Rongdhonu

Club ID No: 72098
Organised: 03 January 2006
Chartered: 22 February 2006

Rotary
Club of Baridhara

Issue 13 | Fortnightly Bulletin | Rotary Year 2025–26
11 January 2026

Vocational Service Month



Rotary
Club of Baridhara



জাতীয় সংগীত

আমার সোনার বাংলা, আমি তোমায় ভালোবাসি।
চিরদিন তোমার আকাশ, তোমার বাতাস, আমার প্রাণে বাজায় বাঁশি॥
ও মা, ফাগুনে তোর আমের বনে ঘ্রাণে পাগল করে,
মরি হায়, হায় রে–
ও মা, অঘ্রানে তোর ভরা ক্ষেতে আমি কী দেখেছি মধুর হাসি॥
কী শোভা, কী ছায়া গো, কী স্নেহ, কী মায়া গো–
কী আঁচল বিছায়েছ বটের মূলে, নদীর কূলে কূলে।
মা, তোর মুখের বাণী আমার কানে লাগে সুধার মতো,
মরি হায়, হায় রে–
মা, তোর বদনখানি মলিন হলে, ও মা, আমি নয়নজলে ভাসি॥

Rotary Invocation

We, the Rotarians are dedicated to the ideal of service to maintain a high ethical standard in our business and profession and to dignify our vocation by enhancing international understanding, goodwill and peace through people united in the ideal of service

Rotary Club of Baridhara, D-64, Bangladesh
Club ID No.: 72098
Chartered on: 22 February 2006
Website: www.rotaryclubbaridhara.org

Vision Statement

Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change-across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves.

Mission Statement

We provide service to others, promote integrity, and advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through our fellowship of business, professional, and community leaders.

The Four-Way Test

Of the things we think, say or do

1) Is it the TRUTH?
2) Is it FAIR to all concerned?
3) Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
4) Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

Rotary Motto

1) “Service Above Self”
2) One Profits Most Who Serves Best Service Above Self is the principal motto of Rotary.

"Friendship was the foundation rock on which Rotary was built and tolerance is the element which holds it together."
—Paul Harris

Editorial Note



Dear Rotarians,

Assalamu Alaikum.

As we welcome the new year, let us pause for a moment to reflect on the journey we have taken together and the path that lies ahead. Rotary teaches us that every new beginning is an opportunity to serve with greater purpose and passion. January is not just the start of a calendar year, it is the start of renewed commitments, fresh ideas, and stronger fellowship.

Our motto, "Service Above Self," reminds us that true happiness comes from giving, not receiving. In this new year, let us pledge to uphold the Four-Way Test in all that we do, truth, fairness, goodwill, and benefit to all. These principles are the foundation of Rotary and the guiding light for our actions.

The world around us is changing rapidly, and so are the needs of our communities. Whether it is supporting education, promoting peace, or protecting our environment, Rotary gives us the platform to make a real difference. Let us embrace innovation, strengthen our bonds, and work together to create sustainable projects that leave a lasting impact.

Here's to a year filled with purpose, fellowship, and meaningful achievements. May 2026 be a year where our club shines brighter than ever, and our collective efforts bring hope and joy to many lives.

With warm regards,

Rtn. Aleya Ferdous Diptee
Editor, Rongdhonu
Rotary Club of Baridhara

Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the 694th Meeting of Rotary Club of Baridhara (AGM & Club Assembly)

Meeting No: **694**

(Draft for approval)

Date: 28 December 2025 | Time: 6:30 PM | Venue: The Westin Hotel, Dhaka

Opening & Invocation

- Meeting No. 695 was formally called to order by Club President Rtn. Meherun N. Islam.
- Rotary Invocation was read by Rtn. Rizwana Tabassum.
- President thanked the reader and welcomed all members.

Greetings on Birthdays and Wedding Anniversaries
As requested by Club President, Rtn. Syed Zafar extended greetings to the following members of RCB -

- For Birthday: Rtn. Kamruzzaman; Rtn. N K A Mobin; Rtn. Muhammad Kawsar Alam and Rtn. Aleya Ferdous Diptee.
- For Wedding Anniversary: Rtn. PP Sheikh Nasim Imam & Rotary Ann Mahbuba Sarmi; Rtn. PP Ali Ashfaq FCA, MPHF & Rotary Ann Dina Ashfaq; Rtn. Mihammad Nazmul Huq Bhuiyan & Rotary Ann Ismat Jahan; Rtn. Syed Zafar and Rotary Ann Syed Shammiara.

Confirmation of Previous Meeting Minutes

- Club Secretary Rtn. PP Ambassador Mosud Mannan, ndc MPHF B referred to the minutes of the previous meeting (No. 694), which combined:
- Annual General Meeting (AGM) and
- Club Assembly

held on 14 December 2025
and requested Members present to confirm the minutes.

With few corrections the minutes were confirmed as per proposal made by Rtn. Sheikh Nasim Imam and seconded by Rtn. Mamun.

Introduction of Guest Speaker

Guest Speaker Mrs. Easmin Ara Doly, Director, Bangladesh Council for Child Welfare (BCCW) was introduced by Club Secretary Rtn. PP Ambassador Mosud Mannan, ndc MPHF B

Key Points of the Speech of the Guest Speaker

- Overview of BCCW and its history (established in 1957).
- Introduction to Firoza Bary Disabled Children Hospital (established in 1961).
- Major services provided by Firoza Bary Disabled Children Hospital :
- Physiotherapy
- Hemophilia treatmen
- Occupational therapy
- Speech and language therapy
- Orthosis & prosthesis (supportive devices provided at low cost)
- Hospital capacity :
- Total 100 beds
- 70 for disabled children
- 20 for hemophilia patients (below 18)
- 10 for adult hemophilia patients
- Cost structure:
- Approx. BDT 3,000/month, including treatment, food, and accommodation.

Disability Prevention & Awareness

- National data shared:
- 1.7% of children in Bangladesh are disabled (UNICEF 2021).
- Major causes of disability discussed:
- Prenatal: vitamin deficiencies (e.g., folic acid), infections
- Natal: birth injuries due to unskilled home deliveries
- Postnatal: jaundice, measles, oxygen deprivation, negligence

Emphasis should be given on

- Early diagnosis and early intervention
- Maternal nutrition and prenatal care
- Public awareness and community education
- Concern raised regarding:
- Fast food and chemical exposure during pregnancy
- Social stigma leading to concealment of disabilities

Q&A Highlights

- Question raised on thalassemia vs hemophilia:
- Clarification provided that:
- Hemophilia leads to physical disability requiring physiotherapy
- Thalassemia is primarily a hematological condition without similar deformities.

Special Discussion on:

- Legal and ethical classification of disabilities
- Role of physiotherapy in lifelong disease management
- Awareness programs highlighted:
- WFH-led medical college awareness initiatives
- Genetic counseling and family education
- Emphasis on prevention through education, premarital counseling, and informed family planning.

Member Reflections

- Members shared personal experiences and observations related to child safety and disability.
- Strong appreciation expressed for:
- Knowledge-sharing session
- Need for wider community awareness
- Consensus that prevention is more effective than cure.

9. Vote of Thanks

- Formal vote of thanks was delivered by Rtn. Monirul Islam.
- Appreciation were expressed for:
- Guest speaker’s time, expertise, and impactful presentation
- Awakening social responsibility among members

Attendance Statistics & Final Announcements by Club Secretary

Statistics :

- Total number of Club Members : 52
- Members Present: 15
- Guests Present: 1
- Make up: Nil
- Attendance Percentage: 28.85%
- Announcements:

Next regular meeting in the new year will take place at the Westin on 11th January 2026 at 6.30 pm.

- Year-ending Board Meeting was scheduled on 30th December 2025 at 6pm at ACCL, Gulshan to be hosted by Club President Rtn. Meherun Nessa Islam.
- In her concluding remarks Club President extended:
- New Year greetings to all members and guest speaker after presenting the Speaker with mementos and having an official photograph.

Message from Rotary International President 2025-26

January 2026



President, Rotary International, 2025-26

Francesco Arezzo

In a garage outside Salinas, California, young people who are learning to restore classic cars are doing more than developing a skill — they are reclaiming their futures. This training program provides mentorship and, for some, a path away from gang involvement toward meaningful employment. Graduates leave with certifications, practical experience, and hope.

This is what Rotary's Vocational Service Month celebrates each January — the power of bringing together people with unique skills to do good in the world. It reminds us that integrity isn't just about our actions matching our words. Integrity is in everything we do.

The California automotive program has been such a success because it was built on integrity. Members of the Rotary Club of Carmel-by-the-Sea didn't assume they knew what the community needed. They listened. They learned there was a shortage of skilled mechanics as well as a large number of young people lacking job training. They recognized that technical skills alone wouldn't be enough, so they partnered with Rancho Cielo, a nonprofit offering counseling and support services alongside vocational training.

That is The Four-Way Test in action. Those four simple questions help us not judge others but guide us toward genuine, effective service.

Consider our commitment to ending polio. For nearly 40 years, we have promised the world's children we will eliminate this disease. Despite obstacles, we persist, and today we are closer to defeating the virus. Keeping this promise is the very definition of integrity.

The same integrity must drive our vocational service. With 1.2 billion young people in emerging economies reaching working age in the next decade and only 420 million jobs projected, we face a critical gap. Communities long excluded from economic opportunities need our support.

But support doesn't mean imposing our will. It means listening to local needs, building partnerships, and designing projects that communities can sustain themselves.

You have knowledge that can transform lives. Whatever your profession, your expertise combined with Rotary's values creates lasting change. The question isn't whether you have something to offer, it's how you'll use your skills to serve.

This January, I encourage you to ask how your club can address vocational needs in your community. What skills do your members have that could change someone's life? How can your networks open doors for young people? What partnerships can create sustainable jobs?

Let integrity guide you. Let The Four-Way Test light your path. And let the young people in California and the multitudes worldwide who need job skills remind you why vocational service matters.

Let us celebrate putting our professional skills to work for humanity with integrity at the heart of everything we do.

Club Secretary's Column

Importance of Training for a Rotary Club and it's individual members



Secretary 2025-26
Rtn. PP Mosud Mannan MPHF B

The Rotary Vocational Service Award recognizes professionals and business leaders who exemplify high ethical standards, integrity, and "Service Above Self" within their vocation.

It honors individuals who use their professional expertise to improve the community, often highlighting mentoring, vocational training, or ethical leadership.

Key Aspects of the Award:

Purpose: To recognize outstanding vocational service, which involves using one's professional skills to solve societal needs and promoting high ethical standards.

Recipients: Usually awarded to non-Rotarians in the community, though some districts may have specific awards for Rotarians (e.g., Vocational Service Leadership Award).

Criteria: Candidates are evaluated on the quality of their vocational achievements, their community service impact, and their adherence to the Rotary Four-Way Test.

Focus: Greater emphasis is placed on volunteers who give their time rather than those paid for their efforts.

Timing: Often presented in January, which is designated as Rotary's Vocational Service Month.

Common Selection Criteria:
High Ethical Standards: Demonstrating integrity in business and professional practice.

Community Impact: Using vocational talents to address community needs, such as mentoring young people or organizing workshops.

Advancement of Vocation: Promoting the dignity of all useful occupations.

Nominations are typically submitted by local Rotary clubs to district (in case of Bangladesh at the present time it will be D64 & D65) committees, usually requiring a biography and a narrative explaining the candidate's contribution.

Rotary Club of Baridhara

EN—(116)

Rotary VOCATIONAL SERVICE LEADERSHIP AWARD
NOMINATION FORM

The Vocational Service Leadership Award recognizes Rotarians who have made a significant impact in advancing vocational service. District governors may nominate one candidate from their district each year.

Eligibility

An individual may receive this award only once. Current, incoming, and past district governors, and current, incoming, and past RI directors are ineligible.

Criteria

Candidates must have exhibited significant support of vocational service by fulfilling each of the following criteria:

- Exemplifying integrity and high ethical standards in their vocation and in Rotary
- Using their vocational talents to serve the community
- Personally undertaking at least one of the following:
  - ☐ Mentoring a young person to help that person succeed in vocational pursuits
  - ☐ Organizing a vocational service discussion or group workshop to inspire others to take action
  - ☐ Teaching other club members about their vocation by participating in a classification talk
  - ☐ Participating in a business networking event that introduces non-Rotarians to the principles of vocational service
  - ☐ Implementing an activity to celebrate Vocational Service Month in January
  - ☐ Participating in another vocational service project that meets local needs

Selection procedure

The district governor must submit a completed nomination form to RI World Headquarters by **1 November**.

Nomination

Must be typed and signed by the district governor.

Nominee

First name _____ Last name _____ Member ID _____

District _____ Rotary Club of _____ Club ID _____

District Governor

First name _____ Last name _____ Member ID _____

Address _____

City, State/Province _____ Postal code _____ Country _____

Phone number _____ Email address _____

By signing below, I certify that the candidate meets the eligibility requirements and has successfully fulfilled the criteria for this award as listed above.

Signature of district governor (required) _____ Date _____

A certificate will be sent to the district governor for the recipient in January. After the award has been presented, the name of the recipient should be published in the zone-level newsletter or governor's monthly communication.

Nominations must be received at RI World Headquarters no later than 1 November.

Submit to: Rotary Service Section (PD210), Rotary International, One Rotary Center, 1560 Sherman Avenue, Evanston, IL 60201-3698 USA
Fax: +1-847-556-2179 Email: riawards@rotary.org

Profile of the Esteemed Guest Speaker



T. I. M. Nurul Kabir

Executive Director,
Foreign Investors' Chamber of Commerce & Industry (FICCI)

T. I. M. Nurul Kabir is a respected business leader, policy advocate, and development strategist with more than 38 years of experience at the intersection of ICT, telecommunications, ICT for Development (ICT4D), and investment promotion, and private sector development. Widely recognized for his inclusive approach and humility, Mr. Kabir has consistently bridged government, industry, civil society, academia, and the media to drive systemic change in Bangladesh and beyond.

Mr. Kabir is a passionate Rotarian, deeply committed to service and peacebuilding, recognized Nationally & internationally for his leadership:

a. Recipient of Rotary Service Above Self Award 2018

b. Recipient of Rotary Avenue of Service Award 2020

c. Action Plan Champion recognized by RI President 2024-25

d. Member of Roary Action Group on WASH and assigned as Ambassador of WASH

e. Global Chair of Rotary Global History Fellowship (RGHF 2024-27

g. International Service Committee Chair 2018-19 & 2020-21

h. Direct PHS Coordinator 202122 & 2023-24

i. District Training team Member

j. Conducted a virtual training session on Rotary Foundation to RID 3271 & 7272

k. TRF Cadre of Technical Advisers at The Rotary Foundation.

l. South Asian Cadre Committee Member and lead for Bangladesh 2025-27

- Executive Director, Foreign Investors' Chamber of Commerce & Industry (FICCI)
- Former Secretary General & CEO, Association of Mobile Telecom Operators of Bangladesh (AMTOB)
- Former Senior Vice President Dhaka Chamber of Commerce & Industry (DCCI)
- Former Director and Senior Vice President Bangladesh Association of Software and Information Services (BASIS)
- Former Chair of Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FBCCI)
- Global Advisor of Top-Level Domain for Six years.

Extensive experience as Keynote Speaker, Moderator, and Panelist at: ITU World (various countries)

- GSMA Mobile World Congress (Barcelona & China)
- World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), Geneva
- World Bank Global Workshop on Public–Private Dialogue (PPD), Austria Internet Governance Forum (IGF), Athens, Tunisia, and others
- Breakout Session Speaker and Moderator of different Conventions and Institute of Rotary International.

Core Competence:

- International Business & Policy Strategist
- Investment and Development Policy Advocate
- Public–Private Dialogue Facilitator
- Business Leader & Policy Reformer
- Global Investment and ICT Strategies
- Specialist on Rotary Foundation Global Grant Project
- Facilitator/ Master Trainer of Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI)
- Taught at leading universities as a visiting professor, fostering human and professional development

Project news of Rotary Club of Baridhara

Importance of Training for a Rotary Club and it's individual members







The Rotary Club of Baridhara, in partnership with VIEW Foundation, successfully completed its Annual Cataract Project in December. This year, we provided 216 free cataract surgeries for underprivileged patients at a cost of Tk 4,500 per patient, totaling Tk 972,000.

Our journey began in November with several eye camps in rural Tangail district, where patients were screened and selected for surgery. The operations were conducted at VIEW Foundation Chowdhury and Hossain Eye Hospital in Karatia, Tangail. Each patient received free accommodation, meals, cataract surgery, post-operative medicines, sunglasses, and prescriptions for follow-up care. Trained eye workers ensured proper recovery through follow-up visits at camp sites.

By restoring sight to those suffering from severe cataract, often leading to near blindness, we transform lives. These individuals, once dependent and considered burdens, can now return to their families as productive members, able to earn a livelihood and live with dignity.

This project reflects Rotary's commitment to Service Above Self, turning compassion into action and hope into reality.

January – Vocational Service Month

Empowering Through Integrity and Professional Excellence

January is celebrated across the Rotary world as Vocational Service Month, one of the five Avenues of Service that define Rotary's mission. This theme reminds us that our professions are not just a means of livelihood, they are powerful instruments for service and ethical leadership.

What is Vocational Service?

Vocational Service calls on Rotarians to:

- Uphold high ethical standards in business and professions.
- Recognize the worth of all useful occupations and dignify work as a noble contribution to society.
- Leverage professional skills to serve communities and mentor future leaders.

Rotary's Four-Way Test, Truth, Fairness, Goodwill, and Benefit to All, remains the cornerstone of vocational ethics. By applying these principles in our daily work, we inspire trust and create a culture of integrity.

What Vocational Service Looks Like in Action

- Mentorship & Career Guidance: Pair experienced Rotarians with students, interns, and early career professionals for structured mentoring, CV clinics, and interview practice.
- Ethics & Transparency Forums: Host panel discussions on business ethics, compliance, and fair practice, highlighting the Four Way Test as a practical framework.
- Skills Sharing for Community Projects: Engineers, doctors, teachers, lawyers, entrepreneurs, creatives, offer pro bono hours to strengthen local initiatives (health camps, literacy programs, innovation labs).
- Entrepreneurship & Employability: Facilitate short workshops on digital skills, financial literacy, marketing basics, and soft skills to help youth and micro entrepreneurs thrive.
- Recognition of Vocational Excellence: Celebrate professionals who model integrity and service; feature their stories to inspire others.

Vocational Service is about transforming our professional identity into a force for good. As Paul Harris said: "Rotary summons men to respond to their best impulses; their best selves."

Let us make January a month of action, where our vocations become pathways to progress, and our integrity becomes the foundation of trust.

Together, let's celebrate Vocational Service Month by committing to excellence, mentorship, and service through our professions.

Club Activities

Glimpses from 695th Fortnightly Regular Club Meeting



















Birthday Greetings

1 January
Rtn. Sheikh Nasim Imam, PHF

1 January
Rtn. Syeda Ajanta Israt, PHF

1 January
Rtn. Nasrin Sultana

1 January
Rtn. Rizwana Tabassum

12 January
Rtn. Md. Mahsudur Rahman FCMA, FCA, PHF

26 January
Rtn. Safwan Hossain Khan MPHF

Wedding Anniversary

9 January
Rtn. Ambassador Mosud Mannan ndc
Rtn. Prof. Dr. Nuzhat Amin Mannan

Rotary Club of Baridhara

Unite for Good

Board of Directors 2025-26



President 2025-26
Rtn. Meherun Nessa Islam



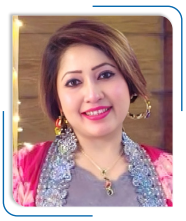
IPP 2024-25
Rtn. Javed Hyder Kareem



President Elect–2026-27
Rtn. N K A Mobin, FCA, PHF



Vice President-1
Rtn. Nazmul Ahsan Khan (Shudip)



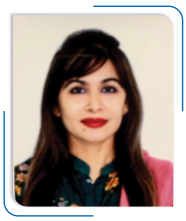
Vice President-2
Rtn. Rizwana Tabassum



Secretary
Rtn. PP Ambassador Mosud Mannan, ndc, MPHF B



Treasurer
Rtn. Wahid Anwar



Joint Secretary
Rtn. Kamrun Alam Dahlia



Sergeant at Arms-1
Rtn. Dr. Kazi Nawshad Hossain



Sergeant at Arms-2
Rtn. Niamul Haque



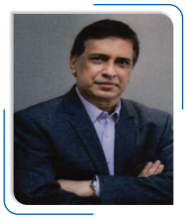
Club Trainer
Rtn. Noor Mohammad Dicon, PHF



Director, International Service
Rtn. Ali Ashfaq, FCA, MPHF



Director, Club Service
Rtn. Ahsanul Huq Chowdhury, FCA, PHF



Director, Community Service
Rtn. Saiful Huq, FCA, PHF



Director, Youth Service
Rtn. Tapash Kumar Saha, PHF



Director, Vocational Service
Rtn. PP Mohammed Ali



Bulletin Editor
Rtn. Aleya Ferdous Diptee

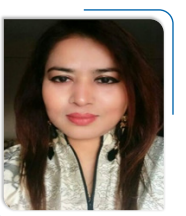
Committee Heads for 2025-26



Rotary Foundation
Rtn. Syed Ershad Ahmed, MPHF, MD



Membership
Rtn. Sheikh Nasim Imam, PHF



Service Projects
Rtn. Sultana Nasrin



Club Administration
Rtn. Khaled Shams, PHF



Public Image
Rtn. Mamunur Rashid, PHF

CEMS Global

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present

#25th edition

dhaka international yarn fabric show 2026

WINTER EDITION



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