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# 102

# The Chaka

Bulletin of Rotary Club of Calcutta  
R I Dist 3291

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## ROTARY CLUB OF CALCUTTA INSTALLS ITS 102ND PRESIDENT

### TODAY'S CHIEF GUEST



**Shekhar Mehta**

**Rotary International President**

Shekhar Mehta is only the 4th Indian in 115 years to be nominated as the President of Rotary International for the year 2021-22. Mehta, an accountant, is chair of the Skyline Group, a real estate development company he founded. He is also a director of Operation Eyesight Universal (India), a Canada-based organization.

Shekhar has been actively involved in disaster response and is a trustee of Shelter Box, UK.



After the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami, he helped build nearly 500 homes for families affected by the disaster. He pioneered a program that has performed more than 1,500 life-changing heart surgeries in South Asia. He is also the architect of the TEACH Program, which promotes literacy throughout India and has reached thousands of schools.

A Rotary member since 1984, Mehta has served Rotary as director, member or chair of several committees, zone coordinator, training leader, member of The Rotary Foundation Cadre of Technical Advisers, and district governor. He is also the chair of Rotary Foundation (India). He has received Rotary's Service Above Self Award and The Rotary Foundation's Citation for Meritorious Service and Distinguished Service Awards.

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## TODAY'S GUEST OF HONOUR



**Prabir Chatterjee** *District Governor*

Prabir Chatterjee joined Rotary in 1999 and presently is a member of Rotary Calcutta Majestic. He is a Multiple Paul Harris Fellow. Born in the famous CHATTERJEE family in Kolkata, he did his schooling from Mitra Institution, Bhowanipur and completed B.Sc from St. Xavier's College, Kolkata followed by Diploma in Electronics & Video Technology.

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## KNOW YOUR PRESIDENT



**Sujata Pyne**

Sujata, born and brought up in Calcutta completed her education from Loreto, graduating with English Hons. and First Class Degree in Child Psychology & Education of "Children with Special Needs".

She has also won the state level championship in Table Tennis.

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**CONTACT US**  
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## PRESIDENT

I wish each one of you and your families a great Rotary New Year! Together, let us make it one of the best years of our lives, by making it a year to grow more and do more. Let this be a year of changemakers, and let us begin with our membership.

That is precisely why the Each One, Bring One initiative is so important. If each member introduces one person to Rotary, our membership can increase to 1.3 million by July 2022. So, let's just do it!

Imagine the change we, as Rotary members, can make when there are so many more of us! More people to care for others, more people to Serve to Change Lives, more members will enable us to embark on bigger and bolder service projects.

One element that we can incorporate into all of our service initiatives is empowering girls. Unfortunately, even in this day and age, girls and young women face disproportionate challenges all over the world. Empowering girls and young women to have greater access to education, better health care, more employment, and equality in all walks of life should be embedded in every Rotary project we launch. Girls are future leaders, so we must ensure that we help them change their future.

So friends let us serve to change lives.

*Shekhar Mehta*

Shekhar Mehta  
President 2021-22



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members,

Welcome aboard as we enter into another Rotary Year. A year, which summons us to "Serve To Change Lives."

The bygone year was full of challenges of unprecedented heights, unforeseen deaths and disaster that left the human race in disillusion.

Nevertheless, it was a reality check for all of us showing us the means to minimalistic ways of living. It lessoned us to care and share and taught us in a hard way to ensure the well being of all for the well being of ourselves.

By the end of the year there has been a shift in paradigm - from "me" to "them," from "I" to "us" and the urge to connect like never before. Panic calls from the neighborhood or friends gave us sleepless nights or nightmares trying to sort their problems before retiring for the day. It felt obliging to be able to come to someone's rescue at the hour on need.

Just as every beginning has an end so will the pandemic. But, can we continue to live with this new normal? Can we still think of others before we think of ourselves? Can we still give before we expect?

The need is all around us. We just have to keep our minds and hearts open to hear the call and respond with our giving - not in charity but in empathy, not for gratification but in humility.

Rotary shows us the unexplored path of life through misery, illiteracy, darkness and disease as we learn to count our blessings.

Fellow Rotarians, while I Thank You for giving me this premium opportunity in life to dedicate myself to the service of mankind, I do look forward to your support and blessings in my endeavor and commitment as I strive to serve the less fortunate to the best of my ability. Do stand by me and let us leave today with a new preparation and resolution to "Serve To Change Lives ", even if it is a single one and to make that little difference with the ray of hope, the smile of joy and the touch to heal.

"Make me a channel of your peace

Where there is hatred let me bring your love

Where there is despair let me bring hope

And where there is injury your pardon lord".

**Sujata Pyne**

President 2021- 22





*Contd. from page 1*

## Shekhar Mehta

His guiding mantra in life is “Service is the rent that we pay for the space we occupy on this earth”.

He and his wife Rashi, are Major Donors and members of the Bequest Society.

### Mehta's Presidential initiatives

Rotary International President Shekhar Mehta will have three special initiatives for the 2021-22 Rotary year aimed at increasing our impact through service and expanding our reach by introducing new members to Rotary. Mehta is asking every Rotarian to make membership a responsibility through the **Each One, Bring One campaign**.

- **Empowering Girls.** To address the inequities that girls face worldwide, members will be encouraged to launch a club-based initiative or be part of a district or global grant that improves the health, well-being, education, and economic security of girls in their communities and ensures their access to resources.
- **Rotary Day of Service.** Clubs will be asked to collaborate to conduct hands-on service activities with members of their communities and share those activities on Rotary Showcase.
- **Presidential conferences.** A series of presidential conferences will highlight club humanitarian efforts in their communities and around the world. Members should invite a friend to one event so they can learn about Rotary's work and be inspired to join us in our commitment to service.

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.

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.

*Contd. from page 1*

## Prabir Chatterjee

A First generation Entrepreneur and Director of Teeveetronics Polytechnic Pvt. Ltd. Prabir served Rotary District 3291 in different positions after completing his President ship in 2007-08. He served the District as Web Master twice, Secretary Events and Secretary Administration twice in 2013-14 & 2017-18 - a very rare feather in his cap.

He is a RLI faculty member since 2015. He is also the recipient of Vocational Service Leadership Award from Rotary International in 2014.

He is an avid Photographer and a passionate traveller. In 2016 he drove to Jaisalmeer, Rajasthan from Kolkata and covered 5,219 kms.

Spouse Rubena is a professional dancer and currently the senior school co-curricular co-ordinator at Sushila Birla Girls' School, Kolkata. She is a Rotarian since 2012 and presently member of Rotary Calcutta Majestic. Daughter Kathakali has completed her Masters in 'Public Relations & Event Management' from AMITY University, Noida.

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## Sujata Pyne

Sujata comes from a veteran Bengali business family of Gouri Sen and Mutty Lall Seal which justifies the philanthropic attribute in her nature. She joined Rotary Club Of Calcutta in February 2002 and soon after became an active member of the club serving in different capacities.

Amongst others, she served as the Hony. Secy. of the club in 2010 - 11 and received the “Outstanding Secretary” award during the Presidentship of Rtn. Sushil Kumar Bagla - when the Club also received the “Overall Best Club” award for the 5 th time in 91 years. She was the Editor of Chaka in 2014-15.

Her artistic flair and eye for detail makes her a passionate jewellery designer while she is the managing partner of Benud Behari Dutt LEGACY - a renowned jewellery house.

Sujata is Govt. Appointed Valuer under the Central Board Of Direct Taxes ( CBDT). She is a member of Bharat Chamber of Commerce and other Business Associations.

She has two sons who are well established in the food, jewellery and hospitality industry and has three budding grandsons. She herself is a great connoisseur of food and music.

She firmly believes that the true identity of a person lies in one's Actions or Karma and not in one's status symbol or portrayed lifestyle. Thus it is more important to “Be Human” and serve humanity, rather than being a mere human being.

Sujata is a multiple Paul Harris Fellow.

**NEW TEAM OF 2021-22**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**



**Sujata Pyne**  
*President*



**Raj Kumar Agarwal**  
*President Elect*



**Samiran Sen**  
*Vice-President*



**Debashis Mitra**  
*Imm. Past President*



**Sriranjani Joshi**  
*Hony. Secy*



**Anand Sharma**  
*Hony. Jt. Secy*



**Debjani Ghosh**  
*Hony. Treasurer*



**Shampa Ghose**  
*Hony. Jt. Treasurer*



**Bodhi Brata Das**  
*Director*



**Kanak Dutt**  
*Director*



**Rajeev Gupta**  
*Director*



**Sudarshan Jalan**  
*Director*



**PP Purnendu Roychowdhury**  
*Director*



**PP Sushil Kumar Bagla**  
*Advisor to the Board*

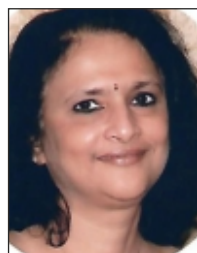


**Debasish Biswas**  
*Executive Secretary*

**CLUB OFFICIALS**



**PP. Purnendu Roychowdhury**  
*Foundation Chair*



**PP. Nilima Joshi**  
*Club Trainer*



**VP Samiran Sen**  
*Editor - The Chaka*



**Amit Ghosh**  
*Club Correspondent & Co - Editor - The Chaka*



**Amrita Banerjee**  
*Web - in - Charge*



**Malika Mukerji Sarkar**  
*Web - in - Charge*

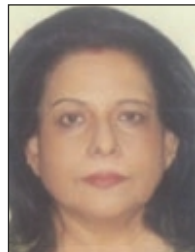
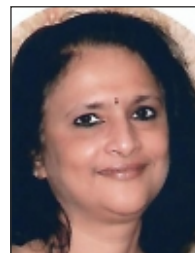


**Debjani Ghosh**  
*Legal Advisor*



**Green Badgers in Rotation**  
*Sergeant - at - Arms*

## COMMITTEES AND CHAIRS

**PP Abhijit Kolay***Attendance and Classification***Dr. Chandreyee Das***Youth Service Literacy  
& New Generation***Arindam Roychowdhury***Community Service & RCC***Debasish Biswas***Programme and Special Projects***Indrajit Banerjee***CSR Fundraising &  
Public Image***Dr. Sarbani Ghosh***Healthcare &  
Geriatric Service***PP Saumen Ray***International Service &  
Long Term Projects***Amit Ghosh***Inter Club Relation, Bulletin  
& Dist. Awards***Sonal Worah***Fellowship, Special Events  
& Children's Treat***Subha Pal***Membership Development,  
Retention & Green Badgers***Roshni Ganguly***NCLCL, Cultural Section  
& Computer***Shampa Ghose***Vocational Service***Indrajit Ganguly***Rotary Sadan &  
Office Management***Ashok Kumar Basu 4 (AB4)***Environment***PP Nilima Joshi***Women's Empowerment***Debjani Ghosh***Finance***PP Purnendu Roychowdhury***Rotary Foundation*

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

## Rotary Children's Welfare Trust 2021-22



**PP Purnendu Roychowdhury**  
Chairperson



**IPP Debashis Mitra**  
Trustee



**President Sujata Pyne**  
Trustee



**PE Raj Kumar Agrawal**  
Trustee



**VP Samiran Sen**  
Trustee

## Rotary Club of Calcutta Welfare Trust 2021-22



**IPP Debashis Mitra**  
Chairperson



**President Sujata Pyne**  
Trustee



**PE Raj Kumar Agrawal**  
Trustee



**VP Samiran Sen**  
Trustee

## Message From Rtn. Ravishankar Dakoju (through PP Saumen Ray)



Dear Saumen da,

Congratulations on the installation ceremony of your club. I understand that you will be having a lady present Rtn. Sujata Pyne, very impressive indeed.

Best wishes to you and to your entire club.

Rgds.

Rtn. Ravishankar Dakoju.

Rotary Club of Bangalore

25 June 2021

(In 2018, Rtn Dakoju became the first Indian national to announce the single largest community development fund from India to Rotary Foundation at INR 100 Crores (USD 14.7 Million). It is the second single largest contribution to The Rotary Foundation after the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.)



# THE CLUB EXPRESSES GRATITUDE TO THE DOCTORS

**1 July**, the first day of the Rotary year coincides with the National Doctors' Day, which commemorates the birth anniversary of Bharat Ratna Dr. Bidhan Chandra Roy, physician par excellence, educationist, philanthropist, freedom fighter and statesman who served as the Chief Minister of West Bengal from 1948 until his death in 1962.

Rotary Club of Calcutta, true to its tradition, celebrated the momentous occasion on 1 July but with a difference. This year President Sujata Pyne decided to felicitate, in a grand manner, the fraternity of the doctors, who risk their lives, and that of their families, to keep us healthy.

Around 45 doctors – many of whom were Rotarians - led by none other than Rtn. Dr. Sukumar Mukherjee accompanied by PP Dr. S.K.Sharma and Member of Parliament Dr. Santanu Sen honoured us with their presence in spite of their busy schedule. Janab Firhad Hakim, MIC of Transport Department of the state, graced the occasion as Chief Guest and expressed his personal gratitude to the medical fraternity, terming them as second only to God.

In addition to the felicitation ceremony, a unique game was played out involving the invitees in the spirit of "The Nation Wants To Know" – The Human Being Behind The Doctor..... not just medicine! The doctors were invited to the stage in batches and were subjected to questions, by draw of lots, that were intended to bring out the person behind the doctor. The questions, prepared by Rtn. Dr. Nandini Ray and R-Ann Sucharita Roychowdhury (an example: "What would you like to be written on your epitaph?"), elicited answers which were both humorous as well as revealing. The exercise allowed them to give an expression to their selves suppressed under the burden of daily service to humanity.

The program ended by felicitating the noble doctors with mementos on behalf of Rotary Club of Calcutta, presented by the District Governor of Rotary Dist 3291, Prabir Chatterjee, IPG Sudip Mukherjee, Sujata Pyne, the President and Sriranjani Joshi, Hony. Secretary. Janab Firad Hakim handed over a memento to Dr Sukumar Mukherjee, the soul of the programme.

The icing on the cake was a donation of Rs. 1.5 lakhs by Dr Sukumar Mukherjee as endowment to support education of underprivileged medical students which was handed over to the District Governor.

President Sujata conducted the programme flawlessly, ably supported by Rtn Sriranjani and others. Rtn. Debasish Biswas, the Executive Secretary the Club, was the MC who carried the proceeding through with aplomb in his inimitable style. It was a hybrid event following all Covid protocols at the same time giving opportunity for members to join on Zoom.

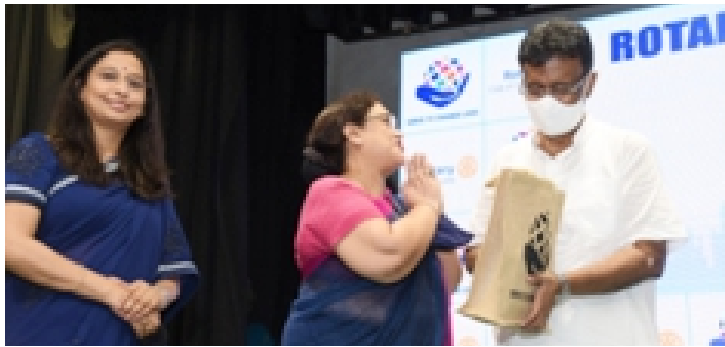
President Sujata later admitted: "It was conceptualized to be a modest program of felicitating just a couple of doctors considering the Covid restriction and mood. The ball was set rolling by the two senior most doctors of our Club – Dr. S.K.Sharma and Dr. Sukumar Mukherjee. Lo and behold! Confirmations started pouring in and what was expected to be a small program, turned out to be a mega Event!"



*Reported by President Sujata Pyne and Green Badger Rtn. Pradyot Banerjee.*



# SOME MOMENTS WITH THE MINISTER - through the lens



## PRAKRITI—THE UMBRELLA PROJECT

On 1 July, District Governor Prabir Chatterjee inaugurated the project **Prakriti**— which calls for buying a Rotary branded umbrella to donate another umbrella to the underprivileged .



## REPORTING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### NEXT WEEKLY MEETING (Virtual)

TUESDAY, 13 JULY, 2021 AT 1 P.M.

The next Regular Weekly Meeting will be held on Tuesday, 13 July at 1 p.m. On Zoom

**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).

**Topic:** Demystifying Dr. Bidhan Chandra Roy

#### ATTENDANCE REPORT (29.06.2021)

Total Members	234
Members Present	72
Exempted Members	73
Visiting Rotarians & Guests	16

#### Birthdays

R.K. Bachhawat	08 July
Dr. Ramaditya Ray	12 July
Sriranjani Joshi	12 July

*Wish you many happy returns of the day*

#### Wedding Anniversaries

Laxmi Niwas Bangur & R-Ann Alka	09 July
M.L.Pachisia & R-Ann Manorama	11 July
Vijay Kumar Patodia & R-Ann Shraddha	12 July

*Wish you many more years of marital bliss*

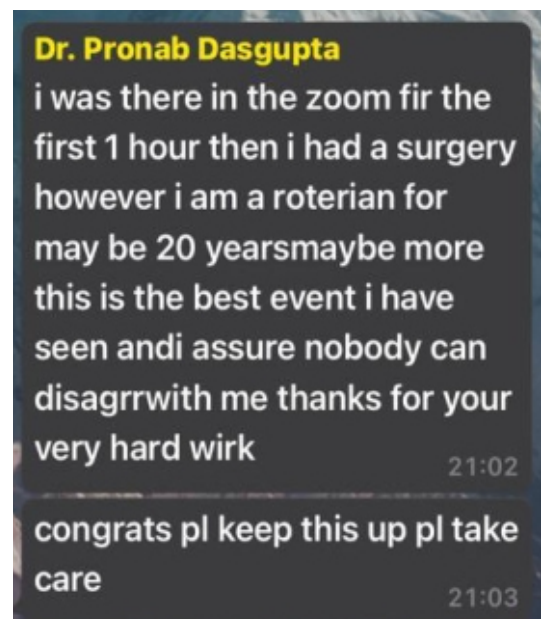
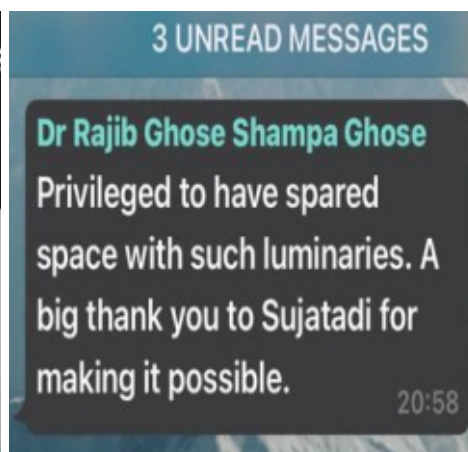
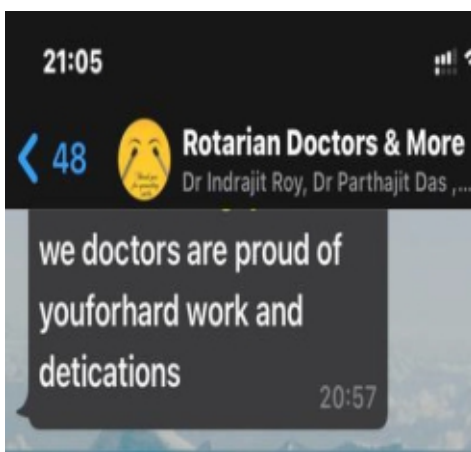
#### PROJECT SREEGUARD

The Club, partnered by Sreeleathers through their CSR initiative, distributed protective footwear to 270 caddies of RCGC on 4th July 2021 under the project Sreeguard. The special shoes were handed over to the Captain of RCGC by President Sujata in the presence of several members of our Club on a monsoon morning.



#### DOCTORS' REACTIONS

Screenshots from the President's mobile showing reactions from some doctors on the Club's memorable Doctors' Day programme





**MINUTES OF THE 4818TH REGULAR WEEKLY MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, 29th JUNE, 2021 at 12.00 Noon on ZOOM**

- 1 President, Rtn. Debashis Mitra welcomed all Members and Guests and called the 4818th Regular Weekly Meeting of the Club to order.
- 2 National Anthem was led by Rtn. Renuka Shah .
- 3 Minutes of the 4817th Regular Weekly Meeting of the Club held on 24th June, 2021 were confirmed.
- 4 President Introduced and Welcomed Mr. Narayana Murthy, Founder of Infosys Ltd as the Chief Guest.
- 5 President then welcomed all visiting Rotarians and guests who were present on the meeting and conveyed greetings to their Clubs.
- 6 President Announced :
  - a. President informed members that the Club would observe “Doctors Day” on 1st July, 2021 at 3 p.m. Onwards physically at Rotary Sadan and on Zoom and requested members to attend.
  - b. President also informed members that the 102nd Installation meeting of the Club would be held on Thursday, 8th July, 2021 at 6 .00 p.m. at the Hotel J W Marriott, EM Bypass, Kolkata and requested members to register their names.
- 7 At the request of the President, Hony. Secretary, Rtn. Bodhi Brata Das thereafter conducted the Club business thus :
  - a. Hony. Secretary welcomed to Members and Guests who were attending the meeting.
  - b. Hony. Secretary then announced the names of Rotarians, celebrating their Birthdays and Wedding anniversaries during the week ending 7th July, 2021 and conveyed best wishes to them.
  - c. He also informed members that the next Regular Weekly Meeting of the Club would be held on Thursday, 8th July, 2021 along with 102nd Installation Ceremony at 6 p.m. at the J W Marriott, EM Bypass , Kolkata.
- 8 Thereafter, the interactive session with Mr. Narayana Murthy anchored by President Debashis Mitra, took place followed by a Q&A questions raised by many members which were answered by the speaker.
- 9 At the request of the President, Rtn. Bodhi Brata Das, Hony.Secretary offered a formal vote of thanks to the esteemed guest on behalf of the Club
- 10 The Club remembered with good wishes Rotary Club of Calcutta Millenium, India, R. I. 3291.
- 11 Meeting was adjourned at 1.10 p.m.

**Rtn. Debashis Mitra**  
President (2020-21)

**Rtn. Bodhi Brata Das**  
Hony. Secretary (2020-21)

**ONE WORLD**



**We remember with good wishes  
Rotary Club of Calcutta  
Mahanagar, India, RI Dist. 3291**

## SOLIDARITY AGAINST COVID-19



**Workers &  
their families need  
VACCINES**

Free & fair access to  
**COVID-19  
VACCINES**



**ORGANIZE,  
FIGHT,  
VACCINATE &  
WIN!**





# SAY NO TO PLASTIC

The world celebrated International Plastic Bag-free Day on 3 July. Rotary Club of Calcutta urges its members to renounce the use of plastic products in everyday life as these are not biodegradable.

