

### *Director speaks*

In a strange incident, a 74-year-old man who had been rescued from a freezer in Tamil Nadu after spending over 24 hours inside the box alive. The old man had been stuffing in the freezer, meant for corpses, and while still alive after a private hospital in Salem district declared him dead.



Critically-ill Balasubramaniakumar was recently discharged from the hospital and his family members were waiting for him to breathe his last. Balasubramaniakumar's younger brother Saravanan, 70, had hired the freezer box on Monday. The agency that provided the freezer box was scheduled to take the box back on Tuesday.

However, on Tuesday, the official from the agency got a shock when he saw Balasubramaniakumar alive and in a semi-conscious state with his hands and legs tied, in the box with the lid closed.

This incident shook my spirit. A sick old man battling in a freezer box for 24 hours, oh my God, what would be his heart's cry? This incident may be my mistake but honestly many old people go through a hell of suffering because of the negligence of family members due to old age

sickness. When they were young they were included in everything but in the most wanted stage they are completely rejected, why? Is it not true that we all would become babies in old age? And is it not very important to send them to eternity with dignity and peace? Snehan stands with such neglected ones. Soon if not all neglected old people at least some would have the privilege to end their life happily at Snehan's care.

*Don't judge me by look...*



Mr. Poopathi, a 60-year-old man got out of his family due to family conflict, he got two sons settled, married, and they got children. He is never wanted nor celebrated in the family; therefore he came out of his family, was living on the street as a homeless person. He started his carrier as a bus conductor in private travels for many years. In one accident he lost his left eye and his job too. This

incident made him unwanted and he could not get jobs easily. He had no other choice than to depend on the generosity of the by passers on the streets. He struggled hard to meet his basic needs, as especially nights are spend fearfully on the streets. Three years a go, Snehan founder was distributing food on the streets; Poopathi approached him for one pack. Anumuthu looked at him and told him why don't you go to work? For this food packs are meant for old and sick persons on street. Then he looked at Anumuthu and said, everyone, thinks I am old and disabled, with this conversation he opened his heart's cry Snehan. Now, last one-year Mr.Poopathi is working happily with Snehan, his life changed, his appearance changed, and he eats with his earning. At Snehan's for income-generating activities, he is the main in-charge person. We can see him smiling always and ready to do any work at any time. Snehan is happy to include the neglected and bring meaning to their lives.

### ***Training a woman is training a family***



Helping and empowering the women community is always a vital activity of Snehan. A huge number of families in India live in separation, poverty, and unemployment because of the alcohol addiction by men. The women who are completely dependent on their husbands for their survival and their kids are left in

wants for every little need. They don't have a voice in the family, always overpowered and beaten by their husbands. Such kinds of women are selected and trained carefully in income generation activates such as tailoring, embroidery, and screen printing, the neediest ones are giving employment in Snehan income-generating activities, and others are left in independence to earn. Snehan is happy to proclaim that in-spite of great calamity and long lockdowns still, we managed to train 6 women, left them empowered in their family and in the society, especially two girls getting married with skills and self-confidence is great.

### ***We live because of farmers***



What is easily available on our plate to eat, there is someone really working hard to produce it. Wherein every other product is being sold on MRP (Maximum Retail Price), farmers are still struggling to sell their products on MSP (Minimum Support Price), which is at-least guaranteed through APMCs. The new Farm bills aren't opening any new doors to the Farmers; rather they are creating opportunities and are more in favor of big corporate houses.

The time and energy our farmers spent to feed our nation is immense money can't be replaced. If we are living healthy life means, it's because of their effort.

Friends, Farmers have really worked hard in converting these mountains and

plateaus to fields. If these bills are getting implemented, then in the next four or five years the APMCs will disappear, the Farmers will become labors in their own fields and later on, they will end up selling off their land for their livelihood.

We had already lost our EDUCATION Sector to private players, HEALTH Sector to private players, TELECOM sector, and many more to private players. Railways on the way...This is the same game against Farmers, please extend your minimum support to Farmers in strengthening their voice.

### ***Should the poor be poor?***



Raju (name changed) 74 years old man struggles for his survival. Within a few hours of his birth, his mother died. Within two years his father married other women and separated Raju from his grandma, his only hope grandma too died when he was 10 years of age. Raju left alone and desperate for parental love and care, luckily one of his aunties came to help him in finding a hostel school. Raju felt alone in life, every month his peer's parents used to come to visit their children with good food and eatables but for Raju no one. His loneliness never hindered his studies, he hardened his emotions and concentrated more on his studies. Successfully completed his schooling and college with a scholarship. But the society failed to recognize his hard work and his qualification. He failed almost in every attempt to get a government job, finally

landed up in one Christian school, where they paid him a penny, he struggled for his survival all through his life. His Highest paid salary in 2007 was Rs.5000/-, he struggled even for basic needs. I feel, the society failed to understand him and the school treated him as worthless. His poverty life, could not give him the joy of family. In all his life he eats only hotel food. What a miserable life? If you were to be in his place, what you would have done? Injustice...

Snehan stands with such kind of people in society; we are helping him in whatever way possible. Hope to give a small job in Snehan, and help him to live a comfortable life, till his death.

### ***Where is clean India for disabled Saranya***

As there was no toilet in the government office where she worked, Saranya, a disabled girl who went to the toilet of the nearest house, fell into the toilet tank and died!

Who is responsible for this? Who should give friendly environments? We should also talk about whether the toilets which are with the problem of not having toilets in government offices or the existing toilet setup are usable condition?

Only if we ask the women employees of that office, you will know their sufferings. Clean India is not only about posing and taking pictures like gathering in the streets but also the respective office officials should realize that it is necessary to maintain clean toilets and other places in their office. More importantly, women working in the office should raise their voices together for such needs.

Kanchipuram-06 / December / 2020 / Sunday, Saranya, the youngest daughter of milk merchant Shanmugam, who belongs to



Kanchipuram Editor Nagar area, is a twenty-four-year-old disabled person, Selected in the Group Exam held two years ago and joined as Manager of Government Agricultural Expansion Center Warehouse, Kalakkattur area, Kanchipuram Taluk. The office where Saranya worked, had no toilet facility, she was struggling to go to the toilet. She has told her parents several times that she doesn't want to go to work because she doesn't have a toilet facility in her office. Saranya has gone to work without any other way after her parents insisted that she must go to work because of the government job. In the current situation of continuous rain, Saranya has gone to the house near the office to use a toilet, due to heavy rain and bad quality of construction, the tiles broke and fell into an eight-feet-deep septic tank and drowned in wastewater when she stepped on the open space of a septic tank which was not covered with a suitable lid. What an injustice that the government did to Saranya?



Dear Friends,

The Snehan activities would not be possible without your help and contribution. Therefore, on behalf of all our beneficiaries and board members, we say thank you very much for your support. Do share our quarterly newsletter with your friends...

We need your financial support to start Snehan home for the neglected old and sick adults on streets. Do support us to bring values and save lives of old people.

We are looking for committed and likeminded volunteers to support us in Snehan activities, interested candidates can apply through Snehan

website. <http://snehan.org/volunteer/>

With warmest regards,

The Snehan team and Anumuthu.

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If you wish to support the Snehan activities,

You can contribute online from our website: <http://snehan.org/make-a-donation/>