



TUESDAY 03 DECEMBER 2024

December is Disease Prevention and Treatment Month

105

The Chaka

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Mrinalini Mazumdar

Dancing with the Law : Addressing Gender-Based Violence in the Performing Arts



An alumnus of the International Visitors Leadership Program, Dept of State, USA, and a Fellow of United Nations Women in Conflict Resolution, Mrinalini is a Lawyer in Calcutta High Court, practicing criminal and constitutional law specialising in Human Rights. She is an active member (and Legal Advisor) to Suraksha Istehar, a forum addressing sexual violence in the theatre spaces, and Women's Forum For Screen Workers that advocates for the safety and dignity of women in the screen entertainment industry in West Bengal. In her practice she represents clients in cases of sexual harassment, acid attacks, disability rights and victim compensation schemes, amongst others. A trained dancer with interests in literature and politics, she has anchored and developed Aain Kanoon – The Legal Awareness program on Doordarshan Bangla.



She is here to talk to us and explore the intersection of gender-based violence and the performing arts in India, where the body is central to both the creative process, training and performance. In an industry where mentorship, tradition and physical expression are deeply intertwined, unique challenges arise around consent, power dynamics and gendered vulnerabilities particularly within the guru-shishya framework. The talk will address how legal frameworks and advocacy are responding to create safer spaces for artists, as well as how Rotary International can champion dignity, human rights and gender equality in the arts, aligning with Rotary's mission to create safer, more inclusive communities for everyone.

Virangana – Self Defence for Women : Rotary Sadan 22 Nov. 2024 AOS Community



Virangana Project is part of Rotary International's focus area on Empowerment of girls through self-defence awareness workshops. Countless women have found out the hard way that molestation and sexual harassment is common in buses, trains, walking alone on deserted streets, at workplace and even in their own homes. It is practically

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We Meet Every Tuesday at 1 p.m. at ROTARY SADAN
<https://rccalcutta.rotaryindia.org>
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impossible for any law enforcement agency to deal with these incidents individually. Virangana workshops aim to empower young girls and women through teaching them basic self-defence techniques which in turn enables them to counter unwanted physical threats. After completion of the workshop, participants received certificates from Rotary International District 3291. The participants were 25 girls from Presidency College and Calcutta Girls College. Hony. Sec. Rtn Suman Chakraborty, Chairperson Women's Empowerment Committee Rtn Shampa Ghose, Co-Chair Rtn Koel Roychowdhury and Rtn Sarvani Gooptu were present to encourage the women participants.

Reported by Shampa Ghose, Chair Women's Empowerment

Interact Club of Asian International School – AOS New Generations



Beginning the promising morning on the splendid day celebrating Teachers, 5th September, 2024 the Interact Club of AIS conducted a workshop with the help of their Principal and teacher coordinators. This event was filled with fun, along with a mental well-being workshop led by the Mental Health Ambassador, Jannat Seikh; the workshop was a grand success filled with great triumph. It started by briefly explaining what mental health refers to,

along with the myths & misconceptions. An ancient Japanese technique to relieve stress, anxiety, anger & sadness was spread out to all our mentors & students (present at the specific event). Then, it was carried out by demonstrating various hand movements and sharing the benefits of using this technique. This workshop was concluded by discussing a teacher's remarkable role & the importance of honouring them with respect.

Reported by Chair Youth, Saswati Mukherjee

Interact Club of Mahadevi Birla World Academy – AOS New Generations



On September 27, 2024, the Interact Club donated essential relief supplies to the Robin Hood Army to support flood victims in Khanakul. On September 30, 80 dresses were donated to the Hope Foundation's protection homes in Kolkata, supporting vulnerable women and children and promoting dignity, care, and social welfare. On 5th October, as part of Daan Utsav, the Interactors, along with students from Future Hope School and Calcutta Social Project, participated in a Puja

Parikrama across Salt Lake and Sreebhumi, fostering cultural appreciation, social interaction, and unity through Kolkata's vibrant Durga Puja celebrations. On October 7th and 8th, the Interact Club of MBWA hosted the Learn to Earn initiative, which combined entrepreneurship with social responsibility. During this event, students operated food stalls in the school canteen. The profits generated will fund social work projects, providing hands-on business experience while highlighting the importance of philanthropy.

Reported by Saswati Mukherjee, Chair, Youth

Messages from PE Debnath Chattopadhyay



The meet and greet program organised by DGE and his team including the PE of different clubs held on 17th November was a great success. Road map for different projects for 25-26 was very well discussed. It was a great experience.

Two toilets under construction at a primary school at Pathar Pratima with donation by some well-wisher.



Goodwill Visits – AOS Club




Members from our Club made the following Goodwill visits to Rotary Clubs in our District 3291 and exchanged Club flags with them : a) Rotary Club of Calcutta Mid Town on 21st November 2024; b) Rotary Club of Kolkata Benevolence on 21st November, 2024; c) Rotary Club of Calcutta Sun City on 22nd November 2024; d) Rotary Club of Calcutta Inner City on 26th November, 2024

Glimpses from the Vaccination Camp at Rotary Sadan on 19 Nov. 2024 – AOS Club



Thank you Sukalyan and Parthajit! And to Kasba Bharosa Social Welfare Society for having implemented it. In all 29 individuals received the vaccination. The Society may be reached at 8276871390 / 8017751721 for vaccinations.

REPORTING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

ONE WORLD

 We remember with good wishes Rotary Club of Dhaka Central, Bangladesh, R.I. Dist. 3280

Happy Birthday

Sonia Dutt	3rd December
Gyanesh Choudhary	4th December
Prabir Kumar Gupta	4th December
Sutanu Ghosh	5th December
Pranab Kumar Sarkar	6th December
Bablu Kolay	7th December
Indranil Dasgupta	8th December

Wish you many happy returns of the day

Wedding Anniversaries

Rtn. Krishna Kumar Kothari & R-Ann Sashikala	2nd December
Rtn. Satarupa Ghosh Mukherjee & Dr. Sujoy Mukherjee	4th December
Rtn. Indrajit Banerjee & R-Ann Haimanti	6th December
Rtn. Dr. Sukalyan Purkayastha & R-Ann Dr. Papia Chowdhury Purkayastha	9th December
Rtn. Ajay Kumar Doshi & R-Ann Usha	9th December
Rtn. Pranab Kumar Sarkar & R-Ann Debjani	9th December

NEXT MEETING
 Tuesday, 10th December, 2024 at 6.30 p.m. at Rotary Sadan followed by fellowship and dinner.
 Programme : "Antakshari"

Members' Roster
 Members' Roster 2024-25 is available. Please collect your copy from the Club Office.

NO MEETING

There will be no Regular Weekly meetings on Tuesdays, 24th and 31st December, 2024 for Christmas Holidays.

Rotary Club of Calcutta and Innerwheel Club of Calcutta jointly organised and donated New Clothes to an Old Age Home, Navanir, Tollygunge on 25th September, 2024. Every year the amount paid from Late Ms Nandita Sen Endowment Fund.

AN APPEAL

An earnest appeal to all Members to donate a minimum of \$100 to TRF.

If all Members donate \$100 (minimum), RC Calcutta will be recognised as EREY (Every Rotarian Every Year) Club by TRF.

99TH ANNUAL CHILDREN'S TREAT

The 99th Annual Children's Treat of the Club will be held on Sunday, 8th December, 2024 at 10 a.m. onwards at Nicco Park, Salt Lake, Kolkata. We will invite about 1200 underprivileged Children to this Flagship programme of the Club this year.

Members are requested to generously donate or sponsor Breakfast, Lunch, Ice Cream, Caps, Carry Bags, Sports Items, or any kind of Gift Items to make this a "Day of Sunshine" for these Children. Donations in Cheque payable in favor of "Rotary Children's Welfare Trust" will be eligible for Income Tax Exemption u/s 80G of the Income Tax Act.

SECOND CLUB ASSEMBLY ON 14th DECEMBER, 2024

The Second Club Assembly of the Club will be held on Saturday, 14th December, 2024 at 3.30 p.m. at Rotary Sadan (2nd floor) followed by High Tea.

All members, especially PDGs, Past Presidents, Board of Directors, Committee Chairs, Co-Chairs, Club Officials and New Members are requested to kindly block the above date and join the important meeting. Committee Chairs are also requested to send their Committee activities reports during the Second Quarter of the Rotary year 2024-25 to the Hony. Secretary for the first Club Assembly.

THANK YOU DONORS (Donation received for Annual Children's Treat upto 22.11.2024)

Late Rtn. Nandita Sen Endowment for Annual Children's Treat	Rs. 25,000/-	Rtn. Murari Lal Lohia	Rs. 51,000/-
Rtn. Atindra Nath Sen	Rs. 25,000/-	Rtn. Vikram Somany	Rs. 10,000/-
Rtn Brijendra Kumar Poddar	Rs. 10,000/-	R- Ann Parveen Hirji	Rs. 5,000/-
Rtn. Ashis Kumar Bagla	Rs. 25,000/-	Rtn. Dr. Indrajit Roy	Rs. 10,000/-
Rtn. Shankar Sehanobish	Rs. 5,000/-	Rtn. L. N. Bangur	Rs. 1,00,000/-
Rtn Sukanti Taraphdar	Rs. 10,000/-	Rtn. A. V. Bhuwarka	Rs. 5,000/-
(R.C. of Rochdale East , U.K.)		Rtn. Dr Debnath Chattopadhyay	Rs. 10,000/-
Rtn. Dr. Shankar Ghosh	Rs. 2,000/-	Rtn. R-Adm Rajeev Paralikar	Rs. 30,000/-
Rtn Raj Kumar Agrawal	Rs. 11,000/-	Rtns. Abhijit and Bablu Kolay	Rs. 50,000/-
Rtn. Nilima Joshi	Rs. 10,000/-	Rtn. Indrajit Banerjee	Rs. 5,000/-
Rtn. Tapan Basu	Rs. 20,000/-	Rtn. Dr. Ashoke Kumar Basu	Rs. 2,000/-
Rtn Sarvani Gooptu	Rs. 5,000/-	Rtn. Haladhar Dey	Rs. 5,000/-

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS / EVENTS

Day & Date	Programmes	Timing and Venue
Sunday, 8th December, 2024	The 99th Annual Children's Treat	10 a.m. onwards at Nicco Park, Salt Lake, Kolkata
Tuesday, 10th December, 2024	Regular Weekly Meeting followed by Fellowship and Dinner. Programme : "Antakshari"	6.30 p.m. onwards at Rotary Sadan (Ground floor)
Saturday, 14th December, 2024	Second Club Assembly	3.30 p.m at Rotary Sadan (2nd floor) 1.30 p.m. / Lunch 12.30 p.m.
Tuesday, 17th December, 2024	Regular Weekly Meeting (Closed Door Meeting – Election for the Board of Directors for Rotary year 2025-2026)	Rotary Sadan (2nd floor)
Tuesdays, 24th & 31st December, 2024	No Regular Weekly Meetings (RWMs) For Christmas Holidays	—

MINUTES OF THE 4963RD REGULAR WEEKLY MEETING HELD ON 19TH NOVEMBER, 2024 AT 1:30 P.M. AT ROTARY SADAN

1. President Rtn. Subrata De welcomed Members and Guests and called the 4963rd Regular Weekly Meeting of the Club to order.
2. National Anthem was led by PP Rtn. Sujata Pyne.
3. Minutes of the 4962nd Regular Weekly Meeting of the Club held on 12th November, 2024 were confirmed.
4. President informed members that day was Closed Door Meeting for Nomination for the Board of Directors for the Rotary year 2025-2026. So there was no Guest Speaker on that today.
5. President then welcomed visiting Rotarians and Guests who attended the meeting and requested them to leave the room as that day was Closed Door Meeting.
6. **President reported the following :**
Rotary Club of Calcutta and Innerwheel Club of Calcutta jointly organised and donated New Cloths to an Old Age Home, Navanir, Tollygunge on 25th September, 2024. The amount paid from Late Ms Nandita Sen Endowment Fund.
7. **President announced the following :**
 - a) Health Care Committee would be organising Vaccination Camp on the day after the Regular Weekly Meeting at Rotary Sadan.
 - b) The 99th Annual Children's Treat of the Club would be held on Sunday, 8th December, 2024 at 10 a.m. onwards at Nicco Park, Salt Lake, Kolkata. This year about 1200 underprivileged Children would join to this Flagship programme and he requested members to generously donate or sponsor Breakfast, Lunch, Ice Cream, Caps, Carry Bags, Sports Items, or any kind of Gift Items to make this a "Day of Sunshine" for these Children. Donations in Cheque payable in favor of "Rotary Children's Welfare Trust" would be eligible for Income Tax Exemption u/s 80G of the Income Tax Act.
 - c) At the request of the President, PP Rtn. Sujata Pyne made an announcement of Goodwill visit to Rotary Club of Calcutta Mid Town and Rotary Club of Kolkata Benevolence, R I Dist. 3291 on Thursday, 21st November, 2024 and requested members to join the same.
 - d) President then conducted the Club Election formalities. The President invited Nominations for the Board for the Rotary year 2025-26. Rtn. Dr. Debnath Chattopadhyay has already been elected as the President-Elect for the Rotary year 2024-25 and therefore under the bye laws, he would take over the office of the President from 1st July, 2025 that is for the Rotary Year 2025-2026.
 - i) The following Nominations for the Posts of Vice-President, Hony. Secretary, Hony. Treasurer and five Directors on the Club's Board for the Rotary year 2025-26 were received at the Regular Weekly Meeting held on 19th November, 2024.
The corresponding final confirmation of the Board of Directors for the Rotary year 2025-26 would be held at the Regular Weekly Meeting of the Club on Tuesday, 17th December, 2024.
 - ii) There being no other Nominations received, President, Rtn. Subrata De declared Nominations for the Board for the Rotary year 2025-26 were closed.

Name	Post	Rotary year	Proposed by	Seconded by
Rtn. Dr. Debnath Chattopadhyay	President	2025-26	Rtn. Subrata De	Rtn. Hirak Ray
Rtn. Shantanu Deb Mookerjea	President Elect	2025-26	Rtn. Dr. Debnath Chattopadhyay	Rtn. Haladhar Dey
Rtn. Anusua Das	Vice President	2025-26	Rtn. Santanu Deb Mookerjea	Rtn. Sujata Pyne
Rtn Ashok Kumar Basu	Hony. Secretary	2025-26	Rtn. Suman Chakraborty	Rtn. Sanjib Basu
Rtn Indrajit Banerjee	Hony. Treasurer	2025-25	Rtn Sanjib Basu	Rtn Ashok Kumar Basu
Rtn.Suman Chakraborty	Director	2025-26	Rtn Ashok Kumar Basu	Rtn Kirit Patel
AKS Rtn. Dr. Sourabh Khemani	Director	2025-26	Rtn. Abhijit Kolay	Rtn. Raj Kumar Agrawal
Rtn. Dr. Ashoke Kumar Basu	Director	2025-25	Rtn. Krishna Kumar Kothari	Rtn. Indrajit Banerjee
Rtn. Dr. S. K. Sharma	Director	2025-26	Rtn. Rajeev Swaika	Rtn. Haladhar Dey
Rtn. Arindam Roychowdhury	Director	2025-26	Rtn Raj Kumar Agrawal	Rtn. P. S. Chauhan

iii) After that President Elect 2024-25, Rtn. Dr. Debnath Chattopadhyay informed members that PP Rtn. Haladhar Dey and PP Rtn. Abhijit Kolay would be the Advisors to the Board for the Rotary year 2025-26.

8. At the request of the President, Hony. Secretary Rtn. Suman Chakraborty thereafter conducted the Club Business :

- a) He welcomed all the Members and Guests.
 - b) He then announced the names of Rotarians celebrating their Birthdays and Wedding Anniversaries for the week ending 2nd December, 2024.
 - c) There would be no Regular Weekly meeting on Tuesday, 26th November, 2024.
 - d) Next Meeting on Tuesday, 3rd December, 2024 at 1.30 p.m. at Rotary Sadan / Lunch 12.30 p.m.
 - e) The Board at the meeting held on 28th October, 2024 accepted the resignations of the Rotarians :-
 - i) Mr. Vijay Kumar Patodia (with effect from 30th September, 2024)
 - ii) Dr. Jayanta Roy (with effect from 29th October, 2024)
 - iii) Dr. Harsh Vardhan Agrawal (with effect from 29th October, 2024)
 - iv) Raghunath Ghose (with effect from 29th October, 2024)
 - v) Saumen Ray (with effect from 31st October, 2024)
9. Sunshine Box Collection Rs. 1,500/- with special contribution from Rtns. Anusua Das, Dr. Parthajit Das and P.S. Chauhan on that day.
10. The Club remembered with good wishes Rotary Club of Calcutta Victoria, India, R.I. Dist 3291.
11. Meeting was adjourned at 1.55 p.m.

Subrata De
President

Suman Chakraborty
Secretary

Excerpted from Rotary Website – Interesting events in Africa

Kenya

Recognizing the importance of sleep to child development, the Rotary Club of Nairobi delivered bed kits for 8,000 school children in 2024, a milestone in a long-running project. Over the past 16 years, the club has partnered with Toronto-based charity Sleeping Children Around the World to supply bed kits to a total of 80,000 children at a cost of about \$4 million, says club member Mumbi King. Each kit includes a mat or mattress, bedding, and mosquito netting, along with school supplies and clothing. The kits have an outsized influence on children's lives, since better sleep improves health and school performance, King says. Twenty Nairobi Rotarians mobilized for the five-day delivery mission in February, serving the town of Naro Moru at the base of Mount Kenya and other villages, including in the Maasai Mara region. "The heat couldn't keep the team from visiting the villages and interacting with the families," says King.

Ethiopia

With the wind at their backs, members of the *Rotary Fellowship of Kites* and its founder, Henock Alemayehu, gathered for a day of kite making and flying with 250 children, many of them displaced by conflict among the more than 80 ethnic groups in Ethiopia. The children and volunteers converged on the grounds of an elementary school in Quiha, in the northern Tigray region, for the Ashengoda Kite Festival on 9 June. "The simplicity of this activity carried profound significance, offering a rare moment of peace and joy for these children," says Alemayehu, a member of the Rotary Club of Addis Ababa Central-Mella. The kite fellowship, which has more than 100 members from 12 countries, is "creating lasting change through the simple yet powerful act of kite flying," says Alemayehu.



Published by Rtn. Suman Chakraborty, Hony. Secretary, Rotary Club of Calcutta

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