

Inauguration of the Rotary Global Grant Project 'Uthe Sabke Kadam-Feet for ALL'

A Rotary initiative to provide low-cost artificial legs to the underprivileged amputees



DG Prabir Chatterjee and the Project Team along with Past District Governors and Eminent Rotarians from D3291 after lighting the inaugural lamp.

The world became a little brighter on November 28, 2021, as District Governor Prabir Chatterjee along with eminent Rotarians from District 3291 lit the inaugural lamp for the Project 'Uthe Sabke Kadam- Feet for ALL' at Mahavir Seva Sadan in Kolkata, India.

Uthe Sabke Kadam is an artificial leg donation initiative undertaken by Rotary Club of Calcutta Chowringhee (D3291) in partnership with 4 districts and 17 Rotary Clubs in Finland (D1385,1390,1410,1430), Rotary Club of Calcutta Mayfair (D3291) and Young Indians (Youth Chapter of Confederation of the Indian Industries).

The project aims to reintegrate 1270 underprivileged amputees into the community, with the support of prosthesis, vocational training and job opportunities. Mahavir Seva Sadan, a reputed non-profit organization that manufactures Jaipur Foot and supports physical rehabilitation of the poor and needy amputees, is the service partner for this project.



DG Prabir Chatterjee addressing the audience

Along with DG Prabir Chatterjee, Past District Governors and distinguished Rotarians from D3291 were present at the ceremony. DG Prabir in his speech shared his experience of how dedicated and committed are Rotarians worldwide towards service to humanity. He thanked the prosthetic recipients present at Mahavir Seva Sadan for allowing Rotary to serve them.

Vikram Tantia, President, Calcutta Chowringhee apprised everyone of the project. The initiative will provide the globally acclaimed 'Jaipur foot', a low-cost, easy to manufacture prosthesis that will come with pre-prosthetic training, fitment, post-fitment care and lifetime replacement guarantee.

The most significant feature of the project is it will address the gap between physical rehabilitation and holistic, sustainable rehabilitation. The project aims to provide a structured rehabilitation to the low-income group leg amputees, by not only prosthetic legs fitment, but also providing vocational training and employment supports, enabling the beneficiary to re-engage in life activities.



Rtn Vikram Tantia, President, RC Calcutta Chowringhee speaking about the project

Another major project goal is to focus on women and school-going children who often fail to get priorities even in their disability status. Keeping that in mind, 50% of the beneficiaries of this project will be women and children. When a woman is enabled, she takes care of not only herself but an entire family and the future of her children. A child when enabled for education and living with dignity, she/he will not fall into poverty, thus breaking the vicious cycle.

President Tantia also acknowledged all the partners without whose support and contributions, this project would not have happened.



Rtn Vishnu Dhandhanian, Project Mentor, sharing how the project was conceived

Rtn Vishnu Dhandhanian, Past President of Rotary Club of Belur, under whose mentorship this project took shape, took us through the journey from the conception of the project till its approval by The Rotary Foundation. He narrated how 17 Rotary clubs and 4 districts in Finland came forward to make the project goals larger. Rtn Erkki Pasanen of Rotary Club of Leppavirta, D1430, who is also the Primary International Contact for this project, was phenomenal in his efforts to motivate Rotary Clubs in Finland, he added.

A few past Beneficiaries of Mahavir Seva Sadan shared their stories of change while many who gathered to get prosthesis, listened with renewed hope. Gouri Gayen, a homemaker in her middle age, travelled from Joynagar village to register herself as a recipient. She said her family depended on her to look after them and how could she do that if she couldn't walk!!! Raju Khan, 30, who used to work in a local bakery, said all he wanted was to get his job back so that he could feed his little children. He had been jobless since he lost his leg in a train accident.

Gouri and Raju and many like them just need the simple aid of a low-cost prosthetic leg and some rehabilitation support to restart their lives. In the coming months, Project Uthe Sabke Kadam- Feet for ALL will help them in returning to mainstream and living a fulfilling life.

Rotary Global Grant Project 'Uthe Sabke Kadam-Feet for ALL'

Primary Host: Rotary Club of Calcutta Chowringhee D3291
Primary International Partner: Rotary District 1430

International Partners

District 1385
District 1390
District 1410
District 1430

Rotary Club of Rantasalmi, D1430
Rotary Club of Mikkeli-Naisvuori, D1430
Rotary Club of Lappeenranta-Saimaa, D 1430
Rotary Club of Kouvola, D1430
Rotary Club of Hamina, D1430
Rotary Club of Kuopio-Veljmies, D1430
Rotary Club of Iisalmi, D1430
Rotary Club of Imatra, D1430
Rotary Club of Juva, D1430
Rotary Club of Kitee, D1430
Rotary Club of Kiuruvesi, D1430
Rotary Club of Kuopio-Kallavesi, D1430
Rotary Club of Kuopio-Puijo, D1430
Rotary Club of KuopionHuomenklubi, D1430
Rotary Club of Kuusankoski, D1430
Rotary Club of Mikkeli-Sankt Michel, D1430
Rotary Club of Puijo (Kuopio) D1430

Local Partners

District 3291
Rotary Club of Calcutta Mayfair, District 3291

Cooperating Organization

Young Indians (Youth Chapter of CII)

Service Partner

Mahavir Seva Sadan

More Photographs from the Event



Past Beneficiary of Mahavir Seva Sadan



The gathering of Rotarians, well-wishers and prosthesis recipients



Past Beneficiary of Mahavir Seva Sadan



Past and future recipients of leg prosthesis at Mahavir Seva Sadan