



Rotary  
CLUB CHANDIGARH



ROTARY INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 3080

# Open Hand

WEEKLY CLUB BULLETIN OF ROTARY CLUB CHANDIGARH | ROTARY INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 3080 | INDIA

CHARTER 15227 | CHARTERED ON 10TH MAY 1958

ISSUE 06 | 12 AUGUST 2024

HOME CLUB OF RAJENDRA K SABOO  
ROTARY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT  
1991-92

STEPHANIE A. URCHICK  
ROTARY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT  
2024-25

RAJPAL SINGH  
DISTRICT GOVERNOR  
RI DISTRICT 3080

JATINDER KAPUR  
CLUB PRESIDENT

PREM MOHINDRU  
CLUB SECRETARY

## Rotarians create a better world

On Monday, August 5th, 2024, the Rotary Club gathered at Aroma to honor the doctors who participated in medical missions across India and abroad, particularly in Africa. The meeting was graced by Mr. Rajeev Verma, IAS, Advisor to the Administrator of Chandigarh, accompanied by his wife, Mrs. Rachna Verma. Also in attendance were Dr. Suman Singh, Director of Health Services UT Chandigarh, and DG Elect Rtn. Ravi Parkash.

The event began with a brief history of the Rotary medical missions, shared by PDG Madhukar Malhotra. Rotary's association with Africa dates to 1998, beginning in Uganda with the vision of serving beyond borders—an initiative aptly named “Look Beyond Yourself.” Indian Rotarian surgeons and doctors

brought advanced medical expertise to Africa, providing care to those in need and sharing their knowledge with local medical professionals. These missions have had a profound impact, with African Rotarians now deeply engaged in Rotary's mission, transforming lives—including their own.

Chief Guest Mr. Rajeev Verma expressed heartfelt gratitude to the doctors who served selflessly on these international Rotary Medical Missions, a visionary effort spearheaded by PRIP Rtn. Raja Saboo. He thanked President Rotarian Jatinder Kapoor for the invitation to honor these dedicated medical professionals. Mr. Verma emphasized the importance of individuals recognizing their responsibility to serve others and viewing the entire world as their community. He



praised Rotary as one of the finest organizations globally, where members use their energy and intellect to create a better world. Rotary's dedication to responding to community needs through various projects has earned immense goodwill and respect.

Notable Rotary initiatives include the establishment of the first PGI Sarai for patient attendants in 1987, and the WASH project, which has educated government school students about health and hygiene, including the distribution of sanitary pads, installation of sanitary vending machines, and incinerators. Mr. Verma also highlighted the vocational training setup at Rotary House and the blood bank center in Sector 37, which serves patients requiring blood.

Recently, the club established the first-ever human milk bank in Punjab, in association with Dr. B.R. Ambedkar State Institute of Medical Sciences, Mohali, to meet the needs of infants. Another remarkable initiative is the health education center, which is being set up in partnership with the UT Education Department to impart quality health education to over 50,000 students annually.

The gathering also served to honor the doctors who have served both in India and abroad, particularly in Africa, as part of the mission. On this occasion, the club felicitated

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



WE MEET EVERY MONDAY AT ROTARY HOUSE AT 6:00 PM

**NEXT** MEETING

Great Celebrations of Teej Festival, 19 August 2024, Rotary House at 6 pm

## Know Your Member

Rtn. Arun Aggarwal

Arun Aggarwal a post graduate in History and MBA



from UBS, Punjab University. After completing his study he joined his family business of

advertising and worked in this field for almost 20 years. After 20 years in advertising he had a strong urge to try something new in his carrier and shifted to Real Estate business in 2014 besides work as a training resource consultant. His wife Sonika Aggarwal is a freelance drawing teacher and an artist. He developed a passion for Social Service and before joining Rotary he was doing lot of such projects like education for students especially Covid affected, Blood Donation camps, Food for Hungry. He was awarded as Covid Warrior by Blood Bank and PGI. He had the opportunity to attend Rotary meeting and pursue his passion of Social Service in Rotary.

### CELEBRATIONS

#### Birthday Greetings:

<b>12 Aug</b>	Rtn Dr Ruchit Uppal	9041360301
<b>13 Aug</b>	Rtn Geetika Rao	7265000007
<b>13 Aug</b>	Rtn Baljit Bains	9815188022
<b>14 Aug</b>	Rtn Sangeet Sharma	9876610996
<b>14 Aug</b>	Rtn Rajnish Malhotra	8146623411

## Ethiopian Medical Vocational Training Team

The Rotary Club of Addis Ababa (RCAA) is initiating a mission in collaboration with the Rotary Club of Chandigarh, India. With a proven track record of conducting three Medical VTT missions in Ethiopia in 1999, 2013, and 2015, as well as similar missions in 17 African countries, the Rotary Club of



Chandigarh is well-equipped for this endeavor. The mission, funded by Rotary International and Rotary District 9212 (covering Ethiopia, South Sudan, Kenya, and Eritrea), is valued at \$141,000 USD.

A tripartite MOU has been signed between the Rotary Club of Addis Ababa (RCAA), the Rotary Club of Chandigarh, and the Ministry of Health, Ethiopia. The mission's objectives include providing free surgeries in orthopedics, urology, and dermatology/plastic surgery, offering practical training for Ethiopian senior doctors and registrars, donating medical equipment, medicines, and supplies to three hospitals, promoting cultural exchange and medical tourism, generating foreign currency and savings for Ethiopia, and celebrating the 70th anniversary of Rotary in Ethiopia and the 100th anniversary of Rotary in Africa.

The mission, starting on August 11th for 12 days, will take place at three locations: Black Lion Specialized Hospital, Saint Paul's Millennium Medical College, and Alert Comprehensive Specialized Hospital in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The team comprises 17 subspecialist medical doctors and 8 volunteers. It is expected that a minimum of 1,500 patients will receive free surgery across the three

hospitals within 10 days, and 50 Ethiopian doctor registrars will receive training.

Key stakeholders in this mission include the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ethiopian Customs Authority, Ethiopian Immigration and Citizenship Services, and Ethiopian Airlines, which is sponsoring free tickets for the team.

This mission not only aims to provide immediate medical assistance and training but also seeks to foster long-term benefits for Ethiopia in terms of healthcare improvements, cultural exchange, and economic gains. By leveraging the strengths and support of various stakeholders, the Rotary Club of Addis Ababa and its partners aim to make a significant impact on the health and well-being of the Ethiopian community.

### Heartline Project

On the initiative taken by our District Governor Rtn. Rajpal Singh to promote the Heartline Project in District 3080, Rtn. Rakesh Arora referred 4-year girl named Marium to our club to be treated under Heartline Project. Abdul Rehman along with his wife and daughter Marium came to Chandigarh. Our club referred the case to Fortis hospital and the child was thoroughly checked. After diagnosis the doctors advised the parents that there is no need of any surgery and the thin hole will be treated by the medicines. The complete prescription was given to the patient with the advice that if there is any issue in future, do come directly to this hospital. Both parents are very happy and obliged to Rotary Club Chandigarh.

Rtn. Anil Chadda

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### Installation Ceremony: Rotaract Club Legis Social

Marking new beginnings, the Rotaract Club Legis Social conducted their Installation Ceremony, परिचय, on August 10th, 2024, for the 2024-2025 term at the Rotary Club Chandigarh, Sector 18, Chandigarh. The event highlighted the official induction of the President and board members for the new term, emphasizing their commitment to fostering social transformation and community projects.

The ceremony was conducted under the able leadership of the outgoing President, Rtr. Arpita Malik, who passed the baton to the newly elected President, Rtr. Riya Sood, and Secretary, Rtr. Mayur Kansal, along with other key office bearers. The event was graced by distinguished guests, including Rotary Chandigarh President Rtn. Jatinder Kapoor, Youth Services Director Rtn. Teena Virk, Rtn. Madhu Marwaha, Rtn. Arun Aggarwal, Rtn. Gen. Paramjit Singh, and DRR of District Rotaract



Rtr. Shashank Kaushik, who delivered a keynote address emphasizing the importance of youth leadership in driving community initiatives.

In her heartfelt speech, outgoing President Rtr. Arpita Malik instilled faith in the new board members and expressed gratitude for their support. Newly elected President Rtr. Riya Sood and Secretary Rtr. Mayur Kansal took the stage to share their vision for the upcoming year, highlighting the importance of collaboration and communication within the club.

### Installation of Interact Club at AKSIPS 41, Smart School

The highly anticipated installation ceremony of the Interact Club was held on August 6th, 2024, at AKSIPS 41, Smart School, Chandigarh, marking a significant milestone in our community's commitment to fostering leadership and community service among youth. The ceremony was graced by eminent Rotarians, including Mr. Jatinder Kumar Kapur, President of Rotary Club, Ms. Abha J. Sharma, President-Elect, Mr. Arun Aggarwal, Joint Secretary, and Ms. Tina Avrinder Virk, Director of Youth Services, along with Rtn. PP A.P. Singh.

The event commenced with a welcome song by the school choir, followed by a presentation by Ms. Mahika from Class XII, who shared highlights of the past year's



accomplishments and projects undertaken by the Interact Club. The newly elected members of the Interact Club were decorated by Rotary President Mr. Jatinder Kumar Kapur, who emphasized the

### Stationery Distribution Drive



The Interact Club of Bhavan Vidyalaya, supported by Rotary Club Chandigarh, organized a stationery and book donation project to promote education and reading. The beneficiaries were children from economically disadvantaged backgrounds, belonging to the Udaan initiative for after-school education, guidance, and teaching. Forty students from Udaan participated, with engaging song and dance presentations.

Teacher-in-charge of the Interact Club at Bhavan Vidyalaya, Ms. Neeta Malhotra, along with four other teachers, was present to support the event. Interactors, led by Interact President Kanishk, successfully executed the program. Rotary Club Chandigarh, represented by Youth Services Director Teena Virk, Joint Secretary Arun Aggarwal, and Rtn. Gen. Paramjit Singh, organized a sumptuous treat of snacks for the participants.

importance of youth engagement in community service and leadership development in his address. The ceremony concluded with a classical dance performance by Ridhima from Class XII.

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## Rotarians create a better world...

### Rotary Club Models

1. **Traditional Club:** Meets at least twice a month in a traditional fashion, such as speaker meetings, classification talks, fellowship, friendship, and meals.

2. **Cause-Based Club:** Focuses on a specific cause, such as eco-clubs involved in tree planting, soil preservation, pollution control, and waste management.

3. **Interest-Based Club:** Focuses on a particular aspect of life, like anti-drug trafficking clubs aimed at promoting a drug-free society.

4. **Service-Based Club:** Meets twice a month to discuss or engage in service projects. Most Indian clubs fall into this category, focusing mainly on community service.

5. **Alumni-Based Clubs:** Comprises foundation alumni like GSE, university teachers, scholarship awardees, international volunteers, VIT, and program alumni like Interact, Rotaract, RYLA, Youth Exchange, Friendship Exchange, and RCC.

*(The above four are associated with or based on specific activities and are grouped together for easy reference.)*

6. **International Clubs:** Meet virtually (E-clubs) with members from different countries. These clubs often face challenges due to language differences or lack of a common denominator.

7. **Passport Clubs:** Members travel extensively and attend Rotary meetings wherever they go, often engaging in projects during their visits.

8. **Corporate Clubs:** Members primarily work for a corporate entity, engaging in vocations related to their company.

Two additional club models have been introduced recently:

1. **Language-Based Clubs:** For example, in California, USA, where English is the main language, a large population of Spanish-speaking people could form a language-based club.

2. **District Online Clubs:** Comprise members from different parts of a district who join together to form a district online club.

To start a Rotary club, you need 20 members.

- To start a Satellite club of Rotary, you need 8 members.

- To start a Rotaract club, you need 12 members.

- To start a Satellite club of Rotaract, you need only 4 members.



Dr. R.S. Parmar



Dr. Bhanu Parmar & Dr. Namita Parmar



Dr. N.S. Sandhu



Dr. Karan Singh



Dr. Raman Abrol



Dr. G.S. Kochhar



Dr. Jagat Bhushan



Dr. V.D. Singh



Dr. Hement Batra



Dr. Manoj Sharma



Dr. Ravjit Singh



Dr. S.P.S. Grewal



Dr. Kuldeep Dhawan



Dr. Vanita Gupta

Dr. R.S. Parmar, Dr. Bhanu Parmar, Dr. Namita Parmar, Dr. N.S. Sandhu, Dr. S.P.S. Grewal, Dr. Raman Abrol, Dr. V.D. Singh, Dr. Vanita Gupta, Dr. Hement Batra, Dr. Karan Singh, Dr. Rajeev Pradhan, Dr. G.S. Kochhar, Dr. Kuldeep Dhawan, Dr. Ajit Singh, Dr. Navnita, and Dr. Manoj Sharma. The evening concluded with the celebration of Rtn. Rajendra K. Saboo's 90th birthday, marked by a cake ceremony followed by dinner.

