

## Kutchina Foundation celebrates Annual Day



**K**utchina Foundation celebrated its annual day to commemorate the outstanding contributions and efforts by the existing Krritikas in bringing about social impact and change in the society. The initiative of the new Krritikas who have been identified to be offered fellowship for their respective projects under Kutchina Krritika - an initiative to identify woman change-makers and support them. The women identified under this initiative are called 'Krritikas' as it stands for a group of stars (female Nakshatras) also known as the 'Stars of Fire' and is related to a commander, foster mother, luster, glow of power, physical and creative force. The occasion was graced by the presence of Seema Biswas, National Award winning actor of Bandit Queen fame, and acclaimed singer Usha Uthup. The new Krritika are from Kolkata, Nagaland and Assam. The courageous women whom Kutchina Foundation has identified for the fellowship this year are: Bhoatina Mushahary from Kokrajhar, Assam works for marginalized disabled women facing some of the other forms of gender based violence. Saswati Arora works towards creating an enabling environment for the less privileged children of our society through a range of sustainable and reliable services. Namit Bajoria, Director, Kutchina and Honorary Consul of the Republic of Macedonia said, "Of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals set by United Nations, goal 5 is to achieve gender equality. While the world has achieved progress towards gender equality and women's empowerment and girls with equal access to education, health care, decent work, and representation in political and economic decision-making processes will help sustainable economies and benefit societies and humanity at large", Mr. Bajoria added.

## School Leadership Development Program organised



**R**ashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan, 'State Council of Educational Research & Training' and under the aegis and organisation of School Education Department of the State Government, a 4-day training workshop of school heads was held recently at the Midnapur Town School. Sixty heads of West Midnapur participated in this workshop. Information & Cultural Affairs Department official, of West Midnapur, Ananya Majumdar inaugurated the workshop at the Kartick Chandra Mitra Auditorium of the school. The workshop was christened under the 'School Leadership Development Program (SLDP)' initiated by National Council of Educational Research & Training (NCERT). Present on the occasion were head of the school, Dr Vivekananda Chakraborty, a President's National Teacher award winner and Rabindra researcher. School education Department of West Bengal's Assistant Inspector of Schools Sachindranath Paul, West Bengal Madhyashiksha Pardshad's Teachers Representative Rajib Manna, Councillor Kalpana Mukherjee. In his inaugural address, the steering force of this workshop, Dr Chakraborty gave an insightful speech on 'School Leadership Development Program'. He said that in 2011, honourable chief minister Mamata Banerjee had constituted a 'Specialist Committee' on school education and entrusted it with the responsibility of deciding on the syllabus, its structure and textbooks.

Dr Chakraborty highlighted five pillars of the national syllabus structure. They are:

- 1: The knowledge acquired in the classroom would be applied by the students in their daily lives.
- 2: Instead of depending on crammed up knowledge, to embrace Tagore's educational philosophy and to cultivate the students' power of thinking and imagination.
- 3: The teacher and the student to not be confined to curriculum only but to be inclined towards pleasant and creative education world.
- 4: During examinations, a child's curriculum performance would not only be the aspect, but all year round all aspect of the child would be evaluated and if, in any aspect he/she is found to be lagging behind would be eligible for special attention.
- 5: With all-inclusive education the child would be transformed to a social existence.

## Spencer's Hilsa Festival across 12 city stores

Expecting to do record breaking business of fish during the festival days this year

**S**pencer's Retail Limited unveiled a month long unique Hilsa Fish Festival across 12 Kolkata-based stores. In one of the largest hilsa fish offerings in a city store, Spencer's Retail displayed fresh prized catch where some of the fishes were more than 2 kgs. Commenting on the on-going Hilsa Fish Festival, Spencer's spokesperson said, "We are excited to offer a wide choice of Hilsa to connoisseurs at the most competitive prices available in the city. In our endeavour to ensure that the beloved Hilsa is accessible to all, especially smaller families, we have introduced a unique mini-pack Hilsa (2 pieces) at Rs. 70, so that one need not buy the whole fish. This mini-pack will be available across select Spencer's stores and there will be no waiting time for cleaning and cutting a whole fish." To meet additional demand, special arrangements have been made to import Hilsa from Myanmar reaching Kolkata through the sea route via Yangon Port as well. He further added that contrary to floating rumours, fresh Myanmar Hilsa is not only bigger in size, but as tasty as select supplies from any other centres. Amongst the Hilsa collected from the Indian

harbour are at a premium because of superior taste. Giving further details, Spencer's spokesperson said that as an incentive for buying fish & meat worth Rs 499 and above, patrons will get Hilsa 2 pc pack for Re 1 on all Wednesdays in August. Also, as an everyday offer, on buying Hilsa worth Rs 99 and above, customers will get 1 litre Engine Mustard @ Rs. 69 which sells at Rs. 120. He added that Spencer's offers a wide range of quality fish (over an astounding 50 varieties) at attractive price and right weight. The Spencer's Hilsa Fish Festival will be celebrated at South City hyper, Rash Behari hyper, Quest hyper, Mani Square hyper, Axis hyper, New Town Square hyper, Club Town hyper, Acropolis Mall super, Avishar super, Upohar super, DLF super and newly opened Downtown Mall super at Rajarhat Apart from Hilsa, the other fishes that will be available at the Spencer's store include Rui, Katla, Pabda, Bhetki, Tilapia, Tangra, Parshu, Aar, Boyal, Chital, Gurjali and Pomfrets. There will also be several varieties of Galdia, Prawns and Shrimps. A huge demand for Prawns (Shada Chingri) and Tilapia among other seasonal fishes is expected during the month long Spencer's Hilsa Fish Festival.



## JetSynthesys launches 'Simply Love'

One stop digital destination for Dada Vaswani's followers

**A**s the spiritual master Dada JP Vaswani completes 99 years today and embarks upon his 100th year journey, JetSynthesys, a Pune based technology and gaming company along with Sadhu Vaswani Mission has developed 'Simply Love' a one stop digital destination that will provide an open gate to Sadhu Vaswani Mission and Dada's teachings on a daily basis. The app was launched today in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who was present over a video conference to wish Dada on this occasion. Powered by JetSynthesys' patented platform - PubliCam, 'Simply Love' app will provide exclusive content related to Dada, his inspirational quotes and teachings and allow you to explore handpicked content in audio, videos, talks and stories for your daily dose of love and spirituality. Experience virtual tours through unique 360 degree views, join interactive sessions, live streams and quizzes, and chat with the rest of your community while you receive guidance from Dada on various topics. Speaking on this occasion Rajan Navani, Vice Chairman and Managing Director, JetSynthesys Pvt. Ltd. said, "As our beloved Dada completes 99 years and steps in his 100th year, we are extremely thrilled to present 'Simply Love' an app which will become the platform to spread universal love and one that has the power to transform the world we live in. On this destination, with technological advancement of 360 degree immersive live content integrated with social handles, the power of actionable change and spreading love now lies in the hands of every individual, to be engaged in their daily lives."

## Bandhan Creation launches "Shraddha" Collection

**B**andhan Creation - a one-stop destination store for culture and heritage - today launched its Durga Puja 'Shraddha' Collection at its Gariahat store located at 411/15, Hemanta Mukhopadhyay Sarani, Near Chandrani Pearl, Gariahat, Kolkata - 700 029. 'Shraddha' is a tribute to the elders amongst us who give so much to and make a mark in life. It is not a way of giving back; it's an inspiration to express our heartfelt gratitude and love for their presence and guidance. "Introducing a special line for the elderly section of the society has always been in our mind and this is my way of paying homage to our seniors. The sale of every product from this store supports the livelihood of the artisans in West Bengal, Bihar, Odisha, Uttar Pradesh, Chattisgarh, Telangana, Rajasthan and a number of other states. The plan is to turn Bandhan Creation into a national chain, marking its presence in most Indian



states," said Nilima Ghosh, Managing Director, Bandhan Creation. Bandhan Creation is a perfect meeting ground for indigenous creativity and modern lifestyle. The collection of home furnishing, table-top items made of wood and cane is a connoisseurs' delight. Potochitra, dokra works, kantha stitches, applique, block prints, terracotta, ceramic and others find a new expression at this outlet. The collection of garments covers men's and women's range such as kurta, kurta, tops, dupatta, stole, skirt, palazzo, jacket, shirt made from various fabrics including ajrak, bagru and dabu. The jewellery collection consists of fabric, stone, dokra and silver.

## 'Charitrik Galpo': Bharati Bhattacharjee



**A** cultural evening on August 7 at Indumati Savaghar, Jadavpur witnessed the launch of 'Charitrik Galpo' a book by Bharati Bhattacharjee. The writer, born in Silchar, Assam, is now based in Vishakhapatnam. This book contains 22 stories, centred on love and subtle emotions of understanding, compassion and cohabitation. Some of the stories are reflections of the author's own experiences of her real life. The settings or locations of some of the stories are tribal places, forests, marshes. It shows her closeness to Nature and her exploration of the great hinterland. This book 'Charitrik Galpo' is the latest addition to a series of highly acclaimed publications of the talented Bharati. Bharati Bhattacharjee has already written 4 popular books-

'Porichoy', 'Duronito', 'Resonance of Life' and 'Amazon theke Aamader Desh. The book 'Charitrik Galpo', published by Kalpataru Publishers, was formally launched by renowned singer Subhprasad Nandi Majumdar and Yoga-Guru Chandan Das. The book launch succeeded a medley of cultural programs including songs by the Subhprasad Nandi Majumdar and flute recital by

Subhankar Bhattacharjee. There was a dance number by Shreyasi Roy Chowdhury, songs by Anurupa Bhattacharjee, Mitul Bhattacharjee, Debjani Roy Chowdhury, Sarbani Bagchi, Gouri Banerji and Dipa Das, recitation by Sujata Choudhury, Sujan Bhattacharjee & others. The program was moderated by writer & film-maker Ashish Basak.

## Rini reminded Lata Ji at Santa Clara during NABC 2017

**N**orth American Bengali Conference (NABC), a three-day annual conference is held each year in different cities across USA. This year the conference was held in the heart of the world famous Silicon Valley - in the city of Santa Clara, California, and was attended by about 5000 local and international music lovers. Renowned artists, film makers, singers, poets and musicians of Bengal, not to mention eminent literary figures, were invited to this conference to showcase the rich Bengali culture and heritage. Rini Mukherjee, an incredible talent and an established singer from New Delhi, mesmerized the audience

with her singing on Sallil Choudhury's compositions on high octaves with difficult meters. Her melodious renditions and supremacy in higher octave drew rich applause. "The moment I heard Rini singing, I was reminded of Lata Mangeshkar! Her voice is versatile, melodious, and enthralling", said Surajit Sengupta, a member of the Steering Committee of the conference. "Our audience cheered her remarkable performance! Rana Bose, a member of the Organizing Committee, was full of praise for Rini's rendering of Sallil Choudhury's songs. "Her singing reminded me of an era gone by, a period of time when Bengal

had reached a new height in melody", he commented. NABC looks forward to Rini's participation in the years to come! Among the leading film directors, actors, actresses, poets, singers from Bengal, Sandip Roy, Aparna Sen, Rituparna Sengupta, Babysachi Charabarty, Ranjit Mallik, Tanushree Shankar, Debajyoti Mishra, Subodh Sarkar were present on this occasion. The programme started with spectacular opening ceremony duly conducted by Tanushree Shankar and Debajyoti Mishra. Along with them, Dalia Sen played an important role in conducting opening and closing ceremony.

