



ISSUE No: 01/2025-2026

REGULAR MEETING No. 2953

11 JULY 2025

WELCOME TO THE 'CHANGE OVER CEREMONY' of ROTARY CLUB of CALCUTTA SOUTH WEST 2025-2026.

A warm welcome to our Honoured Guest, DGN. Purnendu Roychowdhury:

Purnendu Roychowdhury, comes from a business family and dedicated Rotarian of over two decades, was born on 11th December in Kolkata, India. A graduate with a Bachelor of Commerce degree from Calcutta University, Mr. Roychowdhury has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to excellence across diverse professional domains, alongside an outstanding record of public service. With over three decades of experience, Mr. Roychowdhury has made significant contributions to India's scientific instrumentation and precision weighing industry. In 1990, he was instrumental in introducing forced restoration technology for weighing systems to India through a landmark technical collaboration with Japan, establishing a vital 100% import substitute in the sector. His leadership acumen is reflected in his current roles as the Managing Director and Chairman of two distinguished companies, one with a legacy of over a century and the other exceeding seventy-five years, both headquartered in their own premises at B.B.D. Bagh East, Kolkata. His business interests have since diversified into sectors including education (nursery to Class XII schooling), hospitality, food and beverage services, air and water quality enhancement solutions, and corporate finance. Mr. Roychowdhury's association with Rotary International began on 19th September 2000 when he joined the Rotary Club of Calcutta, Asia's longest running Rotary Club. Over the course of 24 years of distinguished service, he has held numerous pivotal positions at both the club and district levels. He was the Centennial Year President (2019–2020) in the club. At the District level within Rotary International District 3291, Mr. Roychowdhury has undertaken key responsibilities, including Aide to the District Governor (2023–2024), Assistant District Secretary – Logistics (2022–2023), Assistant Governor for Zone 31 (2021– 2022), and Zonal Secretary for Zone 16 (2020–2021). In the current Rotary year (2024–2025), he is serving as the District Paul Harris Society (PHS) Coordinator. Mr. Roychowdhury's commitment to Rotary's ideals is further reflected in his participation in multiple Rotary International Conventions, having attended conventions held in Bangkok (2012), Lisbon (2013), Hamburg (2019), Melbourne (2023), and Singapore (2024). Recognized as a Major Donor (Level 2) to The Rotary Foundation, he exemplifies the spirit of "Service Above Self" through both philanthropy and active leadership. Among his numerous service initiatives, Mr. Roychowdhury has played a pioneering role in implementing major humanitarian projects. Between 2000 and 2004, he successfully executed one of the largest WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene) projects under a Canadian grant, resulting in the installation of 250 toilets and 120 tube wells. His commitment to public health is further demonstrated by his efforts to facilitate heart surgeries for underprivileged children and adults at R. N. Tagore Hospital (2014 onwards), implement mass immunization drives in Howrah for over 100,000 children of migrant workers (2015 onwards), and contribute to ICU infrastructure at Mercy Hospital (2016). During the COVID-19 pandemic, he spearheaded the donation of critical medical equipment and essential protective gear to hospitals across Kolkata and Howrah. In 2020, Mr. Roychowdhury was instrumental in the formation of the Circle of Centennial Rotary Clubs, a unique international fellowship dedicated to strengthening and expanding 100- year-old Rotary clubs around the globe. As the founding member of this prestigious organization, he played a key role in defining its mission to bolster membership and enhance Rotary's presence in underserved regions, with the founding witnessed and supported by Rotary International Past Presidents Mark Maloney and Shekhar Mehta. Beyond his Rotary Endeavors, Mr. Roychowdhury has been actively engaged in community development through the establishment and sponsorship of new Rotary clubs, including the Rotary Club of Calcutta Renaissance, Rotary Club of Uniworld City, Rotary Club of Calcutta Centenary, and Rotary Club of Calcutta Sundarban. He is presently involved in the formation of a Satellite Club. Mr. Roychowdhury's professional affiliations are equally distinguished. He holds corporate memberships with leading business chambers such as BNCCI, CII, BCCI, and FOSML. He is a respected member of prominent social institutions like the Bengal Club, Tollygunge Club, and Saturday Club. Moreover, he serves as the Vice President of Rehabilitation India, a



nongovernmental organization committed to training and empowering physically challenged individuals since 1969. Residing in Kolkata with his wife, Mrs. Sucharita Roychowdhury, Mr. Purnendu Roychowdhury continues to inspire through his dynamic leadership, professional achievements, and unwavering commitment to humanitarian service. His life's work stands as a testament to the transformative impact of vision, dedication, and community engagement.

DGN's message to our President:

Dear Rtn. Ruma Mitra,

Heartfelt congratulations as you take on the role of President of Rotary Club of South West for the Rotary Year 2025–26. Your commitment to service and your quiet strength as a leader make you well-suited to guide the club through a year of meaningful impact and purposeful initiatives.

This new chapter is not only a recognition of your dedication but also a powerful opportunity to inspire others, nurture new ideas, and further elevate the spirit of Rotary within the community. I am confident that under your thoughtful leadership, the Rotary Club of South West will continue to grow in strength, unity, and service.

Wishing you and your members of the club a rewarding and fulfilling year ahead as you lead with vision, compassion, and integrity.

Thanking You,
Warm Regards,
Purnendu Roychowdhury
DGN 2027–2028
Rotary International District 3291

MEET OUR PRESIDENT 2025 - 2026



RUMA MITRA, born in Kolkata on 7th February is a COMPLETE KOLKATAN, having lived all her life in this city. She did her schooling from La Martiniere for Girls, Kolkata and graduated from Shrivnath Shashtri College, Kolkata. Subsequently she obtained a Masters degree in Sociology from IGOU and a B.Ed from Shri Shikshayatan College, Kolkata. Ruma taught Mathematics and English in Shri Shikshayatan for 28 years. A keen musician, she completed Grades I to VI in Piano from the Trinity School of Music and took charge of musical plays in Shri Shikshayatan during her teaching days. She is blessed with two children, Subhomoy and Mohini, who are both married and well settled in life.

Ruma loves listening to music and traveling to explore “UNHEARD OF PLACES”.

Ruma also loves planning and executing projects for the needy and spending time with friends.

PRESIDENT’S THOUGHTS

The theme for this Rotary Year is ‘UNITE FOR GOOD’. What do we understand by this phrase? It implies a conscious effort to join forces with others to achieve a positive and impactful result. It suggests that the unification is not just for the sake of coming together, but rather with a specific, ethical and beneficial purpose in life.

If we, Rotarians ‘UNITE FOR GOOD’, for the society, specially for the underprivileged, we unconsciously ‘TURN SORROWS TO SMILES’ and this is my message to Rotary club of Calcutta South West for 2025—’26. To help underprivileged individuals find joy, initiatives can focus on providing basic needs, educational opportunities, healthcare access and creating safe spaces for social interaction and community building. These efforts can TURN their SORROWS TO SMILES by improving their overall well-being and offering a sense of hope and belonging.

Here’s more detailed look at how we are planning to TURN SORROWS TO SMILES through our various Projects this year:-

- Meeting basic needs by providing food security, clothing and health care
- Education and empowerment: Offering vocational training and skill building workshops and offering scholarships to meritorious students from economically weaker sections of the society
- Social and emotional support through mentorship programmes and counseling services
- Awareness campaigns about the challenges faced by the underprivileged and promote empathy and understanding within the wider community.

By understanding the root causes of suffering of the underprivileged, we will be able to provide opportunities for growth and development. These initiatives can help TURN SORROWS TO SMILES and empower underprivileged individuals to lead more fulfilling lives.

HONY SECRETARY SPEAKS:

Leonardo Da Vinci once quoted “Knowing is not enough ; We must apply. Being willing is not enough ; We must do”. This quote emphasizes that true understanding and progress come from putting knowledge into action. Ideas are exchanged, knowledge is shared, suggestions are given at discussions, meetings, seminars and gatherings. Simply knowing something, whether it’s a skill, a concept or a fact, remains abstract until it’s applied in practice. It is not important to simply possess information; one must actively engage with it to see its value and potential. The 2nd part of the quote emphasizes that having the intention or desire to do something is not enough. Action is required. It’s not enough to simply want to achieve a goal; one must actively work towards it.

The quote is a call to action, encouraging individuals to move beyond passive knowledge and actively engage in the process of learning and achieving. It suggests that true growth and success come from translating understanding and desire into tangible actions.

This quote of Leonardo Da Vinci is my message to Rotary Club of Calcutta South West for the year 2025—’26. Let us not just exchange Project ideas and suggestions at meetings and debate over petty matters. We must plan and work towards it and execute our Projects smoothly.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2025-2026

PRESIDENT : RTN RUMA MITRA

IPP : RTN KAMALESH BOSE

VICE PRESIDENT : PP RTN SAMBHUNATH BEHERA

HONY. CLUB SECRETARY : RTN SAMIR SUR

CLUB TREASURER : PP RTN SUBRATA CHAKRABORTY

CLUB LEARNING FACILITATOR : PDG RTN SIDDHARTHA S BOSE

DIRECTOR CLUB SERVICE : RTN PROSENJIT SARKER

DIRECTOR COMMUNITY SERVICE (MEDICAL) : RTN DR.SUSMITA MITRA BANERJEE

DIRECTOR COMMUNITY SERVICE (NON-MEDICAL) : 1. PP RTN DR.SUMIT KR. MITRA

2. RTN MOHUA DAS

DIRECTOR VOCATIONAL SERVICE : RTN CAPT RANJAN DUTTA

DIRECTOR INTERNATIONAL SERVICE : PP RTN DEBASIS DE

SERGEANT AT ARMS : PP RTN GAUTAM BANERJEE

CLUB OFFICERS 2025 – 2026

CLUB PRESIDENT : RTN RUMA MITRA

CLUB VICE PRESIDENT : PP RTN SAMBHUNATH BEHERA

CLUB SECRETARY : RTN SAMIR SUR

CLUB TREASURER : PP RTN SUBRATA CHAKRABORTY

CLUB LEARNING FACILITATOR & BULLETIN EDITOR: PDG RTN SIDDHARTHA S. BOSE

CLUB SERVICE PROJECT CHAIR : RTN MOHUA DAS

CLUB MEMBERSHIP CHAIR : PP RTN DR.SUMIT KR. MITRA

CLUB FOUNDATION CHAIR : PP RTN RANENDRA KISHORE DASGUPTA

CLUB PUBLIC IMAGE CHAIR : PP RTN DEBASIS DE

CLUB YOUNG LEADERS CONTACT : PP RTN DR.ARUP KR. MITRA

CLUB EXECUTIVE SECRETARY/ DIRECTOR : RTN SOMBUDDHA BANERJEE

CLUB PROJECTS COMING UP

AWARENESS PROGRAMME ON CERVICAL CANCER AND THE NEED TO TAKE HPV VACCINE—11TH JULY AT SHRI SHIKSHAYATAN COLLEGE

INAUGURATION AND OFFICIAL HANDING OVER OF THE 2 SEWING MACHINES PURCHASED AND DELIVERED AT CDDS ON 18/7/25

CLEANLINESS DRIVE AT MADARTALA SLUM AREA

GUEST SPEAKER FOR 25TH JULY RM- MRS MITALI BOSE FROM IICP

CELEBRATIONS

13TH JULY IS THE BIRTHDAY OF MRS.SWATI BHATTACHARYA

MESSAGES TO PRESIDENT RUMA FROM SOU'WESTERS

To the Illustrious President Rtn. Ruma Mitra,

Heartfelt Congratulations on your glorious ascension to the pinnacle of leadership within Rotary Club of Calcutta South West! This momentous occasion is a radiant reflection of your unwavering devotion, unrelenting passion, and visionary stewardship.

Your tenure promises to be a golden era, replete with triumph, innovation, and boundless fulfillment. As your presidency unfurls, I am filled with unbridled enthusiasm, eager to witness the magnificent journey that lies ahead, and to collaborate with you in crafting a legacy of greatness.

May your term be an odyssey of splendor, marked by the pursuit of excellence, the warmth of fellowship, and the joy of serving humanity. May the Rotary ideals shine brighter under your inspired leadership, and may our club soar to unprecedented heights of glory!

Warmest felicitations and best wishes,
Rtn Debasis De

"Heartiest congratulations Rumadi on taking over as President! Your dedication and vision will surely take Rotary Club of Calcutta Southwest to greater heights! Wishing you a successful and impactful term ahead." "Heartiest congratulations Rumadi on taking over as President! Your dedication and vision will surely take Rotary Club of Calcutta Southwest to greater heights! Wishing you a successful and impactful term ahead."

Rtn. Prosenjit Sarkar.
