



# ECA MIRROR

Volume 48, No. 3

June 2024

## PATRONS

Mrs. Rukmini Varma  
Padma Shree  
Dr. C.G. Krishnadas Nair  
Mr. Tony Vincent

## ECA COMMITTEE 2023-24

PRESIDENT



Mr. Thilakan VPM

VICE-PRESIDENT



Mr. Sudhy Varghese

GEN. SECRETARY



Mr. Manoj Subramanian

JT. SECRETARY



Mr. Naveen Alayil

TREASURER



Mr. Shaji V. Pillai

EDITOR



Mr. Meril Jacob K. C

## General Secretary's MESSAGE

Dear ECA Family,

It has been a great honor and privilege for me to serve as the General Secretary of our association. Your support, understanding, ideas and encouragement have enabled me to manage my responsibilities to be best of my abilities.

The EC is thankful to get the opportunity to welcome the Golden Jubilee Year 2024 and have attempted to execute all statutory, facility and member engagement programs in the most apt and befitting manner to uphold ECA's tradition and image.

To take this Golden Jubilee Year to its heights the EC constituted a Golden Jubilee Celebration Committee – GCC. The Year Long Celebrations started with the curtain raiser event followed by founder's day celebration on April, 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024 and the events continued with the Golden Jubilee Annual Day which culminated with a performance by "Thaikkudam Bridge" on June, 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024. I thank the support of all Past President's, Office Bearers and all EC Members for the success of the Golden Jubilee Celebration.

The EC believed that change is the only thing which is constant and believed in new ideas which brought in new committee (Tech & Outreach - for member outreach), new programs (ECA Quiz League) and new initiatives which was well received and appreciated by all the members. I thank the EC and Sub Committees for having been such a cohesive and collaborative team to ensure that our members got the advantage. Having programs almost every weekend and enabling member engagement across various interest lines and varied age groups (7 years old to 80 years young) has been a plan since inception of this committee. The team work has been so seamless and I was lucky to have such a fantastic executive committee.

Financial Stability has been our charter and to do this we focused on two areas, one, bring down Operational Expenses and two, sponsorship funded programs, and this has enabled us to keep our Finances Healthy. The Support of all EC members, past presidents and office bearers to help us to drive the new memberships also helped us to make this happen.

Some areas which we started on and need to continue for the years to come are:

- Receive, encourage and include new members, ideas and thoughts
- Develop in our youth the social competence and responsibility that they need to become active leaders
- Interact with children who have a range of abilities
- Build collaborative partnerships with specialists, parents, other staff and services

I thank the entire Office Staff under our Manager Sukumaran for their commitment so far in performing their day to day activities in the most remarkable way and all the support staff of ECA in carry out their duties with a smile.

**MANOJ SUBRAMANIAN**  
General Secretary



**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
MEMBERS 2023-24**

MR. BINESH M  
Club Programs, Drama &  
Facilities Management

MR. FRANCIS JOE  
Billiards & Snooker

MR. JAYARAJ MENON  
Beverages

MR. MANU VARGHESE  
Community Service, Housie &  
New Year Celebration

MR. MERIL JACOB K. C.  
Tech & Outreach

MR. RAJESH V. K.  
Special Events

MR. SHARAD CHANDRAMANI  
Fine Arts

DR. SURESH KEMPAIAH  
Sports & Health Club

MR. TONY AUGUSTINE  
Club Memberships, Planning,  
Finance & Administrative  
Reforms

MR. VENU RAVINDRAN  
Catering

**CLUB MANAGEMENT  
COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

MR. KRISHNAN UNNI  
Guest Rooms, Banquets &  
Club Development & Club  
Affiliations

MR. PILLAI R.K.N.  
Library & Book Club

MR. SANJAI GANGADHARAN  
Cards & Sthree

MR. VISWANATHAN O.  
Sahityavedi & Sangeetham

**INVITEES**

MR. SANJAY ALEX  
Immediate Past President

MR. SOBIN SOMAN  
Immediate Past General  
Secretary

MR. MANOJ VARGHESE  
Immediate Past Treasurer

## From the EDITOR'S DESK

Dear ECA Members,

In every issue of the ECA Mirror, we endeavor to ignite your curiosity, captivate your imagination, and inspire your intellect. With each word meticulously chosen, every image thoughtfully curated, and every idea passionately articulated, we aim to craft an experience that enriches your understanding of the ECA world.

In this edition, we invite you to embark on a one year journey through the corridors of ECA, from cultural extravaganzas to sporting highlights on display by the members, to the elevated member engagement initiatives and to the magical performances by professional artists. ECA continues to be a significant name on Bangalore's map.

I bring to you the last edition of the term which not only showcases amazing events from the last few months, but also covers a quick recap of the year that went by.

I thank my co-editor Maryann and the entire Tech & Outreach team for the wonderful support extended to publishing this edition of the ECA Mirror.

Happy reading!



**Meril Jacob**  
Editor, ECA Mirror

## Patron's MESSAGE

Dear esteemed patrons, past presidents and my beloved ECA family.

At the outset, I thank the East Cultural Association family for installing me as the patron. I respect the executive committee who unanimously nominated me for this prestigious position. I assure all of you that I shall maintain the dignity and respect of this post.

I would like to share a few words about the Golden Jubilee Celebration Committee and development work that will be taken up at ECA. We, the Chairman of GCC, Convenor of GCC, and Club Development Member of GCC are putting up a comprehensive plan for the modernisation of ECA. The development plan will be rolled out during the year by Mr. Naveen Alayil.

Dr. Devasia Kurian has exhaustive plans for acquiring a small bit of land, about 1-3 acres for ECA. We are also planning a charitable or philanthropic arm of ECA and the same will be rolled out during the year.

Convenor Mr Sanjay Gangadharan will be actively coordinating the continued Golden Jubilee Celebrations for the year, along with the executive committee of ECA. Mr Sudhy Varghese, Chairman, will be the backbone of all the activities. I will oversee all the activities and initiatives under the GCC banner.

Wishing each one of you the very best.

I remain.



**Mr. Tony Vincent**  
Patron of ECA

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## And so the adventure begins...



**MR. AGNEW CHACKO**  
Date of Joining: 26/02/2024



**MR. RAMACHANDRAN DEVARAJAN**  
Date of Joining: 26/02/2024



**MR. K. THOMAS CHANDY**  
Date of Joining: 26/02/2024



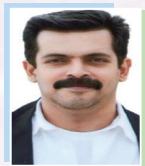
**MR. SANDEEP VISWANATH**  
Date of Joining: 26/02/2024



**MR. BIPIN NINAN ABRAHAM**  
Date of Joining: 26/02/2024



**MR. SURESH BABU**  
Date of Joining: 25/03/2024



**MR. RADHAKRISHNAN RAMACHANDRAN**  
Date of Joining: 25/03/2024



**MR. VINU ADHIKARATH VALAPPIL**  
Date of Joining: 25/03/2024



**MR. MOBY K BABU**  
Date of Joining: 25/03/2024



**MS. SONAL MARIA NORONHA**  
Date of Joining: 25/03/2024



**MR. SANDEEP CYRIL NORONHA**  
Date of Joining: 25/03/2024



**MR. NAVANEETHAN KOTTILAVEEDU**  
Date of Joining: 22/04/2024



**MR. DILIP GEORGE**  
Date of Joining: 22/04/2024



**MRS. APARNA VINOD**  
Date of Joining: 22/04/2024



**MR. HARIHARAN SANKARANARAYANAN**  
Date of Joining: 22/04/2024



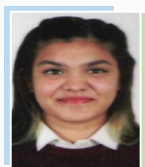
**MR. KRISHNAN VENUGOPAL**  
Date of Joining: 27/11/2023



**DR. SUPRIYA N**  
Date of Joining: 27/05/2024



**MR. RADHAKRISHNA HEGDE**  
Date of Joining: 27/05/2024



**MS. MANSI MANOJ**  
Date of Joining: 27/05/2024



**MR. SHANKAR M**  
Date of Joining: 27/05/2024



**MS. SINDHU J R**  
Date of Joining: 27/05/2024



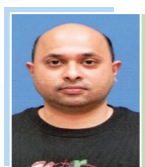
**M/S. ORANGE COUNTY RESORTS -REP BY THOMAS EMMANUEL RAMAPURAM**  
Date of Joining: 27/05/2024



**MR. SUBIN S KULAMAKKAL**  
Date of Joining: 27/05/2024



**MRS. NIDHI JULIET BASTIN**  
Date of Joining: 27/05/2024



**MR. ANAND DIVAKARAN**  
Date of Joining: 27/05/2024



**MR. MANOJ PARAMESWARAN**  
Date of Joining: 27/05/2024

Welcoming all new members to the ECA Family

## GCC UPDATES

I am thrilled to share with you that our beloved club is celebrating its Golden Jubilee this year. It fills me with immense pride to reflect on the incredible journey we have undertaken together over the past five decades.

50 years ago, our founding leaders laid the foundation of our association with a vision of unity, diversity and progress. Since then, we have overcome numerous challenges and achieved significant milestones.

I encourage each and every one of you to actively participate in the Golden Jubilee Celebrations and make this milestone year truly memorable. Let us come together as a vibrant and united

community to celebrate our achievements and lay the foundation for an even brighter future.

On behalf of the entire GCC team, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to each of you for your continued support and dedication. Together we will work to take our club to new heights of excellence.

Here's to 50 years of friendship, service and success.

Warm Regards

**Sudhy Varghese**

Vice President and Chairman GCC





*"Always Loved, Never Forgotten..."*



**JOSEPH P.K**  
ECA NO.1099 | CLUB NO. DJ-013  
EXPIRED ON 19-03-2024



**JACOB MAMMEN**  
ECA NO.1208 | CLUB NO.J-052  
EXPIRED ON 24-03-2024



**ABDUL RAZAK V K**  
ECA NO.372 | CLUB NO.DA-001  
EXPIRED ON 10-06-2024

## POEM: TWILIGHT YEARS



As I sit in the twilight one evening in my flat  
I reminisce about the events of the past  
Kaleidoscopic pictures pass through my mind  
Taking me back to my childhood.  
Those were the most memorable years of my life  
Where there was no care in the world  
The safety and security of childhood without any  
strife.  
We were a happy family and lived in the Mining  
Town called Kolar Gold Fields  
It is well known as K G F, where the British took  
home gold in the form of Bricks  
We were one of the privileged families who  
enjoyed the perks they threw at us.  
Being an officer we had free bungalows,  
subsidized rations, free dairy and good English  
education.  
I still remember the lovely Christmas Balls and  
New Year parties hosted by my English and  
Anglo Indian friends.  
We in turn entertained them with our festivities,  
poojas and goodies.  
We would act out plays, dances and extempore  
speeches during holidays

We had huge well maintained gardens. The ice-  
cream men jingling bells on Sundays were music  
to our ears.

Another taste that lingers on my taste buds, are  
the sticky Toffees we would buy from the cooks.  
We were strictly forbidden to venture out of the  
gates.

Still often we would go out dodging the lunch  
room nun's ever vigil eyes.

After college we engaged in different types of  
fun and memories.

Post marriages, siblings were thrown apart and  
later met on special occasions,

Now as i sit in this twilight of my life, I yearn for the  
same old happy childhood

And await my sunset, where i can reach my  
eternal Abode

A place where I can join once with the departed  
loved ones,

And be once again in their midst.

**By Shobha Shivashankar**

## SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT

### CLUB PROGRAMS, DRAMA & FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

#### Independence Day

ECA celebrated India's 77th Independence Day on 15th Aug 2023. ECA club programs vice chairperson Mrs. Vidya Avinash welcomed the gathering in the absence of the chairman.



ECA president, Mr. VPM Thilakan gave the presidential address and did the flag hoisting. ECA Sangeetham team delivered beautiful patriotic songs. This was followed by a delicious breakfast spread. We thank the sponsors Skyline builders for supporting the event.

#### Drama- Thushagni

Thushagni, a dynamic theatrical production set against a century-old backdrop, took center stage at the halls of ECA on December 17th.

Following a warm welcome address by the Club program and Drama chairman, Binesh, the event was officially inaugurated by the President of ECA.

The captivating play unfolded a mystical and fantastical world that left both the drama enthusiasts of ECA and the guests spellbound. It presented the chilling tale of Amboori Neelandan, the enigmatic toxicologist of Theyyadimukku. The combination of suspense, compelling storytelling, and awe-inspiring performances are sure to leave a lasting impression on the minds of the audience for an extended period



## Republic Day

ECA celebrated India's 75th Republic Day on January 26, 2024, where the gathering was welcomed by the chairman of club programs. This was soon followed by the club president's address and the unfurling of the national flag. The Sangeetham team members enthralled everyone with soul-stirring patriotic songs in Malayalam and Hindi. To add to the festivities, a delectable breakfast spread was served to all the members.



## Facilities

The committee has been taking up regular garden maintenance and maintenance of other club facilities. The committee continues to undertake maintenance activities such as improvements in the green room, procurement of



cordless microphones and maintenance of solar water heaters for the guest rooms.

**Chairman - Binesh M**

## LIBRARY & BOOK CLUB

The ECA Book Club, under the aegis of the Library Sub-Committee, took a conscious decision to extend its objective beyond encouraging the reading habit among our members to fostering writing talent among them and fellow Bengalureans as well. Our first event held in September in 2023, featured 'Rama of the Axe', a fictionalized biography and the first novel written by our member Ranjit Radhakrishnan. We followed this with an innovative and interactive session titled, Bring & Borrow, which saw our members gathering together to exchange books. It was a





great way for everyone to discover new authors and new books. In January 2024, we invited Bengalurean scientist and author Harini Nagendra for an interactive discussion of her detective novel, "Murder Under a Red Sun". March saw us host another ECA member author, Abey Mathew, and discuss his book "Mind the Mindset", a compilation of practical wisdom covering every aspect of life. In June, we conducted our grand finale, And "They Lived Happily Ever After", a fun evening of book and literature themed interactive events and games. All in all, we conducted five events in the year, preferring quality over quantity, and every one of them was impeccably organized, well attended and thoroughly enjoyed.

**Chairman - Pillai R.K.N.**

## CARDS & STHREE

**Sthree** - The Sthree committee at ECA was formed with an objective of giving the women members of ECA a platform to showcase their talent outside of the regular cultural activities. This year the women of ECA were involved in organising health camps in association with Manipal Hospitals, a grand dandiya night was organised with stalls and other fun activities. The women's day celebrations was organised with a cultural program and a food festival where the members of ECA put up home made food stalls and the proceeds of that was contributed to Spastic Society of Karnataka to fund the education of 2 children. This initiative was a first of its kind and the women of ECA would work to improve on such efforts in the future.

**Cards Room** - The cards room has been a very active part of ECA, the cards room at ECA is a very happening place. Members come here to unwind and relax in the evenings and on the weekends. The card room generates a very stable income for ECA. The overall income from the card room this year exceeded the previous year by over 10%. The card room conducts regular monthly



tournaments for members and the birthday parties in the cards room is a much sought after event. This year the cards sub committee conducted an open rummy tournament as part of the golden jubilee celebrations with over 70 participants including members and guests from other clubs. The total prize money distributed was over 2 lakhs. This is the second time that that Open tournament



is being organized and both times profitably. I am happy to have led this initiative both the times.

**Chairman - Sanjai Gangadharan**

## BEVERAGES

The beverages committee provided able support for the large format events of the club like the Onam, New Year and the Annual Day setting up bar counters in multiple convenient places providing premium variety brands and setting up cocktail counters.

The bar nite programs which run in the Lounge Bar were kick started with a unique trivia quiz program " Ningalkum Akaam Kudeeshwaran" by Eca

member Sarangan and succeeded by Karaoke Nites. The Beverages Committee continued to run bar nite programs over the year with a very good turn out from the members and guests.

Beverages committee has brought in a wide variety of brands for the discerning drinker and has also initiated attractive offers for the members.

**Chairman - Jayaraj Menon**



## SPORTS & HEALTH CLUB

Sports is the heart of ECA.

ECA's Sports committee started the year with a festive bang : Onam Sports in Aug/Sept 2023.

We conducted Onam cricket, Onam indoor and outdoor sports and Onam badminton tournament. Like a grand sadya, we witnessed over 100 members come together to play, win and make memories.

sat together and bid for the best of ECA. This event was live streamed.

A grand EBL launch was organised for 26th Nov, to officially welcome the owners, teams and sponsors. The tournament was organized on 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 8th, 9th & 10th of December 2023.

We had fantastic moments of badminton at the ECA - ACE Open Doubles Tournament on



The sports committee conducted monthly badminton tournaments regularly. The badminton fraternity of ECA is dedicated and competitive. Each monthly witnesses around 40-50 participants.

The next big event was the much awaited, Aratt ECA Badminton League 2023-24. The players' auction was conducted by Meril Jacob. 6 teams

5th, 6th & 7th April 2024 organized at ECA and Indiranagar Club Badminton Courts where state, national and international stars took part.

We participated in Interclub tournaments in Badminton, Table Tennis at Century and Indiranagar clubs.



All Gym equipment were repaired and Annual Maintenance Contract was given has been signed.

ECA's sports and Health Club committee organized EFB - ECA Football Bundesliga: Thantry

Cup on Sunday, 23rd June 2024, 5 pm onwards. Four teams come together to compete for the event.

**Chairman: Suresh Kempaiiah**

## 14<sup>th</sup> Oct – 25<sup>th</sup> Nov 2024 - ECA Childrens Day Competition and Fest

The Date 14<sup>th</sup> Oct 2023 saw the Inauguration of Childrens Day Competition and fest at ECA.

Our esteemed Chief Guest were – Mr. Manjunath Nayaker (Master Manjunath of “Malgudi Days” fame) and Dr. Chitra Sankar Consultant Developmental Paediatrics Manipal Hospitals.

The Children in the age category of 5-8, 9-12 & 13-16 were all prepared representing their Houses – Avengers, Gladiators, Ninjas & Spartans. The

The active Fine Arts committee, the House Coordinators, the Organizing committee bring the curtains down on the month-Long Festivity on 25<sup>th</sup> of Nov 2023 with a Grand Finale Musical Drama performance and produced by the ECA Childrens.

The curtain falls on a joyous and memorable Children’s Day celebration, leaving behind a trail of laughter, camaraderie, and pure, unbridled joy.

The venue was transformed into a magical wonderland, adorned with colourful decorations and twinkling lights.

**ECA CHILDREN'S FEST 2023-24**

**GALA INAUGURATION**

Chief Guest  
**Manjunath Nayaker**  
(Master Manjunath of Malgudi Days fame)

Guest of Honour  
**Dr. Chitra Sankar**,  
MBBS, DCH, MRCP,  
Consultant Paediatrics,  
Manipal Hospital

A month long cultural & sporting competitive extravaganza.

Saturday October 14, 2023 | 6 pm | ECA Auditorium

This is ECA's Biggest Platform for our Kids to Express their Talents, Compete, Enjoy Teamwork and learn to Handle both Success and Failure.

Four House vie to be Champions

**SPARTANS AVENGERS**  
**GLADIATORS NINJAS**

Prizes worth Rs.1,00,000/-

REGISTER YOUR CHILD TODAY to be allotted to a HOUSE!  
Scan the QR Code

Registrations Close on Oct 8 at 6pm

Three Age Groups  
5-8 Years (9<sup>th</sup> birthday on or after Oct 15 2023)  
9-12 Years (13<sup>th</sup> birthday on or after Oct 15 2023)  
13-16 Years (17<sup>th</sup> birthday on or after Oct 15 2023)

Inaugural Function  
Saturday October 14, 2023 | 5 pm  
ECA Auditorium

List of events overleaf/on the next page

Contact  
Sharad - 86608 41455

Manoj Subramanian  
General Secretary

Sharad Chandra Mani  
Chairman, Fine Arts

**ECA CHILDREN'S FEST 2023-24**

**LET THE CHEF IN YOUR CHILD COOK UP A STORM!**

COOKING WITHOUT FIRE

Just one of the many competitions in ECA Children's Fest that draw out our children's talents and help them blossom.

Four Houses vie to be Champions

**AVENGERS**  
**SPARTANS**  
**GLADIATORS**  
**NINJAS**

Prizes worth Rs.1,00,000/-

REGISTER YOUR CHILD TODAY to be allotted to a HOUSE!  
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General Secretary

Sharad Chandra Mani  
Chairman, Fine Arts

**ECA CHILDREN'S FEST 2023-24**

Prizes Sponsored By

**PUMA**

Health Partner  
**manipalhospitals**  
LIFE'S ON

Competitions broadly are under the Literary/ Art & Sports Categories. Story & Poetry Writing, Painting, Clay Modelling, Elocution, dance, Singing, Music along with Indoor and Outdoor games – competitions House wise and Individual points scoring decides the Champions – House Championship & Overall Individual Champion – and is honoured the ECA Child President and other Child Office bearers.

The ceremony commenced in presence of our Chief Guest Dr. Alok Srivastava – Outstanding Scientist, Associate Director UR Rao Satellite Centre – ISRO and Guest of Honour – Dr. Ishappa Bandi – Academician at Manipal Academy of Higher Education Bangalore Campus, ECA Office bearers, Member parents and Children.

The Children's Day closing ceremony experienced a vibrant and energy filled evening with children enjoying their engagement on the final act with the Magician/Ventriloquist Mr Nihal Ranjan Achar. We all were so involved in fine tricks and his Conversational Monkey Buddy Sandy.

The conclusion to the 30 days of festivities that not only celebrated the joy of childhood but also served as a reminder of the responsibilities we

sounds of the era. The Orchestra and the singers combining the music with enamouring stage setting, the play of lights enhanced the visual experience, created an immersive environment, transporting attendees back to the magical moments of musical history.

The event featured delicious food and beverage stalls, offering a taste of the past with classic snacks and drinks that were popular with the crowd.



bear in shaping a better future for the younger generation.

The committee extends its warmest thanks and appreciation to the President and Office bearers and Executive Committee members who extend all the guidance support thru out the month-long Competitions.

### ECA Nostalgia Nite 18th May 2024

Presented by ECA Fine Arts in Association with ECA Sangeetham.

The Nostalgia Musical Nite "RITU HABBA" at ECA is an enchanting journey through time, designed to evoke fond memories and celebrate the timeless melodies that have shaped our lives. This event is a harmonious blend of music, history, and emotion, bringing together an array of classic hits from different eras.

We are privileged to have Mr M N Vishwantahan at 83 yrs rocking the floor.

Live Performances by our 25+ ECA Singing Artist presented the iconic songs of yesteryears to life. From the rock 'n' roll vibes of the 1950s to the disco fever of the 1970s, and the pop anthems of the 1980s, every segment is a tribute to the distinctive



The ECA Nostalgia Nite 2024 was designed to be a multisensory experience that resonates with audiences on a deep emotional level.

## 25<sup>th</sup> MAY – Members Nite 2024 – presented by ECA FINE ARTS

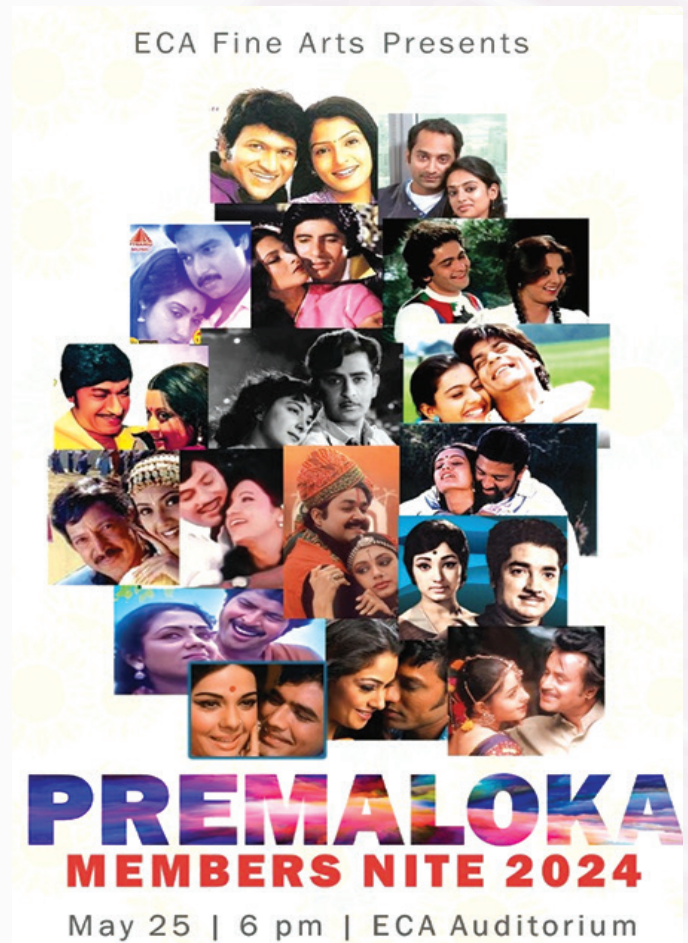
The ECA Club Members Cultural Nite, was organised for 25th May 2024, it proposed an enchanting evening that brought together a vibrant tapestry of Talent/Skills/Cultural and artistic expressions.

Month long Communications were established for registration of members. The event promised to showcase the rich diversity and unity among our esteemed club members.

Member Coordinators hit the Discussion Board and came out with the brilliant concept of “The season of Love” as a theme and designed the Musical Dance medley. Four Languages 25 Couple Songs enacted, from the Indian Cinema greatest Actors and Actress from the era of 1966 to 2010. Raj Kapoor/Nargis/Prem Nazir/Lakshmi/Jayan/Seema/ Rajkumar/Manjula/Rajinikanth/Mammootty/Poornima/Mohanlal/Shobana/Salman Khan to Shahrukh Khan all landed at ECA and gave us a memorable evening under the Umbrella of “PREMALOKA”.

The Lighting of the Lamp with our President, Secretary and Dr. Reema & Ms. Amritha from KITES Senior Care the Sponsors.

The stage came alive with a series of Individual members captivating performances, Mr. Sunil Kulammakkal with his multi musical Instrumental Talent, Mr. Sarangan with his Stand-up Comedy,



Mr. Bala Warriar with his Malayalam poetry recitation, Mrs. Sridevi Unni with a beautiful story narration and with Dr. Anju Sanju with her Malayalam Mono-act.

The stage was set with the member artists presenting & representing various popular songs of retro era, mesmerizing & scintillating moves by our member couples bought out the energy of the





audience and transformed the auditorium to the dream world. The show culminated in a Colourful Visual Feast of ramp walk by the 55 Member participants showing off the Love/delight- a sense of pride and Joy.

The evening concluded with an awards ceremony recognizing members contributions were honoured for their talents, dedication, and efforts in promoting "PREMALOKA"

The ECA Club Members Cultural Nite was more than just an event; it was a celebration of unity in diversity. It provided a platform for members to share their cultural heritage, learn from each other, and strengthen the bonds of friendship and

community. The success of this event would not have been possible without the enthusiasm and participation of our members, the support of our sponsors, and the hard work of the organizing committee. The Fine Arts Extends its sincere thanks to all the participating members, the valuable coordinator Mrs. Beena Sanjai for her perseverance and keeping the team together, Mrs. Anjana Chandran – enabled the Sponsorships, Mr. Vijay the Choreographer, Mr. Amal Tony & Ms. Hirankshi Chandran the EMCEE for the evening .

**Chairman – Sharad Chandra Mani**





## BILLIARDS & SNOOKER

This is the Golden Year in the ECA Billiards & Snooker section. -History has been made with a record number of events organized by the Chairman and his team & a large number of participants from the CueSport lovers fraternity.

A variety of new events have been organized.

A new members monthly tournament with a fun format was started in September 2023 and held every month till date with the winners name displayed every month on a classy new board in the Billiards room.

Surprisingly we had a new winner every month which motivated and attracted new members & youngsters to the ECA Billiards room.

Among the winners were the first lady champion, the youngest member of 13 years old and the oldest member of 80 years old.

A special event, the Black Ball Shootout was added to the annual Onam tournaments with a record number of participants.

For the first time we also had a live telecast on YouTube of the finals of the Onam Snooker

ARATT

ARATT  
ALCHEMY  
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Tournament which received a considerable number of views.

ECA's Annual Inter Club snooker tournament, the CI George Handicap Snooker Tournament was held in November 2023 again with a record number of participants. We had to restrict the number of participants to 100 due to time constraints.

In December 2023 the members monthly tournament was held in the Christmas theme with players dressed in the colors of the season.

This year we also saw 20 new Cue lockers made in the Billiards room. All 20 lockers were booked like hotcakes and subscribed by members.

The markers also got new styled uniforms which was well appreciated by the members.

Mr Uday our Chief marker and coach also finished runner up in the State Billiards Championship held for the markers of all clubs.

May 2024 was May Mayhem with a special event every Friday of the month to kick off the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of ECA.

These fun events brought a lot of camaraderie between the ECA Cuesports fraternity and was well appreciated by everyone.

The events held throughout the year have brought an increase of 25% in the number of Billiards subscribers from the previous year.

Thank you for the love and support.

### Updates from Feb 2024 to May 2024

In February 2024, we crowned the First Lady champion and the most popular female player in ECA's CueSports fraternity - Mrs Lakshmi Sury!

Mrs. Lakshmi has been a regular player in the ECA Billiards room for the last 30+ years.

She is always accompanied by her husband Mr. Sury who is a player himself and also a patron of the Billiards room. She is also a former Karnataka state player. Many congratulations to Mrs. Lakshmi Sury.

March 2024, we crowned yet another new champion Mr. Ramchandran!

He has taken membership in ECA a few months ago just to play Billiards and Snooker.

Congratulations to Mr. Ram and wish him many more titles going forward.

The April 2024 Members Monthly Tournament champion was Thomas Jacob!





Thomas, a regular face in the ECA Billiards room has been an active player for around 30 years.

End of April we got New Cue Lockers Installed in the Billiards room.

### May Mayhem 2024

We had an event on 4 Fridays of May to mark the start of the Golden Jubilee celebration year of ECA.

The first event was the fun Shuffle Pool Championship. Mr. PT Thomas emerged the champion. Mr. PT Thomas picked the sport in the last couple of years and has been a regular in the Billiards room.

The second event was the 6 Red Snooker doubles and the winners were Mr. Dhakshak & Mr. Ayan, the youngest members of the tournament.

Mr. Dhakshak, 23 years old studying for his UPSC exam & Mr. Ayan, 13 years old picked up the game a year ago and a pro golfer himself. A true example of hard work paying off. They have been in the Billiards room everyday and putting in a lot of practice. He is the future of ECA CueSports.



Next we had the most popular event - Black Ball Shootout Championship. The Chairman won this event.

We also had a Black Ball Shootout playoff between the two markers of the Billiards room which was closely fought and won by Mr. Uday our Chief coach and current State runner up.

A fun and great evening with the Billiards fraternity!

The last of the May Mayhem was the Members Monthly Tournament.

This was won by Mr. Lancelot, the oldest subscribing member in the billiards room!

A great closure to the May Mayhem and to the year!

Thanks everybody for your love and support.

**Chairman – Francis Joe**

## ECA SANGEETHAM & SAHITYAVEDI

### ECA SAHITYAVEDI

ECA Sahityavedi conducted 'M.T. NAVATHI VANDANAM' on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at ECA as a 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday tribute to the 'Jnanpith' Awardee, Shri. M.T. Vasudevan Nair. Shri. Alankode Leelakrishnan, eminent Poet & Writer, spoke about



MT's books and his life journey on the occasion.



Members' Drama 'NERVAZHITHAARAKAL' was staged in ECA Auditorium on May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024 in which twenty ECA members took part, which was well attended and appreciated by ECA Members & Guests.

**ECA SANGEETHAM**

ECA Sangeetham had its first Get-together on 28<sup>th</sup> July, 2023. Following that, ECA Sangeetham had five bi-monthly get-togethers in which members of all age groups participated in large numbers. In addition to the regular musical get-togethers, ECA Sangeetham joined hands with Club Program Committee for presenting Patriotic Songs on Independence Day & Republic Day; with Catering Committee by rendering Onam Songs



on ECA Thiruvona Sadya Day on 29<sup>th</sup> August and with Fine Arts Committees by organising Nostalgia Nite musical programme on May 18<sup>th</sup>.

ECA Sangeetham conducted the mega musical event

**TECH & OUTREACH**

As we conclude another dynamic year, it's time to reflect on the remarkable achievements of the Tech and Outreach Committee. Our



"MADHUVASANTHAM", a musical tribute to commemorate the 90<sup>th</sup> birthday of the veteran Malayalam actor, producer & director, Padmashree Madhu on 13<sup>th</sup> January, 2024 in ECA Auditorium when hit songs from his films of sixties and seventies were rendered by professional singers from Kerala, accompanied by a 12 piece professional orchestra, which enthralled the audience.

Also, an evening of Hindustani/Gazal based songs by ECA member family "SHAAM-E-NAGME" was presented with live orchestra on March 23, 2024 at Dr. J. Alexander Hall which was well attended.



The ECA Sangeetham Finale Get-together

was organised to be on 7<sup>th</sup> June, 2024 with live orchestra in which more than 30 members are participating.

I take this opportunity to express my gratitude to the Executive Committee, Sahityavedi & Sangeetham Sub-committee members and ECA Family for all the support extended.

**Chairman – Viswanathan O.**

team has made significant strides in enhancing communication, engagement, and technological infrastructure within ECA. Here's a look at what we accomplished:

## Digital Displays: A Revenue-Generating Success

The journey began with a single digital display TV placed at near our reception. Today, we proudly operate three digital display TVs (additions at Bar Lounge & Auditorium entrance) that are primarily meant to showcase upcoming ECA programs and events, greatly enhancing our communication efforts. Post the initial phase we have also extended the platform for members to advertise their businesses also creating revenue-generation stream.

## Events Calendar & ECA Mirror: Keeping Members Informed.

We published two editions of our magazine (ECA Mirror) & one more that you are reaching right now, ensuring that all members are kept up-to-date with the latest happenings in the club. A soft copy of each magazine was sent to all members via WhatsApp & Email, while some of our older members received a hard copy. This approach ensured that everyone remained informed and connected.

The ECA Events Calendar detailing the events for the upcoming month is being shared at the beginning of every month to help members plan better enabling better participation to events they would like to attend.

## ECA Message Board WhatsApp Group: A Growing Community

Our ECA Message Board (Admin restricted) WhatsApp group has been a tremendous success, so much so that it exceeded WhatsApp's member limits. To accommodate the growing number of participants, we created an additional group. This platform has been vital in fostering



**COMING SOON TO ECA JUNE 2024**

Date	Day	Event	Time
2 <sup>nd</sup> Jun	Sun	Rummy Tournament (Open to All)	10.30 am
7 <sup>th</sup> Jun	Fri	Sangeetham - Finale Musical Get-together	7 pm
8 <sup>th</sup> Jun	Sat	ECA Golden Jubilee Annual Day Performance by "Thaikudam Bridge"	6 pm
9 <sup>th</sup> Jun	Sun	Monthly Badminton Tournament	3 pm
9 <sup>th</sup> Jun	Sun	ECA Book Club event "And They Lived Happily Ever After"	6 pm
14 <sup>th</sup> Jun	Fri	ECA Sub Committee Get-together	7.30 pm
15 <sup>th</sup> Jun	Sat	Bar Night Performance by "Present Tense"	8 pm
17 <sup>th</sup> Jun	Mon	ECA Staff Get-together	7.30 pm
23 <sup>rd</sup> Jun	Sun	ECA Football Bundesliga (League)	5 pm
30 <sup>th</sup> Jun	Sun	ECA Annual General Body Meeting	11 am
Jun	Every Tue	Regular House	6 pm

Meril Jacob  
Chairman - Tech & Outreach Committee

Manoj Subramanian  
General Secretary

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communication and engagement among our members, proving to be an invaluable tool for our community.

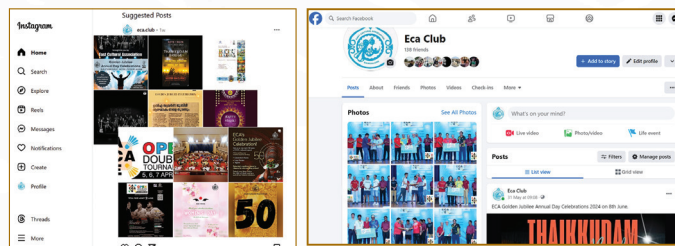
## FB Page & Instagram presence: Expanding Our Reach

Our FB page & Instagram page has become an active and vibrant medium for promoting ECA programs and activities in the public domain. Through regular updates and engaging content, we have successfully reached a wider audience, enhancing our visibility and engagement within the community, thereby creating a brand for ECA website update.

## Behind-the-Scenes Enhancements

Several crucial tasks have been undertaken behind the scenes to improve our club's technological infrastructure:

**Server Upgrade:** We upgraded our server to ensure better performance and reliability.



Digital Order Taking for Restaurant Staff: Implemented a digital order-taking process to streamline operations and improve efficiency.

Overall Technical Infrastructure Upgrade: Undertook comprehensive upgrades to our technical infrastructure, ensuring our systems are robust and up-to-date including enhancements to LUCID software.

### Ongoing Projects and Future Directions

While many projects have been completed, several initiatives are still in progress. These on-going

tasks will be handed over to the next committee to carry forward, ensuring continuous improvement and innovation within our organization.

In conclusion, the Tech and Outreach Committee has made significant contributions this year. Our achievements reflect the dedication and hard work of our team. A big "thank you" to all our sponsors, advertisers, members, contributors, staff and executive committee for your support and engagement.

**Chairman – Meril Jacob K. C.**

## COMMUNITY SERVICE, HOUSIE & NEW YEAR CELEBRATION

### Community service

As part of our community service event, ECA in association with Lions club Cochin, hosted 18 orphaned women from Cochin for their field trip and provided them with food and accommodation.



### Housie

The committee organized housie every Tuesday. The committee also conducted a Mega Rs. 2 Lakh Bumper Housie on 1st May 2024 which attracted over 225 Members and Guest, which resulted in a record all time high collection for ECA.





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**Smt. S. SASIKALA**  
 Councillor, Division - 61  
 Cochin Corporation







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**Smt. S. SASIKALA**  
 Councillor, Division- 61



**Adv. M. ANIL KUMAR**  
 Hon. Mayor



**Shri. HIBI EDEN, MP**



**Dr. M. DEVIDASAN**  
 President,  
 LC of Cochin Empire

**ESTEEMED PRESENCE**

**Elderly Mothers of Ravipuram Div flying to Bangalore on a 2 days trip of Sight seeing & Entertainments- As part of the Social Responsibility Initiative of S.Sasikala- Corporation Councillor Div 61 in Association with Lions Club of Cochin Empire, Indus Motors, East Cultural Association, Joanna Holidays, Ardex Endura India (p) Ltd & The Presidential Tower, Bgr**

*All Are Welcome*

## New Year Celebration

We had our Mega New Year Eve party on 31st December starting from 7.30 PM. We had more



than 300 plus Members and Guests who made a colourful evening dancing to the Tunes of song from the "Retronome" band and later taken over by DJ Praveen with the countdown at 12.00 to welcome a "Great 2024"

We had Kids play area, cocktails counter and Lip Smacking counters followed by Dinner.

We also gave away 3 special awards selected by our Jury of 2 nights stay at Ayatana Resorts

1. Best Dancer
2. Best Dressed Female
3. Best Dressed Male.

**Chairman – Manu Varghese**

## SPECIAL EVENTS

The ECA Special Events introduced a new event this year in the form of the ECA Quiz League (EQL), a tournament style quiz competition conducted over two weekends, among ten teams.

Ten teams were divided into two Pools of five teams each. Each Pool was put through three Preliminary Quizzes. Based on the points scored in these three Preliminary Quizzes, three teams qualified for the finals from each Pool. A semifinal play-off quiz round was held among the remaining teams from both pools to determine a seventh qualifier.

The three Preliminary Quizzes had a mix of Theme Rounds and Mixed Bag (General) Rounds. The following were the themes:

1. Sports
2. Art, Music & Dance
3. Literature
4. Movies
5. Cities, Countries and Continents
6. Cuisine

An interesting variation was the introduction of a Trump theme. In every Preliminary Quiz every team had to nominate one Theme as their Trump Theme. Teams scored double the points for correct answers in their Trump Theme Rounds but were also subject to negative marking for incorrect answers.





The finals, among seven teams, featured a similar mix, but with only four themes:

1. Sports
2. Art, Music & Dance
3. Literature
4. Movies

EQL 2024 was keenly contested and saw tough competition among the teams. The finals, especially, saw several twists and turns, with the team led by Mr. Jayaraj Menon, coming from behind to eventually emerge champions.



EQL 2024 had prize money totaling to Rs.48,000/-. The top three teams in the finals won cash prizes of Rs.15000, Rs.10000 and Rs.5000 respectively. The remaining finalist teams were awarded Rs.2000 each.

Abey and Gopu were the Quizmasters of EQL 2024.

A total of 58 people participated in this first EQL and we hope to make it an annual event property in ECA, with even greater member participation in the coming years.

**Chairman – Rajesh V. K.**

## ANNUAL DAY CELEBRATION

Dear ECA Family,

Congratulations to all of us on a wonderful and memorable Golden Jubilee Annual Day, 2024!

From the very Inception of the same, the entire Executive Committee was enthusiastic and optimistic that we should plan and execute a memorable event.

Golden Jubilee Annual Day should have Golden Memories and hence the theme was chosen as such. The agenda for the Annual Day called for a great grand finale. The band "Thaikkudam Bridge" was identified to perform and they truly left a mark on all who came for the occasion.

Just to re-cap the agenda for the annual day held on Saturday 8th June, 2024

- Invocation & Lighting of the Lamp
- Welcome address by the President
- Introduction of Chief Guest Mr. Joe Sebastian
- Address by the Chief Guest Mr. Joe Sebastian
- Address by patron Padmashree Dr. CG Krishnadas Nair
- Installation of Mr. Tony Vincent as patron of ECA
- Recognition of Committee Members
- Vote of thanks by General Secretary
- Performance by "Thaikkudam Bridge"

I would like to thank all the 900 members who graced the occasion. I thank the office staff of

ECA, the Bar, Billiards, Badminton, Cards, Front Office, Security, Facilities Staff and the Catering Staff of ICH for a great year for all of us during 2023 – 2024.

Greater words of appreciation and recognition to all the ECA Committee Members and their spouses for making this Year so Eventful and Joyful for all the Members along with their respective Sub-Committees.

Golden words, advice and support from our past presidents, President – Thilakan VPM, Vice-President – Sudhy Varghese, Treasurer – Shaji Pillai and Joint - Secretary – Naveen S Alayil throughout

the year have made sure we stayed aligned to the aims and objectives of ECA.

Special mention to our CMC members – O.Viswanathan, R K N Pillai, Krishnanunni and Sanjai Gangadharan for all their invaluable contributions.

Here's wishing the Golden Jubilee Celebration Committee under the leadership of Tony Vincent – Patron GCC, Sudhy Varghese – Chairman GCC and Sanjai Gangadharan – Convener GCC, a great year of celebration Ahead.

**Manoj Subramanian**  
General Secretary





## ARTICLE: OLYMPICS – AN OVERVIEW

The Olympic Games, considered the world's foremost sports event, is divided into the Ancient Olympics and the Modern Olympics. The Ancient Olympics were staged in Olympiad, Greece, from 776 BC to 393 AD. The Ancient Olympics primarily were a part of a religious festival in honour of ZEUS, the Father of Greek Gods and Goddesses.

The first competition held in 776 BC consisted of only one event, STADION RACE. It was a running race of 192 meters (620 ft). Subsequently 400 and 800 meter Races, Boxing, Discus Throw, Long Jump and Equestrian events were added. The competitions were open only to the free born Greek men. (Women were allowed only in Equestrian event as Chariot owners). Prizes for the victors were Olive Leaf Wreathes or Crowns.

By the 4<sup>th</sup> century AD, Romans gradually gained power and influence in Greece. Romans believed that the Olympic Games were principally a pagan practice. Thus, subsequent to the 393 games, the Emperor, Theodor, stopped the Olympics.

The first modern Olympics were held in Athens, Greece in 1896. The man responsible for the rebirth of the Olympics was a French man, Pierre de Coubertin. He presented the idea in a meeting of 34 delegates held in Paris in 1894 and the first International Olympic Committee (IOC) was formed. IOC elected the Greek writer, Demetrius Vikelas as its first president. In those games 14 nations and 241 athletes participated. Olympic

flames were introduced in the 1928 Amsterdam Olympics. The modern Olympic torch relay was introduced in the 1936 Berlin Olympics.



The Olympic flag has a white background with 5 interlaced rings in the centre – Blue, Yellow, Black, Green and Red. This design is symbolic: The rings represent the five continents. Out of the six colours chosen at least one colour was there in the National Flag of every nation. The flag was adopted in 1914, but was flown for the first time in the 1920 Antwerp Olympics. The Olympic oath was introduced in 1920. The Olympic motto, CITRIUS, ALTIUS, FORTIUS - a Latin expression which means FASTER, HIGHER STRONGER, was proposed

by Coubertin in 1894, and had officially been adopted in 1924. The Olympic creed is: "The most important thing in the Olympic Games is not to win, but to take part".



**INDIA in Olympics:** The Flagship event for India in Olympics has been the Field Hockey. In this game the country has won 8 Gold, 1 Silver and 3 Bronze Medals so far.

Gold Medals were won in the following Olympics: 1928 Amsterdam, 1932 Los Angeles, 1936 Berlin, 1948 London, 1952 Helsinki, 1956 Melbourne, 1964 Tokyo and 1980 Moscow. Silver Medal was in 1960 Rome Olympics.

Bronze Medals were won in 1968 Moscow, 1972 Munich and 2020 (21) Tokyo.

## India has so far won 2 Gold, 8 Silver and 13 Bronze Medals in various Olympics Sports events:

MEDAL	PARTICIPANT	OLYMPICS	SPORT	EVENT
Silver	Norman Pitchard*	1900 Paris	Athletics	200 Meter Run
Silver	Norman Pitchard	1900 Paris	Athletics	200 meter Hurdles
Bronze	Khashaba D Jadav	1952 Helinski	Wrestling	Freestyle
Bronze	Leander Paes	1996 Atlanta	Tennis	Men's Single
Bronze	Karnam Malleswari	2000 Sydney	Weight Lifting	Women's 69 kg
Silver	Rajvardhan Sing R	2004 Athens	Shooting	Double trap
Gold	Abhinav Bindra	2008 Beijing	Shooting	10 m Air Rifle
Bronze	Vijender Singh	2008 Beijing	Boxing	75 kg category
Bronze	Sushil Kumar	2008 Beijing	Wrestling	66kg Freestyle
Silver	Vijay Kumar	2012 London	Shooting	25 Rapid Fire Pistol
Silver	Sushil Kumar	2012 London	Wrestling	66 kg Freestyle
Bronze	Saina Nehwal	2012 London	Tennis	Women's Single
Bronze	Mary Kom	2012 London	Boxing	Women's Flyweight
Bronze	Gagan Narang	2012 London	Shooting	10m Air Rifle
Bronze	Yogeshwar Dutt	2012 London	Wrestling	50 kg Freestyle
Silver	P V Sindhu	2016 Rio Janeiro	Shuttle	Women's Single
Bronze	Sakshi Malik	2016 Rio Janeiro	Wrestling	50 kg Freestyle
Gold	Neeraj Chopra	2020 Tokyo	Javelin	Men
Silver	Mirabai Chanu	2020 Tokyo	Weight Lifting	Women's 49 kg.
Bronze	Lovlina Borgohnin	2020 Tokyo	Boxing	50 kg category
Bronze	P V Sindhu	2020 Tokyo	Shuttle	Women's Single
Silver	Ravikumar Dahiya	2020 Tokyo	Wrestling	57 kg category
Bronze	Bajrang Punia	2020 Tokyo	Wrestling	65 kg Category

The 2024 Paris Olympics is the XXXIII modern Olympics. It will be held between Friday 26th July and Sunday 11th August, 2024. There will be 10,500 Athletes from 206 countries competing in 32 Sports and 329 Medal events. India is likely to send a contingent of about 120 athletes. Of these, 97 have already qualified as on 16.06.2024. India's Flag Bearer at the opening March Past will be veteran Table Tennis player Sharath Kamal. The new Sports Minister, Mansukh Mandavia, has already held a couple of meetings with the IOA president P T Usha and other officials to assess the country's preparations of the Olympics. The

maximum number of Medals India has won so far in any one Olympics is SEVEN, including the Bronze medal in Hockey, in the 2020 (2021) Tokyo Olympics. Let us wish and hope that the Paris bound Indian athletes overtake this number and bring home at least a DOZEN Medals.

The 2028 and 2032 Olympics will be held in Los Angeles, USA and Brisbane, Australia respectively. India along with Poland, Mexico and Indonesia are the contenders for the 2036 Olympics which will be confirmed before the 2024 Olympics.

**Prof. K K Cherian**

PS: The article is the views and perspectives of the author

# Thank you for your support



Year 2023 - 2024 was a great year indeed. The executive committee conducted 2 special programs.

**Sub-Committees get-together:** Sub-Committee members form the crux of any successful committee and the executive committee

**Staff get-together:** The staff of ECA forms the back bone of ECA's successful & smooth function. The ECA executive committee organized a staff get-together to thank each and every staff member for the wonderful contribution



organized a get-together to say thank you to all the sub-committee members from various committees. The sub-committee members enjoyed the evening and the gesture was very well appreciated.

to the club over the years. The session was very interactive with cultural programs performed by many of our staff.







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## CONTACT

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## Achievements



Priyanka Pillai daughter of our member Shaji Pillai and Lekshmi Pillai has completed her Masters in Design Engineering from Harvard University with Distinction.

She has won the Outstanding Design Project award and the Community and Leadership Award. Her design engineering project was created to

help address the refugee crisis in Uganda. She built an online platform for refugees especially children to help them reunite with their kin.

Earlier she won an Ingenuity Award as part of the Harvard President's Innovation Challenge. She and her team designed a special wipe so that the visually impaired, can better detect, when their menstrual period has begun without relying on other means. .

In 2023, Priyanka was part of a student project that won gold in the Spark International Design awards. The design team created Felt, a haptic armband that turns sound and visual clues into movement. The device assists people who are deaf and blind to independently catch emotional nuances or subtexts in conversations, which often get lost in Braille or other translations.

**Congratulations Priyanka**

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## In conclusion...

As we are moving to the end of the term, I am filled with immense pride and gratitude for the remarkable journey we have undertaken together. Starting with our flagship event, ONOTSAVAM till the recently concluded ANNUAL DAY, all the events were conducted with great success. The golden jubilee celebration of ECA, inaugurated on 27th April 2024, will continue for one year. The past year has been a testament our unity, collective dedication and passion and each member of our club has contributed to our shared success.

On this occasion, I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to our Patrons, past presidents, office bearers, managing committee members, sponsors and supporters. Your energy and enthusiasm has been the driving force behind our initiatives.

Thank you for being part of this incredible journey. Here's to another year of growth, success and shared joy.

Warm regards,



**VPM Thilakan**  
President



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