



Francesco Arezzo
RI President 2025-26



Dr. Kameswar S. Elangbam
District Governor RID 3240



Chandana Das
President, Rotary Club of Shillong



Rtn Chandana Das and Rtn (Dr.) A.K. Das, President and Secretary respectively of Rotary Club of Shillong with decorated Air Force officer, Air Commodore Iqbal Hazarika as Guest speaker during a club meeting on 31st October 2025.



PDG Rtn (Dr.) Debashish Das delivering his talk at TRF Seminar of District 3120 at Varanasi.

Rotary Foundation bags Mahatma Award

Rotary Foundation (India), RFI, led by PRID C Basker (till Sept 30) has won the prestigious Mahatma Award instituted by Gandhian, philanthropist and social entrepreneur Amit Sachdeva as a tribute to Mahatma Gandhi.

The Aditya Birla group is one of its sponsors. The awards event is organised by Liveweek, a company involved in devising social impact strategies, to bestow honour on individuals and organisations that leverage their resources, expertise and talent to work towards making this world a better place.

The awards are given annually in India, the UK and the US, and RFI had applied for the award for 'Social good and impact' in the non-profit category. During the interview, the jury members quizzed about the CSR initiatives of Rotary in India. RFI bagged the award for its significant social impact in India through its CSR programmes, its work on disease prevention and treatment, maternal and child health, education, economic development, environment, polio eradication, and water, sanitation and hygiene.

The award was received by RI director Anirudha Roychowdhury, along with Sanjay Parmar, TRF head at RISAO and RFI secretary, and Bhawna Verma, senior coordinator for CSR programmes.

My Mantra For Peace And Happiness.... Make Allowances

As a young man I was very hot headed and short tempered. I had very low tolerance for others mistakes. I was generally unhappy with world every one around me.....including my self.

One day I sat down in introspection and tried to analyse the problem. I had problem with my father , my wife , my in-lawseven my good friends. I realised I can not change others because I had no control over them. I can only change my self. How can I change my self? I devised a mantra. Make Allowances . If my father seems unreasonable ignore it....after all I owe him everything and I can not change him. It is easier to change my self. If a child misbehaves , ignore it, he doesn't know what he is doing . If a friend misbehaved I would tell myself it's ok yaar he is a very dear friend and has so much to like about...forget it. If my girlfriend acted haughty I would tell myself she is so pretty and intelligent and makes me feel so happy....she has the right to have some attitude . If a customer was unreasonable I would tell myself it's all right....customer is always right. If a man on street misbehaved I would tell myself it's alright....every body is not lucky to have good upbringing . If an old man was unreasonable I would easily forgive him by making allowance for his age. In short , I decided to stop trying to change others and change my self instead. Accept people as they are. If they are totally incompatible it's better to avoid them tactfully. If we try to change others , their natural reaction would be to resist it. People don't change because you want them to change . They will change when they feel the need to change.

In 1972 I was diagnosed with cancer of vocal cord. I got the best available treatment and was cured but it left me with a slightly muted voice. I tried to convert that little speech impediment to my advantage. I avoided arguing with people . I stopped yelling or shouting (actually couldn't shout even if I tried). I even stopped reacting to people's unreasonable treatment. My most violent reaction would be total silence. If I feel seriously hurt (rarely though) I stop talking to that person till he or she comes back with a clarification or apology. This has generally worked for me . I rarely react to people's adverse comments or behaviour.

Life has been beautiful since I evolved my Mantra for peace and happiness . It's so simple to follow. Make allowance to people. Don't try to change others. Don't react if provoked. Does it mean I have never reacted ? Well , almost never. Only once I saw a vagabond pissing on my shop wall even before I downed the shutter. I couldn't control my anger and kicked him hard on his posterior. The culprit ran without completing the job and without looking back. Later I felt bad for my violent reaction and resolved not to repeat it.

(Contributed by Rtn. Gangadhar Jatiani)




O.H. BABALOLA
 RI PRESIDENT
 2026-27


DR ASIM ADHIKARY
 DIST GOVERNOR
 2026-27

Rotary
District 3240

HAPPY TO INTRODUCE

TEAM INSPIRATION 2026-27

Let us welcome AG of Zone 13


Rtn Dr Mrinal Barthakur
 RC Shillong Heritage

Spouse :


Rtn Dr. Kaveri Sharma Barthakur

1. ROTARY CLUB OF SHILLONG
 2. ROTARY CLUB OF ORCHID CITY SHILLONG
 3. ROTARY CLUB OF CHERRY BLOSSOM SHILLONG
 4. ROTARY CLUB OF SHILLONG HERITAGE
 5. ROTARY CLUB OF JOWAI

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2024-25 fundraising results: A record-breaking year

Rotary supporters, donors, and partners contributed over US\$569 million in 2024-25, exceeding our goal of US\$500 million.

In 2024-25:

- 478,629 donors supported The Rotary Foundation.
- 32,972 clubs contributed, including 1,893 Rotaract clubs.
- 1,036 Rotaract clubs earned the Rotaract Giving Certificate — a new record!
- Rotary Direct saw a 3.3% increase, raising US\$12.7 million.
- The Paul Harris Society grew 5% to 35,191 members.
- Raise for Rotary raised US\$682,000 from 600-plus pages across 50-plus countries.

Together, we're building a more hopeful, healthier future — one gift at a time. Thank you for helping us complete a very successful fundraising year!

Rtn (Dr.) Mrinal Borthakur of RC Shillong Heritage
is the AG of Zone 13 for RY 2026-27