



श्रद्धा Śraddhā

The Monthly Chronicle of Sri Ramakrishna Vidyarthi Mandiram

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SUBHASHITA: THE THREE TRUE JEWELS

पृथिव्यां त्रीणि रत्नानि जलमन्नं सुभाषितम् ।
मूर्खैः पाषाणखण्डेषु रत्नसंज्ञा विधीयते ॥

Meaning: "There are three jewels on this earth: water, food, and wise words (subhashitas). Fools, however, give the name 'jewel' to pieces of stone."

Ref: Sanskrit Pearls (consolidated and enhanced) by Rashmi Kashi, Samskruti Publications, First Ed., February 2025

From the Warden's Desk: A Spring of New Frontiers March ushered in the vibrant spirit of spring and new beginnings at the Mandiram. We joyously celebrated the auspicious festivals of Ugadi and Sri Rama Navami. This month was historic: we were deeply blessed by the holy presence of Most Rev. Gautamanandaji Maharaj to inaugurate NICE, opening new technological frontiers for our students. Furthermore, an enriching four-day educational pilgrimage to IIT Madras expanded our academic horizons. Blending these monumental events with character-building initiatives like Vijnāna Vardhini, March truly exemplified our harmonious pursuit of holistic excellence.

– Swami Anilayananda

THE SPIRIT OF OUR NAME

Swami Vivekananda considered **Śraddhā**—a deep, reflective faith in oneself and the Divine—to be the foundation of character. He taught that this internal conviction is what empowers individuals to stand on their own feet. Inspired by the determination of Nachiketa and the realization of the lion cub in Swamiji's parables, we selected this name to anchor our newsletter. It stands as a reminder that true education goes beyond textbooks; it is the process of recognizing and cultivating one's inherent strength and dignity.

ROOTS OF DEVOTION

Swami Yoganandaji Jayanti (07 Mar)

We observed the sacred Jayanti of Swami Yoganandaji Maharaj. His life, characterized by immense austerity and unswerving devotion to Holy Mother, served as a powerful reminder of the silent strength found in selfless service.



Festivals of Spring (19 & 27 Mar)

The Mandiram was adorned with mango leaves and joy as we celebrated **Ugadi** on the 19th, marking the vibrant Kannada New Year. A week later, on the 27th, the prayer hall reverberated with the chanting of the Taraka Mantra as we observed **Sri Rama Navami**, reflecting on the supreme dharma and ideals of Maryada Purushottama Lord Rama.

Monthly Narayana Seva (07 Mar)

Led by Revered Swami Dhyeyanandaji Maharaj, our students participated in the monthly Narayana Seva. Serving food to the underprivileged helps our young men internalize Sri Ramakrishna's powerful teaching: "*Shiva Jnane Jiva Seva*" (Service to man is service to God).



FORGING CHARACTER

Vijñāna Vardhini (Commenced 01 Mar)

To ensure our students grow intellectually and morally, we launched *vijñāna Vardhini*, an intensive 8-week course dedicated to personality and character development. There are weekly close reading sessions of "*My India, the India Eternal*" led by Sri Suvro Banerjee. This is followed by a hands-on activity to actualise the ideas and ideals taught in the reading class.



Sanskrit Classes (Commenced 25 Mar)

Recognizing that our ancient language is the key to unlocking the vast treasure house of Indian wisdom, a special 10-day spoken Sanskrit workshop was initiated. The students have shown great enthusiasm in learning the language of the gods.



Expanding Horizons

An Educational Pilgrimage to IIT Madras (Mar 12 - 15)

Traveling beyond the familiar walls of the Mandiram, a select group of our bright students embarked on an unprecedented four-day educational pilgrimage to the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras from March 12th to 15th. This trip was uniquely special as the the Director, **Pad-mashri Prof. V. Kamakoti**, invited our students recognizing the discipline imparted to them in Mandiram and personally planned the trip. Notably, this was the **first multi-day, day-long student visit ever hosted by IITM**.

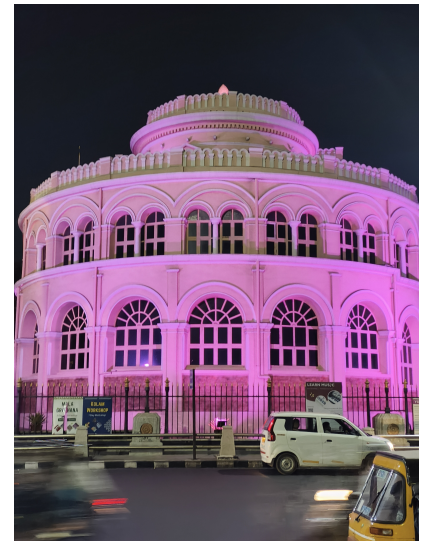
Stepping onto the sprawling campus, the students were instantly captivated. They had a fruitful and engaging interaction session with Prof. Kamakoti, which also included the Deans of Students and Academics. Their profound insights on technology and nation-building left a lasting impact on our young students.

The guided tours offered a sweeping view of the cutting-edge technical innovation on campus.

The students visited various labs, start-up tech parks, and booming unicorn startups, and interacted with researchers and entrepreneurs.

They were all awed and inspired by the technical prowess and the scale at display. Deeply moved by this experience, the students vowed to contribute to the same idea of *Viksit Bharat 2047* as future students at IITM.

During the trip, the **Ramakrishna Mission Students' Home, Chennai**, graciously provided accommodation for our students. The students also got a guided tour of the campus and marveled at the state-of-the-art facilities of the polytechnic college and its training centre. They also got a chance to play sports at their well-maintained ground and were handed packed dinners for their journey back to the Mandiram. Additionally, the students visited places of heritage such as Sri Ramakrishna Math Chennai, Vivekanandar Illam, Kapaleeshwar Temple, and Mahabalipuram.



A Historic Milestone

Inauguration of NICE (Mar 23)

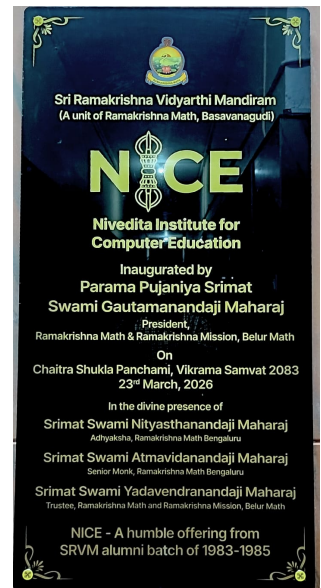
March 23, 2026, will be forever etched in golden letters in the annals of Sri Ramakrishna Vidyarthi Mandiram. On this highly auspicious day, we witnessed the grand inauguration of the **Nivedita Institute for Computer Education (NICE)**. The lab was generously funded by the alumni of the **1983-1985 batch**.

The occasion was solemnly sanctified by the holy presence of **Most Revered Swami Gautamanandaji Maharaj**, President of the Ramakrishna Math and Ramakrishna Mission. His radiant presence flooded the Mandiram with spiritual joy and enthusiasm, blessing silently this noble endeavor and everyone gathered.

Named in honor of Sister Nivedita, who championed the cause of holistic, modern education rooted in Indian values, NICE aims to equip our students with vital 21st-century technological skills. The new computer lab ensures that students from all financial backgrounds have access to premium digital infrastructure.

During the ceremony, it was noted that while the modern world requires sharp technological acumen, it must be guided by a compassionate heart and flawless character. The inauguration ceremony, attended by monks, our generous '83-'85 alumni who funded the lab, and students, was a beautiful symphony of gratitude, foresight, and divine grace.

Memories of the Sacred Inauguration



THE MONTH AT A GLANCE: MARCH 2026

A complete record of activities reported by all departments.

Date	Event	Category
01 Mar	Vijñāna Vardhini (8-Week Course) Commences	Skill / Character Bldg.
07 Mar	Monthly Narayana Seva (Led by Sanjeev Mj)	Outreach / Seva
07 Mar	Swami Yoganandaji Maharaj Jayanti	Spiritual / Culture
12–15 Mar	Educational Pilgrimage to IIT Madras	Academic / Exposure
19 Mar	Ugadi Festival Celebrations	Cultural / Festival
23 Mar	Inauguration of NICE by Most Rev. President Maharaj Ramakrishna Math And Mission	Institutional Milestone
25 Mar	10-Day Spoken Sanskrit Classes Begin	Academic / Cultural
27 Mar	Sri Rama Navami Celebrations	Spiritual / Festival

Partner in Our Seva

The Vidyarthi Mandiram is more than a hostel; it is a home where character is forged. Your generous support ensures that deserving students continue to receive this holistic education regardless of their financial background.

To ensure the holistic growth of our students—intellectually, physically, and ecologically—we are embarking on these vital initiatives:

- Operational and Maintenance Fund for NICE
- Integrated Smart Learning Hub
- Comprehensive Rainwater Harvesting System
- Sports Complex Development
- Utility Vehicle for Medical Emergencies & General Use

We also invite you to contribute generously to our Corpus Fund, ensuring the Mandiram stands as a financially independent beacon of service for generations to come.

Support our mission here: <https://srvm.org/donation-form>

Sri Ramakrishna Vidyarthi Mandiram

Bengaluru, Karnataka

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