



ISSUE 11- August 2021

Lit The Light - Newsletter

Lighting up lives with hope - Bunk Shop success story of Mr. Solomon Gnanamoorthy who is our Visually challenged friend.

“If you give a man a fish, you feed him for a day. If you teach a man to fish, you feed him for a lifetime”

We have often heard of this phrase but how often do we ever practice it? We are proud to say at Lit The Light, we have been trying our best to help empower visually challenged beneficiaries with the right opportunities and skill development necessary for their career development and self-growth. Our latest initiative helped Mr.Gnanamoorthy run his own bunk shop and wade through these difficult pandemic times with hope. Here is the story of Mr.Gnanamoorthy, who in his 45 years of life believes this is the best way to help out our differently abled brethren.

Mr.Gnanamoorthy has been through many ups and downs in his life. But he never gave up on the opportunities that came his way. Even though he could complete his studies only up to the 10th standard, he is very proficient in English, has excellent computer and communication skills, and is knowledgeable on various subject matters. He was a hawker at trains selling stationeries. He was a PCO booth manager and was an office worker for 13 years.



As technology improved, PCO booths became obsolete and he had to shut down his shop and had to face his share of misfortunes.

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As the pandemic worsened, he could no longer travel long distances to keep going at his job. But Mr.Gnanamoorthy is not one to give up. Despite the challenges he faced, he has always managed to maintain a positive outlook on life and is always ready to take up a challenge and work his magic. All he needed was a little help, a little push to keep going. And that's when Lit the Light offered him the help to open up his own little bunk shop.



Mr. Gnanamoorthy is quite aware of the various opportunities that NGOs like Lit The Light can bring for the differently-abled like him. He reached out to our founder, Mr.Barath, and stated his need asking not for regular monetary help but a way to empower himself. His positive attitude and determination impressed our team and we were able to successfully complete the fundraiser and sponsored the bunk shop along with the initial product stock. The bunk shop was inaugurated virtually on 1st of August and has been running successfully for the past one month.

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Mr. Gnanamoorthy is managing the shop with the help of his family. While NGOs have given monetary help, it is his own effort and his family's support that has enabled him to run the business. While the business is slowly picking up, Mr. Gnanamoorthy says he is still learning the ropes of the business and hopes it becomes more successful. His advice for fellow achievers is to keep looking for opportunities that align with their interests and look to develop their skills. He believes it will be more useful if instead of sponsoring rice every month if differently-abled were shown the ways to earn it by themselves. And Lit The Light is both proud and happy to have helped him find a way through our initiative.



However, we could not have done this without the help from our sponsors '**Madras Esplanade Round table 30**' and '**Madras Esplanade ladies circle 100**' and we'd like to offer our gratitude to them for their aid.

Mr. Gnanamoorthy is a man with strong will and commitment and acts as an example to those who lack the determination to chase their dreams!



Bunk Shop inauguration video link:  <https://youtu.be/NBhzH1aKdMo>

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