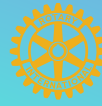


# AHANA

Rotary  
RID. 3291



Rotary Opens  
Opportunities

RI PRESIDENT: RTN. HOLGER KNAACK

DISTRICT GOVERNOR : RTN. SUDIP MUKHERJEE

REGULAR CLUB E-BULLETIN OF ROTARY CLUB OF CALCUTTA JADAVPUR

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## APRIL IS MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH MONTH

### MINUTES OF THE 2048th REGULAR CLUB MEETING OF RC CALCUTTA JADAVPUR HELD 22nd March 2021 AT CALCUTTA ROWING CLUB, KOLKATA

- President Rtn. (Dr.) Kunal Ray called the 2048th meeting of RC Calcutta Jadavpur to order welcoming his guest Dr. Subrata Chakraborty and all the members present.
- National Anthem was led by Rtn. Paromita Das Dutta.
- President Rtn. (Dr.) Kunalda announced:
  - The District Conference 2021 - "SAMAGAM" was held at Swabhumi on March 20 & 21, 2021, which was represented by twelve club members and a spouse. RC Calcutta Jadavpur was recognised with a Certificate of Silver Club under Paul Harris Membership Challenge 2021 and also received a plaque for being a Bronze Category Host Club for the event. It was a privilege for him to introduce the Keynote Speaker of the Literacy Seminar delivered by Prof. Anuradha Lohia, Vice Chancellor, Presidency University. The club members had a great time at the event.
  - That Dr. Nabamita Das, Assistant Professor, Presidency University would be felicitated on March 29, 2021 for her studies on and dedication to women empowerment. Unfortunately, the event could not be organized on the 8th instant, the International Women's Day, since another talk was prescheduled on that day.
  - Members may take note of the events to be participated by the club, viz., Basanta Utsav on April 05, 2021 with the clubs of Zone 20 – RID 3291, on virtual platform, Bengali New Year's Day celebration by the club in physical mode, tentatively on April 19, 2021 and Rabindra Jayanti in early May either in physical or virtual mode.
  - That a training session for new members of the club for the current and last Rotary Year would be conducted by the Club Trainer IPP Rtn. (Dr.) Aditi. The date of the event would be decided soon.
  - That, to observe Youth Service Month, it has been decided that Rtn (Dr.) Mainak would organize a debate on Peace and Conflict in the World. He would provide further details later.
  - That the next Board Meeting would be held on Friday, March 26, 2021 details of which will be circulated soon.
  - Next, President Rtn. (Dr.) Kunalda introduced his guest Dr. Subrata Chakraborty. Dr. Chakraborty graduated from Bankura Sanmelani Medical College (BSMC); MD from IPGIMER with specialization in Pathology. He was Professor and Head of Pathology in North Bengal University. Currently he is consultant Pathologist at Saroj Gupta Cancer Hospital.
  - Under the request of President Rtn. (Dr.) Kunalda, IPP (Dr.) Aditi briefly described the highlights of the proceedings at the District Conference and specifically suggested that the photo of the certificate, be published through the next bulletin.
  - Secretary, Rtn (Dr) Krishnendu then conducted the club business and conveyed birthday greetings to Rtn. (Dr.) Swati Pramanick and PP Rtn. Jaydeb Banerjee for their birthdays falling on March 22 and 29, respectively. He also conveyed birthday greetings to Ann. Krishnakoli Roy w/o PP Rtn. (Dr.) Partha Pratim Roy falling on March 25.
  - The minutes of the 2047th meeting was confirmed by the members and the meeting ended with thanks to all the attendees.



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**



IPP Rtn. (Dr.) Aditi Nag Chaudhuri which falls on April 14  
Rtn. Sambhunath Kar which falls on April 18

*Many Many Happy Returns of the day*

*Happy Anniversary*



*Rtn. Pausali Paul & Mr. Debasis Paul which falls on April 15*

*Ann. Rita Chanda & Rtn. Bhaskar Chanda which falls on April 17*

*Wish you all many more years of marital bliss*

## My best day as a vaccination volunteer

*By Steven Sanbo, past governor of District 6690 and Zone 30 assistant Rotary coordinator*

*blog.rotary.org :: April 01, 2021*



**Steven Sanbo registers people at a vaccination center in Yavapi County, Arizona.**

That I recall most are the hundreds of faces. Faces of hope. Faces of relief, gratitude, fear, joy, excitement, desperation, anxiety

and yes, faces with tears all hidden behind masks during my volunteer shift at a mass vaccination center in Arizona, USA, on 26 February.

The only other time I had seen hundreds of faces filled with so much emotion was leading a Rotary mission trip in Guatemala in November 2014 to open a trade school. That morning an earthquake measuring 7.4 magnitude hit the San Marcos region 40 miles from where we were working. It was the largest earthquake to hit Guatemala since 1976.

That afternoon I and two other Rotarians volunteered to be first responders with Shelter Box leaving at 04:00 the following morning for San Marcos. You could see it on their faces. The villagers cried for help, support, food, water, shelter, hope for missing family members amid the destruction and crumbled houses. I was there to provide hope.

Vaccination rollout

This December, my wife Jill and I left our home in Columbus, Ohio, where I am a member of the Rotary Club of Upper Arlington, to travel to Cave Creek, Arizona, to spend a few months closer to our three adult children and five grandchildren who all reside in the western U.S.

Feeling we needed to do something to assist with the COVID-19 vaccination rollout, we immediately started looking to volunteer. After six weeks being on a list, my wife received an offer to help the all-night shift at the Glendale Arizona stadium. Since we signed up at the same time, I figured I would get a call at any moment. But one never came. Frustrated, I

**PRESIDENT : RTN. (DR.) KUNAL RAY :: SECRETARY : RTN. (DR.) KRISHNENDU DAS :: EDITOR : RTN. SANJAY RAY  
RCCJ MEETS EVERY MONDAY AT CHAKRABATHAK, RABINDRA SAROBAR AT 7.00 PM : EMAIL : rccjadavpur@gmail.com**

finally contacted the Arizona Department of Health and was crushed to find out I was “lost” in their system. Once I re-signed up, there were 8,000 volunteers ahead of me.

I didn't want to wait another two months; I was ready to go. That's what Rotarians do, right? By pure luck (and persistence) I found a vaccination site in Yavapi County, Arizona, that needed one nonmedical volunteer early the next morning.

I arrived in Verde Valley and was led into the small arena and assigned a position. I was in charge of registration which meant checking people in on a FEMA computer system, given five minutes of training on the software, and turned loose. As people started to line up, I was probably the last person they wanted checking them in as speed learning new software is not my strength.

**My strategy**

But I had a strategy. I wanted to make sure that every person that came through the door that day had their best day in a year. Even if I could not find them in the system, I assured them it would be fine and they would get vaccinated – I made sure they did. The gratitude on everyone's faces lifted my heart as I watched each one of the 700 people receive their shot.

One person had a fear of needles, so I rushed her through the line. Another needed to get to her chemo treatment, so I put her ahead. Four people in their 90's showed up. The youngest was 18 years old and in a wheelchair. Two people I registered were Rotarians who noticed the Rotary logo on my mask.

I was overwhelmed by the kindness from the volunteers and people receiving shots. Even if people didn't say thanks, you could see it in their eyes and behind their masks. As I drove back that night, I reflected on how it had been one of my best days since joining Rotary 21 years ago. You could probably see it in my smiling face too.



Recognition of RC Calcutta Jadavpur at the District Conference 2021 - "SAMAGAM"

## Acute hunger set to rise in over 20 countries, warns UN

By Madhumita Paul

[downtoearth.org.in](http://downtoearth.org.in) :: March 24, 2021

Acute hunger may rise in over 20 countries in the coming months, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and World Food Programme (WFP) have warned in a new report.

Yemen, South Sudan and northern Nigeria topped the list with populations facing catastrophic levels of acute hunger and starvation, the report, an outlook from March to July 2021 and titled Hunger Hotspots, said.

A majority of the affected countries mentioned in the report are in Africa, including Burkina Faso, Somalia, Central African Republic, Niger, Sierra Leone, Madagascar, Mali and El Salvador, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Sudan, South Sudan and Mozambique.

The other countries where acute hunger is set to worsen include Afghanistan, Syria, Venezuela, Haiti, Guatemala, Zimbabwe, Honduras, Mozambique.

FAO director-general QU Dongyu said:

The magnitude of suffering is alarming. It is incumbent upon all of us to act now and to act fast to save lives, safeguard livelihoods and prevent the worst situation.

### Hunger hotspots

The report noted that South Sudan, Yemen and northern Nigeria remained at the highest risk of acute food insecurity.



Over seven million people across South Sudan are likely to face acute food insecurity, the report said.

In Yemen, continued violence and economic decline as well as severe disruptions to the humanitarian response are likely to persist over the coming months. Over 16 million Yemenis are likely to face high levels of acute food insecurity by June 2021, the report added.

In northern Nigeria, projections for the June-August lean season showed that the number of people facing emergency levels of acute food insecurity could likely double to over 1.2 million.

### The drivers

Conflict, novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, economic blows, extreme climate weather and locust outbreaks were among the key drivers of acute food insecurity.

Conflict or other forms of armed violence were likely to increase in parts of Afghanistan, the Central African Republic, central Sahel, Ethiopia, northern Nigeria, northern Mozambique, Somalia, South Sudan and the Sudan.

In several African countries such as the Sudan, Zimbabwe, Sierra Leone and Liberia, elevated levels of currency depreciation and food inflation continued to reduce people's purchasing power, the report stated.

Coupled with climate shocks that adversely affected agricultural production and a likely reduction in domestic food supply, food inflation may worsen in the coming months, the report warned.

### Action needed

The report called for short-term actions in each hunger hotspots, including scaling up food and nutrition assistance, distributing drought-tolerant seeds, treating and vaccinating livestock, rolling out cash-for-work schemes, rehabilitating water-harvesting structures and increasing income opportunities for vulnerable communities.

WFP Executive Director David Beasley said:

We are seeing a catastrophe unfold before our very eyes. Famine — driven by conflict, and fuelled by climate shocks and the COVID-19 hunger pandemic — is knocking on the door for millions of families.

He added that the fighting has to stop, and that \$5.5 billion was needed in donation for 2021.

