



# ROTARY CLUB OF CALCUTTA METROPOLITAN

Club Regn. No. : 043290002/3842 • Charter Date : 17.06.1986

RY : 2024-2025

Rotary



<https://rccalcuttametropolitan.rotaryindia.org>

**PRESIDENT : SASHI DHACHOLIA • HONY. SECRETARY : RAJIV TIBREWAL**

1689TH REGULAR MEETING

VOL 39, NO. 10

14 December 2024

## KNOW YOUR SPEAKER SATABDI BHATTACHARJEE



Smt. Satabdi Bhattacharjee, the Principal of South City International School, Kolkata, began her vocation as a teacher as a cognizant choice, driven by her regard and her excitement for the profession. Amongst many other awards, she has been the addressee of the TTIS Touchstone Award for the Best Teacher and in 2010-11, as the Fulbright Scholarship in Science under the USIEF India-US Teacher Exchange Program.

Ms. Bhattacharjee is a firm believer of the child's ability to learn and lead. A former Founder Principal of a renowned C.B.S.E school in Kolkata, she takes pride in being in the Founding team of few of the well known schools of the city. Education for her is a two way learning path, where her students have been the best teachers in her life. According to Ms. Bhattacharjee, every problem in life comes with a solution and therefore communication, critical thinking, a positive attitude and hard and sincere efforts remain her core strengths along with her ability to establish confidence in her team and her loyalty towards the organization. "Organization above everyone else" is her mantra for professional excellence.

She is a dynamic person who imparts sound value-based education by inculcating in the students' habits of piety, virtue and discipline, during the years of their studies. Simultaneously, she blends and incorporates the use of technology in the teaching methods to enable students to be well equipped to understand as well as take on any challenges they may face as they step out into an ever-evolving world.

Topic: **Listening: The Key to Parenting**



## KITS OF HOPE AND DRAPED IN LOVE- HOW MAA TURNS ESSENTIALS INTO EMOTIONAL MOMENTS?

On one of the most crowded corners in Kolkata, amidst the din of life, and people getting on with their unending list of things to do, there is this heart-warming practice that can be likened to a bear hug for those who need it most. Every year, the Rotary Club of Calcutta Metropolitan (RCCM) welcomes the opportunity to participate in the MAA (Mothers' Apt Appreciation) Project, a very noble cause directed toward supporting widowed elderly mothers in our community; it isn't charity- it is a hearty expression of love, respect, and recognition toward pretty tough women who have fought the battles of life with strength that can move mountains.

This year, the MAA Project will take place on Sunday, 1st December 2024, at 10:00 AM at Simla Byayam Samiti Ground (Near Girish Park). Organized by the Rotary Club of Calcutta North East, it promises to be another meaningful day of connection and giving. RCCM and other participating clubs are preparing to distribute life-essentials kits that are worth much more than their contents. These kits hold the promise of dignity, comfort, and most importantly, a sense of belonging.

### **Widowed, Not Defeated: Their Survival Journey**

Now, try adjusting to life without your partner as you have to fend for yourself in a rather unfriendly and critical society. This is the life of many widowed mothers, especially those above the age of 55. It goes unnoticed as they live below the community's radar, uncalled for contributions, and struggles misunderstood in a society.

But these women are warriors. They've seen the best and worst of life, fought silent battles, and emerged with resilience etched into their smiles. They've raised children, managed households, and built lives from scratch. Yet, many live with limited resources, battling loneliness and financial struggles. For them, the MAA Project isn't just about receiving kits-it's about feeling seen and valued.

### **Why the MAA Project Matters**

The MAA Project is more than a distribution drive; it's a celebration of life and motherhood. Each kit contains essentials like a saree, bed sheet, blanket, durrie, mosquito net, slippers, umbrella, shawl, hygiene kit, biscuits, dry food, and food packets. At first glance, these items might seem ordinary. But when you think about what they represent-comfort, warmth, and a reminder that someone cares-they become extraordinary.

Each kit costs around Rs. 2,500, but RCCNE charges only Rs. 1,000, with a minimum sponsorship of Rs. 5,000 for five kits. This pricing ensures that more people can participate in this noble cause, spreading kindness and joy further.

For widowed mothers, receiving these kits is more than a practical help. It's a moment of celebration where they feel pampered and prioritized. It's about seeing their radiant smiles as they walk away with umbrellas shielding them from the sun, blankets keeping them warm at night, and a shawl to remind them of their importance.

### **Why RCCM Believes in MAA**

So why does RCCM participate in the MAA Project year in year out? Because the club believes in smiles-pure, unadulterated smiles resulting from knowledge that you are loved and cared for. They believe in touching lives not just with material goods but with kindness and respect.

President Rtn Sashi Dhacholia, who represented RCCM this year, rounds it up poignantly when he hands over the kits. "These women have given so much to society and their families. It's time we give them something back. Not just kits but a sense of belonging."

It was also a lesson in humility. When you see these widowed mothers, draped in the sarees you've given, smiling through their struggles, it brings to heart the reality that happiness truly does lie in very small acts of love. At times, the participants leave these events feeling richer-not in money or material terms but in the joy of giving.

### **The Power of Collective Kindness**

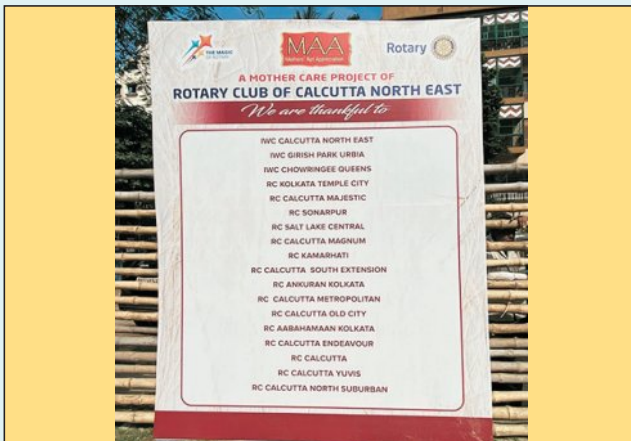
The MAA Project isn't a one-man show. It's a symphony of kindness played by many hands and hearts. Coming together are the Rotary Club members, sponsors, and volunteers; united by one goal: to make a difference. It's a reminder of the fact that when communities come together, they have the power to transform lives.

The event itself is just a sight to behold. Picture a venue alive with the hum of conversation, laughter, and the warm glow of human connection. Widowed mothers come not as charity but as the guests of honour. They share stories, some laughter, and perhaps even some tears. It's a day that makes the world seem a little less lonely.

### **By Rtn Suchana Mazumdar**



## KITS OF HOPE AND DRAPED IN LOVE- HOW MAA TURNS ...



## THE RIPPLE EFFECT OF COLOURS, CRAFTS, AND COMPASSION- A SHINING DAY OF PLC'S YOUNG TALENTS THROUGH CREATIVITY

On a bright and cheerful Sunday, 10th November 2024, the Rotary Club of Calcutta Metropolitan (RCCM) hosted a memorable art and crafts competition at PACE Learning Centre (PLC) in Piyali. The event, sponsored by Rtn. Narendra Berlia in loving memory of his late father, was a celebration of young talent, creativity, and the simple joys of childhood. And oh, what a day it turned out to be!

### A Day Full of Life and Colors

From the smallest of the small in LKG and the nearly grown children in Class XII, there was vibrancy touching every corner of PLC. With a rainbow of colours, brushes, scissors, and glue, the students went about expressing their creativity. Be it those little hands scribbling rainbows or the elder ones making designs, in all pieces, creativity unfiltered imagination spoke for the children.

It was not just an art competition but more of a festival of creativity. The laughter of children blew the roof off as all their hearts got poured out into what would be their creations. For many, this was a lot more than just a competition. It was a shot to shine, show the world what they could do, and most importantly, have some fun.

### Beyond Art and Crafts: Food, Games, and More

No celebration is complete without food and fun, and the day is no exception, so RCCM served both. The school grounds became a carnival of food and game stalls. Every child received coupons for snacks and games, which made their day even brighter. Smiles on the faces of children as they munched on treats, tried their luck at game stalls, and freely laughed with their friends told the story best.

It warmed his heart to see children from different backgrounds coming together, united by the universal language of joy. In a world that often divides, this event stood as a beautiful reminder of how simple acts of kindness and creativity can bring people together.

### The Importance of Art in a Child's Life

Why art and crafts, you may wonder? Well, let's start with the fact that art is much more than just fun-it's a gateway to a child's emotional and intellectual growth. When a child picks up a crayon or pastel or a brush, they aren't just creating pretty pictures; they're expressing themselves, solving problems, and building confidence.

Art helps children develop fine motor skills, enhances their ability to think critically, and allows them to explore their emotions in a safe and nurturing environment. For many of these children at Piyali, who might not always have access to such platforms, this competition was an invaluable opportunity to learn and grow.

For RCCM, organizing this event was about more than just hosting a fun day. It was about investing in the future of these children, showing them that their creativity matters, and that their voices-whether spoken or drawn-deserve to be heard.

### A Thoughtful Gesture of Love

The event was made even more special by the heartfelt dedication of Rtn. Narendra Berlia, who sponsored it in memory of his late father. What better way to honour a loved one than by lighting up the lives of young, eager children? It was a beautiful gesture that added depth and meaning to the day's celebrations.



## THE RIPPLE EFFECT OF COLOURS, CRAFTS, AND COMPASSION ...

The RCCM members present-President Sashi Dhacholia, PP Rtn. Harsh V Rungta, VP Rtn. Runjhun Gupta, and of course, Rtn. Narendra Berlia-were not just organizers; they were cheerleaders, mentors, and friends to the children. Their presence and encouragement made the event all the more memorable.

### Careful Consideration for Deserving Winners

Selecting winners in a competition like this was no easy task. With so much talent on display, the judges took their time, ensuring that the most deserving students were recognized. The prize distribution ceremony, held on 3rd December 2024 at PLC, was the cherry on top. Watching the beaming faces of the winners as they received their awards was a moment of pure joy.

But let's be honest-every single child who participated was a winner that day. Because in art, it's not about winning or losing; it's about expressing yourself, exploring your potential, and enjoying the journey.

### A Community That Cares

What stood out the most about this event was the sense of community. It wasn't just about the children; it was

about everyone coming together-the students, teachers, RCCM members, and even the local community. Events like these remind us of the power of collective effort and how, when people come together with love and purpose, magical things happen.

### Looking Ahead with Hope

At the close of that day, everyone felt fulfilled. The children would leave with glad hearts, brimming over with inspiration. RCCM members would leave satisfied that they made a difference. The memory of that day, vibrant, will stay with whoever was part of it.

For the children at Piyali, this was not just a fun-filled day but also a giant whisper that their creativity and dreams count and there are people out there taking note of that. It may sound childish, but this very art and craft carries deep impacts. It nurtures young minds and sparks confidence, plus some life skills. For the children at Piyali, it becomes an event that lights up hope. A day of laughter, creation, and plain being themselves.

By Rtn Suchana Mazumdar

## ART AND CRAFT COMPETITION AWARD CEREMONY AT PLC

The award ceremony for the Art and Craft Competition, held on 10th November 2024, took place on 3rd December 2024 at the PACE Learning Centre auditorium. Students from LKG to XII enthusiastically participated in the competition and were eagerly awaiting the result.

The event was a grand success, with the winners being awarded art and craft kits by our esteemed guests and teachers. It was a challenge for all of us to select the winners because all the participants proved their excellence in drawing or making crafts.

The ceremony was graced by the presence of RCCM President Rtn. Sashi Dhacholia, Vice President Runjhun Gupta, and Rtn. Narendra Berlia, the sponsor of the whole event. The parents of the award winners were also in attendance, beaming with pride. The excitement and joy in the auditorium were palpable as the winners received their

awards. The audience erupted in applause, congratulating the talented students on their achievements.

The ceremony concluded with a special gesture, as we collectively wished RCCM President Rtn. Sashi sir a belated happy birthday. In celebration, he generously distributed Cadbury and chocolates to all the staff members and students.

The event was a resounding success, and we extend our gratitude to our esteemed guests, parents, and students for making it a memorable occasion. Our special thanks to Rtn. Narender Barlia for giving our students scope to showcase their talent once again and sponsoring the whole event in loving memory of his late father.

By Mahashweta Maity

Vice Principal, PACE Learning Centre





THE RIPPLE EFFECT OF COLOURS, CRAFTS, AND COMPASSION ...





THE RIPPLE EFFECT OF COLOURS, CRAFTS, AND COMPASSION ...



## SILENT YET LOUD: PLC'S SKIT AWAKENS SOCIETY TO THE CURSE OF CHILD LABOUR

On a chilly December evening, under the luminous skies of the Piyali Rash Fairground, a group of young crusaders from PACE Learning Centre (PLC) took the stage to deliver a message that warmed hearts and stirred minds. These were not just students but messengers of change, weaving a powerful story without uttering a single word. Their mime performance, themed "Child Labour," was not only a display of talent but also a profound call for action to end a social evil that robs millions of children of their innocence and potential.

### **Child Labour: The Silent Struggle**

Child labour is a life in bondage for the children of poverty and misery. Most children do not draw with a pencil and book but instead are forced to work with bricks. They also clean dishes or work in shops producing items. At an age when those hands should be building a future in light of that glare, they are instead utilized for work hardly worth mentioning. There is a story for every child labourer. A story of dreams shattered, childhood lost, and somehow making it through in a world that usually prefers not to notice.

Their struggles are more than physical. They must face the emotional scars and lose years of what should be the simple joys of life-school, play, and friendships developed at a young age. Yet, some few of them do keep that tug of hope inside, looking out at the lives of other children, lives full of books, laughter, and promise.

### **Why PLC Chose to Highlight Child Labour**

PACE Learning Centre has always been more than a school; it is a sanctuary where education meets empowerment. With a noble mission to fight against child labour, PLC has taken several initiatives to spread awareness and provide quality education to underprivileged children. The mime was one such initiative—designed not just to entertain but to enlighten.

The choice of a mime was deliberate. In its silence, the performance spoke volumes, transcending barriers of language and literacy. Through this art form, PLC aimed to connect with every member of the audience, urging them to reflect on the plight of child labourers and the transformative power of education.

### **The Performance: A Story Told Without Words**

As the clock struck 5:30 PM, the crowd at the Piyali Rash Fairground hushed in anticipation. Dressed in simple, expressive costumes, the PLC students took the stage. The act began with a depiction of children joyfully heading to school. But the mood quickly shifted as shadows of exploitation loomed over the scene. The performers portrayed children being dragged away from their classrooms and forced into labour. Each movement, expression, and gesture was charged with emotion, leaving the audience spellbound.

The mime moved on to a moment of hope. One child, in reality the personification of the collective struggle, broke free from clutches of labour and returned to school. With the support of some kind-hearted individuals - teachers, social workers, and members of the community - the child found his path to empowerment

through education. It ended with a powerful tableau, children holding books high, their faces lit with determination.

It was loud and clear; education is not merely a right but a key to breaking the cycle of poverty and exploitation. For every child rescued from the shackling horrors of labor, a step nearer society treads toward justice and equality.

### **A Round of Applause for the Stars**

The brave PLC girls who performed the mime deserve more than applause; they deserve heartfelt gratitude. Their courage and dedication were evident in every gesture. They didn't just act; they lived the story, bringing tears to the eyes of many in the audience. Their performance was a testament to the transformative power of education, not just for the individual but for society as a whole.

A special thank you goes to Ms. Mahashweta Maity, Vice Principal of PLC, and the teachers who mentored these students. Their guidance and belief in the cause made this performance possible. It was not just a skit; it was a movement, a moment of reckoning for everyone present.

### **Why Education Matters**

PLC's motto, "Fighting Child Labour through Education and Empowerment," is more than words—it's a lifeline for many children. Education is not just about learning to read and write; it is about nurturing the mind, building confidence, and opening doors to opportunities that were once thought unattainable. It is a blissful journey of brain nurturing that transforms lives, one child at a time.

Through this mime, PLC reminded us all of our collective responsibility. Every child saved from labour and given the gift of education is a victory for humanity.

### **A Message to the World**

What happened at Piyali Rash Fairground can no longer be called a performance. It was a reflection of the failures of the society, and at the same time, an expression of its hopes. It called for every person in that audience to play their part in ending the menace that is child labor. You can support organizations such as PLC, push for stricter laws, or just talk about this cause and spread as much information as you can.

At the end of the performance, the audience obviously applauded. Yet more important indicators of success were the conversations it provoked, the changed minds it left in its wake. And the hearts it touched. The PLC students had not just entertained; they had inspired.

To these young champions, thank you. Thank you for reminding us how powerful art is, how important education is and how much untold potential children have, especially when they have the chance to shine. You are not just performers; you are pioneers who light the way to a better, brighter future.

**By Rtn Suchana Mazumdar**



## PACE LEARNING CENTRE INTERACT CLUB STUDENTS SHINE AT RASH FESTIVAL VILLAGE FAIR

On 3rd December, 2024, the Interact Club students of PACE Learning Centre made a remarkable impact at the village fair of Rash Festival in Piyali, South 24 Parganas. This iconic fair attracts visitors from far and wide, providing an ideal platform for our students to engage with the community.

True to our school's motto of developing the community and society, our students addressed the pressing issue of child labour through a powerful mime act. The performance, led by Class XI and XII students, effectively conveyed the importance of education in combating this ongoing issue and reinforce our school's noble motto of fighting against child labour through education and empowerment to the enthralled audience. The event began with a captivating dance performance by UKG student Aksara Halder, which touched the hearts of all present. Our martial arts teacher and students added flavour to the event with an impressive karate demonstration.

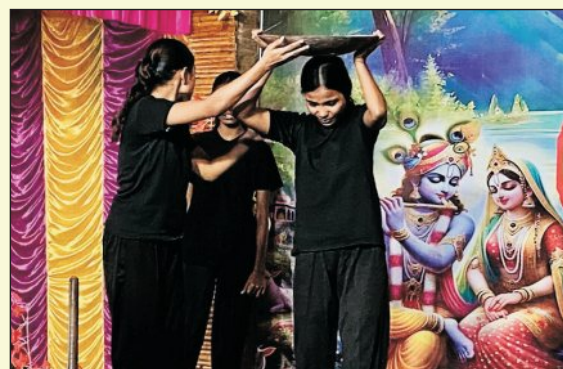
The audience, comprising parents and students, appreciated the performances with thunderous

applause. We were honoured by the presence of esteemed guests, including RCCM President Rtn. Sashi Dhacholia, Vice President Rtn. Runjhun Gupta, Rtn Narender Berlia, Rtn. Suchana Majumder. The fair organizers warmly welcomed the respected guests, our teacher coordinator, Sweta Patra, senior most teacher Asim kumar Ray and myself with a commemorative memento as a token of appreciation and respect.

As a token of appreciation, participants received food packets. The entire teaching and non-teaching staff of our school joined in, making the event a memorable experience. Students enjoyed the fair rides and savoured local delicacies. This outreach programme not only promoted community engagement but also instilled a sense of social responsibility among our students. We look forward to many more such initiatives.

**Mahashweta Maity**

Vice Principal, PACE Learning Centre





PACE LEARNING CENTRE INTERACT CLUB STUDENTS SHINE AT RASH FESTIVAL VILLAGE FAIR





## TAARE ZAMEEN PAR CARNIVAL AT HERITAGE SCHOOL ON 30TH NOV 2024

'Taare Zameen Par', an annual event with organisations coming together, where Round table members take care of the entire event with Heritage Institute being the venue partners, supported by various organisations like Rotary, Mahavir Seva Sadan, NGO's helping orphanages, who bring the children to help them get an opportunity to express through art competition set in an environment of a carnival giving them the added experience of all the fun through rides, popcorn, candy along with live music and dancing.

This year it was our privilege with our Metropolitan, Rtn Pradip Agarwal, CEO of Heritage Institute inviting RCCM along with the students of PLC to participate. Age criteria for participation is students between 4th and 8th standard. Rtn PK Agarwal and team at Heritage extended further support by sending school buses to pick and drop the students from Piyali station. Totally 80 girls along with 12 teachers were picked at 7 in the morning and reached the venue at 9am. Few experienced motion sicknesses, others slept, but once they got down from the buses, their smiles reached their eyes which were not sleepy anymore, but sparkling with excitement, enough to add to our energies.

The children were given a kit comprising of drawing book, pencil pouch, colours, some munchies to sustain through the competition. The venue was filled with balloons, coloured stalls selling popcorn, candies, and balloon slides. There were volunteers dressed as cartoon characters, dancing and jumping around to entertain the crowd. They caught the attention of all our PLC teachers and Vice-Principal, who had their share of fun posing with these characters while the students were busy with their creativity.

A formal inauguration to the event was done with organizers from Round table felicitating CEO Heritage, Rtn Pradip Agarwal for his support along with actress Payal Mukherjee amongst many others supporting the cause, who were present for same. Rtn Pradip graciously included President Rtn Sashi Dhacholia and yours truly Vice-President Rtn Runjhun Gupta representing RCCM in the acknowledgement.

After the drawings were submitted, there was live dancing with DJ to give jury the time to decide the winners. This was the time the children, teachers and us danced to our heart's content on our favourite songs like no one was watching.

Finally, results were announced and it was a thrilling moment to hear the name Anamika Bayen, LKG, PLC as the winner in 3rd place. Anamika was not too happy being third, but promised to be first next time. Rtn Nabanita Sen and her daughter Rwitika Sen came in time to join in the victory celebrations.

The students and teachers went to explore the food stalls and for us Rtn Pradip Agarwal organised a treat of exploring the recently upgraded Media Centre, led by Arvind Srivastav from team Heritage. Media centre at Heritage Institute, is brilliantly set up to help students gain complete hands-on experience from shooting podcasts, anchoring news to labs to complete video edits along with dubbing studios with equipped dressing rooms.

After the impressive tour it was time to get the students and teachers back to the buses with lunch packets and water bottles supported by Colonel Amitav from team Heritage. One thing that warmed our hearts and made us hold our head high was the discipline with which the students and teachers conducted themselves.

We missed other Metropolitan, especially PP Rtn Jayanta Chatterji who could not be there in person as he is advised rest post his injury, but he remained involved in the backend ensuring it all went smooth. Thank you, Rtn Jayanta Chatterji, for your faith in me to lead PLC team through this activity. Thank you again Rtn Pradip Agarwal and team Heritage for making us feel so special. President Rtn Sashi Dhacholia and myself are grateful for all the care taken for us, including our lunch, as we headed out with both stomach and heart filled with gratitude for doing our bit in making a difference in the hearts of these little stars, our Taare Zameen Par from PLC, who we believe are the shining stars in the making...!!!

**By Rtn Runjhun Gupta**



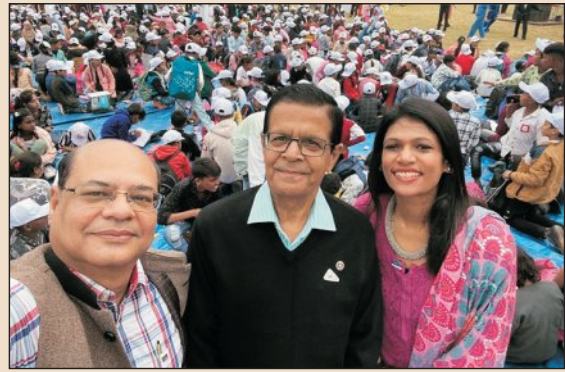


TAARE ZAMEEN PAR CARNIVAL AT HERITAGE SCHOOL ON 30TH NOV 2024





**TAARE ZAMEEN PAR CARNIVAL AT HERITAGE SCHOOL ON 30TH NOV 2024**



**DISTRIBUTION OF DRY RATION AT NABADIGANTA LEPROSY COLONY, DURGAPUR ON 26.11.2024**





## SEMINAR ON THE ROTARY FOUNDATION & GRANTS ON 23.11.2024

Two senior Past Presidents PP Rtn Jayanta Chatterji and PP Rtn Dr Naresh Goyal of Rotary Club of Calcutta Metropolitan volunteered to talk of TRF and the Grants.

PP Rtn Dr Naresh Goyal spoke on "Community Need Assessment" (CNA) and Sustainability related to while applying for the Grants. One should assess whether the community needs it or not and whether the project will benefit in coming year also. TRF is very particular about these two aspects. He highlighted it was equally important to maintain stewardship and do the projects following the guidelines as described without any deviation. Right ownerships for projects is the key reason for projects being sustainable.

PP Rtn Jayanta Chatterji apprised the members on 'International Grants', detailing the requirements like "Finding & Retaining the International Partners" in his presentation. The International partners should be regularly updated about the projects under Grant. You can find International Partners in RI website, Action groups and through personal contacts. RI Convention is the best place to locate International Partners and build fruitful relationships.

The above session was very informative and educative, as both quoted examples from their experience based on the roles they played in the district.

**By Rtn Runjhun Gupta**





## SEMINAR ON THE ROTARY FOUNDATION & GRANTS ON 23.11.2024



## SAMAGAM-2 ON 1.12.2024

The 2nd President, Secretary, Assistant Governor, Zonal Secretary and Team for RY-2024-2025 was held on 1.12.2024 to outline about the forthcoming DGND and NCM elections, District and Rotary News Trust dues etc. DG along with Ballot Committee informed that this year for DGND election, there will be observer to be appointed by RI Director, whose name will be known only on the day of election i.e. 3.1.2025. Any Club who is having more than 1 vote, will be given multiple ballot paper duly stapled. There will be no name, serial number etc. In other words, there will be identification of the Club. Those who are having more than 1 vote cannot vote for different candidates, it has to be one candidate otherwise it will be rejected.

Further, DG informed that more than 60 Clubs are yet to pay the district dues as well as Rotary News Trust, they are requested to pay and their payment should be reflected on or before 10.12.2024. DG also informed about forthcoming

District projects. He also requested to register in large numbers as well as sponsorship for the District Conference.





## SAMAGAM-2 ON 1.12.2024



## REPORT ON ROTARY FOUNDATION SEMINAR BY RI DISTRICT 3291, 24TH NOV 2024

Rotary Foundation seminar, held on 24th Nov 2024 at International Management Institute was held with the DG AKS Dr Krishnendu Gupta, highlighting the purpose of the foundation and why it is important to give to the foundation and how it helps the district in becoming self sufficient to support bigger projects and causes.

DRFC PDG Sudip Mukherjee gave an outline of the current scenario of District 3291 in terms of the collection and where we stood with respect to the targets set in the beginning of the term. PP Binod Khaitan gave a brief, to the point guidelines of the Rotary Grants and how to identify the need-based projects and relate it to area of focus as coined by Rotary.

EPNC PDG Uttam Ganguli spoke about the final stretch of the Polio plus and urged the need to create awareness to ensure we all come together to eradicate it from the world. AKS Sourabh Khemani, who got a special recognition as one of the top most donors of the district shared his journey of reaching that recognition and the bigger fulfilment in making a difference in the society and community for the needy through the platform of Rotary.

PDG Angsuman Bandyopadhyay gave a detailed insights into the various levels of recognition and annual fund.

Special invitee, PP Shakuntala Raha, The Rotary foundation head, RISAO, New Delhi explained the 'Endowment fund', further detailing major gifts and recognitions applicable across the globe, along with Major gifts officer, RISAO, New Delhi, Tapojay Mukherjee, who threw light on how CSR from corporate companies can be planned and utilized for Rotary projects.

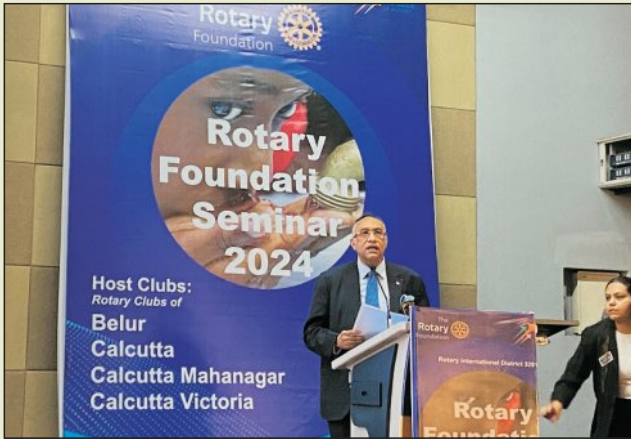
RID Anirudha Roy Chowdhury gave his keynote, compiling the key pointers of the speakers and the importance of giving irrespective of the size and sector. DGE Dr Ramendu Homchaudhuri, gave a crisp vote of thanks with the message that we had all the required information and enough reasons to contribute. The evening ended with the recognition of the highest contributors.

It was a matter of pride to see Rtn Rajshree Jain, along with PP Rtn Dr Naresh Goyal invited for recognition for their contributions amongst the other givers from district, as President Rtn Sashi Dhacholia and yours truly, VP Runjhun Gupta cheered clapping loudly in the crowd, with a dream to see more Metropolitans on stage, creating a bigger impact in the world.

**By Rtn Runjhun Gupta**



## REPORT ON ROTARY FOUNDATION SEMINAR BY RI DISTRICT 3291, 24TH NOV 2024



## REPORT ON ANMOL SHOISHAB ON POSCO, CHILD RIGHTS & CHILD PROTECTION

Rotary Club of Calcutta Metropolitan co-hosted the initiative led by Rotary Club of New Ballygunge in collaboration with Rotary International District 3291 and District Interact Council on Saturday 30th Nov 2024 at Kalakunj, Kolkata on Anmol Shoishab on POSCO, Child Rights and Child Protection.

An awareness on POSCO, child rights and child protection, was created through a conclave and panel discussion, titled 'Child Safety first.' The event had a melodious start with a beautiful rendition by interact students.

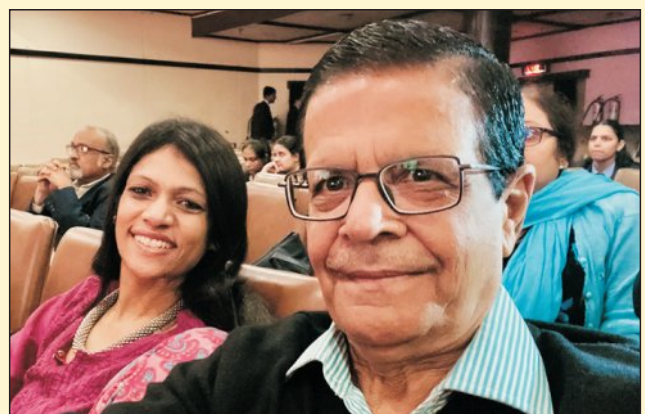
Opening remarks reiterating need for the subject were given by Past RI President Rtn Shekhar Mehta and DG AKS Dr Krishnendu Gupta. Discussion was moderated by President of RC of New Ballygunge Rtn Satya Gopal Dey with the esteem panel comprising of Dr Bipasha

Roy, Lawyer, Member of WB Task Force for Anti Trafficking, Anindita B Tamta, Chairperson, CWC, Madhumita Halder, Representative DCRT of Govt of WB, Soven Banerjee, DCP, Kolkata Police and Anwesh Bandyopadhyay, Asst Editor, EI Samay, .

'Amol Shoishab', meaning clean and healthy childhood, free from trauma, torture and pain, is only possible when children are made aware and educated about their rights to be able to speak up, share and take the right actions to defend themselves when the need arises.

It was an honour for President Rtn Sashi Dhacholia and myself, VP Rtn Runjhun Gupta to represent RCCM and collect the certificate of appreciation for our contribution to the cause from DG Dr Krishnendu Gupta.

**By Rtn Runjhun Gupta**





## REPORT ON ANMOL SHOISHAB ON POSCO, CHILD RIGHTS & CHILD PROTECTION



### \*AN ADVISORY ON CYBER CRIME\*

1. If you are called about how the TRAI is going to disconnect your phone, do not respond. It is a scam.
2. If you are called by FedEx about a package and asked to press 1 or whatever, do not respond. It is a scam.
3. If a police officer calls you and talks to you about your Aadhaar, do not respond. It is a scam.
4. If they tell you that you are under 'digital arrest', do not respond. It is a scam.
5. If they tell you that drugs have been discovered in some package meant for you or sent by you, do not respond. It is a scam.
6. If they say you can't tell anyone, do not listen to them. Inform Cyber Crime Police at 1930.
7. If they contact you using WhatsApp or SMS, do not respond. It is a scam.
8. If anyone calls you and tells you they have sent money to your UPI id by mistake and that they just want their money back, do not respond. It is a scam.
9. If someone says they want to buy your car or your washing machine or your sofa and say they are from the army or CRPF and show you their id card, do not respond. It is a scam.
10. If someone says they are calling from Swiggy or Zomato and need you to confirm your address by pressing 1 or anything else, do not respond. It is a scam.
11. If they ask you to share OTP just to cancel the order or ride or whatever, do not respond. It is a scam. In any case, do not share your OTP with anyone over phone.
12. Never answer any calls on video mode.
13. If confused simply switch off your phone & block that number.
14. Never press on any link written in blue.
15. Even if you get a notice from the highest Police, CBI, ED, IT Department; do verify offline.
16. Always check if such letters are from authorized Government portals .

\*As a matter of digital hygiene, do NOT share your address, location, phone, Aadhaar, PAN, DoB, or ANY personal detail with ANYONE over phone or messages. In fact, refuse even to acknowledge your own name on a call. Tell them that since they called you, they are supposed to know your name, number, and whatever detail they wish you to 'confirm'. Even if they have your details, do not confirm or deny or get caught up in any conversation. Simply disconnect and block.\*

In every one of these cases, and similar ones, the procedure to safeguard yourself is simple: cut the call, note the number and block. Do not press any numbers during call, don't listen to them. Simply cut the call, block the number. Remember, if they are putting pressure on you, intimidating you, or forcing you to act or respond immediately, it is a scam.

Cyber fraudsters are coming out with different modus operandi to trap & fleece you.





**Stephanie A. Urchick**  
**RI President 2024-25**

To adapt, as laid out in Rotary's Action Plan, we must occasionally step out of our comfort zone and try something new. Here are two examples of clubs that adapted - one with heart and one through critical thinking and strategy.

The Rotary Club of Chandigarh Mid Town, India, led with heart earlier this year. To engage members and grow membership, Club President Nitin Kapur personally called every former member of the club and invited them to a gathering billed as an alumni meetup.

Eight former members attended, and the results were stupendous. The visitors had a chance to connect once more - not only with current members but with the sense of camaraderie and belonging that membership gave them. By the end of the evening, the club welcomed six of the former members back into the Rotary family.

Club President Kapur showed courage when he reached out to the alumni. Not only did he adapt and try something new but he had the strength of character to show the club's alumni how much they still meant to the family of Rotary. That bravery paid off.

People want to feel needed and appreciated. People want to feel that they belong. And they might never feel that way if we don't have the courage to tell them.

Meanwhile, the Rotary Club of Seoul-Hansoo, Korea, has been experimenting with different club models to great effect. Over the past four years, Seoul-Hansoo has created and maintained four satellite clubs - a service club, an interest-based club for musicians, a cause-based club that mentors professionals, and a club for college students.

These satellite clubs are part of a five-year plan the Seoul-Hansoo club implemented to increase membership through innovation.

What's the secret to founding and maintaining so many satellite clubs? Membership between Seoul-Hansoo and its satellite clubs is fluid and synergistic. Many members of the satellite clubs attend the sponsor club's meetings. And many of the sponsor club's members participate in the satellite clubs.

Additionally, the focus of each satellite club is no accident. Each one appeals to different interests of people in the sponsor club and in the community, attracting existing and potential members. This is an excellent strategy to both retain and attract members because it offers flexibility. If someone is interested in joining but they can't make it to the sponsor club's meetings, they have plenty of options to choose from.

These are just two examples of how we can adapt with our hearts and minds. Every club is different, so I encourage you to reach out to members of your club and of the community around you. Ask them about the club experience and what you can do to improve.

Talk to enough people and you might find ways that you can adapt and spark The Magic of Rotary in your club.





**Mark Daniel Maloney**  
**Trustee Chair 2024-25**

December is a time for generosity and reflection when we think not only about our loved ones but about how we can make a difference in the world.

This year, consider giving a gift with an enduring impact, one that extends beyond these holidays, lasting for generations. Gifts to The Rotary Foundation Endowment are extraordinary gifts that create extraordinary change.

By supporting Rotary's Endowment, you help ensure that RI will have the resources it needs to develop and implement sustainable projects today and, in the years, to come. Members who include the Endowment in estate plans or make an outright gift support that mission.

Imagine your gift helping to fund the drop of vaccine that prevents the last case of polio, eradicating this devastating disease once and for all. Picture it supporting other health initiatives in 2034, 2044, and beyond.

If you make an outright gift today, you will have the opportunity to witness your support in action, working through clean water projects, literacy initiatives, and economic development efforts. These Rotary Foundation-funded projects touch lives across the globe, bringing hope to individuals you may never meet, but who will know you through your generosity.

Past President Arch C. Klumph, who first proposed an endowment more than 100 years ago, would be amazed not only at the opportunities Rotary has to help today but also at the future possibilities Rotary's Endowment provides.

However, our Endowment is only strong when we all support it. Because it is essential to our success, we have set an ambitious goal: to build our Endowment to \$2.025 billion in net assets and commitments by 30 June 2025. This goal is not just a number; it is a reaffirmation of our belief in Rotary's enduring ability to do good in the world. A fully funded \$2 billion endowment will provide more than \$100 million year after year for Rotary Foundation activities.

I have asked district governors and club presidents to lead by example before the year's end, but each of us has an opportunity to secure Rotary's legacy of service. Please join Gay and me in planning your estate or outright gift today.

Remember, this is no ordinary gift. Your generosity will provide a legacy for future generations to find solutions in the areas we care about, while creating a ripple of positive change that extends far beyond our lifetimes. What better gift could there be?



## NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the 39th Annual Meeting of Rotary Club of Calcutta Metropolitan for 2023-2024 will be held on Saturday, the 28th December 2024 at The Conclave, 217 A J C Bose Road, Kolkata-700 017 at 2.00 PM, to transact the following business:

### Meeting Agenda

1. To adopt the minutes of Annual Meeting held on 30.12.2023 as attached.
2. To adopt the Club accounts for FY 2023-2024 as attached.
3. To adopt the Trust accounts for FY 2023-2024 as attached
4. To appoint the Auditor for FY 2025-2026
5. To consider and elect the Board of Directors of RCCM for the Rotary Year 2025-2026.
6. To consider and select Sergeant-at-Arms and Editor.
7. To consider any other matter as may be brought in accordance with the club rules.

**Note:** The Statement of Accounts as on 31.3.2024 of the Club and Trust are attached herewith

By Order of the Board  
Rotary Club of Calcutta Metropolitan  
Rajiv Tibrewal  
Hony. Secretary

Dated: 1st December, 2024

## NOTIFICATION

Members desirous of serving on the Board of Directors for the year 2025-2026 are requested to file their nominations in prescribed forms available with the undersigned by 5 p.m. of 20th December, 2024 at the Club's registered office at C/o. Radiant Advertising & Marketing (I) Pvt. Ltd., Ganga Jamuna Apartments, 28/1, Shakespeare Sarani, Kolkata-700017. The last day for withdrawal of nominations is 24th December, 2024 by 5 p.m.

By Order of the Board of RCCM, Kolkata.  
(Rajiv Tibrewal)  
Hony. Secretary  
Dated: 1st December, 2024

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### CLUB

- 13.12.2024 to 15.12.2024** RYLA at Dhyan Ashram, D H Road, Konchowki, P.O. Bishnupur, 24 Parganas South-743 503. We are one of the Host Club. Please join the Inaugural session at 2.30 PM on 13.12.2024
- 19.12.2024** Visit by His Excellency Mr Khalid Hameed Saif Ali Busaidy of Oman to PACE Learning Centre. Metropolitans are requested to join in large numbers
- 28.12.2024** Annual Meeting for RY-2024-2025 and Regular Meeting at The Conclave
- 11.01.2025** Regular Meeting and Vocational Excellence Award Ceremony
- 26.01.2025** Joint Regular Meeting with Mahavir Seva Sadan

### DISTRICT

- 04.01.2025 to 05.01.2025** District Conference at East Side Pavilion, Nicco Park. Registration Fee Rs.6500/-. Request to Metropolitans to register.

## BIRTHDAY GREETINGS



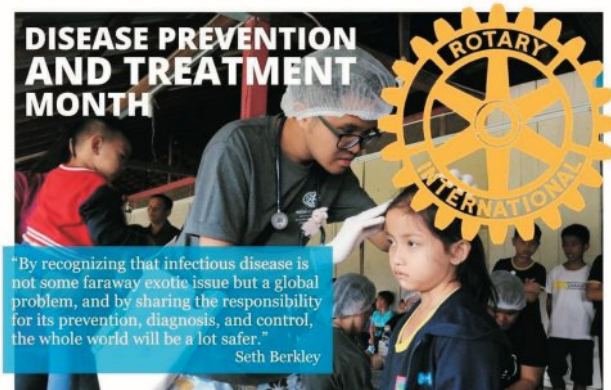
- 16.12.2024** PP Rtn Dr Somen Ghosh  
**19.12.2024** Rtn Vanita Ganguli  
**24.12.2024** Rtn Raju Bharat  
**30.12.2024** Rtn Namrata Bengani  
**01.01.2025** Rtn Suraj Ratan Mundhra

## WEDDING ANNIVERSARY GREETINGS



- 12.01.2025** Rtn Mary D'Cruz and spouse Noel

## DECEMBER



TAKE ACTION: Join Rotary. Be a People of Action



**Sponsored by : A WELL WISHER**

We meet every Saturday at 2.00 pm at The Calcutta Swimming Club, 1, Strand Road, Kolkata-700 001  
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<https://rccalcuttametropolitan.rotaryindia.org>