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Rotary CROSSROADS

by Rotary Club of Singapore





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ISC Meeting

On February 20th, ISC Director Navaneeth Rajkumar chaired the 8th International Service Committee (ISC) meeting of the Rotary Club of Singapore for the Rotary Year 2024-25. He provided a comprehensive update on new projects and progress on existing initiatives. The key projects discussed were:

- **1. TinTek Project in Sikkim** Rtn Jimmy Oi, who leads the project, shared insights into the devastating Glacial Lake Outburst Flood that destroyed numerous homes near a dam in Sikkim. In collaboration with RC Gangtok South and RC Raffles City, RCS has pledged support to raise funds for sheltering a destitute community. A site visit to Sikkim is planned from April 16th 23rd, 2025 to assess and advance the project.
- 2. Global Grant (GG) Project with RC Istanbul Suadiye This initiative focuses on Body Cooling Treatment for Newborns at the Neonatal ICU of Marmara University, Pendik Training and Research Hospital. The project aims to enhance neonatal care through therapeutic hypothermia, a proven technique to reduce brain injury in newborns suffering from oxygen deprivation at birth. It is a collaboration between RC Milan-Linate (District 2041) as the international partner and RC Beyoglu, Sarıyer, Etiler, Moda, and RC Barbaros Metropolitan (District 2420). The Rotary Club of Singapore has committed \$2,500 USD towards this impactful initiative.
- **3. Project Nari Shakti / Atmanirbhar with RC Delhi South** Project Nari Shakti / Atmanirbhar with RC Delhi South This project aims to uplift and empower women and youth by providing vocational training, healthcare, education, and financial independence. As per the Jan 2025 report from the partner, 63 trainees were enrolled in skill development programs, with 55 successfully completing their training and 39 placed. The Rotary Club of Singapore had committed SGD 5,450 towards this initiative.
- **4. Second Spine Project with our friendship club RC Mumbai SOBO** This Global Grant project has been approved by RI. This project brings top quality spine surgeons and after care to rural / underprivileged people in India. RC Singapore and District 3310 supported this GG.
- **5. Project PM Haze** Led by Rtn Varun, this initiative aims to deploy drones for fire hazard management in Sungei Tohor which was the model village in Riau haze-affected areas. The phase 1 was executed and funded by RCS in 2024. Currently in Phase 2, the project is focused on expanding the fleet of drones to enhance haze monitoring and improve response efforts in near by villages and other islands of Riau. Rotary clubs in Taiwan are also keen on this project and have pledged basic funding.

Further, there was a discussion on RCS Sister Clubs and the Rotary Friendship Tour with District 9120 to Kenya that happened recently.

Rtn Deepu Joseph provided an in-depth explanation of the potential collaborations with Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries, particularly in Dubai and Bahrain. He highlighted the long-established Rotary clubs, such as RC Manama and RC Salmaniya, which are part of District 2452, and discussed how we could extend our club's reach to other parts of the world.

It was discussed in the meeting that Book of Humor will remain as small books but will be edited to refine the wording. It had previously raised a million dollars as a fundraiser for RCS. Based on this, Rotarian Varun suggested that we should consider bringing the newly edited books back into circulation.

The meeting concluded with discussions on how RCS can strengthen its international partnerships and expand its impact in these regions.





ESC Meeting

E&S GROUP MEETING

14 group members attended and actively participated in the discussions. Director Suresh gave an update on the 2 current projects that had been launched in the past year.

PM Haze - Riau Mitigation Project:

The donation of the 2 DJI drones was well received by the local community at Sungai Tohor and the feedback was very positive. Neighbouring villages have also requested help with additional drones and training. The Drone Evaluation report was circulated, and members were supportive of continuing the project to progress to Phase 2 which is donation of portable firefighting equipment to the villages after a proper needs evaluation.

Meanwhile Rtn Varun reported that he had met with 3 Taiwanese clubs during his visit to Taipei (through the introduction of PP Mark) and these clubs were interested to contribute financially to this project. A proposal deck in Mandarin was sent to all 3 clubs and we had received a small commitment from TRC Taipei, our sister club. We are awaiting a response from the other 2 clubs.

Rtn Claus Dusemund, a group member who has been following this project from the start was very positive about the long term benefits of this project and the multiplier effects it can bring to the well-being of the locals and the surrounding environment and was moved to make a commitment of a personal contribution of \$5,000 to help the group with moving forward on this project. He has left it to the project head to use the funds in any way he choses to be appropriate. Thank you Rtn Claus for your very generous contribution and for believing in this project. We applied your support for our environmental projects.

Repair Kampung Community Empowerment & e-Waste Reduction Project:

Director Suresh updated the meeting that the organisation to house the project long term had been finalised after two failed attempts and agreements were soon to be signed with the two project partners, Residents Committee of Yu Hua, Zone 4 Jurong East and SL2 Impact representing Repair Kopitiam. Project preliminaries like house to house visits and needs assessments will begin by end Feb/early March and the training of volunteers will start in June 2025. Funding requirements and grant drawdown procedures were discussed. Members were supportive of the project and looked forward to a successful launch of the project.



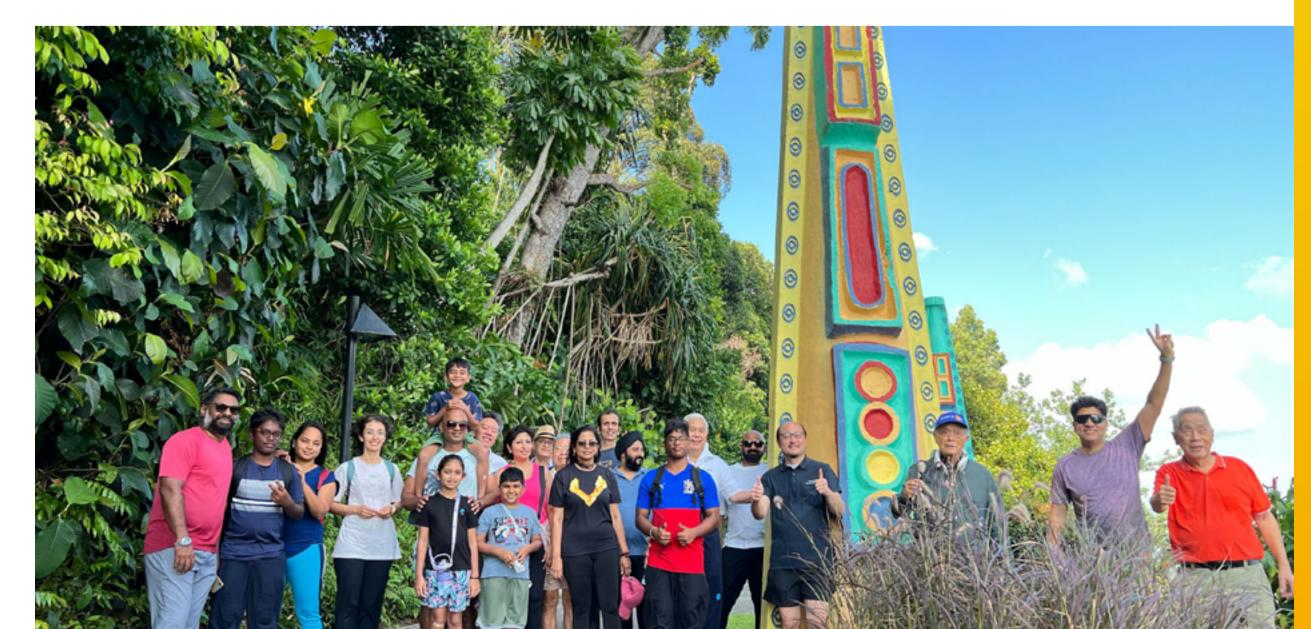
ESC's Forest Bathing Walk



A total of 18 members including spouses and children had signed up for this walk in the midst of Nature. Director Suresh explained briefly why this will be unlike any regular walk in the forest.







The Four-Way Test

Of the things we think, say or do:

01. Is it the **TRUTH**?

02. Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?

03. Will it build **GOODWILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?

04. Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?

The Guide to Daily Living

Before doing the things we want to do, consider first, the Precepts of the guide. Ask ourselves these 4 questions and act upon them:

- 1. Have I spent some time in self-examination?
- 2. Have I spent quality time with my family?
- 3. Have I given my best to my work?
- 4. Have I given some time to someone near and far?

The Guide, in fact, encompasses the 4 parts of the Object of Rotary.

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Chair of Standing Committee - Speaker

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