



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



Presidency Times

RI President- Rtn. Stephanie A. Urchik | DG: Rtn. Dr. Krishnendu Gupta
President: Rtn. Abha Lunia | Secretary: Rtn. Seema Kayal | Editor: Rtn. Anju Bothra



Message by Stephanie A. Urchik President 2024-25

When we began developing a new strategic plan for Rotary over two years ago, we started by taking a look in the mirror. We asked hard questions as we performed a thorough self-assessment, all the while acknowledging the changing world around us. Our new strategic plan is different from our past plans. This will be our Action Plan - our organization's call to action to work together to build a stronger future.

This plan will help us realize what's truly possible when People of Action unite,

connect with others who share our values, and commit to creating change in the world and within ourselves.

Our Action Plan is not about wiping away our tradition or tried-and-true core principles. It's about making our organization stronger so that our values will last for years to come. It's about using effective tactics to strengthen the organization at all levels. It's about ensuring that every person who engages with us has a meaningful, valuable and fulfilling experience. It's about changing more lives and communities for the better.

We are committing ourselves to increasing our impact on the world, expanding our reach, enhancing the experiences and engagement of Rotary participants, and increasing our ability to adapt and be innovative.

Esteemed Acknowledgement

We are pleased to share
that two of our impactful initiatives - **Eye Surgery through Phaco procedure** and **Saksham**, our signature project, have featured
in the recent edition of the **ZONE 6 Newsletter**.





Rotary Club of Calcutta Presidency Donates Digital Weighing Machines to Support Cancer-Affected Children

On 12th December, the Rotary Club of Calcutta Presidency, in association with the LBC team, donated four digital weighing machines for the use of cancer-affected children in the wards of the Institute of Child Health, Park Circus. The machines were handed over to Mr. Roy, the hospital's secretary, in the presence of RYLA District Chairperson Rina Sinha Roy, who is also an active participant of LBC.

A special thanks goes to Partha Sarkar, the District Chair, for organizing this meaningful project and giving us the opportunity to contribute in our small way to the well-being of these patients. The RCCP was represented by Dr. Rina Malpani and Rtn. Anju Bothra, who were present at the donation ceremony.



Minutes of the 205th RWM of Rotary Club of Calcutta Presidency held at Cosmopolitan Club on 30th November 2024

The meeting was called to order by President, Abha Lunia, followed by the singing of the National Anthem.

The minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed by Asha Gupta and Udit. The President welcomed our Guest Speaker PDG Shyamshree Sen and Past President RC Calcutta Sujata Payne, and Satarupa from RC Calcutta

President's Briefing on Recent and Ongoing Activities:

1. **Celebration of Children's Day** at Rotary Ramkrishna Academy, Navanir Chetla and Diksha Evening School
2. **16th November** - Cervical Cancer Awareness Talk by Dr. Sonia Mathai
3. **22nd November** - Wheelchair Donation at NRS Medical College and Hospital:
4. **23rd November** - Blood Donation Camp at Sector V:
5. **Literacy Projects** : Rtn Rina, through Maheshwari Foundation, donated scholarships of Rs. 15,000 to Anisha Khanre, Rs. 10,000 to Rishab Sharma, and Rs. 10,000 to Sagar Singh for their studies.

Upcoming Projects:

1. **6th December**: Donation of sweaters and school bags to 150 children at Hindi Prathamik Vidhyalay. Also, 4 whiteboards will be donated to the school.
 2. **11th December**: Donation of 4 electronic weighing scales to LBC at their Institute of Child Health, Kolkata.
 3. **13th December**: A hands-on workshop on the fundamentals of Artificial Intelligence at Rotary Sadan, organized by the Youth Service Committee and Literacy Committee, with RC Calcutta and RC Inner City as partners.
 4. **14th December**: Co-hosting of RYLA at Dhyam Manch in Joka. The event will include "Dil Ki Suno" and CPR training by the B M Birla team.
- The meeting was adjourned after the Secretary announced the birthdays and anniversaries of the members.



Editor's Note

Dear Rotarians and Friends,

As we step into the New Year, we stand on the threshold of exciting opportunities, new challenges, and the chance to make a lasting impact in our communities. The dawn of 2025 brings with it a renewed sense of purpose, unity, and the shared commitment to service that defines our Rotary family. Together, we will continue to uphold the values of **'Service Above Self'**, working towards a better future for those who need it most.

This time of year is not only about looking forward but also about honoring those who inspire and elevate our collective journey. One such luminary whose contributions resonate deeply with us is the legendary musician Zakir Hussain. His musical journey transcends borders and speaks the universal language of harmony and collaboration—values that mirror the essence of our Rotary mission.

As we reflect on the year gone by and look ahead, let us remember to stay inspired by the examples set by great visionaries. May the New Year bring us all a renewed sense of dedication to our causes, a harmonious spirit of unity, and the joy of making a meaningful difference.

Wishing you all a prosperous and fulfilling 2025!

Rtn. Anju Bothra - Club Editor



LITERACY



The Adult Literacy Project, in collaboration with Coal India, has been a significant milestone in empowering communities through education. In August, through the past RID Shekhar Mehta, the Rotary Club of Calcutta Presidency sponsored 10 schools for adult literacy, which was matched with 10 more schools by Coal India. This partnership allowed us to impact the lives of adults across 20 schools, providing them with the tools to improve their literacy skills.

On November 5th, President Abha Lunia and Rtn. Rashmi visited one of the centers. During their visit, they had the opportunity to meet with the women participating in the program. It was an inspiring experience, as they observed that the women had learned to sign their own names, a small but powerful milestone in their journey toward literacy and independence. The women also recognized the importance of education, and they expressed how this knowledge would positively influence the upbringing of their children.

All in all, we are proud of this project, as it has made a tangible difference in the lives of these women and their families.

HAPPY SCHOOL at Hindi Pratham Vidyalaya in Kacharapara The Rotary Club of Calcutta Presidency is proud to announce a special initiative aimed at supporting the education and well-being of primary school children in government schools. As part of our commitment to nurturing young minds and creating a better learning environment, we launched our first "Happy School" on December 6th. The event took place at the Hindi Pratham Vidyalaya in Kacharapara, where we distributed 150 Sweaters, 150 School bags and 4 Whiteboards. This initiative is just the beginning of our vision to create more "Happy Schools" in the future, reflecting our dedication to the next generation. Together, let us work to make education accessible, enjoyable, and impactful for every child. The project was supported by esteemed counsellors Janak Singh (19th Ward) and Gobindo Malick (22nd Ward), who played an instrumental role in making this event successful.



Dr. Rina Malpani donated Rs. 10,000 to Souvik Das, a student of Electronics and Computer Engineering at St. Thomas College, Kidderpore, on the occasion of her father Tarachandji's birthday. This donation was made through the Tarachandra and Shanti Maheswari Trust. Souvik Das resides at Arunima Hospice.



Rotary Club of Calcutta Presidency 206th Meeting : 14 Dec.2024

Venue: Cosmopolitan Club

GUEST SPEAKER: PDG RAVI SEHGAL

INDUCTION: SUNEETA KEDIA AND KIRTI TANWANI

The meeting was conducted by PP Dr. Rina in the absence of the president. The meeting started with the National Anthem. The minutes of the last meeting were confirmed as read. The guest speaker was welcomed and invited to the dias.

Completed Projects:

- Adult literacy in association with Coal India
- Happy School project at Hindi Pratham Vidyalaya
- Donation of 4 digital weighing machines at Institute of Child Health
- Hands-on Workshop on Fundamentals of Artificial Intelligence: We were a co-host along with RC of Calcutta and RC Calcutta Inner City.
- DIL KI SUNO as part of RYLA in Dhyan Asharam at Joka

Up Coming Projects:

- JEEWAN JYOTI** - 2 free heart surgeries for economically disadvantaged patients

- Cataract Operation by PHACO**: on 29/12/2024 cataract surgery to benefit 60 beneficiaries in collaboration with PREM MILAN.
- SAKSHAM** - Our signature project to be held from 25-28 dec 2024 in Tinsukia along with RC of Tinsukia.
- DISTRICT ZONE 6 NEWSLETTER**: There was mention of 2 projects of our club in the newsletter:
 - 1) Cataract eye surgeries by Phaco
 - 2) Saksham held at Behrampur
- PHF PINS were given to DR Ramesh Agarwalla and Sunil Mall by PDG Ravi Sehgal.
- Rtn. Rina was awarded the ROTARIAN OF THE QUARTER.

PDG Ravi Sehgal, introduced by Rajesh Bothra, gave an engaging talk using storytelling to emphasize the importance of service to the community.

The secretary announced the birthday and anniversaries. There being no other business the meeting was called off.





Hands – on workshop on AI & IOT

A program on Artificial Intelligence was organized at Rotary Sadan on December 13th for students from Vernacular Schools. These young minds were introduced to the fascinating world of AI through both theoretical lessons and hands-on practical methods. The objective was to equip them with the tools to innovate, create, and thrive in a technology-driven future. The event was co-hosted by our club along with the Rotary Clubs of Calcutta and Calcutta Inner City. A total of 55 students participated, with 22 students sent through our club. Over the course of the 3-hour workshop, the participants received practical experience on laptops and were awarded certificates. Our Past Presidents, Sangita Jain and Ranjan Mussadi, attended the event, supporting the initiative.

Dil Ki Suno was conducted as part of District RYLA 'UNMESH' at Dhyana Ashram in Joka on December 14th.

Our club's signature project, the CPR workshop, was held for underprivileged students. The workshop, led by the exceptional trainer Sutapa, was highly praised, with the District Governor specifically commending her performance. The introductory speech was delivered by Dr. Rina. Our club was honoured to receive a trophy for being a co-host in RYLA, recognizing our contribution to the success of the event.

Happy Birthday

Arpita Bhattacharyya 8 Dec.
Sarita Singhania 17 Dec.
Sangita Jain 28 Dec.

Happy Anniversary

Anju Singhee & Basantji 2 Dec
Jaishree Somani & Vikash 2 Dec
Anup Shanghal & Poonam 3 Dec
Sandeep & Ashima Jain 4 Dec
Raj Kumar Nahata & Sarika 6 Dec
Sunil Mall & Chandra 7 Dec
Sunila Poddar & Raj Kumar 8 Dec
Vinod Bhandari & Anupama 10 Dec
Anurag Bindawala & Hima 12 Dec



Meditation Session at Arunima Hospice

On December 21st, in celebration of World Meditation Day, our member Rtn Rashmi Surana, a Preksha Meditation trainer, conducted a meditation camp at Arunima Hospice, a home for HIV-affected children. During the session, she explained the significance of correct breathing, long deep breaths, and the scientific benefits of Mahapran Dhvani, incorporating practical asanas. The children learned simple techniques to enhance memory and concentration. The session was well-received, with the children enjoying the experience. Meditation brought a sense of calm, heightened energy, and awareness-essential for the children at Arunima. This small yet impactful session is expected to contribute positively to their well-being and help them lead a better life.



"Rrobe," an exhibition and sales project, was held at Young Horizons School by RCCP in association with the Interact Club of Young Horizons. The clothes were donated by club members and friends. The project saw active participation from members of our Club, who contributed by sorting, displaying, and selling the items alongside the students and teachers of the school. The experience was a rewarding one, with the Interact members and the Young Horizons team expressing their excitement and satisfaction with the event.



उमर कि ऐसि तैसि अटल बिहारी बाजपेई

पर चाहे कैसा भी हो.....
उसके एक कोने में.....
खुलकर हंसने की जगह रखना.....

भुलज किलना भी दूर हो.....
उसको घर जाने का रास्ता देना.....

कभी कभी छत पर चढ़कर.....
तारे अवश्य गिनना.....
हो सके तो हाथ बढ़ा कर.....
चाँद को सुने की कौशिश करना.....

अगर हो लोगों से मिलना खुलना.....
तो घर के पास पड़ोस जरूर रखना.....

भीमने देना बारिश में.....
उछल कूद भी करने देना.....
हो सके तो बच्चों को.....
एक कागज़ की किटली चलाने देना.....

कभी हो फुरसत, आसमान भी साफ हो.....
तो एक पल आसमान में चढ़ाना.....
हो सके तो एक छोटा सा पंच भी लड़ाना.....

घर के सामने रखना एक पेड़.....
उस घर बैठे पक्षियों की.....
बातें अवश्य सुनना.....

घर चाहे कैसा भी हो.....
घर के एक कोने में.....
खुलकर हंसने की जगह रखना.....

चाहे ज़िंदगी से गुज़रिये.....
मीठी सी हलचल मचा दीजिये.....

उम्र का "हर एक दौर" मजेदार है.....
अपनी "उम्र" का मज़ा तीजिये.....

ज़िंदा दिल रहिए उनका.....
ये चेहरे पे उदासी कैसी.....
वक्त तो बीत ही रहा है.....
"चा" की ऐसी की तैसी.....!

— "Atul Kishore Chatterjee"

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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.

