



# The Mid Towner

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Bulletin of the Rotary Club of Chandigarh Midtown

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## Programme



Please do attend

FRIDAY - SEPTEMBER 22, 2006 Volume : XXXI No. 12; September 20, 2006

## GSE TEAM 2006 FOR JAPAN

Multimedia Presentation by GSE Team Leader PP Rtn. Sandeep Luthra

Venue : Hotel President, Sector 26, Chandigarh

Time : 7.00 P.M.

## THE SAAS BAHU THING !

Something's in the air that night, right ? That's Friday nights at the weekly meeting! It prompted our non-Rotarian regular, Jeets to exclaim that sitting at the back was real entertaining. That's where the barbs, the witticisms, the wisecracks & the repartees were to be heard & ruminated!

I guess the last little heckle - that the birth of a baby boy was the birth of the problem, that *saas-bahu* thing! This impeccably timed heckle coincided with someone up there at the podium being congratulated for becoming a nana-nani.

So there you are - the topic of the debate generated so much heat (even more than the candles on the b'day cake!) that we might have to get Mr. Bahl to zap up the air-conditioning!

Anyway, we had the President & the Secretary to quickly make their announcements and vacate the podium to accommodate the panelists - Dr. Neena Dhawan, HoD of the Sociology Dept. at the MCM DAV Girls College, Dr. Indu Luthra (our Inner Wheel Charter President) & Rtn. Arjan Singh.



The panelists - Rtn. Arjan Singh, Dr. Indu Luthra & Dr. Neena Dhawan

Rtn. Arjan Singh came fully geared up and had done quite a bit of net surfing before the meeting. He said that *Saas-Bahu* problems are mostly seen in the Asian countries where the *bahu* usually checks into her new husband's home & hearth.

This is exactly where the problems starts. Surprisingly, no one spoke about nuclear families to overcome this problem, where the young couples start living independently from the first day of their marriage and there is no interference from either of the parents. This is the western culture which is quite practical and now getting popular in India. There were a number of other issues that Arjan touched upon but then, he played it safe - he introduced the topic & invited Dr. Indu Luthra to the declamation.

Drs. Indu Luthra opined that *Kyunki Saas bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi* emphasizes the plight of Bahu-the bride in the house. That only the mother-in-law should change to adjust the bride at home, she should make all the sacrifices. It can be so. We have to introspect the subject from all points of view. The mother, the most respected woman on earth becomes the most despised mother-in-law when her son marries. On the other hand the new woman who enters his son's life has her own feelings and individuality for her marriage life. She needs her husband's support and the family support to set up her dream home. How to strike a balance is today's topic.

When a new comer wife comes to stay in the new house with her husband who is already staying with a family, there is already an adult female member, mainly mother-in-law, who controls the house. She has marked her territory and would resist to any interference.

Now the new women, the daughter-in-law's survival is either by surrendering to adjust into the existing environment or to fight to gain control, to establish her own environment. When she hurries up to enter into the territory of mother-in-law, the war starts, war between the mother-in-law and the daughter-in-law, most popular of any war.

Mrs. Luthra was followed by Drs. Dhawan, who took an almost similar tack, but with a different viewpoint. I guess that her being younger (or at least looking so!) made her espouse

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the cause of the DiL - the daughter in law! There is a basic flaw in the DiL- MiL story!  
Dr. Nitin Mathur, our Moderator, did a wonderful job in keeping out a number of Rotarians from hogging the stage.

RTPS Tulsi started off with a legal definition of the term Mother in law. When you form a JV with your spouse, her mother is your mother - by law! For all us *Ma ke bete*, we might as well accept this legal fact. His other counsel to new or prospective DiLs was to take it easy & not start a confrontation in new surrounds with a new set of people.



*The speakers (or debaters ?) - PP Pallav, Dir. Rtn. Atul Grover & Mrs. Ritu Singal.  
Moderator Rtn. Dr. Nitin Mathur (behind Atul) having a knock-out time !*

He was followed by numerous eager speakers such as Anniversary Boy Rtn. Parveen Khosla, Rtn. Mohinder Singh, Rtn. Suraj Handa & even our President Dr. Vohra, not to mention our Secy. R K Luther with his witticisms.

Then there were the stronger sex - the ladies! Mrs. Archana Mathur wanted mothers to let go of their darling sons, at least for a while (till he grows a white beard?). Mrs. Ritu Singal, our new member has been having a whale of a good time with her MiL (Wow!) & recommended the same tactics to all new incumbents.

Atul Grover came up with stanzas from Ghalib - & regaled us with some dreamy stuff. Yours truly wanted this sort of education to be given in schools & colleges! Dr Luthra wanted proper moral education to be given within or outside the Education system! Various ideas were floated that the groom/husband should play spoilsport & intervene in the DiL-MiL *jhagda*, or at least be the moderator, or even the punching bag, explain things to both his mother & his wife. Lots of suggestions, advice & things nice!



*Celebrating their Wedding Anniversaries - Rtn. Pavreen Khosla (but why's he alone ?) and  
Rtn. Prem Anand with Ann. Indu*

But DGE Shaju put paid to all that when he came & said that he envied us all for not being able to play all those multi-roles because, in his last thirty+ years of married life with Lovy, she managed just about a hundred days with her MiL - & he had no opportunity to referee a fight. So that leaves us Rotarians!

 - PP Pallav Mukherjee

## The Intercity at Ludhiana

It was one heck of a party or more like a mela! Considering that the three of us - PP Moni, PP I. Sengupta & yours truly, met people from Suratgarh (Rajasthan) to an entire contingent from Jammu, plus one from Srinagar, and of course my DG - ParmodVij, along with the Panipat heavyweights - Setia & Vinod Jawa, Vikram Chawla from Saharanpur.

I even heard talk of the formation of the highest Rotary Club in the World at Leh. I sure did not know we had such a vast hinterland. Guess what - the next Distt. Conference is being held at Dharamsala with His Holiness, the Dalai Lama as the Chief Guest.

We even had the international angle with PRIP LuisVicente Giay from Argentina, the current Chairman of the Foundation & his wife Celia, along with a host of biggies - Past RI Director Sushil Gupta & Ghulam Vahanvaty from Mumbai, Regional Co-ordinator of the Foundation in India (he contributed \$ 6.54 lakhs), the suave K.R. Ravindran from Colombo, Trustee, TRF & of course our own PRIP Raja Saboo.

The venue - Alex Nagpal Resort on Pakhowal Road in Ludhiana, was pretty much a state-of-the-art conference hall, with real good weather, to boot. The weather above, admitted PDG Kawal Bedi, was her doing. And so was the weather at ground level. I've never seen so many PDGs at one time & in one place - all at their very affable best. From 3080 there were the current DG Dhian Chand, with DGE Shaju, DGN Satish Saluja & PDG ParmodVij.

A bit about the Rotary Foundation - India has climbed up to the 5<sup>th</sup> spot (up from the 9<sup>th</sup>) with contributions totaling \$ 4.3 million, but far below the US (\$ 55million +), Japan, S Korea & Canada. We're followed by the UK, Germany, Italy, Australia & France. Things are already hotting up - PDG ParmodVij has already not only set a target - \$ 3,00,000/-, but has already got any number of pledges. We're looking at at least \$ 100 per Rotarian, or club member!

The really great (& to the point!) speakers were Gulam Vahanvaty, Sushil Gupta (he spoke in down to earth Punjabi!), KR Ravindran (it is always a pleasure to hear him!) & guess what - PRIP Raja decided to give his speech the go-by. This was in order to save time, or catch up with it.

The TRF Chairman, PRIP Luis Giay, started his speech by making it quite clear - those who have cellphones have to pay roaming charges for incoming calls; similarly they have to pay for hearing Officers of the RI! But anyway, he gave a powerful presentation on the RF.

PDG Surinder Seth from Jalandhar interspersed in his inimitable way, besides his Vote of Thanks to DG Distt. 3070, Rtn. Romesh Rana, the President of the Host Club, Anoop Gupta & his team, all others on the dais & off it & to the dancers of the boisterous *Bhangra* team, the petite *Giddha* team & the pretty Kajal, with her classical presentation.

Lunch was the usual overdose of high density lipoproteins & fatty foods with oodles of carbs, not to miss the cake on ice-cream (or was it ice-cream on cake)!

Reported by PP Pallav Mukherjee

## District Conference 2007

As already announced in the last bulletin, District Conference 2007 "Swadeshe Bhanwantrayam" is scheduled to be held at BHEL Convention Hall, Hardwar on 24th & 25th Feb. 2007, hosted by Rotary Club of Kankhal. The last date for availing concessional registration charges - Rs. 700 (Single) & Rs. 1300 (Couple) - is Sept. 30, 2006. Members are requested to register in large numbers with Office Secy. Mr. V.P. Sharma.

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## Rotary & Blood Bank Society Resource Centre

PRIP Rtn R.K. Saboo invited the Rotarians of Chandigarh tri-city to Rotary & Blood Bank Society Resource Centre, Dakshin Marg, Sector 37, Chandigarh on 13th Sept. 2006. He said, though Rotary Club of Chandigarh may be the implementer of the Project with Blood Bank Society but it is the Rotary family of the tri-city that can claim the sense of belonging for the very important project. It was necessary for the club leaders to get acquainted with this state-of-the-art blood banking service centre.

There were large number of Rotarians present at the Rotary & Blood Bank Society Resource Centre. PRIP Rtn. Raja Saboo was himself present there to 'Lead The Way' and to introduce the Rotarians to the dedicated functionaries and the professional team of doctors of the centre. It was a very satisfying feeling to see how deeply Rotary is involved in the blood donation movement, specially when Chandigarh tri-city is having sophisticated health care facilities.

PRIP Rtn. Raja Saboo told the Rotarians of the Chandigarh tri-city that this blood bank needs contributions in the form of voluntary blood donation. He suggested to hold blood donation camps in the suitable areas for which all assistance would be made available by Rotary & Blood Bank Society Resource Centre.

Indian Rotarians in other parts of the country like Delhi,

Bangalore, Chennai & Bhuvaneshwar are playing important role in voluntary blood donation and they have also set up good blood banks. Rotary & Blood Bank Society Resource Centre at Chandigarh is the best blood resource centre in north of Delhi, which is open 24 hours. It is fully air conditioned, equipped with sophisticated machines and computers. The management systems is also being computerized. In addition to PRIP Rtn Raja Saboo, other important dignitaries, who are associated in this missionary movement, are Mr. Rajan Kashyap, Mrs. Kanta Saroop Krishan & Rtn. Dr. BNSWalia.

In addition to PDGs Rtn. Maj. Som Dutt & Rtn JPS Sibia, Presidents of the clubs in the Chandigarh tri-city, our club was represented by DGE Rtn. Shaju Peter, Pres. Dr. V.J.S. Vohra and Chairman - Blood Donation, Rtn. Dr Nitin Mathur.

*Reported by Pres. Dr. V.J.S. Vohra*

### Condolence

Sh. Koursain Goyal, brother of our IPP Rtn. R.K. Goyal, left for his heavenly abode on Sept. 8, 2006 following a brain haemorrhage. He was 67.

We share the family's grief & pray for the departed soul to rest in peace.

### BIRTHDAY GREETINGS :

PP Rtn. Anil K. Mehan

Sept. 22

PP Rtn. Dr. (Mrs.) Vanita Gupta

Sept. 26

PP Rtn. Jagmohan Lal Mahajan

Sept. 27

Rtn. Arjan Singh

Sept. 28



### WEDDING ANNIVERSARY :

R'ann Raj & Rtn. Dr. Col. V.K. Kapoor

Sept. 23



### PUNCTUALITY DRAW :

Won by Rtn. R.T.P.S. Tulsi



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