

THE MIDTOWNER

Bulletin of the Rotary Club of Calcutta Midtown

President: Rtn. Hitesh Dani | Secretary: Rtn. Mayuri Doshi | Editor: Rtn. Simran Gupta

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From Editor's Desk

No Story Is Too Small to Be Told

"This book was born from the belief that no story is ever 'small' — that in the tapestry of human experience, every thread holds the weight of the whole. In a world that often tries to divide us, literature remains one of the last sacred spaces where we can live inside each other's minds, if only for a few pages."

– Banu Mushtaq



Kannada writer Banu Mushtaq (R) and her translator Deepa Bhashti with the Booker Prize Award

Dear Midtown Family,

Some words do not just speak to us—they linger, they echo. When I read these lines from Banu Mushtaq, shared through Sandhya Rao's thoughtful review in Rotary News, I felt an almost immediate connection to the essence of Rotary. In those few sentences lies a truth we too often overlook: **that every act, every effort, every kindness—no matter how modest—has the power to shape the whole.**

Rao describes Mushtaq's Heart Lamp as a collection that "reveals human nature in its myriad minute manifestations with wit, warmth, and vivid detail." Her stories are not about sweeping events or monumental victories. They are about the glances, the gestures, the quiet rebellions, and the unseen resilience that together tell the story of a life, a community, a shared humanity.

Rotary, in its truest form, is built exactly the same way. Yes, we have our flagship projects and celebrated milestones—but beneath them lies a foundation of countless unheralded moments. The member who offers a word of encouragement at just the right time. The volunteer who takes on an extra task without being asked. The friend who notices a need before it is spoken aloud.

These "small" stories are, in truth, the heartbeats of service. Without them, the larger picture would lose its colour, its warmth, its depth.

As we journey through this Rotary year, let us honour not just the grand achievements, but the humble contributions that make them possible. Let us tell these stories—not only to inspire others, but to remind ourselves that each of us carries a thread in this tapestry. And when woven together, those threads create something enduring, beautiful, and whole.

Because in Rotary, as in life, no story is too small to be told.

Yours in service,

Simran Gupta

Editor

Rotary Club of Calcutta Midtown

Midtown Shines at the Award Nite!

It was a proud evening for Rotary Club of Calcutta Midtown as our club received multiple prestigious recognitions at The Award Nite. These awards are a testament to the collective efforts, commitment, and dedication of our members.

Our Achievements



First Prize
Newsletters



First Prize
Disease Prevention
& Treatment



Second Prize
Water &
Sanitation



Second Prize
Cervical Cancer
Awareness & Vaccines



Second Prize
Maternal &
Child Care



Second Prize
Eye Care



Third Prize
District Program
Support



Third Prize
Club Service



Third Prize
Public Image



Citation Award
Rotary International

These laurels reflect the true spirit of Midtown—where teamwork and service go hand in hand. A heartfelt thank you to Team Midtown for your unwavering support and dedication. Together, we continue to make a difference!

Rotary Midtown Award Nite



Minutes of the 2nd Regular Meeting for the Year 2025 - 2026 and the 2171st Continuous Meeting of Rotary Club of Calcutta Midtown

Date : 24th July, 2025 | Time : 6:30 PM | Venue : Room No. 1, Saturday Club

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Rtn. Hitesh Dani.

2. National Anthem

All members stood for the National Anthem.

3. Welcome Address

President Hitesh Dani welcomed all members and guests present for the meeting.

4. Agenda Discussions

- **Confirmation of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

President Dani called for confirmation of the minutes of the previous meeting. Rtn. Sahil confirmed the minutes, and Rtn. Narendraji proposed them for approval.

- **Appointment of Sergeant-at-Arms**

President Dani appointed Rtn. Bhupeshji as the Sergeant-at-Arms for the year.

- **Report on Cleft Lip Identification Camp**

Rtn. Preeti reported that identified children are undergoing surgeries every Wednesday at Narayan Hospital. She invited members to visit the hospital on Wednesdays to witness the work being done.

- **Golf Fundraiser Update – Par at Excellence**

President Dani updated members that preparations for the Golf Fundraiser are progressing extremely well. Mr. Ajay Dattani, his childhood friend from Mumbai and owner of Sanathan Textiles, has committed ₹15 lakhs as Title Sponsor. Several participants have already registered, including players from Bangladesh and Tinsukia. The target is 100 players, and convenors are actively working toward achieving it.

- **Visit to R.K.K.M.B.S. (Blind Boys School)**

President Dani informed members that a total of ₹78,000 has been collected from Rotarians and regular donor Mrs. Malati Kothari. Interest of ₹18,000 from the FD allocated to the Blind Boys School will also be added. Combined funds will be handed over to the school shortly.

- **Briefing on Joint Antakshari Fellowship**

President Dani invited Rtn. Vikram to brief members on the event. Fellowship to be held on 3rd August at Haldiram Banquets. The Antakshari event will be followed by drinks and dinner. Cost per person is approx. ₹2,000, which will be borne by the club.

- **Presentation of Cheques & Donations**

Rtn. Surinder Kapoor handed over a cheque of ₹64,000 from Rtn. O.P. Agarwal's Trust to student Amit Sahoo (final year MBBS student). A big thank you was extended to Rtn. O.P. Agarwal. Dr. Lalitaji donated ₹12,000 from her granddaughter for the Blind Boys School. Gratitude was extended to Lalitaji and her granddaughter. Special thanks were given to Mrs. Malati Kothari for an additional ₹12,000 donation for the Blind Boys School.

- **Request to Invite Prospective Member**

Rtn. Yogesh Gupta requested President Dani to invite a prospective member he had suggested to the next meeting for introductions.

5. Announcements

Secretary's Time: Attendance was recorded at 19 members present (38% attendance).

6. Sergeant's Time

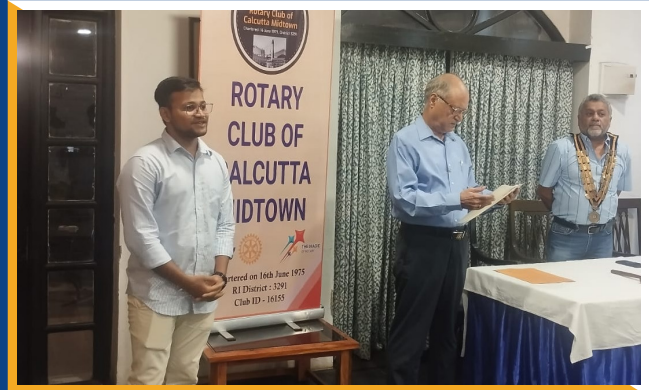
Rtn. Bhupeshji, as Sergeant-at-Arms, collected ₹3,700 for Sunshine.

7. Closing

President Hitesh Dani formally closed the meeting and thanked all present for their participation.

Recorded by
Rtn. Mayuri Mody Doshi
Secretary 2025-2026

Regular Rotary Midtown meeting held on 24th July



Minutes of the 3rd Regular Meeting for the Year 2025 - 2026 and the 2172nd Continuous Meeting of Rotary Club of Calcutta Midtown

Date : 3rd August, 2025 | Time : 6:30 PM | Venue : Haldiram Banquets, Ballygunge, Kolkata

Meeting Type: Joint Meeting & Antakshari Fellowship

1. Call to Order

President Hitesh Dani called the meeting to order.

2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

Minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed by Rtn. Nirmal and seconded by Rtn. Bhupeshji.

3. Welcome Address

President Hitesh Dani extended greetings to the participating clubs

- Rotary Club of Mayfair
- Rotary Club of Chowringhee
- Yuvi Club

4. Fundraiser Update

President Hitesh Dani provided an update on the Golf Fundraiser, reporting that ₹31 lakhs have already been raised. He informed members that the funds will be allocated for Cervical Cancer Vaccination initiatives.

5. Secretary's Time

Attendance: 37% (19 members present)

Birthdays for the Month

- 09-Aug Dr. Prabhjeet Singh Sethi
- 15-Aug Sanjay Choudhary
- 21-Aug Nirmal Agarwal
- 21-Aug Ruchira Bhuwalka
- 21-Aug Sudhir Chand
- 29-Aug Dr. Lalita Sheth

Anniversaries for the Month

- 12-Aug Rakesh Khanna
- 31-Aug Dr. S. K. Kapoor

6. Agenda Items

Other agenda points were waived off in view of the joint meeting format and Antakshari Fellowship event.

7. Exchange of Pins and Flags

President Hitesh Dani exchanged Pins and Flags with the Presidents of the other clubs present.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was closed, and members proceeded to the Antakshari Fellowship program.

Reported by

Rtn. Mayuri Mody Doshi
Secretary 2025-2026

Rotary Midtown Antakshari Fellowship Meeting held on 3rd August



Project

Annual Pilgrimage on 15th August to Ramkrishna Mission Blind Boys Academy at Narendrapur



Cleft Lip Health Camp

Held on 24th August 2025 at Mahishadal, East Medinipur

Total patients : 27

13 new for surgery | 7 for nutrition after that surgery
7 for speech therapy & dental treatment.



Birthdays



29th Aug

Dr. Lalita Seth



1st Sep

Neeraj Agarwal



1st Sep

Biman Chakravorty



4th Sep

OP Agarwal



9th Sep

Anirudh Tikmany