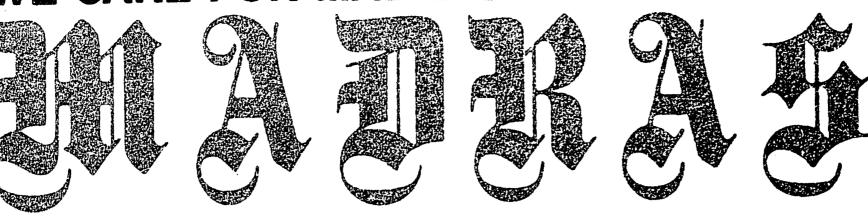
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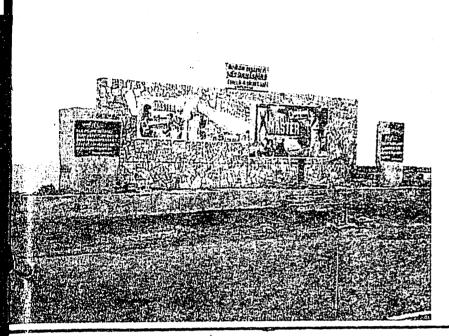
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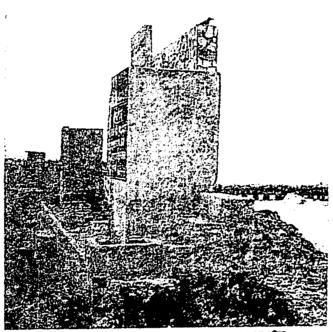


loi. V. No. 10

MUSINGS Sept. 1 — 15, 1995

Rs. 3 only







These pictures were taken by RAJIND N CHRISTY on August 7, 1995.

plan to make T.N. bloom

Export of flowers will get a fillip in Tamil Nadu in the near future provided quality, regularity and reliability of local supplies can be assured the European market. This was he conclusion reached by a high level delegation of the State Government after a recent tour of The Netherlands and the UK.

To meet the needs of those markets, the delegation has recommended far-reaching measures in the State to give a new thrust to horticulture, specially floriculture, for export.

The institutionalisation of a flower auction, through a speedy trading ystem similar to that in The Nether-

lands, has been suggested for the cut flower trade. It has recommended that the flower auction centre be set up near Madras airport, which is well-connected to Southeast Asia. Europe and America. The State and the Central Governments

by A Special Correspondent

may provide initial loans and support for the centre which is to be set up by a group or society or a cooperative of growers. Similar auction centres with cold storage facilities for jasmine and kanakambaram would be set up in Madurai and Coimbatore.

Apart from the auction centres, the seven-member delegation, led by State Agriculture Minister K P Krishnan, has recommended the following:

- Setting up of three greenhouses spread over two hectares each in Ooty, Kodaikanal and Hosur under the supervision of the Tamil Nadu Agriculture University (TNAU) and the state Horticulture Department for demonstration purposes.
- Requesting The Netherlands Council for International Education and Training in Agriculture (NETA) to train teams from the agriculture, agro-engineering and horticultural departments in intensive vegetable cultivation with maximum productivity.
- Setting up training centres in Madras to conduct courses on mushroom cultivation and horticulture.
- Procuring machinery for planting tissue culture plants, weeding operations and trenching which could then be developed by the TNAU, Tamil Nadu Agro Industries and the private sector.
- Horticulture research projects to be taken up by TNAU in collaboration with the Research Station of Wageningen University, The Netherlands, with sponsorship by floriculture trading houses in the country.

At present, 10 tonnes of flowers are exported through the Bombay and Bangalore airports and a small quantity to Southeast Asia from Madras.

The present worldwide market for floriculture products has been estimated at \$ 40 billion, with an annual increase of 15 per cent. Cut flowers contribute 60 per cent of the trade and the rest are for live and potted plants.

The fury of the North Madras sea

T hese photographs by RAJIND N CHRISTY provide evidence of a startling sight on the Ennore Express Road that has been eroded by the sea.

The picture on extreme left shows what the Sulabh-Municipal Corporation public convenience at Poongavanam Nagar in Kasimedu might have looked like when seen from the front just six months ago. The difference now is the stark black-and-white notices painted on it asking the public to refrain from using the toilet as it has been damaged by sea erosion.

But this is no ordinary damage. If you look carefully at the first picture you will see that there are signs in it of what the other two pictures reveal — the toilet has literally vanished, gobbled up by the fury of the sea, leaving just one wall for the notice-writer. Several neighbouring huts have also vanished (their occupants moved to Korukupet) as the sea has taken a toll of about 20 feet of shore here in just six months. At this rate, the LONE wall will disappear in a couple of months - and then it will be the turn of the road. What are we doing

- THE EDITOR

Industry NOT doing its best

- Exnora Innovators charge

(By A Special Correspondent)

Madtas business and industrial houses attracted flak from one speaker after another at a recent Exnora-Innovators Club meeting. The business community pays scant regard to environment protection, the speakers charged.

Dr Paul Appaswamy, Madras Institute of Development Studies, who spoke on 'The role of business and industries in the sustainable development of Madras' said, "The business community generally does not show any interest in environmental aspects". According to him, the relationship between the business community and the city should be like a marriage alliance, with Industry looking at the long-term interests of the city rather

than the short-term ones. He also remarked that Government's attitude of treating Industry as a sacred cow should change and it should make public the environmental aspects of every project. Citing public sector units which were forced to provide all kinds of facilities. he called for the private sector to emulate them. "The private sector should contribute on its own for the betterment of the city rather than using the existing amenities," he said.

Mr Devasahayam, a former IAS officer, lelt that "of all the three constituents in a city — the business community, NGOs, and the general public — it is the business community alone which has kept itself aloof in the

(Continued on P3)



Fisheries in need of management

diseased crops to destructive-

Madras Musings heard answers

from the scientists. But who is

going to be the first to implement

Once again, The Man From

Sitting in on a meeting of Indian fisheries scientists, The Man From Madras Musings heard them bemoan the fact that while India's fish catch continued to increase, the fact of the matter was that fish were becoming an endangered species as more and more immature fish were being caught. One scientist, who had examined the scenario in and around Madras - and who felt it was no different anywhere along the Bay of Bengal sea for 180,000 hours. Now coast - pointed out that the they are out at sea for well over mean length of four species 400,000 hours. Whereas kattucaught in these waters had maram (catamarans) stay out just reduced 14 mm, 20 mm, 9 mm for a few hours a day, most and 5 mm respectively, inditrawlers stay out for at least one cating declining stock of the kind of fish that should be caught. day and many of them stay out for four or five days if they are

Trawl fishing off the east coast was bringing in catches after shrimp. that were mainly juvenile, said much of it without going out to this scientist. Two-thirds of the sea where the depths are deeper catch netted from Madras waters and more mature fish become had not reached maturity, he stated. And startled MMM with available, that has resulted in what is becoming almost a crisis the statement that 2.5 million situation along the east coast of fish of one species that had been caught in these waters were India, according to the scientist. juveniles!

Another startling revelation by this scientist was that 120,000 tonnes of by-catch were being discarded by trawlers fishing from east coast harbours. Selecting high-value shrimp and other fish with a good market, the trawlers dump back all else they catch, because they have no storage facilities for the by-catch. Elsewhere in the world, MMM was told, by-catch was brought to shore and provided valuable protein for those who could not afford better quality fish. The rest of the by-catch was processed as fishmeal for animal feed or prepared as ready-to-cook table items like cutlets, sausages etc. None of the by-catch was wasted in most countries as India does, MMM discovered.

Changing scene

How the fishing scene has changed in Madras fisheries harbour in the last decade! The

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Justin, K (ed.

Loveday, G C

Mould, C

White, J

FICTION

Coe, J King, S McCutham,

Man From Madras Musings heard this same fisheries scientist point out that, nowadays, 90 per cent of the catch was being brought in by 400 trawlers and 15 'pablos' and only around ten per cent landed by the 24,000 kattumaram that

It is this greater fishing effort,

What then are the scientists

going to do about it? MMM finds

they have answers, but wonders,

with them, about who is going

to implement such management

• Getting the trawlers to go

Introducing closed trawling

• Introducing protected areas

Diversifying trawlers (equip-

• Increasing mesh size, to

• Creating awareness at all

levels, down to consumers

and politicians. This in-

cludes making consumers

aware of other varieties of

fish that could be eaten. For

instance, tuna, a worldwide

favourite and plentiful in

Indian waters, is not a pre-

ferred fish in Madras - or,

for that matter, anywhere in

The Man From Madras

Musings sees that if there is to be

change in the fishing scene, the

political will and changing con-

sumer preferences are both

necessary. Only then will

management measures suggested

by scientists work with fisher-

along the east coast and the pro-

(prawn nursery grounds,

Ennore estuary, Pulicat

ping them with other catch

seasons (northeast monsoon

period, peak spawning

deeper waters.

backwaters etc.)

catch bigger fish.

equipment).

seasons).

out further and fish in

measures as:

sea farming and the rearing of other species apart from the beach on the coast in and on favoured shrimp? The scientists see worldwide both sides of Madras. The catch markets — not to mention interin Madras has increased from 6000 tonnes in 1984 to 42,000 tonnes in ten years! In 1984, fishing craft were out at

- nal ones for some of the options they would like aquaculturists to look at. These include: • Fattening lobsters and crabs. • Rearing oysters, clams and
- mussels for the table. Rearing sea cucumbers (beche de mer) for export.

• Rearing ornamental fish for

export.

• Cultivating seaweed for several chemical purposes. With a vast coastline along the east coast, with the inshore and offshore waters yielding less, sea farming is an area many a fisherman should begin looking at. But MMM hears, there's little

enthusiasm for such farming,

either on the beach or in admini-

Madras Musings finds, is certainly doing so with an intriguing advertising campaign by Lintas, Madras. The Hindu's stablemate says that it is "The 100% alternative" because it offers 90% facts and 10% advertising. MMM wonders about two things. One, is that a commitment on future policy as well, in which case we welcome it and ask Business Line to join the Madras Musings club, and, two, isn't the 10% advertising 'facts'?

★ The next speciality hospital to open in the 'medical capital of India' will be the MIOT hospital which will offer "a new dimension to orthopaedic care". The foundation stones for the different wings of the hospital orthopaedics specialist Dr Mohandas is establishing were recently laid by three German specialists. The Man From Madras Musings understands that the hospital, to be developed near the late MGR's Ramavaram Gardens, will have links with German orthopaedic institutions. Mean-

SHORT'N' SNAPPY

strative circles. Who then is going to encourage such activities which could prove yet another fisheries management

Films for India

A shok Amritraj, who gave up a promising career in tennis and chose film-making instead in America, is now all set to invade the Indian film and TV market. His Amritraj Entertainments, The Man From Madras Musings hears, will continue to make such popular English-language thrillers as *Double Impact* for the American and international 'action' market (the next in line, MMM hears, is to be called Midnight Heat). But a new Madras-based company, Amritraj-Soloman Communications (Michael J Soloman being an ex-Warner Bros man), is planning to pump in \$25 million over the next few years into films made in India for the Indian and NRI

While he is looking at making three films a year in Hindi, Tamil and Telugu, it is television serials that the new company is initially investing in, MMM understands. ASC has already signed up with sagamaker Ramanand Sagar to make two serials - Durga and The Rajputs. Negotiations are on for a Tamil serial on Lord Ganesha. And work, MMM hears, has started on a 104-episode serial on Lord Venkateswara, to be titled Thirumalaivasal.

If the serials prove a success, if the films that follow do well, ASC is looking at upmarket multiplex theatres in the South and even a television channel, The Man From Madras Musings is told. With all this activity ahead, Madras is likely to see Ashok Amritraj a lot more than in the past two decades.

In brief

★ When you're short of advertising, capitalise on it. And Business Line, The Man From

while, MMM wonders what MIOT stands for and what the serpent is doing in the shade of the MIOT logo.



* Speaking of hospitals, The Man From Madras Musings hears that the Madras Medical Mission is establishing the city's biggest heartcare hospital in Mogappair (Anna Nagar West) and that the hospital will be dedicated towards the end of this year by Mother Teresa. As part of the inauguration, the hospital is also organising a major international conference on heartcare, with hundreds of leading 'heart doctors', including Christiaan Barnard, attending. The Season in Madras is certainly going to be crowded this year, MMM feels.

* Tiruppur, which accounts for 35 per cent of India's knitwear production, has rarely been discussed in terms of health hazards; that's a dubious honour reserved for Sivakasi. But at a seminar held recently in the city, The Man From Madras Musings heard it said that hosiery was as dangerous an industry as, say, fireworks. On an average, ten cases of tuberculosis were reported every day in the Tiruppur government hospital and over eighty per cent of the city's workers had eye diseases due to exposure to harmful chemical dust. The Man From Madras Musings wonders what action the 2,500 hosiery units and the government are taking to protect this workforce

Business briefs

* TI Cycles of the Murugappa Group is the largest exporter of bicycles, about 400,000 of them to Europe alone. Most of these exports are to UK, France, Holland and Germany. To increase its exports to Europe and to simultaneously take advantage

But few do it in or near their 'native' village. Silvester, who lives in Germany, is an exception. The Man From Made Musings finds. He is busy developing the Alanchi Beach Casa in the Kanniyakumari District, a Rs. 6 crore project that will provide 120 rooms in

of the lower duties on compo-

products, TI's, The Man From

Madras Musings learns, is

planning on establishing in

France a joint-venture assembly

plant with the French company

Sourcing Corporation. TI's equal

investment in the project is

expected to be around

\$ 500,000. Once this assembly

operation gets under way, T is

planning to team up wth

another assembler in Europe

this time in a non-European

Community country. With two

assembly units in Europe, Il's

American market with an export

of 20,000 bikes to Canada.

* Chellappan Silvester, from a

village in the Kanniyakumari

District, is yet another NRI who

has made his money abroad and

is planning to invest it in India.

51/2 acres of greenery. Planning

to offer five-star facilities at

three-star rates at his beach

resort, Silvester is hoping to tap

the German tourist market

which, at present, sends about

80.000 German tourists to India

a year, a third of them to the

South. That many of them will

fall for his sun, sea 'n' sand offer,

Silvester is confident.

nents, as compared to finished

* Tirupur has been Tamil Nadu's major centre for hosiery production and export. But soon there will be a second major centre, The Man From Madra Musings learns. Work is fast progressing at the SIDCO industrial estate near Madura and all that's left to be done to build its electricity substation. Situated at Uranganpatti, km from Madurai, this estate will offer facilities for knitting, stitching, dyeing, bleaching, screen printing and also embroidery. About twenty knitting, a hundred stitching, ter screen-printing and ten dyeing units are to come up here.

The total investment in this

estate being set up primarily to

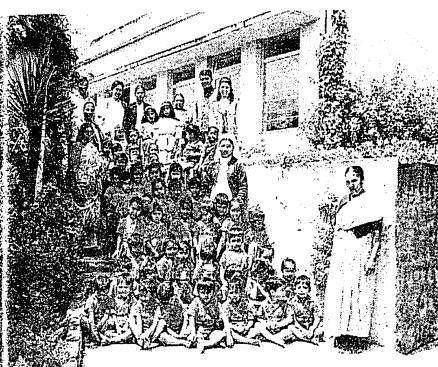
tap the export market, and

which will provide employment

to around 10,000 people when

ready, is Rs. 50 crore.

* Teak schemes continue ! attract investors in India. Bu one Madras-based entrepreneu has begun to look beyond India frontiers, The Man From Madra Musings finds. C Natesan of the Anubhay group has tied up with a Cairo firm to introduce the scheme in the Nile Valley. The joint-project, MMM understands. is targetting 2500 acres initially. with one million trees, and Anubhav's farms in Tamil Nadu will supply the seedlings. Each tree will be sold at \$66. Anubhav has 1400 acres under teak in India, with 2.8 million trees planted at an investment of Rs. 45 cr from 40,000 investors. Anubhav has also begun to look at Laos, Malaysia and Papua-New Guinea for such schemes.



on the verge of closure because Government grants have not arrived for the last

will fair bid to make a noticeable dent in the 16 million bicycles European market. Meanwhile it has also moved into the North hotels to host alaces

(By M G S Radhakrishna)

The two premier palaces of the Nizam of Hyderabad have been counted by the Tata group on long ases for conversion into ethnic resorts. Prince Mukaram Jah, who would ve been the eighth Nizam of hyderabad if history had been different, as decided to part with the Falaknuma d Chowmchalla Palaces. He will be lowed to keep a permanent suite in new resorts. The Tata Group has eady taken possession of both palaces all the ethnic furniture and assware. "They will pay separate hirease charges for the same", a spokesan of the Prince's private estate stated. The Prince's eight palaces in the ate capital have been in a dilapidated ondition for the last two decades. The overnment had taken over nearly 1 lakh square metres of surplus land, schuding the 360 acres in the Chiron

alace in the posh Jubilee Hills. Accordg to municipal corporation and land enue authorities, the Prince posses-2157 properties. He lost 13 outside elyderabad urban agglomeration, uding 23,000 acres of grazing land. le l'rince was also in heavy debt versuas, and a defaulter of incomeand estate duty in the country. hough the Prince got a lion's share the proceeds of the jewellery trust, continued to be in deep trouble

The Prince resides in the Chiron are and, since his fifth marriage to 🗞 a Arkidi in 1994, has taken rx nal charge of his properties in the unity. After last October's controisial fete throwing open the palaces the public, political parties like the and the Communists launched a impaign for nationalisation of the ic's that were opened.

loving his insolvency petition in

Tij Group sources said the lakuuma Palace would be ready for mn ercial operations from November ንዓቲ "The palace is well maintained wep: for the need to repolish all the ass and glassware," they said. The oup has estimated an expenditure of early Rs. 3 crore in modernising the ectrical fittings and developing a oden kitchen in the premises.

The nearly 150-room palace will ive ethnic suites of the British and श्रीjahi periods. "We also plan to set a mini-ethnic gallery to display akkhani culture and costumes."

According to state government sources, the project has also received the approval of the State tourism department and the Indian Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC), which had first right over both palaces, either on hire-lease or outright sale. Both tourism organisations plan to conduct Dakkhani festivals and make Hyderabad a part of the "Golconda circuit" for foreign tourists.

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

The Nizam has also offered some of the smaller palaces in the city and a small fort on Kurnool Road for hospitality exploitation. The nearly 12,000 sq. yard mud-and-granite fort is adjacent to a road bridge over the Krishna. "We are trying to make best use of real estate which had been neglected all along due to indifferent management," he said. (Courtesy: The Telegraph, Calcutta)

EDITOR'S NOTE: "Best use" would appear to be lease to major hotel groups for restoration and use as living buildings. When do we start in Tamil

process of urban development". With

he UNCHS-sponsored Sustainable

Cities Programme getting Government's

approval, it is necessary for more active

involvement of the business community

n the programme and a watering down

M B Nirmal, founder, Exnora,

alleged that "despite being the cause

of pollution in North Madras, no

industry there is willing to shell out

even a single paisa for improvement of

Earlier, G Dattatri, national Consul-

lant. UNCHS Sustainable Cities Project

who spoke on a 'Sustainable Madras';

said, "Fifty years ago, Madras was

known for its urban amenities and rural

the environment".

of Government's role, he stated.

(Continued from P 1)

INDUSTRY NOT

DOING THEIR BEST

A grant too late, for this school? two trained nuns to administer the The Red Cross Nursery, started in school and teach the children. Three 1948 in Kardel, a slum in ayahs cook for the children and care Udhagamandalam, has been running for them, and there is a watchman. The since then with a partial grant from the children have a happy, clean, educative Government and donations from friends of the founder. But since 1991

tillthen. "We have therefore had to make withdrawals from our Trust funds and we have now overdrawn from it. The situation is critical and we cannot continue without immediate help.' writes Trustee Dr Tusna Park, granddaughter of the founders. Mr and Mrs A Master (he was the Conservator of Forests, Madras Presidency).

Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare

Department, which it had been, setting

The school is for children between 2 and 6 years, "whom my grandmother felt were the most neglected of all children". It is a day school and has run this school.

P e: MM August 1, that was an

interesting piece on Lakshman and his

mother, Ashokam Eswaran, who are both

known to me. Ashokam is an old Queen-

marian, very much my junior; she joined

1 st year lnter when I was in my final year

M.A. She was always ready to join us during

the Ouit India days. One day Miss Myers

hauled her up and asked her, whether she

was aware her father was serving the British

and he can earn his living otherwise.

bridge, a corruption of Hamilton Bridge, is

The stretch of San Thomé High Road

from Foreshore Estate to lighthouse is

too narrow and congested. From the broad

Kamarajar Salai with 6-lane traffic. it

suddenly narrows down to 21/2 lanes and

you can imagine the traffic congestion. With

14 schools in the area, the cycle-rickshaws,

cars and two-wheelers that bring the children

create chaos in the morning. To compound

the problem, the San Thome bus stop (in

front of IOB) is at the wrong place. All

those coming from Parry's side have to wait

till the bus stops, drops passengers and picks

up fresh passengers. If only this bus stop is

shifted ahead — near the St. Thomas English

charm. Now the situation has changed

and the main reason for this has been

the overdependence on Govenrment

for planning and development of the

city". The business community, NGOs.

the public, all of whom are the

stakeholders, should be involved in the

planning process at the macro and

levelled against Industry as a whole

R Subramaniam, Managing Director

Sterling Holiday Resorts (India) Ltd

said, "By 2004 AD, Tamil Nadu

would attract ten million tourists and

if the city's waterways are cleaned, they

can be used for pleasure travel by the

Not replying directly to the charges

micro levels. he lelt.

Anna Varki

9 Central Street

Madras-600 010

Kilpauk Garden Colony

still known by that name?

Too narrow

Though a junior, she was very bold.

Bold junior

environment in which to spend their daytime hours. "I feel personally responsible to see that the school does not close down and am therefore looking for help," writes Dr Park.

Writing to the Department, Dr Park has stated. "Of late it has been extremly difficult to obtain our Grant from the Government. We are helping the Government of Tamil Nadu by educating free of cost 60 poor slum children and it does not seem right that we should have to EVERY YEAR come to the Secretariat to meet concerned persons personally to obtain a Grant so that we may continue to

OUR

"The late Mr. MGR fully appreciated our efforts and has personally visited our school. The Collectors of the Nilgiris, being our Ex-officio Presidents, used to always bring visiting dignitaries to see our school, setting it up as an example for others to follow...

"If the Government of Tamil Nadu (now) does not value our school any more - which is contrary to the policies of the Government, since it is helping Harijan children — it may advise us to close the school, since we cannot run it without getting our Grant

Subsequent to this letter, "we have been assured that we will receive our Grant, but I fear it might be too late,' says Dr Park dejectedly.

Dr (Mrs) Tusna Park 17. First Cross Street Sterling Road Madras-600 034.

I request the Corporation Commissioner to drive through that road and see for himself the garbage, rubbish and filth on the road,

> Flat No. 1 Seaview Apartment San Thome, Madras 600 028.

which is must unhygienic and causes

Better times ahead?

refer to MMM's comments is MM August 1st. We deeply regret the inconvenience guests had to face on their visit to our restaurant at the airport. We have taken up the matter with the concerned staff to ensure that such incidents do not recur. Since the cleanliness of the surrounding areas falls under the purview of the Indian Airport Authorities, we will be taking up the matter with them shortly.

Harish C. Dhingra Area Director The Taj Group of Hotels

READERS WRITE

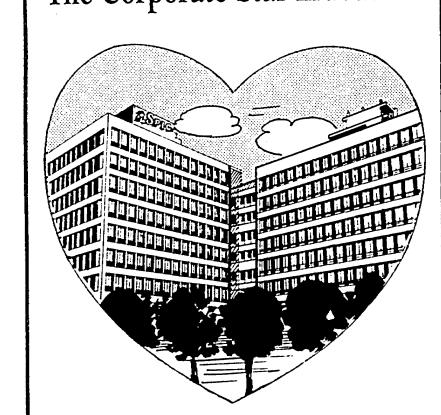
Church — where there is ample space, then there will be smooth flow of traffic and also shade for the passengers under the big banyan tree.

The traffic police must also think of Government and that her actions would jeopardise his position. "Yes. Miss Myer." making the stretch one-way from 8.00 to pat came the reply, "but he is also a lawyer 9.30 am and again from 3.00 to 4.00 pm., with only schoolchildren and rickshaws being the exception. This will serve the dual Incidentally, can a reader tell me whether Barber's Bridge - Ambattan

1) Easing the traffic on the stretch. 2) Using the circular beach road which is being misused by the slum dwellers, as no vehicle passes on that road.

Madras 600 034.

The Corporate Star in Madras



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SPIC **GROUP COMPANIES**

Culture options The same meeting also looked at the rush to aquaculture all

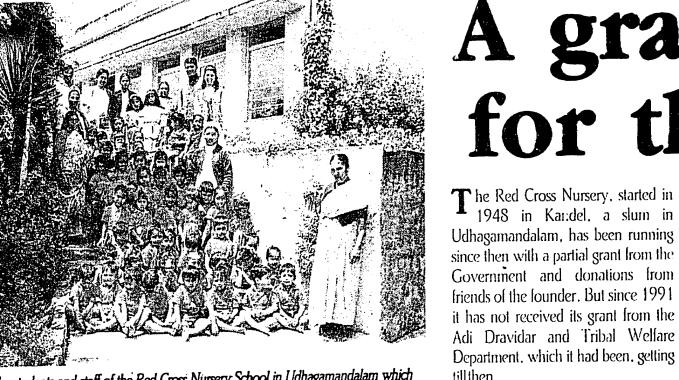
British Council Division, Madras (Telephone: 8525002)

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Nightmares and dreamscapes

blems that everyone involved is facing, ranging from the social to

Select List of Recent Additions Using the HR Consultant Armstrong, M Bailey, P Bannister, D Purchasing principle and management Step inside a computer The Counsellor's handbook Introduction to food and beverage service Brown, G Elock, H Errington, C Hammer, J Jessop, D



The students and staff of the Red Cross Nursery School in Udhagamandalam which

Pied pipers Tamil Nadu

When rats overran many villages in Beed District and spread pneumonic plague, health authorities promptly doused the area with DDT to kill the fleas that spread the disease and distributed zinc oxide to kill the rodents. But the indiscriminate use of DDT, a pesticide banned in most countries, alarmed environmentalists in Bombay, Latur District Collector, Prayin Singh Pardeshi, who is a member of the Bombay Natural History Society. persuaded the authorities to call in the Irula tribals from Tamil Nadu, who are adept at catching rodents.

• by LALITHA ANANTHARAMAN writing in The Afternoon Courier and Despatch. Bombay.

Like the Pied Piper of Hamelin who rid the German town of rats with his music, the Irula tribals use age-old hunting skills to catch rats in rice fields. Since the Irulas help farmers rid their fields of the rodents without using pesticides, they are much sought after in the Chengalpattu, North Arcot and South Arcot Districts of Tamil Nadu. where an estimated 50,000 of them live. Rats are said to cat 10 per cent of the country's food production.

For centuries, the Irulas lived in the forests of north Tamil Nadu, bunting small animals and living off fruits and nuts. But the urban spread has destroyed forests and left many of them hungry. The Irulas ficrcely love their independence and try not to be tied down to a job. When hunger and poverty began to tell on the Irulas Romulus Whitaker, who runs the Madras Crocodile Bank, organised the tribals into a cooperative called RATS — Rat and Termite Squad.

Advertise regularly

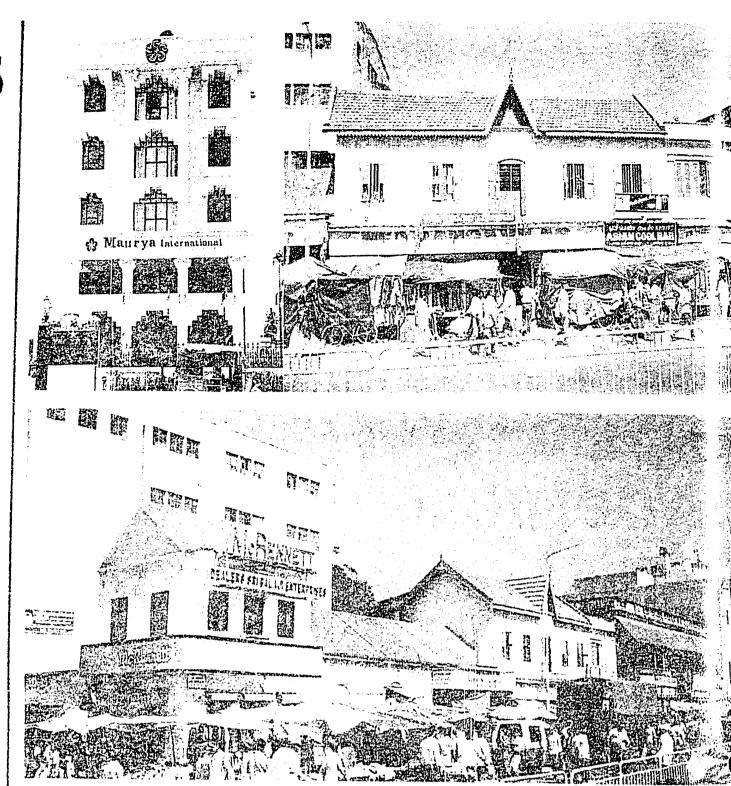
to procure rats for his crocodiles and to 'milk' the snakes for venom in another cooperative that functions from his crocodile larm.

Members of RATS charge farmers one rupee for every rodent they catch "During the harvest season, we make a lot of money," says M Kanniappan. a rat catcher living in Chengalpattu, a town south of Madras.

Kanniappan, like the other Irulas. uses only an iron crowbar to catch rats. He walks along the raised sides of the field, the places where rats usually burrow, looking for tell-tale signs of life in a burrow. Such signs include bits of green leaves and fresh soil. When he spots a burrow, Kanniappan first seals its mouth and then searches for the other entrance. He then swiftly dies into the burrow, which turns out to be about 30 feet long and runs along the porder of the field.

So fine is his hearing that Kanniappan says he can actually hear the commotion inside the burrow. The trapped rat, when it is alarmed, digs leeper into its burrow. But Kanniappan digs faster. When he sees the tail of the rat, he vanks the rodent out of the burrow and, in a flash, grabs its neck.

"The rat will try to bite and get away." he says. But Kanniappan breaks its teeth and dangles it by the tal. "Today's meal problem is solved. he says. Kanniappan, like all Irulas. loves rats; it is a delicacy for these tribals. "It's just like chicken. Only more tender," beams Kanniappan.



Our NEW is Maurya International, a new hotel in Kodambakkam, across from Vijaya Hospital. Its gleamin all-white and architectural good looks are striking and a pointer to the fast development going on in this open air restaurant onto the pathway area that once was so drab. Now film studios, hospitals, software businesses and printing houses are all striving leading into the Tamil Nadu square and to build bigger, better and more environmentally friendly on either side of a clogged road which does no justice to the modern establishments on either side. Mollywood, as it takes over from Bollywood, deserve better than this road.

THE OLD...

The OLD this fortnight is another 'hotel'. The Neo Ranga Vilas, where tasty vegetarian food has been served for 60 years, is making an attempt --- & to get the ola to look new amidst a stretch of old buildings on NSC Bose Road. The stretch is owned by the LIC and includes, from left to right, McRennett's (also attempting to give itself a new look), Kuppuswamy Opticians

with tilked roof, Smith Stocking (chemists and druggists), Neo Ranga Vilas, General Swadeshis, Handlooms The Bharathi Mart and Paris Cool Home, the last three shaded by a tin awning. Neo Ranga Vilas, once known as Sri Krishna Bhavan and Sri Ranga Vilas, is well-known for its Parathas and Chappathis, no doubt a contribution of one of the partners, a Muslim. Even older than the 'hotel' is Kuppuswamy's, in business here for 70 years. Smith stocking's have also been in business here for nearly a century.

(THE NEW by V S RAGHAVAN, THE OLD by RAJIND N CHRISTY)

lhe art of building

When market conditions are de-

pressed, we find that some counters

stand out, as their prices have not

declined in tandem with a falling index

We can therefore safely conclude that

the market regards such scrips as being

better than those that have dropped

along with, or further than, the indices.

But care must be taken to see that such

The arts of selecting a share and building up a portfolio nearly always rest on the evaluation done on the fundamentals of the target company. Lair enough. But we must also add to this the strength of the scrip as perceived. by the market. Such perception is but a part of one of the major forces behind narket movement — market sentiment. yow, how do we quantify an abstract such as perception? This is where indices and comparative studies prove

THE HERITAGE ACT

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enactment and implementation

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comparisons are neither wild nor lack valid parameters. For one, it is futile to do cross-industrial matchings, as the conditions are often divergent. Take the sugar industry, which is rasonal in nature. To compare sugarscrips with those of, say, garment We welcome the first exports will give us results extraneous to our needs. We must therefore take an industry and select for our portfolio steps to from candidates who have done better.

> others in their particular segment. Other factors that have to be considered are the rates of growth displayed by our candidates after the market has bottomed out and whether the cycles of the industry on view coincide with those of the index. Apart from taking care to see that the share's drop from its 52-week high is lower, in percentage terms, than the decline in the index. we must also see where the share stands currently, as against its 52-week high/low.

or are seen to have done so, than

Take the automobile industry, for example. Though the fortunes of this cyclical industry were on the decline until recently, they are currently

enjoying the fruits of a boom phase. Hopefully, the index is also on the

Let us consider in this context the cases of a few auto-scrips, such as Telco, IP Rings, Ucal Fuel, Kinetic Engineering, Sundaram Clayton. Punjab Tractors, Gabriel India and Bajaj Auto. We notice that the declines of these, from their 52-week highs, did



not mimic the fall in the 30-scrip BSE Sensex which, after peaking at an alltime high at 4643, plunged to an abysmal 2996, a 75-week low. We further observe that the current prices of Telco, IP Rings and Bajaj Auto are almost at the levels of their 52-week highs. Those of Ucal Fuel, Punjab Tractors, Kinetic Engineering, Gabriel India and Sundaram Clayton, however, though not falling in tandem with the Sensex, are further away from their yearly highs. The debate on whether you should choose from the former group or the latter would depend entirely on the growth prospects of the shares concerned and in the context of the corporate's growth plans.

MM Forgings (CMP: Rs. 65.00): This company is one of the leading manufacturers of forgings in South India and has

a list of good clients that includes Leyland, BHEL, Audco India, i KSB Pumps in the domestic market Velan Inc. of Canada, Rockwell Singape and TRW Japan, in exports. The company exports, at 30% to total sales, is the his ne among the South-based lorging comparation Having secured ISO 9002 in September 2007. 1994, it expects to increase its exp component to 50% of sales in a coul

The company had been in the ne recently, for securing a \$2 million of from TRW Japan, in addition to order worth Rs. 6 crore it already has in exp 1995-96 should see the company repexport turnover of at least Rs. 10 crore expanded capacity of the company if 6000 tpa to 15,000 tpa) went on in March 1995 and is expected to ever at 60% of capacity this year. The 115 1995-96 is expected to be over 1 which will support about Rs. 100 fe

The share is moving in the base Rs. 55-70. The ROC graph indices possibility of an upward move. Buyir be considered with a stop loss at Rs Valecha Engineering (C

Rs. 56.75): This OTC share has b recommended by us at Rs. 66 in July 19 but the prices have dropped since then. was largely due to the selling pressure in Times Guaranty, the compulsory mark maker. Currently the market has absorbed the stocks and dealers were seen picking 叩 the share recently.

This company, promoted by the construction and has bagged contracts worth about Rs. 76 crore for the next two year

Dakshinachitra

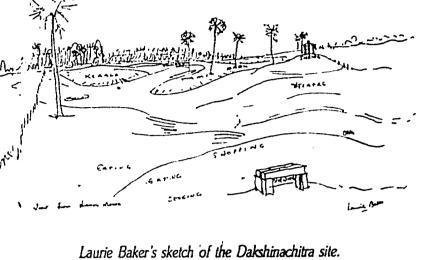
-where Southern homes will come alive

kshinachitra, a centre for the craft and folk performing arts of South dia now coming up on ten acres of nd given to the Madras Craft Foundion on long lease by the Government T. mil Nadu at Muttukadu, on the ad to Manuallapuram, is expected to inaugurated by the end of the sonth. It will portray the crafts of South within their cultural context in a ing of traditional architecture.

Work on the construction of some the artisans' quarters, the construcof the Tamil Nadu exhibition re and that of Kerala have been tially completed. Certainly enough or has been done to indicate what splendid showpiece this will be. shibition areas for Karnataka and ndbra Pradesh will follow.

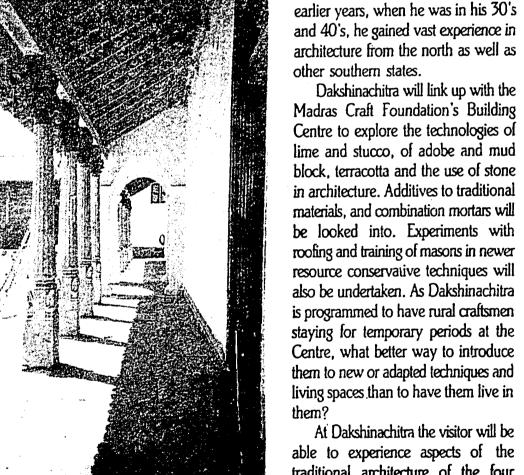
Famed architect Laurie Baker is responsible for the concept and archilectural styles to be used in the first hase of construction, which is likely be completed late this year.

Baker envisions the flow of people winding down beside the proposed out on to the continuation of the path



Baker's first consideration in design has always been to understand the life style and spatial and cultural needs of the people for whom he's designing. The units for the artisans are an example of his clear thought process. Built around a small circular path to accommodate the spatial and drainage requirements of the site, each house provides a quiet, protected flexible area for the family, away from the visitors. The courtyard in each house separates the place for working and storage near

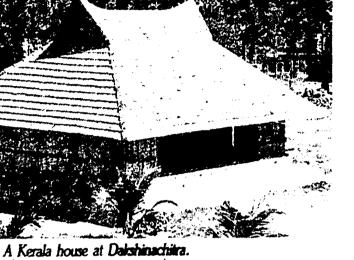




been conscious of traditional cultural styles which were usually tailored to suit both the climate and the nearby resources as well as the skills and life pattern of the people. He has spent most of his later years in Kerala, working with Kerala architecture, but in his earlier years, when he was in his 30's and 40's, he gained vast experience in

other southern states. Dakshinachitra will link up with the Madras Craft Foundation's Building Centre to explore the technologies of lime and stucco, of adobe and mud block, terracotta and the use of stone in architecture. Additives to traditional materials, and combination mortars will be looked into. Experiments with roofing and training of masons in newer resource conservative techniques will also be undertaken. As Dakshinachitra is programmed to have rural craftsmen staying for temporary periods at the Centre, what better way to introduce them to new or adapted techniques and living spaces than to have them live in

At Dakshinachitra the visitor will be able to experience aspects of the traditional architecture of the four



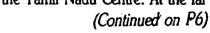
southern states. While walking through the streets of each separate state area, the visitor will find himself in an architectural ambience particular to the domestic architectural heritage of that

In Tamil Nadu, architectural forms and facades representing rural, merchant, religious and royal housing will be presented. The crafts, textiles and folk performing arts of Tamil Nadu

by A Special Correspondent

will be shown both contextually and as exhibitions in spaces which are appropriate for the patronage of these four groups.

Facades of traditional single and two storey rural and town homes with their gracious verandahs and traditional detailing lend themselves to being incorporated in the centre. A street projecting a well-to-do rural village ambience and a street reflecting merchant, palace, religious and agraharam town housing will be a part of the Tamil Nadu Centre. At the far



The Chettinad house at Dakshinachitra.

the artisan colony, where the master aftsmen will reside, work, demonate their skills and exhibit their acducts. From there the pathway leads nto the square for Kerala.

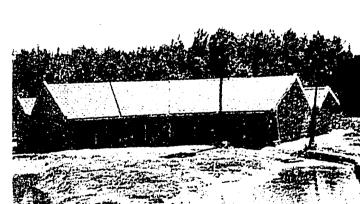
"I hate walking," says Baker, "so pathways must give access to any afor area without my having to walk iles from one end to the other, unless, course, I prefer to.

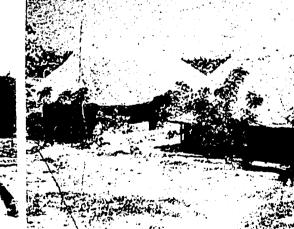
He is delighted that the ridge is high nough to give the visitor an entire view of the centre, down to Kerala and amil Nadu and up to the areas sgnated for Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh. The entrance emerges by the dc of the ridge.

Laurie Baker, in his 7.0's, bounds wer the land with the agility of a man in his 20's. He is pleased to be designing a centre to represent the craitsmen and the craft and the folk performers of South India. They are Valecha group, is engaged in infrastructure people he has known and whose archilecture and living styles he has explored, often in minute detail, for (Continued on P6) Years.

the front. And for the visitor Baker provides a covered walkway - one typical of many small Tamil towns earlier, where the house and street mingled in hospitality for the

The concern with India's limited resources is reflected in the choice of Baker as an architect. Baker has always





Public areas in Dakshinachatra. (All photographs by RAJIND N CHRISTY.)

AMERICAN CENTER LIBRARY

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

Publishing in the Information Age: A New Management Framework for the Digital Era. Quorum Books, c1994. (070.5 EIS)

Nuclear Nonproliferation. Lynne Rienner Publishers, c1994. (327.174 GAR)

In Pursuit of Principle and Profit: Business Success Through Social Responsibility. G.P. Putnam's Sons, c1994. (658.408 RED)

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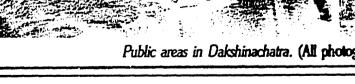
State University of New York Press, c1994. (323 STE) The Woman that I am: The Literature and Culture of Contemporary

Women of Color. Edited by D. Soyini Madison.

St. Martin's Press, c1994. (810.99287 WOM) Women on the Verge: Seven Avant-Garde American Plays.

Applause Theatre Books, Inc., c1993. (812.5408 WOM) A World Fit for People. Edited by Uner Kirdar & Leonard Silk. New York University Press, c1994. (909.82 WOR)

Edited by Rosette C. Lamont.



NOTABLE BOOKS OF THE MONTH

We, The Jury: The Jury System and the Ideal of Democracy. Basic Books, c1994. (347.73752 ABR)

Eisenhart, Douglas M.

Gardner, Gary T.

 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 that was rescued

The M.Ct. M. School was initially started by a few Hindu teachers of Purasawalkam in 1891. From its inception, the school was a middle school. It was upgraded as high school in 1898 and, in 1916, was named the Caławala Ramanujam School, in view of the patronage that had been extended by Dewan Bahadur Calawala Ramanujam Chettiar

The school functioned in three different places and administration was difficult. The school also experienced financial difficulties in the 1920s, after the Dewan Bahadur's death. And, so, Sir M.Ct. Muthiah Chettiar took over the school in 1929.

Muthiah Chettiar was born in 1887 and had his early education in Chidambaram. After his college education, he went on a European tour and, on his return, settled in his native Kanadukathan to look after the large banking business he had inherited from his father. In 1912 he moved to Madras. Here, he was a Director of the Indian Bank and President of the South Indian Chamber of Commerce. If today the Chamber is an influential body, it is in no small measure due to Muthiah Chettiar's presidency for many years. It was while he was the Sheriff of Madras that the Prince of Wales visited Madras and, as Sheriff, Muthiah Chettiar had the honour of presenting the Prince the Presidency's address of welcome. He was knighted in 1922 in recognition of his contributions to the worlds of banking, commerce and

When the Calawala Ramanujan Chettiar School's teachers salaries were in arrears in 1929. Muthiah Chettiar donated the sum and agreed to take over the School. But before he could do so, he passed away and his son, Chidambaram Chettiar, stepped in and saved the school.

Ever since, the school has steadily progressed and, today, it is a Higher Secondary School, starting from class VI. It is situated on Raja Annamalai Road in Purasawalkam. The present strength of the school is about 2600. M A Selvarai is the headmaster of the school and is assisted by 84 teachers. including two who are old students. The academic performance of the school has been good.

The school has a good record in extracurricular activities. Its basketball team is a successful one and tocommemorate the school's Centenary a basketball court of international standard was built. The school organises an annual basketball tournament for the best school teams in the State. Last year, the school was judged the best school in sport in the State. The school has an open air theatre and a very popular band.

The school runs a magazine called Brain Storm, which features articles from students, teachers and outsiders.

The school is spread over 60 grounds and the entire campus is well

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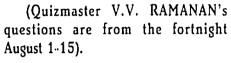
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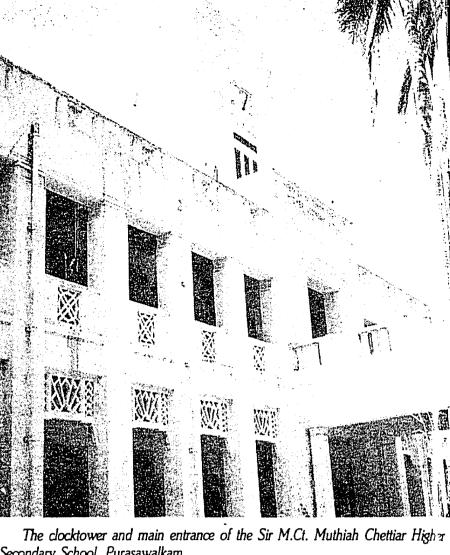
about its owner.

maintained. The school's entrance is through a well-kept garden in which stands a statue of Sir M.Ct.M. The Swiss-made clock in the tower of the main building is a striking feature.

> - Picture and text by RAJIND N CHRISTY



- 1. Why was one Hans Christian Ostro in the international news recently?
- 2. Dhanam, a 5-year-old of Kattunaickerpettai School in Salem District, became the talking point of the country, including the Lok
- 5. Name the left arm spinner, the latter day 'Sardar of Spin', who announced his retirement recently
- 4. The Hindi film Mohabbat, starring Madhuri Dixit, has an octogenarian non-film celebrity
- 5. Three world records, in the men's and
- 6. The 50th anniversary of what World War II operation was observed in Hiroshima on
- . Name the eminent diplomat, former advisor to Indira Gandhi and the first Vice-Chancellor of the Jawaharlal Nehru University, who
- 3. Which Hindu religious leader observed his
- 9. Where in Maharashtra was Enron setting up the 695 MW power plant which was scrap ped by the State government on August 3rd?



Secondary School, Purasawalkam

Quizzin with

Kamanan

10. This wealthy hi-tech Asian nation celebrated

11. The AIADMK has created a fund with a

12. The Union Government has approved a

13. The Tamil Nadu Government has decided

Dheeran Chinnamalai District as ...?

14. According to a survey of world rental levels,

annual rent per square metre?

to rename the recently created Karur

Name the other.

its 30th birthday on August 9th, its anniver-

sary of breaking away from Malaysia. Name

deposit of Rs. 7 lakh for the welfare of which

famous Tamil Nadu Chief Minister's family?

Rs. 38 crore cleansing plan for two Tamil

Nadu rivers. One is, of course, the Kaveri.

- playing a role. Who?
- women's triple jump and women's 400 m hurdles, were set in the re-ently concluded 5th World Athletics Championships at Gothenburg. Name the attletes.
- passed away on August 1st.
- Shasthiabdapoorthi on August 11th?

15. Which Chief Minister announced the la of the Bharat Desh Party but later by retreat on it?

16. What was the theme of the 10th Stu-Book Fair held recently in the city? 17. Why was Maj. Rajiy Kumar Joon.

WW Grenadier, in the news?

- 18. Name the building, in the Vellore Γε. the night of August 14-15.
- 19. Many Indian women in Coventry, Englar were made 'guinea pigs' from 1959 by British authorities, when they were asketest something. This issue has rocked Par ment recently. What did the women A "dreadful" ceremony, conducted on five years at the Muthukuzhi Marian n
- Temple in Perayur near Madurai, was pe formed on 150 children on August 5 the presence of several political dignit: What ceremony?

(Answers on p. 8)

• BULL'S EYE

(Continued from P4)

Some of its major works are the seen bridge over the Narmada, and the ADB- Road. It will get its own campus at sponsored roadworks in Rajasthan and Kelambakkam in a year or two. Haryana. It is also entering the real ex business and expects a 25% margin or its investment in this area.

With the five-year tax holiday an the government thrust for infrastructure development, we project a turnover o Rs. 30 crore and a PAT of Rs. 3.60 crore for March 1996. The resultant EPS is Rs. 12. There can be no better time to pill up this share.

K. Gopalakrishnan

end of the rural street will be a small Avvanar shrine. Because of the constraints of maintenance and safety at Dakshinachitra, the adobe and thatch architecture, that characterises much of the housing of the rural population, unfortunately has to be limited.

The entrance to the Tamil Nadu section will be through a traditional stucco gate of 19th Century Tamil design. The visitor will pass through the open, raised, columned verandah and the massive door which earlier graced a mid-19th Century merchant house in Chettinad. From this entrance, the visitor will enter a courtyard which opens on to the rural street.

The Kerala square at Dakshinachitra will begin with entrance through a typical large gateway as is seen both in larger homes and in temples also. The square will include architectural forms from both the northern and southern parts of the State, with a typical Kerala tank. Architecture displays distinctive to Hindus, Christians and Muslims will be highlighted by contextual displays of the crafts used by each community.

In Phase Two of Dakshinachitra, a square for Karnataka, with mud houses from Udipi, Eyne houses from Coorg, and distinctive stone houses

Andhra Pradesh with its distinctive architectural styles will be worked out for the Centre.

from the north, and a square from

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A MEMBER OF THE AMALGAMATIONS GROUP

The guru the dancer

he moment is an unfortunate aticie in the July issue of Savvy nacazine. Prathibha Prahlad, a Sharatha Natyam dancer from Bankalore, has been featured on the over and, in a no-holds barred "I 'eli-ve'' interview, has talked about an icit relationship that her dance guru, Madras's own Muttuswamy Pillai, had e edly wanted with her. wonder why Prathibha has

noren to expose him now, long after is death. She should have brought it all out into the open when he was alive and taken him to task. In the article, the has also said that many dance gurus have relationships with their students. This, she feels, is because of the devadasi system. Prathibha has isplayed her ignorance about the from where 43 LTTE militants escaped on Idevadasi system and slandered the dance community with this exposé which has come at the wrong time. knew Muttuswamy Pillai from 1973. I would go and sit in his dingy little place behind a garment factory

near the Mylapore Kapaleswarartemple car, just to see him create wonderful

dance pieces for the French dancer who called herself Mythreyi. With a minimum of words, since he knew no English or French, he would communicate exactly what he wanted. He had a profound respect for each student's identity as a dancer and did not cast all of them in the same mould. His choreography was full of surprises and life, harmoniously blending humour and rigour, strength and



Muttuswamy Pillai's choreography attracted the French dancer Malavika after her guru's death (she was a student of Guru Ellappa). Malavika learnt much from Pillai and, starting a dance school in Paris, sent a whole host of French girls interested in Bharatha Natyam to Madras. You could see them all over



Muttuswamy Pillai teaching French disciple Elizabeth Petit at Sittrarangam, Island Grounds.

town, cycling in their sarees, bargaining with the vegetable vendors and attending every programme in town. He trained some brilliant dancers like Maithreyi and Shakuntala. Shakuntala went on to choreograph some brilliant pieces herself. Muttuswamy Pillai hailed from a

family of Isai Vellalar and devadasis who were attached to the Vaitheeswaran Kovil. He came to Madras in 1940 and began to teach in the dance school known as Natana Kala Seva, founded by film director K Subramaniam. He also choreographed a number of film dances. When the movies demanded semiclassical and other kinds of dances. Muttuswamy turned to teaching Bharatha Natyam.

While the Indian students objected to the ambience of the classes in the dingy Mylapore surroundings and, hence, kept away, the French girls had the best of training from him. In 1990, the French Government awarded him the Chevalier des Arts et des Lettres in honour of his contribution to the understanding of Bharatha Natyam in France. Once, when I was invited to present a paper at the Montepellier dance festival conference. Muttuswamy Pillai was to receive the award from the French Minister of Culture. I became his interpreter during press conferences etc. He was quite honourable though childish and I had to chide him many times. But there was no doubt that he was a creative genius.

Prathibha had solit from dance gurus U Krishna Rao and Chandrabhaga Devi in Bangalore and came to Madras looking for a dance teacher. She was introduced to Muttuswamy Pillai. Her dance improved tremendously and she became a beautiful dancer. Pillai received the Sangeet Natak Akademi award.Prathibhahas claimed in the article in Savvy that i was because of her that he received the award. Muttuswamv believed it too. but I had tried to convince him several times that it was his art that got him

I had spoken to Muttuswamy Pillai about his alleged misbehaviour with Prathibha, which she had spoken to others about earlier. He had sobbed like a child (he was past seventy) and told me he was infatuated with her. He felt that since she was very influential, he would get the opportunity to display his talent in the mainstream dance. festivals in India. But he fell to his own

Muttuswamy Pillai died a broken man and was nursed in his last days by his French disciple Dominic. The Savvy article slanders the dance community and also gives a warning to all dance gurus to be on their guard while dealing with students. It also gives a message to us women that there is no reason why we should allow men to play with us. It is a woman's self esteem and her belief in herself and her value in society that can put lustful old men in their places. We must demand that we be valued for our own selves and be treated with respect.

NIFTy outlook for Cooptex

echnology's (NIFT) first branch side New Delhi was inaugurated on ly 21st by Chief Minister Jayalalitha ttle Cooptex campus.off Pantheon

stablished in 1935, Cooptex, the ex Handloom Weavers' Cooperative ety of Tamil Nadu, has over lakh handloom weavers in its fold. products of these weavers are marketed by Cooptex's 434 showtons throughout the country. Thanks b Cooplex, the Tamil Nadu handloom centrio has witnessed a sea change aring the last few years. This has been to a remarkable combination of ategy, which has seen a systematic al of the traditional designs that languishing, almost unseen, in the corners of temple walls or on acts, coupled with aggressive keting of glamorous handloom

Keeping in mind the need for a uch-needed competitive edge in the

rapidly-growing fields of fashion technology and garment designing. Cooplex. in a path-breaking move, last year engaged NIFT. New Delhi, to do a project on readymade garments. Based on these designs. Cooptex has already gone into production and brought out a range of 317 prototype NIFT, which was established in Delhi in 1986, has also given Cooptex valuable information on the marketing side. Cooptex is soon planning to open agency outlets abroad. Neither is the domestic market to be neglected, for Cooptex is coming out with 'Designer Collection Sarees' and dress materials.

With NIFT so involved with Cooptex's activities, the logical next step was a NIFT branch in the handloom (and leather) capital of India. While NIFT in Delhi offers seven courses, the Madras branch is initially offering only two courses — the 3-year Fashion Design course and the 2-year Garment Manufacturing Technology course.

Jobs are plentiful for NIFTians, to go by past statistics which show how

NIFT brings high tashion to Madras at the Cooptex grounds. The occasion was the inauguration of NIFT's branch in Madras,

the first outside Delhi.



Jaya Bachchan (in all-white), who has long been involved with the activities of NIFT, seen at the NIFT fashion show held in connection with the inauguration of the NIFT branch in Madras.

students from every stream of the Institute have been literally whisked away by employers. NITT's alumni association includes the names of such well-known designers as Ritu Beri.]] Vallaya. Ashish Sonu and Geeti Uberoi. Less famous NIFTians are attached to top-drawer designers like Rohit Bal. Geetanjali Kashyan and Suneet Verma. Some work for major exporters like Mafatlal and Gokuldas. Others are with such illustrious retailers as Wasan shoes and Arrow shirts.

Says Balu, a NIFTian, who passed out from NIFT. New Delhi. in 1991 and is now working as Merchandising and Quality Controller in Madras for a Hong Kong-based garment buying house. "NIFT gets you ready for the industry. From there, it is up to the individual to take off. There is really a lot of money in the garment industry and India has just touched the fringe of garment exports."

India is slowly emerging as a major player in the world textile market. The country has been able to establish its presence in non-quota markets like Latin America and is expected to soon make a dent in markets in Japan. Australia and South Africa. The export of readymade garments has gone up and there is tremendous scope for further exports.

The readymade garment industry provides employment to thirty lakh people and this is expected to go up

to 37 lakh by the year 2000. There is a growing need for skilled manpower in the garment sector and this is where NIFT, Madras, could help. By preparing professionals for careers in fashion and related areas and providing leadership, research consultancy and specialised services to the industry, NIFT Madras could act as a catalyst, internationalising the scope of the apparel and fashion industry in the State that's the country's leader in handloom. and knitwear production.

The NIFT-Cooplex synergy could well make 'Cooptex' an Indian brandname to reckon with slobally and enhance the status of Tamil Nadu's renowned handlooms.

- Dhanya Gopinath

DATE FOR **YOUR DIARY**

September 6-13: An exquisite collection of Form, Texture, Tone in murals, lamps, table bases and urns. Original works by Bhavana & Anubir of Poettery Studio. (At Vimonisha Art Gallery 10.00 a.m. to 8.00 p.m.)

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VENKAT

-cricket's most

multi-faceted personality

(By R. Mohan)

ne of the Rotary clubs in the city recently honoured Srinivasaraghavan Venkataraghavan. Such recognition by an organisation with social service objectives does not often go to people who serve sport. But then Venkat has served cricket in so many different capacities for so many years that his name had to come up for such an honour.

Venkat was for years the State's pre-eminent cricketer. He led the side with the touch of a mandarin but such authority was needed if anyone was to draw some performance out of Tamil Nadu's players. This is not to say Venkat was universally popular as skipper; he was an unforgiving taskmasler.

His mental makeup was so tough that he was, at least in that sense, a unique Tamilian. While many other cricketers were unable to translate their promise and talent into performance and secure a place in the national side. Venkat had a pathbreaking career as offspinner, utility bat and brilliant gully fielder. His mental toughness carried him far enough for him to earn 55 Test caps and lead the nation in two World Cups and in five Test matches, the last four of them in one series in England.

His colleagues did not always understand him. They could not relate to his hard-as-steel temperament. It was his tough qualities which actually carried Venkat to an eminent position in the state's and the nation's cricket. It is a pity that few wished to emulate Venkat's stern approach, which alone might have given them some feeling of permanence in the national leam. It was such a battle in those days to gain national recognition.

Today, in his continuing association with the game, he wears the white coat. It is a role which suits him. He was Secretary of the Tamil Nadu Cricket Association and he could have held that post longer if not for his acceptance of his own failure with manmanagement and his inability, or unwillingness, to cope with the increasingly strange demands of the job. He was somehow not cut out to follow the trail which another eminent off spinner before him. Ghulam Ahmed, blazed in becoming Secretary of the Hyderabad CA as well as that of the Board of Control for Cricket in India.

He has this rage to do well in whatever he attempts in the sporting arenas. His golf handicap is down considerably since he took to the game

and he could always play a decent frame of snooker. And if he does not do well, he vents his anger on himself, just as he sometimes gnashed his teeth if colleagues on his side did not do well. Very few understood the depth of his commitment to doing a fair job of whatever he took on. Those who did not, always had a grouse against him.

He has his critics. But I feel he has achieved far more than what those who misinterpret his approach to sport think. There is one thing that none can take away from him. His integrity. It is the same quality which serves him so well in his latest role as umpire on the independent panel of the International Cricket Council. He was a Match Referee, too, before the ICC decided that the functions of umpires and referees are best carried out by different people.

In days in which cricketers make considerable fuss over umpiring, it is nice to see many of them behave like lambs when Venkat is standing over the wicket. He passes his decisions with a well-seated sense of authority and he will be the last one to allow players any liberties in the matter of cricketer-umpire relations. The impression gained in the year and more of compulsory postings from the ICC's independent panel is that Venkat's rating is very high, possibly at the top itself. There are umpires with the qualities of the showman, like Dickie Bird and Steve Bucknor, who have been built up by the media. Their work has suffered as a consequence. Venkat is the member of the panel who has committed the least number of errors and, hence, his rating by international captains is so high. His nononsense approach to umpiring has certainly earned him friends.

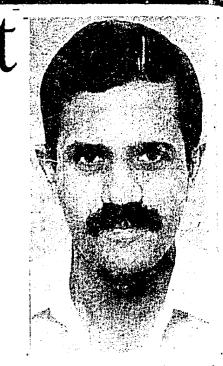
There will be a place for him in the game's record books as the first Test captain ever to stand as umpire in Tests. There will also always be a place for him in the hearts of his fellow members at the Madras Cricket Club where they have followed his fortunes and honours over the years. There is not the least doubt in his case that whatever he achieved he achieved by the dint of his own effort. - (Courtesy: The Clubman of the Madras Cricket Club)

1. He was a Norwegian tourist, one of the five hostages held by the Al Faran militant outfit in Kashmir and killed by the his captors; 2. She was the Dalit girl, who suffered traumatic cataract, after her teacher 'allegedly' caned her for drinking from a Her vision has since returned to normal and the teacher has been absolved of the charges; 3. Maninder Singh; 4. Maqbool Fida Hussain, the noted painter; 5. Jonathan Edwards, Inessa Kravets and Kim Batten respectively; 6. The dropping of the Atom Bomb; 7. G. Parthasarathy; 8. Sri Jayendra Saraswathi of Kanchi Kamakoti Mutt; 9. Dabhol: 10. Singapore; 11. Kamaraj; 12. Bhavani; 13. Karur Dheeran Chinnamalai Gounder District; 14. Bombay. Delhi ranks 8th; 15. N.T. Rama Rao; 16. Tolerance, Courtesy and National Integration; 17. He has been awarded the Ashok Chakra, the highest peace time gallantry award; 18. Tippu Mahal; 19. They were asked to eat chappatis laced with radioactive materials in an experiment to test radiation levels: 20. The practice of burying a child



S. Karivaradhan, 40, ace racing car driver and Formula car designer, died in an air crash five kilometres from Coimbatore, the city he put on the racing map of India with his sterling exploits at Sholavaram and Sriperumbudur. The training aircraft in which Karivaradhan was flying with Babu C. Mulk, an instructor from the Coimbatore Aviation Club, had crashed within twenty minutes of takeoff-

Racing cars had fascinated Karivaradhan - "Kari" to friends and followers of motor sport in India — from his childhood days. Born into affluent circumstances, Kari was able to



sources at his command to excellent use in the designing of Formula Maruti cars he made and the Formula Renault he was working on.

Karivaradhan was a role model for all those in love with fast cars and daring deeds. His followers in Coimbatore were legion. A number of youngsters were proud to call themselves his disciples. In Madras, the cricketer-turned international race driver Akbar Ebrahim calls him "my friend, my master". Akbar's Armaan Racing Research Foundation had been involved in Kari's Formula Renault project. Vicky Chandok,

by A Special Correspondent

translate dream into reality. An engineering graduate of the PSG College of Technology, Coimbatore, he came into prominence as a motor racing driver in the Eighties. Scorching the Sholavaram tracks, Kari gave a tremendous fight to Bob Juggins in 1986. Earlier, Karivaradhan had made a heroic effort against the English competitors Crawford and Needel even though his machine was no match to the Britishers' cars. If this was a futile attempt on Kari's part, the Coimbatore man actually led Juggins before being edged out.

From driving racing cars to designing them was but a logical step for this gentle, unassuming industrialist with his training in mechanical engineering and fierce passion for the sport. Belonging to the famous family which owns the Lakshmi group of industries, Kari put the refor long Kari's associate in both racing and designing cars, is shattered. To him Kari was his best friend and a pioneer in his field. His quiet, self-effacing manner, his unceasing quest for excellence and designing skills were praised by all involved in motor rallying and racing. Kari was the quintessential

amateur sportsman, who competed with fierce determination and who was passionately devoted to his sport. His ambitions went beyond personal goals. Pride and a keen desire to provide inspiration to our youth were important driving forces behind his endeavours. Motor racing enthusiasts will readily acknowledge that Kari succeeded in his mission, judging by the number of young drivers who remember his guidance with gratitude. His death is indeed a tragic end to a brilliant career.

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Portrait of a Lion-tailed Macaque by ROM WHITAKER (Courtesy: Madras

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