



MAHANAGAR Magic

March is Water, Sanitation
and Hygiene Month

RI President - Stephanie A Urchick

District Governor - AKS Dr. Krishnendu Gupta

President - Pramila Dugar

Secretary - Sandeep Bagrecha

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PRESIDENT'S NOTE



"When passion meets purpose, magic unfolds!"

Bloom & Blend is more than just an exhibition—it's a celebration of creativity, community, and meaningful change."

A heartfelt salute to the incredible team that turned this dream into a reality! 'Mahanagar me sab mumkin hai.' The invaluable experience of veteran members combined with the zeal of new members made this possible. We owe this success to the visionary founders of this initiative—Rashi Mehta, Sarla Totla, Seema Somani, and Raj Somani—whose efforts laid a strong foundation for this journey.

I extend my warmest congratulations to Chairman Sanjay Bhalotia for his inspiring leadership and to

Kavita Bhalotia, whose unwavering dedication has been the driving force behind this event. Their relentless efforts, coupled with the support of Ashok Agarwal, Pranay Agarwal, Neena Agarwal, Sanghmitra Ghosh, Bhupesh Agarwal, Shalu Agarwal, and Shashi Agarwal, have brought this vision to life. While I have named a few, countless other hands and minds have contributed to making this event a grand success. I am truly grateful to have such passionate and dedicated allies by my side.

As Bloom & Blend flourished, so did we—growing through our actions and creating a meaningful impact on society.

With deep gratitude and warm wishes,

Pramila Dugar

President, Rotary Calcutta Mahanagar



22&23 MARCH

RANGMANCH (SWABHUMI)

11:00 AM - 9:00 PM

**fashion | lifestyle
accessories
flea market | food**

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Holi Ka Mahakumbh



Rotary Calcutta Mahanagar's Holi celebration was a vibrant and memorable event! The theme "Holi ka Mahakumbh" really brought a unique touch to the celebration, blending tradition, culture, and festivity in the most enchanting way. The picturesque setting at the Dockyard with the Holy Ganga flowing nearby was enough to justify our theme. It was simply breathtaking, enhancing the entire experience.

Men in vivid traditional attire- Red Kurta and White Dhoti, performing the spiritual Ganga Aarti filled the air with divinity.

The lively Rajasthani and Bollywood dance performances by our ladies and couples created a perfect mix of joy, reverence, and energy. It was wonderful how our members and partners showcased their talents with humor-filled skits and dances. Towards the end no member were confined to the chairs as all were seen on the dance floor tapping their feet and enjoying and spreading colours of love and bonding with 'phoolon ki holi'.

And of course, no celebration would be complete without delicious food, and it seems like the snacks and dinner was just the cherry on top of an already spectacular evening.

It was a wonderful celebration, with everyone coming together to create such a lively, colorful, and harmonious atmosphere!

By Payal Agarwal



Holi Ka Mahakumbh



LAST RWM



The Rotary Weekly Meeting on 28th February 2025 was held at HHI Regency Hall. The evening began with a prayer led by President Pramila Dugar, setting a positive tone for the gathering. A review of the projects undertaken in the past 15 days was presented, highlighting key accomplishments and their impact, followed by discussions on ongoing and upcoming initiatives. Secretary Sandeep Bagrecha provided important updates on club business and future events. The guest speaker session featured Dr. Karan Sehgal, a renowned Surgical Oncologist and Robotic Surgeon specializing in HIPEC, who shared valuable insights into advancements in cancer treatment, emphasizing early detection and advanced surgical techniques. Additionally, filmmakers Shibrām Sharma and Paramita Sharma introduced their upcoming movie, #PeeIndependence, which addressed the challenges faced by women due to unhygienic washrooms and inadequate sanitation facilities. Their discussion underscored the urgent need for improved public hygiene and awareness. The meeting concluded with an engaging Q&A session, followed by networking and fellowship among members and guests.

By Sandeep Bagrecha, Secretary

WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATION

Rotary Calcutta Mahanagar marked Women's Day with an inspiring celebration at The Park Hotel, Kolkata, on 8th March. The event was a vibrant gathering that highlighted empowerment, financial literacy, and meaningful discussions. The session featured esteemed speakers Mr. Jigar Parekh and Ms. Shivani Agarwal, who captivated the audience with their insights.

Adding to the enriching experience, Vinita Kejriwal, wife of Rotarian Sanjeev Kejriwal, conducted an impactful session on financial empowerment. Not only was she a key speaker, but she also played a pivotal role in organizing the event.

This Women's Day celebration reinforced our commitment to financial awareness and empowerment.



UDAAN SCHOLARSHIP

CSR Funding for Udaan Scholarship

We are delighted to receive ₹5 lakhs in CSR funding for the Udaan Scholarship! A big thank you to Manju Pradeep Agarwal for their relentless efforts in making this possible. This generous support will help underprivileged children pursue higher education and build brighter futures. Udaan – Giving Wings to Dreams Udaan empowers children from weaker sections of society by providing educational support, mentorship, and guidance. By nurturing their aspirations, we help them become independent and confident individuals, ready to soar toward a better future.



PROJECTS



Vocational Centre - GIFT BAZAR



It feels so good to bring smile and happiness on the face of the little children who cannot afford small things even. One such opportunity we had today through our project GIFT BAZAR organised at our Vocational centre at Tangra-Star Welfare Society. It was a unique and fun filled project where the underprivileged children were given play money of different denomination. They were made to purchase different gift items using that money. The gifts included board games, stationery items, tiffin boxes, bottles, books, colours and other items. The sense of contentment and happiness could be seen on the faces as they all were super excited to have explored and purchased the items of their choice. Our very own Dr. R. P. Vidhawan also gave an awareness talk on the ways to stay healthy. Thanks to all our members who contributed the gifts. The project was attended by President Pramila Dugar, Anuradha Agarwal, Puja Agarwal, Shalu Agarwal, Urvi Agarwal, Payal Agarwal and Anuja Banthia. Supported by our children Prayan Agarwal, Vishap Agarwal and Mukund Agarwal. Our interactors were also present for hands on service.

By Payal Agarwal



Adult Literacy



As part of the Global Grant 2459210 Adult Literacy initiative, on 27/02/25, our staff member Nilay visited five centres in Taldi, South 24 Parganas, engaging with 150-160 adult learners dedicated to transforming their lives through education. The

centres—Aribanki Mollapara, Sabek Mosehara, Bibirabad Laskarpara, Bibirabad Singhpara, and Bibirabad Old Education Centre of South Iswaripur Sonali Sangha—are playing a crucial role in empowering individuals with the ability to read, write, and build a better future. This initiative, supported by the Rotary Club of Calcutta Mahanagar and Rotary International, underscores the power of education in driving social change and fostering self-reliance.



Annadaan Mahadaan



Rotarian Bijay and Sanju Dokania celebrated their anniversary with a noble act of Annadaan at Kakurgachi, providing meals to 400 people. Their generosity turned a personal milestone into a moment of service, spreading joy and nourishment. A truly inspiring gesture of giving back to the community!





Healing Little Hearts



On 3rd March 2025, President Pramila visited RN Tagore Hospital to check on the little ones who had undergone surgery the previous Friday. The children were recovering well. On 4th March, MP Satabdi Roy, along with Rtn Sweta Chaudhary and Medical Director Girish Soni, visited baby Ishika Mondal at the hospital. Ishika, a one-year-old girl from Birbhum, required a BD Glenn surgery for her heart. Her father, a farmer with a monthly income of Rs. 5,000 (\$70), could not afford the surgery, which cost Rs. 3,65,000 (INR). The procedure was successfully conducted with the support of our Global Grant.



Homeopathy



The Homeopathy Clinic continued its dedicated healthcare services, screening a total of 131 patients across multiple sessions:

- 27th Feb : 10 patients
- 1st Mar : 19 patients
- 6th Mar : 15 patients
- 8th Mar : 17 patients
- 13th Mar : 12 patients
- 15th Mar : 19 patients
- 18th Mar (Eye Camp): 24 patients screened, with 20 receiving spectacles (12 male, 8 female) and 4 referred for operations.
- 20th Mar : 15 patients



Vivekananda School

- Identity cards distribution at Vivekananda School.
- Congratulations to Samrat Mondal, son of Mr. Ananta Mondal and Mrs. Karunamoyee Das (our esteemed school teachers), for securing 1st rank in the South 24 Parganas District Scholarship Examination (Class IV Level)! He will receive the scholarship at Presidency College on 30th March 2025. Best wishes for his bright future!





Medical Camp



Rotary Club of Calcutta Mahanagar organized a two-day Eye Check-Up Camp on 8th-9th March 2025 at Technician's Studio, Tollygunge, Kolkata. 155 patients were examined, including 25 cataract cases. The camp provided essential eye care, with spectacles donated by Medical Director Girish Soni. The efforts of Chairman Jitendra Surana, President Pramila Dugar, and Club Secretary Sandeep Bagrecha ensured its success.



Netralaya



The Netralaya Eye Care Initiative successfully conducted 4 eye camps, screening a total of 564 patients. During these camps:

- 74 cataract cases were identified.

- 218 free cataract surgeries were performed, restoring vision and improving lives.

Recognizing impactful services by DTC Group, CSR Manager, Joyjit Mukherjee, was felicitated by HCG Calcutta Rotary Club Mahanagar at Botanical Garden, Shibpur, in the presence of 23 foreign delegates. This honor highlights the team's dedication and the significant number of successful cataract surgeries conducted.



Bloodline



Our club conducted a Blood Grouping Camp at Bengal Chatkal Mazdoor Union, Angus, Chakda, on 28th Feb 2025, registering 48 SOS donors. We also met the urgent blood needs of 5 patients. Among them, Amit Kumar Gupta expressed heartfelt gratitude for the timely donation that saved his wife, a cancer patient, highlighting Mr. Pallab Halder's generosity in traveling from Dakhin Barasat to Howrah at short notice. Rotary Bloodline remains committed to saving lives through swift action and selfless service.

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**MINUTES OF THE 1389TH REGULAR WEEKLY MEETING OF ROTARY CLUB OF CALCUTTA MAHANAGAR
HELD ON FRIDAY, 28TH FEBRUARY 2025 AT HHI REGENCY HALL**

1. President Pramila Dugar led the meeting with a prayer and the National Anthem was sung.
2. Key projects carried out in the last fortnight were highlighted along with discussions on ongoing and upcoming initiatives.
3. The secretary of the club, Sandeep Bagrecha shared club updates and future event plans.
4. Our Guest Speaker, Dr. Karan Sehgal, Surgical Oncologist, spoke on advancements in cancer treatment, emphasizing early detection and HIPEC surgery.
5. The Filmmakers Shibram & Paramita Sharma introduced #PeeIndependence, addressing women's struggles with unhygienic washrooms and public sanitation issues.
6. The Meeting was Adjourned by the President.

**LET'S STAY
CONNECTED**



CONDOLENCE

With heartfelt condolences, we share in the grief of Manju and Rtn. Pradeep Agrawal on the passing of her beloved father. May his soul rest in peace, and may the family find strength and solace in this difficult time. Our thoughts and prayers are with them.



Rtn. Sandeep Soni

NEXA

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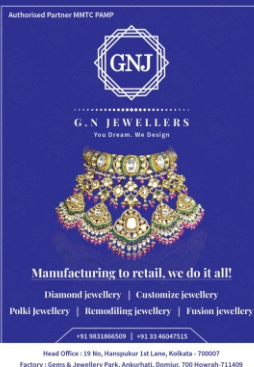


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Rtn. Sandeep & Pooja Bagrecha

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MARBLES**

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