



DIVINE DIGEST

Story & photos: V.V.S. Manian from Italy

அஞ்சுகங்கள் நாடி, கா உள்வெ நமசிவாயம் புகழும் கோடிக்கா மெவும் குளிர்மதிபே

**Thirukotteswarar Temple** is located approximately 19 kilometres from Kumbakonam. It is the 137th of the 275 Paadal Petra Shiva Sthalams, situated on the banks of the river Kaveri. The presiding deity here is Lord Sri Koteswarar, also known as Vedhanariswarar. The goddess is called Thirupurasundari, also referred to as Vedicambikai. The temple's sacred tree (Sthala Vriksham) is the Perambu plant. The Lord is also venerated as Sri Vedhravaneswarar.

The name of this temple is one of the few that ends with "Ka," which means "beautiful garden" in Tamil. The temple has been praised in hymns by the Saivite saints Appar, Sambandar, and Bhaskaraya. Lord Shiva here is a Swayambumurthi (self-manifested).

**History** According to inscriptions, this ancient temple was built about 1,300 years ago. The earliest inscriptions date back to 750 AD, during the reign of the Pallava king Nandivarman. It has seen contributions from the early and later Pallavas, the Pandya king Maran Sadayan, and the Chola kings Rajaraja I, Kulothunga I, and Kulothunga III. The current structure was constructed by Sembian Mahadevi, the mother of Uttama Chola, in 979 AD.

**Architecture** The sanctum sanctorum is composed of the sanctum, antarala (vestibule), and artha mandapam (hall). The artha mandapam is designed in the Vavvakethi style and was built during the Maratha period. The vimana (tower)

above the sanctum follows the Dravidian architectural style. The outer floor has been elevated, concealing the adhithana (base). The upana (plinth) is adorned with intricate sculptures, including dancing ladies in the Kuda Koothu style, as well as scenes from the Ramayana and the Siva Purana.

**Legend** According to legend, it is believed that all 30 crore devas, sages, and angels of Hindu mythology ("Muppaththu Mukkodi Devarkal" in Tamil) have visited this temple and worshipped the Lord. The angels are said to have attained salvation ("Sayujya Mukthi") here.

While granting his darshan to the devas, Lord Thirukoteswarar emphasized the sacredness of "Vedhravana Kshetram" (another name for Thirukodikkaval) and its holy waters. The Lord further said, "This, my kshetram here, is also known as 'Bhavagavam.' It is situated on the banks of the Kaveri, and it is very sacred. This kshetram is equal to my body. This tank, Sirungothbava Theertham, was created by Nandhi using his horns."

The Lord also explained that when Mount Kailash and Thirukodikkaval were placed on a balance, the latter weighed more, thereby proving its greatness.

Another legend tells of the Azhwars (Vaishnava devotees) who were instructed by Lord Venkatchalapathi of Tirupati to worship Goddess Thirupurasundari here before offering worship at Tirupati. However, they could not reach this place as the river Kaveri was in flood at the time. Sage Agastya appeared before them and advised them to pray to Lord Karaiyetrum



Vinayakar for help in crossing the river. The goddess is believed to have granted her darshan in the form of the Lord.

It is also said that Lord Yama, the god of death, worshipped Lord Shiva here. Lord Shiva is believed to have instructed Lord Yama that no devotee who visits Thirukodikkaval and worships him should be punished by Yama. Similar to Banaras, the people of Thirukodikkaval do not fear the god of death. It is also believed that 1,008 devas surround Lord Shiva here, which is why there is no cremation ground ("Rudra Bhoomi") in this village. Instead, the villagers use the cremation ground on the other side of the riverbank.

Another legend involves Saint Haradhathar, who was born into a Vaishnava family in Kanchanur, a nearby village. He later became a devout worshipper of Lord Shiva. Every day, he would visit seven Shiva temples (Thiruvallankadu, Thiruvavaduthurai, Aduthurai, Thirumangalakkudi, Thirumanthurai, Thirukodikkaval, and Kanchanur) before having his dinner. One day, after leaving this temple, a heavy rainstorm struck, and in the darkness, he could not find his way back to his village.

It is said that Lord Shiva, disguised as a villager, guided him back to Kanchanur. Haradhathar offered the prasad he

had received from the Kanchanur temple to the villager. The next day, when he visited this temple, he was surprised to see the food he had offered to the villager placed in front of the Lord. Haradhathar realized that the villager was none other than Lord Shiva himself.

According to the Sthalapuranam (temple legend), sages Dhruvasa and Agastya visited this place and performed penance. It is also believed that Rama, Balarama, Veerabhadra, and Kali worshipped the Lord here to seek absolution for their sins. Additionally, Saint Karaikkal Ammaiyaar is said to have worshipped the Lord here. Legend has it that Karaikkal Ammaiyaar came to this temple by walking on her head.

**Deities** In addition to the shrines of Lord Shiva and Goddess Parvathy, the temple features shrines and idols of Karaiyetrum Vinayakar, Murugan, Nataraja, Gajalakshmi, Kalabhairavar, Suryan, Chandran, Nalvar, Sage Agasthiyar, Sage Dhruvasar, and Chandikeswarar in its corridors. Interestingly, there is no Navagraham shrine here.

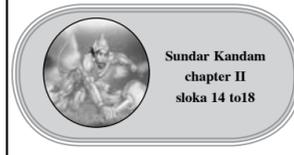
The corridors also house Shivalingams named after the four Vedas—Rig, Yajur, Sama, and Atharvna—as well as three Shivalingams worshipped by the mukkodi Devas. Lord Saneeswarar and Lord Yama are positioned facing each other, and similarly, Chitragupta, Yama's divine accountant, is placed opposite Sage Dhruvasar.

There is also a remarkable carving, made from a single stone, that depicts Saneeswarar's wife Jeastadevi along with their son Manthi and daughter Mantha. Surrounding the sanctum sanctorum, or "koshtam," are idols of Narthana Vinayakar, Natarajar, Karaikkal Ammaiyaar, Dakshinamurthy, Lingothbavar, Brahma, Astapuja Durgai, Pitchadanar, and Agasthiyar. Lord Brahma's idol is found in two places—once in the koshtam and again in a smaller shrine. The stone idol of Lord Nataraja, accompanied by Goddess Sivakami, is an exquisite sight.

In addition to daily rituals, special pujas are performed on Chitirai Pournami, with a unique rice offering made to Chitragupta on this occasion.

**Sthala Viruksham** The sacred tree of this temple is the Perambu plant, known in Sanskrit as "Vedhra Viruksham." For this reason, the deity is revered as "Sri Vedhravaneswarar," with "vanam" meaning forest and "eswarar" meaning lord in Tamil. The temple's holy waters, or theerthams, include the Sirungothbava Theertham, the Cauvery River, and the Mukkodi Theertham.

# Thirukodikkaval Thirukotteswarar Temple Ancient shrine built 1,300 years ago



Sundar Kadam chapter II sloka 14 to18

## Blue lotuses-filled moats surround Lanka

समासाद्य च लक्ष्मीवान् लङ्कां रावणपालिताम्।  
परिखा भिः स पद्मा भिः सोत्पलाभरिलङ्काम्॥5.2.14॥  
सीतापहरणार्थेन रावणेन सुरक्षिताम्।  
स मन्तो दूचि र्दूभिश् च राक्षसैरुग्रधनुर्वभिः॥5.2.15॥  
काञ्चनेनावृता रम्यां प्राकारेण महापुरीम्।  
गृहैश्च गृहसंकाशैः शारदारमवृद्धसन्निभिः॥5.2.16॥  
पाण्डुराभिः प्रतोलीभि रूचाभिरभिसिवृताम्।  
अट्टालकं शतकीर्णां पताका ध्वजमालिनीम्॥5.2.17॥  
तोरणैः काञ्चनैर्दिव्यै र्लतापङ्क्तवित्तिरितिः।  
ददरश हनुमान् लङ्कां दिवि देवपुरी यथा॥5.2.18॥समासाद्या च

laksmīvaṅ laṅkāṅ rāvaṇapālītām.  
parikhābhīḥ sapadmā bhīḥ sōtpalābhīr ilaṅkāṁ rāvaṇēna surakṣītām.  
samantād vicaradbhīśca rākṣasairugradhanvibhīḥ 5.2.15  
kāñcanēnāvṛtāṅ ramyaṅ prakāreṇa mahāpurīm.  
gṛhāśca gṛhasaṅkāśaiḥ śāradāmbudā sannibhīḥ 5.2.16  
pāṇḍurābhīḥ pratōlībhiruccābhīrabhisāhvṛtām.  
aṭṭālakā śatākīrṇāṅ patākā dhvajamālīnīm 5.2.17  
tōraṇaiḥ kāñcanairdivyairlatāpāṅktī vicitrītaiḥ.  
dadarśa hanumāṅ laṅkāṅ divi

dēvapūrīṅ yathā 5.2.18  
"Fortunate Hanuman, having reached Lanka, which was ruled by Ravana, found it surrounded by moats full of blue lotuses and guarded by demons wielding frightening bows. In sight of Sita, who had been abducted and kept there, the city was protected by boundary walls inlaid with gold. That great and beautiful city, with buildings resembling an assembly of planets and whitewashed, elevated houses that looked like autumn clouds, had well-laid-out streets decorated with garlands of banners, flagpoles, rows of colorful creepers, and festoons. The city of Lanka appeared like Amaravati, the city of the gods."

### Festivals

Several festivals are celebrated at the temple, including Vinayakar Chaturthi, Navarathri, Skanda Shashthi, Thiru Karthikai, Thiruvadhira, Makara Sankranthi, and Shivarathri, which is observed in the Tamil month of Masi.

Additionally, Pradosham is regularly observed. Chitra Pournami, or Chitirai Purnima, is a unique Tamil festival held on the full moon day in the month of Chitirai (April/May).

The Cauvery River flows here in the rare Uthiravahini direction, from south to north. Taking a dip in the river and the temple's theertham during the Tamil month of Karthigai (November-December) is

considered highly auspicious and is believed to absolve one of all sins.

Worshiping the deity on Pradosham day is said to offer the same benefits as performing the grand "Ashvametha Yagna."

Since both Yama and Chitragupta can be worshiped together at this temple, devotees believe that doing so relieves them from "Yama Bhayam," the fear of death.

On Chitra Pournami, devotees bathe in holy rivers and temple ponds to cleanse themselves of sins, as the day is dedicated to Chitragupta, the keeper of deeds in the realm of Yama.

**Timings:** From 6 a.m. to 12 noon. Evening 4 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

**VASTU HOUSING FINANCE CORPORATION LTD**  
Unit 203 & 204, 2nd Floor, "A" Wing, Navbharat Estate, Zakaria Bunder Road, Sewri (West), Mumbai 400015, Maharashtra. CIN No.: U65922MH2005PLC272591

**POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Property)**

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of Vastu Housing Finance Corporation Limited under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred to him under section 13(12) read with Rule 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued a Demand Notice dated 17-Feb-24 calling upon the borrower Mr/Mrs. Arunprasad L. (Applicant), Mr/Mrs. Muthulakshmi Arunprasad (Co Applicant), to repay the amount mentioned in the demand notice bearing account number: LP0000000133580 being loan of Rs.455508/- (Rupees Four Lacs Fifty Five Thousand Five Hundred Eight Only) as on 14-Feb-24 within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notices.

The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower, guarantor and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Physical Possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on me under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 9 of the said rules on this 09-Sept-24.

The borrower and guarantor in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Vastu Housing Finance Corporation Limited (Tirupur Branch) for an amount of Rs.455508/- (Rupees Four Lacs Fifty Five Thousand Five Hundred Eight Only) and interest thereon, costs etc.

**Description of Immovable property**  
Door No 3/16 Natham S F No 104/36 Ward No 3 Patta No 601, Karadikodam Neykarappati Village And Town Panchayat, Palani, Dindigul, Tamil Nadu, 624621, Ad Measuring 80 Sq.meter.

Date: 14.09.2024  
Place: Tirupur

Authorised officer  
Vastu Housing Finance Corporation Ltd

**IIFL FINANCE**  
CIN: L67100MH1995PLC093797  
Regd. Office: IIFL House, Sun Infotech Park, Road No. 16V, Plot No.B-23, Thane Industrial Area, Wagle Estate, Thane - 400064. Tel: (91-22) 41035000 Fax: (91-22) 25806654 • E-mail: reach@iifl.com • Website: www.iifl.com

**PUBLIC NOTICE OF E-AUCTION OF GOLD ORNAMENTS**

It is hereby notified to all concerned borrower(s) in specific and the public, in general, that we, IIFL Finance Limited ("IIFL") are auctioning gold ornaments of defaulted customers who neither regularized their loans nor paid the outstanding amount despite being informed through registered auction notices and repeated reminders. Public auction of the gold ornaments pledged in the following loan accounts will be conducted online through **Shriram Auction India Limited** on their online auction platform <https://gold.samill.in> on 17.09.2024 between 04:15 PM to 06:45 PM. Change in venue or date (if any) will be displayed at the auction center. If for any reason the E-Auction cannot be held on the date mentioned herein or the auction does not get completed on the same day, IIFL reserves the right to conduct or proceed with the said auction on any subsequent date on the auction platform and/or auction center with same terms and conditions. The unauctioned gold ornaments shall be auctioned on subsequent working days after displaying the details on auction platform and/or auction center. In case the auction at Branch level fails, the same will be re-auctioned on 28.09.2024 at the specified district center. If for any reason, the district level auction cannot be held on the date mentioned herein or the auction does not get completed on the same day, IIFL reserves the right to conduct or proceed with the district level auction on any subsequent date with same terms and conditions. If the customer is deceased, then all the conditions pertaining to auction will be applicable to nominee/legal heir.

District Centre: Chidambaram-Kothari Complex, Kothari Complex, First Floor, No. 186, West Car Street, Chidambaram, Pin-608001.

**Branch Name: CHIDAMBARAM-KOTHARI COMPLEX, Taluka - Chidambaram North**  
Gold Loan A/C No.: GL30825828, GL30812053, GL30767325, GL3072980, GL22509573, GL22516371, GL28697692, GL28702301, GL30653709, GL30662241, GL28550960, GL28553306, GL28465168, GL28464281, GL28432450, GL28416987, GL30189774, GL30170948, GL31873480, GL29519362, GL21272858, GL30781702, GL21807173, GL26187681, GL24604681, GL28263981, GL28411527, GL29941151, GL29960413, GL29960413, GL27426272, GL27249067, GL29142273, GL29147124, GL29151109, GL29152832, GL29374680, GL29365699, GL29021728, GL29008514, GL28990518, GL28956160.

**Branch Name: CUDDALORE-KATTUMANNARKOIL, Taluka - Kattumannarkoil**  
Gold Loan A/C No.: GL30773277, GL30767474, GL28920518, GL28917759, GL28755361, GL28753652, GL30672361, GL30685370, GL30678711, GL30687823, GL32422636, GL30577952, GL32329579, GL30517767, GL30518196, GL30198686, GL23482959, GL28296050, GL30458802, GL28450217, GL28457311, GL30086381, GL30077965, GL29194225, GL31770785, GL29965273, GL29995779, GL29957363, GL27469909, GL29049806, GL29034976, GL21380555, GL27894167, GL27902125, GL26523668, GL26547616, GL28057854, GL28047925, GL28165408, GL28162570, GL26849327, GL26870945.

**Branch Name: CUDDALORE-OT GL, Taluka - Cuddalore**  
Gold Loan A/C No.: GL32631380, GL24266859, GL30789162, GL28802150, GL32561168, GL28791477, GL28779275, GL32538505, GL28690210, GL30559818, GL27653129, GL21790429, GL2673608, GL27654823.

**Branch Name: CUDDALORE-THITTAKUDI OM SAKTHI COMPLEX GL, Taluka - Tittagudi**  
Gold Loan A/C No.: GL32588974, GL30774388, GL32567162, GL32566547, GL32574363, GL32579593, GL30766446, GL30769992, GL30766835, GL32579276, GL30772853, GL28766160, GL28769009, GL28773742, GL28769546, GL32550145, GL32533077, GL28749090, GL28747231, GL28220909, GL22930783, GL32521337, GL32511802, GL32523997, GL32514599, GL30699183, GL32494983, GL32490945, GL30693399, GL30021082, GL23735633, GL30019839, GL30681266, GL30634814, GL32432013, GL30631201, GL30621231, GL30608193, GL32381518, GL32385814, GL30587280, GL32364679, GL32348284, GL32364610, GL32348282, GL30547067, GL32328667, GL30562543, GL28549542, GL32327618, GL28541769, GL30562940, GL32297347, GL30460712, GL30437004, GL28310496, GL30372429, GL30338654, GL30302504, GL28503350, GL30264822, GL31920763, GL30183926, GL26239078, GL30153422, GL31423211, GL31807248, GL29946196, GL27756547, GL27756547, GL29919682, GL29880986, GL30958509, GL28885216, GL29716334, GL28535485, GL25645762, GL29585486, GL29503474, GL27242791, GL29392739, GL31845466, GL29274357, GL28988870, GL28973582, GL28001578, GL27847568, GL27710395, GL27287870, GL27260533, GL27276431, GL27247694, GL27243784, GL27079651, GL26697197, GL2679054.

**Branch Name: CUDDALORE-VADALUR NEYVELI MAIN ROAD, Taluka - Panruti**  
Gold Loan A/C No.: GL32486844, GL32376700, GL271966715, GL30441733, GL29726089, GL26514090, GL26513204, GL32671955, GL30524519, GL30523806, GL26513280.

**Branch Name: PENNADAM-SRIRAM COMPLEX, Taluka - Tittagudi**  
Gold Loan A/C No.: GL32617212, GL32595563, GL30767843, GL30764750, GL32572091, GL28819913, GL28800220, GL30772944, GL24932486, GL28736371, GL32505086, GL28707592, GL28703154, GL28705987, GL32453569, GL28641806, GL28628249, GL30858487, GL30859763, GL28616388, GL30554593, GL30566131, GL32320486, GL32269166, GL28516129, GL28392416, GL30349466, GL30360770, GL30351365, GL306670518, GL28255076, GL31978205, GL30243770, GL28364186, GL27948896, GL21675568, GL30029535, GL30022687, GL29400213, GL29400213, GL29991378, GL27726041, GL27724651, GL29711813, GL31474767, GL31000674, GL27700516, GL27719394, GL31453590, GL30093148, GL29592747, GL27412047, GL29478249, GL29461077, GL29399402, GL23408426, GL29405863, GL28968350, GL27015708, GL25723668, GL29178673, GL29169921, GL29102282, GL29091882, GL26817414, GL32496368, GL28906250, GL28927228, GL28886468, GL28904796, GL28842996, GL28823740, GL26438638, GL28546165, GL28672484, GL28646320, GL28511896, GL25442985, GL28364757, GL28330899, GL28321622, GL27891834, GL27903310, GL27615778, GL27602935, GL27130371, GL25669588, GL25683903.

**Branch Name: SRIMUSHNAM-GL, Taluka - Kattumannarkoil**  
Gold Loan A/C No.: GL23471894, GL31461648, GL28796824, GL32540733, GL30724977, GL32511941, GL30695151, GL30717455, GL32394274, GL28601714, GL28587229, GL28570209, GL28587582, GL28796996, GL28795354, GL32279270, GL30097949, GL32274674, GL32202441, GL27102386, GL26503413, GL30350161, GL27731272, GL28287482, GL29431511, GL29433006, GL27114760, GL271137411.

**Branch Name: VIRUDHACHALAM-BAZZAR STREET GL, Taluka - Virudhachalam**  
Gold Loan A/C No.: GL32616317, GL28740282, GL28762508, GL25568646, GL28739184, GL28624560, GL28578136, GL28580030, GL30566704, GL30557221, GL30522331, GL30517607, GL30443769, GL30119893.

Branch	Account No.	Acct Holder name	Father's/ Spouse Name	Address	Ac opening Date	Payoff
CHENNAI	104142510561	SRAVANTHI .	G/O BABU	26 KURAVAN KULAM 2ND LANECHOOLAI CHENNAI TAMILNADU 600112	26/04/2024	207287.76
CHENNAI	104142510578	ROBINSON SIVADASAN	S/O SIVADASAN K.	NO. 106, THIRUVALLUR STREET VELACHERRY, DHANDEESWARAM STREET CHENNAI TAMIL NADU 600042	30/04/2024	203436.52
CHENNAI	104142510051	SHEENA A BALANDRAN	S/O BALANDRAN	9/3, 3RD STREET BHAVANI NAGAR POLICHALUR, KANCHEEPURAM TAMILNADU 600074	04/01/2024	736813.11
CHENNAI	104142510180	JAIGANESH M	S/O MARIYAPPAN	PLOT NO 333 SF NO 3211/ AMBATTUR CO OPERATIVE NAGAR AVAPPAKKAM, GREEN GARDEN TIRUVALLUR TAMILNADU 600027	02/02/2024	209822.45
CHENNAI	104142510227	FARAAZ A S	S/O SALEEM AKTHAR G	20/88, GROUND FLOOR ASHARKANA STREET ALANDUR, KANCHEEPURAM TAMILNADU 600016	13/02/2024	126116.72
CHENNAI	104142510414	ARTHI C	S/O CHINNAIYAN	NO 1108 NEW NO 114 BLOCK, ALIVALAM POST PILLAIYAR TEMPLE NEAR ALIVALAM, THANJAVUR TAMIL NADU 614602	26/03/2024	39995.54
CHENNAI	104142510536	ARJUN V M	S/O MURUGESAN	11-A, 1ST CROSS STREET RAJARATHINAM NAGAR, THIRUVARUR, ADU AYAPPAKKAM TIRUVALLUR TAMIL NADU 600077	22/04/2024	183948.36
CHENNAI	104142510539	P PRAKASH	S/O PALANISAMY	LIG PLOT NO 42 BLOCK 53RD, 40TH STREET EDAYANCHAVADI NEAR AYYA KOIL, MANALI NEW TOWN TIRUVALLUR TAMIL NADU 600103	22/04/2024	773351.30
CHENNAI	104142510552	ASHOK RAJ	S/O KATHAVARAYAN	NO 24 / 55, 86TH STREET ASHOK NAGAR, CHENNAI TAMIL NADU 600083	25/04/2024	114514.75
CHENNAI	104142510553	R PRAMA	S/O RAJAN	94, SOLAI 2ND STREET AYANPURAM CHENNAI TAMIL NADU 600023	25/04/2024	68299.67
CHENNAI	104142510556	S SIVANESAN	S/O SANKARALINGAM	3-3A, NORTH STREET PARIKKAL, ULUNDURPET TK, VILLUPURAM TAMIL NADU 607204	25/04/2024	54117.25
CHENNAI	104142510572	K JAWAHAR	S/O KRISHNAMOORTHY	NO 5, ST PAUL STREET LEEBANONPURAM KODUNGAIYUR, ERUKKANCHERRY CHENNAI TAMIL NADU 600118	29/04/2024	142691.65
CHENNAI	104142510576	SHERLIN ROBINSON	S/O ROBINSON S.	NO. 106, THIRUVALLUR STREET VELACHERRY, DHANDEESWARAM EXTENSION CHENNAI TAMIL NADU 600042	30/04/2024	169781.33
CHENNAI	104142510581	ABRAHAM CHARLES	S/O MARTIN DEAVAGAN	3/5, PARASU RAMAN STREET, GANDHI ROAD, OPP RATION HOP VELACHERRY CHENNAI TAMIL NADU 600042	02/05/2024	84741.06
CHENNAI	104142510678	M A SAMY	S/O MARESSWARAN	NO 32 ANNA STREET, BAKTHAVACHALAPURAM MEENAKSHI CINEMAS AVADI, AVADI TIRUVALLUR TIRUVALLUR TAMIL NADU 600054	25/05/2024	79077.27
CHENNAI	104142510692	RESHMA V	S/O VEERAPATHIRAN	2/13A, GOPAL STREET JAFERKANNPET ASHOK NAGAR, CHENNAI CHENNAI TAMIL NADU 600083	29/05/2024	53170.02

Auction date is 25.09.2024 @ 03.00 pm

The Bank reserves the right to delete any account from the auction or cancel the auction without any prior notice.

Authorised Officer, Shivalik Small Finance Bank Ltd.

Date: 14.09.2024  
Place: CUDDALORE

Sd/  
AUTHORISED SIGNATORY  
IIFL FINANCE LIMITED