

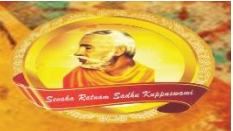


THEN INDIA SANMARGA IKYA SANGAM

FIJI

NEWSLETTER

Volume 9: January 2018



**Message by
National President
Mr. Sadasivan Naicker**

Namaskaram and a happy New Year to you all.

Much has been accomplished by Sangam within the past month. We have just seen the launch of the much awaited and one of the largest projects ever taken by Sangam- the TISI Sangam Cultural Complex take off the ground 3 weeks ago.

We also had a very successful Thaipooam with thousands of people turning up during the 10 day Pooja from all around Fiji and abroad. A lot of renovation works and additions have been done to the Sri Siva Subramaniya Swami, Nadi Temple and these have given a new look and more space to the National Temple. Sangam has also finalized the acquisition of some new properties and these will be made known to the members soon, once the legalities are finalized. In the last Council of Management meeting some strategic decisions were reached to strengthen the districts as well the national body in terms of better returns from our properties.

The Sangam College of Nursing has done very well so far and we have seen that the college has extended its centers to 6 different districts to conduct the Bachelor of Nursing Bridging courses. New courses have also been introduced and the College has been able to meet the needs for the Health Education Sector very well. In the very near future Post Graduate Courses will be launched for our practicing nurses. 2018 will be a very memorable year for Sangam in terms of the developments that are going to be undertaken and completed. I urge all our District executives to join hands and work towards making Sangam a much stronger body in terms of its financial status and making right decisions to serve our members with honesty and integrity. I would also like to advise all our school and temple Board members to take full precautions during this season of Cyclones and flooding so that all our assets are safe.

I wish you all a very successful year and looking forward to see you all during the Easter weekend in Sigatoka for the National TISI Sangam Convention, which is going to be another very memorable occasion.



**Message by
Secretary General
Mr. Damend Gounder**

Namaskaram,

Welcome to our first newsletter for 2018. You will read in this issue the many new accomplishments by the various districts, branches and the National Head Office.

All these are by members who tirelessly put in efforts to advance the Spirit and principles of Sangam. Leadership at all levels of our organisation are working on many projects for our cultural, religious and heritage enhancements.

The Navua and Lomawai Temple upgrade projects are only two examples where TISI Fiji has joined hands with the districts and branches to assist with projects. 2018 will be a very busy and exciting year for TISI Sangam with the annual Thaipooam Pooja completed in early February and ground breaking for our multi-purpose complex, vegetarian restaurant and building extensions for few of our school buildings. All these need investments of close to \$8m and I must put on record the work put in by our financial team and the CEO in the good management of our finances that gave us the confidence to undertake the projects. In the midst of all these is the 2018 Convention scheduled for the Easter weekend in Sigatoka and

I report to you all that the planning committee is working towards a very successful convention and there are confirmations that a record of 62 teams have registered for TIV sports and we expect approximately 18 TIM teams.

There are changes to the Opening ceremony for the convention as approved by the Council of Management and we hope that this sets stage for better and friendly convention in the future.

Our best wishes to you and your family and prayers for your good health and happiness.



**Message by C.E.O
Mr. Jai Narayan**

Namaskram to you all and once again it's a pleasure to update you all on the activities of Sangam since the beginning of 2018.

Much has been accomplished in the past month. Of the 7 schools that were extensively

damaged during the TCW, 3 of them- Koronubu Sangam Primary Vunisamaloa and Madhuvani Sangam Primary schools have been fully restored and classes have resumed in the new buildings. 4 other schools are nearing completion and should be completed by end of April.

Our schools have resumed classes as of 15th January and all of them are operating smoothly. On the 7th of February, the MOA between the TISI Sangam Fiji and the Government of Fiji was executed for the leasing of the Penang Sangam Vocational campus to the Ministry of Education to run the Technical College of Fiji, Rakiraki Campus.

The College of Nursing resumed classes for the full time Bachelor of Nursing students on the 8th of January for the 2nd & 3rd year students and the year 1 students started their lectures on the 22nd after their orientations. The College of Nursing lost one of their very senior staff – Losavati Vakatalai on the 12th of January after a brief illness.

Some break through has been made as far as our properties has been concerned and after several attempts the Leases for the tenants in Madhuvani

is now ready for renewals and for developments by the TISI Sangam. Our other properties are also being now developed to get better returns from them as well while some new properties have also been acquired in the past month for Sangam.

We have had a very successful Thaipooasam this year except for a little bit of disturbance from the bad weather. There was a great turn out of devotees from within Fiji as well as abroad and it was very encouraging to see the support shown by the various districts for this special occasion. The next big event will be the Maha Kumbhabhishekam which is scheduled from the 15th to the 18th of June.

Work has finally started for the much awaited TISI Sangam Cultural Complex at the Sri Siva Subramaniya Swami Temple. Tulsi Construction has started the construction work 2 weeks ago and similarly the New Vegetarian Cafeteria planned at the Temple has been approved and work is to start in a weeks' time.

The 2018 convention in Nadroga is going to be another memorable event and the Nadroga Sangam executives together with the Head office and the National Executives is working tirelessly to make this convention a very special one. Already 12 overseas TIV teams and similar number of TIM teams have registered for the event while others are still going through the registration process.

2018 will be a year to remember with several projects and new accomplishments for Sangam and we all should be looking for a very progressive future for the TISI Sangam Fiji.



**COUNCIL OF MANAGEMENT
MEETING IN PROGRESS 28TH
JANUARY, 2018 @ NADI SSKMC**

SANGAM ESTATES & PROPERTIES UPDATES

- 1.1 The Madhuvani Estate land lease renewals have now been started and Sangam has engaged lawyers to execute these leases, while some land has been repossessed by Sangam for its own development plans.
- 1.2 The TISI Sangam Head Office had tendered for the FSC properties that were up for sale and we have been offered the 2.7 acres FSC property in Navakai Nadi. The Sales and Purchase agreement will be executed soon for sangam to acquire this property.
- 1.3 The Sangam Flat in Namara Labasa is being extended with the addition of 2 X 2 bedroom flats on the ground floor. Tender has been awarded for work to start by mid of February.
- 1.4 2 other properties in Rakiraki are being negotiated to be acquired by TISI Sangam.
- 1.5 The Narewa property which the TIV National had been planning to have a building constructed consisting of 3 floors is in its final stages of approval from the Nadi Town Council and work should start on this project within next 3 months.

SANGAM FIJI FOUNDATION

Mr. Sanjeev Mudliar has been appointed as the Chairman of the Sangam Fiji Foundation. The full Board will be appointed by the end of this February.

- 1.1 The Sangam Fiji Foundation has launched the member's welfare assistance whereby any Life member or an ordinary member who had been a member for 3 continuous years will be entitled for \$500.00 death benefit.
- 1.2 The Secretary General Mr. Damend Gounder through his company Tour Managers has made a cash donation of \$10,000.00 towards this fund.
- 1.3 District executives are urged to advise the head office in case of any Life member or ordinary member who passes away so that we can mobilize these funds immediately to the family

SANGAM EDUCATION

- 1.1 The Madhuvani Sangam school, Koronubu Sangam school and Vunisamaloa schools that were extensively damaged during TCW have been fully reconstructed and restored and classes have started in the new facility. The other 4 schools are nearing completion.
- 1.2 The MOA between the TISI Sangam Fiji and the Ministry of Education was executed on the 7th of February at the Ministry of Education Head office Suva. This is for the leasing of the Penang Vocational center to the Government to operate their Technical College Fiji, Rakiraki center.
- 1.3 All our high schools have recorded very good external examination results and most of these schools have been visited by the CEO on the first day of the school to thank them for their efforts.
- 1.4 Nadroga Sangam Primary school has established their ECE center and classes have started as of 15th January. The BSP has partly funded this project.



**AGREEMENT FOR THE
TECHNICAL COLLEGE OF FIJI TISI
SANGAM RAKIRAKI CENTER**

HIGH SCHOOL 2017 RESULT ANALYSIS

| SCHOOL NAME | YEAR | NO. SAT | NO. PASSED | % PASSED | HIGHEST MARK |
|---------------------|------|---------|------------|----------|--------------|
| NADI SKM COLLEGE | 10 | 230 | 164 | 71.30 | 583 |
| | 12 | 191 | 161 | 84 | 372 |
| | 13 | 137 | 124 | 90.5 | 363 |
| LABASA SKM COLLEGE | 10 | 150 | 112 | 74.667 | 566 |
| | 12 | 157 | 135 | 86 | 380 |
| | 13 | 108 | 103 | 95 | 367 |
| PENANG SANGAM HIGH | 10 | 146 | 94 | 64 | 574 |
| | 12 | 131 | 98 | 75 | 379 |
| | 13 | 103 | 74 | 72 | 371 |
| SUVA SANGAM COLLEGE | 10 | 104 | 55 | 75 | 532 |
| | 12 | 82 | 63 | 77 | 350 |
| | 13 | 46 | 41 | 89 | 327 |
| BA SANGAM COLLEGE | 10 | 71 | 27 | 38 | 463 |
| | 12 | 32 | 25 | 78 | 364 |

OFFICIAL LAUNCHING OF THE NADROGA SANGAM ECE CENTER BY BSP



RAIN HARVESTING AND SOLAR POWER PROJECT @NADI SKM COLLEGE



HIS EXCELLENCY THE HIGH COMMISSIONER OF AUSTRALIA VISITING NADI SKM COLLEGE



PREFECTS INDUCTION @ NADI SANGAM PRIMARY SCHOOL



NADROGA SANGAM NEWLY ESTABLISHED ECE CENTER



NEW ECE CENTER AT NADROGA SANGAM PRIMARY SCHOOL



PREFECTS INDUCTION @ NASINU SANGAM PRIMARY SCHOOL



THE NEW MADHUVANI SANGAM PRIMARY SCHOOL COMPLETED AFTER THE TCW



SANGAM INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

- 1.1 One of our very senior lecturers Losavati Vakatalai passed away on the 12th of January at the beginning of this year. The SCN will sadly miss the dynamism of Losavati.
- 1.2 Lectures for the continuing students started on the 8th of January at the Labasa campus while those who are the first year students their classes started on the 22nd of January after orientation.
- 1.3 21 students who were enrolled for the Aged care program with the SCN in partnership with APTC have completed their program and awaiting graduation by end of February. The program will commence for the next lot of students in April.
- 1.4 Of the 114 students who graduated on the 6th of December, 2018, all of them sat for the Fiji Nursing Council Registration exams on the 27th of January and all of them have passed both the papers and are now awaiting their appointments from the Ministry of Health.
- 1.5 This year 110 new bachelor of Nursing students have been enrolled at the Labasa campus:103 new students were recruited together with 7 returning students.
- 1.6 The Bachelor of Nursing program is currently running at our 6 centers: Labasa; Suva; Lautoka; Ba; Taveuni & Sigatoka. Altogether 117 students are enrolled at our various centers. The Sigatoka center is the newest addition and commences on the 23rd of February.



LOSAVATI VAKATALAI- SENIOR LECTURER
SCN: PASSED AWAY ON 12/01/18



2018 BACHELOR OF NURSING INTAKE
INTERVIEWS



DEVASTHANAM

1.1 SRI SIVA SUBRAMANIYA SWAMI TEMPLE, NADI

- 1.1.1 Projects underway for full temple tiling; Painting; Boundary fencing; extension of car park; relocation of the kavadi platform and other minor works have almost been completed and the temple is being prepared for the 2nd Maha Kumbhabhishekam.
- 1.1.2 The major project – the Sangam Cultural Complex and the New Vegetarian Restaurant have started construction works.
- 1.1.3 The Devasthanam Board is in the process of negotiating with the Tamil Nadu State Government through the High Commission of India to get a 38 feet Bala Murgan statue made in South India and brought in to be erected at the Temple. The HCI is assisting the TISI Sangam on this.
- 1.1.4 The Annual Thaipooasam commenced on the 25th of January and concluded successfully on the 4th of February
- 1.1.5 The Maha Kumbhabhishekam is scheduled from the 15th to the 18th of June, 2018 at the Sri Siva Subramaniya Swami temple, Nadi

1.2 SRI VENKATESHWARA TEMPLE – LABASA SANGAM

- 1.2.1 The TISI sangam Labasa is undertaking major renovation works at the Temple in preparation for their Maha Kumbhabhishekam scheduled for April, 2018

1.3 SRI RAJ MAHA MARIAMMAN KOVIL- SUVA

- 1.3.1 The Suva sangam temple Fire walking ceremony is scheduled from Thursday 10th August to Sunday 20th August. The Maha Kumbhabhishekam for the Sri Raj Maha Mariamman Kovil is scheduled after the Annual Fire walking. The TISI Sangam Suva will undertake maintenance and painting works in preparation for these major events.

THE TISI SANGAM CULTURAL HALL PROJECT



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| DEVELOPER |
| TISI SANGAM FIJI Ph : +679 6700016 |
| ARCHITECT |
|  SHARMA DESIGN GROUP Ph : +679 3308366 |
| STRUCTURAL ENGINEER |
|  ENGINEERED DESIGNS Ph : +679 3383788 |
| SERVICES CONSULTANTS |
|  EDISON CONSULTANTS LTD Ph : +679 3307060 |
| MAIN CONTRACTOR |
|  TULSI CONSTRUCTION LIMITED Ph : +679 9926770 |
| SUB-CONTRACTORS |

Concept plan for the new vegetarian cafeteria at Nadi Temple



New Kavadi platform at the Nadi Temple



2018 THAIPOOSAM



THE AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER AT THE NADI TEMPLE DURING THAIPOOSAM



CHIEF HEAD PRIEST RAVI GURUKKAL PERFORMING THE HOMAN



PREPARATION FOR MAHA KUMBHABHISHEKAM AT THE LABASA TEMPLE



THAIPOOSAM COMING TO AN END ON SUNDAY 4TH FEBRUARY



RENOVATION WORKS AT THE NAVUA SANGAM TEMPLE

RENOVATION WORKS AT THE LOMOWAI TEMPLE



2018 TISI SANGAM CONVENTION

- 1.1 The 2018 TISI Sangam National Convention will be hosted by Nadroga Sangam
- 1.2 All preparatory work has started and some 60 TIV teams and 30 plus TIM teams from Fiji and abroad have so far registered for the convention.
- 1.3 The full detailed program will be released after the Convention meeting this weekend on the 11th of February.

TIM COUNCIL MEETING IN NADROGA



SANGAM CULTURAL

The TISI Sangam together with the other religious bodies consisting of: SHREE SANATAN DHARM PRATINIDHI SHABA OF FIJI; SIKH GURUDWARA PRABANDHAK COMMITTEE; ARYA PRATINIDHI SABHA OF FIJI; KABIR SAT DHARM PARCHARAK MAHA SABHA; SHREE SANATAN DHARAM PUROHIT BRAHMAN MAHA SABHA FIJI have been handed over the Vatuwaqa "Sharat Ghaat" by the Government of Fiji for the organizations to manage the operations of this facility.

OVERSEAS SANGAM



SANGAM MAN HONORED BY AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT IN NSW

ARMOGAM MURGAN, OAM: COMMUNITY AS FAMILY; 26TH JANUARY, 2018

Mr. Armogam Murgan who resides in Prestons in Sydney NSW and is the Patron of Sangam NSW in Sydney has been honored by the Australian Government in their Australia Day Honor's role receiving an OAM (Medal of the Order of Australia) for Services to the Indian Community of Sydney.

Hailing from Vunika Labasa in Fiji, Armogam Murgan Attended Vou Bharatiya Primary School followed by Labasa Sangam College. He did his Diploma in Management at Derrick Technical College (now F.I.T). His first occupation was as a Primary School Teacher at All Saints Primary School. He moved on and was a law clerk at Magan Bhai and Bitel Bhai Solicitors before becoming an Administrative Officer in the Public Health Service in Fiji. Mr Murgan was also a special constable in the Fiji Police Force in between his various careers mentioned above. Mr. Murgan is the son of Mr Valan Murgan who arrived from India in 1905 on No.50 SS Fullatala 11. Mr. Valan Murgan's slip details mentions that he came to Fiji from Aroogalam Norcot which is in Tamil Nadu.

OBITUARY



The late P.D. Mudaliar was born in Uciwai Nadi and educated in Fiji. Mr. Mudaliar served the TISI Sangam in the 1960's as a council of management member. He also spent considerable time teaching Tamil in the Uciwai community. Date passed away 21.01.18. He was a Farmer/School teacher by profession. He was one of the Pioneer's in maintaining TISI Sangam in Fiji and he always gave 100% of his commitment and took bold steps and actions in achieving his goals. In early 60's he went to Australia to further his education in Agriculture. Upon completion of his course in Agriculture he also completed a Telecommunications course whilst in Australia. He joined Telstra as a Technician and was with Telstra until his retirement.