



BLISS



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Rotary International District 3291

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1639th Regular Meeting

No. 14

Charter on : 12,06,1986

We meet every alternate Thursday at THE ANTELOPE, 3, Ho Chi Minh Sarani, Kolkata - 700071 at 8.00 pm.

Rtn Angana Paul President

Rtn Sabyasachi Roy
Secretary

PP Rtn Chandra Kumar Paul
Treasurer

PP Rtn Subhashis Ghosh Editor

TOGETHER, WE

HEAL



Reminiscing The Past



Health Centre and Diagnostic Clinic



BLISS
PP RTN SUDIP KUMAR DUTTA

FELLOWSHIP

RTN YUDHAJIT CHAUDHURI

REFRESHMENTS

PP RTN PRABIR KUMAR PAUL

ROTARY YEAR 2021-22

TN-SUBHASHIS GHOSH

Rotary International president-elect emphasizes effective action and 'embracing the world with open arms'

By Etelka Lehoczky

Rotary International President-elect Olayinka H. Babalola called on members to Create Lasting Impact by making their clubs more welcoming, carrying out impactful projects, and allowing their Rotary experiences to transform them personally.

"Rotary has changed us. It has shaped who we are and made us better people," Babalola said at Rotary's International Assembly in Orlando, Florida, USA, on 12 January. "We often talk about changing the world. We talk about ending polio, about building peace. We do not think enough about how Rotary transforms us."

Babalola, a member of the Rotary Club of Trans Amadi, Nigeria, described how joining a Rotaract club as a teenager enlarged his perspective beyond the limited, privileged outlook he'd once had. That change in awareness came from observing the lasting impact his club had in the community, particularly from teaching people to read and write.

"As members of Rotary, we share a vision of a better future," he said. "To make this vision a reality, we must acknowledge and unleash the change within ourselves. We must focus not only on outcomes, but on impact." Change and impact are not the same, he added: "Change is only the beginning. Impact is what endures."

Understanding impact

Rotary members have made an impact by expanding early childhood education in Knysna, South Africa, and increasing access to prenatal care in Nigeria, Babalola said. The Rotary Club of Knysna empowered local women to open and manage early childhood education centers.

"The project has reached thousands of children and families, and it will continue to provide education in those communities for generations," Babalola said. "We can recreate this kind of impact in other parts of the world, and in doing so we can earn the trust and recognition of our neighbors in the communities we serve. And when more communities trust Rotary, more people want to join."

Babalola also described the wide-ranging impact of Together for Healthy Families in Nigeria. The initiative to reduce maternal and neonatal mortality rates received a US\$2 million Rotary Programs of Scale grant in 2022.

"Before Rotary's intervention, many women avoided prenatal care, which is essential to ensuring a safe birth for both mother and child," he said. "After working with Rotary, systems were put in place to help expecting mothers receive prenatal care. The community was involved. Attendance went up. Mortality went down. That project [will] transform lives across Nigeria for decades."

Extending a welcome

Babalola urged members to take a more open, welcoming attitude toward newcomers to their clubs. He described how, when he was a Rotaract club member eager to join a Rotary club, the president of the Rotary club treated him with scorn.

"He said, 'What audacity! You cannot just join. You need an invitation,'" Babalola recalled. "I could have walked away. Instead, I said, 'I didn't know a child needed an invitation to enter his parents' home.'"

While things have changed since that time, Babalola said, they haven't changed enough. Some clubs close themselves off instead of "embracing the world with open arms," he said. Young people aren't necessarily treated with respect, he added, and people with different ideas and backgrounds aren't always made to feel welcome. He urged members to think about how they could better welcome others.

"You never know whose Rotary story might begin — or end — based on the way you make them feel at a meeting or service project," he said.

Another way members can focus on personal change, he said, is to aim to do better than their best. He urged district leaders to examine their past successes in raising funds, planning projects, and recruiting members. Then, he said, they should challenge themselves to surpass their past triumphs.

"When we change ourselves, we change our clubs and districts," he concluded. "When we change our districts, we change the communities we serve. And when we change our communities, we create lasting impact across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves."



2026-27 Rotary International President
Olayinka H. Babalola speaks at the opening general session of Rotary's International Assembly, 12 January 2026. He introduced the 2026-27 presidential message, Create Lasting Impact. "As members of Rotary, we share a vision of a better future," he said. "To make this vision a reality, we must acknowledge and unleash the change within ourselves."

District Conference

Members of Roray Club of Calcutta North East attended **Ramdhanu - District Conference 2026** at East Side Pavilion from 9th to 11th January, 2026. At the event RC Calcutta North East was a Bronze Sponsorer. The event was attended by PP Rtn Sudip Kumar Dutta, PP Rtn Biswajit Chaudhuri, PP Rtn Chandra Kumar Paul, PP Rtn Ramparsad Chattopadhyay, Rtn Sabyasachi Roy along with president Rtn Angana Paul.



Felicitations of Para-Athlete

Rotary Club of Calcutta North East proudly felicitated Ms. Tarunika Ghosh, an extraordinary para-athlete from Kolkata, whose journey has inspired many. A cancer survivor who endured a 32-day coma and overcame multiple challenges, Tarunika went on to break the world record in the 1500m race walk at the Virtus World Athletics Championship in Brisbane. Her achievement stands as a powerful testament to courage, resilience, and the human spirit.



Project Report: Warmth for the Body, Nourishment for the Soul

Rotary Club of Calcutta North East successfully organised a Blanket Distribution Programme at Jhargram, extending warmth and care to the underprivileged during the winter season.

A total of 100 blankets were distributed—50 blankets acquired from Rotary District 3291 project and 50 sponsored by PP Rtn Shubadip Roy.

In addition, 100 health drinks were distributed to children, kindly sponsored by Rtn Biswajit Chaudhuri, while a meal for the beneficiaries was provided with the support of Rtn Dr Tapas Kumar Adaldar.

The initiative also saw enthusiastic participation from the students of Loreto College, Kolkata, with Rituja Nandy, Sayoni Das, and Debarati Nath, who joined the project as part of their B.Ed. curriculum, adding youthful energy and commitment to the service effort.

The project was attended by Rtn. Angana Paul, Rtn Dr Tapas Kumar Adaldar, Rtn Sabyasachi Roy, Rtn Chandra Kumar Paul, Rtn Swapnamita Roy, Rtn Subhasish Kar, Rtn Ramprasad Chattopadhyay, Rtn Salil Chandra, Rtn Ahana Ghosh, and Mr Riyom Roy, son of Rtn Sabyasachi Roy and Rtn Swapnamita Roy.



Project Report – Medical Aid

RCCNE provided financial support to Muskan Khatun, a patient with damaged kidneys. A cheque of Rs. 10,000/- from the Club fund was handed over to her to help her meet necessary medicine costs.

Project Report - Warmth for Winter

Rotary Club of Calcutta North East successfully conducted a "Warmth for Winter - Jacket Distribution Program, in association with Mrs. Ibha Das' at Cossipore Institution, extending much-needed support to the beneficiaries during the winter season. As part of this initiative, warm jackets were distributed to ensure comfort, dignity, and protection against the harsh cold. The programme reflects Rotary's continued commitment to compassionate service and community welfare, truly living up to the spirit of "Unite for Good."



Project Report - Sishu O Yuba Utsab

In an effort to foster a spirit of creativity and culture among the youth, RC Calcutta North East, in association with RCC Kankinara organised a competition for the local children. The event featured categories in drawing, recitation, singing, and dance across various age groups. The program was attended by PP Rtn Ramprasad Chattopadhyay and PP Rtn Chandra Kumar Paul along with President Rtn Angana Paul.



ROTARY CLUB OF CALCUTTA NORTH EAST MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING NO. 1638

Date : 8th January, 2026

Venue : The Antelope, 3, Ho Chi Minh Sarani, Kolkata - 700017

Call to Order

The Regular Meeting No. 1638 of the Rotary Club of Calcutta North East was called to order by President Rtn. Angana Paul with her New Year greetings to all the members. The National Anthem was led by PP Rtn. Ramprasad Chattopadhyay, with all members standing in respect.

Project Report Announcement

President Rtn. Angana Paul announced the upcoming projects, as there were no projects undertaken in the 1st week of the New Year.

On 13th January 2026, winter cloth distribution will be held at Cossipore Institution for Boys. 62 nos. of winter jackets will be distributed among the students. RCCNE's generous donor, Smt. Iva Das, has committed to donate a part of the cost and expressed

her interest in attending the project along with the Club members. The Club will also distribute Lunch Packets among the Students and Teachers.

From January 9th to 12th, the District Conference "Ramdhanu" is going to be held at East Gallery, Nicco Park, Kolkata. Already 7 members have registered to attend by paying Rs. 3,000/- each. The President requested more members to register, as day registration is also available at half the cost. RCCNE has paid Rs. 25,000/- on behalf of the Club to become the Bronze Sponsor of the event.

On 16th January, RCCNE will visit Jadavpur University and meet the authorities for the planning of a Thalassemia awareness and screening camp at their Salt Lake annex building.

On 17th & 18th January, RCCNE will visit Jhargram for winter blanket distribution. 100 nos. of blankets will be distributed along with health drinks and mid-day food packets. 50 nos. of blankets have been received from the District, and the remaining 50 nos. will be donated by PP Rtn. Shubadip Roy. Health drinks will be donated by PP Rtn. Biswajit Chaudhuri, and food will be donated by Rtn. Tapas Adalder. The President requested members to join the project. On the same day, RCCNE will also visit a local government-sponsored primary school for renovation project aided by EIRWT funding. Additionally, a prospective RCC at a local club will be considered.

Project Completed on the Meeting Day

Support to kidney damage patient Muskan Khatun: RCCNE handed over a cheque of Rs. 10,000/- from the Club fund for her necessary medicine costs. The cheque was handed over by Ms. Tarunika Ghosh, a blood cancer patient and gold medal-winning para-athlete.

The President then requested Rtn. Amitava Dutta to give a brief introduction of Ms. Tarunika Ghosh, a para-athlete from Kolkata. She is a true inspiration, having overcome coma and cancer, and has broken the World Record by 12 seconds in the 1500-meter race walk at the Virtus World Athletics Championship, Brisbane, Australia. Rtn. Amitava Dutta gave an inspiring and overwhelming synopsis of Tarunika's achievements and fight of her challenging achievements. Thereafter, Tarunika was felicitated with an RCCNE memento and a small token of gift.

The final guest was another renowned Indian para-athlete, Shri Prabir Sarkar. Prabir Sarkar is inspiringly known for his versatility and resilience, excelling in multiple disciplines like long jump, para-shooting, and marathons, proving that courage triumphs over physical challenges. He is recognized for participating in events like the Tata Steel World 25K in Kolkata, carrying the national flag, and embodying the spirit of perseverance. He has also won medals in the Para

Asiad in the early 2000s, showcasing determination beyond just medals. Currently, due to some technical issues, he is preparing for para-shooting for international championships. He is practicing under Indian shooter Mr. Jaydeep Karmakar and has already received silver and gold medals at the national level. He has approached RCCNE for kind support in terms of financial help to purchase his rifle, kits, and wheelchair for participation in the upcoming Commonwealth Games for para-athletics. PP Rtn. Ramprasad Chattopadhyay, PP Rtn. Biswajit Chowdhury, PP Rtn. Chandra Kumar Paul, PP Rtn. Soumendra Mohan Rakshit, PP Rtn. Prabir Kumar Paul, Rtn. Amitava Dutta, and Rtn. Sabyasachi Roy have already committed their contributions.

Treasurer's Report

The President invited the Club Treasurer to present the Treasurer's Report. Club Treasurer PP Rtn. Chandra Kumar Paul reported that the 2nd Half RI dues will be paid on 15th January 2026. He requested all members to clear their 2nd half dues if not already cleared.

Secretarial Report

For secretarial business, the President called upon the Club Secretary. Club Secretary Rtn. Sabyasachi Roy confirmed the minutes of the previous meeting, extended birthday and anniversary wishes to members and their families, and informed members that the date of the next regular meeting would be shared in the Club group.

Conclusion

With no further business to discuss, President Rtn Angana Paul concluded the meeting and invited all members and their families to join the fellowship gathering followed by dinner, which was sponsored by Club President Rtn. Angana Paul and PP Rtn. Chandra Kumar Paul.

Sponsorship Acknowledgements

- BLISS: PP Rtn Subhashis Kar
- Fellowship & Dinner : Club President Rtn Angana Paul and PP Rtn Chandra Kumar Paul.

Minutes Prepared by: Rtn Sabyasachi Roy, Club Secretary

Birthday Greetings

26 Jan : Sohini Roy, W/o Rtn Shubadip Roy

03 Feb : Rtn Subhashis Kar

07 Feb : Saimontika, D/o Rtn Subasish Halder

07 Feb : Rtn Salil Kumar Chandra

Wedding Greetings

25 Jan : Rtn Tapas Kumar Adalder & Mahuya Mondal

30 Jan : Rtn Sabyasachi & Swapnamita Roy

30 Jan : Rtn Gurmeet Singh & Ritika Sachar

03 Feb : Rtn Subhashis & Paulomi Ghosh