



TUESDAY 19 December 2023

December is Disease Prevention & Treatment Month

104

The Chaka

Bulletin of Rotary Club of Calcutta
R I Dist. 3291

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Today's Event



A closed meeting in Rotary Club of Calcutta expects highest attendance. Only members are present where discussions on club matters are elaborated and made open to the general body to share their opinion.

The meeting can start with guests and visiting Rotarians where they are recognised, and club business is conducted. Rotarians are aware of closed meeting format and hence when all are done and we intend to start the closed meeting, President requests the guests and visiting members to excuse themselves as well as any staff member of the club unless necessary by the President.

An open discussion on all aspects of club matters are then discussed in the closed meeting with the members present and the minutes recorded separately for circulation to Members only in the next meeting. Since The Chaka is a public document which is widely circulated it records in the MoM everything till the start of the closed meeting and

Rotary
Club of Calcutta



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records the termination or adjournment of the meeting. What transpires in the meeting is separately circulated to members by hand or post or club email group.

Thank you, CYP, for this write-up - Ed

Annual Children's Treat 10 Dec. 2023 : AOS-Community

Ninety-Eight years ago a sunshine project was initiated, which has ever since become a source of joy to underprivileged and orphaned children. In 1925 a programme of entertainment of underprivileged children was conceived by the Rotary Club of Calcutta. It received the immediate approval of all Rotarians and more so of their Annes, who with zest and enthusiasm took active part in its execution.

The 98th Annual Children's Treat was held in NICCO Park on 10 Dec. 2023, the usual excitement and energy evident. About 1200 plus children from 22 Institutions and RCCs participated.

The total gathering including 40 Interactors, Interact Co-ordinators, Volunteers, Ex Rotaractors, Rotarians, R-Anns, and Children's escorts counted to about 1500. IPP Raj, IPS Anand, Rtns Anand Bhuwalka, Yogesh, Ravindra and R Ann Madhu shared the responsibility of dispatching the buses from Rotary Sadan at 6 am! Breakfast and Maaza was served in the Buses. Children who came to Nicco Park directly were given breakfast packs and the beverage on arrival, apart from a health drink sponsored by President Kanak Dutt. Caps were distributed to the children, and all present. Breakfast for the volunteers at Rotary Sadan was organised by Rtn KK Kothari.

Pres Kanak Dutt welcomed all to the of beat of martial music by the Military Band that the children enjoyed thoroughly and inaugurated the program. The Military Band was organised by Secy Sarvani Gooptu.

Chief Guest Lt Gen Rana Pratap Kalita GOC in C Eastern Command arrived around 1145 am and was warmly welcomed by President, Secretary and all Rotarians and R Anns. The Chief Guest then addressed the gathering. Mr. Rajesh Raisinghani, MD Nicco Parks was also present to welcome the Chief Guest. The Chief Guest along with President, Secretary, Rtn Probir Gupta toured the entertainment area in a battery-operated vehicle. After exchanging pleasantries the Chief Guest departed, but not before, at Rtn Hirak Ray's request supported by all others, he agreed to become an Honorary Member of the Club. A mentionable here is that the early branding for Nicco Park was "Escape from Reality" – Rtn Probir mentioned this in his short address on the origins of the park.

Lunch was served at about 1 pm. The veg lunch was prepared by Rtn K K Kothari's organisation under the supervision of Mr. Madan Kothari. Lunch was served by R Anns and other volunteers. The Nonveg lunch was sponsored by The Taj Group and served by personnel from the hotel. Thanks to Rtn Partha Mukherjee for arranging this sponsorship.

Lunch was followed by a magic show much to the delight of the children. And some adults too, populating the ringside seats!

Around 3.30 pm the program concluded, and it was time for the children to return to their respective institutions. Gift hampers that had chocolates, games, biscuits, and soft drinks were handed over to the children. Courtesy PP Heena Gorsia, Ice Creams sponsored by Thakers were distributed. Rotarians, R Anns, and Staff of Rotary Sadan assisted in the handover of gift bags.

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The program, as always, drew large numbers of Rotarians and R Anns, like bees to a hive. Too numerous to be mentioned here, they were all, without exception, drawn to the energy and bonhomie of the moment!

An event of this scale requires huge coordination. Rtns Shampa, Saswati, Sarvani and Anand Sharma organised the availability of 25 buses to transport the children from their institutions to Nicco Park. We acknowledge the following institutions who generously provided the transportation – South Point (Courtesy Mr. Krishna Damani and Ms M Kohli, Director), DPS Ruby Park (Courtesy Rtn Sanjiv Agarwal), DPS Howrah (Courtesy Principal Ms Sumita Arora), MB Girls World Academy (Courtesy Ms Anjana Saha, Principal), SNU (Courtesy Dr Satyam Roychowdhury), Garden High (Courtesy Dr Anuradha Das Director). Support was so overwhelming that a certain number of buses had to be returned.

Interactors and Interact coordinators from the following schools participated on 8 Dec. (to pack the gift bags) and on the 10th onsite at Nicco Park : Silver Point School, Vidyanjali International School, MB Girls World Academy, Sailendra Sircar Vidyalaya, Crescent High School and DPS Howrah. Rtn Saswati, Chair Youth, arranged for their participation. Ms Sonal Baid and 9 other friends joined the program as volunteers.

Chair Health Ayusmati arranged for 2 medical personnel from Purnam Medicare for emergency support. To all those mentioned above to whom our heartfelt thanks are gratefully extended, our thankfulness extends to the following.

Donors in kind : Rtn. S R Goenka - Maaza and Soft Drinks; Rtn Sonal Worah - Biscuits; Bisk Farm – Biscuits arranged by Rtn Yogesh; RILM – Chocolates arranged by Rtn Arindam; Memory Game – Sharmishtha Koya; Health Drink – Pres Kanak; Breakfast at discounted rates – Sugar and Spice , courtesy Rtns Supriya and Prosanta Roy.

Ever present were our own Rotary Sadan Staff – Prabir, Shambhu, Anjan, Krishna, Gautam, and Kartik – they assisted wholeheartedly to make the program a success.

Thanks go out to the Nicco Park Authorities Sh Rajesh Raisinghani, Sukumar Pattanayak and others.

No way the least, a huge salute to our brethren in the Indian Army, the band and all in the entourage of the GOC in C.

The program is organised by with the support of 'Rotary Children's Welfare Trust'.

(Reported by Children's Treat Chair PP Abhijit Kolay)



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ANNUAL CHILDREN'S TREAT - DONATION

The 98th Annual Children's Treat of the Club held on Sunday, 10th December, 2023 at Nicco Park, Salt Lake, Kolkata.
Donation received for Annual Children's Treat up to 13.12.2023

Late Rtn. Nandita Sen Endowment for Annual Children's Treat	Rs. 25,000/-	Rtn. Sukanti Taraphdar Rockdale East, U.K.)	Rs. 5,000/-
Dr. Ashoke Kumar Basu	Rs. 2,000/-	Hirak Ray	Rs. 5,000/-
Ashish Kumar Bagla	Rs. 25,000/-	B.K. Nahata (Mohanlal Nahata Foundation)	Rs. 5,000/-
Sonia Dutt	Rs. 10,000/-	Rtn. Shankar Sehanobish	Rs. 5,000/-
Subrata De	Rs. 10,000/-	Kothari Hosiary Factory Pvt. Ltd.	
Niraj Kumar Saraf	Rs. 15,000/-	(K. K. Kothari & B. D. Kothari)	Rs. 21,000/-
Vikram Somany	Rs. 10,000/-	A.V. Bhuwarka (Shree Ram Bhakti Trust)	Rs. 5,000/-
Sarvani Gooptu	Rs. 2,500/-	Atindra Nath Sen	Rs. 25,000/-
Dr. Indrajit Roy	Rs. 10,000/-	Debjani Ghosh	Rs. 10,000/-
B.K.Dalmia	Rs. 5,000/-	P. S. Chauhan	Rs. 2,000/-
Joyanta Chatterjee	Rs. 5,000/-	Kirit Patel	Rs. 10,000/-
Hirak Kumar Sen	Rs. 5,000/-	Dr. Debnath Chattopadhyay	Rs. 2,000/-
Srirupa Dasgupta	Rs. 2,000/-	Renuka Shah	Rs. 5,100/-
L.N. Bangur (Raman Trust)	Rs. 1,00,000/-	Sudarshan Jalan (D. N. Jalan Seva Trust)	Rs. 25,000/-
		Tapan Kumar Biswas Trust Estate	Rs. 20,000/-



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Adult Vaccination Camp at Rotary Sadan on 12 Dec. 2023 – Club Service



“Immunisation camp 2” - a fantastic initiative on adult vaccination was organised by the health committee at the Rotary Sadan, Kolkata with the help of Matri pharma and GSK pharmaceutical company. Appropriate adult vaccination strategy has been strongly recommended by several health authorities such as WHO, centre of Communicable

Diseases etc. A total number of 40 members got vaccinated with pneumococcal vaccine, influenza vaccine and the latest herpes Zoster Vaccine. An active participation of all the Rotarians was highly appreciated.

*Reported by Dr Parthajit Das
Co-Chair Health Committee*

Lakshya Scholarship on 14 Dec. 2023 – AOS : Community; AOF : Supporting Education



On 14th December, 2023, RC Cal organised the award of this year's Lakshya Scholarship Program for 250 students of 9 government aided schools. These students will be able to access BYJU's teaching material through the Learning app for next three years which will add immense value in their education journey.

The scholarship is provided to the tune of Rs. 80,000 per student, allowing them access of three years on the app. RILM will be facilitating the sign-up link to the official email id's

provided at the time of registration, which will be coordinated through the school principal and staff. The students can select the language of their choice to access all the modules for studying. This app is through the CSR wing of BYJU's, so no parents will be bothered with marketing calls if they follow the instructions given. The app will adapt to the student's performance, accordingly they will be able to grasp the content. Representatives of the RILM, including Ms. Ritu, were present to explain the modus operandi of the scholarship program. A nodal teacher will be able to generate quarterly reports to monitor each student's performance.

A Q&A session with RILM reps was fruitful. Teachers also expressed the concern for students not covered under BYJU's scholarship. RILM representatives were kind enough to elaborate about E-Siksha module, which can be accessed through the rotaryteach.org website which is free to sign-up for students. A teacher also picked up the importance of mental health support for students. Special Projects chairperson Rtn. Arindam has given his word to connect the concerned teacher with Rtn. Sourish of District 3291 who spearheads the mental health programs for kids. Mrs. Shrimati Ghosh thanked RC Cal for taking the initiative of connecting these schools with RILM. The program ended with Hony. Secretary Rtn. Sarvani Gooptu's vote of thanks and appreciation of green badger Rtn. Sonia Dutt for her contribution towards this Lakshya scholarship. Community Service chairperson Rtn. Yogesh Dassani & Literacy Chairperson Rtn. Sriranjani Joshi were vital in the coordination with schools. 15 members of RC Calcutta were present.

Students at the following schools were awarded the Lakshya Scholarship : 1. Boral Rishi Ranjan School, 2. Jatia High School, 3. Bodra High School, 4. Abhoy Charan Vidyapith, 5. Garia Harimati Devi Vidyalaya, 6. Bhatpara Amarkrishna Pathshala, 7. Naihati Katyani Girls High School, 8. Panpur Makhantal HS Kankinara, 9. Rajpur Bidyanidhi High School.

Reported by Rtn. Ravindra Khandelwal

REPORTING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

ATTENDANCE REPORT (12.12.2023)

Total Members	:	239
Members Present	:	30
Exempted Members	:	68
Visiting Rotarians & Guest	:	8

TODAY

Closed Door meeting

NEXT MEETING

Regular Weekly Meeting along with 105th Charter Day Celebrations on 1st January, 2024

RESIGNATION

The Board at the meeting held on 27th November, 2023 accepted the resignation of Rtn. Asok Kumar Basu (Salt Lake) with effect from 1st October, 2023

105th CHARTER DAY CELEBRATION on 1st January, 2024

The Club will celebrate its 105th Charter Day along with Regular Weekly Meeting on Monday, 1st January, 2024 at 6.30 p.m. at Rotary Sadan followed by fellowship and dinner. You are requested to kindly note the date and attend with your spouse.

R I DISTRICT 3291 CONFERENCE-2023-24 "UTKARSH"

R.I. District 3291 Conference "UTKARSH" will be held on Saturday, 6th and Sunday, 7th January, 2024 at Taj Taal Kutir Convention Centre, Newtown, Kolkata.

Registration Charges :

Rotarian per head Rs. 6,500/- up to 15th December, 2023

Rotarian per head Rs. 7,500/- from 16th December, 2023

You are requested to kindly register your name. For further details please contact Club Office.



ONE WORLD

We remember with good wishes
Rotary Club of Tollygunge, India,
R.I. District 329

Birthdays

Dr. Tandra Sarkar	19th Dec
Indrajit Ganguly	21st Dec
Dr. Asok Kumar Ghoshal	21st Dec
Kanak Dutt	22nd Dec
Dr. Dipanwita Hazari	23rd Dec
Kirit Patel	23rd Dec
Shouveek Ray	23rd Dec
Ramesh Maheshwari	25th Dec
Veena Rohatgi	25th Dec
Dr. Surendra Kumar Sharma	26th Dec
Dr. Santanu Sen	26th Dec
Dr. Sandip Chatterjee	29th Dec
Suksham Singh	31st Dec

Wish you many happy returns of the day

Board of Directors 2024-2025

Subrata De	President
Kanak Dutt	Imm. Past President
Debnath Chattopadhyay	President Elect
Santanu Deb Mookerjee	Vice-President
Suman Chakraborty	Hony. Secretary
Indrajit Banerjee	Hony. Treasurer
Ashok Kumar Basu	Joint Secretary
Arindam Roychowdhury	Joint Treasurer
Sarvani Gooptu	Director
Dr. Sourabh Khemani	Director
Krishna Kumar Kothari	Director
Dr. Pronab Dasgupta	Director
Raj Kumar Agrawal	Director

ROTARY CLUB OF CALCUTTA
RID 3291

105

CHARTER DAY
Inauguration of
ROTARY CORNEA SERVICE

Date	1st January, 2024
Venue	Behala Balananda Brahmachari Hospital, Pathakpada
Time	11.30am
Chief Guest	RID Anirudha Roychowdhury, President Kanak Dutt
Guest of Honour	DG Hira Lal Yadav & PP Rtn. Vikram Somany



Rotary
Club of Calcutta

SAMARTH-IMELA

A MEGA SERVICE PROJECT
DISTRIBUTION OF

375 WHEEL CHAIRS
835 SCHOOL SHOES

Special Guests :

PRIP Shekhar Mehta
RID Anirudha Roychowdhury
DG Hira Lal Yadav
Dr. Sujoy Chakraborty
Chairman
Howrah Municipal Corporation
Sri. Ranjan Poddar
Councillor
Bidhanagar Municipal Corporation

SUNDAY December 24, 2023, 10am Onwards
GD Block Ground, opp Sushrut Hospital
Salt Lake City, Kolkata

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RSVP : Rtn. Arindam Roy Chowdhury : (Mobile) 8777826640
Rtn. Purnendu Roychowdhury : (Mobile) 92305 99999

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS / EVENTS

Day & Date	Programmes	Timing and Venue
Sunday, 24th December 2023	Samarth – 1 Distribution of Wheel Chairs, School Shoes and Adult Literacy Kits	10 a.m. onwards at G D Block Ground, Salt Lake City, Kolkata
Tuesday, 26th December 2023	No Regular weekly Meeting due to Christmas Holiday	-----
Monday, 1st January 2024	105th Charter Day celebration alongwith Regular Weekly Meeting. Speaker: Professor Sugata Bose, Gardiner Professor of Oceanic History and Affairs, Harvard University, USA	Rotary Sadan (Ground floor) 6.30 p.m. onwards followed by fellowship and dinner.

MINUTES OF THE 4924th REGULAR WEEKLY MEETING HELD ON 12th DECEMBER, 2023 AT 1.30 P.M. AT THE ROTARY SADAN

- President, Rtn. Kanak Dutt welcomed all Members and Guests and called the 4924th Regular Weekly Meeting of the Club to order.
- National Anthem was led by Rtn. Ruchika Majumdar.
- Minutes of the 4923rd regular weekly meeting of the Club held on 5th December, 2023 were confirmed.
- President informed members that there would be no Speaker on that day as the Health Care Committee would organise Vaccination Camp, phase 2, after the Regular Weekly Meeting.
- President then welcomed all Visiting Rotarians and Guests who attended the meeting.
- President reported the following :**
 - On 6th December, 2023 - a team of Rotarians under the leadership of Rtn Shampa Ghose visited R N Tagore Hospital, Mukundapur to meet the 2 children aged 11 and 2 years who underwent heart surgeries. The Project was sponsored by B.G. Foundation in association with RC Calcutta and two more children would be operated on in due course.
 - On 8th December, 2023 - Bhumi Puja for Rotary Blood Bank supported by Cera Sanitaryware Ltd., Howrah Municipal Corporation and our members was held at Dr. Sital Chandra Ghosh Thalassaemia & Detection Center, 50, Panchanantala Road, Howrah Maidan. PRIP Shekhar Mehta, RID Aniruddha Roychowdhury, District officials, Chairman of Howrah Municipal Corporation, Dr. Sujoy Chakraborty and HMC Board Members and large number of our Club members attended on that day.
 - This year the 98th Annual Children's Treat under the leadership of Rtn. Abhijit Kolay, Chairman, Annual Children's Treat Committee was held on Sunday, 10th December, 2023 - 10 a.m. onwards at Nicco Park, Salt Lake, Kolkata. 1,400 underprivileged Children were invited to the Day of Sunshine a Flagship programme of the Club. Lt. General Rana Pratap Kalita addressed the audience as the Chief Guest on that day. President thanked members who have generously donated or sponsored for the programme. At his request, Rtn. Abhijit Kolay gave a report.
- President announced the following :**
 - Under the leadership of Rtn. Arindam Roychowdhury, Chairman, Special Project Committee and Rtn. Yogesh Dassani, Chairman, Community Service Committee, BYJU's Scholarship programme would be inaugurated on Thursday, 14th December, 2023 at 11 a.m. at Rotary Sadan. Scholarships of Rs 80,000 to 250 students of 10 schools would be given for three years. The President requested members to join the programme on that day.
 - Special Project Committee under the leadership of Rtn. Arindam Roychowdhury would organise SAMARTH – 1, Distribution of Wheelchairs, School Shoes and Adult Literacy Kits on Sunday, 24th December, 2023 at GD Block, Salt Lake City, Kolkata at 10 a. m. onwards and requested members to donate for the Mega Project of the Club and attend with their families. At the request of the President, Rtn Arindam Roychowdhury explained about the two mega Projects of the Club BYJU's Scholarship and SAMARTH – 1.
 - R I Dist. 3291, District conference -2023-24 "UTKARSH" would be held on 6th and 7th January , 2024 at Taj Taal Kutir Convention Centre, Newtown, Kolkata. Registration Charges : Rotarian per head Rs. 6,500/- upto 15th December, 2023 and Rotarian per head Rs. 7,500/- from 16th December, 2023 and President requested members to kindly register their names. For further details please contact Club Office.
- At the request of the President, Hony. Secretary Rtn. Sarvani Gooptu thereafter conducted the Club Business :
 - She welcomed all Members and Guests.
 - She then announced the names of Rotarians celebrating their Birthdays and Wedding Anniversaries for the week ending 18th Dec. 2023.
 - The Next Regular Weekly Meeting would be held on Tuesday, 19th December, 2023 at 1.30 p.m. and it would be a Closed-Door meeting.
 - There would be no Regular Weekly Meeting on Tuesday, 26th December, 2023 on account of Christmas Holiday.
 - The Board at the meeting held on 27th November, 2023 accepted the resignation of Rtn. Asok Kumar Basu (Salt Lake) with effect from 1st October, 2023.
 - The Sixth meeting of the Board of Directors (2023-24) of the Club will be held on Monday, 18th December, 2023 at 6.30 p.m at Rotary Sadan (2nd Floor) and she requested all members of the Board to make a note of it and attend.
- At the request of the President, Rtn. Ruchika Mujumdar addressed the audience introducing herself and talking about her experience as a member of the Rotary Club of Calcutta.
- Sunshine Box collection was Rs. 500/- with special Contribution from Rtn. Santanu Deb Mookerjea on that day.
- The Club remembered with good wishes Rotary Club of Hilversum West, Netherland, R. I. Dist. 1570.
- Before adjourning the meeting, President requested Rtn. Dr. Parthajit Das Co-Chair, Health Care Committee to organise the Vaccination Camp, 2nd phase.
- Meeting was adjourned at 2.15 p.m.

Kanak Dutt
President

Sarvani Gooptu
Hony. Secretary