



# The Midtowner

Bulletin of Rotary Club of Chandigarh Midtown: R.I. District 3080

R. I. President  
**Sakuji Tanaka**

District Governor  
**Manmohan Singh**

President  
**Ritu Singal**

Secretary  
**Ashok Puri**

Editor  
**Dr. V. J. S. Vohra**

Volume XXXVII No. 28 Dated: January 08, 2013

## PROGRAMME

Collaboration between

Chandigarh Midtown and Milano Sud Est (WCS)

Chief Guest: PP Rtn. Lakshmi Khanna

Rotary Club of Milano Sud Est, Italy

Friday, January 11, 2013

Time: 6.30 p.m.

Venue: Hotel President, Sector 26, Chandigarh

## A vision for Panjab University

On January 4, 2013, presiding over the first meeting of 2013, Vice President Rtn. Amarjit Singh wished all Rotarians and their families a very happy new year. He welcomed the Chief Guest Prof. Dr. Arun Grover, Vice Chancellor, Panjab University, Chandigarh. He also acknowledged the presence of PDG Yoginder Diwan of Rotary Club Parwanoo.

Rtn. Prof. Dr. I.S. Dua, Professor and former Chairman, Department of Botany at Panjab University, introduced Prof. Dr. Arun Kumar Grover, who took over on 23rd July 2012 as the 12th Vice Chancellor of Panjab University, Chandigarh. Dr. Dua also welcomed his wife Dr. Neera Grover, Professor in the Department of Music in PU. Dr. Arun Grover had done B.Sc. Hons. School (Physics) in 1971, M.Sc. Hons. School (Physics) in 1972 from Panjab University, Chandigarh and Ph.D from University of Bombay in 1979. He had held various other important assignments, including his previous one as Senior Professor with the School of Natural Sciences at the prestigious Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR), Mumbai. From a student, teacher to Vice Chancellor of Panjab University, surely must be a nostalgic journey back home for Prof. Dr. Arun Grover. He has also been recognized with large number of awards. He has over 150 publications to his credit.

Panjab University is one of the oldest Universities in India, established in 1882 at Lahore, now in Pakistan. The university campus is spread over an area of 550 acres in Sectors 14 and 25, Chandigarh.

Before joining as Vice Chancellor, Prof. Arun Grover had 'A

vision for Panjab University'. He had said, "Let me come and join the university first, but my vision will be positive and upward. It will be my responsibility to give the faculty and students a good administration and maintain high reputation of the Panjab University, which is one of the reputed universities of the country and is a primary research institute as well. I will put in all efforts to make it the best university in the field of research in the world."

Elaborating on his vision, Dr. Grover said, "I would like to strengthen the usual USPs of Panjab University, and attempt to add to it the features which will sustain its competitiveness nationally, as well as allow it to compete internationally." One of the USPs of the Panjab University since its positioning at its present location is the Honours School System, where the students can enroll at an impressionable age immediately after leaving the school and be taught by the teachers who are active as researchers as well.

The newly created Indian Institutes of Science Education and



Prof. Dr. Arun Grover



Rtn. Prof. Dr. I.S. Dua introduces Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Arun Grover



Biting cold wave, fog throws city out of gear, flights cancelled, trains delayed..... but good attendance of Rotarians & R'anns makes it warm



PP Prof. Dr. S.K. Sharma presents a memento to Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Arun Grover. Looking on is Vice President Amarjit Singh



Prof. Dr. Arun Grover presents (L-R:) birthday gifts to PP Rtn. Gurdip S. Deep, Rtn. Dr. Mrs. Rita Kalra and punctuality award to Sergeant-at-arms PP Rtn. Dr. Balram K. Gupta, also a former Professor in Law Department, PU. Looking on are Vice President Amarjit Singh and Secretary A.K. Puri

Research in different parts of India have essentially adopted the Honours School system of Panjab University, and added to it the facilities and new features so as to compete with the curricula and brand name of IITs in India and emulate the best contemporary practices of science teaching internationally. Dr. Grover said, "At Panjab University, we need to upgrade ourselves in all aspects so that we can sustain our competitiveness in the disciplines of science and research that get practiced at our campus."

Prof. Grover feels that along with the high quality research activities, there is a need to work towards the enhancement of the undergraduate courses in the University. His endeavour would be to ensure that every year PU becomes the first choice for class XII pass-outs not only from the city but also from neighbouring states like Panjab, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh. His vision is to introduce five-year integrated courses, like MA-Ph.D and MSc-Ph.D.

Prof. Grover called for higher education institutions collaboration with the private sector in research, faculty development, infrastructure creation, student scholarships and

governance. To achieve this, the higher education system should attract corporate investments. He said Punjab University has an annual budget of Rs. 350 crore funded by Central Government, and expressed his desire of 10 percent of it as corporate participation, that is, Rs. 35 crore. He explained, "This can bring in many new changes in the university so that students are trained in a better infrastructure and we attract students from all over India."

There was a knowledgeable inter active discussion between the Vice Chancellor and Rotarians. Formal vote of thanks was proposed by PP Rtn. Prof. Dr. S.K. Sharma, Professor Emeritus, Energy Research Centre and former Dean University Instructions of Panjab University. He thanked Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Arun Grover for sharing his positive vision for Panjab University, and expects a great future for this University.

The meeting was followed by cocktails to celebrate the New Year, sponsored by PP Rtn. Gurdip S. Deep, VP Rtn. Amarjit Singh, Secretary Rtn. A.K. Puri and Rtn. Dr. Mrs. Rita Kalra.

## RI President's Monthly message - January, 2013



RI President  
Sakuji Tanaka

I am a Japanese businessman, and I wear a suit almost every day. The Rotary pin is always on my lapel. It is there because I am proud to be a Rotarian. Anywhere I go, people will see the pin and know who I am. Other Rotarians will see it and know that I am a friend, and people who are not Rotarians will see it as well. I want to be sure that all of them also understand the meaning of this pin.

This is why I am asking all of you to wear your Rotary pin and to raise awareness of what the pin means. I believe having that pin on your lapel changes you. It makes you think more before you speak and before you act. It makes you remember, all the time, that you are a Rotarian – and that as Rotarians, we are here to help.

All of us should be ready to talk about Rotary. When someone asks you about that pin, you should be ready to answer them. What is Rotary? What does Rotary do? These are questions that each of us should always be prepared to answer.

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— making things happen ..... in another world ! —

We cannot go to prospective members and ask them to join Rotary only because we want more members. We have to show them that Rotary is a wonderful organization, and that they will be happier because they belong to a Rotary club.

When we ask people to join Rotary, we are doing this to help them as well. I think all of us are grateful to the person who asked us to join. I know that my life is much happier, and has been much more productive, because of Rotary. It is clear to me that the day I joined the Rotary Club of Yashio was a day when I took my first step down a different path in life – a path of greater connection, greater satisfaction, and a deeper sense of fulfillment and peace.

This is a feeling that I want to share with others. And I know that one way to do that is through bringing in new members. But we must also do it by raising awareness of Rotary and Rotary's work, by focusing on our public image and wearing our Rotary pins every day.

Sakuji Tanaka  
RI President

Source: Rotary International

## See Your Roots

Rtn. Manmohan Singh, District Governor of RI District 3080 and Rtn. Anthony Richards District Governor of District 3272 (Pakistan) have proposed a unique program "See Your Roots", with the aim to promote peace and also give an opportunity to those whose families migrated from across the borders to visit their ancestral lands. It is planned to start with small groups on both sides. Two couples from each zone will be given priority on a first come first served basis.

With the historic agreement between our Governments to ease visa restrictions, plans are that our respective District Conferences be dedicated to Peace and an exchange of a large number of Rotarians and their families to visit each others' Conference. RI District 3080's Conference dates are February 22-24, 2013 at Chandigarh. RI District 3272's Conference dates are March 29-31, 2013. The venue is the beautiful and historic city of Lahore epitomizing the beauty, passion, architecture and grandeur of the Mughal Era and the legendary hospitality of the

citizens of Lahore.

Each member / family desirous of visiting his birth place or ancestral lands in Pakistan should give the name of the town to enable our counterparts to generate a visa invitation from a Rotarian of the area on one to one basis.

This program will be coordinated by Rtn. Prabhjit Singh, Rtn. T.K. Ruby and Rtn. Vinod Malhotra. PDG Madhukar Malhotra is the Counsellor of this program. Response should only be made to the special email ID [seeyourroots@gmail.com](mailto:seeyourroots@gmail.com) which is accessible to all three including the District Governor.

Request should include the necessary data for each member and accompanying spouse: Name & Passport Details, Club, Address, Email, Phone, Three Cities/Towns to visit in Pakistan and Up to date contribution towards TRF.

The applicant should be a current donor to the TRF and active in Rotary activities at his club.

## District Conference

February 23-24, 2013

District Conference of RI District 3080, Izlaas-e-Aman, that is, Conference of Peace will be held on February 23-24, 2013 at Indradhanush Auditorium, Sector 5, Panchkula, which will be hosted by all Rotary Clubs of tri-city, that is, Chandigarh, Mohali Panchkula and Kharar.

Registration: Upto January 31st, 2013 Single 1500/- Couple 2750/-

Upto February 15th, 2013 Single 1700/- Couple 3000/-

On the Spot: Single 1800/- Couple 3450/-

Our members are to get exhibitors and sponsors for the District Conference, as part of duty assigned to our club. For further details please contact President Ritu Singal or Secretary A.K. Puri. For registration contact Office Secretary V.P. Sharma.

## Condolences

Mrs. Phul Duggal, mother of Late Rtn. Jatinder Sahib Singh left for her heavenly abode on 27th December 2012. Our deep condolences to her daughter-in-law Mrs. Deepa Sahib Singh, Past President, Inner Wheel Chandigarh Midtown. Kirtan was held at her residence, H.No. 305 Sector 9-D, Chandigarh on 6th January 2013.

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## A Guest Lecture on Leadership



PDG Shaju, Rtn. Dev Jeet and students

The students of Hotel Catering and Management Institute run by Vidya Jyoti Education Society at Gholumajra, Chandigarh-Ambala-Delhi Highway had an external lecturer on December 18, 2012.

Director of the Institute and our club member Rtn. Dev Jeet Singh had requested PDG Shaju Peter to deliver a lecture on leadership to his students.

After a traditional welcome PDG Shaju went on to engage the students in a 45 minute interactive session on leadership traits. The lecture was very well received by the students, according to Dev Jeet.

## Rotary Friendship Exchange

Our RI District has tied up with District 2490 (Israel). The inbound and outbound teams will consist of five couples and period of stay in each District will be about 8/9 days. The itinerary for the trip is being prepared. Major part of their stay would be in Chandigarh but they would also be visiting holy cities of Anandpur Sahib, Kurukshetra and Haridwar, as well

as Shimla and Mussoorie. The suitable locations for stay of the team outside Chandigarh are Yamuna Nagar, Dehradun and Panipat.

For further details please mail to RFE District Chair PP Harish Sethi at hcsethi1180@yahoo.com, or call him on his mobile No. 09417201180.

## Microloan to travelling salesman

A loan of Rs.10,000/- (Ten thousand only) was given to Mr. Raju Prasad of Palsora Village. He will use it to set up his business of selling shoes and chappals as a street vendor.

## RYLA at Ambala

District Governor Manmohan Singh has successfully held three RYLAs during the Rotary Year 2012-13, including a unique one for differently abled children in November 2012. The third RYLA of the year was hosted by Rotary Club Ambala

Central on 3rd to 5th January, 2013, focusing on "Leadership through Peace", at the prestigious "Chaman Vatika International School", located on the Ambala - Chandigarh highway. Our club had sponsored four children. 130 children registered for this event.

## President Ritu Singal's Facet of Peace - Step 24: Worrying will never end in peace

Worrying will never end in peace. Worry is like getting away on a wooden horse which leads you nowhere.

### Birthday of Spouses

R'ann Indu Luthra  
R'ann Neena Verma



January 13  
January 13

### Birthday of Rotarians

Rtn. Dr. Dinesh Sehajpal  
Rtn. Salil Chopra  
Rtn. Mohinder Singh



January 12  
January 12  
January 17

### Wedding Anniversary

R'ann Sangeeta & Rtn. Ashish Singla

January 17

### Punctuality Draw

Won by PPRtn. Dr. Balram K. Gupta

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