

## *Message from The President*

Dear Fellow Inner City Members,

I wish to thank everyone in this Rotary family for all the help I have received in our work towards community welfare. With guidance and advice from all our Club members we have continued to work and promote our theme "UNITE FOR GOOD", a theme that emphasizes the transformative power of Rotary's work in communities.

Our work in the areas of : Health • Education & vocational training • Water & Sanitation • Youth Services has been welcomed by all and our stakeholders voiced their appreciation in our efforts in engaging with the community. I continue to seek suggestions and proposals for service projects which can be executed by our club in our thrust areas of approach.

Our club is a vibrant club and the fellowship amongst members is remarkable. I would like to keep the spirit alive and would request all members to participate in the service projects.

With warm greetings to all our members.

With Best regards

**Dr. Amit Paul**

*President 2025 - 26*



## Art for the Cause of Thalassemia



On 1st July 2025, every Rotarian of District 3291 pledged under the aegis of District Governor Dr Ramendu Homchaudhuri to eradicate Thalassemia. He inspired all to ensure that prevention and treatment would eradicate the disease completely.

In this mission, the Rotary Club of Calcutta Inner City organised an art exhibition on 20th March. The total collection of paintings would be sold to support the noble cause of eradicating Thalassemia.

Artist Sharmistha Goswami donated her 31 paintings for this cause, and the programme was well attended by Rotarians from the district, including distinguished guests such as District Governor, Past Rotary International Director, District Governor Nominee, District Governor Nominee Designate, Past District Governors, and District Officials.



## Thalassemia



An inherited blood disorder was a thrust area of action in the year 2025 – 2026. Efforts were made towards reaching out to the marginalised sections of the community with medicines, blood transfusions, iron chelation therapy etc. We were a part of blood donation initiatives, distribution of medicines and the



donation of an Automated Elisa Microplate Washer required for blood transfusion of thalassemia patients.

## Distribution of School Bags and Educational Materials



Distribution of School Bags and Educational Materials to the Tribal Village of Bolpur, Shantiniketan, Birbhum. On a pleasant spring morning, twenty-two Rotarians and their spouses from the Rotary Club of Calcutta Inner City travelled to a tribal village in the Ilambazar jungle. The bus navigated through dense forest, creating a striking collage of light and shadow.

As it was the 1st of March, the morning chill was gradually fading, and the Rotarians eventually reached Rangabandh Village Supplementary Education Centre run by the Nayantara Memorial Charitable Trust.

Tribal students of classes one to five were eagerly awaiting the distribution and greeted the Rotarians with smiles. The children sang and recited poems, and the Rotarians were impressed by their proficiency in English and mathematics. The Rotary Club of Calcutta Inner City donated seventy school bags with colouring books, pencils, erasers, sharpeners, pencil boxes, biscuits, and chocolates. The children's happiness was a source of great inspiration.



## Swapnopuran Project





It is truly rewarding to contribute to building a transformative initiative that bridges the educational divide, bringing essential opportunities to remote communities while respecting local culture and traditions.

Through this effort, we aimed to overcome geographical isolation and ensure the development of functional infrastructure. In partnership with the local organization, Katakhalī Swapnopuran Welfare Society, we joined hands to support children from the remote villages and islands of the Sunderbans, helping them access a world-class education. In November 2025, we supported the addition of Teachers' Quarters and a Self-Help Centre for women. Swapnapuran Siksha Niketan is a thriving CBSE School with 350 students. Swapnopuran continues to work toward empowering communities through education, infrastructure development, and inclusive social initiatives.

## The Robin Hood Army (RHA)



There are 850 million hungry people in the world. Each year hunger kills more people than AIDS, malaria and terrorism combined. Every 10 seconds a child dies of hunger.

More than 80% of hungry people live in countries with food surplus, not shortages. One third of the food produced around the world is not consumed. The main challenge is not the lack of food – it is making food constantly available to everyone who needs it.

The Robin Hood Army (RHA) is a 12 year old volunteer based, zero funds, organization that works to get surplus food from restaurants and the community to serve less fortunate people. It operates in 13 countries and over 400 cities with the help of over 400000 volunteers, who call themselves Robins.

Robins are mainly students and young working professionals who engage during their free time in collecting and distributing excess food. The less fortunate section of the society who they serve include homeless families, orphanages, old age homes and visiting patients to public hospitals and their accompanying relatives.

The idea is to combat global hunger and bring out the best of humanity using food as a medium.

The Rotary Club of Inner City provides over 5000 meals per year to the RHA for distribution. It also provides uncooked rice, dal, soyabean, chira, chana, salt and biscuits to hundreds of tribal families in the Sunderbans and around Purulia and Santiniketan. Apart from food, the Club has also helped out by donating blankets, umbrellas and tarpaulins to the villages.



## Hope Kolkata Foundation



Rotary Club of Calcutta Inner City, in collaboration with Bees Trees Water, USA, and Hope Kolkata Foundation, has been actively working on various WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene) projects to improve sanitation facilities, create a better learning environment for school children, and promote hygiene within local communities. These projects have been implemented across 6 slums in Kolkata (Chetla, Janbazar, Nimtala, Topsia, and Central) and in one slum in Howrah (Bhagar). Our partners were consulted to clarify status and requirements to sustain the function of the facilities; thereafter necessary repairs were addressed and community “Water Sisters” who are charged to maintain the facilities were given monthly cleaning provisions requested by residents. Through these initiatives, the lives of approximately 1,500 families have been positively impacted.

We have successfully established drinking water facilities and renovated toilet infrastructure in schools that previously had inadequate facilities, significantly contributing to improved sanitation and the overall well-being of children. Approximately 10,000 children have benefited from these efforts. Additionally, we have developed accessible toilet facilities for children with special needs. This work continues as a successful and sustainable initiative, carried forward each Rotary year.

## Medical - Eye care, Heart Surgery, End Polio & Vaccination



Access to quality health care remains a challenge in multiple areas for the underprivileged population facing many financial constraints to avail of good health care. Our Members have reached out to this section of the population in providing quality medical consultations, helping the necessary and life saving surgeries and the distribution of free medicines to the community. We have also reached out and conducted adult vaccination camps for willing participants.

## Sanitation

Rotary Club of Calcutta Inner City works towards improving and renovating toilets for community service is an initiative that directly addresses public health, dignity, and safety, particularly in underserved urban slums, schools, and public spaces. Renovations prioritize secure, well-lit spaces with doors, locks, and gender-segregated facilities, which are essential for the safety of women and children.





## Financial Literacy and Understanding of Financial Components



We believe in strengthening our own abilities in our work and commitment to just causes. We organised a seminar partnering with Anand Rathi, a leader in the field of financial planning, for our members. The experts spoke on financial literacy and understanding of financial components and skills that enables individuals to make informed and effective decisions with their money. We also organised a seminar on Artificial Intelligence where industry experts spoke about the understanding AI and acknowledging its transformative power—from healthcare to finance—while navigating the necessity for responsible AI development.



## Environment



Rotary Club of Calcutta Inner City believes that working with the environment is vital because it directly sustains human life, health and economic prosperity while ensuring the stability of ecosystems. By protecting ecosystems, reducing pollution, and managing natural resources responsibly, humanity secures clean air, fresh water, and a stable climate, while preventing the depletion of essential natural assets.



In our efforts with waste management, we partnered with Goonj in collecting waste material which could be recycled. Members of Goonj also addressed our club members on their initiatives to convert the waste into sustainable products. We have already donated approximately 100 saplings to Usthi, Ranjapur & Swapnapuran.

## Happy Birthday

*Rotary Club of Calcutta Inner City extends birthday wishes to  
Rtn. Sanjeev Ghosh for the 22nd of April*

## Happy Marriage Anniversary

*Rotary Club of Calcutta Inner City extends Anniversary wishes to  
Rtn Kaushik and Sutapa Banerjee for the 22nd of April  
Rtn Amit and Sutapa Paul for the 23rd of April*

## RETENTION & GROWTH IN Rotary



### THREE GOLDEN PILLARS

- 1. APPRECIATION OF MEMBERS**  
Recognize contributions, celebrate achievements, say thank you.
- 2. RESPECT FOR COLLEAGUES**  
Value each member's ideas, time, and service.
- 3. ACTIONS THAT MAKE US PROUD**  
Projects that create hope, change lives, and make Rotary shine.

### THE CORE TAKEAWAY

✦ WHEN ROTARIANS FEEL PROUD OF THEIR CLUB, THEY STAY FOR LIFE. ✦

### TWO CIRCLES OF FELLOWSHIP

- **OFFICIAL GROUP** – Projects, service, impact, strategy.
- **NON-OFFICIAL GROUP** – Birthdays, anniversaries, joys and care

### SPIRIT OF ROTARY

Rotary is a family.  
We celebrate together, serve together, and grow together.

**PRIDE + RESPECT + APPRECIATION =  
RETENTION + GROWTH**



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*Contributed by Dr. Amit Pal ( President, Calcutta Inner City)*



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*Contributed by Dr. Amit Pal ( President, Calcutta Inner City)*



## 1651st RWM Minutes of the Meeting of Rotary Club of Calcutta Inner City held at Lake Club on the 27th of March 2026 at 6.30 pm

1. The President Rtn. Dr. Amit Paul called the meeting to order.
2. Rtn. Swapna Bhattacharya and First Lady Sutapa Paul led the National Anthem.
3. President announced the DG will be visiting our club on the 11th of April 2026.
4. President informed the Club members that The Club had received an Income Tax notice for the Trust account on the 15th of December 2025, and a finance committee had been formed to look into the same.
5. President invited VP Rtn. Amita Saha to introduce Mr. Salil Dhara from Hope Foundation to address the Club members and she mentioned the long association of Rotary Club and Hope Foundation.
6. Mr. Dhara has been with the Hope Foundation since 2004. He highlighted the projects and the vision of Hope Foundation and the type of projects that Hope Foundation undertakes :
  - a. Focus on sanitation and toilets for under-privileged children and increasing attendance of children who do not attend school due to the lack of sanitation facilities.
  - b. Hope Foundation has been setting up water filtration plants to provide clean drinking water to school children.
  - c. The Foundation has been focusing on special needs of children, the number has now reached 1500 children who are covered under 5 types of therapies. Hope Foundation has also started vocational training for children. The foundation has 33 centers offering therapy and vocational training.
  - d. 10 schools were covered last year under the sanitation and drinking water program, and this year 4 schools have already been done.
  - e. Other key focus areas were also highlighted.
7. IPP Rtn. Tunir Chakraborty mentioned that RCC Inner City can help Hope Foundation on vocational training through RCC Inner City's association with Don Bosco School.
8. Members present - 13, guest - 9 and the sunshine box collection Rs. 680.
9. There being no other order of business the President declared the meeting closed.



***"Friendship was the foundation rock on which Rotary was built and tolerance is the element which holds it together." Paul Harris - 1948***