



ROTARY CLUB OF CALCUTTA UNIVERSE



বার্তা

-The Message

Club No - 89711 • Charter Date - 12th November, 2018

RI President : Rtn. Francesco Arezzo
President : Rtn. Susmita Sarkar

Dist. Governor : Rtn. Ramendu Homchaudhuri
Secretary : Rtn. Ashmita Dey

VOLUME : 8

APRIL 2026

ISSUE - 8

April is Environmental Month Projects

Agricultural Tool Distribution



On 22nd February 2026, Rotary Club of Calcutta Universe organized a meaningful rural development initiative at Dhamua, South 24 Parganas, aimed at supporting marginal farmers with essential agricultural tools. During the programme, 40 farmers of the village were provided with high-quality spades/hoes and sickles to enhance their farming efficiency and productivity. The distribution programme was conducted in the presence of club members and local community representatives. The farmers expressed their gratitude, as many of them were using old, worn-out tools that affected their work output and increased physical strain. By supplying durable and efficient tools, the project intends to reduce manual hardship, improve soil preparation and harvesting processes, and ultimately increase agricultural yield. This initiative reflects the club's commitment to strengthening rural communities by addressing basic yet critical needs that directly impact livelihoods.

Study Material Distribution Drive



On 22nd February 2026, a meaningful educational support initiative was undertaken at Barat Kamdevpur Sanat Yoga Ashram, located in the remote village area of Dhamua, South 24 Parganas. The project focused on distributing essential study materials such as exercise books, pens, pencils, erasers, sharpeners, and other



academic supplies among underprivileged students. This initiative was carried out as part of Rotary's commitment to strengthening basic education and literacy in rural and underserved communities. Many students in this region face financial constraints that limit their access to even the most basic educational tools. By providing these materials, the project aimed to reduce dropout rates, encourage regular school attendance, and enhance the learning experience of the children. The distribution drive also served as an awareness campaign, highlighting the importance of education for personal growth and community development. Rotarians interacted with students and guardians, motivating them to prioritize education and support children in continuing their studies.

Thalassemia Awareness Hoarding Initiative



The Rotary Club of Calcutta Universe undertook a significant public awareness initiative to promote knowledge about Thalassemia while enhancing the Public Image of Rotary in the community on 6th March 2026. As part of this initiative, the Club installed a large hoarding measuring 20 feet by 10 feet on Diamond Harbour Road, opposite the Swaminarayan Temple, a busy and prominent location where a

large number of people pass throughout the year. The hoarding was specially designed to spread awareness about Thalassemia, highlighting the importance of awareness, screening, and preventive measures. Recognizing that the surrounding areas include many rural and semi-urban communities, the content of the hoarding was prepared in Bengali language so that common people could easily understand the message. The objective of this initiative was to reach a wide section of society, particularly those who may not have access to proper

medical awareness programs. Through this effort, the Club aimed to educate people about the importance of early testing and awareness in preventing the spread of Thalassemia. At the same time, the hoarding also served as a strong public image initiative showcasing Rotary's commitment to community health and social responsibility. By placing the awareness message at such a strategic and crowded location, the Rotary Club of Calcutta Universe ensured continuous visibility and long-term impact among thousands of commuters and local residents.

Celebration of Women's Day with Mentally Challenged Women



On the occasion of International Women's Day, the Rotary Club of Calcutta Universe organized a meaningful celebration with the mentally challenged women inmates of SEVAC Mental Hospital on 9th March 2026. The initiative was undertaken to recognize and honour the dignity and identity of women who have often been abandoned by their families due to mental health challenges.

The Rotarians visited the hospital premises and spent quality time interacting with the inmates, creating a warm and cheerful atmosphere. The program was designed to bring emotional comfort, companionship, and happiness to the women, many of whom rarely experience social interaction beyond the hospital environment. During the program, the members engaged the inmates through friendly conversations and light moments of celebration, reinforcing the spirit of inclusiveness and compassion. Snacks and refreshments were distributed among the inmates as part of the celebration, making the day festive and memorable for them. The initiative aimed not only to celebrate the spirit of womanhood but also to send a strong message that every woman deserves respect, love, and recognition irrespective of her circumstances. The presence and empathy of the Rotarians brought smiles to the faces of the inmates and created moments of joy that contributed to their emotional well-being.

Vision Care Initiative – Spectacle Distribution for Inmates



On 9th March 2026, the Rotary Club of Calcutta Universe organized a vision care initiative at Sevac Mental Hospital for the benefit of the inmates residing at the institution. During the programme, based on the diagnosis, suitable spectacles were distributed to

those requiring visual correction and suffering from vision problems. Many of the inmates of the institution are mentally challenged and depend heavily on caregivers for their daily activities. Poor vision further complicates their ability to move around safely, recognize people, and perform routine tasks. By providing spectacles after proper testing, the project helped improve their clarity of vision, comfort, and quality of life. This initiative reflects Rotary's commitment to serving vulnerable communities and ensuring that even the most neglected sections of society receive basic healthcare support. Through this project, the Club contributed towards enhancing the well-being and dignity of the inmates.

Distribution of Pressure Spray Containers



On 14th March 2026, the members of the Rotary Club organized a small yet meaningful agricultural support initiative at Dhamua in South 24 Parganas. Recognizing the challenges faced by small and marginal farmers in maintaining crop health, the Club distributed two pressure spray containers to farmers engaged in cultivation in the region. Farmers in rural areas often depend on traditional or manual methods for spraying pesticides, fertilizers, and plant nutrients, which are time-consuming and inefficient. The pressure spray containers will help farmers evenly distribute pesticides and fertilizers over their crops, thereby improving plant protection and enhancing overall crop yield. During interactions with local farmers, it was observed that many farmers lack access to proper agricultural tools due to financial constraints. By providing these spray containers, the Club aims to support sustainable farming practices and encourage efficient crop management. The project reflects Rotary's commitment to community development and rural empowerment. By supporting agriculture — the backbone of rural livelihood — the initiative will contribute to improved productivity and better income opportunities for farmers in the area.

RYLA Camp for Girl Students



A three-day Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA) Camp was successfully organized by the Rotary Club of Budge Budge in association with several other Rotary Clubs from 13th March to 15th March 2026 at Dhyana Ashram. Our Club participated as an Associate Club. The

camp witnessed the enthusiastic participation of 52 girl students from five different schools, who were carefully selected to take part in this leadership development program. The objective of the camp was to inculcate leadership qualities, build confidence, enhance communication skills, and encourage teamwork among young girls, enabling them to



become responsible citizens and future leaders of society. The residential nature of the camp also helped students develop independence, discipline, and cooperation while living together and participating in group activities. Recreational activities, cultural sessions, and outdoor exercises were also incorporated to make the learning experience engaging and holistic. This initiative by Rotary aimed to empower young girls and prepare them to face future challenges with courage, leadership, and determination, thereby

contributing positively to society in the years to come.

“Give to Gain” – Celebrating the Strength Behind Every Daughter



On 17th March 2026, the Rotary Club of Calcutta Universe organized a meaningful and inspiring program titled “Give to Gain” as part of the celebrations of International Women's Day. The program was conducted at Nari Seva Sangha, located in Jodhpur Park, Kolkata. The primary objective of the program was to acknowledge and celebrate the invaluable contributions of mothers who have stood as pillars of

strength behind their daughters. These mothers, often from underprivileged backgrounds, have made immense sacrifices to ensure that their daughters receive education, dignity, and opportunities to establish themselves in society despite numerous social and economic barriers. The event highlighted the theme “Give to Gain,” which symbolizes the selfless sacrifices of mothers whose giving nature ultimately leads to the growth and success of their children. The program paid tribute to these silent heroes whose resilience and determination have played a transformative role in shaping the future of their daughters. The program featured insightful keynote sessions by members of Swayam, an NGO dedicated to supporting women facing domestic and workplace violence, and Humari Muskan, which works towards the upliftment of women residing in red-light areas. Their discussions shed light on the challenges faced by women in vulnerable situations and the importance of support systems. An inspiring entrepreneur also shared her journey of establishing her own organization that provides trained nurses to hospitals after completing her nursing education. Her story served as a powerful example of self-reliance and determination.

Spring Festival Celebration for Mental Well-being



On 17th March 2026, the Rotary Club of Calcutta Universe organized a Spring Festival celebration at Sevac Mental Hospital to bring joy, positivity, and emotional comfort to mentally challenged inmates. The program was designed to create an inclusive and vibrant environment through colours, music, and warm interactions reflecting the true spirit of spring. Rotarians actively engaged with the inmates, spending meaningful time with them and encouraging participation in light festive activities. A highlight of the event was a cultural performance presented by the inmates themselves with the support of their caregivers, which added immense joy and confidence among the participants. The celebration helped reduce feelings of isolation among the patients by fostering a sense of belonging and emotional connection. Snacks were distributed as a gesture of care and goodwill. The initiative strongly reflected Rotary’s commitment towards compassionate service and mental well-being, leaving a lasting positive impact on both inmates and participants.

Digital Literacy Workshop at Jaipuria College



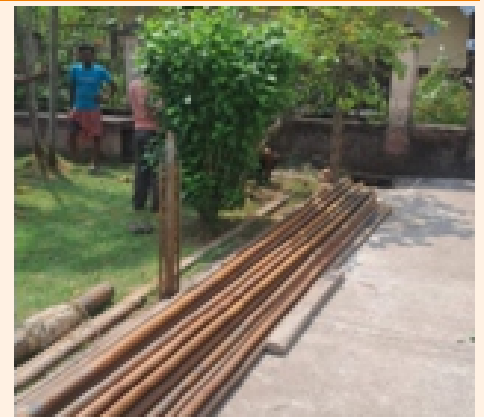
On 19th March 2026, the Rotary Club of Calcutta Universe organized a Digital Literacy Workshop at Jaipuria College in association with our RCC Uddami India Foundation with the objective of empowering students with essential digital skills. In today's rapidly evolving digital world, the ability to effectively use technology is crucial for education, employment, and communication. The workshop focused on providing hands-on training on basic computer operations, internet usage, digital communication tools, online safety, and awareness of digital platforms used for education and job applications. Students were guided on how to create and manage emails, use online forms, access government services, and protect themselves from cyber threats. Rotarians and resource persons actively engaged with the students through interactive sessions, demonstrations, and practical exercises. The program aimed to bridge the digital divide and equip students with skills that will enhance their confidence and productivity in both academic and real-life situations.

Job Fair & Placement Drive for Youth Empowerment at Thakurpukur



On 19th March 2026, the Rotary Club of Calcutta Universe successfully organized a Job Fair at Samali, Thakurpukur, aimed at empowering the youth of South 24 Parganas with sustainable employment opportunities. The event witnessed participation from 10 reputed companies including Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), Tech Mahindra, Writer Information, mPokket, Dynamic Engineers, Bengal Beverages Ltd., Trigo, Bajaj Auto, Skipper Ltd., and Royal Enfield. A total of 48 youths secured placement opportunities through this initiative. The program provided a platform for direct interaction between job seekers and employers, helping bridge the gap between skills and employment. This initiative reflects Rotary's commitment to economic and community development by fostering self-reliance among youth.

Provision of Safe Drinking Water through Borewell Installation



The Rotary Club of Calcutta Universe undertook a significant community service initiative by installing a borewell

in Samali, South 24 Parganas, from 17th to 19th March 2026 to mitigate the acute shortage of safe drinking water faced by local residents, especially during the approaching summer months. The area has long struggled with limited access to clean and reliable water sources, causing hardship for daily living and health concerns. Recognizing the urgency of the situation, the club arranged for borewell drilling and ensured the availability of a sustainable water source for the community. This initiative will provide continuous access to safe drinking water, reduce dependence on distant or contaminated sources, and improve the overall quality of life for the villagers. The project reflects Rotary's commitment to community welfare and its focus on Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH).



Support for Thalassemia Treatment through Medical Equipment Donation



On 19th March 2026, the Rotary Club of Calcutta Universe extended financial support to the Thalassemia Society of India at New Alipore, Kolkata, by contributing funds towards the procurement of essential medical implements and equipment required for the treatment of thalassemia patients. Thalassemia is a lifelong condition that requires regular blood transfusions and specialized medical support, making treatment both intensive and costly. Recognizing these challenges, the Rotary Club's contribution was directed toward acquiring critical equipment and treatment aids that are indispensable for patient care. These medical resources play a vital role in ensuring safe transfusion practices, monitoring patient health, and improving overall treatment outcomes.

Blood Donation Drive for Thalassemia Patients



On 21st March 2026, a group of nine dedicated donors, including members of the Rotary Club, voluntarily donated blood at The Thalassemia Society of India. The initiative was undertaken in response to the acute shortage of blood being faced by Thalassemia patients who require regular transfusions for survival. This humanitarian effort reflects Rotary's commitment to saving lives and supporting vulnerable sections of society. The donors actively participated with a spirit of service, contributing towards maintaining a steady blood supply for patients in urgent need. Such initiatives not only provide immediate relief but also help raise awareness about the importance of regular voluntary blood donation.

Community Vision Support Camp



On 24th April 2026, the Rotary Club of Calcutta Universe successfully organized a comprehensive Eye Check-up Camp in collaboration with its RCC, Uddami India Foundation, at their campus in Lake Gardens, Kolkata. The initiative was undertaken to address the growing need for accessible eye care services among economically disadvantaged sections of the community. The camp witnessed participation from 82 residents belonging to nearby slum areas of Lake Gardens and Dhakuria. Free eye examinations were conducted by a team of qualified professionals from Sushrut Eye Foundation, ensuring accurate diagnosis and expert medical guidance. The services provided included vision testing, eye health evaluation, and screening for common eye conditions such as refractive errors, cataracts, and other visual impairments. Out of the total beneficiaries, 32 individuals were identified as requiring spectacles, 2 cases were diagnosed with cataracts requiring surgical intervention, and 1 individual was identified as a glaucoma patient needing further detailed investigation. Beneficiaries requiring advanced treatment were referred to Sushrut Eye Foundation, where they could avail further care at a nominal cost. The project significantly contributed to early detection and prevention of vision-related issues while also spreading awareness about the importance of regular eye check-ups. Rotarians and RCC members actively participated in organizing and managing the camp, ensuring smooth execution and effective community outreach. The initiative reflects Rotary's continued commitment to community health, preventive care, and service to humanity.

errors, cataracts, and other visual impairments. Out of the total beneficiaries, 32 individuals were identified as requiring spectacles, 2 cases were diagnosed with cataracts requiring surgical intervention, and 1 individual was identified as a glaucoma patient needing further detailed investigation. Beneficiaries requiring advanced treatment were referred to Sushrut Eye Foundation, where they could avail further care at a nominal cost. The project significantly contributed to early detection and prevention of vision-related issues while also spreading awareness about the importance of regular eye check-ups. Rotarians and RCC members actively participated in organizing and managing the camp, ensuring smooth execution and effective community outreach. The initiative reflects Rotary's continued commitment to community health, preventive care, and service to humanity.

A Day of Fellowship in Rural Bengal



On 22nd February 2026, the members of the Rotary Club of Calcutta Universe came together for a delightful Fellowship Lunch set against the serene village ambience of Dhamua. The event was thoughtfully organized to strengthen camaraderie among members while offering a refreshing break from the routine pace of city life. Surrounded by lush greenery, open fields, and the simplicity of rural Bengal, the gathering provided the perfect setting for fellowship and bonding. The highlight of the afternoon was the traditional rural cuisine, lovingly prepared using authentic mud stoves (chulhas), which imparted a distinctive smoky flavor and rustic charm to every dish. Members relished a variety of local delicacies, cooked in time-honoured methods that reflected the rich culinary heritage of the countryside. The informal and relaxed atmosphere encouraged meaningful conversations, laughter, and shared memories. Away from formal meetings and project discussions, the Rotarians enjoyed quality time together, reinforcing the spirit of unity and friendship that defines Rotary. The Fellowship Lunch at Dhamua was not merely a social gathering but a celebration of togetherness, tradition, and the enduring bonds of service and friendship that the Club proudly upholds.

meetings and project discussions, the Rotarians enjoyed quality time together, reinforcing the spirit of unity and friendship that defines Rotary. The Fellowship Lunch at Dhamua was not merely a social gathering but a celebration of togetherness, tradition, and the enduring bonds of service and friendship that the Club proudly upholds.

Message From President

ভারত পরপর দুবার টি-২০ বিশ্বকাপের জগৎসভায় তার শ্রেষ্ঠত্বের প্রমাণ দিলো, ভারতবাসী হিসাবে আজ আমরা গর্বিত, আনন্দিতও আর তার জন্য পুরো টীম-ইন্ডিয়া কে জানাই আমার আন্তরিক শুভেচ্ছা, ও অভিনন্দন, মধ্যবিন্ত বাঙালির অপূর্ণ স্বপ্নের যন্ত্রনা আর হাজার সমস্যার চাপ থেকে কিছুক্ষণের জন্য হলেও মুক্ত করে এমন সুন্দর এক আনন্দায়ক ও মনোরঞ্জনের সন্ধ্যা উপহার দেবার জন্য। বন্দে মাতরম বা জনগণমন - যে গানই গাই না আমরা আজ জাত, ধর্ম, বর্ণ গোত্র ভেদে সবাই একসাথে বলবো যে ---- টি-২০ ক্রিকেট বিশ্বে পরপর ভারতই আবার শ্রেষ্ঠ আসনে উপবিষ্ট, ক্রিকেট বিশ্বে জগৎসভায় ভারতই আবার তার শ্রেষ্ঠত্বের শিরোপা ছিনিয়ে নিলো। তাই এই ফরম্যাটের খেলা ও খেলোয়াড়দের প্রতি পূর্ণ সম্মান ও মর্যাদা জানিয়ে বলছি যে যে এই ক্রিকেটে মানুষের মনোরঞ্জন, বিনোদন থাকলেও এই ধুম-ধারাক্কা, ব্যাকরণ বহির্ভূত ক্রিকেট থেকে ক্রিকেট প্রেমী মানুষদের বিরত থাকাটাই বোধ হয় মঙ্গল শুধুমাত্র ক্রিকেট খেলাটারই স্বার্থে----জয়োধ্বনি উঠুক আজ ভারতমাতার নামে---- জয় ভারত, জয় ক্রিকেট, জয় আমাদের মাঠের সৈনিকরা

By : Club President Rtn. Susmita Sarkar

আন্তর্জাতিক নারী দিবস

আন্তর্জাতিক নারী দিবস আসে প্রতি বছরের মার্চের আকাশে,
নারীর সংগ্রাম, ত্যাগ আর শক্তির কথা মনে করাতে ভালোবাসে।
ঘরের ভেতর, ঘরের বাইরে সবখানে তার অবিরাম পথচলা,
তবু কত অপমান, কত অবহেলা, কত কষ্ট তার নীরব বলা।
রাজস্থানের গ্রামে গ্রামে এখনও দেখা যায় সেই দৃশ্য,
তপ্ত রোদে, মরুর পথে নারী হাঁটে মাইলের পর মাইল নিঃশ্বাসহীন
ক্লান্তির নিঃশব্দ দিশা।
এক কলস জল আনতে তাকে পার করতে হয় দীর্ঘ পথ,
পিঠে ভার, চোখে ধুলো, তবু থামে না তার জীবনের রথ।
সেই জল নিয়েই ফিরে আসে ঘরে ক্লান্ত শরীর নিয়ে,
রান্নাঘরে আবার জ্বলে ওঠে আগুন সংসারের দায় বয়ে। সন্তানদের
খাওয়ান, সংসার সামলায় নিঃশব্দ দায়িত্বে,
রাত নামলে আবার স্বামীর চাহিদা মেটায় নীরব কর্তব্যের নিয়মে।
বাংলার মাটিতেও নারীর কষ্ট কম নয় কোনো অংশে,
একজন সেবিকা দিনভর হাসপাতালের শয্যার পাশে।

রোগীর সেবা করে, রাত জাগে, ক্লান্তি লুকায় মুখের হাসিতে,
তবু সমাজের কিছু কু-দৃষ্টি তাকে আজও দেখে অবহেলার দৃষ্টিতে।
কখনো লাঞ্ছনা, কখনো অপমান, কখনো অযাচিত আঘাত,
তবু ঘরে ফিরে আবার সে মা, সে কন্যা, সে সংসারের প্রভাত।
তার হাতে গড়ে ওঠে পরিবার, তার স্নেহে বাড়ে আগামীকাল,
তবু কেন তার প্রাপ্য সম্মান আজও হয় অবহেলিত বারবার ?
আন্তর্জাতিক নারী দিবস তাই শুধু উৎসব নয়,
এ এক জাগরণের দিন-সমতার নতুন আহুয়।
যেখানে নারীকে দেখা হবে মানুষ হিসেবে, সম্মানের আলোয়,
ভাঙবে অন্যায়, ভাঙবে শোষণ, বদলাবে সমাজের কালো ছায়া।
নারী শুধু সংসারের আলো নয়, সে সমাজের শক্তির ধারা,
তার সাহস, তার মমতা, তার শ্রমেই এগিয়ে চলে বিশ্ব সারা।
তাই আজ প্রতিজ্ঞা করি আমরা-সম্মান দেব তাকে সর্বক্ষণ,
নারীর অধিকার, মর্যাদা আর স্বাধীনতাই হোক মানবতার চিরস্তন।

7 Areas of Focus

