



TUESDAY 5 SEPTEMBER 2023

September is Basic Education and Literacy Month

104

The Chaka

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DR. RADHAKRISHNAN

Celebrating Teachers' Day in India : Honouring Educators and Nurturing Knowledge

Teachers' Day is a significant occasion in India that acknowledges the contributions of educators in shaping the lives of students and the nation's future. Celebrated on September 5th every year, the day holds immense cultural and historical value, as it coincides with the birthday of Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan – a philosopher, scholar, and the second President of India. He was also a remarkable teacher who had a profound impact on the Indian education system.

Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan's connection to Teachers' Day originates from his personal humility and his wish to celebrate his birthday as a day dedicated to teachers. In response to his students' request to commemorate his birthday, he suggested that instead of celebrating him, they honour teachers across the country. This gesture underscores the reverence that teachers hold in Indian society and the



recognition of their role in shaping the nation's youth.

Teachers' Day in India is a heartfelt tribute to the educators who dedicate their lives to shaping the minds of the youth and paving the way for a brighter future. The celebration reflects the deep-rooted respect for the teaching profession and the belief that teachers play an invaluable role in the nation's progress. As the country continues to evolve, the significance of Teachers' Day remains constant, reminding us of the enduring impact of education and the guiding role of teachers in shaping individuals and society.

Today, on this solemn and happy occasion, we are honouring the Teachers of Schools that host Interact Clubs established by us, like Silver Point School, Delhi Public School Howrah, Mahadevi Birla World Academy, Asisn International School and Vidyanjali International School



Anjana



Anuradha



Seema



Sucharita

and the Teachers of our very own NCLCL. In addition, we have in store a captivating panel discussion "Education Then and Now" featuring the Principals of some of Calcutta's prominent schools Smt. Sucharita Roychowdhury, Principal of Silver Point School, Smt. Seema Sapru, Principal of The Heritage School, Smt. Anjana Saha, Principal Mahadevi Birla World Academy and Smt. Anuradha Das, Director Garden High School Sonarpur. The discussion will be moderated by Rtn Pradeep Gooptu.

**Siksha Labh - Gobindapur
Ratneswar High School, Baruipur 2
Sept 2023 : AOS – New Generations;
AOF – Supporting Education**



The 5th project SIKSHA Labh-3 for the Rotary year 2023-24, under Literacy & Education was opened at Gobindapur Ratneswar HS School, Baruipur on 02.09.2023 by our Club Secy. Rtn. Sarvani Gooptu in the presence of our club members. This school was

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established in the year 1921. It is one of the oldest schools in Baruipur region.

Presently the school has a strength of 1450 students coming from the nearby areas of Baruipur. In this project a Computer Lab has been created with 10 new Computer Sets along with 10 UPS. The computer lab will benefit around 1450 students with basic computer education every month. The School has a library with a rich collection of original rare books more than 70-80 years old.

A Big Thank you to all Rotarians for your good wishes. Without your support and guidance, I couldn't have done it. The Community Service team looks forward to your support in the days to come.

Reported by Yogesh Dassani, Chair Community Service



**ATMANIRBHAR – Garden Reach Alif Nagar Development Organisation
Metiabruz: AOS – Composite Vocational and New Generations; AOF Composite
Growing Local Economies and Supporting Education**



The Special Projects Committee has initiated a project of Atmanirbhar for empowering women by vocational training in Sewing & Stitching and Computer Education. This is a sustainable project which creates a direct impact to society by income generation. RC Calcutta has decided to start ten such centers in this Rotary Year, which will surely create hope in the world. RI President Gordon has dreamt of empowering women, our club has pledged to do so through this project.

The first Atmanirbhar center was opened on 3rd September, 2023 at Metiabruz, Garden Reach with Garden Reach Alif Nagar Development Organization where 10 Singer sewing machines (new) & 5 new desktop computers were installed. The organization has also installed 10 sewing machines, which makes the total strength of 20 sewing machines in one center.

On the first day, the center enrolled 30 women for Sewing training and 20 girls for Computer Education. Our Club President Rtn. Kanak, IPP Rtn. Raj Kumar Agrawal, Club Hon. Secretary Rtn. Sarvani Gooptu, Community Service Chair Rtn. Yogesh Dassani, Rtn. Ravindra Khandelwal and Rtn. Sonia Dutt graced the ceremony with their presence. The center was officially opened by president Rtn. Kanak Dutt and Local Councillor Ward No. -135 Mrs. Rubina Naaz.



This project was sponsored by Kothari Hosiery Factory Pvt Ltd by Rtn. B. D. Kothari and Rtn. K. K. Kothari.

Reported by Rtn. Arindam Roy Chowdhury, Special Projects Chair

**Career Counselling Session – Lake School for Girls 26 Aug. 2023 : AOS – New
Generations; AOF – Supporting Education**



On Saturday 26th August, the Women's Empowerment Committee organised a Career Counselling session at Lake School for Girls. The session commenced with an address by Rtn. Shampa Ghose, Chair Women's Empowerment Committee who also introduced Dr Aparna Khastagir and attended by nearly 400 students from Classes 9, 10, 11 and 12. Dr Khastagir took the participants through the different factors to consider when choosing their future course of study and career. She shared stories of role models which can help them to take decisions as they navigate through career options based on their strengths, interest, and circumstances. Rotarian Shoma Basu shared her personal story on



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how one can be shaped by their experiences and that skills can be transferable across verticals. Past President Heena Gorsia closed the session with an interactive, energetic speech encouraging the students to follow their heart and passion above

everything else. The Event was attended by President Kanak Dutt, Secretary Sarvani Gooptu, Shampa Ghose, Chairperson for the Women's Empowerment Committee, and other Rotarians. Career guidance is an important part of helping young women navigate prospective jobs so by offering young girls in classes 9,10,11,12 the tools they need to succeed; the Women's Empowerment Committee aims to enable them to make informed choices about their future career.

Reported by Rtn Anindita Shoma Basu

Editors' Note: The Editor expresses regret that Rtn Anindita Shoma Basu's volunteering at the Endowment Awards evening on 13 May 2023 did not find a mention in the report published in The Chaka of 23 May 2023. This was pointed out to the Editor by Rtn Debjani Ghosh. This note is in apology for the omission. A delayed one, but sincere.

Appeals for Support

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, Arora Matthey Limited, 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, Ashish 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. Sukalyan Purkashya, Dina Dutta Sarkar, B K Nahata.

REPORTING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

ATTENDANCE REPORT (29.08.2023)

Total Members	:	241
Members Present	:	36
Exempted Members	:	68
Visiting Rotarians & Guest	:	Nil

Birthdays

Dr. Somendra Chandra Nandy	5th Sept
Tushar Basu	7th Sept
Debashis Mitra	8th Sept
Shweta Tibb Arora	8th Sept
Samrat Sen	9th Sept
Sanjiv Agarwal	9th Sept
Suman Chakraborty	10th Sept
Malay Kumar Ghosh	11th Sept

Wish you many happy returns of the day

TODAY

Teachers' Day celebration



ONE WORLD
We remember with good wishes
Rotary Club Nairobi, Kenya
R. I. Dist. 9212

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 12th September, 2023 at 1.30 pm following Lunch at 1pm

Speaker : Mr Ajay Mittal

MEMBERS' ROSTER -2023-24

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

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Forthcoming Meetings / Events

Day & Date	Programmes	Project & Timing
Tuesday, 12th September, 2023	Regular Weekly Meeting	At 1.30 p.m. following Lunch at 1 p.m.
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 Pavak followed by Fellowship and Dinner

CORRIGENDUM

In the previous issue of 29 Aug 2023, the excellent authorship of the report on a Women's Empowerment Workshop was erroneously printed as "Reported by Chair Debjani Ghosh". The Chair of the Women's Empowerment Committee is Shampa Ghose. The error is regretted. It takes nothing away from Debjani's contribution for the workshop particularly and her whole-hearted participation in the Club's activities generally.

WELCOME BACK (Re-Joined)

DR. ASHIS KUMAR

Medicine – General

Date on induction : 29th August, 2023 (Re-joined)

Date of Birth : 2nd December, 1951

Residence & Chamber :

FD-177, Sector - III, Salt Lake City, Kolkata –700 106

Mobile : 9831100905

E-mail : ashisk742@gmail.com

R-Ann : Purabi

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.

MINUTES OF THE 491st REGULAR WEEKLY MEETING HELD ON 29th AUGUST, 2023 AT 1.30 P.M. AT THE ROTARY SADAN

1. President, Rtn. Kanak Dutt welcomed all Members and Guests and called the 491st Regular Weekly Meeting of the Club to order.
2. National Anthem was led by Rtn Dr. Shankar Ghosh
3. Minutes of the 491^{0th} regular weekly meeting of the Club held on 22nd August, 2023 were confirmed.
4. President welcomed Ms. Saira Shah Halim, Columnist, Educator, Theatre Personality, Image, and Brand Consultant as the Chief Guest on that day.
5. President then welcomed Visiting Rotarians and Guests who attended the meeting.
6. **President reported the following :**
 - a) On Saturday, 26th August, 2023 - Women's Empowerment Committee under the leadership of Rtn. Shampa Ghose organised Career Counselling for girls by Dr. Aparna Khastagir at Lake School for Girls at 11.30 a.m. onwards. At the request of the President, Rtn. Anindita Shoma Basu reported on that project.
7. **President announced the following :**
 - a) Community Service Committee, under the leadership of Rtn Yogesh Dassani would organise Shiksha Labh, donation of 10 computers at Gobindapur Ratneswar High School in Baruipur and requested members to join the project in large numbers.
 - b) The first vocational centre for the Atmanirbhar Project will be inaugurated on 3rd September 2023, at Paharpur Road, Garden Reach, Metiaburz. President requested members to be present on the occasion.
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 4th September, 2023.
 - c) Next Weekly Meeting would be on Tuesday, 5th September, 2023 at 6.30 p.m. followed by dinner. Programme : Teachers' Day Celebration.
9. At the request of the President, Rtn. Dr. Debnath Chattopadhyay introduced his candidate Dr. Ashis Kumar. On behalf of the Club President then welcomed Dr. Ashis Kumar. At the request of the President, Past President Rtn. Sujata Pyne Re- inducted Dr. Kumar as a member of the Club (Re-Join).
10. At the request of the President, PP Rtn. Heena Gorsia introduced Ms. Saira Shah Halim, Chief Guest of that day.
11. At the request of the President, Ms. Saira Shah Halim addressed the audience on "Sustainable Lifestyle is the Only Way Forward"
12. Questions raised by the members were answered by the Chief Guest.
13. On behalf of the Club, Rtn. Anindita Shoma Basu offered the vote of thanks.
14. On behalf of the Club, President handed over a memento to Ms. Saira Shah Halim.
15. No Sunshine Box collection on that day.
16. The Club remembered with good wishes Rotary Club of Wuse Central, Nigeria, R. I. Dist. 9130
17. Meeting was adjourned at 2. 45 p.m.

Kanak Dutt
President

Sarvani Gooptu
Hony. Secretary