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MEET VANDANA AWARDEE 2024-25 - DR. K. PRAKASH SHETTY



Born into the humble family of late K. Madhava Shetty and late Smt. Ratna M. Shetty, Dr. Korangrapady Prakash Shetty first saw the world on July 21, 1959, in the serene surroundings of Korangrapady. His journey from a small town boy to a global tycoon is a testament to his tenacity and perseverance. In the tapestry of life, Dr. K. Prakash Shetty's personal realm is as vibrant as his professional. He is united in matrimony with the esteemed Mrs. Asha Prakash Shetty, Dr Prakash Shetty, a true family man, has always strived to strike a harmonious balance between his personal and professional life. Their lineage is further graced by their son, Mr. Gaurav Shetty, who is harmoniously wedded to Mrs. Anushka Shetty. The name 'MRG' is a heartfelt tribute to his family: 'M' for his late father, Madhav, 'R' for his late mother, Ratna, and 'G' for his son, Gaurav, the current Managing Director of the company.

Founded in 1993, the MRG Group embarked on its journey with its first venture, a stand-alone restaurant named 'Banjara'. This humble beginning marked the genesis of a legacy. The success of Banjara was just the first step in a journey of growth and expansion. Today, the MRG Group, under the brand 'Goldfinch', has blossomed into a renowned name in the hospitality and real estate industry across India. From a single restaurant to a nationwide brand, the MRG Group's journey is a testament to the power of vision, perseverance, and leadership. His culinary mastery took center stage when he was appointed as the official caterer for the 4th National Games in Karnataka in 1997, and the 5th National Games in Manipur in 1999. In recognition of his unparalleled contributions to social work and community upliftment, Dr. K. Prakash Shetty was conferred the prestigious Honorary Doctorate Award by Mangalore University. In 2004, the inception of the Goldfinch chain of hotels in Bengaluru signified the commencement of a remarkable journey. The vision and tenacity led to the brand's proliferation to Mangaluru, Mumbai, Delhi, and the picturesque Goa. The most ambitious endeavor to date is the integrated township, Goldfinch City, in his cherished hometown, Mangaluru. His enterprises currently offer direct and indirect employment to 3,000 individuals, thereby supporting thousands of families. He was awarded the Visionary Hotel Owner of the Year award from IDE Global, the esteemed Karnataka Rajyotsava award in 2019, the Bunts Stars Achievers Award in 2020, Indian Affairs Visionary Leader of the Year - 2020 and the Lifetime Achievement Award by the Times Group in 2021. In 2019, a grand festivity, 'Prakashabhinandana', was held to honor the 60-year legacy of Dr. Prakash Shetty. The Asha Prakash Shetty Sahaya Hastha Yojane' begun with a modest sum has now amplified to an astonishing five crores, impacting the lives of people from all walks of life. In the face of the COVID-19 Pandemic, he ensured no one in coastal Karnataka went without a meal. His generosity reached over 20,000 families who received essential food kits. Every Thursday, a wave of generosity sweeps across the properties of Dr. Prakash Shetty. It's called 'Ahara', a Sanskrit word for food. From Delhi to Mumbai to Bengaluru to Mangaluru, the aroma of kindness fills the streets as lunch is served to those in need. In times of natural calamities, be it the floods in North Karnataka, Kodagu, or Bethangady, Dr. K. Prakash Shetty's team from the MRG group was always at the forefront of relief efforts. As the Honorary President of the Karnataka State Hotel and Restaurant Owners Association. Dr. Shetty has made a significant impact by inaugurating the Bunts Sangha RNS Vidyaniketan 2 school. He is serving Chairman of the governing council, He's a patron of our cultural heritage, aiding in the renovation and construction of temples. His benevolence extends to Blind schools and Orphanages. One of his notable achievements is the inauguration of the Mulki Sundaram Shetty Memorial Auditorium in Mulki, His contributions also include numerous community halls named after Asha Prakash Shetty. He has been instrumental in promoting Kambala, a traditional annual buffalo race that is a significant part of the region's cultural heritage. Mr. Shetty has now taken the initiative to bring Kambala to Bengaluru. Dari Deepa, a compelling narrative, chronicles the remarkable 60-year journey of Dr. Prakash Shetty. Adding another jewel to Dr. Prakash Shetty's legacy is 'Hombelaku'. This book, meaning 'Bright Light', mirrors the essence of his name, Prakash, which also signifies 'Light'. As the respected President of the Padubidri Malingshwara Temple Renovation Committee, he is passionately working towards revitalizing the sacred space of our ancestors, Dr. Prakash Shetty has been appointed the Chairman of the Buntara Yaane Naadavara Maathra Sangha Centenary Building Committee.

President Speaks



Dear Rotarians,

The Annual Vandana Award presentation programme would be held in the family dinner meeting of our club to be held at Hotel Moti Mahal at 8.00 p.m. today. I would like to thank Dr. Prakash Shetty, Chairman MRG Group Bengaluru for agreeing to accept the Award. I would also like to thank Dr. Anupam Agrawal, Mangaluru City Police Commissioner for agreeing to be the Chief Guest of the function. Assistant Governor, Zone 2, RI Dist 3181 2024-25 Rtn PP PHF K.M. Hegde and RI Dist District Rotaract Representative Rtn/Rtr Sanjay are also welcomed to the function., Rtn PHF Nithin

Shetty is the host of today's dinner. I thank him profusely! Chairman of the Vandana Award Committee Rtn PDG MD Dr. B. Devdas Rai is the sponsor of the Vandana Award. I thank him! The 19th Annual Rotary Awareness Quiz organized by our Club was a success! I congratulate the winner Rtn MPH PP Harish from Rotary Club of Maysore Vijayanagar for winning the 1st prize and Rtn PP MD Dr. Sooryanarayana, Rtn PP MPH Pramila Rao from Rotary Club of Puttur East for winning the 2nd Prize in the quiz. The quiz master Rtn PDG MD. Dr. B. Devdas Rai is congratulated for an excellent job done! I also thank him for contributing an amount of Rs. 10,000 to the RI Dist 3181 conference 2024-25 committee. Rtn MPH B. N. Ravindra is congratulated for receiving his 3rd level PHF PIN in the dinner meeting of our club. I thank all the members of our club who participated in the HONGIRANA project and the Community Service project held at the District Commissioner's office. The Press Conference held on the Vandana Award programme at Mangaluru Press Club was successful. Our Club President Elect Rtn Bhasker Rai Katta is congratulated for being felicitated at Koppal and Rtn Nagendra is congratulated for being felicitated with the Kala Ratna, Dr. Rajkumar Abhimani Balaga Award in Mangaluru. John Dr. Srajan Raj Shetty (S/o Rtn Jagannath Shetty) is congratulated for securing the 10th Rank in RGUHS final year MBBS Medicine Exam. The Speeches by Rtn PP PHF Anil Baliga and Rtn Harish were of the highest standards. Our President Elect Rtn Bhasker Rai Katta, Our Secretary Elect Rtn Vikas Kotian and Zonal Lieutenant designate RI Dist 3181, Zone 2, 2025-26, Rtn PP PHF Ravi Jalan are congratulated for participating in the Pre PELS/Pre SELS of Zone 1,2,3 RI Dist 3181 held at Rotary Bala Bhavan.

Yours in Rotary
Rtn. PHF Brian Pinto
President

Secretary's Report



The following activities were conducted by our club from **28.02.2025**.

28.02.2025 - The 19th RI Dist 3181 Rotary Awareness Quiz was held in the family dinner meeting of our club held at Hotel Moti Mahal from 8.00 p.m. - 10.00 p.m. 12 Clubs participated in the Quiz.

28.02.2025 - Rtn MPH B.N. Ravindra received his 3rd level PHF Pin in the family dinner meeting of our club held at Hotel Moti Mahal at 9.15 p.m.

06.03.2025 - The meeting of the Board of Directors of the Club for the month of March was held at Hotel Woodlands at 8.00 p.m.

07.03.2025 - The Monthly Business Meeting of the Club was held at Hotel Moti Mahal at 8.00 p.m.

08.03.2025 - RI Dist 3181 Counsellor Rtn PDG MD Dr. B. Devdas Rai contributed an amount of Rs. 10,000 to the RI Dist 3181 Conference Committee 24-25

10.03.2025 - 11 of our members and Anns participated in Project Hongirana held at Hongirana Mangaluru from 4.30 p.m. - 6.00 p.m.

14.03.2025 - Rtn PP PHF Anil Baliga (Rotary Club of Mangalore Downtown) addressed our members on Water and Sanitation in the weekly club meeting held at Hotel Moti Mahal at 8.00 p.m.

21.03.2025 - Rtn Harisha C.P. delivered his classification talk in the weekly club meeting held at Hotel Moti Mahal at 8.00 p.m.

22.03.2025 - 2 of our members attended the Zonal Review meeting of Zones 2,3 held at Eden Club at 7.30 p.m.

23.03.2025 - 3 of our members attended the Pre PELS/Pre SELS/ of RI Dist 3181 Zones 1,2,3, held at Rotary Bala Bhavan from 9.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.

24.03.2025 - 12 of our members and Anns attended the Jeeva Jala Ulisi Abhiyana held at Dist Commissioner office, Mangaluru at 9.30 a.m.

25.03.2025 - Our Club conducted a press conference regarding Vandana Award at Press Club, Mangaluru. at 10.45 a.m.

Yours in Rotary
Rtn. PHF Rajesh Seetharama
Secretary

Between you and me...



Dear Rotarians,

The Annual Vandana Award presentation programme which will be held today was initiated in the year 1996 by the Rotaract Club of Mangalore City (sponsored by our Club). It was then a Vocational Service Award. The Rotary Club of Mangalore Central got involved in the programme from 2004 and the Award was converted to an Achiever's Award from that year. A distinguished galaxy of achievers have received the Award down the years. The Awardee this year is Dr. K. Prakash Shetty, Chairman MRG Group Bengaluru who is receiving the Award for Hotel Industry achievements. His Bio Data is enclosed in this issue of Centor. I thank him for agreeing to accept the Award. I would also like to thank Rtn PHF Nithn Shetty, senior member of our club for convincing Dr. K. Prakash Shetty to accept the award. The Chief Guest of the function Mr. Anupam Agrawal, Mangaluru City Police Commissioner and the Guests of Honor, Assistant Governor Zone 2, RI Dist 3181 2024-25 Rtn PP PHF K.M. Hegde, RI Dist 3181 District Rotaract Representative Rtn/Rtr Sanjay are also welcomed to the meeting. Special thanks would go to Rtn Ramdas for sponsoring the March issues of Centor.

Yours in Rotary
Rtn. PDG MD Dr. B. Devdas Rai,
Editor

NANO TECHNOLOGY IS MY PASSION - RTN HARISHA C.P.

Delivering his classification talk in the weekly club meeting held at Hotel Moti Mahal on Friday, the 21st of February, 2025 at 8.00 p.m., Rtn Harisha C.P. went into details of his life. He also released the weekly Centor. He was presented a memento by Rtn PP Sai Baba Rao, Rtn Manjunath K.N. rendered the invocation. Club President Rtn PHF Brian Pinto welcomed and conducted the proceedings. Club Secretary Rtn PHF Rajesh Seetharama made the announcements. Chairman of the Vandana Awards Committee, Rtn PDG MD Dr. B. Devdas Rai gave an update of the Vandana Award Programme scheduled to be held on 28.03.2025 at Hotel Moti Mahal. Rtn Sheldon Crasta proposed the vote of thanks. The formal meeting was followed by National Anthem.

ZONAL REVIEW MEETING

The Zonal Review meeting of RI Dist 3181 Zones 2,3 for the month of March was held at Eden Aquatic and Sports Foundation, Nanthoor at 7.30 p.m. on Saturday, the 22nd March 2025. The meeting was organized by Assistant Governor Zone 2, RI Dist 3181 2024-25 Rtn MPH Vishwanath Shetty, Assistant Governor Zone 2, RI Dist 3181 2024-25, Rtn PP PHF K.M. Hegde, Assistant Governor Zone 3, RI Dist 3181 2024-25 Rtn MD Dr. R. K. Ranjan and Assistant Governor Zone 3, RI Dist 3181 2024-25 Rtn MPH Ashok. Zonal Activities for the month of March were discussed in the meeting. The meeting was hosted by Rotary Club of Mangalore Metro. Our Club was represented by Club Secretary Rtn PHF Rajesh Seetharama (In addition to the Rtn already mentioned)

JEEVA JALA ULISI ABHIYANA

"Jeeva Jala Ulisi Abhiyana" a environment friendly project which involved many environment friendly activities was conducted by our club jointly with the DK District Administrator, Indian Red Cross Society, Parisara Adyayana Kendra and Youth Red Cross Society (Mangaluru University) at District Commissioner office Mangaluru at 9.30 a.m. Bird feeding kits were distributed to 105 children on the occasion (costing Rs 15000 which was borne by our club through the Rotary Mangalore Central Foundation). Present on the occasion were Mr. Mullai Mugilan (DC of Dk Dist) Rtn PP MPH Shantaram Shetty (Rotary Club of Mangalore East), Club President Rtn PHF Brian Pinto, Club Secretary Rtn PHF Rajesh Seetharama, Club President Elect Rtn Bhasker Rai Katta, Mr. Srinivas Nayak and Mr. P.B. Harish Rai, Rtn PP PHF Ravi Jalan, Rtn IPP Rajesh Shetty, Rtn Ramdas, Rtn Janardan Alva, Rtn Manjunath, Rtn Murali Nair, Rtn Joy Dsouza, Ann PHF Pramila Hegde, Ann Veena Pinto.

PRE PRESIDENT ELECT LEARNING SEMINAR / PRE SECRETARY ELECT LEARNING SEMINAR (PRE PELS/PRE SELS) ZONES, 1,2,3, RI DIST 3181

The Pre President Elect Learning Seminar / Pre Secretary Elect Learning Seminar (Pre PELS/Pre SELS) of RI Dist 3181 Zones 1,2,3 was held at Rotary Bala Bhavan, Mangaluru on Sunday, the 23rd March 2025 from 9.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m. The programme was inaugurated by Rtn PDG MD Ranganath Bhat (who was also a resource person of the meet). Other resource persons included Rtn PP MPH Vinayaka Prabhu, Assistant Governor, Zone 1, RI Dist 3181 25-26, Rtn PP MD Robert Franklin Rego, (who co-hosted the event), Assistant Governor Zone 2, RI Dist 3181 2025-26, Rtn PP MPH Shantaram Shetty (who co-hosted the event), Assistant Governor, Zone 2, RI Dist 3181 2025-26, Rtn PP MPH Channagiri Gowda (who co-hosted the event), Assistant Governor Zone 3, RI Dist 3181 2025-26 Rtn PP MD Rajani Bhat (who co-hosted the event) and Assistant Governor, Zone 3, RI Dist 3181 2025-26 Rtn PP PHF Dr. Ravi Shankar Rao (Who co-hosted the event). Our club was represented by Zonal Lieutenant Zone 2, RI Dist 3181 2025-26 Rtn PP PHF Ravi Jalan, Club President Elect Rtn Bhasker Rai Katta and Club Secretary Elect Rtn Vikas Kotian.

PRESS CONFERENCE

A Press Conference regarding the Vandana Award programme was held at Mangaluru Press Club by our Club on Tuesday, 25th of March 2025 at 10.45 a.m. Present on the occasion were Chairman of the Vandana Award committee Rtn PDG MD Dr. B. Devdas Rai. Our Club President Rtn PHF Brian Pinto, President of the Rotaract Club of Mangalore City Rtr Biddappa Rtn M.V. Mallya, Our Club Secretary Rtn PHF Rajesh Seetharama, Club President Elect Rtn Bhasker Rai and Secretary of the Rotaract Club Rtr Akshay Rai.

Photo Gallery



Release of Centor by the hosts of the Family Dinner Meeting for February

The Prize Winners of the 19th Annual Rotary Dist 3181 Rotary Awareness Quiz



Photo Gallery



Rtn MPHF B N Ravindra receiving the 3rd level MPHF PIN in the Family Dinner Meeting of our club for February

Board Meeting of the Club for March

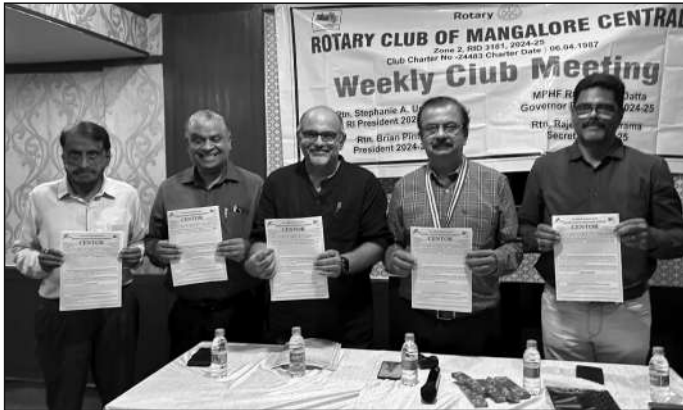


Release of Centor by Rtn Saji P.R. in the Business Meeting of our club for March

Project Hongirana conducted by our Club.



Photo Gallery



Release of Centor by Rtn PP PHF Anil Baliga

Release of Centor by Rtn Harisha CP



**Our Club delegates seen at
Pre PELS/Pre SELS, Zones 123 , RI District 3181**

Project Jeeva Jala Ulisi Abiyana



Photo Gallery



Press Conference conducted by our club regarding Vandana Award program

Felicitation of Rtn Bhasker Rai Katta at Koppal by the Karnataka Working Journalists Association.



Rtn Nagendra being felicitated by Dr. Rajkumar Abhimani Balaga at Mangaluru.

Rtn Nagendra receiving the Kala Ratna award in Mangaluru



MEMBERS/ANNS/ANNETS/JOHNS/LORDS IN THE NEWS

- Rtn PDG MD Dr B. Devdas Rai was the Guest of Honor of a free eye check up camp held at Mangaluru Press Club on Tuesday, 25.03.2025 at 10.00 a.m. Many Congratulations Rtn Dr. Rai!
- Our Club President Elect Rtn Bhasker Rai was the Guest of Honor of a free eye check up camp held at Mangaluru Press Club on Tuesday, 25.03.2025 at 10.00 a.m. Many Congratulations Rtn Rai!
- Rtn PHF S.S. Nayak was the Anchor of "Business Tonic" programme broadcasted by Namma Kudla 24 x 7 News Channel on Sunday, 23.03.2025 at 10.00 a.m. Many Congratulations Rtn S.S. Nayak!
- Rtn Nagendra was felicitated by the Dr. Rajkumar Abhimanigala Balaga at Mangaluru Town Hall recently. Many Congratulations Rtn Nagendra!

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

26th March 2025: Ann Lekha & Rtn Jayaprakash Shetty

With Best Compliments From:

Rtn. RAMADAS

Member, Rotary Club of Mangalore Central

THIS MEETING

28.03.2025 - FRIDAY - HOTEL MOTI MAHAL - 8.00 P.M. - VANDANA AWARD PROGRAMME

THE ANNUAL VANDANA AWARD PRESENTATION PROGRAMME CONDUCTED BY OUR CLUB JOINTLY WITH ROTARACT CLUB OF MANGALORE CITY (SPONSORED BY OUR CLUB) WOULD BE HELD IN THE FAMILY DINNER MEETING OF OUR CLUB FOR MARCH TO BE HELD AT HOTEL MOTI MAHAL ON FRIDAY, THE 28th OF MARCH 2025 AT 8.00 P.M.

THE VANDANA AWARDEE THIS YEAR IS DR. K. PRAKASH SHETTY, CHAIRMAN MRG GROUP BENGALURU.

THE CHIEF GUEST IS MR. ANUPAM AGRAWAL, MANGALORE CITY POLICE COMMISSIONER. THE GUESTS OF HONOR ARE ASSISTANT GOVERNOR ZONE 2, RI DIST. 3181 2024-25, RTN PP PHF K.M. HEGDE (OUR CLUB) AND DISTRICT ROTARACT REPRESENTATIVE RI DIST 3181 2024-25, RTR/RTN SANJAY (ROTARACT CLUB OF MYSORE) THE DINNER

IS HOSTED BY RTN PHF NITHIN SHETTY, ANN LAVANYA FAMILY. THE AWARD IS SPONSORED BY CHAIRMAN OF THE AWARD COMMITTEE RTN PDG MD DR. B. DEVDAS RAI. WE THANK THEM FOR THEIR GENEROSITY! -

PLEASE ATTEND THE FUNCTION WITH FAMILY

BOARD MEETING

03.04.2025 - Thursday - Hotel Woodlands - 8.00 p.m. The meeting of the Board of Directors of the club for April would be held at Hotel Woodlands on Thursday, the 03rd of April 2025 at 8.00 p.m. All Board members are requested to attend.

NEXT MEETING

04.04.2025 - FRIDAY - KANARA CLUB, KADRI - 8.00 P.M. - BUSINESS MEETING - PLEASE ATTEND

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