



### Dear Members,

Season's Greetings to all members, patrons and volunteers of the Chapter. Thank you for your continuous support as the chapter completes yet another year of great accomplishments and achievements. As we gear up for a new year, chapter continues its focus on spreading Project Management awareness across corporate and project management communities in the region. During this quarter, the chapter had successfully completed its first ever Webinar on Project Management in Oil & Gas sector. We also conducted a few "Learn and Earn" sessions on contemporary PM topics. The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Chapter was also conducted successfully during this period.

As we are stepping into 2016 with new energy, we are looking for fresh ideas of passionate professionals as chapter volunteers. We encourage you to come forward and be an anchor in volunteer capacity to participate in various chapter's activities and events. This is the time to expand your network, attend chapter events, meet up and study for accreditation.

**Cheers,  
Editor's Desk**

### COVER STORY

## Volunteering for Happiness

Last year 62.6 million Americans volunteered nearly 7.7 billion hours which by rough independent estimates, in monetary terms translate to the GDP of a country of the size of Kuwait. In 2012-13, 44% of adults in U.K volunteered formally through a group, club or organisation at least once a year and 29% did so at least once a month. PMI as we know is a large organization of project management professionals having geographical spread worldwide through chapters like PMI West Bengal Chapter that operate on the fundamental strength of its volunteers. It continues to amaze and tickle my curiosity on what does it take for people to spend their time and energy on volunteering and I am tempted to find some clues on what drives this human behavior of volunteering.

### What is Volunteering?

The word "Volunteering" - evokes a sense of "giving away" altruism, performing a service on one's free will for someone other than self, friend or family and without any expectation of monetary gain in return. Philosophers have long debated on how people can and should achieve happiness. Two schools of thought:

First Aristotle school of thought that says helping other increases one's happiness through a sense of fulfillment and satisfaction i.e. true happiness is to be found in the expression of virtue.

Second one comes from the father of modern economics - Adam Smith says that "Concern for our own happiness recommends to us the virtue of prudence: concern for that of other people".



The United Nations' (UN) International Volunteer Day for Economic and Social Development, also known as International Volunteer Day (IVD), is observed on December 5 each year.

## Why Volunteer?

### Intrinsic Reasons:

**People care about the recipient's utility.** For example, a person who volunteers in an old people's home enjoys seeing that old people's welfare improves as a result of somebody caring for them.

**Volunteers benefit from intrinsic work enjoyment.** For example, people who volunteer for firefighting probably enjoy working in teams to fight fires with modern equipment.

**The act of helping others gives enjoyment.** People receive a 'warm glow' from contributing time to the provision of a public good. This good feeling of contributing to a good cause may, for example, be due to guilt reduction.

### Extrinsic Reasons:

**Investment in human capital and skill development.** Explore opportunities to gain new skills, practice existing skills in new ways, and learn more about complex issues. This has a possibility of raise in future earnings on the labor market. Especially if human capital depreciates due to illness, childbearing or being laid off, volunteering allows for the rebuilding or maintaining of employment skills.

**Great ways to get to know others.** Whether for professional networking, to make new friends, or to just understand a little more about others' ways of life. People also invest in their social network to establish new business contacts or for improving career opportunities.

The benefits from volunteering are probably for most people a combination of the aforementioned rewards. Irrespective of whether it is the intrinsic reasons or extrinsic motivations that are the source behind volunteering, it is but obvious that while we participate in our housing society to run and maintain the building complex, participate in local puja committee to host the Durga puja in our community or assist our neighbor in helping with wedding arrangements in their family, we knowingly or otherwise are already volunteering.



### India's first National Volunteering Week

The movement of the people, for the people and by the people - India@75 announces for the first time in India the National Volunteering Week starting 12th January to 18th January 2014.



### Get involved. Make a difference. Be a volunteer.

Make your mark on PMI and the profession. As a member, you can volunteer to work on, and to lead activities that advance the profession and the Institute.

[Volunteer Relationship Management System \(VRMS\)  
https://vrms.pmi.org/](https://vrms.pmi.org/)

## Are we volunteering enough?

In an academic paper titled “Is Volunteering Rewarding in Itself?”, published on March 2004, the authors Stephan Meier and Alois Stutzer in their conclusion mention:

People who place more importance on extrinsic life goals benefit less from volunteering.

Volunteering increases happiness, which in turn increases the likelihood of volunteering. Happy people are more likely to volunteer.

The question then arises why more people do not volunteer in order to increase their life satisfaction. Do people underestimate the benefits from intrinsic tasks like volunteering while they overestimate the value of e.g. additional time spent in profession, with family or in leisure activities? Would Volunteering increase if the academic institutions, private and public enterprises promote the need for past community services as a prerequisite for admission to a certain college or for employment in higher positions? Or the absence of Institutional design, to mentor and guide the young volunteers is the reason behind low retention levels?

Possibly more research on the subject is required in the context of our country, state and local communities that we live in. But I do strongly believe that if we in the eastern region of India are to overcome some of our inherent challenges that we seem to have been burdened with, Volunteering across all age groups, gender and societal groups can play a significant role to bootstrap us and help the society move faster in our journey to achieve growth and development.

Need a start ... PMI West Bengal Chapter can be the point to start your journey of volunteering!

*Article contributed by Subimal Chakraborty, Founding Member of PMI West Bengal Chapter and Head of Global Delivery Centers, The Linde Group*



## Announcement/Events

PMI WBC organized its **AGM** for 2015 on 19th September at Indismart, Salt lake, Kolkata



**Learn & Earn Session** on effectively engaging the stakeholder using the social media – 10<sup>th</sup> Oct 2015. The speaker, Mr. Chintan Oza, a senior program manager from Tata Communications touched various topics of using the communications methods to effectively engage the stakeholder and bring success to the project. It was a very interesting and knowledgeable session



***As a project manager have you always wanted to contribute towards the philanthropic initiatives but did not know how ? Get involved with PMIEF and bring your project management skills to reach out to those who need it most .***

PMI Educational Foundation is the philanthropic arm of PMI. While PMI views project management as a professional competency and is focused primarily on its members, their employers and the 51 million project management practitioners around the world, PMIEF views project management as a life skill, learning skill and career skill for everyone in society.

PMIEF strategy involves three distinct areas ;

1. *Scholarships , Awards to students and working professionals to allow them to have the resources to go to college and study Project Management.*

- Nearly \$30,000 USD is available for Professional Development Opportunities from former PMI Communities of Practice

2. *Pro Bono and Capacity Building support to non-profits and NGOs help them use their donor dollars more effectively and efficiently.*

- Washington, DC members train vets through Wounded Warriors
- Volunteers in New York trained United Nations Association
- The Chicagoland Chapter volunteered with the Ladies of Virtue nonprofit organization committed to improving the lives of young women from under-served communities aged 10-18,

3. *Life Skills through Project management training to young learners in schools to equip them for a better future -- children as young as 6 are learning and benefiting from project management programmes*

- Singapore, Arizona and Illinois members host programs with “Junior Achievement”
- Italy members created a development program in the Democratic Republic of the Congo
- Volunteers in Washington mentor students in technical education programs
- Member in California uses project management to run an after-school program

All the details are available at [www.pmief.org](http://www.pmief.org) . We look forward to your ideas and suggestion on how we, at the West Bengal Chapter can engage in activities for Social Good in any of the three areas above, or even in any other way that you would like to suggest .

The newly-designed 2016 Community Advancement through Project Management Award will emphasize the pro bono contributions of PMI Chapters, Individual Project Managers and Corporations to increase the capacities of nonprofit organizations.

## Chapter welcomes our new members

A warm welcome and hearty wishes for a successful career in project management.

Ms. Moumita Adhikary	●	Mr. Amit Mukhopadhyay	●	Mr. Ayan Roy
Mr. Arindam Chakraborty	●	Mr. Kedo Nagi	●	Mr. Amitavo Sen
Mr. Sudeb Chakraborty	●	Mr. Abir Naha	●	Mr. Pratik Singh
Mr. SWAROOP DUTTA	●	Mr. Palash Nandi	●	Mr. Manoj Sinha
Ms. Bitan Ghosh	●	Mr. Sukanta Nandi	●	Mr. Santosh Tiwary
Mr. Subhajit Ghosh	●	Mr. Jay Pal	●	Mr. Sooryateja Vandrangi
Mr. Ashok Kumar	●	Mr. Ganesh Pichaimurthi	●	

## Volunteer of the Quarter

“Nobody can do everything, but everyone can do something”; Chapter recognizes and appreciates the effort and support of volunteers for their contribution

Special  
Appreciation as  
“Volunteer of  
Quarter, Winter  
2015” goes to  
Arabinda Bhar



Chapter thanks Arabinda for his continuous contribution to the chapter initiatives for Q4 2015. This prestigious award is in recognition of your leadership to take forward chapter initiatives in the region successfully aligned with its vision

**Congratulations Arabinda!**

## Etc that matters

### PMP® exam is changing in 2016

The PMP exam update has moved to 11 January 2016 to allow all stakeholders adequate time to prepare for this change. The current exam (aligned to the existing exam content outline) will remain active until 11 January 2016. After 11 January 2016, only the new version of the PMP exam will be administered

<http://www.pmi.org.in/nl/pmi2677/>

### Project Management National Conference, India 2015

ARCHITECTING PROJECT MANAGEMENT for Redefining India...Venue: The Lalit Ashok, Bengaluru, 10-12 September 2015

2.5 Days. 20 Knowledge Sessions. 250+ Organizations participating. 1000+ Delegates.

<http://www.pmi.org.in/events/conference2015/>

Share your thoughts and suggestions to  
[pmiwbc.communication@pmiwbc.org](mailto:pmiwbc.communication@pmiwbc.org)

Visit Chapter Website <http://www.pmiwbc.org/>



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