



TUESDAY 17 FEBRUARY 2026

February is Peace Building and Conflict Prevention Month

# 106

## The Chaka

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

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### Today's Speaker

## Rtn. Surendranath Majumdar



**Maestro Surendranath Majumdar** is a distinguished music pedagogue, author, and visionary leader at the forefront of advancing globally benchmarked Western music education and qualifications in India. Through pioneering initiatives and far-reaching international collaborations, he is contributing to the evolution of a structured national framework for music education while building enduring bridges between Indian institutions and leading global universities, professors, and pedagogues. His work has influenced and empowered tens of thousands of educators, students, and institutions nationwide, reinforcing India's emergence as a confident global centre for musical excellence.

He pursued advanced piano studies in Kolkata under Mr Sam Engineer and, in 2010, was awarded a scholarship to study piano and



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music pedagogy at the University of Music, Würzburg, Germany. In 2016, he became the first Indian music pedagogue to complete professional teacher training at the Ferenc Liszt University of Music, Kodály Institute, Hungary-marking a significant milestone in India's engagement with world-class pedagogical traditions.

In 2009, he presented a piano recital at the prestigious farewell concert of the Governor of West Bengal, Shri Gopal Krishna Gandhi, at Sandre Hall. In 2011, he represented India at the Tagore Festival in Moscow, Russia. In 2014, he became the first piano teacher from India to participate in the Frans Liszt Piano Competition in Germany. He is the Founding Director of the Academy for Musical Excellence (AMEC), the Yuva Music Festival (since 2014), Musicea Arts and Culture Council, and Kodály inspired music education initiatives in India-each dedicated to raising standards and expanding access to high-quality music education.

Guided by the mission of making India Atmanirbhar in music education, Maestro Majumdar became the first Indian to author a comprehensive, sequentially graded series of 43 music books. These landmark "Made" in India publications are designed to inspire and empower Indian teachers and students while preserving and promoting the nation's rich cultural heritage in harmony with the finest global pedagogical practices. They present a balanced, future-ready academic framework and meaningfully reduce long-standing dependence on foreign music publications.

Maestro Majumdar has had the rare distinction of being received by Hon'ble Governors, Hon'ble Cabinet Ministers of the Government of India, the highest-ranking officers of the Indian Armed Forces, senior civil servants, and esteemed international diplomats, all of whom have commended the academic vision, cultural depth, and nation-building significance of his pioneering work.

With unwavering clarity of purpose, Maestro Majumdar continues to champion reform, standardization, and global recognition for Indian music educators and institutions-bringing the finest of the world to India while presenting India's musical intellect and artistry to the global stage with renewed confidence and authority.

### Cricket Match



We Meet Every Tuesday At 1 p.m. At ROTARY SADAN  
[rccalcutta.rotaryindia.org](http://rccalcutta.rotaryindia.org)  
E-mail: [rccal106@gmail.com](mailto:rccal106@gmail.com)



### Annual Cricket Match – 8 Feb 2026

The Rotary Club of Calcutta vs Calcutta Club Cricket Team clash will forever be remembered as the Great Festival of Extras, featuring cameo appearances by “Hit the Ball Twice,” “Obstructing the Field,” and several bewildered umpires.

Rotary piled up 158/8 in 15 overs, powered by Nishant Shah’s blink-and-you-miss-it 26 off 6 (strike rate: video game mode) and Amartya Basu’s breezy 28. Arijit Sen sprinted to 7 off 3 before being run out, presumably by a direct hit from destiny. Parthajit Das contributed 25 and a rare “obstructing the field,” because normal dismissals are overrated. Rotary also received generous donations : 34 extras .

Not to be outdone, Calcutta Club matched 158/4 in 15 overs, with 71 extras—yes, seventy-one—proving wides and no-balls were the true all-rounders. Two batters were dismissed for “hit the ball twice,” a law usually seen only in quiz competitions. Subhrashis Ganguly smashed 28, Nilanjan Basu stayed calm at the end, and chaos reigned supreme.

When the dust settled, calculators were consulted, eyebrows were raised, and the scoreboard blinked: 158 plays 158.

The result? A tie.

The real winner? Cricket... and possibly the Extras column and the Housie and fellowship and lunch that followed.

Reported by Hon. Secretary Rtn Ashok Basu

## Report on Ghat Clean-up – Feb. 7, 2026



The Youth Service of the Rotary Club of Calcutta, in collaboration with Kult X, organised a Ganga Ghat clean-up drive on Feb 7, 2025. This was the third initiative in the ongoing Ghat Cleaning series, conducted at Champatala Ghat and Natherbagan Ghat. Interactors from the Interact Clubs of Vidyanjali International School, Children’s Welfare Association High School for Girls HS, and Asian International School took part in cleaning the revered ghat. A total of 22 students participated in this meaningful community service activity.

The drive aimed to instil the value of giving back to society while highlighting the importance of water as the lifeline of our existence. The programme was graced by the presence of District Interact Co-Chair Rtn Nilanjan Sen Daw, along with the Club President Rtn Dr Debnath Chattopadhyay, Hony. Secretary Rtn Ashok Basu, and Rtn Saswati Mukherjee. Teacher coordinators from all three Interact Clubs were also present to support the students.

Ms Laily Thompson from Kult X shared insights into the history, heritage, and significance of Kolkata’s ghats, adding depth and context to the initiative. The drive concluded with the distribution of certificates and food boxes to the participants and teacher coordinators, marking a fulfilling end to the programme.

Report by Rtn. Saswati Mukherjee, Chair, Youth Service Committee

## Interact Activity Report of Silver Point School – Dec. 2025 and Jan. 2026



### Sports with NGO Children

On 6 Dec 2025, the Interact Club of Silver Point School organised “Sports with NGO Children” at the school ground from 10:00 a.m. onwards, as part of the **Annual Sports Day** celebrations. The club invited **Development Action Society (DAS)**, an NGO supporting underprivileged girl children through education and vocational training. Twelve Interactors, along with their teachers, welcomed 10 girls aged **10–12 years from DAS** to participate in the 50-metre sprint. The winners were awarded medals by **Mr Joydeep Dutta, Vice Principal, and Mrs Nina Datta, Headmistress, Silver Point School**. Participation certificates and food packets were distributed to all attendees by the Interactors. The initiative reflected the club’s commitment to inclusion, compassion, and social bonding, creating joyful and lasting memories in the spirit of “Unite for Good” and the motto “Service Above Self.”

### Ramdhanu District Conference 2026

The **Ramdhanu District Conference 2026** was held on **11 Jan 2026 from 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.** at the East Pavilion, Nicco Park. The event was organised by the Interact Club, in collaboration with the Expressions Club of Silver Point School and conducted in association with the Rotary Club of Calcutta. The conference focused on creating awareness **about Thalassaemia, a serious genetic blood disorder. Students from various reputed schools participated enthusiastically in awareness-based cultural and literary activities, including elocution, skits, and songs.** The programme began with a formal inauguration ceremony, followed by insightful sessions by medical experts and social workers who highlighted the causes, prevention, and management of Thalassaemia. A skit performed by the students of Silver Point School effectively conveyed the importance of early testing, regular treatment, blood donation, and social support.

### Blanket Distribution Drive

The Interact Club of Silver Point School organised a Blanket Distribution Drive on **24 Jan 2026 at Dooars, West Bengal**, as part of its winter outreach initiative. During an educational trip, **35 Interactors**, along with their teacher coordinators, distributed **20 blankets** to underprivileged women and **20 biscuit packets** for their children. The drive aimed to spread warmth and happiness while fostering social responsibility among students, in line with the club’s motto, “Service Above Self.”

### Book Donation Drive

The Interact Club of Silver Point School organised a **Book Donation Drive** at the **Development Action Society, Kasba (Rathtala)** on **30 Jan 2026 at 11:30 a.m.** The visit was conducted by **5 Interactors** along with their teacher coordinator. During the visit, the Interactors met **20 underprivileged children** aged between **3 and 12 years** and distributed **200 books** covering Mathematics, Bengali, Science, and drawing. Biscuit packets were also shared, and the students interacted warmly with the children. The programme included poem recitations and the singing of the National Anthem, making the visit meaningful and memorable. The initiative helped sensitise the Interactors towards social responsibility, and the club looks forward to organising more such outreach programmes in the future.



## The species of Peace

Poem by Rtn Sanjib Basu

Be the species of Peace  
 Get it under your skin,  
 From scalp to the shin,  
 Like the oxygen's flood  
 Into your heart to pump,  
 Let it spread with your blood,  
 Take it in, keep it in  
 Be the species of Peace.  
 I'm tired of that word.  
 Too many fakes floating.  
 Want the real thing in me,

Want to feel it and be it,  
 Dudes, say it can be so,  
 That we can BE Peace.  
 Be the species of Peace.  
 No preaching while poaching,  
 No reaching for guns,  
 Swords, stones, or bombs.  
 I feel love, i feel peace, high  
 On good feelings, evolved.  
 Let's be a new species.  
 Be the species of Peace.



## REPORTING & ANNOUNCEMENTS



### ONE WORLD

We remember with good wishes Rotary Club of Casablanca Anfa, Morocco, R.I. Dist. 9010

### CHANGE OF WEEKLY MEETING'S TIMING

Regular Weekly Meeting schedule on Tuesday, 24th February, 2026 at 1.30 p.m. will be held at 6.30 p.m. followed by fellowship and dinner after the meeting. You are requested to note the changes and attend with your spouse on that day.

### Birthday

Promita Saha	19th February
Subrata De	19th February
M.L. Lohia	20th February
Gurudas Mustafi	20th February
Dr. Sourabh Khemani	21st February
Sonal Worah	22nd February
Nilima Joshi	23rd February

*Wish you many happy returns of the day*

### Wedding Anniversaries

Usha Agarwal & Mr. Ashok	17th February
Dr. Rama Shanker Bhartia & R-Ann Madhu	19th February
Shankar Sehanobish & R-Ann Nina	19th February
Kunal Dalmia & R-Ann Alka	20th February
Dr. Abhijit Sen & R-Ann Shipra	20th February
Gita Saha & Mr Bapi	20th February
Satish Kapur & R-Ann Preeti	21st February
Ravindra Khandelwal & R-Ann Priyamvada	21st February
Brijendra Kumar Poddar & R-Ann Kavita	23rd February

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

### BOARD MEETING

The Eighth Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Club will be held on Friday, 27th February, 2026, at 6.00 p. m. at the residence of PP Rtn. Rajkumar Agrawal, 16, Ballygunge Park Road, Kolkata – 700 019

All Board members are requested to kindly make note of it and attend on that day.

**SUBJECT TO NO OBJECTION RECEIVED WITHIN SEVEN DAYS FROM THE DATE OF PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE, THE FOLLOWING CANDIDATES WILL BE INDUCTED AS MEMBERS OF THE CLUB :**

**i) Mr. Sudipto Sadhu**

Proprietor  
S. Sadhu & Associates  
Office : P-2 Surawardy Avenue (Ground floor)  
Kolkata – 700 017  
Res : P-9, Darga Road, Flat No. – 7 (2nd floor)  
Kolkata – 700 017  
Proposer : PP Rtn. Purnendu Roychowdhury

**ii) Ms. Ratnabali Kakkar**

Independent Director, Century Ply Boards Ltd.  
O & R : D-11, Saptaparni Co-Operative Housing  
Society  
58/ 3, Ballygunge Circular Road, Kolkata – 700 019  
Proposer : PP Rtn. Purnendu Roychowdhury

**NEXT MEETING**

Rotary Oration along with Regular Weekly Meeting on Tuesday, 24, 2026 at 6.30 p.m. in Rotary Sadan (Ground floor) followed by fellowship and dinner.

**REPORTS**

- The Club donated a Desktop Computer to the Inner Wheel Club of Haldane Avenue for supporting a School Library on 4th February, 2026.
- Youth Service Committee organised a project "Ganga Chats cleaning" in association with Kult X at Champatala Chat, near Shovabazar, Kolkata on Saturday, 7th February, 2026.
- Programme and Fellowship organised Annual Cricket Match on Sunday, 8th February, 2026 at the Calcutta Club Ltd from 10am onwards followed by fellowship and lunch hosted by Rtn Ashish Kumar Bagla and Rtn. Deepa Bagla.
- Community Service & RCC and Youth Service Committees jointly organised for RCC Boys an Education Tour and Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) at Murshidabad held on 14th and 15th February, 2026.

**RESIGNATION / TERMINATION**

The Board at its meeting held on 30th January, 2026 accepted the resignations of the following Rotarians :

- Rtn. Kuldip Nayar
- Rtn. Kasturi Raha
- Rtn. Dr. Biswajit Paul

The Board at its meeting held on 30th January, 2026 also terminated the membership of Rtn. Shouveek Ray with effect from 31.12.2025

**ROTARY ORATION – 2026**

To Commemorate "World Understanding and Peace Day", the Club will organise "Rotary Oration - 2026" along with Regular Weekly Meeting on Tuesday, 24th February, 2026 at Rotary Sadan (Ground floor) at 6.30 p.m. onwards followed by fellowship and dinner (after the meeting). Dr Partha Biswas, President of the All-India Ophthalmological Society is Chief Guest and will deliver the Rotary Oration. You are requested to kindly block the date and attend with your spouse.

**HOLI MILAN**

Fellowship Committee will organize "Holi Milan" followed by fellowship with Chaats on Friday, 27th February, 2026 7 p.m. onwards at the residence of PP Rtn. Rajkumar Agrawal, 16, Ballygunge Park Road, Kolkata – 700 019 to be hosted by PP Rtn Rajkumar Agarwal and R-Ann Asha Agarwal.

All members are requested to attend the programme with your spouse on that day.

**FORTHCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS**

Day & Date	Programmes	Timing and Venue
Tuesday 24th February, 2026	Rotary Oration along with Regular Weekly Meeting Chief Guest : Dr. Partha Biswas President, All India Ophthalmology Society Guest of Honour : Rtn. Dr. Ramendu Homchaudhuri District Governor, 2025-26 R I Dist. 329	6.30 p.m. at Rotary Sadan (Ground floor ) / followed by fellowship and dinner
Friday, 27th February, 2026	Holi Milan followed by fellowship with Chaats	7 p.m onwards at the residence of PP Rtn. Rajkumar Agrawal, 16, Ballygunge Park Road, Kolkata – 700 019

## MINUTES OF THE 5013TH REGULAR WEEKLY MEETING HELD ON 3RD FEBRUARY, 2026 AT 1.30 P.M. AT ROTARY SADAN

1. President Rtn. Dr. Debnath Chattopadhyay welcomed all Members and Guests and called the 5013th Regular Weekly Meeting of the Club to order.
2. National Anthem was led by Rtn. Dr. Shankar Ghosh.
3. Minutes of the 5012th Regular Weekly meeting of the Club held on 27th January, 2026 were confirmed.
4. President welcomed Dr. Rudrajit Sinha, Consultant, Advanced Laparoscopy and Robotics Gastrointestinal & General Surgery, Director, Calcutta Chirurgiae Collective as the Chief Guest on that day. He would speak on "Autism friendly City Kolkata : Creating Systems of Care, Dignity and Opportunity."
5. President then welcomed all Visiting Rotarians and Guests who attended the meeting. President also welcomed two distinguished visitors Rtn Dr Vivekanand Datta, President Elect, Rotary Club of Westborough, Massachusetts USA, RI Dist. 7910 and Raj Kumar Bhaduri, Rotary Club of Brookmans UK RI Dist. 1260 and also welcomed Mr Arnab Chakraborty, Rotary Peace Fellow. At the request of the President, Rtn Vivekanand Datta and Rtn. Raj Kumar Bhaduri introduced themselves and Mr Arnab Chakraborty addressed the audience on "Rotary Peace".
6. **President Reported the following :**
  - a) On 19th January, 2026 - RCC Krishnanagar distributed 15 Blankets to underprivileged Senior Citizens with the support of Rotary Club of Calcutta.
  - b) On 26th January, 2026 - RCC Krishnanagar provided Lunch to ninety-seven underprivileged Children on the occasion of Saraswati Puja also with the support of Rotary Club of Calcutta.
  - c) On 2nd February, 2026 - Community Service and RCC Committee organised an Eye Check-up Camp at our RCC Bishnupur Uccal Probaho.
  - d) The Club donated a Desktop Computer to the Inner Wheel Club of Haldane Avenue for supporting a School Library on 1st February, 2026.
7. **President Announced the following :**
  - i) Youth Service Committee would organise a project "Ganga Ghats cleaning in association with Kult X at Champatala Ghat near Shovabazar, Kolkata on Saturday, 7th February, 2026 and requested members to kindly join the projects. For further details, please contact Rtn. Dr. Saswati Mukherjee, Chairperson, Youth Service Committee.
  - ii) Programme and Fellowship would organise Annual Cricket Match on Sunday, 8th February, 2026 at the Calcutta Club Ltd 10 a.m. onwards followed by Fellowship and Lunch to be hosted by Rtn Ashish Kumar Bagla and Rtn. Deepa Bagla. Members interested in joining the Cricket Match were requested to contact Rtn. Satarupa Ghosh Mukherjee, Chairperson, Programme and Fellowship Committee. Members were also requested to register their names at the Club Office Mr. Shambhu Dey.
  - iii) Community Service & RCC and Youth Service Committees would jointly organise for our RCC Boys an Education Tour and Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) in Murshidabad to be held on 14th and 15th February, 2026. Members interested in joining the Murshidabad trip may please contact Mr Prabir Kumar Mukherjee or Mr. Krishna Guchhait in the Club Office. Members would also need to travel by their or shared vehicles, and Board and Lodging would be at Members' own cost.
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 February, 2026, 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 February, 2026 / Lunch at 12.30 p.m. / Meeting 1.30 p.m. at Rotary Sadan (2nd floor).
  - d) There would be no Regular Weekly Meeting on Tuesday, 10th February, 2026.
  - e) Rotary Oration along with Regular Weekly Meeting would be held on Tuesday, 24th February, 2026 at 6.30 p.m. at the Rotary Sadan (Ground floor) / followed by fellowship and dinner. He requested members to block the date and attend with their spouses.
9. At the request of the President, Rtn. Rajeev Swaika introduced Dr. Rudrajit Sinha, Chief Guest on that day.
10. At the request of the President, Dr. Rudrajit Sinha addressed the audience on "Autism friendly City Kolkata : Creating Systems of Care, Dignity and Opportunity".
11. Questions raised by the members were answered by the Chief Guest.
12. Rtn Pranab Kumar Sarkar gave a vote of thanks on behalf of the Club.
13. On behalf of the Club, President presented a memento to Dr. Rudrani Sinha.
14. Sunshine Box Collection Rs. 2,500/- with special contribution from Rtns HIRAK RAY, Dr. Shankar Ghosh, Prosanta Kumar Roy, B. K. Dalmia and Surendranath Majumdar on that day.
15. The Club remembered with good wishes Rotary Club of Berlin, Germany, R.I. Dist. 1940.
16. Meeting was adjourned at 2:34 p.m.

**Dr. Debnath Chattopadhyay**  
President

**Ashok Kumar Basu**  
Hony. Secretary

*Published by Rtn. Ashok Kumar Basu, Hony. Secretary, Rotary Club of Calcutta*

*94/2 Chowringhee Road, Kolkata 700020 Tel: 2223 8686/8787*

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