

Time is Running Out

*Dear Presidents,
Membership in Rotary is not a prestige issue any more. Rotary has become simple and yet costly. If Rotary Clubs can restrict expenditure, it can enlist many more willing and helping hands. It is a paradox that many of those who can afford Rotary's financial commitments are not sincere workers and many sincere and tender hearted people cannot afford Rotary. We must therefore find a solution to this problem. If a Rotarian has to pay semi annual dues of RI, the District dues and annual membership fees of a Club, the figure we arrive at is not a formidable amount.*

However, Rotary clubs collect from their members monies for birthday gifts, food, sunshine box collections, bulletin fees, project contributions and under some other needs. In addition, expenses of attending District Conference, District Assemblies, intercity

functions, fellowship meets, etc, puts a huge burden on some fragile shoulders. We have to give some serious thought to this facet of Rotary and offer some solutions to the problems. Today, attending a District Conference costs almost Rs.5,000. In addition, a contribution to the Rotary Foundation, though voluntary, makes a dent to one's pockets. If we can make Rotary affordable, we are sure to get service minded, sincere members who will serve Rotary with greater sincerity and commitment.

Is there a solution to the problem?



Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ashok', with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Rtn. Ashok Mahajan
RI Director 2007–2009