

THE SUVIDHA REVIEW

MONSOON, JULY 2025

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EDITOR'S NOTE

Without the rain, there would be no rainbow! We did have copious rains early monsoon but it has abated. Figuratively we had both joy and sadness in the last quarter. Joy of being together during different events and sadness because two of our shareholders who were remarkable ladies left us for their heavenly abodes and our own longtime electrician died suddenly tragically.

This time we have a story on Suvidha Village Council and its workings. Satish Rao entertains with his memories of the Vice President Dr Radhakrishnan. One of our TSR team members Gopalakrishnan's translation of the Kannada novel Tejo Thungabhadra by Vasudhendra into Malayalam has been published by DC Books. In Book Talk we tell you about the Book discussion event in Kochi. Ahalya Shetty's trip to Kashmir in our travel feature, Jinka Subramanya's This is India, and more are all awaiting your reading pleasure.

And the photos for your viewing pleasure!

Happy festive season ahead and happy reading!

Latha Krishnan

EDITORIAL TEAM

Latha Krishnan
Dr. P M Chandrasekhar
Geeta Jaisim

Design & Layout
J Gopalakrishnan

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COVER: Gulmarg, Jammu & Kashmir. Located 60 KM away from Srinagar, it is the crowning glory of Kashmir and is situated at 2,650 meters above sea level. Known as the "Meadow of Flowers", it boasts of the world's highest golf-course. Please see page 10 for a travelogue on Kashmir.

PHOTO: DR. HEMACHANDRA SHETTY

FROM THE MANAGING DIRECTOR

Greetings and good wishes to our Suvidha Family! With the change in season, the hot dry summer has given way to the cool rainy days that we are presently enjoying here in Namma Sundara Suvidha. This reminds me of a poem by the 19th Century American Poet, Emily Dickinson, that I would like to share with you:

Summer Shower

*A drop fell on the apple tree
Another on the roof;
A half a dozen kissed the eaves,
And made the gables laugh.*

*A few went out to help the
brook,
That went to help the sea.
Myself conjectured, Were
they pearls,
What necklaces could be!*

*The dust replaced in
hoisted roads
The birds jocosely sung;
The sunshine threw his hat
away,
The orchards spangles
hung.*

*The breezes brought
dejected lutes
And bathed them in the
glee;
The East put out a single
flag,
And signed the fete away.*

The Mango season is coming to an end and we all will have to wait a full year to enjoy this amazing and yummy National Fruit again. Did you know that India boasts of over 1500 different varieties of this unique fruit? Some of the most popular varieties include the King Alphonso from Maharashtra, Big Banganapalli from Andhra, Yummy Badami and Raspuri from Karnataka, Dasherri and Langra from UP, and Himsagar from West Bengal. Each has its own special size, shape, fragrance, and rich flavour. Such wide variety is seen among our country's population and within our Suvidha Family as well. Great example of Unity in Diversity!

A lot has happened in Suvidha since the last issue of TSR was published in April. I am sure the TSR Team will cover all the events along with

lovely pictures to remind us of the good times. The BoD has held a couple of Hybrid Open Houses exclusively for SHs and a traditional OH for shareholders and other residents of Suvidha in June 2025. I wish to see more participation in the OH and active contributions to the Community Events from all of you. That is the true spirit of Suvidha Retirement Village and Community Living makes the good life better for everyone!

Starting next month, we can all look forward to some amazing times in Suvidha. We will be celebrating our Independence Day followed by many Festivals like Janmashtami, Ganesh Chaturthi and Onam. Requesting everyone to reach out to the Cultural & Events Committee to

bring new ideas and joy to these community celebrations. Preparations have begun for the Annual General Meeting of our Company and it will likely be on 14 th September 2025.

The sudden demise of Electrician Shivanna on 21 st June afternoon was very sad. May his soul attain Sadgathi and we pray for his family to be given the strength to face this loss. Om Shanti.

The next big change that will happen is the Facility Management Outsourcing for Suvidha. This transition in Operations is being handled by the SVOOP Team, under the able leadership of Geeta Jaisim and Usha Kurpad. We hope to get better quality of services and hassle-free day-

to-day living for the Residents along with improved discipline and productivity from the staff.

Good Health, Good Life and Good Cheer to all

Dr. Nilima Kadambi
MANAGING DIRECTOR.



Suvidha on the Move

Dr P M Chandrasekhara

The Summer Issue of TSR had informed you how the fish in our lake were caught and sold. That process continues till now periodically with the contractor coming to



PHOTO COURTESY: DR PM CHANDRASEKHARA

About Rs. 1,20,000 worth of fish was harvested from Suvidha Lake during March to June, 2025

Forest range office, Suvidha has to follow the guidelines to dispose of the adult sandalwood trees. Following a detailed survey of our land, we isolated about fifteen fully grown sandalwood trees ready for disposal.

Sandal wood pieces shipment to Government Sandal Wood Oil factory in Mysore (June 2025)



PHOTO COURTESY: DR PM CHANDRASEKHARA

catch the fish, sell to our residents as well as at his own outlet in Thalaghattapura. The water treatment for the lake with biological enzymes was done by Pragat Enterprise and was sponsored by Dr PM Chandrasekhara.

We solved another perennial problem, that was the disposal of sandalwood trees wildly growing around Suvidha. Being under the purview of Kaggalipura

Suresh Babu, our then COO, put in a lot of effort to get in touch with the relevant forest officers to get this difficult job done. In May, we received the permission from the Deputy Conservator of Forest. A week later, a contractor was assigned to remove the sandalwood trees. The timber pieces were stored in front of the office

under our security cover. After obtaining clearance from the forest department in early June, 1243 kilograms of sandalwood were shipped to the Government Sandalwood Oil Factory in Mysore. The factory produces the best natural sandalwood oil, which is used for various purposes, including the production of cosmetics.

PHOTO: LATHA KRISHNAN



Brass statue of Saraswathi at the Suvidha Library.

Suvidha library situated on the ground floor of the Club House, received a new lease of life. It has now been renovated to its original glory. More than 10,000 books on various topics have been arranged nicely in alphabetical order with appropriate labels making it easy to locate the book you want to read. Sections of Fiction, Bhagavath Geetha and Spiritual discourses occupy the majority of the display shelves. Apart from books; the display comprises several entertainment as well as spiritual DVDs and CDs. Dr Iris Rajiva of cottage 76 has donated several book-end stoppers to prevent the books sliding off the shelves. The current books section comprises the latest weekly magazines. A brass sculpture of Saraswathi Devi has been placed appropriately to welcome all lovers of books.

PHOTO: LATHA KRISHNAN



New cottages 32 and 33 (estwhile Health Centre) ready for occupation

The new residents of Cottage 32 and 33 have started staying in their beautiful cottages.

Prathima Shetty

The SVC holds meetings in the boardroom every alternate Thursdays at 3:00 pm. Members who are away from Suvidha at that time can attend the meeting through Video Conferencing (VC). Though the meeting is usually scheduled for 1.5 hours, at times it would go on for even 3 hours. The discussions are that deep and intense. Subsequently, a new role of “Project Management Officer” (PMO) was created to manage and run the meetings. It is the PMO’s responsibility to ensure that the meetings are managed properly including scheduling the meeting, VC facility is set up for the



This SVC has been running successfully for about four years now and has helped to smoothly implement many operational tasks. Each department is aware of what is happening across committees and are able to contribute to the improvements in Suvridha operations. This gives a sense of happiness and pride to all the members and creates a very positive environment.

New Shareholders

Shantha Shetty

Shantha Shetty purchased shares of the company in 2024 and was allotted the newly converted double cottage 33, which was part of the erstwhile Health Centre.

Shantha, her husband, Satyanarayana Shetty and her son C S Ravi came to Suvidha three years ago. They were staying in 169 - 170 cottages. Before coming to Suvidha, they were staying in a villa, the family home in Vishveshpur, Bangalore but they felt the need to move to a retirement village. They came to see Suvidha, liked it and then moved to 169 -170. Her husband liked moving around but would forget where he was going. Therefore being in a place like Suvidha with security and space around was ideal to keep him happy and moving around the vast green spaces of Suvidha.

"We like and appreciate the three years we have spent in Suvidha in peace and happiness in the

great atmosphere of Suvidha and the residents, who have always been kind and welcoming. We

wanted to be part of the Suvidha family and when the opportunity arose to buy the shares of Cottage 33, we went for it," says Shantha, who also has two daughters Jayashree and Padmashree who spend time with them as often as they can.

Shantha is happy with the new home as it is bigger and more comfortable for all of them. It has more light and breeze coming in and is near to all the facilities. It is closer to the Club

House and the entrance to Suvidha. Shantha herself finds it easier to regularly attend Yoga and Bhavageethe classes, both of which are conducted at the library and also pursue Bhagavath Geetha discourses and Bhajane singing, which are her passions.

PHOTO: LATHA KRISHNAN



Dr. Srinivas Kasi and Dr. Sheela Kasi

Dr. Srinivas Kasi and Dr. Sheela Kasi are two new shareholders, who acquired shares of the company in September 2023 and were allotted cottage 162. Dr. Srinivas is a Paediatrician practicing in Jayanagar while Dr. Sheela is a Pathologist. They explain their decision to be part of Suvidha:

"We purchased shares of the company for cottage number 162 in September 2023. We had known about this place from our friends. Our close friends, Dr and Mrs Kishore Phadke have a cottage here. Following this, we too decided to be a part of Suvidha.

We had visited Suvidha on a couple of occasions with friends and we were enamoured by the place. It was always our desire to be part of this community.

What really attracted us to this place is the serene atmosphere, the lush greenery, beautifully designed cottages and above all the wonderful residents. We are still active in our profession. For the present, we visit Suvidha, a couple of times every month on weekends. We are looking forward to spending more time in Suvidha in the not too

distant future."



Allotment of New Cottages

Dr Narayanan and Dr Gomathy Narayanan, have been shareholders of Suvidha since 2012 and have been weekend

visitors to cottage 107. They are known to TSR readers, as we had featured Dr Narayanan's paintings and Dr Gomathi's travel accounts of Bali and Hampi.

Recently the Narayanans were allotted Cottage 32, a double cottage, after they were allotted 15,000 shares of the company. They bought 7500 shares from Dr PMC to augment their own 7500 shares in the erstwhile dormitory. "This is part of our complete retirement in Suvidha. This cottage is beautiful and spacious from both inside and outside with greenery and flowering plants in front and back and is a lovely corner plot. It also overlooks the

Puspanjali pergola, where we can sit and enjoy the beauty of Nature. Since there is more space within, whenever our son Rajiv and his wife Yoojin or other relatives visit, they can stay with us," says Dr Narayanan.

Dr Narayanan and Dr Gomathy married in 1972. They worked in JIPMER, Pondicherry for about 5 years. In 1977 they came to Bangalore to join the faculty of St John's Medical College where the two of them had illustrious careers as Professors of Gynaecology. Both became heads of departments in St John's and KIMS respectively before moving

on to continuing with their passion for teaching undergraduates and post graduates while being examiners and guest lecturers all over India and abroad.

TSR wishes them a pleasant stay in Cottage 32.



PHOTO: LATHA KRISHNAN

Farewell to Dr Mohan Rao

Long time resident of Suvidha, Dr Mohan Rao of Cottage 114, moved to Chennai to be with his son and family in April after disposing of his shares in the company. On April 12, 2025, Dr Mohan Rao hosted a farewell luncheon party for all Suvidhaites before he said Goodbye to all of us. He greeted everyone and gave a moving speech reminiscing all the events he was part of during his stay in Suvidha for the past 12 years.

Dr Mohan Rao was Professor of Surgery and Surgeon in Govt Kilpauk Medical College and Government Royapettah Hospital in Chennai. He spent his early retirement life for 9 yrs in Mysore before coming to Suvidha in 2013.

He told TSR, "I had a memorable stay in Suvidha making innumerable close lifelong friends.

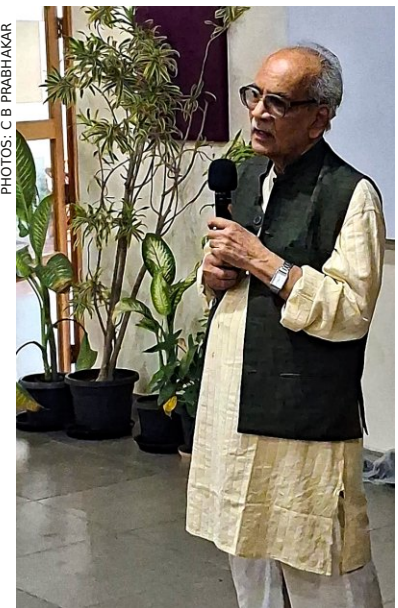
When 'younger' I was active in Suvidha, in the Kitchen Committee and Health Committee, Bhagavad Geetha discussion group and entertainment group and was a strong active critic of the management on several issues and ruffled lots of feathers. But later, when the blood cooled down, I became quiet and enjoyed more peace and happiness. I enjoyed making

Youtube Videos on the bright and colorful aspects of Suvidha. I also enjoyed cooking at home and exchanging dishes and goodies with quite a few residents. I remember with gratitude assistance/help from several residents particularly in my later period of stay. Overall, Suvidha was my 'Home Sweet Home' and I miss my Home and all my friends even now. I will continue to carry happy memories of Suvidha for many more years."

TSR bids Dr Mohan Rao a fond farewell and wishes him a happy new life in Chennai.



PHOTOS: CB PRABHAKAR



Re-writing Television Historywith the Vice President

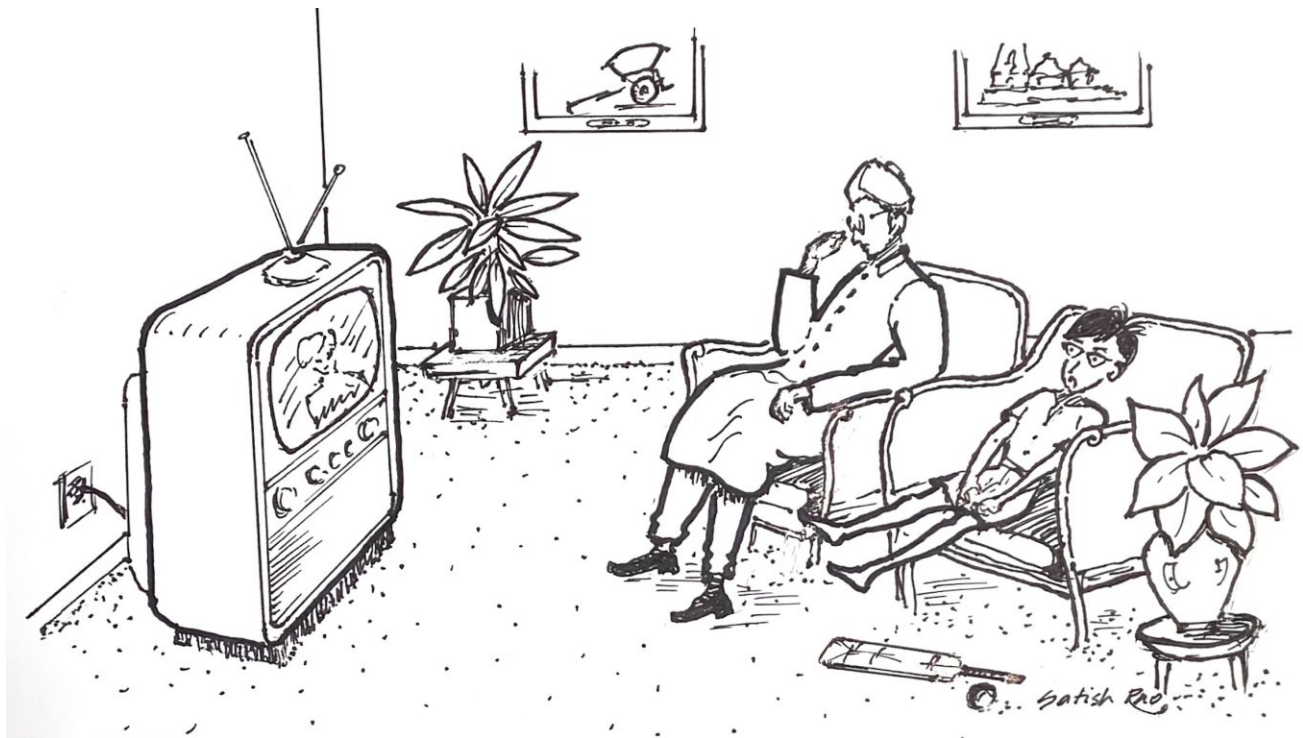
Text and Illustration: Satish Rao

If you Google it, you will learn that television first came to India in 1959. Wrong! History has missed a microscopic, but significant, event in the story of television in India.

What you will likely not learn from any source - except from this article - is the fact that television actually made its pioneering appearance in India

Grounds, and built a closed circuit network in parts of New Delhi. As a calculated gesture, they distributed four TV cabinet consoles to the homes of India's most prominent citizens: President Rajendra Prasad, Prime Minister Jawahar Lal Nehru, Vice-President Dr. Radhakrishnan, and Commander-in-Chief of the Indian army, Field Marshal Cariappa.

For a few weeks



four years earlier, in 1955 - 70 years ago. And I was one of the first handful of people in the entire country to have watched TV at that time - and that too, with Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, Vice-President of India at the time.

A tall story? Let me explain.

In 1955, as you may have learned from my earlier article, my family lived in New Delhi, a few steps from the Vice-President's house. I and a few other young cricketers were frequent visitors to that historic mansion.

During October-December 1955, the Indian Industries Fair was held in New Delhi, and it included an American pavilion. To showcase the latest American technology in their pavilion, the Americans decided to give Indians a sneak-preview of this intriguing thing called "television".

They set up a makeshift studio on the Exhibition

then, this mysterious, ominous, mahogany "box" sat prominently in Dr. Radhakrishnan's living room, which overlooked the back garden where we kids played cricket. Each evening during those two months, the VP would relax for a few minutes and do what some now do for several hours each day - watch television!

One day, his grandson Karti was showing me his gigantic collection of comics, stored in a cupboard in a small room just off the mansion's main entrance. A few minutes later, Karti and I (perhaps not-so-quietly!) barrelled into the living room, a short cut to the back yard. The VP was watching an interview being broadcast on TV from the exhibition grounds. Hoping to restore peace and quiet, he beckoned to me and invited (ordered?) me to sit beside him quietly and observe the interview.

Of course, the historic significance of the opportunity was lost on me as I politely obeyed. My options: playing cricket with my friends, or sitting with India's VP and watching the first-ever TV? The choice was obvious: the stumps were beckoning seductively and irresistibly! So, after a few submissive but restless minutes beside the great scholar, I was off to join my friends in the rear garden.

So, that's how it came about that I spent a few minutes, sitting beside Dr. Radhakrishnan, as a member of a very tiny group of Indians watching TV in 1955, four years before most of the country first set eyes on this new contraption!

But that's not all: there's a little postscript. The Americans also distributed 50 small, tabletop TV sets to various locations around Delhi, and my school - St. Columba's High School - was one of them. Our Senior Cambridge class being the senior-most, the TV set was placed in our classroom.

It was December 1955 and we were writing our

Senior Cambridge exams. Our school was the exam venue for several other schools. In-between exams you could see little knots of students dotted around the playground, grouped around their teachers, feverishly doing last-minute reviews. But not us - we spent the precious minutes between exams in our classroom, a select group of kids setting the foundation for what was to later become so commonplace among India's teenagers - watching TV!

And what do you think thrilled us the most in India's first-ever TV shows? The dizzying and ever-changing electrostatic patterns that occasionally erupted on the screen, spectacular displays of a kind of spontaneous art that we'd never witnessed before!

Google, I trust you're taking notes.

Satish Rao (Cottage 67), lives in Canada

This is India!

Jinka Subramanyam

I was touched by an incident which happened a few months ago and I would like to call it "This is India!"

Raji and I were driving to our sister-in-law's place in the 8th Phase of JP Nagar, Bangalore. Our usual route was a little longer as I was trying to avoid the crowded Anjanapura area. That particular day I thought of going through the predominantly Muslim dominated crowded area. I had driven for about 30 seconds, when suddenly there was a stoppage of the vehicles in front of me. I thought there was a big accident ahead and waited for a while in the car. I could not reverse and turn back because several vehicles were backed up behind me.

I alighted from my car and started walking towards the center of action where I thought I would see a lot of blood on the road. For such a traffic jam there should be at least a major accident or some violent and gruesome incident. When I reached the place, I was surprised with what I saw there. There was no noise by anyone and no honking. There right in the middle of the road was a cow feeding a newborn calf. The umbilical cord

was still dangling from the calf which must be just two or three days old.

People in their cars just waited till the calf was satisfied and both the animals left the place. The vehicles started moving ahead slowly.

What was the surprise?

Our people have a habit of honking a lot, some even when there is no traffic.

Everybody is in a rush to go and uncaring about the inconvenience they may be causing to others. This time everybody seemed to have a lot of patience and were letting the calf have its meal to its satisfaction. More than these observations, I learnt something valuable. I had wrongly thought that Muslims might

not have the same kind of respect for the cow and the calf like Hindus do. The majority of the people standing there patiently by the cow and the calf were Muslims! This is India!

Jinka Subramanyam (Cottage 57-58), lives in Suvidha



PHOTO COURTESY pexels.com by Mohan Nampaneni

Our unforgettable trip to Kashmir

Text: Ahalya Shetty Photos: Dr Hemachandra Shetty

We chose early April this year to go on a trip to Kashmir. We landed in beautiful Srinagar in the afternoon. After checking into our hotel that evening we visited the local markets area, and enjoyed the sights and sounds of Srinagar. The next day was full



Dal Lake in Srinagar is integral to tourism and recreation in Kashmir and is named the “Jewel in the crown of Kashmir”. The lake is also an important source for commercial operations in fishing and water plant harvesting.

of colour and more beauty with a visit to the Tulip Garden, where we spent about 2 hrs. We dedicated that day to gardens visiting the Mughal gardens and the Nishat Gardens. By evening we had only lovely colourful flowers in our minds!

Our planned visit to the now famous or (should I say notorious?) Pahalgam was the next day. Enroute we visited the world famous Saffron gardens, picked up some Kashmiri saffron and Khawa powder which is a tasty spice rich local drink. We had to ride a pony for about two hours to reach the much talked about and beautiful Baisaran Valley.

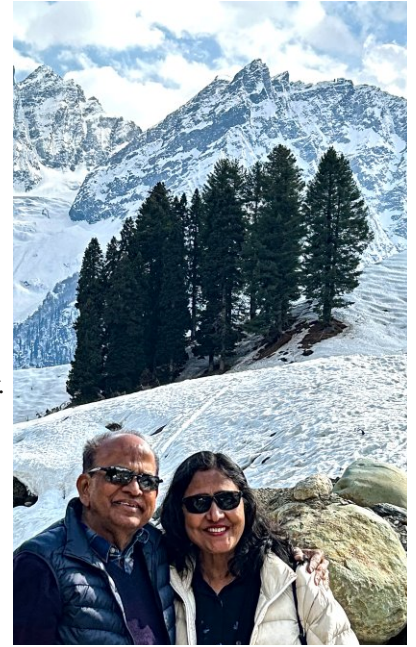
Baisaran Valley, known as the “Valley of



Sonamarg, which means ‘meadow of gold’ has, as its backdrop, snowy mountains against a deep blue sky.

shepherds” is located 5 kilometers away from Pahalgam in the Anantnag district of Kashmir. It is famous as a top sightseeing destination, and is often called mini-Switzerland because of its picturesque beauty. It’s a hilltop green meadow dotted with dense pine forests and surrounded by snowcapped mountains. This famous offbeat tourist place in Jammu and Kashmir is great for those wanting to spend a quiet time in the

company of nature. And it was in this valley that 2



At Gulmarg. With panoramic views of snow-capped mountains, Gulmarg is known for serene ambiance and snow activities.



Baisaran Valley, a meadow located about 5-7 km from Pahalgam in the Anantnag district of the Kashmir Valley. Situated at an altitude of around 2,400 m, it is surrounded by dense pine forests and the Pir Panjal range. On 22 April 2025, exactly 20 days after our visit, a terrorist attack occurred in Baisaran meadow, where terrorists rounded up and opened fire on innocent tourists

weeks after our visit terrorists shot and killed 26 civilian tourists.

The next day we were back in Srinagar and experienced the overnight stay in a Houseboat.

That evening we took a Shikara ride on the Dal lake, drinking warm Khawa and the local kesar milk drink in one of the lakeside joints. We also got to

examine some Kashmiri hand work items before heading back to the Houseboat. After a cool night on the Houseboat and a sumptuous breakfast, we drove to Sonamarg. On the way we saw a beautiful mountain trail, an apple orchard where we drank freshly made apple juice and the gateway to Ladakh.

The next day was again spent around Srinagar, visiting local markets and Ghanta Ghar.

Our visit to spectacular Gulmarg was on Day 7. We took in the sight of the beautiful snow capped mountain ranges and went up some of the

mountain slopes on ski scooters, which was a thrilling experience. By that evening, we returned to Srinagar. The next day, our last in Kashmir, we visited the Hazratbal Dargah and a few plant nurseries with a friend. I bought a Tulip tree sapling to bring home to Bangalore the next morning. I will remember Kashmir whenever I see it bloom, And our Kashmir trip was one of the best trips that we have taken in India till date.

Ahalya and Dr Hemachandra Shetty (Cottage 27)
live in Bangalore

Kannada - A Lingusitic Journey

J Gopalakrishnan

I began learning Kannada early in 2019, soon after settling in Suvidha after retirement. At that time there were evening classes in Spoken Kannada conducted twice a week by Shri Satya Murthy Subba Rao. That really helped some of us non-Kannadigas to get acquainted with the nuances of Kannada language. Having already read a few Kannada novels translated into Malayalam I longed to read the original text and soon embarked on learning the Kannada alphabet, which I found quite straight forward, logical and with no complicated compound letters as in Malayalam. After mastering the Kannada script and basic grammar, I started reading U R Ananthamurthy's *Samskara* in Kannada word by word comparing it with my copy of its Malayalam translation. It was quite tough initially, but towards the end of the novel, I could follow the story without the need to consult the Malayalam translation. Reading *Samskara* in its original form opened my eyes to a new linguistical world and soon I started reading several other novels in Kannada.

I had the opportunity to watch on YouTube a discussion with the noted Kannada author Sri Vasudhendra as part of the Mysuru Literature Festival of 2021. That's when I first learned about his new Kannada novel *Tejo-Tungabhadra* which is a historical novel set in the early 16th century. Before long, I got a chance to read the book. The novel's narrative unfolds against the backdrop of certain historical events in Portugal, Vijayanagara empire and Goa. The period of the novel spans just thirty-six years (1492-1528) and it narrates the stories of ordinary people during that period, focusing on the common man's perspective in the social life of Lisbon, Goa, and Vijayanagara.

As I progressed in learning Kannada, the thought soon arose: why not translate *Tejo-Tungabhadra* into Malayalam? I had the opportunity to contact the author during the Bangalore

Literature Festival in December in 2022 and to receive his permission to translate the novel.

Vasudhendra suggested Ms. Prasanna Varma, who had already translated several works from English to Malayalam, to read the draft and edit text for linguistic precision. The translation work was started in January 2023 and was completed by September 2023. DC Books, the leading book publishing house in Kerala, took up the publication of *Tejo Tungabhadra* in Malayalam. This came out in April, 2025.



TEJO TUNGABHADRA
By: Vasudhendra
Malayalam Translation:
J Gopalakrishnan
DC Books, Kottayam
First Edition: 2025
Pages: 432 Rs.499

In a nutshell, *Tejo Tungabhadra* is the story of two rivers - Tejo, which flows through Lisbon in Portugal, and Tungabhadra, which flows through Vijayanagara in Karnataka. These rivers have witnessed the experiences of people since time immemorial. Certain events that took place at the beginning of the 16th century brought about profound changes in the lives of the people of that era - these include the migration of Jews to Portugal following persecution in Spain, arrival of Vasco da Gama in Kozhikode, coronation of Sri Krishnadevaraya as emperor of Vijayanagara and Goa coming under Portuguese rule.

On one side is the Tejo river, silently witnessing stories of the Jews facing racial hatred, their forced conversions, the devastating sweep of the plague, massacres of newly converted Christians due to religious intolerance, and the brutalities inflicted by the Portuguese during their voyages to India in search of wealth.

On the other side is the immensely rich Vijayanagara Empire—with its grand temples and the skilled sculptors who built them, devadasis seeking to please the gods, the sufferings of women living in royal palaces, the eunuchs who protected them, life-risking wrestling duels, the practice of sati, Shaiva-Vaishnava conflicts, frequent wars, harsh and primitive punishments, and warriors sacrificing their lives to fulfil the king's desires.

These are the stories witnessed by the river Tungabhadra. Alongside all this are the interwoven tales of love—its triumphs and its failures—which connect these two rivers.

J Gopalakrishnan (Cottage 181B)
lives in Suvidha

Kadha Kali at the Forum Mall, Kochi

DC Books, one of the prestigious literary publishing houses in India, published the Malayalam translation of *Tejo Tungabhadra* in April 2025.

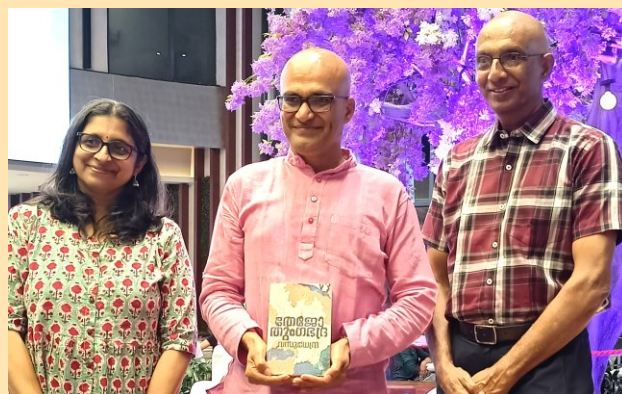


DC Books organised a month-long program called *Kadha Kali* (play of stories) at the Forum Mall Kochi. On May 18, they invited the author Vasudhendra, translator J Gopalakrishnan and Prasanna Varma for an hour of free wheeling discussion about the novel and the translation process.

The evening at the discussion area was

attended by book lovers and curious onlookers. Those who had read the book had many questions to ask Vasudhendra about it. Many others waiting to read it in Malayalam asked questions about the difficulties in translating. Prasanna Varma helped steer the conversation forward with anecdotes from the author and the translator. Several people bought the book and got it signed by both the author and translator. The novel has been read by many and is achieving success in Malayalam.

TSR Congratulates our team member J Gopalakrishnan on this remarkable achievement.



PHOTOS: LATHA KRISHNAN

NEWS AND EVENTS

Audiometry tests at Suvidha

April 12, 2025

Hearing tests, or audiometry tests, evaluate your ability to hear. If you have hearing loss, the tests detect the type of hearing loss you have and whether your hearing loss is mild, moderate or severe. Based on test results, your audiologist may recommend treatment like hearing aids or cochlear implants.

Bridge Health Clinic conducted audiometry tests on April 12th. Several residents undertook the tests and a few have gone on to further treatment or correcting hearing loss.

Audiometry tests are typically conducted in a sound-treated room, and the person wears headphones or insert earphones.

The audiologist uses an audiometer, which delivers sounds at different frequencies and loudness. The person raises a hand, presses a button, or says "yes" when they hear sounds. The results of the test are recorded on an audiogram, which charts the person's hearing loss patterns



Gamaka

April 19, 2025

Suvidha Events & The Cultural Committee organised the traditional Program; GAMAKA on Saturday, 19th April at the Clubhouse Banquet Hall. The unique Theme or Topic chosen for this Gamaka performance was "Dhurvaasaaditya" We learnt some

new fascinating facts by listening to the Gamaki singer and the Vyakhyana Narrator's story.

Gamaki and Soulful Singer : Smt. Samudiyata Mattur is a Tele-Communication Engineer from JNN College and a gifted



and trained Classical Singer. Her passion is rendering Gamaka Vachana Concerts and Classical Vocal Concerts. She performed superbly in conjunction with the Vyakhyana Narrator, Professor Prakash.

Vyakhyana Narrator in English, Shri M.C. Prakash, has an MA in English from Mysore and a PhD from Bangalore University. He retired as the Principal of a College and has a passion for translation and Storytelling.

Bhagawad Geeta group sponsored this Event.

Wealth Rendezvous Event

May 20, 2025

Wealth Rendezvous, an exclusive interactive event was conducted by Anand Rathi Wealth Limited at the Suvidha Clubhouse. With his extensive expertise, Mr. Rathore

shared actionable perspectives on navigating the complexities of wealth and estate planning, in an engaging and enriching session.

This Hybrid Event

was attended by 20-25 Suvidhaitees in the Banquet Hall and another 15-20 joined on Zoom. This was a very interesting and informative session that was appreciated by many



who attended

The Interactive Session of about 90 minutes was followed by a light lunch for all participants sponsored by Anand Rathi Wealth Ltd.

Open House Meetings

April 20, June 1 and June 22, 2025

Revenue Generation Committee conducted an OH on April 20 followed by another OH on June 1st with updates from the Revenue Generation Committee and introduction to Suvidha Village Operations Outsourcing Project (SVOOP) action plan and process. It also included Financial Updates

by the CFO. Another OH on June 22, for all residents was an informal interactive session where all assembled shared ideas and suggestions relevant to the chosen Topic: "Making the Good Life Better in Suvidha"

We all feel very blessed to be living in this green heaven, surrounded by birds, bees and butterflies, away from the hustle and bustle of Bengaluru City life.

But there is always scope for improvements in Suvidha services and the quality of community living that we enjoy. So we put our heads together to find practical ways to make this happen along with our Suvidha Staff, Service Providers and the Management Team to make it our reality.

International Yoga Day

June 21, 2025

The International Day of Yoga is a day in recognition of Yoga that is celebrated around the world annually on 21 June following its adoption by the United Nations in 2014. As Yoga exercises have shown significant benefits for physical and mental well-being, it was considered important by the UN to globally promote this wellness practice, which originated in ancient India.

The initiative for Yoga Day was taken by India's prime minister Narendra Modi in his 2014 UN address, and the related

resolution received broad global support, with 177 nations co-sponsoring it in the United Nations General Assembly, where it passed unanimously. Subsequently, the first International Yoga Day was celebrated successfully on 21 June 2015, around the world including New York, Paris, Beijing, Bangkok, Kuala Lumpur, Seoul and New Delhi. And has been celebrated around India and

other countries since then.

In Suvidha the celebration included Yoga by our resident yogis as well as other residents who congregated at the Narayana Ranga Mandira and performed Yoga.

PHOTO: RAJESHWARI SUBRAMANYA



NEWS AND EVENTS - SUVIDHA STAFF

May 6, 2025

Our Estate Manager Sreekanta HM, whom TSR had introduced two issues ago, had to leave Suvidha due to personal reasons. He was given a warm farewell at Suvidha Club house, attended by Board members, some residents and

staff members. TSR wishes Sreekanta all the very best in his future ventures.

PHOTO: LAKSHMISHA



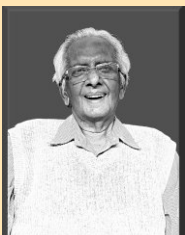
REMEMBRANCE

Ram Mohan Rao

My brother Ram Mohan would have turned 94 this year, had he not slipped in the bathroom 3 years ago. Of his many talents, painting was foremost. His best, I think, was the attached painting, which he did when he was only 16! I am offering this for publication in TSR in Puttu's memory. As the original is only

8x10, and behind glass, the photo unfortunately cannot be any clearer.

Sathish Rao



Mr. Ram Mohan Rao (90) left for his heavenly abode on November 19, 2021. He lived with his family, wife Vidya and daughter Kavita Nina, who have all been residents of Suvidha for over 5 years. He was earlier a Shareholder and later came to live here as a tenant.



Prema Rajendran (1956 - 2025)

May 23, 2025

Prema Rajendran of Cottage 99, was 68 years old. She was born on November 5, 1956 in Pudukkottai, Tamil Nadu. She passed away on May 23, 2025 in Gharoli Patal, Uttarakhand, while on a trekking trip with her husband Rajendran. Prema did not stay full time at Suvidha but when she visited she would smile and wish all those who meet her and those who knew her well remember her for several reasons. Above all her qualities that everyone remembers is her cheerfulness and her ready advice for even the smallest of problems like an ankle pain or more salt in the curry that you made. Prema was dear to all those who knew her and will be missed for a long time to come.

At the



Memorial event at Suvidha on June 6, Prema's grandchildren paid their tribute via a presentation with pictures to their grandmother and there was Open mic for anyone to share their fond memory - whether it is about how you remember her or whether it is a funny incident involving her. This was followed by Lunch.

TSR prays for her Sadgati and her family to have the strength to bear the loss of such a wonderful person as Prema was.



OBITUARY

It is with full hearts that we gather to remember my mother Prema Rajendran, a woman whose warmth, laughter, and boundless affection touched every soul who crossed her path.

For 60 years, she stood side by side with the love of her life, her husband of 51 years — they were not just partners but best friends, companions in every adventure, big or small. Together they built a family filled with love: their children, grandchildren, immediate relatives, friends, and even the families of those friends — no one was too distant to receive her genuine care. She was the quiet, smiling glue that held everyone together, weaving bonds and making sure no one ever felt left out.

She delighted in the simple

joys: savouring ice cream (best with a croissant, as she'd insist — we encourage you to try it in her memory!), admiring life's finer details, and sharing laughter. She had a zest for adventure, too — just this past year, she undertook two high-altitude hikes, each around 14,000 feet.

On her most recent journey, at Roopkund Lake in Uttarakhand, after five days of hiking hand-in-hand with her husband, pausing near Ma Nanda Devi Temple to enjoy a meal and the chocolates he had lovingly packed, Prema peacefully left this world. It was Ekadasi day (23rd May), around 1 PM, and perhaps, as we like to believe, Lord Shiva had other plans — calling a blessed soul home, smiling in the sacred deva bhoomi.

Her kindness stretched far beyond family. Even the flower vendor near her home in Trichy would rush to give her flowers whenever he saw her — so much so that, two days after her passing, he still offered flowers to her daughter, unable to break the habit of love and respect he had for Prema.

She lived fully, travelled widely, loved deeply, and, in the end, ascended with grace — truly attaining divinity.

As we grieve her passing, let us hold close the light of her spirit, cherish the stories she gifted us, and celebrate a life so beautifully and fully lived — a life that will echo forever in the hearts she touched.

Premkumar Rajendran.

Sudha K (1957 - 2025)

July 1, 2025

Shareholder of Cottage 34 and wife of L. Srinivasiah, Sudha K passed away in Bangalore on July 1st 2025. With deep sorrow, the family informed Suvidhaites about her passing. She did not visit Suvidha many times but had quite a few friends here, all of whom mourn her passing. TSR prays for her Sadgati and for her family's wellbeing.

Born on February 19, 1957, Sudha was a post graduate in English literature from



Bangalore university. She was an active agriculturalist and her passions included travelling and reading.

Sudha was an avid yoga practitioner and teacher. Also she volunteered for braille transcription for the blind students and helped them with counselling. She was very active socially with lots of friends and relatives. People will remember her as a very warm, kind and friendly person. She is survived by her husband, children and grandchildren.

Shivanna

June 21, 2025

Shivanna, our electrician, passed away on June 21 suddenly. On Sunday 22/06/2025, at the Open House prayers were said for Shivanna's departed soul and we asked for the Lord to give strength to his wife and son, to face this distressing and sad event in their lives.

Shivanna was a presence in the lives of Suvidhaites as he was electrician cum buggy driver whenever necessary. He started



working in Suvidha in 2012 and had been a loyal worker, happy and willing to work at any time of the day. Shivanna hailed from a village in Kanakapura. He lived not far from Suvidha in Thalaghattapura with his wife Lakshmi and son Jayanth. We pray for the family's well being and for Shivanna's Sadgati.

READERS' RESPONSE

The TSR, as usual, looks very sharp. Thanks for using my painting for the cover - again! The issue as usual is varied, informative, and colourful.

Satish Rao, Cottage 67
Suvidha

WOW ! Awe inspiring as always! Never a dull moment! Way to go dear Latha and team TSR! God Bless you in your endeavours!

Iris Rajiva, Cottage 76
Suvidha



Let me express my gratitude for keeping me on your mailing list so that I can read every issue of TSR on the day it is published.

When I made the request, which you have so kindly published in the letters to the editor, it was more for extending my belonging to the small family I became a member of during my stay at Suvidha.

Anyone can access every issue by merely logging on to Suvidha's website that is public. Receiving it by email makes it special.

Thank you all.

Hari Sundaresh, Ex-resident of Suvidha
Coimbatore

We solicit your contribution to THE SUVIDHA REVIEW

Please share short articles (about 400 words) along with photographs.
You may write about your childhood memoirs, places you visited,
interesting books you have read, short stories, poems, achievements of your children,
creative works of your grand children
or any other interesting event.

Please share your high resolution photographs - original from the camera via email
(not WhatsApp, where the photos will be heavily compressed)

Please write to suvidha.review@gmail.com

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