

SHAMBHAVI

February 2026

R.I Club No: 85847 Date of Charter : 26.05.2014 Meeting Day : Saturday, Time : 7 pm
Meeting Venue : "Danica", 4th Floor, 37, Ballygunge 1st Lane, Kolkata – 700 019,
President: Rtn. Anita Bagaria, Secretary: Rtn. Ruby Ray, Editor: Rtn. Srabonee Mitra

Rotary International President's Message for the Month of February



Let Action Define Us

At last month's International Assembly, President-elect Olayinka "Yinka" Hakeem Babalola called on members of the Rotary world to live out our presidential message for the 2026-2027 Rotary year, *Create Lasting Impact*.

This February, as we observe Peacebuilding and Conflict Prevention Month, we have an opportunity to channel Yinka's call to action into real change.

Peace is not simply the absence of war. A life free from conflict but marked with hunger, instability, or the inability to care for one's family is not peace. Peace requires liberty, opportunity and respect for human dignity. Yet fear often blocks that path - fear of change, of cultural loss, of people we don't understand.

Fear isn't defeated through avoidance or aggression. Knowledge is the first step toward peace. Rotary embraces this idea. Our Rotary Peace Centers and their peace fellows, along with other peace education initiatives, demonstrate how knowledge builds trust and helps communities find solutions to conflict.

In Columbia, decades of conflict have left deep wounds. The 2025 Rotary Foundation Programs of scale awardee, Pathways to Peace and Prosperity, partners with the United Nations World Food Program to expand opportunity, improve conflict resolution, and connect people with social services. Its goal is to break cycles of violence, poverty and food insecurity so peace can take root.

In Maharashtra, India, People of Action honoree, Swati Herkal built peace through prosperity. Her project confronted farmers' declining soil health, rising debt and illness caused by chemical fertilizers. She and her Rotary partners launched a regenerative agriculture program that revitalized the land, lowered costs, and restored stability. More than 1,100 farmers now participate and over 50 villages have adopted the model.

Rotary also advocates peace by restoring dignity. In Chad, Rotary Peace fellow Domino Frank discovered more than 1,500 women who fought in a rebellion had been erased from reintegration programs. His advocacy led to Chad's first Rotary Foundation global grant and the creation of Corridors of Peace. More than 100 women - triple the goal - completed literacy and vocational training and formed a cooperative to support their families.

From Columbia to India to Chad, the lesson is clear: Peace is not a dream. It is the result of sustained action with a focus on true, lasting impact. To replicate these successes, Rotary clubs can take three steps: Learn from peace fellows and other peace experts in our organization, apply a peacebuilding lens to community assessments, and prioritize impact over ceremony.

In a world filled with fear, Rotary cannot be satisfied with half measures of empty words. If we are truly people of action, then action must define us. Together, we can *Create Lasting Impact*, across the globe, in our communities and in ourselves.

Francesco Arezzo
President, Rotary International

Mosquito net distribution at "Voice of World", Behala

On 10.02.2026, members of RC Calcutta Samaritans visited Voice of World, a home for the visually impaired, specially abled, orphans, and senior citizens. The team spent quality time interacting with the residents and understanding their needs. On behalf of the club, we donated 50 mosquito nets, 100 packets of biscuits, and 100 packets of puffed rice for the beneficiaries. The gesture was warmly appreciated by the authorities and residents alike. The visit was attended by Srabonee Mitra, Shaloo Chhabra and Sharat Chhabra who represented the club with compassion and dedication. It was a fulfilling experience, reinforcing our commitment to serve with care and humanity. RC Calcutta Samaritans will continue to support such meaningful causes.



Education and one time meal programme for tribal

Rtn. Sikha Purokayastha along with the Director of Samaritan Welfare Foundation visited Nayagram, Jhargram, to review the ongoing education and nutrition initiatives for children of the marginalized Lodha tribal community. Samaritan Welfare Foundation operates two Community Child Welfare Centres serving nearly 90 tribal children. The centres provide basic education, moral guidance, confidence building, and regular academic support through dedicated teachers. Educational materials, school bags, stationery, and winter blankets are also distributed to ensure dignity and continuity in learning. In addition, a One-Time Nutritious Meal Program provides one substantial meal daily to the children often their only proper meal of the day addressing hunger and supporting healthy growth. The visit reaffirmed the urgent need for sustained educational and nutritional support in this remote tribal region. The initiative continues to make a meaningful impact on the lives of vulnerable children.



District sports meet 2025-2026

On 14th February 2026, RCC Ghatakpur Sreema Mohila O Sishu Bikash Kendra, with the support of Rotary Club of Calcutta Samaritans, organized the District Sports Meet 2025-2026. RC Calcutta Samaritans sponsored trophies for Kabaddi, Long Jump, and Karate (Senior & Junior groups) competitions for the women, with a total project cost of Rs12,500/- Approximately 282 beneficiaries participated in the event, which promoted sportsmanship, discipline, teamwork, and physical fitness among children and youth. Thalassaemia awareness messages were also shared with the gathering to spread information on prevention and the importance of blood donation. Rtn. Srabonee Mitra and Rtn. Jayasree Chatterjee attended the project from our club. The event concluded successfully, reflecting Rotary's commitment to youth empowerment and community welfare. At the same time Thalassaemia Awareness Campaign was also done in the gathering of young men and women.



Donation of Sewing machine



On 2nd February, Rtn. Anita Bagaria handed over one sewing machine received from Rotary Club of Calcutta under the project "Atmanirbhar", to Majit, a 40-year-old beneficiary, to help him start his own tailoring shop and earn a sustainable livelihood. This thoughtful initiative aims to empower him towards self-reliance and financial stability. By providing the essential equipment required for tailoring, Rotary has enabled him to begin an income-generating activity that will support his family and improve their standard of living. Such livelihood support projects truly reflect Rotary's commitment to economic empowerment, dignity of labour, and sustainable community development.

Assistant Governor's visit to the club on 24.02.2026



Fund Raiser Program of the Life beyond Cancer of RID 3291

The Annual Fund Raiser Program of Life beyond Cancer of Rotary International District 3291 was held on 23rd February, 2026 at Rabindra Sadan, Kolkata from 5.30 PM onwards. The event included group song by the members of IFRM, musical performances of Armaan Rashid Khan and Imon Chakraborty, solo dance performance by Shreyan, a four year old cancer patient undergoing his treatment at Medical College Hospital Kolkata, whose spirit and energy mesmerized the entire audience, and group dance performances by the cancer survivors. Last but not least, the dance performance of actress and Cause Ambassador of Life beyond Cancer Smt. Rituparna Sengupta. The Cancer Survivors were felicitated with financial support and gifts. RC Calcutta Samaritans supported this cause as Associate Co-host.



Birthday:
Prabha Shrivastava – 11th February

Wedding Anniversary:
Jayanta Chatterjee & Jayasree Chatterjee – 26th February