



Rotary Club of Sonarpur

Rotary District : 3291



PRESIDENT :
Santanu Ghosh

SECRETARY:
Sajal Kumar Dutta



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

RI PRESIDENT:
Kalyan Banerjee

DISTRICT GOVERNOR
Angshuman Bandopadhyay

NO: 8

VOL: XXVI

2 September 2011

Polio eradication within reach, despite concerns

By Dan Nixon

Among the key goals of the [Global Polio Eradication Initiative](#) (GPEI) is interrupting transmission of the wild poliovirus by the end of 2012. Although the GPEI [Independent Monitoring Board](#) (IMB) reported in July that this goal may be in jeopardy, it also noted signs of progress and provided several recommendations that could help get the program back on track.

The GPEI has made significant steps forward since the launch last year of its new strategic plan and the bivalent oral polio vaccine. Among the four polio-endemic countries, India has reported only one case of polio so far this year. The country "is on track to interrupt transmission this year," the [report](#) states.

"The northern part of India, where most of the problem had been, hasn't had one case in 15 months," adds Robert S. Scott, chair of Rotary's International PolioPlus Committee.

The other polio-endemic countries are Afghanistan, Nigeria, and Pakistan. The IMB report cites good progress in Afghanistan while spotlighting the challenge of immunizing children in conflict areas. Nigeria also has been making good headway but, following elections in April, needs to sustain the political commitment required to ensure eradication of the disease.

In Pakistan, cases doubled in the first six months of 2011, compared with the same period in 2010. The report commended the country's high-level commitment to polio eradication through its national emergency action plan, launched in January, but added that the plan needs to make a stronger impact at the local level.

The report also expressed concern about controlling polio in countries with reestablished transmission, including Angola, Chad, and Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Despite these challenges, [polio cases worldwide](#)

decreased almost 50 percent during the first six months of 2011, compared with the same period in 2010.

"Type 3 polio numbers have dropped to 15 this year," says Scott, referring to one of only two strains of the wild poliovirus that remain. "It appears type 3 will soon be eradicated completely."

Health experts believe that eradicating polio, rather than trying to control the disease, is both feasible and essential.

"There are approximately a dozen countries where polio gets reported sporadically, and those cases can all be traced back to the four countries where transmission has continued," says Robert Murphy, director of the Center for Global Health at Northwestern University in Illinois, USA. "If we focus on those four countries, the cases in the other countries are going to evaporate."

"It's very important to finish the job soon, because we're so close. If we back off now, the problem is going to get bigger and even more expensive."

Finishing polio once and for all, the IMB report states, will require enhanced political commitment, secure funding, and strengthened technical capacity.

"The eradication of polio is the responsibility of every government," says Scott, noting the unanimous decision in 1988 at the World Health Assembly to pursue that goal. "Rotarians in every country must continuously talk it up with their fellow Rotarians and, at every opportunity, with their political leaders, to ensure support, both financial and moral."

During a [TED](#) conversation in July, Bruce Aylward, the World Health Organization's assistant director-general for polio eradication and related areas, called Rotarians' efforts at the international and grassroots levels "incredibly powerful for a global health initiative like polio eradication."

Everyone can help end the disease, Aylward said, by providing funding and reminding their communities and government leaders that polio still exists and causes tremendous suffering.

"We have the chance to ensure that no child ever suffers from polio again, and each of us plays a role in that," he said.

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

Report on ICM on membership

The ICM on Membership, held on 27th August at Rotary Sadan was hosted by the Zone 20 clubs. PDG Rtn. Kishore Kumar Cherukumali of District 3020 was the keynote Speaker.

DG Angsuman also had a brief session, where he urged for at least 10% increase in membership. DG Angsuman formally inducted a number of new members in some of the clubs of the District. He also recognised the proposers of the new members with a Star Lapel pin.

The programme was followed by a Panel discussion and an interactive session.

CONGRATULATIONS for having 100 % attendance for the month of August:

Rtn. Dr. Malay Chatterjee, Rtn. Subrata Das
Rtn. Sarbendu Dutta, Rtn. Gautam Ray

District Events

10th Sept. 2011: ICM on New Generation at Vidya Mandir Auditorium, between 3 pm to 6 pm.

9th to 10th Sept. 2011 : RYLA, at Prakash Bhavan, Salt Lake.

Club Event

A Joint RWM of the Zone clubs along with Rotary Club of Calcutta Ridge on 13th September, 2011, to be held at Calcutta Club.

Birthday Greetings



**Rtn. Swapan Saha
on 3rd September**

Health Corner

Porridge and berries

Use oats and skimmed milk to make your porridge, then add any berries such as strawberries, raspberries or blueberries and honey. This is a great way to start the day as the oats have a **low GI** (Glycaemic Index) this tells us that oats do not raise the blood glucose level very quickly, which is good as it can **help stabilize the appetite**. Just go easy on the honey!

Minutes

Meeting no. 1019

Date: 26.08.2011

President called the meeting no. 1019 to order. National Anthem led by Rtn. Dr. Malay Chatterjee. In the absence of Club Secretary, President requested Rtn. Gautam Ray to officiate as Secretary. Minutes of the last meeting confirmed.

Discussions:

- President thanked member Rtn. Sripati Pradhan and Club Service Director Rtn. Subrata Das for organising an excellent, Flawless "Hilsa Utsav" at Sankarpur between 20th and 22nd August. All the members agreed and joined their hands for the duo.
- President apprised the members about the SNID scheduled on 28th August.
- President informed the club about a RLI orientation programme on 28th August at Rotary Sadan.
- President requested all members to attend the ICM on Membership development scheduled on 27th August at Rotary Sadan, from 3pm.
- President informed the members that the 1st RYLA of the year will be held at Prakash Bhavan, Salt Lake from 9th to 11th September 2011. The club discussed about the participation in the same.
- President initiated a discussion on a probable project on 28th September to commemorate Anti Rabies Day. Members joined the discussion and tabled their suggestions for the project.
- President announced that the BOARD MEETING of the club will be held on 9th September at 7pm at our venue.

President handed over the meeting to acting Secretary Rtn. Gautam Ray.

- Acting Secretary, Rtn. Gautam Ray announced the receipt of Bulletins from Rotary Club of Salt Lake Metropolitan and RC Megacity.

Rtn. Gautam Ray handed over the meeting to the President.

Having no other business, the President terminated the Meeting.

Members present: 10

Sunshine collected: 200

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?