

He has been marshalling his energies for Rotary since 1972, when he joined the fledgling club in his hometown of Vapi, India. Around the same time, the young chemical engineer was starting up a small company to produce red phosphorous, an essential ingredient in fertilizer. Under Banerjee's leadership, United Phosphorous Limited blossomed into the largest agrochemical manufacturer in India. And Vapi, due in no small part to the work of the local Rotary club, has been transformed from a sleepy village into a major industrial center in Gujarat State.

Over the last four decades, Banerjee has served Rotary as a district governor, president's representative, committee and task force chair, Rotary Foundation trustee, and director. He also has been a member of the International Polio Plus Committee, heading up initiatives that have spurred Rotary's polio eradication efforts in India.

Now, almost to his own amazement, Banerjee is the organization's 101st president and the third from India.