

## Future of Rotary is in Membership Growth

I dedicate this letter to all the General Officers, RRIMCs, all the District Governors, PDGs and all the past, present and future Rotary club presidents of India. Today, these wonderful people have made us proud. The worldwide membership growth as on February 28, 2009 was 13,013 and the membership growth in India was 6452, accounting for 49.58 percent. Quality membership, effective clubs and exemplary humanitarian projects have made Rotary visible in the eyes of the public. These qualities are more important than ever and the results of membership growth have

demonstrated that these qualities remain vital. The more important task for the club leaders now is to ensure that the new members blossom into full-fledged Rotarians with proper mentoring and ensuring that there is no loss in membership.

By increasing the membership of clubs, the people who have brought in new people can only count themselves blessed. They have displayed their sensitivity to understand that greater happiness comes when more people join in the process of serving the community.

The crusade of more members relied on each Rotarian's loyalty to Rotary. The ideas, support and experience of Rotarians has supported the initiative to bring in more people into

Rotary. This earth is our only home, at least for now in this life! If we destroy it we have no recourse. To preserve this planet we need more members who are ecologically informed and who can do everything within their power to effect

a soldier who defends the community around him from hunger, poverty, diseases, illiteracy and social injustice.

Rotary holds a significant place in the modern world. The voice of the Rotarians is being listened to.

Our leaders are respected by all the Governments of the world. Rotary is ready to assume its glorious destiny. Again, I would say that the Rotarians are the heart of Rotary's destiny. The men and women who have voluntarily joined the movement and have shown their willingness to serve are the people who are rewriting the history of world and showing that



the changes that are needed to save the earth and usher in an era of peace. Membership development in Rotary assumes importance since we cannot leave solutions to world problems to governments alone. We must all help.

The power, vitality and potential of Rotary to do good come from members. They are our greatest asset. Every Rotarian who has helped in bringing in more members is the real hero of our movement. They are the heart of Rotary itself. Lyncurgus, the famous Spartan general, was asked one day why he didn't build a strong wall around Sparta for its defence. He pointed to his army and proudly replied, "There you behold the walls of Sparta and every man a brick." Similarly, every member of Rotary is

a small band of volunteers can eradicate the global menace of polio. It is this band of people who have taken a daring and courageous step forward to make peace possible.

Out of the 118 new clubs formed worldwide, India accounts for 61 clubs. There are more areas which need the comforting hands of Rotary. I am sure that the present trend in growth will gather momentum and again put India in the number one spot for membership development.



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