



# PROBUZZ...

Monthly Newsletter From

## PROBUS CLUB OF CHENNAI

(Sponsored by Rotary Club of Madras)

Regd (148/2004)

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பணியுமாம் என்றும் பெருமை சிறுமை  
அணியுமாம் தன்னை வியந்து.

குறள் 977

பெருமை உடையவர் செருக்கு இல்லாமல் பணிவுடன் இருப்பர்;  
சிறுமை உடையவரோ செருக்குடன் தம்மைத் தாமே வியந்து பாராட்டுவர்.

The great will always humble himself; but the mean will exalt himself  
in self-admiration.

## From The President's Desk



Dear Esteemed Probians,

Warm greetings to all Probians as I am pleased to connect with you through the January 2026 edition of our *Probuzz* newsletter, marking yet another meaningful phase in our club's journey.

As planned, the Probus Club of Chennai organized a memorable tour to Yelagiri on 13th and 14th December 2025, with fourteen members

participating enthusiastically; the well-coordinated programme combined comfortable travel, a pleasant stay at MSP Silver Spring Resort, enjoyable sightseeing, and a cultural evening with a bonfire, truly reflecting the spirit that "*the joy of travel lies not in the destination alone, but in the companionship along the way.*" A notable highlight was the Inter-Club Service Activity conducted jointly with the Rotary Club of Chennai Golden Star at a tribal village, where essential items were distributed and saplings planted, affirming the belief that "*service to others is the rent we pay for our time on earth.*" Visits to Yelagiri Nature Park, A.R. Thangakottai, and the Velavan Temple added scenic and spiritual depth to the tour, which concluded safely with lasting memories and strengthened fellowship.

The year 2025 brought encouraging developments for senior citizens in India, including improved pension schemes, higher tax relief, better travel

facilities, and expanded healthcare coverage—most notably free health insurance for those aged 70 and above under Ayushman Bharat—while globally, ageing societies prompted stronger social security systems and renewed focus on elder care, reminding us that “*a society is truly judged by how it cares for its elders.*”

Looking ahead to 2026, both India and the world are expected to further strengthen healthcare, digital inclusion, and welfare policies, with sustained emphasis on financial security, dignity, and active ageing, echoing the thought that “*age is not a limitation, but an opportunity to live with wisdom and purpose.*”

We are also planning to celebrate the Pongal function, during which the Thirukkural Virudhu will be conferred on a distinguished non-Probian who propagates the timeless wisdom of the Thirukkural, along with a cash award; in addition, Thirukkural-based competitions for school students will be conducted, with prizes for winners, reinforcing the truth that “*tradition lives on when it is passed to the next generation.*”

A Family Meet is scheduled in the coming month, and members are requested to participate with

their families in this enjoyable and bonding-oriented event, for “*families and friendships together make life richer and happier.*”

About sixteen of our members will also be attending AISCCON 2026, the All India Senior Citizens Confederation conference, to be held at Bhubaneswar on 22nd and 23rd February 2026, reflecting our commitment to learning, networking, and national-level engagement.

I place on record my sincere thanks to the donor who sponsored the December breakfast meeting; our club continues to function actively through meetings, events, and service initiatives, and such generous support plays a vital role in sustaining our momentum. I humbly seek the continued cooperation and encouragement of all members to keep the Probus spirit vibrant and strong, remembering always that “*together we can achieve far more than we ever could alone.*”

Wishing all our members and their families a very happy, healthy, and prosperous New Year 2026 and a joyous Pongal celebration.

With warm regards,

**Annadhirai M.**

*President, Probus Club of Chennai*



## SECRETARY'S REPORT

**Dear Probians,**

Warm Greetings to you and your family. We are now stepping into the NEW YEAR -2026 with more hopes and resolutions. Hope we would walk towards the goal with more vigour and enthusiasm, of course with your support and help.

This report outlines the key events, honours, and decisions made during the month of December 2025. The EC met to strategize for the coming year, focusing on community outreach and cultural heritage. Key discussions included:

- Planning a visit to the **Vishranthi Old Age Home for Destitute**.
- Organizing the **Pongal Vizha** at Gopalapuram Boys HSS.

- Identifying the Tiruvalluvar Day awardee and establishing the **Bharathiyar Endowment Fund** through donor support.
- **New Members:** We warmly welcome **Dr. J. Haridoss** and **Sri. M. Parasuraman**, whose admissions were officially approved.
- **EC Co-option:** **Pn K. Venkatesan** (Mem. No. A 406) has been unanimously co-opted as an EC Member, filling the vacancy left by **Pn Nelson Philip**, who has transitioned to the role of Treasurer.

### December Breakfast Meeting

Hosted on **December 27th at the Russian House, Chennai**, the meeting featured vital health and educational segments:

- **Brain Health & Memory Camp:** In collaboration with Kshetra Assisted Living, Dem Care, and Dementia India Alliance, psychologists **Ms. Nandita and Ms. Jama** conducted screenings and shared insights on cognitive wellness.
- **Guest Speaker:** Dr. Senthil Kumar R. (VHS Hospital) delivered an advisory session on “Medical Energies” and offered strategic advice on disease management.
- **2026 Probus Calendar:** The official calendar was released by our guest speaker and donors, then distributed to all members. We extend our sincere gratitude to the donors who funded this project.

## Upcoming Events

- **January 12, 2026:** Thirukkural Competitions will be held at **Gopalapuram Boys HSS**. We encourage all eligible participants to join this celebration of wisdom and literature.
- **Obituary:** It is with heavy hearts that we record the sudden demise of **Pn N.S. Srinivasan** and **Dr. V.R. Chandramohan**. We place on record our deep appreciation for their significant contributions to our club. They will be greatly missed.

**“Wishing all our members a vibrant and joyful Pongal 2026!”**

**Pn. Ramaraj V.**

*Secretary.*

## EDITOR'S COLUMN



### Dear Probian brothers and sisters,

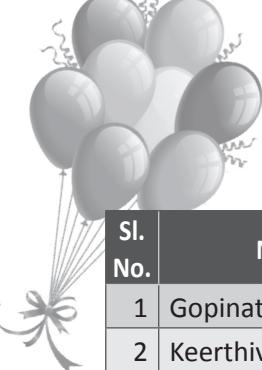
We have set foot into 2026 with a clear mind and a vibrant mood. Let us make use of it to spread cheer amongst ourselves by exercising our writing skills. We are 305 members and increasing in number every month. Poems, travelogues, meditation topics, dementia, name it, we have a plethora of subjects to write on in English or Tamil. Only requirement within 350 words due to space constraints. Another point is recommending needy persons outside our club for assistance under silver jubilee senior citizen medical benefit scheme. Before the current financial year comes to a close let us bring some cases worthy of sanction under the scheme. We have been mentioning of sponsorship of a single page of the Probuzz newsletter to defray both print and despatch costs at a nominal charge of rs 700 per head per page. It did find enthusiasm initially when all 8 pages stood sponsored. Please revive your interest to sponsor. We will be collectively happy. Since we are an institution sponsored by the Rotary club of madras do please show interest in attending their Tuesday weekly meetings. They select their speakers with due thought and hence it is an opportunity to associate ourselves in such meetings and imbibe information, fellowship, contacts. We

normally recommend names of two probians to their weekly meeting at the Hyatt regency, Anna salai. Please avail of this opportunity by informing of their desire to attend latest by Sunday preceding the weekly meeting date. Contributors of articles in January are Probian V. Dhayalan is titled The great Indian wait, a satire on the pains of delays in every aspect of life and the final piece is by Probus fellow C.Badri is on freedom fighter from Tamil Nadu Puli Thevar.

The views and opinions expressed in the articles and write-ups published in this newsletter are solely those of the respective authors. The Probus Club does not accept any responsibility for the accuracy, correctness or completeness of the content.

*Please note that the editor and Probus club of Chennai hold no liability for any loss or damage arising from disputes over submitted articles.*

**V.Balachander, Editor**  
*Blchndrv781@gmail.com*



# We Wish A Very Happy Birthday to all Probians having Birthdays in January 2026

Sl. No.	Name of Probian	M.No	Date of Birth
1	Gopinatha Rao C.H.	L-076	1.01
2	Keerthivanan K Dr.	L-282	1.01
3	Pranab K. Basu	L-108	1.01
4	Ramamurthy G.V.	L-061	3.01
5	Srinivasan T.R.	L-047	4.01
6	Sundaram S.V.	A-346	4.01
7	Namasivayam R.T.	L-054	5.01
8	Sathyaranayanan B. Dr.	L-033	5.01
9	Mohan Sundar Pandian	L-035	6.01
10	Sundaram K.V.	L-291	9.01
11	Bhavani A Dr.	L-326	10.01
12	Suresh Yagneswar	L-337	10.01
13	Amarnath C.N	A-400	10.01
14	Premkumar Commodore	L-026	12.01
15	Jaishankar K.	L-141	15.01
16	Kalaimamani TKS Kalaivanan	L-334	15.01

Sl. No.	Name of Probian	M.No	Date of Birth
17	Soorian V.S. Dr.	L-212	15.01
18	Ramavadhani J.	A-244	16.01
19	Shankar M.	L-224	16.01
20	Ramakrishnan V.	L-023	17.01
21	Badrinath P Ln	L-156	20.01
22	Balakrishnan T.S.	A-284	22.01
23	Lourdusamy.P.M	A-356	25.01
24	Chandrasekaran K.P.	L-058	26.01
25	Jambulingam AR.	L-220	26.01
26	Sridharan P.	PF 03	29.01
27	Balachander V	PF 09	30.01
28	Geetha Viswakumar	L-319	31.01
29	Jayakumar G.	L-198	31.01
30	Purushothaman T.K	L-366	5.01
31	Dr J Haridoss	L-406	19.01

## Wedding Day LIST JANUARY 2026

Sl. No	Name	Date	Spouse Name
1	Mohan D. Menon	17.01	Mrs. Madhuri Menon R
2	Venkatesan R.	17.01	Mrs. Uma Venkatesan
3	Dhanaraj A.	18.01	Mrs. D. Arockia Mary
4	Sahasranaman K	21.01	Mrs. R.S. Lakshmi
5	Subramanian V.	21.01	Mrs. S. Usha
6	Aiyer V.L.	25.01	Mrs. L. Shanta
7	Jaishankar K.	26.01	Mrs. Prema Jaishankar
8	Vasanth K.N.	29.01	Mrs. Vanjula Vasanth

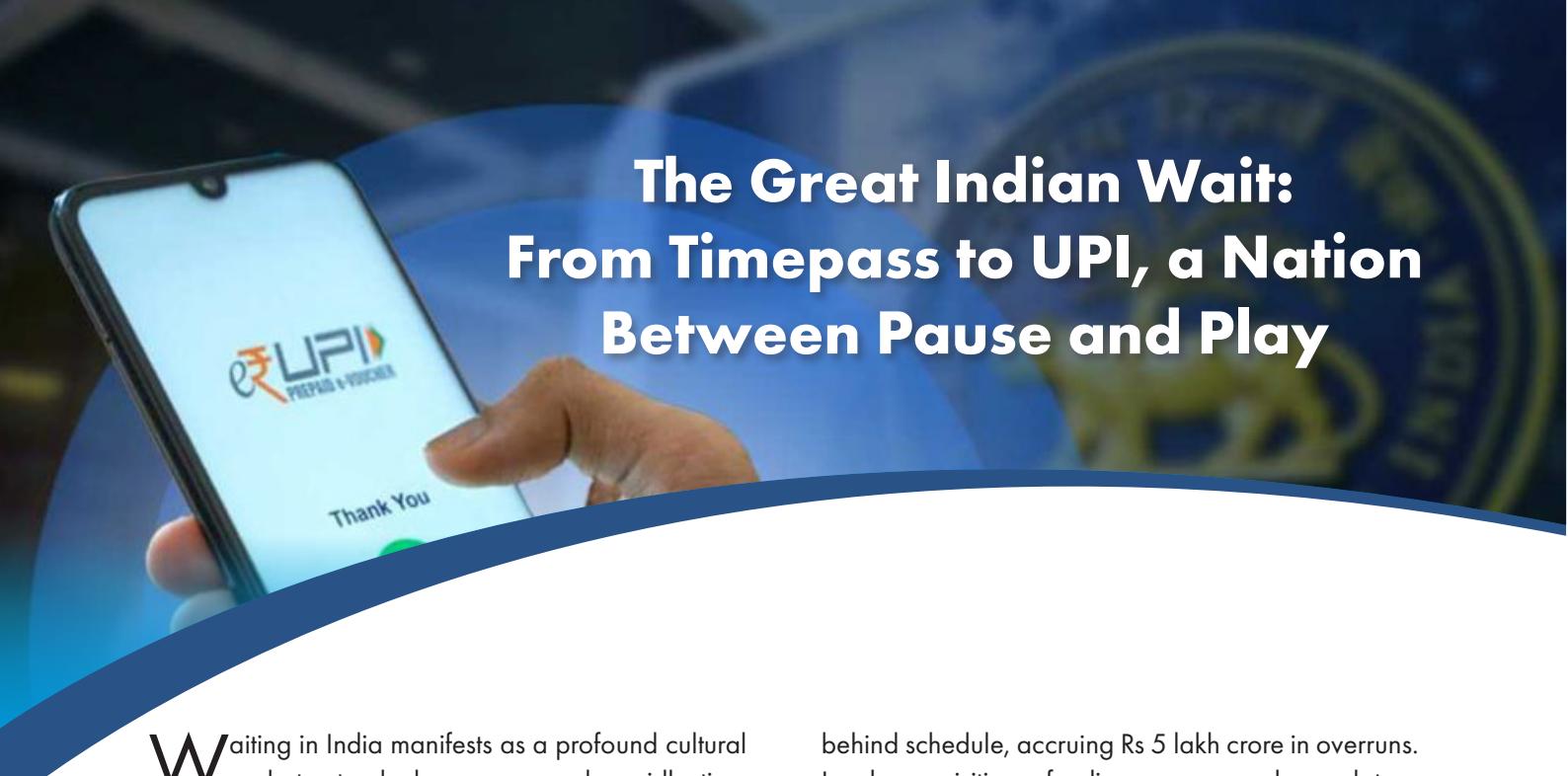


## DECEMBER CONTRIBUTORS

Sr No	Breakfast Sponsorer	Amount	Sunshine Fund	Amount	Probuzz News Letter	SCSCM Fund	Amount
	Name	Amount					
1	Dr S Radhakrishnan	5000	James	500	Rs. 700 Per Page Dhayalan V	Dr. S. Radhakrishnan	5000
2	Capt Krishnamurthy	5000	Sugunaraj	500			
3	Srinivasan N S	6000	Jagannathan	500			
4	Suganthi Premkumar	1500					
5	S.a. Paramasivam	5000					
6	Indra Ramanathan	3000					
		25500		1500			5000

# Yelagiri Trip on 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> December 2025 and Breakfast Meeting Photos for Probuzz





# The Great Indian Wait: From Timepass to UPI, a Nation Between Pause and Play

Waiting in India manifests as a profound cultural and structural phenomenon, where idle time shapes social bonds, stalls justice, hampers progress, and contrasts sharply with digital efficiency. This article explores these temporal tensions, weaving "timepass" among youth, judicial pendency, infrastructure delays, the daily comedy of traffic, and UPI's real-time revolution into a narrative of patience and transformation.

## Timepass: Solidarity in Idleness

Unemployed youth in India repurpose waiting into "timepass," a deliberate loitering that builds camaraderie and political awareness among the jobless. Educated young men gather in tea stalls or streets, turning economic limbo into spaces of cross-class solidarity and subtle resistance against systemic exclusion. This idle waiting critiques neoliberal timelines, fostering identities rooted in shared frustration rather than productivity.

## Judicial Pendency: The Endless Queue

India's courts embody a "game of patience," with over 47 million cases pending in district courts, 6.2 million in High Courts, and 87,000 in the Supreme Court as of 2025. Backlogs stem from judge shortages, procedural delays, and vacancies, leaving litigants trapped for decades—some cases lingering over 30 years. This crisis undermines justice, mirroring bureaucratic inertia that burdens the poor most acutely.

## Infrastructure Overruns: Delayed Dreams

Major projects worth billions face chronic delays, with over 1,800 initiatives (Rs 150 crore+) running 40%

behind schedule, accruing Rs 5 lakh crore in overruns. Land acquisition, funding gaps, and regulatory hurdles extend timelines by an average 36 months, stalling highways, metros, and power plants essential for growth. These setbacks highlight planning failures amid ambitious national visions.

## Traffic's Immovable Feast: A Comedy in Standstill

If waiting were an Olympic sport, India's traffic would take the gold, silver, and bronze—after a three-hour delay in the medal ceremony. Here, a 5-kilometer journey is not a measure of distance, but a unit of time ("Just 20 minutes... oh wait, it's a festival month, make it two hours").

## UPI: Instant Contrast

Amid analog delays, Unified Payments Interface (UPI) delivers real-time transactions, handling 14 billion monthly volumes and capturing 75% of digital payments by 2024. QR-based, interoperable transfers bypass banks for seamless peer-to-peer and merchant dealings, embodying a digital antidote to waiting. This shift modernizes India's economy, empowering millions with frictionless finance and offering a stark, hopeful contrast to the queues elsewhere.

India's waiting culture—a complex tapestry of resilience, frustration, and unintended community—now demands urgent reforms: fast-track courts, agile bureaucracy, and project accelerators to align with UPI's speed. The challenge is to transform the weight of waiting into momentum, ensuring that the nation's legendary patience becomes a choice, not an imposition.

by Probian V.Dhayalan



# PULI THEVAR: The Unsung Hero of the Indian Freedom Struggle

A Revolutionary from  
Tamil Nadu Who Defied British Rule

Puli Thevar, a valiant chieftain from Tamil Nadu, stands as one of the earliest and most courageous freedom fighters in Indian history. While mainstream narratives of India's independence often focus on the 19th and 20th centuries, Puli Thevar's resistance against colonial domination dates back to the mid-18th century, making him a precursor to later revolutionary movements. His story is one of fierce defiance, unwavering patriotism, and strategic brilliance in the face of overwhelming odds.

Born in the Nerkattumseval region of Tirunelveli district, Puli Thevar belonged to the community, known for its warrior traditions. During the 1750s, the British East India Company sought to expand its control over South India, gradually undermining local rulers and imposing new forms of taxation. Puli Thevar emerged as a prominent leader who refused to bow to colonial authority and rallied the local poligars (feudal chieftains) to challenge British dominance.

His struggle began as a protest against the oppressive revenue policies and the encroachment of British power. Puli Thevar organised a confederacy of poligars and led several successful rebellions, notably resisting the combined forces of the British and the Nawab of Arcot. His deep

understanding of the local terrain and guerrilla warfare tactics allowed him to inflict heavy losses on the British, who found it difficult to quell his uprising. Thevar's leadership inspired many other chieftains in the region to join the fight, posing a significant challenge for colonial authorities.

Despite facing betrayal and a lack of resources, Puli Thevar's determination remained unshaken. He refused to surrender and continued his resistance until his last breath. His fort at Nerkattumseval became a symbol of resistance, and his legacy lives on in the folklore and history of Tamil Nadu. Though his contributions were not widely recognised in mainstream Indian historiography, recent efforts have brought his story to light, honouring his role as a pioneer in the fight against colonial rule.

Puli Thevar's legacy is a testament to the spirit of resistance that existed long before the major freedom movements of the 19th century. His courage, leadership, and sacrifice continue to inspire generations, reminding us that countless unsung heroes across the land fought for freedom. Tamil Nadu, and indeed all of India, owes a debt of gratitude to Puli Thevar, whose name deserves to be remembered alongside the nation's greatest freedom fighters.

**JAI HIND**

by **PF C Badri**

# Dates to Remember: 24th January 2026 Saturday

Monthly Breakfast

Music Concert by Kalaimamani T.K.S.Kalaivanan

Venue: Russian House, 74 Kasturi Rangan Road, Teynampet, Chennai 600018.



20.12.2025 சனிக்கிழமை காலை 10.00 மணிக்கு குறிஞ்சிகுகள் இல்லத்தில் நடைபெற்றது. இறைவணக்கம் திரு. P.K. தட்சினாழுர்த்தி பாடினார். உலகளாவிய இறைவழிபாடு திரு. பழனி பாடினார். திரு. T.T. நாராயணன் திருக்குறள் கூறி விளக்கம் அளித்தார்.

திரு. பாலமுருகன் தலைமை ஆசிரியர் "மார்கழி போற்றுதும்" என்னும் தலைப்பில் ஆன்மீக சொற்பொழிவு நிகழ்த்தினார். இரண்டு புதிய உறுப்பினர்களுக்கு சால்வை அணிவித்து வாழ்த்து கூறப்பட்டது. டிசம்பர் மாதம் பிறந்தநாள், திருமணநாள் காணும் 9 பேருக்கு சால்வை அணிவித்து வாழ்த்து கூறப்பட்டது. செயலாளர் T. செல்வராஜ் நன்றியுரை கூற கூட்டம் முடிவுற்றது. அனைவருக்கும் மதிய உணவு வழங்கப்பட்டது.



கிழிய  
பொங்கல் நல்வாழ்த்துகள்

Pongal Function will be held on 12th January 2026  
at Gopalapuram Boys Higher Secondary School  
at Gopalapuram Chennai.

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**Designed & Printed @ COMPUPRINT**

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