

SHAMBHAVI

March, 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 March



Water connects us all. From a river in a remote forest to a stream running past a city neighbourhood, freshwater ecosystems sustain humanity. Yet these waters are increasingly under strain. Pollution, overuse, and climate pressures remind us that protecting freshwater is a global challenge.

Rotary has always believed change begins within communities. Now we are working to see how far the impact of community action can travel. When local service is connected, measured, and shared, it becomes a force that extends beyond geography and borders.

A water project led by the Rotary Club of Panamá Nordeste exemplifies this idea. The project served Indigenous communities in Panama's Darién province, a region accessible only by canoe and small boat. With no roads, limited electricity, and reliance on untreated river water, families faced serious health risks.

To reach these communities, Rotarians had to rethink how supplies and services could be delivered. Working with a partner club in the United States and a specialized water organization, they introduced solar-powered water treatment systems for an area without access to an electrical grid.

Local leaders were trained to operate and maintain the system, ensuring that clean water would continue flowing long after installation crews departed.

The results were immediate. Children who once missed school due to illness returned to classrooms. No longer needing to haul water from rivers, adults gained time and strength to work and support their families. What began as a water project became a foundation for healthier, more resilient communities.

This is how we extend our reach: combine local leadership with global partnerships, technical expertise, and long-term thinking.

That same spirit is at the heart of Rotary's partnership with the United Nations Environment Programme through the Community Action for Fresh Water initiative. Around the world, Rotary and Rotaract clubs are restoring waterways, protecting wetlands, and safeguarding vital freshwater sources. By collecting data to map and measure this work, we can better understand its impact and show how local service contributes to worldwide solutions.

Data is not an end. It is a tool that helps us learn and improve so that Rotary's service delivers real, measurable change. Each project entered and each waterway restored adds to a shared story of stewardship and responsibility. You can learn more and get involved at communityactionforfreshwater.org.

As we observe Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Month, I encourage you to reflect on the freshwater systems that sustain your community and the role Rotary can play in protecting them.

When we connect local action to a global vision, we strengthen Rotary's ability to make lasting change. Together, by extending our reach and working side by side, we truly *Unite for Good*.

Symposium and Cultural Extravaganza Aparajita 2

APARAJITA 2 was a powerful initiative organized by the Women and Girls Empowerment Committee of Rotary International District 3291. The program brought together women from diverse backgrounds to share their inspiring journeys of purpose and passion in the face of adversity. Rtn. Vaijayanti Bose, a Charter Member of RC Calcutta Samaritans and Advisor to the Women and Girls Empowerment Committee of Rotary International District 3291, curated the program to celebrate the Women's Day. The event held on 17th March, 2026 at ICCR. The audience was mesmerized by the outstanding dance performances of Dr. Jagyaseni Chatterjee and Rtn. Tanni Choudhuri. The occasion was graced by the District Governor Rtn. Dr. Ramendu Homchaudhuri, First Lady Rtn. Dr. Bandana Homchaudhuri, DGN Rtn. Purnendu Roychowdhury, alongside several Past District Governors, District Officials, and Rotarians from various Rotary clubs whose presence contributed greatly to the event's success. Rtn. Srabonee Mitra conducted the program seamlessly as the emcee. President Rtn. Anita Bagaria of RC Calcutta Samaritans supported the event as host and generously sponsored the trophies for felicitation of all the speakers.



BE THE CHANGE IN THE WORLD – Become a Paul Harris Fellow. Special opportunity available by contributing USD 400 to The Rotary Foundation (Annual Share Fund) from 16th March to 16th April, 2026.

District Governor's Official Club Visit

The District Governor's Official Club Visit to RC Calcutta Samaritans was held at prestigious RCGC Maidan Tent on 23rd March, 2026 at 6.00 PM. The meeting commenced with the traditional lighting of the lamp and the watering of the sacred Tulsi plant. DG in his address, highly appreciated the club's performances under the leadership of the President Rtn. Anita Bagaria. He spoke insightfully on Membership Growth, Contribution to the Foundation and Polio Fund, Thalassaemia initiatives and Lifestyle maintenance. Distinguished guests present at the meeting including the First Lady Rtn. Dr. Bandana Homchaudhuri, Aide to the Governor Rtn. N. Ramkrishnan, AG Rtn. Sheela Jankiram and ZC Rtn. Biswajit Saha were present in the meeting.



Wheelchiar Donation



A wheel chair provided by RC Calcutta was handed over to a special needs child, along with snacks items for the inmates of the Voice of the World, Behala.

Safe Drinking Water Initiative



March being the Rotary designated month for Water, Sanitation & Hygiene, a UV protected Water Filter received from RC Calcutta under their project "Prandhara" was donated to the Vocational Centre of the "Institute of Social Work", Mominpur to provide Safe Drinking Water.

Congratulation to Rtn. Gita Sarkar



Heartiest Congratulation to Rtn. Gita Sarkar, a retired Senior Public Relations Officer of the South Eastern Railway, Kolkata and an active member of our club. She was honoured with Lifetime Achievement Award in Public Relation & Communication by the Public Relations Council of India (PRCI), East Zone at the Press Club during their 22nd Foundation Day Celebration.

Upcoming District Programs:

District Team Learning Seminar - 5th April, 2026 at The Spring Club, Kolkata.

