

# ललित धारा

RI District 3292

Club No. 23126

Chartered: 29 August 1985

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

**Issue No. 1462****Date: 6 Asadh 2079 / 20 June 2022****Today's Programme:**

1st Club Assembly of Rotary Year 2022-2023

**Forthcoming Programmes:**27 June - President's summary of Rotary Year 2021-2022  
4 July – Start of RY 2022-2023 with Business Meeting**Congratulatory Events****Birthdays:** Nil**Wedding Anniversaries:**

Rtn. Jeevan K. &amp; Gunu Shrestha – 23 June

**Minutes of Meeting No. 1809****Date: 30 Jestha 2079 / 13 June 2022**

1. President Rtn. Mahendra B. Thapa called the regular weekly meeting number 1809 to order with 'Silent Invocation' of 15 seconds for world peace, health, and happiness.
2. Guest welcomed by the President: Chief Guest Mr. Kanak M. Dixit and Mrs. Shanta Dixit, Ms. Jabina Rajbhandary, Awardees of KEEA and Headmasters/Teachers of the schools, Inner Wheel members/Spouses of the RCP, Rotaracts, Ms. Sikha Prasai, and Mr. Biraj Bisht.
3. The last meeting minutes were reviewed and adopted.
4. Contributions/pledges for 'Happy News':
  - Rtn. Siba B. Rajbhandary – for 'Happy Birthday' falling on the same day in Nepali calendar with his daughter Jabina's birthday this year (See Other Contributions below).
  - Rtn. Ramesh L. Maskay – for 'Happy 77<sup>th</sup> Birthday' (NRs. 7,700).
  - Rtn. Sharada Prasai – for 'Happy Birthday' (NRs. 1,000).
  - Rtn. Bharat N. Joshi – for 'Happy Birthday' in absentia (ha.ba.).
  - Rtn. Preeti Khemka – for the grand celebration of her spouse's parents' 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary with the RCP friends' participation (NRs. 2,000).
  - Rtns. Maheswari Bisht Rawal and Khadak S. Bisht – for their son Birat's participation today in the KEEA ceremony (NRs. 1,000).
  - Rtn. Rabendra R. Pandey – for the visit of his son and daughter-in-law from the USA, Rtn. Robert Rose's, TRIFC, successful visit to Nepal just completed, successful inauguration of a KPAD Project, and today's KEEA ceremony (NRs. 5,000).
  - Rtn. Bijaya Shrestha (NRs. 500), Rtn. Lalita C. Thapa (NRs. 2,000), Rtn Ganesh R. Shrestha (NRs. 2,000), and Rtn. Mahendra B. Thapa (NRs. 1,000) - for today's KEEA ceremony with the participation of Mr Kanak and Mrs. Shanta Dixit.
  - Ms. Shikha Prasai – for participating in today's meeting (NRs. 500).
  - Rtn. Matsyendra L. Kayastha – for today's KEEA ceremony as an initiator of the PEEF programme (NRs. 2,000).
  - Rtn. Shiva P. Khemka – for today's KEEA ceremony (NRs. 2,000).
5. Other Contributions:
  - Total contributions/pledges of **NRs. 514,000** to the RCP's KPAD Fund as follows:
    - Rtn. Siba B. Rajbhandary NRs. 8,500
    - Rtns. Bijaya and Gabriele Mallapaty NRs. 100,000
    - Rtn. Lalita C. Thapa NRs. 20,000
    - Rtn. Rabendra R. Pandey – matching all the above contributions NRs. 128,500.
    - As TRIFC had pledged to match all contributions up to the equivalent of US \$20,000, there would be a matching of NRs. 257,000 by TRIFC on today's contributions/pledges.
  - Rtn. Bijaya Mallapaty introduced Ms. Jabina Rajbhandary (daughter of Rtn. Siba B. Rajbhandary) who is managing an infectious disease doctors' clinic in Dallas, Texas, USA. She was very pleased to handover a cheque of US \$5,000 from the owner of the clinic, Dr. Prabhu Prabhakar to the RCP's PEEF programme. He has been a major contributor to the RCP's PEEF programme and has already contributed a total of NRs. 27.86 Lakh (US \$10,000 each time for three times, making an equivalent total contribution of US \$30,000).
6. Ms. Jabina Rajbhandary was earlier awarded Rotary's Paul Harris Fellow Certificate (PHF) by the RCP for her efforts to bring the contributions from Dr. Prabhu Prabhakar to the RCP's PEEF programme. However, as she was in the

USA and due to the travel restrictions during COVID-19 pandemic, honouring her physically had to be postponed. Taking the opportunity of her trip to Nepal this time, on behalf of the RCP, PDG Rtn. Tirtha M. Shakya honoured her with the PHF Pin for her continuous support to the RCP's flagship programme.

7. Before the adjournment of the meeting by the President, Joint Secretary Rtn. Khadak S. Bisht summarized: contributions of NRs. 29,100 (NRs. 26,700 to the Sunshine Fund and NRs. 2,400 to the Operational Fund of the RCP), and the meeting attendance of 28 awardees, guests, and Inner Wheels/spouses of RCP members; 1 Rotaract; and 25 members.

### Summary of the 9<sup>th</sup> Kamalmani Educational Excellence Awards (KEEA) Ceremony

Rtn. Khadak S. Bisht conducted the programme as the master of ceremony. President Rtn. Mahendra B. Thapa welcomed all the awardees, school headmasters/teachers, guests, and all participants in his welcome address. He particularly appreciated the presence of the chief guest Mr. Kanak Mani Dixit together with his spouse Mrs. Shanta Dixit representing late Rtn. Kamalmani Dixit family. He recalled late Kamalmani Dixit's many contributions to the Rotary Club of Patan including the establishment of the KEEA to recognize and encourage merit students from among the RCP's PEEF scholarship supported students.

Rtn. Mahendra S. Rawal, Programme Manager of PEEF, also remembered late Kamalmani Dixit and gave a summary background of the KEEA, which started in 2012. Starting with honouring one best performing student, it has now expanded to award ten students (with one first, three second and six third) with certificates and cash award totalling NRs. 100,000 per year. The initiative started by late Kamalmani Dixit has been expanded with additional contributions from his sons Kunda Dixit and Kanak Dixit, spouse of late Rtn. Narayan G. Halwai, and additional sponsorships by RCP members mentioned below.

Rtn. Rawal explained the RCP's interview process to come up with this year's award winners, which happened to be nine girls and one boy. Certificates and cash prizes were handed over in reverse order as follows:

- Third prize certificates and NRs. 5,000 each to six students by Rtns. PDG Tirtha M. Sakya, Lalita Thapa, Sharda Prasai, Nirmal K. Pradhanang, Siba B. Rajbhandary and Jamuna K. Tamrakar:  
Ms. Astha Tamang, Patan Higher Secondary School, Patan Dhoka  
Ms. Samita Lama, Shree Siddhimangal Higher Secondary School, Sano Gaun (represented by teacher)  
Ms. Bandana K.C., Shree Chandi Adarsha Saral Higher Secondary School, Chakupat  
Ms. Shristi Thapa Magar, Shree Bishankhu Narayan Secondary School, Godamchour  
Ms. Simaran Shrestha, Lubhu Secondary School, Lubhu  
Ms. Janita Rai, Shree Mahendragram Secondary School, Tikathali
- Second prize certificates and NRs. 15,000 each to three students by Rtns. Bijaya Mallapaty, Ganesh R. Shrestha, and Matsyendra L. & Chandralekha Kayastha:  
Ms. Ajima Khatun, Adarsha Kanya Niketan HSS, Mangal Bazar  
Ms. Nunam Limbu, Shree Bal Kumari Higher Secondary School Sunakothi  
Mr. Lokendra Budha Chetri, Shree Rudrayani Secondary School, Khokana
- First prize certificate and NRs. 25,000 to Ms. Sonika Tamang from Tri Padma Vidyashram Higher Secondary School, Pulchowk by Chief Guest Rtn. Kanak M. Dixit and his spouse Mrs. Shanta Dixit.

On behalf of all the awardees, the first prize winner **Ms. Sonika Tamang** spoke eloquently with words of thanks and high appreciation for this merit recognition and encouragement from the RCP and its sponsors. She emphasised that the RCP's PEEF scholarship support to needy students like her at public schools have been of tremendous value. She thanked her parents and teachers for their support and was determined to continue her studies and pursue her aim of being a nurse to service the community.

Speaking on behalf of all the schools, Headmaster Ms. Kadam Baba Pradhan from Tri Padma Vidyashram expressed her gratitude to the RCP for the PEEF scholarship support and the KEEA recognition of merit students. She wished the first prize winner from her school as well as all the other award recipients' success in their further studies.

Chief Guest of the occasion, Mr. Kanak Dixit was very pleased to be among his late father's friends and colleagues from the RCP and remember how much he loved Rotary and the camaraderie among his friends in the RCP. He would be smiling from above seeing how we remember his initiative that continues to support and encourage the needy students. He was also very pleased to see the talent shown by the confident and graceful Sonika, demonstrating that public school students could do so well and should be encouraged. Mrs. Shanta Dixit also added a few words of thanks mentioning how her school (Rato Bangla) also encourages leadership and teacher training in public schools. On this occasion, Mr. Kanak Dixit also presented late Kamalmani Dixit's book 'Birseko Samjhako' for the library of Tri Padma Vidyashram through the headmaster, and his own book 'Adventures of Nepali Frog' translated in Nepali (and other 23 languages) 'Dhumdham ko Ghumgham' respectively to Ms. Sonika Tamang and Mr. Lokendra Budha Chetri, the only male awardee of KEEA this year.

PP Rtn. Bijaya Mallapaty, Chairperson of Service Projects of the RCP, spoke briefly highlighting the achievements of the RCP's flagship programme of PEEF scholarship support to over 400 students at 26 public schools in Lalitpur district. He flagged two important aspects of the PEEF programme as 'sustainability' and 'participation'. The programme has been running continuously and progressively since 1991 with the participation of the entire RCP family. Unlike other externally funded grant projects, the PEEF programme is entirely funded by family and friends of the RCP with a total funding reaching close to two crore Nepalese Rupees. The programme of KEEA and the newly added Graduate Studies Scholarship Award (GSSA) sponsored by Rtns. Matsyendra L. and Chandralekha Kayastha and Prakash R. Regmi are wonderful additions to support and encourage the PEEF supported students.

On behalf of the RCP, President Elect Rtn. Shiva K. Pradhan gave a 'Vote of Thanks' to the awardees, headmasters/teachers of schools represented, Chief Guest Mr. Kanak M. Dixit and Mrs. Shanta Dixit, other guests and all the participants for their presence and participation during this year's KEEA ceremony. The ceremony was concluded with a photo session.