



ROTARY CLUB OF CALCUTTA METROPOLITAN

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METRO VOICE

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RY : 2025-2026

**UNITE
FOR
GOOD**

Rotary

Rotary



President : RAJSHREE JAIN • Hony. Secretary : NAMRATA BENGANI

• Editor Emeritus : SASHI DHACHOLIA

1713TH REGULAR MEETING

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KNOW YOUR GUEST SPEAKER - PDG RTN UTPAL MAJUMDAR



PDG Rtn Utpal Majumdar was the District Governor for the RY-2209-2010. His educational qualifications are B.Sc., LLB, Post Graduate Diploma in Management from IMM. By profession, he is advocate practicing at Calcutta High Court. He stood first in Inter-University Debate Competition.

He is actively connected with Games fraternity. He was Executive member of Mohan Bagan Club,

Member off Appeal Committee All India Football Federation and Member of Film Certification Appellate Tribunal. He has obtained Calcutta Police medal in 2009 for Best Service to the Society.

He is level 2 Major Donor. He was District Trainer in RY-2012-2013, ARRFC in RY-2012-2015 and presently as DRFC for RY-2025-2028 in RID-3291. He was Vice Chairman for Bangkok Institute and South Asia Meet.

He is happily married to Sunayana and two sons, Souvik and Sagnik.

LIFE TIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD FOR FOUNDATION- PP RTN DR NEERJA RATERIA- A PERSONIFICATION OF JOY OF GIVING



PP Rtn Dr Neeraja Rateria joined Rotary in the year 1995. She is happily married to Shri Poonam Rateria. She did her schooling in Gokhale Memorial School and college in Calcutta Medical College. She is known as the nightingale of RCCM for her unapparelled knowledge of classical music and dance. She has been a student of the legendary Pandit Jasrajji. she knows how to grasp the most

complex issues in seconds. She has also led regular programs in correctional homes and organised the biggest fundraiser for our club with a free performance by Pandit Jasraj - just a few of the many initiatives started by her. She is of a very sweet disposition but having true steel in her character.

She is an Eye surgeon and have conducted more than 25,000 free Eye Surgeries. On behalf of Rotary, she visited the several countries as member of Rotary International's Medical Mission on numerous occasions such as Cambodia, Namibia, Nigeria (4 times), Sierra Leone, Thailand and Bangladesh. She also led the Medical Mission to Nigeria in 2009.

She is the first Rotarian in District-3291 of Rotary who donated \$ 100,000 to Rotary's Endowment Fund in the name of of her parents for advance of learning. The Club sponsored schools are beneficiaries of the interest generated from the aforesaid Endowment Funds created by her.. Even after contributing \$100,000 to Rotary, she never shirks in contributing more to the club, whenever the need arises - Ms. Karan could have been her name.

Her few achievements are as under: -

" She is the recipient of Rotary International's highest award "Service above Self".

" She is the first in District-3291 to become major donor level 4 by over donating \$1,00,000 to The Rotary Foundation.

" She led Indian Rotary Medical Mission to Nigeria in the RY-2008-2009

" She was actively involved in Prisoner Reform Program at Presidency Correctional Home in RY-2006-2007 under MG# 60636

" She conducted weekly Surgical Clinic at Health Point Nursing Home free of cost for several years.

" She as a Rotary Volunteer in Namibia, where she stayed for a period of one week to perform several Eye operations.

" She pioneered the launching of PACE Learning Centre at Piyali in partnership with PACE Universal USA and PDG Deepa Willingham of District 5240 in 2007. PACE Learning Centre remains the flagship project of RCCM since 2007.

" She under MG# 73411 conducted several eye surgeries under extreme conditions at Eye Care Clinic at Auch, Nigeria in RY-2010-2011.

" She under MG# 74867 was the key person for providing Free Heart Surgeries to the children of Nigeria in Kolkata. She donated USD 12,000 for this project.

" She was instrumental in opening of setting up the "Erhlo Rotary Eye Clinic" at Auch, Nigeria in the RY-2011-2012. She led the delegation to conduct inaugural Surgeries with other doctors, while two Nigerian doctors have received intensive training by her as well as from L V Prasad Institution in India.

Dr. Neeraja Rateria personifies the mission of Rotary through her continued crusade for promotion of education and literacy, eradication of polio, support to vulnerable communities, fostering peace and conflict resolution and combating diseases all over the world.

PEACE AND THE JOY OF GIVING BY PP RTN UTPAL CHATTERJEE ON 8.11.2025

PP Rtn Utpal Chatterjee, veteran in various fields and accomplished speaker, always sought after, from various institutions etc. Rtn Utpal Chatterjee that left the Rotarians of RC CALCUTTA METROPOLITAN mesmerised.

At the end of his speech, some of the senior Rotarians explained why Rtn Utpal Chatterjee is as world famous as he has become. When man first emerged 320000 years ago in the African continent and then turned nomadic and gradually settled down in various parts of the world, not too much was heard of conflicts and wars.

When civilizations were later discovered, man was known for the remarkable way he formed societies. Society is a stable union between two or more people striving to achieve a common goal. So, for a long-time peace and

unity prevailed. Then came brute force when might was considered right. Invasions and conquests started. This negative trait began to prevail and grew to today's threatening nuclear age. And, the desperate need for peace is the growing need like never before.

Poverty, unemployment, lack of proper education and so many ills prevail and keep growing. The number of under privileged grows with every conflict. And, this is where those that feel for the rest reach out to those that are the less fortunate. They are the ones who have discovered the joy of giving. The feeling that comes with giving is indescribable. May the act and the feeling grow by the moment for mankind to survive and eventually prosper.

By PP Rtn Utpal Chatterjee



PEACE AND THE JOY OF GIVING BY PP RTN UTPAL CHATTERJEE ON 8.11.2025



CONGRATULATIONS TO PP RTN UTPAL CHATTERJEE

On 10.11.2025 at the DALHOUSIE ATHLETIC CLUB during and after felicitation of the versatile Mr Utpal Chatterjee for being recognized as THE LEGEND OF BENGAL by the AIHRC (All India Human Rights Council).

We are proud of you PP Rtn Utpal Chatterjee



GET-TOGETHER AT ROTARY MEANS BUSINESS FELLOWSHIP KOLKATA ON 12.11.2025

IPP Rtn Sashi Dhacholia attended Routine Meeting of Rotary Means Business Fellowship-Kolkata (RMBF) on 12.11.2025. This meeting was basically meant for knowing prospective members and also introduction of RMBF.

It was again a wonderful experience when more guests were present than the RMBF members. The purpose was obvious to invite them to join RMBF. Both members and guests introduced themselves. The purpose of RMBF was well explained by the Chapter Chairman

Rtn Kaushik Sen and other Officials. It was a close-knit meeting and well attended.

I got the opportunity to meet PP Rtn Vishnu Bhaiya Dhandhanian, ex-Metropolitan, now in Rotary Club of Belur. He was inducted as member of RMBF. It was wonderful to meet him particularly recalling old memories with him as during his tenure as President of Rotary Club of Calcutta Metropolitan (RCCM), I was inducted as member of the RCCM.



SURPRISE MEETING WITH FELLOW ROTARIAN ON 12.11.2025

A pleasant surprise was waiting for me at Rotary Means Business Fellowship Kolkata (RMBF) meeting on 12.11.2025, when I met Rtn Sunil Haribal of Rotary Club of Bombay Uptown. We never met earlier but through online during the Covid period.

We did together some various seminar/talk/debate through digital platform. I am grateful to him during the

pandemic period through him I was able to connect with various Rotary Clubs and their President or Officials in Mumbai.

Truly, Rotary means SERVICE ABOVE SELF. Hopefully, we will catch up with Rtn Sunil Haribal during his next visit to Kolkata.

By IPP Rtn Sashi Dhacholia



HOW DOES GIVING TO THE ROTARY FOUNDATION ENHANCE YOUR EXPERIENCE WITH ROTARY?



Yuichi and Keiko Fukuhara
Japan

Arch Klumph Society Trustees Circle
We hope our donation benefits those who need it most and we are grateful to Rotary for this opportunity. Giving is not just about making a donation, it's also about making a difference.



Chung-Ming Leung and Phoebe Leung
Hong Kong

Arch Klumph Society Chair's Circle
The Rotary Foundation is working towards creating a better world through programs and humanitarian projects. We wish to give others hope and to improve the lives of those in needs. We are pleased to be Foundation donors.



Jane Pennington
Australia

Major Donor Level 1, Legacy Society
I see my donations at work through Rotary Foundation grants awarded to my own club and clubs in my district. This practical, close-to-home demonstration of Doing Good in the World affirms my decision to support The Rotary Foundation.



Watson and Maely Travassos
Brazil

Arch Klumph Society Trustees Circle
Giving to The Rotary Foundation means caring for people. It teaches us how much we need each other, how some people's selflessness can make a difference in the lives of others, and why this is something worth doing.

WHAT IMPACT DO YOU HOPE YOUR DONATION WILL HAVE ON FUTURE GENERATIONS?



Mireille Merliere
France

Bequest Society Level 6
I am proud and honored to donate to The Rotary Foundation, recognized as one of the best charitable organizations by Charity Navigator. I'm happy to contribute to children's education, enabling them to live better lives. Through my gift, I feel like a true Rotarian, which brings me peace.



Del W. and Roxanne E. Paterson
Canada

Arch Klumph Society Trustees Circle
Our hope is that our donation to The Rotary Foundation will improve literacy rates for females and males around the world. Literacy is the key to success!



Carlos and Martha Sandoval
Mexico

Arch Klumph Society Platinum Trustees Circle
When we think about tomorrow, we know that the time to act is today. It's important that we implement sustainable, high-impact Rotary projects that, like the saying goes, teaches people how to fish rather than giving the fish away.



Cheng-Te and Shu-Wen Tsai
Taiwan

Arch Klumph Society Chair's Circle
With a robust Rotary Foundation, we are Doing Good in the World and moving the mission of Rotary forward. We hope that by taking action together, we can create long-lasting impact, open opportunities, and change lives through service.



Otto and Fran Walter Foundation
United States

Arch Klumph Society Foundation Circle
We are proud to provide resources for a new generation of professionals dedicated to conflict resolution, helping Rotary to create a future grounded in peace.

HOW DOES DONATING TO THE ROTARY FOUNDATION EXPAND ROTARY'S REACH?



İlter and Suzan Ergürbüz
Turkey

Arch Klumph Society Trustees Circle
Everybody can do good, but if we do good through The Rotary Foundation, our impact is multiplied many times over. That's why we donate to the Foundation. The more support we can give, the more we can expand our reach to solve problems.



Yvonne Kumojo-Darko
Ghana

Arch Klumph Society Trustees Circle
Donating to The Rotary Foundation enables the Foundation to support, through Rotary clubs, bigger and more impactful projects around the world. More lives are changed and society gains.



Duk-Sam Lee and Hyun-Suk Jane
Korea

Arch Klumph Society Chair's Circle, Bequest Society Level 1
A way to show our gratitude is to donate to The Rotary Foundation. It is our duty as people of action to lend a helping hand when we are in trouble. It's why we donate to the Foundation without hesitation.



Arnaud C.M.C. Verstraete
Thailand

Arch Klumph Society Chair's Circle, Bequest Society Level 4

I believe in the work of Rotary. My contribution to The Rotary Foundation is a small legacy I leave behind to carry out many more sustainable projects that will impact the world.

WHEN YOU THINK ABOUT THE ROTARY FOUNDATION'S FUTURE, WHAT ARE YOU MOST EXCITED ABOUT?



Johnny Gaw Yu and Veronica Yu
Philippines

Arch Klumph Society Chair's Circle
We are excited about seeing a major breakthrough in the improvement of human lives through Rotary and the eradication of polio.



David Gibson Moore
United Arab Emirates

Arch Klumph Society Trustees Circle
When I think about The Rotary Foundation's future, I look forward to the overwhelming importance of advancing world understanding and serving to change lives.



Chuck and Becky Mason
United States

Arch Klumph Society Chair's Circle, Legacy Society

We believe that when the world completely eliminates polio, we, as an organization, will feel energized and empowered to tackle other challenging issues.



Nirav Niranjana and Devina Shah
India

Arch Klumph Society Trustees Circle
We are excited for bigger, bolder, and better projects that are sustainable and measurable, made possible through The Rotary Foundation.



WHY GIVING IS IMPORTANT IN ROTARY FOUNDATION

Giving is important to the Rotary Foundation because it directly funds the organization's work, such as projects for polio eradication, promoting peace, developing communities, and providing clean water, education, and healthcare. Donor contributions provide the financial resources needed to implement these vital service projects that have a significant impact globally.

How giving is important to Rotary Foundation

- **Funds service projects:** Donations directly support Rotary's global service projects, transforming gifts into life-changing work that addresses critical needs around the world.
- **Supports six areas of focus:** Contributions enable projects that advance Rotary's six areas of focus: promoting peace, fighting disease, providing clean water, saving mothers and children, supporting education, and growing local economies.

- **Helps end polio:** Giving is crucial for Rotary's ongoing efforts to eradicate polio, a cause that has seen a 99.9% reduction in cases since 1988.
- **Contributes to sustainable impact:** Contributions to the Foundation's endowment ensure that support for life-changing programs continues indefinitely, creating a lasting legacy.
- **Provides flexibility:** Donors can direct their gifts to a specific project or area of focus, or they can leave them unrestricted, allowing the Foundation to use the funds where they are needed most.
- **Makes a tangible impact:** Donations are turned into tangible results, such as providing birthing kits, immunizations, and medical training, which help save lives.
- **Empowers communities:** By funding projects that provide resources and training, the Foundation helps communities develop and improve their local economies, as seen in projects to fight hunger.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF GIVING TO THE ROTARY FOUNDATION?

You should donate to the Rotary Foundation because it efficiently funds impactful humanitarian projects, has a high percentage of donations going directly to projects, and allows you to support specific causes like ending polio, promoting peace, or improving local economies. The foundation is also recognized for its financial health, with consistently high ratings from charity watchdogs, and leverages a global network of clubs to manage projects on the ground.

How your donation is used

Funding for projects:

Donations fuel Rotary's service projects, which work to provide clean water, support maternal and child health, improve economic development, and protect the environment.

End Polio Now:

A significant portion of funds are dedicated to eradicating polio, a cause Rotary has been fighting for decades, successfully reducing cases by over 99%.

Promoting peace:

Contributions support programs that train future peacemakers and help communities to prevent and mediate conflict.

Global grants:

Donors can direct their money to specific global grants or leave it unrestricted to allow the Foundation to allocate

funds where the need is greatest.

Matching funds:

The Rotary Foundation has a matching system that makes donations go even further. For example, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation matches Rotary's contributions to polio eradication.

Why choose the Rotary Foundation

Financial efficiency:

The foundation receives high ratings for its financial management, with over 90% of donations going directly to support its service projects.

Global reach:

Rotary has a vast network of 35,000 clubs worldwide, which helps ensure that projects are implemented and managed effectively on the ground.

Accountability:

The global network ensures that funds are managed by Rotarians who are on the ground, performing the work, and inspecting the implementation of projects.

Flexibility:

You can choose to donate to a specific cause or leave your gift unrestricted for the Foundation to use where the need is greatest.

STANDING TOGETHER AGAINST CANCER - AWARENESS. ACTION. HOPE

Rotary Club of Jodhpur Gardens Calcutta, in collaboration with the Kolkata Armed Police, hosted a Cancer & Thalassemia Awareness Program (Screening) at Body Guard Lines on 10.11.2025. Supported by the Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Cancer Hospital, the event featured the Cervical Cancer Detection Bus, enabling free on-site screenings for over 125 women and 203 male police personnel.

The program commenced with a ceremonial lighting of the lamp by dignitaries including Sri Subhankar Bhattacharya, IPS (Jt. CP AP), Sri Amit Verma, IPS (DC 1st Battalion), Dr. Sanjay Gupta, DG Dr. Ramendu Homchaudhuri, Dr. Monika Katiyar, and leading Rotarians.

IPP Sreya Mukherjee led the event with poise, setting the tone for an inspiring day. Dr. Monika Katiyar's session on the importance of early screening and lifestyle awareness left a lasting impact - reminding everyone that awareness is prevention, and prevention saves lives. Experts from Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Cancer Hospital reinforced the message through valuable insights and on-ground experience.

Together, we move one step closer to a future where no life is lost due to late detection.

Thalassemia Awareness - Knowledge That Saves Generations Part two of the awareness drive focused on Thalassemia, a condition that affects thousands of families across India. DG Dr. Ramendu Homchaudhuri delivered an exceptional presentation - transforming complex medical concepts into a clear and deeply personal message of hope, prevention, and compassion.

He emphasized the urgent need for carrier screening, early diagnosis, and public education to break the cycle of Thalassemia inheritance. His words inspired every participant to become an advocate for awareness.

The event also celebrated the contributions of Kolkata Police officials who supported this initiative, including Sri Pinaki Pramanick (AC HGO), Sri Samarendu Chakrabarti (CLI Inspector), Madam Baby Hazra (Lady Inspector), Sri Barun Chowdhury (Inspection), Sri Pradip Khara (AC KPTA), Sri Sobhon Ghosh (DC Seven Battalion), and Sri Prasanto Kumar Rai (Sub Inspector PTS).

Their dedication reflects the true spirit of service - protecting not only the city but also the health and wellbeing of its people.

#ThalassemiaAwareness #RotaryForLife
#HealthEducation #ScreeningSavesLives
#CommunityHealth #RotaryClubOfJodhpurGardens
#KolkataPolice #ServiceAboveSelf

The Rotary 4-Way Test - Values That Guide Every Action In every Rotary initiative, service is guided by one timeless principle - the Rotary 4-Way Test:

- 1 Is it the truth?**
- 2 Is it fair to all concerned?**
- 3 Will it build goodwill and better friendships?**
- 4 Will it be beneficial to all concerned?**

During the Cancer and Thalassemia Awareness Program, a special 4-Way Test session was conducted by DGN Purnendu Roy Chowdhury, Sri Amit Verma, IPS (DC 1st Battalion), and Dr. Sanjay Gupta.

This session was more than a ritual - it was a reflection of Rotary's commitment to ethical service, integrity, and empathy. Through meaningful dialogue, participants reaffirmed their pledge to uphold these values in every action - from public health initiatives to personal conduct.

The 4-Way Test continues to remind us that true service begins with truth, fairness, goodwill, and shared benefit.

The Pink Bus - Taking Cancer Detection on the Road Hope now travels on wheels. ??

The Pink Bus, Rotary's mobile cancer detection unit, is a ground-breaking step toward accessible healthcare for all. Handed over to the Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Cancer Hospital on January 5, 2025, during District Conference 3291, this initiative represents Rotary's vision of bringing healthcare to every doorstep.

The bus is equipped with modern diagnostic machines including Colposcopy, X-Ray, Oral Scanner, and Mammography - enabling early detection and timely care.

Present at the handover were DGN Purnendu Roy Chowdhury, Rtn Arindam Roy Chowdhury (Rotary Club of Calcutta - Host Club), and Rotary Club of Jodhpur Gardens members, who proudly served as host committee members for this noble cause.

As part of the program, women police personnel received specialized training on cervical and breast cancer awareness, along with free screenings and preventive consultations.

Through initiatives like this, Rotary continues to stand by its mission - empowering communities with knowledge, care, and compassion.

By IPP Sreya Mukherjee
RC of Jodhpur Gardens Calcutta

STANDING TOGETHER AGAINST CANCER - AWARENESS. ACTION. HOPE



DRY RATION DISTRIBUTED AT NABADIGANTA LEPROSY COLONY, DURGAPUR ON 19.11.2025



Forthcoming Events

CLUB

13.12.2025 Regular Meeting and Annual Meeting
27.12.2025 Regular Meeting

DISTRICT

27.11.2025 District Foundation Seminar- A Grand Celebration of Giving at Spring Club from 6.30 PM. Registration Charges: Rs.2000/-
13.12.2025 Meet & Greet for District Officials for RY-2026-2027 at Saturday Club- Phoenix Hall at 6.00 PM
09.01.2026 to 11.01.2026 Rotary District Conference- 2025-2026 at Eastside Pavilion, Nicco Park, Kolkata. Registration Charges upto 15.12.2025: Rs.3000/- After 15.12.2025: Rs.4000/- Food not included with Registration charges

FOUR NEW TRUSTEES SELECTED FOR THE ROTARY FOUNDATION FOR THE 2026-30 TERM

The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International has announced the appointment of four new Trustees for the 2026-2030 term, who will join the Board responsible for guiding and managing the organization's humanitarian and educational initiatives worldwide.

THE NEW MEMBERS ARE:

Francesco Arezzo (Italy)

President of Rotary International for 2025-26. Arezzo has served on several Rotary Foundation committees and is recognized for his contribution to polio eradication projects and for strengthening the Foundation's educational scholarship programs.

Ananthanarayanan "Venky" Venkatesh (India)

A former Rotary International Director and a prominent leader in Zone 5, "Venky" is known for his strategic vision and dedication to membership growth throughout South Asia.

Cynthia "Cynde" Covington (United States)

A past RI Director and former Rotary Foundation Regional Coordinator, Cynde is a strong advocate for youth programs and sustainability in community impact projects.

Francis Tusubira (Uganda)

An engineer and educator, Tusubira is widely respected for his leadership in technological innovation and community development initiatives across the African continent.

The new Trustees assume their roles with the mission of continuing the ethical and transparent management of The Rotary Foundation's funds, strengthening the organization's commitment to its seven areas of focus:

- Peacebuilding and conflict prevention
- Disease prevention and treatment
- Water, sanitation, and hygiene
- Maternal and child health
- Basic education and literacy
- Community economic development
- Protecting the environment

The Rotary Foundation, the humanitarian arm of Rotary International, is globally recognized for its transformative impact on communities and for maintaining its historic goal of eradicating polio from the planet.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS



24.11.2025
 PP Rtn Sashi Dhacholia

02.12.2025
 Rtn Vivek Anand



03.12.2025
 Rtn Pradip Kumar Agarwal

04.12.2025
 Rtn Poulomi Dutta



06.12.2025
 President Rtn Rajshree Jain



Rotary gives you more than a pin; it gives you purpose, perspective, and people who care.

MARRIAGE ANNIVERSARY GREETINGS



23.11.2025
Rtn Tathagata Sengupta
Ann Taniya

26.11.2025
PP Rtn Gaurang Jalan
Ann Abha



26.11.2025
PP Rtn Dr Naresh Goyal
Ann Rajshree

26.11.2025
President Rtn Rajshree Jain
Spouse Rtn Dr Naresh Goyal



27.11.2025
Rtn Renu Todi
Spouse Pawan

27.11.2025
Rtn Mukesh Sethi
and Ann Dr Seema Sethi



27.11.2025
Rtn Nabanita Sen
Spouse Indrajit

02.12.2025
Rtn Suraj Ratan Mundhra
Ann Sushila



04.12.2025
Rtn Pradip Kapoor
Ann Sunita

MARRIAGE ANNIVERSARY GREETINGS



07.12.2025
IPP Rtn Sashi Dhacholia
Ann Sandhya



07.12.2025
Rtn Vivek Anand
Ann Mridula

07.12.2025
Rtn Shyam Sunder Goyal
Ann Sangeeta



Rotary



RTN NISHA SINGHANIA & SPOUSE PRADEEP

Wish you a very
Happy Golden Anniversary



President & Members of
Rotary Club of Calcutta Metropolitan

20th November

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE – NOVEMBER 2025



Francesco Arezzo
President 2025-26

This November, as we celebrate The Rotary Foundation, I invite you to consider not only what we give but why we give. The Foundation is more than a fund for projects. It is the beating heart of our promise that service, rooted in trust and friendship, can create lasting change.

Our Action Plan calls us to increase our impact, and the Foundation is how we make this vision real. Since 1988, Rotary and our partners have immunized nearly 3 billion children against polio. We have committed more than \$2.6 billion to this cause, and last year alone we directed \$146 million toward the final push for eradication. These numbers are significant, but the true impact is not in statistics - it is in the lives of children who will never again fear polio. It is in the hope restored to families and the peace built in communities once defined by disease.

But polio is only one story among many. Each year, Rotary Peace Centers train new generations of leaders who will transform conflict into dialogue and division into understanding. In 2023-24, nearly 100 new fellows began their studies, continuing a legacy of more than 1,800 peacebuilders from over 140 countries. When we invest in them, we are planting seeds of peace that will bear fruit for decades to come.

The Foundation also touches lives through district and global grants, supporting projects large and small. A clean water well for a rural community, scholarships for young professionals, medical care in the wake of disaster - these are not temporary gestures, but steps toward dignity, resilience, and opportunity. This is how Rotary service becomes lasting impact. And when natural disasters strike, our Foundation allows Rotary to act quickly with disaster response grants.

Our Foundation is not about what we can do alone but what we can do together. Each contribution, no matter its size, joins with others to create a collective act of faith in humanity and in the future.

The last mile of any great journey is always the hardest. We see this in our final steps toward ending polio, in our work for peace, and in every project that seeks to lift people out of despair. Yet every time we give, we declare that our work will continue regardless of the challenge.

This November, let us give with gratitude, with joy, and with hope. Through our Foundation, we Unite for Good, and in doing so, we leave behind not only projects but a legacy of peace, trust, and Service Above Self.

TRUSTEE CHAIR'S MESSAGE – NOVEMBER 2025



Holger Knaack
Trustee Chair 2025-26

Many of you will remember the theme I chose as RI president in 2020-21: Rotary Opens Opportunities.

I remain passionate about these opportunities and I know you do too. As we celebrate Rotary Foundation Month, let's reflect on the many ways the Foundation makes the world better. Rotary is extraordinary, and the Foundation amplifies that impact.

I encourage all of you - in Rotary and Rotaract clubs - to discover this for yourselves. Go beyond the local level and engage with The Rotary Foundation globally. You can partner with clubs to boost literacy in Guatemala or fight malaria in Zambia. You can make a difference with clean water initiatives reaching millions or maternal health programs saving lives across continents.

It doesn't stop there. Through major impact projects like Programs of Scale, we're pursuing bold initiatives that push Rotary's potential to create lasting change further. Greater impact and greater visibility: this is our path forward.

Many of you have asked about the status of Rotary's biggest impact project in history - our long-term commitment to polio eradication. Recently, RI President Francesco Arezzo, International PolioPlus Committee Chair Michael McGovern, and I met with Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and the army leadership of Pakistan. Everyone is fully committed to eradicating polio once and for all. We were absolutely convinced by the work of Pakistan's emergency operations centers, where experts plan and coordinate vaccination.

While some governments scale back support for polio eradication, Rotary remains committed to its pledge to raise \$50 million again this year. This meeting reaffirmed our unwavering commitment to finishing this historic mission.

What excites me most is seeing how each of us can make a real difference through our Foundation. I urge everyone - especially newcomers to Rotary - to explore these opportunities. Find your passion among our areas of focus and discover projects to support, especially through global grants.

We members fund, sustain, and deliver these projects. That's why the Foundation consistently earns top ratings from Charity Navigator. If you don't want to lead a project, you can still be part of the Foundation through annual support.

Our fundraising goal for 2025-26 is an ambitious \$500 million. Your gift this month will create countless opportunities.

We have incredible opportunities before us, and the impact we achieve together through The Rotary Foundation is exponential. The proof is undeniable.

Sponsored by : PP RTN RAKESH KUMAR GOEL

We meet every Saturday at 2.00 pm at The Calcutta Swimming Club, 1, Strand Road, Kolkata-700 001
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