

**DISTRICT 3291** 

## The Journey so far.....

## Suchona

The first program of Team 20-21 began with Suchona..the beginning. It was held at Royal Bengal Hall, City Centre, Salt Lake on 21st September 2019. District Governor Elect began his journey with his core team and other senior Rotarians in presence of the Past District Governors. It was a spectacular program with inaugural dance, interfaith services, Introduction of District Governor Elect Sudip Mukherjee, Introduction of his team 20-21, followed by felicitation of his President Elects. The program ended with saxophone recital by Sam Saukat.



District Governor Sudip Mukherjee, 1st Lady Sumita & their son Senajit

## SubhaYatra (Bon Voyage)

DGE Sudip Mukherjee and partner Sumita was given a warm Bon Voyage on January 2020 at Casa Broadway Kolkata. The program was graced by all team members of DGE along with the Past District Governors. Almost all our past Governors were present with their spouses and they shared their experiences with the Governor elect. RIPN Shekhar Mehta assured them to be present and be available at all times. Program ended with fellowship and dinner.



Wising Sudip & Sumita Mukherjee Bon Voyage to the International Assembly.



Bon Voyage at the airport



Welcome back for Governor Elect

## Wishes From The **District** Trainer :

My heart is full of joy with satisfaction as I am witnessing this great day. Our very very dear Sudip is taking the rein of this chequered District 3291 on it's 101st year - the first year of the New millennium. My family is so close to



Sudip's which can not be expressed in words. Sudip is not only my younger brother but Sumita and Senajit are also very precious and dear to me, Java & Adrija.

We spent so much time together during my year of Governorship in 2011-12 and that bonding grew from strength to strength in following years. Sudip has the urge, the courage, the will, the conviction, the talent and the inclination to do good to the world and I am sure that we are going to witness another Golden Year in 2020-21 in our District 3291. The way he meticulously planned his each and every event till now, even during the lockdown situation, I feel privileged to work with him and his dedicated team as the District Trainer.

We wish Sudip, Sumita and the entire Team of 2020-21 a very meaningful, fruitful, successful and enjoyable Rotary year. God bless them all.

#### Angsuman Bandyopadhyay

## Letter From The GML Chair:

#### Hi Friends!

As has been the custom every year, we are launching the Governor's Monthly letter GML on 1st July, the day Rotary Leadership changes at all levels. This issue covers mostly the training



programmes held for the new leaders in Rotary. There has been a paradigm shift globally since March 2020 as the physical training programmes had to give place to cloud meetings, you will find reflection of that in the issue. I am sure you all are geared up to serve the society and as you do so, please send your club project report for the month with a photograph within the 7th of next month. The email id for sending club reports will be gml3291. 2021@gmail.com. District Governor Sudip Mukherjee has dedicated a section to the creative Rotarians. Request you to send original printable creative works like poetry ( English, Bengali, Hindi, very short story, sketches, paintings and other writings to the above mail id. Any Rotarian, their spouses, children all are invited to contribute here.

Wishing you a great Rotary year!

Soma Kazi, (Chair, GML)

## District Governor Speaks:

#### Dear Rotarian Friends,

What a great moment as we are stepping into the 2nd Century of Rotary in India. I take the opportunity of congratulating all Core Committee Members, Trail Blazer Presidents, Club Secretaries, Assistant Governors, Zonal Secretaries, Advisors, Chairmen, Co- Chairmen,



Zonal Coordinators and Office Bearers of all Clubs for your assignments in this new Rotary Year. We are well aware that 3 important Verticals of Rotary International are: Membership, Foundation and Public Image. I am sure all the Club will give importance to them. Of the other two verticals, apart from Club Administration we have Service Projects. Rotary India Humanity Foundation under able guidance of RIPE Shekhar Mehta has launched a 5 year plan from RY 2020-21 to RY 2024-25 of 8 different verticals pertaining to Service Projects. They are: Literacy, Water Sanitation, Health (Preventive), Health (Curative), Environment, Disaster Management and the 8th vertical namely Corporate Social Responsibility is aimed to get funds for service projects. I request your Club take up meaningful and sustainable service projects pertaining to above verticals of your choice, of course more the merrier. Please also stress upon increase in Membership and contribution to The Rotary Foundation. I am sure with your zeal and hard work we will adapt ourselves to the present new normal situation and make this Rotary Year a grand success. as 'Rotary Opens' **Opportunities**'

Regards, Sudip Mukherjee District Governor

## Message From IPDG Ajay Agarwal

Dear District Governor Sudip,

The change in leadership, the new theme, new office bearers - these are hallmarks of the constant change which we experience in Rotary every year.



spirit to do good in the world, and the action we take to UNITE PEOPLE, the base of all activity in our organisation.

The actions we take may be big or small, but each one is important if we can touch lives around

I am sure that along with your very competent team, you will lead district 3291 with great distinction.

The current situation has been repeatedly described as difficult and challenging. But leadership is always about dealing with difficulties and challenges. I have no doubt given your excellent qualities you will emerge triumphant.

I extend my best wishes to Sumita and yourself for carrying the torch of service and motivate and guide everyone in the era when ROTARY OPENS **OPPORTUNITIES!** 

With regards and greetings from Mamta and myself

Ajay Agarwal Immidiate Past District Governor 2020-2021.



## Souhardya - President Elects Training Session -1

Was held at Hotel Sonar Bangla at the serene banks of River Ichamati at Taki on 14th and 15th December 2019. About 90 Presidents Elect attended the session. The sessions started post lunch when our DGE Sudip Mukherjee, DT Angsuman Bandyopadhyay, DGN Prabir Chatterjee, PDG Brojo Gopal Kundu and PDG Anirudha Roy Choudhury spoke on leadership and other subjects. The main session ended on a great deliveration by Sri Biplab Dasgupta, noted film and theatre personality. The evening ended with fellowship and dinner. Spouses and their children had a great time enjoying the location and engaging programs lead by Jaya & Adrija Bandyopadhyay and First Lady Sumita Mukherjee.



### Samonnoy - Assistant Governors Training Session

was held at the same location as PETS ie Sonar Bangla Taki on 29th February and 1st March 2020. All Assistant Governors, Zonal Secretaries, Core Team and the Faculty PDGs were present for the program. The host club was Central Gardens Calcutta. All attendees went to Taki on Saturday Morning. After enjoying the pleasant drive, and the breathtaking location, they settled down and had lunch. Post Lunch, the sessions began. Then DGE Sudip Mukherjee, DT Angsuman Bandyopadhyay, DGND Ajoy Kumar Law, PDG Jhulan Basu spoke on the various subjects related to effective guidance towards running of the clubs. Keynote speaker for the session was noted film and advertising personality Sri Barun Chanda. Evening ended in fellowship and dinner. Next day, the sessions continued till lunch. Post lunch, the team returned to Kolkata. There were almost 120 attendees for the program.





## An Online Interview of

## Rotary International President Elect Shekhar Mehta

Dear RIPE Shekhar Mehta.

As the saying goes "every cloud has a silver lining", it has been our privilege to have you in our proximity in this hour of PANDEMIC and see you planning the road map for Rotary post COVID -19 world.

#### Q In NDTV, you had presented TOGETHER WITH CHILDREN, what exactly are Rotary's vision to uplift the life of children in India?

A. Rotary's programs more often than not have been aimed at the children. Children are the trustees of posterity - they are our tomorrow. Whether it was polio eradication, we were working for children or it is the gift of life / saving little hearts / healing little hearts we are saving lives of children.

We want the children of India to be healthy and educated. So we work on nutrition of children having provided more than 2 million meals and the numbers will soon multiply.

Educating the children is one of our biggest programs now. During COVID when the children are locked-down at home and have no or little access to education, we are providing world class audio visual content to educate them by providing e-learning content from class I to class XII through the government of India to be beamed in a Television to millions of children. For their health we have various programs like Health check up and monitoring in schools as well as in rural areas.

#### Q. On 24th May, you had a meeting with Hon'ble Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas and Minister of Steel, Govt of India Sri DharmendraPradhan, what was the outcome of this meeting?

A. In the meeting with Sri Dharmendra Pradhan, Minister of Petroleum and National Gas and Steel, we made a request to him for asking PSUs to provide CSR funding to help fund the e-learning and adult literacy program of Rotary in India. At the request of the Minister we also agreed to provide skill development to 1 lakh adults. This would be a big step towards "Atmanirbhar Bharat". He also suggested and we agreed to set up digital device banks so that these discarded items could be passed on to people who cannot afford them.

#### Q. Your Tete a tete with Gurudev Sri Sri Ravi Shankar on RE -INVENTING SERVICE AND PEACE FOR UNIVERSAL ONENESS POST PANDEMIC was most fulfilling experience. Can you sum the essence of the discussion you had with him?

A The meeting with Sri Sri Ravi Shankar was very fruitful. I have proposed to him about working together for "Peace". I had invited Art of Living to partner with Rotary India for adult education, e-learning etc. They can also provide us audio visual content on their special yoga initiative for us to be beamed to children through our e-learning program.

#### Q. In your interview on Bluntly Speaking, you discussed your vision and the contribution of Rotary towards this world disaster called COVID -19, can you enumerate on them?

A. Rotary's work against COVID 19 around the world has been outstanding. Rotarians have worked with sincerity, alacrity and speed. The Rotary Foundation has already approved more than 200 disaster grants and very soon 110 more are getting approved taking the total to nearly \$9 million or Rs. 65 crores. Apart from this many Global Gants across the world have been approved and at great speed.

Over and above this, Rotarians in India have worked amazingly for COVID. Our contributions to PM Care Fund are Rs. 105 crores. Add to that grassroot level work valued at Rs. 90 crores which includes the distribution of about 1 crore masks, a few lakh litres of sanitizers, 1 lakh PPE sets etc. 5 million meals were provided to people, thousands of hours of mental health counseling have been done. The contributions have been just outstanding.

#### **Q**. You had met Hon'ble Minister of Electronics and Information Technology Sri Ravi Shankar Prasad on 8th of June and discussed on "Spearheading the digital India program ". Can you through some light on the discussions so far?

During the meeting with Sri Ravi Shankar Prasad we have made a Α. request to him for the government to issue a postage stamp in recognition of 100 years of service to humanity by Rotary in India. He requested us to work



on digital health requesting Rotary to patronize Common Service Centre (CSC). We are in discussion with the Ministry to take the matter forward.

#### Q. The MOU signing of RIHF and NCERT took place on 9th June. How will our children benefit from this collaboration?

A. The MOU of Rotary India Humanity Foundation and NCERT are about providing world class audio visual content for children who are sitting at home because of lockdown. These lessons are based absolutely on the curriculum, which these children study in their schools. These are going to be telecast through 12 TV channels, 1 channel for each class. The content to be shown on this channel will primarily be provided by Rotary. This will help children educate themselves even as they are locked down at home.

Once the schools are open, the same content will be made available to the children at their schools through overhead projectors or TV.

This initiative is a paradigm shift in the way children study in India. And this will help the children to learn better, comprehend better and retain better. At the same time it will reduce the rural, urban gap using technology.

#### Q. On 14th June, we experienced the getting together of the two Giants, "The Lions" and "The Rotary " with a theme SYNERGY TO SERVE. How do you think we can benefit from this conglomeration?

A. The meeting with the Lions International representatives was interesting. The work of Rotary and Lions is similar. So there is lot of synergy in our work. Our partnering will make us a very potent entity. It can help a lot in discussion with the governments and other NGOs as well as in creating policy. There is also great opportunity of cross learning and multiplying the outcome by adding the resources.

#### Q. The biggest publc image program of Rotary is on Colour TV Channel with IIFA and Wizcraft for Chhoti si Asha, your another Dram project. Do you feel that it will be the real gamechanger for Rotary in India?

A. Chhoti si Asha by Rotary India, Rotary Club of Bombay and Wizcraft is about showcasing the work of Rotary in India with a focus on children and COVID. The program is being promoted by biggest names in the film industry - a never before event for Rotary. This 3 hour program is featuring messages from top political leaders of India and showcasing the good work of Rotary. It definitely is the biggest public image exercise we may have done in Rotary in India. The channel on which it is being shown, 'COLORS TV' apart from Live Telecast for 3 hours on 28th June, it will be repeat telecast in 160 countries a number of times thereafter and will have millions of viewers apart from huge numbers on facebook. Rotary's name will definitely become more popular and recognizable in India because of this effort. Thereafter it will be for the Rotary Clubs and Rotarians to use it as a game changing plan.

Dear Shekhar da, as the world changes, it was the need of the hour to have a visionary like you to lead from the front, we look forward with hopes for a world where every human being fits in with their dignity and integrity and march towards a common goal of well being of Humanity.

Thank you so much.

### Souhardya 2

**President Elect Training Seminar - 2** was held on 6th June 2020 on web platform. After the opening remarks of DG Ajay Agarwal, DT Angsuman Bandyapadhyay and DGE Sudip Mukherjee addressed the attendees. An excerpt from the speech of RIPE Holger Knaack was played. PDG Rajani Mukherji spoke on Planning the year, PDG Uttam Ganguli spoke on Leading Rotarians, PDG Shyamashree Sen delivered on Running your meetings. IPDG Mukul Sinha spoke on "Running your Club". DTE Angsuman spoke on Online tools and Rotary Learning Centre. PDG Debashis Mitra spoke on Strengthening membership. PDG Rajendra Khandelwal spoke on Promoting Rotary and PDG Ravi Sheghal on The Rotary Foundation. A few announcements were made about the Directory and GML. All Presidents, Assistant Governors, Zonal Secretaries and Core Team attended the program.



### Sanhati

The Secretary Elect's training seminar and Treasurer Elect Training seminar was held on the same day 6th June 2020 on Web platform. After DG Ajay Agarwal made his opening remarks, DTE Angsuman Bandyodadhyay, DGE Sudip Mukherjee, PDG Utpal Majumdar, PDG Jhulan Basu, PDG Raj Kumar Rajgharia spoke about the roles and responsibilities of the office bearers. Open house and Q & A session followed by Vote of Thanks by DGND Ajoy Kumar Law. It was attended by all the Club Secretaries and Treasurers.

### Grant Management Seminar 20-21

was held on Web Platform on 7th June 2020. After the welcome address, DGE Sudip Mukherjee delivered on "Know your Foundation" and introduced the Team. DRFC PDG Anirudha Roy Choudhury spoke on Grant Management overview: Global Grant, District Grant/ Area of Focus, roles and responsibilities of Club President. Ms. Jhilam Roychoudhury, Program director RILM spoke on "Planning a Global Grant/ Partner/Project Committee and community assessment. Next, ARRFC Rajani Mukherji spoke on how "Sustainability is the key".DT Angsuman Bandyopadhyay delivered on Financial Management, monitor, evaluation and reporting. After this Incoming RRFC Basudev Golyan spoke on "Our Foundation of Hope. Next, Me Sakuntala Raha of RISAO spoke on TRF giving and



recognition. After this there was an open house and interactions. Programme ended with vote of thanks. The program was attended by the Club Presidents, President Elects and Club Foundation Chair.

# **RIHF** trainings

Rotary India Humanity Foundation have launched a 5 year plan from Rotary Year 20-21 to Rotary Year 24-25 of 8 different verticals. They are:

Literacy	with Zonal Coordinator PDG Aswini Kar
Water	with Zonal Coordinator PDG Brojo Gopal Kundu
Sanitation	with Zonal Coordinator PDG Ravindra Prakash Sehgal
Health(Preventive)	with Zonal Coordinator PDG Mukul Sinha
Health(Curative)	with Zonal Co ordinator PDG Pinaki Prasad Ghosh
Environment	with Zonal Co ordinator Dr Sayantan Gupta
Disaster Management	with Zonal Co ordinator Kalpana Khound
CSR.	with Zonal Co ordinator PDG Rajendra Khandelwal





The level I training for all of the above was held with the zonal coordinators only.

On 18th May 2020, Level II training for Health Preventive and Curative was held on digital platform. All Presidents, District Chairmans, members of committees, Core Committee, Assistant Governors and Zonal Secretaries were present for the meeting. The Zonal Co ordinators IPDG Mukul Sinha and PDG Pinaki Prasad Ghosh presented an excellent guideline on how to work on these areas.

On 18th June 2020, The Level II training for CSR was held on digital platform. Invitees were same as above. Zonal Coordinator PDG Rajendra Khandelwal delivered his address on the road map to it.

On 21st June, The Level II training on Environment and Disaster Management was held on Web Platform. Invitees were same as above. Zonal Coordinators IPDE Dr. Sayantan Gupta and PDG Kalpana Khound delivered on the subject. On 22nd June, The Level II training on Literacy and Water was held on digital platform. PDG Aswini Kar ,PDG Brojo Gopal Kundu along with joint secretary RILM PDG Rajani Mukherjee were present for the occasion.

## District Training Assembly - Sanghabaddha

The District Training Assembly "Sanghabaddha" was held on web platform on 14th June 2020. National Anthem was followed by Interfaith Service. District Governor Ajay Agarwal made his opening address. He stressed on the 4 most important need for the hour, Innovation, Adoptation, Flexibility and continuity. He expressed that communication is the key to success. He also said that co operation and understanding among the members are of utmost importance. Members should



subdue their personal ego and nurture the new members in the club. Next District Trainer PDG Angsuman Bandyopadhyay discussed about the training programmes held so far. He discussed on the training modules based on CLP and advised all clubs to hold their COTS and Club Assembly.

District Governor 20-21 Sudip Mukherjee was introduced by Smarajit Mitra. Sudip Mukherjee addressed the gathering. He discussed about the 8 new verticals of Rotary India Humanity Foundation. An excerpt from the speech of Rotary International President Holgaar Knaack was shown. After this, RI Director Bharat Pandya addressed the gathering. He started his deliberation with the important thing that Covid-19 has taught us. It has imposed on us the fact that health is our greatest possession. He stated that one should never give up hope and that hope creates new oppurtunities. He stressed on the 5 c's, Change, Commitment, Competence, Confidence and Conclusion. He asked all of us to campaign for " Ek Chamach kam, chaar kadam age". Membership Chair PDG Debasis Mitra delivered his lecture on how to increase membership, stressing on retention. Incoming Public Image Chair DG Ajay Agarwal spoke on Public Image and how public image is all about perception, trust and expection. He followed it up with a quiz which was enjoyed by all. After this, PDG Ravi Sheghal spoke on Club Administration, PDG Anirudha Roy Choudhury on Rotary Foundation. DT Angsuman Bondyopadhyay took session on "Service Projects" This was followed by the speech of our RIPN Shekhar Mehta who spoke on Leadership and what it demands. Lastly, the keynote speaker Rtn. PR Ramesh, former chairman of Deloitte India, spoke on Leadership in times of crisis. It was an excellent programme attended by almost 400 + participants.



嬔 Club Installations 嬔



**Rotary Club of Kolkata Temple City** 



**Rotary Club of Kolkata Millenium** 



**Rotary Club of Kamarhati** 



**Rotary Club of Calcutta** 



Rotary Year 2020-2021 started with a Mega Blood Donation Project organized by district 3291 supported by the Rotaractars of the district act Rotary Sadan Prakash Bhawan Salt lake and Thakurpukur Cancer Hospital. Rotary clubs of Murshidabad and Purulia organized camps at there respective locations.



















## Rotary's 7th Area of Focus

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