

The Midtowner

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

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District Governor
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President
Ritu Singal

Secretary
Ashok Puri

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Dr. V. J. S. Vohra

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PROGRAMME

Working together for the Society

Chief Guest: Mr. Rajesh Jogpal, HCS

Director, Social Welfare, Chandigarh Administration

Friday, May 03, 2013

Time: 7.00 p.m.

Venue: Hotel President, Sector 26, Chandigarh

Role of Aaykar Lokpal

In our club meeting on April 26, 2013, we had Mr. Ashok K. Manchanda, IRS, Aaykar Lokpal (Income Tax Obudsman), Chandigarh as Chief Guest, who was introduced by PP Rtn. Gurdip S. Deep. Mr. Manchanda is from 1976 batch of IRS. He has done L.L.B. and M.B.A. with special emphasis on Finance and HRD. Besides Delhi, he has enjoyed postings at Shimla, Nagpur, Agra, Bhopal and some places in Panjab and Haryana. Last posting was as Chief Commissioner of Income Tax, New Delhi from where he retired in April, last year. He takes keen interest in extra-curricular activities, a keen trekker and a sports person.



Mr. Ashok K. Manchanda

Mr. Manchanda said he wants to create better awareness about his job for the redressal of income tax payers' grievances. Explaining the administrative structure of Income tax department, he said that most of these grievances are at ITO level.

The Income Tax Ombudsman Guidelines 2006 came into force from 1st January 2006,

with the objective to enable the resolution of complaints relating to public grievances against the Income Tax Department and to facilitate the satisfaction or settlement of such complaints.

Territorial Jurisdiction of Aaykar Lokpal, Chandigarh is Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh and Jammu & Kashmir. Powers of Ombudsman are to receive Complaints from Taxpayers; Facilitate Settlement of Complaints through Conciliation and Mediation between the IT Department and the aggrieved parties or pass an award.

He protects Individual Taxpayers' Rights and reduce Taxpayers burdens. He also identifies issues that create problems for Taxpayers and brings them to the attention of Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) and Ministry of Finance.

Mr. Manchanda also discussed the grounds for complaints which are; Delay in Issue of Refunds, Sending of Envelopes Without Refund Vouchers, Non-adherence to 'First Come First

Served' in sending Refunds, Non-acknowledgement of Letters or Documents, Non-updating of Demand and Other Registers, Delay in Disposing Cases of Interest Waiver, Delay in Giving Effect to Appellate Orders, Delay in Release of Seized Books of Account and Assets, Delay in Allotment of PAN, Non-credit of Tax Paid, including TDS, Non-adherence to Prescribed Working Hours; Rude Behaviour with Assesseees and any other matter relating to Violation of Administrative Instructions and Circulars issued by CBDT.

An Aggrieved Person may file a Complaint himself or through his authorized representative in writing, through Electronic means but print-out has to be signed by the Complainant before it is taken up for disposal by the Lokpal. There should be Signatures of the Complainant or the AR, Name and Address of the Complainant, Name and Designation of the Official against whom Complaint is made, Facts giving rise to the complaint supported by documents, if any, and Relief Sought by the Complainant.

No compliant lies unless the Complainant has made a Written Representation to the Superior Authority of the Official Complained against and Representation has been Rejected, No Reply is received within One Month or Complainant is not satisfied with the reply. The Complaint is to be made within 13 months after Representation or 12 months of Receipt of Reply from the Superior Authority. Complaint should not be in respect of a matter settled earlier by Lokpal. It should not be Frivolous or Vexatious in Nature. It should also not be an issue which has been the subject-matter of any Appeal, Revision, Reference or Writ.

If a complaint is not settled by Agreement ordinarily within one month, the Lokpal may pass an Award after hearing both parties. He shall be guided by the Evidence placed before him, IT Law and Practice, Directions, Instructions and Guidelines issued by CBDT and the Central Government, and Interest of Justice. The award must be a Speaking Order, Containing Appropriate Directions to the Concerned IT Authority.

Copy of Award is to be given to the Complainant and the IT Authority complained against. The Award shall be binding on both parties unless the complainant does not accept it or fails to furnish a Letter of Acceptance within 15 days of receipt of Award. The Token Compensation shall be paid by the IT



Rtn. Tej Mohan Singh presents a memento to Mr. Ashok Manchanda



Mr. Ashok Manchanda presents the punctuality award to Rtn. D.K. Singh



Water the bird project implemented by Secretary Ashok Puri

Department. The concerned IT Authority shall intimate compliance with the Award within one month from the Date of Award.



Mr. Manchanda presents wedding anniversary gift to R'ann Deep & Rtn. Maj. Gen. A.S. Kahlon

Mr. Manchanda encouraged Rotarians to have an interactive discussion with him, and there were many queries and grievances were also raised, which were tackled by the Ombudsman very judiciously. He said as tax payers one should fearlessly lodge complaints with the Ombudsman, as the office had been created with the objective to redress public complaints against the Income Tax department.

His official address is: Office of Aaykar Lokpal, (Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh, Jammu & Kashmir), C.R. Building, 3rd Floor, Sector 17-E, Chandigarh. Phone: 0172-2701903.

Vote of thanks was proposed by Rtn. Tej Mohan Singh, who is a reputed income tax lawyer. Thanking Mr. Manchanda for a very enlightening presentation, he said, "Any of us who has a grievance can approach him, and I can assure you that it will soon be resolved."

Adolescent Education Seminar and Environment Project



From right: R'ann Neena Verma, Secretary Ashok Puri, President Ritu Singal and Rtn. Dr. Shashi Jain



President Ritu Singal and Secretary Ashok Puri with students, spreading awareness about hygiene



PP Prof. Dr. S.K. Sharma and President Ritu Singal address the boy students



Rtn. Dr. Mrs. Shashi Jain address the girl students. Seen behind her is Rtn. Mrs. Kanan Diwan

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— making things happen in another world ! —

Rotary Club of Chandigarh Midtown had organized a lecture on environment project by PP Prof. Dr. S.K. Sharma on 25th April 2013 for the boys and girls of class XII in Govt. Model Senior Secondary School, Sector 33-D, Chandigarh. The children had lot of questions, which were answered by Dr. S.K. Sharma. President Ritu Singal, Secretary Ashok Puri, Rtn. Mrs. Kanan Diwan, Director Community Service, Rtn. Dr. Mrs. Shashi Jain and R'ann Neena Verma, along with Dr. Nitin Gupta of GMCH, Sector 32, Chandigarh were present during this lecture.

Apart from this, adolescent education seminar was also held by our club for boys and girls separately on 25th April 2013 in this school. Rtn. Dr. Shashi Jain addressed the students, supported by President Ritu Singal, Rtn. Kanan Diwan and R'ann Neena Verma for girls. Dr. Nitin Gupta addressed the boys, supported

by Secretary Ashok Puri. The children had lot of questions about their parents, career, and adolescent age related issues which were answered by Dr. Shashi Jain, Rtn. Kanan Diwan, President Ritu Singal and Dr. Nitin Gupta. President Ritu Singal also handed over Hygiene material like soaps etc. to school authorities to be used for cleanliness by children.

Another Adolescent education seminar for boys and girls was organized by our club on 26th April 2013 in Govt. Model Senior Secondary School, Sector 46-D, Chandigarh. It was a grand success. The girls had lot of questions about parents, career, and adolescent age related issues which were answered by Dr. Anjali Agarwal, Dr. Shashi Jain, Rtn. Kanan Diwan and President Ritu Singal and for boys we were supported by a Psychiatrist Dr. Rohit Garg.

District Officer Training Seminar



Our club was represented in DOTS by (L-R:) PP Gurdip S. Deep (holding the gift he won in lucky draw), PP Dr. V.J.S. Vohra, PP Capt. M.S. Kahlon and PP Prem Anand

'Sparsh Gyanoday' District Officer Training Seminar (DOTS) was held at Nahan on 28th April 2013 by DGE Rakesh Aggarwal, District Trainer PDG Arun Sharma and District Secretary Rtn. D.C. Bansal. DOTS was hosted by Rotary Club of Nahan and Rotary Club of Nahan Sirmour Hills.

District Governor Manmohan Singh also graced the occasion to inspire the Team 2013-14. PDG Madhukar Malhotra conducted the Rotary Foundation Grant Workshop. PDG Maj. Som Dutt, DGN Col. D.R. Patnaik and DGNN David Hilton were also present.

Chief Guest, Mr. Priyatu Mandal, IAS, Deputy Commissioner Sirmour, in his address was highly appreciative of Rotary's tremendous efforts to serve the society. He said the Government too has a role to serve, but there are many limitations. He applauded the training programs that Rotary regularly holds for Rotarians, just the way Army does it for its personnel. He pointed out that this is the area where State Governments are lacking.

Visit to Guru Maa Ashram



Enjoying their stay at the Ashram

We visited Gurumaa Ashram at Ganaur, near Sonepat from 8th April to 11th April 2013 and stayed there in the Ashram. This is unique programme every year for Gurumaa Janam Divas and Sanyas Divas. Enthusiasts of all ages, including children from all over India were there during this period. All of us stayed there in perfect discipline, starting the day at 5.30 am with Aarti with Guru maa, Yoga, Meditation session and Satsang and open Darshan after breakfast and Yog Nidra after lunch at 3 pm. Again we had Meditation and evening Aarti and dinner at 7.30 pm. We had early sleep at 8.30 pm. This schedule remained for all four days. We could do any sewa in Ashram, starting from kitchen, serving food, cleanliness or any other service. We remained busy the whole day in very peaceful atmosphere. Mobiles were not allowed in the premises, and we were free from all worldly activities and enjoyed keeping silence. Janam Divas was celebrated on 8th April with great enthusiasm by all of us with Guru Pooja and dancing with best Gurumaa Bhajans. Four wonderful days ended with Sanyas Divas on 11th April 2013, with Gurumaa live programme along with her Ananda Ghosh Band.

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Interested Rotarians and R'anns can definitely plan to visit this Ashram on these very dates next year to have unique taste of this mega religious event, which will be an enjoyable lifetime experience.

Rotary Regards
Secretary Rtn. Ashok Puri and R'ann Sudha Puri

COL concludes

Council on Legislation (COL) held in Chicago, USA from April 21, 2013, came to an end on April 26, 2013. COL has approved dues increase, unlimited e-clubs, satellite clubs, post of Vice Governor, changed the name of the Fifth Avenue of Service from New Generation to Youth Service. These are part of more

than 170 pieces of legislation, considered by the delegates that addressed the policies that govern Rotary International and its member clubs. Our District was represented at COL by PDG Shaju Peter, and we look forward to sharing his experience on his return from Chicago.

Sergeant-at-Arms

In the last board of directors meeting it was decided that in the absence of PP Dr. Balram K. Gupta, the duties of Sergeant-at-Arms will be performed by PPD. V.J.S. Vohra.

President Ritu Singal's Thought on Peace – Step 38:

Manage your time well then you will never be the Last Minute Man and you will never be stressed.

Have you noticed the speed at which people drive their wards to school in the morning, the frayed tempers, how they jump traffic lights and the subsequent accidents that occur? This happens every morning, because either the child hasn't been trained to get up on time and get ready on time or the parents are late in starting from home. Shrieks of , " Papa, we will be late. The gates are going to be locked!" splinter the early morning calm. This suddenly converts Papa into a Grand Prix race driver and all hell breaks loose. There is another thing has been taking place all

through. The child is being conditioned..... that, it is alright to jump red lights, that it is alright to speed up and then, it is alright to abuse people. This very thing is sure to be incorporated in the child's mind and the pattern will be repeated.

Actually, friends, I suppose each one including President of America, Prime Minister of U.K., Housewife at home or CEO of Tata Group all have 24 hours, its only the time management that they are able to achieve much more.

We will never be late if we keep some time in our kitty for those small traffic jams, the red lights, the occasional flat tyres, the unexpected phone call as we are leaving etc.

Acknowledgment with thanks

TRF Contribution – Rotary Foundation

IPPRtn. R.K. Luther - US \$ 100/-
PE Rtn. Deepak Sood - US \$ 100/-

Advertisements in District Directory 2013-14:

PE Rtn. Deepak Sood - Rs. 10000/-
Rtn. Ashok K. Sharma (new Rtn.) - Rs. 10000/-

Donations for Club Projects:

Rtn. Maj. Gen. A.S. Kahlon - Rs. 1000/-

Punctuality Draw

Won by Rtn. Mrs. Davinder K. Singh

Birthday of Spouses

Rtn. Indu Anand - May 03
Rtn. Kanak Gupta - May 04



Birthday of Rotarians

Rtn. Ashok K. Sharma - May 03
Rtn. P.K. Vasudeva - May 07



Wedding Anniversary

R'ann Sharda & PP Rtn. R.S. Chandgothia - May 07
R'ann Lalita & Rtn. Chandra Prakash - May 09

PDG Rtn. Shaju Peter

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