

# ललित धारा

RI District 3292

Club No. 23126

Chartered: 29 August 1985

President: Mahendra Thapa Past President & Editor: Bijaya Mallapaty Past President & Assistant Editor: Chandralekha Kayastha

**Issue No. 1420**

**Date: 7 Bhadra 2078 / 23 August 2021**

<p><b><u>Today's Programme:</u></b></p> <p>Regular weekly meeting (Members to express needs &amp; club experience)</p>	<p><b><u>Congratulatory Events</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Birthdays:</u></b> Rtn. Bijay Bajracharya – 23 Aug. Rtn. Sita Gurung – 25 Aug. <b><u>Wedding Anniversaries:</u></b> Nil</p>
--	---

**Minutes of Meeting No. 1768**

**Date: 32 Shrawan 2078 / 16 August 2021**

1. President Rtn. Mahendra B. Thapa called the virtual RCP meeting No. 1768 to order with 15 seconds of 'Silent Invocation' for world peace, health, and happiness.
2. Guests welcomed by the President: Guest Speaker Rtn. Sushil Rijal, District Membership Chair; Donor Mr. Arun Chaudhary; and Ms. Monika Niraula.
3. President Rtn. Mahendra B. Thapa welcomed the membership of Rtn. Nabin B. Maharjan and Rtn. Kuldeep R. Tuladhar to the RCP.
4. The last meeting minutes were reviewed and adopted.
5. Pledges of 'Happy News/Sunshine' contribution and to the Operational Fund marked as 'OF':
  - Rtn. Khadak S. Bisht – for 'Happy Birthday' (NRs. 1,000).
  - Rtn. Bijaya Mallapaty (NRs. 500) and Rtn. Kedar B. Shrestha (NRs. 1,000) – for having Mr. Arun Chaudhary in today's meeting.
  - Rtn. Nirmal K. Pradhanang (NRs. 1,000) and Rtn. Mahendra B. Thapa (NRs. 500) – for the presence of guest speaker Rtn. Sushil Rijal, Mr. Arun Chaudhary, and Ms. Monika Niraula in today's meeting.
  - Rtn. Rabendra R. Pandey – for a three-day family trip to Patale Ban and for the presence of Mr. Arun Chaudhary in today's meeting (NRs. 1,000).
  - Rtn. Gabriele Mallapaty – for the presence of Mr. Arun Chaudhary and Ms. Monika Niraula in today's meeting (NRs. 500).
  - Mr. Arun Chaudhary – for the welcome received by him in today's RCP meeting (NRs. 1,000).
  - Rtn. Piyush B. Bajracharya – for being 'Corona' free despite some contact last week (NRs. 500).
6. Rotary News/Information:
  - President Rtn. Mahendra B. Thapa requested members to confirm their pledges to the Annual Fund and PolioPlus to include in the announcement during the District Governor's official club visit on 29 August 2021.
7. Salutation: by PP Rtn. Yagya B. Shrestha - Rotary Club of Hannover, Germany; Chartered: 1932; and Members: 126. District: 1800, Clubs: 74, and Members: 3680.
8. Before the adjournment of the meeting by the President, Rtn. Preeti Khemka announced: total contribution pledges of NRs. 7,000 to the RCP's sunshine fund and the attendance of 25 members and 3 guests.

**May the Laugh Bug Bite You** 😊😊😊😊😊



### **Summary of programme honouring Mr. Arun Chaudhary with a PHF Certificate and Pin**

On behalf of the RCP family, President Rtn. Mahendra Thapa welcomed an important donor to the RCP's PEEF scholarship programme, Mr. Arun Chaudhary, to honour him with a Paul Harris Fellow (PHF) award today.

Rtn. Kedar B. Shrestha introduced Mr. Arun Chaudhary who is well known as an industrialist based in Patan, and as an important benefactor to the RCP's PEEF programme. He highlighted Mr. Chaudhary's contribution to the PEEF scholarship programme supporting over 400 public school children in Lalitpur District from grades 7 to 12 every year. Mr. Chaudhary has been making an annual contribution of NRs. 300,000 in the name of his parents, late Mr. Lunkaran Das Chaudhary & Mrs. Ganga Devi Chaudhary. Rtn. Shrestha also briefed about the PHF recognition award, established in 1957, to encourage and show appreciation to those with substantial contributions to Rotary's programmes. Notable figures who have received this award include Mother Teresa, U.S. President Jimmy Carter and Russian President Boris Yeltsin.

PDG Rtn. Tirtha M. Sakya also welcomed Mr. Chaudhary and spoke briefly on the PHF award established in the name of Rotary's Founder Paul Harris and about Rotary as an International Service Organization. Many Rotarians receive the PHF award through contributions. This award is also given to non-Rotarians who meet the high professional and personal standards exemplified by Paul Harris and in recognition of their humanitarian service. PDG Rtn. Sakya was very pleased that Mr. Chaudhary has accepted this Rotary award. He read the award certificate signed by the Rotary International President and the Chair of The Rotary Foundation Trustees, and handed it over to Mr. Chaudhary together with the Pin during this virtual meeting due to the restrictions of COVID-19 pandemic.

Accepting this Rotary honour, Mr. Arun Chaudhary spoke a few words thanking the Rotary Club of Patan for allowing him to make a token contribution to a good cause in the name of his late parents. He appreciated the scholarship programme of the RCP and emphasized how important it is for everyone to contribute when one is able to. He recognized that giving and identifying well managed programme, like the PEEF scholarship programme of the RCP, is not easy. While he did not expect any recognition for supporting a worthwhile cause, he felt honoured with this recognition and would like to continue his collaboration with the RCP as part of his corporate social responsibility.

### **Summary of Talk Programme by District Membership Chair Rtn. Sushil Rijal**

President Rtn. Mahendra B. Thapa welcomed Rtn. Sushil Rijal, District Membership Chair, during this Rotary month of 'Membership and Club Development', as an appropriate guest speaker.

Rtn. Pushkar M. Sakya introduced Rtn. Rijal from Biratnagar. He did his B.Com. (Honours) in Nepal and M.Com from Delhi University. He has extensive business experience, including as Chairman & Managing Director of several enterprises. He was the President of Biratnagar Jaycees in 1996 and is an Executive Member of the Board of Chamber of Industries, Morang. He joined the Rotary club of Biratnagar Midtown in 2007 and became its President in 2015. He has served in various District level positions including as District Secretary in 2020-2021.

Rtn, Sushil Rijal congratulated President Rtn. Mahendra B. Thapa and his team starting this Rotary Year 2021-2022 emphasizing the importance of teamwork for success. Rtn. Rijal reminded RI President Shekhar Mehta's top priority for this year of increasing and retaining members in Rotary. Stating 'Members' like an engine that powers a vehicle, he emphasized the value of new ideas, energy and future leadership that new members would bring to Rotary. Members are like raw materials necessary to produce 'Service', which is the motto of Rotary.

Explaining the challenge in RI President's slogan of 'Each One Bring One' (EOBO) to expand membership in Rotary, he suggested to start with each one brings one guest who could eventually become a member. Rtn. Rijal elaborated on the new flexibility allowed by Rotary in the conduct of the meetings as well as the possibility of having various types of members in order to further expand membership taking into account changing demands of time.

Rtn. Sushil Rijal emphasized the need to open new clubs where there are no or limited number of clubs. He encouraged various ways to increase membership including to have more women, more youth, more family members, cause based memberships and above all to simply ask people to join Rotary. Once members join, Rtn. Rijal iterated the importance of 'mentoring' both for leadership development as well as for the retention of members.

During the Q/A session, it was suggested that RI/District may consider token reduction in dues to acknowledge and encourage couple membership, which was taken positively.

On behalf of the Rotary Club of Patan, President Mahendra B. Thapa gave a 'Vote of Thanks' to Rtn. Sushil Rijal for an excellent presentation with a lot of suggestions on 'Membership and Club Development' in Rotary and concluded the session.