

Issue No. 1604

Date: 15 Baisakh 2082 / 28 April 2025

<p><u>Today's Programme:</u></p> <p>1. Induction of Rtn. Gopal P. Dawadi 2. Talk Programme by Dr. Omkar Lal Shrestha, Professor of Economics, National University of Singapore, on 'From Bottomless Pit to Economic Miracle – Case Study of South Korea'</p>	<p><u>Congratulatory Events</u></p> <p><u>Birthdays:</u> Rtn. Yagya B. Shrestha – 29 April <u>Wedding Anniversaries:</u> Rtn. Sandhya Regmi & Dr. Dinesh R. Shiwakoti – 25 April Rtns. Padam L. & Kamala Maharjan – 29 April</p>
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Minutes of Meeting No. 1948

Date: 8 Baisakh 2082 / 21 April 2025

1. President Rtn. Preeti Khemka called the RCP's Meeting No. 1948 to order with 15 seconds of 'Silent Invocation' for world peace, health, and happiness.
2. Guests welcomed by the President: Guest Speaker Ms. Urvasi Basnyat, Mr. Laxman Upreti, Nepal Forum of Environmental Communicators (NEFC), RC Bagmati PP Rtn. Raisha Shrestha, and Rtn. Ewerhard Engels from RC Tegensee, Germany.
3. The last meeting minutes of the RCP were reviewed and adopted.
4. Happy News Contribution/Pledges:
 - Rtn. Gopal & Jyoti Dawadi – for 'Happy Wedding Anniversary' (Rs. 1,000).
 - Rtn. Jamuna K. & Meera Tamrakar – for 'Happy Wedding Anniversary in absentia (ha.ba.).
 - Rtn. Ewerhard Engels – for 'Happy Birthday' (Rs. 1,000).
 - Rtn. Som Paneru – for his daughter's successful 'Ama Yangri, Helambu' trek with 5 friends, and for having today's guest speaker (Rs. 1,000).
 - Rtn. Rabendra R. Pandey – for handover of the laptop to Yubesh Kharel, Ullens School (Rs. 500).
 - Rtns. Padam L. and Kamala Maharjan – for 'Happy Landing' from Rajasthan, India (Rs. 1,000).
 - Rtn. Prakash R. Regmi (Rs. 500), and Rtn. Kedar B. Shrestha (Rs. 500) – for having today's guest speaker.
5. Other Contributions:
 - Rtn. Piyush B. Bajracharya contributed Rs. 30,000 to the RCP's KPAD Funds and Rs. 30,000 to the RCP's PEEF Funds in the name of Late Avatar K. Raina.
 - Rtn. Rabendra R. Pandey pledged to contribute Rs. 30,000 to match the contribution made to KPAD Funds mentioned above.
6. Rotary Information:
 - Rtn. Khadak S. Bisht reminded about the District Grants Management Training Seminar and the District Learning Assembly being held during 23 and 24 May 2024 respectively as shared earlier electronically. He requested all concerned to participate and particularly to the new members to join the Grants Management Training Seminar. Further details with venue will be communicated later.
 - Rtn. Prakash R. Regmi informed about the change in dates for the two planned RHD/Health Camp trips to Jajarkot and Rukum/Salyan starting from 27 Baisakh (10 May 2025). These trips are planned together with Nepal Heart Foundation and interested RCP members were requested to register accordingly.
 - President Rtn. Preeti Khemka informed about the next week's programme which will include the induction of Rtn. Gopal P. Dawadi and a talk programme. Therefore, she suggested to start the meeting 15 minutes earlier than the regular time.

7. Before the adjournment of the meeting by the President, Secretary Rtn. Ganga R. Gautam announced: happy news contributions of Rs. 6,000 to the sunshine funds and Rs. 4,900 for attendance to the operational funds of the RCP, meeting, and attendance of: 4 guests, 1 Interact, 22 members, and 8 make-ups.

Summary of Talk Programme by Ms. Urvasi Basnyat, Station Manager of Radio Sagarmatha, on the roles and responsibilities of radio for public

President Rtn. Preeti Khemka welcomed Ms. Urvasi Basnyat, Station Manager/Managing Editor of Radio Sagarmatha 102.4 MHz and Rtn. Som Paneru introduced her. Ms. Basnyat has been with Radio Sagarmatha for the last 25 years and has been the first female Station Manager since 2021. Prior to her current position, she had worked as Senior Producer (News and Programme) and Content Adviser (Rural Television Nepal).

Ms. Basnyat has a Masters in Humanities and Social Sciences and has completed several training courses on networking, radio/tv productions, radio feature and television presentation, programme production and broadcasting, election reporting, radio journalism, and gender equality in politics and media. She has been a professional member of several related associations and has been awarded with several honours.

Ms. Basnyat appreciated the opportunity to talk to the RCP family and started with the introduction of Sagarmatha Radio, which is the first independent community radio broadcasting station in South Asia that started in 1997. As a public radio, it was not permitted to broadcast news and economic information, so it started with 'Hal Chal' or current activities highlighting different social issues.

Radio Sagarmatha broadcasts are not commercial, but community based on various topics such as public health, rule of law, education for all, gender equality, environment, human rights, good governance, sustainable development and promotion of local culture, arts and tourism. It also promotes Nepali songs and works on social issues of awareness-raising in close collaboration with local governments.

The main aim of Radio Sagarmatha is to change society in a positive manner and be the voice of the poor, and its bold discussions encourages the government for action in a non-partisan and independent manner. Many of its programmes provide constructive critiques on social policies issues in Nepali and several ethnic languages of Nepal.

While the Sagarmatha Radio covers all areas of Bagmati Province and bordering areas, it also works with all the seven provinces of Nepal and supports them with the production of various relevant materials. It has also been collaborating with Rotary on various social issues including on WASH and on Polio eradication.

Mr. Laxman Upreti and Rtn. Raisha Shrestha complemented on the programmes of Sagarmatha Radio and also mentioned about the financial constraints that it is facing particularly on further digitisation.

Following a Questions/Answers session, on behalf of the RCP, Rtn. Khadak S. Bisht gave a 'Vote of Thanks' to the guest speakers and suggested further collaboration between Rotary and Sagarmatha Radio.

Rotary Information: Letter to members from RI President nominee SangKoo Yun

Dear Rotary friends:

(Source: rotary.org)

As the Rotary International President for 2026-27, I have been working closely with other Rotary members and staff to plan and prepare for the important work ahead after my confirmation last September. It has been a tremendous honour and pleasure to be given the opportunity to serve our organization.

However, I have been facing some personal health challenges. Recently, I was diagnosed with pancreatic adenocarcinoma or pancreatic cancer, which has put a temporary pause on my work. The good news is that I am receiving excellent care at one of Korea's top hospitals. My treatment is already progressing smoothly, and my medical team is optimistic about the path forward. Based on their recommendation, I will need to take a step back from Rotary leadership responsibilities over the next six months.

I have been sharing updates with Rotary International President Stephanie Urchick and the Board of Directors. They have unanimously supported my decision, and I want to use this opportunity to thank President Stephanie and RI directors for their understanding and unwavering support. I am determined to return once the treatment is complete and continue to serve our organization, meeting the challenges ahead in Rotary.

My wife EunSun and I want to express our gratitude for all the care and encouragement. I have been deeply moved by the support of family and friends.

*With warm regards, SangKoo Yun
President, Rotary International, 2026-27*