



TUESDAY 13 JULY 2021

102

Years of Service

The Chaka

Bulletin of Rotary Club of Calcutta
R I Dist 3291

First Published in 1925

Editor: *Rtn. Samiran Sen*

Volume 89. No. 02

thechaka001@gmail.com

TODAY'S GUEST SPEAKER



Shri Jawhar Sircar, IAS (Retd.)

Chairman, Board of Governors, Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, former Secretary, Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India & former CEO, Prasar Bharati (DD & AIR)

Jawhar Sircar, a Xaverian and Presidencian, did his higher studies at the universities of Calcutta, Cambridge, and Sussex. He served in the IAS for 41 years and was India's longest-tenured Culture Secretary, from end-2008 to early 2012. He was reporting directly to the

Rotary
Club of Calcutta



SERVE TO
CHANGE LIVES

former prime minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh, as the 'Culture Minister' for most of his tenure. Dr. Singh publicly described him as "a most distinguished and knowledgeable civil servant". Jawhar Sircar was awarded the British Museum Medal for his outstanding contribution to cultural administration and reforms. Thereafter, he was appointed as the CEO of Prasar Bharati (Akashvani and Doordarshan) for 5 years but he resigned prematurely, due to personal reasons.

Through his four decades of service, he has retained his interest in research and writing. He has chaired several cultural and academic institutions, and he was the last Chairman of the Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta, where his term ended very recently. He writes and speaks regularly on social and cultural history and contemporary affairs — as well on the anthropology of religion and its intersection with politics. He also takes an abiding interest in media issues and human rights.

Jawhar Sircar was a member of the Governing Councils of the Indian Council of World Affairs, Consortium for Educational Communication, Film & Television Institute of India and also Trustee/GB Member of IIM-C, Victoria Memorial Museum, Indian Museum, National Museum, National Library, National School of Drama, IGNC, and the Three National Academies.

His first work: "The Construction of the Hindu Identity in Medieval Western Bengal: The Role of Popular Cults (2005)" was analysed by Prof. Tapan Raychaudhuri of Oxford University, who declared: "what Jawhar Sircar has given us shows his exceptional analytical power and depth of knowledge in diverse fields. He has the power to anthologize the social history of the Bengalis that Prof. Nihar Ranjan Ray had intended".

THE CLUB INSTALLED ITS 102TH PRESIDENT ON 8 JULY



Full report inside

CONTACT US
www.rotacal.org
E-mail: rota2573@dataone.in

102ND INSTALLATION OF ROTARY CLUB OF CALCUTTA

Venue: JW Marriott (along with virtual on Zoom)

Date: 8 July, 2021

Time: 4.00 PM

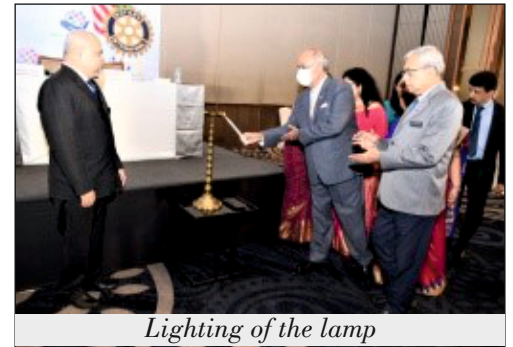
Rotary Club of Calcutta held its 102nd Installation with traditional pomp & splendour, in a hybrid manner with 50 & more guests attending physically, while over 150 guests witnessing the ceremony on the zoom platform, a process adopted in full compliance with Covid protocol and lockdown restrictions. Over 30 international club members spread across the globe, joined virtually. PP Saumen Ray, International Committee Chair, meticulously introduced them, simultaneously giving them an opportunity to express their good wishes.

On arrival of the Chief Guest, RIP Shekhar Mehta, and Guest of Honour, DG Prabir Chatterjee, outgoing President Debashis Mitra commenced the formal RWM with a ceremonial lighting of the lamp, followed by the singing of the National Anthem



Handing over of the Charter

which was accompanied by the screening on the giant screen of recording of the same a sung by RIP Shekhar Mehta, PRIP Kalyan Banerjee, and other Directors of Rotary International and their spouses. Rtn. Debashis detailed the service activities the club performed during RY 2020-21 in spite of the Covid pandemic and consequential lockdown, emphasising the Covid related support & relief to



Lighting of the lamp

community and the significant achievement of each & every committee Chair and team. He presented Rotarian of the Year Award to Programme Committee Chair Rtn Renuka Shah, for diligently arranging RWM speakers without a single break, from a wide & diverse spectrum of Rotary interests, including speakers from across the border. After the club businesses were conducted by Secretary Bodhi Brata Das, President Debashis introduced the President Elect Sujata Pyne, and installed her by exchange of Collar and Charter.

Installed President Sujata profusely thanked the out-going President for his excellent leadership through the pandemic year and



IPP Debashis speaks

presented him and the outgoing Secretary, with a Silver salver each. In her address, she first thanked RIP for making time to attend this installation in spite of sad bereavement in his family, and read out her list of goals already finalised, all under the over-arching target of membership increase of 'each member introducing one new member' during the year. She detailed the list of 12 nos service project goals, including



President Sujata addresses the gathering

but not limited to, :- "Santati" – pediatric unit; "Akriti" – prosthetic limbs; "Prashanti" – psychometric testing centre; "Covid-19: - donation drive; "Virangana" – girls' self defence, and many more. The President then introduced each member of the Board to RIP and the DG. She proudly announced collections on TRF front and presented 16 PHF members contributing \$ 1,000/- each, and requested them to hand over their cheques to RIP personally, which RIP gladly accepted. The President then introduced 7 New members to the RIP and the DG. Thereafter, by way of introducing RIP to the gathering, she reiterated RIP's famous utterance – "Service is the Rent I pay for the Space I occupy on this Earth", and requested RIP Shekhar Mehta to address the Club. RIP Mehta in his brief address gave a few of his real life examples of "Serve to Change Lives" – of arranging cataract operation of 70 year old in rural community, enabling the patient to see his grandchild for the first time. He explained that in this world of "Haves and Have Nots", Rotary is in the middle attempting to bridge the gap, doing good work on Earth – making the blind to see, lame to walk. He further elaborated with a story of Abu approaching the good Angel who was listing people who love the Almighty, and to Abu's query he replied Abu's name is not there; the next day Abu again approached the Angel when he was listing people whom the Almighty loves, and to Abu's query he replied his name is in Top of the list. Doing good to God's people he explained is the motto of Rotary. On conclusion of his address but before he departed, he inaugurated "Prastuti" – by distributing educational school kit to three recipients. President Sujata felicitated RIP by handing him a gift hamper as token of gratitude for having graced the occasion.

DG Prabir Chatterjee in his address expressed satisfaction with the goals outlined by the President and the directional approach, and suggested Thalassemia and Cervical Cancer awareness be included. At the President’s request, DG released the Member’s Roster for Rotary year 21-22. On conclusion, President Sujata felicitated DG Prabir Chatterjee and presented him with a gift hamper.

Rtn.Souveek Ray raised a Toast to the ladies of the Club and expressed his views about the power of women. Rtn. Malika Mukerji Sarkar replied to his Toast on behalf of the ladies of the Club marking the outstanding role of the men also hoping to continue working together hand in hand in the upcoming year. President Elect Raj Kumar Agarwal delivered a vote of thanks. The ceremony continued in the adjoining hall for a gala dinner.



RI President addresses the Audience



The Board of Directors



DG addresses the audience



Committee Chairs



A Little Beneficiary



DG releases the Roster



PE Raj Kr Agrawal proposes Vote of Thanks



Rtn Renuka Shah receives her award



The Buffet Dinner

FIRST DAY, FIRST SHOW

THE CLUB ACKNOWLEDGES WITH GRATITUDE USD 1000 TRF DONORS

The following Club members made US\$ 1000 donations each to The Rotary Foundation on the Installation Day in the presence of RI President Shekhar Mehta and DG Prabir Chatterjee:

1. Arindam Roy Choudhury
2. Krishna K Kothari
3. Rear Admiral (Retd.) Rajeev Paralikar
4. PE Rajkumar Agarwal
5. President Sujata Pyne
6. CYP Purnendu Roychowdhury
7. Ravindra Khandelwal
8. Sudarshan Jalan
9. Kirit Patel
10. Sourabh Khemani
11. Raj Kumar Chhajer
12. Rajeev Gupta
13. Dr. Sukalyan Purakayastha



New Members Introduced on 8 July

The Club welcomed heartily and Introduced the following new members on the Installation Day:

1. Abhishek Dutt
2. Arunima Dey
3. Ravindra Khandelwal
4. Gyanesh Chaudhary
5. Priti Patel
6. Yogesh Dassani
7. Shatarupa Mukherjee



THE PRESIDENT THANKS

Dear Members,

I am overwhelmed and inundated with congratulatory messages indicating the success of the installation program yesterday which each and everyone appreciated as remarkable and as expected from Rotary Club of Calcutta. The glory is OURS to have been able to have the RI President present on such an occasion. We made history! Our special THANKS goes out to PP Saumen Ray for the participation of so many clubs international and pan India; to the installation team of ladies in Blue and Pink (sitting beside the stage and can be identified easily); CYP Purnendu RC and Rajeev Paralikar Ji for the Foundation Dhamaka and CYP and team for pledging to present the RI Prez a new Rotary Club of Calcutta WORLD Thanks to Rotarians Arindam RC for constant support and being omnipresent, Partha Mukherjee another undisclosed and meticulous silent worker, Indrajit Ganguly for delivering Rotary Sadan in usable condition before 1st July and the untiring efforts of installation Chair and anchor Debasish Biswas. The Rotary staff members also put in their very best. All of them deserve a big round of applause and appreciation at large. The program holistically augmented the image of our club before the entire world. My heartfelt gratitude to one and all for making this happen. It is Our Pride and Our Glory, not possible by any President or Hony Secy of the Club. THANK YOU FOR MAKING THIS HAPPEN!

Yours gratefully,

President Sujata Pyne



Rotary Club Of Calcutta Acknowledges With Gratitude International Partner Clubs And Members Who Attended 102nd Installation Programme Virtually

England

1. *Rotary Cub of London* - David Johnson
2. *Rotary Club of Brentford and Chiswick* - John Armstrong
3. *Rotary Club of Golders Green* - Annie Morley Slinn
4. *Rotary Club of Hampstead Heath* - Caroline Bobanick
5. *Rotary Cub of Battersea Park* - Gill de Warren, Vanessa Graham, Brenda Ferry, John Lee, Lorraine Dance, Denis Doble, Asok Nandi with spouse, David Johnson, Re Johnson

Scotland

6. *Rotary Club of Kirkcaldy* - Swapan Mukherjee, and Dr. Tony Payne

Ireland

7. *Rotary Club of Dublin* - Alan Davidson

Canada

8. *Ron Denham* - Chairman Emeritus WASRAG
9. *RC Nakusp, British Columbia* - Kees Van der Pol -
10. *Jim Loutit* - Toronto

Ethiopia

11. *Rotary Club of Addis Ababa West* - Sharon Ashton and Azeb Asrat

Manila, Philippines

12. *Rotary Club of Manila* - Nick Locsin

Bangladesh

13. *Rotary Club of Dhaka* (our sponsored club) - PP Anwar, PP Noaz, PP Bayezid, PP Maher, VP Nahar, PE Nurul Islam, Engr Akhter, Atikul Islam, Rtn Rowly, Rtn Gulru, Barul Hasan, Barrister Shafayat Rana, Dr Ireen, Mamun Akbar, and others
14. *Rotary Club of Dhaka Lumina*
15. *Rotary Club of Dhaka Mahanagar*
16. *Rotary Club of Commilla*
17. *RIPC PDG Sam Showket Hossian*
18. *Rotary Club of Chittagong*

Sri Lanka

19. *Our sister Club in Colombo*
20. *DGE 2022-23*

The Club also thanks the guests who attended the ceremony from different parts of INDIA

REPORTING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEXT WEEKLY MEETING (Joint) SATURDAY, 24 JULY 2021 AT 5 P.M.

The next RWM will be held jointly with RC Port Blair on Saturday, 24 July at 5 p.m. on Zoom.

Speaker: Mr. Phalguni Mookhopadhyay, Chancellor, Brainware University & Chairman & Managing Director, Brainware

COMMITTEE MEETINGS HELD

1. Youth Service & Literacy Committee held its 1st meeting of the year 2021-22 on 10 July at 5:30p.m. virtually led by Chairperson Chandreyee Das
2. Environment Committee held its 1st meeting of the year 2021-22 on 12 July at 5:30p.m. virtually led by Chairperson Ashok Basu - AB4

ATTENDANCE REPORT (08.07.2021)

Total Members	:	231
Members Present	:	97
Exempted Members	:	74
Visiting Rotarians & Guests	:	104

Birthdays

Ravi Bhartia	14 July
Amrita Banerjee	14 July
PDG Prabhat Krishna Rohatgi	14 July

Wish you many happy returns of the day

Wedding Anniversaries

Mrinal Kanti Lodh & R-Ann Tapati	15 July
Dr. Dipanwita Hazari & Mr. Partha	18 July

Wish you many more years of marital bliss

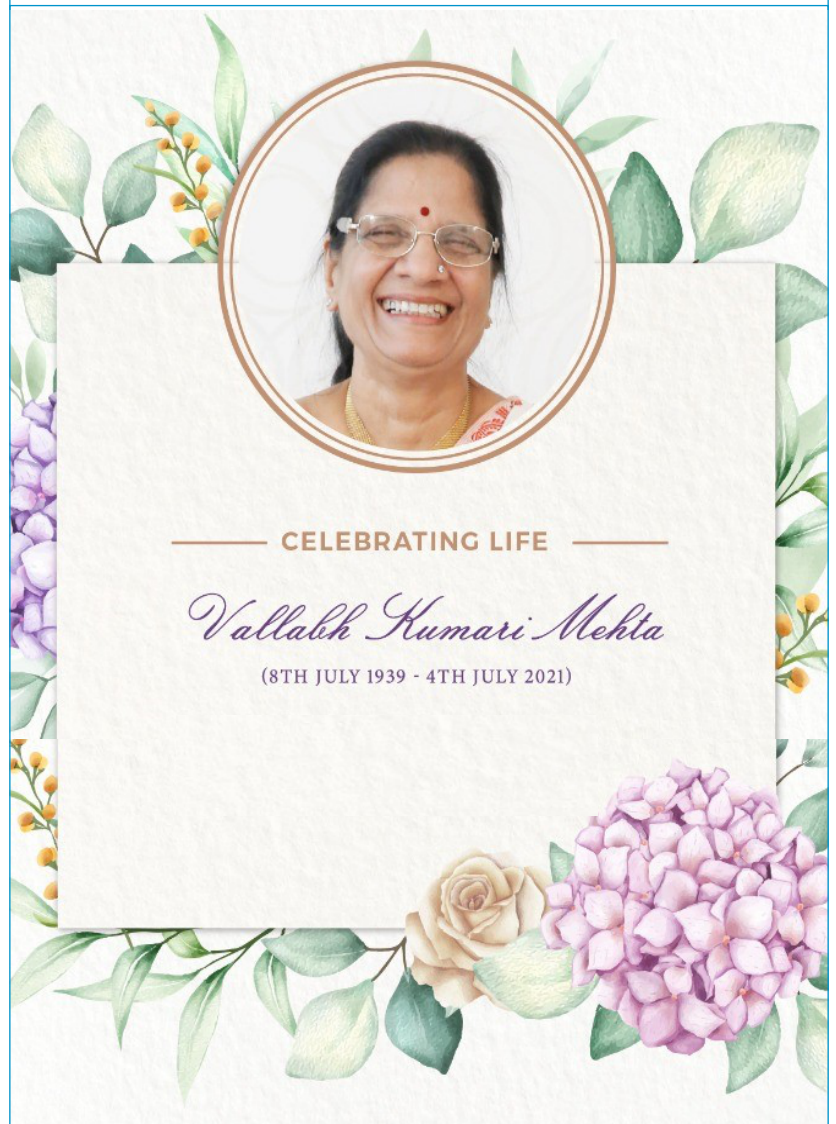
TAKE ALL PRECAUTIONS AGAINST THE 2ND WAVE OF PANDEMIC. DO NOT LET DOWN YOUR GUARD



STAY HOME STAY HAPPY

CONDOLENCE

Rotary Club of Calcutta expresses its heartfelt condolences for the sad demise of Smt. Vallabh Kumari Devi, beloved mother of RI President Shekhar Mehta, on 4 July 2021. May the soul of the departed find eternal peace in the Brahmaloak.



MINUTES OF THE MEETING (4818th) FOR THE 102TH INSTALLATION HELD ON 8TH July'2021 at 4:00pm at JW MARRIOTT HOTEL

- 1 President (2020-21) Debashis Mitra called the 4819th Regular Weekly Meeting of the Club to order.
- 2 President welcomed the dignitaries present physically and virtually and requested President Elect Sujata Pyne to escort D G. Prabir Chatterjee to the dais and Hony. Jt. Secretary Sriranjani Joshi to join them at the top table.
- 3 National Anthem was played on screen.
- 4 Minutes of the 4818th Regular Meeting held on 29th June, 2021 on Zoom were confirmed.
- 5 President Debashis shared his experience mentioning the notable achievements of 2020-2021, challenges faced to conduct the projects during the pandemic and also thanked all the committee members for their support.
- 6 Further the out-going President announced the Rotarian Par Excellence Award of the year 2020-2021 to Rtn. Chitrak Mitra which was received by his wife R-Ann Krishnapriya and Rotarian of the Year award to Rtn. Renuka Shah.
- 7 President welcomed the Chief Guest R.I President Shekhar Mehta .
- 8 Out-going President Debashis then introduced and installed Rtn. Sujata Pyne as the President for the year 2021-2022 while a lamp was lit by R I President, Dist. Governor, President Sujata, Hony. Secy. Sriranjani Joshi and CYP & A G Purnendu Roychowdhury. An invocation was sung by R-Ann Tamali Ray.
Installed President Sujata took over the reign then onward.
- 9 President (2021-2022) Sujata Pyne presented a silver salver to the Immediate Past President Debashis Mitra as a token of appreciation and also thanked his spouse R-Ann Sambi Mitra for her support. She praised the Immediate Past Secy. Bodhi Brata Das and presented him a salver as well. While mentioning Rtn. Bodhi she also extended her appreciation for the commendable work done by the Centenary Secy. Anusua Das who stood as a strong pillar of support to Bodhi.
- 10 Furthermore, President Pyne welcomed and thanked R.I President Shekhar Mehta for his gracious presence. This was the first time in the history of the Club that R.I President was present in the Installation Ceremony of Rotary Club of Calcutta. She also warmly welcomed D G Prabir Chatterjee and first lady of the District R-Ann Rubena, all PDGs, District officials, Past Presidents, presidents of neighbouring clubs and all members and guests present at the venue and virtually. There were 14 International Clubs and 6 pan India Clubs present virtually through Zoom.
- 11 President Pyne also sent greetings and best wishes to the President of India.
- 12 The President went on to share her programs and objectives for the Year 2021-2022 with the help of the Power Point presentation.
- 13 She mentioned that TRF collection on Day One was a remarkable USD 16,000 with proactive support from CYP Purnendu Roychowdhury and Rtn. Rajeev Paralikar
- 14 She also introduced and welcomed the Board members for the Rotary year 2021-2022.
- 15 At the request of the President, Hony. Secretary conducted the Club business thus:
 - a. She welcomed all the members, district officials and guests.
 - b. The names of members celebrating their birthdays and wedding anniversaries during the week ending 12th July, 2021 were announced and conveyed best wishes to them.
 - c. She announced the next weekly meeting to be held on 13th July, 2021 at 1pm. Speaker: Jawhar Sarcar IAS (Retd), former CEO of Prasar Bharati, Topic: Demystifying Dr B C Roy
- 16 Rtn. Debasish Biswas, Executive Club Secretary and Installation Chair briefly introduced the Chief Guest Rtn. Shekhar Mehta.
- 17 The R.I President addressed the audience, congratulated President Sujata Pyne and her team and shared his vision for the upcoming Rotary year.
- 18 The President felicitated the Donors for the year 2021-2022 in the presence of R.I President. (13 names)
- 19 New members (Green Badgers) were introduced to the audience by President Pyne and recognised by the R I President

Contd. to Page 8

Contd. from Page 7

- 20 Three Projects were launched by RI President Rtn Shekhar Mehta namely:
 - a. PRASTUTI - education kit to encourage children to go to school
 - b. RAJESHWARI - Healthy Mother Healthy Child care kit
 - c. PRAKRITI - By One To Donate One Umbrella and
Three beneficiaries were given the school kit, mother and childcare kit and umbrella.
- 21 The Chief Guest was felicitated by the President and was thanked for his valuable time and presence.
- 22 The President informed the audience about the sad demise R.I President's mother. She extended condolences to his family on behalf of everyone present and one minute of silence was observed for her and then the chief guest departed being escorted by CYP Purnendu, PP Sushil Bagla and Arindam Roychowdhury.
- 23 Rtn. Debasish Biswas introduced the Guest of Honour DG Rtn. Prabir Chatterjee and requested him to address the audience.
- 24 DG addressed the audience and expressed his high hopes from the upcoming team.
- 25 The President introduced the Committee Chairpersons for the Rotary year 2021-2022 and specially mentioned the new committees introduced this year with its programs and objectives.
- 26 Members' Roster of the Club for the year 2021-2022 was released by the Guest of Honour.
- 27 President felicitated the Guest of Honour DG Prabir Chatterjee and thanked him and the First lady of the District 3291 for their presence.
- 28 The traditional Toast to Ladies was raised by Rtn Shouveek Ray, and aptly responded by Rtn Malika Mukerjee Sarkar.
- 29 Rtn. Raj Kumar Agarwal, President-Elect proposed a formal vote of thanks on behalf of the Club to all dignitaries and the organizers .
- 30 Rtn. Debasish Biswas, Installation Chair along with R-Ann Tamali Ray were also felicitated for their contribution in the day's success.
- 31 The day's Sunshine Box collection was Rs.49,600/-
- 32 The President sent greetings to The Rotary International and the Club remembered with good Wishes Rotary Club of Calcutta Mahanagar, India , R.I District.3291 the home Club of R.I. President.
- 33 The meeting was adjourned at 6:37 pm and all were requested to join for dinner.

Rtn. Sujata Pyne
President

Rtn. Sriranjani Joshi
Hony. Secretary



***We remember with good wishes
Rotary Club of Battersea Park,
London, RI Dist. 1130***



***Published by Rtn. Sriranjani Joshi, Hony. Secretary, Rotary Club of Calcutta
94/2 Chowringhee Road, Kolkata 70020 Tel: 2223 8686/8787***

Designed & Printed By DARK HORSE DESIGNS :: 8334953509, 9831050155