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MUSINGS-

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CONCORD pips PAKKT?

(By Sashi Nair and Venkatachari Jagannathan)

s the North once again proving that it can move faster than the South? was last year that the Confederation Indian Industries, Southern Region, nd the Academy of Management xcellence, Madras, teamed together nd, based on the theory that mannade boundaries mean little today, ged that what is necessary for indusial progress in the South was a spirit mutual cooperation and underanding between the states. So was m the concept of PAKKT (the tronym for Pondicherry, Andhra radesh, Kamataka, Kerala and Tamil ladu) in April 1994.

PAKKT, however, has turned out be a non-starter, or, at least, a uggish starter. Changes of Chief linisters in Andhra Pradesh, Kamataka id Kerala have undoubtedly slowed own the whole process. Meanwhile, the later starting North appears to have of off to a good start.

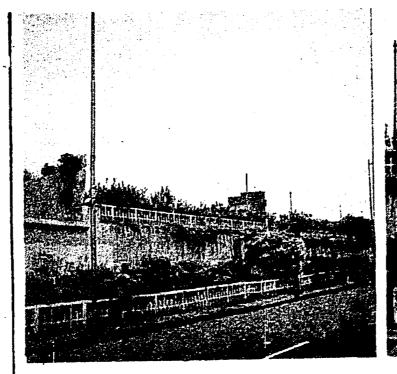
With CONCORD (the acronym of the Council of North Indian States or Cooperation and Regional Development) starting operations from lay 1, the North has yet again undercored its ability to get things off the rawing board faster. Delhi, Haryana, limachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, unjab, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh all neighbours — have come together

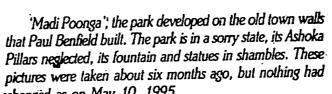
to set the scene for regional coordination, cost-effectiveness and optimum utilisation of resources, engendering healthy competition.

CONCORD's objectives are not very different from PAKKT's, but appear better balanced. While both agree on the need for a rationalised sales structure and free movement of goods without octroi, CONCORD's strategy is more issue-specific. It believes in providing member states equal access to a common port on the west coast, construction of an inter-state transport network, cold store and retailing chains for equitable distribution of agro products, setting up of interlinked tourism circuits in the area and arranging for joint manpower training.

For several years now, the sharing of water and power has remained a contentious issue in the South. Lack of a result-oriented approach, more than anything else, has led to the muchtalked-about Telugu Ganga project 'hanging water' and the recent Tamil Nadu threat to delink itself from the southern power grid (because of excessive withdrawal of power by Andhra Pradesh). Such trends are, to say the least, disturbing and would seem to indicate that PAKKT's ambitions to set up southern gas, power, telecommuni-

(Continued on P5)







What price our parks - even when protected!

The Hindu recently focussed attention on the sad state of the parks of Madras. Though budgetary allocation for improvements of parks of the Madras Corporation had risen over the years, maintenance of the "lungs of the city" are far from satisfactory, it said. The report added:

In 1991-92, the allocation for parks and playgrounds was about 30 lakhs, which was the highest amount set apart till then. In the original Madras Vision 2000 outlay of Rs. 135 cr for the four-year period, parks and playfields did not have any separate allocation. But when the outlay was revised to Rs. 435 cr, Rs. 9.75 cr was earmarked for improvement of parks and playfields.

Of this, while Rs. 3 cr was spent in 1993-94, Rs. 5 cr has been slated to be spent this year and Rs. 1.75 cr for 1995-96.

The Corporation maintains 88 parks as against 175 in 1973. In 1993-94, ten parks, including the Thiru Vi Ka Park (Shenoy Nagar), Sriramulu Park (Broadway), Gill Nagar Park (Kodambakkam), Sathyamurthy Park (Chetput), Terrace Garden Park (Royapuram) and Sharma Park (T' Nagar) were taken up for improvement

and maintenance as star parks.

But if the present condition of these parks are any indication, it seems that

improvements have either been abandoned halfway or the exercise is progressing at snail's pace.

The parks were to have landscaped gardens, provision for water supply and compound walls. Though many of the parks now do have walls around them, cattle-guards and some even have provision for water, most of them are prone to heavy waterlogging during the rains.

There are 21 parks in the city, including the legendary My Ladye's Garden, Panagal Park, Dr Natesan Park and Thiru Vi Ka Park, which have been identified as "most flood-prone". The Dr. Natesan Park on Venkataranarayana Road, T' Nagar, was the first park to be taken up for improvements and is still among the best maintained parks in the city. The Corporation had spent about Rs. 25 lakhs in recent years on sprucing up the park.

The 'Madi Poonga' in Ebrahimji Sahib Street, Washermanpet, which has been developed on the Fort Ramparts, occupies the relics of the old Madras wall, a place of archaeological importance.

And it is the 'Madi Poonga' (Terrace Garden, Royapuram) that is featured above in **Rajind N Christy's** telling photographs. This was the scene a few months ago.
Things have not improved since:

This park was developed on the Old Town Wall (not the Fort Wall, but the wall built to protect 'Black Town'). The wall was built by Paul Benfield, notorious in his financial dealings, but who, as a building contractor, built to last. Other constructions of his are much of Fort St George and Chepauk Palace.

The Park and the remains of the Old Town Wall are Protected Monuments under the Ancient Monuments, Archaelogical Sites and Remains Act. But few take notice of that fact.

The Park was declared open in 1957 by Justice P Rajagopalan.

When I visited the Park, I saw an empty pond, two neglected Ashoka Pillars and the green areas in a sorry condition. The surroundings were filthy. No wonder it was deserted! That was in December. It was the same in May.

Text and photographs by Rajind N Christy



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Yet another Tamil Nadu first

T amil Nadu may be lagging behind West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala and Gujarat in aquaculture production, but it is the FIRST to pass legislation to regulate aquaculture on environmental considerations. The Man From Madras Musings well knows that any Act is only as good as the WILL to enforce it and the METICULOUS enforcement thereafter. Nevertheless, consensus based on give a little, MMM welcomes Tamil Nadu's take a little. **INTENTIONS** and looks forward to all those NGOs, led by the octogenarian Jagannathan (who, MMM hopes, would have given up his fast by the time these lines appear), who want aquaculture banned, holding their horses for a while and giving the legislative

intentions a chance. Father Thomas Kochchery of Kerala has put off the nationwide stir of traditional fisherfolk that he had called against the Government of India's deep sea fishing policy, on Government's STATED willingness to review all licenses and think again on new licenses. If a mere statement was enough in this case, surely LEGISLATION introduced in record time as a consequence of a study by a committee led by as eminent a person as Dr M S Swaminathan — no particular lover of aquaculture — deserves as much reciprocation by the Tamil Nadu protest movement. MMM has long held the view that while such protest movements are necessary to rein in those who seek to take a mile when policies permit only an inch, with no consideration for the exploited, they should themselves temper their agitation in the context that progress is necessary and nations do have to move out of the bullock cart age. What they need to do is to have constant dialogues with industry and arrive at mutually agreeable

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ways by which industry and agriculture, tradition and environmental protection can progress together for the betterment of the nation. It would be well to remember, MMM suggests, that no one has the answers to all the problems in life; at most, all we can expect out of life is a compromise, taking into consideration everyone's views; a

These thoughts struck The

Water quality

Man From Madras Musings the other day during a workshop organised by the Aquaculture Foundation of India, which seems to be making an effort to look at making aquaculture a major industrial player while at the same time causing minimal inconvenience to people, places and environment. It's possible, said Dr M Sakthivel, if we can get both sides to listen to our guidelines. But MMM is rather inclined to think that those words would have had greater weight if he had had on his team someone like former Pollution Control Board head P M Belliappa, a person known for his commitment to strict pollution control. MMM noted with regret the absence of Belliappa and others of his ilk at the AFI's workshop. Nevertheless, there appeared a glimmer of hope in much that was said on the occasion.

'Water quality and efficient management of aquaculture' was the subject of the seminar attended by nearly a hundred 'farmers'. It was a curious coin cidence that the presidential address was delivered by a Civilian who had once been one of the most successful Directors of Fisheries in the State Directorate's history and, now, ten vears later was Secretary for Environment. As one who had served on both sides of the issue, and who also "eats fish" and "would like to eat shrimp", V Manivannan brought to the proceedings a welcome sense of balance. The State, he said, was a slow starter in aquaculture, but it wanted to ensure there would be regulated development of such farms. Urging the 'farmers' present not to be discouraged and disheartened by what was happening around them, he advised them to ensure sustainable development while at the same time assuring all who lived around their 'farms' of environmental safeguards. The Government, Manivannan said, supported aquaculture but was committed to balancing the need for aquaculture with the need for environmental protection. That was why it had appointed so Swaminathan to head the committee that had looked into the entire issue. The pioneer

legislation was the result. The Man From Madras Musings was particularly glad to hear Manivannan say that it should not be "versus but along with". Aquaculturists must carry the local people with them, they must ADOPT nearby villages, they must not work in a vacuum, urged Manivannan. And the applause he got might indicate there is a better appreciation of the situation developing among the 'farmers'.

The expert on the occasion was Dr Claude Boyd, a world authority on aquaculture water management.Whether the Alabaman's words of wisdom reached his audience through that drawl right out of the rural Deep South, MMM was not quite sure, but one part of his message certainly came across: Aquaculture is

became a Muslim to marry his second wife, a Syrian Christian. When his first wife died, he had himself baptised a Christian again. And what's told in gist here is likely to be fleshed out into a couple of chapters by raconteur Prabhakar. This will make good reading on Christianity in India and shed much light on it, MMM is sure, but war that was a war against MMM hopes that all the effort fascism, wonders MMM. that the year-and-more work Speaking of veterans, Madras

waste as a consequence. They might be saying goodbye to Madras, but the Cortez-Greigs of the USIS are sure to be back every Music Season, seeing as Addis Ababa is just across the Arabian Sea from India. Andrew

SHORT 'N' SNAPPY

another kind of farming; it is farming in water and not with soil; it's biggest problem is that the water the 'farmer' farms with not only gets polluted but also affects the water outside; managing water both for farm health as well as for the health of the land around is, perhaps, the most important aspect of aquaculture.

Dr Norman Chang of Tanna Shrimp, Boyd's student at Auburn U. and responsible for his guru's visit, wound up the inauguration with a sound word of advice that MMM recommends for ANY seminar: All that Dr Boyd will tell you is in the books; what you need to do here is LISTEN CAREFULLY and DO CORRECTLY what is recommended. If neither is done, there'll always be problems despite the books, the teaching and all the seminars in the world. Did those farmers LISTEN? We'll know, if the outcry against aquaculture begins to abate in Tamil Nadu.

Tales out of school

A round the end of next year, we should be reading the authoritative biography of renowned economist and educator Malcolm Adiseshiah, The Man From Madras Musings heard the other day. And its author will be cousin Eric Prabhakar, following up his success with Athletic Gold, for translation of which into 12 languages an offer has been made by the National Book Trust.

Speaking about his Adiseshiah book recently, Prabhakar expressed his determination to tell it as it is, but regretted that, as in the case of S Gopal's biography of his father Radhakrishnan, the little-known personal facts were likely to arouse greater reader interest than the great contribution Adiseshiah had made to education worldwide, through his national studies for UNESCO. and his immensce contribution to India, through his views on

economics. Malcolm Adiseshiah, many heard for the first time at that talk, was a Brahman Christian who had married a Nadar Christian. And what a contretemps that had created at the time! In time, he was ordained a priest, broke with his wife and then

interests.

Prabhakar is putting into re-

searching the UNESCO years,

and those years as unofficial

economic advisor to the Govern-

ment of India, will not go to

* * *

college and following the hippie trail. That trail took him to Calcutta and Kathmandu and ended with one more hippie getting interested in Indian music. Back in America, he settled down, then back he came, to Delhi, to study Hindustani music and, especially, the sitar. When he returned to America, he joined the Foreign Service and was just waiting for a posting to India. When it was to Madras, no one could have been more thrilled than Sandy whose chief recreation became the city's classical music and dance concerts. And The Season absorbed him and the family completely. Given time, Sandy would have become as proficient in South Indian classical as he was in Hindi classical. But in the time he was here, The Man From Madras Musings always thought he was happiest when Hindustani classical or taking in Sandy Cortez-Greig always seemed a role-play. Madras will miss the Cortez-Greigs... but and don't be surprised if a daughter or two winds up at Kalakshetra.

To Pranab Mukherjee it was Day. In the August 19/20th parade in London to mark the

50th anniversary of the end of

World War II, there are likely to be a few more - perhaps as many as 400, but many are likely to be Indian veterans settled in Britain. How many will go from here? More important, whether it was "our war" or not, shouldn't we in India too be remembering those who died or were injured or fought in a

- or at least the old Madras Presidency - had its share of World War II warriors and heroes. The Man From Madras Musings' favourite is that parachuting general, Inder Singh Gill, who, well into his 70s now, would like to take another dive out of a plane but is kept firmly grounded by wife Mona after he landed rather heavily on an ankle a couple of year ago. The story Gill doesn't talk about is one of his first jumps - behind the German lines in Greece. He was a 21-year-old Royal Army subaltern and part of a commando team whose target was a bridge too far. For this Guns of Navarone type of operation he won a Military Cross. And a couple of years ago, on its 50th anniversary, those of the team still surviving were invited to Greece and honoured by the Greek Government as well. Gill, in a picture of that commemoration, still looks the youngest and smallest of that team.

After the War, Gill joined the Indian Army and on retirement followed his father. Col Gill of Gill Nagar, to Madras. MMM still hopes to get the full story of that flight into and escape from Greece one day. But until then, MMM wonders whether Inder Gill thought it was HIS war or whether he thought it was a bit of a lark.

In brief

* Keading the proofs of this issue, The Man From Madras Musings came across the story of PAKKT and CONCORD that Sashi Nair and Venkatachari Jagannathan teamed together on. Discussing the story with them, MMM was shown the ACME study and noted that political geography wasn't the strongest point of the institute-still-in-themaking. ACME's study still has Goa as a Union Territory; hardly the way to win friends and influence Goans who received their statehood in 1987!

★ ITC Hotels Chairman Yogesh

Deveshwar, who began his career with a long spell at ITC's printing division in Tiruvottriyur a couple of decades ago, has announced that the company shortly plans to float a subsidiary, Fortune Park Ltd., to set up a chain of 3- and 4-star hotels. Fortune Park, he announced, will have 1000 rooms by year-end. The Man From Madras Musings is happy to hear that Fortune Park's first hotel will be a four-star one in what is still called Gemini Studios in Madras. That, MMM feels, would be in the fitness of things, for, if memory serves MMM right, Welcomgroup too started in Madras - taking over a three-star hotel's shell and creating the Chola out of it.

The dolmens* of Tambaram

This house 'in Luz is where Mahatma Gandhi used to stay during his

visits to Madras. The house had belonged to Tyagi Nageswara Rao and was being

lived in by his grandson until recently. Attempts to demolish it and make way for

new highrise were forestalled recently by protesting Congressmen who want the building

declared a heritage building and developed as a memorial with place in it for charka

and utensils that Gandhiji had used during his salt march. These are preserved in the

building. The 50 acres near the house where Nageswara Rao Park was developed

were donated to the city by Nageswara Rao, a staunch Congressman, social worker

ago to make way for the Chola Sheraton. But the hotel has, ever since, tended the

memorial pillar that had stood before the house and which few notice today. That

pillar commemorates Gandhiji launching the Satyagraha movement, the call for which

he had made while staying in the house in 1919. That call had been made after

discussions with C Rajagopalachari and other local leaders on hearing the news of

memory Gandhi with his charka receiving

visitors, and going through the collections

at Marina Beach for his Harijan Welfare

We suggest that this building with its

R R Dalavai

89 Big Street

Madras 600 005.

BKQ (V

President

surroundings be preserved as memorial to

Tamil Nadu Freedom Fighters' Association

the Father of the Nation. Gandhiji.

Yet another house with Gandhian connections had been pulled down many years

F or three memorable years, John Roper-Evans headed an important british manufacturing concern in ladras. They couldn't keep him here onger; not everyone could tolerate his verwhelming and irrepressible sense humour. During his stay here the nte Morarii Desai was Prime Minister nd everyone knew — indeed, 1r. Desai made sure everyone knew about what is called Auto-Urine

herapy. An example of Roper-Evans' parkling mischievousness occurred at ball attended by over six hundred quests at a five-star hotel. Leaping onto table John called for silence, raised is glass and said, "Ladies and Gentlenen, tonight I wish to introduce you

and founder of 'Amrutanian'

the infamous Rowlatt Bill.

andhi used to stay whenever he visited

Madras city at Sri Bagh, Luz Church

Road (next to the Ranade Library and

Mylapore Club), the residence of the late

Desodharaka Kasinathur Nageswara Rao

Pandtulu, founder of 'Amrutanjan' and

This portion of the building is still

maintained intact with its surroundings in

this campus. The main hall brings to

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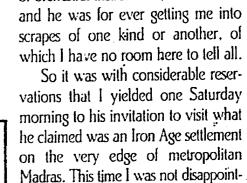
Next morning, Eric Stracey, then I.G. of Police, phoned me. "Harry," he croaked, "for goodness sake tell that friend of yours Roper-Evans to be more discreet. I've had so many telephone calls this morning from people complaining he insulted the Prime

But nothing could restrain the man. It's a good thing you can't libel the deceased (if you could, history couldn't be written), because John died peacefully in Britain only last year and so I need not fear outraged denials, but everything he did was farcical, or



john Roper-Evans standing beside one of the iron-age sepulchres.

learn music, but chose that most bizarre would be to most of us. He hauled me of orchestral instruments, the bassoon; from my office one morning to photograph a blue butterfly he'd found in his garden, a solitary specimen, he said, of one of the rarest species in the world; only to find that adjoining gardens were swarming with them. He decided to



ing here today show what he claimed (and I still believe) were burial dolmens* just a few yards off the main highway leading south from Madras just after you pass Tambaram, on the left side of the road as you travel south. Dolmen stone circles of this kind are found throughout the Old World, hundreds in Britain alone, the most famous being Stone Henge. There's a small well-known dolmen just off the road leading up to Kodaikanal and a

third I found — unmarked, and

unremarked as far as I know - lost

among sholas and tea estates not far

ed or betrayed into an embarrassing

predicament. The photographs appear-

lohn claimed that this one was known to archaeologists and had been excavated: if so, it had not been done very thoroughly for beneath one of the gigantic stones was what seemed to be an intact earthenware burial um. shown in one of my photographs. But for all his mischief, John was a man. of the highest moral intergrity. I was

from Munnar.



Examining the one unbroken and apparently undisturbed 'burial um' we discovered.

all for breaking open the um to see what it contained, but John was outraged at the suggestion and, although local villagers or vandals must long ago have pillered it, for all I know it may still be there, its contents and its mysteries intact.

But what of the dolmens themselves? My photographs prove their existence, though I had completely forgotten them until I found these photographs while searching through my archives for something else recently. But are they still there? Tambaram is now virtually a part of metropolitan Madras and it is many years since I drove down that road. If the dolmens are intact, surely they should be taken into the safe keeping of INTACH, the Geological Survey, or some other suitable authority, and their importance recognised and publicised. If their antiquity is Iron Age, as Roper-Evans claimed, then they pre-date Mamailapuram by millennia and, though they are of minor aesthetic appeal, deserve to be protected and preserved.

In a necessarily short piece of this kind, it is impossible to catalogue all the many questions that arise. I'll leave that to those better qualified to ask them and, hopefully, answer them, too.

Text and Photographs by HARRY MILLER

Dolmen: A prehistoric chamber of erect unhewn stones supporting a flat stone.

OUR **READERS** WRITE

IT-WAS HERE THEN GANDHIJL A

RAJAJI FOR THE FIRST TIME

AND STAYED AS HIS GUEST.

In Madras Musings April 16, I read *Reviving the Yale Connection' and Association's 5th brochure published in

would visit the tomb.

Dolly Simon Hon. Secretary Indo-American Association 10 Nandanam Main Road Nandanam Extension Madras 600 035

The Yale tomb

MMM's suggestion to start a fund by Yale University in perpetuity, to maintain David Yale's tomb in the Ambedkar Law College Campus. I was rather surprised, since I had written the whole story, 'The Yale Connection or the Saga of a Tomb in a College Campus', in the Indo-American

Thanks to the efforts of Dr John D. Stempel, a former U.S. Consul General of Madras, and a galaxy of Indians, the tomb has been taken over by the Archaeological Survey of India (Tamil Nadu Circle) and is being maintained well. They gave a new look just before the delegates from Denver arrived in Madras in January, hoping they

MMM's Note: The tomb and its surroundings are far from well-kept. An occasional cleansing for an occasion is not maintenance. Something more than occasional ASI (TN) attention is needed — and a Yale endowment monitored by the Consulate-General or the Indo-Amercian Association or some other body is what is needed for year-round maintenance.

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('Sandy') Cortez-Greig (the Cortez comes from his Filipino wife) was always the best dressed man in the Consulate-General's building, always coated, booted and 'tied.' That's dressing up to be commented on for anyone who knew a bit of Sandy's background and

He first came out to India 20 or so years ago, just out of he was in kurta-pajamas, playing South Indian classical: the suited they'll be back for The Season

* * * "not our war". The Man From Madras Musings wonders what it was to the 2.4 million Indians who served during the war, to the 36,000 Indians who died in it, to the 65,000 Indians injured in it, to the 80,000 taken prisoner, to the 28 Indians who won Victoria Crosses in it, 14 in 1944 alone. It was Mukherjee's attitude - and that was a reflection of Government's - that led to the Government of India sending only FOUR persons to represent India on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of V.E.

MMM

Restoring out Post Offices

General Post Office, a bit of Victorian Gothic teamed with Indo-Saracenic, was nearly ten years in the building and opened its doors to the public on April 26, 1884: In 1994, architect Koshy, a conservation specialist, was commissioned to assess its condition and estimate the cost for restoring this Heritage Building. This exercise is part of the Post and Telegraph Department's decision in 1992 to classify as heritage buildings, and restore thereafter, 33 post offices. This is the story of that effort that was inspired by ONE Postmaster General.

(Report by ANUP JAYARAM in Business World)

D ASS through wrought iron gates and a facade of gleaming red-brick and exposed woodwork. Inside, natural north light pours in, illuminating wooden arches and carved jaalis. The comer office is cordoned off by wood and stained glass. Wooden brackets, beadings and flowers are abundantly visible. Fitting snugly in its time, circa 1906, this building's arched windows. carved railings, stone buttresses, wooden columns and floorboards reflect the architecture of civil construction in the hills during the British Rai. Built as a Durbar Hall for the princely sum of Rs. 30,000 by Raia Bhiwani Sen of Mandi (now in Himachal Pradesh) behind his palace, this has been the Mandi head post office for almost 50 years

But if the hall is in immaculate condition now, that wasn't always the case. Since its acquisition in 1957 by the post & telegraphs (P&T) department for a mere Rs. 3 lakh, the building decayed post haste. Mail bags were dragged over the wooden floor, lac (used to make varnish) was burnt on it, the stone frontage was painted over and no sewage disposal system existed. Toilets and pantries were fitted in anyhow. Worst of all, the stone walls had developed fault lines reminiscent of San Andreas, down to the foundation. The postal department began to seriously consider demolishing the structure and raising a seven-storey building.

Luckily for posterity, a history buff was in charge of the place. During the 1992 post master general's conference in New Delhi, P&T deputy director-

Himachal Pradesh postmaster general) suggested conserving Mandi and several other post offices with historical connections. Says Bhushan: "I have been a student of history. Ever since I saw a mosque in Kapurthala with Moorish (northwest African) architecture, I was convinced of the need to restore neglected structures to their pristine

...The department had a plentitude of buildings in need of conservation: it identified 33 that could be classified as heritage buildings, nine of them in West Bengal

Luckily for Bhushan, his scheme met with no real resistance: the then minister for communications Rajesh Pilot and chairman of the postal board S.C. Gulati were both agreeable. The only people with apprehensions about the idea's feasibility were those in the department's engineering wing.

That wasn't surprising, considering that the wing's past accomplishments

Another in our series on how **indian** cities are beginning to look at their heritage

included replacing the original brass counters in the Shimla general post office (GPO) with laminated wooden sheets in 1983. Naturally, the P&T top brass were wary of using its services in restoration. Says Bhushan: "I was convinced that they (the engineers) would not be able to do justice to the

Another hitch was the fact that the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) does not touch a building that is less than 100 years old. Though some of the post offices have crossed a century. several were just short of the landmark That's when the department brought in the Indian National Trust for Art & Cultural Heritage (INTACH): it was first awarded the project consultancy and then the implementation for Mandi.

The problems were immense, says conservation architect Manu Bhatnagar, who was consulted by INTACH. There were hardly any records as most of the state archives were destroyed in 1916 and other district records lost in 1970. Says Bhatnagar: "We had to photograph

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TAMARAI MILLS

before we got down to doing the

It was an arduous task. Working from the roof downward, its sheets were replaced, the gutter system changed and the slopes corrected to ensure there was no seepage. Partitions were removed to allow natural light in: paint was scraped off the walls and hollows filled in; lac was removed from the deodar floor planks and the sagging support system reinforced; electrical wiring was re-routed because it had been added by breaking open convenient windows; and hinges, handles and bolts were changed to brass.

More important, all this was carried out without actually disrupting routine post office work. Says INTACH directorgeneral (projects) Amita Baig proudly: "On no day did work at the post office stop because of our restoration." Baig dubs that a major effort, but so was convincing local officials that though the restoration wouldn't create new facilities, they would be working in a building they could be extremely proud

Mandi, however, was relatively cheap restoration, and not a true, indicator of how expensive conservation can be (it cost just Rs. 7 lakh). Baig says estimates depend on the extent of damage: assessment is being conducted on the Bombay, Calcutta and Madras GPOs, Pune. Ooty and Nagpur head post offices and the Mysore postal training centre.

There's no doubt that a fair amount of cash will be needed. Preliminary estimates suggest that restoring the Bombay GPO alone will cost Rs. 2 crore. As it stands, the building is structurally unsound. One portion of the building has sunk slightly. Also postal authorities put layers of bitumen on the roof, for waterproofing purposes. In the process, the roof became too heavy for the building: it also made it impossible to access the roof for repair work. Extensive work, perhaps even replacing the roof, might be necessary. Some of the required money has

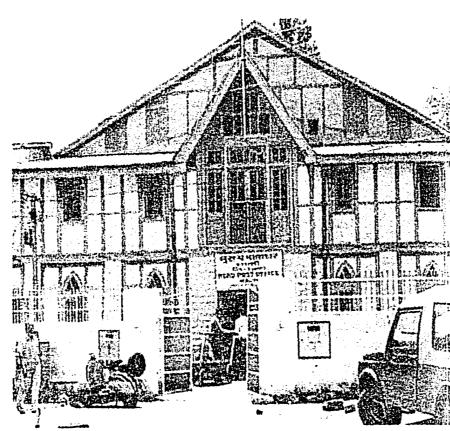
been set aside: of the Rs. 30 crore budget for postal buildings during 1994-95, Rs. 2 crore has been kept for restoration of heritage buildings. Since the Bombay project is likely to take three to four years to complete (it has 100,000 sq ft of space), its cost can be spread over that period. That will leave some funds to restore smaller post offices in better condition. One handy sponsor also seems to be available: the Indo-British Partnership Initiative (IBPI) is interested in funding

There could also be hidden benefits in conservation. INTACH, which has the consultancy for the Bornbay and Calcutta GPOs, has already submitted a report for the Bombay building. Says Baig: "Once all the work in Bombay is done, one entire floor will be vacant." In a city where space is at a premium, that will be a bonus indeed.

the restoration of colonial buildings.

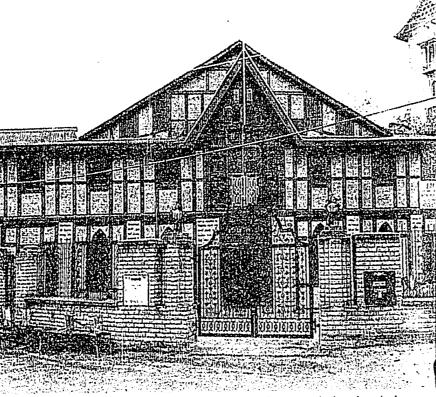
The Mandi project was INTACH's baby from start to finish, but it is unlikely to bag other ventures. In the Bombay GPO project, the Prince of Wales Museum is involved and the ASI is likely to get the civil wing of the. postal department to get into the act; for the 126-year old Calcutta GPO, the

ASI is chipping in itself. Edifying as all this may be, what is the guarantee that the newly-awaken-



THE OLD :...

For this fortnight's OLD and the NEW we go out of Madras the first time. And this is one of the few occasions we regret we cannot afford to publish in colour. The OLD is the tatty, slate-grey coloure Mandi Head Post Office before restoration. The NEW is the restore building which is in brick-red. Note the brickwork and the metal grills of the gate and fencing. The brick red of the entire building is teamed westments based on a 12 per cent with dark brown to emphasise the panelled effect. (Pictures from ost-lax return. With partial decontrol



ed P&T department will not slide back into sloth? For one, it has an injunction: the Planning Commission has asked the department to stop building new postal facilities. It advises taking other buildings on rent if more space is needed. That should put a brake on any demolition plans. Says Bhushan: "It is gratifying to note that the government feels that these old buildings shouldn't be replaced by newer constructions." For instance, in the Bombay GPO, postrestoration, all the computers will be located in a separate building instead of fitting them into the main body of the GPO. And the GPO has plenty of antique furniture to add authenticity.

For another, the department has a office. guidebook to follow: INTACH has

the maintenance of Mandi post (a regular feature in its work). Ex Baig: "We have made provision the future of virtually every lack that the postal authorities need is to be into the manual for future expansion I believe that once you give people good post office, they will delight take the trouble to maintain it.

Experts say it will take a decad restore all 33 post offices. Whether postal department is serious en about conservation for that long is to be reflected in the way it trorestored environs of the Mandi

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sk your broker to name one industry which is riding the crest a boom and pat would come the bly, 'Cement'. No other industry has itnessed the growth and expansion in pacities that this vital ingredient for instruction has in the past two years. ment is a shining example of the inite scope and benefits that accrue to decontrol.

Though the cement industry in dia is nearly eight decades old, its with was slow till the Eighties, Thainly on account of statutory price d distribution control. The trend ersed in 1977 when the Governcent announced a formula for new 1982, expansion/modernisation

ogrammes, including incorporation of new process, energy conservation casures and adoption of latest techlogy, took off at a brisk pace. The s will go down in the history of the ian cement industry as not only a cade of quantitative and qualitative nps, but a period when it expeenced a totally free market, as total ontrol of cement was introduced om March 1989. Today, the country only next to China, Russia, Japan and ISA in production, which was at 8 million tonnes in 1993-94. At resent, it is a net exporter of cement, tering for markets in Bangladesh. epal, Sri Lanka, Pakistan and the Gulf

In the process of going global, a few eliciencies in the Indian industry have kindly provided a detailed manual ome to the fore. The industry is highly Mexendent upon infrastructure, namely,

power, coal and efficient transportation. Coal extracted from Indian mines generally has a high content of fly-ash, which reduces the quality of cement Many companies have been importing coal for this very reason, notwithstanding the higher imported price. The price of electricity has gone up drastically in recent times. This, coupled with frequent powercuts, has forced many companies to take up captive

generation. Ways of conserving energy consumption by using alternate sources, like rice bran and groundnut husk, are also being experimented with by a few. Freight costs incurred while transporting the raw materials to the plant and while delivering the finished product to the market constitute a good part of the company's cost. Many cement companies are found selling their product to markets close to their plants for this very reason. In railway transport, the requisite number of wagons are not available and, even if available, are not there at the desired time. A few companies like Gujarat Ambuja have experimented and proved successful with bulk transportation, which reduces freight costs considerably. The

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industry will face a glut in a couple of years' time. The future definitely seems to be promising for those who have tapped the export market or have already laid the foundation for the same. Also, being in an industry where a majority of the costs are governed by the Government, it is essential that more and efficient cost-culting measures are taken up. It is also a sine qua non that a company

> its overheads down. These South-based cement shares are now firming up as a result of all this:

> gets its locational logistics right to keep

Government has raised the royalty on

the limestone reserves (limestone is a

major raw material for cement). But

despite all this, with increasing capacities

and supplies, it is estimated that the

Raasi Cement (CMP: Rs. 150.00): This South-based company's fortunes took a tailspin in the latter 80s due to an 80% power cut imposed by the APSEB. But the 1993-94 results saw it post a new profit of Rs. 1.15 cr., which sky-rocketed by 11 times to an unbelievable Rs. 12.60 cr for the half year ended September 1994 (on a turnover of Rs. 135.70). If Raasi's expansion of capacity to 16 lakh tpa from 11 goes into production as scheduled, it should easily achieve a turnover of around Rs. 350 cr and a PAT of Rs. 31.50 cr for March 1995-96. An EPS of Rs. 22.25 would give a price of Rs. 270 then. The share has been steady in spite of a falling market. Buy partially at current levels with a stop loss at Rs. 120. India Cements (CMP: Rs. 250.00):

This largest producer of cement in South India enjoys a market share of around 4%. Incorporated about five decades ago. India Cements currently boasts a capacity of 27 lakh tpa. Though the company has spread its wings to shipping, real estate and property development, cement continues to account for around 90% of the turnover. It announced encouraging results in September 1994, with PAT and sales both registering an improvement. India Cements tapped the overseas market with a GDR issue recently to fund the modernisation and expansion of its Chilamkur plant, set up a new cement plant and purchased two more ships. The PAT should cross the Rs. 50 cr mark for March 1994-95, giving an EPS of Rs. 17 on the enhanced equity after the GDR issue. Given the good prospects of the cement industry as well as shipping, the share should rule at Rs. 400 for 1995-96 results. Buy with a stop loss at Rs. 225.

Shree Cement (CMP: Rs. 65.00): Shree Cement manufactures cement and cement products near Beawer in Rajasthan. The company plans to increase its capacity by 20 lakh tonnes in the next four years which would finally enhance its total capacity to 2.60 million tpa. The results of these expansions will be reflected only by 1996-97. SCL has entered into collaboration with Deutsche Babcock Energie-Und Umwel-Hechnik AG (DBE), Germany to set up a thermal power plant in Rajasthan. In a diversification move, it will be setting up a new company to manufacture jelly-filled

The PAKKT region, every part of it with its own sea face, is composed of economically 'middle states', having a per capita income of Rs. 4722 as against the national average of Rs. 5015. The region has good infrastructural facilities, its index of 120 on this count comparing well with the national average of 100. In respect of human resources, the region contributes 35% of India's professionals.

The PAKKT region, with 23% of the country's population, i.e. 197 million, fares well on the sociodemographic front too (compared with the national average given in brackets): literacy rate 52.2% (42.2%); urbanisation - towns over 10,000 - 42% (24%); population below poverty line 23.5% (23.5%); higher education as % of population 3.33 (2.95); village electrification 100% (84%); infant mortality rate 50 (80)/1000.

According to an NCAER/ Citibank study, 40% of the country's NRI deposits are from migrants from the southern states. This, according to the ACME study, can help PAKKT in two ways to attract investments: (a) Consultancy help in becoming a global player, if the NRIs belong to academic institutions of higher learning or advanced technology industries, and (b) Access to companies they

are associated with, which could be potential investors in India. However, when compared with the five rich States -Maharashtra, Gujarat, Punjab,

Haryana and Goa — PAKKT lags behind on several counts, says the ACME study. The gap can be bridged only

by an accelerated industrial development programme, resulting in the growth of GDP by 14% per annum in the PAKKT region, says the study. To achieve such growth, it advises that PAKKT should have the following common regional agenda: (1) industrialising of the region as a whole; (2) widening the concept of the southern gas grid to other critical infrastructural areas; (3) developing a comprehensive strategy for industry and the government to promote the region jointly; and (4) facilitating free movement of goods through uniform sales tax and octroi rates.

The study suggests that key thrust areas for joint effort in the South could be Engineering, Electronics, Tourism and Infrastructural Development.

Will Tamil Nadu, which shares borders with the other three States and Pondicherry, take the lead in making PAKKT become a reality?

V.J.

Has CONCORD set PAKKT back?

(Continued from P 1)

cations and road grids and jointly seek NRI capital for industry are fraught with

With the proponents of a European nion gaining ground, the concept of regional economic blocs and common markets has not come a day too soon in India. But a political leadership incapable of working together to meet the wants of millions of Indians offers little hope for joint efforts that need to ignore parochialism. In fact, till CONCORD really takes off, it would be presump-

cables and optic fibre cables. To part-finance its above plans, the company proposes a US \$ 5 million GDR issue. We expect it to garner a sales of around Rs. 260 cr for 1995-96. The EPS-of Rs. 8.40 supports a price of Rs. 100 during 1995-96 results Buy with a stop loss at Rs. 50.

K. Gopalakrishnan

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NOTABLE BOOKS OF THE MONTH

Dictatorship of Virtue: Multiculturalism and the Battle for America's Future. Alfred A. Knopf, c1994. (305.8 BER)

Enviro-Management: How Smart Companies Turn Environmental Costs into Profits. Prentice Hall, c1994 (658.408 DEN)

The Seventh Stream: The Emergence of Rocknroll in American Popular Music. Wesleyan University Press, c1992. (781.66 ENN)

Comeback: The Fall & Rise of the American Automobile Industry. Simon & Schuster, c1994. (338.476292 ING)-

The Jossey-Bass Handbook of Nonprofit Leadership and Management. Edited by Robert D. Herman & Associates. Jossey-Bass Publishers, c1994. (658.048 JOS)

A Piece of the Action: How the Middle Class Joined the Money Class. Simon & Schuster, c1994. (305.55 NOC)

Preston, Ivan L.

The Tangled Web They Weave: Truth, Falsity, and Advertisers. The University of Wisconsin Press, c1994. (343.73082 PRE)

Shuman, Michael.

Towards a Giobal Village: international Community Development Initiatives. Pluto Press, c1994. (307.14 SHU)

tuous for the seven northern states to start counting their chickens. There's still a long way to go.

Indeed, even within Indian industry there would appear to be divergent views on such regional common markets. The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry. for instance, opposes these common regional market concepts and has mooted a proposal to form an 'India Free Trade Area'. According to FICCL. there should be no economic and noneconomic barriers between States. By removing these, FICCI projects a doubling of economic activity in the country within five years.

The aim of the nation, says FICCL. should be to achieve a uniform set of rules and procedures throughout the nation. The sharing of revenue between the Centre and States, the concurrent lists in the Constitution, the national grids for power, gas and water. the exim policy, banking and other laws governing the financial sector are meant for a balanced growth that would result in a vibrant, uniform economic activity.

FICCI is opposed to the formation of regional common markets which will result in protective structures. Such markets would also accentuate the North-South divide, it feels. But whatever FICCI's reservations, with the industrialised western zone - Maharashtra. Gujarat. Goa and Madhya Pradesh — also beginning to think of working out a similar concept, it would appear to be time for the southern states

to get cracking on PAKKT again.

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.

The school which produced...

Two Olympians and a hero

In 1875, Dr Fennelly, the Archbishop of Madras, invited the Brothers of St Patrick's to his Diocese, to manage a home for poor boys that had been founded by Archibishop Carew in 1840. Soon, the Brothers. Ignatius Price, Paul Hughes and Finian Parkinson arrived from Mountrath, Ireland, as Patrician pioneers in India.

The Home and its school were in Armenian Street at the time. The Brothers took it over and also taught and managed the present St. Mary's Higher Secondary School, then known as St. Mary's Seminary

Elphinstone Park, Adyar, about 150 acres in extent and with a large building in it, was bought on July 1, 1885, and the Home transferred there the same day. The school made much progress during the tenure of Bro. Aloysius Hogan (1889). The school's brass band was started that year and this greatly helped several of its members to join the military bands of regiments stationed in different parts of India and Burma. The famous Madras Governor's Band was comprised mainly of St Patrick's boys.

To celebrate the 25th anniversary of the move from Armenian Street, new dormitories and classrooms were proposed. The building began on St Patrick's Day, March 1913, and was completed in 1915 at a cost of Rs. 75,000. During World War II, the school was shifted to Coimbatore Arts College, where it functioned till June

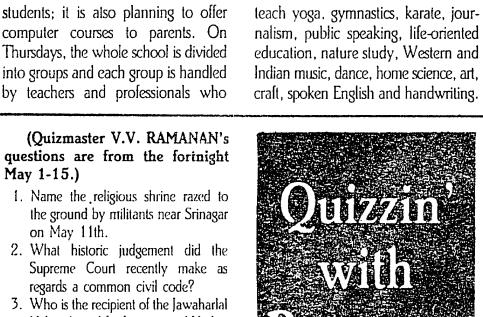
bishop of Madras, sold about 130 acres of the Adyar property and with the proceeds built the Catholic Centre. Rs. 50,000 was given as compensation to the Brothers in perpetuity, on condition that, should they leave, the property with buildings would revert to the

Many past pupils of the school have reached positions of eminence. Two students represented India in the Amsterdam Olympics in 1928. Most distinguished of all was Cyril Francis Martin, who lost his life on August 11. 1930, while attempting to save the life a child who had fallen overboard from s.s. Vita between Bombay and Basra: Martin was the purser of the ship. In 1931, Martin was posthumously awarded The Royal Humane Society's

The School today is an Anglo Indian Higher Secondary School. The headmaster, Rev. Bro. Dominic Jacob, who is assisted by 60 teachers, is an old boy of the school. There are about 1750 students. The academic performance of the school is good. The school also excels in football, cricket. athletics. The school's athletics teams have won several championships.

There is a boarding attached to the school, with about 100 boarders. The beautiful chapel in the campus was built by A J Fitzpatrick in 1959.

The school has a computer centre which caters for the needs of the



The chapel at St Patrick's.

May 1-15.) 1. Name the religious shrine razed to

on May 11th. 2. What historic judgement did the

3. Who is the recipient of the Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding 1993?

4. What does the logo of the Wills World Cup for cricket 1996 depict?

5. Name the famous Indian gay activist whose derogatory remark about Mahatma Gandhi on Star TV's 'Nikki Tonight' talk show has led to a nationwide controversy and a suit for Rs. 50 crore by the Mahatma's grandson.

6. Where in Tamil Nadu did a major train accident, involving the Madras -Kannivakumari Express, take place

7. Which prestigious hockey tourney's final in the country was abandoned after the Punjab Police players turned violent against their opponents, Indian

Airlines, in Bombay on May 13th? 8. A British mother of two, Alison Hargreaves, who scaled Mt. Everest, became the first woman to do what during her climb?

The school publishes a newsletter of Patrika, which is packed with a from the students every month.

The Centenary Building and the old buildings of St Patrick's.

A novel method now under mentation is when a child is admi to the LKG, ten other children and parents are asked to report each Activities involving the parents, teac and the children are specially organi They play together, eat together tating out day, the children are given sweets gifts. The idea is to make the child at home in school and appreciate the school is not a harrowing experient.

RAJIND N CHRIST

old sports superstar and a sex sym in his heyday. Who? 14. Name the Conservative and Gau

Mayor of Paris chosen the new Paris dent of France.

famous musician, has won the Swan Worthy 1994. Who is the subject of the li

16. M.A.M. Ramaswamy's 'Great Sp acle' (S. Narredu up) which won The Hindu Nilgiris Derby Stakes world record. What?

caused a mysterious and fatal epider by A Staff Report er in Zaire and may spread to other

of Africa. 18. Mr. Aludiapillai is the new Chancellor of ...?

19. Chacko Kunjuparambil, a ma created history in the Catholic Chungk for, advise the Anands.

20. Which 25 year-old treaty, subject many an international controversy made a permanent internat agreement on May 11th at the

(Answers on p. 8)

Text and Photographs intinued from last fortnight) aren and Gul Anand continue their

Sambhur stags in battle. (Photograph by N P SATSANGI courtesy Madras Naturalists'

exploration of restaurants in Jemima Goldsmith, the 21-year and come up with a new name daughter of a British peer, has one. To be, therefore, treated as an verted to Islam and changed her named discovery is the inexpensive to 'Haika' in order to marry a 42-y Restaurant on TTK Road. ne away from home, if you are Kerala", its specialities include la Syrian Beel, Fish (Surmai) Fry Kerala Fish Curry. The Vegetarian 15. Rasayatra, a biographical film about at Rs. 14. the Anands felt. was

Kamal for the best non-feature illing Meneka in the Palm Grove Hotel commended "for the best idli in Discussing Rice Pongal, the nds urge, "Do not discard the full May 7th has brought its owner a nerk peppers; they lose their sting in ing, but not their flavour", and of

companiments they say, "Sambhar e is a treasure of vegetables..." If don't just want to stop with eating also want to find out about the septuagenarian of Kuttanad, Kerthes, waiter Ramraj is the person to

Serving South Indian 'heavy' tiffin s, like adai etc., and 'meals' in a dem' environment, where you get ee Star TV, CNN etc. as you eat, ilimar. The Sunday special *Bisi Bele* Thursday special Rava Onion and also the Giant Butter Paper sai are the Anands' recommentions. Manager Sripathi they found

ul", the service "excellent". The Peshawri at the Chola raton, cousin of the Bukhara in tandoori food in the deluxe

work progressed, so he commuted The Raintree Restaurant at the Taj part of his pension (Rs. 5000) attenemara the Anands found "a real

modation in Chintradripet. (Courted purs". They had only been worried but the mosquitoes, but were plea-My surprised that the management

ensured "a peaceful pest-free evening" "Superbly crafted" dishes, "vegetarian delights" and "wonderful Chettinad gravies" provided them "fine dining" in "an extraordinary ambience".

The restaurant which found its way into the hearts of Madrasis through their stomachs, Saravana Bhavan, appears to have bowled the Anands over too. They devote considerable space to the service here ("with love and devotion"), clean rooms and polite waiters. They make note of owner S Subbiah "personally (supervising) the daily marketing, cooking, service and cleanliness". And they record, "The place simply packs them in being a favourite with the rich as well as the rickshaw pullers". The Rs. 14 South Indian meal, the Mini Tiffin ("six mini Ittapams" and accompaniments) for Rs. 8.50, coffee "the best we had in Madras", and waiters returning tips, "whispering 'Sir, tips are not accepted here'," all contributed to their assessment that "this restaurant is tremendous value for money".

"Dream dishes" from Chel Balindralal Barua's "Continental repertoire" were not only "superb in style, taste and content" at the Verandah Restaurant at the Connemara, but were also "comparable to the best of Europe". Barua, who has cooked for Queen Elizabeth and the late Marshal Tito, turns out a Steak and Kidney Pie that is "a masterpiece", but his piece de resistence is a stuffed 'fried' fish (Ravas) where the fish is baked before being stuffed with prawns and mushrooms. The Anands' final word is "A perfect setting for excellent cuisine".

Rounding off the Madras section is the Anands' view of Woodlands Drivein, in the horticultural gardens on Cathedral Road. There's "a superb quality of tiffin at very reasonable prices here", the Anands found, making note of the Tomato Bath, dosais and "traditional Pongal". "Wonderful" alternatives to a fizzy drink are "freshly squeezed black grape.... and badam kheer, a nourishing almond milk

These assessments may not be every Madrasi's, nor have the Anands visited some of the best. But as a start to grading Indian restaurants nationwide, the Anands have make a lip-

laturalisis Comen Have guitar, will travel for Carnatic, Jazz & Fusion

 ${f R}$ amaswami Prasanna received rave reviews during the last Madras 'Music Season' for his guitar concerts at varous sabhas. The 24-year-old engineering graduate is not the first South Indian classical musician to specialise in a Western instrument. Generations of violinists have made a European instrument their own, while the saxophone, clarinet and mandolin are now a regular part of the Carnatic music scene. The guitar itself was exploited as a concert instrument by young Sukumar Prasad a few years ago with considerable success.

Prasanna, who is now a wellestablished musician in the South Indian mode, has a keen interest in fusion music. South Indian audiences are familiar with the attempts of *mridanga* vidwan T V Gopalakrishnan to offer Jazz-Carnatic music fusion concerts. TVG has been responsible for introducing Carnatic musicians, of the calibre of saxophonist Kadri Gopalnath. on stage as exponents of such fusion efforts. Prasanna has gone a step forward by opting to study jazz as part of his higher education and by learning to introduce elements of Carnatic music in jazz. He finds that his proficiency in the sophisticated classical music system

is a great advantage in the improvisational aspects of 'modal jazz', the most prominent form of jazz today. Where the traditional jazz player has to be content with the limitations of his musical imagination within the framework of his upbringing, Prasanna has hundreds of ragas to choose from, to give free play to his manodharma.

Prasanna's present preoccupation

with fusion can be explained by the unusal path of his career. Not until he had been performing regularly in light 'music orchestras for years did he begin to learn Carnatic music. He had been playing film music and Western popular music with great success before he decided learn South Indian classical. He had shown unusual talent as a boy and guitar-playing came naturally to him. with hardly any need to practise his numbers before performances. Enjoying perfect pitch, Prasanna would often learn songs in the car on the way to

The turning point was Prasanna's mother's success in persuading Tiruvarur Balasubramaniam, Prasanna's sister's music teacher, to accept him as his pupil. Soon, the guitarist found he could coax the instrument to produce the gamaka-laden notes typical of Carnatic music. Before long, he was performing in cutcheries to appreciative

During the past year, Prasanna has Deen studying jazz composition at Berklee College of Music, Boston, one of America's prestigious institutions offering higher education in music. Enjoying the guidance and encouragement of his teachers — top-flight jazz musicians — Prasanna is fast proving to be an outstanding student of the complex art form thanks to his rich legacy of training in classical Camatic music. Prasanna's jazz compositions include improvisations based on South Indian ragas which serve to enhance the sophistication of his compositions.

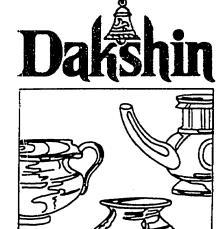
To Prasanna, the strenuous efforts to pay his way through college, the complexity and nuances of jazz, the need to keep in touch with Carnatic music through weekend concerts, all these pose a challenge that spurs him on towards excellence. He knows that his classical music base will be a great asset in jazz, while his academic pursuits have enriched his appreciation of the technical aspects of Camatic music. His is already a success story in which talent has been burnished by intelligence and industry. V RAMNARAYAN

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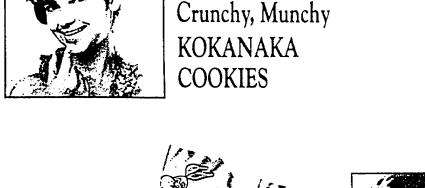
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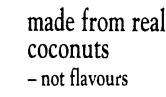
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TV Sambasivam Mannaiyar a.k.a. T V Sambasivam Pillai, of Ammapet (Valangaiman taluk, Thanjavur District), was a policeman. He was also a great name in Siddha medicine. But his life's work is only now

beginning to see the light of day. He was the author of a monumental, five-volume Tamil-Engligh Cyclopaedic Dictionary of Medicine, Chemistry, Botany and Allied Science, described as a "a reliable book of reference", "a magnum opus, the first of its kind in Tamil", and "a rich storehouse of medical terms explained in Tamil and in English". The medical dictionary deals with 50,000 words relating to Alchemy, Medicine, Yoga, Wisdom (Gnanam) and Kalpa.

Lakhs of technical scientific terms — medical, botanical, chemical and so on — have been compiled by the author, who has added annotations,

explanations and illustrations. The subjects he has dealt with include medicinal plants, indigenous drugs, herbs, herbacious drugs, minerals, diseases, animals, reptiles, vegetables, flowers, grains, trees and aquatic plants and animals, to mention just a few.

Companding.

. The Chinese swept all seven titles on

offer at a well-known sport's World

championships held at Tianjin, China,

recently, thus repeating their 1981

performance. Name this Olympic sport.

second in the Miss Universe pageant

. Name the Cuban pugilist who won a

record fifth consecutive title at the world

amateur boxing championships held

The 50th anniversary of 'VE Day' was

observed on May 7th throughout

Europe. What is 'VE Day'?

10. Name the Indian beauty who finished

held in Namibia on May 13th.

recently in Berlin

The first volume of the dictionary, published in 1938, contains 14,420 words in 1042 pages; the second 15,935 words in 824 pages; the third volume, 7500 words in 472 pages; the fourth has 874 pages and the fifth volume 856 pages. The 114-page Introduction to the first volume is considered an important and valuable research work on Siddha Medical

Copies of the second and third volumes of the medical dictionary are now on sale at the Directorate of Indian Medicine, Government Arignar Anna Hospital for Indian Medicine (near

Anna Arch), Arumbakkam. The volumes are under print.

spent it on his work.

Anna Nagar Times)

volume as well as the fourth and figure Delhi, "is the best place in Madras Sambasivam Pillai retired in 19 sory," report the Anands. Chef

in Madras. He had begun work on himi ("tasted wonderful rolled up in dictionary in 1916, when he was incomali roti), Sheekh Kabab and his thirties, and worked on it till fundri Raan were "superb", say the death in 1953 at the age of 73. Junds, who also noted "a little master He was not flush with mondah" in the Gulab Jamuns: they were When the need arose, he sold his storated for a short time in the tandoor, of paddy for Rs. 1000 and later diking the outer coating hot and crisp

But the demand for funds grew as [Ide"

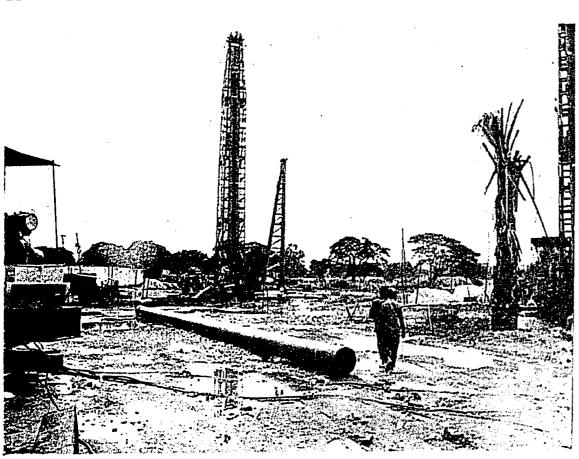
as an Inspector of Police, CB (CIDa) Singh's speciality, Kadak Sheek

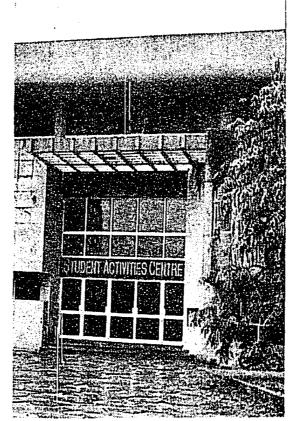
posed of the land itself for Rs. 600 le retaining the fragrant syrup

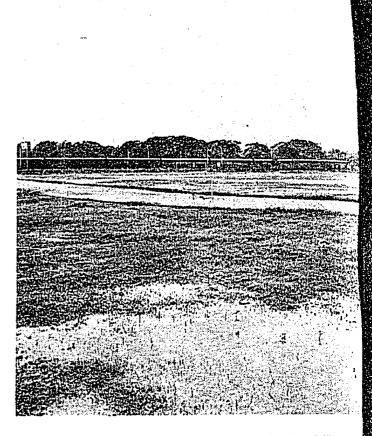
ath of fresh air in the five-star brigade In 1949, the Madras Governmatestaurants". They had heard of its recognised his efforts and sanction mous Chettinad cuisine", repro-Rs. 5000 for their completion. It a ged faithfully by Chels Anand Reddy permitted him to enjoy rent-free accord Mahadevan with all "the original

smacking beginning. (Concluded)









More progress on City's Games' sites

H ere's more 'progress' for you on the various venues for the different competitions to be held during the SAF Games come December.

Work has just started on the new Indoor Stadium in the old zoo area. Boxing and Volleyball are to be held in this modern facility, which has to be put up from scratch in less than six months. The rains have not been helping progress any.

The Student Activities Centre at ITT. where Gymnastics is to be held, is a splendid facility midst the trees of Guindy National Park. A little bit of sprucing up and it'll be ready for the Games.

The picture on the right is the water-soaked pitch at the Sports Authority of Tamil Nadu's grounds by Nehru Park in Kilpauk. Kabbadi will be played on the football ground here, between the railway tracks and the sports complex's administrative block. A makeshift mini-stadium will be created round this pitch with casuarina poles coming back in fashion.

ANSWERS TO QUIZ

1. Chrar-E-Sharief; 2. It ruled that parties who have solemnised their marriage under the Hindu Marriage Act remain married, even when the husband embraces Islam to marry again; 3. Aung San Syu Kyi of Myanmar; 4. It shows a batsman driving, with the follow-through forming a fan of 12 colours representing the participating countries; 5. Ashok Row Kavi; 6. Between Lokur and Danishpet on the Jolarpettai-Salem line; 7. The Aga Khan Cup; 8. First to climb unaided and without oxygen; 9. Table tennis; 10. Manpreet Brar; 11. Felix Savon; 12. 'Victory in Europe Day', the day when World War II ended in Europe; 13. Imran Khan Niazi; 14. Jacques Chirac; 15. Pt. Mallikarjun Mansur: 16. It was his 200th Classic win, a world record; 17. The Ebola virus; . 18. Madurai Kamaraj University; 19. It is reportedly the first time in the Catholic Church's history that the priesthood has been conferred on a married man, thus breaking a Canonical tradition; 20. The Non Proliferation Treaty on Nuclear Weapons.

Shooting events will be held at the Sivanthi Adityan shooting sports complex in the Police Commissioner's Office campus, Egmore. The range will host some 12 different shooting events during the Games. But before that, the present range, which is built with an East-West orientation, will have to be turned around to face North-South, in line with international shooting regulations. A common butt wall will divide the two 50-metre ranges, one for rifles and the other for handguns. The existing indoors 10 metre range will also be updated to International Shooting Union specifications. Trap and Skeet, otherwise known as Clay Pigeon events, will be held at the Alamadi Shooting Range beyond the old Sholavaram airstrip. This is on Sivanthi Adityan's farm and is his private range which he is readying now for international competition.

> Text and Photographs by **V S RAGHAVAN**

New athletics records in training plans!

he Amateur Athletics Federation of India is going full steam with its plan to get Indian athletics ready for the South Asian Federation Games in Madras in December. Though six months remain for the Sports **Development Authority of Tamil** Nadu to organise the Games in cooperation with the Indian Olympic Association, the AAFI has already launched three coaching camps at Patiala, Bangalore and Thiruvananthapuram (T'Puram) for nearly 150 athletes, in the hope that those finally selected don't get surprised by athletes from Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Nepal and Bangladesh.

While no less than 14 events have been allotted to Patiala, the Bangalore and T'Puram camps will coach in only three events each. Whatever may be the outcome of the camps, and however many of the record number of trainees make the grade, the AAFI will have set records of doubtful worth in its bid to bolster Indian athletics on the eve of one of the biggest international championships to be held in India.

Never before, for instance, have so many probables been named, or so many camps been run simultaneously at so many different centres. Whether they will vindicate the amount of time



and money spent on them, only the Games will tell. But the question being asked not only in Madras but throughout the country is how a camp was not allotted to Madras, the hosts who could have run it at the Games' venue, the Nehru Stadium, where the probables would have gained valuable experience, such as the feel of the track.

Athletics takes pride of place at every international meet, where nothing boosts a nation's stock more than its track and

field gold medals tally. It is to India's advantage that the Games' athletics is to be held at the Nehru'Stadium, which would have been an ideal training centre for the country's probables if only for the fact that even a brief camp there would help them enter the fray with a clear home advantage.

No information was available at the time of writing how Madras came to be ignored by the AAFI, if the Tamil Nadu State Amateur Athletics Association was consulted in the matter, and if it was the AAFI's plan to bring only the selected squad to the NehruStadium for a final coaching session. Whatever may be the AAFI's plan, I suppose Tamil Nadu fans should be grateful for the AAFI including six Tamil Nadu athletes among the Games probables. They are Jenny Verghese, Anand Natarajan, T. Sheja, K. Solaimathi, Ancy Phillips and Angela Lincy. It is to be hoped that the camps will transform them into stars capable of making the best of the Nehru Stadium track.

The forgotten of Tamil Nadu

C ongratulations, Sachin Tendulkar Being chosen Sportstar's 'Sportsperson of the Year' couldn't have happened to a nicer person! But The Corner Flag never thought such selections had anything to do with niceness. He'd always thought that they have something to do with achievement.

Not that Sachin Tendulkar's achievements are anything to be sniffed at. But they've been in a sport in which there are less than a dozen major national teams and a couple of dozen minor national teams. They've also been mainly on home pitches. Surely Viswanathan Anand, whose field is closer to a hundred nations, whose competitors train far more than cricketers, who has played against all of them mainly away from home, and whose international ranking, No. 2 or No.3, is not subject to parochial opinion, deserved the 'Sportsperson of the Year' title more? Or do you have to become world champion to win such recognition if you are not a cricketer? In which case, why not recognise weightlifter Malleswari, who is our only world champion at the moment?

Whatever the reasons for ignoring two more deserving cases, the cricketcrazy editor and staff of Sportstar who fill half of each issue and more with only cricket and tennis - are doing a signal disservice to the rest of Indian sport. Looking at it more paro-. chially, all sports journalism in Tamil Nadu, led by The Hindu and Sportstar,

Nadu. After long years, we have a couple of Tamil players — Sabir Pasha and Amalraj - playing football for India. But do we take note of their selection here? No, they're just a couple of more members of a forgettable team. No wonder when national football coach Rustam Akramov spotted Felix Eduardo, "a young Tamil Nadu goalfor a four-nation tournament, The Corner Flag finds goalkeeper B Ramaswamy, full back Ravi Kumar and forwards Paul Kribakaran and Prabhakaran among the 39 probables. The Corner Flag wouldn't be surprised to hear questions being asked as to where these Tamil Nadu players come from.

Athletes Solaimathi and Anand Natarajan, swimmers Nisha Millet and Saravanan Subramaniam, chess players Konguvel and Vijailakshmi, the volleyball and basketball players, both men and women, sundry boxers and weightlifters, are all national champions. But what's their recognition in the local press? When even Anand Viswanathan has to bow to King Cricket, what chance do the others

have?

THE CORNER FLAG

the bulk of whose circulations are in Tamil Nadu, are doing little by way of encouraging sportspersons in Tamil Nadu. In fact, not even young cricketers — like spinner Balaji — get the kind of encouragement a budding sportsperson needs from the Press. Sad to say, even the only Tamil sports magazine, the bulk of whose readers are likely to be in other sports, follows this same route.

The Comer Flag was driven to such thoughts by a couple of news items of no more than a para and one of which has still to see the light of day in Tamil keeper", and described him as a "Yashin in the making", the talent spotting was ignored. In fact, The Corner Flag would't be surprised to hear the question "Who's Felix Eduardo? Who's he play for?"

Rather similar is the case of some of the State's hockey players. Mohammed Riaz slipped into the national team as a permanent fixture with no local fanfare or recognition. Prabhakaran was the star of the 'A' team's tour of Australia and is now in the running for a national berth. Meanwhile, as another 'A' team trains

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