

MATRIX

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Lockdown with a furry friend, a lot less lonely

Front cover:


In these testing times, a canine or feline buddy can help us beat the lockdown blues. A furry friend is a stress-buster, bringing 'pawsitivity' to our lives, with their ability to love us unconditionally.



Back cover:

Be aware. Stay Safe.

Vaccines are a critical tool in the battle against COVID-19. Getting vaccinated is one of the best ways to protect ourselves, our family and our community from the Pandemic.




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Sanmar expands range of Swing Check Valves in Partnership with Crane ChemPharma Energy Company, USA

Swing Check Valves are unidirectional valves which allow fluid flow in one direction and restrict flow reversal. These valves are commonly known as Non-Return Valves (NRV) and are used for various applications in Power, Process & Oil and Gas industries.

Sanmar has been manufacturing Swing Check Valves with technical guidance from the Crane ChemPharma Energy – Pacific Valves Division at its manufacturing campus in Viralmalai, Tamil Nadu. It has now further expanded its

product range by developing 14” 300# WCB Internal Hinge Swing Check Butt Weld end valves for the first time as per ASME B16.34 and API 594 standard.

Sanmar has the advantage of being an integrated manufacturer with casting, machining, valve assembly and testing facilities all in-house. The product validation was conducted with extended duration of tests over and above that stipulated in the testing standard API 598.



British Safety Council recognition for Chemplast's Custom Manufacturing business

Chemplast Sanmar's Custom Manufactured Chemicals Divn. received a four star rating from the British Safety Council, UK in April 2021.

British Safety Council announced that Berigai plant attained four star rating after it underwent a comprehensive, quantified and robust evaluation of its occupational health and safety policies, processes and practices and wellbeing. The audit process included documentation review, interviews with senior management, employees and other key stakeholders, together with sampling of operational activities. The



audit measured performance against key health and safety management best practice indicators and a detailed review of over sixty component elements. The achieved score is 86.59%, whereas 92% is required to attain Five star rating.



Sanmar Engineering at the FICCI Annual Expo 2020-2021



is an example of the country's faith in its private sector, he said. He felt that the Indian economy is recovering at a swift pace and economic indicators are encouraging.

Sanmar Engineering Technologies Private Limited is well known for its several successful joint venture relationships with leading international partners in niche technology areas which have flourished over four decades. The FICCI Annual Expo 2020 which is expected to continue for a period of one year on a virtual platform, is an opportunity for buyers and sellers from across the globe to be able to connect and interact 24x7, for forging new business alliances.

The FICCI Annual Expo 2020 commenced on 11 December 2020 and is on for a year. Inaugurating the Expo and delivering the keynote address via video conferencing, Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi complimented the Indian private sector for not only meeting the domestic needs but also for its capability to establish strong brand India globally. Commitment of every citizen towards Aatmanirbhar Bharat



India Chem 2021: India-Japan Chemicals and Petrochemicals Forum

The 11th Biennial International Conference & Expo - India Chem 2021 - was organised in New Delhi between 17 - 19 March 2021, jointly by the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals, Government of India and FICCI.

India-Japan Forum Meeting was chaired by Yogendra Tripathi, Secretary, Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals and Samir Biswas, Additional Secretary, Government of India.

Ramkumar Shankar, Managing Director, Chemplast Sanmar, made a presentation on "Investment and Collaborative Opportunities between India and Japan." Highlighting the long-standing nature of the Indo-Japan relationship that began with cultural exchange dating back to 6th century with the introduction of Buddhism in Japan, Ramkumar Shankar spoke on India being rated as the most attractive investment destination by Japanese manufacturing companies.

He also spoke on some specific projects and industrial corridors implementation that are in the offing. On Bilateral Trade between the two countries, Ramkumar said that India's imports showed a growth of 2.7% and exports - a growth of 26.2% in a span of 12 years, Japan being the largest bilateral donor to India.



Ramkumar Shankar, Managing Director, Chemplast Sanmar made a presentation on Investment and Collaborative Opportunities between India and Japan.



While the Global Chemical Industry at USD 5tn in 2018 is expected to grow at 5.5% till 2025, India is one of the fastest-growing countries globally, with an average GDP growth of 7% in the last 20 years, he said.

Danish Ambassador's Chennai visit

Danish Ambassador in India, HE Freddy Svane, and Vijay Sankar, Honorary Consul General of Denmark for South India, met over an informal dinner engagement in Chennai on 23 March 2021, at the Hotel Taj Coromandel.

Also present at the dinner meeting were Søren Nørrelund Kannik Marquardsen, Commercial Counsellor, Head of

the Trade Council New Delhi & Regional Coordinator South Asia and SB Prabhakar Rao, Honorary Vice Consul, Royal Danish Consulate, Chennai.

Among other matters, Indo-Danish cooperation and status of Danish industries in South India were discussed. The Ambassador was on a brief official visit to Chennai.



(L to R): Ambassador at the Royal Danish Embassy in New Delhi, HE Freddy Svane, Vijay Sankar, Consul General, Royal Danish Consulate, Chennai, SB Prabhakar Rao, Vice Consul, Royal Danish Consulate, Chennai, Søren Nørrelund Kannik Marquardsen, Commercial Counsellor, Head of the Trade Council New Delhi

Madras Cricket Club emerge champions of Sanmar-TNTA Chennai City League

The 28th edition of the SANMAR - TNTA Chennai City Club Tennis League began on 15 February 2020 and concluded on 14 April 2021, post first wave of the pandemic.

In all, 450 players from 18 of the 23 affiliated clubs comprising 39 teams participated in 6 zones in the regular event, 15 teams in the Veterans' 45+ event, and 13 in the Veterans' 60+ event.

This year was no exception to some of the top players of Tamil Nadu representing various clubs including Somdev Devvarman, Prajnesh Gunneswaran, Sai Jayalakshmi, C Sai Samhitha, Vinod Sridhar, Neeraj Elangovan and M Fariz.

Veterans including Rameez Samad, Dr Karthik Kailash, G Rajesh and many others were also seen in action.

The Madras Cricket Club 'A' beat Gandhi Nagar Club 'A' 3-0 to emerge champions of the A zone title.

(L to R): Sundeep Bathija, Vivek Reddy, Karthik Rajasekhar, Premkumar Karra, Vijay Sankar, Deputy Chairman, The Sanmar Group, RVRK Ranga Rao, Rajesh Ganapathy, Rajeev Vijaykumar and Manoj Chandani.



(L to R): Rajesh Ganapathy, Elwin Antony, Naithrav Srinivasan, Karthik Rajasekhar, Premkumar Karra, N Kumar, Vice Chairman, The Sanmar Group, Rajeev Vijaykumar, RVRK Ranga Rao, Vinod Sridhar, Mohammed Fariz and Somdev Devvarman.

Life with pets

Gone are the days when people saw dogs and cats as their pets – there is a growing global trend to consider them as part of the family. From food to grooming, they want the best for their pets.

Millions across the world love the companionship of their pets so much that they go for long walks, play and even talk to them.

The fascination that humans have for animals is not new. Although domesticated dogs were probably treated with respect in primitive societies, there is evidence that at least some were also considered companions as early as 12,000 years ago. The finding of a Palaeolithic tomb in Northern Israel, in which a human was buried with a dog or wolf puppy, illustrates this point.

Pet ownership by the ruling/noble classes has a long history, dating back at least as far as ancient Egyptian times. Murals from this era depict pharaohs keeping companion animals. In Mesopotamia, dogs that look remarkably like the present-day mastiff were shown participating in a lion hunt. Greek and Roman nobility were also avid pet keepers.

Pet keeping wasn't generally accepted

in Europe until the end of the 17th century, and it wasn't common among the middle classes until the late 18th century. Pet keeping in its present form is probably a 19th century Victorian invention.

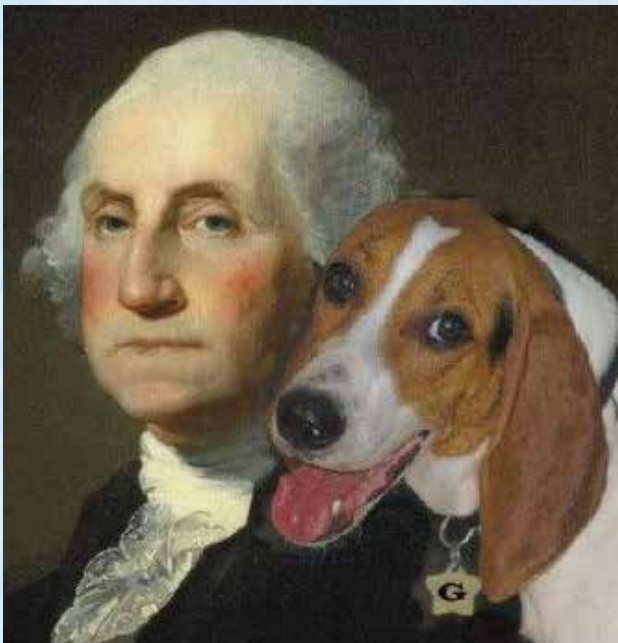
While a pet is generally kept for the pleasure that it can give to its owner, often, especially with horses, dogs, and cats, as well as with some other animals, this pleasure appears to be mutual. Thus, pet keeping can be described as a symbiotic relationship, one that benefits both animals and human beings.

In recent years, there's been a growing awareness of the very positive effects this relationship can have on human health and psychological well-being, and recognition of the therapeutic value of companion animals.

Next to the dog, horses and cats are the animals most intimately associated with human beings. Surprisingly, both these animal groups were domesticated rather late in human history. By about 2000 BCE horses used in chariot battles were an established phenomenon throughout the Middle East. The cat too does not seem to have been domesticated as a pet until the New Kingdom period (about the 16th century BCE) in Egypt.

The primary bond distinguishing a pet-and-owner relationship is affection. We see that this relationship has been sentimentalised in myth, art, and literature. The affection between Alexander the Great and

George Washington and his Foxhound.



his favourite horse, Bucephalus, has become legendary.

Other than companionship, since the earliest period of domestication, pets have fulfilled practical, economic ends. Catching other animals to feed their human masters is one of the most fundamental uses of pets, and not only dogs have served in this capacity but cats, hyenas, and lions have also been used for hunting. The aristocratic sport of falconry made use of the natural talent of hawks to aid in hunting game birds.

Any pet that has a sharp sense of smell or hearing and that makes a loud noise when aroused can be used as a guard, although dogs are the best-known examples. It is thought that the Nile goose, a favourite household pet of the ancient Egyptians, may have served such a purpose.

Pets have also been used to eliminate animal pests. The rat-catching ability of cats is celebrated in fairy tales such as “Puss in Boots” and “Dick Whittington,” as is the snake-catching talent of the mongoose in Rudyard Kipling’s “Rikki-tikki-tavi.”



The Maharaja of Junagadh and his dogs.



Queen Elizabeth II of England at Balmoral Castle with one of her Corgis on September 28, 1952.

Animals kept as pets can be classified according to the type of habitat they usually occupy. Dogs, cats, and birds such as canaries and parakeets are kept as household pets. Other birds, such as jays, magpies, and members of the crow family, are kept in aviaries. When kept as pets, reptiles and amphibians frequently require special conditions of heat and moisture. For this reason, they are best kept in glassed enclosures called vivaria. The most common vivarium pets are snakes, lizards, turtles, frogs, and toads. Many people keep fish as aquarium pets.

Birds like small finches and parrots are especially popular and easy to keep. Of these, the canary and the budgerigar of Australia (often called a parakeet) are



John Quincy Adams's pet alligator.



Before you get a pet remember:

- Bringing a pet home is a big commitment. Giving away after a couple of months can cause depression to the pet.
- Get the ground rules ready before you bring home a pet. That way, it is easier to train them from day one.
- Learn their body language, and pay attention to how they behave. Know the diseases and their symptoms to have a better understanding of their health and behaviour. Diarrhea and vomiting are common during the stage of teething.
- It is mandatory to vaccinate your pet with rabies vaccine within three months, followed by a second one within one year, and boosters thereafter.

widely kept and have been bred for a variety of colour types. On large parks and estates, ornamental species such as peacocks, swans, and various exotic waterfowl and pheasants are often kept.

It is easy to overlook the human-animal bond as a one-way street. Pets need their owners to meet their

basic needs of food, water, shelter, and welfare. But humans can gain a different kind of wellbeing from their companion animals. Research shows that pets can lower blood pressure, reduce stress, and raise blood oxytocin levels. According to a research, people living with dogs are 15 percent less likely to die from heart disease.



Alexander the Great, and his beloved horse Bucephalus, shared a remarkable bond, starting from the first time the leader tamed it. Alexander went on to ride his beloved equine companion for many years and into many battles.



Cockatoos are stylish, attention-grabbing and attention-loving.



Parakeets are the number one pet bird around the world.

By interacting with companion animals, elderly people can experience positive mental and physical effects. Similar results can occur in children during emotional, cognitive, social, and behavioural development.

Pets are helping us cope during the pandemic—but that may be stressing them out. Some pet owners are noticing behavioural changes in their animals, while also worrying more about their animal's well-being during lockdown, new research shows.

nationalgeographic.com

Pets can be lifesavers when it comes to depression and grief. Animals such as cats and dogs can have a deeply calming effect on humans and can often pick up on their owner's moods: snuggling up when she/he is feeling sad or licking their hands if they sense that he/she has anxiety.



Turtles make perfect low-maintenance pet—more interactive than fish.

A report from the Indian International Pet Trade Fair (IIPTF) says that an average of 600,000 pets are adopted every year. Delhi, Mumbai, Bangalore, and Chennai are the cities with the highest rate of pet ownership. Some of the popular dog breeds are Beagle, German Shepherd, Labrador, Rottweiler, and Golden Retriever.



Rabbits are clean and for the most part, there are very few health risks involved with sharing our lives with them.

In these pandemic times, pets can offer more than just a good-natured nuzzle. In the absence of human-to-human contact, in millions of households worldwide, animals or pets have provided much-needed comfort via cuddles, pats, and a constant

physical presence. For most of the singles living away from home pets serve as their companions. If you have the time to train and take care, and money to invest, these adorable furry companions are the best thing ever.



Cutest and mischievous at once.

COVID Vaccination for Sanmar employees across locations

The Sanmar Group facilitated vaccination to all its employees across locations at Mettur, Cuddalore, Karaikal, Vedaranyam, Viralimalai, Karapakkam, Berigai plants and at its head office in Chennai in a streamlined manner to minimise the impact of the pandemic on the employees. Vaccines were provided free of cost. Vaccination was done in cooperation with the local Healthcare Centres, PHCs and District administration.

Karaikal



At Chemplast Sanmar, Karaikal, all 34 employees and 110 contract workers above 45 years of age were vaccinated with the support of Karaikal District Health Department and TR Pattinam Public Health Centre. 87 employees and 130 contract workers between age 18 and 44 were vaccinated in coordination with Nagore and Nagapattinam Government Hospitals.

Mettur

A workplace Vaccination drive was organised at Chemplast Sanmar, Mettur, for all employees above the age of 45 on 12 April 2021. Over 250 employees and their families were vaccinated. The Block Medical Officer of Nangavalli Primary Health Centre supported the drive and the team from the PHC administered the vaccination at the Plant.



Cuddalore

Chemplast Cuddalore Vinyls Limited (CCVL), organised a vaccination camp on 9 April 2021 with the support of District Health Department, Cuddalore. 83 regular and contract labourers were vaccinated. So far, three such camps have been organised at the Occupational Health Centre at CCVL.



Karapakkam



At Sanmar Engineering, Karapakkam, 75 people above the age of 45 and 149 below 45 were vaccinated in coordination with PHCs at Sholinganallur, Perumbakkam, Perungudi, Medavakkam and Semmancherry during the months of April, May and June 2021.

Viralimalai

Berigai



A vaccination camp was conducted at Sanmar Berigai plant on 28 May 2021. In all 194 people were vaccinated in coordination with the Primary Health Centre, Shoolagiri.



More than 10 vaccination camps have been organised at Sanmar Engineering, Viralimalai, since April 2021 with the help of Public Health Centres of the State Health Department. 1217 employees under 45 years of age and 360 over age 45 have been vaccinated.

Vedaranyam

At Chemplast Sanmar, Vedaranyam, vaccination camp was conducted in the presence of Praveen Nair, District Collector, Nagapattinam, Revenue Divisional Officer, and Tahsildar. A medical team consisting of a doctor, four nurses and 6 assistants vaccinated 197 employees and families on 15 April 2021.



Wall Art for a cause: Transforming abused public spaces



The Sanmar Group sponsored a wall art project at *Kalvi Varu* Street in Mylapore, one of the most abused public spaces in the city of Chennai. The long stretch of about a 400 metres had been used

as dump yard, workshop, parking lot, eating and drinking joint.

The street has a long wall adjacent to the Buckingham Canal. The wall provided an ideal canvas to create a wall art that will not only make the place beautiful but also help in sustaining the place clean and tidy as people will have fewer tendencies to litter nicely done up areas.

The project that began on 1 April 2021 was completed on 24 April 2021. Apart from the professional painters and artists, few volunteers of *Karam Korpom* Foundation and students from Vidya Mandir School put their effort in this massive wall art. A public event was held on 14 April 2021, and several residents and the general public also participated in creating a part of the wall art.

Chennai Corporation along with few NGOs and residents decided to clear the space and make it available for the public to use it meaningfully. The street now has got a new walk way, along with children play area and public gym. A garden and landscaping is on its way.



CSR in COVID times

Strengthening the efforts of the State Government, District Administration, Village Panchayats and local communities

Sanmar is committed towards strengthening the efforts of State Government, District Administration, Village Panchayats, Public Health Centres, and local communities around to combat the crisis and contain the spread of the pandemic. As part of its Corporate Social Responsibility initiatives, Sanmar has not only made sizeable financial contribution to the Chief Minister's Public Relief Fund, but has provided a number of essentials including pulse oximeters and geysers, oxygen concentrators and glucometers, thermometers and sanitisers, face shields and masks, water dispenser hypo chloride solution.

Donation to Chief Minister's Public Relief Fund

The Sanmar Group contributed Rs 1.5 crore to the Chief Minister's Public Relief Fund, helping the Government of Tamil Nadu in their efforts to fight the COVID pandemic. Deputy Chairman, Vijay Sankar presented the cheque to MK Stalin, Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu at the Secretariat on 1 June 2021. Earlier, on 19 May 2021, Vijay Sankar attended a meeting held by MK Stalin with industrialists seeking their help in controlling the Coronavirus spread. CM also urged industrialists to take up CSR projects in areas like oxygen supply; ventilators; oxygen generators; oxygen flow meters and cryogenic tanks/oxygen cylinders.



Vijay Sankar presenting a cheque for Rs1.5 crore to MK Stalin, Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu at the Secretariat on 1 June 2021 towards Chief Minister's Public Relief Fund.

Salem Collector's COVID fund

Chemplast Sanmar, Mettur, donated Rs 10 lakhs to the Salem Collector's District COVID fund on 3 June 2021 to support the COVID initiatives being driven by the Collector, due to the rising number of COVID affected in the district. Electricity Minister, Senthil Balaji, DMK Minister in charge of Salem District, Rajendran, MLA, Parthiban MP, Chinraj MP Namakkal, and DMK District Chairman Selva Ganapathy were present.



Pulse oximeters and thermometers for Karumalaikoodal Police Station

Chemplast Sanmar, Mettur, sponsored pulse oximeters, IR thermometers, mask and sanitisers to Karumalaikoodal Police Station.



Village sanitisation

Sodium Hypo Chloride solution, 3440 kg, was donated by Chemplast Sanmar, Mettur, to sanitise the villages under the Veerakalpathur Panchayats on 6 May 2021.

Donation to Mettur General Hospital

In response to a request from the Sub-collector of Mettur, V Saravanan, Chemplast Sanmar, Mettur, donated Rs 5 lakhs to the Mettur General Hospital on 7 June 2021 towards COVID relief measures.



Oxygen cylinders to Mettur GH

Chemplast Sanmar, Mettur, supplied 100 medical oxygen cylinders to the Mettur General Hospital on 27 April 2021, to assuage the pain of COVID patients.



Pulse oximeters, thermometers and sanitisers to Veerakalpathur Panchayat

Chemplast Sanmar, Mettur, donated 50 pulse oximeters, 50 IR thermometers, 50 sanitisers and 300 masks to Veerakalpathur Panchayat on 11 June 2021 in support of the door to door medical survey conducted by the Panchayat.

Shashikala, Executive Officer, Veerakalpathur town Panchayat, received the items on behalf of the Panchayat in the presence of Sadasivam, MLA, Mettur, Venkatachalam, Ex-chairman, Veerakalpathur.



Oxygen concentrator and glucometer for Head Quarters General Hospital, Cuddalore

As part of its CSR initiative towards providing COVID relief, CCVL donated oxygen concentrators (5 nos) and glucometers (10 nos) to the Head Quarters General Hospital at Cuddalore. These equipment were handed over in the presence of MRK Panneerselvam, Minister for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, CV Ganesan, Minister for Labour Welfare and Skill Development, and District Collector, K Balasubramaniam.



Face shields for policemen

Chemplast Cuddalore Vinyls Limited provided 100 face shields to the Old Town Police Station, Cuddalore. N Palanisamy of CCVL handed over the face shields to Ravi, Sub-inspector of Police, Old Town Station, Cuddalore.



Pulse oximeters for GH, Cuddalore

N Palanisamy, on behalf of Chemplast Cuddalore Vinyls Limited, gave 100 numbers of pulse oximeters to Dr Sai Leela, Medical Superintendent, Government Hospital, Cuddalore, on 18 May 2021.

COVID care centre at Cuddalore Police Headquarters

A COVID treatment centre for the Police force at the Cuddalore Police Headquarters is being established. This centre will have 119 beds with oxygen facility. CCVL donated Rs 5 lakh towards this endeavour. The cheque was presented to Sree Abhinav, Superintendent of Police, Cuddalore, by N Palanisamy, CCVL, on 28 May 2021.



Support to Kodambalur PHC

A number of items to facilitate hospital care for COVID patients including digital, manual and LED BP apparatus, stethoscope, foetal doppler, pulse oximeters, gloves, RO water and bedcovers were provided to the Kodambalur PHC by Sanmar Engineering, Viralimalai, on 8 June 2021, at the request of the hospital authorities.



Water dispenser to Government Hospital Cuddalore

Chemplast Cuddalore Vinyls Limited provided 4 water dispensers with both hot and normal water to the Government Hospital at Cuddalore to facilitate safe drinking water to the patients. N Palanisamy of CCVL handed over the dispensers to Dr Sai Leela, Medical Superintendent, Head Quarters Government Hospital, Cuddalore, on 15 May 2021.



Face shields and masks for the police force at Vedaranyam

Chemplast Sanmar, Vedaranyam, arranged for face shields, 150 numbers and 3000 ply masks to be provided to police stations at Nagore, Velipalayam, Vedaranyam, Kariapattinam and Nagapattinam town on 2 June 2021. These were given to the DSPs of Vedaranyam and Nagapattinam.



Assistance to TANGEDCO

Masks and Sanitisers were provided to the Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corporation Limited (TANGEDCO) based on their request by Sanmar Engineering, Viralimalai, on 9 June 2021.



ICU bed to GH, Karaikal

Motorised hydraulic ICU bed was handed over to Arjun Sharma, District Collector, for use in the Government Hospital, Karaikal, on 7 June 2021.



Rice and grocery for Vadakku Vanjore villagers

Rice and grocery items were distributed amongst villagers of COVID affected Vadakku Vanjore on 11 June 2021.



Pulse oximeters, geysers and water purifiers to Government Hospital, Illuppur and Pudukkottai

Sanmar Engineering, Viralimalai, donated 4 geysers and 3 water purifiers to the Government Hospital, Illuppur on 26 May 2021.

30 pulse oximeters for Government Hospital, Pudukkottai, were handed over to the Dean of the Pudukkottai Medical college on 19 May 2021 in the presence of the District Collector, Pudukkottai.

D Oxygen Cylinders (20 nos) were provided to the District Administration on 17 May 2021.



Support to Berigai Panchayat

Based on a request from the Berigai Panchayat President, S Praveen Kumar, Custom Manufactured Chemicals Divn., Chemplast Sanmar, Berigai provided 150 PP kits, dis-infection sprayer machines and hypo solution to the Berigai Panchayat in May 2021.



Iconic Institutions of Chennai

King Institute of Preventive Medicine and Research

The King institute which played a key role in controlling small-pox, cholera and even the devastating Spanish flu of 1918, is again spearheading the fight against a disease outbreak, this time, the COVID-19. Like all the other epidemics and pandemics, this too shall pass, but this iconic 123-year old institution stands tall, ever ready to host more patients waiting for a cure and students eager to learn more.

Located on the banks of Adyar River, Guindy, Chennai, the institute is situated in a vast area of 56 acres. At the centre is the towering red heritage building of the Director's office, reminiscent of Lt. Col. WG King (then Sanitary Commissioner of the Madras Presidency), identified as a heritage structure along with four more buildings of the Institute including the vaccine depot. These have been brought under the Indian Archaeological Society. The institute functions under the Director of Medical Education and the Department of Health and Family Welfare, Tamil Nadu.

The King Institute was established on 7 November 1899 with the aim of protecting people from scourging infections. Records reveal that the Institute, while functioning as a public health lab, made great strides in control of bacterial diseases which are documented. More importantly, it is one of the major Institutes in India responsible for eradicating small pox by producing the small pox vaccine.

The Tissue Culture lab at the Institute in due course led to the development of the Virology department, from a nucleus established in 1969. Over the years, the Department of Virology (now known as National Polio Lab) has grown by leaps and bounds.

The King Institute is also one of the few referral centres for bacterial and viral diseases in Tamil Nadu. Various wings at the Institute include International Vaccination Centre, Board of Paramedical Education, and school of laboratory technology. Quality control of schedule C and C1 drugs, manufacturing of anti-snake venom serum, diagnostic reagents (antigens and antisera), maintenance and supply of bacterial cultures, small animals, bacterial and virological diagnosis, and food sample testing are some of the prominent activities at the institute.

One of the major objectives of the King Institute is to provide an integrated, conceptual and unique training platform for virology on par with international standards. Also provide a comprehensive theoretical knowledge of and practical training in virology including mechanisms of virus spread, disease causation, diagnosis, treatment and/or prevention of viral infections of major significance to public health. It provides state-of-the-art hands-on training in interdisciplinary methods of virus research to young scientists. The institute has been instrumental in creating virologists with sound knowledge of research and diagnosis.

During the 1970s, the institute played an important role in the eradication of small pox and was awarded the UNESCO Mandram award in 1970. This department has been accredited by WHO from 1995 and is moving towards eradicating polio.

The institute has support and accreditations from the Indian Council of Medical Research and the Department of Health Research, Government of India, the World Health Organization (WHO), and the Centre for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, USA. It is a state Apex Referral centre for various viral and bacterial diseases.

COVID-19 Care Unit

As the whole world grapples with the pandemic, the King Institute has created additional facilities to accommodate coronavirus patients. Isolation wards with adequate medical facilities have been formed so that there is no room for treatment delays at times of emergency. Sufficient medical facilities are available for the patients who are tested positive. The institution is fully geared up to create more isolation wards, if need be. It is being touted as one of the best coronavirus testing centres in India owing to its prompt service delivery.

Large banyans provide abundant shade and a comfortable silence permeates the institute's surroundings, with buildings thriving under the shelter of trees. A cluster of smaller departments with sloping roofs are connected by sheltered passageways.

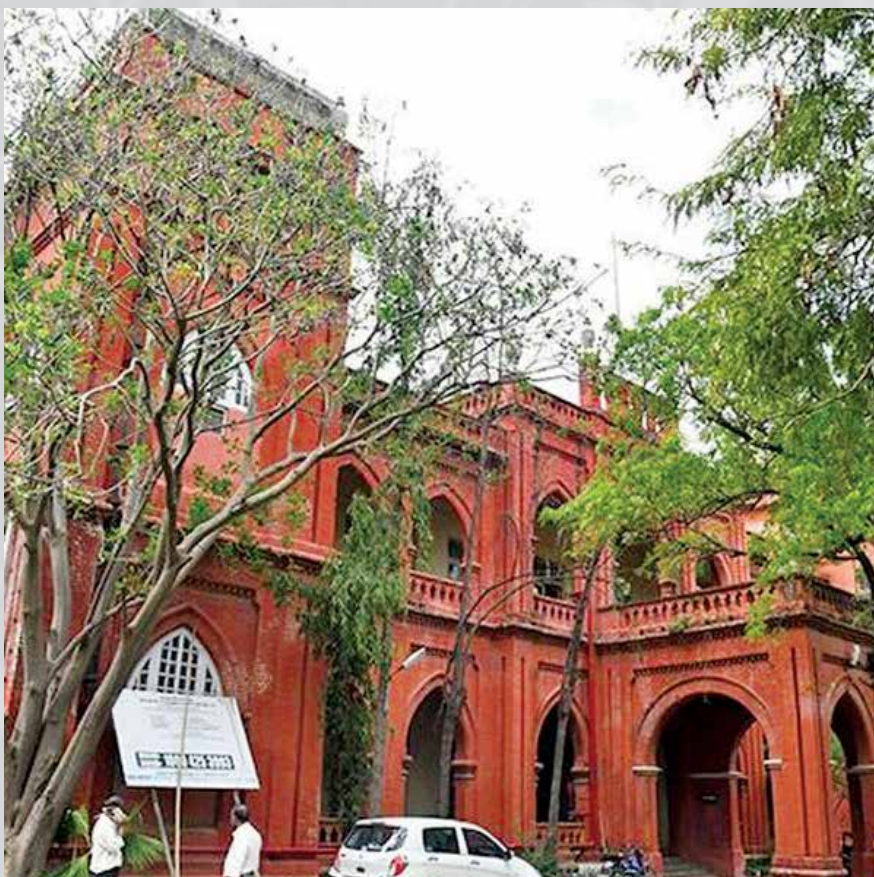
The library in King Institute is one of the best in the country with an extensive unique collection of books

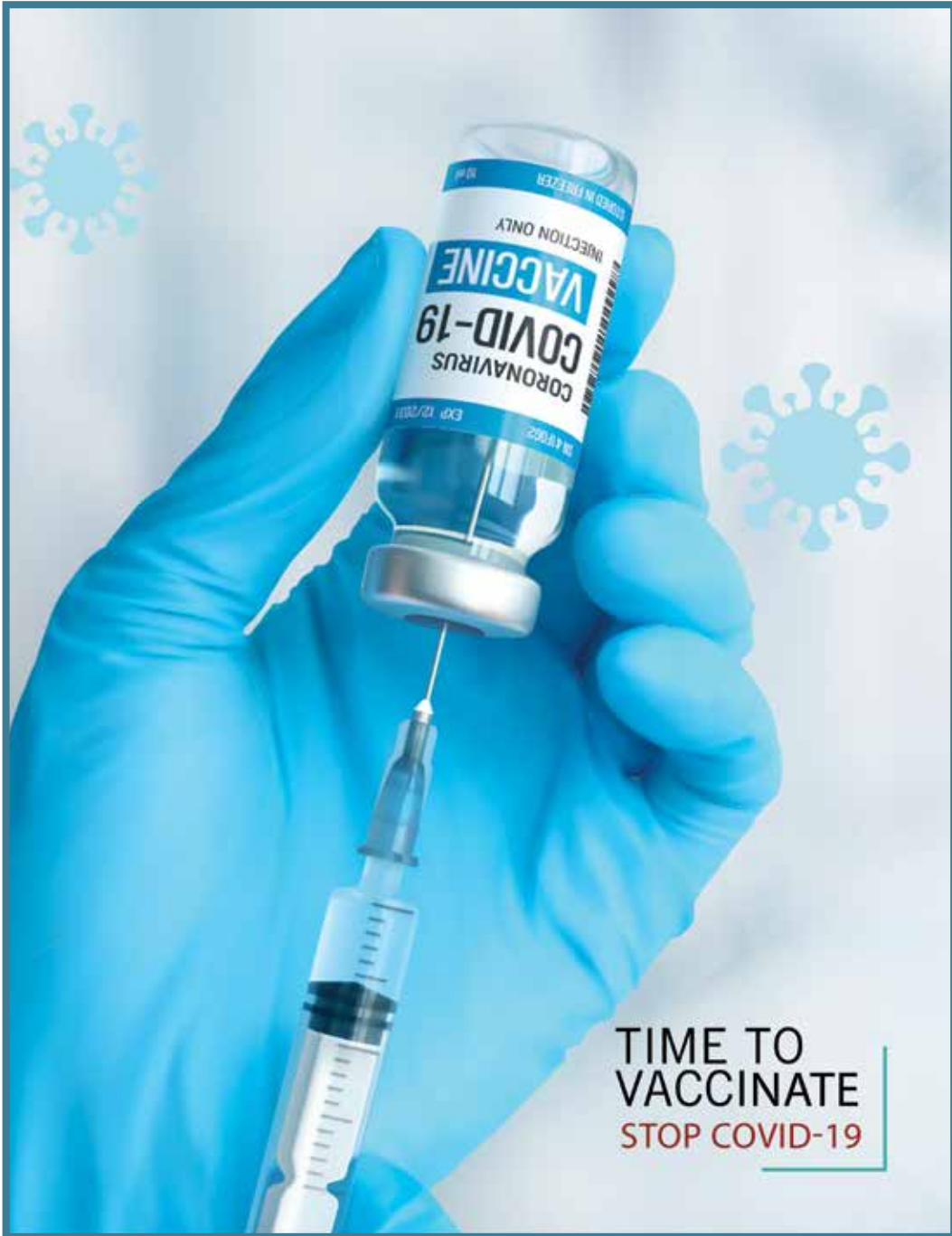
and journals since 1899 in several fields including Microbiology, Pathology, Bio-chemistry, Biotechnology and also other allied subjects at an advanced level meant for PG students, scholars and scientific faculties from various medical colleges, paramedics and research institutions. Journal club meetings, research programmes and seminars are conducted for students.

The institute offers diploma, undergraduate, post graduate courses and PhD programmes for medical and non-medical students. The Laboratory Technology wing has been imparting training to technicians from 1960, having about 360 staff working in 15 departments within the institute, with state-of-the-art equipment to diagnose 23 types of viruses and they do it free of cost.

The National Institute of Ageing located at the premises of the King Institute of Preventive Medicine has been set up as a 500-bed COVID-19 facility for patients, while its hostel functions as a COVID care centre with 250 beds. Out of the 750 beds, 300 beds have ventilator facilities and 70 beds are allocated for Intensive Care Unit.

The State Government has identified a four-acre piece of land on the premises of the King Institute for a new multi-super speciality hospital to come up here. The institute has risen to such prominence in recent times due to its COVID-19 treatment facilities that some patients are ready to wait for even two days to get admitted. So much for the popularity of this institute.





TIME TO
VACCINATE
STOP COVID-19