



Udayan



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

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*"In this life we cannot do great things. We can only do
small things with great love"*

--Mother Teresa

From the Editor

Shaping Outcomes

The core values of Rotary are service, fellowship, diversity, integrity and leadership; and the guiding philosophy in Rotary is that the world can become a better place when Rotarians take action in their communities to create lasting change. Rotary's positive influence on the world extends far beyond its members and its clubs. From medical missions to disaster relief to combating climate change, Rotary plays a role in a vast array of initiatives that help humanity.

Our collective efforts can change lives for generations —like our work to protect billions of children against polio. Because of our partnership in the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) and the fundraising and advocacy efforts of countless members, nearly 19 million people are walking today who otherwise would have been paralyzed, and 1.5 million people are alive who otherwise would have died.

The polio eradication infrastructure has provided critical support to the COVID-19 response in many vulnerable countries and has played a continuous role in other health efforts, such as providing additional medical treatments and vaccines, bed nets to prevent malaria, access to clean water, and even soap for hand washing. In fact our own club took up the marathon task of vaccinating over 10,500 people in just one month during covid times.

But fighting disease is just one of our areas of focus. Rotarians and Rotaractors also support education, grow local economies, save mothers and children, promote peace, and provide clean water, sanitation, and hygiene and work hard to protect the environment.

The reach and impact of Rotary's work are evidence to leadership, passion, and drive to help others. It is also a testament to the causes that build international relationships, improve lives, and create a better world.



Congratulations Plabita!



Rotarylet Plabita Barthakur, youngest daughter of Rtn Prabin Barthakur and Anne Rina received the best actor award for the Assamese movie *Pratishruti* at the Prag Cine Awards Ceremony. Our heartiest congratulations to Plabita and her proud parents.



AWARD CEREMONY HELD AT THE ROTARYCLUB OF GAUHATI SOUTH

An award ceremony, organised by the Rotary Club of GauhatiSouth, was held at Hotel Rajdhani Regency on 21 March. The awards, which are given annually, are the Archana and Atul Chandra Goswami Memorial Award for a visually impaired student and the Deva Kanta Kakati and Nirmali Kakati Memorial Vocational Excellence Awards. The Archana and Atul Chandra Goswami Memorial Award was conferred on Diganta Nath, a student of Class X of Sankar Mission Blind School, Nagaon, for his proficiency in music. The Deva Kanta Kakati Award was conferred on Sri Jayanta Kumar Das of Udalguri for his commendable work in the field of environment and wildlife preservation, more particularly, in the pursuit of advocating the initiative among children and youth of

Udalguri and the neighbouring regions. The Nirmali Kakati Award was conferred on Dr. Sriparna Bhuyan Baruah for encouraging and motivating entrepreneurship and livelihood amongst women. The Chief Guest of the function was eminent journalist, Pranay Bordoloi. Sri Bordoloi stressed the importance of maintaining a positive outlook on life and stated that anything is achievable with determination. PDG Rtn Prabhat Kedia also graced the occasion.

The dignitaries and senior Rotarians present lit the ceremonial lamp which was followed by a melodious invocation rendered by RtnDwipanita Ghosh. The Vote of Thanks was offered by Rtn Kaberi Bhuyan. The programme was anchored by Rtn Priyam Goswami.



Archana and Atul Chandra Goswami Memorial Award for a Visually Impaired Student 2024-2025

This year's awardee for the *Archana and Atul Chandra Goswami Memorial Award for a Visually Impaired Student* is **Sri Diganta Nath** from Srimanta Sankar Mission Blind School, Barhampur, Nagaon. He is a student of Class X and has been chosen for his proficiency in music. Diganta has 100% visual impairment. He has been performing in public platforms for the past few years. He has participated and won accolades in many singing

competitions including those organised by DY365, News Live, Assam Talks and NKTV. Diganta has himself composed the lyrics for a couple of songs that he sings. He excitedly tells us that he has had the opportunity of sharing the stage with Zubin Garg a couple of times. Diganta is a very talented boy. He has a natural talent for music despite having no formal training. He simply sings by listening to songs.



Deva Kanta Kakati Memorial Vocational Excellence Award 2024-2025

The *Deva Kanta Kakati Memorial Vocational Excellence Award 2024-2025* was conferred on Sri Jayanta Kumar Das of Udalguri for his commendable work in the field of environment and wildlife preservation, more particularly, in the pursuit of advocating the initiative among children and youth of Udalguri and the neighbouring regions.

Jayanta Das worked as Hony Wildlife Warden of Assam (Udalguri district) from 2012-2020 for the

conservation of nature and wildlife. Currently, he is the Joint Secretary of Kaziranga Wildlife Society. As a correspondent of The Assam Tribune, he has been reporting on wild life conservation since 2007. He was the chief coordinator for Assam of “*Elephants on the Line*” programme. It was a joint programme of India, Bhutan and USA for the mitigation of human-elephant conflict in Assam, especially in Udalguri, during

2013-2016.

Jayanta Kumar Das has established the Kanaklata Das Biodiversity Park at Kalaigaon in 2009 at a 60 bigha plot of land donated by his father, freedom fighter late Pani Ram Das. This small man made forest is now the house of smaller animals, birds and reptiles. So far he and his team have rescued 1 European black vulture, 7 pythons, 26 Monitor lizards, 13 barn owls, 4 spotted owls, 1 tokay gecko, 2 baby foxes, 6 tortoises and

3 Asian palm civets, among others.

Sri Das has been organising awareness campaigns in the villages of Udalguri district since 1986 for conservation of nature and wildlife. As an active member of the Assam Science Technology and Environment Council, he has also been actively crusading against superstitions and blind beliefs since 2012. Jayanta Kumar Das is a Life member of Pragjyotish Amateur Astronomers Association, Guwahati



Nirmali Kakati Memorial Vocational Excellence Award 2024-2025

The *Nirmali Kakati Memorial Vocational Excellence Award 2024-25* was conferred on Dr. Sriparna Bhuyan Baruah for encouraging and motivating entrepreneurship and livelihood amongst women.

Dr Sriparna B Baruah is a Development Professional with 35 years of work experience in Management Education and in Small and Medium Enterprise Development. Dr Baruah was associated with the Indian Institute of Entrepreneurship as Head (Centre for Industrial Extension) and as Director i/c. Dr Baruah is currently associated with the North East Handloom and

Handicraft Development Corporation (NEHHDC) as Advisor (Livelihoods and Entrepreneurship)

During her career span of 35 years, in the initial ten years when she was working with the Assam Institute of Management, Dr Baruah played a pioneering role in promoting Management Education in N.E India. Later, when she joined the Indian Institute of Entrepreneurship her experience for more than two decades has been on Entrepreneurship and Livelihood Promotion. Dr Baruah has extensive experience in action research and projects relating to development of livelihood clusters specifically

in all the eight states of North Eastern Region of India.

Dr Baruah has also been working towards developing the eco-system for promoting women entrepreneurs and start-ups in the social sector. For the last five years, she has been actively involved in facilitating creation of a start-up eco-system in North East India and has been regularly mentoring and handholding existing and potential start-ups in opportunity guidance and scaling up. Her strong academic experience and background has helped in contributing towards documenting case studies of various successful livelihood initiatives. She has also presented papers and shared Indian experiences of small enterprise promotion in both national and international forums.

Dr Baruah has represented NE India in various international forums and lead Business Delegations delegations globally. She has also represented the country as a speaker in international conferences in countries like Latin America and Malaysia. She regularly provides academic and consultancy support to MBA departments

of all major universities of North East India, institutions like TISS, NIRD, AASC etc. Dr Baruah has been a member of the Board of Management of the School of Vocational Education (SOVET) IGNOU, the North East Network (NEN), the Cancer Research Foundation (CRF), BRTC A BIRAC-KIIT-TBI initiative, India Women Network, Council for Social and Digital Development (CSDD), Margdarshak Advisory and is actively involved with various industry associations like CII, FICCI and FINER. Dr Baruah is currently an independent Director in the board of IIT Guwahati Technology Innovation and Development Foundation and the SM Corporation Ltd.

Dr Sriparna B Baruah received the 'BHARAT VIKAS AWARD' for her contribution to the Livelihood Sector from the Institute of Self Reliance on 19th November 2017. She also received the lifetime achievement award for her contribution to the field of entrepreneurship development and livelihoods from NFED (National Foundation for Entrepreneurship Development) on 8th March 2022.



MEDICAL CAMP CONDUCTED AT KALYANI NIWAS

On 30th March 2025, Rotary Club Of Gauhati South (RCGS) organized a free medical camp in the campus of Kalyani Niwas, Rupnagar, Ulubari, Guwahati, a home for destitute children (Girls). Medical examination for various illnesses was carried out for the inmates by a group of doctors from Nemcare Hospital led by Rn. Dr. Anil Mahanta. Apart from Rtn Dr. Mahanta, the other doctors were Dr. Swaswati Sanyal Choudhury, DR. Mridu Pawan Saikia and Dr Abhay Garg.

A total of 61 persons were examined by the doctors. Among them, there were children from *Kalyani Niwas*, a home for destitute children, *Asha Neer*, a home for handicapped children, *Amaya Chaliha Open Shelter*

for Boys and few staff members from the Kalyani Niwas. After the check up free medicines were distributed to them by RCGS. During the camp, officials from Kalyani Niwas lead by Rtn. Krishna Barua, Secretary of the organization, helped and assisted the team for smooth conduct of the camp.

After the closing of the medical camp, the children of Kalyani Niwas presented a beautiful cultural programme in which a visually impaired child also rendered a melodious song. This was followed by a lunch which the visiting Rotarians and doctors had with the children of Kalyani Niwas.





MINUTES OF THE 2330th WEEKLY REGULAR MEETING HELD ON 28th FEBRUARY, 2025

The 2330th WRM was held on 28th September 2024 at Hotel Rajdhani Regency on 28 February 2025. The President called the meeting to order at 6.40 PM. After the National Anthem, the President welcomed all the Rotarians, Annes and guests present. The President greeted Rtn. Jayanta Goswami on his birthday and honoured him with a rose for offering the fellowship .

The President informed the house about two training programme scheduled to be held on 3rd and 4th March at Chapaidang , Bonda and Rajabari and requested Rotarians to participate in the programme. Rtn. (Dr.) Gayatree Goswamee introduced Dr.(Mrs.) Ritusmita Goswami , the guest speaker of the day. .Being a National science day, the club celebrated the day though a discussion on different environmental issues initiated by Dr Goswami, a noted environmental scientist and faculty member of Tata institute of social Sciences (TISS), Guwahati . She has vast experience on environmental issues based on her research work for last several years. She spoke on “*Climate Change facts and Concerns: Confronting Our New Reality*”. Her speech highlighted the multifaceted impacts of climate change including the observed impacts on ecosystems, food productivity, water quality, human health and socio economic conditions. She emphasised that for climate change mitigation we have to work together with wholehearted participation. Climate awareness at the individual level and society as a whole is an urgent need in this regard. Individual actions like reducing energy consumption, waste minimization and

adopting sustainable lifestyles can be the viable options for reducing green house gas emission to a great extent. Moreover, there is a need for immediate and significant global action to limit warming and avoid the most catastrophic impacts. During the discussion members shared their views and interacted with Dr. Goswami on different aspects of climate change.

Rtn.(Dr.)Rabin Mazumder while offering vote of thanks shared some facts related to pollution of the Baharalu river.

Rtn. Manjusri Baruah presented the statistics of the meeting in the absence of secretary. 20 Rotarians, 4 Annes, and 2 guests with a total of 26 persons were present in the meeting and the sunshine collection was Rs.450.00.

The President adjourned the meeting at 7.35 PM after the rendition of the *Jatiya Sangeet*.



