



TUESDAY 17 MARCH 2026

March is Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Month

106

The Chaka

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

Editor : Rtn. Anindita Shoma Basu
Jt. Editor : Rtn. Sarvani Gooptu

Volume 93 No. 30

AG Visit

In Rotary International, the Assistant Governor's visit prior to the District Governor's Official Visit helps prepare the club for an effective interaction with the district leadership. The AG reviews the club's activities, administration, and projects, offers guidance to the leadership team, and ensures that the club is well aligned with district goals. This visit helps make the forthcoming District Governor's visit more meaningful and productive for the club.

Smarajit Mitra

AG Zone 12, RID 3291



Smarajit Mitra is a well-known practising Chartered Accountant from Kolkata with offices in Chennai and New Delhi. A respected business consultant in business restructuring and risk management, he serves on the boards of several societies and not-for-profit organisations in India and abroad. He is a member of the Managing Committee of the Merchants' Chamber of Commerce and Industry, where he is Chairman of

Rotary
Club of Calcutta



UNITE
FOR
GOOD

the Council for Banking & Finance and Co-Chairman of HR & Skill Development. He also serves on committees of the Government of India, Government of West Bengal and the Reserve Bank of India.

Utilization of the Rotary Mobile Cancer Detection Bus – 2nd March 2026



The Rotary Mobile Cancer Screening Bus which was launched under Global Grant is creating a positive impact with outreach in the community throughout West Bengal.

Various NGOs and Rotary Clubs are utilizing the bus for screening of the deadly disease of Cancer in various areas of West Bengal. Rotary Club of Dum Dum held a Cancer Screening Camp with the bus at Eruli Bazar, Nadia with Dipsankar Memorial Trust, the local RCC. About 250 beneficiaries attended the awareness section which was conducted by specialist Doctors. Amongst them 25 women were screened with colposcopy for Cervical Cancer where 5 suspects were being referred for Biopsy to the Netaji Subash Chandra Bose Cancer Hospital at a minimum rate.

Reported by : Rtn. Arindam Roy Chowdhury, Chair for International Service Committee

Project Report : Building Music Literacy Theory Foundations Phase 1

Organised by: Rotary Club of Calcutta, Basic Education and Literacy Committee, Project Date: 12th March 2026

The project aims to build a strong foundation in music theory for vernacular school students, in line with the NEP 2020 emphasis on integrating arts education. The sessions were designed to nurture interest, confidence, and clarity in musical concepts, preparing students who aspire to pursue a career in music. A total of 20 students from **Children's Welfare Association for Girls H.S. School** participated in the program.

cont. to pg. 2

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

cont. from pg. 1



The event was attended by Rtn Surendranath Majumdar and Rtn Ruchika Majumdar, with the course conducted by Rtn Surendranath Majumdar. The sessions introduced students to the basics of notation, rhythm, scales, and harmony, followed by practical exercises such as writing notations, articulations, dynamics, and exploring major and minor scales along with tones and semitones. Students were encouraged to express their creativity by composing short melodic phrases and sharing them with peers. Group discussions highlighted the importance of music education in personal growth and career opportunities, while the alignment with NEP 2020 underscored music as a tool for holistic development, cultural pride, and future pathways.

At the end of the program, students demonstrated improved clarity in understanding musical concepts, greater confidence, and enthusiasm for further learning, reflecting the success of the initiative in fostering music literacy.

Reported by Rtn. Ruchika Majumdar, Chairperson for Literacy Committee



Cake Distribution



We are thrilled to share the success of our recent collaboration with **Bisk Farm!** As part of their commitment to social responsibility, Bisk Farm entrusted the Rotary Club of Calcutta with the distribution of **20,000 cakes** to children in need across the Kolkata region. Our team rose to the challenge, mobilizing a massive network of RCCs and sister clubs to complete the distribution in just 48–72 hours. It was a joy to bring smiles to over **8,000 young faces** in such a short time. A huge thank you to the following partners for making this possible.



RCC - Ranihati
RCC - Bishnupur
RCC - Krishnanagar
RCC- Star Welfare
RCC - Refuge
IW - Haldane Ave
All Bengal Women's Association
Deepranjani

RC Calcutta Inner wheel
RC Calcutta Inncity
Saroj Nalini Trust
RC Sundarbans - Rtn Debjani
Rtn Anand & Madhu
Bustee welfare
RCC NCCL

Reported by Rtn. Yogesh Dassani, Co-Chair for Annual Children's Treat

REPORTING & ANNOUNCEMENTS



ONE WORLD

We remember with good wishes Rotary Club of Brookmans Park, U.K., R.I. Dist. 1260.

TODAY

Rtn. Smarajit Mitra, Assistant Governor's visit to the Club.

NEXT MEETING

Next Regular Weekly Meeting of the Club on Tuesday, 24th March, 2026. Meeting 1.30 p.m. / Lunch 12.30 p.m. at Rotary Sadan (2nd floor) Rtn. Dr. Ramendu Homchaudhuri, District Governor, R.I. Dist. 3291 Official Visit to the Club

ROSTER 2025-26

Members Roster for the Rotary year 2025-26 is now available. You are requested to collect your copy from the Club Office.

Birthday

Rtn. Bithal Das Kothari

21st March

Rtn. Dr. Parthajit Das

21st March

Rtn. B. K. Nahata

22nd March

Wish you many happy returns of the day

Celebrate your Joy and Happiness of Birthdays and Anniversaries - donate generously to the Rotary Foundation India and for Club Projects.

REPORTS

As part of CSR project, Bisk Farm donated about 20,000 pcs. of Cake Boxes for the underprivileged Children. We have distributed the Cakes to the children of our RCCs and other NGOs. The distribution efforts by Rtns Yogesh Dossani, Sarvani Gooptu and Udit Chand Mitra are duly recognized in this regard, as also the efforts of the Rotary Sadan Staff.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

Day & Date	Programmes	Timing and Venue
Tuesday 24th March, 2026	Regular Weekly Meeting, District Governor R I Dist. 3291 Rtn. Dr. Ramendu Homchaudhuri, Official Visit to the Club	Lunch at 12.30 p.m. / Meeting 1.30 p.m. at Rotary Sadan (2nd floor)
Tuesday, 31st March, 2026	Regular Weekly Meeting Speaker: Ms. Snigdha Seal	Lunch at 12.30 p.m. / Meeting 1.30 p.m. in the Rotary Sadan (2nd floor)
Tuesday, 7th April, 2026	Regular Weekly Meeting Vocational Excellence Awards Ceremony followed by fellowship and dinner	6.00 p.m. / Dinner at 8.00 p.m. (after the meeting at Rotary Sadan Ground floor)
Tuesday 14th April, 2026	No Regular Weekly Meeting (on a/c of Public Holiday – Birthday of Late Shri B R. Ambedkar)	—
Saturday 18th April, 2026	Regular Weekly Meeting Annual Endowment Awards Ceremony followed by dinner	6.00 p.m. Dinner at 8.00 p.m. (after the meeting at Rotary Sadan Ground floor)
Tuesday 21st April, 2026	No Regular Weekly Meeting	—
Tuesday, 28th April, 2026	Regular Weekly Meeting Speaker : Mrs. Diya Jaiswal	Lunch at 12.30 p.m. / Meeting 1.30 p.m. in the Rotary Sadan (2nd floor)

MINUTES OF THE 5016TH REGULAR WEEKLY MEETING HELD ON 10TH MARCH, 2026 AT 1.30 P.M. IN ROTARY SADAN

1. President, Rtn. Dr. Debnath Chattopadhyay welcomed all Members and Guests and called the 5016th Regular Weekly Meeting of the Club to order.
2. The National Anthem was led by PP Rtn. Sujata Pyne.
3. President informed members that with regard to the spectacles distribution mentioned in the last meeting minutes under item no 6a, the amount received was not from Susrut but donated by our own Club members, Rtns Shakti Kumar Banerjee, B. K. Dalmia and Haladhar Dey. With confirmation of the correction in this regard, minutes of the 5015th Regular Weekly meeting of the Club held on 24th February, 2026 were confirmed.
4. The President welcomed Ms. Laily Thompson, Founder – Kult X Heritage Foundation and River Festival of Kolkata as the

- Guest Speaker on that day. She will speak on “Reclaiming Kolkata’s Riverfront : Art and Culture as Catalyst for Urban Renewal”.
5. The President then welcomed all Visiting Rotarians and Guests who attended the meeting.
 6. **President Reported the following :**
 - a) Fellowship Committee organised “Holi Milan” followed by fellowship with excellent chaat and street food on Friday, 27th February, 2026 at the residence of PP Rtn. Rajkumar Agrawal and R-Ann Asha Agrawal.
 - b) Under Global Grant project with seven partner Clubs for installation of high-capacity water filter, Pranadhara project, the first installation was inaugurated in Shyamsundarpur High School Purbaat Medinipur on 8th March, 2026, in partnership with Rotary Club of Calcutta, Mega City. The cost for each installation is Rs 1.97 lacs.
 - c) The second installation along with partner Club Rotary Club of Garden Reach, RID 3291 will be inaugurated at Joypur Panchanan Roy College Vill., P.O. & P.S. – Joypur, Amta on 15th March, 2026 at 12 noon. Interested members were requested to attend on that day and contact Chair, Arindam Roychowdhury, for this purpose. On behalf of the Club, President thanked the Chair, Arindam Roychowdhury and his Team of International Service Committee for their successful effort.
 - d) R-Ann Saswati Roychowdhury has donated a wheelchair to Rotary Sadan, for easier access to elderly Club members as also those in need. On behalf of the Club, President heartfelt thanked R Ann Saswati Roychowdhury for her donation.
 7. **President Announced the following :**
The Club had made some arrangements for Glaucoma Check-up Camps in the World Glaucoma week; the response was not encouraging at all, so the arrangements were called off. However, those of us who requested for the check-up would be facilitated soon for the examination. Interested members were requested to enrol their names at the Club Office.
 8. At the request of the President, Hony. Secretary Rtn. Ashok Kumar Basu conducted the Club business :
 - a) He welcomed all Members and Guests.
 - b) He then announced the names of Rotarians celebrating their Birthdays and Wedding Anniversaries for the week ending 16th March, 2026. He wished them and also requested them to donate generously for the Rotary Foundation and the Club Projects.
 - c) Next Regular Weekly Meeting of the Club on Tuesday, 17th March, 2026 Meeting 1.30 p.m. / Lunch 12.30 p.m. at Rotary Sadan (2nd floor). Assistant Governor, Rtn. Smarajit Mitra will visit the Club on this day.
 - d) Dist. Governor Rtn. Dr Ramendu Homchaudhuri’s Official Visit to the Club will be at the Regular Weekly Meeting on Tuesday, 24th March, 2026 at 1.30 p.m. He requested all members, specially all PDGs, Board of Directors, Committee Chairs. Co-Chairs and Club Officials to attend the special meeting on 24th March, 2026.
 - e) Members Roster for the Rotary year 2025-26 is now available. He requested members to collect their copies from the Club Office.
 - f) He then announced that the construction of a pukka kitchen in Jadugora School, Ayodhya Hills, Purulia has commenced. The President will visit alongwith the Donor to survey the work in progress during the next few days.
 - g) As part of CSR project of Bisk Farm, we donated about 20,000 pcs of Cake boxes to underprivileged Children. We have distributed them to the children of our RCCs and other NGOs. On behalf of the Club, special thanks to Rtns Yogesh Dossani, Sarvani Gooptu and Udit Chand Mitra for the huge effort in mobilisation. He also thanked the office staff for seamlessly doing the distribution job.
 9. At the request of the President, Rtn. Anindita Shoma Basu introduced Ms. Laily Thompson as Guest Speaker on that day.
 10. At the request of the President, Ms. Laily Tompson addressed the audience on “Reclaiming Kolkata’s Riverfront : Art and Culture as Catalyst for Urban Renewal”.
 11. Questions raised by the members were answered by the Guest Speaker.
 12. Rtn Shampa Ghose gave a vote of thanks on behalf of the Club.
 13. On behalf of the Club, President presented a Memento to Ms. Laily Tompson.
 14. No Sunshine Box Collection on that day.
 15. The Club remembered with good wishes Rotary Club of Lubbecke Westfalen, Germany, R.I. Dist. 1 900
 16. Meeting was adjourned at 2.31 p.m.

Dr. Debnath Chattopadhyay
President

Ashok Kumar Basu
Hony. Secretary