



BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF CALCUTTA INNER CITY

INNER VOICE

ISSUE: 34.02 President: Rtn. Tunir Chakravarti | Secretary: Rtn. Amita Saha| Editor: Rtn. Kaushik Banerjee 31st July 2024

Installation of the Tunir Chakravarti as President 2024-2025

President Tunir Chakravarti's Speech

Our President *Tunir Chakravarti* commenced his speech by thanking the *District Governor Rtn. Dr. Krishnendu Gupta*, and District and Zonal officers of 3291, as well as fellow Rotarians for their presence at the Installation Ceremony. He thanked the Rotary Club of Inner City for electing him President and looked forward to a successful Presidency with the support of the district officials and fellow Inner City members, especially PDG *Nayantara Palchoudhuri*. He lauded immediate PP *Ronit Mitra, Rajesh Balasubramanian & the Board* for their stellar performance during the year 23-24. during IPP Mitra's tenure the club won several awards including the *First Prize for Public Image*.

The essence of his speech emphasized the focus on bringing the magic of Rotary to projects that would be meaningful, impactful and sustainable with specific focus on *Health* and *Education*. He highlighted the *Swapnapuran Siksha Niketan at Sunderbans* helmed by PP Rtn. *Navarun Sen* as the flagship project for Education, the *Drishtidan Project* for eye surgeries led by Rtn. *Dr Vivek Dutta* and the *Robin Hood Project* for the distribution of food packets to street children managed by Rtn. *Amitava Ghosh*. He also spoke about the association with *Bees Trees and Water* (BTW, an US NGO) through which Inner City provides clean drinking water and sanitation support to various needy communities with the immediate projects in association with BTW being the laying of the foundation stone of a Toilet and Tube well project at a school *Aurbindo Siksha Kendra at Bishnupur* and another one for the community of *Rabindranagar Kali Mandir* each of which would benefit 500 students and residents. President Tunir spoke about forthcoming projects in the areas of cervical cancer, a priority of DG Krishnendu Gupta to be done at our RCCs and our Interact Club – Vidhya Bharati School for Girls. In addition, Rotary Club of Inner City would be focused on projects related to the *prevention of Thalassemia* which is a priority of *DG elect Dr Ramendu HomChoudhury* as well as projects in polio eradication.

The other areas of focus during his Presidency are a role in *Peace and Conflict Resolution* by involving our interact clubs and have a panel discussion on this subject, conducting a mock UN and having a peace board in schools. In addition, the club will focus on the Environment through green initiatives, namely, planting mangrove saplings in the Sunderbans and recycling of waste management. He spoke about the projects already undertaken since 1st July; Celebrating Doctors Day with a program on "*Good Health*" at Saturday Club brilliantly moderated by PP Rtn. *Dr. Debasis Dutta*. On 9th July, a cheque for Rs 50000/- was handed over to *Udaan*, an initiative to rescue and rehabilitate current child sex workers and at-risk children from brothels. He highlighted the diversity within Inner City with 50% being lady members and thanked *Col. Mitra*, member of the Rotary club for over 40 years for his steadfast support and contribution over the years. President Tunir concluded by handing over a cheque for US\$ 500 towards the Rotary Foundation.



President Rtn. Tunir Chakravorti at the Podium, Veedol Hall, Tollygunge Club 13th July 2024



Installation Program - Members present 25. Total attendees 62.

The Installation ceremony was held on the afternoon of the 13th of July 2024 at the Veedol Hall at Tollygunge Club Kolkata. The program commenced with the arrival of DG Dr. Krishnendu Gupta and First Lady Dr. Simran Gupta, DG Elect Dr Ramendu Homchaudhuri, PDG Nayantara Palchoudhuri along with IPP Rtn Ronit and Nandini Mitra, Past Secretary Rajesh Balasubramaniam and

Bharathi Balasubramaniam Rtn Tapas Bhattacharya DG Nominee, *DS Rtn. Amitava Chakraborty, AG Rtn. Vikram Tantia, ZS Rtn. Rajkumar Agarwal, DS Rtn Samarajit Mitra, Chief Aide Rtn. Joydeep Banerjee, Secretary General Rtn. Aniruddha Guha and President Avvyana Rtn. Chandrayee Mitra*, were all felicitated by members of Inner City. The *Master of Ceremonies PP Rtn. Pradeep Gooptu* invited the Senior Inner City and District Officers to the stage, after which IPP Ronit Mitra called the RWM No. 1344 and 34th Installation meeting to order. This was followed by the singing of the National Anthem and Lighting of the Lamp. The National Anthem and Invocation was led and delivered by *Rtn. Dr. Vivek Dutta*.

IPP Ronit Mitra gave his concluding speech highlighting the numerous achievements of Inner City during his tenure which was also presented in the form of a visual slideshow. Charge of the Inner City Club was then handed over by him, to *President Tunir Chakravorti* with the symbols of Office, the *Collar, Hammer, Gavel and the Charter*. President Tunir delivered his acceptance speech as President 2024-25 on the conclusion of which he invited his Board to join him on stage for a group photo. The DG and DG Elect launched the Souvenir for 2024-25. *Rotarians' Navarun Sen (Swapnapuran), Dr Vivek Dutta (Drishtidaan) and Amitava Ghosh (Robin Hood Project)* were invited to the stage to talk about their respective projects. *Rtn. Kaushik Ganguly* was introduced by *Jt. Secretary Rtn. Banashree Mitra* and inducted as the newest Member. He was pinned by the DG.

Hon. Member Rtn. Alakananda Roy addressed the assembly and mesmerized her audience on her experience as a Mentor to incarcerated juveniles and the joy of giving. DG Elect Dr. Ramendu Homchaudhuri focused on the challenges of Thalassemia. And the recurrence of Polio. He urged the members of the Inner City to actively support programs that created awareness of the disease and the prevention of the same, the first program on which has already been undertaken on the 25th of July 2024 at Dr. Sital Chandra Ghosh Laboratory & Thalassemia Centre at 50 Panchanantala Road Howrah.

Rtn. Dr. Amit Paul introduced *DG Dr. Krishnendu Gupta* who covered several topics during his impactful speech touching upon the core mission for the year – *spreading the Magic of Rotary, inducting new members, peace and conflict resolution, the Environment specially climate change*. He recognized *PDG Nayantara* as a major influence, thanked *PP Rtn. Navarun for his contribution in education*, and *commended IPP Ronit and Secretary Rajesh* for an excellent year and added humour to the occasion by *advising Rajesh to wear a tie more often*. He urged the Inner City members to talk more about the good things that Club is doing. He referred to the *Rotary Action Plan* and *RI President Stephanie's priorities* on the same– *increasing our increasing our impact, expanding our reach, engaging Rotary Members more and adapting to change*. He also spoke about health, covering cervical cancer cure and management, and the danger of polio recurrence and Rotary's effort to eradicate the same. *Dr. Gupta said that he and Dr. Simran would match all contributions made to the Rotary Fund between* 1st *July 2024 till 31st December 2024.* This was highly appreciated by all present. *He concluded by wishing President Tunir Chakravorti and the Inner City Members a fruitful 2024-2025.*

Secretary Rtn. Amita Saha conducted the club business and announced Birthdays and Anniversaries, attendance and other club and district information. The Installation Ceremony concluded with *a vote of thanks by VP Rtn. Swapna Bhattacharjee*, following which the sunshine box collection was announced, and President Tunir sent *Greetings to the Rotary Club of Victoria* on behalf of Rotary club of Inner City. The meeting was then adjourned and lunch announced.

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

President Elect Rtn. Tunir Chakravorti Lighting the Lamp

DG Dr Krishnendu Gupta Lighting the Lamp





The Ladies looking Lovely in their Gold Themed dresses

The gentlemen elegant in their suits- Rtn Rajesh dons a Tie!













The Top Table 13th Juy 2024



Distinguished Guests and members of Inner City

3- E



Charter and Collar Handover by IPP Rtn. Ronit Mitra to President Rtn. Tunir Chakravorti

PDG Nayantara Palchoudhuri, the evergreen Bridge

between successive Presidents







Felicitation of PP Ronit Mitra & First Lady Nandini by President Tunir



Release of souvenir by DG Dr Gupta & DG Elect Dr. Homchaudhuri



Felicitation of Rtn. Rajesh and Ms. Bharathi



Felicitation of Nandini Mitra



President Tunir Chakravorti & Secretary Amita Saha



Dr Amit Paul DG Introduction



DG Elect Dr Homchaudhuri



PP Navarun Sen Swapnapuran





Rtn Amitava Ghosh Robin Hood Army

VP Swapna Bhattacharjee Vote of Thanks

Club



DG Dr Gupta

Hon Member Alokananda Roy





DG & DG Elect with the 2024-25 President Rtn. Tunir Chakravorti, Secretary Amita Saha & rest of his Board with IPP Ronit Mitra and Rtn. Rajesh Balasubramanian



MINUTES OF THE 1344TH RWM AND 34TH INSTALLATION MEETING, HELD ON 13TH JULY, 2024 AT VEEDOL HALL, TOLLYGUNGE CLUB

- 1. The 34th Installation Meeting and RWM No. 1344 called to order by President Ronit Mitra.
- 2. National Anthem was led by Rtn. Vivek Dutta.
- 3. Lighting of the Lamp by DG Rtn. Krishnendu Gupta, DGE Rtn. Romendu Homchaudhuri and other dignitaries. Invocation song was by Rtn. Vivek Dutta.
- 4. DG, DG Elect, DG Nominee and other District officials were felicitated by Inner City members.
- 5. The outgoing President Ronit Mitra & spouse Nandini and outgoing Secretary Rajesh Balasubhramaniam & spouse Bharathi were also felicitated.
- 6. President Ronit welcomed the members and guests and delivered his concluding speech, highlighting the activities of the previous year 2023-24 through an audio-visual presentation. He said that he tried to create hope in the lives of others through the projects and events organized during the year and strengthened the club through Fellowship programs.
- 7. President Ronit passed on the baton to Rtn. Tunir Chakravarti by handing over the collar, hammer, gravel and the Charter in presence of DG & DGE, District and Zonal Officers and the members of Inner City.
- 8. President Tunir Chakravarti in his acceptance speech spoke about the upcoming projects during 2024-25. Some of his focus areas are prevention of Thalassemia, Peace & conflict resolution, environment, polio eradication amongst others. He also mentioned that a Strategic Planning Committee will be constituted in the club.
- 9. Laying of foundation stone virtually for a toilet and a tube well in the district by DG Nominee Rtn. Tapas Bhattacharya.
- 10. Rtn. Navarun Sen, IPP spoke about the project for Foundation work of Extension Building worth Rs. 15 lakh at '**Swapnopuron Shiksha Niketan**' at Sunderbans, 24 Parganas South supported by Century Ply and Rotary Club f Calcutta Inner City.
- 11. Rtn. Amitava Ghosh spoke about the excellent work being done by **Robin Hood Army** for providing/distributing the excess food from restaurants, parties, events, etc. to the hungry people in the streets. This project is regularly supported by Inner City.
- 12. Rtn. **Vivek Dutta**, IPP gave a presentation on the ongoing '**Drishtidaan**' Project of the Club where in addition to cataract operation, complex eye correctional operations including retina displacement, etc. are done. Numerous needy people have been benefitted by this initiative.
- 13. President Tunir invited DG Nominee to the dais for release of the Souvenir prepared on the occasion of the 34th Installation program. Souvenir was released officially by DG.
- 14. A new member, Mr. Kaushik Ganguly was inducted in RCC Inner City. He was introduced by Rtn. Banashree Mitra.
- 15. DGE, Dr. Romendu Homchaudhuri spoke about the increasing concern about rise in Polio in Pakistan and Afghanistan which increased from 4 to 17, and the importance of prevention of Thalassemia from its inception and urged all to work together for improvement in these areas.
- 16. DG Dr. Krishnendu Gupta appreciated the outgoing President Ronit and Secretary Rajesh for the good work done by them and congratulated President Tunir and his team for the year 2024-25. He echoed the concern stated by DG-Elect regarding increase in Polio, stressed on the need for cervical cancer vaccine, increase in women membership, peace and conflict resolution, environment and a few other issues. DG announced that he and First Lady Dr. Simran will match the contributions made by District 3291 members to the Annual Fund between 1st July and 31st December 2024 which was met by much applause. He urged clubs and members to utilize Facebook and other social media to showcase the good work done by Rotarians so that everyone comes to know about Rotary and thereby attract new members and/or contributions. DG appreciated Rtn. Navarun for the 'Century Plyboards Scholarship' for Engineering and Medical courses.
- 17. Secretary, Rtn. Amita Saha conducted club business by announcing the birthdays and anniversaries of members/spouses in July 2024.
- 18. Rtn. Swapna Bhattacharjee, PP & Vice President gave the vote of thanks.
- 19. President Tunir reported attendance of 25 members and 62 guests. The sunshine collection was Rs. 2300/-.
- 20. President Tunir sent greetings to RI President's club and Rotary Club of Victoria.
- 21. President Tunir announced the next date of meeting to be held on 31st July, 2024 at Calcutta Club.

Projects in July 2024

UDAAN - SCHOOL FOR REHABILITATION OF CHILDREN OF SEX WORKERS

9th July 2024 – *Donation to Udaan*, a cherished project of PP Bani Roychowdhury . UDAAN is an initiative to rescue and rehabilitate children of sex workers and at risk children from the brothels of Sonagachi. There are 46 children in the hostel. The Rotary Club of Inner City handed over a cheque of Rs. 50,000 to be used towards nutritional and medical needs of these children. The hostel houses 46 girl children.

President Rtn. Tunir Chakravorti and Rtn. PP Bani Roychowdhury

President Tunir, First Lady Sharmila, PP Rtn. Bani Roychowdhury, Secretary Amita Saha

handing Over the Rs.50,000 cheque to Udaan representative



Director of Youth Services Rakhi Biswas Gandhi and Rtn. Purnendu Roychowdhury





The Children of Udaan performing programs for the Inner City Members





DRY EYES AWARENESS PROGRAM - INTERACT CLUB OF BIDYA BHARATI SCHOOL

19th July 2024 – a "*Dry Eyes*" *awareness program* was conducted by Rtn. Dr. Amit Paul on the causes of dry eyes and the prevention and management of the same. The program was held at our *Interact Club of Bidya Bharathi School*. This was extremely well attended by over 300 students and teachers. There were nine members of the Inner City present.



Rtn. Dr Amit Paul educating a large assembly of children on causes and management of dry eyes



Inner City members in the Office of the Principal Bidya Bharati School



Jt Secretary Rtn. Banashree Mitra



Vice President Rtn. Swapna Bhattacharya



Inner City members at the Top Table

THALASSEMIA AWARENESS PROGRAM – DR. SITALCHANRDA GHOSH LABORATORY & THALASSEMIA CENTRE

25th July 2024 - *Thalassemia awareness program* at *Dr. Sital Chandra Ghosh Laboratory & Thalassemia Centre* at 50 Panchanantala Road Howrah. The venue was filled to capacity with parents and their children who were all thalassemia patients. The *Chief Guest* for the occasion was **Dr. Sujoy Chakraborty** *Chairman Howrah Municipal Corporation. DG Nominee Tapas Bhattacharya and Rtn. Subhojit Roy* also attended. Dr. Haldar and other officials of the health services were also present. The *MC was PP Pradeep Gooptu*. *President Tunir* highlighted the importance of child health and the support that the Rotary Club of Inner City was committed to undertaking projects addressing child health issues in Howrah in collaboration with the HMC. Dr. Sujoy thanked the Rotary Inner City for its support. The awareness talk was delivered by *Dr Amit Paul*. *Rtn. Tapas Bhattacharjee and* were present and addressed the gathering along with *Secretary Amita Saha*. Other Members of Inner City, who were present were *PP Rtn. Rtesh Kapoor, Rtn. Rakhee Biswas-Gandhi, Rtn. Kaushik Banerjee*. Food and books were distributed to 100 children.









TOILET & DRINKING WATER INAUGURATION AT GOPAL SIKSHA MANDIRBHAGAR

25th July 2024 - *Two toilets* were inaugurated in Howrah at the *Gopal Siksha Mandir Bhagar* which has sixty-five students from a marginalized community. It has been built in association with *Hope Foundation*. The project was *sponsored by the Bees Trees and Water NGO* and pertains to the year 2023-24. The Rotarians of Inner City were felicitated by the Headmaster Shri Radhe Shyam Verma and teachers. The students performed cultural programs for the Inner City members.

















Birthdays and Anniversaries in August 2024

Birthdays

- 5th Anjali Aneja
- 5^{th} Navarun Sen
- 7^{th} Tunir Chakravorti
- 13th Rakhee Biswas Gandhi
- 23rd **Rosy Sen**
- **24**th Rahul Johri
- 28th **Brinda Mukherjee**
- 31st **Proma Lahiri Das**

Anniversaries

- 14th Pradeep & Sarvani Gooptu
- 15th Sudhir & Shadab Ahuja
- 15th Smarajit & Chandreyi Mitra
- 17th Rtesh & Malika Kapoor

The Rotary Family Highlights of July

- Rtn. Sarvani Gooptu felicitated for her excellent work as Secretary RC Calcutta •
- Laptop beneficiary Krishi Prasad will join the first M. Sc Course in Freshwater Ecology & Conservation at wildlife Institute of India Dehradun. He is the only one from Bengal. A big shout out to PP Ronit Mitra and PP Navarun Sen!
- PDG Nayantara Palchoudhuri and AG Sukanya Dasgupta were felicitated that the Installation ceremony of RC of Central • Calcutta
- Chandreyi Mitra took charge as President of her club Avyanna.
- The members congratulate proud parents PP Rtn. Dr. Debasis and Sujata Dutta on the graduation of their daughter • Taneesha Dutta with an M.Sc. in Economics and Development from the top-rated Oxford University last month, and equally proud parents **PP Rtn. Navarun and Shreya Sen** on the Graduation of the son **Nirvik Sen**, who earned a **Master's in** *Economics* from the very prestigious *New University Singapore (NUS)*

Dr. Simran & Mrs. Sharmila

With PP Bani Roychowdhury

Dr. Vivek Dutta & Rtn. Subir & Mrs. Khasnobis







Post Installation Party Time!



A wonderful selfie by DG Dr Krishnendu Gupta

