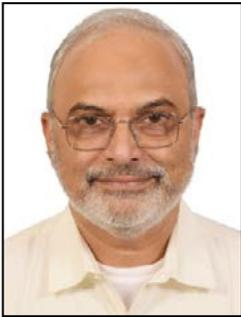


PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

SERVICE PROJECTS – THE LONG AND SHORT OF IT



Dear Southerners,

The five avenues of service are Club, Vocational, Community, Youth and International, and the Seven focus areas are:

1. Disease prevention and treatment.
2. Water Sanitation and Hygiene
3. Community Economic Development
4. Maternal and Child Health
5. Supporting Environment
6. Peace Building and Conflict Prevention
7. Basic Education and Literacy.

Clubs are expected to focus on all avenues of service while also keeping the focus areas in mind.

In Rotary, there is always a debate on short-term Vs long-term projects. The advocates of short-term projects point out that every president has his/her favourite project and may want to implement them. At the same time, the supporters of long-term projects believe that for anything to be impactful, one year is too short a period. Providing infrastructure, especially civil construction, is also not encouraged.

I suggest a good mix of short-term and long-term projects and providing infra of any type on a need basis. Considering the current needs, we must relook at how we approach projects. Today with the improvement in communication, better documentation and monitoring, we can afford to take up projects of long-term nature.

Polio eradication is a long-term project; and is the jewel in the crown of Rotary projects. By 1980, it was estimated that only 20% of the world's children were immunised against the dreaded polio disease. The problem was two-fold, the cost and the difficulty of delivery. The great majority of developing countries could neither afford the cost of the vaccine necessary

to immunise their children nor did they have a reliable way to deliver the vaccine to those who were most in need of it. After Rotary's successful polio eradication in the Philippines started in 1979, RI took up the polio plus program in 1987, intending to eradicate polio from the world by 2005. Though we are yet to reach the end of polio eradication, we are very close to it.

Coming to our club, we had taken up many infra projects like supporting Thiruvuduvanthai village, Cowl Bazaar, and Danaberg energy centre at CEG. In 2013 we constructed an 800 Sq. Ft Community Learning Centre at Kattur village near Thiruporur to provide vocational training and tuition for the local inhabitants. The other recently completed infrastructure project is the 62 rainwater harvesting wells in government and corporation schools in and around Chennai. The 'Little Hearts' project for saving children with congenital heart issues is a successful and well-acclaimed long-term project activity. Short-term projects like computer centres and flood relief have been a regular activity of Madras South.

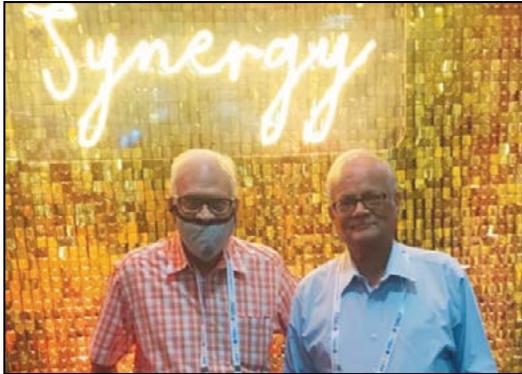
It is time that we move up the ladder and conduct impact assessments of our projects. Keeping emotions and personal likes aside, we have to have an impact assessment for all our projects, small or big. On any service project, we must ask whether the monies are spent efficiently without leakage and whether we are getting enough bang for the buck?

Yours in Rotary
Renjit Joseph

INSTALLATION OF
RTN JAWAHAR NICHANI
as president (RY 2022-23)
at Hotel Radisson Blu, Chennai,
on 28th June, 2022



The first physical District Conference after a gap of 2 years at the Chennai Trade Centre turned out to be memorable to both veteran and green Rotarians from our club who had registered for the event held from 20th to 22nd May, 2022. Extracts of feedback received from three of them, R V Rajan (member since 1977), Elumperiyar (member since 2015) and Devan Thuppali (who joined just a month ago) are reproduced here.



I attended the Inaugural session on Friday afternoon and the morning session on Saturday. While the highlight of the Friday session for me was my good friend PDG Krishnan V. Chari receiving the Service Above Self Award, the real treat came on Saturday morning. Starting with an inspiring motivational talk by his Holiness Shri Asaanji. His words of wisdom 'I am blessed – you are my blessing' are still ringing in my ears! This was followed by a brilliant talk by Nicky Scott, the RI President's representative at the conference. I liked the point she made about the perils of inducting new members indiscriminately which is affecting the quality of membership in Rotary in recent times. The most impressive programme was the Honouring Gallantry Awardees of Armed forces who participated in the Bangladesh war in 1971. This was followed by a very passionate speech by Lt.Gen.A.Arun on 'Peace & Conflict Prevention – Army as a Nation builder'. His talk was so moving that I got goose pimples listening to him. I am told the sessions on Sunday morning and all the entertainment programmes were outstanding though I was not impressed with the Food Court idea.

Kudos to the Organising Committee of Synergy 22 for pulling off another memorable District Conference.

Rtn R V Rajan

I thoroughly enjoyed the Events at Synergy 22 within a few days of being inducted into the Rotary Club of Madras South, thanks to Bina and Renjit.

It was indeed wonderful to meet many of my friends at the event and some after a long time.



The talks given by His Holiness Asaanji and Lt. Gen A. Arun were absolutely motivating and happy I didn't miss them.

The various entertainment shows added to the fun and festivities and not to mention the Fellowship Corner (Watering Hole) where I did manage to get introduced to many other Rotarians from other clubs through friends of mine. Couldn't have asked for a better start to my life as a Rotarian.

Rtn Devan Thuppali

Fellowship of Visual Arts loving Rotarians (FVALR) was one of the fellowship programmes initiated by the District Governor this year among 15 plus fellowships. My wife, Ann Chithra, was one of the members of the FVALR who displayed her work at the conference. This made us stay on at the conference venue for all three days.

Ahaana, an exclusive event for the Anns and Annets showcased their talents and kept them entertained. As usual, the entertainment sessions at the conference were spectacular. The audience was amazed by Lydian Nadhaswaram's live musical performance.

Ann Chithra caught up with her old friends from the other clubs at the conference. She presented one of her artworks themed "Synergy in Rotary" to the District Governor Rtn. J. Sridhar.

Our family had a wonderful time at the conference. It would have been more memorable if there was a large number of participants from our club.

Rtn Elumperiyar



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The Rotary District Training Assembly for 2022 was held on 29th May at the state of the art auditorium at Sri Ramachandra Institute of Higher Education and Research. Thoughtfully titled "Arivarangam", the event turned out to be a successful and highly memorable one for those who participated.

According to PE Rtn Jawahar Nichani, "The workshop offered Rotary information, new ideas to the club, motivation and inspiration. The minds are flooded with various ideas and also the fellowship dramatically gets enhanced, as we get to meet various avenue directors, from various clubs. It was a wonderful event as we had more than 1400 people attending."

Rtn Sarvesh Shyam had this to say: "DG Nandakumar delivered an inspiring speech alongside other dignitaries such as Chief guest, RI director A.S. Venkatesh and the keynote speaker - honourable judge of the Supreme court of India, Justice Shri V. Subramanian, who captivated the audience and enthralled them with their wit and humour." He further added, "Arivarangam concluded with hundreds of members of various Rotary leadership teams across the district satiated with great food and fuelled by even greater motivation, imagining the possibilities of the year that lies ahead."



RTN DEVAN THUPPALI INDUCTED



Devan Thuppali was inducted as a member of our club at the weekly meeting held on 17th May, 2022. He was introduced

by Rtn Bina Boaz while PP Rtn S R Madhu formally inducted him. His classification is 'Consumer Products -Sales'.

LITE FIRESIDE HOSTED



Rtn Seshadri and Ann Mythili hosted a Lite Fireside at their home on Saturday, 14th May. Around 10 Southerners

participated and enjoyed an evening of banter and fellowship.

WASHING MACHINE DONATED

STEPS HOME is an orphanage for girls started with a vision to be different from most orphanages that come to our mind when we hear that word. It was started by a couple Isaac and Tara Manogaram who have 2 adopted children of their own. They also decided to parent the children in 'Steps Home' as their own. The children go to regular good schools (fees paid), stay in a beautiful home built just for them, wear stylish clothes, and had very hands-on parenting by Isaac and Tara who lived just one street away. Sadly Covid snatched Isaac from them and Tara is handling the home on her own. They badly needed a washing machine which our Club generously provided. The girls are extremely thankful to us.

Rtn Bina Boaz



WEEKLY MEETINGS IN MAY



Date : 10th May, 2022
 Speaker : Ms Aekta Kapoor
 (via Zoom)
 Topic : Women Entrepreneurs



Date : 17th May, 2022
 Speaker : Rtn V Shankar
 Topic : Electric Vehicles



Date : 31st May, 2022
 Speaker : Rtn Dr N Ragavan
 Topic : Prostate - what every man should know

Rotary Clubs in Punjab, Haryana, UP, Uttarakhand, HP, and Chandigarh. The past Rotary International President from India, R K Saboo from Rotary Club of Chandigarh comes from this District.

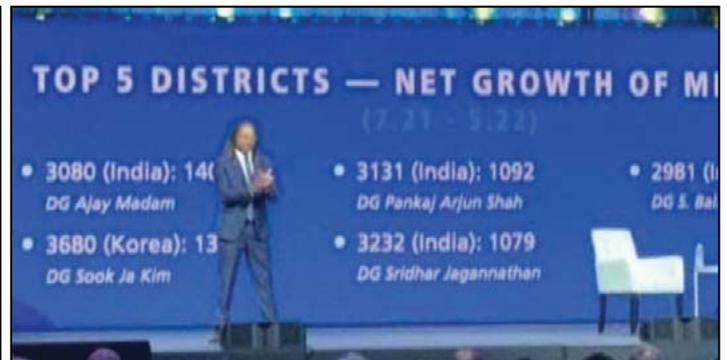
For the records, our Club has added 8 new members this year and has net membership of 71, a growth of 3 members over last year.

Our District 3232 is also in the top 5 in the number of new clubs chartered during the year, with 48 new clubs. That's a mind-boggling addition. Again, all the top 5 Districts are from South Asia, with the top 2 from India, and the top 3 and 4 from Pakistan and Bangladesh respectively. Certainly, South Asia, particularly India, is Rotary's growing region. Congratulations to DG J Sridhar for this magnificent feat.

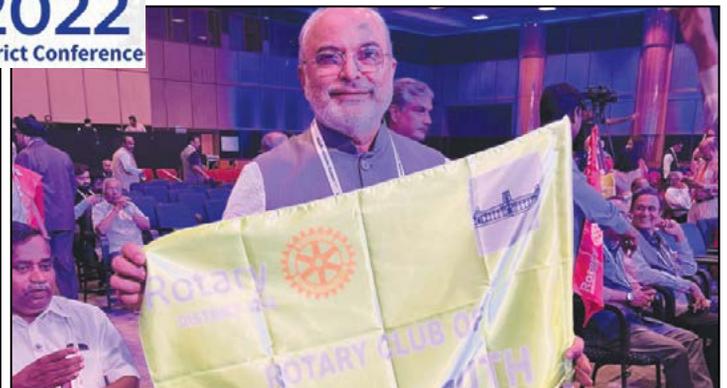
Rtn Magdoom Mohamed
 Chairman- Membership Development

DISTRICT 3232 IS AMONG THE TOP 5 IN WORLDWIDE MEMBERSHIP GROWTH

Our Rotary District 3232 with a net addition of 1079 members during the Rotary year 2021-22 has come 4th in the list of Districts with the highest addition of new members. Interestingly, all 4 out of the 5 Districts are from India, with a lone exception of District 3680 from Korea in the 2nd place. District 3080, India, tops the list and it comprises



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