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NEXT MEETING

Wednesday
28th August 2024
at 7.00 PM
at Rotary Balbhavan

Speaker:
Rtn. Vijay Narayan Govind



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GENERATIVE AI FOR LEADERS: INSIGHTS FROM MR. KRISHNAKUMAR



In a rapidly evolving technological landscape, generative AI stands out as a transformative force, particularly in leadership and strategic innovation. This was the focal point of a recent talk by Mr. Krishnakumar, an esteemed leader in generative AI and digital transformation, during a casual yet enlightening session.

Mr. Krishnakumar, with over 15 years of experience in the industry, has been at the forefront of integrating AI into various business domains. As the CEO of Green Pepper, he has successfully conducted over 50 generative AI workshops, engaging more than 2,000 participants across sectors such as enterprises, education, healthcare, startups, and financial services.

In his talk, Mr. Krishnakumar emphasized the role of AI as a co-worker and

thinking companion for leaders, rather than a tool to replace human intelligence. He pointed out that AI, when utilized effectively, can help leaders overcome the challenge of “professional loneliness,” where they often lack peers to share and refine their ideas. By co-working with AI, leaders can expand their thinking, explore numerous options, and make more informed decisions.

He shared practical use cases of generative AI in leadership. One example was using AI to analyze complex documents, such as a 100-page technical report, and extract key insights in a matter of minutes. This ability to quickly digest and organize information allows leaders to focus on strategic decision-making rather than getting bogged down in details.

Another significant use case discussed was “first principles thinking,” a method popularized by Elon Musk. Mr. Krishnakumar demonstrated how AI could be used to break down complex problems into their fundamental components, enabling leaders to approach challenges with a fresh perspective. This approach is particularly valuable in scenarios where existing assumptions need to be challenged, and innovative solutions are required.

Furthermore, Mr. Krishnakumar addressed the integration of AI into routine tasks, such as increasing meeting attendance or improving the efficiency of knowledge work. He highlighted how AI can generate multiple solutions to problems, allowing leaders to explore various possibilities before making a decision. This enhances creativity and broadens the scope of traditional problem-solving methods.



The discussion also touched upon the role of AI in education, where tools like ChatGPT are becoming increasingly prevalent. Mr. Krishnakumar acknowledged concerns about AI potentially diminishing critical thinking skills but argued that when used correctly, AI can enhance cognitive processes by serving as a tool for analysis and deeper understanding rather than merely providing answers.

In conclusion, Mr. Krishnakumar's insights underscored the importance of embracing generative AI as a strategic partner in leadership.

By leveraging AI's capabilities, leaders can enhance their decision-making processes, drive innovation, and navigate the complexities of today's business environment more effectively. As generative AI continues to evolve, its role in leadership is likely to become even more integral, offering new ways to unlock potential and achieve success.

INDIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY: A TRIBUTE TO FREEDOM AND PROGRESS

India celebrates its Independence Day on August 15th with pride and patriotic fervour, marking the historic day in 1947 when the country broke free from the shackles of British colonial rule. It is a day to reflect upon the sacrifices made by countless freedom fighters, the principles that shaped our democracy, and the strides India has made as a sovereign nation.

The struggle for independence was long and arduous. For nearly two centuries, India endured colonial exploitation, but the fire of freedom burned in the hearts of its people. Leaders like Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru, Sardar Patel, Subhas



Chandra Bose, and countless others, from all walks of life, united under one cause: to restore the country's dignity and self-rule.

The Significance of Independence Day

Independence Day is not just about commemorating the end of colonialism. It is a day that reminds every Indian of the power of unity, perseverance, and the collective will to uphold democratic values. Our Constitution, adopted in 1950, remains a guiding beacon of liberty, justice, and equality.

Each year, the day is celebrated across the country with flag hoisting, parades, cultural performances, and speeches reflecting on India's journey. The national anthem rings through the air, and citizens from diverse backgrounds come together to honour the tricolour flag, which symbolizes courage, peace, and progress.

India's Progress Post-Independence

Since gaining independence, India has witnessed tremendous growth and transformation. From being an agricultural economy to becoming one of the world's fastest-growing economies, India's journey is one of resilience and innovation. The country's achievements in science, technology, space exploration,

infrastructure, education, and healthcare are testaments to the vision of its early leaders.

India's democracy, the largest in the world, stands strong today despite the challenges it faces. Elections that engage millions of citizens, a free press, and a robust legal system contribute to the nation's vibrant democratic fabric.

Challenges Ahead

While there is much to celebrate, India still faces numerous challenges. Poverty, inequality, unemployment, environmental degradation, and the need for better healthcare and education are pressing concerns. It is essential for every citizen to continue striving towards making India not only a prosperous country but also one that ensures dignity and opportunity for all its people.

Independence Day serves as a reminder that the work of building a strong nation is ongoing. The baton of progress must be passed from one generation to the next, ensuring that the dream of a just and inclusive India is fulfilled.

Role of Service Organizations like Rotary

In this journey, organizations like Rotary play a crucial role. Rotarians have been at the forefront of community service, supporting education, healthcare, sanitation, and disaster relief initiatives across India. Their dedication to service above self-aligns with the values of an independent nation committed to social upliftment.

On this Independence Day, Rotarians and citizens alike can take a moment to reflect on the role they play in shaping India's future. By embracing the spirit of service, kindness, and unity, we honour the legacy of those who fought for our freedom.

A Call to Action

As we celebrate this day, let us renew our pledge to uphold the values of freedom, equality, and justice. Let us work together to build an India where every citizen can live with dignity, where innovation thrives, and where the essence of our rich culture and heritage remains vibrant.

By Rtn. Prathik Nayar



Rotary Club of Cochin celebrated the 77th Indian Independence day by hoisting the Indian flag at Balbhavan.

SANGKOO YUN IS SELECTED TO BE 2026-27 ROTARY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT



Sangkoo Yun, of the Rotary Club of Sae Hanyang, Seoul, Korea, is the selection of the nominating committee to become Rotary International's president for 2026-27. He will be officially declared the president-nominee on 15 September if no other candidates challenge him.

Yun received his bachelor's and master's degrees from the Syracuse University School of Architecture in the U.S. and an honorary doctoral degree from The University of Edinburgh, Scotland. He is the founder and CEO of Dongsuh Corp., which engineers and markets architectural materials, and the president of Youngan Corp., which operates in real estate and financial investment. He is involved in many civic organizations and has a special interest in the preservation of cultural heritage.

A Rotary member since 1987, when he was a charter member of the Rotary Club of Sae Hanyang, Yun has served Rotary International as a director, trustee, committee member and chair, and RI learning facilitator. He served for eight years as co-chair of the Keep Mongolia Green Project, by Korean members of Rotary. His RI committee roles include the Board Administration Committee (2013-15, vice chair 2014-15), the International Assembly Committee (vice chair, 2020-21), and the End Polio Now Countdown to History Campaign Committee (regional vice chair, 2023-27). He also served on The Rotary Foundation's Executive Committee (2019-22, chair 2020-21) and Programs Committee (2019-22, chair 2020-22).

Yun received The Rotary Foundation's Distinguished Service Award in 2021-22. He was appointed an Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire by Queen Elizabeth II, awarded the Friendship Medal by the president of Mongolia, and recognized for distinguished services by the president and prime minister of Korea. He is a veteran of the Republic of Korea Army and an emeritus elder at Andong Presbyterian Church.

Yun and his spouse, Eunsun, are Rotary Foundation Benefactors, Major Donors, and members of the Arch Klumph Society, the Paul Harris Society, and the Bequest Society. They have two children.



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| Rtn. PP Joseph Philip | 25 Aug |
| Rtn. K. Mathew Abraham | 28 Aug |



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| Rtn. K.S. Vasanth Kumar / Rtn. Prabha | 24 Aug |
| Rtn. Dr. P.T. Mathew / Rtn. Jessy Mathew | 24 Aug |
| Rtn. PP Algiers Khalid / Rtn. Dr. Zareena | 25 Aug |
| Rtn. PP Sundar Rajagopal / Rtn. Girija | 25 Aug |
| Rtn. PP M.A. John / Rtn. Suja | 27 Aug |