



TUESDAY 31 OCTOBER 2023

October is Community Economic Development Month

104

# The Chaka

Bulletin of Rotary Club of Calcutta  
R I Dist. 3291

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Editor: Rtn. Ashok Basu (AB4)

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## SOMINI SEN DUA CLIMATE CONSCIOUS LIVING

Somini is a multi-talented individual with a background in public relations and a strong commitment to environmental and social causes. She is the founder of Mrittika Earthy Talks (MET), an organization that was inspired by the lessons learned during the pandemic and aims to promote sustainability and conservation in many ways. Somini's upbringing in the natural surroundings of Shantiniketan, Sundarbans, and Darjeeling has instilled in her a deep love for nature, which serves as the driving force behind her work with MET.

MET's key areas of work are Waste Management, Water conservation,

Rotary  
Club of Calcutta



CREATE HOPE  
in the WORLD

Reforestation and Promoting Local Handicrafts. Artisans' sustainability is the mantra by which MET supports conservation.

Somini believes that sustainability should be an integral part of the "new normal" in our lives, and it should be passed down as a set of values to future generations. Her dedication to environmental causes has earned her several recognitions and awards, including the Climate Action President WICCI WB AWARD, Hulladek Green Entrepreneur of the Year 2023, and more. She is clearly a respected figure in the field of sustainability and environmental activism.

Additionally, Somini is a director on the board of NextGen Communications, a public relations and brand strategy firm that has worked with notable national and international brands. Her academic background in humanities, particularly in history and communications, informs her approach to social and environmental issues, allowing her to effectively communicate and advocate for her causes.

## Puja Clothes Distribution – Rotary Sadan 18th Oct. 11 am AOS Community



RC Calcutta performed the Annual distribution of New Puja Clothes to the children of its RCCs and other NGOs, at a program organized by Community Services chairperson Rtn. Yogesh Dassani, on 18th Oct. This year's novelty was unlike earlier years, none of the clothes were bought out items

from the market; they were all hand stitched by the pass-outs of the Selai Schools established by RC Calcutta during the last year, specifically at RCC Ranihati and RCC Joygram. The clothes consisting of shirt & pants for boys and gowns & frock for girls, were packed, packaged, ready for distribution, and delivered at Rotary Sadan a day in advance. The material for the dresses were purchased by RC Calcutta to maintain uniformity in color & style and delivered to the RCCs for stitching a month earlier; a pre-determined tailoring charges were paid to the

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ladies who did the tailoring, relieving the dream of enhancing earning potential of the rural and economically weak womenfolk. The RCCs took delivery of the clothes on 18th for distribution in their locality on a subsequent date. The RCCs and NGOs included RCCs at Bishnupur, Krishnanagar, Dara, Purulia, Joygram, Ranihati, and NGOs Uddayan and Voice of World. A total of 800 packets of clothes were distributed with each RCC & NGO allotted 100 each. The total cost of Puja clothes distribution inclusive of material purchases and tailoring charges, was Rs 2 Lacs (approx). All the RCCs very meticulously distributed the clothes in their locality, and in some our community services' members were present – on 19th Yogesh Dasani was personally present at Bishnupur during the Puja clothes distribution and experienced the joy amongst the children. The RCC officials deeply thanked RC Calcutta for bringing happiness in their community children during the festive season.

*Drafted by Prabir Mukerjee, edited by Amit Ghosh, Co-editor*

## International Girl Child Day : Empowering Girl Children – 11 Oct. 2023 AOS New Generation; AOF Saving Mothers and Children



The Women's Empowerment Committee and RC Calcutta Inner City jointly organised a **Seminar** on 'Empowering Girls' with special emphasis on Child Rights and Child Protection. District

Governor Hiralal Yadav, PDG Nayantara Palchoudhuri - Ambassador Zone 6 Empowering Girls, President RC Calcutta Kanak Dutta, and RC Inner City Ronit Mitra along with eminent Panelists Paromita Neogi, Urmi Basu, Sudeshna Roy and other senior Rotarians were present. The inaugural welcome dance presented by the students NCLCL section followed by felicitation and inaugural speeches by PDG Nayantara, DG Hiralal Yadav and both the club presidents. A panel discussion followed - "Child Rights and Child Protection". The esteemed speakers presented their views, moderated by PDG Nayantara.

The Youth Service Committee organised an **essay-writing** contest on the topic : Empowering Girls and Amplifying their Voices. The participants were the interactors from 8 Interact Clubs of Rotary Club of Calcutta and 1 Interact club

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of Rotary Club of Calcutta Inner City. Each Interact club was asked to submit two essays, each no more than 200 words. The modalities of essay writing competition were mentioned in the invitation letters sent to the schools. The premise of this contest was to assess the perceptions and views of young minds regarding the given essay topic and the necessity of education and economic independence for empowering girls. After evaluation, two winners were selected from two Interact Clubs, the Rotary Club of Calcutta, and the Rotary Club of Calcutta Inner City. Silver Point School secured the first position, and Bidya Bharati Girls' High School came in second. The winners were awarded gold and silver medals, respectively, along with certificates. The program segment concluded with a well-researched 6-minute speech by three Interactors emphasising the importance of empowering girls.

Reported by Saswati Mukherjee, Chair Youth Services and Shampa Ghose, Chair, Women's Empowerment

## Joygram

### Joygram Social Welfare Society sets up signs of humanity



MI News Service, Sunderbans: On the auspicious day of the Durga festival of Sarodia, chanting the Manglik Dev mantra, worshipping the Goddess has started under the Dharm. Durga Puja is a commemorative festival of Damplabhi Durga's destruction of adharma and establishment of religion. That is, it is a great sacrifice to establish humanity in the heart by destroying the demonic power in the heart of every human being. Joygram Social Welfare Society set up signs of humanity in this great yajna with the co-operation of Rotary Club of Calcutta and Club's RCC

Chairman Yogesh Dassani and past RCC Chairman Arindam Roy Chowdhury. At the well-decorated puja mandap of Parbaghuan Pooja Committee of Patil Khanpur region of North 24 Parganas and Rupamari village of Rupamari area of Hingalgunj block, he called "tribals, disabled and orphaned children" and handed over new clothes to them. This society and Rotary Club of Calcutta put smiles on the faces of more than 300 tribal, disabled and underprivileged children between 1 and 15 years of age by handing over these clothes. Ariful Islam Mondal, found-

er secretary of the society, said that next year they will try to provide nutrition food along with clothing. The audience welcomed this humanity-worshipping initiative of Joygram Social Welfare Society with massive cheers and applause.

Parbaghuan Pooja Committee Secretary Tarunkanti Mondal along with other members of the committee all expressed gratitude for this initiative. Both Nireesh Kumar Baidya, President of Joygram Social Welfare Society, Member of Rupamari Pooja Mandap, and Anup Kumar Mondal, one of the Executive Committee members of Joygram Social Welfare Society, both conducted the two programs beautifully. Joygram Social Welfare Society is dedicated to income generation work. Rotary Club of Calcutta stood by to implement this initiative. 300 people were oriented to cut new clothes and in a short time the work was completed by the society's skilled sewing workers. Through this work the women were able to earn money. These women of the society expressed their desire to work on bigger orders in the coming days.

From Yogesh Dassani – Chair Community and RCC

## APPEAL FOR DONATION TO THE ROTARY FOUNDATION (ANNUAL FUND SHARE)

Rotary Year 2023-24

Date : 15 October, 2023

Dear Fellow Rotarians,

**The Rotary Foundation (TRF)** transforms your 'Donations' into service projects that change lives close to home and around the world. By giving to the **Annual Fund**, you make these life-changing projects possible so that Rotary can keep 'Doing Good in the World'.

Donations to **"ANNUAL FUND-SHARE"** are invested for 3 Years; accrued growth supports TRF operations. After the lock-in period, the Donations received are shared equally between 'The World Fund' and 'District Designated Fund (DDF)'. The 'World Fund' is spent, as per discretion of Trustees of TRF by way of 'Global Grants and Programs' for operations in areas of focus of Rotary International.

The DDF is distributed by the District Governor as 'District Grants' and 'Global Grants' to support activities of Rotary Clubs in areas of operations like 'Water Sanitation and Hygiene', 'Basic Education and Literacy', 'Disease Prevention and Treatment', 'Maternal Health and Treatment', 'Peace Building and Conflict Resolution', 'Community Economic Development'.

'Rotary International' recognises Donors as; **Sustaining Members** for donations up to \$ 100 or more; **Paul Harris Fellow** for donation up to \$1,000 or more; **Paul Harris Society Member** for a commitment to donate \$1,000 or more annually.

Members of Rotary Club Calcutta are requested to donate generously to the **'The Rotary Foundation (Annual Fund SHARE)'** by Cheque drawn in favour of **'Rotary Foundation India'**.

**It will indeed be a splendid and auspicious beginning of the Rotary Year (2023-24) if every Member of our 'Old Number One' comes forward to donate generously to The Rotary Foundation.**

With kind Regards,

Yours- in- Rotary

**Kanak Dutt**

President RY (2023-24)

## Our Roving Ambassador Overseas – Rtn. Rajeev Paralikar



On Thursday, 19 October 23, I paid a Goodwill Visit to RC Haarlemmermeer Schiphol in The Netherlands. During the RWM of the Club, I gave a PPT Presentation on 'Activities of RC Calcutta' and handed over copies of 'The Chaka'. Two photographs taken on this occasion are attached.



## REPORTING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ATTENDANCE REPORT (17.10.2023)

Total Members	:	240
Members Present	:	34
Exempted Members	:	69
Visiting Rotarians & Guest	:	2



### ONE WORLD

We remember with good wishes  
Rotary Club of Battersea Park,  
London, R.I. District 1130

### TODAY

Speaker: Somini Sen Dua, Publicist and Entrepreneur, Mrittika Earthy Talks (MET).

Goodwill visit by Rotary Club of London and Battersea Park, UK, R. I. Dist. 1130

### Birthdays

Tanmay Chatterjee	1st Nov.
Zul Hirji	2nd Nov.
Shriya Saboo	2nd Nov.
Amitabha Ray	2nd Nov.
Malika Mukerji Sarkar	4th Nov.
M.L.Pachisia	6th Nov.
Donn S. Kabiraj	6th Nov.

*Wish you many happy returns of the day*

### NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 7th November, 2023 at 1.30 p.m.

Speaker : Rtn Sujata Pyne

## FORTHCOMING MEETINGS / EVENTS

Day & Date	Programmes	Timing and Venue
Tuesday, 7th November, 2023	Regular Weekly Meeting Speaker: Rtn Sujata Pyne	Lunch : 1 p.m. to 1.30 p.m. Meeting : 1.30 p.m.
Tuesday, 14th November, 2023	No Regular Weekly Meeting	-----
Tuesday, 21st October, 2023	Regular Weekly Meeting Speaker: Rtn Ashok Basu (4)	Lunch : 1 p.m. to 1.30 p.m. Meeting : 1.30 p.m.
Tuesday, 28th November, 2023	Regular Weekly Meeting Antakshari by Pronam Roy followed by Fellowship and Dinner	6.30 p.m onwards Rotary Sadan(Ground Floor)

## REPORTS

Rotary Club of Calcutta Nabodiganto and Rotary Club of Calcutta Labanhrad in association with Rotary Club of Calcutta organized Pre Puja celebration "Agomoni" on 17th October, 2023 at Rotary Sadan. The programme was co-hosted by Rotary Club of Calcutta.

## WELCOME GREEN BADGERS

**Dr. Joti Deb Mukhopadhyay**

Medicine – Diabetes and Endocrinology

**Date on induction:** 17th October, 2023

**Date of Birth :** 10th January, 1960

Professor of Medicine, Medical Education & Research 244, A.J.C. Bose Road, Kolkata – 700 020

Mob: 9433770356

**E-mail :** drjotideb60@gmail.com

**Residence :** Flat No. – 3 , CF -333, Sector – 1, Salt Lake City, Kolkata – 700064

Tel: 2334 - 2423

**Wedding :** 26th January

**Spouse :** Dr. Madhumita Mukherjee

**Children :** Two Sons

**Hobbies :** Gardening, Reading and Music

**Spouse Hobbies :** Gardening

**Raghunath Ghose ( Raja )**

Legal Service - Civil

**Date on induction :** 17th October, 2023

**Date of Birth :** 1st October , 1961

Proprietor

R.N. Ghose & Associates

10, Old Post Office Street, Room No. 36 A, ( First Floor)

Kolkata – 700 001

**Mob:** 9831024181

**E-mail:**raghunathghose@gmail.com

**Residence :** 1 E , Chakraberia Lane, Kolkata – 700020

**Wedding :** 5th June, Spouse : Piyali

**Hobbies :** Socialising

**Spouse Hobbies :** Charitable work

**Children :** One Son and One Daughter

**Dr. Arkaprovo Roy**

Medicine – General Surgery

**Date on induction :** 17th October, 2023

**Date of Birth :** 18th

May, 1977

Associate Professor

Medical College & Hospital ( Department of General Surgery )

88, College Street

Kolkata – 700 073

**Mob:** 9830041886

**E-mail :**

drarkanatmed1977@gmail.com

**Residence :** Mekhala Co – Operative Housing Society DB - 7 , Flat No. 3 B , Street No. 286, Action Area – 1 , New Town , Rajarhat Kolkata – 700 156

**Wedding :** 1st December

**Spouse :** Dr. Sivareshmi Unnithan Roy

**Hobbies :** Creative Writing / Recitation

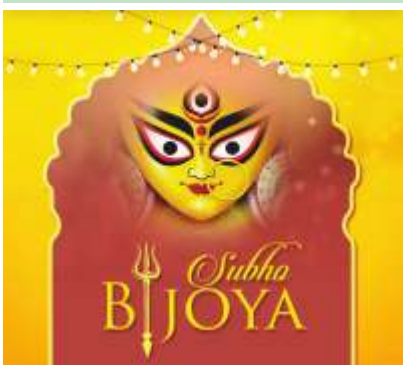
**Children :** One Daughter

## ANNUAL CHILDREN'S TREAT - 2023

The 98th Annual Children's Treat of the Club will be held on Sunday, 10th December, 2023 at 10 a.m. onwards at Nicco Park, Salt Lake, Kolkata. We will invite about 1,500 underprivileged Children to this Flagship programme of the Club this year.

Members are requested to generously donate or sponsor Breakfast, Lunch, Ice Cream, Caps, Carry Bags, Sports Items, or any kind of Gift Items to make this a "Day Sunshine" for these Children.

Donations in Cash or Cheque payable in favour of "Rotary Children's Welfare Trust" will be eligible for Income Tax Exemption u/s 80G of the Income Tax Act.



**THE CHAKA WISHES ALL ITS READERS  
"SUBHO BIJOYA" AND  
A HEARTY SEASONS' GREETINGS**

## MINUTES OF THE 4918th REGULAR WEEKLY MEETING HELD ON 17th OCTOBER 2023 AT 1.30 P.M. AT THE ROTARY SADAN

1. President, Rtn. Kanak Dutt welcomed all Members and Guests and called the 4918th Regular Weekly Meeting of the Club to order.
2. President then informed members that in absence of Hony. Secretary Rtn. Sarvani Gooptu, Hony. Joint Secretary, Rtn. Suman Chakraborty would conduct the Club Business on her behalf.
3. National Anthem was led by Rtn Sonia Dutt.
4. Minutes of the 4917th regular weekly meeting of the Club held on 10th October, 2023 were confirmed.
5. President welcomed Dr. Amrita Panda, Rehabilitation Psychologist as the Chief Guest on that day and she would speak on "Empowerment of the Marginalised."
6. President also welcomed all Visiting Rotarians and Guests who attended the meeting.
7. **President reported the following :**
  - i) On 10th October 2023 - Health Committee Chair, Rtn Dr. Ayusmati Thakur and Co- Chair Rtn Dr. Parthajit Das organised an Adult Immunization Camp after the Regular Weekly meeting and it was a grand success and a total of 68 vaccines were administered to the Rotarians and their family members. The next Immunization session would be on 12th December 2023.
  - ii) On 10th October, 2023 - Youth Services Committee under the leadership of Rtn Saswati Mukherjee organised a workshop on VUCA world for Interactors between 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. at Rotary Sadan. Eight Schools and others joined the Workshop.
  - iii) On 11th October, 2023 to celebrate "International Girl Child Day", the Women's Empowerment Committee led by Rtn Shampa Ghose and Youth Services Committee led by Rtn Saswati Mukherjee jointly organised with Rotary Club of Calcutta Inner City an essay competition by School Students and a panel discussion by eminent personalities on protection of the Girl Child between 4.30 and 6 pm at Rotary Sadan.
8. **President announced the following :**
  - a) After the Puja Holiday, Rotary Club of London and R. C. of Battersea Park would make a Goodwill visit to the Club at the Regular Weekly Meeting on Tuesday, 31st October, 2023 at 6.30p.m. followed by fellowship and dinner and requested members to attend on that day.
  - b) On 1st November, 2023 - Inauguration unit of Diabetic Retinopathy at Priyamvada Birla Eye Hospital. It would be Global Grant Project of the Club and requested members to attend the inauguration section.
  - c) President informed the club that on behalf of the Club, Rtn. Purnendu Roychowdhury and Rtn. Ashok Kumar Basu (AB 4) have sponsored a kidney dialysis treatment for a patient and thanked them.
9. **At the request of the President, Hony. Joint Secretary Rtn. Suman Chakraborty thereafter 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 30th October, 2023.
  - c) Next Meeting of the Club would be held on Tuesday, 31st October, 2023 at 6.30 p.m. (after the Durga Puja Holiday) followed by Fellowship and Dinner, Speaker to be announced.
  - d) There would be no Regular Weekly Meeting on Tuesday, 24th October, 2023 on account of Durga Puja Holiday.
  - e) Members' Roster for the Rotary year 2023-24 was available and requested Members to collect their copies from Club Office.
  - f) The Board at its meeting held on 25th September, 2023 accepted the resignation of Rtn. Dr. Dilip Kumar with effect from 1st October, 2023
10. At the request of the President, PP Rtn Abhijit Kolay and Rtn Dr. Ayusmati Thakur introduced their candidates Dr. Joti Deb Mukhopadhyay, Mr. Raghunath Ghose and Dr. Arkaprovo Roy respectively. On behalf of the Club, President welcomed Dr. Mukhopadhyay, Mr. Ghose and Dr. Roy. At the request of the President, PP Rtn. Sujata Pyne and PP Rtn. Raj Kumar Agrawal inducted Dr. Joti Deb Mukhopadhyay, Mr. Raghunath Ghose and Dr. Arkaprovo Roy as members of the Club.
11. At the request of the President, Rtn. Dr. Ayusmati Thakur introduced Dr. Amrita Panda as the Chief Guest of that day.
12. At the request of the President, Dr. Amrita Panda addressed the audience on "Empowerment of the Marginalized."
13. Questions raised by the members were answered by the Chief Guest.
14. On behalf of the Club, Rtn. Ashok Kumar Basu (AB 4) offered the vote of thanks.
15. On behalf of the Club, President handed over a memento to Dr. Amrita Panda.
16. Sunshine Box collection Rs. 1000/- with special Contribution from Rtn. Raj Kumar Agrawal on that day.
17. The Club remembered with good wishes Rotary Club of Utrecht, Netherlands, R. I. Dist. 1570.
18. Before adjourning the meeting President wished all "HAPPY DURGA PUJA".
19. Meeting was adjourned at 2.26 p.m.

**Kanak Dutt**  
President

**Suman Chakraborty**  
Hony. Joint Secretary