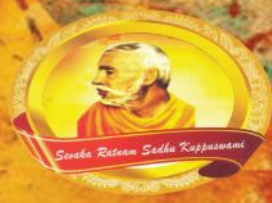




# THEN INDIA SANMARGA IKYA SANGAM

FIJI



# NEWSLETTER

Volume 10: May 2018

## NATIONAL PRESIDENT' MESSAGE

Mr. Sadasivan Naicker



**Namaskaram to you all**

I wish to take this opportunity to thank you all for your contributions towards moving the TISI Sangam Fiji forward. We have just finished our National Sangam Convention hosted by Nadroga and despite the very bad weather we were able to manage to complete the sports program. I wish to thank the President of Nadroga and his executives for their grand effort.

The Maha Kumbabhishekam of the Sri Siva Subramaniya Swami Temple is another major event that is upcoming and will be celebrated in a grand way from the 13<sup>th</sup> to the 17<sup>th</sup> of June. The Devasthanam Board and the National Executives are working around the clock to ensure that everything is in place for this auspicious occasion. I must

commend the Devasthanam Board for their commitment and dedication to oversee the renovation and the constructions works in relation to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Maha Kumbabhishekam. I also thank all the TISI sangam Districts and Branches for their contributions towards this very special occasion for Sangam as whole.

We have just witnessed the Sangam College of Nursing's fourth Bachelor in Nursing Bridging program graduation in Suva and 78 nurses have graduated with a Degree through the Bridging program. Under the able leadership of Ambassador Amraiya naidu the College has achieved a lot and has plans to move to introduce post Graduate level studies in the near future.

The Sangam Fiji Foundation has undertaken relief works to assist the families affected by the recent floods. The Foundation has also launched fundraising activities to raise funds to assist the needy as well those members qualifying to receive funeral assistance under the Foundation's welfare fund. The various Boards are having their respective board meetings to carry on with their assigned works and I humbly request these Boards as well as the Various Districts to regularly present their reports to the Council of Management meetings.

My best wishes to you all.

## SECRETARY GENERAL' MESSAGE

Mr. Damend Gounder



**Namaskaram,**

As we approach the start of June 2018, we present to you our Newsletter covering the last 3 to 4 months of activities and information of things to come or expect in the next few months.

The CEO has aptly covered the activities of the last few months and I shall not elaborate on that however would place on record our thanks and appreciation to the Chairman for the 2018 Convention Mr Vijay Narayan and his great team from Nadroga for the sterling Convention during the Easter weekend. Despite the adverse and difficult weather conditions the convention was enjoyed by those who attended and were given the hospitality the Coral Coast is known for.

It is also important to mention that at times when we need assistance and are in dire need there stands an individual who takes the responsibility and makes us all proud of Sangam. The person I mention here is our General Manager GD Raju who when contacted during the height of floods in Nadi opened his doors to accommodate more than 100 TIM and TIV members who were stranded . These members had spent hours at the flood area and GD Raju despite being at the convention opened doors of his premises and provided shelter and meals until waters receded for members to travel . Thank you GD.

In the coming months TISI Fiji has important event to celebrate and one such is the Maha Kumbiskem for the Siva Subramaniam Temple in Nadi. The works carried out for this once every twelve years ceremony is outstanding and worthy of praise. Again the Chairman and the committee of the temple are congratulated and encouraged for a successful ceremony from the 13<sup>th</sup> to the 17<sup>th</sup> June.

During my visits to the districts and temples I have continuously highlighted the need for our members to follow the theme of TISI Sangam- Sanmargya Ikya- pathway to unity through honesty and I through this newsletter encourage you all to spread this within our membership and beyond.

Namaskaram and may lord Murgan bless you and your family.

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

### Mr. Jai Narayan



2018 will be a significant year for the TISI sangam as it ventures on with a number of Major Projects and activities. The past few months have seen a number of events for sangam and its members. During the month of February to May we had seen a number of Districts and branches convening their AGM's and to date all our Districts have had their AGM's. From the 30<sup>th</sup> of March to the 2<sup>nd</sup> of April the Annual TISI Sangam National Convention was hosted in Nadroga by the Nadroga Sangam. The same weekend also saw the Cyclone Joshi affecting Fiji with widespread flooding and accompanied devastation in most of the western Vitilevu, with its greatest impact in Ba, Nadi, Rakiraki, Tavua and Lautoka. The following weekend saw another cyclone Keni which brought about the same devastation in the western parts of Vitilevu as Joshi.

The TISI Sangam Annual Convention was completed amidst the disruptions that were caused by very adverse weather conditions and I wish to thank all the participating sports teams as well as members gathered for the convention for their patience and cooperation to see the convention and the sports completed during the weekend. The TISI Sangam Fiji Foundation responded by assisting the affected families in Ba by distributing towels, bedsheets, pillow cases and pillows to the families. The Sangam Fiji Foundation has also partnered with a New Zealand based organization Specsavers Hamilton CBD, to get a container of items that includes: non-perishable foods, toothpaste, toothbrush, toys, books, shoes, beddings linen, clothing's and etc which will be distributed to the affected families in Ba and Nadi on Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> of May.

The Council of Management Meeting and the Sangam Fiji Foundation meetings were successfully completed during the Easter weekend in Nadroga in spite of inclement weather. The Sangam Fiji Foundation had its first Board meeting and has already outlined a number of activities to replenish Sangam Fiji Foundation funds.

This will be another year full of activates for The TISI Sangam with the two major projects underway at the Sri Siva Subramaniya Swami Temple in Nadi as well as other projects in our Districts. The Maha Kumbabhishekam for the Sri Siva Subramaniya Swami Kovil is scheduled from 13<sup>th</sup> to the 17<sup>th</sup> of June this year and is expected to be a very big event when devotees from all over Fiji and overseas are expected to come and receive blessings from Lord Murugan. The Suva Sangam Sri Raj Maha Mariamman Kovil will have their Maha Kumbabhishekam sometime in September this Year while Labasa has completed theirs in April this year.

Later this year the Mid-Term school visits will be made by the head office for the audit purposes as well as visits by the Education Board to meet the staff and students of our High schools as well as primary schools. The practice has proved to assist the schools in their academic performance as well as Financial accountability.

The Sangam College of Nursing had its Bachelor of Nursing Bridging Graduation at its Suva Campus on the 18<sup>th</sup> of April where 78 Nurses graduated with a degree in Nursing Science. The college will be introducing the Post graduate courses in the very near future. The various Boards have been carrying out their functions and it is hoped that a lot will be accomplished during the year for the progress of Sangam as a whole.

## ANNUAL SANGAM CONVENTION



**POOJA SEEKING BLESSINGS FOR A SUCCESSFUL CONVENTION IN NADROGA**

This year the hosts for National TISI sangam Convention was the Nadroga district. At the outset TISI sangam, Fiji wishes to thank President of the District and the Chairman of the 2018 Convention Mr. Vijay Narayan and his executives for the effort put in to prepare for this year's convention. Despite the very adverse weather conditions the TIV and the TIM managed to complete their sports fixtures during the weekend.

The Official opening was on the 30<sup>th</sup> of march, 2018 and the Chief Guest Professor Vijay Naidu- the Head School of Government, Development and International Affairs, Faculty of Business and Economics, University of the South Pacific. The official opening was followed by a very colorful Sangam Cultural Night where the world renowned Bharatnatyam Artist Neha Bhatnagar from India performed. She had specially travelled to for this occasion.

This year the Soccer tournament was played in 3 Divisions: The Super Premier, Premier and Masters. Altogether 20 teams played in the Super premier grade, 20 in the Premier Grade and 12 in the Masters category. For the Mathaar Sangam this Year altogether 17

teams participated for Netball. It included 14 local branches and 3 overseas teams. The winner for the Netball competition was Ba Mathaar Sangam. 11 teams participated for the Volleyball and the winner for the competition was Sabeto Sangam.

The Winners for the Soccer Super Premier was Ba and for the Premier Division who played the final against Lautoka, while for the premier Division the final was played between Botany TIV and Waitakere at the Bill McKinley Park in Auckland and the winner was Botany. We wish to take this opportunity to thank the TIV executives for completing the tournament, despite the adversities and also thank all participating teams and patrons from around Fiji and abroad.



**BHARATNATYAM ARTIST FROM INDIA FOR THE ANNUAL CONVENTION - NEHA BHATNAGAR**



**CHIEF GUEST PROFESSOR VIJAY NAIDU AND TISI SANGAM EXECUTIVES AT THE OPENING CEREMONY**



**CHAIRMAN OF THE CONVENTION COMMITTEE WITH MR. Y.P. REDDY AND GENERAL MANAGER**



**TIV SOCCER TEAMS**



**HIGHBROOK NETBALL TEAM FROM NEW ZEALAND**



**TEAMS PARADING FOR THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE 2018 CONVENTION.**



**CHIEF GUEST – PROFESSOR VIJAY NAIDU TOURS THE MATHAAR SANGAM DISPLAYS**





# 2018 TIV TEAMS



**ANNUALLY ELDERLY LUNCH ORGANISED BY DIRECTOR OF TOUR MANAGERS FIJI LTD  
MR. DAMAND GOUNDER- SECRETARY GENERAL OF TISI SANGAM FIJI**



## **EDUCATION**

Of the 7 schools that were severely damaged by the TCW, 3 schools- Madhuvani Sangam, Vunisamaloa Sangam and Koronubu Sangam have been reconstructed and classes have started in the new facility.

The Penang Sangam High, Penang Sangam Primary, Raviravi sangam and Navoli Sangam are under reconstruction and nearing completion.

All schools are operating smoothly and they will be visited by the Education Board during June/July. The common trial examinations for the Sangam schools will continue as well as visits by the Head Office for the Mid-Term audits.



**Reconstructed Raviravi sangam school ready for opening.**



**Official opening of Vunisamaloa sangam school after TCW**



**Official opening of Madhuvani sangam school after reconstruction.**



## DISTRICT AGMS

All of the district branches have completed their AGM's.



**LABASA TISI SANGAM AGM IN PROGRESS**



**LAUTOKA TISI SANGAM AGM**



**SUVA SANGAM AGM**



### **NADI TISI SANGAM AGM**

#### **SANGAM COLLEGE OF NURSING**

The Sangam Institute of Technology Board that oversees the operations of the Sangam College of Nursing and the Board members includes: Sadasivan Naicker- Chairman, Damend Gounder, Ambassador Amariya Naidu, Gyaneshwar Rao, Dr. Neelesh Gounder & Kumar sami Gounder. The Chairman of the Academic Board for the SIT is Ambassador Amraiya Naidu.

We had our fourth cohort of the Bachelor of Nursing Bridging graduation at the Suva center on the 18<sup>th</sup> of April, 2018 where 78 nurses graduated. Altogether 284 nurses have graduated with a Bachelor of Nursing through Bridging program and currently 152 are enrolled for this course. The total roll of the college is 496 students which includes full time bachelor in Nursing and bridging program. Other programs at the college includes Post Graduate in Midwifery; Nurse Practitioner and Aged care courses. Some new programs are being drafted to be introduced in the near future.

21 students graduated with a certificate in Individual Support program of studies taught jointly by the Australia-Pacific Technical College and the Sangam College of Nursing, Labasa on 24<sup>th</sup> of May. The Chief Guest was Ambassador Amraiya Naidu Chairman of the SIT Academic Board and also attended by the Australian High Commissioner to Fiji, Mr. John Feakes.



**CHAIRMAN SIT ACADEMIC BOARD AND THE CHIEF GUEST MRS. LINDA AJUMUA AT THE GRADUATION CEREMONY FOR THE BACHELOR OF NURSING BRIDGING AT SUVA SANGAM HALL**

# GRADUATION CEREMONY

## ARAMALL



**AMBASSADOR AMRAIYA NAIDU CONFERRING DEGREE TO GRADUATES**



**BACHELOR OF NURSING BRIDGING GRADUATION AT SUVE CENTER**



### **GRADUATION FOR THE APTC TRAINEES**

#### **DEVASTAHANAM REPORT/TEMPLE POOJA'S/MAHA KUMBABHISHEKAM**

The Sri Siva Subramaniya Swami Temple Nadi this year is having a hive of activities which includes the several Poojas and the main one being the third Maha Kumbabhishekam between the 13<sup>th</sup> to the 17<sup>th</sup> of June and the launch of several temple upgrading and renovation works. Together with this the 2 major projects- the Sangam Cultural Complex and a Vegetarian restaurant located at the entrance of the Temple are already under construction.

The program for the Maha Kumbabhishekam will be attached separately and this will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> such occasion which is observed after every 12 years. This year's Kumbabhishekam has special significance for the Temple because it coincides with the Temples centenary anniversary. Devotees and members of sangam from abroad and all around the country will be congregating at Nadi for this auspicious occasion and this grand occasion is not to be missed.

Apart from the improvements to the temple which includes full painting of the Temple, Full Tiling, Extension of the Car parks, extension of the Boundary fencing, relocation of the ablution block and several other such works the Devasthanam Board has been assisting our other sangam temples. The Chairman of the Devasthanam Board Mr. Gandhi Mestry, together with the national Executives have been attending to all the Annual Poojas of the Sangam temples. The TISI Sangam has also been assisting in the project works for other major sangam temples, and recently under the supervision of the General Manager the renovation works and major project works have been undertaken at the Navua and Lomawai Sangam Temples.

The TISI sangam Labasa had undertaking major renovation works at the Temple in preparation for their Maha Kumbabhishekam which was observed from the 23<sup>rd</sup> to the 25<sup>th</sup> April. The Labasa Venkateshwara Temple is having its Annual Brahmotsavam starting on 17<sup>th</sup> May and ending on the 27<sup>th</sup> May.

The Suva sangam temple Fire walking ceremony is scheduled from Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> August to Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> August. The Maha Kumbabhishekam 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 Labasa has just completed the Vaarshik Brahmotsavam from the 17<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> May and was attended by a very large number of devotees. The Chairman of the Devasthanam Board Mr. Gandhi Mestry and the Secretary General Mr. Damed Gounder also attended for this special occasion"



**THEN INDIA SANMARGA IKYA SANGAM**

**&**

**SRI SIVA SUBRAMANIYA SWAMI TEMPLE, NADI**



**3RD Maha Kumbabhishekam Poojai**

**From 13th to 17th June, 2018**

**All Welcome**



**TISI Labasa Vaarshik Brahmotsavam Ratha-Yatra**



**CHAIRMAN DEVASTHANAM BOARD WITH THE TISI SANGAM NATIONAL EXECUTIVES**



**GANESH MURTHI DONATED BY MR. DAMEND GOUNDER FOR THE LOMOWAI GANESH TEMPLE**



**FOUNDATION LAYING FOR THE VEGETARIAN RESTAURANT @ NADI TEMPLE**



**PROGRESS OF WORK AT THE NADI SANGAM TEMPLE VEGETARIAN RESTAURANT**



**FOUNDATION OF THE SANGAM CULTURAL COMPLEX PROJECT AT THE NADI TEMPLE**



**ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY MINISTER OF STATE, HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE- GOVERNMENT OF INDIA VISIT'S**



**WORK PROGRESING AT THE SANGAM CULTURAL COMPLEX PROJECT**



**TOURISTS VISITING THE NADI TEMPLE**



**CYCLONE JOSHI'S IMPACT AT THE NADI TEMPLE**



**RENOVATION WORKS AT SRI SIVA SUBRAMANIYA SWAMI TEMPLE, NADI**



**LAND ADJACENT TO RIFLE RANGE TEMPLE DONATED TO RIFLE RANGE TEMPLE BY KALYAN MUDLIAR [ Late Mr. Sariandi Mudliar was the donor of the land on which the Rifle range temple sits today and his Grandson- Kalyan Mudliar formerly of Nadi and the owner of Skyline restaurant, now residing in Auckland is the donor of this new plot of land to the Temple]**



**SECRETARY GENERAL OF TISI SANGAM, FIJI RANGA GOUNDER – CHAIRMAN AT THE RIFLE RANGE TEMPLE, LAUTOKA**



**EXECUTIVES OF RIFLE RANGE TEMPLE IN DISCUSSION WITH THE SECRETARY GENERAL**



**MEETING WITH NASINU TISI SANGAM ON 14th May, 2018 .**



**MEETING WITH SUVA TISI SANGAM ON 14th May, 2018.**

## **LAND & ESTATES**

The Land & Estates Board meeting was held on the 26<sup>th</sup> on May and a number of very important discussions were pursued together with some relevant decisions. Negotiations have been renewed to move on with the Elderly Care center at Nawai and some prospective developers have been approached.

The land leases for the tenants at Madhuvani Sangam estate is being renewed now and some land will be reserved for the TISI Sangam for its own developments. The TISI Sangam has acquired a new property which consists of 2.7 acres of state land from the FSC at Navakai, adjacent to the road going to the Nadi Sports Club. This is a flood free area and has potential for lots of future developments for Sangam.

The TISI Sangam is also engaged in assisting districts to identify projects that will financially strengthen the Districts and Branches.

## **SANGAM FIJI FOUNDATION**

The Sangam Fiji Foundation Board consists of Chairman- Sanjeev Mudliar and Board members: Himen Chandra, Krishna Murti, Kushma Nair, Narendra Gounder, Wella Pillay & TISI National Executives.

The new Sangam Fiji Foundation Board had its Board meeting at the Crow's Nest Board Room on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of April, 2018. The board since has launched the Sangam Foundation Charity Golf Tournament held on the 6<sup>th</sup> of May at the Natadola International Golf Course to raise funds for the foundation. Around 30 teams participated in this tournament and this was a very successful event. Similar fundraising events are being planned to be held in Suva and Denarau in the months ahead.

The Foundation has initiated the Sangam Welfare fund which contributes \$500.00 to the family towards the ritual expenses for Sangam Life members who meet the criteria when they pass away. Altogether 12 member's families have been assisted through this initiative since its inception late last year.

The Foundation will be looking at other major projects that will benefit the welfare of members and the community at large.

Sangam Fiji Foundation assisted families affected by the two floods during April by distributing beddings, towels and other items in Ba. The Sangam Foundation received a consignment from Hamilton New Zealand consisting of Beddings, clothes, non-perishable food items, tooth brush, tooth paste and several other items that were distributed to six affected schools within Ba. The TISI Sangam Rakiraki too came on board with its members and distributed food, Groceries, clothing's and beddings to affected families in Ba.

The Sadhu Kuppuswamy Day will again be observed district wise similar to last year. The Sadhu Kuppuswamy National awards for students excelling in the National Examination will be awarded to students and schools during the Kuppuswamy Day.



**SANGAM FOUNDATION BOARD MEMBERS AT THE FIRST BOARD MEETING IN NADROGA**



**TOUR MANAGERS DIRECTOR DAMEND GOUNDER DONATING \$10,000.00 TOWARDS THE SANGAM FIJI FOUNDATION FUNDS**





**SANGAM FIJI FOUNDATION CHARITY GOLF AT NATADOLA GOLF COURSE**



**SANGAM, FIJI FOUNDATION CHARITY GOLF UNDER WAY AT NATADOLA GOLF COURSE**



**TISI SANGAM HEAD OFFICE PREPARING RELIEF SUPPLIES TO BE DISTRIBUTED BY SANGAM FIJI FOUNDATION TO FLOOD AFFECTED FAMILIES IN BA**



**TISI SANGAM RAKIRAKI JOINED SANGAM FIJI FOUNDATION TO AFFECTED FAMILIES IN BA**



**RELIEF WORK IN BA BY TISI SANGAM RAKIRAKI**



**SANMOGAM GOUNDER- PRESIDENT OF RAKIRAKI TISI SANGAM DISTRIBUTING RELIEF ITEMS**



**DAVEN NAIDU PRESIDENT OF BA TISI SANGAM ASSISTING IN DISTRIBUTION OF RELIEF SUPPLIES**



**FLOOD AFFECTED FAMILIES IN BA GETTING**



**RELIEF ITEMS FOR DISTRIBUTION FROM HAMILTON NZ FOR SANGAM FIJI FOUNDATION**



**RELIEF ITEMS BEING SORTED OUT FOR DISTRIBUTION AT BA SANGAM COLLEGE**



**PERTH SANGAM CELEBRATING MAHA SHIV RATRI**

## **OBITUARIES**

*“The Following life members of TISI Sangam have passed away during February and May and our deepest sympathies to the families of who have lost their loved ones”.*

- |                              |                |                 |
|------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 1. <b>CHINSAMI</b>           | <b>LM2998</b>  | <b>LABASA</b>   |
| 2. <b>ANAND RAJU</b>         | <b>LM3452</b>  | <b>NADI</b>     |
| 3. <b>MRS. PERUMA REDDY</b>  | <b>LM 1570</b> | <b>NADI</b>     |
| 4. <b>VEER GOUNDER</b>       | <b>LM 2831</b> | <b>SUVA</b>     |
| 5. <b>NAND GOPAL GOUNDAR</b> | <b>LM 916</b>  | <b>RAKIRAKI</b> |