

Thank You Mr. President

Dear President Wilf,

A scintillating Rotary year is coming to its close. The profound success of the year has been marked by your inimitable signature of motivating leadership coupled with an exhibition of total commitment of so many. Your inputs, your guidance, and your enthusiasm resulted in all Rotarians putting their best foot forwards. The success of the year 2007-08 will be written in golden words in the chapter of Rotary's service saga.

I consider myself to be doubly blessed by the Almighty that my first year as RI Director was moulded by your wisdom and affection. It enthused me to do more than I ever thought I could and I am proud that Zones V & VI were in the forefront. Many facets of Rotary service were the target of Rotarians of these zones. Membership growth was one of the highest in Rotary world. Polio Eradication Programme saw visible improvement in its implementation. Support to The Rotary Foundation was phenomenal. Registration at the International Convention was one of the best. There are other areas of service, too, that stood out as excellent.

The credit of all these achievements must go to so many who treated Rotary as an organization to battle poverty, ill health, pollution, illiteracy and many other ills that prevent Peace from taking firmer roots.

The District Governors of all the Districts were motivated by Rotary's quest for Peace. They put in extra efforts to ensure success in combating the problems. They were the guiding

force to their Club leaders to put in all the efforts to ensure a remarkable year.

The past District Governors used their influence to guide the Governors and they were a source of information and education.



The District Governors Elect and Nominees were bubbling with enthusiasm and eager to learn the lessons of leadership and helped the Clubs chalk out appropriate, action oriented plans to serve Rotary.

Past Directors too, felt a need to be in the thick of things and help their Districts achieve better results.

Past RI President Rajendra Saboo was my greatest strength and whose continuous guidance, enthusiastic encouragement and instant readiness to respond gave me a great boost, so much warmth and peace of mind that I could do my commitments with ease and success.

How can I forget the Club Presidents? All action remained with them. All service activities were their forte.

They were the soldiers who fought their wars against poverty, ill-health, illiteracy and other ills. The leaders may have led, but these soldiers fought in the arena. That was great work.

I can not forget my colleagues on the Board. When I entered, I was nervous. I was afraid. I was hesitant. My colleagues not only made me feel at home but took over my education, my initiation and my progress. I have gained so many friends that I feel blessed and happy.

The success story is not mine or not even ours. It is of Rotary. Under your brilliant leadership, Rotary Shared so much with so many, so often and so successfully. Rotary has become a stronger organization, equipping itself with better instruments of service.

As the sun sets on 2007-08, a new year is ready to begin. The year promises to Make Dreams Real. The year 2008-2009 led by President D K Lee promises to be equally dynamic and fruitful. We can see tomorrow today. We can visualize the impact of another great leader. It will not only a privilege for me to work under his leadership but as my second year on the Board, I will ensure better participation and better skills to the Rotary to be as bright as it has never been before.

Seek your blessings and good wishes.

ASHOK