



Presidency Times

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



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

A unique experience of belonging

The Magic of Rotary is belonging, and it's a feeling that can appear when you least expect it. Earlier this year, I was in Slovakia serving as a president's representative during a six-week trip through Europe. When I wrote to Katarina Cechova, governor of District 2240 at the time, I mentioned that my grandmother Veronica Zilka grew up in a small village in the area before settling in the U.S. It wasn't long before Cechova tracked down my grandmother's village, Jakubova Vol'a. She even organized a visit for me, where I received an unforgettable Slovakian welcome. When I walked into the community center and heard traditional music from my childhood - when I

saw a woman play the accordion the way my dad played - I suddenly felt like a little girl sitting at my grandmother's house in Monessen, Pennsylvania. I burst into tears of joy at the memories.

But the magic didn't stop there. District Governor Cechova really outdid herself. A local genealogist worked with a videographer to make a short film about my grandmother. We watched the video together in the community center.

Since then, I can't stop thinking about my family of Rotary. When I refer to you as my family, I'm not just being kind. I really think of everyone in Rotary as my family. But I never would have imagined that my Rotary family would introduce me to long-lost personal family.. As members of Rotary, we have a unique opportunity to share the same magic with each other and with the world. I encourage you to consider how you can help spread that magic and ensure other members of your club - other members of our Rotary family - feel like they truly belong

Celebrating Our Achievements-Swikriti Awards 2023-2024



We are thrilled to announce that our Club has been recognized with several prestigious awards!

1. **DG Citation**
2. **1st Prize For Literacy**
3. **Certificate of Appreciation for TRF per Capita on Total**
4. **Certificate of Appreciation for TRF Quantum**
5. **Certificate of Appreciation for 100 % Giving Club**
6. **"Star" Outstanding President**
7. **Outstanding Secretary**

These achievements are a testament to the hard work and dedication of our members.





Minutes of the 200th Joint RWM of Rotary Club of Calcutta Presidency and RC Calcutta Chowringhee - 31st August 2024 at 9.Am at The Aurus Hotel

RCCP President Abha called the meeting of the club to order. After National Anthem led by RTN Vidhi Beri and Rtn Rashmi Surana, Minutes of the 199th Meeting were taken as read and confirmed by Rtn Asha and Rtn Sangita Jain. Two minutes silence was observed as a solemn gesture of respect for the young doctor against whom such heinous crime was committed.

President Abha thanked President Gaurav Gupta, of RC Calcutta Chowringhee for giving our club this opportunity of having a joint meeting on 200th RWM, a landmark of its own. To celebrate this occasion we had the privilege of having PRIP Shekhar Mehta and AKS Sourabh Khemani as speakers.

Presidents of both the clubs highlighted the projects undertaken by their club and also briefed the audience about the upcoming projects. PRIP Shekharji was felicitated by Rtn.Dr.Das, AKS Sourabh ji was felicitated by Rtn Aditya Chamaria. Exchange of Club Flags was done. Rtn. Dr. Rina Malpani was pinned by PRIP Shekharji for her PH membership.

"Each One Bring One" was emphasized by the Secretary. **Meeting was adjourned.**



A Day of Joy and Giving at Navanir Old Age Home

On September 5th, our team of eight members visited the Navanir Old Age Home in Chetla for a heartwarming project. We kicked off the day with an engaging session led by Rtn Udita, where the 30 children from Sahaj Pathshala enjoyed playing games with music alongside their three teachers. After the fun, we distributed food and chocolates to the children, bringing smiles to their faces. For the elderly residents, we provided bags and umbrellas, generously donated by Rtn Sunila Poddar, as well as toiletries for 100 inmates, thanks to Rtn Niti. Rtn Rashmi also conducted a session on breathing techniques, promoting wellness and relaxation.

We concluded our visit by distributing flour packets, courtesy of Rtn Neena. The joy in the eyes of the inmates was priceless, and they expressed their heartfelt desire for us to return. It was a truly fulfilling day of connection and service!



Silent Protest March for Justice and Peace - 30th AUGUST 2024

A "Silent Protest March for Justice and Peace" was held by Rotarians under the leadership of Dr. Krishnendu Gupta (District Governor 2024-2025), Dr. Ramendu Homchaudhuri (District Governor 2025-2026), and Tapas Bhattacharya (District Governor 2026-2027). This solemn event was organized to honor the memory of the young doctor from RG KAR Hospital.

Despite inclement weather, Rotarians and members of our club showed tremendous solidarity, turning out in large numbers to express their respect and demand justice. The march served as a powerful reminder of our commitment to peace and justice in our community.



Editor's Note

Dear Rotary Members,
Education and literacy are cornerstones of a thriving society. As Rotarians, we understand that access to quality education transforms lives and communities. It empowers individuals, fosters economic development, and promotes peace.

This month, we focus on our commitment to enhancing literacy rates and educational opportunities for all. Whether through local tutoring programs, scholarship initiatives, or global partnerships, every effort counts. Let's continue to inspire a love for learning and ensure that everyone has the tools they need to succeed. Together, we can make a lasting impact.

Rtn. Anju Bothra
Club Editor



Sparsh - District Membership Seminar conducted on 31 August 2024

Rtn. Dr. Rina Malpani was given the honour of sharing her thoughts on the significance of lady membership in the prestigious district membership seminar, 'Sparsh.'

Her speech highlighted the transformative impact of women joining Rotary International since 1989. She emphasized on how their inclusion expanded project scopes and enriched the organization. By 2002, female membership grew significantly, with some clubs even achieving full female representation. She lauded the outstanding contributions of women in the district, particularly in service projects, and stressed on the increasing global female membership, recognizing the leadership of women like current RI President Stephanie Urchick and former President Jennifer Jones, showcasing their influence and inspiration within Rotary. She also mentioned that our club, in particular, is excelling in service projects, and we owe much of our success to our dedicated female members.

Our Club was one of the hosts of this seminar.



A Day of Growth and Collaboration

On September 8th, a wonderful team of four - President Abha Lunia, Kamalji, Sangita Jain, and Ranjanji, - joined hands to plant trees at Vedic Village, marking a joint project with five other Rotary Clubs. With 26 Rotary members from various clubs, we came together for a common cause.

We had the joy of planting fruit trees like Kathal, mango, guava, litchi, along with beautiful Promila flowers and Bougainvillea around the main Mandir and the lake. The sense of purpose and the desire for a healthier environment filled the air with happiness.

All participating clubs expressed their eagerness to collaborate on more projects in the future.

Let's keep this momentum going!



Cupcake Baking at Arunima Hospice- 21 September

On September 21, a delightful baking session took place at Arunima Hospice, where four members of our club had the opportunity to teach the girls how to make cupcakes. The girls at the hospice made excellent arrangements for the event, setting a warm and welcoming atmosphere. Seema Kayal and Sarita Singhania led the group in teaching the girls how to mix the ingredients properly and guiding them throughout the process of baking. IPP Sangita's infectious enthusiasm uplifted everyone. While waiting for the cupcakes to bake, all danced with the children, creating a joyful and lively environment. The event brought smiles to the faces of both the children and adults present, fostering a sense of community and happiness.



Sui Dhaga Project 1

We are excited to share that our club has provided cloth material to St. Teresa School as part of the Sui Dhaga Project. The school will use this material to create cloth bags that will be sold during their upcoming fest.

This initiative not only empowers the women involved in the sewing process but also promotes an environmentally friendly alternative to plastic bags. Together, we are making a positive impact on the community and the environment!

Project 2

Our club members along with Kakoli, the sewing teacher, distributed Certificates to the beneficiaries on completion of the sewing course conducted by Singer India, at the sewing centre in Baruipur. The beneficiaries were also given gifts and a list of job offers. Total no. of beneficiaries: 12



Minutes of the 201th RWM of Rotary Club of Calcutta Presidency held on 14.09.2024 at 9.30 am at The Cosmopolitan Club

President Abha called the meeting of the club to order. After National Anthem, Minutes of the 200TH Meeting were taken as read and confirmed by Rtn Asha and Rtn Rina. President's brief of the projects conducted by the club:

- 1) 31ST August: DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP SEMINAR -- SPARSH
- 2) 5th September: NAVANIR OLDAGE HOME PROJECT
- 3) 8th September: TREE Plantation at Vedic village in association with five other clubs.
- 4) 8th September: SWIKRITI 2ND AWARD CEREMONY

Upcoming projects

- 1) 18th September : Hands-on Workshop on Fundamentals of Artificial Intelligence & IoT from 11 AM to 4.00pm at Rotary Sadan, host being Rotary Club Of Calcutta. We are cohost. .
2. Baking Project at Arunima Hospice
3. 22nd September- Tree plantation at Champahati. We will give 250 fruit tree saplings to the village in and around champahati which will include coconut tree plants as well, ensuring a good income to the beneficiaries.
4. Fellowship : 29 th Sept.or 26th Oct. Rtn Kamalji suggested Rajshree Terrace as venue. Secretary announced birthdays and anniversaries. Meeting was terminated.



A Day of Tree Plantation at Champahati - 22 September

On a beautiful day surrounded by lush greenery, seven members of our club travelled to Champahati to plant and distribute fruit saplings. We kicked off our adventure with delicious snacks along the way, setting the perfect tone for the day. Upon our arrival, we received a warm welcome from the Champahati Bird RCC, who had organized the event beautifully. Each beneficiary was gifted five saplings: coconut, guava, mango, cheeku, and jackfruit, along with a packet of fertilizer. We successfully provided plants to 40 beneficiaries, contributing to a greener future. To wrap up our day, we planted a few trees ourselves and captured the scenic beauty in photographs at a stunning location.

Happy Birthday

Sangeeta Bajoria 2 Sept
Niti Tandon 4 Sept
Anurag Bindwala 4 Sept
Raj Kumar Nahata 7 Sept
Pawan Agarwal 10 Sept
Vikas Sarawagi 11 Sept
Pramita Ghosh 25 Sept
Pravin Jain 28 Sept
Om Prakash Agarwal Todi 29 Sept

सुनो द्रौपदी! शस्त्र उठालो अब गोविंद ना आएंगे...
छोड़ो मेहंदी खड़ग संभालो
खुद ही अपना चीज बचा लो
घूत बिछाए बैठे शकुनि,
...मस्तक सब बिक जायेंगे
सुनो द्रौपदी! शस्त्र उठालो अब गोविंद ना आएंगे...

कब तक आज लग्नाओगी तुम

कब तक आज लग्नाओगी तुम, बिके हुए अखबारों मे
कैसी रक्षा मांग रही हो दुःशासन दरबारों से
स्वयं जो लज्जाहीन पड़े हैं
वे क्या लाज बचायेंगे

सुनो द्रौपदी! शस्त्र उठालो अब गोविंद ना आएंगे...

तुम ही कहो ये अंशु तुम्हारे

कल तक केवल अंधा राजा, अब गुंगा-बहारा भी है
होंठ सिल दिए हैं जनता के, कानों पर पहरा भी है
तुम ही कहो ये अंशु तुम्हारे,
किसको क्या समझायेंगे?

सुनो द्रौपदी! शस्त्र उठालो अब गोविंद ना आएंगे...

- पुष्पमित्र उपाध्याय

Teachers' Day

A life of joy and happiness is possible only on the basis of knowledge and science
Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan
5 September 1888 - 17 April 1975

Happy Ganesh Chaturthi

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.