



❀ Jai Shri Ram | Jai Shri Krishna ❀

We are delighted to bring you the Eighth edition of our monthly newsletter. October has been a truly special and divine month, filled with festive joy and spiritual celebrations. As we celebrated Diwali – the Festival of Lights, the Mandir came alive with devotion, bhajans, and the radiance of diyas symbolizing the victory of light over darkness.

With the blessings of the Almighty and the continued support of our community, Mandir renovation work is progressing steadily. We are grateful to all volunteers and devotees who have contributed their time, effort, and resources to this noble cause.

In this edition, we share glimpses of our Diwali celebrations, updates on ongoing projects, and highlights of upcoming events. May the divine light of this auspicious season continue to guide and inspire us all.

Wishing you and your family a very Happy and Prosperous Diwali!

This month's newsletter covers:

- * Festivals and cultural activities
- * Renovation updates



Festivals and Cultural Activities

Vijayadashmi/Dussehra celebration

Dussehra was celebrated at the Mandir with great energy and devotion. Children dressed as Shri Ram, Lakshman, Sita, and Hanuman brought a special charm to the celebration, filling the atmosphere with bhakti and joy. The event concluded with the symbolic Ravan Dahan, signifying the victory of good over evil.

On the same day, a Balvihar was organized in collaboration with the Chinmaya Mission, offering children an engaging and educational experience. The session was filled with games, arts, and crafts, helping young participants connect with the values of dharma and devotion in a fun and creative way.

Karwa Chauth puja in Mandir

A Karwa Chauth Puja was organized at the Mandir, with many devotees participating in multiple batches throughout the evening. The atmosphere was filled with devotion as married women observed the traditional fast and offered prayers for the well-being and longevity of their spouses.

Choti Diwali celebration

The Mandir celebrated Choti Diwali on Sunday, 19th October, with great devotion and festive spirit. The day began with the Mandir opening as per the regular schedule, followed by a soulful Bhajan and Cultural Program, aarti, and Bhandara. Children especially enjoyed the sparklers, adding joy and brightness to the occasion.

Maha Laxmi puja

On Diwali day, 20th October, the Mandir organized a Mahalakshmi Puja, invoking the blessings of Goddess Lakshmi for prosperity, peace, and well-being.

56 Bhog

On 22nd October, the Mandir celebrated Gowardhan Puja with great devotion. A special 56-Bhog offering was organized, with many devotees bringing bhog for Bhagwan. Pandit Satyavrat Shashtri Ji also narrated the Gowardhan Katha, enriching the occasion with its spiritual significance. The day was marked by collective devotion, joy, and the vibrant spirit of community participation.

Extra Information

- **Pandit Dharmendra Upadhyay Ji returned to India** on 11th October. During his stay, he participated in the events organized by the Mandir, adding a special devotional feeling to each celebration. His presence was warmly appreciated by the community and brought an extra sense of joy and inspiration to all the occasions.
- **Pandit Satyavrat Shastri Ji** visited the Mandir for two weeks and participated in the Diwali Puja as well as the 56-Bhog arranged in the Mandir. His presence added a special spiritual aura to the Mandir, enhancing the devotion and joy of these celebrations for all devotees.
- **Bathroom renovation completed:** We are pleased to share that the Mandir ground floor bathroom renovation has been completed. On the ground floor, one bathroom/WC and two additional WCs are now fully functional, providing improved convenience and facilities for all devotees visiting the Mandir.
- We are happy to share that the **Mandir's main entrance has been reopened following the completion of the bathroom renovation and pipe relining work**. During this period, entry had been temporarily through the garden door, and we sincerely thank all devotees for their patience and support. We warmly invite everyone to now use the main entrance for all visits to the Mandir.
- **WhatsApp group update:**
 - ✓ We have created a new WhatsApp community "Hindu Mandir Stockholm Community" and added both of Mandir's WhatsApp group in the community. This is to avoid any confusion about the WhatsApp groups.
 - ✓ As first WhatsApp group reached to maximum number of members limit therefore new group was created with name "*Hindu Mandir Stockholm (द्वितीय-समूह / Dvitiya-samūha)*". If a new person wants to join Mandir's group, please ask that person to join this new group (QR on last page)
 - ✓ Same information will be shared on old and new groups.





Operational updates

Donation Drive:

- ✓ During October Mandir received ~13000 SEK under donation for renovation.
- ✓ Huge Thanks to all the devotees who donated with open hand and heart
- ✓ If anyone would like to contribute to this noble cause, please come forward and support the Mandir. Swish Link:

[https://app.swish.nu/1/p/sw/?sw=1232180255
&msg=DonationForRenovation&edit=msg](https://app.swish.nu/1/p/sw/?sw=1232180255&msg=DonationForRenovation&edit=msg)



Renovation status:

Renovation is currently in progress, with multiple tasks being carried out simultaneously. Many selfless devotees continue to be actively involved in these activities, offering their time and skills in the service of the Mandir. The following tasks are completed till now

- ❖ Ground floor bathroom renovation completed. One bathroom/wc and two WC on ground floor are fully functional now.
- ❖ 4 windows broken glasses were replaced by a devotee
- ❖ All Roof related work is done. Detailed update:
 - ✓ Sky light window is replaced
 - ✓ Rotten roof wood is replaced
 - ✓ All broken tiles are changed and misplaced tiles are fixed

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Operational updates contd..

Here is the cost breakup for each work:

High-level Renovation Costs (incl. 25% moms) till date. Indicative - subject to final accounts and invoices

Cost Item	Cost (SEK)	Notes
4 Toilets: 1. Rebuilding of one existing bathroom/toilet on Mandir's ground floor 2. Rebuilding of one existing toilet on Mandir's ground floor (This was locked for long time) 3. One new toilet built on Mandir's ground floor 4. Rebuilding of one existing bathroom/toilet in side building	480,000	Includes extra work for damaged pipes
Pipe Relining of all underground pipes (kitchen, toilets, changing room, etc)	260,000	
Ventilation System repair (which was not operational for many years), pipe spolning & standing	60,000	
Replacement of Roof's underlying rotten wood and damaged tiles	85,000	
Replacement of roof's damaged skylight window	25,000	
New carpet for Bhavan	60,000	Yet to arrive
Paint Material	45,000	ongoing
Electric fixtures including LED lights, wires, connectors, sockets, switches, etc.	20,000	ongoing
Tools, accessories, temporary setups during renovation, disposables (plates, cups, boxes, etc.)	35,000	ongoing
Wall repairs, Shivalya pipe repairs, El central tap & water pipe repairs. other small repairs	25,000	ongoing
Total	1, 095, 000	*indicative

Note: An insurance claim was submitted for the bathroom renovation and pipe relining work, but it was denied by the insurance company, citing lack of mandatory maintenance and timely repairs over the past several years.



Mandir needs your support

With Ram ji's blessings renovation work is ongoing and some good process has been made. Here is the updated list:

- ✓ Renovation of Toilets and Bathrooms: **Done**
- ✓ Relining of underground pipes and replacing damaged pipes. **Done**
- ✓ Ventilation System repair: **Done**
 - Anticimex Treatment (Pest control and hygiene)- Two appointments done. Third one will be scheduled after bathroom renovation is finished. **Ongoing**
- ✓ Roof Repairs and skylight window replacement: **Done**
 - Window and Wall Repairs: **Ongoing**
 - Painting of Walls and Roof (with help from devotees): **Ongoing**
 - Replacement of Lighting with LED fixtures: **Ongoing**
 - Carpet Replacement in Main Bhavan: **Order pending**
 - Instruments and Equipment for Mandir Bhajans and Aarti: **Planning**
 - Essential Tools for Renovation Work: **Buying as needed**
 - New Utensils for the Kitchen: **Planning**

The revised **estimated cost** of the total renovation is **1,250,000 SEK**

This is your Mandir, and now more than ever, it needs you. If all families contribute in any way — time, money, or materials — we can restore and protect this sacred space for future generations.

As of 31st October, alongside regular support, about 400k was contributed mentioning “DonationForRenovation”. We sincerely thank all devotees who have contributed so far. Your support is not just for bricks and walls, but for preserving Sanatan Dharma. **We kindly urge others** to come forward and donate whatever they can. Every contribution makes a difference.

“सेवा परमो धर्मः”

Service is the highest form of Dharma.

“धर्मो रक्षति रक्षितः”

Dharma protects those who protect it.

It is your opportunity **to give back to the Mandir and have your name etched in preserving our sacred space for future generations.**

For donations: **Swish to 123 218 02 55** (mention ‘**DonationForRenovation**’)

For material contribution or volunteering: Contact any member of the Samiti or email helenalundhindumandir@gmail.com



Spread the word!

Please encourage others around you to **Become a Member** to support your Mandir.

Benefits of Membership

- ❖ You become a part of building a stronger, united Hindu community in Sweden
- ❖ You get timely updates of all activities in Mandir
- ❖ You can use certain services of the Mandir/Poojari

Why the Mandir needs You

- ❖ Certain threshold of no. of members needed for getting grants from Swedish Govt.
- ❖ Mandir is in major need of renovation and your membership will help

Why the Mandir matters

- ❖ Keep our kids connected to their roots through festivals, language, and values
- ❖ Celebrate together – from Diwali to Holi, Navratri to Janmashtami
- ❖ Spread awareness of our rich traditions and spiritual wisdom

Membership options

Monthly Family Membership: A minimum of 101 kr/month.

Annual Individual Membership: **500 SEK/Year**

Annual Family Membership: **1000 SEK/Year**

Contribute via Swish: **123 218 0255**

Share payment proof at: helenalundhindumandir@gmail.com

If you have any questions or suggestions, feel free to reach out to us.



A Heartfelt Thank You !

Namaste 🙏
Hindu Mandir
Samiti

Amit, Nishant, Sunil,
Maneesh, Sanjiv,
Vani, Meenal, Neelu,
Tarunesh, Vaibhav,
Karan





HINDU MANDIR SOCIETY, Stockholm (Sweden)

Newsletter
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