

# MATRIX

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A PUBLICATION OF THE SANMAR GROUP





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# N Sankar department of Imaging inaugurated at the VHS



*(L to R) Sukanya Sankar, Dr MC Vasudevan, Neurosurgeon, VHS, R Rajagopal, Managing Trustee, VHS, N Kumar, Chandra Sankar, N Gopalasamy, President, VHS, Vijay Sankar, Prof S Suresh, Secretary, VHS and Dr Lakshmi Vijayakumar at the inaugural function of the Madhuram and KS Narayanan Block and the N Sankar Department of Imaging-VHS, Taramani, Chennai.*

A state-of-the-art Department of Imaging and the Madhuram and KS Narayanan Block was inaugurated at the Voluntary Health Services Hospital, Taramani, Chennai, on 24th November 2022.

According to Vijay Sankar, the new Department of Imaging was a vision of N Sankar, his father and the late Chairman of The Sanmar Group, and is named after him. He also recalled the three-decade-long association that Sanmar shares with VHS.

The Block and the Department was inaugurated by N Kumar, Vice Chairman, The Sanmar Group and Vijay Sankar, Deputy Chairman, in the presence of VHS President and former Chief Election Commissioner N Gopaldasamy and VHS Managing Trustee, R Rajagopal, and Prof S Suresh, Secretary, VHS.

The N Sankar Department now has the facilities like X-Ray, CT Scan, 1.5 Tesla MRI which is a diagnostic boon for the hospital.

Speaking at the inauguration, N Kumar said, “The MRI equipment will go a long way in reducing the hardship of the patients and doctors and caters to those who cannot afford such procedures. Each MRI costs Rs.3000 and is free for those who cannot afford it.”

Mrs Chandra Sankar unveiled a photograph of N Sankar on the occasion.



*N Kumar, inaugurating the Madhuram and KS Narayanan Block - VHS.*



*Vijay Sankar, inaugurating N Sankar Department of Imaging - VHS, in the presence of Chandra Sankar, VHS President and former Chief Election Commissioner N Gopaldasamy, R Rajagopal, Managing Trustee, VHS, N Kumar and Prof S Suresh, Secretary, VHS.*



*Prof S Suresh, Secretary, VHS presenting a memento to Vijay Sankar recognising The Sanmar Group CSR Trust's contribution to VHS.*

# Sri Sankara Senior Secondary School

## Fifty years of excellence in education



received the first copy. N Kumar, Managing Trustee, Indian Education Trust (IET), Vijay Sankar, Lakshmi Vijayakumar, V Vaidyanathan, Sriram V, and Madhura Visweswaran, Trustees, IET were present. Authored by Rukmini Amirapu, the book chronicles the school's history and its journey in the field of education.

N Kumar, in his welcome address said, "The school constantly strives to implement innovations in teaching and evaluation, keeping pace with the global trend in education.

The school has grown from strength to strength under the able guidance of several Principals and now occupies a place of pride in Chennai. Talented students from the school have excelled not only in academics but have also made a mark in arts, music, literary and cultural activities."

*MK Narayanan, former Governor of West Bengal releasing the book, "Sri Sankara Senior Secondary School: Fifty Years of Excellence in Education" and N Ravi, Chairman, Kasturi & Sons, receiving the first copy. N Kumar and Vijay Sankar are also seen.*

Sri Sankara Senior Secondary School, Adyar, Chennai, celebrated its golden jubilee and to commemorate the completion of 50 years, a book titled, "Sri Sankara Senior Secondary School: Fifty Years of Excellence in Education" was released on 19th November 2022.

Former Governor of West Bengal, MK Narayanan, released the book and N Ravi, Chairman, Kasturi & Sons,



*(L to R): Mita Venkatesh, Principal, Sri Sankara Senior Secondary School, Adyar, V Vaidyanathan, Trustee, Indian Education Trust (IET), N Kumar, Managing Trustee, IET, N Ravi, Chairman, Kasturi & Sons, MK Narayanan, former Governor of West Bengal, Vijay Sankar, Dr Lakshmi Vijayakumar, Sriram V, and Madhura Visweswaran, Trustees, IET.*

# The Employers' Federation of Southern India

## Valedictory function of centenary celebrations

The Valedictory function of the centenary celebrations of the Employers' Federation of Southern India was held on 18th November 2022 in Chennai. Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin was the Chief Guest and released the EFSI's coffee table book.



*N Kumar addressing the audience.*

Speaking at the event, N Kumar said, “ Among India and the Southern States, Tamil Nadu has stood out over the years for its path of inclusive development. Tamil Nadu’s development trajectory draws upon a dynamic manufacturing and high-end services sector for sustenance. With the opening up of the economy in India, Tamil Nadu became an attractive point of investment for many global and multinational companies.” He also said that Tamil Nadu is known for its industries and its peaceful industrial relations. We have to place on record our gratefulness to the Government. He added, “the next steps are key to EFSI as we are now in a different era. Digital transformation of industry and globalisation is a reality.

According to N Kumar, “Automation is also a reality, so new jobs need to be found as employment in the original term will reduce. Therefore, EFSI needs to work with the Government on one side and with the Industry, Educational institutions such as Engineering Colleges, ITIs and Polytechnics on the other side to bridge this gap and meet the dynamic change.”

*Seated (L to R): N Kumar, MK Stalin, Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, and CV Ganesan, Minister for Labour Welfare and Skill Development, Government of Tamil Nadu.*



# Music festivals in India:

## In different formats for various audiences

*From venues in the heart of cities to some in truly offbeat locations, from indie shows for everyone to exclusive performances bringing a dash of luxury –the music listeners’ interest in India has exploded over the last few years, as have festivals catering to various audiences.*

*India has always been a land of musical celebrations, with some ancient scriptures specifically dedicated to music. However, over the years, western music has made its way into Indian music, and talented artists are combining traditional Indian music with the western to create something truly magical.*

*At large, about 26 music festivals happen in India all around the year. Here are just a few famous ones.*

### **Ziro Music Festival**

Ziro Valley hosts one of the most popular and respected music festivals which is located in the lush valley of the Subansiri district of Arunachal Pradesh. For an Indie music fan, the Ziro music festival is the best stage to witness and enjoy the dying music genre. The audience comes from various parts of the world with unique traditions and cultures. Amidst the soulful music, culture, food, and nature, an experience of a lifetime awaits the discerning music lover.

### **NH7 Weekender, Pune, Bangalore, Kolkata and Delhi**

The magnificent music festival is touted as the best-organised indie music festival in India, thanks to superior production quality and an impressive assortment of artists. In addition, the music extravaganza boasts top-notch security, health facilities, information booths, toilets, food and drinks. The performances here mix rock, indie, metal and ethnic fusion music. NH7 takes place in Pune, Bangalore, Kolkata and Delhi for three days.

### **Magnetic Fields, Rajasthan**

Set in the magnificent Alsisar Mahal in Shekhawati, Rajasthan, Magnetic Fields is a stunning three-day music festival set in between the grandeur of the golden triangle formed by Bikaner, Jaipur and Delhi. The festival is held in December. Over the years, Magnetic Fields has earned the reputation of a boutique festival experience in India, promoting the country’s freshest sounds and offering them a platform to break into the music industry.

### **Mahindra Blues, Mumbai**

Asia’s biggest Blues music festival, Mahindra Blues, takes place in Mumbai every February. The festival has been promoting the local blues community by bringing already-established blues artists worldwide and budding blues artists in India on a common platform.

### **The Hornbill music festival**

The Hornbill music festival is held at the Naga Heritage Village of Kisama, Kohima in Nagaland every year to



*Ziro Music Festival*



*NH7 Weekender*





*Sula Fest, Nasik*

promote inter-tribal interaction and to celebrate the culture and tradition of Nagaland. The week-long festival brings together various tribes in Nagaland. To someone from outside, this festival is to know more about the food, music, dance forms and customs of Nagaland.

### **Sula Fest, Nasik**

Taking place in the Sula Vineyards of Nasik, this fest is a mix of electronic music, dubstep, and reggae. Wine runs in abundance at this celebration of music, fashion and leisure. To add a health quotient to the event, the new edition of Sula Fest has collaborated with Yoga House, which would introduce sunrise yoga sessions to the audience on open grounds.

### **Jodhpur Riff**

Displaying Rajasthan's traditional folk music and arts, this international folk



*Jodhpur Riff*

music festival takes place at the glorious Mehrangarh Fort in Jodhpur every October. It is organised during the time of Sharad Purnima, the brightest full moon night of the year. The festival provides an open stage for acclaimed folk artists and musicians from India and abroad.

### **Fireflies, Bangalore**

The Fireflies Festival of Sacred Music, previously known as Bhoomi Jathre, is an annual music festival held at the Fireflies Ashram, Bangalore. It is an organic music festival set up under a banyan tree in an open-air amphitheatre near a lake on the outskirts of Bangalore. The festival is an experience which connects the soul with nature. Representing an amalgamation of western jazz with tribal folk music, reputed and less-known artists perform together on a single stage for fans of the organic vibe.

### **Storm Music Festival**

A three-day-long festival on the outskirts of Bangalore, this is regarded as India's most authentic camp-out festival. This Indian music festival witnesses some of the most popular Indian artists and bands, with camp outdoor in tents for three whole days. The festival celebrates music from various genres from indie to folk and non-mainstream pop to electronic dance.

### **Woods Talk**

Amidst the lush hills of Rishikesh, Woods Talk is a chill open-air music festival with the passing Ganges adding an adventurous touch. The



*Storm Music Festival*



*Woods Talk*



*Shiva Squad Festival, Manali*



*Madras Music Season*

festival, usually held in March every year, attracts a large number of people with its cool lineup of musicians. Other than music, numerous adventure activities like kayaking, rafting, rappelling, and rock climbing around the scenic landscapes of the Himalayas are also available.

### **Shiva Squad Festival, Manali**

This musical party brings together the finest artists of Psy-Trance, Trance, Hi-Tech, electronic, rock, jazz, fusion, classical, R&B and folk music. Taking place in the fascinating landscape of Manali in September, the music fest is one of a kind in the entire country. It attempts to unite like-minded individuals and promote a deep understanding of psychedelic culture.

### **Chennai Music Season**

Chennai Music Season is an event hosted every Mid December–January in Chennai, Tamil Nadu. Spanning some 5-6 weeks, it comprises top-flight professional and amateur musicians. The traditional role of the Music Season is to allow aficionados of Carnatic music to appreciate performances by renowned artists and to enable promising young artists to display their talent and skill. Audiences and artists come from across India and abroad to enjoy the music season.

### **Virtual music festival**

Covid-19 changed the entire scenario for music listeners as well as artists. These music festivals, were performed live, with listeners enjoying with friends tasting the local cuisines, restricted to indoors and watching performances from the limits of their houses. Most of the organisers sensed a massive opportunity to scale up and offer events in the digital space. For instance, Sunburn@Home—a live stream venture launched on Instagram, YouTube handles, Twitch app and ZEE5 platforms.

Going virtual in 2020 was probably the safest strategy as it kept business going and created new revenue streams unaffected by the social distancing rules. So transitioning to digital proved to be a very viable option.

### **Hybrid Music sessions**

Though 2020 was a year of virtual music concerts, in 2021, people started braving COVID and attending festivals. This year the music lovers and organisers are back with a bang, and the season is in full swing like always. It is also likely that the hybrid music festival will be here to stay.



*Virtual music festival*

# Chemplast Sanmar conferred the ICC-Evonik Award for Environmental Excellence

Chemplast Sanmar, Mettur, received the ICC-Evonik Award for Excellence in Management of Environment. The award came in recognition of some key initiatives undertaken by Chemplast on environmental management. Chemplast was also awarded the best Nicer Globe User Company award for Excellence in transport safety, including driver behaviour, for complying with road safety rules with zero incidents. Additionally, two drivers of logistics service providers engaged by Chemplast were adjudged as 'Best Drivers' and awarded the Nicer Globe "Best Driver Award 2021."

Chemplast Sanmar's Managing Director, Ramkumar Shankar, and head of the Mettur plant, S Gajendiran, received the citation and award at the 57th ICC Awards Presentation held at the Taj Mahal Hotel, Mumbai, on 30th September 2022.



*Ramkumar Shankar, Managing Director, Chemplast Sanmar Limited and S Gajendiran, Plant Head, Chemplast Sanmar, Mettur, receiving the citation and award for Environmental Excellence.*



*S Gajendiran, Plant Head, Chemplast Sanmar, Mettur and N Devendiran, Senior General Manager, Safety, receiving the award for Best Nicer Globe User Company.*



*S Gajendiran and N Devendiran seen with Nicer Globe 'Best Drivers' awardees of logistics service providers engaged by Chemplast.*

# Chemical Summit 2022 at Chennai

## Contribution of Chemical Sector for 1 Trillion US \$ Economy of Tamil Nadu by 2030

Chemical Summit entitled “Contribution of Chemical Sector for 1 Trillion US \$ Economy of Tamil Nadu by 2030,” was organised by Indian Chemical Council (ICC) jointly with FICCI, Chemical Industries Association & Manali Industries Association, in Chennai on 9th December 2022.

Addressing the delegates, Vijay Sankar said, “All our investments in India in the last 60 years are only in this State (Tamil Nadu) and the neighbouring State of Pondicherry, and we do not have a single investment outside the State. Tamil Nadu has a legacy of the chemical industry in the state which dates back to the 1930s, and an understanding bureaucracy in creating a congenial environment for the chemical industry in this state. So a huge opportunity awaits us,” he said.

The summit covered detailed discussions and presentations on the contribution of the Chemical sector to the economy of Tamil Nadu concerning investment, infrastructure, feedstock and downstream opportunities.



Ramkumar Shankar, Managing Director, Chemplast Sanmar, participated in the panel discussion on ‘Facilities available for investors in Tamil Nadu’ at the Chemical Summit 2022. The discussion moderated by Pooja Kulkarni, IAS, Managing Director, Guidance Bureau, covered aspects related to raw material, infrastructure and manpower availability in Tamil Nadu for investment interests in the chemical industry.



N Krishnamoorthy, Deputy Managing Director, Chemplast Sanmar, spoke on ‘Downstream opportunities for PVC processing’ at the Chemical Summit 2022. He explained about the application of suspension and paste resin in everyday products focusing on the infrastructure and scope for greenfield ventures in PVC pipes, profiles, artificial leather and coir mats.

# CII's Indian Chemicals and Petrochemicals Conference

## Building a competitive framework for India@2047

Ramkumar Shankar, spoke at the 5th Edition of Indian Chemicals and Petrochemicals Conference (ICPC) 2022, organised by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), in New Delhi on 18th November 2022.

He was a panellist at a discussion on the topic “Reshaping and Fostering Sustainable Manufacturing.”

Ramkumar addressed issues and questions related to overcoming the negative perception of chemical companies, sustainability, the expectation of customers and the role of suppliers and other stakeholders in the sustainability ecosystem. The panel focused on learnings from best practices in the path towards sustainability in chemical manufacturing.



## ICC Sustainability Conclave 2022

Ramkumar Shankar chaired the discussion and delivered the opening remarks on ‘Embracing Net-Zero Transitions - Risks & Opportunities’ at the ICC Sustainability Conclave 2022, at New Delhi on 18th November 2022.

The discussions covered topics that tackled Net-Zero as an enabler for Sustainable change, Risks and Opportunities in embracing Net-Zero and the relevance of Plastic Circularity in getting to Net-Zero.



# Dr S Jaishankar, Minister for External Affairs, Government of India, visits Egypt

Dr S Jaishankar, Minister for External Affairs, Government of India, visited Egypt on the 15th & 16th of October 2022 and held high-level discussions with the President of Egypt, Abdel Fattah El-Sisi, and other Ministers, including Sameh Hassan Shoukry, Minister of Foreign Affairs.

During this visit, the Indian Embassy held an Indian Community Event on 15th October and a Business meeting on 16th October. PS Jayaraman, Chairman, TCI Sanmar Chemicals and S Ganeshkumar, Managing Director, participated in these meetings and discussed various initiatives taken by TCI Sanmar Chemicals.



*(L to R): PS Jayaraman, Chairman, TCI Sanmar Chemicals, Dr S Jaishankar, Minister of External Affairs, Government of India and Ajit Gupte, Ambassador of India to the Arab Republic of Egypt.*

## TCI Sanmar Chemicals at COP 27, Egypt

TCI Sanmar Chemicals S.A.E. participated in the COP 27 held in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, from 6th to 18th November 2022. S Ganeshkumar, Managing Director, TCI Sanmar,

spoke at the conference on Sanmar initiatives in climate action, especially about green PVC.

At COP 27, countries came together to take action towards achieving the world's collective climate goals as agreed upon under the Paris Agreement and the Convention.

TCI Sanmar uses bio-ethanol feedstock to produce Bio Ethylene which goes to manufacture green attributed PVC. Ganeshkumar also spoke about the water recovery process where 85 to 90% of the water consumed is re-circulated into the plant, thus using only 10 to 15% fresh water when needed.



*S Ganeshkumar, Managing Director, TCI Sanmar Chemicals, speaking at COP 27.*

# Sanmar Shipping returns to Maersk Tankers' LR2 pool

## Shared determination to decarbonise

The vessel Sanmar Sangeet has re-joined Maersk Tankers' LR2 pool, attracted by the two companies' shared determination to decarbonise and the trading strategy of the pool. The latter has led to strong earnings over the past few quarters.

With Sanmar Shipping investing heavily in fuel and energy-efficiency technology, Maersk Tankers' pool set-up is a good fit.

Commenting on the reasons for joining Maersk Tankers' pools, CV Subba Rao, Managing Director at Sanmar Shipping, said, *"Sanmar has always believed in Values before Profits, Growth with Responsibility and a unique chemistry with people and nature, which much about sums up our relationship with Maersk."*



## CII National Exports summit at Delhi



Narayan Sethuramon

Minister of Commerce and Industry, Government of India, Piyush Goyal addressing the delegates at the Summit.

At the Special Plenary Session of the CII National Exports Summit held in New Delhi on 20th Oct 2022, Narayan Sethuramon, Co-Chairman, CII National Committee on Exim and Managing Director, Sanmar Matrix Metals Limited, presented the summit takeaways to Piyush Goyal, Minister of Commerce and Industry, Textiles, Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Government of India.

Sethuramon highlighted the key changes in the Indian export environment as compared to the 1990s when Indian companies had to not only market India as a reliable manufacturing destination but also had to build confidence in one's company as a supplier to Global Markets. He observed that the world is now looking at India with confidence as a trade and business partner and overseas customers want Indian suppliers to succeed.

Piyush Goyal, in his address spoke extensively about the positive change in India's image that has come about as a result of several initiatives taken by the Government over the last eight years towards building the 'India' brand. He exhorted Indian industry to focus on 'SPICE' - Sustainability, Productivity, Innovation, Competitiveness, and Excellence.

# MMA All India Management Students Convention

## “AI Shaping Today and the Future”

Madras Management Association, in partnership with Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, conducted the 21st MMA All India Management Students

Convention on 27th September 2022, at IIT Research Park Auditorium, Chennai. The theme for this year's convention was 'AI Shaping Today and the Future.'



Vijay Sankar delivered the valedictory address. He spoke on how The Sanmar Group embraced technology and has been an early adaptor of technology.

“We probably had the first fax machine in Chennai. We were among the first of the industrial houses to move to SAP way back in 1997. We were among the first Indian companies to outsource IT in India. We were very early in digitising our records. We had robots at our foundry, at our engineering businesses fairly early. We were pioneers in adopting the zero liquid discharge technology at our chemical plants where we work closely with IIT Madras, including setting up their zero liquid discharge lab,” he said.

He added that since AI has an unmatched ability to process large amounts of data, there is an opportunity for the manufacturing industry to be an early adopter of AI.

He also pointed out, “We are now using AI in energy efficiency and process optimisation, safety compliance, forecasting and inventory management, and predictive maintenance.”

*Vijay Sankar delivering the valedictory address on “AI Shaping Today and the Future” at the IIT Research Park Auditorium, Chennai.*



*Vijay Sankar presenting the “Best Management Student of the year 2022” to Krishna Sudha, SSN School of Management.*



## 33rd Annual Day

# Madhuram Narayanan Centre for Exceptional Children

Continuous rains could not dampen the spirits of the teachers and parents of the Madhuram Narayanan Centre for Exceptional Children, who celebrated their 33rd Annual Day on the 12th December 2022. The children, parents and staff presented a thematic dance recital - a conceptual program called “Kurai Ondrum Illai” describing the latent capabilities in children with intellectual disabilities.



## MCCI's “PHYGITAL 2022”

The Madras Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCI) organised a one-day conference “PHYGITAL 2022” on 13th December 2022 at Hotel Crown Plaza, Chennai.

Ramkumar Shankar, Vice President, MCCI & MD, Chemplast Sanmar, welcomed the audience in the inaugural session with an overview of MCCI and the relevance of having industrial automation but with human governance.

This thought of having Industry 5.0 as the theme for PHYGITAL 2022 is attributed to V Srinivas, IT Head, The Sanmar Group who co-chaired the MCCI IT/ITES panel, responsible for this event.

There were technical speakers from Amazon Web Services (AWS), Cloud Kinetics and Ericsson sharing an overview on the emerging trends

in Artificial Intelligence, Cloud Computing, Data Lakes, 5G technologies to support the aspirations of the industry with a human connect.

More than 120 people from various IT, manufacturing and other sectors participated in the conference.



*V Srinivas, IT Head, The Sanmar Group addressing the audience at the Phygital 2022 conference. Ramkumar Shankar, Vice President, MCCI and Managing Director, Chemplast Sanmar is seen seated 2nd from left on the dais.*

# Indian-Danish collaboration launches conceptual plan for 15 Indian offshore wind parks



The Danish Energy Agency and the Indian Ministry of New and Renewable Energy have published a conceptual plan with a pipeline identifying 15 locations for offshore wind in India.

The joint study was presented in Chennai, India on 23rd November, 2022 as an activity under the Centre of Excellence for Offshore Wind and Renewable Energy, a joint initiative between The Danish Energy Agency (DEA) and The Indian Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) in the presence of the Danish Ambassador to India HE Freddy Svane and Vijay Sankar, Honorary Consul General for the Royal Danish Consulate, Chennai.

*(L to R): Danish Ambassador to India HE Freddy Svane, Dinesh Jagdale, Joint Secretary, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Government of India, Vijay Sankar, and Dr Rajesh Katyal, Director General (Additional Charge), National Institute of Wind Energy, at the launch of the Maritime Spatial Planning and Offshore Wind parks in Chennai.*

## Denmark Honorary Consuls meet at Delhi

A meeting of Honorary Consuls was convened on 28th November 2022 at the Danish Embassy, New Delhi. SB Prabhakar Rao, Honorary Vice Consul and Ramadevi Ravi, Consular Officer, attended the meeting representing the Royal Danish Consulate, Chennai. The meeting and the interactions coming after more than a decade, was a learning experience and quite refreshing. Ambassador and his wife hosted a lunch at their residence in honour of the representatives from the various Danish consulates across India.



*(L to R): Danish Ambassador to India HE Freddy Svane, SB Prabhakar Rao, Vice Consul, Royal Danish Consulate (RDC), Chennai, Kristian Falk-Petersen, Head of Visa section, Ramadevi Ravi, Consular Officer, RDC and Karen Camacho, Head of Consular Affairs, Danish Embassy, New Delhi.*

# Sanmar Engineering Technologies - 'Make in India' - growth story

Sanmar Engineering Technologies Private Limited (SETPL) is a well-integrated, synergistic group of engineering companies and foundries in India, Mexico and the USA.

SETPL had its beginnings in 1976 as part of the effort by The Sanmar Group to offer indigenously manufactured products as substitution of imports for a wide range of critical process equipment, contributing significantly to enhanced industrial efficiency and process safety – so much in keeping with the 'Make in India' initiative, launched by the Government of India.

SETPL range of products includes mechanical seals, rupture disks and explosion vents, sleeved plug valves, lined plug valves, high performance butterfly valves, safety relief valves and high pressure gate, globe and check valves. In addition, Matrix Metals Global, the Steel Castings arm of the Sanmar Engineering business, provides cost effective solutions to global steel casting demands.

A unique feature of SETPL is the several successful joint venture relationships with leading international partners in niche technology areas.

SETPL participated in various exhibitions across the country to showcase its brand and products portfolio and services over the last couple of months.

Some highlights are presented in these pages.



**India Chem 2022** - 12th Biennial International Exhibition & Conference was conducted by the Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals, Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilisers, GOI, jointly with FICCI on 2nd & 3rd November 2022 at New Delhi. Arun Baroka - Secretary, Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals, Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilisers. Govt. of India visited the Sanmar stall on 4th November 2022, and spent time understanding Sanmar's contribution to the Indian chemical industry and our engineering capabilities in flow control solutions for chemical, petroleum, power and pharma industries.



**Boiler India 2022** was a three-day exhibition from 14th to 16th September 2022 in Mumbai. Inaugurated by GoM Labour Minister, Suresh Khade, and Industries Minister, Uday Samant, the event focused on Boilers, ancillaries and auxiliaries manufacturers. Anderson Greenwood Crosby Sanmar Ltd (AGCSL) and BS&B Safety Systems (India) Ltd, showcased their products. The stall saw many footfalls over the three days.





**Flow control Exchange India** on 18th & 19th Oct 2022 in Mumbai brought all manufacturers who provide flow control solutions on one platform. SETPL exhibited products from Flowserve Sanmar Ltd, BS&B Safety Systems (India) Ltd, Xomox Sanmar Ltd, Anderson Greenwood Crosby Sanmar Ltd and Matrix Metals Global.



*(L to R): Alok Tayal, Vice President, Regional Sales, Sanmar Engineering, Hari Jinaga, Regional President - India, Crane Co., Dinesh Satheesan, President, Marketing, Sanmar Engineering and Dinesh Upadhyay, Sales Director - India, Crane Co.*



**Awareness Technip Energies** conducted a technical forum, “Expertise day”, on 17th November 2022 at Chennai. The session provided meaningful interactions with engineers from the Rotary, instrumentation and piping division. Sanmar showcased a range of products for flow control solutions in chemical, petroleum and related industries.

## Legends from the South

# Mandolin U Srinivas - Mozart of Indian Classical Music

Uppalapu Srinivas, born in Palakol in Andhra Pradesh on February 28, 1969, showed an uncanny interest in his father Satyanarayana's mandolin at a very young age. He stormed the Carnatic music scene with his first public performance in 1978 and since then there was no looking back.

It was in 1981 that the 12-year-old Srinivas gave his first public concert in Chennai for the Indian Fine Arts Society (though his first ever public Carnatic concert performance was in 1978 during the Thyagaraja Aradhana festival in Andhra Pradesh).

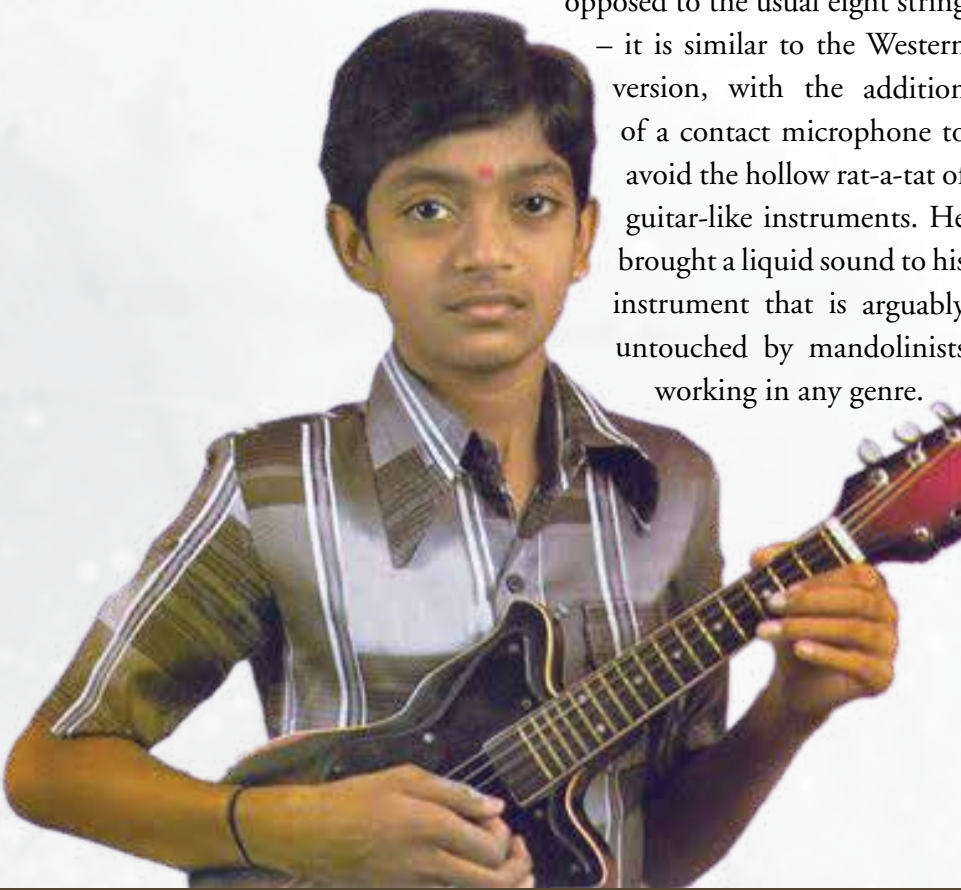
Srinivas uses a five-string mandolin as opposed to the usual eight string – it is similar to the Western version, with the addition of a contact microphone to avoid the hollow rat-a-tat of guitar-like instruments. He brought a liquid sound to his instrument that is arguably untouched by mandolinists working in any genre.

Along the way, he became one of the most globally beloved South Indian musicians.

At the beginning of every concert Srinivas used to chant a long benedictory prayer to Hanuman, and whether at home or on tour, he would spend at least an hour in meditation and prayer.

Everything about his technique was gentle and seductive, and so to the inattentive ear, his investigations of Kiravani or Sankarabharanam could fade into the background; an alert listener, though, could detect high classicism, an elaborate creativity in his improvisations, and even flashes of humour in the deft concluding twists to some of his phrases. His fingering was immaculate.

He played at the Olympic Arts Festival, Barcelona in 1992 and in 1995 recorded a successful fusion album with Michael Brook. When John McLaughlin revived his group Shakti, and renamed it Remember Shakti, in 1997, he asked Srinivas to join the group and tour the world with it, along with other Indian musicians Zakir Hussain, Shankar Mahadevan, and V Selvaganesh. Srinivas was a leading player of the group. Srinivas toured extensively across the world, in his own right - he played in Australia, Southeast Asia, Southwest Asia, and extensively and frequently across the United States and Canada.



His brother U Rajesh, is also a mandolin player. Srinivas and Rajesh have together composed music as well, and, besides Carnatic music, they have extensively worked on the fusion of Carnatic and western music. They also played with the Johannesburg Philharmonic Orchestra, with French electric bass player Dominique Di Piazza, pianist Anil Srinivasan and Stephen Devassy, a pianist from Kerala. Srinivas compared Carnatic music to the Sanskrit language, “It’s the basis, from which spring so many other languages. Carnatic music is here to stay with us and all other music that we play is based on that.”

Over the years, Srinivas recorded over 137 albums, in diverse genres from Carnatic music solos to jugalbandis with Hindustani musicians, and world music. He performed with Western artists such as John McLaughlin, Michael Brook, Trey Gunn, Nigel Kennedy, Nana Vasconcelos, and Michael Nyman, as well as with Hindustani music artists such as Hariprasad Chaurasia and Zakir Hussain, besides Carnatic artists like Vikku Vinayakram and V Selvaganesh.

U Srinivas started a music school called the Srinivas Institute of World Music (SIOWM) in Chennai, where, since he was barely eighteen, he taught a number of students gratis. Srinivas has trained almost a hundred students worldwide, many of whom have studied with him and U Rajesh for as long as ten years.

U Srinivas is the recipient of the Padma Shri award, along with a host of many other prestigious awards.

In an interview he once said, “Where is the end to music? The more you learn, the more you want to know.” Srinivas passed away following liver-related illness in 2014.

Fortunately, his mandolin has not been silenced as he has left behind a number of worthy successors, including his disciples and his younger brother Rajesh.

