From the desk of the Special Editor of this issue...

This Special issue comes at a time when Sanmar is celebrating over 50 years of association with cricket. And the way the game has moved forward in the last 50 years in TN is as mind boggling as the way Sanmar has grown over these years.

While we have several celebrated players - past and present - amidst us, I was a bit surprised at being offered the opportunity to edit this special issue. I was never a good player of cricket, as I was of any other sport, and I guess my only qualification is as a professional spectator. I probably had the ability to foresee that both I and Alwarpet CC would be associated with Sanmar in future, for, during my college days and a bit later in Chennai, I always turned up at all matches of Alwarpet CC. Those were days when markers used to guard the player zone very zealously and would not allow any spectator anywhere near. As a professional spectator, I slowly gained entry to this space, and the then captain, K Bharathkumar, after seeing me come to all their matches, started offering player’s lunch to me. Soon, I even had a soft drink during drinks breaks also!!! So, you see, these are my credentials.

The Sanmarites passion for cricket is no less than that of the Promoters. Lunch room will reverberate with discussion and “specialist advice” on where a player went wrong the previous day. Wherever you found a small group - in the two wheeler parking area before office hours, at lunch room, at the entrance during lunch hour - you could find them animatedly discussing cricket. Only the subject varied from time to time - if earlier it was debating whether Gavaskar should be renamed as “Gavascore” for scoring all those runs or “Gavascare” for his handling of pace bowlers at the later stages of his career, later it was discussing on whether Tendulkar was a selfless cricketer who laboured hard for his country or a selfish one working only towards his century of centuries.

With such passionate employees, it was a tough task to put in an issue devoted entirely to cricket. We have tried our hand at it. I am sure this issue will also evoke a strong discussion on its quality.

Hoping that you all enjoy this issue.

N Krishnamoorthy, Commercial, Chemplast Sanmar, HO.

**HISTORY OF THE CRICKET BAT - 1624-1900**

1624 This was the first time that we had any mention of a cricket bat.
1770b The cricket bat became roughly parallel with a maximum width of 4.25”.
1820b Cricket bat became lighter with a higher “swell”.
1830b Cricket bat makers started to “splice” handles into bats.
1835b The length of a cricket bat was restricted to 38”, which is still the same today.
1840b The first recorded use of a “spring” being inserted into the handles of the cricket bat.
1853 Thomas Nixon, a Notts cricketer, introduced the use of cane in handle making in cricket bats.
1864b The laws were altered to allow over-arm bowling so there was a further lightening and more refined shaping of the blade.
1870b The shape of today’s cricket bat evolves.
For the love of Cricket

For the Sanmar family, cricket is a way of life. “To my father KS Narayanan who took over the team fifty years ago on 29 July 1966, and to my brother Kumar, my son Vijay, and the rest of us sponsoring and rooting for Jolly Rovers over the years, it has been an expression of our deep love for the game of cricket, not a means of promoting our business. We are sports lovers all, passionately devoted to cricket, its rich lore, its personalities and its character-building propensities. The game has brought us friendships and memories that enrich our lives.” N Sankar explains.

The Sanmar family has been in the forefront of cricket sponsorship for five decades. The late Chairman Emeritus KS Narayanan, Chairman N Sankar, Vice Chairman N Kumar and Deputy Chairman Vijay Sankar have represented three generations of a cricket loving family. The players and teams they have nurtured have done them proud.

Five decades of such continuous sponsorship of a sporting institution by a family is certainly unique in the annals of history with more than one generation sustaining the commitment to the sport.

It was on 29 July 1966 that KS Narayanan officially adopted the Jolly Rovers Cricket Club and made it a star-studded combination that went on to annex the first

Trophies won by Jolly Rovers from 1966

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<tr>
<th>Tournament</th>
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<td>TNCA League</td>
<td>18</td>
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<td>VAP Trophy</td>
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<td>BCCI Raj Singh Dungarpur Corporate Trophy</td>
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<td>KSCA Trophy</td>
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<td>Indian Express Trophy</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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division league in grand style the same season. KSN had the imagination and sense of adventure to assemble a band of cricketers, many from outside the state and provide them the best of equipment and facilities to develop them into a crack professional outfit.

Not only has Sanmar treated cricketers with care and concern for their future, compensating them well for their efforts on the field, the Group has ensured that the players enjoy the best facilities. With its lush green outfield and a red-brick English village type dressing room, the IIT-Sanmar ground is Chennai cricket’s pride. Their morale is buoyed by the constant upgradation of practice and training facilities and enhancement of the skills of the team’s highly qualified, motivated support staff.

With Bharath Reddy, who continues his aggressive approach to the game with the emphasis on physical fitness and discipline in the net practice, at the helm of affairs, Sanmar spots talents, often from humble backgrounds and nurtures and polishes them into winning combination. Through it all, the Sanmar performance in domestic competition has been of a consistently high quality. This is clearly reflected in the extraordinary number of titles Jolly Rovers has won – 62 so far.

The Group has also been a strong supporter of the Tamil Nadu Cricket Association, arguably the best run cricket body in India. The chairman of the Group, N Sankar, has in the past been president of both the TNCA and the 165-year-old Madras Cricket Club.

Chemplast Sanmar, Jolly Rovers and Alwarpet Cricket Club are the teams sponsored by the Group and these have produced many Test and first class cricketers over the years. Murali Vijay, Jolly Rovers’ long-serving attacking opening batsman, Hemang Badani and Lakshmipathy Balaji, who made useful contributions on India’s tours of Australia and Pakistan, Sujith Somasundar played in ODIs against Australia and South Africa, and there are others knocking on the doors of international cricket.

The golden jubilee of the Jolly Rovers – Sanmar family ties through the cricket calendar year 2015-16 (29 July 2015 -29 July 2016) was celebrated in a fitting manner. A cricketing get-together was 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. The champion team from the 1960s and the Jolly Rovers International cricketers were felicitated and
IIT-Sanmar cricket ground

Set amidst picturesque surroundings, the Sanmar home ground presents a magnificent, well-manicured spectacle, with its immaculate green grass and superb facilities, which include four practice wickets and six centre wickets offering a variety of playing surfaces. The Indian cricket team practised at the IIT-Sanmar cricket ground for three days before its all important clash on 20 March with West Indies in the league stage of the 2011 World Cup at Chepauk, Chennai.

“The quality and atmosphere of the Sanmar cricket ground are excellent. I enjoyed playing in the ground nestled in the sylvan IIT campus.”

*Sachin Tendulkar*

“The IIT-Sanmar ground is an outstanding one, the pitches and pavilion there can compare with the best anywhere.”

*Sir Richard Hadlee*

“What people like Sanmar are doing here is great for cricket.”

*Neil Harvey*
Vijay Sankar, David Gower and Aakash Chopra are all smiles!

received mementos in appreciation of their contribution to the team. The International cricketers from Jolly Rovers were star attractions. India opener Murali Vijay and leg spinner Piyush Chawla were both there and gifted mementoes to N Sankar.

The celebrations entered its next phase when former England captain David Gower delivered the K S Narayanan Oration on 30 January 2016, KSN’s birth anniversary. Gower made an hour-long speech enthralling a packed audience with his wit and eloquence. The audience included many Test cricketers past and present including the likes of S Venkataraghavan, Brijesh Patel, TA Sekar, Bharath Reddy, VV Kumar and CD Gopinath. An open discussion with former Test opener Aakash Chopra on the topic “Whither Cricket” was followed by Question and Answer session with the audience.

Memorable moment as champions of the BCCI Corporate Tournament 2013-14.
The golden jubilee celebrations ended with a valedictory function on 29 July 2016, the same day the celebrations began with much fanfare a year ago. A book chronicling fifty years of Jolly Rovers with the Sanmar group, ‘Cricket for the love of it’ penned by V Ramnarayan was released on the occasion by Indian cricket legend Kapil Dev and Ramachandra Guha, historian and cricket critic, received the first copy.

Ramachandra Guha’s keynote address illustrated the ‘Five Forms of Partisanship’ in cricket ranging from loyalty to his Friends Union Cricket Club, the Karnataka State Ranji team, preference for Test cricket, respect for the bowlers and fondness for players of the generation one grows up with.

“Running cricket for 50 years is a tremendous achievement and it is such a tradition that keeps the game alive in the country,” said Kapil Dev.

As V Ramnarayan puts it in ‘Cricket for the love of it’, “This commitment to the pursuit of excellence and talent spotting ensures that the team keeps bouncing back. There is an air of realistic optimism about the team and the solid support of the management to keep it focussed on the task ahead. There is no doubt in the minds of close observers that we will hear much more about Jolly Rovers in the years to come.”

At the launch of the book ‘Cricket for the love of it’ (L to R): Vijay Sankar, Ramachandra Guha, Kapil Dev, N Sankar, V Ramnarayan and N Kumar.
SSCL Premier League Cricket tournament

At the Sanmar Speciality Chemicals, Berigai, it is customary to conduct various sporting events including Carrom, Chess, Shuttle, Slow Cycling and Cricket as part of Annual Factory Day Celebrations every year and Cricket attracts the maximum participation both in terms of players and viewers.

SSCL Premier League Cricket tournament was conducted during November 2015 and six teams participated – (four regular employees team and two contract employees team). Matches were conducted during the weekends when team building and camaraderie came to the fore among the Sanmarites who also had loads of fun.

Here are some snapshots of the SSCL Premier League.

SSCL Premier League - Grand Finale (Winners)

A batsman passed a man in a white coat on his way back to the pavilion, ‘That was never LBW – you need glasses.’

And the man in the white coat smiled and replied, ‘So do you, I’m selling ice-cream.’

AEP Team

Vishnu Team

Guess Who? ! Clue No. 3: In his first Test series against the Aussies, he proved to be much more than a handful for the bamboozled Aussies.
The Pink Cricket Ball

Designed for best visibility, for both day and night conditions.

Inside a Cricket Ball

- Seam sewn by hand and machine
- Five layers of woolen yarn wound around sheets of cork
- Cork and rubber core
- Leather made from tough steer hide

Red Cricket Balls have been standard for more than a century

1977 A white ball was developed for one-day games

2006 Australian firm Kookaburra’s pink ball was rolled out for a charity event

2015 First-ever day-night Test match features the return of the pink ball

Whole New Ball Game

Red Ball - Since the game was established in the 1600s, balls have traditionally been dyed red. The first Laws of cricket in 1744 established the size and weight (51/2 oz)

White Ball - Introduced when one-day games began to be played under floodlights, with black sight screens. They tend to swing more than red and deteriorate too quickly.

Pink Ball - An experiment in a day-night match in Abu Dhabi in 2010 in a bid to find a ball to use in day-night Tests. MCC boss Keith Bradshaw said: ‘It’s better than the white ball’.

Orange Ball - The latest solution to find a ball that could be used in all day-night matches, including Tests, which the governing body believes could re-ignite interest in the game.
Indian Cricket - A Quiz

1. Who is known as the father of Indian Cricket?
2. Who was the first Captain of Indian Cricket Team?
4. The Captain who led India to her first test victory?
5. Who was the first batsman to score three centuries at The Lord’s?
6. The only team to be dismissed twice in a single day of test match.
7. Who was the first Indian batsman to hit a century on debut against England in England?
8. The first Indian batsman to bat on all five days of a Test.
9. The only Indian cricketer who won four successive Man of the Match awards in One-day Internationals.
10. Who holds the unique distinction of being the only bowler to dismiss Don Bradman courtesy of a hit-wicket?
11. The Indian batsman who batted in all positions from 1-11.
12. The first batsman to score a triple century for India?
13. Sachin played his first ODI against which country?
14. Who was the first Indian to take 16 wickets in a single test match?
15. Who was the 1st president of BCCI (Board of Control for Cricket in India)?
16. In the 1984-85 seasons, 2nd ODI between India and Pakistan at Sialkot - India were 210/3 with Vengsarkar 94*, the match was abandoned. Why?
17. India’s lowest total in one day International Cricket was against which country?
18. Who is the only cricketer to have played for England and India?
19. The highest number of catches taken by a non-wicketkeeper in an entire Test for India?
20. Which county did Sachin Tendulkar play for?
21. Where did India play its 1st One Day International match?
22. Who was the 1st ODI captain for India?
23. Where was the 1st ODI match played in India?
24. Who was named ‘India’s Cricketer of the Century’ by Wisden?
25. Which Indian batsman was the first to hit 44 fours in a test match innings?

India Cricket Quiz

Send in your answers to scribbles@sanmargroup.com. Prize awaits the first three correct entries.
The ‘tie’ that binds me to cricket – for nearly thirty years

Not just cricket, but the original form, Test cricket. While it was the breakthrough victory in the ODI World Cup on 25th June, 1983 that had got an eleven year old (me) all excited about cricket, it was the dramatic tie between India and Australia in their first test in September 1986 that literally sealed the bond of enjoyment with the game. The game has given me, among other Indians, thirty years of joy (regaining the World Cup after 29 years in 2011) and sorrow equally (World Cup final loss to Australia in 2003, 20 years after 1983, I really believed Sachin would win it for us!). So what happened in that historic test?

Five days, a great double century (Dean Jones), three centuries and a great ninety, dehydration in Chennai’s weather, this was a game destined to go down in the history books. Only the second tied ever test in the entire history of Test cricket, which in my view was the more exciting one, particularly as it happened in our very own Chennai. (This stadium has always produced something special). Sadly, I only saw this on TV! Even more sadly, no one can watch this test again! Doordarshan taped over the original! (They also ‘lost’ Gavaskar’s 10,000th run tape!).

India is rightly feared by the Aussies and this probably began with the tied test (not with VVS Laskhman’s epic 280). After all, the first innings of 574 for 7 (declared) included a double century by Dean Jones (yes, the current commentator). An epic innings in the sweltering heat of Chennai in June! Deano collapsed due to heat exhaustion during the innings. That innings was ably supported with two other centuries by David Boon and Allan Border (122 and 106 respectively). At that point it seemed like the Aussies were going to trample over us.

India’s first innings was reasonable with Kris Srikkanth’s 62 ball 53 runs and one Sunil Manohar Gavaskar’s 21 ball 8 runs to start! India were all out for 397, 177 runs behind. The score included a good century by Kapil Dev (119). Once again Kapil Dev was part of history saving India from following on.

The setting up for the entire thrilling tie was the declaration by Border when the Aussies were 170 for 5. An overall lead of 347 runs for the Aussies. In that day and age, the visitors were confident that they would get India out on the fourth and fifth day pitch or at least confident that the match would end in a draw.

The drama came on the final day most unexpectedly as at lunch on that day when India was only 94 for 1. Gavaskar showed his technique and greatness to top score for India at 90. He fell when India was at 204 at tea! Still adrift by nearly 150 runs and with only 30 overs to go. A scenario which today’s batsmen would have considered ‘sure win’! Nothing was sure after this as the match swayed from one country to the other with every ball.

In this scenario, every one contributed, Chetan Sharma, Chandrakant Pandit played great cameos. India were left with 18 runs from 30 balls with 4 wickets in hand! A sure win? I remember a lucky six (from Kiran More). Nine balls, four runs, two wickets. A sure win?

Came the last mandatory over, after five gruelling days which was a complete thriller. Greg Matthews was wearing a sweater (yes, sweater!) in Chennai’s heat bounced his way to history. Shastri was on strike with the last man Maninder Singh (a true tailender) at the other end. Shastri managed a two of the second ball. Then came the decision that made history to ensure a draw by taking a single. Shastri then had a conference with Maninder all that the latter had to do was to tap the ball into any gap from 3 deliveries. He just navigated the fourth ball fearfully. The fifth ball, back foot defence but with ball missing bat and the umpire called the LBW! It was a tie. It was a kaleidoscope of emotions, 450 overs, five days, no loss but no win either and then it sank in! It was historical, only the second ever tie! Today, I am glad we did not win!

I was reminded of the test when my son asked me recently about the difference between a draw and a tie, when watching Kohli get out in West Indies. That was when I decided to share the excitement, dashed hopes and sense of watching history, all at once with the eminent and cricket-knowledgeable readers of Scribbles.

G Sanjay Kumar, SRSTI, Sanmar Corporate Divn., Cuddalore.
Cricket and the Life Management

Cricket is a sport played by 30 men (overall) and judged by a panel of 4 members called umpires. It is played in a ground (popularly called as stadium), where people (player), score with the bat when the bowler bowls, from a 22-yard (famously called as wicket). Apart from the wicket, there is an area called field, where fielders field the ball hit by a batsmen.

If the ball goes into a gap, a run or a boundary is scored. If the player clears the field directly, it is declared as six. Cricket is a game that can be played 5-day long (test), one day long and fast game (20-20).

The same concept can be applied to our lives. Just as the batsmen at both the ends of the wicket meet at a point (single point of life), the couples too meet and stay at the wicket (the life) to achieve something during the span of stay.

They run, clear the field for the sake of a team (called family), to make sure they provide something for them (defend).

Here, bowler is the one, who gives chances (might be fast (or) tricky) for the family to achieve. Here, the fielders are obstacles.

The umpire manages the entire game (parents), checks each and every aspect of the game.

Whenever, the chances arise, the batsmen have two choices, either to hit or find gaps between obstacles and achieve.

If you cannot do so, i.e. not crossing the obstacle, then you have to wait until the next chance.

The same phenomena can be applied to your family, once they hold the bat.

The prime objective is that, you have to fix and achieve the target, within that particular game duration (popularly called as life) otherwise, your team will find it difficult to defend.

Situation is the best teacher, whether you have to play chances within the wicket (savings), (or) to hit the chance to score.

That’s why, people always say, cricket is a mind game, in which you have to apply your thought, to safeguard your own life and work accordingly.

When the (innings) span gets over, either you win or lose the battle between the wickets. The chances and the gaps are for us to find to achieve success in life.

Find the chance! Find the gaps! Achieve success!

S Vignesh, Production, Chemplast Sanmar, Mettur.

Cricket Fan

Cricket is a wonderful game,
From which players get fame.
Some people watching are tense,
When they see the opposition hit the ball to the fence.

Some people buy tickets,
To enjoy the bowlers take wickets.
I hope cricket is played sincerely,
So that everyone can watch happily.


Guess Who? ! Clue No. 5: In July 2010, he claimed his 520th wicket in Test cricket, surpassing the great West Indies pacer Courtney Walsh.
We breathe cricket...
Guess Who? ! Clue No. 6: He is the only player to take 10 wickets in a Test in four consecutive matches.
He achieved this feat twice.
Cricket – an all-weather passion

Cricket, in my childhood, meant playing it the hardest way in the streets or a far away playground. A beaten bicycle would ferry our hand-made kit. The same poor thing would later be deployed as a long wicket keeper. The stumps were made up of firewood chopped at one end nicely to make it look reasonably good and the bats were bought from small local stores dressed up with a lot of thread, gum, and all possible repair work. Many a time, stumps made way for charcoal drawing on the wall and bare hands for the bat. The subscription was very high at 50 paisa per month and sometimes one more subscription would be collected during the same month if we were to play a ball bet match. Two matches from 10 am under the sun has never dampened our spirits to skip the evening practice session. More than the game, the post-match analyses occupied the centre stage. There were players with extraordinary all-round skills. For example, in Mylapore and Triplicane, many boys from poor families would make it to the match venue punctually to contribute to the team a great deal both with the ball and the bat. There were players with a rare ability to deliver the same quality both with right hand and left hand. In our eyes, they were unsung heroes of our times. One transistor radio would service about 10 to 15 people when we used to listen to the running commentary of a cricket match happening outside India as early as 4 am IST. Barring examination time, it was cricket, whether it is rain or shine. On the streets, we ran into problems with the neighbours for creating ruckus and in the house, elders branded us ‘aliens in the family’. Inside the classroom, it was ‘Book Cricket’. So, cricket was an all-weather passion for us.

N Srinivasaraghavan, Support Services, Sanmar Corporate Divn., HO.

Even a child can play it

Cricket is one of the most played games in the world as people just love it. It was first played by the Prince Edward in the 16th Century in England. It then spread across the world gradually. It is a game which is played by using a bat and a ball between two teams of 11 members each. Rules of the game are not very complex and that’s why, even a child can play it.

Many international matches are played every year and they are arranged and approved by ICC (International Cricket Council). The World Cup is my favourite tournament.

Nostalgic memories come alive looking at the photo which we took with the Indian team player Robin Utappa, when our team, Jolly Rovers, played with the Air India team in 2013 at Pune. We won the same match and the series too!

Santosh Ramdas Gavali, Support Services, Pentair Sanmar, Pune.

My favourite player is Virender Sehwag

Virender Sehwag fondly known as Viru is an Indian cricket player and considered to be one of the best batsmen that India has had. He is a right handed batsman and a casual off spin bowler. Sehwag has a number of records to his credit including the highest score by an Indian player in a match against South Africa played at Chennai on 26th March 2008. He scored 319 runs off just 278 balls in the match, which was also the fastest triple century in Test cricket. Sehwag is one of the three batsmen in the world who has scored 2 triple centuries in test cricket and scored the fastest ODI century by an Indian cricketer in March 2009 off just 60 balls in an ODI match against New Zealand on 11th March 2009 at Hamilton.

He is known for making huge scores and the last 11 centuries he scored have been over 150 runs, breaking Sir Donald Bradman’s record of 7 centuries more than 150 runs in a row.

K Abdul Razak, Production, Chemplast Sanmar, Cuddalore.
Virat Kohli, the prodigy

My first thought when I hear the name Virat Kohli is BELIEVE.

The Indian Cricket team is currently in a transition phase with Dhoni passing on the baton of test Cricket captaincy to Virat Kohli.

Sledging, eye-on-eye, war of words, wild celebrations - on the whole, Virat is electric on the field, and quite a contrast to Dhoni. No other Indian player has had this much energy to be a stalwart of the team and still have a go at the opposition. Many controversies were raised about his on field verbal spats and many even said that it would affect his performance. But he gave the right reply to the critics and to the Aussies with his twin century on test captaincy debut. Almost history was created.

“Why is this guy so arrogant?”, was the question from many critics and cricket fans on first seeing his attitude on the field. Again he replied with his bat. It is not arrogance, but passion. I believe that is not a bad attitude but a massive self belief and within a blink of an eye, he has become the anchor of Indian batting line up. Fans who were worried of Sachin’s retirement were relieved of finding another batting maestro.

Every batsman undergoes some bad patch in his career and Virat is no exception. England tour in 2014 proved to be that bad phase. Came the criticism that his relationship with leading movie actress was the reason behind it. He again gave them a fitting reply with a century. His emotional 90 in Ranji Trophy on the day after his father’s demise showed the kind of character he is made of and the passion with which he plays the game. His mantra is simple—BELIEVE. Hope India rises to the top under this special player—BELIEVE.

Utsav Pandey, Sales, Pentair Sanmar, Chennai.

The Destroyer...Viv Richards

Sir Isaac Vivian Alexander Richards, known as Viv Richards, is a former West Indian cricketer. He is regarded as one of the greatest batsmen of all time with high qualities of sportsmanship and a magnetic name in cricket on those days. Till his retirement he was the MASTER BLASTER.

In the 80s watching television was a very rare opportunity in the villages and only few houses had such facility. We watched him in a small black and white television with a great expectation. His 56 ball fastest hundred in one of the Tests against England in England was an amazing one.

I like him as one of the greatest batsmen of all times and I strongly feel that still the world has known no one like him.

A Karunanidhi, Industrial Relations, Sanmar Foundries, Viralimalai.

Cricket and I

My love for the game of cricket continues. My interest in cricket is very deep and cannot really be affected by the events of the last two three years as I never speculate and I live in the present. A full day out watching cricket in the sun, the breeze, the crowd etc., can make it quite enjoyable. Be assured that the investment in time and effort is worth it.

A Bhagavan, Production, Chemplast Sanmar, Cuddalore.
“Success is all about conditioning your mind” - MSD
Mahi, MSD, Thala (called by Tamil fans)… are the nicknames he is called. There are lots of things to be learnt from MSD. Someone says he won all the matches with the help of luck. But, remember luck does not favour one all the time. His hard work, commitment with confidence has brought him the success. He has tasted many victories across the world, which no other captain has had it in his life. I admire him for his fearlessness and calmness.

He once said, “when I am batting, I focus on the ball. Sometimes, my mind wanders off to places where it is not supposed to. Singing helps me to stay focused. When the bowler is running into the crease, I start to sing as soon as he gets to his delivery stride, I focus on the ball. Singing when the bowler is running in, empties my mind of unwanted thoughts.”

His leadership while on the field is a learning. He allows his team to think, feel the right and wrong in every situation and then takes decisions. He is my hero and an all time favourite player in cricket.

A Muthu Vijayan, Personnel, Chemplast Sanmar, Mettur.

Then comes the match against Pakistan in Vizag, where he displayed his brutal batting in No.3 position. Knock of my dream, smashing the fastest bowler all around the park. He continued from there.

He literally spoiled many fast bowlers career, Lasith Malinga, Muttaiah Muralitharan, Shoaib Akthar... the list goes on, who are still unable to recover from the “Helicopter ride” they experienced with him.

With only two years in the side, showcasing his wicket keeping skills and batting power he became the Indian captain in 2007 and led the team to a World Cup victory (T20).

Winning the trophy in the same venue(Johannesburg) where we lost against Australia in WC final 2003. From there he became my role model in life. I became his devotee. WHENEVER I HEAR HIS NAME “Mahendra Singh Dhoni” I will lose myself and will get into the match so closely.

R Sreekanth, Product Engineering, Flowserv Sanmar, Karapakkam.
Benevolent Dictator… Imran Khan

Imran Khan turned out to be the Messiah and an inspirational genius for Pakistan cricket. The way he led the team during the 1992 World Cup was simply superb. An excellent cutter of the ball, he had produced a variety of pace bowling for his team during his captaincy as well as for future. One of the greatest all-rounders, a motivational captain and benevolent dictator for the team, he is my favourite hero.

Besides his stature as an all-time great in the game and one who has been the centre of gravity in Pakistan cricket, what helped Imran Khan become such a successful captain is his willingness to rise above personal considerations and reach a point where he could not distinguish anymore between his own personal triumph and the triumph of his team.

A Karunanidhi, Industrial Relations, Sanmar Foundries, Viralimalai.

Kapil Dev, the flamboyant cricketer

Till the arrival of Kapil in the Indian Cricket scenario, we did not have a genuine all-rounder and more importantly, a fast bowler.

He changed the complexion of game in India.

The flamboyant cricketer known as ‘Haryana Hurricane’ excelled as a bowler, batsman, and fielder.

He is one among the famous contemporary all-rounder quartet alongside Ian Botham, Richard Hadlee, and Imran Khan.

He contributed with both ball and bat in many famous Indian victories both at home and abroad, in Test matches and one day Internationals.

He is the first Indian captain under whose captaincy we won the Cricket World Cup.

The void created after his retirement in the team is yet to be filled.

Srinivasa Chandrasekhar Saripalle, IT, Sanmar Corporate Divn., Karapakkam.
Mindboggling, unheard facts and figures about Cricket!

1. Can you imagine Sachin Tendulkar playing for Pakistan before India? This happened during a practice match between India and Pakistan at the Brabourne Stadium in 1987 where Tendulkar came on the field as a substitute fielder for Pakistan. (Shocker?!)

2. Alec Stewart was born on 8-4-63 and he scored 8463 Test runs. (Interestingly!! Guess he stopped playing after reaching this figure)

3. Sanath Jayasuriya has more ODI wickets than Shane Warne!(Whoa!)

4. Ishant Sharma is responsible for all the three highest scores made by batsmen against India in the 21st century. Alastair Cook – 294 runs, Edgbaston 2011; Michael Clarke – 329 runs, Sydney 2012; Brendon McCullum – 302 runs, Wellington 2014. They were all dropped by Ishant Sharma early on in their innings. (Ishant – the Black Sheep)

5. Inzamam Ul Haq took a wicket off the very first ball he bowled in International Cricket. (Didn’t know Inzy could bowl!)

6. Virender Sehwag’s highest scores in T20, ODI and Tests are 119, 219 and 319 respectively. (He believes in Arithmetic progressions, doesn’t he!!).

Some monikers / slangs of cricket in Chennai

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lottai</td>
<td>Left hander</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mokkai</td>
<td>Slow batsman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gaada</td>
<td>Blind and aggressive hitter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Laddu</td>
<td>Sitter / easy / regulation catch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woodlees</td>
<td>Catch dropped or sloppy fielding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lottu</td>
<td>Defensive batting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bhongu out</td>
<td>Not out / wrong decision</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chithappa</td>
<td>Person elder than other team mates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mama</td>
<td>Person elder than Chithappa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greece</td>
<td>Popping crease</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Araikuzhi</td>
<td>Half-pitch delivery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full batting</td>
<td>11th player batting without runner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In or out</td>
<td>Toss for team selection / batting</td>
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</tbody>
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M Balakumaran, Sales, Flowserve Sanmar, Baroda.

My All Time World T20 XI

A dream I cherish...

1. Chris Gayle (West Indies)
2. David Warner (Australia)
3. Brendon McCullum (New Zealand) (wk)(c)
4. Virat Kohli (India)
5. AB de Villiers (South Africa)
6. Shane Watson (Australia)
7. Dwayne Bravo (West Indies)
8. Saeed Ajmal (Pakistan)
9. Sunil Narine (West Indies)
10. Dale Steyn (South Africa)
11. Lasith Malinga (Sri Lanka)

Dillip Kumar Satapathy, Sales, Xomox Sanmar, Hyderabad.

Gully Cricket

Photography by K A Ramenaathan, Chemplast Sanmar, HO.

Vellore Fort, Tamil Nadu

Congratulations first correct respondents:

P Manoharan, Safety, Corporate Divn, HO.

N Panivu, Sand Foundry, SFL, Viralimalai.
**Interesting Tit Bits**

- Sourav Ganguly made his ODI debut on Dravid’s birthday
- Sri Lankan legend Ranatunga is the only man to play in his country’s first and 100th Tests
- Ravichandran Ashwin is the second Indian after Kapil Dev to score century and half century and also take more than five wickets in a series
- Rahul Dravid scored a Test Century in Ind, Aus, Pak, Eng, Zim, Ban, SA, NZ, WI, SL. He is the only player to do this in Test Cricket history!
- Kane Williamson (NZ) the youngest and quickest to score century against all test playing nations
- Sachin and Steve Waugh are the only players to score 150+ against all test playing nations.
- Sachin and Dhoni got out for duck on their first ODI innings then reached 7000 ODI runs on their 189th ODI innings
  - Sachin’s first two ODI innings: Duck
  - Sachin’s last two ODI innings: Century and Fifty

  ![Player Images]

  - Youngest to take Test Hat trick: Abdul Razzaq (20 years old)
  - Oldest to take Test Hat trick: Rangana Herath (38 years old)

**Cricket is always special**

Cricket is no doubt, one of the most enjoyable games all over the world. During my teenage I played for a local team without knowing the risk. First time I was not able to make anything other than losing the stumps! Having failed in the first attempt, I started learning the rules of the game and slowly improved. To watch the test match in Television, I had to travel from my hometown to Chennai and I used to travel to Adyar polytechnic to see the TV! I remember that as a hobby I used to collect snaps from The Hindu and preserve them in a book.

Now rapid strides in electronics have made it possible to watch the game on a palm. Cricket has become commerical now and we need to stop it somehow. My favourite player is Gundappa Viswanath, for his “beyond compare” flick work. My favourite cricketing nation is Australia, for their game planning.

But whatever the match we watch, it is always interesting to play on the streets!

**S Kodeeswaran**, Instrumentation, Chemplast Sanmar, Karaikal.

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**Guess Who? ! Clue No. 10:** John Howard, the Prime Minister of Australia began the mind games against the Lankans when he described him as a ‘chucker’ in 2004.
Cricket Stadium Contest

There are 14 stadiums displayed from across the world. Identify all of them and send in your entries to scribbles@sanmargroup.com. Prizes await the first 3 correct respondents.
Guess Who? Clue No. 7: Of his 800 wickets in Test cricket, he has picked up 112 Test wickets against England in 16 matches.
"I'll pour yours out as well, Dear - I know that you won't be long..."

**THANKS TO IPL, HE'S ACQUIRED AUSSIE ACCENT...**

**...ONLY WORRY IS HE'S SPEAKING HINDI, DARLING!**

**SAR UTHA KE JEEYO!**

**HE NEEDS YOUR TIPS TO CHASE...**

**272!**
“You don’t win or lose the games because of 11 you select. You win or lose with what those 11 do on the field.”
- Rahul Dravid

“A wise man learns by the mistakes of others. A fool by own.”
- Adam Gilchrist

“First of all, convince yourself that you are the best, because the rest of your life is going to go proving this to others.”
- Wasim Akram

“You’ve got to have dreams to keep you going.”
- Steve Waugh

“People throw stones at you and you convert them into milestones.”
- Sachin Tendulkar

“You don’t play for the crowd. You play for the country.”
- MS Dhoni

“You are your own motivator. I keep telling myself: Improve, improve from the previous match, the previous shot. You can do it.”
- Virat Kohli

“You’ve got to have dreams to keep you going.”
- Steve Waugh

“The next generation has always been and will be better than the previous one. If it is not, then the world would not be moving forward.”
- Kapil Dev

Guess Who? ! Clue No. 11: He also has the unimpressive record of having the most ducks in international cricket with 59 across all formats.
Did you know?

- Cricket balls are never a true sphere. They have a circumference of 224mm from one side and 229mm from the other.

- A diamond cricket ball was made in Sri Lanka in November 2004. It weighs 53.83 carats and has pure gold seam of 125 grams. The material used to keep the diamonds on the ball is similar to the one used on the wings of NASA space shuttles. Making a claim for the Guinness Book of Records as the only one of its kind in the world, it is made with 2704 diamonds and 18 carat gold stitch.

- The term “the Ashes” - Ever since an article appeared in the Sporting Times in 1822 about a match between England and Australia, with the text “…The body will be cremated, and the ashes taken to Australia…”, any cricket matches between England and Australia are known as “The Ashes”.


- “Hit the birdie” is what the player must’ve thought when he hit a sparrow dead in-flight during a game of cricket, with a cricket ball. This stopped the cricket match and earned the sparrow its place at The Lord’s Cricket Ground in London, where it is being showcased for this event.