

India's president, Estess call for more action at Polio Plus summit

India's President A.P.J. Abdul Kalam joined more than 1,000 health officials, Rotarians, representatives of nongovernmental organizations, and government delegations from Afghanistan and Pakistan at a polio eradication summit convened by Rotary International in Delhi, India, on 7-8 August.

Aimed at rallying resources and personnel to the cause of stopping the spread of the poliovirus worldwide by the end of 2004, the event comprised keynote addresses and presentations warning of the dangers of complacency while highlighting the challenges and successes of the global polio eradication initiative in India and other polio-endemic countries.

Encouraging all governments and organizations involved in the initiative to stay the course, RI President Glenn Estess Sr. said that the world has come too far along the road to success to give up. "If we fail to stop the poliovirus now, we will jeopardize the remarkable progress made toward a polio-free world," he said. "We simply cannot let this historic opportunity slip by while millions of children remain at risk."

Abdul Kalam acknowledged Rotary's pioneering role in reducing polio from a worldwide scourge striking more than 350,000 annually to a disease on its last legs with only several hundred cases a year in a few countries.

The Indian president warned against complacency, explaining that more civic education, closer monitoring, and intensified door-to-door immunizations are required to head off resistance from parents frightened by rumors that the oral polio vaccine is harmful and enable health workers to target children who were missed in past campaigns.

Concerned that not enough is being done to alleviate the suffering of those already stricken by polio, Abdul Kalam encouraged the private sector to team up with government to improve the lives of those for whom the eradication initiative is too late.



The Dividends from the polio eradication include peace and a template for similar action against HIV/AIDS, according to Abdul Kalam. "[Representatives from] India and Pakistan assembling here in the same dais today to fight poliovirus is a beautiful thing to happen," he said. "We have our enemies, common enemies that are poverty and disease. Let us fight against these enemies instead of fighting amongst ourselves." India plans to hold massive house-to-house campaigns in. August, targeting more than 50 million children in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar and other high-risk areas including Mumbai.

Nigeria ends boycott of polio program

Nigeria's Kano State ended an 11-month boycott of polio eradication activities with the start of Subnational Immunization Days on 31 July. Governor Mallam Ibrahim Shekarau signaled the state government's change of heart by administering the oral polio vaccine to his own children at the official launch of the five-day event in Takai, 100 kilometers (62 miles) from Kano City, and the state capital. Traditional rulers, state government officials, Rotarians, and representatives of the, Global Polio Eradication Initiative partners were among the throngs of people who attended the launch.

"On Sunday, 1 August, immediate Past RI President (Jonathan) Majiyagbe joined a good number of Rotarians to immunize children and monitor the exercise in four different local government areas in Kano," said National Polio Plus Committee Chair Ade Adefeso, who spent three days in the region. "Seventeen Rotarians have been deployed into the high-risk areas of Kano State to serve as independent monitors for the ongoing exercise. After many months of nonactivities, it is comforting to observe that many people are readily accepting the oral polio vaccine for the children."



Past RI President Jonathan Majiyagbe immunizes a child against polio in Kano State , Nigeria

Indian president A.P.J. President Glenn Estess Sr. Hold a plaque during the Delhi polio eradication summit.

Nearly a year ago, the state suspended immunization activities in the wake of fears"fueled by rumors that the oral polio vaccine was contaminated withharmful substances that could cause HIV/AIDS and sterility. Soon after, Kano, located in the northern part of the country, became the epicenter of a polio outbreak that swept across Nigeria and spilled into 10 formerly polio-free countries in West and Central Africa and the rest of the continent. After a series of laboratory tests, the state eventually declared the vaccine safe to administer to children but insisted on procuring supplies from Indonesia.

The global initiative partners welcomed the resumption of immunization in Kano in an official statement on 3 August."Kano's decision to vaccinate children against polio comes at a critical time in the polio eradication program. Sub-Saharan Africa is on the verge of the largest polio epidemic in recent history..

Cases recorded in the region are five times that for the same period in 2003 (483 compared to 95), due to the outbreak originating from Kano and surrounding states."

According to the statement, more aggressive immunization activities are needed to roll back the epidemic. Synchronized National Immunization Days are planned across 22 African countries in October and November, aimed at reaching 74 million children.

Despite the outbreak, polio remains endemic in only six countries: Afghanistan, Egypt, India, Niger, Nigeria, and Pakistan.

African and Indian rotarians open eyes in two countries

Many World Community Service projects in Africa are the fruit of joint efforts of Rotary clubs in the developed world, mostly North America and Europe, and their counterparts in beneficiary countries. However, a growing number of Rotarians in Asia, from countries with nearly as many unmet needs as those in Africa, is bucking the trend with a determination to share their own resources and expertise. One such initiative recently cosponsored by Rotarians in India, Burundi, and Kenya has resulted in more than 1,000 eye patients in the two African countries receiving sorely needed medical attention.

"It was a tremendous contribution from India to Africa, and we are all proud of it," says Mahendra G. Mehta, of the Rotary Club of Bombay, who accompanied the medical mission. Mehta is the head of Ratna Nidhi Charitable Trust, a family foundation that has been supportive of international projects of Indian Rotary clubs.

Burundi 1s a war-torn Central African country with a poor medical infrastructure and only two ophthalmologists for nearly seven million people. It has a large elderly population requiring cataract surgeries and an equally large number of children with nearsightedness and farsightedness needing prescription eyeglasses to correct the defects. Although Kenya has -better medical facilities, eye specialists are scarce, and decades of economic and political turmoil have drastically reduced the health sector's ability to provide adequate care for 2.5 million residents who suffer from eye diseases.

Both countries are in the midst of an increase in the number of those at risk from avoidable blindness. An awareness of the growing need for experts and supplies inspired Indian Rotarians to team up with sister clubs in Burundi and Kenya to provide cataract surgery and distribute eyeglasses



A doctor examines a patient in Burundi during the recent avoidable blindness mission.

The Rotary Club of Bujumbura, Burundi; Ratna Nidhi Charitable Trust; and Netra Jyoti Parivar Deesa, an organization in Gujarat, India, were instrumental in putting together a medical mission comprising a 16-member team of doctors, ophthalmic assistants, and social workers. On 19 June, the team and a ton of medical equipment and supplies were flown from India for 18 days of eye camps in Bujumbura and Nairobi, Kenya.

Working nearly 14 hours a day for more than a week, the team of eye specialists performed 631 cataract surgeries and helped distribute 500 spectacles in Bujumbura. On 30 June, the group left for Nairobi to operate on 136 cataract patients for five days at the Loresho Lions Sight First Hospital.

The June-July medical mission was the second the team has carried out in the region. In April 2003, it traveled to Bujumbura to pro vide surgery to 309 cataract patients. The Rotarians coordinating the project hope to organize more surgeries in the future and distribute up to 5,000 eyeglasses.



Volunteer medical professionals erformed 631 cataract sugeries on Burundi patients.

"With tears in their eyes, six blind children I'd operated on expressed their gratitude for being able to see their parents for the first time," says team leader Dr. Kishore Asnani, of the Rotary Club of Deesa, Gujarat.

"It was truly a moving experience. The honorable health minister of Burundi has also expressed his happiness at this project and requested that such teams come to Burundi more frequently."

The team also received letters of thanks from Aude Ndavizeye, Burundi's first lady, and Jean Minani, speaker of the National Assembly.

Disasters in Bangladesh, **Dominican Republic, and Paraguay**

Please note that relief efforts are being undertaken by individual Rotary clubs and districts. To contribute to these relief initiatives, please contact the Rotarian Disaster Relief Coordinator listed for the appropriate relief effort or visit www.rotary.org. Contributions should be sent directly to the account set up by the sponsoring Rotary entity.

Monsoon Reflections

The month of August saw the progress of the rains, something the whole of Hyderabad was waiting for. The weather was right and it was a month to move out and celebrate. August was a very eventful month for our club, with a lot of Speaker Meetings interspersed with fellowships and charity.



Members and Anns of Rotary club of Secunderabad Sunrise with PDG's and other guests during the inauguration function at the andhra Mahila Sabha.

The month started with a very proud moment for our club. Under the Rotary International Matching Grants Program, our Club donated Medical Equipment worth Rs.20 lakhs to the Mother and Child Foundation of the Andhra MahilaaSabha, Vidya Nagar. The inaugural function for handing over the medical equipment was held on the 4th of August 2004 at the Andhra Mahila Sabha. The Chief Guest for the event was the Minister of State for Finance Shri K. Rosiah Garu accompanied by Dr. Sasiprabha - Director Medical Education, Govt. of AP. The entire board of the Andhra Mahila Sabha was also present at the function.



Chief guest unveiling the foundation stone along with members of our club and Andhra Mahila Sabha.

The function was well attended by members of our Club, Ann's, PDG's, Presidents and Rotarians of other clubs, and guests. The Chief Guest arrived at 9.30 am and unveiled the Foundation Stone. He then inaugurated the function by handing over the equipment to the Andhra Mahila Sabha. Members and Doctors of the Andhra Mahila Sabha guided all present through the Equipment, explaining their working and usages.



Doctors explaining the functionality of the Donated Equipment to the chief Guest and other attendees.

The inauguration was followed by an official function and this was chaired by Shri Rosiah Garu, Dr. Sasiprabha, Board Members of The Andhra Mahila Sabha and our President Rtn. Lokesh Jain.



President Rtn. Lokesh Jain lighting the lamp during the inauguration function

The Chief Guest spoke about the good work that Rotary is doing in the state and its contribution to the welfare of the people of Andhra Pradesh. Members of the Andhra Mahila Sabha thanked our club for the contribution and help given by Rotary Club of Secunderabad Sunrise and requested our club to join in other future projects for the Mother and Child Foundation.

In his talk, President Rtn. Lokesh Jain promised to continue the good work and progress-done by our club...and Rotary in the avenues of Charity. The function was followed by fellowship where all the members were introduced to the Chief Guest and members of the Andhra Mahila Sabha.

It was a day to remember and reflect upon the good work being done by our club, though small in numbers but very big in heart.

The next meeting was held on 14th of August and was a speaker meeting. It was a talk by Dr. Chandak on Genetic Diseases. Dr. Chandak is a Research Scientist from Center for Cellular Biology and II CT.



Dr. Chandak during his talk on Genetic Diseases.

The Doctor spoke about the types of genetic diseases, causes and preventions. He gave an in-depth picture about diabetes and its genetic transitions, preventions and precautions. It was a well attended and informative meeting and members learned about the Genetic behavior of the Human Body.

It was fun time when all members of our club with their families got together for the Vocational Visit to Koyyalagudem village on 22nd Aug 2004. Koyyalagudem is a small village (around 60 km from the city) and is famous for Ikkat Weaving (TYE and DYE). The tour was organized and hosted by PP Rtn. Vaman Rao and Rtn. Jitender Aggarwal.

There was fantastic participation from the members who turned out in large numbers.



PP Rtn. Vaman Rao celebrating his wedding anniversary



Members enjoying the ride to the Koyyalagudem Village

The club organized a luxury bus and all members traveled together in the hour and a half drive to the village. It was PP Rtn. Vaman's wedding anniversary the same day and all members assembled at his house for a surprise celebration.

The drive to the village was an enjoyable one. All members were in full flow and participated in Antakshari that was played enroute. We reached the village at 11:00 am and assembled at the Village Weavers Cooperative Society, where we were joined by the members of the society for a guided tour of the village.



Members watching the workers weave their magic.

It was a very interesting and informative tour especially when we come to understand the kind workmanship and hardwork goes behind making a single meter of woven fabric. We visited many weaver workshops, dyers, yarn makers, color mixers and learned how fabric is woven.

The tour was followed by a lunch that was organized by the villagers. It was an impressive and mouth watering spread of local cuisine and members stuffed themselves to the full. All members participated in cricket and other Games organized by the hosts. Anns did a bit of shopping of woven fabrics that are available at very reasonable rates at the Society Shop.

We thank PP Rtn. Vaman Rao for his efforts in organizing such a fun-filled outing and Rtn. Jitender for hosting such a wonderful event. We all look forward to many more such outings that take togetherness and fellowship with in our club to a next level. The last meeting of the month was held at Taj Tristar on 25th August 2004. It was a very spiritual talk on BODY BEAUTIFUL by Smt. R. lakshmi. It was a very interesting topic, where the speaker explained about the spiritual organs of the Human Body, and how to make the best use of it. She also spoke about positiveness and karma.



Smt.Lakshmi showing a diagram depicting the human body

It was a prolonged interactive session, with good participation from all the members present.

You don't have to see the whole staircase, just take the first step.

- Marting Luther King

Know Your Rotarian Couple

Your name: Vaman *Rao P* How are you called? *Vaman* Anns name: *Rohini Vaman Rao* How do you call her? *Rohini / Ron and quite often Mom.*

Something about your wife? Simple, sensitive, very affectionate and generous.

What upsets her and how do you make her happy? My impulsive decisions - I have to wait for time to heal the wounds (naturopathy), which fortunately is short.

Your best moment in life? Vaman: News of Megha's (first daughter) birth when I was traveling. Rohini : My second pregnancy, Kirti's birth and bringing her up.

When did you first meet Rohini and what were her reactions? In hospital as a five day old baby in hospital. She stared (tried to) at me with a bored expression, yawned and went to sleep. Place of Honeymoon? Secunderabad Your favorite pastime? Vaman : Sports and games, music, reading. Rohini : Visiting friends. How do you spend time with your family? Doing things together - outings, visiting friends, movies anything which keeps us together.

How will you spend one lakh in a day? Depends on where it comes from. If it is a windfall - have a bash with friends / relatives (maybe). If earned -save it.

What have you learned from Rotary and your experiences as a PP? That any task becomes simple with' teamwork. Also that nothing that is given is ever wasted be it time, energy, money, effort - it comes back multifold.

Programs for August					Team 04-05	
				Speaker Meeting	Rtn Lokesh Jain	
Saturday	4th Sep	Hot	el	Talk by Mr. Ralph Sunil - GM		President
	8:30 am	Taj Tr	istar	Prasad's IMAX,	Rtn. B.S. Ravindrar	nath
				on Body Language		Secretary
				Joint Meeting	Rtn. Rajesh Pamnani	
		Hot	el			Vice President
Saturday	11th Sap	Fortu	ine	District Polio Conference	Rtn. S.K. Verma	
	9:00 am	Katri	ya	Inauguration by Hon'ble CM		President Elect
				Dr. Y. Rajashekhar Reddy	Rtn. Subhas Dh	andhania
						Treasurer
Friday	17th Sap			Details to be sent by mail	Rtn. G. Srinivas	
	9:00 am	Eye C	amp		Rtn. N. Chandrashekhar	
	18th Sep			Fellowship	Rtn. Dr. Kailash Gu	pta
Saturday		Prasa	ad's	Hosted by Rtn. S.K. Verma	Rtn. K.R.P. Sarathy	
	7:30 pm	IMA	Х			
				and Rtn. Satish Manohar	Rtn. Sandeep Jhaw	var
				Speaker Meeting	Rtn. Monica Gossa	in
Saturday	25th Sep	Hot	el	Talk by Mr. Krishna Swamy	Rtn. Ranjeet Chowdhary	
	8:30 am	Taj Tristar		On Consumer Protection,	Directors	
				Problems and Solutions	Rtn. Jeetender	Agarwal
Sunrise Wishes					Seargent-at-Arms	
Birthdavs				Anniversaries	Rtn. Vaman Rao	
					Centennial Celek	oration Chairman
22nd Rtn. Suresh Kumar Verma 15th Rtn. Satish Manohar						

A winner is NOT one who NEVER FAILS, but one who NEVER QUITS!

A small boy - the fifth amongst seven siblings of a poor father, was selling newspapers in a small village to earn his living. He was not exceptionally smart at school but was fascinated by religion and rockets. The first rocket he built crashed. A missile that he built crashed multiple times and he was made a butt of ridicule. He is the person to have scripted the Space Odyssey of India single-handedly - Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam.

In 1954, Jimmy Denny, manager of the Grand Ole Opry, Fired a singer after one performance. He told him, "You ain't goin' nowhereson. You ought to go back To drivin' a truck." He went on to become Elvis Presley. When Thomas Edison invented the light bulb, he tried over 2000 experiments before he got it to work. A young reporter asked him how it felt to fail so many times. He said, "I never failed once. I invented the light bulb. It just happened to be a 2000-step process."

Character cannot be developed in ease and quiet only through experiences of trial and suffering can the soul be strengthened, vision cleared, ambition inspired and success achieved. You gain strength, experience and confidence by every experience Where you really stop to look fear in the face. You must do the thing you cannot do. And remember, the finest steel gets sent through the hottest furnace. In LIFE, remember that you pass this way only once! let's live life To the fullest and give it our extreme best.

"Failure is the pillar of success! Pick battles big enough to matter, small enough to win."

A polish immigrant goes to apply for a driver's license. He has to take an eye test. The optician shows him a card with the letters: 'C ZW I X N O S T A C Z'. "Can you read this ?" The optician asks. "Read it ?" The Polish guy replies,

"I know the guy."