



TUESDAY 29 JULY 2025

July is Maternal and Child Health Month

106

The Chaka

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R I Dist 3291

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Introducing Rotary Club of Calcutta South West



On 16th June 1956, Rotary Extension Committee of the Rotary Club of Calcutta discussed the formation of the second Rotary Club in the City of Calcutta, Rotary Club of South West Calcutta. Rtn. Milon Mukherjee was appointed as the Governor's Special Representative. On 2nd November 1956, the Inaugural meeting was held, after receiving confirmation from Rotary International that the new Club had been granted its Charter. The Charter Presentation Ceremony was held on 26th January 1957. Rotary Club of Calcutta South West has given four District Governors, Late Mihir Roy, Late Moti Lal Gupta, Late Manindra Chandra Poddar and Siddhartha S. Bose. South West's contribution to The Rotary Foundation has been phenomenal.



UNITE
FOR
GOOD

The First Paul Harris Fellow from this District was Late Moti Lal Gupta. The First Paul Harris Couple from this District were Late C. P. Maheshwari and his wife Shree Devi. Late C. P. Maheshwari was also the first Multiple Paul Harris Fellow from this District. PDG Siddhartha S Bose is the first Member of the TRF Bequest Society. Additionally, many members from this club have generously contributed to TRF in the past. South West has given its sponsoring club quite a few grandchildren, RC Behala, RC Budge Budge, RC Calcutta New Alipore and RC Kabitirtha Calcutta. We even sponsored RC Siliguri, now in RI District 3240. South West were the principal sponsors of continuous support to SPCI Joka, and numerous RCCs, located mainly in the South 24 Parganas district. Fellowship was one of the most significant features of South West. Fellowship activities were not restricted only to our Club members, but also involved the District.

Report by Rtn. Ashok Kumar Basu, Hony. Secretary

Computer Classes on Tally for NCLCL for 6 months

The Computer Section of The NCLCL Committee has commenced Tally classes for underprivileged children from this month. The course duration is of 6 months, after successful completion of which, the students will be given a certificate from The Rotary Club of Calcutta. Course fees are Rs 400 for 6 months.

The endeavour of the Committee will be to sign another agreement with NIELIT with The Rotary Club of Calcutta for certification of the same. At present we have started with 14 students. Request all Rotarians to please recommend students so we may extend the reach of this facility to many more.

Reported by Rtn Roshni Ganguly, NCLCL Chair



Rtn Sakti Banerjee gets Lifetime achievement Award at 29th International Conference of Non Ferrous Metals (2025) at Taj Bengal on 11th July.

We Meet Every Tuesday At 1 p.m. At ROTARY SADAN
rccalcutta.rotaryindia.org
E-mail: rccal106@gmail.com

Netsafe Ninjas on 30th July

NetSafe Ninjas:
A Hands-on Workshop on Cyber Security

Organised by
Youth Service, Tech Knowledge Committee
Rotary Club of Calcutta

Students from Class IX-XII (all-medium schools)

July 30, 2025
10 AM – 3 PM
Rotary Sadan

Conducted by
Jadavpur University
& Institute of Engineering
& Management

Co-host Clubs
Calcutta Metro City
Calcutta Labanhrad

Supported by
Encourage Pathways

The Youth Service, Tech Knowledge Committee, is organising "NETSAFE NINJAS": a hands-on workshop on Cybersecurity aimed at providing students of Classes IX-XII with a foundational understanding of Cybersecurity and Ethical Hacking on July 30, 2025, from 10 am at Rotary Sadan. Students will gain practical experience in identifying phishing emails and

simulating password attacks. The workshop will be conducted by Jadavpur University and the Institute of Engineering and Management.



Rtn. Dr. Ajay Agarwal conquers Mt. Kilimanjaro

Adolescent Change Makers Conference 2025

Organised by : West Bengal Voluntary Health Association (WBVHA)



I had the privilege of attending the opening day of the Adolescent Change Makers Conference 2025, organised by the West Bengal Voluntary Health Association (WBVHA). To say it was an eye-opener would be an understatement. Until that day, I had very little awareness that such a collective of adolescents even existed — young people between the ages of 15 and 19 who are not just aware of the issues facing society but are actively working on the ground to bring about real change.

Initially, I must confess, I felt rather out of place — perhaps even a bit like a proverbial kupomundok (the frog in the well), unfamiliar with the vibrant world of adolescent advocacy that was unfolding in front of me. As one of the first speakers in the inaugural session, I found myself treading familiar territory. I spoke of literacy, climate action, mental health, and conflict — important, yes, but perhaps too generalised. I attempted to offer some nuance when I spoke of the difference between literacy and education by invoking first principles, but it was soon clear that these young changemakers had already moved far ahead of textbook definitions and theory.

As the day progressed and the adolescent participants began presenting their journey maps, I was left genuinely awestruck. These were not rehearsed narratives

fed to them by facilitators. These were hard truths, lived experiences, and deeply personal motivations that had propelled them into action. The breadth of issues they had taken up was extraordinary — gender discrimination, drug abuse, early marriages, adolescent suicides, and school dropouts, to name a few.

What struck me most was the level of clarity in their thought, the confidence in their speech, and the maturity of their perspectives. Whether they came from the hills of Kurseong or the remote deltaic stretches of Pathar Pratima, their stories shared one thing in common — courage. The courage to identify the problem, the courage to speak out, and the courage to act. Many of them spoke of their efforts in their villages, schools, and communities. Some shared the challenges they faced from their own families or local leaders. Yet none of this seemed to deter them. In fact, for many, the resistance had only made their resolve stronger.

What touched me deeply was a recurring sentiment expressed by a few of the older participants — those nearing the age of 20. They spoke with a sense of quiet regret that they would soon no longer be considered adolescents, yet they reaffirmed their commitment to support and mentor the movement, anytime, anywhere.

As someone who began the day thinking I had something to teach, I left humbled, realising that I had, in fact, learned far more. These young changemakers are not just the future — they are already reshaping the present.

From Ashok Basu, Hony. Secretary

REPORTING & ANNOUNCEMENTS



ONE WORLD

We remember with good wishes Rotary Club of Calcutta Centenary, India, R.I. Dist 3291.

NEXT MEETING

Meeting on Tuesday, 5th August, 2025 at 1.30 p.m. / Lunch 12.30 p.m. at Rotary Sadan (2nd floor). Speaker to be announced.

REPORTS

- Friday, 18th July, 2025 - Diabetic Retinopathy Screening and Treatment project site visited at Sursut, Salt Lake City, Kolkata along with the representatives from CERA Sanitaryware Ltd., our CSR partner of the project.
- Interact Club of Silver Point School organised their Foundation Day on 26th July, 2025, 10 a.m. onwards at Kasba, Kolkata.
- Eye Check up camp in Stars RCC planned for 26 July 2025 announced in the RWM on 22 July is postponed. Revised date will be announced very shortly.
- Health Care Committee organized in association with Taj Bengal Hotel, a Mega Health Camp on Monday, 28th July, 2025 at our RCC Refuge, Bowbazar, Kolkata between 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Wedding Anniversary

Biswajit Datta & R-Ann Sushmita 30th July

Celebrate your Joy and Happiness on Birthdays and Anniversaries. Donate generously for The Rotary Foundation and Club Projects

INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION ON
15TH AUGUST, 2025

Independence Day will be celebrated on Friday, 15th August, 2025 at 9 a.m. onwards at Rotary Sadan. Flag hoisting follow by Art Exhibition and Cultural programme by Students of the Cultural Section. You are requested to attend the programme with your families.

TODAY – Joint Meeting with Rotary Club of Calcutta South West

Kindly note the new Public Image Committee has revived our Club's Instagram and Facebook profiles. Rtn Sanjeeb Basu who has painstakingly worked at it with support from Ravindra Khandelwal, Yogesh Dassani and Director Indrajit Banerjee under Co-Chair Rtn. Mathur. Our Facebook profile presently has 5600 followers mostly from Rotarians of Rotary clubs from all over the world. Link to Facebook profile : <https://www.facebook.com/share/1B6mRn1MUo/> There are only 101 followers on Instagram by other Rotary Clubs rather than members from Rotary Club of Calcutta. We encourage our members to follow our Instagram link as below : <http://www.instagram.com/Rotary club Calcutta?igsh=bjJzcm510XhiNnk2> and increase the reach of our activities through social media. Please visit our Facebook and Instagram pages and click on "Follow" to receive alerts for new posts and updates

- Reported by Chair for Public Image Rtn Subha Pal

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS / EVENTS IN THE MONTH OF JULY & AUGUST, 2025

Day & Date	Programmes	Timing and Venue
Wednesday, 30th July, 2025	Youth and Tech Knowledge Committee will organise a workshop on "Cyber Security" for the students of Class IX to XII	Rotary Sadan (Ground floor) at 10 a.m. onwards.
Tuesday, 5th August, 2025	Regular Weekly Meeting	Rotary Sadan (2nd floor) 1 p.m. / Lunch 12.30 p.m.
Tuesday, 12th August, 2025	Regular Weekly Meeting	Rotary Sadan (2nd floor) 1 p.m. / Lunch 12.30 p.m.
Friday 15th August, 2025	Independence Day. Flag hoisting followed by Art Exhibition and Cultural programme by the students of the Cultural Section.	Rotary Sadan (Ground floor) Flag hoisting at 9 a.m.
Tuesday, 19th August, 2025	Regular Weekly Meeting	Rotary Sadan (2nd floor) 1 p.m. / Lunch 12.30 p.m.
Saturday 30th August, 2025	Regular Weekly Meeting followed by fellowship and dinner	Rotary Sadan (2nd floor) 1 p.m. / Lunch 12.30 p.m.

COMMITTEE ENGAGEMENT

Day	Date	Committee	Time	Venue
Wednesday	06.08.25	Membership, Classification, Family of Rotary and Green Badgers	6.30 p.m.	Rotary Sadan, Board Room (1st floor)

MINUTES OF THE 4990TH REGULAR WEEKLY MEETING HELD ON 22ND JULY, 2025 AT 1.30 P.M. AT ROTARY SADAN

1. President Rtn. Dr. Debnath Chattopadhyay welcomed Members and Guests and called the 4990th Regular Weekly Meeting of the Club to order.
2. National Anthem was led by Rtn. Dr. Shankar Ghosh.
3. Minutes of the 4989th regular weekly meeting of the Club held on 15th July, 2025 were confirmed.
4. President welcomed Dr. Arpita Ghosh, Lecturer, Dept. of Museology, Rabindra Bharati University Art Conservator was the Chief Guest on that day.
5. President then welcomed Visiting Rotarians and Guests who attended the meeting.
6. President reported the following :
Last Friday, 18th July, 2025 President visited Diabetic Retinopathy Screening and Treatment site of Sursut, Salt Lake City, Kolkata along with the representatives of CERA Sanitaryware Ltd., the CSR partner of that project.
7. President announced the following :
 - a) An Eye Screening Camp will be held at our RCC Star Welfare Society on Saturday, 26th July, 2025 at 9 a.m. and requested members to attend the Camp. For further details, please contact Rtn. Udit Chand Mitra, Chairman, Community Service and RCC Committee.
 - b) Interact Club of Silver Point School would organise their Foundation Day on 26th July, 2025 at 10 a.m. in Kasba, Kolkata. He also informed members that they have invited us to join their special celebration function. For further details, please contact Rtn. Dr. Saswati Mukherjee, Chair, Youth and Tech Knowledge Committee.
 - c) A Mega Health Camp in association with Taj Bengal Hotel would be held on Monday, 28th July, 2025 at our RCC Refuge between 1p.m. and 5 p.m. He requested members to make a note of it and attend. For further details, please contact Rtn. Dr. Sukalyan Purkayastha, Chairman, Health Care Committee.
 - d) Youth and Tech Knowledge Committee would be organizing a Workshop on "Cyber Security" for the Students of Class IX to XII on Wednesday, 30th July, 2025 at 10 a.m. in Rotary Sadan and requested members to attend the programme. For further details, please contact Rtn. Dr. Saswati Mukherjee, Chair, Youth and Tech Knowledge Committee.
 - e) At the request of the President, Rtn Subha Pal Chairperson, Public Image Committee addressed the audience on his Committee activities during the Rotary year 2025-26 and requested members to give their suggestions.
8. At the request of the President, Hony. Secretary Rtn. Ashok Kumar Basu thereafter conducted the Club Business :
 - a) Hewelcomed all Members and Guests.
 - b) He then announced the names of Rotarians celebrating their Birthdays and Wedding Anniversaries for the week ending 28th July, 2025 and wished them and requested them to donate generously for the Rotary Foundation India and the Club Projects.
 - c) Next meeting of the Club would be held on Tuesday, 29th July 2025 at 1.30 p.m. / Lunch 12.30 p.m. in Rotary Sadan (2nd floor) and it would be a Joint Meeting with Rotary Club of Calcutta South West.
 - d) He informed members that he had addressed the Adolescents Change Makers Conference under the West Bengal Voluntary Health Association on last Friday, 18th July, 2025.
 - e) First Meeting of the Board of Directors (2025-26) of the Club would be held on Monday, 28th July, 2025 at 6.30 p.m. at the Rotary Sadan (Board Room). All members of the Board are requested to make a note it and attend.
 - f) He then congratulated Rtn. Sakti Kumer Banerjee for being awarded as Lifetime achievement at the 29th International Conference on nonferrous metals on 11th July, 2025.
He also congratulated Rtn. Dr. Ajay Kumar Agarwal for his achievement of sumitting Mt Kilimanjaro, Tanzania, Africa.
9. At the request of the president, Rtn Dr. Sarvani Gooptu introduced Chief Guest, Rtn Dr. Arpita Ghosh.
10. At the request of the President, Rtn Dr. Arpita Ghosh addressed the audience on "Heritage Stewardship : Preserving and Presenting the Past".
11. Questions raised by members were answered by the Chief Guest.
12. On behalf of the Club, Vote of Thanks was given by Rtn. Hirak Ray.
13. On behalf of the Club, President handed over a memento to Rtn Dr. Arpita Ghosh.
14. Sunshine Box Collection Rs. 800/- with special contribution from Rtns. Udit Chand Mitra and Dr. Shankar Ghosh.
15. The Club remembered with good wishes the Rotary Club of Singapore, R.I. Dist 3310.
16. Meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Dr. Debnath Chattopadhyay
President

Ashok Kumar Basu
Hony. Secretary

Published by Rtn. Ashok Kumar Basu, Hony. Secretary, Rotary Club of Calcutta

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