



MESSAGE FROM RI PRESIDENT

Let action define us

At last month's International Assembly, President - elect Olayinka "Yinka" Hakeem Babalola called on members of the Rotary world to live out our presidential message for the 2026-27 Rotary year: Create Lasting Impact. This February, as we observe Peacebuilding and Conflict Prevention Month, we have an opportunity to channel Yinka's call to action into real change. Peace is not simply the absence of war. A life free from conflict but marked by hunger, instability, or the inability to care for one's family is not true peace. Peace requires liberty, opportunity, and respect for human dignity. Yet fear often blocks that path — fear of change, of cultural loss, of people we don't understand. Fear isn't defeated through avoidance or aggression. Knowledge is the first step toward peace. Rotary embraces this idea. Our Rotary Peace Centers and their peace fellows, along with other peace education initiatives, demonstrate how knowledge builds trust and helps communities find solutions to conflict.

In Colombia, decades of conflict have left deep wounds. The 2025 Rotary Foundation Programs of Scale awardee, Pathways to Peace and Prosperity, partners with the United Nations World Food Programme to expand opportunity, improve conflict resolution, and connect people with social services. Its goal is to break cycles of violence, poverty, and food insecurity so peace can take root.

In Maharashtra, India, People of Action honoree Swati Herkal built peace through prosperity. Her project confronted farmers' declining soil health, rising debt, and illness caused by chemical fertilisers.

She and her Rotary partners launched a regenerative agriculture programme that revitalised the land, lowered costs, and restored stability. More than 1,100 farmers now participate and over 50 villages have adopted the model. Rotary also advances peace by restoring dignity. In Chad, Rotary Peace Fellow Domino Frank discovered that more than 1,500 women who fought in a rebellion had been erased from reintegration programmes. His advocacy led to Chad's first Rotary Foundation global grant and the creation of Corridors of Peace. More than 100 women — triple the goal — completed literacy and vocational training and formed a cooperative to support their families. From Colombia to India to Chad, the lesson is clear: Peace is not a dream. It is the result of sustained action with a focus on true, lasting impact. To replicate these successes, Rotary clubs can take three steps: Learn from peace fellows and other peace experts in our organisation, apply a peacebuilding lens to community assessments, and prioritise impact over ceremony. In a world filled with fear, Rotary cannot be satisfied with half-measures and empty words. If we are truly people of action, then action must define us. Together, we can Create Lasting Impact — across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves. with Rotary Greetings!

Francesco Arezzo

President

Rotary International



HEALTHY AGEING

Talk show by LGBRIMH



Rotary Club of Tezpur

Healthy Ageing:
Promoting Physical, Mental & Emotional Well-being in Later Life

Date: 11 March 2026 | Time: 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM | Venue: Hotel KRC, Tezpur

Resource Persons:

- Dr. Neha B. Kulkarni
Assistant Professor, Dept. of Psychiatry
LGBRIMH, Tezpur
- Dr. Elamarugu Manickam
Assistant Professor, Dept. of Psychiatry, Social Work
LGBRIMH, Tezpur

Organizer:
Mr. Y. Kiron, Lab Technician
LGBRIMH, Tezpur

Project Chairmen:
Dr. Neha B. Kulkarni
Dr. Elamarugu Manickam

Interactive Session: Q&A

Vote of Thanks:
By a Member of the Rotary Club of Tezpur

Rtn. Ratnashil Sharma
President 2025-26
Rotary Club of Tezpur

Rtn. Mukul Borotra
Project Chairman
Rotary Club of Tezpur

All are cordially invited • Entry by invitation




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TRUSTEE CHAIR'S MESSAGE

Rotary's focus turns to two themes this month. March is Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Month, and we celebrate World Rotaract Week 11-17 March. Both WASH and Rotaract are near and dear to me. Clean water, basic sanitation, and proper hygiene are fundamental human rights, yet a staggering 2.2 billion people still lack access to safe drinking water. We're taking action. Over the past decade, your Rotary Foundation has invested more than \$180 million in over 2,500 water and sanitation projects worldwide. Rotary is on the ground making a difference through global grant-supported projects funded by your contributions to the Foundation. But Rotary can't do it alone. We have partnered with organizations like USAID to deliver large-scale solutions. The Rotary-USAID Partnership has helped thousands access water and sanitation services in the Dominican Republic, Ghana, the Philippines, and Uganda. Our Foundation is the connector for other water partnerships, too. This was the case when I worked with leaders from Rotary District 7020 to set up the Haiti National Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Initiative, known as HANWASH. Foundation grants continue to play a critical role in our strategy of working with nongovernmental organizations, municipalities, and government agencies in communities throughout Haiti. Rotary efforts to connect people with clean water go beyond providing a basic necessity. We are paving the way for healthier communities and brighter futures, and doing so in a sustainable manner. With access to water, communities enhance education levels, improve health, and further development. When we talk about partnerships, we can't forget our closest ally, right here in the family of Rotary: Rotaract. The engagement, energy, and ideas of Rotaract complement the experience of Rotary clubs and increase our collective impact. Yet many Rotary members still do not know that, as of 2022, Rotaract club activities can be included in district grants, and they are eligible for global grants, expanding avenues for collaboration. I encourage all Rotary and Rotaract clubs to foster closer collaboration and engagement in our Foundation, whether it's rolling up their sleeves on a project or giving. We all know that in Rotary, great opportunities are always around the corner. When you combine water and sanitation projects, Rotaract, and the Foundation, all will become a big part of your life, as they have in mine — and not just this month, but forever.

BARRY RASSIN

Foundation trustee chair.

