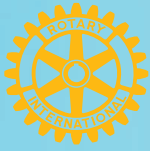


VOICE OF VICTORIA

Rotary
Calcutta Victoria
District 3291



BULLETIN OF ROTARY CALCUTTA VICTORIA | RI DISTRICT 3291

Vol 32 | No 1

JULY IS LEADERSHIP MONTH

Saturday, July 6, 2024

INSTALLATION MEETING

President Rajnish Mehta



Rajnish Mehta, a Gujarati Nagar Brahmin, who did his schooling from Don Bosco Park Circus and graduated from St Xaviers College Kolkata and is a PGDBM from Institute of Modern Management Kolkata belongs to a family of entrepreneurs with roots in Banaras. His grandfather, Shri Giridhari Lal Mehta is the founder of Jardine Henderson Ltd a conglomerate with a diversified portfolio having Jute mills, tea gardens, manganese mines, pest control, packaging etc. He lives in Kolkata with his family while travelling regularly to Pench and the tea plantations for

overall management. He is also a trustee of the prestigious Bhartiya Vidya Bhawan trust which runs schools and colleges nationally and several charitable institutions internationally. He is also a member of the Governing Council of Harish Chandra Institute of Mathematical Research, Prayagraj which is a joint venture with Department of Atomic Energy, Government of India. He is married to Vibha and blessed with two teenaged boys Dhruv and Rudra. He has a passion for music and travelling to different religious, cultural and historical places in India and abroad.

Know Your DISTRICT GOVERNOR



AKS Dr Krishnendu Gupta MBBS (Mangalore), DGO (Manipal), MD (Manipal), FICMCH, FICOG, FRCPI (Ireland), FRCOG (Ad eundem, UK), FACOG (Hon, USA) District Governor, 2024–2025, Rotary International District 3291. Professor & Unit Head, Dept of Obstetrics & Gynaecology, Vivekananda Institute of Medical Sciences, Kolkata, West Bengal, INDIA. Krishnendu joined Rotary in 1992 and is presently a member of RC Calcutta Victoria. He became a Paul Harris Fellow



Stephanie A Urchick
RI President



Dr Krishnendu Gupta
District Governor



Rajnish Mehta
President



Sohini Banerjee
Secretary



Lata Bhatia
Treasurer



Chhanda Banerji
Editor

District Governor...

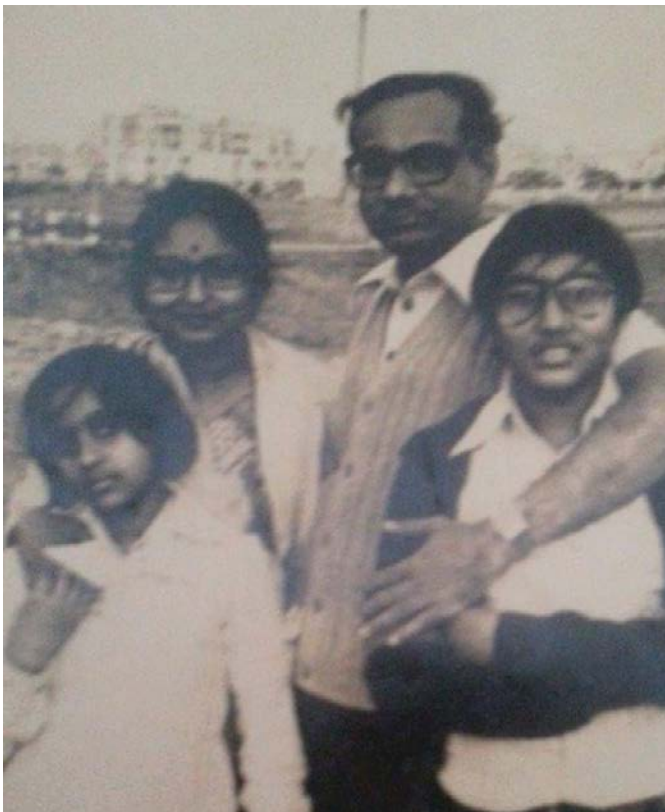
(PHF) in 1999, Major Donor (MD) Level 1 in 2012, MD Level 2, Benefactor and MD Level 3 in 2017, MD Level 4 in 2018, and Member of the 'Arch Klumph Society (AKS) – Trustees Circle' in 2017–2018. He was the first-ever 'AKS' member from RI District 3291. He has been elected to be the 'District Governor' of RI District 3291 for RY 2024–2025. Born in Kolkata, he did his initial schooling from St Xavier's Collegiate School, Kolkata from 1969–1973, and thereafter from Mayo College, Ajmer, Rajasthan from 1974–1981. Subsequently, he completed his MBBS (Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery) from Kasturba Medical College (KMC), Mangalore in 1986, DGO (Diploma in Gynaecology & Obstetrics) in 1989 and MD (Masters in Obstetrics & Gynaecology) from KMC, Manipal in 1990. He was awarded the 'University Gold Medal' being the best outgoing student in MD examinations in 1990. Krishnendu also completed two Diplomas in Surgical Pelviscopy & Hysteroscopy, and in Reproductive Medicine from Kiel, Germany in 2000. He has been awarded prestigious Fellowships from the Indian College of Maternal & Child Health (FICMCH) in 1995, Indian College of Obstetricians & Gynaecologists (FICOG) in 2002, Royal College of Physicians of Ireland (FRCPI) from Ireland in 2018, the highest honorary fellowship: 'Fellow Ad Eundem' (FRCOG), Royal College of Obstetricians & Gynaecologists, United Kingdom in 2019, and 'ACOG Honorary Fellowship Award' (FACOG), American College of Obstetricians & Gynaecologists, USA in 2022. He was only the fourth Indian Obstetrician & Gynaecologist ever to receive the prestigious Hon FACOG award at the time of the fellowship conferment. Krishnendu is currently Professor, Dept of Obstetrics & Gynaecology, Vivekananda Institute of Medical Sciences (VIMS), Ramakrishna Mission Seva Pratishthan (RKMS), Kolkata, West Bengal since 2002, and Unit Head since 2017. He has over 34 years of experience in Obstetrics & Gynaecology and has been a Professor in VIMS for 22+ years. In addition, he is engaged as an Adjunct Professor, Dept of Obstetrics & Gynaecology, KMC, Manipal since 2017 and has been honoured

by his peers with two named Orations in ICOG and KMC, Manipal since 2018. 'Giving back to society' being his guiding mantra, Krishnendu has been providing voluntary service to the patients of VIMS & RKMS since 1997 till date. Extremely active in the national and international academic circles, Krishnendu is currently the 'Deputy Secretary General' of Asia & Oceania Federation of Obstetrics & Gynaecology (AFOG) and 'International Lead Fellow of Examinations' of RCPI, Ireland, in addition to being a member of various committees AFOG, South Asian Federation of Obstetrics & Gynaecology (SAFOG), Federation of Obstetric & Gynaecological Societies of India (FOGSI) and International Federation of Gynecology & Obstetrics (FIGO). He was 'Chair' of ICOG in 2016, 'Vice President' of FOGSI in 2011, 'President' of The Bengal Obstetric & Gynaecological Society (BOGS) in 2013, amongst numerous other appointments. He is on Editorial Board and a Peer Reviewer of numerous international and national journals of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, and an 'Examiner' and 'Paper-Setter' for MBBS, DGO, MD / MS, DNB examinations in Obstetrics & Gynaecology since 1993 till date. An active Rotarian for 27+ years [RC Calcutta Jadavpur: 1 year (1992) and RC Calcutta Victoria (RCCV): 26+ years (1997 till date)], Krishnendu served in various positions in RCCV being Secretary in 2004–2005 and President during its 'Silver Jubilee Year' in 2017–2018. He has since served RI District 3291 in different positions in TRF and as District Secretary Projects (Medical). He is a Faculty Member of Rotary Learning Institute (RLI) and a Member of the TRF Cadre of Technical Advisers, 2018–2024. He is also the 'Founding Member – AKS Forum of India' since 2020. Krishnendu has been the recipient of numerous honours and awards from Rotary International and District 3291, namely, 'Rotary Foundation Citation for Meritorious Service in 2020–2021' from TRF; 'Best Rotarian of the Year Award', 2017–2018, RI District 3291; 'Rotary Vocational Service Excellence Award – Rotary Ratna', 2017–2018, RI District 3291, and Outstanding President Award in 2017–2018. He has been recognized for his giving to The Rotary Foundation from District 3291 receiving the 'Highest Contribution to TRF Award' in

2017–2018, 2018–2019 and 2020–2021, and 'Second Highest Contribution to TRF Award' in 2019–2020. Krishnendu has been a passionate crusader for empowerment of women and in the advocacy of adolescent HPV vaccination to eliminate carcinoma cervix since 2009, wherein he has created endowment funds in TRF in 2018 and in the RCCV Trust in 2021 to ensure sustainability of service projects in perpetuity. He has also been directly involved in the completion of three large Global Grants in the field of preventable oncology till date. Krishnendu is actively associated with 'Sri Sathya Sai Bal Vihar', a charitable school for the underprivileged and financially challenged children in a small village adjoining Kolkata, 'Saroj Gupta Cancer Centre & Research Institute', Thakurpukur, Kolkata, and 'Ramakrishna Mission & Math', Belur, West Bengal. Krishnendu is an avid pianist, musician and a Charter Life Member of the International Fellowship of Rotarian Musicians (IFRM), RI District 3291. He is a 'Permanent Member' of Bengal Club, Calcutta Club, Calcutta Cricket & Football Club, Lake Club, Tollygunge Club; 'Life Member' of Cricket Association of Bengal, Mohun Bagan Athletic Club, Aryan Club; 'Annual Member' of Bengal Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Agri-Horticultural Society of India, Calcutta Wine Club (Secretary: 2021–2023, Vice President: 2023–2025), Indo-Italics Wine Club. He is also the recipient of 'WSET Level 1 Award in Wines' for his keen interest in the knowledge of fine wines. His Partner-in-Service for 31+ years, Dr Simran, a MBBS graduate from Mysore Medical College and MD (Anaesthesiology) from Kasturba Medical College, Manipal is a Consultant Anaesthesiologist and Intensivist, having extensive experience in cardiac anaesthesiology since 1996. Their daughter Aparajita after completing BSc with Distinction in Economics from University of Exeter, UK and double Masters degree with Distinction in Management and International Management from London School of Economics & Political Science, UK and CEMS respectively, is currently employed with Merck Sharp & Dohme (MSD) in Prague, Czech Republic. She is married to Dr Jan Hospodka (PhD in Finance) and are blessed with a son, Kian, born in October 2021.



Krishnendu, Simran, Daughter Aparajita, son-in-law Jan Hospodka and grandson Kian.



Our District Governor With his parents Purnendu and Krishna Gupta and sister Jhilli



With Simran(in 1993)

Outgoing President Speaks



I bow down in reverence to all those who have graced the chair of President in our club. I feel extremely humbled to have been given another opportunity to lead this prestigious club in the Rotary Year 2023-24. I am grateful to all the Board members and Team 2023-24 to have stood by me, given me full support and the liberty to take certain decisions which I hope I have discharged successfully. A Big THANK YOU to all dear VICTORIANS who have all along participated in meetings & projects with dedication. A small word of advice to those members who could not take part in projects or attend meetings, please do spare some time and participate. I assure you that it is enjoyable and the feeling of togetherness & the pleasure of giving is immense. I take this opportunity to express my gratitude to all the generous donors who have contributed to our trust to do excellent need based projects. My special thanks to my dear friend Mr. Prashant Tulsian and Mr. Arun Sawalka for open heartedly giving CSR funds. A very special Thank You and blessings to dear Shruti Jha, daughter of K.K.Jha for beautifully designing e-invites ad e-cards all round the year. Once again with utmost humility I say this to my extended parivar DHANYABAD DHANYABAD DHANYABAD.

Today Rajnish Mehta is taking over the mantle of President who will surely keep the Victoria flag flying high. My message to him - "ENJOY ROTARY" Serve above self. All the best. We dedicated VICTORIANS will stand by you in all your future endeavors.

Jai Victoria

Jai Hind

Arvind Agrawal

Outgoing Secretary Message



Rotary Club of Calcutta Victoria is a club as beautiful as a handwoven cloth. It is unique and precious like the age old art of weaving created by the deft hands year after year creating new patterns and new designs, helping human beings of all ages and bonding together in fellowship and service trying to make their lives a better place, a safer place and a greener place to live. It was a pleasure and privilege to have served our club once again as Club secretary, creating hope all around. The baton now passes on to Sohini Banerjee who is full of enthusiasm and ideas. I wish her all the best in 2024-25. Enjoy Rotary. Create Magic.

Vinita Dutt

Club Secretary 2023-24

Message from the President



I feel honored to be taking over as President of our Club and join the elite group of personalities who have served this club before me. It will be my utmost endeavor to match the high standards set by my predecessors. Looking forward to a great Rotary year with the support of my Victorian Family. Jai Victoria!

Rajnish Mehta

President 2024-25

Message From ADG



Congratulations to Rajnish Mehta on taking over the leadership of Rotary Calcutta Victoria. He and his team has attended Training Programmes organised by the District. The Club Officers of the club are very experienced and they have been very well briefed by Assistant Governor Vinita Dutt. Wishing Rajnish and his team all the very best for a very successful year and have no doubt the club will reach greater heights.

Col. Man Mohan Burman

Additional Aide to District Governor

Incoming Secretary Message



Hello everyone! I would like to thank each and every Victorian for trusting me and giving me this opportunity to serve this esteemed club as it's secretary. As a new member I am a bit worried but I know with everyone beside me I will be able to fulfill my responsibility. I request all members to come forward and join hands and help the club grow further. This year is also very special as our very own Rtn. AKS Dr. Krishnendu Gupta is the DG of our district 3291. Looking forward to work under his guidance and make this year a success. Wishing everyone a truly magical year ahead.

RI PRESIDENT Stephanie A Urchick



Stephanie A. Urchick has considerable experience in executive management, leadership consulting, and inspirational speaking. Stephanie is Partner and COO of Doctors At Work LLC, a company assisting strategic business growth.

She has qualifications in International Relations with a Masters degree in Education and a doctorate in Leadership Studies. A Rotarian since 1991, Stephanie is a member of the Rotary Club of McMurray, Pennsylvania, USA and has served many important Rotary roles, a few include Rotary Foundation Trustee, District Governor, International Training Leader, President's Representative and as a member of various RI Committees and in various club and district Foundation roles. She is a Major Donor and a member of the Bequest Society of The Rotary Foundation. Currently, she is helping to partner clubs and districts in the U.S. with Rotary clubs in Kosova and Albania for humanitarian and educational service through the "Call to Kosova" initiative and is assisting TRF with its Rotary Women's Philanthropy weekends. Active in numerous community boards and committees, Stephanie has been named Rotarian of the Year by both her Rotary District and her Rotary Club and

Bio

has received the Distinguished Service Award from The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International. Stephanie has many interesting 'stories' about outside-of-Rotary activities, including (but not limited to) being named a perogie princess at a Polish tavern, working as a 'talking reindeer' at a holiday mall display, being part of a scouting team for a Canadian football team. Stephanie's long and impressive list of qualifications, committee and board roles, Rotary roles, service projects, awards and recognitions are contained in her full bio on Latitude 38 website. Her achievements are amazing. She has been very busy and has very impressive runs on the board that cause me to label her a model community service change agent and Rotarian.



District Governor Message

Dear President Rajnish Mehta

Greetings and best wishes from Dr Simran and my family.

It will be yet another historic day on 01 July 2024 when the second-ever lady Rotarian RIPE Stephanie A Urchick from RC McMurray, Pennsylvania, USA, will take over the reins of Rotary International with the wonderful theme "THE MAGIC OF ROTARY".

On the very same date, we too will be extremely fortunate to have been given the opportunity to officially take care of

the health and welfare, of all our fellow Rotarians of District 3291 for one full Rotary year.

On that very day, you too shall be taking up the mantle of your club and work towards the benefit of both your club members and the society at large. I am very happy to note that you are already planning service projects and we expect that those shall be sustainable projects creating new development of marginalized people.

The service projects that we do for the benefit of the lesser privileged in our community, is truly magical. It brings about positive change towards betterment and sometimes, a total change in the lives of our beneficiaries. And while doing these

meaningful projects, we also get together, bond and enjoy ourselves. This is "THE MAGIC OF ROTARY".

I am positive that your vibrant club shall do this magic, as they have done in the past, and continue to serve to change lives.

Simran and I wish you and your esteemed club members the best and eagerly look forward to working together for a wonderful and fruitful Rotary Year 2024-2025.

Thanking you.

Kind regards.

Yours-in-Rotary

Dr Krishnendu Gupta

THE YEAR WHERE WE CREATED HOPE

Another Rotary year gone by. As in the past years President and Team 2023-24 have done some excellent work to 'Create Hope in the World'. Stated below in a nutshell are some of the club activities of **RY 2023-24**.

■ CLUB ADMINISTRATION

Chair: Sunita Agarwala

■ **No. of members:** 42+1(Hony.)4 new members added but club lost 4 members. All members registered with Rotary Central.

■ **Meetings:** 20 Regular Club meetings, 3 Board meetings and 1 Trust meeting as well as COTS and 4 Club assemblies held.



■ **Bulletin:** 17 published. Mostly 4 page ones.

■ **Fellowship:** 5

■ **Goodwill visit:** 3



■ **Support to the District:** Lead host club for One event and host/co-host for 8 others.

■ **Finance:** Healthy. Accounts audited on time. RI & District dues paid on time.

■ SERVICE PROJECTS

Community Service (Non Medical)

■ **Disadvantaged Children:** (i) Chotoder Sharad Shrestha -- 68 children were taken pandal hopping during one day of Durga



Puja in the city in association with Times of India. They were judges for the day. (ii) Two events of St. Lawrence Night School,

namely annual prize distribution and annual sports day were supported. (iii) Supported Christmas celebration at IPER in Lake Gardens (iv) 50 students of Metropolitan Institute Main for girls taken on an educational trip to

Victoria Memorial and for a show at Birla planetarium, (v) part sponsored annual sports meet for students of the same school.

■ **Physically Challenged Children:** (i) 15 hearing impaired children of Ideal School for the Deaf were given 30 digital hearing aids, (ii) 33 Writers given to 33 visually challenged students to write their Board exams.

■ **Basic Education & Literacy:** (i) Upgradation of 9 computers at Ideal School for the Deaf and donation of a new computer, (ii) 44 children of Joyjeet Das Memorial School and 44 children of St. Lawrence Night School were given books and pencil boxes with pencil, eraser etc. & food packets, (iii) 50 children of a



primary school in remote Nayachar island in Sunderbans were gifted educational material, exercise books and a sports jersey. (iv) Scholarships awarded to 16 students who had passed their Madhyamik exams, for pursuing further studies. 2 with excellent result would be getting Rs.1000/- per month and the other 14 Rs.500/- per month.

◆ Teachers Day celebrated by felicitating teachers (7) in two schools.



100 blankets gifted to villagers in Belpukur, Dist. Nadia, (v) Medical camps for the elderly held weekly at Bhanru Ramakrishnapur & bimonthly at RCC Brindakhali.

■ **Water & Sanitation & Toilet Project:** Two ladies toilet & bathrooms, Two gent's toilets and a pump house constructed in market area of village Padua in Joynagar area. A CSR initiative.



■ **Disaster Relief:** Cartons of clothes, biscuit and cash given to an NGO "Goonj" for flood victims in July.

■ **Environment:** Tree plantation at Mentaid. 75 saplings planted in February,, many of them bearing flowers and fruits now.

■ **Purulia Project:** A CSR funded project empowering rural India to address the environmental and socioeconomic challenges faced by rural communities. Purulia was chosen as this was a backward



area of W. Bengal. Renewable energy based irrigation infrastructure, natural resource management and sustainable agricultural practices were being focused on. Work on enhanced water retention. completed. Solar pump for irrigation has been installed. The project that started in June 2024 was almost complete and would be inaugurated at the end of July. Small and marginal farmers would be benefitted and environment protected by reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and land degradation.

■ Community Service (Medical)

■ **Eye Camp:** Three eye camps were held in RCC Kanthalberia. 189 patients were checked and screened. 47 of them were detected with cataract and operated upon at Dakshin Barasat Eye Hospital free of cost. Rtn. Dr. O.P. Agarwal, senior ophthalmologist rendered hands on service.



■ **Medical Camps:** (i) Bi-monthly camps for the elderly were organised regularly since 26th January 2024. (ii) Sponsored 2 camps per month at Bhanru Ramakrishnapur in

S-24 pgs. Free medicines were given in both the venues.

■ **Thalassemia:** (i) Awareness camp organised at village Uttarpadmajala in S.24Pgs. Dr. R. Hom Choudhury addressed 100 villagers. (ii) Free blood testing camp organised. 67 blood samples tested.

■ **Blood Donation Camp:** Co-hosted this camp where a member from RCCV, Biswajit Rana donated blood and also pledged his whole body and organs.



■ **Mother and Child Care:** Sponsored a camp at Srihor near Kamarpukur, Dist. Bankura which was organised by Ramakrishna Sarada Mission Matri Bhavan. 380 women and children benefitted .

■ VOCATIONAL SERVICE

◆ A 6 month certificate course in Mehendi, Hand embroidery and a Nail art & Hair styling given to 13 women who were now earning fairly well.

◆ At RCC Kanthalberia, Two tailoring courses (6 months each) of Usha Co. were conducted. One sewing machine presented. Two batches of 20 ladies were earning well.

■ **Vocational Awards:** On Teachers Day 4 teachers from Joyjeet Das Memorial School, 2 who conducted Mehendi & embroidery classes & 3 from St Lawrence Night School were felicitated. Two senior teachers from RCCV were also recognised.

■ YOUTH SERVICE

◆ Trophies were sponsored for a football

match at RCC Brindakhali

◆ The 5 Interact Clubs are a pride of RCC Victoria. They were generously supported. Each one of them did excellent work and won accolades.

■ Polio

◆ Awareness on World Polio Day and the NIDs. by putting up banners and using a tempo/ambulance with a microphone



which travelled through the city spreading the message - 'Keep India Polio Free'.

■ PUBLIC IMAGE

- ◆ Pandal hopping with 68 children on a Puja day was reported in Times of India
- ◆ Tarpaulin covers given to cycle rickshaws had the Rotary logo and Club's name
- ◆ On NIDs auto rickshaws carried banner with rotary logo.

■ INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

◆ At one of the regular meetings , a Japanese lady Mrs. Kyoko Hashimoto Govindasamy was the guest speaker.



◆ Member Dr. Krishnendu Gupta AKS attended the International Assembly in Orlando, Florida, USA with spouse Dr. Simran. They also attended The RI convention in Singapore in May 2024. They were aide to RIPE Stephanie Urchick during her visit to Kolkata .

■ THE ROTARY FOUNDATION

- ◆ Contributed \$ 5000 to the Foundation.
- ◆ Shashi Prabha Rohatgi became th 10th Major Donor of the club.



UDBODHAN



Come 1st July, there is change of leadership in all Rotary clubs and Districts around the globe. And on Monday 1st July 2024, there was a change of guard - a dynamic motion of continuity, in a glittering and well conducted ceremony at Dhono Dhannyo auditorium. Preceding the official programme there was an excellent classical music concert by seven artists each playing a different instrument led by Swagatam Das. At 6.15 pm the programme began with Master of Ceremonies Sanjib Choudhury from RC Mega City speaking about Udbodhan and the current theme 'Magic of Rotary'. He paid obeisance to Swami Vivekananda and then invited Rajnish Mehta, President Rotary Club of Calcutta Victoria the lead host club, on stage to deliver his welcome address. This was followed by the arrival of AKS Dr. Krishnendu Gupta who walked down the aisle along with his entourage (team 2024-25), while First lady Dr. Simran Gupta came down another aisle. The doctor couple walked on to the stage and felicitated the musicians. Chief Sergeant-at-Arms called the meeting to order. National Anthem was played and sung by all. It was now time for passing the baton. DG 2023-24 Hiralal Yadav with

spouse Deepali Yadav by his side put the Governor's lapel pin on Dr. Krishnendu Gupta's jacket with the ever smiling Dr. Simran Gupta standing next to him. Thus was installed the 17th Governor of RID 3291. DG 2024-25 now pinned DG 2023-24 with the IPDG pin. A smooth change over ceremony. IPDG Hiralal Yadav thanked his team for making his journey so good and stated that he had exceeded the target of contribution to TRF. He conveyed his best wishes to Dr. Krishnendu and prayed for his good health & energy as he embarks on a very very difficult journey of governorship. A power point presentation was shown on "preparation to leadership" of team 2024-25. DG in his address said change is inevitable. One has to engage and adapt. He acknowledged the contribution of charter president late Dr. Duru Lilaram and Col.M.M.Burman for being where he was today in Rotary. Also acknowledge his DG Brojogopal Kundu he spoke of his dream of eliminating cervical cancer by vaccination. Projects need money and thus TRF HAS to be supported. He praised Hiralal Yadav for doing wonders by raising 550,000 USD. His dream was to raise One million dollars this year. He said he and Simran would match

the contributions made by the Rotarians. DG asked for everyone's support to create magic in RID 3291. Guests of honour Swami Nityakamananda & Swami Sarvalokananda from the Ramakrishna order blessed DG, the first lady as well as everyone present and said Service above self was in our scripture. Service to man was service to God. RI Director Anirudha Roychoudhury stated that Dr. Krishnendu was the First doctor to have become the DG in RID 3291. He spoke about 'End Polio' campaign. The last push needed to be given. PRIP Shekhar Mehta spoke about the beautiful organisation that was Rotary where magic was being created regularly through projects. Rotarians have the power and the magic to change and make a difference. Chief guest Dr. Jaydeep Tank, a close friend of Dr Krishnendu and Dr. Simran who had come from Mumbai gave a very illuminating talk. There was felicitation of the Major Donors (3) and contributors of \$1000 (20). DGE Dr. Ranen Hom Choudhury is one of the major donors. Team 2024-25 then felicitated their leader DG Dr.Krishnendu and his gracious wife Dr. Simran with gifts. The long evening ended with the customary vote of thanks by DGE Dr. Ranen Hom Choudhury.



HEALTH CHECKUP CAMP



On the first day of Rotary year 2024-25, which is also celebrated as Doctor's Day a Medical Camp was organized at St. Lawrence School for their students of night school. This project was spearheaded by Rtn. Dr. Jai Nath Gurtu and Rtn. Col. Man Mohan Burman. The number of children benefitted were Ninety Eight. Children were checked for General Health, Ophthalmology and Dental Health. General Health was checked by Dr. Gurtu, Dr. Joyashree Dhar, Dr. Singh and his assistant. Along with general health, Dr. Gurtu also did a few check ups for ears and hearing difficulties whereas Dr. Joyashree Dhar did a few Gynecological check ups also. Ophthalmological check ups were carried under

Dr. O.P. Agrawal. He was helped by Optimist Prasenjit Majumdar. Dentists present were Dr. Priyanka Yadav, Dr. Animesh Mandal, Dr. Prateek Sarkar and Dr. Sushweta Biswas. All the doctors did a wonderful job and the children were much relieved. Medicines were sponsored by Rtn. B.K. Agarwal along with Dr. Reddy's Hetero Healthcare & Pharma Nova. Food packets were given to all the children which was sponsored by Rtn. Vibha Mehta. Being Doctor's Day, three doctors from our club were felicitated.... Dr. Joyashree Dhar, Dr. J.N. Gurtu and Dr. O.P. Agrawal. Sixteen Rotarians were present for the project. The day ended on a happy note.

DISTRICT AWARDS

District awards ceremony took place on Saturday 29th June 2024 at Birla Sabhaghar. Clubs were recognised for their work in the Rotary year 2023-24.

Rotary Club of Calcutta Victoria received 9 awards. They are for:-

1. Welfare of senior citizens
2. Support to physically challenged
3. Vocational training
4. Water and sanitation
5. Thalassaemia (awareness & screening)
6. Polio
7. Bulletin
8. Interact
9. Certificate of AG to Seema Danda (STAR AG)

STORY OF 'CHAI'



Most of us enjoy a cup of tea, especially in the morning, to start the day. For this one must thank the British for having brought Chai to India where many have transformed this beverage by infusing it with masala. It is quite a story of how the tea plant (Camellia Sinensis) came to be cultivated in India.

European travellers in the mid 17th century recorded the use of tea as a medicinal drink in parts of Assam, but the plant was not widely cultivated. From early 19th century onwards Britain had become a tea drinking nation and its appeal spread amongst the masses. For this pleasure the British had to pay the Chinese in Bullion as the tea seeds came from there. This would have been very expensive except that the Chinese were willing to pay in bullion for opium, the poppies for which was grown in Bengal. Opium was illegal in China so it was smuggled in by the British to pay for the tea. The Chinese authorities resisted, which led to two so called Opium Wars. Then in 1851, an enterprising Britisher managed to sneak out 20,000 Chinese seedlings. Planted in the Darjeeling hills they flourished. The Indians took to the brew albeit with the addition of ginger and other spices and the tea trade grew and has now become a popular drink.

Team Victoria 2024- 25



Rajnish Mehta
President



Arvind Agrawal
Immediate Past President



Bal Krishan Agarwal
President Elect



Vibha Mehta
Vice President



Sohini Banerjee
Secretary



Anurag Daga
Jt Secretary



Lata Bhatia
Treasurer



Kashmiri Marwah
Sergeant-at-Arms



Chhanda Banerji
Editor



Sachiv Nijhawan
Jt. Editor



Col. Man Mohan Burman
Club Trainer | Falicitator

Standing Committee Chair 2024-25



Sunita Agarwala
Club Administration



Bal Krishan Agarwal
Membership



Nitish Jain
Public Relation



Dr. Jai Nath Gurtu
Service Projects



Dr. Krishnendu Gupta
Rotary Foundation

Sub Committee Chair 2024-25



Dr. Jai Nath Gurtu
Community Service –
Medical



Dr. O.P. Agarwal
Community Service –
Eye Care



Alka Kejriwal
Community Economic
Development (Non-Medical)



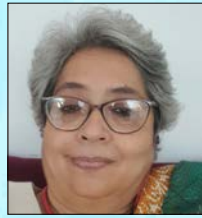
Seema Danda
Vocational Service



Varsha Ghatak
International Service



Vibha Mehta
Youth Service



Lata Bhatia
Environment



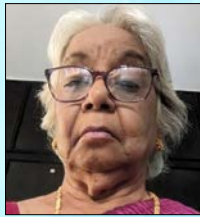
Sachiv Nijhawan
Polio & NID



Gayatree Dhar
Rotary Community Corps



Arvind Agrawal
Fellowship



Dr. Joyashree Dhar
Mother & Child Health



Shubhojit Sinha Roy
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene



Kashmiri Marwah
Basic Education & Literacy



Vinita Dutt
Disaster Management

District Team 2024-25



Dr. Krishnendu Gupta AKS
District Governor



Col. Man Mohan Burman
Additional Chief Aide to DG



Seema Danda
Deputy Governor



KK Jha
District Treasurer



Arvind Agrawal
AG (Admin.) - Zone 32 &
Chair Financial Literacy



Vinita Dutt
AG (Admin.) Zone 31



Sachiv Nijhawan
Zonal Secretary - Zone 17



Bal Krishen Agarwal
Advisor, Inter District Fellowship



Lata Bhatia
Chair Environment
& Pollution Control



Dr. Jai Nath Gurtu
Advisor ENT, Head & Neck



Proposed Projects and Programmes (In 2024-25)

1. Membership

♦ It is a thrust area so would increase our membership strength. At the Installation meeting on 6th July 2024, Three members would be inducted, two being former members.

2. Economic & Community Development

♦ Plan to install water coolers/pumps at various places throughout the city.

3. Literacy

♦ Writers for the blind
♦ Would be working to make Easy/ Happy Schools especially at RCCs

4. Water and Sanitation

♦ Provide clean drinking water & toilets for the public at RCCs and other suitable locations

5. Environment

♦ A thrust area. Tree plantation, Rainwater harvesting would be undertaken.

♦ A CSR project at Purulia which began last year is now nearing completion. It will be inaugurated on 27th July.

6. Community Service (Medical)

♦ Mega Hearing Aid Project . 20 hearing impaired school students would be given 40 digital hearing aids.

♦ On Doctors Day (1st July) a medical camp for 98 under privileged children was held at St. Lawrence School.

More such camps would be held.

7. Mother and Child Care

♦ Monitoring of 15-20 pregnant women from rural area from their first trimester till delivery.

♦ Iron and calcium tablets and Mothers Horlicks to be given every month.

8. Vocational Service

♦ Last Rotary year's projects would be

continued. Skill development for women like tailoring, embroidery etc.

Would be imparted especially in RCCs

9. Youth Service

♦ RCC Victoria has 5 vibrant Interact clubs. Plan a debate for them. Also include them in some of the club's projects.

10. Polio

♦ Main thrust area of RI to End Polio. Will create awareness and help out in other ways as per guidelines from the District.

11. Cervical Cancer Vaccination

♦ Work has commenced. The first dose ready to be administered in July. It is a 1.5 lakh project. Efforts are on to have a Global Grant project in conjunction with other clubs.

12. Any Other

♦ Projects suggested by members would be undertaken.

Minutes of the 1346th Regular Meeting along with COTS & Club Assembly of Rotary Club of Calcutta Victoria held on Saturday, 29th June 2024, at Hotel Hindusthan International at 1 pm.

■ President Arvind Agrawal called the 1346th Regular Meeting to order, his last as President.

■ National Anthem was sung led by Vibha Mehta & Sunita Agarwala.

■ Minutes of the 1345th meeting was confirmed proposed by Chhanda Banerji and seconded by Mukul Mitra.

■ President welcomed Assistant Governor 2024-25, Vinita Dutt .

■ President welcomed Ms. Shampa Chakraborty, guest of Lata Bhatia.

■ Senior member Shashi Prabha Rohatgi was invited by the President to pin PP B.K. Agarwal with the 4 Sapphire Pin received from RI for his contribution to TRF.

■ President presented gifts to some of the members who could not attend the Charter Day celebration & thanksgiving party on 16th June 2024.

■ President's Announcements

♦ Rtn. Bipasha Banerjee was leaving RCC Victoria for health reasons but has assured that she would finish the pending construction work in the school.

♦ Till June 2024 all dues have been paid off

including that of Bharu Ramakrishnapur and Kanthalberia(Suchikala project).

♦ The project at Purulia was almost complete and would be inaugurated in July . DG (2024-25) would be invited to do the honours.

♦ Order has to be placed for silver coins to be given as prize for quiz programmes in the club.

♦ District Governor 2024-25 would be installed on 1st July at Dhono Dhannyo auditorium. All spouses were also invited.

♦ Today 29th June was District Awards night, to be held from 3pm onwards at Birla Sabhaghar.

♦ The club was \$200 short of the \$ 5000 committed to TRF. President said he would give this amount.

♦ Accounts till 31st March have gone for auditing.

♦ President thanked all Victorians for standing by him at all times to make the year a memorable one Dhanyabad.

♦ All present at the meeting gave President Arvind a standing ovation for his exemplary leadership and a wonderful Rotary Year.

♦ Rajnish Mehta, President 2024-25 and Sohini Banerjee, Secretary 2024-25 were invited to the

head table for COTS and First Club Assembly.

♦ Assistant Governor (2024-25) Vinita Dutt conducted the COTS by elaborately touching all aspects of the duties of the incoming team. She then handed over the proceedings to Rajnish Mehta., President 2024-25.

♦ Rajnish Mehta spoke about his plans and contemplated projects for RY 2024-25.

♦ Three members would be inducted on 6th July 2024, two being former members.

♦ On 1st July 2024, Doctor's Day, a health check up camp for 100 children has been organised at St. Lawrence School from 3 to 5pm.

♦ AG (2024-25) Vinita Dutt was thanked by President Arvind Agrawal.

■ Secretary's Announcements

♦ Next meeting would be the Installation meeting to be held on Saturday 6th July at Calcutta Swimming Club at 7 pm.

♦ All members and spouses were invited.

♦ Birthday greetings extended to (i) Dr. O.P. Agarwal for 2nd July & (ii) Dr. Joyashree Dhar for 3rd July

As there was no other business the meeting was terminated at 2.15 pm.