



WEDNESDAY 01 JANUARY 2025  
January is Vocational Service Month

# 105

## The Chaka

Bulletin of Rotary Club of Calcutta  
R I Dist. 3291

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Editor : Rtn. Ashok Basu

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*The Chaka wishes all readers a **New Year** embracing hope, happiness, harmony and good health!*

**Anuvab Pal**

**'The Dangers Of Making People Laugh'**



Anuvab Pal, hailed by *The New York Times* as "India's Most Intelligent Comedian" and *The Guardian* as "very brilliant, very funny," has performed his hit stand-up special *The Nation Wants To Know* over 1,000 times across 30 cities worldwide, including sold-out shows in Sydney, San Francisco, and Singapore. He is the only Indian comedian to perform at Harvard University and for the Prime Ministers of India and Great Britain. A prolific writer, Anuvab has created cult classics like *Loins of Punjab Presents* and *The President Is Coming* and penned Bollywood hits such as *Baar Baar Dekho*, *Hichki*, and *Bhoot Police*. His play *Chaos Theory* was a finalist for the BBC World Service Radio Playwriting Award and featured on Broadway. He has also written a sitcom starring British comedy legend Stephen Fry for BBC Radio 2. His BBC show *The Empire*,

Rotary  
Club of Calcutta  
105 Years in Service



viewed by 6 million globally, is now a permanent exhibit at the V&A Museum. Anuvab's latest acting roles include *Freedom at Midnight* and *A Suitable Boy*. He features in a thriller called *Pune Highway*, that premiered at The Indian Film Festival in Goa.

**Annual Children's Treat  
8 Dec. 2024**

**(This is the residual part of the report first published in The Chaka on 17 Dec. 2024)**

The successful organizing of the program had been possible due to the commitment and dedication of the Rotarians, R-Anns, Interactors, Interact Co-ordinators and staff of Rotary Sadan. The program was very well covered by both Print and electronic media due to the untiring efforts of Rtns. Yogesh Dassani and Ravindra Khandelwal. The Club wishes to thank Rtns. Yogesh Dassani, Dr. Saswati Mukherjee, Ravindra Khandelwal, Anand Sharma, Sarvani Gooptu, K. K. Kothari, Sonal Worah, PP Nilima Joshi, Atindra Nath Sen, Arindam Roychowdhury, Shashi Bhargava, PP Raj Agrawal, Anand Bhuwarka, Shampa Ghosh, Probir Kumar Gupta, Dr. Sukalyan Purkayastha and Sanjeev Agarwal for their help and guidance in organising of this programme. The Club wishes to thank the Interactors and Interact Club Co-ordinators of Vidyanjali International School, Mahadevi Birla World Academy, Silver Point School and Sailendra Sirkar Vidyalaya for their help and support in packing of the Gift Bags as well as acting as escorts of the children from early morning till the end of the event in the evening. The Club wishes to record their sincere appreciation to Mr. Madan Kothari and other members of Rtns. B.D. Kothari and K.K. Kothari organisation for organising the vegetarian lunch served to the children, their escorts, Rotarians, R-Anns and to all who attended the event. The Club records its thanks to Mr. Prabir Mukherjee, Mr. Sambhu Dey, Mr. Anjan Behera, Mr. Krishnapada Gucchait, Goutam and Kartick of Rotary Sadan Office for their untiring help in making this programme a success. Very special thanks to President Subrata De, Hony. Secretary Suman Chakraborty and Hony. Treasurer Indrajit Banerjee for their inspiration, support and guidance in the organising of this programme. The Club wishes to record its sincere thanks to the Chairman and the Trustees of Rotary Children's Welfare Trust for their whole-hearted support to this event. We acknowledge the following Rotarians and well-wishers for sponsoring various items - Rtn S R Goenka for Maaza, Rtn Shampa Ghose for fruit drinks, PP Rtn Heena Gorsia for Ice Creams and Rtns Supriya and Prasanta Roy for breakfast. Thanks to the Principals and Trustees of South Point, Mahadevi Birla, DPS Howrah, DPS Ruby Park, and Asian International School for sponsoring 19 buses. Special Thanks are due to RILM, Anmol Biscuits, Bisk Farm, Pepsico and Pampar Overseas Foods for

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We Meet Every Tuesday at 1 p.m. at ROTARY SADAN  
<https://rccalcutta.rotaryindia.org>  
E-mail: [rotarycalcutta.office@gmail.com](mailto:rotarycalcutta.office@gmail.com)

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sponsoring various items. These Sponsors were arranged by Rtns Yogesh Dassani and Arindam Roychowdhury.

We also gratefully acknowledge the generous contributions received from the following donors as on 20th December 2024 :

DONORS	AMOUNT (Rs.)	DONORS	AMOUNT (Rs.)
Late Rtn. Nandita Sen Endowment	25,000/-	Rtn. Lakshmi Niwas Bangur	1,00,000/-
Rtn. Atindra Nath Sen	25,000/-	Rtn. Anand Vardhan Bhuwalka	5,000/-
Rtn. Brijendra Kumar Poddar	10,000/-	Rtn. Dr. Debnath Chattopadhyay	10,000/-
Rtn. Ashis Kumar Bagla	25,000/-	Rtn. Rear Adm. Rajeev Paralikar (Retd.)	30,000/-
Rtn. Shankar Sehanobish	5,000/-	Rtn. Abhijit Kolay and Rtn. Bablu Kolay	50,000/-
Rtn. Sukanti Taraphdar (R.C. of Rochdale East, U.K.)	10,000/-	Rtn. Indrajit Banerjee	5,000/-
Rtn. Dr. Shankar Ghosh	2,000/-	Rtn. Dr. Ashoke Kumar Basu	2,000/-
Rtn. Raj Kumar Agrawal	11,000/-	Rtn. Haladhar Dey	5,000/-
Rtn. Nilima Joshi	10,000/-	Rtn. Sakti Kumar Banerjee	5,000/-
Rtn. Tapan Basu	20,000/-	Rtn. Kirit Kumar Patel	5,000/-
Rtn. Sarvani Gooptu	5,000/-	Rtn. Subrata De	15,000/-
Rtn. Murari Lal Lohia	51,000/-	Rtn. Sharmistha N. Koya	40,000/-
Rtn. Vikram Somany	10,000/-	Rtn. Sonal Worah	15,000/-
R-Ann. Parveen Hirji	5,000/-	Rtns Bithal Das Kothari and Krishna Kothari	21,000/-
Rtn. Dr. Indrajit Roy	10,000/-	Rotary Club of Calcutta	1,00,000/-

The programme was a success but would not have been so without the support of ALL OF YOU.

Reported by Rtn Abhijit Kolay

## Fundamentals of AI & IoT : A Hands-on Workshop held on Dec. 13, 2024 at Rotary Sadan : AOS New Generations



On December 13, 2024, the Rotary Club of Calcutta, along with the Rotary Clubs of Inner City and Presidency, hosted a workshop on "Fundamentals of AI & IoT" at Rotary Sadan. Aimed at providing hands-on learning, the event featured 48 students (classes VIII–XII) and 10 teachers from 8 Kolkata schools. The workshop included interactive sessions on AI, machine learning, and IoT fundamentals, followed by practical exercises in building supervised ML models and IoT setups using virtual platforms. Highlights included a sensor-operated miniature car demonstration. Instructional materials, 25 hired laptops, and Alliance Broadband's 500 Mbps Wi-Fi ensured smooth execution. Rtn. Dr. Saswati Mukherjee and Prof. Dr. Susovan Jana led the sessions, supported by Jadavpur University scholars. The event began with the national anthem and inspiring addresses by district officials. Participants received certificates, and the workshop earned enthusiastic feedback, marking it as a resounding success. The workshop began with the national anthem, led by Interactors, and was moderated by Rtn. Pradip Gooptu. Rtn. Subrata De addressed the audience, while Rtn. Yogesh Dassani and Rtn. Ruchika Majumdar honoured dignitaries with uttoriyos. President of the two co-collaborating clubs Rtn. Tunir Chakravarty, and Rtn. Abha Lunia were present, as were District Officials delivered inspiring speeches. Several Rotarians including PP Raj Agrawal and PE Debnath Chattopadhyay were present. Special thanks were extended to Jadavpur University scholars for their assistance.



Reported by Youth Chair Saswati

## REPORTING & ANNOUNCEMENTS



### ONE WORLD

We remember with good wishes Rotary Club of Manila, Philippines, R.I. Dist 3810.

### Happy Birthday

Rtn. Dr. Chandra Sekhar Dhar	1st January
Rtn. Dr. Pronab Dasgupta	1st January
Rtn. Ritwik Gupta	1st January
Rtn. Shantanu Deb Mookerjee	1st January
Rtn. Mukti Gupta	2nd January
Rtn. Arun Kumar Chandra	4th January
Rtn. Dilip Kumar Jaiswal	6th January

*Wish you many happy returns of the day*

### Reports and Photographs

- Programme Committee organised "Antakshari" on Tuesday, 10th December, 2024 at Rotary Sadan
- Members from our Club made Goodwill visit to the Rotary Club of Calcutta Mahanagar on 15th November, 2024 and Rotary Club of Central Calcutta on 29th November, 2024.



### NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 7th January, 2025 at 1.30 p.m. at Rotary Sadan / Lunch 12.30 p.m. Speaker: Dr. Vivek Sharma

There will be no Regular Weekly meeting on Tuesday 14th January, 2025 on account of Makar Sankranti.

### TRIP TO SHANTINIKETAN ON 18TH & 19TH JANUARY, 2025

A Trip to Shantiniketan will be organised on Saturday 18th and Sunday 19th January, 2025. Interested members are requested to kindly contact Rtn. Satarupa Ghosh Mukherjee, Chairperson, Programme and Fellowship Committee for further details.

### SECOND CLUB ASSEMBLY ON 19th JANUARY, 2025

The Second Club Assembly will be held on Sunday, 19th January, 2025 at 10.30 a.m. at Shantiniketan.

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 Second Club Assembly.

### IN MEMORIAM



We mourn the sad demise of our Member Rtn. Prof. Dr. Suman Mukherjee who passed away on Thursday, 26th December, 2024. Our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family. May his soul rest in peace.

### FORTHCOMING MEETINGS / EVENTS IN THE MONTH OF JANUARY, 2025

Day & Date	Programmes	Timing and Venue
Friday, 3rd January to Sunday 5th January, 2025	R. I. District 3291 Conference - 2025 "SAMMELAN"	NICCO PARK, East Side Pavilion, HM Block, Sector - IV, Salt Lake City, Bidhannagar, Kolkata.
Tuesday 7th January, 2025	Regular Weekly Meeting Speaker: Dr. Vivek Sharma	1.30 p.m. / Lunch 12.30 p.m at Rotary Sadan (2nd floor)
Tuesday 14th January, 2025	No Regular Weekly Meeting	----
Saturday 18th January, 2025	Fellowship and Dinner to be hosted by the President, Rtn. Subrata De.	6.30 p.m onwards at Farmhouse of Rtn. Subrata De at Shantiniketan "Krishnachura" Phooldanga, Shantiniketan, Bolpur (Opposite Shayor Bithi Park)
Sunday 19th January, 2025	Second Club Assembly	10.30 a.m. onwards at Farmhouse of Rtn. Subrata De at Shantiniketan "Krishnachura", Phooldanga, Shantiniketan, Bolpur (Opposite Shayor Bithi Park)
Monday 20th January, 2025	7th Meeting of the Board of Directors	6.30 p.m. Rotary Sadan (1st floor)
Tuesday, 21st January, 2025	Regular Weekly Meeting Speaker: Mr. K. Mohanchandran	1.30 p.m./Lunch 12.30 p.m Rotary Sadan (2nd floor)
Tuesday, 28th January, 2025	Regular Weekly Meeting Speaker: Ms Shruti Mohta	1.30 p.m./Lunch 12.30 p.m Rotary Sadan (2nd floor)

## MINUTES OF THE 4966TH REGULAR WEEKLY MEETING HELD ON 17th DECEMBER, 2024 AT 1.30 P.M. AT ROTARY SADAN

1. President, Rtn. Subrata De welcomed Members and Guests and called 4966th Regular Weekly Meeting of the Club to order.
2. National Anthem was led by Rtn. Ruchika Majumdar.
3. Minutes of the 4965th Regular Weekly Meeting of the Club held on 10th December, 2024 were confirmed.
4. President informed members that there was no Guest Speaker on that day as it was Closed Door Meeting.
5. President then welcomed visiting Rotarians and Guests who attended the meeting on that day and requested them to leave the Meeting Room as it was Closed Door Meeting.
6. **President Reported the following :**
  - a) Rtn Rajeev Paralikar made a Goodwill visit to Rotary Club of Koggenland, Netherlands, R.I. District 1580 and exchanged our Club Flag with them.
  - b) The 99th Annual Children's Treat of the Club was held last Sunday, 8th December, 2024 at 10 a.m. onwards at Nicco Park, Salt Lake, Kolkata.  
President also informed members that about 1200 Children from 22 Institutions joined the programme.
  - c) Youth Service & Literacy Committee organised in association with Rotary Club of Calcutta Inner City and Rotary Club of Calcutta Presidency, hands on Workshop on "Fundamentals of AI & IOT" for the School Students (Class VIII & XII) on Friday, 13th December, 2024 between 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Rotary Sadan.
7. **President Announced the following :**  
The Club would celebrate its 106th Charter Day along with Regular Weekly Meeting on Wednesday, 1st January, 2025 at 6.30 p.m. at Rotary Sadan followed by fellowship and dinner and he requested members to kindly make a note of it and attend with your spouse on that day.
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 31st December, 2024.
  - c) There would be no Regular Weekly meetings on Tuesdays, 24th and 31st December, 2024 for Christmas Holidays.
  - d) The Board at the meeting held on 18th November, 2024 accepted the resignations of Rtn. Shamlu Dudeja and Rtn Dr. Joti Deb Mukherjee with effect from 1st December, 2024.
  - e) R. I. District 3291 Conference-2025 "SAMMELAN" would be held from Friday, 3rd to Sunday, 5th January, 2025 at the NICCO PARK, East Side Pavilion, HM Block, Sector – IV, Salt Lake City, Bidhannagar, Kolkata.

**Registration Charges –**  
 Rotarian per head Rs. 6,500/-  
 Rotarian with Couple Rs. 12,000/-  
 Guest per head Rs. 6,500/-

He also informed members that kits are not assured for registration on and after 26th December, 2024 and requested members to kindly register their names. For further details please contact Club Office.

  - f) Programme and Fellowship Committee would be organising a Trip at Shantinikatan on Saturday 18th and Sunday 19th January, 2025. On Saturday, 18th January, 2025, three would be a fellowship and dinner at the farmhouse of the President, Rtn. Subrata De and to be hosted by him. On Sunday, 19th January, 2025, Second Club Assembly would be held at 10.30 am at Shantinikatan. Interested members are requested to kindly contact Rtn. Satarupa Ghosh Mukherjee, Chairperson, Programme and Fellowship Committee for further details and please register your name with Mr. Shambhu Dey of Club Office (Rotary Sedan).
9. At the regular weekly meeting of the Club held on 19th November, 2024 Nominations were sought from members for Election of the Board of Directors of the Club for the Rotary year 2025 – 2026. All the above all nominations were duly seconded.  
President Elect 2024-25, Rtn. Dr. Debnath Chattopadhyay informed that PP Rtn. Haladhar Dey and PP Rtn. Abhijit Kolay would be to the Advisors the Board for the Rotary year 2025-26  
Since there were no other Nomination received, President Rtn. Subrata De declared that the said members have duly been elected uncontested to serve the Club's Board for the Rotary year 2025-2026. The present President Elect, Rtn Dr. Debnath Chattopadhyay would automatically take over as the President of the Club from 1st July 2025. Board of Directors for the Rotary year 2025-26 :

Rtn. Dr. Debnath Chattopadhyay	President
Rtn. Shantanu Deb Mookerjee	President – Elect
Rtn. Anusua Das	Vice-President
Rtn Ashok Kumar Basu	Hony. Secretary
Rtn Indrajit Banerjee	Hony. Treasurer
Rtn. Suman Chakraborty	Director

AKS Rtn. Dr. Sourabh Khemani	Director
Rtn. Dr. Ashoke Kumar Basu	Director
Rtn. Dr. S. K. Sharma	Director
Rtn. Arindam Roychowdhury	Director
Rtn. Haladhar Dey	Advisor to the Board
Rtn. Abhijit Kolay	Advisor to the Board

On behalf of the Club, President congratulated the Board members for the Rotary year 2025-26.

10. Sunshine Box Collection Rs. 500/- with special contribution from Rtn Kirit Patel.
11. The Club remembered with good wishes Rotary Club of Koggenland, Netherland, R.I. Dist. 1580.
12. Meeting was adjourned at 1:51 p.m.

**Subrata De**  
President

**Suman Chakraborty**  
Hony. Secretary