



# 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:

Festive season and Diwali is around. Diwali, the festival of lights, symbolizes the triumph of good over evil and light over darkness. When you extend helping hand to marginalized and poor children, you kindle light in their dark life.

There are incredible stories of people who are helping others on a regular basis. From child education to women empowerment, these are a few of the stories of people who decided to step onto the ground and involve themselves in the betterment of rural India. Their strength, hard work, and desire to make a difference give us hope.

Kailash Sharma was an ordinary child born to ordinary parents in Madhya Pradesh. But he was meant to do extraordinary things. Even as a child, he was disturbed by economic disparity and the injustice of the flawed systems that separated people across India.

One such instance really left a massive mark on him. As a teenager, he'd decided to host a community lunch that was cooked by the "lower caste" of his village. The upper castes didn't even show up and completely outcasted him and his family after. This incident, among others, made him drop his surname and adopt "Satyarthi" which means a "Seeker of Truth".

He went on to completely dedicate his life to humanity. In 1980, he founded the Bachpan Bachao Andolan, India's largest movement that campaigns for children's rights. In 1998, Satyarthi conceived and led the Global March against Child Labor, an 80,000 km-long march across 103 countries to put forth a global demand seeking action against child labor.

In 2004, he established [Kailash Satyarthi Children's Foundation](#). The project focuses on policy advocacy, preserving child rights, and effecting grassroots-level change. It is now recognized as a global voice for children's education. Today, over 87,000 children have been freed from 144 countries because of KSCF's efforts. In 2014, Kailash Satyarthi became the second Indian recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize, after Mother Teresa in 1979.

Our Rotary joined hand with 'The Refuge' who have been supporting abandoned children by way of providing them food, shelter and above all education to become self dependent and acceptable in society.

One has to find what sparks a light within to illuminate the world.



# Happy Diwali

## Minutes of the 2153rd Continuous Meeting and 7th Regular for the year 2024-25 of Rotary Club of Calcutta Midtown to be held on Sunday, 13th October, 2024 at Wabi Sabi @10 am.

**Meeting called to order:** President Preeti called the 2153rd continuous and 7th regular meeting to order.

**National Anthem:** National Anthem was rendered by all.

**Appointment of Sergeant-at-Arms:** President Preeti appointed Rtn. Samir Prasad as Sergeant

**Confirmation of previous meeting minutes:** The last meeting minutes were floated on WhatsApp and were proposed to be passed by Rtn. Yugal Sikri & seconded by Rtn. Neeraj Agarwal.

**Sanitary Napkins Project Update:** President updated that Ann. Nupur Prasad has volunteered to be a part of this wonderful project. She's working on the various modalities like the name, the BIS certificate which is essential for the sale of the napkins. Rtn. Nirmal Nahata is working with full zeal with her to get this project in shape. Various discussions took place and it was decided that we'll go ahead with the project only after the Certification is done.

**Cervical Cancer Vaccine New Batch:** President apprised that the final drive of our cervical cancer vaccine for the last batch is scheduled for Saturday, 16th November at SGCCRI. This drive is a joint effort between our Rotary Club and our Inner Wheel, showcasing our strong partnership. She said that we will be vaccinating 60 beneficiaries, at the SGCCRI premises. Our District Governor AKS Rtn. Krishnendu Gupta will be present to witness this impactful project.

President requested all members to attend in large numbers and lend their support to this important initiative.

**Navaratri Project Update:** President apprised that during Navaratri, under the dedicated leadership of Rtn. Nirmal Nahata, we successfully distributed drinking water to 50k people, conducted a medical camp where 700 people benefitted and provided sarees to the 150 needy ladies.

Thousands of people were fed food. It couldn't have been a better way to celebrate the festival.

Sewing Machines from RC of Calcutta: President updated that we had the pleasure of receiving four sewing machines, generously donated by RC Calcutta to commemorate their remarkable 105 years of service. It was a well-organized event. Representing Rotary Midtown were Samir Prasad, Nirmal Nahata, Neeraj Agarwal and Preeti Agarwal. 3 beneficiaries identified by Rtn. Samir were Anushree Das, Soma Halder and Madhabi Saha. 1 sewing machine was given at The Refuge where a full-fledged sewing class is operational. It was also discussed that the sewing machines lying at our RCC need to be donated. Rtn. Mayuri expressed that she can connect with the inmates of the correctional home or they can be given to the girls who had learnt the art of sewing from our RCC. It was suggested that we have a meeting with the RCC directors and the girls to discuss the way forward for the distribution of machines.

Kolkata Kettle 6.0: President apprised that it's that time of the year when the energy and enthusiasm of the entire team is needed to put up a great show at the 6th edition of Kolkata Kettle. She asked the convener Rtn. Samir Prasad to update the floor on the developments so far. Rtn. Samir updated that we need to think how and what we could do differently, be unique and make the show better. He asked members to volunteer and give their names to do their bit for the event. He said the more ideas and members we bring together, the better and more impactful our kettle will be. He also spoke about getting the sponsors for a greater impact.

Diwali Get-Together: President announced the Diwali get together which is scheduled for Saturday, 9th November, 2024 at Hotel Niharika at 7 pm. She said that our fellowship convener Rtn. Mayuri will coordinate with the members closer to the date.

Citation Award: With utmost pride and immense pleasure President Preeti announced the remarkable achievement of our club. We have been honored with three outstanding awards:

The Citation Award for outstanding five areas of focus for the year 2023-24.

Best President awarded to Rtn. Ankush R. Khanna.

Best Secretary awarded to Rtn. Radhika Sahni.

She further added that this is truly a moment of great honor and recognition for our club's dedication and collective efforts under the able leadership of IPP Rtn. Ankush Raman Khanna.

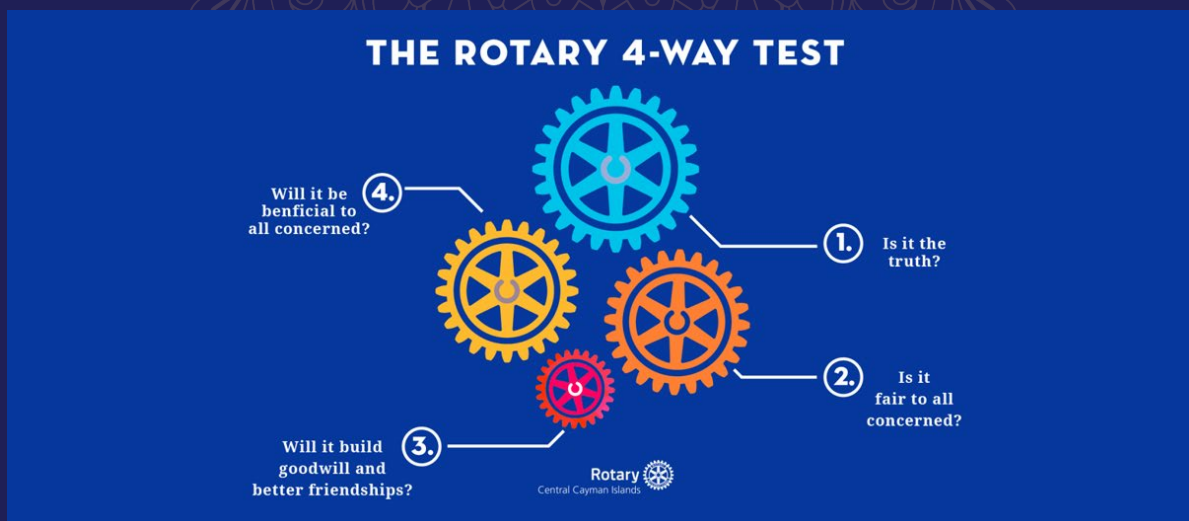
**Any other matter:** President paid tribute to the sad demise of Dr. Sandeep Chatterjee, our past member and a very eminent doctor who passed away recently. She announced that the District Diwali get-together is happening on 27th October at Eastern Metropolitan Club at 6 pm. The charges for the same are Rs. 1500/-. She apprised that we have a QR Code for our Trust Account. She said that the first quarter has gone by in a fantastic manner. She acknowledged the brilliant work done by her team with a special mention to the Editor Rtn. Bhupesh Kapoor. She got him a standing ovation done.

**Secretary's report:** the anniversary's & birthdays were announced and the attendance was 17 members present making it 35%

**Sergeant-at-Arms collection:** Rtn. Samir Prasad was Sergeant for the meeting and the collection was 3500/-

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

**Minuted by:**  
**Rtn. Ruchira Bhuwalka**  
**Secretary 2024-25 RCCM**



## Club meeting at Wabi Sabi on 13th Oct preceded by breakfast





## Spoken English classes in progress at The Refuge.





# Birthday's

"Cheers to another wonderful year"



Rtn. Sushma Nahata (21st October)



Rtn. Yugal Sirci (23rd October)



Rtn. Yogesh Gupta (29th October)



Rtn. Kiran Kapoor (2nd November)



Rtn. Poonam Tikmani (9th November)



Rtn. Bhupesh Kapoor (6th November)



Rtn. Ravi Dhawan (10th November)

# Anniversary



Preeti & Neeraj Agarwal

20<sup>th</sup> October



**You become a  
light by doing  
the things that  
Spark the light  
in you...**