

# THE INDIAN THEOSOPHIST

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*Editor*

**PRADEEP H. GOHIL**

## PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

To the 150th International Convention of the Theosophical Society (TS)

*(In-person & on Zoom from 31 December 2025 to 4 January 2026)*

On behalf of all of the members and staff here at Adyar, I would like to welcome you all, and those who have joined on-line, to this 150th International Convention. For 150 years we have been gathering like this. Each wave of theosophists has benefited from this special meet, and the energies that radiate from this time together have been a blessing to the world. Please rise and let us turn our attention to those Great Ones whose work this Society was founded to assist.

**May those who are the embodiments of Love Immortal  
bless with their help and guidance this Society,  
founded to be a channel for their work.  
May They inspire it with their Wisdom, strengthen it  
with their Power, and energize it with their activity.**

It is a pleasure to declare this 150th Annual Convention of the TS open.

The major event and strong focus of the year's activity was the 150th anniversary of the founding of the Theosophical Society (TS). Throughout the year at Adyar, and around the world, an attempt has been made to assess the TS's history and impact on global culture. One significant event crystallized this moment. Every seven years (approximately) we hold a World Congress in different parts of the world. In 2018 the first Asian World Congress (not including India) was held in Singapore. Seven years have passed and this year we returned to the North American continent, where the TS was founded in 1875. Hosted by TS Canada, almost 400 members from around the world gathered in Vancouver, British Columbia, for the five-day celebration. An additional two days were devoted to the Theosophical Order of Service gathering.

The World Congress was a multifaceted event with programmes by members across the generational spectrum. One of the Canadian contributions was the prayers and programme by Canada's "First People" — Native American spiritual offerings.

Another highlight was the world premiere of the feature-length documentary film, *One Fire*, in the works for two years. Written and Directed by TS Finland member, Terhi Ahava, it was a high-level, professionally produced, exploration of the TS's history and its influence has exerted on global culture. Tracing its impact across time and continents, it brought together the views of authorities in the fields of music, art, religion, spirituality, politics, and history. It also includes a musical score written specifically for the film. The film has had theatre screenings in several countries, and on 17 November, the Foundation Day of the TS, it was released on YouTube. Although it was released only three weeks prior to the time of this writing, it already has had more than 100,000 views!

There have been many noteworthy activities at Adyar. In early 2024, we launched the **Adyar Eco Development (AED)** project as a conscious effort to adopt a more thoughtful stewardship of the natural treasure that is the Adyar campus. The partnership on this project with Pitchandikulam Forest Consultants, led by Joss Brooks from Auroville, has progressed over the past year as a centre of restoration ecology, and hands-on environmental education. Since unveiling the project to the delegates at the 149<sup>th</sup> Convention, the team has quietly gone about transforming pockets of the campus into beautiful, healthier spaces for contemplative immersion and learning. A charming bamboo germination shed was added to the nursery adjoining the Great Banyan Tree, to nurture the precious seedlings being collected from across the campus. Hundreds of native saplings continue to be planted in various parts of the campus, including lesser-known medicinal herbs, as well as "sacred grove" species, emblematic of the region's native flora, rooted in the community's culture. Restorative care was provided to special trees around the campus, including a venerable, but afflicted, giant baobab behind the Olcott Cottage. Spaces around the campus have been revitalized and made more accessible through thoughtful land-scaping work. Beautiful granite benches were set up near the Adyar Theatre, and the nearby pond refreshed with white lotuses, too-long absent from the home of the Masters. The children of Olcott School were provided new, inviting places to enjoy their meals, with granite benches set up near the kitchen. More Kadapa stone artworks and carved sculptures now grace the gardens and pathways, thoughtfully placed for quietly

revealing themselves to delighted passersby.

The new “Blue-Green Centre” in the Sapota Orchard behind Olcott School, was finished just in time for the beginning of the new academic year. The delightful and extremely functional classroom, as well as the team of environmental educators in it, sprung into immediate action. The team, worked in tandem with school teachers, planning and designing programmes and activities that weave hands-on, immersive experiences in the natural environment around the Centre with engaging classroom discussions. The team has quickly bonded with the children of both Olcott School and Adyar Theosophical Academy, engaging them in a range of activities highlighting the complexity and interconnectedness of life around us. The educators also worked closely with students in Olcott School, encouraging the formation of a “Ministry of Design” that overlooks the care of the campus, while instilling in the children a sense of belonging and conscious responsibility. Looking ahead, the team has been actively working towards more collaborations and partnerships with schools, educators, ecologists, community workers, artists and funders. Projects are already underway in and around Olcott Bungalow, as well as considerable land-scaping work in the Olcott School campus. The scope of AED’s work to invoke deeper connections to the consciousness in a shared ecology is seemingly limitless.

The Art Project initiated by the **Blavatsky Museum of Arts** marked a turning point this year, successfully completing the conservation and restoration of 100 paintings, that began two years ago. German museum-quality glass was used for 25 of them to ensure their longevity and enhance the viewer’s experience. This included the iconic work of Nicholas Roerich, *The Messenger*, which prompted the establishment of the museum in 1925. To prepare for the Museum’s centenary, a booklet, with thirty historical items from our collection was published. Also, the museum space was renovated. For climate control, dehumidifiers were used. A new display arrangement was completed, and thirty silver and bronze items were also restored. In external activities, the Art Project was presented at the World Congress, and a visit was organized to the Vancouver Art Gallery’s vaults to view the paintings of Lawren Harris, a famous theosophist artist from the early 20th century. Lastly, the artist residency was relaunched after more than a century with Christine Odlund and Fredrik Soderberg

from Sweden. Their presence on the campus has been vivid, and the outcome of their time in Adyar can be seen in their exhibition during the Convention.

The **Adyar Library & Research Centre (ALRC)** is in its final stages of automation. It enables (i) quick search of books or manuscripts, (ii) secure storage and retrieval and (iii) backup of all data. Koha is an open-source software used in libraries around the world. Here it has been introduced to manage library memberships and our database of over 150,000 book titles and 20,000 paper & palm-leaf manuscripts being digitized. Manuscripts are scanned or photographed and stored in computers. Regular backups are taken of all data using a sophisticated system. An IT Section was created to support this.

The **Olcott Memorial Higher Secondary School (OMHSS)** has had significant upgrades over the past year. In conjunction with the Shiv Nadar School, a track and field facility was constructed. A Blue-Green Centre was also built and is now fully staffed and operational, serving as an eco-educational hub in the area. The Centre was inaugurated in April.

The **Adyar Theosophical Academy (ATA)** enrollment continues to expand, adding a new grade level each year, currently up to 8th grade. As a result, the school has outgrown its current location in the repurposed Theosophical Publishing House (TPH) and Vasanta Press buildings. In October we broke ground for the new school campus on the Kirby Gardens area of the Adyar campus and should be ready for the next academic year.

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The year 2024–2025 was highly active and significant for the **Indian** Section of the TS, marked by strong membership growth and expanded educational initiatives. A historic delegation of 98 members attended the 12th World Congress in Vancouver for the Society’s 150th anniversary, the largest from any country. Key administrative developments included Banaras Hindu University’s approval of a Theosophy course, resolution of land-related cases, and compensation received for acquired land in Salem. The Dr Radha Burnier Award was presented to N. C. Krishna for his long and dedicated service. National and international lecturers travelled widely, sharing teachings on self-knowledge, meditation, spiritual regeneration, the Mahatma Letters, global brotherhood, and applied

Theosophy. On-line activities such as weekly lectures, study groups, and YouTube channels including *Theosophy India* significantly expanded outreach. Publications remained strong, with *The Indian Theosophist* issued monthly in English and Hindi, alongside books, translations, and digital newsletters. Service and educational work continued through the Theosophical Order of Service, colleges, hostels, and schools, while new outreach in several states fostered fresh study groups and Lodges.

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At the **INTERNATIONAL HEADQUARTERS IN ADYAR**, the **Adyar Library and Research Centre (ALRC)**, presented an exhibition titled “Kanjur and Tanjur: The Holy Books of Tibetan Buddhism”, during the 149th International Convention, which was very well received. The Library also hosted a two-day seminar on science-based Indian Knowledge Systems and celebrated the successful completion of a Sanskrit course by the staff. The “Libraries as Communities” programme continues to grow with increasing public participation.

I have already talked about **Adyar Eco Development** and the **Blavatsky Museum of Arts** at the beginning.

The **Besant Memorial Animal Dispensary** experienced a year of strong growth and consolidation, reinforcing its role in compassionate veterinary service. Clinical services expanded to meet community needs, supported by dedicated veterinary professionals and volunteers. Diagnostic capacity improved with upgraded equipment, and a modern operation theatre strengthened animal birth control efforts. Continued emphasis on sterilization and responsible pet ownership advanced long-term welfare goals. New facilities enhanced care for animals across multiple species, reaffirming BMAD’s commitment to animal welfare and community responsibility.

The **Olcott Education Society** continued during the past year to uphold its steadfast commitment to the holistic development of members of deprived communities through its educational, social, and vocational initiatives. Guided by the vision of Col. Olcott, the **Olcott Memorial Higher Secondary School** provided free, quality education to 375 students, supported by meals, counselling, scholarships, and a wide range of academic, cultural, and sporting activities, while also integrating digital literacy, STEM learning, and environmental awareness via the AED team. The **Social Welfare**

**Centre** nurtured early childhood education for 25 children through Montessoribased learning, health initiatives, ecoawareness, and nutrition. The **Vocational Training Centre** empowered women through tailoring and weaving skills, fostering self-employment and entrepreneurship. Together, these units sustained a compassionate legacy of education, dignity, and service.

The **School of the Wisdom (SOW)**, welcomed about 200 members from more than 30 countries during the year ending September 2025, offering sessions, both on the Adyar campus and through select on-line sessions. Under the guidance of the Director, Erica Georgiades, on-line sessions were intentionally reduced to encourage deeper learning, placing greater emphasis on in-person classes that cultivate focused study, meaningful dialogue, and genuine human connection. Participants repeatedly shared that the unique spiritual atmosphere of Adyar — its sacred grounds, historic landmarks, and vibrant community — deepened their experience far beyond intellectual learning. The year’s programme included “The Transformative Power of *The Secret Doctrine*” with Dr Pablo and Michele Sender; “Los Pilaes de la Sabiduröa Eterna” with Marcela Pardella and Eduardo Gramaglia; “Practicing Spiritual Teachings in Our Daily Life” with Dr Ravi Ravindra; “Insights into the Mahatma Letters” with U. S. Pandey; and the on-line course “Science and Occult Science” by Dr Edi Bilimoria. Inspiring campus tours were conducted for each batch by Shikhar Agnihotri.

The **Surendra Narayan Archives** reported a steady year, receiving regular requests from TS members and global scholars for documents, photographs, and related materials. During the Convention, the Archives presented an exhibition — *HPB’s Paintings, Satirical Sketches and Doodles* — warmly appreciated by the delegates. Members of the TS and the broader Adyar community anticipate the forthcoming book by Dr Geetha Jaikumar, on the early Adyar campus.

The **Theosophical Order of Service (TOS)** reports active presence in 38 of the 59 countries where the TS operates. The website is being fully redesigned. Social channels, like Facebook and an upcoming Instagram account, are being reorganized to strengthen future communication. Leadership changes took place in England, Italy, France, and Canada following retirements and the passing of longtime coordinator Atma Trasi. Several national



Sections launched initiatives, such as support programmes for differently abled children and an eye-donation campaign in India, student sponsorships in Kenya, environmental outreach in the USA, and assistance for children's publications in New Zealand. Reports received highlight continued dedication to women's issues, education, youth engagement, animal welfare, humanitarian aid, and the widespread activity of healing groups. A major milestone was the 5th International TOS Conference in Vancouver, featuring President Tim Boyd, keynote speaker Vic Hao Chin, Jr, and presenters from 11 countries, whose talks are available on the World Congress website.

The **Theosophical Publishing House** increased its sales during the year, supported by its reprinting of fifty-nine, previously out-of-stock titles to ensure full availability during the 149th Convention. Two significant books were published for the Vancouver World Congress: *H. P. Blavatsky Collected Writings: Russian Serials* compiled by Michael Gomes and *On the Verge of Wisdom* by President Tim Boyd, both of which sold out beyond pre-orders. As of 30 September 2025, the journal subscriptions were: *The Theosophist* — India 633, overseas 52 and *Adyar Newsletter* — India 224, overseas 73. A steep rise in overseas postal rates caused many print subscribers to cancel.

The **World Federation of Young Theosophists** continued to expand its global work following the election of a new international board. A rich programme of spiritual study and community engagement was sustained through regular study groups on key theosophical texts, astrology sessions, and ongoing discussion series. Additional activities included panel discussions, creative poetry evenings, and a growing podcast collection. Recordings of lectures and study sessions were made available through the WFYT You-Tube channel, extending global access to its work. Two international gatherings were held during the year, strengthening international connections and shared learning among participants from many countries. Outreach and communication continued to grow through the redesigned website, <wfyf.org>, as well as active engagement on WhatsApp, Instagram, and Facebook. With a steadily expanding worldwide membership, WFYT continues to foster study, creativity, and connection among young theosophists while preparing for future international gatherings.

Tim Boyd

## NEWS AND NOTES

### Delhi

The following activities were held under the auspices of Shankar Lodge, Delhi Federation, in December 2025:

National Lecturer Bro. Shikhar Agnihotri delivered an on-line on 6 December on the topic 'HPB's suggestion – How to unfold Intuition'.

National Lecturer Dr. Rajiv Gupta delivered a talk on the topic '*Manomaya Kosha*'. It was held at the Lodge on 13 December.

Sis. Vibha Saksena explained in on-line on 20 December about 'Movements of the One Reality- studies of *The Secret Doctrine* -Part-I'.

The subject of talk delivered at the Lodge on 27 December by Dr. Rajiv Gupta and Dr. Mansi Bhagat was 'How does the mind work'.

### Gujarat

In the first fortnightly meeting of Bhavnagar Lodge held on 8 November, members felicitated Sri Pradeep H. Gohil on his selection as President of the Indian Section of the Theosophical Society for the fourth consecutive term. The ceremony was graced by a four-term ex M.P. Sri Rajendrasinh Rana as Chief Guest. During his address Sri Pradipbhai urged members to undertake humanitarian projects. In the subsequent fortnightly meeting motivational speaker Arvind Trivedi delivered a thought-provoking talk on Kabir's famous quote "*Ghoonghat Ke Pat Khol*". The members of Krushnanagar Lodge joined in both the meetings strengthening the inter- lodge bonds.

### Kerala

Kerala Theosophical Federation observed the Foundation Day on 17 November. Besides, discussions on the following topics/books were conducted by various lodges: 'Object of the Society, Theosophy', *At the Feet of the Master: The Voice of the Silence* and 'History of the Theosophical Society'.

The following activities were held in the month of December, 2025: The topics of the two talks delivered by Bro. Sivadas were "Neutrality in the Light of Theosophy", and "Ageless Wisdom", which were followed by discussions.

Sis. Lakshmi Bai explained the "The Six Rules of Conduct" based on "*At The Feet of The Master*". This was followed by discussion on "The Third Object of The Theosophical Society". The following activities were conducted by the Lodges:

The Lodge at Kannur has completed the study and discussion on "*At The Feet of The Master*" and has now started the study on "*The Voice of the Silence*".

Discussion on "The Second Object of The Theosophical Society" was held at Vadakara.

Study and discussion on "*The Voice of the Silence*" was held in the Lodge at Kozhikode. Talks on the book "*The Wisdom of the Upanishads*" by Annie Besant was held at the Lodge and Secretary of the Lodge Bro. Anil Kumar spoke on 'Christmas and Christ'.

On-line study class of the book "*The Key to Theosophy*" was held under the auspices of Thrissur Lodge on 06 December 2025.

On-line meetings on "Theosophy and The Theosophical Society" and "The Study of Theosophy" were conducted at Palakkad

Study classes on 'The teachings of J. Krishnamurti', "*Theosophy Explained in Questions & Answers*" authored by P Pavri and 'HPB's teachings' were conducted at Ernakulam by the Federation President Bro. Sivadas,

Discussion on the book "*Think about these things*" by J. Krishnamurti was held at Thiruvananthapuram

### Tamil

The Lodge of Dharmapuri, Nagarcoil, Puducherry, Koradacherry, and Ussoor conducted meetings between Oct. 2025 to December 2025. Then, during the same period Vasantham Lodge and Sathuvachari Lodge held fortnightly meetings. Raja Lodge and Lotus Lodge of Vellore conducted weekly meetings in every month during the aforementioned period.

**The 150<sup>th</sup> Year of TS was conducted by the following lodges:** Coimbatore Main Lodge on 24 September 2025, Dharampuram Lodge on 2 October, Vasantham Lodge, Sathuvachari (VUR) 4 October 25 and Sri Krishna Lodge, Puducherry on 20 December 25. In the meeting Bro. Swaminatha Bharathi was honoured with cash award of Rs.10,000/- for his excellence in Public Life as well as in Theosophical Society.

Foreigners from Spain visited Madurai Lodge and its Library on 18.12.25.

Ten members from Tamil Federation attended the Centenary Celebration of Bharatha Samaj Pooja held at Adyar HQ on 10/11 October 25

**Other Activities:** Sis. Desi Dharmalingam of Dharmapuri Lodge provided free breakfast on different dates in every month to the attendants to the patients at Govt. Hospital, Dharmapuri incurring Rs. 42,000/- between October and December 2025.

Bro. P.Devarajan, Federation Secretary, provided meals to 100 persons at Sri Dhandayuthapani Temple, Laligam, on the occasion of *Sasti* on 20 October 25 at the cost of Rs.1,500/-

Bro. V. Thangamani of Sivagangai Lodge provided meals to the inmates of GNS Orphanage on the occasion of his marriage anniversary on 16.11.25.

Bro. R.Packirisamy, Secretary of Annai Lodge, Koradacherry provided meals to 94 Thirumurai Students during the quarter.

Bro, Dr. K.Apathukatha Pillai, President, Nagarcoil Lodge provided lunch to the inmates of DEJASVI Orphanage at Oottuvazh Mutt on 07 December 25 on the occasion of his 51st marriage anniversary.

### Utkal

The Federation celebrated the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Theosophical Society on 17 November. Dr Deepa Padhi, the International Vice-President was the Chief Guest. She delivered lecture on the topic "150 years of Theosophy: A journey of Light and Brotherhood". This was followed by three talks: Bro Pradip Kumar Mahapatra spoke on 'Colonel Olcott and Theosophical Society', Sis Purnamasi Pattanaik spoke about 'Madam Blavatsky and Theosophy' and Bro Partha Sarathi Sarangi's subject of talk was 'Contribution of Annie Besant to Popularize Theosophy'. UTF President Dr Chittaranjan Satpathy addressed the audience. The vote of thanks was given by Sis Mitalini.

A special series of on-line talks was conducted on the eve of 150th Anniversary of TS from 18 to 26 November. The theme of the programme was "Theosophy, Theosophical Society, and Its Pioneers" and the speakers and the subjects of their talks were Bro Pradip Mahapatra - 'Theosophy and Theosophical Society'; Sis Purnamasi - 'H.P.B and Theosophy'; Sis Mitalini - 'H.S. Olcott and His contribution to Theosophical Society'; Bro Pramod Mishra - 'Dr Annie Besant'; Bro Satyabrata - 'C.W. Leadbeater'; Dr Partha Sarathi Prasad Sarangi - 'Bro N. Sri Ram'; Sis Suvralina Mohanty - 'Bro C. Jinarajadasa'; Dr Chittaranjan Satpathy - 'Dr Radha Burnier'; Dr Chinmayee Mohapatra - 'Bro John Coats and Bro G.S. Arundel'; and Bro Dhruva Prasad Panda - 'Dr I.K. Taimni'.

The Federation participated in the Kalinga Book Fair from 21 to 30 November. It provided great opportunity to sell and distribute Theosophical books. A number of books on Theosophy were sold on this occasion.

Sis. Mitalini delivered an on-line lecture on 8 December on the topic 'Utkal Theosophical Society: It's pioneers and their Contributions'.

The Federation is conducting study class on the book '*Self Culture*' on every Sunday from 9.30 a.m. to 10.30 a.m. Besides, study class on the book *Sri GURU CHARANE* is conducted on every Thursday for the new members.

The following programmes were conducted at Barabati Lodge between October and December 2025: Lodge's President Dr. Prafulla Kumar Dash delivered a talk on 'Brahmn and Brahma' on 13 October. Sri BS Mohanty, Secretary of the Lodge, delivered a talk on 'Law of Karma' which was held in the Barabati Lodge Beginner's Meet in VDO conference mode on 25 October. Sri Prabir Pattnaik delivered the 1<sup>st</sup> part of the talk on 'Baudhaguru Padmasambhava' on 27 October. Then, he delivered the second talk on same subject on 3 November.

Prof. Dr. Niranjana Sahoo delivered a talk on 10 November on the topic 'Uniqueness of Personality'. The Lodge observed Foundation Day on 17 November.

Bro. B.D. Tendulkar's two on-line talks on the topic 'Personality and Individuality' were held on 17 November and 1 December. Besides, he spoke on 'Kamamanasa and Manas Taijasi' on 8 December.

The subject of Prof. Sri Sahadeba Patro's talk delivered on 22 December was 'Theosophy and The Theosophical Society'.

Cuttack Lodge conducted study classes on 4 days in every week. In order to celebrate the Centenary of Bharat Samaj Pooja, the Lodge organized Bharat Samaj Pooja on 21<sup>st</sup> December and the Pooja on this occasion was performed by Sis Purnamasi Pattnaik.

National Lecturer Dr Rachana Srivastava delivered lecture on the topic 'Theosophy in Action: Building A Compassion Civilisation' which was held at Cuttack Lodge on 30 December.

The Lodge participated in the historical Balijatra Book Fair from 5th to 10th November and distributed many Theosophical books to the students and sympathizers.

The Sidharth Lodge celebrated its 60th Annual Conference on 9th November at UTF Building. Dr Chittaranjan Satapathy was the Chief Guest and he delivered lecture on "From the Alone to the Alone." Besides, there were short talks on the topic "How Far Theosophy helps me in my Journey." The speakers were -Bro Binaya, Sis Sabita, Sis Sandhya and Sis Manaswini.

Bro Prahallad Chandra Mahapatra Memorial Study Class was conducted at Siddharth Lodge, Bhubaneswar, by National Lecturer Sis Suvalina Mohanty on 26 November. The book for the study was "*The Real Work of Theosophical Society*" by Bro N. Sri Ram.

## U.P. & Uttarakhand

The study of the book *The Path of Discipleship* was conducted at Dharma Lodge, Lucknow, on every Thursday in the month of November 2025. Besides, Bro. U.S. Pandey delivered a talk there in the meeting organized by the Lodge to celebrate the Foundation Day of the T.S. on 17 November. And then, Bro. U.S. Pandey's two talks held at the same venue on 3 & 17 Dec. were on the topics 'Theosophy the Divine Wisdom', and ' Winter Solstice, Christmas and Makar Sankranti'. Bro. B.K. Pandey explained about 'Seven Bodies of Man' on 3 December. The topics of Bro. Ashok Kumar Gupta's two talks delivered there on 17 & 31 Dec. were 'Prana' and 'Plan, Evolution and Purpose of Life'.

Sis. Vasumati Agnihotri's three talks delivered at Pragya Lodge, Lucknow, were on the topics 'Practical Occultism' 'Shankaracharya' and 'Prana'. These talks were held on 9, 23 and 29 November respectively. Then, she spoke about 'Prana', '*Gandhava and Deva*' on 14 & 28 December.

Bro. H. B. Pandey delivered a talk on 'Avatarvad in Sanatan Dharma' which was held at Nirvan Lodge, Agra, on 6 November. Bro. Devendra Bajpai explained the 'Salient features of Indian Culture' on 20 November. The topic of Bro. Vinod Sharma's talk held at the same venue on 27 November was 'Vedanta Darshan'. Bro. Praveen Mehotra's talk on 'Joy' was held at the Lodge on 11 Dec. and Bro. R.C. Rawat explained about 'Theosophy as Masters see it' on 18 December. The Foundation Day of T.S. was observed at the Lodge on 17 November. Besides, symposiums on the subjects 'Philosophy', 'Truth and 'O Hidden Life' were organized at the Lodge on 13 November, 4 and 25 December respectively.

Bro. A.P. Srivastava's talk held at Sarvahitkari Lodge, Gorakhpur, was on the topic 'Vedic Period'. Bro. R.P. Singh explained about the 'Vital Elements in Life' and Bro. Ajai Rai spoke at the same venue about 'Eternal Journey'. These three talks were delivered at the Lodge on 12, 19 and 26 November respectively. Bro. S.B.R. Mishra's talks on 'Seven Elements of Man' and 'Psychogenesis' were held at the same venue on 3 and 10 December. Bro. Arvind Rai explained about 'Bodies of Man' on 17 and 24 December. His one talk on the topic 'Brahm Vidya' was held at Jagdishpur (Dist Gorakhpur ) on 7 Dec. And, then he spoke about 'Religion and Spirituality' at Sanatan Dharm Lodge on 14 December.

Bro. S.B.R. Mishra explained the 'Spiritual Significance of Number Seven' at Sanatan Dharm Lodge on 9 November. His other talks were on the topics 'Theosophy is Altruism' which was held at Brahmvidya Lodge in Deoria on 16 November. And then, he spoke



about the 'Gospel of Islam' at Satyadarsan Lodge, Jogia, on 26 November.

Study of the booklets '*Esoteric School of Theosophy*', '*Search for one's True Nature*' and '*Working Method of Theosophical Society*' were conducted at Narayan Lodge in Mirzapur on 5, 16 and 24 November respectively. Then, study of the book '*The Key to Theosophy*' was conducted at the Lodge by Bro. Mahendra Kumar Srivastava on 7 and 14 December respectively.

Bro. Sheshnath Tripathi delivered a talk on the topic 'Spiritual Significance of Number Seven' which was held at Brahmvidya Lodge Jigina (Bansgaon) on 28 November.

Bro. Vinaymohan Tripathi explained about the 'Tattvamimansa in Vedanta' in the meeting of the Chotubhuj Lodge, Bansgaon, held on 29 November.

Bro. Shiv Baran Singh delivered a talk on 'Seven Rays' which was held at Chohan Lodge, Kanpur, on 2 November. The topic of his other talk delivered at the same venue on 16 November was 'Humility'. A Movie 'One Fire' released on the Foundation Day by TS International Headquarters was seen by the members of Chohan Lodge on 26 November. Sis. Shailey Singh delivered a talk on the topic 'Forms of our thoughts' and other talk on 'Practical Theosophy' which were held at Chohan Lodge on 7 and 21 December respectively. The Significance of Bharat Samaj Pooja' was explained by Bro. S.K. Pandey on 14 December.

Bro. Varun Maheshwari conducted the study of the book '*Death and After*' at Noida Lodge on 2 November. Then, he conducted the study of the book '*Karma ka Rahasya*' on 7 December. Sis. Lalita Khatri delivered a talk there on 16 November in which she spoke about the 'History of T.S.' A group discussion on the topic 'Learning of Theosophy applied to daily life' was organized there on 21 December.

Sis. Indu Sood conducted the study of the book '*The Laws of Higher Life*' (by Annie Besant) at Maitreya Lodge, Gr. Noida. The Chapters of the book studied on 7 and 21 December were 'The Larger Consciousness', 'The Law of Duty' and 'The Law of Sacrifice'.

Study of the book '*Hints on the study of the Bhagavad Gita*' was conducted at Prayas Lodge, Ghaziabad, on 2, 9 and 16 November respectively. Dr. Mansi Bhagat delivered a talk there on 23 November and the subject he spoke on was 'Theosophy for the seeker – Golden Stairs'. Sis. Suvralina Mohanty conducted the study of the Booklets '*Theosophy ka Vyavahar Darshan* and '*The Universal Law of Life*' on 7 and 28 December. Sis. Sandhya Rani

gave a talk there on 21 December in which she spoke about 'J. Krishnamurti's life'.

Sis. Archana Pandey's talk on the topic 'Astral Plane (Part-2) and 'Astral Plane (Part-3) were held at Anand Lodge Prayagraj, on 2 and 16 November. Then, she spoke about part- 4 and Part- 5 of the book on 7 and 14 December respectively. Bro. Sudeep Mishra spoke there on 9 November about 'There is no Religion Higher than Truth'. The topic of Sis. Sushma Srivastava's talk delivered there on 21 December was 'Devachan Plane'. The Lodge observed Foundation Day of T.S. on 17 November.

Sis. Sushama Srivastava delivered a talk on 'The Emblem of TS' in the meeting held under the auspices of Mahila Dharma Lodge, Prayagraj, on 8 November.

Kashi Tattva Sabha (KTS) organized a 'Theosophy through painting' event in which some students of Annie Besant School in Varanasi, made painting of H.P. Blavatsky, Annie Besant and of Religious Symbols. The Participation and Appreciation Certificates were awarded to the students in a programme held on 3 November. Besides, a Painting Mela on the theme Theosophy/Aims of Theosophy was organized on 17 November for the students of Vasant Kanya Mahavidyalaya (VKM), Varanasi.

A group discussion on the theme 'Dream and Consciousness' was conducted at Annie Besant Lodge, Varanasi, on 25 November.

#### **Public Talks**

Bro. S.B.R. Mishra delivered a public talk on the topic 'Introduction of Theosophy'. It was held on 5 November before a gathering in the village Jagdishpur (Distt. Gorakhpur).

Bro. U.S. Pandey explained to a group of citizens about 'What is Theosophy?' This talk was delivered in a programme organized by Bro. Ajit Prasad Sinha on 5 November in Patna. Besides, Bro. U.S. Pandey spoke as a guest speaker on the topic 'Spirituality in Daily Life'. This talk was delivered on 9 November during the Dhyan Maha Yagga which was organized by Pyramid Meditation Channel (PMC) at Lucknow. Then, he spoke on the theme 'History and purpose of founding the Theosophical Society' before a group of citizens at Zirakpur (Punjab). It was organized on 15 December by Sis. Sunita Gahrotra/ Bro. Ashok Gahrotra (senior members of Noida Lodge, now shifted there).

Sis. Indu Sood delivered talk on the theme '*The Law of Higher Life*' which was held in two on-line sessions on 22 and 24 December on PMC group platform.

Bro. S.K. Pandey delivered a public talk on the topic 'Reincarnation' which was held under the auspices of Satyamarg



Lodge on 16 November in Lucknow.

#### **Address to Students/Teachers/Youth**

Bro. S.B.R. Mishra delivered a talk on the topic 'Building Character'. It was held at JP Nursing College, Gorakhpur, on 21 November. Besides, he spoke on the same topic at GVVP International School Gorkahpur on 14 December.

Bro. U.S. Pandey explained on 4 November about 'Oneness of Life' to a group of students and teachers of Annie Besant School at Indian Section, HQ, Varanasi. He addressed the students and teachers of Vasant Kanya Inter College (VKIC) on 29 November and delivered a talk on 'Orientation to Theosophy'. Then, on the same day, Dr. Kumud Ranjan spoke about the 'Life & Work of Col. Olcott' and this was held as part of Value-Added Programme at Vasant Kanya Mahavidyalaya (VKM).

The members of Kashi Tattva Sabha also attended the aforementioned two talks of Bro. U. S. Pandey which were organized by the Lodge on the premises of VKIC and VKM on 29 November.

#### **Study Camps**

Bro. S.K. Pandey directed a day-long study camp on the theme 'Reincarnation'. It was jointly organized by Chohan Lodge, Kanpur and Tapasya Lodge on 9 November at Ganga Ghat, Unnao. Besides, Bro. S.K. Pandey directed the study of the book '*Light on the Path*' which was organized by Pragya Lodge, Lucknow, on 14,15 and 16 November respectively.

**Chandigarh Lodge** (attached to the Indian Section): Membership of all members of this lodge, as of now stand, dropped as they did not renew their membership. On invitation of Sis. Urmila Sharm, a senior(former) member there, Bro. U. S. Pandey visited the Lodge on 14 December and delivered a talk there on the theme "History and purpose of founding the Theosophical Society". And then, also explained to them to about how to revive their membership.

#### **Contribution to the Indian Section Programme**

Sis. Archana Pandey delivered an on-line talk on 9 November in which she spoke about 'The Divine Truth of the Invisible Helpers through the Light of Theosophy'.

Sis. Sushma Srivastava's on-line talk delivered on 23 November was on the topic 'The Question of Guidance' (26<sup>th</sup> Chapter of the book *Self-Culture*).

Bro. U.S. Pandey conducted on-line study on 14, 15 and 16 November and the book taken up for study was '*Brahm – Sutras*' (Introduction and Chapter 1). On-line study of Chapter II,III, IV of

the same book were conducted by Bro. U.S. Pandey on 5,6,7,12 and 13 Dec. respectively.

Sis. Vibha Saksena conducted study of '*Letters from the Masters of Wisdom*' – second series (Letters No. 19 to 25). This on-line study was conducted on 21 and 28 November.

Sis. Suvralina Mohanty delivered an on-line talk on the topic 'Methods to disseminate Theosophy amongst the Youth' which was held on 21 December.

#### **PROGRAMMES OF THE INDIAN SECTION, TS, HELD ON ZOOM ON-LINE**

The following three talks were held on the occasion of Dr Annie Besant Birthday (1<sup>st</sup> October): Bro. Darshan Jha spoke about 'Annie Besant - a Great Educationist'. Prof. Rachna Srivastava's talk was on 'Annie Besant - a Great Social Reformer'. And, the subject of Bro. N.C. Krishna's talk was 'Annie Besant – a Great Theosophist'. Sis. Pooja Gole was the Moderator.

Bro. Pradip Mahapatra conducted study of Mahatma Letters No. 7 & 8 from the book '*Letters from the Masters of the Wisdom*' (second series) on 3 October. Then, he conducted the study of Letter No. 11 of the same book on 17 October.

Dr. Rajiv Mathur conducted the study class in Hindi on 3 October and the book taken up for this purpose was '*Self-Culture*' Chapter 24 (Part-3) 'The Eight Sub-division of Yogic Technique'.

Sis. Vimal Balchander conducted study on 4 October of Letters No. 9 & 10 from the book '*Letters from the Masters of the Wisdom*' (second series). Besides, she explained the content of the Letters No. 14 to 18 on 7 November 2025.

Bro. N.C. Krishna conducted study on Letters No. 12 & 13 from the book '*Letters from the Masters of the Wisdom*'.

The following three speakers delivered on-line talk on the occasion of the Foundation Day: Bro. Arni Narendran spoke about '150 years of the Theosophical Society'. Bro. Adi Keshab Sastri's subject of talk was 'How to disseminate Theosophy in present situation' and Sis. Vimal Balchander explained the 'Importance and Relevance of Theosophical Society'.

#### **SOUTH INDIAN CONFERENCE**

DATES: 3 - 5 April 2026

Venue: Blavatsky Bungalow, Ground floor, TS Adyar

Registration Starts: 2nd Feb 2026; 10am

Registration link: <https://rzp.io/rzp/mhxLlysk> (will become active

on 2nd Feb 2026 ;10am)

Last date of registration is 20th March 2026. No last minute requests.

Last date for cancellation is 20th March 2026 (No refund after this)

Cancellation fee: Rs.300 cancellation fee up to 20th March 2026, no refund if cancelled after 20th March 2026.

First come first serve basis. Limited Ground floor beds.

For any queries regarding registration, kindly send email to: [sicadyarts@gmail.com](mailto:sicadyarts@gmail.com)

Package options for registration for the 102nd South India Conference

The package starts from 2nd April Dinner to 6th April Breakfast.

A. Leadbeater Chambers with A/C package - Rs. 5,500 per person, for members only - Limited Beds (includes the registration fee, LBC AC accommodation and meals)

B. Leadbeater Chambers without A/C package - Rs. 4,300 per person, for members only (includes the registration fee, LBC NON AC accommodation and meals)

C. New Quadrangle accommodation package - Rs. 3,100 per person, for Members only (includes the registration fee, NQ accommodation and meals)

D. Basic Accommodation package - Rs. 2,100 per person, for Members only (includes the registration fee, Dormitory accommodation and meals)

E. Registration for attendance only - Rs. 300 per person (includes the registration fee required for attending the Conference, without accommodation or prepaid meals - meals can be bought on the spot with 24 hours advance information)

Shikhar Agnihotri  
Pradip Mahapatra

### NOTIFICATION

The President of the Indian Section proposed the name of Bro. S.L. Dar as Secretary of the Indian Section (HQ) and the name of Bro. Pradip Kumar Mahapatra as Secretary for off-line and on-line programmes from January 2026 to December 2028 in the meeting of the National Executive Committee of the Indian Section held at Adyar on 3 January 2026. It was approved by the Executive Committee.

## LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE INDIAN SECTION COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR 2026, 2027 and 2028

### Assam

Bro. Bipul Sarmah  
Chakravarty Lane, Tarajan,  
Jorhat, Assam, Pin- 785 001  
Ph 91011-34957, 94357-57432  
Email-drkanaibs@gmail.com

Bro. Gokul Ch. Deka  
Industry Road, P.O. Gopal Bazar,  
Dist, Nalbari, Pin- 781 353  
Mob. No. 91-87248 59148  
Email- gokuldeka3@gmail.com

Bro. Ramesh Mahanta  
Satipur Hillside, Professor Colony,  
H.No.23, P.O. Bharalumukh,  
Dist Kamrup (M), Pin -781 009  
Mob. No. 94354 01800  
Email- ramesh65mahanta@gmail.com

### Bengal

Sis. Jayasri Das  
I/C, IOC Sahapur Colony,  
Bankim Chatterjee, Sarani,  
New Alipore, Kolkata-700 053  
Mobile No. 70036 47465  
Email- jayasri.das07@gmail.com

### Bihar

Prof. Raj Kishore Prasad  
Ex- Principal, Adarsh Nagar  
Road No. 3A, Samastipur, Bihar-848 101  
Mob.No.09835643048  
Email - rkprasadsamastipur@gmail.com

Bro. Amrit Priyadarshi  
Annie Besant Military Academy  
Near Municipal Chowk, Theosophical Society  
Campus, Chapra, Bihar- 841 301  
Mob No. 8199921395  
Email- amy.crooz@gmail.com

**Bombay**

Bro. Taral Munshi  
C 101, Building No 19,  
New Dindoshi Garden Hill CHS Ltd.  
New Mahada Colony, Goregaon East  
Mumbai- 400 065, Maharashtra  
Mobile No. 84509 11118  
Email- taralmunshi2001@yahoo.com

**Delhi**

Mrs. Meena Thakur  
566, UG Floor, Mukeempura,  
Subzi Mandi, (Ghantaghar), Delhi- 110 007  
Mob. No. 09873111242  
Email: meenathakur1953@gmail.com

**Gujarat**

Bro. Harshavadan Mohanlal Sheth  
9, Apurva Bungalows, B/H Sharda School,  
Sola Road, Memnagar,  
Ahmedabad - 380 052, Gujarat  
Mob.No. 9824073678  
Email- harshavadan\_sheth@yahoo.co.uk

Bro. C.K. Soni  
B/3 Bombay Society, Mahavirnagar  
Himatanagar 383 001  
Mob.No.98255 90543  
Email - cksoni1205@gmail.com

Bro. Nareshbhai A. Trivedi  
305 Nandanvan Appt. B/H.  
Dwarkadhish Market  
Opp. Sardarbuag, Junagdh - 362 001  
Phone No. Mob. No. 9879065200  
Email – nareshtrivedi82@gmail.com

**Karnataka**

Bro. S G Sanathkumar  
President, K.T.F  
112/4, Diagonal Road, V V Puram  
Bangalore - 560 004.  
Mob. No. 89704 31145  
Email-sanathkumar.sg@gmail.com

Bro. T Srinivasa  
Vice-President, K.T.F.  
No. 325, Redient Enclave, Suncity Road,  
Kengeri Upanagara,  
Bangalore - 560 060  
Mobile No. 94484 48236  
Email- thamasri@gmail.com

Bro. M S Sridhara  
Secretary, K.T.F.  
No. 426/2, 6<sup>th</sup> Cross end, 1<sup>st</sup> B Main Road,  
Near K H B Colony Bus Stop, Prashanth Nagar  
Bangalore - 560 079  
Mob. No. 95353 27894  
Email- sridharamadapura7@gmail.com

Bro. Venkatachalapathi  
Treasurer, K.T.F. Flat No.104. No. 1/3-1,  
Indus Paradise, 4<sup>th</sup> Cross, 12 th Main,  
Lakkasandra Extn., Wilson Garden,  
Bangalore - 560 030  
Mob. No. 99025 47945  
Email- venkatachalapathi2023@gmail.com

Bro. A R Janardhana Gupta  
Chief Zonal Organizer, K.T.F.  
No-231, Kuthuminilaya,  
M G Extension, Pete, Santhamaroor Road,  
Arakalgud - 573 102, Hassan Dist.  
Mob. No. 9448413915, 9880898825  
Email- janardhanagupthajvs@gmail.com

**Kerala**

Bro. S. Sivadas  
Arya Vihar, Thejus Nagar  
“Pazhaveed PO”, Alleppey,  
Kerala- 688 009  
Mob. No. 94951 19366  
Email- 53shivadas@Gmail.com

**M.P. & Rajasthan**

Dr. Divarth Dubey  
The Theosophical Lodge  
Phool Bagh, Gwalior- 474 007  
Mob. No. 8890969696  
Email-hsdwivedi.gwl@gmail.com

Sri Vijay Singh,  
40-Patrakar Colony Kolar  
Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh,  
Mob. No. 9826011463  
Email- vijaysinghclasses@gmail.com

**Madras**

Bro. Vinay Patri  
No 6, First Floor,  
Jeeva Rathinum Nagar,  
Second Street,

**Marathi**

Adyar, Chennai-600 020.  
Mobile: 9884913719  
Email- wineye2000@gmail.com

Bro. Sanjay D. Potey  
Chintamani Apartment,  
Plot No.72, Right Bhudari Colony,  
Kothrud Depot, PUNE- 411 038,  
Mob. No. 98237 24377  
whatsapp No. 77449 10797  
Email- sanjaypotey@gmail.com

Bro. Arun M. Palkrut  
Indraprastha Bldg., A-1/11,  
Near Sai Chowk, New Sangvi,  
Pune- 411 061  
Mob. No. 94220 36702  
Email- ampalkrut@gmail.com

Bro. Ashok Sonone  
Head, Library Dept  
Sitabai Arts College  
Akola- 444 001  
Mob. No. 94217 55869  
Email- asonone67@gmail.com

**Rajalaseema**

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**Tamil**

Bro. Chandrasekaran C.  
2/752 Gnana Chandra Colony,  
Dharmapuri - 636 701  
Tamilnadu  
Mob. No. 94422 80798  
Email- chandru0913@gmail.com

Bro. P. Murugavel  
4/53b, Thammathukonam,  
Erumbukadu, Nagercoil - 4  
Mob. No. 94895 05460  
Email- murugavel.ngl@gmail.com

**Telugu**

Bro. K.S. Ramachandra Rao,  
President, The Telugu Federation  
D. No. 7-47-34, 11th Ward,  
Dhanamma Temple Street,  
Tadepalligudem - 534 101  
Mob.- 98493 05384  
Email: karri1875@gmail.com

Bro. P. Raghurama Rao  
Flat K-910 Aquamarine  
PBEL City, Near TSPA Junction  
Peerancheruvu Village  
Rajendranagar Mandal, R. R. District  
Telangana- 500 091  
Mob.No. 91775 57792  
Email: secretarytelugufederationts@gmail.com

Bro. G. Subrahmanyam  
D. No. 25-2-424, 10th Lane,  
Lake View Colony, Podalakur Road,  
Nellore 524 004  
Mobile: 94416 45233  
Email: gandhavallasubrahmanyam39@gmail.com

**Utkal**

Dr. Chittaranjan Satapathy  
Shanti Kunj, Lane No.5, Chahata Nagar,  
Cuttack-753 014, Odisha  
Mobile No- 94453 93915,  
Email- chittaranjan.satapathy@gmail.com

Sis. Mitalini Choudhury  
Plot No.-625, Saheed Nagar,  
Bhubaneswar - 751 007, Odisha  
Mobile No.-94372 84046  
Email- mitalini.m@gmail.com

Sis. Purnamasi Pattanaik  
At- Flat No. 4A, Shree Enclave Apartment,  
Gautam Nagar, Bhubaneswar- 751 014  
Mobile No. 94372 76204  
Email- pattanaikpurnamasi@gmail.com

**Uttar Pradesh**

Bro. U. S. Pandey  
A-893, Indira Nagar  
Lucknow - 226 016  
Mob. No. 9451993170, 7905068911  
Email: usplko@gmail.com

Bro. S K Pandey  
4/136 Kalpana Kutir, Shukla Ganj  
P.O. Gangaghat, Distt. Unnao - 209 861  
Mob. No. 9839817036  
Email: sheo\_2010@rediffmail.com

Km. Preeti Tewari  
Plot No.109/3-A, Flat No.302, Nehru Nagar  
Kanpur - 208 012  
Mob. No. 9839173428  
Email: preeti.nov6@gmail.com



Bro. S B R Mishra  
H No. 3, Biland Pur  
Gorakhpur - 273 001  
Mob. No. 79051 71988  
Email - mishrasbr@gmail.com

Sis. Kumud Ranjan  
C-32/22, B-11,  
Sri Ram Singh Rana Nagar,  
Vidyapeeth Road, Varanasi - 221 002  
Mob. No. 9839151780  
Email- ranjanvkm@gmail.com

#### **Co-opted members**

Sis. Uma Bhattacharyya  
The Indian Section  
The Theosophical Society  
Kamachha, Varanasi- 221 010  
Mob. No. 9648742212  
Email: umabhattacharyya15@gmail.com

Bro. C.A. Shinde  
Upasika, the Theosophical Society  
Adyar, Chennai- 600 020  
Mob. No. (0) 9940140228  
Email: cashinde22@gmail.com

Bro. Shikhar Agnihotri  
GM Office, The Theosophical Society,  
Adyar, Chennai – 600 020  
Tamil Nadu  
Mob. No. 8840926268  
Email: shikhar9379@gmail.com

Bro. N.C. Krishna  
10-283/1/5, Plot No. 84,  
Vasanthapuri Colony,  
Malkajgiri, Hyderabad- 5000 047  
Mob. No. 09866355661  
Email: [nck.krishna@gmail.com](mailto:nck.krishna@gmail.com)

Bro. Pradip Kumar Mahapatra  
Plot No. 625 Saheed Nagar  
Bhubaneswar, Odisha-751 007  
Mob. No. 09437697429  
Email- peekem0277@gmail.com

Bro. S.L. Dar  
“Raghukulam”, B-21/81,  
Kamachha, Varanasi-221 010  
Mob. No. 9415221425, 7704023317  
Email – snldar@gmail.com

Bro. Sanat Vyas  
B-50/3, Triveni Vihar, Near Water Tank  
Malanwasa, Ujjain – 456 010  
Mob. No. 9406635501, 8226007650  
Email-sanatvyas2011new@gmail.com

Sis. Sonal Murali  
Besant Bungalow, 1, Besant Avenue,  
The Theosophical Society,  
Adyar, Chennai 600 020  
Mob. No. 9049867345  
Email: mrigshirsha@gmail.com

Bro. K. Shiv Prasad  
National Director  
The Theosophical Order of Service in India  
The Theosophical Society Campus  
Kamachha, Varanasi, U.P. 221 010  
Mob. No. 9848291468  
Email- tosvaranasi@gmail.com

Bro. Hitesh Patel  
20 Pinal Row House, Hani Park Road,  
Near Boomi Complex Adjan,  
Surat- 395 009, Gujarat  
Mob. No. 81417 77236  
Email- phitesb@gmail.com

#### **Ex-Officio**

Bro. Pradeep H. Gohil  
President  
S/o Gohil Hardevsinhji,  
Plot No. 1163, Mohbat Nivas,  
Sir Pattani Road, Krishnanagar,  
Bhavnagar -364 00, Gujarat  
Mob No. 09824214891  
Email- phgohilexcel@gmail.com

Bro. V. Narayanan  
Treasurer, The Indian Section  
The Theosophical Society  
Kamachha, Varanasi-221 010  
Mob. No. 09793888596,  
Email- auroson@gmail.com

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE for 2026 as approved  
by the Indian Section Council on 31/10/2025**

- |                               |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| 1. Bro. Pradeep H. Gohil      | President<br>S/o Gohil Hardevsinhji,<br>Plot No. 1163, Mohbat Nivas,<br>Sir Pattani Road, Krishnanagar,<br>Bhavnagar -364 00, Gujarat<br>Mob No. 09824214891<br>Email- phgohilexcel@gmail.com  |
| 2. Bro. V. Narayanan          | Treasurer<br>The Indian Section<br>The Theosophical Society<br>Kamachha, Varanasi-221 010<br>Phone- 0542-2400773<br>Mob. No. 09793888596<br>Email: auroson@gmail.com                           |
| 3. Bro. Nareshbhai A. Trivedi | 305, Nandanvan Apartment,<br>B/H Dwarkadhish Market, Opp.<br>Sardarbaag, Junagadh-362 001<br>Gujarat<br>Mobile: (0) 9879065200<br>Landline 0285-2630281<br>Email ID: nareshtrivedi82@gmail.com |
| 4. Bro. C.A. Shinde           | Upasika,<br>The Theosophical Society<br>Adyar, Chennai- 600 020<br>Mob. No. (0) 9940140228<br>Email: cashinde22@gmail.com  |
| 5. Sis. Uma Bhattacharyya     | The Indian Section<br>The Theosophical Society<br>Kamachha, Varanasi- 221 010<br>Mob. No. 9648742212<br>Email: umabhattacharyya15@gmail.com  |
| 6. Bro. S.G. Sanath Kumar     | 112/4, Diagnol Road,<br>Behind Syndicate Bank<br>V.V. Puram<br>Bangalore-560 004<br>Mob. No. 09448856179<br>Email- sanathkumar.sg@gmail.com  |

- |                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| 7. Bro. N. C. Krishna       | 10-283/1/5, Plot No. 84,<br>Vasanthapuri Colony,<br>Malkajgiri, Hyderabad- 500 047<br>Mob. No. 09866355661<br>Email: nck.krishna@gmail.com |
| 8. Bro. U.S. Pandey         | A-893, Indira Nagar<br>Lucknow-228 016<br>Mob. No. 09451993170<br>Email: usplko@gmail.com  |
| 9. Bro. Pradip K. Mahapatra | Plot No. 625 Saheed Nagar<br>Bhubaneswar<br>Odisha-751 007<br>Mob. No. 09437697429<br>Email- peekem0277@gmail.com                          |
| 10. Bro. S.L. Dar           | “Raghukulam”, B-21/81,<br>Kamachha, Varanasi-221 010<br>Mob. No. 9415221425,<br>7704023317<br>Email – snldar@gmail.com                     |
| 11. Sis. C.P. Bhuyan        | 96, Homeo College Rd.<br>Panjabari, Guwahati 781 037<br>Mob. No. 9864508789<br>Email- cpbhuyan@gmail.com                                   |

**LIST OF NATIONAL LECTURERS - 2026  
(As approved in the Executive Committee's meeting held on  
3/1/2026)**

- |                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| Sri. C.A. Shinde    | Upasika, The Theosophical<br>Society<br>Adyar, Chennai- 600 020<br>Mob. No. (0) 9940140228<br>Email: cashinde22@gmail.com   |
| Sri. B.D. Tendulkar | Bldg. G1, Plot No. 14,<br>2nd Floor Hig Scheme,<br>MHB Colony Janwadi,<br>Pune- 411 016<br>Landline 020-25652393,<br>Mob. No. 09881519108<br>Email: b.tendulkar@yahoo.com |

Sri S.K. Pandey 4/136, Kalpana Kutir,  
Shukla Ganj, P.O.  
Gangaghat- 209 861, Unnao  
Mob. No. 09839817036  
Email: sheo\_2010@rediffmail.com

Sri Ashok Pratap Lokhande Plot No. 68, Madhav Nagar  
Nagpur-4400 010  
Mob. No. 09822734680  
Email: meenalokhande18@yahoo.com

Sri N.C. Krishna 10-283/1/5, Plot No. 84,  
Vasanthapuri Colony,  
Malkajgiri, Hyderabad- 5000 047  
Mob. No. 09866355661  
Email: nck.krishna@gmail.com

Dr. L. Nagesh 101, II Cross, 4<sup>th</sup> Main  
Income Tax Layput, Vijayanagar  
Bangalore- 560 040, Karnataka  
Landline No. 080-23396000  
Mob. No. 09844035470  
Email: drlnagesh72@gmail.com

Sri Shikhar Agnihotri GM Office,  
The Theosophical Society,  
Adyar, Chennai – 600 020  
Tamil Nadu  
Mob. No. 8840926268  
Email: shikhar9379@gmail.com

Dr. Bipul Sarmah Chakravarty Lane, Tarajan,  
Jorhat-785001, ASSAM  
Mob. No. - 09435357432  
Email id- dr.kanaibs@rediffmail.com

Smt. Sonal Murali Besant Bungalow,  
1, Besant Avenue,  
The Theosophical Society,  
Adyar, Chennai 600 020  
Mob. 9049867345  
Email: mrigshirsha@gmail.com

Sri Narsimh Thakariya A/201, Sanai Residency,  
Opp. Parshuram Garden, Adjan,  
Surat- 395 009  
Mob. No. 94426362253  
Email- divyarajthakaria1310@gmail.com

Sri U.S. Pandey A-893, Indira Nagar  
Lucknow-228 016  
Mob. No. 09451993170  
Email: usplko@gmail.com

Sri Pradip Kumar Mahapatra Plot No. 625 Saheed Nagar  
Bhubaneswar  
Odisha-751 007  
Phone No. 09437697429  
Email-peekem0277@gmail.com

Sri. Nandkumar Narayan Raut Madhumalati Apartments  
Flat No.8, Mohite Plots,  
Chhoti Umari, Akola,  
Maharashtra-444 005  
Mob. No. 09975722582  
Email: nandkumarnrout@gmail.com

Sis. Vibha Saksena Flat no. C-201,  
Ananda Apartments,  
Sector 48 Noida, U.P. 201 301  
Mobile: 98914 11972  
Email: vsaksena@yahoo.co.uk

Dr. P. Sarathi Prasad Sarangi Qtr No 113/1, ITR Colony,  
Near Kendriya Vidyalaya-1,  
Balasore, Pin- 756 001, Odisha  
Mob. 9437495702  
Email-pspsarangi@gmail.com

Dr. Rajiv Gupta EA- 434, Maya Enclave,  
Hari Nagar,  
New Delhi-110064  
Email-drrajivgupta@gmail.com  
Mob. No.918005187037  
Email: shyamgautam11@rediffmail.com

Prof. Rachna Srivastava Principal,  
Vasant Kanya Mahavidyalaya,  
Kamachha, Varanasi  
Mobile - 7607053468  
Email - rachna0401@gmail.com

Mrs.Paurnamasi Pattnaik Flat No.4A, Shree Enclave  
Apartment, Gautam Nagar,  
Bhubaneswar-751014, Odisha  
Mobile no.-9437276204  
Email -pattanaikpaurnamasi@gmail.com

Sis. Suvralina Mohanty E 1703, Cloud 9, Sector 1,  
Vaishali, Ghaziabad 201 010  
Mob. 9873335928  
Email- suvralina@gmail.com

Bro. Harshavadan M. Sheth 9, Apurva Bungalows,  
B/H Sharda School, Sola Road,  
Memnagar, Ahmedabad-380 052  
Gujarat  
Mob.no. 9824073678  
Email- harshavadan\_sheth@yahoo.co.uk

Dr. Sushma Srivastava Flat -9, C-Block,  
Tulsiani Enclave,  
28 Lowther Road, George Town,  
Prayagraj- 211 002, Uttar Pradesh  
Mob. No. 94506 07100  
Email- sushma.srivastava24@gmail.com

Bro. Adikeshva Prakash ‘Raghavendra Nilaya’ 2008/90,  
19th Cross Ranganath Badavane,  
Vidyanagar, Davangere - 577 005  
Mob. No. 6364800115  
Email- adikeshav123@gmail.com

Bro. S.B.R. Mishra H.No. 3, Biland Pur  
Gorakhpur- 273 001  
Mob. No. 7905171988  
Email- mishrasbr@gmail.com

Bro. Deepak R. Pandya “Saaket”48, Rajdeep Society,  
Berna Road, Opp Akshar Bunglows,  
Himmatnagar-383 001  
Gujarat  
Mob : 9427221220, 9586221220  
Email ID: drpandya14@gmail.com

Bro.M S Pradeep 188/E, Bhuvaneshwari Nagara  
4th Cross, Banashankari 3rd Stage  
3rd Phase 5th Block,  
Bangalore - 560 085  
Mob. No. 8088760197  
Email- mspdpbsb@gmail.com

## APPEAL

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Wish you all a very happy and fulfilled new year. At the sixth Executive Committee meeting of the Indian Section at Varanasi on Wednesday, 29th October, 2025, it was decided to collect old clothes from our members and distribute them to the needy from Indian Section Headquarters.

I request all members to give whatever they can for this project. All kinds of clothes like shirts, pants, 'T' Shirts, Sarees, Punjabi dress, Frocks, Gowns, Sweaters, Socks, Gloves, etc can be donated. I request lodge presidents to gather such clothes, pack them in a box and send them by transport or Courier to:

The Indian Section-The Theosophical Society  
Near Rath Yaatra Crossing, Gurubaag Road,  
Varanasi, U.P. 221010  
Attention:- Mr Rajkumar Pandey  
Mobile - 86877-64344

This will be a great act of service to the needy people in our society and fulfilment of the first Object of the Theosophical Society. Many lodge presidents have already sent such clothes.

Wishing you all the best.

Pradeep Gohil

## ERRATUM

The article by Suvralina Mohanty published in The Indian Theosophist, December 2023, pages 12 -18, featured the story “The Darkness of Ignorance” by Shon Mehta on pages 16-17. Due to an inadvertent oversight, the author's name was missed. We sincerely acknowledge and extend due credit to the author Shon Mehta.



### **Homage to Bro. Shyam Singh Gautam**

Bro. Shyam Singh Gautam was a member of the Theosophical Society, Chohan Lodge, Kanpur. He passed away on January 10, 2026. He obtained membership of the Theosophical Society in Adyar, Chennai, at the inspiration of Bro. Ramkumar Singh (USA). He devoted his life to Theosophy. Despite his ill health in his last days, he remained working from morning till night and translated many Theosophical English Literature in Hindi and continued to translate the Indian Section magazine "*The Indian Theosophist*" into Hindi. Before his departure he expressed his wish that it would be good if this Hindi translation continued uninterrupted. He retired from a high position in the Central Government's Department of Industrial Hygiene; his life was extremely simple and plain, was a man of good words and was extremely honest in his personal life. Even when he was unwell, he never missed meetings. His life and conduct were always an example for all and will remain henceforth. He was National Lecturer of the Theosophical Society, Indian Section, and during his lifetime, he visited numerous Lodges, giving lectures and conducting study camps. Many of his articles appeared in Theosophical journals. He was a great source of inspiration for the new members to study books and to speak in the Lodge meetings. His vitality and profound knowledge were always evident in the Lodge meetings; his influence can never be overlooked. The members offer him their heartfelt and emotional tribute and pray for his peaceful onward journey.