

SWASA

Professional Enlightenment

STAFF WELFARE ASSOCIATION OF SUNDARARAJAN ASSOCIATES (SWASA)

VOLUME 04

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2019

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www.sunca.in

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear SWASA Members,

Greetings. SWASA celebrated this year Annual Program to Rajasthan with students, staffs, partners with their respective families the details are reflected in a detailed manner elsewhere in this FOURTH NEWSLETTER. On behalf of all members of SWASA and on my personal behalf, I thank all participants who have participated willingly for this five days program to make this a very happy and a memorable event. I thank the organisers M/s S Karthikeyan, Chetan J Sharma, Thilak Venkatesh and Vivek Srinivasan for their utmost contribution, commitment and grand conduct of the entire program right from the word GO to its' ultimate reaching back to Chennai. Special thanks to the entire team, staff and partners with their respective families for participation in the grand DJ as well during the program.



It is now time to see fresh faces for taking over positions to steer SWASA. Few names have been suggested and the ExCom Members have selected the following fresh guard(s) to take over SWASA functions.

** Changes in ExCom Members: New Faces **Shatruhan Khanna, Abirami**

** Change in the President: New Incumbent : **Padmaja Sankaran**

YES; I am demitting my office as President with effect from 10th April, 2019 and we have nominated **Padmaja Sankaran** to take over as the President of SWASA thereafter (May 2019). I request all SWASA Members to provide her support and cooperation as was done during my tenure and also wish her all the very best in steering this elite SWASA members to newer glories, pathways to success and leadership.

The initiatives taken during my regime as President were all successful only due to utmost cooperation from all members of SWASA and more particularly from ExCom Members and Advisory Board. I personally thank all ExCom Members more particularly Padmaja Sankaran and Chetan J Sharma for having additionally taken up responsibilities as Editor for the last few newsletters released during this regime from January 2019 onwards. I also thank the Organisers of the Annual Tour Program for having set the unprecedented both ways 'air-travel' and for a longer duration of five days. Special thanks to all Partners and Advisory Board for their encouragement and support all the time.

YES; I will be missing you ALL and at the same time, I wish everyone a grand success!

Yours in Service
S Samadharshini
President, SWASA

**SWASA ANNUAL TOUR PROGRAM TO RAJASTHAN ::: MARCH 2019
SPECIAL PHOTOGRAPHS**



PARTICIPATION OF SWASA MEMBERS IN RAJASTHAN TOUR PROGRAM; MARCH 2019





EDITORIAL-SWASA MONTHLY NEWSLETTER-APRIL 2019

SWASA Monthly Newsletter-April 2019 has photos and write-up on jubilant celebrations of its' first North Indian Tour for Five days (Rajasthan including Desert stay for a night). On the continuation of the theme "Present Yourself-Professionally", we could have no presentation due to this annual tour program. However as the Bank Audits have emerged in this month (April, 2019) we will have more presentations in the next month on BANK AUDITS.



All our presentation materials already done are all available in the website www.sunca.in. All contributions, feedback(s) and suggestions are welcome and can be emailed to swasa@sunca.in

Editor - Chetan J Sharma

THIS APRIL 2019 ISSUE - AT A GLANCE

2nd March 2019 till 6th March 2019 - Annual Tour Program to Rajasthan

RAJASTHAN TOUR :: A PLEASANT TRIP :: PATHWAY TO GROUP ENJOYMENT



DAY ONE:

On the seemingly regular morning of 2nd March, 2019, little did a team of 42 members know that they were to embark upon a journey that would forever be engraved in their memories. There was a general buzz that the Chennai Airport is accustomed to. The air was filled with excitement, faces alight with anticipation of what the next 4 days would hold, luggage packed and checked in.

The group was a mix of experienced fliers as well as anxious first time fliers. It turned out to be a really fun-filled experience for the first time fliers, since the bus that conducts the passengers to the aircraft took a roundabout route, giving the fliers an unintentional tour of the tarmac and runways.

As is the norm with any flying trip, the take-off and landing constituted the most exciting parts. Inside the flight (before take-off), the SWASA banner was held at both extremes in the seats occupied. Once we landed at Udaipur, there was a 45-seater bus ready to take us on an adventure which rightfully had our SWASA banner tied in the front of the bus in the bottom outside. Our first stop was Hotel Blue Bell, which would be our meal provider during our stay in Udaipur. Our first introduction to the food in Rajasthan was good, albeit the fact that it needed a bit of tweaking to suit our culinary needs. Food was the much needed fuel to help the group regain some of the energy

zaps in travel. The team was once again on a high during the commute from hotel to our next destination. The bus alive with music, made it possible for us to shake a leg.

The bus brought us to Moti Magri, a memorial for Maharana Pratap, and his horse Chetak. Located on a hillock near the Fateh Sagar Lake, the memorial also houses the ruins of one of the oldest palaces. The spot also offers a light show on evenings from 7 pm to 7:45 pm as informed by guide.

Our next destination was Sagar Lake, which was hardly a few minutes away from the memorial. We were in a world of our own when we played music outside the lake and danced around the speaker. The lake was a sight for sore eyes. Boating on the lake was definitely a serene experience, as if food for soul. The warm evening sun shone in hues of red and orange before it dipped into the lake.

Up next on the itinerary was Saheliyon-ki-Bari. This place was lovely, with all its flowers and fountains, capturing one's sight as well as heart. Refreshing as it was, the 'Tandoori Tea' in the stall nearby took the cake for being the best. While everyone preferred the tea, some of us also tried the 6 flavoured 'Pani Puri', without worry as regards the effect on our stomachs (quite obvious how we'd want to try chaat while in the North).

Next was the part half of the team looking forward to and the other half dreading- Shopping! We went to one part of the main bazaar called 'Bada Bazaar', famous for the colourful and exquisite Rajasthani 'juthis'. The stores in the bazaar were alive with tourists, much like ourselves. Bargaining with the shopkeepers was quite a task, since the majority of us were unfamiliar with the local language, and found it a bit taxing to comprehend what was being said. However, this seemed like a game of dumb charades for the onlookers, and must have been an entertaining sight. This part of the evening was most energy-consuming time since we were on foot throughout, and so we called it a day with this and proceeded for dinner. Dinner was a fun time, all discussing what was purchased and the interesting events that transpired over the course of the day. We headed to our hotel for the night- all rooms allotted on a triple-sharing basis, and so we retired.

DAY TWO:

A new day dawned on us, holding much hope since the first day was a day that kept giving. After breakfast, we headed to Gulab Bagh. This is the largest garden in the city of Udaipur with a variety of roses, which is where the garden gets its name from. The garden made for a good morning walk, with its crisp morning air. Exactly opposite to the garden, was Vintage Cars. This place was definitely a hit among the team since it held a variety of older transportations. It managed to stir excitement and curiosity among us to see how those before us commuted.

Soon after, we proceeded to City Palace, Udaipur. Located on the banks of Lake Pichola, the palace was a stunning sight to behold. The architecture of the palace is a fusion of Mughal and Rajasthani styles. This palace housed the Maharanas during their rule. It offered a wonderful overview of the lake and the surrounding scenery. It is believed that the Maharanas were of Suryavanshi descent, and so had engravings of the Sun God on their structures. Located in the vicinity of the City Palace was Jagdish Temple. Home for Lord Krishna, this temple has been in continuous worship for the last three centuries. The Krishna idol was carved out of a single black stone.

Thoroughly exhausted due to walking the corridors of the huge palace, lunch was truly a relief. Fortunately, we had some time to ourselves during the evening. We had a blast of a time-making, some of the boys did the catwalk and even ended up crowning Srihari and Veera as the best.

We then set out on an overnight bus travel to reach our next destination- Jaisalmer. The night was the night before Shivrathri and hence the streets of Udaipur were alive with DJ parties at every turn. This urged us to have our very own dance off in the bus. The energy level was considerably high given the night time and danced for nearly two hours before cooling off. Thanks to the bus driver's cautious but rugged driving, some of us were up throughout the night.

DAY THREE:

Upon checking in to our hotel for refreshing, hot pooris were served for breakfast. They were a source of warmth in the 14 degree weather. Our plan for the day looked something like this- Jaisalmer Fort, Gadesar Lake and to set journey to Limra Desert Camp.

Our visit to the Jaisalmer Fort was very informative and gave us an insight of how Kings and Queens lived. However, the present rulers live in the New City Palace. The fort was built by Rawal Jaisal, who had 30 wives and was about 7.5ft in height and 250kg in weight. The King's palace led into the Queens' chambers.

The roof of the fort offered the entire city's overview and was a breath-taking sight to behold. The walls of the fort have intricate carvings, some even carved from a single yellow sandstone. The Fort still houses a population of over 4,000 people, with 4 different gates, and a central commonplace. We even got the opportunity to dance in the King's entertainment hall to the very famous 'Ghoomar' song from Padmaavat.

Headed on to the next spot, Gadesar Lake, we had the blessing of worshipping Lord Shiva on the day of Shivrathri. Soon after, we proceeded for lunch. This meal was undoubtedly one of the best meals during our stay in Rajasthan. We had organized a birthday surprise for our tour organizer Muthu Anna there. Some of us even shook a leg to the classic tunes played in the restaurant. With our stomachs full, we started our commute to Limra Desert Camp, where we were to stay the night.

The camp was a very unique experience since we did not have any of the luxuries that we are accustomed to like- a ceiling fan, and a closed bathroom. In the evening, we went on a jeep safari and then on camel rides. The jeep safari was a very adrenaline-inducing experience and had most of us screaming at the top of our lungs. We reached sunset point in our jeeps and then set out on camels. We even had a scare, when Shatruhan and Dhivagar were hanging off a camel, holding on for dear life. This would later become an inside joke, even though it was terrifying when it happened. We witnessed the sun set for the evening, and was quite awestruck by how beautiful it was. As we headed back to our camp, we were given a warm, local welcome with the sound of drums. The camp had organized a folk music and dance show for us along with special hot snacks, tea, which pumped our energy levels needed for the DJ Party at the later part of the night. With a mix of Hindi, Tamil, and English songs, the DJ party was a roaring hit (even that is an understatement!) with all of us dancing. Exhausted, we had dinner and called it a night. A few of us went on camel rides the next morning as well, only this time it was longer and some camels even ran!

DAY FOUR:

Setting out on our return journey to Udaipur, none of us expected to be faced with a minor (may be major, I concede) inconvenience of having one of the bus tyres stuck in the sand. It took about 2 hours, one small tractor, a JCB and lots of manual labour to get the tyre out and resume our journey. Safe to say we were thoroughly exhausted when we reached Udaipur at 3 am the next day morning.

FINAL DAY:

Our morning in Rajasthan was one of mixed emotions- happy to get back to the comfort of our homes, and sad that the trip had gone by in the blink of an eye. This quick getaway of five (5) days helped us bond, as friends and as a family. A thousand jokes, laughs and a bucket full of memories were made. These memories would stay with us always and be thought of, with a giant smile on our faces and a warm feeling in our hearts. We all arrived at the airport safely and parted giving a kudos to our entire team at the baggage collecting junction in the airport.

Memories will rejoice our travel for a long time until we all organise for yet another memorable trip. It would rather be incomplete if we do not thank the Organising Committee (SK, Chetan, Thilak & Vivek) who made this trip as not only an excellent get-together but also a memorable one. KUDOS to all Swasa members, students, staff as well as partners with respective families for participating.

By Vidhya, Student cum SWASA Member

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM ALUMNI

SWASA takes an immense pride in bringing out the contribution of **CA REKHA (India)** in this issue of SWASA NEWSLETTER, who has joined World Bank Finance & Accounting as 'Financial Analyst' after her CA qualifications in November 2010 from Sundararajan Associates.

On the request from CA K Vijayaraghavan and from SWASA ExCom Member Chetan J Sharma (Editor), CA REKHA (India) has kindly consented to provide an extract of her career growth which is shared herein below. SWASA feels extremely proud to share the thoughts of our Alumni CA Rekha in this edition. This would also provide SWASA students to get a glimpse of success in career and would facilitate other dimensions of growth.

Here goes CA Rekha Ramakrishnan contribution as an Alumni.



Before I begin to compose my thoughts on my enriching articleship experience at Sundararajan Associates, I am thankful to Captain (Vijay) for giving me this opportunity

My journey towards becoming a Chartered Accountant started with my growing interest for the course inculcated by my pals during my B.Com days at MOP Vaishnav College. More and more chats around the course inspired me to take it up.

After completing CA Inter, under the guidance of CS B Ravi sir, one of my mother's acquaintance, I joined Sundararajan Associates in February 2007, as an article under CA R Sundararajan.

Recollecting a famous quote from 'The Teacher's Enthusiasm by Andrew Metcalfe and Ann Game',

"A good teacher is not one who provides all the energy that a class needs; good teachers are those who allow the production of an energy that is not the teachers and not the students, but shared between them."

Sundararajan sir is one such teacher. He always gave me the liberty to analyze a particular issue in hand and come out with possible solutions and then took the time to explain the pros and cons of those solutions in detail with their outcomes.

I always have an urge in learning new software and systems and Sundar sir somehow sensed this interest of mine and has whenever possible provided me with good opportunities that has helped me develop the skill of understanding new systems and software better. This ability turned out to be one of my major selling points at my interview with **World Bank**, where I am currently employed.

To recapitulate, Sundararajan Associates is a place where I was being involved in the process rather than being notified later and this reminds me of a quote by Confucius.

"TELL ME, AND I WILL FORGET.
SHOW ME, AND I MAY REMEMBER.
INVOLVE ME, AND I WILL UNDERSTAND."

My Anna aka Sanal, Jileesh who are my best buddies, Captain Vijay, Rekha (Mainetti), Situ alias Sitaraman and Kalyan Bhai are all very close to my heart.

I must say that my time at Sundararajan Associates has enriched my life in many ways. This is the period that helped me understand the importance of thinking critically and asking the right questions at different situations and take decisions only after considering all viable options.

My final words before bidding adieu is that the experience and knowledge gained during articleship is priceless. So, never have a laid-back approach during your articleship, especially with such good mentors around you. It is always better to understand importance of something within its fruitful time.

PROUD MOMENTS

SWASA Members take pride in congratulating **CA K Vijayaraghavan**, Partner, Sundararajan Associates LLP on his attaining yet another achievement of clearing the Registered Valuer Examination conducted by Insolvency & Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI). CA K Vijayaraghavan has now become a Registered Valuer as stipulated under the recent mandatory regulations.

CA R Sundararajan, Managing Partner has been presented with special accolades and shawl on his delivering IRAS Norms (Bank Audit Program) in Warangal.

*SPECIAL PHOTOS OF CA R SUNDARARAJAN, Managing Partner
on IRAS Norms-Presentation in Warangal*



WELCOME

Swasa welcomes new members inducted

- ❖ Sabari Rajan, Uma Shruthi, Vijaya Poorani and Abhinaya-all are students under ICAI studies.

FAREWELL

Swasa acknowledges contribution from exiting members

- ❖ V Yokesh

SECRETARY'S CORNER

The Secretary of SWASA Mr Balaji informed that all efforts are taken to request student members to make contributions in the form of writing articles so that the Editorial Advisory Board can have their recommend for publication in this month Newsletter.

All are invited for contributing articles to this monthly newsletter. Members are also requested to provide informations of special participations undertaken by any of the members which would be appropriately taken up for publication in our monthly newsletter.

TREASURER'S CORNER

The treasurer of SWASA Mr Vivek has informed that allocations made out of available funds and contributions received from members and partners have been fully utilised for the purposes of this tour program as scheduled. Treasurer has also sought (on behalf of Organising Committee) suggestions for improvement if any for organising such other tour programs in future.

OUR NEXT ISSUE-CALENDAR

- ✓ YOGA Session and FAQs (Interactive)
- ✓ **'BANK AUDITS'**-Discussion & Deliberations
- ✓ Alumni Contribution-**CA Rekha (Dubai)**
- ✓ Presentations by Students

PRESIDENT'S SPECIAL MESSAGE TO STUDENTS :

SWASA invites feedback from all students regarding any practical issue(s) that they may face during the course of audits. SWASA would help in respect of genuine issues if any such as a. on professional subjects—both direct and indirect taxes, company law, accounting, costing, auditing etc., and would support seamlessly and b. any other inhibitions that students may come across for effectively handling their subjects/ tasks-on-hand.

PRESIDENT ELECT

Padmaja Sankaran (wef 11th April, 2019)

ExCom Members Elect (wef May 2019)

Shatruhan Khanna (in place of S Samadharshini)

Abirami (in the place of S Parasuram)

SWASA Executive Committee (ExCom):

President	- S Samadharshini	(96001 44167)
Secretary	- M Balaji	(86680 10880)
Treasurer	- S Vivek	(90422 58558)
ExCom Member	- S Parasuram	(90039 56474)
ExCom Member	- Harshita Kothari	(99623 21967)
ExCom Member	- Padmaja Sankaran	(97109 66601)
ExCom Member	- Chetan J Sharma	(90031 04859)

SWASA Advisory Board:

CA Sripriya Sundararajan
CA K Vijayaraghavan
CA ANL Madhavann