

## Changing Mindset towards Environment

On Friday, January 21, 2011 our Guest Speaker Prof. Arun D. Ahluwalia, Ph.D., FGS, Emeritus Geologist and Environmentalist gave a talk on 'Changing Mindset towards Mother Earth & Environment'. He was introduced by Rtn. Prof. I.S. Dua as an eminent scientist who has widely traveled, having visited 23 countries. Dr. Ahluwalia did M.Sc.Hons in 1970. He did Ph.D. in 1981 from Panjab University, Chandigarh. From 1972 to 1982 he served as Geologist with Geological Survey of India. He was a Faculty Member in Geology in Panjab University from 1982 onwards, Professor & Head of Department from 2002. He is Ex-Director CAS, Incharge Environment Outreach, Panjab University, Ex-Visiting Scholar, Geology Dept., University of Cincinnati, OHIO; Member US National



Prof. A.D. Ahluwalia

Committee on International Year of Planet Earth (IYPE) of UNESCO. He is also associated with Govt. Natural History Museum, in Sector 10, Chandigarh.

As an activist under IYPE-IUGS Programme, he has interacted with numerous school teachers and students on Earth History, Hazard Mitigation, Himalayan scientific and scenic grandeur, and has delivered important talks and presentation in various parts of India and abroad.

He has Membership of Learned societies and other academic bodies and has large number of important publications to his name.

In his talk Prof. Ahluwalia emphasized on the importance of Mother Earth, with the help of colourful and informative power point presentation. He said Vedic time prayers show India had a vision for comprehensive environmental peace

unlike the current world on war with environment. He quoted Mahatma Gandhi, "I believe it is perfectly possible for an individual to adapt the way of life of the future without having to wait for others to do so."

Dr. Ahluwalia is amongst large number of scientists who strongly disagree with man-made global warming fears. He even expressed his annoyance on Nobel Peace Prize being given in 2007 to American Vice President Al Gore and Dr. R.K. Pachauri (IPPC) on scientifically incorrect conclusions by people who are not geologists. He described this as climate of politics which needs to be corrected. He said Global temperatures have been varying over thousands of years and we cannot blame humans for it. Global warming is natural, and it is to be enjoyed. He strongly criticized the promoters of global warming fears for drawing out exaggerated conclusions, which urgently needs to be put in the right perspective.

The media hype and panic over global warming is irrelevant. The fact is that human activities are responsible for pollution, and man is too small to cause any impact on global warming!

Dr. Ahluwalia pointed out that the main issue is pollution, the greatest threat to humanity! He passionately questioned, "How about pesticides polluting soil, water and food?" He said, "Warmth of mother earth is yours only if it is pour." He added, "We should keep our environment as clean as our homes." Cleanliness is Godliness.

He vehemently advocated for rain water harvest; carry bags made of jute/cloth, tree plantation, saving of fallen leaves and rice husk from burning; recycle & reuse plastic, use of public transport/car pooling; checking emission levels, dressing up as per weather to save power wasted in warming or cooling as power saved is power generated, use of solar heaters, cookers and solar cells. Use CDs to minimize the wastage of paper.

Dr. Ahluwalia said, "Purity of mother earth is at stake." By curbing global pollution we are saving the planet and securing the future of our kids and grand kids. He advised, "Walk or cycle for their sake, and your sake too if you have high blood



PP Rtn. D.P. Khandelia receives birthday gift from Prof. A.D. Ahluwalia. Looking on is Joint Secretary Rtn. Amarjit Singh



PP Rtn. Dr. Kesho R. Gupta presents a memento to Prof. A.D. Ahluwalia



Rtn. Mohinder Singh gets the punctuality award from Prof. A.D. Ahluwalia

pressure or cholesterol, over weight or over stressed! Let us maximize walking in the city beautiful." He added, "Why pay parking charges and burn petrol if you can walk across?"

Prof. Ahluwalia also showed pictures of the naturally wonderful environment. He strongly pleaded for the fight against global pollution, and that we should care for the

mother earth and enjoy its beauty.

Vote of thanks was proposed by PP Rtn. Dr. Kesho R. Gupta. He thanked Prof. Ahluwalia for his impressive and scientific presentation of the facts regarding the mother earth and environment.

## 'Reach Within to Embrace Humanity' is 2011-12 RI theme

By Joseph Derr

Rotary International News -- 17 January 2011

RI President-elect Kalyan Banerjee will ask Rotarians to *Reach Within to Embrace Humanity* during the 2011-12 Rotary year.

Banerjee unveiled the RI theme during the opening plenary session of the 2011 International Assembly, a training event for incoming district governors.

He urged participants to harness their inner resolve and strength to achieve success in Rotary.

"In order to achieve anything in this world, a person has to use all the resources he can draw on. And the only place to start is with ourselves and within ourselves," Banerjee said.

Once Rotarians find their inner strength, he continued, they can accomplish great things in their communities and around

the world.

"Discover yourself, develop the strengths within you, and then unhesitatingly, unflinchingly, go forth and encircle the world, to embrace humanity," he said.

Banerjee emphasized the family as a starting point in serving others. "The communities we live in are not built of individual



RI President-elect Kalyan Banerjee announces the 2011-12 RI theme during the International Assembly in San Diego, California

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people but of families -- families living in homes together, sharing their lives and their resources and their common destinies. Good families lead to good neighborhoods, and good neighborhoods build good communities."

Rotarians can focus on projects that support families, such as those that provide safe housing or improve maternal and child health, he said.

Continuity in Rotary's work, including polio eradication, is also important, Banerjee said. "There are so many things we are indeed good at: working for clean, safe water; spreading literacy; working in so many ways with the New Generations, our youth, in our newest Avenue of Service and assisting them to become the leaders of tomorrow."

Citing Mahatma Gandhi's call to "be the change you wish to see in the world," Banerjee said Rotarians should also focus on change.

"If we wish for peace, we start by living in peace ourselves,

in our homes and in our communities," he explained. "If we wish environmental degradation to stop, if we wish to reduce child mortality or to prevent hunger, we must be the instrument of that change -- and recognize that it must start *within* us, with each of us."

The theme inspired the roomful of Rotary leaders, including Jogesh Gambhir, governor-elect of District 3250 (India).

"It is a touching theme, but also very purposeful and meaningful," said Gambhir. "I'm sure we can inspire the clubs into action to solve the problems in the community. That's the ultimate goal of Rotary."

"There are no words for me to describe how remarkable it was. To me, he was right on and weaved everything together beautifully," said Jane Millar, governor-elect of District 6290 (parts of Ontario, Canada, and Michigan, USA). "I am so thrilled to be a district governor when this man is president."

## Blood Donation Camp by RCC of Khuda Ali Sher



Mr. Brijendra Singh, Deputy Commissioner, UT, Chandigarh with RCC members

Rotary Community Corps of Khuda Ali Sher organized a blood donation camp on 16th January 2011, in which 66

persons donated blood.

Even ladies took part for this noble cause and 12 of them also donated blood!

Mr. Brijendra Singh, IAS, Deputy Commissioner U.T, Chandigarh was the Chief Guest. He was highly impressed to see the activities at the camp. He assured the RCC members of his support for upliftment of the village.

Youth Club Khuda Ali Sher also participated in the camp and presented 1 kg Dabur Chayanprash to each donor.

Blood donation camp was conducted by GMSH Sector 16, Chandigarh blood bank team.

The efforts of RCC members and their initiative in this noble cause, is highly appreciable. Our club has committed a contribution of Rs. 5000/- for the above camp.

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Ladies donating blood



RCC members donating blood

## Rtn. Rakesh Aggarwal is DGN 2013-14

Rtn. Rakesh Aggarwal of Rotary Club of Dehradun, the candidate of the nominating committee for DGN, has been declared elected as DGN 2013-14 as no challenge was received against the nomination.

Our heartiest congratulations to DGN Rakesh Aggarwal.

He has also been felicitated at the Intercity of Friendship, hosted by Rotary Club of Kankhal at Crystal World, Haridwar on Sunday, 23rd Jan. 2011.

## Heartfelt Condolences

R'ann Purnima Sood, wife of Secretary Rtn. Deepak Sood lost her mother, Mrs Asha Sood on 22nd January 2011. Our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family on this sad and

sudden demise.

Kriya was held on 24th Jan. 2011 in Sector 6 Mandir, Panchkula.

## District Mega Medical Camp on 6th Feb. 2011

District Mega Medical Camp is being organized on 6th Feb. 2011 (Sunday) at Khuda Ali Sher which will be a joint project of Rotary Clubs of Chandigarh, Chandigarh Midtown, Chandigarh Shivalik and SAS Nagar. Free medicines will be distributed. Our Rotary Community Corps of Khuda Ali Sher will also be assisting us in this mega project.

President Prem Anand has made an earnest appeal to seek financial help for this medical camp and also for the blood donation camp, already held by RCC of Khuda Ali Sher on 16th January 2011. Timely support in terms of monetary contributions will be highly appreciated!

### Birthday of Rotary Anns

R'ann Vandana Gupta	January 31
R'ann Satpal Kaur	February 02
R'ann Mira Mahajan	February 03



### Birthday of Rotarians

H/Rtn. Suraj Handa	January 31
Rtn. Salil Bali	February 03



### Wedding Anniversary

R'ann Pushpa & Rtn. Vinod K. Jawa	January 28
R'ann Kalpana & Rtn. Praveen Aggarwal	January 29
PP Rtn. Saroj Jhawar & Mr. Sita Ram	January 30
Rtn. Dr. Anureet & Mr. Raj Karan S. Bhatti	February 01
R'ann Gurpreet & Rtn. Munish Jauhar	February 02
R'ann Asha & Rtn. Rajiv Aggarwal	February 02



### Punctuality Draw

Won by Rtn. Mohinder Singh



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