Rotary India Centennial Summit - 14 to 16 February 2020 at Kolkata

For Celebrating 100 years of Rotary in India at Kolkata our Club, Rotary Chandigarh Midtown, was represented by President Rtn. Salil Dev Singh Bali, PDG Rtn. Shaju Peter, PP Rtn. R.K. Luther, R’ann Urmil Luther, PP Rtn. Deepak Sood, PP Rtn. Kanan Diwan, PDG Rtn. Yoginder Diwan, Rtn. Kulvinder Singh and R’ann Raspal Kaur. They were amongst more than 4200 delegates from 32 countries to participate in the celebrations and enjoy the proceedings at one of the largest Convention Centers in South Asia, Biswa Bangla Convention Center in Kolkata on 14th, 15th & 16th February 2020, comprising of glittering Inaugural session, six Plenary sessions and a Valedictory Session. There were excellent performances of music and entertainment by Bollywood artists. House of Friendship was one of the main attractions with whole day entertainment, activities, food courts with diverse cuisine showcasing Rotary achievements. Our Club had the largest representation from our Rotary District.

It was a happy moment for Rotarians of Chandigarh and Rotarians of District 3080 when PRIP Rajendra K. Saboo was felicitated as Jewel of India by RIPN Shekhar Mehta, who also highlighted the contribution of PRIP Raja Saboo and Madam Usha ji in India and globally including the medical camps in African countries. The other Indian PRIP Kalyan Banerjee was also honoured as Jewel of India. RI President Mark Daniel Maloney was also present along with World First Lady Rtn. Gay. Besides RI President Maloney, others who addressed the delegates were PRIP K.R. Ravindran, PRIP D.K. Lee, PRIP Gary C.K. Huang, RI Director Dr. Bharat Pandya, RI Director Kamal Sanghvi, PRID Yash Das of our District and other PRIDs and dignitaries present in the summit from all over the world.

In his address the Vice President of India, Mr. M. Venkaiah Naidu said that peace is a prerequisite to development and everyone should collaborate and create a global consensus for peace. He appreciated the good work being done by Rotary in the field of education, health and to work for poverty free India. He appreciated the role of Rotary in eradicating polio.

The Vice President of India said that polio eradication in India has shown that government and committed NGOs can forge effective and successful partnerships. He added, “Together we have to turn the programs like Beti Bachao - Beti Padhao, Swachh Bharat, Fit India, Yoga into people’s movement. We have to create a society which does not discriminate with anybody because of cast, creed or gender.”
Celebrating 100 years of Rotary in India was inaugurated in Chandigarh by DGN Rtn. Ajay Madan, accompanied by his spouse Rtn. Savita Madan, at Tourism Information Centre on February 11, 2020. Assistant Governor Brig. Rtn. D.S. Dhillon, President Rtn. Salil Bali, Rotarians of our Club and other local Rotary Clubs participated in this week long celebrations along with Inner wheel members and Rotaractors.

This was an occasion during Chandigarh Urban Festival, to showcase the appreciable community projects of Rotary like vocational skilling, happy schools, medical camps, TB awareness, disability empowerment including RYLA Vishesh, blood donation camps, sports, fitness, swachta abhiyan, water saving, environment, Ayushman Bharat scheme etc. Promotion of organic and natural products was also part of the activities.
Weekly meeting of our Club was held at Tourism Information Centre, Sector 01, Chandigarh on February 14, 2020. The meeting was called to order by Vice President Rtn. Salil Chopra who welcomed all present and Ms. Sheela Gahlawat. She was introduced by Rtn. Renu Chopra as a very talented person with many credentials to her credit. VP Salil Chopra also talked about water saving and swatchta abhiyan.

Ms. Sheela Gahlawat entertained us with Poetry and Mushaira. PP Rtn. Dr. Rita Kalra and Secretary Rtn. Nitin Kapur were actively involved in holding this event. The link for the live streaming of this meeting is: https://www.facebook.com/rita.malikkalra/videos/3032922046726452/ and https://www.facebook.com/nitin.kapur.94/videos/10222351563880563/.

GG Happy Schools - Sanitary Napkin Dispenser and Incinerator with 1000 Napkins installed

With inauguration of Sanitary Napkin Dispenser and Incinerator at Govt. Model Sr. Sec. School, Sector 35-D, Chandigarh on 11.02.2020, our club completed installation of Sanitary Napkin Dispenser and Incinerator in 15 schools under the Global Grant - 1747695 Happy Schools. Thanks to our International Partner, Rotary Club Southpoint (Jacksonville), USA.

One School Girl gave demonstration on how to take out Napkin from machine, using a coin. 1000 Sanitary Napkins have also been given to each School to make this project self sustainable. Coins collected from the machine will be used to buy napkins subsequently.

Seminar on Menstrual Health shall also be conducted in these schools by women Rotarians / Spouses of our club.

On behalf of the School, Vice Principal Mrs. Ravinder Kaur handed over the letter of gratitude to PP Amarjit Singh, a truly dedicated Rotarian who has taken care of this project with utmost sincerity, leading to successful completion.

Birthday of Rotarians
Rtn. Prof. Rana Nayar    February 23
PP Rtn. Sandeep Sandhu    February 26

Wedding Anniversary
R’ann Shivan & Secretary Rtn. Nitin Kapur    February 24
Response to our Bulletin No. 31 from USA

PP Amarjit Singh had mailed our bulletin No. 31 to our International Partner, Rotary Club Southpoint (Jacksonville), USA on 17th February 2020, to which following reply has been received from PDG Cynde Covington:

Amarjit,

Thank-you dear friend for sharing this newsletter and the progress on this wonderful project. Our club was proud to be a partner with you and greatly appreciate all the work that each of you have put in to making it such a success. While we are far away, it is nice to know that we are all making a difference in the lives of these students and their teacher’s lives. The ripple effect of this wonderful project, we may never know.

Yours in Rotary friendship always,

Cynde