



Rotary Club of Sonarpur

Rotary District : 3291



PRESIDENT :
Santanu Ghosh

SECRETARY:
Sajal Kumar Dutta



RI PRESIDENT:
Kalyan Banerjee

DISTRICT GOVERNOR
Angshuman Bandopadhyay

R.I. Club No. 23960 Charter dt. 30.06.1986

NO: 3

VOL: XXVI

29th JULY 2011

Facts of the matter -- India

by Paul Engleman
The Rotarian -- July 2011



With a land mass about one-third the size of the United States, India is the seventh-largest country in the world. Its population of 1.2 billion – second only to China's – accounts for more than 15 percent of the world's population, on 2.4 percent of the world's land. The country's median age is 26. Three in 10 Indians are 14 years old or younger.

* About 81 percent of Indians are Hindus, 13.4 percent Muslims, 2.3 percent Christians, and 1.9 percent Sikhs. The Indian government recognizes more than a dozen official languages. About 41 percent of the population speaks Hindi. English is widely spoken throughout the country.

* India's annual per capita income of US\$3,400 ranks 163rd among the world's countries. Twenty-five percent of the population lives below the poverty line, but India has the second-largest labor force – 478 million people. About 52 percent of Indians work in agriculture, which accounts for 16 percent of the country's gross domestic product. About one-third of the people work in service industries, which account for 55 percent of GDP. Fourteen percent work in industry, which represents 29 percent of GDP.

* India is the world's largest producer of tea and milk. It also exports computer software to 90 countries.

* On the UNESCO World Heritage List of 911 sites of "outstanding universal value," India has 23 noteworthy for their cultural heritage and five for their natural heritage.

* The Taj Mahal, regarded as one of the most beautiful structures in the world, is located on the banks of the

Yamuna River in the city of Agra in the northern state of Uttar Pradesh. Mughal emperor Shah Jahan built it in memory of his wife Mumtaz Mahal, who died in childbirth in 1631. The main white marble building is a mausoleum containing their tombs. It is estimated to have taken 17 to 22 years to construct.

* The city of Mumbai is the center of India's commercial film industry, known as Bollywood – a combination of Bombay (Mumbai's former name) and Hollywood. Bollywood produces an average of 1,000 movies a year, about twice as many as Hollywood.

* To many people around the world, Mohandas K. Gandhi, the leader of the Indian national movement against British rule, is known by the name Mahatma. This is an honorific title that translates as "great soul" in the ancient Indian language of Sanskrit.

* India has 3,048 Rotary clubs with a total of 113,339 members, as of 31 March. Indian Rotarians have contributed more than \$7.1 million to Rotary's US\$200 Million Challenge to eradicate polio.

Club Event

Website Launched

Today the club's website will be launched in the Regular Weekly meeting at our venue. Please visit the site at **www.rotaryclubofsonarpur.org**. We also congratulate PP Rtn. Sudip Bhattacharya for sponsoring the same.



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

Report on ICM

The first ICM of the District, was held on 15th of July 2011 at Vidyamandir auditorium, to enlighten on the theme "Reach Within To Embrace Humanity" to the Rotarians. The meet was hosted by Rotary Club of Mahanagar, Rotary Club of Calcutta Midtown & Rotary Club of Central Calcutta. The Programme was attended by none other than, RIP Kalyan Banerjee and Ann Binota. RIP was accompanied by Rotary International Director Rtn. Sekhar Mehta. District Governor 3291 Rtn. Angsuman Bandyopadhyay and Ann Jaya were felicitated. PDGs like Swapan Mukherjee, Nayantara Pal Chaudhury, Debasish Mitra, Utpal Majumdar, Rajendra Khandelwal attended the ICM along with DGE Rtn. Uttam Ganguly, DGN Rtn. Rajani Mukherjee. Interactors from various schools participated and six of the participants gave their view on the 'Theme'. The one of the Interactors from La Martinere for Boys expressed his view in Bengali and was immensely applauded. DG Rtn. Angsuman Bandyopadhyay had a brief session on the Plans & programmes of the District before Rotary International Director Rtn. Sekhar Mehta and RIP Kalyan Banerjee conveyed their understanding on the 'Theme'. The members, Rtn. Swapan Paul, Rtn. Dr. Malay Chatterjee, Rtn. Gautam Ray, Rtn. Amal Bhattacharjee & Rtn. Santanu Ghosh, also attended the ICM.

Minutes

Meeting no. 1015 Dated: 22.07.2011
President called the meeting no. 1015 to order.
National Anthem led by PP Rtn. Pradeep Kr. Chowdhury.
Minutes of the last minute confirmed.

Discussion:

1) An objection raised by IPP Rtn. Sarbendu Dutta that COTS scheduled for 19th July, 2011 was not announced in the last RWM. Although PP Rtn. Pradeep Kr. Chowdhury could not recall the declaration, none others objected.

2) President informed the club about the ICM on 'Theme' that he along with some members of the club attended on 15th July 2011. He also apologised to Rtn. Sripati Pradhan for not being able to inform the closure of club on 15th July for ICM. However IPP Rtn Sarbendu Dutta and Rtn. Sanjay Dasgupta was vocal about the short notice for the closure of the club. President tried to convince that, it is understood that the club will be closed if the meeting date clashes with any District Programme. PP Rtn. Pradeep Chowdhury suggested that still it is always better to be discussed in the meeting, to this the President agreed. IPP Rtn Sarbendu Dutta put in his observation that the Club need not be closed for a District Programme and the club can have its meeting with the members not attending the District Programme.

3) President discussed the preparation for 'Tree Plantation' & informed the club that PP Rtn. Subrata Das may arrange for a site for the project in his locality. Rtn. Sanjay Dasgupta also showed interest and requested for some time for arranging the project in his area.

4) On being requested by the President Rtn. Sripati Pradhan informed the club about the arrangements he could make at Tajput for 'Hilsa Programme' to be held Between 20th and 22nd August. He said he can make the arrangements at a reasonable cost and requested for the numbers and an early decision. The club discussed the issue. Some of the members immediately gave their consent, but final decision is to be taken in the next meeting.

5) President informed the club about the progress in Website development and requested for pictures and data from the senior members and Past Presidents.

6) The President reminded the club about the letter from Rtn. Chandan Naha (District Secretary Projects), requesting us to send details of good work by our club in the last 10 years, which may be required for making a brochure for Rotary's contribution to the society. The club members discussed about the matter.

7) President informed the club about the receipt of a letter from Vivekananda Eye Care Centre offering a package of Rs. 1500.00 for IOL instead of Rs. 4500.00.

8) The President announced that the members Of Rotary Club of Calcutta Greens are eager to have a Joint meeting with us at their own venue. Members agreed and asked the President to proceed.

President handed over the meeting to Secretary Rtn. Sajal Kr. Dutta. He announced the Birthday of Rtn. Sanjib Kr. Ray on 24th July and Rtn. Rana Safui on 22nd July and handed over the meeting to The President.

Members present: 10 Sunshine collected: Rs.200.00
Having no other business the President terminated the meeting.

Thought of the Day

The poor, the illiterate, the ignorant,
the afflicted - let these be your GOD.
Know that service to these alone
is the highest region

- Swami Vivekananda

Birthday Greetings



22nd July
Rana Safui

24th July
Sanjib Kr. Ray

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?