



TUESDAY 17 JANUARY 2023

January is Vocational Services Month

103

The Chaka

Bulletin of Rotary Club of Calcutta
R I Dist. 3291

First Published in 1925

Editor: Rtn. Ashok Basu (AB4)

Volume 90 No. 25

thechaka001@gmail.com

Today's Speaker



KARAN KISHOREPURIA

Karan has been educated in 3 continents Asia, Europe and America studying at La Martiniere for Boys in Kolkata India, London School of Economics, and Northeastern University where he studied Finance and Nutrition. This is perhaps the reason for his multifaceted attainments.

Karan is a Director and Founder in ventures in Agro Processing and Co-working Spaces. He is one of the youngest active angel investors in over 5 Angel Investing firms. His entry to investing and venture funding and management commenced at an early age being a pioneer of the first impact investment fund Nuimpact in undergraduate US and leading the venture operations arm at IDEA, the largest student-run venture accelerator in the world.

Rotary
Club of Calcutta



IMAGINE
ROTARY

A partner in a pan-India collaborative philanthropy organization, he currently serves as Lead Partner to various field intervention organisations which brings up his philanthropy facet to the fore.

He is a part of Northeastern's Young Global Leaders - A select group of 129 alumni of Northeastern University from 49 countries that aims to provide 'Inspiration Through Leadership' as also a part of FICCI Young National Leaders - A select group of young business leaders from across India.

He is a TEDx Speaker, Athlete, Creator, Reader, Writer, Changemaker, and Learner. Karan is a much sought-after public speaker at schools, universities, organizations, and corporates. He is an avid squash player who has represented his school, university, state, and Eastern India in tournaments around the world. He enjoys living holistically, traveling, reading, and mentoring young students.

ANANDADHARA – RI DIST. 3291 CONFERENCE 6, 7, 8 JAN 2023



As befits the stature of a District Conference, Anandadhara was held with pomp and process in NICCO Park in Kolkata on 6, 7 and 8 January. Actor and politician Shatrughan Sinha was the Chief Guest. Literacy, International Relations, Leadership, TRF, Membership were some of the main themes covered. President Raj Agrawal, Secy. Anand Sharma, Rtns. Kirit Patel, Purnendu Roychowdhury, Yogesh Dassani, Sonal Worah, Ravindra Khandelwal and Arindam Roychowdhury attended and our booth in the conference found many visitors. President Raj Agrawal addressed the conference on 7 January 2023.

Separately, President commented "Yes and we got good exposure at the Conference. Most of the district leaders including IPRIP Shekhar Mehta and the DG visited our stall and praised the work being done by our club. Both Shekhar Mehta and RIDE Anirudha da referred to our projects in their speeches at the Conference. It was indeed a proud moment for our club."

Contd. to Page 2

CONTACT US

E-mail: rotarycalcutta103@gmail.com
www.rccalcutta.rotaryindia.org

Here are some vignettes..



Contd. to Page 3



EYE SPECIALIST Dr. DEBNATH CHATTOPADHYAY CASTS MICROSCOPIC EYES ON WASH 5 AT BIRBHUM

5-7 January 2023, Birbhum Rajnagar, WASH 5 Global Grant, GG2092824



WASH 5, a thirty-three-thousand-dollar Global Grant project with Rotary Club of Battersea Park, for 75 toilets and 8 bore wells at Dara Pragati Sangha RCC, Krishnanagar/Jangipara RCC, Bishnupur RCC, and Birbhum started rolling when President Nominee Dr Debnath Chattopadhyay and PP Saumen Ray visited Narayanpur, Kharbona, Pathargaria, Baromese and Budhpur villages in Birbhum.

We met the villagers and delivered behaviour training for WASH 5.

Two agreements, one for toilets and the other one for bore wells were signed by Project In-charge Khoirasol Project for Tagore Society for Rural Development. However, we are holding back the cheques and contracts until the current organisational issues are resolved. Once addressed and done by TSRD, the contract and the cheques will be handed over to them by Dr. Debnath Chattopadhyay, who is the current custodian of these documents.

During our visit, we took stock of our entire work to date in 17 villages including Nityanagar, Danglepara, Sudraksipur, Bagdahari, Bandarberia, Marbhanga, Bandhagal, Moulbani, Abadnagar, Naraynpur, Budhpur, Baromese, and Pathargaria comprising over 300 toilets and 50 bore wells. All the toilets and bore wells are functioning properly with maintenance undertaken by the villagers.

We were welcomed by the villagers and our interaction resulted in scope for new projects for specially disabled villagers. These projects may cover impaired hearing (hearing aids), loss of limbs (prosthetic limbs/wheelchair), prevention of blindness giving spectacles, income generation (sewing machines), shoes/sandals for villagers to prevent contamination from ground such as hook worm, and other measures for prevention of diseases.

The appeal promulgated speedily through WhatsApp and PP Nandita Sen offered to donate funds for sandals to 40 households in Nityanagar for 200 inhabitants. Thank you Nanditadi, Debnath Chattopadhyay and PP Haladhar Dey will take necessary action for distribution within the next few weeks and contact you.

Dr Debnath Chattopadhyay is keen to provide a total solution to a group of villages in Birbhum where we have already worked, subject to Board approval of course. This is his vision.

Contracts for other components of WASH 5 in our three RCCs will be developed and concluded soon, for implementation under the supervision of Community Service Committee.

[Report compiled by PP Saumen Ray, WASH 5 Primary Contact]

Editor's Note : If I were a Green Badger reading this, I would be bewildered with some of the expressions used. WASH is a Rotary International acronym for Water, Sanitation and Hygiene. Due to their interdependent nature these 3 core intervention issues are grouped together. GG stands for Global Grant, a system under which Rotary International channelises project funds from Rotary bodies and Clubs worldwide. The Primary Contact is primarily responsible for the end use of funds mobilised. Taking a project through the entire life cycle of a Global Grant is one of the most challenging endeavours in the Rotary ecosystem. This report is for WASH 5, which means that this is the 5th GG project under WASH for our Club.

PONDING PROJECTS – AT RCC DARA - THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE



A dream is slowly taking shape. Last year we had, with the help of 2 external donors – since this was at concept stage as a pilot, helped 2 beneficiaries in our Dara RCC catchment with one time support to dig ponds on their land. These ponds have retained monsoon water and now the primary results are visible. In Pond No. 1, they have started growing a vegetable patch and planted Rabi season rice, which otherwise would not have been possible without the water harvesting. In Pond No. 2, a second (Rabi) cropping is seen in the distance, here the water harvested is being used in the land of an adjoining farmer. Fish is also being farmed, although not commercially at this stage.

As may be surmised, value is already being derived by additional cropping and horticulture without any pressure on available water resources. This is significant, albeit incremental, in the overall scheme of things. However, the pilot is a success and now may be replicated. Yet, the aspirational model is as seen in Pond No. 3, where the pond also supports fruiting trees along the banks of the pond – the banks have been created by the soil dug out in the process of ponding; trees as we know are critical for the existence of humanity.

A holistic development project benefiting families, communities, and the environment, with one-time support to create a virtuous cycle, hence covering 2 Rotary areas of focus viz. growing local economies and supporting the environment. What is more the beneficiaries in both cases are women – Malati Mandal of Jadukhali PO in Jaynagar and Lotika Sardar Village Bapulrichak Jayanagar.

[Reported by Rtn Ashok Basu, Chair – Environment]

REPORTING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

ATTENDANCE REPORT (10.01.2023)

Total Members	:	243
Members Present	:	35
Exempted Members	:	66
Visiting Rotarians & Guest	:	3



ONE WORLD

We remember with good wishes
Rotary Club of Chandpur,
Bangladesh, R. I. Dist. 3282



Dr. Ashoke Kumar Basu & R-Ann Dr. Jyotsna
18th January

Dr. Arunima Dey & Mr. Kaushik
18th January

C.K. Dhanuka & R-Ann Aruna
19th January

Shashi Bhargava & R-Ann Anil
19th January

Remesh Maheswary & R-Ann Sharda
20th January

Dr. Dilip Kumar & R-Ann Mitali Mondal
20th January

Dr. Amal Chakravarty & R-Ann Ruby
21st January

Hirak Kumar Sen & R-Ann Kalpana
22nd January

Indranil Dasgupa & R-Ann Madhumita
22nd January

Dr. Santanu Sen & R-Dr. Kakali
22nd January

Jai Kumar Surana & R-Ann Mita
22nd January

Nirmal Kumar Saraf & R-Ann Shikha
23rd January

Wish you many more years of marital bliss



C.K. Dhanuka	19th January
Ashish Kumar Bagla	20th January
Vinay Nevatia	22nd January
Sharmistha N Koya	23rd January
Amitava Sinha	25th January
Shiv Ratan Goenka	25th January
Supriya Roy	26th January
Satish Kupur	27th January

Wish you many happy returns of the day

Dr. Debashish Mitra & R-Ann Dr. Indrani
23rd January

Udit Chand Mitra & R-Ann Sanjukta
23rd January

Anita Jain & Mr. Chandra Kumar
24th January

Malay Kumar Ghosh & R-Ann Soma
26th January

Arunava Mukherji & R-Ann Sumita
26th January

Subhajit Guha Mazumdar & R-Ann Chandrima
26th January

Shweta Tibb Arora & R-Ann Suraj
26th January

Gyanesh Choudhary & R-Ann Meenakshi
26th January

Dr. Sujoy Roychowdhury & R-Ann Rupa
26th January

Suman Chakraborty & R-Ann Sakhi
27th January

Sanjiv Agarwal & R-Ann Ritu
27th January

TODAY

Mr. Karan Kishorepuria, Entrepreneur, Social Media Expert and Change maker

Topic : "LinkedIn personal Branding 101"

REPORTS

R I District 3291 Conference – 2022-23 "ANANDADHARA" was held from Friday 6th January to Sunday 8th January, 2023 at Nicco Park, East Side Pavilion, Salt Lake City

MEMBERS' ROSTER - 2022-23

Members' Roster-2022-23 is available. Members are requested to collect their copies from the Club Office.

NEXT MEETING

Next Meeting on Saturday, 28th January, 2023 at 7.00 p.m. followed by Fellowship and Dinner. You are requested to join with your spouse.

Speaker : Mr. Shahanshah Mirza

The Great Grandson of King Wajid Ali Shah, the last Ruler of Awadh

Topic : "The Awadhi Influence on West Bengal"

NO WEEKLY MEETING

There will be no Regular Weekly Meeting on Tuesday, 24th January, 2023 as the said meeting would be held on Saturday, 28th January, 2023 at 7.00 p.m. at Rotary Sadan followed by Fellowship and Dinner. You are requested to kindly make a note it and attend the meeting with your Spouse.



Republic Day Celebration

Republic Day will be celebrated on Thursday, 26th January, 2023 at the Rotary Sadan. Flag hoisting at 10 a.m. Members are requested to kindly attend with families.

PEACE CONFERENCE ON 12TH FEBRUARY, 2023 AT DARJEELING

Rotary Club of Calcutta will organise a "Peace Conference" as the umbilical connect with Rotary Club of Calcutta Inner City, Rotary Club of Darjeeling and Rotary Club of Darjeeling Himalayas on 12th February, 2023 at Darjeeling.

Members interested in joining the Peace Conference are requested to contact Hony. Secretary, Rtn. Anand Sharma or Mr. Prabir Kumar Mukherjee, Club Office.

(Starting from Kolkata 11th February and back to Kolkata 14th February, 2023.)

BOARD MEETING

Seventh Meeting of the Board of Directors (2022-23) of the Club will be held on Monday, 30th January, 2023 at 6.30 p.m. at the Rotary Sadan (Board Room, 1st floor). All members of the Board are requested to make a note of it and attend.

MEGA HEALTH CHECK-UP CAMP ON 22ND JANUARY, 2023 AT PURULIA

Health Care Committee will organise a mega Health Check Up Camp at Rajnagar, Purulia, on Sunday, 22nd January, 2023. A team from our Club will start from Rotary Sadan on Saturday, 21st January and return on Monday, 23rd January, 2023. Interested members are requested to contact Rtn. Dr. Sukalyan Purkayastha, Chairman, Health Care Committee or Rtn. Partha Pratim Mukherjee, Chairman, Special Project Committee.

**MINUTES OF THE 4882nd REGULAR WEEKLY MEETING HELD ON 10th JANUARY, 2023
AT 1.30 P.M. AT THE ROTARY SADAN**

1. President Rtn. Raj Kumar Agrawal welcomed all Members and Guests and called the 4882nd Regular Weekly Meeting of the Club to order.
2. National Anthem was led by Rtn. Anindita Shoma Basu.
3. Minutes of the 4881st Regular Weekly Meeting of the Club held on 1st January, 2023 was confirmed.
4. President then welcomed Mr. Alkesh Agarwal, Serial Entrepreneur and Angel Investor as the Chief Guest. He would speak on "Raising Funds and scaling your Business".
5. President then welcomed all Visiting Rotarians and Guests who were attended the meeting.
6. **President Reported the following :**
 - a) Club celebrated its 103rd CHARTER DAY on 1st January, 2023 followed by fellowship and Dinner at Rotary Sadan.
 - b) Club donated a high end latest USG Machine to Ramkrishna Mission Sarda Matri Bhavan. The USG Machine was donated by Past President, Rtn. Vikram Somany which was inaugurated on 4th January, 2023. On behalf of the Club, President thanked Rtn. Somany for his generous donation.
 - c) RI District 3291 Conference – 2022-23 "ANANDADHARA" was held from Friday to Sunday, 6th to 8th January, 2023 at Nicco Park, East Side Pavilion, Salt Lake City, Kolkata. The Club had taken one Stall at the Conference, where we displayed our Club Activities. Large number of Delegates visited our Stall. Our Club also participated Club exhibit at the Conference. President Rtn. Raj Kumar Agrawal addressed at the Dist. Conference on 7th January, 2023.
7. **President Announced the following :**

Health Care Committee would organise a mega Health Check Up Camp at Rajnagar, Purulia. A team from our Club would start from Rotary Sadan on 21st January and return on 23rd January, 2023. Interested members are requested to contact Rtn. Dr. Sukalyan Purkayastha, Chairman, Health Care Committee.
8. At the request of the President, visiting Rotarian Rtn. Mahbubur Rahman Suman, R.C. of Chandpur, Bangladesh, R I Dist. 3282 exchanged Club flag with us.
9. At the request of the President, Rtn. Nandini Shome, Rotary Club of Salt Lake Central made an announcement on R I Convection to be held in the month of May, 2023 and requested members to register their names.
10. Hony. Secretary Rtn. Anand Sharma thereafter conducted the Club business :
 - a) He welcomed all Members and Guests and wished them.
 - b) He then announced the names of Rotarians celebrating their Birthdays during the week ending 16th January, 2023 and conveyed best wishes to them.
 - c) Next meeting would be held on Tuesday, 17th January, 2023 at 1 p.m., Speaker : Mr. Karan Kishorepuria, Entrepreneur, Social media expert and Change maker. Topic : "Linked In personal Branding 101".
 - d) He then informed members that there would be no Regular Weekly Meeting on Tuesday, 24th January, 2023 as the said meeting would be held on Saturday, 28th January, 2023 at 7 p.m. followed by fellowship and dinner.
 - e) He then informed that Members Roster 2022-23 was available and requested members to please collect their copies from Club office.
 - f) The Board accepted resignation of Rtn. Ashok Maheshwary at its meeting held on 20th December, 2022 with effect from 28th December, 2023.
 - g) Republic Day would be celebrated on Thursday, 26th January, 2023 at the Rotary Sadan. Flag hoisting at 10 a.m. and requested members to kindly attend with your family on that day.
11. At the request of the President, Rtn. Ashok Kumar Basu (AB 4) introduced Guest Speaker Mr. Alkesh Agarwal.
12. Mr. Alkesh Agarwal then addressed the audience on "Raising Funds and scaling your Business".
13. Questions raised by the members were answered by the speaker.
14. On behalf of the Club, Rtn. Sanjib Basu offered the vote of thanks to Mr. Alkesh Agarwal.
15. On behalf of the Club, President handed over a memento to Mr. Alkesh Agarwal.
16. Sunshine Box collection Rs. 501/- with special contribution from Rtn Pawan Kumar Kanoria.
17. The Club remembered with good wishes Rotary Club of Rangpur, Bangladesh, R. I. Dist. 3281
18. Meeting was adjourned at 2.50 p.m.

Raj Kumar Agrawal
President

Anand Sharma
Hony. Secretary