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# The **Chaka**

Bulletin of Rotary Club of Calcutta R I Dist 3291 First Published in 1925

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# **TODAY'S GUEST SPEAKER**



Padmashri Bhaichung Bhutia, Footballer

Bhaichung Bhutia (born 15 December 1976), also spelled as Baichung Bhutia, is a former Indian professional footballer who played as a striker. Bhutia is considered the torchbearer of Indian football in the international arena. He is often nicknamed the Sikkimese Sniper because of his shooting skills in football. Three-time Indian Player of the Year I. M. Vijayan described Bhutia as "God's gift to Indian football". Bhutia has had four spells at I-League football team East Bengal Club, the club where he started



his career. When he joined English club Bury in 1999, he became the first Indian footballer to sign a contract with a European club and only the second to play professionally in Europe, after Mohammed Salim. Afterwards he had a short loan spell at the Malaysian football club Perak FA. As well as this he has played for JCT Mills and Mohun Bagan. His international footballing honours include winning the Nehru Cup, LG Cup, SAFF Championship three times and the AFC Challenge Cup. He is also India's second most capped player, with 82 international caps to his name and is India's second youngest international goal scorer after Jerry Zirsanga when he scored his first goal against Uzbekistan in 1995 Nehru cup at the age of 18 years 90 days Bhutia, who has a football stadium named after him in honour of his contribution to Indian football (first player to have such honour while he is still playing), has also won many awards, such as the Arjuna Award and the Padma Shri. In October 2010, he founded Bhaichung Bhutia Football Schools in Delhi in partnership with football by Carlos Queiroz and Nike. In August 2011, Bhutia announced his retirement from international football. His farewell match was with the India national team on 10 January 2012 against Bayern Munich at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, Delhi.

The Club celebrates its 101st Charter Day on the 1st of January 2021 with solemnity and grace under trying circumstances.

#### **ANNUAL CHILDREN'S TREAT - 2020-2021**

The Flagship Programme of the Club i.e. the Annual Children's Treat will be held on Sunday, 24th January, 2021 at 10 a.m. onwards at Nicco Park, Salt Lake, Kolkata and simultaneously at our five RCCs: Bisnupur, Dara, Krishnanagar, Kanaidanga and Duttapukur as well as at Rotary Sadan for the students of our NCLCL and Cultural Section. The programme this year is being spread out to avoid large gathering of children at a single venue in line with COVID-19 guidelines issued by the authorities. Members are requested to generously donate or Sponsor Breakfast, Lunch, Ice Cream, Caps, Utility Bags, Gift Items like Biscuits, Potato chips etc to make this a "Day of Sunshine" for these Children. Donation in Cash or by Cheque made to "Rotary Children's Welfare Trust" will be eligible for Income Tax Exemption U/S 80G of the Income Tax Act

An Appeal by PP Abhijit Koley, Chairman

#### A SNAPSHOT OF 101st CHARTER DAY EVENT



We Meet Every Tuesday At 1 p.m. At ROTARY SADAN www.rotacal.org E-mail: rota2573@dataone.in

# Message from Rotary International President on Our 101st Charter Day



Holger Knaack
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Rotary International
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#### 22 December 2020

Dear Rotary Club of Calcutta, India members,

I am honored to congratulate the Rotary Club of Calcutta, India on its 101st anniversary.

Since your club was chartered, you have made the commitment not only to represent Rotary in your community, but also to do significant, meaningful work from which your community will benefit.

When we join Rotary, we make a commitment to Rotary values, to friendships and to a life of Service Above Self. As a Rotarian, everywhere you go in the world, you are among friends. Through our work, we open opportunities for the people and communities we serve, and opportunities for ourselves to live richer, more meaningful lives.

All of the service that Rotary does, all of the lives we change, all of the children in the world who will never, ever get polio — all of this happens because we, joining together through Rotary, are strong. You have risen to many challenge through the years and met your obligations as members of this wonderful organization.

Each Rotary club is unique in its own way. By reaching this milestone, you have shown your commitment to our organization and to all that Rotary does and hopes to do.

Congratulations once again on your 101 years. I know that you will continue to serve your community and beyond for many more years to come as Rotary Opens Opportunities.

Kindest Regards,

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Holger Knaack

President, Rotary International 2020-21

# **NEXT WEEKLY MEETING (Virtual)**

### On 12th January, 2021

The next regular weekly meeting will be held on Tuesday, 12th January, 2021 at 6 p.m. on Zoom

Speaker: Mr. Yashvardhan Kumar Sinha, Chief Information Commissioner of India

Topic: The Right to Information Act 2005

#### **ROSTER 2020-2021**

ROSTER 2020-2021 is now available at the Club office. Members can collect their copies during any working hour.

#### **ROTARY CALENDAR**

RI Dist. 3291 published Rotary Calendar - 2021 is now available at the Club office. You may buy one @ 200/-

#### **WELCOME GREEN BADGER**

The following candidate who was inducted as a members of the Club on 1 January 2021



Dr. Koel Roychowdhury

**Education:** University Teaching **Date of Birth:** 16th November,1980

Assistant Professor, Presidency University

**Tel:** 4052- 9999; Mob: 9831162772 / 7003106139

E-mail: rckoel@gmail.com

Residence: 27A/7, Brojomoni Debya Road, Barisha Sakherbazar, Kolkata – 700 008

## ATTENDANCE REPORT (01/01/2021)

Total Members	233
Members Present	87
Exempted Members	74
Visiting Rotarians & Guests	22

# **Birthdays**

Asok Kumar Basu	5 January	
Dilip Kumar Bose	5 January	
Dilip Kumar Jaiswal	6 January	
Satya Narayan Jhunjhunwala	7 January	
Abhijit Neogi	7 January	
Niraj Kumar Saraf	9 January	
Dr. Chandreyee Das	9 January	
Wish you many happy returns of the day		

# **EVENT HELD ON 1 JANUARY 2021**



# Message from PDG Prabhat Rohatgi to Fellow Rotarians on 101st Charter Evening of R.C. Calcutta on 1st January 2021.

#### **Through President Debashis Mitra**

Friends, today is a joyous day, a landmark date in the calendar of Rotary Club of Calcutta, when it is celebrating the 101st anniversary of its chartering as a member of Rotary International, the world's largest international voluntary service organisation.

Compliments of the season to all of you assembled here today, wishing you a 'Happy New Year'.

To have the 1st citizen of our State, the Hon'ble Governor Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar, to grace today's event is indeed an honour.

And of course I am truly glad and proud that my dear friend Shekhar Mehta, the President-elect of Rotary International, will be sharing his assessment of Rotary's future in the post-pandemic years. Present here today also is our soft-spoken District Governor Sudip, along with district leaders. My warm regards to them and the august group of Past RI. Officers.

My dear friends, as most of you know, over the many years of my association with Rotary, I have been a regular and active member of this premier club. And, except under extenuating circumstances, I have always attended its charter evenings. This year because of the raging pandemic and my poor health and age, my doctor have advised me to stay at home and avoids going out, especially to public functions. But President Debashis was very keen for my participation and so I am here with you, but 'in spirit' only. I trust you will excuse my absence.

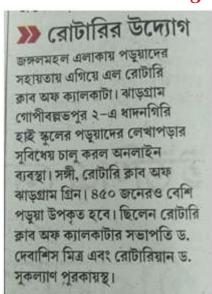
Our club is now a 'centurion' club, with a glorious record of over 100 years, working for the betterment of the community. Despite all the hardships and difficulties of the pandemic President Debashis has been managing very well the running of the club with virtual meetings and pragmatic community and club projects. I place on record my deep appreciation of the good work done by him and by the club under his able leadership. I thank President Debashis for inviting me and my wife Shashi.

Once again I wish you my friends, ladies and gentlemen a most pleasant evening.

2020

Yours-in-Rotary, Prabhat Krishna & Shashi Rohatgi 1st January 2021

# Media Coverage of the Club's Event at Jhargram on 24 December 2020





Dhadangiri High School students to join online classes

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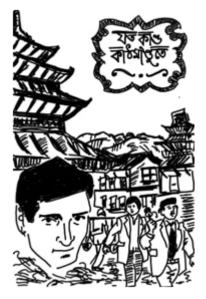
A noble initiative by the Rotary Club of Calcutta

EOI CORRESPONDENT

JHARGRAM, DEC 25/--/ This pandemic has changed a lot of things around us. For more than eight months pupils have not attended the regular classes of their school. has embarked on an e-learning project for this students of Jungle Mahal. "This initiative will help these students to get their daily lessons as good as they used to get in their classroom. It will be a Smartphone bank which will enable students to participate in Online Classes, Online Tution, Educational Webinar etc. This e-learning programme took place at Dhadangiri High School of Gopiballavpur II Jhargram. Now these students won't feel isolated as they will be able continue their education regularly," Dr. Debasish Mitra said. The formal inauguration of this project was graced by President Rotary Club of Calcutta Dr Debasish Mitra and Rtn Dr Sukalyan Purokayastha.

# **MEMBERS' BOX**

# **FELUDA**



Sketch on Tablet by Arijit Sen, Son of Rtn Samiran Sen

## HAPPY LUNCH FOR CHILDREN

On 1st January'21, a project for Happy Lunch for children of the excluded community, was organised and supported by Taj Bengal in association with Rotary Club of Calcutta and NGO Prantakatha. The children were from NGO Diksha, Kalighat Centre.

198 children were served lunch by a team of Rotractors and an executive from Taj Bengal. Some of our Rotarians who attended, besides President Debashish Mitra and Hony. Secy. Bodhi Brata Das, are Anusua Das, Udit Mitra, Subha Pal, Anand Sharma and Partha Mukherjee. Children relished the delicious Biryani, Oranges, Cakes and Juice, and looked extremely happy. The faces of the children were filled with joy. The program was broadcast live online. It was a Rotary Children's Treat Committee initiative.

Reported by Rtn. Anand Sharma











# MINUTES OF THE 4794th REGULAR WEEKLY MEETING (101st CHARTER DAY) HELD ON FRIDAY, 1ST JANUARY, 2021 at 6.00 p.m. at Rotary Sadan

- 1 President called the 4794th regular weekly meeting of the Club to order.
- 2 National Anthem was led by Rtn. Roshni Ganguly.
- 3 Minutes of the 4793rd Weekly Meeting of the Club held on 22nd December, 2020 were confirmed.
- 4 President welcomed His Excellency, Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar, Governor of West Bengal, the Chief Guest of the 101 Charter day, and his gracious wife Smt. Sudesh Dhankhar. The President also welcomed RIPE Shekhar Mehta, the Guest of Honour and DG Sudip Mukherjee, Special Guest of the day in the usual Rotary manner.
- 5 The President then welcomed all Dist. Officials, PDGs, visiting Rotarians and Club guests who were present and conveyed greetings to their clubs.

#### 6 President Reported:

- a. E learning Project of the Club Smart Phone Bank created with internet connection in association with Rotary Club of Jhargram Green at Gopiballabpur, Jhargram on 24th December, 2020. Details reported in The Chaka issue of 1 January.
- b. On 25th December, 2020 Fellowship Committee and Members' Nite & Members Escapades organised Virtural Christmas Evening by the children & grandchildren of Rotarians.
- c. Second Club Assembly of the Club held on Sunday, 27th December ,2020 on Zoom.
- d. The Club arranged lunch for 150 Children for Excluded Community in association with two NGOs , Prantakatha and Diksha at Kalighat area on 1st January 2021 afternoon. Lunch was sponsored by Taj Bengal Hotel.

#### 7 President Announced:

- a. The Flagship Programme of the Club i.e. the Annual Children's Treat would be held on Sunday, 24th January at 10 a.m. onwards at the Nicco Park, Salt Lake, Kolkata and simultaneously at the Club's five RCCs namely RCC Bisnupur, RCC Dara, RCC Krishnanagar, RCC Kanaidanga and RCC Duttapukur and at Rotary Sadan for the students of our NCLCL and Cultural Section. Details are printed in the day's The Chaka with an appeal by the committee chairperson PP Abhijit Koley. The President urged all to contribute generously.
- b. RI Dist. 3291 published Rotary Calendar 2021 was available and requested members to buy their copies from the Club office @ Rs. 200/- per copy.
- 8 At the request of the President, Honorary Secretary, Bodhi Brata Das thereafter conducted the Club business thus:
- a. He announced the names of Rotarians celebrating their birthdays and wedding anniversaries during the week ending 4th January ,2021 and conveyed best wishes to them.
- b. He informed members that the next Weekly Meeting of the Club would be held on Tuesday, 5th January, 2021 at 6 p.m. virtually. Speaker: Football legend and Padmashri Bhaichung Bhutia. Topic: The Future of Indian Football.
- 9 At the request of the President, Rtn.Dr. Dipak Roychowdhury introduced his candidate Dr. k to the Club. The President welcomed Dr. Koel Roychowdhury.
  - Dr. Koel Roychowdhury for induction
  - ${\sf IPP\ Purnendu\ Roychowdhury\ inducted}\quad {\sf Dr.\ Roychowdhury\ as\ a\ member\ of\ the\ Club\ .}$
- 10 Hon'ble Governor Shri Dhankhar formally released of Members' Roster 2020-21 of the Club.
- 11 Rtn. Hirak Ray, Chairman, Attendance, Classification and Family of Rotary Committee announced the name of the 100%ers for the Rotary year 2019-20.
  - The 100%ers were presented mementos for their achievement by the Club.
- 12 DG Sudip Mukherjee and RIPE Shekhar Mehta addressed the audience in turn.
- 13 President then introduced the Chief Guest His Excellency, the Governor of West Bengal and requested him to address the audience. He the Governor addressed the gathering in his usual lucid and humorous style and enthralled all present.
- 14 At the request of the President, President Elect Sujata Pyne offered a formal vote of thanks to the Chief Guest, the Guest of Honour and the Special Guest of the evening on behalf of the Club.
- 15 The Club remembered with good wishes Rotary Club of Jhargram Green, India, RI Dist. 3291
- 16 The President then requested all to join the fellowship and dinner hosted by Rtns Roshni Ganguly and Indrajit Ganguly, whom the President thanked profusely.
- 17 Meeting was adjoined at 7.15 p.m.

Rtn. Debashis Mitra

President

Rtn. Bodhi Brata Das Hony. Secretary

# **ONE WORLD**

We remember with good wishes Rotary Club of Calcutta Lansdowne, India, RI Dist. 3291