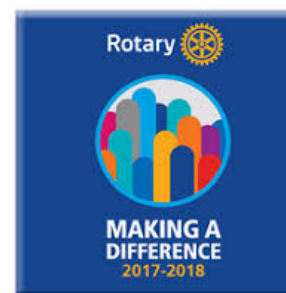




BREAKFAST CHATTER 2016/2017



The Weekly Bulletin of Rotary Club of Kathmandu Mid-Town
Celebrating 28 Years of Rotary

DECEMBER IS DISEASE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT MONTH

Weekly Meetings and Programmes:

Date	Speaker	Program/Topics of Presentation
22 December	Mr Abdullah Tuncer Kececi, General Manager of Turkish Airlines in Nepal	His talk will be on: "The role of civil aviation in the actual and potential tourism sector of Nepal seen from the perspective of Turkish Airlines"



WE WISH YOU ALL A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR 2018

CLUB MEETING



IPP Shankar wrote an article in Himalayan Times on the subject

<https://thehimalayantimes.com/business/belt-and-road-initiative-help-bridge-infrastructure-deficit-south-asia-say-stakeholders/>

FIRST STEPS HIMALAYA

Changing lives one classroom at a time

Update from Nepal: December 2017

Project Progress

Project summary: Our ongoing positive progress has taken another great leap forward. There has been remarkable progress over the last few months at some of our project schools whilst others continue at a slightly slower pace. Teacher training has been our main focus for primary and secondary school teachers. Early childhood classes have improved greatly due to supervision visits and in classroom training from our Sangachok based staff.

Conclusions and

CLUB NEWS

On Saturday 16 December at the Summit Hotel the Club had a really good fellowship, even though it was to say bye to our Anja and her husband Poul as we all decided it should not be a good bye.



Isa had a great idea for entertainment and we all enjoyed to tell the funniest events we remembered in our lives.



And what's more we had more attendee members than had signed up. A great sign that our members feel more for togetherness.



PROJECTS AND GRANT NEWS

VP Lisa has forwarded a status report on:

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Conclusions and

Recommendations: 2017 has been a highly successful year, evident by the vastly improved classrooms. Training makes all the difference and once teachers really get on board and are motivated to use child friendly methods, the experience for the children

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Rtn Prasun Jalan introduced our in-house speaker IPP Dr. Shankar Sharma.

In the spirit of November being Rotary Foundation Month TRF Head Isa had circulated a pledge for a 200 \$ contribution from each member for the year 2017/2018. If each member pledges this contribution the Club will be able to meet our goals.

Please bring your contribution as soon as possible.



photo Credit Rtn Isa

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Ms and Ms Rotaract Nepal

Three Rotaracts of Kathmandu Mid-Town have successfully crossed the second round of the competition for Mr / Ms Rotaract and are among the selected 18 M + 18 F. Our club is the only one to have three candidates selected. The names are Dipesh Limbu, Smarika Chhetri and Sushma Shrestha. Our club is supporting NRS 21,000 for the contest and total NRS 15,000 was raised.



Speaking about the Chinese Belt and Road Initiative and its consequences for Nepal based on his article In Himalayan Times/ Please follow the link for access to the original article.

Belt and Road Initiative

Objectives

- The Belt and Road Initiative, **basically is an infrastructure investment program creating a web of transportation system including roads, railways, telecommunications, energy pipelines, and ports across regions.**

- This would serve **to enhance economic interconnectivity and facilitate investment, increase trade and enhance people to people relations across Eurasia, East Africa and Asia.**

Participating countries

- 65 countries at present
- China will lead – Cost could be US\$1.3 trillion to US\$5 trillion project, depending upon its success

Benefits to China

- Development of Western part of China which is deprived compared to East Coast
- Wider transport network could help to improve investment climate and business of China
- This will be a big business to China

Nepal weak economy

- Strong comparative advantage in tourism but tourists' arrival < 1 million
- Infrastructure is essential – can and should take advantage of two giant countries
- FDI 1.5 us \$, compared to 45\$ in India; China 95\$
- About additional 3% of GDP is required for infrastructure in Nepal each year (to 600 million US\$)
- Export/GDP ratio declined to 3%-- needs to be promoted seriously

Nepal also needs to diversify

- Energy supply (petroleum products)—almost everything (100%) imported from India
- Trade—2/3rd with India
- Exports—57% export of total is with India
- **Transit route only in south and** dominated by Calcutta, one of the most inefficient ports

Benefits to Nepal from BRI

- Utilization and revival of traditional silk road
- Supply security --- energy, trade
- Infrastructure development
- Development of border areas, which is poor
- Door opened for not only to Tibet/China, but also to trans-Himalayan route to Central Asia, SE Asia and beyond
- Plugged to wider transportation link
- Benefits to tourism—Chinese can come to Pokhara/Lumbini easily and also benefits to Indian/Nepali to go to Mansarobar/Kailash
- Some benefits in exports
- Indian people and business will also benefit from it

Financing

- Silk Road Fund
- Asian Infrastructure and Investment Bank
- BRICS development bank

Questions

- For each and every project we need to do feasibility study—not only technical but also economic --- if we have to borrow--
- Macroeconomic impact – especially debt issues when it is a loan-
- Cost of project— if it is too high how do we deal with it
- Employment generation during and after the construction phase—what can be said
- Complementary economic activities—tourism in Northern part? Population declining—economic, Opportunities limited—how can we revive the economy
- Benefits to local people—how they will benefit?

Other Countries:

India, Japan and the United States have not supported it, but India is a shareholder in AIIB

Conclusion

- It is beneficial to Nepal
- Implications of projects on Nepal's debt and macroeconomic stability should be evaluated before taking projects
- Nepal should find ways to work with both countries-India and China to maximize the benefits derived from their economic growth and prosperity

Rtn Dr. Ganesh Gurung gave the Vote of thanks.

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL NEWS

INSPIRATION AROUND EVERY CORNER

We hope you'll join us 23-27 June at the Rotary International Convention in Toronto, where you'll immerse yourself in diverse cultures while having unforgettable experiences.

Make sure to take advantage of early registration savings by 15 December.

Are you still deciding whether to go? Visit [our website](#) to learn more about the biggest event of the year.

Rotary is delighted to welcome film producer [#JonathanCavendish](#) on board as a Purple4Polio Ambassador.

The new Rotary Global Rewards app is here.

Now, wherever you go, you can find discounts and special offers by using the new Rotary Global Rewards app. It lets you:

- Get discounts on products and services
- Find offers that give a percentage of your purchase to Rotary
- Post your own offers for members of the Rotary family
- Search for offers by name or keyword
- Download the app: [Apple App Store®](#) or [Google Play™](#)

[LEARN MORE](#)

CALENDAR AND EVENTS IN KATHMANDU

January 2018

Vocational Service Month

PLEASE UPDATE YOUR 'MY ROTARY' ACCOUNT

First go to www.rotary.org.

Then click on My Rotary. And then Click on Sign In/Register.

If you are a first-time user, click on Create account.

Fill in the Account registration information and click on Continue.

You will be informed that an e-mail has been sent to you.

Check your email for the address you provided in the step above. You will receive a message from Rotary. Click on the blue link in the mail to finalize the process.

A THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:

KNOWING IS NOT ENOUGH; WE MUST APPLY.

WILLING IS NOT ENOUGH; WE MUST DO.

*** JOHANN WOLFGANG VON GOETHE (1749-1832) GERMAN PHILOSOPHER ***

NB: Send any information/photos that may be of interest to the Club or Rotarians in general to
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