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2025-26**

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Official Bulletin of

Rotary



**Calcutta
Mahanagar**

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8th August 2025

**UNITE
FOR
GOOD**

MAHANAGAR  **Spandan**
Evoking New Energy

**August is Membership and New
Club Development Month**

From President's Heart



Dear Friends,

It is a matter of immense pride and joy to share the vision and dynamic efforts of our Social Club as we continue to serve the community with unwavering commitment. Our adopted village Boynala is transforming into a model of progress, thanks to our continuous initiatives. We have successfully set up 2 Rotary Community Clinics and have an ambitious plan to establish 9 more clinics to ensure quality healthcare at every doorstep.

Our flagship Project Aawarun, to be launched before the festive season of Puja, will impact 10,000+ beneficiaries, spreading awareness, health, and happiness. In addition, we aim to conduct mega blood donation camps, eye

check-up drives, skill development workshops for women, and youth education programs — activities that create sustainable change in society.

This month is extra special as we celebrate 15th August – Independence Day. Beyond just a day of patriotism, we have declared an entire month of social service, filled with impactful projects—tree plantations, cleanliness drives, school adoption programs, and community health awareness campaigns.

We will soon organize a Joint Board RWM with fellow Rotary Clubs, which will create an inspiring platform for fellowship and idea exchange. Fellowship is not just bonding, but the heartbeat of Rotary. Through collaboration, we bring in innovative solutions and resources to magnify our service impact.

*छोटे से दीपक की लौ,
अंधेरो को मिटा जाती है।
सेवा और प्रेम की शक्ति,
दुनिया में उजाला कर जाती है।
आओ मिलकर प्रतिज्ञा लें,
हर दिल में खुशियाँ बँट जाएं।*

SuperSe Upar August Highlights

- 15th August to 15th September celebrated as “Month of Service” with impactful community projects.*
- Launch of mega health initiatives – Rotary Clinics, medical camps, and Project Aawrun benefiting 10,000+ lives.*
- Upcoming Joint Board RWM & Fellowship Events – creating stronger bonds, fresh ideas, and greater contributions.*
- Digital Literacy Camps for Youth & Seniors – bridging the digital divide.*
- Rainwater Harvesting & Eco-Friendly Drives – promoting sustainable living in Boynala village.*
- Vocational Training & Micro-Business Support – empowering women and rural families for self-reliance.*

Service is the purest form of patriotism, and fellowship is the bridge that turns dreams into reality.

Sanjay Bhalotia

President (2025-26)

Rotary Club of Calcutta Mahanagar

RWM on 19th July, 2025



On July 19, 2025, at Haldiram's

Key Details : The meeting focused on introducing newly inducted members of RCCM.

New members shared insights about their professions and their motivations for joining the Rotary Club of Calcutta Mahanagar. Described as a "super evening," indicating a successful and engaging session that fostered connection among members. **Context :** This meeting was part of the club's efforts to integrate new members and strengthen community bonds early in the Rotary year. No additional details about specific activities, speakers, or business conducted were provided in the document.

RWM on 27th July, 2025



The RWM No. 1403 meeting took place on July 27, 2025, at Mintella, chaired by President Sanjay Bhalotia, with Club Secretary Pradeep Agarwal requesting attendees to silence their phones. The session began with the national anthem, followed by a warm welcome to guest speaker Chef Abhishek Panja, members, partners, and esteemed guests. During the guest speaker session, Chef Panja, introduced by a Rotarian, shared cooking tips and recipes in an interactive session that particularly engaged the ladies, while Sanjay highlighted the "hidden chef" in everyone, encouraging participation. The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks appreciating Chef Abhishek's contribution, and ended with no further business, leaving members inspired for upcoming initiatives.

An expert in his field

Growing up, I dreamed of becoming a chef, a passion that has defined my journey as Abhishek Panja, where I specialize in crafting delicious recipes with grains like wheat, oats, quinoa, and rice, while educating others on their health benefits. My culinary expertise spans world cuisine and fusion, with strengths in hot and cold appetizers, soups, sauces, entrées, vegetables, roasts, grills, and Indian curries, enriched by extensive knowledge of French cooking techniques, herbs, spices, and flavoring. After earning a 3-year Hotel Management degree from NIPS School and a Bachelor's in Commerce from St. Xavier's College Kolkata, I began my career at ITC Sonar Bangla's Eden Pavilion café, later gaining diverse experience with Carnival Cruise Line USA, HHI, Park Plaza, Peerless Inn, Grain of Salt, Yellow Chilli, and various consultancies. Leading kitchen operations—including buffets, production, restaurants, and main kitchens—while mastering cost control, menu planning, duty charts, and inventory, I've honed my skills with the latest kitchen equipments. Inspired by the noble art of feeding others, I view every mother as the greatest chef, a sentiment that fuels my dedication to preparing exotic dishes and sharing my culinary knowledge.



Chai Adda



To strengthen our fellowship and bonding we met for a Chai Adda at Share Chai on a Cozy Sunday morning on 20th July. It was a gossip session with some hot tea and snacks.



Projects



Annadan - a heartfelt offering that fed not just stomachs, but souls this year



A flagship community service initiative where RCCM provides cooked meals to the needy and underprivileged. The document highlights its success, with nine drives conducted between July 16 and July 30, 2025, feeding nearly 2,000 people. These drives were sponsored by members including Seema and Mahesh Sonthalia, Saroj and Mahesh Shah, Alka and Surendra Agarwal, Jugal Agarwal, Madhu and Sharad Agarwal, Isha and Prateek Chawla, Rajeswari and Sandeep Soni, Lata and Lalit Agarwal, and Sweta and Sourav Choudhary. Chairman Neelam Singhvi and Shalini Bagaria were commended for their leadership. Annadan Mahadan projects across Kolkata from 30th July to 5th



August 2025, serving hundreds with compassion and care. The journey began on 30th July, benefiting 250 individuals through a food distribution drive supported by



Rotarians Anu Vidhawan, Dr. R.P. Vidhawan, Anju Surana, and Neelam Singhvi, with a project cost of ₹5100 and 2 man-hours. On 31st July, the team reached Kalighat Temple Skywalk, with generous sponsorship from Rita Jhavar, continuing the mission to fight hunger. The efforts carried forward on 1st August, again benefiting 250 people, with Rotarians Vinod Mahipal and Neelam Singhvi in attendance and a cost of ₹5300. On 2nd August, the Annadan drive was held at Stars Welfare Society, 47 South Tangra Road,



sponsored by Sanjay Kavita Bhalotia, followed by another impactful session on 4th August at Chittaranjan Hospital, Hazra, sponsored by Shalini Pancham Surana. On 5th August, the club executed a remarkable double drive — first at 12:30 PM near Rashbehari More, Metro Gate No.3, sponsored by Pinki Sanjay Sinha, and later at 5:00 PM at Bangur Hospital, sponsored by Renu Mukund Bhatner.



Bloodline



Continuing this compassionate tradition, on 21st July 2025 at 2:00 PM, at Medica Superspecialty Hospital, Kolkata, Mr. Rakesh Pal from Ashok Nagar, Habra, a proud member of the Rotary Club of Calcutta Mahanagar's Bloodline, selflessly donated blood to Mr. Birendra Kumar Mohata, a patient battling D-COPD.



On 26th and 27th July 2025, multiple impactful initiatives were conducted under the Bloodline project. On 27th July, a Blood Grouping camp was organized at Ankur Budge Budge, lasting 6 hours, where 17 individuals underwent blood grouping. Additionally, 7 donors registered for Virtual Bloodline, and 4 donors joined Bloodline Plus. Although no members were present at this particular event, the forthcoming camp is scheduled at Human Care Trust, 17/4/H/7 Patwar Bagan Lane, Kolkata-700009 on 15th August, 2025. In parallel, two life-saving blood donation efforts were carried out on 26th July. 2 units of AB+ blood were donated at CNMCH Hospital for A.H. Mistry, and on 27th July, 1 unit of O+ blood was donated at RGKAR Medical for Zahid Hossain, both facilitated by IBTM&IH.



'Rotary Club of Calcutta Mahanagar Bloodline

All The Best



Homeopathy



The Homeopathy Clinic, organized by Rotary club Calcutta Mahanagar was held on 19th July 2025 and 24th July 2025, benefitting a total of 35 patients. On 19th July, 19 patients were treated during a 2-hour session, while on 24th July, 16 patients were treated in a 1.5-hour session. These initiatives reflect the club's continued effort to provide accessible healthcare and support to the community.

On 2nd August 2025, Rotary Calcutta Mahanagar conducted a Homeopathy Clinic as part of its ongoing healthcare initiative. The clinic provided consultations and treatment to 26 patients over a span of 2.5 hours, offering accessible and alternative healthcare solutions to the local community.





Literacy



On Wednesday, July 30, 2025, at Hinch Board Primary School in Village Hinch, P.O. Sarada, District Purba Medinipur, continues to benefit from the e-learning grant implemented by the Rotary Club of Calcutta Mahanagar under Global Grant No. GG1871781 of Rotary International. The Smart Class setup, installed during the 2019-2020 period, remains operational and well-



maintained, as evidenced by recent photographs reflecting its continued usage and upkeep. The school authorities deserve sincere thanks for their diligent efforts in preserving these facilities, which are part of a commendable project that has established similar resources in 330 government schools. E-learning is transforming young minds — turning curious kids into happy, playful learners. With technology as a guiding force, we're making education more engaging, inclusive, and empowering — opening doors to a brighter, smarter future.



A Service Day at Chaitanya Library - Annadan, MHM, Medical



On 28th July 2025, Chaitanya Library at 4/1 Beadon Street, Kolkata - 700006, hosted a impactful day of service organized by Rotary Calcutta Mahanagar (RI District 3291). The event featured a Medical Camp sponsored by Shashi Agarwal, Annadan Mahadan sponsored by Surendra Agarwal, and an MHM

Awareness Camp & Kits Distribution. This meaningful initiative empowered 100 adolescent girls with MHM kits, served nutritious meals to 300 beneficiaries, and provided free health check-ups to 300 individuals. Grateful thanks go to Rtn. Sanghamitra for generous support, and heartfelt appreciation to Rtn. Anuradha Vidhawan, Rtn. Sunita Singhal, Rtn. Shashi Agarwal, Rtn. Kavita Bhalotia, and myself for our dedicated contributions. The event was led by Shashi Agarwal (Director - Medical), Pradeep Agarwal (Secretary), and Sanjay Bhalotia (President), with Spandan and Unite for Good supporting the cause.



Vocational Training Programmes & Projects



RCCM supports skill development through a variety of vocational training programs and projects, including:

- **Computer Training:** Equips individuals with digital skills.

- **Sewing Machine Training:** Promotes self-reliance, particularly for women.

- **Adult Literacy Program:** Conducted at Boynala Village to combat illiteracy, with a target to reach 10,280 adult learners through 257 Vidya Centers (as of July 2025, 9,615 learners completed 30 sessions, 8,066 completed 60 sessions, and 7,809 completed evaluations; additional 13 Vidya Centers for 520 learners are planned for approval, with services hopefully commencing August 16, 2025 under GG 2459210).



- **Computer Installation:** A computer was installed at ISKCON New Town to enhance educational access.

- **Skill Development (GG 187153) :** The Calcutta Foundation facilitated job placements for 93 additional beneficiaries (widows, single mothers, divorced women, and their children up to a certain age), with the project closing soon after final payments to Bitan and Calcutta Foundation following verification.

- **Mangrove Preservation (GG 2236761) :** 6,040 Nypa seedlings planted across an 11 km area (over 7 km secured with fencing), with a Forest Protection Committee formed in Madhabnagar village and honey harvested twice (70 kg and 80 kg) from 129 bee boxes.

- **Tridhara Dialysis (GG 2350240):** Services expected to commence on August 16, 2025.

- **Empowering Girls [2575450 (New)] :** Rs 42 lakhs received in the grant bank account, with project implementation to commence soon.

- **Project Dignity IV (GG 2573194) :** Construction of toilets in 235 households began in July 2025, with seven partner NGOs working across two districts of West Bengal.

- **Eye Hospital Equipment (GG-2573188):** Application approved for establishing 15 vision centers, renovation, and painting of the eye hospital, along with 300 free cataract surgeries for the underprivileged.



The Eye Hospital successfully served the community throughout July 2025 with a total of 35 patients in the OPD. Surgical interventions included 8 Phaco surgeries, 19 paid SICS surgeries, and a significant 141 free SICS surgeries, reflecting the hospital's commitment to accessible eye care. Additionally, 26 surgeries



were conducted under the NPCB program, along with 3 other surgeries. The diagnostic wing also performed 1 USG, contributing to comprehensive eye health services.

Congratulations

On July 18, 2025, the Rotary Foundation Global Grant GG2573188 was approved, awarding US\$66,952 to support a project led by the Rotary Club of Calcutta Mahanagar and the Rotary Club of New Bern. This initiative will fund equipment for five vision centers to screen for eye diseases and perform 300 cataract surgeries at HCG Rotary Mahanagar Netralaya Eye Hospital in West Bengal, India. Additionally, the Rotary Foundation Global Grant GG-2575450, known as 'Shakti' -Empowering Girls, was approved, aiming to conduct menstrual hygiene management awareness programs and distribute reusable sanitary napkins to adolescent girls aged 9-20 in semi-urban and rural areas of West Bengal, targeting 40 villages in the Sundarbans. The project implementation will occur in schools and communities, with training organized at nearby clubs or Integrated Child Development Scheme centers, and has received Rs 47,23,601 as of the same date.



Rural Toilet



M.R. Laskar visited 10 household toilets at Canning, South 24 Parganas, as part of the ongoing project under Global Grant GG-2573194. The visit aimed to assess the progress and impact of the sanitation initiative on local households.

Let's join hands to raise one Umbrella - together, we shelter more lives

Umbrella Distribution Drive – Spreading Shelter, Spreading Smiles

As part of our community service initiative, our club has undertaken the noble mission of distributing 2,000 umbrellas to the underprivileged to provide relief during the ongoing monsoon. For many, an umbrella is more than a necessity — it is dignity, protection, and hope. Grateful Acknowledgment to Our Contributors



Rotary Mahanagar Community Clinic at Stars Welfare Society



It was a proud and fulfilling day for Rotary Calcutta Mahanagar with the successful inauguration of the Rotary Mahanagar Community Clinic at Stars Welfare Society, Tangra, inaugurated by PRIP Rtn. Shekhar Mehta. This initiative aims to offer accessible, low-cost primary healthcare to underserved communities. Alongside the clinic opening, an Annadan Mahadan was conducted, benefiting

250 individuals, generously sponsored by Rtn. Kabir and Rtn. Sanjay, and an MHM distribution drive reached 100 girls, promoting menstrual hygiene and awareness.

The event saw the participation of 14 Rotarians and spouses, whose presence added strength to the initiative. Heartfelt thanks to Shekhar Mehta and Rashmi Mehta for their gracious presence, which continues to inspire greater hands-on service.

Special appreciation to Kavita and Manju for arranging the refreshments and managing the event logistics seamlessly. Sincere thanks to Mahesh and Sharad for their dedicated efforts in setting up the clinic space, and to Pranay for his support in computer installation.

We also acknowledge the contributions of Sanghamitra, Usha, Aparna, Anu Vidhawan, Madhu, Shashi and Niraj, whose presence and support were invaluable. A special note of gratitude to Secretary Pradeep, whose consistent support and coordination played a key role in making the event a success.

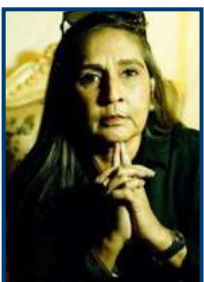


Physiotherapy



As part of our club's focus on digitisation, a free Physiotherapy Advice Camp was held today at our Physiotherapy Centre, Vyasa. A total of 20 participants attended the session. Dr. Priyanka Sharma briefed the attendees about the available facilities and the benefits of physiotherapy. The camp was attended by Raj Somani. Additionally, 20 individuals availed the services of our Health Kiosk during the camp.

Members Achievements



Rotary Club of Calcutta Mahanagar proudly congratulates Rtn. Rita Jhavar on her well-deserved and prestigious feature in a leading USA magazine. This international recognition is a testament to her exceptional journey marked by vision, perseverance, and deep-rooted compassion.

We salute her achievements and wish her continued success as she continues to shine and spread the light of service above self on the world stage.

Fellowship on Teej

On Wednesday, July 30, 2025, we embrace the joyous spirit of Sawan with a grand celebration at Vivara. As the clouds glow and rain falls with a soothing टप-टप बरस्यो मेह (tap-tap rain), turning the gardens lush green, सहेलियाँ को हो रहयो मेल (friends gather in harmony), echoing खिलखिलाहट गूँजे चहुँ दिशि (laughter in all directions) with असीम ऊर्जा, स्नेह, अटूट, अविरल, अविच्छिन्न दोस्ती (boundless energy, love, and unbreakable friendship). We celebrated with music loud and dance beneath the Sawan cloud, sharing cheer with friends and family, making this party one to remember year after year. With the patter of बूंदों की टप-टप, दिलों की खन-खन (raindrops and jingle of hearts), we dressed up to sway in the मस्ती का राग (rhythm of joy), joining in a मटरगश्ती (playful romp) filled with थोड़ी मस्ती, थोड़ा नाच, थोड़ा गाना, और ढेर सारी हँसी (fun, dance, song, and lots of laughter) as we make this Sawan truly खास (special)!



सावन की सौगात - कविता के साथ" कार्यक्रम सचमुच यादगार रहा! कविता जी, मंजू भाभी, रेनू भाभी, लज्जो भाभी, सविता जी, और उन सभी को दिल से धन्यवाद जिन्होंने इस दिन को प्यार, गर्मजोशी और खुशी से भर दिया। डांस, स्वादिष्ट पकवान, हंसी के खेल, और हाउसी की मस्ती ने हर पल को खास बना दिया। ऐसा लगा जैसे सावन की पहली फुहार खुशियों की बारिश लेकर आई हो। यह सिन्धारा उत्सव वास्तव में अविस्मरणीय था, आपके प्रेम और सहयोग से हम सब "चम चम सितारे" की तरह चमक रहे हैं। इस शानदार शाम को इतना यादगार बनाने के लिए आप सभी का बहुत-बहुत शुक्रिया!

**MINUTES OF THE 1402ND REGULAR WEEKLY MEETING OF
ROTARY CLUB OF CALCUTTA MAHANAGAR HELD ON 19TH JULY 2025**

Venue: Haldiram Banquets, Ballygunge

Time : 5:00 PM onwards

Meeting Highlights –

1. Meeting called to order by President Rtn. Sanjay Bhalotia.
2. National Anthem sung.
3. President's Address
4. Recap of key projects :
 - 35th Installation Ceremony on 5th July at Taj Bengal.
 - Boynala Village adopted with Community Clinic, Vocational & Computer Centres.
 - 10 Annadaan camps benefitting 2500+ people.
 - Blood Grouping, MHM Awareness Camp, Health Kiosk Inauguration.
 - ₹1.06 crore Global Grants received for Eye Care & MHM.

Club business by Secretary Rtn. Pradeep Agrawal

New members introduced themselves and were warmly welcomed. Vote of Thanks by PP Deepak Choudhury

Meeting adjourned.

**MINUTES OF THE 1403RD REGULAR WEEKLY MEETING OF
ROTARY CLUB OF CALCUTTA MAHANAGAR HELD ON 27TH JULY 2025**

Venue: Mintella

Time: 11:30 PM onwards, Attended by: 29 Rotarians 11 Spouses

Meeting Highlights –

Meeting called to order by President Rtn. Sanjay Bhalotia.

1. National Anthem sung.
2. President's Address
3. Recap of key projects
4. Outline of future projects
5. Bulletin Editor Shushma Singhania introduced herself
6. Club business by Secretary Rtn. Pradeep Agrawal
7. All members were requested to download Rotary India App and update their profile in order to achieve 100% digitisation of members' record.
8. Live cooking session by Chef Abhishek Panja
9. Vote of Thanks by PP Pranay Agarwal

Meeting adjourned.

Birthdays & Anniversary Wishes



Members' Birthdays

26th July
Rtn. Saurabh Agarwal
27th July
Deepak Choudhury
29th July
Rita Jhavar
6th August
Dharmapal Ajitsaria
7th August
Chitra Agarwal

Spouse Birthdays

27th July
Rajkumari Modi
3rd August
Renu Bhattar
7th August
Rashmi Doogar

Happy Anniversary

2nd August
Rita Jagnarayan Singh

From the Editor's Desk

A Heart Full of Gratitude to Our Patrons. You are the quiet force behind every smile we create, every life we touch, and every dream we dare to pursue. You are not just patrons — you are the heartbeat of our journey, the strength behind our service. Your trust inspires us. Your support empowers us. Rotary stands tall because you choose to stand with us. In every act of goodness, your presence is deeply felt. With folded hands and full hearts — thank you.



Editor
Sushma Singhania



Jt. Editor
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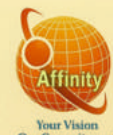
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