past President, Rotary club of Madras South for his invaluable help to me.

District Governor J.B. Kamdar after going through the 'rough draft' decided that a copy of this should reach every Rotarian of this Rotary District, so that they will know of our Proud Legacy.

Salutations to so many great Rotarians of Yesterday and Today.

I am proud that I belong to this Rotary International District of 3230.

Arun K. Ramchandrar

Chairman District History Project 2006-07

Distory History Project 2006 - 07

COMMITTEE



Counsellor
PDG Dr. M. Natarajan
Madras



Chairman
Arun K. Ramchandar
Madras



Members
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Madras South

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Kancheepuram



R. Venkatramanan
Vanyambadi



Advisor
PDG S. Krishnaswami
Madras



ROTARY...AT A GLANCE

Rotary International was the FIRST Service Club organization in the world started in 1905, by Paul P. Harris. "Rotary is an organization of business and professional persons united worldwide who provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all Vocations and help build goodwill and peace in the world".

The first four members were:

Paul P. Harris	-	Lawyer
Gustavus E. Loehr	-	Mining Engineer
Silverster Schiele	-	Coal Dealer
Hirman E. Shorey	-	Merchant Tailor

The first meeting of the club took place on February 23, 1905. Paul Harris named the new Club "Rotary" because the members met in rotation in their various places of business. The movement spread to Canada and Great Britain making it international in scope. In 1912 the name was changed to Rotary International.

The motto of Rotary International, adopted in 1912-13 is "Service above Self - He profits most who serves best".

Paul P. Harris, the father of the Rotary Movement was born on April 19, 1868. When he passed away on January 27, 1947, he left behind for mankind, a rich legacy of fellowship and brotherhood for International understanding and service to humanity. Today the seed he sowed in 1905 has blossomed into a large tree covering 168 geographical regions with over 32,000 clubs with a membership of over 1,220,000 in 529 Districts.

Given here are a few excerpts from his speeches and which are as much valid in today's world as they were during his life time.

1. This is a changing world, we must be prepared to change with it. The story of Rotary will have to be written again and again.

2. On Fellowship: "Fellowship is wonderful, it illuminates life's pathway, spreads good cheer and is worth a high price.

3. On Friendship : "Friendship was the foundation rock on which Rotary was built and tolerance is the element which holds it together".

4. On Business : "In the Rotary plan, business is an important part of life but it is not the all of life. He whose vision extends no further than his field of business is to be pitied."

5. On 'Peace' : "I have no hesitation in saying that world peace could be achieved and made permanent if reared on Rotary's firm foundation of friendliness, tolerance, and usefulness"

6. On 'Rotary Democracy': "The democratic spirit is the very life spark of Rotary. Rotary must never be permitted to become merely a rich man's club. With the democracy of our organization kept pure, we may hope to attain hitherto undreamed of heights in the elevation of business standards."

7. On Moral values : "... Sacrifice, devotion, honour, truth, sincerity, love: these are homely virtues characteristic of good old-fashioned homes."

8. On “Working Together”: “it has been the way of Rotary to focus thought upon matter in which they are in disagreement. Rotary has satisfactorily demonstrated the fact that friendship can easily handle national and religious boundary lines.”

The “**Four Way Test**” devised by Past R.I. President Herbert J. Taylor was officially adopted in 1943. The main purpose of this is to cause people to think right, and for self-analysis. The famous 4 questions have become a time-tested measuring stick for ethical thinking and action.

The Four Way Test of the things we think, say or do:

1. Is it the TRUTH ?
2. Is it fair to all concerned ?
3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIP ?
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned ?

The symbol of Rotary is the Rotary wheel, founded in 1924.

R.I. Convention meets once a year in different countries.

In 1945, forty-nine Rotarians helped in drafting the U.N. Charter.

Since 1989, women members have been permitted officially into Rotary.

Rotary has now returned to many East European Countries and former Soviet Union. Rotary in China in the near future is possible.

Rotary has spent over \$600 million towards eradication of Polio worldwide. This programme was in collaboration with WHO and UNICEF.

The Official Magazine of Rotary International ‘THE ROTARIAN’ was started in 1911.

The Interact movement of Rotary International started in 1962 for School Students has over 10,841 Clubs in 120 countries with a membership of over 249,343.

The Rotaract movement started in 1968 for College Students and later Community based has 7073 Rotract Clubs in 157 countries, with a membership of over 162,679.

In 1971 RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Award) was adopted.

Rotary Community Corps, originally started in 1985, has 6206 corps and has membership over 142,738 members, spread over 70 countries.

Rotary International Head Quarters is situated at One Rotary Center, 1560, Sherman Avenue, Evanston Illinois 60201, U.S.A. and has branches in most countries, including in India at Thapar House, 124 Janpath, New Delhi 110 001.

ROTARY PERSONALITIES....

Sir Md. Usman K.C.I.E., M.L.C. a contemporary of Sir C.P. Ramaswamy Ayyar in college, was officiating Governor of Madras Presidency, Member Viceregal Council in the British India & Vice Chancellor Madras University. He was the first Indian to be President of Rotary Club of Madras in 1935-36.

JAMES WHEELER DAVIDSON

Jim Wheeler Davidson, born on June 14, 1872 at Southern Minnesotan town named Austin can be considered as “Macro Polo of Rotary.” After an active Journalistic and Consular Life in the Far East, Jim and his wife Lillian settled down in Calgary, Canada. He joined Rotary Club of Calgary in 1914.



Col. Layton Ralston of Halifax, Novoscotia was named as Rotary’s Ambassador Extraordinary and he took Jim as companion for organizing clubs at Melbourne, Sydney, Wellington and Auckland.

As Rotary International was approaching its Silver Anniversary, Jim Wheeler Davidson was to undertake the task of strengthening the chain of clubs that stretched between Europe and Japan.

On 23rd August 1928 accompanied by his wife Lillian and daughter Marjory, as Hony. General Commissioner of Rotary International, he sailed from Montreal, Canada. They took the route Turkey, Greece, Egypt and Syria where Rotary Clubs were started in Constantinople, Athens, Cairo and Baghdad. From Basra he with his family sailed to Bombay and after visiting Delhi, Lahore and Calcutta left for Madras by train on 23rd April 1929. Arriving in the capital of Madras Presidency two days after, Jim had his first meeting at Madras with C.E. Wood of Parry & Co., H.E.P. Hearson of Bombay Co., R. Kay of Binny & Co., J.W. Macfarlane of South Indian Export Co. and F.E. James (who later became Sir Fredick James) of United Planters Association.

The organisation meeting of Rotary Club of Madras was held on 10th May 1929 with 30 charter Members all of whom were expatriates. C.G. Armstrong, Chairman of Madras Port Trust was the Charter President and Chance Morton the first Hony. Secretary. From Madras Jim & Family moved to Burma, Singapore, Hong Kong, Korea and Japan ultimately returning to Vancouver in March 1931. He knew when he left Canada that he did not have more than three years to live, but still completed the assignments of Extension in 30 months and passed away on July 18, 1933. after a protracted illness. As Rotary International was not all flush with funds at that time, Jim had to spend almost a Quarter of Million Dollars of his own money which was neither expected nor replaced.

Rotary Founder Paul Harris in his book “My Road to Rotary” writes “Davidson undertook the organisation of Clubs in Southern Europe, Egypt, India, the Strait settlements, Syria, China and Japan, thus completing the round the world chain. This trip of Davidson took three years. Jim left America with full understanding that he has not long to live. He lasted until the completion of his task but died soon after his return He worked without compensation”.

On his passing away his early companion Col. Ralston wrote “I learnt more about Rotary during these three weeks with Jim on the boat than my whole of eight years membership previously”. Lillian, his wife at the age of 92 in 1972 was living in Delta near Vancouver with her daughter Marjory (Mrs. C. John Abramson) Some years ago at a R.I. convention Marjory was honoured by Rotary International. James

Wheeler Davidson has to be admired for his determination, pioneering spirit and the ambition to spread Rotary in other Countries.

The Rotary Club of Madras in particular and Rotary Clubs in general owe a lot to this 'Rotary Marco Polo', James Wheeler Davidson. What we talk as family movement in Rotary now, was practised by Davidson in late 1920 s by involving his wife and only daughter for the Rotary Extension work.

ROTARY PERSONALITIES....

R.K. Shanmugam Chetty - Charter President of R.C. of Cochin sponsored by Rotary Club of Madras in 1937. He was then Dewan of Cochin. Sri R.K. Shankugam Chetty became the first Finance Minister in the Central Cabinet headed by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru.

Sir C.P. Ramaswamy Ayyar, a multifaceted personality a succesful lawyer, member of Governor's Council, briefly Viceregal Council, Dewan of Travancore, later Vice Chancellor of Annamalai University and Benares Hindu University. He became Rotary Governor from R.C. of Nilgris. (1952-53) at the age of 73. (B: 12.11.1879).

FREDRICK E. JAMES

Sir FREDERICK E. JAMES (he was knighted in 1941 by His Imperial Majesty King George VI) was no stranger to Rotary. He was the President of Rotary Club of Calcutta in 1924-25. He served as General Secretary of the Y.M.C.A. Calcutta from 1920 to 1928. F.E. James came



to Madras as Vice President of United Planters Association of South India. He helped James Wheeler Davidson in the formation of the Rotary club of Madras on 10th May 1929, with thirty Charter members, all expatriates.

F.E. James was the representative of the European Commercial and Planning Community in Madras and Central Legislatures for over 20 years. Upto 1931-32, Rotary clubs in India were non-districted. From 1932 to 1935 clubs in India, Burma and Ceylon were grouped under provisional District 'A'. On 1st July 1935, District 89 was formed with clubs in Afghanistan; Burma; Ceylon and undivided India. The first District Governor was Sir Fredrick E. James (1935-36). Sri Phiroz Sethna followed him the next year. Sir F.E. James had to be once again at the saddle due to the sudden death of Phiroz Sethna.

The Delhi Club was revived in 1939, thanks to the efforts of Sir Frederick James. He was the first Rotary Governor from India. Prior to becoming the first District Governor he was the first Director from India to R.I. in the year 1933-34. The first conference of Rotary District was in Madras in 1936-37 under the governorship of F.E. James, which had a

registration of 63. Haji M. Eusoff was R.I. President's Representative to this conference.

The District conference of District 88 were held at Calcutta, and had one of its conferences in Jamshedpur with Nitish C. Laharry as District Governor (Later he became the first Indian to hold the position of R.I. President in 1962-63). The R.I. President's representative for this conference was Sir Frederick James.

Back to his country England, he served as Managing Director, Tatas Ltd, London and died in Yafford, Isle of Wright, on January 18, 1971. Sir Frederick E. James has contributed a great deal to the growth of Rotary in India in the early years.

ROTARY PERSONALITIES....

Raja Sir Muthiah Chettiar, the first Indian Member to join R.C. of Madras is a scion of the Chettinad family. He was the first Mayor of Madras, Industrialist, later Pro Chancellor of Annamalai University.

Dr. P.V. Cherian, an eminent E.N.T Specialist, Member of the Legislative Council, Madras later became the Governor of State of Maharashtra.

D.C. Kothari, well-known Industrialist joined R.C. of Madras at the age of 24 (1935), President at the age of 35, District Governor at the age of 45 and he was recognized at a District Conference for his 50 years contribution as a member of Rotary Club of Madras.

THE SPIRIT OF ROTARY

PDG. Rtn. S.R. Govindarajan, RI District 3230

One summer evening of 1960, I was taking a walk in a park with my very dear and affectionate former student Ramakrishna Raja, who had by then blossomed into a prosperous Industrialist and was based in the Guindy Industrial Estate. He casually mentioned to me that he was joining a “Rotary Club” to be organized by the then Rotary Governor K. Gopal Rao. Though an informed academic and considerable knowledge of the polity, my understanding of the reputed non government service organization, Rotary International, was far from complimentary to it. In fact I had formed a vague impression that the clubs of this organization were “talking lunch-shops of the rich and mighty” who spend an hour every week on gossip; and when asked by the rulers of the Raj, arrogantly and ostentatiously threw a few thousand rupees on what was grandiosely advertised as “service”, during natural calamities and birthdays of Royalty. I was shocked that Ram was joining one such Club and I did not hide my annoyance. However, Ram’s expository skills and my impeccable faith in his sense of judgement combined to knock out my incredible stupidity in half an hour and my natural proclivity for “service” made me ask him innocently if I could also join! This was perhaps an embarrassment that Ram had not anticipated! For a few moments he felt stunned at the desire of this academic, with perhaps limited resources, belonging to what was always considered a cynical intellectual community with a well-recognized “anti-elitist” stance, wanting to climb to the seventh heaven through a rope-ladder! Neither could he slap

me in the face and say “forget it” ‘ and so he cleverly promised to “discuss” the matter with Governor Gopal Rao and get back to me. It was perhaps the Lord’s will that Gopal Rao should have deeper knowledge of my family and me personally than Ram presumably had at that stage! Gopal Rao was obviously quite enthused about “inviting me” which I understood later was the only way you could get into a Rotary Club. Gopal Rao however cautioned Ram to explain to me the hazards, the basic obligations and structural hurdles in the process of invitation, which of course Ram did. A few days later he called me excitedly and told me that I would become a Charter Member of the Rotary Club of Madras South! Now it was my turn to be stunned and I was bewildered at the very thought of getting into an association whose compatibility with my psyche was still unclear. But the die had been cast and I became a “Rotarian” in a week’s time. Little did I realise at that time that my decision that day would take me through a gorgeous landscape and open out vistas which I did not even know, existed. Now, what did I find in my Rotary life that justifies this hyperbolic ecstasy?

My first meeting with Rotarians in the Library Hall of the Guindy Industrial Estate, got me that first view of the vista I referred to. Here were twenty four intelligent men who had risen to affluence by sheer hard work, genuinely anxious to make friends and serve society in coherence, totally unconscious of their social and financial success and ready to build an extended family perhaps more firm than that founded on blood and kinship. Almost the first dictum that Governor Gopal Rao gave us was to start addressing each other by our first names and warmly shake each other’s hand;

to make harmony and fellowship a part of our inner consciousness; to take Rotary not as a mere association of affluent men, but as a Way of Life, untrammelled by caste, creed, colour of skin or pedigree. His second affirmation was even more unique. Every one of the assembled men was the Leader of his own profession or business, but not two men would belong to the same profession or business so that mundane matters would not interfere with our newly established coherence! In other words, I would be a part of a bouquet in which no two beautiful flowers would belong to the same genus nor have the same kind of aroma. That, let me assure you was, for me, a heavenly interface whose memory, even today, when I am in the last lap of my life, brings hope and joy, when the environment pushes me sometimes into despair and depression. I do not know if I am still within Rotary, but no force on earth can wrench Rotary from within me!

My mental attitude started changing and I began watching my every step, monitoring every action. I was scared of committing impropriety even in the little things that I did and was anxious to correct myself at once. Governor Gopal Rao had warned us of this and had attributed it to our coming under what he called the “Spirit of Rotary”. Believe me, even today that Spirit still haunts me.

As Head of an Educational Institution, I used to address my colleagues at the beginning of the term and warn them that every time they got into a class, fifty or sixty pairs of eyes kept peering at them with awe and holding them in great awe. To them, a Teacher was a model who could do no wrong. If it happened that the students noticed an act or behaviour that did not fit in with this image, there could be

cultural disaster and not only the student but also the preceptor would collapse like a house of cards. The Spirit of Rotary brought in this perception into my everyday life. The message that I tried to give to my colleagues in my profession, Rotary gave to me much more lucidly and sometimes sends me into deep introspection.

Slowly I began to realise that my actions should not be tinged with impropriety, but perchance if it did, I had to correct myself at once. I started yearning for the Tuesday evening meetings, the Intercity Meetings, the fireside meetings, the fellowship picnics, the District Conferences and Institutes, the company of Rotarian families, et al, all of which were moving me into an Elysium that I had not anticipated at all.. The strength of this transformation will bear credibility if I tell you what happened three years later. The Territorial Limit of the Madras South Club was the geographical area “South” of the Adyar River.

In the course of my professional progress, I was invited to head an educational institution which unfortunately was situated “north” of the Adyar River. I had to accept that assignment for after all, Educational planning and Institution Building were my life mission. But by doing so, I crossed the Adyar river and ipso facto stepped out of my club territory and out of Rotary. R I Rules in those days did not permit compromises. The poignancy of the step was much deeper, for that year (1963-64), I was President of the South Club, having served a whole year as Secretary and got very close to every member and everyone in his family. In other words I was abruptly stepping out of thirty loving families that cared intensely for me and of which I had already become an integral part. I began to feel melancholy and distraught and a cheerless vacancy seemed to envelop me.

Though my passionate addiction to my Acharya Dharma kept my professional efficiency intact, the spark within me seemed to have gone out. One great person noticed this change, the loss of buoyancy, the warmth and perpetual laughter. That person, alas no longer with us, a complete Rotarian, one who never let his affluence, his professional eminence or social stature ever manifest itself, was Rtn PDG M.V. Arunachalam. Even today I cannot explain to you why he decided to restore my sunshine. If I had lost the membership of one Rotary club, he set out to create a new Rotary Club for us, of course after careful analysis of the needs of the community, the availability of sound leadership material and satisfying the paradigms of RI. Thus was born the Rotary Club of Madras West and I was bestowed the honour of its Chartered Presidentship. That, my friends, was Rotary in action, sharing and caring. Sometimes I am told that the departure of great men like J.R. Metha, K.V.S., MV, Dr. C.R.R. Pillai, Dr. Sundararaman, R. Ratnam, V. Chidambaram and C.V. George, to their Heavenly Home in a rather short span of time, had dimmed the Spirit of Rotary. Somehow I do not agree with this. Like the *Atman*, that Spirit ignited nearly a century ago by four good men, can neither be destroyed by fire nor swallowed by floods. I do not deny that there have been onslaughts, but I believe that the Spirit always leads us from Darknes to Light, from Ignorance to Intelligence, from Decay to Resurgence.

I attended Jimmy Nilghiriya's District Conference in Colombo in 1967. The Conference, conducted in the Galle Face Hotel, against the gentle lappings of the back waters, with the gorgeous emerald background of the world-renowned Colombo Parks and a gentle breeze blowing across a

fabulously decorated hall, was attended by a galaxy pervaded by a paradisiacal warmth, the like of which I had never seen since. But one speaker sounded an incongruous note of discord. This person was one of the most eminent citizens of Sri Lanka, a greatly respected journalist and an orator of very high calibre. But his speech that day was full of fire and brimstone, and his body language was totally out of tune with the gloriousness of the conference atmosphere. Perhaps Parke Nadesan had his reasons for his stance; he should have become the District Governor many years earlier, but somehow that did not happen. Parke, an ordinarily sweet companion, was on the platform, sweating and swearing and concluded his well argued case with the statement “if Sri Lanka does not get a Governorship within the next few years, Rotary in Sri Lanka will die”. The audience sat stunned and Jimmy was feeling quite embarrassed. Somehow, his eyes sought me out and he beckoned me to speak. I too had not recovered from the recent shock and after a few observations on the subject - “Classification Principle” - I reverted to Parke’s speech and assured him that the strength of Rotary lay in generous, intelligent, committed “men” like Parke and not on a few Governorships which had mostly decorative value. I too became emotional and assured Parke that as long as the Spirit of Rotary was in the custody of men like him, “Rotary will never die in Sri Lanka or anywhere else in the world”. There was perceptible release of tension and at the end of my speech, Parke walked up to me and shook my hands, but just smiled, said nothing. Later, I went to the polling area where I saw one of Ceylon’s most eminent sons, PDG. Sir. Sangaram Pillai Pararajasingham. He hugged me and said “I hope my son (that was Parke) will atleast now realise that the Spirit of

Rotary is far too mighty to be destroyed by the presence or absence of a mere Governorship. Thank you very much”. It was then that I realised that the Sprit of Rotary was a nectar which was made up of love, ethics, compassion and global commitment and that it was this Spirit that marked out a Rotarian from the rest. All good things that Rotarians do have for their inspiration, this Sprit of Rotary.

My essay has become too long. I must tell you this story. In May 1977, I landed up in Paris and the Airport bus took me to Porto Milo, a Centre where the most powerful and affluent men and women of France meet for every important event, from cultural bonanzas to International Conferences. But I was a lonely man, could not speak to anyone, had not the ghost of an idea of how to communicate and get to my modest hotel. Just then I saw a charming couple and noticed the Rotary Lapel pin on his coat. I could not tell him what I wanted. Obviously he was briskly walking to the Car Park and had meant to leave. He spoke a few words to his wife who read the name of the Hotel whose card I had. He smiled at me and seemed to ask “you, a Rotarian?”. Within minutes he himself carried one of my baggages, asked his wife to carry the other and literally dragged me to his car. In ten minutes he took me to my Hotel, situated in a bye-lane of Champes Elyses, ordered for some coffee, left his wife to keep me company and vanished. Obviously he spoke to a friend who knew a Pondicherry Tamilian who had settled down in France. He came back, kept chattering away, of course in French, about the glory of France and the glory of Rotary but making me feel perfectly happy and relaxed. The Tamilian from Pondicherry arrived after sixty minutes during which time the French couple kept me company and when the

Pondicherryan arrived, they gave him some instructions in French and left me after “profusely thanking me” for the opportunity -this I learnt from my new found Tamil companion. During the next three days the Tamilian was with me practically all the time, took me round Paris and its suburbs and appeared extremely happy at the opportunity for speaking Tamil for several hours! The extraordinary adventure ended with a most delicious French Dinner at the Samaritan Couple’s Villa when I was presented an exquisite crystal vase which I proudly keep in my drawing room. Now, how do you describe this exhibition of Spirit of Rotary? I have no words-no true Rotarian can, in fact.

The canvas of Rotary has expanded enormously during the last three decades. Qualitatively and quantitatively, Rotary Service has gained immense lustre. Activities have become multi-faceted and thousands of young and brilliant men (and women) have got deeply involved in its activities. The inspiration for all this mammoth growth is, I still believe, the SPIRIT OF ROTARY which will ultimately bring Peace and Harmony to this troubled Planet. For, this SPIRIT OF ROTARY will continue to inspire generations of men and women and will last until “the Sun gets cold, the Stars grow old and the leaves of the Book unfold”.

“The Rotary Foundation is not to build monuments of brick and stone. If we work upon marble, it will perish; if we work on brass, time will efface it; if we rear temples they will crumble into dust; but if we work upon immortal minds, if we imbue them with the full meaning of the spirit of Rotary... we are engraving on those tablets something that will brighten all eternity.”

Arch C. Klumph
R.I. President 1916-17

DISTRICTING

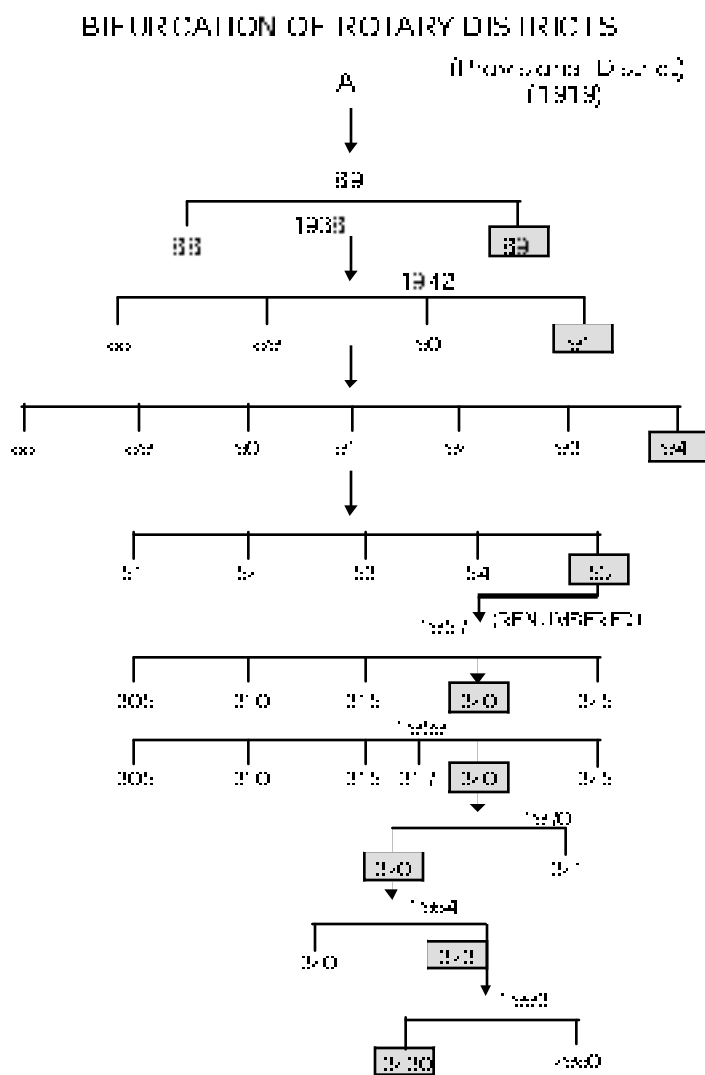
Rotary Clubs in India were non-districted. From 1932 to 1935 Clubs in India; Burma & Ceylon were grouped under provisional District 'A'.

On 1st July 1935 District 89 was formed with clubs in Afghanistan, Burma, Ceylon and undivided India. In 1939 Dist. 89 was bifurcated to create District 88 also which consisted of Afghanistan, Burma and part of undivided India. By the time India became Independent there were 71 Rotary Clubs (14 in Gujarat; 10 in Maharashtra; 10 in Utter Pradesh; Seven in Tamil Nadu; Seven in Karnataka and 23 in another 10 States) with a total membership of 3121 members. In 1950 there were only 198 clubs with a Rotarian strength of 7785 in the whole of Asia, the least number both in matter of clubs as well as total number of Rotarians, among the Six Rotary Regions then existed.

In 1958, there were 5 districts in India, Ceylon, Burma, Pakistan, Nepal and Bhutan with about 7500 Rotarians. In another ten years; there were 430 clubs and 16,055 Rotarians in these countries. In 1968-69 Pakistan became a separate district. The number of districts in India were 12 in 1970-71. In 1980-81 there were 899 clubs in India 14 R.I. Districts with a membership of 35,172 Rotarians. In the beginning of 1995-96, the system of region in the Rotary world was abolished and the new zone system was introduced. In the first quarter of 1977, there were 1791 clubs in India with a total membership of 68,043.

The first Asian to become R.I. President from Asia was NITISH LAHARRY (1962-63) from Calcutta. Almost thirty years later

we had another Indian to be elected as R.I. President, Rajendra K. Saboo from Chandigarh. He also served as Chairman of the Rotary Foundations (1996-97), the only Indian to hold the position in Rotary's history. Today we have 529 R.I. Districts with 34 zones in the Rotary world.



BIFURCATION OF ROTARY DISTRICTS

1919 Provisional Districts	A India (Calcutta) Chartered on 1.1.1920
1936 Districts	89 India, Burma, Afghanistan and Ceylon
1938 District 89 divided into 2 Districts as 88 & 89	88 Afghanistan, Burma and a portion of India (Baluchistan, North West Frontier province, Punjab, kashmir, Sind, Rajputana, Central India States United Province, Bihar, Orissa, Bengal & Jabalpur 89 Ceylon & Rest of India.
1942 2 Districts divided into 4 Districts as 88,89,90 & 91	91 Madras, Kerala, Andhra, Karnataka & Ceylon (Bangalore, Cochin, Guntur, Madras, Madurai, Nilgiris, Vizag, Galle, Jaffna, Kandy, Negambo & Colombo).
1946 4 Districts divided into 7 Districts as 88,89,90,91,92,93,&94	94 All Clubs - South of Pennar River All Clubs - Ceylon.

- 1949 7 Districts divided into 5 Districts as 51, 52, 53, 54, 56 (Covered India, Ceylon, Burma, Pakistan, Nepal, Sikkim and Bhutan).
56 All Clubs - South of Pennar River.
All Clubs - Ceylon.
- 1957 5 Districts renumbered as 305, 310, 315, 320, 325 (Covered India, Ceylon, Burma, Pakistan, Nepal, Sikkim and Bhutan).
320 All Clubs South of Pennar River
All Clubs - Ceylon.
TamilNadu - 23 Clubs
Kerala - 8 Clubs
Karnataka - 10 Clubs
Ceylon - 5 Clubs
- 1959 5 Districts divided into 6 Districts as 305, 310, 315, 317, 325 & 320. (District 317-All Clubs - Karnataka & A.P)
320 All Clubs in Madras, Kerala and Ceylon.
- 1970 District 320 divided into 2 Districts as 320 and 321.
320 District 320-All Clubs - North of Trichy in Madras State & All clubs North of Kottayam in Kerala State
(321 - All Clubs-South of Trichy in Madras State & All Clubs - South of Kottayam in Kerala & All Clubs in SriLanka.

1984 District 320 divided
into 2 Districts
as 320 & 323

323 Clubs in Revenue
District of Madras,
Chengalpattu, North
Arcot, Tiruvannamalai,
South Arcot,
Dharmapuri, Salem,
Thanjavur, Pondicherry
and Karaikal.

1993 District 323
bifurcated into 2980
& 3230

3230 Clubs in Revenue
Districts Madras,
Chengalpattu, North
Arcot & Tiruvannamalai

The Rotary Club of Vaniyambadi played the role of a 'Catalyst' in motivating local philanthropist Sri Nemi Chand Churana to donate more than Rs. 2.5 lakhs to construct a Maternity ward. After seeing the magnificent involvement of Rotarians, the donor further donated money to furnish the maternity ward built at the Government Hospital Campus, Vaniyambadi. Soon after passing away of Sri Nemichand Churana, his wife contacted the Rotarians, and on their advise she funded to start a Junior College at Vaniyambadi for women.

The Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru M.G. Ramachandran was made a Paul Harris Fellow at the Dist. Conference held at Tanjavoor in 1981-82 by IPDG G. Varadaraj, the year Rtn. G. Swaminathan was District Governor.

	Club	Date of Charter	Sponsoring Club	
1	Madras	July 19, 1929		
2	Vellore	March 5, 1948	Bangalore	1948
3	Madras South	June 30, 1960	Madras	
4	Ranipet	June 28, 1965	Vellore	1965
5	Madras West	October 25, 1965	Madras	
6	Madras North	December 22, 1969	Madras	
7	Vaniyambadi	June 29, 1971	Vellore & Ranipet	
8	Madras Mid town	August 20, 1972	Madras	
9	Ambur	June 17, 1975	Vaniyambadi	
10	Arakkonam	April 10, 1975	Ranipet	
11	Vellore North	May 9, 1975	Vellore	
12	Kancheepuram	June 15, 1979	Ranipet	
13	Ambattur	August 28, 1980	Madras West	
14	Madras Southwest	June 16, 1981	Madras	
15	Anna nagar - Madras	April 12, 1982	Madras West	
16	Madras Central	January 29, 1982	Madras	
17	Meenambakkam	June 15, 1983	Madras	
18	Adyar	May 15, 1985	Madras South	
19	Arni	October 23, 1985	Ranipet	
20	Chengalpattu	May 31, 1985	Kancheepuram	
21	Madras Ashoknagar	November 12, 1985	Madras Southwest	
22	Madras East	May 21, 1985	Madras Mid-Town	
23	Madras Metro	May 1, 1985	Madras	
24	Cheyyar	December 17, 1986	Ranipet	
25	Gudiyatham	June 12, 1986	Ambur	
26	Madras Central Aadithya	January 12, 1986	Madras Central	
27	Madras - T. Nagar	May 16, 1986	Madras Southwest	
28	Sholinghur	October 13, 1986	Ranipet	
29	Tirupattur	June 30, 1986	Vaniyambadi	
30	Tiruvannamalai	October 31, 1986	Vellore	
31	Vellore East	January 14, 1987	Vellore North	
32	Vellore South	June 27, 1987	Vellore	
33	Madras Mylapore	June 21, 1988	Madras	
34	Tambaram	June 29, 1988	Meenambakkam	
35	Arcot	June 27, 1989	Vellore	
36	Kancheepuram East	January 4, 1989	Kancheepuram	
37	Madras Coromandel	February 23, 1989	Meenambakkam	
38	Madras Esplanade	December 5, 1989	Madras Metro	

39	Madras Marina	October 5, 1989	Madras
40	Madras Northwest	May 24, 1989	Annanagar Madras
41	Madras Temple City	July 6, 1989	Meenambakkam
42	Madras Uptown	March 15, 1989	Madras T-nagar
43	Vandavasi	October 25, 1989	Cheyyar
44	Vellore Fort	June 20, 1989	Vellore East
45	Chetpet	July 24, 1990	Polur
46	Vellore Mid-Town	August 1, 1990	Vellore
47	Madras Silver Beach	April 1, 1991	Madras Southwest
48	Madras Cosmos	October 21, 1992	Meenambakkam
49	Madras Chennai	May 18, 1993	Madras Mid-town
50	Madras Down Town	February 12, 1993	Anna Nagar Madras
51	Madras Fort	June 21, 1993	Madras Esplanade
52	Madras Pallava	June 29, 1993	Madras Metro
53	Pernambut	June 29, 1993	Gudiyatham
54	Madras Perungudi	October 24, 1994	Madras Cosmos
55	Madras Porur	December 14, 1994	Madras Marina
56	Madras Shakti	June 30, 1994	Meenambakkam
57	Guindy	January 10, 1995	Madras Uptown
58	Madras Mount	April 18, 1995	Madras Esplanade
59	Nanganallur	January 17, 1995	Tambaram
60	Aarch-city-Madras	April 10, 1996	Madras North west
61	Madras North East	March 19, 1996	Madras North
62	Madras Nungambakkam	February 27, 1996	Meenambakkam
63	Madras Vadapalani	March 19, 1996	Madras Southwest
64	Chennai Mid city	May 7, 1997	Madras Mid-Town
65	Chennai Presidency	May 14, 1997	Madras Southwest
66	Madras Besant Nagar	April 9, 1997	Madras Uptown
67	Madras Industrial City	February 19, 1997	Anna Nagar, Madras
68	Maraimalai Nagar	January 15, 1997	Madras Central
69	Tiruttani	January 8, 1997	Arakonam
70	Walajapet	January 8, 1997	Ranipet
71	Arcot East	April 5, 1998	Arcot
72	Chennai Kilpauk	June 17, 1998	Madras T-Nagar
73	Chennai Mambalam	June 10, 1998	Madras T-Nagar & Madras North
74	Chennai Towers	June 10, 1988	Anna Nagar - Madras
75	Mamandur	June 10, 1998	Madras East
76	Ranipet Siccot	June 17, 1998	Ranipet
77	Vellore Cosmos	June 10, 1998	Vellore
78	Chennai Samudra	December 12, 2001	Meenambakkam

79	Kalavai	October 17, 2001	Arcot and Arcot East
80	Madras Golden city	April 25, 2001	Madras Northwest
81	Annanagar Aaditya	May 15, 2002	Madras central Aaditya
82	Ami Fort	March 20, 2002	Arcot East
83	Chennai East R.A. Puram	March 13, 2002	Madras East
84	Chennai Gemini	March 13, 2002	Meenambakkam
85	Eagle Town - Tirukazhukundram	April 17, 2002	Chengalpattu
86	Kancheepuram Temple city	March 13, 2002	Kancheepuram
87	Royapettah	May 21, 2002	Adyar
88	Vellore Presidency	March 20, 2002	Vellore South
89	Chennai Galaxy	February 5, 2003	Chennai Mambalam
90	Chennai K.K. Nagar	April 2, 2003	Madras South
91	Polur	January 8, 2003	Thiruvannamalai
92	Chennai Chepauk - Centennial	September 5, 2004	Madras Industrial City
93	Madras Centenary - Commemoration	September 22, 2004	Madras South
94	Chennai Golden Star	December 1, 2006	NO SPONSORING CLUB
95	Chennai Phoenix	October 12, 2006	Chennai Galaxy
96	Moon City - Tiruvannamalai	December 21, 2006	Tiruvannamalai
97	Chennai Coastal	December 13, 2006	Madras Coromandel
98	Vaniyambadi - Mid-town	December 29, 2006	Tirupattur

* Polur first chartered on March 15, 1989 and subsequently terminated on February 1, 1991. This club was rechartered on January 8, 2003

On External Extension:- ROTARY CLUB OF MADRAS, CHARTERED IN 1929, OVER A PERIOD OF YEARS HAS SPONSORED 15 ROTARY CLUBS OF WHICH 10 REMAIN IN THE R.I. DT. 3230

MORE THAN 5 ROTARY CLUBS: ROTARY CLUB OF MEENAMBAKKAM (7): ROTARY CLUB OF VELLORE (7) : ROTARY CLUB OF RANIPET (7): ROTARY CLUB OF MADRAS-SOUTH WEST (5). BESIDES THIS BOTH VELLORE AND RANIPET JOINTLY SPONSORED ROTARY CLUB OF VANIYAMBADI.

2006-2007 Merger of Rotary Club of Mylapore and Rotary Club of Uptown to ROTARY CLUB OF MYLAPORE UPTOWN

YEAR	ROTARY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT	R.I. DISTRICT	DISTRICT GOVERNOR	CLUB
1936-37	Will. R. Manier Jr., USA	89	F.E. James	Madras
1937-38	Maurice Duperry, France	89	Sir Phiroze Sethna	Bombay
1938-39	George C. Hager, U.S.A	89	F.E. James	Madras
1939-40	Walter D. Head, USA	89	Sir Shaprojee B. Billimoria	Bombay
1940-41	Amando de Arruda Pereira, Brazil	89	Abraham Gardiner	Colombo
1941-42	Tom J. Davis, USA	89	H.M. Desai	Ahmedabad
1942-43	Fernando Carbajal, Peru	91	K.R.K. Iyengar	The Nilgiris
1943-44	Charles L. Wheeler, USA	91	Dr. P. Rama Rau	Madras
1944-45	Richard H Wells, USA	91		
1945-46	T.A. Warren, England	91	Kenneth W Taylor	Colombo
1946-47	Richard C Hedke, USA	91	Dr. M.N. Mahadevan	Bangalore
1947-48	S. Kendrick Guemsey, USA	91	S.R. Sharma	Madras
1948-49	Angus S Mitchell, Australia	94	J.L.P. Roche Victoria	Tuticorin
1949-50	Percy Hodgson, USA	56	Gnanasakram Wignaraji	Colombo
1950-51	Arthur Laguenx, Canada	56	P.V. Cheria	Madras
1951-52	Frank E Spain, USA	56	S. Pararaja Singam	Colombo
1952-53	H.J. Brunner	56	Sir C.P. Ramaswamy Aiyar	Nilgiris
1953-54	Joaquin Serratosa Cibllis, Uruguay	56	D.C. Kothari	Madras
1954-55	Herbert J Taylor, USA	56	J.H.F. Jayasuriya	Colombo
1955-56	A.Z. Baker, USA	56	Hassan Marikar	Trivandrum
1956-57	Gian Paolo Lang, Italy	56	Vishnu Madhav Ghatage	Bangalore
1957-58	Charles C Tennent, USA	320	P.R. Ramakrishnan	Coimbatore
1958-59	Clifford A Randall, USA	320	T.S. Rajam	Madurai

YEAR	ROTARY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT	R.I. DISTRICT	DISTRICT GOVERNOR	CLUB
1959-60	Harold T Thomas, New Zealand	320	Kalluri Gopal Rao	Madras
1960-61	J.Edd Mc Laughlin, USA	320	Shantikumar C Banker	Colombo
1961-62	Joseph A Abbey, USA	320	K.V. Srinivasan	Tanjore
1962-63	Nitish C Laharry, India	320	Ramara thaAiyar	Coimbatore
1963-64	Carl P Miller, USA	320	Shabdai Samuel Koder	Cochin
1964-65	Charles W Pettengill, USA	320	Joe M.B. Roche	Tuticorin
1965-66	C.P.H. Teenstra, Netherlands	320	K.V. Srinivasan	Madras
1966-67	Richard L Evans, USA	320	Jimmy Nilgeria	Colombo
1967-68	Luther H Hodges, USA	320	J.R. Mehta	Salem
1968-69	Kiyoshi Togasaki, Japan	320	P. Peer Mohammed	Alwaye
1969-70	James F Conway, USA	320	A.S. Rajasabhai	Madurai
1970-71	William E Walk Jr., USA	320	M.V. Arunachalam	Madras
1971-72	Ernest G Breithoitz Sweden	320	P.P. Hassan Koya	Calicut
1972-73	Roy D Hickman, USA	320	Dr. S. Sundaram	Salem
1973-74	William C Carter, England	320	C.V. George	Madras South
1974-75	William R Robbins, USA	320	P.S. Rajagopal Naidu	Vellore
1975-76	Ernesto Imbasshy de Mello, Brazil	320	Dr. C.R.R. Pillai	Madras
1976-77	Robert A Manchester II USA	320	P.P. Hassan Koya	Calicut
1977-78	W. Jack Davis, Bermuda	320	S.R. Govindarajan	Madras West
1978-79	Clem Renouf, Australia	320	P. Jagadeesan	Coimbatore
1979-80	James L Bomar Jr., USA	320	Venugopal C. Govind	Cochin
1980-81	Rolf J Klarich, Finland	320	G. Varadaraj	Coimbatore East
1981-82	Stanley E. McCaffrey, USA	320	G. Swaminathan	Tanjore
1982-83	Hiroji Mukasa, Japan	320	R. Ratnam	Madras
1983-84	William E. Skelton, USA	320	P. Bhoja Shetty	Madras West
1984-85	Carlos Canseco, Mexico	323	P.V. Puroshothaman	Salem Mid Town
1985-86	Edward F. Cadman, USA	323	Dr. S. Sundararaman	Madras

YEAR	ROTARY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT	R.I. DISTRICT	DISTRICT GOVERNOR	CLUB
1986-87	M.A.T. Caparas, Philippines	323	Raja Ramakrishnan	Madras South
1987-88	Charles C Keller, USA	323	Rm. Ramanathan	Salem North
1988-89	Royce Abbey, Australia	323	V. Chidambaram	Madras
1989-90	Hugh M. Archer, USA	323	Dr. M. Natarajan	Madras
1990-91	Paulo V.C. Costa, Brazil	323	Dr. M. Thiunavukarasu	Salem MidTown
1991-92	Rajendra K. Saboo, India	323	B. Vishwanatha Reddy	Madras South West
1992-93	Clifford L. Dochterman, USA	323	R. Ramakrishnan	Madras
1993-94	Robert R. Barth, Switzerland	3230	S. Mohan Das	Madras East
1994-95	William H. Huntley, England	3230	Dr. C.S. Ramachandran	Madras Mid Town
1995-96	Herbet G. Brown, USA	3230	C.N. Gangadharan	Madras South West
1996-97	Luis Vincete Glay, Argentina	3230	P.T. Prabhakar	Madras Central
1997-98	Glenn W. Kinross, Australia	3230	Krishnan V. Chari	Meenambakkam
1998-99	James I. Lacy USA	3230	K. Jayachandran	Madras Anna Nagar
1999-00	Carlo Ravizza, Italy	3230	Rekha Shety	Madras Temple City
2000-01	Frank J. Devlyn, Mexico	3230	P.T. Ram Kumar	Madras
2001-02	Richard D. King, USA	3230	R. Ganapathy	Madras T. Nagar
2002-03	Bhichal Rattakul, Thailand	3230	M. Balaji	Madras
2003-04	Jonathan Majiyagbe, Nigeria	3230	SV.Rm. Ramana than	Madras Central
2004-05	Glen E. Estees, Sr, USA	3230	R. Benjamin Cherian	Madras
2005-06	Carl Wilhelm Sterhammar, Sweden	3230	Dr. R. Shyam Sundar	Adayar

"I.I. James served as District governor - 1915-17. Part of 1917-18 and 1918-19

"R.P. Herbert Knight of Chicago served 50 years later served as district governor twice - 1971-72 and 1975-77.

ROTARY LEADERS FROM INDIA

1.	Sir Frederick James	Madras	Director	1933-34
2.	Shappoorjee B. Billimoria	Bombay	Director	1942-43
3.	B.T. Thakkur	Calcutta	Vice President	1946-47
4.	Shappoorjee B. Billimoria	Bombay	Vice President	1949-50
5.	Nitish C. Laharry	Calcutta	Vice President	1953-54
6.	Nitish C. Laharry	Calcutta	Director	1954-55
7.	Krishna Prasada	Delhi	Director	1961-63
8.	Nitish C. Laharry	Calcutta	President	1962-63
9.	Edul C. Edbuljee	Nagpur	Director	1973-75
10.	Soli S. Pavri	Bombay	Director	1977-79
11.	Rajendra K. Saboo	Chandigarh	Director	1981-83
12.	Manohar L. Manchanda	Faridabad	Director	1984-86
13.	Sudarsan Aggarwal	Delhi	Director	1987-89
14.	Rajendra K. Saboo	Chandigarh	President	1991-92
15.	M.K. Panduranga Setty	Bangalore	Director	1991-93
16.	O.P. Vaish	Delhi	TRF Trustee	1991-94
17.	R. Ramesh W. Pai	Manipal	Director	1992-94
18.	Rajendra K. Saboo	Chandigarh	Chairman TRF	1996-97
19.	Kalyan Banerjee	Vapi	Director	1995-97
20.	O.P. Vaish	Delhi	Director	1991-01
21.	P.C. Thomas	Ootaamund	Director	2001-03
22.	Kalyan Banerjee	Vapi	Trustee TRF	2001-05
23.	Sushil Gupta	Delhi Midtown	Director	2003-05

Source : Rotary News

ROTARY FOUNDATION

The Rotary Foundation is a Trust voluntarily supported by Rotarians, Non-Rotarians and Rotary Clubs throughout the world and its objective is the furtherance of International understanding and friendly relations among the people of different nations through projects of an educational and charitable nature.

This is the largest foundation in the World.

The idea was mooted in the year 1916 by the 6th R.I. President Arch Klumph in Atlanta, Georgia, USA at the convention held there.

Any person who donates \$1000 becomes or nominates a Paul Harris Fellow. There are over 9 million who have donated towards this.

Major Donors (any person donates over \$ 10,000) over 6000; Bequest Society members over 3300; Benefactors over 62000.

During 1996-97, The Rotary Foundation launched its Permanent Fund. The initial target of the Permanent Fund is to raise US\$ 200 million by the year 2005; The ultimate dream is to have permanent Fund of US \$ 1 Billion total.

MATCHING GRANTS

The District has benefited by The Rotary Foundation's Matching Grant programme to a very large extent, in fact, probably much more than the District's contribution to the APE. It is only in the last couple of years that the quantum of Matching Grants have reduced; but this is definitely not at the expense of execution of projects by the clubs in the District.

The initial funding of the Matching Grants have been either the proportionate contribution by the Clubs or by allocation from the District Designated Fund by the District Governor. The major projects under the Matching Grants have included but not restricted to:

1. Provision of Benches and Chairs for Schools
2. Provision of Toilet facilities in Schools
3. Provision of Safe Drinking Water Facility
4. Providing additional medical equipment to Hospitals
5. Mobile Medical unit
6. Providing Artificial Limbs to Handicapped
7. Providing Micro Loans to the economically weaker sections of the Society
8. Mobile computer education unit

There have been at least three 3H Grants by The Rotary Foundation to our District, which need special mention.

1. The Centre for Rehabilitation of the Polio Affected, sponsored by Rotary Club of Madras
2. The Child Trust Hospital, sponsored by Rotary Club of Madras
3. The TTK Rotary VHS Blood Bank, sponsored by Rotary Club of Madras Central

With more projects in the pipeline and the District's contribution to APF increasing year after year creating a larger allocation of DDF down the line, the prospect of getting more Matching Grants for deserving projects appears to be quite good and the District will definitely be one of the forerunners in the field of benefiting the community through The Foundation Programmes.

**DISTRICT 3230
DISTRICT PROFILE
2004-2005**

Zone 6 Clubs: 94
Rotarians: 3,178

GOAL & CONTRIBUTION HISTORY					
Rotary year	Annual giving goal	Goal Attainment	Annual giving contributions	Annual giving percapita	Total contributions
2001-01	\$100,000	97%	\$97,429	\$34,85	\$98,954
2001-02	\$60,000	210%	\$125,819	\$46,44	\$185,288
2002-03	\$100,000	174%	\$173,876	\$56,69	\$281,362
2003-04	\$50,000	109%	\$54,740	\$18,66	\$74,468
2004-05	\$5,000	4273%	\$213,656	\$75,26	\$230,003
2005-06	\$76,171				

DISTRICT OF HONORARY DUES
 District goal for 2004-05 set by 2004-05 year's dues and
 membership fund raising \$100,000
 (Actual goal for 2004-05 set at new term dues goal)
TOTAL DISTRICT CONTRIBUTIONS (2004-05) \$230,003
**DISTRICT TRANSFERRED FUNDS (MEMBERSHIP CONTRIBUTIONS
 (after contributions and badge payments Apr. 2002
 through June 2005))** \$88,170
NON-DISTRICT CONTRIBUTIONS IN 2004-05
 (Annual giving contributions only) 45

REGISTRATION METHOD	2004-05	2003-04
Major (2004-05) clubs	11	37
ISSUED DUES AND DUES	0	7
Request (2004-05) Members	1	19%
Full (2004-05) dues	131	1371
Outgoing Members	143	143
PROGRAM PARTICIPATION METHOD	2004-05	2003-04
Rotarians sponsored	0	12
Rotary Club (2004-05) members	0	0
Rotary Club (2004-05) members	1	35
Individual (2004-05) members (2004-05) members	0	0
Matching (2004-05) members (2004-05) members	0	0
Outgoing (2004-05) members (2004-05) members	0	0

* Total dues goal for 2005-06 received through 8 December 2005.

District 3230

Year	Annual Giving	Total Contribution	
1 0 5-06	\$ 00,730	\$112,147	Members : 3200
1 0 6-07	\$102,263	\$160,620	Clubs : 66
1 0 7-08	\$100,720	\$117,746	Nbr contributing clubs in 05-06 : 32%
1 0 9-00	\$ 01,005	\$124,314	(31 clubs)
1 0 0-00	\$ 06,045	\$132,415	Nbr contributing clubs in 04-05 : 40%
2 0 0-01	\$ 07,420	\$ 00,054	(45 clubs)
2 0 1-02	\$125,010	\$105,200	Nbr Distrit in TRF
2 0 2-03	\$170,078	\$201,382	Contributors Zone 8
2 0 3-04	\$54,740	\$74,480	in 2005-06
2 0 4-06	\$213,858	\$230,000	Target for 08-07 :
2 0 5-08	\$307,305	\$320,540	US\$500,000

OUR ROTARY DISTRICT'S POINEERING PUBLIC HEALTH PROJECTS

Rtn. Dr. T. Jacob John

(with inputs from PDG S.R. Govindarajan:
PPs S.L. Chitale and K.C. Vijayan)

A brief historical account.

The Measles Immunisation project

The Canada India Rotary connection.

In May 1977, the incoming Rotary Governor of District 320 - S.R. Govindarajan - attended the Conferences of Districts 701 and 704 in Canada and helped finalise the “twinning” of District 320 with the Canadian Districts of 701, 704 and 707. In January 1978 Canadian Rotarians made a return visit to Madras during our District Conference. Among them was District Governor Aubrey Oldham, who happened to be the Project Identification Officer of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). Between the two District Governors, 21 projects worth nearly a million dollars were signed up, mostly with the Rotary Club of Madras. How prophetic were the words of DG Aubrey uttered in 1978: “this mission could change the history of international relationships”. The major project was one of disaster relief through which the Tamil Nadu Government became aware of the potential role of Rotary in the State. The then Chief Minister M.G. Ramachandran issued a Government Order recognizing Rotary as the Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) that could be partners to implement Government-funded Social Welfare Projects.

The birth of a new idea.

During the International Assembly at Boca Raton in 1977, two District Governor Nominees, P. Jagadeesan of District 320 and Bernard Crookes of the Twinned District 707 in Canada, decided to develop a joint programme in 1978-79. 1979 was to be the *International Year of the Child* and also the *Golden Jubilee year of the RC of Madras*. A Childhood Measles Immunization project was suggested by the DGN Bud Crookes and DGN PJ accepted it. Neither of them knew at that time that measles vaccine had been excluded from the National Immunisation Programme by the Government of India (GoI) and that the obstacles to implement the project would be formidable. They had also no idea how momentous, futuristic and revolutionary that decision would turn out to be.

Back in India, the Canadian measles vaccine project was decided to be a World Community Service project of the RC of Madras, to celebrate its Golden Jubilee (50th anniversary). The Club President V Chidambaram and the WCS Committee Chairman Rtn. R P Sarathy agreed to sponsor it and chose Rtn. Krish Chitale to act as host to the visiting Canadian colleagues. The sustained supportive role of Krish Chitale in making the measles immunization project a success will always be remembered with gratitude by the Rotarians of our district.

A Rotary-Anne's influence.

Rotary Clubs in Canada raised funds and applied to obtain "Special Grant" from the Rotary Foundation. RI President 1978/79 was Clem Renouf of Australia, a quiet

man with 'explosive ideas'. His Rotary theme itself was "Reach Out" and he exemplified it in his Rotary life, as we shall see soon. The Special Grant application did not convince him - he did not think much of the need for measles vaccine in India. Developed countries had by then controlled the disease with vaccination and the name measles no longer evoked the dread it would have in the 1950s and 1960s. On the first day of the RI meeting, the application was rejected.

Pres. Clem happened to mention this in the evening to his wife, who promptly chided him for his insensitivity to the misery of measles in children. She described to him how children suffer and mothers worry, until the lucky ones recover but the unlucky ones develop complications and may even die. The next day RI Pres. Clem reopened the item and got the Special Grant approved. He reached out and indeed touched many in need. Having realized the value of vaccines in improving child survival and health, in 1979/80, RI Pres Clem designed and launched the Health, Hunger and Humanity (3H) Programme to honour and commemorate the 75 years of Rotary service to the world, adding health as an important component of Rotary projects that were until then mostly confined to economic and educational arenas.

The magic of doubling money.

The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) had a clause under which Canadian donations to developing countries would be matched and doubled by it. The Canadian Rotarians got their dollars doubled through CIDA. The smooth passage was partly due to PDG Aubrey Oldham's endorsement. The funds were now sufficient to purchase, 68,000 doses of measles vaccine from

Merck Sharpe & Dohme Company in USA. The next incoming DG of District 707, Paul McKelvy, appointed Rtn (Dr) Kenneth Hobbs of RC of Whitby as the Districts 707-320 Project Coordinator. Rtn Ken was ably assisted by Rtn Bill Nurse who alone had a telex connection in Whitby.

The Government of India announced its adoption of the WHO Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI) in 1978. Measles vaccine was included by WHO in EPI, but it was excluded by the Government of India in our national programme. The main reason was the advice received from leading pediatricians who felt that measles was not an important problem and also that the community would not accept it. Measles (along with smallpox and chickenpox) was popularly believed to be caused by the 'visitation of a goddess'. It was called 'mother' (*mata*, Hindi; *ammai*, Tamil). Oblivious of these problems, the Canadian Rotarians and their Indian counterparts pressed forward.

That telex machine of Rtn Bill Nurse became the busy channel of innumerable messages criss-crossing to and from the WHO, and CIDA, RI, the vaccine manufacturer, Air India officials, the Madras Rotarians and travel agents. Rtn Ken Hobbs and Mrs. Eva Hobbs came to Madras in September 1979 to ensure the proper handling of the vaccine. As the funds were just sufficient only for vaccine purchase, the Hobbs couple traveled to India spending their own money.

Patience and perseverance overcome problems.

Rtn. Hobbs and Madras Rotarian team faced and overcame a series of setbacks and problems regarding this

project. At first the Drugs Controller General of India (National Regulatory Agency, NRA) declined to allow the importation of a vaccine that was not in the national policy of childhood immunization. The NRA put forth a 'lame excuse' that the Merck vaccine virus strain (*Moraten*, trade name Attenuvax) was unacceptable in India. The solid support of the WHO headquarters in Geneva and SE Asia Office in New Delhi and of the UNICEF and leading Indian experts in Tamil Nadu on measles and measles vaccine strains was very helpful in obtaining the import permit after a lot of intricate negotiations. Much research had been done in Tamil Nadu (and published in medical journals) on the frequency and severity of measles, the high rates of serious complications and measles-related mortality. The firm stand taken by the then Tamil Nadu Minister for Health, Dr. H.V. Hande was invaluable, as according to the law, the State had as much say in human health as had the Government of India.

On Friday 28 September 1979, around 9-30 at night, the vaccine arrived in Chennai airport. High drama was to follow. Just two days previously the air cargo holding building caught fire. So the Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies and Customs officials decided that the vaccine containers would stay on the open tarmac for four days, until cleared by customs personnel after the weekend, and after the local festival holidays were over, by Tuesday next. That would have been catastrophic as the vaccine was temperature sensitive and had to be stored below 8 degrees C. The cartons had been packed with dry ice (frozen CO₂) that would last 5 days only. If left in the September heat in the open the potency of the vaccine would deteriorate and the entire effort would have been wasted.

During the day frantic telephone calls were made to the Health Minister of Government of India in New Delhi and the Chief Minister's office in Madras, and finally permission was obtained to shift the consignment to the cold storage of Spencer & Company in the city to be opened only in the presence of customs officials on Wednesday. The *dramatis personae* behind this success were Ken Hobbs and Krish Chitale, and the Madras Rotarians Chidambaram Kumar, Gopal and V.J. Chacko. Once the vaccine cartons were in the Spencer's cold room, Ken unpacked one of the boxes and found that the ice pack was still intact. The next day they appealed to the Director of Civil Supplies for permission to unpack all the boxes. That was Saturday and Spencer would close at 1-30 pm. Till 12-30 pm there was no permission. Ken and Eva then went to the Spencer's cold room and unpacked all the boxes themselves and arranged all vaccine vials properly on the shelves. Someone tipped off the customs officials; but by the time they appeared on the scene they were confronted with *fait accompli*, they did not know how to react. They simply ignored this "misdemeanor" by a couple of foreigners.

Another unexpected problem and a visionary solution.

The next hurdle was to convince Madras pediatricians to use the vaccine in children. There were medical meetings and press conferences arranged by the RC of Madras, but they remained unconvinced. Indeed there was stiff opposition to measles immunization among senior pediatricians who wrote letters in newspapers against the project. They had two arguments. One, it was not included under India EPI; second, they suspected that it was an experimental vaccine, without its need or its value officially tested by the academia.

There was no immediate solution in sight and the large consignment of vaccine remained in the shelf.

In 1979/80 the Rotary District Governor was Venugopal C Govind of Cochin. He made the decision to expand the measles immunization as a District 320 project so that the vaccine could also be distributed to a few selected RCs outside the city of Madras. In January 1980, DG Venu sent telegrams to 5 clubs offering 12,000 doses each. The club that responded immediately and positively was RC of Vellore, under Pres. A.M. Sheriff. The Vellore Rotarians immunized 12,000 children under the guidance and leadership of Rtn (Dr) T. Jacob John, who had personal knowledge and experience of using measles vaccine in the USA. Soon two more consignments of 12,000 doses each were collected and used by Vellore Rotarians. Immunisation was conducted in 'camps' both in towns and villages. On two occasions, in Arcot and Arkonam, more than 5000 children were immunized in one camp day. Requests for measles vaccination camps came from many villages in the region.

In one village not far from Chingleput a measles outbreak had started and a few children had died. The pros and cons of introducing immunization at that juncture was discussed with village elders and finally yielding to the wishes of the villagers, a camp was organized, but only by about 7 pm. After we returned, the Health Minister visited to convey his sympathies to the bereaved families, but he was pleasantly surprised to receive accolades for the immunization camp. Since that episode, Health Minister Dr. Hande was always helpful to Rotarians for all Rotary projects.

Other RCs, particularly those in Coimbatore, Salem, and Kumbakonam, invited Vellore Rotarians to come, talk, recount their experiences and motivate doctors to organize immunization camps. Three outstanding leaders of measles immunization camps in these RCs were Rtn Krishnaswamy (Coimbatore), Rtn Purushothaman (Salem) and Rtn (Dr) Viruthagiri (Kumbakonam.) Soon Rtn Venkitasubbiah (RC of Madras West) took leadership and obtained the cooperation of a few doctors in the city. Gradually the critics were silenced and the programme went on successfully. Before the end of 1980, all these above RCs had conducted several highly successful measles immunization camps and the entire stock of vaccine was used up. Wherever camps were conducted Rotarians invited the local Public Health Officers to participate, so that everyone saw that measles vaccination was the joint effort of the State Government and the Rotary movement.

Success breeds success.

1980 was the 75th Anniversary of the Rotary movement and RI President Clem had designed and launched the 3H Programme to celebrate the Jubilee. Districts 707 and 320 succeeded in getting a 3H grant to continue the measles immunization project over the next 5 years. On the R.I. Committee on the 3H Measles Immunization Programme was PDG Wilfred Wilkinson of District 707, who visited many clubs in our District. It is our unique pleasure to know that the same PDG Wilf Wilkinson, friend of our Rotary District (now 3230), is going to be the RI President in 2007 - 2008.

Under the 3H measles programme 3.5 million doses were received in seven half-yearly consignments, each of 0.5 million doses. Rtns Ken Hobbs, Krish Chitale and Jacob

John continued to play their admirable roles in the expanded Rotary measles immunization programme. Both the vaccine and the Rotary movement became very popular in Tamil Nadu and Rotary became a household word, synonymous with measles prevention. The benefits of measles immunization were appreciated both by the State Government and by the rural and urban communities in which children did not die of measles any more. Eye hospitals recorded a dramatic drop in the numbers of children coming with keratomalacia, the dreaded eye complication of measles leading to blindness. Post measles kwashiorkor virtually disappeared from local hospitals. The Government's childhood immunization programme became well accepted and even demanded by the people. Today Tamil Nadu tops in routine immunization coverage. The turning point was the Rotary measles project.

Upscaling measles immunization at national level.

In 1984, Rtn Dr Jacob John (RC of Vellore) was a member on two Committees (Communicable diseases and EPI) under the 8th Planning Commission. He described the benefits and popularity of measles immunization, and the Planning Commission adopted measles immunization as Plan activity over the next five years (1985-90), overruling objections from Health Ministry officials. In the first year 80 revenue districts were covered under measles immunization, and each year more districts were added, until by 1990, all districts were covered. From 1991 the cost of measles vaccine, provided by the Planning Commission until then, was included in the Ministry of Health annual budget. The EPI was renamed 'the Universal Immunization Programme' (UIP) to highlight the inclusion of measles vaccine.

We made history

Previously measles used to take a heavy toll of lives of our children. In rural communities 3% and in urban communities 1% of children did not survive to their fifth birthday, on account of measles and its complications - dysentery, pneumonia, brain damage, malnutrition and blindness. The Rotary movement and many individual Rotarians, across the globe, have put an end to the misery of measles in India. Previously it was believed that the vaccine would not be accepted by the families. Our success led to the change in national policy in measles. We owe our gratitude to many visionary and revolutionary leaders of Rotary for changing the course of the history of Public Health in India. Due to heavy demand, one Indian company (Serum Institute of India) began manufacturing measles vaccine and today it supplies more than 60% of global need.

The Tamil Nadu Polio Plus project.

From WCS to 3H and from measles to polio.

With the successful launch of the 3H Programme, and with inter-country cooperation and several Rotary district-wide projects under way. Past RI President Clem Renouf wanted to organize a world-wide Rotary project. One of the Rotary volunteers who came to ensure the smooth running of the Measles Immunization Project in District 320 was PDG (Dr) John Sever of the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland, USA. PRIP Clem asked PDG John Sever his opinion on the next disease after smallpox that could be and should be eradicated globally. Being a renowned pediatrician-virologist, his opinion carried weight. PDG John suggested that paralytic polio was the best choice for eradication. PRIP Clem wanted to know

more about polio and its prevention. There was already a World Community Service project in the Philippines for immunizing children against polio, and RI President Jim Bomar had given the first dose of OPV to a child in Manila in 1980. After the successful camp approach of measles immunization, the RC of Vellore had begun conducting polio immunization in camps in 1980 and such annual repetitive camps were named “pulse immunization”.

The birth of PolioPlus

The only Past RI President to visit the RC of Vellore was Clem Renouf. After the successful leadership in measles immunization through the camp approach, in 1980 the RC of Vellore had established “pulse immunization” for the effective control of paralytic poliomyelitis using OPV. If measles was killing 1% of preschool children, polio was paralyzing almost an equal number. One could not justify saving a child from death and allow her/him to become paralysed.

In 1981 Past RI President Clem Renouf came to see for himself the project of polio prevention by pulse immunisation. The camps were mostly managed by Rotarians and Annes under the supervision of doctor members. In just one year, the incidence of polio could be brought down by 90 per cent in Vellore town. PRIP Clem was impressed by the convenience of the camp approach, the potential of participation by many ‘volunteers’ and the rapid control of polio. All signs were positive. PDG John had suggested polio control as the next Rotary target. The toss up was between measles and polio for a global Rotary project aiming at eradication. Polio won the day; with hindsight one has to wonder if that was the right decision for the world.

PRIP Clem Renouf believed that the goal to control polio globally by 2005, the centenary year of the Rotary movement, would be the right path of growth in service for the Rotary movement. Thinking, planning and convincing Rotary leaders took two years. The incoming RI President (Dr) Carlos Canseco (for the year 1984-85) was charged with formalizing the 'Polio control by 2005' project or 'Polio 2005' for short. Approved by the RI leaders and Rotary Foundation Trustees, a 'Polio 2005 Committee' was established at the Rotary headquarters. RI Pres. Carlos named PDG John Sever as the Chairman. Rtn Jacob John of the RC of Vellore was invited as a member of the Committee, in recognition of his leadership role in the Rotary measles immunization programme and in Pulse Immunisation against polio. RI General Secretary Herbert Pigman acted as secretary. Dr Albert Sabin who developed the OPV was invited as "advisor". The Polio 2005 Committee met twice in 1984 and finalised the project.

The Committee decided to rename the project as 'PolioPlus', to symbolize Rotary's focus on polio immunization within the framework of childhood immunization being spearheaded by WHO and UNICEF as proposed by Rtn Jacob John but stoutly opposed by Dr Sabin. When the decision went against Dr Sabin he resigned from PolioPlus, but the new design created tremendous goodwill for us both in various countries and also in WHO and UNICEF. Thus Rotary became global level partner in Public Health to the UN agencies of WHO and UNICEF. Rtn Jacob John continued to serve on the PolioPlus Committee until 1987, when it was merged with the 3H Committee. He served on the 3H Committee until 1990. As Rotary volunteer he visited, and initiated PolioPlus

projects in Sri Lanka, Somalia, Zimbabwe, Lesotho, Swaziland and Tamil Nadu in India.

Advantage, Tamil Nadu.

When the rules of procedure were drawn up, the consensus was to make PolioPlus grants to national level immunization programmes. Rtn Jacob John had thoughtfully introduced a clause under PolioPlus rules of procedure, enabling grants to “large states like Tamil Nadu, in large countries like India”. In January 1986, an offer of a PolioPlus grant was made to the Ministry of Health through RI Director Manohar Manchanda, but the Government declined. When the PolioPlus Committee met next in Las Vegas, Rtn Jacob John made a PolioPlus application on behalf of Tamil Nadu State using the clause mentioned above and Rtn Ken Hobbs (also a member) seconded it. The project was approved and on return to India Jacob obtained the approval and concurrence from District Governor Raja Ramakrishnan. The Government of India accepted the concept of National PolioPlus from Rotary International only 3 Years later.

The measles immunization project veterans were back in action. Health Minister Hande helped the project with the necessary legal requirements from the Government. For 5 years Rtn Chidambaram chaired the Tamil Nadu PolioPlus Committee, Rtn. Krish Chitale served as Coordinator, Rtn. Purushothaman took charge of cold chain improvements and supplies and Rtn Jacob John took charge of obtaining quality poliovaccine and other technical issues. In addition to Rtns Venkatasubbiah and Krishnaswamy, new Rotary leaders like District Governor G. Varadaraj (of Coimbatore) and many others worked tirelessly for the success of Polio control in Tamil Nadu.

Rotary donated a large Cold room-cum Freezer facility in the King Institute in Guindy, Chennai. That became the bulk storage facility for all vaccines procured by Tamil Nadu. Rotary also purchased and installed 150 ice-lined refrigerators in various Health Centres and donated several dozens of large, medium and small insulated vaccine storage boxes and vaccine carrying bags.

The Tamil Nadu PolioPlus programme was implemented jointly by the Government of Tamil Nadu and all Rotary Clubs in the State. The State had been receiving its share of polio vaccine from the Government of India, which was just sufficient to give 3 doses per child. We knew that each child needed 5 doses in infancy and 2 or 3 more doses in the next four years. While 3 doses came from GOI, 5 doses came from Rotary, for a total of 8 doses. Already, the routine childhood immunization programme was performing extremely well on account of the popularity of and demand for measles vaccine. The polio prevention programme further strengthened the quality of services of childhood immunization in Tamil Nadu. The number of Polio cases was 4409 in 1987, but it plummeted to 1376 the next year, 130 in 1995 and just 25 cases in 1996 - the year when India began pulse immunization for polio control and eradication. The last case of polio in the State was in 1999; we achieved zero polio status from 2000. In 2002-03 there was a nation-wide outbreak of polio and there were 3 imported cases in Tamil Nadu, but there was no secondary spread, thanks to the efficient immunization programme.

Eradication of polio in India. The unfinished agenda.

National level pulse immunization began in December 1995, with the second dose given in January 1996. In Tamil

Nadu all children below 5 years were targetted whereas in the rest of the country vaccine was available only for children below 3. Rtn K.C. Vijayan was appointed the Chairman of Tamil Nadu Rotary Polio Plus and under his able leadership, polio immunization performance of Tamil Nadu was cited as the model for the country. In the annaul meeting of the Indian Academy of Pediatrics Infectious Diseases Chapter (October 2006), the Joint Director of Public Health stated that for six consecutive years Tamil Nadu stood first among all States in immunization coverage of infants, with over 95% having got all doses of all vaccines. He mentioned that it was the Rotary's involvement, starting with measles immunization, the extra doses of OPV, the strengthening of cold chain and the leadership in public participation that helped the State to achieve this success.

HUNGER

“It is true that we are all hungry; some for power, some for love, others for materialistic wealth or spiritual enlightenment. Healthy hunger at times stimulates progress. But it is hunger of the belly that deprives society of dignity, eroding its very foundation. Such hunger cannot be reasoned with, for it has no ears to listen. When lives hang in the balance, no philosophy can help, Food is life itself.”

Rajendra K. Saboo
R.I. President (1991-92)

POLIOPLUS CHALLENGE- A SECOND DECADE OF ACTION

(With particular reference to Tamil Nadu)

Rtn. PP. K.C. Vijayan

Dist Advisor, Polioplus (2006-07)

A DECADE SINCE 1985: Rotary International, with a corporate commitment launched the Polio eradication initiatives in 1985, the biggest single community service (medical) program ever undertaken by any non-governmental organization in the world and so far has spent over US \$ 546 million worldwide which would soon cross US \$ 600 million! To strengthen the Routine Immunisation program, Rotary first raised millions of dollars and supplied vaccines to many Governments of the world, especially the third world countries as it was thought that, rightly so, routine Immunisation, would bring down the incidence of Polio. Strengthening **Routine Immunisation**, the **first and basic strategy** had its own effect of reducing the incidence of Polio worldwide, but at a painfully slow pace in India because of very low coverages. Finally the situation stagnated. However, Routine Immunisation has no substitute and has to be continued reaching very high coverages until the whole world is certified Polio free.

THE SECOND DECADE 1996-2006: In 1995, Rotary brought all the States' Health Ministers and Officials and the Centre together and played the most crucial role of advocacy for initiating the most vital **second strategy** for Polio eradication viz. **Mass Immunisation**. This program called for sudden and simultaneous immunization of all the children under five years of age in the whole country with OPV on

a single day and repeat the dose again 4 to 6 weeks later at a time in the year when the wild Polio virus transmission is low. Thus, mass immunization, known as **Pulse Polio Immunisation** (PPI) in India, called for enormous planning given the logistics of our country. To bring about this program to reality, Rotary made 2 promises (1) to fund (through UNICEF and other World bodies) the cost of additional doses of vaccines required for immunising all the children in the country on NIDs; (2) to use the entire Rotary force and its resources to create massive awareness and social mobilization and give volunteer support. Thus authored by Rotary in India, the first PPI program was held in December 1995, when all the states in India reached the children under **three** years and **only Tamil Nadu** covering all children under **five** years!

Since then there had been no looking back and year after year PPI programs are being conducted on the days advised by the WHO and the Government of India covering all the children under 5 years in all States. One can understand the magnitude of the program from the single fact that in the 2005 year cycle more than 807 Million doses of OPV were administered to children in the country on the NIDs and SNIDs (**excluding** the routine and out break response doses)!

Narrowing down our focus to Tamil Nadu the table below will show the coverages on all the NIDs since 1995.

PPICOVERAGE 1995-96 TO 1998-99 (in lakhs)		
YEAR	ROUND	COVERAGE
1995-96	I ROUND	62.06
	II ROUND	64.98
1996-97	I ROUND	63.58
	II ROUND	65.85
1997-98	I ROUND	65.34
	II ROUND	67.54
1998-99	I ROUND	68.75
	II ROUND	70.42
INTENSIFIED PPI PROGRAM 1999-00 TO 2006-07		
1990-00	I ROUND	69.17
	II ROUND	71.28
	III ROUND	72.14
	IV ROUND	72.79

YEAR	ROUND	COVERAGE
2000-01	I ROUND	72.09
	II ROUND	73.9
2001-02	I ROUND	73.28
	II ROUND	75.45
2002-03	I ROUND	74.26
	II ROUND	71.66
2003-04	I ROUND	71.66
	II ROUND	72.41
	III ROUND	73.14
2004-05	I ROUND	71.31
	II ROUND	72.59
2005-06	I ROUND	72.78
	II ROUND	72.79
2006-07	I ROUND	71.89
	II ROUND	72.09

The following demographic details would highlight the logistics of **Tamil Nadu** for PPI program.

Estimated Children (0-5 years)	> 7 Million
Personnel	1,70,000
Immunisation Booths	40,399
BOOTHS ESTABLISHED AT	
PHCs & HSCs	10092
Noon meal Centres	20753
Schools	7534
Hospitals	640
Others (Bus stops, Rly. Stns, tourist spots, places of worship, mobiles)	1380

Cold Chain Equipments	
Walk in freezers	3
Walk in coolers	11
Ice lined refrigerators	2140
Deep freezers	1980
Cold Boxes	4159
Vaccine carriers	85747
Ice packs	432118
OPV doses mobilized for each PPI round	98 lakhs

Still narrowing our focus to RI Dist.3230, the total number of doses of OPV given to children under five years in the last 2 PPI rounds in 2006 were 19,06,157 & 19,04,098 respectively making a total of 38,10,255 doses! The Pulse Polio campaign has already had a tremendous impact on the incidence of Polio in India and especially in Tamil Nadu. The number of cases continued to decline following successive NIDs. Tamil Nadu which reported 5171 cases in

1981 which came down to 130 in 1995 when the PPI program was initiated, **came to NIL Polio status in 2000** and continues to be so excepting for 2 imported cases in 2003 and one in 2004. Since then Tamil Nadu has been enjoying the NIL Polio status.

NIL Polio disease status does not necessarily guarantee Nil Polio virus status. Hence to identify the last pockets of virus reservoirs, a joint set up of the WHO and the Government of India assisted by the State Health Departments and other agencies, known as **National Polio Surveillance Project**, a perfect surveillance system has been put in place. Consequently the third and the fourth and final Polio eradication strategies viz. **Active Flaccid Paralysis Surveillance** and **Mop Up** immunisation programs were initiated. In Tamil Nadu the system has been working very effectively since it is not new to Tamil Nadu as a similar local system was initiated in Vellore years ago.

- ▣ We have, in Tamil Nadu, dedicated department officials and committed Rotarians and their families.
- ▣ In Tamil Nadu all the Municipal Corporations and Municipalities and all other concerned departments are deeply involved in all the Polio eradication activities.
- ▣ In Tamil Nadu there has always been excellent relationship and understanding between Rotary and all the concerned Government officials at all levels, working hand in hand.
- ▣ We, at least in Tamil Nadu, achieve consistently high routine Immunisation coverages which we will continue.

- ▣ We have been, at least in Tamil Nadu, achieving very high coverages of the under five years children population during the Pulse Polio Immunisation programs year after year which we will continue.
- ▣ We have, in Tamil Nadu, reached and remained in the zero Polio Status ever since December 1999/January 2000, excepting stray cases due to importation 2 in 2003 and 1 in 2004.
- ▣ Rotary's contribution had been immeasurable which included the provision of
 - ▣ Thousands of colour cloth banners in various sizes with PPI messages.
 - ▣ Thousands of banners to identify the Immunisation centers.
 - ▣ Thousands of banners for use on vehicles, mainly autorickshaws.
 - ▣ Millions of handbills with PPI messages.
 - ▣ Thousands of colour posters.
 - ▣ Large street rallies to create awareness
 - ▣ Hundreds of autorickshaws fitted with PA systems to spread the PPI messages in street publicity.
 - ▣ Thousands of audio publicity cassettes and hundreds of video cassettes including TV spots.

- ▣ Thousands of volunteers - Rotarians and their families and employees, Rotaractors etc. offering volunteer support, food and beverages and vehicles.

Finally, our PPI programs would not have been a success but for our people. PPI program has become people's program; it has brought to light the triumph of volunteerism; it has proved women power - it is women who always bring the children to the Immunisation centers every where; it is a political gift accepted by any party in power; it is the only game where every one ends as a winner..

Against the backdrop of 352 cases of Polio being reported in the country in the current year up to 30th of September, Tamil continues to be in Nil Polio status.

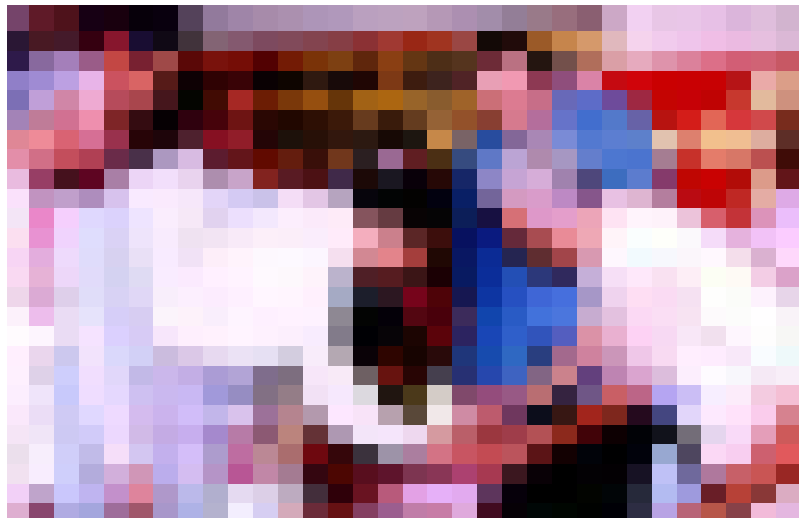
Of course the final and real challenge for Tamil Nadu is to fight complacency and do all that is necessary to keep achieving 100% routine immunization coverages and reach **every child** during PPI days and remain Polio free until the whole country, nay the whole world is certified Polio free.

In 1996, Food Security Fair and Symposium was held by Rotary Club of Madras East in preparation for the World Food Summit held in Rome in November 1996. The Prime Minister of India Sri Deve Gowda inaugurated the fair. For the First time for a Rotary Club associated programme Prime Minister of India was the Chief Guest.



Political Commitment

Thiru. M. Karunanidhi, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu at the inauguration of an NID in Chennai



Rotary Commitment

Past RI Pres. Frank J. Devlin at the inauguration of an NID in Chennai



People's Movement

PPI program has become people's program and has highlighted women power and triumph of volunteerism



Rotary's Commitment

Door-to-Door immunization in slums

SEMESTER-A-T-SEA AND ROTARY DISTRICT 3230

1. Semester-at-Sea (SAS) is a unique programme currently run by the Institute for Shipboard Education (ISE), University of Pittsburgh, USA. The first shipboard semester was started in 1926 aboard the ship known as S.S. Ryndam. The University of Pittsburgh has been sponsoring this programme since 1981. The latest ship is known as MV Explorer which accommodates approximately 650 students, 50 faculty and staff and normally carries about 125 Asian officers and crew members. The ship campus consists of classrooms, theater, core library and study lounges, in addition to standard facilities of any ocean-going vessels. In fact, students are required to participate in an international field programme during visits to countries in diverse parts of the world. Due to interdisciplinary nature of the programme, SAS is appropriate for undergraduates in all fields of study. Each semester comprises 55 days at sea and 45 days in port, visiting countries in Asia, Africa, Eastern Europe and Latin America.
2. Each course in the shipboard curriculum must be approved by the Dean's Council in the College of Arts and Sciences and by appropriate departmental chairs and curriculum committees. Although the faculty on each voyage come from many Universities, their credentials as well as their course are subject to the normal review for all teaching appointments at the University of Pittsburgh. Students receive a University of Pittsburgh transcript for credit earned during SAS. They learn about diversity within the shipboard community in the context of their

own culture as well as those world cultures they are experiencing for the first time.

3. The instructional objectives of SAS are clearly different from traditional study aboard programmes. The programme closely examines the task of achieving an intellectual understanding of the web of global relationships, focusing on the countries visited. The Countries and regions visited offer first-hand look at the societies and issues that they have been studying in the classroom. Educational activities on land complement class-room instruction, with field experience becoming the “laboratory” component of each course in the liberal arts curriculum.

Rotary District 3230’s Association with SAS

4. In 1991, a few Rotarians of Chennai, District 3230 came forward to host students of SAS when the ship berthed in Chennai because the Ship S.S. Universe Explorer carrying the SAS students stops only in Chennai amongst the Indian Ports as part of its itinerary. A Rotarian chapter in Chennai had graciously arranged to host 30 SAS participants for this homestay. The home stay was very rewarding experience both for the students as well as the host families. As the objective of this programme is in tune with Rotary objective of promoting International understanding, in response to a request from RI District 3230, the University of Pittsburgh introduced a new scheme called ‘Interport Scholarship’ during 1993. Under this scheme Rotary District 3230 selects 2 students of Madras University, flies them to port from which the ship sails to Chennai and these students then board the ship from the port and travel to Chennai as Interport students. Scholarship to the tune of \$ 600 was provided

by ISE each time the ship berthed at Chennai. This fund helped to part finance cost of travel for our 2 interport students. The participated students found the experience rewarding. During the period of sailing to Chennai for a week, or so, they had the opportunity to interact with cross section of students drawn from different parts of USA. This has resulted in promoting world understanding and thus considered as one of the finest projects of the Rotary District in the sphere of International understanding. 40 students from Chennai had taken part in the Interport students programme and benefited immensely.

5. Following are the excerpts of the experience gained by interport students:

- I admired the mettle of the SS. Universe family that continued their voyage in spite of September 11th US. terrorist attacks. I had discovered capabilities and strengths that would have otherwise lain dormant. I realized the amity, happiness and warmth were beyond the barriers of country, caste and colour. Miss Menaka Rao also conveys her gratefulness for this opportunity to all the Rotary fraternity and her parents.
- Our mission was to enlighten about India among Americans and help them discover India - a noble cause indeed! We were attacked with questions of diverse nature and they showed keen interest in the caste system that existed in India, the arranged marriage, on Hinduism, Meditation etc. Many students wanted to know the significance of wearing a Bindi. One student told me that visiting India was also one important reason for his interest in SAS. They were happy and appreciative when they got

appropriate answers to varied topics. I also noticed respect I saw in the eyes of Americans for India. Gayathri Veeramani sums up her experience eulogizing Rotary Club of Adyar and Rotary District 3230 for offering her this rare opportunity and privilege.

- It was an unforgettable encounter and I made lasting friendship -- was Mithun Subramanian's voice. His counsel to other Interport students was to brush up on India's current political status, history and religions and to approach the prospect with confidence.
- Rtn P.S. Seshadri of Rotary Club of Ambattur who is associated with taking SAS students on a picnic trip to Mahabalipuram, for the last 7 years, vividly shares his experience by concluding that they are happy and appreciative when they get appropriate answers to their questions and this also helps in changing their view about India as poor and under-developed country. An experience of this nature certainly helps to change their outlook and in some measure promotes international understanding
- Rtn. N. Krishnan of Rotary Club of Ambattur, says "It can be easily seen that the goals and objectives of the Semester-at-Sea programme are very much in tune with Rotary's objective in the avenue of International Service, promoting International understanding and one can say with confidence that this unique and fruitful partnership between Rotary and Semester-at-Sea will go on for a long time."

CHENNAI MARATHON



It was Past Dist Governor Rtn.R. Ganapathi who hit upon a novel idea which he shared with Shri.K.S. Sripathi I.A.S. then Sport Secretary and that resulted in the birth of Chennai Marathon.

Unlike the marathons other cities in the world have, the Chennai Marathon, is organized and managed by the Rotarians of R I Dist 3230. From its humble beginnings during 2001-2002 the event has grown in stature every year and has attracted the attention of top athletes worldwide and it had become the pride of Dist 3230.

Rtn. R. Benjamin Cherian as the first Chairman of the event along with then Governor Rtn. Ganapathi worked out nitty-gritty's of the event with the tremendous support of Mr. P.W.C. Davidar, IAS, Member Secretary of the Sports Development Authority of Tamil Nadu liaising with a host of Government departments and other sponsors to get the citizens of Chennai to run.

We had reputed Multi National companies in India like Bharathi Telecom, Coca-cola and Hutch to sponsor for the first year and subsequent years. In the year 2002-03 & 2003-04, Chennai Marathon was conducted with the same

vigour by Rtn. DGN A. Subraminiam an Rtn. Capt Jayadevan respectively.

During the centennial year of Rotary 2004-05, under the chairman ship of Rtn. George B. Cherian, Rotary District tied up with 'TEMENOS' Swiss software giant with a big sponsorship for three consecutive yers, which resulted in increased prize money.

A unique GPS tracking system, using a computer chip has been attached to the runners of the full and half marathons to eliminate errors in calculation. Runners from Kenya were flown in to participate in the event. There were many "Runs for a Cause". It was totally dedicated towards 10 different causes like Literacy/Polio/Aids/CRY/Helpage etc. During the Centenary year "R.I. District 3230 Chennai Marathon and Sports Trust" was formed with the past Chairmens of Chennai Marathon so that it provides a base where the current chairman can rely upon and it also provides support to the current chairman to execute the event on an International Standard. We have also patented Chennai Marathon Logo with Registrar of Trade Marks.

In 2005-06 it was continued in the same vigor by the Chairman Rtn. P. Srinivasan with number of participants exceeding 20000.

Every year people of Chennai are looking for it and prepare themselves for running and it has become big event for print and electronic media and others and the image of Rotary has gone up really high in the minds of the people of Tamil Nadu.

This is just the beginning of a saga that promises to continue with the spirit and eagerness to do more and meet loftier standards. The Chennai Marathon will blossom into a Marathon equaling international standards.

ROTARY PERSONALITIES

Venugopal C. Govind, Chartered Accountant from Cochin was the youngest ever elected Governor in the then DIst 320 for 1979-80 at the age of 36, a record which holds good till date.

J.L.P. Roche Victoria got elected as Governor from Rotary Club of Tuticorin. He was Mayor of Tuticorin for 20 successive years and later became the Food Minister to the Madras Presidency.

His son, **Joe M.B. Roche**, was Secretary of Rotary Club of Tuticorin for three terms, Club President for two terms and was elected Dist. Governor for 1954-55. He has organised Rotary Clubs in Courtallam, Sivakasi and Ranipet (chartered June 28, 1965). Joe M.B. Roche passed away in 1996.

ROTARY FOUNDATION ALUMNI ASSOCIATION - R.F.A.A.

Rotary International Service provides as part of its goals Helping Hands, Goodwill, Peace and Understanding.

The Architect was Paul Harris and Builder was Arch Klumph who Consolidated and ensured Rotary's onward march. The Rotary Foundation was given by him as a torch for mankind.

Mission of the Rotary Foundation Alumni Association, Dt. 3230:

1. To Provide a forum for the foundation beneficiaries to meet and reaffirm friendship and affection among the members and the host families.
2. To unite the members in Common Cause towards a heightened awareness of different Cultures among the society, thereby fastening an empathetic International understanding.
3. To serve the Society and Community through educational projects especially those related to health and self development.

The Foundation Alumni are past Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholars, Group Study Exchange Team Members and Leaders, recipients of Grants of Rotary Volunteers, Grants for University Teachers and Carl P. Miller Discovery Grants.

The Alumni to remain active in the foundation, Rotary Clubs and Districts should encourage Alumni to participate in Rotary Activities, especially in Service

Projects. They should continue to share their experiences by speaking at Club and District Functions: assist District in choosing and counseling new Scholars and GSE Team Members: and invite or join Foundation Alumni Association.

In addition, Alumni are now eligible to serve as Rotary Volunteers on the same basis as Rotarians.

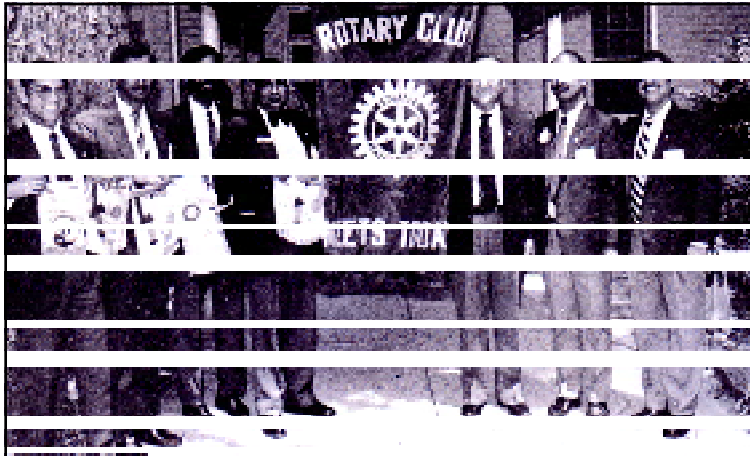
R.F.A.A. in our District 3230 was started and inaugurated on 19th April, 1992 (then Dist. 323). This was made possible with the best efforts of Rotary Club of Anna Nagar, Madras Under the Dist. Governorship of B. Viswanatha Reddy. 19th April marks the birth anniversary of Founder - Paul P. Harris.

The activities of the Association are growing and very useful services are being rendered to Rotary and to the community by Alumni Members year after year as the members and activities also started growing up.

Each Member is a Specialist in his/her field. They form an army of intellectual strength combined with dedication, devotion and discipline. The Association has become a great force and it can back the Rotary Clubs which are in pursuit of services to humanity.

The Dist. 3230 - RFAA - owes its early development to Rtn. PP. K. Ramalingam (R.C. of Anna Nagar) and the present growth to Rtn. PP. Satyan Bhat (Rotary Club of Ambattur, now Member of Rotary Club of Madras), Rtn. PP. V. Parthasarathy (R.C. of Anna Nagar) and members of the Alumni Association.

Southern Pines' North Carolina - April 1990



Indian Visitors - Mike Cimino, president of the Pinehurst Rotary Club is shown here third from right, following an exchange of club banners from Pinehurst and clubs of District 323 - (Photo by Ray Taylor).

INDIAN ROTARY GROUP VISITS HERE

By Ray Taylor

A group study team sponsored by the Rotary International Foundation has just completed a six week visit to North Carolina District 769. The visit concluded with a week in the Sandhills area.

This is the 25th anniversary of the Rotary International Group Study Program which generally comprises a five person "team" of young business and professional people led by a Rotarian leader.

A team from District 769 (Eastern Piedmont) visited

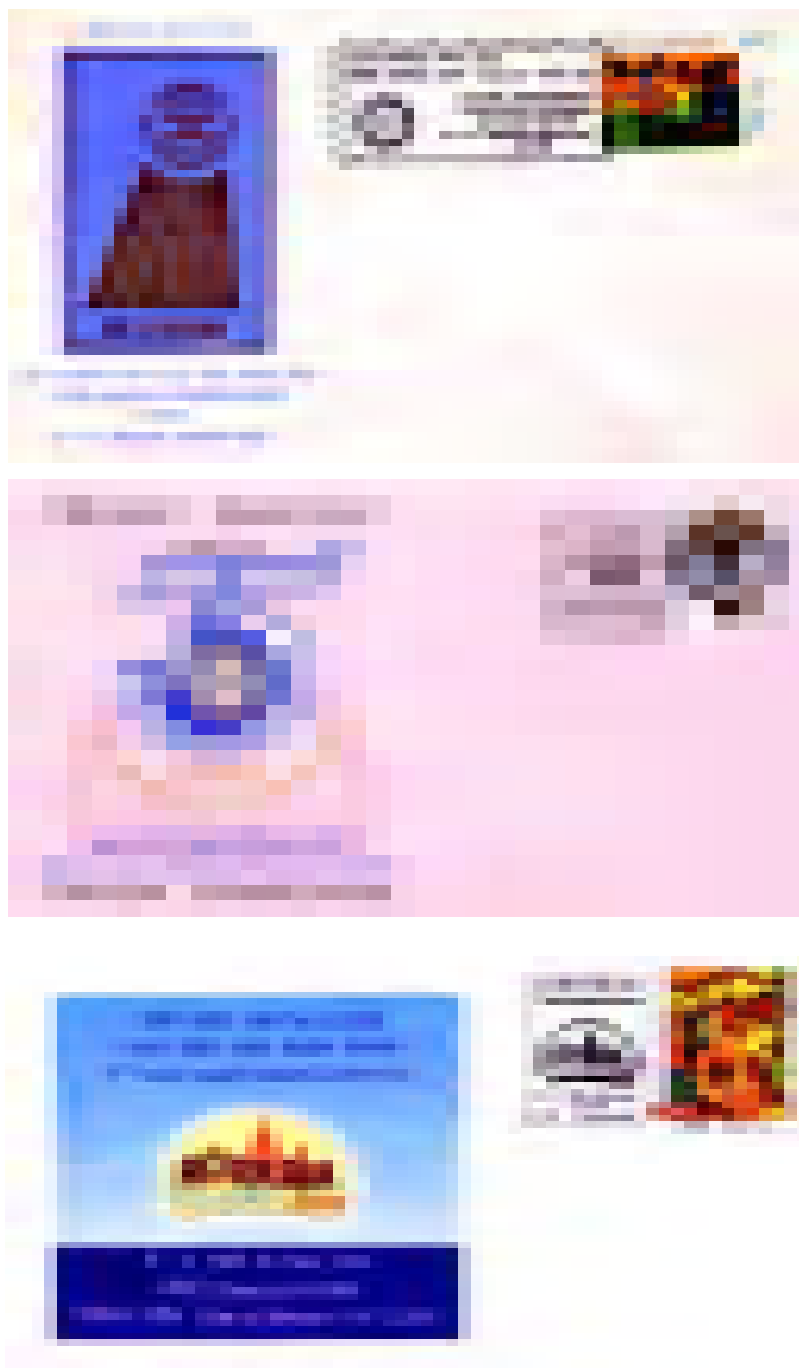
India earlier this year and a return visit was made by six men from the Madras area of India District 323.

Team members stayed in the homes of local Rotarians in Pinehurst and Southern Pines. During their tour they visited schools, manufacturing facilities and local resorts.

"The purpose of these international exchange programs is to develop better understanding of the diverse cultures of the world and a better understanding of our mutual need for preserving the planet earth".

PHILATELY AND R.I. DT. 323 / 3230

- ▣ A special postal cover and Cancellation was released during the Dist. Conference, held in Salem, between 4th and 6th January 1991, thanks to the then Rtn. Hemchandra Rao of Rotary Club of Ambattur - Dist323.
- ▣ A Special cover and Cancellation was released by the Dept of Post during 1994-95, to mark the Dist. Conference held in Chennai between 4th and 5th Feb. 1995 - Dist 3230.
- ▣ To mark the 50th Death Anniversary of Paul P. Harris, Rtn. P.S. Seshadri of Rotary Club of Ambattur, brought out a special postal cover - a Souvenir Card and a special Cancellation and the same happened to be the one and the only postal tribute in the World for the Founder of Rotary. This cover is displayed at the Rotary Museum of RIBI. The Postal cancellation depicts the bust line of Paul.
- ▣ For the first time, a special Postal Cover, a Souvenir Card and a Cancellation was brought out for the Rostasias 2002, held in Chennai on 19th December 2002. Rtn. P.S. Seshadri being a former Rotaractor thought it fit to bring out this cover and Cancellation to honour Rotaractors of Asia.
- ▣ R.C. of E.R.A. brought out a Special Cover and a Cancellation to mark the First year of the Second Century of Rotary International on 23rd Feb.2006.
- ▣ The Centennial stamp on Rotary was officially released in Chennai on 23rd Feb.2005, by the Chief Post Master General, Ms. Vatsala Raghua. Rtn CDG Benjamin Cheian received the first copy of the stamp and the second was given to Rtn. P.S. Seshadri, who collects stamps and Covers on Rotary.





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Rotary District Conference, Thanjavur, January 1982.
Rtn. Gov. Swaminathan with Dr. M.G.R. (Chief Guest)



Past District Governor Benjamin Cheriau honouring
Chief Minister J. Jayalalitha

Dr. KEN HOBBS & EVA HOBBS

Our friends from Canada

With Input from Rtn. S.L. Chitale.

Rotary Club of Madras

In the Rotary World, Rtn, PDG. Ken Hobbs is called as “Father of the Immunization Programme”. His devotion and concern about children’s health is something of a rare phenomenon.

In token of appreciation, Rotary International has conferred the prestigious “**POLIOPLUS PIONEER AWARD**” on him. He is also conferred with the Canada’s prestigious civilian award “**THE ORDER OF ONTARIO**” by the Ontario State and C.M. (Companion Member of the Order of Canada) by the Canadian Government.

It would interest you to know some of his contributes towards the cause of the children of Tamil Nadu, which are given below. He and Eva have visited Chennai for the past 25 years at their own cost.

In the International year of the Child 1979, the Rotary Club of Madras, decided to take up the project of Total Immunization of children below 5 years old. The year 1979-80 was the 75th Anniversary of Rotary International and Golden Jubilee Year for Rotary Club of Madras. A special 3-H (Health, Hunger & Humanity) programme was set in motion. From what started as a Rotary Club of Madras project with Rotary club of Whitby with a small quantity of 68,000 doses of measles vaccine became a giant Canada-

India Red Measles Programme, involving R.I. Districts 707 and 320 of immunizing **5.2 million children in 6 years period.**

POLIO PLUS : In 1984, Rotary Foundation has launched a very useful and large project called the Polio Plus Programme, to immunize millions of children of the world against Polio and ensure a Polio Free World.

Because of the success of the Measles Immunization Project, Rotary International gave a **Special Grant Status** to Tamil Nadu and a grant of \$ 2.62 million was given for the Tamil Nadu Polio Plus programme to eradicate Polio (1986-1993)

CHILDS TRUST HOSPITAL : (The only Pediatric Hospital in Private Sector in India) : Rtn PDG. Dr. Ken Hobbs and Rotary Club of Madras brought into fruition a mammoth project in the Childs Trust Hospital in Chennai, with a 3-H Grant of \$ 608,000 for supply of medical equipment to this 200 bedded hospital. R.I. Dist. 7070, Canada has through its Clubs, donated \$100,000 towards the above project in addition to the above grant.

ROTARY WORTH TRUST PROJECT : Again, with the assistance of Rotary Clubs in Canada, an amount of \$ 93,000 sanctioned by Rotary in 1985 for a 2 year project for Training and Rehabilitation of the handicapped people.

PROJECT THANNEER : (WATER PROJECT) : Rotary Club of Madras has been taking up the task of re-changing of fresh water aquifer in some temple tanks by cleaning the surrounding areas and then providing collection

pits around the temple tanks to guide rain water and thereby raise the ground water level. The project was financed by Rotary Club of Madras at a cost of Rs.4 lakhs for each tank. There are 36 tanks in the Chennai City which need upgradation. These tanks are around every temple in South India and are as ancient as 1000 years old.

REHABILITATION CENTRE FOR THE DISABLED:

Rotary Club of Madras realized the pressing rehabilitation needs of thousands of those already affected by Poliomyelitis.



It is estimated, there are about 8 to 9 million handicapped people in Tamil Nadu. This project has been sponsored by Dist.; 7070, Canada to Rotary Foundation and a generous grant of \$500,000 (Rs. 2 Crores) was sanctioned by the Rotary Foundation. This project has already been started at K.K. Nagar Hospital in Chennai. The slogans that lead to this programme are

1. Corrective Surgery and provision of calipers for polio handicapped.
2. Facilities for physiotherapy.
3. Education.
4. Selection of candidates for different Vocational Training programmes, depending on their aptitude.

PDG Ken & Eva Hobbs have worked round the world from Africa to Indonesia for the sake of children and have done projects worth more than \$ 14 million. They have willed \$ 250,000 for the children of Tamil Nadu.

To honour this dedicated couple, Rotary club of Madras has decided to set up a centre in their name called **“Dr. Ken & Eva Hobbs Rotary Rehabilitation Centre”** at Voluntary Health Centre, Chennai and Rs 20 lakh was collected towards this through Rotary Club of Madras Charitable Trust. This Center is known as **Rtn.(PDG) DR. KEN & EVA HOBBS (OF CANADA) REHABILITATION CENTRE, FOR THE HANDICAPED OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF MADRAS AND V.H.S**

FIRSTS IN THE DISTRICT

First Rotary Club	- 1929 RC of Madras
First Interact Club in India	- Tanjore
First Rotaract club	-
First Inner Wheel Club	- 1965-Rotary Club of Madras South
First Rotary Community Corps (earlier RVC)	- 1986-87 Rotary Club of Madras East
First Probus Club	- 1988-89 Rotary Club of Madras East
First GSE Team Leader	- Rtn. C.V. George, Rotary Club of Madras - South to USA
First Paul Harris Fellow	- Rtn. M.C.T. Muthiah Rotary Club of Madras
First Lady District Governor	- Rekha Shethy, Rotary Club of Madras-Temple City 1999-2000
First PETS	- Vellore (Rotary Club of Vellore) 1978-79 R.I.District 320.
First PETS outside the District	- Kodaikanal 2001-02
First PETS outside the Country	- Sri Lanka 2006-07
First District Officer's Training Session outside the country	- Malaysia 2006-07
First all Women GSE team	- 1986-87 U.S.A

First Family Manned Stall of R.I. 3230 at R.I. Conventions - For Past Four Years by Benjamin Cheriens of R.C. of Madras

First Couple:

- Dist. Governor - Dr. R. Shyam Sundar R.I. 3230 2005-06
- Dist. Chairman, Inner Wheel - Dr. Shashi Shyam Sundar I.W. District 323 2005-06
- First International Inner Wheel President for 2007-08 - Mrs. Kamala Ramakrishnan, (Inner Wheel-Club of Madras)
- First Merger - Merger of Rotary club of Mylapore and Rotary Club of uptown to Rotary club of Mylapore uptown (2006-07)

ROTARY PERSONALITIES

Dr. Rama Rao was Governor in 1943-44. In 1937 he became the first member of the Rotary Club of Madras to visit Headquarters of Rotary International in Chicago. Paul Harris presented him with a gavel which is still in use! He was the founder of the Rama Rao Nursing Home in Poonamalle High Road, which even today is a land mark in that area.

Chitti Babu was President of Rotary Club of Vellore in 1959-60, later became the Vice Chancellor, Annamalai University.

The following Rotarians served as Sheriff of Madras:

1. Sir Mohamed Usman 1923
2. C.E. Wood 1925
3. R.T.C. Robertson 1928.
4. R. Ramanathan Chettiar 1949
5. P.V.S. Venkatachalam 1952
6. D.C. Kothari 1954
7. M.A.M. Muthaih Chettair of Chettinad 1957
8. V. Emberumanar Chetty 1958
9. H.C. Kothari 1963
10. K.S.G. Haja Sheriff 1965
11. P. Marutha Pillai 1966
12. Sundarlal Nahata 1968
13. R. Ratnam 1970
14. M.A.M. Ramaswamy 1971/1974
15. R. Ramakrishnan 1975
16. M. Saravanan 1985/1986

Under Sheriffs of Madras (from 1940)

17. R. Ramanathan Chettiar 1940
18. K.S.G. Haja Sheriff 1953
19. M.V. Arunachalam 1955
20. A.V.M. Saravanan 1975
21. M.V. Subiah 1976
22. Vummidi Nandagopal 1979
23. B. Viswanathan Reddi 1985/86

HISTORY OF ROTARY NEWS

Communicating and sharing are major necessities of man. Rotary News is approved regional magazine for India, Bangladesh, Nepal and Sri Lanka. Started in 1952, it has surged through five decades, in the face of adverse conditions, meagre resources and financial constraints, and is now going strong in its fifty-fourth year of publication. Rotary Samachar is the Hindi edition of Rotary News, with identical format, contents, and photos. It came into being in 1983 to cater to the Hindi speaking sections of India. What has made Rotary News and Rotary Samachar popular with subscribers? Between 1952 and 1982, the magazine was of a smaller size, with the number of pages varying between 40 and 48. In the 1980s, the magazine came in a bigger size but with fewer number of pages-averaging 32, sometimes with only 28 pages, or even 24 pages.

After their arrival in Madras, the two magazines had 32 pages for the first issue (dated November 1990). The number of pages was slowly raised to 72. Colour was introduced, initially for 4 pages and then for all. For the past two years, the magazines have averaged 80 pages.

The Beginning

1930

The earliest form of the magazine was The Eastern Rotary Wheel, which was founded and edited by Rtn. Alistair MacRae and published by A. Macrae & Co., Bombay in the 1930s. The source of reports was Rtn. Herbert Bryant, Secretary, Rotary International Middle Asia Branch Office in Bombay. The magazine was printed on glossy art paper.

1940

Rtn. MacRae sold his business and emigrated to South Africa after India became Independent in 1947. The new Indian

owners of the company continued to publish The Eastern Rotary Wheel.

1950

R.I. closed down its Middle Asia Office in Bombay, and The Eastern Rotary Wheel ceased publication. Some Past District Governors in India felt the need for a magazine. PDG. D.N. "Debu" Hosali of Bangalore, who was publishing Mysindia, took over the responsibility of bringing out a Rotary journal. The first issue of Rotary News came out on July 15, 1952. The issue for the month of July 1952 carried this legend: "Published under the auspices of the District Governors of RI in the area comprising India, Burma, Ceylon, Pakistan, and Afghanistan."

1960

The magazine continued to be a one-man job. PDG. Hosali "edited the copy, read the proofs, trimmed the photos, and laid out the pages," which were printed at the Hosali Printing Press.

Though PDG. Hosali did not get much "material" support from the RI Headquarters, the magazine did present a panorama of Rotary activities in South Asia. The circulation was 7,000. There were hardly any advertisements. No wonder the magazine ran into heavy losses.

Rotary News in those days was not an official regional magazine of RI.

1970

Rotary International was pressing Rotary News to be "fashioned into an official regional magazine of the movement and serve its communication needs." A committee was set

up to take over the magazine from its private owners - the Manipal Group - who had bought it from PDG. Hosali in 1973-74. He, however, continued to edit Rotary News, while the then PDG. Ramesh Pai was the publisher

The legend in an issue of 1973 read: “Regional magazine of Rotary International for Bangladesh, Burma, India, Nepal, Sikkim, Sri Lanka, and Pakistan.”

1980

The Rotary News Trust was formed in 1982, and it immediately took over the magazine from the Manipal Group. The first Secretary of the Trust was the then PDG. M.K. Panduranga Setty. A national executive committee was formed to manage the magazine. The committee decided to bring out an identical edition in Hindi to cater to the Hindi-speaking Rotarians, mostly of North India. This was the beginning of the publication of Rotary Samachar.

The first issue was released by RI President Elect William B. Skelton at the Asia Zone-II Institute in Calcutta on January 8 1983. Rtn. George Paul of the Rotary Club of Bangalore looked after the editorial responsibilities of the magazine. In July 1984 RI accorded recognition to Rotary News and Rotary Samachar (Hindi) as the official magazines of this region. PDG. Panduranga Setty took over the editorial and administrative responsibilities from Rtn. George Paul. The two magazines enjoyed a combined circulation of 15,000. In 1988 the two magazines were transferred to Bombay and PDG. Jyotindra Vakil was asked to take over.

PDG Jyotindra Vakil was both the Editor of the two magazines and the Secretary of Rotary News Trust from 1988 to 1990. He put his “heart and soul into improving the

reading contents by not only including diverse subjects such as management, environment, medicine, child care, etc, in the optional section, but also by adopting meaningful and creative designs on the cover which had relevance to the lead story of the month”.

1990

Rotary News and Rotary Samachar were once again shifted - this time to Madras, where the issues with new look came out in November 1990. PDG. B. Viswanatha Reddy was the Editor and Publisher of the magazines and Secretary of the Rotary News Trust. The legend under the masthead read: “Regional magazine of RI for India, Nepal, Bangladesh, and Sri Lanka.” The number of districts covered rose from 13 to 30.

The first issue printed in Madras in November 1990 had 32 pages. The number of pages slowly rose to 56. The number of pages printed in colour also rose proportionally from 8 to 32. Since 1996, the number of pages has been 64, including 48 pages in multi-colour. From January 1999, almost all pages features are in colour.

During the tenure of office of PDG. Viswanatha Reddi as editor, there was a spurt in the circulation of the magazine each year. In the early 1990s, the monthly circulation of Rotary News was, 13,000 and Rotary Samachar was 2,500. In the late 1990s the figures had risen to 47,650 and 9,800 respectively. At that time there were 57,000 Rotarians in 1,600 clubs - with 60 percent of them subscribing to Rotary News, 10 percent to Rotary Samachar, and 18 percent to the Rotarians. It was presumed that the remaining 12 percent (nearly 7,000 Rotarians) were not subscribing to any of the three magazines. Today a Rotarian must subscribe either to the Rotarian or to the Rotary News / Rotary Samachar.

2000

The emergent need was for someone to take over the organization and the appointment of PDG Krishnan V. Chari as the Secretary of the Rotary News Trust and Editor of the twin magazines, in October 1998, became a turning point. PDG Chari quickly identified the most cost-effective printing facility and a team for looking after administrative and publishing responsibilities. Simultaneously, the Trustees under the chairmanship of then DG Madhura Chatrapathy resolved to revise the subscription in keeping with comparative rates of similar publication. Thereafter Rotary News and Rotary Samachar have been on the growth path.

From October 2005 the affairs of Rotary News is looked after by PDG R. Benjamin Cherian as the Secretary of the Trust and Rtn. T.K. Balakrishnan as the Editor. The magazine has shown tremendous improvement in layout, content and design. R. I. President, the Board of Directors, Trustees of TRF, and the International Editors of Rotary World Magazines Press have acclaimed the Rotary News as one of the best regional magazines now.

Rotary News trust has its own beautiful office - one entire floor of a building with 6600 sq ft in the heart of the city which was purchased three years back at a cost of Rs. 1.5 crores. They have provided a computer for the visiting Rotarians to browse the internet and also have a library of Rotary magazine and catalogues. They have exclusive conference room and board rooms which are used by the Clubs and the committee meetings of Rotary Clubs and the District at a nominal cost. For the year 2006-07, DG. JB. Rambar of R.I. Dt. 3230 is the chairman of the Rotary News Trust.



1954 Asia Regional Conference - New Delhi
RI President CWO Ramani with Prime Minister
Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru



1955 Asia Regional Conference - New Delhi
RI President Mrs. Ramani with
Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru



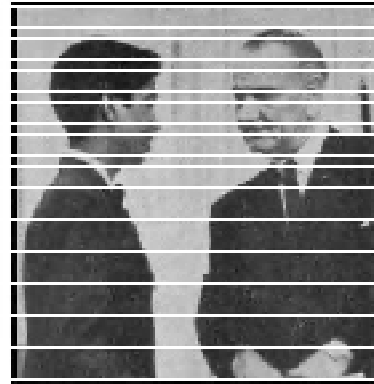
1956 Asia Regional Conference - New Delhi
President of India, Dr. Rajendra Prasad with
RI President CWT Ramani and Mrs. Lalany



Presentation of International Year of the Girl
by Direct Relief Association. Certificate is presented to Cuckin
by President V.K. Rajwade with Dr. Ramani and Mrs. Lalany



RI President Mrs. C. Lalany with US President
John F. Kennedy at the White House



George Westcott presenting to President Dwight D. Eisenhower
in 1953 with US President Dwight D. Eisenhower



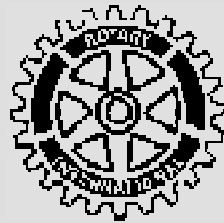
Reference - How Duff
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and some of the most
in the world in the
to a large group of people



by the way, it is
of the world



Looking Back

Governor : **J.B. Kamdar**
2006-2007

Home Club : Madras
R. I. Dt: 3230

New Clubs started : 2
Vaniyambadi Midtown
Chennai Coastal

Membership : 16.34% Increase as of 31st January
2007

Rotary Foundation : U.S.\$ 325,000 as on 31st Jan 07

Target : U.S.\$ 500,000

New Rotaract Clubs : 4

New Interact Clubs : 22

New RVC / RCC : 82

GSE

Incoming Team : Dist.: 1460 Country :Denmark

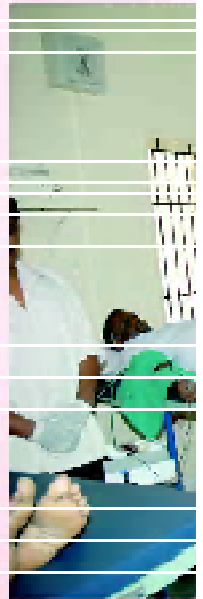
Outgoing Team : Dist.: 1460 Country : Denmark

No. of Rotary
Scholar hosted : One



Major Project

- Schools into Smiles
- Release of a book with a list of Speakers.
- Release of a book on the history of R.I. District 3230 for the first time.
- Bus Shelter Project
- Ironing carts for unemployed especially widows





R.I. District 3230 goodwill Ambassador to Turkey



R.I. President Bill Boyd's visit to Rotary Blood Bank



Medical Camp for Raj Bhawan Employees

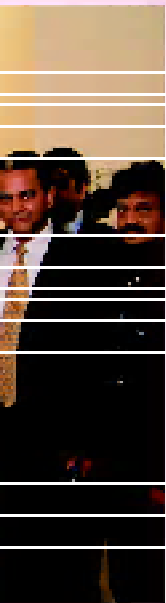


Bus Shelter

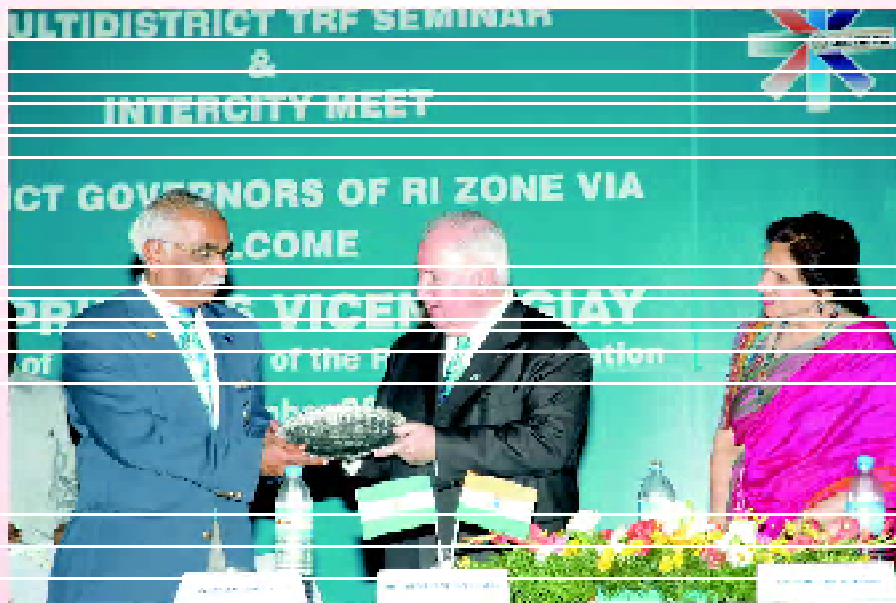
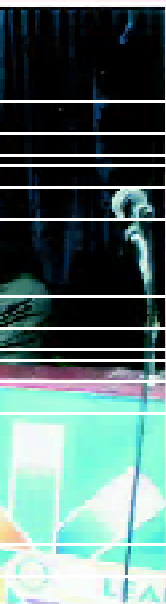


**Presentation at District Assembly to
Chief Guest to PDG R. Ravindran**





Bus Shelter Project Inaugurated by P.I. President William E. Boyd



Visit of TRF Chairman, Luis Vincente Giay



R.I. President visit to Sulerikattukuppam Tsunami project of R.C of Madras



Tree Planting Project of Rotary Club of Ranipet inaugurated by Honble' Shri Dayanidhi Maran

FIRSTS

- Multi District PETS in Colombo for the first time.
- DOTS in Kuala Lumpur for the first time.
- JB and Ann Marlene are the first couple to have started a Named Endowment of TRF of US\$. 25,000/- in Dist. 3230 and that too as the ruling Governor.
- RI Dist. 3230 is the first Dist. to have started the Named Endowment donation to TRF in India.
- This is the first District to give US\$. 100,000/- to TRF on day one of any Rotary Year.
- First Dist. to have given 5 Endowments of US\$.25,000/ - each to the TRF in 2006-07.
- First District in the Zone to start Paul Harris Society with 10 members.

Major Event

- Visit of RI President Bill Boyd and Chairman Rotary Foundation Luis Vincente Giay

R.I. Theme : *“Lead the Way”*

R.I. President : **WILLIAM BOYD**

The highest individual contribution by one individual in the District was by Governor J.B. Kamdar in 2006-07 when his total contribution to The Rotary Foundation became US\$ 62,000.

Governor : **Dr. R. Shyam Sundar**
2005-2006

Home Club : Adyar
R. I. Dt: 3230

New Clubs started : 3

Chennai Phoenix:
Golden Star
Mooncity - Tiruvannamalai

Membership : 12.7% Increase

Rotary Foundation : U.S.\$ 320,000
No.1 District in TRF
Contributions zone-6 in 05-06

New Rotaract Clubs : 5

New RVC / RCC : 2.
N. Malayambakkam
Kattankulathur

GSE

Incoming Team : Dist.:6670 Country :U.S.A.

Outgoing Team : Dist.:6670 Country : U.S.A.

Major Events

- Dream Green City Project-At Central Jail, Vellore 1000 flowering & medicinal saplings, 300 tree Guards, 500 kgs. of fertilizers at a total cost of Rs.55,000/- as a Dist. Project
- Computer Literacy
- Rotary International Dist. 3230 honoured Sri Rajam Iyer (Musicologist) Kalaimamani, Nadhayogi Prof. V.V.



Subramanian and Padmashree Sir Palghat Raghu for the exemplary Contribution to Carnatic Classical Music

- Dist. Governor Dr. R. Shyamsundar also released book on Compositions on Viagyakarma Bramasri Paingadu V.K. Rajagopalan (1913-1990) brought out by our District.
- Lifestyle Modification Awareness Programme
- “ONE ROTARIAN ONE JOB PROJECT” More than 3000 Jobs were provided to the needy through the Coordination of Rotarians

FIRSTS

- Rotary Leadership Institute Organised in January 2006 for training Rotarians in Leadership with R.I. Director David Linnet and his faculty participating. This was the first time this was held in Dt.3230.
- Rotary Overseas Vocational Exchange Programme providing Vocational training for the first time to four of our Annets in Germany was organized.
- District 3230 in 2005-2006 had several R.I. dignitaries visiting.
- R.I. Director NORASETH PARAMANAND in July 2006 addressing a meeting of Presidents and Dist. Officials.
- Past Rotary International President Frank Devlyn, Chairman Rotary Foundation on 8th August, addressed a joint meeting on R.F. and Past R.I. Director Kalyan Banerjee participated.

- Past Rotary International President Rajendra K. Saboo along with PDG. K.R. Ravindran from Sri Lanka visited us on Sep.30, 2005.
- R.I. President Carl William Stenhammer visited Tsunami Rehabilitation Projects on 6th and 7th Dec. 2005 and addressed a Intercity meeting.
- A Music Library was started with a Collection of books, CDs and Cassetts o Classical Music-another first of its kind.

R.I. Theme : *“Service Above Self”*

R.I. President : **CARL WILLIAM STENHAMMER**

The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) started offering matching grants to Rotary Clubs to expand World Community Service projects in 1975. This unique partnership started with the Rotary Club of Guelph, Ontario, Canada, under Past Director Governor David Kennedy. More than 600 projects and US\$ 30 million have provided self-help aid to developing nations in Africa, Asia, the Carribean, and Central and South America. In 1998 CIDA pledged \$35.5 million to fund immunizations against childhood diseases, including polio.

Governor : **Benjamin Cherian**
2004-05

Home Club : Madras
R. I. Dist 3230



New Clubs started : 2
Madras Centenary Commemoration
Chennai Chepauk Centennial

Membership : 430 (18%) Increase

Rotary Foundation : TRF U.S.\$ 230,000
With 36 PHF and 22 Major
Donors

New Rotaract Clubs : 5

New Interact Club : 9

New RCC Started : 140

GSE

Incoming Teams : Dist 1420 Country Finland

Outgoing teams : Dist 1420 Country Finland

Major Project

- **Chennai Marathon** For the first time, it was promoted Internationally with runner from Kenya participated in the centenary year 2004-05.
- **Chennai Olympiad** More than 3000 children have participated in 3 days Mega event
- **Tsunami Rehabilitation Project** Even though Tsunami was a great tragedy, it gave Rotary a great opportunity to serve the fisherman Community. In a few days of Tragedy

a part from Food, medicines essential materials Rotary provided Temporary shelters which were brought from England not only for our Rotary Dist but also to the Neighbouring districts like Dist 2980 and Anandamans. Rotary Clus in Dist 3230 have provided boats, nets etc built permanent houses, etc Our Distrit has spend Rs 15 lakhs for the retrieval of 53 trawlers which were washed ashore near Sirkalai R I dist 2980. Dist 3230 adopte d5 villages viz Kanathur Reddy Kuppam village, Alambarai, Kadapakkam, Thandumariamman, Pulikat and Suleri Kattu kuppam. In Kanathur Reddy Kuppam Dist 3230 constructed a primary Health Centre, Community centre. Vocational Training centre, Gym, library and a public park. In Kadapakkam, Thandumariamman Kuppam, Alambaria Kuppam we are constructing a community centre each of these villages. In Pulikat an island village we are renovating 6 schools and started constructing a new High school for the fishermen community living in 9 villages.

'FIRSTS'

- Schools into smiles project (Renovation and reconstruction of 100 primary and panchayat Schools in Tamil Nadu) Under this programme we have completed/renovated 100 Schools. **Our “Schools in to Smiles” project has decreased dropouts and increased the attendance** especially of girl students who dropted out of schools due to lack of toilets. The above project was exhibited in the R.I. Convention at Chicago in 2005 and at Copenhagen in the year June 2006

R.I. Theme : *Celebrate Rotary*

R.I. President : **GLENN ESTESS SR.**

Governor : **Sv. Rm. Ramanathan**
2003-2004

Home club : Madras Central
Dt.3230.

New members : 256

New Interact Clubs : 15

New Rotaract Clubs: 15

New R.C.C Started : 115 clubs (Record)

GSE

Incoming Teams : 2. R.I. Dt 1610
Country : Netherlands

Outgoing Teams : 2. R.I. Dt 4730
Country : Brazil



Major Project

- Over 150 hospital wards adopted by the clubs Over 450 classrooms adopted in Various corporation school. Stress on Rain Water Harvesting-all the clubs adopted. International Cycle Rally promoting International good will and understanding to Malaysia. Indo Pakistan Good will crossing the WAGHA Border. Dt. Governor himself led the Rotarian Delegation. Blood donation camps by over 50,000 units of blood collected and distributed. Eye screening camps conducted covering 25,000 patients. Good Will Rotary trips to Malaysia, Sri Lanka and Australia. A 99 kg. cake was cut by Rotaracts to indicate 99th year and this event earned due place in the Guinness Book of World Records.

R.I. Theme : *Lend a Hand*

R.I. President : **JONATHAN MAJIYAGBE**

Rotary International set a Rotary Worldwide target of U.S. \$ 120 million for the Polio Eradication fund. By the efforts of Rotarians the final collection exceeded by 100 million U.S. dollars i.e. 220 million U.S. dollars.

In 1958 Rotary International started the Paul Harris Fellow Programme, for Rotary foundation projects. It was one thousand dollars one time contribution to become a Paul Harris Fellow.

Rotary Club of Fareham Meon (U.K.) conferred on Centenary District Governor Rtn. Benjamin Cherian, Honorary Membership of their club at a glittering function in U.K. in honour of his in-depth relationship with the Club developed over a span of 14 years. Rotary Club of Fareham Meon and Rotary Club of Madras and District 3230 together involved Club to Club level projects and at District level they have contributed 200 computers and 100 printers which were distributed to 80 schools in our Rotary District.

100 US Dollars per year for 10 consecutive years known as Paul Harris Sustaining member, till one pays full of the instalments to become a PHF; a one time 100 dollars contribution known as Paul Harris Memorial Contributor in memory of someone closer to a Rotarian. The last one was in vogue for many years since the programme started.

The First President of First Rotary Club was Sylvester Schielle, since Paul Harris declined to become President. Paul Harris became President two years later in 1907.

Governor : **M. Balaji**
2002-2003

Home Club : Madras,
Dist. 3230

New Clubs : 3.
Polur
Chennai Galaxy
Chennai K.K. Nagar.

Membership : 236 Increase

Rotary Foundation : U.S.\$ 281,500

New Retract Clubs: 2.

New Interact Clubs: 5

New RVC/RCC : 30

GSE

Incoming Team : Dt. 7610 W. Virginia, U.S.A.

Outgoing Team : Dt. 7610 W. Virginia U.S.A.



Major Events

- Multi District Rotary Foundation Seminar with participation of 11 Rotary Districts in Zone 6 A. With past R.I. President GLEN W. KINROSS, The Chairman of the Trustees (2002-03) as the Chief Guest and Rtn. Past R.I. Director Kalyan Banerjee, Trustee as the Guest of Honour on 7-8-2002 with participation of well over 500 delegates.
- Rotary Zone Institute after a gap of 14 years with participation of over 500 R.I. Officers viz. Past Dist.

Governors, Current Governors, Incoming Governors, all over from India with Rtn. Bichai Ratakul R.I. President as the Chief Guest and Rtn. Past R.I. President Carlos Ravizza, Trustee of the Rotary Foundation as the Guest of Honour. The Institute was under the leadership of then R.I. Director DR. P.C. Thomas and past R.I. President Rajendra K. Saboo participated.

- FIRST TIME IN THE HISTORY OF OUR DISTRICT - Rotaractors South Asia Conference -ROTASIA - was Conducted with well over 1200 Rotaractors from all over India and neighbouring Countries.

R.I. Theme : *“Sow The Seeds of Love”*

R.I. President : **BHICHAIRATTAKUL**

ROTARY PERSONALITIES....

PDG Kalluri Gopal Rao (1957-58) President, Rotary Club of Madras and Dist. Governor R.I. 320 in 1959-60) retired as Chairman, Andhra Bank Ltd in 1973 after 45 years experience in Banking (Indian Bank 14 years; Bank of Baroda 26 years; Andhra Bank 5 years). For the first time a professional Banker was awarded 'PadmaShri' in 1974 by the Govt. of India. He is now 98 and lives in Karnataka.

First District Nominating Committee to nominate a District Governor started functioning in our District in the Rotary year 1988-89 and the first chairman was Late PDG. Dr. S. Sundararaman.

District Governor : **R. Ganapathi**
2001-2002

Home Club : T. Nagar
R.I. Dt.3230.



New Clubs Started : 14
New clubs added largest
ever external extension of
District 3230, Winner of

- R.I.'s Global Quest Award - Membership : Added 914 members - the highest ever recorded in Dist. 3230. 16th rank in the district around Globe for highest membership growth-33% nett growth.
- R.F. Contribution :- U.S.\$ 185,000 largest ever contribution to R.I. Foundation at that time from dist.3230.
- The first website (www.Ri3230.org) of its kind providing information, communication and reporting requirements of the Rotarians in the district.
- **The Kudumba Vizha a mega fellowship at Mayajal over 1,100 participants**
- **The Rotary health care day** : Held on 26th August 2001 almost all the clubs conducted the camps in eye care, skin, dental, ENT, diabetes detection, cancer detection, geriatrics, TB check up, hypertension, gynecological and pediatric checkups and Aids counselling. Over 20,000 people in district 3230 benefited from the camp.

- **The first National convention on community concerns and social well being :** A two days convention for an in -depth analysis in a myriad of social - economic challenges facing the community.
- **The Chennai Rotary Declaration:** Was adopted in 2001 and Mr. Venkaiah Naidu, the Honourable Minister of Rural Development called a meeting on 10th December 2001 to take this declaration forward.
- **The first Chennai Marathon :** 600 runners including runners from Australia and USA participated in this events.
- **The first Chennai Youth Olympiad :** Track and field events in which 1600 students from 140 Chennai schools were participated.
- **The Chennai Youth Festival :** 300 students from 28 colleges and 900 students from 74 schools participated in this month long festival

R.I. Theme : *“Mankind in our business”*

R.I. President : **RICHARD D. KING**

ROTARY PERSONALITIES....

P.S. Rajagopal Naidu, Charter Member, R.C. of Vellore (1948) was two terms Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha, active in Cooperative movement, instrumental in starting the Ambur Government Sugar factory and one near Vellore. He is also associated with Leather Tanning Industry and played an active role in putting up effluent plants in North Arcot.

Governor : **P.T. Ram Kumar**
2000-01

Home Club : Rotary Club of
Madras Metro

New Clubs : 1
Rotary Club of
Madras Golden City

Membership : 280 (2639 to 2919)

Rotary Foundation : U.S\$. 98954

New Rotract Clubs: 7

New Interact Clubs: 19

New RVC/RCC : Details not available

GSE

Outgoing Team : DISTRICT 1860. Germany

Incoming Team : DISTRICT 6710. USA



Any Firsts

- A team of 140 strong contingent of Rotarians and their families led by the District Governor went to RI Dist. 3220 Srilanka in Sept. 2000 as an International Inter-District friendship exchange programme. 30 Sister club arrangements were signed between clubs of the two districts which was recognized by RI as a record for that year. Most of those arrangements are still active. A friendly cricket tournament between the two districts was started with the two then District Governors instituting a Governor's trophy for the event which is being played for annually till date.

- A small team of Rotarians went to R I District 3270 Pakistan for the first time during March 2001 on a similar mission which was recognized as a pioneering and goodwill building effort considering that the Kargil conflict between India and Pakistan had then recently ended.
- Another team of 45 Rotarians and their families went with the District Governor to Singapore and RI Dist. 3300 Malaysia in April 2001 and 6 sister club arrangements were signed between clubs of the two districts.
- Wide awareness was created for the Matching Grants Programme of the Rotary Foundation among clubs in the district. 15 small clubs in the district who had never before done a Matching Grant project successfully obtained grants from the Rotary Foundation for their respective projects with an average outlay of US \$ 4000 each.
- A novel fund raising for Rotary Foundation was initiated by sale of greeting cards to Rotarians and clubs which netted in excess of Rs. 20 lakhs to the cause.

Major Projects

- Under the Avoidable Blindness Programme, 15000 free eye surgeries were conducted during the year with major contributions in this regard coming from Sankara Eye Hospital, Pammal, The Rajan Eye Care Hospital, Chennai and Vivekananda Eye Hospital, Tiruvannamalai.
- The District Vocational Services Committee brought out a Vocational Directory (Rotary Yellow Pages) of the Rotarians of the District.

- With the help of Smile Train an NGO from USA more than 500 free cleft lip and cleft palate correction surgeries were performed for poor children.
- 9 Ambulance Vans were obtained for the Trauma Care Consortium under the Matching Grants Programme at a cost of US \$61,300 (approx) with support coming from the District and Clubs in RI Dist. 3220 Sri Lanka.

RI Theme : *“Create Awareness Take Action”*

RI President : **Rtn. FRANK J DEVLIN**

The world is a huge orchestra in which each one of us has his own little insignificant part of play. The success of your instrument and mine depends not upon the amount of noise they make, but upon how perfectly they harmonize with the instruments about us; and he who, sufficient unto himself, insists upon blowing his own horn in his big and pompous way, finds himself not only a maker of discords, but also persona non grata to all the rest of the band. If Rotary can bring home to us fuller realization of the fact that we are not individual performers, but rather small parts of a stupendous entity, not only will our lives harmonize better with the lives of those around us, but we will also find them easier and better worth living.

Paul. P. Harris

The National Rotarian, March 1912

Governor : **Rekha Shety**
1999-2000

Home Club : Madras Temple City
R.I. DT. 3230

Membership : 300 Increase

Rotary Foundation : U.S.\$ 130,000
Matching grant Project
worth U.S. 400,000 dollars

Incoming Teams : DISTRICT 5220. U.S.A
DISTRICT 1270 U.K.

Outgoing Teams : DISTRICT 5220. U.S.A
DISTRICT 1270 U.K.



Major District Project

- Temple Tank Renovation Projects
- Matching Grant Worth U.S. 49,600 dollars of equipment for Leprosy Research Centre, Karigiri near Vellore.
- A mobile Computer Van in Tirupathur worth U.S. 27,300 dollars which has trained thousands of village youth

Others :

- Visually impaired music group called "COMAGAN'S ROGPRIYA" played for 24 hrs. non stop on 20th October 1999 starting at 7 A.M. to get into Limca Book of records- Project of R.C. of Madras South West/Visit to Dt. 3230 by an Alaska team of 14 Rotarians from R.I. DIST. 5010 for NTD (National Immunization Day)

- Introduced the International Dist. Leadership plan FOR THE FIRST TIME with 3 Assistant Governors in R.I. DT. 3230
- The Mega Kargil walk on the beach with over 15,000 participants culminated in giving Rs.12 laksh to the families of Kargil war heros who were killed.
- Forged a tie up with L & T for skill training for unemployed youth: Conducted a career guidance seminar with NIIT:
- Response to Orissa cyclone: Massive collection of materialsand cash worth Rs.8 lakhs, delivered by a team of volunteers.
- Funds sent to Turkey for a matching grant to built a tent city after the earthquake.
- A matching grant done with Indonesia to help earthquake victims.
- Dist.3230, won a global Award “The best-Conference in Zone 6.”
- Visit by R.I. President Elect. FRANK DEVLYN

R.I. Theme : *Act With Consistency,
Credibility, Continuity*

R.I. President : **CARLO RAVIZZA**

ROTARY PERSONALITIES....

P.R. Ramakrishnan Dt. Governor 1957-58, for a number of years provided leadership to the Coimbatore Institute of Technology and associated with many Industries.

Governor : **K. Jayachandran**
1998-1999

Home Club : Anna Nagar
R.I. Dt. 3230

Membership : 10.85% Increase
Growth-Special
Recognition from R.I. for
Membership Development
and Extension Award.

Rotary Foundation : U.S.\$ 130,000. In
1998-99 R.I. has
acknowledged Dist. 3230 as
second position in Annual
giving to Rotary Foundation
in Zone 6 & 7.

New Rotract Clubs : 2

New Interact Clubs : 4

New RVC/RCC : 17
G.S.E.

Outgoing Teams : 2 Dist 5230 U.S.A. /
Dist.477- Brazil

Incoming Teams : 2 Dist 5230 U.S.A./
Dist. 477- Brazil



Major Project

- Conducted Mega Star Cricket Match and with the money raised Rs.10 lakh. contributed to Corporation of Chennai for Computer facility in 65 Corporation schools.
- Erected a permanent monument in the form of a Tower Clock in Anna Nagar to commemorate 50th year of Indian Independence.

- Matching Grant Projects : Motivated 26 clubs to obtain Matching grants for a total cost of U.S. 483,000 dollars highest ever in the district.
- More than 100 low cost Concrete shelters donated through Matching Grant Programme.

R.I. Theme : *'Follow your rotary dream'*
 R.I. President : **JAMES L. LACY**

Input by kind courtesy of
Mrs. Hema Jayachandran,
 W/o. Late PDG. K. Jayachandran

ROTARY PERSONALITIES....

The first Canadian connection with our District was in 1929 when James Wheeler Davidson organized the formation of Rotary Club of Madras. Almost 50 years later it was **Ann Eva and Rtn. Dr. Ken Hobbs** from Whitby, Canada who came with the Red Measles vaccine doses and continued their association till date with Polio Plus and related programmes. In between in the year 1977-78 fourteen Rotarians and their Annes including the incomparable Rtn. Aubrey Oldham and Ann Joanne and DGN. Gerry Longhead and Ann Marguerite attended the Dist. Conference at Madras on January 1978.

Shabdai Samuel Koder Dt. Governor 1963-64 from Cochin R.I.Dt. 320 was a old family, leaders of the Jewish Community. His brother his Ann and he were seen at many of our Dist. Conferences -- a quite pious family.

Govenor : **Krishnan V. Chari**
1997-98

Home Club : Meenambakkam
R.I. Dist. 3230

New Clubs : 11

Chengam , Kalavai
Ranipet Sipcot, Vellore Cosmos :
Arcot East, Arcot Delhi Gate,
Tambaram Selaiyur, Mamandur,
Chennai Mambalam, Chennai
Towers, Chennai Kilpauk.

Membership : 411 Increase

Rotary Foundation : U.S.\$ 123,000

New Rotaract Clubs: 12

New Interact Clubs : 16

G.S.E.

Incoming/Outgoing Team : 2

Country : U.S.A., Sweden

No. of Rotary Ambassadorial/Scholars hosted/
Sponsored : 1

Major Projects

- The Pre Primary Education Programme starting of KG Classes on Corporation Schools, Chennai has become a landmark. This was followed up with an enrolment drive to promote school audience.
- “The Golden Run” to Celebrate 59th Anniversary of Indian Independence saw 8000 Children in a run of Celebration of a distance of 6 kms from Marina Beach to Island grounds.



- “Light up the face of a Child” - Invitation to 6000 Orphans, many of them handicapped to share the joy of Diwali Festival with mammoth entertainment, Cracker show and a dinner.
- “A functional Literacy and Vocational Skills” Trust is another programme by providing training and employment to over 1100 Youth during 1997-98.
- Besides U.S.\$ 120,000 for Rotary Foundation, 50 Rotary benefactors were enrolled.

R.I. Theme : *Show Rotary Cares*


R.I. President : **GLEN W. KINROSS**

ROTARY PERSONALITIES....

V. Chidambaram (Dist. Governor 1988-89) was actively associated with PP. S.L. Chitale of Rotary Club of Madas both in the Red Measles vaccine programme and Polio Plus. He was a Hony. Consul General for Netherlands in Chennai.

S.K. Abdulla Sheriff of Rotary Club of Ranipet-Arcot-Ranipet did a tremendous job in External Extension in the then North Arcot District. Also in the undivided Rotary District 323 next to Madras Revenue District, his was the largest collection for our District for Polio Fund Raising campaign covering areas of North Arcot, Chengalpattu Revenue Districts.

PDGS. P.S. Rajagopal Naidu (Vellore); **G. Swaminathan** (Thanjavur); **G. Varadaraj** (Coimbatore) and **R. Ramakrishnan** (Madras) served as Members of Parliament (Rajya Sabha)

Governor	: P.T. Prabhakar 1996-1997	
Home Club	: Madras Central R.I. Dt.3230	
New Clubs	: 7 Madras Industrial City, Chennai Mid City, Chennai Presidency, Madras Besant Nagar Maraimalai Nagar, Tiruthani and Walajapet.	
Membership	: 10% Increase Recognized on stage at the Glasgow. convention for membership growth, as one of the top 25 districts in the world.)	
Rotary Foundation	: U.S.\$ 1,65,000 (Highest for 1996-97 in Asia Zone.)	
GSE	:	
Incoming Teams	: 2. Country : Brazil/USA	
Outgoing Teams	: 2. Country: USA / Brazil	

Any Major District Orojcts:

- Adoption of corporation / under privileged schools by clubs.
- “Coin scheme” which helped raised 20 laksh for TRF
- 165 Rotarians became PHF, in the presence of then TRF Chairman R.K. Saboo.

- 3H grant of USS 2,75,000 recieved and Rotary Central, TTK VHS blook bank inaugurated.

R.I. Theme : *Build the future with
Action and Vision.*

R.I. President : **LUICE VINCENT GIAY.**

ROTARY PERSONALITIES....

C.V. George, (Dist. Governor 1973-74) Rotary Club of Madras South was the first Group Study Exchange Leader to U.S.A. and the slogan “Teach a man how to fish” was always associated with him.

Professor. S.R. Govindarajan, Governor 1977-78 member Rotary Club of Madras West was Principal of a College when he was elected as Dist. Governor. First time an eductionalist getting recognized. In his year of Governorship he celebrated his “Shastiabdhapoorthi” (60th birthday). He is known as “Satguru SRG”.

Dr. S. Sundararaman (Governor 1985-86) was an eminent surgeon and served as Professor of Surgery at Kilpauk, Stanley and Madras Medical Colleges. He had his year’s District Conference for the first time in a Five Star Hotel. Later he wrote “Hand book on Rotary” which was released by the R.I. Past Director Rajendra K. Saboo and the sale proceeds went to the Polio Plus Fund.

Governor : **C.N. Gangadaran**
1995-96

Home Club : Madras South West
R.I. Dist : 3230

New Clubs : 4
Madras Nungambakkam
Madras Vadapalani
Madras North East
Aarch City- Madras

Membership : 25% Increase

Rotary Foundation : U.S.\$ 123,000

New Rotaract Clubs: 2

New Interract Clubs: 25

New RVC : 6

GSE

Incoming Teams : 2. Dt : 7980 Country:
Connecticut / U.S.A.
Dt : 3870 Country : Philippines

Outgoing Teams : 2. Dt : 7980 Country:
Connecticut / U.S.A.
Dt : 3870 Country : Philippines.

- First time NO KIT WAS GIVEN DURING - DT. CONFERENCE
- R.I. President Herbert Brown announced the CALGARY AWARD - 50 Districts with the highest percentage of growth in membership between 1st July. 1995 to JAN



1996 to receive the exquisite Crystal Award at Calgary: “2 New Member Program” which will recognize individual Rotarian who recruited them. Dt.3230 was one of the few lucky recipients of this Calgary Award at Calgary Convention.

- Health Care Camps :
- “Bandhu Milan” Variety entertainment by members and families of Rotarians of all Clubs to ensure family participation.

R.I. Theme : *Act With Integrity, Serve With Love, Work For Peace*

R.I. President : **HERBERT G. BROWN**

ROTARY PERSONALITIES....

K.V. Srinivasan, Dist Governor 1965-66 Industrialist, Chairman of Standard Motors presented the Charter of Rotary Clubs of Ranipet, Madras West and Madurai West. He was a member of Rotary Club of Madras from 1951 to 1998.

Dr. C.R. Ramchandara Pillai (popularly known as Dr. C.R.R) was Professor of Medicine and a well-known Cardiologist. He was Dist. Governor of R.I. Dist. 320 in 1975-76. The registration fee at the Dist Conference was Rs.25/- and Rotarians were asked to buy their own food from the dining hall of Vivekanda Auditorium of the Guindy College of Engineering Campus, which was the venue of the Conference.

Governor : **Dr. C.S. Ramachandran**
1994-1995



Home club : Madras Mid Town
R.I. Dt. 3230

New Clubs : 5
Perungudi, Porur,
Guindy, Madras Mount
Nanganallur

R.F. Contribution : About US\$ 88,000

GSE

Incoming Teams : 2. Country : U.S.A. / Brazil

Outgoing Teams : 2.

Major Project

- Rain Water Harvesting,
- Temple Tank Renovation.
- Upgrading King Institute, Guindy - Virology Department by contribution from Rotary Club of Madras and matching grant of U.S.15,000 dollars. Polio Investigation at Madras itself after this; Earlier it had to be sent to Pune, Maharashtra.

First Family Exchange

- 10 Couples to Mysore R.I. Dt 3180

R.I. Theme : *BE A FRIEND*

R.I. President : **BILL HUNTLEY**

Governor : **S. Mohandas**
1993-94

Home Club : Madras East
First Dist. Governor
of R.I. Dt. 3230.



- (The district consisting of Chennai, Pondicherry and the districts of Chengalpattu, South & N. Arcot, Tanjore, Salem and Dharmapuri was bifurcated and the new Rotary District 2980 was carved out leaving Chennai and the revenue districts of Chengalpattu and N.Arcot for the new 3230 District with 54 Clubs) Membership of the District on 30th April 1994-2254

New Clubs : 1
Madras Shakthi

Rotary Foundation : 46,799.97 U.S. Dollars

G.S.E Team

Outgoing : 2. Dist 7070 CANADA /
DIST. 1580 Netherlands

Incoming : 2. Dist. 7070 CANADA /
DIST. 1580 Netherlands.

Rotary Ambassador Scholar :

- Rotary Ambassador Scholar for Journalism Mr. Venkatsubramani Narayanan alias Malan (Sponsored by R.C. of Adyar) has completed the one year study at the University of Florida at Gainsville with **DISTINCTION**. He won the University Rank in Advanced Editing Course and has been Chosen to receive the award for Academic Excellence. He is the first Non-American to receive this distinction.
- D. Anand N. Sumathangi was sent on a graduate study programme, study in education of the DEAF, at Smith College, Northampton,

- Georgia Scholarship: Ms. Sukshma Roopa d/o. Rtn Sadagopan of R.C. of Madras South West has been awarded the scholarship through the Georgia Rotary Student Program Inc. of R.I. Districts 6900, 6910 and 6920 Georgia, U.S.A.

Major Events :

- Multi District Seminar of Literacy Promotion, Mothers Milk Feeding, Eye donation and Aids awareness was held at Neyveli on 2nd & 3rd April 1994 Rotarians from Dts. 2980: 3000: 3160:3200:3210 and 3230 participated.
- Multi District Seminar on Community Service in which Rotarians from 2980 : 3000 : 3190 : 3210 and 3230 participated.
- Visit India '93 : A family Exchange Programme jointly organized by districts 3000 : 3180 : 3190 : 3200 and 3230 five Rotary Couples - 1. from District 4820 Argentina, 2. from district 1930 Germany, 3. from district 5300 4. from district 1140 U.K., 5. Two Rotarians from Dt. 1880 Italy arrived in Madras on 6th November 1993 on a two week visit. The Visit India '93, the Guests paid for their own transportation to and from India and during their stay they were Guests of Rotarians and Districts.

First :

- Inner Wheel District 323 was selected by National Polio Plus Committee as one of the best three Inner Wheel District for their Contribution to Polio Plus.

R.I. Theme : *“Believe in what you do and what you believe in”.*

R.I. President : **ROBERT R. BARTH**

PDG. Mohandas passed away on 17th July 2006

Governor : **R. Ramakrishnan**
1992-1993

Home club : Madras
R.I. Dt. 323

New Clubs : 7
Pallava, MadrasChennapatna,
Madras Cosmos,
Madras Down Town,
Madras Fort. Peranambut,
Madras South East

Membership : 250 Increase

GSE

Incoming Teams : 2. Country: U.S.A / Phillipines.

Outgoing Teams : 2. Country: USA/ Phillipines.

Firsts : International RYLA - GML
both in Tamil & English

R.I. Theme : *Real Happiness is Helping Others*

R.I. President : **CLIFFORD L. DOCHTERMAN**



Share Rotary !

Why not invite a friend to your club meeting this week?

Do you know a friend, family member, or colleague from your business or profession who has all the qualities of a good rotarian? If you do, then consider proposing them for membership in your club.

Governor : **B. Viswanatha Reddi**
1991-1992

Home Club : Madras South West
R.I. Dt. 323

New Clubs : 2
Vedaranyam,
Mahamaham.



Net increase in :

Rotary Foundation : U.S. \$ 124,000 against
the target of U.S. \$ 75,000

New Rotract Clubs : 7

New Interact Clubs : 18

New RCC : 10

GSE

Incoming Teams : District 1110.

Country :

U.K. (led by PP/Roger)

District 9470. Country :

Austrilia (PP by PP Arney
Holtmenier)

Outgoing Teams : District 1110. Country :

U.K. (PP. Vaidyanathan)

District 9470. Country :

Austrilia (PP Imbichammed)

Money spent towards projects under different Avenues of
service during 1991-92 by the 87 clubs in R.I. Dt.323.

Community Service : Rs. 31,57,379

Vocational Service	: Rs. 11,73,417
Youth Service	: Rs. 10,30,140
Club Service	: Rs. 22,07,063
International (excluding R.F)	: Rs. 4,19,117
Rotary Foundation	: Rs. 29,40,110

The fund for all these projects came from various fund - raising efforts. A total of Rs. 49 laksh was raised. The beneficences were :

- 138,241 people in Health Check Up.
- 97,260 people in Eye Check Up.
- 190,905 people screened for Leprosy.
- 1,556 eye operation performed.
- 109,817 people in Non-medical Common Service Project.
- 499 Polio plus Camps - 68, 702 children immunished.

Major Projects

- Lanuching of RHAP (Rheumatic fever and Heart disease) in 274 schools with screening of neraly 170,000
- Functional Literacy-a new thrust to promotion of literacy.
- Holding of National Poultry Seminar
- Rotary Scout Camp (5 days) - multi district project to promote national integration
- Hosting of 22 U.S. Students on Semester on board the floting university, sponsored by the University of Pittsburgh (with homestay for two days)
- Double Wicket tournament (which was telecast live on

2nd Channel in all four metros-an exercise in good public relations)

- Assistance to pilgrims during the Kumbakonam Mahamaham Festival.

“Firsts” :

- Organising Pradhan Gaurav-Rotary Bandhu Milan (a runway success)
- Formation of Rotary Foundation alumni.
- Enrolment of 75 Benefactors in five months (against R.I. target of five years.)
- Holding of PAST Presidents and secretaries (thanks giving) meet. A novel experiment at preparing a Balance sheet of the District activities at the end of the year, by gathering details of programmes and projects under various avenues of service and money spent, from every club.

Innovation

- Pairing of clubs at PETS one from urban area and the other from rural area aimed at better camaraderie and understanding
- Introduction of a page in Tamil in GML.

March of Numbers : NO. OF CLUBS - 85 TO 87

RCC	:	52 TO 62
ROTRACT	:	40 TO 74
INTERACT	:	72 TO 90
PHF	:	348 TO 444
PHSM	:	129 to 261

Unique Honour

- R.I. Presidential honour as one of the four districts in the world in raising contributions to the Foundation and enrolling a large number of Benefactors. The other three districts were 2750 (Japan), 3600 (Korea) and 6910 (USA). The honour was conferred on our district at the Orlando Convention (June 1992)

R.I. Theme : *Look Beyond Yours elf*

R.I. President : **RAJENDRA K. SABOO**

ROTARY PERSONALITIES....

P. Bhoja Shethy of Rotary Club of Madras West was the last Dist. Governor of combined R.I. Dist.320 in 1983-84. His daughter Rekha Shethy of Rotary Club of Madras Temple City became the District Governor in the year 1999-2000. Father and daughter combination as Dist. Governors must be a rare event in Rotary International.

The Charter president of Rotary Club of Ranipet (1965) **R.M. Mehra** was a member of Rotary Club of Vellore from 1950s; and after Ranipet he settled down in Bombay. He is a Rotarian of Rotary Club of Bombay and has put in more than 50 and odd years in Rotary. R.M. Mehra is considered an authority in Ceramic Technology.

M.V. Arunachalam, Dist. Governor 1970-71 scion of the Murugappa Group of Industries, Madras served as President of Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce.

Governor : **Dr. M. Natarajan**
1989-1990



Home Club : Madras
R.I.Dt. 323

New Clubs : 5

R.F. Contribution : U.S.\$ 60,000

GSE

Incoming Teams : 2. R.I. District : 769
(N. Carolina)
R.I. District : 795
Rhode Island &
Massachusetts

All women team to Rhode Island & Massachusetts
All men team to N. Carolina.

Major District Project

- Leprosy Detection medicamp Camps, School Medical programme Campus,

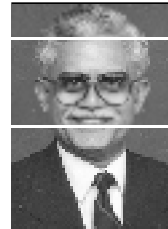
R.I. Theme : *“Enjoy Rotary”*

R.I. President : **HUGH ARCHER**

Governor : **R. Ramakrishna Raja**
1986-87

Home Club : Madras South
R.I. Dist. 323

Area : Present R.I. Dist. 3230
& R.I. Dt, 2980
(Western end Hosur -
Southern end Pattukottai)



Clubs in existence : 58

Provisional Clubs : 2

New Clubs : 5

Major Project :

- Polio Immunization programme was the main thrust during the year. Tamil Nadu Immunization programme was inaugurated on May 1, 1987 at Chennai in the presence of R.I. President MAT Caparas ; R.I. Director Sudarshan Agarwal; then past R.I. Director Rajendra K. Saboo and 3 Rotary Governors of the then Districts 320 A.K. Azad, Paul Christian (Dist 321) and Rajalingam (Dist 322) participated. Union Minister for Health Family Welfare Ms. Saroj Khaparde inaugurated the programme. The State Minister Shanmugam presiding over the function.

The First

- RVC in our District was in Nandiambakkam Village near Minjur in Tirivallore District was started by Rotary Club of Madras East.

- FIRST ALL WOMEN GSE TEAM With the then R.I. Dt. 785 (Vermont & New Hampshire, Quebec, Canada), received and sent.

R.I. Theme : *“Rotary Brings Hope”*

R.I. President : **M.A.T. CAPARAS**

ROTARY PERSONALITIES....

DR. C.K. Ramchandrar, Charter Member of Rotary Club of Ranipet (1965-1980) was considered doyen in the field of Occupational Health in India and his wife Ann Gunavathi was District Chairman, I.W. District 320 in 1978-79 and Secretary, All India and Sri Lanka Inner Wheel Clubs in 1980, the year the couple passed away within a month of each other.

Dr. M. Thirunavukarasu, Governor 1990-91 R.I. District 323 a skin Specialist of Salem in whose term Rotary Clubs of Madras Silver Beach, Chetpet, Vellore Midtown was chartered.

P.V. Purushothaman, Governor 1984-85, R.I. District 323 is in automobile business. He was actively associated in the Measles Immunization Programme in organizing cold chain to keep the vaccines at optimum temperature, played a vital role in starting Cold chain centres all over the Rotary District and other places.

We have had **T.S. Rajam** of TVS group as District Governor from Madurai and his son **R. Ratnam** was a member of Rotary Club of Madras and was District Governor in the year 1982-83.

Governor : **S.R. Govindarajan**
1977-1978

Home Club : Madras West
R.I. Dt.320.

New Clubs : 1
: Thiruchengode

Rotary Foundation : 7 PHFS, 18 PHMS,
1 Memorial Contributor

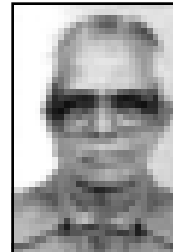
New Rotaract Clubs : 2

New Interact Clubs : 5

GSE

Incoming Teams : 1
Country : Upstate / Newyork.

Outgoing Teams : 1
Country: Missouri/U.S.A.



- **First Canadian connection** : Through the contacts established with Dt..707, Canada Funds were available to put up 4 cyclone shelters; and rebuilt seven Dalit settlements, Canadian Red Measles Eradication project started.

R.I. Theme : *Serve To Unite Mankind*

R.I.President : **JACK DAVIS**

PDG S.R.G. expired on 25th February 2007

Governor	: P.S. Rajagopal Naidu 1974 - 1975
Home Club	: Vellore, R.I. Dt. 320
New Clubs	: 3 Arkonam, Vellore North and Ambur.
Provisional club	: 3 Avanashi, Neyveli and Coimbatore North.
Increase in club	: 48 to 54
Rotary Foundation	: From 5 Paul Harris Fellows and 65 Paul Harris Sustaining members to 9 PHFs and 47 added as PHSM
New Interact clubs	: 8 R.C. of Thanjavur
GSE	
Incoming GSE	: District : 549 Country : USA - Arizona/California



Major District Project

- Parts of district areas comprising Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry were badly affected by drought. A drought relief committee was formed to work closely with State and Central Govt. Agencies and contribution were made by Rotary clubs and Overseas clubs.

Important event of the year

- In the last ten years for the first time the R.I. President Bill Robbins with his Ann. Mary Frances visited our district.
- Rotary's 70th Anniversary year of 1975 was celebrated with great enthusiasm by all the clubs in the district.

R.I. Theme : *'Renew the Spirit of Rotary'*

R.I. President : **WILLIAM R. ROBBINS**

ROTARY PERSONALITIES....

Dr. T. Jacob John, Rotary Club of Vellore, as a Paediatrician and Virologist who was not a past R.I. officer served as Advisor to R.I. Board on Polio Plus in the year when Carlos Canseco from Mexico was R.I. President.

G. Varadaraj, Scion of the PSG Group, Coimbatore who was Governor in 1980-81 was the first major donor from India to Polio Plus; he contributed US \$ 50,000 and made number of Rotarians as Paul Harris Fellows and this money went to Polio Plus Fund Raising.

G. Swaminathan, Thanjavur (Governor 1981-82) was Member of Legislative Council of Tamil Nadu for 18 years and later twice Member of Parliament.

Ponnuswami Jagadeesan, Coimbatore, governor 1978-79 R.I. Dist. 320 was a Industrialist and Rotary Club of Kancheepuram was Chartered in his year.

Governor : **Kalluri Gopal Rao**
1959 - 60

Home Club : Madras
R.I.Dt : 320.

Settled in Karnataka : Age : 98 Yrs. (2006)

- For the first time the District was divided into Groups and Group Representatives appointed.
- For the first time a ROTA team to Newzeland the fore runner of the present GSE programme.
- The District had a tie up with Dist: 798 New Jersey and Clubs in 320 & 798 were paired, later known as Matched District - programme.
- For the first time in India started Youth Exchange with Australia. Four students were sent for a year's study and this programme continued over the years in both directions.
- Youth visiting places in our own Dt. 320 was sent to Ceylon, under a leadership of a Senior Rotarian.
- Each group in the District held an Inter-City General Forum a chance for smaller towns to have interaction on Rotary matters.
- After 1929, Rotary Club of Madras, under the leadership of DG. K. Gopal Rao organised first additional Rotary Club in the City of Madras - namely Rotary Club of Madras South.
- One of the members of the Newzeland team Douglas Day was in touch with Rtn. Raja Ramakrishnan, Charter Member of Rotary Club of Madras South. Rtn. PDG.

Raja Ramakrishnan writes “In 1996 the Minister of Education, New Zealand was visiting India leading a delegation and Douglas Day as his Private Secretary was part of the team. He contacted Ramakrishna Raja who took him to a Rotary meeting.” Almost 36 years later!”.

R.I. Theme : *“Build Bridges of Friendship”*.

R.I. President : **HAROLD T. THOMAS.**

ROTARY PERSONALITIES....

Hassan Koya in Calicut was twice Governor of the Dist. 320, first time he got elected in 1971-72 from Calicut. In 1976-77 the Governor-Elect for that year fell sick near the date of assuming office and passed away that year. As there was no one who was willing to take up the office at the eleventh hour it was P.P. Hassan Koya who offered his services to R.I. as Governor for 1976-77 and did a remarkable job.

Dr. Robert Cochrane, Charter President, Rotary Club of Vellore (C. 1948) was a famous laprologist of his time and did commendable service not only treating leprosy patients but at their Rehabilitation and other areas of health care.

M. Anantanarayanan, I.C.S. who was the Dist. Judge of North Arcot District served as President Rotary Club of Vellore in the 1950's and later he became the Chief Justice of Madras High Court.

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INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING

Advancing world understanding and peace, which is expressed in the fourth part of the Object of Rotary, is an important focus of Rotarian service. It is the impetus for numerous service efforts and other cooperative ventures among Rotarians from different parts of the world. It is the reason Rotary International has a long-standing, close collaboration with the United Nations and many of its member agencies. Appropriately, every year the anniversary of the founding of Rotary, 23 February, is celebrated as World Understanding and Peace Day.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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With input from Rtn. PPS. S.L. Chitale (Madras), Dr. Jacob John (Vellore), Babu Seshadri (Ambattur), N. Krishnan (Ambattur), K.C. Vijayan (Madras North West), N.K. Gopinath (Madras), PP. S.S. Rajasekar (Madras East), PDGs. Krishnan V. Chari (Meenambakkam), Benjamin Cherian (Madras), DGN. A. Subraminan (Madras West).

Assistance received from : Rtns. PPs. M.K. Kannan (Madras South), C.R. Chandra Bob (Ranipet), Ann. Jayanthi Raja Srinivasan (Madras West) & Dist. Governors's Secretariat.

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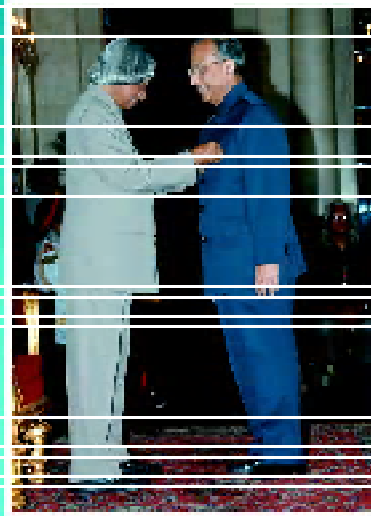
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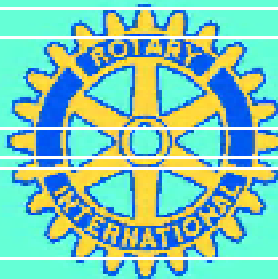
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*Rotary President / past Director with
Prime Minister Shri. Manmohan Singh*



*President of India Shri. Abdul Kalam
conferring "Padma Shri" Award to
Rotary Past President Rajendra K. Bajaj*



*Rotary Past President Rajendra K. Bajaj with Rot. Past Director Sudanshu Agrawal with
Former Prime Minister Shri. Atal Bihari Vajpai - a former Rotarian*