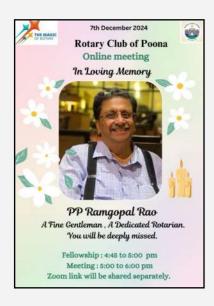


Secretary Rtn Aarti Thacker President

Editor

Rtn Maj Gen Amar Krishna, PhD

Rtn Brig Prashant Sheode



It is with profound sadness that we mourn the sudden, unexpected and shocking demise of our esteemed senior Rotarian PP Ramgopal Rao.

A pillar of RC Poona, Ramgopal Rao embodied the very essence of 'Service Above Self', dedicating countless hours to help make a difference in the lives of others. His unwavering commitment to Rotary's ideals of Fellowship, Integrity and Service greatly inspired us, the new generation of Rotarians. His infectious enthusiasm, wise counsel, and generous spirit earned him the respect, admiration and affection of all of us.

We will badly miss his presence and contributions as an important member of BOD 24-25. As Director Foundation and Fund Raising he was totally committed, even up to his last few hours, in pursuing matters with his numerous contacts in industry, banks, foreign partners and others, to raise funds for enabling RC Poona move forward in its various projects. He always maintained in very clear terms, "We have set ourselves a target, we will surely achieve it. General, I have given you my word – it will be done!"

As Director Public Image his guidance and support helped activities of RC Poona get regularly covered in the GMLs. He was confident and was working towards getting the Club figure in the Rotary International magazine also. Alas, fate willed otherwise.

Having the hobby of collecting good books, Ramgopal Rao will also be very fondly remembered by RC Poona for having carefully selected and very generously donated the Club's first Visitor's Book.

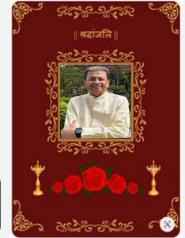
In this moment of grief, let us all recount the great service of PP Ramgopal Rao to Rotary in general and RC Poona in particular, and pledge ourselves to successfully complete all his tasks and high goals that he had so rightly visualized and set for himself, for taking RC Poona to greater heights.

To R/Ann Esther Rao, and the entire family, we offer our sincerest condolences. May they find support from the memories of Ramgopal Rao's extraordinary life, and strength in the knowledge that his spirit will continue to inspire us all for many many years to come.

RIP dear Ramgopal Rao. Your memory will be a blessing to us all.

.....President Maj Gen Amar Krishna





## **CONDOLENCE MEET**

It is with deep sorrow that we mourn the passing of PP Ramgopal. His warm smile, unwavering availability, and readiness to participate will be profoundly missed. He was always clear in his decisions, and his dedication to excellence was evident in every project he took on, particularly his contributions to the Rotary Club of Poona.

I had the privilege of speaking with him just this past Friday, and his responsiveness, even when busy, reflected the kind of Rotarian he was — always willing to lend a hand and offer support. Rotary Club of Poona has truly lost a great Rotarian, and his absence will be felt by all who knew him. Please accept our heartfelt condolences. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family during this difficult time.

## ...IPP Narendra Pal Singh Bakshi

I shall always remember our late PP. Ramgopal, for extending all help in identifying and introducing me to a few first rate guest speakers during my tenure as Co-chair of the Programme Committee. As a Member of the current Board, his contributions and enthusiasm in both, conceptualizing and executing Projects were laudable; especially the proposed Juvenile Diabetes project at the Jehangir Hospital. He shall be sorely missed. RIP and condolences to Esther and family.

...Dilshad and Zarir

Last week we both discussed about the District website. Last night we see his congratulatory message for RC Poona on the Foundation group and the next, early morning he is no more. So SHOCKING! We will miss such a dedicated Rotarian! My heartfelt condolences to the entire family!

...Rtn Madhuri Rao

As chairman of Membership Committee, I had the prerogative to interact with Ram, before he was inducted in our club. Of course, he was already a senior Rotarian from another club. We hit off very well with each other, right from day one! He was a very knowledgeable person & very witty too. We have lost a good Rotarian & a noble soul. May Almighty bless his soul and give courage to his near & dear ones to bear this loss!

...Rtn Ravi Gosavi

Dear Esther, we all have fond memories of Ram bhaiya that we will never forget. We are saddened by his sudden demise. It is very shocking for all of us. You and your whole family are in our thoughts. May loving memories of Ram bhaiya help you find peace.

...Raizadas

In July 2021, I had the privilege of inducting Rtn Ramgopal Rao into our Rotary Club of Poona. He was then already an active Rotarian of long standing, and had been the President of his previous club, Rotary Club of Poona North.

His "COPS-mate", our late President Deepak Londhe, had discussed with him his move to our club and had told me about it in early 2021. Deepak's sudden passing on the 21st of April 2021 caused us to put this matter aside for a while, and it was revived over a month later. That Ramgopal too would leave this world so soon was the last thing any of us would have thought of. He was always full of plans to do "something big" for the Rotary world. He methodically went about setting these plans into action, his infectious enthusiasm spurring others on to join in.

Ramgopal often called on the telephone to discuss his ideas, and we have had very interesting conversations. As a junior to him by 6 years in the same school, St. Mary's High School (SSC) Mumbai, our talks were embellished with shared memories of how our school days were, and the idiosyncrasies and good graces of our many teachers there. I will always remember those long chats. Thinking of his witty one-liners and laughter still brings a smile to my face.

We will all miss Ramgopal's presence immensely. Our heart-felt condolences to R/Ann Esther and their son Rishan. May they find the strength to cope with this tragic loss. We pray that the soul of Ramgopal Rests in Peace.

...Rtn Col Bharat Haladi

## **CONDOLENCE MEET**

Sad news about PP Ramgopal Rao is a real shock to all members of RC Poona and no one is able to accept it.

He has been a dedicated, active, disciplined and passionate Rotarian with a professional approach putting forward his point with conviction. His impressive personality with a smile on his face and special attire with his suspenders always made him look different.

Our heartfelt sympathies to dear Esther and his family. May almighty grant eternal peace to his departed soul and courage to his family members to bear this irreparable loss.

...Rtn Govil

Shocking news indeed. Our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family! We will miss the smiling Ramgopal with his suspenders & a warm personality, a very dedicated Rotarian. May his soul attain eternal peace.

...PP Maithili Manakwad

Such saddening and shocking news! I spoke to him just last evening. So hard to believe this. Life is indeed so uncertain! A wonderful person and dedicated Rotarian. May his soul rest in eternal peace. Heartfelt sympathies and prayers for dear Esther and his family. We are all with you in this time of grief.

...Rtn Trupti Gowariker

Shocking to note the sudden demise of Ramgopal. Knew him for many years as active Rotarian of RC of Poona North. Om Shanti!

... PP Kailash Monga



















