

**RI President: Ron D. Burton**  
**President: Gautam Ray**



**District Governor: Rajani Mukerji**  
**Secretary: Debasis Chakraborty**

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## UK aid for firefighting in Valley

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KATHMANDU: The Rotary International District (RID) 3292 Nepal-Bhutan in collaboration with the UK-based Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service has scaled up efforts to equip the Kathmandu Valley with firefighting and humanitarian kits.

As part of its programme, 10 aquaboxes were handed over to Kathmandu, Biratnagar, Birgunj, Butwal and Dhangadhi Rotary Clubs each, at a function organised in the Capital today. They were also provided with firefighting gears. The aquaboxes and firefighting gears were donated by Rotary Club of Wirksworth and the UK-based firm, respectively.

According to RID 3292, the kits were made available in these cities with the objective of managing essential equipment and humanitarian goods before tackling disasters in the first phase. The aquabox contains clothing and hygiene equipment for humanitarian and emergency relief with special focus on women and children. Other materials include fireproof jackets and stretchers.

The RID 3292 is also doing its groundwork to provide aquaboxes and firefighting gears to nine other cities as well.

Rotarian Tirtha Man Shakya said Rotary Nepal has established a disaster management fund of Rs 10 million and has collected Rs 5.5 million as donation from Rotarians in the past two years. Rotarian governor Dilendra Raj Shrestha said they were planning to manage 200 units of shelter box to be used during disasters. "We have stepped up our efforts in association with the government and the Nepali Army," he informed.

John Monaghan, station manager of the UK-based firm, said his organisation has been working to produce skilled firefighters for the past five years. "We have offered firefighting training to 104 people in 22 cities of Nepal. Tangible change has been seen between then and now in terms of their capacity to tackle disasters," he said, adding that his office will provide two small fire trucks to two municipalities soon.

## A Royal Presentation for HM The Queen by Rotary International



Rotary International Director Mike Webb and Past District Governor Judith Diment went to Buckingham Palace yesterday to take the Rotary Award of Honor for Her Majesty the Queen

Rotary International recognized Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II with the Rotary International Award of Honor to celebrate the 60th anniversary

of her Coronation. Her Majesty The Queen, who has graciously accepted this prestigious honor, has supported Rotary's polio eradication and humanitarian programs.

The award was presented on behalf of Rotary International President Ron Burton at Buckingham Palace, London. Since 1990, the President of Rotary International has granted the Rotary International Award of Honor to deserving individuals, namely Past recipients of the Rotary International Award of Honor include the late Nelson Mandela, State President, Republic of South Africa; His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI; UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon.

## Britain to give £100m to help the battle against polio,

### International Development Minister announces



Britain will give £100m to help eradicate polio, Justine Greening, International Development

Minister told a conference on November 9, 2013.

Polio outbreaks in Syria and East Africa threaten to reverse decades of progress in eradicating the disease, Ms Greening told International Rotarians in Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire.

The International Development Secretary announced the release of £100 million to help the drive to eradicate polio. This forms part of the UK's £300 million pledge to help vaccinate up to 360 million children by 2018.

The announcement comes as numbers of recorded polio cases have risen. Since 1988, the number of countries in which polio is endemic has dropped from 125 to just three: Afghanistan, Pakistan and Nigeria. Last year, there were just 223 reported cases globally. However this year, Somalia recorded its first cases of polio since 2007. Cases were also reported in neighbouring countries like Kenya and Ethiopia. Last month, the first outbreak of polio in Syria in 14 years was confirmed.

The respect medical journal the Lancet reported recently that Europe could be at risk from polio following a recent outbreak in Syria. Two doctors in Germany say the cases in Syria - which had been free of wild poliovirus since 1999 - could endanger nearby regions. A huge vaccination campaign against polio has been launched by the United Nations in the Middle East after the disease re-emerged in Syria.

The British money will help fund a huge vaccination campaign against polio launched by the United Nations in the Middle East after the disease re-emerged in Syria. The UN says it aims to immunise more than 20 million children in several countries over six months.

Justine Greening said: "In 1988, there were 350,000 new cases of polio reported across the globe. Last year there were 223. Thanks to global efforts to tackle this disease, including the vital work of Rotary International, we are within reach of finally consigning polio to the history books.

"Yet new cases in Syria and East Africa threaten to reverse decades of progress. Now is the time to step up efforts to finally rid the world of polio. This should not be limited to one country or one organisation. Everyone has a part to play."

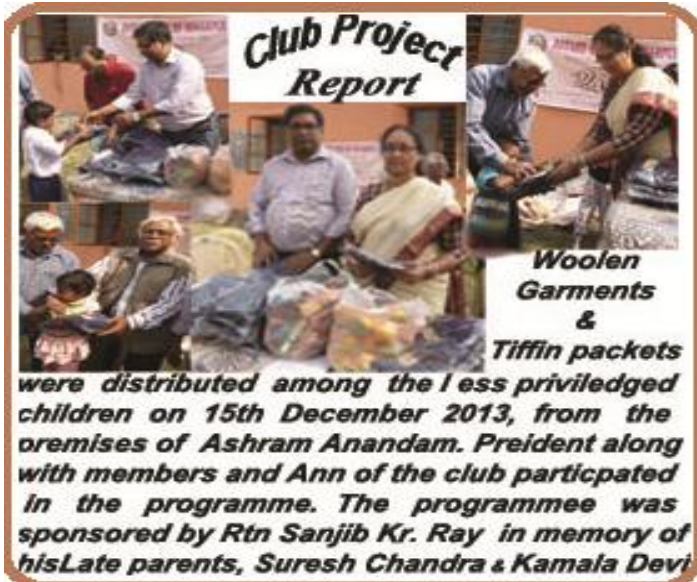
Gary Huang, President-elect of Rotary International, said: "Thanks in great part to the support of the United Kingdom, the world is on the verge of defeating polio once and for all. The world must remain vigilant, united in the effort to ensure that no child will have to suffer the crippling effects of polio. The recent outbreaks in the Horn of Africa and Syria are stark reminders of how dangerous the wild polio virus is. The world must remain firmly united in the effort to conquer polio where it persists."

### Upcoming District Event

✚ 'Aikatan', District Conference 2013-2014 at SWABHUMI ON 11<sup>TH</sup> & 12 January 2014

**We meet every Friday, 7.30pm at Hotel Park Palace, 49/2, Gariahat Road, Kolkata 700019**





**Woolen Garments & Tiffin packets** were distributed among the less privileged children on 15th December 2013, from the premises of Ashram Anandam. President along with members and Ann of the club participated in the programme. The programme was sponsored by Rtn Sanjib Kr. Ray in memory of his Late parents, Suresh Chandra & Kamala Devi

### Upcoming Club event

District Grant Project, 'Distribution of Sewing machines on 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> January 2014

**3291 gets one more eye hospital**



'Rotary Hooghly Eye Hospital', a new eye hospital was inaugurated On 2nd December by PRIIP Kalyan Banerjee. The foundation stone was laid by him in 2006. Seven long years of struggle, commitment & determination has gifted us this new facility.

### Health Point



### Minutes of Meeting

Meeting no. 1211

Dated 14.12.2013

President Rtn. Gautam Ray calls meeting no. 1211 to order

National Anthem led by Rtn. Sanjoy Ghosh

Minutes of the last meeting confirmed.

#### Discussions

President discussed on a letter received from an organization through DG 3291 for awarding scholarship to students of Govt colleges.

Members present discussed on an appeal to all Rotarians for helping the joint initiative of Govt. of Uttarakhand and Rotary International to rebuild/ repair 175 school buildings damaged by the disaster and resolved to donate Rs. 500.00 per member for the noble cause.

President discussed the electronic communication from the District 3291, urging the club authorities to pursue reporting by the RCCs. Members present urged to take up the matter with the RCCs and request them for periodical reporting.

Members present discussed and resolved that the President will cast vote to select District COL representative during the District Conference 2013-2014. In the absence of President the Secretary will cast the vote for the club.

President apprised the members about the receipt of 80% of District Grant against Sewing Machine Distribution project. He also informed that full payment has been made to the vendor for delivering the sewing machines. Members present resolved to execute the project on 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> December 2013.

President announced the Donation collected by Rtn. Sanjay Ghosh to be spent for service projects.

President handed over the business to the Secretary who announced the receipt of letters, bulletin from neighboring clubs and the upcoming District events after announcing the Birthdays and Wedding Anniversary of members, Anne & Rotalet and handed back the meeting to the President.

President called the A.G.M. for the year 2013-2014 to order and confirmed the minutes of the last A.G.M.

President requested Rtn. Rana Safui to submit the Club accounts for last year. Rtn. Rana Safui asked for extension of time till 15<sup>th</sup> January 2014, as the same could not be completed due to some unavoidable circumstances.

President handed over the business to Election Commissioner Rtn. Sanjib Ray who announced that on the basis of nominations submitted, Rtn. Sajal Dutta, Rtn. Debasis Chakraborty, Rtn. Mridul Chanda has been elected uncontested for the posts of President Elect 2014-2015, Secretary and Treasurer respectively along with three Directors, namely, Rtn. Pradeep Kr. Choudhury, Rtn. Sarbendu Dutta & Rtn. Dr. Malay Chatterjee.

Members present discussed and selected Rtn. Samir Kr. Ray, Rtn. Chandan Goswami & Rtn. Santanu Ghosh as three more Directors for the year 2014-2015.

There being no other business, President terminated the meeting.

Members present: 16

Sunshine collection: 320

### The Best Sentence By Swami Vivekananda...

