



TUESDAY 22 OCTOBER 2024  
October is Economic and Community Development month

# 105

## The Chaka

Bulletin of Rotary Club of Calcutta  
R I Dist. 3291

First Published in 1925

Editor : Rtn. Ashok Basu

Jt. Editor : Rtn. Anindita Shoma Basu

Volume 92 No. 12

### RIPE Mario visits Rotary Sadan



Rotary International's incoming President, Mario Cesar Martins de Camargo, visited the Rotary Club of Calcutta on 2<sup>nd</sup> October. Club members and District officials honoured him with a special recognition. The Club's Special Projects Committee Chair, Arindam Roychowdhury, presented a booklet highlighting the Club's current and upcoming community service projects. The club's former president, Purnendu Roychowdhury, shared details about the CCRC, a special initiative for Centennial Rotary Clubs. A young club member, Abhineet Gupta, spoke about his experience joining Rotary. RIPE has assured help with South American clubs in CCRC. Mario spoke eloquently about Membership growth with data, particularly stressing the flexible nature of satellite clubs.

Rotary  
Club of Calcutta  
105 Years in Service



### International Positive Peace Workshop 26 Sep 2024 : AOS Community and International; AOF Promoting Peace



This workshop commenced with Pres. Subrata De welcoming all the participating Rotarians and Speakers to this live International Positive Peace workshop. On video, RIP Stephanie complimented R C

Calcutta's efforts to help promote an understanding of the importance of creating peace for friends, families, communities and societies. PRIP Gordon, on video, candidly put it across "I know that many attendees begin to question whether or not peace is possible. I do not exclude myself". However, optimism is demonstrated by the Rwandan 'genocide memorial' in Kigali, for Peace & Reconciliation. At the Memorial working together were Janet (Tutsi) and Tasselly (Hutu), relating their own past memory of hatred, pain & suffering and now working together in rebuilding a future for Peace. PRIP Shekhar Mehta spoke of Rotary service projects, all of which enhance peace. Dr V K Raju described the Four Cs of Peace Building viz. contact, cooperation, communication and conciliation. PP Vasanthi

Contd. to pg. 2

We Meet Every Tuesday at 1 p.m. at ROTARY SADAN  
<https://rccalcutta.rotaryindia.org>  
E-mail: [rotarycalcutta.office@gmail.com](mailto:rotarycalcutta.office@gmail.com)

Contd. from pg. 1

Ranganathan, Rotary Peace Activator, Asia Cohort language and communication skills, attitude, group harvest as the main engine for positive peace framework in Rotary. PDG Shyamashree Sen very poignantly spoke of the dangers of increasing Polio cases in the world posing challenges to peace. PP Gill de Warren, Rotary Club of Battersea Park London encouragingly spoke of several ways in which women and girls in Afghanistan are overcoming severe odds including secret schools; enhancing income sources through fine traditional embroidery, Female Mobile Vaccinators network reaching into the villages with advice on health care and vaccinations. PP John Hickey and Margi, Rotary Club of Wilmington, presented on video their interventions in Ukraine such as thermal clothing, clean water solutions, food, water, medicines, shelter boxes, blankets, mats for underground schools. Rtn. Suman Mukerjee, Rotary Club of Calcutta spoke of regional development imbalances within India and warned of Balkanisation and therefore the need to have an all-inclusive approach particularly in respect of the seven sister states in the Northeast. Rtn Adeep Mehta, AG, District 3070, Kashmir detailed some Rotary initiatives in a conflict prone region. PE Debnath Chattopadhyay spoke on a multi geography Rotary team that served over 1000 patients for eye care in Leh in October 2022. PRIP Shekhar Mehta, PDGs Angshuman Bandyopadhyay, Rajani Mukerji, Ravi Sehgal, Prabir Chatterjee, DG Krishnendu Gupta, and PPs Purnendu Roychowdhury, Raj Agrawal were all unanimous in praising this unique and first of its kind initiative and hoped for more such workshops in future.

Excerpted from a mail of Rtn. Saumen Ray

## Vision for All - AOS Community AOF : Disease prevention and treatment Project Vision for All Camp 17 - 29/09/2024 : Netaji Sangha, Haroa, N24P



No. of Beneficiaries : 206  
Rotary Club of Calcutta continues its Mega Project of 50 camps for EYE Check-up in the Rotary year 2024-25. In these camps, EYE Check-ups will be done with distribution of Free powered Spectacles along with Cataract

operations will be done. These camps are conducted as per SOP, and beneficiaries are identified for correction by spectacles or surgery, and the processes are thoroughly explained to them. For spectacles, they are directed to the spectacle desk and contact details of those requiring surgery are noted for follow up. Rotary branding is prominently put. In total, 206 beneficiaries were screened in the camp, of which 131 required spectacle correction and 36 required surgical correction. The beneficiaries expressed their gratitude to Rotary.

**Total Project Value in Rs. :**

Camp Arrangement	Spectacles at Rs 800	Total
14000	104800	118800

Projects are implemented by Arindam Roychowdhury, Special Projects Chair on behalf of Health, Special Projects, and Community Service Committees.

Excerpted from a report of Ravindra Khandelwal

## BASTRADAAN – New Clothes distribution - 04/10/2024 - Rotary Sadan AOS Community; AOF : Growing Local Economies



Every festive season, Rotary Club of Calcutta has been distributing new clothes to children through our active RCCs. On 4th October 2024, the most meaningful project before Durga Puja "Bastradaan" was done successfully at Rotary Sadan. New Clothes were distributed to children through our very own RCCs. 800 children received new clothes before Durga Puja which are stitched by women in our RCCs using the sewing machines given by Rotary Club of Calcutta. This not only generates employment but acts as a continuous source of income generation for the women engaged at RCCs Selai Schools. The beneficiary



RCCs are Joygram, Bishnupur, Stars, Ranihati, Dara, Jadugora and Krishnanagar. Kind donors included Rotary Children's Welfare Trust, Raj Kr. Agrawal, Kirit Patel, Sarvani Gooptu, Subrata De, BK Dalmia, Arindam Roychowdhury, Indrajit Banerjee, Heena Gorsia, Ravindra Khandelwal. 8 Rotarians attended the event. Total Project Value - Hand stitched clothes set from RCC Selai Schools @ Rs. 250 each : Rs.2,00,000.

8 Rotarians attended the event. Project was implemented by Rtn. Sonia Dutt, Co-Chair Community Service committee.

Reported by Rtn Sonia Dutt

## ATMANIRBHAAR II : AOS Community; AOF Growing Local economies : Rotary Sadan 6 Oct. 2024



ATMANIRBHAAR II was organised on 6 October morning at Rotary Sadan. This is a continuation project of our club for the last 4 years where 700 women have been empowered till today. Self sufficiency and income generation through this project has created a massive impact in the villages of South Bengal. As Meena Khatun of Metiabruz rightly said that helping them is doing God's work. Today our club distributed 400 sewing machines to 100 Rotary Clubs in RID 3291. PP Sujata Pyne informed the gathering about this project enlightening them all. PP Purnendu Roychowdhury gave a point-to-point speech about his vision. President, Secretary, PPs Raj Agrawal, Abhijit Kolay, Ritwik Gupta, Sriranjani Joshi and Shampa Ghose and all time present Atinda and Kirit Uncle, Yogesh and Anand stood like a pillar beside me for the distribution of

the machines. Thanks to all Rotary Sadan staff for working hand in hand. Special Thanks to Kothari Hosiery, PRIMAC for the main sponsor. Zoom Health Care sponsored the gifts and the sweet boxes.

Excerpted from Whatsapp post of Arindam, Chair, Special Projects

## REPORTING & ANNOUNCEMENTS



### ONE WORLD

We remember with good wishes Rotary Club of Calcutta South City, India, R I Dist. 3291.

### Wedding Anniversaries

Rtn. Tara John & Dr. Mathew P. John 25th October  
Wish you many more years of marital bliss

### TODAY

Bijoya Sammilani along with Regular Weekly Meeting

### NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 29th October, 2024 at 1.30 p.m. at Rotary Sadan/Lunch 12.30 p.m.  
Speaker : Mr. Joydeep Kundu

**"The Chaka"** Wishes Subho Bijaya to all its readers

### IN MEMORIAM



We mourn the sad demise of our Member Rtn Dr. Sandip Chatterjee who passed away on Monday, 30th September, 2024. He served as Committee Chairman. Our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family. May his soul rest in peace.

### BOARD MEETING

The Fourth meeting of the Board of Directors (2024-25) of the Club will be held on Monday, 28th October, 2024 at 6.30 p.m. at the Rotary Sadan (Board Room, 1st floor), 94/2, Chowringhee Road, Kolkata - 700 020. All members of the Board are requested to make a note of it and attend.

### Member's Roster

Members' Roster 2024-25 is available. Please collect your copy from Club Office.

The 99th Annual Children's Treat of the Club will be held on Sunday, 8th December, 2024 at 10 a.m. onwards at Nicco Park, Salt Lake, Kolkata. We will invite about 1,200 underprivileged Children to this Flagship programme of the Club this year. Members are requested to generously donate or sponsor Breakfast, Lunch, Ice Cream, Caps, Carry Bags, Sports Items, or any kind of Gift Items to make this a "Day Sunshine" for these Children. Donations in Cheque payable in favour of "Rotary Children's Welfare Trust" will be eligible for Income Tax Exemption u/s 80G of the Income Tax Act.

## FORTHCOMING MEETINGS / EVENTS

Day & Dates	Programmes	Timing and Venue
Tuesday, 29th October, 2024	Lunch followed by RWM Speaker : Mr. Joydeep Kundu	Lunch from 12.30 p.m RWM from 1.30 p.m, at Rotary Sadan
Tuesday, 5th November, 2024	Lunch followed by RWM Speaker : Rtn. Dr. Sukalyan Purkayastha	Lunch from 12.30 p.m RWM from 1.30 p.m, at Rotary Sadan
Tuesday, 12th November, 2024	Lunch followed by RWM Speaker : Mr. Suman Manaksia	Lunch from 12.30 p.m RWM from 1.30 p.m, at Rotary Sadan
Tuesday, 19th November, 2024	Lunch followed by RWM (Closed Door Meeting & Nomination for the Board of Directors for Rotary year 2025-26)	Lunch from 12.30 p.m RWM from 1.30 p.m, at Rotary Sadan
Tuesday, 26th November, 2024	No Regular Weekly Meeting ( RWM )	—

## MINUTES OF THE 4958TH REGULAR WEEKLY MEETING HELD ON 1ST OCTOBER 2024 AT 1:30 P.M. AT ROTARY SADAN

1. President, Rtn. Subrata De requested PDG Rtn. Utpal Majumdar for joining the top table.
2. President welcomed all Members and Guests and called the 4958th Regular Weekly Meeting of the club to order.
3. National Anthem was led by PP Rtn. Sujata Pyne.
4. President informed the sad demise of our late member Rtn. Dr. Sandip Chatterjee, who passed away on Monday, 30th September, 2024. He expressed his heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family and observed a minute of silence.
5. Minutes of the 4957th Regular Weekly Meeting of the club held on 26th September 2024 were confirmed.
6. President informed the members, that day the speaker was PDG Rtn. Utpal Majumdar who spoke on the topic of "Peace, Rotary and Social Justice".
7. President then welcomed Visiting Rotarians who attended the meeting.
8. **President reported the following :**
  - a. Community Service, Health and Special Projects Committee organised Eye Check-up and Blood Donation Camps during the month of September, 2024.  
29th September 2024 - Eye Checkup Camp was held at Netaji Sangha, Village - Brahmachak, P.O. - Sonapukur, PS – Haroa, District 24 Parganas (N), PIN - 743502, West Bengal.
  - b. International Positive Peace Workshop was held at Rotary Sadan on 26th September, 2024.
  - c. 106th Foundation Day Celebration was celebrated at Rotary Sadan on 26th September, 2024.
  - d. The Charter handover for the formation of a New Rotary Club : Rotary Club of Calcutta Sundarban was held at Rotary Sadan on 26th September, 2024.
9. **President announced the following :**
  - a. Bastradaan : Yearly New Clothes Distribution would be held on 04th October, 2024.
  - b. Atmanirbhar would be held on 06th October, 2024.
  - c. Balananda Brahmachari Dialysis Centre would be inaugurated on 19th October, 2024 which is a part of the Global Grant received from Rotary International. The event would be reconfirmed.
  - d. Rotary International President Elect for Rotary Year 2025-26 Rtn. Mario Cesar Martins de Camargo would be there at Rotary Sadan on 2nd October, 2024 at 3:30 PM. President requested the members to make a note of the events and to attend them.
10. At the request of the President, Hony. Secretary Rtn. Suman Chakraborty thereafter conducted the Club Business :
  - a. He welcomed all the Members and Guests and wished them.
  - b. He then announced the names of Rotarians celebrating their Birthdays and Wedding Anniversaries for the week ending 21st October, 2024.
  - c. He also informed that there would be no meetings on Tuesdays, 8th and 15th October 2024 for Puja Holidays.
  - d. Next Regular Weekly Meeting of the Club to be held on Tuesday, 22nd October 2024, which would be followed by Bijoya Sammilani Celebration followed by fellowship and dinner.
  - e. He also informed that the Members' Roster for the Rotary Year 2024 - 25 is now available and requested all the members to collect their copy from the Club office.
  - f. He then handed over the proceedings to PP Rtn. Sujata Pyne to address the audience and to request them to attend the Agamani Event of the District 3291 on 02nd October from 5 PM onwards.
  - g. He then handed over the proceedings to Rtn. Dr. Debnath Chattopadhyay who shared his experience on a trip with PP Rtn. Saumen Ray and Rtn. Gill de Warren.
11. President requested the speaker PDG Rtn. Utpal Majumdar to address the audience.
12. On behalf of our Club, the President handed over a memento to PDG Rtn. Utpal Majumdar.
13. Sunshine Box Collection Rs. 1200 with special contribution from Rtns. Raj Kumar Agrawal, Sarvani Gooptu and Hirak Ray.
14. The Club remembered with good wishes Rotary Club of Bengal, R.I. District 3291.
15. Meeting was adjourned at 2:15 PM.

**Subrata De**  
President

**Suman Chakraborty**  
Hony. Secretary