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**Rotary**  **The Four Way Test**

Of the things we think, say or do

1. Is it the **TRUTH**?
2. Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
3. Will it build **GOODWILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
4. Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?


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Volume 48 No. 37 Dated: 11th March 2024


**Weekly Meeting Rotary Club Chd Midtown**

**Date: 15th March 2024**

**Venue: Hotel Shivalik View, Sector 17, Chandigarh**

**Rotary**  **CREATE HOPE in the WORLD**

**Milk A Complete food for Human Being**



Rtn. Dr. P. K. Jain  
Past President Rotary club Karnal

## *Celebrating* Women's Day in Club Weekly Meeting

On the auspicious occasion of Women's Day and Shivratri, Rotary Chandigarh Midtown Club had the privilege of hosting a truly captivating event at Hotel Shivalikview. The esteemed speaker for the evening was none other than Smt. Jatinder Nayyar, a distinguished Kathak specialist, whose mesmerizing performance and innovative approach to dance captivated the hearts and minds. Smt. Jatinder Nayyar, an accomplished Kathak dancer and teacher, hails from the illustrious Jaipur Gharana of Kathak. Her expertise in this traditional dance form is evident through her graceful movements and profound understanding of rhythm and expression. With a Master's degree in Kathak from the renowned Prayag Sangeet Samiti, Allahabad, she brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the stage. During the meeting, Smt. Nayyar took us on a captivating journey through the intricate rhythms and storytelling elements of Kathak. Her performance not only showcased her exceptional talent but also transported us to a realm of beauty and emotion. What made her presentation truly exceptional was her inclusive approach, as she actively engaged the audience in 'mindful moments' by teaching us some basic dance moves. It was a joyous experience for everyone present, as we danced together and immersed ourselves in the magic of Kathak. Smt. Nayyar expressed her concern over the trend of numerous pure dance forms slowly vanishing from our cultural landscape. In our pursuit of progress and modernization, we risk losing touch with our roots and heritage. It is imperative that we take proactive steps to safeguard these invaluable treasures of our cultural heritage.

One way to ensure the preservation of pure dance forms is by integrating them into educational curricula at all levels. By introducing students to the beauty and intricacies of classical dance from a young age, we can instill in them a deep appreciation for our cultural heritage. Moreover, studying these art forms can have numerous benefits, including enhanced cognitive development, improved creativity, and a greater sense of cultural identity.

Incorporating pure dance forms into the curriculum not only preserves our cultural heritage but also fosters a sense of pride and belonging among students. It provides them with an opportunity to connect with their roots and understand the rich melody of traditions that make up our diverse society.

Also, Smt. Nayyar's enchanting Kathak performance added a magical touch to the festivities. The audience was spellbound as she gracefully danced transporting everyone to a realm of devotion and bliss. Through her movements, she demonstrated how dance can evoke feelings of joy and happiness, bringing us closer to the divine.

What made this session even more special was the active participation of the audience. Inspired by Smt. Nayyar's inclusive approach, the participants joined in the dance, experiencing the sheer delight of movement and rhythm. It was a moment of unity and celebration, as all danced together in harmony, embracing the spirit of camaraderie and joy.

In honour of Women's Day, the women in our club were presented with small gifts as a token of appreciation for their invaluable contributions. It was a gesture of gratitude and recognition for their unwavering dedication and strength. The evening was truly an unforgettable experience, reminding us of the power of art, culture, and community.



## Glimpses of Women's Day Celebrations at Hotel Shivalik-view, Chandigarh



President Elect  
Rtn. Nitin Kapur



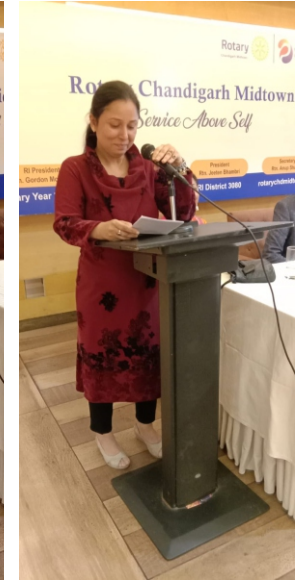
Secretary  
Rtn. Anup Sharma



Director Community  
Rtn. Dr. Manjushri Sharma



Guest Speaker  
Smt. Jatinder Nayyar



First Lady  
Dr. Kadam Bhambri



Gracious Ladies of our Club giving token of appreciation to Smt. Jatinder Nayyar as Guest Speaker present are A'nn Deepti Sharma, A'nn Pinky Bawa, A'nn Rekha Mehan, A'nn Sudha Puri, Ms. Namya Bhambri, First Lady Dr. Kadam Bhambri, A'nn Shashi Gupta, Rtn. Indu Luthra and Rtn. Dr. Manjushri



Celebrating Rtn. Dr. Anurag Sharma 's Birthday, Birthday Gift accepted by Rtn. Dr. Manjushri Sharma on his behalf from Smt. Jatinder Nayyar present are PE Rtn. Nitin Kapur, Rtn. Anup Sharma and First Lady Dr. Kadam Bhambri



Celebrating Wedding Anniversary of Rtn. Dr. Balam Gupta & A'nn Shashi Gupta present are Smt. Jatinder Nayyar, PE Rtn. Nitin Kapur, Rtn. Anup Sharma and First Lady Dr. Kadam Bhambri



Lucky Draw won by Rtn. DR Aggarwal presented by Smt. Jatinder Nayyar, PE Rtn. Nitin Kapur, Rtn. Anup Sharma

## Week Gone By

### Sushiksha Sessions by Rotary Uncle

With the start of WINS month at Rotary taken up Susiksha Sessions at Govt Middle School, Village Rally, Panchkula and had an interactive session on Swachh water and it's sources and how to save water.

Chocolates were distributed to participants who gave correct answers as a gesture.



Susiksha Pathshala Session on WINS was held at Govt Primary School, Village Kundi, Panchkula where children participated on cleanliness of wash rooms and importance to save water for our future with slogan **"Jal hai toh pal hai, Jal hai toh kal hai, JAL hai toh Jeevan hai."**

Chocolates were distributed to participating children as a gesture.

Rotary Susiksha Pathshala Session conducted with class 5th students of Govt Middle School, Village Rally, Panchkula topic being WINS - Importance of water, it's saving and use of clean toilets to have a better hygiene.

Chocolates were distributed to participating children as a gesture.



Rotary susiksha pathshala session on behalf of rotary Chandigarh Midtown was held at Govt sr sec school sector 20 panchkula with children of class V. I was deeply touched with their Indian style of Greetings Namaste Taught by me We discussed water saving cleanliness in toilets and personal hygiene The teacher Mr Mukesh Kumar was deeply touched with our approach

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) in schools, or WinS is a critical component for the safe operation of schools and pandemic preparedness, response and control.

WASH in Schools helps fulfil the universal right to education and health and meets its role in achieving the United nations Millennium Development Goals, thereby increasing access to primary education, reducing child mortality, advancing gender equality and meeting targets for improving water and sanitation.

## Celebrating Women's Day



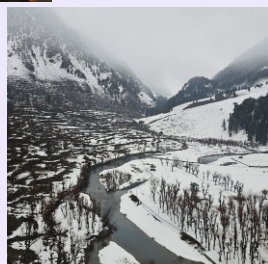
University institute of Applied Management Sciences, Panjab University, Chandigarh, in association with Rotary Club Chandigarh Midtown, celebrated women's day by organising a Health and Wellness Workshop, She Thrives. The workshop was coordinated by Dr. Manjushri Sharma, Assistant Professor, UIAMS. Seventy five students, faculty members and staff members of UIAMS participated in the workshop.

The speakers Dr. Shweta Prabhakar, Head Quality and Patient Care, Fortis Hospital Mohali, and Dr. Pallavi Bansal, Gynaecologist, delivered insightful talks on various issues and challenges associated with women's health. The workshop was followed by health camp, with a one to one interaction with students who had health issues. At the end of the workshop, the students were handed over Premium Sanitary Pads - No Parvah, sponsored by Dr. Kadam Bhambri and colourful scrunchies, to celebrate their women hood .

### AGTS NETRITV - Srinagar

The **AGTS NETRITV** -The leadership event held at Srinagar under the able guidance of DGE Rajpal ji and his organising team was an event to be cherished for times to come. It was truly a remarkable, rejuvenating and educative experience. The meticulous planning was very much visible in the implementation of each and every program throughout the deliberations . From the serene Shikara rides on the Dal Lake to the engaging intellectual interactions, every moment of the event was flawlessly planned and executed by the team .Moreover, the opportunity to explore the breathtaking beauty of Aru and Betaab Valley, especially witnessing the snowfall, left an indelible mark on our heart. And despite the unexpected snowstorm adventure in Gulmarg, nature's resilience and beauty only served to enhance our sense of wonder and appreciation. More than just an event, Netritav became a platform for fostering deep connections and reigniting relationships. The bonds formed and the memories created will forever hold a special place in our heart.

### Enjoy Srinagar with our Fellow Rotarians



## Gracious Ladies of Midtown bringing Laurence on Women's Day

Iron Lady award on women's day for my contributions towards learning & development & social commitment towards this segment from past 30 yrs. jury.. justice Daya chaudhary..Manish Sarwal..Anandita Mitra IAS amongst august gathering at DLF Mall

Awardees were also given honour by playing ITBP Band  
Invest on women : Accelerate Progress Honoured to be invited as Guest speaker by NSN - Tricity prestigious platform for women in Business at startup stage. Shared practical tips on entrepreneurship skills & women empowerment through my journey in IT training & skill development to approx. 100 working women gathered at same platform.

Event was organised on 8th March -international women's day to nurture & strengthen them through networking.



As it is rightly remarked: **“The Hand that rocks the cradle rules the world”** The women are not just limited to the confines of the four walls but are charting new frontiers from being mere care-givers to the top echelons of leadership. On the auspicious occasion of Maha Shivratri and International Women's day, Prajapita Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya an international socio-spiritual and educational institution serving humanity selflessly for world peace and moral upliftment of the society organised “Women-The Flag Bearers of Swarnim Bharat” on 8th March 2024 at Rajyoga Bhawan, Sector 33-A, Chandigarh They felicitated the following Rotarians and A'nn

1. Rtn Dr Rita Kalra
2. Rtn Dr Manjushri Sharma
3. Rtn Renu Chopra
4. A'nn Nandita Sisodia



Recognizing the exemplary efforts and contributions of Dr. Rita Kalra, several organizations across the tricity area have come forward to honor her on the occasion of International Women's Day. This comes after Dr. Kalra has already received significant recognition from various levels by Hble Governor and Chief Minister of Haryana and the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India, for her remarkable work in recent years.

Dr. Rita Kalra's dedication to women-centric initiatives and life-changing projects has made a profound impact on the health, education, and economic status of thousands of women over the past three decades. Her work, which ranges from grassroots-level interventions to policy advocacy has not only uplifted lives of many women but also served as inspiration for future generation to continue to fight for equity and inclusion.

Dr. Kalra's work is akin to the skilled hands that have woven the tapestry bringing together diverse threads to create something beautiful and enduring. This collective recognition by the tricity organizations, NSS and Rotary Classic Chandigarh, Bharat Vikas Parishad Panchkula, Brahmakumaris Chd and Media conclave Haryana underscores the significant impact of Dr. Kalra's contributions to society. The synergy between Dr. Kalra's personal drive, her family's inspiration, and the global platform provided by Rotary International exemplifies how individual passion, when supported by a strong community and a global network, can lead to significant societal impact. Her work serves as a powerful reminder of the collective potential to address and overcome challenges facing women and communities worldwide. Here's to Dr. Rita Kalra, a true changemaker, whose light continues to guide the path toward a better tomorrow for women everywhere





## FALI S. NARIMAN – THE GREATEST WARRIOR OF RULE OF LAW

'Lawyers in India never retire. They simply drop dead' said Fali Nariman. He proved it. He completed his written submissions in a Constitutional Bench case till late night. It was past one hour midnight of February 21, 2024. He quietly passed away in sleep. The light had gone out. The Rule of Law in India lost its warrior. He was a titan of law. The nation lost its 'Conscience Keeper'. Fali was Nani Palkhivala's student. When we lost Nani on December 11, 2002, the banner on the Marine Drive in Mumbai proclaimed: We the Nation – We the people have lost a legend. Both the teacher and the student were court-room genius. Throughout. Both were unique. Both were incomparable. Matchless. Both made history. Both grew with the Constitution. Both shaped the Constitution. Both were true constitutional czars. We are being governed by the Constitution in the 75<sup>th</sup> year of Indian Republic. We owe this to both of them. In 1987, the US Embassy in India organized a meet of Lawyers, Judges and Academics from India and US in Srinagar. The occasion was the bicentennial celebrations of the US Constitution. Indeed, it was special. I spoke on 'How Young is the US Constitution'. Constitutions never get aged. They are not a fossil. They are like a plant. They grow with the passage of time. They keep pace with the change of times. The Constitutions are meant to have only birthdays. No death days.



I had the joy of meeting Fali. He met very warmly. Complemented me. Thereafter, on different occasions, we met. I saw him in action in court and in conferences. One could always have the fragrance of Fali's mind. Also, the charisma of his personality. I took out Fali's three books : **Before The Memory Fades, The State of The Nation and God Save The Hon'ble Supreme Court.** All the three have his different cover photographs. I kept on looking at them. Two smiling and one not so smiling. All the three reflecting the glow and the towering intellect on his face. The aura of his personality is fully pictured. One could only admire. Feel good. Feel his warmth.

Fali joined the Bar in 1950. He practiced for 74 years. Continued till the last. He never hung up his gown. Through the medium of arguments in Court-Rooms. Parliamentary interventions. Public lectures. Televised interviews. Newspaper articles and columns. Above, all his books. He educated different generations of lawyers and judges. He was a doyen of the Bar. A paragon. A legend. In his lifetime. Leaving the jurisprudence so enriched by his contributions. He was like a colossus.

Fali was always fearless. He wrote and spoke with candour. He was the guardian of judicial institutions. He argued before the Supreme Court in the NJAC matter. He was asked, whom are you representing? He smiled and said : Independent Indian Judiciary. Fali argued Minerva Mills case with H.M.Seervai, Nani Palkhivala and Soli Sorabjee. What a formidable Parsi foursome. We have lost even Fali.

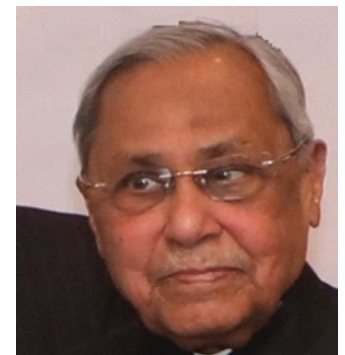
In the Cauvery River Water Dispute matter, K. Parasaran, former Attorney General of India was opposing him. The arguments turned intense. There was a war of words. One of the member of the Tribunal expressed serious concern if the two friends would ever see each other eye to eye. Fali spontaneously replied : 'My Lords, this case has brought us even closer. Now we see eyeball to eyeball. K Parasaran used to share stories in court. In one of the cases, they were appearing against each other. The case was called. Fali was yet to come. Parasaran started with the story of Guru and Tiger. At that moment, Fali rushed and entered the court. Parasaran remarked : Talk about the tiger and the tiger enters the court hall. Fali, indeed, was a tiger.

The Supreme Court made history in a recent Chandigarh Mayor case. Particularly, in the context of horse trading. Fali on one of the earlier occasions had sharply remarked : using the phrase 'horse trading' when humans defect is an insult to horses. Mind you, horse is a very loyal animal. So true.

Fali was hard task master with his juniors. This was because he was the hardest with himself. He demanded so much from himself. Therefore, he was demanding from his team. Senior advocate Navroz Seervai was a junior with Fali. He has recorded that one minute, Fali may be screaming at you. The next 10 minutes, he would be praising your contribution. No one felt aggrieved or hurt by his shouting. It was all done out of commitment to the case. Working with him was a learning process. He was a mix and a blend. He was mild. He was warm. He was also ferocious in a conference, if you went unprepared for a meeting with him. Prof Faizan Mustafa has shared a story. He had invited Fali to KIIT Law School in 2008. One of the speakers went on and on. He would not stop. Fali asked him to pass on to the speaker a slip with a note 'KIS I'. Mustafa did not understand what it meant. He looked at Fali. Fali told, the speaker needs to be told to 'keep it short, idiot'. Fali has shared a personal experience in his autobiography. It was during the hearing of an appeal in the Supreme Court. Fali harshly interrupted a former Additional Solicitor General of India, Kirti Raval. He was nasty to him. Raval did not say a word. But Justice R.C.Lahoti (not yet CJI) told Fali, it is time for you to retire. Fali admits that the judge was absolutely right. This is how, the hard way, he learnt this lesson. Never to happen again. A lawyer should never loose his temper in court. Self control is the best recipe. Ultimately, he was one of the finest human being. Every one truly understood him. He never meant anything negative to anyone.

Fali stayed away from Whatsapp. He did not possess a mobile phone. He had no time to spend on his mobile. He enjoyed cricket. He was a fan of cricket since his younger days. He would often watch a good evening game of cricket.

It is not correct to say that he has left the legal fraternity poorer. He made a living contribution. His contribution will never fade. He was an intellectual giant. He will never die. Only physically, he would not be seen in the corridors of the Supreme Court. His anecdotes were a source of joy. May I say, his whole life was a source of joy. There cannot be another Fali Nariman. His life needs to be celebrated. In the best possible manner. We would fondly miss him.



## Coverage in District GML

ROTARY Harbinger of Hope

### SOME DELIGHTFUL VIGNETTES

**W**e have a rich heritage of legal and judicial minds. Their life journeys are a gallery of enjoyable and memorable vignettes. Therefore, I thought of sharing some. We have just ushered in 2024. They would provide warmth and cozy feeling in this chilly weather.

**Justice B.K. Mukherjee - Chief Justice of India**

Justice Mukherjee established a tradition of judicial independence. He refused Pt. Nehru's offer to become the Chief Justice before his time superseding two of his brother judges. The first Chief Justice of India, Kania died in November, 1951. There was a proposal to appoint B.K. Mukherjee as the next Chief Justice ignoring the claims of Patanjali Sastri and M.C. Mahajan. Both Sastri and Mahajan were not opposed to this proposal. Because, they seriously thought that Mukherjee deserved it much more. On the other hand, Mukherjee was not agreeable. He threatened to resign if he was appointed CJI by superseding the two senior brother judges. He became CJI on his turn.

In Y.V. Chandrachud's family, there was a tradition that the morning tea was prepared by the head of the family. He did it always. Even as the Chief Justice of India. One wonders, whether the same in being continued or not!

**Justice Y.V. Chandrachud, Chief Justice of India**

The younger Dr. Justice D.Y. Chandrachud (now CJI) came to Chandigarh Judicial Academy to inaugurate Family Courts workshop in 2017. He shared that his mother had grown old. She had difficulty in walking. He asked his father, why don't you get her a walking stick. The response was, as long as, she has my hand and my shoulder, she does not need a stick. The family togetherness. The support of each other. The strength of the family system.

Justice M.C. Chagla was Chief Justice of Bombay High Court from August 15, 1947 till September, 1958. These were '11 luminous years'. In his farewell address, Y.V. Chandrachud, the Government Pleader (as he then was) said: 'when you read those judgments, you feel you are at a reception to celebrate the wedding of Law and Literature'.

Justice Y.V. Chandrachud was master judicial craftsman in the English speaking world. His opinions were gems. They were the tapestry of clarity, logical structuring, lucidity and elegance. People would often ask him, when did you study at Oxford? He would reply, his Oxford was Nutan Marathi Vidyalyaya where he studied in Marathi medium. He started learning English language only from class 7. Yet, he was the master of Judicial Prose.

I met Justice Y.V. Chandrachud on October 3, 2006 in Raj Bhawan, Bombay. The occasion was the swearing in of Justice H.S. Bedi as Chief Justice of Bombay High Court. A firm hand shake. The richness of his voice. It was so pleasant to talk to him. He was 86 at that time.

**Justice T.S. Thakur, Chief Justice of India**

Justice T.S. Thakur retired as Chief Justice of India on January 3, 2017. At the farewell, in the Supreme Court, Justice J.S. Khehar recalled that when he had met

ROTARY Harbinger of Hope

**Justice Thakur** in 2008 at Punjab & Haryana High Court, he thought that Justice Thakur was an extremely handsome man. He wondered, if he thought him to be handsome, what would a woman think? Justice Khehar described Justice Thakur as the flamboyant and most handsome Chief Justice of India.

Justice J.S. Khehar had the audience in splits when he narrated an incident of pulling Justice Thakur's leg over the Harris Tweed Jacket. During a conversation between Justice Thakur and Justice Khehar, Justice Thakur told him that he bought his Harris Jacket from New York. Justice Khehar promptly told him that the home of Harris is UK and not USA.

**Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru**

Tej Bahadur Sapru was a great lawyer. Equally, he was a scholar of Persian and Urdu. Sapru had gone to Hyderabad to argue a case. He was opposed by Jinnah. There was an original document in Persian. The counsel for the parties were requested to read it out for the benefit of the court. Jinnah could not read Persian. Sapru fluently read out the entire document. This created a sensation. The next day newspapers commented with the headline: 'Pandit Jinnah and Maulvi Sapru'. Sapru was equally proficient in Urdu. Maulana Abdul Kalam Azad was to publish a book in Urdu - 'Collection of Essays'. Azad considered Sapru as the only person competent to contribute in chaste and faultless Urdu - the Foreword to his book.

**Bhulabhai Desai**

He had the largest and most lucrative practice at the Bombay Bar. He was enrolled as an advocate in 1905. He joined the chambers of Sir George Lowndes who later became a member of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council. On the first day, Lowndes gave him the advice: 'if you will be useful to me, I will be useful to you'. Bhulabhai passed on this advice to his juniors.

As a young lawyer, Bhulabhai was in the Bar library. He was reading and making notes. The giant at the Bar - J.D. Inverarity happened to pass by. He stopped. Enquired what Bhulabhai was doing. He tore up the notes and said: "young man learn to trust your memory." Bhulabhai literally took it to heart. Thereafter, he never made any notes. May be the most complicated and voluminous case. He had a photographic memory. B.P. Khaitan, a senior solicitor of Calcutta had briefed Bhulabhai in a very heavy suit concerning a will in the Bombay High Court. The next day, Bhulabhai stood up without any notes. The Paperbook was running into 2000 pages which was on the table before him. He gave the judge a precise summary of the facts. Never referred to the brief. He dealt with the law. In depth and in detail. It was such a consummate performance the like of which had never been seen before.

These vignettes are a learning. All the young, not so young and the old must enjoy them. They are refreshing.

**PP Dr. Balram K Gupta**  
RC Chandigarh Midtown

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ROTARY Harbinger of Hope

### Rotary Club Chandigarh Midtown Touches Lives at Kushi Aashram

**A**s the first rays of 2024 bathed the world in fresh light, the Rotary Club Chandigarh Midtown transformed Kushi Aashram, Chandigarh, into a vibrant melody of hope and merriment. The Club's signature project (Revival of Kushi Aashram), a symbol of service and compassion, unfolded with a medical camp for over 100 residents and their families. Eye checks, dental screenings, and data collection weren't just clinical exercises; they were promises of improved health and well-being. But the club's commitment extended far beyond the clinic walls. Empowerment became the anthem of the day as the Rotary members assisted families in navigating the maze of government schemes. UDID cards, Aayushman cards, and pension yojanas, once distant dreams, became tangible pathways to a brighter future. Each application submitted, each card received, was a victory cry against the limitations of their circumstances. Then came the music. The soothing melodies of "Music Mends Minds," the club's unique initiative, washed over the Aashram's environment, offering a haven of peace and emotional rejuvenation. Anxious whispers gave way to gentle hums, anxieties replaced by a sense of calm, and hearts, once burdened, began to mend with the music's embrace.

The day reached its crescendo with the arrival of esteemed guests and energetic Rotarians. Past presidents and incoming leaders shared their wisdom, while Rotarians, led by the dynamic Aman Garg, injected youthful energy with vibrant dance and song. The air crackled with joyous Punjabi beats as Rann Bir Gulati took the stage, her soulful melodies echoing through the Aashram, uniting hearts and spirits in a shared celebration.

Winter's chill was no match for the warmth of cozy blankets, a gift from Graffiti Infotech, that wrapped the residents in comfort. Bamboo toothbrushes, symbols of eco-friendly living, were also distributed by the Club, reminding everyone of the importance of sustainability.

As the day drew to a close, the aroma of delicious refreshments mingled with the lingering echoes of laughter and music, painting a picture of pure contentment. The smiles on the faces of the Kushi Aashram residents, the twinkle in their eyes, spoke volumes about the transformative power of the Rotary Club Chandigarh Midtown's actions.

This New Year's celebration wasn't just about festivities; it was a dedication of the club's unwavering commitment to uplift underprivileged communities. With every medical checkup, every card application, every musical note, and every shared smile, they weaved a assortment of hope, paving the way for a brighter future for the residents of Kushi Aashram.

The Rotary Club Chandigarh Midtown didn't just touch the lives of the Kushi Aashram people; they illuminated them with the light of hope, empowered them with the tools for a better tomorrow, and filled their hearts with the music of joy. This is the true legacy of their service, a symbol of the power of compassion that transcends limitations and paints the world with vibrant hues of humanity.

**Dr. Kadam Bhambari**  
Spouse of Rtn. Jiten Bhambari

in our communities through our professional endeavors.

### Kalam Express: A Beacon of Hope on Wheels for Children with Special Needs

**RC Chandigarh Midtown - Bringing Healthcare and Education to Doorsteps**

**I**n an era where accessibility remains a major challenge for children with special needs (CWSN), the Kalam Express stands out as a revolutionary initiative. This unique 'school on wheels' is more than just a vehicle; it's a lifeline for over 1000 children with motor, sensory, and congenital disabilities who are confined to their homes in and around Chandigarh.

The Kalam Express was born out of a collaboration between the Indian Oil Corporation (IOL), Rotary Chandigarh Midtown, and the Health Administration. It's a shining example of how Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) can be effectively channeled to address specific needs in society. The Rotary Club not only played a pivotal role in procuring and modifying the vehicle to make it friendly for Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) but also in bearing the running costs.

The vehicle is equipped with physiotherapy equipment, learning kits, and a portable ramp, ensuring easy access for children. The staff comprises a special teacher, a speech therapist, and a physiotherapist, all trained to cater to the children with special needs.

In addition to education and healthcare, the project extends its support to rehabilitation for disabilities caused by polio, with Rotarians sponsoring the cost of treatments like corrective surgeries and braces.

Despite its immense benefits, the Kalam Express faced challenges, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic, due to fund shortages. However, the resilience of the program is evident in its revival, thanks to the collaborative efforts of three NGOs, as proposed by the Indian Red Cross Society Panchkula and its Chairperson, the Honorable Deputy Commissioner of Panchkula.

The annual budget required to run Kalam Express is approximately Rs 6.0 lakhs, which covers fuel, maintenance, and human resources. With each NGO contributing Rs 2.0 lakhs annually, the program is a model of efficient resource utilization and community

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**WOOLENS GIVEN TO ROADSIDE DWELLERS**

*Gracious Ladies of Midtown bringing Laurence on Women's Day Celebrating Birthday's & Anniversary's*



	<b>Birthday - Spouse</b>
March 15	R'Ann Sunita



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