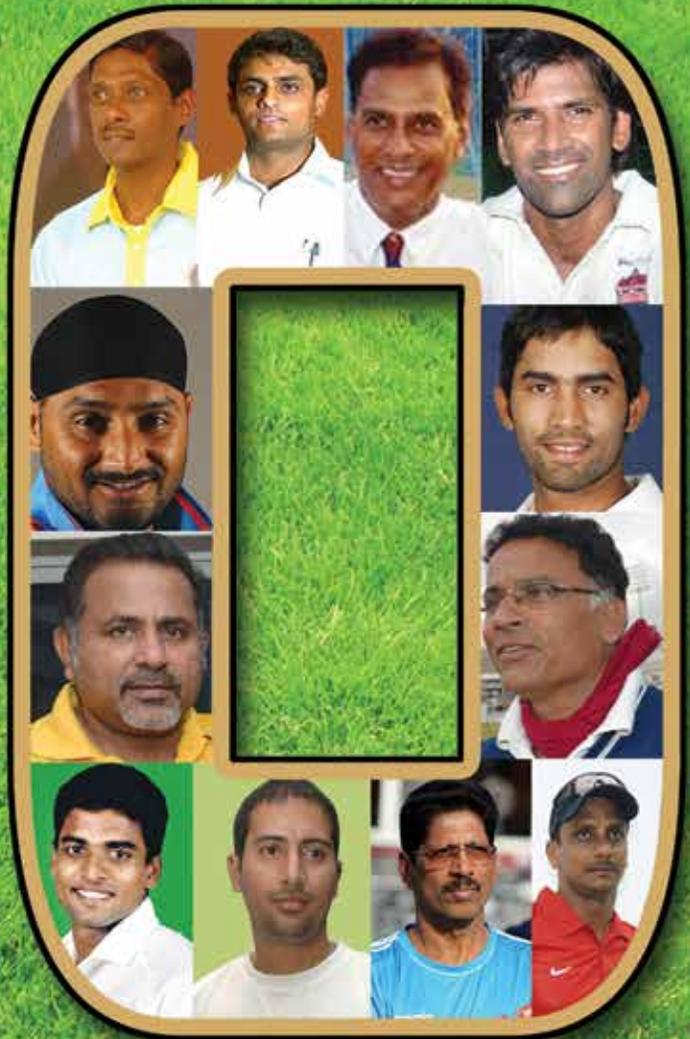


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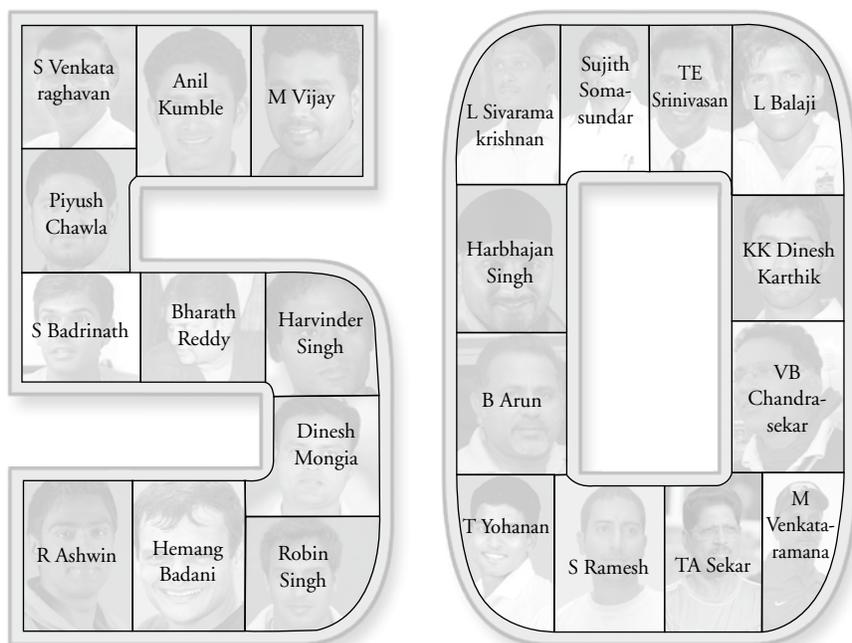
July 2015

A PUBLICATION OF THE SANMAR GROUP



*The Sanmar Family and Jolly Rovers
- Together since 29 July 1966*

Cover: International cricketers from Jolly Rovers



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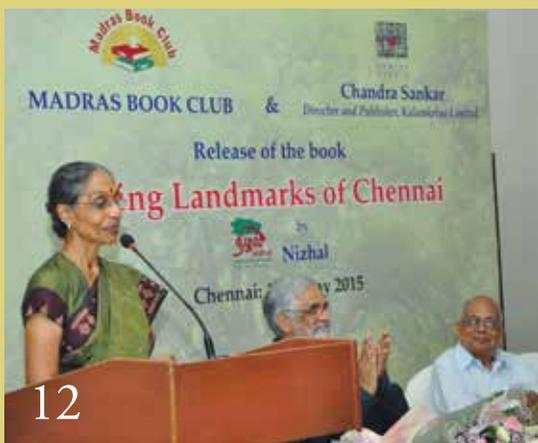
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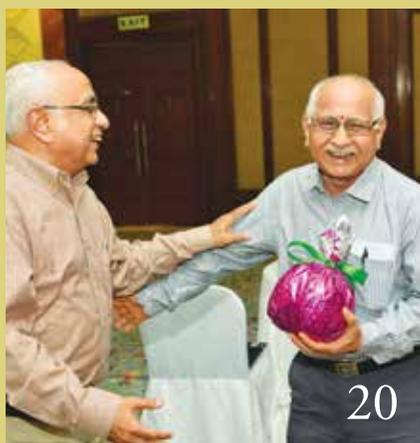
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Matrix can be viewed at www.sanmargroup.com

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Jolly Rovers and the Sanmar family: Together for 50 years

The first period (1966-79)

Golden Jubilee Celebrations (2015-2016)

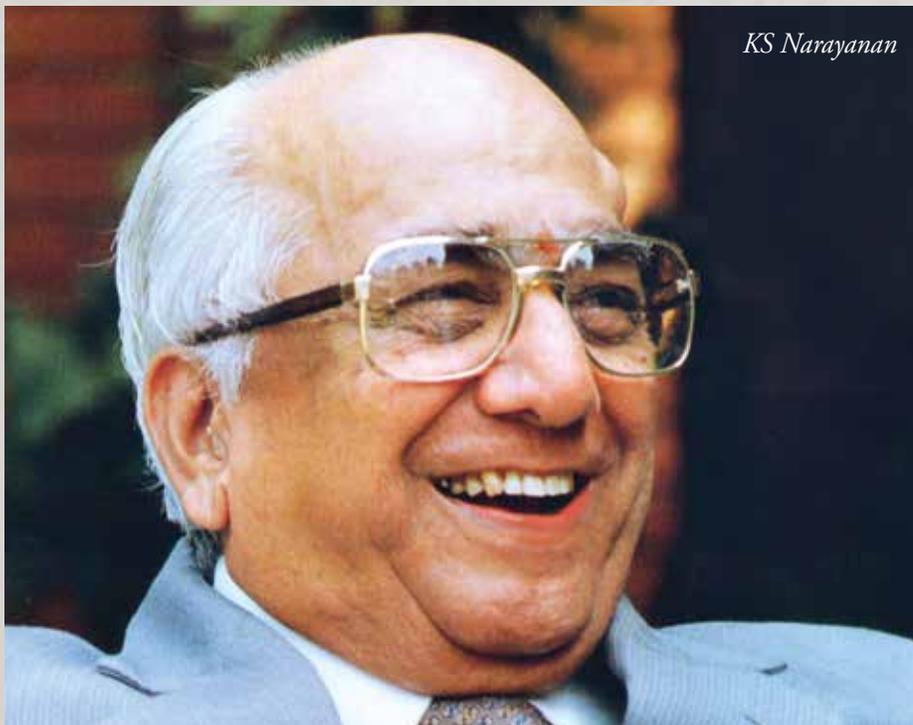
To mark the beginning of the 50th year of the Sanmar family's ties with Jolly Rovers Cricket Club, arguably the longest partnership in the game, a cricketing get-together is being organised on 29 July 2015 at Chennai – an occasion to honour the outstanding cricketers and recall fond memories and friendships on and off the field.



On 29th July 1966, VA Parthasarathy – VAP to all who knew him – walked into KS Narayanan's office at India Cements Ltd, and suggested out of the blue that India Cements take over the sponsorship of Jolly Rovers, the club VAP ran. Corporate sponsorship of cricket in the city then belonged to the realm of

government organisations, private sector banks, the erstwhile British-owned companies and the like.

VAP explained that running a cricket team was growing more and more expensive. He had hitherto persuaded his friends and well-wishers to fund the club on an ad hoc basis, but it was no longer a practical option.



KS Narayanan

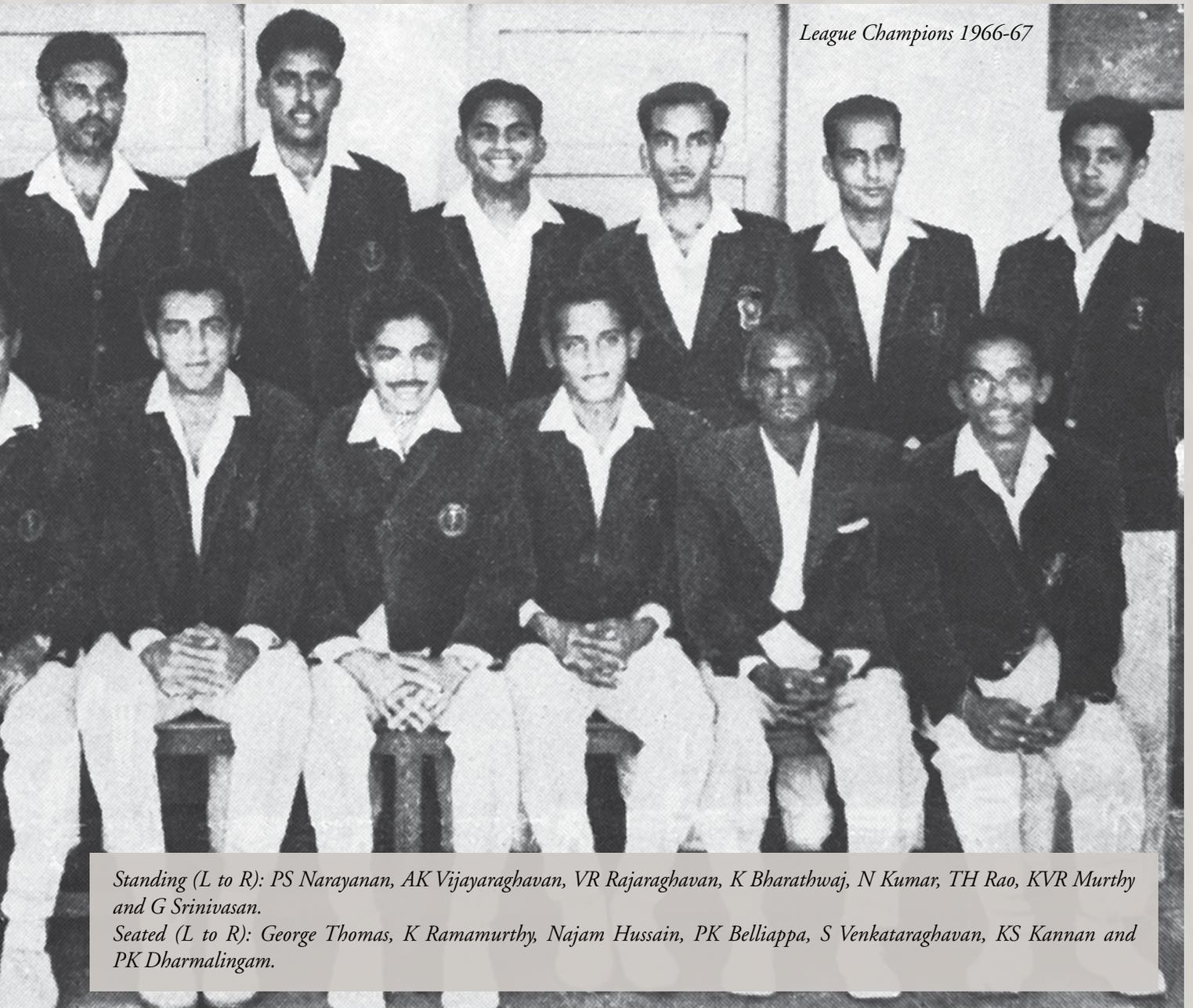
KSN spontaneously accepted the offer of the team and decided to sponsor Jolly Rovers Cricket Club from India Cements where he was the Managing Director. In this decision, he was actively encouraged by A Ananthanarayan, a former Madras player in the Ranji Trophy and a senior executive

of India Cements, and his deputy, K Ramamurthy, an active University and Club cricketer.

Coincidentally around this time, having heard that India Cements was looking to appoint cricketers, BK Anantharaman, the General Manager of Indian Telephone Industries in Bangalore, called KSN to propose the hiring of top-

class Bangalore cricketers like KR Rajagopal and Najam Hussain by India Cements. He was himself no longer able to support these cricketers through ITI.

Thus 50 years ago began the search for a high-performance cricket unit to nurture. The decision was made on 29 July 1966 and the team fulfilled KSN's expectations



League Champions 1966-67

Standing (L to R): PS Narayanan, AK Vijayaraghavan, VR Rajaraghavan, K Bharathwaj, N Kumar, TH Rao, KVR Murthy and G Srinivasan.

Seated (L to R): George Thomas, K Ramamurthy, Najam Hussain, PK Belliappa, S Venkataraghavan, KS Kannan and PK Dharmalingam.

by winning the league in that very first season.

The knowledgeable Chennai crowd was treated to some high quality cricket every time the new Jolly Rovers team stepped on to the ground.

KR Rajagopal, Najam Hussain, KVR Murthy, and PK Dharmalingam from among the non-residents, and S Venkataraghavan, PK Belliappa, VR Rajaraghavan, K Bharathwaj, G Srinivasan, AK Vijayaraghavan and PS Narayanan, among the locals, made the team a star-studded outfit. N Kumar, A Ananthanarayan and K Ramamurthy completed the squad. Other excellent players like Balaji Rao, George Thomas, P Sampath and TE Srinivasan also turned out for the club during the decade.

When the 1966-67 season unfolded, there was excitement in the family, created by the arrival of these outstanding cricketers. The excitement was mutual. The players responded magnificently to the grand welcome they received.

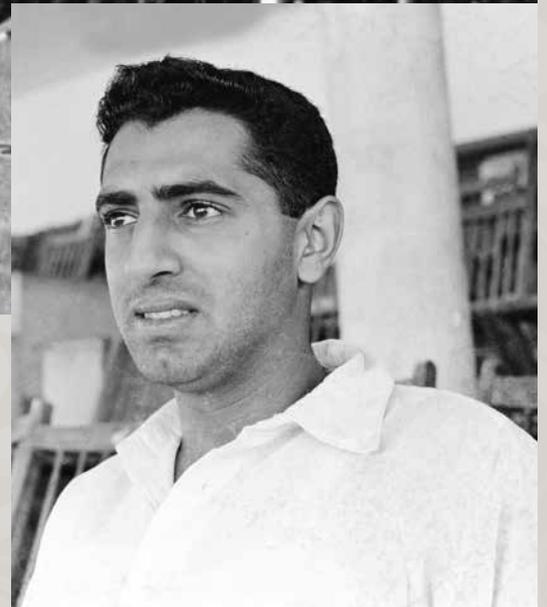
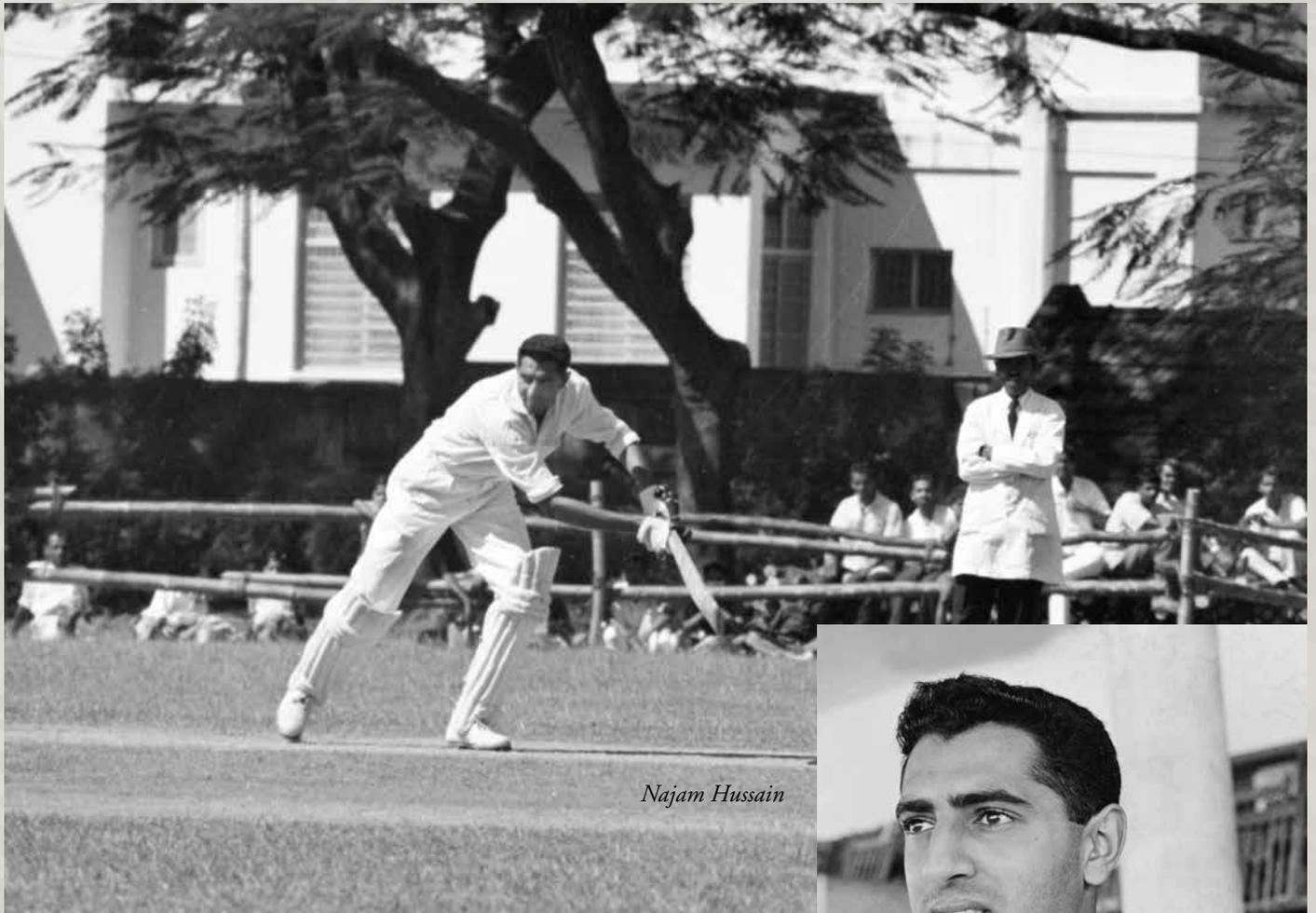
What made Jolly Rovers such a force to reckon with was the keen eye of the top management for talent spotting. KSN had an unerring instinct for picking the right personnel, not only talented but also blessed with

a propensity to thrive as members of a well-knit team. The team was a confident group of men, secure in the knowledge that their bosses at work would support them to the hilt in their league campaign. Besides KSN and Sankar, A Ananthanarayan was another father figure who looked after the interests of the team.

The captain PK Belliappa, who had earlier turned out for Esso, was surprisingly dour in his attitude to batting; surprising because he was

PK Belliappa





an extrovert off the field. He was laid back in a tongue-in-cheek, bantering style, but once he put on his pads to bat or keep wickets, he was a picture of concentration, preferring safety to excitement.

In sharp contrast, KR Rajagopal, a dashing batsman who believed in belting the ball from the word go, was socially perhaps the least flamboyant. In wicket keeping too, he was a daring adventurer who thought nothing of standing up to the wicket to fast bowlers, whipping off the bails in a flash to effect some spectacular legside stumpings.

In their divergent styles, the pair batted with rare consistency at the top of the order, each complementing the other. The opening batsman they kept out was PS Narayanan who made batting look easy, and his off spin was effective in its deceptively innocuous appearance. Then there was KVR Murthy, an elegant, correct little batsman who had distinguished himself representing more than one state in the national tournament – again another mild-mannered, slightly built man who looked more like an accountant than a cricketer.

Than Balaji Rao, credited with the uncanny faculty of snaffling slip catches in his sleep, no one could less resemble a cricketer. No matinee idol was he, that distinction going to the tall, erect Bharathwaj whose trousers were as uncreased at the end of a hard day's cricket as at its beginning. Here was an undoubted stylist whose bat came down in a perfect arc.

Another Jolly Rovers star of the sixties was the former Services and North Zone all rounder PK Dharmalingam, just as slightly built as Balaji Rao and Murthy, a brilliant mover on twinkling feet patrolling the covers and capable of throwing swiftly and accurately, often forcing the wicket keeper to seek additional protection in his gloves.

Dharma was an exciting batsman not known for the orthodoxy of his shotmaking and a highly effective leg spinner, to throw the ball up. AK Vijayaraghavan was another

lovely little all rounder, a left arm spinner who was a vestige of an earlier, romantic era with his chinamen, and a useful batsman. With his ready smile and penchant for card tricks, he was a popular draw everywhere. He was to do the star turn in one of the thrillers of the decade, when Jolly Rovers beat State Bank A by two wickets. Vijayaraghavan (3 for 6) had helped skittle the bankmen out for 109.

Najam Hussain was a prince among “poi bowlers”, an off spinner who turned the ball in inverse proportion to the seeming effort of his action, accurate and clever in his subtle

changes of pace, but unplayable on a drying wicket as he once proved in a Buchi Babu match. He could bat too, as the situation demanded, stonewalling or gathering runs inventively; the ideal man for a crisis.

A more loyal soldier neither Jolly Rovers nor Tamil Nadu could



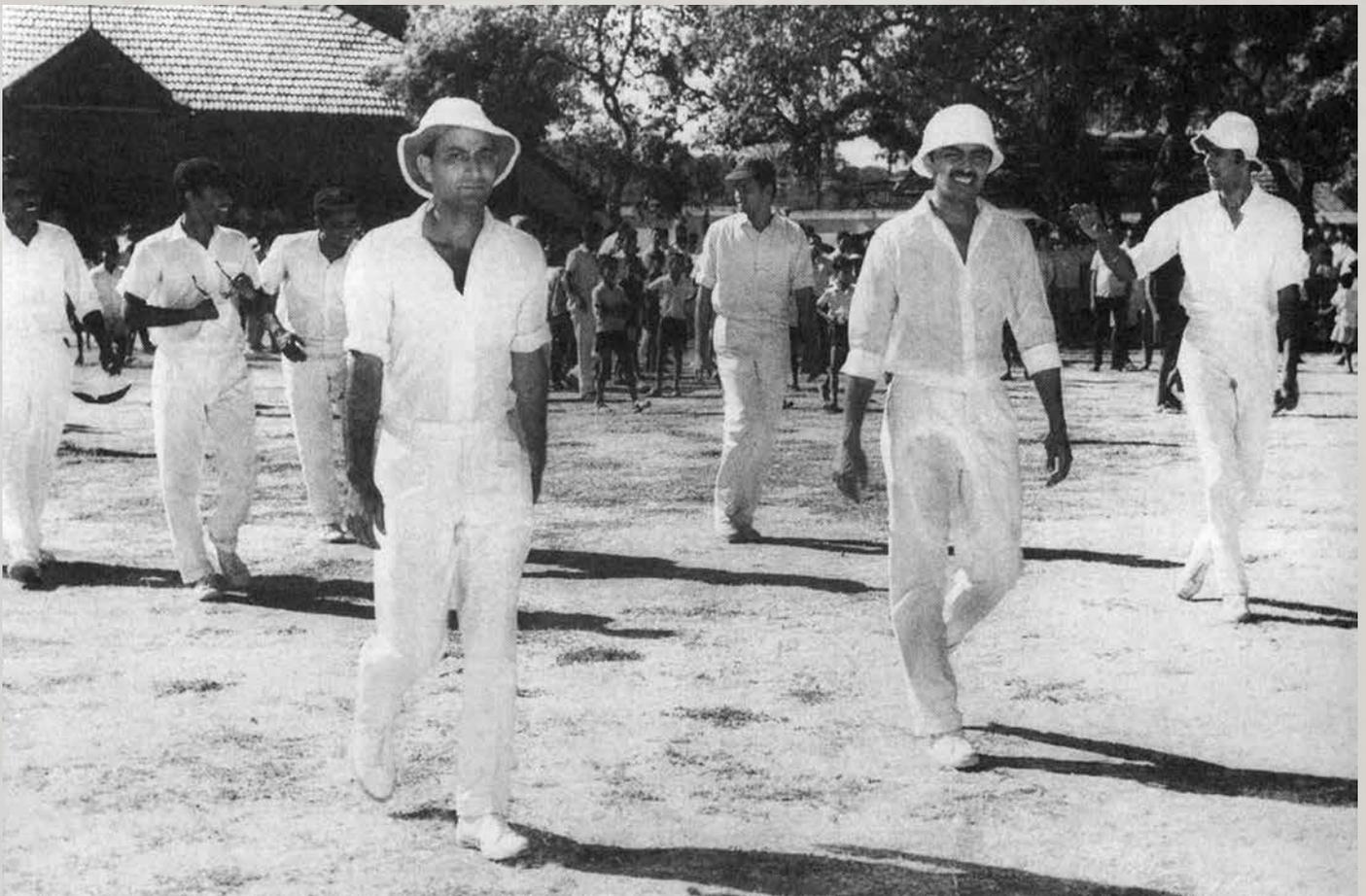
KR Rajagopal

ask for than the ever-willing Kalyanasundaram. Kalli was a fast medium bowler who turned many a match around with his tendency to engineer collapses. Here was yet another mild looking character, bespectacled and wiry, but pacy and accurate; more than his legs that carried him at a brisk pace to the bowling crease and his strong shoulders that made him sharp and nippy, it was his brave heart that made him such a competitive cricketer. Eccentric he was, and quite amusingly idiosyncratic, but

Indian parents rarely tended to encourage their children to take to sport seriously. The accent was always on academics and most talented young sportspersons had to give up their passion around the time they completed college if not earlier. The upshot of it was that many accomplished athletes had to focus on obtaining the educational qualifications which would enable them to find gainful employment.

It was in the midst of such gloom for sporting pursuits that enlightened business leaders stepped in to offer a radically novel avenue of employment and career opportunities. A new model of sports sponsorship emerged in mid-twentieth century India, especially Tamil Nadu. In the vanguard of this movement were a few business houses of Tamil Nadu, with the family that promoted Chemplast and eventually The Sanmar Group prominent among them. These enlightened business leaders believed in the important role sport played in nation building.

*A 1970 picture of a Hindu Trophy at the Marina, PK Belliappa is seen leading out the India Cements team.
L to R: V Balaji Rao, PS Narayanan, AK Vijayaraghavan, KVR Murthy, KS Vaidyanathan, PK Belliappa, K Bharathwaj.*



unleash him on batsmen and he loved to hate them. A memorable performance of his was his complete demolition of IOB in the 1969-70 season, when he sent the bank team crashing to 63 all out, returning figures of seven for 29. Equally forgettable was his experience of being surrounded and shouted at by spectators, when he and Najam Hussain reportedly wasted time to deny Alwarpet Cricket Club a win in a close Buchi Babu semifinal match in the same season. Scores: Jolly Rovers 125 all out, and Alwarpet 123 for 7, when play was disrupted by the crowd, and the police had to be brought in to disperse it.

George Thomas was another quite deadly pace bowler, vicious and dangerous, but his action was not above suspicion. Though he looked more the part than did Kalli, he was deceptively harmless in appearance. Test off spinner Venkataraghavan, one of the great spinners of the world and India's Test Captain, veteran all rounder KS Kannan and classy Tamil Nadu batsman TE Srinivasan added to the stature of the team in the early years.

League matches drew substantial crowds back then. Jolly Rovers matches were no exception. In the pavilion, the players were often joined by their employers. KSN

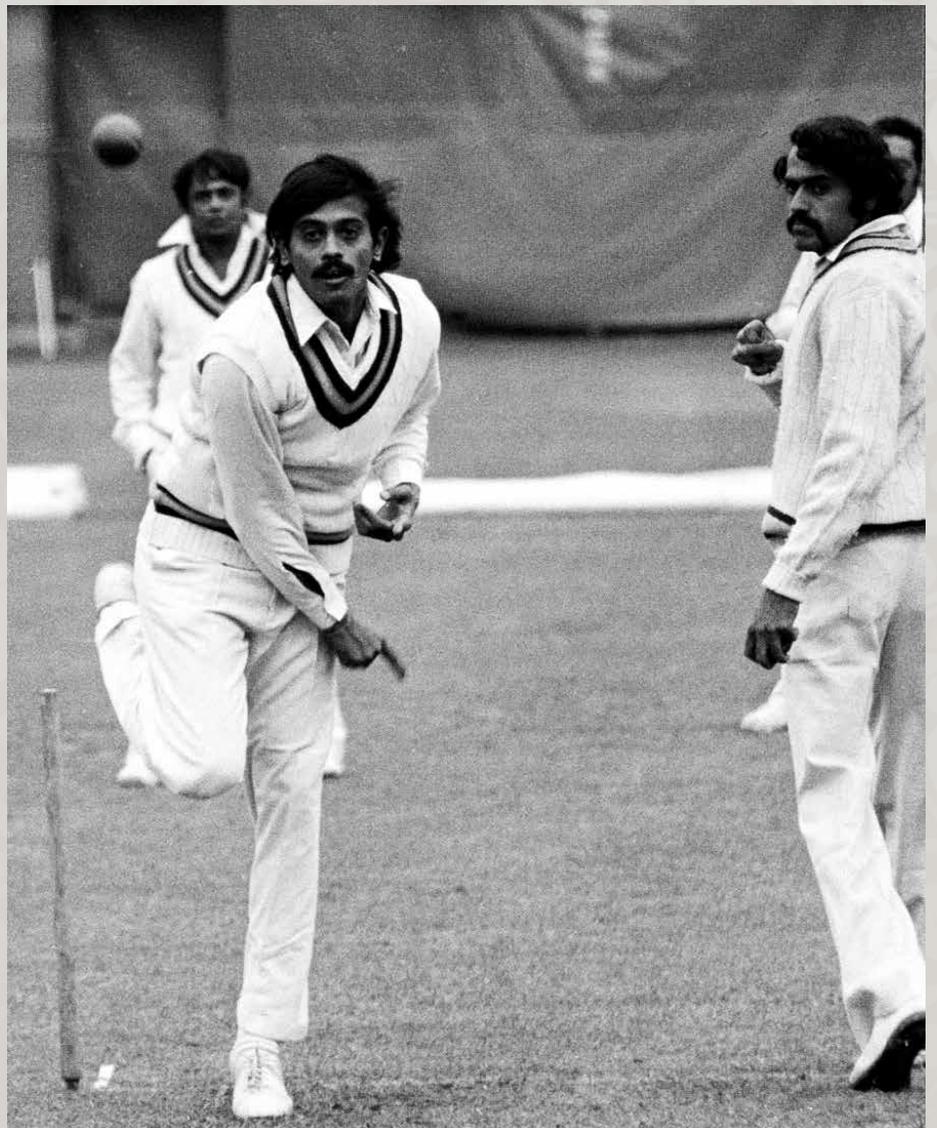
was a prominent spectator. So were Sankar and Kumar, as well as some other stalwarts of the group.

The results were palpable. Receiving every encouragement from the management and benefiting from excellent amenities, the new combination won everything before it, claiming the Rajah of Palayampatti Shield in regal style.

Jolly Rovers was to dominate Chennai cricket for decades afterwards.

V Ramnarayan

S Venkataraghavan, part of India's spin quartet, is seen here with two other members of that combination, EAS Prasanna and BS Chandrasekhar, at practice session in England (1971).



Seminar on 'Health, Safety, Security and Environment'

Sanmar's active participation

With more than 80,000 products for downstream industries the Indian Chemical Industry is a critical part of the Indian economy and plays a significant role in enhancing the quality of life and in nation building.

To draw this important sector into focus, FICCI jointly with the Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals, Government of India and in association with industry organised a two-day seminar on 'Health, Safety, Security and Environment' and 'Chemical Safety and Security Rating System' on 24-25 March 2015 at Anna University, Chennai.

Ramkumar Shankar, Deputy Managing Director, Chemplast Sanmar, delivered the key note

address during the inaugural session. "Chemical industry, as a whole, has adopted the concept of Responsible Care as a means to focus on Health, Safety, Security and Environment as a holistic practice. This embraces the development and application of sustainable chemistry, thus propelling the industry towards sustainable development. Sustainability reporting is another tool to focus attention and efforts within an organisation on the important aspects of HSSE. It is gratifying to note that more and more companies, especially within the chemical industry, have started bringing out Sustainability Reports – again, it is a matter of pride that Chemplast Sanmar was the first chemical company in India to bring

out a Sustainability Report regularly over the last six years", he said.

G Sankara Subramanian from Chemplast presented a case study on 'Safety and Environment'.

P Manoharan, Group Head of Safety at Sanmar anchored and chaired the round table on feedback on the "Chemical Plant Safety and Security Rating System". He also delivered a lecture on the "Global and Indian Scenario in the Chemical Rating System and way ahead."

Representatives from the Government of India, industry and students of Anna University participated in the programme.

P Manoharan of Sanmar delivering a lecture on the "Global and Indian Scenario in the Chemical Rating System and way ahead."

Ramkumar Shankar, Chemplast Sanmar, delivering the key note address.



Caring for our culture

Sriram V

Conceptualised and nurtured by Chandra Sankar, wife of N Sankar, Chairman of the Sanmar Group of Companies, Kalamkriya began life in printing. Its main activity in its early years was the bringing out of several corporate brochures. It changed focus over time to the in-house publications of Sanmar. And somewhere along

the way, it began to release a series of books that look at some interesting aspects of Chennai, Tamil Nadu and our way of life. It is significant to point out that each of these books is a labour of love, for they are distributed free of cost to those who are interested in reading them. Many of them are bilingual, in Tamil and English. The

books have all followed a simple format that helps in keeping the focus on the content. Largely enhanced by illustrations, the narrative is lucid and to the point. Most importantly, the books can be enjoyed by diverse age groups.

The publications released thus far are as follows:

At the release of the book Living Landmarks of Chennai by Santha Sheela Nair, IAS (Retd), on 13 May 2015. (L to R): V Ramnarayan, M Milton, B Mathialagan, N Sripriya, Chandra Sankar, S Muthiah receiving the first copy from Santha Sheela Nair, Latha Nathan, D Narasimhan, TD Babu, Rajani Shankar, Shobha Menon.



the Kalamkriya way

Proverbs for the new millennium

Like any ancient language, Tamil is rich in proverbs, idioms and phrases. Once these were all commonplace in daily usage but with the coming of English, many have been lost. Compiled from various traditional sources, this book brings to light a way of speaking that is now more or less gone. A second collection has since been brought out.



The author is a chronicler of Madras city and is one of Chennai's leading public speakers – especially on the city's heritage – and eminent author on music and musicians. He writes frequently on these subjects in the city's dailies and also several magazines.

Siva Temples of Mylapore

Mylapore to many means just the Kapaliswarar temple. How many know that there are six other shrines to Siva in the same area? First

published in 2002, this slim volume of 18 pages brought to light the other six, giving all details such as the names of the principal deities, and the unique features of each temple. Published when smart phones were yet to catch on, each temple has a map locating it within Mylapore, to enable readers reach the temple easily. The book proved to be highly popular. What is also interesting is that post the publication, interest in the other six temples revived. The custom of visiting all seven shrines on Sivaratri Day has once again gained ground. Most of the seven temples now have annual festivals which add to the colour of Mylapore. While all this revival may have been coincidental, there is no denying that the book has helped.

Grandma's Home Remedies (3 volumes)

Long before the allopathic pills were the home remedies. Grandma always had a porcelain pestle and mortar at home in which she pounded some natural ingredients that worked wonders for common ailments. That tradition has more or



less vanished with very few of the succeeding generations bothering to note down the recipes. This set of three books corrects that negligence. The first of these came out in 2004 with significant contributions from Leela Shekar and Srividya Moorthy. The second and third, written respectively by Haimavati Ammal and Annapoorani Viswanathan were published in 2005. They bring out the simple medical recipes of Tamil Nadu that cure common ailments.

Traditional South Indian Hairstyles

First published in 2006, a team brought this book. It has sketches of various hairdos and detailed descriptions of how to set them. The 1970s have often been described the era of strange hairdos in Hindi and Tamil films. In today's more prosaic age, this book throws light on some very ancient styles as seen in sculptures and temple carvings.

Stars and Trees

First published in 2007, this book traces the link between the 27 asterisms of the Hindu constellation and the tree that is sacred to each. Many temples have one of these trees as sacred to their precinct and some even have gardens with all these trees. The book has in many ways encouraged the protection of trees. Today it is commonplace to see several temples having enclosures where these trees are tended to and nurtured. Some also sport informative plaques that quote chapter and verse from this book!

Historic Residences of Chennai

Written by Sriram V, and with sketches by V Vijayakumar, this book was released in 2008. It studies the history behind some of the heritage bungalows of the city and the residents who made them famous. Sadly, not many of the houses featured in the book are

standing now - a sad commentary on the heritage awareness in our city. But that makes this book doubly important, for it is now the one source for some hitherto undocumented residences of historic importance.

Temple Vahanas of Tamil Nadu

Written by Pradeep Chakravarthy, and with sketches by V Vijayakumar, this book was released in 2010. It focuses on the processional mounts used at various temples of our State. It brings to light some of the little known aspects of temple processions and the historic evolution of some of the commonly used mounts for the deities.

Mosquitos and Other Jolly Rovers

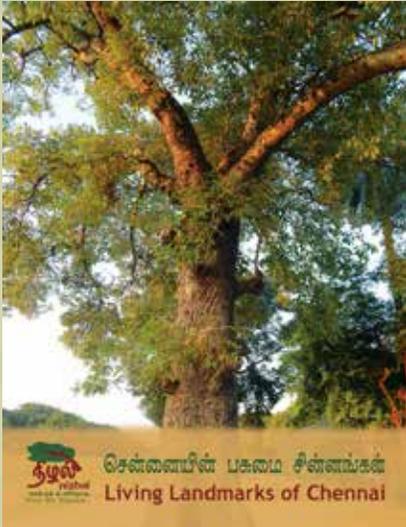
The one priced publication by Kalamkriya is this story of Tamil Nadu Cricket by V Ramnarayan. It is an important documentation for it looks at the history of league cricket in the State, whose various divisions made it a true home for the sport. Priced at Rs 295, this was released in 2002.

Living Landmarks of Chennai

Released this year, this is the first colour production of the series. Conceptualised by the NGO Nizhal, which has done some sterling work in the protection and sustenance of Chennai's tree cover, the book brings to light the various tree species that thrive in our city, their location and their significance. The photos accompanying the text help readers in easily identifying the trees described.



Santha Sheela Nair, IAS (Retd), Vice chairman, State Planning Commission addressing the gathering.



Chandra Sankar receiving a bouquet from city historian S Muthiah.

Living Landmarks of Chennai A Kalamkriya - Nizhal initiative

‘Living Landmarks of Chennai’, a book on trees with historical and cultural significance was released on 13 May 2015 at Hotel Taj Connemara, Chennai.

The book, published by Chandra Sankar, Director, Kalamkriya Limited and compiled by Nizhal, a trust to promote tree conservation in urban areas, was released at the Madras Book Club.

Santha Sheela Nair, Vice Chairman, State Planning Commission, was the chief guest. Fascinated by the stories in the book, she said, “The banyan tree in the Theosophical Society, or the purasai tree after which Purasawalkam was named intrigued me. As part of the Planning Commission I look forward to working meaningfully with Nizhal in proliferating green cover in urban areas.”

Shobha Menon of Nizhal appealed to sponsors to put up writing boards of trees with a line on its significance.

City historian S Muthiah received the first copy of the book. Dr D Narasimhan, Botany Professor, Madras Christian College, and V Ramnarayan, *Sruti*, also took part.

A section of the audience at the function.



TCI Sanmar presents *'India by the Nile'* festival

The Embassy of India, Cairo, in partnership with the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Tourism and the Cairo Opera House and managed by Teamwork Arts presented 'India by the Nile', a celebration of contemporary and classical music, dance, theatre, visual art, film, food and literature. TCI Sanmar Chemicals S.A.E. was the main sponsor of this festival as well, just as it had sponsored the first two in 2013 and 2014.

The festival this year - from 30 March to 16 April 2015 - provided an avenue for dialogue and collaborative exchange between Indian and Egyptian literary figures, performers and visual artistes including the grand inauguration by Amitabh Bachchan. The festival

included folk music, an exhibition and discussion on handicrafts, Indian food and a symposium of writers.

In Egypt, 'India by the Nile' is considered a key cultural event. It is one of the main proofs of the real friendship between the two countries – Camila Sobhi, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Culture.

Festival Highlights

The official opening reception was hosted at India House, the Indian Ambassador's residence. Amitabh Bachchan was a distinguished guest at this exclusive event attended by all the festival sponsors, ministers and officials, and festival partners.

Amitabh Bachchan at the Pyramids

An enchanting evening at one of the most stunning locations with an Indian legend captivated thousands of film and culture lovers in Egypt! The timeless monument witnessed a celebration of Indian and Egyptian culture that the Festival will remember and cherish always.

Possibly the most anticipated event of the festival, a cultural show combining performers from India and Egypt was organised at the Pyramids in Giza. The famous "Sound & Light" show at the Pyramids was deferred for that one evening as Bachchan addressed a massive audience at the iconic Pyramids.

PS Jayaraman, Chairman, TCI Sanmar with distinguished guest Amitabh Bachchan, during the inaugural reception hosted at India House, Cairo, Egypt on 30 March 2015.



for the third successive time in Egypt



Amitabh Bachchan in conversation with Sidharth Bhatia

Amitabh Bachchan's popularity was visible at Cairo Opera House as audiences spilled over the aisles despite tight security. In conversation with senior journalist and author Sidharth Bhatia, Bachchan spoke about his 40 year journey in films and his sojourns in Egypt in front of a spellbound audience.

Bollywood extravaganza - a Tale of Love, Passion and Revenge

Cairo and Alexandria staged five and three shows respectively. The only ticketed show in the festival and ran full houses on all days.

Advaita (World Music)

The show was very well received and gave the Egyptian audience a taste of one of the most innovative and original acts on the Indian music scene.

Manipuri Folk Dance

Performed by Narmada Khumanthem, the show gave the audience a taste of folk dance from one of the most popular cultural regions of India, Manipur.

Bollywood Workshop

One of the most popular events of the festival, the workshop was attended by

more than 500 participants and was greatly enjoyed by a varied audience.

Words on Water

Preserving Cultures-India & Egypt in Conversation

Speakers and authors from both the countries engaged in a discussion to an interactive audience on preserving and managing cultural resources by reinforcing India and Egypt's common interest in promoting cultural awareness and preservation of heritage.

Street Food Fiesta

For the first time the Festival showcased the best of street food at one of the most popular hubs of the city, Bocelli. The 4-day food festival saw long queues of people waiting patiently to get a taste of Indian street food.

Amitabh Bachchan Film Retrospective

The festival showcased popular Amitabh Bachchan movies such as Paa, Anand, Black, Agneepath and Sholay over a period of 5 days as part of the Indian Film Panorama. All the screenings were well attended.

Well-being weekend

Yoga and Ayurveda practitioners from the Ministry of AAYUSH exchanged knowledge and provided expertise on general health problems. The very

well attended programme gave the participants a chance to understand the benefits of these practices.

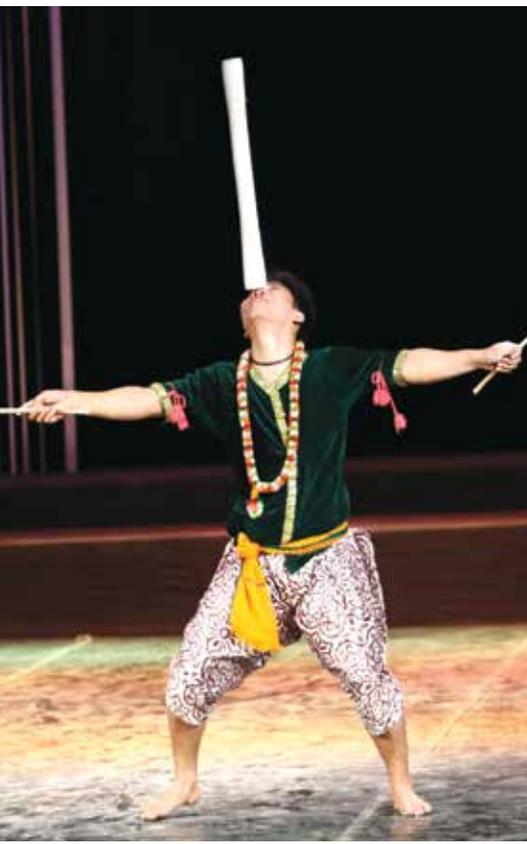
Craft of Marketing

Handicrafts (Display, Demonstrations & Discussions) - The event combined a display of handpicked craft merchandise in prime locations with demonstrations by master craftsmen from both countries, exhibiting a wide range of handicrafts. Discussions were held on focused design and marketing strategies with prominent players from both countries working in the space of rural crafts and design. The exhibition was overwhelmed by the response of the Egyptians in crafts and design from both the countries and witnessed aggressive sales of the crafts displayed at the festival.

The Festival also received unprecedented coverage in the Egyptian and regional media, producing around 120 news stories in the print format, more than 200 in online media, more than 85 reports and interviews on television and 250 minutes on various radio stations.

In all the coverage, TCI Sanmar Chemicals' continued support to the cultural event - 'India by the Nile' received wide acclamation.





Sanmar bids adieu to

Eight Sanmar veterans retired from The Sanmar Group on 31 March 2015 and a retirement function to acknowledge the services of these doyens was held on 2 April 2015. Each of the retirees recalled the 'prime time' of their lives that they had spent with the Group. It was truly a journey down memory lane.

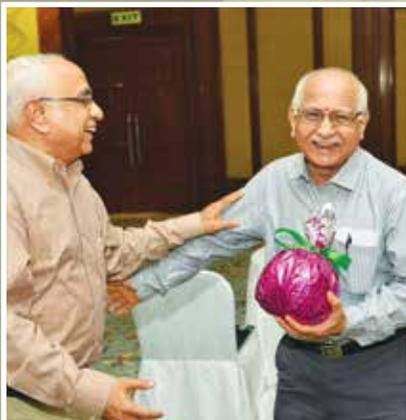


its elder statesmen

Here are some nostalgic moments as captured during the farewell. The sentiments expressed spoke volumes of their synergy with the Sanmar family.

(L to R): KS Venkiteswaran, SB Prabhakar Rao, Vijay Sankar, AH Kesari Prasad, N Sankar, S Surendranath, N Kumar, R Venkataramani and Victor Asir.

Name	Years of service
KS Venkiteswaran	24 years
SB Prabhakar Rao	42 years
AH Kesari Prasad	27 years
S Surendranath	36 years
R Venkataramani	33 years
Victor Asir	29 years
Chandra Shekhar Saraf	12 years
NS Mohan	7 years



Flowserve Sanmar manufactures jumbo size

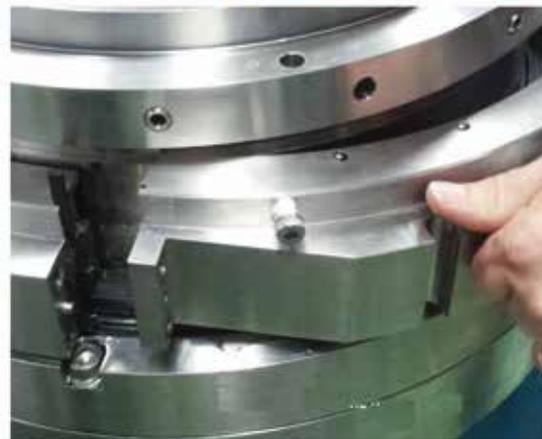
The Jaypee Group owned Prayagraj Power Generation Company Limited—a 3 Units x 660 MW Thermal Power Plant—located at Bara, near Allahabad, houses some of the largest (40,500m³/hr) concrete volute-condenser cooling water pumps, supplied by Flowserve. Each unit has two such pumps, in addition to a common standby pump.

Considering their massive size and non-availability of space, Flowserve Sanmar was entrusted the order for supply of Split Seals—Type 16.750 inch PSS III, with inflatable bladders—to prevent flooding of the pump pit, in the event of any maintenance to be carried out.

The result was that one of the biggest split seals—425 mm size—was designed by Flowserve, manufactured and tested at the Flowserve Sanmar plant in Chennai.

While the seals were installed on the pumps at site, in December 2014, the actual pump trials prior to boiler firing took place in April 2015.

Following some kickstarts of the pumps, the customer was curious to see the condition of the seals.



split seals



The biggest split seal—425 mm size—was designed by Flowserve, manufactured and tested at the Flowserve Sanmar plant at Karapakkam, Chennai.



Balakrishnan, the Flowserve Sanmar Service Engineer, had the seals removed for view, to be put back again for a prolonged run. To quote Bala, “Considering the pump seal area is located in a pit, access was restricted. But the pump and seal design afforded a quick fix.”

As Prayagraj gears up to fire Unit 1, the pumps have rolled smoothly, with the seals performing without leakage.

The PSS III has yet again proved to be a workhorse, as it chugs along smoothly, helping generate power for the masses.



Spanish Consulate Chennai presents



baroque music by Zarabanda



A Spanish baroque chamber music concert performed by 'Zarabanda' was organised and sponsored by the Embassy of Spain in Delhi in coordination with the Honorary Consulate of Spain, Chennai and Prakriti foundation at The Folly, Amethyst Cafe, Chennai on 11 April 2015. Vijay Sankar, the Honorary Consul of Spain in Chennai was the moving force behind the event.

The programme was expertly curated by Alejandra M. García Fuertes, Counsellor, Cultural and Press Affairs, Embassy of Spain, New Delhi.

The concert was performed by the trio - Maestro Alvaro Marias, recorder and Traverso, Alejandro Marias, Viola and Ramiro Morales on the guitar, on their maiden trip to India. The repertoire showcased some of the best of baroque and renaissance music through the sound recorder, viola and guitar in their unrestrained journey.

"Our idea is to read the audience and give them an experience they will not forget. This is our reward", says Alvaro Marias an accomplished flautist.

This is Zarabanda in its smallest form with the young and excellent cello and viola player Alejandro Marias and Ramiro Morales, one of the best Baroque guitar and lute player and of course, Alvaro Marias, the founder of the orchestra that was born in 1985.

Indo-Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry inaugurates centre of excellence in Chennai

The inaugural function of the Indo-Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (IJCCI) centre of excellence was held in the city recently. N Kumar, President, IJCCI, welcomed the gathering.

“I am happy that I get to learn something new at every event here and I now know that Tamil being the oldest language, has so much in common with the Japanese, both linguistically and culturally. There is a need for information dissemination to the younger generations

and I wish IJCCI the best in continuing their work in building bridges between the two nations,” said Seiji Baba, Consul General of Japan, Chennai.

Pon Kothandaraman, former Vice Chancellor, Madras University, and BS Raghavan, former Chief Secretary, West Bengal and Tripura, were present.

‘Gateway’, the bi-monthly magazine of IJCCI was released at the event.

N Kumar, President, IJCCI with Seiji Baba, Consul General of Japan, Chennai.



N Kumar, Vice Chairman of The Sanmar Group and President of the Indo-Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and other dignitaries with the magazine 'Gateway' at the event.



Classes in Korean martial arts for Chemplast children

Taekwondo is one of the most systematic and scientific Korean traditional martial arts with a 5000-year long history, that teaches more than physical fighting skills. It is a discipline that shows ways of enhancing one's spirit and life through training their body and mind.

Similar to the martial arts in other Oriental countries, Taekwondo is

also very different as it is physically dynamic with active movements that include a mirage of foot skills. The Taekwondo principle of physical movements is in sync with that of the mind and life as a whole.

At Chemplast Sanmar Plant II, Taekwondo classes began on 29 August 2014 at the club premises for the children of employees. Classes are conducted twice a week. There is no

fee collected and the trainer Ganesan is committed to share his expertise to children with a sole objective to develop their all-round skills and mindsets.



Graduation ceremony of tiny tots at Madhuras Narayanan Centre for Exceptional Children

‘Moving ahead’ to mainstream and special schools

On 17 April 2015, the graduation ceremony of children with developmental delays/mental retardation to move into special and

with special needs under the fabric of formal education, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan is all set to make school syllabus simplified and adaptable for them.



“This has already been implemented in a few schools as we had a special workshop conducted for several teachers around the State last year. This academic year we are

“We need to identify what they can learn, how much is needed and how much can be well taught. Once the syllabus is simplified and made adaptable, they too wouldn’t feel left out amongst other normal students. This will help in less dropouts and more inclusion of special children under formal education,” said Jaya Krishnaswamy, founder-director MNC.

The graduating children enacted a song and told a story which was well received by the audience.

main stream schools on completion of the early intervention programme, was celebrated at MNC.

While 76 children have successfully enrolled in the mainstream schools/special schools, over the past 6 years, this year 9 children moved into the mainstream schools and other special schools or to MNC’s Montessori section for the academic session starting in June 2015.

Chief guest Pooja Kulkarni IAS, State Project Director, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, presided over the function and gave away gifts to the graduating children. She praised MNC for its tireless efforts in providing early intervention to special children. In a move to include more children

trying to make it more formal and organised, we have proposed this idea to the Ministry of Human Resource Development and are waiting to receive our budget for the same,” said Pooja Kulkarni.



Sri Sankara Schools' students fare well in the Board exams

The Sankara Schools students kept up the tradition this year as well – they came out with flying colours at the Xth and XIIth standard Board examinations held during March 2015. Here are the results at a glance:

Sri Sankara Senior Secondary School, Adyar

Class XII - AISSCE Results 2015



Science Stream
488/ 500

JEE Chennai topper

S Raghavan topped aspirants from Tamil Nadu in JEE (advanced) this year. A total of 451 students from Tamil Nadu have qualified to take the IIT admission counselling this year. Raghavan, who secured the 80th rank in All India level, topped the Tamil Nadu list.



School Topper

Commerce Stream
Bharathi D 478 /500

Class X AISSCE Results 2015

19 students secured Cumulative Grade Point Average of 10.

The Parampara Heritage Club of Sri Sankara Vidyashramam School has been awarded the second prize under the "Best Heritage Club" category for the year 2014 by INTACH, New Delhi, for yearlong activities conducted by the club.



Sri Sankara Vidyashramam, Tiruvanmiyur

XII - Higher Secondary Examination –

State Ranks in Biochemistry



First rank
BR Jayashree (188/200)



Second rank
Shivaanitha S (187/200)

School toppers



Science stream
Harinie RJ (1178/1200)



Commerce stream
Sreenidhee V (1173/1200)

Total number of centums: 37

X - SSLC Examination 2015 School toppers



School first
Afra Fathima HZ (497/500)
Second rank in Chennai District



School second
Soujanya R (496/500)

Total number of centums: 41

Iconic institutions of Chennai

The Music Academy

The Music Academy, Madras, is widely regarded as the de facto apex body of the south Indian classical or art music form of Carnatic music. It had its origins in a music conference held during the All India Congress session at Madras in 1927. It was conceived as the institution to set and monitor standards in the realm of Carnatic music. In 1929 it started the practice of hosting annual conferences on music, which eventually grew into the December music "season" of Madras, one of the largest music festivals in the world. A three-day conference of experts in its first year, it became a week-long festival of music from 1930, conducted during Christmas Week. The men behind the founding of the Academy belonged to the intelligentsia of Madras, whom the

leading artists of the day very quickly accepted as a credible body of music administrators. Over the decades, the Academy and the musicians it featured in the annual concerts grew to depend on each other in a synergistic fusion that dictated the contents of the programme that included academic sessions as well. These often included lectures on the theory and practice of not only Carnatic music but also other genres of music as well as dance.

The Academy brings out an Annual Journal, which has scholarly articles by experts including musicians and musicologists. It also publishes a programme book during the December season.

In addition to the schedule of concerts and academic sessions, this book also carries some articles, often recycled from earlier publications.

The Academy also supports classical dance and presented performances during the 1930s when it made efforts to revive the traditional art of sadir, which was in danger of being consigned to oblivion, thanks to the stigma attached to it.

The annual conference and concerts of the Music Academy, Madras, are among the highlights of the cultural calendar of India, perhaps



the best organised among all such events. Today, the festival spans 16 days, beginning on 15th December and ending on 1st January. The morning sessions comprise lecture-demonstrations and concerts by veteran musicians. These are

followed by four concerts going on up to 9.30 pm. Artists are presented in order of seniority, and performing at the conference is regarded as the crowning glory in a musician's career. The annual conference concludes with a convocation held on 1st January when awards are presented to the artistes.

The annual dance festival of the Music Academy was launched in 2006. The festival begins on 3rd January and lasts for a week. The series of classical dance performances it features are extremely well attended, a feather in the cap for the Academy.

Awards

The most prestigious award presented by the Music Academy is the Sangita Kalanidhi, an honour much coveted by performing musicians.

The other awards are Sangita Kala Acharya, Musicologist/ Vaggeyakara Award, Natya Kala Acharya, Lifetime Achievement Award, TTK Award, Indira Sivasailam Endowment Award and the MN Subramanyam Award for Dance.

The Academy's Advanced School of Carnatic Music offers professional education and grooming in Carnatic music. Its Academic Council consists of senior musicians and musicologists drawn from the Experts Committee of The Music Academy. The school has eminent faculty members. It also invites eminent musicians as visiting faculty.

Tumkur University of Karnataka has recognised the Academy as an affiliated research centre.



