

the same people as went after CDK (we will never know) which led to my not getting a visa extension. I checked with the Home Department visa fellows whom I knew from Delhi. They checked with state and local authorities and said to me whena I called back "What did you **do** to them?!!!" The Home Department in Delhi had nothing against me and just advised I move to another state, which is why I moved to Coimbatore in Tamil Nadu. It was a great move, however.

I think that Mysore Zoo would never have achieved its past and even current quality without the hand, heart and mind of Krishne Gowda. He set the one and landscape which no one has destroyed till date. He created the beautiful Karanji Tank adding water, islands, trees, which attracted the prestigious National Museum of Natural History which was looking for a site for their Southern area Regional Museum of Natural History.

In the day, Krishne Gowda was well known in the whole zoo world for his breeding successes with various species of large mammals, such as two of our three species of rhino, elephant, tigers, lions, etc. and was invited abroad to discuss his methods. The older people in the global zoo community used to know who he was and what all he had done in this field of breeding large mammals.

It is my honour and good fortune to have been a student of Krishne Gowda. It's hard to put into words without writing a whole book. Suffice it to say now that his knowledge and good practice as a zoo man was "simply wonderful".

Insider Perspective

Tmt Sarojamma*

I am Sarojamma speaking through Latha Ravikumar. I came to work for Madam (Sally Walker) 31 years ago in Mysore. My aunt Pushpa was working with Madam as a cook but she became weak so she asked Madam if she could bring me to help with her duties and she agreed. At Mysore my primary work was cooking and cleaning but slowly I started doing some outside work such as bank, postal work, shopping, etc. for Sally, for Friends of Mysore Zoo and later ZOO. I don't know English but I learnt many words in English from Madam. Many people ask me how I understand her and I don't have a good answer but I never had much difficulty in doing things for her. I always enjoyed her love for animals and always take care of her beloved pets.

In Mysore I didn't have much problem in going out but when we shifted to Coimbatore everything was very new to me. Madam took me to all the places and introduced me like a relative, and then I started going alone to the bank, post office, travel company, etc. with written instructions. I got used to Coimbatore City but for the last 15 years I don't do outside work but help with posting, collating education materials, etc. Wherever we shifted in Coimbatore we had some good people around us to help and particularly the office staff who treat me as their mother.

Madam has adopted me as her Indian mother for last 31 years and I want to be with her always. She makes sure I visit my family in Mysore as often as I want, sometime insisting when am hesitant. She treats me as family, helping with children's marriages, my health, insuring that I have choices, and small but thoughtful things. She gets angry also but it is like family anger. She never treated me as a servant or disrespected me.

I am more than happy to be with her and Zoo Outreach Organisation. Everyone behaves like family and it has become my first home. I'm proud to work for ZOO.

***ZOO Helper, Housekeeper and Mom**