

Issue No. 1587

Date: 15 Poush 2081 / 30 December 2024

Today's Programme:

Seminar for the Headmasters of PEEF supported schools followed by Regular Weekly Meeting and Kamalmani Educational Excellence Awards (KEEA)/ Graduate Studies Scholarship Awards (GSSA) programme

Forthcoming Programme:

6 January 2025 – Business Meeting followed by updates on Service Projects

Congratulatory Events

Birthdays: Nil

Wedding Anniversaries: Nil

Minutes of Meeting No. 1931

Date: 8 Poush 2081 / 23 December 2024

1. President Rtn. Preeti Khemka called the RCP's Meeting No. 1931 to order with 15 seconds of 'Silent Invocation' for world peace, health, and happiness.
2. Guests welcomed by the President: Guest speaker Ms. Prakriti Bhattarai on 'People with Disabilities' and RCP sponsored graduate scholar Ms. Monika Niroula (Joining after the RCP's election).
3. The last meeting minutes of the RCP were reviewed and adopted.
4. Happy News Contributions:
 - Rtns. Ganga R. Gautam (Rs. 500), Bijaya Mallapaty (Rs. 500), Khadak S. Bisht (Rs. 500), Gabriele Mallapaty (Rs. 500), Bishnu P. Sigdel (Rs. 500), Rabendra R. Pandey (Rs. 1,000), Piyush B. Bajracharya (Rs. 500), Maheswari Bisht Rawal (Rs. 500), Mahendra S. Rawal (Rs. 500), Kedar B. Shrestha (Rs. 500), Preeti Khemka (Rs. 500) – for the excellent hosting of Birgunj outing by Rtn. Sunil Gupta; visits of Asha Kiran Kendra (10th Anniversary celebrations) and village schools; fruitful meeting with Rotary Clubs of Birgunj and Hetauda, and other social organisations; excellent fellowships and organisation of the trip; election of the RCP's 2025-2026 Board; and having Ms. Bhattarai as today's guest speaker.
 - Rtn. Shiv P. Khemka – for the points mentioned above and for 'Happy Landing' from Mumbai (Rs. 1,000).
 - Rtn. Ganesh R. Shrestha – for the points mentioned under the first bullet above and for NPL cricket (Rs. 1,000).
 - Rtns. Bijaya and Gabriele Mallapaty – for a wonderful helicopter trip to Mount Everest with Rtn. Prakash and Upasana Regmi (Rs. 1000).
 - Rtn. Prakash R. Regmi – for the points mentioned under the first bullet above and for the Mount Everest helicopter trip with the Mallapatys (Rs. 1,000).
 - Ms. Prakriti Bhattarai – for her brother's 'Happy Birthday', for the warm welcome from the RCP, and to thank Rtn. Maheswari Bisht Rawal for her support (Rs. 1,000).
5. Rotary Information:
 - Coordinator Rtn. Prakash R. Regmi on behalf of the RCP committee of himself, Rtn. Mahendra S. Rawal and Rtn. Rabendra R. Pandey briefed on the MOU being signed with partners – Nepal Heart Foundation, Pulchowk and Kathmandu offices; Rotary Club of Patan; Mrigendra Samjhana Medical Trust; and Shahid Gangalal Hospital to support improvement of communication with patients and caregivers at Gangalal Hospital.
 - Rtn. Mahendra S. Rawal and Rtn. Rabendra R. Pandey briefed on the RCP's KPAD committee members' meetings with the RC Birgunj and RC Hetauda during the recent RCP outing to Birgunj on planned collaboration with them.
 - Rtn. Bijaya Mallapaty briefed on the visits to a Tharu village school and an early school (grade 0 & 1) in a Dalit community organised by Rtn. Sunil Gupta and possible support to these schools from the RCP.
 - President Rtn. Khemka reminded all about the RCP's planned KEEA/GSSA function on 30 December 2024, which will be preceded by a seminar on inclusive learning with the headmasters of all the 24 PEEF supported schools.
6. President Rtn. Khemka presented the proposal of Mr. Gopal Dawadi, as a new member of the RCP as recommended by Rtn. Pushkar M. Shakya, reviewed by the RCP's Membership committee chair Rtn. Kamal B. Nyachhyon and

endorsed by the RCP Board. Following the RCP By-Laws, the 'House' confirmed that if there is no written objection to the proposal by any member within one week, Mr. Dawadi's membership will be considered approved effective 1 January 2025.

7. Before the adjournment of the meeting, President Rtn. Preeti Khemka wished all the RCP family a 'Merry Christmas' and Secretary Rtn. Ganga R. Gautam announced: happy news contribution pledges of Rs. 11,000 (50% of Rs. 5,500 each to the RCP's operational and sunshine funds), Rs. 4,750 for attendance including for one phone ring to the operational fund, and the meeting attendance of 2 guests, 21 members, & 9 make-ups.

Election of 2025-2026 Board of the Rotary Club of Patan

On behalf of the election committee of President Elect Rtn. Khadak S. Bisht, Sergeant-at-Arms Rtn. Kedar B. Shrestha and President Rtn. Preeti Khemka, Rtn. Khadak S. Bisht presented the proposed members of the Board following the RCP By-Laws and consultation with members. He also mentioned that other committees of the club will be formed through consultations at a later stage, which will include a RI suggested programmes for Young Leaders contact. The 'House' approved the proposal by acclamation as proposed below:

1. President – Rtn. Khadak S. Bisht
2. Immediate Past President and Joint Treasurer – Rtn. Preeti Khemka
3. President Elect – Rtn. Shiv P. Khemka
4. Vice President – Rtn. Ganga R. Gautam
5. Secretary – Rtn. Bishwa B. Sharma
6. Treasurer – Rtn. Gabriele Mallapaty
7. Sergeant-at-Arms – Rtn. Kedar B. Shrestha
8. Joint Secretary – Rtn. Krishna Hachhethu
9. Director/Chair, Service Projects – Rtn. Bijaya Mallapaty
10. Director/Chair, Club Administration – Rtn. Sunil Gupta
11. Director/Chair, Membership – Rtn. Kamal B. Nyachhyon
12. Director/Chair, The Rotary Foundation – Rtn. Rabendra R. Pandey
13. Director/Chair, Public Image – Rtn. Prakash R. Regmi
14. Director/Chair, Youth Service – Rtn. Maheswari Bisht Rawal

Summary of Talk Programme by Ms. Prakriti Bhattarai on 'People with Disabilities'

President Rtn. Preeti Khemka welcomed the guest speaker Ms. Prakriti Bhattarai and Rtn. Rabendra R. Pandey introduced her. Rtn. Pandey mentioned that Ms. Bhattarai has been the recipient of the RCP's vocational service award last Rotary Year in the area of 'people with disabilities' and, therefore, well known to the RCP family.

Ms. Bhattarai thanked the RCP for this opportunity and made an excellent presentation with the support of ppt on people with disabilities. She elaborated on each of the five pillars of importance for the betterment of conditions of people with disabilities – 1. People with disabilities themselves, 2. Family/Relatives, 3. Neighbours/Society, 4. Schools/Clubs/Institutions, and 5. Government Institutions/Nation.

She also briefed on the laws, policies, and directives of the Nepalese government with regards to people with disabilities emphasizing on the importance of awareness raising and implementation of these laws, policies, and directives to encourage and benefit people with disabilities. Citing some examples of famous and successful people with disabilities both in Nepal and abroad, she emphasized that the people with disabilities themselves could also do a lot to be independent and live an active life. She mentioned that it is important to see 'the ability not the disability' by all for an equitable society.

Ms. Bhattarai concluded her talk programme with great appreciation and admiration of the RCP family and shared tokens of appreciation including a poem, which she presented to the RCP. She also presented a video of herself dancing while seating on a wheelchair demonstrating her abilities despite her disability.

Following a Questions/Answers session, on behalf of the RCP family, Rtn. Maheswari Bisht Rawal gave a 'Vote of Thanks' to Ms. Prakriti Bhattarai mentioning how appreciative the RCP family was to hear about the courageous work she has been doing. She knows Ms. Bhattarai very well as she worked with her in the Lalitpur Metropolis office in the Women Development Section as an exemplary colleague. President Rtn. Preeti Khemka also added her own words of appreciation and shared the RCP's keen interest to continue collaborating with her.