



# ललित धारा



RI District 3292

Club No. 23126

Chartered: 29 August 1985

Immediate Past President & Editor: Bijaya Mallapaty

President & Assistant Editor: Chandralekha Kayastha

Secretary: Mahendra Thapa

**Issue No. 1250**

**Date: 5 Chaitra 2074/ 19 March 2018**

**Today's Main Programme:**

Talk Programme on Public Image and Public Relations by District Public Image Chair Rtn. Maheswor B. Shrestha

**Next Week's Programme:** GG1860104 - Briefing on implementation of sustainable WASH programme by Prabhav Nepal's Mr. Pradeep Khadka

**Congratulatory Events**

**Birthdays:**

Rtn. Lalita Thapa – 19 March

**Wedding Anniversaries:** Nil

**Minutes of Meetings No.1601**

**Date: 28 Falgun 2074 / 12 March 2018**

1. President Rtn. Chandralekha Kayastha called the Meeting No. 1601 to order with 15 seconds of 'Silent Invocation' for World Peace and Happiness.
2. Guests welcomed by the President: Mr. Govinda Das and Mrs. Sarswati Shrestha, Ms. Anuradha Shrestha, PP of RCP Mr. Bishwa K. Mainali, and three Rotaracts from the Rotaract Club of Patan.
3. The last meeting minutes were reviewed and adopted.
4. 'Happy News' Contributions:
  - Rtns. Bijaya Mallapaty (NRs. 500), Mahendra S. Rawal (NRs. 500), Yagya B. Shrestha (NR. 500), Shiv P. Khemka (NRs. 1,000), Gabriele Mallapaty (NRs. 500), Preeti Khemka (NRs. 500), Lalita Thapa (NRs. 500), Siba B. Rajbhandary (NRs. 500), Ganesh R. Shrestha (NRs. 500), Kedar B. Shrestha (NRs. 500), PDG Tirtha M. Sakya (NRs. 500), Mahendra B. Thapa, and Jamuna K. Tamrakar (NRs. 500) for (i) today's special 'PHF' honouring of Mr. Govinda Das Shrestha, (ii) approval of the RCP's Global Grant Project of US \$80,938 for sustainable WASH in PEEF supported schools, and (iii) a very successful field monitoring trip by the RCP Team of 5 members to our GG Project site in remote Chepel, Solukhumbu.
  - Rtn. Matsyendra L. Kayastha – for having the honour of starting the PEEF project as one of the two contributors with NRs. 5000 each, and the recent approval of the GG for WASH in PEEF supported schools (NRs. 6,000).
  - Rtn. Nirmal K. Pradhanang – for having a grandson through his daughter (NRs. 1,000).
  - President Rtn. Chandralekha Kayastha – for all the 3 points under bullet one above, and for having the honour of signing the historic Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Sarswati Govinda Foundation (NRs. 1,000).
  - Rtn. Ramesh Maskay – for all the 3 points under bullet one above, and for having PP of RCP Mr. Bishwa K. Mainali as a guest today (NRs. 500).
  - Rtn. Jeevan Shrestha – for Happy Landing from India & having Anuradha bhauju for today's function (NRs. 500).
  - PP of RCP Mr. Bishwa K. Mainali – for having the honour of joining the old home club today (NRs. 500).
  - Rtn. Dr. Prakash R. Regmi – for a successful trip to Butwal and Palpa, Tansen where he pledged a contribution of NRs. 10 Lakh for an Intensive Care Unit at the Mission Hospital (NRs. 1,000).
5. Other Contributions:
  - Rtn. Bijaya Mallapaty handed over the confirmation of his contribution of US \$1,050 to the RCP's Global Grant for sustainable WASH project for PEEF supported schools just approved by the RI.
6. Rotary News/Information:
  - President Rtn. Chandralekha Kayastha briefed/reminded on information points: i) Regional Coordination Committee Meeting of Region 3 she attended on 9 March 2018, ii) Presidents' meet in Sauraha planned from April 6 to 7, iii) IPDG Jaya Shah's appointment as Assistant Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator, iv) PP Rajib Pokhrel declared DGN for RI District 3292 RY 2020-2021, v) DG Kamal Sanghvi selected to be the RI Director from Zone 6A for RY 2019-21, vi) Planned RLI courses, and vii) the RISAO newsletter.
  - Rtn. Ganesh R. Shrestha briefed on the RCP Members' Fellowship Fund status with a balance of NRs. 207,510.44 as of 11 March 2018 with details provided in a Viber message.
  - On behalf of the 5-member team, Rtns. Mahendra S. Rawal, Preeti Khemka and Bijaya Mallapaty briefed on the wonderful 5-day field trip to the remote village of Chepel, site of the RCP's micro-hydro GG project for community development. The most touching thing was how much everyone in the village appreciated Rotary's help and support and how committed the community members were.

7. Salutation: By PP Rtn. Ganesh R. Shrestha – RC Kimberley, South Africa; Chartered: 1951, & Members: 23. District: 9320, Clubs: 49, & Members: 1126.
8. Before the closure of the meeting by the President, the Secretary announced: contribution of NRs. 20,000 (NRs. 2,600 for attendance and NRs. 17,400 for Sunshine Funds); attendance: 4 guests, 3 Rotaracts, 10 spouses, 21 members, and 6 make-ups.

**Rotary Questions/Answers presented by Rtn. Jeevan K. Shrestha**

- |  |                               |
|--|-------------------------------|
| Q. What is Rotaract Motto?                                 | A. Fellowship through Service |
| Q. Number of words in the 'Four Way Test'                  | A. 24                         |
| Q. Winter Olympic 'Number' held in Feb.2018 in South Korea | A. 23rd                       |

**Signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Sarswati Govinda Foundation and honouring of its President Mr. Govinda Das Shrestha as a 'Paul Harris Fellow'**

Rtn. Kedar B. Shrestha introduced 'long-time friend/cousin' Mr. Govinda Das Shrestha, a self-made entrepreneur, philanthropist and a pioneer of travel industry in Nepal. Mr. Govinda Das Shrestha was brought up in Calcutta, where his maternal uncle's home was considered as a meeting point for Nepali leaders. Rtn. Kedar B. Shrestha highlighted Mr. Govinda Das Shrestha family's principal businesses - the old Blue Bucket store in central Kathmandu, Himalayan Travel Agency, Carpet Exports and the Radisson Hotel.

Mr. Govinda Das Shrestha founded the 'Sarswati Govinda Foundation' in the name of his wife and himself some four years ago and does various charitable work through this Foundation. Principal among them are the inn (Dharmashala) at Goleshwar Mahadev, Old Age Home in Dev Ghat, support through a hospital in Mulmi, and contribution to educational upliftment of economically poor children through the Rotary Club of Patan's PEEF programme since last year.

Mr. Govinda Das Shrestha, President of Sarswati Govinda Foundation and President Rtn. Chandralekha Kayastha signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Sarswati Govinda Foundation and the Rotary Club of Patan for a long-term collaboration. Witness to the MOU were Mrs. Sarswati Shrestha (for daughter-in-law Ms. Mishu Shrestha who was out of country) and daughter Ms. Anuradha Shrestha. From the RCP, Rtns. Kedar B. Shrestha and Bijaya Mallapaty were the witnesses in the MOU.

The Sarswati Govinda Foundation will be contributing NRs. 10 Lakh (1 Million) every year to the PEEF educational support programme of the RC Patan. This support will immediately increase the scholarships provided to some 400 students in 27 public schools of Lalitpur District from NRs. 2,000 to NRs. 3,000 and an additional increase to merit students from NRs. 500 to NRs. 1,000. In addition, the programme, which currently supports students in grades 7 to 10, will be expanded progressively to grades 11 and 12 with NRs. 5,000 per student.

Rtn. Bijaya Mallapaty briefed about Rotary's 'Paul Harris Fellow' honour established in 1957 in the name of its founder President Paul Harris who started Rotary in 1905 with the purpose of giving back to society. In addition to Rotary members, the 'Paul Harris Fellow' is bestowed upon distinguished personalities to show appreciation for their contributions and outstanding service to the cause of Rotary. Among the many high profile recipients are Mother Teresa, former President Jimmy Carter, former Secretary General of the United Nations Mr. Javier Perez de Cuellar and many others. To date over a million Rotarians and distinguished personalities have been bestowed with the 'Paul Harris Fellow' honour.

The Rotary Club of Patan was delighted to have this opportunity to honour Mr. Govinda Das Shrestha with the 'Paul Harris Fellow' and to add him among the personalities mentioned above. Rtn. Mallapaty mentioned that Sarswati Govinda Foundation's NRs. 10 Lacs contribution is the largest contribution from a Nepali Foundation to Rotary given on an annual basis. As earlier mentioned by Mr. Govinda Das Shrestha, he is not a Rotary member, but a Rotarian at heart.

President Rtn. Chandralekha Kayastha honoured Mr. Govinda Das Shrestha with a 'Khada' and PDG Rtn. Tirtha M. Sakya pinned him with the 'PHF Pin'. President Kayastha also thanked Mrs. Sarswati Shrestha and Ms. Anuradha Shrestha for their support and joining today's function.

Mr. Govinda Das Shrestha thanked the Rotary Club of Patan for this honour and mentioned that he was delighted to do his social duties. He remembered what Gandhi had told a group of top businessmen who went to ask what they could do after the Indian independence to help. Gandhi asked them to do what they do best – create employment to build the country. Mr. Govinda Das Shrestha concluded saying that supporting education is the most religious of social duties.