



Rotary Club of Sonarpur

Rotary District : 3291



PRESIDENT :

Rana Safui

RI PRESIDENT :

Sakuji Tanaka

SECRETARY:

Gautam Ray

DISTRICT GOVERNOR:

Uttam Ganguli

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Rotary International, ShelterBox partner to aid disaster survivors worldwide

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Survivors of natural disasters worldwide will benefit from a new agreement between the humanitarian service organization Rotary International and the disaster relief charity ShelterBox that leverages the strengths of both organizations to provide

temporary shelters and critically needed supplies to displaced families quickly and efficiently. Thousands of individual Rotary clubs have supported the work of ShelterBox since it was founded 12 years ago by Tom Henderson, a Rotary club member in England. The new agreement formalizes the relationship by designating ShelterBox as Rotary International's first "projectpartner."

With more than 34,000 clubs in more than 200 countries and regions, Rotary is well positioned to help ShelterBox identify and prioritize immediate relief needs in disaster-affected communities and to assist with deployments. And Rotary clubs worldwide will now have a proven disaster relief charity to receive their contributions. "Our Rotary friends have always been there ready to assist – from generous donations to direct operational support on the ground Rotary has always been part of our DNA," said Henderson, ShelterBox CEO. "I feel like we have 34,000 ShelterBox offices around the world working together to help those who have lost everything when they need us the most." Rotary CEO and General Secretary John Hewko said the agreement will increase hands-on service opportunities for Rotary club members in disaster-affected communities by providing the means for local members to have an immediate, lifesaving impact. Each ShelterBox container typically provides a tent designed to withstand extreme weather conditions, stove, water purification kit, blankets, tools, and other necessities to help a family survive for six months or more after a disaster.

"For more than 10 years, ShelterBox has given light to over one hundred thousand families worldwide in their darkest hour," said Hewko. "This project partner agreement represents our mutual goal of helping those in need. It gives Rotary a forward-facing approach to immediate disaster relief."

ShelterBox has provided emergency shelter and lifesaving supplies for families affected by more than 175 disasters in nearly 80 countries. A ShelterBox Response Team was deployed to Madagascar in March after powerful cyclones left more than 250,000 people homeless. The

team has distributed more than 550 tents to affected communities. ShelterBox Response Teams are made up of trained volunteers, many of them Rotary members. Teams are currently operational in Peru, Turkey and the Democratic Republic of Congo. About Rotary International Rotary is a global humanitarian organization with more than 1.2 million members in 34,000 Rotary clubs in over 200 countries and geographical areas. Rotary members are men and women who are business, professional and community leaders with a shared commitment to make the world a better place through humanitarian service. Rotary's top priority is the global eradication of polio. For more information visit: www.rotary.org or www.rotary.org/mediacenter.

About ShelterBox Based in Cornwall, United Kingdom, with 21 international affiliates, ShelterBox is an international disaster relief charity that delivers emergency shelter, warmth, and dignity to people made homeless by disasters worldwide. The new agreement with Rotary broadens the charity's volunteer base, enhancing its capacity to respond instantly to disasters while keeping costs low.

Thought of the Day

*Yes, God and the
politicians willing,
the United States
can declare peace
upon the world,
and win it.*

- Ely Culbertson,

*Must We Fight Russia, chapter 5,
1946*

DISTRICT 3291 UPCOMING EVENTS

1. 29th July : Green Magic Project Launch at salt Lake Stadium, 10.30 am
2. 5th August : Workshop on Polio

We meet every Friday, 7.30pm. at ' HARMONY ', 20A, Kali Mohon Banerjee Lane, Kolkata 700025

Japan Recovery Fund helps communities rebuild

By Diana Schoberg -

The Rotarian -- July 2012

In ghost towns lying in the shadow of Japan's Fukushima nuclear power plant, cows and dogs roam the streets.

Buses and cars sit atop buildings, washed there by the tsunami that hit the country's northeastern coast on 11 March 2011. Debris mars the landscape.

When Kazuhiko Ozawa, Rotary Foundation trustee and chair of the Rotary East Japan Earthquake Recovery Fund Committee, talks about the Rotary-led recovery efforts in the region, his smile masks the heaviness he feels. To deal with the new reality, he says, he must persuade himself to be upbeat.

Providing comfort

Many people affected by the disaster are also coping with difficult emotions, and Rotarian projects have begun to help them. Initially, Ozawa says, funding proposals focused on urgent necessities – food, shelter, clothing. With time, the work has shifted from meeting physical needs to offering emotional support; projects have provided help lines, counselors, and libraries where orphaned children can find comfort.

"We found out that people were depressed. Some wanted to commit suicide," he says. "They had lost hope."

The Rotary Japan 2011 Disaster Recovery Fund collected nearly \$8 million by the time the fund closed on 30 June. A little over \$1 million went to Matching Grants in the months immediately after the earthquake and tsunami. Since 1 July 2011, the fund has been managed by Ozawa's committee and has supported more than 160 projects.



The disaster recovery fund covers 25 percent of a project's cost; clubs and districts are responsible for raising the rest. Ozawa expects that the efforts supported by the fund will have a total impact of \$32 million. (Sister clubs and districts in other countries have funded other projects on their own.) The six committee members, all of whom

are Rotarians in Japan, cover their own meeting and travel costs.

Projects have supplied schools with items including radiation counters and, in a city where the tsunami destroyed warehouses full of (now rotting) fish, screens to keep flies out. Rotarians have purchased medical equipment for hospitals and vehicles to deliver supplies, remove debris, and provide transportation.

Getting back to work

They are helping residents get back to work by giving new tractors, greenhouses, and dairy cattle to farmers; building a temporary chamber of commerce in one city to help businesspeople map out their recovery efforts; and purchasing fishing nets to replace those that had washed away. The fishermen were so grateful, Ozawa says, they gave Rotarian volunteers the first fish they caught.

"There are countless examples like this," he says.

In Japan, Ozawa says, the tradition of Rotary has been a philosophical one.

"You talk about the ideal of Rotary, the object of Rotary, or the vocational ethics, those kinds of things," he says. "This disaster, although it was unfortunate, has awakened people to what they can do."

In one city, he knows of four clubs that thought they would disband after the disaster.

"But when they saw people from all over the world contributing money and trying to support them, they changed their minds."

Meeting no 1062

Dated 20.07.2012

President called meeting no. 1062 to order.

National Anthem led by AG Rtn. Bibhas Roychoudhury.

President welcomed Rtn. Gour Roy and Mr. Soumyajit Dutta to our meeting.

Minutes of the last meeting confirmed.

Discussions:

- President Called upon two girls who applied for educational scholarship, to the dais and requested Rtn. Bibhas Roychoudhury to handover the scholarship to them.
- President and members fixed Tuesday, 24th July, 1.30pm for distribution of Scholarships to the Candidates of our Interact, Ballygaunge Bidyalaya & Shilpa Sikshayatan.
- Members discussed about Tree Plantation and decided to visit Prantik Pally – Shantipally at Kasba, our last year's venue, in a team to assess the scope.
- President and members discussed and decided to campaign 'Four Way Test' at our Interact School.

President handed over the business to the Secretary Rtn. Gautam Ray, who announced the receipt of bulletins from neighboring clubs, and upcoming District events. Secretary handed back the meeting to President Rtn. Rana Safui who invited all members and their family for fellowship and dinner on 22nd July, 7.30 pm.

Having no other business, President terminated the meeting.

Members Present: 10 Sunshine Collected : Rs. 200/-

Distribution of Scholarships On 20th & 24th July 2012



11 students were benefited

Four Way Test

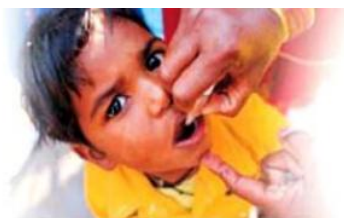
Is it the TRUTH ?

Is it FAIR to all concerned ?

Will it build GOODWILL and better FRIENDSHIP ?

Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned ?

**GLOBAL
POLIO ERADICATION
INITIATIVE**



every last child