

AHANA

08 September 2021

VOL: XXXXII ISSUE: 5



REGULAR CLUB E-BULLETIN OF ROTARY CLUB OF CALCUTTA JADAVPUR

RI PRESIDENT: RTN. SHEKHAR MEHTA :: DISTRICT GOVERNOR: RTN. PRABIR CHATTERJEE

SEPTEMBER IS

BASIC EDUCATION AND LITERACY MONTH

"Education is a social process. Education is growth. Education is not a preparation for life; education is life itself."
John Dewey

Rotary TAKE ACTION: Join Rotary. Get Involved

September is the Rotary Month of Basic Education and Literacy. And when it comes to Literacy, how can we forget the Indian educator and Social Reformer Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar (1820-1891)? This greatest Bengali of all times rationalized and simplified the Bengali alphabets and type. His famous book '*Borno Porichoy*' is read by all the Bengali tiny-tots in their schools. Vidyasagar also modernized and simplified Bengali prose, making this major area of Bengali Literature easily appreciated by all readers. He is thus aptly considered the "Father of Bengali prose". Ishwar Chandra worked relentlessly to provide equal education to all men and women, irrespective of their caste, religion and gender. He opened innumerable schools for girls throughout different corners of Bengal. He believed that the status of women and all kinds of injustice and inequalities that they face could be changed only through their education. Ishwar Chandra so excelled in his undergraduate studies of Sanskrit and philosophy that Sanskrit College, Calcutta conferred upon him the honorific title of "Vidyasagar".

- Souvik

KNOW-HOW CORNER

Rotary India Literacy Mission (RILM)

The **Rotary India Literacy Mission (RILM)**, formerly known as Rotary South Asia Society for Development and Cooperation (RSAS) aims to work towards Total literacy and Quality Education in India. To achieve that, RILM have designed a comprehensive program called "T-E-A-C-H" where:

- T - Teacher Support**
- E - E-learning**
- A - Adult Literacy**
- C - Child Development**
- H - Happy School**

Each of these programs has a specific focus and it is interlinked with each other in achieving the common goal of bringing total literacy and improving the learning outcomes of primary education, in various parts of the country.

Teacher Support

E-learning

Adult Literacy

Child Development

Happy School

Presidential Message for the Month of September

Rtn. Shekhar Mehta

I am sure you are having an enriching experience as you *Serve to Change Lives*. One of the ways you can make the greatest change in a person's life is to help them learn to read. Literacy opens up the world to us. It makes us better informed about life in our own communities and opens vistas to other cultures. Reading and writing connects people and gives us another way to express our love for one another.

September is Basic Education and Literacy Month in Rotary. Enhancing literacy skills is critical in our pursuit of reducing poverty, improving health, and promoting peace. In fact, if all students in low-income countries left school with basic reading skills, it would result in a significant cut in global poverty rates.

Without education, illiterate children become illiterate adults. Today, 14 percent of the world's adult population — 762 million people — lack basic reading and writing skills. Two-thirds of that group are women. Literacy and numeracy skills are essential to obtaining better housing, health care, and jobs over a lifetime.

Especially for girls and women, literacy can be a life-or-death issue. If all girls completed their primary education, there would be far fewer maternal deaths. And a child is more likely to survive past age 5 if he or she is born to a mother who can read. Improving outcomes for more people worldwide is possible only if countries remove barriers to education for girls. The economic argument for doing so is clear: In some countries where schooling is geared toward boys, the cost of missed economic opportunity is more than \$1 billion per year.

Empowering people through education is among the boldest goals we have as Rotarians. We don't have to travel far from our homes to encounter those whose lives are being curtailed because they struggle with reading, rely on others to read for them, or cannot write anything more than their own name.

Starting this month, consider how your club can *Serve to Change Lives* through literacy: Support local organizations that offer free programs to support adult literacy or local language learning, or that provide teachers with professional development centered around reading and writing. Become literacy mentors, or work with an organization like the *Global Partnership for Education* to increase learning opportunities for children around the world. Have conversations with local schools and libraries to see how your club can support their existing programs or help create needed ones in your community.

In India, the *TEACH* program, a successful collaboration between the country's Rotary clubs and its government, has demonstrated how to scale up literacy efforts to reach millions of children. And at a time when schools across India were closed due to the *COVID-19* pandemic, the program's e-learning component reached more than 100 million children through national television.

Literacy is the first step out of poverty. As Nobel laureate Malala Yousafzai has noted, "One child, one teacher, one book, and one pen can change the world."

- Shekhar Mehta (RIP: 2021-2022)



Source: Rotary International

SPECIAL FEATURE ARTICLE-I

Project : Hariyali



Dr. Aditi Nag Chaudhuri
AG, PP & Club Trainer, RCCJ

The Rotary Foundation Trustees and Rotary International Board of Directors have both unanimously approved adding a new area of focus: **supporting the environment**. More than \$18 million in Foundation global grant funding has been allocated to environment-related projects over the past five years. Creating a distinct area of focus to support the environment will give Rotary members even more ways to bring about positive change in the world and increase our impact.

Past RI President Mark Maloney said that during his travels around the world as a Rotary senior leader he encountered many Rotary members and Rotaractors who advocated for the environment to be an area of focus. "I believe strongly that our Rotary Foundation programs now have a valuable added dimension to our efforts," says, Maloney. Foundation Trustee Chair Gary C.K. Huang said that with the global population reaching near eight billion, protecting the environment was increasingly important.

Supporting the environment becomes Rotary's seventh area of focus, which are categories of service activities supported by global grants. It joins peace building and conflict prevention; disease prevention and treatment; water, sanitation, and hygiene; maternal and child health; basic education and literacy; and community economic development. Iterating that the West Bengal government was committed to creating a sustainable environment, forest minister Rajib Banerjee said that 21.30 percent of the state's overall geographical area has been brought under green cover in the last nine years. Banerjee, who was addressing a press meet, said the state will achieve its target of planting five crore mangrove saplings in Cyclone Amphan-hit Sunderbans in a month's time. Bengal has increased its forest cover to 21.30 percent from 17.27 percent in 2011, the minister said. "Under 'Ekti sishu ekti gaach' (one child one tree) project, introduced in 2017, altogether 37,36,979 saplings have already been distributed among families of newborns in last three years," he said.

A marginal increase in Bengal's forest cover has been offset by a much larger loss in non-forest greenery, the India State of Forest Report 2019 has revealed. According to the report, the state's forest cover has increased 0.3% — from 16,847sq km in 2017 to 16,901 sq km in 2019. However, greenery in non-forest areas has declined 6.1% — from 2,136 sq km in 2017 to 2,006 sq km.

Green activists say it is a reflection of large-scale tree-felling for "developmental projects" without adequate compensatory plantation. In Kolkata itself, decades-old trees with large canopies have been felled to widen roads and construct bridges. The saplings that have been planted in return are either scrubs or ornamental.

Destruction of greenery is taking a heavy toll on Kolkata's ecosystem and general climate. For instance, Salt Lake has been witnessing a loss of biodiversity over the past many years. We are now experiencing sweltering hot weather conditions in the middle of what used to be considered as spring months; winters are getting less cold with every passing year. We are all aware of recent temperature rises and are always discussing the effects of global warming, but there's very little being done to remedy the situation.

Here are some steps we need to take now in order to promote greenery in Kolkata, which will also allow us to enjoy cooler summers. Trees are constantly being hacked to accommodate urbanization, but there's not enough reforestation drive to compensate for the felling of the trees. Special initiatives should be undertaken to plant saplings in strategic locations so that they don't have to be cut down when they are full grown trees in the next 15-20 years to make way for new infrastructure. Also, roads and highways that are not under the 'green cover' should also be brought under the reforestation drive.

So was the **week of Hariyali that is reforestation drive by the RID 3291** from 14th Aug to 21st Aug, 2021. On 20th Aug., Rotary Club of Calcutta Jadavpur, participated in District's Week of Service on ENVIRONMENT, HARIYALI, tree plantation in front of METRO Cash & Carry. Trees were caged and there are placards of RID 3291 which is also a Public Image activity. RCCJ was one of the cohosts there. Dist Exe. Sec. Jaydeb Banerjee, PP Partha Sarathi Sarkar, PP Aditi Nag Chaudhuri and Sec. Pausali Pal attended tree plantation programme .Many celebrities like Actor Debsankar Halder, Singer Surojit Chatterjee, KMDA officials , galaxy of PDGs , DGE Ajoy Law and DG Prabir Chatterjee were present in that green programme.

Project : Hariyali

Some Glimpses



INDUCTION OF HONY. & NEW MEMBERS by DG Rtn. Prabir Chatterjee

25 August 2021, Calcutta Rowing Club



Hony. Member Rtn (Dr.) Arup Ratan Dutta



New Member Rtn. Nabagopal Bhattacharya



New Member Rtn. Manas Kumar Ghosh



New Member Rtn. Manosij Bandopadhyay

SPECIAL FEATURE ARTICLE-II

Distribution of Clothes for the Underprivileged & Blood Donation Camp



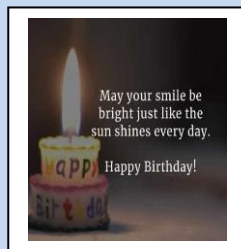
Rtn. Sambhu Nath Kar
Member, RCCJ

With the blessing of Thakur and Sri Ma, we have accomplished our program of distribution of clothes to villagers (boys & girls, old men and women) at Sihas Ramakrishna Vivekananda Sadhan Mandir, Bankura, on 31st August, 2021. Frankly speaking it has given us such a pleasure when we saw the smiling face of the recipients. A Blood Donation Camp, with the active support of Bankura Medical College & Hospital, was also organized at the Ashram compound on 1st September, 2021, where 60 donors donated their blood. My Rotary Club of Calcutta, Jadavpur, was also associated in this project.



❖ Rtn. (Dr.) Partha Pratim Roy
- 12th September

❖ Rtn. (Dr.) Chitra Mandal
- 15th September



MINUTES OF THE 2059th CLUB MEETING OF RC CALCUTTA JADAVPUR HELD AT CRC, WEDNESDAY, 25th AUGUST 2021 AT 7:00 PM

Past President Rtn. (Dr) Aditi Nag Chaudhuri called the 2059th meeting of Rotary Club of Calcutta Jadavpur (RCCJ) to order.

She welcomed all the guests and the members in this special meeting including the following dignitaries: District Governor Rtn. Prabir Chatterjee, First Lady Rtn. Rubena Chatterjee, District Webmaster Rtn. Avijit Mitra and other District officials, Inductees Mr. Manas Kumar Ghosh and his spouse Ms. Arpita Ghosh, Mr. Manosij Bandopadhyay, Mr. Nabagopal Bhattacharya and his mother Kuheli Bhattacharya, Hony. member to be inducted Dr. Arup Ratan Dutta along with his spouse Dr. Soma Dutta, and invited speaker Anasuya Chakraborty.

The National Anthem was led by Rtn. Paromita Das Dutta.

Then Past President Rtn. (Dr) Aditi Nag Chaudhuri updated the members about upcoming and completed service projects since last club meeting held online on 11th August, and provided other relevant information:

- On 15th Aug, 75th Independence Day, the club celebrated the Rotary Day of service of the District (RID 3291) as Women Empowerment Day through two different programs:
 1. In the morning, through a program at Ramakrishna Mission Institute of Culture, Golpark, RCCJ along with Udbhas, an NGO, distributed sanitary napkins to underprivileged girls. PP Partha Sarathi Sarkar, Rtn. Anup Tibrewal, Rtn. (Dr) Mainak Sengupta, Rtn. Manab Paul and Rotaractors of Rotaract Club of Jadavpur Greens were present in the program.
 2. In the afternoon, a major awareness camp was organized on important health topics - these include cervical cancer, pediatric cancer, menstrual hygiene. In addition, medical checkup camp for ladies and girls were done. Blood pressure, blood sugar, height, weight and BMI were measured by MPATHY, an NGO, for 80 persons. Rtn. (Dr) Swati Pramanick conducted the awareness camp. Sanitary napkins were distributed among the ladies. The school children were given Oxford Dictionary (English to Bengali). Refreshments were served to all the participants. This program was led by PP (Dr.) Aditi and Club Secretary Rtn Pausali. In addition, Rtn. Koyeli Dutt, Rtn. Sikha Mukherji, Rtn. Joyeta Ghosh were actively engaged in the camp. DG Prabir Chatterjee and Dist. Executive Secretary Jaydeb Banerjee visited the camp in the afternoon.
- On 20th Aug., RCCJ participated in District's Week of Service on Environment, HARIYALI - a tree plantation project in front of METRO Cash & Carry on EM Bypass. Trees were encased in cages labeled with RID 3291. RCCJ was one of the co-hosts of the program. Executive Secretary Jaydeb Banerjee, PP Rtn Partha Sarathi Sarkar, PP Rtn Aditi Nag Chaudhuri and Club Secretary Pausali Pal attended the program. Many celebrities like Actor Debshankar Halder, Singer Surojit Chatterjee, KMDA officials, galaxy of PDGs, DGE Ajoy Law and DG Prabir Chatterjee were present in that green program.

- On 31st August Rtn. Sambunath Kar of our club organized a program at Sihas Ramakrishna Vivekananda Sadhan Mandir in which more than 100 children of underprivileged families would be given with new clothing, the elders of the families would also get new Sarees and Dhotis .On 1st Sept. a blood Donation camp would also be organized there with the support of doctors from Bankura medical College.
- September being National Nutrition month, like previous years, the club would conduct appropriate program on this important topic and members would be updated on further development soon.
- On 4thSeptember, District would organize another Day of Service on Blood Donation, in four different locations. PP Partha Sarathi Sarkar will lead the effort in Rotary Sadan where blood would be collected from volunteers for leukemia patients.
- On 19thSeptember, the Day of Service for Literacy would be observed by our club.

Next, Secretary Rtn. Pausali Paul conducted other club business. She, on behalf of all the members of RCCJ, wished Ann Lopamudra Roy (w/o Rtn (Dr) Souvik Roy in advance for her upcoming birthday on 30thAugust and Rtn Dr. Sonia Gupta for her upcoming birthday on 31stAugust.

The minutes of 2058th meeting was confirmed. The meeting ended with thanks to everyone attending the meeting.

Next, the Induction Ceremony was held for three new members and one Hony. Members as follows:

- Dr. Arup Ratan Dutta was introduced by PP Samirendu Dutt to be inducted as an Hony. Member.
- Sri Manas Kumar Ghosh was introduced by Rtn. Paromita Das Duttato be inducted as a member.
- Sri Manosij Bandopadhyay was introduced by PP Dr. Aditi Nag Chaudhurito be inducted as amember.
- Sri Nabagopal Bhattacharya was introduced by Rtn. Pausali Palto be inducted as a member.

- All four gentlemen were inducted by District Governor Prabir Chatterjee.
- Next, four members of the club - Rtn. Manab Pal, Rtn. Pausali Pal, PP Aditi Nag Chaudhuri and PP Jaydeb Banerjee - each handed over cheques equivalent to \$334 (Three Hundred Thirty-Four Dollars) to DG as donations to Rotary India Foundation. As a token of appreciation DG and First Lady decorated the donating members with a pin inscribed, I love TRF.
- PP Aditi introduced our DG Prabir Chatterjee to new members and guests.
- The invited speaker Anasuya Chakraborty, Officer in Charge Intelligence Reporting and Scanning Cell, FRO Section, Special Branch, Barrackpore Police Commissionerate was introduced by PP Aditi. She was felicitated by our First Lady Rubena Chatterjee.
- She delivered a passionate talk on Women's Self Defense using audio visual aid and she also narrated her own experience in this society in the context of the topic. She was applauded for her talk and the

First Lady handed over a certificate of appreciation to her on behalf of RCCJ.

- Next, PP (Dr) Aditi requested DG Prabir Chatterjee to address the gathering.
- DG delivered an excellent lecture encompassing different areas of Rotary movement, its presence across the globe, the pride that Rotarians derive through its selfless service and the importance to expand the base of membership globally from the current level of 1.2 million to 1.3 million as aimed by RI President Sekhar Mehta. DG's brilliant talk mesmerized all the attendees of the meeting and greatly boosted the morale of RCCJ members.
- Vote of thanks was proposed by Rtn (Dr) Mainak Sengupta.



SPECIAL FEATURE ARTICLE-III

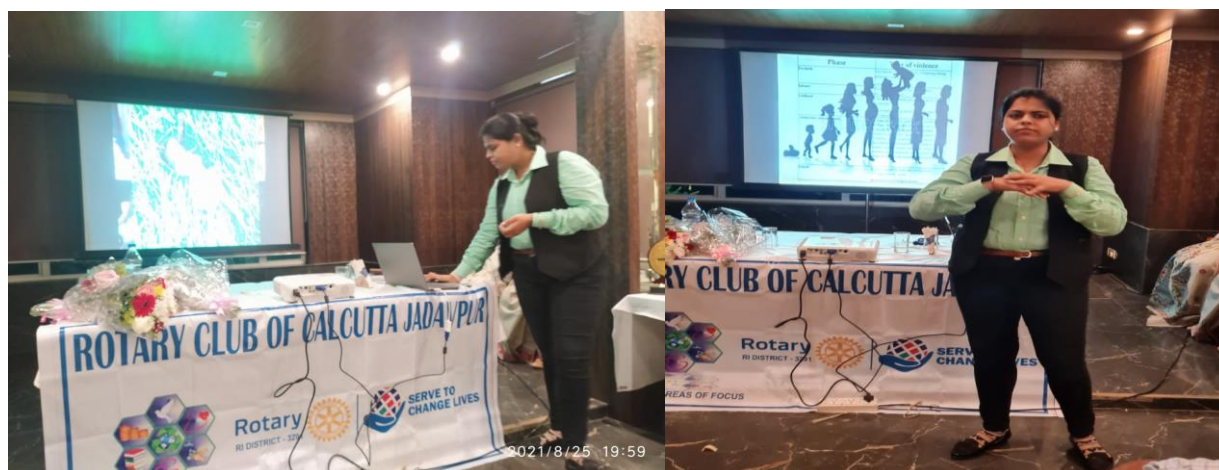


An Audio-Visual Presentation on "Women's Self Defence" by Ms. Anasuya Chakraborty

Officer-in-Charge, Intelligence Reporting and Scanning Cell,
FRO Section, Special Branch, Barrackpore Police Commissionerate

25 August 2021, Calcutta Rowing Club

Ms. Anasuya Chakraborty, a Post-Graduate in Microbiology, previously served as the OC, Women PS, Anti-Human Trafficking Unit, Missing Person Bureau, Senior Citizens' Care and Protection Unit under Barrackpore Police Commissionerate. She talked on Women's Self Defence that illustrious evening, using audio visual aid and her own experience in this regard, during her job tenure so far. What Ms. Chakraborty mentioned in her captivating talk was that, most often crime against women, particularly the young ones, begins at her home only, and that too, by her very near and dear ones. This heinous crime percolates throughout the gradual transformation of a girl child into an old lady, through various biological stages of her life, be it in her personal or professional life. She also mentioned that men too face appreciable oppression and harassment from their female partners, and thus there are often both sides of the same coin. Ms. Chakraborty concluded her speech by stating that women need to be a little more aware and conscious in order to ensure a better self-protection.



[Article Written by Editor, Ahana]