

India Club of Columbia University | New York, N.Y. 10027

FOREIGN STUDENT CENTER

October 31, 1975

The President
Tagore Society of N.Y. Inc.
50, Kelinworth Place, #3J
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11210

Dear Mr. President,

I would like to draw your attention to the recent visit of Satyajit Ray to the Columbia University campus on Oct. 20, 75 when the Tagore Society screened his "Sonar Kela". Every Sunday, I announce for Gunjan, a program of Indian music on WKCR, a Columbia University radio station run by its students. On learning that Mr. Ray would be visiting our campus, Mr. Thomas Abraham, President, India Club of Columbia University, proposed to me to interview Mr. Ray for the benefit of our listeners. On Oct. 17, Mr. Abraham confided with Mr. Anadi Dutt, Secretary, Tagore Society, that the proposed interview had been accommodated in Mr. Ray's schedule and he would appear at our studio after addressing the audience in the first show of "Sonar-Kela". Also, Mr. Amiya Bannerji had agreed to be with me during the interview. We prepared ourselves for the same and later I went through the biography of Ray by Marie Seton. Arrangements were made at the studio, with an engineer on special duty in the control room right at 7 p.m.


But we had taken all these pains only to learn that Mr. Ray was not even aware of any interview plans until Mr. Amiya Bannerji, while introducing me to Mr. Ray, asked him if he could spare me some time for an interview. After our waiting for 3 hours, Mr. Ray finally came out at 10.25 p.m., very tired and needing all rest, yet so nice to give us 8 min. in a lecture hall adjacent to the SIA auditorium.

What disappointed me was not the busy schedule of Mr. Ray, but the apparent lack of proper communication on the part of the person concerned. A definite response, be it negative even, would have been better than the state of confusion created.

The India Club has actively cooperated with your Society and we had only expected a due share of fair treatment from your organisation.

I hope you will pay a kind attention to it. Best regards.

Sincerely,


(R.P. Goel)