



FRIDAY 4 JULY 2025

July is Maternal and Child Health Month

106

The Chaka

Bulletin of Rotary Club of Calcutta
R I Dist 3291

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Chief Guest Hon'ble Sh Justice Biswanath Somadder



Born on December 15, 1963, Justice Biswanath Somadder obtained his B.A. and LL.B. degrees from the University of Calcutta. He also completed a Certificate Course on Office Automation Tools under the Computer Education Programme of the Regional Computer Centre, Calcutta. He was enrolled as an Advocate on July 21, 1989, and practised in the High Court at Calcutta as well as in the Supreme Court of India. He also regularly appeared before the CESTAT, Eastern Regional Bench. His areas of practice included Constitutional Law (with special emphasis on matters relating to Customs & Central Excise, FERA, Telecommunications, Education, Service, and Income Tax), Arbitration, Company Law, Revenue, Civil, and Criminal Law. He specialised in Revenue,

Rotary
Club of Calcutta



Arbitration, and Constitutional Laws. He served as Senior Counsel for the Central Government in the High Court at Calcutta and was the Honorary Joint Secretary of the Bar Library Club of the Calcutta High Court, until shortly before his elevation to the Bench. Justice Somadder was elevated as a permanent Judge of the High Court at Calcutta on June 22, 2006. He was appointed Executive Chairman of the West Bengal State Legal Services Authority by the Governor of West Bengal through notification dated November 5, 2018. He also served as Judge-in-Charge of the Administrative Department, High Court at Calcutta, with effect from November 19, 2018, discharging functions assigned under the Appellate Side Rules of the High Court. He held the position of Acting Chief Justice of the Calcutta High Court from January 1, 2019 to April 3, 2019. He was transferred to the Allahabad High Court, where he assumed charge as a Judge on October 17, 2019. Subsequently, he was elevated as Chief Justice of the High Court of Meghalaya and took oath on April 27, 2020. Thereafter, he was transferred to the High Court of Sikkim, where he took oath as Chief Justice on October 12, 2021.

Rotary International President Francesco Arezzo



President Arezzo, of the Rotary Club of Ragusa, Italy is an orthodontist in private practice. He is active internationally as a member of the Italian, European, and American orthodontics associations. He is vice president of the National Association of Italian Dentists for the province of Ragusa and was the founder and head for seven years of the delegation for Ragusa of the National Trust for Italy. He is a Knight of Honor and Devotion in Obedience within the Sovereign Order of Malta. A Rotary member for more than 30 years, Arezzo has served as vice chair of the Joint Strategic Planning Committee and as RI director, learning facilitator, and as district conference presidential representative. Arezzo is a Benefactor of The Rotary Foundation. He is married to Anna Maria Criscione, an entrepreneur in the tourism field. They have two children.

Unite for Good : A Message from the new RI President-Elect

At a district conference, life changed in a moment for Rotary's new President-Elect — a quiet email, a surge of emotion, and within minutes, a roomful of congratulations. Stepping into this leadership role unexpectedly and on short notice, he brings with him humility, resolve, and a powerful message : *Unite for Good*. In his heartfelt address, he paid tribute to Rotary leaders past and present.

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

With just two weeks to prepare for a year of service, he urges us to focus on the fundamentals : growing and retaining membership, eradicating polio, and building lasting peace. He emphasizes expanding our reach through innovative clubs, long-term projects, and partnerships — always keeping unity at the core.

Peace, he reminds us, is not just a word but Rotary's everyday work — through education, healthcare, empowerment, and opportunity. And together, we must act, for dreaming alone is not enough. "Alone we lose. Together we win. Always."

Ending with a moving story of overcoming personal fear and embracing the support of fellow Rotarians, he offers a simple yet stirring call : Let's share our dreams, act on them, and unite to create a better world — for good.

Guest of Honour Dr. Ramendu Homchaudhuri - DG Dist. 3291



A Mind of Science, A Heart for Service

Rtn. Dr. Ramendu Homchaudhuri stands as a beacon of wisdom, humility, and service. With a distinguished background in academia and a lifelong commitment to community health and education, he exemplifies Rotary's highest ideals through every word, deed, and initiative.

Dr. Homchaudhuri has long been recognized for his intellectual contributions and ethical leadership in the field of science and education. His mentorship have shaped generations of learners, while his commitment to research and social equity has influenced policy and practice.

One of his most outstanding contributions within Rotary has been in the area of Thalassemia education, prevention, and treatment. Under his guidance, Rotary has undertaken several initiatives to raise awareness, conduct community screenings, and support the treatment of Thalassemia patients, particularly from underprivileged backgrounds. He has worked tirelessly to bring together medical experts, civic bodies, and the Rotary network to build a sustainable model of care, prevention, and advocacy. His work has brought dignity and hope to countless affected families.

Dr. Homchaudhuri has also played key leadership roles within the Club and beyond. His clarity of thought, calm diplomacy, and strategic insight have been instrumental in shaping several impactful Rotary programs. He has been an active contributor to initiatives in literacy, public health, and youth development, and is particularly respected for his ability to align Rotary's global vision with local needs.

In recognition of his exemplary service and unwavering dedication, Dr. Homchaudhuri has received numerous Rotary awards and citations, including the prestigious "Avenues of Service Citation", "Rotary Vocational Excellence Award", and multiple Certificates of Appreciation for his leadership in healthcare projects and community service. These honours reflect not just the breadth of his contributions, but the depth of his commitment to improving lives through action and empathy.

Soft-spoken yet firm in conviction, humble yet visionary, Dr. Ramendu Homchaudhuri continues to inspire his fellow Rotarians to reach higher, serve deeper, and lead with both head and heart.

Message from DG

Fellow Rotarians of The Old Number One,

As the wheel of Rotary continues to turn, bringing with it new leadership and fresh perspectives, one truth remains unchanged — our enduring commitment to service above self. The faces and roles may evolve, but the mission that binds us is timeless : to bring comfort, care, and opportunity to those who remain outside the circle of privilege.

We find ourselves at a moment of both reflection and renewed urgency. While Rotary has achieved great milestones, Polio has begun to resurface in pockets of the world, reminding us that our work is not yet done. Thalassemia, too, remains a formidable health challenge, requiring sustained awareness, early detection, and compassionate care.

Rotary's Avenues of Service and Areas of Focus serve not only as a framework for action but as a moral compass — reminding us of the balance between what we have achieved and what still demands our attention. They reflect a world that is better because of Rotary, yet still waiting for the fullness of what we can offer.

Let us therefore move forward with both humility and determination. Let us build on the legacy of those who came before us, while being ever mindful of the unmet needs that still call out for our energy and innovation.

I encourage each of you to engage deeply, lead boldly, and serve wholeheartedly. In doing so, we honour Rotary's finest tradition — bringing light where there is shadow, and hope where there is need.

With warm Rotary regards,

Dr. Ramendu Homchaudhuri

DG District 3291

2025 26

District Governor's Message to the Club

Dear Rotarians,

It is with great pride and heartfelt warmth that I extend my congratulations to the incoming President, Secretary, and the newly installed team of Rotary Club of Calcutta.

A club installation is not merely a ceremonial transition; it is a reaffirmation of our commitment to Service Above Self. As each new team takes charge, it carries forward the legacy of leadership, fellowship, and impactful service. I urge you to dream boldly, act compassionately, and lead inclusively, ensuring that your club becomes a lighthouse of hope and change in your community.

Let us embrace innovation while cherishing Rotary's timeless values, work hand-in-hand with your members, reach out to the youth, collaborate with partners, and most importantly — listen to your community. The world needs Rotary now more than ever.

Wishing you a successful and meaningful Rotary year ahead.

Yours in Rotary,

Dr. Ramendu Homchaudhuri
District Governor, RID 3291

Know our President



A Visionary in Every Sense

A proud son of Raghunathganj, Murshidabad, born into a family of doctors, this remarkable individual has spent a lifetime illuminating the world — quite literally! After early schooling in his hometown and at the prestigious Narendrapur Ramakrishna Mission, he pursued his medical education at NRS Medical College, Calcutta, where he found his true calling in Ophthalmology.

He went on to earn both a Diploma in Ophthalmology and a Master of Surgery from Calcutta University, where he stood out as a university topper. His academic brilliance and passion for research took him across the globe to the Eye Research Institute in Boston, USA, where he served as a visiting scientist and contributed to several publications in respected international journals.

After a distinguished career in government service, including roles at NRS Medical College and the Regional Institute of Ophthalmology in Calcutta, he embarked on a heartfelt mission : to bring advanced retinal care to his community. Thus was born ALOKON, a small yet comprehensive retina care centre, where he continues to serve as the Founder and Honorary Medical Director.

Beyond the clinic, he has played pivotal roles in shaping the future of his field — serving as Honorary Secretary and President of the Ophthalmological Society of West Bengal, as well as Joint Treasurer of the All-India Ophthalmological Society.

A beacon of dedication, compassion, and excellence, his journey continues to inspire generations of medical professionals and patients alike.

Rtn Dr Debnath Chattopadhyay has served as a Director, Committee Chair and Co-Chair and is a proud Paul Harris Fellow.

Message from Dr. Debnath Chattopadhyay

Dear Fellow Rotarians,

It is with deep humility and great hope that I prepare to take on the responsibility as President of our beloved Rotary Club of Calcutta, The Old Number One, beginning 1st July 2025.

I step into this role with gratitude for the legacy of service that defines our Club, and with a firm belief in the strength of our collective spirit. Each one of you — members and committee leaders — brings invaluable passion and purpose to our mission, and I look forward to working closely with you in the year ahead. As someone who has dedicated a lifetime to the medical profession, healthcare will naturally be a key focus during my term. We will continue to support initiatives in areas such as Thalassemia care and prevention, and vision-related disorders across all age groups, striving to bring light and relief to those most in need. That said, our commitment will be broad and inclusive. Rotary's avenues of service and areas of focus are vast and vital—from education and environment to economic development and empowerment. I place my trust in each of our committee chairs to proactively identify opportunities and implement meaningful programs that uplift the less privileged and underserved.

Let us work together with open hearts and willing hands. With your support, we can continue to make a tangible difference—honouring the past, energizing the present, and building a future of compassion and dignity for all.

With warm regards and Rotary greetings,

Dr. Debnath Chattopadhyay

President 2025–26

Rotary Club of Calcutta, The Old Number One

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2025 - 2026



President
Dr. Debnath Chattopadhyay



President Elect
Anand Sharma



Vice President
Anusua Das



Imme. Past President
Subrata De



Hony. Secretary
Ashok Kumar Basu



Hony Jt. Secretary
Shampa Ghose



Hony. Treasurer
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Arindam Roychowdhury



Director
Dr. Sourabh Khemani



Director
Dr. S.K. Sharma



Director
Dr. Ashoke Kumar Basu



Director
Abhijit Kolay



Director
Suman Chakraborty



Advisor to the Board
Haladhar Dey



Permanent Invitee to the Board
Purnendu Roychowdhury

Club Officials 2025 - 2026



Foundation Chair
AKS Dr. Sourabh Khemani



Club Trainer
Ritwik Gupta



Club Correspondent
Amit Ghosh



Editor The Chaka
Anindita Shoma Basu



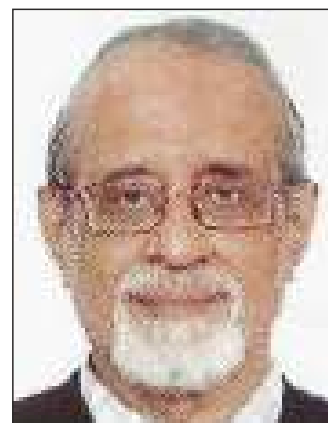
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Sgt. At Arms
Kirit Patel

Committee Chairpersons 2025 - 2026



Rotary Foundation
Aks Dr. Sourabh Khemani



International & CSR
Arindam Roychowdhury



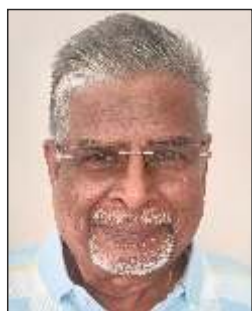
Healthcare
Dr. Sukalyan Purkayastha



Youth / Tech Knowledge
Saswati Mukherjee



Community Service/ RCC
Udit Chand Mitra



Environment
Pranab Sarkar



NCLCL/Cultural/Computer
Roshni Ganguly



Programs and Fellowship
Satarupa Ghosh Mukherjee



Annual Childrens Treat
Abhijit Kolay



Inter Club & District Relationship
Purnendu Roychowdhury



Rotary Sadan
Anand Sharma



Membership & Classification
Attendance, Family
of Rotary and Green Badgers
Anusua Das



Womens Empowerment/
Vocational Service
Shampa Ghose



Basic Education & Literacy
Ruchika Majumdar



Public Image
Subha Pal

ROTARY CHILDREN'S WELFARE TRUST 2025-2026



Chairperson
Kanak Dutt



Trustee
Subrata De



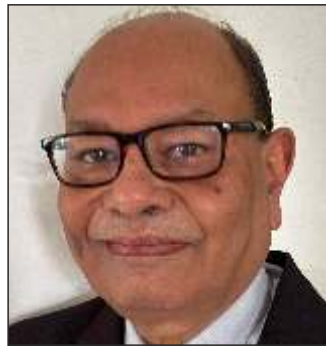
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Dr. Debnath Chattopadhyay



Trustee
Anand Sharma



Trustee
Anusua Das



Hony. Secretary
Ashok Kumar Basu, Convenor



Hony. Treasurer
Indrajit Banerjee, Convenor

ROTARY CLUB OF CALCUTTA WELFARE TRUST 2025-2026



Chairperson
Subrata De



Trustee
Dr. Debnath Chattopadhyay



Trustee
Anand Sharma



Trustee
Anusua Das



Hony. Secretary
Ashok Kumar Basu, Convenor



Hony. Treasurer
Indrajit Banerjee, Convenor

REPORTING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Birthdays

Shouryabrata Mandal	4th July
Subroto Lahiri	5th July
Jayanta Kumar Mitra	7th July
Tara John	7th July
R.K. Bachhawat	8th July
Dr. Ramaditya Ray	12th July
Sriranjani Joshi	12th July
Amrita Banerjee	14th July
Prabhat Krishna Rohatgi	14th July
Satarupa Ghosh Mukherjee	14th July

Wish you many happy returns of the day



ONE WORLD

We remember with good wishes Rotary Club of Ragusa, Italy, R.I. Dist 2110

NO MEETING

There will be no Regular Weekly Meeting on Tuesday 8th July, 2025 as the 106th Installation meeting is held on Friday, 4th July, 2025 at Rotary Sadan.

Next Meeting

Tuesday, 15th July 2025 at 1.30 p.m. / Lunch 12.30 p.m. at Rotary Sadan (2nd floor)

Wedding Anniversaries

Dr. Niranjana Bhattacharya & R-Ann Prof. Sanjukta	5th July
Abhyuday Anup Kaushal & R-Ann Tashu	7th July
Laxmi Niwas Bangur & R-Ann Alka	9th July

There will be a screening of the film Project Tiger in celebration of Bagh Divas in Rotary Sadan by the Society of Heritage and Ecological Researches on 11 July at 5 p.m. A limited number of passes for the same are available to our members and families on first come first serve basis. Members may please register with Shambhu in Rotary Office.

REPORTS

- Thanksgiving Ceremony held on Sunday, 29th June, 2025 at Rotary Sadan followed by fellowship and dinner
- To observe Doctors' day, Club organised an Eye check-up camp on 1st July, 2025 at 10 a.m. at Silver Point School, Kasba Rathtala Minibus Stand, Kolkata – 700 042 .
- Club observed Doctors' day and CAs' day followed by fellowship and dinner on Tuesday, 1st July, 2025 at Rotary Sadan.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS / EVENTS IN THE MONTH OF JULY, 2025

Day & Date	Programmes	Timing and Venue
Tuesday, 8th July, 2025	No Regular Weekly Meeting	—
Tuesday, 15th July, 2025	Regular Weekly Meeting	Rotary Sadan (2nd floor) at 1 p.m. followed by Lunch
Tuesday, 22nd July, 2025	Regular Weekly Meeting	Rotary Sadan (2nd floor) at 1 p.m. followed by Lunch
Tuesday, 29th July, 2025	Regular Weekly Meeting	Rotary Sadan (2nd floor) at 1 p.m. followed by Lunch



**Basic
Education
& Literacy**



**Maternal &
Child
Health**



**Peace &
Conflict
Prevention/
Resolution**



**Disease
Prevention
&
Treatment**



**Water,
Sanitation
& Hygiene**



**Community &
Economic
Development**



Environment

MINUTES OF THE 4987th REGULAR WEEKLY MEETING
HELD ON 29.06.2025 AT 6.00 p.m. AT ROTARY SADAN

1. President Rtn. Subrata De welcomed Members, visiting Rotarians and Guests and called the 4987th Regular Weekly Meeting of the Club to order.
2. National Anthem was led by PP Rtn. Sujata Pyne.
3. Minutes of the 4986th Regular Weekly Meeting of the Club held on 21st June, 2025 were confirmed.
4. President informed members that there was no speaker, as that day was thanks giving ceremony and would also pass the Annual Accounts of the Rotary Club of Calcutta for the Rotary year 2024-2025.
5. President then welcomed all Visiting Rotarians and Guests who attended the meeting on that day and conveyed Greetings to their Clubs.
6. President reported the following :
Last Saturday, 21st June, 2025 - Programme and Fellowship Committee organised "Members' Nite" followed by fellowship and dinner.
7. President announced the following :
106th Installation meeting of the Club will be held on Friday, 4th July, 2025 at the Rotary Sadan at 6.00 p.m. and requested members to kindly register their names with the Club Office (Rotary Sadan, Shambhu Dey).
8. At the request of the President, Hony. Secretary Rtn. Suman Chakraborty thereafter conducted the Club Business :
 - a) He welcomed Members, Visiting Rotarians and Guests.
 - b) He then announced the names of Rotarians celebrating their Birthdays and Wedding Anniversaries for the week ending 3rd July, 2025.
 - c) There would be no Regular Weekly Meeting on Tuesday, 1st July, 2025.
 - d) On the occasion of Doctors' Day, there would be an Eye check-up camp on 1st July, 2025 at 10 a.m. at Kasba Rathtala Minibus Stand, Kolkata – 700 042 and requested members to attend the first Eye Camp of the Rotary year 2025-26.
 - e) The Club would also observe "Doctors' Day" and " CAs' Day" on Tuesday, 1st July, 2025 at 6.00 p.m. onwards at Rotary Sadan followed by Dinner and requested members to make a note of it and attend the programme with their spouse on that day.
 - f) Next Meeting of the Club on Friday, 4th July at 6.00 p.m. – 106th installation Meeting along with Regular Weekly Meeting followed by Fellowship and Dinner at Rotary Sadan.
 - g) The Board at its meeting held on 23rd June, 2025 accepted the resignation of Rtn Srirupa Dasgupta with effect from 23rd June, 2025.
 - h) This year (2024-25) President Rtn. Subrata De donated 2,50,000/- for creating new Endowment Award in fond memory of his father, Late Durgadas De, which will be utilized for the treatment of underprivileged children suffering from Cancer. Name of the Endowment is "SRI DURGADAS DE MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT AWARD." On behalf of the Club, he thanked President Rtn. Subrata De for his donation.
 - i) Hony. Secretary was also happy to inform members that President Rtn. Subrata De has become a Paul Harris Society Member. At the request of the Hony. Secretary, PP Rtn. Purnendu Roychowdhury pinned PHS recognition pin to the President and congratulated him.
9. President also announced the following :
 - (i) Audited Annual Accounts for the Rotary year 2024-2025 of Rotary Club of Calcutta already circulated and requested members to approve and adopt the Annual Accounts of Rotary Club of Calcutta for the year ended 31.03.2025.
 - (ii) Resolution – Rotary Club of Calcutta :
Resolved that the Audited Annual Accounts for the year ended 31st March, 2025 of the Rotary Club of Calcutta be hereby approved and adopted. Proposed by Rtn. Rajeev Paralikar and seconded by AKS Rtn. Dr. Sourabh Khemani.
 - i) Resolved that Mr. R.P. Singh be and was hereby appointed as Hony. Auditor of Rotary Club of Calcutta for the Rotary year 2025-2026. Proposed by Rtn. Kirit Patel and seconded by Rtn. Hirak Ray.
 - ii) On behalf of the Club, President thanked Hony. Auditor Mr. R.P. Singh of Lodha & Company for the selfless service rendered by him and his office for carrying out statutory audits of the accounts of Rotary Club of Calcutta and requested members for the ratification of the resolutions, already passed unanimously in the meeting of the Board held on 26th May, 2025 for his Re-appointment as Hony. Auditor of the Rotary Club of Calcutta for the Rotary year 2025-26.
10. THANKS GIVING CEREMONY :
 - a) President announced that this year the Outstanding Rotarian Rolling Trophy recipient was Rtn Ravindra Khandelwal for the Rotary year 2024-25 and handed over the Rolling Trophy to Rtn Khandelwal for special support during the Rotary year 2024- 2025.
 - b) At the request of the President, Hony. Secretary Rtn. Suman Chakraborty then organised the proceedings of the rest of the Awards of members who supported during the Rotary year 2024-25 and President handed over the Awards to them.
 - c) President also thanked all staff of the Rotary Sadan and handed over the Awards to them.
11. At the request of the President, PP Rtn Purnendu Roychowdhury offered the vote of thanks on behalf of the Club.
12. Sunshine Box collection Rs 500/- with special contribution from Rtn Indrajit Banerjee.
13. The Club remembered with good wishes Rotary Club of Colleyville, Texas, U.S. A., R.I. Dist. 5790.
14. Before adjourning the meeting, President requested all to join the fellowship and dinner. On behalf of the Club, President informed members that fellowship, and dinner have been hosted by Hony. Secretary Rtn. Suman Chakraborty, Hony. Treasurer Rtn. Indrajit Banerjee and himself on that day.
15. Meeting was adjourned at 7.31 p.m.

Subrata De
President

Suman Chakraborty
Hony. Secretary

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

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