



# Udayan



## FORTNIGHTLY BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF GAUHATI SOUTH (RI DIST 3240)

**RI PRESIDENT**  
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Rtn Priyama Goswami

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Editor : Rtn Priyama Goswami



*"If you look at what you have in life, you'll always have more. If you look at what you don't have in life, you'll never have enough."*

**-- Oprah Winfrey**

## From the Editor

In the Rotary calendar, November is The Rotary Foundation month. We are all aware that The Rotary Foundation is a non-profit organisation that supports the efforts of Rotary International to achieve world understanding and peace through international humanitarian, educational, and cultural exchange programmes. The Rotary Foundation is organized as a public charity operated exclusively for charitable purposes and governed by a Board of Trustees.

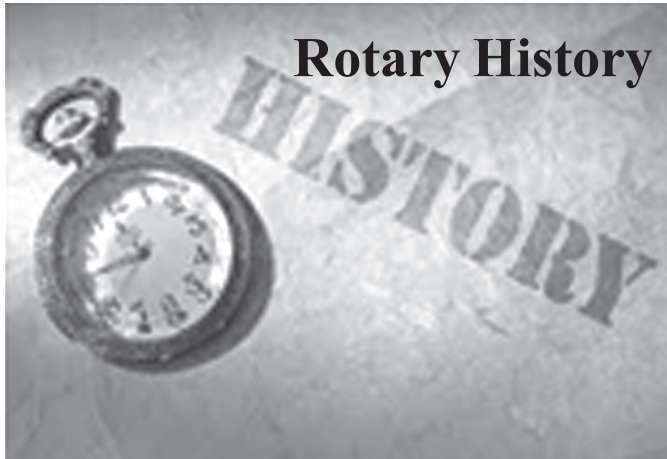
The Rotary Foundation helps Rotary members to advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace by improving health, providing quality education, improving the environment, and alleviating poverty. The Foundation is supported solely by voluntary contributions from Rotarians and friends of the Foundation who share its vision of a better world.

The Foundation was created in June 1917 by Rotary International's sixth president, Arch C. Klumph, as an endowment fund for Rotary "to do good in the world." It has grown from an initial contribution of US\$26.50 to more than US\$1 billion. Thanks to his vision and staunch advocacy, and the extraordinary generosity of Rotarians worldwide, that fund has become one of the world's leading humanitarian foundations and has spent more than \$4 billion on life-changing, sustainable projects.

Through its various programmes like the polio eradication programme, humanitarian grants programmes and educational programmes, Rotary has impacted large segments across the world. For as little as 60 cents, a child can be protected from polio; \$50 can provide clean water to help fight waterborne illness; \$500 can launch an anti-bullying campaign and create a safe environment for children.

By donating to Rotary Foundation we are able to touch the lives of countless deserving people across the globe, which otherwise would have been impossible. And equally important, our donations reach the most deserving and needy persons without any personal management hassles. The Foundation transforms our gifts into service projects that change lives both close to home and around the world. With concerted effort, we can make lives better not only in our own communities but also around the world.





## ROTARY NEWS

The earliest form of the magazine was *The Eastern Rotary Wheel*, founded and edited by Rtn. Alistar Mac Rae. It was published by A Mac Rae & Co., from Bombay in 1930. In 1947, Rtn. Alistar Mac Rae immigrated to South Africa and sold his business. The new owners continued the publication of *The Eastern Rotary Wheel*. In 1950, RI closed down its Middle Asia Office in Bombay and *The Eastern Rotary Wheel* also ceased publication.

PDG Debu Hosali from Bangalore, who was publishing the magazine Mysindia, took over the responsibility of bringing out a Rotary magazine in 1952. The first issue of *Rotary News* came out on July 15, 1952. The magazine covered areas comprising of India, Burma, Ceylon, Pakistan and Afghanistan. The magazine was printed in the Hosali printing press and in 1960, the circulation was about 7,000. This continued well into the 1960s.

In 1973, steps were taken to designate *Rotary News* as the Official Regional Magazine of Rotary International. A committee was set up to take over the magazine from its private owner, PDG Hosali. PDG Ramesh Pai, of the Manipal Group, brought out the magazine; PDG Hosali continued to be the editor while PDG Ramesh Pai was the publisher. The magazine covered the areas India, Bangladesh, Burma, Nepal, Sikkim, Sri Lanka and Pakistan.

On November 30, 1982, the Rotary News Trust was formed and registered at Udupi by PDG T. Ramesh U. Pai. The magazine was taken over by the Trust from the

Manipal Group. The first secretary of the Trust was PDG M K Panduranga Setty.

In 1983, a Hindi version of the magazine, titled *Rotary Samachar* was introduced. The first issue was released by RI President-elect William B Skelton at the Asia Zone II Institute at Calcutta on January 8, 1983. Rtn. George Paul from RC Bangalore looked after the editorial content. PDG Madhura Chatrapathy was the Associate Editor. In July 1984, RI recognised *Rotary News* and *Rotary Samachar* as the official RI Regional Magazine.

In 1988, both the magazines were taken to Bombay for publishing and PDG Jyotindra Vakil was in charge. He was the Editor of the magazines and Secretary of the Trust from 1988 to 1990.

In November 1990, the magazines were shifted to Madras and PDG B Viswanatha Reddy administered the magazine as the Editor and publisher. In addition, he served as the Secretary of the Trust. The magazine was now designated as the official magazine for India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Nepal. The first issue printed in November 1990 in Madras had 32 pages compared to the 24 pages that were being published out of Bombay.

The number of pages rose steadily and in 1966, totalling 64 pages and the magazine was printed in multi-colour. In 1998 there was a need to revamp the functioning of the magazine and in October, PDG Krishnan V Chari was made the Editor of the magazine and Secretary of the Trust.

From September 2005, Rtn. T K Balakrishnan took over as the Editor. The magazine was adjudged the 'Best Regional Magazine' then and the combined circulation of the magazines rose to 1,06,000 per month with a readership of 3,60,000.

Ms. Rasheeda Bhagat is currently the Editor of *Rotary News* and *Rotary Samachar*. She comes with 36 years of experience in Journalism and her brief is to widen the scope of the content, introduce new sections of general interest and give a fresh new look to the magazine. Today, *Rotary News* and *Rotary Samachar* enjoy a subscription base of 1,13,000 a month.

The next exciting development is to launch E version of *Rotary News*. The *Rotary News* website [www.rotarynewsonline.org](http://www.rotarynewsonline.org) was launched.



## ROTARY COMMITS FUNDS TO POLIO OUTBREAK RESPONSE IN GAZA (ROTARY INTERNATIONAL)

The recent detection of variant poliovirus type-2 isolates in environmental samples and the confirmation of a 10-month-old child who has contracted polio in Gaza is a stark reminder that as long as polio exists anywhere, it is a threat everywhere. The ongoing crisis in Gaza has contributed to reduced routine immunization rates and an increased risk of vaccine-preventable diseases, including polio. The crisis also poses a significant challenge to fully implementing disease surveillance and vaccination campaigns.

The World Health Organization (WHO) considers there to be a high risk for the spread of this polio strain within Gaza and internationally, particularly given the current situation's impact on public health services.

A humanitarian pause allowed a two-round polio vaccination campaign to begin in Gaza. The first round was successfully implemented from 1-12 September 2024 and vaccinated 559,161 children, or an estimated 95% of eligible children at the governorate level, according to independently conducted post-campaign monitoring.

The second round of the emergency polio vaccination

campaign in Gaza began on 14 October. The campaign started in Central Gaza, vaccinating children under ten years old with nOPV2, where children aged between 2-9 years old were also offered Vitamin A.

As of 23 October, the Polio Technical Committee for Gaza, including the Palestinian Ministry of Health, WHO, UNICEF, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA), and partners have been compelled to postpone the third phase of the polio vaccination campaign. This final phase aimed to vaccinate 119,279 children across northern Gaza.

The current conditions, including ongoing attacks on civilian infrastructure, continue to jeopardize people's safety and movement in northern Gaza, making it impossible for families to bring their children for vaccination safely and health workers to operate.

Rotary has committed US\$500,000 to bolster the initiative, channelling these funds through a dedicated Polio Outbreak Response Fund. This contribution represents Rotary's sustained support to the WHO in combating polio globally.



## THE 2314<sup>th</sup> WEEKLY REGULAR MEETING AND DIWALI CELEBRATIONS HELD ON 25<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER, 2024

The President called the meeting to order at 6.30 PM. After the National Anthem was rendered, President welcomed all the members, Annes . Roteract , Rotarylets and guests present.

A token of appreciation was offered to Rtn Anjana Saikia, Rtn Ranjana Lahkar, and Rtn Sunil Saikia for hosting the fellowship. This was followed by Anniversary and Birthday greetings. The president suggested that to have an experience of using e-seva portals recently launched by the Government of Assam for various revenue deposit activities, a training cum awareness session may be arranged based on the availability of an experienced state government official during a WRM. The members readily

agreed to participate in this type of useful training session. The president also informed and requested members to participate in the District Foundation seminar to be held on 17th November 2024 in Tezpur.

After this announcement, the President handed over the proceedings to Secretary Rtn. Priyama Goswami for conducting the proceedings of Diwali celebration .

The celebrations started with lighting of lamp by senior Rotarians (Rtn. Tarun Brdoloi, Rtn. Gayatri Bhattacharya, Rtn. Priyam Goswami, Rtn. Renu Goswami, Rtn Giti Bujarbarua and Rtn. Dr. Anil Mahanta). This was followed by Welcome Address by Rtn. Manjusri Baruah. Rtn. Tarun Bordoloi captivated the audience through few numbers



of Sudhakantha Bhupen Hazarika that he rendered. This was followed by a competition of lighting of Chaki (earthen lamp) which was hosted by Rtn. Dipanwita Ghosh. The first prize was cinched by Rtn. P.M.Goswami and the second prize prize by Rtn. Majushri Barua. This was followed by a beautiful dance number by Rotarylet Anumita Priyadarshini (Pahi). Everyone appreciated her beautiful performance. Rtn. Renu Goswami presented a short environmental-themed story, sparking thoughtful engagement. There was a very interesting item of interactive quiz competition related to Diwali which was conducted by Rtn. Priyam Goswami aided by Rtn. Rajesh Bhatra. Rtns. Sarat Chandra Oza, Giti Bujarbarua, Dr. Anil Mahanta, Dipak Bhagawati, Gayatri Bhattacharya, Atanu Kumar Choudhury, Priyama Goswami, Ranjana Lahkar and Nwayoti Sharma could bag the prizes. The dance number based on M. Rafi's Assamese song "*Asomire sotalote*" presentd by Rtn. Gayatree

Goswamee. It was considered to be the best item of the evening and everybody appreciated her spirit and performance and was well-received. This was followed by a lottery. The 1<sup>st</sup> prize was won by R. Pritam Mohan, 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize by Rtn. Devajyoti Hazarika and third prize by Rtn. Manjushri Barua. There was also a drawing competition which was won by Rtn. Renu Goswami and Rtn. Rnjana Lahkar. A violin recital by Rotarylet Joyshri Barua concluded the cultural segment with her splendid performance.

Secretary Rtn. Priyama Goswami reported attendance as follows: Rotarians - 30, Annes - 9, Rotaractors - 2, Rotarylets - 4, Guests - 6, totalling 49 attendees. and the Sunshine collection was 430/-.

The Vote of thanks was offered by Rtn. Dipak Chakravarty which was followed by Jatiya Sangeet.

The meeting was adjourned by the President at 8.10 PM.















## INSPIRING QUOTES BY FAMOUS ROTARIANS

*“A little bit of mercy makes the world less cold and more just.”* Pope Francis.

Just prior to becoming Pope Francis, then-Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio accepted an honorary membership of the Rotary Club of Buenos Aires. His saying aligns with Rotary’s mission to foster understanding, goodwill, and peace.

