

# GIANTS WELFARE FOUNDATION CONFERENCE IN MUMBAI

A group of like-minded people from the Mumbai suburban area of Jogeshwari – Batuk Vyas, Mukatiwala, HD Rai, Ramesh Merchant and Prof Dhobal – founded the Giants Group. As it grew and spread, they requested the late Nana Chudasama to take on the role of chairman of Giants International. This was on 31 August 1972.

The main objective of Giants was community projects and programmes for the welfare of Indian citizens. The Giants Welfare Foundation (GWF) is a non-governmental, non-profit organization that, to this end, contributes to and works towards the education of girls, medical projects including



WORLD DEPUTY CHAIRMAN ADDRESSES THE GIANTS MEMBERS



WDC NURUDDIN SEVWALLAH, SHAINA NC AND YOGITA RAJGANDHI



YOGITA GIVING THE KEYNOTE ADDRESS

eye care, the welfare of the differently abled, community development and environmental projects, among others.

Over the years Giants has grown and today there are more than 400 regional and state groups across the country. Of these, Unit-1 in the Mumbai region, comprising six groups, organised its first Unit conference as per the protocol and constitution of the Foundation on 29 August 2021 at the YB Chavan Hall in Nariman Point.

The function, attended by 96 members and dignitaries, was inaugurated by the chief guest Ms Shaina NC, national spokesperson of the BJP, fashion designer and world chairman of GWF. Also on the dais for the ceremony and lighting of the lamp were world deputy chairman Nuruddin A Sevwallah, Praful Joshi as the guest of honour, unit president Mehjaben Mandasaurwala and Unit director Aziz Sevwallah. Ms Shaina NC spoke about Giant's activities, its important role, contributions to society and future projects.

The host group president Rukhsana Akhtar gave the welcome address. This was followed by presentations by each group president on their various projects organised between April and July this year. They were pleased to share that the 50 projects carried out had reached more

than 10,000 beneficiaries.

Senior optometrist Yogita L Rajgandhi, who had been invited as the keynote speaker, was honoured with a special memento for her outstanding contributions in the field of business and entrepreneurship, in particular for making many visually impaired self-sustainable through low vision rehabilitation.

Ms Rajgandhi spoke about her involvement with the GWF executing eye care projects, and of future programmes and projects in the field of eye care and low vision rehabilitation. She emphasised on education, awareness, screening and management with timely follow-up as key parameters to curb blindness in India. A national platform like the GWF plays a very important role with its outreach programmes for health care, she said, and thanked all the dignitaries and the Foundation for the honour bestowed on her which will inspire aspiring optometrists across the country.

The conference concluded with analysis reports by the chief guest and other dignitaries, followed by, on a lighter note, games, quizzes and prizes for the winners. The event was welcomed by all, in particular as it was the first large gathering for the Unit in Mumbai post the start of the pandemic.

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