

Inner Wheel Club of Central Calcutta

IW District 329 • Charter No. 3743



ECHO

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Sudha Choudhury
President

Renu Lakhota
Secretary

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Editor

WELCOME

A warm welcome to all Rotarians of RCCC and our very own members to today's Joint Meeting.

We also welcome Mr Pradeep Chopra -our Guest Speaker who will speak on "SPIRIT OF ENTERPRISE"



President's Message

Dear friends,

"Apnalaya"- Our dream Project

I love to dream with open eyes and nurture them. And when I dream, I recollect the following lines of a poem :

*Within your heart,
Keep one still, secret spot,
Where dreams may go,
And sheltered so.
May thrive and grow,
Where doubt and fear are not,
Oh keep a place apart
Within your heart
For little dreams to go.*



Let us all take pride and pleasure in making this dream project thrive and grow a hundred fold in the years to come. With support and co-operation from each one of you, we can make this dream a reality.

Yours in friendship
Sudha Choudhury

Visit us at www.innerwheelccc.com

Know our Guest Speaker - Mr. Pradip Chopra



Mr. Pradip Chopra is the CMD of the reputed PS Group. PS is one of India's leading real estate firm, credited with over 120 real estate projects spanning 25 years. The group has created landmark properties in Kolkata such as Trinity Tower, Trinity Plaza, Windsor Manor, Classica, Astral, to name a few.

However today Mr. Chopra is not only recognized by Public as a builder but also as a popular writer and speaker.

He has penned several hundred articles on real estate, Indian economy, desired Government Policies for sustainable growth as well as education in leading national dailies such as The Hindu, Times of India, The Statesman, Hindustan Times, Dainik Vishwamitra etc. He has written several popular books - 'How to Choose and Look After Your Dream Apartment', 'Simple Tools for Complex Living', 'How Green is Your Housing Complex', 'Your Guide to Prevent & Fight Fire In a Housing Complex', 'Be Money Smart', 'Love and Romance in Marriage' etc. Recently Penguin has offered to publish his books on commercial terms. His work is widely read and admired not only by the home building industry, home seekers, apartment residents but also by the student community and general readers.

Lately he has launched ILEAD (Institute of Leadership, Entrepreneurship & Development) which is a school for Business, Entrepreneurship, Media & Journalism for providing world class education to those who wants to excel in these fields.

A distinguished orator, he is regularly invited to speak in seminars and workshops organized by CREDAI, CII and other Chamber of Commerce/Trade Associations, Educational/Training Institutes etc.

EK PRAYAS"... An Educational Scholarship Program

Basic education is a fundamental human right and every child is entitled to it .It is a prime necessity and the foundation of all progress. In view of this we have taken up an initiative to provide scholarship to deserving, needy students, especially to the girl child, who wants to study but whose families are unable to support the education. EK PRAYAS is one such humble effort.

We marked the 21st foundation day of our club which falls on 17th March by launching EK PRAYAS on 11th March 2010 during Temptations Plus. We would like to thank Mr Sushil Saraf & Mrs Alka Saraf, our participant in Temptations Plus for donating Rs. 5000/- towards Ek Prayas for the scholarship of a child for one year.

This is a joint project with Rotary club of Central Calcutta.

At a glance : Inner Wheel and Rotary club of Central Calcutta

An Ascending saga:

Inner Wheel Club of Central Calcutta began its journey on 17th March 1989, with 36 charter members, receiving its charter on 14th June 1989. With a healthy foundation like this the club went on to add many member in its fold and today has more than 60 members. It created many milestones in the first year of its existence and since then there has been no stopping to an ascending saga in the last 21 years.

On the way up we did many meaningful projects, upgrading ourselves every time. Innovative and complete fun programs were designed for the members, which kept the spirit alive in the club. Earlier there used to be annual schemes of the club, which after successful implementation became regular features. Programs like **Fashion Show by the members, Lay the table contest, Kolkata Kite Karnival and service projects like donation of expensive equipments to the hospitals, ambulances, making class room and libraries** were inventive and benefitted many lives. The club went on to buy a land for a permanent project all by itself in 2006. Today, we have a project, namely **APNALAY**, which will be there for times to come (if things move according to the vision) and which has given us an unprecedented confidence as far as social work is concerned.

Today some of our key programs and projects are:

PROGRAMS: TEMPTATIONS, TEMPTATIONS PLUS, FASHION QUOTIENT- all fund raising events, ECHO- our annual souvenir, HUSBANDS' NITE- a fun filled evening for our spouses, CHARTER DAY- a fellowship program for the members and invitees of sister clubs, JUMBLE SALE- sale of old things.

PROJECTS: APNALAY- a home for senior citizens, being under construction, CLEFT LIP/ CLEFT PALATE surgical correction for the needy, EYE CARE- under which 1200 patients were checked up, 800 spectacles were distributed free of cost and 30 patients were operated for the cataract, EDUCATION/SCHOOL- refurbishing of a school roof

An Institution in the Making

When **Rotary Club of Central Calcutta** was being founded, in 1983, the founding members would little have imagined that the new Rotary club would go on to become a leading light of district 3290/3291, that it would travel with so much dedication on the path towards the Rotary ideal of Service Above Self, and that its activities and projects would closely touch so many lives along the way.

The club has sponsored several active Interact clubs, a **Rotaract club**, six **RCCs**, not to speak of its most precious asset, namely the **Inner Wheel club**, which has blossomed into a leader in its own right.

Included in the service programmes of the club are **low-cost homes for the homeless in rural areas, sanitary latrines, deep tube wells, soak pits, rain water harvesting, village roads, IOL implants, artificial limbs, scholarships, health care, heart surgeries, polio immunisation, and so much more.**

One can well imagine how many lives have been touched by these programmes which have been going on for 25 years. It has been a source of satisfaction and encouragement for the members to see how its efforts have resulted in alleviating the problems of the community.

TOGETHER WE ARE STRONGER:

We believe in this time tested philosophy; hence we join hands on a number of programs and projects.

Currently we are working with together on programs mentioned below:

ROTA WHEEL- a treasure hunt

SARASWATI PUJA CELEBRATION- food distribution at Rotary Shiksha Kendra

INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION- food distribution at Rotary Shiksha Kendra

POLIO IMMUNISATION PROGRAM- feeding polio drops

EK PRAYAAS- educational scholarship program

And many other.....

APNALAY : DREAM TO REALITY



A view of the construction in progress.

Exactly a year ago on this day 7th May 2009, the construction started of APNALAY, under the leadership of then **President Geetika Khaitan**, and today we were standing on the ground floor with basement already finished of the home for the senior citizens.

PP Dipti Khaitani, **President Sudha Choudhry** and I have made it a routine to see the progress regularly. The credit for this initiative goes to none other than our pro active President Sudha which further received a thrust by PP Dipti Khaitan. The result of this initiative was that the last Sunday **PP Anjana Bhuwania**, **PP Smita Murarka**, **Vinita Poddar** and **Bina Verma** also accompanied us.

Last month we visited the site on all the Sundays, and have been feeling amused by the progress of the work. The awe and the expressions of our Past Presidents will also support this fact.

PP Anjana after her visit to the site said “*Apnalay always seemed a beautiful dream. Even after we learned to make it our favourite aspiration, it still remained just that - a dream. Because somewhere, deep down there was always a question - will it ever actually HAPPEN?? Well my friends, it's actually happening!! And in full swing. I thank PDC Mamta & Pres Sudha for dragging me & others to the site. Nothing less than 'CONCRETE' evidence would have satisfied me & now I am fully & finally satisfied. Apnalay is real, it will see the light of the day & I can't wait for that day to come!!*”.

PP Smita commented “*A much unexpected sight.....a vacant land when I had last seen it and now it's come up to level 1, if we take basement as zero level.*

The work is in full progress; as if it's got double promotion.

The sincerity of PDC Mamta and President Sudha is remarkable, having all statistics on their fingertips. APNALAY is truly coming TRUE!!

PP Dipti needs kudos for her efforts to carry us to the site every Sunday with a lot of enthusiasm.

She is very happy to be of any help for this project. **Bina Verma**, otherwise not being able to attend our regular meetings due to her teaching profession was pleased to see the progress of the work done. She said "It seems as if my child has grown big!!" Vinita Poddar said that she was glad to be present there so early in the morning, though she resists getting up early. President Sudha was seen busy with the shutterbug capturing the memorable moments for her own records realising that soon she will be joining the gang of the Past Presidents and will be missing the fun of being the President.

We would like to thank **Rtns. Prem Lihala, G. D Poddar and Naresh Keyal** of **RCCC** for their unstinted support towards **Apnalay**. **Rtn. G D and Prem Lihala and President Elect Subir Poddar** visited the site on 25th April, . Needless to say that they are committed till the Apnalay sees the light of the day. The back office support of **Rtn. Prem Lihala** is noteworthy. It was heart warming that our interior designer **Mr. Ajit Jain** of **W. B. Studios** also visited the site on 18th April to discuss a few things with the contractor.

The ground floor already being in sight we propose to have our next meeting along with the jumble sale at Apnalay, which will give all the members a chance to see the project. This is just to inform that we shall be able to finish structure of the building by September, if we carry on the work nonstop. On behalf of the Apnalay committee I once again invite benevolent members, donors to help us in helping the society.

I would like to put on record the appreciation for the work being done by **Apnalay's** Secretary and the Treasurer **PP Mamta Gupta and PP Pushpa Agarwal** respectively. It is because of the dedication of such members that we shall be able to reach our goal in no time.

I, for myself felt proud when I ascended the stairs leading to the first floor of Apnalay, though the floor is still not there. It seemed as if we are many steps ahead in our efforts and venture collectively like that flight of stairs. I was excited too as all of us stood together on the landing for a picture creating a part of the history of Apnalay.

3 Cheers to each one of you for making it all happen!!!

Report by
PDC Mamta Agarwal



*President Sudha, Rtn. Subir Poddar,
Rtn. Prem Lihala, Rtn. G. D. Poddar,
PDC Mamta Agarwal & PP Dipti Khaitan at
the Apnalay site on 25th April, 2010*



*Rtn. Prem Lihala in serious discussion
with contractors.*



*PP Dipti, PP Anjana, PP Smita, Bina Verma,
Vinita & PDC Mamta at the Apnalay
site on 2nd May, 2010.*

DEBATE ON "PARENTS SHOULD HAVE THE RIGHT TO CHOOSE THE GENDER OF THEIR OFFSPRING"



"Parents should have the right to choose the sex of their off spring". These very words strike a chord deep within as the natural selection would be a first choice. But with the changing society evils too have cropped up and to deal with these at times what was considered evil yesterday may not be so today. Yet again certain parameters have to be borne in mind, hence this became a topic for discussions in our club.

Our for the Motion team comprised of Sunita, Dipti, Mridu & Shruti where their strong points were: --

- 1) Technically foolproof, eliminates Fetus killing and abortion as people desire a baby of a particular sex.
- 2) Certain diseases are carried from male to male child only, eliminates abnormalities, deformities disorders allows healthy babies.
- 3) Provides happiness to educated parents who are then able to choose and shop for the sex of the child. It thus helps the girl - boy balance in the family.
- 4) Eliminates immoral acts like murder killing by obnoxious methods e.g. sand, tobacco juice, towels etc.
- 5) The unwanted girl child is saved the misery of growing up neglected and scarred for life.

The points against the motion were put forward by Anjana, Sarla, Mona & Deepa

- 1) It was unethical, discriminatory. Why should society wants sons only?
- 2) It goes against equal rights for sexes and society is not imbalanced with children of the same sex to a parent.
- 3) Gender selection will result in demographics imbalances; we don't need to play God.
- 4) Sex selection is an unnatural, medical procedure, which are for medical purpose only.
- 5) Evils of society would rise with more males than females e.g. polyandry, prostitution, sex related crimes.

We had Anuja Kumar, a psychologist counselor and Human resource consultant as the Judge who balanced the debate by giving her valuable points on the issue.

She concluded the debate by saying there were evident advantages to a gender selection as it eliminates a lot of atrocities against the girl child. But India as a country was not ready for it. It would give equal rights to the rich – poor, educated – uneducated, upper – lower class. Our society is ridden by poverty, uneducated masses, immaturity, superstitions etc hence such a tool cannot be given to our society. We would not be leaving behind a good legacy as well.

It is better to be a contended mother of a happy child. Children were to be valued as they were born.

*“Yeh to asha ki leher hai
Yeh to umeed ki seher hai
Khushiyon ki nehar hai,
Jhoke hai pawan ke
Kho na jayee yeh taree zameen par”*

In the show of hands there were 11 people against the motion 5 for the motion and 4 neutral. The 1st Prize went to PP Anjana, 2nd PP Sarla 3rd Sunita Jalan and a mention of Dipti who bravely recounted her personal experience. All the speakers were wonderful. I would like to thank all the participants and members. They enthusiastically came forward and participated with gusto. I would say it was a very successful event and a beginning for many more to follow.

Moderator for debate

Renu Lakhotia

(Club Secretary)

Polio Plus



President Sudha Choudhury and Shriti Jhawar along with president of RCCC Rtn. Sriratan Jhawar attended Polio Immunisation Camp on 2nd May, 2010 near Mahajati Sadan.

Whatever is beautiful, whatever is meaningful,
whatever gives you happiness,
may all that be yours....

Today, tomorrow and forever.

Happy Birthday!!



1st May	-	Minu Banka
4th May	-	Anushree Mundhra
5th May	-	Mamta Agarwal
7th May	-	Geetika Khaitan
21st May	-	Sangeeta Daga
27th May	-	Renu Lakhota
29th May	-	Sunita Jalan
31st May	-	Shashi Khandelwal

Happy Anniversary

An anniversary is a special day to celebrate
the beautiful bond of LOVE that two
hearts share. Happy Anniversary!!!!

4th May	-	Renu & Yogendra Lakhota
10th May	-	Renu & Sunil Dalmia
13th May	-	Kiran & Arun Jhunjhunwala
19th May	-	Vanita & Moolchand Sethia
24th May	-	Anita & Pankaj Shroff
24th May	-	Mamta & Ashok Mehta
24th May	-	Mridu & Sunjay Somani

ATTENDED

- Pres. Sudha, Secretary Renu, PDC Mamta & Mona Saraf attended Charter Day of Inner Wheel Club of Mahanagar on 21st April.
- Pres Sudha & PDC Mamta attended Charter Day of Inner Wheel Club of Jadavpur on 19th April.

21st CHARTER DAY CELEBRATION

Our Club is celebrating its 21st Charter Day on Monday, 14th June at 3.30 P.M. at Conclave, 216 AJC Bose Road, Kolkata - 17. The theme of the day is "The Great Indian Woman : Mirror of our Society". District Chairman Mrs. Snigdha Barat is the chief guest. Chairman : Vinita Poddar, Co-Chairman : Riju Chamaria

CLUB NEWS

Our next regular meeting will be held on
Thursday, 8th June at Apnalay site.

DISTRICT NEWS

- 29th May 2010 : Husbands Nite at District Chairman Snigdha Barat's residence at Sutanuti House.
- 3rd DC Meeting will be held on Friday, 4th June at Nehru Children Museum at 3 pm.
- District Assembly on 5th June at Royal Bengal Hall at 9.30 a.m. Registration Charges Rs. 350/- per head.
- Received a letter of Nomination for the post of Association Vice President / Deputy National Representative.

" Working hard overcomes a whole lot of other obstacles. You can have unbelievable intelligence, you can have connections, you can have opportunities fall out of the sky. But in the end, hard work is the true, enduring characteristic of successful people."

– Rear Admiral Marsha Evans