

PMJF LION SUSHAMA NANDAKUMAR

SECOND VICE DISTRICT GOVERNOR – ELECT, DISTRICT 318D

Lion Sushama Nandakumar was born in 1955 and holds bachelor's degrees in Science and Education from the Calicut University. She began her career as a schoolteacher in 1981 and taught in schools in the coastal belt of Thrissur District. After 30 years of service as a teacher, she retired in 2011 as the Headmistress of the Government Fisheries Higher Secondary School, Nattika.

In 1992, she became a co-promoter of Manappuram Finance Ltd. along with her husband, Lion. V.P. Nandakumar. Today, Manappuram Finance Ltd. is one of India's leading NBFCs, dominant in gold loans and microfinance. After retirement, she entered the world of business full time, becoming the managing director of Manappuram Jewellers Limited. The company runs a chain of jewellery stores under the brand name of “Riti Jewelry” in Kerala, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh.

Lion Sushama Nandakumar also serves on the Board of Directors of other companies of the Manappuram Group. She takes special interest in the charitable activities of the Manappuram group undertaken through the Manappuram Foundation. In recent years, under her direction, the Manappuram Foundation has partnered extensively with Lions Clubs International to give shape to a range of service projects implemented by various Lions Clubs in Kerala and other states of India.

THE LION LEADER: Lion Sushama Nandakumar began her Lionistic career in 2008 when she joined the Lions Club of Triprayar. Over the years, she has held important positions such as President of the Lions Club of Triprayar, Area Chairperson, Zone Chairperson and President of the District Lioness Forum.

She was widely hailed for her performance as the District Coordinator for Leadership during 2019-20. She worked energetically to organise a series of programs and projects to develop leadership qualities among members. Three mega leadership seminars were organised, led by renowned faculties such as Shri Madhu Bhaskar, a renowned motivational speaker, Shri Gopinath Mudukad, an internationally acclaimed magician and motivational speaker, and Shri Maaney Paul, a celebrity trainer. Further, during this period, she also took additional charge as the Coordinator for the District Governor’s “Light of Love” project and visited the length and breadth of the District to hand over solar lighting panels to enable school going children belonging to the families who did not have access to electricity. Thanks to her untiring efforts, the light of love project won much acclaim for its genuine social impact.

Amid the unprecedented crisis of the Covid19 pandemic, her commitment to reach out to the affected people across the length and breadth of District 318D by arranging for supplies of food packets for over 3,000 families, distribution of PPE kits, face masks and hand sanitizers, setting up isolation wards at government hospitals and recognizing the health workers at the forefront of the fight, deserves special mention.

THE HOMEMAKER: Lion Sushama Nandakumar's family is always a pillar of support for her. Her husband, Lion V.P. Nandakumar is the Chairman of the Manappuram Group of

companies and the MD & CEO of its flagship, Manappuram Finance Ltd. He is currently an International Director of the Lions Clubs International, elected to this office at the Milan Convention in 2019. Remarkably, both husband and wife are Second Century Ambassadors, the only such couple from India!

They have three children, a daughter and two sons. The eldest is Dr. Sumitha who works as a Gynecologist in Kochi. The middle son, Sooraj, is now in the UK running his own business while the youngest son, Suhas, is an Assistant Vice President in Manappuram Finance Ltd. heading its Travel Loans Division. With five grandchildren ranging from two to thirteen years of age, she looks forward to family reunions.

Presenting Lion Sushama Nandakumar, a Lion leader with a record of exceptional achievements and unshakeable commitment to the cause, elected as the Second Vice District Governor of District 318D in May, 2020.