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April 18, 2017

Dear Friends/Members,

Last week marked the beginning of a "NEW YEAR" to all our bridge friends from different cultures and communities across India. Whether it is "*Kodava New Year, Puthu Aandupirappu, Vishu, SUBHO NOBOBORSHO, SUBHO POILA BOISAKH, Happy Baisakhi, Rongali Bihu, Vaishakhi, Wesak, Bisu Changrathi, Bisu Tulu New year, Maha Vishuva Sankranti or Happy EASTER*", I wish it brings to you and your families lasting peace and happiness and success in all your endeavours.

This "NEW YEAR" has also seen some change to the BFI Governing body. I would like to invite **two new members** to join the panel of **BFI Executive Committee from April 1st, 2017** who I am confident will add value and strength to our organization and are very well known personalities to our bridge fraternity:

- **Mr. K.S Samant (aka Anand Samant)** : He will be assuming the office of the **Hon. Secretary from April, 2017** taking over from our greatly respected veteran member **Mr. Arijit Guha** who retires on **31st March, 2017** in accordance with the guidelines stipulated by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports. Anand Samant has been associated with BFI for decades together and has been a pioneer in developing bridge infrastructure and technology as well in finding and promoting new bridge centers across India. He has been at the vanguard of Junior Bridge Development has also been responsible for the technical management of innumerable national championships. We wholeheartedly welcome him and are sure that with his guidance, BFI will be breaking ground at new venues and constantly innovating and introducing new technologies for our bridge fraternity to enjoy.
- **Mr. Nirmal Rajagopalan** : Nirmal will be donning the mantle of Hon. Treasurer, BFI. He has been a behind the scene asset to BFI for a long time but his **active presence was very much felt at the 42nd World Bridge Teams Championship, Chennai in 2015 where he played a pivotal role as the CHIEF CO ORDINATOR**. He coordinated the entire setup, planning and execution of the mega event both tirelessly and flawlessly thus making it acclaimed as a huge success. His father Mr. R Rajagolan, an avid patron of TNBA and BFI has been working selflessly with us as the Hon. Treasurer very utmost efficiency and candid nature which will be missed by our committee for long. He retires from **31st March, 2017** due to the statutory compliances of Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports. I welcome Nirmal who will continue his father's legacy and follow in his footsteps with unbounded passion.



BRIDGE FEDERATION OF INDIA
(RECOGNISED BY MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS UNDER PRIORITY CATEGORY)
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While recognising our new inductees, I would fail in my duty if I did not applaud the great efforts made by Mr. Arijit Guha who has stood like a lighthouse, at the epicenter of all activities, correspondences, representations and every single small or large aspect both locally and worldwide. THANK YOU "DADA" for all the sacrifices and endless hard work you have put in for our federation to achieve the recognition that it has today. You will always be with us as an ADVISOR to guide us on our journey ahead.

Once again I would like to express my deep gratitude to Mr. R. Rajagopalan for taking all the efforts to maintain the entire financial system of our federation with complete transparency and efficiency.

Happy bridging and see you all soon,

With best regards,

Mr. Prasad Keni

(President)
