

Dear Club Presidents,

Rotary is rich in financial resources as well as human resources. A judicious blend of these resources can ensure success and satisfaction.

Human resources are often unknown but financial resources are known. Each club has, amongst its members, Rotarians who have the money and are willing to donate and Rotarians who have the experience and an inclination to serve.

I recall an incident where two partners in business agreed to pool their resources. One partner had the money and one had experience. After about a year, I met one partner — the man with the money and I asked him how things were going. He replied “It didn’t work out as expected. Now, he has the money and I have the experience.”

There was once a road building process going on as I passed by. I saw a man sitting by the wayside supervising the process. There was a large boulder of rock in the middle and two labourers were trying to shift it out of the way. Despite sincere efforts, they could not and went to the supervisor indicating that they were unable to shift the stone.

“Have you used all your resources?” asked the man. “Yes Sir, we have used all our strength but are unable to move it.” “No,” said the supervisor, “you did not use me.”

Use your resources — all resources available and the unknown resource comes from your fellow Rotarians.

However, resources are often latent. At the Atomic Energy Headquarters near Miami, there is a glass-panel cabinet with a large black stone mounted on a panel. Underneath this cabinet is a placard which reads “Here is a large piece of coal. If used conventionally, it will generate limited energy and if used in a specific way, it will generate enough atomic energy to light the whole town.”

There are latent resources in Rotarians that can light up a whole community with happiness. The latent resources have to be activated. If you are dining by a wayside inn and open a bottle of tomato ketchup, you may find that the ketchup refuses to trickle down. You will have to invert the bottle and give a little thump to the bottom and the ketchup will flow. Rotarians may need a little thump at an appropriate place to start their services flowing.



Rtn. Ashok Mahajan
RI Director 2007–2009