

Rotary

District 3291



The President & The Members of the
Rotary Club of Calcutta Metropolitan East
cordially invite you

to the **38th** Installation Function of the Club
on Saturday, 28th June '25 at 7.00 pm
at the

Veedol 100 Hall & the Far Pavilion at the Tollygunge Club
at

120, Deshapran Sasmal Road, Kolkata - 700 033

District Governor Elect Dr. Ramendu Homchaudhuri
will be the Chief Guest
and

Air Chief Marshal Arup Raha (Retd.)
will be the Guest of Honour.

The meeting will be followed by Fellowship & Dinner

Your kind presence is solicited

Timir Baran Chatterjee
(President 2024-25)

Tapan Kumar Gooptu
(President 2025-26)

Sudakhina Ray
(Secretary 2024-25 & 2025-26)

RSVP
Vinayak Pasricha
9051249324



Enduring Value

KNOW YOUR DISTRICT GOVERNOR.

DR. RAMENDU HOMCHAUDHURI (2025-2026)



A passionate philanthropist, Dr. Ramendu Homchaudhuri has dedicated his life to better health, education, and wellness for all. His journey in Rotary International began in 2006 with the Rotary Club of Calcutta Sun City, where he served as President for two consecutive terms (2009-2011). A Level 2 Major Donor, his commitment to service has led to impactful projects that transform lives. Pioneering the Transit Trauma Care Project Dr. Homchaudhuri initiated the Transit Trauma Care Project in partnership with Kolkata Police and the Government of West Bengal. The deployment of 12 ambulances across accident-prone areas in Kolkata has saved countless lives by providing immediate emergency care during the Golden Hour.

A Visionary in Thalassemia Eradication: Recognized for his work in Thalassemia Awareness and Prevention, Dr. Homchaudhuri has conducted seminars, screening programs, and awareness campaigns across West Bengal, Assam, Odisha, and Bangladesh. His goal is to eradicate this 100% preventable genetic disorder through early screening and genetic counseling.

Transforming Lives in Rural Bengal: For the past three years, Dr. Homchaudhuri has been driving sustainable development in Dhaska, Purulia, alongside Hridham NGO. His contributions include: Providing potable water through pond excavation and water conservation initiatives, Enhancing education for local children, Empowering villagers with income-generating activities to improve livelihoods.



DR. SOUGATA BASU

Dr. Sougata Basu is a passionate and dedicated Ophthalmic Surgeon with 35 years of clinical experience and advanced medical degrees dedicated to providing accurate diagnosis, treatment, prevent eye diseases and injuries. His role encompasses a wide range of duties, from routine eye examinations to complex surgical procedures to assist in creating continuous care plans. He is an expert in areas of ECCE/SICS/Trab/DCT/DCR/Lid Sx/Laser Surgeries. Dr. Basu obtained his MBBS from Calcutta Medical College in 1989 followed by a DNB Part 1, Ophthalmology from the Medical Council of India, New Delhi in 1990. This was followed by a D.O.M.S, Ophthalmology from Sitapur Eye Hospital, Sitapur, Uttar Pradesh.



ROHIT SAHA

A Spatial Designer by profession with a keen interest in interacting and designing human environments, Rohit Saha holds a Post Graduate Degree in Design from MIT Institute of Design, Pune with a specialization in Space and Furniture Design with an experience of over 6 years in the field of Interiors (Residential, Commercial and Retail), Public spaces such as Museums, Visual Merchandising for apparel brands and Material Design. He currently serves as Assistant Professor and Design Educator at the School of Architecture, Planning and Design, Amity University, Kolkata, where he engages to impart and collaborate with cutting-edge methodologies.

Leadership and Recognition in Rotary: In recognition of his service, Dr. Homchaudhuri was unanimously elected as District Governor Nominee and will assume office as District Governor of Rotary District 3291 in 2025-26. His vision includes expanding healthcare, strengthening education, and enhancing community welfare programs.

A Distinguished Medical Career: Despite his humanitarian commitments, Dr. Homchaudhuri continues to practice as a highly respected Orthopedic Surgeon. He holds degrees from Gauhati University (MBBS, 1970), Calcutta University (DGO), and Banaras Hindu University (MS – Orthopedics). His expertise, compassion, and dedication make him a trusted name in his field.

Family: The Pillar of Strength: Dr. Homchaudhuri is supported by his wife, Dr. Bandana Hom Chaudhuri, a renowned pediatrician and fellow Rotarian. She has served as President of Rotary Club of Calcutta Sun City and actively contributes to District 3291 administration. They are proud parents of a doctor daughter and a post-doctoral research scholar son in the USA.

A Legacy of Service and Inspiration: Dr. Homchaudhuri's life is a testament to selfless service, leadership, and humanitarian dedication. His ever-smiling, energetic persona continues to inspire, leaving a profound impact on countless lives.

MEET OUR NEW MEMBERS.



AMRITA ISAAC ROY

Amrita Isaac Roy is an educationist with over 20 years of teaching and management experience. She studied at La Martiniere for Girls, Kolkata and obtained her Bachelor's degree in Political Science thereby earning by a Master's degree (First Class) in Political Science from the University of Calcutta. She obtained her M.Phil degree from JNU, New Delhi and a B.Ed (First Class) from the University of Calcutta. She has been a Senior Research Analyst at the Institute of Economic Growth, New Delhi, A Research Consultant with Swayam, Kolkata and a Human Rights Consultant with the Centre for Developments and Human Rights, New Delhi. She currently serves as Dean of Modern English Academy, Barrackpore.



KAJAL LAHIRI

Kajal Lahiri obtained her Master's degrees in English from the University of Burdwan and Geography from Visva Bharati University, Santiniketan. Her B.Ed was awarded from Loreto College, Kolkata. A highly energetic and hardworking principal at Modern English Academy, Barrackpore, she additionally dons the mantle of the school's Quizmaster alongside organising debates and elocution in the school apart from nurturing students. She served as a Third Party Member of the Internal Complaints Committee of CRIJAF, Barrackpore from 2017-2023.

KNOW YOUR PRESIDENT.

TAPAN KUMAR GOOPTU (2025-2026)



Rtn. Tapan Gooptu hails from the City of Kolkata and belongs to the well known Gooptu Family who have been residing in this city for the past 150 years and more. He is a thorough bred Xaverian having spent all of 14 (fourteen) years in St.Xavier's Collegiate School and St. Xavier's College Kolkata. He is also a Law Graduate (LL.B.) from the University Calcutta and an MBA. He did a Certificate Course in Finance at the Oxford University (UK).

RTN. Gooptu retired from the FMCG Major ITC Ltd. in the year 2010 as the Head of the Company's Employee Benefits Administration. Prior to that, he was working with Brooke Bond India Ltd., now a part of Hindustan Unilever Ltd., the No.1 FMCG company in the country. The last 30 years of his career, he spent with the above two of India's largest FMCG companies. Prior to that, he had spent 7 years with two of Kolkata's well known organisations – The Jay Engineering Work Ltd., famous for the Usha brand fans & Sewing Machines, from where he started his career and The Bengal Lamps Ltd. Post his retirement, he worked for Apollo Gleneagles Hospitals Limited, at Kolkata, as Advisor-HR for a year and is now managing his own Consultancy Services Company.

A Member of the Rotary Club of Calcutta Metropolitan East, he and his wife, Anne Arunima, who is a Past District Chairman of Inner Wheel District 329, are active social workers. Between them, they run a Senior Citizen's Home – Ananda Ashram since 2006 at Gobindapur in the South 24 Parganas District, which is managed by an NGO – Navoday Association for Promotion of Indian Heritage.

Rtn. Gooptu was also the President of Kolkata's well known NGO, Concern for Calcutta for two years in 2006 & 2007 and the Founder President of the Social Security Association of India, Kolkata Chapter, an organisation set up by Dr. Manmohan Singh in Delhi in the year 1982, when he was the Finance Minister of India. Post his retirement, he was also the President of ITC Pensioner's Association, Kolkata Chapter.

Rtn. Gooptu is an avid golfer and a lover of sports. Rtn. Gooptu & Anne Arunima are blessed with two lovely sons, Abhishek and Abhinandan and daughter-in-law Rishita.



DEVIKA CHAKRABORTY

Devika Chakraborty, is an executive by profession with over 15 years of experience in Export process and system administration. Born and brought up in Satna, Madhya Pradesh, she shifted to Kolkata in 2006 and pursued her higher studies and career. She obtained her Bachelor's degree in Commerce from Indira Gandhi Government College, Satna followed by a Post Graduate Diploma in International Business Operations from St.Xavier's College, Kolkata and a Master's Degree from the same esteemed institution. She completed a Certificate course in Network Administration (CCNA) from NIELIT and a Diploma in Material Management.



SUSMITA CHAKRABARTHY

Susmita Chakrabarty spent her formative years in England, being educated at Marston Green Junior School, Birmingham and then at Malvern Hall, Solihull. She obtained her Bachelor of Arts (English Honours) from Loreto College followed by a Master of Arts in English from the University of Calcutta. Her Bachelor of Education was awarded by Loreto College, University of Calcutta. Known for her holistic teaching approach to connect literary concepts to real-world applications, thereby cultivating analytical and reflective skills in students, she has been Head of the English Department at La Martiniere for Boys, Kolkata teaching Literature, Language and Elective English. Through her extraordinary directorial skills she had directed school major productions like The Importance of Being Earnest, Arms and the Man, Macbeth, The Mousetrap, The Lion King, Arsenic and Old Lace, The Wind in the Willows among others.

Message from the President:

Tapan Kumar Gooptu

Dear Members,

As I take over as the President of this great club for the third time, many thoughts come flashing back in my mind. We had one of the strongest club in the district when we started on 17th February under Mr. Asit Mitra, the then Managing Director of the Calcutta Electric Supply Limited, who took over as the Charter President. With 35 members, if I remember right. Mr. PP Rtn. Devasis Gupta was the Charter Secretary and I started as the Editor. Six months down the line, the biggest tragedy struck the Club, when the President's only son, who was staying in USA died in a car accident. The entire Club was in a stupor with this tragedy and the biggest uncertainty which arose was whether President Mitra would be able to continue his role as the President. Wonder of wonders, Asitda not only continued his role as the Charter President but volunteered to steer the nascent Club for one more year.

After being born in such a tempestuous environment, we were converted as Rotarians with nerves of steel. We had our moments of pride, of achievement and growth and in the year 1994-95 when I became the President for the first time, our Club had the honour to host the installation of the then District Governor, Late Amit C Majumdar at the Grand Hotel. The largest number of membership of the club was in the year 2001-2002 under the Presidentship of the Late Prabir Banerjee, when our membership strength catapulted to 62.

I became a President for the 2nd time in the pre-Silver Jubilee year of the Club in the year 2011-12. Many of you with whom I have grown in the Rotary district must be wondering as to why at the age of 75 years, I have chosen to become a President once again.

Well the ups and downs of a Rotary Club are very well known and it so happened that on 1st July 2023 our membership was reduced from 27 to 15. It was a disaster all right and the thought uppermost in our minds was whether we should wind up the Club or we should effect a turn around. It was decided that we go for the latter and we moved up from 15 to 28, nearly a 100% growth over two years, a feather in the cap of President Rtn. Timir Baran Chatterjee. It was during these two years that President Timir steered the club with his uncanny professional skill and superb leadership ability.

EDITOR'S NOTE:



"Watch with glittering eyes the whole world around. Because the greatest things are hidden in the most unlikely places. Those who don't believe in magic will never find it."

Dear Rotarians,

On this momentous day, we extend our heartfelt welcome to our Chief Guest District Governor Elect Dr. Ramendu Homchaudhuri and our Guest of Honour Air Chief Marshal Arup Raha (retired).

As we bring in the New Rotary Year, I am reminded that what we call the beginning is often the end. And to make an end is to make a beginning. The end is where we start from. As the baton passes from one President to another, may it be another year of growing in strength, wisdom and grace.

The "Communique" which is the quarterly news bulletin published by The Rotary Club of Calcutta Metropolitan East, highlights the work our Club undertakes over a large cross-section. Each year is fraught with newer challenges of improving the lives of those less fortunate under the severe constraints of time and space. Yet what emerges at the end of an intriguing journey is a united, cohesive and meaningful effort by all Club members, full of promise and innovation. The unwearied energy and meticulous efforts shown by the outgoing Club President Rtn. Timir Baran Chatterjee and the unwavering commitment of our incoming President Rtn. Tapan Kumar Gooptu helps us to do more for society, to give a voice to the voiceless, a shoulder to the helpless.

Having absorbed the Rotary spirit enables one to shoulder tasks of responsibility with great commitment. This further gives one the fortitude to take on the world in moments of crunch with elan. In this regard, our Club's ceaseless commitment to service and duty, remains at the forefront

Happy Reading !

-Vinayak Pasricha.

President Elect (2026-2027)

Editor (2025-2026)

AIR CHIEF MARSHAL ARUP RAHA (RETIRED) GUEST OF HONOUR.



Air Chief Marshal Arup Raha (retired), was the 24th Chief of the Air Staff. He retired as the CAS & the Chairman Chiefs of Staff Committee in December 2016.

He was commissioned into the fighter stream of the IAF in Dec 1974 after completion of training in National Defence Academy & Air Force Academy. He has to his credit 3400 hours of flying , mostly on fighter aircraft. He had commanded a MiG-29 Squadron & two large Air bases of the IAF.

He commanded two Operational Air Commands & served as the VCAS before he was appointed as the CAS. He was awarded the PVSM, AVSM & Vayu Sena Medal by the President for distinguished service.

Currently he is the CHANCELLOR of Assam University, Silchar.

But there was another major problem. The profile of our Club membership became totally topsy turvy, divided nearly equally between Rotarians above 70 years and below 40 years. It was therefore, felt, that we have to effect a smooth transition from the super 70's to the upcoming 50's and below. And to manage this transition I decided to take a call and the Club proposed me as the President for year 2025-2026 so that the baton could be smoothly handed over to our President Elect-2026-2027, Vinayak Pasricha.

The three Charter Members – seniormost member (PP Onkar Banerjee, Charter Secretary, PP Devasis Gupta and myself) were determined to hold the Club together and see through the tidal wave which hit the club in the year 2022-23.

For me personally, Rotary has been a passionate journey. After holding various positions in the district including that of the leader of the GSE Team to Brazil in the year 2007, I was given the position of Deputy District Governor in the year 2019-20, the Centenary Year of our Rotary District 3291. The is the highest position I have attained in my Rotary career and I justifiably feel very proud of it. I am holding the position of the ROTARY AMBASSADOR in the current year.

I have taken up my 3rd term as President as a challenge to restore the pride of my Club, the Rotary Club of Calcutta Metropolitan East and to push it up into the next category of clubs in the district. I am confident that in the pursuit of this challenge, I would receive the full support of my vibrant club members.

With good wishes and best regards.

Yours in Rotary,

TAPAN KR. GOOPTU

PRESIDENT, 2025-26