

TNAIOTA ANNUAL REPORT - 2017

Dear Members,

The Association having its focus on its objectives has done remarkable activities, it's for yours kind notice.

1. On behalf of TNAIOTA, we would like to congratulate the selected candidates for Govt.Occupational Therapist post in Tamil Nadu.

Also, we would like to thank our Honorable Minister for Social & welfare of Differently Abled, Dr.Saroja Madam, who took initiative to fast up to follow the status of 18 Post recruitment.

Our Special thanks to Late Honorable Chief Minister Dr. J.Jayalalitha (a) Amma , on whose tenure MRB formed and sanctioned 18 post. Our Health Minister, showed interest in to get Govt. Occupational Therapy College in Chennai.

In the History of TamilNadu Occupational Therapy professional this is the first time 18 Govt.post was recruited. Selected candidates list was announced on 2nd January 2017.

It's because of 6yrs effort of TNAIOTA. It was followed up with regular intervals to achieve this goal. we are in the follow up of State Govt.OT college, Council & creating of OT post in District Early Intervention center, Department of Mental Health and in School sectors .

2. Our THIRD EC meeting held on Sunday 29th January 2017.

3. We would like to inform you all that on behalf of TNAIOTA we met Honorable Higher Education Minister of Tamilnadu on 12.1.17 to represent our profession to get OT College. It's another follow up to give pressure from Higher Education Department to Health Department. As we requested, Higher Education Minister forwarded our note.

On the same day we met Welfare Minister & Abled to follow up Early Intervention set up supporting documents. thanked her with posts recruitment.



Honorable Social Welfare for Differently regarding OT posts in at District Centers with Then we greeted & memento for 18 OT

4. On 27-01-17 we met Secretary for Health & Family Welfare Department, Dr.J.Radhakrishnan, IAS to follow up our status regarding OT college& the OT post in Department of Psychiatry with supporting documents. He acknowledged our follow up and asked us to meet after few weeks.

He said that it's an important profession which should be recognized in the society, and he is very much aware of Occupational Therapy profession. On behalf of TNAIOTA we greeted and thanked him with memento for the recruitment of 18 Posts.



5. We would like to inform you all that on behalf of TNAIOTA , On 18/02/2017 we met our AIOTA President to felicitate for his valuable support and guidance for us. We attended GB meeting and also to get 55th AIOTA Conference, Finally we got **OTICON 2019 - 56th AIOTA conference , it will be organized by TNAIOTA**



6. On behalf of TNAIOTA, we met **Dr. Vijay, Occupational Therapist** working in Department of Psychiatry at AIIMS ,New Delhi. He is our member from TamilNadu.

So far he gained Twelve years' experience at AIIMS. He initiated to have more posts on Psychiatry Department and Similarly other OTs initiated in Orthopaedic, PMR department. Based on that approximately **10 to 15 Post are in the process. Soon it will be advertised.**

For Members kind notice, In AIIMS at New Delhi, approximately 70-80 Physiotherapist are working. We **felicitated Dr. Vijay**, for his dedication and contribution towards our profession.

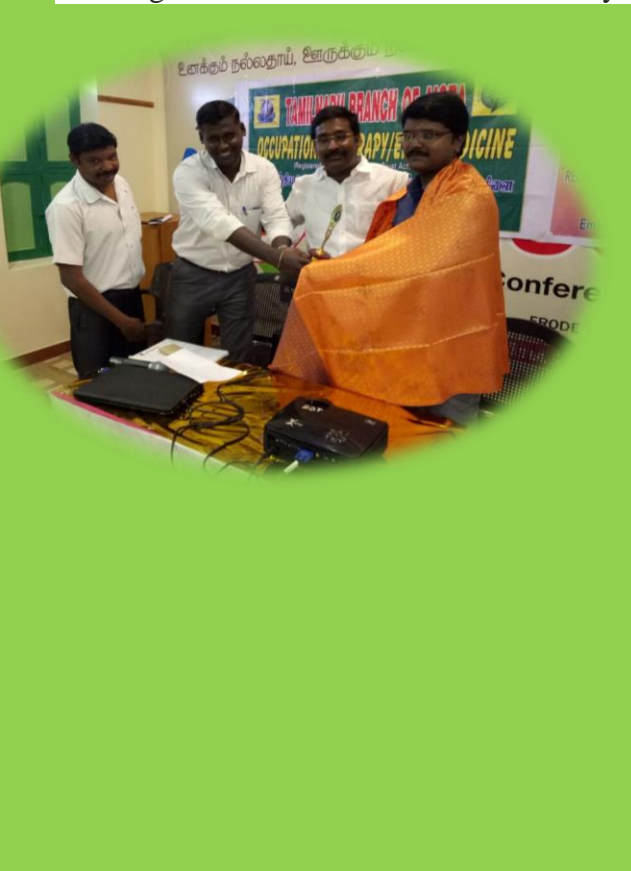
7. We would like to bring to your kind notice that 3rd EC meeting was conducted on 29/1/17. In that we have decided to form Academic Committee for TNAIOTA.

The Purpose of the Committee is exclusively to help in academic aspects (Research, recent trends in different fields, Presentations, International Standard of practice updates etc).

To get guidance or to clear subject oriented doubt, you have to send an email to [tnaiota07@gmail.com](mailto:t naiota07@gmail.com). We will forward your need to Academic Committee Members and then you will get the reply for your queries.

8. The 2nd GB meeting was conducted successfully on 05/03/2017 at Erode.

Meeting started with welcome address - by Dr. RenuChitra (District Coordinator - Erode)



Following that, we felicitated and honoured the Ex.Convener (TNAIOTA), Dr.T.Jagadeesan for his significant contribution to our profession and JKK Alumini. Speech about him was delivered by our Co-convener Dr.Arunkumar.

CME was Organised by TNAIOTA on "Recent trends in Psychiatric Rehabilitation" presented by JKK Principal, Dr.T.Jagadeesan.



54 participants attended the CME and certificates were given to them. Lunch was provided to all. Also TNAIOTA issued ID cards to the members. 6 New members got registered for TNAIOTA membership.

Three OT graduates from JKK got selected for TN Government post. They met TNAIOTA officials and conveyed their heartfelt thanks and requested the association's support in future as well.

District Coordinators from 6 Districts (Trichy, Perambalur, Namakkal, Dindugul, Karur, Villupuram) were present and they felicitated Erode District Coordinator for Organizing the Program.

In Second GB meeting, Convener presented the summary of the activities carried out by our TNAIOTA from 17th July till date. Agendas, Future plans & Current issues were explained.

Our Members queries were discussed and clarified. Finally the meeting ended with vote of thanks by Convener.

9. On behalf of TNAIOTA, we met **Head of the Department of PMR, Dr. Thirunavukarasu on 20/3/17.** We had a productive discussion with him about expanding OT recruitment in TN govt sector. We as well honoured him with a memento. He had supported us & guided a lot in getting these 18 post. Sir very well knows about OT and it's importance in rehabilitation field.

We also kindly requested him to support our OTst Dr. Ilamathi & Dr. Sreedevi in all aspects to develop OT unit at KMC. He assured to do the same.

We discussed about the status of 18 posts with him and about the remaining posts in future.

In this 18 post whoever is not going to join and those who haven't attend counseling, those posts will be filled from waiting list candidates once the management gets the "not joining report" officially from the selected candidates.

PMR HOD insisted that these 18 candidates should work hard and prove the importance of OT in their respective departments.

18 OT Post was placed in his the category of Grade 2. Definitely all the temporary 18 OTst will become permanent after 2yrs. Grade pay will be increased in future. If any issues regarding the post TNAIOTA will follow to solve it.

KK nagarvacant OT post is in the process , will be called for recruitment within few months.

To get OT post in all the Government Hospitals & Institutions, respective departments should send representation to DMS. For that OTs in the concern Districts should submit representation and regular follow up has to be done.

We met our newly joined OTst in PMR Department and had a fruitful discussion with them about the development of OT unit in KMC. Hoping for the best days to come in the history of OT in TN.

10. On 20/03/2017, we had a meeting with the Honourable Minister Sengkottaiyan (Minister for School Education/ Sports & Youth welfare). It's another follow up to Submit Petition regarding Emergence of OT in Government School Sectors in District level, Taluk level to stop the School drop out (due to intellectual disability/ Specific learning disability etc) .

We also insisted on inclusion of Children with special needs in all School Sectors.

Honourable Minister immediately replied by saying that already they are in the process of a project in recruiting the rehab professionals for the welfare of school children.

The Minister forwarded the petition to School Education Secretary and asked us to continue the follow up.

On the very same day, we met Honourable Minister Dr. Saroja (Minister for Social Welfare & for Welfare of the Differently Aabled).

Follow up for OT posts in Early Intervention set up at District Centres with supporting Documents was submitted to the minister.

We also submitted justification documents to start government OT College in TN, to the social welfare minister. She requested us to submit the details of KK nagar and IMH vacant OT posts, to which we obliged.

We are moving in the right direction to achieve greater success for our OT profession in TN.



11. We are glad to inform you all that we met **Dr.Nellaippar, HOD , Department of Hand & Reconstructive Surgery , TamilNadu Government Multi Super Sepciality Hospital, Chennai**, on 23/03/17.

We requested him to extend his support to our OTst Ms.Vasumathi in developing OT unit there. Sir generously agreed to it.

We had an elaborate discussion with him, where he said that it's one of the right platform for OT to put maximum effort to establish the department. He spoke very



practically and he was very much interested to know about the vital role of OT profession, especially in **HAND REHABILITATION**.

Sir is even ready to grant permission for the BOT students to do their internship at Tamilnadu Government Multi Superspeciality hospital.

Regarding 18 OT post recruitment, he himself said that it would have not been possible without Honourable Ministers follow up, because MRB has withheld recruitment of pharmacist, nursing etc. Whereas OT post alone got recruited. He specifically mentioned OT posts have been given special consideration.

Sir conveyed that one of his relatives is also an Occupational Therapist. He felt very happy about our TNAIOTA activities. We honoured him formally.



12. This is to inform you all that we had met the **Head of the Department of Child Psychiatry Dr. Shanthi Nambi, ICH, Egmore, Chennai** to Submit the List of Occupational Therapists (District wise) and also we Submitted the list of OT Clinics for referral purpose.

We honoured her with a memento on behalf of TNAIOTA. She spoke positively about OT, particularly she mentioned about the vital role of OT in ASD management.

We also requested madam to support our OTst Dr. Daris Nithya in all aspects to develop OT unit in future. She accepted our request and assured the same.

She happily said that Occupational Therapists are the first to provide the list of its members amongst all professionals (Speech Therapist, Psychologist & Special Educators).

Madam, Spoke about the project of Autism clinic. First they will appoint 32 OTst in District Head Quarter Hospitals under the Department of Early Intervention unit. This is gonna happen within the next few months. In future they will do the same in Taluk wise Hospital and then Block Level.

Also she spoke about the Insurance Scheme. The proper procedure & details will be given officially later.

She assured to contact our association according to the need. TNAIOTA website will also be accessed whenever necessary.

To set OT unit in ICH , space/ room allocation has been done by the management.

My special thanks to our Co- convener / Treasurer Dr. Arunkumar who handed over the list on time. He has done quite a lot of hard work to prepare it.

Madam congratulated TNAIOTA for its active functioning and she mentioned that only yesterday she came to know about official bodies of OT (AIOTA / TNAIOTA).

Expecting prosperity and success to all our Occupational Therapists in our endeavors.

13. This is to bring to yours notice that we had a meeting with Honorable Minister for Industries (Mr.M.C.Sampath) on 23/3/17.

We had submitted a petition to create OT post in Industrial sectors for welfare of the industrial workers under the category of **INDUSTRIAL REHABILITATION**.

Minister replied stating that he will consider it and he forwarded the petition to Honourable Minister for welfare of Labour , also asked us to follow up regarding the same.

On the same day we met Respected School Education Chief Secretary **Mr.Udayachandran I.A.S**, to submit our representation in school sectors, he asked us to submit the importance of OT in school sectors. It's a follow up of Honourable Minister Mr.Sengkottaiyan's visit. Moving forward to reach our goal in promoting OT.

14. Commemorating the Centennial year of Occupational Therapy, TNAIOTA has plans to celebrate it in various ways.

To begin with, we made an official visit to **JIPMER hospital (Jawaharlal Institute of Postgraduate Medical Education & Research), An Institution of National importance Under Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of India**, Puducherry, on 01.04.2017.

The Occupational Therapy unit in JIPMER was established in the year 1966. Since then it's functioning effectively in rehabilitating patients with various pediatric/ neuro/ immunology/ ortho/ psychiatry/ hand trauma conditions.



We honoured Senior Occupational Therapist, **Dr.Sathish Kumar** and we discussed about current scenario of OT at JIPMER. Sir was enthusiastic in sharing his professional knowledge & experience with us. We congratulated him for his professional contribution so far.

Sir said that very soon **OT College is going to start in JIPMER with an annual intake of 5 seats.** Inspection for starting OT College is in the process.

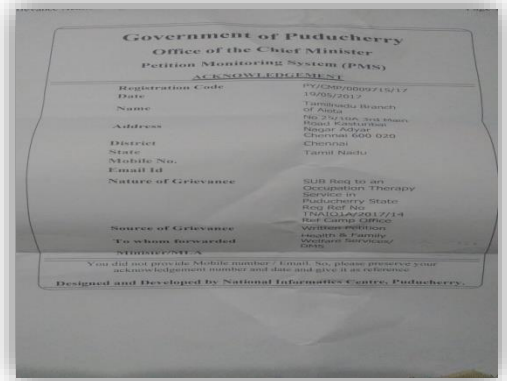
Presently there are about 8 Occupational Therapists working in JIPMER. More will be recruited in due course. We also visited the OT section along with concerned staff and shared lot of information about the units.

We were happy to know that JIPMER hospital was the **FIRST** to start Occupational Therapy unit in whole of South India. It was the pioneer to appoint OT staffs long ago in 1966.

15. The next day, **on 2nd April, our Co-convener Dr.Arunkumar, EC - Dr.Sathyavannan and Ex.EC - Dr.Ilavazhagan had met Honourable Chief Minister Mr.Narayanasamy, Puducherry,** to handover the petition to start OT College in Puducherry Union Territory at Mother Teresa Government College. Already some paramedical courses(PT/ Pharmacy/ Nursing)are running in this College.

On behalf of TNAIOTA Our Co-convener honoured the Honourable Chief Minister. Hoping to see government OT colleges blooming in TN & Puducherry.





16. This is to inform you all that we had celebrated World Autism Awareness Day on 1/4/17 at Sumathy Occupational Therapy Centre.

The event started with lamp lighting followed by welcome address by Dr. Punniyamoorthy. Later, there was a session on parental Education , Parental training and management of children with ASD.

More than 50 participants got benefitted through this program. Also, we conducted a interactive session with the parents of special kids. Most of the parents were raising the question "How to prevent ASD", which was answered using current facts.

The program was arranged and carried out in a proper manner. All credit goes to our TNAIOTA District Coordinator Dr.Punniyamoorthy, who conducted it so well. We extend our thanks to Dr. Punniyamoorthy for making this program a great success.

17. In the Centennial year of Occupational Therapy, TNAIOTA celebrating it in various ways.

On 11/04/17 We honored Senior Occupational Therapist, **Ms.SumathiEswaran**, she was enthusiastic in sharing her Professional knowledge & We congratulated her with memento for her professional contribution so far.

Madam, **Graduated from CMC VELLORE**. In 1982 with wide and varied experiences Started her carrier initially from Pathway and Mithra Rehabilitation Centre.

Worked as an OTst at JIPMER in Pondicherry from 1984-1997 .

Registered as an OT at HEALTH PROFESSIONS COUNCIL LONDON, UK till 2003.

During her visit at UK, had working observational experience at ROYAL LONDON HOSPITAL UK.

As an OTst at MINISTRY OF HEALTH BAHRAIN for 3years.

As VICE PRINCIPAL/PRINCIPAL at Meenskshi College of Occupational Therapy - From AUGUST 1998- SEPTEMBER 2010.

BOT COURSE started during her period in the year 1998 under the MEENAKSHI AMMAL TRUST approved by Govt. of Tamilnadu, Affiliated to The Tamilnadu Dr.MGR MEDICAL UNIVERSITY, Guindy, Chennai.

Presently she is working as an Senior OTst at PATHWAY REHABILITATION CENTRE from 2013.

We extend our thanks to her for all the Professional services that she has rendered so far.

18. As TNAIOTA is celebrating the Centennial Year of OT, it began with honoring senior OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS.

We met **Dr. NeelimaPunithan** , Ex. Vice Principal/Principal of Saveetha College of OT and handed over a memento and honoured her for all the good work she has done in contribution to our profession.



Madam graduated in OT, from Government Medical College Nagpur in 1987. She did M.Sc Psychology from Madras university and worked as OT at district rehabilitation center, Vijaywada for 6 years and at Central Research Institute of Homeopathy, Kottayam for 2 years and at MITHRA for 6 years.

She joined as a Vice Principal at Saveetha College of OT and continued her services there for upto 9 years.

Later she worked at UdavuumKarangal for 4 years and now she is working as Senior OT in MITHRA, Anna Nagar, Chennai.

She has written a book on "Basics in Occupational Therapy and Therapeutic Activities", which is very useful for students till date.

Madam has presented various papers on EARLY INTERVENTION, HAND REHABILITATION in National and International Conferences.



She was one of the key people for the development of TNAIOTA in the budding stage.

We extend our sincere thanks to her for all her committed work and contribution to our OT profession.

On the very same day, we also met coordinator of MITHRA, Mr.M.Subramanyam, who spoke positively about OT profession especially in the management of ASD, SLD etc.

He assured that MITHRA will support TNAIOTA in academic aspects in future.

19. On behalf of TNAIOTA , we met **Sri Ramachandra Medical College & Research Institute Director (Academics Administration) , Dean(Education) Dr.P.V.VijayaRaghavan** on 10/04/17. We honoured him in the Centennial years of OT celebration.

We handed over petition to start OT College in the campus. He received and asked us to submit the Course guidelines & regulations.

Director said that they are planning to start a Department of Rehabilitation Center, in that intially OT will have department and then they will plan for OT College.We assured to submit the details and for the follow up.

On behalf of TNAIOTA, we would like to thank our Coconvener who initiated this process few years back when he was working at this Institute. Based on that we planned to represent through our Association.

20. Our Fourth EC meeting held on Saturday 15h April 2017.

21. This is to inform you all, for the welfare of TNAIOTA we have appointed a Legal Advisor.

The purpose is to :-

1. Avoid fake OTs.
2. Control the misuse of OT profession.
3. Issues related to our profession/TNAIOTA.
4. Resolve Issues faced by our members & OT clinics.

22. This is regarding the follow up for OT college at KK Nagar, Chennai & OT post in Department of Psychiatry at District head quarters hospital. We met Health Secretary Dr.Radhakrishnan, I.A.S at Secretariat on 26/4/17.

He forwarded our petition to Directorate of Medical Education , Directorate of Medical Services and asked us to do the follow up. In the centennial year of OT profession we honoured him with memento.

23. On 28/4/17 we met Dr.Ramesh, Director, Govt.Institute of Rehabilitation Medicine at KK Nagar, Chennai to follow up regarding OT college in the same campus. He assured to consider it. We honoured him with memento.

On the same day we met Superintendent of Establishment section Mrs. Brinda regarding OT post recruitment status, she replied stating that it's in the process to fill up the post ASAP.



24. We would like to inform you that Convener was invited for the "Review Meeting of District Differently Abled Welfare Officers" by the Ministry of Welfare of Differently Abled on 27/4/17.



In the presence of Honourable Minister & State Commissioner for the Welfare of Differently Abled, Convener was asked to speak about the importance of OT for the welfare of differently abled in State Government sector . Meeting was held at Directorate of Medical Services , Chennai.

25. As a follow up of the same we met Mr.Ashishkumar, I.A.S , State Commissioner for the Welfare of Differently Abled, KK Nagar, Chennai, to submit the importance of OT in rehabilitation sector on 28/4/17.



We also met Deputy Director (Scheme) Mr.Rabindranath Singh &Mrs.Sarala, Deputy Director (Training) at Commissionarate office in KK Nagar to submit the needed documents. On behalf of TNAIOTA, we honoured them all with memento.

26. This is regarding the follow up for OT posts in school sectors. On 28/4/17 we met Mr.Udayachandran, I.A.S (Education Secretary) at Secretariat to submit necessary

documents stating the importance of OT in school sectors. Sir assured to consider it and utilise OT service in school sectors.

On the same day we met Mr. Benjamin Victor, PudhuVaazvu Project Officer for Disability & Vulnerability to include our OT service in the project.



He mentioned that PudhuVaazvu project is functioning in 26 districts. And he promised to make use of OTst as a resource person to deliver lecturer in all the district to the CDF & Anganwadi workers to create awareness about importance of OT in Differently abled sectors.

27. We would like to inform you that based on the review meeting with 32 District differently abled welfare officers at Directorate of Medical Services, Chennai, a camp was organised at Venanthur Panchayat union, Namakkal District.

On behalf of TNAIOTA, our Namakkal District Coordinator Dr. Mohanraj, honoured our Social Welfare & Welfare of the Differently Abled Minister, Dr. V. Saroja



Then we conducted a screening camp for differently abled persons in the presence of Namakkal district differently abled welfare officer.

Orientation program was also organised for Anganwadi workers from 53 centers to know about the importance of OT in Paediatric sectors.

Honourable Minister spoke about the importance of OT in Early Intervention set up to the ICDS workers & Anganwadi workers.

Finally it ended up well with a healthy discussion with Honourable Minister, who initiated the idea to link the ICDS + Anganwadi centers + District differently abled welfare office + District Head Quarter Hospital to function the Early Intervention practices effectively.

28. On behalf of TNAIOTA, we paid an official visit to the Institute of Mental Health (IMH) on 04.05.17 and we honoured the Director, Dr. Shanthi Nambi, in the centennial year of OT profession.

We had a discussion regarding OT post in IMH, Chennai. As per the concerned staff's information, 2 OT posts are sanctioned and it will be recruited as per the MRB process. We requested the Director to do the needful.

Previously Dr. Shanthi Nambi was the Head of Department of Psychiatry in Institute of Child Health (ICH), when we had first met her to submit the list of Occupational Therapist for Autism clinic project in our Government sector. Regarding that we requested her to update the status of the project in the same meet.



Madam replied stating that the list has been already submitted to the concerned authority. The first recruitment will be in all Government Medical Colleges and then in Districts head quarters hospital.

On the same day we met State Commissioner for the welfare of the differently abled Mr. Ashish Kumar, I.A.S, to submit the documents to start OT College in KK Nagar under the "Welfare of the Differently Abled Ministry". It's a follow up of the many representation to the concerned Minister.

Our State Commissioner assured to discuss the same with the "Health Ministry" to do the needful.

In a discussion with the Social welfare Minister, madam revealed the future plan to start a "Rehabilitation Research Institute" at KK Nagar campus under the welfare of the Differently Abled Ministry. In that the priority course will be Occupational Therapy with 50 no. of seats.

29. On 05/05/17 camp no.2 was organised at Rasipuram Panchayat union, Namakkal District



On behalf of TNAIOTA, our Dindigul District Coordinator Dr. Muthurasu, Dr. Kartheesan, honoured our Social Welfare & Welfare of the Differently Abled Minister, Dr. V. Saroja.

Then we conducted a screening camp for differently abled persons in the presence of Namakkal district differently abled welfare officer.

Orientation program was also organised for Anganwadi workers from 14 urban & 53 rural centers to know about the importance of OT in Paediatric sectors.

Honourable Minister spoke about the importance of OT in Early Intervention set up to the ICDS workers & Anganwadi workers.

30. Glad news to all.

Hereby we inform that Autism Spectrum Disorder is included in the Chief Minister comprehensive health insurance scheme. By this autistic clients and their families will be much benefitted.

We consider it as a great achievement which has happened as a result of successive follow up by TNAIOTA. Heart felt thanks to Honourable Minister Dr. Saroja, Health Secretary Dr. Radhakrishnan & Honourable Minister Dr. VijayaBaskar.

Special thanks to Ex.HOD, Dr.ShanthiNambi, Department of Psychiatry, ICH (present Director, IMH).

31. This is to inform you all that we had an official visit to NIEPMD on 19/05/17 to honour the Director Dr. Himanshu Das in the Centennial year of OT, and also to thank him for starting BOT course at NIEPMD, Chennai.



We had a productive conversation for an hour with the Director. Sir is very supportive and he spoke about the real scenario of OT profession in Govt. Sector.

He stated that, until we get council in the central we can't reach the level what we expect in the Govt. Sectors.

He also mentioned that OT is a generic profession, primary team member and it should be recognised in the rehabilitation field unconditionally.

This is the right time to thank my Ex.HOD (PMR) Dr.TomyMampilly&Ex.Director, Dr.NeeradhaChandramohan, NIEPMD, without them B.O.T course might not have been possible in the institute.

As an Occupational Therapist (Guest faculty) I established the OT Department with the help of colleagues (It's a 7 long year process). In monthly and annual report , OT Department always showed excellent work performance and progress.

As a Convener I request all our State Govt. OTst to represent and do follow up to establish the OT units which will create to recruit more OTs in Govt.sector.

Our association in collaboration with State Government & NIEPMD, many Professional development activities going to happen in the future (Insurance scheme + District level post + Research & Establishment).Awaiting for a better tomorrow for OT.

32. This is regarding OTstin SSA project. On 08.05.17, an official meeting was held along with State Project Coordinators Mrs Uma & Mr. Abdul Wahab, to include our OT service in SSA forthcoming Projects.



We as well met **Joint Director** of SSA project to submit our petition, he forwarded the petition to the Director.

State Coordinators mentioned that SSA project is functioning in all the Districts of TamilNadu and they promised to make use of OTst in all the District Projects.

We were invited (Convener & Co-convener) for SSA District Coordinators meeting on 09/05/2017 to speak about our association & importance of OT in SSA project.

33. On behalf of TNAIOTA, we met **Dr. Sripriya, HOD in Regional Centre of National Institute of visually Handicapped, Ponnammalle, Chennai, on 16/05/17, to handover petition regarding OT services in that institute.**

She assured that OTst will be included in the Early intervention unit which is in the process, to utilise OT as a resource person in training programs, in screening camp etc.

She shared her experience about the importance of OT in rehabilitation sector. In the centennial year of OT celebrations, we honoured her with memento.

34. On the same day we met **Dr. Vijayaraghavan, Director (Academic), Dean (Education) of Sri Ramachandra Medical University to handover over the necessary documents to start OT department & College.** It's a follow up of the 10/04/17 meet of TNAIOTA with him.

He assured that the management will definitely start OT College in 2018. He asked us to submit the tuition fees structure.

35. On 15/05/17, we met SSA, state Coordinator Mrs. Uma, based on the District Coordinator meeting which was held on 10/05/17 at Chennai.

She asked us to contact the District Coordinators to know how many OTst are in need according to centers to include our services in Early intervention project. Trichy District Coordinator contacted TNAIOTA regarding need of 3 OTst in EI centers.

36. Good news to all...

One of the predominant election vow of our team was to re-start the Occupational Therapy colleges that has been closed...During the EC meeting's also we had set this as one of the important agenda.

Since January 2017 we started to take steps to re-open OT colleges. To start with we approached Meenakshi University and submitted our justification to re-start OT college at Meenakshi university.

For the past five months we did regular follow up with administrative staffs and Registrar of Meenakshi University. On behalf of TNAIOTA we honoured him in the centennial year of OT.

After successive follow up, finally MAHER University (Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education & Research) has approved to re-start Occupational Therapy College in their Institution.

We cannot express in word our joy and happiness hearing his approval.

Our sincere efforts didn't go in vain. We have done something fruitful for our profession.

We are also trying our level best to re-start OT colleges in other universities as well.

Hoping for the best for our OT profession with sincere hardwork and goodwill.

37. One more Good news to all....

One of the predominant election vow of our team was to re-start the Occupational Therapy colleges that has been closed...During the EC meetings also we had set this as one of the important agenda.

Since January 2017 we started to take steps to re-open OT colleges. we approached Saveetha University and submitted our justification to re-start OT college at Saveetha university.

For the past few months we did regular follow up with administrative staffs and we met Chancellor Dr.Veeraiyan and Registrar of Saveetha University.

On behalf of TNAIOTA we honoured Dr.Veeraiyan, in the centennial year of OT.



After successive follow up, finally the Chancellor of Saveetha University has approved to re-start Occupational Therapy College in their Institution. Hoping for the best for our OT profession with sincere hard work and goodwill.

38. This is to inform you all that based on **the follow up of TNAIOTA with SSA Project State Coordinators & Joint Director**, we got an opportunity to work in the Early Intervention Centers in all the 32 Districts.

In each Districts 2 to 4, E.I. Centers are functioning in which according to the need we can provide services (atleast 1to 3 days in a week we can work). Rs.1000/day as honorarium will be given.

In a month approximately Rs.12000 can be earned. Apart from money, **it's an opportunity to represent OT profession in the govt. recognized project.** On behalf of TNAIOTA, I have attached all the SSA District Coordinators contact number for your kind notice.

In each District we need 2 to 4 OTst, so kindly arrange it. Our Districts Coordinators will contact the concern SSA District Coordinators to make it successful.

Already TNAIOTA assured in the SSA District Coordinators meeting (held at Chennai, May 2017) to arrange OTst in all the Districts.

So kindly do to this considering it as an important responsibility for the betterment of our Occupational Therapy profession in government sector.

39. On 16/05/2017, we met Superintendent, Medical Recruitment Board, DMS, Teynampet, Chennai, to hand over the petition regarding the selection process for the post of Occupational Therapy.

40. On 22/06/2017, we met Dr.Banu, Director, Directorate of Medical Services , Teynampet, to hand over the following petitions,

1. To fill the vacant OT post at KK Nagar, Chennai.
2. To fill the 2 vacant OT post at IMH, Chennai.
3. To recruit remaining 14 OT post in the Districts hospitals (Coimbatore, Erode, Trichy, Tanjore, Tiruvaruretc).
4. To recruit 32 OT post in the Department of Psychiatry at District head quarters hospitals as per 2013 G.O. in the Gazette of Mental Health.
5. To change or correct the OT definition in the State Government Gazette.
6. Psychiatric Nursing/Psychologist/ Social worker/ Physiotherapist is not an alternative to OT profession to fill the post in Govt.Sector.

We submitted the above petitions with supporting documents.Madam assured to discuss and process the same through proper channel.



41. On 30/05/2017, we met Dr.Edwin Joe, Director, Directorate of Medical Education, Kilpauk, Chennai, to hand over the above mentioned petitions.

Also we handed over the petition regarding the degree certificate to be provided as Faculty of Occupational Therapy. He replied supportively.

Sir spoke about the Autism health insurance project and the importance of OT in the Autism Spectrum Disorder condition.Sir asked us to attend for a detailed meeting regarding the same in the forthcoming days.

42. **This is regarding our degree certificate given by "The TamilNaduDr.MGR Medical University", Guindy, Chennai.**

In the past, after completion of B.O.T course, we received degree certificate stating "**Faculty of Biomedical Sciences**".

Later it was changed into "**Faculty of Allied Health Sciences**". Whereas in Physiotherapy certificates, it's mentioned as "Faculty of Physiotherapy".

Therefore, we intended our certificates also to be mentioned with the title "Faculty of Occupational Therapy".

Holding this as one of the important agenda, we discussed about it in the EC meeting, held on 15/04/2017.

43. we took appointment on 26/05/17 and met Dr.Balasubramaniyan, Registrar, The TamilNaduDr.MGR Medical university, to hand over the petition regarding our degree certificate.

To which he replied stating that it will be considered and in the "reconstitution meeting" the same will be discussed.

44. **On 01.06.2017 we met Dr.Geethalakshmi, Vice Chancellor, The TamilNaduDr.MGR Medical university, to hand over the petition to provide our degree certificate as Faculty of Occupational Therapy in the forthcoming convocation.**

Madam assured to consider it and we discussed a lot about Occupational Therapy profession.

She also asked us to give a proposal for OT course in State Government sector in KMC, Kilpauk & Government institute for rehabilitation medicine , KK Nagar, Chennai.

On behalf of TNAIOTA, we honoured her in the centennial year of OT celebration. Madam said that we can take a photo once we reach a milestone achievement in our profession.

45. Health camp and differently abled management camp was organised by The Leprosy Mission Trust India in collaboration with TNAIOTA & PIMS on 19th July 2017.

Dr.Ilavazhagan, Dr.Muthumanickam, Dr.Diza&Dr.Punniyamoorthy (4 members) of TNAIOTA participated in this camp and have done assessment and therapy for children with differently abled and for people affected by leprosy.

The camp organizer Dr.Manivannan, program manager appreciated the therapists commitments and thanked TNAIOTA for the support. No.of beneficiary - More than 300.



46. The 3rd GB meeting was conducted successfully on 08/07/2017 at KMCH, Coimbatore.

Meeting started with welcome address - by Dr.Sivasubramaniyan (District Coordinator).

Following that, we felicitated and honoured Dr.Sujata Missal, Principal, KMCH College of Occupational Therapy, for her significant contribution to our profession, Speech about her was delivered by our Ex.Convener Dr.Senthilnath.

CME was Organised by TNAIOTA, on KINESIOTAPING - Implication in Paediatrics, presented by Madam, Dr.Sujata Missal. 108 Participants attended the CME.

New members got registered for TNAIOTA membership. 3 OT graduates from KMCH got selected for TN Government post. District Coordinators from other Districts were present for the program.



In the 100th year of OT profession on behalf of TNAIOTA, Ex.Co-convener, Dr.P.S.Senthilkumar, felicitated Dr.VaithiPerumal, for his valuable contribution to our profession.

Ex.Convener, Dr.B.Senthilnath, felicitated Dr.Lynda.M.George, Ex.Principal, Meenakshi college of OT in the centennial year of OT profession.

Dr.Karthikeyan (DC - Salem) felicitated Coimbatore District Coordinator Dr.Sivasubramaniyan for Coordinating the Program.

Our Co-convener thanked KMCH Principal for her excellent presentation about KINESIOTAPING.

Saveetha College of OT, Principal, Dr.Arunkumar, delivered speech about the growth, achievements & success of TNAIOTA.

Convener presented the summary of the activities carried out by our TNAIOTA from 17th July 2016 to till date.

In GB meeting, our member's queries were discussed and sorted out. Finally the meeting ended with vote of thanks by Convener. Special thanks to Dr. Sujata Missal madam.

47. Swastik Trust in Collaboration with TNAIOTA organised Health/Rehab camp (Free Consultation/Assessment) on 29th July 2017.

On behalf of TNAIOTA, our Ex.Co-Convener, Dr.P.S.Senthilkumar & Dr.Kalaiselvi (Member) participated in this camp and have done Consultation/assessment for the beneficiaries.

Program Organiser :-Dr. V.R.Sathyavannan, Founder Trustee - SWASTIK TRUST.
Approximately 25 to 30 clients & 75 parents are attended the camp.

48. This is to inform you all that TNAIOTA office bearers were invited for the review meeting with 32 District differently abled welfare officers in the presence of Honourable Minister Dr.Saroja & State Commissioner, Mr.Ashish Kumar, I.A.S, at DMS, Chennai on 27/4/2017.

Following that we participated in a camp on (29/4/17 & 5/5/17) at Namakkal District for the welfare of the differently abled. Occupational Therapy services was given the main priority in the camp.



Honorable Minister, asked us to submit the report of the camp. We submitted the report on 9/5/17.

Based on that Honourable Minister instructed the "District Differently Abled Welfare Officer" (DDWO) to appoint Occupational Therapist for consolidated pay in all the Districts. This was discussed in the review meeting held on 20/07/17 at Commissionerate office & Secretariat, Chennai. Also it is documented in the minutes of the meeting by them. Therefore, very soon official announcement of the same will be given.

On behalf of TNAIOTA, we request all the members of the respective districts to approach the DDWO in the concerned districts and to submit your resume.

Also, we request you to contact the SSA District Coordinator to work in the E.I. (Early Intervention) project.

Involving ourselves in Government projects will pave way as a representation to get more Government OT recruitments.

49. Since January 2017 we started to take steps to start/ re- start OT colleges in various universities. For the past 7 months we did regular follow up.

When we met Dr.Vijayaraghavan, Vice Chancellor, Sri Ramachandra University, we spoke about the status of OT course in South India.

In the successive meeting with sir, he assured that Sri Ramachandra University will start OT course.

We submitted all the details about OT course & Justified the importance of OT Profession in Health/Rehab sector.

Now, the good news is that Sri Ramachandra University has started Bachelor of Occupational Therapy course this year 2017.

On behalf of TNAIOTA we thank Chancellor, Vice Chancellor, Dean and Administrative staffs of Sri Ramachandra University.

We are also trying our level best to start OT College in other universities as well.

In the 100th year of Occupational Therapy TNAIOTA has done many remarkable and fruitful things for our professional upliftment. So far 4 OT Colleges have been started in this year 2017 at Tamilnadu.

This we consider as a significant achievement of TNAIOTA. We assure that TNAIOTA will continue the good deeds with all the members support.

50. **Great news to all of us.** As all of you know, so far we received our degree certificates referred as "Faculty of Applied Health Sciences". **TNAIOTA had a priority agenda to change this into "Faculty of Occupational Therapy".**



Through continuous efforts and follow up of TNAIOTA with " The TamilNadu Dr. M.G.R. Medical University, this year OT graduates have received certificates as "Faculty of Occupational Therapy" in the 2017 convocation.

This is another great success of TNAIOTA, as now OT has got individual professional status, recognition and a better identity. We are happy to work more for the benefit of our OT profession.

51. WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY was celebrated in association with ARISJUVADY MENTAL HEALTH CENTER on 10th Oct'17 by organizing various programs to create awareness about the OT rehabilitation.

52. TNAIOTA in collaboration with SWASTIK TRUST organized free medical camp for differently abled persons on 21/10/17 at Vellore. More than 50 participants are benefitted.

53. To mark the World Occupational Therapy Day , On 26th Oct'2017 we met Dr. Edwin Joe, Director, Directorate of Medical Education (DME) to felicitate and to thank for the fast process to start State Government Occupational Therapy College.

We also requested Sir to announce our TNAIOTA website officially. Kindly visit on www.tnaiota.org

Then Official website of TNAIOTA was introduced to the Public on 27th Oct'2017. We explained the exact details and the purpose in forming the website.

We had a follow up with DME - Director on 18th Oct'2017 in which, TNAIOTA officials discussed about the status of Government job in Paediatrics, Mental Health and PMR in District Hospital sector and about status of OT govt college in TN.

He replied stating that OT post in IMH is in the process and he also discussed with Dr. Ramesh, Director, Govt.Institution, KK Nagar regarding OT college in our State Govt.

Following this an official letter was sent from the DME Office to the DeanGovt.Medicalcollege and Hospitals to get proposals.

WORLD OT DAY was celebrated at various OT colleges with support of TNAIOTA officeBearers (JKKMMRF , ANNAMALAI UNIVERSITY, SAVEETHA UNIVERSITY & SRI RAMACHANDRA UNIVERSITY).



SRMC&RI-OT

SAVEETHA-OT



RMMC- OT& JKKMMRF-OT

54. As one of the event in the OT month (Oct'27th-Nov'26th) TNAIOTA in collaboration with BLOSSOM KIDZ CLINIC celebrated WORLD OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY DAY, 2017 on Children's Day, 14th Nov at 5.00pm. Also the 9th anniversary of the clinic was celebrated.



Approximately 50 parents participated along with their kids. TNAIOTA ,Co-convener,Dr.Arunkumar spoke about the importance of Occupational Therapy and made it clear to the parents to identify fake OTs.

He requested the parents to visit our website to find out and to check out the registered OT clinics and Professionals.

Dr.Sathiyam, Director, BLOSSOM BUDZ Clinic had organised the program with a lot of activities for the children & their parents. Special thanks to Dr.Sathiyam.

55. Our First EC (2017 - 2018) meeting held on Saturday 26th August 2017.

56. Our second EC (2017 - 2018) meeting held on Sunday 31th Dec'2017.

Regards,

Dr.Raghuram.P
Convener - TNAIOTA