



### ROTARY CLUB OF CALCUTTA SAMARITANS Rotary International District 3291

May 2025 Volume:11, Issue: 5

# SHAMBHAVI

**District Governor's Official Visit** 

R.I President: Stephanie A. Urchick | District Governor: Dr. Krishnendu Gupta R.I.Club No.: 85847 | Date of Charter: 26.05.2014

President: Rtn. Sutapa Dutta

Secretary: Rtn. Anita Bagaria

Editor: Rtn. Gita Sarkar



**Stephanie Urchick** R I President 2024-25



Welcome
District Governor -Dr. Krishnendu Gupta
and First Lady Dr. Simran
and Other District Officials to
Rotary Club of Calcutta Samaritansa at - Hope Cafe

#### President's Message

"With all due respect and reverence, I thank all for having given me so much of honour and respect. I took this honour as an opportunity ever since 1st July, 2024 after assuming the office of the President of the Rotary club of Calcutta Samaritans.

To fulfil the set goals, immediate action was resorted to achieve the target. We have tried to folow the major avenues which serve as the foundation of Club Activity ie Club Service, Vocational Service, Community Service and Youth Service.

I thank my team for setting their foot firm and moving unstoppable in a way to prove that 'an act of philanthropy is all about giving gifts of time, talent and treasure to make life easier for all'.

In regards to this, we took the road to noble causes pertaining to education, health, awareness programmes of different aspects of life, talent hunt etc. With a clear vision we incorporated distribution programmes of Desktops, sewing machines, blankets. There was a marked progress among poor and underprivileged, when educational kits were distributed at the time of different competitions organized by us. Alongside, the awareness programmes we also organised three Health Check-up camps for Mother and Child as an initiative towards a better health.

Our giant step and our signature project for Youth Leadership was RYLA held this year at Bankura Vivekananda Siksha Niketan Higher Secondary School with 50 Adibasi students which was partnered by several clubs of District 3291, the members of which also enthusiastically participated physically along with the District dignitaries.

Thanks once again for an array of unforgettable and pleasing experiences, I had with all. The banner of high ideals and empathy will always be raised by the Rotarians.

Rtn. Sutapa Dutta Club President : 2024-25 Environment Month Celebration also an Eazy School Program along with Interact Club on 20th April 2025

On 20th April 2025, we, the members of Rotary Club of Calcutta Samaritans along with our Interact Club of Aditya Academy Senior Secondary School, Nagerbazar visited Boynala FP School, an Adibasi School at Boynala, Kheadaha, Sonarpur Block, South 24 Parganas, to celebrate Environment Month with the children of the School for which we had arranged an Art Competition and distribution of saplings amongst the children. 75 Children of the school participated and enthusiastically created their imagination as the subject for the Environment out of which some were really outstanding. This event became more fun and exciting for the active and energetic presence of the Students of the Interact Club who distributed the stationery material to the participants for the Art Competition on behalf of their Interact Club, actively guided them with the topic and helped us to conduct the event successfully. The programme ended with distribution of prizes for the winners food packets and saplings.







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#### Secretary's Report

As the secretary of Rotary Calcutta Samaritans, it's a privilege to share about something that lies at the very heart of our shared mission — the 7 Areas of Focus of Rotary International. These seven verticals are not just global priorities; they are reflections of the values we live by right here in our own club. They are the framework that guides our projects, our partnerships, and our purpose.

Let's take a moment to walk through each one, and recognize how, as Samaritans, we bring these ideals to life:

#### 1. Peace building and Conflict Prevention

In a world often divided, we work to be bridge-builders. Through community outreach, dialogue, and inclusive service, our projects foster understanding and empathy — beginning with the neighborhoods we serve in Kolkata.

#### 2. Disease Prevention and Treatment

From health camps to vaccine drives, we understand that access to basic healthcare can transform lives. Our commitment to healthier communities is seen in every screening, every consultation, and every healing hand we offer.

- a) 25th January 2025 Medical Health camp (Rotary) conducted at Barasat along with a Menstrual and Cervical Cancer awareness session there.
- b) On 22nd April Cervical cancer & Thalassemia awareness camp held at Chetla Girls High School.

#### 3. Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene

In schools, slums, and rural pockets, wherever we have visited for our projects we have done awareness sessions regarding general cleanliness, menstrual hygiene and sanitation, teaching proper hand washing techniques to school children. We have also distributed sanitary napkins to the girl students of the school in RCC Ghatakpur.

#### 4. Maternal and Child Health

Every mother and child deserves dignity, care, and support. Through partnerships with local hospitals and awareness drives, we help and ensure mother and child health care for the underprivileged.

Mother & Child Health check-up camps were held on:

- a) 28th July 2024 at Kalighat sex workers colony;
- b) 25th August 2024 at a village in Mukundapur
- c) 25th January 2025 at Ichhapur, Nabinpally, Barasat

On 29th Jan 2025 we distributed Biscuits, Cakes and Chocolates to 36 Children of Thalassemia Ward at Police Hospital.

#### 5. Basic Education and Literacy

As Samaritans, we deeply believe that education is the most powerful tool for change for which we have initiated adult literacy program at Barasat, ISW with the NGO of Ms Nupur Goswami. We haave also conducted several programs under EAZY School banner such as:

- a) Sit and Draw & Quiz competition at Basha, the school for underprivileged children.
- b) Sit and Draw competition at a school in Boynala, the school for underprivileged tribal children.
- c) Letter writing competition under District EAZY School poject 'Binamrata'

#### **EMPOWERING WOMEN:**

RC of Calcutta Samaritans strongly believe in empowering women and girls of our society. VIRANGANA, the self defense program for girls, 24 -25 projects were conducted by us at:

- a) Jodhpur Park Girls High School on 11th Sept 2024.
- b) Alipur Girls and Boys High School on 24th Feb 2025.

The highlight of the event was seeing the students thoroughly enjoying and engaging with the program, which is a testament to its relevance and impact. This initiative addresses a critical need of the hour, Looking forward to conduct more such sessions.

#### 6. Community Economic Development

We uplift communities not just by giving — but by enabling. Vocational training, skill development programs, and self-help initiatives are helping local families find sustainable livelihoods and pride in their progress.

- a) Distributed 4 sewing machines to NGO Institute of Social Work (ISW) at Mominpur
- b) Distributed 2 desktops to Institute of Social Work (ISW)
- c) Distributed 2 sewing machines to the NGO Samaritan Welfare Foundation run by Mr. Pradip Mondal at Kestopur.

#### 7. Supporting the Environment

Our work is not just for today, but for tomorrow. Tree plantation drives, clean-up campaigns, and eco-awareness projects are just some of the ways we're giving back to the planet that sustains us all.

a) We celebrated International Mangrove Day in collaboration with Nature Environment and Wildlife Society at Bejpur in Sundarbon Area and planted Mangrove Trees at the riverside with the help of school children and local women of the area after a rally with them upto the Thakurani River.

Each of these areas is a call to action — and at Rotary Calcutta Samaritans, we've always responded with compassion, with courage, and with commitment.

Let us remember that our strength lies not in how much we do, but in how deeply we care. As we continue our journey of service, may we remain guided by these seven verticals — seven lights illuminating the path of hope, healing and humanity.

Rtn. Anita Bagaria Secretary: 2024-25



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## Cervical Cancer and Thalassemia Awareness Session at Chetla Girls High School on 22nd April 2025

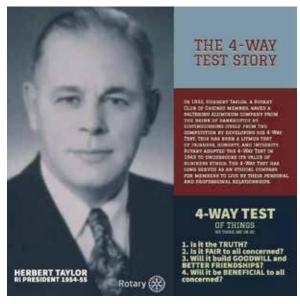
On 22nd April 2025, we, the 2 members of Rotary Club of Calcutta, successfully conducted two consecutive awareness sessions on 1. Cervical Cancer Awareness and Its Vaccination . 2. Thalassemia Awareness and its prevention by Rtn Subhojit Roy. Dr. Chitra Mondal, Cancer Specialist who explained the Cervical Cancer , why , how, and the causes of infection. The process of screening, age group for Vaccination . We also informed them to get their parents consent so that we can provide them free Vaccination. The Second session on Thalassemia was also very captivating as Sibhojit in his usual easy fluid manner explained the details about Thalassemia, the root cause, when to test for detection, how to prevent Thalassemia. Students participated with much enthusiasm. At the end of the session, there was an extensive question and answer session with the students. We felicitated the speakers and the Headmistress with Earthen Water bottle as the mark of International Environment Day.





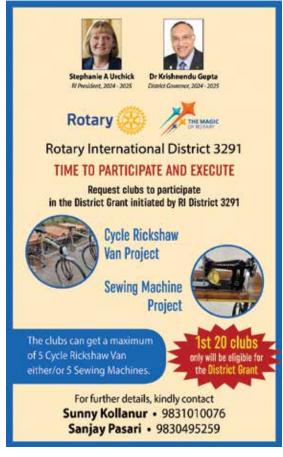






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### Distribution of Sweing Machine on 20th May 2025

On 20th May 2025, we have received 2 sewing maachines from Dist 3291 as District Grant Projet, which were handed over to the NGO at Kestopur, run by Mr. Pradip Mondal who along with an aan orphanage also runs a vocational training centre for underpriviledged women.



