



ROTARY CLUB OF BEHALA

VOL:LVIII-ISSUE 01
01 JULY 2021

MAITREEE

For private circulation only

COVER STORY

Rtn Soumjojit
Mukherjee
takes up the
mantle of
leadership.

Rotary 



SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

**NEW ROTARY
YEAR BEGINS.**



JULY : NEW LEADERSHIP MONTH

OUR LEADERSHIP 2021-22

Rtn Shekhar Mehta
Rotary International President

Rtn Prabir Chatterjee
District Governor

Soumjojit Mukherjee
President

Rtn Debarshi Dutta Gupta
Secretary

Rtn Dr Siddhartha Chakraborty
Editor

PDRR Rtn Shuvratav Mitra
Joint Editor

TODAY

2597th

Regular Club Meeting

1st Meeting of Rotary
Year 2021-22.

Time: 6:30PM

Place: Zoom Virtual

Content

4-Way Test

We Are On Facebook

Happy Occasions

RI Supports Covid Vaccination

Editorial Request

Family News

Cover Story - Editorial

History of RID 3291

History of Rotary Themes

From The World Of Rotary

RI Presidential Theme 21-22

Upcoming Days

Board 2021-22

Sub Committees

The Fortnight That Was
A Report by PP Rtn Dr Siddhartha
Update On Covid Centre

Minutes of 2596th RCM

*Published by Rtn Debarshi Dutta Gupta, Club Secretary
Edited by Rtn Dr Siddhartha Chakraborty
C/O PP Rtn Debidas Ganguly
2/6, Biren Roy Road (East)
Kolkata - 700 008*

Rotary  **THE FOUR-WAY TEST**
OF THE THINGS WE THINK, SAY OR DO

1. IS IT THE TRUTH ?
2. IS IT FAIR TO ALL CONCERNED ?
3. WILL IT BUILD GOOD WILL AND BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
4. WILL IT BE BENEFICIAL TO ALL CONCERNED ?




We Are At




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VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE UPDATES : <https://rcbehala.rotaryindia.org>

 smita.rao@gmail.com  +91 9830349345 2020-2021 

Rotary 
Club of Behala


HOME ABOUT DIRECTORY DIRECTORS CALENDAR PROJECTS EVENTS PAST PRESIDENTS



POLIO IMMUNIZATION DAY
20 TH SEPTEMBER, 2020
KMC Ward No. :- 118
IN ASSOCIATION WITH
ROTARY CLUB OF BEHALA
Club No :- 16149 | Charter Date :- August 24, 1964
Rotary International District 3291


Upcoming
Events

Newsletters



ROTARY INDIA
Connecting Rotarians

DOWNLOAD THE APP NOW



contact: support@rotaryindia.org

45 Projects	Rs.13,59,552 Cost	20,052 Beneficiaries	1,678 Man Hours	318 Rotarians Involved	34 Members	1,450 TRF (USD)
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[CLUB EVENTS](#) [CLUB PROJECTS](#) [CLUB CALENDAR](#)

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

many many happy returns of the day

05 July - Mrs Sharmistha & PP Rtn Krishnendu Bhattacharjee

Rotary
RID 3291 

Rotary International Supports Covid Vaccination



Help us to help you - Get Vaccinated.

Care for the people around you.

Vaccination is safe and effective, get vaccinated now.

Wear Mask, Wash Hands, Maintain Safe Distance.

Rotary India's Covid Vaccination Task Force

EDITORIAL REQUEST

That cute little girl practicing her dances is a mother now. This very affectionate uncle is there no more. And here you are in the trophy-winning school cricket team.

Old pictures open the floodgates of sweet memories. Many of our dear club members have some memoirs of the bygone days – the induction or installation, some project or a spirited evening.

Please share those treasure moments with us all through issues of Maitree.

Send WhatsApp to 9830030020 or a mail to sid.ctvs@gmail.com.

FAMILY NEWS

The Covid situation, in general, has improved. But it continues to bite. Mrs Sunanda Bose, spouse of PP Rtn Anindya Bose, had an attack and is now convalescing. We wish her speedy recovery.

Club President (Elect) Rtn Bikash Dutta attended the Rotary Yoga Utsav on 21st June successfully, and was awarded a certificate of appreciation.

How we miss our ever-smiling Past President Late Rtn Jayanta Kumar Mitra – a practitioner of Yoga himself, he would have been very happy with the achievement of Rtn Bikash.



EDITORIAL



Siddhartha Chakraborty
Editor 21-22

COVER STORY



SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

The Beginning

We stand on the shoulder of history to envision the future.

To learn a lesson. To get motivation.

To motivate members, every year since 1951, the RI President's reveal a special RI Theme for the entire year, which the members follow throughout the globe from 1st of July. From earlier statements of ideals, the aims have gradually been made punchier and more precise. But they continue to give direction to all the District Governors, Presidents, and all the members of this great organisation.

We take the opportunity to pay tribute to all the Rotary Presidents who gave the directives, the District Governors who guided us, and the Club Presidents who steered our club to the direction since the historic day of 24th August 1964 when the club was chartered.

This year we have a dual reason for celebration – Rtn Shekhar Mehta, a member of Rotary Club of Calcutta Mahanagar of our very own Rotary District is leading as RI President, & our young dynamic Rtn Soumjojit Mukherjee has

taken up the responsibility of steering our club as the President.

After a very fruitful year of hybrid performance - mixing online activities with physical ones – under stellar leadership of IPP Rtn Sugata Mazumdar, we now look up to Rtn Soumjojit to lead from the front.

We fondly remember the days when young Soumjojit was a member of Rotaract Club of Behala, a club he steered as President for the session 2009-10, when the moto of Fellowship Through Service gradually metamorphosed to Service Above Self, anchoring him to our club in 2012.

The club enjoyed his organisational skills as Club Secretary over two sessions, and now he is going to lead us from front.

Congratulations, Rtn Soumjojit. The club will definitely reach new heights – in spite of the difficult time – under your energizing leadership.

Guide us to reach the goal of “Serve to Change Lives”.

History Of Rotary District 3291

Rotary Clubs in District 3291 carry a legacy of a pioneering work in the field of Social and Community based activities.

The idea of Rotary germinated in India on 26th September 1919 with an informal meeting of some like-minded individuals and Rotary Club of Calcutta was chartered on 1st January, 1920. At the time of inception Rotary Club of Calcutta was the only Rotary Club between English Channel & C h i n a S e a .

In 1977, our District was numbered 329 which then covered Burma, Afghanistan, Ceylon, Nepal, Malaysia, and parts of India (including Bengal, Assam, Bihar, Orissa and Jabalpur. In 1984, India - Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Arunachal, Assam, Manipur, Sikkim, Tripura, West Bengal and the whole of Nepal came u n d e r D i s t r i c t 3 2 9 .

Thus, the erstwhile District 329 heralded the Centenary of Rotary Movement in Asia.

In 1990 a decision was taken to introduce 4 digit District numbers. As a result, District 329 became District 3290, which was re-designated as 3291 in 2008 - 2009 and Nepal was separated and formed into District 3292.

Bangladesh and Pakistan became two separate independent Districts and in 1991, North Eastern States were also separated from District 3290 and formed into a new District 3240.

At present, District 3291 comprises of 12 revenue Districts of West Bengal, viz. Kolkata, North 24 Parganas, South 24 Parganas, Howrah, Hooghly, Purba Medinipur, Paschim Medinipur, Jhargram, Bankura, Purulia, Nadia, Murshidabad and the Union Territory of Andaman & N i c o b a r I s l a n d s .

District 3291 is carrying forward with its legacy to uphold the motto of Service Above Self in the fields of Health, Education, Peace, Community Development, Women's Empowerment and Poverty Alleviation, thus laying the foundation for the 21st Century goal of Global Peace & Prosperity through harmonious and composite development and moving forward towards "Rotary India Vision 2025".

[Source : <https://dgc3291.org/page4.html>]



History Of Rotary Themes

Each January, Rotary members enthusiastically await the incoming Rotary International president's announcement of the next Rotary theme. The president announces the theme at the International Assembly, an annual training event for incoming leaders.

The tradition of crafting a theme is credited to Percy C. Hodgson, Rotary's president in 1949-50. When Hodgson addressed the International Assembly in 1949, he impressed upon the incoming leaders that they had a "glorious opportunity to impart Rotary knowledge" and that "lack of Rotary knowledge can be a deterrent to the successful operation of a Rotary club." Hodgson's 83-word theme, which included a list of four objectives, was substantially longer than today's punchier themes, but it captured his hope that incoming leaders have essential knowledge of Rotary.

Rotarians' desire to celebrate and support their president's annual program of service has continued. Other early themes include Rotary Is Hope in Action (Joaquin Serratosa Cibils, 1953-54), Kindle the Spark Within (Nitish C. Laharry, 1962-63), and Good Will Begins With You (Ernst G. Breitholtz, 1971-72).

In the decades that followed, RI presidents introduced theme logos, lapel pins, ties, and scarves. Theme ties were introduced in the 1990s, and are now crafted annually.

Scarves first appeared in 1998-99. Many



Percy Hodgson, at the 1951 Rotary Convention in Atlantic City, New Jersey, U.S. was the 1949-50 RI President credited with starting the tradition of crafting a theme.

designs incorporate the theme logo for the year. Others, such as those selected by William Boyd from New Zealand and Sakuji Tanaka from Japan, use colors or imagery that reflects their home country.



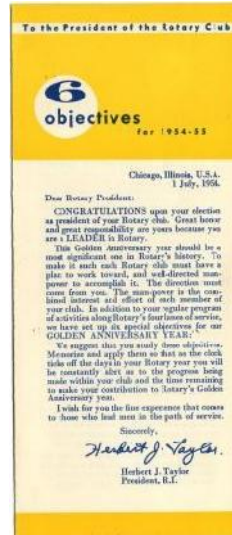
Sakuji Tanaka, 2012-13 RI President, and his wife, Kyoko, select patterns and fabrics for his theme tie and scarf. The white flowers represent the iconic cherry blossoms of Japan.



RI theme pins from 1991-92 to 2008-09.



A selection of RI presidential theme ties.



Early theme brochures were almost entirely textual and did not include theme logos. From left: Six Objectives (Herbert J. Taylor, 1954-55), Develop Our Resources (A.Z. Baker, 1955-56), and Three Targets (Gian Paolo Lang, 1956-57).

[Source : <https://www.rotary.org/en/history-rotary-themes>]



Shekhar Mehta

From The World Of Rotary

Presidential Initiatives by RIP Shekhar Mehta

Equality is a fundamental human right, and it's necessary for a peaceful, prosperous, and sustainable world. Still, girls and women worldwide face inequities in areas including health and education and experience significant violence and disproportionate poverty. Rotary encourages clubs and districts to prioritize projects that improve the health, well-being, education, and economic security of girls in their communities and around the world. Take on a club-based initiative, a district grant, or a global grant that engages members of your community in a project that will protect and empower girls

and increase equity by ensuring their access to resources that will improve their lives.

Host a Rotary Day of Service: a meaningful day of hands-on service activities where Rotary members and the community come together to improve their community.

Plan to attend a Presidential Conference. The 2021-22 presidential conference series will highlight the humanitarian work that Rotary clubs and districts pioneer locally and support globally.

- 4-5 October, 21- Gyeongju, Korea
- 5-7 November, 21- Venice, Italy
- 26-27 November, 21- Manila, Philippines
- 4-6 February, 22- Hyderabad, India
- 12-13 February, 22- Foz do Iguaçu, Brazil

RI Presidential Theme 21-22



Incoming Rotary International President Shekhar Mehta urged members to become more involved in service projects, saying that caring for and serving others is the best way to live because it changes not only other people's lives, but also our own.

Mehta, a member of the Rotary Club of Calcutta-Mahanagar, West Bengal, India, revealed the 2021-22 presidential theme, *Serve to Change Lives*, to incoming district governors on 1 February during the Rotary International Assembly. The assembly, a yearly training event for district governors-elect, was originally set to take place in Orlando, Florida, USA, but was held virtually because of the COVID19 pandemic.

Mehta spoke about how participating in service projects through Rotary changed him as a person and made him empathize more with the needs of others. Soon after joining his club, he helped carry out projects that benefited rural communities in India.

Some of the poor conditions he saw in those communities strengthened his commitment to service. "I truly understood the plight of my brethren," he said. Mehta participated in initiatives that brought artificial limbs to children, clean water and sanitation to homes, and better health care facilities to communities.

"Rotary kindled the spark within me to look

SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

Rotary Theme 2021-22

beyond myself and embrace humanity," he said. "Service became a way of life for me and I, like many others, adopted the guiding philosophy that 'Service is the rent I pay for the space I occupy on this earth, and I want to be a good tenant of this earth.'"

Mehta encouraged district governors-elect to lead by example during their term and inspire Rotary and Rotaract members to participate in projects that have measurable and sustainable impacts. He's asking each club to conduct a Rotary Day of Service.

"At the end of your term as district governor, you should feel that because of your leadership, because of your inspiration to Rotarians and Rotaractors, the world has changed for the better because of the service done by them during the year," he said.

Focusing on diversity, membership

For the 2021-22 Rotary year, Mehta wants members to focus their efforts on

empowering girls and ensuring their access to education, resources, services, and opportunities so that future generations of women leaders will have the tools they need to succeed. Mehta asked members to use Rotary’s belief that diversity, equity, and inclusion is critical in all we do as a compass to guide this work.

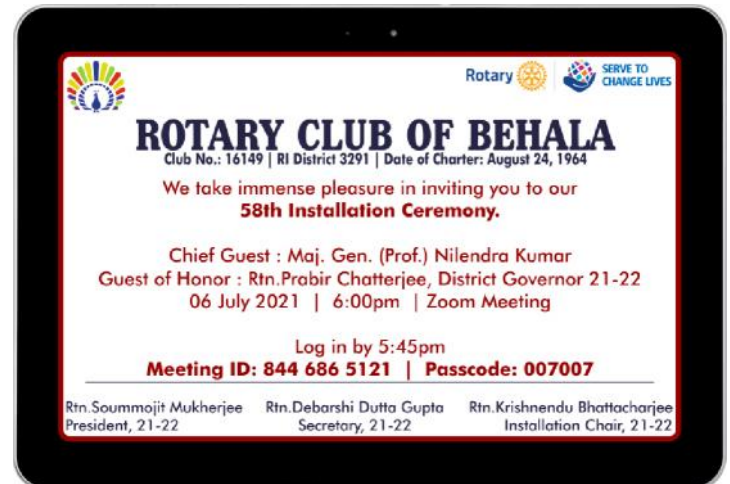
“Rotary kindled the spark within me to look beyond myself and embrace humanity.”- Shekhar Mehta

“There are many issues that girls face in different parts of the world, and you as leaders will ensure that we try and mitigate the disadvantage of the girl that they may have,” he said.

To be able to do more through service, Rotary needs to increase membership, Mehta said. Membership has hovered around 1.2 million for the past two decades. He challenged the incoming governors to be catalysts in their districts to help increase membership to 1.3 million by 1 July 2022. Mehta’s Each One, Bring One initiative asks every member to bring one person to join Rotary within the next 17 months.

Increasing membership while also continuing our commitment to eradicating polio, ghting COVID-19, and serving our communities is an ambitious goal. “And that should excite you,” Mehta said. “Rotarians love challenges.”

Upcoming Days





DG2122 Prabir Chatterjee along with the Core Team Members will be available over Zoom on every Thursday between 8 & 9 PM.

Talk to us.

MEET YOUR DG

Rotary District 3291 | SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

Zoom link For all Thursdays
 Meeting ID: 822 9994 5492
 Passcode: DGRWM

BOARD 2021-22

Rtn Soummajit Mukherjee
President

Rtn Debarshi Dutta Gupta
Secretary

Rtn Bikash Dutta
President Elect

PP Rtn Anjan Bhowmik
Treasurer

PP Rtn Dr. Siddhartha Chakraborty
Executive Secretary & CICO

PP Rtn Indu Bhusan Das
Club Trainer

Rtn Sugata Mazumdar
Immediate Past President

PP Rtn Amaresh Bhattacharya
Joint Secretary

Rtn Debarshi Dutta Gupta
Vice President

PP Rtn Dr. Siddhartha Chakraborty
Editor

PDRR Rtn Shuvratav Mitra
Joint Editor

Rtn Susmit Bhattacharya
Sergeant-at-Arms

DIRECTORS

PP Rtn Manika Karmakar
Club Service

Rtn Dr. Atanu Saha
Community Service (Medical)

PP Rtn Anirudha Gupta
International Service

Rtn Angshuman Bhattacharya
Vocational Service

Rtn Bikash Dutta
Community Service (Non-Medical)

PP Rtn Kaushik Bhattacharyya
New Generation

CHAIRMAN OF STANDING COMMITTEES

PP Rtn Anirudha Gupta
Administration

PP Rtn Krishnendu Bhattacharjee
Foundation

PP Rtn Ajoy Krishna Chatterjee
Service Project

PP Rtn Debabrata Joardar
Membership

PP Rtn Deepnath Roy Chowdhury
Public Relation

PP Rtn Anindya Bose
Literacy Chair

SUB-COMMITTEES 2021-22

CLUB SERVICE

Membership Development & Retention

Chair
PP Rtn Debabrata Joardar

Co-Chair
PP Rtn Ajoy Krishna Chatterjee

Public Image of Rotary

Chair
PP Rtn Deepnath Roy Choudhury

Co-Chair
Rtn Susmit Bhattacharya

Constitution & Bylaws

Chair
PP Rtn Ajoy Krishna Chatterjee

Co-Chair
PP Rtn Dr Siddhartha Chakraborty

Rotary Information

Chair
PP Rtn Kaushik Bhattacharyya

Co-Chair
Rtn Shuvranshu Mitra

Fellowship

Chair
PP Rtn Debidas Ganguly

Co-Chair
PP Rtn Swapan Marwaha

VOCATIONAL SERVICE

Vocational Training

Chair
PP Rtn Anindya Bose

Co-Chair
Rtn Bikash Dutta

Computer Literacy

Chair
IPP Rtn Sugata Mazumdar

Co-Chair
Rtn Shuvranshu Mitra

COMMUNITY SERVICE (MEDICAL)

Eye Care

Chair
PP Rtn Manika Karmakar

Co-Chair
PP Rtn Kaushik Bhattacharyya

Blood Donation Camp

Chair
PP Rtn Anjan Kumar Bhowmick

Co-Chair
PP Rtn Kaushik Bhattacharyya

Comprehensive Health Check - Ups

Chair
PP Rtn Dr Siddhartha Chakraborty

Co-Chair
IPP Rtn Sugata Mazumdar

SUB-COMMITTEES 2021-22

COMMUNITY SERVICE (NON-MEDICAL)

Water & Sanitation

Chair
PP Rtn Anirudha Gupta

Co-Chair
Rtn Ashish Das

Environment

Chair
PP Rtn Amarjit Singh Thethi

Co-Chair
Rtn Shamshir Singh Kapany

Rotary Community Corps (RCC)

Chair
PP Rtn Anirudha Gupta

Co-Chair
IPP Rtn Bikash Dutta

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

Friendship Exchange

Chair
PP Rtn Deepnath Roy Choudhury

Co-Chair
PP Rtn Prasunjit Mukherjee

Polio Awareness

Chair
PP Rtn Indu Bhusan Das

Co-Chair
Rtn Sujay Krishna Bhadra

NEW GENERATION

Rotaract

Chair
PP Rtn Prasunjit Mukherjee

Co-Chair
Rtn Shuvratav Mitra

Interact

Chair
Rtn Shuvrانشu Mitra

Co-Chair
Rtn Amit Roy

Rotary
People of Action



With addition of few more clubs, the total number has reached 170, and membership in the District is above 4000 marks – a growth of over 400.

Kudos to DG Sudip Mukherjee, DMC PDG Debasish Mitra & team.

5–6 June: The PETS, SETS & TETS – the Training Seminars for upcoming Club Presidents, Secretaries and Treasurers was held online.

A special attraction was the address by RIPE Shekhar Mehta.



19 June: 'Abhigyata' – The District Training Assembly was held online. The capacity of 1000 was full in no time, and latecomers had to be regretted.



26 June: 'Alaap – the RCC Assembly 2021–22 was held online.



The Rotary Foundation

Shekhar Mehta
RI President
2021-22

Prabr Chatterjee
District Governor
RID 3291

Grant Management Seminar
Rotary International District 3291

Resource Persons

Gulam Vahanvaty
Trustee, TRF

Dr. Debasish Das
ARAC

Anrudha Roychowdhury
DRFC

Rajani Mukerji
District Trainer

Sumit William
Coordinator - Grants
RSAG

Binod Khaitan
Dist. Chairman,
Stewardship

Date: **Sunday 27 June**
Time: 11:00 am onwards
Please login 30 minutes before the program

Meeting ID: 812 8446 9006 | Password: GMS 2122



The District Grant project of 50 oxygen concentrators for different hospitals has materialised.


27 June: There was Grant Management Seminar held online.

Rotary International
District 3291

Rotary
Dhaka 2021

AOF: Community Economic Development

Swanirbhar II



Cycle vans shall be available under District Grant @ 1:1 matching Clubs can apply for same. Application forms shall be sent separately soon.

Sudip Mukherjee
District Governor

At Macro level District's 29th Community Service Project & 3rd Project (District Grant) pertaining to RI Area of Focus: 'Community Economic Development' was launched on 28th, April '21.

The full quota have been booked and delivery to Clubs have started.

Glimpses from Swanirbhar II



21 June: The International Yoga Day was celebrated.

27 June: And then there was a gala musical evening! An online telecast of 'A Tribute to R.D. Burman' to celebrate the birth anniversary of the legend.



27 June: At macro level District's 32nd (overall) Community Service Project & 21st Service



27 June: It was another NID, and Rotarians were busy spreading awareness on Polio vaccination.


Project pertaining to only AOF: 'Disease Prevention and Treatment' was held by RC Calcutta Sutanati with co-host club Calcutta Universe. There were 116 beneficiaries.

We joined hands with Free To Be Kids of Thakurpukur – our partner in many a project – who are continuing their work on preparing and distributing food to relatives of Covid affected patients in front of MR Bangur Hospital, Tollygunge.




Free To Be Kids











CHARITABLE TRUST



Covid -19 Relief Work
In Association With
Rotary Club, Behala
Contact:-9163963932
freetobekids@ymail.com www.ftbk-india.org

Wash Your Hands





On 20th June, our Vice President Rtn Bikash Dutta visited Chandanpuri to supervise the work and lend a helping hand.

Disaster Relief Work with EIRWT Grant, in the meantime, is running in full swing. The relief material of Bleaching powder, lime ,detergent powder, soap and phenyl were distributed to various localities including Mousuni island.





Similarly, buoyant with a grant from our club, Rasapunja Sonar Tari Sangha – a ladies' cooperative – visited Frasersgunj on 20th June and distributed dry food among the flood victims.

17th June: The Club Officers' Training Seminar and the 1st Club Assembly for RY 2021–22 was held online with District Trainer PDG Rtn Rajani Mukerji.



Apart from him, the AG of Zone 22 Rtn (Dr) Aditi Nag Chaudhuri and ZS Rtn Anjali Srivastava also addressed the club members. A lively Q/A session followed. It was a delightful learning session enjoyed by all the members.



26 June: Thanks giving ceremony online. In a special meeting where the club–spouses were also invited, all the members individually thanked club President Sugata and his team for the wonderful work performed over the year in spite of the ongoing pandemic. They also thanked the club First Lady Mrs Aindrila for standing whole–heartedly with the club President. Club President Sugata Mazumdar also thanked all the members, specially the Board members, for their unstinted support and real hard work hard for the club. First lady Mrs Aindrila thanked the club members and remembered our family get–together at Jhargram where she witnessed first–hand the wonderful cordial relation between the members and their families. Meeting ended with

27 June: A team from RC Behala led by Club President Rtn Sugata Mazumdar visited RCC Ramkrishna Ashrama, Chandanpiri to hold a preliminary discussion with the leadership of the RCC to assess their requirements and discuss probable future projects, based primarily on the detailed working paper prepared so laborious by PP Rtn Anirudha Gupta. They took the route via Diamond Harbour Road with a Chai–break en route.



The team took along around 160 Sarees as a gift for Yaas-affected ladies. After a token distribution to some ladies present, the rest were handed over to the RCC for distribution to far-off

areas. The sarees were donated by Club Secretary Rtn Shuvranshu Mitra, PDRR Rtn Shuvratav Mitra, their mother Mrs Mausumi Mitra, PP Rtn Manika Karmakar, and VP Rtn Bikash Dutta. This was followed by the preliminary discussion on future projects based on local requirements.



A number of probable projects came up, encompassing various vertical of service like
 *Health and Hygiene – specially for ladies, *Safe drinking water, *Sanitation, *Vocational Training & Marketing, *Accessories for



other vocations.



Our team for the visit comprised of Club President Rtn Sugata Mazumdar, President Elect Rtn Soumjojit Mukherjee, PP Rtn Krishnendu Bhattacharjee, PP Rtn Deepnath Roychowdhury and Mrs Bijoyinee, IPP Rtn Kaushik Bhattacharyya and Mrs Sunetra, and PP Rtn Siddhartha Chakraborty.



On the return leg of the journey the team had a break at M/s Strassenburg Pharmaceuticals and indulged in superb tea, courtesy PP Rtn Deepnath Roychowdhury and Mrs Bijoyinee. Our sincere thanks to them.

Club Officers Training & 1st Club Assembly – 2021–22

A Report by PP Dr Siddhartha Chakraborty

The first Club Assembly for the RY 2021–22 started at 7.30 pm on 17th June 2021.

Club President Rtn Sugata Mazumdar welcomed all and handed over further proceedings to President Elect Rtn Soumjojit Mukherjee.

President Elect Rtn Soumjojit Mukherjee, assisted by a PowerPoint presentation by Secretary Elect Rtn Debarshi Dutta Gupta, presented his proposed Board, different Sub-committees, Plans and objectives, as well as the proposed Budget.

After some discussions, all his proposals were unanimously accepted.

Then started the session of Club Officers' Training, with District Trainer PDG Rajani Mukerji as the trainer for the session.

In her opening remarks, Asstt Governor (Admin) Zone 22 Rtn Aditi Nag Chaudhuri congratulated the club for regular updates in Rotary India website, involvement of members in contributing to Rotary Foundation, and for various Community Projects. She requested to adopt the project of "Each One Teach One" to further cause of Literacy, and to induct some lady members and aim for Women Empowerment as advised by RIP Elect Rtn Shekhar Mehta.

Zonal Secretary, Rtn Anjali Srivastava, in her address spoke about Women Empowerment and

importance of helping old-age homes and orphanages, including provision of vocational training for youngsters going to leave an orphanage. She requested the club to join some other clubs to develop a park adjacent to an old-age home in Tollygunge.

Then it was time for the Trainer for the evening, District Trainer 2021–22 PDG Rtn Rajani Mukerji.

DT PDG Rajani, in his inimitable soft style, reminded all that Rotary is a changing organisation and is going digital. He expected that the club will have 100% registration in My Rotary and there would be regular update in Rotary India – the GML will collect material from there. He advised to check that names of club officers for RY 2021–22 and member status are updated in RI website.

The challenge faced by Rotary today is Membership. Over last seven years the net membership remains stagnant at 1.2 million. As another 1.2 million have joined Rotary over this timeframe, a same number has left it – the main reason being losing interest. Statistically, dissatisfied people usually leave Rotary within first three years, mainly in the first year after joining. Why they leave?

Main cause remains non-engagement of the new members. As the members are the 'clients' of the club, the club should 'know' the member and think of the ways he can be engaged in a service of his

choice. Here comes the importance of Member Satisfaction Survey – a very useful tool to assess the longings of the members.

In the changing philosophy of Rotary, attendance in the club meetings or strictly following all the details of conducting a meeting is no more the most important aspect of functioning of a club. More important are long-term sustainable projects that cater to the fundamental needs of the society. Many clubs are now turning into hybrid clubs – some members joining meetings physically, while others may join online. Even dates and timings may be altered for different regular meeting – if that suits the members. Flexibility is the keyword now.

People now join Rotary primarily for opportunity to serve, to become 'People of Action'. A member of a Rotary club really becomes a Rotarian when he joins the services according to his ability. Some may work physically,

some help with fund needed for the project, some may give his time. But there should be any form of involvement of as much as possible of the members.

As declared in Rotary Vision Statement of 2017, "Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change – across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves."

And to create the lasting change, every club needs to have a Strategic Plan for at least three years, and then chalk out their annual plan accordingly. This vibrant club should have its own Strategic Plan.

The address was followed by a lively Q/A session.

PP Rtn Debabrata Joardar placed a formal vote of thanks to all the speakers.

PP Rtn Sugata Mazumdar terminated the meeting with thanks from and to the Chair.

মর্মিতা ও অতনু সাহা, কেম্ব্রিজ মেডিক্যাল সেন্টারের পরিচালক। কোভিডের ঝুঁকি কমানোর একটি নিয়মিত হলেও ক্রিয়ামূলক অস্ত্রের ভূমিকা অস্বীকার্য। মনে হলেই যা শিউরে উঠছে আমাদের। অস্বিক্ষিত সঠিক হাওয়া, হাওয়ায়ালো বেড নেই, প্রয়োজনীয় গ্যুথ নেই...এর নেই-নেই-এর মধ্যেও কিছু মানুষ উদ্বেগভী হয়েছিলেন। এখানে এসেছিলেন মানুষের পাশে পড়াতে। তেমনই একজন ড. মর্মিতা সাহা ও তাঁর স্বামী ডা. অতনু সাহা। মর্মিতা ইংরেজির অধ্যাপিকা, তাঁর স্বামী কলিকাতার সার্বজনীন বিশেষত্ব বহুবার ছিলেন। "পরিচিতির থেকে প্রচুর সোনা পেলাম, এতটা বেতের বরষা করে দেওয়ার জন্য। আমাদের স্বল্পবয়সের বাবা-মায়েরা যঁচা এখানে আছেন, তাঁদেরও অনেকেরই ইমার্জেন্সি প্রয়োজন হবে। অনেক বেস রোগীও হবে, কিন্তু এক রাতে বেতের ব্যবস্থা করতে পারলাম না। রোগীরা মরণের মতো অনেককে হারিয়ে গেছে। তখন মনে হল, কিছু একটা করা উচিত। আমরা দুজনে শুরু করলাম কে খাও কোনও জায়গা যদি পাওয়া যায়। সেটা তখন বসকো স্কুলে পড়ত। ওখানকার স্যাম্পলের সঙ্গে যোগাযোগ করা। স্বাদার আমায় স্বামীকেও পুষেপাঠিত ছিলেন। তিনি পরের দিনই অনুমতি দিয়ে দেন," জানালেন মর্মিতা। ২৪ ঘণ্টা অস্বিক্ষিত উপলব্ধি, ভয়ঙ্কর থেকে নিশ্চিন্ত ভাঙার সবকিছুই আছে। জরুরি-সাহায্যকর্মী মিনিমাম প্রায় ১০ জনকে সিম অফিস। "আমরা এখানে মৃত্যু মাহন্তু মজারটা চিন্তিতমের পেশেন্টকেই রাখছি। সবরকম কেটিংয়ের গ্যুথ মাহন্তু রয়েছে। বাহ্যাপায় মেশিনও আছে। ডেস্টিনোটির ব্যাচ নেই। একজন ১১ বছরের মনিয়াও এখন করে পেরে পক্ষে, এরকম গঠন মানুষ এখানে থেকেই সুস্থ

Covid Care Centre – Updates

At the time when hospital beds or oxygen cylinders became scarce for Covid patients, Rtn (Dr) Atanu Saha formed 'Atma Foundation' and joined hands with Don Bosco School authorities to run a Covid Care Centre for moderately affected patients at the school building.

Our club, many members and their family and friend came forward to help the noble cause.

They are continuing to serve humanity, more than 20 patients having been discharged from the facility already.

The leading Bengali magazine Sananda featured the centre in its issue dated 21-06-21, with mention of the help from the club.



MINUTES OF THE 2596th RCM OF ROTARY CLUB OF BEHALA HELD AT ZOOM VIRTUAL PLATFORM ON 17th JUNE, 2021.

Club President Rtn Sugata Mazumdar called the meeting to order.

National anthem was played online.

Club President Rtn Sugata Mazumdar welcomed all and started discussion, reporting that a sum of Rs 15,000/- has been transferred to the ladies' cooperative at Rasapunja for Yaas-related relief work, after telephonic discussion with some senior members. All members praised his timely initiative.

He informed that 'Free To Be Kids' - the NGO at Thakurpukur - are regularly distributing food to relatives of Covid patients in front of MR Bangur Hospital, Tollygunge. As we have shared a good amount of the necessary fund, they are regularly sharing action photographs.

As it would be more convenient to visit RCC Sri Ramkrishna Ashrama at Chandanpuri on a Sunday, he suggested switching dates of this project and that of the annual Thanks-giving Programme, slated for that day. The proposal was unanimously accepted.

President Sugata also informed that our application for Phase III of Water for Sanitation Project was

ready for submission to EIRWT, when suddenly Disaster Relief for Yaas became an urgent issue. We applied for grant for this, got approval, and relief work is there in full swing. The club will definitely apply for the Phase III grant after submitting audited account for the Disaster Relief Project.

As regards finance, there remains a comfortable amount in the bank account for the initial days of next year.

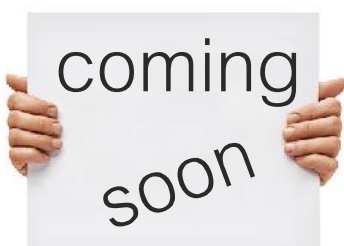
Club Secretary Rtn Shuvranshu Mitra conducted the usual club business - his last for the current year.

He reiterated that the Thanks-giving Programme will be held online on 26th, the visit to RCC on 27th, and the next RCM on 1st July itself.

The minutes of 2595th RCM of the club as published in Maitree of the day was confirmed.

President Sugata terminated the meeting after thanks from and to the chair.

Total Members : 34
Members Present : 19
Visiting Rotarians : 03



ROTARY BEHALA & ME