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MADRAS MUSINGS

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WE CARE FOR MADRAS THAT IS CHENNAI

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When an economy recedes...

The statistics are all in and the newspapers are full of horror stories. The automotive sector is plunged in gloom owing to near-zero off-take for a variety of reasons. Plant after plant is announcing production cuts, planned maintenance holidays, closure for certain days of the week and above all, layoffs. The impact of this is spreading, as is evident from a prominent biscuit-maker announcing job cuts chiefly because their products had bulk sales at auto factories for supply at the canteens and this demand has come down drastically. The question is, how is Chennai to weather this crisis and what is its impact likely to be?

The city is one of India's three automotive centres, the other

two being Gurugram (Gurgaon that was) and Pune. There are three important clusters here – Oragadam, Maraimalai Nagar and Sriperumbudur-Irungattukottai. Chennai churns out one car every 20 seconds and one

● by The Editor

commercial vehicle every one-and-a-half minutes. Last year, the State accounted for 45 per cent of India's vehicle exports and since the Chennai port is the biggest in Tamil Nadu, it would be safe to assume that much of the cargo left from here. However, with export markets not yet shrinking, having been flat for over a year now, the worry is more the near-

total domestic collapse. That is pinching Chennai, for apart from the end products it churns out, it also makes around 33 per cent of India's auto parts.

The immediate fallout has been a cut in jobs. The first to be axed are the contract labourers who, as their categorisation suggests, have no job security. The statistics are not out, and most of those turned away are not speaking, but it appears that the numbers without work may be as much as 10 to 15,000 in each of the three automotive sectors. There has been a sharp drop in the daily wage payable to these workers and it is said that they are desperate to take on any activity to keep the home fires burning. The next major impact will be on the auto ancillaries, of which Tamil

Nadu has the highest number in the whole of India. The State also has the highest concentration of medium and small manufacturing enterprises, around 16 per cent of India's total, with an outlay of Rs 32,000 crores. Most of these are very badly affected and may soon begin closing down.

This rout of what was till recently a thriving industry will soon have its ripple effect across the city. The real estate sector, which is yet to recover post the demonetisation exercise and the implementation of GST, will be hit hard as many contracted buyers may default on payments owing to lack of a salary and others will postpone purchase decisions for a time of greater stability. Consumer durables, other

than automobiles that is, are at present holding steady but the head of a nationwide chain of retail outlets has predicted that what they can hope for at best is zero growth this year and if the trend continues there could be bad news on this front also. The IT sector is bracing itself for job cuts as the auto debacle hits it eventually. This is a field where there are no unions but talks are already gaining ground on the necessity for such a protective net. Lastly, support services such as cab aggregators and food delivery facilities that have in the recent past seen a huge rise in employment, may also face the heat owing to lack of demand.

It is to be hoped that this recessionary trend is a temporary one and may be reversed, what with the Government announcing various steps. However, it must also be remembered that this is certainly not the first such situation the city has faced and it certainly will not be the last. What is needed is sanguinity to face the crisis, hope for better days and above all, be prepared in future for such trends to recur.

Eco-friendly initiatives on a trial mode for public transport

The Metropolitan Transport Corporation (MTC), in collaboration with the Hinduja Group's automobile company Ashok Leyland, launched Tamil Nadu's first electric bus in Chennai last month. The bus is operating on route A1, which runs from Thiruvanmiyur to Central Railway Station via Mylapore and back. It makes four trips each day, twice in the morning and twice in the evening, with initial fares set at Rs.15. The bus can seat 31 passengers and has standing room for 25 more.

Chennai's new electric bus runs on battery-swapping

technology which allows the vehicle to simply replace its used battery with a fully charged one. A charging station has been set up at Central Depot

● by A Special Correspondent

on Pallavan Salai. The bus also has a whole host of features that look after the passenger's comfort and safety – apart from air conditioning, the bus is fitted with i-Alert technology which encompasses vehicle tracking,

performance monitoring, GPS, a fire detection & suppression system and more.

Interestingly, this isn't the first attempt to bring electric buses to Chennai; reportedly, the MTC had tried to procure an electric vehicle from Telangana a few years back and was unable to do so for various reasons. The latest attempt comes on the back of a memorandum of understanding that was signed with London-based 'C-40 Cities Climate Leadership Group' in March 2018, pledging to phase in zero-emission public transport vehicles in the city. MTC decided to go in for a



The new electric bus launched by the The Metropolitan Transport Corporation. (Picture courtesy: P.R.O office of the MTC.)

Chennai-based manufacturer this time.

But they haven't purchased the electric bus just yet. Ashok Leyland is offering the bus on a

trial basis for 3 months, free of cost, while looking after maintenance as well as the charging platform facilities at the depot. (Continued on page 2)

Eco-friendly initiatives

(Continued from page 1)

The company has also provided a trained driver for the trial. In turn, MTC has allotted a bus conductor for the vehicle and picks up the electricity tab of the TNEB.

The 3-month trial will test how an electric bus performs as a mode of public transport in Chennai, with a view to gathering data for scaling operations down the line. Among other things, the trial will measure how the battery is discharged, its efficiency in ideal as well as congested road conditions, how long it takes to recharge etc. So far, the bus is able to cover 40km on a single charge, lasting roughly 2.5 hours. Ashok Leyland and MTC will also be simultaneously testing a different kind of electric bus, a 'fast-charging' model. This model can be recharged much the same way that one would top up fuel in an ordinary vehicle. The trial will compare the suitability of both models as each has its own pros and cons. For instance, the 'fast-charging' model is expected to run 200 km on a single charge, but the 'battery-swap' model

is probably easier to handle when the charge runs out as a backup battery can be carried along. Most countries deploy a mix of both models based on city needs.

The initial capital cost of each electric bus is significant, with the current battery-swapping model carrying a price tag of Rs. 1.5 crore. 'Fast-charging' electric buses are even costlier. But the solution could be cost-effective in the long-run – apart from a lighter environmental footprint, the cost of recharging the buses is relatively cheaper than buying fuel.

It is heartening to know that eco-friendly public transport solutions are making their way into Chennai – in fact, if TANGEDCO can tap into renewable energy such as solar or wind power to charge the vehicles, it would be fantastic. However, it has to be acknowledged that the solution needs to be practical and scalable, given that the state is looking to expand its fleet of electric buses – the Centre has already allotted 525 buses to TN and another 300 are expected to get further approval.

MADRAS WEEK SNIPPETS

Mylapore Food Walk



The Mylapore Food Walk, held as part of the Madras Day celebrations, drew a goodly crowd despite ominous predictions of rain.

Led by the ever-enthusiastic Sridhar Venkataraman who held three other Food Walks

this August, the foodies assembled at the top end of North Mada Street and explored a few food joints which offer some of the best snacks in this part of the city.

One such place was Senthil's Soft Zone on Kutchery Road which has expanded because its snacks and drinks have been a big hit with foodies.

Board game on city launched at Mylapore cafe



A new Madras-centric board game was inaugurated on Madras Day at the Board Room, a cafe for board game enthusiasts at Bheemana Garden Street, Mylapore.

The new game was curated by theatre personality Krishna Kumar and team. Over 30 teams of two players each, including two 8-year-olds and a couple in their 70s, stayed on till 10 p.m. to play the game that took them to known and less-known landmarks of Chennai. Photo: Krishna Kumar.

Rare photos of 'old' Madras

An exhibition of rare pictures of 'old' Madras was held till August 31, 2019 at the gallery of the CPR Institute of Indological Research in Alwarpet as part of Madras Week celebrations.



Of message messages and the clap

Not a day passes without *The Man from Madras Musings* getting one alluring invite or the other to try out massages of the oil, wine and dry varieties accompanied by facials involving the use of diamonds. Full satisfaction and extra services were also guaranteed, whatever they imply. Some offer a special package for a "body cooling massage." These arrive with amazing regularity on MMM's mobile phone and he has in the past, shared some of them with his readers in this column as well. That was done not with a view to advertise for the service but as a matter of amusement, that being the sole aim of this column apart from uplift (sorry, wrong use of word here and pun unintended).

The number of therapists, all female, keeps varying, the lowest, in times of high demand being two (North Indian and South Indian) and now in the recession going up to as many as five. MMM wishes all these girls well and has no intention of calling the numbers given but he does assume that there are people mug enough to establish contact and then lose all their money, credit cards and other valued possessions. After all, if there was no demand, these missives via SMS would have stopped a long while ago would they not? Of course, just receiving those messages gave MMM a kind of thrill – he felt wanted and that was a positive outcome. Perhaps that was the reason (for these days cell phones, so the experts inform MMM, are adept at reading your mind and getting you just what you want) that MMM has of late been flooded with companionship messages as well. A sample is given below-

Decent Club providing meeting fun with high class female in your city direct meeting offer no fake no chepness 100% safe & earn call now Jaya.

Whoever it was that sent these obviously did not attend grammar class or perhaps were previously employed at the telegraph office. The latter is more likely as the messages arrive always in capital letters, the kind that in the past would come home early in the morning with texts like 'uncle serious come immediately'. However, leaving that aside, MMM has plenty of other queries and he lists them below:

Firstly, what is chepness? MMM is unable to locate it in any dictionary and here is an interesting aside – an online search reveals that several before MMM, and no doubt brighter minds, have typed the same search and have come away baffled. It remains a frequently typed enquiry and

indicates that there are others out there who have been contacted by Jaya or Bindu, the two girls who have, it would appear, been long in service.

Secondly, MMM always assumed that such services involved the male half of the transaction paying for the meeting and if so, how does it become an earning proposition?

Lastly, what is implied by safe? Was violence originally contemplated?

These are some of the thoughts that flooded MMM's mind even as he read these messages surreptitiously, hoping that his good lady, also known as She Who Must Be Obeyed did not get to see them. It then transpired that she too gets these invites and so they are evidently distributed with no bias towards gender, caste or community. This is truly a secular initiative.

Lastly, having probably read what MMM gets, his cell phone presumably alerted certain search engines, which in turn have begun asking MMM if

SHORT 'N' SNAPPY

he was interested in massage services from an agency named Urban Clap. Now MMM does not need a dictionary to tell him what 'the clap' stood for in the past and so he has decided not to avail of those as well. Just reading the messages is good clean fun.

More Madras Week for Dummies

It is only a fortnight since *The Man from Madras Musings* put out a set of standard questions he is asked each Madras Week. After it was published, MMM felt that a more appropriate title for that piece would have been Madras Week for Dummies. Since then, Madras Week got over but not the inane queries that invariably come in its wake. And so MMM is filing a fresh set for future reference:

1. **How is it I never get to know of Madras Week programmes?** MMM will never ever have an answer



to this one. The events were publicised in MM, on MM and MMM's social media pages and daily papers did a magnificent job of carrying details of each day's programme. There is also a website updated practically on an hourly basis by a volunteer. So what more can be done? Next year MMM is seriously thinking of hiring drum-beaters and singers to serenade the people who ask this question.

2. **You have said the programmes are open to all. But there are no details on where to collect entry passes.** Like those Shakespearian characters, MMM usually soliloquizes within a whole set of curses but outwardly smiles and replies that there are no entry passes. The standard response on hearing this from MMM is if so, can you tell us where to register?

3. **Sir, I have some ideas for Madras Week. How do I get approval from the organisers?** Please, there are no organisers of Madras Week and it is meant to be a spontaneous celebration. So if you have an idea, just go ahead with it. Did you or your ancestors take someone's permission before you or they opted to settle in this metropolis?

4. **Oh to what purpose are these programmes when the city is going to the dogs? It was such a heaven when I was young.** MMM is sure it was and the fact that it has since gone to the dogs means you too were one of the canines that contributed to it, were you not?

5. **Should you not focus on making Madras Week less elitist and more mass-based?** Go ahead, this is where you come in and we look forward to your taking this up in right earnest from the next Madras Week.

Tailpiece

The Man from Madras Musings saw this advert on an auto and could not help taking a picture. So there is now an app for acting drivers. When will we get one for driving drivers?

—MMM

OUR READERS WRITE



Terrorists of the road

Many years ago, I was crossing the road at Elliot's Beach. I was suddenly hit with great force. As I fell, it seemed as if a thousand needles were pricking me all at once. So this is how it feels when a vehicle hits, I thought. A motorcycle had barged into me.

I groggily rose to my feet, helped by passers-by who berat-

ed the motorcyclist. But he was neither contrite nor worried. Is this a road or a race-course, I asked him. He shrugged his shoulders saying, "I wasn't that fast." I suffered slight bruises in three or four places, but nothing serious. My main concern at that time was my spectacles which had been thrown off. It is perhaps broken, said the motorcyclist helpfully, as he fetched it. Fortunately it wasn't.

That incident worsened my aversion to Chennai's motorcyclists, whom I regard as terrorists of the road. Particularly those daredevil teenagers who race each other at breakneck speed, or shatter ear drums as they zoom past you. Some dart without warning into the main road from side lanes. They not only ignore red lights, but bully the vehicle ahead to do so. During busy traffic, they weave in and out of the narrowest of spaces, blasting the rear mirrors of cars, and zig-zag their way ahead. The food delivery boys of fast food joints are chronic offenders.

They may not care for other people's lives, but how about their own?

Of course not all motorcyclists are such a menace. There are responsible motorcyclists of all ages. Women ride scooters with caution, sometimes dropping off kids at school. Young executives or owners of small-scale businesses are crucially dependent on motor cycles. They are careful and law-abiding. I admire my computer mechanic who maintains the hardware of several small companies. He logs scores of kilometres every day, sometimes carrying one or more computers on the saddlebag.

I think Chennai's traffic police go after the big guns of the road – the cars and trucks and buses – and are indulgent with motorcycles. Occasionally of course, the police go on a law-enforcement spree, and you see a towing truck loaded with guilty motor cycles.

One hears that penalties for traffic offences have gone up steeply. A motorcyclist without a helmet is supposed to pay a fine of Rs.1,000 and can have his driving license suspended for three months. But neither the Chennai police nor the motorcyclists here have heard of this law. The heads of Chennai motorcyclists sport thick mops of hair rather than helmets. If our city enforces the law strictly, it could easily net a few crores of rupees every month.

No reasonable person wants others to suffer. But our road terrorists ought to be treated without mercy, much like the terrorists from across the border. It would lead to safer roads, fewer accidents, less daily trauma for Chennaiites.

S.R. Madhu
editor1941@gmail.com

When there was water everywhere

Krupa GE's book 'Rivers Remember' is a painstakingly researched work stemming from the author's horrific experience of the 2015 Chennai floods. Published by Context (an imprint of Westland Publications), the book not only investigates the blunders that effectively doomed the city during the 2015 floods, but also places the disaster within a deeply personal perspective that follows the history of Chennai's water bodies and narrates the story of those affected.

The book opens with an account of the aftermath of the floods in her parents' home. Krupa writes, "Everything looks black, as if someone brought a lorry full of sludge from a gutter and meticulously smeared every single item in the house with it... No piece of furniture is in its place. The gas cylinder has moved out of the kitchen and is next to the entrance. The fridge is on its side. The washing machine upside down. And the house stinks." (Pg. 15).

Seeking answers for the losses endured, the book dissects the disaster skillfully, placing the responsibility at the feet of the state administration and the real estate industry for the city's unplanned expansion that encroaches our complex network of marshes and water bodies. The story of Dr. Bala Kumari is particularly heart-stopping. Her KS Hospital in Velachery was unassumingly built on a plot where there had once been a water body, says the book. "During the first monsoon after construction work on the hospital had started, Dr. Bala saw lotuses blooming in the ground next to her plot. That is when she realised that she had been sold a piece of land where a lake had once stood." (Pg. 69) The hospital would be wrecked during the floods, with four patients due to deliver trapped inside along with Dr. Bala. Help would come later, but the experience would remain with Dr. Bala as 'the worst day of her life.'

Krupa diligently collates first-hand information from government documents and archival material, journalists and other stakeholders as well as anecdotes from the people of Chennai to piece together an explanation for the floods.

The book points out the shocking inaction of the administration in the face of an impending downpour – Chembarambakkam Reservoir was left as a ticking time bomb with dan-

gerously high levels of water, for instance. The apathy is even more appalling when the book reveals that TN's SDMA (State Disaster Management Authority) had met exactly once in 2013 before the 2015 floods – and not even once, during the floods. The book repeatedly carries references to serious oversights, driving home the bleak truth that the 2015 floods was a disaster that could have been greatly mitigated, if not completely avoided.

Krupa's genius lies in packaging all this heavy information in a digestible format amidst loving accounts of the city, its history and its people. She takes the reader back in time to follow the story of Chennai's rivers. For instance, the chapter 'Memories of Kosasthalaiyar' proudly points out that the river's bank contains historical artefacts that date back to between 2BCE and 3CE. The narrative style cleverly guides us to view the present with the context of the past; it educates us, for example, that the Kosasthalaiyar reaches the sea via Ennore Creek's backwaters, which itself is at risk today.

'Rivers Remember' is a book that every Chennai vaasi must read – Krupa's fierce love for the city shines through its pages. It leaves one feeling uneasy, with the author's meticulous, data-backed research warning us that the root causes of the flood still hang over our heads like the Sword of Damocles. "Let me tell you now once and for all so when it happens to you – and happen it will, for our cities are not flood resilient – you can be prepared. Floods are the new norm, everywhere in the world," writes Krupa. One suspects that we would do well to heed her words and figure out ways to act, instead of giving into the apathy of short-term memory.

Varsha Venugopal

● Pavithra's Perspective

Old Town House

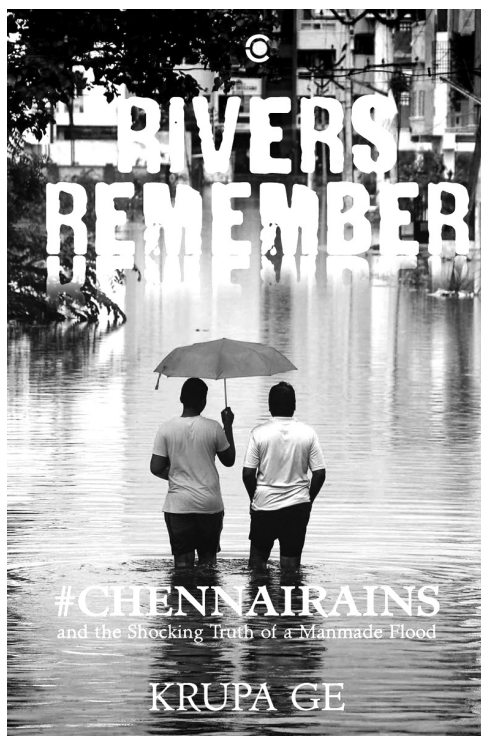


Once I realized that North Madras was the soul of the city, I began to pick my way through old lanes and byways, stumbling upon unexpected heritage sites and unlooked for treasure-troves. And this – this dilapidated building, stuck like a limpet to one wall of the Chenna Kesava Perumal temple, was a beauty indeed. The first thing that caught me off guard – aside from the shrine itself, which was like an oasis of calm within the confines of a busy city, with a cow tethered to a tree, to boot! – was that it was seemingly part of the temple structure itself, its ancient, creaking door, crumbling windows and even the arches and protruding architectural features fitting perfectly with the décor.

I stared at it for a long while, but I'd decided the moment I set eyes on it that I'd draw it. Not only was it alluring, but it carried with it the ever-present danger of heritage sites in Chennai: it could disappear any moment, with not a trace even in memory. To my enormous satisfaction, most who saw it simply did not believe that any such place could still exist in modern Chennai – and for this reason, it's a favourite!

Details about the miniature: Black and White; Pen and Ink. Dimensions: Approximately: 3.5" X 5"

● Pavithra Srinivasan is a writer, journalist, artist, translator, columnist, editor and is fascinated with History.



Behind the Scenes at Tamil Nadu's First Drama Conference

‘Avvai’ T.K. Shanmugam was one of Tamil theatre's biggest benefactors. Born in 1912, his initiation into stage started at the age of four, when he and his brothers came under the tutelage of the legendary Sankaradas Swamigal. The siblings would go on to rule the stage over the course of the next four to five decades with their own troupes, the Sri Balashanmukhananda Sabha and later the T.K.S. Nataka Sabha. Shanmugam's passion for stage went beyond performing and he was involved in several activities aimed at the development of Tamil theatre and its actors. These included running a magazine known as *Arivuchudar* exclusively for theatre artistes and the founding of the *Arivu Abhivrutthi Sangam*, a club based in Madurai where actors could gather to learn languages, read magazines and listen to great leaders. One of his biggest initiatives was the organising of the first ever Tamil theatre conference in 1944.

In his memoirs *Enathu Nataka Vaazhkkai*, T.K. Shanmugam says that the idea for a conference to discuss the problems plaguing Tamil theatre and

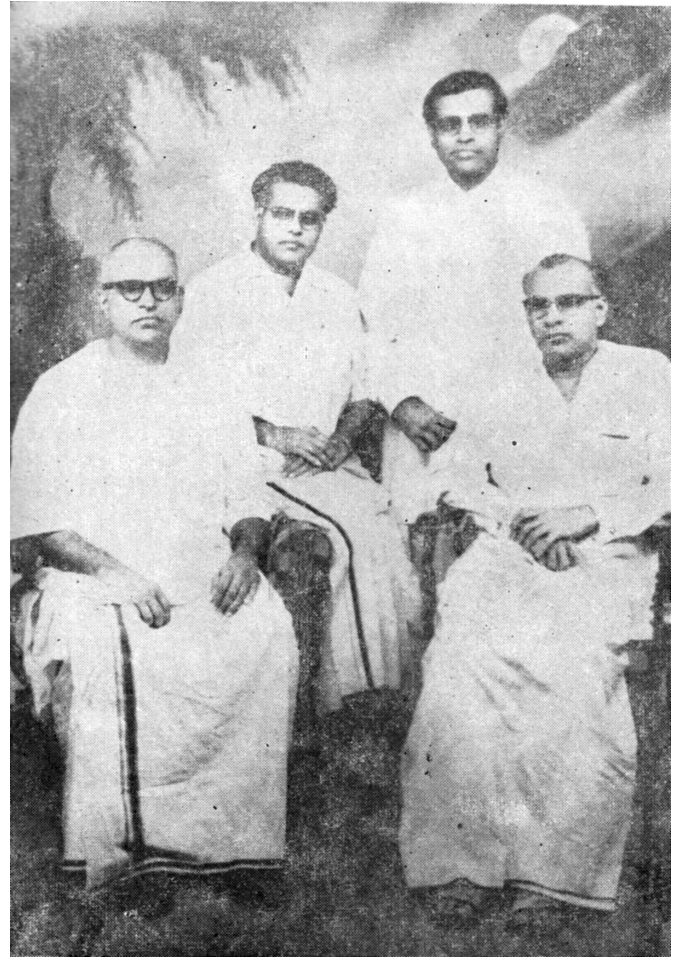
ways to address them stemmed in 1941 during a discussion with his friend and freedom-fighter Madurai M. Karuppaiah. Though the idea was good in spirit, T.K. Shanmugam writes that finding the time and energy to implement the same amidst his busy theatre commitments was impossible and thus it was shelved. It was revived soon after, when T.N. Sivathanu, the famous ‘Buffoon’ Part actor from his troupe, volunteered to take up the task along with M. Karuppaiah. The two were appointed Secretaries of the Conference, which was scheduled to be held on February 11, 1944 in Erode.

An Organising Committee comprising several dignitaries from Erode was constituted within a short span of time, including Muslim League Assembly member and former Municipal Chairman Khan Sahib Sheik Dawood, famous yarn merchant V.V.C.R. Murugesu Mudaliar, and N.C. Rajagopal, auditor and founder of N.C. Rajagopal and Co. (a CA firm established in 1925 and headquartered in Chennai). R.K. Venkataswamy Naicker, the Municipal Chairman of Erode

was appointed its chief. The venue chosen was the famous Central Theatre in Erode.

It was decided that the Conference would feature lectures on various aspects of Tamil theatre, spread over morning and evening sessions. Speakers were identified and their participation confirmed. These included the likes of Nawab T.S. Rajamanickam (on the purpose of theatre), P.S. Sivabagyan (on women in theatre), ‘Kalaivanar’ N.S. Krishnan (on the relationship between theatre and cinema), K.A.P. Viswanatham and A.K. Ramalingam (representing the Ceylon Nataka Sabha) as well as the man whose oratory and writing prowess would play an important role in shaping the political discourse of Tamil Nadu, C.N. Annadurai. The flag for the conference was to be hoisted by the legendary Pammal Sambanda Mudaliar, with M.K. Thyagaraja Bhagavathar presiding over the Opening Ceremony. R.K. Shanmukham Chetty, who would go on to become Independent India's first Finance Minister, was slated to deliver the opening address. It was also decided that T.K. Shanmugam's play *Avvaiyar* would be staged after the conference and that entry to the entire event would be regulated through ticket sales. As a mark of honouring the two most prominent *vaadhyaars* of Tamil theatre, the portraits of Sankaradas Swamigal and M. Kandaswamy Mudaliar were also to be unveiled on the occasion.

Various drama companies confirmed participation in the event and preparations began in right earnest, when the first signs of trouble appeared. An organisation called the *Muthamizh Nugarvor Sangam* came into existence as soon as advertisements were released about the conference. It had the backing of the town's most famous son and the State's most influential political leader, E.V. Ramaswamy Naicker, whose magazines *Viduthalai* and *Kudiarasu* supported the new organisation with prominent coverage. Periyar, whose distaste for the arts ran deep (he considered cinema, plays, devotional concerts and music records to be far worse than “toddy shops, harlot, prostitute and courtesan homes and the loots of Marwaris and Chettys”) wrote several editorials in *Kudiarasu* criticising the conference and casting aspersions on its intentions – he insinuated that this was being organised by T.K. Shanmugam for promoting his



The TKS Brothers. Left to right: Sankaran, Shanmugam, Bhagavati and Muttuswami.

own drama troupe and called for black flag demonstrations to greet R.K. Shanmukham Chetty when he arrived to deliver his address.

T.K. Shanmugam was taken aback by the turn of events. He had met Periyar for the first time in the early 1930s and had shared a cordial relationship with him. Periyar had watched the troupe's reformist plays and

● by
Karthik Bhatt

had in fact even hosted a lunch in its honour. With a week to go for the conference, Periyar left for Salem. Unable to meet him and explain the intentions behind the event, a worried T.K. Shanmugam met Annadurai, who assured him of smooth conduct of the proceedings. The duo shared a great friendship which was strengthened by their shared passion for theatre. Quite coincidentally, in 1943, the inaugural show of *Chandrodadaya*, Annadurai's first work as a playwright, was at the same venue where T.K. Shanmugam had performed *Sampoorna Ramayanam* a day earlier. In a remarkable gesture, T.K. Shanmugam and his troupe members had involved themselves in makeup and other preparations for *Chandrodadaya*.

The Organising Committee met the evening prior to the conference to debate on the various resolutions to be passed during the event. T.K. Shanmugam writes that hundreds of resolutions were proposed. Keeping in tune with its ideology, the *Muthamizh Nugarvor Sangam* had proposed some harsh ones against mythological plays. It was decided after detailed debate that no resolutions would be passed at the conference, given the prevailing situation and that they would be taken up in the next conference after detailed discussion. Lost in this melee were the resolutions proposed by T.K. Shanmugam and his brothers in the genuine interests of Tamil theatre. These included the formation of a separate body for the promotion of Tamil theatre which would take steps such as developing new writers, instituting awards for the best plays and artistes, organising theatre conferences and working with various municipalities to create dedicated performance spaces across the State.

The day of the conference dawned amidst great anticipation. Keeping in mind the volatile situation, the welcome rally proposed to be held for R.K. Shanmukham Chetty was

(Continued on page 5)

The Rani from Down Under



Above: Martanda Bairava Tondaiman and below: Molly Fink.



Martanda Bairava Tondaiman (1875-1928), ruler of the erstwhile princely state of Pudukkottai in Madras presidency travelled to Australia in March 1915. He checked in to Hotel Hydro Majestic located in the village Medlow Bath on the Blue Mountains, 110 km slightly north-west of Sydney. There he met Molly Fink (Esme Molly Sorrett Fink, 1894-1967) in the dining hall. Five months later Martanda proposed to Molly, who was 19 years younger than him. They were married on 10 August 1915 at the registrar's office in Melbourne (Victoria). After honeymooning in California, Martanda and Molly came to Pudukkottai in October 1915. In November 1915 he introduced her to his people in Pudukkottai, who excitedly and rousingly welcomed their white rani. Unfortunately, for unexplained reasons, the British Government refused recognition of Molly as the rani of Pudukkottai. She was ostracised by the government and the harassed Molly attempted suicide consuming seeds of Nerium oleander (*sev-arali*), but managed to survive. Martanda's efforts to secure a palatial house in Ooty for Molly were also interfered with by the government. In the following year, a frustrated Martanda left India for good with Molly. They travelled to Melbourne and settled and soon after, their first son Martanda Sydney Tondaiman was born in 1916. In 1919 they moved to England and met George V, the king of England. The Secretary of State for India informed Martanda Senior that his son Sydney would not be recognized as the rightful heir for the throne of Pudukkottai. Martanda Senior renounced his kingship and his cousin Rajagopala Tondaiman became the ruler of Pudukkottai. Martanda Senior died in Paris aged 53 on 28 May 1928. Molly lived in London with her son Sydney and died in Cannes (France) on 22 November 1967, aged 73.

– Dr. A. Raman
anant@raman.id.au

The man in charge of Chandrayaan

● The Chandrayaan mission may not have been wholly successful but Dr. K. Sivan and the ISRO team he heads, have come in for high praise. A profile of the man at the helm is most appropriate at this juncture. – The Editor



Sarakkalvilai in Kanniyakumari basks in the glory of its most famous son. A humble son of a farmer who studied in its local government-run Tamil medium schools is the head of India's premier space agency. Dr. K. Sivan was born in Sarakkalvilai in Kanniyakumari district in 1957. He is the first graduate in the family.

Sivan studied in government schools in his native village till the 5th Standard, and completed his schooling in neighbouring Valankumaravilai, all in the Tamil medium. Later, he graduated from S.T. Hindu College in Nagercoil.

He then graduated from the Madras Institute of Technology in aeronautical engineering in 1980 and completed his master's in aerospace engineering from the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, in 1982.

That year he joined ISRO on its Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle project, towards which he contributed in mission planning, design, integration and analysis. He has held various responsibilities during his stint in ISRO, finally going on to head India's space agency.

At ISRO, he completed his PhD in aerospace engineering from IIT-Bombay, in 2006.

Dr. Sivan, who has been appointed for a three-year term, is only the second rocket scientist after G. Madhavan Nair to head ISRO.

Sarakkalvilai is in the outskirts of Nagercoil. "Take the next right and it is at the end of the road," says a villager. And as you reach the house, you realise it is as unpretentious as the man who grew up there. Dr. Sivan's sister-in-law Saraswathi lives in the family house with her daughter.

"I was married 30 years ago into this family and at that time he was already working for ISRO in Thiruvananthapuram. He used to live in a lodge then. He would come home for festivals and family functions," says Saraswathi. "He comes with his family, offers prayers and leaves the same day. When he is with the family he is always smiling and joking. He never calls, but

his wife calls regularly and keeps in touch with us," Saraswathi says.

"He was a class topper from school to college," says Dr. Sivan's uncle who lives in the house opposite.

"He was a brilliant student and never went for tuitions or private classes. His father used to pluck mangoes and young Sivan used to go to the market to sell them. He was a helpful child," the uncle adds. The school Dr. Sivan studied at is also opposite the family house. The retired PT master there recalls him clearly. "He was five years my junior in school, I remember him as a very quiet boy."



Dr. Sivan's house.

"I too was five years his junior," another villager pipes in. "You know the final exams used to come during harvest time. His father used to be in the field while Sivan sat on the lower branch of a tree with his books, studying, keeping one eye on the harvest, and run if his father called. He was always studying."

"When Sivan and I were in school we had a very good headmaster," the villager adds. "That headmaster planted many trees in the school compound and made every class in charge of a few trees. In the morning, when we came to school, the first thing we did was to water the trees and only

after that did we attend school."

"Kanniyakumari is basically an agricultural district," a village elder points out. "Apart from coir, there is no industry here. We all survive on farming. It has rich fertile soil and there is plenty of water. Paddy, bananas, coconut, mango, rubber is grown here." "Sivan was exceptional," he goes on. "While he helped his father in the field he continued studying every free moment."

"As there was only a primary school here he went to nearby Valankumaravilai for his SSC (Class 10). Those days there was no 12th standard. As there was no bus facility, he walked."

A colleague from ISRO, who retired a decade ago recalls, "He (Sivan) would go home only to sleep. He is extremely hard-working and totally focused on his work. He was not only the first graduate from his family, he was also the first graduate from his village." "He is a disciplined taskmaster," says D. Karthikesan, former director of the ISRO Propulsion Complex in Mahendragiri, Tamil Nadu. "He likes to keep everything on schedule and works with a deadline," adds Karthikesan. "If he thinks there is a problem somewhere he will go and talk to the people actually working

on the project, and never limit himself to seniors in the organisation." The former ISRO scientist adds, "He is also extremely generous and always looks after the welfare of the people working under him. So people work hard for him. He is a bold decision-maker. Where others may hesitate wondering if it would work or not, he will say it will work and will do it."

Dr. Sivan has two sons. The elder one has finished his B.Tech, the younger son is in college.

The school Dr. Sivan studied in was built over 60 years ago. "We need to pull it down and build another," says a villager. A government-run school, the land was given free by Dr. Sivan's uncle.

The village still does not have a bus service. Nor does it have a middle, high or higher secondary school.

K. Sivan's ascent bears an uncanny resemblance to another ISRO scientist who was born in a fishing village in Ramana-thapuram, also in Tamil Nadu.

That scientist, of course, went on to become the most beloved President this Republic has had. – (Courtesy: A. Ganesh Nadar / Rediff.com and TCC Digest.)

Tamil Nadu's First Drama Conference

(Continued from page 4)

called off. The proposed black-flag demonstration too was called off by the perpetrators and it would later transpire that a word from Annadurai was instrumental for it. There were however reports of a few members of the *Muthamizh Nugarvor Sangam* having bought tickets and gaining entry with an intention to disrupt the proceedings during the election of R.K. Shanmukham Chetty as the President of the Conference. On coming to know of this, he insisted that this be dispensed with, as a mere formality. This threw a spanner in the works of the group, who had sought to

use it as a tool to gain attention. When the Conference began and this item on the agenda was not brought up, a handful of them who had assembled, protested against this contravention of convention, only to be shouted down by the large gathering of theatre audience. The efforts to disrupt the Conference thus turned out to be a damp squib.

The evening session which hosted the lectures was well received by the audience. In his talk titled '*Kalaiyin Nilamai*', Annadurai made several suggestions for the development of Tamil theatre. He spoke of the need for dedicated theatre auditoriums in all municipal-

ities (following the example of Trichy) and stressed on the importance of keeping artistes well remunerated, suggesting the constitution of a limited company in this regard where the shareholders would receive a share of the profits. He also advocated the use of Tamil stage as an effective means of bringing about social reform.

The performance of '*Avvaiyar*' that followed the conference was a momentous one. T.K. Shanmugam was conferred the honorific '*Avvai*' by R.K. Shanmukham Chetty, the title that would serve as his primary identity thereafter.

The following week saw two contrasting editorials in the

magazines run by the master and his *chela*. While *Kudiarasu* termed the Conference a total failure, *Dravida Nadu* spoke of it as a resounding success. For the record, the Conference yielded a net surplus of Rs. 607 against total receipts of Rs. 2,973 and its proceedings were later brought out in the form of a book.

Annadurai's friendship with T.K. Shanmugam came to the fore once more a couple of months later, when he was instrumental in foiling attempts by Periyar's followers to hold demonstrations against T.K. Shanmugam's *Sampoorna Ramayanam* before the troupe left Erode.



(Quizmaster V.V. Ramanan's questions are from August 16th to 31st. Questions 11 to 20 relate to Chennai and Tamil Nadu.)

1. What global first did Russia's Akademik Lomonosov nuclear reactor achieve recently?
2. Where did P.V. Sindhu create history by becoming the first Indian to be crowned world badminton champion?
3. In which gulf country's capital is the 200-year-old Shreenathji (Krishna) temple, the oldest in that region, for which a \$4.2 million redevelopment project was recently launched by Narendra Modi?
4. Name the two sports-persons conferred the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna by President Ram Nath Kovind on Aug 29.
5. In a first of its kind, where in Mumbai did President Kovind inaugurate a 15,000 square feet underground bunker museum?
6. What World record did the biographical documentary '100 years of Chrysostom' on the 102-year-old Metropolitan Emeritus Philipose Mar Chrysostom set recently?
7. In a first of its kind, NASA has reportedly begun an investigation into an allegation of a crime in space by astronaut Anne McClain. What did she do?
8. Donald Trump pulled out of a state visit to Denmark after the European nation's prime minister rebuffed what suggestion made by the US President?
9. Which globally successful movie franchise's 25th film is to be called *No Time To Die*?
10. Which popular superhero will be absent from the Marvel Cinematic Universe for the time being after Sony and Marvel failed to reach an agreement on the character?
* * *
11. What is the Tamil Nadu Government's recently-launched exclusive education TV channel called?
12. On August 27, the Geographical Indication Registry of India granted Geographical Indication (GI) tag to the which two products from the State?
13. Where in the State did researchers recently discover the highly endangered Peacock Parachute Spider or Gooty Tarantula?
14. Which legendary builder had houses named *Ravencroft*, *Nutford*, *Sydenham*, *Qudsia* and *Mariposa* among others?
15. Which post office in 1855 became the first in Madras to get a post box?
16. Contrary to perception, British Madras' first church is not St Mary's in the Fort but one that came up in 1642. Name it.
17. K. Subrahmanyam is said to have to be the first Tamil film-maker to make a Hindi film, way back in 1939. Name it.
18. Who was the only CM to occupy *Coom House*, the official residence meant for the Chief Ministers of Tamil Nadu?
19. The only one of its kind in Madras is located on Arathoon Road in Royapuram. What is it?
20. Who was the more famous father-in-law of Lord Connemara?

(Answers on page 8)

The General Traders cheating case

● by L.M. Kitto – Administrative Inspector of Police, Crime Branch, Madras City

Business and Banking are almost synonymous in the higher strata of financial life today. The current system of providing facilities to businessmen by the banks is of such a flexible nature, that it is often exploited by the criminally minded for their personal benefits. There are three categories of such facilities in operation at present, the first being the discounting on Bills presented, the second as Key Loans on stocks deposited, and the third as Over Drafts on running accounts. Of these, the first is the most popular, and incidentally, the most abused.

Sri V.C. Srinivasa was a resident of the intellectual area of Mylapore, and a descendent of a highly placed family whose forebears made history in the Madras Bar. Discontinuing his studies in the Presidency College at Madras after an early reverse in the Intermediate examination, he set up as a small-scale Electrical Goods Dealer in Triplicane in 1946, on a capital of Rs.15,000 given to him by his father. As days passed, he found his business expanding, and so he shifted his firm in Triplicane to 3/21, China Bazaar Road, Madras – 1, the main business centre at the time. He had studied the facilities accorded by the banks to the businessmen and he decided to make capital out of them. For this purpose, he studiously cultivated the friendship of the leading bankers in the City, and he spared no expense in accommodating them in whatever way they wanted. High placed officials of the Punjab National Bank, the State Bank of Mysore, the State Bank of Hyderabad and some other lesser banks fell easy victims to his wiles. Thereafter he formulated a plan whereby he could draw money, as and when he wanted, from the banks for circulation in his business and this was to despatch scrap iron and spurious goods outside the City by rail, bill them as costly electrical goods, and supported by the Railway Receipts, discount such bills for large amounts. However, it was obvious that this system of fraud could not be operated in the vicinity of the City, as time and distance were essential factors in the scheme. It was also apparent to him that he would have to take his staff into his confidence and to install agents

at distant places to receive such spurious consignments and rebook them back to him, lest the scheme be discovered. Sri. V. Srinivasaraghavan, his personal Clerk, Sri. J. Balan, his Manager, and Sri. A. Charles were working for him almost since the inception of his firm and to them he unfolded his plan and swore them to active co-operation and secrecy. For his outstation agents, he drew upon his customers who were obliged to him for money and materials and from these he installed Sri. G. Ramiah, Proprietor Gnana Electricals at Neyveli, Sri. A. Arunachalam Pillai at Trichy, and Sri. A. Rajendran at Tanjore, having prevailed upon them to accede to his plan. His next step was to select a bank to operate on, and thereafter instill confidence into the bank officials to gain access to their vaults. For this purpose, he selected the Punjab National Bank at Sowcarpet, as its Asst. General Manager was a relative for his and was obliged to him for some wiring contracts executed free of cost. The Asst. General Manager was willing to accommodate him and as a test allowed him to discount twelve minor bills. Even though the stipulated time for clearance of the Bills was a period of one month, Srinivasan had them promptly cleared through Charles and Srinivasaraghavan, who carried the necessary cash to the Agents at the other end. Thereafter, the Punjab National Bank opened its gates to him, and Srinivasan poured his bogus bills covering every item in the catalogue of his trade. But this was small money, and Srinivasan was ambitious. He was anxious to venture into the field of Documentary Bills. Here Bills would be discounted for very heavy sums for transactions with only Government or Quasi Government concerns, and the time given for clearance of the Bills was from six months to a year and even more, for the banks were sure that the Government would ultimately pay. Srinivasan prevailed upon the Asst. General Manager to give him such accommodation, and it was given, though much against the will of the young and skeptical Bank Agent G.S. Rao who had an instinctive distrust of Srinivasan. Having surmounted this difficulty, Sri-

nivasan was faced with another problem. How was he to get the Government concerns to accept his spurious goods? And how was he to get those goods back again without detection? And then he had a brainwave! 1961 was a busy year for the State Electric Board, who had on their agenda, a scheme for the electrification of rural areas. What was easier for Srinivasan than to convert his agents quasi Government Officials as Secretaries of the Rural Electrification Scheme. He introduced them to the bank as such. Officials never bothered to verify the authenticity of the Rural Electrification Scheme but entertained a hazy idea that such a programme was being worked out by the State Electricity Board. Srinivasan discounted his Documentary Bills for huge amounts at the bank with the active cooperation of his staff and the uneasy acquiescence of his outstation agents who were becoming perturbed over the heavy bills coming in their names. The prospect was not too bright for them, for Srinivasan was becoming careless. Had he stuck to his original intention of rotating the money obtained from the banks into his business, he eventually would have come off with a lighter outstanding, but with so much to hand, he turned to wine and women. He lavished his money on his concubine, Sriakalar, and he built her a mansion in Madras, Mysore, Bangalore, and Pondicherry and she witnessed his drunken sprees. As a consequence, the outstanding bills in the banks mounted up – for he had invaded other banks also.

There was a total outstanding of over 3 lakhs of rupees and the Punjab National Bank had chalked up a sum of rupees One Lakh and odd. G.S. Rao, the Agent of the Punjab National Bank, was getting uneasy with no prospect of any money coming in from Srinivasan. Incidentally, he was getting highly suspicious of the bonafide of the General Traders, and so he directed one of his agents at Tanjore to examine the contents of a consignment sent by Srinivasan and billed as costly electrical goods, lying uncleared at the Tanjore Goods Yard. The Agent reported back that the consignment contained

spurious goods, and the cat was out of the bag. Srinivasan was confronted with the fact and he admitted the hoax and promised to make good the whole amount, but try as he would, he could not raise the money and so the Punjab National Bank placed the matter in the hands of the Madras City Crime Branch Police.

A case in Madras City Crime Branch Cr. No. 496/61 under section 420 I.P.C. read with 120 B. I.P.C. was registered and the investigating officers waded through an amazing pile of documents at the Office of the General Traders, the various banks in the City, the Post and Railway institutions at Madras, Neyveli, Tanjore, Kumbakonam, Tiruchirapalli and the Neyveli Lignite Corporation to assemble the evidence against the accused. Forty-nine boxes containing spurious goods and scrap iron were also seized from the Railway Goods yards at these places and the several gunny casings on each of them containing various addresses and Railway markings, gave mute evidence of their circulation even from the year 1958.

V. Srinivasaraghavan and A. Charles turned approvers for the State and they stuck to their statements to the very end. V.C. Srinivasan, his manager Balan and his three bogus secretaries Ramiah, Arunachalam, and Rajendran were brought to trial for cheating and conspiracy to cheat the banks. The myth of the Rural Electrification Scheme had been exploded by the State Electric Board. The trial in both the Lower and Sessions Court was keenly contested, and eminent lawyers highlighted the proceedings with their brilliant cross examination and arguments. But justice was not to be denied, for V. C. Srinivasan and his accomplice Ramiah were convicted and sentenced to one year of R. I. each, while the three others were given the benefit of doubt in S.C. No. 14/62.

The Firm of M/s. General Traders, 3/21, China Bazaar, Madras – 1, was wound up and its nefarious business closed down. In its place, the sunshine reflects the happy glitter of an ever-silver shop with its domesticated utensils. – (Reproduced from *The Madras Police Journal*, January-March 1964.)

Glimpses of Madras Week 2019



School children being taken on heritage walks.



The Murugappa Madras Quotient Quiz



Students from AMM Matriculation Hr. Sec. School, Kotturpuram, Abhijit Aravind, Sai Krishna S and Shreekari S, emerged champions in the 2019 edition of the Murugappa Madras Quotient Quiz held on September 7th, 2019. Pranav A. Gautam, Sanjana Bhat and Saadhvi M. from PSBB T. Nagar, were the first runner up while Rishi Rajesh, Kashyap J and Rishi Karthikeyan from PSBB, Nungambakkam, were the second runner-up.

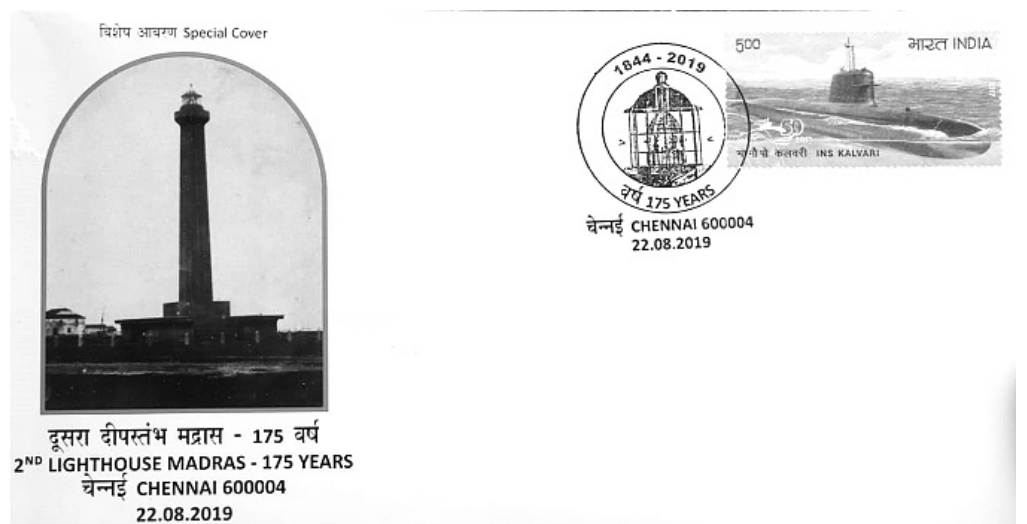
A total of 1488 students from 152 schools across Chennai participated in the written preliminary round, from which 7 teams were shortlisted for the Grand Finale. The quiz was conducted by renowned quizmaster Dr. Navin Jayakumar. The prizes to the finalists were distributed by the chief guest of the day, Mr. S.S. Gopalarathnam, Managing Director, Chola MS General Insurance Company Limited.

Organised by the Murugappa Group as part of the Madras Week celebrations, the 2019 edition of the Murugappa Madras Quotient Quiz is in its ninth year in running. It was conducted for the first time in 2011 with 96 teams and steadily grew in size and stature. This edition has seen an increase to a total of 496 teams.

The school children were quizzed on the history and culture of Madras along with a few questions about Murugappa Group. A special round on water conservation was introduced this year. Parents and teachers too walked away with gift hampers for the special audience rounds. The programme was attended by teachers, parents, quizzing enthusiasts and members of the media.



Above: At Fort St. George and below: A special cover of the City's 2nd light house.



The Iconic Hanuman of Kalakshetra

August 2019 has been a merciless month, claiming the lives of outstanding individuals from different walks of life in quick succession. We had barely begun to recover from the death of music director Khayyam, when we were shattered by the passing of another brilliant artist whose impact on dance aesthetics and standards spanned six decades. Veteran Bharatanatyam guru C.K. Balagopalan succumbed to a cardiac arrest at his Chennai home days just eleven 11 days before his eightieth birthday on 4th September. He was teaching till the very end. In fact, he was actively rehearsing to perform Kalidasa's *Kumara Sambhavam* at Kalakshetra's forthcoming December Art Festival.

"Balan Anna" was a dancer and dance teacher I've admired ever since I first saw him on stage some 45 years ago. It was at what is now called the Rukmini Arangam inside Kalakshetra. It was an open-air theatre at that time, where you sat under the moonlit sky and watched the magic wrought by Balagopalan and his dedicated band of colleagues unified by their devotion to their art, Kalakshetra and their 'Athai' Rukmini Devi Arundale.

Balagopalan was a magician on stage, mesmerising succeeding generations of audiences in a wide variety of roles. A tiny little man, thin as a reed, dressed in a simple white shirt or *jibba* and *veshti*, he looked mild and unprepossessing in real life, though the mischief in his eyes often hinted at hidden depths. Once on stage, he assumed a veritable *viswarupa*, whether he was playing Hanuman, Krishna,

Sakuni or Bharata. Of all these varied parts, Hanuman was his favourite character. He once said, "My fortunes changed dramatically once I started playing Hanuman. Anjaneya's grace led to many people helping me start my own dance school after retirement from Kalakshetra." Onlookers forgot his small frame as he brought the monkey god to life magnificently. It was Balagopalan's unshakeable faith and devotion that helped him to cause the involuntary suspension of disbelief in the rasika to whom he appeared larger than life, a veritable giant. With his expressive eyes and mobile face honed by his Kathakali training under his first *asan* Chandu Panikkar, he stole the hearts of Kalakshetra's sophisticated *rasikas* in a phenomenal range of roles including Lakshmana, Bharata, Ravana as the *kapata sanyasi*, Kannappan (one of his most poignant presentations) and Maha Vishnu.

A scouting mission by Kathakali *asan* Chandu Panikkar at the behest of Rukmini Devi brought him and his friend VP Dhananjayan from Kerala to Kalakshetra. Balagopalan preferred football to books during his early years at Kalakshetra, and as he progressed as a dancer, Bharatanatyam to Kathakali. Panikkar's main pupils were Balagopalan, Dhananjayan and Kunhiraman. They would each be a towering figure in the institution in the years to come. Dhananjayan and Kunhiraman left Kalakshetra for other pastures while Balan and a younger star pupil, Janardanan, stayed back till their retirement. Balagopalan never forgot to thank his many gurus from Asan and

Rukmini Devi to other, younger teachers like NS Jayalakshmi, Pushpa Shankar, Adyar Lakshman, Vasantha, and the perfectionist Sarada Hoffman. S. Sarada, fondly known as Periya Sarada Teacher, was a major influence on all the students.

Balagopalan had the honour of seeing his biography published in his lifetime. It was written by one of his disciples Eliza Louis, a nun who presently teaches Bharatanatyam in Paris, France. Titled *Leap of Faith, Mesmeric Hanuman of Kalakshetra*, it has a literally and metaphorically apt picture of the artist as an airborne Anjaneya. A painstaking and moving tribute from a devoted *sishya* and believer of another faith, the book was released on Balagopalan's 79th birthday. It is a true symbol of the eclecticism that inspired the

● by
V. Ramnarayan

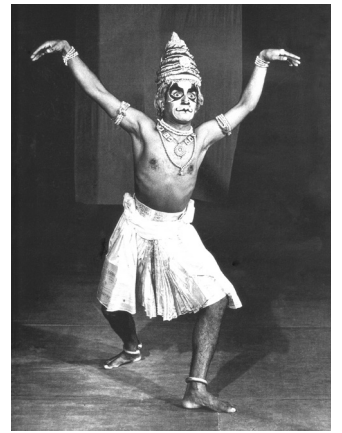
founder of Kalakshetra and her followers.

His wife Leela gives us a glimpse into Balagopalan's personality, with particular reference to his occasionally short fuse. "If you are patient at the time of his outbursts, he'll just surrender to you later." Their children Pranesh and Prithvija trained to be dancers under their father's watchful eye. The talented Prithvija continues to pursue a career performing and teaching Bharatanatyam with great commitment. Pranesh is involved in filmmaking and recently worked as the assistant director in Puducherry-based Kirubhakaran Kaarthikeyan's maiden feature film *His Father's*

Voice, in which Balagopalan played the role of Janaka in a brief but poignant enactment from the Ramayana.

Balagopalan's refined *abhinaya* easily set him apart from most dancers of his time. His iconic interpretation of the role of Hanuman was the crowning glory of his career. Rukmini Devi said of him that the small man could "fill the stage with his presence and make everything else seem puny." I watched him once injure himself seriously during one of his breathtaking entries leaping and flying as Rama's lieutenant, only to resume dancing after receiving some first aid and medical attention from Sydney-based Dr. P. Janardanan, who happened to be in the audience. He was confined to bed for months afterwards. Typically, Balagopalan blamed himself for the relative lack of rigour in his usual *pujas* in the run-up to that production.

His biographer said, "All through his growing years, and even today in his seventies, he has not lost the wonder and inquisitive nature of a child." He loved nature and animals, and even reared a squirrel and



C.K. Balagopalan as Hanuman, courtesy Sruti. Picture courtesy: C. Nacchiappan.

a mongoose as a boy. He once rode a donkey on the beach with disastrous results, as his lifelong friend Dhananjayan remembers.

"Balan Anna's" lifetime commitment to his art reminded me of these words of George Bernard Shaw: "Life is no 'brief candle' for me. It is a sort of splendid torch, which I have got hold of for the moment; and I want to make it burn as brightly as possible before handing it on to future generations."

Answers to Quiz

1. It is the world's first floating nuclear reactor, 2. Basel (Switzerland), 3. Manama (Bahrain), 4. Deepa Malik and Bajrang Punia, 5. Below the Raj Bhavan, 6. As the longest documentary with a length of 48 hours and 8 minutes, 7. She accessed her estranged spouse's bank account from the International Space Station, 8. Buy Greenland!, 9. James Bond, 10. Spiderman.

11. Kalvi Tholaikkatchi, 12. Dindigul lock and Karaikudi Kandangi sarees, 13. Pakkamalai Reserve Forests near Gingee, 14. T Namburam Chetty, 15. Moubray's (TTK) Road, 16. St. Andrew's, 17. *Prem Sagar*, 18. T. Prakasam, 19. Parsi Fire Temple, 20. Governor-General Lord Dalhousie.

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