

Issue No. 1395

Date: 10 Falgun 2077 / 22 February 2021

Today's Programme:

Talk Programme by Engr. Gyanendra L. Pradhan on the situation of water & hydropower in Nepal

Forthcoming Programme:

1 March – Business Meeting
8 March – Classification Talk of Rtn. Lochan Gyawali

Congratulatory Events

Birthdays:

Rtn. Lila B. Baniya – 22 Feb.

Wedding Anniversaries:

Rtn. Yagya Bahadur & Mary Shrestha – 19 Feb.
Rtn. Bharat Narsingh & Meera Joshi - 25 Feb.

Minutes of Meeting No. 1743

Date: 3 Falgun 2077 / 15 February 2021

1. President Rtn. Nirmal K. Pradhanang called the virtual meeting No. 1743 to order with 15 seconds of 'Silent Invocation' for Nepal & world peace, health, and happiness.
2. Guests welcomed by the President: PP Rtn. Ishwari Dhakal from RC Bharatpur; Ms. Monika Niroula, RCP sponsored master's scholarship student; Rotaract Club of Patan President Rtr. Kritika Sharma and President Elect Rtr. Ankit Basnet.
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. Shiv Prakash Khemka and Rtn. Suraj Pradhan – for 'Happy Birthday' in absentia (ha.ba.).
 - Rtn. Padam Lall Maharjan (NRs. 500), Rtn. Jamuna K. Tamrakar (NRs. 500), and Rtn. Nirmal K. Pradhanang (NRs. 500) – for 'Happy Birthday'.
 - Rtn. Kamal Bahadur & Sulochana Nyachhyon – for 'Happy Wedding Anniversary' in absentia (ha.ba.).
 - PDG Rtn. Tirtha Man & Nani Shova Sakya (NRs. 1,000), Rtn. Kedar Bhakta & Shanta Shrestha (NRs. 1,000), and Rtn. Rabendra Raj & Chandra Lekha Pandey (NRs. 10,000) – for 'Happy Wedding Anniversary'.
 - Rtn. Khadak S. Bisht – for the participation of Rtn. Ishwari Dhakal and Ms. Monika Niroula today (NRs. 500).
 - Rtn. Padam L. and Kamala Maharjan – for the honourable clearance of falls charges against Prof. Jagdish Vaidya, National Social Worker and Chief Patron of Pashupati Annapurna Ashram (NRs. 1000), and for the participation of Rtn. Ishwari Dhakal in today's meeting (NRs. 500).
5. Rotary News/Information:
 - President Rtn. Nirmal K. Pradhanang shared the following information:
 - This year's District Conference has been confirmed to be held during 9-11 April 2021 at Park Village Hotel. Interested members to join are requested to inform the President.
 - Reminded about the District TRF Seminar and Recognition Programme announced last week.
 - Briefed on the 'Synergy Alliance', which already has the affiliation of 11 Rotary Clubs of 11 South-East Asian countries. Their next monthly meeting is being hosted by RC Dhulikhel on 5 March with RIPE Shekhar Mehta as the Chief Guest.
 - Rtn. Siba B. Rajbhandary briefed on the changes approved by the Rotary International Trustees for the next Rotary Year. Among several possibilities to donate, he highlighted the details for the Annual Fund and Polio+ donations that members of our club have been regularly contributing. In view of the reduction in contributions in 2020-2021, the Trustees have approved the following cost-saving measures:
 - Continue not to match the cash contributions for the Global Grants from the World Fund.
 - Match only 80% from World Fund for the Global Grants from District Designated Funds. (For this year, matching will be 100% as long as funds are available).
 - Apply 5% for Operational Expenses for both the World Fund and District Designated Funds.
 - Other restrictions on administrative expenses e.g. on travel.

- PDG Rtn. Tirtha M. Sakya informed about the plans of the District for this year's Rotary Vocational Award on Good Governance of NRs. 5 Lakh each to 2 journalists. In addition, Rotary Journo Award of NRs. 25,000 each will also be given to 12 journalists. The award ceremony will be held on Friday, 19 February 2021, at 4:30 p.m. at Soaltee Hotel in the presence of Chief Guest RIPE Sekhar Mehta. Registration details will be provided shortly.
 - Rtn. Maheswari Bisht Rawal informed about a meeting with the Mayor of the Lalitpur Municipality on Thursday, 19 February 2021 at 1 p.m. on a planned cycle rally for women empowerment with the participation of the Rotary. The RCP's focal point on cycling initiative and interested members are requested to join this meeting for possible support from the RCP.
 - PP of Rotary Club of Bharatpur Rtn. Ishwari Dhakal introduced himself and the Rotary Club of Bharatpur. He is a Professor of Veterinary Medicine and has been the Vice Chancellor of the Agriculture and Forestry University Rampur, Chitwan, Nepal. He has also been an Assistant Governor and an additional Secretary of the Rotary District 3292.
 - Ms. Monika Niroula thanked the RCP for sponsoring her master's level Rotary scholarship on 'Gender Analysis in Development' in U.K. She has just successfully completed her thesis 'Gender Relationship to Land in Nepal' and expected to get the degree by April 2021. She appreciated the opportunity to connect with the leading experts in this field included her classmates, and the support of the Rotary host club in Norwich. Talking about her future plans, she mentioned that she is already running a NGO and trying to be teaching at the bachelor's level course in development studies. She is interested in public service and also wants to give back to Rotary with any possible support.
 - After the closure of the formal meeting, Rtn. Piyush B. Bajracharya gave some advice on the origins and use of 'Chyawanpras' – an Ayurvedic health supplement (tonic) to strengthen immunity against Covid-19.
6. Salutation: By PP Rtn. Piyush B. Bajracharya – RC of Winton, New Zealand; Chartered: 1960; and Members: 45. District: 9980, Clubs: 30, and Members: 1310.
7. Before the closure of the meeting by the President, on behalf of the Secretary, Rtn. Bijaya Mallapaty announced: total contribution pledges of NRs. 15,500 to the sunshine fund of the RCP; and the attendance of 1 Rotarian guest, 1 guest, 2 Rotaracts and 25 members.

[Rotary Questions/Answers presented by Rtn. Kamala Maharjan](#)

- Q.** Who made the first contribution to the Rotary Foundation and what was the amount?
A. Rotary Club of Kansas, Missouri of USA made the first contribution to the Rotary Endowment Fund in RY 1917-18 amounting to US\$ 26.50.
- Q.** What is the RI official language and second language?
A. English is the official language of RI. No other languages have been adapted as a second language.
- Q.** When (dates, month, and year) was the first district conference of District 3292 held?
A. 3-5 April 2009.

[Rotary Information: Important update due to COVID-19](#)

(Source: [rotary.org](https://www.rotary.org))

The Rotary International Board of Directors has decided not to fund any expenses (travel or otherwise) for in-person meetings for Rotary leaders for the rest of this Rotary year, other than for the president, president-elect, and trustee chair.

The decision applies to directors, trustees, regional leaders, district governors, assistant governors, and other leaders. The Board also agreed to conduct all of its meetings and RI committee meetings virtually for the rest of the Rotary year; and we will be holding the 2021 Rotary Convention virtually.

The directors made this difficult decision out of an abundance of caution — and in keeping with Rotary's commitment to protect the health of our members, our employees, and our families. With the coronavirus pandemic still raging in many part of the world, and extensive public health measures and travel restrictions in place, Rotary has a clear responsibility in mitigating the threat of COVID-19, as an organization that is at the forefront of polio eradication efforts and fighting other diseases.

1 February 2021