

Issue No. 1505

Date: 18 Baisakh 2080 / 1 May 2023

<u>Today's Programme:</u>	<u>Congratulatory Events</u>
Regular Weekly Meeting with a classification talk by Rtn. Sunil Gupta	<u>Birthday:</u> Rtn. Yagya B. Shrestha - 29 April Rtn. Shiva K. Pradhan – 2 May Rtn. Chandralekha Kayastha – 4 May <u>Wedding Anniversaries:</u> Rtn. Lalita C. and Kiran Thapa – 29 April Rtns. Padam L. & Kamala Maharjan – 29 April Rtn. Santa K. & Nirmala Shrestha – 3 May

Minutes of Meeting No. 1851

Date: 11 Baisakh 2080 / 24 April 2023

1. President Rtn. Shiva K. Pradhan called the RCP's Meeting No.1851 to order with 15 seconds of 'Silent Invocation' for world peace, health, and happiness.
2. Guests welcomed by the President: Guest speaker Rtn. Badan L. Nyachhyon; AG Elect Rtn. Tika N. Lohani; NRCL Chair Rtn. Tara M. Amatya; Rtns. Bishnu P. Sigdel, Namrata Sharma and Bhuvan Shrestha; Ms. Rajani Shrestha; Mr. Pranab Shrestha; and Rotaracts Puja Bhujel and Hricha Aryal.
3. The last meeting minutes were reviewed and adopted.
4. 'Happy News' Contributions:
 - Rtn. Jamuna K. & Meera Tamrakar – for 'Happy Wedding Anniversary' in absentia (ha.ba.).
 - Rtn. Sandhya Regmi & Dr. Dinesh R. Shiwakoti – for 'Happy Wedding Anniversary' and for 'Happy Mother's Day' (NRs. 500).
 - Rtn. Ganesh R. Shrestha – for the participation of the guest speaker and Rtn. Tika M. Amatya (NRs. 500).
 - Rtn. Nabin B. Maharjan - for the participation of the guest speaker (NRs. 500).
 - Rtn. Mahendra S. Rawal – for the 'Earth Day' tree plantation programme with the Rotaract Club, participation of today's guest speaker, and the Chair of NRCL (NRs. 500). He also thanked Rtn. Shiv P. Khemka and the Rotaract Club of Patan for a successful tree plantation programme.
 - Rtn. Lalita C. Thapa (NRs. 500), Rtn. Piyush B. Bajracharya (NRs. 500), Rtn. Prakash R. Regmi (NRs. 500) and Rtn. Shiva K. Pradhan (NRs. 500) – for the participation of today's guest speaker, NRCL chair and the AG Elect.
 - Rtn. Tika N. Lohani – for his participation for the first time in the RCP's meeting today (NRs. 1,000).
5. Other Contributions:
 - Rtn. Ganesh R. Shrestha handed over cheques of NRs. 300,000 to the RCP's Graduate Studies Scholarship Studies (GSSA) for one student permanently, and NRs. 13,100 (\$100) as advance payment pledged for the GG 2347069 project on RHD. Rtn. Shrestha also spoke briefly on the PEEF and the GSSA programmes of the RCP.
6. Rotary Information:
 - Green Valley Nepal founder Rtn. Bhuvan Shrestha spoke a few words on the recent tree plantation programme with the RCP and the Rotaract Club of Patan for which Green Valley provided the plants. He emphasised the importance of their conservation, appreciated the initiative taken by Rtn. Sandhya Regmi to encourage tree plantation and the contribution to the Green Valley Nepal Fund by Rtn. Shiv P. Khemka of NRs. 15,000.
7. Before the adjournment of the meeting by the President, Secretary Rtn. Khadak S. Bisht announced: happy news contributions of NRs. 6,800 (NRs. 5,000 to the Sunshine Fund and NRs. 1,800 to the Operational Fund of the RCP), and the meeting attendance of 8 guests and visiting Rotarians, 2 Rotaracts, 14 members and 10 make-ups.

Summary of talk programme by Rtn. Badan L. Nyachhyon on 'Metro rail system for prosperity in Nepal' with the participation of NRCL

President Rtn. Shiva K. Pradhan welcomed Rtn. Badan L. Nyachhyon and Rtn. Khadak S. Bisht introduced him. Rtn. Nyachhyon is the Managing Director of a multi-disciplinary consultancy. He is the founder of Kathmandu metro rail promotion group and the vice president of Lalitpur centre for cultural conservation. He is also a Past President of the society for consulting architecture and engineering, chair of Rotary Ethics and Four Way Test subcommittee of our District, and Past President of RC Mount Everest, Lalitpur.

Rtn. Badan L. Nyachhyon appreciated the opportunity to make this presentation to his Rotary Club's grandparent club about metro rail system for prosperity or 'Samridhi ko lagi metro rail'. He is working with a group of some 40 Nepalese who have worked at national and international levels to promote the Kathmandu valley metro rail proposal.

With interesting photographs in his power point presentation, Rtn. Nyachhyon first provided a historical background of the heritage and culture of the Kathmandu valley as 'Swaniga' or the place of origin of Shwiyambhu. Elaborating on the challenges faced by the Kathmandu valley's deteriorating environment and traffic, he lamented the haphazard development of this 'Punya Bhumi' of ancient civilization, which had developed on the basis of Vedic 'Yantra' with the symbols of Khadka, Chakra and Sankha as shapes of Kathmandu, Lalitpur and Bhaktapur, respectively. With the wonderful nature of the KTM valley, people here have lived in peaceful co-existence.

Rtn. Nyachhyon elaborated that dust, water, traffic, air, smoke etc. have polluted the green valley and it has become an unmanageable city with jams and too many disjointed development projects without a long-term vision. In this context, he has been working for a 'Yantra' for development of Kathmandu Valley and promoting 'Samridhi ko lagi - metro rail' with specialized focus in each area of the valley in consultation and agreement of all local people. This mega plan concept would avoid conflict and benefit both – vehicle riders and non-riders. He calls it essential for the revival of Kathmandu Valley for current and future generations.

The proposal to build a metro-rail has been discussed with federal and local government authorities since last five years. The integrated metro-rail would be a solution for hundreds of years to come while retaining the cultural heritage of the valley. The metro-rail should be underground inside the ring road area, while it should be in open areas outside the ring road. Rtn. Nyachhyon also provided some highlights on the proposed timeline, design, and technical details for a 192 km metro-rail, which could be funded from the money currently wasted every year on transport infrastructure/vehicles. His initial estimate for this ultimate solution for Kathmandu valley problems would cost some 12 billion US Dollars, but the project would have a good rate of return on investment. Suggested champion for the project would be under the Prime Minister's office. A national seminar is planned to request the government to announce a start date of the proposed project.

Following a Questions/Answers session, Chair of NRCL Rtn. Tara M. Amatya gave a 'Vote of Thanks' to Rtn. Badan L. Nyachhyon on behalf of all present and on behalf of NRCL and congratulated him for his initiative and leadership in this visionary proposal with best wishes for its success.

Rotary Information

(source: who.org)

World Immunization Week 2023 - 24 to 30 April

World Immunization Week, celebrated in the last week of April, aims to highlight the collective action needed to protect people from vaccine-preventable diseases.

Under the theme of 'The Big Catch-Up', WHO is working with partners to accelerate rapid progress in countries to get back on track to ensure more people, particularly children, are protected from preventable diseases. 2023 is our global opportunity to catch-up on lost progress in essential immunization. We need to reach the millions of children who missed out on vaccines, restore essential immunization coverage to at least 2019 levels, strengthen primary health care to deliver immunization and build lasting protection in communities and countries.

The goal of World Immunization Week is for more children, adults – and their communities – to be protected from vaccine-preventable diseases, allowing them to live happier, healthier lives.