



ROTARY CLUB OF METTUPALAYAM  
CLUB NO : 15868/19-05-1961

**METROBUL**

CLUB BULLETIN OF ROTARY CLUB OF METTUPALAYAM

October - 2024

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Rotary  
METTUPALAYAM  
Serving the Community since 1961



## Gandhi Jayanthi Celebrations





## Project heal Published in Rotary News

# Mobile cancer care screens 4,000 women

V Muthukumaran

**V**imala (49), a farm hand, was unaware that she had cancer until she was examined at the mobile cancer screening unit, being run by RC Mettupalayam, RID 3203.

The mammography bus had come to her neighbouring village near Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, to screen women for breast and cervical cancer. "I was asymptomatic, hence did not feel the need to go through such a medical procedure. But following an awareness campaign by Rotarians, I went for the screening inside the diagnostic bus. I was shocked to know that I had an early-stage cancerous lesion on the cervix." She then underwent a minor surgery to remove the lesion at a hospital in Coimbatore. Ditto is the case of Rani (58), her friend, who was detected with a tumorous lump in her breast at the Rotary camp.

**Project HEAL** — High awareness, Early detection, Affordable treatment and Low mortality — has so far conducted over 100 mobile cancer screening camps benefiting 4,000 women (through over 6,000 screenings). "Among those screened, 500 were referred for further tests, scans and evaluation at the Kovai Medical Centre and Hospital (KMCH), our partner in this mega initiative to screen rural women for cancer," says Dr D Vijayagiri, child specialist-cum-laparoscopic surgeon who conceived of and started the cancer detection camps during his



PRIP Shekhar Mehta at the Project HEAL camp at Perundurai taluk, Erode (TN), along with (from L) PDG A Karthikeyan and Dr D Vijayagiri, past president, RC Mettupalayam and secretary, Project HEAL Trust.

tenure as club president (2019–20). During the tests at the KMCH, 40 women were found to have early stage cancer, "and all of them either underwent surgery or follow-up treatment at the hospital," he says.

## Major hurdles

Recalling the initial hurdles in the way of the mobile cancer care bus, Project HEAL Trust chief operating officer Suresh Ananthakrishnan says, "we formed this Trust





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in December 2019 and placed an order for a digital mammography unit (₹1.15 crore) from Siemens, Germany, in February 2020. But Covid struck and the shipment of the machine was delayed. We got the unit in October 2020 and again its installation in a customised bus was also stalled due to the pandemic." The first HEAL camp was held in April 2021, followed by two more cancer screenings in that month itself, "after which we had a temporary shutdown of the project for six months due to another peak Covid wave."

However, the mobile cancer screenings gathered pace in 2023-24. "We had over 50 HEAL camps in this period covering women in the rural areas of Coimbatore," says Ananthakrishnan. Now, the 10-year-old global grant project is extended till 2030, and on an average "we hold 5-8 camps that will do 600 screenings reaching out to 300 beneficiaries who were examined for both breast (mammogram) and cervical (Pap smear test) cancer."

The mobile clinic is stationed at the KMCH and a six-member-team comprising two doctors and four technicians from the hospital will

conduct the examination of women during the camps, being held mostly in the rural areas of Coimbatore and Mettupalayam, covering both RIDs 3201 and 3203. "The high-tech vehicle will cover villages around the 100km radius from its base hospital and can be reached in just a two-hour drive. Before we identify a location for Project HEAL, we rope in the local Rotary club and active NGOs in that region to hold awareness camps at factories, mills, panchayats, community halls, schools and among village SHGs, to sensitise women on the need for cancer screening," explains the COO.

But the main challenge is that, "only 50 per cent of those attending the awareness sessions agree to visit the cancer screening camps. We have to motivate rural women to come for the examination as they feel either awkward or embarrassed to get their private parts examined," says Dr Vijayagiri. "Sometimes many women drop out due to last minute hesitation or social reservations." In a HEAL camp, nearly 10 per cent of those screened are being asked to undergo

further tests at the KMCH "as the scan images may not be clear, or there may be signs of cancerous lesions." If it is a mammogram follow-up, "they will have either ultrasound test or biopsy, and if it is to do with a Pap smear, the patient will go through colposcopy or the required biopsy." Free surgery is done on patients if the follow-up tests point to early-stage cancer. "But for non-malignant tumours, cysts or infectious lesions, general treatment is also done at the hospital," explains Ananthakrishnan.

### Spadework

During the pre-PETS in Dec 2018, when the then DGE A Karthikeyan sought suggestions for 'an impactful project' that will benefit a large number of people, "I came out with the idea of Project HEAL as this would provide cancer screening at the doorsteps of rural women who don't have access to modern healthcare or can't afford to travel to cities for medical care," recalls Vijayagiri.

"I am happy to note that 40 women have undergone free surgery or treatment for cancer, and are now leading a happy life with their families," smiles PDG Karthikeyan.

The total project cost ₹3.3 crore; and the funds came from DDF (\$20,000), Karthikeyan's contribution (\$15,000), CSR funds from Ence Aromatics (\$33,800), club members (\$71,000), and TRF's matching grant (\$82,000).

RC Juárez Campeste, RID 4110, Mexico, is the global partner. Besides, there are over 100 individual and corporate donors, and 50 Rotarians from 23 Rotary clubs in RID 3203 who have sponsored the project. The project team held a series of fundraiser events and launched crowdfunding portals to fund the cancer care camps and the funds were collected in just four months. ■

RC Tirupur Bharati charter president S Rajalakshmi hands over certificates to women beneficiaries at the 100<sup>th</sup> camp at the SGK Hospital, Mettupalayam. Also seen are (from L) Dr Vijayagiri, project coordinator KP Nageswaran and Project HEAL Trust COO Suresh Ananthakrishnan.





## 16th Project HEAL Camp of the Rotary Year 2024-25. Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening





## 17th Project HEAL Camp of the Rotary Year 2024-25. Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening





## October 24 World Polio Day Celebration



## October 24 World Polio Day Celebration Rtn.Dr.Ismail Inaugurating Polio Rally

### Vaccine is necessary for children to be polio-free, says expert

**O**n this World Polio Day, it's essential to re-emphasize the need for polio vaccination. The highly infectious viral disease, that spreads through fecal-oral transmission, or rarely by direct contact with infected children under five years of age, leading to irreversible paralysis and, in some cases, death. Despite decades of progress, the disease remains a global health risk, particularly for vaccine-like India, which is polio-free but must remain vigilant to avoid resurgence," says the board, polio policy at World Health Organization.

"The inactivated polio vaccine (IPV) has been essential in building a polio-free India, but the fight is far from over. Starting at six weeks, this vaccine remains a necessary part of keeping children safe," the doctor states.

Highlighting the fact that polio is re-emerging in parts of the world, the doctor says, "Global trends increases the risk of polio's resurgence in India, where high-density areas could facilitate its rapid spread. Ensuring all children receive the IPV is critical in preventing a resurgence."

"The Indian Academy of Pediatrics Advisory Committee on Vaccines and Immunization Practices (IAP-ACVIP) stresses the need to strongly follow the recommended vaccination schedule. This includes a birth dose of oral polio vaccine (OPV), an inactivated polio vaccine (IPV) at age 16, and 18 weeks. Followed by boosters at 36-48 months and again at 4-6 years. Adherence to this schedule is critical in maintaining individual and herd immunity," the doctor further states.

"Completeness is crucial. We're seen polio make a comeback in places more vaccinated. We cannot afford to see such a resurgence here, as polio is not just a disease, it's a disaster," states the expert, adding that vaccination is key to prevent a polio resurgence.

**The inactivated polio vaccine (IPV) has been essential in building a polio-free India, but the fight is far from over. Starting at six weeks, this vaccine remains a necessary part of keeping children safe**

Statement: The above suggestions/opinions expressed in the article are the sole responsibility of the expert. A public relation initiative supported by the Rotary & Rotary's International and Polio campaign and physician for medical advice



### போலியோ தடுப்பூசி குறை

தடுப்பூசி: ப. பி. இஸ்மாயில்

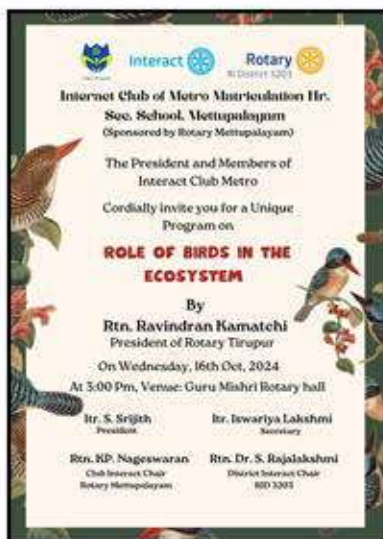


உலக போலியோ தினம் இன்று நடைபெற்று வருகிறது. இந்த நேரத்தில், உலக அளவில் போலியோ தடுப்பூசி குறைவாக உள்ளது. போலியோ ஒரு மிகவும் கடுமையான நோயாகும், இது குழந்தைகளை பாதிக்கிறது. இதைத் தடுக்க, குழந்தைகளுக்கு போலியோ தடுப்பூசி கொடுக்க வேண்டும். இந்த தடுப்பூசி குறைவாக உள்ளதால், போலியோ தடுப்பூசி குறைவாக உள்ளது. போலியோ தடுப்பூசி குறைவாக உள்ளதால், போலியோ தடுப்பூசி குறைவாக உள்ளது.



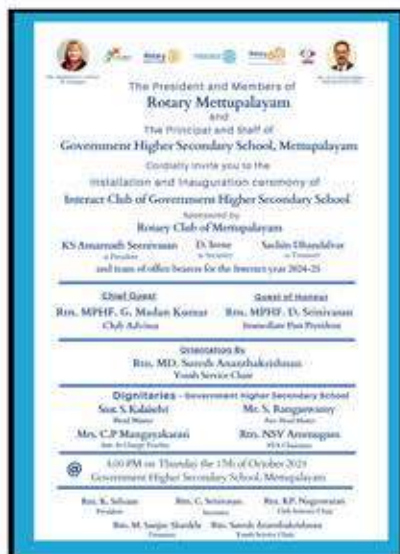


# Role of Birds in the Eco System - Project of Interact club of Metro





# Inauguration and Installation of Govt Hr.Sec.School, Mettupalayam





## Rotary Marathon and Walkathon Cancer Awareness

**Rotary** **A.V.P. TRUST** **VISION**

### ROTARY MARATHON & WALKATHON FOR CANCER AWARENESS

Host City: Rotary Tirupur Metal Town  
On-Spot: Chellu  
All Rotary Clubs of RI Dist 3000

**Starting point & Finishing point**  
A.V.P. School Grounds  
Gandhi Nagar, Tirupur

**Date & Time**  
October 02, 2024  
Wednesday @ 8:30 am

**ENTRY FEE**  
Marathon: ₹ 1,500  
Walkathon: ₹ 250

**Powered By**  
HILITE SOLAR, Poojith Trust

**Official Marathon Partner**  
TECHNOGYM

**Medical Partner**  
REVAATHI

**7 Associate Sponsors**  
EUROLINE, A.V.P. TRUST, 98940 62004, 84388 45125, 98432 47631, 99437 55665





## Inauguration of Newly Constructed Boys and Girls Rest Room at Metro School



**METRO** Rotary  
**Matric.Hr.Sec. School**  
*Sponsored By Rotary Mettupalayam*

*LEARN TO SERVE  
ESTD:1975*

# Invitation

we cordially invite you for the  
**"Saraswathi Pooja"** celebrations and  
 thereafter the newly constructed  
 Boys & Girls Restroom will be  
 inaugurated by  
**President**  
**Rtn.K.Selvam**

All are requested to grace the  
 occasion

*Date:11-10-2024*

*Venue:Metro School*

*Time:9.00am*

Rtn.L.S.Sidduram  
Correspondent

Mrs S.Sulochana  
Principal

Rtn.M.Thiagarajan  
Chairman





## Inauguration of Newly Constructed Boys and Girls Rest Room at Metro School





## District Leadership Seminar

**Rotary**

**DISTRICT LEADERSHIP SEMINAR**  
RI DISTRICT - 3203

**RESOURCE PERSONS**

**Dr. A. RAJAMURUGAN** JR.  
Former Superintendent of Police

**Mr. MD. Dr. M. SURESH**  
District Governor

**Mr. MD. Dr. M. SURESH**  
District Governor

**Registration Fee**  
₹ 650/-

**Google Pay**  
+91 75952 69888

**QR Code**

**Host Club**  
ROTARY CLUB OF KAYNADIPET





## Pooja Celebrations at Metro School





## Vidyarambam at Metro School





## Metro School Students at Temple Festival



**Congratulations Rtn.Dr.Ismail Team 2025- 26**

**Congratulations to Rtn.Bibin for Polio Contribution**



directed to  
**POLIOPLUS  
FUND**

**\$100**

ROTARY HAS BEEN WORKING TO ERADICATE POLIO FOR MORE THAN 35 YEARS. OUR GOAL OF RIDDING THE WORLD OF THIS DISEASE IS CLOSER THAN EVER

**Rtn. MPH. B. Bipin Kumbath**  
Member ID: 11849986

**The Rotary  
Foundation**




Thank you for your generous contribution to the Polio Plus Fund. The contribution number for your donation is 11849986.

Rtn. MPH. K. Selvam  
President


Rtn. MPH. C. Senivasan  
Secretary

Rtn. MPH. TRS. Pathy Senthil  
Club Polio Plus Chair


Rtn. MPH. M. Sanjay Shankia  
Treasurer





**Rotary**  
Dist 5203



**WARRIORS**  
Rotary Club of Warriors

  
**Rtn. MARIO CESAR**  
Martini de Camargo  
RI President

  
**Rtn. AKS M. MURUGANANDAM**  
RI Director


  
**Rtn. AKS B. Dhanasekar**  
District Governor Elect


## **TEAM 2025-26**


**District Governor Proudly Announces**


**Rtn. Dr. M. ISMAIL**  
(Rotary Mettupalayam)

**As District Drug Awareness Chair**



  
**PDG. Rtn. MD. B. Elangkumaran**  
District Trainer

  
**PDG. Rtn. AKS A. Karthikeyan**  
District Mentor

  
**PDG. AKS K. Shanmugasundaram**  
District Advisor

**கிதகன கிதகனல் கிவனமுக்குத் என்ருய்த்து அருகன அவன்கண் வீடல்.**



## Club Weekly Meetings





## Club Weekly Meetings





## ROTARY METTUPALAYAM

### Team 2024 - 25

Rtn. MPHF. K. Selvam President	Rtn. MPHF. D. Srinivasan Immediate Past President	Rtn. MPHF. R. Santhamoorthy President Elect (2025-2026)	Rtn. MPHF. M. Sanjay Shankla President Elect Nominee (2026-2027)
Rtn. MD. Dr. M. Ismail Vice President	Rtn. MPHF. C. Senivasan Secretary	Rtn. MPHF. M. Sanjay Shankla Treasurer	Rtn. MPHF. A. Akbar Ali Club Admin / Exec. Secretary
Rtn. MPHF. B. Bipin Kumbath Senior Sergeant at Arms	Rtn. MPHF. B. Nandhagopal Junior Sergeant at Arms	Rtn. MPHF. K. Mahesh Chandar Joint Secretary	Rtn. MD. Dr. D. Vijayagiri Community Service
Rtn. MPHF. R. Vidyaprakash Foundation Chair	Rtn. MPHF. P. Mahesh Kumar Vocational Service	Rtn. MPHF. AKS. Saravanan International Service	Rtn. MD. Suresh Ananthakrishnan Youth Service
Rtn. MD. R. Jayakumar Public Image Chair	Rtn. MD. J. Stephen Membership Chair	Rtn. MPHF. S. Sivanandam Membership Co-Chair	Rtn. MD. A. Somasundaram Membership Co-Chair
Rtn. MPHF. S. Veeraswamy Membership Co-Chair	Rtn. MPHF. S. Krishnaswamy Membership Co-Chair	Rtn. MPHF. LS. Sidduram Club Learning Facilitator	Rtn. MPHF. G. Madankumar Club Advisor
Rtn. MPHF. TRS. Pathy Senthil Club Audit	Rtn. MD. J. Stephen Club Media Chair	Rtn. MPHF. S. Veerabatheren Club Legal Advisor	Rtn. MPHF. R. Santhamoorthy Club Legal Advisor
Rtn. MPHF. TRS. Pathy Senthil Pulse Polio	Rtn. MPHF. M. Manoharan Pulse Polio	Rtn. MPHF. M. Sanjay Shankla Global Grant / Bulletin Editor	Rtn. MPHF. K. Mahesh Chandar Global Grant
Rtn. MPHF. A. Akbar Ali Bulletin Editor	Rtn. MD. J. Stephen Fund Raising	Rtn. MPHF. KK. Nagarajan Fund Raising	Rtn. MPHF. B. Vijay Anandh Fund Raising
Rtn. MPHF. K. Dinesh Prabhu Corporate Social Responsibilites - CSR	Rtn. MD. Dr. M. Ismail Rotary Tours and Fellowship	Rtn. MD. J. Sureshchand Nahar Rotary Tours and Fellowship	Rtn. MPHF. G. Madankumar Rotary Tours and Fellowship
Rtn. MPHF. A. Akbar Ali Rotary India Coordinator	Rtn. MPHF. K. Dinesh Prabhu Rotaract Chair	Rtn. MPHF. KP. Nageswaran Interact Chair	Rtn. MD. N. Sundarraganesh RYLA Chair
Rtn. MPHF. Dr. BN. Suresh Kumar RYLA Chair	Rtn. MPHF. K. Mahesh Chandar Project Heal	Rtn. MPHF. AKS. Saravanan Project Santhivanam	Rtn. MPHF. M. Thiagarajan Project Metro Matriculation School
Rtn. MPHF. R. Santhamoorthy Club Chair - District Conference	Rtn. MPHF. S. Vijai Vikas Club Chair - District Conference	Rtn. MPHF. P. Ravikumar Club Chair - RI Convention	Rtn. MD. Suresh Ananthakrishnan Club Priority Project - Namma Bhavani
Rtn. MPHF. M. Sanjay Shankla Club Priority Project - Namma Bhavani	Rtn. MPHF. R. Santhamoorthy Club Priority Project - Namma Bhavani	Rtn. MD. J. Stephen Club Priority Project - Namma Bhavani	Rtn. MPHF. B. Bipin Kumbath Club Priority Project - Namma Bhavani
<b>District Governor Priorities Chair</b>	Rtn. MPHF. Dr. AS. Manonmani Women Empowerment	Rtn. MPHF. D. Shanmughapriya Women Empowerment	Rtn. MPHF. RC. Shriram Tribal Welfare
Rtn. MPHF. P. Sajeev Tribal Welfare	Rtn. MPHF. Dr. D. Sasithra Cancer Awareness	Rtn. MD. Dr. D. Vijayagiri Cancer Awareness	Rtn. MPHF. R. Sundararajan Water Conservation
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Rtn. MPHF. Dr. D. Sasithra Maternal and Child Health	Rtn. MPHF. Mahalingam / Rtn. MPHF. Mathuramy Basic Education and Literacy	Rtn. MPHF. T. Mahesh Kumar Community Economic Development	Rtn. MPHF. T. Velusamy Environment Chair



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