My Dear Friends,

I am happy to know that Rotary India WinS Committee is bringing out a newsletter to share the good work being undertaken on WinS by our Districts in India. I truly appreciate that this program, under the able leadership of Past RI Director and TRF Trustee Sushil Gupta, has generated great enthusiasm and commitment amongst Rotarians in all parts of India from Kerala to Jammu Kashmir and from Gujarat to West Bengal and Assam.

I am happy to share that I have seen a similar kind of enthusiasm for WinS amongst the District Governors Elect at the just concluded DGEs Goal Setting Meet at Hyderabad. I hope that they will continue with the same zeal and undertake WinS as a focused program in their Districts during the next Rotary year and work towards achieving our committed goals.

We must remember that it is important to not only do the good work but also to be proactive in sharing our achievements. It is important that the District WinS Coordinators maintain better communication with the National Committee and share the progress on WinS in their Districts on a regular basis. Sharmistha joins me in wishing you all the best for great success of the WinS program in India.

*Simple habit like washing hands before meals among children can prevent many diseases. Lack of this habit claims many young lives in children*

Shri Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

TECHNICAL PARTNERSHIP WITH UNICEF INDIA

Rotary has collaborated with UNICEF on WASH in Schools to work towards the shared goals and vision of the “Swachh Bharat : Swachh Vidyalya” campaign. Rotary and UNICEF are working together towards addressing various key institutional, policy and financial bottlenecks that prevent sustainable WASH in India; identifying solutions and best practices, positioning these appropriately.

This unique partnership shall ensure that the investments made under the Swachh Vidyalya campaign are sustained leading to concrete health and educational results for the targeted children. As a part of the partnership UNICEF shall:

* Provide overall technical advice, support and guidance to ensure that the initiative is implemented within the overall principles and goals of WASH in Schools.
* Share best practices on WASH in Schools, from states, and use this experience to develop tools for Rotary, like ‘Protocols’ and ‘OM&G’ models to support program implementation.
* Provide overall technical advice, support and guidance to ensure that the initiative is implemented within the overall principles and goals of WASH in Schools.
* Specific advice about hygiene promotion and behavior change communication at the district level and at the school level.
* Advice on monitoring and evaluation framework, including indicators and methodology for monitoring progress.

Understanding with HRD Ministry

Rotary India in response to a call for action by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi for “Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan” signed a Chennai Declaration on 16th December, 2014 at Chennai Zonal Institute in presence of Shri Venkaiah Naidu, Union Minister of Urban Development to participate in the national campaign of “Swachh Vidyalya Abhiyaan”. As a follow up to this declaration, Rotary India entered into an understanding with Ministry of Human Resource Development, School Education & Literacy to undertake 10,000 government schools pan India for operation & maintenance (O&M) of water and sanitation facilities and behaviour change communication activities (BCC) on hygiene habits of children in schools.

On behalf of the Editorial Team, it is my pleasure to present this first issue of the Rotary India WinS Times. This publication is a result of the inspiration and persuasion of our guiding light - WASH in Schools Global Chair & TRF Trustee Sushil Gupta. We hope that this will prove to be an effective tool to provide regular updates to Rotary Clubs and Districts in India in the new developments in the WASH in Schools Target Challenge. This will also serve as a perfect platform to showcase the good work being undertaken in WASH in schools by our Districts pan India.

Today WASH in Schools is a buzzword not only in India but across the world. Everyone realizes the importance of WASH in Schools. It is an investment in school children and the health of future generations by protecting children from illness. It helps children realize their full potential, which can contribute to the economic growth of the nation.

WASH in schools program has generated a huge momentum in every Rotary District in India. Today we have information that this program is under implementation in around 10,000 government schools across India. But we do not have the correct figures as our Districts are very poor in reporting. Our Districts need to act fast and share the progress on a regular basis to enable us to share the data with the HRD Ministry. We look forward to receiving regular updates from the Districts on their achievements on WinS including action photos. We will be happy to include these in the WinS publication.
Clean water, better sanitation, teacher training, and hygiene education in schools can improve the health and education of children by creating a cycle of opportunity: improved education, less disease, increased school attendance, improved academic performance, and economic growth.

What is the Wash in Schools Target Challenge?
The Wash in Schools Target Challenge is a pilot program of the Rotary Foundation to motivate Rotary clubs to develop sustainable water, sanitation, hygiene (collectively referred to as WASH), to improve the attendance of the students and to bring about a behavioral change in the society through better hygiene practices using the expertise and resources available through Rotary’s two areas of focus: Basic Education & Literacy and Water & Sanitation.

The program runs from January 2016 to July 2018 in five countries, all chosen for their strong, active involvement in school sanitation efforts: Belize, Guatemala, Honduras, India, and Kenya. The program will concentrate on measuring the effect on school attendance of WASH and basic education and literacy initiatives. It is based on the Multi Level Approach that challenges our clubs to work together with schools for WASH to reach three levels of achievements: Rotary One Star where the achievements of the participating Rotary clubs and schools will be recognized at the district level by the District Governor and Rotary Two and Three Stars where the achievements will be recognized by UNICEF and Rotary International.

Recognitions Levels: A Three-star Approach
The first two levels (Rotary One Star and Rotary Two Stars) set benchmarks for water and sanitation facility upgrades, hygiene education, and teacher training along with key behavior change components; the third level (Rotary Three Stars) emphasizes incorporation into government initiatives and curriculum enhancement. Rotary and UNICEF will recognize Rotary clubs and schools that meet the requirements for each level.

Rotary One Star: Rotary District Governor Recognition
Education: Teachers trained to teach hand-washing, beginning daily attendance, and supervise daily group hand-washing at mealtimes.
Behavior change: Daily supervised hand-washing before school meals and at group toilet times.
Management: Plans created for operational maintenance and menstrual hygiene management.

Rotary Two Stars: Rotary And Unicef Recognition
Education: Teachers trained in hygiene and menstrual hygiene management education. Improved attendance and follow-up with absent students.
Facilities: WASH conditions meet national standards.
Behavior change: All students use the sanitation facilities at all times.
Management: Menstrual hygiene management plan implemented, with infrastructure and supportive environment.

Rotary Three Stars: Rotary And Unicef Recognition
Education: WASH lessons integrated into curriculums, and complementary teacher training provided.
Facilities: WASH conditions meet minimum World Health Organization standards and regular maintenance is ensured.
Behavior change: Community members involved.
Management: Monitoring and evaluating to check compliance with national standards; data reported to government.

Strategic Partnership With World Vision
The Board of Trustees has approved a strategic partnership with World Vision to jointly undertake government schools pan India for WASH in urban, semi urban, and rural areas. World Vision is a Community based international organization which has a presence in over 100 countries and has a strong presence in India. Besides providing manpower, it will also be funding the Wash projects to the extent of 50%.

It has been decided that the WASH projects with World Vision shall be implemented in two phases. The 1st Phase shall involve implementation of WASH in forty government schools with ten each in four different regions namely - Districts 3012 (Delhi), 3262 (Bhubaneswar), 3052 (Jaipur) & 3230 (Chennai). The program shall be scaled up in the course of time while working out the terms of reference and other issues. The work for the first phase shall commence by July 2016 followed by the launching of the second phase to include around 360 schools pan India.

District Recognition Committee
Every District under the WASH in Schools Target Challenge is required to form a District level Recognition Committee for a period of 2-1/2 years beginning January 2016. The formation of such a committee was authorized by the Board of Trustees in its meeting held in October 2015 and subsequently approved by the RI Board in October 2015.

The primary responsibility of the committee will be to review, evaluate, and recognize club interventions and achievements. The committee shall comprise of three to five members to serve throughout the duration of the pilot program ending June 2018. It is recommended that each committee member appointed should have some professional understanding of WASH (water, sanitation and hygiene) and/or education experience/knowledge through project implementation. Additionally, at least one committee member should be a current or former member of the Global Grants committee. The committee leadership should consist of a Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary, with the Chair accepting responsibility to liaison between the committee, District Governor and Rotary International. Once chosen, the committee will receive in-depth information on WASH in Schools and the Rotary Target Challenge during the initial training phase. You can expect further information in the near future.

The responsibilities of this committee include:
• Work with clubs to review and analyze interventions, determining if given validation fulfills first level Target Challenge guidelines
• Provide guidance to clubs and schools on how to meet first level program benchmarks
• Periodically convene to determine whether or not clubs have met and completed all levels of interventions within the first level
• Maintain communication with Rotary, this includes general questions, updated documentation, and awards given
• Organize presentations of awards to clubs and schools
• Encourage clubs and schools to continue striving for higher levels

The details of the Committee are to be shared with the WASH in Schools staff team: Isalis Ramirez (WASH in Schools Coordinator) at isalis.ramirez@rotary.org; Mary Jo Jean-Francois (Manager for Basic Education & Literacy) at maryjo.jeanfrancois@rotary.org; and Erica Gwynn, (Manager for Water & Sanitation) at erica.gwynn@ rotary.org with a copy to WinS Chair & TRF Trustee Sushil Gupta, Member Secretary PDG Ramesh Aggarwal & respective Zonal WinS Coordinators.

Key Elements of WinS
- Upgradation of sanitation facilities including the construction of child friendly gender segregated toilet facilities and repairs of existing sanitation facilities.
- Sufficient group handwashing facilities with soap for washing hands before meals in groups of 10-12 students at the same time.
- Child friendly menstrual hygiene management (MHH) facilities including soap, adequate and private space for changing and disposal of menstrual waste, including an incinerator and dust bins.
- Daily provision of safe drinking water and adequate water for handwashing.
- Provision of regular supply of cleaning materials, consumables like soap, disinfectants, brooms, brushes, buckets etc. to ensure that the WASH facilities are clean and well maintained.
- Training of teachers, School Management Committee, (SMC), Panchayat, etc. on handwashing, MHH, Operation and Maintenance (O&M), financing, managing and monitoring of WASH facilities.
- Activities and programs for staff & school children to promote the correct use & maintenance of facilities.
- BCC (Behaviour Change Communication) messages integrated in regular curriculum through textbooks, supplementary reading materials, activity based learning methodologies, messages during morning assembly sessions etc.
- Instituting/ strengthening of Child Cabinet/ School Management Committee to lead WASH initiatives.
- Sharing of program related learning to make WinS program simple, scalable & sustainable.
Inauguration of a WinS Project by RI Director Manoj Desai at a Government school in Patna by Rotary Club of Patna.

Inauguration of toilet block by Rotary Club of Hisar at the Government Girls Primary School, at Satrod Khurd Village in Hisar District.

District 3012

RI President Elect John Germ interacts with the members of the Child Cabinet/Bal Sansad instituted at the first WASH project at a primary school in Noida, implemented by Rotary Delhi Ashoka.

A WinS Project by newly chartered Rotary Club of Bangalore Kuvempunanagar which included the construction of a gender segregated toilet block and handwashing facility at a Government School.

District 3201

District 3220

Installation of Group Handwashing station by Rotary Club of Bhavani Koodal at Bhavani Municipal North Middle School, Erode, Tamil Nadu.

The District celebrated the launching of WinS program in 1001 schools in the presence of WinS Chair and TRF Trustee Sushil Gupta.

District 3240

Inauguration of a gender segregated Toilet block and group handwashing facilities by Rotary Club of Bhubaneswar Heritage at a Government school in a village near Bhubaneswar.

Inauguration of a WinS Project by RI Director Manoj Desai at a Government school in Patna by Rotary Club of Patna.
GROUP HANDWASHING

Group Handwashing is a path breaking innovation that can potentially improve the education and health outcomes of millions of children who have mid-day meals daily, across India. Group Handwashing ensures that all children wash hands in ‘groups’, stand facing each other, exchange positive messages, make ‘eye to eye’ contact and enjoy the process.

Handwashing with soap before the government-supplied Mid-day Meal (MDM) is important because children are most energetic, enthusiastic and open to new ideas and change. As powerful agents of behavioral change, children can take lessons they have learned at school back home to teach their parents, siblings and elders on good hygiene behaviors such as handwashing with soap.

Handwashing with soap is extremely effective and the most inexpensive way to prevent diarrhea and acute respiratory infections (ARI). Pneumonia, a major ARI, is the number one cause of mortality among children under five years of age, taking the life of an estimated 1.8 million children per year. Diarrhea and pneumonia together account for almost 3.5 million child deaths annually. Handwashing with soap is estimated to reduce incidents of diarrhea by 30% and respiratory infections by 21% in children under the age of five.

It is important to turn handwashing into a habit. Turning hand washing with soap before eating and after using the toilet into an ingrained habit can save more lives than any single vaccine or medical intervention, cutting deaths from diarrhea by almost half and deaths from acute respiratory infections by one-quarter. Handwashing is usually integrated together with other sanitation interventions as part of WASH programs.

The handwashing stations are simple, scalable and sustainable, and rely on usage of minimum water, while the facilities are developed using local materials. The Mission institutionalizes group hand washing with soap sessions before the mid-day meals are served, which is supervised by teachers, DM cooks and also by Child Cabinet members.

Fast Facts

- Washing hands with soap at two critical times – after using the toilet and before eating food – reduces the incidence of diarrhea by an average of 30% per cent.
- Handwashing with soap can reduce the incidence of acute respiratory infections (ARI) by more than 21 per cent.
- Handwashing promotion in schools can play a role in reducing the number of days children miss school.
- Handwashing with soap is one of the most cost-effective interventions to prevent diarrhea-related deaths and disease.
- By washing hands with soap children get the nutritional benefits intended, rather than ingesting bacteria, germs and viruses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Handwashing with Soap</th>
<th>% reduction in diarrhoea morbidity in children under 5 outcomes of various meta-analysis</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contact (14 studies)</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contamination (14)</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consequence (16)</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Control (20)</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cluster (15)</td>
<td>25%</td>
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With Best Compliments from:

Rtn. SUBHASH JAIN
DGN Designate (2018-19), RI District 3012
Member : Rotary Club of Ghaziabad Central
Chairman - Silver Line Prestige School
Campus : A-2/1, Buland Shahr Road Indl. Area, Ghaziabad-201002
Head Office : R-14/28, Raj Nagar, Ghaziabad-201002

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Technical Advisor

Edited and Published by the Editorial Team - PDG Ramesh Aggarwal, PP Daljit Bhatia & PP Namrata Suri, for and on behalf of the Rotary India Wins Committee. The matter to be published in the Newsletter should reach PDG Ramesh Aggarwal at ragarwal3010@gmail.com along with action photographs from the Rotary Districts in India, by 7th of every month. Editorial Team reserves the right to select, edit or omit any matter.