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# MADRAS

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MUSINGS

Vol. III. No. 9

FREE ISSUE — EVERY FORTNIGHT

August 16 — 31, 1993

## Waking up to Senate House

(By A Special Correspondent)

As far back as 1981, with his first edition of *Madras Discovered*, S Muthiah, the city's recorder, drew attention to a forgotten building, *Senate House*, pointing out what a masterpiece of Indo-Saracenic architecture it is. In two subsequent editions, including the latest last year, he focussed attention on this building again. And then, in the October 1, 1992 edition of *Madras Musings*, this correspondent decided Muthiah's pussy-footing was not the way and decided to call a spade a shovel, describing the present state of *Senate House* as "a university's shame".

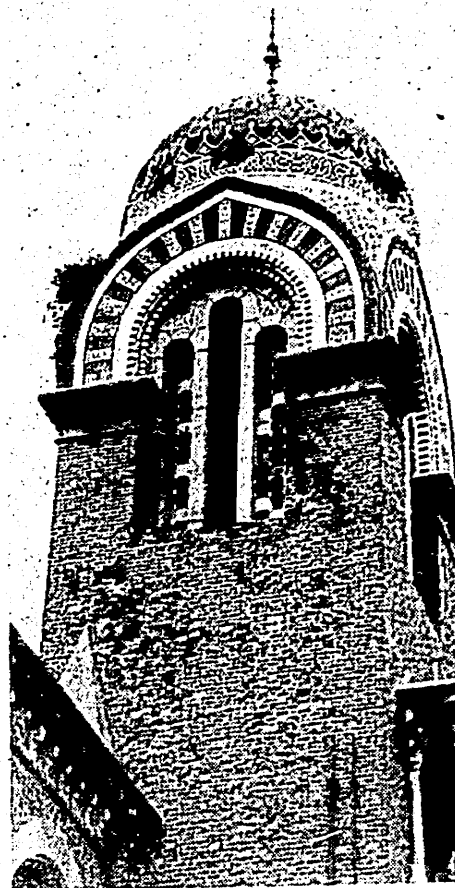
Whether those words, or *The Hindu's* "Waiting for Redemption", had anything to do with it is immaterial. What is material is that Prof. S Sathikh has convened a chancery of Vice-Chancellors, chaired by Dr Malcolm S Adiseshiah and supported by the technical advice of Dr S Sivalingam, to do something about *Senate House* before its 125th birthday next year. An appeal has been launched to gather a crore — and there isn't a worthier appeal around for all those thousands who have graduated from Madras University and received their degrees in the hallowed hall of this splendid building.

The appeal has met with instant success with the University Grants Commission contributing Rs. 1 million

for what was the headquarters building of one of the three oldest universities in the country, all port city universities founded in 1857. This grant should, in all fairness, be matched by at least an equal amount from the Tamil Nadu Government. And then all the universities which Madras University gave birth to should make their contributions felt. In addition, there's Madras's twin city Denver — a group from which is due here shortly — who could undertake a fund-raising effort there. So could Madras University alumni abroad. And, finally, there should be contributions from every single Madras University graduate who received his degree in Senate Hall.

The money sought is needed to be put into the restoration of the building according to the suggestions INTACH made some years ago on request. INTACH's Deborah Thiagarajan and the indefatigable S Visvesvaran, sadly no more with us, teamed with architect Shahriar Dehgan to prepare the conservation plan. Their report said:

"The *Senate House* is a beautiful building that ... shows advanced engineering principles of the time in which it was built ... This building represents a historical period ... It also tells us about what the people of the time were thinking ... (about) the concept of spaces, the functions such



Hope in sight  
at last for towers like  
these at Senate House.

spaces were put to and their knowledge of the relative merits and demerits of different building materials". The Report went on to identify several things endangering *Senate House*, viz. the collection of salt deposits on the bricks and wooden frames, cracks in the walls and on the ceiling, breakages of drainage pipes, damaged flooring, growth of plants on the structure, continuous soiling by pigeons and night birds etc.

P T Krishnan, Architect and Visiting Faculty Member, Conservation and Environment, School of Architecture, points out that our cultural attitude and belief in breakdown maintenance rather than preventive maintenance, has been the basic cause for the decay of *Senate House*. Not satisfied with the 'renovative attitudes' of earlier attempts at repairs, i.e. camouflaging of the original red brick stone by red oxide painting, cementing against original lime mortar plastering, plain glass replacements for stained glass windows, disorganised electrical conduits, which are transitory as well as eye-sores, Krishnan suggests that "Conservation is not just a repair or renovation job with patching up of cracks and attending to other faults. In restoration one has to be as faithful to the original character of the building as possible. If lime plaster has been eaten away it would be wrong to use cement plaster". Krishnan has estimated the cost of a conservation exercise very roughly as Rs. 80 lakhs at 1990 price levels and feels that such conservation efforts will fetch *Senate House* another hundred years of life.

Senate House  
as seen  
by Manohar Devadoss.



The result has been the Senate House Conservation Committee. This Committee, now that it has committed itself to fund-raising, certainly has the clout to raise the necessary one crore. But that is not the difficult part of this exercise. That part hinges on the questions "What is to be done with *Senate House* once it has been renovated? How is it to be kept in use as a living building? How is constant preventive maintenance, as suggested by Krishnan, to be funded?" In the answers to that will lie the future life span of *Senate House*. And off the top

of my head, one answer that strikes me is the question: "Why doesn't the Vice-Chancellor once again have his office there? And why doesn't the Registrar follow suit?" As a hall it may be too small for today's graduation ceremonies. But I can't think of better office space in keeping with the dignity of Vice-Chancellors, Registrars and the University Senate.

Work on *Senate House*, designed by one of the fathers of Indo-Saracenic, Robert Chisholm, was started in 1869 and completed in 1874, according to the University.

## The drive for funds begins

(By A Staff Reporter)

Vice-Chancellor S Sathikh of Madras University is not letting the grass grow under his feet in his effort to restore *Senate House*. He's launched an all-out campaign to generate the Rs. 1 crore and MORE needed for the work and subsequent maintenance. And the money has begun to flow in promisingly.

● Self-financing engineering colleges, 14 *in situ* and three more on the way, have shown the lead, with three of them contributing Rs. 1 lakh each and the others expected to follow suit.

● Some University faculty members have already contributed one month's basic salary each, and others are expected to follow the lead.

● All new students to the university's courses are now paying a fee of Rs. 20 for building maintenance. Perhaps this could spread to ALL students.

● Other private colleges, the corporate sector and all graduates of Madras University are

being approached and Prof Sathikh is confident of reaching his target before long.

Since the UGC grant has to be accounted for by March, Dr. Sivalingam's engineering committee are likely to get the work started by November this year and complete a substantial part of it by March. By November 1994, Prof. Sathikh would like to have *Senate House* ready for public viewing as a model of architectural restoration. He would by that time like to have also built up a corpus fund of around Rs. 25 lakhs to ensure continued maintenance of not only *Senate House* but other University buildings.

All donations are 100 per cent exempt from Income Tax under section 80G. The names of those contributing Rs. 25,000 and more will be inscribed on the plaque that will adorn the 'new' *Senate House* and every other donor will be a part of the official record of the work that will be maintained in the University's archives.

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977

# Are YOU an elitist?

**The Man From Madras** Musings may have got this all wrong, but he thinks that what Meenakshi Mukherjee, well-known Professor of English at Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi, said the other day at the British Council in Madras was something along these lines:

English in India is the language of those empowered and privileged. It is the language of the elite and serves only to reinforce elitist values. It has little time for problems dealing with caste, class, social strata and all the rest that's an intrinsic part of rural India.

As I've said, I might have got it wrong, but at least one questioner from the audience, 'The Man From Bihar', seems to have heard it the same way and rather

diffidently wondered what she really meant. A fellow-reporter too, whose notes were virtually shorthand, also appeared to record it the same way.

In those supportive circumstances, it might not be out of place to wonder how Prof. Mukherjee thought she would be able to communicate with the audience that day — an audience anything but elite despite the predominance of those with Eng. Lit. backgrounds — if she did not use English and opted to speak in her native Bengali or her adopted Hindi. In fact, *MMM* wonders how many of his readers — again, surely not all of them elite and undoubtedly most of them as middle class as *MMM* — he would be able to reach if he did not write in English.

I'm afraid, Dr Mukherjee, whether you like it or not, English is the one link language the educated in this country have. And as education spreads, English is bound to become a stronger link language — which is why Tamil Nadu insists on it. And, in those circumstances, writing in English is bound to proliferate, because it is the one language which will find an all-India audience.

As things are with the Indian novel in English, it is not that English is the language of the elite but that too many are writing for an intellectual elite. The 'pop' novel and the novel of Mr Everyman are still to arrive. And where it's arrived, in Madurai, well... Prof Mukherjee appears to have little time for R K Narayan. No, there's nothing elitist in writing — and communicating — in English; it's only the content that could do with a more common touch. Would those who heard Dr Mukherjee agree?

made in English. Sixty per cent of the world's radio programmes are beamed in English and more than 70 per cent of international mail and 75 per cent cable messages are written and addressed in English. Most scientific treatises and technical periodicals and 80 per cent of all computer texts stored are in English.

How and why did English acquire this linguistic pre-

symposium with this 'toon that appeared on the invitation:



**SHORT  
'N'  
SNAPPY**

dominance? The simple explanation is that it did so by keeping its doors open to all languages and enriching its vocabulary... today the *Oxford English Dictionary* has a list of 6,15,000 words not including technical and scientific terms.

By comparison, German has 1,85,000, Russian 1,30,000 and French, which regularly challenges English predominance, less than 1,00,000. Carl Sandburg summed it up rightly: 'The English language hasn't got where it is by being pure'. It has been thoroughly bastardised and is therefore vibrant. The purist is the worst enemy of any language.

All our Indian languages remain abysmally poor in vocabulary. Attempts at coining words for English have proved ludicrous and counter-productive. What we should have done is to incorporate all English words we use in common parlance in our vocabulary....

We in India have, and are, evolving a swadeshi brand of English. For one we are preserving Victorianisms which have long gone out of circulation in England.

Given this status, is English the language only of the Indian elite? And must writing in it be only for elitist eyes? Then again, *MMM* might have got Prof Mukherjee wrong; he does have difficulty with the English of the elite from time to time.

## In brief

★ It was a small crowd that turned out to hear the city's leading cartoonists at 'A Symposium on Cartoons' organised by the University of Madras's Department of Journalism & Communication and the San Thomé Communications Centre. The Department, under a new head, Josephine, with a brand new doctorate, appears to be showing greater life than before and the San Thomé Centre appears to be branching out into more secular communication. The 'quote of the seminar' was guest speaker John A Lent's 'A cartoon is worth a thousand pictures'. Lent, who heads the Department of Communications, Temple University, Philadelphia, and who is Managing Editor of the magazine *Witty World*, was later noticed doing sums, when Vice-Chancellor Sathikh, who presided, wanted to know, in between displaying his cartooning talent in his doodling, how many WORDS is that. The Hindu's Keshav made an additional contribution to the

— MMM



## A shell's left, the guns vanish....

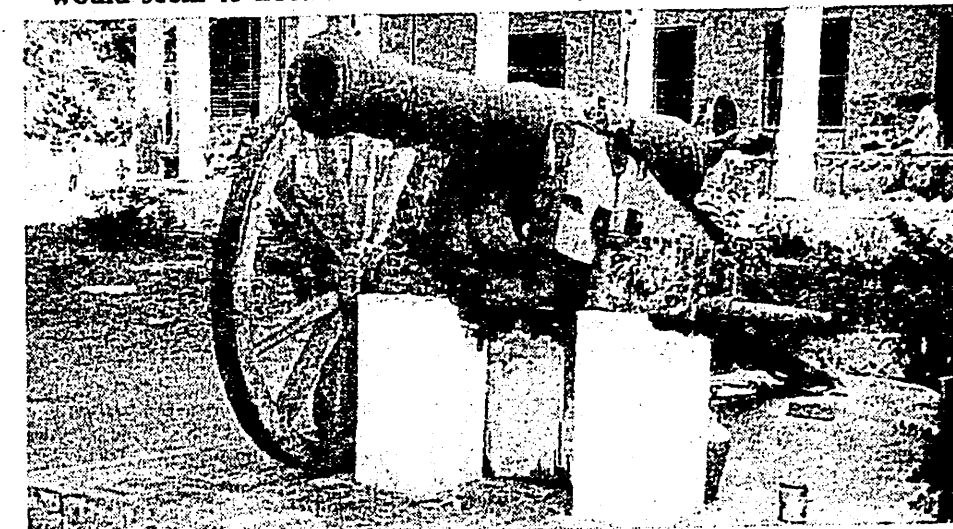
(By The Editor)

**Government House** in Government Estate was once one of the city's handsomest buildings. Those were the days when Governors lived in imperial splendour in the heart of town and used the garden house in Guindy — now as splendid a *Raj Bhavan* — as a holiday retreat. To what a state the Empire's best has come to may be judged by the picture above of a building that's little more than a shell.

Attention has been called to this sorry state in these very columns in the past and even suggestions made as to what could be done to this building and neighbouring *Banqueting Hall*, now *Rajaji Hall*, both buildings linked by a patio for Governor's receptions. Perhaps Governor Chenna Reddy, as part of his becoming Chennai Reddy, would exchange views with the Chief Minister on what's to be done to it before the fate of its guns befall it also.

Once, and not so very long ago, at that, there were two handsome cannons that gleamed on the patches of lawn on either side of *Government House's* portico. Like those guns that still well-tendedly gleam in Fort St George, these too are probably relics of the 18th Century Mysore Wars. Of one gun, some time ago found dismantled and lying in pieces on the grass, photographer V S RAGHAVAN could find no trace a fortnight ago. The other was in the process of meeting a similar fate, one wheel of its carriage already gone. Are these signs of things that await *Government House*? While someone's finding an answer to that, will the Government Museum or the Fort Museum think of rescuing what's left of these historic guns?

At the time Chief Minister Jayalalitha took office, we were told how she voraciously reads, especially history. Now more than ever Madras would seem to need her sense of history.



## Covering the canal they dined in

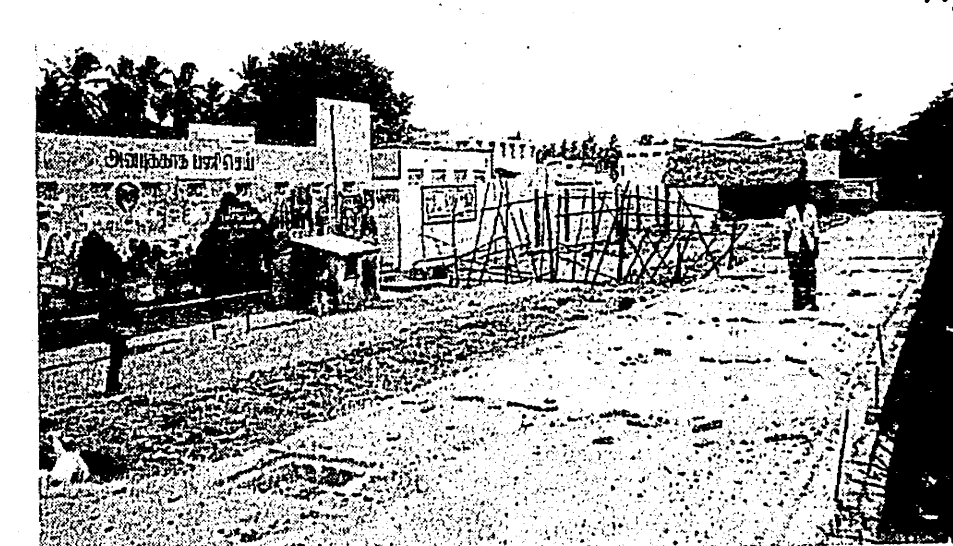
Remember the Australians who dined in five-star style standing knee-deep in sewage in the canal at Theyagaraya Road some months ago? Well, they are there again at the same spot as a follow-up to that campaign. Only, this time they're demonstrating that the canal can be covered.

The work of covering the canal upto 60 metres from the bridge near the Kesari High School, T'Nagar, is nearly complete. "We plan to grow grass over the concrete and paint the nearby walls with messages about basic hygienic habits," say Craig Henry who suffered from a bout of malaria after his stint in the canal last year.

Apart from this, the Australians plan to dredge the canal on the other side of the bridge, so that the sewage will flow smoothly.

But a nagging question is how are they, or the Corporation, going to prevent squatters putting up their huts over the covered space some time not far into the future.

V.J.



After the Australians have finished teaching Madras how to make toilets look attractive, they've started on covering the drainage canal in T'Nagar. They've finished one half of it, and when the rest is also finished they want to cover the concrete with a garden, and a dispensary in it to serve the surrounding slums. But they must keep in mind V J's warnings.

(All photographs on this page by V S RAGHAVAN)

## FEED cosmic rays, make vehicles eco-friendly

There have been attempts in the past to improve fuel efficiency, mainly in cars, by using additives to the fuel or by magnetic boosters and other means. None of these have been found very satisfactory in the long run. Now, an Engineer-Scientist in Adyar and his small team have developed, manufactured and patented a product which claims to improve the efficiency of combustion of all types of fuel, thereby improving fuel efficiency and, in the process, reducing the pollutants that create smog and cause irritation to those inhaling the emissions, especially from vehicles.

The Patent Office in the USA issued a patent to V.M. Rao within 8 months of his application for the product technology for 'FEED' (Fuel Efficiency Enhancement Device). However, in our ever-cautious Indian bureaucratic tradition, the application filed with the Indian Patent Office on August 17, 1990, may have to wait another year before the formalities are completed!

Indeed, the theory behind this phenomenon is itself a scientific breakthrough in the utilisation of electromagnetic radiation from cosmos. Cosmic rays comprise almost all the

wavelengths of the electro-magnetic spectrum. When electromagnetic radiation of a specific frequency and sufficient intensity crosses the path of a carbonaceous fuel (hydrocarbon

FEED can also reduce fuel costs in industry (oil-fired furnaces etc.), as well as in homes (a cylinder of LPG will last longer).

• by A Special Correspondent

molecules), the hydrogen atoms re-align themselves in such a way as to help more carbon to burn, improving the combustion efficiency of the fuel. This, in turn, causes exhaust gases to have less CO (carbon monoxide) content and unburnt hydrocarbons, reducing the pollution levels of the exhausts of engines fitted with FEED.

The TN Pollution Control Board conducted a test on one of their own diesel jeeps at their unit in Guindy and found the Hartridge Emission units reduced from 40 to 25 with the use of FEED. Many man-made devices and machines produce electromagnetic radiation, but FEED is so far the only known product using Cosmic Radiation for enhancement of combustion efficiency.



"No clues as yet... We hope some group will come forward soon to help us out by claiming responsibility for the blast."

IN MAD. MAD MADRAS

OUR READERS WRITE has had to be held over due to lack of space. We'll make up for it next fortnight.

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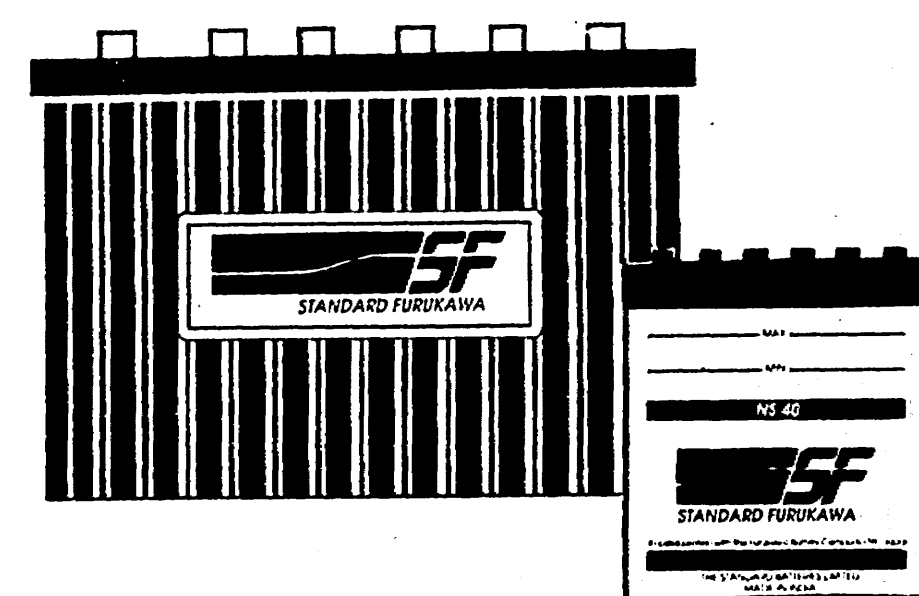
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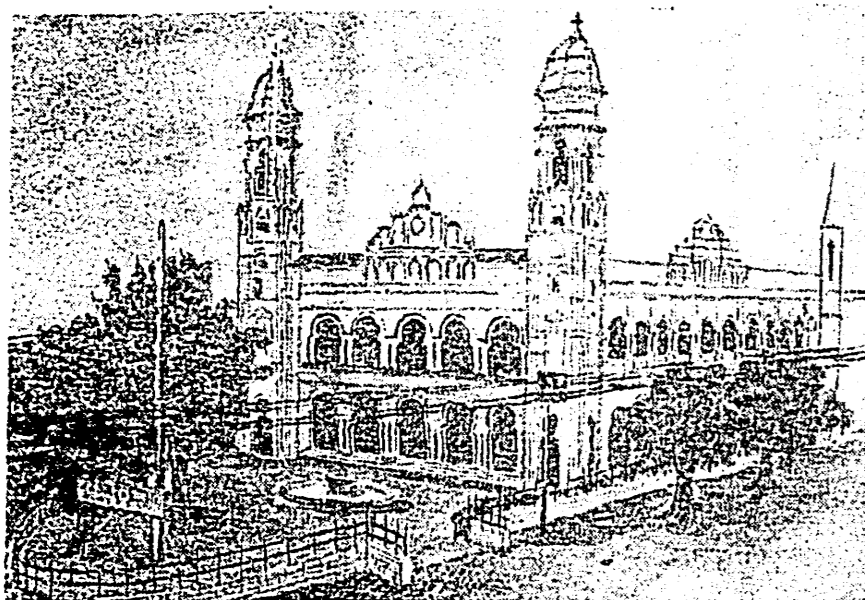
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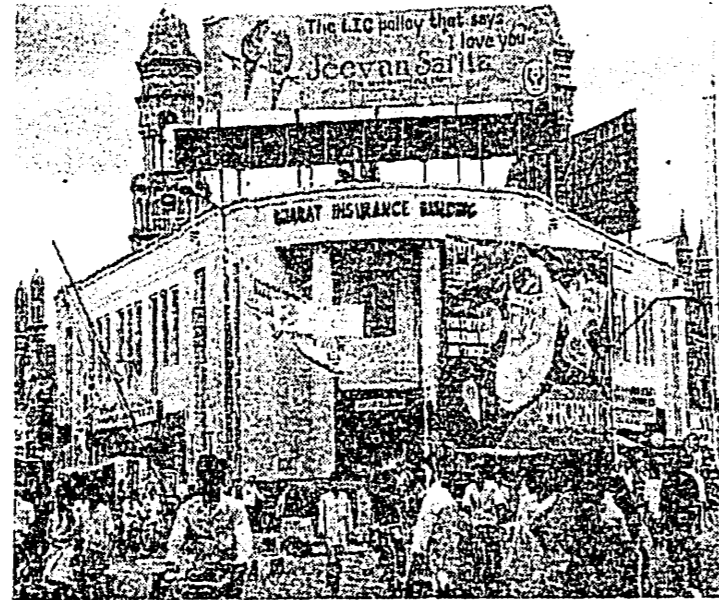
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## The old...



On left is the old Kanyal Building as it was in 1908 (an artist's view), truly a landmark on Mount Road. On right, the building as it is today, its splendid frontage

## ...Today's...



hidden by the true and tasteless Bharat Insurance building. Extreme right, the stretch of Kanyal Building on Anna Salai.

(All photographs by V S RAGHAVAN)

# Making the old new

The call to save the handsome Regency building housing the Director General of Police's office and Police Headquarters, in last fortnight's *Madras Musings*, stirred architect Ramakrishna Rao's memory. It was in his course on the 'Preservation of Historic Buildings' at the School of Architecture, Anna University, that those plans were drawn up for what could be done to integrate *Bentley's Building* with a new 10-storey block.

The Bentley's Project was initiated by INTACH. He carried out a survey of the building. Subsequently, plans were drawn up by Rao and his student team. These were presented as a detailed proposal to the Tamil Nadu Government. The then Governor of Tamil Nadu, P C Alexander, who saw the plans, was impressed with them, but it was too late to stop the demolition. The building had been auctioned and was awaiting the wreckers. "To stop the demolition at this stage would have meant going to court, but INTACH, an N.G.O., chose to stay out of legal dispute," *Madras Musings* was told.

Ramakrishna Rao would relish his students and he getting a chance to preserve the DGP's office. He sees many ways the property could be developed while retaining the aesthetics of the building. But he warns, "Any form of protest must be accompanied by a solution — otherwise the authorities won't take you seriously". He also feels that owners of old houses and buildings are not offered any 'incentives', as in the West, where people are actually encouraged to keep old buildings "alive" (*Madras Musings* reported last fortnight that the MMDA was thinking along these lines). But, Rao warns again, if historic buildings are 'saved', ways must be found to keep them

ALIVE. "Unless the city and its buildings are treated like persons, there is little hope for old Madras," he feels.

Meanwhile, Rao and his students are working on a project to restore the

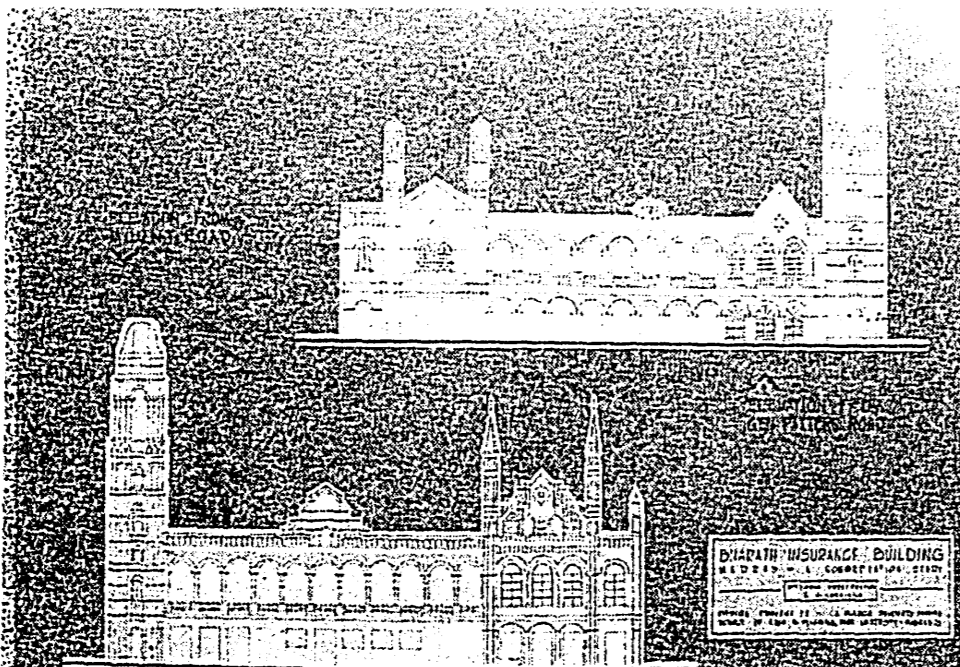
Bharat Insurance Buildings on Anna Salai. Once one of the "palatial structures" on Mount Road, it was named *Kanyal Building* by W E Smith & Co., leading chemists of the day, when they built it around 1904. The

true Bharat Insurance building is the ugly block that hides the facade of *Kanyal Building* where Indo-Saracenic and the baroque had run riot. The pictorial suggestions for its restoration featured here may, I hope, give all

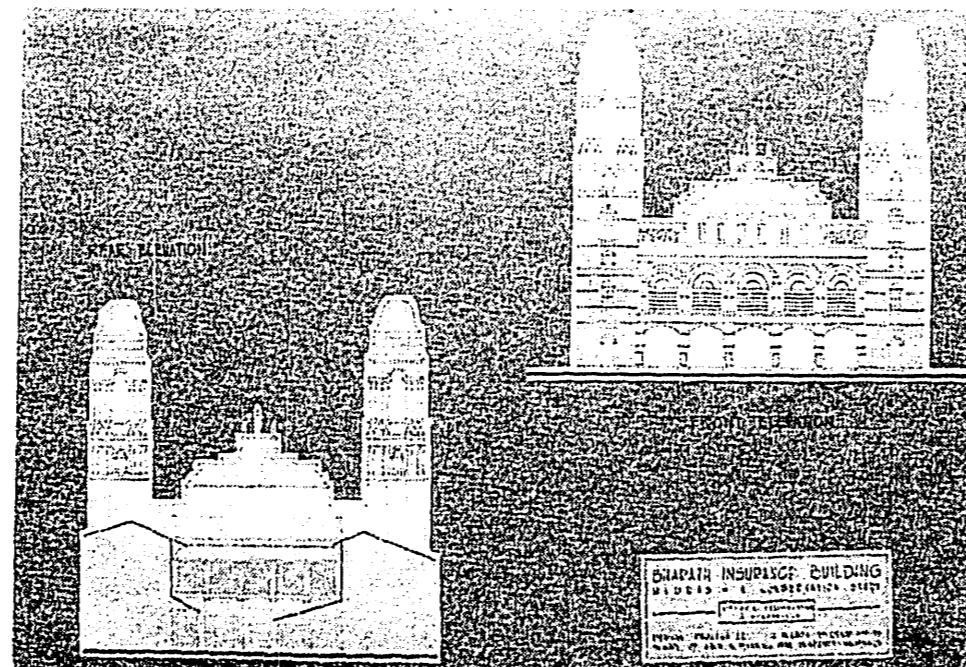
those connected with the plans for the DGP's building's future a better idea of what can be done with heritage buildings.

V.S. Raghavan

## ...And tomorrow's, if it is restored...



The output of a course that is, may be, being taught in vain at the School of Architecture in Madras. Historic Preservation and Conservation is the name of the course... but there are few buildings around that anyone in authority seems to want to preserve.



The DGP's Office is a case in point. Will the threat to it recede? If it does, the 1st M Arch students might come up with a suggestion for it like this one they've planned for the Bharat Insurance Building in Anna Salai.

# A STORY OF REVIVED HOPES

The USA has imposed anti-dumping duty on imports of steel, wire rods and steel flanges from India. The European Community (EC) has initiated the same action on our oxalic acid, polyester yarn and polyester synthetic fibres.

These moves seem to have had, at long last, the big boys in our Commerce Ministry springing to their feet. And at the right moment too. The existing Tariff Act, 1975 (amended subsequently in 1982) has done little to pacify our beleaguered industry, the PVC industry

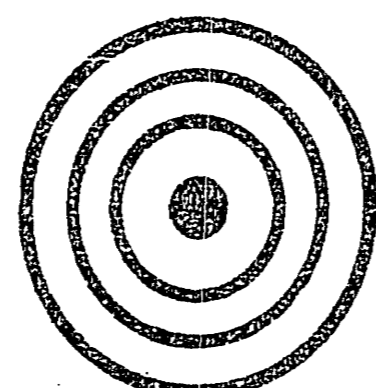
being the sole exception. The Ministry has also turned, a deaf ear to the demands of those in the silk cocoon industry and the diammonium phosphate (DAP) industry who had sought the imposition of anti-dumping levies on imported supplies.

The fact that, henceforth, Government will treat the anti-dumping laments in a more serious vein has industrialists and farmers alike sighing with relief. Fresh guidelines are to be evolved and existing laws are to be beefed up. The draft on the issue also suggests a time-bound implementation of the proceedings.

As our authorities are good policy-makers, so are they bad implementers. *Prima facie*, dubiously over the case of dumping in the Indian markets is to be thwarted. Strengthening of the fiscal machinery for implementation of the anti-dumping laws has to be taken up, with a balanced perspective of the interests of both consumers and producers. Short-run benefits to consumers from cheap imported products, at the cost of indigenous producers, would prove fatal to Indian industry. The consumer market, in turn, could be in pandemonium in the long run since escalation of prices then by the foreign exporters cannot be ruled out. Thus, a speedy and effective redressal and implementation of the anti-dumping law is called for, cognizing the fact that dumping is more than just a retaliatory game.

For this issue, in view of the very favourable market, we have the following recommendations:

**Square D Software** (CMP Rs. 27.50): This 100% EOU for the development of software, went public in April



BULL'S EYE

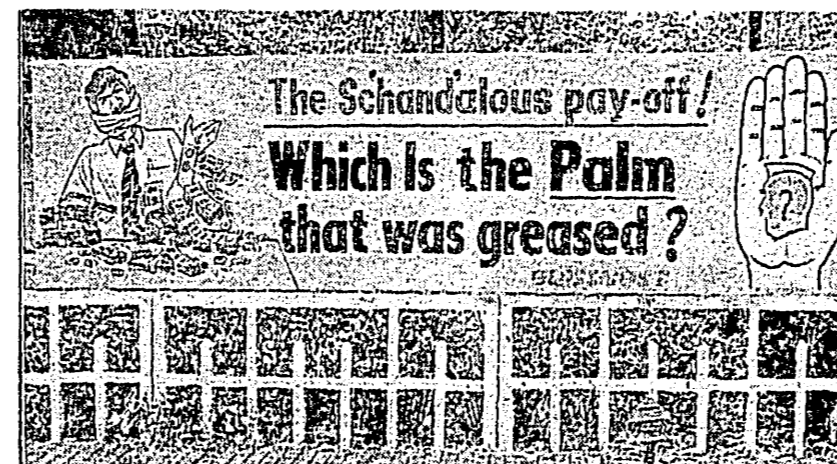
1993 to establish a complete complement of IBM platform (from mainframe to PCs). IDBI, which has appraised the project, has participated to the extent of 49% per cent in the project cost. The forte of the company lies in its strategic alliances with CADAM Inc. USA, Dassault Systems, France, and Candle Corporation, USA, for skills development and product marketing. The management expects a turnover of Rs. 24 cr and a corresponding profit after depreciation of Rs. 38 lakhs for 1993-94. A maiden dividend of 15 per cent is also expected to be paid for 1994-95. The scrip opened at Rs. 16, reached a peak of Rs. 32.50 and is currently quoting at Rs. 27.50. Buy for good appreciation in the long-run.

**Yokogawa Bluestar** (CMP Rs. 112.50): Yokogawa Bluestar, which came out with a rights issue (1:4) in March 1993 at a premium of Rs. 45 is presently

quoting double the offer price. This is likely to even treble by the time of 1993-94 results. The strong backing of the parent company — Yokogawa, Japan (40 per cent stakeholder), a leading process control instrumentation manufacturer, has proved to be a good asset to the company. Its customers include Vijayawada Thermal Power Station, ACC, Bombay Dyeing, Cochin Refineries etc. The 1992-93 results have been remarkable, with the PAT nearly doubling to Rs. 2.21 cr. The EPS at Rs. 5.05 was higher even on the enhanced equity of Rs. 4.38 cr. Enthused by this, the company declared a maiden dividend of 10 per cent. In the light of these, a turnover of Rs. 70 cr and a PAT of Rs. 3.50 cr is estimated for 1993-94. This would yield an EPS of Rs. 8, justifying a price of Rs. 150-160. Technically, the share price has broken into an uptrend. Buy with a stop loss at Rs. 90.

**First Financial Services Ltd** (CMP Rs. 12.25): First Financial entered the capital market in April 1993 with a Rs. 2.75 cr issue at par. Promoted by P Natarajan, a Chartered Accountant and a first generation entrepreneur, the company is engaged in hire purchase, lease syndication and clean bill discounting. However, most of its income is from the non-fund activities. The company's results for March 1993 showed a PAT of Rs. 0.52 cr against a total income of Rs. 1.16 cr. Its EPS was Rs. 9 on the old equity. Reworking on its enhanced equity of Rs. 3.75 cr, EPS works out to Rs. 1.39. For 1993-94, the company is projecting a profit of Rs. 1.65 cr, which works out to an EPS of Rs. 4.40. Presently being traded around Rs. 12, the share offers good scope for capital appreciation in the short-term.

K. Gopalakrishnan



'Cong 'n' Raj Bhavan: Hand in Gov! Chennai being Reddy-ied for President's Rule?

was the question posed by a city hoarding when the new Tamil Nadu Governor took charge. Later, on the same spot, came two slogans based on



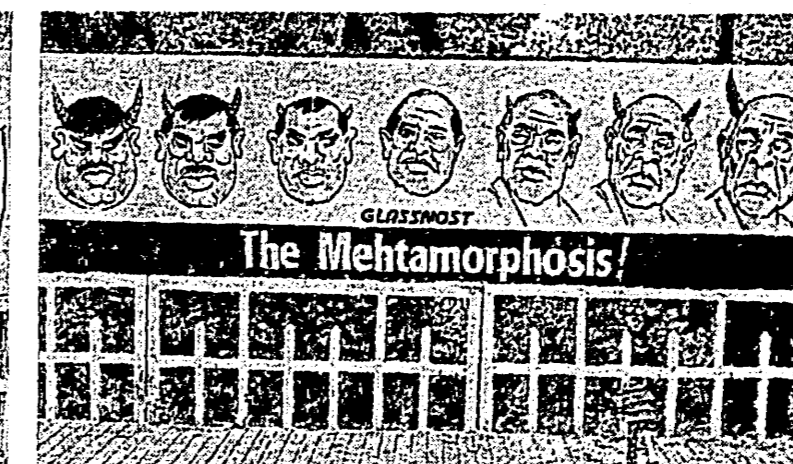
J Mustaq Ahmed, wordsmithing the signs of our times.

the hottest political topic of the nation (see pictures) — and how they made passers-by chuckle! *Blitz* even used 'The Mehtamorphosis' in one of its front page stories.

Promotional hoardings, but with catchy slogans based on topical subjects, are not a common sight in Madras, apart from Air India's, United India's and Amul's. The latest on the scene — and the most politically outspoken — are those from the House of Glassnost, an upmarket furniture shop down a street in Nungambakkam. Deriving from 'glasnost', the Russian term for 'openness', Glassnost, which grew out of a glass business, is determined to justify its name by being frank and forthright. What is surprising is that the clever slogans and their visuals are not the work of a professional copy-writer and visualiser but that of 30-year-old J Mustaq Ahmed, the owner of the furniture mart!

"I got the inspiration to write such slogans after seeing the Amul hoardings. In fact, I used to go about the city, just to read the Amul slogans," says Mustaq Ahmed. A commerce graduate from New College, Mustaq started Glassnost three years ago, switching from his mother's large ancestral *lungi* business. To allow his creativity opportunity, he rented a hoarding near Drive-in Woodlands and started to feature slogans based on sports and other topical events. But being the grandson of former Congress Rajya Sabha MP, A K Abdul Rahim, and the son of Prof Jameel Ahmed, who taught Political Science at Presidency, it was but natural for Mustaq to touch on politics in his hoardings before long. "I always wanted to use political events in my hoardings, but my advertising agency refused to put slogans on their boards fearing 'political reaction,'" he says. Frustrated, Mustaq erected his own hoarding in front of his shop and got his satirical ideas painted on, the graphics being done by one of his furniture designers.

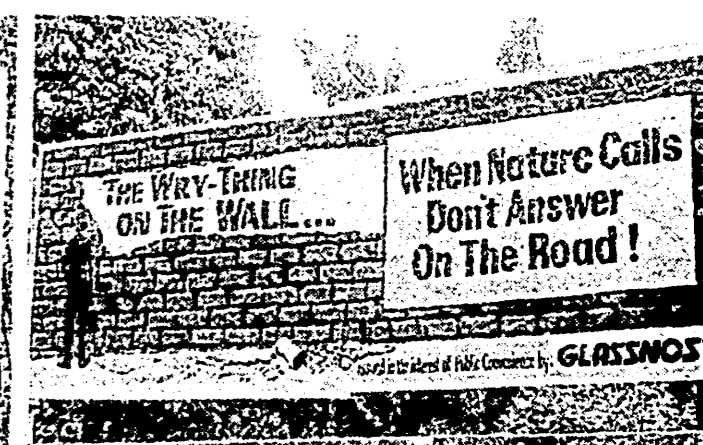
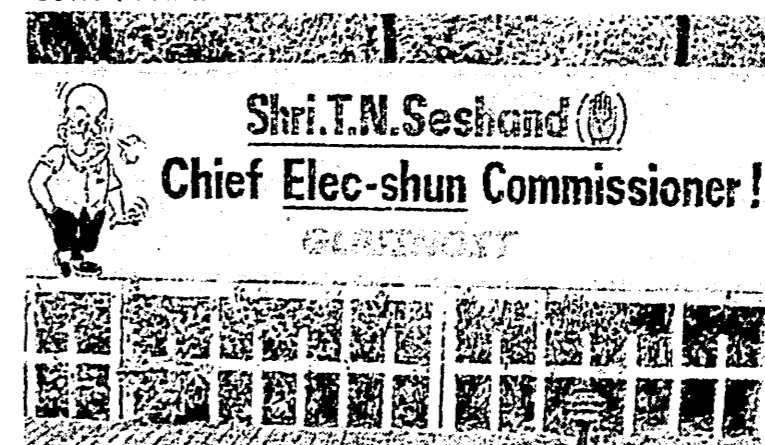
The slogans/ideas come to Mustaq in a flash — and he jots them down immediately. His 'convent' education and knowledge of Hindi come in handy. He also consults his sister, Jadeen, a postgraduate in English Literature, when he wants to sharpen his message.



# The art of Glassnost with words

by  
**Venkatachari Jagannathan**

Writing has been Mustaq's hobby since his school days and he has been a prolific letter writer to *The Hindu* and *Indian Express*. Prof Jameel Ahmed wanted Mustaq to take English Literature and become a Professor like him. However, Mustaq's maternal grandfather, a businessman, persuaded



also threatened for his hoarding 'Is the scamster bullshitting us', which showed Harshad Mehta as a bull with a tail like a trishul and I. K. Advani leading him with a rope. What was cleverest about this hoarding was that the seven zeros in the controversial one crore figure were **pats of dung**.

Mustaq has invited trouble even with his nonpolitical slogans. Indian Airlines threatened to sue him for his slogan 'The one way ticket to the moon

(Continued on P8)

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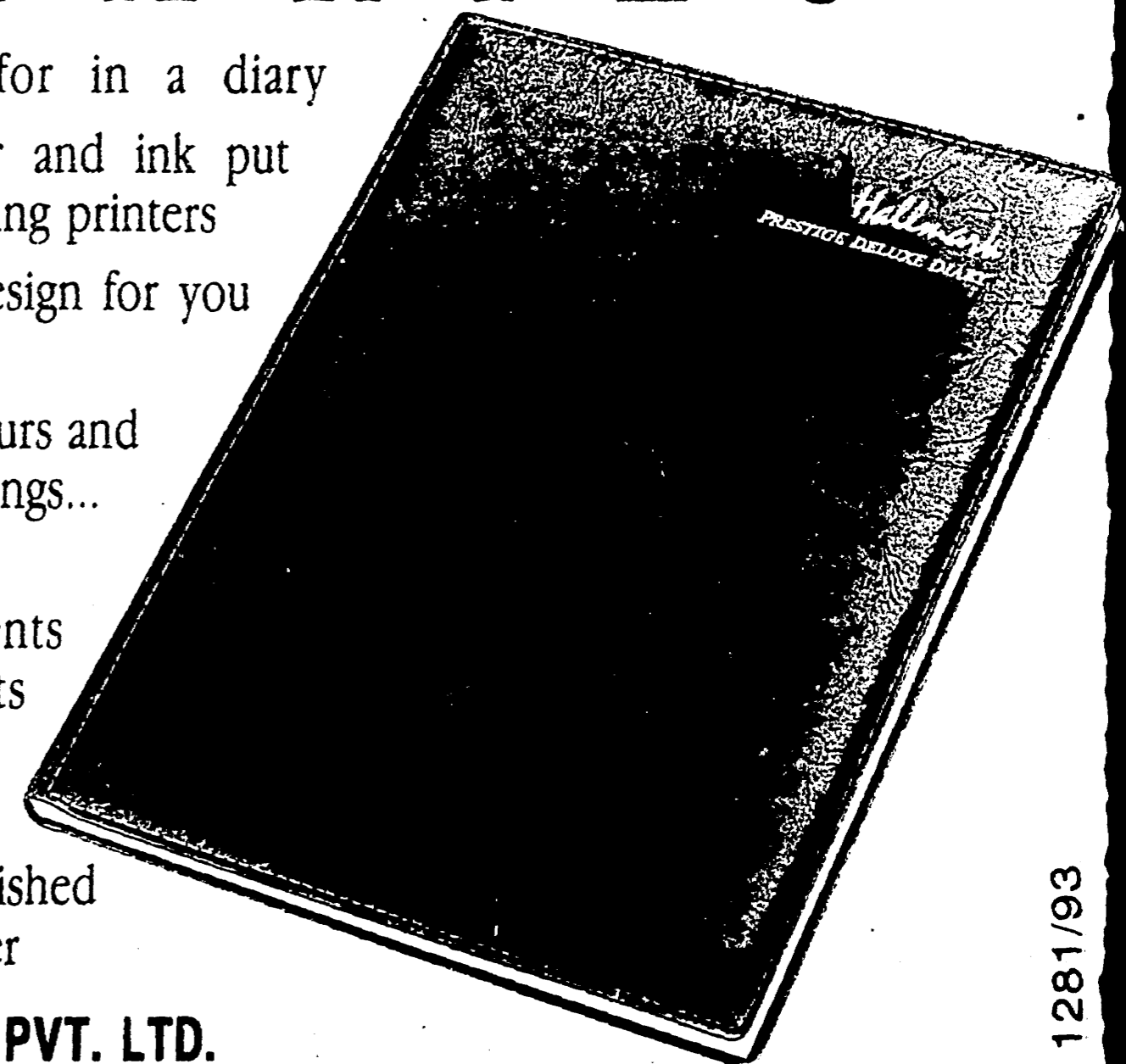
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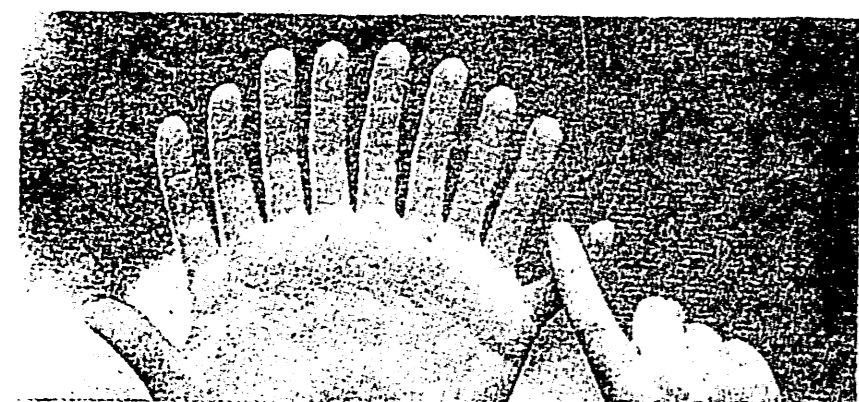
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## As Madras readies for the British Book Fair a local bookperson remembers moving....

For the first thirty years of my life I was a book buyer; for the rest I have been cast in the role of bookseller. The transition came without notice or premeditation, as did a publishing interlude.

My earliest memories of book buying are when I was around 11, and the grand objects of my quest were certain volumes in the well-known 'Bright Story Readers', which was the level to which I had climbed when in Third Form. I think we got those books from Higginbotham's, then as now catering to the queer tribe of book people. Later, my taste shifted to 'penny dreadfuls', with books by William LeQuex, Phillips Oppenheim ('Prince of Storytellers' as the blurb called him) and the evergreen Edgar Wallace ("It is impossible not to be thrilled by"). The family firm of Hodder (one of the longest survivors in that status, recently, alas, a victim of the takeover epidemic!) was the publisher of what I still remember with nostalgia as 'Hodder & Stoughton's Yellow Ninepennies', in which series I remember ordering, again from Higginbotham's, odd books whenever my pocket money permitted.

When I moved from Second Grade (Intermediate) College to Arts and into English Honours, we were initiated into the subtle charms of English Literature. Apart from our various prescribed books, I used to buy some additional books, including Jane Austen, Dickens and, among the moderns, Bernard Shaw and Chesterton. Such books as I came across in Trivandrum, often in a railway book stall, used to be my range.

# From buying to selling

Even before that, my ideas of prose style were undergoing change. I have my father to thank for that, because whenever I drafted a letter for him (I learned to use a typewriter from my tenth year) he would cut out all the polysyllables, and trim the words down to biblical simplicity. Lean and short, describes his style.

• by K. KRISHNAMURTHY

Came 1935 and I was awarded not only a Gold Medal from the then solitary University of Madras but also two Cash Prizes on completing my Honours with distinction. I elected to spend the prize monies on books and requested the authorities to give me books to the prize value, submitting my own list. One set of books (mainly published by Cape in their Traveller's Library and Chatto in their Phoenix Library), came with the signature of my College Principal and the name of the Prize; another set of books which I ordered through the Madras News Agency (then operating from the old Mahajana Sabha building on Mount Road) was mainly from the World's

Classics and Everyman's Library — and came without that fanfare. The total value of both prizes was only about Rs. 500, and, if I remember right, altogether I got some eighty or ninety books! For the enlightenment of my younger readers, I may add here that the books were priced from 2sh to 3sh 6d and, in those halcyon days, the

pound sold for a little more than Rs. 13 and the erstwhile shilling (one bob) exchanged at 11 annas!

In 1935-36, while in Madras marking time at Law College waiting for my seat at Hertford College, Oxford, I got to know that splendid bookseller, K Mahadevan, whose bookshop was in the front part of his house in Mylapore. He had an excellent taste in books and knew enough about the contents of his stock to help and advise customers in selection. No bookseller can ever be master of all subjects, but a study of blurbs and chapter titles should help normal booksellers to assess the value of their stock.

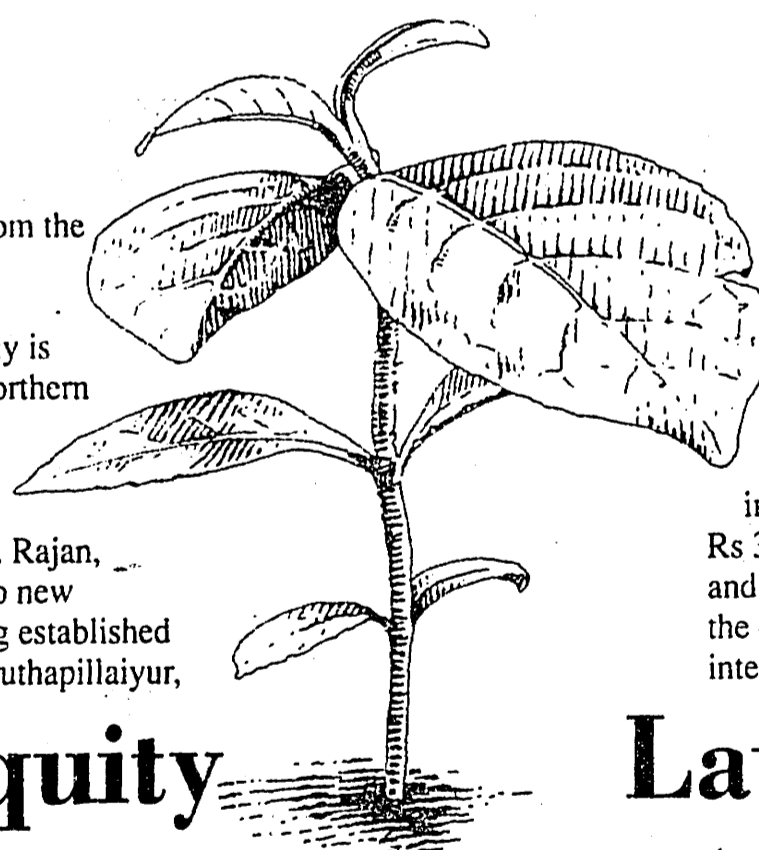
House. The wholesale department was discontinued some eight years later, much to the ever-lasting regret of its many customers and admirers. It was run, and superbly run I must say, by a veteran bookman named F W Keen — "Keen by name and keen by nature".

Over the years, due to necessity, we opened direct accounts in England with the 'Book Centre' group, then organised around Pitman, and various other important publishers. Similarly, customer pressure led us to import American books and, naturally, we turned to a single wholesale source there too, American News Company, a wholesaler of 'trade' (i.e. mass market) books, with whom we worked for nearly a decade. But A.N.C.'s field was limited to popular books, whereas we were moving more and more towards specialisation in scholarly, scientific and technical books.

In the late 1960s, I had a temporary dalliance with publishing, helping my wife to launch the first ever Book Club in Tamil. We published some 45 titles and gained a reputation for quality production. Our best book was a travelogue on the River Cauvery, which has received a new lease of life this year in an English translation catalogued by Penguin.

Although financially our venture flopped, we were fortunate in making the friendship of several eminent Tamil authors. One feature of our publishing life was our hosting from time to time the 'Velli Valtam' gatherings in our house. Most of the 'Manikkodi' group of authors used to attend and the conversation was always lively, some times brilliant, never dull. Why then did our venture fail? Sometimes I think we lacked marketing chutzpah. But then the bookish life has its intangible rewards.

## ADVERTISEMENT



investors, largely from the southern part of the country. The company is seeking to tap the northern market through its second scheme called Teakquity. According to Mr. G. Rajan, President, STM, two new plantations are being established at Panagudi and Karuthapillaiyur,

## Teakquity

both in Tamil Nadu. The two plantations would be over an area of 250 acres. Sites are being identified to expand the activity further into A.P., Orissa, M.P. and Maharashtra.

Teakquity is a long-term investment. STM promises an investor in a teak tree 37.5 cubic feet of teak timber or its sale proceeds which is expected to be at least Rs 62,000 after 20 years.

The company proposes to plant 1,500 teak seedlings per acre in its plantations. The seedlings would be taken from an in-house nursery to ensure that only good quality teak trees are grown. Through scientific agro-forestry practices, the company is confident of delivering the promised volume of teak timber by the end of the 20th year.

Mr. Rajan said that the

Teakquity, the company is offering investors many options. One of them is an invitation to invest in a single teak tree, which has been priced at Rs 1,275. The investor will be paid interim returns of Rs 800 and Rs 3,600 at the end of the sixth and twelfth years. According to the company, the money for interim return will come from

## Launch

the sale of timber felled while thinning out the plantation.

To make the investment liquid, the company has built disinvestment options into the scheme. If an investor chooses to opt out of the scheme at the end of the third year, he will be paid back the original sum he invested, that is Rs 1,275. Exit at the end of the sixth year will fetch Rs 1,700 and that at the end of the twelfth year Rs 10,000.

There are four more schemes which have been packaged to bring high returns to investors at the end of 20 years. Called the Land owners teakquity, Child millionaire teakquity, Easy retirement teakquity and Ready cash teakquity, they have been designed to make available huge sums of money just when the investor is likely to need it most.

Under the umbrella of

Under the land owners scheme, an investor is offered a plot of land with either 11 or 21 trees. At the end of 20 years, the investor is promised Rs 6.82 lakh or Rs 13.02 lakh apart from interim returns. The Child millionaire scheme involves a plot of 16 trees and a final return of Rs 10.10 lakh, over and above ownership of developed land measuring over 1800 sq ft.

The Easy retirement scheme offers options of investing in eight, five or two trees and the Ready cash scheme in five trees. Under the Ready cash scheme, the investor is entitled to avail of a loan of Rs 4,000 (for every 5 trees invested in) at any time after the end of the third year.

All the four schemes have interim returns as a feature and permit disinvestment. The investor is also given the option of making the investment through an instalment plan.

The company is planning to make an entry in the northern market with a bang. To that end, it has proposed a sound and light show in New Delhi on August 14. By using state-of-the-art projection and video equipment, STM will enable one to experience the atmosphere of teak country. To be held at Maurya Sheraton, the sound and light spectacle will be open to all comers.

# Where have all the students gone?

The remarkable thing about the student population of our city is their ability to lie low, and then suddenly whoop it up, more often than not during a concert. And it's definitely not the likes of Ustad Bismillah Khan who draw this reaction from the student mobs, despite the commendable efforts of SPIC-MACAY (Which to the hopelessly outdated is the Society for the Promotion of Indian Classical Music and Culture Amongst Youth - wheew!)

What this significant chunk of our city's population is doing when not hip-hopping is an in-cryptable mystery, although the trail of picked-clean plates in the eateries may just provide the missing link. The kids with moolah go to the jazzier, snootier joints (read Montith Road and its vicinity), while the That-look-in-the-eye species seek out tiny inconspicuous cafes, like the one on Anna Salai, opposite the Kennedy Book Centre.

Just about visible in the mess on the front is YOUTH COFFEE HOUSE. Enter and you'll find seven (I can count, so bring that eyebrow down) minuscule tables, an incredibly lilliputian wash stand and string bags with mosambis. Incidentally, you'll also hear Tamil, English, Hindi, a smattering of Afrikaans or Swahili or whatever. For less than Rs. 5/-, you can have a samosa, puff or sandwich highly unimaginative fare, except for the delicately watered sauce! I am willing to believe that the intellectual or otherwise conversation was responsible for the onion peel filling going un-

noticed, or it could have been the pressure of hanging onto your chair, the space crunch being what it is! Anyway, this is the nearest we can get to an indigenous Latin Quarter, so let's not grumble!

## Dot on the map

Interestingly, the tourist map of Madras (one of the 50,000 copies put out in 1986 by hard-working, long-suffering ITDC) lists only one restaurant on

## FOODS & FADS

Purasawalkam High Road — RAMPRABHA, of the Silver Star Hotel. The none too dainty approach leads to the large, rather gloomy restaurant, but this is one of those hotels that have somehow existed unchanged since the days 'middle class' meant something totally different from what it means in contemporary times.

The friendly *maitre d'* — something of a father figure — shepherds you to a table, enlightens you regarding the specialties of the house and walks away. The all-vegan menu lists the South Indian inevitables followed by the landoori items. The naans (Rs. 3.50 onwards) are accompanied by side dishes plagued with an ongoing identity crisis — the ginger gobi and the *panneer* (Rs. 14 and Rs. 15 respectively) are both uniformly blanketed by the same brilliant orange gravy, the only difference

being that the ginger chunks and gobi flowerets made for a dish that was both unclimbed and pleasing.

The desserts are comparatively innovative, and the *Masala Milk* (Rs. 8/- for a tall glass) is a warm, spicy combination of pulverised badams, nutmeg and mace, with a hint of saffron and *elaichi* — and don't be sophisticated enough to disdain the spoon provided in favour of the straw; you'll lose the full-bodied flavour and the almonds in the process, if you are! All this, of course, at sensible rates, and the charming *maitre d'* scanning you (and doing a better job than most guys in white coats) for the merest hint of displeasure!

## Mera Jhootha Hai Chini?

Most Madras chappies are just too big for their boots. They might not be six feet tall, but they certainly give even the ugliest of extra terrestrials nightmares when it comes to the disproportionate size and flatness of their feet. (If the male ego bristles, just take a ride on a crowded PTC bus bursting with gargantuan sandals and agonise over the results!)

Since the enterprising American who dreamed up the

(Continued on P8)

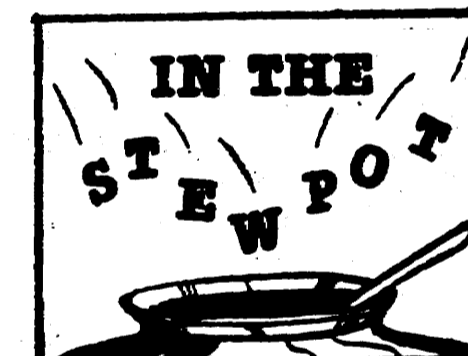
## Quizzin' with Ramanan

(Quizmaster V.V. RAMANAN's questions are all from the fortnight of July 16 — 31.)

1. From where was INSAT — 2B launched successfully on July 23rd?
2. According to the Swiss Justice Department, who are the seven appellants who tried to block transfer of information about bank accounts in the Bolors case?
3. In what event is Abhisek Jain (15) the new world champion?
4. Under the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana, how much has been allocated to each MP to develop his/her constituency?
5. Which Indian is the recipient of this year's Ramon Magsaysay Award for Public Service?
6. Where has Asia's first Centre for Environmental Law been set up to impart courses in environmental law?
7. Who was crowned the Asian girls' (under-20) chess champion at Adelaide recently?
8. Which veteran journalist and former editor of *The Times of India* passed away on July 19th?
9. A trivial one: What was Prime Minister Narasimha Rao's margin of victory in the recent voting on the 'no-confidence' motion against his government?
10. Who is the new Director of the CBI?
11. Which group was behind the destruction at the Cargill Seeds India Pvt. Ltd. premises in Bellary, in protest against the Dunkel Draft?
12. Why was a certain Moeen Quereshi in the news recently?
13. At which stadium did India record her historic Davis Cup victory over France?
14. Where did the Madras Telephones commission its 1st AXE Digital Exchange on July 31st?
15. According to the Speaker's ruling, what is the maximum time permissible for the 'Zero Hour' Parliament?
16. The latest and 184th member of the UN is....?
17. Which media tycoon recently acquired the majority stake in the Hong Kong-based STAR TV network?
18. On July 27th, who set a new world record in the men's high jump with a leap of 2.45 metres?
19. What legislative post is Rama Devi the first woman to hold?
20. Which University recently conferred an honorary Doctor of Laws on its old student, Dr. S.D. Sharma?

(Answers on Page 9)

Meat and vermicelli? Oh, yes, a heavenly combination. Try the unusual Ridge Gourd, Capsicum and Tomato as well. Sprouted Mung Salad adds a wholesome goodness to the meal.



## MINCE MEAT BALLS WITH VERMICELLI

### For meat balls

- 200 g mince meat
- 1 lbs dry channa dhal
- 2 green chillies, chopped
- ½ tsp chilli powder
- A pinch turmeric powder
- 1" piece cinnamon
- 4 cloves
- 2 cardamoms
- 1" piece ginger
- 1 lbs each of mint and coriander leaves
- 1 egg, well beaten
- Salt to taste
- Oil for deep frying

### Method

Boil everything (except the egg and oil for frying) with the mince meat till dry. Grind till soft, adding salt. Add the egg. Make little marble-sized balls. Deep fry till golden brown. Set aside.

### For the kichidi

- 200 g vermicelli
- 1 large onion, sliced thinly
- 2 or 3 green chillies, chopped fine
- 1 tomato, sliced
- 1 cup chopped mint and coriander leaves
- A few cashewnuts
- 1" piece ginger, chopped fine
- 6 cloves garlic, chopped fine
- Salt to taste

### Garam masala

- 1" piece cinnamon
- 3 cloves
- 1 bay leaf

### For tempering

- 2-3 tbs Daldia or ghee

- 2 tsp urad dhal
- 2 tsp channa dhal
- 1 tsp mustard seeds
- A few curry leaves

### Method

Heat oil, add the garam masala and all the ingredients for tempering. When they splutter, add all the other ingredients, one after the other. Keep stirring. Finally add the vermicelli and salt. Add 2-3 cups of hot water. Cover and simmer till water is completely absorbed and the vermicelli is done. Remove from fire.

Place a layer of cooked vermicelli in a serving dish. Sprinkle with coriander leaves. Place a few meat balls. Repeat till all the meat balls and vermicelli are neatly arranged. Top with coriander leaves. Serve hot.

## Mrs. P. Raghupathy RIDGE GOURD, CAPSICUM AND TOMATO

- 2 capsicums, chopped to ½ inch pieces
- ½ kg ridge gourd, peeled and chopped to ½ inch pieces
- 4-6 medium sized tomatoes, blanched and cut into pieces

- 2-3 tbs whole or oil
- 1 tsp whole cumin seeds
- 2 green chillies, chopped fine
- ½ tsp turmeric powder
- ½ tsp asafoetida powder
- 1 tsp dhanaya powder
- ½ tsp red chilli powder

A small bunch coriander leaves, chopped fine for garnishing  
Salt to taste

### Method

Heat oil or ghee. Add the cumin seeds. When they splutter, add the green chillies, asafoetida powder and turmeric powder and stir. Add the chopped capsicum and fry for 2-3 minutes.

Add the red chilli powder, dhanaya powder and stir for another minute. Add the chopped ridge gourd and tomato pieces. Add salt. Sprinkle some water. Simmer while covered till done. Garnish with chopped coriander leaves and serve hot.

## SPROUTED MUNG SALAD

- 1½ cups sprouted mung
- 1 cup cabbage, chopped fine
- 2 spring onions, chopped fine
- 2 capsicums, chopped fine
- 1" piece ginger, peeled and grated
- 1 lbs fresh lemon juice
- 2 green chillies, chopped fine
- ½ cup coconut grated

Salt to taste  
A small bunch coriander leaves, chopped fine

### For tempering

- 2 tsp oil
- 1 tsp mustard seeds
- ½ tsp asafoetida powder

### Method

Mix sprouted mung with chopped cabbage, spring onions, capsicums green chillies and ginger. Add salt, grated coconut and lemon juice. Mix well.

Heat oil and add mustard seeds and asafoetida powder. When the mustard seeds splutter, add to the salad. Garnish with chopped coriander leaves and serve.

Chandra Padmanabhan

## The MMA's beginnings

# It's great to be a hundred!

The stately dull grey gable reaching into the firmament above St Andrew's Kirk led me into an exceptional space of worship. Encased in the unsparking stones of the church and the adjacent hall lay a century of music and in the *sanctum sanctorum*, at the organ, sat Handel Manuel — the soft-spoken man who conducted the Madras Musical Association (MMA) for over forty years.

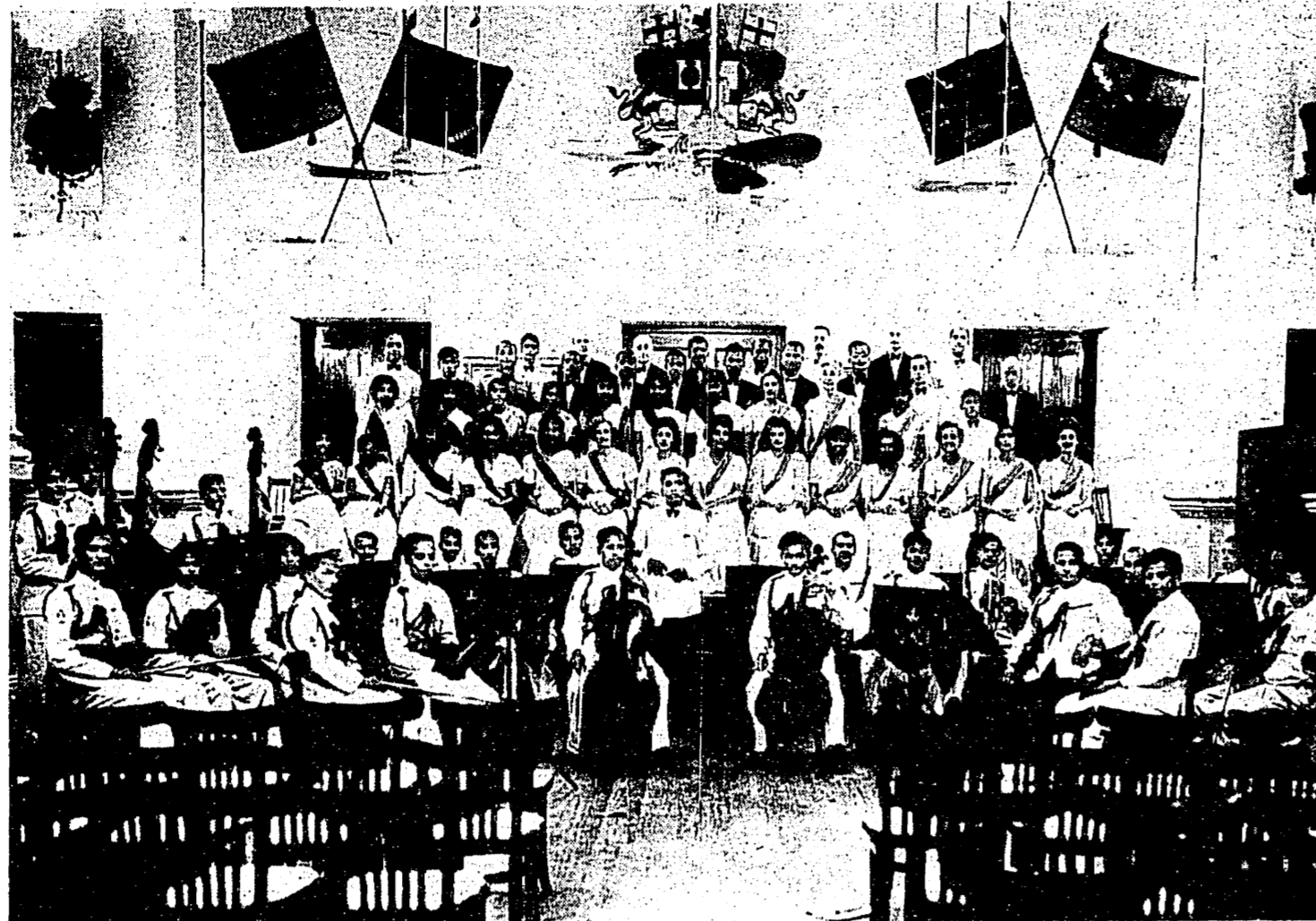
Handel waved me in. We sat in a choir pew facing an absent congregation, the stained glass panels throwing dappled play behind us. As if to tide over the awkward silence he whipped out a photograph of the MMA — mounted on cardboard no less! "These are all members of the Governor's orchestra. There was a permanent orchestra in those days and they used to give regular symphonic concerts. They also accompanied the MMA choir. In this photograph, the one there is Olga Frohlich — third row centre. This one here is Miss Jacob. She used to be in Viduyadaya. She is no more. Here's Justice Horwill, the President of the MMA for some time — and his wife. They were in Australia and died there. Kuruvilla Jacob, the Principal of MCC School and his brother Chandy Jacob, an advocate. They are no more. He was a fine tenor. And this is Herbert, the brother of Malcolm Adesiah. This photograph was taken in 1945, the first year that I conducted the MMA."

Handel Manuel joined the MMA as a young man of twenty, one of the few Indian choristers the group had. It was then conducted by Mary Papworth, the wife of the Principal of Presidency College. "J W Long took over from her. He was the organist of St George's Cathedral. He lost his thumb in World War I. In spite of that, he continued to play the organ. Some time in 1945, while the MMA was in rehearsal for a concert (practices in those days were held in Ewart's School) something

by  
**ELIZABETH  
ROY**

happened and Long left in a huff, swearing never to return."

The concert had been advertised, and was to be held in the presence of His Excellency himself. The MMA executive committee hastily met and proposed that the conductor's baton should pass on to a young Indian, Handel Manuel. Fifty-two years after its inception, the MMA was given a touch of Home Rule. And Handel skillfully steered the MMA over the next forty years. He remembers that memorable occasion. "We did two works, both by Mendelssohn — 'Hear My Prayer' and 'Hymn of Praise'. It was at the then Banqueting Hall, now Rajaji Hall. What a thrill it was, to conduct the choir as well as the orchestra!"



H.E. the Governor's Orchestra, which used to accompany the Madras Musical Association. This 1945 picture was taken on the occasion when Handel Manuel conducted an orchestra for the first time this was also the first time the orchestra was conducted by an Indian. Would you say Handel Manuel has changed much over the years?

Handel was at the time the organist at St Andrew's Kirk and the MMA moved into their new home. They worshipped and sometimes performed in the church and rehearsed regularly in the church hall, which also held their library. Those were happy, music-and song-filled days.

But around 1982 the inevitable crept into the happy story. The MMA split down its spine. Their conductor of the forty years and all those who wanted to sing under him left the MMA to start the MPCS (The Madras Philharmonic and Choral Society), continuing to operate from St Andrew's Kirk, Handel's homeground. And the

MMA gathered their belongings and set out like the sons of Jacob. Neither group forgave themselves for what happened. Both groups have regretted happening ever since.

Dr Ravi Santhosham, the President of the MMA, talked about the breach. "MPCS and MMA — we are not two different organisations — we are one and the same, with two different names. That's how we feel about it. It would have been wonderful if the two groups could have been together during this centenary time." Handel Manuel is just as rueful about it. "After being closely involved with the MMA for so many years, to have come to

this kind of separation is tragic. I'm not very sure of a merger now — it would have been easier a few years ago. The MPCS is an established group now and we have our own finances". Dr Samuel Grubb, MMA's conductor and a rich baritone who used to sing under Handel, said, "Given a choice, I'd like to sing any day. Handel Manuel can definitely sing, but basically he is a conductor. If someone has the time to proclaim the singing cause and bring the groups together, may be life will be good. Whatever has happened, Handel Manuel is Handel Manuel — one of the best India has ever had".

(To be concluded next fortnight)

## Where're the students?

(Continued from P7)

He-Man chain has still to take cognisance of the Indian male, someone back home decided to do something about it way back in '74! The Yang family's shoe shop — NAN KING — on Mount Road, a couple of steps away from the mosque, has unobtrusively and discreetly been catering to those Madras who

go for stylish elegance to cover up the deficiencies of tarsus and meta-tarsus. The made-to-order, handcrafted moccasins, loafers, formals, the works, are ready in two weeks.

The shop seems to be a traditional male bastion, where customers are concerned, but they undertake the occasional

pair of court shoes. The prices are from a couple of hundred bucks onwards — but these are specially stitched by hand using genuine leather, so coughing up is not nearly so painful. Anyway, to plagiarise, putting your best foot forward at least keeps it out of your mouth!

Bhavana Kay

## The art of Glassnost

(Continued from P5)

— Indian Airlines' on a hoarding painted to look like an IA ticket. But despite all such threats, Mustaq continues to pursue his hobby, which, at times, also promotes his furniture. When Monica Seles' grunting on the tennis court was a raging topic, Mustaq came up with, "We swear never to leave you DisGRUNT led" and painted Seles enjoying his furniture on the hoarding. And there was, once, a scantily clad Madonna and a *moda* (stool) with the message "Moda hona tho aisa — Glassnost... it's on the bust-seller list!"

Though he accepts that his shop has become famous because of his political cartoons, he is unable to correlate this success with his sales. People often stop their cars in front of his shop just to read the hoarding, but few of them prove prospective clients! Friends have advised him to shift his operations to Bombay if he wants to become a millionaire quickly. Mustaq refuses; "I love Madras". And that only echoes his company's slogan: "Glassnost — where the unusual is the usual".

## SPECIAL DEEPAVALI OFFER FOR RETAILERS

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# He kept Ceylon cricket in our eye

Randor Guy's recollection last fortnight about the gift of a handsome property to the Bharathiya Vidhya Bhavan for the Rajaji School and all the excitement during the last few weeks over Indo-Sri Lanka cricket have a common link in Madras. And that is the late V Pattabhiraman, who was Vice-President of the Tamil Nadu Cricket Association.

It was Pattabhiraman, who gifted the property for the School and it was he who played a key role in sustaining the competitiveness of Ceylon cricketers, through the M J Gopalan

general. But he was himself childless and adopted cricket and the Bhavan as his heirs.

Pattu, tall and well-built, was a moderate club cricketer. However, since he suffered from myopia and had to wear thick glasses, he did not pay the game enough attention, though he was a good off-spinner and with his high trajectory could be troublesome. But more than his ability as a cricketer,

make ERC strong. Pattu utilised the Pachaiyappa's High School grounds, then in George Town, as the ERC's home ground. N Kannayiram, R Balu Alaganan, R M Perumal, all of whom played in the Ranji Trophy, owe much to Pattu's patronage and encouragement. The latter two learned their cricket in Ceylon schools.

However, a greater role he played was in encouraging schoolboys' cricket, taking a cue from Ceylon. He was in touch with boys' cricket abroad and promoted exchanges of visits. Boys' cricket in India grew in importance mainly because of him and he was happy when a visit of an official Indian boys' team to England materialised. But, sadly, he was ignored for the managership of the team.

Pattu was immensely popular with overseas teams, especially those from Ceylon, where he was a member of the Colts' Cricket Club. His fairness won him friends everywhere. Pattu casually visited the Chepauk ground one early morning during an international match, and found the Indian team practising near the pitch, against

trophy matches, at a time when it looked as though Ceylon cricket would fade from the international scene. (EDITOR'S NOTE: Why isn't this reviewed under 23s?)

Pattu, as Pattabhiraman was fondly called, had a grand passion for the game. He was born in an affluent family of unimpeachable integrity, the only son of K V Iyer, an auditor

it is Pattu's role as a patron of cricket that should be stressed.

Initially, he built the Egmore Recreation Club — Pattu was a resident of Egmore — into a strong side, ready to take on the star teams of the day, like Mylapore Recreation Club, Triplicane Cricket Club and Minerva. Pattu, a student of Madras Christian College, gathered some talented players from the districts who were studying there to

## Mother's the coach behind the scenes

It was an unique sight — a Test cricketer's sons emerging as National champions in a discipline other than the one in which their father had distinguished himself. Vikram and Vinay, sons of former Indian Test skipper S Venkatraghavan, wrote a charming note in the history of Madras sport by winning the boys' titles at the India Cement National junior tennis championships, conducted by the Madras Cricket Club recently.

Sadly, Venkatraghavan was not there to see the unseeded, unfancied Vikram scale the heights and crown his all-conquering run by topping top-seeded S Panja of West Bengal for the singles crown and Vikram and Vinay demolish the second-seeded pair of Delhi's A Aga and UP's J Anand for the doubles title. He had, a day before the singles final, left for London to attend the International Cricket Council's Umpires' seminar at Coventry. Mrs. Ranjini Venkatraghavan, however, was there to play the role of mentor and guide, a role she had played ever since they took to tennis instead of cricket.

Mrs. Venkatraghavan was, indeed, the behind-the-scenes heroine of the championships. She not only saw to it that her sons were in the peak of fitness, speed and stamina in a week-long tournament gone through in the early mornings and humid, sultry afternoons, but also played her decade-old role as a maternal coach with untiring zeal and enthusiasm. Vikram in particular rose to the occasion to reward her dedicated work by con-

soft-spoken Rushmi had indeed won the hearts of the crowd with her exemplary court manners.

by  
**JAICI**

founding the seedings committee even if he lacked the artistic touch of his sleek and graceful opponent in the final.

While the Venkatraghavan brothers did Tamil Nadu tennis proud, the home state had to be content with the doubles title in the girls' section. The winners were Aparna Ravi and Kantha Murali, neither of whom, however, had the ghost of a chance in the singles, which was dominated by the Maharashtra trio of Hushida Kamte, Ihanvi Parekh and Manisha Malhotra. A trainee at a Florida tennis academy, Malhotra outclassed Kamte for the title to emphasise, as it were, that she was a promising and typical product of the American academy.

Malhotra looked a champion in the making, possessing the typically American style of raising her hands and loudly boasting a winner, and even more loudly cursing a loser, and not infrequently looking skywards and yelling. She did get a big hand when she received the trophy from Mrs. Chitra Srinivasan, wife of N Srinivasan, Managing Director, India Cements. But the biggest hand went to Tamil Nadu's Rushmi Chakravarthy when she received the 'best behaved player's award'. A losing semifinalist, the quiet,

all convention. His loud protests created a furor.

As a prominent member of the TNCA, Pattu had hoped some day to become its President, but this too was not to be. Pattu, however, continued to serve the game till one fine morning he passed away peacefully in his sleep.



V Pattabhiraman

## Planning for the SAF Games

In New Delhi on July 25th, B. Sivanthi Adityan spearheaded the move by the Indian Olympic Association, of which he is the President, to award cash prizes to the Indian medal winners at the South Asian Federation (SAF) Games to be held in Dhaka in December. Five days after he announced awards of Rs. 10,000/- to gold medalists, Rs. 5,000/- to runners-up and Rs. 3,000/- to bronze winners, he bid for the 1995 SAF Games as President of the Tamil Nadu Olympic Association. And Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Jayalalitha blessed him for it.

Almost the first thing Adityan did, on his return on August 1st as President of the TNOA after a four-year break, was to suggest that the 1995 Games be staged at the Nehru Stadium in Madras and that a sports complex be raised around it. Staging the SAF Games, with several nations participating in them, needs elaborate planning and a modern infrastructure. The Nehru Stadium has all the modern amenities for football and athletics, but the Games' schedule includes competition in

several other disciplines, like boxing, judo, kabaddi, shooting, swimming, table tennis, volleyball and wrestling. And the infrastructure will have to be prepared for them.

The TNOA has sought the co-operation of the Sports Development Authority of Tamil Nadu, which the Jayalalitha government set up recently. Government co-operation will certainly be forthcoming. But only two years remain, and whether a modern indoor stadium, a swimming pool, a boxing ring and the rest of the infrastructure required for international events will be ready, time alone will tell.

Adityan and the TNOA face a gigantic task indeed. The infrastructure apart, competent, experienced and knowledgeable officials are a must for the efficient running of the Games. Recruiting them is another problem. Adityan will certainly need all blessings possible for the successful organisation of the biggest-ever international event to be held in South India.

— Ajax

## Dates for Your Diary

August: 'Artist of the month' — Shilpa Paranjape, who has participated in several group-shows and workshops in Bombay, Baroda, Delhi and Pune. (MMB)

Till August 20: A paper show entitled 'Drugs: An American City Fights Back'. On display at the Am. Cen.

August 21: 'The American Musical — Indian Film'. Lecture by V A K Ranga Rao, illustrated with film clips. At the Am. Cen. 6 p.m.

August 23-31: 'Les comploirs française de l'Inde'. Photographs by Guillaume Zuili. An exhibition of photographs of Pondicherry, Karaikal and Mahé (AF Gallery)

Till August 28: 'English as a Foreign Language, 95-94'. A book exhibition consisting of over 200 titles by specialists, reflects the state of U.S. publishing on English as a foreign language. Several videotapes on the subject will be screened during the exhibit (9.30 a.m. to 6.00 p.m. at the Am. Cen.)

August 25-28: 'Tapestries of Life at Government Museum, Madras. The Mughal Tent project of the Nehru Gallery of Indian Art at the Victoria and Albert Museum, London, involves groups of women from around the world contributing panels which will be put together to form a giant Mughal tent. In South India the Madras Craft Foundation is undertaking the project as part of its outreach programme with sponsorship from the Government Museum and the Association of British Council Scholars.

August 28-September 5: British Book Fair at Sri Sankara Hall, 267 T T K Salai, Madras. Leading importers of books, booksellers and British Publishers' Representatives in India will participate. Books on all subjects including children's books will be on display. A special quiz contest takes place on the day of inauguration, sponsored by the Association of British Council Scholars South India and the Indian Bank. The quiz master will be Dr. Naveen Jayakumar. The programme is open to all. Attractive cash prizes await the winners. In addition, author signing sessions are also planned. The Fair will be formally inaugurated by R Venkataraman, former president of India, on August 28, at 4.15 p.m. at Narada Gana Sabha.

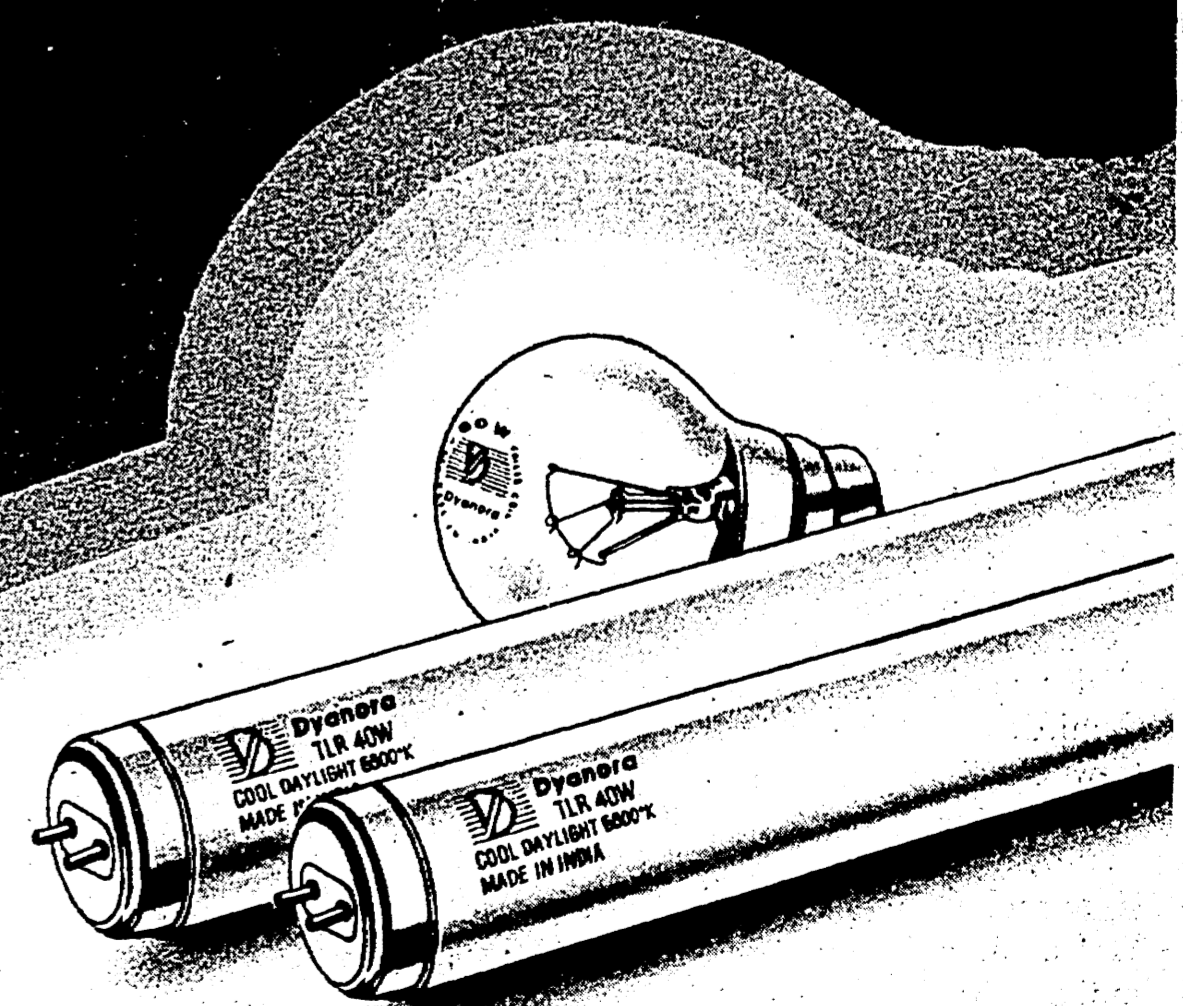
August 29: A very special show at Alliance Française for the children of SOS Village. CRY and 'Magic Lantern' present the adventures of the fabled puppet Pinocchio featuring children from the Little Theatre, with Natasha playing Pinocchio. CRY means this venture to be a part of their fund-raising and child awareness programme (10 am — 12 noon, AF Auditorium).

August 30: Readings from his works by Upamanyu Chatterjee, the celebrated author of *English August: An Indian Story*. His new novel *The Last Burden* has just been released by Penguin India. (6.30 pm at the Br.C.)

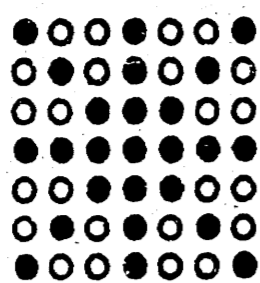
September 3-4: 'Music Teachers Workshop' organised by the Madras Craft Foundation, and conducted by S Rajam Iyer, Chitraaveena Ravikiran and Dr K S Subramaniam (3rd : 2 to 4 pm; 4th: 9.30 to 1 p.m. at AF Auditorium)

(AF = Alliance Française, Am.Cen. = American Centre, Br.C. = British Council, MMB = Max Muller Bhavan).

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# British Book Fair, Madras

## 28 August to 5 September 1993

The British Deputy High Commission, British Council Division, Madras in collaboration with the British Publishers' Representatives in India, will be organising a British Book Fair from 28 August to 5 September 1993 at Sri Sankara Hall, 267 T.T.K. Salai, Madras. Leading importers of books, booksellers and British Publishers' Representatives in India will participate.

Books on all subjects including children's books will be on display. Special emphasis will be given to reprints of British books and special priced editions for the Indian market. More than 15,000 titles and 70,000 British books will be available for sale and perusal at various stands. This would be an excellent opportunity for librarians, academics and heads of institutions to select books for their institutions.

The British Council Division will display the latest British books on Biotechnology, Medicine, Environment, Computer Science and Food Processing. Enrolment of members for the library, information on study opportunity in UK universities, copies of Awards for Study in Britain, information on how to obtain British books and bibliographic services will also be provided.

A specially commissioned quiz contest to highlight this important event will take place on the day of inauguration. The programme is open to all. Attractive cash prizes await the winners. In addition author signing sessions are also planned.

The fair will be formally inaugurated by Honourable Mr. R. Venkataraman, the former President of India on 28 August 93 at 4.15 pm at Narada Gana Sabha.

Here is the list of representatives of the British Publishers in India and other leading booksellers who will display and sell books in their stands.

ABI Books Limited, New Delhi, Affiliated East-West Press, Madras, Allied Publishers, Madras, BI Publications, Madras, The Bookpoint (India) Limited, Hyderabad, Butterworths, New Delhi, Cambridge University Press, New Delhi, ELBS, New Delhi, Higginsbothams Limited, Madras, Orient Longman Limited, Hyderabad, Oxford University Press, Madras, Penguin Books India, New Delhi, The Standard Literature Company, Madras, UBS Publishers' Distributors, Madras, Universal Book Traders, Delhi, British Council Division, British Deputy High Commission (Display only). For further details, please contact our library.

### British High Commission British Council Division

The British Council opened in India in 1948, at the request of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. It has functioned as the British Council Division of the British High Commission in India since 1972. It aims to promote cultural, educational and technical cooperation. It represents Britain in science and technology and in the arts. The Division manages or supports technical cooperation projects for Britain's Overseas Development Administration, and it runs Britain's largest network of libraries.

technological information services available from Britain. In addition, cooperation in the development of Indian libraries and Indian librarianship is important.

The British Council Division promotes the awareness and availability of British books through exhibitions and through the development of contact between the Indian and British book trades.

The Educational Low-priced Books Scheme (ELBS) is funded by the Overseas Development Administration as part of the British Government overseas aid programme and administered by International Book Development Ltd (see address below). It makes available low-

**Western India**  
British Deputy High Commission  
British Council Division  
Mittal Tower 'C' Wing  
Nariman Point, Bombay 400 021  
Tel: 223560  
Tlx: 011 86991 Fax: 022 285 2024

**Eastern India**  
British Deputy High Commission  
British Council Division  
5 Shakespeare Sarani, Calcutta 700 071  
Tel: 225370, 225378-9  
Tlx: 215984 Fax: 224804

**Southern India**  
British Deputy High Commission  
British Council Division  
737 Anna Salai, Madras 600 002  
Tel: 8269402  
Tlx: 041 7775 Fax: 473234

**British Libraries**  
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Mayfair Building  
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Tel: 553767

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Tel: 460693

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College Road, Pune 411004  
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Club Road, Ranchi 834 001  
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Tel: 213485

The British Library  
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Tel: 230774

The British Library  
YMCA Building, Trivandrum 695 001  
Tel: 68716



## British Book Fair Madras

Sri Sankara Hall, 267 T.T.K. Road

28 Aug - 5 Sep 1993 11 am - 8 pm

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### Book and other information services in India

The British Council Division operates four Regional Libraries in India: in New Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta and Madras. There are in addition 9 British Libraries: at Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Bhopal, Hyderabad, Lucknow, Patna, Pune, Ranchi and Thiruvananthapuram, where there is no British diplomatic or consular representation. These are, by agreement with the Government of India, maintained with British Council Division funds and managed jointly with the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR). Over 2.5 million books a year are issued from the 13 libraries to over 100,000 members.

An increasing proportion of the British Council Division's information resources is being directed towards the improvement of reference facilities, the development of current awareness services and towards access to the wide range of scientific and

priced, unabridged editions of British textbooks to students in eighty-eight developing countries, of which India is the largest consumer. Over 450 books are currently on the ELBS list. Sets of ELBS texts can be seen and consulted at the various British Council Division and the British Libraries in India.

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10 Barley Mow Passage  
London W4 4PH  
Tel: 081 9946477  
Tlx: 881 1418 SPACES G  
Fax: 7478715

Information on subject bibliographies in particular fields can be obtained from all thirteen libraries.

Addresses of British Council Division Offices, Regional Libraries and British Libraries

British Council Division  
Offices & Libraries

All India Headquarters

British High Commission  
British Council Division  
17 Kasturba Gandhi Marg,  
New Delhi 110 001  
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Entry closes on 25 August 1993