

THE SUVIDHA REVIEW

The background of the cover is a close-up photograph of a flowering plant. It features several bright pink flowers with five petals each, some in full bloom and others as buds. The flowers are surrounded by lush green leaves of varying shades, some showing signs of being eaten or damaged. The lighting is natural, creating soft shadows and highlights on the petals and leaves.

SUMMER, April 2021

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EDITOR'S NOTE

The Summer Issue of TSR in an improved and more colourful format is here to inform and entertain you.

Our new MD expresses his vision for Suvridha passionately. Let's support him!

We also have the Solar power success story along with a report on the new housekeeping system as well as your summer stories.

All the news and events of the first quarter of 2021 with photos, an Arts section featuring Dr. Narayanan's paintings and a useful information section await you. Over to you.

Happy reading!

Latha Krishnan

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Managing Director

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Sunset at Suvridha Lake ■ VIVEKANANDA SIDDIAH

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FROM THE MANAGING DIRECTOR

Dear Shareholders,

Greetings of the Season

Our village has been a tranquil haven for all Suvidhaites including the flora and fauna in our beautifully landscaped paradise. I hope we can nurture, protect and maintain its serenity.

We have been notified that we are to be part of the BBMP from March 18, 2021. This will surely bring in benefits like water supply, access roads and increase in the floor space index. But this will also incur the burden of increasing taxes and development charges.

The board of directors is working out a plan to take Suvidha forward. Our main aim is to start with revenue generation both internally and externally. Apart from this, a few legal challenges have to be dealt with before we embark on the transformation we have been hoping and striving for.

Structures and protocols have been put in place and various committees are functioning well with allotted responsibilities. Some are being reorganised to share the workload amongst all directors and shareholders along with experts in different fields in an advisory capacity.

As suggested by a few of our fellow shareholders, we need to benchmark our competitiveness compared to other senior citizen facilities in Bangalore and enhance the flavour of Suvidha by providing variety. For that we need to:

- Build a large vibrant community
- Enhance our emergency and in house health care facility
- Have a busy calendar of events
- Develop infrastructure and services at different price

points for shareholders and visitors who can make use of our facilities

- Diversify our food menu either in house or outsource
- Develop clubhouse facilities including party halls, sports and recreational activities.

In addition to the above my personal wish is to create a trust or foundation for charitable purposes. As a company, this can be our social responsibility to:

- Protect the environment
- Promote cultural values and heritage
- Provide hospice and holistic health facilities such as yoga, meditation and traditional and herbal remedies as well as arranging lectures on a wide range of topics
- Establish an Institute of Geriatric Care & Rehabilitation, and a Nursing and Physiotherapy College

All of the above can in my view make Suvidha a destination for attaining fulfilment in our twilight years.

This may look like a Utopian dream but there is no harm in trying like the Man of La

Mancha, Don Quixote, who said, "To reach the unreachable star; it is my quest to follow that star no matter how hopeless, no matter how far."

I am confident we can make at least a few of the above happen, although we love Suvidha as it is!

So why don't we protect and preserve it for what it is and achieve more?

With *namaskars* to all of you

Vivekananda Siddiah



Suvidha Solar Power Usage

73% contribution to power consumed and 11% return on investment

Suvidha completed three successful years of Solar Power generation this February. The Solar Power Project of Suvidha was conceived as a joint revenue generation project wherein the company Suvidha contributed Rs 55 lakhs and 42 shareholders collectively contributed Rs 119 lakhs making a total investment of Rs 174 lakhs.

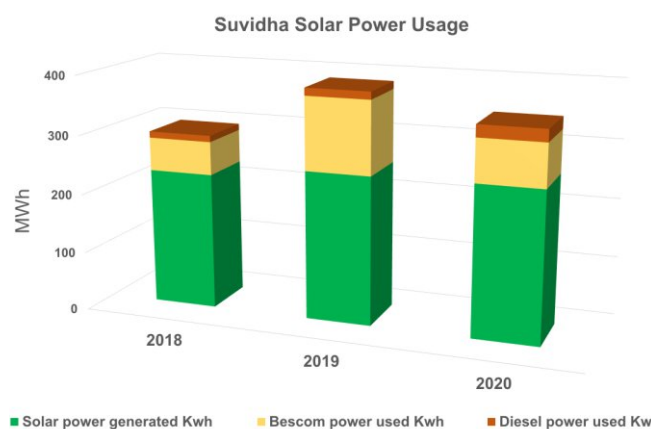
It has worked satisfactorily for the last three years and has given an investment return of nearly 11% per annum to the Company and to every contributor. Other than Fixed Deposits in Banks which yield around 5% per annum the Solar Power Project is the only investment giving continuous revenue generation in Suvidha.

The original idea to use rooftops for solar power generation was first mooted by Professor R. Sankar of Cottages 101-102 in February 2015. A Solar Task Force established then had several sessions of discussions with our Shareholders to finalise details and orders were placed with Tata Power Solar Limited in April 2016. The installation of 210 KW Grid Connected

just enough or little short of our expected electricity consumption in the village including domestic, water pumping and street lighting. Therefore, we get the full savings at the going BESCOM tariff rate that we pay BESCOM and at the same time we avoid the unreliable payment from BESCOM to us for any excess power produced



A 5.25 kW Solar System on the roof of a cottage ■ JGK and exported.



Net Metering Solar System in Suvidha consisting of 42 units each of 5 KW with solar panels spread over the roofs of 36 cottages of Phase I and 6 cottages of Phase IA was completed in April 2017. After a prolonged delay BESCOM gave us permission to switch on the system on February 2, 2018.

The model of 210 KW Grid Connected Net Metering Solar System was chosen so that the solar electricity generated is

The power generated by the panels vary with time depending on how bright the sun shines at that time. While there is no generation of electricity at night and is less when it is cloudy, it is maximum when the panel faces the bright sun directly with no cloud cover. The Company and 42 units that opted for the solar panel installation have started getting the returns on their investment.



Bird's view of roof-top solar panels at Suvidha ■ [TATA SOLAR](#)

During the past three years the system has worked remarkably well and has yielded better results than expected. In 2020, the contribution of solar power to the grid was 73.2 percent and the return on investment was 10.80 percent.

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 5

Suvidha Solar Power Usage

The return in investment of having the solar power panels installed on his/her cottage not only reduces the maintenance fee for the shareholder, but also increases its resale value. In addition, the solar panel layer above the existing roof provides thermal insulation. For Suvidha it also means savings in diesel for the generator and the satisfaction and pride of joining the noble cause of Green Energy generation.

The remarkable green energy system comes with 25 years warranty but is expected to work for forty years or more. Thanks to the tireless and dedicated work, follow up and constant monitoring of the system by Professor Sankar and his team including Uday Kumar of Cottage 115 C, and our maintenance team, the solar power success story of Suvidha continues clear and bright into the future.

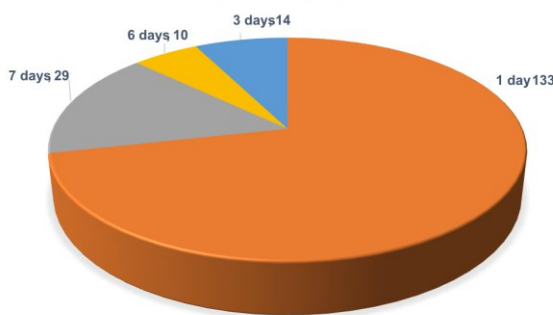
New Housekeeping System

Members happy with the new service pattern

The new housekeeping system in operation since February 1 is working well. Currently, 133 cottages receive HK services 1 day, whereas 14 cottages receive 3 days, 10 cottages get 6 days, and 29 cottages get 7 days every week. The Housekeeping committee and office administration did not face too many difficulties in establishing the new service pattern. "It was an exercise of proper allocation of housekeeping staff, which I must say we did very well. Most of the shareholders were very cooperative. Problems that arose were solved amicably in consultation with shareholders," informs Gayitri Handanahal,

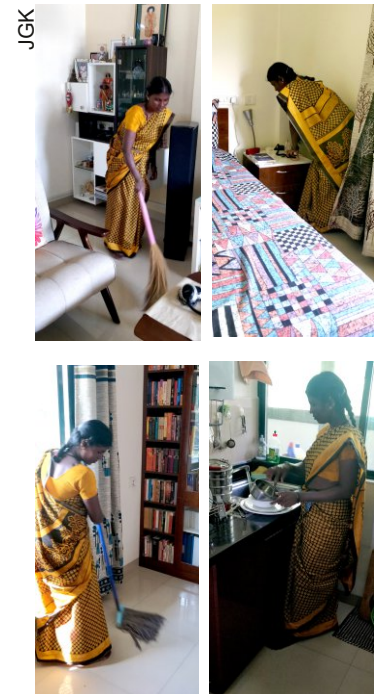
Head of Housekeeping Committee.

NEW HOUSEKEEPING PATTERN
NO. DAYS VS COTTAGES



pattern options are not encouraged for six months. Moreover, the amount of services to be provided and the current number of staff are perfectly matched negating any need to let go of anyone. "There has been no positive or negative feedback specifically pertaining to the new system. No news is good news. I think we took the right step with this and we have been proven right," concludes Gayitri.

The office, the HK department and the Accounts department collaborated effectively in implementing the new system. Prior information was given to the accounts department about the choices of shareholders and billing done accordingly. As the system continues to stabilise, changes in service



New Dedicated Telephone for Cafeteria

Smartphone with 24/7 WhatsApp messaging capability

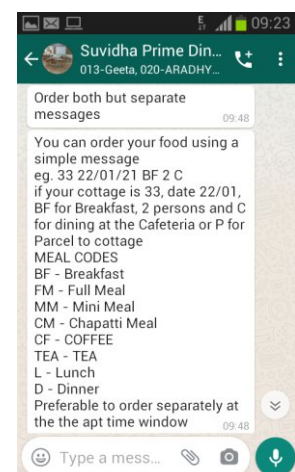
A new number +91 96069 80671 of Suvidha Café in a smart phone exclusively to communicate with the Suvidha Kitchen has been operating successfully since January 15

A WhatsApp group called "Suvidha Prime Diners" was formed to communicate with regular and occasional diners. It also allows sending one-way messages to Suvidhaites of happenings in the Kitchen.



The number facilitates messaging in a simple format for ordering food in advance. The WhatsApp icon can be activated to leave a voice message along with order.

The messaging facility is much appreciated by all especially diners who visit Suvidha periodically and need meals. "This is so easy. I don't have to wait for someone to pick up my call or worry if I will get a meal when I come. What's even more impressive is that Pandu messages me saying OK or leaves a voice message. Well done F&B committee!" says occasional diner Susheel Nagarajan of Cottage 108.



Summers of my childhood

Summer vacation in Mattur, a tiny Sanskrit speaking village near Shimoga

Hema Bhargava

Most summers in my childhood, I, along with my brother (sometimes my sister) and mother would go to Mattur (the so called “Sanskrit village”, about 4-5 miles from Shimoga), and spend a couple of weeks at our Ajji’s/uncle’s place. Being in



the army, my father couldn’t always join us. Those visits are the happiest memories of my childhood, and I think my siblings would also agree. A typical day would see us wake up late, play with our cousins in the Tunga river, make our way to the coconut plantations where we would drink several

enormous coconuts full of delicious *yelaneeru*, eat the tender coconut, and lazily make our way back home. Reading P.G. Wodehouse or Agatha Christie, and snacking on an entire “*Putta Baalle Chippu*” (no better bananas than those!), more lazily or playing cards! Did I mention enormous breakfasts and lunches? And too often in different homes that we would just walk into, as everyone knew everyone!

The highlight was late in the evening: we would all sit on the floor around our uncle and aunt. My uncle would oil his hands, cut a humongous jackfruit and hand out the fruit segments while we ate till we thought we would burst. This is when my aunt would start singing Kumara Vyasa’s Bharata and my uncle would relate (actually enact) the story. They were so good that we would listen, almost in a trance, for over an hour. And, while we didn’t think we could eat any more, dinner followed: “*Chomai*” (wotta shavige), *kollakatte*, or some such that one would somehow find a space for! Their *midu Maavinakai Uppinakai* transformed Mosuru Anna into a meal-ending fit for a king.

Many Matturvasis have great Harikatha/storytelling/singing abilities. Some of the Suvidha residents have had a sampling of such a performance (by Samudiyata and Prakash) in February 2020.

Dr. Hema Bhargava (Cottage 185B) lives in New Jersey, USA

Encounter with Elephants

Elephant encounters while growing up in Malabar, Kerala

Lakshmi Dey

On the morning of Wednesday, March 3, 2021, we at Suvidha woke up to the news that in the very early hours past midnight a female elephant with her young one had broken portions of our south eastern wall in four places, two to enter and two to exit. They had made a big mess, besides leaving a huge pile of dung in the compound to exhibit their territorial rights on the ground before they left!

This set me thinking of the many encounters I have experienced with elephants, my favourite animals, while growing up in Malabar, Kerala. I remember the temple elephant at Kannur walking sedately with the mahout riding it, past our house, Shady Nook, every day in the morning for 10 days during the annual temple festival in August. It was being taken for a bath to the Payyambalam beach and backwater, a kilometre away from our house.

My grandmother loved elephants and used to watch this one amble past while yelling out to our nanny, Paru, to bring

plantains, jack fruit or coconuts to feed the elephant before it walked away. I watched round eyed with amazement as the



Suvidha compound wall damaged by elephants ■ JGK

elephant received a coconut in her trunk, broke it on the ground with an enormous thud or cracked it under her gigantic leg before swallowing it in one gulp. Once my grandmother asked Paru to cook a jaggery browned payasam with coconut milk and rice and asked the mahout to bring the elephant up the ramp to our front yard. Paru had laid out

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 7

Encounter with Elephants

a flat brass dish with a large helping of the mouth-watering payasam. The elephant finished the delicious payasam in one enormous slurp, took a step back, raised her trunk and trumpeted with joy! To me, child that I was it seemed like the house and the very ground shook with that satiated trumpet. The next day the elephant which used to walk past our house stopped as soon as she reached our front gate. She

refused to budge in spite of the mahout's cajoling and prodding her with the small stick he carried. It took some time for her to realize there was no payasam forthcoming that day. As for me, I felt as cheated as the elephant!

*Dr. Lakshmi Day (Cottage 44)
is one of the earliest residents of Suvidha*

Do you remember...?

Nostalgic musing

Satyamurthy Subba Rao

Do you remember the days?
We played by the rivulets of
monsoon rain,
Unmindful of the thundering
clouds above,
Unafraid of the fever our mothers feared?

Cricket, football, kabaddi or hockey
Were all that mattered
For self-styled sport stars,
Studies an utter waste of time.

Do you remember the days?
We sipped tea, at Chandu's dukaan by the dusty road,
And watched cows meander and moo on the far fields,
And dreamt of the days to come, which now have come?

Do you remember the days?
We cycled down to school on bicycles with no brakes,
And eyed the passing girls, desperate to be noticed,
And shared a single cigarette, puffing away our hours of
youth?

Do you remember those lessons?

Physics, civics, math, all so boring,

And the staid teachers, poor dears,
With worn-out coats and unshaven faces?

Do you remember the worrisome annuals?
Going through last five years' papers,
Mugging the answers with closed eyes,
Only to stare bewildered at unexpected
questions?

Do you remember the day?
We parted after tight embraces and firm
hand-shakes,
With promises of remaining in touch for ever,

Not knowing there never is a final farewell.

In remembrance we meet a hundred times,
In class rooms, sports grounds or movie halls.
Within us, our hearts beat countless beats
To the shared music of the days that were.

Satyamurthy Subba Rao (Cottage 139), lives in Bangalore



BOOK REVIEW

Natures Mystery - An Autobiographical Account

M Mohan Rao

This book provides glimpses of one man's crusade against the degradation and destruction of 'Mother Earth' as a result of insatiable human greed. After his qualification in Agri-Horticultural sciences Shri Yellappa Reddy, the author, made a deep study of nature in an effort to get an insight into life forms above and below the ground - Prakruthi and Moola Prakruthi as he calls it. He developed spiritual insights into nature and could see divine energy coursing through Prakruthi.

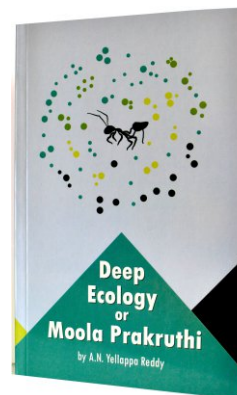
The author was disturbed to find that the harmonious and mutual co-existence of myriad forms of life happening even in highly variable climatic and geographical settings were being disturbed and desecrated by humans under the guise of development and progress. The wild forests, the 'Aranye', with

their colourful and varied bio-diversity, were encroached upon by indiscriminate mining, road building, industrialization etc. and replaced with lifeless concrete jungles. Such actions have resulted in global warming, polluted our water resources above and below the ground and poisoned the very air we breathe, causing immense health hazards to all forms of life.

The author has given details of many of his successful attempts to restore several vast areas of desecrated lands back to their pristine glory. He is confident that even amidst the skyscrapers of modern cities it is possible to re-establish areas of greenery and bio-restoration.

This book is an eye opener for those in power in our country and a 'must read' for people of all age groups, so that they can all join in the cause of conserving Mother Nature.

*Dr. M Mohan Rao (Cottage 114)
lives in Suvidha*



**Deep Ecology or
Moola Prakruthi**
AN Yellappa Reddy

Edited by Latha Krishnan

INCERT, Bangalore



Flustered Fox

Narayanan Raghavan
Watercolour - ca. 1990

This painting was published in *The Deccan Herald* (TDH) 30 summers ago. Rajeev, son of Dr Narayanan had won a prize at an Inter-school competition for his water colour painting. TDH reporting on the competition was told that Rajeev had learnt to paint watching his father paint pictures. This led to the father being featured in TDH with his latest painting *The Flustered Fox*



Dr.(Prof). Narayanan Raghavan is a trained and skilled Gynaecologist and Obstetrician. He did his MBBS, MD, and Diploma in Obstetrics & Gynaecology with distinction.

He was formerly Professor and Head of Department, Obstetrics, and Gynaecology at St.Johns Institute of Medical services, Bangalore and currently is a resident of Cottage 107 at SUVIDHA

Furtive Fox

Narayanan Raghavan

This watercolour painting was completed this March specially for *The Suvidha Review*

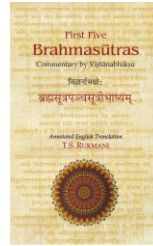


Suvidha Study Circle

During Covid times the Suvidha Study Circle also went online and did not have any discourses but were treated to articles by our eminent resident Prof. T. S. Rukmani, whose first article on “*Dharma versus Sadharanadharma*” was well received and a number of our friends raised questions to which she has individually responded with clear clarification. As a continuation the second article “*Draupadi in the Mahabharata*” was sent as an attachment and the discussion process went on via emails under reference “Ref. No: SSC-02” for

this topic. The questions and comments were directly handled by Prof. Rukmani.

One of the most prolific writers on ancient literature, Prof Rukmani has proved that age is just a number and you never have to retire from doing what you enjoy. She is an octogenarian who keeps herself busy writing articles, presenting papers on Zoom due to Covid, writing and editing



her books before sending them for publication.

It has been six years since Prof Rukmani and husband Wing Commander Rajamani have made Suvidha their home. In addition to her fourteen books dealing with different aspects of religion and philosophy published earlier, Prof. Rukmani has written and published two more books - “Kathopanisat” published in 2018 and “First Five Brahmasūtras Commentary by Vijñānabhikhu”, published in 2020.

The books are available on Amazon.

Joyous Republic Day

January 26 2021, our 72nd republic day was celebrated with pomp and joy by all Suvidhaites! It was a memorable day for all.

The flag hoisting ceremony in the morning was short and sweet made sweeter with the elegance and articulation of Dr Gomathi Narayanan, of Cottage 107, the Chief Guest of the day.

For the first time in the history of Suvidha the lady staff members of Suvidha sang a patriotic Kannada song. Two more patriotic songs were enthusiastically sung by the Suvidha Serenaders.

JGK



JGK



The Suvidha Serenaders also entertained the Suvidha community in the evening of the same day with group and solo songs in different languages for an hour and a half. Mr. Prabhu hosted the Badam milk and Pakodas for the attendees. Albeit Covid restrictions, we managed to enjoy a joyous Republic Day!

[Link to Republic Day photos by CB Prabhakar](#)



JGK



Vegetable Vendor

January 13, 2021

To add to our good health the Kitchen is now sourcing fresh vegetables twice a week from a

vendor who delivers it fresh from the market early morning.

Diners have expressed satisfaction at the better taste of food items with the change. It has also proved to be financially viable compared to the previous vendor.



Yoga and Pranayama for Female Staff Members



January 17 2021

Yoga and Pranayama classes begin for our lady staff with an hour's duration every Saturday. According to research, pranayama can promote relaxation and mindfulness. It also improves

physical health, including lung function, blood pressure, and brain function.

"We like it madam. It helps us destress and improves our health. We look forward to it every week and practice at home every day," some of them said.

Kitchen deep cleaning and pest control

January 19 and February 3, 2021

Suvidha Kitchen underwent pest control and periodical deep cleaning. Our staff members helped in the cleaning and setting up of the kitchen after the cleaning. We have a sparkling clean well maintained and hygienic space to prepare and pack the food we have every day.

LK



MyGate Security System Demo

January 21, 2021

Demonstration of software-based security system was conducted by Mr. Sachin B of MyGate.

The presentation was followed by Q&A session with about 30 attendees all following COVID 19 protocols. MyGate app is designed to solve security issues through services such as visitors' management including seamless entry of guests, daily staff management etc. through the use of

the app on smart phone devices within the community.

MyGate has made a special offer of their devices and services free of cost for one year to us in Suvidha.

Following the Mygate presentation Ms. Latha Krishnan clarified several doubts about the newly introduced "Suvidha Prime Diners" WhatsApp group informing residents about ordering food on the Suvidha Cafeteria telephone number using a simple WhatsApp message.

Birthday Party

February 9, 2021

Ujwala Prabhu of Cottage 53 celebrated her birthday with friends and family on February 9, 2021. The ladies of Suvidha sang the Sanskrit Birthday song "Janma dinam idam" for her and lit the traditional lamp.

Ujwala who normally lives in Jakarta, Indonesia is visiting her father Mr. Devidas Prabhu who lives in Suvidha.



Birthday Celebration of Ujwala Prabhu of Cottage 53

■ ADITHI MOOGOR

Wild Fires in Suvidha

February 10, 2021

We went through dry warm days and cool nights in the months of February and March usually marked by small and big fires along the border walls of Suvidha. The fires sometimes jump over the wall and our well-trained security, garden and office staff combine forces to put them out. This summer was as harsh as ever and without fail the fires came inside our Eastern and Northern borders. Fortunately, they were sighted and steps were taken to control them without any damage to our property except the views from the tower

JGK



is now of blackened earth than green trees.

Residents of Phase 1A watched the raging fire being efficiently doused by our landscaping and security teams using water hoses connected to garden pipe lines running throughout Suvidha landscape. More pipe lines are being planned to be installed along the periphery to protect us from such fires.

JGK



Valentine's Day Concert *Ishq ki Hawaa Chali* by Suvidha Serenaders



February 14, 2021

Love was in the air on Valentine's Day in Suvidha! Singing songs that matched the love story of three couples that Vaidy and Nalini wove into the fabric of Suvidha life, were the Serenaders on the evening of Valentine's Day at the amphitheatre!

JGK



There was a group dance and some well-loved Hindi and English numbers crooned to Karaoke music with a grand finale from Maestro Vivek of a superb medley of songs sung to the accompaniment of his magical guitar!

The group song *Que Sera Sera* completed the musical extravaganza

while the audience tapped their feet and partook of heart-shaped cookies (gifted by Prem Koshy of Koshy's Restaurant) and Badam milk from our own kitchen. Even with the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic restrictions, we made this February 14 an evening to remember. There was *Ishq*, that was fanned by a flame of fun!

Dining area for Housekeeping and Landscaping ladies

February 20, 2021

Housekeeping and Landscaping staff members have welcomed the new dining area that has been opened for them in front of the kitchen after erecting a new partition. "It is wonderful to have our lunch together comfortably instead of sitting in different groups in different places in the grounds," opined the ladies.

LK



Launch of book Deep Ecology or Moola Prakruthi

March 4, 2021

trees at its sylvan glade.

A colourful book release function on March 4th was

Deep Ecology or Moola Prakruthi written by A N Yellappa Reddy and edited



JGK

witnessed by the spellbound seniors of Suvidha at the Manjula Gaana Mantapa, all decked up in flowers and

by Latha Krishnan, both residents of Suvidha, delineates Reddy's recollections, studies, ideas,

thoughts and musings during his career as a forester in the Eastern and the Western Ghats, and two landscape greening projects that he undertook after his retirement. His philosophy of seeing the Divine in Nature is amply evident throughout the book.

Keeping to the theme of Prakruthi, copies of the book were immersed in petals of flowers in a basket and hanging from a potted tree. Geeta Jaisim and Mrs Vimala Reddy picked out the book from the flowers and released it. The atmosphere was transformed in to the

beauty of Prakruthi and a Tree prayer was sung.

There was also a scintillating dance performance *Prakruthi and Purusha* by Surya N Rao, who presented his version on the subject splendidly as both Prakruthi and Purusha. Latha Krishnan described her experience of editing the book and read out a few passages. Shri Yellappa Reddy then answered questions posed to him by the audience, who enjoyed every bit of the evening including snack packs and hot and cold beverages.



JGK



Manjula S Shekar becomes 80

March 5, 2021

The 80th birthday of Dr Manjula S Shekar (Cottage 121), Former Professor of Anatomy, Bangalore Medical College and Kempegowda Institute of Medical Sciences and wife of Dr K S Shekar, Founder Chairman of Suvidha was celebrated as a daylong function.

The celebration, in a specially erected sprawling decorated shamiana outside the Club House, started in

earnest at noon with prayer followed by welcome address, presentation of awards, distribution of prasadam and lunch which

was a delectable and generous spread of vegetarian delicacies for everyone who stays and works in Suvidha.

One notable gesture from Dr Shekar during the presentation of awards was the donation of Rs 100,000 towards the newly formed and registered "Suvidha Employees Children's Educational Support Trust".

The evening saw the ever graceful and beloved Manjula Amma clad in yet another beautiful sari seated along with the rest of Suvidha to enjoy a specially arranged musical performance by Ms. Madhuri and her troupe.

C B PRABHAKAR



CBP

[Link to Birthday Photographs by C B Prabhakar](#)

COVID 19 Update

March 15, 2021

To the great relief of all Suvidhites, Ms. Ahalya Shetty arranged for vaccination of seniors against Covid 19 at The Bangalore Hospital from March 9th to 11th in batches. It is heartening that every resident has been inoculated.

Vaccination of a few super seniors and some staff members of Suvidha took place at the Village. Vaccination of the remaining staff members is being done in batches at the Shankar

Hospital.

The management has already issued the following protective guidelines to all residents and visitors:

- Restrict visitors
- Avoid public gatherings
- Frequently wash your hands with soap and water, wear masks and maintain social distancing.
- Do not avail public transportation – avoid

metro, trains, air travel etc. as far as possible

- Avoid gathering in public places. Avoid visiting parks, gyms, weddings, social gatherings, places of worship, public functions and avoid any non-essential travel.
- Get yourself vaccinated if not already done.
- Get your second vaccination 6-8 weeks after the first one (for Covishield).



Ratna and Papanna Gowda (Cottage 41) after vaccination

Farewell Saraswati Didi!



March 21, 2021

Saraswati Bhatia (Saraswati Didi to many), 90 years, bid farewell to Suvidha after five years of being a tenant at the dormitory in the Health Centre Complex.

She will be missed by many in Suvidha who had interacted with her at various times especially during shopping on Thursdays at HOPCOMS. Many Suvidhites also remember her donating more than 100 saplings to

make the Village greener.

She will be staying with her son Anand, a regular visitor to Suvidha in the past five years. We wish her a pleasant and happy stay with Anand and bid her a fond goodbye.

Wild Karnataka documentary wins National Award

March 23, 2021

All of Suvidha is proud and happy that the natural history documentary *Wild Karnataka* won the national award in the non-feature category as Best Exploration Film. Sarath Champati, naturalist and resident of Suvidha 115 A, is one of the

producer-directors of the film, which shows the stunning vistas and flora and fauna of the forests of Karnataka.

The narrator of the documentary, Sir David Attenborough also won an award for best narration.

"We feel this is an award for

Karnataka as the film showcases the state's rich biodiversity and conservation efforts," remarked Sarath, who along with his wife Indu Champati, had invited all Suvidha residents to watch the documentary in 2019 at a special screening. Congratulations to Sarath and Indu from TSR!



Watch Wild Karnataka on  discovery+

New Shareholder of Suvidha



Dr. D. Ramesh and Dr. Aruna C. Ramesh

March 23, 2021

TSR welcomes Dr D Ramesh, new shareholder of Suvidha who has been allotted the recently refurbished Cottage 128.

Currently Dr Ramesh is Professor and Head of the

Department of Urology at Ramaiah Medical College and Hospitals, Bangalore.

He did his MBBS from Madras Medical College, MS Gen Surgery at Bangalore Medical College and MCh Urology at Kasturba Medical College Manipal.

Dr Aruna C Ramesh, his wife, is Professor and Head of the Department of Emergency Medicine at Ramaiah Medical College and Hospitals in Bangalore.

The couple plan to move into their Suvidha Cottage soon and is looking forward to life in Suvidha

New Shareholder of Suvidha

March 23, 2021

TSR welcomes young shareholder, B Rajashekaramurthy, who has been allotted cottage 146.

Hailing from Vaderahalli village in nearby Kanakapura Taluk, Rajashekaramurthy is 48 years old and is the owner-promoter of *Grameena Angadi* found in various sites all over Bengaluru. Right from his student days and securing MA in Sociology, Rajashekaramurthy has been a social activist organizing agitations to address student issues, women's

empowerment, unemployment of youth, and empowerment of rural artisans, while propagating and promoting social harmony and peaceful coexistence in society.

His passion for the development of khadi and handloom products resulted in his being one of the founders of *Grameena Karakushala Udyama* fifteen years ago. The *Grameena Angadi* units are the organic progression of that venture and provide healthy, fresh and organic food, handicrafts, artisan products etc. These stores carry an eclectic range of

products including jewellery, clothes, home accessories, food and bags all created by village self-help groups mostly women.

Currently, Rajashekaramurthy lives in Jayanagar with his wife Manjula, who has an MA in Economics and their 12-year-old daughter Pratheeksha, but they will be visiting Suvidha as often as they can.



NEWS AND EVENTS - SUVIDHA STAFF

Wedding Bells for Ujjal



March 8, 2021

Ujjal Chandra Debnath, our Security Supervisor got married to Nippa Deb Nath on March 8, 2021 at Dharmanagar, North Tripura. Ujjal has been with Suvidha for the past 7 years. Nippa is a B.A. (Hons.) Education graduate from Tripura University.

As the new couple begin their life together in our staff quarters, we wish them a long and happy wedded life.

Mallana Gouda - Maintenance Supervisor

March 25, 2021

Mallana Gouda has been working with us since 2017. With a team of three electricians and two plumbers, he has been attending to and facilitating all maintenance jobs as well as audio visual support for events in the Village. Since he stays in the staff quarters residents call him, sometimes even at odd hours, for



solving their problems ranging from setting up or repairing electrical gadgets to plumbing, telephones and the Internet, all of which he solves with his team. In addition he supervises the maintenance of the solar panels on the roofs of 42 cottages.

"I am still learning from the various challenges that come up in Suvidha. But I am glad that we

have never had any real major failures," says Mallana as he recounts how they managed when a faulty MCCB resulted in BESCOM power shut down and the Village had to run on generator for 12 hours. The maintenance team worked together to procure and replace the MCCB and restore mains power seamlessly. "Without my strong team and the support of the Management, I cannot do my work so well. I am thankful to them and happy to work here," affirms Mallana.

Good wishes and Goodbye to Prasad - Asistant Civil Engineer

March 28, 2021

Lakshmi Prasad Yadav (Prasad) is all set to take the next major step in his life by taking up the post of Senior Site Engineer at an Infrastructure Development company in Bangalore.

Prasad came to Suvidha in 2015 at the young age of 20. Here in Suvidha he was encouraged to take up evening classes for a BE degree in Civil Engineering from BMS Engineering

College. He completed his BE in 2019.

"I have learnt a lot from everyone in Suvidha not only in terms of work but also as I grew from a mere village boy to a grown man of the City," says Prasad, who is thankful that he could imbibe many useful lessons and grow also as an Engineer with the kind support and good wishes of the management and residents of Suvidha.



"I joined as a Diploma Holder and today I am a qualified graduate Civil Engineer, which was only possible with the kind cooperation and help of the Suvidha Management, and I will always be grateful for that," says Prasad, as he gets ready to take up a new professional challenge. All of us at Suvidha wish him much success and fulfilment in his future life. Goodbye Prasad.

REMEMBRANCE

Hiroo B Advani (1936-2021)

Hiroo Bhagsing Advani, resident of Cottage 23 bid farewell to this world on March 1, 2021. He will be remembered in Suvudha by all Suvudhaites as the streets light up every evening.

After graduating in 1957 with Commerce and Economics from Sydenham College, Bombay, he started his career as a management trainee with a shipping company in Holland for two years before joining Blue Star Ltd in 1960. He rose up to become the Executive Vice President at Blue Star. Hiroo moved to Bangalore in 1993 as a franchisee of a US based executive search firm. He retired from the corporate world in 2004.

Hiroo bought Suvudha shares and came to stay here permanently in 2017. He did take short breaks to visit his home in Koramangla. But when he stayed here he was a visible presence all over the verdant expanse of Suvudha seen walking about, doing yoga or ambling to the cafeteria. He always had a greeting and a kind word for everyone who met him, be it a staff member or one of the residents. All of us miss him!



READERS' RESPONSE

Well done *The Suvudha Review*!

Thanks and credit to all who worked on it!

Ashok Shanthamallappa
Cottage 165 -166

Congratulations Team *TSR* !

Brilliant in terms of content. The layout is indeed very lively.

Vivek Kadambi
Cottage 48

Congratulations on bringing out this first issue of *TSR*.

I enjoyed going through it - the format is attractive and the text is crisp and readable with nice accompanying photographs!

Krishnarao Jaisim
Cottage 126

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