

Maitree

Official Bulletin of Rotary Club of Behala
RJ Club No. 16149 | District 3291

UNITE
FOR
GOOD

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ROTARY CLUB OF BEHALA

62nd Installation Ceremony

Friday | 11th July | 2025

Calcutta Club

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Rotary 



ROTARY CLUB OF BEHALA

62nd Installation Ceremony

Friday, 11th July, 2025

Calcutta Club



The Four Way Test

of the things we think, say and do

1. Is it the **TRUTH**?
2. Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
3. Will it build **GOODWILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
4. Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?

In Remembrance


On this auspicious
62nd Installation ceremony,
we fondly remember
the valued contribution of all
our past leaders and members
who have left us for heavenly abode.
The team has immensely been benefited
by their dedicated service to the
cause of Rotary.



From **research** to **relief...**
our association continues



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FROM THE *EDITOR'S DESK* 2025-26

Sunit Roy

As we navigate the colourful and intricate world we live in today, I can't help but feel a wave of hope wash over me when I see the unwavering dedication of organisations working passionately to uplift communities around the globe. For over sixty years, the Rotary Club of Behala has stood as a shining light of hope, service, and compassion, inspiring countless individuals to unite and create meaningful change together.

In these fluctuating times, Rotary's strong commitment to its fundamental values — service, fellowship, diversity, integrity, and leadership — serves as a powerful reminder of the incredible impact we can have when we collaborate. From championing literacy and education initiatives to ensuring access to Clean Water for Toilets, our members continually display remarkable empathy and resilience. Projects like "Roshni," which provides solar lamps to hardworking fishermen, beautifully illustrate our community's spirit of generosity and support.

As we come together to celebrate the installation of our new club leadership, I'm filled with optimism about the immense difference our commitment to service can make. The incoming leaders truly embody the essence of Rotary's values : compassion, integrity, and a tireless dedication to creating change in our communities.

Reflecting on the achievements of the Rotary Club of Behala, it's clear that our influence extends far beyond individual projects. We have nurtured a culture of service that cultivates social responsibility and forges strong community bonds, bridging geographical gaps and celebrating our rich cultural diversity.

As we journey forward in our interconnected world, let's continue to uplift and amplify the vital work of organisations like Rotary. Together, we hold the incredible power to create a more just, fair, and peaceful world — one where everyone has access to the resources, opportunities, and support they need to flourish.

With the dawn of this new Rotary year, I warmly invite each of you to reaffirm your commitment to our shared mission of "service above self." Let's be the inspiration and change that our world so desperately needs!

Let's reignite the values of service, compassion, and community that define Rotary. This is our opportunity to inspire and empower one another to make a lasting difference. Together, we can cultivate a brighter and more hopeful future for everyone.

Please join me in celebrating our incoming leaders and wishing them immense success and meaningful impact in the year to come!



Sunit Roy

Editor, Maitree

KNOW YOUR *RI PRESIDENT 2025-26*

Francesco Arezzo

Francesco Arezzo, a member of the Rotary Club of Ragusa, Italy, has been selected by the Board of Directors to become Rotary International's president for 2025-26. Arezzo will become president on 1 July.

The Board conducted a special session following the unexpected resignation of RI President-elect Mário César Martins de Camargo on 8 June. Guided by the RI code and policies, the Board selected the new president-elect from a pool of candidates who were considered by the Nominating Committee for President of Rotary International in August 2023.



The 2025-26 presidential message, announced at the 2025 Rotary International Assembly in February, will remain Unite for Good, which calls on Rotary members to be a force for unity in a world increasingly divided by politics, geography, and ideology. Through service projects, Rotary brings together people of every background — across races, religions, and professions — in a shared mission to do good in their communities.

Arezzo is an orthodontist in private practice. He is active internationally as a member of the Italian, European, and American orthodontics associations. He is vice president of the National Association of Italian Dentists for the province of Ragusa and was the founder and head for seven years of the delegation for Ragusa of the National Trust for Italy. He is a Knight of Honor and Devotion in Obedience within the Sovereign Order of Malta.

A Rotary member for more than 30 years, Arezzo has served as vice chair of the Joint Strategic Planning Committee and as RI director, learning facilitator, and as district conference presidential representative.

Arezzo is a Benefactor of The Rotary Foundation. He is married to Anna Maria Criscione, an entrepreneur in the tourism field. They have two children.

MESSAGE FROM *ROTARY INTERNATIONAL* *PRESIDENT 2025-26*

Cari amici,

Two weeks ago, I was in my living room playing with my grandchildren. A few days later, I was on a plane to Calgary, suddenly carrying the responsibility of leading this incredible organization. Life comes fast, but so often, it brings us exactly where we're meant to be.

We begin this year with a clear message : **Unite for Good**. It is a simple phrase, but a powerful one. Because behind every successful Rotary effort, every act of service, every new member welcomed, every global challenge met – there are two things that matter most : friendship and trust.

This is how we build strong clubs. It's how we create meaningful partnerships and transform global problems into local solutions. It's also how we lead — not through titles or applause, but with humility, humanity, and heart. But let me be honest with you — this kind of leadership is not always easy. We're human and yes, we make mistakes. We sometimes disagree, but in Rotary, we are called to something greater. Let us reflect on the full vision of Rotary :

Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change — across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves.

That last part is essential, because transformation doesn't start with strategy. It starts with character and the way we treat one another. It starts with how we listen, how we support, and how we serve.

This year, I ask you to lead with that spirit. To grow Rotary through relationships. To make your clubs more welcoming, more flexible, more open to new ideas. To think big — but also to think beyond one year. Our term is short, but our impact can be lasting if we plan and act with continuity and vision.

Let us remember our key priorities : membership, polio, and peace. We are closer than ever to ending polio. We cannot stop now. We must keep the promise we made to the children of the world. And as for peace — Rotary has been building it for over a century. Every clean water system, every youth exchange, every maternal health project is a step toward peace.

I joined Rotary as a young professional, eager to help but terrified of public speaking. My fellow Rotarians believed in me and encouraged me to take on new roles, and in doing so, Rotary changed my life. It gave me courage and purpose, but above all, it gave me you: my friends, my team, my family around the world.

So now, my friends... take out your dreams tucked away in a drawer, especially those you thought were too big or bold to achieve. Let's bring them into the light. Let's **Unite for Good** — for our clubs, our communities, and our world. And let's make this a year not only of service, but of joy, of connection, and of love.

With gratitude and affection,

Francesco Arezzo

President, Rotary International, 2025-26

KNOW YOUR *DISTRICT GOVERNOR 2025-26*

Dr. Ramendu Homchaudhuri

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.

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 Homchaudhuri, 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.



MESSAGE FROM *DISTRICT GOVERNOR* 2025-26

Dear Rotarians,

It is with great pride and heartfelt warmth that I extend my congratulations to the incoming President, Secretary, and the newly installed team of Rotary Club of Behala.

A club installation is not merely a ceremonial transition; it is a reaffirmation of our commitment to Service Above Self. As each new team takes charge, it carries forward the legacy of leadership, fellowship, and impactful service. I urge you to dream boldly, act compassionately, and lead inclusively — ensuring that your club becomes a lighthouse of hope and change in your community.

Let us embrace innovation while cherishing Rotary's timeless values. Work hand-in-hand with your members, reach out to the youth, collaborate with partners, and most importantly — listen to your community. The world needs Rotary now more than ever.

Wishing you a successful and meaningful Rotary year ahead.

Yours in Rotary,

Dr. Ramendu Homchaudhuri

District Governor, RID 3291

Rotary Year 2025-26



TOGETHER...

let's take the pledge to

STRIKE OFF  THALASSEMIA

TODAY. RIGHT NOW.

99% INCURABLE 100% PREVENTABLE

MESSAGE FROM *DISTRICT GOVERNOR*

Tapas Bhattacharya

2026-27

Dear President Sanghamitra di,


Greetings for being the President of Rotary Club of Behala for the Rotary Year 2025-26. I do hope you and your team will unite for good to change the life of suffering humanity. I also like to congratulate Rtn Angshuman Bhattacharya and his team for their outstanding service to the community as change maker and showed the magic of Rotary in the community for a better tomorrow.

My humble suggestions - to show the magic of Rotary set a goal to collaborate with new groups in your community, either through service projects or social events, to introduce more people to Rotary. As our vision statement says, we want to unite people — not just Rotarians — to create lasting change. Use Club membership tools and resources to assess your club and learn how to make it more diverse, open, and attractive to everyone in your community. Take advantage of flexible club models to create club that are welcoming to people with diverse interests, backgrounds, and needs. You should embrace your core values and deliver value to members. Be sure to tell compelling stories about how your club is making a difference and show your club impact through the media, on social media, and in the community. Strengthening your public image can help you attract likeminded people to your club, form new partnerships for service, and build a stronger and more diverse network of collaborators. Enhance participants' engagement. Focus not only on gaining new members but also on delivering value — both personal and professional — to current members. Hold a brainstorming session or use a survey to ask members what's important to them in their club experience and how they want to grow and develop through Rotary. Offer new ideas and share their thoughts. Encourage them to stay involved (whether or not they join the club) so they feel valued and are inspired to support Rotary activities. Increase your ability to adapt and hold innovation forums and brainstorming sessions with club members and other participants to gather ideas for activities and service projects in the community. Contact other organizations or clubs that have a strong record of innovation or reinvention and look for ways to apply what they did to your own club. Set aside a small fund to try new ideas. Expand initiatives that succeed and document what you learn from those that don't. Review your club roles, processes, tasks and look for ways to be more efficient — whether it's by reducing, combining, or eliminating responsibilities or using different technology. Establish a continuity plan. Encourage club officers and other members to work with the incoming leaders chosen for the next few years so that their efforts will be cohesive and all will be invested in a joint success.

I think your club will be very vibrant club and the catalyst of all around the development of the community.

Regards

Yours in Rotary



Tapas Bhattacharya

District Governor 2026-27

Rotary International, District 3291



MESSAGE FROM *PDG 2000-2001*

Ravindra Prakash Sehgal

Dear President 2025-26 Rotarian Sanghamitra ,
Congratulations for being selected to lead your dynamic club RC Behala in the Rotary Year 2025-26. Leadership is a journey that brings forth the qualities like integrity, courage, justice and humility that inspires trust, motivates others and brings positive outcomes for the Team. All the Past Presidents of RC Behala have contributed immensely to the Club's strengthening and I am sure that you will not only continue that legacy but bring about some new projects and new ideas to grow.



RI District 3291 has several Clubs who are the gems that make the District shine and yours is one of them. Now is the time to set your goals to shine even brighter - add members, form a Satellite Club or a new Regular Club, contribute to the Rotary Foundation and plan your projects now. Continue the existing successful and meaningful projects and plan out your unique project for the year, take help from Eastern India Rotary Welfare Trust, CSR Grants and Global Grants besides the Club's own Resources.

Remember that you have only 365 days as the President of the Club and they shall fly and as you take your Club Members on this flight which is designated as the " United for Good" Flight - build friendship, serve well and reach out to the communities that you serve. In your journey take time to reflect upon two of these quotes of our Founder Paul Harris which reflect the ethos of Rotary :

- "The foundation upon which Rotary is built is friendship; on no less firm foundation could it have stood."
- "Whatever Rotary may mean to us, to the world it will be known by the results it achieves."

Best wishes to you and your Team for a wonderful year ahead.

PDG Ravi Sehgal

Vice Governor - 2025-26

RI District 3291

MESSAGE FROM *PDG 2013-2014*

Rotary International

DISTRICT-3291

Service Above Self

Date: 22/06/2025

Dear President 2025-26
Sanghamitra,

Ballari joins me in congratulating you as you take up the responsibility of leading your Club in following the RI President's Message for the year, 'UNITE FOR GOOD'.

His presidential message is emphasizing growth, service, and connection. He aims to foster a stronger sense of community and global impact among Rotary members.

District looks up to your club for growth & some meaningful service to the mankind. I'm sure under your able leadership **Rotary Behala** would gift a memorable year to the district.

As we have stepped into the second century of Rotary Service, strengthening our Clubs, our very roots, has become the order of the day! To retain members and strengthen our clubs, we must keep in mind, every Rotarian joined Rotary to contribute something for a cause and has some expectations from the Rotary Club; to retain members, make sure that every member of the club is involved and satisfied. General Secretary of 'Rotary International' & 'The Rotary Foundation', John Hewko, urged Rotarians to think out of box, embrace flexibility, and focus on engagement rather than attendance! We need to change!

You would have to devise an innovative way to run and manage the club; a new thought, how to take up Growth & Service Projects!

Ballari joins me in wishing you and your team a great happening year ahead.

With best regards,

Yours-in-Rotary Service,

Rajani Mukerji

District Governor 2013-14

Plan Lead (Membership)– RI Zone-6 – 2023-2026

Resource Coordinator District Literacy Committee 2025-26

Rajani Mukerji

Major Donor
Recipient of 'Service Above Self'B. Sc. Engg., F I E, Chartered Engineer
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rajani.rotary@gmail.com

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Kolkata – 700 099

MESSAGE FROM *PDG 2016-2017*

Shyamashree Sen

To

President Rtn Sanghamitra Dutta Gupta

R.C. Behala

R.I. District 3291



Dear President Rtn Sanghamitra Dutta Gupta,

Greetings to you Sanghamitra Dutta Gupta, Club Secretary Sakuntala Ghosh Hazra and all members of R.C. Behala!

Thank you for inviting me to your club's Installation Meeting. This is a very special year indeed when two ladies are at the helm of this lovely club! I am remembering our dearest Dipankar Da who was my team mate in 1997-98. I am sure you will be a great leader this year and I am sure this will be a great year!

I have known many members of RC Behala for 32 years with whom I have been associated, because of the warmth and love of your club. The knowledge sharing, hard work for your club's service projects and camaraderie of members of your club, have always inspired me. Every year your club does wonders for the persons and no one goes without receiving help and support.

I am sure that you and your team are ready for service projects and fellowship in 2025-26. The heart of Rotary is our dedicated members, who share the ideals of service, friendship, diversity, integrity, and leadership. May your club be successful in every way this year! I wish you and all the members of RC Behala, the very best for another great year of service and friendship.

May the flag of your club fly high! May all of you "Unite for Good"!

My best wishes to my dearest Rtn Sanghamitra Dutta Gupta Boudi for a wonderful Rotary experience,

With warm regards,

Yours in Rotary Service and Fellowship.

Shyamashree Sen

PDG Shyamashree Sen, DG 2016-17

RC Calcutta Metro City

R.I. District 3291

MESSAGE FROM PDG 2020-2021

Sudip Mukherjee

Dear President Sanghamitra di,

Let me congratulate you for taking up the mantle of leadership of your club in the 62nd year. You are aware that we are essentially in Rotary for hands on service projects. I am sure you will take up meaningful sustainable project based on 7 Areas of Focus and also stress upon three important Verticals namely Foundation, Membership and Public Image.

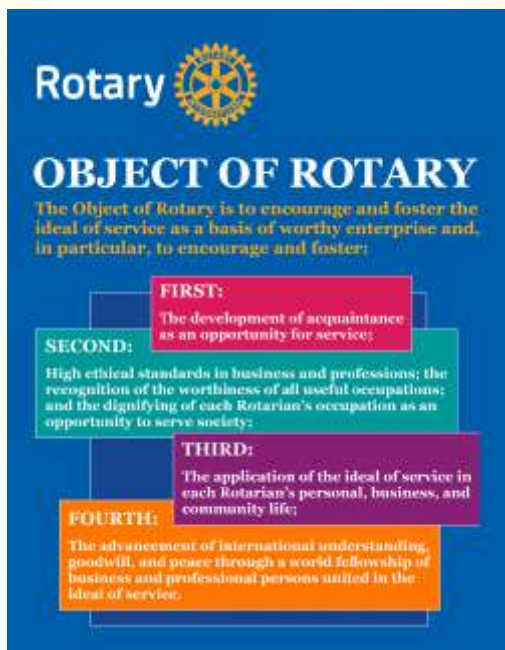
I am sure as President you will make your members **'UNITE FOR GOOD'**.

Regards,

PDG Sudip Mukherjee

Assistant Regional Rotary Foundation Co-ordinator (ARRFC), Zone 6
(RID 3240 & 3291)

COL Representative (RY 2023-26)



MESSAGE FROM *PDG 2021-2022***Prabir Chatterjee**

District Governor 2021-22

Asst. Rotary Public Image Coordinator (ARPIC) 2024-25

Zonal Chair, rizonas4567.org (Zone 6) 2024-26

Rotary 
District 3291UNITE
FOR
GOOD

24 June, 2025

Rtn. Sanghamitra Duttagupta
President (2025-26)
Rotary Club of Behala
Rotary International District 3291



Dear President Sanghamitra,

Rubena joins me in congratulating the respected and ever-enthusiastic Rotary Behala family on this wonderful occasion.

I wish each one of your Club Members the same joy and fulfillment that I have personally enjoyed over these many years as a Rotarian.

Rtn. Sanghamitra, you are elected by the members of your Rotary Club to guide its affairs during the year 2025-26, and as the President of this prestigious club, you need to be thinking ahead to the coming year(s) as well, which will help and shape your Club's future. Through selfless service and global cooperation Rotary Club of Behala will bring hope, dignity and sustainable change to communities in need.

I wish you, along with your Rotary Behala family members, a meaningful Rotary year and assure my unending support to create & promote **UNITE FOR GOOD**.

Yours in Rotary

Prabir Chatterjee

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MESSAGE FROM *IMMEDIATE PAST* *PRESIDENT*

Angshuman Bhattacharya

Dear Rotarians,

It is with a mix of emotions, gratitude and a touch of sadness – that I write to you today as I complete my term as your president. Serving as president was a most rewarding and humbling experience.

My deepest thanks go to you all for the opportunity extended to me to serve this great Club as President. Our Club has some of the finest Rotarians around, and it has been my sincere pleasure to serve with each of them.

As I look back, it was one of the most event-filled years. We all together have successfully accomplished most of the major goals set-up at the beginning of the Rotary year.

Once again thanks to each one of you for your unwavering support extended to me.

Now, I am thrilled to pass the torch to our incoming president, Rtn Sanghamitra Dutta Gupta. Wish all the best, Rtn Sanghamitra Dutta Gupta and your team.

With warm regards,

Angshuman Bhattacharya

President 2024-25

Rotary Club of Behala



KNOW YOUR *CLUB PRESIDENT* 2025-26

Sanghamitra Dutta Gupta

Sanghamitra was born in a family of Legal professionals. She is the daughter of late Justice Salil Kumar Datta, High Court Calcutta and Smt Mira Datta a graduate from Lady Brabourne College.

She was a student of St. John's Diocesan Girl's High School and graduated from University of Calcutta.

Her marriage brought her to the World of Rotary, assisting her father-in-law Late Hirendra Nath Duttagupta (Charter member, later President of R C of Behala) and then her husband late PP Dipankar Duttagupta. Her son Debarshi Duttagupta was the third generation President of this Club, she being the fourth member of the family to become the President of Rotary Club of Behala in RY 2025-26.



Rtn Sanghamitra is :

- Director, East India Pharmaceutical Works Ltd.
- Charter member and Past President of Inner Wheel Club of Behala
- Past President, University Women's Association of Calcutta (UWAC)
- Past President 'Pragati' Ladies Wing of Bengal National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BNCCI)
- Life Member, Craft's Council of West Bengal (CCWB)
- Past Executive Committee member, National Indian Association of Women (NIAW)
- Member Nari Seva Sangha

She has travelled extensively in India and abroad, adores nature and loves to capture them. Her other loves include cooking, sewing and nurturing plants.

Her son Debarshi was in Legal profession and is the Managing Director of East India Pharmaceutical Work's Ltd. He is an environment enthusiast, and an avid bird lover. He is married to Nabamita Duttagupta, counsellor in a reputed School in Kolkata and son Debarjyo studies in class V, loves to play tennis and watch birds.

Her daughter Debika is a Gold Medalist in Human Rights from University of Calcutta, is settled in Perth, Western Australia. She is married to Amitabh Dasgupta, Partner in KPMG Australia. Their son Abhinav studies at Grade VIII and loves to play tennis.

MESSAGE FROM *CLUB PRESIDENT* 2025-26

Dear Rotarians and friends,

I feel privileged and humbled to lead this prestigious club - Rotary Club of Behala as the 62nd President. I will try to uphold the reputation of the club with full-fledged dedication and cooperation of all the members.

This year our aim is to fulfil the goal set by our respected District Governor. We will also carry out the flagship projects and those which are in the pipeline.

With the help of our senior members and enthusiastic juniors, I'm confident to carry our club to greater heights.

I would like to congratulate IPP Rtn Angshuman Bhattacharya and his team for a wonderful year 2024-25.

With best wishes,

Sanghamitra Duttagupta,

President 2025-26

Rotary Club of Behala



KNOW YOUR *CLUB SECRETARY* 2025-26

Sakuntala Ghosh Hazra

Daughter of Late Dr. Tarit Kumar Ghosh who, trained in Mt. Sinai Hospital, New York set up the first Neurology Department of Eastern India in the SSKM Hospital and later planned and set up the Bangur Institute of Neurology. He was a founder member of All India Neurological Society of India. He was a member of Rotary Club of Calcutta and Paul Harris Fellow.

Her mother Late Kalyani Ghosh was a singer performing Rabindra Sangeet in All India Radio, Doordarshan Kendra Kolkata and had many records, audio cassettes and CDs to her credit. She was a Charter member of Inner Wheel Club of Calcutta.



Her sister Malabika Sakar is the former Vice Chancellor of Presidency University and Ashoka University as well.

Her husband is an Interventional Cardiologist, Senior Consultant, RN Tagore International Institute of Cardiac Sciences, Dr. K. N. Ghosh Hazra, M.D., D.M., D.N.B., MNAMS, FNB, FACC (USA) and FSCAI (USA).

Rtn. Sakuntala did her post graduation in International Relations from Jadavpur University and is well versed in French and Spanish.

Currently she is Hon. Secretary, Indian Federation of University Women's Associations, Hon. Secretary, Eye Care & Research Centre established in 1984, Joint Secretary, Women's Co-ordinating Council established in 1960, an NGO with 71 members organizations Past President, Inner Wheel Club of Behala 2019-20 and 2020-2021. She loves travelling and has a keen interest in artificial intelligence. She has successfully completed an online course in AI with A grade.

She is blessed with a daughter Dr. Sayantani, M.D. in pathology and pursuing MBA online course from Manipal University while serving as a Senior Resident, KPC Medical College & Hospital.

MESSAGE FROM *CLUB SECRETARY* *2025-26*

Standing on the threshold of 62nd Rotary Year of Rotary Club of Behala, I am honoured and humbled to be given the opportunity to serve as the Secretary. Rotary is the living canvas where loftiest dreams are painted with beautiful colours. As we serve in Rotary the inner light shapes the purpose of our soul.

Working under the able leadership of President Rtn. Sanghamitra Dattagupta we would surely traverse an extra mile in service.

I would like to thank IPP Rtn. Angshuman Bhattacharya for his commendable year in service with his team.

Rtn. Sakuntala Ghosh Hazra

Secretary 2025-26

Rotary Club of Behala



RI President Francesco Arezzo's Address to Calgary Convention on 25 June 2025

Good afternoon, Rotary!

Life comes at you fast.

I was at my district conference when I heard the news that I had been selected as the Rotary president. I was sitting next to a dear friend and received an email on my phone — but I wasn't allowed to tell anyone, so I just sat there, silently, for a few minutes.

And then another email came in to confirm it. And I still had to be silent. And then a few more minutes passed, and a Rotary member walked up to me with his phone, showing me a Facebook post announcing my selection. And moments later, I was swarmed by 400 people.

Before I say any more, I want to express my affection, support, and deep admiration of President-nominee SangKoo for his brave and inspiring message. SangKoo makes us a better organization through his leadership — and he makes us better people through his friendship.

I also want to thank my friend Mário de Camargo for his 40 years of membership, dedication, and service to Rotary. I know it was a difficult decision for him to step aside right before his presidential term was to begin, and we all appreciate him and hope to reconnect soon in friendship.

And finally, I want to express my gratitude to President Stephanie and the Rotary Board for entrusting me with the opportunity to lead this great organization.

This past year, Rotary has faced global challenges with a firm heart and determination, blazing a trail for peace — and spreading The Magic of Rotary far and wide.

President Stephanie, you have so much to be proud of for your leadership this past year. But I especially want to note that you, your volunteer assistants, and Rotary staff have put on the best Rotary Convention yet. You should all be proud.

Now it is my turn. I must confess that after four days of talks, it is difficult to say anything that has not been said before.

We have a year of service ahead of us. As I said a week ago, I was playing with my grandchildren in our living room at home, and two days later, I was on a plane to arrive here, with a thousand thoughts, a thousand doubts, and a lot of confusion in my head. Rotary International presidents usually have two years to plan their year; I have two weeks!

Well, I said to myself, let's not lose our cool. Let's start with the fundamentals.

Let us start with our annual message, Unite for Good. Let us examine it for a



moment. In my opinion, it is an extraordinary message in its simplicity, brevity, and impact.

Unite : to unite, reconcile, gather around. Unite can be understood in two different manners. You have to unite in space and time. Uniting in space means involving all members, but not only members, in our service. It means involving organizations that function as partners, local administrations, other voluntary associations.

In short, it means “expand our reach.”

It means increasing our membership. In many parts of the Rotary world, we are not growing. In fact, we have been losing membership for years. This remains one of the areas of action we will have to focus on during this year. The most effective way to increase membership is, first of all, to increase retention. We lose too many members, especially members admitted in the previous two to three years.

Maybe they did not find what they were looking for? Maybe the club experience was not what they expected? Improving the club experience must be another imperative during the year, making ample use of all the possibilities we have to apply great flexibility. Let us make more use of new types of clubs, for example, satellite clubs or clubs of purpose. Let us set no limits on creativity, let us adapt new forms of clubs to our local culture and traditions.

Unite also means expanding one's reach and working to benefit not only the local community but also needs far beyond our borders.

In short, unity means working in harmony, building bridges, involving as many people as possible to achieve more and more effective results.

Unite can also be understood as unity in time. In other words, it points to the need to work serenely with those before you and those after you. An annual project can be limiting. A project that lasts one year will rarely be transformational but will always remain on the surface of the problem. If we really want to change the world and people's lives, we must plan bigger, with multiyear projects. Our assignments may only last one year, but we must work and plan with those who precede us and with those who follow us.

Remember, it is never my year; it is always and only the year of Rotary.

We are called to undo our egos for the good of Rotary and the communities we serve. For good. We have joined together to do what? For the good of humanity. For good indicates what our goals are.

What are mine?

First, along with membership, is the eradication of polio. We are always a few steps away from a success that is denied from year to year.

But we are there now — every year we are closer and closer — and it is our duty not to break the promise we made so many years ago. We can do it — we have the means and the right partners, we have our infinite tenacity. We can do it.

And we will do it.

And the last goal is peace.

That's it : polio, membership, peace.

What do I mean by peace?

Peace for me is what we do best and what we do every day. Taking a young person to a peace center or sending a young person to another country on a Youth Exchange is working for peace.

Preventing and curing disease is working for peace.

Providing clean drinking water or sanitation where there is none is working for peace.

To have women give birth in a safe environment and take care of their children is working for peace.

To improve the environment in which we live, to support girls' education, to give economic support to those who cannot open their businesses, all this is working for peace. We are a great, immense machine that has been working for peace for more than a century.

More background information can be found in our vision.

Together. It is a word that must always stand out prominently in all our workplaces. Together. Alone we go nowhere, any difficulty will seem insurmountable. Let us leave the Superman we think we are in the attic and learn instead to value the team, to use our infinite different skills, to look at problems from different points of view.

Alone we lose, together we win, always.

We see a world. We look far ahead, and in our vision of tomorrow, we transfer our dreams.

Dreaming is indispensable. A poet of the last century said that you begin to die the very moment you stop dreaming. Never stop dreaming.

Dreaming is a consequence of enthusiasm and in turn generates enthusiasm. If we cannot dream and make our members dream, we will hardly have a successful year.

But dreaming is not enough. We have to act. We are People of Action.

To conclude, I want to tell you a story.

Many years ago, a young professional joined a Rotary club. He immediately made himself useful and tried to cooperate to the best of his ability.

After a few years, he was offered the position of president. He refused, because he suffered from a stutter and the idea of having to speak in public on a regular basis terrified him.

But his colleagues insisted so much that they eventually convinced him. Surrounded by the support and affection of his associates, he passed the test successfully and began attending the district.

After a few years, they offered him the position of governor. Again, he gave up, for it was one thing to speak to a limited number of people, made up of friends and acquaintances. It was quite another to speak to a much larger and mostly unknown audience. They convinced him.

Again and again, the experience was positive. To make a long story short, after a few years he became a director of Rotary International, and now, at this moment, he stands before you, president-elect of Rotary International.

A great Sicilian writer, Luigi Pirandello, used to say that each of us builds a mask to face the outside world, without anyone being able to see our true personality. Before I came on this stage, I took off my mask, and now I show myself to you somewhat naked.

I show you my fears and flaws; I also tell you about my dreams.

And of everything — dreams, fears, flaws — I make you a gift. I ask you to give me your dreams. Each one of us has many in the drawer. Let us unite them, let us create one great shared dream that unites us, that excites us, that changes the world and changes our lives, too. But let us act upon them and deliver to our communities.

I owe it to you, because Rotary has changed me, changed my life profoundly.

If the young professional who was afraid to speak to his club, because of the risk of making a fool of himself, can now get up on a stage and speak, in a language which is not his own, to an audience of thousands, well, I owe it all to all the Rotarians I have met in my life and who have always supported me and surrounded me with their affection.

I am confident that you will give me all the support and affection I have always found in Rotary.

Together, we can unite.

We can unite to change lives, including our own.

We can unite to change communities, right around the corner and half a world away.

We can unite to change our world for the better, not just for us, but for generations to come.

Together, we 'Unite for Good'.

I love you, try to love me a little.

Thank you all.



Few milestones in Rotary

- 1905 – First Rotary club in Chicago
- 1908 – Second club in San Francisco
- 1910 – First Rotary Convention in Chicago
- 1910 – National Association of Rotary Clubs
- 1912 – Rotary Club of Dublin (Ireland) - First Rotary club, outside of North America. (But got chartered after RC of London)
- 1912 – Rotary Club of London
- 1912 – 'National Association of Rotary Clubs' changed as "International Association of Rotary Clubs"
- 1917 – Arch C Klumph established Rotary Endowment Fund. The name changed to Rotary Foundation in 1928.
- 1920 – First Rotary Club in India established in Calcutta (Kolkata). Longest running in Asia.
- 1922 – "International Association of Rotary Clubs" changed as "Rotary International"
- 1929 – Second Rotary Club in India established in Bombay (Mumbai) followed by that in Madras (Chennai).
- 1947 – Paul Harris Died

Rotary Club of Behala

Board of Directors

(2025-2026)

POSITION	NAME
President	Rtn Sanghamitra Dutta Gupta
Immediate Past President	Rtn Angshuman Bhattacharya
Secretary	Rtn Sakuntala Ghosh Hazra
Treasurer	PP Rtn Dipak Kumar Mitra
Joint Treasurer	PP Anjan Kumar Bhowmick
President Elect	Rtn Shuvratav Mitra
Vice President	PP Rtn Bikash Dutta
Director Club Service	PP Rtn Manika Karmakar
Director Vocational Services	PP Rtn Kaushik Bhattacharya
Director Community Service (Medical)	PP Rtn Sugata Mazumdar
Director Community Service (Non Med)	PP Rtn Bikash Dutta
Director International Service	Rtn Arup Dasgupta
Director Youth Service	PP Rtn Debarshi Dutta Gupta
Executive Secretary	PP Dr Siddhartha Chakraborty
C I C O	Arup Dasgupta
Editor	Rtn Sunit Roy
Sergeant-At-Arms	PP Debidas Ganguly
	PP Rtn Amaresh Bhattacharya
Chair Club Administration	PP Rtn Ajoy Krishna Chatterjee
Chair Membership	PP Rtn Debabrata Joardar
Chair Rotary Foundation	PP Rtn Krishnendu Bhattacharjee
Chair Service Projects	PP Rtn Anirudha Gupta
Chair Strategic Committee	PP Rtn Deepnath Roy Chowdhury
Chair Literary	PP Rtn Indu Bhusan Das
Chair Public Image	PP Rtn Dr Siddhartha Chakraborty

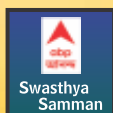
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MEET OUR NEW MEMBERS

Name : Anusri Banerjee
Res : 3 Young Lane, Parkwood, WA
6147, Australia
Mobile : +61 433 022 072
Email : neospectrum58@gmail.com
D/Birth : 24th July
D/ Anniversary : 7th December
Name of spouse : Tirthankar Banerjee
DOB : 1st December
Name of son : Balarka Banerjee
(DOB : 8th May)
Name of son : Binayak Banerjee
(DOB : 28th September)
Education : Genetics (Ph.D), Domestic Violence Advocate Dept. of
Communities, WA; Research Associate, Curtin
University, WA
Professionally : Domestic Violence Advocate
Other activities : Community service / Social service
Hobbies : Publisher in Australia, Sole Proprietor Neospectrum,
CEO Batayan Incorporate – Non Profitorgn, Australia
Proposer : Rtn Sanghamitra Dutta Gupta
Classification : Women Empowerment Activist



Name : Sharmila Sur
Res : 163, AJC Bose Road
Kolkata - 700014
Mobile : 9007338866
Email : sharmilasur@yahoo.co.in
D/ Birth : 13th August
D/ Anniversary : 26th February
Name of spouse : Debmalaya Sur
(DOB : 8th October)
Name of son : Shuvodeep Sur
(DOB : 15th December)
Education : BSc (Physiology), MCA (IGNOU)
Professionally : Homemaker
Other activities : Social Activist
Hobbies : Gardening. Reading books, Listening to music, Solving
puzzles, Sudoku
Proposer : Rtn Sanghamitra Dutta Gupta
Classification : Social Activist



Proposed Plans and Objectives For Rotary Year 2025-26

A. CLUB SERVICE

Club Administration

- Joint Board Meeting and COTS & Assembly before 1st July 2025.
- Another 3 Assemblies in the year, including visits by AG and DG.
- Physical Regular Club Meetings every month on 1st and 3rd Thursdays.
- Physical Board Meeting every month, preferably on last Friday or Saturday.
- Anniversary wishes to spouses of members.
- Guest Speakers from Rotarian or Non-Rotarian circles in RCMs.
- Fellowship with members and spouses during official visit by DG.
- A Club Picnic during winter.
- An excursion with members and family.
- Publication of club bulletin Maitree during each RCM in online form.
- Publication of Installation issue of Maitree in physical form.
- Uploading all club data to Rotary India and My Rotary, as relevant.

Membership Development & Retention

- Regular search for appropriate new member.
- Give specific role to new members.
- Constantly motivate members for retention.
- To lend an ear to dissatisfied members and take appropriate action.
- Co-ordinate with Membership Chair on regular basis.

Public Relation

- Club activities to be projected through social media like Facebook, website etc.
- Club website to be maintained by Rotary India.
- Reporting of activities through print or electronic media to be attempted.
- Collaboration with corporate sector with CSR for community projects to be achieved.

Participation in District Activities

- Joining District programmes as Co-host/ Asso Co-host/ participant.
- Minimum 2 members attending RLI.
- Minimum 4 members attending District Conference
- Minimum 6 members attending District Training Assembly
- Regular co-ordination with Zonal AG and ZS.

B. VOCATIONAL SERVICE

- To participate in District Projects on Vocational service
- Vocational Service Awards to individuals who have achieved exemplary excellence in own vocations.

C. COMMUNITY SERVICE (MEDICAL)

- Special awareness programmes on Thalassemia.
- Health Check-Up Camp
- Cataract Screening Camp, followed by sponsoring cataract surgery.
- Spectacles after cataract surgery
- At least one Blood Donation Camp in association with local social club.
- Awareness camps on Maternal and Child Health, Thalassemia, Menstrual hygiene and cancer.
- Collaborative programmes with Indian Academy of Paediatricians.

D. COMMUNITY SERVICE (NON-MEDICAL)**Water and Sanitation**

- Continuation of Water for Toilet project at Chandanpiri.
- WASH project in school or local areas.
- Any other project as per local requirements.

Environment

- Tree plantation.
- “Project Roshni” - Solar lamps for fishing boats.

Basic Education and Literacy

- Happy School Programme.
- Continue online teaching programme at Baidyapara High School.
- Continue Adult Education Programme in association with Free To Be Kids.
- Continue encouraging girl students with stipends for higher education.

E. INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

- Continue active participation in Polio eradication and awareness
- Take forward relationship with Top of The Lake Rotary Club and RC Capitol Hills.
- Try to start a Global Grant Project on Prevention of Cervical Cancer through HPV vaccination.

F. ROTARY FOUNDATION

- Encourage all members to contribute to Annual Fund and Polio Fund.
- Special effort for more PHF and MPHF.
- Target to achieve “100% Foundation Giving Club” status.

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E-mail : updeys@hotmail.com

MANUFACTURERS OF

DRUGS AND COSMETICS

Secretary' Report (2024-25)



Total members : 36
 Lady members : 04
 Members inducted : 01
 Members terminated : 00

- Interact Club : 01 (Bridge International School)
- RCC : 02

RCM : 24
 Board Meeting : 05
 Club Assembly : 04
 Fellowship : 06
 Newsletter : 23

SI No	Name of RCC	RCC ID	Location	D/Charter
1	Chandanpiri Sri Ramkrishna Ashram	93178	Chandanpiri, 24 Pgs (S)	21-01-2020
2	Rural Entrepreneurship Development	95675	Dosa Haat, 24 Pgs (S)	05-04-2023

Installation Ceremony



Royal Calcutta Turf Club // 23rd July 2024



Charter Night Celebration



Tolly Club // 24th August 2024

Bijaya-Diwali Get-together



Residence of PP Rtn Debidas Ganguly // 24th November 2024



Area of focus : Water, Sanitation & Hygiene

Water for Toilets – our Signature Project

- Project : Retrofitting toilets with water supply to make them useful
- Location : Our RCC at Chandanpiri, Namkhana Block, 24 Pgs (S)
- Time frame : Continuous project. 69 units installed this year
- Funding : Recurrent Helping Grant from Eastern India Rotary Welfare Trust



Area of focus : Disease Prevention & Treatment

Eye Screening Camp & Spectacle Distribution

- Our club joined hands with Eye Care and Research Centre in conducting an Eye Camp in the first week of January 2005 at Milan Mela, Park Circus – organised by Govt. of West Bengal. Total beneficiaries : 809.



- The club had another Eye Care Camp at Dhosa, 24 Pgs (S) on 5th April 2025 in collaboration with our RCC over there and Rotary Eye Hospital, Dakshin Barasat. Total beneficiaries : 71. Cataract : 22. Specs advised and supplied : 46.



Health Check up Camp

Date : 17th November 2024

Venue : Dhosa, 24 Pgs (S)

Beneficiaries : 148

Partners in Service : RCC Rural Entrepreneurship Development, Dhosa and Peerless Hospital.



Cancer in Women Awareness

Our club was an Associate Host of the Awareness Programme organised by RC Calcutta Charnock City at Lady Brabourne College, Kolkata on 3rd September 2024.



Taking Care of Cancer Patients

The club contributed Rs 25,000/- to the project “Life Beyond Cancer”



Taking Care of Physically challenged

World White Cane Day was observed on 15th October 2024 by arranging a 1.5 Km 'Mini Marathon' for visually challenged who were gifted white canes before starting their walk. Beneficiaries : 50.



Taking Care of Senior Citizens

The club was a host club in the District Project of Puja Parikrama on 10th of October 2024.





Area of focus : Protecting the Environment

Project Roshni – Another long-term sustainable project

Hundreds of small scale fishermen working in the creeks of Sundarbans do catch the fishes mostly at night, using kerosene lamps. We are providing the fishing boats with solar lamps to reduce carbon footprint and simultaneously helping the vocation.



Area of focus : Economic and Community Development

Virangana (District Project on Women's Self-defence)

Objective : Empowerment of girls through self-defence awareness.

Date : 16th September 2024 **Location :** Free To Be Kids **Participants :** 55 ladies of age group 15 to 35 yrs.

Facilitators : A Black Belt champion instructor, one Psychologist and one Nutritionist.



Educational scholarship to girls

An annual programme by the club, educational scholarship @ Rs 4,000/- was awarded to 25 meritorious girls from marginalised community.

Date : 11th August 2024

Venue : RCC at Chandanpiri



Area of focus : Basic Education and Literacy

Adult Education Programme

The club runs an Adult Education Centre at Nepalunge.



Happy School Sans Frontiers

Our club is a host club for this multi-club project of a Happy School at Lalgahr, Jhargram. In the Phase I of the project, with Helping Grant from EIRWT, solar lamp, deep tubewell and hand-washing facilities have been completed. Work for Phase II is continuing.





Vocational Excellence Award

On 5th of June 2025 the members of the club were very happy to have the opportunity of felicitating Mr. Mrigendra Majumdar and Mr. Soumen Kar of the legendary sherbat outlet of Paramount at College Square that quenched the thirst of generations of Calcuttians.



Adolescent Health Awareness Programme at Schools

It is a running programme sponsored by Rotary Action Group for Reproductive Maternal and Child Health (RMCH) and undertaken in conjunction with Indian Academy of Paediatrics, West Bengal Branch, focussing on menstrual health, cervical cancer and Thalassaemia. Five schools in the District have been covered, more to follow.



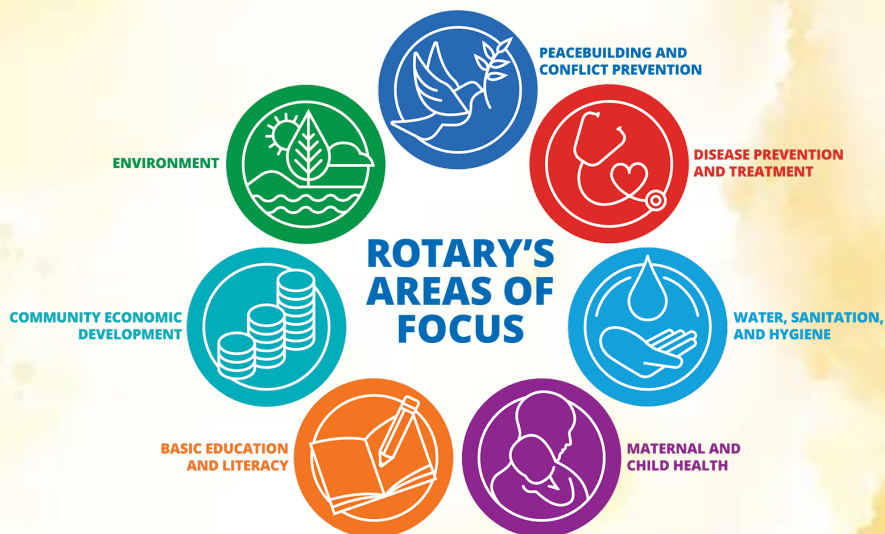
Continuing Project on Water for Toilet

We are grateful to RC Top of The Lake, Mooresville, RID 7680 for their gift of US\$ 2,000 through EIRWT as support to our continuing Toilet Water project.



Installation Programme of Interact Club of Bridge International School

**Christmas celebration with
kids at Free To Be Kids,
Thakurpukur.**





Total members : 36

- **MPHF : 09**
PHF + 6 : 01
PHF + 3 : 02
PHF + 2 : 02
PHF + 1 : 04
- **PHF : 08**

- **All time giving : 62,003 US\$**
- **Contributions this year**
Contributor : 17
Polio Fund : 26 US\$
Annual Fund : 1938 US\$

Contributors to TRF, 2024-25

Sr.No.	Date	Rotarian	Amount	Fund
1	22/05/25	Amit Roy	103.5	Annual (Unrestricted)
2	23/07/24	Angshuman Bhattacharya	100	Annual (Unrestricted)
3	22/05/25		103.5	Annual (Unrestricted)
4	24/05/25	Anirudha Gupta	100	Annual (Unrestricted)
5	24/05/25	Arup Dasgupta	100	Annual (Unrestricted)
6	24/05/25	Debarshi Dutta Gupta	100	Annual (Unrestricted)
7	24/05/25	Deepnath Roychowdhury	100	Annual (Unrestricted)
8	20/05/25	Dipak Kumar Mitra	166.64	World Fund
9	26/08/24	Dr Siddhartha Chakraborty	26.23	Polio
10	12/05/25		103.5	Annual (Unrestricted)
11	13/05/25	Dr Sudipta Chakraborty	103.5	Annual (Unrestricted)
12	10/05/25	Krishnendu Bhattacharjee	100	Annual (Unrestricted)
13	24/05/25	Sakuntala Ghosh Hazra	300	Annual (Unrestricted)
14	24/05/25	Sanghamitra Dutta Gupta	100	Annual (Unrestricted)
15	24/05/25	Shamsir Singh Kapany	100	Annual (Unrestricted)
16	18/05/25	Sugata Mazumdar	157.32	Annual (Unrestricted)
17	24/05/25	Swapan Marwaha	100	Annual (Unrestricted)

Happy Birthday



PP Ajoy Krishna Chatterjee
DOB : 15th July



**IPP Angshuman
Bhattacharya**
DOB : 15th July



Koustav
S/o PP Krishnendu
Bhattacharjee
DOB : 22nd July



PP Prasunjit
Mukherjee
DOB : 23rd July

Starting with a BANG !

Rotary Club of Behala started the New Rotary Year with a BANG !

In the morning there was the District Programme of Blood Donation at Rotary Sadan, and our club was a Co-host of the programme which was attended by Club President Rtn Sanghamitra Dutta Gupta and Secretary Rtn Sakuntala Ghosh Hazra.

In the afternoon there was the celebration of Doctors' Day along with Foundation Day Celebration at Eye Care & Research Centre, Biresw Guha Street, Park Circus. Our club gifted them two view-boxes and a trial set to help them organise mobile camps.

Led by Club President Rtn Sanghamitra Dutta Gupta and Secretary Rtn Sakuntala Ghosh Hazra, PP Rtn Debarshi Dutta Gupta, PP Rtn Dr Siddhartha Chakraborty and Rtn Dr Sudipta Chakraborty attended the programme.

In the evening our members tramped into Bhasa Bhawan, National Library to witness the wonderful Installation Ceremony of District Governor Rtn Dr Ramendu Homchaudhuri.

It was a day symbolising dedication to Rotary.



Minutes of the 2699th Regular Meeting of Rotary Club of Behala held at Malik Guest House at 6:30 pm on 03.07.2025

- Club President Mrs. Sanghamitra Duttagupta called the 2699th meeting to order.
- National Anthem was led by PP Monica Karmakar.
- Various points regarding the Installation Ceremony were discussed in details. The Installation Committee will meet on 7th July at the Outram Club at 7 pm.
- 1st July members attended the Change Over Ceremony at Bhasha Bhavan, National Library where District Governor Dr. Ramendu Homchaudhuri was installed.
- 1st July Doctor's Day was observed at Eye Care & Research Centre by donating 2 view box and 1 trial set to be used in Eye Camps they frequently visit. Rotary Club of Behala joined as co-host to a Blood Donation Camp jointly organized by District 3291 and the Bengal Obstetric & Gynaecological Society.
- President Sanghamitra Duttagupta and Secretary Sakuntala Ghosh Hazra visited the adult literacy centre at Nepalgunge and reported the learning centre was well run.
- Rotary Club of Behala will join Project Pranadhara II of Rotary Club of Calcutta initiated through Rotary Foundation Global Grant No. 2578095 in collaboration with Tata Swach. Rotary Club of Behala will give 525 USD.
- Our club has decided to continue with our signature project of Water for Toilet and will apply to Eastern India Rotary Welfare Trust for a Helping Grant to install another 31 units.
- Guest Speaker Mrs. Kumkum Das gave a talk on Thalassemia Awareness & Vaccination. President Sanghamitra Duttagupta gave her a token of appreciation.
- Club business was conducted by Secretary Sakuntala Ghosh Hazra.
- Total Members : 36. Members present - Rotarians 16, New member to be inducted 1, Guests 2, Guest Speaker 1.
- The next regular meeting of Rotary Club of Behala will be held on 24th July 2025 at Malik Guest House at 6.30 pm.
- The meeting was terminated by the President after the 4 way test was read by all the members present.

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With best wishes to

**President
Sanghamitra Dutta Gupta
&
Her Team**

PP Rtn Sakuntala Ghosh Hazra

Best Wishes for
Rotary Club of Behala

from





Wishing President
Sanghamitra Dutta Gupta
&
Her Team

A Wonderful Year Ahead

PP Rtn Ajoy Krishna Chatterjee
&
Indrani Chatterjee
Past District Chairman, IW District 329

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**Wishing President Sanghamitra
Dutta Gupta &
Her Team A Wonderful Year Ahead**

**PP Rtn. Debidas Ganguly
&
Srimati Ganguly**



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Wishing President Sanghamitra Dutta
Gupta & Her Team
A Wonderful Year Ahead

PP Rtn. Debabrata Joardar
&
Anuradha Joardar

Best Wishes

A Well Wisher

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Wishing President
Sanghamitra Dutta Gupta
& Her Team
A Wonderful Year Ahead

PP Rtn. Dipak Kumar Mitra



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With Best Wishes to

**President
Rtn Sanghamitra Dutta Gupta
&
Secretary
Rtn Sakuntala Ghosh Hazra**

**Rtn Dr. Sudipta &
PP Dr. Siddhartha Chakraborty**

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