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*From the President's Desk . . .*

*For internal circulation only*

Dear (s)

The Uniform distribution function went off very well thanks to the cooperation and support of many good hearted individuals. We are happy in the way things were organized and we rededicate ourselves for the betterment of the society. We have a full report on the function. On the podium, medical lab was inaugurated and we are happy that the clinical lab has started functioning from 9th of July.

The Nation had its first woman President. Smt. Pratibha Patil was sworn in the Central Hall of Parliament on 25th July 2007. The affable APJ distinguished himself even during exit. The unconventional figure who was never pompous walked into the Palace at Raisina Hill with few worldly goods and left perhaps with even fewer. It was stated that there was no precedent but for Rajendra Prasad for a second term. But for any good case there is no need for a precedent for it is the good that makes the precedence. It is stated that when his relatives visited the Presidential house during 2006, not once was office vehicle used for them and the entire expenses were paid out of his pocket. The Ex President has certainly set very high benchmark of rectitude in public life – very hard to emulate. He certainly is a living embodiment of transparency, simplicity, high thinking, vision and all greatness.

There were newspaper reports that after resigning as PM, commoner Blair and wife took the train back to their Sedgefield constituency, jostling with common passengers at the King's Cross station driving straight from the Buckingham Palace. It was a glorious drive into the political sunset and APJ perhaps exceeded him. The news not so heard is that the official website of the president of India - <http://presidentofindia.nic.in/> was closed with message 'under renovation' immediately once APJ laid down office.

To some of us more than these, the cricket tour of Indians to England where they played Ireland, South Africa, and the test & one dayers against England attract more. We have a report on English summer as well.

**Yours friendly T.J. Ramani**

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## கல்விப் பணியில் சைமடா

The uniform distribution function was a grandiose function – neatly organized and smartly done. On 8th of July 2006, there was hectic activity at the house where Mahakavi Subrahmanya Bharathiyar once lived. The function started on time with the invocation of God. Our President TJ Ramani welcomed the gathering. Our Vice President TA Sampathkumar compered the event.

In the history of Tamilnadu and British India, Arcot located on Palar river has great relevance. The capital city of Carnatic kingdom was in the thick of wars. Robert Clive captured it from French in 1751. The British regained control from Haider Ali. In 1867, Prince Azim Jah ascended the throne. He was conferred title “His Highness The Prince of Arcot” - Amir E Arcot in 1867. The British Govt took over the Chepauk Palace and as part of settlement the Govt undertook to build a palace, now known as Amir Mahal. The present prince is Nawab Mohammed Abdul Ali Azim Jah. The President of India recognised Nawab Mohammed Ali as His Highness the Prince of Arcot in succession by extraordinary Gazette notification on 7 7 1994. This well know social activist, was the Sheriff of Madras for two separate terms. He is a patron of Music, art and literature and is the founder of Harmony India aimed at promoting communal amity, secularism and national integration. This distinguished person was our Chief Guest.

Corporation of Chennai is the oldest municipal institution established on 29th Sept 1688. This Corporation governs the city with area of 174 sq kms. The commissioner is the Chief Executive. Rajesh B Lakhoni, the present commissioner was the guest of honour. This suave, young person is an engineer of IIT Mumbai and has served in various districts as Collector. The Clinical lab of Kanchi Sankara Foundation was inaugurated on the podium and the donors for the lab were honoured.

Rajesh Lakhoni gave a thought provoking speech citing a moral story. His speech was heard with rapt attention. Nawab Mohammed Ali made a very impressive speech recalling his lineage and their contributions. He praised SYMA for being in the forefront of social service in this area.

SYMA over the years has been appreciating and recognizing those who have been making a difference to the society by their deeds by presenting SYMA Sewa awards. Mr Muniraj Pandith, who has been associated with Home Guards, Indian Red Cross, Dept. of Youth Affairs & Sports was the recipient this year. SYMA

recognized him more for his role in the guidance to the youth of Krishnampet under the aegis of D3 Police Boys Club. The citation was read by our Secretary R Vijayaraghavan and award given by the Nawab. Vote of thanks was rendered by S Sampathkumar.

We have been honouring the toppers of various schools in Triplicane by giving Medal, Certificate & Cash awards. The school toppers were honoured on stage. We place on record our thanks to Mr TA Ramachandran for instituting award to school toppers in memory of his mother Rajalakshmi Padmanabhan.

Educational aid to college students was distributed on stage by the Chief Guest and uniforms to school children were also distributed. This year we have distributed around 1400 uniforms to economically poor students.

We wish to place on record our deep sense of gratitude for all those without whose help we will not be in a position to serve the society in this magnitude. No words would be enough to praise the organization which has been helping us in this service – Rajasthan Cosmo Club. We look forward to having continued association with RCC.

We are thankful to Sri Venkata Subramanian, the young advocate for the huge donation, Sri Bala of Mangal Tirth Foundations, Kumaran Dresses, Shri Mukund and various other donors. The dedicated work of our volunteers both in collection and in service deserve praise, especially J Venkatesan who has been collecting the maximum amount. We place on record our thanks to all those who donated – employees of Citi Bank, Royal Sundaram & others. We also thank Ramprasad of Citi Bank for the brochures, Gemini Tailors, the young volunteers of Kellet Higher Sec. School, BRP Sarathy for the coordination with school toppers, our members SR Raghunathan & KV Srinivasan for arranging the Chief Guests. NKT Boys High School for providing place on various occasions, the staff and PRO Mr Veerasamy of Bharathiar Illam, our electrician Varadhan and our various other volunteers who took care of minute aspects ensuring proper conduct of the function. Special mention of the work of D Veeraraghavan and the family members of our Secretary Mr R Seshadri whose house was the centre of the distribution activity.

SYMA thanks all those good-hearted persons involved in our attempt to do something for the school children to attend school with dignity.

## ENGLISH SUMMER – COMMONER CONFRONTS LORDS

Another cricketing season has begun and as is happening frequently of late, the Chennaites are denied the pleasure of watching good matches. For strange reasons, tour of England have always had added significance and the performance in England is reckoned as supreme show of strength. Viewed in this context the present Test series is under the scanner.

England were denied victory in the first Test at Lord's when bad light and rain closed in with India nine wickets down. Prior to the test series, we played some one dayers where the performance was creditable. But in the opening test in the majestic setting of Lords, it was struggle throughout. The captain and players were probably looking skywards and relief was indeed to come. In this background, we look back at our earlier visits and what occurred during these tours..

Test Cricket has long been considered the ultimate test of playing ability between cricketing nations. It remains the highest-regarded form of the game, even after the inventions of ODI & Twenty 20s. The first ever official test match commenced on the 15.3.1877, when the Australians beat England by 45 runs at MCC. The past has not been glorious. This is what statistically it had been.

Span	Mat	Won	Lost	Drawn
India against England 1932-2007	95	17	34	44
India in England 1932-2007	46	4	23	19

This includes the recent Lords Test of this tour. But these numbers span 75 years - some glorious, some less great. Some of India's worst performances in England took place during its early days in Test cricket, and the statistics are no indication of the present form of the two teams.

Predictably, our baptism into Test cricket was during British rule and the first test was played at Lords on 25th June 1932 and it was a 3 day match. The match which had more than mere cricketing performance took off in a glorious weather with a crowd of some 25000 in the most famous ground, enriched by long years of tradition with high expectation of unabashed thrashing to be handed down. But it was a sort of shock for, Sutcliffe, Holmes, and Woolley were back with only 19 runs on board in 20 minutes. The vociferous crowd was still applauding the Britishers. Indian bowlers Nissar, Amar singh, Nayudu all accomplished themselves. Eventually England won by 158 runs and a new rage for the country had begun & has been growing till date.

Indians had to wait far too long for their first win in England – almost for 40 years. August 24, 1971, is a landmark day in the history of Indian cricket. England were bundled for 101 in their second knock with Chandra returning a magical 6 for 38. At the start of that day — which was also the last day of the final Test — India needed 97 runs with 8 wickets in hand to record a memorable victory. The runs came after three hours of tense cricket of struggle and survival on a sluggish wicket. The most important score came from the

compact little genius Gundappa Vishwanath. Abid Ali made the winning runs – the win was certainly the outcome of the glorious performance of Chandra and the Captain Wadekar's cool, shrewd handling of the team.

By the mid-1970s India was riding high in world cricket after the series wins in Caribbean followed by the historic victory in England, confounded by another victory at home over England.

The tour in 1974 was exceptionally disastrous where the Indians not only lost all the matches but were humiliated by an Innings & 285 runs defeat at Lords. They were bundled out for abysmal 42 runs in their second essay in just 17 overs with only Solkar touching double figure. That disastrous tour was the swan song of the one of the best captains ever – Ajit Wadekar.

The next two victories came in one the best performed tours – 1986 led by the magnificent Kapil. It was perhaps fate that Chetan Sharma's career would forever be remembered for the one delivery which he bowled at the desert venue to Miandad. This spirited youngster bounced back with vigour and set the tone for our first and only victory at Lords thus far.

In the first test in the tour of 1986 which started on 5th June 1986 – Chetan took 5 wickets in the first innings. Dilip Vengsarkar scored a majestic century in the first essay. Kapil Dev reduced them to rubbles in the second becoming Man of the Match and ensuring a win by 5 wickets.

The next test at Headingley, Leeds was even better. Madanlan who was not part of the original squad was inducted as a last minute replacement, made initial inroads. Binny broke the backbone to finish with a 5 wicket haul dismissing England for a paltry 102. Vengsarkar cracked another ton, Maninder was the wrecker in chief in the second essay and Indians won by a handsome 279 margin.

It was patient 16 year wait when we completed a win by Innings and 46 runs in Aug 2002. There were three centurions – Dravid, Sachin (missing double by 7) and the captain Saurav. Kumble finished with a match haul of 7.

So 4 wins in 14 tours is nothing to feel proud of. But as has ever been, as a die hard Indian cricket fan, we expect this tour to bear more fruits.

**Q:** The man most relevant in Indian history – the thin old man in a homespun dhoti and shawl is the most well-remembered Gandhi. We have all read that Gandhi descended from South Africa to lead the Indian freedom struggle in the early part of the previous century. Do you know why Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi went to South Africa where he lived from 1893 till 1914 ? **Ans in pg.4**

ஸ்ரீநிவாஸ் இளைஞர்கள் நற்பணி சங்கம்  
அரிமா சங்கம் சென்னை வீனஸ், பம்மல் சங்கரா கண் மருத்துவமனை  
ஸ்ரீகாஞ்சி காமகோடி சங்கரா மருத்துவ அறக்கட்டளை, ஸ்ரீ சீர்வி சமாஜ் பவன்  
இணைந்து நடத்தும்

### இலவச கண்புரை அறுவை சிகிச்சை முகாம்

இடம் : ஸ்ரீ சீர்வி சமாஜ் பவன், (ஐஸ் ஹவுஸ் பேருந்து நிலையம் எதிரில்)  
டாக்டர் பெசன்ட் சாலை, திருவல்லிக்கேணி, சென்னை - 5.

நாள் : 15.8.2007, புதன்கிழமை காலை 9.00 மணி - மதியம் 12.00 மணி வரை



**SYMA**  
**CELEBRATES**  
**INDEPENDENCE DAY**

Date: 15.8.2007.

Wednesday, 8.00 a.m. at

**SYMA MEDICAL CENTRE**

T.P. Koil St, Chennai 5.

**All are Welcome**

### வாழ்த்துகிறோம்

நமது செயற்குழு உறுப்பினர் திரு. சஞ்சீவி ரகுநாதன் அவர்களின் தங்கை செள. கிருத்திகா ரகுநாதனுக்கும் சிரஞ். ரவி அவர்களுக்கும் 28.6.2007 அன்று திருமணம் நடைபெற்றது. தம்பதியினரை BLISS வாழ்த்துகிறது.

### இரத்தப் பரிசோதனை மையம்

With the blessings of Lord and with the help and guidance of Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Foundation, we have made one significant step forward. Apart from running medical centre providing free consultation, a full fledged clinical laboratory has started functioning in our premises effective 9th July 2007. Very nominal fees for the tests are charged and only 50% of these fees are charged to the medical centre patients.

The Lab is named after PV Rama Iyengar & Smt. Suganthavalli – whose family members have donated funds and medical equipments for conduct of the lab. We are thankful to Dr Sridhar and Kanchi Sankara Foundation for their continued support and guidance. The functioning of the lab was made possible by the active involvement advice and direct help rendered by the renowned physician Dr K Sridhar.

We also place on record our thanks to Mr KV Kumar (KVK Builders) Mr Rajagopal of RR Construction and Rajamani who have helped us to construct the necessary infrastructure for this lab. With your continued support & patronage, we are sure we can further our commitment in betterment of the society.

**Ans :** After spending time in Rajkot , Gandhi practiced in Bombay. He stayed in Bombay for a few months but had only one small brief. In this predicament came an offer from Dada Abdulla & Co and Gandhi landed at Durban in May 1893. Dada Abdulla, an illiterate ship-owner and trader gave the inexperienced England returned Barrister, Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi, his first professional assignment-a first class return ship fare from Bombay to Durban and a sum of 105 Pound for a case against one of his cousins, Tayeb Khan Mohammad. In 1894, Gandhi founded the Natal Indian Congress to agitate for Indian rights. Gandhi came back to India in 1914 and Indian destiny changed for the better.

உறுப்பினர்களிடமிருந்து செய்திகள், துணுக்குகள்  
உபயோகக் குறிப்புகள் வரவேற்கப்படுகின்றன.

அணுக வேண்டிய முகவரி : **சைமா BLISS**

சைமா மெடிக்கல் சென்டர்

29, துளசிங்க பெருமாள் கோயில் தெரு  
திருவல்லிக்கேணி, சென்னை -600 005.

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Website : www.syma.in

### வருந்துகிறோம்

நமது சங்க உறுப்பினர் ஸ்ரீ A.V.கஸ்தூரி ரங்கன்  
அவர்களின் தாயார் திருமதி கண்ணாமணி  
அம்மாள் (86) 3.7.2007 அன்று இயற்கை  
எய்தினார். அன்னாரின் மறைவுக்கு BLISS தனது  
ஆழ்ந்த இரங்கலைத் தெரிவிக்கிறது.

To

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