

WE CARE FOR MADRAS THAT IS CHENNAI

MADRAS

MUSINGS

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FREE ISSUE

April 16-30, 2001

Commercial farming of wasteland planned

The Chennai-based Murugappa Group and Reliance Industries are reportedly among the prospective investors who have been attracted by the new policy on contract farming announced recently by the Tamil Nadu Government. Under the policy, request will be considered from industrial or commercial undertakings to exempt from the provisions of the TN Land Reform (Fixation of Ceiling on Land) Act, 1961, their land holdings or acquisitions in excess of the ceiling, provided the land is used for the cultivation of fruit and vegetable or other agricultural crops. The exemptions, to be granted after evaluation on a case-to-case basis, will be granted for agro-based industries offering value addition in terms of grading, packing, distribution and storage of food products.

The policy, aimed at enabling introduction of modern technology and upgrading available technology in the cultivation of fruit and vegetable and the food processing sectors, is expected to bring in large inflows of investment. It was finalised in consultation with companies that showed a keen interest in investing in this sector.

Under the new policy, exemption will be granted for a period of 10-30 years for land held on lease for agro-based industries, while no permission is needed for land leased from the government.

The Union Government has

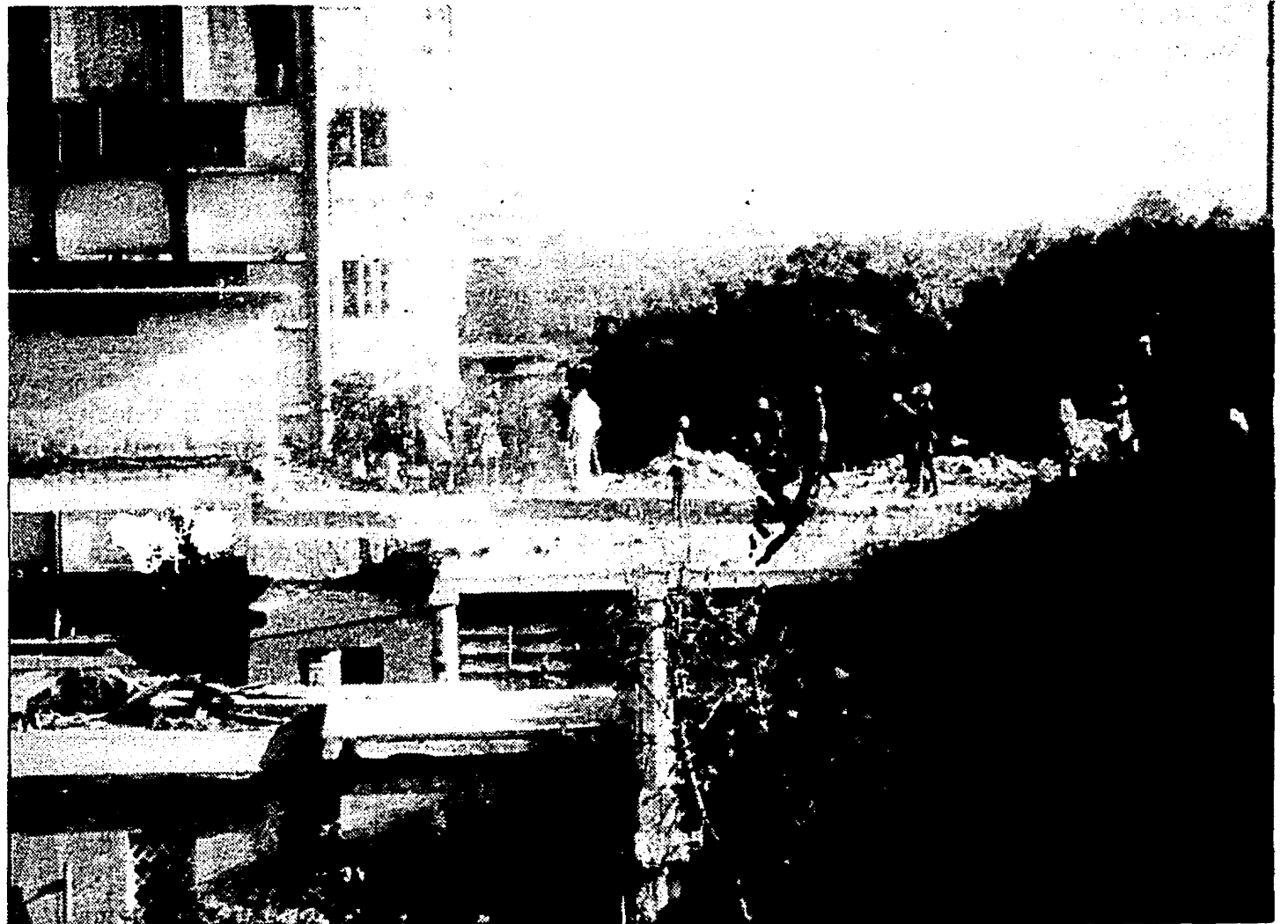
also issued guidelines on the allotment of degraded forest lands, reserve forests and other forests to projects involving development of plantations. The plantations could be in the private, public or joint sectors. According to these guidelines, state agencies, corporations or forest departments can approach state governments for permission to use lands they have leased from them for plantation purposes. In joint ventures, the government agency will retain the ownership of the land while the private partner comes up with the project report etc. and brings in investments.

The government agencies will be required to maintain adequate plantation stock and guarantee minimum quantities of usufructs for supply to their joint venture partners. The private sector partner will provide all the technical and financial inputs. Again, approvals will be granted on an individual case basis.

Cultivable wasteland (some 1.37 ha out of a total of 1.50 ha of non-forest wasteland) owned by the government will be made available to agro-industries. This includes land in hilly areas.

Also on the anvil is a dispute resolution and arbitration mechanism, to cater to the needs of farmers and promoters. Other measures include capital subsidies for the fruit and vegetable sector — upto 20% of the fixed assets with a Rs.20 lakh ceiling.

• by
A Staff
Reporter



And so another bit of heritage comes down...

One more building that would be in anyone's heritage list comes down. Being pulled down in the pictures is the main block of the General Hospital, whose core was the hospital establishment here in 1772. (Also see pages 2, 4 and 5 for comment, history.) Photograph by RAJIND N CHRISTY.

INTACH's ICCI lends TN a conservation hand

Several conservation projects requiring special skills have been carried out in 1999-2000 by the INTACH — Indian Council of Conservation Institutes (ICCI), according to the annual report of the Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH). The ICCI, a wing of INTACH, is mandated to create awareness and know-how for the upkeep and conservation of heritage objects. It organises projects, workshops and training courses towards this end.

The ICCI comprises the following institutions:

- The INTACH Museum Development Cell, Lucknow;
- The INTACH Indian Conservation Institute, (ICI), Lucknow;
- The INTACH Art Conservation Centre, Delhi;
- The INTACH Chittrakala Parishath Art Conservation Centre (ICKPAC), Bangalore;

- The ICI Orissa Art Conservation Centre, Rampur;
- The ICI Mehrangarh Art Conservation Centre, Jodhpur; and
- The Charles Wallace Institute for Conservation Research and Training, Lucknow.

A major Chennai project completed by the Indian Conservation Institute, Lucknow, has been for the Theosophical Society, Adyar, whose paintings on canvas have been conserved. It has also conserved several paintings on paper, Tibetan *thangkas*, several old and rare books, including some more than 100 years old, photographs, miniature paintings, manuscripts, glass paintings and textile objects.

The Indian Conservation Institute, Lucknow, is carrying out a special project on the Portuguese Museum, Cochin. A look at the Fort Museum, Chennai, is warranted, feel the local conservationists.

Other works undertaken in Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry have been by INTACH Chittrakala Parishath Art Conservation Centre, Bangalore. They include:

- 2000 sq.ft. of mural paintings in the Venkateshwara Temple, Ariyakudi. These colourful murals needed a lot of consolidation work since the paintings had got detached from the rock surface at a number of places.
- Panel paintings fixed to the wall in the Golconda Guest House of the Aurobindo Ashram, Pondicherry;
- Conservation of two 16th Century mural paintings in the Srirangam Temple, Trichy (in progress);
- Mural painting conservation in the Ramalinga Vilasam Palace, in Ramanathapuram District (in progress) after structural repairs to the palace were carried out

(Continued on Page 6)

(Continued on Page 7)

Yet another heritage building comes down

Is there a progressive state less heedful of the need to preserve its heritage monuments and sites than Tamil Nadu. *The Man from Madras Musings* sometimes despairs. Despite the efforts of INTACH and its allies, the pace of progress towards legislating a Heritage Act for Chennai continues to be unsatisfactory. Even as MMM had reason not long ago (Short 'n' Snappy, March 1st) to see hope amidst the general gloom, based on the steps envisaged by the Postal authorities and Army to save some of their heritage sites in the city, bad news followed soon afterwards.

The Public Works Department declared the oldest surviving block of the General Hospital unsafe after a part of it had caved in last August. Unfortunately, unlike the Army authorities, who saw fit to invite INTACH to address its engineers and introduce them to heritage concepts, and the Postal Department's willingness to consult conservation architects, the PWD did not refer the matter to the conservation and structural engineering consultants available with the Archaeological Survey of India, or bodies like INTACH, before pronouncing the hospital building unsafe and not restorable.

MMM has always held the view that a consensus approach involving the various agencies is the best way to approach such problems, so that safety and need for expansion can go hand in hand with the need to preserve what is of historical and architectural value. If additional space is the overriding criterion in this instance, surely a serious effort to meet that requirement need not be entirely antithetical to conservation interests. After all, the General Hospital and the Madras Medical College are rich in history. MMM hopes that, at least, the plaques in the block being pulled down — including the one commemorating the golden jubilee of the isolation of the bacillus causing the dreaded Kala Azar — will be displayed prominently in the new multi-storeyed structures.

Meanwhile, following the good news that St. Mary's Church at the Fort St. George was receiving a facelift comes some not-so-good news. MMM hears that only a part of the church has been painted — a part of the bomb-proof interior — and that's all that could be accomplished with the funds at the disposal of the official caretaker. Conservation is certainly an uphill task in this part of India, be- means an ardent conservationist.

Caring for grounds?

Sports enthusiasts, like the conservationists, have rued the loss of many a heritage site

in the city, many of its playgrounds becoming victims of development or neglect over the years. At least two grounds that represented more than a slice of the city's sporting history have fallen by the wayside during the last couple of decades or more. The Madras United Club (MUC) ground is now a busy mofussil bus terminal and the Pithapuram ground at Nandanam has been swallowed up by a huge housing colony. The less said about the plight of the Presidency College cricket ground the better, for its present condition is so pitiful it will bring tears to the most hard-hearted. Though *The Man from Madras Musings* heard reports some time ago that a corporate house was ready to take over and maintain the Marina ground, there is as yet no sign of activity there. MMM wonders what the hitch is.

In his anxiety that the city should have an adequate number of playgrounds and recreational facilities, MMM has luckily not been alone. A number of enlightened sponsors of sport, cricket in

a temporary phase and that the ground will soon regain its past glory.

Juggernauts of summer

Come summer and it's juggernaut time in Chennai. The failure of the monsoon means, to *The Man from Madras Musings*, that pedestrians, cyclists, motorcyclists, scooterists, motorists, in fact just about everybody who takes to the city's roads, puts his life in grave peril every time he has to leave the relative safety of his home or office. For, once on the road, he has to contend with flying monsters often piloted by beardless and carefree youngsters hellbent on creating new world records in velocity and mayhem. Not a day passes without one of these mobile killers claiming an innocent life or two. Those not involved in manslaughter commit another kind of crime, a much less heinous one, but a crime all the same,

Carnatic music scene for the lack of attention to basic details essential to the concert stage that have been endemic to the *cutcheri* tradition of the state. For over a hundred years the southern states have produced world-class exponents of one of the more advanced forms of classical music anywhere in the world, but have rarely attempted to provide musicians the right ambience in which to perform.

Few if any of the auditoria in Chennai are designed to bring out the best in the artists. Acoustics is the first casualty in this generally casual approach to arranging and holding concerts. Almost invariably, the amplification is too loud, and poorly balanced. You may find the violin too loud and the voice not so audible and the *mridangam* booming through the mike. Usually, however, the biggest casualty is sound fidelity, voices and instrumental music getting distorted more often than not. (EDITOR: The

aid of Samudri — the ambitious new music and dance resources institute launched by *Srutii* magazine — at the Music Academy Hall, was a refreshing change from the usual south Indian *cutcheri*, MMM found. For the promoters of the concert, Samudri and *Srutii*, the terms of the contract Ravi Shankar insists on organisers of his concerts entering into must have been music to their ears because it contained the kind of stipulations the magazine has been advocating over the years for the better enjoyment of music.

Ravi Shankar showed a professional approach to the way his concert should be conducted, clearly spelling out Do's and Don'ts on the part of the organisers in the areas of pre-concert publicity, stage arrangements, sound amplification and lighting, speeches and green-room facilities.

The publicity was supervised and approved by the artist and clear instructions were given on the use of banners, size of the artists' platform, colour of the backdrop, stage décor, etc. — even the fragrance of the *agarbattis* to be lit. The number and types of mikes, their placement, their calibration, the type of lighting that would create the perfect ambience, food and beverages in the greenroom, everything was clearly spelt out by the artist and his party well before the event.

The Hindu's coverage of the concert included a significant passage that attested to the success of the arrangements: "A neat stage, with nothing but jasmine strings for backdrop. No ugly banner. 'Samudri' was inscribed in small letters below the dais. The speeches were brief and appropriate.

"The recital started on time, the artists appearing on stage in disciplined succession, all of them in sparkling white. Attention was paid even to the *angavastrams* that everyone wore, while daughter Anoushka repeated the motif in her gold-edged *dupatta* worn shoulder down. The upward curling wisps of *agarbattis* imaged the intangible fragrance of the music.

"The old fashioned may dismiss all this as needless frills, especially in the South, where we are quite heedless about banners and backdrops, or colour schemes for that matter, but the audience noted how the pleasing visual aesthetics stilled the mind, making it receptive to the relish of the arts."

From what MMM could see, the Ravi Shankar concert arrangements achieved elegance and simple beauty without major investments in stage decoration. Our *sabhas* can only draw more and more enthusiasts to their concerts were they to take a leaf out of Samudri's — and Ravi Shankar's — book, he ventures to suggest.

The recent sitar concert by Pandit Ravi Shankar and daughter Anoushka Shankar in

— MMM

SHORT 'N' SNAPPY

particular, have come forward to collaborate with educational institutions to develop and maintain top quality cricket grounds, in the process giving a new lease of life in some instances to grounds which were in some disrepair. The MRF Pace Foundation has created an excellent practice facility at the Madras Christian College School, where it is headquartered, Southern Railways and the Integral Coach Factory have managed to maintain their grounds in reasonable condition, with or without corporate support, India Cements looks after the excellent facility it created at Guru Nanak College, Chempalast Sanmar boasts a showpiece in its beautiful ground inside the IIT campus, and India Pistons maintains the Central Polytechnic ground at Taramani.

MMM remembers that this new clutch of well maintained cricket grounds with turf pitches and functioning pavilions and dressing rooms had its beginnings more than a decade ago when SPIC took over the development and maintenance of the YMCA Nandanam ground. It was the pride of SPIC and indeed of Chennai, its green outfield and excellent playing surface setting new standards for the rest of Chennai to follow. Recently, however, on a visit to the SPIC YMCA ground at Nandanam, MMM was disappointed to see the ground looking brown and parched and in need of maintenance. He hopes that this is only

Lessons for Carnatic music

The Man from Madras Musings has long been a critic of the

OUR READERS WRITE

'Karma' of encroachment

Why does the Corporation of Chennai, PWD or whoever, construct a road, widen it, and then invite people to populate the sides of the widened road by erecting Burma-Bazaar like shops? In effect, the authorities congest the very roads they were trying to decongest in the first place. One very visible example of this is the road from the Anna Arch to the roundabout in Anna Nagar.

Customers have necessarily to park their vehicles near or beside

That other 'kutcheri'

In the discussion in *Madras Musings* on the word 'kutcheri' or 'cutchery' and its use in Tamil and English, (MM, March 1st), the Editor had wondered how and why the expression could have come to be applied to Carnatic music and dance concerts. A possible explanation may be found in the logic of the early currency of this word borrowed from Hindi and Persian in 'Anglo Indian' English and in Tamil.

The word, as amply pointed out by readers, first denoted a court of law or a government office or, for that matter, the official business-house of a planter of an estate. At these loci, people gathered in connection with proceedings conducted in formal, coordinated or orchestrated if not ceremonial fashion; and these venues were presided over by a central head with power and authority such as judge, magistrate or planter as the case may be. When organised music and dance performances started getting institutionalised in the course of the nineteenth century, the siting of such assemblies of performances and audiences was at a temple, a raja's durbar, a zamindar's mansion or a rich patron's house. These generally occasional performances under such auspices were presided over by the temple deity, raja, zamindar or patron who called the tune as it were. The likenesses in these two respects between a *cutcheri* or government office and an organised performance with performers in concert may have been behind the application in Tamil of the word to music and dance performances. The humorous or ironic application of 'kutcheri' to cards playing or small talk sessions (*cheetu-k-kutcheri*, *arattai-k-kutcheri*) may also be noted.

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the shops, and walk alongside them, effectively narrowing the road. Goods vehicles and vans park beside the shops to unload goods to the shop. A 3-lane road thus becomes a 2-lane road. In course of time, the shopkeepers encroach upon the public road. Years later, the authorities engage in protracted legal wrangles to evict them. The Government meets much resistance from shopkeepers, their touts, rickshaw owners and even people from within the government.

What is the bottomline for everybody? No orderly roads! Transport buses and trucks find it increasingly difficult to weave their way through the masses of shoppers, vendors, fish carts and other vehicles. Much energy is wasted in overcoming the friction caused by traffic and arguments, leading to wasted heat via lost tempers and frayed nerves. More unproductive work is handed to the very bureaucracy we're trying to trim.

In the Moore Market of yesterday, you could shop for most things at one location. It had shops for clothes, books, groceries, meat and fish, second hand articles, hardware, medicines and more. And parking space! Above all, it was not located on an arterial road of the city, but conveniently off it. Shops facing inward could not encroach, without incurring the wrath of neighbouring businesses. Why not this concept for each *nagar* of the City, and disallow all shops on main roads without a service lane?

Today, even politicians, long used to having the roads cleared for them by preceding police cars, flashing lights, wailing sirens, find they are slowed. They meet the 'karma' they helped create. Will they act to make life easier for all?

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More on Baroda case

Further to my letter on the members of India Swaraj Institute Cadets who were hanged or imprisoned in August 1943 for waging war against the King, (MM, March 16th), here are some clarifications and further details:

The complete list of the 'unsung heroes' is Abdul Kadir from Vaikom, Anandan Nair (not Anandan Aldo as earlier mentioned) from Thycud (both from Travandrum) C.P. Eapen, K.M. Cheriyan, K.M. Mammen, K.K. Govindan, M. Gangadharan, Boniface Pereira, Leon D'Cruz and K.A. George, all from Travancore-Cochin, P. Roy, Satyen Bardhan and S.R. Paul of Tripura, Fouja Singh and J.M. Kaura of Punjab, C.G.K. Reddy (Andhra), and A. Andrew, B.M. Ghani and G. Santha Pillai of Madras Province. K.P. Balan of Tellicherry (Malabar) turned approver.

The Court appointed V. Rajagopalachari, T.M. Kasturi and Chandrasekharan of the Madras Bar and N.M. Sastri of Bellary as

The encroached-upon Adyar

The map of Chennai shows that Kotturpuram lies on the right bank of the Adyar, and also within a meander of the river. Hence the river would have eroded or cut into the left bank and deposited the sediments on the right bank. It is probable that the recent sandy sediments, exposed on the left bank, in the vicinity of the Adyar bridge, would be found near Kotturpuram also. The sands in the sediments, being coarse, must have been deposited on the right bank. Hence this coarse sandy deposit gave rise to the prolific aquifer which has been a boon to Kotturpuram.

It is seen that the Adyar Creek is horseshoe shaped, the western end of which lies near the Music College. This feature shows that perhaps the creek was earlier connected to the Adyar and formed part of a meander. The Adyar must have later changed, and straightened its course, during a flood, to flow past the Theosophical Society, thus isolating the meander, to form the creek, and giving rise

to Quibble Island. The western end of the creek being shallow, the San Thomé High Road was laid across it after filling the creek with granite boulders. Thus, the creek has a vestigial connection with the Adyar.

That the creek, at one time, formed the mouth of the Adyar, is supported by the fact that the Portuguese set up their factory or colony at San Thomé, the creek being a haven for sailing vessels. The remains of the Portuguese settlements lie buried under the beach sands to the north of Leith Castle. The massive wall built of laterite forming part of the northern compound wall of Leith Castle is possibly a remnant of a structure which possibly housed a battery.

What is seen as the creek today was in the Twenties an extensive backwaters of the Adyar, which extended from the northern side of Quibble Island to the southern compound wall of Leith Castle where it was shallow, the deeper side being near Quibble Island.

Small brackish water fish were abundant, which were

caught in dragnets. In this season, early December to late January, waterbirds were abundant, consisting mainly of snipe, stilts, cormorant, storks and a few cranes. It was a pleasure to watch these birds, while sitting on the parapet of the bridge of the creek.

With the renovation of Leith Castle, and the development of the colony by it, the so-called Foreshore Estate, the backwaters were encroached upon and, finally, with the construction of the bus stand, the backwaters were reduced to the dimensions of a creek. Further, with the dumping of garbage to the west, the size was reduced and pollution increased. The noxious odours emanating from the polluted waters, especially during the dry season, have been an environmental tragedy to the residents in this area.

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the lawyers to represent the accused. V.T. Rangaswami, P. Basi Reddy and Govind Swaminathan were privately engaged by the defendants.

V.L. Ethiraj was the Prosecutor and Alladi Krishnaswami Aiyer the Advocate General of the Madras Presidency.

The trial and submission ended on April 1st, 1943. E.E. Mack sentenced Abdul Kadir, Fouja Singh, Satyen Bardhan, Boniface Pereira and Anandan Nair to death, but Pereira's sentence was reviewed and reduced to 5 years' R.I. as he was a subject of Travancore and the crime was committed in Baroda State. Pereira was released in 1946. The other four were hanged on September 10, 1943 NOT August.

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Enjoyable fare...

Madras Musings has become all the more enjoyable on

account of the inimitable recounting of the famous de La Hay case by Randor Guy.

C.G. Prasad
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...and thrilling too

The story "Who killed de La Hay?" by Randor Guy (MM, March 16th and April 1st) was thrilling. It deserves to be made into a film. Randor Guy is also a good script writer.

The defence lawyer R.D. Wadia deserved all praise for saving the life of "K", through his cross-examination of witnesses. Could we have more such stories in *Madras Musings* in addition to heritage matters?

V.S. Venkataraman
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Thiruppalai, Madurai 14.

Editor's Note: The early issues of *Madras Musings* had Randor

Guy contributing a series of famous Tamil Nadu murder crimes.

Still waiting

Even months ago, I applied for the shifting of my phone from Harleys Road to Landons Road, both in Kilpauk, a mere 2 km apart. I still do not have a phone.

Ten days ago, the workmen installed a 'phone' but no connection has been given as yet (20.3.2001).

My first application was made in February 2000. As no phone was installed till April, I wrote a letter to say that I would be away till August, and requested the installation later.

Of course being 'Telephones' staff, they came while I was away and 'cancelled' my request for transfer.

I again applied in September, 2000, but till today (20.3.2001) nothing has been done.

I live alone and a telephone is all the more necessary.

Nalini Ramakrishna
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PLEASE NOTE

All letters for The Editor's attention should be addressed to The Editor, c/o Lokavani Hall-Mark Press Pvt. Ltd., 62/63, Greames Road, Chennai 600 006.

All business correspondence should be addressed to The Director, Chennai Heritage, 260-A, TTK Road, Chennai 600 018.

Saying it with a picture

Reader M. Sethuraman, referring to his letter 'Rajaji and Hindi' (MM, March 16), followed it up with the contribution alongside — the title page of the self-instructor that S.N.N. Sankaralinga Iyer had translated.

हिन्दी तमिल स्वोचिनी

ஹிந்தி தமிழ் ஸ்வோசிநி

சொழி பெயர்ப்புரை

எஸ். என். என். சங்கரலிங்கையர்.



பிரசுரிப்பவர்:—

தமிழ்நாடு அரசு வெளியுறைவு

1940

7-வது பதிப்பு]

[கி. பி. 12.

Golden promises for Chennai

This Corporation school has certainly changed over the last few months. A brand new cycle stand, newly constructed toilets, freshly planted tree saplings, a printer for the computer section and even a well-equipped physics laboratory are in the offing. And the changes are not just restricted to infrastructure alone. The students are more motivated too.

This is the Corporation Higher Secondary School, Puliur, Kodambakkam, one of the 13 'Golden' schools adopted by the Lions of District 324 A1 as part of their 'Golden' School Project.

Says the school's Headmaster, "The most important outcome as a result of the 'adoption' is certainly the tremendous level of student motivation I've seen. Besides educational workshops and scholarship incentives for very poor students, the Lions have provided prize incentives for the first ranking student in each term examination, in each class. Health camps are being conducted periodically for parents and children. And once in two months, as a confidence-building exercise, the organisation members have a direct interaction with all the students. I am confident that this year the results will be very good."

Lion M.S. Raghavan, who took over as District Governor of 324 A1 (comprising Chennai and its suburbs), last July, says, "As part of a service organisation, I believe that being charitable by distributing what I call 'giveaways' is just not enough.



M.S. Raghavan addressing a Parent Teacher Association at one of the Lions' golden schools.

The point to ponder is 'If you have invested one hour on any given project, or situation, what is the value difference you can make?'. The response to my call has been enthusiastic."

He continues, "As a metal, gold is known for its purity and quality, but ultimately it is the jeweller's expertise that gives it its final value. So our 'golden' concept originated."

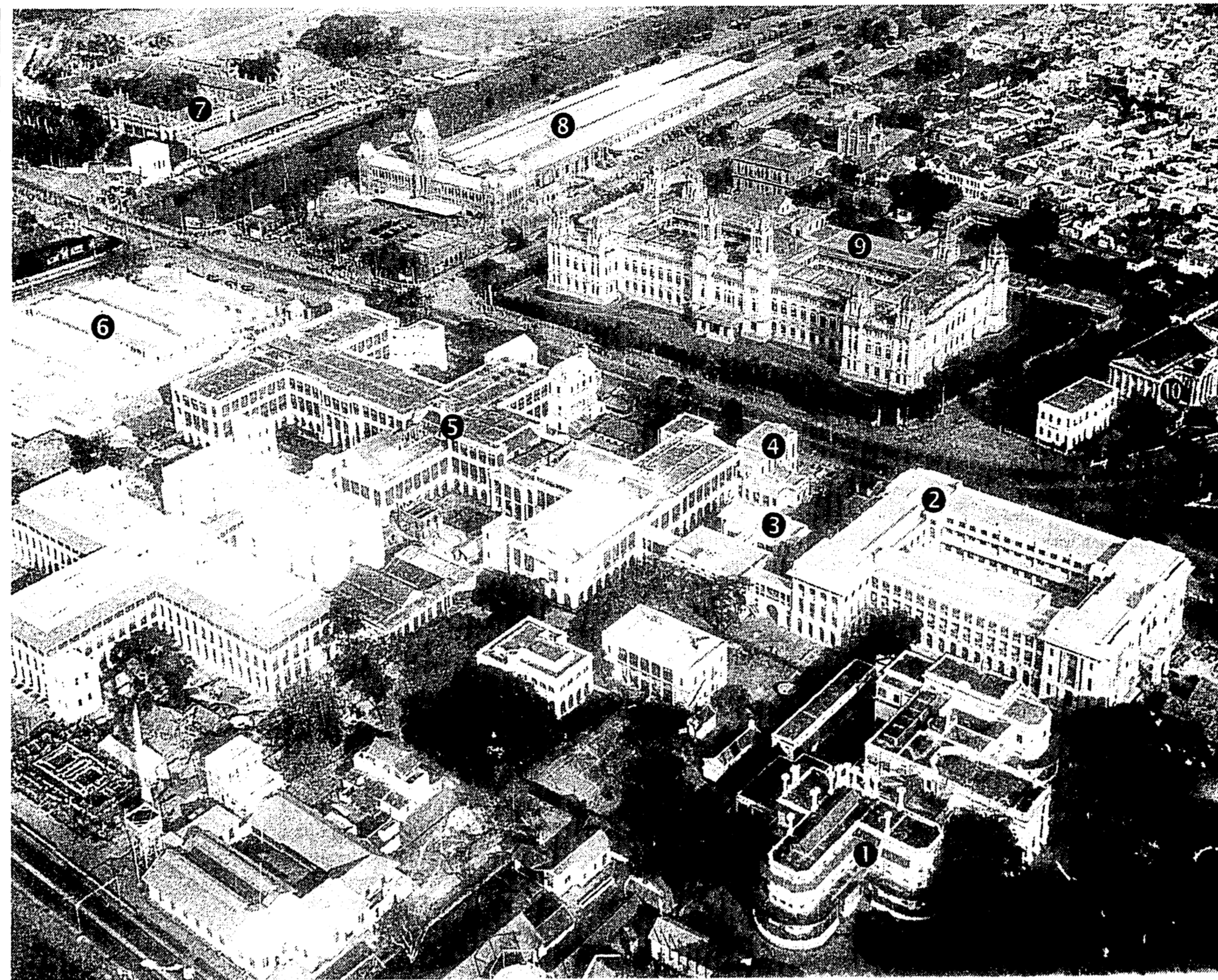
"In the 'Golden School' Project, 13 Corporation schools were identified and adopted. The total outlay was to be something over Rs. 1 crore. According to the blueprint drawn up, the Lions would contribute Rs.2 lakh and the State Government Rs. 8 lakh to each school under its 'Namakku Naame' Scheme. About 15 clubs (about 600 members) are in charge of each school, to monitor such aspects as infrastructure, percentage of passes, parent-teacher interaction, even teacher motivation. The local M.L.A. and other community leaders are also involved. From health issues to adolescent

management to career counselling and personality development, even to special coaching classes for competitive exams, everything has been chalked out in the blueprint and is to be implemented. But the important point here is that we approached the Government for their part of the aid, only after showing them what we could do by ourselves in six months. The changes that have come about are truly gratifying", says Raghavan.

But assuming marked positive changes, what happens after a year, when his tenure is over? Raghavan is optimistic. "If the change has been from even 2 to 4 on a scale of 10, it would have been worth it. The enthusiasm generated, and results seen, will motivate both the clubs and the schools to keep at it. I'm sure the movement will sustain itself."

Another Raghavan-led Lions project is the 'Golden Platform' concept. Railway platforms at Tambaram, Perambur, Kodambakkam, Mambalam, Beach and Gummidipoondi have been adopted. Passenger facilities, amenities and cleanliness are looked into. Leo Clubs pitch in twice a week on cleanliness monitoring rounds. Lion members coordinate every day with NSS volunteers.

The appreciative Station Manager of Perambur Station, S. Murugadas, says, "The Perambur station, a major suburban terminal, with about 24 express trains stopping here every day, has a floating passenger traffic of about 30,000-35,000. With only the minimal basic amenities, things



Our OLD this fortnight is a rare picture of the General Hospital taken during the late 1930's or early 1940's from the air. It shows: (1) The old building that is the home of the Madras Medical College. In it is a plaque stating 'MMC 1835'. (2) A newer building of the MMC. A plaque here states 'The Goschen Institute of Pathology', opened March 26, 1934 by His Excellency George Stanley 3) The Dean's Office with a medallion stating that the hospital was established in 1753. Another plaque here traces the history of the hospital's development. (4) The St. Mary's Church, on the first floor of the main block. (5) The Main General Hospital, the oldest block of the hospital. The original building here was

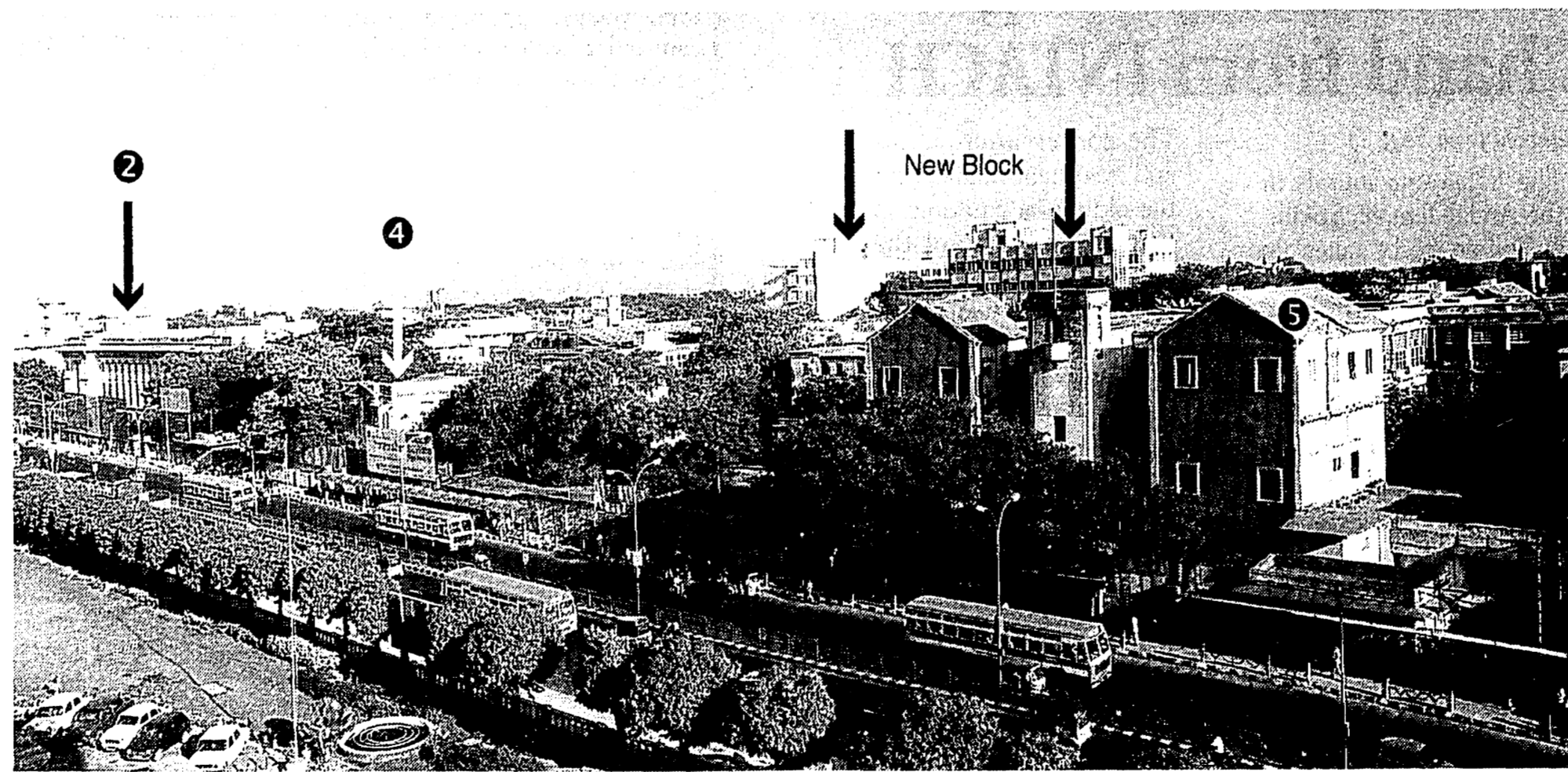
THE OLD...

single-storied. It was extended and two additional floors added over the years. (6) The Out Patients block opened in March 1934. Across the road are the (7) Moore Market (8) Central Station (9) Southern Railway Headquarters, and (10) Memorial Hall.

...& THE PRESENT

Our NEW is the PRESENT (before demolition) and shows much of the General Hospital campus hidden by trees and hoardings. Many a new block has come up but what is left of the OLD is indicated by the same numbering.

(Photograph of the present by RAJIND N CHRISTY.)



had been rather difficult. That was till about a year ago, when the Lions started to involve themselves. A lot of good things happened thereafter. The cleanliness and hygiene aspect is being taken care of. Besides providing clocks and dustbins for the platform, the vacant spaces have been cleared of unruly bushes and a garden maintained (this also prevents its use as a public

toilet). As the next step, I want to get them to help in reopening the subway adjoining the station, which has been unused for the last 4-5 years."

But that is not all. The 'Golden Street' project envisages cleaning and beautifying fifty streets, in close coordination with the Corporation and Onyx. Then there's the 'Golden Wall' programme which adopts walls of

premier institutions that have been defaced and dirtied. So far, 25 walls have been cleaned and whitewashed, prominent among them being the walls of the General Hospital, the Railway Hospital and some schools.

Six garbage-dumping grounds in Chennai have with Lions' support been converted into 'Millennium Parks'. Hospital wards are being renovated. Life-saving

emergency and first aid booths have been set up, and unclaimed bodies in the mortuary cremated (at a cost of Rs.1000 for each body).

The Lions of District 324 A1, led by Raghavan, have made a start in making Chennai a better place. May the momentum continue over the years.

Shobha Menon

A hospital with a history

The oldest Western-style hospital in the country

With a Tamil Nadu Heritage Act still a thing of the future, the past is getting a raw deal. Chennai losing its heritage structures, one by one, to development and other considerations. Operation Demolition has now commenced in the Madras General Hospital campus, the oldest Western style hospital in the country.

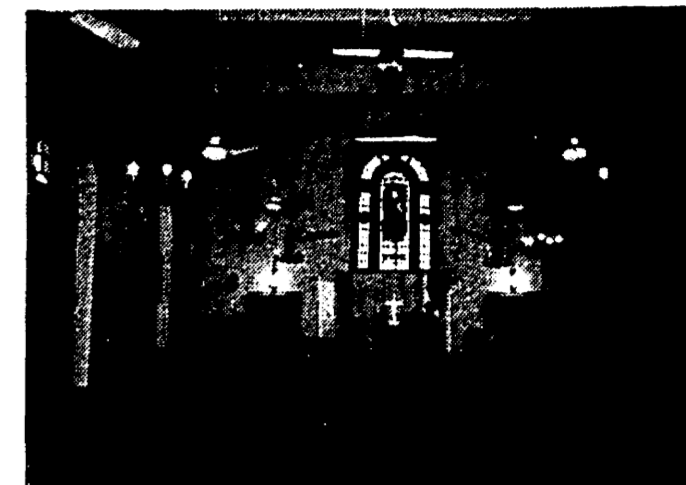
Work has begun on pulling down the old administrative block and 25 wards in the main building, whose first floor core was the nucleus of the Hospital. In this building functions St. Mary's Church on the first floor, where the student community and patients have offered worship for nearly a century. With the 90-year-old chapel also to be brought down soon, the church authorities have asked for time to remove the stained glass window and tablets within the church. The authorities have allotted a temporary place for the chapel near the present canteen.

Two seven-storeyed buildings will come up in place of this building. In the building is a plaque placed there in 1953 to commemorate the golden jubilee of the discovery by Major C Donovan, Second Physician, General Hospital, of the organism causing Kala Azar.

In a block adjoining the building, where the Dean's office is, are two plaques. One is a medallion reading 'Hospital founded 1753'. The medallion commemorates establishment of the hospital in Peddanaikenpet in George Town' before it was moved to the present site in 1772. The main building that is being pulled down was remodelled in 1938. The hospital has had a chequered history of buildings built and demolished and changing locations, as well as dislocations brought about by wars.

The other plaque states that the Madras General Hospital was founded in the Fort in 1664, rebuilt in 1692, demolished and rebuilt in 1711 and moved to George Town in 1753 and to its present site in 1772. It also states that the Hospital was extended in 1859, 1874, 1884, 1894 and 1897 and remodelled in 1928-38.

'George Town' is the 20th Century name for what had been called 'Black Town' by the Fort's residents from the founding of Madras.



The St. Mary's Church, a part of the main block of the General Hospital for 90 years (above). Below, the interior of the Church with its stained glass window. (Photographs by RAJIND N CHRISTY.)

The sprawling campus is today chock-a-block with buildings. Many new highrises have come up in recent years. Hopefully, the memorials and plaques found in the building under demolition will find a place in the new buildings planned.

The first Western style hospital in India was opened in Madras in 1664, the second in Bombay in 1676 and the next in Calcutta in 1707-08. The records state that a two-storeyed building for the hospital in Madras was built in the Fort between 1679 and 1688. It cost 838 pagodas, which was raised by public subscription. In 1688, during the governorship of Elihu Yale, the Madras Council decided to acquire this hospital building, paying its full value to the Vestry, and built a new hospital near the Cooum River.

After the city was restored to the British by the French in 1749, the hospital became overcrowded and in 1752 the hospital was converted into barracks and twelve houses in Peddanaikenpet were converted into a hospital. When Madras was besieged by the French in 1759, the hospital was transferred to the Fort and, after the siege, was moved to Armenian Street.

The hospital board felt that the George Town location was unhealthy and in 1762 a building for a hospital to accommodate 500 men and thirty officers was planned. In 1771, Col. Patrick Ross, the Chief Engineer, submitted plans for the construction of a double block of buildings at a cost of 46,500 pagodas, and a tender for 42,000 pagodas submitted by John Sullivan was accepted. In 1772 the new hospital was completed on the present site — and it is vestiges of this building that are now being demolished. The 185-yard long and 145-yard wide construction consisted of a single-storeyed building with two parallel wings, con-

nected by a third one, the whole resembling the letter "H". One half of the building was reserved for soldiers and the other half for Europeans. Detached from the building was a tiled building, one half of which was set apart for European women and children and the other half for Indians.

In 1859, the building was reconstructed and expanded to double its size, while an upper storey was added. The eastern portion was for British troops and the western portion became a general hospital for civilians. The upper storey was for Europeans and Anglo-Indians, the ground floor for Indian patients.

Outpatients were first treated in 1862 and a new outpatient department was built in 1884. In 1893 new wards were built on the roof of the western wing making a third storey. In 1895, the western half of the eastern wing, which was a Garrison hospital became a part of the General Hospital.

In 1899 the remaining portion of the Garrison Hospital was handed over to the General Hospital and the hospital became for the first time a civilian institution.

Within the campus is the Madras Medical College (MMC), established by Sir Fredrick Adams, in 1835. It started as a medical school with ten medical apprentices and 11 Indian medical students. The duration of the course was three years. In 1846, the Government sanctioned its upgradation and from October 1, 1850 the school came to be known as the Madras Medical College. The first principal was Dr. James Shaw. Dr. A.L. Mudaliar was the first Indian principal.

The Royal College of Surgeons recognised the instruction given at MMC. Madras University started granting the medical degree and diplomas in 1863.



Who says walls are not meant for writing?!

Quizzin' with Ram'nan

(Questions 1 to 9 are from the period March 16 to 31. Questions 10 to 12 pertain to Chennai. Questions 13 to 20 relate to Tamil Nadu.)

- To whom was the Gandhi Prize given in New Delhi on March 16th?
- Thailand's Tongchai Jaidee won India's biggest golf tourney. Which one?
- Who is Robert Blackwill?
- What 15-year-old mission came to an end at 11.29 IST in the Pacific Ocean near Wellington on March 23rd?
- Who is the retired judge appointed to probe the Tehelka controversy?
- Name the animation legend, one half of the team behind the Flintstones, Scooby Doo etc., who passed away on March 22nd.
- According to the Census 2001, what is the provisional estimate of India's population?
- Which India-born writer's latest book is *Fury*?
- Who took the Best Actor and Actress Oscars on March 25th?

* * *

- According to a Law Ministry report in March, what dubious distinction has the Madras HC chalked up as regards cases?
- What historic sporting occasion was sportingly commemorated on March 17 in Chennai?
- The Administrative Block of the General Hospital is being demolished. When was the first Western-style hospital built in Madras?

* * *

- Which film won the National award for the Best Tamil film?
- Which is the most populous district in the State?
- Simple. When is Assembly election for Tamil Nadu scheduled?
- Where is the Coimbatore Zoological Park Society planning a 180-acre replica of the Nilgiris Biosphere Reserve?
- Which place connects Rajiv Gandhi and Sri Ramanuja?
- In the days of the Raj, what name did the English give to *apapams*?
- Which famous Carnatic musician made the all-time classic thriller *Andha Naal*?
- What, the second largest of its kind in the country, is to come up at Valinokkam Port at Ramanathapuram District?

(Answers on Page 8)

Till April 21: 'The Funny Side of Germany', Cartoons by Ponnappa. The cartoons in this exhibition reflect Ponnappa's impression of Germany. Ponnappa was a member on the world jury of a cartoon competition on humankind and energy held in Hannover, Germany in September 2000. He also visited Berlin. Ponnappa's first cartoons were published in Chicago in 1972 where he did his Masters in Architecture. In 1982 he returned to India and settled in Bangalore. Recently he was awarded the First Prize in a competition held on the 50th year of India's independence at Frankfurt by the epd-Entwicklungspolitik publication.

Till April 21: An exhibition of the work done by children at a workshop on "Illustrations of Legends and Folktales of India". There will be a clay modelling workshop for children. In addition to learning to create objects out of clay, the children will be given a lecture demonstration on the history of terracotta. (At Manasthala)

Till April 30: 'Krishnendu Porel' - An exhibition of paintings. (Apparao Galleries)

April 18: *Heaven on Earth* - Directed by R.V. Ramani. As part of the German festival in India 2001, "Art in Nature" project, German artiste, Ulrike Arnold chooses to work at the holy mountain Arunachala in Tiruvannamalai, where she col-



Information sought on Gopalan Trophy series

A recent visit to Chennai by Neil Wijeratne, former Recorder of the Board of Control of Cricket in Sri Lanka, was partly in pursuit of information on the Gopalan Trophy series.

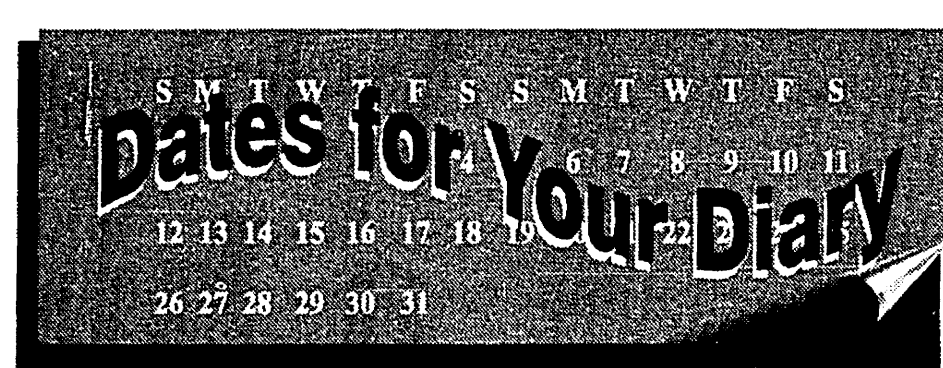
Speaking to Madras Musings on his plans to do a book on the series, Wijeratne said he was on the look out for information and recollections from former players from both Tamil Nadu and Sri Lanka who took part in the tournament over the years.

His visit to the home of M.J. Gopalan, India's one and only cricket-hockey double international, was a fruitful one, he said. The nonagenarian told Wijeratne he owed his cricket and hockey successes, as well as his employment in Burma Shell to C.P. Johnstone, the Madras captain, who took a great interest in M.J.

Gopalan had recalled with a chuckle how the tiff of his (kudumi) would keep falling on to his face while he was about his bowling run. Ball after ball, he would tie up his chinon as a kind of signal that he was about to begin his run. He also remembered an occasion when the bails flew and landed on the boundary line, after he clean bowled a batsman.

Neil Wijeratne had recently edited the souvenir brochure to mark the revival of the Gopalan Trophy series, which had started with a match at Chepauk in February 1953. Any information on the subject can be sent to Neil Wijeratne, 9 Maradana Road, Hendala, Wattala, Sri Lanka.

Text and picture by RAJIND N CHRISTY



lects soil from 4 directions of the mountain, to create a unique painting. In Badami, Karnataka, she paints on the rock surface near the pre-historic sandstone caves, using colours found in the terrain. The filmmaker goes aesthetically beyond a mere documentation of the process of creation and results of her work. Thus, the temporary product of her encounter with and the examination of Indian culture, preserved - albeit in the form of quite a different medium. A true collaboration between the German artist and the Indian filmmaker which transcends barriers. (At 7.00 p.m. at Max Mueller Bhavan.)

April 18-21: Annual summer camp for children aged 8-14. (Registration ten days in advance). Also May 3-5. (At DakshinaChitra)

April 21-22: Workshop on Metal Embossing with a focus on methods of metal embossing, tools, material and thickness of metal that can be used for embossing, and ways of decorating and staining metal sheets. (At DakshinaChitra)

April 21: A weekend activities - includes Pottery, Folk Dance, Treasure Hunt, Kolam Workshop, Palm Leaf Decoration, Chettinad Bead Work etc. (At DakshinaChitra. Tel: 91545303 for details.)

April 27-28: - Puppet Theatre - by Compagnie de l'Echelle. *Jai Mata Di* is above all the basis for an interaction between artists who come from different cultures and traditions, each with its own set of artistic, aesthetic and religious values. Bettina Vielhaber, the French-based German puppeteer and Christophe Gayral, the French actor and director, first met the Indian master puppeteer Puran Bhatt in Udaipur during a workshop of Kathputli (the art of Rajasthanian marionettes). The play *Jai Mata Di* is based on Indian and European short stories and narratives. With this work they create an intercultural artistic dialogue. They combine the European tradition of puppet theatre with the age-old techniques of the traditional Kathputli puppets and still keep each other's cultural identity, language, music and marionettes traditions.

Performing the European fairytale "The Little Mermaid" written by Hans Christian Andersen and the traditional Rajasthanian folk tale "Dhola and Maaru" they have a fertile arena



A Krishnendu Porel painting.

for a common story where the interaction of cultures becomes evident. The performance will be supported by a storyteller who will act as a bilingual narrator (French and English). (At 6.30 p.m. and 4.00 p.m. respectively at Alliance Francaise de Chennai.)

April 30-May 5: - Workshop on Mat weaving for children, the first of its kind in Chennai. City children will interact with children from the mat-weaving community of Pattamadai village. (At Manasthala. Tel: 4332842.)

May 4-20: *1 Star 2*, an exhibition of six portraits of Bollywood stars by British artist Catherine Yass, specially commissioned by the British Council, winner of Triennale Award, Air India (At Lalit Kala Akademi, 170 Greames Road). The 10th Indian Triennale in New Delhi earlier this year and Yass' portraits were carefully staged by the artist, who directed the stances, the settings and expressions of the sitters.

TN conservation gets a hand from INTACH

(Continued from Page 1)

The *Ramayana* murals in the Andal Temple, Srivilliputtur, are to be taken up for restoration shortly.

ICKPAC, during the year, conserved numerous paintings, prints, sketches and photographs, including several Thanjavur paintings. Thanjavur paintings were also conserved by the ICI Orissa which also reported on the Tata Steel Archives and The Oberoi, Bhubaneswar's collection of Thanjavur paintings.

ICKPAC has also prepared technical reports on the following:

A wood panel painting, fixed on the wall, of size 24' x 9.5' at the Sri Aurobindo Ashram, Pondicherry. The painting by Krishnendu Porel has been executed in Taalens acrylic colours specially imported from Holland. About 300 pencil sketches done by the Mother and other artists were also examined at the Ashram and suggestions were made for their proper preservation and care.

The conservation status and treatment required for the old mural paintings in the Chitra Sabha of the Coutralanathaswamy Temple in Coutralam.

The conservation and restoration work to be done, including a cost estimate for work, for two large panel paintings, each measuring 9' x 6', displayed in the Sri Meenakshi Temple, Madurai.

As part of ICCI's ongoing activities, the Museum Development Cell Lucknow (MDCL) has surveyed several museums. Many a Mayo College, Ajmer, student in Chennai will be happy to learn that the College's museum has been surveyed by MDCL and a comprehensive plan for the revitalisation of the museum submitted. A directory of Indian museums has also been compiled.

ICCI offers, as part of its effort to promote awareness and preserving heritage, expertise on conservation of paintings, manuscripts, books, photographs and drawings, and conducts workshops besides providing technical reports.

The Music and Dance Season

The greatest show on earth?!

The 'Madras Season' may seem the greatest music and dance show on earth, but it is a grand illusion. The reality is something else.

There is no sign that anyone concerned has learnt anything from the experience of the preceding years. Although the total number of music and dance performances during the three-month period ending January has dropped slightly compared to the tally in the same period last season, nothing much seems to have changed.

Supply far exceeds demand, with too many programmes and too few *rasikas*. Supply is linked to sponsorship, not to demand. There are generally more empty than occupied seats. Audience turnout is poor except for performances by 'stars'.

In the majority of cases, music performances lack variety. The quality of performance is disappointing. Emphasis on 'entertainment' affects quality. Performances are influenced by commercial considerations. Except for a few, most dance performances fall short of excellence.

recital halls of Madras makes the sensitive listener shudder because, in a majority of places and for the most part, it consists either of unsound volleys of high-decibel notes certain to push all into the valley of the deaf, or of notes which do not sound clear or true, or of a combination of these.

Sponsorships help sustain the fine arts, but they also help to mask the uncertain future of these arts. Sponsors are oblivious of the excess of supply of music and dance programmes over demand. They lack discrimination and do not insist organisers should take steps to draw larger audiences. They have, in fact, encouraged irresponsibility on the part of the organisations conducting festivals.

All kinds of organisations now bestow, or rather give away, titles whether or not they have any credentials to do so. And the titles are conferred on musicians and dancers, not to mention patrons and so-called gurus and critics, regardless of whether they have quali-

other organisations.

This past season, there was a fall in the total number of music programmes presented. The number had increased from 1614 in 1998-99 to 1681 in 1999-2000, but now it was 1596.

Since the 1998-99 season, there has been an increase in the number of senior musicians featured in the festivals. This does not, however, represent a reversal of the trend noted in earlier years. For, this statistics simply reflects the fact that a number of young musicians have been 'promoted' and featured in the evening slots in the Music Academy.

Actually, the number of seniors performing decreased; it was 489 as compared to 504 in 1999-2000 and 516 in 1998-99. There was also a reduction in the number of 'other' musicians featured this season - 1096 as compared to 1171 in 1999-2000. It was, however, marginally higher than the number of 'other' musicians featured - 1092 - in 1998-99.

The number of dance events fell from 371 in 1999-2K to 351 this past season, still slightly higher than the 346 of the 1998-99 season. Was the dwindling audience at least partly responsible for organisations cutting down the number of dance programmes? With sponsors providing the crutches, so to speak, festivalmongers have not exactly been sensitive to decline in audiences, though.

There was a marginal increase in the number of group dance recitals presented; it was 31 - a marginal increase over the number for 1999-2000. In 1998-99 season, the number was 40.

The number of sponsors remained more or less the same (see box).

This time too, some organisations conducted more festivals than one; Narada Gana Sabha conducted three - a pre-festival music series, the annual music and dance festival and later, a dance festival; Natyanjali Trust conducted three dance festivals; Ramalingar Pani Manram presented three music festivals; Sri Thyaga Brahma Gana Sabha - 3; and eight others conducted two festivals each. (Excerpts from articles published in *Srutii*.)

Fourteen years at a glance

Over the past 14 years the number of organisations conducting festivals during the season, by and large, increased. During the 1987-88 season, the number was 17; this steadily increased to 37 during 1992-93. There was a negligible fall in the next season; but the number started swelling once again and reached its peak during 1999-2000 season when the number was 69. This season the number has fallen by one to 68.

Along with the entry of more and more organisations, the duration of the season has also expanded from a two-month period (December-January) to cover a four-month period (November-February).

The total number of performances (both music and dance) has increased by leaps and bounds, peaking at 2052 in the 1999-2000 season.

Year	Duration	No. of Organisations	Music	Dance	Total
1987-88	N.A.	17	326	122	448
1988-89	N.A.	21	416	149	565
1989-90	1 Dec - 31 Jan	24	572	205	777
1990-91	1 Dec - 2 Feb	26	615	227	842
1991-92	23 Nov - 8 Feb	31	698	288	986
1992-93	1 Nov - 13 Feb	37	853	284	1137
1993-94	1 Nov - 4 Feb	36	866	258	1124
1994-95	1 Nov - 5 Feb	39	1034	241	1275
1995-96	1 Nov - 21 Feb	49	1283	334	1617
1996-97	1 Nov - 28 Feb	59	1425	307	1732
1997-98	1 Nov - 28 Feb	64	1671	364	2035
1998-99	1 Nov - 28 Feb	64	1614	346	1960
1999-2000	1 Nov - 29 Feb	69	1681	371	2052
2000-2001	1 Nov - 28 Feb	68	1596	351	1947

Off-season Music & Dance Festivals - 2000 (March - October 2000)

Month	No. of Festivals	No. of Performances		
		Music	Dance	Total
March	9	75	9	84
April	19	199	13	212
May	9	63	15	78
June	3	18	Nil	18
July	9	74	12	86
August	7	50	13	63
September	16	133	12	145
October	16	106	50	156
Total	88	718	124	842
Same period in 1999	90	825	134	959
Represents nearly a 12 per cent decrease.				

Compiled by: V.R. Nandakumar

WASTELAND FOR COMMERCIAL FARMING

(Continued from Page 1)

A large number of activities have been granted industry status, including fruit and vegetable cultivation, fruit and vegetable processing, distillation and fermentation, 'value-added' centres (e.g., grading, sorting and cleaning), individual quick freezing, and preservation of fresh fruit and vegetable for export, hybrid seed production, processing of aromatic, herbal, medicinal plants and their oils, sericulture and many more.

The policy is a result of an ATO-DLO, Netherlands report

which identified the critical gaps in linkages between the farm and the market in respect of six prominent fruits and vegetables with a view to setting up viable value-addition centres in the areas of post-harvest care, packing, grading, cold storage and logistics. An area of concern addressed in the study is the loss due to lack of post-harvest facilities and storage equipment. The total output in the state is in excess of 10 million tonnes and the loss figure is high at 25 to 30 per cent of this output.

A rare commitment to sport

He is truly one of the unsung heroes of our world of sport. Writing about him, you do not quite know where to begin, he excelled in so many areas. It was his daily walk to school as a child, which was really a rhythmic run through paddy fields, that provided 53-year old Navaraj Chelliah's first sports field.

Later, Chelliah became an outstanding sportsman in school and college in Trichy. He was an excellent spiker in volleyball and set several records in athletics. He was a decathlon champion in college and his triple jump record of 14 metres, which he set barefoot, still stands.

Chelliah after getting his Diploma in Physical Education from the Alagappa College in Karaikudi, stayed on there to serve the College, as its Physical Director for five years. In 1982, Chelliah accomplished a remarkable first — he became the first student of Madras University to obtain a doctorate in physical education.

With every passing year, his passion for sport grew and Chelliah excelled in what he was best at — imparting physi-



Dr. Navaraj Chelliah.

cal education and training. He headed the PT Department at Vidya Mandir School for five years and, later, as Sports Officer, had a similar stint with the TVS Group. By then, he had already begun to make a mark,

• Madras Musings regrets to announce the passing away of Dr. S. Navraj Chelliah shortly after the article on this page reached us. We heard of his sad demise just as this issue went to Press. With the death of Dr. Chelliah, Chennai has lost a major contributor to its sporting ethos.

— THE EDITOR

and cricketer Srikanth, tennis player Ramesh Krishnan and water polo player Ramgopal Narayan all benefited immensely from Chelliah's training and advice.

As Chelliah came to be regarded as a 'one-stop-shop' for anything connected with physical education and training, he felt the need to disseminate more information about sport. That led him to write the script and compose the music, for two cassettes — one pertaining to instrumental music to help schools organise sport drills and the other full of songs, enthusing youngsters to take to sport.

Chelliah has also written and published over a hundred books on sport, most of them paperback editions. That must surely rank as another record. Three of his books, *Olympic Pandayathin Kadai* (Story of Olympic Sport), *Vilayattugalin Kadaigal* (Stories of Games), and the 'Origin & History of Sport' won national awards after being shortlisted by the prestigious Gwalior National School of Physical Education.

"I grew up on my father's writings. He was the only one to write books on sport in those days, and things haven't changed too much today," said Raj Kumar, Chelliah's son (Chelliah is recovering from an illness).

Another of Chelliah's remarkable efforts is *Vilayattu Kalanjyam*, a monthly sports journal, focussing on health and physical education, published without a break since 1977. Chelliah's sports dictionary, with words and their meanings in English and Tamil, is used not only by physical education trainers and students but by sports commentators on All India Radio and Doordarshan. His Health & Physical Education Work Textbooks for students

Introducing sports knowledge in State schools

Dr. Navaraj Chelliah's Health & Physical Education textbooks cover athletics, a whole range of other sports and games, and health education.

Each illustrated book explains how a game is played, the techniques used in a particular sport and the playing or fielding positions, as the case may be. For example, in athletics, a series of sketches shows how the baton is exchanged in a relay race. A jump-shot in basketball is similarly illustrated. There are written exercises and skill tests at the end of each book.

Although the style is the same, the focus varies in each book. Students of Class 6, for example, are taught basketball, volleyball, kabaddi, kho-kho, long jump, high jump and a few elementary *asanas* like *padmasana* and *surya namaskar*. Football, shot put, and calisthenics are taught in Class 7, while topics on cricket, hockey, hurdles, discus, javelin, body-building exercises and tougher *asanas* like *dhanurasana* and *padhahasthana* appear in later years.

The origin of various games, the places in the world where they are played, the technical specifications of bat and ball, all appear in the textbook for students of Class 12.

The cover design is simple and is the same for each book in the series — the five Olympic rings, two elephants battling it out, and an athlete poised for a discus throw.

Dr Chelliah's books and other publications are available at Rajmohan Pathippagam, 8 Police Quarters Road, T' Nagar, Chennai 600 017. S.N.

from Class 6 to Class 12 have been made compulsory by all Tamil Nadu State Board schools.

Chelliah's commitment to spreading the message of sports saw him produce interesting plays with sporting themes. *Wife first, duty next* and *Gold Medal* were two very popular plays that were staged in the Fifties and Sixties at Vani Mahal, Krishna Gana Sabha and the Mylapore Academy. In 1994, he produced *Ottapandayam* (Running Race), a film with a sports storyline which no distributor was willing to touch. But Chelliah met theatre owners and persuaded them to screen his film. The film, which was scripted and directed by him, and in which he acted and sang songs, ran for three consecutive weeks at several theatres.

Chelliah was also an 'A' grade artist on AIR. In his programmes, he answered listeners' queries on health and physical fitness. He has made

several appearances on Doordarshan, anchoring and narrating documentaries on various sports.

Raj Kumar, Adam Socrates (Chelliah's brother-in-law) and other members of the family plan to open the Dr Navaraj Chelliah Vidyalaya, a play school. "The focus will be on health and sport and, of course, discipline. The idea is to spot talent early and provide each child personal attention," remarked Raj Kumar, adding, "Good body, good soul, good life' have been my father's credo all along. In fact, he firmly believes that when you love your body, you won't do anything to harm it."

Raj Kumar adds, "My father always says that a physical education teacher is never treated on par with other teachers. He wants that to change. He also wants to have physical education as a subject in the public examination."

Sashi Nair

Answers to Quiz

1. Nelson Mandela and Gramscian Bank; 2. Wills Indian Open; 3. He is to be the next U.S. envoy to India; 4. The Mir space station was brought down in a fiery splash-down; 5. Justice K.Venkataswami; 6. William Hanna (of Hanna-Barbera fame); 7. 1.02 billion; 8. Salman Rushdie; 9. Russell Crowe (*Gladiator*) and Julia Roberts (*Erin Brockovich*).

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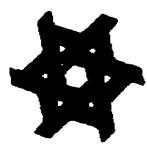
10. It tops the list among HCs

where judgements are pending for more than 6 months; 11. The second Tied Test in history (between India and Australia); 12. 1664.

* * *

13. *Bharathi*; 14. Coimbatore (42.24 lakh); 15. May 10th; 16. Anaikatti, 35 km from Coimbatore; 17. Sriperumbudur. The former was assassinated here while the latter was born there; 18. Hoppers!; 19. Veena S.Balachandrar; 20. Ship-breaking yard.

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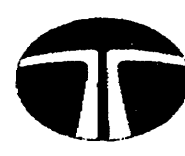
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