



TUESDAY 26 SEPTEMBER 2023

September is Basic Education and Literacy Month

104

The Chaka

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R I Dist. 3291

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rotarycalcutta104@gmail.com



Consul General Melinda Pavek

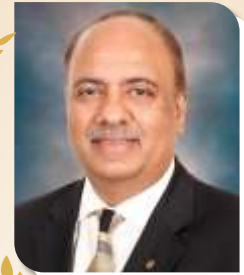
Consul General Melinda Pavek began her assignment at the U.S. Consulate General, Kolkata (India) in August 2021. Her prior assignments included Counselor for Science, Innovation, and Development (U.S. Embassy Tokyo), Supervisory General Service Officer (U.S. Embassy Islamabad, Pakistan), and Deputy Chief of Mission (U.S. Embassy Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei). She also served overseas in Nepal (Kathmandu), Jamaica (Kingston), Iraq (Baghdad), and Pakistan (Lahore) as well as on domestic assignment in Washington, D.C. as Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary for Administration. Melinda became a Foreign Service Officer with the Department of State in 2004. Before joining the Foreign Service, Melinda worked for Johnson & Johnson (J&J) as a supply chain senior analyst, was a consultant and project manager who implemented quality



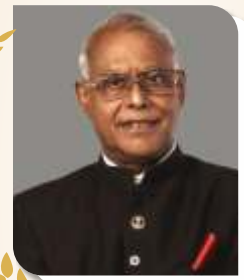
management systems using Six Sigma process improvement methodologies and ISO 9000 standards, and taught English as a Second Language in Miyagi, Japan.

Raised in Minnesota and now a resident of Wyoming, Melinda earned a Master's degree in Business Administration (MBA) in Operations, Supply Chain, and Strategy from the Carlson School of Management at the University of Minnesota. Melinda earned her Bachelor of Arts degree from Augustana College (Rock Island, Illinois) in Political Science, Economics, and Asian Studies. Melinda's partner Brandon is a finance, consulting, and trading professional based in Chicago.

GUESTS OF HONOUR



PRIP Sekhar Mehta



RID Aniruddha Roychoudhury



DG Hiralal Yadav

CONTACT US

E-mail: rotarycalcutta104@gmail.com
<https://rccalcutta.rotaryindia.org>

Guests from Rotary Club of Madras



Ravi
Pres



Arulmozhi Varman
PP



M Sessa Sai
Secretary



Prabha Srinivasan
Treasurer



Anuradha Ganesan
Director



Vikram Chesetty
Director



R Ravishankar
Club Advisor



Shivkumar Eashwaran



**Vijay Kadel and
Spouse Pratibha**

Siksha Labh - Baranagar Rajkumari Girls' School 16 Sep 2023 : AOS – New Generations; AOF – Supporting Education



The 5th Opening of the project SIKSHA Labh-3 for the Rotary year 2023-24, under Literacy & Education was at Baranagar Rajkumari Memorial Girls' High School on 16.09.2023 by our Club President Rtn. Kanak Dutt in the presence of our club members. This school was established in the year 1853. It is the oldest school in that area with a huge collection of Books. They also have a 150-year-old rare Bible.

Presently the school has a strength of 1200 students coming from the nearby areas of Baranagar & Dakshineswar. In this project a Computer Lab has been created with an installation of 10 nos. of new Computer Sets along with 10 UPS. The computer lab will benefit around 1200 students with basic computer education every month. The Principal has agreed to allow us to conduct more awareness programme in the school in the coming months.

A Big Thank you to all Rotarians for your well wishes. Without your Support and Guidance, we won't have done it. The Community Service team looks forward to your support in days to come.

Reported by Chair Community Service Yogesh Dassani

Siksha Labh - Jatindas Vidyamandir Belghoria - 16 Sep. 2023 : AOS – New Generations; AOF – Supporting Education

The 6th Opening of the project SIKSHA Labh-3 for the Rotary year 2023-24, under Literacy & Education, was at Belghoria Jatindas Vidyamandir, Belghoria on 16.09.2023 by our Club President Rtn. Kanak Dutt in the presence of our club members. The school is one of the few English medium Govt. Sponsored schools in and around Kolkata. Presently the school has a strength of 947 students coming from the nearby areas of Belghoria area. In this project a Computer Lab has been created with an installation of 8 nos. of new Computer Sets along with 8 UPS. The computer lab will benefit around 940+ students with basic computer education every month. We have last month also provided water filter to this school and the Students were happy to



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get the computers and water filter from Rotary Club of Calcutta.

A Big Thank you to all Rotarians for your well wishes. Without your Support and Guidance, we will not have done it. The Community Service team looks forward to your support in days to come.

Reported by Chair Community Service Yogesh Dassani

**ATMANIRBHAR 2 – 17 Sep. 2023 - Niharika Handicapped School :
AOS – Composite Vocational and New Generations;
AOF Composite Growing Local Economies and Supporting Education**



The 2nd AATMANIRBHAR Centre was opened on 17 September at Niharika Handicapped School where 80 specially-abled children come on a regular basis for their training and special education. These children come from a distance travelling 30 kms. from Sundarban, Joynagar, Canning, etc. with their mothers as their fathers go out to earn their livelihood. Now, this project will train the mothers in sewing during the time they spend at the centre and another 100 children will learn computers from nearby slum areas of Garia and New Garia. RC Amelia Kolkata will look after the centre day-to-day. The second phase we will

start Adult Literacy for 100 women. This will create a direct impact in the society. Thanks to President, Hony. Secretary, PDG Prabir Chatterjee, Rtn. Sonia Dutt and Shaswati Roy Chowdhury for being present in the program. Thanks to all the donors also.

Reported by Special Projects Chair Arindam Roychowdhury

**ATMANIRBHAR 3 – 23 Sep. 2023 – RCC Ranihati, Netaji Samaj Sathi : AOS –
Composite Vocational and New Generations; AOF Composite Growing Local
Economies and Supporting Education**



Rotary Club Calcutta has started the Vocational Centre at RCC Ranihati, Netaji Samaj Sathi 3 years back in a very small way with a Tailoring Unit and a small computer centre. Now the RCC and RC Calcutta dedicated the entire newly constructed building for an entire Vocational Service Centre with 60 women working and 40 new women getting new training, making a total of 100 women getting empowered. Today the Centre was opened at the ATMANIRBHAR Centre for women with 30 new sewing machines and 11 new Computers for Digital Education and Computer Training. The women are making garments which they displayed today with so much joy, and selling their creation in the local market. The sewing teacher said that the entire village knows her as SELAI DIDI -- what a joy and a successful

story. Today we were so confident with them that clubs every year during Durga Puja, purchase clothes for puja gifts for village children, purchase order for 700 shirts and pants, and 700 salwar suits was placed on them. Clothes will be supplied by club, and the women will stitch and make it ready – a source of small income before the festive season. A small example of “Creating Hope in the World”.

Reported by Rtn. Arindam Roy Chowdhury, Special Projects Chair.

Appeals for Support and List of Donors

General Appeal from President Kanak Dutt

My earnest appeal to all fellow members – Please donate at least Rs 20000 for noble causes of our different club projects. It will be a great gesture for the underprivileged. I hope all my Rotarian friends will accept my earnest appeal. Please donate to Rotary Club Of Calcutta Welfare Trust. Benefit of deduction is available under Sec 80G of The Income Tax Act. Donors will be acknowledged in the Chaka. I sincerely solicit Members' assistance.

Donors : Rajeev Paralikar, Kamala Devi Dalmia Charitable Trust, Kothari Hosiery Factory Pvt Ltd, Seth Balkrishan Poddar Charitable Trust,

Siksha Labh

Siksha Labh is a project where direct impact goes on to beneficiaries. It is not only creating an impact in the society, but directly to the students, creating a future. Requesting all our members to help our Community Service Chairman to reach a goal of 12000 beneficiaries.

Donors : President Kanak Dutt, Kirit Patel, AB4, Dr Sukumar Mukherjee, Dr Saswati Mukherjee, Ashis Bagla, Deepa Bagla

Blood Bank

Please donate generously. While we would expect each member to donate at least US \$100 for this Presidential Global Grant Project, members are free to exhibit generosity and commit higher amounts.

Donors : Arindam Roy Chowdhury, Dr. Sourabh Khemani, Sonal Worah-100PP Nilima Joshi, HIRAK SEN, B.K.Dalmia, Kirit Patel, PP Abhijit Kolay, AB4, PP Saumen Ray, Shipra Roy Chowdhury (Spouse of RID Anirudha Roychowdhury), Roshni Ganguly, Hony. Secretary Sarvani Gooptu, PP Heena Gorsia, HIRAK RAY, Udit Mitra, Shaswati Roy Chowdhury, PP Debasish Mitra, Atindra Nath Sen, Shailendra Gupta, Anand V Bhuwalka, Anita Jain, Dr Sanjay Kumar, Dr Jayanta Roy, Krishna Kolay, Pranab Sarkar, Ranjita Mazumder, Sonia Dutt, CYP Purnendu RC, Dr Abhrajit Ray, Dr Nandini Ray, PE Subrata De, Pritpal Chauhan, Dr. SukalyanPurkasthya, Dina Dutta Sarkar, B K Nahata, Asish Bagla, Deepa Bagla

Special Donations :

Arora Matthey Limited (mobile eye van), Shaurya Veer Himatsinghka (Vocational training of Lupus patients), Sonia Dutt (donation to school), R Ann Sanjukta Mitra (donation to school), Kanak Dutt (health camp)

Our Ambassador Overseas



On Tuesday, 19th September 2023, I paid a 'Goodwill Visit' to RC Den Helder, in the North Netherlands. I gave a PPT Presentation on 'Activities of RC Calcutta'. Also, I presented the 'Banner' of RC Calcutta and a copy of 'The Chaka' to President Ans Grevelink. In return, I was presented with the Banner of RC Den Helder.

Photograph taken during the exchange of 'Rotary Club Banners' is attached.

Reported by Rtn Rajeev Paralikar

REPORTING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

ATTENDANCE REPORT (19.09.2023)

Total Members	:	242
Members Present	:	43
Exempted Members	:	68
Visiting Rotarians & Guest	:	20

Birthdays

Indrajit Banerjee 28th Sept.

Aishwarya Biswas 30th Sept.

Wish you many happy returns of the day

**ONE WORLD**

We remember with good wishes
Rotary Club of Madras, India,
R. I. Dist. 3230

TODAY

Foundation Day Celebration

Chief Guest : Ms. Melinda Pavek , US Consul General.

Guests of Honour :

PRIP Rtn. Shekhar Mehta

RID Rtn. Anirudha Roychoudhury

DG Rtn. Hira Lal Yadav, RID 3291

NO WEEKLY MEETING

There will be no Regular Weekly Meeting on Tuesday, 3rd October, 2023

“AGOMONI”

Programme Committee will organise Cultural Programme “Agomoni” by the members and their families along with Regular Weekly Meeting on Sunday, 1st October, 2023, 6 p.m. onwards at Rotary Sadan (Ground Floor) followed by Fellowship and Dinner. You are requested to attend the programme with your family.

Wedding Anniversaries

M.L. Bhagat & R-Ann Manju

30th Sept

Wish you many more years of marital bliss

NEXT MEETING

Programme Committee will organise Cultural Programme “Agomoni” by the members and their families along with Regular Weekly Meeting at 6 p.m. onwards at Rotary Sadan (Ground Floor) followed by Fellowship and Dinner. Please attend with your Families.

FIRST CLUB ASSEMBLY ON 24TH SEPTEMBER, 2023

The First Club Assembly of the Club was held on Sunday, 24th September, 2023 at 10.00 a.m. at Rotary Sadan (2nd floor).

MEMBERS' ROSTER - 2023-24

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

Forthcoming Meetings / Events

Day & Date	Programmes	Project & Timing
Sunday, 1st October, 2023	Programme Committee will organise Cultural Programme “Agomoni” by the members and their families along with Regular Weekly Meeting.	6 p.m. onwards. Rotary Sadan (Ground Floor) Followed by Fellowship and Dinner. Please attend with your Spouse.
Tuesday, 3rd October, 2023	No Regular Weekly Meeting	---
Tuesday, 10th October, 2023	Regular Weekly Meeting	1 .30 p.m. / Lunch 1 p.m. Rotary Sadan (Second Floor)
Tuesday, 17th October, 2023	Regular Weekly Meeting Speaker : Amrita Panda	1 .30 p.m. / Lunch 1 p.m. Rotary Sadan (Second Floor)
Tuesday, 24th October, 2023	No Regular Weekly Meeting being Durga Puja Holiday.	----
Tuesday, 31st October, 2023	Regular Weekly Meeting followed by Fellowship and Dinner Speaker : Rtn. Sailendra Gupta	6.30 p.m onwards Rotary Sadan (Ground Floor)

MINUTES OF THE 4914th REGULAR WEEKLY MEETING HELD ON 19TH SEPTEMBER 2023 AT 6.30 P.M. AT THE ROTARY SADAN

1. President, Rtn. Kanak Dutt welcomed all Members and Guests and called the 4914th Regular Weekly Meeting of the Club to order.
2. National Anthem was led by Rtn Sriranjani Joshi.
3. Minutes of the 4913th regular weekly meeting of the Club held on 12th September, 2023 were confirmed.
4. President welcomed Rtn. Dr. Parthajit Das, Consultant Rheumatologist and Physician as the Chief Guest on that day.
5. President then welcomed all Visiting Rotarians and Guests who attended the meeting. He especially welcomed the team from Rotary Club of Calcutta Victoria, who came for Goodwill visit to our Club.
6. **President reported the followings :**
 - a) President announced the demise of our Ex-member Dr. Ranabir Mukherji and on behalf of the Club, he expressed deepest condolences for the bereaved family. May his soul rest in peace.
 - b) On 16th September, 2023 - The Shiksha Labh Project donation of Computers was held at two Schools at Baranagar and Belghoria by the Community Service, RCC and Vocational Service Committee under the leadership of Rtn. Yogesh Dassani.
 - c) The Second Vocational Centre under the "Atmanirbhar" Project by the Special Projects Committee was inaugurated at Niharika Handicapped School on Sunday, 17th September, 2023 where 80 specially-able Children come from Sundarban, Jaynagar and Canning on a regular basis for their training and special education. 100 Children from nearby Slum areas of Garia and New Garia, Kolkata will learn computer and mothers of especially abled children will be trained in sewing with 10 machines granted. President also informed members that the Club would start the second phase Adult Literacy Center for 100 Women at that area. PDG Rtn. Prabir Chatterjee, Rtns Sarvani Gooptu, Sonia Dutt, Arindam Roychowdhury, R-Ann Shaswati Roychowdhury and President attended the inauguration ceremony.
7. **President announced the following :**
 - i) The Third Vocational Centre would be inaugurated on 23rd September, 2023 at our RCC Ranihati at 11 a.m. by the Special Projects Committee and requested members to join the project.
 - ii) 105th Foundation Day Celebration of the Club would be held on Tuesday, 26th September, 2023 at 6.30 p.m. at Rotary Sadan. Chief Guest Ms. Melinda Pavek, US Consul General. Guests of Honour : PRIP Rtn. Shekhar Mehta, RID Rtn. Anirudha Roychowdhury and DG Rtn. Hira Lal Yadav. An 11-member team from RC Madras would join in a goodwill visit. The Meeting would be followed by Fellowship and Dinner and members were requested to make a note of it and attend with their spouse on that day.
 - iii) Programme Committee would organise Cultural Programme "Agomoni" by the members and their families along with Regular Weekly Meeting on Sunday, 1st October, 2023 followed by Fellowship and Dinner. Invitations for the same would be sent in due course and he requested members to make a note of it and attend with family on that day.
8. At the request of the President, Rtn. Arvind Agarwal, President, R.C. of Calcutta Victoria exchanged flag with us and addressed few words about their Club.
9. **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 25th September, 2023.
 - c) Next Meeting of the Club is on Tuesday, 26th September, 2023 at 6.30 p.m. Foundation Day Celebration along with Regular Weekly Meeting followed by fellowship and dinner. Chief Guest : Ms. Melinda Pavek, US Consul General. Guests of Honour : PRIP Rtn. Shekhar Mehta, RID Rtn. Anirudha Roychowdhury and DG Rtn. Hira Lal Yadav.
 - d) There will be no Regular Weekly Meeting on Tuesday, 3rd October, 2023 as the said meeting would be held on Sunday, 1st October, 2023 at 6.30 p.m.
 - e) First Club Assembly of the Club would be held on Sunday, 24th September, 2023 at 10.00a.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 were requested to kindly block the above date and join the important meeting. Committee Chairs were also requested to send their Committee activities reports during the first quarter of the Rotary year 2023-24 to Club Office for the first Club Assembly.
 - f) Members' Roster for the Rotary year 2023-24 was available and requested Members to collect their copies from Club Office.
 - g) The Third Board Meeting will be held on Monday, 25th September at Rotary Sadan and requested all Board members to note the date and attend.
10. At the request of the President, Rtn. Dr. Ashish Kumar introduced Rtn. Dr. Parthajit Das, Chief Guest of that day.
11. At the request of the President, Dr. Parthajit Das addressed the audience on "Vaccination Saves Lives".
12. Questions raised by the members were answered by the Chief Guest.
13. On behalf of the Club, Rtn. Hira Ray offered the vote of thanks.
14. On behalf of the Club, President handed over a memento to Rtn. Dr. Parthajit Das.
15. Sunshine Box collection Rs. 500/- with special Contribution from Rtn. Dr. Ashoke Kumar Basu on that day.
16. The Club remembered with good wishes Rotary Club of Battaramulla, Sri Lanka, R. I. Dist. 3022
17. Before adjourned the meeting, President requested all to join the fellowship and dinner. On behalf of the Club, President thanked Glaxo Smith Kline (Courtesy, Rtn. Dr. Parthajit Das) for hosting dinner and Rtn. Kunal Dalmia for hosting the fellowship on that day.
18. Meeting was adjourned at 7.43 p.m.

Kanak Dutt
President

Sarvani Gooptu
Hony. Secretary