

TCF's 10th ANNUAL FUNDRAISING DINNER RAISES

\$40,000

By Rudro Chakrabarti

The *Toronto Calcutta Foundation's* (TCF) 10th annual fundraising dinner took place at the Hilton Garden Hotel, raising \$40,000. This marks another great success for the charitable organization. Current TCF President Arun Palit began the evening with a few words before passing the microphone on to the emcees for the evening, Saswati Deb, and Sujoy Chatterjee. Shortly after their opening remarks, the national anthems of India and Canada rung out through the hall. Entertainment came in the form of Shirsha Chakraborty, who performed two beautiful songs. Aishani Biswas, whose dance, both classical and contemporary, hypnotized. Durgy Spade, an illusionist who performed amazing feats. Between the entertaining interludes, prominent guest speakers Indira Naidoo Harris, MPP, and Almas Jiwani, Former President of UN Woman Canada, took the podium. Kristyn Wong-Tam, a Toronto City Councilor and Varun Vig, a consultant for the UN Secretariat, also participated in a discussion panel with the emcees. A closing monologue was given by in-coming President Mihir Ray, followed by the much-anticipated food. During dinner, the door prizes were called out, the title item being a generous gift basket donated by Mamma Martino's Restaurant. The silent auction also came to a close, with numerous antiques and collectable dolls, paintings, jewelry being sold. All in all the evening was an

exemplary success, and hopefully next year's fundraiser sees even more generosity from TCF's donors and supporters.