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IV. No. 8

August 1 — 15, 1994

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(By The Editor)

he last time the authorities wanted to pull down a condemned historic structure, it took them nearly two years! To pull down the 307-year-150-foot tall teakwood flagpole opposite Fort St George will, sumably, not take as long, even if they take the axe to it. That's ause someone's set a deadline to erect the new metal flagpole before gust 15th - when, no doubt, a prayer will be said hoping that it too ts at least 300 years.

The oldest and tallest flagstaff in the country was raised in 1687, en Elihu Yale was Governor. It was raised before the Sea Gate, where ill remains, though that historic gate has long been blocked up. vever, there was a brief period in the 1770s when the flagpole was ved to the northeast bastion, the Reserve Bank of India end. When had the flagstaff raised, it was the Union Jack and not the East India apany flag he had hoisted on it, the first time the Union Jack of the ted Kingdom fluttered over Indian soil.

As the flagpole comes down, with, we hope, due care for it, we nder whether the U.S. Consul-General in Madras, Tim Hauser, might like to approach the authorities here and at Yale University (named r old Eli Yale) about finding a new home for this Yale link. We are e that if Yale University found this historic flagstaff a home on its w Haven campus, it would last another 300 years at least. Over to Consul-General.

(Photograph: V S RAGHAVAN)



# Bombay's Heritage Act

# When do we follow?

(By The Editor)

Every time we meet a government official, we are asked whether we've had any success in preventing the pulling down of the DGP's office on the Marina or getting those concerned to change their minds on putting up multi-storey buildings in the middle of Government Estate. And while telling them that we still lived in hope, we've always added that, more important than piecemeal solutions, what was needed by Madras was a Heritage Act.

Then we'd tell them about Bombay's Heritage Act passed in 1991 and how successfully it was working not only in saving public buildings but many a private one too. And they'd ask for a copy of the Bombay Act, promising to do what they could to get official interest kindled. We've lost track of the number of copies we've had INTACH send them, but we haven't lost hope.

To remind them and inform others interested in the subject, we today publish below, excerpts from the Bombay Heritage Act:

# **SCHEDULE**

Draft Regulations 67 and 68 proposed to be added to the Development Control Regulations for Greater Bombay, 1991. .

After Regulation 66, the following new Regulations 67 and 68 shall be added, namely:-

"67. Conservation of listed buildings, conservation areas, artefacts, structures and precincts of historical, aesthetic, architectural and heritage significance:-(1) Classification — The classification of listed buildings, conservation areas, artefacts, structures or (Continued on P3)

A sampling of the protected

**SCHEDULE** LIST OF BUILDINGS, CONSERVATION AREAS

SI. Nature of monuments, bldgs, No. precincts etc.,

Special features.

Date

Bombay Castle and other his- Military. The oldest surviving 16th,

torical, aesthetically important remains of Bombay's early 17th, buildings and features in I.N.S. history from original Portuguese 18th and British Castle of Bombay, Centuries including battlements, doorways, sundial and other outstandingly important and valuable features.

Gate to Old Customs House) Western Buildings) including...

Naval Dockvard (from Lion Original dockyard constructed 1798 by Powji Wadia. The Dock's with clocktower (Opp. Great frontage on the S.B. Singh Road forms a "line of sight" which remains almost unchanged over the past 200 yrs. Early prints and engravings depict it as one of the main street fronts of early Bombay overlooking the street which led past the Scots Kirk and the old Great Western Hotel (formerly Admiralty House and the first High Court Building), both still standing, to the Apollo.

587. Shirley Rajan Village

Ferns Mansion

Typical Bandra Village comm- 1800's unity complex, small shopping (Residential)

Vernacular style verandahs 1900's with wrought iron railings

(Residential)

616.

588.

Tehmi Terrace

NOTE: Also listed in the schedule are ownership and usage.

Colonial style (Residential) 1918

# The criteria for conservation

Criteria (Classification) for Listing Buildings and Conservation Areas:

- Value for architectural, historical OR cultural reasons.
- The date and/or period for design and/or unique use of the building or artefact.
- Relevance to social or economic
- Association with well-known persons
- Buildings or groups of buildings and/or areas of a distinct architectural design and/or style, historic period or way of life, having sociological interest and/or community value.
- The unique value of a building or architectural features or artefact and/or being part of a chain of architectural development that would be broken if it were lost.
- Value as a part of a group of buildings.
- Representing forms of technological development.
- Places of natural scenic beauty or interest, including water-front areas, distinctive and/or planned lines of sight...
- Open spaces sometimes integrally planned with their associated areas having a distinctive way of life and... which... have the potential to be areas of recreation

The Man From Madras Musings has never had a very happy equation with politicians of whatever feather, but he must admit that he was rather pleasantly surprised by one former politician from the Deep South with whom he was thrown together for lunch. The conversation at table had little to do with politics and much to do with Madras and the future of the city. Here was an expolitician who also had a vision: a vision of a better Madras that didn't have to wait till the year

He recalled the Parks, Playgrounds and Open Spaces Act (did MMM hear that correctly?) that Rajaji was instrumental in introducing and which had kept Madras a city open to the skies until the Seventies. A stricter interpretation and implementation of it would save the environment of Madras, he was sure. The Man From Madras

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TRANSLATION

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(preferably in negative form)

Author

ALDISS, B

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HARVEY-JONES, J

FENTON, J

HOLDEN, R

LEIGH, A

NORTH, P

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PYM, J SAYER, P

SMITH, N

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VAUGHAN.

ALLEN. P

If you have, please send details to S Muthiah 2-F Ist Cross Street, Vijayaraghavachari Road, Madras - 600 017.

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The absolution gam

Who rules Britain?

No second prize

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luilding a better body

Perfect communications

Musings, in turn, wondered whether it would save Government Estate from the fate awaiting it at the hands of Government developers.

He was convinced a Godavari-Krishna-Tamil Nadu link would keep Madras and northern Tamil Nadu much wetter than the envisioned Telugu Ganga scheme dependent on the Krishna rather than on the mightier Godavari. Such a scheme would even enable the city's waterways to come alive again, he was confident. Those waterways were much more meaningful traffic routes than any railways or highways in the sky, he was convinced.

And, he wondered, why no effort was being made to resurrect the tanks of Tamil Nadu. Once the source of abundant water in the state, more than half the tanks have dried up and are not cared for or have been filled in and built over. In Madras itself, the Long Tark is now T'Nagar, the Nungambakkam Tank is Nungambakkam and Spur Tank has been swallowed by Chetput. Revive the tanks and protect them with an act like the Park and Playgrounds Act, he suggests, and much of the State's water problems will diminish, he

Whether he is right or wrong about all this, The Man From Madras Musings was not too worried about. What made MMM happy was that at last here was a political figure (be it a past one) who was CONCERNED with Madras and wanted to do something to make this a better city for all its citizens.

If ever we get a Corporation, here is one person who should

# Will it finish?

Thanjavur, once proud capital of the Cholas, is today a dusty, congested city with people, animals and traffic vying for every inch of space. It is this unprepossessing town, which cannot keep its World Heritage temple and the palace of its Nayak and Maratha kings in good repair, that is to play host to the World Tamil Conference next lanuary.

Government, determined to put on at least one major show every year, is equally determined that its facelift for Thanjavur will be completed in time for the Conference. The showpiece of the Conference will undoubtedly be the Conference site and the accommodation to go with it, 800 houses on the Tamil Uni-

versity campus. But a more permanent monument is likely to be the 29 km ring road — if it is completed. Indeed, if it is finished in time, half of Thanjavur's congestion will vanish overnight.

More electric power is also envisaged for the city, with a 230 KV substation to come up. But The Man From Madras Musings understands it is still a long way from completion, though the Chief Minister laid the foundation stone for it last

But while attempts are being made to push all this, MMM has not heard of any success in cleaning up the precincts of the Brihadeeswarar Temple or with the renovation of the Thanjavur Palace, a portion of which collapsed during last year's heavy monsoon. These are the two show pieces of Thanjavur, together with the little cared for and less conserved Saraswathi Mahal Library. Are these to be

# In brief

\* Mention had been made in Madras Musings recently of plans to develop the Metro stations-tobe as multistorey office-cumshopping centres. The Railways, with its vast acres, is obviously thinking of ways and means to make the most remunerative use of its land. Now, The Man From Madras Musings, hears that some of this land in a hundred different locations is being earmarked for inexpensive but international standard 100-room hotels and that the Railways is looking for partners in this project. Seven places in Tamil Nadu where the Railways would like such hotels built are Coimbatore, Kanniyakumari, Madurai, Maviladuthurai, Rameswaram, Salem and Thanjavur. While welcoming the idea, MMM would commend to the Railways the idea of upgrading the accommodation it has at present in stations in Madras, Tiruchchirappalli etc.

# SHORT N' SNAPPY

ignored while the delegates discuss Senthamizh and its cultural fall-out? Or will we see another miracle like the Nehru Stadium one of these days?

# Will it ease?

Of late, The Man From Madras Musings has had to, every morning, pass through the Eldams Road-Anna Salai Junction and he's suffered every morning. No place in the city needs a flyover more urgently than this overcrowded junction, to pass through which you need to wait at least two signal stops before

Other areas getting congested are Cenotaph Road-Chamiers Road, Nungambakkam High Road-Village Road-Sterling Road, Pantheon Road and Purasawalkam High Road. Solutions will have to be found for all these before long, if traffic in the city is not going to be one big traffic jam.

With the kind of traffic now on the roads, such a situation is not improbable. As of the end of last year, there were 662,000 vehicles on the road -475,000two-wheelers, 126,000 cars, 19,000 autorickshaws, 6000 tourist vehicles, 3000 buses, 25,000 goods carriers and 8000 other vehicles (ambulances, fire-tenders etc.). And growth is at the rate of around

7 per cent a year, MMM finds. Traffic in these numbers is already finding many roads in the city — and especially several of the city's bridges and junctions — totally inadequate for its volume. In these circumstances, even a seven per cent growth is growth too much. The answer, MMM would think, lies not only in new ways of regulating traffic but also in a crash programme to enlarge junctions, widen bridges and build

When the British built the roads of the city in the 1820s. they built roads that could take the traffic that grew until the 1970s. When the new roadbuilding takes place as part of Vision 2000, MMM hopes that what's built will prove adequate till at least 2050.

They can't get any worse than they are.

\* As Madras prepares for the next South Asian Federation Games, to be held here at the end of 1995 or early in 1996, plans are being drawn up for the Games Village it will need. The village is expected to comprise of 300 luxury 3-bedroom flats (120 sq m) and 150 2-bed-room flats (appx. 95 sq. m), all with living and dining rooms, all furnished and all served by a reception area, a shopping arcade, medicare facilities, an air-conditioned auditorium-cumtheatre, police and fire stations, post and telegraph facilities and practice areas for all sports. The only problem at the moment is WHERE to construct this village which is expected to cost nearly Rs. 100 crore. The land earmarked at Koyambedu for a modern terminus for mofussil buses, Madhavaram and 40 acres in Nolambur are all being considered. But as the debate drags on, the Games keep drawing nearer. Will the flats be ready by then?

# Business briefs

\* McDowell's, that old Madras name in the liquor business (1825) and now flagship of Vijay Mallya's UB liquor group will shortly manufacture two international liquor brands in India, following tie-ups with Italian and British companies. Campari will be made in India as a consequence of the Italian tieup and the tie-up with United Distillers of the British Guinness Group will introduce in India several popular British liquor brands. Meanwhile, McDowell's liquor division is rejoicing over selling 5.8 million cases of liquor last year, McDowell No. 1 whisky and brandy and Diplomat whisky each accounting for over a million cases in that overall sales figure. With Carew Phipson, Coastal Distilleries and Consolidated Distilleries of the UB Group now merged with McDowell's, the old Madras company could well turn out to be the leader in the Indian liquor market in the year ahead.

\* As the great car race prepares to get underway, The Man From Madras Musings understands that Ashok Levland is likely to

ing to Leyland's — about their stoo, from premier institutions like 1.1. Ts Spanish Seat Marabella and their Czech Skoda Favorit, priced in who have received highly subsidised Europe in the range of Rs. 2.75 qualitatively higher education in India

3.5 lakhs. \* That high-selling fashion label firsts society chose to sacrifice thinking from France, Pierre Cardin, entered, or rather, silently crept into the city fashion scene recently. There was none of the glitz as in Bombay, no Pierre Cardin in person, no fashion is not offer qualitative jobs commensurate shows, no partying, only a poor this higher qualifications and that there cloth banner (must have been to proper environment to work here. iety taught him precisely for such reasons, made by one of our local Cardins!) in the Dupleix Room in the would be able to create such a the Taj where the line was genial atmosphere where brains would launched. The Man From Madras Musings wonders whether Cardin thought this was all Madras, the conservative

August 1-15

be the only company from

Madras getting into the race. Th

Hinduja-owned Leyland ha

already tied up with Iveco o

Italy's Fiat group for new truck

making technology. Could

collaboration with Fiat for car

manufacture be far behind

the 899 cc Cinquecento, the

999 cc Panda and the

1000-1400 cc Uno, ranging i

price there from Rs. 2.75 lakilit

to Rs. 3.9 lakh. These prices

could well come down if any one

of them is manufactured in Indi

market, but MMM wonders

the German Volkswagen.

Interestingly, MMM hears that

Volkswagen have also been talk

and wants to capture the mass rious look wanted

whatever happened to that ou conclude in 'Slow drain' (MM June

popular vehicle of another age, 1-15) that brain drain from India is not

the 'Bug' Fiat. That's the car gious as it has been made out to be.

for India! And so are a couple rely upon a figure of a meagre 34,000

of other 'bugs', the post-World ans studying abroad. The report has

War II British Morris Minor and wrong conclusions by analysing

evant statistics.

It is a part of the post collegiate Indian

ulation that accounts for the brain drain.

medical colleges. 'Brain' comprises of

expense of their poor bretheren whose

after acquiring higher education this

iny class would work towards uplifting

n, while in fact this 'brain' quietly drained

One such 'brain' disclosed that India

t for the prosperity of the Indian

nomy and her illiterate, mal-fed (sic) poor

R. Adarsh

5 First Link Street

Karpagam Gardens

Madras 600 020.

Fiat's small cars in Europe

Your statistics also reveal that compabackwaters of the Indian fashion rely few Indians study abroad, preworld, deserved. The press mably, at their own expense. The figure conference too was suitably wither likely to come down if you exclude prosaic. What is the price of a pulsive students (like those whose Cardin shirt? Oh, it's very little, and are working abroad or having settled at around Rs. 300. What is the an retain Indian citizenship). price of a Cardin shoe? Not very! It is wished that a serious problem like much, around Rs. 400. And so in drain should not be dismissed so

on and so forth, about Cardin thy, based on some abstract statistics. MM perfumes, cosmetics and the like and do a great service to society by Are you planning to export? Yes, mining this multi-faceted problem in a When? Very soon. And? And sper manner. what? End of press meet. What really caught MMM's eye

however, was the beautiful glossy folder with the press release. That was Cardin-style From Bombay?!

\* Madras is promised uninter rupted power supply by this time next year. Work has started on a gas turbine project at Basin ontinued from P 1) Bridge which, it is promised, will be ready in the record time recincts (hereinafter referred to as of 11 months. The Japanese listed buildings or conservation funded Rs. 376 crore project res") will be based on the aesthetic, will see the setting up of four chitectural, historical or cultural 30 mw units that can run on alue, period, association with naptha or natural gas. The first rsons, personalities or events, unit is slated to be completed in sigue value or distinctive features December, two more in February and the last unit in tenic beauty. Listed buildings and March 1995. Initially, the plant inservation areas shall be initially will supply power for six hours whilshed by Government in the a day — at peak periods. The Micial Gazette for giving an Tamil Nadu Electricity Board portunity for public objections Project, on which Sumitomo of suggestions and for hearing Japan and BHEL of Hyderabad ersons likely to be affected thereby are teaming, will use General and considering the same in such Electric technology that the sanner as may be considered contractors have been licensed to propriate. manufacture. The TNEB h already contracted for 50,000 tonnes of naptha — to be idevelopment, etc — No develop-supplied by pipeline from Indian tent or redevelopment or engineertonnes of naptha — to b

Temple view endangered

Mada Street, Mylapore, directly opposite the famous Kapaleeswarar Temple in Mylapore, has been demolished. It is planned to construct a multi-storied commercial complex in its place. This will obstruct the grand view of the temple tower and ruin the sanctity of the temple

The intervention of conservationists is sought to stop the proposed construction and help preserve the historical and religious importance of this place and other such spots

K. Ramanathan 4 North Mada Street Mylapore Madras 600 004.

committed can approach.

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(Photograph: V.S. RAGHAVAN

tter below refers to the demolition of an old building in Mylapore. The multi

building planned in its place will surely obstruct the public view of the Kapaleeswarai

here seen towering over the ruins of the house that was forn down.

**OUR READER'S WRITE** 

🧥 n old residential building No. 7, North

# Free for MM readers

With a view to providing voluntary assistance to candidates preparing for M.B.A., C.A., ICWA, I am planning to offer a five-day intensive crash lecture session on Statistics for Management and O.R. The programs will be held only on weekends (Saturday & Sunday), four hours each day (8.30 am - 12.30 pm) and commences from August 6th. This program is **absolutely free** to the readers of *Madras* Musines and their wards. The intake is limited. Candidates who are keen and

Prof. H.K. Lakshman Rao

The Post Office situated at the end of III Main Road, Sri Ayyappa Nagar peripheral area (Madras 600 111), transacts business from 07.30 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. and again from 1.00 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. and on Saturdays upto 3.30 p.m.

facilities with sprawling residential neighbour-

plan to build in Kotturpuram the a common phenomenon today is that in areas which are hitherto predonew premises it needs to enable an expansion of membership, has drawn fire from city chambers of commerce.

The Madras Stock Exchange's (MSE)

In letters addressed to The Chair-

man, Securities and Exchange Board

of India, the President of the MSE and

the Vice-Chairman of the MMDA, the

Hindustan Chamber of Commerce

wonders how a decision has been

taken to shift the MSE office from a

commercial area to a residential area.

which is described as an "inaccessible

The Chamber feels that the Stock

Exchange, "which is now situated near

Madras General Post Office, all major

banks, harbour, High Court etc. is

located most suitably from the point of

The Chamber further suggests that

in the alternative, the stock exchange

could move to Mount Road, a com-

mercial area, or Ring Road (between

Vadapalani and Koyambedu), which

is a growing commercial area and

where vacant space is available for the

construction of multistoried buildings.

Minister for Housing and Urban

Development and Chairman, MMDA,

the Madras Chamber of Commerce &

Industry point out that "the city of

Madras has been allowed to grow and

expand without proper town planning

and zoning for land usage. Commercial

offices, shops, residential buildings

automobile workshops and even

schools have been allowed to be set

up without any restrictions about the

locations where they should be set up.

This mixing up of all sorts of buildings,

shops etc. is creating innumerable

problems by way of traffic congestion.

noise pollution, sanitation and also

hoods, will the P & T Dept. favourably

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Secretary

security risks.

In addressing S. Regupathy, the

view of the investing public".

activity".

EDITOR'S NOTE: With business on the Stock Exchange booming and with the need for brokers to enter the business, there is no doubt that the MSE needs a large new building with plenty of parking space. For that, it needs to move out of George Town, which, in any other part of the world, would have been declared a Heritage Zone by now and a ban put on any further site, far from the centre of commercial buildings

NOT in Kotturpuram,

Chambers urge MSE

The Chamber then points out that

In these circumstances, where should the new MSE building come up? We are not quite convinced by the Chambers' pleas, but can understand the ire of a residential locality over its peace being disturbed. At the same time, the MSE undoubtedly will have to find an area for development within its budget. And at today's prices, Anna Salai may be out of the question. One possibility that comes to mind is the Racecourse. The place for racecourses and golf links is well out of town, not inside it. On the other hand, this is a part of the city that is growing.

minantly residential areas, commercial offices, shops and even petty workshops have been allowed to be set up, causing inconvenience to residents in the locality and straining civic amenities like water, sanitation and drainage. "The latest such instance is the proposal of the Madras Stock Exchange to put up a multistoried building in Kotturpuram essentially a residential locality", the Chamber points out.

While the MSE's need for spacious accommodation with all modern facilities is appreciated by the Chamber, it

is puzzled by the reason given by the Stock Exchange for choosing Kotturpuram: that the site chosen in Commander-in-Chief Road has been declared a residential locality and therefore commercial offices cannot be put up. The Chamber points outs that Commander-in-Chief Road is one of the commercial areas in the city. The Chamber further feels that access to Kottumuram and infrastructure nearby would prove inadequate and trusts that the State Government and other authorities would not allow residentia areas to be invaded by comorate and commercial buildings and that the zoning of the city for different usages would be immediately done".

And the Southern India Chamber of Commerce and Industry adds its weight to this cause by addressing the Madras Stock Exchange.

It is surprised that the site selected for the location of the new building of the MSE is property "situated in the interior of residential Kotturpurarn Village, far from the main roads and difficult of access." The SICCI feels that the present location of the Stock Exchange near Parry's Corner remains the most suitable from the point of view of the investing public. It further adds, there are "a number of better locations in the City and it is most surprising that the decision makers at the Stock Exchange have chosen to locate the Exchange in a residential area, disregarding the advantage of locating it in a commercial area of importance and having easy access".

The Chamber feels that if the Stock Exchange is to be shifted from its present location, other suitable locations in other commercial areas of the City should be examined

# HAVE YOU SENT IN YOUR SUBSCRIPTION?

With Volume IV, No. 1, our April 16-30 issue, we will be pricing Madras Musings. The annual subscription (for 24 copies a year) will be Rs. 60/-. Madras Musings will also be available at selected outlets — bookshops. department stores, restaurants — at Rs. 3/- a copy.

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nd include vistas of natural or

(2) Restriction on development/ Oil Corporation's Korukkupet oil g operation or additions, alteterminal — which, it is estimated, will enable six hours painting of buildings, replace-power generation a day for 240 tent of special features or plastering any listed building or conser-

vation area which involves damage to or has impact on or affects the aesthetics of any listed building or conservation area or changes of appearance of such listed buildings or conservation areas or parts thereof, shall be allowed except with the written permission of the Commissioner. The Commissioner shall take into consideration the recommendations of the Heritage Conservation Committee appointed by Government.

(3) Preparation of list of buildings and conservation areas, etc -The list of buildings to which the Regulation applies shall be the list prepared by the Heritage Conservation Committee and approved by Government... It may be supplemented, altered, deleted or modified from time to time by Government on receipt of proposals from the Heritage Conservation Committee...

(4) Power to alter, modify or relax regulations - With the approval of Government and after consultation with the Heritage Conservation Committee, the

Commissioner shall have the power to alter, modify or relax the provisions of any of these regulations, if it is needed for the conservation, preservation or retention of hisorical, aesthetic heritage or architectural quality of any listed building or conservation area.

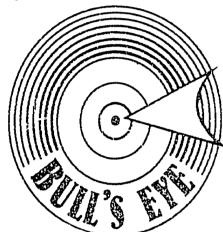
The Act lists 624 buildings and areas to be protected and adds a list of 15 historic milestones to be saved! What is significant about that detailed list is that several private residential buildings and even residential areas are earmarked for protection. We publish the criteria for conservation and a sampling from the list today. And wonder when Madras will get an Act as comprehensive as this. Is Madras to continue to lag behind Bombay as it has ever since Kipling dubbed it a "benighted" city? OR do we shortly see a new dawn on the heritage front in a city with a far older heritage than Bombay, a good part of it going beyond British times?

# FOW/CI

# — Doing more than in one's power?

Technology in the areas of cogeneration, higher value distillates from refining, oil and gas exploration. expanded coal utilisation and clean coal technologies in an environmentally favourable manner were promised during US Energy Secretary Hazel O'Leary's recent visit to India to scout for greater cooperation between the countries in the areas of power, coal. oil, gas and environment. Even as the positive undertones of this visit have buoyed many a spirit, the difficulties under which our power sector currently labours flaunt themselves rather unflatteringly

Let's face it. Currently, the odds are against us. For some years now, the



power deficit in the country has been of the order of 10 per cent across the board and 22 per cent at the peak. As a small illustration, the amount of power cuts in Madras at present, are more than last year and in turn are more than the previous year.

Power plants have high capital output ratio. Unfortunately, huge subsidies have rendered the State Electricity Boards (SEBs) incapable of paying their dues, rendering them impoverished and incapable of making any further investments of their own. Our transmission and distribution losses are abnormally high, at 20 per cent, when compared to 6-12 per cent in other countries. To top it all, we have, for now, been confined to the non-investment grade of countries.

Some time ago, the Government of India roped in overseas participation in this sector with a license for thirty years, renewable after twenty years, a tax holiday for new power projects for five years, 100 per cent depreciation on pollution control equipment for new

For your darling child and I.T. Relief for you





LIC Of India Southern Zone

projects, a 16 per cent rate of return on assets and, above all, a counterguarantee to them that it would step in if the SEBs failed to meet their payment obligations.

Guarantees for honouring of contractual obligations in the country, such as purchasing and pricing agreements, make sense, given the state of our SEBs. However, the last route to lure investments, i.e. counter-guarantees, is what is raising a lot of dust. Given that this could promote inefficiencies rather than productivity (as the MNCs could always jack up their cost of production), this subsidy to the foreign producers is a paradox, considering that inefficiency through subsidies is precisely the reason for the call to remove subsidies to

In this context, we could follow the footsteps of such Asian countries as Taiwan, Pakistan and China. Also in dire need of investments in this coresector, they too have assured a rate of return on capital, but none seems to have given counter-guarantees. All of them are not doing a bad job of attracting overseas power investors, proving that necessity need not always vield a bad bargain.

Here are three good lookers for this

Indana Dairy (CMP Rs. 52): The Company has announced good results for 1993-4<sub>r</sub>a turnover of Rs. 10.60 cr and PAT of Rs. 2.30 cr resulting in an EPS of Rs. 7.66 on the old equity of Rs. 3 cr. It also declared a dividend of 21 per cent. It is setting up joint ventures in Nepal and Oman for producing milk products and will start manufactuuring casein, a milk protein derivative used in pharma and food processing, by the end of this month. Sugar cones for icecreams will also be manufactured by a joint venture with an Italian firm. All these plans make us believe that the company will perform much better than its estimations for 1994-95. It has projected a turnover of Rs. 29.50 cr and PAT of Rs. 2.90 cr for 1994-95. We estimate Rs. 100 for this share by the results.

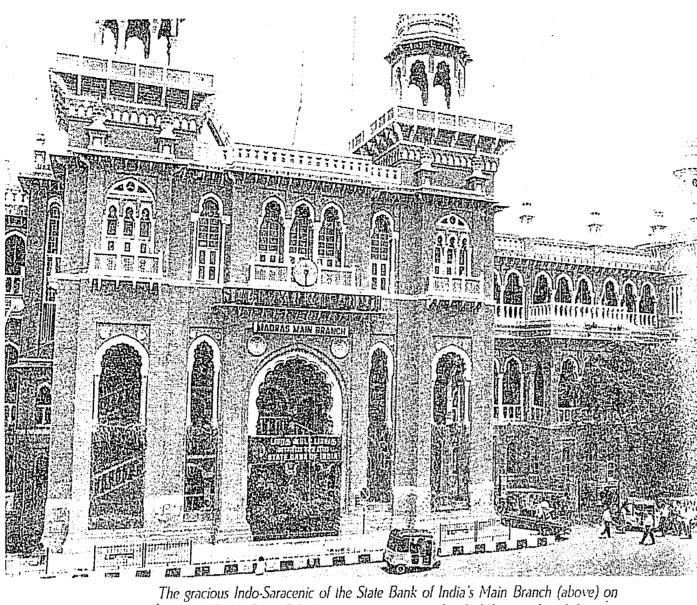
Lakshana Cotton Spinning (CMP Rs. 25.00): This Coimbatore-based company entered the capital market in May 1994 and the issue was oversubscribed 2.2 times. The recent issue was to finance an expansion to 22,000-plus spindles. This new Rs. 2.88 cr project is expected to go onstream by October 1994. For 1993-94 (9 months), the company has achieved a sales of Rs. 5.23 cr and a PAT of Rs. 0.37 cr. The company anticipates a sales of Rs. 10.25 cr and PAT of Rs. 0.75 cr for March 1995. The resultant EPS is Rs. 2.20 on an enhanced equity of Rs. 3.45 cr. These seem achievable owing to its past performance, industry averages and partial contribution from expansion. Long term prospects are encouraging. Hold. Also, buy on declines for long-term gains.

Apple Credit Corporation (CMP

Rs. 90): ACCL is coming up with a rightscum-public issue of Rs. 20 cr at a premium to the increasing fund requirements. It is proposed to issue FIIs 30 per cent of the revised equity capital. The working results for the half-year ended December 1993 have been spectacular. The company recorded a gross income of Rs. 12 cr, representing an increase of 9.64 per cent over the projected December 1993 figures. while the NP, after finance charges, depreciation etc., stood at Rs. 6.07 cr., 29.67 per cent more than that projected for the corresponding period. Prices, which made an all time high of Rs. 115, are currently reacting and unlikely to lose support at Rs. 80. Buy with a stoploss at Rs. 80 for

K Gopalakrishnan

a target of Rs. 125.



North Beach Road (Rajaji Salai) is quite a contrast to the sleek lines and stark lettering of the newest bank in the city, the ICICI Bank's first branch in the country (below).

The Old and The New of banking



O ur OLD is the gracious Indo-Saracenic of the State Bank of India's Madras Main Branch, built in the 1890s for the Bank of Madras, the first modern bank to be established in India. That great builder Namberumal Chetty began the work in 1896 on a Henry Irwin adaptation of Col. Samuel Jacob's plans. The site had been bought from Government in 1895 and the contract for the building was valued at Rs. 3 lakhs.

The interior is certainly Irwin, echoing the Connemara Library's great reading hall. marble-floored banking hall, a lofty vaulted ceiling, ornate woodwork, glasspanelled doors and over 1200 pieces of stained glass are all rather dimmed by the clutter of early 20th century banking, but cry for renovation.

Our NEW echoes today's banking better. Offering clean, sleek lines in its exterior embellishment and an almost antiseptic interior is the corner of the ICICI's building that is the city's newest bank branch, the first branch in all India of the ICICI Banking Corporation Ltd., the first private bank to open a branch in Madras under the liberalised regime and the thirdprivate bank to commence operations in the

Six more branches are scheduled to be opened this year, including one in Nungambakkam. The deposit target for the Madras branches in the first year has been fixed at Rs. 100 crore and Rs. 500 crore for the bank as a whole. But isn't Rs. 71 crore a

first year of operations? Managing Director P V Maiya feels the target can even be exceeded by practising what he calls "partnership banking". He promises to treat all his clients - in big business, in smallscale industry and in the agriculture sector — as business partners, which is what every account holder of a bank expects. Sources in the banking industry, therefore, feel the deposit target of Rs. 500 crore for the first year and Rs. 1800 crore by the end of the fourth year is nothing much for the bank, as ICICI is backing it to the hilt. Strongly refuting the suggestion that there will be captive banking, Maiya says, "We will win the new clients by our service and decisionmaking". A professionally trained staff, a fully computerised operation and a relatively flat hierarchy are the bank's advantages, he points out. Speaking about his staff strength, Maiya says, "Our bank is a 'sangam' of young professionals from 12 different banks

branch too stiff a target to achieve in the

with an average age of 33". The ICICI Bank expects to locate 45 branches in metro/large cities and 15 branches in semi-urban/rural areas before long, thereby satisfying its licence requirements of having 25 per cent of the total branches in semi-urban/rural areas. "Sixtyfive centres in the country provide 75 per cent of the banking business and this aspect is what we will keep in mind while selecting places to locate branches in," states

The bank will herald an era of 'branchless banking' by linking corporate

clients to its central computer, so banking transactions will be done with moving out. Further, it will open corpo terminals at corporate client's premises. link to its central computer will be exten to high profile individual account-hole and, later, to anyone who has a person

In order to be cost-effective, a minim balance of Rs. 5000 will have to be m tained in SB accounts and Rs. 15,0 case of account holders using its A

For the purpose of collection of cho and drawing of drafts, the ICICI Bank entered into an agreement with the Co ration Bank "It's not piggyback riding," Maiya. "The relationship is based. mutuality of interest and will be bene to both in the long run". The Bat California and Chase Manhattan will after overseas transactions.

Apart from financing the working of requirements of big industry, the Bank also finance the purchase of consu durables and credit cards and offer against shares. Value-added service funds management will be offered in h promises Maiya, who spent his working career till now in SBI's departments and who was instrumental reforming and streamlining the appraisal procedures there. "But we will

(Text by V JAGANNA

Wanted Wismaya'
At Madras Central

e other day, I had to kill two hours t Madras Central as I waited for in. What better way to do it than have a cup of coffee and a vadai prowse through a mag. So I made way to the Vegetarian Refreshment

My nose voted against the place in before I peeped in, such was the ur emanating from it. One look in-, and my eyes followed suit. The ular stand-and-eat-on-me tabletops fleets of flies landing and taking off, place looked dingy, dark and mal. So I hastily beat a retreat and de my way up the grand staircase the Vegetarian Restaurant.

As I climbed up the colonial stair-Re. I had this deja vu feeling and then emembered. In the late Sixties, on trip to Delhi, we had spent a few in transit at Madras Central and gone up the same stairs to the ing rooms and restaurant upstairs. tiful memories rushed in; the restaurant had a real coffee house atmosphere then. I recalled; and we children had been thrilled because they gave us any amount of ketchup with the cutlets. Lost in such reverie. I followed the signboard and reached the Vegetarian Restaurant.

I was shocked at what I saw. It looked so dilapidated, more like an old warehouse. About six or eight people were there in the huge hall, just about three tables occupied, all others empty I parked myself at one hoping some waiter would arrive. After about fifteen minutes, when no one cared to bestow so much as a glance. I sauntered up

lilliputian hoarding hiding under a

calendar. So I got a bill for a coffee and

vadai and enquired where I was sup-

poser in the world, and so was Handel.

Handel was half German, half Italian,

STUDENT

ELCOPE:

and half English. He was very large.

Bach died from 1750 to the present.

Beethoven wrote music even though

he was deaf. He was so deaf he wrote

loud music. He took long walks in the

forest even when everyone was calling

for him. Beethoven expired in 1827

France was in a very serious state.

The French Revolution was accomp-

lished before it happened. The Mar-

seillaise was the theme song of the

French Revolution, and it catapulted

into Napoleon. During the Napoleonic

Wars, the crowned heads of Europe

were trembling in their shoes. Then the

Spanish gorillas came down from the

hills and nipped at Napoleon's flanks.

Napoleon became ill with bladder

problems and was very tense and

unrestrained. He wanted an heir to

inherit his power, but since Josephine

was a baroness, she couldn't bear

and later died for this.

• by Hjramalini Seshadri to the cash-desk. It was a "self-service place", he said and pointed to a

like eternity, a waiter in dirty whites and matching dirty towel came up and collected the chit and disappeared. Another ten minutes went by. Perhaps he is milking the cow. I consoled

Empire because the British Empire is

in the East and the sun sets in the West.

Queen Victoria was the longest queen.

She sat on a thorn for 63 years. Her

reclining years and finally the end of

her life were exemplatory of a great

personality. Her death was the final

of many great inventions and thoughts.

The invention of the steamboat caused

a network of rivers to spring up. Cyrus

McCormick invented the McCormick

raper, which did the work of a hundred

men. Samuel Morse invented a code

of telepathy. Louis Pesteur discovered

a cure for rabbis. Charles Darwin was

a naturalist who wrote the Organ of

the Species. Madman Curie discovered

radium. And Karl Marx became one

The First World War, caused b

the assignation of the Arch Duck b

a surf, ushered in a new error in the

(Concluded)

of the Marx brothers.

anals of human history.

event which ended her reign.

posed to pick them up. "Ukkaarungo."

he genially replied. So I sat again and

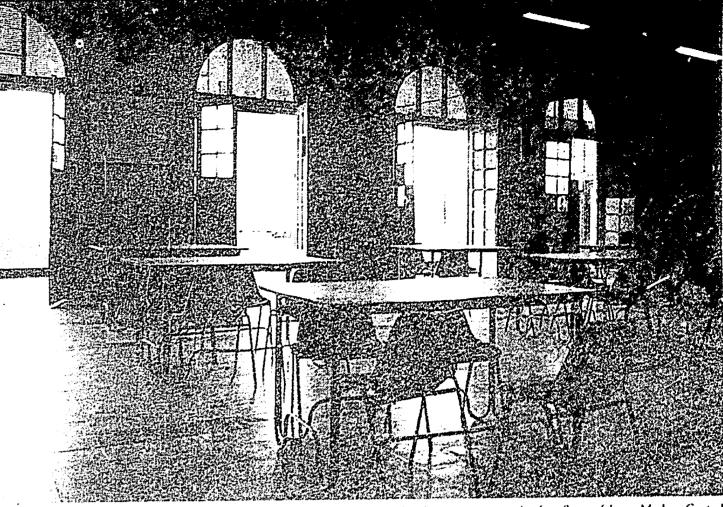
cooled my heels. After what seemed

wasted. What superb flooring and what a lovely high ceiling! Good enough to be a ballroom. I mused. I called a waiter and enquired. "Who runs this place?" "Railways, Sar," he replied. Running trains certainly doesn't equip you to run restaurants, I guess. But surely we citizens deserve better.

Madras Central is literally the Gateway to the South and surely the thousands of our countrymen arriving there deserve a better deal than this. With just a little imagination, the place could be doing better business than Woodlands. Why, in the past it had been so, I mused. By then it was time for my train. I walked up to the washbasin in the verandah overlooking the Main Road. What a view and, again, what a lovely breeze! The place could be a dream restaurant — if only it was in the right hands. The nineteenth century was a time

A few days later, we were at the Bangalore City Station. It was eight at night and we were to catch the Madras Mail at ten. We decided to have dinner at the station. After my Madras Central experience. I was bit apprehensive about this eating-at-the-station idea, but I was in for a really pleasant surprise.

'Vismava' took me by vismaya, literally! What a lovely restaurant! How very clean and so tastefully furnished! The food was most reasonably priced (tomato soup for Rs. 10 a bowl), and the menu had everything ranging from idlis to noodles. The waiters were neatly dressed, service was quick and the food arrived piping hot. We had a thoroughly enioyable meal, and fingerbowls with lime provided a perfect finale. My Madras Central experience only served to accentuate the plus points of the Bangalore experience. Ever since I got back, I've been itching



was HEAVENLY and after the hustle

and bustle of the crowds below, the

thousand square feet of prime city-

centre space lay around me colossally

vast emptiness was welcome.

The almost-empty, ghostly restaurant on the first floor of busy Madras Central. (Photograph: V.S. RAGHAVAN)

to write this — we need a Vismaya at myself. Finally, my coffee arrived; it looked like the cow hadn't obliged at Madras Centrai. all, going by its colour. And the vadais We could do with a few more were clearly antique. But the breeze

changes too at Madras Central, while we are on the subject. For example, I wish the Authorities would make up their minds regarding the main central I surveyed the scene. At least five waiting area. "To seat or not to seal passengers", seems to be their eternal question! First they put in bucket-seatchairs, then they tore them out: now they have put them back. Every few months there seems to be a change of

> There again. Bangalore scores over Madras. The platforms there have good old granite slab benches. People can sit on them, stretch out on them, change a baby's nappy on them, share a home-made meal on them... I defy anyone to accomplish all that on a bucket-seat-chair! The only place in Madras Central where you can sit in some comfort is on the dealwood boxes and other packages that are strewn on the platforms.

If the earth-digging and iron-rods and mountains of jalli are any indication. Madras Central is in for some kind of lacelift. I hope that it will include petter waiting-benches and a nice restaurant too! Dear Mr. G.M., Southern Railway, I hope you will "look into the matter", as they say in officialese. In the meantime. I wish our dynamic new Sheriff would make Jafar Sharief Sahib an Honorary Madrasi; invite him, roll out the red carpet, hand him a key to the city etc. AND ask him to "look into the matter" as well! Here's to a Madras Central Vismaya!

For your beloved daughter and I.T. Relief for you





War and Anti-War: Survival at the Dawn of the 21st Century. · Little, Brown and Company, c1993. (355.02 TOF)

# The serious state at a reasonable time The sun never set on the British Bach was the most famous com-

ntinued from last fortnight)

eanwhile in Europe, the enlightenment was a reasonable time. ltare invented electricity and also ote a book called *Candy*. Gravity s invented by Isaac Walton. It is elly noticeable in the Autumn, when apples are falling off the trees.



NAD, MAD MADRAS

lend to the liquor industry," says M

Photographs by V S RAGHAV

# AMERICAN CENTER LIBRARY

Gemini Circle, Mount Road, Madras 600 006. Tel: 8273040.

NOTABLE BOOKS OF THE MONTH

Bass, Thomas A Reinventing the Future: Conversations with the World's Leading Scientists. Addison-Wesley Publishing Company, c1994. (574.0922 BAS)

children.

The Soul of a Business: Managing for Profit and the Common Good. Bantam Books, c1993. (658.314 CHA)

Employee Involvement: Methods for Improving Performance and Work Attitudes. Sage Publications, c1993. (658.314 COT)

Hardin, Garrett James Living Within Limits: Ecology, Economics, and Population Taboos. Oxford University Press, c1993. (304.666 HAR)

The Hollow Core: Private Interests in National Policy Making. Edited by John. P. Heinz... (et al.)

Harvard University Press, c1993. (324.4 HOL)

Richard Lederer

Economic Policies at Cross-Purposes: The United States and Developing Countries. The Brookings Institution, c1993. (337.7301 KRU) Mueller, Keith J

Health Care Policy in the United States. University of Nebraska Press, c1993. (362.1 MUE) Toffler, Alvin

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Ouizmaster V.V. RAMANAN'S questions are from the fortnight July 1-15

with

Compilation

- 1. 'Isaignani' Illayaraja was recently awarded an honorary doctorate by a U.S. university. Name the university.
- 2. According to the new bank rates introduced on July 15th, what is the service charge (hitherto free) for handling local cheques?
- 3. The legendary composing duo of Viswanathan-Ramamurthi are to make a comeback after 29 years. In which film?
- 4. Who is the first CEC of the newly set up State Election Commission in Tamil Nadu?
- 5. Which Indian has won th Magsaysay Award for 'government service' this year?
- 6. Who is sponsoring the TNCA senior division cricket league this season?
- 7. Name the Governor of Punjab who was killed with his family. in an aircrash on July 9th.
- 8. Which world-famous landmark was acquired by Donald Trump. the real estate mogul?
- 9. The Group of Seven (G-7), comprising leading industrialised nations, became G-8 with the admission of a proto-member. Who is latest entrant?
- 10. The President and 'strong man' of North Korea since World War II
- passed away recently. Name him. 11. Who regained the 100 m athletics world record at Lausanne on July

6th with a time of 9.85 seconds?

- 12. Which Indian family is the second to enter Forbes list of billionaires, after the Birlas?
- 13. The 'Beypore Sultan', a prolific Malayali novelist, died recently.
- How is he better known? 14. Why were Rahul Banerjee and Abhiiit Das of The Statesman in
- the eye of controversy recently? 15. Name the Colombian footballer who was murdered for scoring a self-soal which led to his country's ouster from USA '94.
- 16. Which international prize, worth \$ 22,000, was won by K. Rajendra Prasad of Vijayawada?
- 17. After doctors on July 13th performed a cataract operation on the South African President, Dr. Nelson Mandela, they explained why the President had been unable to cry. What was the reason they gave?
- 18. Two players played their 21st games in the World Cup - a record for any individual. One was Diego Maradona. Who was the other?
- 19. According to the DGE, Tamil Nadu, what is the minimum grace marks that are to be added to the HSC marks of a participant in state level sports?
- 20. Who denied Martina Navratilova her record 10th Wimbledon singles crown and became the first Spaniard to lift the title?

(Answers on p. 7)

# Its roots in

Gunidy Engineering College, a part of the history of Madras, had its roots in what may be described as the oldest technical institution outside Europe, the Survey School at Fort St. George. Founded by Michael Topping, astronomer and geographical and marine surveyor of the Presidency of Fort St. George, on May 17, 1794, the School began functioning from near the Observatory (now the Meteorological Department in Nungambakkam) with just eight boys.

The Survey School was started out of necessity. To meet the increasing surveying needs of the East India Company, there was a need for a regular supply of engineers (surveyors as they were called) to the Public Works Department. Engineers 'imported' from England found India too hot, fell sick often, were disloyal to their employers, and also proved costly. So it was decided to train Indians in surveying, building and repairing water tanks (reservoirs).

The first superintendent of the school was John Goldingham, who

drew 50 pagodas a month as salary. The staff included a maths teacher on a salary of 35 pagodas, a draughtsman on a salary of 25 pagodas and a munshi on a salary of 8 pagodas (one pagoda = 3½ rupees). The superintendent was also given an annual allowance of 120 pagodas to provide

# 200 years engineering in **Madras**

by R. JAISRI for the boys' clothing and other basic needs. The first batch of apprentices came out in 1799 and were sent to survey places as far as Mysore, Malabar and even Persia.

Though the Survey School fulfilled an important need, it was not free from financial difficulties and had to close

down from 1810 to 1819. This, despite the fact that the school had been granted 2,500 star pagodas by Lord Clive in 1798 and the cost of running the school was 245 pagodas a month, with performance-based incentives for the staff.

The School reopened in 1819 on the advice of Major De Havilland, who also recommended that an entrance exam be introduced for admission, the subjects of test being the 3 R's and the vernaculars. Boys selected were to be between 12 and 14 years of age and the stipend of the boys was fixed at Rs. 50 per annum. Major Havilland headed the school which, in its 11/2 year course, taught Algebra, Mensuration, Trigonometry, Building Construction, Surveying, Drawing, Estimate Making etc.

This series is on Madras schools that are part of the City's heritage. These are not necessarily the better-known or more successful schools of today. These are the schools that helped the city to grow.

Each of the schools featured is over 100 years old.

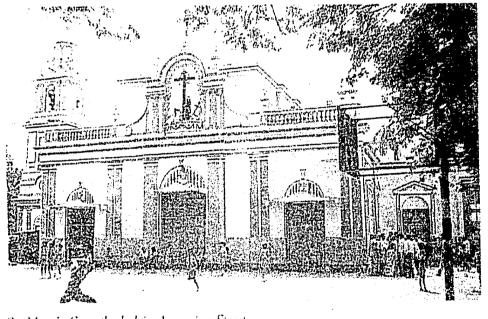
# FROM SEMINARY ATTOM A TOTAL

St. Mary's School was founded in 1839 by Rev. Joseph Carew to provide a liberal education to the Catholic youth of the city. Its first principal was Rev. Dr. Kelly of Maymooth. The school was known as St. Mary's Seminary and Day School for 44 years.

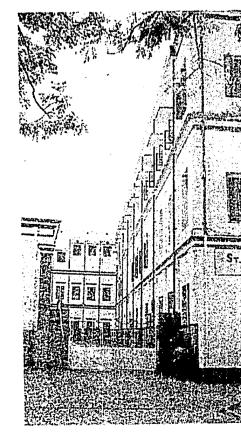
In 1862, St. Mary's Seminary was raised to the standard of a second grade college and affiliated to the Madras University, the students being prepared for the First Year in Arts. The first principal of the College was Theophilus Mayer and the college was managed by the Brothers of St. Patrick. In 1896, the Fathers of St. Joseph's, Mill Hill, London, were given charge of the institution.

In 1906, the Government of Madras issued a special Code of Regulation for all European Schools in the Presidency and this necessitated the separation of all European and Anglo-Indian students from the Indian. Accordingly, St. Mary's European High School was opened that year in the adjoining compound and the Indian section of St. Mary's became St. Gabriel's.

The transition period for the 100 students on the rolls of St. Mary's was a difficult one. Both space and equipment were at a premium. Nevertheless, the school developed steadily with progress being made in studies and sports. The science laboratories were remodelled and equipped to become one of the best high school science laboratories in



St. Mary's Co-cathedral in Armenian Street



adjoining the Co-cathedral.

A view of St. Mary's School.

Madras. A hall was also built and the school received library books from Edinburgh. An auditorium was added in 1959.

The school is now situated in Armenian Street, next to St. Mary's Cocathedral. Its headmaster is Rev.Raphael John, and he is assisted by 38 teachers. There are about 1250 students in St. Mary's today. The academic performance of the school has been good and several students enter professional colleges every year. The school has a feeder school, St. Paul's.

The school has done exceptionally well in sport, turning out formidable teams in hockey, basketball, volleyball and athletics.

The school is now managed by the Salesian Fathers.

> Photographs and text by Rajind N Christy

Governor of Madras, stressed that college would be beneficial for country as well as for public servi-However, the powers-that-be cited the lack of preparedness among the India and the general low standard education and, so, the move stalled. A proposal to start Engineer the Medical Departments came up 1843, but fell through for the sam nil translation by Natesh, her reasons. Classes in Chemistry weight however, added. The same propo was brought up again in 1847. Roorkee College was set up

By 1842, the need for a coll

began to be felt and the Marquess

Tweeddale, when he arrived

It was intense acting of great range Thomson and the military establish subtlety and only an actress of ment in U.P. that year. But only irani's calibre could have sustained Engineering Department emer bur's solo on such a melancholic Uncertainty set in again in 1853, what kept the school going was the an tribal hut with her body langthat it was the only institution supply trained personnel to the P.W.D. there being a perennial shortage trained personnel even at this stage there was no question of the sch close to our own oppari form, it

New Zealand Amazons.

The Wood's Despatch of 18 more or less gave the stamp 1.1 permanence to the Survey Scho when it cited the Roorkee Engineer College and said, "Similar places The three-day Charminar practical instruction like the Roork College are important in a cou where irrigation is essential not only at the Marina recently, certainly the prosperity of the country, but men pulled in the crowds, but that Lord Dalhousie also endorsing the n for such an institution, a scheme l College of Civil Engineering submitted in 1855. That same year figure, as they lacked both skills detailed report, with a proposal and stamina, while the men's include three departments, provision scholarships instead of stipend boarding facilities and other ideas courses, to be approved by the Public Works Commissioner, was subm to the Government. These were qu approved by the Public Committee which urged the expansion staying power of the foreign of the school.

closing down.

The Survey School became Civil Engineering School in Octob women's teams consisted of 1859, with Capt. Winscom as prinique puny Tamil Madu girls, a and a fee of Rs. 3 being charged in complete contrast to the tall, each student.

As early as 1857, the ev textbooks were mentioned by LI Williams, principal of the Calcu Engineering College, to Capt. Winson when he visited Calcutta to study college before starting the Mac college. But then, practical training a good library were always a par the school's set-up. In 1855, the pal of the late Nawab of Camatic, Khalsa Mahal, was acquired by P.W.D. for use as Government of and the school moved in there 1859, using portions of the main outer buildings. In the same year, school was renamed the Engineering College. Students be increasing steadily, but the entra exam remained the only way of en ing the College. A practice that continued over the years.

(To be concluded next forthis

# lament

ras a pleasure watching Kalairani's -woman show. Song of Lowino lament of an African tribal chief's She is lamenting the 'death' of husband who, having been eduin English, is trying to ape the and is ashamed of his tribal roots culture. She rants, rolls in ash and ks of her agony in the simple uish of an innocent tribal.

(alairani enacted the piece in Tamil band) and it was directed by tman who works in Goa. Kalai there to work on this piece.

She created the mood of an even if this was considered overg by some. I felt the dramatic and uful lament was too uncomfortto many, because it was so real,

photograph of Song of Lowino to go with this piece. Kalairani's face taking on the awful ferocity of a woman wronged one moment and changing to

Kalairani is an actress with the

Koothupattarai group. She has great

class and deserves to be recognised

wider. It is a pity we could not get a

African tribal woman.

an innocent's affection in seconds deserved to be recorded for all time. The way she uttered each word, with subtle nuances, created the correct mood, like a raga elaboration of differ-The view from the wings

> ent Sangatis. And her acting merged beautifully with the music.

Annamalaipuram, at Brihadhwani, the

by V.R. Devika

# crowds

A Challenge Asian circuit beach volleyball championships, held 胤 was not because of the competition Indians offered the best men's and women's teams on view. In fact, the two Indian women's teams cut a sorry Reams were only a little better. Beach volleyball, played on heavy sand surface, is a

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INTACH Tamil Nadu Regional Chapter

appeals to all concerned

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muscleman/ woman's game. The there for the asking. everage Indian's physical fitness eing what it is, it is not easy for n Indian amateur to match the itting, leaping, diving and rofessionals. It was not known who picked the teams, but the vell-muscled Australian and

### cians, painters, sculptors and dancers and Bhuvarahavan had a great collection of books works of artland music recordings which they enjoyed. All this

I saw Song of Lowino in Raja

was what the girls wore. The Indian teenagers donned shorts and blouses, so unlike the Australians, New Zealanders, Japanese and others, who were in the briefest of briefs, the like of which had never before been witnessed on an Indian playground. These bikinis attracted the attention of cameramen as no other outfit had done in India. As a result, not only front-views and side-views but even bottom-

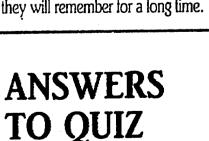
Another striking contrast views were in demand, and

The publicity the foreigners outfits received played no mean part in the finals drawing a sellout crowd. Such indeed was the rush, that even the Press Box was swamped by a host of unknown men and women, many of whom had even come equipped with notebook and

### 'stage' has been created in the backyard of the house, with ingenious use of space. And that was where Kalairani staged her Song of Lowino.

More joy **B**rihadhwani, Koothupattarai and the Madras Craft Foundation are recipients of grants from the Ford Foundation and there is a camaraderie and interchange of ideas, facilities and talents among the three groups. Brihadhwani recorded the music for Aayana '94. Several theatre groups in the city with very different approaches to theatre also came together to work with the children on Aayana '94. The result was a colourful kaleidoscope of

The thousand children who took part were delighted to be working with such creative people who were so kind and friendly, giving them an experience they will remember for a long time. The



1. University of Arizona; 2. Rs. 10 per cheque; 3. Engirintho Vanthan; 4. K Malaisamy, the Home Secretary; 5. Kiran Bedi, IPS; 6. The MAC group of industries; 7. Surendranath; 8. The Empire State Building in New York; 9. Russia; 10. Kim Il Sung; 11. Leroy Burrel of the USA; 12. The Ambanis of the Reliance Group: 13. Vaikom Muhammed Basheer: 14. They were allegedly assaulted after press meet by men who had accompanied the recently elected IHF president, KPS Gill; 15. Andres Escobar; 16. The International Ouiz Contest on Nutrition held by the WHO: 17. The damage to his lear glands while breaking limestones in the Robben Island Penal Colony; 18. The German captain, Lothar Mathaeus; 19. Four (4) per cent of the aggregate marks in academic

subjects: 20. Conchita Martinez.



Seen at Aayana '94 rehearsals, Above, a boy Irom Asan Memorial with a lish mask. Above right, girls from Avvai Home, And right, boys from the Ramakrishna Mission Boys' Home pull a 'ladder -boat' in which sits a girl from the ICCW School. (Photographs: C.P. SATYAJIT)

centre for research into the musics of

he left to Brihadhwani. And Brihadh-

wani's director, Karaikudi S Subra-

maniam, has converted the place into

a centre of music with great love and

care. A small open air performing

ing help and bent over backwards to the world. It was staged earlier at cooperate, as did I.I.T. Cholamandal Artists' Village and at There were the children of Asan Sittrarangam. Brihadhwani is housed Memorial helping handicapped children in the residence of Bhuvarahavan, the and bringing refreshments to them first. music, dance and art critic who now Ramakrishna Mission Boy's Home lives abroad. His house used to be boys pulling without hesitation the little visited by some of the greatest musiboats in which the handicapped

schools participating also gave unstint-

children sat. Some people had criticised the participation of the handicapped children in Aayana '92. But the Indian Council for Child Welfare, which runs the School for the Physically Handicapped, had assured us that the children enjoyed the last experience and were looking forward to this year's Aayana. We agreed to treat them as ordinary chi'dren, just like the others, and decided to include them this year too. In order to hide their disabilities, we decided to bring them in little boats, and Karthik, who made the masks and props for Aayana '94, came up with the brilliant idea of making the small

boats with ladders At Aayana '94 there was great joy and happiness throughout, and it was an experience that cannot be duplicated by all of us who worked on it. The production was, of course, not perfect, mainly due to the problems of logistics, as far as rehearsals went, and the deliberate focus on the joy of participation and discussions. Reactions

differed. Some said the chaotic and unrehearsed nature of the event was its delight, many schools had actually been worried about the way children were being given too much freedom, while others felt it was too regimented. It would be nice to know the reactions of some in the audience who saw

Aayana '94. Correction: In the issue of Madras Musings (July 15-30), the captions for the photographs published with V.R. Devika's article 'The drama of dance' were interchanged. The error is

# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

August: 'Artist of the Month': S Elbin Sudhakar Paul, a graduate from the College of Arts and Crafts, Madras.

August 18-22: People of Marina Beach - Seen Through German and Indian Eyes. A photo exhibition presented by MMB, and the Photographic Society of Madras. 'People of Marina' by Markus Bullik, an upcoming German photographer and photofilm-designer, has already been shown in Germany. And Raghavendra Rao, well-known Madras photographer who lives by the shore, teams with Bullik, to take you on a journey peopled with love, warmth and caring. The call of the coast and the people of the Marina, as seen through their eyes, cannot go unheeded, the

(At Sakshi Gallery, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.)

Uhemplast has been environmentally conscious long before it became fashionable. On our own, we had introduced safeguards even before it was required by law. Our concern for the environment is reflected in our endeavour

to see that the land we inhabit is not spoiled or sullied in any

For, our land is our heritage. And that of our children.



# CHEMICALS AND PLASTICS INDIALIMITED

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# Climbing

No cliche, that headline. A team from Madras, comprising mostly of members of the Rajiv Gandhi Memorial Aethenium Club, recently climbed a 6,504 metre (approximately 22,000 ft.) unscaled peak in the Himalaya and named it Mt. Rajiv.

The seeds for the expedition were sown in 1990, when, as students of Presidency College, they had planned to climb an unscaled peak and name

it Mt. Presidency, to coincide with the college's 150th birthday.

But they had to face more than the rugged mountains. When they approached the Indian Mountaineering Foundation for permission, they were flatly refused it, as they were only trekkers. With no help even after running from pillar to post, they approached Rajiv Gandhi, who intervened to get things moving and suddenly, people at the I.M.F. were ohso-nice to them. Soon after, they 'booked' the peak, near Gangotri, in the Himalaya. "The river Ganges is very significant to Indians. So we chose this peak near Gangotri", explains team leader Gopi.

As the preparations got underway, in 1991, Rajiv Gandhi/was assassinated. In his memory they formed the Rajiv Gandhi Memorial Aethenium Club and carried on with their preparations but decided to name the peak after Rajiv who had got things moving for them.

Again with no one to push things, the mountaineers' plans slowed down. That's when P.R. Kumaramangalam came to their help. The I.M.F. became oh-so-nice again, providing them technical assistance, equipment, information about the peak, the surroundings, the weather etc. There was a small hassle over hiring the equipment, as the person in charge of the stores had retired and the keys were with God-knows-whom. But then, Mukul Wasnik, the Sports Minister got the equipment released and the expedition began the long trek from Sriperumbudur on May 21, this year.

The expedition accepted the help of Mount Suppose, Uttarkashi, and hired high altitude porters (HAP's) from there. The team also had a doctor and two experienced mountaineers from Delhi accompany them. When they reached the base camp, the weather had turned bad, quite unlike the usual climate at this time. "But it was good for us in a way", says deputy leader Suresh Kumar, "as we learnt to handle the ice by practising ice-walking, skating, using the ice axe (which is dug into the ice to arrest your motion when you slide on the ice) etc".

The climate on the mountain too proved fickle. One moment the

A view of Mt. Rajiv from the advance base camp.



Dham Singh. Gopi. Murugavel and Lakshman (from left) atop Mt. Rajiv.

temperature would be around 40°C and they would begin to stroll about in shorts and sunglasses and almost the next moment, it would begin to snow,

sending them scurrying for their sweaters, trousers and shoes. And they could climb only when the weather was good. "You can't climb when the mountain is 'angry'", Suresh lau "or it will wipe you out"

The team members, in fact, sider themselves very lucky that weather turned better and remain reasonably good when they got reasonably to make their final assault. Two of teams, one from Bengal and the from Britain had made about attempts to scale the peak earlier. Will the British team had to return to as two of its members were killed an avalanche, the Bengal team return as it was unable to tackle the ice walk One of the Madras team's member also showed signs of giving up w he declared as early as the base can "Gopi, the mountain is not go away. But our life might. We, always climb it some other day. for that, we have to stay alive". the rest of the team refused to overawed by the 'cold shoulder reception from the mountain a decided to continue the climb, and Doubting Thomas tool fell in step with them.

The greatest-moment of anx was when three members of the te lost their way, mistaking the flag another expedition to be their. army team was climbing the Ke Dome (exactly opposite Mt. Rajiv) their flag was red, while the Ma team's flag had white dots on What was worse, they didn't follow the red flag and went deep a glacier area called the Kirti Gla literally a no man's land. To top it the 'ham' set with the party at the advance base camp had a base running low and could only recon signals. By sheer coincidence, switched on their set exactly where lost team members were trying to r them, which enabled a rescue team be sent to them.

There were climbers who fell crevices, those who stepped on a p of ice only to find it crumble und them sending them into the w below, those who got altitude sicking etc. But they climbed on, determine to reach the peak and 'finish it of and for all'. As Suresh puts it, "Fran at that stage, I just wanted to end adventure and come back home didn't even know if I was 'hig thrilled' at attempting the peak, the

The few moments the summile spent on the peak were, however they don't want to give geography books, can only say, 'All

compensation for their efforts. No mountaineering. They are alre planning expeditions next year, bes wanting to promote the sport in Ta Nadu. And we, whose knowledge mountains and mountaineering restricted to what we learnt from

(By The Corner Flag)

As another Madras season gets underway, The Corner Flag wonders. Whither Tamil Nadu cricket? The question is posed as a consequence of last season's rather dismal performance. Is this year going to be any better? If it is, it will be despite some rather enthusiastic decisions sponsoring business houses have recently taken.

As everyone knows, all Madras First Division teams are either institutional XIs or teams sponsored by business houses. Traditional clubs like the Madras Cricket Club have no chance in this semi-professional league.

This year's major league teams and their sponsors are Globe Trotters (MRF), Sridhar CC (India Cements), Jolly Rovers (Chemplast), Kohinoor (also by Chemplast and a promoted team) Alwarpet (TVS Group), Rising Stars (Kunal Engineering), Appiah Chettiar MCC (Kumbhat's, promoted) India Pistons, SPIC, Indian Bank, IOB and Southern Railways.

Now, such sponsorship, as bracketed above or which is obvious, is welcome and it is what has enabled Tamil Nadu to produce several cricketers who are on the fringes of national selection. But why haven't those players, with every benefit at home, gone further? Could it be that the sponsors are not asking more from them? Or could it be that there is something wrong with our first division format and that this needs rectification before players of promise fulfil that promise at higher levels? Or could it be that the local body is paying greater attention to encouraging the game widely in the city and the mofussil than to developing a team for national competition?

Hopefully, these questions will be debated in the months ahead. But for

now there's one decision by the sponsoring organisations to strengthen their teams that rather concerns The Corner Flag. That's the decision to 'import' players. Already, the MRF Pace Academy has introduced several players from elsewhere into Madras cricket. Several Kerala and Andhra players get their cricket in Madras. Now the following players from other states will represent various teams in the city, all of them receiving 'honorariums' in five or six figures:

Venkatesh Prasad (Karnataka-Globe Trotters), Rahul Dravid (Karnataka-Sridhar), M V Sridhar (Hyderabad-Kohinoor), Rajesh Puri (Haryana-Sridhar), Noel David (Hyderabad-Jolly Rovers), Sapan Chopra and Syed Rashid Mohsin (Services-India Pistons), K Shyamchandra Bhat and K Srinath (Karnataka-Indian Bank), Nagendra Prasad and Samarth Hegde (Karnataka-India Pistons) and Syed Miraj (Hyderabad-Sridhar). Then there are bound to be a few from the MRF Pace Academy under consideration. And there could be others, considering the figures being bandied about.

Not that all these players are going to be automatic choices for their teams, but several will be, being near-India class players. The consequence will inevitably be fewer places at the top for home-bred players. And if that trend continues, Tamil Nadu could well face a situation English cricket has been facing for some time now, with all those 'imports' playing for the counties. The Corner Flag feels there is no need to expand on this, except to say it is a development that causes him concern.

# Will Riaz show Tamil Nadu hockey the way?

Madras hockey fans are looking forward to Mohammed Riaz of the Indian Bank, the Ione Tamil Nadu player at the current Bangalore National camp, making the grade and donning the India shirt at the Hiroshima Asian Games, starting on October 2nd, and, later, at the World Cup championships in Sydney as well. The sticks game in Madras is, frankly, at a low ebb and Riaz can give it a new image, perhaps even paving the way for a transformation, if only he gets the selectors' nod.

The game's deteriorating standards and fall in popularity were clear during the Madras Cricket Club's recent 72nd annual tournament. Sponsored for the second successive year by Hindustan

Lever Ltd., the Lifebuoy-MCC tournament failed to pull the crowds, even though all the local sides were there, pitted against some top outstation teams. None of the city teams could even make the semi-finals!

A silver lining was that, towards the end of the lacklustre tournament, the new Indian Hockey Federation's president, K P S Gill, who was on a short visit to Madras, announced the IHF's plans to rejuvenate Indian

hockey, and M Gopalakrishnan, the Indian Bank's Chairman and Managing Director, assured him of his support. Gill aslo called on M A M Ramaswamy, one of his most successful predecessors, during whose regin India had, for the first time, won the World Cup.

Gopalakrishnan was the chief guest at the Lifebuoy-MCC tournament final and distributed the awards at the unusually long prize-distribution function, which ended with the presentation of a memento to Rayan Amal Raj, who was sports editor of the Indian Express (Madras) for over a decade, until he retired recently. The MCC's gesture to a retired journalist was a fitting climax to a colourful function.

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