



The Midtowner

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

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Sakuji Tanaka

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Manmohan Singh

President
Ritu Singal

Secretary
Ashok Puri

Editor
Dr. V. J. S. Vohra

Volume XXXVII No. 05 Dated: July 31, 2012

PROGRAMME

Club Assembly

Presentation of Programs & Projects by
Directors/Committee Chairmen *and* Budget by Treasurer

Friday, August 03, 2012

Time: 7.00 p.m.

Venue: Hotel President, Sector 26, Chandigarh

President of India Pranab Mukherjee was our Chief Guest on 30 Dec. 1988 and 18 Nov. 1996



President of India
Pranab Mukherjee

Mr. Pranab Mukherjee was sworn-in on July 25, 2012 as 13th President of India. We have pleasant memories of his visit to our club as Chief Guest on December 30, 1988 when Rtn. D.P. Khandelia was our Club President. We were again honoured with Mr. Mukherjee's visit on November 18, 1996 when Rtn. J.L. Mahajan was our Club President and PP Rtn. Indrajit Sengupta was the Secretary. Both the meetings were held at Hotel President, owned by Rtn. B.B. Bahl. There was big applause when Mr. Mukherjee introduced himself as a Paul Harris Fellow on 30.12.1988.



Now President of India Mr. Pranab Mukherjee and President (1988-89) Rtn. D.P. Khandelia in the meeting on 30.12.1988

Photos and necessary information have been provided by PPD.P. Khandelia, PP B.L. Ramsisaria and PDG Shaju Peter.

Vol. XII No. 27 Dated 26th December, 1988

FOR ROTARIANS ONLY

MID TOWNER

DISTRICT 308

BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF CHANDIGARH MID-TOWN

R.I. PRES. RTN. ROYCE ABBEY PRES. : RTN. D.P. KHANDELIA
D.G. RTN. DR. MANMOHAN NATH SEC. RTN. MAHARAJ B. SINGH
EDITOR : PP RTN. T.S. DOABIA

Programme : Friday 30th December, 1988
Guest Speaker : Shri Pranab Mukherjee,
Ex-Finance Minister of India
Subject : Eighth Five-year Plan of India
Venue : Hotel President, Sector 26,
Chandigarh
Time : 6.30 p.m.



Mr. Pranab Mukherjee addressing the meeting on 30.12.1988. Standing behind is Sergeant at Arms (1988-89) PP Rtn. B.L. Ramsisaria



L-R: Mr. Pranab Mukherjee, PP Rtn. R.S. Chandgothia, PP Rtn. Anil Mehan, Late PP Rtn. B.S. Bindra and Ms. Amita Ramsisaria in the meeting of 30.12.1988

Induction of Rtn. B.B. Bahl, IPP Rtn. R.K. Luther and PP Rtn. Dr. Kesho R. Gupta, as members of our club, was also reported in the bulletin of December 1988



Rtn. D.P. Khandelia presents a memento to Mr. Pranab Mukherjee in the meeting on 30.12.1988. Looking on is Club Secretary (1988-89) Rtn. Maharaj Baksh Singh



President of India Pranab Mukherjee with PDG Shaju Peter (Lt.) and Club President (1996-97) Rtn. J.L. Mahajan (Rt.) during his visit to our club on 18.11.1996

Prime Minister's Concern! One Rank One Pension for Defence Personnel

In the club meeting on July 27, 2012 Guest Speaker Dr. Col. (Retd.) P.K. Vasudeva, was introduced by Rtn. Arjan Singh, who said Dr. Vasudeva turned Economist after his retirement. He served Army for 27 years and retired as a Colonel. He has done Ph.D in 'World



Col. Dr. P.K. Vasudeva

Trade Organization' (WTO). He has served several organizations including Past President: Chandigarh Management Association, Principal Director: College of Communication and Management, Bharatiya Vidya Bhawan and Senior Professor: Icfai Business School, Chandigarh, Visiting Professor: University Business School (PU), National Defence College, New Delhi and Consultant: Rajiv Gandhi

Foundation. He has received many awards and honours, including Punjab Rattan Award. He is also a Columnist and regularly writes for Indian and foreign journals. The meeting was also graced by his wife, Lt. Col. Dr. Uma Vasudeva, who has also retired from the army and takes keen interest in serving needy patients.

Col. Vasudeva expressed great resentment among the serving and retired soldiers of the defence services pertaining to their anomalies in pay and allowances and pension compared with other civil services especially the 'one rank one pension' issue of the ex-servicemen pending for the last three decades! He said Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh has constituted a committee, under the chairmanship of Cabinet Secretary, to look into one-rank-one-pay scheme of uniform pension to the armed forces personnel retiring in the same rank with the same length of service irrespective

of their date of retirement, and any future enhancement in the rates of pension be automatically passed on to earlier pensioners. Expecting a favourable announcement on this issue on August 15, 2012, Col.. Vasudeva said Prime Minister will have to rise above his bureaucratic approach to restore dignity to the men in uniform.

Col. Vasudeva talked of common pay-scale for Junior Commissioned Officers and other ranks, initial pay fixation of top rank holders, placing of all Lieutenant Generals in higher administrative grade. But he seriously observed, "A special committee of bureaucrats to look into the grievances resulting from the 6th Pay Commission, and having rejected their repeated pleas to redress their problems, is another one of the farcical games the government plays with soldiers." He added, "The soldiers are being fooled as the 2014 General Elections are inching nearer." He pointed out, "The composition of the committee ensures that no worthwhile purpose will be served by it, as neither serving nor a retired soldier has been co-opted as member and the bureaucracy may delay the results expected by the soldiers and veterans." However, on July 18, the three service chiefs, led by Admiral Nirmal Verma, Chairman Chiefs of Staff Committee (CoSC) along with his colleagues, Chief of Air Staff Air Chief Marshal NAK Browne and Army Chief General Bikram Singh gave a detailed presentation to the Committee of Secretaries.

There is huge functional problems in day-to-day affairs when military officers have to work in close co-ordination with MES Civil Officers, BRO Civil Officers, IPS Officers in BSF, CRPF, ITBP, Defence Accounts (IDAS), and Test Audit (IA&AS), Ordnance Factory Board, with whom defence forces officers interact regularly, will now get the salary and grade pay of Joint

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Secretary or Major General after 22 years of service, and will draw the pay of Additional Secretary to the Government of India, which is equal to a Lieutenant General in 32 years of service, whereas military officers senior to them in rank and service will get less grade pay at the same level of service, leading to insubordination and subtle non-compliance.

Vote of thanks was proposed by Rtn. Major General Hardev Singh, KC, AVSM (Retd). Appreciating the candid views given by Col.

P.K. Vasudeva on an important issue, and briefly sharing his experience as a senior army officer he said, "There are very poor relations between senior bureaucrats and top level defence officers and the egos are so high." He said a bureaucrat with mere 16 years of service considers himself equivalent to a Major General having 33 years of service! It is a matter of serious concern that the cream amongst young persons, including children of defence officers, do not want to join the defence forces.



Rtn. Maj. Gen. Hardev Singh presents a memento to Col. Dr. P.K. Vasudeva



Dr. P.K. Vasudeva, President Ritu Singal and Secretary A.K. Puri present birthday gift to PDG Rtn. Yoginder Diwan



Dr. P.K. Vasudeva presents wedding anniversary gift to PDC Inner Wheel District 308 R'ann Neeru Khattar and Rtn. Raj K. Khattar



Dr. P.K. Vasudeva and President Ritu Singal present birthday gift to PP Rtn. Dr. V.J.S. Vohra



Dr. P.K. Vasudeva presents wedding anniversary gift to R'ann Dr. Sudha Jain & Rtn. Dr. B.R. Jain.



Dr. P.K. Vasudeva presents birthday gift to Rtn. Gobind Khandelia



Dr. P.K. Vasudeva, President Ritu and Secretary A.K. Puri present birthday gift to Rtn. Om Prakash



President Ritu Singal and Secretary A.K. Puri give Punctuality award to PP Rtn. Prem Anand



PP Indrajeet Sengupta, R'ann Sudha Puri, PP R.S. Chandgothia and PP B.L. Ramsisaria at Night School, Sarangpur

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Distribution of Stationery items in Night School at Sarangpur

Rotarians of Rotary Club Chandigarh Midtown visited Night School, Sarangpur on 28th July 2012 to meet Brick Kiln children studying in the school. PP B.L. Ramsisaria, PP R.S. Chandgothia, PP Indrajeet Sengupta, Secretary Ashok Puri and R'ann Sudha Puri

were present there to distribute stationery items like copies, pencils, rubbers etc. from Rajasthan Parishad. In addition to Vita milk, biscuits and bananas etc. were donated by above Rotarians. (Report by: Secretary Rtn. Ashok Puri)

Acknowledged with Thanks!

Donations for Shelter Kits for Disaster Victims across India:

Superior Wiping Solution G.P.Ltd.	Rs. 2100/-
Rtn. Dr. Mrs. Anureet Kaur	Rs. 2100/-
Rtn. Dr. Col. V.K. Kapoor	Rs. 5000/-
PP Rtn. Pallav Mukherjee	Rs. 5000/-

Donations for Club Projects:

PDG Rtn. Yoginder Diwan	Rs. 3100/-
Rtn. Dr. B.R. Jain	Rs. 1100/-
Rtn. Raj K. Khattar	Rs. 1100/-
PP Rtn. Dr. V.J.S. Vohra	Rs. 1100/-

Coloured printing of this Bulletin has been sponsored by PP Rtn. D.P. Khandelia.

Peace Within!

In the first meeting of current Rotary year President Ritu Singal remarked, "Listen more and speak less as we have two ears and one tongue!" In the meeting on July 27, 2012 she said, "There should be Peace Within." People react to a particular situation differently. Giving an example of a traffic jam, she said some people would

grumble and criticize the system but there are people who would wait patiently and enjoy the music in the comfort of their car. These are the persons who have peace within, and the message she gave was that we should react to a situation peacefully and positively.

Congratulations!

Our heartiest congratulations to R'ann Indu & PP Rtn. Prem Anand, Director Vocational Services.

On 20th July 2012 their daughter-in-law Dr. Kanchan and son Vivek Anand were blessed with a daughter, Muskan. Their family is complete with a son and a daughter.

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Birthday of Spouses

R'ann Brij Bala Handa
R'ann Asha Sobti
R'ann Aruna Agarwal
R'ann Guninder Dua
Mr. Naresh K. Jain



August 05
August 05
August 08
August 09
August 09

Birthday of Rotarians

Rtn. Ashish Singla
Rtn. Ashok K. Sharma
Rtn. Mrs. Deepa Bhar



August 03
August 09
August 09

Punctuality Draw

Won by PP Rtn. Prem Anand

PDG Rtn. Shaju Peter

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