



Rotary Club of Sonarpur

Rotary District : 3291



REACH WITHIN TO EMBRACE HUMANITY

PRESIDENT :
Santanu Ghosh

SECRETARY:
Sajal Kumar Dutta



RI PRESIDENT:
Kalyan Banerjee

DISTRICT GOVERNOR
Angshuman Bandopadhyay

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Rotary celebrates

India's first polio-free year

Rotary club members worldwide are cautiously celebrating a major milestone in the global effort to eradicate polio. India, until recently an epicenter of the wild poliovirus, has gone one year without recording a new case of the crippling, sometimes fatal, disease.

Rotarians and state government leaders in Jaipur, Rajasthan, India, vaccinate children against polio during a National Immunization Day in 2011. *Photo courtesy of the India PolioPlus Committee*

India's last reported case was a two-year-old girl in West Bengal State on 13 January 2011. The country recorded 42 cases in 2010, and 741 in 2009.

A chief factor in India's success has been the widespread use of the bivalent oral polio vaccine, which is effective against both remaining types of the poliovirus. Another has been rigorous monitoring, which has helped reduce the number of children missed by health workers during National Immunization Days to less than 1 percent, according to the World Health Organization (WHO).

Rotary has been a spearheading partner in the Global Polio Eradication Initiative since 1988, along with WHO, UNICEF, and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation is also a key supporter of the initiative.

Sporting their signature yellow vests and caps, the nearly 119,000 Rotarians in India have helped administer vaccine to children, organize free health camps and polio awareness rallies, and distribute banners, caps, comic books, and other items.

"With the support of their Rotary brothers and sisters around the world, Indian Rotarians have worked diligently month after month, year after year, to help organize and carry out the National Immunization Days that reach millions of children with the oral polio vaccine," says RI President Kalyan Banerjee, of the Rotary Club of Vapi, Gujarat.

"The achievement of a polio-free India for a full year is a significant step towards a polio-free world — an example as to what can be accomplished no matter what problems need to be overcome," says Robert S. Scott, chair of Rotary's International PolioPlus Committee. "Rotarians of India are and should be proud of the key efforts they have made at all levels, without which the world would not be marking this milestone."

Deepak Kapur, chair of the India PolioPlus Committee, also credits the Indian Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for its commitment to ending polio. To date, the Indian government has spent more than US\$1.2 billion on domestic polio eradication activities. "Government support is crucial if we are to defeat polio, and we are fortunate that our government is our biggest advocate in this effort," Kapur says.

"Marching ahead, the goal is to sustain this momentum," he adds, describing as potentially "decisive" the upcoming immunization rounds this month and in February and March.

If all ongoing testing for polio cases recorded through 13 January continues to yield negative results, WHO will declare that India has interrupted transmission of indigenous wild poliovirus, laying the groundwork for its removal from the polio-endemic countries list, which also includes Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Nigeria. However, because non-endemic countries remain at risk for cases imported from endemic countries, immunizations in India and other endemic and at-risk countries must continue. Neighboring Pakistan, which has reported 189 cases so far for 2011, is a major threat to India's continued polio-free status. Last year, an outbreak in China, which had been polio-free for a decade, was traced genetically to Pakistan.

"As an Indian, I am immensely proud of what Rotary has accomplished," Banerjee says. "However, we know this is not the end of our work. Rotary and our partners must continue to immunize children in India and in other countries until the goal of a polio-free world is finally achieved."

District Programme

The Drive - out Polio Car Rally will be held at Saltlake stadium on 5th February 2012 from 8.30 AM onwards. Car registration of the Rally is 1000/- for 2 persons. Free Lunch, breakfast and tea will be served.

Wedding Anniversary

24th January

Rtn. Dr. Malay Chatterjee & Ann Mita

We meet every Friday, 7.30pm. at ' HARMONY ', 20A, Kali Mohon Banerjee Lane, Kolkata 700025

Club News



A blanket distribution programme was held on 15th January instant at RCC Janakalyan Samity, Usthi in the morning, around fifty needy families were benefited out of this event. In absence of president Rtn. Santanu Secretary Rtn. Sajal, PP Rtn Bivas K. Roychowdhury, PP Rtn. Samir Roy, PP Rtn Dipankar Sen, Rtns, Sanjany Dasgupta and Debashish Chakraborty alongwith Anns of the club were present during the programme and distributed the blankets .

Minutes

Meeting no: 1035 dated 13.1.2012
In absence of President Rtn Santanu Ghosh, PP Rtn Dipankar Sen took the chair and presided over the d meeting no. 1035 tand called it to order.
National Anthem led by PP Rtn. Samir Roy
Minutes of the last meeting confirmed.
A minute silence was observed in the memories of Late Santasree Sen mother of PP Rtn. Dipankar Sen and Late Gobinda Chandra Ghosh father of president Rtn Santanu Ghosh.
Acting President read out a message sent by President Santanu, to the members present for this absence.'
Discussions:

- o Next RLI programme has been slated on 15th of January, members Rtn Gautam Ray and Rtn Sripati Pradhan will be joining the same.

- o Regarding distribution of Blankets to the poor the members contribute for the project. It was decided that the Blanket distribution will be held on 15th January 2012 at our RCC, Usthi Janakalyan Samity along with the SNID.
 - o Veterenary camp scheduled on 23rd instant has bee deffered.
 - o Rtn. Sanjay Dasgupta proposed a discussion with the RCC for a continous project to develop the girl school at Usthi. Members decided to take decision in situ, on 15th instant.
 - o Members shared their views on Anandamela a successful conference of the year
- Having no other business the President terminated the meeting

Members present: 11

Sunshine collected: Rs.220.00

Health Corner

Super Foods for Keeping your Bones Healthy Dairy Products

Many experts have designated dairy products like cheese and yogurt as preferred source of calcium due to their high calcium levels. In case you are lactose intolerant, you can also opt for other dairy products that are either lactose-free or have low levels of lactose. Yogurt is contains a chemical called lactoferrin which an iron-binding protein which promotes the growth and activity of osteoblasts (the cells that build bones).

Four Way Test

Is it the TRUTH ?
Is it FAIR to all concerned?
Will it build GOODWILL and better FRIENDSHIP?
Will it be BENEFICIAL to all **concerned?**

POLIO GLOBAL
ERADICATION
INITIATIVE



every last child