

RC Singapore plays a Regional Role in Service to Mankind

On 24th February 2018, PP Dr. Shahul Hameed represented RC Singapore and RI District 3310, as he delivered the keynote lecture at Rotary International District 3490 Taiwan, Taipei, at their annual Rotary Grants Seminar for incoming Rotary Club Presidents for Rotary Year 2018/2019.



The Seminar was held in Taipei and was attended by 280 Rotarians including almost all of the 95 Presidents-Elect, incoming Club Rotary Foundation Chairs, as well as current and incoming District Officials of District 3490. His presentation, entitled “Rotary Global Grants: What are they”, was held in the morning, while in the afternoon, attendees were divided into 4 groups with 4 different and challenging Foundation topics. Both Dr. Shahul, and District 3490’s District Rotary Foundation Committee (DRFC) Chairman, PDG E.N.T., acted as resource persons for the focus group sessions.

D 3490 Taiwan itself will have access to approximately USD\$1,800,000 in District Designated Fund from the next 3 Rotary Years 2018-21 and with 100% matching from World Fund, a total of at least USD\$3,600,000 will be available for humanitarian projects all over the world.



The invitation for Dr Shahul to speak this Seminar is a continuation of a wide range collaboration between D 3490 and RC Singapore. It begun fortuitously in June 2017 when Dr Shahul, as Cadre Member of The Rotary Foundation's (TRF) Cadre of Technical Advisers, was sent to D 3490 to conduct an Interim Project Visit for an ongoing USD\$100,000 Mobile Dental Clinic Global Grant Project.

The visit, a project audit equivalent, was concluded successfully. During and after the visit, Dr. Shahul, in his capacity as Cadre Member, shared the best practices in Global Grant Management as well as took the opportunity to present RC Singapore's wide range of Global Grants within all the 6 areas of focus, with the District Leaders.



Subsequently, in preparation for international projects for Rotary Year 2018/2019, D 3490's Incoming District Governor (IDG) Li-Shin, led a team of District Officers to West Bengal, India, twice, once in October 2017 and a second time in January 2018. Through the efforts of RC Singapore, especially PP Tapan Rao, Rtn Suresh Keerthi, Hon Member Mohan Vaswani and PP Dr. Shahul Hameed, District 3490 has agreed in principle to

- (i) co-fund the construction and cost of equipment for a village school with RC Calcutta Metro South in D3291
- (ii) to co-fund the building and cost of cataract surgeries for the Joynagar Rotary Eye Hospital with RC Central Calcutta



President Keith Harrison led a team from RC Singapore to visit our Rotary Eye Hospitals and Water and Sanitation Hygiene (WASH) projects 16-23 February 2018 and during that visit RC Singapore met with District and Club Officers of both RC Calcutta Metro South as well as RC Central Calcutta and reaffirmed our Club's continued support in bringing Taiwan D 3490 to India for these mega projects.



At the side meeting of the Grants Seminar in Taipei, PP Dr Shahul held negotiations on behalf of the India Clubs and at the conclusion, D3490 finalised its commitments to the India Projects to the tune of USD\$500,000 in cash and District Designated Fund (DDF) through the Global Grants scheme. D 3490 as well as the India Clubs has requested participation the RC Singapore to ensure the successful completion of the Projects. Taiwan D3490 District Officers also paid a visit to our Club and attended our recent Club Assembly proceedings in January 2018, as guests of the Club.

The launch for the India projects have been set for 15-16 December 2018. A group of 120 Rotarians from D3490 will visit Kolkata for the official inauguration of these 2 mega projects. The delegation will transit in Singapore with an overnight stay and has expressed a desire for a fellowship meeting with RC Singapore and D3310 Rotarians on 19 December 2018. We hope as many Rotarians from our Club and D3310 will be able to set aside this date for the event.