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FORTNIGHTLY BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF GAUHATI SOUTH (RI DIST 3240)

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Volume : 71

SI No. 15

15th February 2025

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"Stretching his hand up to reach the stars, too often man forgets the flowers at his feet".

- Jeremy Bentham

From the Editor



The month of February is special in Rotary because it includes the anniversary of the first meeting of Rotary held on February 23, 1905, in Chicago. That day is now designated as the "World Understanding and Peace Day". As a humanitarian organization, peace is central to everything we do and is a cornerstone of our mission. We believe that when people work to create peace in their communities, that change can have a global effect.

Today, more than 70 million people are displaced as a result of conflict, violence, persecution, and human rights violations. Tragically, 90%

of the are civilians and half of them are children. Conflict simply cannot be accepted as a way of life. Therefore, in Rotary, we try to approach the concept of peace with greater cohesion and inclusivity, broadening the scope of what we mean by peacebuilding, and finding more ways for people to get involved.

In the rotary calendar, February is designated as Peace and Conflict Resolution Month. And as Rotarians, we can work to promote peace and prevent conflict somewhere, everyday. Fostering Peace and Understanding led to Youth Exchange Programmes. It also led to our Rotary Peace Fellowships and over the past decade hundred of professionals have been selected and trained in Rotary's Peace Centres in Universities around the world . They are now working for peace in over 100 countries and are able to address the underlying causes of conflict, including poverty, discrimination, ethnic tension, lack of access to education, and unequal distribution of resources.

Over the years, Rotary has evolved into a global force for good and our Foundation remains the great driving force behind that vision where Rotary tries to create environments where peace is possible.



PRIDE OF ROTARY AWARD DISTRICT 3240

At the District Conference held at Kolkata recently, Rtn Minoti Barthakur was presented the *Pride Of Rotary Award* in recognition for her unwavering courage, resilience and tireless efforts to motivate and inspire others in the fight against cancer. The award is a testimony to her remarkable spirit and commitment to making a difference in the lives of others. It is also a testament to the extraordinary journey of someone who has consistently faced challenges head-on, never faltering on the way.

Throughout her life Rtn Minoti Barthakur has navigated through turbulent waters, encountering obstacles that would have deterred many. Yet, she persevered, drawing strength from her deep-rooted belief in the cause that she champions.

We, at RCGS, are very proud of you, Baideo! It is indeed a very well deserved award.



OBSERVANCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF WOMEN AND GIRLS IN SCIENCE

Rtn Indira Bordoloi

The Rotary club of Gauhati South celebrated the International Day of Women and Girls in Science at T C Girls HSMP School on 11th February in collaboration with the Gyan Vigyan Samity, Asom.

The meeting was presided over by Prof Tapan Sarma, the President of GVSA. Mrs Karabi Deka Hazarika, a teacher of Computer Science of T C School, welcomed the guests. The objective of the meeting was presented by Dr Indira Bardoloi, President of the Guwahati branch of GVSA. Dr Bardoloi said that in the next 1-2 decades, the job market would be based mainly on Science and Technology, and as such it was very necessary for students to be acquainted with the science subjects. However, the percentage of women and girls in Science-Technology field at present is rather poor; it is less than 30% in the whole world. So it is the need of the hour to empower the girls in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) subjects to have gender equity in jobs. Realising the importance of the issue, the United Nations (UN) and UN Women decided in 2015 to observe an International

Day of Women and Girls in Science on 11th February each year. The idea was to inspire girl students to opt for Science.

Rtn Priyama Goswami, Secretary, RCGS, addressed the gathering. Dr Bula Choudhury, Senior Scientist of the Bio Tech Park, Guwahati, and the Resource person on the occasion, asked the students to be confident and bold enough to become entrepreneurs in different scientific fields. She urged the teachers to take the students to Bio-Tech Park to give them an exposure to different innovative ideas. Prof Tapan Sarma elaborated on how women scientists like Lilavati, the mathematician, had overcome countless hurdles to work in science and contribute tremendously towards mankind.

The Vote of thanks was offered by Rtn Manjusree Barua. The entire programme was efficiently anchored by Rtn Anurekha Barkakati in a very lucid manner. Student participation was 60. Light refreshment was served to all at the end of the function.





MINUTES OF THE 2325th WEEKLY REGULAR MEETING HELD ON 24th JANUARY, 2025

The 2325th Weekly Rotary Meeting, held on January 24, 2025, began with a fellowship hosted by IPP Rtn. Nawajyoti Sharma, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all attendees. The meeting was called to order promptly at 6:30 PM and was presided over by President Rtn. Chandan Rajkhowa. The session commenced with the National Anthem, followed by a warm welcome from President Rtn. Chandan Rajkhowa. He expressed gratitude to Rtn. Nawajyoti Sharma for hosting the fellowship and presented him with a token of appreciation. Birthday greetings were also extended to Rtn. Nawajyoti Sharma.

Rtn. Gayatri Borthakur then introduced the Guest Speaker, Dr. Jayaditya Purkaystha, who delivered an insightful presentation on *Guardians of the Sacred Waters: How Religious Beliefs and Community Traditions Foster Turtle Conservation in Assam's Temple Ponds*. He emphasized the importance of turtle conservation and the role of cultural and religious traditions in preserving these species.

Secretary Rtn. Priyama Goswami presented the secretarial report, noting the attendance as follows: Rotarians - 12, Annes - 1, and Guests - 1, and Rotarylets

1 with a total of 15 attendees. Sunshine collection amounted to Rs. 150/-.

The meeting concluded with a formal vote of thanks delivered by Rtn. Nawajyoti Sharma. President Rtn.

Chandan Rajkhowa adjourned the session at 7:30 PM.

The proceedings ended with the rendition of the *Jatiya Sangeet*.





MINUTES OF THE 2326th WEEKLY REGULAR MEETING HELD ON 31st JANUARY, 2025

The 2326 Weekly Rotary Meeting was held on 31st January 2025, at the Rajdhani Regency Hotel, commencing at 6:00 PM. President Rtn Chandan Rajkhowa called the meeting to order at 6.40 PM. The meeting began with the rendition of the National Anthem, followed by a warm welcome from the President. Birthday greetings was extended to Rtn. Jayanta Barman. The President also formally offered gratitude to Rtn. Pobin Borthakur for offering the fellowship.

President requested the members who have not paid the annual dues to pay at an early date so that there would be no difficulties in the payment of RI dues. He also requested members who had participated in the picnic on 26th January and had not paid the additional amount of Rs.141.00 to pay to Secretary Rtn. Priyama Goswami.

Rtn. Priyam Goswami informed the house that for the selection of visually impaired children for awarding 2023-24 and 2024-25 Archana and Atul Chandra Goswami Memorial Award is in the process and requested members

to suggest the eligible names if any to the club secretary so that an appropriate person can be selected .

Rn. Rajesh Bhatra spoke on certain aspects related to club administration.

Rtn. Debojyoti Hazarika , the in house speaker of the day narrated in detail and that too in a lucid manner about his experience of his recent visit to Norway-Sweden-Finland in the month of December on his topic *Splendid Arctic – Northern lights group tour Norway-Sweden-Finland*. It was an interesting speech and it captivated the audience throughout his deliberation. His deliberation on Northern light and video clips of snow drive with reindeer cart and Sled dog were very interesting.

Rtn. Priyama Goswami, Secretary Presented the secretarial report: Rotarian 22, Anne 4, Rotarylets 2. A total of 26 were present.

The vote of thanks was offered by Nawajyoti Sarma . The meeting was adjourned at 7.40PM after the rendition of *Jatiya Sangeet*.



