

# Voyage



A News Bulletin  
November 2022

## ROTARY CLUB OF KABITIRTHA, CALCUTTA



Rotary International District 3291  
Club Charter No. 30920  
Club Charter Date: 30th JUNE 1995

RI PRESIDENT: Rtn. Jennifer E. Jones 2022-23  
DISTRICT GOVERNOR: Rtn. Ajoy Kumar Law, 3291, 2022-23  
PRESIDENT : Rtn. Nitish Saha  
SECRETARY: Rtn. Prasanta Dey  
EDITOR: Rtn. Malabika Guha  
JOINT EDITOR: Rtn. Samarjit Majumdar

## November : THE ROTARY FOUNDATION MONTH

Imagine if we can dream a world where everyone is literate, where everyone is affluent, where everyone is getting free medical treatment, a world where everyone is drinking pure water and in a world where everyone is getting abundant love and respect.

Yes---all these dreams have been transformed into reality by a noble, kindhearted and energetic person----he is Arch C Klumph who founded the Rotary Foundation ( TRF) in 1917 to energize the community service for the under privileged people of the world.

The Foundation connects all the Rotarians together and transform all their collective donations into fruitful projects

The philosophy of the Rotary Foundation "মানুষের সঙ্গে মানুষের যোগে সকলের ভালো হওয়া", আত্মবিশ্বাস,সুস্থ আবেগ ও ভালোবাসায় সামিল কিছু মানুষ আজ রুগ্ন, দরিদ্র, অশিক্ষিত ও অসহায় মানুষের পাশে দাড়ানোর জন্য অঙ্গীকারবদ্ধ----- ওরা শুধু দিতে চায়, নিতে নয়

### Club news

#### Health check up camp

A general health check up camp has been organized on 4<sup>th</sup> September 2022 at Boral. Apart from checking general health , our club has also taken initiative to check blood sugar and cholesterol. The number of beneficiaries had been increased to near about 40 members. Rtn. Nitish Saha, Rtn. Prasanta Dey, Rtn. (Dr.) Ayan Deb and Rtn. Rita Bhowmik had been there to complete the project.

#### Thalassemia awareness program

On 29<sup>th</sup> August 2022, a Thalassemia awareness program had been arranged at Adarsha Balika Sikshayatan at Jheel Road, Jadavpur. The keynote speaker had been Dr. (Rtn.) Ramendu Hom Chowdhury. He explained clearly how the common people would be aware of Thalassemia which is an inherited disorder of hemoglobin synthesis. He assured that by providing education about Thalassemia, we can raise awareness, encourage people to get tested for the trait and spread knowledge about comprehensive treatment.

### Teacher's day celebration

It was a meaningful and lively evening when our club celebrated Teacher's day on 5<sup>th</sup> September 2022 at Adarsha Balika Sikshayatan at Jheel Road.

The club president , Rtn. Nitish Saha gave a hearty welcome both to the teachers and the students. Our club felicitated five senior teachers and also other teachers with books, flowers and sweets.

The headmistress of the school advised the students to follow the philosophy of Dr. Sarvapalli Radhakrishna, who told "life is the gift of nature, but the beautiful living is the gift of wisdom." She further opined, "nowadays students like to emphasize more on taking instead of giving – giving is a very difficult task, but it is the only way to evolve. Give so that you can grow." She further opined, "A candle loses nothing by lightening other candles".

#### Distribution of Mosquito nets with the support of the district 3291 on 4<sup>th</sup> September

Our club distributed mosquito nets to the needy people of the Khiderpore location. Members present had been Rtn. Nitish Saha, Rtn. Prasanta Dey, Rtn. Goutam Roy and Rtn. Rajarshee Saha.

### Distribution of new garments before Puja

On 29<sup>th</sup> September 2022, the new clothes and garments were distributed to the people of Purulia Manbazar Jamedake – belonging to Sobor group. Rtn. Nitish Saha, Rtn. Prasanta Dey, Rtn. Rakhal Roy, Rtn. Goutam Roy, Rtn. Samarjit Majumder, Rtn. Rajarshee Saha and Rtn. Piu Bhowmick had been there to complete the project.

### Rally to end polio

Our club had been one of the co-host clubs of the program “End Polio Now,” held on 23<sup>rd</sup> October. Motor rally had been started at 9 am. Members present had been Rtn. Nitish Saha, Rtn. Prasanta Dey, Rtn. Rajarshee Saha, Rtn. Rakhal Roy and Rtn. Sanjay Mukherjee.

### **Birthday Greetings**

26<sup>th</sup> September -- Rtn. Ajoy Ganguly

18<sup>th</sup> October -- Rtn. Saswati Chowdhury

24<sup>th</sup> October -- Rtn. Rakhal Roy

11<sup>th</sup> November – Rtn. Tapas Dhar

### A project of our club with Sika Zilla Welfare Trust

On 4<sup>th</sup> October 2022, a joint program had been organized by our club with the children of the Sikar Zila Welfare Trust. Members present had been Rtn. Nitish Saha, Rtn. Jhulan Basu, Rtn. Gautam Roy, Rtn. Ranjana Basu, Rtn. Subhomita Chakraborty and Rtn. Piu Bhowmick. Children became very happy when they received the choicest gifts. The children had been so well mannered. They performed too in singing and dancing.

### **Looking back**

It is in the present that the Rotary Club of Kabitirtha, Calcutta alone is not enough, it is its activities in the past which will help the members to complete its journey – “service above self”.

The Rotary Club of Kabitirtha, Calcutta had been formed in 1995 at Khiderpore which had been sanctified by the birth of three eminent poets – Late Hemchandra Bandopadhyay, Late Rangalal Bandopadhyay, and Late Micheal Madhusudan Dutta.

Since 1995 under the able guidance of 20 Presidents, the club has been successful to stand beside the downtrodden people in solving their basic necessities of life.

Let us look back the projects undertaken by first of six Presidents of the club – under the able guidance of our Charter President – **Rtn. Provat Bannerjee (1995-97)**, the club had undertaken the following projects –

- a). Opening of a permanent medical centre at Khiderpore
- b). Formation of a RCC named “**Udyog**” in the same locality.
- c). Recommendation of **Ms. Didhiti Bhowmick** for Ambassadorial scholarship for higher studies in USA.

### Presidential tenure of Rtn. Dulal Mitra (1997-98):

- a). Opening of a Seva Clinic at Khiderpore
- b). Opening of an adult Female Education centre where teaching of about 25 female students had been arranged.

Under the Presidentship of **Rtn. Ashok Dey** as the President (1998-99), following projects had been under taken –

- a). Provision of an Insurance for 25 daily wage earners.
- b). Donation of a thermometer to Ramakrishna Mission
- c). ‘Naba Disha’ – a health check up camp for the street children.

Between 1999-2001, no significant projects had been undertaken.

Under the able guidance of the President – **Rtn. Jhulan Basu** – the following projects had been undertaken –

- 1) Rise of the membership strength from 11 to 33
- 2) Opening of a computer lab at Jawaharlal Vidyapith, Khiderpore to make 20 children computer literate, free of cost.
- 3) Arrangement of a Tram-Jatra for the senior citizens of the city.

4) Receiving six prizes , citations, RI president's citation and the RI club president's citation (for distinguished club president)

Formation of new interact club and RCC.

Recognition of a renowned footballer – Mr. Sukumar Samajpati and Prof. (Dr.) Sanat Biswas – National Professor and Sheriff of Calcutta.

### Celebration of Children's Day

Our club celebrated Children's Day on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2022 at the N.R.S. Hospital with the children suffering from cancer. We distributed walnut, cashew nut, raisin, biscuits, chocolates, cakes, chattu, drawing and colouring book, magic book, pencil, erasers, sharpeners and Bengali story books. Members present had been Rtn. Nitish Saha, Rtn. Subhomita Chakraborty and Rtn. Rajarshee Saha.

### Know our members

#### Old Member



#### **Rtn. Ajoy Ganguly**

A charter member of our club, by profession a veteran lawyer, very popular for his sobriety, kindness, talent in drama, oration and writing – very sociable – a perfect and true Rotarian – wishing his good health and a peaceful life.

#### **অর্পণ**

কেউ নেইতো, কি হয়েছে-

আজকে না হয়, প্রথম অতিথি হলে। তা ছাড়া দেখই না,  
এখানে সংকোচ করার নেই কেউ।

আমিই কেবল তোমার আগে এসেছি। না হলে ঘরের দরজা  
কে খুলে দিলো তোমায়?

আমি জানতাম তুমি আসবে

আগে আগে-

আমাদের একটা অতীত ছিল  
কিন্তু ভবিষ্যৎ নির্ধারণের দায় নেই।

আলো আর অন্ধকার যেমন  
মিশ খায়না, চাঁদের আলোর  
আচ্ছন্ন পথে যেমন সূর্য্যরশ্মী  
পড়েনা, তেমনি সূর্যের দীপ্তিতে

চাঁদের যৌবন ঝলসে হয় বর্ণহীন।

আপাততঃ অতিথি সৎকারের  
বদলে,

অতিথি বরণে কোন বাধা নেই।

*অজয়ের কলমে।*

### **New Member**



#### **Rtn. Tapas Dhar**

By profession a Painter, he has drawn pictures on different themes.

His wide and colourful paintings are the reflections of the knowledge of his subject. He is keen to keep alive the interests of the viewers on his subject.

Very polite and a true gentleman. Wishing his success in his profession, good health for him, and also for his spouse.





## **District news**

### **An Awareness program**

RI District 3291 along with 34 Rotary clubs along with Rotaract clubs and RCC members arranged an awareness program in cervical cancer, literacy, hygiene and Thalassemia. The keynote speaker had been Dr. R. N. Hom Chowdhury, The District Governor Rtn. Ajoy Kumar Law, Rtn. Mukul Sinha (P.D.G.) and many other eminent Rotarians, recent members and members of Rotaract clubs graced the seminar which was a very meaningful one.

### **World polio day**

The world polio day has been observed on 24<sup>th</sup> October 2022. Rotary and its partners have reduced the growth of polio cases by 99.9% since 1988.

## **International news**

### **Uttarakhand school back on track with Rotary gifts**

It was a pleasant surprise for students and staff at the Government Primary School, Sanjay Nagar, in Uttarakhand when RC Rudrapur, RID 3110, gifted them stationery items, a whole wide range of books, furniture and other school supplies which were washed away during that massive flood that inundated classrooms and administration buildings. “The school premises went under five-foot water during the flood. As a result, the record room, furniture and book store were badly damaged. When this was brought to our notice, we decided to supply the students with gifts that will help them to restart their academic activity,” says club president Vikas Sharma.

A couple of days later, Sharma and his team learned that the rain had also flooded the homes of 107 students from this school. “They lost their school bags, uniform sets and study material during the rain.” Moved by the plight of a ‘student in a battered school uniform,’ we realized many of these poor students wear their uniforms at home too because they do not have any other clothes. Adding to their misery, the students were also missing school because they had no books and their parents couldn’t afford to buy the school essentials.

In less than a week the club members reached the school with brand new school bags, new NCERT text books, notebooks, stationery supplies and toys, all worth Rs.52,000/- .

Recalling the trauma the school management and the students underwent, Chanchlesh Kataria, school principal, says, “just when the students had returned to school after the lockdown was lifted, the flood hit them hard. Although the stagnant water was drained and the campus was cleaned, it would have taken us at least six months to get back on track. But the Rotarians surprised us with their generous gifts, and we recovered from the calamity much quicker”.

Beaming with joy, Rashmi, a Class 5 student, says, “My friend and I used to share one pencil and make notes on the papers the teachers gave us. Now we have our own pencils and it will be so much easier to follow the lessons.”



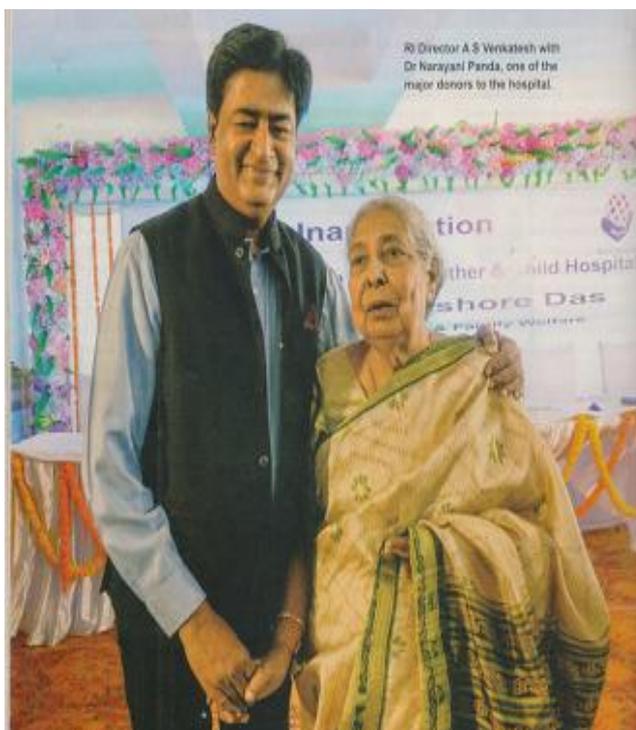
### **RC Sambalpur gifts the city a mother & child hospital**

April 27 was a special day for the members of RC Sambalpur, RID 3261, when their 11-year-long-dream – the S N Rotary Mother and Child Care Hospital – was inaugurated by Odisha health minister Naba Krishore Das in the presence of RI Director A S Venkatesh and DG Sunil Phatak.

The four storey hospital was completed this year after facing several challenges that were overcome by the never-say-die attitude and generosity of the club members. Venkatesh made a special note of this when he honoured the donors at a special programme the previous evening. "It shows the power of collective charity. The power of one person is just one person but when 10 of us join together it is not 10, but it is 100. The Rotary elevates our ability to contribute to society by leveraging the power of collective charity which is greater than the sum of its parts", he observed. The construction cost of the hospital is Rs. 5 crore.

The Club member PDG Dr Ashok Singh, as DG in 2012, had mooted the idea of setting up the hospital, though the club lacked the resources. Richness is not measured by one's wealth or net worth, rather it is defined by what comes from one's heart. What good is your wealth when it is going to benefit the less privileged. He congratulated all of them for all that the club had given – money, time, energy and knowledge – towards making this memorable building.

He urged the club to include a geriatric ward in the hospital as the aging population was increasing and geriatric care was the need of the hour.



## General news

### Book review

#### **Forge your future by APJ Abdul Kalam**

It provides an insight into the issues which concern and engage the minds of Young Indians. The wide spectrum of the issues reflected in the book are like the colours of the rainbow, each one different from the other, but all emancipating from one light. And that one light is the illumination of soul, honesty and the hope and the curiosity radiating through the minds of our young people. Through this book the author likes to keep alive and shining bright, the light in the minds and souls of our youth, and inspire them to reach great heights of achievement.

### Health watch

#### **Dr. Apurba Ghosh**

##### **Thalassemia**

A mild form of Thalassemia Minor may be mistaken for iron deficiency anemia. Iron medicines are not usually necessary and will not help anemia. They could even be harmful if taken over a very long time.

If someone with a Thalassemia Minor gene marries a person who does not have Thalassemia Minor, their children may have Thalassemia Minor. If the person with Thalassemia gene marry a person who does have Thalassemia Minor, some of their children may have Thalassemia Major.

Thalassemia Major occurs when a person inherits two Thalassemia genes, one from each parent. Both parents must have Thalassemia Minor. When two individuals who have Thalassemia Minor marry, there is a 25% chance that any pregnancy can result in a child with Thalassemia Major. Two of four children will have Thalassemia Minor and 1 of 4 will be normal.

These chances are present with each pregnancy. Some families have had only one child, while others have had all of their children affected.

##### **What are the symptoms of Thalassemia Major?**

An infant with Thalassemia Major appears normal at birth. If a child is well for the first five years of life, a diagnosis of Thalassemia Major is unlikely. The double dose of two Thalassemia genes causes an anemia that is so severe that regular blood transfusions must be given throughout life.

A newborn with Thalassemia Major appears normal at birth. As they grow, infants with Thalassemia Major exhibit paleness and fussiness. Weakness and slow growth appear in the first or second years of life. The abdomen may swell due to an enlarged liver and spleen. Changes occur in the appearance of the face and head. The eyes appear stained and the cheekbones become prominent.

### **Testing for Thalassemia**

A simple blood test called HPLC / ELECTROPHORESIS will tell you whether someone is a carrier or have a trait of Thalassemia Minor. During pregnancy there are three ways to test for Thalassemia status: **CVS** – Chronic Villus Sampling (done in 8-10 weeks of pregnancy) amniocentesis – done in 14-18 weeks of pregnancy

Fetal Blood Testing : fetal blood from the umbilical cord of the foetus in the womb (done in 18-20 weeks of pregnancy)

**Safety And Accuracy:** CVS and Foetal blood sampling has a reported miscarriage rate of 1 in 100 tests and Amniocentesis 1 in 200.

**Foetal blood testing:** Foetal blood from the umbilical cord of the foetus in the womb (done in 18-20 weeks of pregnancy).

Treatment for Thalassemia Major involves blood transfusions that must be given every 4 to 6 weeks to sustain life.

Complications that may arise from regular blood transfusions include an overload of iron build up in vital organs causing diabetes, liver disease and heart failure. The spleen may become so enlarged or overactive that it has to be removed surgically. In the past, many patients died in their teens due to these complications.

Today, a medication called deferoxamine (Desferal) can remove iron from the body, but must be given by slow infusions under the skin or in a vein over 10-12 hours five to seven times a week using a battery driven pump. Trials are under way with a new oral form of this medication and early results have been encouraging. This promises to drastically improve the quality of life for sufferers of Thalassemia Major.

With transfusions and with the continuous use of Desferal, the life expectancy of patients with Thalassemia Major has been greatly improved with many patients reaching their thirties and even beyond.

Management of Thalassemia is not enough. Researchers are investigating two potentially curative treatments: bone marrow transplantation and gene therapy. Both methods have shown promise.

Thalassemia has been cured using bone marrow transplants. However, this treatment is possible only for a small minority of patients who have a suitable bone marrow donor. The transplant procedure itself is still risky and can result in death.

### **Relax – loyal wife**

There was a man who had saved all his money, and was a real miser when it came to his money. Just before he died, he said to his wife, when i die, I want you to take all my money and put it in the casket with me. I want to take my money to the after life with me.

He got his wife to promise him that when he died, she would put all the money in the casket with him. Well, he died. He was in the casket, his wife was sitting in black, and her friend was sitting next to her.

When they finished the ceremony, just before the undertakers got ready to close the casket, the wife said, 'wait just a minute!' she had a box with her, she put it in the casket. Then the undertakers locked the casket down, and they rolled it away. Her friend said, 'i know you weren't fool enough to put all that money in there with your husband.' The loyal wife replied 'Listen, i promised him that I would put that money in that casket.' 'you mean to tell me you put that money in the casket with him!' 'I sure did' said the wife. "I got it all together, put it in my account and wrote him a cheque, if he can cash it, he can spend it."

### **Editor speaks**

#### **Greetings, dear changemakers of our club**

I am happy that the membership growth in our club are growing up. Let us not lose this momentum, we are keen to invite new members and also work hard to retain old ones. It is clear to everyone that planning is the key to our success, and it is the bridge between our thoughts and execution. Planning is a never-ending process because changed circumstances may necessitate some course of corrections. Adaptability is the key to reach our targets in the current pandemic environment. It is true that we will plan and execute projects.

But it is not enough – we should always remember that we will always enjoy Rotary even if all our goals are not achieved.

What is important in Rotary is to love every bit of our contribution to this world and cherish the company of every member of our club.

I wish all my fellow Rotarians happy planning and best wishes for its successful execution.

### Quote of the day

Children are the buds in a garden and should be carefully and lovingly nurtured, as they are the future of the nation and the citizens of tomorrow. The children of today will make the India tomorrow.

-- Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru

হৃদয়ে হৃদয় আসি মিলি যায় যেথা ।



**Rotary** **District 3291** | **IMAGINE ROTARY**

**MAKE HISTORY TODAY**

**END POLIO NOW**

## Rally to End Polio

**Rotary International District 3291  
Polio Rally Commemorating  
World Polio Day**

**Sunday 23rd October 2022, 9.00 AM**

**Host Club Rotary Ballygunge**

Rally with Tableau decorated with signages and having Digital Display showing Polio videos and followed by Cars convoy to visit different parts of Kolkata, and stop at important places for creating awareness about Polio Eradication

All Clubs in RI District 3291 are requested to join this flagship project of Rotary worldwide  
Request clubs to co-host this very important rally

Co-Host : Rs 1500/- ; Associate Host : Rs 1000/-  
Please Send your Contribution to : **Rotary Club of Ballygunge**  
Bank : **ICICI Bank Burra Bazaar Branch**; A/C # 627905016774; IFS Code # ICIC0006279





