

## SEPTEMBER IS BASIC EDUCATION AND LITERACY MONTH

### Presidential Message



**September 2025**

**Francesco Arezzo** :: RI President 2025-26

When I stepped into the role of Rotary International president, the moment came swiftly and unexpectedly. It got me thinking how the world can change in an instant, and how Rotary has the power to be a steady force for good in that change. This month, Rotary's Basic Education and Literacy Month, we have a clear call to action: to strengthen the foundation of learning in every community we serve.

Millions of people worldwide remain unable to read. Millions of children lack access to basic education. And yet, we know the solution: sustainable, inclusive, and equitable education, especially for girls and marginalized youths. Literacy is more than the ability to read and write. It is the key to human dignity, economic mobility, and peace. Every book opened, every classroom supported, and every teacher trained becomes a building block of peace.

This year, our message is *Unite for Good*. "Unite" speaks to the strength we find in each other. When we unite our talents and resources — not only among our clubs but across partners, organizations, and communities — we expand our reach. And when we do so consistently over time, we create lasting change. Rotary service cannot be measured only in annual goals. Our work in education must extend beyond a single year. Literacy projects take time to take root, grow, and bear fruit.

Now is the time to think boldly and creatively. New types of clubs can help us engage educators, students, and advocates in new ways. Let us use this month to welcome new members with a passion for education and empower existing ones to lead service projects that reflect local needs. Whether you're building libraries, distributing textbooks, or mentoring students, your actions matter.

Education is also peacebuilding. Every scholarship we provide, every early childhood program we support, every adult literacy class we fund is an act of peace. And Rotary has been building peace in this way for more than a century.

Let us not forget that the fight for literacy is not only about access, it's about equity. It is about ensuring every learner, regardless of background, has the opportunity to reach their potential. And it is about standing together — across borders, languages, and generations — to say that education is a right, not a privilege.

Let's *Unite for Good* by committing to literacy that lasts. Let's dream of a world where every child learns to read. And then, as people of action, let's work together to make that dream a reality.

Together, we can change lives, starting with the power of education. Together, we *Unite for Good*.

# Ways to promote Rotary

Being consistent in our communications — through public relations, events, advertising, social media, and more — strengthens Rotary's brand and builds awareness and understanding of how our members are people of action, creating positive change in communities around the world. Learn how to build awareness of our brand through communications that work best for your club.



## Websites

Your website may be the first place that potential donors, participants, and members learn about your club and Rotary. Discover how you can engage and inform audiences by using your club and district websites.



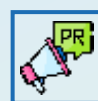
## Social Media

Social media is among the most effective ways to connect with large audiences. Learn how to use social media to achieve your goals and discover which platforms work best for your club.



## Events

Events are ideal opportunities to promote your club in the community. Find tips for organizing events that inspire people to want to get involved in Rotary.



## Public Relations

Public relations can strengthen your community's understanding of Rotary and the positive difference we make in people's lives. Learn how to use public relations and work with the media to gain visibility in your community.



## Speaking Engagements

Speaking engagements increase people's understanding of Rotary and how we create change in communities. Find resources that can strengthen your presentations.



## Partnerships

Clubs can amplify their service by working or collaborating with other local organizations. Show your club's affiliation with a partner by using Rotary's customizable logo templates.



## Advertising

Advertising reaches people who may not know who we are or what we do. Find print and digital ads, as well as audio clips and videos, to help promote your club members as people of action.



## Merchandise

Wearing and using merchandise purchased from Rotary's licensed vendors strengthens our brand. Learn more about our vendors and how to customize Rotary-branded merchandise.

Source: [brandcenter.rotary.org](https://brandcenter.rotary.org)

## RI President for 2026-27

**Olayinka Hakeem Babalola**, a member of the Rotary Club of Trans Amadi, Nigeria, has been selected to become Rotary International's President for 2026-27



## Happy Birthdays

*Ms. Debjani Kundu, spouse of President Rtn. Sudipta Kundu  
falling on September 04*

*PP Rtn. (Dr.) Partha Pratim Roy falling on September 12*

*Dr. Koutilya Bhattacharyya, spouse of Rtn. (Dr.) Emili Banerjee  
falling on September 14*

*PP Rtn. (Dr.) Chitra Mandal falling on September 15*

## Awards & Recognitions of RC Calcutta Jadavpur at a Glance



**Group B –Support towards Environment  
2nd position**



**Group B –District Programme support  
2nd position**



**Group B –International Service  
3rd Position**



**Group B –Paediatric Cancer Patient Support  
1st Position**



**Group B – Youth & Interact  
2nd Position**



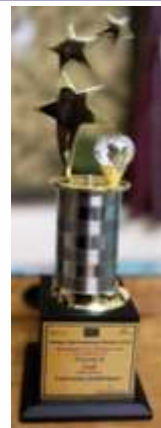
**Group B – Eye care & avoidable blindness  
2nd Position**



**Group B – Special Recognition  
For Life Beyond Cancer**



**Group B – Recognition for Membership (Net Growth)  
1st Position**



**Group B – Recognition for Membership (Growth by %)  
2nd Position**

### **RC Calcutta Jadavpur also received:**

- a. Certificate of Appreciation for Newsletter
- b. RI Presidential Citation for Rotary Year 2024-25
- c. District Governor's Citation for Rotary Year 2024-25



## Individual Recognitions By RI District 3291



**Outstanding Club President  
2024-25  
Mainak Sengupta**



**Outstanding Zonal Secretary  
2024-25  
Pausali Paul**



**Outstanding District Chairman  
Cancer Awareness & Prevention  
Partha Sarathi Sarkar**



**Award Committee Chair  
2024-25  
Jaydeb Banerjee**



**Appreciation for his contribution  
during the Rotary Year 2024-25  
as Chief-Aide-to Governor  
Jaydeb Banerjee**

**Meet man who spent his childhood in orphanage, worked as cleaner, newspaper delivery boy telephone operator, then became IAS officer without cracking UPSC exam, he is...**



B Abdul Nasar lived 13 years in the orphanage, did odd jobs to support his family. However, with hard work and determination he became an IAS officer without cracking UPSC exam. Check here to know more about him.

**By Apurwa Amit**  
Aug 23, 2025

The UPSC exam, the gateway to becoming an IAS officer, is notoriously difficult, often involving costly coaching and years of rigorous study. However, the story of B Abdul Nasar offers a different perspective, highlighting an equally challenging path to the same goal. His journey is inspiring and a testament to the extraordinary perseverance required when opportunities are scarce.

### **Who is IAS B Abdul Nasar**

B Abdul Nasar, hailing from Thalassery in Kerala's Kannur district, experienced significant hardship early in life, losing his father at the age of five. Consequently, he and his siblings were sent to an orphanage, while their mother worked as a domestic helper to support them. Despite these early struggles, Nasar completed his education, spending a total of 13 years in the orphanage.

### **What were the odd jobs B Abdul Nasar did before becoming an IAS?**

At ten, Nasar started working as a cleaner and supplier for a local hotel to help his family. He later went to Government College in Thalassery to complete his graduation. While studying, Nasar took on jobs like, delivering newspapers, aking tuition classes, and working as a phone operator to support his family.

## How B Abdul Nasar became IAS without cracking UPSC exam?

In 1994, B. Abdul Nasar began his career in the Kerala Health Department after completing his postgraduate studies. Through dedication and hard work, he earned promotions over the years, reaching the position of Deputy Collector in the State Civil Service by 2006.

Throughout his career, he consistently showcased excellence, accumulating a distinguished service record. His exceptional performance, in accordance with IAS regulations, resulted in his promotion to the Indian Administrative Service (IAS). He served with distinction as the District Collector of Kollam from 2019 to 2021 and currently holds the position of Secretary for the Fisheries Department, Government of Kerala.

His ultimate goal was achieved, not through the traditional examination route, but through a career defined by relentless dedication within the system. His narrative is compelling, yet it also sparks contemplation. It highlights the reality that while talent is ubiquitous, opportunities are not. Nasar's journey demanded years of perseverance and was shaped by the challenges of his early life.

Source : [www.dnaindia.com](http://www.dnaindia.com)

## Minutes of the 2156th RCM of RC Calcutta Jadavpur held on August 20, 2025, Wednesday at Casa Broadway, Kolkata at 6.30 PM.

President Rtn. Sudipta Kundu called the meeting to order and welcomed the guests, spouses and the members present.

- National Anthem was led by PP Rtn. Paromita Das Dutta and joined by all.
- One minute silence was observed in remembrance of Late PP Rtn. (Dr.) Chhabinath Mandal and Late Rtn. Sikha Mukherji.
- President Rtn. Sudipta announced that the Shradh Ceremony of Late Rtn. Sikha Mukherji will be held at Mahanirban Math, Hall No-5 and he requested to attend the same in large numbers.
- Next, President Rtn. Sudipta briefly talked about the four different projects that have been carried out, in between:
  - i) That on August 09, 2025, a guided tour of Raj Bhavan, Kolkata was undertaken, where 45 trainees and staff members of Smart Centre of Tech Mahindra participated. The programme was led by Late Rtn. Sikhadi under our club banner.
  - ii) On August 15, 2025, in commemoration of Independence Day, the club participated in the flag hoisting ceremony and the cultural programme at Udbhas, where pouch bags & chocolates were distributed to 70 children. The entire arrangement was organised by Smt. Jayashree Kundu of Udbhas Children Welfare Organisation. The programme was attended by PP Rtn. Partha Sarathi Sarkar, Rtn. Manas Kr. Ghosh, Rtn. (Dr.) Soma Banerjee, Secretary Rtn. (Dr.) Saiful Anam Mir, Rtn. Subrata Kundu, Rtn. Jayatee Biswas and himself.
  - iii) Again on August 15, 2025, the club distributed drawing books, colour pencil boxes and chocolates to 120 children admitted at the precincts. PP Rtn. Partha Sarathi Sarkar, Rtn. Manas Kr. Ghosh, Rtn. (Dr.) Saiful Anam Mir, Rtn. Jayatee Biswas, Ms. Karobi De of LBC Team and himself were present. This was indeed, a heartwarming experience for those who participated.
- Further, President Rtn. Sudipta announced a few upcoming projects and requested the members to make it convenient to participate.
  - i) That on August 24, 2025, there is a Leadership Programme, RLI – PART I, scheduled at Rotary Sadan on from 9 AM to 5 PM, for which the Registration Charge is Rs.1,200/- per member (Including Study Materials, Breakfast & Lunch). Members willing to join may register immediately.
  - ii) The club, in association with Inner Wheel Club of Jadavpur will distribute sarees to the mothers of 35 street children of Bowbazar Red Light Area on August 28, 2025.
- President Rtn. Sudipta announced that the club has received 7 awards through the District Awards Ceremony 2025 “SAMMANAM”, held on August 17, 2025 at Dhono Dhanyo Auditorium. This is recognition of the spectacular performance by RC Calcutta Jadavpur during RY 2024-25, under the able leadership of IPP Rtn. (Dr.) Mainak Sengupta. The event was attended by PP Rtn. Jaydeb Banerjee (Chair-District Awards), PP Rtn. Sanjay Ray, PP Rtn. (Dr.) Kunal Ray, Rtn. (Dr.) Jharna Ray, IPP Rtn. (Dr.) Mainak Sengupta and himself. There will be the second part of the awards ceremony “SAMMANAM”, at Haldiram Banquets, for Individual Recognition, Membership & Foundation Awards. The club has decided to display the awards and recognitions in course of the next physical club meeting scheduled on September 18, 2025.

President Rtn. Sudipta invited PP Rtn. Partha Sarathi Sarkar to update the members about LBC.

PP Rtn. Partha Sarathi Sarkar informed about his visit to the KMC Office for promotion of LBC project under KMC Banner during upcoming festive season, for wider circulation and publicity of the LBC activities. He also informed that LBC has received a donation of Rs.4.5 Lakhs from RC Chowrenghee. Further, he shared the news that Rajawadi Hospital, Mumbai has become a partner of LBC and has already opened Helpdesk for the cause. This is the second one in Mumbai, after Wadia Hospital.

- Secretary Rtn. (Dr.) Saiful Anam Mir conducted the club business and extended birthday greetings to President Rtn. Sudipta Kundu and PP Rtn. Sonia Gupta falling on August 30 and August 31, respectively.
- Minutes of the 2155th meeting, was confirmed by the members present and the meeting was concluded, with thanks to everyone.

As scheduled, the Regular Club Meeting was followed by the condolence meeting in memory of Late PP Rtn. (Dr.) Chhabinath Mandal and Late Rtn. Sikha Mukherji. Members, guests and invitees fondly remembered the beloved members and talked about their association, experience of working together and how unique & positive impact both had on the club.

Finally, President Rtn. Sudipta thanked all the attendees for sparing their valuable time and making it to pay their homage to the two departed souls.