



TUESDAY 19 NOVEMBER 2024
November is Rotary Foundation Month

105

The Chaka

Bulletin of Rotary Club of Calcutta
R I Dist. 3291

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Volume 92 No. 16

**CLOSED DOOR MEETING
TODAY FOR
NOMINATIONS**

Rotary
105 Years in Service



RWM
**Closed Door
Meeting**



November 19, '24
Tuesday, 1:30PM
ROTARY SADAN

Rotary
Club of Calcutta
105 Years in Service



**"Myself and the World Around Me"
Interact Workshop AOS New Generations
Nov. 9, 2024, Rotary Sadan**



On November 9, 2024, the District Interact Council, in collaboration with the Rotary Club of Calcutta Youth Service Committee, organized a workshop titled "Myself and the World Around Me" at Rotary Sadan. This workshop aimed to empower Interactors facing mental health challenges, promote environmental protection and enhance overall well-being through increased awareness and practical tools for improvement.

85 students from classes VIII to XII, along with 12 teachers from 20 Interact Clubs across Kolkata, participated in the event. The workshop included interactive sessions on self-analysis, mental health awareness, and Me and My environment, focusing on boosting confidence, career development, self-reflection, and attention spans. The workshop facilitators were Psychologist Rtn. Suranjana Basu Das and Environmentalist Rtn. Lata Bhatia. The event was successful, marked by enthusiastic participation from all 20 schools involved. It began with a welcome speech by DICC Rtn. Arpita Chatterjee, followed by a brief address by Youth Chair Rtn. Dr. Saswati Mukherjee. Inspiring speeches were delivered by President Subrata De, District Environmental

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

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Advisor Rtn. Dr. Dipankar Auddy and CYP Rtn. Purnendu Roychowdhury.

The workshop concluded with a vote of thanks from RDICC Rtn. Arpita Chatterjee. This event was made possible with the support of Club President Subrata De, Honorary Secretary Suman Chakraborty, PP Raj Agarwal and other Rotarians, including PP Sujata Pyne, Rtns. Anand Sharma and Yogesh Dassani, and R-Ann Sucharita Roychowdhury.

Report by Youth Chair Saswati

Our Ambassador Overseas – CYP visits RC Singapore



On 11th November 2024 I met members of Rotary Club of Singapore who are responsible for Membership, Women Empowerment and International. The team was led by Rtn. Perlita Tiro who is working extensively for women empowerment. Rtn. Yogesh Dodani, a banker and looking after International Service showed interest in doing small club to club projects with Rotary Club of Calcutta and evaluate from both sides if we can become sister clubs. Their club is



95 years old and has shown interest in joining CCRC as an associate member. We need to take this to the next step. I was accompanied by Rtn. Bani Roychowdhury who is a Past President of Rotary club of Calcutta Inner City. Our thanks to our host Perlita for treating us to a wonderful dinner.

JADOO – Indian Institute of Cerebral Palsy



On the invitation of Rtn Shoma Basu, Meena and I found ourselves in Rabindra Sadan on 13th Nov., transported to the magical world of Jadoo, a concert by the students and trainees of IICP, choreographed by Priti Patel. To see children and adults with CP perform on wheelchairs was for me an epiphany. About the production itself – slick with beautiful lights and props that included a spacecraft landing on stage! A program that represented in equal measure



empowerment, inclusion, dignity and hope. Blessed to have been there.. Ed

A Pictorial account of Ajay Agarwal’s latest trek



Ajay’s story was carried in the 29 Oct. issue. Due to paucity of space, some of the descriptions of the stark beauty of the place, the endurance of the trekkers etc could not be carried. Here they are in Ajay’s own words.

1. Snowcapped peaks, a pic taken from the flight to Ladakh. Because of the climatic changes the amount of snow on the peaks was far less than what one sees normally. Little did I realise then that one of them was Dzo Jongo (6240 m/20,472 ft), the peak that I would be climbing a few days later.
2. Our first view of Dzo Jongo from the ground. It’s on the right side of the pic. We were caught in a snowstorm a day before this. The snow is visible on the slope we are standing on. This was the approach to the Basecamp.



3. The Terrain and the approach to the summit. At heights of 19-20k ft the oxygen levels are low. Vegetation areas have been left far behind. It is normally all covered in snow. Since snowfall has been less, the rocky surface is visible.

4. One must negotiate rocks and

boulders. They are all loose and capable of slipping. The temp. was around minus 15°C.

5. The first rays of the sun on the snow-clad mountains.
6. As one climbs, one finds himself above most of the snowcapped peaks surrounding him.
7. On the glacier itself. One feels very small and vulnerable in its vast expanse.
8. Rainbow Mountains. So called because of the streaks of coloured layers in the mountain. It's a beautiful 10 km stretch but not accessible by road.

When Not If – Polio Eradication excerpted from an article by Etelka Lehoczky and Arnold R. Grahl in Rotary.org

Eradicating polio around the world is still an attainable goal, Rotary International President Stephanie A. Urchick and public health experts said as they commemorated World Polio Day in the city where the vaccine was developed.

"I know it is a question of when polio will be eradicated, not if," Urchick told the audience at a livestream event on 24 October in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA. "Our Action Plan talks about improving our impact. That's really where our polio eradication program shines," Urchick added. "Millions of children won't get this crippling disease. Billions of U.S. dollars won't be spent on ancillary health care costs because of this disease. We have made so much progress."

Polio remains endemic in two countries, Afghanistan, and Pakistan. In 2024, increased case counts of wild poliovirus and the first case of paralytic polio in Gaza in 25 years served as a reminder that until the disease is fully eliminated everywhere, it remains a threat to children everywhere. Despite the challenges, Michael K. McGovern, chair of the International PolioPlus Committee, said he remains confident as ever that global eradication is within reach. "We're in a bumpy period, but we're going to get this done by continuing to focus on Afghanistan and Pakistan and doing the things that were done so successfully by Rotarians," he said. "Men work diligently to immunize thousands of children every day at traffic checkpoints, while women go house to house to reach families directly," Urchick said. "Some workers literally climb mountains to vaccinate children in remote locations, and their determination never wavers."

The livestream event was part of a two-day Rotary zone institute. RI Director Patrick Eakes, who convened the institute, said Pittsburgh was a perfect location because it's where Dr. Jonas Salk developed the vaccine. "We realized we were in a unique position," said Eakes. Dr. Peter L. Salk, president of the Jonas Salk Legacy Foundation in La Jolla, California, and a part-time professor at the University of Pittsburgh School of Public Health, talked about what drove his father to develop the first inactive polio vaccine. "He just never let go," Salk recalled. "It was his personality to have a dream and get things done."

Salk said his father wanted to make a difference in the world from a young age and became interested in science. After working in the U.S. state of Michigan on an influenza vaccine, he came to Pittsburgh in 1947 to work at the virus research lab and received a grant for polio research from the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis. That led to his work developing the inactive polio vaccine.

In a video shown at the event that was originally recorded for the 2023 Rotary International Convention, Gates Foundation co-founder Bill Gates lauded the commitment toward eradication. "When polio is eradicated, it will be one of the biggest advances in public health in human history," said Gates. The Gates Foundation, a partner in the GPEI, matches up to US\$50 million that Rotary raises each year at a 2-to-1 ratio, which means up to US\$150 million for the effort each year.

REPORTING & ANNOUNCEMENTS



ONE WORLD

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

Happy Birthday

Rtn. Gaurav Swarup	21st November
Rtn. Harsh Vardhan Patodia	25th November
Rtn. Rachana Nahata	28th November
Rtn. Dr. Subhendu Sarkar	28th November
Rtn. Yogesh Dassani	1st December
Rtn. Shree Kumar Bangur	1st December
Rtn. Dr. Asis Kumar	2nd December
Rtn. Suvamoy Saha	2nd December

Wish you many happy returns of the day

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 3rd December, 2024 at 1.30 p.m. at Rotary Sadan/Lunch 12.30 p.m.

Speaker : To be announced.

Members' Roster

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

NOMINATION OF CLUB OFFICERS FOR THE ROTARY YEAR 2025-2026

Members are hereby informed that Nominations would be invited for the Posts of Vice-President, Hony. Secretary, Hony. Treasurer and five Directors on the Club's Board for the Rotary year 2025-2026 at the Regular Weekly Meeting to be held on Tuesday, 19th November, 2024. The corresponding final confirmation of the Board of Directors for the Rotary Year 2025-2026 will be held at the Club's Regular Weekly Meeting to be held on Tuesday, 17th December, 2024.

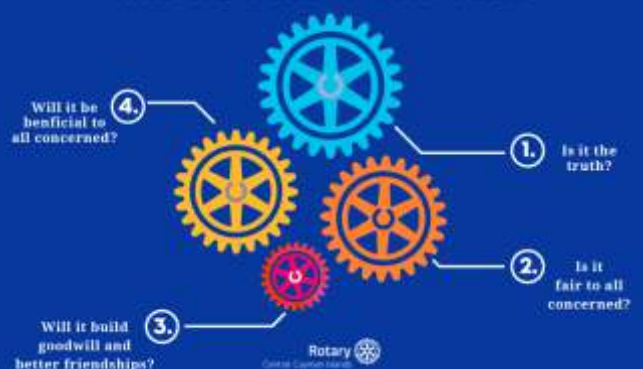
The Board at the meeting held on 28th October, 2024 accepted the resignations of the following Rotarians :

- Vijay Kumar Patodia (with effect from 30th September, 2024)
- Dr. Jayanta Roy (with effect from 29th October, 2024)
- Dr. Harsh Vardhan Agrawal (with effect from 29th October, 2024)
- Raghunath Ghose (with effect from 29th October, 2024)
- Saumen Ray (with effect from 31st October, 2024)

Wedding Anniversaries

Rtn. Amal Chandra Chakrabortti & R-Ann Tripti	20th November
Rtn. Dr. Dipak Roychowdhury & R-Ann Arundhati	20th November
Rtn. Sri Prakash Jalan & R-Ann Vandana	22nd November
Rtn. Vikram Aditya Mody & R-Ann Sanchita	25th November
Rtn. Shaurya Veer Himatsingka & R-Ann Riddhima	25th November
Rtn. Debashis Mitra & R-Ann Sambhi	27th November
Rtn. Abhijit Neogi & R-Ann Moumita	27th November
Rtn. Dr. Biswajit Paul & Dr. Silpee Paul Sorcar	27th November
Rtn. Bodhi Brata Das & Rtn. Anusua Das	28th November
Rtn. Amrita Banerjee & Mr. Somnath	29th November
Rtn. Dr. Parthajit Das & R-Ann Shreerupa	29th November
Rtn. Nishant Shah & R-Ann Nupur	29th November
Rtn. Anand Vardhan Bhuwalka & R-Ann Shalini	30th November
Rtn. Dr. Arkaprovo Roy & Dr. Sivareshmi Unnithan Roy	1st December
Rtn. P. S. Chauhan & R-Ann Kitty	1st December
Rtn. Bithal Das Mundhra & R-Ann Yamuna	2nd December

THE ROTARY 4-WAY TEST



99TH ANNUAL CHILDREN'S TREAT

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 1200 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 favor of "Rotary Children's Welfare Trust" will be eligible for Income Tax Exemption u/s 80G of the Income Tax Act.

GOODWILL VISIT

Rotary Club of Calcutta Victoria Made a Goodwill visit to our Club and exchanged Club Flag at the Regular Weekly Meeting held on Tuesday, 12th November, 2024 at Rotary Sadan.

NO MEETING

There will be no Regular Weekly meeting on Tuesday, 26th November, 2024

**THANK YOU DONORS (Donation received for Annual Children's Treat upto 12.11.2024)**

Late Rtn. Nandita Sen Endowment for Annual Children's Treat	Rs. 25,000	Rtn. Murari Lal Lohia	Rs. 51,000
Rtn. Atindra Nath Sen	Rs. 25,000	Rtn. Vikram Somany	Rs. 10,000
Rtn Brijendra Kumar Poddar	Rs. 10,000	R- Ann Parveen Hirji	Rs. 5,000
Rtn. Ashis Kumar Bagla	Rs. 25,000	Rtn. Dr. Indrajit Roy	Rs. 10,000
Rtn. Shankar Sehanobish	Rs. 5,000	Rtn. L. N. Bangur	Rs. 1,00,000
		Rtn. Balkrishna Dalmia	Rs. 10,000

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS / EVENTS

Day & Dates	Programmes	Timing and Venue
Tuesday, 26th November, 2024	No Regular Weekly Meeting (RWM)	–
Tuesday, 3rd December, 2024	Regular Weekly Meeting	1.30 p.m. / Lunch 12.30 p.m Rotary Sadan (2nd floor)
Sunday 8th December, 2024	The 99th Annual Children's Treat	at 10 a.m. onwards at Nicco Park , Salt Lake , Kolkata
Tuesday, 10th December, 2024	Regular Weekly Meeting Followed by Fellowship and Dinner.	6.30 p.m. onwards at Rotary Sadan (Ground floor)
Tuesday, 17th December, 2024	Regular Weekly Meeting (Closed Door Meeting – Election for the Board of Directors for Rotary year 2025-2026)	1.30 p.m. / Lunch 12.30 p.m Rotary Sadan (2nd floor)
Tuesdays, 24th & 31st December, 2024	No Regular Weekly Meetings (RWMs) For Christmas Holidays	–

OBJECTS OF ROTARY

The Object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster –

FIRST : The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service.

SECOND : High ethical standards in business and professions; the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations; and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society.

THIRD : The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life.

FOURTH : The advancement of international understanding, goodwill and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

**MINUTES OF THE 4962ND REGULAR WEEKLY MEETING HELD ON
12TH NOVEMBER, 2024 AT 1:30 P.M. AT ROTARY SADAN**

1. In the absence of President Rtn. Subrata De, PP Rtn. Raj Kumar Agrawal conducted the meeting.
2. Rtn. Raj Kumar Agrawal welcomed all Members and Guests and called the 4962nd Regular Weekly Meeting of the Club to order.
3. National Anthem was led by Rtn. Dr. Sankar Ghosh.
4. Minutes of the 4961st Regular Weekly Meeting of the Club held on 5th November, 2024 were confirmed.
5. Rtn. Raj Kumar Agrawal then welcomed Ms. Suman Manaksia, Life and Emotional Intelligence Coach as the Chief Guest on that day. Ms. Suman Manaksia would speak on "Second innings to Happiness".
6. Rtn. Raj Kumar Agrawal then welcomed visiting Rotarians and Guests who attended the meeting. Rtn. Agrawal also welcomed the team from Rotary Club of Calcutta Victoria for Goodwill visit to our Club. At the request of Rtn. Raj Kumar Agrawal, members of Rotary Club of Calcutta Victoria exchanged Club Flag.
7. **Rtn. Raj Kumar Agrawal reported the following :**
 - a) Rtn. Kirit Patel met with members of Rotary Club of Leesburg, Virginia, U S A, R.I. Dist. 7610 on a cruise and exchanged our Club Flag with them on 29th October, 2024.
 - b) In association with Rotary Calcutta, the District Interact Council in collaboration with District Action Group on Mental Health Initiatives and the District Mental Health and wellbeing Committee organized an exclusive Interactive Session on "Myself and the world Around Me" on Saturday, 9th November, 2024 at Rotary Sadan.
 - c) The Board at its meeting held on 6th November, 2024 decided that Past President, Rtn. Purnendu Roychowdhury should be Nominated as a candidate for DGND (District Governor for the Rotary year 2027-2028) from Rotary Club of Calcutta at the DG Election of 2024-25 . This was proposed to the General Body at the RWM by PP Rtn. Raj Kumar Agarwal and Seconded by PP Rtn. Sujata Pyne and it was unanimously approved by the members. The members authorised President, Rtn. Subrata De and Hony. Secretary, Rtn. Suman Chakraborty to act as necessary and to sign all documents related to elections for DGND. On behalf of the Club, Raj Kumar Agarwal congratulated PP Rtn. Purnendu Roychowdhury for the same.
8. **Rtn Raj Kumar Agrawal announced the following :**
 - i) NOMINATION OF CLUB OFFICERS FOR THE ROTARY YEAR 2025 -2026. Members were informed that Nominations would be invited for the Posts of Vice-President, Hony. Secretary, Hony. Treasurer and five Directors on the Club's Board for the Rotary year 2025-2026 at the Regular Weekly Meeting to be held on Tuesday, 19th November, 2024. The corresponding final confirmation of the Board of Directors for the Rotary Year 2025-2026 will be done at the Club's Regular Weekly Meeting to be held on Tuesday, 17th December, 2024.
 - ii) Vaccination Camp would be organised by Health Care Committee on next Tuesday, 19th November, 2024 after the Regular Weekly Meeting. Members were requested to enroll their names at the Club office.
9. **At the request of the PP Raj Kumar Agrawal, Hony. Secretary Rtn. Suman Chakraborty thereafter conducted the Club Business :**
 - a) He welcomed all the Members and Guests.
 - b) He then announced the names of Rotarians celebrating their Birthdays and Wedding Anniversaries for the week ending 18th November, 2024.
 - c) Next Meeting on Tuesday, 19th November, 2024 at 1.30 p.m. at Rotary Sadan / Lunch 12.30 p.m. It would be a Closed-Door Meeting & Nomination for the Board of Directors for the Rotary year 2025-2026 and on the same day after the RWM, a Vaccination Camp would be organised by Health Care Committee.
 - d) Members' Roster for the Rotary Year 2024-25 is now available and he requested members to collect their copy from the Club Office.
 - e) The next meeting of the Board of Directors (2024-25) of the Club would be held on Monday, 18th November, 2024 at 6.30 p.m at the Rotary Sadan (Board Room, 1st floor), 94/2, Chowringhee Road, Kolkata – 700 020 and he requested all members of the Board to make a note of it and attend.
 - f) There would be no Regular Weekly meeting on Tuesday, 26th November, 2024.
10. At the request of PP Raj Kumar Agrawal, Ms Suman Manaksia addressed the audience on "Second innings to Happiness".
11. Questions raised by the members were answered by the Chief Guest.
12. At the request of PP Raj Kumar Agrawal, Rtn. Ashok Kumar Basu offered the Vote of thanks.
13. On behalf of our Club, PP Raj Kumar Agrawal handed over a memento to Ms Suman Manaksia.
14. Sunshine Box Collection was Rs. 600/- with special contribution from Rtns. Haladhar Dey and Dr. Koel Roychowdhury on that day.
15. The Club remembered with good wishes Rotary Club of Leesburg, Virginia, R.I. Dist. 7610.
16. Meeting was adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

Raj Kumar Agrawal
Acting President

Suman Chakraborty
Hony. Secretary