

CLUB SANDWICH



Stables Steeds were the winners in dance and darts. Captain Anand Neotia said: "As Stables Steeds' captain, I couldn't have wished for a better team. All of us chipped in at crucial times and played consistently through the tournament. We were the only undefeated team, and were happy to be crowned the champions of dance and darts. On a personal note, I was happy to have won the darts event second time year in a row."



Belvedere Bulls were the winners in bridge and Scrabble and also won the Spirit Of Tolly Fest. Priyanka Bhoopal, the captain of the team, said: "Team Belvedere Bulls started the Tolly Fest with high, aided by our wins in bridge and Scrabble. Team spirit soared high when members from the tennis discipline substituted in swimming and squash making sure the team was represented. The team cheered for each other and put in their best. The Spirit of Tolly Fest prize came to our team, perhaps quite befittingly."



Hastings Hurricanes won cricket, equestrian and squash. "We started with a big bang by winning the cricket tournament which was a new entry in Tolly Fest this year. We then had a setback with other disciplines. On the final day, however, winning the squash and equestrian disciplines made our scores soar back to the second position. We were ecstatic as a team, but what was even better was the friendship and camaraderie that we built over the last eight days," said captain Malini Sarkar Navada.



Cruickshank Cavaliers won the snooker contest. "We attribute our team winning to some astute team picking, wise strategies and most of all some superlative performances," said captain Pradeep Guhathakurta.



Shamiana Shakers won two in disciplines — Fitness Challenge and swimming. Captain of the team Deep Banerjee said: "The team practiced throughout the week. To sum it up, we enjoyed Tolly Fest thoroughly and we all made new friends for life."



Pantiles Pirates won table tennis. "It's been a blast meeting and competing with so many members. It's been an incredible festival of sport where each participant has not only performed their best but also helped bring out the best in each other," said captain Jahan Mehta.

#SPECIALMENTIONS



Raiana Suchitra Guha, six, from the team Shamiana Shakers, received the Youngest Participant Award for swimming.



Also from Shamiana Shakers, Lila Patel received the Eldest Participant Award for bridge.



Ridhima Roy and Rahul Prasad received the Best Sportsman awards in male and female categories. Tushar Choudhury of Motovolt, who is also a member of the club, gifted them e-bikes.

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Indian Ocean made the atmosphere at Tolly Club magical, playing songs like *Tu kisi rail si*, *Jhini re Jhini*, *Rebirth/Punar Janam* from their new upcoming album, *Leaving Home, Bandeh*, and many more. Amit Kilam was on drums and percussion and Rahul Ram on bass.



Aryavi Jaipuria was spotted enjoying the concert with his aunt Chandni Jaipuria, who also requested the band members to play Aryavi's favourite track *Leaving Home*. "He is really fond of the beats and tabla of the track. He loves Indian Ocean and we are having a great time here," said Chandni



"I love Indian Ocean. I was very fond of the band and watching them live is surreal. I came back to Calcutta yesterday, and listening to them live is bringing back all the old memories," said *Lost* director Aniruddha Roy Chowdhury, with fellow director Suman Mukhopadhyay by his side.



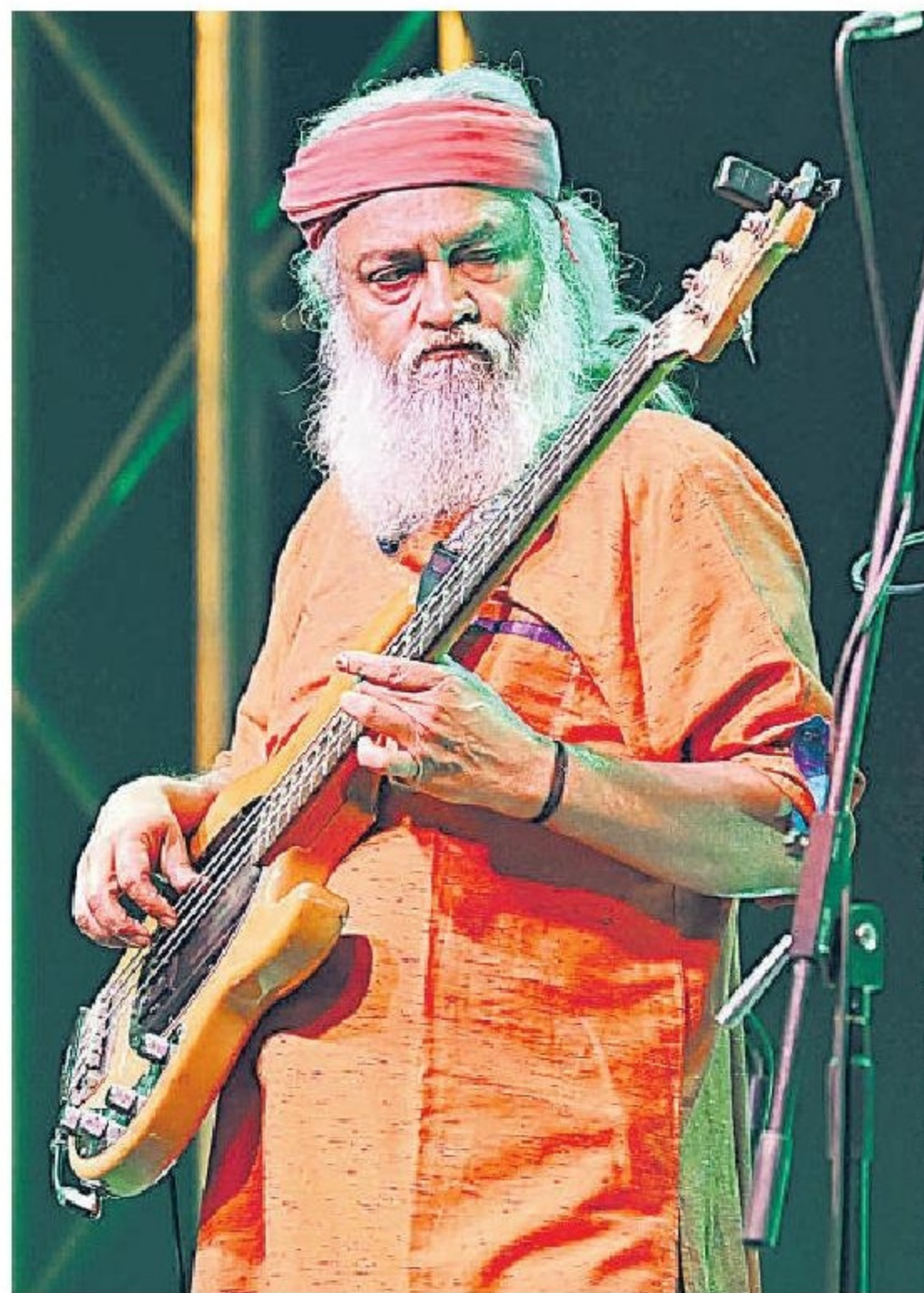
"We grew up listening to Indian Ocean, and after many years got a chance to relive such an amazing band. Really feeling nostalgic today," said Parno Mittra.



Vocalist Himanshu Joshi.



"Euphoria all the way! I'm so happy and excited to see all the members here so excited for Indian Ocean. This fest epitomizes the distinctiveness of Tolly as a primarily sports club. The zest of our members to participate and compete is amazing," said Tolly Club captain Sanjiv Dhir.



Rahul Ram took a few questions from t2 ahead of the concert.

How has the three decade journey been?

Thirty-third year over and the 34 year is starting on a good note. It's been intense but fun. Overall, it's been great.

How has the indie music space changed all over these years?

Massively! The first big change I think came in the '90s with Channel V and MTV, which gave the whole music space a push. Suddenly from one record company, we had a bunch of record companies. That was the era of the indie music videos and then it fell down, I think, during the 2000s. And now indie music has come back differently and occupies a larger space, with new artists coming up, making covers, thanks to SoundCloud, YouTube and other platforms who make these kind of music available to a larger audience. Everything which is non-traditional and non-film, falls into indie music.

How has Indian Ocean evolved with time?

The band has gone through personal changes. We lost Asheen (Chakravarty) in 2009, that's when Himanshu and Tuhin joined. Susmit (Sen), another founder band member left in 2013, then

Nikhil Rao came in. We went from being a primarily instrumental band to a band who does vocals as well, we bought in some new instruments. I think we became more of a hard rock band and even a little darker and complex.

You have seen the whole evolution from cassettes, CDs, to now music being streamed. What is the boon and bane of how music is consumed today?

On one hand it has become easier for musicians to put their music out there. But there is no return. Now Indians are too used to getting free music, they are not willing to pay. How does a musician make money? Playing live is the only way we can manage. There are ups and downs both involved in this structure

— **Rahul Ram**

How do you feel about playing in Calcutta?

We have great fun in Calcutta. We have done numerous shows here like in Presidency College, Jadavpur University, Calcutta Club, all over the place. The Calcutta audience is a great audience. Tolly Club is supposed to have a very interesting audience.

Any tips for the budding musicians?

Work hard! There are no easy rewards and no shortcuts. Try and be more yourself, don't follow trends."

Rohini Chakraborty
Pictures: B Halder