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WEEKLY MEETING VENUE & TIME:

Rotary House of Service
2143, 16E Main, HAL II Stage,
Indiranagar, Bengaluru - 560008

Time 19:00, Monday

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From the Editor's desk



Dear Reader,

Rotary Indiranagar never stops, lockdown or not.

In view of our unceasing work and meetings, we chose to have this issue to feature weekly e-meetings and some other exceptional news for RBI.

Our weekly meetings notched a new high with some amazing speakers. Attendance at weekly meetings has risen too.

We cover 3 weekly meetings, a couple of recognitions and a good old fellowship.

In the midst of all this, a silver lining. We all can attend the Rotary International Convention 2020. It will be in e-mode and held at our homes ... all you need to do is log-in. The specific session timings are shared on page 11 of this issue. Do be there to experience the virtual ambience.

Earlier SEVA issues are at <https://www.rotaryindiranagar.org/newletters>

Please reach out to us with your thoughts about this issue of SEVA with a message to SEVA.RCBI@GMAIL.COM.

We wish you happy reading.

Rtn. Vidyut Shenoy

Bulletin Editor, 2019-20

**DON'T MISS THE 2020 ROTARY
VIRTUAL CONVENTION** *See Page 11 for event schedule*





Sports in the current situation and beyond



Digvijay Singh Deo, leading sports journalist and head of the WION Channel's sports division was guest speaker at our weekly meeting on 11th May 2020. His topic - 'Sports in the Current Situation and Beyond' was unusual yet relevant. The young editor, who is a veteran sports journalist has covered two Olympics, and has interviewed 50 leading sportspersons of India.

He delved in depth on the fallout of the CoVID-19 Pandemic on various aspects of sports. It has resulted in the shelving of friendly sports visits, and large sporting events like the EPL and IPL. He even wondered if the 2020 Olympics would be cancelled.

The indecision of many sports bodies has delayed closing of sports events, and some have become financially unviable. English Premier League, for example, stands to lose a large amount of money owed to it by media outfits.

Discussing the world's premier sporting event, the quadrennial Olympics, he spoke about its eminence and the prestige of athletes competing in it. He shared how reaching the final line-up at any of its events is something athletes aspire for throughout their lives. By being there, their prestige gets enhanced and rises further upon winning a medal, whatever the color. He cited Abhinav Bindra who rues that he was unable to garner even one point in the Rio Olympics shoot-out for 3rd place and lost out on a bronze. And that despite having won the gold in the previous olympics at Beijing, which still couldn't provide solace for losing the bronze.

Spectator involvement and presence at the Olympics is another aspect he touched upon. The constant motivation and pressure from fans often helps athletes to do better than their best. He feels the atmosphere is unlike anything else that the world offers. He specifically commented on the roar that follows progress of the men's 100 metre sprint final from start to finish. Most athletes there would have trained throughout their life for that one event. And winning a medal there would be more than worth it. That is true of almost every medal at the Olympics. He also shared how eminent sportspersons at the Olympics Village meet up freely with sportspersons from other parts of the world. It is this camaraderie that makes the Olympics unique. Hence, he says, cancellation of this year's Olympics would be disastrous for many medal hopefuls across the globe.

India's Olympics performance has been way below par, given that only a handful of Indian athletes have reached the finals. It can be traced to poor facilities, inept Indian sports bodies, inherent physique of Indian athletes, lacklustre encouragement and motivation, as also inadequate preparation. He also spoke of missed chances such as no practice being allowed for the Indian Hockey team, that was holed up at the Sports Authority of India facility in Bangalore throughout the lockdown. In other countries it would have been seen as a godsend for teams to make best use of the facility to train hard. The same is the case, he rues, about accredited solo performers like cyclists who have qualified for the Olympics. They are not allowed to venture out for practice, and are punished if they do. Elsewhere cyclists have been training hard. Such an attitude he feels is also discouraging youngsters to take up sport.

Digvijay then touched upon training regimes. Most athletes train in the off-season to iron out flaws in their game and acquire new skills. The lockdown has prevented many from pursuing their practice. Consequently, many will not be at peak performance or indeed fitness levels when the Olympics arrive, even if delayed. The results would be unpredictable, since athletes performance data will be unavailable. Also there could be unexpected results with big names failing and unheard ones gaining. A delayed Olympics may put paid to the hopes of fading athletes like Roger Federer and Leander Paes in what could be their last Olympics outing. It will take longer for them to reach peak fitness levels. For younger athletes it would be a test of their endurance and ability to get in shape quickly and remain there.

He feels the same is true of other organized sports like cricket. Indian women cricket star Mithali Raj was not sure of when the team would be able to get together and prepare to compete at the upcoming WC. For her, too, it is a last chance at more cricketing glory.

Consequently neither the press nor athletes are hazarding any guesses on performance and standings. In that sense neither unlocking nor a soft opening may be able to help.

The CoVID pandemic has hurt sportspersons at all levels, including budding Indian tennis player Sumit Nagal, who took the first set off Roger Federer at the US Open last year. Nagal is faced with a severe money crunch in Germany with no tournaments being held there.

The speaker then moved to India's sport apathy or indifference and frustrations coming out thereof. He feels that neither the government nor parents encourage sports in our lives. Consequently, there is no push for better facilities or fitness levels. Our athletes today have to compete on unequal terms at the international stage. He spoke of the vast difference in physique (and performance) between Indian rower Savarn Singh and British rower Redgrave. Both of them competed in a race, which the Indian lost by a huge margin.

He ended his terrific talk a little too soon for us, but hoped that India's focus on sports will improve, notwithstanding Khelo India Youth games which he feels may not help improve the quality of sports performance in India.

Cardiac Rehabilitation Centre shines

Kannada Daily **Prajavani** on 29th May 2020, carried a crisp article on our signature project, **Rotary Cardiac Rehabilitation Centre** at Sri Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences & Research (SJICSR). The news item quoted Dr. C.M. Manjunath, Director of SJICSR stating, "1500 patients have been treated (at a daily average between 40 and 50) at Rotary Cardiac Rehabilitation Centre at Sri Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences & Research".

The joint project of SJICSR, Needy Heart Foundation and RBI, was supported by a Global Grant from the Rotary Foundation. It was inaugurated by Trustee Chair PRIP Gary C.K. Huang and Ann Corinna on 2nd September 2019.

ಬ್ರಹ್ಮವಾರ • ಮೇ 29, 2020

ಚಿಕಿತ್ಸೆ ಜತೆಗೆ ಬೇವನವಿಧಾನದ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಮಾರ್ಗದರ್ಶನ: ಜಯದೇವ ಹೃದ್ರೋಗ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸೇವೆ

1500 ರೋಗಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಪುನರ್ವಸತಿ

• ವರಣ ಹೆಗಡೆ

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು: ಜಯದೇವ ಹೃದ್ರೋಗ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಶೋಧನಾ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ ಹೃದ್ರೋಗ ಪುನರ್ವಸತಿ ಕೇಂದ್ರವು ರೋಗಿಗಳ ದೈಹಿಕ ಹಾಗೂ ಮಾನಸಿಕ ಶಕ್ತಿ ವೃದ್ಧಿಗಾಗಿ ಯಶಸ್ವಿಯಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಒಂದು ವರ್ಷದೊಳಗೆ ಕೇಂದ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ 1500 ರೋಗಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಯೋಗ ಭರವಸೆ ಸೇರಿದಂತೆ ವಿವಿಧ ಸೇವೆಗಳು ದೊರಕಿವೆ.

ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನಿತ್ಯ ಸರಾಸರಿ 1,500 ರೋಗಿಗಳು ಚಿಕಿತ್ಸೆ ಪಡೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಹೊರರಾಜ್ಯಗಳ ರೋಗಿಗಳೂ ಇಲ್ಲಿ ಚಿಕಿತ್ಸೆ ಪಡೆಯಲು ಸರಕಿ ಸಾಲಿನಲ್ಲಿ ನಿಲ್ಲುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಪ್ರತಿನಿತ್ಯ ಸರಾಸರಿ 15 ತೆರದ ಹೃದಯ ಶಸ್ತ್ರಚಿಕಿತ್ಸೆಗಳನ್ನು ಮಾಡಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ. ಹೃದಯದೊಡನೆ ಕಾಯಿಲೆಯಿಂದ ಬಳಲಿ, ಶಸ್ತ್ರಚಿಕಿತ್ಸೆಗೆ ಒಳಗಾದವರು ಸಹಜವಾಗಿಯೇ ದೈಹಿಕ ಹಾಗೂ ಮಾನಸಿಕವಾಗಿ ಉಗ್ಗುವ ಜೊತೆಗೆ ಬೇವನದಲ್ಲಿ ಆತ್ಮವಿಶ್ವಾಸ ಕಳೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳುವ ಸಾಧ್ಯತೆಗಳು ಇರುತ್ತವೆ. ಮೊದಲಿನಂತೆ ಬೇವನವು ಅಳವಡಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲು ಹಲವು ದಿನಗಳೇ ಬೇಕಾಗಿತ್ತು. ಇನ್ನೂ ಕೆಲವರು ಆಫೀಸರಿಂದ ಹೊರಬರಲಾರದೆ

ಅಂಕಿ-ಅಂಶಗಳು

700

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಕೇಂದ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ ಹಾಕಿಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ

15

ಪ್ರತಿನಿತ್ಯ ಸರಾಸರಿ ಸರಾಸರಿ ತೆರದ ಹೃದಯ ಶಸ್ತ್ರಚಿಕಿತ್ಸೆಗಳು

ಮಾನಸಿಕವಾಗಿ ದುರ್ಬಲರಾಗುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಅಂತಹವರಿಗಾಗಿಯೇ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ ಕಳೆದ ವರ್ಷ ಸೆಪ್ಟೆಂಬರ್ ತಿಂಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಹೃದ್ರೋಗ ಪುನರ್ವಸತಿ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಪ್ರಾರಂಭಿಸಿತ್ತು.

ನೀಡಿ ಹಾರ್ಟ್ ಫೌಂಡೇಷನ್ ಹಾಗೂ ರೋಟರಿ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಸಹಯೋಗದಲ್ಲಿ ₹ 1.80 ಕೋಟಿ ವೆಚ್ಚದಲ್ಲಿ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ನಿರ್ಮಿಸಿ, ಪ್ರತ್ಯೇಕವಾಗಿ ಸಿದ್ಧವಿ ಸೇವಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಈ ಕೇಂದ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ ಗುಣಮುಖರಾದವರು ಹಾಗೂ ಚಿಕಿತ್ಸೆ ಪಡೆಯುತ್ತಿರುವವರಿಗೆ ಸೇವೆ ನೀಡಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ. ಕಾರ್ಡಿಯಾಕ್ ಫಿಷಿಯೋಥರಪಿ, ಯೋಗ ಭರವಸೆ, ಆಹಾರ ತಜ್ಞರಿಂದ ಮಾರ್ಗದರ್ಶನದ ಜೊತೆಗೆ ವಿವಿಧ ಸೇವೆಗಳನ್ನು ಒದಗಿಸ-



ಹೃದ್ರ ಚಿಕಿತ್ಸೆಯಿಂದ ಮಾತ್ರ ಕಾಯಿಲೆಗಳು ಮಾಯವಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಹಾಗಾಗಿ ಪುನರ್ವಸತಿ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಪ್ರಾರಂಭಿಸಿ, ಅವರ ಎಲ್ಲ ರೀತಿಯ ಗೊಂದಲಗಳನ್ನು ಪರಿಹರಿಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದೇವೆ. ಡಾ.ಸಿ.ಎಸ್. ಮಂಜುನಾಥ್, ಜಯದೇವ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕ

ಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ. ವೈದ್ಯರೊಂದಿಗೆ ಮಾತುಕತೆ ನಡೆಸಿ, ಗೊಂದಲಗಳನ್ನು ನಿವಾರಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲು ಅವಕಾಶವಿದೆ. ಪ್ರತಿನಿತ್ಯ 40ರಿಂದ 50 ರೋಗಿಗಳು ಇದರ ಲಾಭ ಪಡೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

ವೈಜ್ಞಾನಿಕವಾಗಿ ಮೇಲ್ದಿಟ್ಟಂತೆ: 'ಬೈಪಾಸ್ ಸರ್ಜರಿ, ಹೃದಯ ಕವಾಟ ಬದಲಾವಣೆ, ಆಂಜಿಯೋಪ್ಲಾಸ್ಟಿ, ಪೆಲ್ ಮೇಲ್ಕರ್ ಹಾಗೂ ಇತರ ಚಿಕಿತ್ಸೆ ಪಡೆದ ರೋಗಿಗಳು ಈ ಕೇಂದ್ರದ ಪ್ರಯೋಜನ ಪಡೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ.



ಜಯದೇವ ಹೃದ್ರೋಗ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಶೋಧನಾ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ವೈದ್ಯರು ತೆರದ ಹೃದಯ ಶಸ್ತ್ರಚಿಕಿತ್ಸೆ ನಡೆಸುತ್ತಿರುವುದು - ವರಣಹೆಗಡೆ ಚಿತ್ರ

ರೋಗಿಗಳನ್ನು ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಯಿಂದ ಮನೆಗೆ ಕಳುಹಿಸುವ ಮೊದಲು ಅವರಿಗೆ ಆಹಾರ ಪದ್ಧತಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಔಷಧೋಪಚಾರಗಳ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ನೀಡಲಾಗುವುದು. ಹೃದ್ರೋಗಿಗಳ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಸಮಗ್ರ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಇರುವ ಫಲಕಗಳು, ವಿಡಿಯೋಗಳ ಪ್ರದರ್ಶನಗಳು ಸಹ ಇರಲಿವೆ. ದಿನನಿತ್ಯದ ವ್ಯಾಯಾಮ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಗಳ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ವೈಜ್ಞಾನಿಕವಾಗಿ ಪರಿಶೀಲಿಸಿ ವೈದ್ಯರು ಸಲಹೆ ನೀಡುತ್ತಾರೆ' ಎಂದು ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕ ಡಾ.ಸಿ.

ಎಸ್. ಮಂಜುನಾಥ್ ತಿಳಿಸಿದರು. 'ಶಸ್ತ್ರ ಚಿಕಿತ್ಸೆಯ ಬಳಿಕ ಮೊದಲ ರೋಗಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಹಲವಾರು ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆಗಳು ಇರುತ್ತವೆ. ಹಾಗಾಗಿ ವೈಜ್ಞಾನಿಕವಾಗಿ ಮೇಲ್ದಿಟ್ಟಂತೆ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಿದ್ದೇವೆ. ರೋಗಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಆತ್ಮವಿಶ್ವಾಸ ಮೂಡುವುದರಿಂದ ಕಾಯಿಲೆಗಳು ಕೂಡಾ ಬೇಗ ಗುಣಮುಖವಾಗುತ್ತವೆ. ಫಿಷಿಯೋಥರಪಿಗೂ ಮಾತ್ರ ₹ 100 ದರ ನಿಗದಿಪಡಿಸಿದ್ದೇವೆ. ಉಳಿದ ಸೌಲಭ್ಯಗಳನ್ನು ಉಚಿತವಾಗಿ ಒದಗಿಸುತ್ತೇವೆ' ಎಂದರು.

RBI pep-up quiz

The COVID-19 lockdown has created a feeling of being away from members of the usually close RBI family. President Manoj Agarwal thought a quiz would be another means of enabling bonding, albeit remote, between members. The fellowship events group cajoled and coaxed teams to join ... and then we had a zoom quiz with 12 teams.

At 7:00 PM, on 15th May 2020, excitement in the ZOOM auditorium was palpable. You would be forgiven if you thought it was a college quiz, with so much enthusiasm around. People, including those who had logged in from faraway Delhi, just waited for the next question.

Event MC and quiz-mistress Ann Sharada Shenoy shared rules and launched into the quiz. Unanswered questions were not passed to help speed up the event. These were the 4 rounds, with some audience questions in each:

1. Potpourri (general)

The general questions were lapped up enthusiastically and most teams opened their account.

2. Eventology (Identify the event)

The Quiz Mistress shared some information about a well-known event which a team had to guess. The round proved that RBlans were very clued into the world.

3. Khana Khazana (All things food)

Here is when things started getting spicy. The round exposed us to some brilliant facets about food that we hardly knew about.

4. Just do it (Trier's Envy, Winners Pride) - Tag lines of popular products

The last round held up tag lines and teams had to identify the exact product. Reverse engineering the product from a tag line didn't seem as easy when the round was on.

After 2 hours of brain searching, banter, excitement and whoops, the Quiz ended with points in participants' and RBI's bags. We had a very vocal and energized audience too.

Rtn. Jayashri Bothireddy and family secured the maximum points, followed by the Agarwal family (President Manoj, First lady Manju and their niece).

Don't go by the intense faces in this screen grab of the event. They were focusing on the question being asked.



The need to support and strengthen Public Education

RBI's 44th weekly meeting that was held via the ZOOM app on 18th May 2020 featured a talk by S. Giridhar, COO, Azim Premji University (APU). He works on improving Public Education and is also a passionate author of books on cricket.



He believes that every Public school in India is a heroic school which needs support due to the emotion and passion involved. Statistics about them do not cover their environmental conditions. He visited government schools in remote districts, to uncover their working, wanting to see what works, since media anyway tells us what is not working. There are more than a million schools with 600 million kids studying in them. All schools provide good mid-day meals, but a fault on one particular day makes national headlines. Newspapers fail to realize that it is a huge effort, wherein most of their work is perfect. Similarly, media highlights the one teacher in a million who runs a grocery school, but forgets the rest who only teach. If we don't support diligent teachers he asked, 'Who will?' and 'What will happen to India?'.

Public education in USA and Scandinavia rules the roost, but we in India deride it. He pointed out that we all studied in government aided schools. Rural Indian students who earlier went to government schools are now moving to private schools. He cited the example of a person earning Rs. 10K sending his children to private schools, where fees are Rs. 1500 p.m. The reasons he cited were that children in those schools wore ties and shoes to school, apart from learning and speaking English. Giridhar also discovered that girls walked to school, but boys go by bus. Neither group however, was able to converse in English for more than a minute. He discovered that 60% children remain in government schools, 20% go to aided schools or private schools, and the rest do not attend school. The huge change needed to make a difference, will be visible 30-35 years hence if we start now. To build a just and equitable society as enshrined in our constitution ideals is difficult, but can happen with equitable education in government. It calls for enormous effort.

During his visits to schools over an 18 year span, he has observed that building trust is key. APU has ensured that they cover every district and as many schools as possible. However, we can never be there to support teachers at ground level. He feels a voluntary Teach the Teachers, giving credit for good work which demonstrates its importance will help. All teachers are unsung & anonymous, and in 40 years not a single block officer has sent recommendations for awards. He has met and observed 150 teachers, with whom he has had detailed discussions.

The scenario is slowly changing and improving. Government schools remain the main option. Around 50% children come hungry to school, and a large group has both parents who are daily wage earners. Hence, he believes, we need to support these schools. Inspiring stories are one way to build a healthy connect between those who wish to support and the schools themselves. Since we are outsiders, the teachers tend to hold a mirror to us. We need to win their trust if we are to help them. What struck him is that if you search for one good teacher, you will find hundreds if not thousands, each overcoming obstacles. He therefore chose to write a book Ordinary People, Extraordinary Teachers - The Heroes of India, that features uplifting stories from the rural hinterland. The book has become very popular.

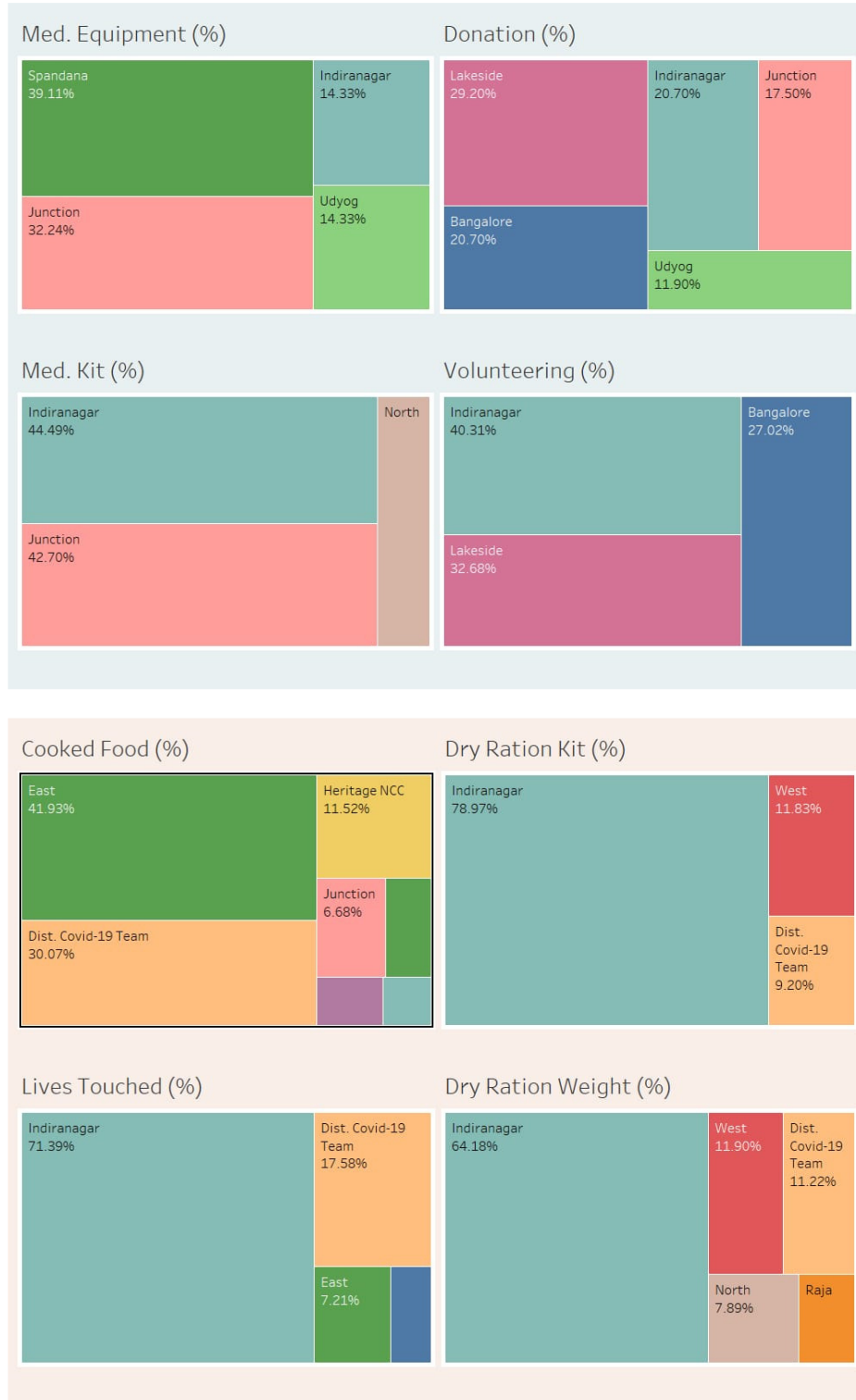
He then highlighted some of the difficulties faced by teachers such as language of instruction being different from the language of students. Also in some cases, teachers have to teach multiple subjects and classes, including those where they have little expertise. Teaching at grassroots has its own challenges, and teachers have to think of innovative ways to engage children. Most teachers are extremely committed to their work.

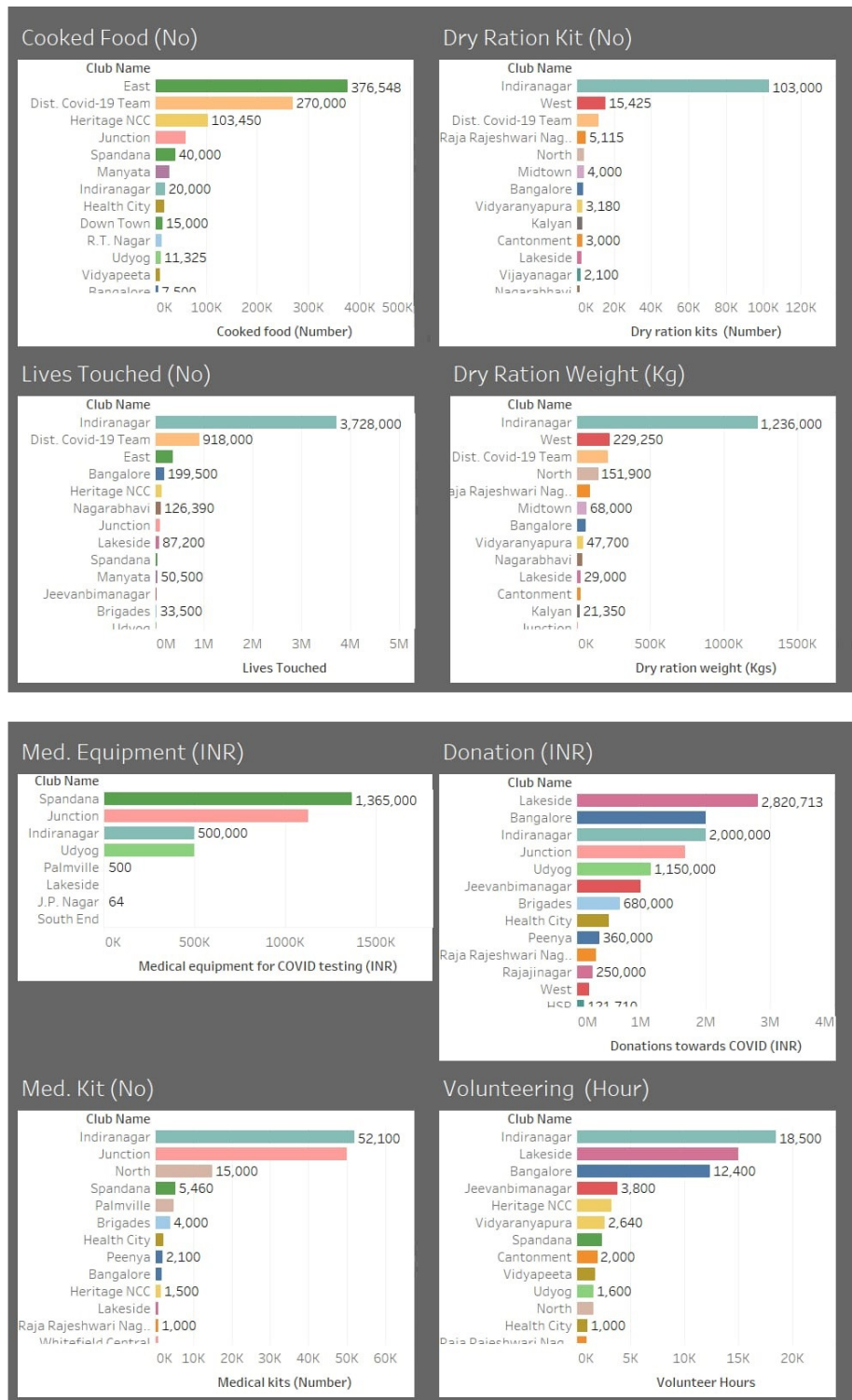
But all is not dusty and dreary. He spoke of some district schools that have been able to send and enlist a large fraction of their graduating students into the elite Navodaya, Jawahar or Morarji Vidyalyayas. It speaks volumes about the resilience of teachers and their ability to motivate children deeply. He knows a district where a school of 245 students has sent 230 to Navodaya Vidyalyayas, Jawahar Schools or Morarji Schools. These schools have awesome standards, due to the exceptional work by teachers against all odds.

He fielded many other questions which he answered patiently. Some of them covered challenges of getting jobs, social issues, managing diversity, transition to English, students' absorption ability, socio-economic disadvantage, employability, teacher-student ratio, transformation in the post CoVID-19 era, translation, using technology to teach teachers and students, post school education, literacy goals, school-university education funnel ... and also his romance with writing cricket books.

RBI CoVID-19 Stature in RI District 3190

These are a few charts put out by District 3190, all related to CoVID-19 Relief work done by clubs in the district. We share these with you to draw your own conclusions on RBI's contribution to RI District 3190's CoVID-19 Relief effort.





Yes, we figure prominently in all but 2 of these 16 charts.

Bharat Bala Tujhe Salaam

Internationally acclaimed filmmaker Bharat Bala filled up our Zoom screens on 25th May 2020 as guest speaker at our 45th Weekly meeting (and 11th e-meeting). In typical filmy fashion he likened becoming a frontline filmmaker from a medical seat aspirant to destiny. He did not make the cut in medical entrance examinations, but his acquaintance with A R Rahman launched him into making films.



Delhi's spirited dose of patriotism exposed to him during his growing years, was very different from Chennai where he completed his X and XII grades in elite schools. The famed Dileep (now known as A R Rahman) was his school friend. Once out of school he studied movie making for TV, and imbibed ideas that fostered creativity.

His very first advertising film, made in 3 months, won the 'best ad film of the year' award. That was part of his first assignment to make 10 advertisement films for MRF, wherein he strove to be different. For the assignment he chose the right global talent, and reached out to ace cinematographer John Mathieson, a BAFTA awardee for Best Cinematography in the movie *Gladiator*. Mathieson guided him immensely in those 3 months.

Bharat Bala's films are unique, since he chooses varying and different landscapes. He learned from that experience. He is convinced that to do good ad films, one must think different. His first film-making sojourn being a success, made him look for something meaningful.

Advertising involves creating emotion through ideas, which consumers buy into. The search for a meaningful idea kept Bharat Bala involved. His staunch Gandhian father persuaded him to apply his talent to motivate young minds by creating a strong emotion for India. His father's thoughts on Vande Mataram and the freedom struggle appeared promising. But there was nothing concrete to start with. He sought out the reclusive AR Rahman's to sing in the video (Maa Tujhe Salaam, Vande Mataram). He spent a lot of money, travelling across the country for the right locations for the video. It was not just an album for Bharat Bala, but an awakening. Upon getting Colgate Palmolive (after Tata Sons, Rajiv Bajaj and Reliance had declined) to sponsor the video with Rs. 5 crore, without any strings attached, he chose to put "Colgate Keeps India Smiling" on the video. A few MPs felt that Vande Mataram was too Indian to be sponsored by Colgate.

In his new line of thinking, he decided to make 200 1-minute films across locations in India to showcase his credentials. The travel to different parts of India triggered fresh ideas. However, he had to bear attendant costs. For this endeavour, in 1997, he spent approximately Rs. 2 crores - all of the money earned from the A R Rahman video. While pursuing his dream, Bharat Bala kept doing music videos for A R Rahman. For his father, he commenced parallel work to create a tribute to Mahatma Gandhi, called Idea of Ahimsa. To make it really appealing he decided to meet 8 icons ... all Nobel Peace Prize winners. Among those he met were - Mikhail Gorbachev, Nelson Mandela, Shimon Peres and Yasser Arafat. He got them to sign on an Ahimsa Painting made by Thota Tharani.

Similarly, he created a Jana Gana Mana version by weaving parts of the national anthem sung by 50 Indian classical and folk music doyens. Big names such as Lata Mangeshkar, Bhimsen Joshi, Bala Murali Krishna, D K Pattamal, Hariprasad Chaurasia, and Pandit Jasraj were part of this endeavour. None of the Indian government's planned spend of Rs. 100 Crore for celebrating 50 years of Independence, was available to him since he was not an acclaimed film maker. Later Amitabh Kant, IAS, appointed him to create the Incredible India videos, for which he, once again, travelled across India.

For the Commonwealth Games being held in India in 2010, he pitched an idea in 2009. As Creative Director, he suggested using best available technology, but asked that Bollywood be distanced from the event. He engaged 18000 performers from Tribal and Classical areas to perform something very Indian to entertain spectators. It was a great opportunity to showcase something uniquely Indian for posterity. With total independence he worked for 15 months in Delhi. In a first, he had a huge, unique and cost-efficient balloon installed to capture event images and videos.

His passion for India excites him and lives on. Overseas, people experience and learn about a country in their many museums. But how and where can someone experience the Idea of India? He thus chose to make sub-10-minute videos on various aspects of India, each telling a different story. They used the best technology in the world to create these fine movies. **Virtual Bharat** is modeled to be this virtual museum of stories from India. Of the 1000 planned, 85 movies have already been made, of which 9 have been released. They have been made in their native languages such as Kosli, Odiya, Malayalam and Punjabi to keep them authentic. He travelled thousands of kms to get these shoots done. The aim is to answer the question, 'What is India?'. These timeless and priceless videos contain history, culture and stories.

Bharat Bala wanted to create a movie on the Covid-19 situation and lockdown. It was an opportunity for documentary film makers to make great movies. Since the Central Government vacillated, he approached governments of 16 states to permit his 117 crew members to shoot. In some cases, they used drones to take video shots where permission was not available for crew to move around. He plans to release these as a movie titled *Uthenge Hum*, on 31st May 2020, which he hopes will surpass expectations. In the movie he has filmed India's busiest railway station, the *Mughalsarai* station, which is absolutely empty on account of the lockdown. He covers many such stark stories in the movie. Even though it is difficult to make films right now, he constantly looks out for ideas, and uses creativity for inspiration.

When asked if David Lean's fascination for landscapes inspired him, he said it is really not so, as once gets sucked into a theme, it just happens.

He feels Bigness should be through emotion, and not by size. Large arrays of people make an event big, but does its key emotion reach the audience?

He likes natural light and prefers to shoot in external environments. His belief that *Quirkiness is essential for Creativity*, makes him see the most difficult/most boring situations as challenges to whip up his excitement. Consequently, he has used bizarre location set-ups to make a movie, such as a shoot at Siachen Glacier on Jan 27th, when the local temperature was minus 40 degrees Celsius.

When asked if A R Rahman was a difficult person, he said he personally has had no issues. A R Rahman has always given him time, given their simple relationship as schoolmates and not as filmmakers.

Bharat Bala arrived at RBI as an icon, but left his mark as a brilliantly talented Indian.



RI Platinum distinction for RBI's Community based Rotaract Club

Our community Rotaract Club team, led by President Ritika Kandhari, has done a stupendous job through this year. It was duly rewarded with a Rotary citation with platinum distinction, by RI President Mark Maloney (image alongside). The team was guided by Rtn. Ajay Gupta, Director - Youth Service Avenue and Rotaract Committee Chair, Rtn. Sanjay Srivastava. The Platinum recognition is the highest award that a Rotaract Club can receive.

The club's remarkable turnaround was scripted by President Rtr. Ritika Kandhari who steered our Rotaract club to greatness.

She had inherited a moribund club needing a serious dose of positivity. She infused it by identifying and inducting energetic members. They partnered with RBI in many projects as well. They ensured exceptional communication within and outside the group. In short, they brought to life the exuberance of a typical RBI Rotaract club, through a persistent focus on projects and objectives. Evidently, it did wonders for them.

They got involved in RBI's fundraisers, conducted workshops for RBI on innovative themes, engaged with children at RBI's adopted schools, planted saplings, enhanced environmental consciousness and overall did an incredible amount of service. Secretary Rtr Abhilash Lapasia was part of RBI's team that won the Funtakshari organized by Rotary Club of Bangalore on 30 Sep 2019.

Earlier this year, in Quarter 1, our community based Rotaract Club had been adjudged the Star Club of RI District 3190. That was perhaps a stepping stone for future achievements.

Congratulations Rtr. Ritika Kandhari and team for elevating our Community based Rotaract Club to the heights that it deserves to be at.

2019-2020 ROTARY CITATION WITH PLATINUM DISTINCTION



Awarded to the Rotaract Club of
Bangalore Indiranagar

for helping **Rotary connect the world** in the lives
of people all over the world.



Mark Daniel Maloney
President, Rotary International

Please attend the **Rotary International Virtual Convention 2020**
and experience Rotary's International ambience

Program Outline	
Sunday, 21 June	
18:30	Together, We Connect
Monday, 22 June	
18:30	Using Virtual Tools to Engage Members
22:30	Engaging Rotary Alumni
Tuesday, 23 June	
04:30	Greening Rotary Events: Be Plastic-free, Offset Carbon, and More!
18:30	Grow Rotary Through New Club Types
22:30	President-Nominee Session
Wednesday, 24 June	
04:30	How to Start and Manage RAGM Microfinance Projects (presented in Spanish)
18:30	Adopt-a-River Initiative: A Rotary & UNEP Partnership Model
22:30	Rotaract Elevated, Now What?
Thursday, 25 June	
04:30	Disruptive Innovation in Rotary Clubs (presented in Spanish)
18:30	How to Submit a Great Global Grant Application
22:30	President-Elect Session
Friday, 26 June	
04:30	Digital Trends of 2021: Using Tech to Engage Millennials
18:30	Engage Young Families with Service and Alternative Meetings
22:30	The Rotary Brand
Saturday, 27 June	
18:00	Personal Growth Opportunities: Rotary's Alliance with Toastmasters

All times are in IST. The venue ... your favorite couch at home and an internet linked device.

**SAVE
THE
DATE**

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ROTARY CONNECTS THE WORLD:**

THE 2020 ROTARY VIRTUAL CONVENTION

20-26 June 2020 | Starting 1 May, learn more at riconvention.org






JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Rtn. S.N. Simha	01
Ann Prasanna Chandri	02
Rtn. Harpreet Singh Rana	05
Rtn. Thomas Abraham	06
Rtn. N. Krishnamurthy	07
Ann Nalini Muniraju	10
Ann Varsha Koppikar	11
Ann Preeti Dugar	13
Ann Meher Unvalla	14
Rtn. R Venkateswaran	16
Rtn. Jagadeesh M	20
Rtn. Guna Thantry Rajeev	23
Ann. Rita Sushil Kumar Sonika	23
Ann Usha Vishwanath	24
Rtn. Ranganath Kuntumalla	24
Rtn. Ajith Kumar Rai	26
Rtn. Sivasankaran. N	26



ANNIVERSARIES IN JUNE

Supriya & Pradeep Kandhari	06
Jomily & Rajesh Xavier	07
Radhika & R G Venkatesh	07
Jayashri & Prabhakar Bothireddy	16
Kamala & Udaya Kumar S	18
Lakshmi & Lokesh N Vemulkar	21
Saroj & Ghanshyam Agrawal	23
Jabeen & N M Nayeemullah	23
Padma & Suresh Balsubramani	23
Neetha & Harish Kumar S	27
Vandana & Jaiprakash Hinduja D	30



Rotary
Bangalore Indiranagar



EVENTS

JUNE

- 01 Corona Virus & the future of Indian Foreign Policy by Dr. Vijay Chauthaiwale
- 11 RBI Anniversary Nite
- 18 Joint Board meeting (2019-20 & 2020-21)
- 29 Open House (IPDG Suresh Hari & PDG Badri speak on Global Grants - to be confirmed)

Sombre moment for RBI

Prabhat Amashi, spouse of **Rtn. Lata Amashi**, passed away on 30th May 2020, at Lagos, Nigeria. Our heartfelt condolences to Lata and her family members.

The President and Members of ROTARY BANGALORE INDIRANAGAR

(Rotary Hall of Honour Club)
RI District 3190

Cordially invite you to the online **ANNIVERSARY NITE**

CHIEF GUEST



Rtn. Kalyan Banerjee
Past Rotary International President will share his insights as he gazes "Through the Crystal Ball - The Journey of Rotary Thus Far and Beyond"

GUESTS OF HONOUR



Rtn. Dr. Bharat Pandya
Rotary International Director shall share his thoughts on "Rotary Leadership - Aspire to Inspire"



Rtn. Dr. Sameer Hariani
DG Dist. 3190

7:00 to 8:30 PM
Thursday,
11th June 2020

Venue:



Rtn. MANOJ AGARWAL
PRESIDENT

Rtn. A.K. SUGUNAN
SECRETARY