

## IITM - Sevalaya MoU soon, in Education and Healthcare

Prof. V Kamakoti, the Director, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras, announced that 'IIT and Sevalaya would work together in the fields of Rural Education and Healthcare' with two MoUs in place soon. Prof. Kamakoti was speaking after he released Sevalaya's 35 years video film on 26<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

In his presidential address, Prof. Kamakoti expressed his appreciation for the phenomenal work of Sevalaya. He said that 'Rural Intelligence', if tapped at the right age, as Sevalaya is doing, will help the nation to become a super power, socially and economically, by 2047, the centenary of our Independence. He noted that Sevalaya's programmes have touched all the areas addressed in India's New Education Policy and United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Prof. Kamakoti spoke about IIT's Vidya Shakthi initiative with the goal 'IIT for all', taking education to rural children. He also explained about IIT's work in the field of AI driven medical care for rural areas and announced that IIT will enter into a partnership with Sevalaya and reach out to more and more rural population, serving them in the areas of education and healthcare.

The video showcased Sevalaya's remarkable journey, highlighting the organisation's impactful service



Prof. Dr S V Mani, Executive Committee Member, Sevalaya presented a memento to Prof. V Kamakoti. Sevalaya Murali and Thomas T Abraham also in the picture.

initiatives, educational programmes, healthcare efforts and community outreach projects over the past three and a half decades. Sevalaya's tireless efforts have positively impacted countless lives, from empowering marginalized communities to providing quality education.

Sevalaya Murali, Founder and Managing Trustee, Sevalaya welcomed the gathering and spoke briefly about the organisation's journey in 35 years. Thomas T Abraham, Executive Committee member, Sevalaya, who had scripted the film, proposed a Vote of Thanks. Bhuvaneswari Muralidharan, Honorary Correspondent, Sevalaya and board members participated.

# 35 YEARS VIDE RELEASE

Releasing Sevalaya's 20-minute film that captures the history and operations of Sevalaya, Prof. V Kamakoti complimented the breadth and impact of the film's coverage. Film Director N Kumar also warmly appreciated the production.

Depending mostly on facts and very little on self opinion, the film has testimonies, of beneficiaries whose lives Sevalaya has transformed for the better, even as it gives a ray of hope and a timely helping hand to people in despair.



Watch video: http://bit.ly/3TDLvUX

## Sevalaya enters Karnataka Komatsu funds Bandhipur centre, Sevalaya's 26<sup>th</sup>



Komatsu has partnered Sevalaya in its foray into Karnataka, with an evening learning centre for tribal children.

As sponsors, Komatsu funded the refurbishing of a disused old building, S Srikanth, Director and Sr. Vice President, S K Nadiga, Sr. Manager, S Kailash, Sr. Manager, Komatsu, and Sevalaya Murali, Founder and Managing Trustee, jointly inaugurated the project at Maguvinahalli, Chamarajanagar district, on 4th December 2023

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## National social impact award for Sevalaya



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LOVE ALL SERVE ALL JANUARY 2024

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furnishing and fixtures including a smart board, besides meeting its operational expenses. The learning centre will give a second chance to tribal children who missed school.

Stationery items such as pencils, pens, sharpeners and notebooks, were presented to the children. Additionally, essential provision kits with rice and oil were distributed among tribal women.

Representatives from Komatsu -S K Nadiga, Sr. Manager, S Kailash, Sr. Manager, and B A Aravind, Manager - along with Sevalaya's Bhuvaneswari Muralidharan, Honorary Correspondent, A A Kingston, VP, Operations, and S R Priyadharshini, Centre Head in Gudalur, actively participated in the ceremony.

## **Apollo Tyres Launches Sanitation Project in Andhra Pradesh**



Apollo tyres as a part of its CSR activity has sponsored a Sanitation project at Chinnapanduru, Chittoor District, Andhra Pradesh. Individual toilets with bathing amenities were built for 30 families.

Sevalaya, who recently opened its first

centre in Andhra Pradesh at Tada, is the implementation partner. The project cost is estimated around ₹15 lacs.

At the launch on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2023, Anand Sathyamoorthy, Unit Head of Apollo Tyres in AP, appreciated the village leaders for their help in Apollo Tyres projects in Andhra Pradesh. He was presented a framed thank-you letter by B Shyamala Subramanyam, President of the Community Panchayat.

Anand Sathyamoorthy, Unit Head, Raj Mohan, HR, Head, Muthuraman, TBR, Head, Sai Baba, HR, Liasoning Office and B Leafen, CSR Officer from Apollo tyres and L Ashok Kumar, AVP, Operations, N Navin Kumar, AVP, Donor Relations and K Srinivasan, Project Coordinator from Sevalaya and B Shyamala Subramanyam, President, D Mahendru, Vice President, K Naresh, Secretary from Community Panchayat, Chinnapanduru participated in the inaugural function.



## EXL service cleans out 960 cubic feet of waste at Kochi beach



EXL Service in Kochi, as a part of its CSR activities, teamed up with Kerala Tourism Development Corporation and Rajagiri College of Social Sciences, Kochi, to clean up Vasco Da Gama Square at Fort Kochi Beach on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2023. Including employees and students, around 100 volunteers participated. Sevalaya was the coordinator.

The employees and students into five teams of 20 members each. Equipped with gloves, masks, and garbage bags, they collected litter. Each team was assigned a specific area and tasked with gathering plastic, paper, bottles, and other waste materials.

Over 120 large bags full of trash,

equivalent to 960 cubic feet, was removed from the beach.

Sivaprasad Sreenivasan, Assistant Vice President, Operations, C J Shajahan, Senior Manager, Operations Tess Joseph, Manager Business, HR A R Reghu, Manager Business, HR and 70+ employees from EXL Service participated in the event.

35 volunteers from the Department of Social Work at Rajagiri College of Social Sciences, Kochi, and Boney Thomas, CEO, Cochin Heritage Zone Conservation Society, Fort Kochi, Sathish, Secretary DTPC, Srijeeth, Heritage Staff also participated in the cleaning drive.

Special thanks to Dr Kiran Thampi, Dr Ann baby and Ms Revathy from Social Work Department, Rajagiri College of Social Sciences for organising the students for beach cleaning activity.



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Sevalaya has won the national award for Social Impact instituted by SP Jain Institute of Management and Research at Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan.

Sevalaya topped in the Education and Skill-Development category. Over 400 organisations were in the fray.

Sevalaya Founder V Muralidharan and A Arvind, Donor Communications Officer, received the Award from Varun Nagaraj, Dean, SPJIMR, at an event held in Mumbai on 7<sup>th</sup> December, 2023.

## **ShoppeSeva shop at Gudalur Inaugurated**84 students receive course completion certificates, sewing machines



ShoppeSeva's retail shop at Gudalur was inaugurated at Sevalaya Samaritan, on 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2023 by Mohammed Kudarathullah, RDO, Gudalur, and Swami Satyayuktananda Maharaj, Sri Ramakrishna Math, Udhagamandalam.

Mohammed Kudarathullah, in his address, appreciated the services of Sevalaya in the field of education for the underprivileged children, helping them to be self-reliant and successful in life.

Swami Satyayuktananda Maharaj in his speech stressed the importance of hard work, patience and perseverance for success in life. He quoted Swami Vivekananda and said "Faith in God and Faith in one's self is the secret of excellence."

The Chief Guests distributed certificates to the third and fourth batch of students who have successfully completed the free tailoring course by Sevalaya's Mahakavi Bharathiyar Community College, Gudalur.

Free tailoring machines, sponsored by Komatsu India Pvt Ltd, were distributed to 20 deserving women, who had completed the tailoring course.

Provision kits consisting of 10 Kgs of rice and 2 Kgs of pulses in each kit, were distributed to 10 tribal families. Blankets were also distributed to 35 tribals.

Earlier, Sevalaya Murali, Founder & Managing Trustee welcomed the gathering. He explained the activities of Sevalaya groups.

ShoppeSeva aims to promote products by rural artisans and village cottage industries, by marketing them. The profits are donated to Sevalaya.

Tribal women sang a tribal song and entertained the gathering.

Suresh Kalady, Proprietor, Velu's Residency, and Mahesh, Administrative Officer, TNEB, Gudalur, participated in the event.



Mohammed Kudarathullah, RDO, presents course completion certificate to the tailoring student



Mohammed Kudarathullah, Gudalur, Swami Satyayuktananda Mahara, and Suresh Kalady distribute sewing machines



## KONE funds training courses, aids 172 student graduate



V P Ajith Kumar, DGM, COE, Talent Acquisition, KONE distributes course completion certificates to students at Zamin Endathur.

Certificate distribution function was held at Sevalaya's Mahakavi Bharathiyar Community College, Ambattur on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2023 and Zamin Endathur on 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2023.

The Chief Guests of both functions were V P Ajith Kumar, DGM, COE, Talent Acquisition, Rufus Davidson, CSR Lead, and Alwin Raja, Maintenance Engineer from KONE Elevators and Escalators Pvt Ltd. At Zamin Endathur, the Guests were the same from KONE.

The Chief Guests awarded certificates to 107 students in Ambattur who studied Tally and basic computer science, and to 65 students in Zamin Endathur who learned Tally and tailoring.

These graduates are placed in various well-known companies such as KUN Automotive, Royal Enfield, Tech Mahindra, Shriram Finance, Mediterranean Shipping Company, Equiniti India, Kotak Mahindra Bank, and ICICI Bank.

Sevalaya Murali, the Founder and Managing Trustee, along with S Johney, Head, Skill Development, Rekha Perumal, Head, System and Communication, and A A Kingston, VP, Operations, were all part of this joyful event at Ambattur.



Rufus Davidson,CSR Lead, KONE hands out course completion certificates to students at Ambattur.

## PayPal, DTCC, EXL support cyclone michaung relief



Cyclone michaung's heavy rainfall caused severe floods in Chennai, Thiruvallur, Kanchipuram, and Chengalpattu districts, leaving many stranded without food, water, and power. Responding swiftly, Sevalaya, with support from PayPal, assisted over 2500 families across Thiruvallur district with food packets.

For three consecutive days, they provided thousands of food packets in Kalangal, Nathambedu, Puliyur Kandigai Kutta



Street, and Vengathur rural area of Manavalanagar in Tiruvallur district. Additionally, drinking water was supplied.

With EXL's backing, Sevalaya distributed 317 dry provision kits containing essential items to families in different Thiruvallur district locations. Furthermore, funded by DTCC, 200 dry provision kits were distributed on the same day to other affected areas in the district.



The food, cooked at Sevalaya's Kasuva centre, was packed and distributed by dedicated staff. Sevalaya also offered free medical services to those affected by the floods.

The affected communities expressed heartfelt thanks to Paypal, DTCC, EXL, and Sevalaya for their timely and invaluable support during this challenging time.

## Birth Anniversary of Mahakavi Bharathiyar



142<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of Mahakhavi Bharathiyar was celebrated at Chellamma Bharathi Learning Centre in Kadayam, Tenkasi district on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

Dr Thiruppur Krishnan, Editor, Amudhasurabhi, Thenaruvi Thenral, Prof. Sivakasi Ramachandran, Tamil Thenral Sethu Ramalingam, President, Bharathi Readers Circle, Mukilan, Writer, Historical Novelist, and Sudalai, District Education Officer(Retd.) attended the event.

The Chief Guest, garlanded the statue of Chellamma- Bharathi and all the visitors paid floral tributes.

Dr Thirupur Krishnan said, "A poet is considered great when his work remains meaningful even beyond his era and that's how Bharathiyar poems are. We honour Bharathiyar as a "Mahakavi" like Thiruvalluvar and Elango. He emphasized that Bharathi, known for his contributions in different genres like traditional

verses, Modern Poetry, short stories, and novels. Though Bharathi's works reflect his mulifaceted personality such as a freedom fighter, social reformer, activist for women empowerment, he was basically a spiritual person, the Chief Guest observed.

Various competitions for students of schools in and around Tamil Nadu were held.

3260 students from more than 76 schools in 29 districts participated. Competitions like Essay, Poem, Recitation, Oratorical and Quiz on Bharathi's life were conducted. Prizes were distributed to the winners of the competition by the Chief Guest.

₹5,00,000 worth of sanitary kits were distributed to adolescent girls in schools of Tirunelveli and Tenkasi districts with the sponsorship of Amrutanjan.

Kalyani Sivakaminathan, Retd . Headmaster, K Gopalan, Treasurer of Retired Teachers Association and M Meenakshi Sundaram, Librarian, Branch Library at Kadayam, participated in the event.

#### **Ambattur**

Bharathiyar Jayanthi was celebrated at Sevalaya's Mahakavi Bharathiyar Community College, Ambattur on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2023. S Harish, Administrative Officer, United India Insurance Co.Ltd and Sub-Editor, Thulir, Children Magazine was the Chief Guest of the event. He spoke on the topics of Mahakavi Bharathiyar's services, childhood, marriage, career, poetry, and advocacy for women's freedom.



#### Seva Ratna award to Sevalaya



Bhagwan Shri Sanjay Saibaba presented Seva Ratna Award to Sevalaya Murali, Founder and Managing Trustee, at a function organised by Shri Sanjay Sai Seva Organisation Chennai Chapter on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

## Gift Compassion Programme through schools and colleges

Gift Compassion, a part of Daan-Utsav celebrations, connected urban schools with Sevalaya's Mahakavi Bharathiyar Higher Secondary School at Kasuva centre. The students exchanged gifts. This programme gave a chance for the city kids to mingle with rural

underprivileged kids and made them aware of an entirely new world, wherein many things which they take for granted in life are a luxury. This initiative blurred the urban - rural divide, promoting understanding and friendship among the kids.

Gift Compassion goes beyond gifts; it's about nurturing empathy and compassion, creating a space where kindness and understanding flourish, shaping a more connected and caring world.

SI No	Date	School	Participants Count
1	7 <sup>th</sup> October 2023	Vel Tech Vidyashram, Avadi	168 students + 7 staff
2	7 <sup>th</sup> October 2023	PSBB Millennium school, Siruseri	30 students + 2 staff
3	12 <sup>th</sup> October 2023	Smt .Krishna Moolchand Maheshwari Vivekananda Vidyalaya, Thiruninravur	78 students + 4 staff
4	1 <sup>st</sup> November 2023	D A V School, Mogappair	15 students + 2 staff
5	8 <sup>th</sup> November 2023	SBOA School, Anna Nagar	13 students + 4 staff
6	9 <sup>th</sup> November 2023	RMK School, Thiruverkadu	8 students + 2 staff
7	9 <sup>th</sup> November 2023	GT Vidhya Mandir, Vadamadurai	320 students + 38 staff
8	10 <sup>th</sup> November 2023	Maharishi Vidya Mandir, Avadi	20 students + 5 staff
9	14 <sup>th</sup> November 2023	ABS Vidhya Mandhir, Thiruvallur	200 students + 2 staff
10	23 <sup>rd</sup> November 2023	Bharathidasan Matric School, Thiruvallur	157 student + 9 staff







#### 15 corporates fulfilling wishes

Daan-Utsav isn't just a celebration for individuals; it has touched the hearts of corporates nationwide. Wish trees adorned with cherished wishes from Sevalaya and tribal children in Gudalur graced the entrances of corporate offices. These wishes encompassed essentials like shoes, sports gear, carrom boards, and study materials, all fulfilled with love.

Numerous corporates, including HSBC, Thermax India Limited, Flextronics in Chennai and Sriperumbudur, Piramal Pharma Solutions, LatentView Analytics Limited, RR Donnelley, HPCL, EXL Service, KONE Eelevator Sundaram Fasteners, Sterling Holiday Resorts, Freshworks, Inner Wheel Club of Madras Charitable Trust, Software AG, Renault-Nissan Technologies, Anna Nagar Dreamers and Bajaj Finance Limited have wholeheartedly participated in this compassionate movement.

Be part of this impactful collaboration and help grant wishes for the underprivileged children, spreading joy and hope in abundance.







# A different work-life balance formula

A diploma from SRM, an Engineering degree from Rajiv Gandhi College then an MBA from Madras University.

Yet, nothing else in Aravind's life fits into a typical engineer's story. Aravind joined the HR department of a corporate. In 15 years, he has become the Director, PR and Training. Just 36, his personal initiative has ensured the schooling and graduation of 900 poor children.

Meet Aravind Jayabal. He inherited the service mentality from his father, who despite being physically challenged, was a good samaritan to all. Inspired from his childhood by his father, Aravind used to volunteer while in college. He partnered friend Balaji Vasudevan to cofound Raindropss, in 2011, seeking to support social causes. Raindropss reflect the philosophy of small contributions adding up to make a change. He then tied up with short-film makers to create media messages and theme songs, starting with eye donation. He roped in Viscom students in the venture. One of them, Bhuvan, has now become a



successful film Director. In a zero budget venture supported by playback singers who participated for free, the lyrics were contributed by Niranjan Bharathi, great grandson of Mahakavi Bharathi.

At the launch of the audio visual by brand ambassador A R Raihanah, 60 out of the 100 who participated donated their eyes. Highly impressed, Raihanah, joined the team, which has now grown to 13, with more patrons coming on board. 'Educate the child' was the second theme Raindropss adopted, and has helped over 900 underprivileged school children to go through schooling and graduation in the last 13 years. Then came the programme called *Vaname Illai* (meaning, Sky's the

Limit). It gives underprivileged children their life's first flying experience. With air fares skyrocketing, in 2023, children were taken to Tirunelveli and Cape Comerin in Vande Bharat train – including five from Sevalaya.

Till now more than 7 projects have been released including *Ithu Namma Bhoomi* - song to save our mother earth, *Namma Chennai* – theme song for the Chennai city, *Vaanamae Ellai* - to support the differently abled and *Saathanai Pengal* - to celebrate and support women.

In recognition of the various initiatives, Aravind has already been honoured with the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister's State Youth Award.

When asked, as a family man, what he has given up to realise his mission, came an interesting insight. Raindropss does not have any full-time employees. The core team does not segregate family and social work. All members of the families are in it together, creating a seamless team and a seamless large family. That includes Aravind's mother Krishnaveni Jayabal, head of the family, wife Lalithadevi, a home tutor and their daughter Vaishaali Aravind, doing her class I at Holy Angels.

Surely, a different formula for work-life balance!

## Chandran Thatha departs

On 25<sup>th</sup> December 2023, Sevalaya lost its latest entrant to the Sevalaya family: 92 year-old N Chandran, who joined Sevalaya's Sri Ramakrishna Paramahamsa Old Age Home at Kasuva on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2023. Here is an interview done a week before his departure.

N Chandran was born in 1931 as the elder of the two sons, in a family in Thiruvallur. His parents passed away when he was young. He studied in DRBCC school, Thiruvallur. His father was a devotee of *Vallalar* and used to donate food. This is how he developed the interest to serve the needy. After



schooling he worked in TI cycles for 12 years. He had no children and he raised the sons of his brother. They are now well settled. His wife Unnamalai passed away four years back.

Chandran's interest was in social work, literature and public speaking. He is an ardent devotee of *Vallalar* and has built one temple for *Vallalar* in Thiruvallur.

He was the head of Tiruvallur Vallalar Mandram. He used to offer food for 1000 people during the birthday of Vallalar by raising funds. He has been travelling with freedom fighter and politician Ma Po Si (Mylai Ponnusamy Sivagnanam) and various great leaders in his lifetime. He has received the best social worker award from the Chief Minister M K Stalin in 2021. That was mainly in recognition of his fight for uniting Tiruttani with Tamilnadu. He had been jailed along with Ma Po Si, five times. He was kept in Tiruttani and Thiruvalangadu sub jails for 15 days each time.

Chandran was also the Chairman of Tiruvallur Cooperative Bank. He was elected as the Municipal Counselor thrice in Thiruvallur. In his last interview, Chandran expressed his wish to build a huge temple of *Vallalar* in Thiruvallur district before he died.

Interviewed by: L N Anupriya

## Sevalaya celebrates 3<sup>rd</sup> year Quality month



Sevalaya has been marking Quality Month for three years now. Various competitions on the theme of Quality, such as slogan writing, essay writing, quiz, photography and poster making were held for staff of Sevalaya in all centres. The final celebrations were held on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at Sevalaya's Kasuva centre. Staff from different locations of Sevalaya participated.

R Srinivasan, Plant Head and B Hariharan,

Quality Head from India Japan Lighting Pvt Ltd were the Chief Guests at the event.

The event started off with a cultural programme presented by Sevalaya students.

The Chief Guest, B Hariharan appreciated Sevalaya for quality initiatives being taken and said that it is very rare to see an NGO taking much efforts on implementing quality.

R Srinivasan, Plant Head praised Sevalaya for making the environment better by implementing quality initiatives.

Prizes were distributed to the winners.

## **Commemorating Rajaji's Birth Anniversary**



On 15<sup>th</sup> December 2023, Sevalaya celebrated the Birth Anniversary of Chakravarti Rajagopalachari (Rajajithe First Indian Governor General of Independent India and a great Statesman) at Kasuva Centre.

Maalan Narayanan, Writer and Senior Journalist, was the Chief Guest of the event. The Chief Guest garlanded the photo of Rajaji and paid tributes.

He appreciated Sevalaya for its service in the area of rural development. He spoke about Rajaji's moral uprightness and courage. 'Rajaji lived by his conscience and stood steadfast to what he believed was right, even amidst oppostiion from all quarters.' said Maalan. Maalan recalled how Rajaji, even in his advanced age, personally went and pleaded with the then Chief Minister not to

abolish prohibition in Tamil Nadu. Earlier competitions on the Life of Rajaji were conducted all over Tamil Nadu. 885 children from 17 districts participated in various competitions like oratorical, quiz, and essay writing. Out of 65 students 6 students from Sevalaya were selected as winners and runners in various categories and received prizes at the hands of the Chief Guest.

Earlier Sevalaya Murali, Founder and Managing Trustee, welcomed the gathering and explained how Sevalaya operates across 27 branches in Tamilnadu, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh aiding and supporting others. Sevalaya Students presented a cultural programme.

Raghunathan, Rajaji Admirer and Mari Anand, Artist participated.

### Sanitary Napkin Incinerator inaugurated by Rotary Club of Madras



Rotary Club of Madras, Vadapalani donated a Sanitary Napkin Incinerator

Machine to Sevalaya's Kasuva centre on 25<sup>th</sup> November 2023. Rtn. Hema Mani, President, handed over the machine.

The incinerator ensures safe disposal of Sanitary Napkins, thus benefiting the Sevalaya school girls. The inauguration witnessed the participation of esteemed individuals, including Rtn. Asutosh Apte, Donor, Rtn. Venkataraman, Secretary, Rtn. R Tamilarasu, Treasurer, Rtn. Natarajan, Chairman, Anbum Aravanaippum Special Project, Rtn Hema Mani, President Rotary Club of Madras Vadapalani and Prof. Dr

S V Mani, Executive Committee Member, Sevalaya.



## Mahadev Desai - (4)

#### (Source: The Fire and the Rose by Narayan Desai)

#### Search for direction

After passing Law examination Mahadev enrolled himself as a lawyer, but was not successful. He took up jobs at various places. This enabled him to send his father some nominal help, instead of being a burden on him.

Till June 1915, he worked in Oriental Translators' office. This period of service served him as a step towards personal development. His beautiful handwriting became mature. He honed his skills as a translator. His translation into Gujarati of Lord Morley's 'On Compromise' won him an award from the Forbes Gujarati Sabha. He translated Tagore's book Chitrangata which won appreciation from Tagore himself. He also translated Tagore's Bidai Abhishaap. During the period of his service in the Oriental Translators' office, he had occasion to examine the manuscript of Gita Rahasya by Lokamanya Bala Gangadhar Tilak from the political angle. The study of Gita was Mahadev's primary interest.

Lokamanya's book not only gratified his interest, but by its erudition and zeal, encouraged his leanings towards Dhyana Yoga and Karma Yoga.

Friendship with Narahari Parikh struck up during LLB studies, played an

important role in shaping Mahadev's life. Narahari's friendship gave Mahadev more opportunities to participate in extracurricular activities. Both attended the Sahitya Parishad session at Surat together. Both were introduced to Bengali literature. Both met Gandhiji for the first time together. After leaving Oriental Translators' Office, Mahadev got a job as Inspector of the Bombay Central Co-Operative Bank. He went to stay at Bombay. Initially he took up the job with full enthusiasm. He extensively travelled in the territories of Gujarat and Maharashtra, which were under his jurisdiction. He went to the interior villages and collected all information not only confined to the Bank, but about the overall condition of the places. He took this opportunity to learn the Marathi language. He was easily accepted as a friend in any new place because of his love for languages and his capacity in its original and refined form, having understood its beauty. His reports differed from the usual ones submitted by other inspectors." His reports regarding the condition of the Societies and the needs of their members, were not only full of information and valuable suggestions, but were also noteworthy from the point of view of style." according to an associate.

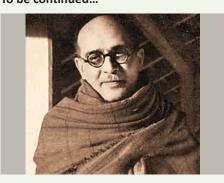
Mahadev's conscientious nature did not allow him to compromise on irregularities he had noticed and he had to quit the job.

Now he had two main concerns. The family had to be financially supported, and the job chosen must suit his interests. He had developed an interest in literature. At this time of life he took part in many literary activities and attended literary conferences as well as those connected with education, religion, study of politics, etc.,

Though he had different offers from Banks, Governments, Home Rule League and Jamnalal Dwarakadoss he was impressed with none of them.

Soon the search ended.

#### To be continued...



### MDA trains teachers to handle Dyslexic Students



The Madras Dyslexia Association conducted a special 7-day workshop for teachers from Sevalaya's Mahakavi

Bharathiyar Higher Secondary School. It was held on all Saturdays, from the end of September till 11<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

8 primary and 15 high school teachers learnt about dyslexia and how to help students with reading, writing and math difficulties.

Teachers also came to know about new ways to teach children with learning challenges. Certificates were awarded to all participants by Latha Vasanthakumar, Head of the Madras Dyslexia Association.

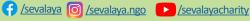
The training session was sponsored by Mara W Breech Foundation.

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