



# THE MIDTOWNER

BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF CALCUTTA MIDTOWN

President: Rtn. Preeti Agarwal | Secretary: Rtn. Ruchira Bhuwalka | Editor: Rtn. Bhupesh Kapoor  
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## From Editor's Desk:

Saalumarada Thimmakka is a remarkable woman from Karnataka, who is known for her outstanding contribution to the environment. She is a true inspiration for many, and her story is one that is worth sharing.

Thimmakka was born in a small village in Karnataka, in a family that was not well-off. She had to drop out of school at a young age to help her family with their farming work.

Despite this, she had a deep love for nature, and spent much of her time in the fields and forests around her village.

One day, while walking along a barren stretch of road, Thimmakka and her husband saw that there were no trees to provide shade. This sight inspired them to start planting trees along the road.

They began by planting banyan and tamarind trees, and soon others in the village joined in as well.

Over the next several decades, Thimmakka and her husband planted over 8,000 trees along a four-kilometer stretch of road.

This not only transformed the barren stretch of road into a lush green corridor, but also helped to improve the local environment. The trees helped to prevent soil erosion, improve the air quality, and provide a habitat for wildlife.

Thimmakka's work did not go unnoticed, and she soon became known as the "tree woman" of Karnataka.

She was honored with many awards and accolades for her contributions to the environment, including the National Citizen's Award from the Government of India.



Despite her advanced age, Thimmakka continues to plant trees and raise awareness about the importance of preserving the environment. She is a shining example of how one person can make a difference, and her legacy will live on for generations to come.

In the present day, Saalumara Thimmakka is remembered for her relentless pursuit for environment conservation and planting over 8000 trees. She is a true symbol of selfless dedication and relentless hard work. Her story continues to inspire many people, of all ages, from all over the world, to take up a small step towards protecting our environment.

And in the process, may be we can also make our planet a greener, cleaner and a better place to live in.

Saalumarada Thimmakka has been honored with a number of awards and accolades for her contributions to the environment. Some of the notable awards that she has received include:

**The National Citizen's Award from the Government of India:** This is the highest award given to an individual for their contributions to the environment. Thimmakka was awarded this honor in 2016 for her work in planting trees and preserving the environment.

**The Nadoja Award from the Hampi University:** This award is given to individuals who have made significant contributions in their respective fields. Thimmakka was awarded the Nadoja in 2017 for her work in promoting environmental conservation.

**The Padma Shri:** This is one of the highest civilian awards in India, given by the President of India to individuals who have made distinguished contributions to society. Thimmakka was awarded the Padma Shri in 2019 for her contributions in environment conservation.

**The Karnataka Rajyotsava award:** This award is given by the Government of Karnataka to individuals who have made exceptional contributions in various fields. Thimmakka was awarded the Karnataka Rajyotsava award for her outstanding work in protecting and preserving the environment.

There are many other awards and recognitions, Thimmakka received during her lifetime. Her inspiring journey of planting trees and her relentless dedication towards environmental conservation has been acknowledged across the country and world.



**THE FOUR WAY TEST**

**of the things we think, say or do**

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

## **Minutes of the 16th Regular and 2162nd Continuous Meeting of Rotary Club of Calcutta Midtown held on Tuesday, 11th March 2025 at 6.30 PM at The Small Pheonix, The Saturday Club.**

**Meeting called to order:** President Rtn. Preeti Agarwal called the meeting to order.

National Anthem was sung by all.

**Confirmation of previous Meeting Minutes:** The previous meeting minutes were circulated on WhatsApp and were proposed by Rtn. Dr. Surinder Kapoor and seconded by Rtn. Bhupesh Kapoor.

New and prospective members were updated about all the RCCM projects.

**Report on the Successful Eye Surgeries:** President Rtn. Preeti Agarwal informed that 16 people underwent Cataract surgeries on 4th March at GRSM Hospital. The surgeries were all successful.

**Toilet Update:** President updated about the toilets project in detail. She told there are 4 blocks having 20 toilets in all. The designated area is 7650 sq. feet for all the blocks together. Hence, the tiles are priced at 4 lakhs. They are good quality, anti-skid tiles. The other costs were made known to the floor. It was advised to provide a detailed report of the toilets for future records and to put our club plaque on each block if possible.

**Holi Fellowship and Meeting:** The floor was informed that the Holi fellowship is on Sunday, 23rd March 2025 over brunch. The fellowship convener will get in touch with everyone closer to the date.

**Joint Meeting with Rotary Endeavour and Avyana:** President informed about having a joint meeting with Rotary Endeavour and Avyana on 10th April, 2025. It will be a speaker meeting.

**AG, ZS and DG Meeting Scheduled:** The floor was informed about the AG and ZS on 24th April and DG visit on 15th May respectively.

**80G Certification update:** Rotary Midtown has officially received its 80G certification! A huge shoutout to Sahil, our incredible Treasurer, and Disha, our diligent Auditor, for making this happen. Their dedication and hard work have truly paid off—this is a big milestone for us!

**Induction of Dr. Prabhjeet Sethi:** Rtn. Dr. S.K. Kapoor inducted Dr. Prabhjeet Sethi in the Club. He informed him about the Rotary movement in detail.

**Any other matter:**

President informed about the District Holi get-together on 17th March at Eastern Metropolitan Club at 6.30 PM.

Mr. Babu Malla a prospective member introduced himself.

The President informed that she had spoken with Mr. Sumit Williams from the RISAO office regarding the closure of the Global Grant account No. 1872799. Mr. Williams clarified that only the GG Director, Mr. Rakesh Sahni, has the authority to close the account. Alternatively, a Board resolution would be required to transfer this authority to the President. After discussion, the members requested the President to ask Rtn. Sahni to complete the process and to set a deadline for its closure.

**Secretary's Report:** Rtn. Ruchira Bhuwalka announced the birthdays and anniversaries. Total 16 members were present making it 34% attendance

**Meeting Closed:** President Rtn. Preeti Agarwal closed the meeting.

**“Either you run the day or the day runs you.”**

<http://rccalcuttamidtown.rotaryindia.org>

**Minuted by:**

**Rtn. Ruchira Bhuwalka**

**Secretary 2024-25 RCCM**



Rotary Midtown meeting on 27th February



**Toilet work in progress at The Refuge.**





## Girls of The Refuge with Sanitary Pads bought from Turnstone Global (formerly National Association of Blind)





Cataract Surgery for 16 patients at GRSM Hospital  
Rotary Club of Budge Budge on 4th March 2025



# Birthday's

"Cheers to another wonderful year"



*Rtn. Preeti Agarwal (4th April)*



*Rtn. Rakesh Khanna (5th April)*



*Rtn. Surinder Kapoor (6th April)*

**DON'T WORRY ABOUT WHAT  
I'M DOING. WORRY ABOUT WHY  
YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT  
WHAT I'M DOING.**

