



# BLISS

Regd.No. 200/6

Syma Website : [www.syma.in](http://www.syma.in)  
For internal circulation only

Estd : 1977

Volume 13 Issue 10

VOICE OF SRINIVAS YOUNGMEN'S ASSOCIATION

FEBRUARY - 2016

## From Editor's Desk . . .

Oct 2nd is always important; this year it was significant for SYMA. SYMA's foray in medical service commenced on 16th Aug 1989 and on 2nd Oct 2015, we celebrated our 25 years of Medical Service in a grand way. We conducted medical camp at SHG Terapanth Bhavan, inaugurated by Dr J Radhakrishnan, IAS, Secretary to Govt, Health and Family Welfare Dept., Our patron Dr K. Sridhar was on the dais, as we felicitated all or former Presidents and volunteers. It is the good fortune of SYMA that the souvenir was released by great scholar, Sri CL Ramakrishnan, IPS [full details of the function will be featured in our later issues]

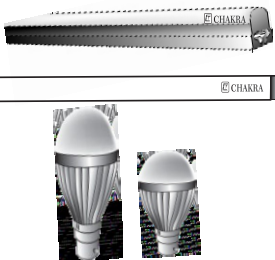
2016 was born ! not exactly in a great atmosphere, as Chennai and other parts of Tamil Nadu were limping back to normalcy after that cataclysmic floods in Dec ~ people celebrated – being closer to Marina beach, could hear the din in the midnight. There were road accidents and certainly there is a saner way of celebrating.

Lot of Cricket to follow – India played ODI & T20 series in Australia; Indian lads finished 2nd in U19 WC; Asia Cup in T20 format is to be played, followed by grand T20 WC in India....and IPL would follow. Vivo Electronics Corp. is the new title sponsor of the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2016. IPL may continue to be a hit – but Chennai may not any longer be painted yellow ! ~ people may no longer whistle for CSK. For 2016 – Chennai Super Kings & Rajasthan Royals have been replaced by Pune & Rajkot teams. The recent IPL auction saw many players reaping it too rich. Unlike the sky-rocketing price for IPL players' auction – it was reverse bidding which selected the two new franchisees. Under reverse bidding investors were encouraged to bid for lower than the base price of Rs 40 crore set by the IPL. Having bid in the negative, New Rising paid Rs 16 crore while Intex paid Rs 10 crore to the BCCI per year of their contracts. Where BCCI had to pay – the franchisee enriched the coffers.

The ancient city, part of erstwhile Princely state Nurpur, ruled by Rajputs, Pathankot was in news due to terrorism. On February 3, an 800ft by 400ft ice wall broke off and covered an Army Post located under tones of ice debris at 19500 feet in the Northern Glacier in Siachen, taking along the lives of army men. A brave Soldier from Hubballi, delayed death by more than a week surviving against odds - Nation lauded his extraordinary endurance and an indomitable spirit of survival. Sad he too eventually passed away. We Salute those army men who sacrifice their today in safeguarding our future.

After our Oct 15 issue, Bliss could not be brought out due to personal preoccupations and Yours Truly sincerely apologises to you all for the same.


With regards – S. Sampathkumar.



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## தத்தளித்த மாநகரம்

'much water has flown under the bridge' is an oft repeated cliché meaning that something is in the past and no longer important. It was water of different kind for Chennaites.

Around Deepavali 2015, there were rains dampening the spirits. Dec 2015 started differently. At Chennai much water flowed under the bridge, no – actually flowed over the bridges at Saidapet and Adyar. The incessant rains, floods breaching the tanks inundated many residential areas, bringing untold hardships to Chennaites. .. and people of Tamil Nadu rose up in spectacular fashion, helping each other. Triplicane, the abode of Lord Parthasarathi remained absolutely unaffected – Thiruvallikkenivasis, Organisations and more were in the forefront doing rescue work. SYMA proudly organised providing help to the people. For 5 continuous days from 2nd Dec, SYMA volunteers in trucks fanned out to various rain-affected localities distributing biscuits, food, milk, dress material, mats, blankets – the efforts will be detailed more in our forthcoming issues. Then we took some strategic break and continued our efforts in rehabilitation.

**The relief operations of SYMA and the rehabilitation package would all be detailed in our forthcoming issues.**

On the Republic Day of the Nation at prime time 8.30am, Kalaignar TV presented a programme titled "Mugavari Kodukkum Mugangal" appreciating those who serve the society with fervour without caring to highlight their names. The Program producer Mr Vijayaraghavan and his crew visited our SYMA medical centre and recorded the functioning of our medical centre. For 15 minutes, the program showcased the good work of SYMA with face-to-face with the Secretary. It was well edited and brought out well. SYMA thanks Kalaignar TV, the cheerful presenter, the concept head Mr Vijayaraghavan and his crew.

**SYMA thanks its various donors who provided support in the form of money, material, food and more. Special mention of Mr Balakrishnan Perumbala from USA for the financial support.**

## துயர் துடைத்த மக்கள்

Rains, rains ... and more .... Dec 2015 would remain etched in the memory of Chennaites for the devastation that followed incessant rains. a few lives were lost, many lost all their belongings – for Insurers claims poured in and by estimates the loss in city alone is put at 4000 crores [no confirmed source though !] – house property; industries, stocks, IT & ITES; hotels and thousands of cars. Among many areas affected is Kotturpuram, which was badly affected in 1977 also. The tribulations of the school students were highlighted to us by an active member. We first distributed mats and other useful material, then organised around two sets of dress [one uniform and other coloured] to around 85 students. We also distributed relief package consisting of stove, utensils, rice, sugar, dal and the like. [the rehabilitation measures of SYMA will be featured in our forthcoming issues]

GVK EMRI (Emergency Management and Research Institute) is one good thing that happened in 2005. 108 is synonymous with emergency support saving many lives. Recently, they have introduced novel 2-wheeler ambulance services also. Besides, GVK EMRI with TN Govt is operating integrated "104 Health Advice Helpline Services"

For those who underwent suffering during floods, especially young students – the stress of the trauma is unbearable. With our active coordination, EMRI 104 Health Helpline conducted psychological counselling for children assisting them to overcome stress induced by floods. Psychologist Mr Elaya Raja and Mr B Prabudoss held a session at the school and organised activities and games that touched upon the symptoms of trauma and stress while speaking to students on how to effectively overcome them. Simple breathing techniques and exercises were taught. The concern and care exhibited and the efforts of the Head Mistress of the School and other Teachers in identifying and taking care of those students affected is commendable.

## நன்றி! நன்றி!!

SYMA thankfully acknowledges donations to its Corpus Fund. Dr K Sridhar, our guiding spirit in medical service donated Rs.1 lakh at our Silver Jubilee function on 2nd Oct 15. We thank Palepu Pharma Pvt Ltd for 1 lakh towards medicine, through our former president N Ganapathy; One lakh towards corpus fund from Dr Saraladevi Johnson, in memory of Dr KV Balakrishnan & Dr Kamalakshi through Mr KV Veeraraghavan. We thank M/s Grundfos Pumps India P Ltd for the donation of Rs.1 lakh through Mr J Venkatesan. We place on record our humble thanks to late Mrs G.P. Kamala for donation of Rs. 1 lakh through Mr KS Varadharajan.

## ஸ்ரீபார்த்தசாரதி தபால்நிலையம் - மறுபடியும் இயக்கம்

Some things have changed in life. Some have lost their sheen for no fault of theirs. There was this old building at Veeraraghava Mudali St [Big Street, Triplicane] that once stood majestically and bustled with activity and was brought down in Jan 2011. It was the most sought after one of yesteryears –‘the post office’. This one was officially known as “Parthasarathy Koil S.O” – a bigger one has been in existence at Triplicane High Road for long. The modern day youngsters might not know the cost of a Post card; may not even know that such thing exists ! For none of the younger generation are in the habit of writing letter by hand to parents / spouse / brother and sister / loved ones / friend / teacher or somebody else ? In fact many are not even in the habit of sending / responding personally to e-mails in the age of FB but have lots of time for sending forwards

Do you know that besides the Communication Address viz., Postal address that consists of Door No., Street Name, Area, City .... there existed something known as PO Bag No. ? History reveals that it was way back in 1712, Governor Harrison first started a Company Postal Service in Madras to carry mail to Bengal by dak runner. By 1736, a postal system of sorts was in place with a somewhat greater vision. In 1774, a system of charging postage on private letters began. Decades later the postal rules were in place ~ Chennai General Post Office was initially opened in Fort St. George Square, just outside the Sea Gate, on 1 June 1786.

Once that Big Street building was demolished – Sri Parthasarathy Koil PO suffered. It functioned for sometime from the premises of Triplicane PO ~ for sometime it was in the near dilapidated structure at Hanumantharayan Street – for many years residents of Thiruvallikkeni had been waiting patiently, moving mountains in the fond hope that seemingly endless wait of Sri Parthasarathi Koil PO at Thiruvallikkeni would dawn into a reality !!! ~ not all nursed the hope !

It was of sentimental importance too. Any search on Sulekha pages or elsewhere would reveal the names of Post Offices as [certainly not the exhaustive list]: Adambakkam PO; Adyar PO; Alandur PO; Alwarthirunagar PO; and the like. There could be hundreds of post offices but to those residents of Triplicane – the building that housed Thiruvallikkeni Thapal Nilayam is a monument and many would have green stories kindling nostalgia ~ and its name is unique for it is ‘Sri Parthasarathi Koil Post Office’ ..... only one of its genre named not after the locality but after our presiding deity Sri Parthasarathi. 16th Dec 2015 dawned differently as with the concerted efforts of citizens of Thiruvallikkeni, SriParthasarathy Koil PO was reopened at North Tank Square Street, in a premises belonging to the Temple. Thanks are due to many – specifically Mr MGR Vasam, Councillor 116 Ward, Sri Parthasarathy Swami Temple Devasthanam DC and officials, associations of Triplicane including SYMA [special mention of TJ Ramani] and Friends Association; Brahmins Welfare Association, Triplicane – specific for contributing the advance amount from their funds. With the efforts of many many people, the Post Office today is a reality bringing cheers to all here at Thiruvallikkeni divyadesam

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## வாழ்த்துக்கள்

Sow. Madhuvanthi M.A, daughter of M.A. Rangarajan Ex-Treasurer weds Sri. T.Nambi Srinivasan on 2.11.2015  
Chi RP Kishore , son of our Vice President SR Parthasarathy weds Sow. M. Akshaya at Guduvanchery on 14.2.2016.  
Bliss wishes the couples all happiness and prosperity.

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## நவீன மயமாக்கப்பட்ட சைமா மருத்துவ மையம்

SYMA medical centre is our address. We take every care to ensure that patients who utilise our services are attended to properly and get the best medical attention. The lab charges very low cost for tests and at times, many apprehend whether they can get quality tests done at such low costs. In Jan 2016, we bought a new analyser costing around 1.50 lakhs for our lab, which automates most of the functions and is sophisticated. We have also bought computerised ECG at approx Rs. 50000. With this, we continue to serve the society providing quality medical support.

At the façade of the Centre, we have now an electronic scroll – customised and made for us by M/s Triad. We thank our member Mr S Parthasarathy for this. Besides details of charges at our lab, we are able to run details of SYMA's activities and info. that would benefit the common public. We scrolled info on road safety and need for wearing helmets. As you would know, there is need for helmet on Cricket field too, batsmen, close-in fielders wear - while occasionally even wicketkeepers do. Recently, Umpire Pashchim Girish Pathak wore an helmet in Vijay Hazare trophy taking cue from Dindigul incident whence John David Ward from Australia was struck on the skull by a shot by Brainder Sran. Safety is always important.

## GP Kamala is no more

Triplicane was the seat of freedom struggle – Balagandhara Thilakar and very many patriotic leaders had delivered powerful lectures in Triplicane (Thilakar thidal at Marina beach) and inspired people in the freedom struggle. Kalaimamani G.P. Kamala [Gomadham Parthasarathi Kamala] fought adversity throughout her life, her competencies overshadowed by tearful occurrences, yet remained composed having achieved things in life and having trained many women of Triplicane endowing them the chance to sing sweetly.

GP Kamala born in 1934, learnt music in the traditional way becoming a bright achiever. She did hundreds of concerts in various sabhas in nook and corners of the State. She was the proud recipient of seven gold medals from acclaimed Sabhas like RR Sabha, Sri Parthasarathi Sabha, Purandaradasa sabha etc., Many decades ago, when foreign travel was so sparse, she toured Brazil, Belgrade, Russia accompanying famous performers. Heard that Thiruppavai sung mellifluously by her was played in Sri Venkateswara Temple at Pittsburg daily in the mornings for many years continuously. One of the high points in her career was the special invitation from the King of Nepal – upon which she was to tour and sing in many concerts over there. Triplicane being the seat of freedom struggle, she sang in many Congress meets exuding patriotic fervor and in some meetings presided by persons like Rajaji. She was actively engaged in the formation and running of Mahatmaji Seva Sangh. In 2004 she was the proud recipient of 'Kalaimamani' and received the award from Chief Minister J Jayalithaa.

She passed away on 9th Dec 2015. In her passing away, Triplicane has lost one of its jewel. She will be remembered for her pleasant disposition and simple life. In her memory, a donation of Rs. 1 lakh has been made to SYMA and we thank Mr KS Varadharajan for this.

## SYMA Growth Pooja

SYMA has an unsaturated desire for serving the Society. In July 2008, our Tuition Centre 'Growth' was born and every year since, we have been tasting grand success with very good results.

The classes for the present academic year started in July 2015 after our initial screening ensuring that the most deserving were selected on economic criteria. The Centre is run on all days from 6-8 pm in the evening and on Sundays @ 10-12 am and has +2 Commerce, + Science Group; X standard – Tamil and X Std English medium – having 150 students in all. The Examinations are closer and on 19th Feb 2016 SYMA organised a Pooja at NKT National Boys High School, praying for the success of our students and for the well being of the Organisation in continuing this good cause. Special pooja was conducted by Sri Devaraja Swami, Chinnamurai Archagar of Sri Parthasarathi Swami temple who blessed the students.

Mr Shanti Chand of Moti & Co, pharma distributors and Sollin Selvar Mr PN Parasuraman, an erudite scholar and writer on Hinduism were the Chief Guests, who encouraged the students with their wisdom. Our President TA Sampathkumar and Secretary R. Sanjeevi also spoke to the students. SYMA places on record our profound thanks to the Management of NK Thirumalachariyar National Boys High School, Mr S. Venkatadri, HM, NKT Boys High School, our beloved teachers of SYMA Growth, Mrs Thara, Mr Raja, and the volunteers. We now look forward to our students coming out with flying colours in the Public Examination.

## Celebrating our Republic Day

India celebrated its 67th Republic Day with French President Francois Hollande as the chief guest. The celebrations began at the Amar Jawan Jyoti where Prime Minister Narendra Modi leading the nation in paying homage to the martyrs by laying a wreath at the memorial. At SYMA centre, National flag was hoisted by Mr KV Rangarajan, President of Brahmin Welfare Association.

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To \_\_\_\_\_  
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