

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. 1440****Date: 3 Magh 2078 / 17 January 2022****Today's Programme**

Experience sharing and Q/A by
Rtn. Chhatra Bahadur Pradhan, Chair,
District Senior Citizen Welfare Sub-Com.,
and President of National Senior Citizen
Federation

Congratulatory Events**Birthdays:**

Rtns. Pushkar M. Shakya – 14 Jan., Kamal B. Nyachhyon – 15 Jan.,
Mahendra B. Thapa – 15 Jan., and Kedar B. Shrestha – 18 Jan.

Wedding Anniversaries: Nil**Minutes of Meeting No. 1787****Date: 26 Poush 2078 / 10 January 2022**

1. President Rtn. Mahendra B. Thapa called the regular weekly meeting number 1787 to order virtually by Zoom with 15 seconds of 'Silent Invocation' for world peace, health, and happiness.
2. Guests welcomed by the President: Guest speaker Capt. (Pilot) Phizo Nath Nepali and 3 Rotaract Club of Patan members.
3. The last meeting minutes were reviewed and adopted.
4. Contributions/pledges for 'Happy News':
 - Rtns. Ganesh R. and Bijaya Shrestha – for 'Happy Wedding Anniversary' (NRs. 1,000)
 - Rtn. Bijaya Mallapaty – for his spouse Rtn. Gabriele Mallapaty getting well from a COVID-19 infection without transmitting it to anyone in the family (NRs. 1,000).
 - Rtn. Mahendra S. Rawal – for his nomination to the Civil Aviation Department's committee on recruitment, and for having Capt. Nepali as a guest speaker of the RCP in today's meeting (NRs. 500).
 - Rtn. Lila B. Baniya – for joining the meeting after some time from the USA, and his son's return to Nepal after graduating in the USA (NRs. 2,000).
 - Rtn. Nirmal K. Pradhanang – for completion of six months of successful tenure of President Rtn. Mahendra B. Thapa, and for the wedding anniversary of Rtns. Ganesh R. & Bijaya Shrestha (NRs. 500).
 - Rtn. Mahendra B. Thapa – for the successful completion of his Presidency for six months, and Rtn. Gabriele Mallapaty's good health after a COVID-19 infection (NRs. 500).
5. Other Contributions: Rtn. Nirmal K. Pradhanang pledged to contribute NRs. 1,850 to the RCP's PEEF Programme Fund from his attendance at the Nepal Orthopaedic Hospital Board meeting on 23 December 2021.
6. Rotary News/Information:
 - Rtn. Ganesh R. Shrestha updated on the status of the RCP's PEEF scholarship support selection and distribution for this year. Because of road construction and school closures due to COVID-19 pandemic 4 or 5 schools are expected to be covered only after a few weeks.
 - Rtn. Mahendra S. Rawal and Rtn. Ganesh R. Shrestha briefed on the distribution of 'Tiffin Boxes' to the 2 schools supported by the RCP. Distribution to the 3rd school remains and will be done as early as possible. A fourth school at Dukuchaap will also be provided with 25 additional tiffin boxes.
 - President Rtn. Mahendra B. Thapa informed on the following:
 - The RCP's proposal for the candidature of Rtn. Rabendra R. Pandey in the District Governor Nomination committee (2024-2025) was not accepted by the District citing lack of quorum (2/3 attendance) information of the RCP's meeting in this regard. This was not a stated requirement and, therefore, several clubs facing the same situation have complained to review the decision.
 - Reminded on the planned handover ceremony of 'Muddita Bhawan' at Anandakuti school on Saturday, 15 January 2022 at 13:00 hrs.
 - Briefed on the plans of RI President and RI President elect on Interact Advisory Council as, next year, we celebrate the 60th anniversary of Interact! In this context, the RCP needs to review the functioning of its 3 Interact Clubs as planned earlier.

- Rtn. Maheswari Bisht Rawal informed about a 'Cycle Rally' being planned in collaboration with the Rotaract Club of Patan for 8 March 2022. This will be further reviewed with the Rotaract Club of Patan.
7. Salutation: By Rtn. Khadak S. Bisht - Rotary Club of Yanawa, Thailand; Chartered: 1984; and Members: 30. District: 3350, Clubs: 88, and Members: 2427. Rtn. Bisht also highlighted the specialities of the country and the club's programmes.
8. Before the adjournment of the meeting by the President, Joint Secretary Rtn. Khadak S. Bisht announced: contribution pledges of NRs. 5,500 to sunshine fund of the RCP, and the meeting attendance of 1 guest speaker, 3 Rotaracts, 21 members, and 7 make-ups.

Rotary Questions/Answers presented by Rtn. Mahendra S. Rawal

Q: How much are the Rotary International per capita dues for the Rotary Year 2022/23?

A: US\$ 71 (two semi-annual dues of US\$ 35.5) plus US\$ 1 Council on Legislation (CoL) levy.

Q: What is the official Rotary anthem that is played at occasions such as the flag ceremonies? **A:** Overture to 'Egmont' by Ludwig van Beethoven

Q: How many Interact Clubs were there in District 3292 on 1 July 2021? **A:** 125

Talk Programme by Capt. (Pilot) Phizo Nath Nepali on 'Flight Safety in Nepal' including issues relating to blacklisting of Nepalese Airlines for flights over EU

Rtn. Mahendra S. Rawal introduced guest speaker Capt. (Pilot) Phizo Nath Nepali, Chief Ground Instructor of Aditya Training Academy in Kolkata who has a long career in the aviation industry in Nepal. From being a senior caption in the then Royal Nepal Airlines in 1991, he has been the co-founder of Buddha Air, managing director of Sita Air (2003-2016) and chairman of Makalu Air among his many roles. After graduation from Ranchi University, he completed pilot courses in Andhra Pradesh, Madras and obtained his commercial pilot licence from Vancouver, Canada in 1981 followed by various related training courses.

Capt. Nepali made a comprehensive presentation with the support of power point on 'Flight Safety in Nepal' and started by explaining the issues related to Nepal being listed in the Air Safety List of the European Union. This listing means that Nepal is subject to an operating ban within the European Union for not meeting international safety standards. This ban was imposed by the EU after the September 2012 crash of Sita Air flight at Manahara river, which took the lives of 19 people including seven British citizens. During 2008 and 2012, Nepal had at least two air crashes a year. The ban continues as per the latest update of the EU Air Safety List dated 2 June 2021.

As a result of the EU ban, Nepal also missed millions of dollars of business including on the evacuation charter flights during the COVID-19 pandemic. There are two primary issues that needed improvements. First the regulatory functions and the service provider functions of the Civil Aviation Authority of Nepal (CAAN) needed to be separated to avoid any conflict of interest. The second area of concern is the training and assessment of flight crew personnel.

Capt. Nepali provided the latest situation on the above – The Government of Nepal has presented two draft bills to the National Assembly splitting the aviation body. The bills have already been informally welcomed by the Legislation Management Committee of the Assembly and is expected to be approved in its winter session. On training and assessment, CAAN is pursuing a group of competencies with their associated description and performance criteria adapted from an ICAO competency framework.

Capt. Nepali elaborated on the concepts of 'Knowledge, Skill and Attitude' and how a synergy of these builds on an individual's or an institution's 'Ability', in other words how the what, how and why respectively contribute to the process of improvement. In this regard, he explained the threats that are beyond the influence of pilots and errors that are caused by an action/inaction of a pilot. These threats and errors need to be managed to reduce or eliminate the consequences, both at personal and at the institutional level. Currently, CAAN has made it mandatory for all flight crew to go through 'Human Factors' and Crew Resource Management' training to effectively manage and promote safety and enhance the efficiency of flights.

Concluding his presentation, Capt. Nepali mentioned that the legislation will soon be adopted and Nepal would be allowed to have direct flights between Nepal and European Union countries to allow more tourists to visit Nepal and foster bilateral business opportunities.

President Rtn. Mahendra B. Thapa, on behalf of the RCP family, gave a 'Vote of Thanks' to Capt. Phizo N. Nepali for his excellent and comprehensive presentation and hoped to have him join the RCP meetings for further collaboration.