



The Midtowner



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

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Club No. 15228

www.rotarychdmidtown.org

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Deepak Sood

Secretary
Dr. Rita Kalra

Editor
Dr. V.J.S. Vohra

Volume XXXVIII No. 21 Dated: November 19, 2013

PROGRAMME

Suicide and substance abuse among Adolescent

Chief Guest: Dr. B.S. Chavan

Professor & Head, Department of Psychiatry

Govt. Medical College and Hospital, Sector 32, Chandigarh and

Joint Director, Regional Institute for Mentally Handicapped, Sector 32, Chandigarh

Friday, November 22, 2013

Time: 6.30 p.m.

Venue: Hotel President, Sector 26, Chandigarh

Assessing the Institution of the Prime Minister

In the regular meeting on November 15, 2013 President Rtn. Deepak Sood welcomed the Chief Guest, Mr. Dinesh Kumar, Associate Editor, The Tribune, Chandigarh who spoke on an interesting topic, 'Assessing the Institution of the Prime Minister'.



Dinesh Kumar

He was introduced by PP Rtn. Dr. V.J.S. Vohra. Mr. Dinesh Kumar is a journalist with over 25 years experience in his profession. His past assignments include Resident Editor of The Times of India in Chandigarh, Defense Correspondent of the Times of India in New Delhi and Punjab correspondent for Indian

Express. He began his career by reporting on terrorism in Punjab from the mid 1980s to the early 1990s. He has two MA's from England – an MA in Security Studies from the University of Hull and an MA in Conflict Resolution from University of Bradford, as a World Peace Scholar (2004-2006), sponsored by Rotary Club Chandigarh Midtown. He has researched his doctoral thesis for a PhD on India's Military Power at Monash University in Melbourne, Australia. He has been a Research Fellow at University of Maryland (US) and done an advanced course in Journalism from University of Westminster in London. He had got the British Chevening Scholarship – once each in 1996 and 1999; the Maryland Fellowship in US Foreign Policy Making in 1997 and the Australian International Postgraduate Research Scholarship.

Being a Peace Scholar of our Club, Mr. Dinesh Kumar said, "I start with a deep sense of gratitude to this club for nominating me in 2004 for the Rotary Peace Fellowship, and it has been an experience which I deeply cherish." He added, "I am grateful to The Rotary Foundation, and more specifically to Rotary Club Chandigarh Midtown, as well as to RI District 3080." He said Rotary is the oldest institution in world, and it is one of the few NGOs that took part in the formation of the United Nations.

Talking on the topic of the day, 'Assessing the Institution of the Prime Minister', Dinesh focused his talk on what one should

expect from the office of the Prime Minister, making it clear that whatever he was saying were his personal views. He said there has been tremendous turbulence in our country's politics, and lot of questions have been raised on the institution of the prime minister. He remarked, "We would like the prime minister to be strong, who delivers and formulates policies that help us to progress, and as far as possible keeps the government free from corruption. But this is not possible today."

Dinesh was highly critical about the dynastic politics being blatantly practiced in the country. He questioned, "Where is the inner party democracy? The very instrument which is to perpetuate democracy in the country, does not have democracy within their own parties!" He also discussed the elections which are based on vote bank politics, and this is dangerous. Looking at the pathetic political situation, Dinesh also gave us a thought for a change, with a remark that time has come to move on to a presidential form of government. This is the matter which has to be seriously debated.

Talking of the prime minister, Dinesh said he is honest, man of principles, a well known economist, highly educated but at the same time he has to be a great administrator, and act independently in the interest of the country.

The talk sparked off an interesting interactive discussion between Dinesh Kumar and Rotarians, who were of the opinion that it is the wisdom of the people, and the choice of the masses that elects the government, and democracy in India has been effective and positive in many ways.



Birthday boy Rtn. A.K. Sachdeva and R'ann Shradha cut the cake, along with Mr. Dinesh Kumar. Looking on are President Deepak Sood and Rtn. Sundeep Singh Sawhney



Rtn. Arjan Singh thanked Mr. Dinesh Kumar and said, "We are gratified with his presence for making us think on an important issue," and presents a memento to him. Looking on is President Deepak Sood



PP Prem Anand, Co-Chair of Microloan Committee, presents a cheque of Rs 25000 to Mrs. Hema w/o Kishan Chandra of Zirakpur, for tailoring shop. Behind her is Rtn. Ashok Puri, the Guarantor for this loan



Mr. Dinesh Kumar presents wedding anniversary gift to R'ann Lalita & Rtn. Daulat Ram Aggarwal



Dinesh Kumar presents token of appreciation to Rtn. Prof. Dr. I.S. Dua, who returned from UK recently



President Deepak Sood presents punctuality award to Rtn. Viney Aggarwal. Looking on is Rtn. A.K. Puri

Rotaractors from Mumbai attend our Meeting



Rotaractors from Mumbai with Mr. Dinesh Kumar, President Deepak Sood, Rtn. A.K. Puri and President Rtr. Kanika

President Rtn. Deepak Sood welcomed Rotaractors from RI District 3140 from Mumbai, under Youth Exchange Programme, who attended our club meeting on 15th November 2013. These young persons were Rtr. Aseem Nagar, District Secretary and Team Leader of Rotaract Club of Thane Central, Rtr. Akash Dhruv, President of Rotaract Club of Thane Suburban, Rtr. Swapnil Uchil, President of Rotaract Club of Thane North End, Rtr. Arun Kamath of Rotaract Club of New Bombay, Rtr. Aayushi Savla of Rotaract Club of Ruia College and Rtr. Natasha Keswani of Rotaract Club of SIES Sion (West).

Rtr. Kanika Sharma, President of Rotaract Club of Chandigarh Midtown was also present.

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PP Rtn. T.S. Anand

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Intercity on Rotary Foundation at Ambala on 1st December 2013

President Deepak Sood requests all Rotarians of our club to participate in the Intercity on Rotary Foundation at Ambala on 1st December 2013 at Rukhmani Devi Hall, Ambala Cantt.

Registration: Rs. 600/- (single) Rs. 1200/- (couple). For registration please contact our Office Secretary V.P. Sharma.

Rotary South Asia Literacy Summit 2013

www.rotarysals2013.org



Hotel Ashok, New Delhi on 14 & 15th December 2013.
Registration Fee for Rotarians, Spouses, Inner Wheel Members and Guests will be as follows;

For Rotaractors & Interactors		
Upto 20 Nov, 2013	21 Nov to 30 Nov, 2013	After 30 Nov, 2013
□ ₹ 5,000	□ ₹ 5,500	□ ₹ 6,000
Upto 20 Nov, 2013	21 Nov to 30 Nov, 2013	After 30 Nov, 2013
□ ₹ 2,500	□ ₹ 2,750	□ ₹ 3,000

Online Registration and Online Hotel The Ashok, booking, both are now available at; www.rotarysals2013.org/registration.shtml. The registration includes two Lunch and one Dinner, apart from the Kit.

Children's Day Celebration



Children's Day Celebration

The Rotarians and Rotaractors of Chandigarh Midtown celebrated Children's day on 14.11.2013 with children of various ages at Theater Age, Govt. Model School, Sector 24, Chandigarh. Various Fun games were played by the children and the program ended with a dance show. Snacks and cold drinks were served to all the children. Prizes were distributed to the winners by Director Youth Service Rtn.Salil Bali. Also present on the occasion for the celebrations were President Rtn.Deepak Sood, PDG Shaju Peter, Jt. Secretary Rtn. Jeetan Bhambari, President Rtr.Anjani (Rotaract Club Dev Samaj College) and President Rtr. Gaganpreet Singh (Rotaract Himalayan Range).

We congratulate President Rtr. Kanika Sharma and Secretary Rtr. Deepak of Rotaract Club of Chandigarh Midtown for arranging a wonderful show.

Rtn. Munish Jauhar organizes Blood Donation Camp

Rtn. Munish Jauhar, CEO, GrayCell Technologies Exports, organized Blood Donation Camp on 1st November 2013 in association with the Rotary and Blood Bank Society, Chandigarh. The fourth annual camp by the GrayCell Team was held in Sector 17 in the open space adjoining Neelam Theatre, next to the GrayCell office and saw a whole-hearted response from donors from all walks of life. The GrayCell CSR team worked with the Rotary team to make the camp a huge success and more than 60 units of Blood was collected on the occasion. The GrayCell Team members along with their families and friends participated enthusiastically in large

numbers and made their contribution to this noble cause.

Speaking on the occasion, Rtn. Munish Jauhar said, "I have



The blood donors



Rtn. Munish Jauhar donates blood

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been a regular donor myself since my college years and the blood donation cause is very close to my heart. We promote the noble cause of giving life by donating blood."

The active efforts of the GrayCell Team have been recognized

by the Rotary and Blood Bank Society, Chandigarh as well as the local administration with the organization being honored with the "Jewel of the Crown" award twice for Excellence for "Socially Active Unit" at e-Revolution, 2010 and 2011.

Interact Club at Kundan International School, Sector 46, Chandigarh



Rtn. Amarjit Singh gives a presentation about Interact



Rtn. Dr. Shashi Jain addressing the students

Chandigarh. Through an informative presentation Vice President Rtn. Amarjit Singh explained to the students how Interact gives students, in the age group of 12-18, an opportunity to participate in meaningful service projects while developing leadership skills and meeting new friends.

PP Dr. V.J.S. Vohra, Rtn. Salil Bali, Director Youth Service, Rtn. Dr. Mrs. Harinderjit Kaur and Rtn. Dr. Mrs. Shashi Jain, who is also the Trustee of the School, were present on this occasion. We are thankful to the Headmistress of the School, Ms. Angelina Bhagat for the courtesy and warm hospitality extended by her.

An Interact Club is being sponsored by Rotary Chandigarh Midtown at Kundan International School, Sector 46,

Birthday of Spouses

R'ann Neera Gupta
R'ann Sarita Vasudeva
R'ann Maniki Deep
R'ann Amardeep
R'ann Purnima Sood
R'ann Sushobhita Sharma



November 22
November 24
November 26
November 26
November 27
November 28

Birthday of Rotarians

Rtn. Santosh K. Khaitan
Rtn. Sanjay Singhal
PP Rtn. Subhash Bindra



November 22
November 27
November 28

Wedding Anniversary

R'ann Neena & Rtn. P.K. Verma
R'ann Parul & Rtn. Salil Bali
R'ann Gulshan & Rtn. Surjit Kumar
R'ann Sunita & Rtn. Amarjit Singh

November 22
November 23
November 24
November 28

Punctuality Draw

Won by Rtn. Viney B. Aggarwal



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