



TUESDAY 13 JANUARY 2026
January is Vocational Service Month

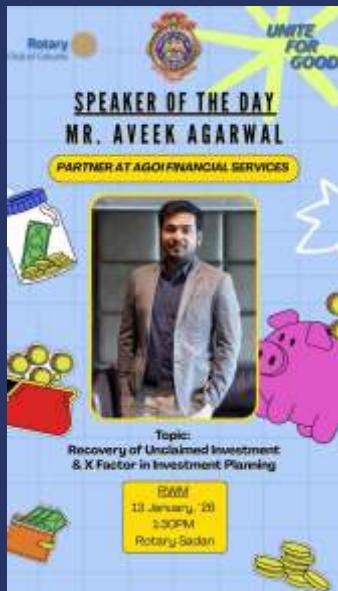
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The Chaka

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106th

**Charter Day Celebration
on 1st January, 2026**



Rotary
Club of Calcutta



**UNITE
FOR
GOOD**



Second Club Assembly on 6 Jan. 2026



The second Club Assembly was held on 6 Jan 2026 at Rotary Sadan. President Debnath Chattopadhyay opened the proceedings with the caveat that this being a state election year, we may not have a full-term availability and encouraged Chairpersons to put in their best efforts in the limited time

available. This was an evening meeting with High Tea, and it was very encouraging sight to see a hall full of Rotarians participating actively. Chairs/Co-Chairs Ruchika Mazumdar, Saswati Mukherjee, Satarupa Ghosh Mukherjee, Udit Mitra, Abhijit Kolay, Sanjib Basu, and Ravindra Khandelwal presented their Committee activities concisely and cogently. Hony. Secretary presented on behalf of Environment Committee.

Reported by Hony. Secretary, Ashok Basu

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

Report on 30th Foundation Day Celebration of Hijli INSPIRATION in collaboration with Youth Services, Rotary Club of Calcutta



On 8 January 2026, Hijli INSPIRATION marked its 30th Foundation Day in collaboration with Youth Services, Rotary Club of Calcutta, through a thoughtfully curated programme themed "**Youth in Focus : Inclusive Development in Action.**" The event brought together eminent leaders from government, academia, development organisations, and the arts, underscoring Hijli INSPIRATION's three-decade-long commitment to inclusive, youth-centric community development.

The programme began with guest registration, followed by the Opening and Welcome Addresses. The ceremonial Lighting of the Lamp was then conducted by distinguished dignitaries, including **Prof. Partha Pratim Chakrabarti** (Former Director, IIT Kharagpur), **Prof. Partha Pratim Das** (Professor, Ashoka University), **Rtn Anand Sharma** (President 2026–27, Rotary Club of Calcutta), **Rtn Dr. Saswati Mukherjee** (Chairperson, Youth Services, Rotary Club of Calcutta), **Mr. Dipankar Ghosh** (President, Hijli INSPIRATION), **Dr. Chandreyee Das** (Secretary, Hijli INSPIRATION), **Dr. Damayanti Mukhopadhyay** (Founder Member & Assistant Secretary), **Dr. Rupali Dey** (Vice President), **Ms. Sohini Basu** (Member), along with staff representatives. Members of Rotary Club of Calcutta attended the celebration.

A reflective audio-visual presentation traced Hijli INSPIRATION's journey over the past three decades. This was followed by an address by **Dr. Chandreyee Das**, who highlighted the organisation's growth and impact across education, skills development, wellbeing, and community engagement. The session then moved into the Felicitation of Special Guests, honouring **Dr. S. B. Roy**, Chairman of IBRAD. A major highlight of the day was the Foundation Day Oration delivered by **Prof. Partha Pratim Chakrabarti**, who shared insightful reflections on the interconnected roles of youth, innovation, and social responsibility in contemporary nation-building. The Technical Session was moderated by **Prof. Partha Pratim Das**. The panel featured **Prof. Cheryl Francis**, **Prof. Abhijit Giri**, **Mr. Manoj Joshi**, **Dr. Parama Bhaumik**, and **Dr. Oshmita Dey**. The discussion offered diverse academic and institutional perspectives on youth and inclusive development. There was also an Insightful Voices segment, which brought practitioner perspectives into focus. Speakers included **Dr. Mou Sen**, **Ms. Antara Ray**, **Ms. Ananya Bhattacharya**, and **Mr. Saurav Sen**. Their contributions enriched the dialogue with grounded insights from policy, sustainability, culture, and youth development. The programme concluded with a Vote of Thanks by **Dr. Rupali Dey**, followed by a cultural segment featuring an interaction with renowned danseuse Ms. Alokanda Roy and a performance by the acclaimed **Soma Mime Theatre**. A surprise felicitation of Hijli INSPIRATION's staff team brought the evening to a warm close. Overall, the 30th Foundation Day effectively combined reflection, dialogue, and cultural expression, reaffirming Hijli INSPIRATION's commitment to inclusive, youth-led development and future collaboration.

Report by Youth Chair, Rtn. Dr. Saswati Mukherjee

SPEAK - Public Speaking & Communication Crash Course Phase 2



Organised on 15th and 16th December, 2025, Rotary Club of Calcutta, Basic Education and Literacy Committee, In Association With : Musicea Arts and Culture Council.

The objective of this project was to enhance communication skills and confidence among vernacular school students through interactive sessions in English and Bengali, focusing on articulation, expression, and public



speaking. There were a total of 70 participants from Children's Welfare Association Girls' High School. The session highlights included Writing and Speaking Exercises, Word Chain Game to build vocabulary, Story Reading with emphasis on expression and comprehension, Training in body posture, pronunciation, grammar, and articulation, Group debates on The Importance of TV/Mobile vs The Importance of Books. The students actively took part showcasing improved confidence and clarity. They were provided guidance on how to present themselves in interviews and practised how to start a conversation effectively.

Hon. Secretary Ashok Basu, Rtn. Ritwik Gupta, Rtn. Surendranath Majumdar, Rtn. Saswati Mukherjee and Rtn. Ruchika Majumdar were present for this event. It is really encouraging that there is a noticeable improvement in student communication and engagement. Final evaluations have been completed and there is a strong interest from the School Principal to continue and expand on the initiative.

Reported by Chairperson for Literacy Committee, Rtn. Ruchika Majumdar

REPORTING & ANNOUNCEMENTS



ONE WORLD

We remember with good wishes Rotary Club of Calcutta Mahanagar, India, R. I. Dist 3391

NEXT MEETING

Next Regular Weekly Meeting of the Club on Tuesday, 20th January, 2026 / Lunch at 12.30 p.m. / Meeting 1.30 p.m. at Rotary Sadan (2nd floor)

REPORTS

- a) Programme and Fellowship Committee organized a trip to Shantiniketan from 2nd to 4th January, 2026.
- b) Second Club Assembly of the Club was held on Tuesday, 6th January, 2026 at 5.30 p.m. in Rotary Sadan followed by Hi-Tea.
- c) Our Club participated in the Rotary District 3291 Conference 2026 held on 9th, 10th and 11th January, 2026 at the Eastside Pavilion, Nicco Park, Kolkata.

Birthday

Anita Jain	14th January
Dr. Sanjay Kumar	15th January
Roshni Ganguly	15th January
Dr. Krishna Sen	16th January
C.K. Dhanuka	19th January

Wish you many happy returns of the day

Wedding Anniversaries

Prabhat Krishna Rohatgi & Rtn Dr. Sashi Prabha	16th January
Mahesh Pansari & R-Ann Pooja	17th January
Dr. Ashoke Kumar Basu & R-Ann Dr. Jyotsna	18th January
Arunima Dey & Mr Kaushik	18th January
C. K. Dhanuka & R-Ann Aruna	19th January
Pradipta Chandra Ganguly & R-Ann Moumita	19th January
Shashi Bhargava & Mr. Anil	19th January

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

REPUBLIC DAY CELEBRATION

Republic Day will be celebrated along with Painting Exhibition and Cultural programme by the Students of the Cultural Section on Sunday, 26th January, 2026 at the Rotary Sadan. Flag unfurling at 10 a.m.

All Members are requested to kindly attend with your families on that day.

EXHIBIT POSTER AT DISTRICT CONFERENCE



FORTHCOMING MEETINGS / EVENTS IN THE MONTHS OF JANUARY, 2026

Day & Date	Programmes	Timing and Venue
Tuesday 20th January, 2026	Regular Weekly Meeting Panel Discussion on Constitution and By Laws of the Club	Lunch at 12.30 p.m. / Meeting 1.30 p.m. Rotary Sadan (2nd floor)
Monday 26th January, 2026	Republic Day Celebration	10 a.m. at Rotary Sadan (Ground floor)
Tuesday 27th January, 2026	Regular Weekly Meeting	Lunch at 12.30 p.m. / Meeting 1.30 p.m. Rotary Sadan (2nd floor)

MINUTES OF THE 5009TH REGULAR WEEKLY MEETING HELD ON 1ST JANUARY, 2026 AT 6.30 P.M. IN ROTARY SADAN

1. President, Rtn. Dr. Debnath Chattopadhyay welcomed all Members and Guests and called the 5009th Regular Weekly Meeting of the Club to order.
2. National Anthem was led by PP Rtn. Sujata Pyne.
3. Minutes of the 5008th Regular Weekly meeting of the Club held on 23rd December, 2025 were confirmed.
4. President informed members about the sad demise of Rtn. Arunima Dey's mother on 12th December, 2025 and shared the Club's deepest condolences with the bereaved family.
5. President informed members that the Club would celebrate the 106th CHARTER ANNIVERSARY on that day. He shared with members that the Club was formed in 1919 and received Charter on 1st January, 1920.
6. President then welcomed PRIP Rtn. Shekhar Mehta as the Chief Guest and District Governor, Rtn. Dr Ramendu Homchaudhuri as the Guest of Honour on that day. President also welcomed DGN Rtn. Purnendu Roychowdhury, PDG Rtn. Prabhat Krishna Rohatgi, AG Rtn. Smarajit Mitra and felicitated them.
7. President then welcomed all District Officials, Visiting Rotarians and Guests who attended the meeting.
8. **President reported the following :**
On 20th December 2025 - the Literacy Committee organised "Building Music Literacy" at the Jodhpur Park Girls High School. The session was conducted by Rtn. Surendranath Mazumdar. On behalf of the Club, President congratulated Literacy Committee Chair Rtn. Ruchika Mazumdar for that project.
9. **President announced the following :**
Fellowship committee has organised a trip to Shantiniketan from 2nd to 4th January, 2026. Interested members were requested to contact Rtn. Indrajit Banerjee.
10. **At the request of the President, Hony. Secretary Rtn. Ashok Kumar Basu conducted the Club business :**
 - a) He welcomed all Members, District Officials and Guests.
 - b) He then announced the names of Rotarians celebrating their Birthdays and Wedding Anniversaries for the week ending 12th January 2026. He wished them and also requested that they donate generously for the Rotary Foundation and the Club Projects.
 - c) Next Regular Weekly Meeting of the Club will be on Tuesday, 13th January, 2026 / Lunch at 12.30 p.m. / Meeting 1.30 p.m. at Rotary Sadan (2nd floor).
 - d) There will be no Regular Weekly Meeting next Tuesday, 6th January, 2026 as the Second Club Assembly of the Club would be held on that day. Registration is at 5 p.m. followed by Assembly at 5.30 pm. He requested members to kindly make a note of this. 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 this important meeting. Committee Chairs were also requested to send their Committee activities report during the second Quarter of the Rotary year 2025-26 to Hony. Secretary for the Club Assembly.
 - e) Rtn. Ritwik Gupta, Chair, RC Calcutta By Laws Discussion Group has called for a meeting of the group at 3.30 pm on 6th January, 2026. Group members are requested to make a note of this and attend this important meeting, that will lead up to the meeting of members on 20th January, 2026 for a final approval from the members on the adoption of Club By Laws and Constitution.
 - f) Rotary District 3291 Conference-2026 would be held on 9th, 10th and 11th January, 2026 at Eastside Pavilion, Nicco Park, Kolkata. Registration Charges per head without food : Rs. 3,000/- For further details, please contact the Club office.
 - g) The Board at its meeting held on 22nd December, 2025 accepted the resignations of Rtn. Subrata Kumar Basu, Rtn. Dr. Bratati L Mazumder, Rtn. Manikaustabh Goswami with effect from 23.12.2025.
11. At the request of the President, Hony. Secretary, Ashok Kumar Basu shared a presentation from our Club Archives which was very informative and truly engaging. President thanked Rtns. Ashok Kumar Basu, Hirak Ray and Dr. Krishna Sen for curating the presentation.
12. At the request of the President, Dist. Governor, Rtn. Dr Ramendu Homchaudhuri addressed the audience.
13. Rtn. Anand Sharma gave a vote of thanks on behalf of the Club.
14. Questions raised by the members were answered by the Chief Guest.
15. At the request of the President, Rtn. Purnendu Roychowdhury and Rtn. Hirak Ray handed over mementoes to the Chief Guest Rtn. Shekhar Mehta and Guest of Honour Rtn. Dr Ramendu Homchaudhuri.
16. No Sunshine Box Collection on that day.
17. The Club remembered with good wishes Rotary Club of Madras, India, R.I. Dist. 3232.
18. Before adjourning the meeting, President requested all to join Fellowship and Dinner.
19. On behalf of the Club, President extend thanked to Rtns. Prabhat Krishna Rohatgi, Tapan Basu and Supriya Roy for hosting today's Fellowship and Dinner.
20. Meeting was adjourned at 7:59 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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