



SRI RAMACHANDRA
INSTITUTE OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND RESEARCH
(Category - I Deemed to be University) Porur, Chennai



Bridges

Newsletter of SRIHER (DU)



January 2025

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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

As we step into a new year, January at Sri Ramachandra Institute of Higher Education and Research (SRIHER) has been a month of celebration, reflection, and academic excellence. A time for new beginnings, the month brought with it the joy of *Pongal*, the pride of Republic Day, and an array of events that reinforced our institution's commitment to education, healthcare, and service.

The 76th Republic Day was celebrated with patriotic fervor, as our Vice Chancellor, Prof. Uma Sekar, unfurled the national flag in the presence of our esteemed Chancellor, Shri. V. R. Venkataachalam. Students, staff and faculty members reaffirmed our pledge to uphold the values of our Constitution and committed themselves towards society, ensuring that education and healthcare remain accessible to all.

Amidst academic rigor, our students and faculty members also embraced *Thai Pongal*, the harvest festival, with enthusiasm. Dressed in traditional attire, students and staff participated in folk dances, music, and the time-honored bullock cart rides, embodying the spirit of Tamil culture. The Rural Health and Training Centre at *Vayalanallur* also hosted special *Pongal* celebrations, extending the joy of the festival to the local community.

Beyond festivities, this month witnessed significant academic and research milestones. From cutting-edge workshops and conferences in healthcare and technology to the Grand Rounds Series by the Dept. of Cardiology, January was a testament to SRIHER's pursuit of excellence. The SRFOT Chapter of Alumni Association of SRIHER was inaugurated, strengthening our global alumni network.

As we move forward, let us carry the inspiration of this month, honoring our traditions, advancing in education and contributing to society with renewed dedication. Wishing you all a wonderful year ahead!

Dr. V. Deepa Parvathi
Managing Editor

ALUMNI CORNER

Congratulations!



The inaugural batch of MBBS (1985-1990) had a reunion, 40 years after completion of their course at Taj Coramandel, Chennai on 19th January. 40 alumni attended.



Ms. Swathi Lakshmi (BBA 2017-2020) received the 'Youth Excellence Award in the Field of Arts' from Rotary E-Club of Ranipet Elite on 18th January.

BRIDGES COMMITTEE

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ALUMNI CORNER



Sri Ramachandra Faculty of Physiotherapy organised a career guidance programme on 'Building Thriving Opportunities for Physios' on 30th January. Mr. Mani Neelamegan (BPT 1994-1998), Director & Lead Therapist, ANN Physio Care Ltd., UK was the resource person. 148 UG and PG students attended.



The Alumni Association of SRIHER – SRFOT Chapter was inaugurated on 30th January. The event observed the unveiling of the inscription board, release of SRFOT newsletter and official launch of the Fit Focus fundraising event. 35 alumni and 200 students participated.



Dept. of Clinical Nutrition, SRFAHS organised a case presentation on 'The impact of the Ketogenic Diet on Autoimmune Encephalitis' on 4th January. The session was led by Ms. Roselin Priyanka (M.Sc. Clinical Nutrition 2020–2022), Biology Teacher, St. Mary's Catholic High School, Fujairah, UAE. 56 PG students participated.



NSS Unit III in collaboration with SRIHER Alumni association distributed blankets to 150 Fengal cyclone affected houses at Vyasarpadi on 21st January. 55 NSS Volunteers provided health education to the flood affected families.

REPUBLIC DAY AT SRIHER

The 76th Republic Day was celebrated at SRIHER on 26th January. Vice Chancellor, Prof. Uma Sekar unfurled the national flag and took the salute. The management, faculty members, students and staff pledged themselves to provide best education and healthcare to the people of India in the spirit of the constitution. Chancellor, Shri. V. R. Venkataachalam graced the occasion.



PONGAL FESTIVAL AT SRIHER



Festivities and traditional cultural events marked the Pongal day celebrations by students, faculty members and staff of SRIHER on 10th January. Dressed in colourful sarees and dhotis, students participated enthusiastically in singing, dancing, joy riding in decorated bullock cart and various competitions.

AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS



Dr. N. Palaniappan, Prof. & Head, Dept. of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, SRMC & RI, has been elected as the Vice President of the Federation of Obstetric and Gynaecological Societies of India at its annual meet in Mumbai on 23rd January.

HAPPENINGS



Curriculum Implementation Support Program-III (CISP-III) was conducted for faculty members of SRMC & RI (NC) on 7th & 8th January by the Nodal Centre of SRMC & RI, NMC. 30 faculty members attended.



Dr. Rajeswari M., Assoc. Prof., Sri Ramachandra Faculty of Physiotherapy, won first prize in paper presentation in the Society of Indian Physiotherapist Conference held at Gujarat from 10th to 12th January.



The Dept. of Neonatology, SRMC & RI in association with Indian Academy of Paediatrics organised an Advanced Neonatal Resuscitation Programme (ANRP) on 18th January. The resource persons were Dr. Ashok Chandrasekar, Prof. & Head, Dept. of Neonatology, SRM; Dr. Lakshmi Charan, Consultant Neonatologist, Apollo Vanagram; Dr. Naresh Kumar, Consultant Neonatologist, Rangadore Memorial Hospital, Bangalore and Dr. Swathi Padamkatti, Senior Consultant, Sundaram Medical Foundation. 47 participants from various medical colleges participated.



The Dept. of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, SRMC & RI, organised the 28th PG revision course 'OG Quest 2025' from 19th to 23rd January. Dr. K. Vijayakarthykeyan, IAS, (MBBS 2003-2004) an alumnus of SRIHER and Dr. Sundari Nandyala, Retd. Prof., OBGYN. M.S.Ramaiah Medical college were the chief guests. 300 PG students from various parts of India participated.



Dept. of Clinical Nutrition, SRFAHS conducted a Continuing Nutrition Education (CNE) Programme on 'Ketogenic Diet's Wonders in Drug-Resistant Epilepsy' on 31st January. The session focussed on providing an insight into treating epilepsy through dietary regimen (specifically ketogenic diet) and was followed by case presentations on 'Medical Nutrition Therapy in Seizure Control'. The CNE was attended by dietitians, faculty members and 150 students.

HAPPENINGS



The Dept. of Biomedical Sciences, SRFBMST, organised 'Lab on Wings'- A comprehensive hands-on workshop on molecular, developmental and behavioural biology of *Drosophila*, from 22nd to 24th January. The workshop provided hands-on training in handling and maintenance of *Drosophila melanogaster* and introduced participants to the techniques used in incorporating this model organism in research. 10 members participated.



Dept. of Community Medicine and Dept. of Community Health Nursing, SRMC & RI, organised Pongal celebrations at Rural Health and Training Centre (RHTC), Vayalanallur, on 10th January. Cultural events such as dance, earthen pot breaking, cooking and rangoli competitions were organised. 25 children from Panchayat Union Middle School, Vayalanallur participated in the drawing competition. 100 participants including faculty members from the organising depts., UG and PG students, CRRIs and patients attended.



Students and faculty members from SRIHER, VIT and Saveetha University organised a campaign along with an awareness walk as part of the E-Waste Awareness Campaign and collection drive organised by Industrial Waste Management Association (IWMA) in association with Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCB) at Chitlapakkam on 5th January. The campaign was led by Lions Club. Mr. Rajendran, former MP and Mr. K. Baskaran, Chairman, IWMA, along with members from TNPCB and Lions Club joined the event. E-waste was collected from the community and yellow bags were distributed to the public. 21 students from SRIHER participated.



The Faculty Quality Cell, Sri Ramachandra Faculty of Pharmacy (SRFOP), in collaboration with IQAC, SRIHER, organised Continuing Pharmacy Education (CPE) on 'Synergizing Minds: Pioneering Innovation through Industry-Academia Collaboration' on 29th January, focusing on industry-academia collaboration, innovation, and professional development. Mr. Balaji Panneerselvam, Lead-External Alliances, Pfizer Healthcare India Pvt. Ltd. was the special guest. 153 faculty members and students attended.

HAPPENINGS



Dept. of Human Genetics, SRFBMST in collaboration with Dept. of Radiation Oncology, and Dept. of Radiology, SRMC & RI, as part of Indo-USA SPARC (Scheme for Promotion of Academic and Research Collaboration) sponsored and organised a seminar series on 'Biomarkers of Radiation Exposure: Clinical and Dosimetry applications' on 20th and 21st January. Dr. Helen Turner, Assoc. Prof. Radiation Oncology, Columbia University, New York was the chief guest and speaker. Other resource faculty members included Dr. Guy Garty, Assoc. Prof. of Radiation Oncology, Center for Radiological Research, Columbia University, New York, and Dr. Naduparambil K. Jacob, Professor, College of Medicine, Ohio State University. 249 participants from various states of India attended.



Dept. of Pharmaceutics, SRFOP, organised an industrial visit to Onex Life Science Pvt. Ltd., Chennai on 23rd January. 22 IV yr. B. Pharm. students and faculty members attended.



Dept. of Pharmaceutical Chemistry, SRFOP, organised 'CHEMCON 2025, Series-VII- A one day Professional Development Programme on QSAR Modelling - A route to drug discovery' on 31st January. 65 delegates from various state colleges participated.



SRFOP hosted three students from St. John Fisher University, New York, USA, for a Student Exchange Programme, from 29th December to 11th January. The programme featured academic collaborations, hospital ward rounds, clinical training, pharmacovigilance exposure, and cultural visits, fostering professional and cultural exchange. Students gained hands-on experience in emergency care, toxicology, and therapeutic drug monitoring, enhancing their global learning perspective.

HAPPENINGS



Ms. Sruthi Kalaiselvan, Ms. Varsha Gokul (I yr., M.Sc Audiology) and Ms. Sathya Harinath, Asst. Prof., Dept. of Audiology, Sri Ramachandra Faculty of Audiology and Speech Language Pathology (SRFASLP) were awarded Best Paper (Audiology) for Oral Presentation in the National Level Conference on Head and Neck Tumors: Scope of practice of SLPs and Audiologists conducted on 17th and 18th January at Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology, Bengaluru organised by Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology in association with Samvaad Institute of Speech and Hearing and BHA Rehab.



SRFASLP in collaboration with Depts. of ENT, Head & Neck Surgery, SRMC & RI and *Vidya Sudha* jointly organised the 19th Anniversary Celebration of Cochlear Implant Programme of SRIHER on 24th January. Mr. S. Sudan, IAS, State Commissioner for the Welfare of Differently Abled, Government of Tamil Nadu delivered the keynote address. The event included guest lectures by Mr. Benjamin Victor, State Project Manager, Community Services and Inclusion, TN Rights Project, Directorate for Welfare of Differently Abled, Govt of Tamil Nadu on 'Disability and dignity: Upholding human rights for all' and Mrs. Meenakshi Rajiv Ranjan, Disability Activist, Senior Associate, Centre for Inclusive Policy and Member, Disability Rights Alliance Tamil Nadu on 'From medical to human rights: Redefining disability in society'. 63 children and their families participated in the programme. 700 students and faculty members from various constituent colleges of SRIHER attended.



Ms. Joshithaa S. R., II yr. B.Sc (Hons). Biomedical Sciences, Dept. of Biomedical Sciences SRFBST, received the Best Volunteering Award from *Vidhaigal* NGO for her community service. Ms. Joshithaa S. R., also serves as *Vidhaigal's* Environment Co-ordinator.



Mr. Magesh Boopathi S. and Mr. Aashiq H., IV yr. B. Tech AIML students and Dr. M. Srivani, Asst. Prof., Dept. of AIML, Sri Ramachandra Faculty of Engineering and Technology (SRET), received the Best Paper Award at the 6th International Conference on Machine Learning, Image Processing, Network Security, and Data Sciences (MIND 2024), held at NIT Goa on 20th & 21st December.

HAPPENINGS



Sri Ramachandra Faculty of Nursing (SRFON) in collaboration with the Dept. of Forensic Medicine, SRMC & RI organised a Crash Course (hybrid) on 'Introduction to Forensic Nursing and Indian Laws' for III yr. B.Sc. Nursing students on 3rd and 4th January. 444 students from various nursing colleges across Tamil Nadu attended.



Sri Ramachandra Hospital conducted an in-house Continuing Nursing Education programme on 'The Nursing Chronicles: Building Stronger Preceptors and Nurses' on 7th and 8th January. The programme aimed to empower preceptors and nurses with the knowledge, skill and best practices through lectures, panel discussions, interactive bingo, brainstorming and relaxing yoga. 50 nursing leaders attended.



The Dept. of Pathology, SRMC & RI, conducted SPARRC 2025 - Rapid review for PG students from 3rd to 7th January. Dr. Rani Kanthan, Prof. of Pathology, University of Saskatchewan, Canada and Dr. K. Swaminathan, Prof. & Head, Pathology, Madras Medical College were the resource persons. 390 delegates across India attended.



The Dept. of Pathology, SRMC & RI, organised a guest lecture by Dr. Rajan Dewar, Director Hematopathology, Wayne State University & Karmanos Cancer Center, Detroit, Michigan, USA on 'Next Generation Sequencing for Solid Tumours' on 18th January. 95 faculty members and students attended.

HAPPENINGS



Dept. of General Medicine, SRMC & RI, conducted CME on 'Guidelines on the Management of Hypertension: Confusion or Clarity?' on 24th January. Dr. S. N. Narasingan, Vice President, World Hypertension League (WHL) spoke on newer management techniques of hypertension. 60 delegates participated.



The Green Friends Organisation Club of SRIHER organised the 'Vein for the Veer - A Blood Donation Drive for a Healthier Tomorrow' on 23rd and 30th January. The event was supported by the Dept. of Transfusion Medicine, SRMC & RI. The Student Council, aimed to raise awareness about voluntary blood donation and its life-saving impact. 102 participants contributed 102 units of blood.



Sri Ramachandra Faculty of Management Sciences (SRFMS) organised a guest lecture on 9th January to delve into the leadership traits and sacrifices portrayed by Major Mukund Varadharajan in the movie 'Amaran' by Col. Vel Murugan, Military Commander, Indian Army. This event aimed to provide a practical platform for students to understand and reflect on the profound lessons from Major Mukund Varadharajan's character, simulating the real-world challenges of leading with integrity and courage. 58 students participated.



SRFMS conducted a workshop on 'Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning in Healthcare' on 21st January. Dr. Uma Lakshmi, Assoc. Prof. & Head, Centre of Excellence (Business Analytics), CMR Institute of Technology, Bengaluru served as the resource person. 106 students and faculty members attended.

HAPPENINGS



SRFMS hosted a national level management fest 'ETHOZ' on 24th January integrating management games and skills. Mr. Jaikrishna, Group Chief Human Resource Officer, Amararaja Group of Companies, Hyderabad graced the occasion as chief guest. 1058 students from SRIHER and other institutions participated.



Ms. Fahima Banu and Ms. Roshini T., IV yr. students, M. Sc. MRIT, SRFAHS won first prize in a model-making competition at the 'Asian Oceanian Congress of Radiology' International conference held at Trade Centre, Chennai on 26th January.

The Dept. of Trauma Care Management, SRFAHS, organised 'Sri Ramachandra Training for Emergency Paramedic Skills - STEPS' webinar on 23rd January. Mr. Nandheeshwaran R., Lecturer, Dept. of Trauma Care Management, Malla Reddy University, Hyderabad was the resource faculty. 100 internal and external participants attended.



The Dept. of Emergency Medicine, SRFAHS, conducted the following workshops:

- 'Basic Life Support (BLS) and Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support (ACLS) Programme', on 29th and 30th January at Bloom Life Hospital, Chennai, for 50 nurses.
- 'Pre-Hospital Trauma Management workshop' as a part of 'Emergenz – International Emergency Medicine' conference at Dr. Moopen's Medical College (DMMC), Wayanad, from 7th to 12th January. 60 students participated.

HAPPENINGS

The Dept. of Prosthodontics, Sri Ramachandra Dental College and Hospital (SRDC&H) celebrated 'World Prosthodontist Day' on 22nd January. Dr. T. V. Padmanabhan, Senior Prosthodontist and Former President of Indian Prosthodontic Society and Asian Academy of Prosthodontics was the chief guest. The event included Prosthodontist Day Pledge administration, saplings plantation & adoption and awareness walkathon in our campus to spread the news about the benefits of prosthodontic treatments. 250 students and faculty members participated.



Dr. Vamsi Lavu, Prof., Dept. of Periodontics SRDC&H was awarded the 'Laser Dentist of the year - FEDA Award' for the year 2025 by Famdent, Mumbai on 18th January.



Dr. Vaishnavi P. and Dr. Esther K., final yr. PG students of Dept. of Paediatric and Preventive Dentistry, SRDC&H, won best paper awards in the 21st National ISPPD convention held at Mumbai from 30th January to 1st February.

Dept. of Cardiology, SRMC & RI, organised the Grand Rounds Series, which commenced with its inaugural session on 30th January, with a guest lecture on 'Protected PCI to Cardiogenic Shock: How Do I Approach?' by Dr. Gabor G. Toth, Research Professor & Interventional Cardiologist, University Heart Centre Graz, Austria. 15 PG students and 9 faculty members attended.

Dept. of Cardiology, SRMC&RI, organised a series of CME programmes with internal resource faculty members.



Special Lecture on 'Recent Advances in Post-Discharge Care through Cardiac Rehabilitation' on 25th January. 21 DM Cardiology PG students and faculty members participated.

CME programme on 'The CKD-HF Connection: Better Outcomes with ARNI' on 31st January. 25 DM Cardiology PG students and faculty members participated.

CME programme and a special lecture on 'Heart Failure' on 13th January. 26 PG students and faculty members attended.

The Dept. of Cardiology, SRMC&RI, completed 100 successful Percutaneous Coronary Interventions (PCI) in January 2025 reflecting their commitment to excellence in interventional cardiology.



HAPPENINGS



The Dept. of General Medicine, in collaboration with the Dept. of Endocrinology, SRMC & RI, organised a CME programme on 'Endocrine and Metabolic Health in Women' on 20th December. The guest speaker, Dr. Usha Sriram, Sr. Consultant Endocrinologist, VHS, Adyar, delivered a lecture on 'Looking at Diabetes Through a Gender Lens'. A case-based panel discussion on obesity, thyroid disorders, polycystic ovarian syndrome and gestational diabetes mellitus was also organised. 48 PG students attended.



Sri Ramachandra Faculty of Occupational Therapy (SRFOT) celebrated Fit India Week 2024 on 21st December. The event commenced with a Fit India Pledge Ceremony, where faculty members, along with students of MOT and BOT took oath to prioritize their health and well-being. This was followed by a quiz competition. 200 students participated.



Ms. Samiksha S., II yr. BOT student won 1st place in Contingent Drill, 2nd place in Firing, 3rd place in 800-meters at the Combined Annual Training Camp, NCC, held at the Air Force Station, Tambaram, from 12th to 20th December. The camp provided an intensive and enriching experience, focusing on drills, cultural rehearsals, and physical conditioning.

Sri Ramachandra Faculty of Occupational Therapy (SRFOT) conducted the following events:



Community outreach program to foster healthy communication between parents and children at HOPE Special School, Poonamallee on 31st January. 55 parents and children participated.



Free Screening Camp at Rural Health and Training Centre, Vayalanallur to commemorate World Leprosy Day on 30th and 31st January. 25 individuals benefitted.

HAPPENINGS



Career guidance programme at St. George's Anglo-Indian Higher Sec. School on 28th January. 70 students participated.

NSS ACTIVITIES



NSS Orientation programme

NSS SRIHER organised an orientation programme for the newly recruited volunteers of Unit 2, 3, 5 and 6 on 4th Jan. Dr. C. Samuel Chellaiah, NSS Regional Director (Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Andaman & Nicobar Island) was the chief guest. The TB Free India pledge was taken by NSS volunteers. 320 volunteers participated.



National Youth Day Celebrations

NSS, SRIHER Unit II and Inner Wheel Club of Madras Metro organised National Youth Day celebrations at Vayalanallur Panchayat Govt. Middle School on 9th January. Essay, elocution, drawing and singing competitions were conducted for 85 school students.



NSS, SRIHER Unit II and Chennai Millennium Friends Lions Club organised National Youth Day celebrations at Kolapancheri Govt. Adi Dravidar Welfare Higher Sec. School on 10th January. Essay, elocution, drawing and singing competitions were conducted for 50 students.

NSS ACTIVITIES



NSS, SRIHER and National Medicos organisation jointly organised National Youth day celebrations in SRIHER on 24th January. Poetry, elocution, poster and debate competitions were conducted among NSS Volunteers and students. Dr. M. Vivekanandan, Prof. & Head, JIPMER, Pondicherry, was the Chief Guest. 248 NSS volunteers participated.

STUDENT COUNCIL ACTIVITIES



The English Literary Club, SRIHER along with NSS organised 'VOICES-11', to improve English proficiency and communication skills students of Govt. Schools on 27th January at Vayalanallur Panchayat Union Middle School. 12 students participated.



SRIHER Quiz and English Literary Club organised the Fandom Quiz event on 30th January, featuring a jeopardy-style quiz with questions on literary works and popular film franchises. 40 students participated.

The MedHope Club of SRIHER in coordination with Dept. of Pediatric Haemato, SRMC & RI, conducted SPARK (Supporting Progress and Resilience in Kids) on 10th January, aimed at supporting young cancer warriors in bridging their learning gaps. 10 cancer survivors participated.



The MedHope Club of SRIHER in collaboration with the Dept. of Pediatric Haemato-Oncology and the Student Council organised the R-AIIM a career counselling event on 27th January, Dr. Sam Athikarisamy, Neonatologist, Perth Children's Hospital, Western Australia discussed career opportunities in Australia. Career options abroad for MBBS graduates in Australia and India were discussed. 102 students participated.

STUDENT COUNCIL ACTIVITIES



Rotaract Club of SRIHER in collaboration with other Rotaract Clubs, organised an event 'Paatu Paadava' on 5th January to raise funds for providing hearing aids for children with hearing impairment. 350 participants attended.



Rotaract Club and Photography Club of SRIHER, organised the 'SRIHER GRAMUTSAV', a Rangoli Competition with the theme 'Harvest Health, Harvest Happiness' on 10th January. 30 students participated.



Photography Club of SRIHER organised a photography workshop on 24th January on photography techniques. 35 students participated.

Debate Club of SRIHER organised the Mini MUN: Disarmament in Yemen on 11th January to sensitise students about the MUN proceedings. 11 students participated.



Fitness and photography club of SRIHER organised the 'Run for Republic' on 26th January. The 3KM marathon aimed to promote health, fitness, and national pride. 34 students participated.

The Music Club of SRIHER organised 'Jamming Session', a dynamic and fun-filled hour of musical improvisation on 24th January. 15 participants showcased their musical skills by expressing their creativity and connected through music, blending various genres and styles effortlessly.

READERS' CORNER



Mr. R. Bharath Kaarthic
II yr. B.Pharm.



Ms. Praveena A.
Sr. Lab Technologist, Dept. of Histopathology



Dr. Mahalakshmi R.
Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Clinical Research



Ms. Varsha V.
II yr. B. Sc. Nursing

College life! A time of discovery, growth, and adventure.

Halls of learning, days of fun
Friendships forged, memories won
Late night talks, laughter and tears
Dreams and passions, through all the years

Professors guide, mentors inspire
Growth and knowledge, like a burning fire
Clubs and teams, a sense of pride
Together we rise, side by side

College life, a journey so sweet
A time to explore, to find our beat
To chase our dreams, to make our mark
And create a future, a shining spark

Ms. M. Anu Keerthana
Intern, B. Sc. Trauma Care Management

பாரத தேசம்

முப்பொழுதும் நீலம் சூழ மறுப்புறம்
மென்படலம் நிலைக்க முப்பொழுதும்
புன்னகைக்கும் மழலை யான்
நிமிர்ந்து நிற்கும் பேராளுமை நான்

கொள்ளை இன்பம் சேர்ந்த சுரங்கம்
யான் அளவில்லா புன்னகையில் கோர்த்த
மலர் மாலை எல்லையில்லா ஆனந்தத்தின்
உறைவிடம் பாரதியின் பாரத தேசம்

தமிழ் தாயின் உறைவிடம் சேர சோழ
பாண்டியனின் கோட்டை மறந்தேனும்
கூறி விடாதே என என் மனம் துடிக்கும்
நினைவு சதுக்கம்

Dr. L. Kannan
Professor
Community Medicine SRMC & RI