

The monthly Newsletter of the Indian Association of Secretaries and Administrative Professionals, Tamil Nadu Chapter

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OCTOBER 2019

Managing Committee (2019-2020)

Chairperson

R B Sudha Tel: 94441 71413

Vice Chairperson

Usha Reddy Tel: 99406 17453

Honorary Secretary

Treasure Jacob Tel: 98408 50348

Honorary Treasurer

Jayalakshmi Murali Tel: 92810 57038

Imm. Past Chairperson

Priya Balaji Tel: 98840 98157

Committee Members

Indra Prabha

Tel: 98844 76914

Lalitha Veeramani

Tel: 98410 11004

Words of Wisdom

When someone is nasty or treats you poorly, don't take it personally. It says nothing about you, but a lot about them.

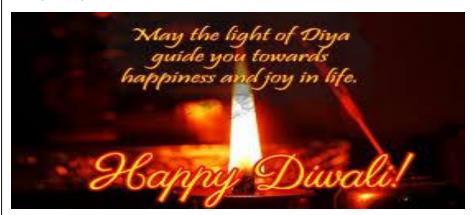
Dear Members,

October 16 - Boss' Day

Boss's day is the day dedicated to all employers. It is a time for employees to appreciate their bosses and thank them for being kind and fair throughout the year. Boss's Day becomes instrumental in improving employer-employee relations. There are times employees do not understand the hard work and dedication that their superiors put in and the challenges they face on a daily basis. Bosses Day is a great opportunity to appreciate and be thankful for all the things management have done for their employees. Sometimes we just don't think enough about our Boss's or what they go through to help keep us working and make sure our wages get paid. Boss' Day reminds us that it's not all roses at the top of the pecking order either, so be sure to thank your boss for all they do! Boss's Day wishes to all our dear members!

October 27 - Deepavali

Deepavali is considered as one of the important Hindu festival. Diwali is celebrated as a significance of triumph of good over evil after Lord Krishna's Victory over Narakasura. May the diyas that you light, add a wonderful glow to your everyday life and bring happiness, prosperity and contentment to your heart. Wishing you all a Very Happy Diwali!





APC 2019 – Tamil Nadu Chapter – held at Hotel Courtyard Marriott on the 14th Sept 2019

APC was one of the much-awaited events, after two years. The preliminary step of the contest was the written test, which was held on 10 Aug'19, at one of the Murugappa Group's offices. The test was conducted across India for all seven regions, at the same time.

The dawn of 14th Sept'19, began around at 10.00 am after the Judges arrived at the Hotel. The participants were seen to be very energetic and enthusiastic in the "Group Discussion" on one of the hot topics for about 30 mins. This was followed by the "Personal Interview" on individual basis. That marked the completion of Stage I and II of the contest.

The evening session – Grand Finale, started around 7.00 pm with our Chairperson's welcome speech. It was amazing to witness a good crowd with presence of some Bosses, trainers, member's spouses and other guests.

Surekha Johnson was the Emcee for the whole evening, who did a commendable job keeping the audience lively until the end of the event. She invited the Committee / Sub-Committee to the stage and introduced them to the audience. (Committee: RB Sudha, Priya Balaji, Usha Reddy, Treasure Jacob, Jayalakshmi Murali, Indraprabha & Lalitha V and the Sub-Committee: Juliet Ramamurthy).

All the three Judges were very eminent, and they were introduced as well. The contestants then took the stage for the "Extempore Round", which was final - stage IV. Every participant displayed an impeccable performance and the applause they received spoke volumes of how well they have travelled until then. While the esteemed judges were given time for consolidating the results, the Emcee conducted some lucky draw for the bosses, members and guests and prizes were distributed. It proved to be a Herculean task for the judges to identify the winners. However, they did a splendid job and eventually announced the Tamil Nadu Chapter Winners of APC 2019:

Chitra Chidambaram (Sheenlac Paints) – Winner Maria Renaux (Radiance Realty) – 1st Runner-up Rajalakshmi (Tata Consultancy Services) – 2nd Runner-up

A special mention must be made about Juliet Ramamurthy for her outstanding work on preparing the contestants right from the written test until the extempore speech. She took the contestants through undeterred and promptly guiding them and the Committee with her priceless expertise.

The evening ended with a vote of thanks followed by a sumptuous dinner. A few of the members enjoyed dancing away to the DJ's beats.

All the Winners and the other participants received so many prizes / gifts, which were literally awe-inspiring. Overall, it was a grand ending to the muchawaited APC.

Gita Rajamani







5 Characteristics of Exceptional Executive Assistants

High-performing assistants are masters of Outlook, Excel, Word and PowerPoint. They're whizzes at time management, accounting, payroll and social media. They coordinate meetings, arrange travel, choose vendors, negotiate contracts, manage the boss's calendar, prepare reports, supervise staff—and much more. In short, they're indispensable. meetings, arrange travel, choose vendors, negotiate contracts, manage the boss's calendar, prepare reports, supervise staff—and much more. In short, they're indispensable. Here are just five of the many characteristics that allow outstanding executive assistants to rise to the top and remain there.

- Professionalism Top-flight assistants treat everyone—from the mailroom staff to the CEO with respect. They don't play office politics, gossip about coworkers (or the boss), or betray confidences. As a result, when a crisis occurs, they can turn to absolutely anyone within their organization and be assured of obtaining immediate help.
- 2. Collaboration with the boss Exemplary assistants view themselves as their boss' partner. They routinely anticipate—and fulfill—his or her needs. They work with the boss to accomplish his or her objectives, complete tasks that would otherwise clog up the boss' schedule, and always strive to make him or her look good. Their loyalty is rewarded with the boss' implicit trust.
- 3. Outstanding organizational skills It's not by chance that exceptional assistants are calm in a crisis. This ability comes from knowing everything that's happening with everyone—the boss, the department and the organization as a whole—as well as with being aware of the status of every ongoing project. Being detail-oriented and proactive allows these assistants to remain self-possessed no matter what kind of pressure they're under.
- 4. Excellent communication skills Executive assistants are often the first person to greet clients, customers and vendors. As the organization's go-to person, the ability to communicate clearly, concisely and persuasively face-to-face, as well as in reports, memos, client communications, even routine emails, is vital.
- Willingness to go the extra mile All top assistants are willing to learn. They stay abreast of new procedures, technologies and software. They're independent thinkers who never need hand-holding.

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Should they become overwhelmed, they prioritize, delegate, then proactively follow up. These assistants are tireless when it comes to resolving problems, averting crises, and fulfilling commitments, even in the face of significant push-back.

In short, every high-performing assistant is smart, confident, flexible, reliable, well-organized—and a tremendous asset to their organization

Here's wishing all the Members celebrating their Birthdays in October & November 2019

OCTOBER

- 2nd Alamelu V
- 2nd Deepali Chauhan
- 4th Sabitha Rozalla
- 4th Moira Menon
- 4th Lalitha Veeramani
- 6th Shobana P
- 7th Vijaya Venkatesh
- 8th Vijeswari Rajaraman
- 10th Rebecca Pereira
- 15th Maureen Beck
- 15th Meena Anandan
- 17th Glynis Joseph
- 18th Margaret Rozario
- 18th Sharon Saldanha
- 20th Candy Prim
- 22nd Pam Fernandez
- 24th Seretta Browne
- 26th Naaz Tyebbhoy
- 26th Cheryl Foregard
- 27th Hemalatha Raju
- 28th Anitha Venkatachary
- 31st Jessie Edwards

NOVEMBER

- 1st Nicola Jayakumar
- 1st Sunitha Wilfred
- 2nd Treasure Jacob
- 7th Audrey Krishnan
- 7th Anantha Lakshmi
- 11th Chitra Chidambaram
- 13th Karen Peterson
- 13th Deepa Selvan
- 14th Shoba Ryan
- 18th Anester Antony
- 21st Nirmala Bhaskar
- 25th Freeda McLeod
- 26th Shobana Sairajkumar
- 27th Rita Vincent
- 27th Belinda Fernandez
- 27th Geraldine Rajan
- 28th Tessie Morris
- 29th Anita Martin

Date : 19th October 2019

Time : 12.30 noon onwards

Venue : Novotel Chennai

11,Chamiers Road, Nandanam, Chennai - 600 035

Highlights: Lunch@1.00 PM

Please see Notice Board

for other details

Charges: Members - Rs.150/-.

Guests - Rs.200/-

RSVP : 17th October (office hours)

RABRI OR RABDI RECIPE



Ingredients

8-10 Almonds , Blanched peeled and chopped 8-10 Pistachios , Blanched peeled and chopped 1 ½ litre or 6 ¼ cups Milk (full fat or whole milk) 3 tablespoons Sugar 3-4 strands Saffron

Instructions

To blanch almonds and pistachio, add them into boiling hot water and let them sit for 20 minutes. Then discard the water, peel the skin and slice them.

Making rabri or rabdi recipe:

Take milk in a wide, heavy bottom pan on medium heat. Once it starts boiling lower the heat to medium-low.

As soon as the cream layer is formed on top, collect with spatula and stick to the side of the pan. Keep collecting and sticking the cream layers till it reaches $\frac{1}{3}$ of its original volume. It took me 1 hour and 10 minutes total.

You have to stir it occasionally to make sure that it is not sticking to the bottom. But do not stir that often or quickly otherwise the cream layer will not form on top rather it will disintegrate into the milk.

Once the milk is thick and $\frac{1}{3}$ of the quantity, add sugar and saffron.

Again cool and keep collecting the cream for 5-7 minutes. Then scrap off all the cream from the sides of the pan and gently mix, simmer for 2 minutes.

Lastly add sliced nuts and turn off the stove.

Serve it warm or chilled.

Happy Birthday!

Each year you get a little further from acting your age.

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Wishing all the Members celebrating their Wedding Anniversary in October & November 2019





- Speaker Session Apollo Hospital
- Felicitation of APC 2019 winners
- Pune Convention debriefing
- Christmas Party will be celebrated on 14th December. Kindly block the date on your calendars. More details will follow.

Editor's Address TREASURE JACOB

Global Adjustments N o.5, 3rd Main Raod R A Puram Chennai 600028 Mobile :9840850348 Email : treasurefc@gmail.com