



NL AUGUST 2022

LOVE ALL, SERVE ALL

Sevalaya celebrates its 34th Annual Day at Kadayam



M Subramanian, Head of Maintenance department, receiving the best employee award from M Appavu, The Honourable Speaker, Tamil Nadu

Sevalaya celebrated its 34th annual day at Kadayam on 27th June 2022. It was the first time that the Annual Day function was held outside Kasuva, the first centre established by Sevalaya in 1988.

The 34th Annual Report was released by the Honourable Speaker M Appavu

Several members of Sevalaya team were felicitated at the function, attended by K Elam Bhagavath IAS, Director of Public Libraries and P Akash, IAS, District Collector, Tenkasi.

The prestigious Best employee award of the year was won by M Subramanian,

Head of Maintenance department, Kasuva centre. S Sumathi, Tailoring Instructor, Sevalaya's Community College at Gudalur and S Mariyammal, Science Teacher at Sevalaya's Mahakavi Bharathiyar Higher Secondary School, Kasuva centre won the Performance Excellence awards.

The following were honoured as Best volunteers: Sujatha Renganathan, UK, Brian Jeon, USA, Nikhil Devaraj, USA, Aaditya Ganesan, USA, Aniruddh Mishra, USA and Uma Chandrasekaran, Chennai.



Release of 34th Annual Report

Renault Nissan funds Paediatric Intensive Care unit at Govt Hospital



Renault Nissan Automotive India Pvt Ltd (RNAIPL) has sponsored a ₹ 99 lacs worth project, for the Infrastructure Upgradation of Paediatric ICU at Chengalpatt Government Hospital, Sevalaya as the implementation partner.

The Bhoomi pooja was conducted on 14th July 2022. The project includes the

renovation of the PICU building and the donation of medical equipment around 2500 children will benefit every year from the medical services offered at the hospital.

The Chief Guest V M Keerthi Prakash, Deputy Managing Director RNAIPL, expressed his happiness in partnering

with Sevalaya to implement a project that will improve children's health services.

Dr A Anitha, Dean (FAC) and Prof Dr S A Ravikumar MD, Head of the Department, Paediatrics, Chengalpatt Medical College and Hospital, participated in the celebrations. RNAIPL also sponsored yellow cloth bags with 2 tree saplings in each bag, which were donated to the parents of the children in the paediatric ward.



Bharathi brings out the best of Sevalaya - Celebrating a team success



It was a day to celebrate Team Sevalaya's successful completion of the Bharathi Chellamma Ratha Yathra and the inauguration of a monument to honour Bharathi, followed by three days of varied events at Kadayam. A proud moment to applaud the heroes and heroines - and to evaluate and note what could be done even better, in future.

Both relieved and delighted, Muralidharan can recall the travails on the way, to get approval to create the monument, after planning to install a statue of Bharathi and Chellamma at Kadayam. Once he briefed his team on the multifaceted project, each team got into the act.

Surendranath, the young sculptor selected for this prestigious project, started his research, of the body structures, dress, hair style, moustache, the works. For a reference of the *madisar* (a traditional way of draping the nine yards saree) worn by Chellamma, Surendranath visited numerous temples, where women devotees wear that dress.

He researched Bharathi's hurried gait and its impact on his leg shape. From the beginning, he was clear the statue should tower over all. So he made it 7' 3"

S Kanchana, Head - Value Education was selected to spearhead the entire project. First task for her was to plan a route map and select schools and colleges for functions. Having accompanied the founder, Sevalaya Murali, on road trips, Vice President A A Kingston has a good grasp of Tamil Nadu's roads, which came in handy.

Sevalaya's growing presence, now in 18 locations, helped. Kanchana has a live date base of Tamil Nadu schools, thanks to the state wide inter school contests she conducts regularly. There were gaps in southern part of the state, which were filled by volunteers, suggested by L N Anupriya, Head Quality and Volunteering, from her network. Heads of Sevalaya's 18 community colleges gave ground support.

Even as the sculpture was getting ready,

Art teacher S Devaraj teamed up with the Kasuva maintenance team and was planning a *ratham* (chariot). Devaraj was visualizing it, with the help of Sevalaya's long time well wisher, artist Mari Anand. He got started and purchased the panel wood. Then he went and saw the sculpture under making, and junked his plans. The sculpture was tall and majestic, and it deserved something bigger. He incorporated elements to cue an elephant. The tail resembled Bharathi's famous moustache! Kingston managed to get police confirmation of its roadworthiness.

Meanwhile, M Subramanian, Head of Maintenance, was grappling with engineering issues. The sculpture weighed 110 kg. The fixture had to take a lot of jerks and heaves on a moving vehicle, Subramanian knew, having doubled up as a driver for years. He mounted the sculpture at the minimum height possible, thus bringing down centre of gravity. It also added to safety, in case of overhead tree branches and errant wires.

That the vehicle along with its precious cargo covered 3,200 kms, and was boarded by overcrowding fans at a thousand stops, is testimony to the engineering acumen of the pair.

Chariot ready, came the charioteer: E Thirunavukkarasu, who offered to drive



all the way, though change of drivers was provided for.

All along, a mini battle was on, at Kadayam. Completing the construction despite sand shortage and inclement weather was a constant challenge for the builder S Danasekar. Sevalaya had enlisted the services of Architect Prem Kumar Vinayagam, referred by Anupriya.

Danasekar kept his word. Organising an event in a distant rural setting with no hotel is not easy. Kanchana coordinated accommodation and transport, meeting the changes in travel plans. She liaised with Kadayam Centre Head, the well-networked Sankili, to book accommodation for over 165 guests in marriage halls. Some residents such as K S Kalyani Sivagaminathan, Retd. Headmaster, and an ardent supporter, threw their houses open to guests.

The days leading up to the inauguration saw everyone chipping in. Joined by Devaraj, the maintenance crew was in the forefront, showing their dexterity, creating the unveiling mechanism to fixing background skins and banners. Some like Devaraj didn't get a wink that night.

The Communication team, headed by Rekha Perumal, had its hands full, creating invitations for over 110 functions during *Ratha Yathra* as the events got finalised,



the banners, the memorial stones, Social Media promotions, *Ratham* map creation and promotions, daily *Ratham* photo gallery update on website, Press invites for all events, display boards, mementos - in all, churning out over 140 designs.

They also did live casting of the 4 days events. 'Cameramen' Arun and Suresh were on their feet for four full days, doing still photography and videography.

Concurrently, Sevalaya's 34th Annual Report was getting ready. A homage to Bharathi, it has 12 couplets of Bharathi, illustrated by Sevalaya teacher Abirami.

Those adorn the walls around the

Chellamma Bharathi sculpture - a befitting display in the magnificent hall. One also saw Prasanna Parthasarathy, Head, Donor Relations, behind the camera at Kadayam events. Summoning his prior experience, he relieved the two "cameramen" in between. It was multitasking all the way. It was, all for one, and one for all - the secret behind the success, achieved with minimum outsourcing, at what was undoubtedly the most daunting event management task for Sevalaya in its 34 years of existence.

It took Bharathi, one of the inspirations behind Sevalaya, to bring out the best in Sevalaya!



Zamin Endathur centre in full swing

Sevalaya's community college at Zamin Endathur started functioning in January 2020. The building was constructed by Petrofac on the land donated by D V Sridharan, who also donated ₹2 lacs for the construction. There are four people who sponsored for the construction of the old age home building- Nikhil Johri, V Manoharan, Ganeshan IAS and Kalpalatha. Other essential items like the cots, mattresses, washing machines, grinder, mixie, cooker, LED lights and flasks are sponsored by Dr R Chandrasekar and Dr Akila Chandrasekar from UK.

Currently, the activities at the centre include computer classes, tailoring and tuition centre. Computer classes are conducted by S Radhika, who heads this centre. College students of the

neighbourhood started attending these classes. They found it very useful in their studies.

Then came the Covid. In line with Sevalaya's response, the centre turned its attention to the affected. 100 BPL families were supplied groceries and many priests, pastors and mullahs were supported with the help of generous donors.

Pregnant ladies who were diagnosed positive and housed in the Public health Centre were given nutritious healthy food, 3 times a day for 30 days 125 Covid patients' families were identified and helped with groceries. Many families living in nearby villages were also helped during this period.

A production unit at Zamin Endathur with

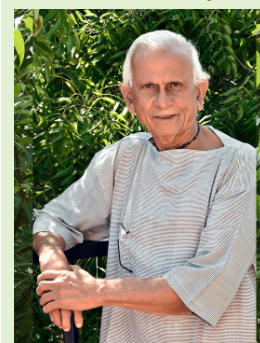
a group of ladies under Ramamurthy M are taking up tailoring orders and executing them perfectly on time. Their first order was huge and inspiring: stitching the uniforms for all the 2000-plus children studying in Sevalaya's school at Kasuva.

Later 500 shirts were stitched for ShoppeSeva. The ladies working in this unit find it convenient as this centre is near their houses and they do not have to commute far in search of a job. The centre has also started short-term tailoring classes where students learn the basics which helps them get employment to support their families financially.

The tuition centre here saw a large group of nearly 60 children attending the classes regularly. They enjoy the variety of activities conducted at the centre.



D V Sridharan: Sailor turned philanthropist



D V Sridharan is a marine engineer who turned to publishing after a career in the seas. A paradigm shift occurred when he realized

he knew more about the world than his own country. Good news India was started as a counter to negative reporting in Indian media. He started commuting in trains, meeting simple people who he felt had a greater connection with our ancient heritage and were more rooted. He wrote about their dedicated, sincere efforts for the community. He discovered his passion and reverence for the environment (<https://www.indica.today/long-reads/windmill-murti/>). In 2006 he purchased 20 acres of barren land in Zamin Endathur and has been restoring it through rainwater harvesting. 5 acres of forest are slowly coming up with about 58 varieties of trees.

An admirer of Sevalaya's founder V Muralidharan, he wished to be associated with the organisation. He donated 1,700 sq. ft. land to start a community college and also donated 5,044 sq. ft. for land to start an old age home.

Wolters Kluwer sponsors solar plant



Wolters Kluwer sponsored a Solar Hybrid and Grid interactive Plant installed at Sevalaya's Centre in Zamin Endathur, as

their CSR project to support the existing community college and the upcoming old age home.

The Solar Plant was inaugurated on 6th July 2022 by Raju Vaidhyanathan, MD, Wolters Kluwer ELM Solutions in the presence of Raja Sengupta, EVP, Gaurav Dogra VP, Product Software of Wolters Kluwer and Sevalaya Murali, Founder and Managing Trustee, Prasanna Parthasarathy, VP, Donor Relations, A A Kingston, VP, Operations Sevalaya.



Kone sponsors skill development program

The skill development program was inaugurated at Sevalaya's Community College at Zamin Endathur, Chengalpet by M Sai Kriba, DGM HR, Kone India on 8th July 2022. Kone has sponsored the tailoring and computer courses at the centre under their CSR programme. Sai Kriba expressed his happiness with the projects supported by Kone and implemented by Sevalaya since 2018 and said these skill development courses will enhance opportunities for employment of rural population.

The project was inaugurated in presence of Sevalaya Murali and G Pradeep Kumar, Senior Manager, HR Kone and other senior officials from Sevalaya and Kone. Sevalaya runs 18 Community Centres in different locations offering vocational courses in different trades.



Medals in athletics



Bhavani N of Std V won the Gold medal in Under-10 Girls in Vertical Jump and

E Nithyanadham of Std IX won the gold medal in Shotput in Under-14 Boys category, at Talent and field Athletics championship-2022 in the Nehru Stadium.

163 students participated in the summer camp, which included handball, basketball, volleyball, and athletics, with the coach, Nithyanadham, training 40 students from Sevalaya's school in these two categories over the past two months. Twenty of the best children were chosen to compete in various events



Deva, a dexterous genius

Young Devaraj discovered his talent in arts early in his childhood. He touched up with pencil a few of his Dad's faded, frayed photograph. His Dad S Sanjeevi found it "Super" and said so openly. Soon Deva was rendering the service free, in his neighborhood. It was Deva's nature to observe and learn new things. Soon he became a handyman for plumbing, carpentry and electrical problems. An uncle in politics gave him opportunities to learn about politics and to design cinema slides and posters.

When he was in his second year LLB, Deva lost his mom. Elder sister already married off, Sanjeevi wanted a lady to run the household with three sons. So Deva, the eldest, had to get married. Who will give a bride to an unemployed groom? So, Deva gave up legal studies and switched to teacher training – a surer route to employment. In 2013, he joined Sevalaya as a second grade teacher in the Sevalaya primary school, teaching all subjects.

One principle Deva imbibed early was to



do it right the first time. No rework! He wanted to do a good job in everything. Head Mistress N Annapurna soon started citing Deva's Class 5 A as the best kept class. Then primary School headmaster M T Anandan noticed Deva's sketching talent and soon he was painting Bharathi pictures to go with couplets, on the walls of the prayer hall. In no time, Deva was in demand, beautifying the class room walls, making models and charts for other teachers, sign boards as Sevalaya started new centres all over the state. Deva became stage decorator, balloon gate maker – his hand speed is amazing. Even a banner is nailed only

after measurements with foot rule and pencil marks. Blessed with self-developed spatial intelligence, he diversified into paper craft. For two years he taught paper craft in Puzhal jail and in some corporate. Using only ground level photos of various buildings in the Kasuva campus, he created an aerial view of the entire campus.

"You can brief Deva and can be sure he will deliver as promised. Often he exceeds expectations, with his creativity and innovation", says a Department Head.

"There are many things I can do, I want to do. I will do it when the need arises. I look forward to getting such opportunities". Simple translation: Deva is ever ready for a challenge that teases his intellect, tests his problem-solving skills based on logic and the laws of Science informally imbibed. Lithe and fast, such is his passion that he can take long hours solving problems, innovatively.

This dexterous genius is officially an arts teacher in the Primary school. A batch of 5 students who had learnt from him joined Caterpillar as trainees and wowed the company officials. These students easily drew machines in 3D view. They also did decorations for a function and impressed their head who found the output unique and stunning.

What price can you put for that learning? That question rings true for most things Deva does.

badly. She left the centre and withdrew to her hurt self.

That is when Paruk heard about Sevalaya's Gudalur community college and got her to join tailoring course. "I wasn't sure if she would continue, but her sewing instructors Sumathi and Nazeera's courage inspired her to finish the course. They treated her like their daughter" says the grateful father.

"It would have taken me a lifetime to get back my child, but you took only 6 months to do that!". "Today she is sewing uniforms for school students. We have got our girl back. Thanks to you, Sumathi, Nazeera and Sevalaya".

Her confidence back, Farzana is packing her bags, to go to Kerala for studying at the fashion Design institute Payson Designing. She is determined to expand her father's business.

Bravo Farzana!



paid the fees and got her admitted to a centre for learning tailoring. There in the centre, taunts about her past hurt her

"We got our daughter back"

"Thank you for returning our daughter to us", says Paruk wet eyed and emotionally overwhelmed. He is all praise for Sevalaya, for rescuing his daughter out of deep depression.

After spending a life time's savings on his only daughter's wedding, Paruk was heart broken when Farzana returned home, unable to stand her husband's cruelty. She went into depression and she stopped talking to anyone at home. She refused to leave her room.

Paruk tried to teach Farzana his trade of tailoring. She simply refused. He then

M Subramani: Employee of the year 2021-2022

Growing up in Tondiarpet in Chennai city, Subramani didn't go past the 7th. He had so many friends and they had so many interesting interests! Starting with working in a cycle shop, Subramani found his aptitude in vehicle mechanics and became a driver. Married in 2006 and wanting a steady life, he joined Sevalaya as a Driver with reference given by ex staff Amul. Soon he became Head of maintenance department. His power of observation and the mechanic's bend of mind have multiplied his skills to



include plumbing, electricals and painting building walls. Subramani lives near the school, with his wife Chithra and their two kids: Vignesh(15) and Kavya(13).

His day begins at 7am, when he takes a round of the campus, switching off odd

lights that are still shining, finding water leak anything amiss. He then returns at 9, allots work to the team of ten including drivers. The crew had put in hard miles during the months of flood relief and Covid relief. No day can be predicted. It can include driving the car or a van in the city or outside, shifting an elder from the old age home to a hospital, or attending to maintenance issues in the 18 acre campus.

Interestingly, even before Sevalaya introduced 5S training 4 years back, Subramani was already practicing it. "Till a job given to him is completed perfectly, Subramani will not stop. He cannot bear to hear someone pointing out a fault in his work", avers his supervisor for many years. Such is his pride in his work. "I will not say no to anyone. I try to do a good job. The mental satisfaction from solving problems is important to me", says Subramani, standing tall at 6' 2".

36 complete tailoring course



A J Thomas, Principal (in-charge) of Government Arts College, Dr S Shanmugam, V Govindarajan, Proprietor of Janaki Ammal Wedding Hall and Prakash, President, Gudalur Valley Rotary Club were present as special guests at the certificate distribution function held in Gudalur. 36 students of Sevalaya's Mahakavi Bharatiyar Community College were given certificates of completion of tailoring course at the function held on 17 July 2022. Free sewing machines were given to 11 deserving girl students.

S Sumathi won the Performance Excellence award and Sheena Subees was given a gold coin for completing 5 years of service in Sevalaya. The

special guest Prakash promised to place an order to sew bags, which will be distributed on behalf of the Rotary Club for environmental protection, to the community college students of Sevalaya.



Flood relief kits to Tribals



Sevalaya Samaritan distributed mats and woollen blankets to 30 members of the Paniyar tribe in the Iruvayal village, worst affected by the incessant rains in Gudalur. These tribals are now housed at the Government residential school for the tribals at Thorapalli as their village was flooded due to the heavy rains.



Sevalaya kids' special birthday gift to Actor Revathi's daughter



Noted film star and director Revathi visited Sevalaya with her family, to celebrate her daughter Mahi's birthday on 7th July 22.

Sevalaya's hostel students sang the "Birthday song" in Tamil and also presented Mahi a handmade birthday card. The cake, specially baked at

Sevalaya's bakery unit, was cut in the presence of the children and residents of old age home.

Revathi has been a steadfast supporter of Sevalaya for past three decades. She offered support for higher education of Sevalaya children.



Educational development day



The occasion of *Karmaveerar* Kamarajar's 120th birthday was celebrated on 15th July 2022 as *Kalvi valarchi naal* (Education development day) at Sevalaya's Mahakavi Bharathiyar Higher Secondary School at Kasuva Village, Thiruvallur.

As special invitees, N Sathish Kumar, Assistant Manager, HR, X Edison, Manager, Supply chain, and D P Praveen, Manager, HR, from BorgWarner Cooling Systems India Pvt. Ltd., Sriperumbudur were present at the grand event and encouraged the students of Sevalaya and distributed notebooks and uniforms worth ₹7 lakhs.

D P Praveen stated that "You can achieve success tomorrow if you put in a decent effort today. Students should pursue their interests and put in the effort necessary to advance their talents."

The monthly manuscript magazine "*Vidiyal*", prepared by the Sevalaya

school students was also released.

Sevalaya Trustee, G Ramanathan had created two endowments in the names of his parents in law, G S Viswanathan and Thangam Viswanathan to award prizes to the students securing highest marks in Science in Stds X and XII, and to the most courteous student in Std XII.

G Hemalatha of Std X, and, V Pavithra and V Vijayalakshmi of Std XII were awarded prizes for highest score in Science. Kausalya of Std XII won the prize for the most courteous student.

Five ex-students who are now doing the computer course in Sevalaya Community college, have been given computers sponsored by K Padmanabhan, who donated ₹1,80,000 lakhs towards the same.

Five hostel students who assisted in painting, mat-cutting, and banner

decorations of Chellamma Bharathi Ratham were given prizes as well. Various competitions were held from 4th -9th July 2022 on the occasion of Kamarajar's birthday for essays, speeches and drawing. 170 students of Std IV to Std IX took part in the competitions. A total of 20 prizes were distributed to the winners.

Keyboard program



Ronith Balaji and Prathiv Balaji, sons of donor Rajesh Balaji presented a keyboard programme at Kasuva centre on 18th June 2022 at Kasuva centre.

Ronith also taught the hostel students how to play the keyboard.

The classes were conducted in two batches for both boys and girls.

Sports will fund their higher studies

Sevalaya's round-the-year sports coaching has been producing District and State players in multiple disciplines. Besides, this year, proficiency in sports will fund the graduation studies of two Sevalaya students.

S Barathi and R Archana have got admission under the sports quota in Muthayammal Arts and Science College, Namakkal. Both have selected B A English. They are exempted from the entire college and hostel fees for three years ₹70,000 each, approximately .

Five students of Sevalaya Home - Ammu G, Eshwari A, Girija M, Sharmila S, and Varshini S got admission for



undergraduate courses in Soka Ikeda College in Ambattur under Sports Quota.

They are exempted from paying fees for all the three years of study.

Kamban vizha



Padma Mohan, Secretary, *Manavar Kambar Kazhagam*, has been a great source of support and encouragement to the students of Sevalaya by providing the opportunities to participate in debates/oratorical competitions conducted by the *kazhagam*.

Highly Impressed by the oratorical skills of Geethalakshmi, student of Std IX at Sevalaya, she encouraged the girl to participate in an international debate on *Kamba Ramayanam*, conducted online in which students from schools in Singapore participated.

Geethalakshmi stole the show with her excellent speech rendered fluently with ease. Geetha was thankful to her Tamil teacher K Malarmathy, who trained her for the debate.

Sponsorship by Rotary club Vadapalani



Sevalaya thanks the dignitaries from the Rotary Club of Chennai, Vadapalani who visited Sevalaya's Kasuva centre on 2nd July 2022.

The Rotary club presented a cheque for ₹48,000 to support four underprivileged students of Mahakavi Bharathiyar Higher Secondary School for one year. A A Kingston, VP, Operations

received the cheque in the presence of Prof Dr S V Mani, Executive Committee Member, Sevalaya, Rtn. Jayachandra Babu, President, Jayashree, First Lady, Rtn. Hema Mani, Secretary, from Rotary Club of Madras Vadapalani, Venkataraman, Chairman, Special Project - *Anbum Aravanippum* and Lakshmi Venkataraman.

Menstrual Awareness session for Adolescent girls



Health and Hygiene awareness session was held for girls aged 11-16 years at Kasuva centre by Proctor & Gamble team.

More than 580 students from Std VI - Std XII attend the session on 8th Jul 2022.

Asian Paints sponsors Sanitary vending machines and napkin incinerators



Asian Paints sponsored a ₹15 lacs project for the installation of sanitary vending machines and napkin incinerators to 23 Government Schools in Kancheepuram district. V Ravi, GM - Manufacturing,

Deepak S, Manager EHS from Asian Paints were inaugurated the project at Government Higher Secondary School, Molachur Senior Secondary School in the Kancheepuram district, on 27th June

2022. This was implemented by Sevalaya.

Sanitary napkins will be supplied to the students for a year. This project will benefit over 200+ young girls.

Students will receive napkins for ₹1 each as part of this project, and Sevalaya will serve as the single point of contact for coordination and regular monitoring of the project with all the schools where the project is being implemented.



MatexNet - Shaping the Basketball team



Thank you MatexNet, for sponsoring Sevalaya's Basketball team. Sevalaya students competed in the inter-school state level competition held in DAV School, Mogappair, and finished fourth.

28 teams from across Tamil Nadu participated in the state-level competition. Lakshmanan, a Std XII class boy, competed at a national-level basketball competition in 2019-20. Coach Nithyanandam, with the assistance of a MatexNet coach, is coaching our students.

Ilayaraja - A role model for Sevalayans



G Ilayaraja, Sevalaya's alumnus and now a Trustee interacted with the students of Stds X and XII who will be appearing for the Board exams this year. He shared

with the students his experiences when he was a resident of Sevalaya Home. He showed them pictures of him receiving a prize from Actor Revathy for winning an

oratorical competition when he was in Std VIII.

Emphasising the importance of studying and making the right choices at each stage in life, he said that he had fortunately taken the right decisions and worked hard and is now in a good position.

He also observed that some of his friends did not make use of the opportunity provided at Sevalaya and are now facing struggles in life. He advised the students to study for a fixed time daily to overcome their exam fears. He concluded by saying that one should grab every opportunity and benefit from it.

International Yoga day celebrations



International yoga day was celebrated at Kasuva centre. Yoga session was conducted by Yoga Sharan V S Prakash - (Holistic Life Coach Atma Niranjana Yoga Vidyalaya, Bihar school of Yoga tradition Chennai).

The yoga master began the session by instructing the students to do the yoga joyfully. He instructed them to perform some basic yoga exercises. He taught that Yoga is essential for living a healthy life.

He encouraged the students to practice yoga at home on a daily basis. He insisted that Yoga would be beneficial to their success. The session was attended by 77 students from the Std 12 and 20 students from the community college. Staff and students from 11 centres of Sevalaya, participated online, and approximately 150 people attended the session. 15 donors also joined the session online.



Revathy Ponnuswamy Coordinator of Women's Association at Pattinappakkam was the Chief Guest at the International Yoga Day celebrations at Pattinappakkam centre.



International Yoga Day was celebrated in Ambattur Community College in the presence of D Thilakavathy, Ladies Wing President, Krishna Puram Association, Ambattur.



International Yoga Day was celebrated in Gudalur in the presence of C Bashgaran, B,E, Civil) M.A., Yoga. Professor - *Manavala kalai*.



K S Gurukannan, Yoga Master, Retd Sub Inspectors Paramasivan and Paramanandham were the Chief Guests at the International Yoga Day celebrations at Ravanasamudram centre.



P Rajendran, a post graduate in Yoga , Regional Deputy Director of Local Fund Audit Department was the Chief Guest at the International Yoga Day celebrations at Thanjavur centre.



The Chief Guest for the International Yoga Day celebrations at Sunguvarchatram centre was N Anandaramakrishnan, Vice Principal, Yoga Centre, Sriperumbudur.



C Logu, Post Graduate Diploma in Yoga, Physical Education teacher at Government High School, Zamin Endathur spoke about the benefits of yoga to the students at the centre. .



International Yoga day was celebrated at Uthiramerur where Dr R Sujatha, BSMS Assistant Medical Officer, Siddha Government Hospital, Uthiramerur gave a talk on how yoga helps people.



International yoga day was celebrated at Eraharam centre. D Aarth, Agriculture officer, Thenvancheri, was the Chief Guest. The students performed *asanas* which was highly appreciated by her.

Environment day celebrations



R Anuradha, Assistant Project Officer (A&A) TNULM, Chennai District was the Chief Guest in Ambattur on World Environment Day.



World environment day was celebrated in Maambakkam in the presence of D Selvi, M.Sc., B.Ed., BT Assistant of Panchayat Union Middle School.



Environment day was celebrated on 6th June 2022 at Zamin Endathur in the presence of A Rajaram, Deputy Agriculture Officer, Chithamur Block



Ravanasamduram Centre celebrated Environmental Day on 4th June 2022. The Chief Guest S Muthukumar spoke on the achievements in environmental activities and Kaliyakumar did art of Bharathiyar on a whiteboard. All students were given an opportunity to exhibit their talents on that day.



Environment day was celebrated on 6th June 2022 at Uthiramerur Community college in the presence of K Kannan D.M.E Managing Director, Navinesth cafe, Sirunagalur, Madhuranthagam.



Environment Day was celebrated at Thirubuvanai centre on 9th June 2022, where M Gandhi Pragash, Asst. Prof. Biotechnology, Indira Gandhi College of Arts Science, participated as Chief Guest.



World Environment day was celebrated at Thanjavur in the presence of Dr V Ram Manohar, Ph.D., Secretary, Clean Thanjavur Moment and Pulavar M.Gopalakrishnan, M.A., M.Phil., M.Ed., (Dr Radhakrishnan Awardee) President, Reader's Forum, Central Library.

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Kaimurukku	200g
Mullu Thenkuzhal	200g
Peanut Balls	200g
Maa Laddu	5pcs
Manoharam	200g

COMBO II
₹900/-

Product Name	Qty
Uppu Seedai	200g
Vella Seedai	200g
Adhirasam	150g
Kara Thattai	150g
Kaimurukku	150g
Mullu Thenkuzhal	150g
Peanut Balls	100g
Manoharam	100g

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Thillaiyadi Valliamma - (1)

(Source: "The Agony of Valliamma" by Aziz Hassim)

Valliamma was born in 1898 as the first child of Munuswami Mudliyar and Mangalam who lived in Mooi Street in a ghetto near Johannesburg in South Africa. The mid-wife who assisted the delivery was an old woman whose predictions were believed to be legendary and always accurate. Looking in to the eyes of the girl child, she said she had seen God in the girl and that she would do His work. The girl was deeply intelligent and would leave the world at an early age, she predicted.

Munuswami Mudliyar was a vegetable hawker. He daily lugged a heavy basket that was attached to a wooden pole that he balanced over his shoulders, just behind his neck. He was up early every morning to buy his wares from the market. In winter, his wife collected coal from the railway lines to keep her family warm.

Both Munuswami Mudliyar and Mangalam were passive resisters. They were in and out of jail regularly for the crime of fighting for justice.

Valliamma, the oldest of four children, went to every political rally and listened to every word the leaders of the time, great men like Gandhi and Thambi Naidoo told the audience. Even at the age of eight, she started addressing rallies. People were guessing what was it that motivated the child to become a freedom fighter? Was it a commitment to justice? Anger at the way the people of colour were being treated? The pain that her parents and other passive resisters suffered in jail? The brutality of the unjust laws? Or was it all of these things put together?

She heard in a rally that that the government was planning to introduce a law that would make Hindu marriages illegal and consequently she would be considered an illegitimate child. Her mother to whom she discussed the matter said that it could take years and may never even happen. She tried to convince that in the eyes of God, she was perfectly legitimate. Valliamma was unhappy with this explanation and asserted that the rulers had no right to go

against God's laws.

She firmly said that she would listen to leaders like Gandhi and Thambi Naidoo and will join them in the fight against evil, even if it meant her going to jail. She could not be treated in the way her parents were being treated. They were thrown to prison for simply attending protest meetings. They treat them as animals. They take his basket of food that he sells from door to door and say that they were confiscating it because he was trading without licence. But, they take it to their homes and enjoying themselves!

In fact, she was unhappy that the victims of tyranny were not stiff in their resistance. "All our people are too soft. They make speeches and wait for something to happen. IT is time to confront the enemy, to tell them that the evil stops now. It is up to us to change the world. It was the job I was born to do and this work starts today!"

(To be continued.)



*The world will prosper in knowledge and intellect,
if both men and women are deemed equal.*
- Subramanya Bharathi

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