



**“YOU ARE THE  
LIGHT  
OF THE WORLD...”**

RID 3291, Zone-16  
**Rotary**  
Garden Reach



## 2331st RWM





**"YOU ARE THE  
LIGHT  
OF THE WORLD..."**



PEACEBUILDING  
AND CONFLICT  
PREVENTION



DISEASE  
PREVENTION  
& TREATMENT



WATER,  
SANITATION  
& HYGIENE



MATERNAL &  
CHILD HEALTH



BASIC EDUCATION  
& LITERACY



COMMUNITY  
ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT



ENVIRONMENT

## Greetings on Birthday

Nov 1st : Spouse Sunil, Husband of Rtn. Dr. Mahamaya Sharma

## Anniversary Greetings

Nov 8th : Spouse Sabina & Rtn. Abbas A Haldar

Nov 10th : Spouse Rajshree & PP DK Rao

## Empowering the Spirit of Giving – Celebrating Rotary Foundation Month

At Rotary, giving is more than a gesture — it's a force for transformation. We empower giving by inspiring generosity, creating impact, and building trust. Every contribution, whether of time, talent, or resources, becomes part of a greater purpose: Changing lives and strengthening communities.

Through transparent initiatives, hands-on service, and collaboration, we ensure that every act of giving multiplies in value. By recognizing and celebrating our donors, volunteers, and partners, we nurture a culture where generosity thrives — not just during campaigns, but every day. Together, we turn compassion into action, and action into lasting change.

November is Rotary Foundation Month — a time to celebrate the heart of Rotary's mission: "Doing good in the world." The Rotary Foundation transforms generosity into lasting change by funding projects that promote peace, fight disease, provide clean water, support education, and grow local economies.

The Rotary Foundation is where compassion meets action, and where every contribution — be it a dollar, an hour, or an idea — helps turn hope into tangible change.

A time to rekindle our shared belief that the act of giving is not just charitable — it's transformational.

But how do we empower and inspire more people to give? The answer lies in connection, creativity, and communication.

-  ***Tell stories that touch hearts – Facts inform, but stories inspire. Share real stories of lives changed by Foundation grants — a child vaccinated, a village empowered, a classroom built.***
-  ***Make giving personal – Encourage members to link their contributions to causes they care deeply about. A cause that feels personal becomes a commitment that lasts.***
-  ***Leverage digital reach – Use short videos, social media spotlights, and testimonials to show impact. A single heartfelt post can reach more potential donors than a dozen appeals.***
-  ***Host experience-driven events – Instead of traditional fundraisers, try "Service & Sip" evenings, foundation trivia nights, or mini-exhibits that showcase Rotary's work visually and interactively.***
-  ***Recognize and celebrate generosity – Appreciation fuels motivation. Spotlight donors, however modest their contributions, because every drop fills the well of hope.***

Empowering giving isn't about asking — it's about inviting. When people see that their participation builds schools, restores sight, or brings peace, they don't need persuasion — they feel purpose.

This month, let's celebrate not only what we give, but how we inspire others to do the same. After all, the currency of giving is not money — it's meaning. And when we give meaningfully, we create a world where compassion compounds, and hope never runs out.

As Paul Harris reminded us, ***"Whatever Rotary may mean to us, to the world it will be known by the results it achieves."***

Let's make those results shine — one inspired act of giving at a time!



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## Presidential Message

Francesco Arezzo, President 2025-26

This November, as we celebrate The Rotary Foundation, I invite you to consider not only what we give but why we give. The Foundation is more than a fund for projects. It is the beating heart of our promise that service, rooted in trust and friendship, can create lasting change.



Our Action Plan calls us to increase our impact, and the Foundation is how we make this vision real. Since 1988, Rotary and our partners have immunized nearly 3 billion children against polio. We have committed more than \$2.6 billion to this cause, and last year alone we directed \$146 million toward the final push for eradication. These numbers are significant, but the true impact is not in statistics — it is in the lives of children who will never again fear polio. It is in the hope restored to families and the peace built in communities once defined by disease.

But polio is only one story among many. Each year, Rotary Peace Centers train new generations of leaders who will transform conflict into dialogue and division into understanding. In 2023-24, nearly 100 new fellows began their studies, continuing a legacy of more than 1,800 peace-builders from over 140 countries. When we invest in them, we are planting seeds of peace that will bear fruit for decades to come.

The Foundation also touches lives through district and global grants, supporting projects large and small. Clean water well for a rural community, scholarships for young professionals, medical care in the wake of disaster — these are not temporary gestures, but steps toward dignity, resilience, and opportunity. This is how Rotary service becomes lasting impact; and when natural disasters strike, our Foundation allows Rotary to act quickly with disaster response grants.

Our Foundation is not about what we can do alone but what we can do together. Each contribution, no matter its size, joins with others to create a collective act of faith in humanity and in the future.

The last mile of any great journey is always the hardest. We see this in our final steps toward ending polio, in our work for peace, and in every project that seeks to lift people out of despair. Yet every time we give, we declare that our work will continue regardless of the challenge.

This November, let us give with gratitude, with joy, and with hope. Through our Foundation, we Unite for Good, and in doing so, we leave behind not only projects but a legacy of peace, trust, and Service Above Self.

**BELIEVE  
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Ms. Devika Mettey, from Senkapur village, Illambzaar, Birbhum was gifted this e-Toto vehicle from Rotary Garden Reach in the year 2023. PP Prosenjit Barua and our Community Service partner, Nayantara Charitable Memorial Trust was instrumental for this noble deed. PP Prosenjit along with his spouse Shweta & son Abhijan paid a follow-up visit on Sunday, November 2nd, 2025 to meet the disabled girl. The Scooty is in a well-maintained condition in spite of her daily commute of 16 kms to college and back home.



## Say 'Yes' to TRF... Keep giving!

M Muruganandam, RI Director, 2025–27

Ever since I joined Rotary, I've been continuously inspired — watching hope, dignity and peace reach those who need it most. Rotary is a system-driven organisation that has grown stronger and taller over the last century, spanning over 200 countries.



Being born in Tamil Nadu, I grew up with Avvaiyar's timeless words — Aram Seya Virumbu, "Desire to do good deeds." This echoes with TRF's motto Doing Good in the World. Our Foundation's goodwill, exemplary stewardship and high ranking among global charities have made us one of the world's most trusted organisations. I'm reminded time and again to give, and keep giving consistently, to our Foundation.

The Rotary Foundation offers donors a range of contribution options: you can choose to give through Annual Fund, Endowments, the End Polio initiative, or CSR funding — each designed to empower Rotarians and communities uniquely.

Think of the Annual Fund as a collective pool. Every gift, large or small, is invested for three years. Your investment then returns to your district as grant money, directly supporting vital projects in your community.

Endowment Fund giving is all about building Rotary's future. When you contribute or leave a bequest, that money is invested



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forever. The earnings help support Rotary projects and programmes for generations to come, guaranteeing that as Rotarians, our legacy of service will never fade away.

CSR funds are the buzzword in India, offering enormous potential for scaling up Rotary's reach. Embracing CSR partnerships will help us touch countless lives, cross new frontiers, and push the boundaries of what Rotary can achieve.

Just as the proverb says, "You may know by a handful, the whole," Rotary's End Polio initiative, launched in 1979, reflects the organisation's phenomenal work and now stands on the edge of historic success.

Each of these giving modes helps Rotary fulfil its promise of advancing world understanding, goodwill, and peace by improving health, education, and alleviating poverty.

I have vivid memories of my time as a volunteer during a National Polio Immunisation Day. I crossed a canal in Tondamanpatti, a hamlet near Trichy, to bring vaccines to 150 children. That day, I felt the true power of Rotary in every drop of help delivered.

That experience inspired me to open my TRF account with a modest \$100 contribution. As a young Rotaractor, my commitment grew, and I eventually became a Major Donor. Today, having moved to the Arch Klumph Society Members' second circle, TRF, being the lifeline of Rotary, has become an integral part of my philosophy: to keep giving consistently so we can continue creating lasting change through our service.

The End Polio initiative is a cause very close to my heart. As a consistent contributor to the Polio Fund, I share with fellow donors the vision of a polio-free world — achieved not only through our contributions but also through steadfast advocacy and sustained awareness efforts.

"Doing Good in the World" isn't just our motto; it's a timeless invitation. Let's practise it with all our heart and inspire those who come after us to keep giving to The Rotary Foundation. Now, it's your turn to begin.

Together, let's keep giving and say 'Yes' to TRF!

## PolioPlus honour for PRIP Raja Saboo

At a glittering event in Chandigarh, The Rotary Foundation Trustee Chair, Holger Knaack conferred Rotary's International PolioPlus Service Award to Past RI President Rajendra Saboo, who is widely accepted as a pioneer in India's journey to become polio-free.

The citation said the award was being given to PRIP Raja Saboo in **"recognition of his significant active personal service towards the goal of polio eradication... and the pioneering role you have played in Rotary's polio eradication efforts. Your remarkable vision, leadership, and steadfast commitment have contributed greatly to the significant progress we have made toward achieving a Polio-free world. Your personal service on behalf of children worldwide will be treasured always."**

Raja Saboo has been one of the longest-serving members of Rotary's International PolioPlus Committee, providing guidance and inspiring generations of Rotarians to believe that service, when rooted in conviction, can truly change the course of history. Tirelessly, he bridged the gap between governments, medical institutions, volunteers, and Rotarians — ensuring that every child had the chance to live free from the shadow of polio. He was equally influential in the fight against polio even outside India.



Conveying his gratitude to Raja Saboo on behalf of TRF and the entire Rotary world, Holger Knaack presented the citation and a crystal to the veteran Indian Rotary leader and said right from the inception of Rotary's efforts to eradicate polio from the world in the early 1980s when he was a Director on the RI Board (1981–83), the Past President was **"actively involved in this task. He was instrumental in the initiation of the National Immunisation Day for nationwide polio immunisation of children below 5. He had also worked relentlessly in the transportation of the polio vaccine from overseas and for the maintenance of the crucial cold chain for the vaccine through Rotary volunteers and government health officials and public health workers."**

The Trustee Chair said that Raja Saboo had not confined himself merely to India, and had also reached out to several African countries, where he led medical missions in which Indian surgeons performed various types of operations, including orthopaedic correctional surgery on polio victims.

TRF Trustee Bharat Pandya recalled Raja Saboo's leadership in the polio vaccination drive, the co-ordination and



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cooperation between Rotarians and the government in India and the hard work put in by all of them which had resulted in India becoming polio free much earlier than the world had expected.

RI District 3080 DG Ravi Parakash said Raja Saboo and his wife Usha's contribution to the Rotary world has been immense not only in spearheading the movement to eradicate polio from India and the world, but also in establishing Peace Centres in the world and taking medical missions to Africa and within India. RRFC N Subramanian, Susanne Knaack and Usha Saboo attended the event where AKS members and major donors were recognised by the Trustee Chair.

At a mega TRF/CSR multi-District Conclave hosted in Tirupur by Rotary Tirupur, RI District 3203, Trustee Chair, Knaack thanked and recognised TRF donors ranging from Arch Klumph Society members, Endowment donors, Major Donors to Annual Fund Challenge achievers. He said every dollar donated to TRF was important as it played a **"vital role in advancing Rotary's mission of service"**.

Amidst applause, he praised RID 3203 DG Dhanasekar's exceptional leadership, which had led to this Rotary district being the only district in Zone 5 to achieve the TRF Challenge. Special recognition was given to Rotary Pollachi for the members' individual contribution of \$25 to TRF, earning them the Early Achiever Award in the Annual Fund Challenge.

### **Talent is equally distributed in India, but opportunities are not**

At the Lead25 Rotary Leadership Conclave, Rajya Sabha MP and movie icon Kamal Haasan was recognised with a Lifetime Achievement Award for his 'service to humanity through art'. Kamal Panpaattu Maiyam, the social and cultural foundation led by Haasan, signed an MoU with Rotary to empower youth with leadership and vocational skills, and encourage innovation, entrepreneurship and environmental stewardship.



Haasan thanked Rotary and the audience for their warmth. "My education has been extramural, so I am not used too much formality. But I admire the remarkable service that Rotary, this great international family, is doing." He drew a parallel between the Rotary Wheel and the Ashoka Chakra. "Rotary's wheel is not just symbolic; it is a virtuous cycle. Like the wheel of Dharma, it must always keep turning in the right direction, without breaking the axle between virtue and vice."

Quoting Jawaharlal Nehru's famous "tryst with destiny" speech, Haasan said, "That midnight of 1947 is long past. Today, in 2025, it is dawn. Our nation is ready to fulfil its destiny." For him, true progress is not measured by money, but "by how wisely it is invested — in education, service and in building a virtuous

cycle of growth."

He believes that the next revolution for India must be in skill development. "Skilling India is extremely vital, and Rotary is already leading this change," he noted. He praised the country's industrial pioneers like GD Birla, JRD Tata, and Ratan Tata for giving back to society, alongside freedom fighters, observing that their legacies endure because of their sense of responsibility.

Cinema had been his tool for social change, he noted. "In every script I write, society, not just one hero, is the protagonist. My fan clubs transform into volunteers for social service. I learnt this from Rotary," he said, recalling with pride his connection as a Paul Harris Fellow.

"Talent in India is equally distributed. But opportunities are not," he said. The pact being signed at the conclave was "an effort to balance that equation, to incubate innovation, nurture ethical leaders and create civic solutions. When service-minded people collaborate, the impact multiplies exponentially."

Turning to the subject of awards, Haasan wryly commented: "I get worried whenever people call something a Lifetime Achievement Award. Does that mean my life is already over? But I see it differently. Life is divided into quarters. This is just my quarterly report. I am in my second quarter, and I hope to come back for another report in the next phase too."



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## **Minutes of the 2330th RWM held on November 1st, 2025 at BNR Officers' Club, Garden Reach**

- 1. The President Bandaru called the meeting to order and requested the members to rise for the National Anthem.**
- 2. The President presented the Club Treasurer's Report. It was discussed that a compulsory contribution from all members towards club activities may be introduced to reduce the burden on the club fund. However, no final decision was taken on this matter.**
- 3. Club's Bijoya-Diwali Meet has been tentatively decided on November 21st, 2025. The President nominated PP Tanu Roy as Chair and Secretary Rtn. Shubhayan Sengupta to co-Chair the Planning Committee for this event.**
- 4. The President briefed members on the upcoming community service initiatives:**  
**Mosquito Net Distribution: 150 mosquito nets to be distributed at Daspur Ramakrishna Sevasram. Rtn. Dr. Subrata Lahiri volunteered to donate 50 mosquito nets. Other members also pledged contributions, completing the required quota of 150 nets.**  
**HPV Vaccination Project: planning in progress; details to be finalised shortly.**  
**Thalassemia Awareness Project: to be conducted at Joypur Panchanan College.**
- 5. Club Secretary, Rtn. Shubhayan, conducted the club business.**
- 6. President Bandaru confirmed the minutes of the last meeting and terminated the meeting.**

# **United We Give**

## **Join Our Charity and Empower Others**

