

**Editor's Note:** *With the Covid-19 pandemic, the year seems to have past fast and we have begun the new Rotary Year 2020-2021 with the theme of 'Rotary Opens Opportunities'. This will be my 9<sup>th</sup> consecutive year as the editor since I took over from late Rtn. Kamalmani Dixit in 2012. The weekly Lalitdhara has been a permanent record of the RCP activities while bringing the RCP family closer through regular information sharing. I have been ably supported by Assistant Editors, Rtn. Lalita Thapa for the first two years and by Rtn. Chandralekha Kayastha since 2014-2015. Rtn. Chandralekha Kayastha and I have been seeking to have volunteers to succeed us. In the meantime, we very much appreciate the encouragement and support of the entire RCP family and continue with the motto of 'Service above Self'.*

**Today's Programme:**

First weekly meeting of 2020-2021 with Installation Ceremony of President Rtn. Nirmal K. Pradhanang and his Team

**Congratulatory Events**

**Birthdays:**

Rtn. Prakash R. Regmi – 21 Ashadh (5 July)

Rtn. Krishna B. Basnyat – 8 July

**Wedding Anniversaries:**

Rtns. Matsyendra L. and Chandralekha Kayastha – 7 July

**Minutes of Meeting No. 1712**

**Date: 15 Ashadh 2077 / 29 June 2020**

1. President Rtn. Lalita C. Thapa called the virtual RCP Meeting No. 1712 through 'Zoom' to order with 15 seconds of 'Silent Invocation' for world peace, health, and happiness.
2. Guests welcomed by the President: Rotaract Club of Patan IPP Rtr. Peshal Bhattarai and PE Rtn. Kritika Sharma.
3. The last meeting minutes were reviewed and adopted.
4. Pledges of 'Happy News/Sunshine' contribution and to the Operational Fund marked as 'OF':
  - Rtn. Mukti N. Shrestha – for 'Happy Birthday' in absentia (ha.ba.)
  - Rtn. Keshab B. Mathema – for 'Happy Birthday' (NRs. 500).
  - Rtn. Bijaya Mallapaty (NRs. 500), Rtn. Pushkar M. Shakya (NRs. 500), Rtn. Siba B. Rajbhandary (NRs. 500), Rtn. Rabendra R. Pandey (NRs. 500), Rtn. Khadak S. Bisht (NRs. 500), Rtn. Preeti Khemka (NRs. 500), & Rtn. Lila B. Baniya (NRs. 500) – for the completion of a highly successful tenure of President Rtn. Lalita C. Thapa.
  - Rtn. Nirmal K. Pradhanang (NRs. 1,000), Rtn. Matsyendra L. Kayastha (NRs. 1,000), Rtn. Chandralekha Kayastha (NRs. 1,000) and Rtn. Gabriele Mallapaty (NRs. 500) – for the completion of hat-trick with three consecutive lady Presidents.
  - Rtn. Kiran Thapa – for the 'Ashadah 15 - Dahi Chhyura' festival today (NRs. 500).
  - PDG Rtn. Tirtha M. Sakyia (NRs. 1,000) and Rtr. Peshal Bhattarai (NRs. 500) – for a highly successful tenure of President Rtn. Lalita C. Thapa and to welcome Rtn. Nirmal K. Pradhanang as the new President.
  - Rtn. Kedar B. Shrestha – for the hat-trick win of the RCP in Rota Quiz, hat-trick with consecutive lady Presidents, & a highly successful Presidency of Rtn. Lalita C. Thapa (NRs. 500), & for good participation in today's meeting (NRs.500 to OF).
  - Rtn. Lalita C. Thapa – for the cooperation of all RCP family during her Presidency, for today's 'Ashadh 15 - Dahi Chhyura' festival, and for the hat-trick of consecutive lady Presidents of the RCP (NRs. 1,500).
5. Other Contributions:
  - Rtn. Lalita C. Thapa pledged to sponsor the internship of a youth in a social organisation with NRs. 30,000 per month for a year to support the new generation. This will be presented in the RCP Board.
  - Rtn. Rabendra R. Pandey confirmed of his contribution made to the Rotary Foundation for the continuation of his 'PHS' membership with a donation of US \$1000 (US \$500 to the Annual Fund and US \$500 to PolioPlus).
6. Rotary News/Information:
  - President Rtn. Lalita C. Thapa briefed on the virtual District events including the handover of 30 ventilators by RC Chitwan in the presence of RI President Nominee Shekhar Mehta, and meeting with sister clubs of our District.
  - President Rtn. Lalita C. Thapa reminded on the District Vocational Service Seminar on Wednesday, 1 July 2020 on vocational education and its importance in Nepal. Rtn. Maheswari Bisht Rawal showed her interest to be one of the speakers on the subject.
  - Re RI Convention in Taipei, Taiwan, the interested RCP participants so far are PDG Rtn. Tirtha M. and Nani Shova Sakyia; Rtn. Lalita Thapa, Rtn. Kiran Thapa, Rtn. Khadak S. Bisht and Rtn. Maheswari Bisht Rawal.
  - Rtn. Bijaya Mallapaty shared the current developments at the Nepal Orthopaedic Hospital (NOH). The Supreme Court has cancelled the interim coordination committee of the Nepal Disabled Association (NDA) chaired by the Mayor in favour of the elected Chair of the NDA. Since the NDA is still not operational and the NDA Chair is also the Chair of the NOH Board, NOH is facing practical difficulties of operation.
  - It was suggested to review in the Board RCP's current sister-club relations with other clubs and formalise it.
  - President Elect of Rotaract Club of Patan reminded on the invitation to RCP members to join in their 23<sup>rd</sup> Installation Ceremony and 24<sup>th</sup> Charter Day being virtually held on 30 June 2020 at 7.00 p.m.

7. Summary of 2019-2020 President Rtn. Lalita Thapa's expression of gratitude to all the members of the RCP for their excellent support and active participation in all the events of the club. From the start of the tenure to-date:
- DG visit: Gaby ji and Bijaya ji for helping organize all the documents, club renewal etc. Jeevan ji for taking responsibility of Lalidhara Souvenir, Kedar ji, Preeti ji and Shiv Prakash ji for excellent facilities for presentations and fellowship events.
  - RCP's annual goals: The Chairs and Directors of committees were the backbone for achieving all the goals of RCP, for which she extended her special thanks, particularly to:
    - Rtn. Prakash R. Regmi for achieving annual goals in TRF and Polio Plus and Ganesh ji for being a major donor as well as for ensuring greater participation in the District Conference in Pokhara together with Rtns. Jeevan ji and R.R. Pandey ji;
    - Rtns. R.R. Pandey, M.L. Kayastha ji and Chandralekha ji, Rtns. Mukti N. Shrestha, Kedar B. Shrestha, Prakash R. Regmi for their contribution in RCP's endowment funds;
    - Rtn. Jeevan ji, Rtn. Rawal ji and Ganesh ji in exceeding the membership goal and expanding our outreach;
    - Rtns. Bijaya ji, Gaby ji, Nirmal ji, Mahendra Rawal ji, for their excellent management of RCP's service projects and Rtn. Padam Lal ji & all members involved in PEEF distribution;
    - Rtns. Siba B. Rajbhandary, Preeti Khemka and Rtns. Peshal Bhattarai, Kritika Sharma for their continuous guidance and participation in all activities of youth services through Rotaract Club of Patan and Interactors;
    - Treasurer Bharat N. Joshi for his continuous dedication in financial management of RCP with the support of Office Assistant Basant Ale Magar;
    - Rtn. Kiran Thapa, Chair Club Administration, for providing frank and discrete observations. I appreciated and am grateful for his personal favor of accompanying me to the District Training Seminar in Sauraha;
    - Rtn. Kedar B. Shrestha for his excellent and meticulous arrangements for all the fellowship events of RCP;
    - PDG Tirth Man Sakya for his valuable advice and suggestions in resolving any difficult issues despite his busy schedules. His presence in the District events always made us proud; and
    - All members and spouses for valuable contributions & active participation in the events of the RCP, specially new members who have contributed as excellent speakers e.g. Rtns. Khadak Bisht, Lila Baniya and Maheshwari Bisht Rawal.
8. Salutation: By President Rtn. Lalita C. Thapa – RC Chittagong, Bangladesh; Chartered: 1952 & Members: 41. District: 3280, Clubs: 158 & Members: 4415. 9. Total contributions of NRs. 12,000 were pledged (NRs. 11,500 for the sunshine fund and NRs. 500 for the 'OF' of the RCP). Attendance: 28 members and 2 Rotaracts.

### Rotary Questions/Answers presented by Rtn. Gabriele Mallapaty

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| <b>Q.</b> The Rotary Foundation Trustees and Rotary International Board of Directors have unanimously approved a Seventh Focus area of the Environment. When will it start? | <b>A.</b> From July 2021                 |
| <b>Q.</b> Name of the RI Treasurer for the RY 2020-21   | <b>A.</b> RI Director Rtn. Bharat Pandya |
| <b>A.</b> Number of clubs & members in District 3292 at the end June 2020   | <b>A.</b> 126 clubs and 5084 members     |

### 12<sup>th</sup> Joint Board Meeting of Rotary Year 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 held on 27 June 2020

Secretary Rtn. Mahendra S. Rawal presented the minutes/decisions of the 12<sup>th</sup> Joint Board meeting, which were endorsed/approved by the 'House'. The virtual Board meeting was conducted via 'Zoom' application on 27 June 2020. Fourteen Board members participated in the meeting.

The meeting was hosted by President Elect Rtn. Nirmal K. Pradhanang. In view of the Covid-19 pandemic, there was no post-board fellowship. Rtn. Nirmal K. Pradhanang pledged to host a fellowship party for the entire RCP members with spouses as early as the situation would permit. On behalf of all Board members, President Lalita C. Thapa gave a special 'Vote of Thanks' to President Rtn. Nirmal K. Pradhanang for his pledge.

The minutes/decisions of the 12<sup>th</sup> Board meeting are as follows:

- The minutes of the 11th Board Meeting were reviewed.
- Treasurer Rtn. Bharat N. Joshi presented the agenda items related to financial status as follows:
  - Membership dues for 2020-2021, due by 30 June 2020, have been received from about half of the members. All the remaining members were requested to settle the dues as well as any outstanding pledges made as soon as possible in July 2020. Possible payment mechanisms (cheque/cash or by electronic transfers) were explained.
  - Financial statements with details of income and expenditures of the RCP were presented as of 27 June 2020. Taking note of the comments made by members, Rtn. Bharat N. Joshi confirmed that final statements will reflect the status as of 30 June 2020 taking into account comments made by members and the transactions till 30 June 2020.
  - Following preliminary discussions held in the last Board meeting, the proposed budget for 2020-2021 of NRs. 19,48,000 was presented. Following due deliberations, it was approved by the Board. A review will be done after six months to review the impact of Covid-19. This budget does not include the RCP's two Trust Funds (PEEF and KPAD) and Global Grants. It was agreed to have a summary sheet that includes the status of these to have a comprehensive financial picture of the club.
- Board thanked Treasurer Bharat N. Joshi for the comprehensive presentations on all the financial aspects.
- Service Project Chairperson Rtn. Bijaya Mallapaty presented a brief status update on the RCP's services projects – club managed programmes and global grants.
- Rtn. Nirmal K. Pradhanang briefed on the status of formation of the RCP's various committees. Following consultation with members, he will present the proposal in the next board meeting. For the Lalidhara Souvenir committee, Rtn. Mahendra S. Rawal was proposed as its coordinator. Rtn. Jeevan K. Shrestha, current coordinator, and a few other members will be part of the team.
- Rtn. Mahendra S. Rawal shared some 'food for thought' on possible areas of attention/new initiatives in the focus area 'basic education and literacy' in the context of Covid-19 pandemic and its serious impact in public schools. As the RCP has long been very active in this focus area with PEEF, KEEA, WASH global grant and other support projects, it would be opportune to explore what the RCP could do as a matter of priority in the coming year, particularly in facilitating the opening of the schools after the lockdown. It was suggested to review this further including in the PEEF committee.
- Rtn. Siba B. Rajbhandary volunteered to be the host of the next Board meeting at the end of July 2020.
- A 'vote of thanks' was given to the departing members of the Board – Rtns. Bishwa B. Sharma, Gabriele Mallapaty and Kiran Thapa for their excellent contributions