

Annai Dr.ClaireVellut

We Long for your Long Life

The pride of Belgium Dr.F.Hemerijckx was, in our opinion the heir apparent to Father Damien in the true sense of his vision and mission for leprosy sufferers.

Padmashri Annai Dr.Claire Vellut is nothing but a female version of Dr.Hemerijckx inheriting all his core qualities as his legacy.

In 1955 our Annai Started her service as the Chief Lieutenant of Dr.Hemerijckx's army at Ploambakkam to accomplish her leprosy mission, which neither our Nation nor other nations which benefited from her service would forget.

- * Dr.Hemerijckx is still alive in our hearts even after his centenary passed seven years ago.
- * Our beloved Aiya Thiru.Mulhumalla is racing to complete his healthy century shortly.
- * Our Annai Dr.C.Vellut has crossed her pearl age (80) celebrations three Years ago remains still a beacon to throw light of hope to the patients.

The above three peaks formed the three sides of the triangle which contained the total history of this centre.

Aiya Muthumalla was the great benefactor of this centre providing free land, water and support.

A Strong basis to this centre was laid by the founder Dr.Hemerijckx.

Our Annai has grown a big banyan tree on it with branches of multiple fields.

Her mentor's vision for a comprehensive care to leprosy patients under one roof at polambakkam was realized by a persevering personality Dr.Vellut.

Mass clinics reachable to the unreached, A T.H.Ward for in-patients, daily O.P. clinics for non-leprosy public, A Pharmacy for the above needs, A clinical Lab, A Physio unit, A theatre for surgical corrections, A footwear unit, Rehabilitation center for destitutes (Anandapuram), Programmes for Health Education, Training centre for health workers deputed by various states of India A rich data base for different wing of leprosy collected from 1960, Study papers presented at National and International forums, Above all result Oriented efficient Management led by Annai Vellut – with all these functions under one roof, Ploambakkam Centre was flourishing like a mini University with Annai Vellut being its root.

With the motherly patronage of Annai Vellut several daughters and sons of Polambakkam Staff have been technically trained and employed in different health centres. And some of our staff could not have tided over their economic crises with out the timely help of our Annai.

We were trained, taught and brought up by her not only for our prospective career but for participating in her perspective also.

Oh, Dr.Annai Vellut, we are really saddened on your departure from Inida, and strongly wish it to be transitory.

Though we will be missing you physically we assure we will be mixing with you emotionally for ever. Annai Dr.Claire Vellut, We Long for Your Long Life.

Thank you, Vanakkam.

Polambakkam

06.09.2009

Your's affectionate and grateful,

Former STAFF members

Polambakkam Centre