



WALT AIR TIMES

VOL-29 | ISSUE - 9 | MARCH 2025

THE HOUSE JOURNAL OF WALT AIR CLUB

UGADI





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From the President's Desk

Dear Esteemed Members,

March has been a month of celebration, tradition, and togetherness for our Family Club. We proudly honoured International Women's Day, appreciating the strength, resilience, and contributions of the incredible women in our community.

The vibrant Ugadi celebrations brought us closer, symbolizing new beginnings, prosperity, and harmony.

Our sports events were filled with energy, team spirit, and joy, reminding us that fitness and fun go hand in hand.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who participated and made these events a grand success. Let's continue this spirit of unity and enthusiasm in the coming months.



Best Regards
K. Vamsi Kishore (V-168)
98491 66669

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Your Feedback helps us understand what we are doing well
and where we can enhance your experience

info@waltairclub.com

Vice-President's Message

Dear Club Members,

March was a celebration of empowerment and tradition! Our Women's Day event was a beautiful tribute to the strong women in our club, filled with music, games, and inspiration. The Ugadi festivities brought us together to welcome a new year with positivity and joy.

I will be more happy if large members contributed your talent to our Waltair Times.

A big round of applause to everyone who participated. Looking forward to more engaging cultural programs ahead.

Mr. Sista Srinivasa Murthy (Vasu) (S-422)
9848191313



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EDITOR : Dr. M. RAMJEE (R-267)

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Editors Message

Dear Members,

As we turn the pages of yet another eventful month, March has left us with beautiful memories, inspiring moments, and a renewed sense of togetherness. This month, we celebrated womanhood, tradition, spirituality, and sportsmanship-four pillars that define the strength and vibrancy of our Family Club.

Women's Day reminded us of the power and grace of the incredible women in our community. Their achievements, resilience, and contributions continue to inspire us all.

Ugadi brought in fresh hopes and happiness, reminding us that every new beginning carries the promise of prosperity and success.

Holi filled our hearts with colors, laughter, and joy, as we celebrated the spirit of togetherness and the victory of good over evil.

Sports activities energized us, proving once again that fitness and fun go hand in hand. The laughter, the friendly competition, and the enthusiastic participation made it a true highlight of the month.

A heartfelt thank you to all the organizers, participants, and well-wishers who made these events memorable and meaningful. As we step into the coming months, let's continue to nurture the spirit of unity, joy, spirituality, and active engagement.

Happy reading, and see you at the next set of exciting events.

Dr.M.Ramjee R-267
98480 40655



Hon. Secretary's Message

Dear Members,

March was truly a month to remember! From empowering women to celebrating tradition and embracing sportsmanship, our club witnessed active participation and joyous moments.

Sports Extravaganza - Members showcased strength, agility, and teamwork in a series of exciting games.

A big thank you to our organizing teams and enthusiastic members. Looking forward to another exciting month ahead.

With Regards,

V.Seetharamaiah (S-225)

9849691188



The following is our bank details:

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Holi - The Startup with a Splash

Aarav, a young entrepreneur, had just launched his eco-friendly colors startup, but no one was interested. Everyone still bought synthetic colors, harming their skin and the environment.

One day, during Holi, Aarav's little sister accidentally threw his handmade colors on their neighbor's expensive white car. He panicked, expecting anger, but the neighbor smiled. **The color washed off instantly with water!** Seeing this, people became curious.

Word spread quickly. **By next Holi, Aarav's startup was booming, proving that sometimes, a single splash can paint a bright future!**



Ugadi - The Taste of New Beginnings



Rohan, a picky eater, hated the Ugadi Pachadi his mom made every year. "Why mix sweet, sour, and bitter together? It's disgusting!" he complained.

One Ugadi, after a tough year-failing an exam, losing a friend, and getting a surprise internship-his mom again gave him the Pachadi. She smiled and said,

"Life is like this dish. You can't have only the sweet moments. The bitter and sour ones are also necessary for growth."

That year, he ate the Pachadi with a smile, finally understanding its true meaning.





Help the Blind Foundation

Illuminating the Path to a Brighter Future



Background and Scale of Challenge

India is home to the largest number of blind people in the world. Out of 39 million blind individuals globally, nearly 12 million are in India. Among them, about 1.8 million are in the college age group. Unfortunately, many of these students come from poor backgrounds and lack access to education and healthcare.

HTBF focuses on helping these underprivileged, visually impaired students by supporting their college education and job readiness. Research shows that integrated education, rather than education in segregated schools for the visually impaired, helps visually impaired students become more employable. Inspired by this idea, the late Mr. D.K. Patel, a retired Senior Economist from HSBC in Hong Kong, founded HTBF.

About the Organization

Help the Blind Foundation (HTBF) is a Charitable Trust founded in 2005 in Hong Kong and registered in Chennai in 2010.

Our Vision: To successfully elevate the economic status of the visually impaired and improve their image in the eyes of society.

Our Mission: To achieve our vision by providing visually impaired students with access to higher education and enabling them to get jobs in today's modern economy.

The Foundation is managed by a team of 9 Trustees who are experienced bankers, academics and professionals on a voluntary basis. We are also supported by 60+ dedicated volunteers and over 50 admin staff and trainers across India.

<https://www.helptheblindfoundation.org/>

Key Highlights of the programs:

1. Sponsorship:

We provide financial support to visually impaired students pursuing graduate and post graduate degrees from reputed colleges in the integrated education system. The support includes college fees, hostel fees and living expenses. The program is guided by 60+ volunteers from diverse professional backgrounds. Since starting with just 9 students in 2010, we now support over 2,600 students.

2. Education, Mobility and Employability Training (EMET).

The objective of this two-year EMET training program is to empower visually impaired students with knowledge and skills using technology and assistive devices, thereby elevating their socio-economic status through education, employment, and financial independence. This program is supported by CSR partners, designed to build essential skills. Students are taught computer skills, spoken English, Mobility and employability skills.

3. Early Intervention Program (EIP).

To help students transition from school to college, we run the EIP in 4 schools in Tamil Nadu for classes 9 to 12. Students are trained in English, computer skills, mobility, and soft skills to better prepare them for college life.

4. STEM Education (Upcoming)

We are currently working with experts to develop STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) programs tailored for visually impaired students. A pilot project will be launched in selected schools in the coming years.

Accolades and Recognition:

- Received Platinum Certification" by GuideStar India for transparency and accountability
- Recognized at a national level when we were highlighted among the **"TOP 20 BEST NGOs OF THE YEAR 2023"** by Brand Honchos Media, chosen from over 500 NGOs in India.

If you're interested in contributing or collaborating, feel free to reach out to me or the HTBF team at donorconnect@helptheblind.in.

Let's work together to create opportunities and a brighter future for visually impaired students.

D Vijayalakshmi

Trustee, Help the Blind Foundation Email: dv@helptheblindfoundation.in

International Women's Day - The 'Unknown' CEO



Sneha was a tech genius but worked behind the scenes in her brother's startup. Investors always assumed he was the brains behind the company.

On International Women's Day, their company was invited to a conference. The keynote speaker was a surprise-Sneha! She confidently presented their success story. Investors were shocked. One of them even admitted, "We never knew the real CEO was you!"

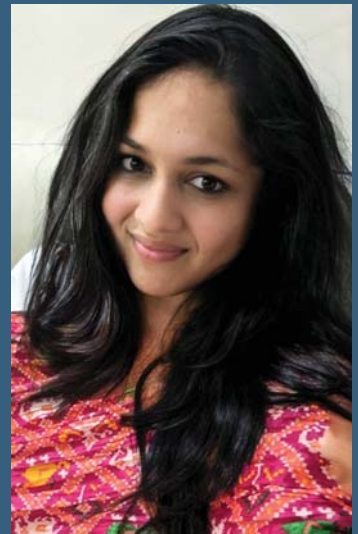
From that day, she stopped staying in the background and proudly led her company forward.

Because Women's Day isn't just about celebration-it's about recognition and change!

Uppalapati Nageswara Rao's (N-11) daughter,

Amritha Alapati,

(A-343), an avid writer got a book published a week ago - "21 Messages - tiny motivations". It is now on Amazon. Do get it and leave a review on Amazon. Her pen name is Akarsha. This small book would be a nice booster to gift someone as well! Both father and daughter dote on books, not to mention our club library!



WALTAIR TIMES ADVERTISEMENT TARIFF

Location	Single Issue	3 Issues	6 Issues	12 Issues
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Front Cover inside full	22000	48400	72600	133100
Back Cover page Full	30250	72600	108900	174350
Back Cover inside	18150	39600	72600	116600
Back Cover inside half	9900	22000	36300	58300
Full page inside	12100	29700	44000	72600
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Half Page	21.5 (W)	14 (H)	18.5(W)	12(H)

A Visionary Bringing Light to the Visually Impaired

In a world brimming with sights, colors, and vibrant stories told through the language of light, there are many among us who live in the shadows—robbed of the beauty of vision either by birth or by fate. But amidst this quiet darkness, there emerge beacons of light—individuals whose selfless service and compassion bring hope to those deprived of sight. This is the heartwarming story of **Sri M.V. Narayana Rao** and **Sri Avsarala Sreenivasa Rao**, two noble souls who have chosen to become the eyes for the blind, the clarity for the blurred, and the hope for the hopeless.

The Gift of Vision – Priceless and Profound

When Sri M.V. Narayana Rao served as the President of the esteemed **Rotary Club of Waltair**, he envisioned more than just programs and projects—he envisioned a world where no one would suffer for lack of vision, literally. With gentle determination and a heart full of purpose, he mobilized like-minded Rotarians, igniting a collective passion to serve the visually challenged.

Collaborating with the dedicated **Sri Avsarala Sreenivasa Rao**, they turned a dream into a mission—to provide **high-tech spectacles and wearable devices** that dramatically enhance vision for those with low or no vision. These advanced devices, sourced from **Vision Aid**, cost a substantial ¹ 31,500 each—a price far beyond the reach of most underprivileged individuals. But for these compassionate leaders, every rupee was worth the sparkle it could bring back into someone's life.

Service that Speaks through Numbers and Hearts

Under the inspiring leadership of Sri Narayana Rao, the Rotary Club of Waltair took a bold leap. He encouraged members to donate generously, leading to the distribution of nearly **70 life-changing devices** during his tenure alone. But the spirit of service did not end there.

Fuelled by their shared vision, the duo continued to reach out to **philanthropists, kind-hearted donors, and the global Rotary International network**, appealing to their empathy and generosity. Their mission resonated deeply, and the response has been nothing short of miraculous.

To date, with the combined support of **Rotary District 3020**, these compassionate changemakers have facilitated the distribution of **more than 800 such devices**. Yes, over **eight hundred lives** transformed, **eight hundred souls** given a new window to the world, and **eight hundred families** filled with gratitude and joy.

Vision is More Than Sight – It is Dignity, Independence, and Joy

The impact of this initiative transcends numbers. Each device gifted is a story rewritten—a young student now able to read his books, an elderly grandmother finally seeing the faces of her grandchildren, a hard-working artisan returning to his beloved craft. These aren't just spectacles; they are **instruments of empowerment, tools of transformation, and symbols of love in action**.

For those who once groped in darkness, unsure of their next step, these devices are a second chance at life. And for the team behind this noble cause, every smile received in return is a reward beyond measure.

Champions of Compassion – A Call to Join Hands

Sri M.V. Narayana Rao and Sri Avsarala Sreenivasa Rao are more than just Rotarians. They are visionaries in the truest sense—men who saw not just the problem, but the solution, and who had the courage and conviction to act. Their tireless efforts remind us that **service is not just about charity—it is about humanity**.

Now, these torchbearers are inviting more kind-hearted souls to join them in this sacred mission. They are knocking on the doors of philanthropists, reaching out to international Rotary forums, and calling upon every citizen with a heart to spare and a vision to share.

"To give someone vision," says Sri Narayana Rao, "is to give them back their dignity, their freedom, and their life. What greater joy can there be than to restore someone's sight?"

Let's Light Up More Lives... Together

As we celebrate the legacy of this endeavor, let us remember: the world doesn't change with grand speeches or great inventions alone—it changes with **simple, sincere acts of kindness**, like helping someone see.

So let us be part of this movement. Let us support the mission. Let us help these noble leaders reach their next milestone—not just in numbers, but in **lives transformed, smiles restored, and hearts touched**.

Together, let us **light a thousand more eyes**.

Together, let us create a world where **no one is left in the dark**.



M.V. Narayana Rao
(N-99)

గౌరవాన్ని తెచ్చే 5 వకారాలు

వస్త్రం, వపుస్సు (అంటే శరీరకాంతి), వాక్కు, విద్య, వినయం.

మొదటిది వస్త్రం: ఒక వ్యక్తిని చూడగానే మనకు కనపడేది అతని వస్త్రధారణ. వారిపట్ల ఆదరణ గాని, నిరసన గాని కలిగేది ఆ వస్త్రాల వల్లనే. ఒక మహాపండితుడు బీదవాడు చిరిగిన పాత వస్త్రాలతోనే రాజు గారి దర్శనం కోసం వెళ్లాడు. ద్వారపాలకులే బయటకు నెట్టేశారు. లోపలికి కూడా వెళ్లనివ్వలేదు. అదే పండితుడు మరునాడు పట్టుబట్టలు కట్టుకొని, పండిత శాలువా వేసుకొని వెళ్ళాడు. అందరూ స్వాగతం పలికారు. రాజు దర్శనము కలిగింది. సన్మానం దండిగానే జరిగింది. ఇది జీవిత సత్యం. కాబట్టి మనం మనకు ఉన్నంతలోనే శుభ్రమైన వస్త్రాలను ధరించాలి. అవి కూడా మన వయస్సుకి, వంశ సాంప్రదాయానికి అనుకూలమైనవే ధరిస్తే గౌరవంగా ఉంటుంది.



రెండవది వపుస్సు (శరీరకాంతి): అంటే నలుపు, తెలుపు, ఎరుపు, చామన ఛాయా అని కాదు. ముఖంలోని తేజస్సు. అందమనేది రంగులో లేదు. ముఖ తేజస్సులోనే ఉంటుంది. మన మనసులోని ఆనందం, బాధ, కోపం, శాంతం అన్ని మన ముఖంలోని కనిపిస్తాయి. మనమిప్పుడు మంచి ఆలోచనలతో, పగ, ద్వేషం చెడ్డ గుణాలను మనస్సులోకి రానీయకుండా ఉంటే, మన ముఖం దివ్యమైన తేజస్సుతో కళకళలాడుతూ ఉంటుంది అదే మనకు గౌరవం.

మూడోది వాక్కు: నోరు మంచిదైతే ఊరు మంచిదవుతుంది అంటారు. మనకు ఇష్టం లేని విషయాన్నైనా ఇతరుల పట్ల కోపాన్ని అసంతృప్తినినైనా మంచి మాటలతోనే సౌమ్యంగా వ్యక్తం చేయవచ్చు. సంస్కారవంతమైన మాట మనకెప్పుడు గౌరవాన్ని కలిగిస్తుంది.

నాలుగోది విద్య : విద్య అనేది ఆరిపోని దీపం లాంటిది. ఉన్న స్థానం నుంచి ఉన్నత స్థానానికి ఎదగాలంటే మనం అవకాశమున్నంతవరకు విద్యను ఆర్జించాల్సిందే.

ఐదవది వినయం : వినయం మనకు సమస్త సౌఖ్యాలను సమకూర్చుతుంది. శరవేగంతో ప్రవహించే నీరు నిటారుగా నిలబడ్డ పెద్ద చెట్టు మానుని కూల్చివేస్తుంది. కానీ తలవంచిన గడ్డి పరకను యేమి చేయలేదు. పెద్దలవద్ద వినయంతో తలవంచడం మనకు గౌరవమే తప్ప అవమానమేమి కాదు. పైగా అది మనకు అలంకారం కూడా.

మనం ఈ ఐదు వకారాల తత్వాన్ని అర్థం చేసుకొని శుభ్రమైన వస్త్రాలనే ధరించి, మంచి ఆలోచనలు చేస్తూ, సరళంగానే మాట్లాడుతుండాలి. శ్రద్ధతో విద్యాభ్యాసం చేస్తూ వినయంతో ప్రవర్తిస్తుండాలి. అలా చేస్తే మనకు సమాజంలో మంచి గౌరవం లభిస్తుంది

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MEMBER HONOUR



Mr. Rolland Williams,
R-360

Merilyn Shipping & Transports was recognised by Visakhapatnam Customs on the occasion of International Customs Day 2025 with the 1st place Honour in the Exports category for the highest number of Shipping Bills handled. The award was presented during a glittering ceremony held at the Port Stadium in Visakhapatnam to Mr. Rolland Williams, Managing Partner.

Merilyn Shipping handled over 5,400 export Shipping Bills during the nine month period between 1st April & 31st December 2024, which is well over double the number of shipments handled by the next place recipient.

The award was presented by Mr. M. Angamuthu, IAS, Chairperson, Visakhapatnam Port Authority & Mr. N. Sridhar, Principal Commissioner of Customs, Visakhapatnam. Mr. Rolland Williams, Managing Partner, Mr. Aashish Pakalapati, General Manager and senior staff Mr. Sagar Vaddi & Mr. Syamala Rao received the memento on behalf of Merilyn Shipping & Transports.

This is the 6th such continuous recognition that Merilyn Shipping has received from Visakhapatnam Customs. Mr. Williams stated that this recognition was a testament to the dedication, hard work, industry knowledge and service-oriented attitude of their team and the continued support of their long-standing clients.

SUNDAY SPECIAL TAMBOLA



CLUB CALENDAR

6.04.2025	Sun	Sunday Special Tambola	12:00 noon
6.04.2025	Sun	Sriramanavami	6:30 pm
7.04.2025	Mon	Eid-Milan	7:30 pm
11.04.2025	Fri	Movie	6:30 pm
18.04.2025	Fri	Movie	6:30 pm
19.04.2025	Sat	Super Bumper Tambola	7:30 pm
25.04.2025	Fri	Annual Sports Awards	5:00 pm

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