



# Newsletter

ROTARY CLUB OF  
CALCUTTA POINTERS  
**THE CHATTER**  
October 2024



## Note from Rtn Aditi Dey



My journey with Rotary started when I asked a friend- a longtime Rotarian Sharmila Roy- how I can contribute to the social development in West Bengal. Soon I came to know there were many like me who wanted to do some quality work for the people of the state. With Rtn Sharmila Roy's help and advice, RCCP started its journey and so far the alumni- members have worked in different locations and diverse segments like education, health, environment and economic development. As we progressed, friends and families of members came forward to help RCCP with funds and encouragement and it was most gratifying. Some very active and enthusiastic Rotarians ensured we worked in remote areas of West Bengal and I was fortunate to get the responsibility of looking into deeper reaches of the Sundarbans- where social workers venture infrequently. Visiting those villages, building a pre- school there, planting mangrove saplings and helping impoverished Tiger Widows, have been most fulfilling. The breakfasts on steamers, the rides on narrow skiffs, the jerky rides on cycle vans- all seemed special in the company of school friends.

Currently, we are piloting a 3 year project to train the widows in building a sustainable and financially self- supporting earning system using their own land and pond, with skills they are already good at- farming, raising poultry, setting up fisheries. The great thing I found about Rotary Trust is that it is willing to support a new club with a large grant to execute a well designed project. This got me working with our first Global Grant project aimed at teaching sustainable organic farming to about 100 farmers near Canning and guiding them to reclaim the land damaged through use of chemical fertilizers. Setting up a Rotary Club from the scratch was a challenge, but the journey has been rewarding. More participation and more involvement will ensure greater success for RCCP.

**Rtn Aditi Dey**



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# Monthly Projects

## Sundarbans Widows (Year 2)

Project date: 1st October 2024

In 2023, Rotary Club of Calcutta Pointers (RCCP) launched the project 'Women's Economic Development and Empowerment' in Gosaba region of Sundarbans, to establish sustainable livelihood for 20 widows there. The women had lost their husbands to tiger attacks and needed to support the families. The flagship project that cost Rs 2,70, 000 and took 100 hours, recently completed one year and the lessons learnt led us to focus on 4 areas of paddy plantation, poultry, intercropping of vegetables and pisciculture.

Our RCC, Purbasha Eco Helpline Society (PEHS) is our partner on the ground.

RCCP is committed to making a difference in this community and will continue to monitor progress, engage experts and undertake field visits to ensure positive outcomes as the 20 women beneficiaries move towards self-sufficiency.

Rtn Aditi Dey, the project lead, was helped by Rtn Aniruddha Bhattacharya, Rtn Dr Sachindra Rao, Rtn Nabanita Khan, Rtn Colonel Soumya Priya Mukherjee, Rtn Utpal Pal, Rtn Sanjukta Majumdar, Rtn Dr Babita G. Saha and her PI team.

*Category: Community Economic Development-gainful employment*



## Cervical Cancer and HPV Vaccination Awareness Seminar for Batighar Pathshala

Project date: 4th October 2024

RCCP is associated with Batighar Pathshala, an informal education set- up run by NGO Jadavpur Bondhu Collective Welfare Society for children living in the red- light area of Kalighat, for the last three years.

With the announcement of the launch of Aparajita project by the District, RCCP decided to take this programme to the girl students of Batighar and their family members. Coming from impoverished backgrounds and lacking awareness about the risks inherent in the environment they are forced to live in, these girls have every chance of contracting cervical cancer in their adult lives.

An awareness session on cervical cancer and HPV vaccination conducted by Rtn Dr Sujoy Majumdar on 4th October 2024, was attended by the target group and their mothers. The session helped the attendees to understand the gravity of the disease, and consent was taken from all for vaccination.

The vaccination camp will be held in December 2024.

The project was led by Rtn Nabanita Khan. Rtn Dr Sujoy Majumdar was the lecturer.

*Category: Disease Prevention and Treatment- advocacy and awareness; health issues- seminar*



# Monthly Projects



# HAPPY Birthday

## Birthdays

**Rtn Satyajit Srimani**

3rd October

**Rtn Aditi Dey**

11th October

**Rtn Nabanita Khan**

16th October



## Heartfelt Thanks to our Donors

Prasanta Mahanty(External)  
Surajit Laha (External)  
Khusroo Khan (External)  
Rajat Banerjee (External)  
Rtn Saumitra Ray  
Rtn Soumyapriya Mukherjee  
Rtn Utpal Pal  
Rtn Rubali Chakraborty  
Rtn Paramita Chowdhury  
Rtn Sudip Dasgupta  
Rtn Aniruddha Bhattacharya  
Rtn Indrajit Bose  
Rtn Mou Pal  
Rtn Sachindra Rao  
Rtn Sujoy Majumdar

### **President:**

Rtn Colonel SP Mukherjee (Retd)

### **Secretary:**

Rtn Nabanita Khan

### **Interim Newsletter Team:**

Rtns SutapaRoy, Snehajyoti Saha

### **Upcoming Projects in November 2024**

1. Sanitary Napkin Packaging and Distribution Center at Katwa
2. Aparajita - Cervical Cancer Vaccination camp at Kalighat

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