

The Midtowner

Weekly Bulletin of Rotary Chandigarh Midtown

2015-16

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Club No. 15228
R.I. District 3080

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District Governor
David Hilton

President
Mrs. Kanan Diwan

Secretary
Sanjay Bhatia

Editor
Dr. V.J.S. Vohra

Volume XXXX No. 32 Dated: February 09, 2016

PROGRAMME

Celebration of Valentine's Day
and
Basant Panchmi

Dress Code: As per the celebrations

The Meeting
will be
followed by
fellowship

Friday, February 12, 2016

Time: 6.30 p.m.

Venue: Hotel President, Sector 26, Chandigarh

Climate Change and India



PP Prof. Dr. S.K. Sharma

In our regular meeting on February 05, 2016 PP Dr. Professor S.K. Sharma spoke on the topic 'Climate Change and India'. PP Harish Sethi, while introducing the speaker, recalled his four decade old association with Professor Sharma at Panjab University, when both were serving the university. Prof. S.K. Sharma is Professor Emeritus and former Dean University Instructions and Founder Director, Energy Research Centre Panjab

University and Chairman Chemical Engineering Department, Panjab University, Chandigarh. He has PhD degree in Chemical Engineering from Panjab University and D.A.E.T. - University of Florida, Gainesville, USA. He has been a visiting Professor at University of Florida, USA. Professor Sharma has 38 years of successful experience in academics, research, administration, technology development and transfer in the area of Energy and Environment. Professor Sharma has successfully transferred Green technologies developed by him to a number of countries in Asia and Pacific region under aegis of UNICEF, FAO, Commonwealth Secretariat and WHO. Prof. Sharma was a member of Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's advisory board. He has been awarded number of prestigious fellowship including Fulbright Fellowship and was invited by a number of prestigious universities in USA, UK and Canada. He is the past president of Indian Institute of Chemical Engineers, Member of Executive Committee of World Chemical Engineering Council and the fellow of Institution of Engineers India and a number of other prestigious professional societies. Keeping in view of his contributions in the area of science and technology, Professor Sharma has been conferred upon a number of prestigious awards such as Surya Award, B.P.Godrej Life Time Achievement Award, Prof. Dr. H.L. Roy Memorial Oration Award, Distinguished Alumnus Award of Panjab University Chandigarh, Deepak Group's Padma Bhushan Professor L.K. Doraiswamy CDS Award of Indian Institute of Chemical Engineers.

University and Chairman Chemical Engineering Department, Panjab University, Chandigarh. He has PhD degree in Chemical Engineering from Panjab University and D.A.E.T. - University of Florida, Gainesville, USA. He has been a visiting Professor at University of Florida, USA. Professor Sharma has 38 years of successful experience in academics, research, administration, technology development and transfer in the area of Energy and Environment. Professor Sharma has successfully transferred Green technologies developed by him to a number of countries in Asia and Pacific region under aegis of UNICEF, FAO, Commonwealth Secretariat and WHO. Prof. Sharma was a member of Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's advisory board. He has been awarded number of prestigious fellowship including Fulbright Fellowship and was invited by a number of prestigious universities in USA, UK and Canada. He is the past president of Indian Institute of Chemical Engineers, Member of Executive Committee of World Chemical Engineering Council and the fellow of Institution of Engineers India and a number of other prestigious professional societies. Keeping in view of his contributions in the area of science and technology, Professor Sharma has been conferred upon a number of prestigious awards such as Surya Award, B.P.Godrej Life Time Achievement Award, Prof. Dr. H.L. Roy Memorial Oration Award, Distinguished Alumnus Award of Panjab University Chandigarh, Deepak Group's Padma Bhushan Professor L.K. Doraiswamy CDS Award of Indian Institute of Chemical Engineers.

Speaking on the topic 'Climate Change and India', Prof. Sharma

said that the assembly of more than 160 heads of states from different countries of the world recently in France to finalize the climate deal shows the critical importance of this issue. If urgent measures are not taken, there will be catastrophic consequences for whole world due to climate change. Climate is defined as the long-term weather pattern in an area, which includes: type, timing and amount of rainfall and snow, humidity, sunshine hours, average wind speeds and directions, number of days above freezing, frequency of weather extremes, and local geography. Climate change, depicts the change in these parameters, as a result of influence of many interacting factors both natural and manmade. Natural factors include changes in Earth's orbit and the amount of energy coming from the sun. Ocean changes and volcanic eruptions are also natural causes of climate change. However, scientists think that recent warming can't be explained by nature factors alone and it's very likely that most of the warming since the mid-1900s is due to the burning of coal, oil and gas to produce most of the energy that we use every day. This burning adds heat-trapping gases, such as carbon dioxide, Methane etc. into the air. These gases are called greenhouse gases. The impact of these gases on climate is termed as global warming.

It has been observed that global atmospheric concentrations of carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide have increased substantially since pre-industrial period. It has been seen that eleven of the last twelve years rank among the 12 warmest years. As a result of climate change, the projected sea level rise by the end of this century is likely to be 0.18 to 0.59 metres. It is also projected by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) that the global temperatures will rise by 2-4.5°C by 2050. These, climate-induced changes in 2050 will result in the decrease in food grain yields in developing countries. In India, there will be a decrease in output ranging from 19% for irrigated rice and 34% for irrigated wheat and 27% for maize. There will be a loss of 1.5 million tons of milk by 2020. As a result, India will face serious food shortages as well as drastic fall in the agriculture income and employment. In addition, 175 million children will be affected every year due to diarrhoea, malaria and pneumonia. A one meter sea level rise could lead to displacement of 7 million persons within India and half a million hectares of land will get submerged, breeding and migration of fish will be adversely affected. Land loss due to submergence as well as due to salination will also take place.

Dr. Sharma also explained that developed countries are contemplating putting a border carbon tax based on life cycle assessment, on the import of material from developing countries on

the pattern shipping and civil aviation tax. This will have a severe impact on the exports from India. Thus, there is an urgent need for the industry to decarbonise its processes, inputs, supply chain and products.

Dr. Sharma suggested that Rotarians should reduce the carbon footprints in their households, commercial business, and travel, so as to fight the climate change, by under taking energy conservation measures and use of renewable sources of energy. PP Prof. Sharma also suggested that Rotary International should fix a carbon reduction target of few million tons of carbon reduction for its members, so as to promote sustainable development and fighting global warming. Carbon reduction projects in Rotary clubs could become a signature project of Rotary International after Polio eradication.

After the lecture there was an interactive session which generated a lot of interest amongst the Rotarians and Anns. It was suggested that there should be another talk on the subject by PP Prof. Sharma. President Kanan Diwan agreed to hold another lecture on the topic and PP Prof. Sharma agreed for the same.



National anthem by Rtn. Suman Gupta and R'ann Sudha Puri



PP Rtn. Harish Sethi introduces PP Rtn. Dr. S.K. Sharma



PP Dr. S.K. Sharma presents birthday gift to Rtn. D.K. Singh



PP Rtn. Dr. S.K. Sharma presents wedding anniversary gift to Rtn. Suman & Mr. Naresh Gupta and birthday gift to R'ann Raj Kapoor



PP Dr. S.K. Sharma presents token of appreciation to PP Rtn. Gurdip S. Deep and punctuality award to Rtn. Dr. Col. V.K. Kapoor

AGTS and SOTS at Goa – Ek Suhana Safar

Assistant Governors Training Seminar (AGTS) and Senior Officers Training Seminar (SOTS) for the Smiling Team 2016-17 was held at Bogmallo Beach Resort in Goa on 04th to 07th February 2016. Recently returned from the International Assembly at San Diego, USA, District Governor Elect Rtn. Raman Aneja and R'ann Meenu along with 58 Rotarians including spouses were there to participate in the 'Suhana Safar', a meticulous, meaningful and interesting training programme, which also included humour, fun and entertainment as we have immense talent amongst us.

The faculty comprised of District Trainer PDG Rtn. Ranjit Bhatia, District Counselor PDG Rtn. Parmod Vij, PDG Rtn. Madhukar Malhotra and PDG Rtn. Manpreet Singh Gandhoke. DGE Raman shared his experience of the International conference. A wonderful motivational presentation, 'You are Amazing', was given by Rtn. Manu Anand formerly from Rotary Club of Parwanoo, now settled in Goa.

It was a wonderful learning experience for all the delegates, a perfect blend of hectic training and fun! Appreciating the

commitment of his team, DGE Raman said, "My team is amazing. Together we can, and together we will."

In our regular meeting on February 05, 2016 President Kanan Diwan said, "I have pleasure to inform that four members from our Board of Directors have been selected by District Governor Elect Rtn. Raman Aneja to form a part of the District Secretariat 2016-17. Our heartiest congratulations and greetings to all of them for taking on the responsibility for the next Rotary year. We wish success and good luck to our Sergeant-at-Arms PP Rtn. Dr. V.J.S. Vohra, Director International Service PP Rtn. Deepak Sood, Director Community Service Rtn. Dr. Rita Kalra and Director Club Service Rtn. Salil Bali." They all attended the seminar at Goa accompanied by their spouses R'ann Indu Vohra, R'ann Purnima Sood, Dr. Sanjay Kalra and R'ann Parul Bali.

Four Rotarians of our club went to Goa but when they returned they were five! With the induction of a new member in our Club at Goa, they returned with Rotarian Dr. Sanjay Kalra.



AGTS and SOTS at Goa

Rotary Global Grant GG1635463: Application approved



PDG Manpreet Singh Gandhoke inducts Dr. Sanjay Kalra as new Rotarian of Chandigarh Midtown. Looking on are DGE Raman Aneja, Rtn. Dr. Rita Kalra and PP Dr. V.J.S. Vohra

Our Club had applied for a global grant in the month of October 2015 with an International partner, Rotary Club Anchorage (Alaska) District 5010. President Kanan Diwan is very happy to announce the approval received from the Rotary Foundation which reads as follows:-

"Congratulations! your global grant application for funding to provide toilets, access to clean water along with hygiene training for 5 schools in Chandigarh and surrounding villages, submitted by the Rotary Club of Chandigarh Midtown and District 5010, has been approved by Rotary Foundation (India) (RF(I)) and the Trustees of The Rotary Foundation. The award is in the amount of US\$ 42,000. This Letter serves as formal notification of your grant approval."

The President said, "We are indeed very grateful to PDG Shaju Peter for putting in great effort to get it through. The first priority is collection of funds. Immediately, we have to contribute our share of US \$ 6000. I am confident that with our generous donors who contribute to the Rotary Foundation year after year, we will have no difficulty in collecting this amount. I urge all of you to please contribute your bit for the noble cause."

Rtn. Sanjay Bhatia

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Teaching Students the Skill - Rtn. Salil Chopra 58 not out!



58th program of teaching students the skill

In his 58th program during the current Rotary year on 2nd February 2016 Rtn. Salil Chopra interacted with group of 70 children studying from class 1 to class 4. These small children attended the session, watched the videos, and listened to the stories very attentively. They came forward and narrated the stories shown in their own words, explaining what they had seen. According to Mr. Arun Aggarwal who is the coordinator for these children, they were better at grasping and they enjoyed the program. For his impressive performance Monu won bourn vita pack and other children enjoyed eclairs. Next session with same children for remaining part of moral values would be taken up on 8th February.

Medical camp postponed to March 06

Multi specialty and Dental Medical Camp which was reported in the previous bulletin to be held at Nevedac Prosthetic Centre, Behind Hotel Ramada Plaza, Zirakpur on Sunday 14.2.2016 has been postponed to March 06, 2016 from 10 a.m to 1 p.m. Free Check up and free medicines will be given by specialist Rotarian doctors and others to patients including disabled persons.

Birthday of Rotarians

Rtn. Dr. Manisha Sahni
IPPRtn. R.T.P.S. Tulsi



February 13
February 14


Wedding Anniversary

R'ann Urmil & PPRtn. R.K. Luther
R'ann Brij Bala & Rtn. M.K. Handa

February 14
February 18

Punctuality Draw


Won by Rtn. Dr. Col. V.K. Kapoor




District Conference (2015-16)

20th-21st February 2016

Host Club: Rotary Club Dehradun
Venue : Hotel Sun Park Inn, Dehradun




Inauguration by
HE Governor of Uttarakhand
Mr. K.K. Paul



RI President Nominee
Rtn. Ian Riseley
RI President's Representative

Registration Charges till 5th February: Pre-Conference Dinner
Rs. 950/-, Single Rs. 2500/- Couple Rs. 4500/-
Registration Charges after 5th February: Pre-Conference Dinner
Rs. 1200/-, Single Rs. 2700/- Couple Rs. 4700/-



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PDG Rtn. Shaju Peter

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PP Rtn. Er. R. K. Luther
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Design & Printed at:
Satyadeep Offset Printers (P) Ltd
292, Industrial Area, Phase II
Chandigarh. Ph.: 4624942
Email: salil.bindra@gmail.com