



SPARK

Salt Lake Down Town (23958)



Charter Date: 30-Jun-1986

RFM No. 18/1735
18th April, 2026

President: Debdip Dey | **Secretary:** Reshme Dey | **Editor:** Soumen Bhaumik

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RFM 1734 – 27th Mar'26

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From Editor's Desk

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Upcoming events

April

MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH



Rotary International's new monthly theme for April is Maternal and Child Health! Every day mothers risk their lives giving birth and millions of children die each year from treatable, preventable causes. At least 7 million children under the age of five die each year due to malnutrition, poor health care, and inadequate sanitation. To help reduce this rate, Rotary provides immunizations and antibiotics to babies, improves access to essential medical services, and supports trained health care providers for mothers and their children.

Rotary's projects ensure sustainability by empowering the local community to take ownership of health care training programs. Maternal and Child Health Care is also recognized as one of Rotary's Six Areas of Focus.

Minutes

1734 RFM dated 27th March, 2026

Attendees:

Venue: Anno Theatre, Salt Lake

Month: Mar'26

Member Present: 8

Member	27/3/2026
Anasua Sarkar	<input type="checkbox"/>
Anirban Moitra	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bhaskar Dasgupta	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bhaskar Guha	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Chaitali Mukhopadhyay	<input type="checkbox"/>
Debdip Dey	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Deepak Mitra	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gautam Mukherjee	<input type="checkbox"/>
Indumoti Choudhury	<input type="checkbox"/>
Itu Upadhaya	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kum Kum Bose	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Kumar Srivatsan	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mala Chakraborty	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Prantick Roychowdhury	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rahela Jaiswal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Reshme Dey	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rina Brahma(Saha)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sailendra Nath Dewan	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sanat Kr Sarkar	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sharmila Mitra	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Shomik Sen	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sima Bhattacharyya	<input type="checkbox"/>
Siva Kumar	<input type="checkbox"/>
Soumen Bhaumik	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Soumik Das	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tapas Kr. Bhattacharya	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tutun De	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ujjayini Das Sarma	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sibansu Mohan Chaki	<input type="checkbox"/>

Discussion Points:

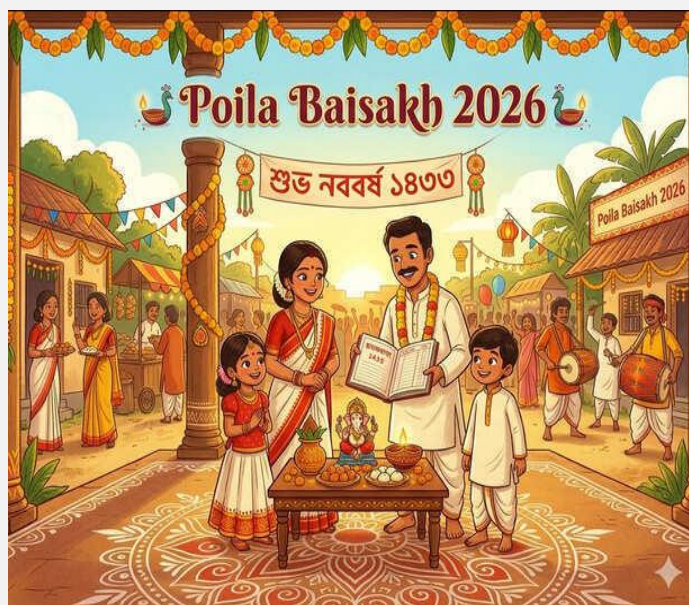
- President called the meeting to order.
- The National Anthem was sung.
- There was a plan for visiting the Purulia school but it had to be deferred due to the upcoming Assembly election.
- A unanimous decision was taken for transferring some more funds to the Purulia school for completion of the construction of the school.
- President informed that he plans to communicate with Gana Unnayan Parshad members for the implementation of two major projects of the club
 - Thalassemia awareness
 - Importance of Mental health and well-being.
- Rtn. Mala Chakraborty has planned to conduct a session on Thalassemia awareness in the Geology Department of Ballygunge Science College.
- Rtn. Mala Chakraborty the President elect briefed the members on the issues discussed in PELS.
- Next club meet will be held on 18th April followed by a short cultural program and dinner.

From Editor's Desk

Poila Baisakh - Origin

During Mughal rule, land taxes were collected from Bengali people according to the Islamic Hijri calendar. This calendar was a lunar calendar, and its new year did not coincide with the solar agricultural cycles. According to some sources, the festival was a tradition introduced in Bengal during the rule of Mughal Emperor Akbar to time the tax year to the harvest, and the Bangla year was therewith called "Bangabda". Akbar asked the royal astronomer Fathullah Shirazi to create a new calendar by combining the lunar Islamic calendar and solar Hindu calendar already in use, and this was known as "Fasholi shan" (harvest calendar). According to some historians, this started the Bengali calendar. According to Shamsuzzaman Khan, it could be Nawab Murshid Quli Khan, a Mughal governor, who first used the tradition of Punyaho as "a day for ceremonial land tax collection", and used Akbar's fiscal policy to start the Bangla calendar. Regardless of who adopted the Bengali calendar and the new year, states Sengupta, it helped collect land taxes after the spring harvest based on traditional Bengali calendar, because the Islamic Hijri calendar created administrative difficulties in setting the collection date.

Some historians attribute the Bengali calendar to the 7th-century Indian king Shashanka. The term Bangabda (Bangla year) is found too in two Shiva temples many centuries older than Akbar era, suggesting that Bengali calendar existed before Akbar's time.[28] Various dynasties whose territories extended into Bengal, prior to the 13th-century, used the Vikrami calendar. Buddhist texts and inscriptions created in the Pala Empire era mention "Vikrama" and the months such as Ashvin, a system found in Sanskrit texts elsewhere in ancient and medieval Indian subcontinent. In rural Bengali communities of India, the Bengali calendar is credited to "Bikromaditto", like many other parts of India and Nepal. However, unlike these regions where it starts in 57 BCE, the Bengali calendar starts from 593 CE suggesting that the starting reference year was adjusted at some point.



The Bengali calendar in India remains tied to the Hindu calendar system and is used to set the various Bengali Hindu festivals. For Bengalis of West Bengal and other Indian states, the festival falls either on 14 or 15 April every year. The current Bengali calendar in use in the Indian states is based on the Sanskrit text Surya Siddhanta. It retains the historic Sanskrit names of the months, with the first month as Baishakh.

Dates to Remember
 Mark your calendar

April

2026

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
30	31	01	02	03	04	05
06	07	08	09	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17 BIRTHDAY - Bhaskar Guha	18 MEETING - RFM	19
20	21 ANNIVERSARY - Chaitali M + Abhijit	22	23	24	25 BIRTHDAY - Dipak Mitra	26
27	28	29 BIRTHDAY - Debdip Dey	30	01	02	03
04	05	Notes:				