



New Trends in Insurance Sector

- Report by PP Dr. V.J.S. Vohra

Last Friday we had an interesting powerpoint presentation on 'Investment Management' by Mr. Virender Dhawan, Sr. Manager, ICICI Prudential Priority Circle. He gave a brief history of the insurance industry when privatisation was unknown, and the sole player was Life Insurance Corporation of India. One of the main reasons for the low insurance penetration in India was the ineffective distribution and marketing strategies. There was no strategic marketing game plan, and due to monopolistic nature of LIC there was no serious marketing effort.

However, with the entry of new players, the insurance sector changed drastically. The private insurers made the industry market-driven, wherein technical and service excellence would be the key factors of success. The private companies, in a bid to make their presence felt and their brand noticed, initiated a series of aggressive marketing and promotion initiatives, something that buyers of insurance were not accustomed to. The insurance industry was no longer a sellers market, where customer had no option other than to buy one product only!

Mr. Dhawan pointed out that as per the section 4 of IRDA Act' 1999, Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA) was constituted by an Act of Parliament. IRDA is a regulatory body for protection of the interests of the policy holders in matters concerning assigning of policy, nomination by policy holders, insurable interest, settlement of insurance claims etc. This resulted in promoting efficiency in the conduct of insurance business and regulating professional organisations connected with the insurance business.

For the grievances of the policy holders, Mr. Dhawan said that there is an Insurance Ombudsman who can be approached for getting due justice.

Effective from 1st September 2010 some new changes have come, which are highlighted below:-

- Indian Economy is growing at 8% & Inflation at 6%, which is contributing to returns in equity markets over the



last so many years and the trend is also going to be the same in future

- The representatives of ICICI Prudential-Priority Circle highlighted the prime features to test the Investment on Paanch Ka Punch parameters i.e Transparency, Security, Tax benefits, Flexibility, Returns
- New IRDA guidelines making the Investment period minimum of 5 years and in case client fails to pay premiums in time, he will still be earning an interest of 3.5% on his investment
- The trends in the Debt market are reflecting a decrease in interest rate & hence the debt instruments can't be classified as investments as they are not beating inflation in long term, in terms of post tax returns

As Free Personal Financial Health Check up, Mr. Dhawan made a special offer of Expert advice as available from ICICI Prudential-Priority Circle representatives to all Rotarians of Chandigarh Midtown. His contact details are:

Mr. Virender Dhawan
 Sr. Manager - ICICI Prudential Priority Circle
 SCO 350-351-352, 2nd Floor, Sector 34-A, Chandigarh
 Mobile No. 09779299955

Vote of thanks was proposed by PP Dr. V.J.S. Vohra, who thanked Mr. Dhawan and his colleague Mr. Parul Sood for the brief and crisp presentation.

Placement for Disabled Persons

Report By PP Dr. V.J.S. Vohra

On September 19, 2010 President Prem Anand, Secretary Deepak Sood, Director Vocational Services Vinod Sobti and Chairman Vocational Guidance for Disabled PP Dr. V.J.S. Vohra had a meeting with members of Rotary Community Corps of Dadumajra; Harmesh Bhutto and Vinod Kumar. The RCC has submitted profiles of over 50 specially abled persons who could be suitably employed by the Rotarians, who could place them in their own establishments or use their vast contacts to get employment for these deserving young and energetic persons.

There are candidates who have done B.Tech in IT, Diploma in IT/Computers, who could be suitably employed in IT Industry or any industry where data operators are required.

In addition to above, we have candidates who are not so educated, but can work as peons, watchmen or attendants.

These especially abled persons do not need our sympathy but they deserve our motivation and encouragement to become self-reliant and respectful citizens.

It was decided in the meeting to advertise in our weekly bulletin and make an appeal to all Rotarians to come forward wholeheartedly for this unique project. It is also proposed to organise a 'Job Fair', where these candidates can meet their prospective employers.

For further information please contact PP Dr. V.J.S. Vohra (M: 9814006829).

First Rotaract Council to take place 20 May

- Credit - The RI Website

A Rotaract Council will be held for the first time on 20 May during the Rotaract Preconvention Meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana, USA.

At the three-hour council, which will be modeled after the RI Council on Legislation, Rotaractors who are registered for and present at the preconvention meeting will be able to consider and vote on nonbinding resolutions to change the Rotaract program. The Rotaract Council's recommendations will be reviewed by the 2011-12 Rotaract and Interact Committee, then considered by the RI Board of Directors in September 2011.

A Rotaractor proposed the idea for the Rotaract Council during a question-and-answer session with 2010-11 RI President Ray Klingensmith at the Rotaract Preconvention Meeting in Montréal, Québec, Canada, in June. Klingensmith liked the suggestion and moved the proposal forward.

"I'm excited about this, and I think Rotaractors are as well," he said. "This is recognition of the important role they'll play in the future of Rotaract."

"The Rotaract Council will give Rotaractors the opportunity to make some decisions about which direction the program will go," Klingensmith added.

An e-mail has been sent to presidents of Rotaract clubs and their sponsor Rotary clubs with information about the council, including the Proposed Rotaract Resolution Form necessary to propose a resolution. Rotaract clubs should update their club's contact information to make sure they receive future information about the council.

Rotaract clubs will be able to propose up to two resolutions to be considered by the council. Each resolution must include a statement of purpose and effect and may be no longer than two pages. Rotaractors will then have an opportunity to vote online to determine the order of consideration for the resolutions. More details about that vote will be provided later.

Resolutions will only be accepted on six topic areas: Standard Rotaract Club Constitution and Bylaws; Rotaract Statement of Policy; the 18-30 age range for membership; Rotaract alumni

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activities; Rotaract program name, emblem, and motto; and RI fees and dues for Rotaract clubs and their members.

Although the Rotaract Council will be modeled after the RI Council on Legislation, there will be notable differences. Because all attendees of the preconvention meeting will be eligible to take part, participation will not be geographically representative. Decisions by the Rotaract Council will also be advisory and nonbinding.

Last year, about 300 Rotaractors attended the preconvention meeting in Montréal. Attendance is expected to exceed that for the 2011 preconvention event.

"The creation of the Rotaract Council demonstrates President Klingensmith's and Rotary International's responsiveness and commitment to Rotaract," said Dong-Joon Lee, chair of the Rotaract and Interact Committee. "Hopefully many Rotaract clubs around the world will actively participate, and in the process shape an even brighter future for Rotaract."

Youth Exchange creates Lifelong Bonds

Rotary Youth Exchange is one of Rotary's most popular programs to promote international understanding and developing lifelong relationships. It began in 1927 with the Rotary Club of Nice, France. In 1939 an extensive Youth Exchange was created between California and Latin America. Since then the program has expanded around the world.

The values of Youth Exchange are not only experienced by the high school students involved, but also by the host families and the entire community. Youth Exchange Students usually provide their fellow students at their host schools with excellent opportunities to learn about customs, traditions, and family life in another country.

Youth Exchange offers young people interesting opportunities and rich experiences to see another part of the world. Students usually spend a full academic year abroad, though some clubs and districts sponsor short term exchanges, sometimes of several weeks or months.

Youth Exchange is a highly recommended program for all Rotary clubs as a practical activity for the enhancement of international understanding and goodwill.

Proof of this lies in the fact that that Susan Bruns of Germany who is being hosted by Deep and Maj. Gen. Amarjit Singh Kahlon has volunteered to extend her stay with them. Similarly Danish Youth Exchange Student Hendricks who was hosted by Preety and Past President Tirlochan Singh Anand are still in touch. Alberta, Canada student Joanne Patricia Humphrey who was by turn hosted by Vandana and Ajay Gupta, Rekha and Lalit Azad, and Malabika and Past President Indrajeet Sengupta are also in touch with this globe-trotting girl. In fact, the bonds are so strong that she and her father Terry Humphrey re-visited Chandigarh and were happily hosted by all these families.

Rotaria Amikaro De Esperanto

In 1928, according to Rotary International, Esperanto became the first Rotary Fellowship.

By 1928 Rotary was becoming truly International and with the development of Rotary outside Europe, British and American ex-pats combining with local businessmen who knew but a smattering of English were involved in forming new Clubs.

Many thought this to be an impediment in communication. It was thought and said, as a practical piece of advise that to promote the Rotary's Object of International Understanding, a second easy-to-learn language be adopted so that the world would have a generation of people speaking a common language.

It all began in the twenties, when Rotarians of Britain and France wanted to work jointly on "Peace and International Understanding", but were unable decide on a language of communication, each one not wanting to cede their languages' identity. The recommendation was for the adoption of the universal language Esperanto, devised in 1887 by Dr. Ludwig L. Zamenhof. The result was to create RADE, also known as Rotaria Esperanto-Amikaro. It was founded on March 21, 1928 in London and registered with Rotary International as the first fellowship, with J.J. Boutwood of Hastings as the first President and Douglas Boatman of Southend-on-the-Sea as its first Secretary-Treasurer.

The name itself derives from Doktor Esperanto, meaning Dr.

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Hopeful, a pseudonym under which Dr. Zamenhof published his book "Unua Libro" or "One Language", whose goal was to create an easy-to-learn politically neutral language.

It is estimated that nearly two million people speak this as a native language, that is a language they learnt from their parents. Usage is particularly high in Eastern and Northern Europe, Eastern Asia, Brazil and Iran. It is currently the language of instruction in the University of San Marino. The Most Serene Republic of San Marino, as they call themselves, has an area of approximately 60 square Kilometers and is situated east of the Apennine Mountains, as an enclave of Italy.

This fellowship had the vision that with the adoption of a common language that in all of Rotary's programs of educational and humanitarian partnerships, Group Study Exchange program, volunteer programs, seminars, institutes and conventions the problems of communication would stand solved, solving Rotary's Utopian dream of "Peace and International Understanding".

Inner Wheel to Organize Cancer Detection Camp

Inner Wheel Club of Chandigarh Midtown is organizing a Free Cancer Detection Camp on 30th October 2010 from 9.30 A.M. to 1.30 P.M. in collaboration with Dr. Vikrant Gupta Memorial Trust and Global Cancer Concern, India at House No. 223 Sector 15 A Chandigarh, which is our Charter President Dr. B.D. Gupta Clinic and Hospital.

Shashi Gupta Wins Contest

Readers may recall that in an previous issue of "Midtown", post this Rotary Years' celebration of Spouses Night, a photograph retrieved from the archives of PP B.L. Ramsisaria of the Spouses Night celebration dating back to 1977 was published. The contest was to identify the spouses in the photograph.

Mrs. Shashi Gupta, wife of PP Dr. Balram Gupta, sent the only all correct entry. As promised by Editor Indrajeet Sengupta, a prize specially brought from "Trissorie" in Mumbai, will be presented to her in the forthcoming regular meeting on October 30th.



Congratulations, Mrs. Shashi Gupta – your memory has served you well.

Others who participated IW President Deepa Sahib Singh, IW Kanta Handa, Mrs. Urmil Luther, and the ever-enthusiastic PDG Shaju Peter.

Taking "ASRAA" Forward

We thank the following Rotarians for generously donating for the "ASRAA" project in response to our appeal in Issue No. 14 of the Mid Towner.

Dr. Dinesh Sahajpal	₹ 10,000.00
Dr. Anurag Sharma	₹ 3,000.00

Greetings

Birthday of Rotary Ann's

Lovy Peter  November 02

Birthday of Rotarians

Dr. Anureet Kaur  October 31

Dr. I. S. Dua  November 02

Ashwani Kumar Bhateja  November 04

Wedding Anniversary

Aruna & Ashok Agarwal  November 01

Rachna & Manmohan Garg  November 03

Punctuality Draw

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