



**Namaste!**

We're pleased to bring you the **Seventh edition of our monthly newsletter**.

As Chaturmas continued during September, we started the month with Ganesh utsav and concluded with Navratri. While we submerged ourselves into festivities on one hand, with the support of many members and God's grace, we continued the Mandir renovation work at a fast pace. We are happy to share some detailed updates in this newsletter, and look forward to your continued support and well wishes.

**This month's newsletter covers:**

- \* Festivals and cultural activities
- \* Upcoming events
- \* Renovation updates

Let us continue to stay **connected, inspired, and devoted** as we walk together on the path of Dharma.

**जय गणेशाय नमः !  
हर हर महादेव ! ॐ नमः शिवाय !  
जय माता दी !  
जय श्री कृष्ण !**



# Festivals and Cultural Activities

## **Ganesh Utsav**

*Ganesh Utsav* was celebrated in the usual way starting with the symbolic *pranpratisha* and eventual *visarjan* (submersion of Ganesha idol) on 6<sup>th</sup> Sep. Kids made their own Ganesh idols and did *visarjan*.

## **Shradh/Pitru paksha**

We observed the *pitru paksha* and arranged *Pitru tarpan* for devotees who wanted to perform it in the traditional way with *mantras*.

On *somwati amawasya*, Mandir arranged *pitra tarpan* followed by *hawan*. Performing *hawan* on *Sarv Pitru Amavasya* is considered highly beneficial as it ensures that all ancestors, known or unknown, recent or ancient, receive peace and their blessings flow back to the family, ensuring prosperity, harmony, and spiritual growth.

## **Navratri**

Nine days auspicious festival started on 22-Sep. Many devotees signed up to perform *Mata ji Aarti* in the morning and evening.

During *Navratri*, **Mata Ki Chowki** was also offered where **Sweden Bhajan Mandali** together with many devotees submerged in the joy of signing *bhajans* from sunset to midnight.

Eventually *Kanya pujan* done on *Ashtami* and *Navami*. We were blessed with many *kanjak* who came to Mandir.

## **Namaste Stockholm**

For the first time, HMS was invited to Namaste Stockholm, probably the biggest Indian cultural event in Stockholm. Pandit Ji, together with our beloved Sweden Bhajan Mandali performed *bhajans*.

## **Vishwakarma Pooja**

On 17th October, our Mandir joyfully celebrated **Vishwakarma Jayanti**, honoring Lord Vishwakarma, the divine architect and craftsman of the universe. Devotees gathered for a special **Vishwakarma Puja**, offering prayers for prosperity, skill, and creativity in all forms of work.

## **Swami Jnanalokananda visit**

Swami Jnanalokananda, secretary of the Ramakrishna mission, Swami Vivekananda ancestral house and culture central in Kolkatta visited Stockholm and also came to Mandir for a special talk.

## **School visits**

HMS welcomed students and teachers from different schools, introducing them to Hindu principles, deities, rituals, and the philosophies of Sanatan Dharma. Guests enjoyed prasad and light refreshments, engaging in thoughtful questions and lively discussions that deepened mutual understanding.



# HINDU MANDIR SOCIETY, Stockholm (Sweden)

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## Festivals and Cultural Activities



### Visiting & Postal Address

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# Upcoming Festivals & Events

## **Chaturmas & October Festivals at Mandir**

Chaturmas, the sacred four-month period of devotion, austerities, and observances, continues through this month.

October is especially blessed, as it brings a series of auspicious festivals that celebrate light, devotion, and family bonds. Our Mandir will be observing many of these with special poojas, satsangs, and community gatherings.

### **2 Oct – Dussehra (Vijaya Dashami).**

Celebrating the victory of Lord Rama over Ravana, symbolizing the triumph of good over evil. It will be celebrated on **5th Oct in Mandir**

### **6 Oct – Sharad Poornima**

The night of the full moon, and devotion to Lord Krishna.

### **10 Oct – Karwa Chauth**

A day of fasting and prayer.

### **18 Oct – Dhanteras**

Dedicated to Goddess Lakshmi and Lord Dhanvantari, bringing health, wealth, and prosperity.

### **19 Oct – Narak Chaturdashi**

Also known as Chhoti Diwali, symbolizing the victory of light over darkness.

### **20 Oct – Diwali**

The grand festival of lights, celebrating the return of Lord Rama to Ayodhya. Our Mandir will be beautifully decorated and lit with diyas.

### **22 Oct – Govardhan Puja**

Devotees worship Lord Krishna's lifting of Govardhan Parvat, with Annakut (mountain of food) offerings.

### **23 Oct – Bhai Dooj**

A celebration of the sacred bond between brothers and sisters.

### **27 Oct – Chhath Puja**

A Vedic festival dedicated to the worship of Surya Dev (Sun God) and Chhathi Maiya, with rituals performed at sunrise and sunset.

 **More details** about the upcoming Mandir celebrations will be shared separately. We warmly invite you and your families to join and participate in these sacred festivities.

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## Operational updates

### **Donation Drive:**

- ✓ During September we received 161k SEK in 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)



**123-218 02 55**

### **Painting drive continues:**

- ✓ Painting on 1st floor continue. This month, devotees painted the windows during painting seva.
- ✓ We still have some windows left and two smaller room on 1st floor. We'll call for more seva days in coming weeks to paint remaining area on the 1st floor and bhandara room on the ground floor.

### **WhatsApp group update:**

- ✓ We are overwhelmed to share that Mandir's WhatsApp group reached the maximum limit of 1000+ members!
- ✓ We have created a new group "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.

### **Big Thanks to all devotees whose *shram-daan* saved the Mandir lot of costs**

- ✓ Paint Effort: With the selfless effort of our devotees, we were able to save a significant amount on painting costs. For perspective, professional quotes (ex moms.) estimated around SEK 35,000 per floor and SEK 1,500 per window.
- ✓ Window Repair: A devoted family generously came forward and replaced the broken glass panes of 4 windows in the Bhavan.
- ✓ Many devotees have also brought their personal tools to support the renovation work. Including ladders, wooden stools, extra drill machines, bits, and other equipment. 🙏
- ✓ We are confident that with your continued *shram-daan* (selfless service), we will be able to complete the remaining painting work for floors and windows. Thank you for your dedication and support! 🙏



## Operational updates contd..

### **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 were completed in September

- ❖ 4 windows broken glasses were replaced
- ❖ 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
- ❖ Bathrooms/WC update:
  - ✓ Bathroom/WCs on ground floor are almost completed. Remaining work will finish by mid October

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

<b>Cost Item</b>	<b>Cost (SEK)</b>	<b>Notes</b>
4 Toilets: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Rebuilding of one existing bathroom/toilet on Mandir's ground floor</li> <li>2. Rebuilding of one existing toilet on Mandir's ground floor (This was locked for long time)-</li> <li>3. One new toilet built on Mandir's ground floor</li> <li>4. Rebuilding of one existing bathroom/toilet in side building</li> </ol>	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 & städning	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
<b>Total</b>	<b>1, 095, 000</b>	<b>*indicative</b>

**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.



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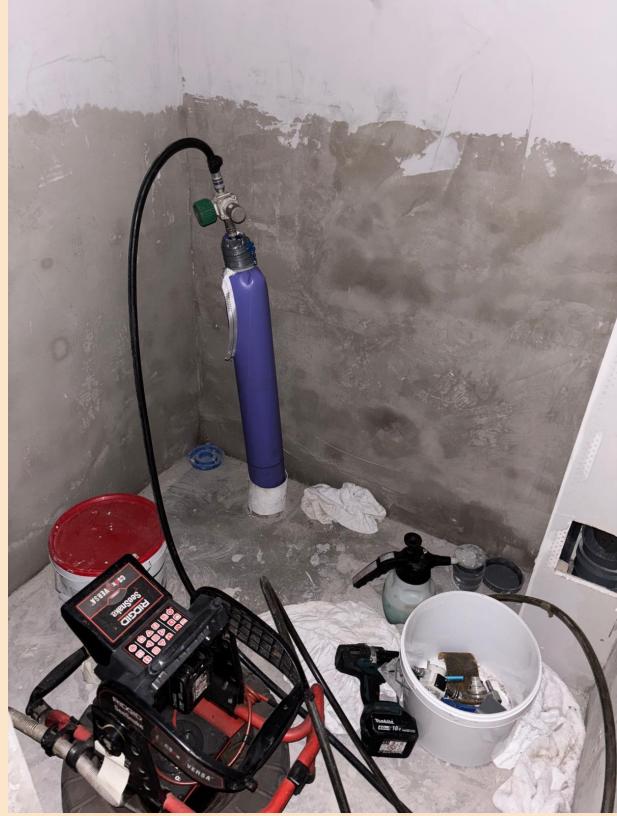
## Bathroom Before and during renovation



## Bathroom/toilets now



## Pipe relining Pictures



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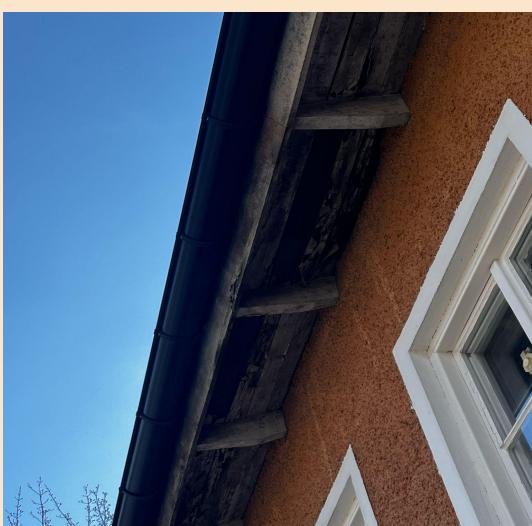
## Skylight window before



## Skylight window after replacement



## Rotten roof before



## Roof's current status



## Outside windows before and after paint



## Mandir roof after repairs and tiles replacement



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## 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: **Finishing soon**
- ✓ 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 30th September, we have received a total of 385,000 SEK in Donation for renovation.** 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](mailto: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](mailto: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

