



ROTARY CLUB OF CALCUTTA METROPOLITAN

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METRO VOICE

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**UNITE
FOR
GOOD**

Rotary

Rotary



President : RAJSHREE JAIN • Hony. Secretary : NAMRATA BENGANI

• Editor Emeritus : SASHI DHACHOLIA

1712TH REGULAR MEETING

VOL 40, NO. 09

8 NOVEMBER 2025

KNOW YOUR SPEAKER- PP RTN UTPAL CHATTERJEE



PP RTN UTPAL CHATTERJEE

PP Rtn Utpal Chatterjee, now the Global Ambassador for Peace and a Global Peace Icon, is among the most internationally acclaimed of Indian journalists and public speakers. As a journalist, he has worked for several leading Indian dailies including THE TIMES OF INDIA where he was the National Deputy Editor. Abroad, he became the India Editor of a popular New York based journal. He then joined BBC, London, on the panel of experts since 1997.

He has been recognized as the most outstanding Honourable Sheriff of Calcutta since Independence and its first citizen. So far, he has been the only journalist to have been appointed the Sheriff in India. He has interviewed, among others, 21 Heads of State, including U.S. Presidents, British Prime Ministers, the great Mikhail Gorbachev in a cold '89 Moscow (and so many more), 10 Nobel Laureates and travelled with three Indian Prime Ministers as part of their respective media delegations. He has also met and spoken at length with the likes of, say, the late Princess Diana on her initiative. Having done his fellowship in Journalism from Oxford under the mentorship of the fabled Sir Neville Maxwell,

he has travelled abroad on other official assignments more than 55 times across all the continents except Africa and Australia. He has been recognised for being an OUTSTANDING INDIAN for "his contribution to enriching National values, public service and international journalism" by NIFI (National Integration Forum of India).

Now also a "Distinguished Professor" (the highest rank a professor gets in countries like the U.S. and the U.K.) with the St. Xavier's University, Kolkata. He was recently bestowed with the National Education Leadership Award.

Incidentally, for the seventh year running, he is the Chief Rotary Ambassador and was earlier the Goodwill Ambassador for the Department of Income Tax, Government of India. The All-India Human Rights Council has also recognized him as the LEGEND OF BENGAL.

TOPIC- PEACE AND JOY OF GIVING



HAPPINESS-NEW DRESSES AT SAVE THE ORPHANS AND OLD AGE ON 3.11.2025

Every year, we provide new dresses to the Orphaned Children, Kurta and Dhoti to Senior Citizens and staff and Saree to the women folks mainly senior citizens, which they eagerly look forward. Although we were late this year in distribution but children were full of excitement to receive the dresses.

The summarized details are as under:

Boys	-	44
Girls	-	34
Senior Citizens (W)	-	12
Senior Citizens (M)	-	7

IPP Rtn Sashi Dhacholia, Rtn Narendra Berlia and Rtn Shipra Mehta handed over the new dresses to the Children, Senior Citizens and Staff of SAVE THE ORPHANS AND OLD AGE situated in Bansdroni area.



Rtn Shipra Mehta handing over new dress



Rtn Narendra Berlia giving new dress



IPP Rtn Sashi Dhacholia handing over new dress



New dresses to the Children



Bringing smile to the little girl with new dress



Joy of Giving to little girl with new dress

HAPPINESS-NEW DRESSES AT SAVE THE ORPHANS AND OLD AGE ON 3.11.2025



Rtn Shipra Mehta handing the new dress



Rtn Narendra Berlia giving new dress



Handing over new dress



New dress to cute little girl



Rtn Shipra Mehta handing over Kurta & Dhoti to Senior Citizen



Rtn Shipra Mehta giving Saree to Senior Citizen



With Children of Save the Orphans and Old Age



With Dilip Sanpui of Save the Orphans and Old Age

BIJOYA SAMMILANI & PRE-DIWALI MEET- 2025 ON 12.10.2025

The Rotary Club of Calcutta Metropolitan recently came together for a delightful Bijoya Sammilani and Pre-Diwali Meet on 12.10.2025 at the elegant Mainland China on Gurusaday Road. The evening, held under the gracious leadership of President Rtn. Rajshree Goyal, was a radiant celebration of fellowship, tradition, and cultural joy - the perfect bridge between the end of Durga Puja festivities and the anticipation of Diwali.

The ambience at Mainland China was warm and inviting, filled with laughter and conversation. Members arrived in their finest traditional attire - women in vibrant sarees and men in elegant Panjabis - creating a picture of colour and camaraderie that instantly set the tone for the evening. The décor, with its soft lighting and cheerful buzz, perfectly complemented the mood of reunion and celebration.

What made the evening truly special was the wholehearted participation of the members themselves. Every Rotarian contributed to the charm of the gathering - through song, dance, laughter, and the simple joy of being together. From classical Bengali melodies to lively modern tunes, the music flowed seamlessly, evoking nostalgia and inspiring impromptu performances. The rhythmic claps, shared laughter, and spontaneous dances spoke of genuine connection and happiness.

The cultural segment, anchored by the talented Tathagata Sengupta, brought a soulful touch to the evening. His music filled the room with warmth,

transporting everyone into a world of melody and emotion. It was heartening to see members join in - some lending their voices, others their enthusiastic applause - proving once again that art and music truly unite hearts.

The much-anticipated lunch that followed was an indulgent spread of exquisite Bengali delicacies. Every dish told a story of tradition meeting innovation, with flavours that resonated deeply with the Bengali palate. Between bites and laughter, conversations flowed easily, making the meal a perfect continuation of the warmth and spirit of the afternoon.

President Rtn. Rajshree Jain Goyal's words of gratitude and warmth beautifully captured the essence of the celebration. She appreciated the active participation of every member and reminded all present of Rotary's enduring values - fellowship, service, and the joy of giving. Her gracious leadership and thoughtful hosting made the gathering both memorable and meaningful.

The Bijoya Sammilani and Pre-Diwali Meet 2025 was not just an event; it was an experience steeped in culture, togetherness, and festive charm. It reaffirmed how beautifully tradition can blend with modern fellowship - creating moments that linger long after the last song has been sung and the last light has dimmed. The smiles, laughter, and music of that day will surely stay in every heart, a reminder of the enduring bonds that define the Rotary Club of Calcutta Metropolitan.



President Rtn Rajshree Jain conducting the Regular Meeting



Metropolitans in meeting before the start of Fellowship



Rtn Tathagata Sengupta making colourful with his singing



PP Rtn Dr Naresh Goyal & Rtn Manju Mohanka in duet song

GLIMPSE OF BIJOYA SAMMILANI & PRE-DIWALI MEET- 2025 ON 12.10.2025



Rtns Tathagata Sengupta, Dr Naresh Goyal and Rajshree Jain making the afternoon entertaining



Rtn Tathagata Sengupta singing melodious songs



Rtn Nabanita Sen singing with Rtn Tathagata Sengupta



President Rtn Rajshree Jain singing a song



PP Rtn Utpal Chatterjee joined to sing a song



Rtn Dr Poulomi Dutta making afternoon more entertaining with songs



Metropolitans enjoying with songs



Time for Fellowship

GLIMPSE OF BIJOYA SAMMILANI & PRE-DIWALI MEET- 2025 ON 12.10.2025



Another view of Fellowship



Fellowship time



With Inner Wheel members



With Fellow ladies members



With PDG Rtn Shyamashree Sen



Rtn Madan Mohanka and Rtn Manju Mohanka



With Fellow Rotarians Guests



PP Rtn Jayanta Chatterji, Rtn Sunando Sen and PP Rtn Utpal Chatterji

GLIMPSE OF BIJOYA SAMMILANI & PRE-DIWALI MEET- 2025 ON 12.10.2025



Fellow Metropolitans



Dancing time



Fellowship



Fellowship time



Fellowship time



Dance with song



President Rtn Rajshree Jain, Rtn Nabanita Sen and Aparna Roy enjoying the afternoon



Rtn Renu Todi & Rtn Nisha Singhania with their spouses enjoying fellowship

DISTRICT-3291 BIJOYA AND DIWALI MEET ON 1.11.2025

The much-anticipated District Bijoya and Diwali meet was held on 1.11.2025 at WET-O-WILD, Nicco Park, Salt Lake, Kolkata with tribute to Salil Choudhury & Bhupen Hazarika in their Centenary year and Dohar Band with lot of fireworks.

IPP Rtn Sashi Dhacholia and Rtn Shipra Mehta attended the above meet. There was elaborate arrangement with great ambience. Fellow Rotarians of District-3291 lighted the evening with their soulful songs. It was full of entertainment and fun. Dinner spread out was excellent. An opportunity to connect with fellow Rotarians.



IPP Sashi Dhacholia and Shipra Mehta attended the meet



With DG Dr Ramendu Homchaudhuri & District Officials



With IPDG Dr Krishnendu Gupta



Rtn Shipra Mehta with IPP Rtn Sashi Dhacholia enjoying the meet



With PDGs Rtn Brojo Gopal Kundu, Prabir Chatterjee and fellow Rotarians



With fellow Rotarians



With District Officials

GLIMPSE OF DISTRICT-3291 BIJOYA AND DIWALI MEET ON 1.11.2025



With Mayfair team



PDG Angsuman Bandyopadhyay, Jaya boudi and Adrija entertaining the audience with lovable songs



Fellow Rotarians singing songs



A view of audience



With DGE Rtn Tapas Bhattacharya



With IPP Rtn Meena Khatoon



With President Rtn Joydep Mukherjee



With Rtn Bhaswati Ray and Rtn Sampa Ghosh

EXPERIENCE THE JOY OF GIVING



Dr Bharat Pandya - Trustee Vice Chair

The Rotary Foundation transforms your gifts into service projects that change lives both close to home and around the world. During the past 106 years, the Foundation has spent over \$4 billion on life-changing, sustainable projects. With your help, we can make lives better in our community and around the world.

TRF is our window to the outside world. Look through this window and you will see the young pregnant mother who is struggling with her pregnancy because she has no access to antenatal care; you will see the young boy crippled with polio crawling on all fours because he has no access to polio-corrective surgery. Look through the window and you will find the thousands who struggle to find safe water and proper sanitation, the millions who cannot read or write.

And we have two options - we can either close the window, close our eyes and pretend that all is okay or we can reach out with a helping hand to do something about all these problems. And the best way to do it is with and through The Rotary Foundation. TRF programmes benefit millions around the world providing food, water, sanitation, education and healthcare to people in need.

But the programmes will happen only when we support the Foundation. And so if we want to continue 'doing good in the world' we must support all the funds of TRF.

The act of giving gives you more joy and happiness than receiving something from others. The satisfaction you feel when you see the smile you put on someone's face when you give them something is an indescribable feeling. It gives you a sense of achievement and fulfilment. You will never know who has benefitted from your gift in which part of the world but the goodwill and fragrance of your gift will linger for years. Experience the joy of giving and you will give again and again.

Light the candle of giving and lead the way to create hope in the world.

JOY OF GIVING IN ROTARY

"Joy of Giving" in Rotary refers to the happiness members find in service, which includes both giving their time and money to projects and contributing to the Rotary Foundation. It's a core principle demonstrated through local community service projects, like donating to an old age home or hosting an event for underprivileged children, and also through major global initiatives like disease eradication, supported by donations. The act of giving is seen as a source of personal satisfaction and fulfilment for Rotarians.

Examples of the "Joy of Giving" in action:

Community Service:

Donating medicines: A Rotary Club coordinated a donation of over \$50,000 worth of medicines for residents of an old age home.

Hosting Diwali events: Rotaractors and Rotary members organized a Diwali celebration for underprivileged children, which included activities like diya painting and the distribution of gifts, food, and stationery.

Sponsoring meals: A Rotary club sponsored a special Diwali lunch for residents at a Cheshire Home.

Global Humanitarian Support:

Contributing to the Rotary Foundation: Members make significant financial contributions to the Rotary Foundation to support global projects in areas like health, education, and sanitation.

Endowed Funds: Some Rotarians establish named endowed funds with the Foundation to support long-term projects, such as disease prevention, in honor of their commitment.

Recognition for giving: The Foundation recognizes donors who make substantial contributions, and members feel immense satisfaction knowing their donations are helping people around the world.

The principle behind the joy:

Personal Fulfilment: Rotarians report that giving brings them a deep sense of happiness and fulfilment, noting that the satisfaction of seeing the smile they put on someone's face is a powerful feeling.

Psychological benefits: Studies show that helping others can lower stress and boost happiness by activating the brain's reward centers.

Service to humanity: For many, it is a way to contribute to a better world, and they see it as a noble and rewarding pursuit.



HOLGER KNAACK
RI 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.

DISTRIBUTION OF DRY RATION AT NABADIGANTA LEPROSY COLONY ON 18.10.2025



Forthcoming Events

CLUB

- 22.11.2025** Regular Meeting and Guest speaker is
PDG Rtn Utpal Majumdar
- 13.12.2025** Regular Meeting
- 27.12.2025** Regular Meeting and Annual Meeting

MARRIAGE ANNIVERSARY GREETINGS



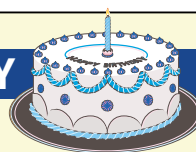
20.11.2025
Rtn Nisha Singhania
Spouse Pradeep

22.11.2025
PP Rtn Dr Neerja Rateria
Spouse Poonam



Yes! Rotary
I AM A ROTARIAN

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS



27.10.2025
Rtn Narendra Berlia

27.10.2025
Rtn Tathagata Sengupta



1.11.2025
Rtn Renu Todi

3.11.2025
Rtn Runjhun Gupta



9.11.2025
PP Rtn Lalit Beriwal

14.11.2025
PP Rtn Dr Neerja Rateria



15.11.2025
Rtn Nabanita Sen

Sponsored by : A WELL WISHER

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