

**Issue No. 1586**

**Date: 8 Poush 2081 / 23 December 2024**

**Today's Programme:**

Regular Weekly Meeting with election of the RCP's Board  
for 2025-2026  
Talk by Ms. Prakriti Bhattarai on 'People with Disabilities'

**Congratulatory Events**

**Birthdays:** Nil  
**Wedding Anniversaries:** Nil

**Minutes of Meeting No. 1930**

**Date: 1 Poush 2081 / 16 December 2024**

1. President Rtn. Preeti Khemka called the RCP's Meeting No. 1930 to order with 15 seconds of 'Silent Invocation' for world peace, health, and happiness.
2. Guests welcomed by the President: Guest speakers Prof. Dr. Bishesh Poudyal and Ms. Shobha Karki, Ms. Illya Bhattarai, Mr. Krishna P. Upadhyaya, Ms. Sweta Agrawal, Mr. Ashok Kharel, Ms. Prakriti Bhattarai (Guest of Rtn. Rabendra R. Pandey), two Rotaracts and two Interacts.
3. The last meeting minutes of the RCP were reviewed and adopted.
4. Happy News Contribution Pledges:
  - Rtn. Rabendra R. Pandey – for 'Happy Birthday' (Rs. 1,000).
  - Rtn. Gabriele Mallapaty – for 'Happy Birthday' (Rs. 1,000).
  - Rtn. Bijaya Mallapaty – for Rtn. Gabriele Mallapaty's birthday (Rs. 1,000), and on behalf of Rtns. Kamal B. Nyachhyon and Ramesh L. Maskay for a fellowship event (Rs. 1,000).
  - Rtn. Lochan Gyawali – for 'Happy Landing' from Japan (Rs. 500).
  - Rtn. Ganesh R. Shrestha – for officiating as Secretary in today's meeting (Rs. 500).
  - Rtn. Sandhya Regmi – for having today's guest speakers Prof. Dr. Bishesh Poudyal and Ms. Shobha Karki, and several guests (Rs. 1000).
  - Rtn. Krishna Hachhethu – for 'Happy Landing' from Europe, and for the birth of a granddaughter from his daughter (Rs. 1,000).
  - Rtn. Som Paneru – for having his friend Dr. Bishesh Poudyal as today's guest speaker (Rs. 500).
  - Rtn. Prakash R. Regmi – for his travel to Banaras, Ayodhya, & Lucknow to attend a cardiology society meeting, and for today's programme participated by old friends (Rs. 1,000).
  - Rtn. Preeti Khemka – for today's special programme (Rs. 500).
5. Other contributions:
  - Rtn. Ganesh R. Shrestha handed over an amount of Rs. 2,100 being interest earned during this year's PEEF distribution for deposit into the PEEF Programme Funds.
6. Rotary Information:
  - President Rtn. Preeti Khemka informed on:
    - The District Intercity Meeting on 'Healthy Ageing' being held at Himalaya Hotel on 27 December 2024 between 08:00 to 13:00 hours and requested interested members to participate. Details have also been shared electronically.
    - The RCP's election of 2024-2025 Board members being held during the meeting of 23 December 2024.
7. Before the adjournment of the meeting by the President, Joint Secretary Rtn. Ganesh R. Shrestha announced: happy news contribution pledges of Rs. 9,000 (50% of Rs. 4,500 each to the RCP's operational and sunshine funds), Rs. 6,300 for attendance to the operational fund, and the meeting attendance of 7 guests, 2 Rotaracts, 2 Interacts, 23 members, & 7 make-ups.

### **Talk programme by Dr. Bishesh Poudyal, Haematologist, with an overview of 'Blood Disorders and Bone Marrow Transplantation in Nepal'**

President Rtn. Preeti Khemka welcomed guest speaker Dr. Bishesh Poudyal and Rtn. Sandhya Regmi introduced him. Dr. Bishesh Poudyal is a Professor of Haematology, Coordinator for Doctorate in Medicine-Haematology and FCPS Clinical Haematology Supervisor. Currently he is the Head of Clinical Haematology and Bone Marrow Transplant Services in Civil Service Hospital, Minbhawan, a government hospital. He is a renowned Haematologist with a profile in 'The Lancet' and one of the founders of 'You Foundation, Chicago, USA, and Chairman of International Alliance of You Foundation, Nepal. Among his many achievements, Dr. Poudyal pioneered clinical haematology and bone marrow transplant service in Nepal and has successfully completed more than 160 transplants.

Dr. Poudyal made a very interesting presentation, with the support of ppt, giving the history of Bone Marrow Transplant in Nepal that he initiated in 2012. He briefed in detail about Bone Marrow Transplant types and patients who could get it as well as what he has been successful in doing in Nepal. Patients with Blood Cancer who cannot be treated by Chemotherapy, need Bone Marrow transplants. While it is still very expensive, doing it in Nepal has reduced the cost substantially providing service to patients who would otherwise die from their condition. There is nevertheless significant economic burden on the family, despite lifesaving discounted operations done at the government owned hospital and with You Foundation's support. Further training of doctors, additional resources, and expansion of services at the provincial levels are essential. Dr. Poudyal implored Rotarians support in raising awareness and funding for this cause.

Following a Questions/Answers session, on behalf of the RCP family, Rtn. Prakash R. Regmi gave a 'Vote of Thanks' to Dr. Bishesh Poudyal mentioning how appreciative the RCP family was to hear about the noble work he is contributing to. President Rtn. Preeti Khemka also added her own words of appreciation and shared the RCP's souvenir magazine 'Lalitdhara' and shared the RCP's keen interest to further our contacts and collaboration.

### **Talk programme by Ms. Shobha Karki from Blood Cancer Society Nepal (BCSN)**

A brief presentation with ppt and video was made by Ms. Shobha Karki on behalf of the Blood Cancer Society of (BCSN) Nepal. BCSN was established by a group of Chronic Myeloid Leukaemia (CML), and other cancer patients in 2007 with seven survivors under the guidance of The Max Foundation. The purpose of BCSN is to spread awareness and provide emotional support to patients. Currently they are supporting about 1250 and 800 patients in Patan Hospital and Bharatpur Cancer Hospital respectively.

BCSN is collaborating with The Max Foundation, a global health nonprofit organisation, which has been providing free cancer medications to underserved patients, empowering patient organisations, promoting awareness, and building a global community. BCSN, initially acted as a bridge between The Max Foundation and hospitals, since 2020 started fund-raising to support needy patients in the group including identifying the needy patients.

On behalf of the Rotary Club of Patan President Rtn. Preeti Khemka thanked Ms. Shobha Karki and honoured all the special guests from BCSN with the presentation of the RCP's Lalitdhara souvenirs.

On behalf of the Blood Cancer Society, Nepal, Ms. Shobha Karki and her team presented a 'Token of Appreciation' to Rtn. Sandhya Regmi, who had also handed over a contribution of Rs. 30,000 to support blood cancer patients.