# Ottopolom Rotory News

a monthly e-Bullettin of Rotary club of Ottapalam

Issue # 4

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Oct-2018







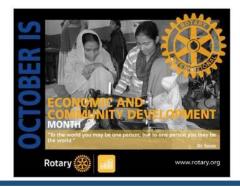
#### from the Editor's desk

Dear fellow Rotarians,

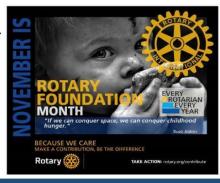
Greetings from the editorial board!

This is our 4th issue of the bulletin for October 2018 with activities roundup of September 2018 along with other relevant information. Let's dedicate this issue to Mahatma Gandhi whose 150th Birthday celebrations start now for a year!

Look forward to receiving your comments, suggestions, contributions and creative criticism by email to cio.rotaryotp@gmail.com



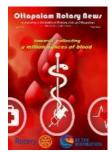
Yours in Rotary Rtn. Ramachandran K



#### Past editions







#2 Aug-2018



#3 Sep-2018



### President Speaks



# Rotary needs strong clubs to do more good



Dear fellow Rotarians,

Imagine if we could take a snapshot capturing all of the work Rotary does on a given day. No one — except Rotarians — would believe that a single organisation was capable of accomplishing so much. In that snapshot you would see dedicated volunteers working to eradicate polio, setting up microloans, providing clean water, mentoring youth, and countless other actions.

We can do all this thanks both to our geographic reach and to the fact that our clubs are made up of people who are engaged in their communities. As a part of the community that you serve, you know the needs, you have the connections, and you're able to take immediate action. That's why every Rotary club's membership should reflect the diversity of its community.

We've made great strides in this. In Egypt, Indonesia and Kenya, Rotary is approaching 50 per cent female membership. We're also expanding the age diversity of our clubs. In each of our communities, young professionals are eager to contribute their talents, give back, and learn from mentors. Let's share with them what Rotary is all about. The Engaging Younger Professionals Toolkit at Rotary.org has an action plan to help you reach young leaders and Rotary alumni in your area.

Another resource that can help us better reflect our communities — one that is global like us, is a quarter-million members strong, and already shares our values of service and leadership — is Rotaract. Rotaractors are our partners: Team up with them on projects, ask them to speak at your events, and invite them to join your club. Dedicated Rotaractors worldwide are becoming members of Rotary and even starting new Rotary clubs while still serving as members of Rotaract.

The world needs Rotary, and Rotary needs strong clubs and engaged members in order to do more good. It is our responsibility — yours and mine — to make sure everyone who shows an interest in joining Rotary gets an invitation. Make use of the Membership Leads tool at Rotary.org, which helps people who are interested in joining Rotary connect with a club that's right for them. And let's ensure that every member has a reason to stay. By building strong clubs that engage in meaningful projects and have fun along the way, we provide value to our club members that they cannot find anywhere else.

Let's not keep Rotary's story — the story captured in those snapshots of service — to ourselves. I challenge you to invite leaders of all ages, men and women, who are looking for a way to give back. By doing so, you will Be the Inspiration in your community and help Rotary continue to do good in the world.

Barry Rassin President, Rotary International





#### Message from President



Dear Fellow Rotarians,

Warm Rotary greetings.

Warm greetings to you through this fourth issue magnificent Ottapalam Rotary News. I am too much excited and elated to be a Rotatian after Kamalabai from Nagpur has safely reached the hands of her loved ones. With filled heart and proud feeling I share with you the story. Kamalabai having fallen in to the hands of dementia left her home in Nagpur almost a year back. Her son and other relatives made all efforts to find her but they couldnt find out where she had January this year, some how she reached gone. Saranalayam in Koonathara. Neither the authorities, nor she was able to communicate each other as she could speak only Marathi. Sister Gloria and other staff were really helpless as no information came out from her which could give some cue to locate her relatives in Maharashtra....It was on Aug 22, I happened to visit Saranalayam with Sec Col Venugopal and came to know about Kamalabai. From that moment things moved incredibly fast with the help of Reshmi Deshmukh daughter in law of Col Venigopal. Reshmi elicited useful information from her talking in her language and sought the help of Malayali Association in Nagpur. Within a few weeks time Reshmi was able to connect with Son Sunil Manohar Rao of Kamalahai.





#### Message from President



It is very happy for Rotary club of Ottapalam that Sunil Manohar, came down from Nagpur and took his mother back home. I and Col Venugopal could witness the happy reunion of the family the other day. I felt overwhelmed on the strength of network Rotarians can make use of. A memory that will cherish my life for ever. I thank profusely Venugopal, Reshmi and other friends in Nagpur for the persistent efforts made by them. After, Kerala has slowly started picking up the reconstruction after unprecedented floods and devastations there by, we could could do more in affected areas through Hope. One more proud moment in September was when Ajay Balachandran, a victim of train accident who lost his mobility was handed over the chin operated wheel chair came through our global grant. He expressed his happiness and gratitude for the help done by Rotary. Also twelve modified scooters were handed over to the beneficiaries under our Global Grant project. Other projects like, sewing machine, financial assistance to a needy, and many more were carried out in September. We are amidst the hectic activities as months go by. I enjoy leading a vibrant club that serves the community in all areas of service.

Thank you Jai Rotary Jai Hind

Rtn PHF Adv Pradeep P





# Know your Rotary

Rtn. PP. V A BALU





#### **Our Causes**

#### **Providing Clean Water**

Rotary aims to finish providing every one with safe drinking water, sanitation and hygiene by 2030. The estimated cost to achieve this is \$24 per head.

WASH IN Schools (WinS) is a challenge program poised by Rotary for our members to develop sustainable water, sanitation and hygiene education projects in five countries Belize, Guatemala, Honduras, India and Kenya.

After implementation of new grants model in 2013, Rotary foundation matching with funds raised by clubs has invested in more than thousand WASH projects in more than hundred countries. With Rotarians involvement, TRF carried out projects for Water purification, hygiene education, Toilet construction, and waste management.

#### **Supporting Education**

Over 17% of adult population in the world, and more than 775 million above age 15, are illiterate. Rotary strengthen the communities to support basic education and literacy, eliminate gender disparity in education and increase adult literacy.





### Know your Rotary

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The Rotary Foundation has been doing wonderful projects to support education through scholarships, financial supports and service projects in the whole world. The Rotary Foundation has been doing wonderful projects to support education through scholarships, financial supports and service projects in the whole world.

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The Rotary Foundation has been doing wonderful projects to support education through scholarships, financial supports and service projects in the whole world.

Support to education and literacy is being done by Rotarians by opening schools, Teaching adults to read and write, by training new teaching methods, and making schools healthy by providing clean fresh water to every public schools





## Know your Rotary

Rtn. PP. V A BALU



#### Saving Mothers and Children

Child mortality is an area of great concern across the world so is mothers;' health. Rotary has been providing high quality health care to mothers and children so that they live longer and grow stronger. It is an alarming fact that nearly six million children below age five die every year because of preventable causes like, malnutrition. Poor inadequate health care and poor sanitation. Rotary plays pivotal role to provide access to quality health care to ensure mothers and children can equal opportunity to have healthy future. Rotary Foundation provides global grants for equipping hospitals with life- saving neonatal equipment around the world.

### **Growing Local economies**

Poverty alleviation is Rotary's area of concern for decades. Rotary has invested huge amount of money, and human resources to provide sustainable solutions to poverty. More than ten percent of the world population live on less than \$1.9 a day. Rotary Foundation, Rotary clubs and Rotarians around the world work to strengthen local entrepreneurs and community leaders. Women and economically backward communities are empowered through meaningful project like vocational trainings. Career guidance to fetch decent jobs and so on. More opportunities are created for communities to grow financially. Last year Rotary invested an amount of \$9.2 million to grow local economies and reduce poverty.





## Secretary's Report

Dear Fellow Rotarians,

Warm Rotary greetings.

#### **Projects completed in September 2018**

- 1. One Sewing machine was donated Ajishna, a needy widow on 02 September 2018.
- 2. Ten mattresses were distributed to needy personnel during the month.
- 3. Donated Rs 50,000/- to CMDRF and the DD handed over to Sub Collector, Ottapalam on 03 September 2018.
- One day meal was provided to 110 mentally challenged inmates of Poly Garden, Lakkidi on 13 September 2018 under District Priority Project Dhaanya Dhaan.
- 5. Rs 20,000/- was donated to the account of Sujitha. N, SBI Ottapalam Account No 32551425677 towards the cost of reconstruction of house of Adi Krishnan, a UKG child of Bhavans School, Ottapalam. The amount was donated by Shri. Sankaran Kutty on persuasion by Rtn Adv P Pradeep.
- 6. Chin operated wheelchair costing Rs 2,04,750/- has been handed over to the beneficiary Shri. Ajay under Global Grant Project. He has also been provided necessary training to operate the chair smoothly.
- 7. Twelve modified scooters have been handed over to beneficiaries costing Rs 79,900/- each on 15 September 2018 under global grant project.





### Secretary's Report



- 8. A lecture was delivered at Kendriya Vidyalaya Ottapalam on the subject Personal Hygiene and Preventive Medicine by Dr. Preetha Unni on 18 September 2018.
- A speaker meeting 'Guruvum Arivum' was conducted on 20 September 2018 by Shri. Mustapha, a paraplegic patient. Management of Handicrops, President Ottpalam Paliative care unit, and President RCC were also attended the meeting.
- 10. An air bed was donated to a needy beneficiary, Shri. Dasan, a paraplegic patient at Kondazhy on 20 September 2018.
- 11. An infant baby, named Sunita suffering from cardiac disorder has been facilitated for treatment at Amrita Hospital free of cost. Financial assistance of Rs 5000/- has also been provided to her parents on 21 September 2018.
- 12. Thirty baby chairs were donated to AMLP School, Varode on their request on 26 September 2018.
- 13. One day meal for 70 blind inmates of Hellen Keller were provided on 27 September 2018 under district priorities project Dhaanya Dhaan.
- 14. Health check-up for students of Bhavans Vidyalaya has been carried out on 28 September 2018 in association with New Ashwini Hospital.
- 15. One day meal was provided to inmates of Ashrayam Vridha Sadanam on 29 Septenmber 2018.







20180913: Giving one day meal at Poly Garden inmates, Lakkidi Total 110 inmates





20180927: Giving one day meal at Poly Garden inmates, Lakkidi Total 110 inmates







20180918: Lecture by Dr. Preetha Unni on Personal Hygiene and Preventive Medicine at Kendriya Vidayala, Ottapalam



20180929-Observance of Surgical Strike Day and honouring of our Secretary Rt. Lt Col Venugopal at Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya,



20180918-Motivation class taken by our RCC president Mr. Venugopal at TRK school vaniyamkulam



20180920-Donating an Air bed to a Paraplegic patient Shri Dasan,
Kondazhy



20180902-Sweing machine handing over to Ajishna



Rs. 1,200 every month for an aged lady Parvathy as medicine and food support



20180926-Donated 30 Baby chairs to AMLP school Varode









20180920-Speaker meeting by Mustafa Paramban a paraplegic patient on his life story







20180929- Family Meet: Lt Col Sreelatha receiving PHF membership and others receiving wedding anniversary gifts.















20180928-Free Medical camp at Bhavans School, Ottapalam















20180928-Free Medical camp at Bhavans School, Ottapalam





## **Global Grant Project: News and Status**





### **GG Project STATUS:**

Equipment delivery is complete for Sewing machines. Chin operated wheel chair is delivered and training is in progress.

Registration process of partly delivered scooters are in progress.

# **Global Grant Project: News and Status**

Rotary (

CARES SERVICE ABOVE



Ajay Balachandran: Chin operated wheel chair is delivered and training is in progress

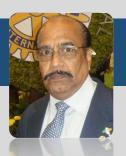








#### Rtn. Ambalakat Ram Mohan



BRO (Border Road Organization) came to force in 1960 having been conceived about 2 years earlier by the then defense Minister V K Krishna Menon .The Govt realized the absolute lack of roads and air fields needed for the deployment of the troops in the border areas. The state PWDs, CPWD and MES were not equipped to take up the departmental execution as their construction practices used to be based on contracts.



not just prepared to go in to the hazardous border thinking the resultant idea was to create a tailor made agency to undertake works extremely fast, move from one sector to another at short notice of few hours and be self-contained to the maximum extent possible. The result was the establishment of a high power board called BRDB (Border Road Development Board) under the chairman ship of the PM himself.





#### Rtn. Ambalakat Ram Mohan



The Defense Minister, Minister of the Surface Transport and the 3 Service Chiefs were among the most important members by an Act of the Parliament ,the BRDB is a regular department of the G of I and the Secretary BRDB had been given powers like that of any other Secretary of an independent department.

To start with personnel from Army and Civil Services of all states were obtained to form a nucleus GREF(General Reserve Engineer Force) established their own recruiting centers at Roorkee and Allahabad. It was only an incidental that both the commanders responsible for recruitment were from Kerala and it may be reason that 60 % employees were Malayalees at that time (Known as KAMUKI's hails mainly from Kayamkulam, Muthukulam and Keerikkad). The fast phase with which resources were mobilized by the GREF under constant review by the DM was such that GREF had cover 400 heavy earth moving dozers, 500 compressors, 990 trucks, 900 4x4 Jeeps, 400 one tonners and many other construction equipment.

Since most of the areas where the Army wanted tracks were unreachable areas, the GREF purchased 20 helicopters and 8 nos AN 12 transport airplanes for conveyance of personnel and dismantled machinery. In the first two years several hundreds of workers died.





#### Rtn. Ambalakat Ram Mohan



If one takes an accurate account of deaths the number of those brave jawans who perished while engaged in the tough duties come to several hundreds and it is doubtful whether the dead have been honored and their relatives have been adequately compensated. Death does not distinguish between death due to enemy bullets or due to construction in hazardous areas in the forward and far flung mountains and deserts. GREF comprises Officers and Personnel in uniform having badges of rank like the services those equivalent with the 3 services. GREF are subject to the Indian Army Act under which disciplinary action can be initiated by the immediate superiors. In fact I survived from few such calamities and vehicle accidents and this is second life after taking meager salary then we call it KHOON KI PAIASA.





BRO's few achievements was recorded in the Guinness Book of World Records. A few to name Highest Motor able Road (Leh Chalunka Road) Bridge Khardungla Causeway, Highest Centrally Heated Hospital (Leh Army Hospital).





#### Rtn. Ambalakat Ram Mohan



Highest Airport TOISE etc. and one among those fortunate GREF employee who served this great organization. GREF had taken part in all the operations that have taken place since independence and acquitted themselves creditably and with honor.

GREF Jawans have helped the nation by opening up the distant and far flung border areas of the snow clad mountains of the North West (low temperature going down to minus 52 degrees Celsius, snow storms and buzzards often changing directions attain velocities of about 100 kmph snow fall depth often increase at a rate of 15cms per hour without break for several hours reaching depth of about 2 m in 24 hours. Snowfall continues for several days at a time and dangerous avalanches come down breaching the roads. I have witnessed may such furry in my 28 years life including the famous Alakananda tragedy and HT Road calamity and where these people had been living and working in subzero temperatures, the scorching deserts where the life and work are in scalding temperature reaching 55 degree Celsius breathing the desert sands, the rainy forests of North and North East where one has to live amongst the blood sucking leeches, poisonous snakes and highly painful bite of insects and across the high seas in the Andaman Nicobar Island leave alone the few hostile crowds. In fact they have bought the people of the border by their emotional and physical integration with the rest of the country men and contributed to the economic growth of these places is lost sight of only because of the shroud of secrecy accompanying strategic and security matters.





#### Rtn. Ambalakat Ram Mohan



This true fact that I can proudly say that we have brought the people of Border areas in to main stream of Indian life catalyzing their emotional and physical integration with the rest of the country men and contributed to the growth of these places.

I salute these brave Force and uniformed unarmed force which specializing in completing the difficult tasks braving a hoard of extremely hazardous conditions in close support of Army deserves better recognition. I quote Maj General Hunt, Head of the British Liaison Staff after watching the GREF at work stated or even written in BEACON Officers Mess Visitors Book if I am not wrong "India should someday erect a statue beside Rajpath to commemorate the unknown members of the Border Road Organisation who has linked Ladak with Kashmir, Gangtok with Nathula and North Sikkim and opened up the NEFA and Nagaland. The work this organization is doing is beyond praise". The Nation should watch when such a memorial would come up.

The author served BRO for 28 years. 10 year in supervisory and 18 years in Officer Capacity. An E/M Officer (Electrical and Mechanical) specialized in Snow Clearance Equipment. Served in Leh, Ladak, NEFA in the earlier days Arunachal, Bhutan, Himachal, Mizoram and Assam .Received many honors and awards.

#### Rtn. Ambalakat Ram Mohan





# Message from the



# Join hands to eradicate illiteracy

#### Dear Rotarians.

Basic education is an evolving programme of instruction intended to provide students with the opportunity to become responsible global citizens and contribute to the economic and social wellbeing of their communities. Rotary continues to promote the cause of basic education and the spread of literacy across the world.

Rotary believes that parents and teachers know what is best for students. Local clubs ensure their support to the students and teachers offer them the opportunity to achieve significantly higher levels of learning. Providing technology-based additional instructional aids gives more opportunities to students and helps those with cognitive difficulty to meet the essential academic learning requirements.

Let me highlight the funding aspects of the Literacy and Basic Education initiatives. In the Union Budget for the Financial Year 2018–19, allocation for school education has got a lion's share of ₹50,000 crores and at the State level, recent analysis of six States — Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Chhattisgarh, Bihar and West Bengal — by CRY and the Centre for Budget and Governance Accountability, a think tank, shows States allocate about 14–20 per cent of their budgets to school education. Clearly money is not a constraint to promote literacy. The Central and State governments take care of the financial support.

The future is Digital Literacy. According to the biggest survey on mobile reading, released by UNESCO in collaboration with World Reader and Nokia, mobile devices are playing a big role in promoting literacy and getting people to read in developing countries. Mobile phones are significantly boosting literacy skills in Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Kenya, Nigeria, Pakistan and Zimbabwe. "Mobile reading is not a future phenomenon but a right-here, right-now reality," states the report. "Mobile reading can open educational opportunities to nearly seven billion people, ultimately reducing illiteracy rates forever. In places where physical books are scarce, mobile phones are plentiful. While mobile phones are still used primarily for basic communication, even the simplest of phones are a gateway to long-form text."

Girls and women are getting the most benefit from a mobile device approach to reading, says a heartening UNESCO study. They are reading up to six times more than boys and men.

A United Nations data reveals that of the Earth's estimated seven billion inhabitants, over six billion now have access to a mobile phone. Mobile technology can advance literacy and learning in underserved communities around the world. Rotary must be prepared to align with rapidly evolving technology and exploit opportunities to promote basic education and literacy. Why shouldn't we think of partnering with UNESCO on a global mission to eradicate illiteracy just like we together eradicated polic!

This is food for thought!

Let me conclude with the words of Kofi Annan: "Literacy is a bridge from misery to hope."

Be the Inspiration, ask Rotarians to inspire and bring change in the world and in each other.

C.Bale

C Basker Director, Rotary International





#### Message from RI

#### Rtn. R Madhusudhan



#### TRF Trustee decisions - Aug 2018

The 2018-19 Rotary Foundation Trustees held their first meeting of the year on 13-15 August 2018 in Evanston, IL, USA. At this meeting the Trustees reviewed reports from three committees and recorded 28 decisions. The following are highlights of actions taken.

The Trustees adopted the 2019–20 annual goals for Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation as follows:

#### **GOALS FOR PRIORITY 1 – UNITE PEOPLE**

- 1. Strengthen the process for activating leadership in clubs and districts.
- 2. Increase club membership by attracting new and retaining existing members.
- 3. Start new clubs.
- 4. Increase the number of female members, members under 40, and Rotaractors joining Rotary.
- 5. Enhance the engagement and collaboration among Interact, Rotaract and Rotary club members and other Rotary participants.



#### Message from RI



#### Rtn. R Madhusudhan

approved up to US\$46 million in PolioPlus grant funds to

- World Health Organization African Region
- World Health Organization Eastern Mediterranean Region
- World Health Organization Southeast Asia Regional Office
- World Health Organization Core Grant Extension Request for social mobilization, technical assistance, operational support and surveillance support; agreed to provide funding for the period 1 January 2019 through 31 December 2020 for a team of polio eradication technical experts, to include four positions at the global level and two positions in two of the World Health Organization's six regions and allocated US\$4.6 million from the PolioPlus Fund for this purpose; agreed to the establishment of a National PolioPlus Committee in Myanmar and appointed Dr. Sandii Lwin as 2018–19 National PolioPlus Committee Chair; expressed their appreciation to the 170 districts that have allocated 20 percent of their DDF annually towards Polio eradication efforts and agreed to extend the program of providing recognition to those districts that have contributed 20 percent of their DDF for Polio eradication efforts from 2013-14 through the certification of polio eradication on a plaque to be hung at Rotary World Headquarters, and further agreed to allow districts to contribute additional DDF toward Polio eradication efforts that will bring their contribution to a cumulative 20 percent from 2013–14 through 2019–20; approved the transfer of Districts 5790, 5810, 5840, 5870, 5890, 5910, and 5930 from regional leader region 33 to region 36 (Canada & USA: IA, IL, KS, MI, MN, ND, NE, OK, SD, WI), effective 1 July 2020; amended their policy regarding regional leaders to better ensure cooperation and effective outcomes from all regional leader teams.



# Message from RI

#### Rtn. R Madhusudhan



#### **GOALS FOR PRIORITY 2 – TAKE ACTION**

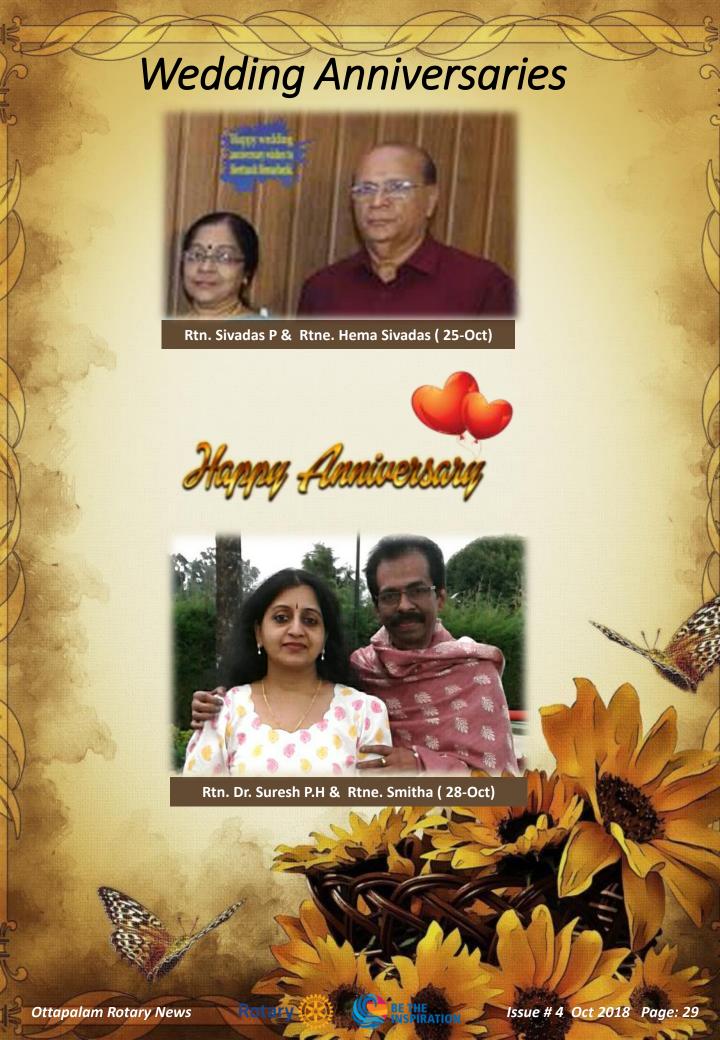
- 6. Publicize the role of Rotary and Rotarians in polio eradication.
- 7. Increase local and international projects by fully utilizing District Designated Funds to fund district grants, global grants, PolioPlus and the Rotary Peace Centers.
- 8. Increase contributions to the Annual Fund and PolioPlus while building the Endowment Fund to \$2.025 billion by 2025.
- 9. Build awareness of Rotary, and promote the People of Action campaign.

# GOALS FOR PRIORITY 3 – INTERNAL/OPERATIONAL MATTERS

- 10. Analyze the effectiveness of our current volunteer leadership levels.
- 11. Focus and potentially narrow our program efforts. approved the acceptance of cash flow plans for Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) India contributions of US\$100,000 or more, provided that installment payments are at least \$32,000 or more and that each project is fully funded before commencement; adopted revised Terms of Reference for the Polio Eradication Advocacy Task Force for the United States and National Advocacy Advisers, to reflect current roles and responsibilities;









# Puzzle of the month

If you're 8 feet away from a door and with each move you advance half the distance to the door. How many moves will it take to reach the door.

#### Win Prizes

Send your answers on or before 25-Aug-2018 to cio.rotaryotp@gmail.com

# Last month puzzle

Name an eight letter word that has KST in the middle, IN the beginning, AND at the end.

Answer: INKSTAND. "In" is the beginning, "And" is the end, "Kst" is in the middle.

**NO** winners Last month

# Did you know 🔭 🥉



Women who smoke take longer to conceive, suffer from infertility at higher rates, and have higher rates of miscarriage.





# **CALENDAR: October 2018**

Tue, 2-Oct - Swatch Bharat

Thu, 4-Oct - Weekly Meeting

Thu, 11-Oct - Weekly Meeting

Sat, 13-Oct - Board Meeting

Thu, 18-Oct - Weekly Meeting

Thu, 25-Oct - Weekly Meeting

Sat, 27-Oct - Family Meeting

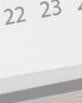
Major project for September is continuation of Gardening, water filter and waste collection at the

**New Civil Station** 

(work in progress)

Global Grant Project

(work in progress)









Designed, edited and published by Rtn. Ramachandran K on behalf of Rotary club of Ottapalam



