

The Midtowner

2020-21

Rotary
Chandigarh Midtown



Club No. 15228
R.I. District 3080

Weekly Bulletin of Rotary Club Chandigarh Midtown
View online: www.rotarychdmidtown.org

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Rotary Public Image is being projected by all our Bulletins which are mailed all over the world to large number of non-Rotarians and Rotarians with photos and is having global viewing throughour website since Rotary year 2006-07, our Facebook page, YouTube, Whatsapp etc. Follow our regular weekly meetings on Facebook www.facebook.com/groups/rotarychdmidtown

THE FOUR WAY TEST

Of the things we think, say or do

1. Is it the TRUTH?
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

Volume 45 No. 44 Dated: 04 May 2021

PROGRAMME

Impact of films on society opinion

Chief Guest

Ojaswwee Sharma

Film Director, Producer and Screenwriter

Date: May 07, 2021 (Friday)

Time: 6.30 p.m.

Zoom Meeting ID: 6291653178

Password: 15228

PDG Rtn. Kawal Bedi – The Nightingale of Rotary

A tribute by: PP Rtn. Dr. Balram K. Gupta

It was the morning of April 27, 2021. Got the sad news - Kawal Bedi, the Nightingale of Rotary is no more. She was truly wedded to Rotary. Rotary was her Life-Line. She was Light-House of Rotary. She breathed Rotary. She enjoyed Rotary. She served Rotary. Rotary was her staple diet. Rotary was her sustenance. She was full of life. Throughout. From birth to death. Her smile was her insignia. Her affection was infectious.

Rotary was born in 1905. It was the US Supreme Court that it broke the Gender discrimination in Rotary on May 4, 1987. Accordingly, Rotary International allowed lady Rotarians in 1989. Kawal Bedi was the first woman Rotarian amongst 04 lady Rotarians who joined in 1989.

She was the first lady District Governor from Asia zone 5 as also from District 3080 of Rotary International. It was in the 40th year (1998-99) of Rotary Club Chandigarh that she became the first lady President of the club. As President, she became instrumental in starting 'Gift-of-Life' project (Rs. 42 lac) to provide free cardiac surgery to poor boys and girls. What an extraordinary drive she demonstrated to raise funds for the project in record time. This project has provided LIFE to so many children, even across borders. She romped with the cherished District Award: Most Outstanding President for the year 1998-99. She was honoured by the District for her contribution to the ideals of Rotary.

She was also presented with the 'Award of Excellence' for outstanding service to the society. She was the decorated soldier of Rotary even before she became the District Governor in 2003-04. She continued to be the Heart-Beat of Rotary for the next almost two decades. Till the last breath of her life. She served Rotary even on wheel chair. She proved to the Rotary world what a lady Rotarian can do, achieve and contribute. I wonder why, the better half was denied the legitimate right to serve humanity for so long!



PDG Kawal Bedi and PP Dr. Balram Gupta

I have enjoyed special bond with her as my daughter Shruti is married in Bedi family. She used to call me – 'my sambandhi'. In fact, my association with her goes back to her joining Rotary. I have seen her grow in Rotary. To be a Rotarian, you need to be a good human being. To be a Judge, you need to be a good human being. I have spent 44 years in Rotary in linking Judiciary with Rotary. Through my writings, talks, memorial lectures and orations. I remember the year 2016. The District 3080 recognized me with Life Time Achievement Award. She was just jubilant. Dancing and hugging. That moment is flashing through my eyes and mind. She knew of my association with Sri Lankan Judiciary. She publically said: In Rotary, we have such close bond with Sri Lanka. Balram, you have as Rotarian built up a unique bond with Sri Lankan Judiciary. Sri Lankan judges are asking, why were you not born in Sri Lanka. How proud we Rotarians feel of you. Kawal was UNIQUE. She was different.

May her soul rest in peace. My salute to her.

In our virtual meeting on 30 April 2021 President Rtn. Sanjay Bhatia expressed shock on the sad demise of PDG Kawal Bedi as she was close to all of us. He said, "Lot of us were in touch with her. She was always full of zest and was one of the most vocal PDGs. She never missed any Rotary gathering. My last meeting with her was during farewell of PDG Shaju Peter". A moment of silence was held in the meeting as a mark of respect to her.



**Address by
President Sanjay
Bhatia**



**Address by
PDG Shaju
Peter**



**Invocation by R'ann
Sunita invoking
Blessings of God**

PDG Rtn. Shaju Peter had joined the meeting from Cochin. Sharing his memories of PDG Kawal Bedi, he said, "The entire Rotary world has lost one of its earliest woman members, Rotary Club Chandigarh's only woman Governor and District 3080 has lost its first and the only Lady Governor. I have lost one of my dearest friends in Kawal's going away. I knew Kawal and her husband Late Major Tikka Bedi (a Past President of Rotary Club Chandigarh), long before either she or I became Rotarians."

PDG Shaju said that as President of her Club in 1998-99 and Rtn. Dr. Gulshan Thakral as our Governor, PDG Kawal's most distinguished project was the 'gift of life' to provide heart surgeries to children from across the world, including African countries and Pakistan. She was declared as the most outstanding President of that year. She held many important assignments in the District and the Zone. She was also associated with many NGOs. In spite of her illness she was a daring person. PDG Shaju expressed his gratitude to PDG Kawal for attending his farewell on a wheel chair and she requested him to be part of 3080 District even if he is now settled in Kerala.

PP Rtn. Ajit Gulati recalled his association with PDG Kawal Bedi since 1982, much before joining Rotary. He said she was an amazing person, a multifaceted personality and a 'live wire'. We have lost a great friend, a wonderful human being of Rotary and Chandigarh. PP Ajit expressed his condolences to her family and assured that we shall always be with them.

PP Rtn. Pallav Mukherjee said his association with PDG Kawal Bedi has been from the time when both of them were not Rotarians. Pallav was a GSE team member to England led by PDG Rtn. Yoginder Diwan in 1986 and on his return visited Rotary Club Chandigarh, and since then he has known her.

PP Rtn. Dr. V.J.S. Vohra referred to PDG Kawal Bedi as a close friend of his father and family, since many years before he had become a Rotarian.

Dr. Vohra expressed his heartfelt condolences to her family.



**Address by PP
Ajit Gulati**



**Address by PP
Pallav Mukherjee**

Aviation Story Good, Bad and Funny

[Click here to watch on YouTube](https://youtu.be/5lrQpyS-rYE) <https://youtu.be/5lrQpyS-rYE>

President Sanjay Bhatia greeted the chief guest Capt. Karan Pratap Singh, the guests and all members present in the meeting.



**Capt. Karan
Pratap Singh**

The chief guest was formally introduced by PP Pallav Mukherjee. Capt. Karan has a degree - B.S in Computer Information Systems from Texan A&M University, UT Texas. He has Flying Experience of 3000 hours, having served for 4 years with Heritage Aviation Pvt Ltd., flying the Hawker 400XP, 4 years with Jet Airways Pvt Ltd., flying the Boeing 737NG and 2 years with Indigo, flying the Airbus 320.

His wife Capt. Pritha Mukherjee is B.A. (Hons) Economics from University of Pune. She too is a pilot with total Flying Experience of 6000 hour. She has served 10 years in Jet Airways Pvt Ltd., flying the Boeing 737 NG and ATR 72-500 and 2 Years in Indigo, flying the ATR 72-600.

The guests were Capt. Karan's parents Col. Ravinder Singh and Mrs. Naina, Karan's father-in-law Col. Tarun Mukherjee, another pilot Capt. Vaibhav Ratore, Mrs. Savita Bhatti wife of late Jaspal Bhatti and Rtn. Rajan Gujral from England.

Capt. Karan was happy for addressing people who are having good experience of air travel. He admitted that he is not good at zoom because pilots do not work from home! Whatever virtual knowledge he has is because of online classes of his 3 year old daughter.

He apprised us of some interesting facts and figures and the implications due to the current pandemic. He explained how the aviation industry evolved during last decades. In the early 1970s flying / air travel was considered to be very luxurious. Each seat even in the economy class was size of the business class today! Full course meals and wine was given to the passengers. In some countries even smoking was allowed.

But today, there is price war, cut throat competition, taxation on fuel etc., which have forced this industry to evolve and invent new ways to keep afloat. The economy passenger has been made to sit in the tighter seats with no food and dreaming of that wine they could get once!

From the manufacturers point of view vast changes have taken place including in the cockpit, to make the aircraft much lighter with better engine technology and 70 percent more efficient than what it was in the 60s.

The engineers have been rewarded by their companies for interesting ideas to bring down the costs by reducing some infrastructure including the size of lavatory, to earn extra income with each flight by increasing the number of seats in the aircraft. But size of the seats have been reduced!

Capt. Karan informed that during the pandemic some airline companies have closed down. The existing ones are taking due precautions. After every flight the aircraft is fully sanitized and it has become much more hygienic than before!

Continued on page 3....

..... Continued from page 2

Capt. Vaibhav also joined Capt. Karan to share his experience by give interesting facts and some funny incidents. 11 percent of the work force is women pilots in our country. Karan's wife and Vaibhav's wife both are senior pilots. In fact, senior to them! Both the pilots gave some witty comments in lighter vain.

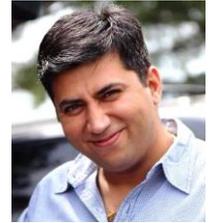
On behalf of our Club, Rtn. Jeeten Bhambri thanked the chief guest, Capt. Karan Pratap Singh for his thought provoking and fun filled address.

As air travellers, we never had the opportunity to interact with the pilots during the flight, except listening to their formal announcements and instructions!

In this meeting, it was an interesting, informative, humorous and entertaining interactive session with both the pilots. [Just click here to enjoy a free 'flight' with Capt. Karan and Capt. Vaibhav](#) on our Club's YouTube channel. Like, comment and subscribe to the channel. Press the bell icon and keep watching!



Address by Capt. Vaibhav Ratore



Vote of thanks by Rtn. Jeeten Bhambri



Registration is open! Don't miss your chance to connect with Rotary members at the [2021 Virtual Convention: Rotary Opens Opportunities](#) which will take place from 12 through 16 June 2021.

Enjoy a special rate of \$49 through 7 May 2021. After that, the registration fee is \$65.

You can also join us early at a pre-convention, 10-11 June, for Inter-country Committees, Rotaract, and Rotary Youth Exchange officers. Each pre-convention will cost an additional \$20.

The 2021 Virtual Rotary Convention and pre-conventions are open to all Rotary members and participants and include access to the virtual House of Friendship.

Don't forget to visit the [convention event page](#) on Facebook to connect with others and stay up-to-date on event news and program highlights!

[Register today and save!](#)

Condolences

Sad to inform the demise of Mrs. Iqbal Kaur, beloved mother of Secretary Elect Rtn. Jagvinder Singh Bawa on 04 May 2021 due to old age. May her soul rest in peace.

Joint meeting with Rotary Club of Maidenbridge, England

Rotary Club of Maidenhead Bridge in England had a joint virtual meeting with Rotary Chandigarh Midtown on 02 May 2021. It was coordinated by PP Pallav Mukherjee and his friend Rtn. Rajan Gujral of Rotary Maidenhead Bridge. The President of this Club Rtn. Victoria Williams, unfortunately could not attend the meeting as her dog had been taken ill and she had to rush to a vet. In her absence the meeting was conducted by Rtn. Lisa Hunter who is a Past President and is also a founder member of the club. President elect Rtn. Nasreen Parkes was also present along with other members.

Rotarians representing our club were: President Sanjay Bhatia, PP R.K. Luther, PP Dr. V.J.S. Vohra, PP Pallav Mukherjee



Collage initiated by Rtn. Indu Luthra

PP Kanan Diwan, PP Dr. Rita Kalra, PP Ashok Puri, PE Salil Chopra, PN Dr. Sanjay Kalra, Secretary Shuchi Thakur, Rtn. Indu Luthra, Rtn. Kulbir Bhatia, Rtn. Dr. Harinder Jit Kaur, Rtn. Jeeten Bhambri, Rtn. Pradeep Sisodia, Rtn. Anup Sharma, Rtn. Dr. Shashi Jain and Rtn. Anupam Jain.

HC: Specify policy on priority to Covid heroes

CHANDIGARH, MAY 3 The Punjab and Haryana High Court has asked the Union of India and the State of Punjab to specify whether policy/instructions were in place for providing priority treatment to Covid-19 warriors. For the purpose, Justice Jasgurpreet Singh Puri set a week's deadline.

The direction came on a petition filed against the Union of India and other respondents by Chanchal Singh through counsel Salil Dev Singh Bali. Appearing before the Bench through videoconferencing, Bali submitted the petitioner was a Covid warrior. He acquired kidney disease when he was posted in a laboratory after the epidemic's onset. Although the petitioner was enrolled in kidney transplant patients' list by the PGI, it was not in consonance with the Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissues Rules, 2014, he contended. The counsel further submitted that the petitioner, being a Covid-19



GOT INFECTED IN LAB

- The petitioner, Chanchal Singh, said he acquired kidney disease when he was posted in a lab after the epidemic's onset
- Claiming to be a Covid warrior, he said he ought to have been given priority over other patients

en priority over other patients. Issuing notice of motion, Justice Puri asserted: "The counsel for respondent — Union of India as well as Pankaj Gupta, Additional Advocate-General, Punjab, shall seek specific instructions as to whether there is any policy for providing any priority treatment to the

Well done PP Salil Bali

You don't need an EXPERT YOU NEED A MIND SET!

Very motivational at this hour

• Ratan Tata



Experts are predicting huge down fall of Economy due to the Corona.

I do not know much about these experts.

But I know for sure that they do not know anything about the value of human motivation and determined efforts.

If experts were to be believed, after the total destruction in 2nd World War Japan had NO future. BUT the same Japan in just 3 decades or so, made US cry at the market place.

If the experts were to be believed, Israel should have been wiped out from the world map by the Arabs, but the fact is different.

As per the rules of Aerodynamics, the Bumble Bee can NOT fly. But it flies, because it does not know the rules of Aerodynamics.

If the experts were to be believed, we should have been no where in 83 Cricket World Cup.

If the experts were to be believed Wilma Rudolf, the first American lady to win 4 Olympic Gold in Athletics, should not have been in a position to walk without braces, no question of running.

If the experts were to be believed Arunima Sinha can hardly lead a normal life. But she climbed the Mount Everest.

The corona crisis is no different. I do not have any doubt that, We will defeat the Corona hands down and The Indian Economy will bounce back in a great manner.

Virtual/In-Person Rotary Meetings

[Please click here -https://youtu.be/Be6F9j4PQOY](https://youtu.be/Be6F9j4PQOY)

Watch this powerful 25-minute Virtual/In-Person (V/IP) meeting featuring U.S. National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases Dr. Anthony Fauci, Rotary International President Holger Knaack, Past Rotary International President Cliff Dochterman, Rotary International CEO John Hewko, and leaders from the Gates Foundation, World Health Organization, GAVI and Yale, who will address how Rotarians can help save lives during the current Pandemic.

Visit www.TGIG.org for more information and details on hosting your own Virtual/In-Person (hybrid) meetings. The Global Impact Group was formed earlier this year by Rotarians from California and Georgia to encourage global cooperation and working together on projects of worldwide importance.

[Click here to watch this Quick Start Video](#) on how easy it is to run an engaging Virtual/In-Person (V/IP) meeting.

DIGITAL MARKETING MASTERCLASS ONLINE

THUR | APRIL 29, 2021 | 4:30 pm

Organized by

Rotary
Chandigarh Midtown



Anupam Jain
State President Haryana
Skill Development Council



SEEMA PUNIA
Council Member
Moderator



OUR EXPERT
ADITI PARASHAR
DIGITAL PRODUCT MANAGER AT
Oreal Luxe HQ Paris/Armani Beauty

Seminar via Zoom

Skill building webinar. 68 persons participated in this interactive session with Director Vocational Service Rtn. Anupam Jain and other speakers

Donations for The Rotary Foundation

PP B L Ramsisaria	US\$ 300
Friends of Rotary	US\$ 139
Rtn.Vijay Kumar Gupta	US\$ 500
PP Ashok k Puri	US\$ 200
Rtn.Anupam Jain	US\$ 150

Birthday of Rotarians

Rtn. P.K. Vasudeva	07 May
Wedding Anniversary	
R'ann Lalita and Rtn.Chandra Parkash	09 May
Rtn. Dr. Satinder Kaur and Rtn. R.S. Sachdeva	10 May
R'ann Santosh and PP Rtn. Dr. Kesho Ram Gupta	11 May

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