

Unposted letter

Step
towards
perfection

Dear Club Presidents,

If service is our only product and if service is in such short supply, why do we hesitate in producing more? All production could be increased by working for it more than you are working today. When we drive a car, we know how to steer, how to speed, when to stop and we also know our destination. We, therefore, plot our route. Do you plot your route to service?

Service in any form, in any quantum, in any way is welcome. Have you seen an athlete competing in a long jump competition? He takes small steps initially, builds up speed, takes longer steps and finally jumps. When we want to play the game of service, let us take small steps initially, gather speed and finally take that long stride to jump to perfection.

Just as a river originates from a streamlet and gathers momentum and strength as it flows, let service originate from small acts of service, which will teach us how to gather momentum and strength. Initially, if we fail to render desired services, the loss would be small and from our failures or difficulties, we will learn the blue print of service and not fail when we are struggling against heavier odds.

Perfection in service may never come but with a will of iron and a heart of compassion, we can be as near to perfection as possible. We must have tough minds and soft hearts — not the other way around.

The ABC of service starts with Activated minds followed by Belief in ourselves and leads to Compassionate action. Some needs of the community Activates your mind. This leads to a Belief that Rotary can and should step in. Consequently, Compassion steers your action in a manner appreciated by the community.

Remember that Rotary started its service acts by establishing a comfort station — a small step. Today Rotary has metamorphosed into a great institution, which can tackle many a major problem. We cannot become giants overnight. Let us start with small useful and needed acts of help, which will eventually help us conquer bigger needs. Let us start now. Let us start small. Let us start well. Rest of the challenges can be addressed to, as we grow in strength, experience, expertise and confidence. It is never too small a need to vanquish.



Rtn. Ashok Mahajan
RI Director 2007–2009