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FOR
GOOD

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ROTARY CLUB OF DELHI SOUTH

R. I. President: Rtn. Francesco Arezzo

District Governor: Rtn. Dr. Ravinder Gugnani

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE TO THE CLUB



Dear Friends,
We recently celebrated the sacred festival of Navratri, a time that filled our hearts with devotion, strength, and hope. With the blessings

of Maa Durga, we renewed our commitment to serve with courage and compassion, and that spirit continues to guide us forward.

As we now observe Karwachauth, I extend warm wishes to all. May this festival of love and togetherness bring health, happiness, and harmony to

every family.

This Rotary month has been both meaningful and inspiring. Our Leprosy Seminar was a remarkable success, drawing wide participation and reaffirming Rotary's determination to work toward a leprosy-free India. The discussions and partnerships forged there will go a long way in shaping impactful interventions.

We also witnessed a heartwarming Rotaract Installation, where the enthusiasm and energy of young leaders assured us that the torch of service is being carried forward with passion and purpose.

Equally enriching was our meeting with the young delegates of the World Family Peace Association. Their fresh ideas, global outlook, and dedication to peace deeply inspired us and strengthened

our resolve to build bridges of friendship and service across borders.

At the same time, we are continuing our journey to protect our children from cervical cancer through sustained vaccination camps. This mission is close to our hearts, and we are grateful for the trust of communities and partners who are walking with us on this vital path.

Looking ahead, we eagerly await the festival of Diwali—a time to celebrate the victory of good over evil and light over darkness. May the blessings of Lord Rama illuminate our path, bring prosperity to our families, and strengthen our fellowship as we continue our journey of service.

Warmest Regards

Rtn. Kaval Verma
President 2025-26

Happy Diwali FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

A Story of Rotary and Diwali

Long ago, the people of Ayodhya lit thousands of lamps to welcome Lord Rama after his victory of light over darkness. That night, every street and every home glowed with hope and

joy. Since then, Diwali has reminded us that even the smallest flame can dispel the deepest darkness.

Centuries later, the spirit of Diwali continues to shine through Rotary. Each time a Rotarian lights a lamp of service, it carries the same power to drive away despair. A health camp is a lamp for those struggling with illness. A scholarship is a lamp for a child's future. A water project is a lamp for a thirsty village. And when we protect our children from diseases like cervical cancer or reach out to those affected by leprosy, we are lighting

Diwali lamps that never extinguish.

Just as one diya (lamp) lights another, Rotarians inspire more hands to join, more hearts to care, more lives to change. This is the eternal Diwali of Rotary—a festival not bound by a single night, but carried forward in every act of kindness and service throughout the year.

So this Diwali, as we light our homes, let us also resolve to light the world with our Rotary spirit—making darkness retreat, and ensuring that hope, peace, and compassion always shine brightest.



THALASSEMIA AWARENESS SESSION

September 6, 2025

AREA OF FOCUS : DISEASE PREVENTION & TREATMENT

We were privileged to partner with Rotary Club of Delhi Safdarjung for a deeply impactful session on Thalassemia on September 6, 2025. It was truly moving to hear the real-life stories shared by Rtn. Shobha Tuli and Rtn. Jeetendra Nanda, who spoke with courage about the agony and trauma of monthly transfusions, the risks of infection, and the immense emotional toll their families endure. Their resilience touched every heart in the room. The session was further enriched by a powerful and insightful presentation from Dr. Rahul Bhargava, Principal Director & Chief - Haematology, Hemato Oncology, Bone Marrow Transplant, Fortis Hospital, who highlighted the medical challenges, preventive measures, and the way forward in managing Thalassemia.



MEETING WITH FAMILY PEACE ASSOCIATION – ASIA PACIFIC INSTITUTE FOR PEACE!

September 17, 2025

AREA OF FOCUS : PEACEBUILDING AND CONFLICT PREVENTION

Family Peace Association – Asia Pacific Institute for Peace! Rotary Club of Delhi South had a meeting with a group of international youth leaders who are visiting Delhi the month of September as part of the Advance Youth Leadership Training Course for Life (April 2025 – March 2026). The program is organized by Family Peace Association Asia-Pacific

Institute for Peace, Philippines, and includes participants from multiple Asian countries. The dinner meeting was held in CSOI on September 17, 2025.

They were a group of 11 international students with 2-3 facilitators. Students were of the age group of 18 years and above. Training Locations were Philippines, Laos, Thailand, Nepal, India,

and South Korea Purpose of Their Visit to Delhi was to engage with professors, NGOs, and experts in India and to gain exposure to local initiatives, social projects, and academic perspectives and to exchange ideas and learn from India's diverse experience in community development, peace, and leadership. The Purpose of the Training Program is to:

- Develop character and leadership in young people across Asia
- Prepare them to become peace-loving global leaders with integrity and heart
- Establish a new paradigm of leadership rooted in values and service

The youth had the opportunity to attend the session and one student briefly shared about their visit to India and the importance of family values.

President Rtn. Kaval Verma and President-Elect of RCDS presented the Club Flag to the delegation as a token of goodwill and friendship.



DISTRICT LEPROSY AWARENESS, COMMUNICATION & INFORMATION DISSEMINATION SEMINAR

September 17, 2025

AREA OF FOCUS : DISEASE PREVENTION & TREATMENT



On September 17, 2025, the Rotary Club of Delhi South (RCDS) organised a District Seminar on Leprosy Awareness, Communication & Information Dissemination, at CSOI, Chanakyapuri. The seminar showcased the work on leprosy being carried out by the Rotary Club of Delhi South and also had a number of experts who covered the technical and medical aspects of tackling the dreaded disease. The seminar was well attended by around 120 Rotarians, partners and guests.

The meeting started with opening remarks by PP. Rtn. Tridibes Basu, District Chair, Leprosy, followed by National Anthem, the lighting of the lamp by DG and other dignitaries and Vedic hymn invocation chanted by R'anne Sanghamitra Basu. Thereafter, President Rtn. Kaval Verma delivered her address welcoming the visiting guests and dignitaries.

The first session was a short but very enjoyable speech delivered in poetry form by PDG Rtn. Deepak Kapur, the District Advisor, Leprosy. In his brief presentation he explained how the program was conceived over five years back and described the work that the club has been carrying out in providing succour to the leprosy patients, who till this day continue to live in misery.

In the next session Pradeep Bahri took

the audience through the past five years of RCDS leprosy alleviation journey, through direct intervention. His detailed presentation with slides, covered every aspect of the work we do including physiotherapy treatment at leprosy colonies and at the Indira Gandhi Hospital (IGH). He also spoke about our other services including palliative care, ulcer management, emotional support and assistance with hospital treatment like reconstructive surgery, neuritis and ulcer treatment. In addition he spoke about the treatment offered at our Comprehensive Leprosy Clinic at IGH. Also covered were some other activities like provision of food to leprosy families during Covid, provision of tricycles to patients who were unable to walk and setting up of solar plants at three leprosy colonies including an on-grid solar plant at the Mother Teresa Leprosy Home in Tahirpur. Dr Vishal Pandey, Physiotherapist and Ms Niki Thakur, Counsellor at our Clinic at IGH explained to the participants the work they do at the Clinic. Near the registration desk outside the auditorium the IGH team had setup a display of special shoes and self-help kits, that we distribute free to patients who need them.

Many leprosy families go through untold misery and suffering because of stigma

and discrimination and end up on the streets begging. Early in our journey we had realised the importance of teaching the children of the leprosy families, skills which will allow them to seek work outside the segregated communities in which they live and give them a life in the outside world. With that in view RCDS set up the Rotary TLMTI Skilling Centre, in collaboration with The Leprosy Mission Trust India (TLMTI). The next session was that of an interaction of five current and past students of the Centre, and the course Principal Bijay - with Sophy Philip of TLMTI. In this session Rani, Lakshmi, Sonam, Kusum and Dhaniraj described their individual experiences and explained the change the centre is bringing about in their lives. The discussion revolved around the challenges, stigma, opportunities, and hope and made the children so emotional that some of them choked and cried in gratitude, while speaking. There were clear signs of the emotions flowing over to the audience as well. Such was the impact of this session that IPDG Rtn Dr Mahesh Trikha committed to sponsor five students to the Skilling Centre at ₹15 thousand each and also gift Bank FDs of ₹25 thousand to each of the five students present, many of whom had mentioned that they would wish to present their parents with a home one day.





DG Rtn Dr Ravinder Gugnani thereafter, delivered his Chief Guest address. In his speech, the DG inspired our club members to work harder in the area of leprosy and raise the level of our service. He praised the good work being done by RCDS in this very difficult area and promised all help. The DG offered to personally donate ₹5 lakhs to help in our work on leprosy.

At our request the DG then very kindly handed over three special 'Partner Recognitions' to our partners AIMIL Ltd., Lepa Society and The Leprosy Mission Trust India - who walked along with us with the dream of creating a leprosy-free India.

The fourth Partner Recognition to be presented to PP Rtn. AKS Hemant Bhasin could not be presented as he was traveling abroad. PP Rtn. AKS Hemant Bhasin has donated a van for use by RCDS for patient outreach.

The next two sessions were technical sessions and involved leprosy experts. These were presented as Panel Discussions and were moderated by Pradeep Bahri and Rtn. Tridibes Basu. The first panel included experts from The Leprosy Mission Trust India - Ms. Nikita Sarah, Dr. Reeti Tewari Das, Dr. Rajeev Nathan, Dr. Joydeeba Darlong and Mr. Amit Kumar who answered questions on Advocacy, Discrimination, Active Case Finding, Reconstructive Surgery, Ulcer Management, Neuritis treatment, Sustainable Livelihood & Community Empowerment and Research on testing and treatment.

The second panel had Dr KS Baghotia, ex SLO and IG Hospital, Dr Rashmi Shukla, WHO, Mr. Rajnikant, Lepa in charge of Bihar and nearby states and PDG Rtn Deepak Kapur, RCDS. The topic of discussion for this panel was whether the Government's plan to achieve zero transmission of

leprosy by 2027 was feasible and what needed to be done by the government and other agencies to make this possible.

The panels managed to disseminate important information about leprosy control. The panellists were presented Green mementoes - potted Ajwain plants lovingly grown by our own R'anne Geeta Gujral.

At the end President Kaval introduced the visiting International Family Peace Association youth delegation who had been invited to the seminar. One of the members spoke to the gathering about their activities and was presented a club banner by President Kaval.

The seminar ended with a vote of thanks by RCDS Secretary, Rtn Dr. Shweta Javali. Thereafter, dinner was served for the presenters and participants.

ROTARY IN ACTION: SAVING YOUNG LIVES

There are few endeavors more noble than those that protect the lives of young children and our Gift of Life (GOL) project is one such endeavour. Sri Sathya Sai (SSS) Hospital, where our GOL project is carried out stands out as a beacon of hope, compassion, and responsibility. By addressing the most vulnerable section of society, it demonstrates the power of collective effort to create lasting impact.

What makes this initiative of SSS truly remarkable is not just the number of lives saved, but the care, planning, and innovation behind it. One such case on hand is of Prince Bohra, a 6-year-old boy from a small village near Nainital, suffering from congenital heart disease. Such was his cardiac condition that he could barely undertake any physical activities, was unable to play with his friends, would faint frequently and falling behind in his studies. Local

doctors referred him to AIIMS Rishikesh, where his cardiac issue was diagnosed. The case was very complicated and the doctors at AIIMS Rishikesh, expressed their inability to treat the child.

Prince's father, had lost his job during COVID, and works as a cook in a small eatery in Oman, hence it was almost impossible for the family to afford any treatment. It was when the family was introduced to SSS Hospital.

The case was indeed complicated and initially doctors at SSS were in two minds. Considering the complications of the case, a special medical board at SSS reviewed the case and prepared the strategy. The empathy showed by the doctors in counselling the family and explaining the risks associated with the surgery was truly remarkable. Rotarian Vivek Gour ji personally supervised the case and guided the family.

The child was finally operated upon in September 2025. The hospital provided all the support to the child and the family. As against the normal 48 hrs, the young lad stayed in ICU for more than 4 days with respiratory support but at each stage the doctors and hospital administration provided complete medical and emotional support to the family.

A heartfelt thank you to Vivek Gour ji and the team at Sathya Sai Hospital for making this possible and for bringing hope to a child in need. In celebrating this noble work, we are reminded that true success is measured not in profits or recognition, but in lives touched and futures preserved. This project deserves the highest praise for proving that humanity's greatest achievement lies in protecting its youngest members.

Article by Rtn. Naman Agarwal

ROTARACT INSTALLATION 2025–26

September 21st, 2025 – A Day of Legacy and New Beginnings

AREA OF FOCUS : NEW GENERATION



The Installation Ceremony of the Rotaract Club of Delhi South was a truly inspiring occasion, celebrated under the soulful theme “Nagma – Tuning into a New Era.” The theme beautifully captured the spirit of harmony, youth leadership, and the promise of fresh beginnings.

The most anticipated moment of the event was the official installation of the new Executive Board. Rtr. Jaya Seth took oath as President, joined by her energetic and passionate team, who pledged to uphold the ideals of Rotaract with dedication and purpose. Their commitment brought with it a strong assurance that the legacy of service will not only continue but thrive in newer dimensions.

The ceremony was graced by the presence of senior Rotarians, including President Rtn. Kaval Verma, Director New Generation, Rtn. Ajay Kumar, District Advisor PDG Rtn Hemant Ahuja, Hony Secretary Rtn Dr. Shweta Javali and esteemed RCDS Members, whose encouraging presence underscored the seamless synergy between Rotary and Rotaract. Adding to the spirit of continuity, District Rotaract Representative (DRS) Rtr. Archit Bhatia

shared his message of guidance and motivation, linking the aspirations of District 3011 with the energy of the new leadership.

A heartwarming highlight of the evening was the mentorship moments, where senior Rotarians interacted with the newly installed board members. These exchanges of wisdom and encouragement symbolized the strength of intergenerational ties—passing on not just responsibilities, but values, experiences, and vision.

The formal proceedings transitioned into a fellowship gathering that truly lived up to the Rotaract spirit of camaraderie. Fun-filled games, laughter, and engaging interactions brought together members of the Rotaract and Rotary families. A heartfelt lunch sealed the day, deepening bonds and celebrating the shared mission of “Service Above Self.”

The event was more than an installation—it was a day of legacy and new beginnings, where tradition embraced innovation, and the melody of Nagma set the tone for a future filled with purpose, service, and friendship.



DURGA PUJA - NAVRATRAS



September is the month which kick starts the Festive season. But before any celebrations, we remember and pay homage to our Ancestors seeking their blessings. And so, before the festival of Navratri, which is a period of fun and gaiety - there is a period of 15 days of Shraadh, when we remember our ancestors, pay homage. and express our gratitude to them!

It is a period of simplicity, restraint and remembrance. This is followed by Navratri - a transition from the solemn

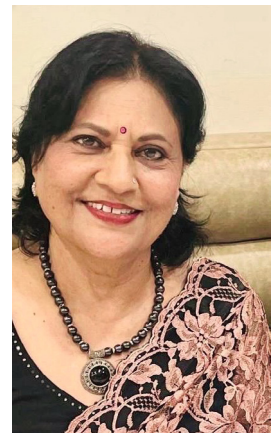
to joyous celebrations. It's like restoring the balance between honouring the Past and respecting our Roots, while embracing the future with renewed devotion, enthusiasm, hope and positivity.

We pray to Goddess Durga and her Nine Divine forms - seeking blessings for progress and happiness. Our mind thinks, desires and feels joy, sorrow, anger and love - yet we often remain unaware of the Power driving these inner emotions. This Power is Shakti.

Everything in the Cosmos -the trees, rivers, mountains, the very stars, Planets, animals, humans, the songs of birds, the beating of our hearts - is Shakti in action. When we worship Devi, we are in truth bowing to this Supreme Power- This life force itself - to awaken the Inner Energy and Supreme consciousness within us.

Contributed by

R'anne Ashima Agarwal



‘CLIMATE CHANGE - A HARSH REALITY’.

In early September, Rotary Dist: 3011, was approached by the D.M. of Amritsar - for aid for the flood affected victims of Punjab, and needless to say, Rotary Clubs responded promptly, by sending basic amenities, torches, tents, mosquito nets, odomas, etc. This set me thinking, and these are jottings from what we saw being broadcast on the National News Channels -day in and day out - all through July, August and well into September too. The terrible devastation caused by Incessant rains in Uttarakhand, Punjab, Himachal, U.P. And even the desert areas of Rajasthan - and most recently, the heavy rains in Kolkata. Cloud Bursts, Flash Floods washing away entire villages, landslides, big portions of hills and huge boulders just came crashing down, roads and bridges washed away, standing crops destroyed. It was just horrific. Do any of you remember ever having seen this kind of havoc and destruction, as this year? And this was not something happening only in our country - but all over the world. It was either Floods or Fires.

The interesting part is that we are all also fully aware of the reasons for it, but don't want to take responsibility or acknowledge - that it is human greed and mindless action or expansion, whatever you may like to call it, which is responsible for this. Excessive use of fossil fuels in industries, power plants and vehicles are just a few examples. Add to that - the mindless cutting of trees, throwing plastic and other waste (like malba)into drains - blocking them, choking rivers - even the seas have become polluted, Glaciers are melting and destroying the Ecological balance of nature.

We need to remember this truth - "The Earth does not belong to us. We belong to the Earth." We are only its care



takers. Not the owners of this Planet. Yet, there is still time to re- write the story - for Mother Earth is a Nurturer. Even small baby steps like planting trees, reducing single use plastic, conserving energy and promoting sustainable and environmentally friendly alternatives for electricity, heat and fuel production. All these can start making a difference. It is up to each one of us to follow, educate and make sure that everyone practices this and becomes mindful and caring - otherwise be ready to face the repercussions. Someone will have to pay the price for our actions and let it not be our Future Generations, who will have to deal with poor or failed crops, rising temperatures, floods and what have you.

In the end, let me leave you with this thought; The Earth will survive. It is mankind that is at risk. Will we choose "Destruction through Apathy" or "Survival through Action".

Contributed by **R'anne Ashima Agarwal**

CERVICAL CANCER VACCINATION CAMP

September 22, 2025

AREA OF FOCUS : DISEASE PREVENTION & TREATMENT

The Rotary Club of Delhi South (RCDS) has been at the forefront of Cervical Cancer Vaccination across India since Rotary Year 2024-25, conducting camps nationwide and reaching thousands of beneficiaries. Building on this success, RCDS has launched the 2025-26 initiative with a renewed commitment to scale up the program through Mega Projects in multiple states.

On September 22, 2025, RCDS began this year's campaign with the first vaccination camp at the Delhi Golf Club. The beneficiaries here were families of daily wage earners, largely from a very orthodox Muslim community. Winning their trust

and acceptance was a milestone achievement for RCDS, as it reflected the club's credibility, compassion, and perseverance in overcoming cultural barriers. To date, five successful camps have been held in this community.

RCDS chose to commence this journey on an auspicious day, seeking the blessings of the Almighty and all well-wishers. The road ahead is expected to be long and challenging, but Vandana Bhalla, District Director, Cancer Rtn Vandana Bhalla firmly believes that with collective dedication and divine blessings, the initiative will achieve its purpose of saving lives, preventing disease, and empowering girls and families across India.



CERVICAL CANCER VACCINATION CAMP

September 25, 2025

AREA OF FOCUS : DISEASE PREVENTION & TREATMENT

A Landmark Achievement for Rotary Club of Delhi South

On 25th September, at Sai Dham, Faridabad, we achieved a remarkable milestone — vaccinating over 1, 000 girls against cervical cancer in a single day, making this the 2nd largest HPV vaccination drive in North India!

This success was possible through the united efforts of Rotary Club of Delhi South & Rotary Club of Faridabad ONE, under the leadership of Rtn. Virender Mehta (Chair), Rtn. Rajeev Sood (President, RCF ONE), Rtn. Kaval Verma (President, Delhi South) and Rtn Vandana Bhalla, District Director, Cancer.

We were privileged to be joined by Mayor Mrs. Praveen Joshi,

DG Rtn Dr. Ravi Gugnani, IPDG Rtn Dr. Mahesh Trikha, DGND Rtn Dheeraj Bhutani, AG Rtn Manoj Sindhu, along with fellow presidents and Rotarians whose presence strengthened our mission.

With the participation of 12 schools and overwhelming support from the community, this camp is a shining example of the impact Rotary can create when we stand together. Our resolve is firm: We will continue until every child in India is protected against cervical cancer. Club: Rotary Club of Delhi South.



CERVICAL CANCER VACCINATION CAMP

September 26, 2025

AREA OF FOCUS : DISEASE PREVENTION & TREATMENT

Rotary Club of Delhi South, in collaboration with the Rotaract Club of Southeast, successfully organised a Cervical Cancer Vaccination Camp at Bosco School, Paschim Vihar.

234 children were administered the second dose of the HPV vaccine, strengthening our mission to protect the next generation from cervical cancer.

The camp was further enriched by the participation of members from Rotary Club of Faridabad One and Rotary Club of Delhi West, joining hands with RCDS to make this initiative impactful.

This camp marks another milestone in our continuing journey of service, collaboration, and community health awareness.



CERVICAL CANCER VACCINATION CAMP

September 29, 2025

AREA OF FOCUS : DISEASE PREVENTION & TREATMENT

A Step Forward in Protecting Our Children

On 29th September 2025, a successful Cervical Cancer Vaccination Camp was conducted at the Government Senior Secondary School, Serai, Faridabad. A total of 298 children received their second dose of the HPV vaccine, ensuring continuity in the fight against cervical cancer and strengthening our mission of safeguarding future generations.

The camp was organised by Rotary Club of Faridabad Excellence, Rotary Club of Delhi South, Rotary Club of Faridabad One.

This collaborative effort reflects the spirit of Rotary — service above self, partnership, and collective action for community health. Together, we are creating impact that will resonate for decades by giving children the priceless gift of protection and good health.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Davinder Kaur	01 Oct
Tridibes Basu	03 Oct
Vandana Seoni	03 Oct
Kaval Verma	05 Oct
Harleen Anand	07 Oct
Monica Krishan	09 Oct
Kriti Makhija	09 Oct
BK Chhibber	15 Oct
Vijay Kanwar	15 Oct
Aarti Poddar	15 Oct
Yoko Hirokawa	21 Oct
Anita Gulati	22 Oct
S Madhavan	26 Oct
Arvinder S Brara	28 Oct



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Manju & Vijay Kanwar	07 Oct
Neelu & Dharam Batra	14 Oct
Jayshree & Lalit Kumar Sawhney	14 Oct
Dr Vandana & Dr. Neeraj Bhalla	27 Oct
Usha & Ashok Aneja	31 Oct