



TUESDAY 17 OCTOBER 2023

October is Community Economic Development Month

104

The Chaka

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DR. AMRITA PANDA

EMPOWERMENT OF THE MARGINALISED

Dr. Amrita Panda is a Rehabilitation Psychologist registered with Rehabilitation Council of India, holding a PhD in Experimental Rehabilitation Psychology from Department of Psychology, University of Calcutta. She was in academic research in the field of special needs for the primary years of her career, travelling across the globe presenting research papers at all top tier Psychology conferences. She shifted to clinical practice and administrative role in the second half of her career with the zeal to bring in measurable changes in the quality of life of special needs individuals in our country. She served a pioneer institution of Eastern India as an administrative head with

Rotary
Club of Calcutta



CREATE HOPE
IN THE WORLD

250 children and adults with autism over 6 years. In 2022 she founded her own non-profit company Deep Ranjani Foundation focusing primarily on vocational training and employment opportunities of special needs adults, thereby ensuring their life satisfaction. Her specialization in designing Psychometric Assessment Tools and Data Analytics along with her clinical experience and extensive training in psychotherapeutic methods has empowered her with the unique blend of academia and field work in the arena of special needs over last 16 years. She has also dedicated 20 years in bringing up her dream organization Paramparik to the height where thousands of physically and psychologically underprivileged people got opportunity of free education, medical treatment, sand rehabilitation. Presently she is also a member of Skill Development Committee, Bengal Chamber of Commerce & Industries.

PRANADHARA – 5 OCT 2023 : AOS - COMMUNITY; AOF – PROVIDING CLEAN WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE



The second Phase of Project Pranadhara for the Rotary year 2023-24, under Water & Hygiene was done on 5th October 2023 at Rotary Sadan, Kolkata by President Rtn. Kanak Dutt. We donated

30 Water Filter Units to 15 schools in Greater Kolkata Area. These Filters will provide clean drinking water to more than 19530 Students for the next few years. Each filter also has storage capacity. The water purifier gives the power of Copper; Zinc & Alkaline - its Water has various health benefits for the human body. Each machine is priced at 14,990/-.

Reported by Yogesh Dassani, Chair Community



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STUDENT CONCLAVE – ROTARY SADAN 10 OCT. 2023 : AOS – NEW GENERATIONS; AOF – PROMOTING PEACE



The Rotary Club of Calcutta, in association with the Youth Service Committee, organised a **Student Conclave on Peace building and Embodied Leadership** on October 10th, 2023, at Rotary Sadan. In this conclave, nine schools from Kolkata and its suburbs participated, naming a few : St. Xavier's Collegiate School, La Martiniere for Boys, The Heritage, Serampore Girls' High School and many more. From each school, a team of 2 students (Class VIII-XII) spoke on the topic : **Meeting the challenges of peace in the VUCA World for 7 minutes**, with each speaker speaking for the same duration of time. The modality of the oral presentation was provided in the invitation letters sent to the schools.

VUCA is an acronym coined in the year 1987, based on the leadership theories of Warren Bennis and Burt Nanus to signify Volatility, Uncertainty, Complexity, and Ambiguity. Since then, VUCA has been used within the modern contexts of leadership and other fields to describe volatile, uncertain, complex, and ambiguous environments. The premise of this conclave was to assess the perception and opinions of young minds in adopting leadership skills to foster peace, harmony and hope in a changing and unpredictable environment.

The program commenced with the national anthem led by Rtn. Ruchika Majumdar, followed by a welcome speech from Rtn. Dr. Saswati Mukherjee, Chairperson of the Youth Service Committee. During her speech, she explained the purpose of organising this student conclave. The Chief Guest, District Governor Hira Lal Yadav, Guest of honour, District Interact Committee Chair Rtn Apala Dutta, Rtn Rajani Mukherjee, Member of Rotary India Literacy Mission, and the Rotarian judges were felicitated. President Rtn. Kanak Dutt addressed the audience, followed by brief addresses by DG Hira Lal Yadav, Rtn Apala Dutta and Rtn Rajani Mukherjee.

The oral presentation was impeccably executed. The participants did adequate research on the topic and delivered splendid performances, which were an absolute delight to witness.

Rtn. Dr Suman Mukherjee was the session chair, whose outstanding moderation and erudite remarks enriched the knowledge base of the participants and added a prevailing outreach to the event. The judges, which included Rtn. Dr. Suman Mukherjee, Rtn. Dr. Krishna Sen and Rtn. Dr. Chandrayee Das had the tough task of selecting the winning team.

The team from St. Xavier's Collegiate School secured first place and was awarded with a gold medal, and La Martiniere for Boys came in second, awarded with a silver medal. The best speaker awards went to Mahadevi Birla World Academy and Serampore Girls' High School. Lastly, all participants received certificates for their efforts. The conclave concluded with a vote of thanks from R-Ann Sucharita Roychowdhury. Food boxes were provided to the participants, teachers, student audience and Rotarians; tea and refreshments were also served.

This event would not have been possible without the support of the Club President, Rtn. Kanak Dutt, Hony. Secretary, Rtn. Dr Sarvani Gooptu and the panel of judges.

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Special mention goes to past president Rtn. Heena Gorsia, who announced the winners, assisted us immensely in the certificate distribution. The presence of the past presidents, Rtn. Abhijit Kolay and Rtn Sujata Pyne added significant value to the event. The event was graced by the presence of other Rotarians, including Rtn. Renuka Shah, Rtn. Sanjib Basu, Rtn. Hirak Ray, Rtn. Haladhar Dey, Rtn. Shampa Ghose, Rtn. Yogesh Dassani, and Rtn. Anand Sharma. Recognition also goes to the Youth Committee members Rtn. Anusua Das, R-Ann Sucharita Roychowdhury, Rtn. Debjani Ghosh, and Green Badgers Rtn. Ruchika Majumdar and Rtn. Sonia Dutt. It is imperative to emphasise the exceptional efforts of Rtn. Ruchika Majumdar and the office staff of the Rotary Club of Calcutta, along with the three volunteers (students) from Jadavpur University.

Reported by Rtn Saswati Mukherjee, Chair Youth Services

ADULT IMMUNISATION – CAMP ON 10 OCT., ROTARY SADAN. AOS CLUB



The Adult Immunisation Camp was organised for our Rotarians and their family members on 10th October 2023 under the aegis of Rtn Dr Parthajit Das (co-chair, health committee). A total of 68 vaccines (Prevner 13, Pneumovax 23, Influvac tetra and Shingrix) were administered to the Rotarians and their family members. No immediate allergic reaction was reported in any of the members who were vaccinated. The second session will be held on 12th December 2023 to complete the vaccination schedule.

From Chair Health Services Ayusmati Thakur

PUJA PROJECT AT NAVANIR OLD AGE HOME

On 5th October Rotary Club of Calcutta along with IW Club of Calcutta had a Joint Project at Navanir Old Age Home at Tollygunje. Rtn Sujata Pyne organised the stitching of 55 night dresses by the ladies of the Selai School using the funds earmarked and left for the ladies of Navanir by Rtn Nandita Sen. Past President Rtn Raj Kumar Agarwal,

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Rtn. Anand Sharma & Inner Wheel Club of Calcutta President Rtn. Roshni Ganguly with other Inner Wheel Club members were present.

The Inner Wheel Club of Calcutta gifted the 55 ladies bed sheets & pillow covers, Biscuits, Fruit Juice and Bournvita. Members sang with the Residents and spent a wonderful couple of hours giving joy to these senior citizens. A six-course lunch for the Residents was sponsored by IWC Calcutta on that day.

Reported by Rtn Roshni Ganguly

OUR AMBASSADOR OVERSEAS – RTN RAJEEV PARALIKAR



On 10th October 23, I paid a 'Goodwill Visit' to RC Utrecht International in The Netherlands. I presented the Banner of RC Calcutta and a copy of 'The Chaka' to Rtn Elisabeth Wetzel, President of the Club. At the RWM, I spoke about **The Rotary Fund** and the need to donate generously to **TRF**.

A copy of a PPT Presentation on 'Activities of RC Calcutta' was also handed over to President Elisabeth.

HEARTWARMING STORY OF THE IMPACT OF ROTARY ON A MEMBER

Rtn Hirak Ray has received the following message from a friend on his birthday – “Happy Birthday, Hirak and wishing many more returns of the same. With your lifestyle and involvement in many activities, you will continue to remain ever busy and healthy, and your birthdate just becomes a number as Samar said. A small positive statement from my general contractor may be noted. He completed the job honestly, professionally and with high quality. The last 15 % payment was paid after I thought work is complete. Never bothered for payment and always responded to the smallest discrepancy. After all these years, this one contractor surprised me. So, we personally thanked and mentioned how happy we were for his professionalism. He politely attributed his work ethics and professionalism to his day associated with Rotary Club. He moved up thru ranks to finally become President of the club. He is still associated.” One cannot get a better birthday message. Thanks for sharing this with us Rtn. Hirak Ray!

REPORTING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

ATTENDANCE REPORT (10.10.2023)

Total Members	:	237
Members Present	:	44
Exempted Members	:	69
Visiting Rotarians & Guest	:	7



ONE WORLD

We remember with good wishes
Rotary Club of Utrecht, Netherlands,
R. I. Dist.1570

Birthdays

Raj Kumar Agrawal	17th Oct.
Anusua Das	19th Oct.
Shalini Biswas	19th Oct.
Prof. Indira Chakravarty	21st Oct.
Pragya Chopra	22nd Oct.
Subhajit Guha Mazumdar	27th Oct.
Hari Mohan Bangur	29th Oct.

Wish you many happy returns of the day

Wedding Anniversaries

Satnam Singh Ahluwalia & R-Ann Gurbir Kaur
18th Oct.

Tara John & Dr. Mathew P. John
25th Oct.

Wish you many more years of marital bliss

TODAY

Ms Amrita Panda, Deepranjani Foundation.

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 31st October, 2023 at 6.30 p.m.

Speaker : Rtn. Sailendra Gupta

Followed by Fellowship and Dinner.

Rotary Sadan (Auditorium)

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS / EVENTS

Day & Date	Programmes	Timing and Venue
Tuesday, 24th October, 2023	No Regular Weekly Meeting On account of 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 (Auditorium)

REPORTS

a) The Special Projects Committee under the leadership of Rtn Arindam Roychowdhury organised the inauguration of Atmanirbhar Vocational Centre at Barasat Ramkrishnapur Nivedita Sayambhar Goshti on **28th September, 2023**.

b) On **4th October, 2023** - The Women's Empowerment committee led by Rtn Shampa Ghose and R Ann Sucharita Roychowdhury in association with Alok Foundation organized POSH awareness workshop initiated by Rtn. Debjani Ghosh, with representatives from RailTel and around 30 employees attended the program.

c) 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 will jointly organise with Rotary Club of Calcutta, Rotary Club of Calcutta Inner City and the District officials - RID Rtn Anirudha Roychoudhury, PDG Rtn Nayantara Palchoudhury and DG Rtn Hira Lal Yadav, an essay Competition by School students and a panel discussion by eminent personalities on protection of the Girl Child on Wednesday, **11th October, 2023** between 4.30 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. at Rotary Sadan.

MEMBERS' ROSTER 2023-24

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

RESIGNATION / TERMINATION

The Board of Directors at the meeting held on 25th September, 2023 accepted the resignation Rtn. Dr. Dilip Kumar with effect from 1st October, 2023 :

NO WEEKLY MEETING

There will be no Regular Weekly Meeting on Tuesday, 24th October, 2023 on account of Durga Puja Holiday



**THE CHAKA WISHES ALL ITS
READERS GREETINGS OF THE
FESTIVE SEASON**

Happy Durga Puja



MINUTES OF THE 4917TH REGULAR WEEKLY MEETING HELD ON 10TH OCTOBER 2023 AT 1.30 P.M. AT THE ROTARY SADAN

1. President Rtn. Kanak Dutt welcomed all Members and Guests and called the 4917th 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 Dr. Arunima Dey.
4. Minutes of the 4916th regular weekly meeting of the Club held on 1st October, 2023 were confirmed.
5. President informed members that there was no Guest Speaker on that day as Health Care Committee, under the leadership of Rtn. Dr. Ayushmati Thakur and Co-Chair, Rtn Dr. Parthajit Das had organized an Immunization Camp after the Weekly Meeting and requested members to join the Immunization Camp.
6. President then welcomed all Visiting Rotarians and Guests who attended the meeting.
7. **President reported the following :**
 - i) On 1st of October, 2023, the Programme Committee under leadership of Chairperson Rtn Satarupa Ghosh Mukherjee organised a cultural program 'Festivals of Autumn' by the members and their families followed by fellowship and dinner.
 - ii) On 4th October, 2023, The Women's Empowerment committee led by Rtn Shampa Ghose and R Ann Sucharita Roychowdhury in association with Alok Foundation organized POSH awareness workshop initiated by Rtn. Debjani Ghosh, with representatives from RailTel and around 30 employees attended the program.
 - iii) On 5th October, 2023, Community Service Committee, RCC and Vocational Service Committee and Special Projects Committee jointly organised the project "Pranadhara", donation of 30 pcs. Water Filters to the fifteen Schools at Rotary Sadan. The project were sponsored by Rtn B. K. Dalmia, Rtn. B. K. Poddar, and Rtn Rajeev Paralikar. On behalf of the Club, President thanked them for their donation.
 - iv) On 5th October, 2023, Rotary Club of Calcutta in association with Inner Wheel Club of Calcutta jointly organised a Project at "Navanir" Old Age Home at Tollygunge and donated 55 night dresses. The IWP Rtn Roshni Ganguly and other Rotarians joined the programme.
 - v) Increase of Yearly Club Subscription - Board at its' meeting held on 25th September, 2023 decided to increase yearly Club Subscription as administrative charges Rs. 2,000/- per year per member. The amount of Rs. 500/- would be added in the quarterly membership bill to all members with effect from 1st October, 2023.
8. **President announced the following :**
 - a) Youth Services Committee under the leadership of Rtn Saswati Mukherjee would organise a workshop on VUCA world for Interactors of Eight Schools and others between 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. at Rotary Sadan and requested members to attend the event.
 - b) 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 will jointly organise with Rotary Club of Calcutta, Rotary Club of Calcutta Inner City and the District officials - RID Rtn Anirudha Roychowdhury, PDG Rtn Nayantara Palchowdhury and DG Rtn Hiralal Yadav would organise an essay Competition by School students and a panel discussion by eminent personalities on protection of the Girl Child on Wednesday, 11th October, 2023 between 4.30 p.m. to 6 p.m. at Rotary Sadan Auditorium and requested members to attend the event on that day.
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 16th October, 2023.
 - c) Next Meeting of the Club would be held on Tuesday, 17th October, 2023 at 1.30 p.m.
Speaker : Amrita Panda, Deepranjani Foundation
 - 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 resignations of
 - a) Rtn. Sourav Halder b) Rtn. Subhasis Ghatak c) Rtn Rajeev Gupta d) Rtn. Ravi Bhartia, with effect from 1st October, 2023.
 - g) Fourth meeting of the Board of Directors (2023-24) of the Club would be held on Monday, 16th October, 2023 at 6.30 p.m. at Rotary Sadan and requested all members of the Board to make a note of it and attend.
10. No Sunshine Box collection on that day.
11. The Club remembered with good wishes Rotary Club of Wijdemeren, Netherlands, R. I. Dist. 1570.
12. At the request of the President, Rtn. Dr. Ayushmati Thakur, Chairperson, Health Care Committee and Co-Chair, Rtn. Dr. Parthajit Das organised the Immunization Campon that day.
13. Meeting was adjourned at 2.04 p.m.

Kanak Dutt
President

Suman Chakraborty
Hony. Joint Secretary