

The Altruist



RID 3291 Zone 6
August 31, 2025
Volume 1

Rotary Calcutta Sunderban

Birthday Greetings and Anniversary Wishes to all those born and have their anniversaries from July 1, 2025 to August 31, 2025.

President's Message

It is my pleasure to present our First Bi-monthly bulletin, summarizing the spirit of service and fellowship upheld by the Rotary Club of Calcutta Sunderban. Over the past eleven months, our club has remained committed to uplifting communities, strengthening health initiatives, empowering women, and supporting education. I thank each member for their dedication and service-above-self.

Secretary's Message

The Club successfully conducted regular meetings, board discussions, and community engagement programmes. Attendance improved steadily, and administrative procedures were maintained with discipline and transparency.

Unite for good:-

It emphasizes the power of connection – bringing people together across geography, culture and ideology to work for positive change through collaboration.

New Rotary Year 2025–2026: A Renewed Journey of Service and Impact

The beginning of a new Rotary year on 1st July marks more than just a change in leadership—it signals fresh energy, new vision, and a renewed commitment to service within Rotary International. The Rotary Year 2025–2026 arrives with the promise of innovation, collaboration, and deeper community engagement, as Rotarians across the globe unite to create lasting change.

A new Rotary year is a time for leadership transition at every level—club presidents, secretaries, and district leaders take on new roles. This change fosters fresh ideas while maintaining continuity of purpose. It is an opportunity for leaders to energize members, strengthen fellowship, and encourage greater participation in service projects.

As we step into Rotary Year 2025–2026, let us move forward with renewed enthusiasm and determination. Let this be a year where ideas turn into action, service reaches new heights, and communities feel the true power of Rotary.

Rotary and Service in the Sunderbans: Reaching the Unreached

The Sundarbans—the world's largest mangrove forest and a UNESCO World Heritage region—is a land of extraordinary beauty and profound challenges. Spread across remote islands in West Bengal, the Sunderbans is home to millions who face daily struggles with poverty, lack of healthcare, limited education, and frequent

natural disasters. In this fragile yet resilient region, the role of Rotary International becomes not just relevant, but essential.

Rotary's philosophy of *Service Above Self* finds powerful expression in the Sunderbans, where service often means reaching communities cut off by rivers, tides, and poor infrastructure. Rotary clubs, particularly those based in and around Kolkata, have been actively involved in addressing the region's pressing needs through sustained and impactful initiatives.

Healthcare remains one of the most critical areas of intervention. Many islands lack proper medical facilities, making even basic treatment inaccessible. Rotary organizes medical camps, eye check-ups, maternal care services, and vaccination drives, bringing doctors and medicines directly to the people. Mobile health units and telemedicine initiatives have also emerged as innovative solutions to bridge the healthcare gap.

Education is another cornerstone of Rotary's service in the Sunderbans. By setting up schools, distributing books, and supporting digital learning, Rotary helps children dream beyond their immediate circumstances. Scholarships and vocational training programs empower youth and women, enabling them to build livelihoods and reduce dependency on uncertain sources of income.

The Sunderbans is highly vulnerable to climate change, cyclones, and rising sea levels. Rotary's work in disaster relief and environmental sustainability is therefore crucial. From distributing relief materials after cyclones to promoting mangrove plantation and clean water projects, Rotary contributes to both immediate recovery and long-term resilience.

One notable aspect of Rotary's service here is its focus on women's empowerment. Self-help groups, skill development workshops, and initiatives like the production of low-cost sanitary products not only improve health and hygiene but also create economic opportunities for rural women. Such projects reflect Rotary's commitment to dignity, equality, and sustainable development.

However, service in the Sunderbans is not without challenges. Geographic isolation, logistical difficulties, and limited resources demand persistence, innovation, and collaboration. Rotary meets these challenges by partnering with local communities, NGOs, and government bodies, ensuring that its efforts are both inclusive and effective.

In essence, Rotary's work in the Sunderbans is a testament to the power of compassionate service. It is about standing beside those who are often forgotten, listening to their needs, and working together to build a better future.

In the silent rhythm of tides and the resilience of its people, the Sunderbans tells a story of struggle and hope. Rotary, through its unwavering service, becomes a part of that story—bringing light where there is darkness, and opportunity where there is need.

Doctors and Advocates in Rotary: A Powerful Partnership for Service

Within Rotary International, diversity of professions is not just a feature—it is a strength. Among its most impactful members are doctors and advocates, whose

knowledge, ethics, and commitment to society create a powerful synergy for meaningful service. When these two professions come together under the Rotary umbrella, they address both the physical and social dimensions of human well-being.

Doctors in Rotary play a vital role in advancing community health. They lead medical camps, health awareness drives, vaccination programs, and disease prevention initiatives. In underserved and rural areas, where access to healthcare is limited, Rotarian doctors often become lifelines—providing free consultations, surgeries, and essential medicines. Their contribution extends beyond treatment; they educate communities on hygiene, nutrition, maternal care, and preventive health practices, helping build healthier societies from the ground up.

Equally important are advocates—legal professionals who uphold justice and rights. Advocates in Rotary contribute by spreading legal awareness, especially among marginalized communities who may not fully understand their rights or access to justice. They organize legal aid camps, assist in documentation, and guide individuals on issues such as property rights, women’s rights, child protection, and government welfare schemes. In doing so, they empower people to stand up for themselves and navigate complex legal systems with confidence.

Together, doctors and advocates address a crucial intersection: the link between health and justice. Issues like medical negligence, access to healthcare, mental health rights, domestic violence, and child welfare require both medical expertise and legal intervention. Rotary provides a platform where these professionals can collaborate to create holistic solutions—ensuring not only treatment but also protection and dignity.

This collaboration is especially impactful during disaster relief efforts. Doctors provide urgent medical care, while advocates help affected individuals secure identity documents, compensation, and rehabilitation rights. In such situations, Rotary becomes a comprehensive support system, addressing immediate needs as well as long-term recovery.

Moreover, both professions bring strong ethical foundations to Rotary. The Rotary Four-Way Test—truth, fairness, goodwill, and benefit to all—resonates deeply with the professional values of doctors and advocates. Their presence strengthens Rotary’s commitment to integrity, compassion, and service.

In today’s complex world, challenges are rarely isolated. Health issues often have legal implications, and legal problems can affect mental and physical well-being. By uniting doctors and advocates, Rotary exemplifies an integrated approach to service—one that heals, protects, and empowers simultaneously.

Ultimately, the contribution of doctors and advocates in Rotary goes beyond their professions. They become catalysts of change, working together to build communities that are not only healthier, but also more just and humane.

The major projects of the Club from July 1, 2025 to August 31, 2025.



Medico Legal Issues on 5.7.2025



Secure your Legacy



Cyber crime workshop with students of Hindaljung



Finishing nets, fish foods to fishermen of Gosaba



Spray machine to farmers of Gosaba



Incubation machine



Weaving machines



Organic Cooking with uncultivated ingredients



Eye Centre and free eye camp at Bongaon



Workshop with students of Chilili Primary School at Bongaon

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Edited and published by Tapas Sardar, Hony. Secretary and Editor.

The Altruist



RID 3291 Zone 6

Rotary Calcutta Sunderban

October 31, 2025
Volume 2

Birthday Greetings and Anniversary Wishes to all those born and have their anniversaries from September 1, 2025 to October 31, 2025.

President's Message

It is a privilege to present the second Bi-Monthly Bulletin of our Rotary year. The past months have reflected our shared commitment to *Service Above Self* through impactful initiatives and meaningful fellowship. As we continue serving the communities of the Sunderban region, let us remain united in compassion, integrity, and action. Together, we can create lasting change.

Secretary's Message

I am pleased to share our second Bi-Monthly Bulletin highlighting the activities and service initiatives of our Club. This publication reflects teamwork, dedication, and Rotary spirit. Let us continue documenting and celebrating our journey of service together.

First Charter Evening of Rotary Club of Calcutta Sunderbans: A Milestone of Service and Fellowship

The First Charter Evening of the Rotary Club of Calcutta Sunderbans marks a historic and inspiring beginning — an evening that celebrates not just the formal inauguration of a club, but the birth of a shared vision rooted in service, compassion, inclusivity and community upliftment. Under the global umbrella of Rotary International, this moment signifies the club's official entry into a worldwide network committed to making a difference.

A Charter Evening is more than a ceremonial event; it is a declaration of purpose. It brings together distinguished guests, Rotarians, community leaders, and well-wishers to witness the installation of the club's first leadership team and the presentation of its charter. This charter is not merely a document—it is a symbol of trust, responsibility, and the beginning of a journey dedicated to *Service Above Self*.

For the Rotary Club of Calcutta Sunderbans, the significance of this evening is even deeper. Serving the unique and challenging region of the Sunderbans, the club stands at the frontline of humanitarian service. The area's vulnerability to natural disasters, limited access to healthcare and education, and socio-economic challenges make Rotary's role both vital and transformative.

The Charter Evening provides a platform to share the club's vision and planned initiatives—ranging from healthcare outreach and educational support to women's empowerment and environmental sustainability. It is also a moment to

acknowledge the dedication of the charter members whose commitment and passion have made this club a reality.

Fellowship is at the heart of Rotary, and this evening embodies that spirit. It is a celebration of unity, where individuals from diverse backgrounds come together with a common purpose. Cultural programs, inspiring speeches, and the warmth of shared aspirations create an atmosphere of hope and enthusiasm.

Leadership installation during the event is a key highlight. The Charter President and the board members take on their roles with a pledge to lead with integrity, vision, and service-mindedness. Their journey begins with the support of mentors, fellow Rotarians, and the larger Rotary family.

The First Charter Evening is also a moment of inspiration. It reminds every member that they are now part of something larger than themselves—a global movement that has been changing lives for over a century. It is the starting point of countless service projects, partnerships, and success stories that will unfold in the years to come.

As the Rotary Club of Calcutta Sunderbans celebrates its First Charter Evening, it lights a new lamp of hope in the region. With dedication, collaboration, and unwavering commitment, this club is poised to bring meaningful change to the communities it serves.

This evening is not just the beginning of a club—it is the beginning of a legacy of service, compassion, and impact that will continue to grow with time.

The Charter Evening was graced by PDG Rajani Mukherjee, PDG Mukul Sinha, PDG Prabir Chatterjee and various other district officials. Children from Kultali area presented rabindra sangeet and were over whelmed for their first public stage show and first visited to the City of Joy.

The major projects of the Club from September 1, 2025 to October 31, 2025:-



Pre-Puja Outreach Bringing Joy to Communities

In the spirit of festive sharing, pre-Puja distribution of sarees and male garments was undertaken for residents of Kultali, Jaynagar, Gosaba, Patharpratima, Hingaljanj, Hasnabad and Bongaon. The initiative aimed to bring dignity, warmth, and festive cheer to underserved families before the Puja season. Distribution of clothing symbolized care and inclusion, allowing many to celebrate with joy and self-respect. The outreach reflected a spirit of compassion and community solidarity, reaching remote and vulnerable populations with meaningful support during a cherished cultural occasion.



Ramp walk-glam show by transgenders and acid survivors judged by esteemed personalities



Infertility by Dr. Kusagrahdi Ghosh

Ramp Walk Celebrating Courage and Confidence

Rotary Club of Calcutta Sunderban organized a vibrant ramp walk and glam show featuring transgender participants and acid survivors, celebrating confidence, resilience, and inclusion. Judged by esteemed personalities, the event challenged social stereotypes and provided a dignified platform for self-expression. More than a fashion showcase, it was a celebration of courage and identity. The initiative powerfully conveyed that beauty lies in strength, and inclusion begins when society embraces every individual with respect.

“Sera Barir Durga Pujo” Award and Rotary: Celebrating Devotion with Social Responsibility

Durga Puja in Kolkata is not just a festival—it is an emotion, a cultural identity, and a grand celebration of art, devotion, and community spirit. While large community pandals often take the spotlight, the charm and warmth of *barir pujo* (household Durga Puja) remain deeply rooted in tradition. The concept of the “Sera Barir Durga Pujo” (Best Household Durga Puja) award beautifully recognizes these intimate celebrations, honoring authenticity, heritage, and devotion.

When such an award is associated with Rotary Club of Calcutta Sunderban, it gains a deeper dimension—transforming cultural celebration into a platform for social impact. Rotary, with its guiding principle of *Service Above Self*, brings purpose and outreach to the festive spirit.

The “Sera Barir Durga Pujo” award, under Rotary Club of Calcutta Sunderban’s initiative, was not merely about grandeur or decoration. Instead, it emphasized values that resonate with both tradition and modern responsibility. Criteria included eco-friendly practices, preservation of rituals, community involvement, inclusivity and social awareness. In doing so, Rotary encourages households to celebrate responsibly—reducing environmental impact, promoting sustainability, and fostering a sense of collective well-being.

The award ceremony itself became a moment of pride and inspiration. It brought together families, Rotarians, and the wider community, creating a platform to share stories of devotion, innovation, and service. Recognition from Rotary not only honored tradition but also motivated others to follow similar paths.

Moreover, such initiatives helped preserve the cultural heritage of *barir pujo*, which is often overshadowed by large-scale events. By spotlighting these household celebrations, Rotary Club of Calcutta Sunderban played a role in keeping traditions alive while aligning them with contemporary values of sustainability and social responsibility.

In essence, the “Sera Barir Durga Pujo” award became a bridge between culture and service. It reflected the idea that devotion to Goddess Durga is not limited to rituals but is also expressed through compassion, generosity, and care for society.

As the dhaak beats echo and the fragrance of incense fills the air, Rotary’s involvement reminds us that true celebration lies in sharing joy and extending a helping hand. Through such initiatives, Durga Puja becomes not only a festival of worship but also a festival of humanity—where every home can be a source of light, love, and positive change.



Sera barir pujo Award by visiting nearly 50 traditional pujas at homes in Kolkata and its outskirts.



Advanced pottery training to the female potters of Kultali area in South Barasat.

Advanced Pottery Training for Women Potters: A Transformative Rotary Initiative

Empowering women through skill development has always been a cornerstone of meaningful community service. An initiative like advanced pottery training for female potters undertaken by Rotary Club of Calcutta Sunderban perfectly reflects the vision of Rotary International—to create sustainable livelihoods while preserving traditional art forms.

In many rural and semi-urban areas, pottery is not just a craft but a legacy passed down through generations. However, women potters often remain confined to basic roles, with limited access to modern techniques, design innovation, and market exposure. Rotary’s intervention in providing advanced pottery training can bridge this gap, transforming a traditional occupation into a viable and dignified source of income.

Beyond technical skills, the initiative also emphasized on entrepreneurship. Women were trained in pricing, packaging, branding, and digital marketing, enabling them to sell their products beyond local markets. The social impact of this initiative is profound. Financial independence leads to improved family health, education for children, and enhanced status of women within the community. It also fosters confidence, leadership, and a sense of identity among participants.

This project contributes to cultural preservation. Pottery is an integral part of India’s artistic heritage, and empowering women artisans ensures that these traditions continue to thrive while adapting to contemporary demands.

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Edited and published by Tapas Sardar, Hony. Secretary and Editor.

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RID 3291 Zone 6

Rotary Calcutta Sunderban

December 31, 2025
Volume 3

Birthday Greetings and Anniversary Wishes to all those born and have their anniversaries from November 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025.

It is a privilege to present the third Bi-Monthly Bulletin of our Rotary year. Our commitment and passion to develop an inclusive is reflected in the major projects of our Club from November 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025.



T20 friendly cricket match of orthopaedically handicapped players at Rabindra Sarovar Stadium



Stalls by specially abled at Ranirashmoni Bhawan from 14-16 December 2025

Thalassemia Awareness Rally with Students: A Rotary Initiative for Life

In a powerful demonstration of awareness and community engagement, the Rotary Club of Calcutta Sunderbans organized a **Thalassemia Awareness Rally** in collaboration with the students of Barunhaat High School. The initiative aimed to educate the community about Thalassemia—a serious inherited blood disorder that requires lifelong care and, in severe cases, regular blood transfusions.

The rally saw enthusiastic participation from students, teachers, and Rotarians, all united by a common purpose: spreading awareness and encouraging prevention. Holding placards, banners, and slogans, the students marched through nearby areas, drawing attention to the importance of early detection, carrier screening, and informed decision-making.

Thalassemia remains a significant health concern in many parts of India, particularly in rural and semi-urban regions where awareness is limited. Through this rally, Rotary sought to break myths, reduce stigma, and promote the idea that thalassemia can be prevented through proper screening and awareness, especially before marriage.

One of the key messages highlighted during the rally was the importance of blood donation. For patients suffering from severe thalassemia, regular blood transfusions are essential for survival. By involving young students in this cause, Rotary not only educated them but also inspired a sense of social responsibility and compassion at an early age.

The participation of Barunhaat High School students added energy and sincerity to the initiative. Their voices carried the message far and wide, turning the rally into a vibrant movement of awareness. Teachers and Rotarians guided them, ensuring that the information shared was accurate and impactful.

The rally also served as a reminder that awareness is the first step toward prevention. When communities are informed, they can make responsible choices that save lives and reduce suffering.

Through the voices of young students and the dedication of Rotarians, a strong message echoed across the community: **knowledge can prevent disease, and collective action can save lives.**



RYLA in Barunhaat High School in Hindalgunj with 40 students from 12th -14th December 2025

RYLA at Barunhaat High School: Empowering Young Leaders for Tomorrow

The Rotary Club of Calcutta Sunderbans successfully organized a transformative **Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA)** program at Barunhaat High School from **12th to 14th December 2025**, marking a significant step toward nurturing leadership among rural youth in the Sundarbans region.

RYLA, an initiative of Rotary International, is designed to identify, train, and inspire young individuals to become confident leaders and responsible citizens. This three-day residential program brought together enthusiastic students, providing them with a platform to learn, interact, and grow beyond the boundaries of conventional education. The event focused on developing essential life and leadership skills—communication, teamwork, problem-solving, and decision-making. Through interactive sessions, group discussions, motivational talks, and hands-on activities, participants were encouraged to discover their potential and build self-confidence. Special emphasis was placed on values such as integrity, empathy, and social responsibility, aligning with Rotary's philosophy of *Service Above Self*. Organizing RYLA in a school like Barunhaat High School holds particular importance. Located in a region where access to leadership opportunities is limited, such initiatives open new horizons for students. It empowers them to dream bigger, think independently, and take initiative in their communities. The success of this RYLA program reflects the commitment of the Rotary Club of Calcutta Sunderbans to youth development and community empowerment. By investing in young minds, Rotary is not just building leaders—it is shaping the future of society.



Thalassaemia awareness March on 12.12.25 at Barunhaat



Tastebuds Therapy with interact schools



Youth Meet 2025 with 8 vernacular schools



Childrens Day Celebration



Disability March on 2.12.25 with blind, acid survivors, physically handicapped and thalassaemia carrier



Blind Woman T10 Cricket Match at Wari Stadium with VICAB

Blind Women T20 Cricket and Rotary

Blind Women T20 Cricket is a remarkable symbol of courage, determination, and inclusion, where visually impaired women break barriers to showcase their talent and passion for the game. Through Blind Women T20 Cricket, Rotary Club of Calcutta Sunderban highlighted the importance of equal opportunities. It challenged societal perceptions about disability and emphasized that limitations do not define potential. Spectators and communities witnessing these matches are inspired by the resilience and spirit of the players. Moreover, Rotary's involvement ensures awareness about inclusivity and accessibility, encouraging more institutions to support differently-abled individuals. By combining sports with service, Rotary fosters a culture of dignity, respect, and empowerment. In essence, Blind Women T20 Cricket under Rotary is not just a game—it is a celebration of strength, equality, and the limitless possibilities of the human spirit.

Silent March for Inclusion and Dignity

On 2 December 2025, marking the International Day of Persons with Disabilities, Rotary Club of Calcutta Sunderban organized a silent march led by specially abled participants, including acid survivors, orthopaedically handicapped persons, the blind, and thalassaemia patients. The march proceeded from Tollygunge Club to Rashbehari Crossing, carrying a message of dignity, inclusion, and rights. Police officials escorted the procession to ensure safety and prevent disturbance. Food packets were distributed to participants after the march. The event reflected solidarity, respect, and a collective commitment to empowering persons with disabilities.

Prattay Medical Unit and Rotary: Healthcare with Dignity

The *Prattay Medical Unit*, a pioneering initiative supported by the Rotary Club of Calcutta Sunderbans under the vision of Rotary International, stands as a symbol of inclusive healthcare. Designed by and for transgender individuals, this unit addresses the long-standing gap in accessible, respectful medical services for the transgender community. This model not only improves health outcomes but also restores dignity and confidence among beneficiaries. Rotary's support in infrastructure, training, and outreach ensures sustainability and impact. In essence, Prattay is more than a medical unit—it is a movement toward equality, compassion, and the fundamental right to healthcare for all.



Prattay – a medical centre for, of and by the trans-community at Gokhale Road Bandhan Shelter Home in Bransdroni



Pet bhalo to sob bhalo - by Dr. S. P. De Sarkar

Promoting Education: Rotary Support to Saradamoni Sishu Vidyalaya

Education is the foundation of a brighter future, and promoting quality primary education in rural areas remains a vital mission for Rotary Club of Calcutta Sunderbans under the broader vision of Rotary International. In this spirit, the club's efforts to support *Saradamoni Sishu Vidyalaya*, a private primary school in West Midnapore, reflect a deep commitment to nurturing young minds. The initiative focuses on strengthening the school's infrastructure, improving learning resources, and creating a more engaging environment for students. Special attention is given to encouraging regular attendance and reducing dropout rates, especially among underprivileged children. In essence, promoting this institution is an investment in the future—because when children are educated, communities are empowered, and society moves forward.



Donation of fans, charts, school bags, educational kits and food packets to students of Saradamoni Sishu Vidyalaya in West Midnapore

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Edited and published by Tapas Sardar, Hony. Secretary and Editor.

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RID 3291 Zone 6

Rotary Calcutta Sunderban

February 28, 2026
Volume 4

Birthday Greetings and Anniversary Wishes to all those born and have their anniversaries from January 1, 2026 to February 28, 2026.

New Year, New Resolution for Rotary: Renewing Service with Purpose

The dawn of a New Year brings with it hope, reflection, and the opportunity to begin again with renewed determination. For members of Rotary International, the New Year is not just a time for celebration—it is a moment to reaffirm their commitment to service and humanity. It is a time to set meaningful resolutions that align with Rotary’s guiding principle: *Service Above Self*.

One key resolution for Rotary in the New Year is to enhance community engagement. True service is rooted in understanding real needs. By listening more closely to communities, Rotary clubs can design projects that bring lasting change—be it in education, healthcare, environmental protection, or economic empowerment. The goal is not just to help, but to uplift in a way that empowers individuals to become self-reliant. Another important resolution is to foster unity and collaboration. Rotary is a global network, and its strength lies in its diversity. By building stronger partnerships—with local organizations, governments, and fellow Rotarians worldwide—clubs can multiply their impact. In a world often divided, Rotary can be a shining example of how collaboration leads to progress and peace.

The New Year also calls for a renewed focus on youth and future leaders. Encouraging young minds through Interact, Rotaract, and other youth programs ensures that the spirit of service continues across generations. Investing in youth is, in many ways, investing in a more compassionate and responsible future. Sustainability is another vital resolution. Rotary’s efforts must not only address present challenges but also safeguard the future. Projects that promote environmental awareness, renewable resources, and sustainable practices reflect a forward-thinking approach to service.

Finally, the most important resolution is personal commitment. Every Rotarian must strive to embody Rotary’s values in daily life—with integrity, compassion, and empathy. Service is not limited to organized projects; it is reflected in everyday actions, in kindness shown to others, and in the willingness to make a difference, however small.

MAGIC OF PEACE AND LOVE

Rotary's vision of peace goes far beyond the absence of war. It encompasses the presence of justice, equality, education, and opportunity. Peace, in Rotary's philosophy, is sustainable only when communities are empowered, voices are heard, and basic human needs are met. This holistic approach is reflected in Rotary's areas of focus, especially its emphasis on peace-building and conflict prevention.

As we observe Rotary's Peace Month, the message is clear: peace is not a distant dream but a continuous effort. It is built through education, sustained through service, and strengthened through unity. Rotary's work reminds us that even in a complex and divided world, collective action rooted in compassion can create lasting harmony.

In embracing this spirit, we are not just celebrating a month—we are reaffirming a lifelong commitment to making the world a more peaceful place.

Our Club continues to spread the “magic of love” – for love is something if you give it away, you end up having more. The Peace Parade, All Religions Conclave, seminar on Peace Journalism, bringing smiles on tribes of Bolpur show the shining glow of love everywhere our Club steps with confidence.



Peace Walk by autistic adults of Bahala Bodhayan on 14.02.26 spreading the word of “PEACE”.



Seminar on World Peace on 14.02.2026. All religions speak of 'LOVE' and “PEACE” around the world.



Peace Journalism – can journalism reduce conflict and spread peace in the World ?



MOTHER AND CHILD CARE

Supporting Tribal Mothers and Children in Bolpur

A meaningful humanitarian initiative was undertaken in Bolpur through the distribution of nutritional kits and sanitary napkins among tribal mothers and children up to 14 years of age. The program aimed to promote health, nutrition, hygiene, and dignity among underserved families. Nutritional support helped address essential dietary needs of growing children and

mothers, while sanitary napkins encouraged menstrual health awareness and safe hygiene practices. The initiative reflected a strong commitment to community welfare and women's empowerment. By reaching vulnerable tribal communities with care and support, the effort contributed toward building healthier lives and a more aware, dignified future.



A day of sunshine with 70
Students of ASHA PATHSHALA
- children of brick kiln
- and migrant labourers



Distribution of groceries
to “Nachni” tribe
community in Purulia



“Zindegi na milegi
dobara” by Mataji
Chitprakashprana
of Sri Sarada Math

Asha Pathshala: A School of Hope

Asha Pathshala is a humble charitable initiative run by a dedicated teacher from Kolkata who visits Bally every Sunday to teach children of brick kiln workers and migrant laborers. From nursery to Class 6, these underprivileged children receive absolutely free education, helping them dream beyond hardship. The initiative also provides tiffin, ensuring the children receive nourishment along with learning. More than a school, Asha Pathshala is a beacon of hope, compassion, and social responsibility. Through one teacher's selfless commitment, young lives are being shaped, proving education can transform communities and create a brighter future.

Serving the Nachni Community in Purulia

Rotary Club of Calcutta Sunderban organized a humanitarian initiative by distributing groceries to members of the Nachni tribal community in Purulia. The support included essential food items aimed at assisting families facing economic hardship and social marginalization. This outreach reflected Rotary's spirit of compassion and commitment to serving vulnerable communities with dignity. The initiative not only addressed immediate nutritional needs but also strengthened bonds of trust and solidarity with the tribal population. Through this meaningful effort, the club reaffirmed its dedication to inclusive service, community welfare, and reaching underserved groups with care, respect, and sustained humanitarian support.

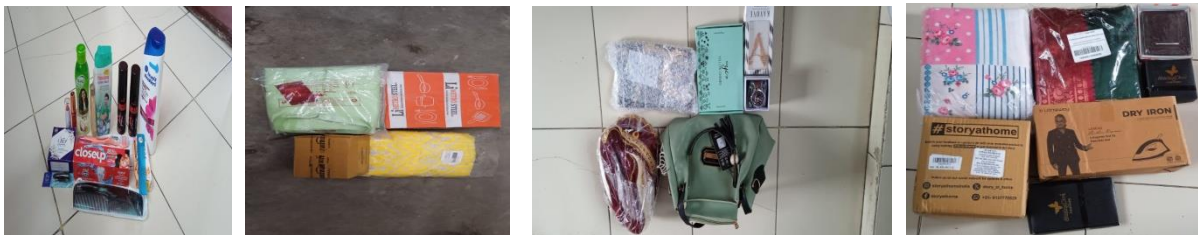
Zindagi Na Milegi Dobara — Serve Above Self

At a seminar organized by Rotary Club of Calcutta Sunderban, Mataji Chitprakashprana of Sri Sarada Math delivered an inspiring message on the theme *Zindagi Na Milegi Dobara*— life comes but once, and this single opportunity must be used in service above self. She emphasized that true fulfillment lies not in possession, but in compassion, sacrifice, and uplifting others. Every moment, she said, is a chance to serve humanity with love and

purpose. Her words deeply resonated with the audience, reinforcing Rotary's ideal that a meaningful life is measured by service rendered to others.



Supporting marriage of an underprivileged girl Sweety Das with Tushar Mondal by providing cosmetics, bride and groom's wedding and reception dress, bags, watches, cookware, cutlery, towels, bedsheets, sarees, dresses, Punjabi pajama, steel, glass and brass dinnersets, gold ornaments, money bags, sarees, dress material, male dress, etc. at Budge Budge on 25th February 2026.



Supporting marriage of an underprivileged girl Dilnasheen with Bicky by providing cosmetics, bride and groom's wedding and reception dress, cookware, iron, bags, watches, gold plated ornaments, money bags etc. at Budge Budge.

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Edited and published by Tapas Sardar, Hony. Secretary and Editor.

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RID 3291 Zone 6

Rotary Calcutta Sunderban

April 30, 2025

Volume 5

Birthday Greetings and Anniversary Wishes to all those born and have their anniversaries from March 1, 2026 to April 30, 2026.

President-Elect's Message

As I prepare to assume the office of President Elect of the Rotary Club of Calcutta Sunderban from 1st January 2026, I do so with deep gratitude and responsibility. Inspired by the ideals of Paul Harris and guided by Rotary International, our club remains committed to "Service Above Self." In the coming months, we will focus on sustainable community development in the Sunderban region — health, education, women empowerment, youth engagement, and environmental care. Together, let us strengthen fellowship and transform compassion into meaningful action. With unity and dedication, we shall continue creating lasting impact.

Joint Secretary's Message/ যুগ্ম সম্পাদক-এর বার্তা

১লা জানুয়ারি ২০২৬ থেকে রোটারি ক্লাব অফ ক্যালকাটা সুন্দরবনের যুগ্ম সম্পাদক হিসেবে দায়িত্ব গ্রহণ করতে পেরে আমি গর্বিত। Rotary International ও Rotary International District 3291-এর নির্দেশনায় এই বুলেটিন আমাদের সেবাত্রার প্রতিচ্ছবি। স্বচ্ছ যোগাযোগ ও সক্রিয় অংশগ্রহণের মাধ্যমে আমরা ক্লাবের ঐক্য ও কার্যকারিতা আরও শক্তিশালী করতে চাই। আগামী সময়ে স্বাস্থ্য, শিক্ষা, নারী ক্ষমতায়ন, যুব উন্নয়ন ও পরিবেশ সংরক্ষণে সুন্দরবন অঞ্চলে টেকসই উদ্যোগ গ্রহণই হবে আমাদের অঙ্গীকার। ঐক্য ও সহযোগিতার মাধ্যমে আমরা মানবসেবাকে আরও শক্তিশালী করব। সকল সদস্যকে আহ্বান জানাই—নিজেদের ভাবনা ও উদ্যোগের মাধ্যমে সেবাকে এগিয়ে নিয়ে চলুন।

The major projects of the Club from March 1, 2026 to April 30, 2026:-

SUDDHO JOL SUSTHO JEBON



Donation of UV+RO Water Purifier to Sarisha Ram Krishna Mission School



UV + RO Water Purifier to Saradamoni Sishu Vidyalaya in West Midnapore



Paddington Tea Garden in Siliguri for 1000 families in tea gardens



Orphan Shelter for rescued male children at Kestopur



Mosquito nets to female tea pluckers in Kamalpur Tea Estate



Mother and Child care Project in New Chumpta Tea Estate in Siliguri



Distribution of sanitary napkins to girls of tea pluckers in Bagdogra



Swayong Siddha support to Kakoli Das, acid survivor for livelihood



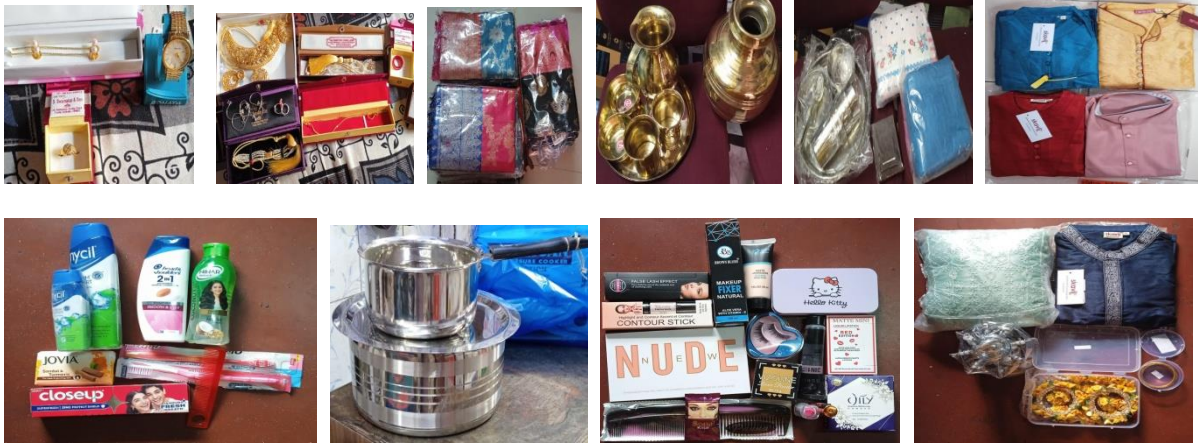
Swayong Siddha – support to Sunita Dutta, an acid survivor to re-open her food joint “MASHUP” by providing two induction stoves, pressure cooker with induction base and other induction cookware, groceries etc.



Inclusivity – Event with trans-community regarding the “Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Amendment Act 2026 with community members and doctor

Founded on the principle of “Service Above Self,” Rotary embodies the idea that true wealth lies not in accumulation, but in giving back to society. Akshaya Tiritiya reinforces this belief by encouraging people to perform acts of kindness and charity that yield lasting positive impact. On this day, many donate food, clothing, or money to those in need, believing that such deeds multiply manifold. Similarly, Rotary clubs around the world dedicate themselves to sustainable service projects that uplift communities and create enduring change.

Supporting Apon Ghar Old Age Home at Joka on the auspicious day of Akshaya Tiritiya by providing groceries, induction, cookware, ceiling pan as basic necessities for these unfortunate elderly female inmates.



Supporting marriage of an underprivileged girl Neha by providing cosmetics, bride and groom's wedding and reception dress, bags, watches, gold ornaments, money bags, sarees, dress material, male dress, etc.

Baishakhi Adda

The **Baishakhi Adda**, organized jointly by the Rotary Club of Calcutta Sunderbans, Rotary Club of Calcutta Newbies, and Rotary Club of Calcutta New Horizon, celebrated the Bengali New Year with culture and camaraderie. Rooted in the ideals of Rotary International, the event brings members and families together through music, food, and meaningful interaction. Such gatherings strengthen fellowship—the backbone of Rotary—fostering trust, unity, and collaboration.



Annadaan

The Club distributed rice, dal, fried potatoes and mutton to 50 people of bustee near Hind Cinema.



The Altruist Bulletin reflects our journey of compassion and commitment. We continue to believe that small steps together create meaningful change

Edited and published by Tapas Sardar, Hony. Secretary and Editor