



# CATHOLIC ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH KANARA

Founded in 1914

(Regn. No. MNG/130/2015-17)

## CATHOLIC ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH KANARA

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**"Mangalore" Edited & Published by Patricia Lobo for  
the Catholic Association of South Kanara**

RNI No - 3699/57; Regn. No. MNG/130/2015-17;

Printed at Assisi Press, Mangalore

Posted at Mangalore RMS on 11-03-2016



## EDITORIAL

We had yet another International Women's Day – 8<sup>th</sup> March. There were as usual plenty of meetings, seminars, workshops predominantly organized and attended by women. The men are still in the periphery instead of being centre-stage! Over the last few decades, women have demolished many male bastions. Only last year, the Indian Armed Forces decided to admit women in to Combat units. There is certainly much advancement and empowerment of women globally and nationally but there are still some walls to be knocked down, prejudices to be demolished and ladders to climb. According to Bina Agarwal, former Director-The Institute of Economic Growth “Indian Women must chart their own path” and indeed we must in many fronts and many directions. CASK organized a programme in honour of International Women's Day for the final year students of St Agnes College. The students discussed five areas concerning women – Leadership, Domestic Violence, Career and Work-place problems, Balance between Home and Work and Atrocities against women.

CASK also organized a very interesting 4-event programme on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2016 at St Agnes College. The report is separately given. All that I wish to state is that CASK is mounting a campaign in Mangalore to create awareness on Organ and Whole Body Donations and lobby for necessary facilities for harvesting, storing and transplanting of various organs and tissues in Mangalore. I urge all our members and well-wishers to support us in this campaign.

20<sup>th</sup> February is observed as the International Day of Social Justice. We have an article titled ‘Crying for Social Justice’ by Fr Cedric Prakash, who has now moved to Beirut-Lebanon to work among the Refugees in the Middle-East and North African Region (MENA). We wish him the best in his new difficult assignment.

As this issue goes to the Press, we have the horrifying news of the killing of 4 nuns belonging to the Missionaries of Charity in Aden - Yemen. We strongly condemn this barbaric act.

The February issue of ‘Mangalore’ was part-sponsored by the family of late Justice Dionysius Noronha in honour of his Birth Centenary. Justice Noronha was the first High Court Judge from our Mangalorean Catholic Community and was certainly one of the outstanding persons of our community in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. He brought much honour and dignity to our community by his honesty and integrity. It was a privilege for CASK to dedicate the February issue of ‘Mangalore’ to Justice Noronha.

I had the privilege of conducting a Women’s Day Programme for the parishioners of Milagres Church on March 7, 2016. There were about 165 women ranging in age from 9 to 89 years, all of whom participated in group discussions related to women’s issues. There were also a few men in the audience. We will publish the details in the next issue.

In the February 2016 issue of ‘Mangalore’ we had a write-up on what US President Barack Obama carries in his pocket. I now know what Pope Francis carries in his pocket. **At a recent private interview he said “I always carry two things – a rosary to pray and something which seems odd. He showed the audience a small way of the cross that fits into his pocket and explained “This item shows the History of God’s Failure....as Jesus suffered when they condemned Him to death until He was buried. These two things help me to do the best I can. And thanks to these two things, I never lose HOPE”**

Friends, the way of the Cross has always been very special to me and I believe it is a powerful way of contemplating, as this imaginary exercise stirs the emotions. **A wonderful way of entering into the mystery of a gift of HIM to us.**

CASK wishes all our readers and well-wishers a meaningful and hope-filled Easter!

**Until next time.....Patsy Lobo**

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## **THE PRESIDENT SPEAKS**



### **THE COURAGE TO BUILD BRIDGES AND NOT WALLS - POPE FRANCIS**

The Holy Father Pope Francis practices what he preaches. We have to ponder over the events that took place between February 12 to 17, 2016 in Havana-Cuba and Mexico. ‘We are Brothers’ was how he greeted Russian Orthodox Patriarch Kirill, the first ever meeting in thousand years between a Pope and a Patriarch of Moscow and he attributed the private meeting as the ‘clear will of God’. Perhaps our world will witness better days in the Middle East, North Africa and Ukraine in the days to come. During the return journey to Rome the Pope’s spontaneous statement of “Building Bridges is better than building boundary walls” has a message for us during this Lenten and Easter Season.

On the home front, we have had the Jat Reservation agitation which rocked the Haryana State and Nation for over ten days with 30 precious lives lost. The cry for social justice and the intolerance phenomena continues with the tragedy of Rohith Vemula a Ph.D student of Central University in Hyderabad who was desperately fighting against discrimination and harassment.

JNSU leader Kanhaiya Kumar arrested on charges of sedition and now on bail is the hot topic of discussion. 20<sup>th</sup> February was the World Day of Social Justice. We cannot forget intellectuals and rationalists like Kalburgi, Pansare and Dabholkar who were assassinated because they dared the fascists and the fundamentalists of the country. People power (young and old) from all walks of life is important to build the social and secular bridge of our society. We have experienced many ideologies that have evolved over time. Their flavour and fragrance remain for a while - like a flower withers and decays. Irrespective of whatever ideology one may have, may I advocate and exhort: ‘Blessed are the Merciful, for they will receive Mercy’.

With all enthusiasm we awaited the budget, the examination day of the present Government. It was a mixture of good and bad medicinal pills. The bitter pill to swallow was the tax on Employees Provident Fund withdrawal. Here I would like to emphasize that people’s power and immediate reaction prevailed to make the Government rethink its decision and offer to withdraw the proposed tax. Hence this power is

within us. Perhaps we too can take part in social, print and electronic media to express our opinion when there is debatable or arbitrary matter in the community, society, the State or Nation. It is only 'Truth' which will set us free. The drought condition and farmer issues have at last been taken note of and I hope and pray that more lives will not be lost this summer from the agriculture sector. Only time will tell if the Budget builds bridges and not walls.

We celebrated International Women's Day on 8<sup>th</sup> March. Was it just another day of awareness talks and programmes? When will we see our legislatures with 33% reservation for women? The entry of women in places of worship, which had gathered momentum in the recent past, appears to have lost steam. Will the Catholic Church have women priests and bishops like the Anglican Church? This issue was addressed very well by Dr Derek Lobo, our former President, at the DCCW Seminar on 7<sup>th</sup> Feb. under 'Gender equality and sensitivity'. After all, let us remember that the 'Hand that rocks the cradle rules the world'. Or, should rule? The hand of a 'Mother' cannot be forgotten and is a powerful one. 'Maa Ki Bath' is the new phrase coined by JNSU President Kanhaiya Kumar. Let us, therefore, listen to the 'AZADI' call of 'Mother India' from the youth.

CASK activities have been covered well in this issue of *Mangalore*. We had a multi-event programme on March 5. This programme was efficiently managed, once again, by our Vice President Ms Nayana Fernandes and her team of office bearers and volunteers. Thank you Nayana.

On 5<sup>th</sup> March, I informed the members, about the CASK Centenary Trust activities which have progressed and picking up. To keep the momentum of our charitable projects like Drinking Water in Rural Schools, Teachers' Salaries, Personality Development Programmes, Footwear for School Children, Scholarships, etc, we look forward to receiving your generous benevolence. Easter is a good time to start! The academic year starts in June and we at CASK are gearing up for the challenge.

CASK condemns the Church attack during the worship service in Raipur, Chathisgarh on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2016. Let us have the courage to build bridges of peace, love and harmony and not dividing walls during the remaining part of the Lenten Season and beyond.

I wish you and your families a meaningful Holy Week and Joyous Easter. All the best to CASK members' children for their Public Examinations. Jai Hind.

*Capt. John Prasad Menezes*

## BELIEVE(13)

### *Dreamcatcher*

One day not too long ago the employees of a large company returned from their lunch break and were greeted with a sign on the front door. The sign said: “Yesterday the person who has been hindering your growth in this company passed away. We invite you to join the funeral in the room that has been prepared in the gym.”

At first everyone was sad to hear that one of their colleagues had died, but after a while they started getting curious about who this person might be.

The excitement grew as the employees arrived at the gym to pay their last respects. Everyone wondered: “Who is this person who was hindering my progress? Well, at least he’s no longer here!”

One by one the employees got closer to the coffin and when they looked inside it they suddenly became speechless. They stood over the coffin, shocked and in silence, as if someone had touched the deepest part of their soul.

There was a mirror inside the coffin and everyone who looked inside it could see himself. There was also a conspicuous sign next to the mirror that said: “There is only one person who is capable to set limits to your growth: it is YOU”. The message hit home for everybody.

The fact of life is that you are the only person who can revolutionize your life. You are the only person who can influence your happiness, your realization and your success. You are the only person who can help yourself.

Your life does not change when your boss changes, when your friends change, when your parents change, when your partner changes, when your company changes. Your life changes when YOU change, when you go beyond your limiting beliefs, when you realize that you are the only one responsible for your fate and life’s outcome. You create your destiny.

In today’s world we try to blame everything around us when things go wrong. We always assume we are never at fault. In a world of free handouts, expectations are high for newer and bigger entitlements. Governments and political leaders oblige their constituents by being

complicit. This is a myopic outlook, as we are creating a society with absolute deficiency of initiative, ethic of hard work and the hunger to get ahead. It is our duty and responsibility to create and nurture an environment where merit and hard work are corollaries. We need to enhance and augment the fruits of self accountability and virtues of earning your success. We have to inculcate a Can Do spirit. History abounds with tales of experts who were convinced that the ideas, plans, and projects of others could never be achieved. However, accomplishment came to those who believed they could and did it.

The Italian sculptor Agostino d'Antonio worked diligently on a large piece of marble. Unable to produce his desired masterpiece, he lamented, "I can do nothing with it." Other sculptors also worked this difficult piece of marble, but to no avail. Michelangelo discovered the stone and visualized the possibilities in it. His belief in himself resulted in one of the world's masterpieces - David.

The experts of Spain concluded that Columbus's plans to discover a new and shorter route to India was virtually impossible. Queen Isabella and King Ferdinand ignored the report of the experts. Columbus persisted and believed in himself. Everyone knew the world was flat, but not Columbus. Columbus and his small band of followers, sailed to the "impossible" new lands and thriving resources.

Even the great Thomas Alva Edison discouraged his friend, Henry Ford, from pursuing his fledgling idea of a motorcar. Convinced of the worthlessness of the idea, Edison invited Ford to come and work for him. Ford remained committed and tirelessly pursued his dream. Although his first attempt resulted in a vehicle without reverse gear, Henry Ford knew he could make it happen. And, of course, he did.

Let's not forget Orville and Wilbur Wright. Journalists, friends, armed forces specialists, and even their congressman laughed at the idea of a man flying. "What a silly and insane way to spend money. Leave flying to the birds," they jeered. "Sorry," the Wright brothers responded. "We have a dream, and we can make it happen." Today we have Boeing and Airbus.

***Success in no accident! It is hard work perseverance, learning, studying, sacrifice and most of all love for what you are doing - Pele***

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## A STRONG WOMAN

*Patsy Lobo*

“You Laugh, you cry, you lose, you succeed, you retreat, you come back and you start again with gratitude of what is to come”... that is a STRONG WOMAN! Cheers to all the strong women of today... 2016

One of the greatest powers on Earth is ‘Women’ Power but this power is subdued and suppressed in many cultures and societies and this applies also to India. However, over the last few decades women have progressed and advanced in various fields but there is need to further mobilize this power and empower women. My wish for all women on this International Women’s Day 2016 is that each of us evolve into mature, balanced, enlightened humane people with a sense of social responsibility and public good, including towards empowerment and advancement of women. I wish to emphasize that this wish is also directed at MEN.

The International Women’s Day is being celebrated on 8<sup>th</sup> March for over 100 years i.e. since 1913. The objectives of International Women’s Day are (a) To express Women’s solidarity and work towards women’s advancement and equality in all walks of life; (b) To ensure that the future for girls is bright, safe, secure, equitable and rewarding; The question we should ask – Have we achieved those objectives?

Yes, there has been substantial progress and many positive strides but in general, globally, including in India – women continue to be victims of abuse, exploitation, violence, harassment and various atrocities, they continue to face discrimination and injustices, are disadvantaged in terms of Education, Health and Job opportunities and are generally deprived the rights of choices or decision-making.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights adopted by most countries of the world including India states as follows “*Everybody is entitled to the rights and freedom set forth in its declaration, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status*”. It is one thing to adopt the Declaration



but when it comes to implementation, our country falls short in many ways. To give you just one example – 50 million girls are missing from India’s population. It is estimated that 2,000 baby girls are aborted daily in our country. You or I could have been one of those-we are lucky that we lived and hence we owe a debt to those who sacrificed their life.

We cannot be just celebrating International Women’s Day every year through tokenism or symbolic gestures. We need to take concrete action. Such action is needed on several fronts: Stopping female genocide; Stopping domestic violence; Stopping girls from dropping out of schools/colleges;

Stopping Child labour; creating awareness on Value of the Girl Child & Gender Sensitivity; Conducting Personality Development Programmes; International Women’s Day is to express women’s solidarity and to promote women’s advancement, empowerment and gender equality. This cannot be achieved without the active support, cooperation, involvement and change of attitude by MEN.

CASK is organising a Symposium at St. Agnes College for the final years on 8<sup>th</sup> March as part of their Women’s Day Programme. The following topics will be discussed in detail: Women and Leadership; Women as Home Makers; Women as Professionals; Women and Discrimination; Women and Violence. The outcome of this Symposium will be published in the next issue.

On our part, the key word is EMPATHY. According to Daniel Goleman there are 5 key Elements of Empathy: (1) Understanding Others; (2) Developing Others; (3) Having a Service Orientation; (4) Leveraging Diversity; (4) Political Awareness.

When we show deep empathy towards others, their defensive energy goes down, and positive energy replaces it. That’s when we can get more creative solving problems.

We either make ourselves Miserable or we make ourselves Strong. The Amount of time spent is the same.

**BE STRONG \*\* STAY BEAUTIFUL \*\* BE YOU**

## ***An interview with a Woman of Strength - Zena Maria Colaco***

**BELIEVE IN YOURSELF . . . . A POSITIVE ATTITUDE IS THE ANSWER TO EVERYTHING.**

*“ I’m the only one in my family who is deaf, and there are still conversations that go around me that I miss out on. And I ask what’s going on, and I have to be included. But I’m not going to be sad about it. I don’t live in sad isolation. It’s just a situation I’m used to ” - Marlee Matlin*

I start with this quotation of Marlee Maltin because it reminds me of a young smart pretty lady I had the pleasure of interviewing at Anvita Apartments, Kankanady in Mangalore. As we rang the doorbell, I had reservations as to whether the young lady would welcome my presence. However, I was more than overwhelmed and touched by her warm and friendly countenance and that of her Mother-Brincy Colaco who made me feel at home almost at once.



Zena Maria Colaco was filled with self confidence, was self assured, happy and had a beautiful assuring smile. She convinced me instantly that she is a Strong Woman and sure enough she is. In spite of the many obstacles and hardships she had to overcome, she is what she is today . . . a capable lady, a fighter and an achiever.

Born on the 28<sup>th</sup> March 1982, Zena lost her hearing when she was 6 weeks old, probably due to a drug given to her after some minor surgery. She was taught at home till it was time to go to school but when she did attempt to go to school her parents were in for a rude shock. The Principal rudely answered “I have no place for normal children, what will I do with this one”. This is proof that our schools are just not geared or equipped to accept differently-abled children. She was then accepted in a special school but the family soon realised that this was no place for her. Brincy, an adventurous and dedicated mother and Stany a dotting father took the law into their hands and enrolled Zena in IGNOUS University. With home schooling, she completed her Pre University and walked into the portals of Mangalore University to study Fashion Techonology.

From then onwards there was no turning back. A born artist, she continued with a course in Animation at Kala Vision. Zena has had two exhibitions at Chitra Kala Bangalore and called it “The Sound of Silence” 1 & 2. She loves animals and most of her paintings are depicting animals and birds and the National Animal of course. She proudly showed me the paintings that adorned the wall which spelt out the words “Lift Yourself by Yourself”. The greatness is not only in the painting but in the painter’s signature too. A good cook Zena believes in spoiling her two brothers Aaron and Brandon with goodies like brownies. I asked Zena what made her so enthusiastic and excited about life? She proudly answered in sign language. “I am happy when I can work on new ideas; I never say I cannot do anything. I find a way to be useful in everything and with everybody” and saying this she ran in to bring a plate full of hot brownies that she had baked for tea.

What can I say about Brincy her mother? A Woman of Substance. Like all Mother- Daughter relationships there are arguments but Brincy has never given up. She hopes that one day she and Stany will be able to walk their pretty Zena down the aisle. They treasure every moment with their daughter and are very proud of her achievements.

As we left this cosy Apartment and walked downstairs, Pat Mathias and I were reminded of a saying from Avyakta. “Man / Woman alone can watch his/her own emotions, and choose his/her expressions and suppressions. Man/Woman alone can be self conscious. As a result lift himself/ herself by himself/herself. Such powerful inner resource is so dormant in Zena Maria Colaco my role Model for 8<sup>th</sup> March – International Women’s day 2016. She was just excited to be alive !!!!!

MIRROR MIRROR ON THE WALL WHO IS BETTER THAN US ALL ?

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## **A WARM WELCOME TO THE NEW LIFE MEMBERS**

1. Dr. Allan Fernandes, Stokenchurch, UK
2. Mr. Claude Francis Pereira, Ontario, Canada
3. Mrs. Henrietta Ida D’sa, Nanthoor, Mangalore
4. Mr. Christopher Cajitan Marian D’Souza, Mangalore

## CRYING FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

*By Fr. Cedric Prakash sj\**



The cry for social justice has today become very loud, clear and shrill! It is a cry that no longer seems to be the prerogative of only the poor and the marginalized as several from across the social strata want their voices to be heard; these include students from prestigious universities in India and abroad, academia and intellectuals, litterateurs and poets,

film-makers, playwrights and other celebrities – the list is endless. The cry, the refrain is the same everywhere, “We want Justice!”; one is reminded of the uprising of workers led by trade union leaders of yester years. This time however, whilst the script remains the same- the ‘dramatis personae’ has changed. Those who cry out are not just crying out for themselves – they are crying out for the rights of others, for the sanctity enshrined in the Constitution, for democracy, for the children of tomorrow!

So February 20<sup>th</sup> 2016, the ‘World Day of Social Justice’, comes to all of us as a grim reminder that India and the world at large is desperately in need of social justice. True, on this day, there will be the usual ceremonies and tokenism; the rhetoric from the politicians and the governing class who will repeat empty platitudes. Many of them will be totally unaware that UN mandate for this day states that “*Social justice is an underlying principle for peaceful and prosperous coexistence within and among nations. We uphold the principles of social justice when we promote gender equality or the rights of indigenous peoples and migrants. We advance social justice when we remove barriers that people face because of gender, age, race, ethnicity, religion, culture or disability. For the United Nations, the pursuit of social justice for all is at the core of our global mission to promote development and human dignity.*”

So how does one address the tragedy of Rohith Vemula, a PhD student of Central University in Hyderabad- who was desperately fighting against discrimination and harassment? Or for that matter the current imbroglio that has gripped the prestigious Jawaharlal Nehru University in Delhi – all because some students wanted to question the systemic ills in society –particularly the way the minorities are targeted? JNU student Union leader Kanhaiya Kumar and some other students are today in jail on charges of ‘sedition’ without clear evidence (as of now). Their arrest is a clear signal that freedom of speech and expression will gradually become history in India! Since the last few months – several eminent citizens have returned their well-deserved awards to the Government because of what they have termed as ‘rising intolerance’. No one will forget that intellectuals and rationalists like Kalburgi, Pansare and Dabholkar were assassinated because they held views contrary to some fundamentalists of the country.

It is nearly 14 years since the Gujarat Genocide of 2002. The victim-survivors still cry for justice. Many of them today are internally displaced persons –living in sub-human conditions. Whilst there have been some convictions, the big culprits are out on bail – and the biggest ones seem to have become invincible as they cloak themselves with a degree of immunity. On the other hand, human rights defenders like Teesta Setalvad and Javed Anand have to face constant harassment and intimidation from the powerful – just because they had the courage to take on cudgels on behalf of the victims.

One should not forget that the current Prime Minister of India, when he was the Chief Minister of Gujarat piloted and got promulgated for Gujarat, one of the most draconian laws in the history of India titled “Freedom of Religion Act 2003”. The act denies a citizen the freedom to embrace a religion of one’s choice without first seeking the permission of the District Magistrate. This is in clear contravention of Article 25 of the Constitution of India and Article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

Across the globe, the refugee crisis has reached magnitudinal proportions, as millions of people are hounded out of their homes and lands; are bombed, raped and butchered. They just flee in desperation

and most often with nowhere to go.

So the Day of Social Justice needs to be a reminder that all us have a role to play in making our world a more just and humane for all: particularly for those who are poor and marginalized; the dalits and tribals; the minorities and the excluded; the refugees and other displaced persons; for those who are denied their legitimate rights and freedoms. We need to be vocal and visible in taking a stand against all those who are bent on denying others the cherished and eternal values of justice, liberty, equality and fraternity. We should take a cue from the UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon who emphatically states “*with exclusion and inequality on the rise, we must step up efforts to ensure that all people, without discrimination, are able to access opportunities to improve their lives and those of others.*”

Social justice is wide raging – but it is essentially, what Pope Francis reminded us a couple of days ago at the end of his visit to Mexico- ‘the courage to build bridges and not walls’

*Fr. Cedric Prakash sj is a human rights activist, now based in Beirut-Lebanon as the Advocacy and Communications Officer of the ‘Jesuit Refugee Service’ in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Region*

## **Pope Francis In Mexico “The Church Does Not Need Darkness To Carry Out Its Work”**

In a 40-minute address to the Bishops of Mexico during his recent visit to that country, Pope Francis had this advice to the prelates “**Be bishops who have a pure vision, a transparent soul, and a joyful face. Do not fear transparency. The Church does not need darkness to carry out her work.**”

He further added “Be vigilant so that your vision will not be darkened by the gloomy mist of worldliness. Do not allow yourselves to be corrupted by trivial materialism or by the seductive illusion of underhanded agreements”.

The pontiff also offered a comprehensive vision for the future of Mexico. Plotting a path away from drug violence and political corruption that has adversely affected the people of Mexico, the Pope exhorted the bishops to help build a society of solidarity and integration of cultures.

## WOMANHOOD...MOTHERHOOD...SAINTHOOD?

*Veronica Shearer, Morpeth-UK*

The UN has declared 8th March as International Women's Day and this year the theme is **gender parity**. "The story of women's struggle for equality belongs to no single feminist nor to any one organization but to the collective efforts of all who care about human rights," says feminist, journalist and activist Gloria Steinem. International Women's Day is all about celebration, reflection, advocacy, and action. International Women's Day has been occurring for over a century - and is growing annually from strength to strength.

Nowhere is **gender parity** clearer than in the West when a baby is born. The mother gets maternity leave and the father has to take paternity leave too. I first witnessed this strange phenomenon when my son accompanied his wife on every antenatal visit throughout her pregnancy. He learnt how to puff and blow through contractions, how to change a nappy and how to help his wife to feed their baby. But I'm afraid that's where gender parity ends. When it comes to it, a woman is on her own. She works just as hard as her male counterpart but gets less salary. She has just as much business acumen as a man and as much education but somehow never cuts the mustard at a job interview. I could go on and on and you may think I'm a feminist, and I certainly am not, but it is quite clear that the odds are stacked against women. In my own family, I am accused of favouring my son over my daughters and am shocked at this rash judgement but soon see myself doing just that. Why do we women do it to ourselves? This year we must make a concerted effort to stand up for our sisters all over the world, not just in words but in actions too. My male readers may do their part by taking a long, hard look at society and themselves and see if I tell a lie.

On a lighter note, spring is in the air! There's new life all around with lambs, piglets and calves in neighbouring farms and in my family we have two new babies too! New life is always exciting and soon we have another chance to turn away from our old lives and start anew in the glorious Resurrection of our Lord...Easter!

'Call the Midwife' is a popular TV series in the UK. Little did I know that in September 2015, I would be flying across the Atlantic to

do two stints in being part midwife, part baby and mother carer and part *Baintyposthali*. Motherhood is the most precious of all states... the unconditional love, the total surrender, the complete trust, the miracle of new life, can beat no other. Nine months of eager anticipation, stories swapped with family and friends, endless baby manuals digested, baby yoga classes attended, the list goes on and on. But when you see the innocent bundle in your arms, all else is forgotten. This is the crowning glory and an experience like no other. The so-called “innocent bundle” will rule your life from now on. What you learnt in the last nine months has to be unlearned. Experience will now be your best teacher.

Women long to be mothers. Once they’re mothers, they long to become grandmothers. And so it goes. As a grandmother you’re in Limbo...neither here nor there. Your daughter wants you but also doesn’t want you to interfere. Your presence just has to be one of moral support. Mouth shut. Arms open. Shoulder to lean on but nothing more. Quite a difficult task when you see that childcare according to Google seems to take precedence over years of experience. Modern medicine seems to have taken the joy out of giving birth. For a country mouse like me, it was a whole new ball game. I watched these new-fangled birthing plans in horror. The mother-to-be has to consider the following – Do I want a water birth? Do I want my child to be circumcised? Do I want an epidural if the pains are too much to bear? Who is to be my birth companion? How much monitoring do I want and what interventions... Vacuum, forceps, episiotomy or a Caesarean? What delivery position do I prefer? Do I want to breast feed etc etc etc Skin to skin routines were something new again. Daddy must be bare chested and sleep with the new born on his chest so that he bonds with his baby. Did dads not bond with their children in my time?

But wait. The best is yet to come. The baby is not to be bathed for two weeks because the skin may dry out. The baby must not be given water to drink till it is several months old. The baby must learn to sleep in its own bed and preferably in its own room. A routine has to be set in motion once you’re home. This routine must be stuck to on pain of death. The training schedule includes feeding, play time, sleep time. No snacking or cuddling permitted or else it will be spoilt and mother won’t



be able to go back to work. A baby's life is certainly no fun. A grandmother's life is even less fun. No spoiling. No cuddling. No giving in. Restraining a grandmother from showering her grandchild with love is heart-breaking. But restraint is the name of the game!

I'm glad to say that after a week of routine and timetables, it was clear who was boss. Not mummy or daddy and certainly not granny, but little baby himself. He set the parameters and his parents jumped to his tune. Schedules were forgotten and separate beds were impossible. Baby ruled the roost. He got cuddles from Grandma whenever he demanded and he refused to be fed if he wasn't hungry. If he was hungry, he brought the roof down with his yells and soon he got what he wanted. He preferred grandma's singing to Bach's lullaby, which had been duly recorded on the Ipod. So, much to her delight, Granny improved her repertoire and practised new songs every day. In short everything was turned on its head and it was life and living according to baby rather than scheduling according to Google. What a steep learning curve for new parents! A steeper one for the grandmother...

I was ready with chicken soup and oil for massages, herbal drinks and special postpartum recipes, do's and don'ts in dietary food, forty days of house arrest and so on but there was none of it. Mother and baby went everywhere and did their own thing! It has been heartening to see both my daughters so relaxed and at ease, in spite of being new mothers. They spent their entire pregnancy learning how to look after a new born when in the first week of delivering the baby, all the training was thrown to the winds and they knuckled down to doing what was convenient for them and the baby. This made for happy mums and happy babies and even happier grandparents!

In some countries International Womens Day has the same status as Mothers Day where children honour their mothers and husbands honour their wives. In UK, we celebrate Mothers Day on the 6<sup>th</sup> March and it is referred to as Mothering Sunday. So, with Mother's Day round the corner, I take my hat off to new mums all over the world. They have gone through the mill, gone to hell and back and as a result have made perfect mothers. The hand that rocks the cradle certainly does rule the world.

# EULOGY TO MRS. TRESSY FRANK w/o. Late S.C. Frank, Kankanady, Mangalore.

- *Delivered by her nephew Dr. Anand Titus Periera*

Tressy Frank came as a gift from the Lord to the family of John and Elizabeth Pereira on 5th March 1930 and returned to her Lord and Maker on 22nd Feb, 2016.



*Dear Joan, Edmund, Ivan, Bernie, Loy, Anita, Neil, Shane, Amanda , Amica and members of the grieving family.....*

Your beloved mum Tressy was a very unique person. with qualities of head and heart and was responsible in building the brand name “FRANKS” which stands for Truth, Honesty , and Integrity. In simple words, she was the rarest of rare persons who not only profoundly shaped the life of her family. but impacted a entire generation by her wisdom and genuine love and affection. *I would like to emphasize that she was a person who forgot herself in the service of others. All her life her priority was the welfare of others .She was indeed like the salt of the earth. Her goodness was unparalleled and she stood tall always reaching out to others.*

*Mother, Tressy Bai, Aunty, Grandma, Mai..*All these words convey so much of her to so many people. She was a legend in her lifetime, An Icon of the Frank Family and most of all Aunty Tressy was a friend, a philosopher, and a counselor to so many around her. We hail her because she was not only a mother to her children but also to the children of Late J.F. B Frank, after the demise of Aunty Dotty and also the children of late Joe and Cyril Pereira. And what an exemplary mother she was!! She loved us all with equal passion and devotion that encompassed her life. Yes, she selflessly nurtured two dozen children under her protective wings.

Today, we are actually celebrating the legendary life of our dearest Aunty Tressy. She died at the ripe age of 86 and she has touched 4 generations with her never say, die attitude, and her unmatched generosity. Until the end she was a vital force, inquisitive and always willing to take risks. She lived her life with utmost zest and zeal.

A woman of substance, royally cultured, with uncommon intelligence she placed herself at the service of her family with total dedication throughout her life. She was an exemplary mother, sensitive to the needs of each and every member of the family. She extended her unconditional love to her children, family and friends.

The “FRANK HOME” was an open house to all her relations from far and near. Her hospitality knew no bounds and never once had she sent anyone empty handed. People from all walks of life came to Aunty and not once did she ask herself, what she would get out of them but rather gave generously. The way she took care of her domestic help is legendary. She treated them with utmost dignity and respect. Harmony, cheerfulness, compassion were words which we read in text books when we were small, but growing up in the Frank family these were an integral part and more than a reality.

Aunty Tressy enjoyed a special bond with the Religious and Clergy. She was a patient listener and easily empathized with people. No matter what the problem, she always had a solution because she became part of the solution. Auntie’s philanthropic activities have left a deep impression on us all. Every week, be it at the “College gardens” or “Siltress” she used to earmark a small budget for charity and the underprivileged. She also provided free boarding and lodging for nursing students and others, while Uncle Sylvester taught deserving students English grammar at their home.

Today each and every son and daughter of Aunty are proud owners of luxury flats and this was because of the vision and dynamism of Aunty Tressy. I vividly recall her visits to the children’s ward of Wenlock hospital with toys, and sweets. She used to place her comforting hands on sick children and made them feel loved and healed. To me she was a living saint and was one of those rare ladies who not only believed in

prayer but also combined the strength of her prayerful hands to help the needy and underprivileged. Her great strengths were mainly her high moral standards and individual self discipline which endeared her to all who knew her. She faced the ups and downs of life without ever complaining. She was very forgiving and had a flexible disposition.

The builder of “Vishwas Crown”, Mr. Rolf, presented her, with a life size statue of Mother Mary and used to call her Mother Theresa. Contentment and generosity were the cornerstones of her life and I am proud to state that her children have inherited her noble spirit and her goodness runs deep in the Frank blood. She enjoyed a very special bond with her four grandchildren Neil, Shane, Amanda and Amica.

In her daily prayers, her one constant plea was to be spared a lingering death and sure enough God answered and called her home after a brief illness. All her family members were with her till the very end. However, I would like to mention Loy her younger son and Yashoda who were with her day and night attending to all her needs.

Yes, dear Joan, Edmund, Ivan, Bernie, Loy and Anita, there can't be another like your mother, who was loved by one and all. On behalf of all of us present and many who could not be here, I hope the following beautiful words will console you.

When grief comes to those we know, we know not what to say,  
Words are so inadequate and our feelings enfeebled to convey,  
For only God can speak the words that mend a sorrowful heart.  
Only God can give that peace that makes the mind resign,  
And only God can provide the balm that calms the troubled self.

All that we can do is pray, that you will be given the courage and strength that you need in this hour of grief. Today, your dearest Mother is in heaven with her near and dear ones. Just as I have said so many goodbyes to so many loved ones before, today I say a farewell to my wonderful aunty whom I have loved and lost, but will continue to love and fondly remember. *May her soul rest in peace.*

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## **GIRLFRIENDS- YOU ARE ONE OF THEM**

*Forwarded by Dr Geeta Pereira*

A young wife sat on a sofa on a hot humid day drinking iced tea with her mother. As they talked about life, about marriage, about the responsibilities of life and the obligations of adulthood. The mother clinked the ice cubes in her glass thoughtfully and turned a clear sober glance upon her daughter.

"Do not forget your sisters" she advised swirling the tea leaves to the bottom of her glass. They will be more significant as you get older.

"No matter how much you love your husband, no matter how much you love the Children you may have, you are still going to need sisters"

"Remember to go places with them now and then; do things with them. "Remember that 'sisters' means all the women, your girlfriends, your daughters and all your other women relatives..

"What a funny piece of advice" the young women thought.

Haven't i just gotten married? Haven't I just joined the couple world? I am now a married woman, for goodness sake! **A Grown Up!**

But she listened to her mother

As years tumbled by one after another, she gradually came to understand that her mother really knew what she was talking about.

After more than 50 years of living in this world here is what I've learned

**This Says It All.....**

Jobs come and go, Hearts break, Parents die, Love waxes and wanes.... But.... Sisters are there, no matter how much time and how many miles are between you.

The women in your life will be on the valleys rim, cheering you on, praying for you and waiting with open arms at the valleys end.

Girlfriends, Daughters, Grand daughters, Daughters- in- law, Sisters- in- law, Mothers, Grandmothers, Aunties, Neices and Cousins and extended family all bless our life.

*Everyday We Need Each Other Still.*

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## CASK 4-EVENT PROGRAMME ON MARCH 5, 2016 CELEBRATION OF LIFE, LANGUAGE AND A LEGEND

The members, friends and well-wishers of the Catholic Association of South Kanara(CASK) were witness to an unique 4-event programme on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2016 at St Agnes College.

The programme started with a soul-stirring skit by NSS students of St Agnes College on the theme of organ donation. This was followed



by an invocation by a group of St Agnes students. Nayana Fernandes, Vice President, CASK, welcomed the speakers and the guests. CASK President-Capt. John Prasad Menezes in his introductory address,

gave a brief account of the CASK charitable activities through the CASK Centenary Trust such as – provision of anti-snake venom to snake-bite victims at Fr L.M.Pinto Health Centre - Badyar, support for salaries of teachers at St Rahael Higher Primary School at Badyar and support for “Asha Deepa” a Home for Physically and Mentally Challenged



children at Chikmagalur. This is in addition to other activities like 100 Scholarships annually, Provision of Safe Drinking Water to schools and provision of footwear to barefoot school children. He urged members to support CASK in scaling up these impactful activities.

**EVENT-1 :** Launch of the English-Konkani Dictionary compiled by Isidore Dantas and Late Joel D’Souza and Going Digital in Konkani with Wikipedia.

The English-Konkani dictionary compiled by Pune based Goan author Isidore Dantas and Late Joel D’Souza, was released by CASK Treasurer-Walter D’Sa, flanked by CASK President-Capt J.P.Menezes and other Office-bearers.

CASK duly honoured Mr Dantas for his enormous contributions to the konkani language. Mr Dantas cherishes the dream to see his ‘maibas’ – konkani flourish on all fronts and accorded its due place among Indian languages. The English-Konkani dictionary contains 21,670 words and is bound to be a handy tool to all konkani speaking people. Mr Rahim, Program Officer, Centre for Internet Society-Bangalore spoke about Wikipedia and lamented that konkani occupies the least space in Wikipedia among Indian languages. He urged konkani authors to contribute articles on Wikipedia irrespective of the script they use.



Ms Lydia D’Cunha, Member-CASK Governing Council conducted a Quiz based on konkani words in the just launched dictionary. Mrs Margaret Saldanha and Mr Geraldine

D’Souza jointly won the Quiz prize.

**EVENT-2 –** Talk on ‘**Organ Donation – A Noble Act**’ by Dr Derek Lobo, Retired Regional Adviser, World Health Organisation, South East Asia; Presently Visiting Faculty, Department of Public Health, Manipal University.

**EVENT-3 –** Talk on ‘**Insights into Advanced Life Support**’ by Dr Christopher Pais-Professor of Medicine, Kasturba Medical College-Mangalore.

## ***Report by John B. Monteiro***

“O death, where is thy sting (Cor. 15:55-57)

This is the most often used theme from the Bible at funerals where priests in their homilies and lay funeral orators in their eulogies to console the mourners with the promise of after-life. For them death is not the end but the beginning of eternal life.

In contrast two medical doctors, both academic teachers, offered a different version of after-life, extended here on earth itself - shedding soothing light on an otherwise morbid subject of eve of death and after death, through excellent Power Point Presentations.

Dr. Derek Lobo, spoke on “Organ Donation – A Noble Act” – and said that on an average about 22,500 people die every day in India and almost all of them are buried or burnt along with several healthy organs and tissues. If these organs and tissues can be harvested and transplanted, thousands of lives can be saved and thousands provided quality of life. The organs that be donated and harvested are – heart, lungs, kidneys, liver, pancreas, and the tissues that can be donated and harvested are corneas, skin, heart valves, bone marrow, tendons, middle ears. The Organ Donation Rate in India is a low-0.34 per million population whereas many countries in Europe and USA have rates in the range of 20-25 per million population.

He pointed out that the organ harvesting and transplanting hospitals are concentrated in Bangalore and Mangalore is yet to catch up. He said CASK has been in consultation with Fr Muller Medical College to set up a Skin Bank and start cadaver harvesting of organs starting with kidneys. He also touched upon whole body donation for Medical Education and Research, a campaign kick-started by CASK during its Centenary year : 2014-2015. Dr. Lobo said that the forms required for pledging Eyes (cornea) and for whole body donation are available at the CASK office. He exhorted the audience to take the organ donation route – as he himself has done.

Dr Chrispher C Pais, gave insights into “Advanced Life Support”. He explained that organ harvesting involves both deceased and brain dead persons. He also explained the elaborate legal provisions involved



in declaring a person as 'brain dead' and the moral and ethical issues involved in withdrawing life support systems. Dr Pais also explained issues related to passive and active euthanasia with case studies. He pointed out that 'Passive' Euthanasia is now legally allowed in India.

**EVENT-4** : Felicitation and Honouring of Ms Vimala Lobo, for her outstanding and unparalleled contribution to Music and Performing Arts in Mangalore.

### *Report by Nayana Fernandes*

The climax of the programme was the 'Recognition and Honouring' of Ms Vimala Lobo, a legend in the area of music and performing arts in Mangalore. Mrs Margaret Saldanha in her felicitation pointed out that the contributions made by Vimala to music are unparalleled with over 1000 children being trained in music and communication by her. She has also trained children under the banner of Trinity College-London. Grateful acolytes, were also paid to Vimala by two of her students – Jacqueline Fernandes and Ethan Pinto. Ms Lovie Rebello read the citation encompassing the various contributions and achievements of Vimala Lobo. CASK President Capt John Prasad and Vice-President-RC Rodrigues then formally handed-over the citation and a bonsai plant to Vimala.

### **Citation-written by Ms. Giselle Mehta:**



Mrs Vimala Lobo is a "one-woman-institution" in Mangalore for personalized tutelage in Western music and a broad constellation of meaningful activities. She holds the prestigious credential of Licentiate of Trinity College of London (LTCL) for imparting instruction in the piano forte.

Her accreditation from Trinity College London for conducting examinations has enabled students of music to creditably perform in various graded examinations since 1973. She has also mentored students for achieving the challenging credentials of ATCL and LTCL in music. Starting the Kanara Musical Association in 1981 is her signal contribution to the cultural life of Mangalore. Enjoyable concerts have happened under its banner, such as "Your Favourites and Mine", "Music

with Meaning" and annual Christmas performances. These concerts have been participative events not only for youth but the citizenry of Mangalore to display their talents in song, music, dance, choral performances and drama. The proceeds of these concerts filled the coffers of various charitable causes. She also conducted " Finesse" courses to impart etiquette and culinary expertise to young homemakers.

Drawing on her Teachers training from Madras University, she re-entered the field of education when she started the Akshara Montessori School in 2004 and served as its first Principal. It has since evolved into the well regarded Yenepoya School.

In 2006, her Trinity College accreditation was expanded to include conduct of examinations in Communications and Drama. Numerous students from Mangalore's schools and colleges have availed the opportunity to undergo training and examinations with significant benefit to future career potential. She has shown true leadership in creating a core group of like- minded individuals to share in the tasks of imparting training and keeping alive traditions of music and the performing arts.

Mrs Vimala Lobo embodies Rudyard Kipling's line of 'filling each minute with sixty seconds' worth of distance run. She is admirably industrious and has ventured into challenging fields with zestful enterprise.

Her most significant achievement is the way she transformed a small town into a happening hub for music and the performing arts. Her greatest testaments are her accomplished students who share the benefits of their learning with others and carry it forward into the future.

Though limited by illness and injury, her determination to be at the forefront of music and culture is a true inspiration to individuals of all ages. CASK wishes her many more invigorating years in music, the performing arts and her entire gamut of fruitful activity.

Vimala Lobo thanked CASK for honouring her and Margaret Saldanha for her words of appreciation. She recalled with gratefulness Late Kiron Alvares and Late Ray Saldanha and their wives – Bullu and Joy for being the pillars of support to her by sponsoring many of the events and performances brought up by her. She also gratefully remembered late Cynthia Pereira for her constant encouragement.

The marathon function was ably compered by Ramona Mathias, Carol Pais-Coelho and Rajani Patrao. CASK Secretary Mario Saldanha, Joint Secretary-Dr Anand Pereira and GC member Joan Lobo efficiently managed the logistics and arrangements. Sr Supriya,



Principal and Sr Jeswina, Vice-Principal of St. Agnes College were seen personally supervising the Street Play and hall arrangements.

The interesting function concluded with the Vote of Thanks by CASK Secretary-Mr Mario Saldanha, followed by the singing of the National anthem.

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## **CASK CENTENARY TRUST DISBURSEMENTS**

The Trustees of the CASK Centenary Trust are pleased to inform the CASK members and well-wishers that the following disbursements have been made since October 2015 to date :

<b>Sr</b>	<b>Activity/Beneficiaries</b>	<b>Amount Disbursed</b>	<b>Comments</b>
01	Personality Development Programme in 6 English Medium & 1 Kannada Medium School - Folders, Workshop Materials, Stationery etc	Rs.44,310=00	A total of 420 students benefitted from the programme in the 7 schools
02	Education Support - Part Sponsorship of the Salaries of 3 teachers of St Raphael Higher Primary School, Badyar, Belthangady Taluk	Rs.48,000=00	These 3 teachers are not covered by Govt grants

03	Sponsorship of Anti Snake-venom Serum for 46 snake-bite victims at Fr L.M.Pinto Health Centre, Badyar, Belthangadi Taluk	Rs.45,000=00	During the year 2015, a total of 46 snake-bite cases were treated at the centre consuming a total of 201 vials of the serum. The cost of each vial is presently Rs.595/-.
04	Contribution towards purchase of bed-linen and accessories at "Asha Deepa", a Home for Mentally & Physically Challenged Children at Vijayapura, Chikmagalur	Rs.25,000=00	There are 19 girls and one boy in this Home - all are mentally or physically challenged; all come from poor homes;
05	Contribution towards Health, Women's Welfare & Self-Help Groups run by Diocesan council of Catholic Women(DCCW)	Rs.10,000=00	DCCW has an ongoing program in the areas of health, women's welfare through Self - Help Groups.
<b>Total disbursements</b>			<b>₹ 1,72,310/-</b>

It is decided that in future, activities like Provision of Safe Drinking Water in Schools, Provision of Footwear for Barefoot Children coming to Schools and such other impactful projects will be covered under the CASK Centenary Trust. We seek your cooperation and support for the CASK Centenary Trust.

Trustees – Dr Derek Lobo, Capt John Prasad Menezes, Mr Ulhas Prabhu, Ms Nayana Fernandes and Mr Walter D'Sa.

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## POINTS TO PONDER - FEBRUARY 2016

*Norbert Shenoy*

**What is GST and how does it impact the market?** GST stands for Goods and Services Tax. The main feature of the proposed tax is - it would be applicable on 'supply' of goods and services as against manufacture or sale of goods, or provision of services, as at present. GST would be a destination based tax in contrast to the origin based taxation currently being followed.

GST will be a uniformly applied country-wide and will substitute a host of state and central taxes that are currently in force. GST's aim is to create a single national market for goods and services, improve productivity by de-cluttering the tax administration structure across the country, and promote inclusive growth across the country, rather than growth that gets distorted by temporary tax sops offered by different states.

The idea of a single GST was mooted first in 2007 by the UPA Government, but sadly has not yet been implemented. Here is an extract from a 2009 address of Vijay Kelkar, then Chairman-13th Finance Commission to FICCI "The GST will bring about a qualitative change in the tax system by redistributing the burden of taxation equitably between manufacturing and services. As per a study to assess the impact of GST, it is estimated that GDP growth will increase by 2-2.5% and the increase in exports by 10-14%. It is indeed a staggering impact".

The best option would be a single rate in order to ensure low compliance costs, obviate classification disputes, and ensure uniformity of approach amongst all players. To be attractive, the rate must be high enough to address the concerns of states on revenue neutrality but it should not be too high. In addition, for GST to be successful, all states and the Centre should implement it uniformly. Only then will it bring about the national common market. The GST will perhaps be the single most important reform stimulus since 1991-92. Even a 2% reduction in costs increases profits by over 20%. This will attract investments. As tax cascading disappears, the industry will move to the lagging regions because of lower costs and thus bring these into the growth dynamics."

What he said 5 years ago continues to be valid today - which underlines the urgency and explains the market's despondency over the repeated delays in passing GST.

**How will GST work?** It would be a dual system with both the Centre(Central GST) and the States(State GST), levying tax on a common base. Further there would be an Integrated GST or IGST, which would be levied on inter-state supply of goods (like stock transfers) and services. This would be collected by the central government. Import of goods and services would be treated as inter-State supplies, while exports would be zero rated. CGST, SGST and IGST rates would be decided based on the recommendations of the GST Council, where the Centre and all the States are members. The central government has also agreed to bear revenue losses, if any, faced by the states, for five years after introduction of the tax.

**Taxes that will be replaced** - The GST aims to subsume the following varied taxes and imposts: a) Central Excise duty; b) Duties of Excise (Medicinal and Toilet Preparations); c) Additional Duties of Excise (Goods of Special Importance); d) Additional Duties of Excise (Textiles and Textile Products); e) Additional Duties of Customs (commonly known as CVD); f) Special Additional Duty of Customs (SAD); g) Service Tax; h) Cesses and surcharges insofar as they relate to supply of goods or services.

State taxes that would be subsumed within the GST are: a) State VAT; b) Central Sales Tax; c) Purchase Tax; d) Luxury Tax; e) Entry Tax (All forms); f) Entertainment Tax (not levied by the local bodies); g) Taxes on advertisements; h) Taxes on lotteries, betting and gambling; i) State cesses and surcharges insofar as they relate to supply of goods or services.

**Legal framework** - The GST would be applicable on all goods except alcohol meant for human consumption, electricity and real estate. GST on petroleum products would start from a date determined by the GST Council. The threshold for levying of tax would be uniform for CGST and SGST. Input credits on CGST and SGST can be used to pay off the liabilities of the respective taxes only. Small operators would have the option of paying a flat rate, though without input credits.

Accounts between the centre and the states would be settled periodically to share the revenues properly. The laws, procedures and regulations would be harmonized between the centre and states, as much as possible. Since taxation powers are shared between the Centre and the States, necessary Constitution amendment bills are required to

implement GST. The bill must be passed by a two-third majority in both houses of Parliament and then ratified by at least half of the State Legislatures. The act has been passed by the Lok Sabha on 6<sup>th</sup> May 2015. The matter is now in the Rajya Sabha, where a select committee is examining issues raised by various parties.

The matter of rates - A panel headed by the Chief Economic Advisor has been set up to suggest revenue neutral rates for the GST. A neutral rate is the rate at which there is no revenue loss for the government. However, since the GST will improve the reach of taxes while reducing evasion, the government revenue collection is likely to increase. The panel may also suggest rates for the items not covered by GST.

Contrarian views - Not all analysts/specialists in the field are impressed by the present GST proposal. It may be noted that earlier the Kelkar Committee had proposed a 12% rate that included all goods and services in the tax ambit. The exclusion of certain items, like alcohol, electricity, petroleum products and real estate from the purview of the GST will push up the basic rate, experts say. The Report On Revenue Neutral Rate and Structure of Rates for Goods and Services Tax (RNR Report) specifically mentions that there is a very strong association between 'rate of tax' and level of compliance. The report observes that a 1 percentage point increase in the standard rate worsens compliance by 1.22 percentage points. Therefore, any increase in RNR due to non-inclusion of these sectors may hamper the level of compliance under GST and mar the very objective thereof. Further, a key objective of GST is to curb tax cascading. The exclusion of any sector would result in distortion of the input credit chain of GST resulting in cascading of taxes and perpetuating the inefficiencies in the economy.

The proposed GST Bill does not guarantee one law for the whole country, as all the states and the Parliament will be empowered to make laws applicable to their respective jurisdictions. Even a rate of 18% at retail level may provoke large scale evasion at the point of sale. Since the tax is designed as a dual tax system, shared between the Centre and the States, it will be difficult to calculate and give input credits in a coherent and consistent manner. Since many goods hitherto taxed separately by the Centre and states will be brought under one umbrella, there is likelihood of confusion regarding the monitoring of assesseees under the new tax.

In fact, at the assessee's level there could be new set of issues requiring additional compliance costs. Under the draft GST law there are many parameters for determining time of supply. For instance for goods, GST becomes payable on removal of goods, or receipt of payment, or issuance of invoice or date on which buyer shows receipt of goods. Hence maintaining records for reconciliation between revenues as per financial statements and as per GST could pose a challenge to businesses

The broad view - GST system is practiced by 160 countries worldwide, including Brazil, China, South Africa and the European Union. Yet many State governments have reservations about the tax. They fear not only erosion of authority, but of their tax base as well. Few states like Tamil Nadu, are still officially opposed to the tax. In order to allay the apprehensions of the states, the government has taken teams of officials from the states on study trips to various countries. The Committee of state finance ministers had gone to Australia to study the system there. Analysts say that the Australian model can be the basis for the Indian system.

Since 2007 when it was first mooted, a general consensus has emerged on the desirability of the tax and its important benefit to the economy as a whole. Eliminations of multiple tax jurisdictions, a plethora of rates and taxes, and a maze of different laws and procedures, will bring down transactions costs thus making for cheaper products and services.

The GST will create a single market across India, where one would have to pay just one rate. While there are several advantages to a common countrywide levy, the most important would be the reduction in litigations, improvement in collections, a new paradigm for locating of manufacturing plants on a rational commercial basis, rather than just for tax purposes. Above all a sustained 1% to 2% increase in the GDP can be expected.

For a market that is starved for earnings growth, passage of the GST bill will be a huge shot in the arm. GDP growth forecasts will be revised upwards and a lot of market attention will be focused on businesses that can benefit most from introduction of GST. Markets love to discount an evolving growth story and passage of the GST bill will give the markets a great story to latch on to. I look forward to this great story shortly unfolding itself in the Rajya Sabha.

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## MEMORIES ARE MADE OF THIS.....

*Joan Lobo*

Well! It was beyond my imagination what the day had in store for me as I strolled into the City Centre Mall and well! The greatest surprise of my life as I bumped into my long lost friend by chance and it was as long as 40 years we had not been in touch. We had grown together and were an integral part of the others homes and lives all those years. We had tears of joy as we hugged each other and realised that the moment was real. As we sat and gorged on some hot snacks and coffee, time had stopped short. We had so much to share and events to catch on. It was the memories of those mythical halcyon days when love and friendship we believed lasted lifelong. Recollecting those magical yester years when the sky was bluer, the air purer , people sweeter, and life seemed like a fairy tale. We thrilled ourselves talking of life then and now and of course how we too were at the receiving end of our elders for not being in sync with their ideals and principles..

We got chatting and lost in our growing years as we discussed the simple pleasures of the days of yore. Imagine our world was without internet , cable TV, mobile phones and it was a time untarnished by technology. The TV was a shared neighbourhood asset like the telephone .It was a time when we received a trunk call or a phone call at a friendly home next door. Then came the days when we moved from the black and white to the coloured TV. Often the screen got snowy and somebody would be dispatched to the terrace like a rocket to inspect the antennae till encouraging signals were received from down that all was well. And how often would a programme on TV be disrupted and you would see the all too familiar words" Rukhavat ke liye khed hai". How the slow rotating orbs of the Doordharshan hypnotised us and the haunting tune of the Akashvani and Radio Ceylon made our day complete.. With the radio, despite not being able to see sporting events, live commentary made the experience even more dramatic. We could visualise the sixer valiantly hit by a Sunil Gavasker or the perfect ball bowled by Kapil Dev that got Imran Khan out and were ecstatic.

On hindsight, before technology invaded our lives we spent quality time with our families. Those days we dint watch FRIENDS or

NEIGHBOURS on TV but would go and meet them instead. While a generation gap always existed communication within families has suffered gravely as TV has adolescents more insular and aloof. As the boys graduated from half pants to full pants, the girls from pony tails to plaits, metallic geometry boxes to magnetic pencil boxes, from boring erasers to colourful scented rubbers life just got more exciting. Use and throw pens never existed and fountain pens were tediously refilled and slowly ball points took over even as teachers rued it spoiled our handwriting.

Our idea of time was different and we divided it liberally between family, neighbours and friends. We spent our time in hobbies like painting, reading, sewing. Having pen pals was a great thrill as we eagerly awaited the postman's arrival day after day. Post cards, Money orders, Telegrams, Inland letters would delight us and an airmail letter arriving from abroad had us jumping for joy. Time walked at a leisurely pace and we spent our spare time at circulating libraries. Enid Blyton, Secret Seven, Famous Five were our greatest reading delights and all the issues of Amar Chitra Katha were painstakingly compiled and hard bound by our parents for posterity. Stamps, coins, etc. were always our treasured collections. Though there were more power cuts in the past but we had dealt with it with far more calm and resignation we realised. How amazing it was to leaf through the pages of our school autographs with scrawls from school pals, teachers or that dreamy feeling of reliving old memories as we viewed class photographs in the album. The sounds that were closest to our hearts those days were the bullock cart wheels creaking over rough potholed narrow roads, crows cawing merrily every morn, a faraway voice on the shortwave radio rising and fading through static, the western tunes hummed out by a gramophone or turntable.

Nowadays, when the computer gives up its ghost to a virus or the internet grinds to a crawl its therapeutic to go down memory lane and treasure our older rose tinted images of the past. All these technological wonders have become an interruption in our lives. Getting back to the past is easy if we had the guts to reach for the remote and switch "OFF".

It was a wonderful afternoon spent together as we bonded over happy memories sharing experiences and emotions. We hugged each other goodbye for now as we truly wished we could relive those old days again as we believed the best memories were made of this....

## TRIBUTE TO LATE VIVIAN COELHO



Vivian Coelho, 93, passed away in Chennai on February 2, 2016. He was a leading criminal lawyer and was awarded a citation for his 55 years of practice at the bar.

His funeral mass was concelebrated by 7 priests on February 6 at the San Thome Cathedral Basilica.

He was the eldest child of Minnie & M.A.T. Coelho. Due to the early passing away of his father, he assumed the mantle of patriarch of the Coelho family

He was married to Marjorie Pinto and together they brought up a family of seven children.

“Your song has ended but the melody lingers on...

There’s a land fairer than day  
And by faith we can see it afar  
For the Father waits over the way  
To prepare us a dwelling place there.  
We shall sing on that beautiful shore  
The melodious songs of the blessed  
And our spirits shall sorrow no more  
Not a sigh for the blessing of rest  
In the sweet bye and bye  
We shall meet on that beautiful shore”

### **He is deeply mourned by:**

**Children:** Late Carol/ Col. John Britto, Timothy/ Ayesha, Yvonne/ Sashi Kumar, Noel/ Dr. Halowine, Jacqueline/ Anand Lobo, Mark/ Neela & John/ Anita

**Grand-children:** Moneesha/ Kingshuk , Nithin/ Nicolet, Arun/ Julia, Tara, Ketan, Rohan, Samantha, Nigel, Rahul, Nandita, Simmona, Karl, Nicole, Varun & Steven

**Great Grandchildren:** Andre & Quenath.

*(Sponsored)*

# AIMIT FOR MANAGEMENT AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

*Fr Denzil Lobo SJ*



**AIMIT** St Aloysius Institute of Management and Information Technology  
A unit of **ST ALOYSIUS COLLEGE**  
(Autonomous) Re-Accredited by NAAC with 'A' Grade., 3.62 CGPA  
One of the TOP 50 Colleges in India.

Founded in 1880, perched on the top of Light House Hill in Mangalore and administered by the Jesuits, St Aloysius College (Autonomous) has been in the forefront as a centre of excellence for the last 135 years. It was the pioneering innovative and universal spirit of Jesuit education that the late President Abdul Kalam referred to as the “tradition of traditions”. He made this statement on the occasion of the inauguration of the IT Department of the college in 2003, himself being an illustrious alumnus of a Jesuit institution, St Joseph’s College, Trichy. The NAAC accreditation grade of 3.62 accorded in the current



year places St Aloysius College perhaps among the top hundred colleges in the country. Further, by naming the college for award of KAUSHAL Kendra (Centre for Knowledge Acquisition and Upgradation of Skilled Human

Abilities and Livelihood) the UGC has distinguished St Aloysius College as a college with more than “potential for excellence”.

The management of St Aloysius College, heeding the demand for world class infrastructure for its postgraduate programs, relocated its Management and IT departments in 2009 at Beeri in a spacious new campus some 10 kms away from the parent institution. Christened “AIMIT” (acronym for St Aloysius Institute of Management and Information Technology), the institute is proud of a brand new sprawling campus with elegant academic spaces, compelling large hostels for ladies

and gentlemen, spacious, well endowed and almost 24X7 libraries, and cutting edge audio-visual electronics in attractive classrooms, dedicated and constantly upgrading faculty, many year-round personality-development activities and above all, following the 135 years old tradition, plenty of opportunities for spiritual growth.

The choice based credit system in the MBA program that runs through four semesters, and the internship program, a Business Consultancy Program and an Active Placement Program, the Gavel Club to train the students to be members of the world-famed Toast Masters Club, twinning programs with universities in UK, US and Canada are other benefits of the AIMIT MBA program that makes it the preferred option of many an aspirant for management studies.

**The MBA department has been conferred with the prestigious “DNA & Stars Group: Innovative Education Awards – B-Schools who innovate in Teaching Methodology” on 18<sup>th</sup> February 2016.**

**AIMIT has also been conferred with the prestigious United Nations Rio+22 Sustainable Energy Award as the Best Institution in India for the outstanding performance by the MBA students of the 2014-16 batch in the certification programme.**

The IT Department comprises of MCA, M.Sc. (Bio-Informatics), M.Sc. (Software Technology) and lays stress on the overall development of students through various curricular and extra-curricular activities. Students organize various events like EPITOME, the National IT Fest, ANVEEKSHA, the Technical Paper Presentation contest, INFOVISION, and the IT and Bioinformatics exhibitions. The Campus Connect SOFTSKILLS program has also been initiated to provide an extra edge to our students.

The MCA program was the first PG programme which was started at St Aloysius College in 1999, and since then many of our students have successfully graduated and have been well placed in software industry. Some of them have become entrepreneurs starting their own software companies. This course is of three years' duration and is open to anyone who has 50% in undergraduate degree and has obtained

50% or above in Maths.

M.Sc. (Software Technology) was introduced in 2007 to enable those who have completed BCA or BSc to complete their PG studies within two years. Almost all those who graduated in the course have been placed in reputed software companies like Infosys, HP, IBM, JDK, etc. The course curriculum is of a high standard with high end modules like Cloud Computing, Business Intelligence, Data Storage Systems, Data Warehousing and Data Mining, etc. Only those who have completed BCA and BSc, with a minimum of 50% aggregate are eligible to do this course.

M.Sc (Bio-Informatics) was introduced in 2004 considering the demand of IT professionals in Biotech industry. St Aloysius College is the only college in Mangalore University which offers this program which leads to research, jobs in Biotech industry or even software industry. Revised in 2013, the syllabus prepares students for quick analysis and interpretation of biological data using information technology resources. The Institute also has Bioinformatics Centre sponsored by DBT which promotes high end research in Bioinformatics and conducts various workshops and refresher course to Biology faculty and students.

**At a function held at Taj Lands End, Mumbai, on 28 November 2015, AIMIT was the distinguished recipient of the Dewang Mehta National Award for the best Information Technology Syllabus in the County and on 18<sup>th</sup> Feb., 2016 AIMIT Business School was the recipient of DNA Award for Best Management Syllabus at Taj Lands.**

The test of AIMIT's worth is the over 80% selection of its graduates in campus recruitment by prominent MNCs and established business houses who visit the college, at times quite early in the academic year.

AIMIT, under the care of the Jesuits Fathers, is a safe sanctuary for the students and their parents. The Jesuit tradition of forming "persons for others" by instilling in them values of competence, compassion and commitment has borne fruit over the last four hundred and fifty years and has contributed to the welfare of humankind in every sphere of life.

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## DEATH AND DYING

*Tilliola (Tilly) Peris*

Life as well as Death are both realities and at the same time a mystery that all of us experience at every moment of our Life's journey. Even though every person that is born into this world will one day be facing death, it is strange but true that we hardly give a thought to it. This article is meant to convince everyone that it is our duty to prepare ourselves for the final end of this temporal life.

All of us will remember that as we were growing up, we were taught the four final events of Life : Death, Judgement, Hell and Heaven. Each of us can ask ourselves whether we take these matters seriously. The saying goes: "As you live, so you die". Hence if we prepare ourselves well we are destined for Heaven, which is our birthright; alternately we choose Hell, by our own choice. A rightening thought! How important it is then to live our life with responsibility! "Remember your last end and you will not sin", says the Word of God. If we reflect on this thought we are prepared every day to face the end of our Life's journey.

Let me share with all of our readers that in my home when I pray my night prayers I remind myself that each night could be my last by praying the Act of Contrition. ! If we prepare for death by making our peace with God we will live in the awareness of the mystery of Death. Apart from preparing our own selves for death, we can also help others to be prepared for the same. As Christians we belong to a Parish and a Ward where we put our faith into practice in a tangible way, namely we can give spiritual and moral support to a parishioner, a neighbour or a family member when he/she is faced with sickness or death.

In the Year of Mercy proclaimed by Pope Francis, he has encouraged us to reach out to others. Visiting the sick is a Corporal Work of Mercy and a Christian can combine it with the Spiritual Works of Mercy - especially to counsel the doubtful, admonish sinners, comfort the afflicted, forgive offences, bear patiently with those who do us ill, pray for the living and the dead. Yes, when we visit the sick, especially those with terminal illnesses we can pray with them, give them our moral

support, our reassurance that they are on a journey and we are all co-pilgrims with them. We can really strengthen their faith, help them to be positive, have inner freedom and enable them to face death fearlessly. When we visit Jesus in a Church or a Chapel and stay in His real presence, we can speak to Him about our fears and perhaps we may realise that among all our fears the fear of death is the biggest!! Instead of avoiding funerals if we attend them and console bereaved families we will find we are better prepared to face our own death. Another important point to be borne in mind when caring for the sick and the dying, is to reveal the truth about the diagnosis, to the concerned person, be it adult or child however grave it may be. A case has been reported where a child was dying of blood cancer. The parents were advised by some to tell him about his sickness; but some others suggested that they hide the truth from him. However, the child came to know the facts from his friends. Sadly, he was very hurt by this and felt terribly let down by his parents.

The Catholic Catechism gives some practical tips which may help a person throughout life, or when faced with sickness and suffering and at the hour of death This information will help us all to maintain good health of both mind and body:

1. Improve our way of living with prayer, meditation, yoga, walks, exercise, etc.
2. Keep a peaceful mind by avoiding anger and a stressful life. Unforgiveness, stress and resentment can cause a lot of health problems, even cancer.
3. Having faith that along with medication, God's healing power can work wonders.
4. Attending Healing Retreats.
5. Following a balanced diet.
6. Avoiding quarrels in the family and the community.

The Sick and Dying need a special kind of care. Some of their needs are as follows:



1. Physical needs: Providing a comfortable bed and also keeping them clean; the care-giver should note that medication, proper diet and sufficient fluids are taken according to requirement.
2. Biological needs: temperature regulation, bladder and bowel movements have to be monitored.
3. Safety and security needs: when health fails, the person senses that the person loses confidence in the doctor or the nurse and insecurity gets enhanced. In both these situations our physical presence, moral support, prayers, and giving courage will help a lot. In my experience, persons who have been diagnosed with cancer are often in denial, fearing the worst - loss of job, popularity and dear ones, and this often leads to failure in taking their medication regularly. Helping them to pour out their fears and sorrow by giving them a listening ear will surely encourage them and give them a feeling of security.

Love and patience are needed at all times. Some family members may think ‘anyway the person is going to die’ so why worry too much about their needs! This is not a right attitude. We should always take care of the patient’s needs, encouraging the patient, giving them our support and helping them to maintain their confidence in whatever way possible even if the person seems to have lost hope. It will be kindness too, to gently help the dying person, especially in the case of a parent or a spouse, to see to his/her final commitments such as unfinished business and settling of their Will, as well as receiving the Last Sacraments; and in the case of persons who have kept anger and closed his/her heart to others - to make peace and get reconciled. The Beatitudes tell us: “Blessed are the peacemakers for they will be called children of God“. You will receive a great blessing when you help a person to die, making peace with God and with one’s neighbour!

To conclude, we have come alone into this world and finally have to go back to God with a clean mind, heart and soul. May all of us achieve this goal! And may we all have a peaceful and holy death!

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# CASK PERSONALITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME AT POMPEI HIGH SCHOOL (Kannada Medium)

*Lydia D'Cunha*

The CASK Personality Development Programme was successfully completed at the Pompei High School (Kannada Medium) Urwa Parish during the Academic year 2015-2016. The topics covered:

1. Values - attitude, behaviour, discipline
2. Public Speaking
3. Relationships
4. Mannerism
5. Gender equality
6. Self Confidence
7. Attitudes in institutional life
8. Correspondence - letter writing
9. Environment - Cleanliness and protection
10. Hobbies - Listening, Reading, Writing, Music, Art, Sports etc
11. Exchange/discussion - Goal setting(the basis for the future)



The programme was ably coordinated by CASK GC member – Ms Lydia D'Cunha. The Facilitators were – Sr Agnesia BS, Pramila D'Souza & Lydia D'Cunha.

At the end of the session, students presented the teachers "thank you" notes on how useful the sessions were. Some were facing the class for the first time, participating in the skit for the first time, group discussion was interesting for most of the students. Students were grateful that for new learning about gender, making time table, schedule for the daily lessons, punctuality, auto suggestions, control of anger, mannerism and goal setting.

CASK is grateful to Lydia D'Cunha and her team for successfully conducting this programme for the first time in a Kannada Medium School. We sincerely thank the Headmaster and staff of the school for their cooperation and support.

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## NEWS & NOTES

### VATICAN ISSUES FORMAL DECREE THAT MAUNDY THURSDAY FOOT-WASHING RITUAL BE OPEN TO WOMEN AND GIRLS

Following a request by Pope Francis, the Vatican has issued a decree specifying that the Holy Thursday foot-washing ritual be open to “all members of the people of God, including women and girls”.

Although many dioceses around the world have long included women in the Holy Thursday ritual, the change in the official rules is obviously to encourage dioceses and parishes around the world to include women and girls in the ritual.

“After careful consideration, I have decided to make a change to the Roman Missal,” Pope Francis wrote in a December 2014 letter to Cardinal Robert Sarah, head of the Vatican liturgy office. “I therefore decree that the section which presently states that persons chosen for the washing of the feet must be men or boys, be changed so that from now on the Pastors of the Church may choose the participants in the rite from among all the members of the People of God including women”.

The Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments headed by Cardinal Sarah complied with the Pope’s request, issuing a decree January 6, 2016.

Fr. Douglas Mosey, President and Rector of Holy Apostles College and Seminary in Cromwell- Connecticut which has 79 seminarians said “Foot-washing is a devotion that has flexibility and is not guided the same as a sacrament would be. What Pope Francis is trying to express is that we need to wash the feet not only of men but of everybody because we’re all foot washers,”.

Msgr. Andrew Baker, President of Mount St. Mary’s Seminary in Emmitsburg, Maryland said “The Holy Father has changed a liturgical norm and we support him and the change.” Mount St. Mary’s has about 125 seminarians from 22 U.S. dioceses.

The change reflects Pope Francis’ own groundbreaking gesture when, just a month after his election in March 2013, he washed the feet of young people, including women and Muslims, at a youth detention center outside Rome.

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## **NDA GOVERNMENT OPPOSES GRANTING OF DALIT STATUS AND RESERVATION IN JOBS TO DALIT CHRISTIANS AND MUSLIMS**

Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment Thawar Chand Gehlot declared that the government has told the Supreme Court that it was “not agreeable to” granting reservation in government jobs to dalit Christians and Muslims as it would encourage conversions.

Strongly opposing recommendations of the Ranganath Mishra Commission and the Sachar Committee for reservation to Dalits of Christian and Muslim minority communities, the Minister informed a gathering at a Hindu leadership conclave in Kochi that there is no provision in the Constitution to grant reservation to Dalits who convert to other religions and added “such a step would weaken the Hindu religion”.

“Our government has given in writing to the apex Court that it does not agree with the Ranganath Mishra Commission or Sachar Committee reports. We won’t accord Scheduled Caste status to those who have converted. We are following the Constitution in letter and spirit,” Gehlot said at the function.

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## **SR ROSE CELINE ELECTED AS NEW SUPERIOR GENERAL OF BETHANY SISTERS**



The Sisters of the Little Flower of Bethany, known as Bethany Sisters, indigenous to Mangalore, elected a new Superior General on February 11, 2016 at 16th General Chapter of the Congregation, held at the Motherhouse, Bendur. Rev Sr Rose Celine, was elected as the 10<sup>th</sup> Superior General of Bethany Congregation, founded in 1921 by Servant of God RFC Mascarenhas, (1875-1960). He was the Vicar-General of Mangalore Diocese and also the President of CASK from 1931 to 1941. He is the first Mangalorean priest to be put on the path to sainthood in the Mangalore diocese.

Sr Rose Celine succeeds Rev. Sr Wiberta, BS who successfully

held the position of Superior General from March 2010. Sr Rose Celine had served as Counselor to Sr Wilberta and has creditably coordinated the Education Ministry of the Congregation. The Bethany sisters are pioneers all over India and in a few pockets of Africa and Europe in education, social action, medical aid, care of elders etc.

The Congregation also elected a team of four Councilors to the Superior General - Sr Lillis BS, Sr Shanti Priya BS, Sr Mariette BS and Sr Lilitta BS.

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## **DAJIWORLD.COM CELEBRATES MILESTONE - 15**

WWW.Daijiworld.Com has completed 15 glorious years of linking



the people of the Coastal districts to the rest of the world! The 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary was celebrated on February 5, 2016 at a glittering function held at Milagres Hall-Mangalore. Well-known NRI Entrepreneur and Philanthropist Ronald

Colaco was the Chief Guest. The Guests of Honour included – Jayaram Bhat, MD & CEO of Karnataka Bank, L.K.Attheeq, IAS – Secretary, Govt of Karnataka, Ronald Pinto, MD-Hyssna International-Abu Dhabi and Rohan Monteiro, Chairman-Rohan Corporation.

The highlight of the function was the final round of the Hyssna Miss Daijiworld 2015 contest. Ms Jessica Fernandes from Mangalore was adjudged and crowned as Hyssna Miss Daijiworld 2015. She was crowned by former Miss Daijiworld-Anjali Shetty. Mr Walter Nandalike founder Director gave the welcome address.

**CASK offers its congratulations to Daijiworld.com on completion of 15 years of commendable service and wishes it continued success.**

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## **AMRISH LOBO NAMED “RISING STAR” IN THE SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT IN USA**



Amrish Lobo has appeared in the US media as one of the Under-30 STARS in the Supply Chain Management in the USA.

Amrish is presently the Director, Global Logistics, Distribution and Customer Service for Baker Hughes, a fortune 120 Company - one of the largest Oilfield services companies in the world, based in Houston-Texas. He is also one of the youngest directors in Baker Hughes which operates in more than 80 countries worldwide.

Amrish was one of 30 young professionals named winners in the THOMASNET and Institute of Supply Chain Management as one among thirty (30) under Age-30 ‘Rising Supply Chain Stars’ Recognition programme.

Founded in 2014, the 30 under-30 Rising Supply Chain Stars program is designed to recognize individuals who have demonstrated leadership, innovation, and collaboration. This program provides role models and illustrates supply chain and procurement as a viable and exciting career choice.

In an interview, Amrish Lobo said that supply chain is an excellent option for young professionals looking for exposure to different areas of business, as it is the main artery of any organization, touching every aspect of the enterprise. "It has tremendous impact on the bottom line," he said, adding that it helps one to gain an understanding of how elements of a business fit together.

"Developing employees and providing challenging opportunities has been a key focus for Baker Hughes," said David Fischer, Vice President, Global Supply Chain. "Amrish's success demonstrates that commitment even during challenging times."

Lobo co-led the development and implementation of the company's global distribution model, leading to new efficiencies and millions in savings, while also managing the Dubai center. In 2013 and 2014, he also co-managed the prestigious Supply Chain Rotational Program.

**Amrish is the son of Mangalorean origin, Anthony and Vinolia Lobo (nee D'Costa) of Chennai.**

**CASK congratulates Amrish and wishes him a bright future.**

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**THE ST. LAWRENCE SHRINE, ATTUR-KARKALA INTRODUCED A NEW SYSTEM TO DISTRIBUTE ALMS TO THE DESTITUTE DURING THE ANNUAL FEAST**

The tradition of giving alms at the St. Lawrence Shrine has been on for the last 16 years. The needy used to roam about in the area during the annual feast, which used to inconvenience and distract devotees.

This year, the shrine put an end to this practice by banning begging in the premises. Meanwhile, the devotees were encouraged to deposit money in two separate boxes for the alms-seekers. The alms collected in these boxes were distributed to the destitute according to their needs during the lunch on the concluding day January 29, 2016 along with food packets.

It was announced that about 2,000 destitute or alms-seekers received Rs. 10.84 lakh.

Rev. Fr. George D'Souza, rector of the shrine, and Fr. Vijay D'Souza, assistant parish priest, were present during the distribution.

Lakhs of devotees visit the shrine throughout the year, and especially during the feast. The annual feast this year was held from Jan 24 to 29. A total of 42 masses in Konkani, Kannada, Malayalam and English were celebrated during these five days.

Five bishops –of Udupi, Ballari, Mangaluru, Varanasi and Beltangady dioceses - celebrated the Holy Mass in three days from January 26 to January 28.

Bishop Gerald Isaac Lobo of Udupi was at the Attur shrine all the five days of the feast.

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## Obituaries - February/March

**CASK offers its sincere condolences to the families of the following members of our community, who passed away recently:**

1. Dr Francis Correa(93), Jabalpur/Pune, Ex-Director of Medical Services-Central Railway, husband of late Doreen, father of Cherylann/Owen Pereira, Dr Tilden/Dr Marielou, cousin of Dr Olinda Pereira, on January 22, 2016.
2. Juliana D'Souza (84) Derebail, wife of late Jochim D'Souza, mother of Cicilia/Peregrene, late Stanley, Ronald Philomen, Vincent, on February 6, 2016.
3. Claudius Thomas Joseph Gonsalves (75), Bendur, CA, husband of late Flavia M R Gonsalves, father of CA Sunil/CA Adelyne, Dr Sarita/Dr Geover Lobo, Er Sudeep, on February 8, 2016.
4. Fr Sebastian Fernandes SJ (67), Karnataka Jesuit Province, on February 10, 2016.
5. Fr Denis Coelho SJ (90), Bangalore, on February 12, 2016.
6. Benny Pais (78) Kulshekar, wife of late A J Pais, mother of James, Avil/Appoline, Zita, Jane, Vimala/Arun, on February 12, 2016.
7. Lena Bennis(77) Chennai, Wife of late John Alphonso Bennis, mother of Allen, Vernon, Norman and Herman on February 14, 2016
8. Dorothy Lobo (85), Milagres, wife of late Basil Lobo, on February 15, 2016.
9. Monica Pais (68), Derebail, Retd Teacher St Peter's Kottara & Holy Family, wife of Joseph Paul Pais, mother of Mercy/Edwin, Remy/Nishel & Oycy/Shalet, on February 18, 2016.
10. Jane Fernandes (82) Cascia, W/o late William Fernandes, Mother of Philomena/Harold D'Silva, Melville/Jass, Marie/Daniel D'Souza, Joseph/Sylvia & late Lt. Francis, on February 21, 2016.
11. Tressy Frank (86), Bendur, wife of late S C Frank, M/o Joan, Edmund, late Noel Frank, Ivan/Anita, Bernadine, Loy, on February 22, 2016.
12. Lawrence George D'Souza (73), Valencia, husband of Cynthia D'Souza, father of Sarika/Navneeth & Smitha, on February 27, 2016.
13. Violet Pereira (58), Bendur, wife of Francis Pereira, on March 2, 2016.
14. Florine Angela Cecilia Rego (90) Derebail, wife of late Denis C. D Rego, Mother of Fredrick/Molly Rego, Cynthia/late Wilfred Goveas, Juliet/Francis D' Cunha, on March 3, 2016.
15. Aileen Enid Viegas (83) Bangalore, wife of late Michael Viegas, Mother of Denzil, Alton, Cornel, Diantha, on March 5, 2016.