



Manjari Sankurathri Memorial Foundation

(A Registered Canadian Charity)

Spring Issue

MSMF Newsletter

April 1997

Happy Ugadi

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Happy Spring Season

Season's Greetings.

MSMF is grateful to all of you for the very generous support you provide.

The Andhra Pradesh / Uttar Pradesh Primary Health Care And Training Program.

Manjari Sankurathri Memorial Foundation (MSMF) and Help the Aged (Canada) are the Canadian NGOs. The program is receiving matching grants from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). In India, the project is being implemented by Sankurathri Foundation (SF) in Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh, and Naujhil Integrated Rural Project for Health And Development (NIRPHAD) and Dr. Sheela Sharma Memorial Charitable Trust (DSSMCT) in Mathura, in Uttar Pradesh.

Under primary health care, SF and NIRPHAD are providing eye care and DSSMCT is concentrating on tuberculosis care. During the three years, 135,000 rural poor will be screened for eye ailments and tuberculosis and 18,000 will receive surgery / treatment.

An important component of this program is the training. The project provides for continuing medical education fellowships to graduating doctors from medical colleges in India to work in ophthalmology and tuberculosis programs and grants to high school graduates interested in pursuing nursing profession.

Also, the program gives an opportunity for Canadian volunteers, ophthalmologists and tuberculosis specialists to participate. Travel grants are available for Nurse volunteers. All volunteers receive excellent hospitality from SF, NIRPHAD and DSSMCT.

FUND-RAISER

Mrs. Lata Pada



This year we are extremely fortunate that Mrs. Lata Pada, Founder of Sampradaya Dance Academy, Mississauga, Ontario, has chosen to give a Bharatanatyam dance performance, TRIKONA, Sunday, June 8, at 7 PM, in Centrepointe Theatre in

Nepean, to support the humanitarian work of MSMF and Help The Aged (Canada). The proceeds of this program will go to the Andhra Pradesh / Uttar Pradesh Primary Health Care and Training Program. For more information, please call Sarma Vishnubhatla at (613) 523-5413.

Thanks OECTA

The one thousand dollar donation from Ontario English Catholic Teachers Association (OECTA) is a very generous gift to Sarada Vidyalaya, the primary school operated by Sankurathri Foundation in Kakinada, India. We thank Mr. Pat Jennings, Principal, St. Gregory School, who has taken the initiative to recommend our need to OECTA and Mr. Peter Murphy of OECTA for the donation.

Find us on the Internet.

MSMF's home page URL :

<http://www.cyberus.ca/~msmf/msmf.htm>.

MSMF's e_mail address :

msmf@cyberus.ca.

Thanks to Mrs. Lakshmi Kambhampati.

CIDA Director in Kakinada

Ms. Françoise Mailhot
was welcomed to Sarada Vidyalaya
by one of the students, watched by
Dr. Syamala, Principal and
Dr. Chandra S. Sankurathri.

Ms. Françoise Mailhot, Director, NGO Project Facility, Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), visited Sankurathri Foundation in February. At Sarada Vidyalaya, she met the teachers and students. Principal, Dr. Syamala, showed her children's school work, explained the teachings techniques adopted at the school and the special linkages the school has been developing with schools in Canada, namely, St. Gregory School in Nepean, Ontario and Park Avenue Elementary School in Nanaimo, British Columbia.

Dr. V. K. Raju, Medical Director, gave Ms. Mailhot a guided tour of Srikiran Institute of Ophthalmology; showed her the in-patient and out-patient wards, the operating theatre, and the diagnostic and surgical instrumentation. While examining his post-op patients, Dr. Raju explained Ms. Mailhot the recent advances in cataract surgery.

Dr. Sankurathri described the eye camp procedures to Ms. Mailhot - the screening of patients in the camp, bringing those, who needed cataract surgery, to the Institute, and after surgery and recovery returning them to their homes.

Ms. Mailhot was very pleased with the excellent services the Foundation has been providing to the local rural poor.

Volunteers

Dr. Kjell Dahlen, Ophthalmologist and Surgeon, from Plattsburgh, New York, visited Srikiran Institute of Ophthalmology in January for two weeks.

Dr. V. K. Raju, Ophthalmologist and Surgeon from Morgantown, West Virginia, and **Dr. M. E. Farber**, Vitreous and Retina Specialist, from Fort Wayne, Indiana, were at the Institute for two weeks in February. During their stay, Dr. Raju and Dr. Farber conducted a one day educational seminar for the local ophthalmologists and surgeons. Dr. Raju also visited NIRPHAD's Eye Hospital in Mathura. He met NIRPHAD's Director, Dr. Sundaram, and ophthalmologists and staff.

We need Volunteers**Ophthalmologists, Surgeons, Specialists & Nurses.**

Volunteers (Ophthalmologists, Surgeons and TB Specialists) receive excellent hospitality from SF, NIRPHAD & DSSMCT) during their stay with them. Nurses, in addition to the hospitality, will receive travel grants from Canada to India and back.

Please see our Public Service Announcement in the February 1997 issue of the Bulletin of the Royal College of Physicians And Surgeons of Canada.

APPEAL

MSMF is committed to helping the rural poor by providing them with primary education and primary health care facilities. MSMF is collaborating with the prestigious Canadian organization Help The Aged and charities in India, Sankurathri Foundation (SF) in Kakinada, Naujhil Integrated Rural Project for Health and Development (NIRPHAD) and Dr. Sheela Sharma Memorial Charitable Trust (DSSMCT) in Mathura.

Please help us help the rural poor.

Your donation to MSMF in Canada, EFA in the U.S., and SF in India, qualifies for Tax exemption in that country.

For more information please contact:

MSMF, 23 Mary Drive, Gloucester, ON, K1V 1G9, (613)523-5413.

Thank you.