

AUGUST IS THE MONTH OF MEMBERSHIP & NEW CLUB DEVELOPMENT

OBITUARIES



RC Calcutta Jadavpur condoles the sad demise of Past President Rtn. (Dr.) Chhabinath Mandal on August 07, 2025. President and fellow members convey their deepest condolences to PP Rtn. (Dr.) Chitra

Mandal & the bereaved family. We pray for the departed soul to rest in eternal peace.... You will always be in our heart Chhabida as a "Die-hard Rotarian".



RC Calcutta Jadavpur also condoles the sudden and sad demise of Rtn. Sikha Mukherji on August 12, 2025. Each one of us convey our deepest condolences to Ms. Sayoni & the bereaved family. We pray for her departed soul to rest in

eternal peace...."Your exuberance and enthusiasm for all types of involvement, big & small, will remain with us forever." In true Rotary spirit, she believed in "Service Above Self".



Minutes of the 47th Installation Programme and 2155th Regular Club Meeting of RC Calcutta Jadavpur held on 29th July, 2025 at Lake Club, Kolkata

- Rtn. (Dr.) Mainak Sengupta, President- 2024-25, started the proceedings by inviting District Governor Rtn. (Dr.) Ramendu Homchaudhuri and District Governor Nominee 2025-26 Rtn. Purnendu Roychowdhury to the dais and welcomed all the dignitaries, members and guests present.
- National Anthem was led by PP Rtn. Paramita Das Dutta and joined by all.
- Rtn. (Dr.) Mainak, President- 2024-25, addressed the gathering and presented an audio-visual presentation of the club activities hosted and co-hosted by the club for the Rotary Year 2024-25.
- Next, Rtn. (Dr.) Mainak, President- 2024-25 introduced Rtn. Sudipta Kundu, President 2025-26 to the august gathering. This was followed by the pleasant task of installing him as the 47th President of Rotary Club of Calcutta Jadavpur, in presence of DG Rtn. (Dr.) Ramendu Homchaudhuri by handing over the Club Charter, the Hammer & the Block and the Club Collar.
- Then, IPP Rtn. (Dr.) Mainak, requested President Rtn. Sudipta to take over the proceedings for the evening.
- President Rtn. Sudipta, welcomed District Governor Rtn. (Dr.) Ramendu Homchaudhuri, First Lady Rtn. (Dr.) Bandana Homchaudhuri, District Governor Nominee Rtn. Purnendu Roychowdhury, all the Past District Governors present, Assistant Governor, Zonal Secretary, other District Officials, President & Secretary of Inner Wheel Club of Jadavpur, fellow members, their families and other guests. Further, he introduced his Board Members for the RY 2025-26.
- Next, DG Rtn. (Dr.) Ramendu Homchaudhuri, DGN Rtn. Purnendu Roy Chowdhury were presented with planter pots and First Lady Rtn. (Dr.) Bandana Homchaudhuri was presented with a flower bouquet. Honorary Members Rtn. Samirendu Dutt, Rtn. (Dr.) Dhruvajyoti Chattaopadhyay and Rtn. (Dr.) Arup Ratan Dutta were also felicitated and presented with planter pots.

- Then, President Rtn. Sudipta addressed the gathering by sharing his goals and informing about the projects to be undertaken in the near future and pledged to carry on the good work undertaken by RC Calcutta Jadavpur for the past several decades.
 - Next, President Rtn. Sudipta requested Secretary Rtn. (Dr.) Saiful Anam Mir, to conduct the club business.
 - Secretary Rtn. (Dr.) Saiful conducted the club business and at the outset, he extended birthday greetings to DG Rtn. (Dr.) Ramendu Homchaudhuri falling on August 2. Further, he also extended the same to :
 - o Rtn. Manoj Bhowmik falling on July 31.
 - o Rtn. Bhaskar Chanda falling on August 2,
 - o Rtn. Sikha Mukherjee falling on August 12.
 - o Ann Rakhi Sarkar w/o PP Rtn. Partha Sarathi Sarkar falling on August 17
 - o Rtn. Santanu Bera falling on August 18.
- Further, he extended anniversary greetings to-
- o Rtn. (Dr.) Asim Sil and Dr. Suvra Sil falling on August 5.
 - o Honorary Member Rtn. (Dr.) Dhrubajyoti Chattopadhyay and Dr. Ratna Chattopadhyay falling on August 6.
- President Rtn. Sudipta then introduced two new members Mr. Subrata Kundu and Ms. Jayatee Biswas, followed by their formal induction by DG Rtn. (Dr.) Ramendu Homchaudhuri and First Lady Dr. Bandana Homchaudhuri, respectively.
 - Next, Rtn. (Dr.) Mainak Sengupta, President – 2024-25, Rtn. Chandan Das - Treasurer– 2024-25, Rtn. Manas Kumar Ghosh, Editor – 2024-25 were presented with mementos, in recognition of their contribution during the Rotary Year 2024-25.
 - Then, President Rtn. Sudipta requested DG Nominee Rtn. Purnendu Roychowdhury to address the gathering who praised the club for good work and wished the club well for it's endeavor through the year.
 - President Rtn. Sudipta, then requested DG Rtn. (Dr.) Ramendu Homchaudhuri to address the gathering. DG Rtn. (Dr.) Ramendu Homchaudhuri spoke highly about the enthusiasm and efforts that were invested for completing so many service projects in the last Rotary Year and he stressed upon taking up projects on Thalassemia and explained in details how important it is with respect to the increasing number of thalassemia cases. He also spoke about his concern about the rise in cervical cancer and polio cases worldwide. He encouraged members to donate to The Rotary Foundation, which will have an impetus for clubs to take up worthwhile projects. He expressed complete confidence on the leadership and the members of the club and requested President Rtn. Sudipta to increase the club membership.
 - A total contribution of US\$ 1893.82 by as many as 16 fellow Members and 2 Honorary Members was handed over to the DG Rtn. (Dr.) Ramendu Homchaudhuri by PP Rtn. (Dr.) Kunal Ray, towards The Rotary Foundation, a gesture which was highly appreciated by the District Governor.
 - Next, President Rtn. Sudipta requested Secretary & President Elect Rtn. (Dr.) Saiful to offer the formal vote of thanks.
 - Rtn. (Dr.) Saiful formally offered the vote of thanks to all the delegates and members with families for being present in the meeting and all the others associated with the arrangements and making the event a grand success.
 - Minutes of the 2154th Regular Club Meeting was confirmed by the members present and thereafter the meeting was concluded with thanks to all the participants.
 - President Rtn. Sudipta then invited everyone to join for fellowship, followed by the dinner for the evening.

GLIMPSES OF THE 47th INSTALLATION CEREMONY





RI President's August Message



August is Membership Month, but our commitment to growth and connection is year-round. When we focus on growing Rotary, we grow our ability to serve, to lead, and to bring lasting change.

Membership growth isn't just about numbers. It's about opening doors. It's about inviting more people who are ready to give their time, talents, and hearts to a cause greater than themselves. When we welcome new members, we bring in fresh ideas and new energy. We expand our impact, strengthen our clubs, and ensure that Rotary continues to evolve with the world around us.

Remember, there is now great flexibility in fashioning nontraditional club models. I'm inspired when I see these innovative clubs thrive by offering new and prospective members more ways to connect and serve.

In Korea, the growth of satellite clubs has created opportunities for nearly 1,000 new members to find their place in Rotary. In Romania, the close collaboration between Rotarians, Rotaractors, and Interactors has built a pipeline of future leaders. In India, some Rotarians gather around a shared interest — whether it's professional development or a passion for service — and those connections deepen their commitment and their joy in being part of Rotary. And we've seen cause-based clubs thrive in regions as diverse as Southeast Asia, Africa, and Europe.

There's a common thread: Where clubs are growing, membership is a priority and there is a willingness to try something new. Rotary is not limited to one structure or tradition. We are a global network of people of action, and that means there is room for many kinds of clubs, many ways to serve, and many paths into our organization.

This spirit of innovation is also guiding our efforts to reach new communities. In places where there has never been a Rotary club — or where a club once existed and faded — Rotarians are finding ways to grow Rotary. They are identifying areas of potential and building clubs that reflect the character and needs of their communities.

Every member plays a part in this journey. Whether you introduce a friend to your club, support a new meeting format, reconnect with program alumni, or simply share your Rotary story, you are helping our organization grow stronger and more vibrant.

No one owns a Rotary club. It is a gift we pass on to the next generation. When we nurture that gift, when we invite others to share in it, we ensure that Rotary continues to be a force for good.

Let's prioritize membership growth — not just in August but every month of the year. Together, through friendship, creativity, and shared purpose, we will grow Rotary and Unite for Good.

Francesco Arezzo

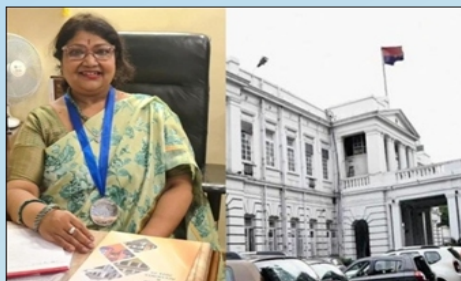
President 2025-26

RI President for 2027-28

Larry A. Lunsford, a member of the Rotary Club of Kansas City-Plaza, Missouri, USA, is the selection of the nominating committee to become Rotary International's president for 2027-28. He will officially become the president-nominee on 15th September if no other candidates challenge him.



Calcutta Club elects first woman President in 118 years, breaking century-old norm



Kasturi Raha is only the third woman independent member and was the first woman elected to its managing committee in 2013.

A male preserve that opened its doors to individual women members as late as 2007 will now be led by a woman. The venerable 118-year-old Calcutta Club has elected its first woman president — businesswoman Kasturi Raha.

In the club election held on Friday, Raha pipped P.K. Mukherjee and Snehashish Bhaumik to the top post.

Raha, who runs a family export business, had already notched a few “firsts” before this. She is only the third woman independent member of Calcutta Club and was

the first woman elected to its managing committee in 2013.

By becoming president, she smashed the proverbial glass ceiling on her second attempt, having contested unsuccessfully in 2021.

“It is an incredibly emotional moment for me,” Raha told The Telegraph on Saturday. “To be the first woman president in the storied history of Calcutta Club... It is also a deeply humbling experience and a huge responsibility,” she added.

It took Calcutta Club a century to open its doors to women.

Formed in 1907, the club mirrored the tradition of London clubs, where women were not admitted as members. Women whose husbands were members could access facilities only as dependents. Widows whose husbands were members could get special membership. Even NRI and corporate memberships were restricted to men.

Back then, Calcutta Club was the only social club in the city that did not admit women as members. That changed in 2007, when an open forum of past presidents and senior members voted in favour of admitting women as independent members.

Recalling that decision, Kalyan Chowdhury — who became president of the club the same year — told this newspaper in 2007: “The best thing about the evening was that instead of a point of debate, this became a point of unison.”

On Saturday, Chowdhury said: “I am happy because this mandate shows that the current larger conversation around diversity-equity-inclusion (DEI) obviously resonates with our members, who are, in a sense, the opinion leaders of our society. Having been part of the leadership that inducted the first set of women members in 2007, it is particularly gratifying to see one of them as the first woman president of the club.”

An alumna of Loreto House, Raha holds a bachelor's degree in law from the University of Calcutta and a master's from King's College London.

“My vision for Calcutta Club is to preserve its rich heritage while modernising with transparency and efficiency. I am committed to fostering an inclusive atmosphere where every member feels respected and at home,” said Raha, who lives in Mandeville Gardens.

More than one member hailed Raha's ascent.

“We are happy and proud. This is a milestone moment for the club,” said Anusua Das, the senior-most committee member.

Adheep Gooptu, a committee member, said: “It is a reflection of how Indian society has changed; how Indian corporates have changed. You have women at the helm of corporate entities around the country.”

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