



Francesco Arezzo
RI President 2025-26



Dr. Kameswar S. Elangbam
District Governor RID 3240



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WEEKLY NEWSLETTER / ROTARY CLUB OF SHILLONG

Vol 65, Issue 35 | Date 6 March 2026 | Editor : Rtn. S.R.Joshi



Chief Guest, Dr. S.P. Agarwala, Director NESAC and the Awardees with the Rotary vocational Award 2025-26 during the Award Ceremony organised and hosted by Rotary Club of Shillong on 2nd March 2026 at Shillong Club premises.

Rotary Club of Shillong: Vocational Awards: 2025-26

The Rotary Club of Shillong honoured five distinguished institutions/organisations with the Vocational Award , 2025-26, for their outstanding service to humanity. The exemplary humanitarian service which contributed to social transformation was the criterion for this year's selection of the Awardees and they included, Seng Biria U Khasi (SBUK), Roilang Livelihood Academy, Gurudwara Sri Guru Singh Sabha (Shillong), Ramakrishna Mission Sohra and Impulse NGO Network. The award ceremony was held in the august presence of Dr. S.P. Agarwala, Director, NESAC as the Chief Guest and Dr. K.S. Elangbam as the District Governor.



Rtn. Deepak Sarin was felicitated for completing 25 years in Rotary. He is seen receiving the recognition from DG, Dr. K.S. Elangbam.

Rotary's eighth Peace Center inaugurated at Symbiosis, Pune

Most of the conflicts that our world is facing today are the result of fear and failure to understand the other side. Many people speak about “peace as if it is only the absence of war, but peace is much more than that. Peace is the presence of trust, understanding, justice. It is the daily work of building bridges and helping people live free from poverty, hate and prejudice, because these things create conflict and destroy peace,” said RI President Francesco Arezzo. He was participating in the inaugural ceremony of Rotary's eighth Peace Center in the world, and first in South Asia. This centre is located at the sprawling 400-plus acre campus of the Symbiosis International University (SIU) in Pune, Maharashtra.

Peace cannot exist without freedom, and respect for the dignity of every human being. But we live in a strange time, when people have more freedom than ever, but too often this freedom “serves only their ego. We forget our duty to care for humanity. We live close to other people, but we feel far from them and are lonely in a crowd. When you are lonely in a crowd, fear grows. In many parts of the world, people fear an uncertain future. They fear losing their identity and fear strangers who have been shown as evil and dangerous.”

The saddest part, Arezzo said, was that both sides related “the same story” — fear on both sides became a weapon. But fear cannot be defeated by running away, or aggression. Giving the example of a child who fears darkness or hearing sounds at night, he said these fears are resolved not through armed guards but information. Knowledge was the first step toward peace. And this was the purpose of a Rotary Peace Center, “which helps to replace fear with understanding and turn confusion into clarity. It teaches skills that reduce conflict and support cooperation, trains people to listen well, build trust and solve disputes without violence.”

That is why Rotary invests in peace centres, in order to “build peace, not only for today, but for the long future.” His theme for this year — *Unite for Good* — was more than a slogan. “It is a challenge to build peace in ourselves, in our communities and in our world. To unite for good doesn't mean we are all the same, or we erase our differences. It means we refuse to treat differences as enemies, and we choose to work together, even, and particularly, when it is not easy.”

The newest Rotary Peace Center established at the Symbiosis International University in Pune will provide a fully-funded one-year PG diploma programme in Peace and Development Studies to its scholars. Rotary's peace programmes are designed and targeted at mid-career professionals working in various fields in government and private sectors that deal with welfare, development, law and order, judicial systems, and so on. The Pune centre will give an opportunity to professionals within Asia and Asian communities.

GREETINGS

Rtn.(Dr.) K.S. Elangbam , DG, celebrates his birthday on 8th March
Members of RC Shillong wish you many happy returns of the day !!