TCI Sanmar Chemicals gets into its stride
Sanmar Holdings Ltd
Chemplast Sanmar Ltd
   Trubore Piping Systems
TCI Sanmar Chemicals S.A.E.
Sanmar Speciality Chemicals Ltd
   Organic Chemicals
   Phyto Chemicals

Sanmar Consolidations Ltd
Sanmar Engineering Technologies Ltd
   - Products Divn.
   Flowserve Sanmar Ltd
   BS&B Safety Systems (India) Ltd
   Sanmar Engineering Services Ltd
   Xomox Sanmar Ltd
   Xomox Valves Divn.
   Pacific Valves Divn.
Tyco Sanmar Ltd
   - Steel Castings Divn.
   Sanmar Foundries Ltd
   Matrix Metals LLC
   Cabot Sanmar Ltd
   Sanmar Shipping Ltd

The Sanmar Group
9, Cathedral Road, Chennai 600 086.
Tel.: + 91 44 2812 8500
Fax: + 91 44 2811 1902
## Spotlight

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Port Said, home of TCI Sanmar Chemicals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>TCI Sanmar Chemicals ramps up operations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>R Kalidas: Mr PVC A Sanmar associate for nearly 50 years</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Nature’s fury

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Cyclone Thane</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Recognition

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Matrix Metals honours Alton Meyen 47 years of exemplary service</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>National Safety Day across Sanmar locations</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Centre spread

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Port Said before dawn</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Bridging Nations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Spanish Consul General visits Chennai</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Sporting Sanmar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>‘Operation Sadbhavana’ peace initiative Sanmar hosts cricket team from Kashmir</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Jolly Rovers wins VAP trophy Fifth success in seven years</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Sanmar Library

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>SanGyan is seven years old</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Recognition

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Employer Branding Institute honours Sanmar</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Beyond Sanmar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Chemplast plants 1000 trees Plays its part in State Government scheme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Tailoring classes at Mettur To promote social entrepreneurship of women</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Health camps at Chemplast Mettur Plant II Eye screening for employees and families Pulse polio programme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Madhuram Narayanan Centre for Exceptional Children A Special Sports Day</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Legends from the South

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Maharajkumar of Vizianagaram</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Matrix can be viewed at www.sanmargroup.com* 
*Designed and edited by Kalamkriya Limited, 9, Cathedral Road, Chennai 600 086. Ph: + 91 44 2812 8051/ 52* 
*For Private Circulation Only.*
Port Said, home of TCI Sanmar Chemicals

A brief history

Port Said was founded by King Sa’id of Egypt on Easter Monday, April 25, 1859. It lies in north east Egypt extending about 30 kilometres along the coast of the Mediterranean Sea, north of the Suez Canal, with a population of 604,000. The city was established in 1859 during the building of the Suez Canal. Port Said has been ranked first among Egyptian cities according to the Human Development Index in 2009 and 2010.

The economic base of the city is founded on fishing and industries like chemicals, processed food, and cigarettes. Port Said is also an important harbour for exports of Egyptian products like cotton and rice. It is a fuelling station for ships that pass through the Suez Canal. It is a duty-free port, and a tourist resort especially during summer.

The Lighthouse of Port Said is the first...
building in the world built from reinforced concrete.

The city has many old houses with grand balconies on all floors, making Port Said an impressive centre of architecture.

Port Said’s twin city is Port Fuad on the eastern, Asian bank of the canal, created by the directors of the Suez Canal Company at the end of the World War I, building 300 houses for its labourers and functionaries. Designed by the École des Beaux-Arts in Paris, the French architecture of the houses give them a distinctive look. The new city was founded in December 1926.

The two cities are connected by free ferries running all through the day, and together they form a metropolitan area with over a million residents, occupying both the African and the Asian sides of the Suez Canal.

Port Said has acted as a global city since its establishment. It flourished particularly
during the nineteenth century and the first half of the twentieth, when it was inhabited by people from various nationalities and religions. Mostly from Mediterranean countries, they coexisted peacefully in a cosmopolitan community.

By 1869, when the Suez Canal opened, the permanent population of Port Said had reached 10,000. The European district, clustered around the waterfront, was separated from the Arab district, Gemalia, 400 metres to the west, by a wide strip of sandy beach. Over time the division between the European and Arab quarters disappeared.

In 1902, Egyptian cotton from Mataria started to be exported via Port Said; and in 1904 a standard gauge railway opened to Cairo. The trade attracted a large commercial community including many people of Greek origin.

By the late 1920s, the population numbered over 100,000 people. Port Said was by now a thriving, bustling international port with Jewish merchants, Egyptian shopkeepers, Greek photographers, Italian architects, Swiss hoteliers, Maltese administrators, Scottish engineers, French bankers and
diplomats from all around the world, living and working alongside a large local Egyptian community. And always passing through were international travellers to and from Africa, India and the Far East.

Each community brought in its own customs, cuisine, religion and architecture. The 1930s for example saw the advent of elegant public buildings designed by Italian architects.

Port Said has played a significant role in Egyptian history. The British entered Egypt through the city in 1882, starting their occupation of Egypt. The Anglo-Egyptian Treaty of 1936 stipulated a British pledge to withdraw all their troops from Egypt, except those necessary to protect the Suez Canal and its surroundings.

Following World War II, Egypt denounced the Treaty of 1936, leading to skirmishes with British troops guarding the Canal in 1951. Next year the Egyptian Revolution erupted.

In 1956 President Nasser nationalised the Suez Canal Company. The invasion of Egypt by Britain and France, with the help of Israel, led to the Suez Crisis. The main battles occurred in Port Said, which played a historic role in resisting the “tripartite aggression.”

The anniversary of the withdrawal of foreign troops on 23 December 1956 is celebrated annually as National Day.

After the 1967 Arab-Israeli war, also called the Six Day War, the Suez Canal was closed by an Egyptian blockade until 5 June 1975, and Port Said was evacuated by the Egyptian government to prepare for the Yom Kippur War (1973).
Vijay Sankar flanked by R Kalidas and PS Jayaraman, with other staff of TCI Sanmar during Vijay’s recent visit to Port Said in March 2012.
There are many ways to make VCM and PVC and the people in the vinyl industry know that well. But the way TCI Sanmar Chemicals makes them in Port Said, Egypt has no parallel.

It all started in 2007 with The Sanmar Group acquiring Trust Chemicals Industry, Port Said, Egypt, operating a Chlor-alkali plant and deciding to establish the complete vinyl chain. Plans were made to set up a fully integrated world class production facility with the following capacities:

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Caustic soda</td>
<td>275 KTA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDC</td>
<td>280 KTA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VCM</td>
<td>400 KTA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S-PVC</td>
<td>400 KTA (initially 200 KTA but revised in 2010 to 400 KTA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alco-ethylene</td>
<td>85 KTA (decided in 2010).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

After spending nearly 900 million US dollars, a part of the integrated facility was started in December 2010. But then the Egyptian Revolution in January 2011 caused the stoppage of all activities. The facility suffered damage to certain parts of the plant from criminal acts of vandalism and pilferage.

After setting right the damaged plant and putting in new equipment, production resumed in November 2011, and the plant is fully operational now. Marketing of PVC to the Egyptian market started in January 2012.

Since ethylene manufacture is yet to start, EDC is purchased from international sources and used to make VCM and PVC.

Construction of the alco-ethylene production facility commenced in March 2012.

Caustic soda and chlorine production and marketing to both the Egyptian and export markets have been positive from 2007 to now.
R Kalidas: ‘Mr PVC’
A Sanmar associate for nearly 50 years

R Kalidas, Vice Chairman & Managing Director - TCI Sanmar Chemicals SAE, Egypt, has completed 47 years of association with the Group. Even during the 17 years in between (1989-2004) when he was not employed by the Group, he was in constant touch, giving advice and suggestions. In fact, the acquisition of TCI Chemicals by Sanmar and the birth of TCI Sanmar Chemicals emerged out of one such suggestion by Kalidas.

Kalidas can truly be called ‘Mr PVC’. The prospect of finding people in the world with as many years of continuous experience in PVC manufacturing—almost fifty—as he has must indeed be remote. He has been one of the most dedicated and committed employees of the Group.

One of the stalwarts of the Group, Kalidas is a chemical engineer by qualification—with a masters degree in the discipline—who has worn varied hats in his long and distinguished career with Sanmar.

Joining the Group on 1 April 1964, Kalidas was the first employee of what was then the greenfield project of Chemicals and Plastics to manufacture PVC at Mettur. In fact, he joined the corporate office at Madras even during the initial phase of finalising the licensing, joint venture agreement and other commercial/ administrative formalities in connection with the partnership with BF Goodrich of the USA, before moving on to Mettur to plunge into all the plant activities there. In this period, he worked very closely with S Ramaswamy, who was appointed General Manager of the project.

Kalidas completed his Masters in Chemical Engineering at AC College of Technology. “I knew N Sankar from our college days. He was my junior, and I came into contact with him when I was a PG student and demonstrator at AC Tech, as also on the tennis court.”

When Kalidas applied for a position in Chemplast, he was interviewed by Director KS Narayanan and General Manager S Ramaswamy, who later mentored Sankar. Ramaswamy provided valuable guidance and “put me on the right path”.

Once the plant was commissioned and he moved to Mettur, Kalidas devoted himself completely to plant activities. It was the peak of the licence raj, which demanded frequent visits to New Delhi for a variety of approvals. KSN and Ramaswamy were both encouraging. Both expected work to be done quickly. He also had opportunities to interact with TS Narayanaswami, the Managing Director of India Cements.

The challenges were many. The PVC industry in India was in the initial stages and the manufacture of the feedstock, ethylene from alcohol was unfamiliar territory.

Kalidas served Chemplast for 25 years in his first stint before moving to the Gulf, where he spent the next 15 years. Coming back to Sanmar in 2004, he remains extremely youthful in his approach to work, even at the age of 72.
One of the first challenges NS posed Kalidas at Mettur was the increase in PVC capacity from the initial 6600 tpa to 15000 tpa. Kalidas realised from his earlier experience at Badger (who supplied distillation columns, reactors and heat exchangers for BF Goodrich) that the plant had been designed for a capacity as high as 15000 tpa. He knew that part of the distillation column had been blanked and that if it was completely activated by removing the blanks, the desired capacity could be achieved. Seeing the logic in this idea, NS gave him the go-ahead and the enhancement in capacity was achieved. But NS was not satisfied. He wanted to exploit the extra capacity built in for safety by the engineers, and that too was achieved, to reach a capacity of 16300 tpa. “Later we introduced the new technologies microsuspension and emulsion PVC.”

Kalidas was involved in the backward integration initiative of acquiring Mettur Chemicals. In charge of the project, N Sankar spent long periods at Mettur, at least twice a month. Kalidas also did sales and promotional work in addition to his responsibilities at the plant.

Kalidas's training in alcohol dehydration at the facility of the American collaborator BF Goodrich was a rich experience, providing exposure to alcohol reactor design. The acquisition of an alcohol distillery at Kattampuliyur and starting a greenfield alcohol distillery project were the next backward integration efforts in which Kalidas was involved. He considers all these initiatives of N Sankar as of paramount significance in the Chemplast growth story.

Until his marriage in 1972, Kalidas worked and lived at Mettur for almost eight years.

“When I left India in 1989 to work for Sabic in Saudi Arabia after 25 years in Sanmar, I promised NS that I would return in three or four years. I stayed on for 15 years, but I kept my promise to come back to Sanmar,” Kalidas told us. “I rejoined Sanmar at the age of 67. TCI Sanmar is one of the finest backward-integrated PVC plants in the world. It was a great moment when production of VCM started. Today, the PVC industry is showing a healthy trend. The alco-ethylene project should be ready in about 19 months.

On the work front, Kalidas’s greatest interaction has been with NS. “Vijay Sankar is an excellent successor, a very patient person. I have known him from his early days. I hope he will take the Group forward to newer heights and to greater glory. I have known four generations of the family starting from KSN’s father Sankaralinga Iyer. It's been an honour and privilege to work with all of them, each of whom has brought his own expertise to business.”
Cyclone Thane
Chemplast’s Cuddalore plant weathers the storm

Cyclone “Thane” crossed the coast between Cuddalore and Pondicherry in the early hours of 30 December 2011. Chemplast Sanmar’s PVC Plant at Cuddalore withstood the severe winds that blew with a speed of over 140 kmph. Designed to withstand the strong winds occurring during cyclones, it did not suffer any major damage.

The plant became operational within five days. Chemplast helped the district administration by providing drinking water from its desalination plant to the local community. Plant personnel also distributed other necessities to those affected by the cyclone.
Nature's fury
Cyclone Thane
Chemplast’s Cuddalore plant weathers the storm
Matrix Metals honours Alton Meyen
47 years of exemplary service

The year is 1964, six years after the Richmond Foundry was opened in the quiet little town of Richmond, TX, in the USA. Industry was booming and a young eighteen year old by the name of Alton Meyen who had just completed the Certified Welder course at Durham Tech College was hired and started work at W-K-M Foundry as a Stationary Grinder. Little did Alton know then that he had just started a 47 year career at that foundry location.

Alton Meyen rose steadily in the organisation through all its ups and downs and all the changes in ownership, management and technology, to reach the position of Director of NEPCO.

In December 2011, 47 years and 3 months after beginning his career, Alton Meyen retired from the only place where he has ever worked. A large celebration, held in his honour to recognise his contributions and years of service, was attended by all Matrix Metals Corporate staff and Nepco employees.
National Safety Day was celebrated across Sanmar locations on 4 March 2012. Quiz, essay, slogan writing, drawing and cartooning competitions on safety were conducted and prizes given to winners.
Port Said before dawn
His Excellency Antonio Bullon, Consul General of Spain in Mumbai, was on a four day visit to Chennai and Pondicherry during 22-25 March 2012. Vijay Sankar, Honorary Consul of Spain in Chennai, hosted a high tea in his honour at the Madras Cricket Club. While the delegates from Spanish companies including Gamesa, Roca Parryware, Befesa, Pioneer Asia Wind Turbines, GH Induction India and Fluidra, had an interaction with the Consul General, it was an occasion for the Spanish community in Chennai to come together in an informal setting.
On the request of the Indian Army, as part of a major peace initiative titled ‘Operation Sadhbhavana’, The Sanmar Group hosted two friendly games with a young cricket team from Kashmir.

The Sadhbhavana initiative is an integral part of measures to win the hearts and minds of people of Kashmir towards achieving and maintaining peace in the valley.

The team, ‘Srinagar Shah Jahans’ is on a national integration cum sports tour for the youth of Kashmir from Srinagar to Chennai. They were runner-up in the recently concluded Kashmir Premier League (KPL).

A Sanmar XI defeated Srinagar Shah Jahans by 51 runs to sweep the two-match T20 event held at the IIT Chemplast cricket ground on 10 and 11 January 2012.

Dr Bhaskar Ramamurthi, Director, IIT Madras, was the Chief Guest and gave away the prizes.
Jolly Rovers wins VAP trophy

Fifth success in seven years

Sanmar’s flagship cricket team Jolly Rovers triumphed over Globe Trotters in the final of the VA Parthasarathy Memorial Trophy Tournament at the MA Chidambaram Stadium on Thursday, 1 March 2012.

This is Jolly Rovers’ fifth win since the inception of the trophy in 2005-06.

Piyush Chawla’s attacking innings of 117 runs and two wickets earned him the ‘Man of the Match’, award.
The Sanmar TNTA Veterans 45 plus league championship witnessed some quality tennis at the Besant Nagar court on 15 March 2012 when Besant Nagar Club defeated the Madras Gymkhana Club by 2-1 in the final. N Sankar and MA Alagappan, President, TNTA gave away the trophy and cash awards to the proud winners.
Chettinad Vidyashram clinches Sanmar Cup
PC Sekhar Memorial Trophy

Chettinad Vidyashram emerged winners in the tournament with Santhome Higher Secondary School for the PC Sekhar Memorial Boys under 14 cricket tournament for The Sanmar Cup. The tournament was conducted from 4 - 12 January 2012 and drew participation from 31 city schools.

C Hemanth Kumar, South Zone Ranji Trophy player, presided over the valedictory function on 12 January 2012 and distributed the prizes. The tournament was inaugurated on 4 January by R Jesuraj, South Zone Ranji Trophy player.
SanGyan is seven years old

Born on 23 February 2005 with a collection of about 500 books, SanGyan today has a proud collection of over two thousand books, other than a sizable number of journals, VCDs and DVDs. SanGyan celebrated its seventh birthday this year with an interesting quizzing event across Sanmar locations. A video show on “How to read a book you don’t want to read?” was screened.
The Employer Branding Institute, a virtual organisation focusing on best practices in HR management, gives annual awards to outstanding professionals contributing to talent management, development and innovation. The award winner is selected by a global research cell which consists of professionals from different parts of the world.

The Sanmar Group was conferred an ‘Award for Institution Building’ by the Employer Branding Institute during the 6th Employer Branding Awards held at the Taj Lands End in Mumbai on 16 February 2012.

This year, a ‘Women at work Leadership Award’ was presented to Sarada Jagan at the 6th Employer Branding Awards held at the Taj Lands End in Mumbai on 18 February 2012.
A massive tree planting drive of planting 64 lakh saplings was launched on 24th February 2012 at the behest of the Government of Tamil Nadu. Chemplast actively participated in this initiative and 1000 saplings were planted within the precincts of the Mettur Chemplast plant premises.
Tailoring classes at Mettur
To promote social entrepreneurship of women

The Chemplast Sanmar’s tailoring centre has been part of its ongoing social women entrepreneurship programme at Kozhi Pannai village near Mettur. Tailoring classes are conducted for rural women to make them skilled and self supporting.
Health camps at Chemplast Mettur Plant II
Eye screening for employees and families

Chemplast Sanmar conducted a free eye screening camp at Mettur Plant II in cooperation with Dr Agarwal’s Eye Hospital on 28 February 2012. More than a hundred employees and their families benefitted from the camp. S Venkatesan presided over the programme. The camp was organised by Dr P Saravanan and Dr Valaiparameswaran.

Pulse polio programme

A Pulse polio programme was organised at Mettur Plant II in collaboration with the Government Primary Health Centre at Santhathanapatti on 19 February 2012. Government doctors - Dr Sugirtha and Dr R Nithya were present at the camp.
In the field of Mental Retardation the co-curricular activities take on a greater significance as they provide an opportunity for the children to learn and have fun at the same time. Sports events in particular provide opportunities for physical development, cognitive development, growth, character development and social interactions.

The Annual sports day was organised to exhibit the abilities of the children at this Centre and the skills acquired by them through training. Children under 6 years of age from similar institutions catering to the needs of special children were also invited to participate. The event was organised on 17 February 2012.

*The chief guest J Kaushik, Ranji & Duleep Trophy Cricket Player, took the March Past salute and distributed the prizes.*
Maharajkumar of Vizianagaram
(1905-1965)

“Good morning listeners, this is Vizzy welcoming you to the Green Park, Kanpur”, said a familiar voice at every Test match commentary in India in the 1950s and early 60s. This was Vijaya Anand, the Maharajkumar of Vizianagaram, the head of a small province in what is now the state of Andhra Pradesh, an erstwhile cricketer, captain of the Indian cricket team, cricket administrator, big game hunter, politician, and finally radio commentator. It was through the last of these avatars that he was known to millions of Indian cricketers.

During a period of radio commentary of uneven quality, Vizzy provided amusement in a typically personalised style. Kanpur was practically his home Test venue after he moved to Uttar Pradesh.

Vizzy was not the first Indian cricketer of a “royal” lineage. In the early years, Indian cricket was largely dependent on the patronage of the princely states. Two great representatives of Indian aristocracy, the Jamsaheb of Nawanagar, Ranjitsinghji, and his nephew Duleepsinghji, brought lustre to the game of cricket with their oriental artistry. Ranji, as the Jamsaheb was called, revolutionised batting by inventing the leg glance, and scored a century on Test debut for England. Duleep followed suit with a similar feat on his debut, again for England. Neither of them played for India.

Closer home, the Maharaja of Porbandar, the birthplace of Mahatma Gandhi, led the first Indian team to undertake a Test tour of England—in 1932. It was common in those days for Indian princes to bankroll the Indian cricket team’s tours.

A well known patron of the game in the late 1920s and thirties, Vizzy spent vast sums of money on promoting cricket at Vizianagaram, the princely state within Andhra Pradesh of which he was ruler. Educated at Princes’ College, Ajmer, and Haileybury College, England, he used his vast contacts to get international legends like Jack Hobbs and Herbert Sutcliffe to play in India, often at the ground inside his palace grounds. His immense wealth and great interest in the game enabled him to become a powerful figure in Indian cricket circles in the 1930s.

Vizzy’s ambition did not stop with promoting cricket. He was a very keen player and actually wanted to captain the Indian team. According to Mihir Bose, the author of the magnum opus, History of Indian Cricket, “If Vizzy had been content with being such a cricket sponsor like Sir Horatio Mann in the 18th century, or Sir Julien Cahn in the 20th, his name would be one of the most revered in Indian cricket. But he was consumed with the ambition to be a great cricketer”.

Legends from the South
Vizzy’s archrival in the arena was the Maharaja of Patiala, a good cricketer. Patiala was a close associate of Lord Willingdon, the Viceroy, and Vizzy saw an opportunity when the Maharaja fell out with Willingdon. He wanted to donate a Willingdon Trophy to the winners of the national first-class competition but lost out to Patiala, who managed to institute the Ranji Trophy in 1934.

Earlier, in 1932, Vizzy financed the Indian cricket team’s tour of England, and was named “deputy vice-captain”, but had to withdraw on health grounds. Thereafter, he steadily strengthened his position in Indian cricket so that by 1936, he was very influential. In fact, so well entrenched in the British administration was he that he was knighted on 15 June 1936. Twelve days later Sir Vijaya Anand made his Test debut at Lords as captain of the second Indian cricket team to tour England. Unfortunately, the tour was a disaster, with India faring poorly in the Tests and county games.

Despite impressive bowling by pacemen Mohammed Nissar and Amar Singh, centuries by Vijay Merchant and Mushtaq Ali and flashes of brilliance from the bats of CK Nayudu and C Ramaswami, England beat India 2-0. Personally, Vizzy failed to make an impression as a batsman.

The tour was rocked by controversy, when Vizzy decided to send the young and charismatic all-rounder Lala Amarnath home on disciplinary grounds. In the process, he antagonised the leading players of the team, and Amarnath became the hero of the press.

Vizzy was criticised when he returned home and he withdrew from the scene. He returned in the 1950s as a politician, administrator and broadcaster.

It was as a radio commentator that Vizzy finally achieved his ambition of cricketing fame, entertaining listeners with his obvious admiration of some of the game’s great personalities. His excitement when an Indian cricketer performed well was palpable, and he shared it with his listeners in no uncertain terms. The crowning moment of his career as a commentator was when he became a visiting member of the BBC’s commentary team during the Indian team’s tour of England in 1959.

Born December 28, 1905, Benares (now Varanasi), Uttar Pradesh
Died December 2, 1965, Benares (now Varanasi), Uttar Pradesh (aged 59 years 339 days)
Major teams India, Maharajkumar of Vizianagaram’s XI, United Province

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Batting and fielding averages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tests</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First-class</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bowling averages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tests</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First-class</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>