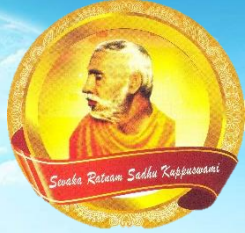




THEN INDIA SANMARGA IKYA SANGAM FIJI



VOLUME 12

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2019

THEN INDIA SANMARGA IKYA SANGAM SARAVANA BHAVAN

*Only pure vegetarian restaurant in Nadi.
Located at the Sri Siva Subramaniya Swami Temple Nadi.*

NOW OPEN



Come and enjoy a variety of South Indian & Indian dishes. Open for breakfast/lunch & special catering services.



News Flash
**TISI Sangam Fiji has also
acquired a commercial
property of 3 acres near Nadi**

NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Mr. Sadasivan Naicker
National President

Namaskaram and my warm greetings to you all.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank the executives of all our Districts for successfully conducting their AGM's and smoothly running the affairs of their Districts. Congratulations to The President and the Executives of Lautoka TISI Sangam for yet another memorable 92nd Annual Sangam Convention. This year's convention was indeed one of the largest in recent years in terms of the attendance during the opening ceremony, the 4 days of sporting events, the cultural night and a record number of teams participating in the TIV & TIM Sangam sports.

Many of our districts and branches are in the midst of their Annual Thirunaals and I wish all our temples and their devotees a very meaningful and successful annual pooja. I wish to also sincerely thank all the Sangam Board Chairpersons as well as their members for their contributions in managing the affairs of the various boards. Sangam has been fortunate to have the services of persons with much experience and caliber as Chairpersons and Board members on the various boards to manage the affairs of Sangam.

A number of the National as well as District based projects have been accomplished while some are underway and will see their completions soon. The National Executives as well as the COM is commended for their confidence and commitment in successfully planning and managing these major projects. With the accomplishment of the current and other planned projects TISI Sangam will definitely have a very bright future, better services and much more returns for the organization.

I once again thank all our members, donors and executives for their untiring support.

SECRETARY GENERAL'S MESSAGE



Mr. Damend. Gounder
Secretary General

Namaskaram,

Thank you and congratulations to everyone who organized, supported and participated in the 2019 Convention in Lautoka.

From the opening to the closing ceremonies the convention had overwhelming participation and in particular the TIM cultural evening was one of the highlights.

We also did a soft opening for the Saravana Bhavan Restaurant at the Nadi Temple complex in early April to coincide with the convention and it immediately gave great reviews.

The pure vegetarian restaurant has a seating capacity for 80 guests and is currently open daily for breakfast and lunch. We expect to gradually open this for dinner on certain days of the week and the people will be advised on the progress accordingly.

The restaurant team led by Chef Mahalingam from Chennai have carefully selected a mix of menus from our Fiji and as well as cuisines from South India which gives people lots of choices and opportunity to experience great cuisines.

This week marks another important milestone for all of us in Sangam. TISI has purchased (settlement concluded) of a 3-acre commercial property in Nadi formerly the Navakai Sector office of the Fiji Sugar Corporation. Many of you will have memories of this property when in the earlier years of the Sugar Industry was one of the key offices for farmers to approach for sugar cane matters. We will soon invest to improve the property and the landscapes and announce the usage of the facilities.

In the coming months we enter the "Aadi Maasam" and I wish you all the best for the poojas.

CEO'S UPDATES



Jai Narayan
C.E.O

Namaskaram and welcome to our Volume 12 of the TISI Sangam News Letter, the first publication for 2019. The TISI Sangam has accomplished much during the first 4 months of this year in terms of the ongoing projects as well as the annual events. Significant amongst them have been the 2019 Annual Thaipooam at the Sri Siva Subramaniya Swami Temple which this year saw one of the largest turn out of devotees in the recent years.

The 2019 Annual Sangam convention hosted by the Lautoka TISI Sangam was also a memorable one which saw the participation of 63 TIV & Masters teams and 27 Mathaar sangam teams from Fiji and abroad. The convention ended without any major disruptions and saw a very huge turnout of members especially during the opening ceremony and the final day of sports. The Chief Guest for this year's convention was the CEO of Innovate BC, Canada, who is a very successful entrepreneur and originally from Nausori, Fiji.

The year 2019 saw the completion and the opening of the **"SARAVANA BHAVAN"** Pure Vegetarian restaurant at the Nadi Temple, as well as approximately 50% completion of the TISI Sangam Cultural Complex. We have recruited a Tamil Language Development Officer who is overseeing the coordination of the curriculum and the teaching of the languages. A major breakthrough was that after the visit by the Secretary General and a team from the TISI Sangam to Tamil Nadu, a formal MOU is being formulated between the Tamil University of Thanjavur and the TISI Sangam Fiji for the training of Tamil Teachers and promotion of culture in Fiji.

The TIV reforms undertaken has seen some good results, however, this will be a continuous process to more meetings will be convened to further fine tune the operations of the TIV as well as the organizing of sports. Almost all our districts have successfully conducted their 2019 AGM's. Several of our temples are in the midst of their Annual Pooja's and it is good see that our members and devotees attend these Temple functions in numbers.

The various boards of the TISI Sangam has carried out their functions with much commitment and the testimony of this is the accomplishments by the TISI Sangam as a whole. The Board Chairpersons and Board members have sacrificed their time, effort and personal resources in moving ahead the work of their respective boards.

I take this opportunity to thank all the National Executives, Board Chairpersons, the various district executives, the Head Office Staff, Executives of the TIV and TIM Sangam for their contributions and commitments and look forward for grater achievements for the TISI sangam, Fiji.



Head Priest Sri Siva Subramaniya Swami Temple Mr. Anand attending the inter-faith gathering in Nadi.



Visit by Mr. Kurinjivenden Rajagopalan from Tamil University India workshops for our Tamil teachers



CEO Participating at the 52nd. ADB workshop



1. SANGAM DEVASTHANAM BOARD

The Chairman of the Devasthanam Board Mr. Gandhi Mestry and his members have demonstrated lot of commitment and progress at the Sri Siva Subramaniya Swami Temple in Nadi and have also attended to the Annual functions of all out TISI Sangam temples. A number of Temple upgrading works have been completed at the Nadi Temple which are very evident as well as the overall management of the temple has been raised.

Council of Management meeting at Sangam Lovu Sangam Village

The Devasthanam Board wishes to thank all our donors and devotees for their contributions towards the temple to assist in its operations as well as giving their support in one way or the other towards the Temple. It is a challenging task to manage the full operations of the Temple on a daily basis considering the number of devotees who on daily basis visit the temple including numerous visitors from around the globe at the Nadi temple.

The Temple Board is doing the level best to maintain the high standards and the ancient Hindu Agamic principles under which our temples operate. The Sri Siva Subramaniya Swami Nadi temple being a Lord *Murugan* Temple has a unique role and reason to worship and this has to be maintained. The Sri Siva Subramaniya Swami Temple apart from undergoing several upgrading and renovation works has also undertaken 2 major projects. The SARAVA BHAVAN Vegetarian restaurant is now open to public and is one of the largest vegetarian restaurants in the West. The Sangam Cultural Complex is also anticipated to be completed by the end of 2019 and the board is now in the process of undertaking another major project, that is, the installation for the 45 Feet tall Lord Murugan Statue at the temple. The ground works have been done with a few final aspects to be completed before starting the construction works.

The Board wishes all our Sangam temples a very successful Annual Thirunaals.





THAIPOOSAM 2019



Opening of the walk-way at Tagitagi Sangam School by TISI Sangam Secretary General Mr. Damend Gounder





Sangam Cultural Complex supervisors inspecting the site progress.



Progress of Sangam Complex works



Newly built SARVANA BHAVAN Vegetarian Restaurant at the Sri Siva Subramaniya Swami



TISI Sangam Secretary General, Vice President South Western with Temple Executive Committee having a discussion with the staffs at the vegetarian restaurant



Inside the kitchen of the new vegetarian restaurant



Head Chef from India Mr. Mahalingam cooking Dosa



2. SANGAM EDUCATION

At the beginning of 2019 Dr. Neelesh Gounder- Senior Lecturer from the faculty of Business & Economics at the USP was appointed as the Chairman of the Sangam education Board. All our 5 high schools and the 21 primary schools have done very well in their external examinations and the results have been very pleasing for 2018.

Penang Sangam High School Student Year 13 student Dipsha Lal scored 388/400 marks, which is the second highest in the country. the school also won the Fiji Times Kaila competition for the second time. The Penang Sangam High School has also won the 2018 the Energy Audit Competition. All our school heads together with the staff and the school boards are commended for the commitment they have shown to maintain a high academic standard in our schools.

Ambassador Amraiya Naidu the former Fiji representative to UN in New York and the CEO Mr. Jai Narayan former Director Secondary have been regularly visiting our schools for staff professional discussions as well as addressing students on improving academic performance. This year we have also taken on board the services of Aishwarya Anand as the Tamil Language Development Officer to strengthen the Tamil language studies in our schools. After our visit to Tamil Nadu in October last year, Professor Kurinjivendan Rajagopalan from the Tamil University in Thanjavur visited Fiji in April and is now in the process of developing a MOU between the TISI sangam Fiji and the Tamil University for the training of language Teachers in Tamil & Telegu as well as the promotion of South Indian Culture.

The Ba Sangam College created history in the Fiji Secondary Schools Athletics by winning 2 Gold medals in the 400 and 800 meters' track events. Congratulations to the school and Melaia Rangakali for the achievement.

Our regular school visits and the mid-term audit for schools by the Head Office will commence next month. We wish all our schools a very successful Term 2 as well as achievements in their participation for school's extra-curricular completions and district, National and International levels.



CEO addressing staff at the Labasa SKM College



School year beginning Pooja at Penang Sangam for the students

Ralagakali wins gold

By NOA BIUDOLE

MELAIA Ralagakali could not contain her tears as she was awarded her gold medal after winning the senior girls 400 metres at the Coca-Cola Games 2019 at the ANZ Stadium in Suva yesterday.

"When I stepped on the podium, I thought of my family, the school and all the people who supported me to get here," said Ralagakali.

Ralagakali is a Year 13 student of Ba Sangam College. She created history for her school by winning its first ever gold medal at the Coca-Cola Games.

Not one, but two - the senior girls 400m and 800m finals. "I thank God for the journey. I trained every day with a great team and we were supported well by the school, friends and our families."

The long distance runner from Nabitu Village in Tailevu dedicated her win to her grandfather, Lorima Rabure. He lives in Ba.

"I dedicate the win to my grandfather who couldn't make the journey to Suva."



Penang Sangam students with prizes won for the Kaila and Clean Energy Competitions

3. SANGAM INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

The Sangam Institute of Technology is chaired by the National President Mr. Sadasivan Naicker the members of these board are: Mr. Damend Gounder, Mr. Gyaneshwar Rao, Ambassador Amraiya Naidu, Mr. Kumar Sami Gounder & Dr. Neelesh Gounder.

The Academic year for the Sangam College of Nursing commenced on the 8th of January for the Year 2 & 3 students and on the 22nd of January for the 115 Year 1 students. Altogether 92 students graduated with a Bachelor of Nursing on the 5th of December, 2018 bringing the total number of students graduating with a degree since 2015 to 364. Another 396 students graduated with a bachelor of Nursing through the bachelor of Nursing [Post registration] Bridging curriculum introduced in 2016.

Currently the total roll of the college for including the Bridging and Post Graduate courses is 517 with a total of 43 staff. The Sangam College of Nursing Academic Board Chairman is Ambassador Amraiya Naidu and under his able leadership the College has managed to maintain its quality as well as diversify the courses as well as introduce Distance and Flexible learning at our various campuses around the country.

4. LAND & ESTATES

The Land & Estates Board this year has appointed Mr. Wella Pillay a business entrepreneur as its Chairman. Sangam has recently acquired some new properties in Navakai Nadi and Nadawa Nasinu and continues to explore in this direction to strengthen the assets of the TISI Sangam as well as at the district levels.

The Land & Estates Board is currently in the process of renewing the leases for the tenants in Madhuvani as well as calling for the **EOI** for all vacant lots at the Madhuvani Sangam Estate.

5. SANGAM FIJI FOUNDATION

Mr. Sanjeev Mudaliar has been appointed as the Chairman for the Sangam Fiji Foundation together with members- Mr. Sadasivan Naicker, Mr. Damend Gounder, Mr. Som Padayachi, Mr. Wella Pillay, Mr. Himen Chandra, Mr. Krishna Murthi, Mr. Kushma nair [NZ] & Mr. Narendra Gounder [Sydney].



A number of fundraising drives have been carried out since last year to raise funds for the Foundation. The Sangam Fiji Foundation is basically engaged in relief assistance in affected communities during disasters, has introduced Welfare assistance for the Sangam Life members for their funeral expenses, facilitate and fund the Sadhu Kuppuswamy Day in various districts on the 2nd of August, facilitate the Sangam Founders day and other Charity works.

The Sangam Fiji Foundation has now taken up the TISI sangam Retirement Village project to be established at our Nawai property in Nadi. Ground works for the project has been carried out and the committee is in the process of getting the architectural details, costing and identifying prospective construction companies for this project.

6. SANGAM CULTURAL BOARD

Pundit Nagbushnam Mudaliar has been appointed as the Chairman of the Sangam Cultural Board and since then 4 Cultural Committee meetings and 1 workshop has been conducted for the TISI sangam Purohiths.

A panel consisting of 4 sangam Pundits have been appointed to oversee the Registration of Sangam Pundits, Marriage officers, training of new pundits and the preparation of guides involving the various rituals.

The Committee is to plan for more training and formulating proper guides for the uniform performance of all different rituals as well as prepare a code of conduct for the TISI Sangam Purohits.



Cultural board meeting with Sangam Priest.



Performance at the Sangam Kritian Samellan

TISI SANGAM 92ND. CONVENTION

THEME: Preserving Culture & Values In Strengthening Education



Convention Pooja & Hawan at the Sri Venkateshwar Premal – Lovu Sangam Temple



TISI Sangam National Executives having a discussion with the appointed TIV members regarding the convention



Lautoka Maathar Sangam with National President TISI during the meeting at Lovu Sangam Village



2019 Sangam Convention Chief Guest Mr. Raghwa Gopal with TISI Sangam Fiji National President Mr. Sadasivan Naicker & Tamil Language Professor from India Kurinjivenden Rajagopalan during the tea session

2019 Sangam Convention Snaps from Lautoka









Team North America during their participation at the 2019 convention in Lautoka.



TIV Reforms meeting after the 2019 convention at Nadi SSKM College



TISI Sangam Fiji Secretary General with President & members of Victoria Sangam during their 25th Anniversary celebrations in New Zealand

OBITUARY

PUJARI PERMAL (12/03/1918 - 11/06/2018)



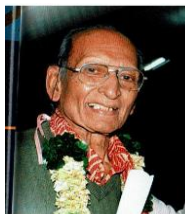
Late Permal Pujari was a very active member of TISI Sangam Fiji and he was a Founder of Lovu Mariamman Sangam Temple in Lautoka, Nawai Primary and Secondary School and Nawai Shree Venkatesh Perumal Mariamman Temple. He has performed Poojas in most of the sangam temples throughout Fiji during the Annual Pooja and other major temple activities.

MR. KANDA SAMY (1941 – 2018)



Late Mr. Samy was a Life Member of TISI Sangam Fiji since 1981 and he was actively involved in Sangam since then. He was the Past TISI Sangam National Vice President North Western and also past Treasurer of TISI Sangam Ba District, Ba Sangam College and Primary.

MR. RAMA KRISHNAN NAIDU



Late Mr. Naidu was the son of Late Dhanveer M. N. Naidu. He is the father of Richard Naidu.

Mr. Vijay Achari – Australia, Mr. Pachappa Gounder – Lomawai Temple Past Vice President, Mr. Satya Nand – Nadroga, Mr. Narendra Goundar – Suva, Mr. Damodran Nair – Navua, Mr. Muniappa Gounar – Uciwai Husband of Sharda, Mr. Shiri Vivasan, Mr. Richard Nair – Nasinu.