



Very warm welcome our new leader, Shekhar da!



Our sense of elation is already on Cloud 9 to witness the momentous event! By the time, Friends, you see this bulletin, Rtn. Shekhar Mehta, [fondly called Shekhar da in Kolkata meaning ‘elder brother’], will have assumed the high office as the Rotary International President for 2021-22! E-Bulletin recognizes the above RI theme for the year under your leadership which almost reads as the ‘pledge’ of every Rotarian and each Rotary leader in the Zones, Districts and Clubs!!

The 2021-22 Presidential theme is **‘Serve to Change Lives’**.

e-Bulletin shall not repeat Shekharda’s bio data which is available all across the Rotary universe! E-Bulletin only focuses on the story of pride he brings, privilege he bestows and message he conveys. He “encouraged district leaders-elect to lead by example during their term and inspire Rotary and Rotaract members to participate in projects that have measurable and sustainable impacts. He’s asking each club to conduct a Rotary Day of Service.”

Shekhar da is only the 4th Indian in 115 years to be nominated as the President of Rotary International for the year 2021-22. Dedicated to service, Shekhar da has led many major service initiatives in India including providing –

- 500 homes for Tsunami survivors at Andaman & Nicobar Islands,
- Shelter Kit program serving about 75,000 disaster victims,

- ‘Dil Se’ a paediatric Heart Surgery Program for children from across India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal & African Countries.

- Facilitated a National Program T-E-A-C-H, reaching to more than 50,000 Schools and 15 million children.

- Take the E-Learning Program to millions of children through the television channels of GoI.

- He is the architect of the Rotary Total Literacy Program of India.

- Other initiatives include Eye Hospitals, scholarship program called UDAAN for marginalized children, set up 6000 rural toilets, etc.

- Shekhar da is spearheading a National Program under Rotary India Humanity Foundation, to do India-wide projects in collaboration with the GoI in the areas of Water, Sanitation, Literacy, Healthcare, Environment and Disaster Management.

He is a motivational speaker. He has spoken at hundreds of events nationally and internationally which has helped raise millions of dollars for The Rotary Foundation.

Shekhar da is recipient of the highest awards of Rotary International & The Rotary Foundation, (i) “Service Above Self Award” (ii) “The Meritorious Service Award” and (iii) “Distinguished Service Award”.

He will serve as the world leader of 1.2 million Rotarians in 200 countries and geographical areas in the year 2021-2022. His guiding mantra in life is “Service is the rent that we pay for the space we occupy on the Earth”.

On Girl Education, for the 2021-22 Rotary year, Shekhar da wants members “to focus their efforts on empowering girls and ensuring their access to education, resources, services, and opportunities so that future generations of women leaders will have the tools they need to succeed.”

“Rotary kindled the spark within me to look beyond myself and embrace humanity,” he said. “Service became a way of life for me and I, like many others, adopted the guiding philosophy that ‘Service is the rent I pay for the space I occupy on this earth, and I want to be a good tenant of this earth.”

He implores members to push to change lives of those deprived of basic education, basic health, life saving



vaccines, minimum shelter, riding gender discrimination & ignorance, clean water, electricity, serve the helpless & the exploited, rehabilitation of victims of conflicts and natural calamities and those dispossessed as a result.

His Exhortation - Rotarians to find innovative ways all the time to raise funds, to raise awareness and to raise its image as ‘doer of good to the community’. SAFGR [South Asian Fellowship of Golfing Rotarians] in its own inimitable ways practices Rotary to promote fellowship, networking, use passion of golf as means to raise Rotary image and raise funds when in need across the region of South Asia and beyond.

For better Outreach - senior members have found ways to connect passionate golfers to Rotary with exclusive platform to promote fellowship and engage in service. PDG Parag, Chair SAFGR, threw the idea of ‘exchange program’ for golfers while Rtn. Navdeep initiated a Club with only golfers as its members who are relatively young, perhaps first in the Rotary world-wide.

Future Leaders - To continue its journey to bring young leaders to the fore and recognize them as much as possible. E-Bulletin has decided to catalogue SAFGR members in their new leadership roles in Rotary somewhere in this issue. We hope the golfing Rotarians will ‘serve to change lives’, as Shekhar da says - be it disaster response, heart surgeries, clean water, guarding environment or TEACH Program in South Asia.

Like ‘Rotary Day of Service’, SAFGR would work with golfers to have ‘meaningful day’ of hands-on service activities where Rotarian golfers and the community come together for humanitarian work to improve neighbourhood community.

In addition to many awards, rewards, recognitions and citations, SAFGR trusts Shekharda leads in his mission to newer heights. We wish him and his wife Ann. Rashi all the success and good health.



Message from
Chair, SAFGR

Tumultuous

Dear Golfing Friends,
One more glorious Rotary year comes to an end! SAFGR has had many ups and downs during this pandemic year. My heartiest congratulations to all SAFGR members who completed their leadership at the club, district or Rotary International levels successfully. Indeed we were stuck at home to save

ourselves and golfing was less in tis pandemic time. However, most of us had sustained health through exercise, yoga meditation etc. at home. AS you know, we lost two of our respected friends PRID Yash Pal Das & Rtn. K. Vijaykumar during this year.

At SAFGR, we had a tremendous year with our membership shooting by almost 60% throughout South East Asia. Many innovative ideas were also implemented. 'Know our members' series is a popular program and we understand our strengths. Now we have many more friends in different cities and well connected with each other on virtual meetings. The Yash Pal Das Memorial Rotary Golf Tournament was historic and many more to cherish.

IGFR has accepted our request to host 58th IGFR World Championship in Delhi. Our teams are already readying for the mega event.

Friends, Rotary is for 'rotation and change'. It ushers new thinking, new ideas and new surging enthusiasm to serve Rotary. Most redeeming change is that we shall have a memorable year with R I President from India! We are proud that Shekhar Da is taking charge as Rotary International President. His vision is reflected in the Rotary theme – 'Serve Change the Lives'. SAFGR is looking forward to take up the pan South & South East Asia Service projects. I request all my friends to participate actively in SAFGR activities.

Many of the SAFGR members are taking charge either as Club President, Assistant Governor, District Secretary or various committee chairs in the district. My best wishes to all of them and we promise a whole-hearted support from SAFGR.

Have Happy Golfing!

Parag Sheth

LEADERSHIP GALORE AT SAFGR IN 2021-22'

OUR LEADER AT THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL
RTN. SHEKHAR MEHTA
Rotary International President 2021-22
RC Calcutta Mahanagar, India [RID 3291]

SAFGR MEMBERS AS LEADERS OF THEIR CLUBS & DISTRICTS

- Rtn. Anup Mittal**
Dist. Governor 2021-22
RC Delhi Chanakyapuri [RID 3011]
- Rtn. Jerome Rajendram**
Dist. Governor Nominee [2023-24]
RC Colombo West, Sri Lanka [RID 3220]
- Rtn. K. P. Bajaj**
President-2021-22
RC Jaipur Midtown [RID 3054]
- Rtn. Samir Shah**
President 2021-22
RC Mumbai Nariman Point [RID 3141]
- Rtn. Sailesh Gumidelli**
Asst. Governor & Dist. Conference Chairman
RC Hyderabad Deccan [RID 3150]
- Rtn. Kalpesh Shah**
Assistant Governor
RC Vadodara Syaji Nagari [RID 3060]

- Rtn. Madhukar Parikh**
Assistant Governor
RC Ahmedabad Cosmopolitan [Dist. 3054]
- PDG Rajendra M Doshi**
Zonal Chairman – Environment 2021-22
RC Kolhapur Central [RID 3170]
- Rtn. Dr Kameswar Singh Elangbam**
Dist. Secretary Rotary Foundation 2021-22
RC of Shillong [RID 3240]
- Rtn. Mohit Anand Bhatia**
Dist. Secretary
RC Faridabad Aravali [Dist. 3011]
- Rtn. Sharath Choudary**
Dist. Secretary / Chair, Dist. Membership Committee
RC Hyderabad Deccan [Dist. 3150]
- Rtn. Binod Khaitan**
Dist. Chair TRF Stewardship
RC Central Calcutta [RID 3291]
- Rtn. Jaswinder S. Birgi**
Secretary [2021-22]
RC Hyderabad Deccan [Dist. 3150]
- Rtn. Punam Sheth**
District Women Chair
RC Bharuch Narmada Nagari (RID 3060)
- PDG Madhukar Malhotra**
Dist. Chairman Stewardship Committee & Chairman Alumni
RC Chandigarh [RID 3080]

NEW ROTARY YEAR BEGINS FROM 1ST JULY. LET'S REMIND OURSELVES OF FEW LESSONS IN LEADERSHIP

Taking initiative is leadership. * being compassionate to all beings is leadership, * keeping positive approach is leadership * thinking of larger good is leadership * to listen more is leadership * being inspiring is leadership * cultivating humility is leadership * taking fellow beings along is leadership * to 'join teams' is leadership * respecting others' views is leadership * to be discrete in choice of right words at right place is leadership * respecting old and young is leadership * being humble is leadership * timeliness in daily life is leadership * being humble is leadership * respect for others' time is leadership * honest approach to any task is leadership * being mild mannered * showing camaraderie is leadership being fair to all concerned is leadership * being appreciative of most things is leadership * respect for buyers / sellers is leadership * habit of 'we do together' is leadership * ever-smiling face is a trait of a leader! One can go on....



TRIBUTE TO A LEGEND!
Legendry Milkha Singh respectively sees to his last hurdle with his long given nickname 'the flying Sikh'. One more legend passed away due to Covid SAFGR pays its tribute to the India's only athlete of stature!

‘KNOW OUR MEMBERS’ SERIES JOURNEY OF A PASSIONATE ‘LAKE MAN’

Rtn. P N Mohan, RC Madras, RID 3232

GUEST SPEAKER on 9th June, 2021 [4]

A pioneer in restoration of public city lakes, PN has been a Rotarian for over 30 years. Though he has been involved in several social projects, considering direct benefit to the poor people without drinking water be considers close to his heart. So far seven Lakes has been restored covering over 600 acres benefitting 8 lac people.

Rtn. P.N. Mohan is a C.A. and has been associated with leading firms like Price Waterhouse, A.F. Ferguson and Ernst & Young oversees for over 2 decades. On return to India he ventured into pioneering ‘Timeshare Industry’. He promoted Sterling Holiday Resorts in India and is the recipient of the European Timeshare Hall of Fame award in 1995.

He was part of the initial team to set up the Indian sports club in Dubai, he also set up Indian Fine Arts Association, Dubai chapter of the ICAI. Widely travelled, Mohan has been a speaker in many conventions around the world. He is a keen golfer and early member of SAFGR, besides several other city Clubs.

He is happily married to Ann. Reeta. Though a home maker, she is an accomplished music artist & teaches Carnatic music. The couple is blessed with two daughters Priya and Sandhya who are professionals.

During his talk to the members - we noticed that he keeps re-inventing himself all the time! His Timeshare venture at its peak had 3000

persons when 14 resorts were in operation. He took the initiative to set up world class golf course in Noida and walked with legendary designer Greg Norman. This very course today is known as Jaypee Greens in Noida.

On the community service front, he said he kept wondering how city dwellers could get rid of the drudgery of women and men struggling daily at the public water points. Through contacts he managed information of a survey of the Niti Ayog known as Composite Management Index that 4 large metro cities could face huge water scarcity along with other 17 Indian cities.

In about 3 years he covered several city lakes measuring 700 acres and benefiting over 8 lac people. Not only did Rotary provide funds, his efforts attracted many large corporates also who chipped in to the program. Today several Rotary Clubs are coming to learn about the lake restoration program including an Inner Wheel Club.

We believe his talk brought to the foreground the water issue having ripple effects on food and green cover.



JOURNEY OF A COMPASSIONATE PROFESSIONAL

Rtn. Hemant Arora, RC Roorkee Midtown, RID 3080

GUEST SPEAKER on 22nd June 2021 [5]



Soft spoken and amiable, he is a thorough corporate professional of over 35 years of experience, was born to an Advocate in Saharanpur in 1952.

His independent professional practice in Tax and Accounting has offices in Dehradun, Haridwar, Gurgaon and Mumbai besides Roorkee. Considered an authority in the fields of statutory, internal and tax audits, he deals with Banks and large PSU's.

He is on the board of several private corporates as an independent professional Director. He has carried out many management / project consultancy assignments for large multinational companies. He is a visiting Faculty of I.I.T., Roorkee. Rtn. Hemant also served as the Chairman of CII, Uttaranchal

State Council during 2005-06. He is also recipient of Prestigious Uttarakhand Rattan Award.

He is considered a veteran Rotarian who belongs to Rotary Club of Roorkee MidTown. He is Past Governor [2002-03] of RID 3080. In 1996-97 he led the Team of a GSE Team in RID 9550 in Australia. During the year of his Governorship, he led an Inter-Continental Medicare Team of 17 Indian Doctors to Swaziland in South Africa.

He has been closely involved in organizing regular Free Polio Corrective Surgery and Blood Donation Camps in the District. In recognition of his dedicated services & outstanding contribution to the cause of Rotary, PDG Hemant was conferred the ‘Service Above Self Award’, the highest award of Rotary International.

His has been closely associated with several iconic philanthropic and service institutions including Soni Foundation Trust, Ministry of Defence's trust known as BEG and Centre, Roorkee, Akansha Charitable Trust, BHEL, Hardwar. He is President of Chinmaya Mission Roorkee, to name only a few.

Married to Sunita, Arora couple is blessed with daughter Garima and son Pavitra. While former is an entrepreneur with her husband, son is a practicing lawyer and married to Aarshi. They are proud grandparents too.

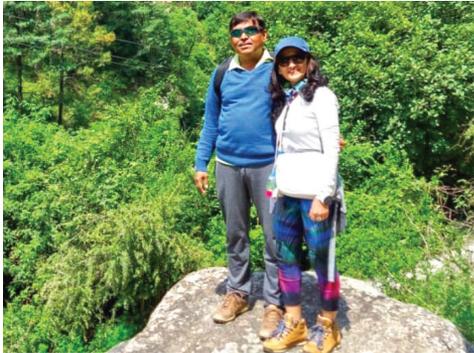
He said he started to believe in destiny as he not always planned things the way those happened. Be it Rotary, career or anything else. But hard work helped shape the destiny the right way! He is a contented family today. He emphasized that Rotary taught him virtue of fellowship and golf and SAFGR only strengthened that resolve. He will be happy to work towards a possible golf course under SAFGR in and around Uttarakhand State with all contacts available.

**SAVE THE DATES!
SPEAKERS IN JULY**

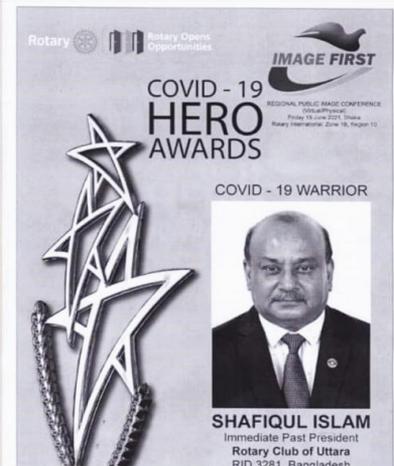
13th July 2021
Rtn. Dr. Mandar M. Shah
[RC Jamshedpur]

27th July 2021
Rtn. Jerome Rajendram, DGN 3220,
[RC Colombo West]

WISHING MORE INNINGS TO P. & P.!



E-Bulletin joins SAFGR in wishing Parag Punam couple a very happy and contented married life. May you both be blessed with all the happiness, good health and super golfing!



They say in times of crises, many Rotarians shine! Warm greetings, Rtn. Shafiq from entire SAFGR family! You are a living example of heroic service to the community! You are truly a Hero!

LONGITUDE & LATITUDE INCREASES [23N, 73E TO 28N, 77E] ...VIA FARIDABAD :

Navdeep Chawla [RC NCR Golfers, RID 3011]



You will be pleased to learn of the birth of 'E-Rotary Club of National Capital Region Golfers'! Well Friends, you can call it a long journey from May to June! As the latitude and longitude increases, as one proceeds from Vadodara (23N, 73E) to Faridabad (28N, 77E), our SAFGR membership numbers have also seen a jump as Faridabad takes lead over Vadodara! Congratulations dears!!

Mentoring father of this new Club is none other than Rtn. Navdeep Chawla who took an innovative route - perhaps the first in the realm of Rotary! He was implemented the Rotary credo of 'Service Above Self' and 'sound fellowship' by encouraging young business leaders and golfers of Faridabad, NOIDA, Gurgaon to be Rotarians and aptly christened as 'Rotary Club of National Capital Region Golfers' [RCNCRG].

Rtn. NC confided that many passionate young golfers play with single Hep and willing to go that extra mile to bring honours in the international arena too! "One would imagine the young brigade taps on CSR funds at their disposal to serve community", he shared. A warm welcome to the first batch of new Rotarian golfers to the SAFGR fraternity. E-Bulletin learns "there are nearly 200

youth in good businesses with passion for golf in the NCR region". The golfers from anywhere can become members of RCNCRG and hence "his target would be to tap the potential young golfers of NCR to the new Club".

He also urged golfers to fill the usual details in Rotary membership form with golf details for the approval. And Bingo! Annual fee is modest Rs.10, 000/- with Rs. 5,000/- payable to SAFGR as life membership of each member. As for meetings, members shall meet every month over at one of the golf courses after a game of golf! Members not present can attend via virtual connection. Enticing, isn't it?

Hey Friends, why not contact our friendly Rtn. Navdeep for free counsel to know how to rope in our golfing youth to Rotary through this club of golfers? It could be a ted easier than you think!

SAFGR Members who are 'AKS' [Arch Klumph Society] too!

PRID Y P Das [Late] [RC Ambala, RID 3080]

Rtn. Suresh K Poddar [RC Jaipur Midtown, RID 3054]

Rtn. K. Ajit Kumar Rai [RC Bangalore Indiranagar, RID 3190]

Rtn. Navdeep Chawla [RC NCR Golfers, RID 3011] and

Rtns. Punam & Parag Sheth [RC Bharuch Narmada Nagari, RID 3060]

MEET & GREET EVENTS OF THE MONTH

WEST – AHMEDABAD

UNIQUE WAY TO CELEBRATE!

Perhaps each golfer has his/her unique 'style' to do things - to celebrate or to have fun! Rtn. Dr. Kaushal Anand's [RC Ahm. Cosmopolitan] birthday on 1st June too was celebrated precisely that way!



His golfing buddies [with some to be potential Rotarians & SAFGRians!] played game at Kalhaar Blues & Greens Golf Course, Ahmedabad as 'famous golfers! All wearing T-shirts with names of legendary golfers world-wide printed. Dr. Kaushal decided to wear Hideki Matsutani's, the recent Master Winner at Augusta! That's called fun that is also inspiring!

COURTESY CALL!

While at the Kensville Golf Course, Rtn. Sandeep Bhalla [RC Baroda Cosmopolitan] and Rtn. Sanjiv Bhandari [RC Baroda Jawahar Nagar] paid a visit to Chair Parag's home inside the same Estate.



WEST – BHARUCH

BIG THANKYOU!

'Very warm thanks to PDG Parag Sheth for his *Directed Gift to TRF* worth US\$ 32,000.0! Your generosity and commitment to TRF is indeed exemplary.

WEST – MUMBAI

HELP IN NEED

To alleviate the hardship of the caddies of the Willingdon Golf Club, Mumbai due to the on-going pandemic, golfing Rotarians of RC of Mumbai Queens Necklace distributed 120 ration kits all of them.



NORTH – CHANDIGARH

BREAK FREE!

To alleviate the hardship of the caddies of the Willingdon Golf Club, Mumbai due to the on-going pandemic, golfing Rotarians of RC of Mumbai Queens Necklace distributed 120 ration kits all of them.



NORTH – DELHI



Led by Rtn. Manoj Jain [RC Delhi South East, RID 3011] two 4- balls played at the Qutab Golf Course, New Delhi last week. This is called breaking free! Well done Manoj!

NORTH – KASHMIR

It is not uncommon for Rtns. Navdeep and S K Jain [both RC NCR Golfers] to be in Srinagar or Pahalgam for golf sake! In fact you can see them in Timbuktu also! Compliments, brothers!



SOUTH – COIMBATORE

SAMPLING LEADERSHIP!



SAFGR member Rtn. Sunku Radesh Kumar of RC Coimbatore Smart City has been appointed as Dist. Co-ordinator for International Golfing Fellowship of Rotarians for the year 2021-2022 by DG RID 3201. We say good virus of golf has reached his Rotary district! Great opportunity to serve cause of Golf, Sunku! We hope you bring laurels to the SAFGR golfing fraternity!

SOUTH – BANGALORE

DREAM COME TRUE - COURSE IS OPEN!

Great feeling to get back to the course after 2 months of lockdown! Rtn. Dr. Pradeep Rao [in Maroon T-shirt] with Rtn. Dr. Arjun [in blue T-shirt] at the Bangalore Golf Club with two other golfing friends.



SOUTH – BANGALORE

A NOBLE GESTURE!

“Rtn K Ajith Rai [RC Bangalore Indiranagar, RID 3190] and Chairman, Suprajit Engg. 390 kits containing provisions, food & dry fruits to caddies, guards, staff, etc. at the KGA [Karnataka Golf Club]. This support is part of total 3000 kits his company has donated Pan-India. Great gesture of kind generosity of SAFGR fraternity! Thank you Ajith, God bless!”



MECCA OF GOLF - III

ROYAL & ANCIENT GOLF CLUB OF ST. ANDREWS
[The Old Course] St. Andrews, Fife, Scotland

➤ St. Andrews is located on a thin strip of land that at times hardly seems wide enough to hold a golf championship event. On fourteen holes there are large double greens!

It is interesting to note that the sum of any two holes sharing a green totals eighteen! The greens which sit up above the fairways, are usually hard from the constant breezes off the shore, making it difficult to land and stay with lofted approach shots.

The pitch and run is often the only solution. As Rear Admiral Ravi mentioned in the last issue of e-Bulletin, two major problems are the wind and the bunkers.

Bunkers, which are distinguished with names such as ‘Hell’s Bunker’ and the ‘Beardies’, are a little more predictable while the wind can swirl and gust at such temps as to never give players an advantageous hole.

These revelations bring in fame, history, nature of the course! Also, these insights have definitely wetted our appetite to visit this course and put it at the top of our checklist for the ‘must play’ once in a lifetime list of courses!

Friends, St. Andrews is also home of Royal & Ancient, the governing body to the game in most parts of the world. Here, rules are determined and policies set. The organization has served as golf’s guiding hand. [Concluded]



FIRST BATCH OF ID CARDS ON THE WAY!

➤ Ahoy! I have received one! Several members too have reported having received theirs. When we called Rtn. Madhukar to say thank you, he told us that about 200 members’ ID cards are now under dispatch to the regional leaders / city members we already know. He is hopeful that these leaders will ensure further delivery to each member in their respective geography.

For the remaining cards, he quipped “once photo and blood group information is available”. Friends, extend your helping hand!

IGFR CALLING!

By now you will recall how benefits of membership of IGFR accrue! It enables you to play the IGFR tournaments all over the world. It’s a lot more prestigious to be IGFR life member! visit www.igfr-international.com

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

TARGET: 30 RUNS in 5 OVERS!

[30 MORE IN 30 DAYS!]

As we celebrate addition of 13 passionate golfers of new Rotary Club of NCR Golfers, we thank Rtn. Navdeep to make Rotary membership so much easy as in the foregoing para. We just leant that at the end of June ‘21 we are a 270 strong and only short of 30 to our target of 300 by July-end!

Dear Leaders of the Regions, are you listening? This is a polite reminder that you focus on the cities of Chandigarh, Coimbatore, Delhi, Goa, Jaipur, Pune, and Vizag which report huge potential.

You have the responsibility to lead from the front!
For Forms call the Chair, Membership Promotion
Rtn. Kalpesh Shah [9925027472] or the e-Bulletin team!!