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# KHORLO

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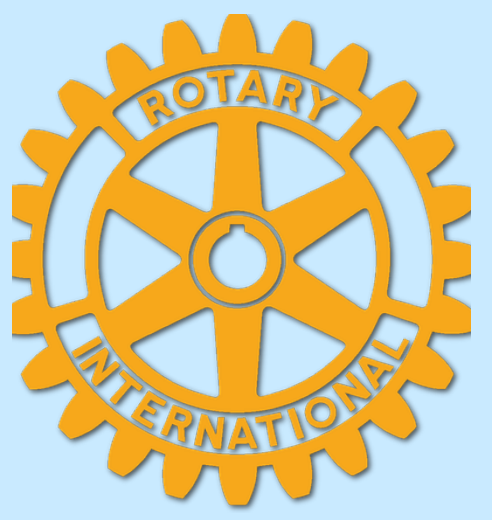


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**Rtn. Vivek Chettri**

## **THE PRESIDENT AND HIS BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2025-2026**

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Dir. International Ser : Rtn. Pintoo Agarwal

Club's learning Facilitator: Rtn. Sunirmal Chakravarthi

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Membership: Rtn. Jordan Norbu

Administration: Rtn. Cheten Norbu Bhutia

Public Image: Rtn. Sankalp Lama

Sgt at Arms: Rtn. Dawa T Bhutia and Rtn. Bikash Singh



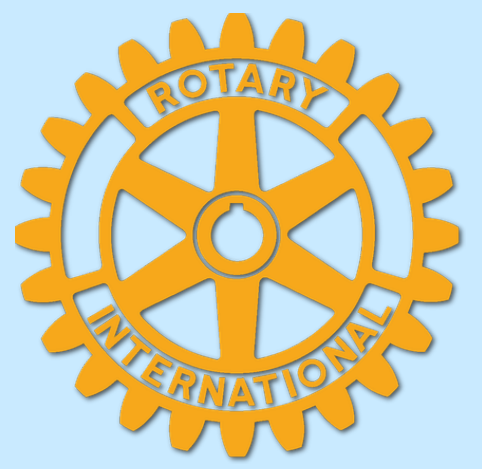
**Thursday**



**We meet on:  
Hotel Seven Seventeen.**



**5:30p.m.**



## On top of the world !

Legacies are not built overnight. When the Rotary Club of Darjeeling was established in 1957, the first set of Rotarians perhaps, had not imagined that the club they had formed would survive for decades. In its 69th year, the club continues to thrive and grow. From the first president, Rtn. Khan Bahadur Avari to the current president, Rtn. Vivek Chettri, the club continues to work in the fields of educational support, healthcare assistance and infrastructure development for the needy. The club, guided by the fundamental motto of Rotary - 'service over self' exercises itself in this guideline. So whether it is a natural calamity that leaves devastation in its wake, educational institutions doing path breaking activities but shackled by financial constraints or sometimes simply adding cheer to little minds with some outing and new clothes, the club does it all.

RCD has stood steadfast in its role towards the society. A medley of men and women, with myriad attributes, coming together to work towards social upliftment.

It has stood the testimony of not just time but catastrophes, wars, agitations, pandemics and yet, continues to flourish. When greater goals gain precedence over individual needs, legacies are born. And that is what the Rotary Club of Darjeeling epitomises.

On top of the world...since 1957.

In Rotary,

Prativa  
Editor.



Thursday



We meet on:  
Hotel Seven Seventeen.



5:30p.m.

## **District Governor 2025-26 Dist. 3240**

### **Rtn. Dr. Kameswar Singh Elangbam**



Dr. Kameswar Singh Elangbam, originally from Imphal, is now permanently settled in Shillong with his family at Kench Trace and practises orthopaedics at Kamber Clinics, Keating Road, Shillong. He completed MBBS from Assam Medical College, Dibrugarh, D. Ortho from Aligarh Muslim University and MS Orth from AIIMS, New Delhi and as a Registrar (Senior Resident), he had the opportunity to work under top orthopaedic surgeons of the country, developing his skills and knowledge. He underwent AO Fellowship in Trauma in Germany, and management of complex trauma in Davos, Switzerland. He is a life member of Indian Orthopaedic Association, Bombay Orthopaedic Society, and Northeast Regional Orthopaedic Surgeon's Association (NEROSA), World Orthopaedic Concern and SICOT, President of NEROSA and President of East Zone Orthopaedics Forum . He has actively participated as a speaker and presenter in numerous regional, national and international conferences. He has also organised various seminars and symposia on orthopaedics and trauma.

Dr. Elangbam served as Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon with the Government of Meghalaya. He held many positions as a clinician and as administrator. He retired as the as Additional Mission Director (NRHM). After retirement from government service, Dr. Elangbam continues to practice orthopaedics at Kamber Clinics and Kamber Polyclinics in Shillong. He is married to Dr. (Mrs.) L Berylda Pyrbot, a Radiologist. They have two children: a son, Mukund, an entrepreneur married to Dr. Sharjubala, who is undergoing MD in Pathology and a daughter, Dr. Jupirika, a Gynaecologist, married to Dr. Wanlamkumar, an Orthopaedic Surgeon. Dr. Elangbam is also the proud grandfather of two grandsons, Dason and Da-Elangki.

Dr. Kameswar Singh Elangbam began his Rotary journey in 2007 with the Rotary Club of Shillong. He held many positions in the club and district. He is a major Level III donor, PHS member, PolioPlus society member, Multiple Fellow of 3240 district foundation, Benefactor and End Polio Fellow. During his tenure as Diamond Jubilee president, many community service projects were executed, the notable few are -the establishment of the "Rotary Dialysis Centre" in Shillong, inaugurated by the Governor of Meghalaya, the complete transformation of Seng Khasi School in Mawphlang, working in collaboration with the Seng Kynthei, a rural women's self-help group, to promote economic empowerment. His continued association with the school, the Seng Kynthei, and the local Dubar in the Elaka of Hima Mawphlang has further solidified Rotary's positive public image in the region.

He is a highly travelled Rotarian, having participated in numerous Rotary International Conventions (Seoul, Atlanta, Hamburg), the 11th World Water Summit in Hamburg, the Rotary Legacy Seminar, RI Multi-District Meet in Sylhet, Bangladesh, the RI Presidential Peace Conference in Beirut, Rotary Institutes in Kuala Lumpur and Yogyakarta, and various other significant events.

His international service partnerships and exposures are equally noteworthy. In Bhutan, he participated in a community toilet construction project, personally donating a unit in 2017. In Sri Lanka, he donated a water filtration unit to combat renal failure caused by groundwater pesticide pollution. He visited the One Rotary Center in Evanston, Chicago, where he studied the organization's history and archives. He also visited North Carolina, USA, the birthplace of Rotaract movement.

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He is an active member of various Rotary Action Groups and fellowships, such as : member - Board of Directors of the International Rotary Fellowship of Healthcare Professionals, National Coordinator of the Rotary Action Group Against Slavery (RAGAS) and member of the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Rotary Action Group (WASRAG) and the Environmental Sustainability Rotary Action Group (ESRAG). He is also a member of Rotary Friendship Exchange Group, Whiskey D.R.A.M. and City Coordinator of SAFGR. He was the Project Director for the Rotary Sohra Marathon, a highly successful event where renowned international marathon runners participated. Dr. Elangbam's Rotary journey reflects a deep commitment to the organisation's ideals and a passion for making a positive impact on the world.

### **Vision and Goal for the RY 25-26, RID 3240**

The District Governor articulates the vision on two fundamental pillars:

Fostering a deep sense of belonging among Rotarians and establishing direct, effective communication channels within the district. He hopes that in Rotary, every member feels a genuine sense of ownership and recognizes the organization as "theirs." He believes that this sense of belonging is crucial for active involvement for all members of the rotary family in the district. To achieve this, he proposes establishing a direct communication channel between Rotarians and the district "Team Olympus." This channel would ensure a streamlined flow of information and foster a stronger connection between the leadership and the membership.

### **The Goals**

The District Governor emphasizes on fellowship, friendship, and community connection through service. He aims to cultivate a sense of purpose among Rotarians, encouraging them to engage with their communities through impactful service projects, community awareness sessions and sustained follow-up interactions. He emphasizes that these connections should be ongoing, transcending his tenure as DG and becoming an integral part of the district's Rotary culture.

A key element of success is direct engagement with club officials and, wherever possible, individual Rotarians across the district. Utilizing various communication methods, he seeks to understand the issues and concerns of members, facilitating a more cohesive and participatory Rotary experience. This personalized approach underscores his commitment to inclusivity and responsiveness.

Finally, the DG recognizes the importance of growth and expansion. He is committed to promoting the formation of new clubs, particularly in remote locations and small towns. His focus on membership development, engagement, and appropriate recognition highlights his understanding of the factors that contribute to a thriving Rotary community. He also encourages participation in The Rotary Foundation (TRF) donations, recognizing the crucial role of philanthropy in Rotary's global impact. In essence, Dr. Elangbam's vision is one of a vibrant, connected, and impactful Rotary, driven by engaged members and dedicated to serving communities.

# **RCD PROJECTS -W.I.P & completed 2025-2026**

## **Global Grant- Work in Progress - Report filed by AG Rtn. Shoy**

Progress report of Global Grant- GG2576576

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene improvement in 2 schools of Rural Darjeeling .

### **Project - Renovation of toilets of Mamring Toryok High School**

**Progress Summary Feb,2026** - Majority of work has been focused on renovation of boy's toilet.

The repair work started for boy's toilet on January 10th 2026.

As of Jan 31, both the toilets were broken down; extended and new urinals were added.

We are also constructing a new septic tank for boy's toilet. The Septic tank is constructed using ACC block which is 200 mm thick. A total of 6 urinals and 6 toilets have been fitted in boy's toilet (there was one toilet earlier and no urinals). According to Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), there should be one urinal for every 20-25 boys, and one toilet for every 40 boys and for 134 male students at Mamring, Toryok.

### **Progress Summary March, 2026**

Boy's toilet is 95% complete, urinal, commode, flush, tile work all completed.

Girls toilet urinals, commode, flush, tile work all completed. A cemented water tank that can be cleaned has been built at the stream, pipes laid down and brought to new storage tanks in the school.

Hand-washing and drinking water facility stand built.

Separate hand wash facility built in the toilet.

### **Next Steps**

Complete pending small work of both the toilets (adding taps, gate, mesh windows, partition in girls' urinals)

Lay down the pipes completely.

Add a water filter for the drinking water facility and complete the drainage work.

Install Interactive TVs in Mamring Toryok High School.

Start renovation of toilets in Ranju Valley Junior High School.

## **COMPLETED PROJECTS**

- **Health Camps:**
- **Health Camp-Heart and Breast Screening**-The club in association with Durgapur Mission Hospital and Manipal Cancer Hospital, Raniganj organised this camp on 1st Nov, 2025 at GDNS hall. More than 115 patients benefited from this camp. Specialised diagnostic facilities like ECHO cardiogram could be extended to the patients. ECG and breast cancer screening and awareness was also extended to the attendees of the camp. The camp was a resounding success.
- **Health Camp 2**--The club in association with Kalimpong NGO network conducted a health camp at Sinji, Kalimpong on 21 st December, 2025. The camp was well organised and served around 200 patients. MLA Ruden Lepcha and other panchayat members were present. Doctors from Thalamus Institute of Health care along with Rtn. Drs Dawa, Deepak , Anne Rinchey and Dr. Bikash Dewan lent their expertise to the camp.
- **International RYLA** - 103 students in the age group of 15- 18yrs came over from different states and Nepal to participate in this two and a half days event from 1st to 3rd August, 2025. The event not only exercised the physical and mental abilities of the participants but also trained them in teamwork. The event received massive coverage and was a resounding success.

- **Nation Builders Award** - Six distinguished teachers, from different schools, were felicitated with the Nation Builders Award for their exemplary contributions in the field of education on 2nd November 2025. The programme was held at Hotel 717, followed by lunch.
- **Senior Citizen's Day**- was observed on the 2nd of November too. The programme was held along with the Nation Builder's awards. Seventeen senior citizens were felicitated. More than thirty senior citizens participated in the programme and enriched the audience with stories of their experiences. The club also felicitated parents of Rotarians in the super senior category of 80 years and above, this year.
- **Spread the happiness of Dasain** - was observed on 27th Sept. Thirty students from Sai School were treated to a morning of fun and games conducted expertly by Rtn Kalpana and Rtn. Mamta. Rtn Kalpana's innovative games kept the children engaged and enthralled. They were then treated to scrumptious lunch, drinks and sweets. The children were given coupons of Reliance Trends and along with their parents, they went to choose their Dasain clothing.
- **Public Speaking Workshop**: RCD, in its curriculum of events for the year added the promotion of public speaking through workshops and sessions in schools with interact clubs. The initiative was spear headed by the president Rtn Vivek Chettri. Workshops/ sessions were held in five schools starting with St. Joseph's School, North Point on the 3rd of September. Gyanoday Niketan, Mt. Hermon School, NGHSS and Loreto convent were the other beneficiaries of this initiative. The workshops were conducted by Rtn. Prativa.
- **Menstrual hygiene workshop**- The menstrual hygiene workshop was conducted by Rtns Mamta and Shoy at the Nava Bikash Gram Samaj. The approach taken was different this year. The ladies conducted a session with parents and elders of the families, rather than children to work around traditional mindsets and taboos of menstruation. The workshop was well attended and successful.
- **Children's Day Programme**- Thirty-one children were taken to the zoo on 15th Nov. The children were given a tour, provided with lunch and ice cream. Rtn. Shiro and Rtn. Tashi made arrangements for the execution of the programme.
- **Green warrior**: RCD has partnered with Vik -Run foundation , GTA and Darjeeling Municipality to be a green warrior and participated in plogging under "**Mero Darjeeling**" campaign to clean Darjeeling. It is an ongoing project. In one instance, serbian cleanliness volunteer Lazar Jankovic and Zaanvi Sharma , a national level athlete and femina Miss India 2023 representative from Sikkim, joined the "mero Darjeeling" plogging drive at Chowrasta.
- **Mountain Tracker & Dustbin Project**: The club has installed at Mountain Tracker at Mall Road, View Point from which the majestic Kanchenjunga and other peaks can be seen. The tracker shows details about the height and the names of the peaks. Several dustbin covers along with dustbins have been placed around mall road to prevent spillage of litter.
- **Anne's evening & Annual Picnic**: The club does not lag behind in fellowship and camaraderie. Anne's evening was organised on 11<sup>th</sup> October in Gymkhana Club and the Annual picnic at Relli, Kalimpong. Both events werewell attended and successful.
- **District events**: RCD ensures that the club participates and is well represented in all district events, be it in Pratidhwani, the district conference , debates or PELS



## Remembering Late Kamal Pradhan- an obituary

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### • Rtn. Sunirmal Chakravarthi

It is with a heavy heart that we received the sad news of the passing away of Shri Kamal Pradhan, just Kamal to all of us, who served the Rotary Club of Darjeeling as our Club peon for several years in the eighties and nineties. He passed away on the 24th of February 2026.

Kamal used to work in the Late Rtn. Jugal Kishore's electronics shop. When our former messenger chose to withdraw his services, the Club found itself in a bit of a quandary as there was no one to serve notices for weekly meetings and other businesses. This problem was finally solved when Rtn Jugal successfully persuaded Kamal to take on the additional responsibility for a small honorarium. Now, one must remember in those days there were no smart phones and notices for regular meetings, Board meetings and events had to be circulated by hand and Kamal carried out this responsibility with great efficiency come sun, hail, snow or rain. He was also always the first at all meeting venues, laying out the Presidents collar, gavel, Minutes Book, Attendance Register and other paraphernalia required for meetings. He stepped in silently on special occasions to set up lecterns, club banners and backdrops - he knew what was required and hardly ever needed to be prompted for anything.

When he left his assignment in Rotary he was sorely missed. It was only in his absence that we realised the value of his silent assistance. He never raised his voice, never said 'no' to any request and always worked silently behind scenes. Now that he has moved to the Silence Beyond, may his soul rest in peace.

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### • Rtn. Amar Singh Rai

Kamal was a mechanic at Rtn. JK Sharma's shop. Very polite and helpful. He used to repair radios etc. The Rotary Club required a helper who would distribute notices of weekly meetings and any Programmes that the Club undertook. So after getting the approval of Rtn. Jugal , the Club decided to hire him on a monthly salary.

As there was no other means of communication with members ( accept the Telephone , which all members did not have) Kamal was the person to contact.

A day before the weekly meeting he was required to go to the Secretary who would draft the notice which Kamal circulated to members, door to door. He never missed any member. At all the Rotary functions he would be present. A very diligent and dedicated worker.

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### • Rtn. Uttam Pradhan

Kamal was a part-time peon of the Club,. He used to work full time for Rtn Jugal Sharma but was always available for any services odd jobs of the club. He was there from the time I joined Rotary. I always found him cheerful smiling cooperative and obliging

He left behind a legacy of sincerity and service. He will be remembered for his unwavering commitment to delivering notices to members' doorsteps, come rain or any facets of Darjeeling weather 🌧️. He was also constantly present at all Club functions, staying from start to finish, ensuring everything was in order till the very end, and helping with winding up and packing. His selfless efforts earned him respect and affection from all. He will be deeply missed. With the advent of internet and digital media slowly his services too lost its appeal.

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# PROJECTS IN PICTURES



*APRIL*

*BIRTHDAYS*

*Rtn Gopal Pradhan- 2<sup>nd</sup> April*  
*Rtn Pintoo Agarwal- 17<sup>th</sup> April*  
*Rtn Dhires Thapa- 25<sup>th</sup> April*

*ANNIVERSARIES*

*Rtn. Pema Lama- 19<sup>th</sup> April*

*March birthday cards*

