



2014-15

# The Midtowner



Weekly Bulletin of Rotary Chandigarh Midtown

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R.I. District 3080

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Editor  
Dr. V.J.S. Vohra

Volume XXXIX No. 51 Dated: June 16, 2015

PROGRAMME

Father's Day

By Family of Rotary

Rotary International Convention

By Rtn. Dr. Rita Kalra – Back from São Paulo, Brazil

Friday, June 19, 2015

Time: 7.00 p.m.

Venue: Hotel President, Sector 26, Chandigarh

## Creativity and Innovation

In our regular meeting on June 12, 2015 Chief Guest Prof. Dr. P.S. Ahuja, Former Director General, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, Govt. of India, was introduced by Rtn. Prof Dr. I.S. Dua. Dr. Paramvir Singh Ahuja took over as the Director



Dr. P.S. Ahuja

General of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) from 8 May 2014. Dr. Ahuja has been the Director of the CSIR-Institute of Himalayan Bioresource Technology (IHBT), Palampur since 1998. Acknowledged as an inspiring institution builder, Dr. Ahuja is credited with raising CSIR-IHBT from scratch to an institute of international reckoning. Born on 19 December 1952, Dr. P.S. Ahuja has an exemplary record in administrative capacity as a leader

in science and academics. He has an excellent academic record with B.Sc. and M.Sc. in Agriculture from the Punjab Agricultural University (PAU), Ludhiana and a Ph.D from the University of Nottingham as a Commonwealth Scholar during 1983. He has been a national scholarship holder throughout. He was a Post-Doctoral NSERC (Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada) Fellow at the McGill University in Montreal, Canada and has been a Visiting Scientist to the Ohio State University, Columbus, USA. During his Ph.D he has also worked at the Plant Breeding Institute, Cambridge, UK and Nuclear Research Institute at Julich in Germany. Dr. Ahuja started his career in agriculture as a Plant Breeder. Post M.Sc. he chose to work in ICAR where he studied the development of salt-tolerant varieties in wheat. Dr. Ahuja set up a modern equipped lab at CSIR-CIMAP as a result of which in 1988, he was successful in developing a transgenic plant in India. He is a Life Member of more than 15 professional bodies. He has guided 16 Ph.D students and several M.Tech/M.Sc studies. He has more than 200 Research Publications / Reviews and has delivered innumerable Academy invited lectures. He has edited two Lab Manuals and several books. He has over 20 patents and some of these are commercialized. He is a Fellow of the National Academy of Agricultural Sciences (NAAS), National Academy of Sciences, India (NASI) and the Indian National Science Academy. Dr. Ahuja has delivered reputed societal memorial lectures. He has many prestigious national awards and accolades to his credit.

Dr. Ahuja started his presentation on 'Creativity and Innovation' by

saying, "I chose this subject as it is very critical to our future. Ever since dawn of civilization and human life, mankind has had only one aspiration, and that is to take complete grasp and control of the environment in which man survives." This has led to many innovations like fire, agriculture, drums, wheels etc., which reflects the creativity of man, who has always been seeing around to adapt and innovate by using the mind. He said, "Today, we are struggling for sustainable energy. The other thing is communication in which we have undergone great revolution. When communication changes the civilization and way of life changes altogether." He further pointed out that the changes that have taken place in our lifetime have never taken place before us. We have seen these - life without roads to worldwide web, from gas lamps to Google and steamships to space shuttles.

Dr. Ahuja went on to his impressive presentation with what President Obama had said, "Spirit of innovation is key to the future." Innovation has been essential to our prosperity in the past, and it will be essential to our prosperity in the future.

We have the best-educated, highest-skilled workers in the world, a health care system that fosters innovation, building a clean energy economy and we are investing in research and development. It is only by building a new foundation that we will once again harness that incredible generative capacity to tap that potential, to ignite that spark of creativity and ingenuity which has always been at the heart of who we are and how we succeed. In simple words, innovation is, 'new ideas that work'.



PP Rtn. Harish Sethi presenting a memento to Dr. P.S. Ahuja. Looking on are President Rtn. R.T.P.S. Tulsi and Secretary Rtn. Salil Bali

Innovation is about courageous experimentation, testing new approaches, tapping into unconventional sources for insight and inspiration.

Experiments often fail, which is part of the process. When successful, they can lead to game-changing discoveries. For innovation one need not be educated or highly qualified.

Dr. Ahuja said that housewives are tremendous innovators, which was loudly applauded by all the ladies present in the meeting.

He also acknowledged that people like Steev Jobs and Bill Gates are great innovators. Essence of creativity thus, is the ability to connect previously unconnected ideas or frames of reference, whose union leads to the solution of previously unsolved problems.

One does not need to be terrifically brainy to be a good scientist.

Dr. Ahuja also talked about three powerful new technologies, that is, Information technology, Biotechnology and Nanotechnology.

The technologies of transportation and communication have compressed both time and space, thereby transforming our individual and social lives forever. The sites of power and the subjects of power are no longer physically collocated. Decisions are taken globally, and experienced locally. The next major step toward sustainable growth is to innovate and improve the value of our products and services per unit of natural resources employed. All humans have the capacity to innovate and create options for a new one sustainable world. It is a process of 'Think and Act'.

On behalf of our Club PP Rtn. Harish Sethi thanked Dr. P.S. Ahuja for his wonderful presentation.



Dr. P.S. Ahuja presents birthday gift to PP Rtn. Capt. M.S. Kahlon



Dr. P.S. Ahuja presents birthday gift to Rtn. Dr. Anil Malhotra. Looking on are President R.T.P.S. Tuli and Secretary Salil Bali



Dr. P.S. Ahuja presents punctuality award to PP Rtn. Prem Anand

## Home Care Nursing project completed



PP R.K. Luther



Ms. Reebina

Director Vocational Service PP Rtn. R.K. Luther informed that Home Care Nursing and First Aid Project, a purposeful one year training course (July 2014 to June 2015) for 22 girls has been successfully completed on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2015. This is a unique project initiated by our Charter President Dr. B.D. Gupta in the memory of his son, Dr. Vikrant Gupta

This 15 year old ongoing project is in association with our club and Inner Wheel Club of Chandigarh Midtown. The instructor, Ms. Reebina who was also trained here shared her experience, both as a student and now as an instructor. It is a very satisfying project where the young girls, having done 10+2, are trained to provide professional nursing facilities in the homes of the patients, and also earn a livelihood for themselves.

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## Cleanliness drive - Swatch Bharat Abhiyaan

On 14<sup>th</sup> June 2015 we followed up our previous visit to Sector 15 market Panchkula. We were joined by Assistant Governor Rtn. H.S. Saggi, who along with PP Rtn. Dr. S.K. Sharam led from



AG H.S. Saggi, PP Dr. S.K. Sharma, Secretary Salil Bali and DYS Salil Chopra with highly charged up team of Interactors on cleanliness drive – Swatch Bharat Swasth Bharat



the front in spreading awareness about this project. AG Saggi appreciated the efforts of our club and the team of Interactors inspired by our dynamic Director Youth Service Rtn. Salil Chopra. Secretary Rtn. Salil Bali observed, "The results were outstanding. We could find an improvement of about 80% in the market regarding the cleanliness."

## Literacy Training Seminar



District Literacy Training Seminar, Level-1 held at Jagadhri, Yamuna Nagar on 14th June 2015. L-R: Rtn. Salil Bali, PDG Shaju Peter, DGE David Hilton, IPP Deepak Sood and Rtn. Dr. Rita Kalra

## Block your dates

### Valedictory Function

at Hotel Ramada Plaza, Zirakpur  
on Saturday, 27<sup>th</sup> June 2015 at 7.00 p.m.  
Hosted by Rtn. R.T.P.S. Tulsi  
President and his Team for 2014-15  
Chief Guest: DGE David Hilton

### Installation Ceremony of

Rtn. Mrs. Kanan Diwan  
President and her Team for 2015-16  
at CII, Sector 31, Chandigarh  
on Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> July 2015 at 7.00 p.m.  
Chief Guest: PRIP Rajendra K. Saboo and Usha ji

### District Awards Function

at Hotel Best Western, Ambala  
12<sup>th</sup> Milestone, Ambala-Delhi Highway  
On Sunday, 28<sup>th</sup> June 2015  
Host: Rotary Club Ambala  
For Registration contact Secretary Salil Bali  
Single Rs. 1000/- Couple Rs. 1800/-  
Time: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., followed by fellowship and lunch

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## Rotary Global Rewards

Source: [www.eflashonline.org](http://www.eflashonline.org)

RI President elect K.R. Ravindran announced a member benefits program, Rotary Global Rewards, at the closing plenary session of the Rotary Convention in São Paulo on 9<sup>th</sup> June 2015.

The program, which launches in July, gives Rotarians access to discounts on a variety of products and services selected with their interests in mind and includes discounts on hotels, restaurants, and entertainment.

**Discounts and Special Offers:** When Rotary Global Rewards launches in July, the program will include discounts on car rentals, hotels, dining, and entertainment. More products and services from companies around the world will be added throughout the year. Check back often to see what's new in Rotary Global Rewards.

**How it Works:** Anyone can view the offers and discounts on Rotary Global Rewards. But only Rotary club members who are signed in to their My Rotary accounts can redeem them. You can access and redeem rewards from your computer, smartphone, or tablet. Create a My Rotary account now so you're ready to take advantage of the new member benefits program when it's available.



*RI President elect K.R. Ravindran*

### Recognition of new PHFs

1. Mr. Ruchir Kalra  
s/o Rtn. Dr. Rita Kalra
2. Mr. Shanti Kumar Ramsisaria  
brother of PP Rtn. B.L. Ramsisaria
3. Mr. Agastya Sahore s/o Mr. Sunil K. Sahore, office of  
Rtn. R.T.P.S. Tulsi

### Punctuality Draw:

Won by PP Rtn. Prem Anand

### Birthday of Spouses

- |                     |         |
|---------------------|---------|
| R'ann Rekha Mehan   | June 21 |
| R'ann Manmeet Arora | June 22 |
| R'ann Deep Kahlon   | June 25 |

### Birthday of Rotarians

- |                       |         |
|-----------------------|---------|
| PP Rtn. Vinod K. Jawa | June 21 |
| Rtn. Jeetan Bhambari  | June 23 |



### Wedding Anniversary

- |                                       |         |
|---------------------------------------|---------|
| R'ann Paramjeet & Rtn. R.S. Sihota    | June 19 |
| R'ann Renu & Rtn. Anil Kishore Khanna | June 24 |

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