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GOOD

Presidency Times

Bulletin of Rotary Club of **Calcutta Presidency**
Rotary International District 3291



RI President- Rtn. Francesco Arezzo | DG: Rtn. Dr. Ramendu Homchaudhuri
President: Rtn. Rajesh Bothra | Secretary: Rtn. Rashi Sureka | Editor: Rtn. Anju Bothra

Francesco Arezzo President 2025-26



Not long ago, in a small health center in the village of Aaye in southwest Nigeria, a woman arrived in labor carrying twins. The facility was short-staffed. The nurse midwife in charge was not present.

A community health worker stepped forward. She had participated in Together for Healthy Families in Nigeria, a Rotary Foundation Programs of Scale initiative. And though she was not formally trained as a midwife, she was equipped with essential emergency obstetric skills.

Hours later, both babies had been delivered, one at the health center and the other at a general hospital, where the mother had been referred after complications were quickly identified. The newborns and their mother were alive and safe.

Women around the world face similar circumstances every day — moments when the difference between life and loss depends on well-trained medical staff and reliable systems and procedures.

Together for Healthy Families in Nigeria exists to increase the chances that those moments end in hope. By strengthening health systems and training frontline workers, this program helps communities protect mothers and children even when circumstances are difficult.

This work reflects the very heart of Rotary service. Service is not only what we do when conditions are ideal. It is what we do

when systems are strained, resources are limited, and the need is urgent. It is the commitment to prepare people before a crisis arrives and to stand with communities when it does.

Maternal and child health is not an abstract goal. It is deeply personal. It is a mother who survives childbirth. It is a newborn who takes a first breath. It is a family that remains whole because someone was trained, ready, and cared enough to act. Rotary understands that service means investing in people and systems long before they are tested.

Programs like Together for Healthy Families in Nigeria show what is possible when Rotary brings together local knowledge, global partnerships, and sustainable solutions. By working alongside health professionals and local leaders, Rotary helps ensure that lifesaving care does not depend on luck or location.

The story of the mother and her twins is at its core a story of service. It is a reminder that Rotary's impact is measured in human moments when people step forward to help others in their most vulnerable hours.

When we Unite for Good, service becomes more than an ideal. It becomes a lifeline for families, a source of strength for communities, and a promise that Rotary will continue to go wherever help is needed most.

APRIL



ENVIRONMENT MONTH



Minutes of the 231st RWM of Rotary Club of Calcutta Presidency held on 8th April at Cosmopolitan Club. Time: 9am

The 231st Regular Weekly Meeting of the Rotary Club of Calcutta Presidency commenced with the National Anthem, led by President Rtn. Rajesh Bothra.

The day also marked the birthday of Secretary Rtn. Rashi. Members extended their warm wishes, followed by a cake-cutting celebration during fellowship.

The President extended a warm welcome to the Guest Speaker, Dr. Krishna Poddar, an expert in pain management.

President's Announcements:

1. **Dil Ki Suno** – Scheduled for Saturday at 4:00 PM at the RCC Conference in Bakkhali.
2. **Sakhi** – An awareness program in collaboration with Calcutta Rescue on Monday at 3:00 PM, focusing on sanitary hygiene awareness and distribution.
3. **Bosch Vocational Project** – Course completed on 31st March at 3:30 PM.

4. **Saksham Project** – Scheduled at Shantiniketan on 8th April. Additionally, a discussion was held regarding the upcoming Dialysis Machine Project.

It was also noted that Rtn. Rina Malpani's trust generously donated ₹1,00,000 towards the Rotary Bosch Skill Centre.

Guest Speaker Session:

The Guest Speaker, Dr. Krishna Poddar, was introduced by Rtn. Sangeeta Bajoria.

Dr. Poddar delivered a highly informative session on pain management. With over 20 years of experience, she shared valuable insights into various treatment procedures and advised members against the unnecessary use of steroids. Her engaging presentation was well received and appreciated by all present.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting concluded with the gong.

Editor's Note



Environmental Perspective

When we hear the word environment, most of us immediately think of nature - the air we breathe, the water we depend on, the trees, rivers, and wildlife that make our planet so vibrant. And rightly so. Protecting this natural environment is one of the most important responsibilities we share today.

But environment isn't just about nature. It also includes the people around us - our families, friends, colleagues, and communities. The social environment we live in shapes our thoughts, influences our choices, and affects our overall well-being. A supportive, positive environment can help individuals grow, while a negative one can hold them back.

In that sense, caring for the environment goes beyond planting trees or reducing waste. It also means building kinder communities, being mindful of how we treat others, and creating spaces where people feel respected and valued.

April, being recognized in Rotary as the month dedicated to the environment, serves as a timely reminder for all of us. It encourages us to reflect not only on how we can contribute to preserving our natural surroundings, but also on how we can foster healthier and more compassionate human connections.

Small actions - whether it's reducing plastic use, conserving water, or simply offering support and encouragement to someone - can make a meaningful difference. Together, these efforts shape a better, more sustainable world in every sense of the word.

As we move forward, let us remember that a better environment starts with each one of us, in both how we care for our planet and how we care for one another.

Rtn. Anju Bothra - Club Editor



Minutes of the 232nd Regular RWM of Rotary Club of Calcutta Presidency (AG & ZC Visit)

The 232nd Regular Weekly Meeting of the Rotary Club of Calcutta Presidency was held on 11th April 2026 at the Cosmopolitan Club at 9:30 AM. The meeting commenced with the National Anthem, led by the President.

The President warmly welcomed our esteemed guests, Assistant Governor Sheela Janakiram, Zone Coordinator Biswajit Biswas, and Guest Speaker Mr. Mitra from the Bosch Skill Centre.

Review of Completed Projects:

1. **Sakhi Project** – Conducted in coordination with NGO Calcutta Rescue. The club successfully carried out five key health initiatives at three locations.

- Menstrual Hygiene Awareness
- Thalassemia Awareness
- Cervical Cancer Awareness
- Nutrition with Food
- Mental Health Awareness

2. **Dil Ki Suno (CPR Workshop)** – Conducted on 28th March at Bakkhali in association with BM Birla Hospital during the RCC District Conference, on the special request of DG Dr.HomChoudhary.

3. **Saksham – Artificial Limb Camp** – Successfully conducted on 8th April 2026 at Shantiniketan in coordination with the Rotary Club of RangaMati (Shantiniketan):

- 24th camp since 2019
- 3rd camp in the current Rotary year
- 13 individuals were fitted with artificial LN-4 hands, significantly improving their mobility and independence

4. **Bosch Skill Centre Initiative** – A proud milestone as students from the 2nd batch of the Rotary Bosch Bridge Skill Centre appeared for interviews:

- 7 students attended interviews
- 2 students secured jobs
- Salaries offered: ₹10,000 and ₹10,400
- A remarkable achievement, especially as the selected candidates were school dropouts

5. **Rotary Ramkrishna Academy, Piali** – Successful inauguration of a Digital Lab equipped with 3 computers, focusing on the holistic development of students. PDG Rajani Mukherjee graced the occasion as Chief Guest.

Discussion on Upcoming Projects:

• **Cataract Operations** – Currently in the planning stage. Identification of beneficiaries and execution strategy are underway. The project will soon be implemented as part of the club's healthcare initiatives.

• **Disha Project** – Career Counselling & Quiz (7th May 2026) – A major initiative involving multiple clubs across three zones with participation from Interactors of various schools. The program will feature sessions by eminent speakers followed by an engaging quiz competition, aimed at guiding students in making informed career choices, including awareness of offbeat career options beyond conventional fields like medical and engineering.

Assistant Governor Sheela Janakiram appreciated and praised the club's activities after reviewing all submitted reports and documents. Two members committed to PHF donations.

Secretary, RashiSureka announced the birthdays and Anniversary dates of the members with best wishes.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting concluded with the gong.



Sakhi Project: Empowering Women Through Health Awareness

Under the Sakhi Project, in coordination with NGO Calcutta Rescue, our club successfully conducted five health awareness initiatives across three locations—Nimtala, Tangra, and Entally.

The sessions focused on key areas of community health, including:

- Menstrual Hygiene Awareness
- Thalassemia Awareness
- Cervical Cancer Awareness
- Nutrition and Food Education
- Mental Health Awareness

The camps witnessed an encouraging turnout of women, with approximately 250–300 beneficiaries across the three locations. The participants were attentive, disciplined, and actively engaged throughout the sessions.

It was particularly heartening to note that many attendees already had a good understanding of thalassemia and basic nutritional practices, reflecting growing awareness within the community. The interactive sessions further strengthened their knowledge and encouraged informed health choices.

This initiative stands as a meaningful step towards empowering women with knowledge, awareness, and better health practices.

24th Saksham Camp at Shantiniketan: A Continuing Commitment to Service



On 8th April 2026, with the continued support and encouragement of all members, the Rotary Club of Calcutta Presidency successfully conducted another Saksham Camp at Shantiniketan, in collaboration with the host club, Rotary Club of BolpurRangamati. The project was graced by PDG Ashok Agarwal and DGE Dr.AsimAdhikary, both of RID 3240. This initiative marks our 24th camp since 2019 and the third camp of the current Rotary year. To date, approximately 1,300 beneficiaries have been positively impacted through this ongoing effort. At this camp, 13 individuals were successfully fitted with artificial LN-4 hands, enabling them to regain independence and dignity in their daily lives. Additionally, two individuals attended the camp but could not be fitted with prosthetic limbs due to technical mismatches.

Members present at the camp included Rajanji, Sangita A., Rashmi, and Rashi, all of whom actively participated and contributed to the success of the initiative



Vocational Service in Action: Certificate Distribution at Bosch Bridge Skill Centre

On 31st March, the Rotary Club of Calcutta Presidency visited the Rotary Bosch Bridge Skill Centre in Mallickpur to distribute completion certificates, issued by Bosch, to 20 students who successfully completed their six-month training program.

The students received comprehensive training in Computer Basics, Soft Skills, and Spoken English. Bosch will further support these candidates with placement opportunities in first-tier organizations. Members are encouraged to extend their support in facilitating suitable placements for these students wherever possible.

Advocate Gautam Chakraborty graced the occasion as the Chief Guest and distributed certificates to several students.

A brief interaction with some of the students revealed their confidence and ability to communicate effectively in English, reflecting the quality of training imparted.

We look forward to continuing this meaningful initiative and reaching more students, enabling them to secure gainful employment. This truly exemplifies vocational service in action.



Dil Ki Suno: CPR Workshop at Bakkhali

The "Dil Ki Suno" CPR Workshop was conducted on 28th March at Bakkhali, in association with BM Birla Hospital, during the RCC District Conference. The workshop was organized on the special request of District Governor Dr.HomChaudhuri.

This initiative aimed to raise awareness about the importance of timely cardiac care and to equip participants with essential life-saving CPR skills. The session witnessed active participation and engagement, reinforcing Rotary's commitment to community health and emergency preparedness.



District Participation

Our club takes pride in the recognitions received by our members and their active participation in various district seminars and programs.

District Team Learning Seminar Attended by our club members Rtn. Ranjan M, Rtn. Rina Malpani, Rtn. Sangita Jain, Rtn. AbhaLunia and Rtn. Anju Bothra attended the Online Resource Training.

Happy Anniversary

Udita & VikramNewar	17 Apr
ShubhamBagaria & Varsha	21 Apr
Pramita & Soumyajit Ghosh	27 Apr
Sanjay Sureka & Rashi	29 Apr
Rajesh Bothra & Navita	30 Apr

Website link: <https://rccalcuttapresidency.rotaryindia.org/NA> | Join us on: [f/Rotary-Calcutta-Presidency-Dist - 3291](https://www.facebook.com/Rotary-Calcutta-Presidency-Dist-3291)

We have regular meetings twice a month at Cosmopolitan Club over Breakfast.