

# "YOU ARE THE LIGHT

RID 3291, Zone-16
Rotary
Garden Reach

OF THE WORLD..."

### **2328th RWM**



October 14th, 2025 - Vol. 48 No. 12 • Attendance: 08







DISEASE PREVENTION & TREATMENT



WATER, SANITATION & HYGIENE



MATERNAL &



BASIC EDUCATION
& LITERACY



COMMUNITY ECONOMIC



ENVIRONMENT

#### **Greetings on Birthday**

Sept 25th: PE Dr. BN Jha, Sept 27th: Bhavna, Daughter of PP Naresh K Jain Spouse Leema, Wife of Rtn. Chiranjib Sha
Oct 1st: Shreshth, Son of PP Sanjay Bhatt, Oct 4th: Spouse Purba, Wife of Rtn. Jayanta Hati, Oct 6th: PP Dr. Sumanta Dasgupta
Oct 7th: Spouse Dr. Sharda, Wife of PP Dr. Arabinda Ray, Oct 8th: Spouse Sheela, Wife of PP Amitav Ganguly
Chiranjeevi, Son of Rtn. Bandaru Mohan, Oct 11th: Spouse Jyotsna, Wife of PP Tapan K Roy
Oct 12th: Spouse Rita, Wife of PP Dr. Sumanta Dasgupta, Oct 14th: Spouse Sagarika, Wife of PP Subir Singha Roy
Oct 15thSpouse Priyanka, Wife of IPP Biswajit Saha, Oct 20th: Spouse Annu, Wife of Rtn. Abinash Singh

#### **Lighting Lives beyond the Festival**

#### Rotary's October Focus: Economic and Community Development

The town of Aarambh was alive with celebration. The streets shimmered with lights, laughter echoed through open windows, and the scent of sweets filled the evening air. It was the season of festivals — a time for families to gather, for friends to exchange gifts, and for communities to glow in harmony.

Yet, beneath the sparkle of the celebrations, not every home shared the same brightness. Many local artisans and small vendors had seen their incomes shrink, their crafts losing space in a fast-changing world. The light of festivity glimmered, but for some, it struggled to reach their doors.

That's when the members of the Rotary Club of Aarambh decided that this season, their celebration would take on a deeper meaning. Instead of hosting a grand dinner, they visited the town's handicraft market — a place once known for its vibrant hand-woven fabrics and clay lamps, now quiet and uncertain.

They spoke with weavers, potters, and women entrepreneurs who worked tirelessly to keep their traditions alive. The Rotarians listened to their stories — stories of resilience, hope, and silent struggle. From those conversations was born a project rooted in Rotary's October theme: Economic and Community Development.

Over the next few weeks, the club organized workshops to teach digital marketing and financial literacy. They helped the artisans showcase their work online and connected them with local businesses. Microloans were arranged through Rotary's network, giving these small entrepreneurs a chance to buy better materials and tools.

As the festive days drew nearer, something beautiful began to unfold. The once-quiet marketplace transformed into a kaleidoscope of colour and creativity. Lamps glowed brighter, fabrics shimmered with new patterns, and the sounds of laughter and trade returned.

Children ran between stalls, admiring the handiwork of their neighbours, while the artisans — now confident and proud — shared not just their craft, but their renewed hope. The Rotarians watched silently, their hearts full, knowing that this — this empowerment, this dignity — was the true celebration. For Rotary, economic and community development is not just about funding or business — it's about creating opportunities that restore self-worth, about building communities where every individual can thrive with pride and purpose.

This festive season reminds us that the brightest light is not the one that glows in our homes, but the one we kindle in someone else's life. When we empower a family to earn, a child to dream, or a community to grow—we celebrate the purest form of festivity: the joy of shared prosperity.

As Rotarians, may we continue to carry this light beyond the season — to every project, every village, and every heart we touch.

Let this October be a celebration of compassion, courage, and community — a festival of empowerment that shines far beyond the lamps.









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#### Presidential Message - Francesco Arezzo

October is Rotary's Community Economic Development Month, a time to spotlight our efforts to help communities build thriving, sustainable futures. This month's observance aligns perfectly with the Rotary core value of leadership.



Leadership means empowering people to guide their own progress.

That is precisely what Rotary's economic development projects aim to achieve.

Take, for example, a recent initiative in southern India in which Rotary members unlocked the power of women of the Adivasi tribal groups through sewing training to earn a living and regain social inclusion. Historically, widows and abandoned women in this region lose social standing and are shunned by society or blamed for their misfortunes. Opportunities to support themselves or obtain training are minimal. This year, the Rotary Club of Windsor Roseland, Ontario, partnered with clubs in Districts 3203 and 3234 in India — and with the Indian organization Sevalaya Trust — to provide sewing machines and training to 80 Adivasi women. They learned to stitch saree blouses, kurta tunics, and salwar suits, enabling them to support themselves and

their families. Each woman received a certificate for completing the program, and the sewing-machine provider offered free long-term maintenance for the machines. The project offered vital income and dignity to women ostracized by society after widowhood.

This story is one example of Rotary leadership in action: local people guiding solutions that address their community needs. Our role is not to deliver charity or to impose outside models, but to foster self-reliance by investing in leadership, skills, and sustainable enterprise.

This October, I invite Rotary members worldwide to reflect on economic leadership in their communities. Who is stepping forward to lead local economic initiatives? Where is there untapped talent that could be supported with training or mentorship? How can your club catalyse opportunity through partnerships with local businesses, vocational schools, or savings groups?

Leadership is not always about being visible. Sometimes it means listening, working collaboratively, and amplifying the voices of others. That approach lies at the heart of Rotary's philosophy and our lasting impact on economic development.

By building capacity — whether through microcredit groups, vocational training workshops, or entrepreneurship programs — we enable communities to lead their own transformation. When people take ownership of their progress, change becomes

Let us lead with good intention and provide support with heart. By nurturing local leadership, we can create opportunities that ripple through communities, empowering individuals, families, and societies.

Together, we can support economies that work for everyone and enact community development projects that last.





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Rotary Garden Reach wishes you heartiest Congratulations!

It is a proud and momentous occasion to see you appointed as a Trustee of The Rotary Foundation. Your dedication, vision, and exemplary leadership have always inspired Rotarians across the world.

This prestigious appointment is a true recognition of your outstanding service and commitment to the ideals of Rotary. We are confident that your wisdom and passion will strengthen the Foundation's mission and create lasting impact globally.

Wishing you continued success as you take on this remarkable responsibility.

#### Rotary Golf Classic: Swing against Cervical Cancer

The Rotary Golf Classic 2025, called "Par for Prevention," began on October 10th at Royal Calcutta Golf Club and ended on October 11th, 2025 at the Tollygunge Club.











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It was a two-day event that brought together golf and a good cause. The event was organised by the Rotary Club of Calcutta Midtown, along with the Rotary Club of Park Point and the Rotary Club of Garden Reach. The aim was to collect money for giving cervical cancer vaccines to poor girls in Kolkata; the event, led by Rtn. Hitesh Dani, President of Rotary Club of Calcutta Midtown, raised Rs. 1 Crore. Vaccination camp was on October 12th, 2025 at Maniktala, targeting 200 girls under 15 years old. The goal is to reach 2,500 girls over the next three months. PP Timir, IPP Biswajit & PE Dr. BN Jha attended the vaccination centre.



Around 100 golfers from Malaysia, Nepal, Delhi, Ranchi, Bengaluru, and Kolkata took part. The scoring was based on net scores using the Gross Stroke Play method. PP Timir Roy & Rtn. Abhijit Das participated from Rotary Garden Reach.

The Rotary Golf Classic 2025 not only showed the spirit of competition and good sportsmanship but also proved how golf can help make a real difference in the community. On the evening of the prize distribution, there was an auction where players bid on unique limited edition golf equipment, such as belts, clubs, golf bags, and more. The entire proceeds went towards the cause.

As the vaccination camps have started, the impact of this event will go far beyond the golf course.

#### **Let's say YES to 1:2:3**

#### M Muruganandam, RI Director, 2025-27

Rotary is, at its heart, a family of members. This is where everything begins. When our membership is strong, our projects, contributions and service to communities become stronger and more impactful. I often picture Rotary as a magnificent chariot, the wheels of which are our members. Strong wheels make the chariot run smoothly; but if the wheels are weak, the journey slows down. That is why membership must always remain our first priority.









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In the third month of this Rotary year, let's embrace a simple but powerful idea: Say YES to 1:2:3. For every 1 Rotarian, let's engage 2 Rotaractors and 3 Interactors with our clubs. When we inspire young people today, they will see Rotary as their natural next step tomorrow. This is how we ensure sustainability, create continuity, and keep our movement full of energy and life.

Let's step back and look at the bigger picture. India today is the second largest Rotary country in the world. That is something to be proud of! But we can't stop here; we have to move forward. If each of our 4,800+ clubs simply brings in one new member every alternate month that is six members in a year. Multiply that, and together we will welcome 28,800 new Rotarians this year alone. This way, our four zones will cross a historic milestone — 2 lakh members by 2025–26 and, and 2.25 lakh by 2026–27. Such a powerful message to the Rotary world on the strength and unity of India's Rotarians! This RAG analysis will tell us where we stand today and help leaders to plan for the future.

- Red zone: clubs with fewer than 25 members
- Amber zone: clubs with 25–50 members
- Green zone: clubs with 50+ members
- Super Green: clubs with 75+ members

I urge every club president, district governor, regional and zonal leader to pledge to hand over the leadership baton to your successor after scaling at least one zone. When you show positive growth and better numbers that is a clear, measurable and lasting legacy you can be proud of.

Also, while focusing on recruiting new members, we must also work equally hard on retaining existing members. Every club and district is responsible for making Rotary meaningful to its members. When people feel connected, when they see their contributions creating real change, they stay. When our youth experience the joy of service through Rotaract and Interact, they see Rotary as their future. And when our clubs remain strong and vibrant, our impact on society multiplies many times over.

So friends, let's join hands and hearts to make this happen. Let's keep the Rotary wheel strong, steady and turning true. Say YES to 1:2:3. Say YES to growth. Say YES to Rotary.

#### End Polio show wows RI President Arezzo

An awesome spectacle of the formation of the End Polio Now logo by 3,000 Rotaractors from RID 3234, a Guinness Book attempt, wowed RI President Francesco Arezzo on a bright Sunday morning in Chennai. "It is very impressive to see the EPN formation by such a large number of Rotaractors... only in India we can see such a vibrant Rotaract," he exclaimed. This EPN display, held at the Lead25 Conclave, visibly delighted Arezzo and his wife Anna Maria as they watched a

massive gathering of around 5,000 Rotaractors for the record-making attempt to create awareness on Rotary's End Polio



campaign worldwide. The RI President said that the whole of Italy would not have 3,000 Rotaractors, "whereas a single Rotaract district in India has attempted a Guinness Record. Rotaractors find new ways and ideas of doing projects, which may seem impossible for Rotarians."

Emphasising that Rotary has a rich legacy, proven integrity, leadership and fellowship traits, which will be passed on to Rotaractors, he urged the youth brigade to "show the way forward to Rotary. I wish all Rotaractors join Rotary clubs soon," he said.

**Youth power** 









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"The youth are changing the world... just a single post on social media by them is enough to create a big churn. The speed and power of youngsters are driving change. I enjoy Rotary because of my entry as a Rotaractor," said RI Director M Muruganandam.

Citing Mahatma Gandhi's words: 'Be the change you want to see in the world,' he said Rotaractors are critical for the Rotary wheel to move for yet another century. Only by taking responsibility, "a man is respected as a father in his family and a leader in his community. From Rotaractors, you have to become Rotarians." Youth should aim to achieve big in their lives, he said, quoting former President Abdul Kalam: "Your entry may be unnoticed, but your exit must be remembered all time." Stating that Directors, Muruganandam and he have set a target of \$5 million for the India zones for the Polio Fund this year, and KP Nagesh said a cricket tournament titled the Rotary Premier League will be organised for all the four zones to raise funds for this cause. He complimented the RID 3234 Rotaractors "for a grand show in front of RI President Arezzo, thus projecting the strength of Indian Rotaract clubs."

DRR Sathish Kumar said that it was "an once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for district Rotaractors to perform in front of RI President Arezzo," and thanked DG Saraogi for his support in staging the human formation.

The EPN logo formation is a branding exercise for district clubs and will create awareness on the global efforts of Rotary in eradicating polio, said Srinivasan Balaraman, EPN coordinator, RID 3234. "It was a great experience to anchor the entire formation," said Britto Manohar who coordinated the event.

Sharing her experience, faculty coordinator D Monika from AM Jain College, Meenambakkam, said "the young generation today is self-centred. Events like the End Polio display by Rotaract bring out the humanity, service-mindedness, along with leadership qualities, in them."

On October 12th, 2025 GoI organised SNID all over the nation. PP Mousumi, PP Chinmay and spouse Debasis diligently visited all the KMC Wards under our club's jurisdiction, in and around Garden Reach area. District Polio Chair, PDG Mukul Sinha has driven from the front and by guiding the clubs in this initiative.











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## Minutes of the 2327th RWM held on September 16th, 2025 at BNR Officers' Club, Garden Reach

- 1. Acting President PP Dr. Sumanta Dasgupta called the meeting to order and welcomed the members and requested to rise for the National Anthem.
- 2. The report of 48th Charter Anniversary will be presented by Chairman PP Tanu Roy, the expense details will be informed after the bills are received by the Treasurer PP Sanjay Bhatt.
- 3. Helping Grant (EIRWT) project of Blood Bank Refrigerator for TSI will be executed after Puja, as was the Service Projects Chair.
- 4. The final report of 48th Installation will be presented by the end of this month/after Puja.
- 5. As decided by the Club earlier, we will refrain from co-hosting any service project; the Joint Project proposal from Rotary Calcutta South Central was declined.
- 6. PP Dr. Arabinda Ray informed that 'Rotary Medical Mission to Africa' will be restored in RY 2026-27, he has been assigned Coordinator by DGE Tapas Bhattacharyya. He informed that any of the doctors from our Club willing to join the Mission, may inform him.
- 7. Update of Pre-Puja cloth distribution/other items: It has been unanimously decided to procure Sarees @ Rs. 250 each. 50 mosquito nets procured as a part of District project, will be distributed to the Bharatgarh Rotary School 17, RCC Joypur 17 and RCC Badartala 16. The students' outfits, lungi & vests have been procured by Rtn. Abbas Ali Halder. Sports materials are sponsored by PP Dr. Sumanta Dasgupta.
- 8. In absentia of Rtn. Shubhayan, PP Sanjay conducted the club business.
- 4. VP Dr. Sumanta Dasgupta confirmed the minutes of the last meeting and terminated the meeting.

