



TUESDAY 12 SEPTEMBER 2023

September is Basic Education and Literacy Month

104

The Chaka

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AJAY MITTAL

How Vulnerable Kolkata is as a City & Need for Adoption of Circularity

Ajay Mittal is a prominent figure in the environmental and social impact sectors. As the Director of India and South Asia (Climate Change Programs) for EARTHDAY.ORG, he plays a crucial role in advancing environmental causes in the region. EARTHDAY.ORG is a global organization that emerged from the first Earth Day and is known for its extensive work in mobilizing people and partners worldwide to address environmental issues and promote environmental democracy. One of Ajay Mittal's significant responsibilities is leading The Canopy Project at EARTHDAY.ORG. This initiative is focused on reforestation efforts and has achieved notable milestones, such as planting 2 million mangroves in the Sunderbans, a critical ecosystem in the Indian subcontinent known for its biodiversity and climate resilience. In addition to his work at EARTHDAY.ORG, Ajay Mittal is actively involved in various city-based



non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Some of the NGOs he is associated with include HIVE India, Y-East, Project Life Force, Caring Hearts India, and ACTS. These organizations likely work on a range of social and environmental issues, reflecting Ajay's commitment to creating positive change in his community and beyond.

Ajay Mittal is known for his advocacy for youth issues and his belief in leveraging technology, innovation, and simplicity to scale social solutions. This combination of passion and expertise makes him a valuable contributor to the environmental and social impact sectors, particularly in the context of India and South Asia.

Eye Check up Camp : ABWUPS, Elliot Road, Kolkata 8 Sep. 2023: AOS Community; AOF Fighting Disease



An eye check-up camp was organized by the Rotary Club of Calcutta on the 8th of September, 2023 at the All-Bengal Women's Union Primary School, Elliot Road, Kolkata. It was a joint program by the Literacy and Health Committees. This school provides education to abandoned, abused, or orphaned children brought

to their Home by government/non-government help agencies and the children around the locality of the school. On 8th September, around 120 children from classes I to VI were tested. Vision tests were conducted for each individual child. Necessary remedies, including the need for glasses, were suggested by the team of doctors. The students were given frooti, biscuits and sweet after their eye check-up. A donation was given in memory of Rtn Subimal Bose for games kit - carrom board,

badminton rackets, shuttle cock, net and commercial Aquaguard machine for drinking water of the children. Another donation was made by Rtn Sonia Dutt for new clothes for the children.

(Reported by Koel Roychowdhury, Co-Chair Literacy and R Ann Sanjukta Mitra)

CONTACT US

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Eye Check-up Camp : Lake Girls' School 9 Sep. 2023 : AOS Community; AOF Fighting Disease

An eye check up camp was organized by the Rotary Club of Calcutta on the 9th of September, 2023 at Lake Girls' School, Lake Terrace Road, Kolkata. It was a joint program by the Literacy and Women's Empowerment Committees. The School provides Upper Primary, Secondary, High Secondary (6-12) level education and is being managed by Department of Education. Medium of instruction is Bengali language and school is for Girls only. Around 150 children from classes 8-12 were tested. Vision tests were conducted for each individual child. Necessary remedies, including the need for glasses, were suggested by the team of doctors. President Rtn Kanak Dutta, Hony Sec Rtn Sarvani Gooptu, Rtn Kirit Patel, Women's Empowerment Chairperson Rtn Shampa Ghose, Rtn Sonia Dutt, Rt Ann Sanjukta Mitra attended the camp.

(Reported by Shampa Ghosh, Chair Women's Empowerment)



Fibroscan Session – AOS Club; AOF Fighting Disease – Rotary Sadan – 10 Sep. 2023



The second session of the FIBROSCAN camp (screening for evidence of liver fibrosis and chronic liver disease) for members of the Rotary Club of Calcutta was held on 10th September 2023 (8 am - 10 am) at the Rotary Sadan. A total of 11 members and spouses attended the session, and reports were handed over immediately after the test. The members who attended, donated an amount of Rs. 5000 which would be used for further health projects. (Fibroscan organised with the assistance of pharma partners Abbott India). President Kanak Dutta graced the occasion with Anand and Madhu Sharma, Yogesh Dassani, Veena

Rohatgi, Nilimaand Jawahar Lal Joshi, Shampa Ghose, Satarupa Ghosh Mukherjee, Sumangala Murarka and Debasish Biswas (The World).

Reported by Dr Ayusmati Thakur, Chair Healthcare

Felicitation of Teachers on Teachers' Day – 5 Sept. 2023; Rotary Sadan



As a special token of gratitude the President Rtn Kanak Dutta, IPP Heena Gorsia and IPP Raj Agrawal and the secretary felicitated the in-house teachers of NCLCL Rotary Sadan with token gifts and certificates that symbolise our appreciation and respect for their services. We also honoured the commitments of the Teacher Co-ordinators of our Interact clubs. We offered our gratitude and respect for their invaluable services with token gifts and certificates. IPP Abhijit Kolay felicitated the teachers coordinators of the following Interact clubs of Calcutta : Delhi Public School Howrah, Mahadevi Birla World Academy, Asian International School, Vidyanjali International School and Silver Point School.

The felicitation was followed by a panel discussion "Education – Then and Now" moderated by Rtn. Pradeep Gooptu. Anuradha Das, Director, Garden High Schools, spoke about the importance of identifying the best person for the job as one of the keys to success. The courage to assign and accept responsibility contributed substantially to institutional excellence, she added. Seema Sapru of Heritage School, highlighted the many expectations heaped on a teacher, and how they were expected to be mentors, educators, counsellors, advisors and so on. She said any institution had to have the core competence to be flexible in nurturing talent, and at the same time, be firm and intolerant of indiscipline and misplaced demands. Anjana Saha, principal, Mahadevi Birla World Academy, highlighted the importance of creating the environment that would nurture the creativity and of talents of its students. The energy and curiosity of children and faculty, and their successes, contribute to the making of a great centre of learning and holistic development.

Reported by Program Chair Satarupa Ghosh Mukherjee and Rtn Pradeep Gooptu (Inner City)



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National Nutrition Week – AOS Community / Club Service; AOF Fighting Disease



Nutrition is a fundamental aspect of human life right from the earliest stages of foetal development, at birth, throughout infancy, childhood, adolescence, and into adulthood and old age. Proper food and optimum nutrition are imperative for

an individual's survival, physical growth and mental development, performance and productivity, health and well-being. It is an essential aspect of human and national development.

As per the **Global Nutrition Report 2022**, the world has made some progress towards achieving global nutrition targets. However, this progress is far too slow and malnutrition still persists at high levels. India is 'on course' to meet three targets for maternal, infant and young child nutrition however no progress has been made towards achieving the target of reducing anaemia among women of reproductive age (53.0% of women aged 15-49 years affected). There is insufficient data to assess the progress that India has made towards achieving the low-birth-weight target, nor is there adequate prevalence data. India is 'on course' for the exclusive breastfeeding

target (58% of infants aged 0-5 months exclusively breastfed). Similarly, India is 'on course' to meet the target for stunting, but 34.7% of children <5 years of age are still affected (higher than the average for the Asia region 21.8%). The prevalence of overweight children <5 years of age is 1.6% and India is 'on course' to prevent the figure from increasing.

In India, The National Nutrition Week 2023 is observed every year from 1st-7th September (since 1982). This year the theme of the NNW was "**Healthy Diet Going Affordable for All**". The Nutrition week primarily aims to promotes health and well-being, educate the public, combat malnutrition, prevent chronic diseases, foster food diversity, empower individuals to take charge of their own health, highlight government policies and initiatives aimed at improving nutrition, food security, and public health and cater to the specific nutritional needs of various demographics. Structured approaches and policies are undertaken by the government and other organisations working in liaison, to achieve and improve nutritional standards in the country, which is critical for the development of the nation.

Reported by Dr. Ayusmati Thakur, Chair, Healthcare

REPORTING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

ATTENDANCE REPORT (05.09.2023)

Total Members	:	242
Members Present	:	47
Exempted Members	:	68
Visiting Rotarians & Guest	:	32

Birthdays

Deepak Kumar Khemka 13th September

Shampa Ghose 17th September

Wish you many happy returns of the day

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 19th September, 2023 at 6.30 p.m. followed by Dinner.

Speaker : Rtn. Dr. Parthajit Das

MEMBERS' ROSTER - 2023-24

Members' Roster for the Rotary year 2023-24 is available. Members are requested to collect their copies from Club Office.

FIRST CLUB ASSEMBLY ON 24TH SEPTEMBER, 2023

The First Club Assembly of the Club will be held on **Sunday, 24th September, 2023 at 10.00 a.m. at Rotary Sadan (2nd floor) followed by Breakfast. Registration 9.30 a.m.**

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 the important meeting. Committee Chairs are also requested to send their Committee activities reports during the first quarter of the Rotary year 2023-24 to the Hony. Secretary for the first Club Assembly.



ONE WORLD

We remember with good wishes
Rotary Club Calcutta Inner City,
India, R. I. Dist. 3291

TODAY

Mr Ajay Mittal

Director, India, and South Asia Earth Day Organisation
Topic: "How Vulnerable Kolkata is as a City & Need for Adoption of Circularity"

WELCOME BACK (Re-Joined)



ARUN KUMAR SAMANTA

Engaging - Infrastructure

Date on induction : 5th September, 2023 (Re-joined)

Date of Birth : 27th November, 1952

Residence : "Merlin Court", Flat No. 2 C
1, Merlin Park, Kolkata - 700 019

Tel No. : 2460-5499

Mob : 9830066899, **E-mail** : everst07@yahoo.co.in

Wedding : 05.12.1986, **R-Ann** : Subhra

Hobbies : Reading, Music, Gardening and Traveling

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Forthcoming Meetings / Events

Day & Date	Programmes	Project & Timing
Saturday, 16th September 2023	Siksha Labh inauguration at a School in Baranagar	To be advised
Sunday, 17th September 2023	Atmanirbhar Vocational Centre	11 am – Renaissance Support and We Society, New Garia Co-op. Housing Society PO Panchasayer, Kolkata 94
Tuesday, 19th September, 2023	Regular Weekly Meeting	At 6 .30 p.m. Speaker : Rtn. Dr. Parthajit Das followed by Dinner
Tuesday, 26th September, 2023	Foundation Day Celebration along with Regular Weekly Meeting	At 6 .30 p.m. Speaker : US Consul General Melinda Pavek followed by Fellowship and Dinner

REPORTS

- a) On Sunday, 10TH September, 2023 - The Second phase of the Fibrosan liver test Camp was held for Rotarians at Rotary Sadan.
- b) Third Eye Check-up Camp held on 11th September, 2023 for 100 students from Syamaprasad College and Deshbandhu College at Ashutosh College, Hazra Road, Kolkata

MINUTES OF THE 4912th REGULAR WEEKLY MEETING HELD ON 5TH SEPTEMBER, 2023 AT 6.30 P.M. AT THE ROTARY SADAN

1. President, Rtn. Kanak Dutt welcomed all Members and Guests and called the 4912th Regular Weekly Meeting of the Club to order.
2. National Anthem was led by Rtn Shinjini Bose.
3. Minutes of the 4911th regular weekly meeting of the Club held on 29th August, 2023 were confirmed.
4. President informed members that Programme Committee would organize a Panel Discussion on Education - Then and Now by the Principals of eminent schools of Kolkata and the Committee also organized felicitation of Teacher Coordinators of the Interact Clubs and the Teachers of the NCLCL. / Cultural Section and Computer Center at Rotary Sadan on that day.
5. President then welcomed Visiting Rotarians and Guests who attended the meeting.
6. **President reported the following :**
 - a) Saturday, 2nd September, 2023 - Community Service Committee, under the leadership of Rtn Yogesh Dassani organised Shiksha Labh, donation of 10 computers at Gobindapur Ratneswar High School, Baruipur.
 - b) Sunday 3rd September, 2023 - Community Service Committee and Special Projects Committee under the leadership of Rtn Yogesh Dassani and Arindam Roychowdhury jointly organized "Atmanirbhar" project (Vocational Centre) at Garden Reach Alif Nagar Development Organisation, Paharpur Road, Garden Reach, Metiabruz, Kolkata.
7. **President announced the following :**
 - i) President informed members that Health Care Committee would organise three Eye Check- up Camps on 8th, 9th and 11th at various Schools and Colleges as the part of the Rotary Literacy month. These Camps would be jointly organized by Literacy and Health Committees, led by Rtn Sriranjani Joshi and Rtn Dr. Ayusmati Thakur. The first Camp would be held for 120 Primary School students of All Bengal Women's Union at Eliot Road on 8th September 2023. The 2nd Eye Check-up Camp would be held at Lake School for Girls on Lake Terrace on 9th September 2023 where 100 students would be benefitted. The 3rd Eye Check- up Camp will be held on 11th September 2023 for 100 students from Syamaprasad College and Deshbandhu College at Ashutosh College, Hazra Road and requested members to join in those Health Camps.
 - ii) On Sunday, 10th September, 2023 - The Second phase of the Fibrosan liver test would be held for Rotarians at Rotary Sadan. Interested members are requested in touch with Hony. Secretary Sarvani Gooptu at the earliest.
8. **At the request of the President, Hony. Secretary Rtn. Sarvani Gooptu thereafter conducted the Club Business :**
 - a) She welcomed all members and guests.
 - b) She then announced the names of Rotarians celebrating their Birthdays and Wedding Anniversaries for the week ending 11th September, 2023.
 - c) Next Weekly Meeting would be on Tuesday on 12th September, 2023 at 1.30 pm following Lunch
Speaker : Mr Ajay Mittal.
 - d) The First Club Assembly of the Club would be held on Sunday, 24th September, 2023 at 10.00 a.m. at Rotary Sadan (2nd floor) followed by Breakfast. Registration 9.30 a.m. She requested members, especially PDGs, Past Presidents, Board of Directors, Committee Chairs, Co-Chairs, Club Officials and New Members to kindly block the above date and join the important meeting. Committee Chairs are also requested to send their Committee activities reports during the first quarter of the Rotary year 2023-24 to the Club Office for the first Club Assembly.
 - e) Members' Roster for the Rotary year 2023-24 was almost ready and requested members to collect their copies from Club Office from next week.
9. At the request of the President, Rtn. Jayanta Kumar Mitra introduced his candidate Mr. Arun Kumar Samanta. On behalf of the Club, President then welcomed Mr. Arun Kumar Samanta.
At the request of the President, Past President Rtn. Abhijit Kolay re-inducted Mr. Arun Kumar Samanta as a member of the Club (Re-Join).
10. At the request of the President, Rtn Satarupa Ghosh Mukherjee, Chairperson, Programme Committee conducted the Panel Discussion and Felicitation programme of "Teachers Day."
11. On behalf of the Club, Rtn. Roshni Ganguly offered the vote of thanks.
12. The Club remembered with good wishes Rotary Club of Nairobi, Kenya, R. I. Dist. 921.
13. No Sunshine Box collection on that day.
14. Before adjourned the meeting, President requested all to join Dinner on that day.
15. Meeting was adjourned at 7.46 p.m.

Kanak Dutt
President

Sarvani Gooptu
Hony. Secretary

Published by Rtn. Sarvani Gooptu, Hony. Secretary, Rotary Club of Calcutta

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