



THE MIDTOWNER

BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF CALCUTTA MIDTOWN

President: Rtn. Mayuri Mody Doshi | Secretary: Rtn. Shalini Agarwal | Editor: Rtn. Radhika Sahni
 CLUB NO. 16155 | DIST: 3291 | CHARTER DATE: JUNE 16, 1975

Vision & Goals for Rotary - Jennifer Jones, President, Rotary International 2022-23

“In order to live in the kind of society you want, you have to help build it.” This is a quote from my youngest brother and it speaks to the core of who we are and what we do.

I believe we are rooted in what our founders set forward – our core values, the objects of Rotary and our Four-Way Test. These are the principles that are the bedrock of who we are as Rotarians. Times may change – but these remain our sacred truths.

I see a Rotary that *increases our impact* by focusing on our strategic plan and *expands our reach* by *engaging* the Family of Rotary at every age, gender and culture to create lasting change.

As we reflect upon our new strategic priorities, we could have

never envisioned that *our ability to adapt* would become our North Star during what is inarguably the most profound time in recent history. *When the world stepped down, we stepped up.*

Silver linings rise out of the most challenging circumstances. Using metric-driven goals, I will harness this historic landscape to innovate, educate and communicate opportunities that reflect today’s reality.

As a globally recognized communicator, I will open direct dialogue with the family of Rotary through our social channels to heighten awareness of our most pressing issues, like Polio Eradication, Supporting the Environment, Elevating Rotaract and Growing Rotary.

I believe that Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) begins at the top and for us to realize growth in female membership and members under the age of forty – these demographics need to see their own reflection in leadership. I will champion double-digit growth in both categories while never losing sight of our entire family.

I pledge to *Grow Rotary* by hosting DEI Summits to create leadership opportunities that foster balance across our membership.



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RI 2022-23 PRESIDENTIAL THEME

Our 48th Installation & Charter Meeting

This month of transition witnessed The Rotary Club of Calcutta Midtown's 48th Installation and Charter ceremony in the presence of District Governor Ajoy Kumar Law and his gracious wife Rotarian Mitali Law along with a host of dignitaries on the 16th of June 2022. The evening witnessed the report highlighting PP Neeraj Agarwal's endeavours and his gratitude towards his team. It also ushered in the incoming team lead by President Mayuri Mody Doshi who we all affectionately call Pooja. Lets all work together in making her year a memorable and eventful one.



Mother & Child Project at Hingalganj



MATRI SHAKTI

A group of 40 women were identified from the rural community of Sanderebil village in Hingalganj district in North 24 paraganas in West Bengal. A team of Rotarians headed by President Ms. Doshi undertook the endeavour in June '22 to personally supervise the project with the assistance of head of Sri Ramakrishna Sevashram Hingalganj. The entire event from identifying the women to distribution went off seamlessly with the coordinated efforts of experienced rotarians . It was a very gratifying and enriching experience for me personally, and am truly inspired by everyone's commitment to the cause.



Reported by
Suchi Narula
Director, Matri Shakti

The Matri Shakti Project is an endeavour with a vision around ensuring improved nutrition in expectant mothers to overcome malnutrition which is a common malaise in the impoverished rural communities of our region.

There is an intergenerational dimension, children born to malnourished mothers are likely to suffer too. Hence this project aims to provide basic dry ration monthly, including a variety of essential items such as dals, soya, milk powder etc required for wholesome nourishment of pregnant women who do not have access to these.



Sundarbans Project Recce

The looming problem of climate change, in time will affect each of us adversely. In fact, the Sundarbans Biosphere is critically in danger and the problem is far closer home than we think. The islands are shrinking at an alarming rate and the mangrove plantation is one of the time-tested methods of arresting this problem.



To further Rotary's footprint in this area Rtns. Mayuri Doshi, Sonali Gupta and Rakesh Sahni went to recce a project in collaboration with KSCH Kolkata Society for Cultural Heritage, who over a decade or so have successfully completed projects with the Government. and the community at large.



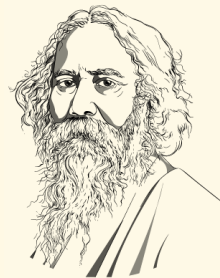
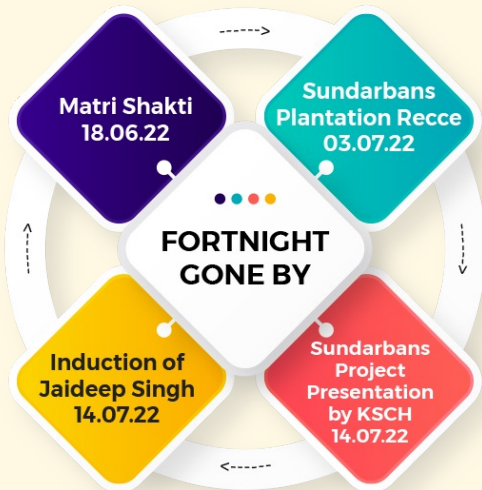
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Star of the Month



Rakesh Sahni, our Rotarian who is ever ready to get involved and explore a worthwhile project. Rakesh gave his valuable time not only to travel all the way to Purulia and Sunderbans to explore the Environment Betterment Project but also to actively help in investigating and planning the project. Rakesh you truly are a Star of Midtown.

--Mayuri Mody Doshi



"I slept and dreamt that life was joy. I awoke and saw that life was service. I acted and behold, service was joy".

-Rabindranath Tagore

HAPPY Anniversary!

"Another year, another great reason to celebrate!"



30th June
Lalitaji &
Kamal Seth



10th July
Sarika &
Sreekant Pasari



11th July
Chandandi & Biman
Chakraborty

Editor - Speak



As a new Rotary year dawns, we all gear up to welcome its possibilities. It's indeed an honour to be working alongside our members and I look forward to your valuable suggestions and contributions. Excited, yet nervous, I hope to enhance the reach and engagement of the Midtowner, allow ideas and creativity to flow, and propagate Rotary and our club's vision. I thank President Mayuri Mody Doshi for this opportunity and look forward to an eventful year.

Radhika Sahni

Minutes of the Meeting

ROTARY CLUB OF CALCUTTA MIDTOWN

DISTRICT 3291

Club No. 16155 || Charter Date: 16/06/1975



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48th Charter and Installation and 2099th Meeting of Rotary Club of Calcutta Midtown, held on Thursday, 16th June 2022 at 7.00 PM at The Phoenix, Saturday club.

- ❖ **Welcome address:** Installation Chair Rtn. Nirmal Agarwal welcomed the gathering. He invited the outgoing and incoming board on the Dias along with DGE (2022-23) Rtn Ajoy Law and Rtn Dr. Surinder Kapoor.
- ❖ **Meeting called to order:** President Rtn. Neeraj Agarwal (2021-2022) called the 48th Charter and installation, 2099th Continuous Meeting and the last meeting for the year 2021-2022 to order.
- ❖ **National Anthem** – National anthem was sung by all present
- ❖ Address by President Rtn. Neeraj Agarwal: President Rtn Neeraj Agarwal (2021-2022) welcomed all the members, Annes, Charter members, guests, DGE Rtn Ajoy Law, First lady Ms. Mitali Law .AG. Rtn Ratan Jhawar and Director logistics Rtn Shayak Gupta.
- ❖ **Establishment of Quorum & Confirmation of Minutes:** Secretary Rtn Madhur (2021-22) informed that the quorum was established.
- ❖ The 2098th meeting minutes was passed and seconded by Rtn Dr. Surinder Kapoor and Rtn Dr. Biman Chakraborty.
- ❖ **Appointment of Sergeant:** Rtn Bhupesh Kapoor was appointed as the Sergeant for the day.
- ❖ Celebration of charter day: President Rtn Neeraj Agarwal (2021-2022) invited charter members Rtn Dr. Biman Chakraborty and Rtn Ranjit Sen, DGE. Rtn Ajoy law and Honorary member Rtn Dr. Virbala Mehta to come and cut the cake to mark the celebration for the 48th Charter Day of the club.
- ❖ He invited Secretary Rtn Madhur Jhawar (2021-2022) to give his report.
- ❖ Secretary Rtn. Madhur Jhawar's (2021-2022) report: He started off by thanking President Rtn Neeraj Agarwal (2021-2022) for trusting and giving him the opportunity to become a secretary even though he had only been a Rotarian for two years.

He informed about the Projects undertaken as below:

Water and Sanitation:

- ❖ 40 pucca Toilets made for individual rural households at Nimpith, Sundarbans. Inaugurated on 29th August, 2021. Part of a Global Grant Project. 600 such toilets have already been built and another 170 toilets will be built
- ❖ Polio immunisation camp 'SNID' was held at RCC Park Circus on 26th Sept, 2021 by KMC team. 1825 children got immunised.
- ❖ Health Check-up camp for Urology and Kidney Diseases was held at Hingalgunj, Sundarbans, on 13th Feb, 2022. 80 people were treated by senior Doctors. Diagnostic tests were performed and free medicines were dispensed.
- ❖ Two Dialysis Machines worth 15 Lakh were donated to Shree Vishudhanand Hospital in February 2022.
- ❖ Free Doctor chamber is being conducted on for many years at our RCC park circus, twice a week.
- ❖ **Eye Check-up Camp:** held at our RCC on 27th March 2022.
- ❖ **Blood Donation Camp:** at a community club at Dankuni held on 27th March 2022. 120 donors donated blood.

Maternal and Child Health:

- ❖ 'Matrishakti' – Nutrition Project for Expecting Mothers was launched at Ram Krishna mission Ashram Sandelerbil, Hingalgunj in Sundarbans on 13th Feb, 2022. 40 expecting mothers were given nutrient rich food material for their full term of pregnancy. Project cost estimated at 2,50,000/-

Basic Education & Literacy:

- ❖ E-Daan' project at Ram Krishna Mission Blind Boys Academy. Smartphones were gifted to 17 visually impaired students of Class 10 of Ram Krishna Mission Blind Boys Academy. Project cost Rs.117300/-.

Economic and Community Development

- ❖ **Sewing Classes:** Classes under Usha Sewing machine are regularly conducted at our RCC in Park Circus. 15 women have been trained and are getting absorbed in gainful employment or are self-employed.
- ❖ **Beautician Classes:** 12 women were given Beautician and grooming training at RCC Park Circus organised in association with 'Eye Catchers'. Successful candidates of last year are mostly employed or working from home.
- ❖ **Women's Driving Class:** 9 women have been successfully trained in local Motor Training school for Driving Classes.
- ❖ **Security Guard Training:** 20 men were trained to become Security Guard and have been employed.
- ❖ **Blanket distribution:** Blankets distributed to 200 people of Garia Purbapally area on 1st January 2022.
- ❖ **Independence Day Project:** sweets and goodies were distributed to children at Garia Purbapally on 15th August.
- ❖ RCC building at Thakurpukur, Park Circus, was renovated and painted so that the place can be gainfully utilized for Rotary activities.

Supporting the Environment

- ❖ 2000 trees were planted in Maniktala area, Kakurgachi area, Mukundapur, Jalan Industrial Complex, Jangalpur, Gate no.3 between September to November 2021.

Women Empowerment:

- ❖ "Virangana" was held for 54 young girls of Shri Gandhi Vidyalaya at Entally on 10th & 11th August 2021. Self-defence techniques, Psychological counselling and talk on low-cost healthy nutrition was organised.

Talk Shows:

- ❖ Talk show on Eco Friendly Living - Plastic Waste Management by Ms. Yogini Bapat, on 26th August 2021. "REFUSE REDUCE REUSE RETHINK RECYCLE".
- ❖ Talk on health by Ms. Meenu Agarwal
- ❖ Fun talk on 'Rotary ki Khatti Meethi Baatein' by Rtn Vinod Thacker from Mumbai
- ❖ Talk on Wonder Years – Life after Retirement by Ms. Kajal Banerjee
- ❖ Talk by an Architect Ms. Geeta Balakrishna on her walk from Kolkata to Delhi spreading the message of sustainable architecture using natural materials.

Public Image & Fund Raising:

- ❖ Kolkata Kettle 3.0' was held on 8th & 9th April. huge publicity for Rotary through every media & public gathering and also helped raise handsome funds for the Midtown Trust.

Donation to Rotary Foundation:

- ❖ US Dollars 3,010 dollars has been contributed to Rotary Foundation

Address by President Rtn Neeraj Agarwal (2021-22):

The President thanked Secretary Rtn Madhur Jhawar (2021-22) for his comprehensive report and welcomed Past District Governor, current District Trainer Rtn Angsuman Bandyopadhyay and Ms. Jaya Bandyopadhyay for the meeting. Acknowledged Rotarians Rtn Dr. Biman Chakraborty, Rtn Dr. Surinder Kapoor, Rtn Ruchira Bhuwalka, Rtn Bhupesh Kapoor, Rtn Yogesh Gupta, Rtn Sanjay Choudhury, Rtn Mayuri Mody Doshi, Rtn Yugal Sikri, Rtn Joydeep Sanyal, Rtn Rakesh Sahni, Rtn Priti Agarwal and himself for 100% attendance in the meetings. He Called Rtn Priti Agarwal to come and assist him in acknowledging members who have been exceptionally helpful to him during his tenure He requested DGE. Ajoy Law to give away the plants.

- ❖ Rtn Rakesh Khanna for his help and guidance in the running of the RCC.
- ❖ Rtn Yugal Sikri for his help and guidance in the running of the RCC and for the support at the service projects held at Hingaljanj and `Nimpith
- ❖ Rtn Dr. Surinder Kapoor for his guidance and mentorship throughout the year.
- ❖ Rtn Bhupesh Kapoor for handling the Foundation matter and guiding and mentoring him.
- ❖ Rtn Ankush Khanna for singlehandedly handling the security guard training
- ❖ Rtn Lal Hiranandani, for all his help with organizing the meetings at Saturday club
- ❖ Rtn Sanjay Choudhury for being the man behind the 2000 trees which were planted as well as Kolkata Kettle 3.0
- ❖ Rotarians Rakesh Sahni, Yogesh Gupta, Joydeep Sanyal, Suchi Narula, Shalini Agarwal, 'Kettle Aunty' Rashmi Choudhury and 'Kolkata kettle' queen Ruchira Bhuwalka, were felicitated for their contribution in the organization of Kolkata Kettle 3.0

- ❖ Rtn Richa Shah for the Lovely bulletins.
- ❖ Felicitations:
 - ❖ Rtn Priti Agarwal, his better half, for having supported him in planning and for motivating him throughout the year. Kolkata Kettle would not have been possible if it had not been for the inspiration from Rtms Rakesh Sahni, Priti Agarwal and Ruchira Bhuwalka.
 - ❖ Rtn Dr. Kalyan Sarkar was acknowledged for all his help with the medical camps and 'Matrishakti' at Hingaljanj.
 - ❖ Ms. Ruma was felicitated for her help in starting the Matrishakti project and looking into the smooth functioning of it every month.
 - ❖ Subroto was acknowledged for all his dedication towards the workings of the club.
 - ❖ Mr. Gopal, Mr. Prashant, and Dr. Mittal for the smooth functioning of the RCC

President Rtn. Neeraj thanked all members for the support, motivation and guidance provided to make the year an eventful with lots of meaningful projects, and mega fundraiser Kolkata Kettle 3.0 which helped garner huge Publicity and a handsome fund for the Club. He gave a special thanks to the KK 3.0 team. He further mentioned that Presidentship had taught him not only about Rotary but was also a year of learning and had created memories for a lifetime. He thanked all for being part of the learning process and congratulated Incoming president Rtn Mayuri Mody Doshi (2022-23) and her team for taking up the responsibility to lead this wonderful Club and wished them all the best for a fruitful year.

- ❖ **Installation Program:** The charter certificate was presented to Incoming President Rtn Mayuri Mody Doshi (2022-23) along with the bell and hammer.
- ❖ Speech by Incoming President (22-23) Rtn. Mayuri Mody Doshi –
 - ❖ Rtn Mayuri Modi Doshi welcomed DGE Ajoy Law, First Lady Ms. Mitali Law, PDG'S, all Dignitaries from district 3291 present, AG Rtn Ratan Jhawar, Rtn Ratan Jhawar, Inner Wheel President Ms. Debjani Roychoudhury (2021-22), Inner Wheel Incoming President Ms. Pratibha Jaan(2022-23) , club doners, present Rotarians, Annes, Inner Wheel members and RCC members.
 - ❖ She said that while she was slightly nervous, she was also very excited to lead a vibrant club like Midtown. She quoted from her dear friend Rtn Hardeep post "The Meaning of Life is to give Life a Meaning". The forthcoming year for her would be a year of learning, service and fellowship with all her Rotarian friends.

- ❖ THE theme for the forthcoming year for the club was going to be **IMAGINE TOGETHER**”, She was looking for the full support from every member of the midtown family.
- ❖ She was sure we would have a wonderful year together under the able guidance of Senior Rotarians, and we would take Midtown to newer heights.
- ❖ She further quoted Tommy Robbins “Where focus goes, energy follows”, thus calling out to each one to focus on making this world a better place for the not so fortunate and put our energies to imagine together and act on what **WE IMAGINE**.

Introduction of the Board of 2022-23

- ❖ **President:** Rtn Mayuri Mody Doshi
- ❖ **IPP:** Rtn Neeraj Agarwal
- ❖ **President Elect:** Rtn Ankush Khanna
- ❖ **Vice President:** Rtn Preeti Agarwal
- ❖ **Secretary:** Rtn Shalini Agarwal
- ❖ **Treasurer:** Rtn Hitesh Dani
- ❖ **Special Invitee-Editor:** Rtn Radhika Sahni
- ❖ **Mentor: PDG:** Rtn Kamal Seth
- ❖ **Service Projects - Medical Camps:** Rtn Dr. Kalyan Sarkar
- ❖ **Service - Global Grant & Reporting, Intl. Relations:** Rtn Rakesh Sahni
- ❖ **Service-Environment Sustainability:** Rtn Sonali Gupta
- ❖ **Service - School Adoption:** Rtn Samir Doshi
- ❖ **Rotary Foundation Chair:** Rtn Bhupesh Kapoor
- ❖ **By-Laws, Club Administration, Archiving:** Rtn Dr Surinder Kapoor
- ❖ **RCC, Literacy and Polio:** Rtn Preeti Agarwal
- ❖ **Public Image:** Rtn Sanjay Choudhry
- ❖ **Fellowship Chair:** Rtn Richa Shah

Introduction of the Board of 2022-23 (Cont...)

- ❖ **Fundraising:** Rtn Vikram Poddar
- ❖ **Membership Chair:** Rtn Yogesh Gupta
- ❖ **Speaker & HRD/Club Trainer:** Rtn Nirmal Agarwal
- ❖ **Meeting Convener/Motivator:** Rtn Ruchira Bhuwalka
- ❖ **Rotaract/Interact:** Rtn Manish Shah
- ❖ **Sergeant at Arms:** Rtn Sahil Desai
- ❖ **Rotaract/Interact:** Rtn Manish Shah
- ❖ **Special Invitee:** Rtn S. Ravi
- ❖ **Special Invitee:** Rtn Dr Biman Chakraborty
- ❖ **Special Invitee:** Rtn Rakesh Khanna
- ❖ **Special Invitee:** Rtn Sudhir Chand
- ❖ **Special Invitee:** Rtn Nitesh Agarwal

Introduction of Honorary Rotarians: Mrs. Priya Sitaraman & Mrs. Soniya Agarwal

Launch of The Midtowner: Installation issue was released by Editor Rtn Radhika Sahni

Address by Inner Wheel President Ms. Debjani Roy Choudhury (2021-22): Ms. Debjani said that it was wonderful to know that a lady was taking over as president. For inner wheel last year, the theme was 'strong women strong world'. Incoming president Rtn Mayuri Mody Doshi has a fantastic and huge duty in front of her and that all aspects would be covered. she wished the incoming team a wonderful year ahead and hoped that we could work together with inner wheel, and that even the inner wheel members are all behind Mayuri to help her.

Address by DGE Rtn Ajoy Law

- ❖ DGE Rtn Ajoy Law greeted all present, and said that it was his pleasure to be present at the 48th Charter day and Installation ceremony
- ❖ He thanked outgoing President Rtn. Neeraj Agarwal and his team on completing a meaningful year and welcomed incoming President Rtn Mayuri Mody Doshi (2022-23). He would be looking forward to working together as we **'Imagine Rotary'**.
- ❖ He mentioned that Rotary International President 2022-23 Jennifer Jones wants Rotarians to imagine the possibilities in the changes they can make to transform the world, for better engagement of members rotary needs to adapt and retool. She feels that our core function should be to find the right part to engage each member. Engaging members is crucial to retaining them in our movement. We need to ask our members what they expect from Rotary and give them meaningful responsibilities so that we can utilize their talents to the fullest. Once so engaged the members would love their club and their Rotary experience. She has asked us to imagine a world that deserves our best and where we wake up each day knowing that we can make a difference, and asked us Rotarians to dream big and harness our connections, the power of Rotary, to turn them into reality. To quote her 'Although we all have dreams, acting on them is a choice we make'. When an organization like Rotary dreams big things like removing polio and creating peace, it becomes our responsibility to make them happen.
- ❖ He requested all members to support Incoming President Rtn Mayuri Mody Doshi and asked them to invite new members specially Ladies and young people to the club, while engaging and retaining old members.
- ❖ He also suggested work on projects that fulfill the needs of the community and empower the girl child. He urged upon the members to open their hearts out and support the Rotary foundation We have all been entrusted with the position of leadership in our great organization and now it is up to us to be brave in our intentions and our actions and let others help us lead.
- ❖ **He announced the following Incoming district program**
 - ❑ Sunday 19th June, 10am to 4pm, at RCC assembly at Rotary Sadan and requested at least 2 members from RCC, as well as 2 Rotarians who are active at RCC to attend.
 - ❑ 25th June, 4pm to 8pm, at ICCR - Grant Management Ceremony at ICCR . President elect, president nominee and Foundation chair should join to be eligible to get the grant
 - ❑ Change over ceremony on 1st July, 6 pm onwards at Nicco Park. Immediate Past President Shekhar Mehta would be chief guest. All members were invited to join.

- ❖ DGE Rtn Ajoy Law further announced that the Directory would be published and released on 1st July and requested all members to help with checking and amending their details to support the directory.
- ❖ Thanked president and everyone for inviting him and his better half for the meeting. He ended by quoting **'We don't imagine yesterday. We imagine tomorrow'**.
- ❖ **Any Other Matter:** Incoming President Mayuri Mody Doshi Presented a cheque of \$550 to DGE Rtn Ajoy Law for the foundation.
- ❖ She also congratulated Rtn Biman Chakraborty on having completed 50yrs of service to Rotary and invited him to share his thoughts. Rtn Dr. Biman Chakraborty said it always nice to be there on the installation night. They had started off having meetings at Grand hotel and then moved around different venues and finally settled at Saturday club. The changes have been that the younger generation have come and enlightened the whole show and the seniors have enjoyed the refreshing changes. He mentioned that they have new ideas and thoughts which they have implemented, and they have his full support.
- ❖ **Token of Appreciation:** Incoming President Rtn Mayuri Mody Doshi gave a token of appreciation to outgoing President Neeraj Agarwal.
- ❖ She also introduced prospective members Mr. Joydeep singh, Mr. Dhanish Seth and his better half Ms. Neeta.
- ❖ **Secretary's announcement:** Birthdays and Anniversaries was announced
- ❖ **Attendance:** 36 out of 56 members i.e. 64% were present.
- ❖ Sergeant at Arms Rtn Bhupesh Kapoor. Total amount collected was Rs 5900 although the total collection should be Rs 7900 as some members were absent and their outstanding fines have been booked for collection later.
- ❖ **Vote of Thanks:** President Elect Rtn Ankush Khanna thanked all the dignitaries, members, guests for being present for the 48th installation and charter celebration, with special thanks to Rtn Lal Hiranandani and Rtn Sahil for organizing the venue details
- ❖ **Closure of Meeting:** President Rtn Mayuri Mody Doshi closed the meeting.