



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

1720TH REGULAR MEETING

VOL 40, NO. 17

28 FEBRUARY 2026

KNOW YOUR SPEAKER



PP RTN UTPAL CHATTERJEE

Mr. 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 as a senior Special Correspondent. 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 : CAN PEACE EVER HAVE GUARANTEES?

FEBRUARY IS PEACEBUILDING AND CONFLICT PREVENTION MONTH

Rotary International prioritizes peace and conflict prevention by addressing root causes like poverty, discrimination, and lack of education through local service projects and global initiatives. Key efforts include training leaders, supporting refugees, and funding Rotary Peace Centers that train over 1,800 fellows worldwide to mediate conflict.

Key elements of Rotary's approach to peace include:

- **Rotary Peace Centers:** Located at premier universities, these centers offer master's degrees and professional development certificates in peace and development studies.
- **Peace Fellows:** Since 2002, more than 1,800 fellows have trained at these centers, working in over 140 countries in governments, NGOs, and organizations like the United Nations.
- **Action-Oriented Projects:** Members work to mitigate conflict by improving community relations, addressing inequality, and promoting education.
- **Peace Month:** February is designated as Peacebuilding and Conflict Prevention Month to highlight these initiatives.

Rotary believes that peace is a proactive, community-based endeavor that creates a lasting, global impact.

Rotary



JOINT REGULAR MEETING & BARGE PARTY REPORT OF 14.02.2026

An enchanting evening of fellowship and celebration unfolded on 14th February, 2026 as members of Rotary Club of Belur, Rotary Club of Calcutta Mayfair, Rotary Club of Calcutta Metropolitan, and Rotary Club of Calcutta Presidency came together for a memorable Joint Regular Meeting and fellowship Barge party at Bengal Paddle in the river Hooghly.

Set against the serene waters of the Hooghly, the gathering brought Rotarians and their guests together for a regular meeting in an atmosphere that perfectly blended camaraderie with festivity. The evening embraced a striking red and black theme, and members arrived elegantly attired, adding vibrancy and charm to the occasion.

The highlight of the evening was a captivating live musical performance by noted singer Tathagata Sengupta, our very own member. His soulful singing created the perfect backdrop for an evening filled with warmth, conversation, and celebration. The music soon drew members to the dance floor, where laughter and lively dancing reflected the true spirit of Rotary fellowship.

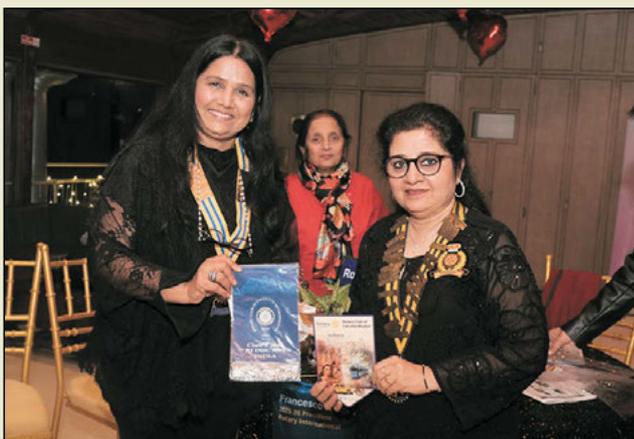
Guests enjoyed a delightful culinary spread featuring a range of appetizers and a sumptuous dinner that catered to varied tastes, followed by indulgent desserts that added a sweet conclusion to the dining experience. However, beyond the cuisine and entertainment, the essence of the evening lay in the connections formed. Members mingled freely, exchanged ideas, and forged new friendships, strengthening the bonds that unite the Rotary family.

The barge ride itself proved magical. A gentle cool breeze and pleasant weather enhanced the experience as the vessel glided across the river. A particularly memorable moment was passing beneath the iconic Howrah Bridge, offering a breath-taking view that left everyone in awe.

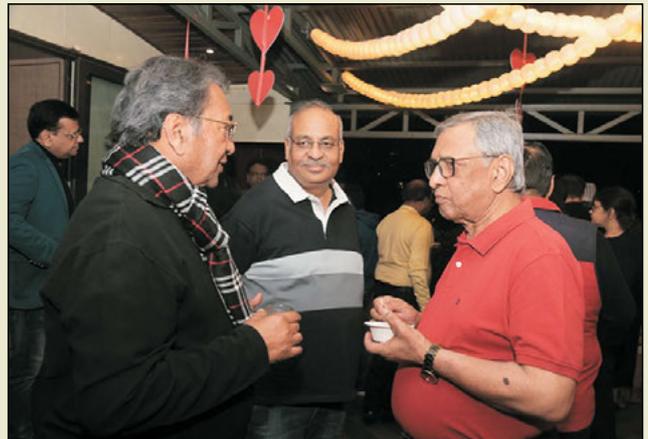
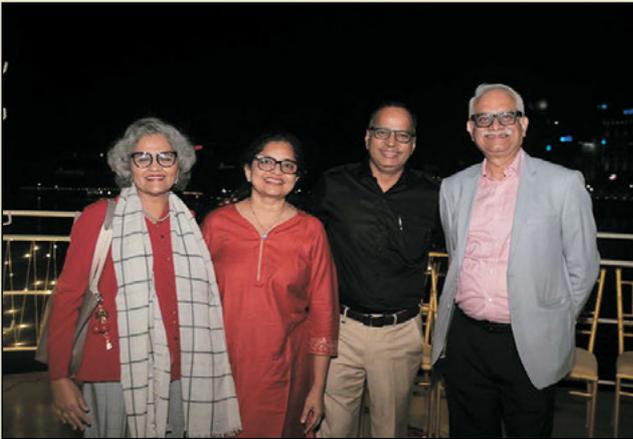
The joint fellowship was not merely an event but a celebration of unity, friendship, and the shared ideals of Rotary. It served as a reminder that while service remains at the heart of Rotary, moments of togetherness such as these enrich the journey and strengthen the ties that bind Rotarians across clubs.

This Joint Regular Meeting & Fellowship will be remembered for a long time.

By Rtn Nabanita Sen



JOINT REGULAR MEETING & BARGE PARTY REPORT OF 14.02.2026



JOINT REGULAR MEETING & BARGE PARTY REPORT OF 14.02.2026



UPDATE ON GG# 21-20359- VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTRE

We Had a wonderful experience today at Govt Indian Technical Institute (ITI), Falta running under PTP: Keertika Education & Associates LLIP on 17.2.2026. GG21-20359 was relaunched today with the first batch of CCE trainees amidst a lot of fanfare. The infrastructure is good, multiple courses are available and the students looked very involved and motivated.

The tailoring facilities are fantastic with nearly 65% placement. The balance can do business independently. It was pleasing to see a sizeable number of Muslim women. The technical streams are popular too.

ITI operates 14,000 centres in India on PPP basis. Keertika are partners in 4 such centres in WB and rank within the top 40 in the country. We hope to complete the 1st batch by March....touch and go.

I think tailoring will bring more involvement and placement opportunities it may be worth replacing retail sales training by SMO training.

PP Dr Naresh Goyal

Primary Contact for GG# 21-20359



UPDATE ON GG# 21-20359- VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTRE



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Skill India
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N.S.D.C
 National Skill Development Corporation
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Why join Rotary?

Purpose **Fun** **Community**

We bring together people across generations who share the ideals of service, leadership, diversity, friendship, and integrity. We create lasting change in the world, in our community and make a difference.

AWARENESS ON LIFE BEYOND CANCER- SEASON-6 CONCERT FOR SPECIAL CAUSE- 15.2.2026

Rotary Club of Calcutta Metropolitan was the Associate Hosts to the 6th Annual Fundraiser Concert for the cause of Kids with Cancer known as "LIFE BEYOND CANCER" held on 15.2.2026, a Rotary District-3291 initiative.

Musical presentation by Iman Chakraborty, Special program by Cancer Survivor Children, Dance Performance by Rituparna Sengupta & Troupe, Life Beyond Cancer Ambassador and Musical Performance by Armaan Khan. Many cancer surviving patients specially girls performed dance on stage.

Later Life Beyond Cancer has helped such patients and their families to gain confidence and bring them back to the normal lives. Those families who couldn't

bear huge treatment expenses incurred in cancer gave been supported by LBC for more than a decade. They treated and cured many cancer affected patients, especially children in collaboration with many agencies, corporates, clubs and mainly hospitals. And in this noble cause Rotary Club district 3291 has played an important role. More than 850 Cancer affected children are being treated at Nil Ratan Sarkar Medical College & Hospital (NRS), SSKM Medical College & Hospital (SSKM) and Calcutta Medical College.

"Truly not everyone can save a child from Cancer BUT EVERYONE CAN GIVE THEM A LIFE BEYOND CANCER" for our young Heroes.

Every year, we are participating in this project.





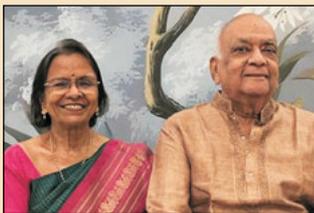
MARRIAGE ANNIVERSARY GREETINGS



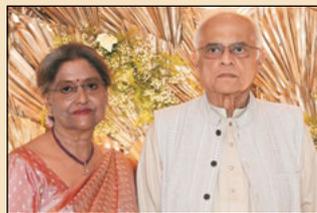
02.03.2026
Rtn Madan Mohan Mohanka
& Ann Rtn Manju Mohanka



05.03.2026
Rtn Raju Bharat &
Ann Anjana



08.03.2026
PP Rtn Raj Kumar Poddar
& Ann Leela



10.03.2026
PP Rtn Jayanta Chatterji &
Ann Rtn Arundhati Chatterji



11.03.2026
PP Rtn Lalit Beriwal &
Ann PP Rtn Roshni Beriwal

Forthcoming Events

CLUB

- 28.02.2026** Host Club to Inter-City Meet on Peace Building and Conflict Prevention at Rotary Sadan Auditorium at 5.00 PM organized by Rotary Club of Ballygunge
- 14.03.2026** Regular Meeting
- 28.03.2026** Regular Meeting

DISTRICT

- 22.03.2026** PELS at Taj Vivanta hosted by the Club. Chief Guest RID Flt Lt K P Nagesh



Avenues of Services

Rotary's Five Avenues of Service are the philosophical and practical framework for the work of the Club. They are:

1. Club Service

The First Avenue of Service, involves actions a member should take within this club to help it function successfully.



2. Vocational Service

The Second Avenue of Service, has the purpose of promoting high ethical standards in businesses and professions, recognizing the worthiness of all dignified occupations, and fostering the ideal of service in the pursuit of all vocations. The role of members includes conducting themselves, their businesses and their working lives in accordance with Rotary's principles.



3. Community Service

The Third Avenue of Service, comprises varied efforts that Members make, sometimes in conjunction with others, to improve the quality of life of those who live within this club's locality or municipality.



4. International Service

The Fourth Avenue of Service, comprises those activities that Members do to advance international understanding, goodwill, and peace by fostering acquaintance with people of other countries, their cultures, customs, accomplishments, aspirations, and problems, through reading and correspondence and through cooperation in all club activities and projects designed to help people in other lands.



5. Youth Service

The Fifth Avenue of Service, recognizes the positive change implemented by youth and young adults through leadership development activities, involvement in community and international service projects, and exchange programs that enrich and foster world peace and cultural understanding.



BEYOND BOOKS: A TRANSFORMATIVE LEARNING EXPERIENCE AT SCIENCE CITY

On 12th February, 2026, twenty students from Classes IV, V, VIII, IX and X of PACE Learning Centre embarked on a Library Exposure Visit to Science City, accompanied by four teachers - Monalisa Sinha Mondal, Debika Rej, Sayantee Dasgupta and Jayita Das - along with our honourable mentor, Tapan Ghosh Sir. This visit was initiated by the Bookworm Team as a co-curricular activity under our Library Mentoring Support Programme.

As the participating students are to create books based on their experiences, we carefully selected a destination that would offer them diverse perspectives and abundant food for thought. Science City stood before us as the ideal choice - a confluence of imagination and inquiry. And truly, it offered everything we had hoped for and more.

After breakfast, we commenced our journey from PACE Learning Centre at 9:30 a.m. The road stretched ahead like a ribbon of promise. The children could barely contain their excitement; their hums and cheerful chatter blended with the teachers' encouraging words, creating an atmosphere vibrant with anticipation. Learning, that day, had already begun - not from a textbook, but from togetherness.

We reached Science City around 11:00 a.m. and began our exploration with the Space Theatre, where we watched the stellar show VOYAGER: The Never Ending Journey. The film traced the remarkable voyage of Voyager 1 and 2 through the vast expanse of our solar system. The visuals were awe-inspiring; the universe seemed to unfold like a grand cosmic manuscript before our eyes. It was both entertaining and deeply educative - a reminder that curiosity is the engine of discovery.

Our next visit was to the Science and Technology Heritage of India gallery. Here, students explored the scientific wisdom of the Indian subcontinent, from ancient innovations to modern

advancements. It was as though history whispered its achievements through models and exhibits. The gallery stood as a bridge between past brilliance and present progress.

We then proceeded to the Panorama on Human Evolution. The presentation illustrated the fascinating journey of humankind from our early primate ancestors to modern humans. It was a mesmerizing matinee - a quiet reflection on how far humanity has travelled, and how much further it may yet go. The students watched with attentive eyes, perhaps seeing in that evolutionary tale a mirror of their own growth.

After an enriching morning, we paused for lunch. The students relished the hot biriyani served to them, sharing laughter and reflections. Even in that simple act of sharing a meal, there was warmth - a reminder that learning nourishes both mind and heart.

Refreshed, we boarded the road train that offered a complete view of the scenic premises. The ride felt like turning the pages of a living picture book. Finally, we concluded our visit with a much-awaited ropeway ride. Suspended between earth and sky, the students experienced a panoramic aerial view of the surroundings. The glow of the afternoon sun bathed everything in golden light, as if the day itself wished to leave a lasting imprint on young minds. It was, indeed, a ride to remember.

With hearts full and minds awakened, we returned to our vehicle and began our journey back to Piali. The return was quieter - not from exhaustion alone, but from reflection. The day had sown seeds of curiosity, imagination and creative thought.

This visit was not merely an excursion; it was a chapter in the making of young authors. Science City did not just display exhibits - it opened windows. And through those windows, our students glimpsed the vastness of knowledge, the beauty of inquiry, and the endless possibilities that lie ahead.



Sponsored by : RTN DR POULOMI DUTTA

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