



"YOU ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD..."

RID 3291, Zone-16
Rotary
Garden Reach



2320th Regular Weekly Meeting

48th Club Installation

1st RWM of the year 2025-
1st July 2025, 7.00 pm onwards
at the Club
ta - 70

**TOGETHER, WE
EMPOWER**

Potential shines brightest when it's inspired. That's why Rotary clubs invest time and expertise in encouraging others to be the best they can be. Empowering those who have big dreams to achieve great things — that's what people of action do.

Rotary  **PEOPLE OF ACTION**



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Greetings on Birthday

July 26th : Spouse Arundhati, Wife of PP Tanu Roy
July 29th : Spouse Rajshree, Wife of PP DK Rao



PEACEBUILDING
AND CONFLICT
PREVENTION



DISEASE
PREVENTION
& TREATMENT



WATER,
SANITATION
& HYGIENE



MATERNAL &
CHILD HEALTH



BASIC EDUCATION
& LITERACY



COMMUNITY
ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT



ENVIRONMENT

"So, you're the President now?" — How a Rotary President Takes Charge (With a Smile and a Gavel)

Every year, Rotary Clubs around the world experience a sacred (and slightly dramatic) tradition — the installation of a new President. It's a moment of honour, a ceremony of continuity, and for the incoming leader, a sudden realisation:

"Wait... I'm actually in charge now?"

Becoming the President of a Rotary Club is like being handed the steering wheel of a moving bus — everyone's already on board, the engine is running, the destination is public service, and you're expected to drive smoothly while waving enthusiastically.

Step 1: The Big Day – Installation with Style (and Slight Panic)

The journey officially begins with the **Installation Ceremony** — a blend of tradition, emotion, and mild wardrobe stress.

The outgoing President gives a touching farewell speech ("I couldn't have done it without the team"); secretly relieved the gavel is changing hands.

The incoming President accepts the collar of office with humility, grace, and an inner voice whispering, "Don't trip on the stage..."

Bouquets are exchanged. So are big expectations.

Witty Truth:

The Rotary collar is not just symbolic — its nature's way of preparing you for the weight of the upcoming budget meetings.

Step 2: The First Speech – Say Something Inspiring (and Brief!)

The President's first official act is to give the "Presidential Address," where they outline their **vision, goals**, and themes for the year. Typically, this involves:

Quoting Rotary International's Presidential Message ("Unite for Good").

Setting bold targets ("We'll double the blood donations!").

Adding a personal touch — often a story about why Rotary means so much to them.

Witty Truth:

Your first speech should be like a Rotary lunch — hearty, nourishing, and over in 20 minutes.

Step 3: The Team – Appointing Officers Who Won't Ghost You

No President leads alone. A Rotary President must form an efficient and willing club leadership team, including:

Secretary: Your left hand and part-time therapist.

Treasurer: The person who will say "No" with love when you dream big.

Directors and Chairs: Champions for service, membership, public image, youth, etc.

Witty Truth:

Forming your team is like casting a movie — you want stars, not stand-ins.

Step 4: The Plan – Projects, People, and Pledges

Once the team is in place, it's time to **draw up the roadmap**:

What *signature projects* will define the year? (e.g., literacy drives, health camps, thalassemia awareness, polio campaigns)

What fundraisers are realistic? (And what won't cause mass resignation)

How to keep fellowship lively? (Hint: more biryani, less PowerPoint)

This is also when Presidents face the three eternal truths of Rotary:

- *Someone will always be late.*
- *There's never enough chairs.*
- *Half the WhatsApp group will not read the circular.*

Step 5: Balancing Leadership and Laughter

As President, you are the **face, heart, and occasionally the designated emcee** of the club. You chair meetings, attend district events, pose for photos with banners, and are often the default speaker even when you just came to eat samosas.

But amidst the seriousness, the best Presidents lead with lightness and laughter:

- *Celebrate small wins.*
- *Laugh at technical glitches ("Can you hear me?" – every Zoom ever).*
- *Make Rotary fun again.*

Witty Truth:

Leadership in Rotary is 30% strategy, 30% empathy, and 40% finding the projector remote.

Step 6: Leaving a Legacy

As the year progresses, the President begins to see their ideas turn into action — water tanks in villages, children back in school, blood donated, trees planted, lives touched.

By the end of the term, they've transformed — from a nervous newbie with a speech to a confident leader who's made a difference.

And then comes the final act: **handing over the gavel** to the next President, smiling knowingly, whispering, "It's all yours now," and secretly thinking, "I'm going to enjoy sitting in the audience."

In Conclusion: Leading with Purpose and a Pinch of Humour

Taking charge of a Rotary Club is no small feat — it's about juggling responsibilities, motivating volunteers, planning projects, and navigating the occasional chaos of community work. But for every challenge, there is a moment of joy — a smile from a child, a life saved through a health camp, a new member finding purpose.

And that's what truly inspires a Rotary President — the belief that service, when done with sincerity and spirit, **can change the world**.

So, here's to the Presidents: the dreamers, the doers, the accidental comedians, and the quiet change makers. *Your gavel is not just a symbol — it's a baton in the relay of service.*



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The 2025 Council on Legislation (COL) has brought forth several visionary and empowering decisions that will strengthen Rotary's foundation and future. These decisions are aimed at making our organization more inclusive, flexible, and impactful in the years to come.

Here are the key approvals:

1. Increase in Membership Dues

- US\$3.50 in 2026-27
- US\$3.75 in both 2027-28 and 2028-29

This increase is essential to maintain the quality of Rotary's global services and sustainable growth.

2. Minimum Membership for New Clubs Reduced

The required number of members to charter a new Rotary Club has been reduced from 20 to 15, making expansion easier and more accessible.

3. Proposal for Age Limit in Rotaract Rejected

Rotaract remains open to all age groups, allowing continuous youth leadership and engagement without limitations.

4. Proposal to Limit Honorary Members Rejected

Clubs will retain flexibility in granting honorary memberships to distinguished individuals.

5. Flexible Club Meetings

Clubs can now hold meetings in physical, virtual, or hybrid formats, enhancing convenience and participation.

6. Diverse Membership Types Approved

In a step towards increasing Rotary's accessibility and flexibility, the Council on Legislation has approved the introduction of several new membership categories. These changes will enable clubs to tailor their membership models to meet the varying needs and lifestyles of potential Rotarians. The key membership categories now available are:

- Associate Membership: This category allows individuals to join Rotary on a more flexible basis, which could be particularly appealing for those who may not have the time or capacity to commit to the full responsibilities of a regular membership but still want to engage with Rotary's activities and values.
- Corporate Membership: This enables companies or organizations to become part of Rotary. It allows multiple employees from the same organization to engage with Rotary, promoting corporate social responsibility and the opportunity for businesses to align with Rotary's service projects and community initiatives.
- Family Membership: With the Family Membership option, Rotary clubs can welcome multiple members from the same household, fostering a spirit of service across generations and allowing families to engage with Rotary together in a more integrated way.

These new categories will allow Rotary clubs to reach a wider, more diverse audience, including younger professionals, organizations, and families, strengthening our impact and ensuring our growth. It reflects Rotary's evolving nature, recognizing the importance of inclusivity and flexibility while maintaining the integrity of our mission.



As I close this chapter of my directorship — which wrapped up at the beginning of July — I wanted to take a moment to share my gratitude. Leading this role has been an incredible journey of learning, growth, and meaningful connections. I'm grateful for every challenge that pushed me forward, every idea that sparked change, and every person who stood by my side.

To my team and colleagues — thank you for your dedication, trust, and support. To everyone I had the privilege to work with — you've made this experience truly rewarding.

Though this chapter has ended, the lessons and relationships continue to shape what comes next. I look forward to new opportunities, fresh ideas, and the chance to keep contributing and learning in new ways.

Thank you for being part of my journey. Onward and upward!

-PRID Anirudha Roychowdhury, (2023-25)



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What does the Rotary Wheel Mean?



We start with the perimeter, with the 24 teeth. These could be seen as the clubs, each prepared and willing to engage with other clubs, or organisations, around the world. With the object of doing good. They could also be seen, as pointing outwards, to the many directional activities of Rotary, through its wide variety of international programmes.

The solid band in blue and gold, which supports the teeth, gives the strength which is needed to transmit the power, and hold the Rotary movement as one. It carries the inscription "Rotary International". It had four segments which could represent the four avenues of service. The six spokes bind together the hub and the rim. They may be seen as the Districts, moving the power, from its source, to the working elements, which are the teeth, representing the clubs. Why six spokes? Well this divides the twenty four teeth, to give us a reminder, of the four way test.

The hub is absolutely central, to ensure that the whole gear runs true to its purpose. It has that vital notch, which we call, the keyway, which locks the hub to the drive shaft. "Well", you will say, "there is no drive shaft". Maybe we overlook the fact, that not everything in this world is visible or tangible. There is that element, which the religions of the world, call "faith". In Rotary we can see it as a shared belief. The power and the energy which is created, when people of like mind, are committed to releasing this energy. In our case, it is through **"Service Above Self"**.

All we need now, to power up the gear wheel, with all its potential, is to lock the drive shaft to the hub, by putting the key in the keyway. In all this, we have not mentioned, the Rotarian but we can

now see, that he or she is, in fact, the key. Without the key the whole concept fails, there just has to be a commitment by the individual Rotarian.

Now all this has a strong mechanical, engineering connotation. One can almost feel the grease between thumb and finger, and smell the hot oil from the bearings. Like all things mechanical, we can get failure, or partial failure. A common failure could be caused by slippage. Slippage haunts us, still, in this computer age. Indeed it can be so severe that the whole exercise can fail and disappear.

With our Rotary wheel, this is most likely in two areas. One, a failure of the teeth, that is, the clubs, to engage with others to good purpose, Two, more importantly, failure to have the key in the keyway, or only partially so. This can slow down the whole movement, or cause it to chatter, to run unevenly, and reduce the effectiveness of the clubs. In the Rotary setup, slippage is quite easy to detect. As it develops, we can all become aware of it. We can feel the slippage when we come to a poorly attended meeting, when the meeting is subdued, and lacks vitality. There is further, very obvious slippage, when a number of members leave the meeting, before the speaker starts. Then, of course, there is the fireside, or committee meeting, with an attendance of only a fraction of its members, or the undermanned club project. All are evidence of slippage, and all affect performance.

When we accept that part of the symbolism, which puts the Rotarian in the keyway, then, no matter what interpretation we put on the rest of the wheel, the whole thing depends on you, the Rotarian. You may not always be able to be **"in the slot"** but you should know that you will be missed, because no one else can make your unique contribution.

The Rotary wheel emblem is a good one. It is designed for work and involvement. The Rotary movement is a worldwide one, of real significance, and tremendous potential. It has impressive statistics as to numbers of members, clubs, districts, and countries, international projects and contacts.

Perhaps, in our fascination with the whole movement, and its emblem, we should refocus our attention, on the small slot, the keyway, in the middle, and the importance of those who fill it, and whom we invite to fill it.

Minutes of the 2319th RWM held on July 15th, 2025 at BNR Officers' Club, Garden Reach

1. President Bandaru Mohan called the RWM 2319th to order. Members were requested to stand for the National Anthem. In absentia of the Secretary, PP Sanjay was requested to conduct the same.
2. A Blood Donation Camp was successfully organized on July 13th, 2025, at Nabarun Samity, Maheshtala jointly by Rotary Garden Reach & Inner Wheel Garden. Reach, in collaboration with Kothari Medical Centre, Kolkata. Total Donors: 75. Beneficiaries: 50% of donor cards will be reserved for Thalassemia patients. Donors and volunteers were offered glucose water, refreshments, and snacks.
3. The proposal for providing a Blood Bank Refrigerator at Thalassemia Society of India was discussed in detail. Members agreed to examine the project thoroughly before taking any final decision.

Committee for Evaluation:

PP Dr. Sumanta Dasgupta

PP Prosenjit Barua

PP Sanjay V Bhatt

They were entrusted with examining the technical specifications, pricing, and other relevant details and were requested to submit a detailed report to the Board for further action. All relevant documents were handed over to the committee.

4. PP Dr. Arabinda Ray proposed that there was a need to reactivate our RCCs to which the members agreed. RCC coordinators PP Dr. Sumanta Dasgupta & PP Prosenjit Barua opined that there was need for better coordination and communication between the RCCs and the coordinators. PP Timir suggested that we do a need based assessment of our RCCs to which the members agreed. It was proposed and agreed that IPP Biswajit Saha would also be nominated as a RCC Coordinator.
5. In the absence of Secretary Rtn. Shubhayan, PP Sanjay conducted the club business.
6. Minutes of the last RWM were confirmed. President Bandaru terminated the meeting.