

*Service for  
Health*



PP Rtn. K. Shankar

The Rotary Club of Bangalore in the middle thirties, immediately after formal inauguration in 1934, went into service activities. The members were highly motivated and enthusiastic to explore the new concept and meaning of the word service. As a result outstanding service activities were evident with consistent and significant contributions to medical and health aspects.

The first major service project was the donation of a Deep X-ray Radium Plant to the Victoria Hospital, during the year 1938-39, at a cost of Rs.20,000/- . The amount was raised through a carnival organised at the Sampangi Stadium.

In 1946, the club started the Dayananda Maternity Home and Clinic at Bannerghatta for the exclusive benefit of womenfolk from

nearby villages. Besides the heavy investment needed to start the clinic, the members of the club undertook to contribute towards the expenses of running it every month.

To mark the RI Golden Anniversary the club launched an ambitious drive to collect Rs.3 lakh for a 100 bed T.B.Ward at SDS Sanatorium. The building was completed in 1956-57, and RI President Juan Paulo Lang unveiled a plaque at the Rotary TB Ward, in commemoration of his visit.

In 1959, The Silver Jubilee of the club was commemorated by setting up the Seva Ashrama Dispensary at Sriramapuram. This dispensary was handed over to Deena Seva Sangha for day-to-day running. A panel of Rotary doctors attended the dispensary regularly and a drug bank established to provide free medicines to the patients.

The Rotary Anns organised a Handloom Fashion Show Parade, the proceeds of which, along with a donation of Rs.10,000/- by Rtn.

V.S.Natarajan, helped in constructing the dispensary. A building for Family Planning Centre was added in 1963.

An innovative life saving project Emergency Oxygen Service to meet the needs of the needy community was inaugurated in 1965 by the Governor of Mysore, His Excellency Shri V.V.Giri. Rotary became capable of meeting at least 100 emergency cases, at a time, that needed oxygen.

The club set up the outpatient ward of the Sri Venkateswara ENT Clinic at the Victoria Hospital. The club incurred an expenditure of Rs.25,000/- in the year 1970.

Ambulance Vans were donated to St. Martha's Hospital in 1973 costing Rs.45,000/- and also in 1986-87 at a cost of Rs. 1.03 lakh. Mobile Medical Van costing Rs.56,000/- to Anantha Seva Ashrama Trust, Malladihalli in Chitradurga District.

## Health

In 1975 opened a Blood Donation Centre at St. Martha's Hospital in commemoration of the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Rotary, to benefit both private and government hospitals. The programme was conceived by Rtn. P.T.Kasturi and the first blood collection for the centre was arranged at the Rotary House of Friendship on 22nd February 1975.

During 1984-85 a Burns Ward at Chinmaya Mission Hospital and Voluntary Blood Bank by Bangalore Medical Services Trust were inaugurated. Brooke Bond India donated a Mobile Van for collection of blood.

The club set up a Bloodbank in coordination with Sushrutha Medicare Trust of India at Malleswaram, Bangalore. Required equipment was provided through a Matching Grant from Rotary Club of Burlington, Iowa, USA.

Club's major project was The Rotary-TTK Blood Bank. The Golden Jubilee Project of the Club - Rotary TTK Blood Bank - was inaugurated on 21<sup>st</sup> December 1991 at New Thippasandra by R.I.President Rtn. Raja Saboo and Ann. Usha Saboo. Mrs. Lata and Mr. Jagannathan of TTK Group were specially thanked by R.I.President for their co-operation in undertaking this project - an example of exemplary dedication for a humanitarian cause.

In 1992-93 a medical clinic at Gundur Village was a project in association with Inner Wheel Club of Bangalore and Rural Trust of Admar Mutt.

Rotary Muthappa Attavar Memorial Hospital at Channasandra Village near Uttarahalli was constructed with the club's contribution of Rs.15 lakh.

In 1994-95 equipped a Rural Hospital at Sonahalli with medical equipment worth Rs.1 lakh. It serves about 5000 people in several villages around the Hospital.

Establishment of a Dental Clinic was completed at Manali, H.P. Under the Matching Grant Project the latest model of cell separator was added at BMST, in 1995 and equipment for Organ Transplant in 1996.

A Mobile Laser Eye Unit received under a Matching Grant partnered by RI District 3310, Singapore and RI District 9750 Sydney, Australia. The cost of this Diode Laser Unit is Rs.13 lakh.

12 Dialysis machines were donated to private hospitals in 2000. A matching project with Rotary Ankare, Turkey an Eye Bank was installed at Mahaveer Jain Eye Bank at a cost of Rs.20 lakh.

Cleft Palate Correction Project, a Matching Grant Project, at a cost of US

\$11,000/- and St. John Medical College Hospital was carried with the help from the partner RC Gauting, Germany.

Medical Camps, Blood Donation Camps, Cataract Surgeries are being held every year by the club.



Dr. Latha Jagannathan

## Bangalore Medical Services Trust History

TK & Co had been supporting the Madras Voluntary Blood Bank run by my sister-in-law, Shanthi Ranganathan for several years. It was not really a blood bank, but a voluntary blood donor service with a great database of voluntary donors to support the blood needs in Madras. My friends Malathi Aiyar, Lalli Srimurthy and I started a similar, and much needed service in Bangalore, the Bangalore Voluntary Blood Bank in September 1983.

One day a couple of months later, I got a call from Rtn. Radhe Agarwal. He said, "My friend Rtn. P.T. Kasturi wants to meet you to discuss a collaborative project to set up a blood bank in Bangalore. Latha, come for tea. Maya will make chaat for you"

It was too tempting an offer and Jagu & I met Kasturi for the first time that day. It was the beginning of the long and

very fruitful association between Rotary Club of Bangalore and TTK & Co. It was also the beginning of a beautiful friendship with the Kasturis.

Along the way Jagu & I have had the fortune of making several Rotarian friends. We but miss terribly the three people we were closest to and who contributed so much to BMST, Kasturi, Arun Kumar and Capt. Mani.

For the first few years the blood bank was working out of the office of TTK & Co., in Cunningham Road. The appeal by the Rotary Club of Bangalore to the Government of Karnataka for land and the tireless efforts of Rotarians was successful and the Community Amenity site was allotted to BMST in Thippasandra, HAL III stage. Several individuals and organizations donated money as well as in kind and the building was completed in 1992. The first set of the state-of-the-art equipment was made possible with a 3H grant of US \$100,000.00 and Rotary Bangalore-TTK Blood Bank became the second blood bank in

Bangalore, the first being St. Johns Hospital, with blood component facility.

Several other Rotary clubs and Rotarians have supported Rotary Bangalore TTK Blood Bank. They have arranged voluntary blood donation camps, most notably the Rotary Clubs of Bangalore & Indiranagar, others have supported with funding for expansion and soon.

From a small beginning of around 5000 units of blood collected in 1984, we have grown to 25,000 units collection per year. For the last more than 8 years we have been collecting blood from voluntary donors only. Thanks to this huge success goes to Mrs. Lakshmi Ravichandran, a Trustee of BMST who works 24 X 7 to arrange for voluntary blood donation camps and to look after donor welfare.

Last but not least, a big "THANK YOU" to our blood donors and donor organizations, and to all the people who have made BMST possible.

#### **Bangalore Medical Services Trust (BMST)**

##### **Introduction & Services provided**

Bangalore Medical Services Trust (BMST) was established by the Rotary Club of Bangalore and the manufacturing company TTK & Company in 1984, as a 'Public Charitable Trust'. It was initially set up to provide blood-banking services and has evolved over time to include other laboratory facilities, services, training and research.

BMST is a Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO), operating on a not-for-profit basis for the good of the community. BMST has been granted 'Approval under Section 80G (5)(vi) of the Income Tax act, 1961'. Therefore donations to the organisation are tax-deductible.

The approximately 12,000 sq ft building is constructed on a plot of land donated by the Government of Karnataka at Thippasandra. Rotary Club of Bangalore, TTK & Company, corporate & individual donors mobilized the funding support for the building.

##### **Rotary Bangalore-TTK Blood Bank**

Rotary Bangalore-TTK Blood Bank, the first project of BMST, received equipment for blood component separation & storage, screening for infectious diseases and pre-transplant (HLA) testing, through the 3-H grant and several matching grants from the Rotary Foundation, several Rotary Clubs all over the world and other philanthropic organizations &

individuals. For its management & administration, it is generously supported by TTK & Co., a leading industrial conglomerate of South India.

Rotary Bangalore-TTK Blood Bank is licensed by the Central Drugs Standard Control Organization of India (CDSCO).

Rotary Bangalore-TTK Blood Bank, BMST

New Thippasandra Main Road, HAL III Stage, Bangalore – 560 075

Telephone: 91-(80) 2528 7903/ 2529 3486 Fax: 91-(80) 2520 2714

E-mail:

[rotaryttk@bangaloremedical.org](mailto:rotaryttk@bangaloremedical.org)

Website: [www.bangaloremedical.org](http://www.bangaloremedical.org)

Working hours: 24 hrs of the day, through the year

##### **Services provided by Rotary Bangalore-TTK Blood Bank:**

Blood collection from Voluntary Blood Donors

The original and primary purpose of the Rotary Bangalore-TTK Blood Bank is to supply safe blood and blood products. An important objective is to promote voluntary blood donation, as a key contributor to blood safety. Blood is collected from voluntary donors only at voluntary blood donation camps held at industries, colleges and other organizations after motivational drives.

Our total donor database from 1992 is more than 1,00,000. But details, which have been worked out from our computerized database from 2006 to 2009 shows the following trend.

Our donors are 100% voluntary, young -87% are between 18 to 35 years of age, 96% are males, a majority are from the IT industries and therefore well educated and well informed and around 30% are repeat, regular donors. Because of this the incidence of HIV and Hepatitis in the donated blood is less than 0.05% as compared to the National average of around 1%.

#### **BMST creates history!**

The Rotary Bangalore- TTK blood bank has been awarded the Karnataka State Award for "Highest Collection from Voluntary Blood Donors" every year since 2003. This stands testimony to our dedication and commitment to

providing safe blood to patients from all over Karnataka!

#### **Testing for Transfusion Transmissible Infections**

Every unit is screened for the mandated infectious diseases like Syphilis, Hepatitis B & C, HIV1&2 and Malarial Parasite. A stringent quality system combined with the use of the most sensitive, latest generation testing kits results in world-class quality blood banking and related services in Karnataka.

#### **Blood Component preparation & Issue**

More than 80% of the blood collected is separated into Red Cells, Platelets, Fresh Frozen Plasma and Cryoprecipitate to optimize use and ensures that 3 to 4 patients benefit from each unit of blood. Single donor platelet concentrates & otherpheresis products are also prepared by the apheresis procedure.

These blood components are issued to individual patients from all over

Karnataka and from neighboring states based on requests from the hospital / clinician, after blood grouping and pre-transfusion testing. Blood components are also issued in bulk to our Blood Storage Centres in several Hospitals in and around Bangalore. Excess plasma is sent for fractionation to an authorized and licensed fractionation centre for production of Factor VIII, Albumin, Immune Globulins, etc.

#### **Free & subsidized blood components for the poor**

Blood is issued free to patients but service charges for the processing, testing etc. are collected. For patients from Government hospitals and patients from low socio-economic background, even the service charges are either totally or partially waived.

#### **PDG P.T. Kasturi, HLA laboratory**

This is named after late Rotarian PDG P.T. Kasturi, the visionary founding trustee and Chairman of BMST. It provided HLA typing, tissue matching and antibody screening tests required for solid organ and bone marrow transplantation for patients in all hospitals in Karnataka.

#### **Stem Cell Registry-India**

The operation and promotion of a Stem Cell Donor Registry was initiated in 2008, as part of a National Public-Private partnership project of the Armed Forces, Voluntary blood centres and voluntary blood donor organizations all over India. In the past one year, around 4000 people have registered as voluntary Stem Cell donors to support patients requiring Bone Marrow Transplant.

#### **Other services offered by BMST**

##### **Rotarian Arun Kumar Transfusion centre**

A day care, transfusion service is provided where blood components are given totally free every month for about 100 patients with thalassemia, hemophilia and other hematological disorders needing regular, repeat transfusions. The centre is named after late Rotarian Arun Kumar, one of the founding trustees of BMST

##### **Molecular Biology Laboratory**

In December 2003, the India-Canada Collaborative HIV/AIDS Project (ICHAP), a project of University of Manitoba, Canada and Karnataka State AIDS Prevention Society (KSAPS)

identified BMST to set up a laboratory to screen for Sexually Transmitted Infections by Nucleic Acid Testing (NAT) methods. This HIV/AIDS control program, now renamed Karnataka Health Promotion Trust (KHPT), has funding from the Gates Foundation as well.

Family Health International, as part of their HIV/AIDS programs in Africa & India, set up the Dual Kinetic Assay Laboratory at BMST in 2005, for STI screening as also at National AIDS Research Institute (NARI), Pune and the National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad.

##### **The community outreach services**

The Community Services Department of BMST offers donor disclosure, counseling and referral services for the donors who test positive for HIV, HBV or HCV in the screening tests.

BMST has been engaged in imparting Life Skills based preventive education related to sexual abuse, substance abuse, STDS and HIV/AIDS. Starting

as a support service in 1993 to educate potential blood donors on Transfusion Transmissible Infections such as HIV/AIDS, the services of this department grew steadily to include fully fledged programmes on general Life Skills education for school children, awareness and prevention of substance abuse and sexual abuse. In 1994 UNESCO and Levis Strauss Foundation sponsored BMST's first manuals developed to educate school children on life skills. It also dealt with issues related to reproductive health, STDs and HIV/AIDS in an age-specific and culture sensitive manner in higher classes. Recognising the value of these BMST programmes, the DSERT (Department of State Education, Research & Training, Government of Karnataka) collaborated with BMST between 2003

to 2006, to implement the 'Family Life, Values and Life Skills' school programmes in six districts of Karnataka. BMST was also selected as the NGO partner for Bangalore and surrounding districts by KSAPS (Karnataka State AIDS Prevention Society) and UNICEF for implementing the School AIDS Education Programme from 2003 to 2006. Based on the rich experience in the field and the needs expressed by young people, BMST then developed the 'Life Is Precious' series of manuals and interactive CDs on HIV/AIDS. These have been lauded by the DG, NACO and recommended for use in all AIDS education programmes.

Commitment to the participatory approach with the community being addressed has led to BMST's Community Services Department constantly revisiting its strategies and scope of work. Thus, in response to the community's need and supported by TTK-LIG Limited, BMST extended

the reach of its AIDS Education Programmes in 2007 to cover the workplace populations too. Urged by the success of the programmes in colleges and workplaces, BMST has now produced the second series of "Life Is Precious" based on Gender Awareness and Reproductive Health Education. These past efforts have been supported by TTK-LIG Limited and HIVOS, a Netherlands based funding agency.

All this has led to great laurels for BMST, as we have been invited to three International AIDS conferences in 2007, 2008 and now 2009, to share and present our successful and scalable programmes being run for youth and workplace populations.

**Education & Training:** BMST provides education, training, capacity

building, technical know-how, expertise and support in the areas of Blood Banking and Transfusion Services; QC/QA in blood banking; HLA; STD and HIV/AIDS; Control of Hospital Infections and Biohazard Waste Disposal; and other related topics.

BMST has been recognized as a center to offer training by the following organizations:

WHO, UNESCO

National & State AIDS Control Organization, Government of India

Drugs Control Department, Government of India

Department of Health and Family Welfare, Government of Karnataka

Department of Education, Government of Karnataka

#### **Research & Development**

Several research projects are carried out in the areas related to the work done at BMST.

#### **Rotary Bangalore-TTK Blood Bank, Bangalore Medical Services Trust**

##### **VISION**

To become a centre of excellence in providing services in Blood Banking and Transfusion and Immunohematology

##### **Quality Policy**

The Quality Policy of the Rotary Bangalore-TTK Blood Bank, Bangalore Medical Services Trust, is to meet the defined needs of the community for safe blood products and related services by following high standards of operations as per national and international guidelines.

In pursuit of quality in blood banking services, Rotary Bangalore-TTK Blood Bank will:

Collect blood from voluntary non-remunerated blood donors only, a key contributor to blood safety.

Continually review and improve quality processes to achieve higher standards.

Encourage learning and up-gradation of skills of all personnel.

Treat donors, patients and their relatives with utmost courtesy and empathy.

##### **Social responsibility Policy**

In pursuit of our commitment to social responsibility Rotary Bangalore-TTK Blood Bank will:

Provide free/subsidized blood and services to patients from low socio-economic strata.

Provide Donor disclosure, counseling and referral services



*Late Rtn. P.T.Kasturi*

*We pride ourselves in reproducing a report by Late Rtn. P.T. Kasturi who spearheaded our Rotary Club of Bangalore & TTK Blood Bank, which is a landmark in Bangalore today.*

Our Club is going all out to complete the BMST project at the earliest. You know that several programmes have been formulated and given wide publicity. The Rotator has taken note of the enthusiasm and hence is re-producing below the article published on May 30, 1986.

The Bangalore Medical Services Trust, our club's Blood Bank project in collaboration with TTK Group of Companies, has made a tremendous impact in 1986. In the first four months, we have collected an incredible 2,333 bottles of blood, of which 150 donors were picked and sent for emergencies at various hospitals. Heartiest congratulations to all the donors, who

have saved several lives in 1986.

Fellow Rotarians, you are aware of the creation of the BMST – a Rotary Club of Bangalore – TTK project in connection with the Golden Jubilee Celebration of our Club's charter. Since 1984, we have made significant progress. Some of the highlights are as follows:

1. A site measuring 10,000 sq. ft. has been acquired in HAL II stage (a posh locality) for the construction of our dream - Blood Bank.
2. A foolproof Blood Bank with a Doctor and assistants is functioning at Imperial Court, Cunningham Road.
3. Motivation of donors has been increased and as a result, we have crossed the 2,000 mark in the first 4 months in 1986 – a great effort and record indeed!!
4. A great decision is taken by the Board Elect (1986-87) of our Club to direct serious efforts to complete the constructions of the Blood Bank and equip the same with all modern gadgets

before June '87, to serve our community round the clock. A special committee has also been formed to get this project completed, under the chairmanship of Rtn. Capt. V.V.K.Mani.

#### **Why is the pucca building and equipment necessary?**

Most modern technology is available today in the collection, storage and transfusion of blood. Many a times, where only a particular component of blood is necessary for a patient, we offer the whole blood- reason being that we do not have blood separators and other necessary equipments. Storage again could be improved vastly, so that the precious blood collected gets used properly. Only in Chandigarh in our country, a most modern bank is operating successfully. It is our desire that Bangalore should have one such bank (if not better) so that the yawning gap between demand and supply could be bridged.

## *Rotary - TTK Creates History!!*

*(Reproduced from 'The Rotator', No.5, August 1, 1986)*

### **Why Rotary Club of Bangalore?**

Because, it was we, who almost initiated the concept of voluntary blood donation in the state through The Indian Red Cross Society way back in 1973! Our first camp yielded only 19 bottles. But, from that humble beginning, we have grown and have been responsible for enlisting over 10,000 donors to date! Above all, this seems to be the crying need of the hour!!

### **Why BMST?**

Rotary as a service organisation cannot run an on-going project like the Blood Bank. It requires a continuous establishment and an efficient administration. It is our good fortune that the TTK Group of Companies came forward to join hands with us in this project. They will run the bank



when once we handover the building and equipment. We have our Club's representatives on the Trust, to monitor the activities. The average monthly expenditure for TTK is estimated at around Rs.25,000/-. Is it not a very generous offer, my dear Fellow Rotarians?

#### **Why this proposal for a Bank ?**

Establish the blood bank and supply blood FREE of cost to all those who cannot afford to buy blood from commercial blood banks. Even from those who can afford, we will expect only a VOLUNTARY contribution. NOT A DROP of blood will be wasted with improved storage facilities as well as separators. We propose to install the first computer in the country in this field.

#### **Service round the clock!**

Do you need anything more? We welcome suggestions.

#### **What is needed?**

What else? MONEY, MONEY AND MONEY!! The entire project is expected to cost around Rs.15 lakh. We have already collected around Rs.4 lakh. We have paid Rs.1.25 lakh towards the site and Rs.1.30 lakh towards a blood mobile for outstation camps. We need Rs.11 lakh more.

Gentlemen, here is a humanitarian cause. Here is an opportunity for you to extend your helping hand. Here is a generous partner to us in the successful operation of the project.

Here is the most crying need waiting to bridge by large-hearted people like you.

Here is a group of your fellow Rotarians, who have come forward to dedicate their time, energy and money to complete this project.

Here is the performance of BMST before you – over 2,000 bottles in 4 months!!

Here is the support by the Government of Karnataka through their generous offer of land.

What is not here at the moment is money. Please be generous when you are approached for this project! You will never regret this donation!

#### **Dist. 753 Joins BMST Band Wagon**

R.I.Dist.753 (West Virginia) was teamed with our District for the GSE Programme of 1986-87. The team from Dist.753, with Rtn.Bill Collins as the leader, established an excellent spirit of fellowship and rapport with Rotarians of our District. Our GSE team which visited Dist.753 further strengthened the bonds of friendship.

It was in this context that PDG P.T.Kasturi's visit to District 753, in February 1987, laid a firm foundation for their involvement in our Blood Bank Project. District Governor Gary E.Larson took the initiative to collect

funds for the project.

The following reproduction from the Governor's News letter (Dist.753) of March 1987 will be of immense interest to all of us.

#### **Blood Bank for Bangalore, India**

Last July, 1986, I appointed Dr. Paul Getty, of the Kingwood Club, to be Chairman of the special projects Committee. I further charged the committee to look for an international project for Dist.753. The following is a report from Dr.Getty.

The following challenging projects in Bangalore, India has been brought to our attention through correspondence with our matched District 319 and

through the contacts made by Bill Collins leader of our Group study Exchange Team to District 319 in Bangalore, India

On February 18 and 19, 1987, Mr. P.T.Kasturi, heading up the Blood Bank Project in Bangalore, spoke at several Clubs in District 753. Weirton, Morgantown, Kingwood and Terra Alta. This representative from India is the past District Governor of District 319.

The project is to build a modern blood bank for Bangalore, India, a city of four million people. There is an appalling shortage of blood at the present and many people lose their lives daily from the lack of blood. Present demand is 2,500 units per month and less than 1,000 units are available. The Blood Bank would have modern equipment such as refrigerated centrifuges and plasma separators.

The total cost of the project is US \$150,000. District 753 is accepting a share of this project. We are in the process of applying for a grant from Rotary International that would equally match each dollar we give. I suggest that District 753 raise \$15,000 for a total of \$30,000.

The Bangalore Blood Bank has already been endorsed by Rotary International Past President, Dr. Carlos Consecu. He laid the cornerstone for the blood bank on April 28, 1985.

The equipment needed is a listed below. If anyone knows of used or new items that we could get at a reduced rate please contact either myself, Dr. Paul Gretty or DG Gary Larson.

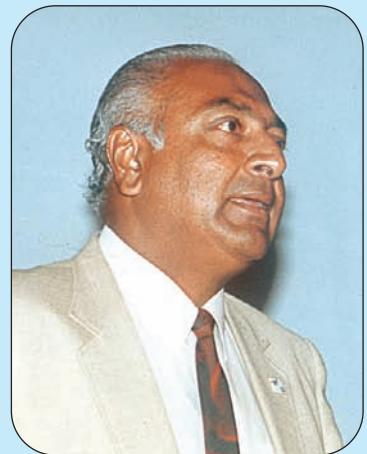
Refrigerated Centrifuge maintain 4 deg. C while running speed up to 4000 P.P.M. handle both bags or bottles. Technician to aid in installation.

- 200 bottles, about 450 ml that can be reused

- Fenwell Plasma Extractor -10 Nos
- Deep Freezer to maintain -30Deg. Centigrade

We have contacted Mr. Luke Hingson of Brother's Brother, Pittsburgh, Pa., to help us in finding either new or used equipment.

Now, we understand that contribution from dist. 753 is US\$20,000 with a matching grant from RI. Total funds available are US \$40,000.



Late Rtn. P.T.Kasturi

## *Rotary - TTK Blood Bank The Great Project of the Rotary Club of Bangalore*

*(Reproduced from 'Diamond Years' 1934 - 1994)*

I have myself written several articles on the above project and it has never made me tired of writing about this again and again. The simple reason is this. This project was conceived by a few Rotarians of our Club and by the constant and tireless persuasion of a few, became a reality and today, the Rotary-TTK Blood Bank is serving thousands of people in our community, who are direly in need of Blood and its components.

The Rotary-TTK Blood Bank has become extremely popular not only for its courteous service round the clock, but also for its massive attempt to educate all sections of the community against the dreadful disease, AIDS. ACTION AIDS INTERNATIONAL has recognized the Rotary-TTK Blood Bank to propagate this message to the various cross-sections of our community and we are carrying out a Herculean task in this direction,

through audio, video and personal lectures at various places. I am extremely proud to record that the Rotary-TTK Blood Bank has not turned down even one single request for blood or its components ever since this great project was dedicated by the Rotary Club of Bangalore to its community.

All of us are well aware of what has been going on in the Blood Bank. I want to update you with a few things that we did in the last one year and what we propose to do in the next one year.

### **What we did:**

1. We conducted 2 Hi-Tech Seminars on Haematology inviting experts on the subject from all over the country to educate the local Doctors on the intricacies of blood donation, transfusion as well as the latest developments in the field of haematology. The target audience were surgeons, physicians as well as General Practitioners and we had a very enthusiastic registration all over a 100 Doctors for this seminar conducted at

the Blood Bank premises.

2. Conducted an Exhibition with a lot of information on the dreadful disease, AIDS. Various Schools and Colleges were targeted for this programme and we can proudly say that this vulnerable section of our community is now well on its way to understand and guard against AIDS.

### **What we Propose to do:**

1. We propose to organize a most modern library on Haematology with reference books, which are popular in this subject, so that any one who would like to expand his knowledge on the subject can come over to our Blood Bank.
2. To install CELL SEPARATOR, particularly to cater to the needs of leukaemia patients. This project is expected to cost approximately Rs.17.5 lakh and our Rotary Club with the help of another Rotary Club in Detroit as the Rotary Foundation expects to raise the necessary funds and

complete this project in the next 3 months. This will be an addition of a great feather in our cap because we will, probably, be the second or third location in this vast city of Bangalore having a Cell Separator in use.

3. We also intend air conditioning the A R U N K U M A R B L O O D TRANSFUSION CENTER in the first floor as well as our laboratory in the ground floor, to make it absolutely dust-proof and safe. As of now, our Blood Bank is maintained spotlessly clean and we intend carrying on the same traditions even after the above-mentioned additions.

This, in short, is the progress we have made in the last one year and this project has never made me tired of doing more and for the needy because our concept has been translated into excellent action through the wonderful

services of our partners, the TTK Group of companies. May I also add that we are truly appreciative of the very deep involvement of Dr. Latha Jagannathan, the Managing Trustee, who spends almost 12 hours in the Blood Bank every day planning and executing everything that is necessary for an ideal Blood Bank. God bless our efforts.





**Rtn. Vanita Singh**

## *A Brief on Rotary TTK Blood Bank*

### **Full Address**

Rotary – TTK Blood Bank  
New Thippasandra Main Road,  
HAL III Stage, Indiranagar,  
Bangalore – 560075.  
Contact number: 91-80-25287903 /  
25287907 / 2529386

### **Working hours**

24 hour

### **Working days**

365 days in a year

### **Availability**

Whole blood and components.

### **Charges**

Rs. 700 per unit of whole blood.  
Rs.600 per unit of component  
Rs.400 Patient from government  
hospital  
Free of cost for poor (Revisable)

Blood Bank chief: Dr. Latha  
Jagannathan

➤Voluntary Members: Ms. Lakshmi  
Ravichander and Dr. Latha  
Jaannathan

➤Emergency cross matching time:  
30-60 minutes

➤Computer and Internet facility  
available: Yes

### **Rotary TTK Blood Bank:**

This project was conceived by a few Rotarians of Rotary Club of Bangalore and by the constant and timeless persuasion of late Rtn. PDG P.T. Kasturi became a reality and today the Rotary – TTK Blood Bank is serving thousands of people in our community who are direly in need of Blood and its components. A voluntary blood bank started by TTK Group and managed by young ladies from the office of TTK group joined hands with the Rotary Club of Bangalore under the leadership of late PDG. P.T.Kasturi establishing a Rotary TTK Blood Bank.

Blood Bank has a special lab, the first-of-its-kind in India, for Dual Kinetic Assays' to test for sexually

transmissible diseases. It was set up at a cost of Rs. 35 lakh by Family Health International. This lab will study the prevalence of incidence of sexually transmissible infections (STI) in the Southern States as a part of their HIV / AIDS project. Only two other such labs will be coming up in India, one in Hyderabad and the other at National AIDS Research Institute (NARI), Pune.

Banks blood collection in the year 2005 is around 15,500 units compared to 12,500 units in 2004. The number of voluntary blood donation camps help in 2005 was 220 compared to 188 in 2004. Blood Bank was awarded the first by the Karnataka State Blood Transfusion Council for the highest collection of voluntary donors for the year 2004 (third consecutive year).

Blood, as the only transporter of Oxygen in the body, is crucial in saving lives. Shortage of required blood group can stop certain operations/treatments. Getting the right blood group at the right time is the greatest challenge. Blood banks are our only hope under such circumstances. Blood banks constantly trawl for voluntary blood donors and collect blood. They also take up the responsibility that the blood stored and supplied by them is pure and safe, free of any life threatening bacteria or virus.

Voluntary Donation is the only way through which the supply at a blood bank is replenished. Blood of a voluntary donor is safer and better than that of a person who donates blood for money. Blood banks do not pay any donors. But they charge money for every unit of blood they supply. This is

to cover the cost of collection, testing, storage and other overheads involved (like rent of the building, electricity charges, and staff salary).

As human cells live on oxygen, the importance of the vital fluid that carries it to every single cell in the human body cannot be undermined. Blood not only carries the raw material required for metabolism, it also carries the waste generated as the result of metabolism. Blood, after passing through the kidney, purges our body of all the toxics. If any tissue is deprived of blood for a longer duration, tissue may weaken or even die. This is the reason why blood clots or hemorrhages may sometimes prove to be fatal.

#### **Methodology of Blood Collection**

Various procedures of blood collection, component separation and storage:

Blood is collected in units of 350ml. shelf life of blood and their component is very short. Components are stored between -75 and 35 degrees centigrade. Shelf life of some of the components is

as below (after following stringent storage guidelines)

- ☒ Platelet Concentrate – 5 days
- ☒ Platelet Apheresis – 5 days
- ☒ Platelet Rich Plasma – 5 days
- ☒ Packed cells – 35 days
- ☒ Fresh Frozen Plasma – 1 year
- ☒ Cryo Anti Hemophilic Factor – 1 year
- ☒ Cryo Poor Plasma – 5 years

Few components are separated with the help of centrifugal force. If a component is not utilized within the period specified above, it may be wasted. Under such circumstances, blood is sent for fractionation (further splitting of blood components) to countries like Korea and Australia. Injections are manufactured from the separated components. Blood bank has most of the basic equipment required one walk – in refrigerator (another of higher capacity is being set up), 2 machines to separate blood components, two Aphaeresis

machines. (Aphaeresis is a procedure during which the blood goes to the aphaeresis machine, which removes the selected blood components/cells. The rest of the blood is returned back to the donor.)

#### **Bangalore Medical Services Trust & Research Institute**

##### **Blood Bank**

The Rotary-TTK Blood Bank collects blood from voluntary donors and issues it to patients across Karnataka as well as in neighboring states after meticulous screening for syphilis, malaria, hepatitis B & C and HIV I & II. To make sure that all collected blood is completely free of any Transfusion Transmissible Infection (TTI), the most stringent Quality Control components prepared at the Blood Bank undergo regular Quality Checks.

The blood bank focuses on blood component therapy for optimum use of blood. It also offers pre-transfusion, blood grouping and compatibility tests, and the laboratory is equipped with the latest technology to carry out cross matching analysis. Documentation is computerized and the blood bank has dedicated software for it.

Committed to setting up systems which ensure that everybody has access to safe blood, BMST provides technical know-how and support to other organizations as well, for instituting blood banking and transfusion services. Its training programme includes correct techniques and procedures for screening, collection, transfusion, collection, transfusion, and quality assurance. It also offers advisory services to doctors and clinical use of blood and safe transfusion practices.

We thank the hospitals that refer their patients' blood needs to us. This testimony to our high quality blood testing and screening, and the demand for blood from the Rotary TTK Blood Bank has led us to establish our Satellite Blood Storage Centers at 10 hospitals so voluntary blood donors to make this possible.

**Charges for blood donation are as follows:**

For private hospitals

₹Whole blood Rs. 700/-

₹Components Rs. 600/-

For government hospitals

₹Whole blood Rs. 400/-

₹Components Rs. 400/-

Rotary TTK, Bangalore has recently opened centralized Nucleic Acid Testing Technology (NAT). Dr Latha Jagannathan Medical Director and Managing Trustee Rotary TTK Blood Bank endorses that "We believe it is our duty to ensure blood safety as the patient has a right to expect it, and the

medical fraternity has an obligation to create awareness on this crucial subject." NAT takes Blood Safety in Bangalore to global standards by reducing transmission of HIV and hepatitis.

NAT is a recently developed technology that allows detection of very small amounts of genetic material (DNA or RNA) by a process of massive copying (amplification) of a gene fragment. Currently, donors of blood and plasma are tested for Hepatitis B surface antigen, antibodies to HCV, and antibodies to HIV and sometimes HIV-1 antigens, which are the virus' own proteins. However, there is still a 'window period' during which a donor can be infected but have negative screening tests.

With the use of Individual Donor Testing (IDT) NAT for HCV, the 'window period' for detection of HCV is reduced by 67 days (from an average of 72 days to 5 days). For HIV-1, the average window period with antibody tests is 22 days. Antigen testing cuts the window period to approximately 16 days and NAT further reduces this period to 5.6 days. Given the high percentage of first time and replacement donors, it is likely that adding NAT to the current screening tests will have a very significant reduction in Transfusion Transmitted Infections making our blood safer.

# *RCB & Blood Donation*





## Voluntary Blood Movement

*Rtn. M.R.Doraiswamy Iyengar  
(Reproduced from DIAMOND YEARS' 1934-94)*

Blood is a natural substance and has no substitute. Therefore the importance of blood donation as a social responsibility to save the lives of fellow human beings cannot be underestimated. The Rotary Club of Bangalore has been a pioneer in the field of blood donation movement and also in starting Blood Banks to serve the community.

The requirement of blood in large cities like Bangalore is very high considering the growth of the city, number of accidents, various planned surgeries, chronic cancer patients, and persons who require blood under general anemic conditions, delivery cases and discharge of blood during accidents.

The necessity of blood arises both in times of war and peace. There is a lot of effort being put by various voluntary organizations in blood donation movement, collection of blood, storage and transfusion of blood and in

matching the supply of blood versus demand. Though the whole movement is still in an infant stage and therefore very little is done, it is hoped that in the years to come there will be a better co-ordination among various voluntary agencies, hospitals, nursing homes, etc., in the collection of blood and its better utilization without blood being wasted. In this direction the old method of transfusing the whole blood is being given up, giving place for separating the various components of blood to transfuse only the required component of blood depending upon the need of the patient.

At a time when blood donation movement was gaining momentum the dreaded disease of AIDS has retarded the progress by bringing fear in the minds of the donors that they would get communicable diseases if they donate blood. This is a far-fetched fear and a baseless notion. Only if a donor has already contacted a communicable disease in him, he can through blood donation and its transfusion transfer his disease to others. If the donor is a healthy person, by donating blood he

shall not get any disease particularly since disposable syringes are being used to draw the blood. Also the done is safe since the blood is compulsorily tested for all types of communicable diseases before the same is transfused to the patients.

In this direction of educating the public to allay the fears in their minds, Rotary has to play an important role in educating the public through Blood Banks as well as by direct programmes.

Only when voluntary organizations like Rotary, play the required role, the blood that is now being sold by commercial Blood Banks who purchase blood from vulnerable groups for selling the same at high cost to the patients could be stopped.

The Rotary Club of Bangalore being a pioneer in this field has set up Two Blood Banks in the city, viz., Bangalore Medical Services Trust and another under the name of Sushruta at 15<sup>th</sup> Cross, Malleswaram, Bangalore.

The Blood Banks have been started through Matching Grants and 3H programmes of the 'Rotary foundation of Rotary International apart from collecting donations from Rotarians and other philanthropic-minded persons and also various industries. The Rotary Club of Bangalore has also started another Blood Bank through Matching Grant in Bharat Cancer Hospital, Mysore, with the help of Rotary Club of Mysore West.

It is the experience of our Club that there is no dearth for voluntary donors and there are enough of donors to match the demand provided we educate them on the importance of donating blood as a social responsibility to the fellow human beings. This is being done through the Blood Banks by organising Camps in educational institutions, factories, Government offices, etc. These Blood Banks are making available the tested blood to the patients at below Rs. 200/- per bottle

which is almost the cost of collecting blood. In many cases blood is made available even below cost. I do hope and believe that in the years to come the Blood Banks will have a co-ordinated effort with hospitals, nursing homes, etc., in the direction of

1. Matching the demand for blood with supplies.
2. To concentrate on separating the blood components to stop wastage of blood.
3. Educate the public on the importance of blood donation as a social responsibility.

I do believe that the Rotary Club of Bangalore will continue to be the leaders in this direction so that every member of our Club would have the personal satisfaction for having served the community to derive "Real happiness by serving others" and Be a Friend.



Rtn. PDG Dr. Prithvi Raval

**I**t was in 1982 when (Late) Rtn. R.K.Baliga was the President and Rtn. Dr. Prithvi Raval was the Chairman of the Medical Services Sub-Committee that a project to help burns patients was first initiated. Rtn. George Paul was the Community Service Director. Dr. Prithvi himself was in a burns accident many years ago and lost his cousin, who was a burns victim.

In the Chinmaya Mission Hospital, the Rotary Club of Bangalore, saw a group of dedicated people and decided to locate the Burns Ward in their premises. The staff was keen to help patients who came for such treatment. Very soon, a sum of Rs.10,000/- was collected and given to them to mark a beginning.

The circus tragedy which occurred in the City was a further impetus to our Club Rotarians to think and act seriously on this project. Several people had died and the available facilities in the City to treat burns patients were not enough. There was only one Burns Ward in the City, in Victoria Hospital.

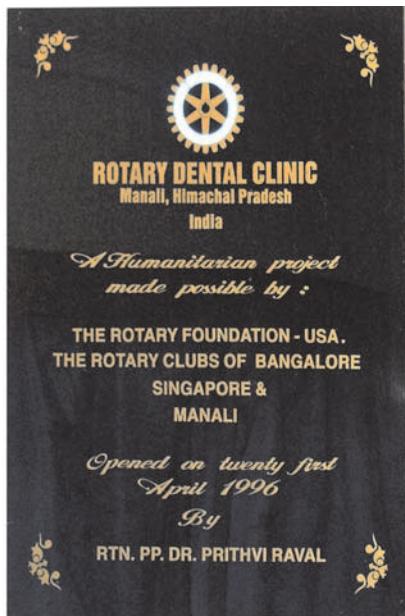
The following year in 1983, Rtn. Dr. Prithvi was the Chairman again for the Medical Services Sub-Committee and more plans and collections were made. Bangalore was becoming more and more industrialized and fire hazards were increasing. It was the decision of the committee to set up several Burns Wards in a circular fashion around the City in peripheral areas, to cope with any serious fire accidents.

In 1984, under the Directorship of Rtn. M.K.Dattaraj, massive fund raising was done and the project was planned

to coincide with the Golden Jubilee Celebrations.

Finally, in April 1985 the Burns Ward was inaugurated by R.I.President Dr. Carlos Canseco at the Chinmaya Mission Hospital. It was fully equipped with special water treatment facilities, in-built Oxygen Services at the bedside with the help of Rtn. Vikash Goenka, and double door entries, keeping in mind that cleanliness and sterile conditions were of utmost importance to these patients.

# Reaching out with Dental Services



Rotary Dental Clinic – Kullu Manali





Rtn. PDG Dr. Prithvi Raval

**H**aving served 5 times as an International Rotary Dental Volunteer, Rtn. Dr. Prithvi Raval wanted to serve the school children in and around Bangalore. In 1990 together with 4 other dentists they created the Bangalore Dental Service Trust with the objective of educating and treating the rural and urban poor school children on dental diseases.

A practicing dentist from Blackburn, U.K., Dr. Sirish Patel a friend and classmate of Dr. Prithvi, was in Bangalore and interested in the Mobile Dental Van project which was still in a blueprint stage. Dr. Patel was able to motivate the Rotary Club of Blackburn to donate a sum of U.S. \$10,000/- . In 1992, Rotary Club of Bangalore was a

partner to the extent of U.S.\$5,000/- with the Rotary Club of Blackburn for request in matching grants to the Rotary Foundation.

With the assistance of Presidents Rtn. V.V.K.Mani, Rtn. H.R.Suresh and Rtn. K.N.Prabhashankar and their respective board members, the result was collection of Rs.50,000/- . The final amount collected was U.S.\$30,000/- from Rotary and through the fund raising efforts of Rtn. Dr. Prithvi.

A Bajaj Tempo Traveller was converted to a mobile dental clinic with the state-of-the-art dental equipment and audio-visual materials, a first of its kind project in South India. The Mobile Van was formally presented to the Bangalore Services Trust in July of 1993.

The Bangalore Dental Services Trust to date has conducted 40 dental treatment camps in and around Bangalore covering 13,000 school children.

## *Mobile Dental Van*

Dental health educational lectures are given to the school children and teachers. Dental charts and booklets are distributed at the camp site.





## Dentistry as a Vocation & Service

*Our members have spearheaded  
some unique operations*

**I**nterestingly, contributions in the field of dentistry, as a vocation & over the years have been quite significant. Historically, one of the charter members of RCB was Dr. Kapadia, a dental surgeon who represented this vocation. Basic dental care to a few needy people was rendered by **Dr. Kapadia** in the early days.

**In 1960 Dr. R.S. Padmanabhan** one of the popular, leading and service oriented dentists of Bangalore was invited to join the elite group at RCB. He initiated and was responsible for starting the 'Children's Dental Clinic' at the Government Dental College Bangalore. This was a special and separate clinic only for children. He raised funds and set up the clinic which got integrated into the system over the years. He regularly conducted dental camps and referred the patients to the

GDC. For 10 years in Gandhinagar he ran a clinic for the poor with the Sindhi Charitable Hospital and Ramnarayan Chellaram Trust. Many patients benefited from the free services rendered.

**In 1976 Dr. Prithvi Raval** was invited to join the RCB and was perhaps one of the youngest members of the club. He was the youngest president of RCB in 1987 at 37 years. Prithvi has contributed in many areas of service. His dental contributions, with the assistance of fellow members are:

### Mobile Dental Van

Mobile Dental Van started in 1993 with the assistance of a Matching Grant from the Rotary Foundation. RCB raised \$5000, Rotary Blackburn, UK \$10,000. The total amount was US \$30,000. The project was inaugurated by RID Ramesh Pai and was running till the year 2000, after which the van was donated to Sathya Sai Hospital. Rtn. Dr. Prithvi went around in the van to the corporation schools in around Bangalore / villages. He went to

Rotary Clubs in the rural areas like Madanappalle, Ramanagaram, Kanakapura, Madhugiri, Vijayapura, Chennapatna, Malavalli, Palamner, Tumkur, Maddur, Kolar, KGF etc and treated 25,000 school children. He spread Dental Awareness and stressed on the Importance of Oral Hygiene.

Informative & educative literature was distributed at all places including educating the school teachers.

### Rotary Dental Clinic, Kullu Manali, Himachal Pradesh.

With the assistance from The Rotary Foundation, Rotary Clubs of Singapore and our own Club, we established a Rotary Dental Clinic in the Himalayas, at the Lady Willingdon Hospital, Manali, Himachal Pradesh in 1996.

Initiative taken by then past president, Rtn. Dr. Prithvi Raval who after reading about the lack of dental facilities at the Lady Willingdon hospital felt the need to assist them.

The only functional medical facility for the people living in the Himalayas and for about 50 Km radius was the L.W.Hospital, also called the mission hospital. Dr. Varughese managed all kinds of medical / dental problems by himself.

Rtn. Prithvi went there and made a survey and found there was no qualified dentist anywhere in sight. With the cooperation of Rotarians mentioned above, a Matching Grant was applied for and the project was completed in the April of 1996. Rtn. Sundaram was the President. Rtn. A.V.Rajaram was one of the persons who motivated the Board and members to support the project.

The clinic treats about 200 patients per month. For the first 4 years, inter doctors from the RV Dental College managed the clinic. Currently it is being managed by dentists from Chandigarh.

The cost of the project was US\$10,000/-.

Rtn. Dr. Prithvi served for 2 weeks at the start and now recently in August of 2006, he found out that there was a need for a new dental chair and unit. This request was placed before the Board of RCB. Dr. K.G.Ghorpade was the President. He managed to raise funds to a tune of about Rs.1.5 lakh and a new dental chair and unit were installed. Dr. K.G.Ghorpade, as the President personally visited and presented the equipment.

This was inaugurated by **Dr. K.G.Ghorpade** at Manali on Saturday June 09, 2007.

This project is truly a result of cooperation and understanding of Rotarians of RCB towards the need for people living around Manali in the Himalayas. Dr. Prithvi Raval visits and regularly monitors the program.

#### **Rotary Dental Clinic at Gudalur, Tamil Nadu**

The clinic is located at the foothills of the Nilgiris, and was established in 1998. Rtn. Arvind Toshniwal donated part money and part money came from RC Cantonment. Rtn. Dr. Prithvi

Raval initiated the project and the clinic is still functional. It caters to the tribal people who are essentially tea pickers. The clinic is located at the Adivasi Hospital in Gudalur. Because of the nature of work of the tribal people, the hospital visits are a little sporadic. About 1500 patients are treated in a year. Rtn. Prithvi has served 4 weeks at this camp. Dr. Prithvi makes regular visits and our club has been maintaining the clinic over the years.

#### **Rotary Dental Clinic at Karnataka Spastic Society, Bangalore:**

The Rotary clinic funded by our club was established in 2002 and is running very well. It is located in the medical and diagnostic centre in the Karnataka Spastic Society, Indiranagar. The

project was initiated by Rtn. Dr. Prithvi Raval and has so far cost about Rs. 4 lakh. Rtn. D.Ganapathy, at that time the principal of Ambedkar Dental College, helped to run the dental clinic by sending dental interns from the college.

The clinic works during school hours and there are about 2000 spastic children under the care of the clinic. Spastic children need a special approach and more time is taken per child. About 50 children are treated in a week during the school working days. The Clinic is closed during the school holidays. Rtn. Dr. Prithvi Raval has served two weeks at this clinic and monitors the running of the same.



## *Emergency Oxygen Service*

*(Reproduced from 'DIAMOND YEARS' 1934-94)*

**T**his is yet another Innovative 'lifesaving' project of the Rotary Club of Bangalore to serve the community - the first and still the only one of its kind in Karnataka, undertaken by a non governmental organization, and a first time effort by Rotary Clubs anywhere in the country.

The project, conceived by Dr. V.Visweshriah, formerly a member of the Club, was inaugurated on April 4, 1966, by Shri V.V.Giri, then Governor of Mysore. As a mark of appreciation for the project, Shri Giri himself contributed two cylinders on the inauguration day.

While launching the Oxygen Service, the target was to make 100 cylinders available at different parts of the City,

so that any one in urgent need could avail of the facilities 24 hours of the day.

Currently, there are eight centers stocking the cylinders, at factories or residences of Rotarians. The needy persons could collect the cylinders on production of a doctor's prescription, with a token deposit and nominal fees. The facility is open even to hospitals and nursing homes.

The Club publicized the availability of the oxygen cylinders for emergencies through the Bangalore Telephone Directory, a huge board put up outside the Rotary House of Friendship, press advertisements and postcards to all members of the medical profession.

During the early years, the cylinders were being filled up by Indian Oxygen Ltd. at subsidized cost. Since 1976, this is being done free of cost by Asiatic Industrial Gases Ltd. (formerly Asiatic Oxygen Ltd.) through courtesy of Rtn. Vikash Goenka.

In view of the importance of emergency need of oxygen, a sub-committee has been created as a part of the community service, which monitors and evaluates the availability of oxygen cylinders.



Rtn. Dr.S.G.Ramnarayan Rao

## *Mobile Microsurgical & Laser Eye Unit for Modern Cataract Operation with Intra- Ocular Lens Implant*

**T**he project was conceived by Rtn. Dr. S.G.Ramnarayan Rao in order to take modern ophthalmic surgical facilities & laser eye treatment to rural areas. It is equipped with surgical microscope, bio-microscope, ultrasound A scan, Keratometer, Diode Laser and other surgical instruments. Cataract operations with intra-ocular lens implantation and laser treatment are performed in rural areas using this unit.

In India 12 million persons are blind. 81 percent of the blindness in India is due to Cataract. 8 million persons in the rural areas and 1.6 million persons in urban areas are blind due to cataract. Blindness due to Cataract is increasing as each year 0.5 million un-operated cases are added to the existing number of patients.

This mobile unit was first used in Sathanur Village in Kanakapura Taluk in the Free Eye Surgical Camp held with the help of Inner Wheel Club of J.P.Nagar in the month of April 1994. Subsequently cataract surgical and general eye camps have been held in 19 places using this unit. 5300 cases have been treated and 586 cataract operations with intra-ocular lens implantation have been performed free of cost to the patients. Ophthalmic drugs and spectacles were also given at these free eye camps.

Two other major causes of avoidable blindness, that is, Diabetic Retinopathy and Glaucoma require a laser machine for treatment. Diabetic Retinopathy is the commonest cause of legal blindness between the ages of 20 and 65 years. Glaucoma is the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest cause of blindness in the world. 5 million persons are already blind from Glaucoma and 50 million persons are suspected to be suffering from it 80 percent of cases of Glaucoma are in developing countries like India. In

order to help these cases in rural areas a portable Diode laser was installed in February 1999 in the mobile eye unit. This was the first mobile laser unit in India and it was the main community service project of Rotary Club of Bangalore for 1998-99 when Dr. S.G.Ramnarayan Rao was the President of the club.

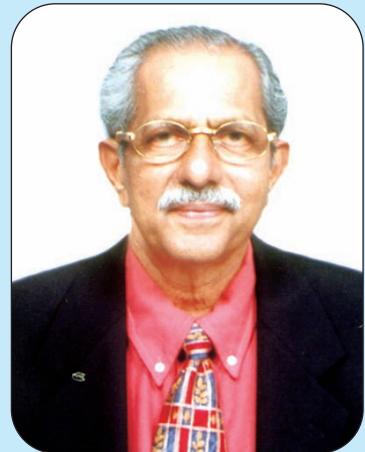
Free Laser Eye Camps have been held in the following places. Tumkur, Ramanagaram, Kolar, K.G.F, Madhugiri, Malavalli, Tirupathi and Gowribidnaur. These camps have been held several times in Tumkur and Ramanagaram. Over 2000 cases have been screened for Diabetic retinopathy and Glaucoma. 315 cases have been treated with laser and blindness has been prevented in these cases.

Along with the eye camps general medical camps have been held in 11 places with the help of specialists of

Mamatha Medical and Educational Charitable Trust. 5800 cases were treated and drugs were provided free of cost to the patients.

Rotary Mobile Microsurgical and Laser Eye Unit has been funded by Rotary Club of Bangalore, Rotary District 3190, Matching Grants from Rotary Foundation and Mamatha Medical and Educational Charitable Trust. The partners outside the country in this Matching Grant Project No.6776 & 9161 are Rotary District 3310 (Singapore) & Rotary District 9750 (Sydney, Australia).





Rtn. Dr. Manmohan Attavar

**R**otary Muthappa Attavar Memorial Hospital was built during the Rotary year 1993-94. The President of the Club was Rtn. K.N.Prabhshankar. Being on the threshold of celebrating the Diamond Jubilee of the Club, it was necessary to take up a major project.

The avenue of Community Service headed by Rtn. Manohar Row as the Director and the two sub committees under this avenue of service, Medical Services headed by Rtn. Dr. Elizabeth Zachariah and Community Services sub committee headed by Mr. A.K.Shetty came out with the proposal of setting up a primary health centre at Chennasandra village near Uttarahalli, Bangalore South.

Chennasandra village had lot of farm

## *Rotary Muthappa Attavar Memorial Hospital*



workers who were working in many farm houses in and around Chennasandra. After a brief study of the area, it was discovered that there were no primary health centers in a radius of 5 Km. The nearest hospital was about 5 Km away from the village. The members of both the sub committees unanimously decided to

take up this project. Our Rotarian, Dr. Manmohan Attavar was having two farm houses in that area. He proposed to donate land of about 6,000 sq. ft. to build a hospital. The land belonged to his private trust and he prevailed upon

trustees to give the land to RCB for this project. The land was in L shape with plenty of rocks.

The subcommittees after due deliberations decided to construct a daycare hospital to cater to the needs of the community. Funding the project was a major issue, since no specific funds were earmarked for this project from the club since the project was conceived during middle of the Rotary year. The Club was expecting a surplus of about Rs. 1 lakh from its resources. The entire funding had to be taken care for this project. A small core group was formed to meet the Rotarians and other voluntary donors for donation. This group was very successful in raising

such kind of money. They approached personally all the Rotarians and the money started flowing in. Some of them volunteered to supply materials required for the construction and some contributed in cash. Steel, bricks, pipes and various other materials were made available by some of the Rotarians who were in the respective Field. The total cost of the project was approximately Rs.7 lakh.

Rtn. Itty Zacharia designed the building and took up the construction work. He was magnanimous to have not charged anything to do this job. What was started as a primary health centre, as the construction progressed, it became a small hospital with all facilities. Since the project was taken up during half way of the year 1993-94, the project could not be finished before the end of the year. Thanks to the Board of the Rotary year 1994-95 who had no objection of completing the project by September 1994.

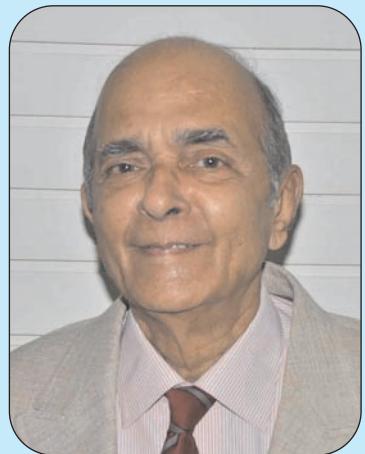
The project was inaugurated in June 1994. After completion of the project

by September 1994, equipments were set up for various facilities.

Rotary Club of Bangalore entered into an agreement with Muthappa Attavar Trust, to run this project. The terms of the agreement were that the Rotary Club of Bangalore would provide infrastructure facilities including Machinery and Equipments and the Muthappa Attavar Trust would run the hospital. They agreed to contribute towards the daily expenses of running the hospital.

The hospital was provided with the facility of Gynaecology, Dental care General Medicine and other facilities. Various experts agreed to visit the hospital periodically to take care of the patients. Since then the hospital is being managed by the Muthappa Attavar Trust. Rotary Club of

Bangalore has provided many equipments in this period and the hospital is doing its bit to the community. Some equipments were procured through the funds of the Rotary Foundation. Some matching grant projects were taken up to provide these equipments.



Rtn. Manohar Row

## *Enabling the disabled . A Rotary- Samarthyा Project at Koppal*

Hilary Crowley, a physiotherapist from Prince George, Canada, visited Koppal - a small district town between Hospet and Hampi in Karnataka last year. She was impressed by the work of Samarthyā, a division of Samutha, who helps people with disabilities and other needy people. On her return home, Hilary spoke to Downtown Rotary Club of Prince George, District 5020, and sought their help for this work. They, in turn, invited our Rotary Club to participate in a Matching Grant project of US\$40,000 with Samutha as the cooperating organization. Rotary Club of Prince George persuaded the Canadian Rotary Committee for International Development (CRCID) to support the project, and applied for a Matching Grant, which Rotary Foundation approved in July 2000.

The funds came to us in November. President Rtn. Amarnath Kamath provided early funding and the project was completed in March 2001.

The main objectives were to set up a much needed orthotic workshop at Koppal to produce calipers for polio affected children and facility to repair hearing aids/moulds, and to fund surgical operations in needy cases. The project was for about Rs.12 lakh, through which Rotary Club of Bangalore helped Samarthyā to get a 10-seater jeep to move needy patients, a power generator, orthopedic and hardware materials, and wheel chairs. We also got 14 hearing aids, an over and other equipment to make hearing moulds and repair the hearing aids. Sewing machines for rehabilitation and training, a TV and VCP to spread awareness (which our Rtn. Lal Bhatia helped get at special prices) were also procured.

Another major thrust in the project was to perform surgical operations on needy children who had suffered from

polio, by releasing intractors in hips, knees and ankles. With the support of Dr. Udaya Kumar, Dr. Vasudev Prabhu and Dr. Fathima, we were able to do 19 operations with follow up stretching, in PD Hinduja Sindhi Hospital. (Our Rtns. R.G.Ahuja and S.T.Wadhwa are on it Managing Committee). We also arranged surgery for two children with congenital cataract at Bhagawan Mahaveer Jain Netralaya where our Rtn. Dr. Mustali Vagh did the surgery free of charge. The average age of children for all the surgeries was only 11 years and the youngest was just 4 years old.

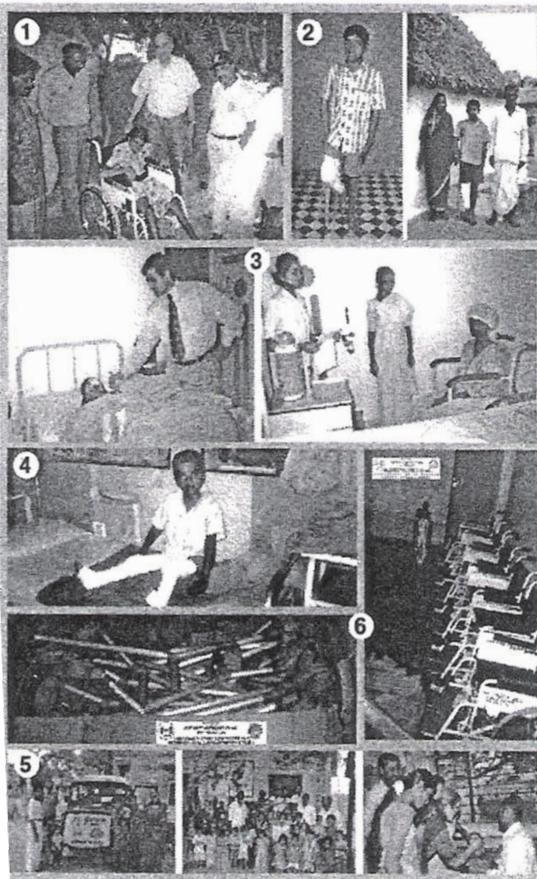
Hilary Crowley re-visited Koppal in December as a Rotary Volunteer, with Dr. Lesley Schwabb; another physiotherapist from Prince George. They were thrilled with the progress made. The equipment RI provided, benefits many needy young people,

and this Matching Grant project has had significant impact on the lives of people with disabilities. It has helped to improve their potential to lead an independent and meaningful life.

Who are these young beneficiaries? Rtns. Dr. Pradeep Rao, Dr. Elizabeth Zachariah and Manohar Row visited Koppal and surrounding villages to find out, and met some people whose lives had been affected by the project. Mariappa at Chamalapura is attending regular school and Nagarj at Arishinkari goes to a higher class - both had surgery in Bangalore. Shahana Begum in Deodurg who had surgery and Shailaja at Hosagal use the sewing machines to learn tailoring and they can now sell garments by human

made. Basavamma at Methangul who has multiple disabilities can now move in a wheel chair. These are examples of just a few lives which have changed with the help of the Matching Grant. There are many more they could not meet personally, though they have some photographs. They had a trip through the dry rural countryside - it was a lesson about how small efforts can make a big difference to our less-fortunate fellow being.

This was also an unusual inter-District project. We worked through Samarthya, Koppal, which is in District 3160. DG Elect Dr. Kulkarni of District 3160 from Koppal was delighted with the work done. So, here is an example of inter-District cooperation as well. What a small world - Prince George and CRIDA in Canada, Rotary Foundation in Evanston, USA, Koppal and Bangalore in Karnataka - and what an unbeatable combination! Together, we helped "Enable the Disabled".



*Rotary Samarthya project*



Rtn. S. Vijayarajan

**A**nutrition supplement project was instituted by our Club during the tenure of Dr. S.G.Ramnarayan Rao as President in 1999, jointly with Sanjivini Trust, a NGO serving the cause of providing nutrition to the malnourished children and working for the upliftment of women dwelling in urban slums.

The Rotary Club of Bangalore in association with Sanjivini Trust, applied to the Rotary Foundation of Rotary International for assistance to provide nutrition to the urban slum children.

Generous as they are for humanitarian causes, the Rotary Foundation released a sum of US\$15,000 equivalent to Rs.6.40 lakh to the Rotary Club of Bangalore in July 1999, under a special grant known as the Childrens' Opportunity Grant, popularly known as the COG. The Nutrition Supplement Programme thus became a reality in August 1999.

Every since, Dr. Veda of Sanjivini Trust, her energetic colleagues and her

enthusiastic team of health animators have been working tirelessly on this project. The programme covers two urban slums in Bangalore City, namely the Ambedkar Nagar slum and the Nayandahalli slum. More than 450 children are provided nutrition supplements on a daily basis and their growth is monitored at regular intervals on a scientific basis, with respect to weight gain, development of motor skills and social skills. The Project was for a total duration of 2 years and ended in August 2001. The Rotary Club of Bangalore also intends to appeal to the Humanitarian Projects committee of the Rotary Foundation to provide additional funds under the Community Assistance Program to continue this project for further 2-3 years, so that the tangible health benefits of this programme can continue to accrue to these malnourished children.

Overseeing this Project for the last 2 years on behalf of our Club were Rtns. Vijayarajan, C.K.Sreenathan and Dr. (Mrs) Elizabeth Zachariah who

achieved a great sense of satisfaction in seeing the fleeting smiles on the faces of the children transform itself to a more lasting one.



Dr. Veda and the health animators and others have played a key role in the successful implementation of this remarkable programme. We appreciate their continued efforts.

A video clip has been prepared to show how we can, in R.I. President Frank Devlyn's words, 'Create Awareness and Take Action'.

## *Limb - a - Day Project*





Rtn. Sridhar Chari

**A**s part of the Rotary International projects we decided to promote Limb Donation as one of the projects.

This project helps individuals, many of who are young and prime earning age, and have been dealt a tragic blow of losing their limb. These individuals constitute a silent hardworking section of our society in most cases with school education who want to lead a normal life again earning their livelihood and not be a burden on anyone.

We partnered with KMYF who is an established non profit organization making and fitting limbs onto needy persons. Rotary Club of Bangalore's association with the limb a day project and we also did a sister club matching grant project with the Rotary Club of Petalingjaya.

## *Limb - a - Day Project*

The limb a day project took the fancy of many of our Rotarians who contributed generously for this project.

Till date we have installed over 3000 limbs and now the limb a day project is set to climb greater heights as after seeing the dedication and the track record of our achievements we had one of our Rotarians Rtn. Inder Sen Mittal contributing a corpus of Rs.10,00,000/- towards the limb a day project. Rotary Club of Bangalore Charitable Trust has received donation of Rs.10 lakh from Laxmi Mittal Foundation, a trust instituted by our Rtn. I.S.Mittal in the memory of his wife, Interest on this corpus amount would be used in arranging about 100 limbs each year to the deserving people free of cost as a part of the community service every year.

The project is poised to spin the Rotary Club of Bangalore into a different orbit of reaching the limbs to the doors of the recipients with the help of mobile vans with all equipment installed on board to lessen the hardship to the unfortunates

reducing their travel cost from interior Karnataka.

If you would like to be part of this excellent project please do contact me or the President.

Thanks to the efforts of Rtn. Sridhar Chari and IPP Rtn. Dr. Elizabeth Zachariah, the club recently received approval for Matching Grant Project 51671 that will support 300 artificial limbs for the disabled in Bangalore. "The Rotary Foundation and Rotary Foundation (India) are delighted to be associated with this fine service project", says the note from Rotary International.

We completed 200 limbs out of 300 limbs which had to be completed under Matching Grant No.0451671. To mark this event, it was decided to have a small handing over function where we could interact with the recipients and make them feel that they are part of our society and there are people who care for them. Mrs. Sabrina Khergamwala, a donor, contributed for 50 limbs through the efforts of Rtn. Rishad Minocher was present. We could see the efficiency of the Limb in operation and also have feedbacks directly from the recipient on, how the limb enables him to get back into the main stream of society, keeping their self esteem intact. This camp was held in Bhagwan Mahaveer Jain Hospital and the limbs fitted by KMYK.





PP Rtn. K. Shankar

## RCB Celebrates Rotary International's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Contributed by PP Rtn. K. Shankar

In the year 1979-80 a detailed survey was carried out in 18 villages around Bangalore to ascertain the degree of backwardness, education, medical facilities, essential supplies, housing and other basic amenities. Two villages, Begur and Kodichikkanahalli which are located close to each other



Rural Dispensary and Maternity Annexe at Kodichikkanahalli.

and across the Bangalore – Hosur Road were selected. As a major project during RI's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary RCB constructed 15 Janata houses at Begur and 15 Janata houses at Kodichikkanahalli, and donated them to poor and deserving families.

RCB also undertook the construction of Maternity Annexe and Rural Dispensary at Kodichikkanahalli, as also a village school at Begur. The construction was completed in 1980-81 and all the units were handed over to the Government of Karnataka.

Approach road from Begur and

Kodichikkanahalli was cleared and made motorable. As an effort of follow up all the 30 houses were painted. One borewell each at Begur and Kodichikkanahalli were successfully established to provide potable drinking water.

This major project was the efforts of the “Community Projects and Rural & Urban Relations Committee”, which received accolades from Rotary International, and, appreciated by Government of Karnataka.



*Vidya Vikasa High School at Begur.*



*Houses constructed and donated at Rotary Nagar in Kodichikkannahalli.*



*Happy villagers at the borewell in Begur.*