



APRIL IS ENVIRONMENT MONTH



Today is DG's Official Club Visit to RCCJ. Members are extremely happy to have the District Governor Rtn. (Dr.) Ramendu Homchaudhuri & the First Lady Rtn. (Dr.) Bandana Homchaudhuri, other District & Club officials and guests with them this evening.

DG Rtn.(Dr.) Homchaudhuri has graced RCCJ on several other occasions as well as delivered his speech on Thalassemia at a renowned school, on RCCJ's behalf before . However, his official visit this evening as the leader of RI District 3291 assumes different and important magnitude.

Members look forward to meeting their beloved DG and his gracious wife.



ROTARY HISTORY

Source: www.rotary.org

Arch C. Klumph: The Father of The Rotary Foundation



Arch C. Klumph, circa 1916

For a man best known as the father of The Rotary Foundation, Arch C. Klumph was modest about his role in its creation.

In 1928, he listed three accomplishments that gave him “more satisfaction than any other contributions to Rotary” — and launching the Foundation wasn’t among them. Instead, he emphasized his role in writing Rotary’s Constitution in 1915, which he asserted “gave Rotary International its first centralized power and made all the Objects and fundamentals of Rotary universal.” He also took pride in establishing attendance reports and in being the first to insist on founding a European branch office of Rotary International.

Klumph was born in the small town of Conneautville, Pennsylvania, USA, on 6 June 1869. When he was a child, his family moved to Cleveland, Ohio, where he would become a founding member of the Rotary Club of Cleveland in 1911. As club president in 1913, he advocated for the club to build a reserve that would ensure its means to do future good work. This idea would stay with him as he moved on to serve Rotary in other roles.

Klumph was born in the small town of Conneautville, Pennsylvania, USA, on 6 June 1869. When he was a child, his family moved to Cleveland, Ohio, where he would become a founding member of the Rotary Club of Cleveland in 1911. As club president in 1913, he advocated for the club to build a reserve that would ensure its means to do future good work. This idea would stay with him as he moved on to serve Rotary in other roles.

Klumph on the cover of the September 1916 issue of The Rotarian.

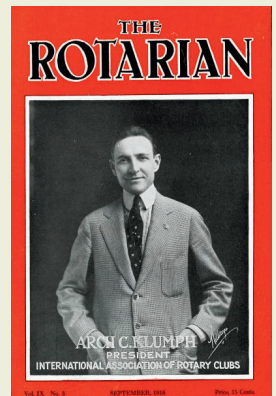
In his message, he reminds members that “Rotary is bigger than any one man, than any board of directors.”

Five years after he became a Rotarian, Klumph was elected to serve as Rotary’s president for 1916-17. Near the end of his term, at the 1917 Rotary Convention in Atlanta, Georgia, USA, he reminded Rotarians that “Rotary is at the present time entering a new era, demanding improved methods in administrative machinery, with which to carry out the splendid principles which have been laid down heretofore.” He defined six points of action, including the establishment of an endowment, which would later become The Rotary Foundation:

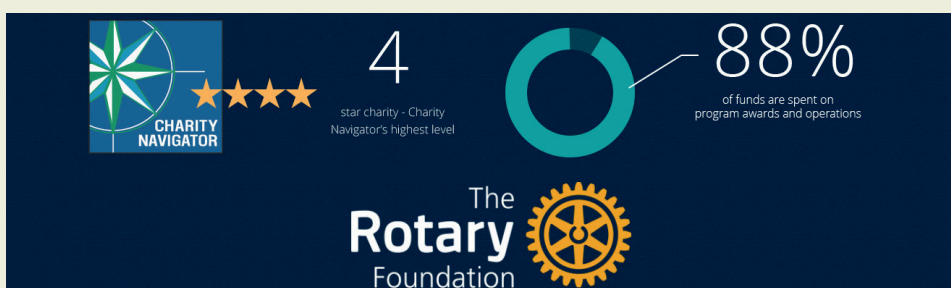
“Carrying on, as we are, a miscellaneous community service, it seems eminently proper that we should accept endowments for the purpose of doing good in the world, in charitable, educational or other avenues of community progress, or such funds could be well used for extension work.”

Through Klumph’s simple yet profound statement, the Rotary Endowment Fund was born. In 1928, the name formally changed to The Rotary Foundation, and a Board of Trustees was established, with Klumph serving as the first trustee chair from 1928 to 1935. Even after stepping down as chair, he remained dedicated to educating Rotary leaders and members about the importance of the Foundation and encouraging contributions.

Klumph died on 3 June 1951 at age 82, but his influence lives on through The Foundation.



Rotary President Arch Klumph and the 1916-17 Board of Directors. Top, left to right: F.W. Galbraith Jr., E. Leslie Pidgeon, Chesley R. Perry, Guy Gundaker. Bottom (left to right): Arch C. Klumph, Allen D. Albert.



How Rotary can play a role in supporting mental well-being

blog.rotary.org :: March 19, 2026

By Chetan Bhojani, Rotary Club of Rajkot Midtown, Gujarat, India



Chetan Bhojani, a Rotary member and founder of ImHappy, leads a workshop on mental well-being in Gujarat.

I believe addressing mental health is not optional, it's essential. And as members of Rotary, we can play a role in removing stigma, creating safe places for people to talk, and creating an environment of openness and trust. Individually and in our clubs, we can partner with other organizations in our community to address issues before they become larger problems.

I recently had the privilege of speaking to a room full of more than 30 attentive individuals during a workshop on mental well-being organized by my club, the Rotary Club of Rajkot Midtown, on 11 January. The discussion reinforced my deeply held convictions that mental well-being is not a personal struggle for a few, but something that affects all of us. I am thankful to our president, Mr. Jignesh Kamdar, past president Mr. Divyesh Aghera, and other Rotary members for making the event possible.

A reality we can't ignore

Mental health impacts how we think, feel, work, and connect with people. Yet, many of us ignore it until it begins to affect our daily life.

Mental health is a global challenge, and an issue with special resonance in India. According to recent estimates, nearly 1 in 7 people in India experience some form of mental health challenge, but over 70% don't seek help. Stigma, lack of awareness, fear of judgment, and limited access to professionals are major reasons.

These days, I see emotional stress everywhere — students under academic pressure, professionals facing burnout, and families silently managing anxiety. Issues like anxiety, depression, and emotional fatigue are steadily rising due to increasing work demands, digital overload, and constant comparison to others.

Mental health is not the same as mental illness

Mental health and mental illness are not the same. Mental health is something we all possess. It changes with stress, life events, and support systems. Feeling anxious, overwhelmed, or emotionally drained does not make someone "mentally ill." It simply means they need care, understanding, or timely support — just li

Mental well-being can be affected by:

- Work pressure or unrealistic expectations
- Academic stress and performance anxiety
- Comparisons over social media
- Poor work-life balance
- Limited emotional support

These challenges may seem normal, but ignoring them can lead to long-term consequences.

There are also several reasons people avoid seeking help when they are facing mental stress. These include:

- Stigma around mental health
- Fear of being judged
- Lack of knowledge about early warning signs

Not knowing where or how to seek professional

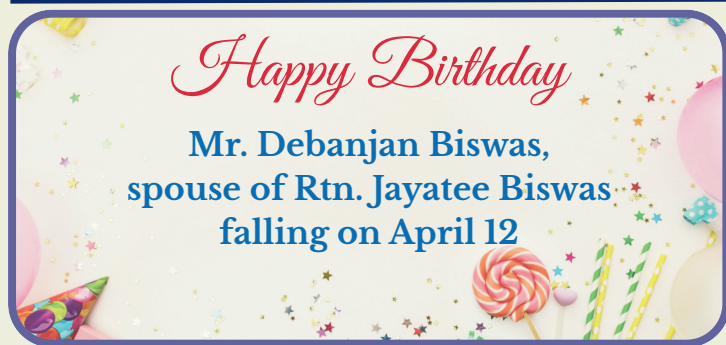
The role of Rotary and community

Rotary can play a crucial role in creating safe spaces for open conversations. Mental health support doesn't begin in clinics — it begins in communities. Families, friends, workplaces, and fellow Rotary members can all help. Sometimes, listening without judgment or encouraging someone to seek help can make all the difference.

Practical steps we can take in our clubs and as Rotary members include:

- Talking openly about emotions
- Taking breaks without guilt
- Checking in on others
- Encouraging people to seek professional counselling when needed

Mental health for all is not just a message — it's a responsibility. When communities come together to support well-being, real change begins.



Ocean temperatures may be protecting Earth from a planet-wide drought

Ocean cycles like El Niño may be quietly preventing a planet-wide drought—and helping safeguard the global food supply.

www.sciencedaily.com :: March 05, 2026



Source: Indian Institute of Technology Gandhinagar

Ocean temperature patterns help prevent droughts from striking the entire planet at the same time. By creating shifting regional drought “hubs,” climate cycles like El Niño limit global crop risk and may provide early warning signals for food security.

Scientists at the Indian Institute of Technology Gandhinagar (IITGN), working with international collaborators, have discovered that ocean temperature patterns play a key role in limiting how widely droughts spread across the globe. Their findings, published in *Communications Earth & Environment*, are based on climate records spanning 1901-2020. The analysis shows that synchronized droughts typically affect only 1.8% to 6.5% of Earth's land at the same time. This is far lower than earlier suggestions that as much as one sixth of the planet could experience drought simultaneously.

The research team examined how droughts begin in different parts of the world and whether they occur at roughly the same time. The study was led by Dr. Udit Bhatia of IITGN, with contributions from researchers at IITGN and the Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research -- UFZ in Leipzig, Germany.

"We treated drought onsets as events in a global network. If two distant regions entered drought within a short time window, they were considered synchronized," explained Dr. Bhatia, the lead author and principal investigator of the Machine Intelligence and Resilience Lab and the AI Resilience and Command (ARC) Centre at IITGN.

Global "Drought Hubs" and Crop Risk

By charting thousands of these drought connections, researchers identified several regions that often act as major centers of drought activity. These so called "drought hubs" include Australia, South America, southern Africa, and parts of North America.

The team also compared climate patterns with historical agricultural data to understand how moderate drought conditions influence food production. They analyzed crop yields for wheat, rice, maize, and soybean across multiple regions.

"In many major agricultural regions, when moderate drought occurs, the probability of crop failure rises sharply -- often above 25%, and in some areas, above 40-50% for crops like maize and soybean," said Hemant Poonia, an AI Scientist at IITGN who completed his undergraduate and postgraduate degrees in Civil Engineering from the Institute.

Although such risks could become severe if drought affected many farming regions at the same time, the researchers found that natural climate processes help prevent that scenario. Changes in sea surface temperatures, particularly in the Pacific Ocean, limit how widely drought conditions spread across continents.

El Niño and La Niña Shape Global Drought Patterns

One of the strongest influences on these shifting patterns is the El Niño-Southern Oscillation, a natural warming and cooling cycle in the Pacific Ocean that affects rainfall around the world.

During El Niño phases, Australia often becomes a major drought hub, while other regions respond in different ways. When La Niña conditions develop, drought patterns shift again and tend to spread across a wider range of locations.

"These ocean-driven swings create a patchwork of regional responses, limiting the emergence of a single, global drought covering many continents at once," explained co-author Danish Mansoor Tantary, a former IITGN master's student who is now pursuing his PhD at Northeastern University (USA).

Rainfall and Rising Temperatures Both Affect Drought Severity

Researchers also investigated how rainfall and temperature together influence the intensity of drought. Their analysis suggests that precipitation changes account for about two thirds of long term shifts in drought severity over recent decades. The remaining third is linked to increasing evaporative demand caused by rising temperatures.

"Rainfall remains the dominant driver globally, especially in regions like Australia and South America, but the influence of temperature is clearly growing in several mid-latitude regions, such as Europe and Asia," said Dr. Rohini Kumar, the corresponding author and senior scientist at the Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research, whose work focuses on interactions between water, land, and climate systems.

Early Warning Signals for Global Food Security

The findings show how large scale, data driven analysis of climate patterns can help protect global food supplies. By studying drought as part of an interconnected planetary system rather than as isolated weather events, scientists can identify potential early warning regions before local droughts expand into broader crises.

Prof Vimal Mishra, a leading water and climate expert at IITGN and recipient of the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize, India's highest multidisciplinary science award, emphasized the broader implications.

"These findings underline the importance of international trade, storage, and flexible policies. Because droughts do not hit all regions at the same time, smart planning can use this natural diversity to buffer global food supplies."

Using Climate Insights to Reduce Future Risk

Dr. Bhatia noted that the research highlights how understanding climate systems can guide better policy decisions in a warming world.

"Our research highlights that we are not helpless in the face of a warming planet," said Dr. Bhatia. "By understanding the delicate balance between oceans, rainfall, and temperatures, policymakers can focus their resources on specific drought hubs and create pipelines to stabilize the global market before crop failures in one region trigger price spikes in another."

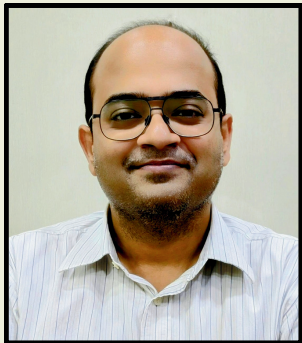
KNOW YOUR NEW MEMBERS:



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Name of Spouse: Nabanita
Anniversary: 11th February
Names of child: Prerona
Educational Qualification: BE

Professional Experience: 20+ years of experience in IT, Telecom and Automation industries, presently one of the directors at Balaji Systems Integration Pvt. Ltd

Extra-Curricular Activities: Sports, Volunteering in different drives.



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Marital Status: Married
Name of Spouse: Paramita Barman Sen
Anniversary: 27th February
Name of child: Shailajaa
Educational Qualification: MBA

Professional Experience: Income Tax Officer, Income Tax Department, Ministry of Finance - Govt. of India

Extra-Curricular Activities: Reading books; Playing Video Games; Participating in socio-religious Activities. Member of Arsenal Bengal Supporters Club.



Minutes of the 2169th RCM of RC Calcutta Jadavpur held on March 18, 2026 at Casa Broadway, Kolkata at 6.30 PM.

President Rtn. Sudipta Kundu called the meeting to order, welcoming the members & the guests present.

- National Anthem was led by PP Rtn. Praomita Das Dutta and joined by all.
- President Rtn. Sudipta extended heartfelt thanks to AG PP Rtn. Tamalesh Kumar; ZS PP Rtn. Subhrojyoti Bhowmik for being present to conduct the club assembly. He also welcomed Mr. Shyamal Mitra, guest of PP Rtn. Pausali Paul, the prospective members Mr. Subhodip Mukherjee and Mr. Sarbodwip Sen.
- Then, President Rtn. Sudipta briefly talked about the projects that have been carried out, in between:

- The club conducted a Cervical Cancer Awareness session at Santospur Rishi Arobindo Balika Vidhyapith on March 06, 2026, led by PP Rtn. (Dr.) Chitra Mandal. Nearly 180 students, guardians including many teachers attended the session and interacted very well with the speaker making it a wonderful session of learning and discussion. PP Rtn. (Dr.) Chitra Mandal also urged the attending parents to fill out the consent for a probable vaccination drive. This was followed by a Mental Health session led by PP Rtn. Sourish Choudhury from RC Calcutta Newbies, a renowned wellness councilor for emotional wellbeing of the students. The session focused on managing stress, understanding emotional intelligence and building self-confidence. Students interacted actively asking questions about the problems they face routinely and how to manage those for a balanced mind. Finally, the club handed over specs to 7 needy students, identified through an earlier eye check-up camp at the precincts. PP Rtn. Dr. Partha P. Roy had generously arranged everything for the project for which the students got their normal vision back. The programme was attended by PP Rtn. Jaydeb Banerjee, PP Rtn. (Dr.) Partha P. Roy, PP Rtn. (Dr.) Chitra Mandal, PP Rtn. Sanjay Ray, PP Rtn. (Dr.) Kunal Ray, Rtn. (Dr.) Jharna Ray, Rtn. Manas K. Ghosh, Rtn. Dr. Sitaram Pal and himself. Two prospective members Mr. Subhodip Mukherjee and Mr. Sarbodwip Sen were also present.
- On 14th March 2026, RCCJ participated and co-hosted RYLA, organised by RC Budge Budge, where PP Rtn. (Dr.) Chitra Mandal conducted a session at Dhyan Ashram - D. H. Road, Konchowki, Bishnupur, 24 Parganas (South).
- The next batches of beautician and tailoring training courses at Sarenga village has been going on satisfactorily.
- The Graphic Designing course at Santospur Rishi Arobindo Balika Vidhyapith is also progressing and few more sessions were conducted by Rtn. Subrata Kundu. It was reported by Rtn. Subrata that the students are making posters, banners etc. on their own and doing a great job. He also informed that the next batch of students would be starting the same course very soon.
- Further, President Rtn. Sudipta announced a few upcoming projects and requested the members to make it convenient to participate:
 - Club members will visit the SOUL Children Home at Kalikapur on April 07, 2026 to oversee the coaching facility and assess the students learning for which the club has started providing financial assistance.
 - The next batch of beautician & tailoring training courses in Sarenga Village will continue, as planned.
 - The next batch of students are being enrolled for the Graphic designing course at Santospur Rishi Arobindo Balika Vidhyapith, which is expected to start soon, led by Rtn. Subrata Kundu.
 - The proposed cricket match involving fellow members will be held on March 29, 2026. All members are requested to be present and participate.
 - That he will accompany some club members and visit the Sarenga Training Center during April 03 - 04, 2026 to oversee the ongoing beautician and tailoring training courses.
 - Fellow members may take note that the Official Club Visit of DG Rtn. (Dr.) Ramendu Homchaudhuri as published in the club bulletin, is scheduled on April 01, 2026 and everyone should make it a point to attend with their spouses to make the visit an eventful one.

- Next, President Rtn. Sudipta requested PP Rtn. Partha S. Sarkar to deliberate. He announced that East Bengal Club had contacted and offered a donation of Rs. 1.00 lakh to the LBC Trust in recognition to the good work and to encourage them. The program will be held at Dhono Dhanyo Auditorium on March 22, 2026.
- President Rtn. Sudipta invited Mr. Shyamal Mitra to come up and share a few words. Mr. Mitra expressed his sincere appreciation for the good work that the club has been doing in different areas specially LBC, children education and safe drinking water projects. In view of the same he has decided to donate Rupees 1.00 lakh, to be spent on these good causes and thanked all members for their dedication. Further, he wished the club the best of success for all it's future endeavors. The gesture was greeted with applause from the attendees.
- Upon the request of President Rtn. Sudipta, the two prospective members, Mr. Subhodip Mukherjee and Mr. Sarbodwip Sen introduced themselves to the attendees.
- Next, President Rtn. Sudipta invited Rtn. (Dr.) Emili Banerjee and Dr. Kautilyo Banerjee to make their announcement. They extended invitation to the club members for their son's 'Upanayan' on April 05, 2026 and requested all the members to be present on that day and bless their son.
- Next, Secretary Rtn. (Dr.) Saiful Anam Mir conducted the club business and extended birthday greetings to Ms. Krishnakoli Ray w/o PP Rtn. (Dr.) Partha P. Roy falling on March 25 and to PP Rtn. Jaydeb Banerjee falling on March 29.
- Minutes of the 2168 th meeting, was confirmed by the members present.
- Next, President Rtn. Sudipta requested ZS PP Rtn. Mr. Subhrojyoti Bhowmik to share his views on the club activities. He expressed his happiness for the projects and works being carried out by the club and also encouraged all the members to involve themselves more and keep doing the good work.
- Then, President Rtn. Sudipta made a brief and effective presentation to AG PP Rtn. Mr. Tamalesh Kumar and to the house for all the worthwhile projects, which have been carried out by the club beginning July 01, 2025, covering all the areas of focus laid down by the Rotary International.
- Next, President Rtn. Sudipta invited AG PP Rtn. Mr. Tamalesh Kumar to share his views. He in his deliberation praised the President and the club for it's commendable work encompassing all the areas of focus and goals of Rotary. He then read out the list of documents needed to be prepared for the upcoming DG visit on April 01, 2026. He also requested the members to donate in the TRF.
- President Rtn. Sudipta extended his heartfelt gratitude to AG PP Rtn. Mr. Tamalesh Kumar, ZS PP Rtn. Mr. Subhrojyoti Bhowmik for their comments and guidance. Thereafter, he concluded the meeting with thanks to everyone present in the meeting.

**ROTARY
INTERNATIONAL
CONVENTION**

TAIPEI, TAIWAN | 13-17 JUNE 2026

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2026

