

Mother and Child Health Care



Visit at Joynagar on 5th December 2020 for ongoing Mother and Child Health Care Project. 12 pregnant ladies are being cared for. Dr Joyashree Dhar is the consulting gynaecologist. Medicines, Mother's Horlicks and dry snacks are being distributed. 3 women have delivered. Baby blanket and towels presented to them. Pre-natal and Post-natal care being provided regularly. Members who went: President Gayatree Dhar, PE K K Jha, Dr Joyasree Dhar, Vinita Dutt, Sutapa Das, Subhadri Chatterjee.



Words of Wisdom: Polio Plus – SOME HISTORICAL FACTS



PDG Shyamasree Sen, member of RC Calcutta Metro City, District Governor (2016-17) and now District Chair Polio Plus Committee was the guest

speaker at the regular meeting on Saturday 28th November 2020. She spoke of the historical facts about polio and also gave a picture of the present scenario..

Clem Renouf, RI President (1978-79) visited Philippines in March 1979, a country badly afflicted by polio. Under the 3-H Grant (Health, Hunger and Humanity) programme, 6 million children were immunised. [The 3-H Grant programme does not exist now]. He also helped to get sanction from the RI Board and RI adopted the goal to immunise

children worldwide, in celebration of Rotary's 80th birthday (1985). Soon fund raising campaign began and the target was set at an ambitious US\$120 million. Eventually the sum raised was a little over US\$219.35 million surpassing all expectations. Rotary realised the enormity of the project and teamed up with WHO, UNICEF, and later U S Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Together they work relentlessly. UNICEF got an award for polio. One lady from UNICEF acknowledged Rotary's invaluable support. Government of every country has come on board for the immunisation programme. In some places wars were in-

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**Today's
Programme**

Rotary Meeting on ZOOM

Polio Plus...

interrupted; both sides voluntarily agreed to lay down their arms on NID, so that children could be immunised. In India, the last case of Polio was in 2011 – little Ruksha was identified with polio in West Bengal. Her family had forgotten to take her for immunisation – shameful indeed. She has since recovered but walks with a little limp. India has been declared polio free for some years now and thus people have become apathetic. Many new Rotary Clubs that have been chartered do not know about polio plus. They need to be told, said Shyamasree Sen. “We are at the edge of the precipice, we have to be very, very careful now so that polio does not recur”. India’s neighbour, Afghanistan and Pakistan are NOT polio free. Immunisation process is hampered in these two countries because of volatile political situation. False rumours and gunning down of vaccine givers have set back the process. Senior Rotarians from Rotary International have met

Imran Khan, Prime Minister of Pakistan, who have promised that there will be no terror attacks on NIDs.

Funds are necessary to continue with the good work.

Philippines has been freed from polio years ago, thanks to Rotary, but they are raising huge sums every year for polio. We, in India should raise funds for the endemic countries and for us too. 450 million children are immunised every year in India. There are 150,000 dedicated polio workers, who also

go from house to house to give the precious drops. They have to be paid. These workers are also recruited for ebola, lab testing, data keeping etc. Lots of money have been donated by the Government of Canada recently but more is needed. We HAVE TO eliminate polio, otherwise in 10 years there will be more than 20,000 cases. ROTARIANS SHOULD GENEROUSLY DONATE to the POLIO PLUS FUND. PDG Shyamasree Sen was introduced by PP Dr Jai Nath Gurtu and thanked by PP Rakesh Macwan for her meaningful deliberations.



SOME MORE FACTS ABOUT POLIO

- ♦ In the late 19th century, before poliomyelitis had ever been diagnosed, it was referred to as epidemics of “infantile paralysis”.
- ♦ By 1916, the disease had become a dreaded scourge. Some of Rotary’s earliest programme involved “crippled children’s work”
- ♦ Rotary’s emphasis was traditionally on the after effects of polio, NOT on the cause. That was because for half a century polio confounded even the experts.
- ♦ Finally it was discovered that poliomyelitis was a virus, NOT a bacterium.
- ♦ In April 1955, vaccine developed by Dr Jonas Salk was licensed for use. It was an injectable “killed” virus vaccine.
- ♦ The more effective, longer lasting oral polio vaccine containing live, attenuated virus was produced by Rtn Dr Albert Sabin in 1960.
- ♦ Dr Albert Sabin was Honorary member of RC Cincinnati, Ohio, USA.
- ♦ In 1960 in the largest field trials in history the oral vaccine was administered to every person between the ages of 2 and 20 in the Soviet Union. 77 million patients were immunised, followed by 23 million in other East European Soviet Bloc Nations. New cases of polio disappeared.
- ♦ WHO when approached in 1980 for global immunisation was not at all encouraging. They painted a bleak picture of the cost – both in manpower and economic terms. It was only in 1984 that WHO officially accepted Rotary as NGO partner.
- ♦ US\$120 million was planned to be raised but the collection was much much more – US\$219.35 million. There was jubilation at the RI convention in Philadelphia (May 1988). RI President Charles Keller declared this as “ROTARY’S FINEST HOUR”
- ♦ It was at the convention of 1988 that WHO ambitiously proposed changing the goal from “CONTROL” of polio to “ERADICATION” by the year 2000. RI concurred.
- ♦ India had initially been reluctant to hold NIDs and therefore got a late start. However, once NIDs began, the statistics were staggering. In its first NID in December 1995 2 million health workers and volunteers manned 600,000 booths and inoculated 90 million children in one single day. Next year number rose to 127 million, and in 2000 152 million children received the drops.
- ♦ In 2003, India launched the largest mass immunisation campaign ever undertaken then, to combat the worst polio epidemic in history and immunised 165 million children under five.
- ♦ Since then every year on SNIDs and NIDs immunization has been carried out on a war footing. India today is polio free.
- ♦ Rotary International was the FIRST organisation to be awarded UNICEF’s Audrey Hepburn Child Advocate Award in 1995. Executive Director, UNICEF, Carol Bellomy said that “Rotary has helped make the world a Global Village”

POLIO PLUS IS NOT ABOUT RAISING MONEY; IT IS ABOUT SAVING CHILDREN. DONATE GENEROUSLY

Words of Wisdom: The Impact of Covid-19



Mrs Joeeta Basu, deliberated on how Covid-19 has affected the economy and other sectors at the regular meeting on Saturday 21st. November 2020.

When people came to know about covid-19, which originated from China, there was uproar all over the world. Whatever pandemic had happened years ago - they were localised, like the Spanish flu. Even World War II did not affect all countries. But covid-19 has affected every single household in the world. To contain the virus, India should have stopped International flights long back and not waited till March 18th 2020. The lock down stopped all activities, which was in effect hiding from the disease but NOT getting rid of it. None of us were prepared for this pandemic. Other countries too were unprepared, but many used the lock down to create medical infrastructure. In India, medical facilities were not adequately developed adding to the woes of patients. Economic activities has taken a big hit. People

in the lower rung of the society have been especially affected resulting in tremendous hardship. Government have been saying that employers should support the employees but if the employer can not generate income, how can they help? Covid-19 has taken many lives but lock down has taken more, said Mrs. Basu. Thousands and thousands have died of starvation, lack of treatment. Actually more people die of fatal accidents and various diseases every year than lives that have been lost to covid-19, thus far. Why are people worried now? It is because it has affected everybody including the elite class, whose life style have changed. With reduction in profit, wages have been cut. With low productivity there is low income. It is a vicious circle.

Tea gardens are 'enclave industries'. The owners/managers live in opulent bungalows and have a lavish lifestyle, but the workers live in shanties. The factories where tea is processed are well maintained. The packaged tea travels from the factories to the

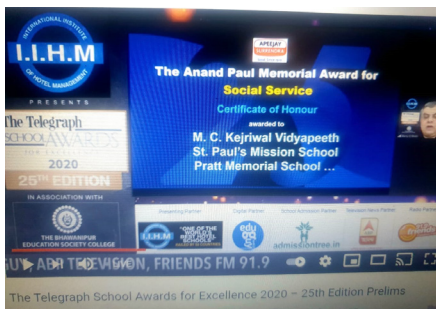
dock and shipped to ports and cities, without distributing any development proceeds on their way. They do not have any linkage factor. Development gets limited to the upper echelons. The fruits of labour of the tea pickers are not theirs to claim.

Steel plants like that in Jamshedpur has linkage packets. Backward packet, where ores have to come from mines. So factory set up in Chhotanagpur plateau, which is close by. In forward packet, the steel produced goes to manufacturing companies like cycle, automobile etc. Thus there is overall industrial development. Now because of the pandemic the chain has been affected, which has caused intense hardship. What is needed is the PUSH factor, set up enterprises, create jobs. Inclusive development is desirable.

In this pandemic, teachers salaries have been cut by 20%. Thus students can pay less fees. It is necessary to plan and do things positively, said Joeeta Basu.




Smt Joeeta Basu was introduced by K.K.Jha and thanked by Chhanda Banerji.

Interact & Rotaract in Action



Pratt Memorial School has received Honour Certificate for Social Service on 10 December, 2020 from **The Telegraph in School (TTIS)**.

Congratulations!!!

ROTARY CLUB OF CALCUTTA VICTORIA
In association with
YOUTH WING ROTARY CLUB OF CALCUTTA VICTORIA


PRESENTS

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2020

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Symposium on The Rotary Foundation Service Across Boundaries

November is the Rotary Foundation month. Thus RID 3291 had two events. One, an area wise webinar with different cluster of zones participating on different days and the second one a symposium held for all Rotary Clubs of RID 3291.

A webinar with zone 13,14,15 took place on 18th November 2020, where DRFC Anirudha Roy Chowdhury chaired the meeting. ARRFC and Chief Counselor Rajani Mukerjee also addressed the participants. It was stressed that clubs must plan for Foundation programmes and support it. Unless we give to the Annual Fund – DDF will not be generated. For the final thrust in polio eradication funds are needed. Clubs which are unable to do Global Grants can take District Grant to do projects. The three Assistant Governors of zones 13,14,15 placed their reports.

At the symposium held on 29th November 2020, the speakers were District Governor Sudip Mukherjee, DRFC Anirudha Roy Chowdhury, RRFC Basudev Golyan, ARRFC Rajani Mukerjee, District Chair, polio, Shyamasree Sen, TRF Trustee Gulam Vahanvati from RID 3141, Mumbai, who was the chief guest and PP Dr Krishnendu Gupta AKS. Besides 2 members from RISAO (Rotary India South Asia Office), Ms Hema Gupta, senior co-ordinator Annual Giving and Ms Shakuntala Raha, well versed in Major Gifts and CSR gave their valuable inputs. With Covid-19 creating havoc, a huge amount of money was disbursed by TRF to Rotary districts around the world to manage the unprecedented crisis and thus the World Fund has depleted. So Rotarians have to generously donate and do fund raise for The Foundation. Last year 330 Global Grants were applied for, but only 20 accepted because of fund crunch. Collection till 20th June 2020 has been US\$3 lakh only, of which US\$1.53lakh is for general fund and the rest for polio plus. In the last Rotary Year highest contribution was from RC Calcutta with US\$52,400, followed by RC Calcutta Mahanagar with a contribution of US\$36000+. RID 3291 had received US\$25000

and four Global Grants for Covid related projects. For the last two years the contribution by the district has remained stagnant at US \$4 lakh only. "In this troubled and uncertain world, we need compassion". The funds go a long way in changing lives for the better in this world. Generosity of the members have not gone unrecognised. Charity navigator (CNBC) rated TRF as TOP charitable organisation. Accountability and transparency of TRF is highly rated. Only 2% of the contributions is spent on incidental costs like individual and club recognitions and others. Rotarians and Rotaractors should contribute to the Polio Plus Fund – at least US\$10 can easily be given, so that all clubs can become 100% Foundation giving clubs. Surprisingly out of 1.2 million Rotarians world wide, only 0.2 million have contributed to the Polio Plus fund.

Contributions have been steadily declining since 2016-17 in Annual Fund which generate DDF (District Designated Fund). Small clubs can avail of this to do projects, if they are unable to manage Global Grants. There are several ways to raise money. By engaging new members, recognising donors in social media/special event, setting fund raising goals, making a gift every year, become a Paul Harris Society member. To be a major donor one has to contribute US\$10,000 (only spouse can be clubbed). Endowment Fund entails contributing minimum US\$25,000, which can be given within a span of 3 years. It is building a legacy for loved ones. Money is invested in perpetuity. GG Endowed Fund is US\$ 250,000. With this one can do a project Internationally, anywhere, in one of Rotary's area of focus, where there is a Rotary Club.

Directed gifts can be related to Global Grant. Minimum amount required is US\$30,000, which can be used for any of the areas of focus. Donor can specify the geographical area. After deducting 5% administrative cost available amount is US\$28,500. This gift has to be from a single donor/single com-

pany – NOT a pool gift. In this, International partner need not contribute financially but they may have a say in the implementation or some other thing. This is NOT matched by the Foundation.

The drop in the World Fund is US\$17 million taken world wide (In India it is almost US\$3 million). Cash contribution to GG has stopped now, informed the TRF Trustee. All this is very worrying.

Dr Krishnendu Gupta AKS spoke on "Joy of Giving". He spoke about his emotional visit and wonderful reception at RI headquarters in Evanston where he met all the top Rotarians after he became AKS, and his meeting with the Kohinoor of Rotary in India Shri Ravishankar Dakoju who has donated 100 crores to TRF (80% of his savings and assets). Dr Krishnendu Gupta said surplus wealth is necessary to be able to donate but one does not have to be a billionaire to do so. One must have the HEART and BELIEF. His

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**Happy
Birthday!**

**Siddharth Jhajharia
18th December**



**Anniversary
Wishes**

**Dipanwita Banerjee
& Samrat Bhattacharya – 8th Dec**

**Alka Jayaswal
& Kunal – 14th Dec**

**Sandeep Mukherjee
& Sumedha – 14th Dec**

Minutes of the 1258th Regular Meeting of ROTARY CLUB OF CALCUTTA VICTORIA

held on Saturday, 21st November, 2020 at 12:00 noon on ZOOM

- President Gayatree Dhar called the 1258th regular weekly meeting to order.
- National Anthem was played by Nishant Jain, son of Rtn Nitish Jain and all joined in.
- President welcomed guest speaker Mrs Joeeta Basu and her guest.
- Minutes of the 1257th regular meeting was confirmed, proposed by Chhanda Banerji and seconded by K K Jha.
- **President's Announcements:**
 - ♦ The programme at New Age Home Orphanage took place on 11th November 2020, where dry ration, rugs, disinfectant, biscuits, bananas and cakes and rosogollas were given in celebration of Children's Day and Deepavali. RCC Avyanna joined RCCV in this project.
 - ♦ Rs 30,000 that was handed over to 'Kolkata Society for Cultural Heritage' have been utilised in planting mangrove saplings in Gosaba area of Sunderbans. This was carried out in the first half of November 2020.
 - ♦ On 12th November 2020, a joint programme with Interact Club of P.B. Academy was held to celebrate Diwali and Children's Day. 15 underprivileged children were given food, stationery and sweets. They along with teachers of the school celebrated the birthday of President Gayatree by cutting a cake, presentation of a gift and singing. It was a complete surprise and very touching.
 - ♦ ROSHINI, celebration of Deepavali and Children's Day with Rotaractors happened on 13th November 2020. 350 underprivileged children were given educational material, gifts and food packets. Hope Foundation was partner in service.
- ♦ A Webinar on TRF with clubs of zone 13.14.15 took place on 18th November 2020. PDG Aniruddha Roy Chowdhury was the chief speaker. Yours truly and some members of RCCV attended. Another webinar on TRF is scheduled for Sunday, 29th November 2020. PP Dr Krishnendu Gupta will be one of the speakers.
- ♦ Today evening, a programme of district 3291, to celebrate Bijoya and Diwali, will take place on zoom. It will be a musical event with well known singers performing Link will be sent to interested members.
- ♦ On Sunday, 22nd November 2020, a trip to RCC Kanthalberia has been arranged. 60 mosquito nets, 250 kg of rice and 50 kg of Daal will be given to 50 needy senior citizens. Rice and Daal sponsored by PP Sunita Agarwala and her family members.
- ♦ RID 3291 is constantly asking for details of all the RCCs sponsored by the club. Copies of the charter name and email id's of the President of the club have to be submitted by 25th. Other relevant documents like their bylaws and audited balance sheet have to be submitted to the RCCV President by 25th November 2020. RI has asked for them, failing which the RCCs will be dechartered.
- ♦ Most members have paid their half yearly dues. Acting treasurer K K Jha is scrutinising the bank statement for details. The delay is due to the fact that some members have paid online without sharing their transaction details.
- ♦ Four members, Dia David, Yogesh Agarwal, Neeraj Jain and Nikita have left the club after July 2020. Since their dues have already been paid, their proposers were requested to contact them for payment.
- ♦ K K Jha was requested to introduce guest speaker Smt Joyeeta Basu, which he did. She spoke on "How Covid has affected the economy and other sectors". She was thanked by PP Chhanda Banerji.
- ♦ Rakesh Macwan, Chair International Service requested all members to give at least USD 100 per year. RID 3291 will match the contribution of any member who donates USD 500, by giving the same amount to become a PHF. Donation can be to (i) Polio Fund (ii) General Fund.
- ♦ One should pay from the heart, as the money given comes back manifold to the club.
- **Secretary's Announcements:**
 - ♦ Club Secretary Seema Danda extended wedding anniversary greetings to: (i) Chandra and Poonam Surana for 24th November; (ii) Varsha and Sabuj Ghatak for 24th November; (iii) Sutapa and Pradosh Das for 25th November; (iv) Dr Krishnendu and Dr Simran Gupta for 26th November
 - ♦ On Sunday 22nd November 2020, five members of RCCV are going to Kanthalberia for distributing mosquito nets, rice and daal to needy senior citizens.
 - ♦ Next week's meeting on Saturday, 28th November 2020 at 12 noon.
- There being no other business, the meeting was terminated at 1pm.

Minutes of the 1259th Regular Meeting of ROTARY CLUB OF CALCUTTA VICTORIA

held on Saturday, 28th November, 2020 at 12:00 noon on ZOOM

- President Gayatree Dhar called the 1259th meeting to order
- She welcomed all the members & PDG Shyamashree Sen to the virtual meeting on Zoom
- The National Anthem was played by Nishant Jain, son of Rtn Nitish Jain.
- The minutes of the 1258th meeting were confirmed by Rtn Sarah & seconded by Rtn Rakesh Macwan.

■ President announcement:

- ♦ Seven projects completed in November 2020. They are: (1) Mother and Child Health Care programme which is going very well, (2) Visit to New Age Society Orphanage along with RC Calcutta Avyanna on 11th November 2020, (3) Donation of Rs 30,000 to Kolkata Society for Cultural Heritage, for mangrove plantation at Sunderbans, on 11th November 2020, (4) Project with Interactors of PB Academy on 12th November 2020, where food, sweets and stationary were provided to 15 underprivileged children, (5) Project Roshini with Rotaractors on 13th November 2020, for disadvantaged children, (6) Distribution of Rice, daal, mosquito nets and soaps to 50 senior citizens at RCC Kanthalberia on 22nd November 2020 and (7) participation in SNID on 22nd November 2020, handled by Chair Polio Plus Sarah Macwan, Rakesh Macwan

and Capt Arnab Sen. District Governor Sudip Mukherjee was also present at the polio booths.

- ♦ Thank you members for your very generous contribution towards all the projects.
- ♦ Trip to RCC Kanthalberia on 22nd November 2020, was made by PE K K Jha, Sutapa Das, Dr Joyashree Dhar and Yours Truly. Condition of the elderly people there are very pathetic. Have decided to do some projects there to alleviate their sufferings.
- ♦ PP Dr Krishnendu Gupta has contributed Rs 22,27,400 to the Polio Fund till date.

■ Upcoming Projects

- 1) Investor awareness programme being co-hosted along with RC Kasba on Thursday 10th December from 2 pm at Mahajati Kalyan Samity, Ruby Park Kasba. Keynote speakers are Hon Minister Javed Ahmed Khan, PDG Anjan Kumar and Rtn Debasish Mitra and Rtn Subhasish Bose.
- 2) A trip to Joynagar planned where Dr Joyashree Dhar who is personally supervising the progress of 12 pregnant women. She will also give a talk to newly married women about their health, before they conceive.
- 3) RCCV again partnering with Rotaractors on

13th December for blanket distribution. This year we are expecting distribution of 2000 blankets, in Kolkata & Jamshedpur.

- 4) Seeing the conditions of the poor people in Kanthalberia the club is going to do a project along with the spouses of Rotarians in donating old clothes bedsheet socks shawls blankets etc. It will be done in the third week of December.
- 5) For Christmas, lunch will be given to inmates of New Age Society Orphanage. Also sanitizers disinfectant will be given there, as they need it desperately.

- Dr Gurtu was then requested to introduce the speaker PDG Shyamashree Sen, which she did.

- PDG Shyamashree Sen spoke on historical facts about polio. She was thanked by PP Rakesh Macwan.

■ Secretary's Announcement:

- ♦ Birthday greetings extended to Dr Dipanwita Banerji for 1st December.
- ♦ Wedding Anniversary greetings extended to Chandrakala and Suresh Agrawal for 1st December, and to B K & Neelu Agarwal for 5th December.
- ♦ Next week's meeting on Saturday, 12th December 2020 at 12 noon.



- There being no other business, the meeting was terminated at 1pm.

Members Present: 27

The Rotary Foundation...

passion is control of cervical cancer through HPD vaccination, health of mothers and removing Polio from this earth. He related his journey in Rotary, remembered Dr Duru Lilaram, who brought him to RC Calcutta Victoria, acknowledged his DG Brojo Gopal Kundu and was effusive in his thanks for his club, RC Calcutta Victoria.

He was all praise for TRF. Joy of Giving starts with YOU. He concluded by quoting Winston Churchill "We make a living with what we get; We make a life with what we give".

 <p>THE TRUE LABORATORY IS THE MIND WHERE BEHIND ILLUSIONS WE UNCOVER THE LAWS OF TRUTH</p> <p>Jagadish Chandra Bose</p> <p>Born 30th November 1858</p> 	<p>Jagadish Chandra Bose</p> <p>Inventor of Crescograph that records the stimuli of plants</p> <p>Is Known as the inventor of Radio</p> <p>Pioneer in the field of microwave devices</p>
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