



Udayan



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

RI PRESIDENT
Rtn Dr Francesco Arezzo

DISTRICT GOVERNOR
Rtn Dr Kameswar Singh Elangbam

PRESIDENT
Rtn Priyama Goswami

SECRETARY
Rtn Dipanwita Ghosh

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Editor : Rtn Anurekha Barkakoti

From the Editor's Pen ...



Development is the only way to progress.

Whether it is personal, societal or community, without forward thinking goals nothing can prosper. My focus is on infrastructure where we are all clear that in the areas of social and economic sustenance, development is the key.

Social infrastructure as we know, consists of health, education and housing whereas economic infrastructure is concerned with transport and communication, power, finance etc.

A basic foundation on which a nation builds its progress is mandatory to support the human capital.

There could be massive disruption of amenities while the building of such infrastructure goes on..we can see it all around us in our own city of Guwahati. To achieve something, sacrifices made from stepping out of our comfort zone, are a given. The huge responsibility of providing such social and economic amenities becomes the gargantuan task of the Government. However, safety and security of the common man must be its priority, a point sadly missed out by the powers that be.

We at Rotary can extend our helping hand to facilitate the effects of developmental disruptions by spreading awareness among our people to do their part in keeping our surroundings clean and disease free, ensure supply of clean drinking water, disposal of wastes, precautions against health hazards, group responsible behaviour and at the same time to be aware of citizen's rights and responsibilities. Rotary Clubs worldwide do focus on these core issues and we are all none the poorer for that.

In fine, we are just a small medium through which ideas and awareness are propagated to ease out human progress...but as the saying goes, it may be 'a small step for man but a giant leap for mankind' for the future to uphold

Rotary and Literacy

**SEPTEMBER IS
BASIC EDUCATION
AND LITERACY
MONTH**

"Education is a social process. Education is growth. Education is not a preparation for life; education is life itself."
John Dewey

Rotary

For September 2025, Rotary International's monthly theme is Basic Education and Literacy Month. This focuses on empowering communities to support education and literacy across all age groups, reducing gender gaps, and enhancing adult literacy.

Although Rotary no longer emphasizes an annual presidential theme as a logo-forward campaign, members are encouraged to incorporate the broader 2025–2026 Presidential Message, "Unite for Good," in communications—while still honoring the monthly September focus on literacy.

Why This Month Matters

Basic Education & Literacy is one of Rotary's Seven Areas of Focus, aimed at strengthening local education systems, empowering teachers, and supporting both youth and adult literacy initiatives.

Around 775 million adults (approximately 17% of the global adult population) remain illiterate. Rotary's work aims to address this urgent need.

Minutes of the 2355 th Weekly Rotary Meeting held on 22nd August 2025

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President (In-charge) Rtn. Kaveri Bhuyan and Secretary (In-charge) Rtn. Ranjan Bhuyan, in the absence of the regular office bearers.

The National Anthem was rendered, after which the President (I/c) welcomed all Rotarians, Annes and guests. A token of appreciation was offered to Rtn. Ranjan Bhuyan for providing fellowship.

Birthday greetings were extended to Rtn. Satinder Anand, and wedding anniversary wishes were conveyed to Rtn. Ranjan Bhuyan and Anne Aparajeeta by Rtn. Gayatri Bhattacharyya.

Rtn. Manjusri Baruah introduced the Guest Speaker, Dr. Nilakshi Mahanta, who was felicitated by Rtn. Kaveri Bhuyan. Dr. Mahanta delivered an insightful talk on "Falls in Elderly—Presentation, Action, and Intervention", which was well-received and followed by an engaging discussion.

The secretarial report recorded:

Rotarians present: 20

Annes: 7

Guests: 2

Sunshine Collection: Rs.570/-

A vote of thanks was offered by Rtn. Atanu Chowdhury, appreciating the speaker, the fellowship host, and all attendees.

The meeting concluded at 8:00 p.m. with the rendering of the Jatiya Sangeet.



The District Award Ceremony

The District award ceremony for Rotary year 2024-25 of District 3240 was held in Siliguri on 23rd of August 2025. This was arranged in Aurum of R.J. Resorts Siliguri which is around 15km away from main city. The mega award ceremony was held in presence of galaxy of veteran Rotarians ,many PDGs along with Presidents, Secretaries and Rotarians of different clubs located in District 3240. RCGS was represented by IPP Rtn. Chandan Rajkhowa , Rtn. Anjana Choudhury Saikia ,Rtn. Bibeka Saikia . The club could bag the following awards 1. Club excellence award 2. Certificate of appreciation for successfully implementing various projects 3. APF eagle club challenge award No 243. Outstanding Rotarians award for Rtn.Rtn. Anjana Choudhury Saikia 4.Outstanding zonal foundation chair award to Rtn. Rajkamal Bhuyan 5. 35th year District pool endowment 24-25 award to Rtn. Rajesh Bhatra and 6. Special appreciation award for creating public image through a zonal collaborative programme " *Organo Walk and Sangit se Sanjivani* " for creating awareness on organ donation and 7. special appreciation award to Rtn. Dipanker Roy for coordinating the visit of DG to the club in 2024.



Survey Activities conducted by the Literacy Committee in various Schools for the Nation Building Awards 2025-26



Minutes of the 2356 th Weekly Rotary Meeting held on 29th August 2025

The 2356th Weekly Rotary Meeting was held on 29th August 2025 at Rajdhani Regency Hotel. The President called the meeting to order at exactly 7:00 PM. Following the National Anthem, the President welcomed all Rotarians, Annes, and guests present. Birthday greetings were extended to **Rtn. Dr. Amrit Pal Singh**, though he could not be present at the meeting.

The President then informed members about the **first HTFI program**, scheduled to be held at **Handique Girls' College on 3rd September 2025**. She also updated the house about the progress on **Food Cards** and **Artificial Hands**, mentioning that final details will be shared later in the RCGS group.

IPP Rtn. Chandan Rajkhowa updated the members that RCGS was represented by **IPP Rtn. Chandan Rajkhowa, Rtn. Anjana Choudhury Saikia, and Rtn. Bibeka Saikia** at a recent event, where the club received several recognitions:

1. Club Excellence Award
 2. Certificate of Appreciation for successfully implementing various projects
 3. APF Eagle Club Challenge Award No. 24
 4. Outstanding Rotarian Award – **Rtn. Anjana Choudhury Saikia**
 5. Outstanding Zonal Foundation Chair Award – **Rtn. Rajkamal Bhuyan**
 6. 35th Year District Pool Endowment 2024-25 Award – **Rtn. Rajesh Bhatra**
 7. Special Appreciation Award for creating public image through the zonal collaborative programs “*Organo Walk*” and “*Sangeet se Sanjivani*” to raise awareness on organ donation
 8. Special Appreciation Award – **Rtn. Dipanker Roy** for coordinating the DG's club visit in 2024
- Following this, **Rtn. Jamuna Prasad Sarma** introduced the Guest Speaker, **Shri S. K. Baruah (ED, NEDFi)**. After being felicitated by **Rtn. Manjusri Baruah**, Shri Baruah delivered an insightful address. He spoke on various schemes designed for the underprivileged, highlighting initiatives on **women's empowerment, skill development, and microfinance**. He explained how microfinance empowers entrepreneurs from weaker sections of society to access small loans, reduces the risk of default, and helps them gradually build sustainable livelihoods. His address was highly impactful and relevant to Rotary projects.

Attendance for the meeting was Rotarians: 29, Annes: 3, Rotarylets: 1, Guests: 1 **Total: 34**
The Secretarial Report was then presented. The **Sunshine Collection** amounted to **Rs. 220.00**. The **Vote of Thanks** was offered by **Rtn. Biswadip Borooh**. The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 PM with the rendition of the *Jatiyo Sangeet*.





A Humble Tribute to Bharat Ratna Dr. Bhupen Hazarika on his 100th Birth Anniversary

Rtn. Dilip Sarkar

It is indeed a great privilege and honour to offer my humble tribute to Rotarian (Honorary), Bharat Ratna, Dr. Bhupen Hazarika, on his 100th Birth Anniversary on 8th September 2025.

Dr. Bhupen Hazarika—lovingly known as Bhupenda to all of us—is a name that needs no introduction. A towering figure in the world of music, literature, and culture, he was not only one of India's most gifted singers and composers but also a poet, filmmaker, lyricist, and visionary who used art as a bridge to unite hearts across boundaries. His immortal songs carried messages of humanity, brotherhood, and justice, touching millions in India and beyond. Through his deep, resonant voice and timeless compositions, Bhupenda became the voice of the voiceless and the conscience of society.

We at Rotary Club of Gauhati-South, RID 3240, India, had the proud privilege and honor to confer *Honorary Rotarianship* upon Dr. Bhupen Hazarika in the Rotary year 2003–2004 under the able leadership of President Col. Manoranjan Goswami and Secretary Rtn. Dilip Sarkar. On this historic occasion, a special diamond-studded Rotary lapel pin was procured from Sacheti & Co., Mumbai, and presented to Bhupenda by the Secretary.

The conferment took place in a Rotary weekly meeting held at Pensioners' Bhawan, Chandmari, Guwahati, in the presence of a distinguished gathering of senior Rotarians of RCGS and visiting Rotarians from other clubs. The program began with a formal introduction of Dr. Bhupen Hazarika by Rtn. H.N. Das, former Chief Secretary of Assam, and the honorary lapel pin was pinned by Rtn. D.K. Kakati. Ms. Kalpana Lajmi was also warmly introduced by President Col. Manoranjan Goswami.

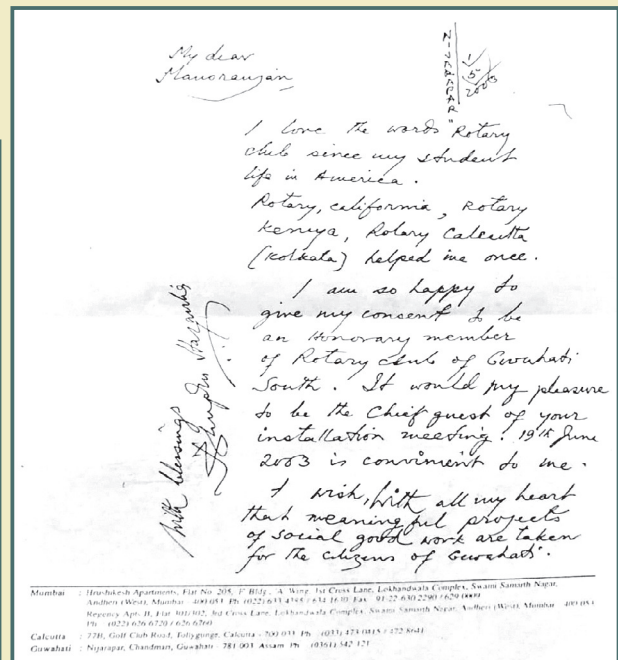
In his brief yet heartfelt speech, Rtn. Bhupen Hazarika shared his long association with Rotary International dating back to his student years in America. He fondly recalled his visits to several Rotary Clubs across the world and expressed his gratitude for the love and affection he received from Rotarians everywhere.

Among the senior members of RCGS present on this momentous occasion were Rtn. Jadav Ch. Bhuyan, Rtn. B.K. Bhuyan, Rtn. D.K. Kakati, Rtn. H.N. Das, Rtn. N.B. Barthakur, Rtn. Col. T.B.B. Lahkar, Rtn. Dilip Das, Rtn. Kaushik Das, Rtn. Nazrul Islam, Rtn. Atanu Kr Chowdhury and Rtn. Gayatri Bhattacharyya. Also present were First Lady Anne Suprabha Goswami, Ms. Satinder Kaur (Lovely), and Rotarylets Arnab Goswami (Republic Bharat) and Pallavi Goswami.

It was truly a red-letter day in the history of Rotary Club of Gauhati-South, RID 3240, and Rotary International. The evening was filled with warmth, joy, and reverence—a cherished memory for everyone present.

As we celebrate the centenary of this cultural icon, we fondly remember and honor his unmatched legacy. Bhupendaa, long live in our hearts.

(Rtn. Sarkar was the Club Secretary, RCGS-2003-2004 and Past President, RCGS-2018-19)





শ্রদ্ধেয় ড° ভূপেন হাজৰিকাৰ এক অমৰ সৃষ্টি

মানুহে মানুহৰ বাবে,
যদিহে অকণো নেভাবে,
অকণি সহানুভূতি
ভাবিব কোনেনো কোৱা সমনীয়া ...
মানুহে মানুহৰ বাবে,
যদিহে অকণো নেভাবে,
অকণি সহানুভূতিৰে
ভাবিব কোনেনো কোৱা সমনীয়া ...
মানুহে মানুহৰ বাবে
মানুহে মানুহক বেছিৰ খুজি
মানুহে মানুহক কিনিব খুজি
মানুহে মানুহক বেছিৰ খুজি
মানুহে মানুহক কিনিব খুজি
পুৰণি ইতিহাস দোহাৰিলে

ভুল জানো নহব কোৱা সমনীয়া ...
মানুহে মানুহৰ বাবে,
যদিহে অকণো নেভাবে,
অকণি সহানুভূতিৰে
ভাবিব কোনেনো কোৱা সমনীয়া ...
মানুহে মানুহৰ বাবে ...
দুৰ্বল মানুহে যদি,
জীৱনৰ কোৱাল নদীত,
পাৰ হৈ তোমাৰে সাহত,
তুমি হেৰুৱাবা নো কি ?
দুৰ্বল মানুহে যদি,
জীৱনৰ কোৱাল গতিত,
পাৰ হয় তোমাৰে সাহত,
তুমি হেৰুৱাবা নো কি ?

মানুহ যদিহে নহয় মানুহ,
দানব কাহানিও নহয় মানুহ,
মানুহ যদিহে নহয় মানুহ,
দানব কাহানিও নহয় মানুহ,
যদি দানব কাহানিবা হয়ই মানুহ,
লাজ পাব কোনেনো কোৱা সমনীয়া
মানুহে মানুহৰ বাবে,
যদিহে অকণো নেভাবে,
অকণি সহানুভূতিৰে
ভাবিব কোনেনো কোৱা সমনীয়া ...
মানুহে মানুহৰ বাবে
যদিহে অকণো নেভাবে,
অকণি সহানুভূতিৰে
ভাবিব কোনেনো কোৱা সমনীয়া ...
মানুহে মানুহৰ বাবে

Honouring Dr. Bhupen Hazarika in the Centenary Year: Year-long Birth Centenary Celebrations (2025–26)

The Government of India will inaugurate a year-long celebration starting September 8, 2025, with Prime Minister Narendra Modi expected to attend the main event on September 13 at Guwahati.

Activities will span cities like Guwahati, Roing, Kolkata, New Delhi, and Mumbai, featuring cultural programs, publications, and youth outreach.

Commemorative Rs.100 Silver Coin.

A special Rs.100 silver coin has been approved by the Union Ministry of Finance in tribute to Dr. Hazarika's legacy.

Renaming of Dibrugarh Airport.

The Eastern Assam Chamber of Commerce & Industry appealed to rename the Dibrugarh airport in honor of Dr. Hazarika. This proposal has significant local support and may be formalized via a resolution passed by the Assam Assembly and sent to the Union government.

Centenary Biographical Publications

Author Anuradha Sarma Pujari is working on a peer-reviewed biography of Dr. Hazarika, to be translated into 23 Indian languages and distributed widely—in four lakh institutions across India and gifted to ten lakh individuals in Assam

MEMBERSHIP ISSUE IN ROTARY

Rtn. Gayatri Bhattacharyya

Rotary International depends upon the Rotary Clubs, and the Rotary Clubs in their turn depend upon their members, the Rotarians.

At the same time, RI requires that each club has a well -balanced membership base, where no one profession, business, or type of service predominates. This requirement sometimes poses problems for a club in a community where one or the other occupation or business far outweighs the other. But that has been long solved by RI when it suggested that there may be more than one member per profession, and it was also deemed that one profession can have various specialties, which would merit different classifications.

There are basically three components of membership Development – Recruitment, Retention, and Extension.

So far as Recruitment of new members is concerned, the first question that arises is, whom to recruit? At this stage we need to remember the long standing and much debated and vexed question of “Quality versus Quantity”.

Both the RI and the District set goals for Membership Development. So, do we recruit new members indiscriminately in order to meet these goals? Or do we take our time, get the Membership Development Committee to look around before determining who would meet the requirements of Quality as defined by Rotary ideals? Very briefly, Quality members would be those persons who would be assets to the club, not just passive members increasing the attendance percentage; they would be men and women who have been assets to their profession and to society, whose credibility and integrity have never been questioned. The problem here is: how do we define the criteria for judging the “quality” of the persons, so far as the ideals of Rotary are concerned.

Therefore, we need a well -crafted Membership Action Plan, with a strong and knowledgeable Membership Committee to look into these matters. This committee must adhere strictly to the rules framed by RI regarding RECRUITMENT policies. There should be continuous Classification surveys, and updates. At this point, it seems relevant to point out that Classification in Membership was unique to Rotary, and had set it apart from all other such organizations. But rigid Classification of members has been officially discontinued now. But it has always been a convenient way to find provisional members, if only because RI requires that Diversity must be one of the guiding principles in the selection of members in a Rotary Club. The Classification system helped in seeking out people from different professions , thus supporting and enhancing the principle of Diversity in the Club.

It is also desirable to promote an attractive and adequate publicity for the Club, and also Rotary in general, emphasizing the aspect of Service as well as the benefits of Rotary membership.

Retention is probably more important now than Recruitment. And when talking of retention , the first thing that comes to mind is the figure, 1.2 million Rotarian which we had been hearing for the past two decades at least! We had been hearing this figure, - minus or plus a little, - for at least 15 to 20 years now. This is surely a sad commentary on an elite world organization like Rotary International. It is not that Rotary is losing its popularity or reputation. It is probably due to the vast changes that have taken place in the world, the competition in the rat race that is gripping the younger generation now. As usual Rotary has taken steps to try to overcome this situation. Its rules have become much more flexible, countries and clubs have been allowed to bend the rules to a great extent, so that the busy, highly strung younger men and women find time to attend Rotary meetings, and enjoy them. It has been a great relief to most Rotarians the world over to hear that now the number of Rotary members has increased to almost 1.4 million!

At the same time, Rotary Education is being stressed. There are basically three stages of this Education. We may say that the first stage should come after a person is selected, - that is, a ‘provisional’ member. At this stage, even while he/ she attends the requisite three meetings, either the proposer or any other knowledgeable Rotarian talks informally with him/her about what Rotary is, why one should join etc. Just before the Induction a senior member should be asked to tell him/her about the basics of the Rotary movement. And at the Induction, a senior Rotarian, - a Past District Governor or the DG could preferably be the Inducting officer, who would definitely talk about the great organization, some of its basic rules like attendance, the dues to be paid and so on. The finance part is important.

Member Orientation, and Mentorship are extremely crucial in inducting and retaining members in a Rotary Club. Senior and knowledgeable Rotarians should be assigned to these tasks.

Finally there is another education, which incidentally is equally important for all the members, - it is the ‘continuing’ education and this never ends, in the form of the various District training sessions the District Conference etc which every Rotarian should be encouraged to join. And which the newcomers must join. This is always the President’s liability.

Finally of course, it is up to the President and the Club Administration Committee to devise ways and means to make the meetings always enjoyable even as they are useful and service oriented.

Veterans Speak

While gathering data from our veteran Rotarians, responses were collected based on the following queries

- i. ● Years completed in RCGS ii. ● Senior Rotarians who inspired/influenced you iii. ● Takeaways from Rotary over the decades particularly highlighting self improvement in quality of life. iv. ● Motivation factor in RCGS v. ● Feeling of gratitude to be able to follow ideals of Rotary such as Service Above Self and put into practice vi. ● How Rotary as an International Organisation has helped to be a better version of self and take pride in being a Rotarian.



Rtn Rajesh Bhatra

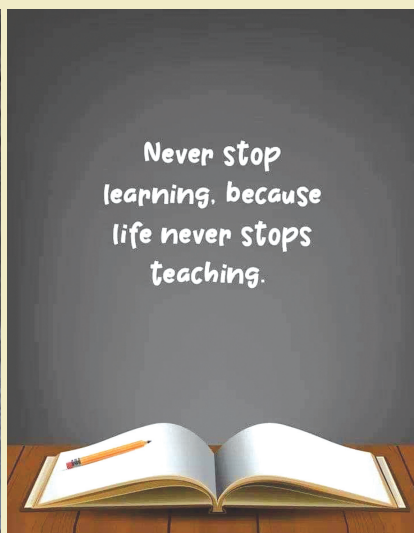
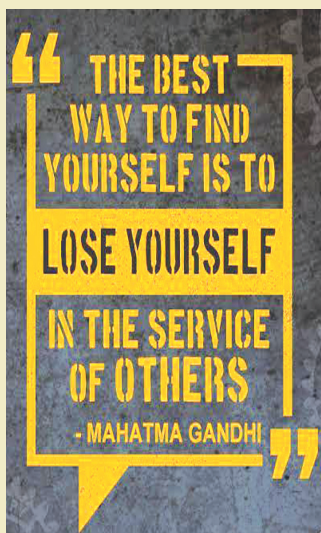
Perspectives from veteran Rotarians about RCGS.

- Years completed in RCGS as a member - 29 years. Joined RCGS in 1996. Was a member of Rotaract Club of Gauhati South from 1986 to 1991.
- Senior Rotarians that inspired /influenced. Late Rtn Bhabani Bhuyan and Late Rtn Kaushik Das
I was unable to stand before an audience and give my speech in English. It was due to my engagement as Conf Secretary in Rotaract District Conference as well as RWM, I was able to face audience.
Rotary had made me believe that, I can contribute in serving the society at large.
Rotary had given me confidence to plan and execute my work
- Motivation factor in RCGS.
Senior member late Rtn D N BARUAH, who ensured that he never misses RWM.
- Feelings of gratitude to be able to follow the ideals of Rotary such as Service Above Self and put it into practice.
Many a times you become self-centric and then comes in the FOUR WAY TEST, and by applying the same, you correct yourself.
- How Rotary as an international organization has helped to be a better version of self and take pride in being a Rotarian.
Putting up of lapel pin itself makes me feel proud. It gives you sense of responsiveness.
People across the world recognises the good work done by Rotary and it's a branded and respected international organisation.



Rtn Anil Mahanta

- I feel it a great privilege to claim that I have completed 30 years in RCGS.
- It is not necessary to remember what motivated me to join the Club but I know why I have stayed in the Club for so many years.
- It is the Rotarians of the Club who compelled me to stay in the Club. The kind of people one gets to know and interact in the interest of serving the community without expecting any personal gain is the motivating factor.
- Being in Rotary I have realised that though there are endless avenues to serve the society, being a part of a global organization dedicated to 'Service Above Self' motto, based on ethical principles and governed by a set of rules enshrined in a MOP (Manual Of Procedure) is quite a different thing altogether. This can only be experienced first hand by being a part of it
- After all, all things we do in Rotary and in life each Rotarian should be guided by the 4-way test.



RCGS conveys warm greetings to all

Birthdays in September :

Rtn. Gayatri Bhattacharyya	-	6th Sept.
Rtn. George Chacko	-	20th Sept.
Rtn. Giti Bujarbaruah	-	21st Sept.
Rtn. (Dr)Pritam Mohan	-	21st Sept.
Rtn. (Dr) Gayatree Goswamee	-	27th Sept.
Rtn. (Dr) Anil Kr. Mahanta	-	27th Sept.

Anniversary :

Rtn. George Chacko	-	19th Sept
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