

ADDRESS BY NATIONAL PRESIDENT OF TISI SANGAM FIJI MR. SADASIVAN NAICKER AT THE 90TH SANGAM CONVENTION AT SUBRAIL PARK – 14.04.2017

2017 PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

- THE CHIEF GUEST HIS EXCELLENCY RT HONORABLE SIR ANAND SATYANAND FORMER GOVERNOR GENERAL OF NEW ZEALAND AND LADY SUSAN SATYANAND
- MR. DAMEND GOUNDER – SECRETARY GENERAL OF TISI SANGAM
- RESPECTED MR. YENKTESH PERMAL REDDY FORMER LONG TIME PRESIDENT OF TISI SANGAM
- MR. SHALEND KRISHNA CHETTY - THE CHAIRMAN OF THE 2017 ANNUAL SANGAM CONVENTION AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS
- HON. MINISTER FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT, INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENT. HON PRAVEEN BALA
- THE SPECIAL ADMINISTRATOR OF LABASA/ SAVUSAVU MUNICIPALITIES
- MR. AMARIYA NAIDU CHAIRMAN FOR ACADEMIC BOARD FOR SANGAM COLLEGE OF NURSING
- MR. JAI NARAYAN – C.E.O
- MR. TARUNESH REDDY PRESIDENT OF TIV
- MRS. WALLIAMMA SWAMY PRESIDENT OF TIM
- NATIONAL EXECUTIVES OF TISI SANGAM
- TISI SANGAM DISTRICT PRESIDENTS AND EXECUTIVES, LEGAL ADVISOR MR. RAJESH GORDON
- ALL OVERSEAS PARTICIPANTS
- DISTINGUISHED GUESTS, MEDIA PERSONALS
- PARTICIPATING DISTRICT AND BRANCHES OF TIV AND TIM FROM AROUND FIJI AND ABROAD, RESPECTED PUJARI, MAULANA & PRIEST
- LADIES AND GENTLEMAN AND CHILDREN
- NAMASKARAM TO YOU ALL

SANMARGA IKYA SANGAM THE THEME FOR THIS YEARS CONVENTION HAS BEEN ALWAYS THE FOUNDATION OF THE THEN INDIA SANMARGA IKYA SANGAM. IT IS WITH THE IDEALS OF UNITY AND HONESTY THAT OUR FOREFATHERS WERE ABLE TO LAY THE FOUNDATION AND DEVELOP SANGAM INTO A HUGE VIBRANT ORGANISATION THAT IT IS TODAY.

SANGAM OVER THE LAST 91 YEARS OF ITS EXISTENCE HAS FACED NUMEROUS CHALLENGES AND IT'S NO DIFFERENT TODAY. IT IS THE UNITY, FAITH AND THE TRUST THAT EVERY SANGAM MEMBER HAS IN SANGAM THAT HAS MADE IT TO SURVIVE THE TESTS OF TIME. 2016 HAS SEEN MASSIVE DEVASTATION BY TROPICAL CYCLONE WINSTON AND THOUSANDS OF OUR MEMBERS AND SANGAM ENTITIES PARTICULARLY OUR SCHOOLS AND TEMPLES HAVE SUFFERED. IT WAS THE RESPONSE FROM SANGAM THROUGH THE SUPPORT OF OUR VARIOUS DISTRICTS, OVERSEAS AFFILIATES, AND WELL-WISHERS THAT SAW THE TISI SANGAM RESPONDING QUICKLY AND ASSISTING OUR SCHOOLS AND MEMBERS IN NUMEROUS WAYS. THE FUNDS COLLECTED AMOUNTED TO AROUND A QUARTER MILLION WITHIN A FEW WEEKS AND THIS WAS OVERWHELMING AND A TESTIMONY OF THE SANGAMNESS THAT IS UNITY IN OUR PEOPLE. WITH THE CONTRIBUTION MADE BY THE BENEVOLENT DONORS WE WERE ABLE TO FEED 2000 STUDENTS DAILY FOR 8 WEEKS ALLOWING PARENTS TIME TO REHABILITATE THEMSELVES. 6000 STATIONARY PACKS ALSO PROVIDED TO STUDENTS WHO HAD LOST EVERYTHING DURING THE CYCLONE. THE ASSISTANCE WAS TO THE NEEDY IRRESPECTIVE OF WHETHER THEY WERE SANGAM MEMBERS OR NOT.

TISI SANGAM HAS A VERY UNIQUE AND SPECIAL REGARD FOR LABASA NOT ONLY BECAUSE OF ITS HOSPITALITY BUT SANGAM'S LARGEST INVESTMENT THE SANGAM COLLEGE OF NURSING IS LOCATED IN LABASA. DURING THE LONG JOURNEY OF SANGAM EDUCATION HAS ALWAYS BEEN THE FOCUS OF OUR ANCESTORS AND MOVING TOWARDS DEVELOPING TERTIARY EDUCATION IN THIS COUNTRY HAS BEEN A MAJOR ACHIEVEMENT FOR SANGAM. WE ARE ALL PROUD OF THIS ACHIEVEMENT. THE COLLEGE HAS SEEN GROWTH IN LEAPS AND BOUNDS UNDER THE ABLE LEADERSHIP OF MR. AMRAIYA NAIDU. THE COLLEGE HAS BEEN THE FIRST TO GRADUATE NURSING STUDENTS WITH A DEGREE, AND FURTHER DEVELOPED BRIDGING COURSES TO UPGRADE THE QUALIFICATION FOR PRACTISING NURSES TO A DEGREE LEVEL. THE COLLEGE HAS EXPANDED ITS CAMPUS TO SUVA, LAUTOKA **AND I AM PROUD TO ANNOUNCE THAT THE NEW BA CENTER WILL COMMENCE ON 4TH MAY** TO OFFER THE SAME BRIDGING PROGRAMS TO PRACTISING NURSES. THE COLLEGE OF NURSING HAS THIS YEAR PARTNERED WITH APTC TO ESTABLISH AGED CARE COURSE THAT IS GOING TO START HERE IN LABASA FROM JULY.

THE PARTNERSHIP FORGED BETWEEN LABASA SANGAM AND THE TISI PARENT BODY HAS DONE AWAY WITH THE US AND THEM SYNDROME AND WE ALL ARE WORKING TOGETHER FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SANGAM IN KEEPING WITH OUR FOREFATHERS SPIRIT OF **SANMARGA IKYA**. THE BOND THAT WE HAVE FORMED HERE IN LABASA IS A WAY FORWARD TO REPLICATE THIS MODEL IN ALL OUR DISTRICTS.

I WISH TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO SPECIALLY THANK THE FIJI SUGAR CORPORATION FOR ALLOWING SANGAM TO USE ITS FACILITIES TO ESTABLISH THE CAMPUS INITIALLY IN 2005.

SANGAM IN THE RECENT YEARS HAS MOVED ITS FOCUS TO STRENGTHEN OUR DISTRICTS. THE PARTNERSHIP IN LABASA ITSELF WHERE WE ARE RENTING THE LABASA SANGAM PREMISES FOR THE COLLEGE OF NURSING IS A TESTIMONY OF OUR COMMITMENT TO STRENGTHEN DISTRICTS. THE SAME IS BEING DONE IN SUVA, LAUTOKA, BA AND SOON OTHER SIMILAR PROJECTS ARE GOING TO BE ESTABLISHED IN OUR OTHER BRANCHES. SANGAM IS FOCUSING ON COMMERCIAL VENTURES TOO IN OUR DISTRICTS TO GET BETTER RETURNS FROM OUR ASSETS THAT MAY HAVE BEEN UNDERUTILISED.

THE FINANCIAL STATUS OF SANGAM TODAY IS VERY HEALTHY AND IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS WE HAVE SEEN IT DOUBLED AND I CAN FORESEE THAT WE WILL CONTINUE IN THIS REGARD. I AM PROUD TO ADVISE THAT THE NET ASSETS OF THE ORGANISATION HAS INCREASED BY 2 MILLION DOLLARS IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS AND THE CASH RESERVES HAS DOUBLED. OUR TEMPLES ARE VERY WELL MANAGED AS WELL AS ALL OUR OTHER ENTITIES DUE TO PRUDENT FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, GOOD ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY IN OUR DEALINGS. I TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO THANK ALL OUR VARIOUS BOARD MEMBERS FOR THEIR COMMITMENT AND SOUND LEADERSHIP IN FURTHERING THE WORK OF SANGAM FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH.

YOUR PRESENCE HERE IN RECORD NUMBERS OF 1200 SPORTING PARTICIPANTS REPRESENTING 47 TIV TEAM AND 22 MAATHAR SANGAM TEAMS BOTH FROM FIJI AND OVERSEAS IS A TESTIMONY OF YOUR COMMITMENT TO SANGAM AND OUR VISION OF SANMARGA IKYA-UNITY THROUGH THE PATHWAY OF HONESTY.

THE FRIENDLY NORTH HAS GIVEN US A VERY BEAUTIFUL RECEPTION & WEATHER AND MAY YOU ALL HAVE A MEMORABLE 4 DAYS STAY IN LABASA.