In its continuing pursuit of empowering the Disabled, Rotary Chandigarh Midtown initiated and executed a dream project of Former President of India Hon’ble Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam namely “Kalam Express” - a mobile school bus equipped with gadgets for providing education and treatment to disabled children. This Project has been financed by IOC under CSR. The Van was flagged off by Deputy Commissioner, Panchkula Mr. Mukesh Ahuja, IAS on January 01, 2020 in the presence of DCP Panchkula Mr. Kamaldeep Goel, President Rtn. Salil Dev Singh Bali, Project Chair (Kalam Express-RCCM) PP Rtn. Deepak Sood and Secretary Red Cross Panchkula Mrs. Savita Agarwal.

This is the second mobile bus added to cover villages of entire Panchkula District. The buses leaves Red Cross Bhavan Panchkula daily at 9 a.m. and goes door to door in slum areas to provide education to special children who are unable to attend school. The service is free to bring many children into the mainstream. It caters to visually impaired, hearing, speech impaired and the mentally challenged children. The teaching methods vary depending on the IQ of the child. For disabled children, a set of basic movements is required to ascertain the movement of their joints after proper assessment by a physiotherapist. Families are taught helpful techniques and are asked to regularly practice it with the kids. The Kalam Express will provide special children with all necessary support services like therapies remediation and other rehabilitation services for their empowerment. A team of physiotherapists, special children educators and other staff has been appointed for Kalam Express.

The Project Cost is about Rs. 30 lac and Rotary Clubs in association with Red Cross can initiate similar CSR Projects in their areas.
Life and Communication

Ms. Gauri Sharda as mentioned in the previous bulletin was indisposed. So Prof. Dr. Deepti Gupta was our Chief Guest for our weekly meeting on January 03, 2020 – the first meeting of the new year 2020. She was welcomed by Vice President Rtn. Salil Chopra who presided over the meeting as President Salil Dev Singh Bali was away to Delhi. Rtn. Kulbir S. Bhatia officiated as Secretary as Rtn. Nitin Kapur too was not present.

Prof. Dr. Deepti Gupta was formerly introduced by Rtn. Subhash Vats. Her Academic Qualifications are M.A. (English Literature and Linguistics), M.Phil. and PhD. She is Chairperson, Dept. of English and Dean, International Students, Panjab University, Chandigarh. She has vast teaching experience of 34 years, having taught courses ranging from Literary theory to contemporary literature to European drama to the history of English Literature to modern English Literature to Introductory and Applied Linguistics and stylistics. She has many publications and research papers to her credit. She was guest faculty of many prestigious universities. She was also editor of University magazine and Panjab University research bulletin. She has to her credit 30 research scholars. She has many assignments at national and international level. She was also a team member of Rotary Group Study Exchange in the year 1997.

Dr. Deepti Gupta said that she was told by VP Salil Chopra that she would be addressing a group of ‘seniors’. But looking at the spirit of Rotarians and Anns present in the meeting, she said that she was seeing a group of “very young, positive, happy and smart people”, so she would dig for some ideas and not talk what she had prepared for the ‘seniors’. There was a thunderous applause from the audience for her inspiring and ‘candid’ observation.

Speaking about role of communication in life Dr. Deepti said, “I don’t think there is life without communication for human beings.” She added, “We are blessed with consciousness and language that no other living being has, as we have a fully developed system of sharing because that is what communication is about.” We are conscious about the world around us and we enjoy this consciousness.

We also have the gift of language which is verbal through words and non verbal through body language and gestures. Effective communication can be a blend both, your body language as well as your words.

Prof. Deepti Gupta also discussed the importance of body language as communication which affects every aspect of our life. We can also communicate with our own self.

Communication is circular in nature, rather than linear. It has a sender, who encodes a message and a recipient, who decodes it. The other person can respond to what you are saying.

There was a lively interactive discussion between Prof. Dr. Deepti Gupta and Rotarians. Rtn. Arjan Singh thanked her for the wonderful and enlightening talk.

President Salil Bali has appealed for donation of woolen clothes, blankets and quilts for homeless to help the needy in this winter cold wave. Please donate as much woolens as you can to the Club as our initiative to take care of persons who are sleeping on floors in the market area and streets.

Woolens for homeless

Distribution of quilts to the homeless people in the streets of Chandigarh in the cold night of 01.01.2020.

15 Quilts were donated by Rtn. Ashok Aggarwal

Rtn. Arjan Singh presents a memento to Prof. Dr. Deepti Gupta. Looking on are VP Salil Chopra and DCS Rtn. Kulbir Bhatia

Rtn. Subhash Vats introducing the chief guest

Prof. Dr. Deepti Gupta presents punctuality award to PP Rtn. T.S. Anand. Looking on are VP Salil Chopra and DCS Rtn. Kulbir Bhatia

Rtn. Subhash Vats presenting punctuality award to PP Rtn. T.S. Anand. Looking on are VP Salil Chopra and DCS Rtn. Kulbir Bhatia
Swatchta Abhiyan

Ensuring cleanliness of property during picnic on 29.12.2019

Bon Voyage to DGE 3080 Ramesh Bajaj and Rtn. Rekha

Bon Voyage was held for DGE Rtn. Ramesh Bajaj and PP Rtn. Rekha Bajaj on 05 January 2020 at Saffron Hotel, Kurukshetra. They would be leaving for San Diego, USA for the International Assembly to be held on 19-25 January 2020, where District Governors Elect from all over the world would be attending Rotary’s annual training meeting to prepare District Governors of 2020-21 for their role as governor and give them the chance to share ideas with Rotary leaders from around the world.

Our Club was represented in the Bon Voyage ceremony by President Salil Bali, PDG Yoginder Diwan, AG PP Pallav Mukherjee, PE Sanjay Bhatia, PP Deepak Sood, PP Ravi Tulsi, PP Kanan Diwan, PP Dr. Ritu Kalra, IPP Ashok Puri, Rtn. Dr. Sanjay Kalra, Rtn. Ritu Bhatia, Rtn. Pradeep Sisodia, R’ann Ranjana Tulsi and R’ann Purnima Sood.

Congratulations

Vice President Rtn. Salil Chopra and Director Youth Service Rtn. Renu Chopra were blessed with a grandson on 30th December 2019.

Our heartiest congratulations to the grandparents.

President Salil Bali and PE Sanjay Bhatia with other members of our Club present bouquets to DGE Ramesh Bajaj and Rtn. Rekha Bajaj

Rotary India website launched by RIPN Shekhar Mehta

www.rotary-india.org

Rotary International President Nominee Shekhar Mehta launched a unique website for Rotary in India on the occasion of 100 years of Rotary in India at Kolkata on 1st January 2020. This is an initiative of RIPN Shekhar Mehta along with RI Directors Kamal Sanghvi & Dr. Bharat Pandya, Trustee Gulam Vahanvati and RI Director Nominee A.S. Venkatesh.

Highlights of www.rotary-india.org is to showcase projects by all Rotary clubs in India, Quantify Project Cost, Beneficiaries and Volunteer Hours State / district - wise reports and to show the reach and impact of Rotary in India. This will be Game changer for India’s identity in the Rotary World.

Rotary clubs can upload the projects very easily using various platforms. All Presidents and Secretaries of Rotary clubs will be given login credentials and they can also upload projects directly from Rotary International Licensee Roster on wheels (ROW) or similar mobile apps.

Above information has been received from support@rotary-india.org, sent by PDG Angsuman Bandyopadhyay, Chairman, Rotary India Website.

Condolences

Father-in-law of Rtn. Sunil K. Sahore, Advocate has expired. The Uthala & Kriya will be held on 09.01.2020 from 2 to 3 p.m. at Shiv Mandir, Phase-I, Jaggi Colony, Ambala City. Our heartfelt condolences to the family.
100 Years of Rotary in India
Celebration at Kolkata

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On 14th, 15th & 16th February 2020
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Register now: www.rics2020.org

Birthday of Spouses
R’ann Saroj Jain
January 15

Birthday of Rotarians
Rtn. Dr. Dinesh Sahajpal
January 12
Rtn. Salil Chopra
January 12

Punctuality Award
Won by PP Rtn. Trilochan S. Anand

Birthday of Spouses

Timeline:

- **January 12**: Birthday of Rotarians
  - Rtn. Dr. Dinesh Sahajpal
  - Rtn. Salil Chopra

- **January 15**: Birthday of Spouses
  - R’ann Saroj Jain

**Punctuality Award**

Won by PP Rtn. Trilochan S. Anand

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