

The Midtowner

Bulletin of Rotary Club of Chandigarh Midtown: R.I. District 3080

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District Governor
Manmohan Singh

President
Ritu Singal

Secretary
Ashok Puri

Editor
Dr. V. J. S. Vohra

Volume XXXVII No. 29 Dated: January 15, 2013

PROGRAMME

Better Governance

Chief Guest: Mr. Vivek Atray, I.A.S.

Friday, January 18, 2013

Time: 6.30 p.m.

Venue: Hotel President, Sector 26, Chandigarh

Collaboration between Chandigarh Midtown and Milano Sud Est (WCS)

January 11, 2013, being the first meeting for President Ritu Singal for the year 2013, she wished a very happy new year and happy Lohri to all Rotarians and their families. She welcomed the Chief Guest PP Rtn. Lakshmi Khanna and his wife R'ann Neerja of Rotary Club of Milano Sud Est, Italy. He was formally introduced by Rtn. Arjan Singh who said, "Lakshmi has been a friend of our club since 1995-96 when Rtn. Col. A.J.S. Gill was President of our club, and since then we have collaborated with his club in Italy for multiple projects. Our microloan project has been initiated by him." He has been educated in Patiala and Delhi and did his chartered accountancy in London, and then settled down in Milano where he has been practicing since last 40 years. When he joined the Rotary Club of Milano Sud Est, he was the only Indian Rotarian in Italy!

He recalled having come to India with 40 Italian Rotarians and took them around the country. That was the time when he started the microloan project with our club with \$ 10000/-, and this outstanding project is still there which is being carried out together successfully.

The scholarship program was sponsored by the Rotary Club of Milan Sud Est, RI District 2040 in partnership with the Rotary Club of Chandigarh Midtown, District 3080. This program aimed at disadvantaged girls, gives scholarships of Rs 50,000 (US \$ 1,000) per year for the duration of four years of Engineering course, which concludes with a degree in

Engineering. The costs of this program are shared 80% by RC Milan Sud Est and 20% of RC Chandigarh Midtown. So far eight girls have been selected in this program, three of which have completed, while five are currently receiving scholarships.

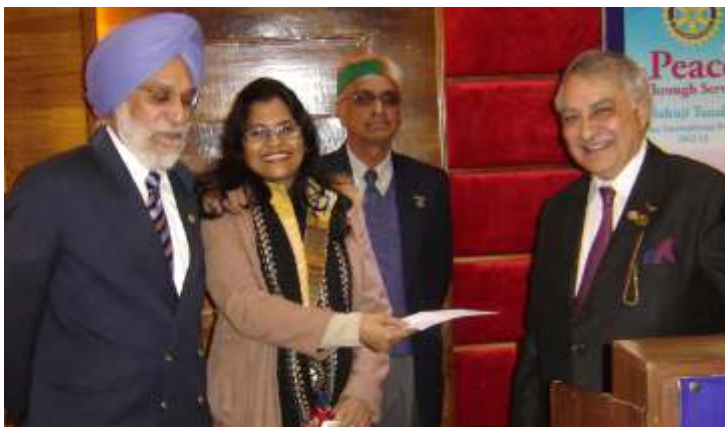
Rtn. Lakshmi Khanna said, "Our sincere thanks to Rtn. Arjan Singh of Chandigarh Midtown for his efforts in making this a very useful and effective Service to the Community Service Program."

According to Rtn. Khanna RC Milan Sud Est has previously created a similar program in 2000 with the Rotary Club of Madras, District 3230.

Disadvantaged girls with household income of about US \$ 1,000 per year have been sponsored by a commitment with their parents that the girls would be allowed to complete their studies without interruption and that would not have been forced to look for work during the program, and also that the parents would not insist on marrying her during the duration of the program. Three of the girls are already in jobs in the IT industry. Another two will be joining IT firms in the next six months as they have



PP Lakshmi Khanna



On behalf of his club, PP Lakshmi Khanna presents a cheque of Rs. one lakh for Scholarship project, to President Ritu Singal, Rtn. Arjan Singh and Secretary A.K. Puri



After proposing a formal vote of thanks, PE Deepak Sood presents a token of appreciation to PP Lakshmi Khanna

already been selected. One young lady is studying Food Technology is ready for employment. Two girls are in the middle of their engineering courses while we are intending to select two more scholars in the coming year.

Microloan program was sponsored by spouses of District Governors 2007/2008 of all Italian Districts and the Rotary Club of Chandigarh Midtown.

Rtn. Khanna also talked about the unique way of presenting PHFs to Rotarians in his club. He said no one pays for his or her PHF. It is a recognition given to a particular Rotarian by others who contribute to TRF. And then he requested PDG Shaju Peter

to present the PHF Award that his club had conferred on Rtn. Arjan Singh, in recognition of the significant role played by him for the Joint WCS project. Arjan was overwhelmed at this noble gesture, and expressed his gratitude to President Ernesto Vismara of Rotary Club Milano Sud Est. He said, "It is a great honour for which I am deeply grateful." He also expressed sincere gratitude on behalf of the beneficiaries.

Formal vote of thanks was proposed by PE Deepak Sood. He said, "We are aware that PP Lakshmi Khanna has been very instrumental in providing us funds for microloan and scholarship projects, and I am sure that we shall carry on together with such meaningful projects."

RC Milano Sud Est confers PHF Award to Rtn. Arjan Singh



PDG Shaju Peter presents PHF award to Rtn. Arjan Singh. Looking on is PP Lakshmi Khanna of RC Milano Sud Est

Disbursement of Microloan



PP Rtn. Lakshmi Khanna & R'ann Neerja Khanna present a microloan of Rs. 30,000/- to Mr. Ram Kumar of Ram Darbar for setting up an injection moulding machine. With some funds of his own he will do job work for other manufacturers of plastic goods. Looking on are President Ritu Singal and Secretary A.K. Puri



Rotary Club Milano Sud-Est

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The Rotary Club of Milano Sud Est, Rotary District 2040, confers this Paul Harris Fellow Award with one sapphire to Rotarian Arjan Singh, of the Rotary Club of Chandigarh Mid Town, District 3080

In recognition of outstanding and seamless support in the execution of the Joint WCS project for providing Scholarships for Studies in Engineering to needy young girls initiated by the Rotary Club of Milano Sud Est and in the implementation of the significant Microloan project donated by all the Rotary Districts of Italy. By sponsoring this Paul Harris recognition for Rtn Arjan Singh we also express our deep appreciation for the support and efforts of all members of the Rotary Club of Chandigarh Mid Town over the last several years in implementing joint WCS projects with our club.

Milan, January 2013

Ernesto Vismara
President
Rotary Club of Milano Sud Est
District 2040

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Birthday gift to Rtn. Mohinder Singh from PP Lakshmi Khanna



PP Lakshmi Khanna presents birthday gift to Rtn. Salil Chopra. Looking on are R'ann Renu and Rtn. A.K. Puri



President Ritu Singal & Secretary A.K. Puri present birthday gift to R'ann Indu Luthra

Lohri Celebrations



R'ann Indu Anand and R'ann Sudha Puri sing the Lohri song in traditional style



R'ann Renu Chopra and Rtn. Salil Chopra sing the Lohri song in modern style





President Ritu Singal, Rtn. Dr. I.S. Dua and Rtn. Mrs. D.K. Singh dedicate the Lohri song to the gang rape victim

Lohri was celebrated in our last club meeting with Rotarians and R'anns singing the famous Lohri song, 'Sunder mundriye ho.....' Along with usual tea, coffee and cake, 'moonphali and gajak', brought by Secretary A.K. Puri, was also served. Rtn. Salil Chopra distributed ladoos to celebrate his birthday, which coincides with Lohri. He was accompanied by his wife Renu Chopra, who had recently returned from Australia.



Rtn. Salil Chopra gets punctuality award from PP Rtn. Lakshmi Khanna

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Lohri Song

Sunder mundriye ho
Tera kaun vicaharaa ho
Dullah bhatti walla ho
Dullhe di dheer vyayae ho
Ser shakkar payee ho
Kudi da laal pathaka ho
Kudi da saalu paatta ho
Salu kaun samete
Chache choori kutti
Zamidara lutti
Zamindaar sudhaye
Bade bhole aaye
Ek bhola reh gaya
Sipahee far ke lai gaya
Sipahee ne mari eet
Sanoo de de lohri te teri jeeve Jodi
Bhaanvey ro te bhaanvey pit

Translation in English

Oh Sunder and Munder
Who will think about you
He is Dulla Bhatti
Dulla's daughter got married
He gave 1 kg sugar
The girl is wearing a red suit
But her shawl is torn
Who will stitch her shawl?
The uncle made choori
Landlords looted it
Landlords are beaten up then
Lots of innocent guys came
One innocent boy got left behind
The police arrested him
The policeman hit him with brick
Give us lohri, long live your couple
Whether you cry, or bang your head

Condolences

Mr. L.D. Gupta, father of Rtn. D.K. Gupta and Rtn. Rajiv Gupta left for his heavenly abode on 11 January 2013. Our deep condolences to the aggrieved family.

Prayers for the departed soul will be held on 21st January 2013 from 2 pm to 3 pm at S.D. Mandir, Sector 27, Chandigarh.

President Ritu Singal's Facet of Peace – Step 25: Your inner thoughts will bring results outside

We create the same kind of vibrations around us as the kind of self talk that we persist with. And these vibrations either attract or repel them.

Acknowledgement with thanks

Donations for Club Projects:

Rtn. Ashish Singla donated one Geysers for Aasra Shelter Rs. 5000/-
Rtn. Dr. Dinesh Sahajpal Rs. 1500/-
Rtn. Salil Chopra Rs. 500/-
R'ann Indu Luthra

Birthdays of Spouses

R'ann Seema Sahajpal
R'ann Susan Nath



Birthdays of Rotarians

Rtn. Munish Jauhar January 19
PP Rtn. Devi Prasad Khandelia January 21
Rtn. Amit Jain January 21



Wedding Anniversary

R'ann Sarita & Rtn. P.K. Vasudeva January 24
R'ann Purnima & PE Rtn. Deepak Sood January 24

Punctuality Draw

Won by Rtn. Salil Chopra

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