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The bulletin of Rotary Club of Ballygunge

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Rotary International District 3291

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Francesco Arezzo  
Rotary International  
President



Dr Ramendu Homchaudhuri  
Rotary District 3291  
Governor



Dr. (CA) Joydeep Mookerjee  
Rotary Ballygunge  
President



Subhankar Chakraborty  
Rotary Ballygunge  
Secretary



Arko Bhattacharjee  
Rotary Ballygunge  
Editor

Editor : Arko Bhattacharjee

## President's Message



### Dear Fellow Rotarians,

I want to re-emphasise that the true strength of Rotary lies not only in the projects we execute, but in the fellowship we nurture. It is through genuine connections, mutual respect, and shared purpose that we transform a group of individuals into a vibrant and impactful community.

Fellowship is not incidental to Rotary. It is foundational.

I urge each one of you to actively engage in the life of the club. Your presence, your ideas, and your participation are invaluable. Let us strive to increase our interactions, both within and beyond formal meetings, so that collaboration becomes natural and service becomes more meaningful. When members are engaged, Rotary becomes more dynamic, more relevant, and far more powerful in its impact.

Let us move forward with renewed energy, deeper camaraderie, and a collective commitment to strengthen the bonds that define us.

Together, let us not only serve communities but also build a club where every member feels connected, valued, and inspired.

Warm Rotary wishes,

**Dr (CA) Joydeep Mookerjee**

**President**

**The Rotary Club of Ballygunge**

## Editor's Message



### March Forward with Rotary

March is our moment to **ignite change**. Every vaccine, every school, every well tells a story of hope. Rotary proves ordinary people can achieve the extraordinary. Serve boldly. Lead fearlessly. Transform relentlessly. This month, let the world see what happens when hearts unite in action.

Joining rotary is not just an opportunity—it's a calling. Every individual who steps into Rotary becomes part of something far greater than themselves: a global movement that **transforms lives, communities, and the world**.

Here, your actions fight diseases like Polio, build schools where hope once seemed impossible, bring clean water to those who thirst, and lift communities after disasters. Every effort you make ripples beyond borders, creating change that lasts for generations.

Rotary doesn't just give you a platform to serve—it shapes you into a leader, strengthens your character, and expands your vision of what's possible. It connects you with inspiring people across 200+ countries, reminding you that no one is powerless when hearts unite in service.

Joining Rotary means your life becomes more than a story—it becomes a **legacy of hope, courage, and impact**. Ordinary people achieve extraordinary change here. And the world needs you now more than ever.

You gain **impact + network + leadership + personal growth**—all in one place.

You gain **purpose, people, skills, and growth**—all at the same time.

The **third and fourth weeks of March** have special significance related to awareness and service initiatives:

### Third Week of March – World Rotaract Week

- Celebrates **Rotaract**, Rotary's youth program for young adults (ages 18+).
- Usually includes **13 March**, the anniversary of the first Rotaract club (1968).
- Focus: **Leadership, community service, and fellowship** among young adults.
- Activities: Social projects, awareness campaigns, and collaborations with Rotary clubs.

## Fourth Week of March – World Water Day & Rotary Service Focus

- The **fourth week of March** often coincides with **World Water Day (22 March)**.
- Rotary uses this time to emphasize **water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) initiatives** globally.
- Clubs may organize projects like:

Clean water initiatives

Sanitation drives

Awareness campaigns on water conservation

## Global Highlights of the Week

### Rotary Club of Kenilworth donates £2,000

- The club in the UK made a community contribution of £2,000 to the local organization *Waverley* from proceeds raised by its Advent Calendar fundraising.

### New clubs, new impact in Uganda

- Rotary International President **Francesco Arezzo** wrapped up a powerful visit to **Uganda**, where **16 new Rotary clubs** were officially chartered, and adding **600+ new members** ready to serve their communities. This reflects **growth, hope, and expanding global leadership**.

### Clean water & community resilience projects

- Across many clubs, Rotary volunteers are launching and expanding **water access and purification initiatives**, helping villages gain safe water and strengthen health and livelihoods.

### Peace leadership & youth empowerment

- Young leaders and peacebuilders — including **Rotary Peace Fellows using AI for positive change** — are gaining global recognition for turning compassion into real-world solutions.

### Egyptian Rotarian honoured for women's leadership

- A member from Egypt was celebrated internationally for championing **women's leadership and community development**, spotlighting Rotary's role in equality and empowerment.

### Barcelona chosen for 2029 Rotary Convention

- Clubs around the world now have a new global gathering to look forward to — **Rotary's 2029 Convention will be in Barcelona**, opening doors for even broader international inspiration and collaboration.

### Rotary India and District 3291 – Highlights of the Week

#### HPV Vaccination & Cervical Cancer Prevention (National & Local Impact)

- Indian Rotary clubs are actively involved in cervical cancer prevention by supporting HPV **vaccination initiatives** for young girls — a major public health focus this season, aligning with broader immunisation efforts across districts in India.

#### Community Health & Eye Care Camp (Behala)

- In March, **Rotary Club of Behala** and **Rotary Club Kolkata Mahanagar** organised an **eye testing & cataract camp** — helping dozens with vision checks and scheduling surgeries for those in need, directly improving people's quality of life.

#### Supporting Culture & Arts in Kolkata

- Rotary District 3291 contributed to the **rejuvenation of the Academy of Fine Arts in Kolkata**, helping preserve heritage and expand community space — a project blending civic pride with cultural enrichment.

#### Strong Community Health Legacy

- Clubs in District 3291 continue significant ongoing service such as support for cancer patient shelter facilities through volunteer led initiatives, showcasing Rotary's **compassion and practical impact on real lives**.

Friends, imagine a place where ideas turn into action, passion becomes service, and connections last a lifetime. That place is our **Rotary weekly meeting**.

Every week, we come together not just to discuss projects, but to share experiences, inspire each other, and create real impact in our communities. Fellowship is the heart of Rotary — laughing, learning, supporting, and growing together. When you join, you're not just attending a meeting — you're joining a family of change makers, people who believe that even small acts of service can transform lives. So come, be part of something bigger than you. Be inspired. Make a difference. Build friendships. And let your presence help create a better world. Because in Rotary, service is not just an action — it's a way of life. See you at the next weekly meeting!"

From my pen!

Arko Bhattacharjee

Editor, Rotary Club of Ballygunge

## Indian Institute of Management - Calcutta



Seminar attended by Past President Rtn Ashif Shah, Rtn Ria Mookerjee, Rahil Shah, Rtn Anirban Sarkar, Rtn Arko Bhattacharjee



## Presidents Elect Leadership Seminar



# ROTARY CLUB OF BALLYGUNGE



Past president Ashif Shah, Present President Dr (CA) Joydeep Mookerjee and President Elect Shubhankar Chakraborty at President Elect Leadership Seminar 2026

## Rotary Leadership Institute



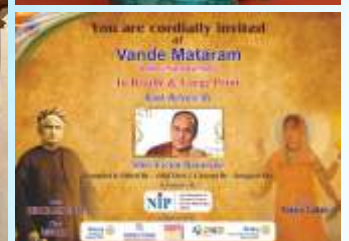
Rtn. Arko Bhattacharjee, on completion of all 3 parts of RLI. A RLI graduate.

# ROTARY CLUB OF BALLYGUNGE



Past President Rtn. Amitava Chakraborty as a felicitator in Rotary Leadership Institute Program, during training session of RLI part 2 and RLI part 3. A proud moment of Rotary Club of Ballygunge.

## Vande Mataram India's National Song In Braille and Large Print



# ROTARY CLUB OF BALLYGUNGE

## Special mentions of members of Rotary Club of Ballygunge

*The members of the Rotary Club of Ballygunge shine in their own fields, leading by example and inspiring everyone around them.*



**Past President Bhomra Chatterjee and Indrani Saha at Mayodia Pass. Roughly 2655mts above sea level**



**President of Rotary Club Of Ballygunge, Dr (CA) Joydeep Mookerjee, convocation ICAI 2026, Jharkhand, receiving PhD certificate**

## Minutes of the 2546 Regular Meeting held on 29th March 2026 At Cozy Room, International Club, Kolkata

### **i. Commencement**

The President called the 2546th RWM to order.

### **ii. National Anthem**

The proceedings began with the singing of the National Anthem in chorus by the assembled members.

### **iii. Apologies**

The President informed that due to unavoidable circumstances, the last RWM scheduled on 12th March 2026 could not be organized.

### **iv. Financial Matters**

The President expressed deep concern over the very low collection of the 2nd Semi-Annual Dues (SAD) and noted that some members have not cleared their 1st SAD despite repeated reminders.

### **v. Club Financial Status**

The President conveyed distress regarding the financial situation, stating that the Club is currently unable to clear RI & District dues, despite receiving regular reminders from the District authority.

### **vi. Appeal to Members**

The President sincerely requested all members to support the Club by clearing their outstanding dues at the earliest, to maintain the prestigious reputation of the Club.

### **vii. Health Project Initiatives**

Two new Rotarians, Dr. Anirudha Basu and Dr. Debdita Banerjee, have expressed interest in organizing a Health Project. Originally planned for March 2026, they proposed conducting **two health projects (Dental & Oral Hygiene)** in April 2026 instead, due to prior commitments. They are in discussions with two to three institutions, with one near Swiss Park in the final stages of confirmation.

# ROTARY CLUB OF BALLYGUNGE

## viii. Baisakhi Adda Proposal

In line with the previous RWM, the President proposed arranging a “Baisakhi Adda” after the Bengali New Year. He also suggested organizing similar activities regularly to enhance the vibrancy of the Club and encourage greater member participation.

## ix. Introduction of Prospective Member

The President introduced a prospective member, **Mr. Sarnabha Dey** and invited him to introduce himself.

## x. Prospective Member Introduction

Mr. Sarnabha Dey provided a brief introduction. He is an MBA graduate and is pursuing his own bakery business, a franchise of Mio Amore.

## xi. Rotary Talk for Prospective Members

The President requested Past President Rtn. Amitabha Chakraborty to conduct Rotary Talks with both prospective members, Mr. Sumit Kumar Mandal and Mr. Sarnabha Dey.

## xii. Baishakhi Adda Logistics

PP Rtn. Sanjay Dey and Rtn. Mritunjoy Ganguly highlighted challenges in arranging the event due to the current cooking gas crisis. However, they assured that the “Baishakhi Adda” will be organized, at least with high tea or dinner, depending on the caterer's menu.

## xiii. Venue & Participation Confirmation

It was decided to circulate a Google Form to confirm the date and probable participants for the “Baishakhi Adda.”

- PP Sanjay Dey will explore Park Plaza, Gariahat.
- Mr. Sarnabha Dey will explore Kolkata 23 rooftop restaurant, Khidirpur.

## xiv. Suggestions for Club Improvement

The President requested PP Rtn. Sudeep Roy for suggestions to enhance Club activities and member participation.

## xv. Recommendations by PP Rtn. Sudeep Roy

1. Increased personal interaction between senior and new members.
2. Organize some RWMs with family members to increase vibrancy.
3. Invite guest speakers or internal speakers to discuss relevant topics.
4. Explore possibilities of organizing joint RWMs with other Clubs.

## xvi. Communication & Participation

PP Rtn. Amitabha Chakraborty suggested improving intra-club communication. He proposed forming 3–4 groups to encourage participation in RWMs, with rotation starting from the senior group.

## xvii. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

The Minutes of the last meeting could not be confirmed due to lack of quorum.

## xviii. Happy Announcements

The acting Secretary, Rtn. Tanulal, shared birthday wishes for:

- **Rtn. Anirban Sarker** – celebrated on 4th March
- **Rtn. Ria Mukherjee** – upcoming birthday on 31st March

## xix. Club Business

The Secretary handed over the proceedings to the President for Club business discussions.

## xx. Termination

The President formally terminated the 2546th RWM and invited all members to participate in the fellowship

**Members Present 9,**

## Happy Announcements

### *Birthday*

**Anirban Sarker    4th March**

**Ria Mookerjee    31st March**