



Spectrum

UNITE
FOR
GOOD

RI District 3291

Feb 15, 2026

Semimonthly bulletin of Rotary Salt Lake Metropolitan Kolkata

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President □ Dr. Saktirupa Chakraborty

Secretary □ Ajit Kumar Majumder

Editors □ PP Siddartha Tantia & Priyanka Agarwal

Club No □ 78956

Chartered On □ April 30, 2008

Website □ <https://rcslmk.rotaryindia.org>

CLUB EVENT I

Health Camp for women of Sundarbans



“Matri Raksha”, the 84th Fighting Anemia in women Camp of RCSLMK held at Gadkhali, Sundarbans on Sunday, February 1, 2026. Team of Rotary members, skilled volunteers capable to provide technical supports, physicians and specialists left Salt Lake at 8.00 in the morning and reached the camp site by 10.45 AM.



RCSLMK team was welcomed by local representatives at the Bus stand, who had hired Toto to let the team reach the venue at Rotary Young Indian (Yi) clinic. Flow of women seeking advices from specialists continued till 2 PM.

PP Dr. Chitra Ray, Dr. Debasmita Mukhopadhyay, PP Dr. Aruna Tantia, Dr. Sunabha K Ghosh and PE Dr. Bimalendu Sen examined and advised 73 of them. Each were tested for anemia, sugar, hypertension and osteoporosis.

Free medicines were provided as advised.



PE Dr. Bimalendu Sen, PP Dr. Chitra Ray and PP Dr. Aruna Tantia jointly visited and surveyed the location earmarked for mangrove plantation under upcoming Global Grant. Agricultural lands in the area get

We meet calendar months' 2nd & 4th Saturdays at GPT Group, JC 25, Salt Lake, Kolkata 700098 at 6.00 PM

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severely contaminated due to inflow of saline water during high tides making such lands unsuitable for farming. Plantation and growth of mangroves can save poor farmers from extreme poverty arising out of seepage of saline water.

River bank denuded requiring mangrove plantation



Storage and apt use of rainwater would thereafter let economy of the community grow. The Rotary Young Indians, the host of the health camp, treated the RCSLMK team with hot meal and made a warm sendoff.



The RCSLMK team finally returned to Salt Lake at 8.00 PM with a memorable experience. Thanks to technical teammates Sharmila, Alope, Kanchan, Raja, Monitoring team, and Osteoporosis testing team.

CLUB EVENT II

Health of women in school concerns RCSLMK



“Matri Raksha”, the 85th health camp for women held by RCSLMK at Salt Lake Point School on Thursday, February 5, 2026 from 2 PM to 4 PM.

About 40 people including teachers, staff, and technicians of the school attended the program. RCSLMK was represented by the President Dr. Saktirupa Chakraborty, Rotarian Dr. Sougata Manna and technical staff of ILS Hospital.



President Dr. Saktirupa Chakraborty talked to share her wisdom on Menstrual hygiene, Cervical cancer with HPV vaccination and Breast cancer. Rotarian Dr. Sougata Manna attended female participants for physiotherapy checkup.



Technical staff of ILS Hospital measured and recorded health parameters of women present and also offered free medicines as prescribed by aforesaid doctors. The entire team was warmly welcomed and felicitated by the school Principal. The teachers were pleased and requested for similar programs in future as well.



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CLUB EVENT III

Health checkup for women busy in keeping law & order



“Matri Raksha”, the 86th Fighting Anemia in women Camp of RCSLMK along with Cervical cancer awareness program for the ‘Women Home Guards & Civic Volunteers’ under Kolkata Police was held at Home Guard Centre located at Alipore Police complex at 7, Diamond Harbor Road on Saturday, February 7, 2026 from 11 AM to 2 PM.



Total no. of beneficiaries were 70 persons. The program was nicely organized, by and for a group of well-disciplined people.



President Dr. Saktirupa Chakraborty and Dr. Debasmita Mukhopadhyay took part in consultation & advise to all the persons after their preliminary screening, followed by distribution of Medicines & advices.

Most of the women sought advice for their joint & generalized pain for which Rotarian Dr. Sougata attended & advised.



Later all the women gathered & listened to President Dr. Saktirupa, Chakraborty, Dr. Debasmita Mukhopadhyay and Rotarian Dr. Sougata Manna, who gave useful talks on the following topics respectively:

1. Cervical and Breast Cancer
2. Menstrual hygiene and
3. Pain related Physiotherapy.



The camp was appropriately coordinated by Rotarian Dr. Saugata Manna.



The team was welcomed and served with snacks, tea & very delicious lunch.



In addition to the regular and essential supporting team from ILS Hospital, President Dr. Saktirupa, club Secretary Dr. Ajit Majumder, Senior member Ashok K Surana and young Rotarian Dr. Sougata Manna were present.

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CLUB ANNOUNCEMENT

Club's Global Grant for cleft lip surgeries got a revision



RIVA before and after cleft lip surgery

While sharing Grant commitments of all partners including RCSLMK under Global Grant 2690645 funding of forthcoming cleft lip project, PP Dr. Aruna Tantia announced that the initial grant of USD 65000 got significantly increased to let the project accommodate two consecutive years' grant covering 200 cleft lip surgeries.

RCSLMK and its Grant partners are approaching towards meeting funding commitments. Any member willing to contribute towards the Grant for life changing surgeries are most welcome to pledge, PP Dr. Aruna added.

Global Grant Financing Planner

Application #	0521900045		Project Country		Kolkata, India	
	DDF (USD)	Cash Grant to Project (Spend USD)	Cash through TRF (Equal USD)			
			Project Cash	3%	Total to TRF	
1. Host Rotary Clubs/District						
03201	\$ 3,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,000
RC Salt Lake Metro			3,000	150		3,150
RC Central Calcutta			2,000	100		2,100
Total Host Contributions \$ 3,000 \$ - \$ 3,000 \$ 8,000 10%						
2. International Rotary Clubs/District						
04811	\$ 10,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,000
04112	\$ 2,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000
02811	\$ 3,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,000
RC Greece & Patagonia Counties			30,000	1,500		31,500
RC Columbia County			10,000	500		10,500
RC Venice-Nokomis			25,000	1,250		26,250
RC Istanbul-Ankara			1,000	50		1,050
Total International Contributions \$ 20,000 \$ 50,000 \$ 1,000 \$ 76,000 90%						
3. TRF World Fund match (8% of DDF)						
	\$ 18,480	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 18,480
Total Rotarian Contributions \$ 84,000 100%						
4. Endowed/Directed GR #						
5. TRF Donor Advised Fund						
6. Other donors (unmatched)						
Total Global Grant Funding \$ 102,480						
Total Project Funding (must be equal to budget) \$ 102,480						

RCSLMK plans to submit its grant compliance by end of February, 2026.

FAMILY OF RCSLMK NEWS

Foundation of a temple



Inspired by late Dwarika Prasad Tantia RCSLMK's past Honorary Rotary member and Major Donor, the foundation stone of Shriram temple on a 5-hectare land in Bidasar, Rajasthan was laid on Saturday, February 7, 2026.



Tributes: Late Gowardhan Prasad, Savitri Devi and their 2nd son late Dwarika Prasad Tantia



Bidasar in Rajasthan is the ancestor village of Tantia family of many Rotary members over 3 generations.



CLUB EVENT IV

Matri Raksha for semi-urban women



"Matri Raksha", the 87th Fighting Anemia in women Camp of RCSLMK was held at Konnagar in association with Rotary Serampore on Sunday, February 15, 2026.



Total 165 patients were screened and consulted by Dr. Debasmita Mukhopadhyay and PP Dr. Chitra Ray.



Know your numbers was done by Alok and Kanchan while Raja, and M& E team saw smooth functioning that includes Registration, Medicine distribution.



The team returned home by 4 PM after a fruitful day.



Wishing you a day filled with happiness and a year filled with joy. Happy birthday!

Birthdays of members in February & March

PE Dr. Bimaledu Sen on February 6, 2026
Amrita Chatterjee on March 25, 2026



Happy anniversary to a truly special couple. Your love is inspiring!

Wedding Anniversaries of members in February & March 2026

President Dr. Saktirupa & Spouse Dr. Suranjan Chakraborty on February 5, 2026
PP Kusum Chamaria & Spouse Krishna on February 24, 2026
Spouse Rani & PP BL Ajitsaria on February 28, 2026
Shruti & Nitesh Toshniwal on March 6, 2026

February is Peacebuilding and Conflict Prevention Month

March is February is Water and Sanitation Month

23 February: Rotary's anniversary

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Upcoming club programs

Distribution of Jaipur foot to 20 Physically disabled persons on Mar 1, 2026 at Chakdah under project "Uthe Sabke Kadam": A Global Grant Project of Rotary Calcutta Chowringhee. 88th Matri Raksha camp on Sunday, February 22, 2026 at Bankura.

RI ANNOUNCEMENT

Results of challenge elections for Rotary International director for 2027-29

The Rotary International director elections in Zones 6, 10A, and 12, concluded on 1 February 2026. A balloting committee met by correspondence on 6 February to certify the balloting results, and RI President Francesco Arezzo has declared the following individuals as the directors-nominee from their respective zone:

Zone 6: Basu Dev Golyan of the Rotary Club of Biratnagar, Nepal

Zone 10A: Edna R. Sutter of the Rotary Club of Fort Bonifacio Global City, Philippines

Zone 12: Bo-Gon Kim of the Rotary Club of Gwangju-Bia, Korea

12-Feb-2026

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL FEATURE

Rotary International launches new peace center in India

Rotary Peace Center at Symbiosis International University will train peace and development professionals from across Asia
By Etelka Lehoczky on February 11, 2026



Leaders of Rotary International and Symbiosis International University gathered in Pune, India, to inaugurate a new Rotary Peace Center at the university. Supported through The Rotary Foundation, the center will provide experienced peacebuilders from across Asia with one-year professional development certificate fellowships to study subjects such as conflict transformation, sustainable development, and social change.

"With India's rich diversity and complex social landscape, the peace center will offer unique opportunities for cultivating leaders who can navigate conflict with empathy and innovation," says Bharat S. Pandya, a trustee of The Rotary Foundation and member of the Rotary Club of Borivli, Maharashtra, India. "This center will nurture a new generation of leaders in Asia who are dedicated to strengthening dialogue, understanding, and sustainable peace."

The new center will host up to 40 Rotary Peace Fellows per year to earn a postgraduate diploma in peace and development studies. The program is designed for midcareer professionals with experience working in peace and development fields, including within governments, non-governmental and community organizations, educational institutions, media outlets, and international agencies.

Symbiosis International University's motto, Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam, or The World Is One Family, reflects a commitment to internationalism and cultural understanding that dates to its founding. Established in 1971 as a cultural exchange center for students from other countries (particularly Africa) who were experiencing discrimination, Symbiosis today has more than 55,000 students from at least 85 nations.



The Lavale campus of Symbiosis International University, the site of the new Rotary Peace Center, in Pune, India

©Symbiosis International University Press 2025

"The university has been focused on nurturing global citizens through quality education and cross-cultural sensitization as well as empowering thoughtful leaders — essentials for creating a harmonious world," says Anita Patankar, director of the Symbiosis Centre for International Education and executive director of the university's campus in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. "The Rotary Peace Center, with its unique academic program, joins the Symbiosis family in extending this vision."

Symbiosis already has a history of collaborating with nearby Rotary Districts 3131 and 3141, which will jointly welcome and support peace fellows during their time in India. The university hosts annual Rotary Youth Leadership Awards, and Rotary members organize professional development opportunities for teachers. The Rotary Foundation recently awarded a

global grant for a project at the university hospital, which provides free medical services to the community.



“Symbiosis has consistently sought to build meaningful alliances that enrich learning and foster inclusive, knowledge-driven, and sustainable progress,” says Vice Chancellor Ramakrishnan Raman. “Our collaboration with Rotary further reinforces this commitment, enabling new opportunities for scholarship, peacebuilding, and human development.”

The peace center will be housed at the university's hilltop Lavale campus. Highlighting issues relevant to Asian countries, the curriculum will include many opportunities for the fellows to gain real-world experience through field visits outside of Pune as well as locally. Symbiosis has close relationships with more than 35 nearby villages, whose residents use its legal aid clinic and vocational training programs. The fellows will work with faculty members, other students, and village residents to learn about the villages, propose strategies for their development, and meet with local leaders for feedback.

This kind of practical learning is possible thanks to the ethic of social responsibility that Symbiosis and Rotary share, says Laura Descher, the Rotary Peace Centers program director.



“The university's commitment to the advancement and well-being of not only their own students, but all people in their community and beyond, strongly aligns with Rotary's mission to do good in the world,” she says. “Peace can only be achieved when dignity, integrity, and inclusion are prioritized across society.” With the opening of the new peace center, Rotary's eighth, The Rotary Foundation will be able to award

up to 170 fully funded peace fellowships each year. More than 1,800 fellows have completed Rotary Peace Center programs around the world since 2002, going on to leadership roles in government agencies, NGOs, educational institutions, and international organizations. The first applications to attend the Symbiosis peace center are being accepted through 15 May 2026, and it will welcome its first group of fellows in early 2027.

By training leaders in the strategies and practices of peacebuilding, Rotary Peace Centers have a wide-ranging impact on the world that will be felt for years to come, says Rotary International President Francesco Arezzo.

“In this interconnected world, peace can no longer be viewed as an abstract ideal. It must be cultivated through institutions that combine knowledge, ethical leadership, and action,” Arezzo says. “The Rotary Peace Center at Symbiosis International University reflects Rotary's commitment to nurturing leaders who understand and act with integrity toward a cause. The center will contribute not only to regional peacebuilding in Asia, but to a stronger global framework for shared responsibility.”

TAILPIECE

50 years of Rotary Youth Exchange: why alumni matter



Hans Lee, middle, networks with other Rotary Youth Exchange alumni at the 2023 Rotary International Convention in Melbourne, Australia. By Hans Lee, a member of the Rotary Club of Berlin Platz der Republik, Berlin, Germany and co-founder of Rotex International on 10 February 2026

I watch time pass by with a mix of emotions in the world of Rotary Youth Exchange. Programs grow, traditions change, challenges are overcome and generations of students pack their whole life into a suitcase and move to a country where they do not know anyone.

Then — after experiencing transformations they can never fully explain to their friends and families — they leave that world that had adopted them. Somewhere

on that journey back, a quiet truth emerges: exchange doesn't end when you return home.

Why Rotex exists

Rotex alumni associations exist to help returning students continue on their journey. As we mark 10 years of Rotex International – and reflect on 50 years of Rotary Youth Exchange as an official RI program (as of 2025) – I've been thinking a lot about the alumni who built our history.

The roots stretch far back. Rotary clubs were organizing student exchanges as early as the 1920s. In 1975, Rotary Youth Exchange became an official RI program.

Those moments weren't simply milestones; they are glimpses of how deep the roots of Rotary Youth Exchange run. By the time we held the first international Rotex gathering in Bordeaux in 2012, it was already clear alumni were no longer just participants who "graduated" from Youth Exchange. They are problem solvers, cultural ambassadors, and mentors who continue to move the organization forward as long as they stay connected to Rotary.

The recognition of Rotex International in 2019 as a Rotary alumni network acknowledged the reality that exchange alumni are globally-minded and driven to connect the Rotary world.

Yet every year, thousands of young leaders complete their Youth Exchange and drift away from Rotary. Not because they want to, but simply because the bridge back to Rotary isn't always easy to find.

Rotex is that bridge

Across dozens of countries and Rotary districts, Rotex alumni associations support interviews, trainings, orientations, language camps, school visits, and crisis responses. They make countless contributions that help keep Youth Exchange running. As former students themselves, they have institutional memory. They bring a fresh perspective to decision-making in their local programs. They help students feel more connected, not just to the program, but to Rotary. Most importantly, as alumni they remain actively involved with Rotary.

Rotex gives returning students a place to land and a community that understands the disorienting, enlightening, and beautiful process of a year abroad as a teenager.

As we look to the next 50 years of Youth Exchange, the question isn't whether alumni matter. It's whether Rotary members are ready to treat them as the partners they are. As Rotary strives to grow and stay globally relevant, the path is right in front of us: invest in alumni. Engage them early. Invite them often. Trust them with real responsibility.

Rotex alumni associations are not just a short-term activity for students when they return. They are the door to Rotary's future. Let's keep that door open.

Rotex International supports Rotex alumni associations worldwide as they take on leadership roles, mentor current exchange students, and build an identity within the Rotary family. This year we are placing most of our efforts on outreach, with ambitious growth goals for our online community and an aim to connect on calls with over 100 districts on every continent that runs Rotary Youth Exchange. Know any districts that we should talk to? Let us know by emailing info@rotex.org.

Environment Global Grant Proposal

MANGROVE RESTORATION AND LIVELIHOOD SHORING THE SHORES

GG 2454166

The project aims to restore the 2 villages coastal areas biodiversity by replanting native 1 lakh mangroves and engaging the community through Skill training workshops on their vital role in climate change mitigation & livelihood generation.

G - 3661 Website: Showing the Club Application with Community Assessment & Training Plan
GG 2454166 Presentation: Restoring the Shores Shores with Mangroves

Lead Host Club : Rotary Club of Salt Lake Metropolitan Kolkata, INDIA (D-3291)
Partner Club : RC Central Calcutta (D-3291) | RC Hooghly (D3291)
Project Contact (HC) : Dr. Aruna Tantia
International Host Club : RC Washington DC (D-7620)
Project Contact (IC) : Dr. Sam Hancock – Washington DC
International Club Partner : RC Aarau (D-1980)

We Seek International Partners

✓ RC Washington DC (D7620)	DDF	\$5,000
International District 2	DDF	\$3,000
Host Club District 3291	DDF	\$7,000
✓ RC Washington DC (D7620)	Cash	\$5,100
International Club (IC) 2	Cash	\$10,000
✓ IC RC Aarau (D1980)	Cash	\$1000
Host Club Lead (RC SLM)	Cash	\$13,808
✓ HC Partner (RC Central Calcutta)	Cash	\$5,000
✓ RC Hooghly	Cash	\$1,500
✓ E Club of District 7210	Cash	\$1,000

The Rotary Foundation
arunantantia@gmail.com

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