

Official Bulletin of

Rotary



Calcutta Mahanagar

RI District: 3291 | Club No. 27735



# Mahanagar

BASIC EDUCATION AND LITERACY MONTH

SEPTEMBER

Date: 8<sup>th</sup> September, 2023

VOLUME No. XXXIII ISSUE No. 04



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District Governor: Hira Lal Yadav

President: Jyoti Mahipal  
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## UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS

Project MHM:  
9th September

Health Check-up Camp at  
Gosaba: 10th September

Annadaan Mahadaan  
10th September

International  
**Literacy**  
Day

"Education is that door which opens up the whole new world to you, to explore, to revive, to invent.... Wishing you a very Happy International Literacy Day."

**NEXT RWM**  
15th September

PROUD TO  
SUPPORT



**SEPTEMBER**  
CHILDHOOD CANCER  
AWARENESS  
MONTH

## TODAY'S SPEAKER



Mukti Gupta

Mukti Gupta spearheads the Strategic Initiatives and Operations of her family business - Mukti Group. The Group is into the Real Estate, Hospitality and Entertainment industries.

She formed Help Us Help Them in 2001 with her family and friends. She was very actively involved in relief work in the interior region of Gujrat during after the earthquake in 2001 and in Tamil Nadu after the Tsunami. HUHT now provides education free of cost to 700 underprivileged children through its two projects – a rural school in Mallickpur (Kolkata South 24 Parganas) and an innovative mobile school 'School on Wheels'. Her dream project is now turning into

reality - a free residential learning centre for over 1000 rural girls - Adhigam Bhoomi – "Apni Mitti Se Judi Shiksha".

She is also one of the founding members of "Kolkata Gives", a platform to connect credible NGOs and Donors. Ms. Gupta is greatly inspired by her parents, and especially by her father Sri R.K. Gupta Ji who gave her the opportunity and encouragement to prove her acumen. She firmly believes in Nelson Mandela's quote "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."

## LAST RWM - NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION

On 24th August' 2023 we hosted our RWM in HHI Kolkata. This RWM was made special by the courteous presence of two PDGS from Bangladesh & Gujrat, one AG from Nepal and one Rotarian from Rajasthan. We were so inspired and mesmerized by the Orientation of New members by our very own PRIP Shekhar da. We were thrilled and amazed listening to the journey of Rotary by him and how we strive for the betterment of the needy and "Creating hope in the world ". In the presence of more than 45 members we expanded our Rotarian family with the pin up of Rtn Dharmesh & Vaishali. Rtn Jyoti Sureka, Chairperson of project Annadaan Mahadaan being recognized SHERO of the week and celebrated the successful landing of Chandrayan 3, our heart was filled with joy and excitement. I must say "The evening was an evening of wonders, indeed!"



-By Urvi Agarwal

## HIGHLIGHTS

Today's Speaker | Last Rwm | President Message | Projects Of Mahanagar | Trust Meeting | Board Meeting  
Teachers' Day Celebration | Puzzle | Puzzle Answer | Spotlight | Flag Exchange | Minutes | Congratulations!

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Welcome September!!

August month was awesome with fantastic fellowships and meaningful projects to serve humanity and I am sure September will recharge us for new projects and new events.

**विद्याप्रशस्यते लोकेः विद्यासर्वत्रगौरवा ।  
विद्यालभते सर्वे विद्वानसर्वत्र पूज्यते ।।**

It means - Knowledge is considered great everywhere, one can attain everything with the help of knowledge. An educated person is respected everywhere.

September is Basic Education and Literacy Month. Our goal is to strengthen the capacity of communities to support basic education and literacy, reduce gender disparity in education, and increase adult literacy. We support education for all children and literacy for children and adults.

Life is about a lot more than just simply existing and literacy gives meaningful purpose and direction to live life to the fullest. There can't be a better celebration of International Literacy Day than adopting a school and work towards its wholistic growth. Our visit to Rotary Vivekanand school at Kultali is an initiative to work for the cause of Literacy and skill development. Udaan and TEACH programme are our ongoing programs of Rotary.

Mahanagar to spread literacy. On this occasion of International Literacy Day, we are going to launch a career counseling programme for school going children by an educationist Saloni Priya. We are glad that today we have amongst us Mukti Gupta as a speaker who works for literacy with passion. Our literacy is a treasure for which we are always grateful.

Nelson Mandela once said, 'Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.' Education is one of the most important means of empowering human. Let's take pledge to do more projects based on education as it's not just a necessity, it's a basic human right.

## PROJECTS OF MAHANAGAR



### Healing Little Heart

This year we are trying to do 33 Paediatric Heart Surgeries. There are three Hospitals working with us on subsidized rates i.e., Narayana Super Specialty, Howrah, RN Tagore Hospital Kolkata and Mission Hospital, Durgapur.

- On 22nd August, a heart surgery was done of 4 years old boy, Adil Ali Molla, at R N Tagore Hospital. His father is a daily labor having monthly income of Rs. 3000. They are residing in Kolkata. Medical Chair Mahinder Singhal and club secretary Ritu Choudhury visited the boy at Hospital on 25th August and wished the child a healthy life.
- On the same day another surgery was done of Master Saharsajit Das, 1 year 3 months old boy, at Narayana Super specialty Hospital, Howrah. They are residing in Howrah. His father is a machine operator having monthly income of Rs. 6000. On 25th August, PPAshok Agarwal, Amit Agarwal, Pradeep Agarwal and Shweta Choudhury visited the child at Narayana Hospital.
- On 31st August, a heart surgery was successfully done of a 7-year-old boy Amritaksha Das at R N Tagore Hospital. Team Mahanagar visited the child on 1st September comprising, Mahinder Singhal, Ritu Choudhury, Pradeep Agarwal, Uma Mohta, and Vinod Mahipal.
- On 5th September, Snigdha Mallick, 3 years old girl, from Nadia undergo ASD Device Closure at R N Tagore Hospital. Her father is a daily labor having monthly income is Rs. 3,000/-.



### Eye Camp

On 22nd August 2023, an eye camp was held and 23 patients visited the Camp. 9 male and 11 female spectacles were advised and 3 patients were referred to our hospital for surgery.

On 4th September, we have started another vision center (Gocharan Vision Center). Hundreds of people will benefit by this center which will do basic eye checkup and provide specs. Those needing surgery will be sent to our Netralaya.





## Annadaan Mahadaan

Under this project we distribute freshly cooked food to the needy and hungry people. Project was done on different locations on different dates.

**Date:** 24.08.23

**Direct Beneficiaries:** 300

**Venue:** Chittaranjan Hospital

**Sponsor:** Sarita Lohia

**Date:** 04.09.23

**Direct Beneficiaries:** 300

**Venue:** Kalighat Tram Depot

**Sponsor:** Shalini Bagaria

**Date:** 27.08.2023

**Direct Beneficiaries:** 300

**Venue:** Kalighat Tram Depot

**Sponsor:** Rtn Jyoti Kumar Bajaj

**Date:** 05.09.23

**Direct Beneficiaries:** 120

**Sponsor:** Rtn Sandeep Bagrecha

**Venue:** Little Sisters for the Poor

**Date:** 02.09.23

**Direct Beneficiaries:** 300

**Venue:** Chetla Hanuman Mandir

**Sponsor:** PP Mahendra-Uma Mohta

**Date:** 05.09.23

**Direct Beneficiaries:** 300

**Sponsor:** PP Ajjay-Lajo Lodha

**Venue:** Paddapukur



## Homeopathy

On 6th September 14 patients visited and were given free medicines at our homeopathy clinic.



## Distribution of Blind Sticks

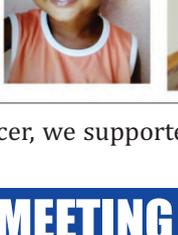
On 27th August, under Service Project Medical, our club distributed 30 blind sticks, biscuits and Bournvita from food bank to the 50 inmates of Lighthouse for the Blind. Rtn Jyoti Kumar Bajaj sponsored the lunch for the inmates also.



## Paediatric Cancer



**LBC supported 20 children in August'23. 8 children from SSKM, 4 children from Tata Medical Centre, 5 Children from SGCCRI, and 3 children from NRS.**



Under Project Paediatric Cancer, we supported 20 children in the month of August.

## TRUST MEETING



First Trust meeting of this Rotary year was held on 28th August at PRIP Shekhar Mehta's office. Projects done under Trust were discussed. Attended by PRIP Shekhar Mehta, PP Anand Sureka, PP Ajay Lodha, PP Sanjay Dugar, PP Pranay Agarwal, President Jyoti Mahipal, Secretary Ritu Choudhury and Treasurer Sanjay Bhalotia.

## BOARD MEETING



The recently concluded board meeting held on August 29th at Conclave was an event to remember. As a first-time attendee, I extend my gratitude to Jyoti Bhabhi for the invitation and the opportunity to be a part of this important gathering.

During the meeting, a lively exchange of ideas and discussions took place among the board members. One notable presence was PRIP Shekhar Mehta, who shared insights into ongoing projects, providing a glimpse of the exciting endeavors ahead. The meeting was a platform for board members to voice their opinions on crucial matters.

Secretary Ritu Choudhary played a pivotal role by meticulously noting down all the important points raised during the meeting. At the conclusion of the meeting, she extended a well-deserved vote of thanks to all the board members for their active participation and constructive contributions.

*-By Rtn Kavita Bhalotia*

## TEACHERS' DAY CELEBRATION AT VIVEKANAND SCHOOL

### *Chalo School Chale!*

On 6th September, we visited Rotary Vivekananda School & Skill Centre at Kultali (Baraipur, South 24 Parganas). This school was started in 2018 by Rotary District 3291 with the help of funding received from Rotary District 3490. Last Rotary year, our Club jointly with Rotary Club of Metro South had signed an MOU to adopt this school and work together to improve the facilities for the students.

To take the project forward, members from both clubs were present at the school visit where we identified the areas where improvement is needed. The school is very well constructed with airy classrooms and lots of green all around. Currently there are about 260 students from Pre-Primary to Class 4. It was a delight to interact with the children - we also gave away books and biscuits to them. We felicitated the teachers with certificates and gifts on the occasion of Teachers Day. After a reiki of the premises, there was a joint meeting with members of both clubs - presided by PRIP Shekhar Mehta. It was mutually decided that we should work towards getting permission to start Class 5, we should increase the focus on English classes in the curriculum and there could be a playground developed on the terrace. It was also decided to introduce co-curricular activities for the children for their all-round development.

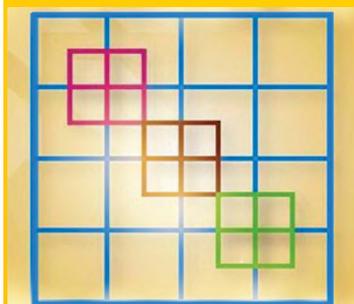
Members had a sumptuous Bengali lunch at the school! We were really motivated to improve the school and actively participated in this School Project.

Members present: PRIP Shekhar Mehta, President Jyoti Mahipal, Secretary Ritu Choudhury, Chairman IPP Manish Biyani, PP Vinod Mahipal, Rtn Mahinder Singhal, Rtn Monolina Dutta Gupta, Uma Mohta, Babita Todi, Rtn Sunita Singhal and Aparna Biyani.

*-By Aparna Biyani*



## Puzzle corner



How many squares do you see?

- A) 44
- B) 45
- C) 46
- D) 50

## Answer for Puzzle 3

As the message contains one truth, the third says that the gold is in the second box, if it is to be true, then the first box message will also become true. So, Gold cannot be in second and third boxes. Gold is in the first box.

*The members who participated are: Naresh Jalan, Mona Ajitsaria, Lajo Lodha, Savita Kothari, Nisha Padia, Neelam Jalan, Sweta Choudhary, Jyoti Mahipal, and Pradeep Agarwal.*

**And the winners are:**

- 1) Naresh Jalan
- 2) Mona Ajitsaria

# LET SPOTLIGHT SHINE A LIGHT ON YOU.



PP Pranay Agarwal

Good Morningggggg Mahanagar!!!!

The iconic welcome by none other than PP Rtn Pranay Agarwal fills the entire hall with a round of applause. Everyone loved the covid year President 2020-2021, who charmed the gloom away through the zoom meets where

he would become the motivator and mood elevator for all.

His sharp elder daughter Pall is studying in University of Regina, Canada and the younger intelligent brain Navya is a student at Calcutta girl's High School.

At his professional front he deals in computer, CCTV, Security and IT Infrastructure, Neena works hand in hand with him sharing his other responsibilities. He holds the post as a Core Committee Member and Additional Secretary, in the Rotary District Committee making our club proud. His humbleness reflects in the words, "I had the opportunity to work with Rotary global leader our very own Shekhar Mehta from whom I have learnt a lot and still learning under his guidance." His passion is to connect with people from various spheres of life and build a global network to help friends and family. He is happy that he joined the Rotary movement where he has been blessed with many friends for life within the Mahanagar family as well as from the district and some globally.

He started the Annadaan - Mahadaan project during his tenure. He is the warmest and smiling face of all the events of Mahanagar where he willingly comes forward to take up responsibility.

*-By Rtn Anuradha Agarwal*

I would often notice a middle-aged couple standing quietly smiling at everyone, they had the charm of warmth, love and contentment on their faces, they are the magic pair Pradeep and Manju Agrawal.

They brought up their three daughters to become individual, independent beings. Blessings came their way in the form of three son-in-laws followed by three grandchildren. On the professional front, he stood out of

his family comforts to build his own empire. He left family business of trading in food grains and started an electronics manufacturing unit, his company Digitech was the first in the entire world to



Rtn Pradeep Agrawal

manufacture a SONY TV outside of a SONY factory. He received Award for Excellence in Consumer Electronics from the Government of India. His success mantra is Excellence through Innovation, honesty and sincerity. He became a member in Rotary Year 2021-22, donated USD 25000 in Rotary Year 2022-23 and committed to contribute another USD 25000 in the Rotary year 2023-24 to the Rotary foundation, in his words, "The zeal and enthusiasm of all the members of Mahanagar has inspired me to take this step. I am proud to be a part of Mahanagar." He

received a Crystal from the Rotary Foundation for his donation.

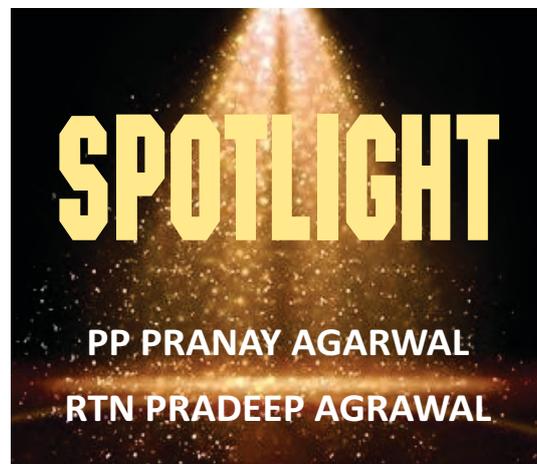
Both Manju Bhabhi and Pradeep Bhaiya have come forward and donated their organs in the year 2016.

He got a generator set installed at the eye hospital so that there are no complications in any surgery due to power shortage as soon as he heard it was the requirement of the time. His active involvement in the Bhagwat katha is known to all.

His active involvement in anything and everything has raised the bar for us Rotarians and motivated us to do better with life and its learnings.

His actions speak louder than his voice ... hats off to a gem.

*-By Rtn Anuradha Agarwal*



## FLAG EXCHANGE



It was my pleasure to present the Flag of our club to Rtn Naushad, President of Rotary Club of Male, District 3220 comprises of Srilanka and Maldives. A 10-year-old club has a membership of 42 members where 22 members are lady Rotarians. It's a breakfast club meeting on Saturday morning. Projects are mainly focused on the community development in Islands. Two Global grants they have - For Mangrove and Healing little hearts. 12 members are already registered for Singapore convention to be held next year. Thankyou, Shekhar da for connecting with this club.



Flag exchange with Club President of Rotary Club Male District 3220

21.08.23



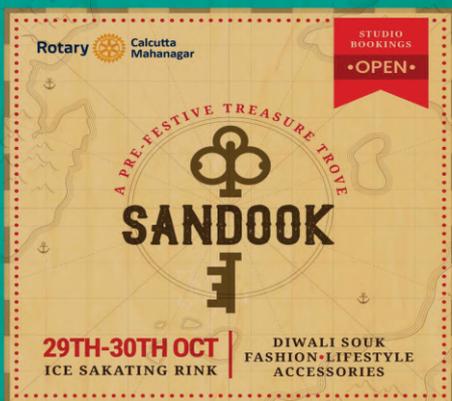
**MINUTES OF THE 1348th WEEKLY MEETING OF ROTARY CLUB OF CALCUTTA  
MAHANAGAR HELD ON 24th August, 2023 AT HOTEL HINDUSTAN INTERNATIONAL.**

1. President Jyoti Mahipal called the weekly meeting to order.
2. National Anthem was played in audio-visual
3. Minutes of the last weekly meeting was confirmed by PP Deepak Choudhury
4. President welcomed PRIP Shekhar Mehta who kindly agreed to do new members orientation.
5. President welcomed guests PDG Parag Seth, PDG Sam Shaukat, Rtn Vibha Singh, Rtn Ramesh Bhandari and Rtn Timir Ranjan Roy.
6. President briefed members about the projects and activities of the Club in the last weeks.
7. President announced about Partner Jyoti Sureka as the SHERO of the week and Rtn Mahinder Singhal as the highest attendee in the last month.
8. Club Secretary carried out Club Business and wished birthday and anniversary greetings and announced about forth coming events and projects and requested members and partners to participate in large numbers.
9. New Member induction pinning was carried out of Rtn. Dharmesh Parekh with partner Vaishali Parekh by the hand of PRIP Shekhar Mehta
10. Certificate was presented and PHF pinning was done by PDG Parag Seth and PRIP Shekhar Mehta to Rtn. Surendra Jain
11. Announcement of congratulation was made for grandparents PP Sanjay and partner Reena Bhandari and Rtn Sunil and partner Rita Poddar for the new blessings in the families.
12. Each of the two Past Governors spoke and acknowledged the role of PRIP Shekhar in their rotary journey and also motivated members about the benefits of Rotary.
13. PRIP Shekhar Mehta conducted the new members orientation with elan covering all aspects of Rotary including Friendship, Leadership, Fellowship, Service Projects and Long-Term Projects and the need for using own vocation for the benefit of the Society. He presented the internationality of Rotary and the District and club projects and activities enthralling the members and partners present.
14. President Jyoti Mahipal celebrated the achievement of landing of Chandrayaan III by sweets for all members.
15. PP Raakesh Jain proposed the vote of thank

Rotary Club of Calcutta Mahanagar presents 'Sandook'- the Pre-festive Treasure Trove of brands coming together from all across the country to put their best foot forward.

Come indulge in festive merriment and experience the grand showcase comprising of fashion, lifestyle, accessories and festive favours.

29th & 30th October, 2023 Ice Skating Rink, Kolkata



For Studio Bookings, Contact: 98303 31654 / 98304 27469



**CONGRATULATIONS!**

*Rtn Sanjay Bhandari of Encore Events, have received best destination wedding award in both silver and gold category.*

*Happy Birthday*

- |                                 |                 |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| <i>Nitin Agarwal</i>            | <i>7th Sep</i>  |
| <i>Rtn Ratan Agarwal</i>        | <i>9th Sep</i>  |
| <i>Rtn Om Prakash Jhajharia</i> | <i>11th Sep</i> |
| <i>Rtn Sweta Choudhary</i>      | <i>12th Sep</i> |
| <i>Rtn Nipa Gandhi</i>          | <i>13th Sep</i> |
| <i>Rtn Pradeep Agarwal</i>      | <i>13th Sep</i> |
| <i>Kishore Kothari</i>          | <i>13th Sep</i> |
| <i>Rtn Amit Agarwal</i>         | <i>14th Sep</i> |

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