



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

1684TH REGULAR MEETING

VOL 39, NO. 05

28 September 2024

KNOW YOUR GUEST SPEAKER DR. INDRILA GUHA



Dr. Indrila Guha completed her Ph.D in Economics in the year 2002 from Jadavpur University, Currently she is the Principal of Basanti Devi College, Kolkata and Peer Team Member of NAAC.

She is actively engaged in Research in Environmental Economics. She has completed various research works with National & International

importance: Major research projects under U.G.C., South Asian Network for Development and Environmental Economics (SANDEE) and Asia Pacific Network (APN). Her favourite area of research is Environmental Economics and Quantitative Techniques in Economics.

She has made contribution in more than six books/chapters & Journals with national/international recognition. She has presented papers in various countries: Asia Pacific, U.S.A, Thailand, Arizona, China, Maldives, South Africa, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Canada etc.

She is a member of the State Expert Appraisal Committee (SEAC), West Bengal, constituted through Notification by Gazette of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India.

She is also a Visiting Researcher and Climate SMART (Special Multidisciplinary Applied Research Team), Initiative Member, Global Change Program, Jadavpur University, SANDEE Research Associate (www.sandeeonline.org) & Lead Fellow, COHORT-15 (www.lead.org). Advisory Board member of World research Journal of Biodiversity and Conservation.

She has also made significant contributions in preparing final report of Biodiversity Conservation and Socio-Economic Development of the Sundarbans Area of West Bengal: Non-Lending Technical Assistance (NLTA) Programme and participated in World Bank's Delphi Expert Survey for Amazon Forest Preservation as an Asian Environmental Valuation expert.

More important, she is a member of PACE Learning Centre School Committee.

Recipient of following awards:

- The Distinguished Academic Administrator Award", for her Contributions, Achievements and Excellence in Economics, by Venus International Faculty Awards (VIFA-2016).
- SWAYAM SIDDHA" Award 2017, for vocational excellence of women by Rotary International District 3291 in association with Rotary Club of Calcutta Metro City
- Indo Global Education Excellence Award" by International Benevolent Research Foundation in collaboration with Confederation of Indian Universities, New Delhi, 2017.
- Calcutta University Parul Samman 2017" by the BCW Cell, University of Calcutta.
- Clean Environment Promotion Award 2018" in 2nd World Clean Environment Summit-2018, jointly conducted by International Benevolent Research Foundation (IBRF), Kolkata & Confederation of Indian Universities (CIU), New Delhi; Scientific and Environmental Research Institute (SERI), Kolkata; National Institute of Cleanliness Education and Research (NICER), New Delhi and World Environment Foundation, Kolkata year:2018
- Guru Vishistha Award-2022 by Dayananda Sagar Business School, Bangalore
- Bharat Siksha Ratan Award-2022 in the Higher Education and Research Summit 2022 jointly organised by Confederation of Indian Universities (CIU), New Delhi & International Benevolent Research Foundation (IBRF), year 2022
- Swami Vivekananda Excellence Award by World Achievers Foundation, World Achievers Foundation, year 2023
- In-Res Leadership Excellence Award 2024 by the Institute of Researchers Kalpetta, Wayanad-673121, Kerala.

Topic: "The State of our Planet: Environmental Challenges and possible Solutions"

SEPTEMBER ~ BASIC EDUCATION & LITERACY MONTH

SWIKRITI-SECOND PART OF AWARD FOR RY-2023-2024 ON 8.9.2024

Another round of recognition to the Club by the IPDG Rtn Hiralal Yadav for the RY-2023-2024 on 8.9.2024. Our heartiest congratulations to IPP Rtn Rakesh Kumar Goel and Secretary Rtn Runjhun Gupta for the following recognition for the RY-2023-2024:

1. 3rd prize for Membership in number in the category of 26-50
2. 3rd prize in Membership in percentage in the category of 26-50
3. DG Citation for Outstanding performance in all Five Avenue of Service to create Hope in the World
4. Star-Outstanding Secretary Rtn Runjhun Gupta
5. Outstanding President Rtn Rakesh Kumar Goel



3rd Prize for Membership in Numbers in the Category of 26-50



3rd Prize in Membership in Percentage in the Category of 26-50



DG Citation Award



Star-Outstanding Secretary- Rtn Runjhun Gupta



Outstanding President Rtn Rakesh Kumar Goel



President Rtn Rakesh Kumar Goel felicitated for Outstanding President



Secretary Rtn Runjhun Gupta receiving Award for Star-Outstanding Secretary

DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP SEMINAR ON 31.8.2024

President Rtn Sashi Dhacholia participated in District Membership Seminar on 31.8.2024



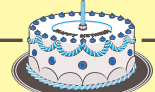
Forthcoming Events

CLUB

- 05.10.2024** Regular Meeting at The Conclave at 2.00 PM
- 26.10.2024** Regular Meeting at The Conclave at 2.00 PM
- 09.11.2024** Regular Meeting at The Conclave at 2.00 PM
- 23.11.2024** Regular Meeting at The Conclave at 2.00 PM

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

- 16.09.2024** Rtn Sunil Kumar
- 01.10.2024** Rtn Arundhati Chatterji
- 05.10.2024** Rtn Nishant Jain



REPORT ON INAGURATION OF SLIT LAMP AT MSS REHABILITATION & RESEARCH CENTER ON 29.8.2024

On 29th August 2024, Rotary Club of Calcutta Metropolitan, along with Inner Wheel Club of Calcutta Metropolitan members, paid a visit to Mahavir Seva Sadan, Joka, on the occasion of the inauguration ceremony of Slit Lamp. MSS Rehabilitation and Research Center is under global grant project no. 0469 from EIRWT.

We reached there at around 11.30 AM, and with our arrival, we were welcomed by Shri Vijay Choraria, President, MSS Rehabilitation and Research Centre, with a vermilion teeka on our forehead. Without first step, beside MSS, we had a feeling of divinity, as if we were entering a temple. MSS has, for the last 39 years, rendered its services to especially abled (partially or completely handicapped) people who cannot afford to get treatments. To those patients, MSS, its management, and doctors are like angels who not only provide limbs to these patients for free but also provide them physiotherapy and mobility training so that they can live their lives normally after having artificial limbs. The MSS centre, which is situated in Ekbalpore, is also having its own artificial limb manufacturing units, where limbs are manufactured with high-end materials and technology. Every year at Mahavir Seva Sadan and Rotary Club of Calcutta Metropolitan celebrates its Republic Day and Independence Day together. For the last 39 years, it has been a ritual of RCCM to celebrate Republic Day and Independence Day at Mahavir Seva Sadan.

MSS Rehabilitation and Research Center is a 105,000-square-foot medical Centre focused on cerebral palsy and patients with varied physical challenges. The Center has fully furnished amenities for patients (cerebral palsy children) and their family members. The Center has specialized cabins and rooms for speech therapy, physiotherapy, and an area for hydrotherapy, along with a classroom where specialized teachers provide training to the kids suffering from this disorder. They are putting immense efforts toward improving their sense organs and sensibilities along with brain development.

MSS Rehabilitation and Research Centre, Joka, is also planning to build a school and hostel for such kids so that they can improve their lives by staying there with better

accessibility and supervision. 90 percent of this project is complete, and by next year operations will be started for the same. We took the tour of the entire Center under the supervision of PP Rtn Dr V K Nevatia, where we saw high-tech diagnostic labs, diagnostic machines, and equipment. The experience was very enriching, and we were all awestruck with the beautiful and meaningful execution of the project. Among diagnostic centers, we also saw a newly installed 3D digital mammography machine, a high-end imported machine that is used to examine the breast for the early detection of cancer and other breast diseases by using the X-ray method. It is used as both a diagnostic and screening tool. This clicked an idea of creating awareness for breast awareness among women in rural areas who don't have access to these services and information.

Last but not least, it was time to inaugurate the Slit Lamp for Eye check-up in MSS Rehabilitation & Research Centre, Joka. RCCM President Rtn Sashi Dhacholia and President of Inner Wheel Club of Calcutta Metropolitan Dr Seema Sethi, MSS President Vijay Choraria and MSS Amit Jain and PP Rtn V K Newatia cut the ribbon and inaugurated the lab. PP Rtn Dr Newatia addressed the audience and extended his heartfelt thanks to RCCM President Rtn Sashi Dhacholia and President Dr Seema Sethi of Inner Wheel Club of Calcutta Metropolitan for their contribution in donating a slit lamp at MSS Rehabilitation & Research Center, Joka. President Vijay Choraria of MSS stated that Mahavir Seva Sadan developed in all these years because of the constant support of the Rotary Club of Calcutta Metropolitan, and this association has been around for 39 long years. This Slit Lamp with latest technology, which can detect minutely everything. In addition, he also stated his clear vision, which is also an integral objective of MSS, that is, "Viklang Mukta Bharat," disability-free India, where the Center is aiming at manufacturing maximum units of artificial limbs and reaching maximum number of such patients, not only in West Bengal but also in other states.

We extend our best wishes to Mahavir Seva Sadan Rehabilitation and Research centre, Joka. May the entire management and team get success and development in future.

By Rtn Poulomi Mullick



Group photo of Inner Wheel & Metropolotans



Ganesh Puja before the Inaguration of Slit Lamp



A view of Slit Lamp



Inaguration of Slit Lamp by the Presidents of RCCM & Inner Wheel

REPORT ON INAGURATION OF SLIT LAMP AT MSS REHABILITATION & RESEARCH CENTER ON 29.8.2024



Metropolitans with Slit Lamp sponsored



Rtn Poulomi Mullick with Slit Lamp



A view of Metropolitans and MSS



Inaguration meeting in progress



President Vijay Choraria of MSS in his address



President Sashi Dhacholia felicitated by Amit Jain of MSS



President Sashi Dhacholia addressing the audience



PP Dr V K Nevatia in his address



Amit Jain of MSS in his address



President of IW Dr Seema Sethi handing over the cheque being their share to President of RCCM

REPORT ON BLOOD DONATION CAMP, "DROP OF HOPE' BY RCCM IN COLLABORATION WITH HERITAGE INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY AND LIONS CLUB ON 30TH AUGUST 2024

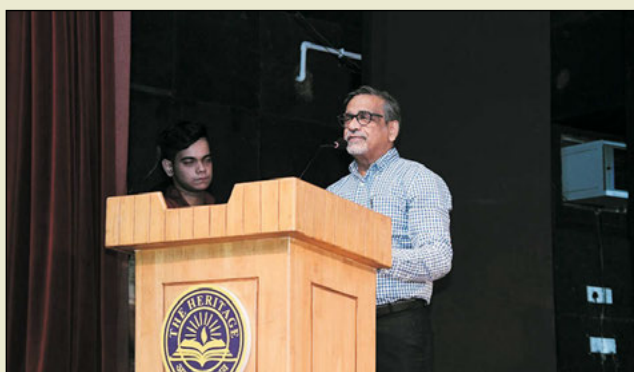
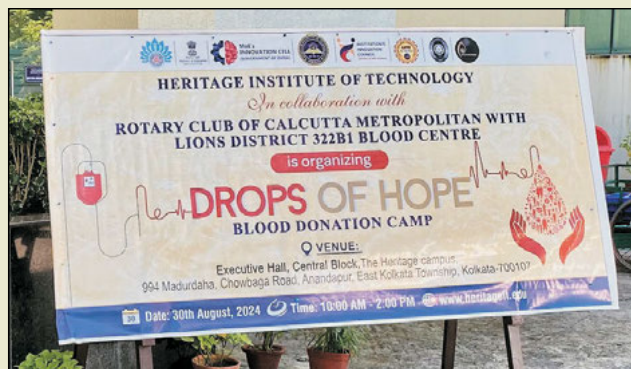
Blood donation camps are those camps where blood is obtained from suitable healthy donors for people of various blood groups who are in need of blood. Many organisations conduct blood donation camps on a regular basis. Many people/patients have conditions like thalassemia, cancer or other life-threatening diseases. These types of diseases often demand blood infusions during the course of treatment. If patients suffering from ailments receive the right type of blood, their lives can be saved.

One fine day, Shri Pradip Kumar Agarwal, CEO of Heritage Group of Institutions and also our member of the Club invited us to hold the Blood Donation Camp in Collaboration with Heritage Institute of Technology. Lions District-322B1 Blood Centre run by Lions Club of North Calcutta readily agreed to provide infrastructure for collecting the blood with proper check-up etc. We are grateful to Rtn Pradip Kumar Agarwal for providing this opportunity. This perhaps first time in the History of the Club, the Blood Donation Camp was being held in such a large scale.

The Blood Donation Camp was held on 30th August, 2024 at the premises of Heritage Institute of Technology. Students were eagerly awaiting to donate the blood. Although we were prepared for 100 donors but the registration went to more than 250, but after proper check-up and lack of time, we could arrange check-up for 137 donors but eventually 127 units were collected from 127 donors as 10 were rejected due to BP, Haemoglobin problem etc. This has taught us one lesson that we should have made the enough preparation so that everyone could have donated the blood.

Before the start of Blood Donation Camp, PP Rtn Dr Naresh Goyal briefed the students because blood donation is necessary and its pros and cons to the large gathering of the student in the college auditorium. A round of applause was given to him. Principal Prof Basab Chaudhuri, Principal of Heritage Institute of Technology addressed the students and the Guests. Rtn Pradip Kumar Agarwal and CEO of Heritage Group of Institutions felicitated the members of Rotary Club of Calcutta Metropolitan namely, President Rtn Sashi Dhacholia, PP Rtn Dr Naresh Goyal, PP Rtn Dr V K Nevatia and PE Rtn Rajshree Jain. Later on, IPP Rtn Rakesh Kumar Goel also joined the camp. We were overwhelmed with the hospitality of the Institution, which was flawless. We are thankful to Shri Arvind Srivastava, Joint Registrar and his team for making all excellent arrangement.

The Institute have been religiously organizing blood donation camps every year and both students and the faculty members come forward voluntarily to donate blood. This is definitely a great gesture from the them to serve the humanity.



BLOOD DONATION CAMP, "DROP OF HOPE' BY RCCM . . .



BLOOD DONATION CAMP, "DROP OF HOPE' BY RCCM . . .



BLOOD DONATION CAMP, "DROP OF HOPE' BY RCCM . . .



POLIO PLUS SOCIETY MEMBERS

We thank the following Metropolitans, who have agreed to contribute USD100 to the Rotary Foundation till the eradication of Polio from the earth every year:

1. PP Rtn Jayanta Chatterji
2. Rtn Arundhati Chatterji
3. PP Rtn Dr Naresh Goyal
4. PP Rtn Utpal Chatterji
5. Rtn Pradip Kumar Agarwal
6. Rtn Madan Mohan Mohanka
7. PP Rtn Dr V K Nevatia
8. Rtn Runjhun Gupta
9. Rtn Pradip Kapoor
10. Rtn Narendra Berlia
11. Rtn Vivek Bajaj
12. Rtn Partha Sarthi Ganguli
13. Rtn Satish Mohan Bansal



REPORT ON INSPIRATIONAL TALK BY DIDI KRISHNA ON "DESIGN YOUR DESTINY" EVENT ON 21ST SEPT 2024

The spirit at Rotary Club of Calcutta Metropolitan is about joining in the good, no matter who is leading it. Rtn Raju Bharat and his spouse Anjana Bharat have been followers of Dada Vasawani, who has roots in the city of joy, Kolkata and it was a privilege to invite Didi Krishna to share her presence and pure views coming back to Kolkata after 15 years of any participation by the Sadhu Vaswani Center, now being headed by Didi Krishna. Hence Rotary Club of Calcutta Metropolitan under the leadership of President Rtn Sashi Dhacholia was the support partner in promoting the inspirational talk by Didi Krishna.

It was such an honour to meet Didi in person for all the members who attended President Rtn Sashi Dhacholia, PP Rtn Harsh Rungta, PP Rtn Maitrayee Ray, Rtn Pradip Agarwal along with his spouse, Rtn Poulomi Dutta, and yours truly as the Vice President of RCCM. We had 40 students and teachers who came from PLC apart from all our personally invited friends, colleagues, and family. Many missed due to their travel but still supported by forwarding the information and invites to as many people as possible. Thank you, PP Rtn Utpal Chatterjee, PP Rtn Jayanta Chatterji for all the help despite your travel.

It was a packed house with the presence of 26 heads of different religious institutions, Churches, Mosques, Temples, Chinese temple, Brahmakumaris,

Ramakrishna Mission demonstrating complete unity in the bringing peace and harmony.

Didi Krishna's topic was 'Design your destiny' and she started by breaking the myth that we are bound by our destiny. She clarified it is our choices that shape our destiny. Whatever we are going through today is the outcome of the choices of yesterday, just like a seed sown and we get those fruits. To create a better tomorrow, we need to make better choices today, we have that power to write our destiny, by taking care of our thoughts, being present in the moments understanding that our breath, our time is most precious possession and working on our strengths to talk, speak and do the right things including making these little disciplines a way of our life. She helped bind this all together with a beautiful meditation of taking us through painting the best picture of our lives on an empty canvas through our words, actions, deeds and using the colours of challenges as contrast to create a deep beautiful picture celebrating the joy of freedom of being a creator of our own destiny for ourselves, our family, our city, our world.

Thank you, Rtn Raju Bharat, for making Metropolitans a part of this wonderful much needed event to bring peace and calm to the city and people of Kolkata during these testing times.

By Rtn Runjhun Gupta



Metropolitans with Students and Teachers from PACE Learning Centre



Students & Teachers attending the talk



Another view of Teachers and Students attending the talk



Auditorium was full

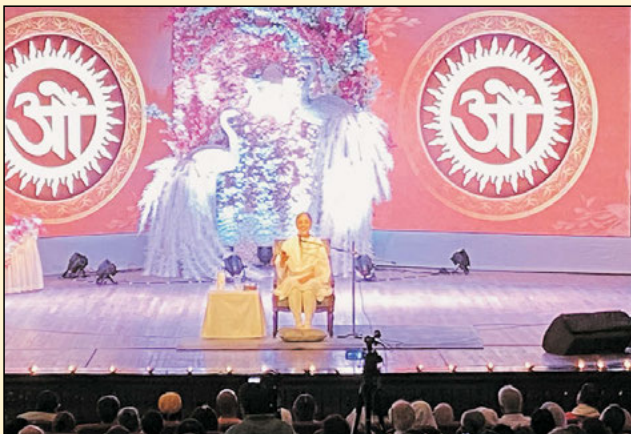
DIDI KRISHNA ON "DESIGN YOUR DESTINY"



Presence of various Faith Heads-laudable



Rtn Raju Bharat in his opening speech



Inspirational talk by Didi Krishna, Head, Sadhu Vaswani Mission



Metropolitans attending the talk

VISIT TO HERIAGE INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY ON 24.7.2024

Visit to Heritage Group of Institutions was a visit to an education institute with a difference, aimed at providing experiential learning for students. A bigger opportunity was accompanying Vice Principal Mahashweta Maity, Chitra Kumari, along with senior students of PACE Learning Centre, Rai Mondal, Bithika Sardar, Rani Bhuiya, Majida Gayen, Laboni Ghosh, Sraboni Ghosh, all needing support and clarity for their future. What a wonderful support provided by the entire team at Heritage with the help of Moushiki from IEEE, General Manager Santosh, Teacher coordinator Madam Rupa and personal presence of CEO, Mr Pradip Kumar Agarwal making all the difference in providing them more than what they needed.

One student needed help with NEET preparation, another 2 needed help with specific study material for sociology. Fourth one needed guidance on opening her own beauty salon and the fifth one needed additional support of job along with her studies. The entire team got together to brainstorm and find solutions for all the above and the additional treat was experiencing the facility, the activity areas, the sports sections, the inclusive dining, all leaving us with the envy, wishing we got to study there.

Thank you, Rtn Pradip Kumar Agarwal, CEO of Heritage Group of Institutions and Metropolitan, a heartfelt

gratitude for the warm welcome and Congratulations for creating this wonderful place of soulful learning creating brightest minds.

By Runjhun Gupta



TEACHERS DAY CELEBRATION AT PACE LEARNING CENTRE ON 5.9.2024

We all know that how teachers play an important role in building us as human being. Right teachings are essential to build our character in early stage, where good teachers presence is must. Every year our Club recognize the teachers of PACE Learning Centre in different ways. Let us go back to history, why Teacher's days are celebrated:

TEACHERS' DAY IS CELEBRATED TO HONOR TEACHERS AND THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO SOCIETY

India

In India, Teachers' Day is celebrated on September 5th to honor the birth anniversary of Dr Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, India's first Vice-President and second President. Radhakrishnan was a scholar, philosopher, and recipient of the Bharat Ratna. His students asked him to celebrate his birthday on September 5th, and he proposed that the day be observed as Teachers' Day instead.

World Teachers' Day

World Teachers' Day is celebrated to recognize the critical role teachers play in education. The theme for World Teachers' Day 2024 is on "Empowering Educators: Strengthening Resilience, Building Sustainability." In these challenging times, teachers have emerged as beacons of resilience, adapting and innovating for their students. World Teachers' Day 2024 is crucial for SDGs.

There is always surprise from the students, what they will present before their teachers. It's well guarded secret and actually everybody is curious to know what they will present.

The following teachers were recognized in various categories:

1. **Teacher of the Year to Ms Sayantee Dasgupta**
2. **The most Regular Teacher of the Year to Ms Soma Dey**
3. **Long Term Service Recognition to Ms Shampa Bairagi D'Rozario**
4. **Long Term Service Recognition to Ms Madhumita Prasad**
5. **Long Term Service Recognition to Ms Mahashweta Maity**
6. **Student Centred Teaching Award to Ms Chitra Kumari**
7. **Interpersonal Skills Excellence Award to Ms Sweta Patra**

REPORT FROM VICE PRINCIPAL- PACE LEARNING CENTRE

The students at our school organized a magnificent program on the birth anniversary of Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, which is celebrated as Teachers' Day on 5th September. The program proved the students' creativity and appreciation for their teachers. The event was kept a top secret from the teachers and turned out to be a resounding surprise, leaving a lasting impression on all attendees.

The stage was beautifully decorated, featuring a colorful structure with wings of fire on either side and space in the middle for the teachers to stand and take photos, symbolizing their guidance and inspiration. The first half of the event included an outstanding cultural program with music and dance performances showcasing the students' talents. The Class XII students organized this program and delivered heart-touching speeches. It made us emotional when they emphasized that it was their last year in school. The teachers wished them good luck with their upcoming board exams scheduled for October. The teachers were engaged in fun games such as musical chairs and Caterpillar trains, adding a playful touch to the celebration. Lunch was served according to the students' preferences, making the day even more special.

During the second half of the program, esteemed RCCM members, including President Rtn Sashi Dhacholia, IPP Rtn Rakesh Kumar Goel, PP Rtn Dr V K Nevatia, PP Rtn Raj Kumar Poddar, Rtn Runjhun Gupta, Rtn Suchana Majumdar and our President & PP Rtn Jayanta Chatterji attended the event. Ms. Dana Roy from the Pickle Factory Dance Foundation and her two associates also graced the occasion. A thought-provoking skit presented by the students highlighted each teacher's speciality. Our Maths teacher, Asim sir demonstrated a science experiment that made our students excited. He also presented books to the best performers of the Independence Day program. The students distributed gifts to all the teachers and respected guests.

The teachers were awarded certificates of recognition and indoor plants from the Rotary Club of Calcutta Metropolitan, acknowledging their contribution and dedication to our school. Ms. Soma Dey was recognized as the Most Regular Teacher, while Ms. Madhumita Prasad, Ms. Shampa D' Rozario, and I were acknowledged as Long-Serving Teachers. Ms. Chitra Kumari was recognized as the Most Student-Centric Teacher, and Ms. Sweta Patra for Excellent Interpersonal Skills. Finally, Sayantee Dasgupta was awarded as the Best Teacher of the Year. We appreciate the management for motivating us and supporting us in every way.

The students' innovative concept and meticulous planning overwhelmed us, making this Teachers' Day celebration an unforgettable experience. Their efforts demonstrated the impact of their teachers' guidance and inspiration, and we are grateful for the dedication and passion of our students and staff.

By Mahashweta Maity
Vice Principal, PACE Learning Centre

TEACHERS DAY CELEBRATION AT PACE LEARNING CENTRE ON 5.9.2024



Students are enjoying the magnificent dance performance by Class XI students



A view of Metropolitans and Guests3



Students replaying the acts of Teachers



Another view of play



Asim presenting award to Eshika Singh for the best performer of the Independence Day program



A view of students who participated in Drama



President Sashi Dhacholia making announcement for Awards to teachers

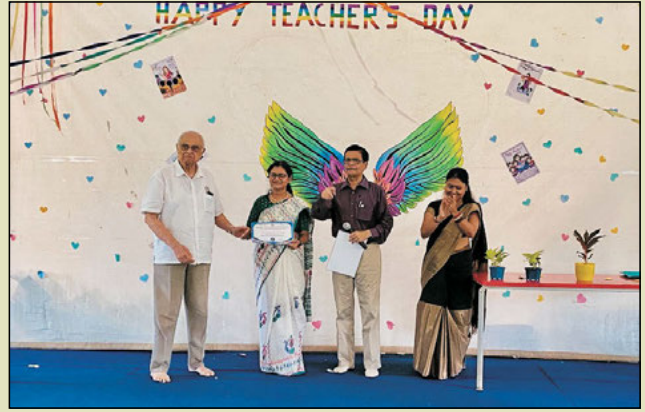


IPP Rakesh Kumar Goel presenting Certificate of Recognition to Madhumita Prasad for the Long Term Service

TEACHERS DAY CELEBRATION AT PACE LEARNING CENTRE ON 5.9.2024



PP Dr V K Nevatia presenting Certificate of Recognition to Soma Dey for The Most Regular Teacher of the Year



PP Jayanta Chatterjia presenting Certificate of Recognition to Mahashweta Maity for Long Term Service Award



PP Raj Kumar Poddar presenting Certificate of Recognition to Shampa Bairagi D' Rozario for Long Term Service Award



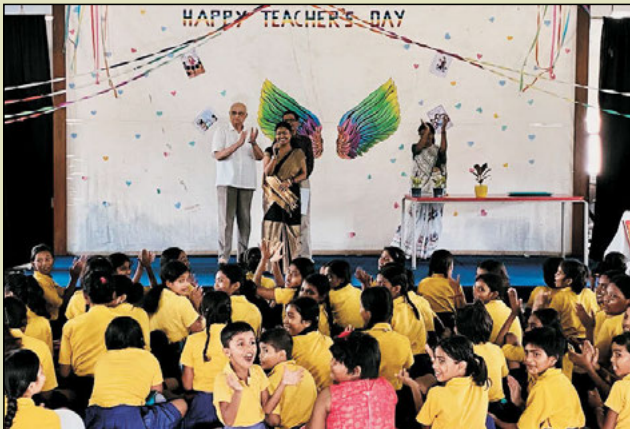
A View of Exciting Teachers



Chitra Kumar being presented with the Recognition for Student-Centered Teaching Award by Dana Roy



PP Jayanta Chatterjia and President Sashi Dhacholia presenting Certificate of Recognition to Sweta Patra for Interpersonal Skill Excellence Award



PP Jayanta Chatterjia addressing the Teachers and Students



President Sashi Dhacholia Goel presenting Certificate of Recognition to Sayantee Dasgupta for the Teacher of the Year

SCIENCE WORKSHOP AT HERITAGE INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, IN ASSOCIATION WITH IEEE ON 12TH SEPT 2024

The subject of science is positioned to be the toughest and there is a bigger element of fear that prevents students for opting for these subjects. Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) are focused on promoting the importance of learning science and making it fun with their innovative kits and tools. We decided to give the students of PLC an exposure of the same by organising a science workshop, 'Combating Climate Change with Technology IEEE hands-on workshop' by Mousiki Kar, at their lab at Heritage institute on 12th September 2024. It was very well organised workshop for the 20 students accompanied by 4 science teachers. Each student was given a kit and taken through various stages of the experiment. The focus was on understanding electricity, circuit diagram and learning the basics of lighting a bulb, a fan, an alarm, and the highlight was creating the traffic light from coding to putting it into practice. The students learnt that even though electricity is a boon for us, but overuse and wasting it is also responsible for the global warming and why the 'switch off' is more important than learning how to 'switch on.'

Most important was the fun element that got developed in them understanding that science can be fun. Expression on the student's faces were priceless as their eyes lit up more brightly than the bulb, their smiles became broader seeing that their created circuits could run traffic lights. Teachers were also involved and they were equally happy to see the entire process. Heartfelt gratitude to Rtn Pradip Agarwal, CEO Heritage Institute of Technology for supporting in organising this, giving the students and teachers opportunity to see the campus, science labs and delicious meal. He came and personally met the students, interacted with them asking their visions and promising whatever support that was possible provided they take up their dreams seriously.

On a lighter note, my challenge was getting the students and teachers out of the workshop as they were happy to continue and both Mousiki and myself knew we had overshot the time and we pushed them for a group picture with the promise to bring this to PLC in more organised way. When we got them back in the bus, their excited voices, laughter beat the traffic noise as they expressed how their perceptions had changed and they were keener to get back and study harder. As we headed out for the next activity, the board of Dr Abdul Kalam Azad was a reminder of his quote that "Dreams are not what you see in your sleep, dreams are those that don't let you sleep," and these students are not going to sleep for nights now wanting to make their dreams come true.

Thank you, PP Rtn Jayanta Chatterji, for the unconditional faith in me in leading this, President Rtn Sashi Dhacholia for all the encouragement, Rtn Pradip Kumar Agarwal, Dr Mousiki Kar and all the Metropolitans for impacting so many lives.

Visiting Heritage School to attend workshop and exhibition on 12.9.24 by Vice Principal, Mahashweta Maity

By Rtn Runjhun Gupta

STUDENTS OF PACE LEARNING CENTRE REACTION TO THEIR VISIT TO HERITAGE INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY ON 12.9.2024

The workshop at the Heritage was a fantastic experience for both the students and the teachers. Later that day, they also visited an exhibition of boutique and handmade products, which doubled their enjoyment. A few students from class VII to class X participated in the science workshop conducted by the Heritage School. Let's review the comments and feedback from some of the attendees.

"Hello! I am **Shilpa Gorai**, PLC Interact Club coordinator and Geography teacher. I had a wonderful time with my students in the last workshop organized at Heritage School. Students enjoyed the day, especially the campus tour and the science workshop. In that workshop, they got exposure to the application of science and technology by doing hands-on activities. Being engaged in the activities they felt inspired and motivated to pursue the science stream in future especially class X. I hope our students will get the opportunity to join more science workshops like this."

"It was a great experience to visit heritage for the workshop. The activities were so interesting and our students also loved it. Moushiki Ma'am explained it so well to our students. She made our students very comfortable which was amazing. Students are interested in going again. We are very grateful to Heritage for inviting us. " - **Suman Ghosh (Science & Maths teacher, PLC)**.

"I would like to let you know that the exhibition that happened on 12th September was an awesome experience and I am really happy to see such wonderful performances. Students got the opportunity to test the science experiment they read in their textbooks through hands-on activities. A student of Class X, Payel says that she had a lot of fun with the current electricity experiment. In the future, they want to learn the coding language. I would especially like to thank Mousiki ma'am for her humble and down-to-earth nature. I will request you to arrange more such workshops in future. Thank you "- **Debika Rej (Chemistry teacher, PLC)**.

"Hello! I, **Gargi Mazumder**, a Biology teacher at PLC, would like to extend special thanks to Professor Mousiki Kar and her team for conducting a magnificent workshop for our students. Activity-based learning is crucial for developing concepts. Our students greatly benefited from the workshop, learning many new things. The school culture is excellent, and the teacher-student bonding within the premises is wonderful. The infrastructure is impressive. I am very grateful to you and PLC for allowing me to visit Heritage. It was truly remarkable."

Rajasree Gharami, a Class VIII student commented, "What a beautiful environment, we saw. We want to participate in such workshops again." **Rani Karmakar**, a Class IX student added "Can't we conduct such a workshop in our school"? **Arpita Barman**, a student of class VII was too excited and said, "I loved the science workshop. I want to go again. I enjoyed the activities where I made the traffic light and also modified it by

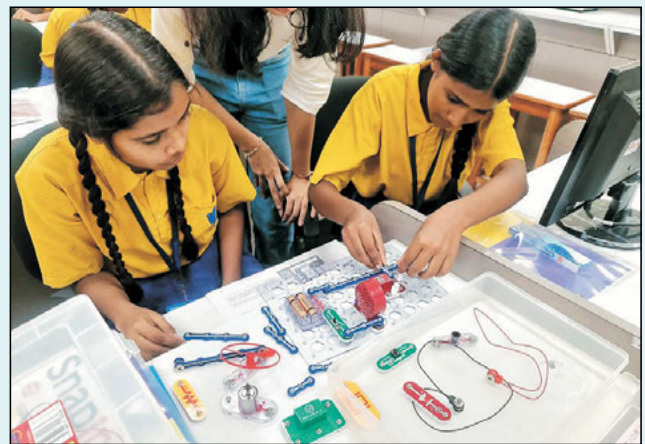
SCIENCE WORKSHOP AT HERITAGE INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY . . .

changing the coding. Thank you for giving me the chance to participate in this workshop."

I would like to express my deepest gratitude to the Rtn Pradip Kumar Agarwal, CEO Heritage Group of Institutions and members and students of the Institute for allowing us to participate in such an innovative workshop. I hope that our students can have more opportunities for this kind of exposure, as it can help them make a positive impact in their community. A special thanks to respected Rtn. Runjhun ma'am for accompanying our students and teachers throughout the day.

By Mahashweta Maity

Vice Principal, PACE Learning Centre



**PLC STUDENTS VISIT EXHIBITION FOR FUTURE PARTICIPATION
BY VP RTN RUNJHUN GUPTA ON 12TH SEPT 2024**

Seeing is believing. Giving them hopes and vision also needs their alignment for the implementation to happen. We had spoken to the students of PLC and the interact teams for curating exhibition to showcase the various products they can learn and make, which can also help in creating a source of income. To train them it was important to help them understand what is possible.

At the same time Rtn Manju Mohanka informed of the 'Shilpgram exhibition' at Jyotirmai Club, suggesting future participation. We decided to use that opportunity and took the students and teachers of PLC for the exhibition and discussed the opportunity of future participation. They came with great ideas on what they

are already gifted with and what they would like to create. Rtn Poulomi Dutta has also come forward with intentions of creating workshops to help them create items that can be used for showcase and selling, which we will be organising in coming weeks post their exams.

Exhibition visit gave the students and teachers further confidence in taking this forward and they were in high spirits to do more out of their lives.

Thank you, PP Rtn Jayanta Chatterji, for the support, President Rtn Sashi Dhacholia and all the Metroropolitans for all the encouragement to these small steps in the right direction.

By Rtn Runjhun Gupta

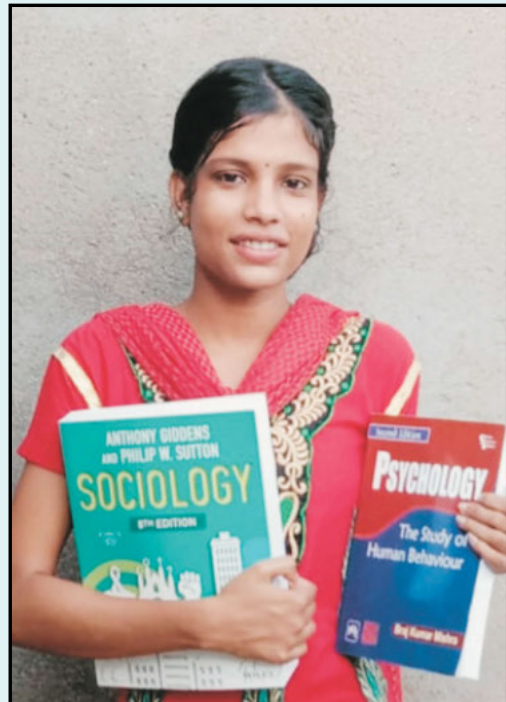


**STUDENTS OF PACE LEARNING CENTRE ARE EXTREMELY GRATEFUL TO
RTN PRADIP KUMAR AGARWAL FOR PROVIDING BOOKS FOR HIGHER STUDIES.
THEY ARE EXPRESSING GRATITUDE TO RTN PRADIP KUMAR AGARWAL**



"Thank you very much for all the books ?? I am ever grateful to you all that you all are by my side for making me more educated and gaining more knowledge for achieving my goals"

- Rani Bhuiya



"Thank you so much for helping me with the books. Thanks a lot to the Heritage Authority and Runjhun ma'am for the same. All of your support always inspires me to do better."

- Majira Gayen

REPORT ON 1ST PRESIDENT, SECRETARY, AG, ZS AND TEAM MEET FOR THE RY-2024-2025-"SAMAGAM"

Due to depression in Bay of Bengal, on 14th September, 2024, rain was pouring like cat and dogs but the excitement for the 1st President, Secretary, AG, ZS and Team meet for the RY-2024-2025 was immense as such Rotarians with District Officials which includes DG AKS Krishnendu Gupta boarded the Luxury Bus for the Hotel Sonar Bangla, Mayapur. An opportunity to meet fellow Rotarians Presidents & Secretaries from various Club of District-3291 during bus journey although some prefer to travel by their own arrangement.

Chief Advisor and Vice-Governor PDG Rtn Pinaki Prasad Ghosh outlined the purpose of this meet and

highlighted various matters. Presentations were made for Community Service Medical & Non-Medical and forthcoming various projects and programme of the district-3291. DG appealed for supporting these projects and programme.

Day-1 was meant for the purpose of meet and fellowships with some excellent singing by few Rotarians, which made the evening lively. Day-2 was meant for the visit to Mayapur

Overall, it was a fruitful meet how to go ahead with various District projects and programme.



Bus journey to Mayapur



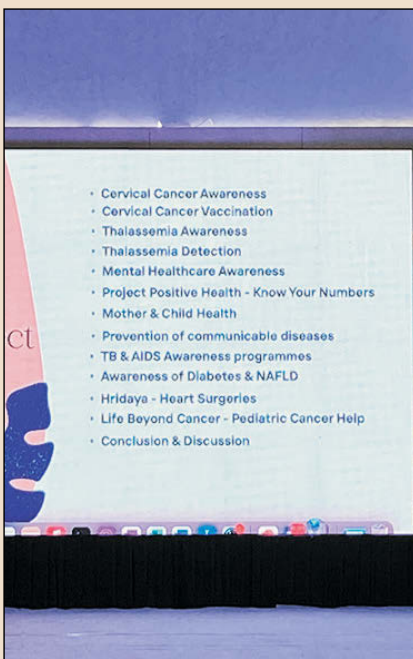
President Sashi Dhacholia with DG AKS Krishnendu Gupta with other Rotarians



DG addressing the audience



A view of attending the meet



A view of upcoming projects by District-3291



President in attendance at meet



Another view with other Rotarians



Another view with Rotarians

REPORT ON PRAKRITI ON 6.9.2024

A very engrossing session by Guest of Honour Dr Kalyan Rudra, Chairman of West Bengal Environment and Pollution Control Board put the audience in rapt silence about impact on environment. Our Club was Associate-host to Prakriti an Environment Awareness programme. AKS Dr Krishnendu Gupta was the Chief Guest. This programme was organized by Rotary Club of Calcutta Harmony.



SILENT PROTEST MARCH FOR JUSTICE AND PEACE ON 30.8.2024 BY RI DISTRICT-3291

To mark respect for the dear departed soul, RI District-3291 organized silent march "Silent Protest March for Justice and Peace" on 30.8.2024, Rotarians participated in large number. Our club was participated by VP Rtn Runjhun Gupta and Rtn Poulomi Mullick.



GLIMPSE OF REGULAR MEETING HELD ON 31.8.2024



TRUSTEE CHAIR'S MESSAGE – SEPTEMBER 2024



Mark Daniel Maloney
RI Trustee Chair 2024-25

"The great use of a life," wrote American philosopher William James in 1900, "is to spend it for something that outlasts it."

Some leave a legacy through family and friendships, others through faith or principles, and still others through their professions. The Rotary Foundation offers another powerful option.

As a believer in the power of passing down a legacy through The Rotary Foundation Endowment, I was humbled that my wife, Gay, and I were able recently to help others in Rotary leave their legacy.

Our district (6860 in northern Alabama) had never organized a fundraising dinner focused on the Foundation's Endowment before, but we knew it was time. We called it a legacy dinner, emphasizing giving's long-term impact.

Progress was slow at first, and there were skeptics who doubted we could raise \$1 million, our initial goal. However, we remained optimistic, setting a date for 23 February 2024, Rotary's anniversary.

During this campaign, committee members travelled throughout northern Alabama, meeting with small groups in fireside chats about contributing to the Endowment. Then, significant gifts began coming in. One Rotarian made a \$25,000 commitment, handing over a check for \$10,000. Soon, other members followed suit, and we had more than \$200,000 in gifts and commitments.

We still had far to go but if there is one thing I know about Rotary, it is this: If you present the opportunity to members, they will respond. Topping off the district's generosity were two surprises. One was a bequest commitment of \$500,000, and then another of \$560,000.

By the end of the campaign, our committee had exceeded our greatest expectations: We had raised \$2,729,863.14 for the Endowment, nearly triple our goal. The impact of those gifts will create a legacy that will keep on giving forever.

No single club or district alone will achieve our goal of fortifying The Rotary Foundation Endowment to \$2.025 billion by 2025. Not all of us can give \$25,000 now or as part of an estate plan. But I also know many of us can.

Please help us reach that Endowment goal and in doing so leave behind a legacy and further the work of future generations of Rotary members by visiting rotary.org/legacy. On behalf of the Foundation Trustees, I am grateful for your Rotary legacy.

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE – SEPTEMBER 2024



Stephanie A. Urchick
RI President 2024-25

The Magic of Rotary is belonging, and it's a feeling that can appear when you least expect it.

Earlier this year, I was in Slovakia serving as a president's representative during a six-week trip through Europe. When I wrote to Katarina Cechova, governor of District 2240 at the time, I mentioned that my grandmother Veronica Zilka grew up in a small village in the area before settling in the U.S.

It wasn't long before Cechova tracked down my grandmother's village, Jakubova Vol'a. She even organized a visit for me, where I received an unforgettable Slovakian welcome.

When I entered the community center of Jakubova Vol'a, a small crowd of people dressed in traditional Slovakian clothing greeted me. They sang with beautiful and powerful Central European voices that reminded me of my grandmother.

A lot of families play cards or games when they get together. When I was young, my father would pick up his accordion and lead my family in song. My grandmother would sing along with her impressive voice.

When I walked into the community center and heard traditional music from my childhood - when I saw a woman play the accordion the way my dad played - I suddenly felt like a little girl sitting at my grandmother's house in Monessen, Pennsylvania. I burst into tears of joy at the memories.

But the magic didn't stop there. District Governor Cechova really outdid herself. A local genealogist worked with a videographer to make a short film about my grandmother. We watched the video together in the community center.

When the video ended, I turned around and saw a man standing in the back of the room. I quickly learned that this stranger, Frantisek Zilka, was my second cousin. His grandmother and mine had been sisters. I felt like I had been struck by lightning.

I visited my newfound cousin's home, which happens to be the home where my grandmother was born. There, he shared old photographs I had never seen of my dad, my uncle, and my grandmother.

Since then, I can't stop thinking about my family of Rotary. When I refer to you as my family, I'm not just being kind. I really think of everyone in Rotary as my family. But I never would have imagined that my Rotary family would introduce me to long-lost personal family.

Sitting in that community center listening to traditional Slovakian music from my childhood filled me with joy and a profound sense of belonging. I am so grateful to District Governor Cechova and everyone who helped create that magical experience.

As members of Rotary, we have a unique opportunity to share the same magic with each other and with the world. I encourage you to consider how you can help spread that magic and ensure other members of your club - other members of our Rotary family - feel like they truly belong.

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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