



Friendship



President: Sharad Dugar • Secretary: Prashant Maheswari • Editor: Ajay Khanna

Vol. 59 no 15 • Saturday 2nd May 2026

INTRODUCTION OF AG DR RINA MALPANI



Dr. Rina Malpani is a distinguished second-generation Rotarian and an eminent gynecologist with a career spanning over 35 years in Kolkata and Howrah. A graduate of the University of North Bengal, she operates her own practice, Shanti Clinic, while maintaining a 30-year association with the Howrah Lions Hospital, where she runs a dedicated charitable clinic. Her medical philosophy is deeply rooted in the mantra “Prevention is better than

cure,” a principle she applies through comprehensive patient counseling and a focus on holistic, preventive healthcare.

Since joining Rotary in 2015, Dr. Malpani has demonstrated exceptional leadership, serving in key capacities including Club President, Secretary, and Medical Director. Her impact extends to the district level, where she has served as the Maternal Health Co-Chair and Female Membership Advisor. Beginning in July 2026, she will elevate her service further as the Assistant Governor

for the Rotary Club of Belur, overseeing the strategic growth and coordination of the region's clubs.

Beyond her clinical work, she is a passionate advocate for vocational empowerment. She played a pivotal role in establishing two sewing centers and spearheaded the launch of a soft skills center in collaboration with Bosch, providing life-changing training for local youth. Her philanthropic reach is further amplified as the Managing Trustee of the Tarachandra and Shanti Maheshwari Trust, which supports vital student scholarships and community infrastructure projects.

In her personal life, Dr. Malpani embodies the healthy lifestyle she advocates for her patients. She is an avid golfer, a yoga practitioner, and a fitness enthusiast who balances her professional commitments with a vibrant family life alongside her husband, interventional cardiologist Dr. Ashok Malpani, and their two children. Whether through medicine, community service, or sport, she remains a constant source of inspiration, encouraging everyone she meets to prioritize wellness and fitness.

INTRODUCTION OF ZS YOGITA KICHLU



Yogita Kichlu is a multifaceted leader who has seamlessly blended a distinguished career in fashion with a lifelong commitment to humanitarian and animal welfare. A graduate of Wigan and Leigh College, she has been a force in the garment industry for 25 years, managing a successful export business that spans India, Bangladesh, and the UK. Her creative expertise further extends to high-profile styling projects for iconic

brands such as Lakme and Godrej, as well as media platforms like Channel V.

As a Trustee of the Pt. Ravi Kichlu Foundation for 27 years—working under the patronage of the Honorable Governor of West Bengal—Yogita has played a pivotal role in preserving India's cultural heritage. Through the nationwide Golden Talent Contest, she identifies and sponsors budding classical musicians, ensuring they receive training under renowned gurus. Her dedication to the arts is matched by her compassion for its veterans, as the foundation provides essential medical aid to senior musicians who can no longer perform.

Yogita's philanthropic footprint is perhaps most visible through her extensive work with the underprivileged and the voiceless. She oversees a non-formal school in Kolkata that has provided free education to children for over four decades, while her animal welfare project, “Maaya,” has spent 20 years rescuing abandoned dogs and farm animals. As the Founder Trustee of the Yogita Kichlu Welfare Trust, she consolidates these efforts into a focused mission of kindness, lately expanding into disaster relief for cyclones like Amphan and providing daily meals to hundreds through the “Anna Daan” initiative during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Her leadership as the President of the Rotary Club of Benevolence (2024-25) saw the successful execution of life-changing projects, including pediatric heart surgeries for 20 children, the installation of water purification plants, and the launch of vocational training centers in correctional homes and mental hospitals. From providing prosthetic limbs through Project AKRITI to fostering inclusivity for the LGBTQIA+ community with Project HRIDAY, Yogita's work is defined by the “joy of giving.” Her tireless advocacy has earned her numerous accolades from prestigious bodies such as the Human Rights Council of India, Lions Club, and Rotary International, marking her as a premier social activist dedicated to uplifting society at large.

May is the Rotary Youth Services Month

PLANT SAPLING DISTRIBUTION DRIVE

Place - Baghbazar Sarada Prathmik Vidyalay, 5A Nayan Krishna Saha Lane, Baghbazar

- Date - Saturday, 25th April 2026

It was a Truly Wonderful and Fulfilling Saturday Morning as a Plant Sapling Distribution Drive was successfully conducted and over 200 Plants were distributed against estimate of 150. Over 150 Participants, including Students were

Gifted Plant Sapling, along with a Packet of Snacks and Water. The Objective was not just Distribution, but to Instill Awareness and Responsibility towards Nature among Young Minds.

The Children were Sensitised about the Importance of Plants in our daily lives

- How they provide Oxygen, Improve our Environment, Fight Pollution, and Support life on Earth. Volunteers and Members

from Concern for Earth, Rotary Club of Belur, Rashmi Ispat Ltd. Cleanup Heist and Volunteers from locality were Present. Their Active Participation made the Initiative a Collective Effort towards a Greener Future.

Small Hands Today... Nurturing a Greener Tomorrow



BAISHAKHI SANDHYA

The District Baisakhi Meet, held on Friday, April 24th, was a resounding success, bringing together approximately 100 Rotarians for an evening defined by vibrant fellowship and cultural celebration. Conceptualized by First Lady Dr. Bandana Homchaudhuri, the event was a brilliant showcase of talent, featuring a diverse lineup of dance performances, soulful poem recitations, and musical numbers, all performed exclusively by Rotarians and their families. The Rotary Club of Belur was well-represented by a five-member delegation, with First Lady Anu Dugar taking center stage in an energetic group Bihu dance that added to the festive spirit. During the evening, District Governor Ramendu Homchaudhuri expressed appreciation for the hospitality provided, announcing that the snack boxes for the event were generously sponsored by Past President Ajay Agarwal of the Rotary Club of Belur. Against a backdrop of red and white traditional attire—with men in elegant Kurtas and women in graceful Sarees—the evening provided a perfect platform for networking and community building. From the refreshments to the high-energy cultural displays, the meet was a testament to the creative and unified spirit of our district.



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CLUB MEETING (RCM) NO. 2572

DATE: 28TH MARCH 2026 TIME: 4:30 PM VENUE: HOTEL HINDUSTAN INTERNATIONAL (HHI)

The 2572nd Regular Club Meeting of the Rotary Club of Belur was held on April 18, 2026, at Hotel Hindustan International, Kolkata. The meeting was called to order at 4:30 PM by President Rtn. Sharad Dugar, who welcomed the gathered members and guests. The proceedings commenced with the National Anthem, followed by the formal adorning of the club jewel by Rtn. Rajesh Agarwal. To invoke divine blessings for the club's continued service and fellowship, Rtn. Rakesh Almal led the house in a solemn invocation. Following the opening traditions, the minutes of the previous meeting (RCM No. 2571) were formally approved, having been proposed by PP Alope Kanodia and seconded by PP Ramesh Tiwari.

President Sharad Dugar provided a significant briefing on the club's recent humanitarian milestones, specifically focusing on the celebratory event for the Cervical Cancer Vaccination Project. He expressed immense pride in the project's success and facilitated a special session to honor the dedicated team and partners who made the achievement possible. The house was also updated on the forthcoming schedule, including the Baisakhi Sandhya at Urbana Club House on April 24th, the Assistant Governor's visit on May 2nd, and the District Governor's visit scheduled for May 9th. Additionally, the President noted upcoming vaccination camps in Barasat and Ghosiara to ensure the project's continued momentum.

The highlight of the evening was a high-energy "House Quiz" session conducted by Quiz Master

Rtn Sharad Dugar, President

Ms. Ruthline Saha, daughter of PP Nirmal Saha. The room was organized into five competitive tables, creating a lively atmosphere of friendly rivalry. The quiz covered a diverse range of topics, challenging the intellectual prowess of the members with questions such as:

- ✦ Who was the first Chief Election Commissioner of independent India?" (Shri Sukumar Sen)
- ✦ Which was the second Rotary Club set up in India after RC Calcutta?" (Lahore)
- ✦ Which spice comes from the stigma of a flower?" (Saffron)
- ✦ In which city did Rotary International have the maximum number of conventions?" (Chicago)

As the rounds progressed, the competition intensified, but it was ultimately "The Ladies Group" that dominated the scoreboard. Their quick thinking and broad general knowledge earned them the title of the evening's winners, met with enthusiastic applause from the assembly.

The meeting concluded with a secretary's report by Rtn. Kailash Tekriwal and a heartfelt vote of thanks by PP Ramesh Tiwari. The session was followed by a vibrant fellowship and Hi-Tea, leaving members with a wonderful blend of service updates and intellectual engagement. A sunshine of Rupees 1000 was collected from members for Birthdays and Anniversaries.

Rtn Prashant Maheshwari, Secretary



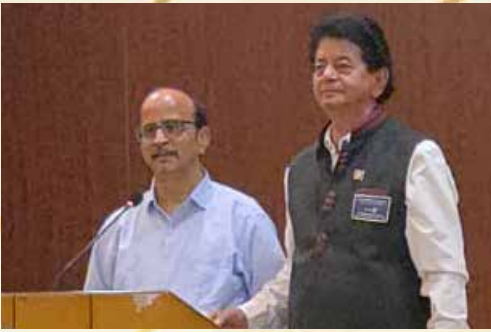
PP Ajay Agarwal at RYLA in Port Blair



Sunita Agarwal (w/o PP Ajay Agarwal) gave a presentation on Financial Literacy at RYLA, Port Blair

UPCOMING EVENTS		UPCOMING CERVICAL CANCER VACCINATION CAMPS	
1. 6.5.26 (Wednesday) - 2nd dose vaccination at Satyabharati Banmukitan Girls High School, Barasat (11:30 AM)			
2. 7.5.26 (Thursday) - 2nd dose vaccination at Ghosiara Vidyapith (Higher Secondary), Ghosiara, Sonarpur (11:30 AM)			
3. 12.5.26 (Tuesday) - 2nd dose vaccination at Kalikapur Basanti Devi Balika Vidyalaya (H S) (11:30 AM)			
6th May 2026	9:00 am Thalassaemia Awareness Rally & Blood Donation		
7th May 2026	8:30 pm Counselling and Quiz Competition for Interactors at ILead		
8th May 2026	5:00 pm District Thalassaemia Summit at Ramakrishna Mission, Golpark		
9th May 2026	DG Visit followed by Dinner, 7:00 pm		
17th May 2026	9:00 am District Learning Assembly at Hyatt Regency		
30th May 2026	4.30 pm - Regular Club Meeting		

3RD PRESIDENTS SECRETARY AG AND ZS MEET



The district recently hosted an enlightening and impactful seminar focused on the core pillars of Rotary—foundation, growth, and community health.

The session opened with a profound presentation by PRID Anirudha Roychowdhury, who shared deep insights into the Rotary Foundation and the vital importance of personal contributions in sustaining global service. This was followed by a discussion on membership dynamics, where the District Membership Chair (DMC) highlighted District 3291's positive growth trajectory and emphasized that retaining existing members is just as crucial as bringing in new ones to maintain a strong organizational foundation. Adding to this, POG Rajendra Khandelwal spoke passionately about how a healthy Foundation serves as the bedrock of society, enabling Rotarians to execute life-changing projects that leave a lasting legacy.

A significant portion of the meet was dedicated to public health, with the District Governor addressing the critical need for Thalassemia prevention through proactive testing. This technical discussion was brought to life by a moving personal testimony from PE Suresh Khunteta, who shared his own journey as a person with minor Thalassemia. He spoke about the practical importance of awareness, recounting how he ensured his son was tested before marriage to prevent the condition from affecting future generations. The Rotary Club of Belur was well-represented at this high-level meeting by the President, the President-elect, and CRFC PP Ajay Agarwal, all of whom engaged with these vital topics to bring back fresh perspectives and strategies to our club.



Honouring Our Birthday Stars

- | | | | |
|------------------|----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Pushpa Sarada | 2 nd May | Ammit Bhutoria | 14 th May |
| Ananya Chaudhary | 8 th May | Dr. Shahul Hameed | 14 th May |
| Anand Garg | 13 th May | Shankar Ramalingam | 16 th May |
| | | Pratima Saraf | 24 th May |
| | | Aloke Kumar Kanodia | 29 th May |
| | | Ashim Kumar Mitra | 29 th May |

Together Through the Years: Happy Anniversary

- | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| Manoj & Vibha Agarwal | 8 th May |
| Ammit & Preeti Bhutoria | 14 th May |
| Anil Kumar & Susmita Jhavar | 23 rd May |
| Pramod Kumar & Santosh Sharma | 29 th May |





welcoming




DR. RAMENDU HOMCHAUDHURI


Members and spouses are requested to please join in
District Governor
 Official Club Visit
 on
9th May, 2026
 at Hotel Hindusthan International at 6.30 p.m.



A CAREER GUIDANCE PROGRAM & QUIZ FOR INTERACTORS




EVENT SCHEDULE		
ACTIVITY	TIME	DURATION
REGISTRATION	8:30-9:00 AM	30 MINUTES
WELCOME ADDRESS	9:00-9:05 AM	5 MINUTES
DG's ADDRESS (including felicitation)	9:05-9:25 AM	20 MINUTES
QUIZ: PRELIMINARY ROUND	9:25-9:50 AM	25 MINUTES
CAREER COUNSELLING		
Mr PRADIP CHOPRA	9:50-10:05 AM	15 MINUTES
Rtn PRAKASH NAHATA	10:05-10:20 AM	15 MINUTES
Rtn ARINDAM SIL	10:20-10:35 AM	15 MINUTES
iLEAD Presentation	10:35-10:55 AM	20 MINUTES
Dr AMITABH MOHAN, Rtn	10:55-11:10 AM	15 MINUTES
Brig YAJUVENDER SINGH	11:10-11:25 AM	15 MINUTES
BREAK	11:25-11:40 AM	15 MINUTES
QUIZ	11:40-12:40 PM	1 HOUR
PRESENTATION CEREMONY	12:40-12:50 PM	10 MINUTES
VOTE OF THANKS	12:50-12:55 PM	5 MINUTES
DISPERSAL	1:00 PM	



PARTICIPATING ROTARY CLUBS OF ZONES 13, 19 & 27

- Belur
- Calcutta Chowrenghee
- Kolkata Urbana
- Calcutta Presidency
- Calcutta Pointers
- Calcutta South East

QUIZ PARTNER



For Private Circulation only

Edited by: Rtn Ajay Khanna, e-mail: ankoorkolkata@gmail.com on behalf of Rotary Club of Belur, RID 3291