

# "ASHOKA" ROTARY CLUB OF DELHI SOUTH



**JULY/AUGUST 2024**

**RI President Stephanie A. Urchick  
District Governor, Rtn. Dr Mahesh Trikha**



## Message from the President

### Greetings RCDS Members!

I'd like to start by welcoming each one of you to the new Rotary Year, which promises to be a Magical one! Before I embark on Rotary matters, I would like to share a bit about my background.

I was born on 26th Aug' 82, at Parshad Nagar, as the youngest of the three siblings. With Dad being in Income Tax, we kept moving to different parts of India. In the 80's, St. Columba's being one of the

most sought after school for boys, was chosen for me by my parents ; just as they had chosen CJM for my sisters.

During my primary education days, I got hooked to cycling thanks to the wide roads in Kaka Nagar and Sunder Nagar. That's when I developed a strong liking for outdoor activities and sports, which led me to pursue tennis and later on golf.

At St. Columba's, we used to contribute towards a Fund for the poor once every week, interact with children from underprivileged backgrounds and also visit homes of specially-abled children. This is where my involvement in and inclination for social service began.

Science with Economics in Sr. Secondary phase helped me in qualifying for Economics Honors course in Delhi Univ. It was at this very stage, that I had the first serious discussion about my career path with my father. He was keen on my taking up Engineering in Electronics and Communications. His simple take was that " bete tusi parna sikh jaaoge". Engineering turned out to be a huge eye-opener and a terrific growth journey!

## Message from the President

### About Parents and family:

Mom was a teacher, but after I was born, she dedicated her life to focusing on her kids and home. My parents have always had a broad-minded perspective towards life, so they readily accepted diverse communities: one son in law hails from Kerala and the other from Uttar Pradesh.



Dad retired as the Chief Commissioner of Income Tax-Rajasthan in 2001. My eldest sister, Amarpreet and her husband, Arvind are Architects, based in Delhi. They have one son, Aditya. My second sister Bhavna and husband, Rajiv are professionals in Finance based in Singapore and have two children, Mira and Ayaan. **My life rotates around Sakshi, my beautiful wife and my Samarvir and Niyamat.**

The Corporate journey started off as a retainer in the service division of Tata Telecom, the Indian arm of Avaya Inc, world leader in Telecommunications at the time. Learn't to put in those long very long hours, which did pay off in the form of promotions in the second year of service and then eventually in becoming the youngest Team Leader in the services division. It was at this point where I found myself at the cross roads , to continue in the Technical side or to take the leap of faith by moving into the Sales for learning and adopting new business related skills. This led to holding Key Account positions for global accounts in MNC's like Vodafone, Orange ... and finally now at Oracle, where sales and service skills are being put into use every single day.

The Rotary journey began in 2019 and the onset of COVID in 2020, simply ignited the latent passion for social service. Just like in the professional world, in Rotary too, I have come up the ladder, starting with being a Project lead , Secretary and now as your 56th President.

I would like to sincerely thank Pramod Ji , Inderjeet Ji and Manoj Kumar Sir in helping me take the plunge as the PE, to PDG Deepak Kapur, PWC Deepak Kapoor Sir, Anil Agarwal Sir, Tridibes Basu, Amarjit Sir, Rajiv Gujral Sir and Pradeep Kumar Sir in helping me with the planning for the year. Lastly, sincerely grateful to all the team members for having agreed to come on board! The team structure, seniors taking the role of Mentors and newbies driving things on a day-to-day basis , is what brings about a perfect blend of Experience and Youth and thus the theme

**“The Confluence of Youth , Energy and Experience “** gels well with it!

Rotary  
Delhi South



# Achievements to Date....

Speaker Meeting  
- HE Iraj Elahi,  
who is the  
Ambassador of  
Iran to India.

Camps to fight  
diseases like  
polio, cervical  
cancer and  
providing  
through  
immunization  
and Awareness  
Camps

Health Camps  
and Awareness  
Camps  
conducted  
Supporting the  
health of  
mothers and  
children by  
providing access  
to medical care,  
Cleft Palette  
Surgery

**Rotary**

**“SERVICE ABOVE SELF”**

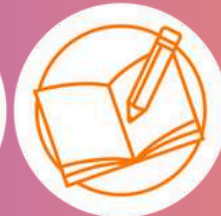
**ROTARY'S AREAS OF FOCUS**

PEACEBUILDING AND CONFLICT PREVENTION  
DISEASE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT  
WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE  
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH  
BASIC EDUCATION AND LITERACY  
COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
ENVIRONMENT

Inauguration of  
Skill  
Development  
Centre

Inauguration of  
Placement  
Centre

Initiatives like production and  
distribution of cotton cloth bags,  
tree plantations, installation of  
plastic shredder machines and  
water conservation (installaing  
aereators)





Believe me, I was literally quaking in my boots and my fingers froze on the keypad as I started writing my first Editorial for the Newsletter. Rtn. Inderjeet Singh; with his flair and elan for the written word, his rich vocabulary and his bottomless treasure trove of knowledge, had raised the bar so high that neither can one jump over it, crawl under it or circumvent it. A few months back, I had requested him to, at least continue writing the Editorials, but he declined saying that he is running out of ideas. I was like Wow, he is running out of ideas after penning so many Editorials, while here I am with no novel idea germinating in my brain even for the first Editorial. However, the show must go on.....So, we are taking the plunge to bring out the first edition of the Ashoka (Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Delhi South ) for the new Rotary Year.

This year, our Club is being spearheaded by a young President and Secretary and a team of comparatively newer members. Of course, the senior, veteran Rotarians can always be relied upon to mentor and guide them. The new team has been going full steam ahead right from the first of July. The intolerable weather, the traffic jams, the flooded roads – nothing deters them from fulfilling their commitments towards Community Service projects.

So, let us usher in a new era at work, driven by their technological expertise, innovative ideas, unique perspectives and tireless enthusiasm and let them take centre stage!

Warm Regards

**Bhuvana Shashinath**



# The District Governor's Visit and the Club's Installation



The Rotary Club of Delhi South (RCDS) marked an important occasion on the 23rd of September, 2024, at the Claridges Hotel, blending tradition with new beginnings. As has been the custom in recent years, the District Governor's visit coincided with the installation of the new President, Rtn. Sarvpreet Singh, and the Board for the Rotary Year 2024-2025.

The District Governor, Rtn. Dr Mahesh Trikha arrived at 5:30 PM with his district team and immediately engaged with President Sarvpreet Singh and his Board, discussing their plans and vision for the year. He also took time to meet with the Rotaractors and Interactors, engaging in extended discussions before the General Body Meeting began at 8:00 PM.

The Viceroy Hall was a sight to behold, with a large LED screen proudly displaying the Rotary theme, \*The Magic of Rotary\*. Alongside this, images of RI President Stephanie A. Urchick, District Governor Rtn. Mahesh Trikha, President Sarvpreet Singh, and Secretary Dr. Shweta Javali were featured prominently. The tables were adorned with colorful paper flowers made by the children of Sankalp, the club's NGO partner, placed in recyclable bags emblazoned with the club's name. Fellowship and drinks were enjoyed between 7:00 and 8:00 PM as members, club guests, and personal invitees streamed in. The Registration desk, efficiently managed by Rtnne Rajni Dua and first-timer Rtnne Ashima Aggarwal, ensured a smooth entry for everyone.

Besides the District Governor, special guests included his wife Sujata, IPDG Jeetender Gupta and his wife Dr. Deepti, DGN Ajeet Jalan and Anju, along with many other Past District Governors, Assistant Governors, and members from various clubs. Among the President's personal guests were his parents, Mr. Kanwarjit Singh and Mrs. Paramjit Singh, as well as his children, Samarvir and Niyamat.



As the evening's proceedings began, the collaring of President Pramod Aggarwal was followed by the National Anthem and the ceremonial lighting of the lamp.

# The District Governor's Visit and the Club's Installation



In a unique and creative touch, PP Deepak Kapoor presented a poetic video tribute to outgoing President Pramod Aggarwal. With humor and heart, the poem highlighted Pramod's professional, personal, and Rotary journeys.

In his address, Rtn. Pramod Aggarwal spoke proudly of the 26 goals accomplished and 192 projects completed during his term. These spanned across key Rotary Service Avenues,

including Basic Education and Literacy, Maternal and Child Health, Disease Prevention and Treatment, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene, and Environment, with a comprehensive slideshow of over 50 slides. IPDG Jeetender Gupta commended Pramod and his team for their exemplary work, recognizing them with multiple district awards, including the Ramesh Jain Memorial Trophy for Best Club.

One of the evening's highlights was the launch of the Rotary Yearbook, a compilation of the \*Ashoka\* newsletters, masterfully crafted by Rtn. Inderjeet Singh. This book stands as a testament to the club's creativity and dedication throughout the year.

Finally, the moment arrived for the installation of the 56th President, Rtn. Sarvpreet Singh. Another poetic masterpiece by PP Deepak Kapoor played on the LED screen, introducing Sarvpreet with a fitting tribute to his youthful energy and vision.



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President Sarvpreet Singh's address, reproduced in a separate section, captured the essence of his vision for the year ahead, emphasizing the club's unique blend of youth and experience—a confluence he termed **\*Uva Urja Aur Anubhav Ka Sangam\***.



# The District Governor's Visit and the Club's Installation



The Chief Guest, District Governor Rtn. Dr. Mahesh Trikha, took the stage to share his insights on the year ahead. He outlined several key initiatives, including a focus on Thalassemia, expansion of leprosy detection and treatment, Nari Shakti projects, skill centers for beauty parlors, cataract surgeries for the underprivileged, and environmental efforts like the \*Plastic Warriors\* project.

DGN Ajeet Jalan also spoke, praising the club for consistently upholding the Rotary motto of \*Service Above Self\* and maintaining high standards of excellence.

The evening concluded with a vote of thanks and announcements from Secretary Rtn. Dr. Shweta Javali. Notably, a record-breaking Sunshine Collection of Rs 25,000 was raised, with the club matching the amount to support the Inner Wheel Club's efforts against Muscular Dystrophy. The night ended on a high note with a delicious dinner, arranged by Rtn. Rajiv Gujral, leaving members and guests alike with a sense of accomplishment and excitement for the year ahead.

**\*\*Special thanks to all who contributed to making this event a resounding success!\*\***



# The District Governor's Visit and the Club's Installation





# The District Governor's Visit and the Club's Installation



# DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S SPEECH.....

## Good Evening, Fellow Rotarians and Honored Guests



It's a privilege to be here this evening, and I want to begin by recognizing the phenomenal work accomplished by our outgoing President and Secretary for the year 2023-24. I don't think I need to repeat all the wonderful things that have already been presented, but I would like to take a moment to offer a standing ovation to President Pramod Agarwal and Secretary Sarvpreet for their incredible dedication and leadership. Let's give them a round of applause!

In 2023-2024, Immediate Past President (IPP) Pramod truly became the brand ambassador of Rotary, even more so than his role with P&G. His contributions to Rotary, particularly within our district, have been nothing short of remarkable. He's already been recognized with the best trophy at the district Thanksgiving, and it's clear to all of us that his impact goes far beyond accolades. Under his leadership, Rotary Club of Delhi South reached new heights.

Rotary Club Delhi South is one of the oldest clubs in the district, but it's also one of the best. As we reflect on the past year, we are reminded that promises are just words—what truly matters is performance. Rotary Club Delhi South, under President Pramod Agarwal's leadership, created milestones not only for our club but for the entire district. Rohit led from the front, particularly with the Rotary Foundation, where we created a legacy of Presidents for 2023-24 by establishing an endowment. Twenty-five Presidents each donated \$1,000 to this endowment, which will support future district projects. IPP Pramod was one of the first to contribute, also becoming a major donor.

Our focus last year was to foster repeat commitment rather than just one-time contributions. We launched the Colier Society, where members commit to donating \$1,000 annually, which can be a greater challenge than becoming a major donor. I am proud to say that we grew this society from 25 members to 125, with six members from Rotary Club of Delhi South. A round of applause for these six dedicated members!

In terms of fundraising, our district crossed a historic milestone of \$2 million, a first in District 3011's history. Rotary Club of Delhi South contributed nearly \$50,000 to this total—a sizable and impactful contribution. We also saw significant increases in our Polio Fund contributions, with Rotary Club of Delhi South being one of the top two clubs to lead this charge. The work toward eradicating polio is not yet complete, and your continued commitment means a great deal.



# DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S SPEECH.....



Our club has been duly recognized as one of the best in the district, with a Presidential Citation awarded by Rotary International President Gordon. Congratulations to all the members who made this possible. And, of course, special recognition to IPP Pramod for his outstanding work, which has earned him the position of Assistant Governor in my tenure as District Governor.

I also want to extend a special thank you to Dr. Neeraj Bhalla and Vandana Bhalla for leading the charge on the cervical cancer vaccination initiative. We set a modest goal of 5,000 vaccinations, and thanks to their tireless efforts, we

we surpassed it, reaching over 6,000 doses. This incredible work ensures that our impact is felt not just in our community but far beyond.

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Moreover, our district secured a \$2 million scale grant, which highlights the influence of Rotary on the global stage. While my initial focus for this grant was on leprosy, the district ultimately chose a different path. However, I must commend Rotary Club Delhi Renaissance for continuing their dedicated work toward leprosy treatment.

Looking ahead, I have full confidence in our incoming President Sarvpreet and Secretary Dr Shweta who will continue to build on the strong foundation laid by their predecessors. Together, they will break new records and take Rotary Club Delhi South to even greater heights.

I'd like to conclude with a couple of lines to inspire you all:

"You are thinking only of soaring to the clouds, But my dreams are of reaching the light of the sun"

**Thank you for welcoming me, and here's to a bright future for Rotary Club of Delhi South!**





**Thank you Deepak Sir for the amazing introduction. I just hope that I can live up to the expectations.**

Good Evening

1. DG Dr. Mahesh Trikha Ji and First Lady Sujata Ma'am
2. IPDG Jeetender Ji and Deepti Ma'am
3. DGE Dr. Ravi Gugnani Ji and Monica Ma'am
4. DGN Rtn. Ajeet Jalan Ji and Anju Ma'am
5. District Learning Facilitator PDG Ramesh Chander Ji & Rajshri Ma'am
6. Council of Governor's:
  - Hemant Ahuja & Nalini Ma'am
  - PDG Deepak Kapur & Vaneeta Ma'am
  - PDG Ramesh Chander Ji & Rajshri Ma'am
  - PDG Sanjay Khanna Ji & Reena Ma'am
  - PDG Ashok Kantoor Ji & Alka Ma'am
4. Deputy Governor Vijay Jindal Ji and Punita Ji,
5. Deputy Governor Mukesh Agarwal Ji and Shashi Ji
6. District Secretary Sanjeev Jawahar Ji and Vinita Ji
7. AG Sunil Sethi and Shalini Ji
8. District Grants Sub-Committee Chair Dheeraj Butani Ji and Rashmi Ji
9. District Administration Chair Rajnish Mittal Ji and Deepika Ma'am
10. District Administration Chair Manoj Kumar Jain

11. AKS Vivek Gour
12. AKS Hemant Bhasin
13. AKS Pushpa Sethi
14. Rajeev Ranjan Ji - Head RISAO,
15. Secretary General Rtn. Ajay Narain

My fellow Presidents, friends from the District, RCDS members, and my family,

It is with a sense of humility that I stand before you as the 56th President of the Rotary Club of Delhi South. Our 55-year-old club is not just an institution but a legacy of social service, driven by individuals who have excelled not only in their professional lives but have also made significant impact on the lives of those less fortunate.

I extend my heartfelt thanks to my seniors, especially IPP Pramod Agarwal and Rtn. Inderjit Singh Ji, for placing their confidence in me to lead in this role.

My introduction to Rotary happened during a game of golf with a Rotarian in 2019. His passion for fellowship within the club piqued my interest, even though I had limited knowledge of social service at that time.

Joining this esteemed club in August, my wife and I relished the Saturday fellowships at Lodhi, which often turned into late-night gatherings at the Electric Room. The onset of COVID-19 in March 2020 was a wake-up call that reshaped my focus entirely. The plight of the less fortunate, highlighted by the media, drove me to take action.





This year's team embodies a dynamic blend of experience and youthful energy.

Seasoned veterans have stepped into pivotal roles:

- VP - Rajindra Sehgal Ji
- Director of International Services - Amarjit Singh
- Director of Community Services - Lalit Sawhney
- Director of CSR - Kriti Makhija
- Director of Club Services & Sergeant at Arms - Illa Jain
- Director of Strategy - Anil Agarwal
- Director of Key Initiatives - Deepak Kapoor
- Director - Rajiv Gujral

On the other hand, our enthusiastic newcomers have taken charge of other critical positions:

- Hony Secretary - Dr. Shweta Javali,
- Joint Secretary - Shailen Verma,
- Treasurer - Sumchit Anand,
- Director of Vocational Services - Pramod Agarwal,
- Director of Youth Services - Ajay Kumar,
- Director of New Initiatives - Sakshi Khanna Singh.

I am deeply grateful to our mentors: PDF Deepak Kapur Ji, Lakshmi Khanna Ji, Pradeep Kumar Ji, Arvinder Brara Ji, and Naman Agarwal and look forward to their continued guidance in future.

In the end I once again thank everybody present here today and hope that you have a great evening.

With the guidance from seniors like Inderjit Ji, Amarjit Ji, Som Dua Ji, the late Sunny Kochhar, Ravindra Anand, and Dr. Vaneeta Kapur, I initiated my first project, "Saving and Healing Lives," focusing on seven key pillars. One of these was arranging Plasma, for which we set up a WhatsApp group with RWA representatives from six colonies across Delhi. This was when I first collaborated closely with Mahesh Trikha Ji. By April 2021, I was part of the District Covid Task Force Team, which marked a defining period in my life.

I firmly believe that our well-being today is due to the tireless efforts of the medical community. Therefore, I'd like to take this moment to recognize and honor the doctors within RCDS with the "Service Above Self" Award:

1. Dr. Vaneeta Kapur
2. Dr. Parveen Gulati
3. Dr. Anita Gulati
4. Dr. Manish Dhawan
5. Dr. Sheetal Dhawan
6. Dr. HK Chopra
7. Dr. Vinita Chopra
8. Dr. Punita Taneja
9. Dr. Alok Agarwal
10. Dr. Neeraj Bhalla
11. Dr. Shweta Javali





### **Professional background:**

The Corporate journey started off as a retainer in the service division of Tata Telecom, the Indian arm of Avaya Inc, world leader in Telecommunications at the time. Leant to put in those long very long hours, which did pay off in the form of promotions in the second year of service and then eventually in becoming the youngest Team Leader in the services division. It was at this point where I found myself at the cross roads, to continue in the technical side or to take the leap of faith by moving into the Sales for learning adopting new business-related skills. This lead to

holding Key Account positions for global accounts in MNC's like Vodafone, Orange and finally now at Oracle where sales and service skills are being put into use every single day

### **Reason and motivation behind joining Rotary:**

I was driven by the desire to serve the community, networking, and fellowship. However, as I became more involved, destiny had something else in store for me. What began as a journey of service led me to a leadership role I had never anticipated: becoming the president. It was a path that unfolded naturally, guided by a deeper commitment to Rotary's mission and the support of fellow Rotarians.

### **Future vision**

The cause closest to my heart encompasses people of all ages—from infancy to old age.

### **Cause that is closest to your heart:**

There is a growing concern as many lack medical insurance after a certain age, and I focus will be to change that. I am dedicated to ensuring that children, especially those from economically weaker sections, receive proper vaccinations. Additionally, workers, miners, laborers, etc. should have life insurance for their protection. Ultimately, my goal is to improve the overall lifestyle and mental health of the elderly, ensuring their well-being in their later years.

### **Personal Front**

On a personal front, I aim to instill the values of community service and social awareness in my own children, teaching them to serve selflessly and without any personal motives. By leading by example, I want to encourage them to contribute to the greater good while also building meaningful friendships along the way.



# KNOW YOUR PRESIDENT.....

## His "Happily-ever-after" story:

I aspire to create a fulfilling and eloquent "happily ever after" story, where every chapter of my life is rich with meaning and purpose. Professionally, I aim to not only achieve success but also to continually grow, challenging myself to reach new heights in my career. But beyond professional accomplishments, my goal is to serve those in need, using my skills and resources to uplift others and contribute positively to the world around me.

Making a difference is at the core of this vision—whether through community service, helping those less fortunate, or simply being a source of support for the people in my life. I want to leave a lasting impact, one that goes beyond my personal achievements and touches the lives of others in a meaningful way.



Throughout this journey, I also want to savor the experience, finding joy in both the challenges and successes. It is important to me that I not only focus on the destination but also enjoy the process—building friendships, learning from experiences, and embracing the moments that make life so rich and rewarding. In the end, it is about living a life that is balanced, purposeful, and filled with personal and collective growth.

## Favourite holiday destination and why:

Two of my favorite holiday destinations are the beaches of Sydney and Goa. Sydney's beaches, like Bondi and Manly, offer not only stunning coastlines but also a vibrant mix of city life, culture, and nature. There is something captivating about the balance of urban sophistication with laid-back beach vibes, where I can relax, surf, or take coastal walks while enjoying the city's world-class dining and entertainment.

Goa, on the other hand, holds a special charm with its unique blend of Portuguese heritage and Indian culture. The serene beaches, relaxed atmosphere, and welcoming local communities make it an ideal getaway. Whether it is indulging in Goan cuisine, exploring the vibrant flea markets, or simply lounging by the beach, Goa provides a perfect escape from the everyday rush.

## Hidden talent of his spouse:

One of the hidden talents of my spouse is singing. Whether it's humming a tune around the house or occasionally surprising everyone with a soulful rendition, it's a gift that adds a beautiful rhythm to everyday life.



### **Who would she like to be marooned on an island with( besides her spouse)**

If I have to pick someone to be marooned on an island with (besides my spouse, of course), it would have to be someone who's a mix of fun and practical. Maybe Elon Musk—because, let's face it, if anyone can figure out how to MacGyver a spaceship out of palm trees and coconuts, it's him. Plus, I'd get to test drive that Mars colonization plan in the meantime!

### **All-time favorite movie/show**

Two of my all-time favorite movies are Lakshya and Eddie the Eagle.

Lakshya resonates deeply with its inspiring story of self-discovery, determination, and the transformation of an aimless young man into a focused and driven soldier. It beautifully captures the essence of finding one's purpose in life.



Eddie the Eagle is another favorite for its heartwarming and motivational narrative. The story of an underdog who defies all odds to pursue his dream of competing in the Winter Olympics is a testament to perseverance and belief in oneself.

Both films are powerful reminders of the importance of grit and following one's passion, no matter the obstacles.

### **If given a chance would she change anything of her past:**

If given the chance, I would not change anything from the past. Every experience—whether a success or a challenge—has shaped who I am today. The lessons learned along the way have added depth, perspective, and strength to my journey. Instead of dwelling on "what ifs," I choose to appreciate the growth and wisdom that come from embracing life's imperfections and using them as stepping stones for the future.





# OUR FIRST LADY SAKSHI KHANNA SINGH SPEAKS.....



## **Professional background:**

Advertising and Marketing Post Graduate and holding a Degree in Journalism working as Senior Manager, Executive Support Team - Global Services Europe - BCG

## **Reason and motivation behind joining Rotary:**

To contribute to community service, and network with like-minded individuals committed to making a positive impact.

## **Cause that is closest to your heart:**

The cause closest to my heart is ensuring the well-being and development of little children, as I believe they are our future and deserve the best start in life.

## **Future vision for Rotary:**

Our future vision for Rotary is to create a world, where communities are empowered and everyone has access to education, healthcare, and opportunities for a better quality of life, fostering peace and understanding across cultures.

## **Personal front:**

My initiatives included organizing self-defense workshops, basic education programs, and skill development training to promote self-reliance. Additionally, I conducted workshops on personal hygiene, including the use of sanitary pads and contraceptives. My vision is to continuously evolve through meaningful service, forge lasting relationships, and create a significant impact in the lives of those in need. I am particularly passionate about working in children's healthcare, as I believe that ensuring their well-being is crucial for their future success and for the future of our country.



# OUR FIRST LADY SAKSHI KHANNA SINGH SPEAKS.....

## Her "Happily-ever-after" story:

My "happily ever after" story is woven with several cherished moments that have profoundly shaped my life. One of the most significant chapters began when I met Sarvpreet. Meeting him and building a life together has been a source of immense joy and partnership.

Another pivotal moment was the birth of our children. Seeing them grow and thrive has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my life. They are a constant reminder of what truly matters and have brought unparalleled happiness to our family. Professionally, achieving the position I had worked so hard for, was another milestone that added to my sense of fulfillment. It was the culmination of years of dedication and effort, and it affirmed my commitment to making a meaningful impact in my field.



Each of these moments has contributed to my "happily ever after," reflecting a life rich in personal joy, professional achievements, and family love.

## Favourite holiday destination and why:

I like to explore new destinations all the time. But so far, my favorite holiday destination is Edinburgh with my family because of its rich history, family-friendly attractions, and beautiful parks; making it an ideal place for both exploration and quality family time

## Hidden talent of her spouse:

Sarvpreet is an exceptional Golfer and he draws well.

## Who would she like to be marooned on an island with( besides her spouse)

I would choose to be marooned on an island with Bear Grylls, as his survival skills and adventurous spirit would make the experience both safer and more interesting

## All-time favorite movie/show

Sarabhai Vs Sarabhai / Jaane bhi do yaaro / Jab we met,

## If given a chance would she change anything of her past:

If given a chance, I wouldn't change anything in my past because every experience has shaped who I am today and taught me valuable lessons.



# COMMUNITY INITIATIVES



The Rotary Club of Delhi South has been working on setting up a Skill Training Centre in collaboration with the Leprosy Mission Trust India (TLMTI) at the TLMTI - Diana Princess of Wales Health Education and Media Centre in Sector 62, Noida.

This is an extremely prestigious collaboration between a 150+ year old TLMTI and a 100+ old Rotary Organization.

The ₹40 lakh project was supported by generous contributions from AIMIL Ltd., and members of the Rotary Club of Delhi Regency, next, with a small input from the Delhi South Rotary Service Foundation. The Centre has been functional from the beginning of July 2024 and is running IT and Cosmetology classes. The Centre's new executives have managed to recruit around 40 students, out of which a significant number are children of Leprosy treated patients from the Tahirpur leprosy colonies.

## TLMTI SKILL TRAINING CENTRE





On **July 23, 2024**, we arranged a grand ceremony to dedicate the **Rotary-TLMTI Skill Training Centre** to the society. The event was attended by the AIMIL team, led by Dr. Mallika Kapur Singh, our DG Rtn. Dr. Mahesh Trikha, First lady Sujata ji, President Rtn. Sarvpreet Singh, Secretary Rtn. Dr. Shweta Javali, and Rotarians Dr. Vaneeta Kapur, Rajinder Sehgal, PP Anil Aggarwal, IPP Pramod Aggarwal, apart from the four Leprosy Core Group members of PDG Rtn. Deepak Kapur, PP Rtn. Deepak Kapoor, PP Rtn. Pradeep Bahri and PP Rtn. Tridibes Basu.

## TLMTI SKILL TRAINING CENTRE

RCDS Leprosy staff member AK Singh helped with the arrangements. All senior functionaries of TLMTI, including Chairman Dr. Prasad, ED Dr. Premal Das, Samuel Thomas, Advisor, Tina Mendis, Head of Sustainable Livelihood and Amit Kumar, Head Fund Raising were present. Amit was the key person in the project, who worked closely with Rtn. Naman Aggarwal, Rtn. Pramod Aggarwal and Rtn. Tridibes Basu. The function commenced with students' welcome of the guests and their welcome song, which was followed by lamp lighting, in which all dignitaries and guests participated. Thereafter, Our DG Dr. Mahesh Trikha and TLMTI ED, Dr. Premal Das jointly cut the ribbon and unveiled the plate and dedicated the Centre to the society. After a visit to the classrooms and meeting the students and teachers, the RCDS, AIMIL and TLMTI teams sat down in a partnership meeting to discuss progress made so far and future plans. Dr Prasad, Dr Das, DG Mahesh, PDG Deepak, Sarvpreet, Pradeep Bahri and some others spoke. The meeting was concluded with tea and refreshments.



## अमृता हॉस्पिटल में रोटरी क्लब द्वारा दो क्लेफ्ट पैलेट सर्जरी का डोनेशन

IBN NEWS · 4 weeks ago · फरीदाबाद, हरियाणा · Leave a comment · 74 Views



## CLEFT PALATE SURGERY

The surgeries were performed by the renowned plastic surgeon, Dr. Mohit Sharma and his dedicated team. This was the same team that had a year ago successfully performed the first bilateral hand transplant on a 19 year old boy, who had lost both his hands in a train accident.

After the successful surgery of these two children, Rtn. Sarvpreet said, "He is confident that both these children will be able to lead a normal life after Palate Reconstruction."

This initiative received coverage in eight print media houses, namely Mera Faridabad, Atal Hind, Front News Today, Sarvpriya Bharat, Aaj Samaj, IBN News, National Prahari and Pioneer Hindi.

What better way to begin the new Rotary year 24-25, than with a Community Service Project!



On the **1st of July**, which marked the start of the new Rotary year, the Rotary Club of Delhi South under the aegis of the new President Rtn. Sarvpreet Singh, sponsored **Cleft Palate Surgeries** for two children at the Amrita Hospital, Faridabad. Rtn. Sarvpreet Singh said that he got the inspiration to do this from his parents, Smt. Paramjit and Shri. Kanwarjit Singh and was supported by his wife, Director of New Initiatives, Rtn. Sakshi Khanna Singh and their children, Niyamat and Samarvir.

## एक नजर

### अमृता हॉस्पिटल फरीदाबाद में रोटरी क्लब द्वारा दो क्लेफ्ट पैलेट सर्जरी का डोनेशन



अटल हिंद संवाददाता/फरीदाबाद, 01 जुलाई। अमृता हॉस्पिटल फरीदाबाद में रोटरी क्लब ऑफ दिल्ली साउथ के प्रेजिडेंट रोटेरियन सर्वप्रीत सिंह और उनकी टीम ने दो क्लेफ्ट पैलेट (Cleft Palate) सर्जरी 1 जुलाई को कराने के लिए डोनेशन दिया है। रोटरी डिस्ट्रिक्ट 3011 का न्यू ईयर 1 जुलाई से शुरू होने के उपलक्ष्य में रोटरी क्लब ने यह फैसला लिया। अमृता हॉस्पिटल में यह सर्जरी प्लास्टिक और रिकंस्ट्रक्टिव सर्जन डॉ. मोहित शर्मा और उनकी टीम द्वारा की गई। इस टीम ने दिसंबर 2023 में उत्तर भारत का पहला दोनों हाथों का हेड ट्रांसप्लांट और एशिया के ऐसे व्यक्ति का हेड ट्रांसप्लांट किया था जिसका पहले ही किडनी ट्रांसप्लांट हो चुका था। इन बच्चों की सफल सर्जरी के बाद, रोटेरियन सर्वप्रीत सिंह ने कहा कि उन्हें विश्वास है कि स्वस्थ होने के बाद ये बच्चे एक अच्छा जीवन जी सकेंगे।





The District Governor, Rtn. Mahesh Trikha, Chair Cancer Foundation, Hon. Secy. Rtn. Ajay Narain, District Inner Wheel Chairman, Dr. Manisha Kaushik, Rtn. Vandana Bhalla, Dist. Chair Cervical Cancer Elimination, Rtn. Sarvpreet Singh, President, Rotary Club of Delhi South, Rtn. Dr. Shweta Javali, Hony. Secretary, RCDS Directors for New Initiatives and Club Services, Rtn. Sakshi Singh and Rtn. Ila Jain respectively; as well as several members from the Rotary Club of Delhi South and the Inner Wheel graced the occasion.

In all, 308 girls and women were vaccinated.

## CERVICAL CANCER VACCINATION CAMPS

Recognizing the need-of-the-hour, the Rotary Club of Delhi South is going all out to organize **Cervical Cancer Vaccination** drives and to spread awareness of the same.

The first Cervical Cancer Vaccination Camp of this Rotary Year was held on **1st July, 2024** at **BLK Max Hospital**. The camp was supported by the Rotary District 3011 and organized by the Rotary Club of Delhi South, Rotary Club of Faridabad, Aravali and Inner Wheel Club.





## CERVICAL CANCER VACCINATION CAMPS

On **6th July**, the second **Cervical Cancer Vaccination** was held at the **Birla Vidya Niketan School, New Delhi**.

The second dose was administered to 211 girls – the biggest second day coverage in a single day! The Rotary Club of Delhi South Mentor, Youth Services, Rtn. Naman Aggarwal and the Director, Youth Services, Rtn. Ajay Kumar spearheaded the Project.



The District Zonal Chair, Cervical Cancer Elimination, Rtn. Dr. Neeraj Bhalla and the District Chair, Cervical Cancer Elimination, Rtn. Vandana Bhalla arranged the medical staff and vaccines.

Apart from the afore-mentioned Rotarians, President, Rtn. Sarvpreet Singh, IPP Rtn. Pramod Aggarwal, Rtn. Shailen Verma, Rtn. Kaval Verma and Rtn. Pravin Aggarwal graced the occasion.





**Dant Pari Foundation with RCDS** organised an Awareness camp on **Tobacco and its effects**. How it is an addiction and how to get help and guide a family or friend for help. It was organised at Adharshila Harekesh Nagar who is focused on youth and vocational training. Focus to educate and create awareness is the need of the hour.



Glimpses of free Health care checkup at Project Why NGO, Khadar organised by **Dant Pari Foundation and Rotary Club of Delhi South**.



Women are the pillar of any family, but whose Health is most neglected!



An effort to create an overall **Health Awareness with special focus on women's health**



## THE CYCLE RALLY FOR EARTH



The Rotary Club of Delhi South participated in the **“Cycle Rally for Earth”** on Sunday, the **14th of July** at the Tagore International School, East of Kailash; along with the Rotary Club of Delhi Heights.

This was a campaign for raising funds for Environmental-friendly initiatives like production and distribution of cotton cloth bags, tree plantations, installation of plastic shredder machines and water conservation. The Club was a co-host and also sponsored the gifts for the event.

The Rotary Club of Delhi Heights expressed their gratitude for our generous sponsorship and support in making the initiative a great success. Our partnership in their strive for sustainable living was highly appreciated.



The onset of the rainy season in July makes it an ideal month to start the **Tree Plantation** drive. The moisture-rich environment & natural irrigation provide the ideal conditions for young saplings to establish their roots and thrive. Trees improve soil health and quality, provide shade, improve the air quality and reduce noise pollution. The Rotary Club of Delhi South, President, Rtn. Sarvpreet Singh inaugurated the Tree plantation drive at the **Army Cantonment Area** in New Delhi on **1st July' 24**. An Ardaas was carried out prior to planting the first sapling. RCDS aims to plant a total of 1000 trees at the designated site and will have an NGO partner maintain the same for a period of 3 years..

## TREE PLANTATION



## PROJECT NARI SHAKTI & ATMANIRBHAR



Inauguration of Skill Development and Placement Centre was held on **3rd August 2024** under the project Atmanirbhar and Narishakti supported by Arya Samaj Vasant Vihar and sponsored by Rotary Club of Delhi South and Rotary Club of Singapore.

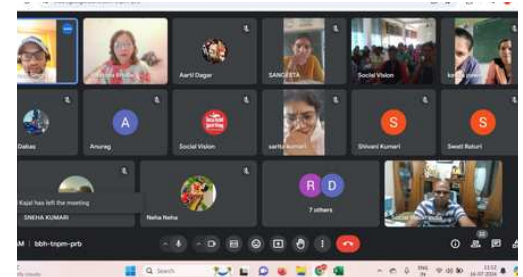
Project Nari Shakti and Atmanirbhar started for 134 girls and boys is sponsored by RCDS.



## VISIT TO OUR NGO PARTNER



Dr. Shweta Javali, Honorary Secretary visited our NGO Partner, Sankalp on **22nd August** and interacted with the staff and children. She also applauded the efforts put in by the staff and children in making paper flowers for the RCDS Installation event on 23rd July. She also took gifts for the children who helped with the making of the beautiful flowers in the colours of the Magic of Rotary logo.



On **July 16th** a **Cervical Cancer Awareness** Talk, online session was held for the **members of Social Vision**. The talk was organised by President Sarvpreet and Sijo.

Cervical Cancer Chair **Rtn. Vandana Bhalla**, gave the talk to the audience that consisted of around 150 parents and girls. The response was good and the parents were eager to get their girls vaccinated.

**Cervical Cancer Awareness** talk, given online to **Gyan Bharti School's** parents for Cervical cancer vaccination project. Dr. Neeraj Bhalla and Vandana Bhalla conducted the session, on **18th August 24**.

There was a good response by the parents and children



There is pollution and they are trying to go more and more towards battery vehicles. Iran also plays a role in which it looks after refugees. Currently, from Afghanistan, it has got 5 million refugees whom they are providing boarding and lodging. Iran has a common border between 15 countries. India has invested in Chabar Port which can handle an annual cargo of 2.1 million tons. It is a deep sea port and it connects to Central Asia, the North-South Corridor, Russia, and Europe. So, this opens a great trading route for India and Iran has provided a 10-year contract for this. There was also discussion on trading on local currencies and His Excellency said that more and more efforts are being made to trade in local currencies or in the barter system. Both countries, India and Iran, are members of the Shanghai Cooperation and BRICS.

The meeting was followed by cocktails and drinks. Rtn. Rajiv Gujral had very thoughtfully added some Iranian dishes to the spread. The evening had a record attendance – a great start to the new beginnings!





# FELLOWSHIP

JULY 2024





# FELLOWSHIP

JULY 2024





Inayat - the **Interact Club of Birla Vidya Niketan** had their **Installation Ceremony** on **2nd August, 2024**. The planning, the content and the execution of the programme was excellent.



It was great to hear about the projects undertaken by the Interactors last year and their plans for this year.

The leadership skills, the confidence, the teaming, respect for others and the spirit of community service was clearly visible in the Interactors' behaviour and in their presentations - something that RCDS and the School can be proud of.

Its **Namya Kasturi** was installed as **President** and her Team was announced. It was a very well organised installation.



# Interact Installation



On **August 21st**, **Gyan Bharati School** held the **Installation ceremony of the Interact Club** in the school's inner auditorium. The event marked the official induction of the newly elected executive board, showcasing the spirit of leadership and service among the students.

The ceremony was graced by esteemed guests, including Mr. Sarvpreet Singh, President of Rotary Club Delhi South, Mr. Ajay, Director of Rotary Club Delhi South and Mrs Sonali Ajay. Their presence added prestige to the occasion, underscoring the importance of the Rotary's principles of service above self, which the Interact Club embodies.



The ceremony concluded with a vote of thanks, leaving everyone inspired and eager to contribute to the club's activities. The installation ceremony of the Interact Club at Gyan Bharati School was a successful event that set the tone for another year of impactful service and leadership.

The event commenced with a warm welcome to the guests, followed by the traditional lighting of the lamp, symbolizing the dispelling of ignorance and the ushering in of knowledge. The outgoing president, Rishika Arora delivered a heartfelt speech reflecting on the achievements of the past year and expressing confidence in the new leadership.

The highlight of the ceremony was the installation of the new executive board. **Kyra Talwar** was elected as the **new president of the Interact Club**. As each member of the new board stepped forward, they were presented with their badges by the chief guests, signifying their commitment to their roles and responsibilities. Kyra, in her acceptance speech, spoke about her vision for the club, emphasizing the importance of teamwork, community service, and innovation in the upcoming year.

Adding a touch of vibrancy to the event, a play was performed by the students, which was well-received by the audience. The play highlighted the themes of social responsibility towards water conservation resonating with the club's mission.



# MAGICAL LADIES



Imagine a world of RCDS where magical ladies from various realms gather together to form a vibrant group, each bringing their unique mystical charms to share with one another. These enchanting women might come from different cultures and dimensions.

## Setting the Scene:

The meeting places change with each gathering, keeping every meetup as exciting and unpredictable as the magical ladies themselves.

## What They Do:

Each outing is filled with fun and wonder. The joy of their friendship is at the heart of these outings. These women celebrate each other's successes and offer guidance when one is troubled. They cherish their bond, often creating moments of pure magic together—like calling down the northern lights for a private show or conjuring a rain of shooting stars during a midnight picnic or a monument of grandeur or a hidden gem off the beaten path.....

## A SUNDAY MAGICAL VISIT TO HUMAYUN TOMB





## DINIKA – COCHRAN FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM



**CHANGING THE NARRATIVE:  
100 WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS  
BUILDING & SHAPING INDIA**

Good Karma Ladies INDIAN INVEST INDIA mint



Her academic background includes a degree in Business Administration from the University of Southern California,

Dinika's commitment to empowering women extends beyond her business endeavors. She actively collaborates with leading agriculture and horticulture institutions in India to

support and mentor women entrepreneurs in various sectors. Her efforts align with the United Nations' designation of 2026 as the Year of Women in Agriculture, highlighting her role as a trailblazer in advocating for gender equality. In recognition of her contributions, Dinika was featured in 100 Women Entrepreneurs Building and Shaping India by Mint & Invest India.

Dinika Bhatia's journey epitomizes resilience, innovation, and a relentless pursuit of excellence. As a beacon of inspiration and female leadership, she continues to shape the health food industry and empower future generations of entrepreneurs.

Dinika Bhatia (Daughter of Raju & Simi Bhatia) is a visionary entrepreneur and the Founder

and CEO of DRB Foods, a leading company in India's health food and snacking segment. With a passion for promoting a healthy lifestyle, Dinika founded Nutty Gritties in 2009, transforming it into one of the fastest-growing brands in the premium packaged foods industry in India.

Her entrepreneurial journey began amidst the emergence of retail in India, where she led the transformation of her family's over 100-year-old wholesale trading business into a household consumer brand. Under her leadership, Nutty Gritties has become synonymous with innovation and taste, pioneering the category of "snacking on nuts" in India & holding fifteen percent of the market share in premium nuts and trail mix's in India.

As a sixth-generation entrepreneur, Dinika's roots in business date back to 1887, instilling in her a deep appreciation for agriculture and business acumen.





Vinay and Yuko Shrivastava inspired our decision to visit Hampi. After seeing their beautiful photos in front of ancient temple ruins and hearing about their experiences, we added Hampi to our bucket list. My golf buddy Eddie, who had also visited Hampi and Badami, supported our choice.

On June 21st, 2024, we flew from the bustling Indira Gandhi Terminal T-2 to Hubli. The airport was filled with excitement, especially among first-time travelers and their families. Our flight, with our own food, landed at the tidy Hubli airport, 12 degrees cooler than Delhi. We were chauffeured to Ananth The Grand, a large, new hotel with spacious rooms and excellent service due to low occupancy.



## PRADEEP & SONYA'S MEMORABLE TRIP TO HAMPI

The next day, our Maruti Dezire taxi with Driver Ashok took us to Hampi after we left Ananth The Grand.

**Tip 1:** Hire a taxi through a reliable agent before leaving Delhi for your entire stay and return trip to Hubli airport.

The journey on NH 67 from Hubli to Hampi was smooth and scenic, covering 165 kilometers in about three hours. Our driver pointed out sights, including Gadag, where we saw windmills generating 300 MW of clean energy. The view was both beautiful and environmentally rewarding.

**Tip 2:** Carry water and snacks for the scenic drive, as there are no decent places to buy them. Toilets at Toll Plazas are available but not tested.

The Heritage Resort and Spa Hampi offered a warm welcome with its serene setting, rooms, restaurant, pool, and spa.

**Day 1** we started with the Archeological Museum, located at Kamalapura village near Hampi, which houses many artifacts collected from Hampi ruins site. We then headed to the Anjaneya Hill, believed to be the birthplace of Lord Hanuman (also known as Anjaneya).





**On Day 2**, we headed for a three-hour drive (about 140 kms away) to a town called Aihole. This is a historic site of ancient Hindu, Buddhist and Jain monuments that dates from the sixth century through the twelfth century



## PRADEEP & SONYA'S MEMORABLE TRIP TO HAMPI

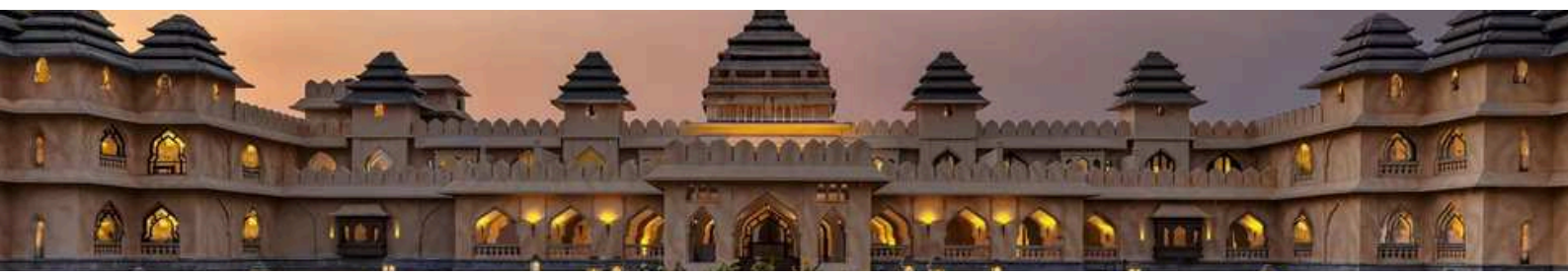
On Day 3, we visited the Vitthala Temple. This is a Vishnu Temple and legend has it that like Nandi is at the entrance of Shiva Temples, Garuda is supposed to be at the entrance of a Vishnu Temple.

The Royal Enclosure, which was centre of the Hampi had buildings belonging to the Vijayanagar Kingdom and include – Queen's Bath, Elephant Stable to house the elephants of the visiting nobles, a step well, the Lotus Mahal and many others.

Virupaksha Temple is the 7th century Shiva temple in Hampi, Central Karnataka. Lord Virupaksha or Pampapathi is the main deity in Virupaksha Temple. The inverted shadow of the main tower falls on a wall inside the temple. The temple elephant gave his blessings to us.

The other imposing and beautiful structures at Hampi were the Kadalekalu Ganesha 4.5 mtrs tall, Lakshi Narsimha Statue which is about 6.7 mtrs high and the Siva Temple which has a 3 mtr high Shiv Linga with the base always underwater.

**Day 4**, we checked out and headed for Hublu Airport. We were delighted that we could make this trip which had etched some everlasting and beautiful memories in our minds for the rest of our lives.



# CELEBRATIONS



**July**

- 03 Pankaj Poddar
- 04 Raju Bhatia
- 06 Arjun Mehta
- 08 Anand P. Gupta
- 08 Manju Kanwar
- 10 Meenakshi Chadha
- 11 Hemant Sultania
- 13 Rajni Dua
- 17 Sonya Bahri
- 20 Pravin K Agarwal
- 22 Nalini Ahuja
- 30 Archana Katariya
- 30 Neeru Atroley

**August**

- 06 Kochhar
- 10 Pankaj Chadha
- 13 Divya Vij
- 13. B. K. Garodia
- 13 Dharam Batra
- 20 Rita Bhasin
- 26 Sarvpreet Singh
- 29 Ajay Kumar

**September**

- 01 Rita Kumar
- 01 Nishant Kalia
- 02 Vinod Poddar
- 08 Kiran Agarwal
- 09 Indu Mahajan
- 09 Rajeev Bajaj
- 11 Pradeep Kumar
- 13 Chitra Mehta
- 14 Sanjeev Krishan
- 20 T.L. Bhandari
- 21 Alok Agarwal
- 23 Renu Khanna
- 25 Pradeep Bahri
- 26 Deepak Kapur
- 26 Manoj Kumar



**July**

- 02 Neena & B K Chhibber
- 04 Sonali & Ajay Kumar
- 12 Deepa & Anil Wadhwa
- 28 Sonya & Cdr Pradeep Bahri

**August**

- 26 Kausy & S Madhavan
- 26 Dimple & Amarjit
- 30 Archana & Ganesh Katariya

**September**

- 10 Kriti & Sumit Makhija
- 21 Simi & Raju Bhatia
- 21 Sarita & Deepak Kapoor
- 29 Dolly & Arvinder Brara
- 30 Vaneeta & Deepak Kapur

## Our guiding ethical framework



- 1 Is it the **TRUTH**?
- 2 Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
- 3 Will it build **GOODWILL & BETTER FRIENDSHIP**?
- 4 Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?