

MATRIX

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A PUBLICATION OF **THE SANMAR GROUP**



Chennai fights back after the floods



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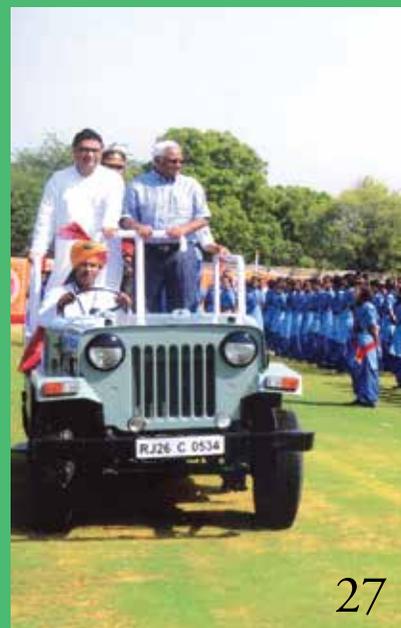
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Floods ravage Chennai, Cuddalore and other coastal towns in Tamil Nadu

The spirit of the people triumphs over the disaster

WHAT HAPPENED IN CHENNAI?

Chennai's worst flood in living history has come and gone. Unprecedented devastation wracked the city. Other coastal cities in the state suffered similar damage. Mindless urbanisation characterised by construction by greedy developers on land reclaimed by water bodies and grabbed by thoughtless home buyers and industries has been cited as one of the major causes of the flooding. Poorly timed release of water from reservoirs or catchment areas has been identified as another culprit.

Thousands have lost all their belongings, including furniture, equipment, documents and other valuables, cars and scooters, residential dwellings have become unliveable, factories completely destroyed, lives have been lost including those of the old and infirm, and patients in the ICUs of hospitals. Train services and flights were paralysed, power supply (mostly cut off as a precaution against electrocution) and Internet and phone connectivity were completely shut down, with only one silver lining in the cloud—families spent time together, conversing, playing, reading.

Being evacuated in a country boat.



THE BRAVE PEOPLE OF CHENNAI

The people of Tamil Nadu, Chennai, in particular, rose to the occasion. Several stories of selfless service and heroism came to the fore. Temples, mosques, gurdwaras and churches opened their doors to the needy and homeless regardless of their religious persuasion. Young men and women worked round the clock to help victims of the floods by mobilising relief supplies from food to clothing, transporting them from flood afflicted areas to safety. The armed forces as usual swung into action with courage and efficiency. Many NGOs also did exemplary work.

Many youngsters risked their lives while trying to carry or help the old, sick and infirm to safety. A pregnant young woman reached the hospital in the nick of time to deliver a healthy baby, thanks to the remarkable assistance she received from absolute strangers. In low lying areas like Kotturpuram, Srinagar Colony, and Velachery, boats and helicopters were



commissioned to move people waiting on rooftops to safety, the helicopters often making risky sorties to reach the people rescued. At least one film actor, whose personal loss was considerable—including three cars and several articles at home—led a brave and enthusiastic band of volunteers who did yeoman service in relief work at Chennai and Cuddalore. Many musicians and dancers donated generously and physically participated in relief and rescue work.

Some artists, who were deeply disturbed by the tragedy of the victims of the



Army to their rescue.



Clinging on to a rope of safety.

floods, decided not to participate in the famous annual Chennai music season in December. Others went ahead with their concerts and decided to contribute their earnings to the flood relief fund. Many organisers of these concerts pledged their monetary support to the cause of flood relief. As we go to Press, efforts are afoot to organise a mega concert for the same purpose.

RETURN TO NORMALCY

The rain has stopped and life is slowly returning to normalcy, but the healing process will be long and arduous. Though financial aid has come pouring in, much

more is needed and rehabilitation cannot occur overnight.

The long term good news is that with expertise from the Netherlands and other European nations, the Corporation is working on a design to handle 6.8 cm of rainfall. Chennai is also getting substantial World Bank funding to develop watersheds in basins of the two important rivers of the city—the Adyar and the Cooum. Strict adherence to urban development laws and well articulated policies based on environmentally sound, sustainable city development models are the way forward, if we want to avoid disasters similar to the recent flooding. Both government agencies and residents must cooperate in this regard.

The Saidapet bridge - the Adyar overflows.



WHAT CAUSED THE DELUGE?

This is how a recent article in The Hindu, a national daily, began: “The highest daily rainfall in a century. Freak weather conditions on one day. The hottest-ever Indian Ocean. The strongest-ever El Nino. The hottest year on record.”

The El Nino is a weather phenomenon resulting in warmer than expected ocean temperatures in the central and eastern parts of the tropical belt of the Pacific Ocean.

“People have attributed this year’s floods in Chennai to El Nino because the last time November rainfall exceeded 1,000mm in Madras was in 1918, also



an El Nino year. There have been many El Nino years when November rainfall in Chennai was not high. So the warming of the Indian Ocean may also have played a role,” according to one expert.

The period October to December is referred to as the Northeast Monsoon season over peninsular India. Following

Hanging on for dear life.

Being led to safer shores.





The Chennai airport was not spared.

the earlier-arriving Southwest, it is the major period of rainfall activity over south India, particularly in the eastern half-of coastal Andhra Pradesh, Rayalaseema and Tamil Nadu-Pondicherry. For Tamil Nadu this is the main rainy season accounting for about half the annual rainfall.

The rainfall over the southern peninsula towards the end of the Southwest Monsoon season is mainly in the interior districts and it generally occurs in the afternoon, evening or early part of the night. As the season advances the rainfall is mainly in the coastal districts with the interior districts getting less rain. It generally occurs during night and early morning hours. When there is a low, depression or cyclone close by the rainfall occurs throughout the day.

This year the south west monsoon was deficient, thanks to the impact of El Nino. The Indian Meteorological Department forecast precisely that. The opposite impact was had on the north-east monsoon.

Parts of this oceanic zone have already hit record temperatures this year, setting



the 2015-16 El Nino well on its way to a record intensity, with potential impacts across the world encompassing the range of events, including searingly high temperatures, droughts and intense rainfall.

On 1 December, 2015, freak weather conditions all came together on one single day to swamp Chennai with the heaviest rainfall in a century. The impact of El Nino was a significant contributor to the India Meteorological Department's forecast of a deficient Southwest Monsoon, a forecast that was spot on.

According to weather experts, the lower-level moisture supply on 1 December was high and upper air evacuation of the moisture was strong. This phenomenon called upper air divergence causes the cloud to become very intense. This

The Sanmar response

The Sanmar Group arranged for more than 50 tonnes of rice to be distributed to flood affected families at Cuddalore and Karaikal.

Many Sanmarites from day one of the calamity provided support to people in their neighbourhoods, in different ways - physical help, food and providing a place to stay. Many worked with volunteer groups.

Closer home, at Sanmar, we did a quick appraisal of the extent to which our colleagues in Chennai (and Cuddalore) had been affected by the floods. Some 38 families suffered moderate to severe damage by the onslaught, while ten of them were very severely hit. The Group's immediate financial assistance to a large number of employees in Chennai and Cuddalore came as a big relief to many who needed immediate financial help. The Group has also provided assistance to some employees who suffered moderate to severe damage.

rare coincidence was responsible for the torrential rain coastal Tamil Nadu experienced.

On 2 December, the Public Works Department released 30,000 cusecs of water from the Chembarambakkam reservoir near Chennai. The river Adyar





Houses submerged in the flood waters.

The Adyar rose to unprecedented heights.



| Cyclones in Tamil Nadu, India | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------|--------------|
| Cyclones Name | Lowest Pressure (mbar) | Year | Date |
| BOB 09 | 998 | 1991 | Nov 14, 1991 |
| BOB 06 | 994 | 1992 | |
| BOB 03 | 968 | 1993 | |
| 08B | 967 | 1996 | |
| BOB 05 | 958 | 2000 | |
| Fanoos | 998 | 2005 | Dec 8, 2005 |
| Nisha | 996 | 2008 | Nov 26, 2008 |
| Jal | 988 | 2010 | Jul 11, 2010 |
| Thane | 972 | 2011 | Dec 29, 2011 |
| Nilam | 992 | 2012 | Oct 31, 2012 |
| Madi | 986 | 2013 | |

then came into spate, flooding large parts of southern and central Chennai. Most residents were completely unprepared for this deluge. The discharge could not be helped, said the PWD, which “could not afford to risk the safety of the reservoir.”

The southern suburbs of Chennai have been witnessing an unplanned real estate boom in the last decade with unapproved layouts springing up adjacent to wetlands and water bodies. With residential development in low-level areas growing rapidly and drainage channels blocked, the waterlogging has lasted longer than necessary.

Significantly, the older parts of the city under the purview of the Corporation of Chennai were relatively safe from flooding because of efficient and well laid out storm water drains. Unlike this system, drains constructed by local bodies are not connected to the rivers.



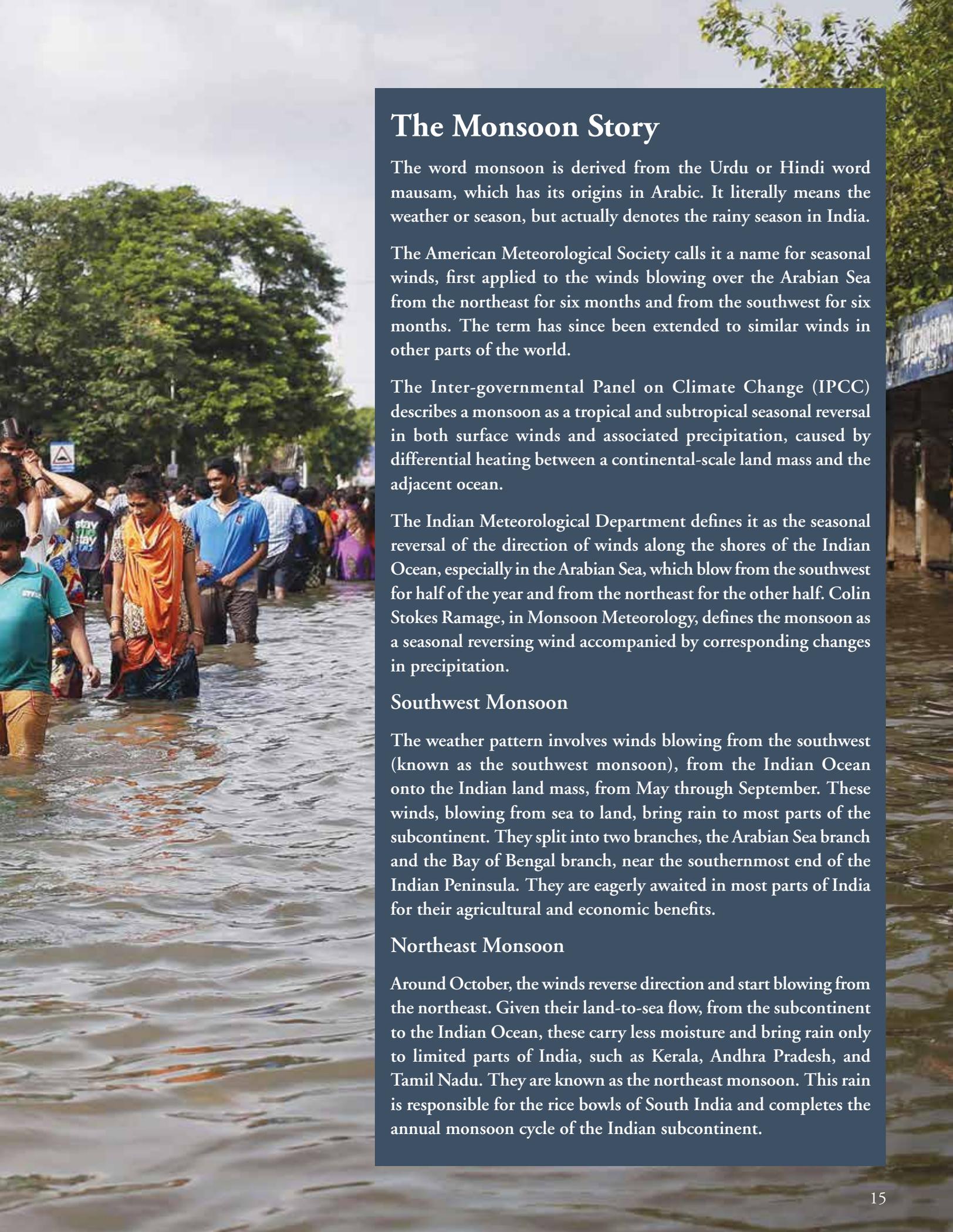
Heroism and courage



came to the fore





A photograph of a flooded street in India. In the foreground, a woman in a bright orange sari is wading through the murky water. To her left, a man in a blue polo shirt is also wading. Further back, a crowd of people is visible, some holding umbrellas. The street is lined with lush green trees on the left and a building on the right. The sky is overcast.

The Monsoon Story

The word monsoon is derived from the Urdu or Hindi word *mausam*, which has its origins in Arabic. It literally means the weather or season, but actually denotes the rainy season in India.

The American Meteorological Society calls it a name for seasonal winds, first applied to the winds blowing over the Arabian Sea from the northeast for six months and from the southwest for six months. The term has since been extended to similar winds in other parts of the world.

The Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) describes a monsoon as a tropical and subtropical seasonal reversal in both surface winds and associated precipitation, caused by differential heating between a continental-scale land mass and the adjacent ocean.

The Indian Meteorological Department defines it as the seasonal reversal of the direction of winds along the shores of the Indian Ocean, especially in the Arabian Sea, which blow from the southwest for half of the year and from the northeast for the other half. Colin Stokes Ramage, in *Monsoon Meteorology*, defines the monsoon as a seasonal reversing wind accompanied by corresponding changes in precipitation.

Southwest Monsoon

The weather pattern involves winds blowing from the southwest (known as the southwest monsoon), from the Indian Ocean onto the Indian land mass, from May through September. These winds, blowing from sea to land, bring rain to most parts of the subcontinent. They split into two branches, the Arabian Sea branch and the Bay of Bengal branch, near the southernmost end of the Indian Peninsula. They are eagerly awaited in most parts of India for their agricultural and economic benefits.

Northeast Monsoon

Around October, the winds reverse direction and start blowing from the northeast. Given their land-to-sea flow, from the subcontinent to the Indian Ocean, these carry less moisture and bring rain only to limited parts of India, such as Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, and Tamil Nadu. They are known as the northeast monsoon. This rain is responsible for the rice bowls of South India and completes the annual monsoon cycle of the Indian subcontinent.

2nd India-Egypt Business Council

The second meeting of the India-Egypt Business Council was held on 27 October 2015 at FICCI Federation House, New Delhi.

Vijay Sankar, Deputy Chairman of The Sanmar Group and Chairman of the Indian side of the India-Egypt Business Council, highlighted in his speech the

great opportunity ahead of India and Egypt in the sphere of economics. He also expressed his confidence that the second IEBC meeting will open up opportunities for cooperation in areas of common interest. PS Jayaraman, Chairman of TCI Sanmar Chemicals S.A.E. participated in the discussions.

Highlights of Vijay Sankar's speech

“ Our economic engagement at present is considerable; with a trade volume of almost 5 billion dollars and Indian investments in Egypt reaching 3 billion dollars, in over 50 Indian ventures. However, this is still way short of the true potential.



In trade, we are the second largest destination of global exports from Egypt but this can be increased significantly as can our exports to Egypt. We can work out mutually beneficial solutions to enhance two-way trade significantly by having preferential arrangements as well as better coordination. The Business Council, which is composed of the leading business houses on both sides should discuss the new economic partnership that provides win-win solutions.

In investments, as you are aware, Indian corporates are in an expansion mode with strong domestic growth, growing surplus and rising investments across the globe. They are prepared to step up their level of involvement in Egypt, as well. Our corporates have recognised that Egypt is not only a large market in itself but with the various agreements it has with

Africa and Europe, Egypt can be the hub for manufacturing in the region. Indian corporates have continued to invest in Egypt. This is quite commendable.

We are ready to strengthen cooperation in the fields of textiles, apparel machinery, automotive components, chemicals, consumer goods and any other area that Egypt would prefer. Further, India has great strength in new technologies such as IT, pharmaceuticals, health and space. Our companies would be ready to share their competencies with Egypt.

Our small and medium enterprises are the backbone of our industrial development. This has special relevance for Egypt and we could look for strengthened cooperation in the SME sector.

In short, given a suitable business environment, the sky is the limit for our economic engagement.”



Jolly Rovers in the 1980s and 1990s

We continue with the history of the Sanmar's family's association with Jolly Rovers which we began in the July 2015 issue, as part of the Jolly Rovers golden jubilee. In this we recall the performance of the team in the 1980s and 1990s. We shall continue the chronicle in future issues of Matrix.

The 1980s

Three teams dominated the first division of the TNCA league in the 1980s: Jolly Rovers, State Bank and SPIC.

By the time the eighties rolled around, professionalism was quietly creeping into our cricket, and running a team in the first division league was becoming a

fairly expensive proposition, what with player salaries and the cost of cricket equipment both registering sharp increases, and the old player mindset of opting for job security giving way to a more adventurous spirit. The result was that a considerable realignment of forces took place at the beginning of the decade in Madras cricket. Rocksolid job providers like State Bank and Indian Overseas Bank were no longer the most sought after as players were looking for bigger pay and perquisites and the more glamorous atmosphere of industrial enterprises.

Still, State Bank had not begun to lose any players as the 1980-81 season

League Champions 1982-83



Jolly Rovers cricket team, winner of the Raja of Palayampatti Shield for the year 1982-83. Squatting (L to R): PS Moses, Ashok Thambuswamy and VV Srinivasan. Sitting (L to R): P Vijayakumar, Bharath Reddy (Captain), T Raghunathan, MS Sekhar (Secretary), T Jayagopal (Manager) and M Sriram. Standing (L to R): V Guruswamy, GR Venkatakrishnan, Rammohan Rao, S K Patel, TA Sekhar, V Rajamannar, B Ramesh and AP Rajasekar during the Senior Cricket League Championship match against State Bank of India held at Madras. (Published in The Hindu on March 08, 1983 Courtesy: The Hindu Archives).

League Champions 1983-84



The Jolly Rovers CC, which won the Palayampatti shield for the TNCA senior division cricket league besides the Simpson Trophy and The Hindu Trophy (as Chemplast RC 'A') tournaments in the city season recently concluded. Sitting (L to R): P Vijayakumar, Bharath Reddy (captain), N Sankar (Managing Director, Chemplast Ltd.), MS Sekhar (member-in-charge, cricket), GR Venkatakrishnan and PS Moses; Standing (L to R): V Guruswamy (manager), L Sivaramakrishnan, VV Srinivasan, V Prasad, V Rajamannar, SK Patel, AP Rajasekhar and B Ramesh at Madras on May 08, 1984. (Published in The Hindu on May 20, 1984 Courtesy: The Hindu Archives).

unfolded. Its personnel were more or less unchanged from previous years, as there was no major fresh recruitment taking place. Bharath Reddy, was to join Chemplast and lead Jolly Rovers within a couple of seasons.

The captain was a Test wicket keeper, who had played in all three Tests of the 1979 tour of England, and taken part in an improbable chase of a fourth innings target of 438 runs in the Oval Test of that series, which India missed by a mere nine runs. A former Indian Schoolboys skipper, Bharath Reddy was a natural leader of men, and felt no discomfort in captaining a State Bank side most of whose players were older than he. He had at his disposal a wealth of talent and experience,

though some of the players were no longer in the first flush of youth.

The batsmen to dominate the league were from Jolly Rovers. P Vijayakumar (508 runs) and PS Moses (703) were to continue to do that for some more seasons. Jolly Rovers' Rajamannar (34 wickets) and Sunil Valson (40), who had moved from Delhi in the hope of playing for the state and the zone, K Bharat Kumar (49) of Alwarpet and his brother Arun Kumar (41) of Globe Trotters were the successful pace bowlers of the season, besides the India Pistons pair of Venkatesh and Giridharan, who, between them claimed 52 victims. State Bank won the Palayampatti Shield in 1980-81 and 1981-82, but the next three seasons belonged to Jolly Rovers, led by

Chemplast Sanmar signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras to develop the cricket ground inside the IIT campus in October 1995. A classy pavilion of old world charm took shape and was dedicated by Australian cricket great Neil Harvey on 5 March 1998.

Bharath Reddy who switched over from State Bank at the end of the 1981-82 season, after captaining a victorious team for the second year in succession. Once again Reddy led a talented team, some of whose members were handpicked by him: Ashok Thambuswami, PS Moses, P Vijayakumar, M Sriram, AP Rajasekhar, SK Patel, GR Venkatakrisnan, B Ramesh, V Rajamannar, V Prasad, and TA Sekhar were the men.

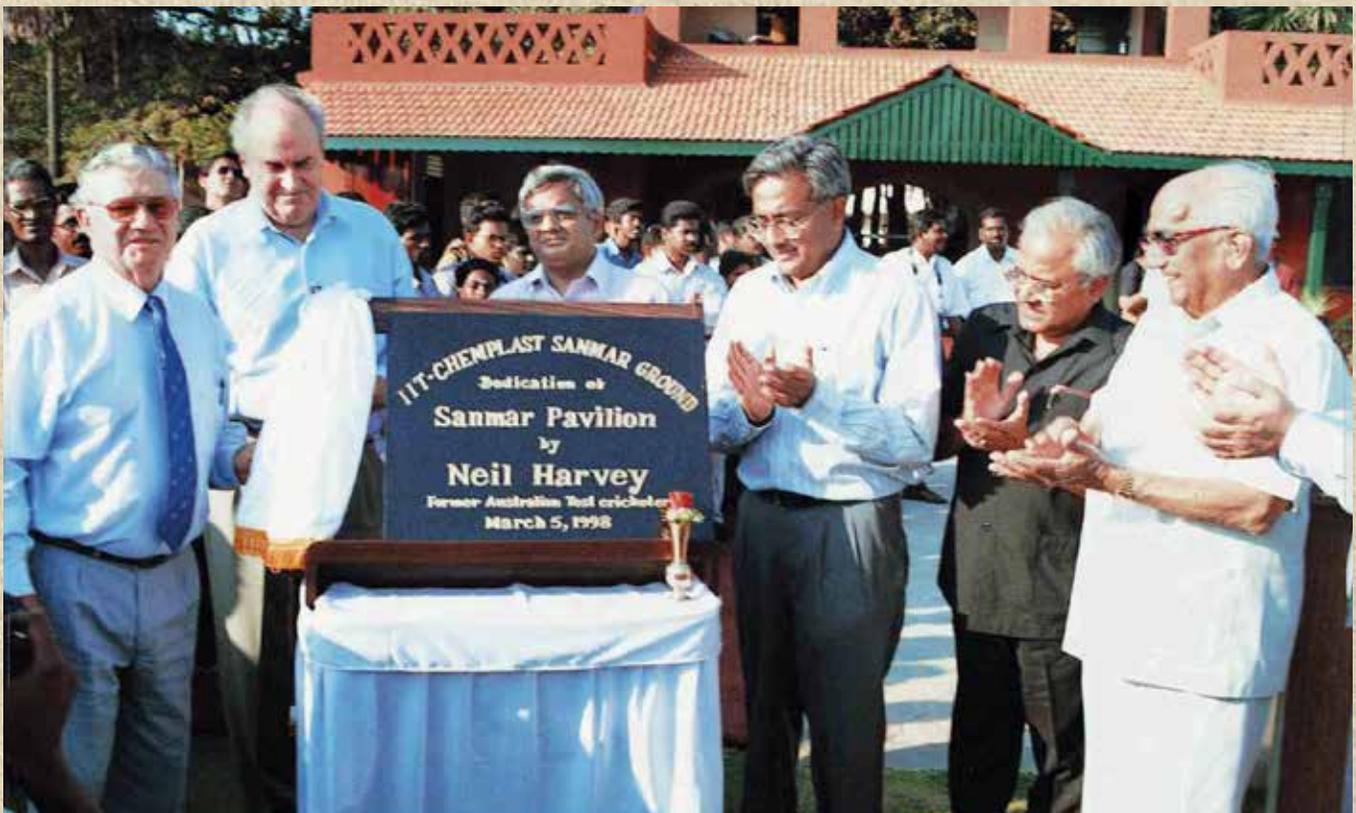
Jolly Rovers finished the 1982-83 season with 86 points, four points ahead of State Bank and six in front of Alwarpet, the other contender for the league title. PS Moses was one of Jolly Rovers' main batsmen of the season with 618 runs scored at an average of 51.50. Short and stockily built, Moses' game revolved around a keen eye and solid defence backed up by some powerful hitting. Another Jolly Rovers batsman to the fore was 'Jillu' B Ramesh whose 621 runs gave him an average of 51.75. A tall, slightly built opening batsman, Ramesh

played fluent drives on either side of the wicket and fielded quite efficiently besides occasionally rolling his arm over as a medium pacer. He was a credit to his father MG Bhavanarayanan, a member of the 1954-55 state squad that won the Ranji Trophy, and a gallant medium-pacer allrounder. Old reliable Vijayakumar had a good season too with an aggregate of 423 runs.

Abdul Jabbar had a magnificent season in 1985-86, when he blasted 823 runs in a recently acquired attacking mode, in which a good eye was backed by explosive power rather than the exquisite timing the left hander had been known for in his younger days. He was less mobile now, with his knees constantly troubling him, but he made up for his lack of footwork by waiting on the ball and smashing it to all parts of the park.

The 1990s

The 1990s saw a realignment of forces





Standing (L to R): V Prasad, K Bharathan, D Vasu, L Sivaramakrishnan, Bharath Reddy, B Arun, S Srinivasan, P Vijayakumar, Abdul Jabbar, Rammohan Rao and Ashok Thambuswamy. Squatting (L to R): PS Moses, and VB Chandrasekar.

in the first division league, sides which had dominated cricket in the earlier decades, being replaced by new teams backed by corporates showing a serious interest in cricket, and some companies coming back into the sponsorship of the game in a big way.

That decade and the new millennium also saw the very face of Tamil Nadu and Chennai cricket undergo a drastic change, with several new grounds of national and international standard coming up, largely through the efforts of corporate sponsors. Floodlit cricket came to stay in Chennai and sponsorship of cricket reached new heights, with players getting a better deal than ever before. Tamil Nadu became a force to reckon with in the national championship and came close to winning the title on a few occasions, though it is still to repeat its 1987 success. A number of exciting new batsmen were spotted, a couple of quality spinners and a new

breed of quick bowlers began to lend a sharp edge to the Tamil Nadu attack. The marvellous story of Robin Singh's reentry into the international cricket arena was enacted during the nineties and other exciting talent surfaced. By the end of the decade, Sadagopan Ramesh had proved his credentials as an opening batsman of Test class, T Kumaran had opened the bowling and S Sriram the batting for India in ODIs,



Hemang Badani had shown enough promise of a long innings on the world stage, though of all these only Ramesh had shown real staying power, and he too faltered through injury and lapses in form. A couple of deserving players like left arm spinner Sunil Subramaniam and allrounder D Vasu, however, missed the bus.

In the league, one-sided contests were becoming more the norm than the exception, with a handful of strong combinations dominating the scene. The first division league began to wear a relatively youthful and therefore less experienced look, with only students and quasi-professional cricketers able even to take part in it on a regular basis, all the matches, of two-day duration being played on week days, and team practice and training sessions becoming more and more organised and time-consuming. Player compensation reached

new heights, though they were still not extravagant as numerous alarmists kept bemoaning. Loyalty to your team was a much bandied phrase and an attribute club secretaries found increasingly absent, but themselves did not refrain from endangering by offering the carrot of better financial rewards to players they desired to grab from other teams. In a welcome move, however, to arrest the players' trend to migrate constantly between clubs, some leading institutions entered into unwritten agreements not to encourage defections, and this move eventually lent some stability to team compositions.

Jolly Rovers performed creditably during the decade, and was always dominant, the three titles of the period providing a glimpse of the phenomenal success in the new millennium.

League Champions 1990-91

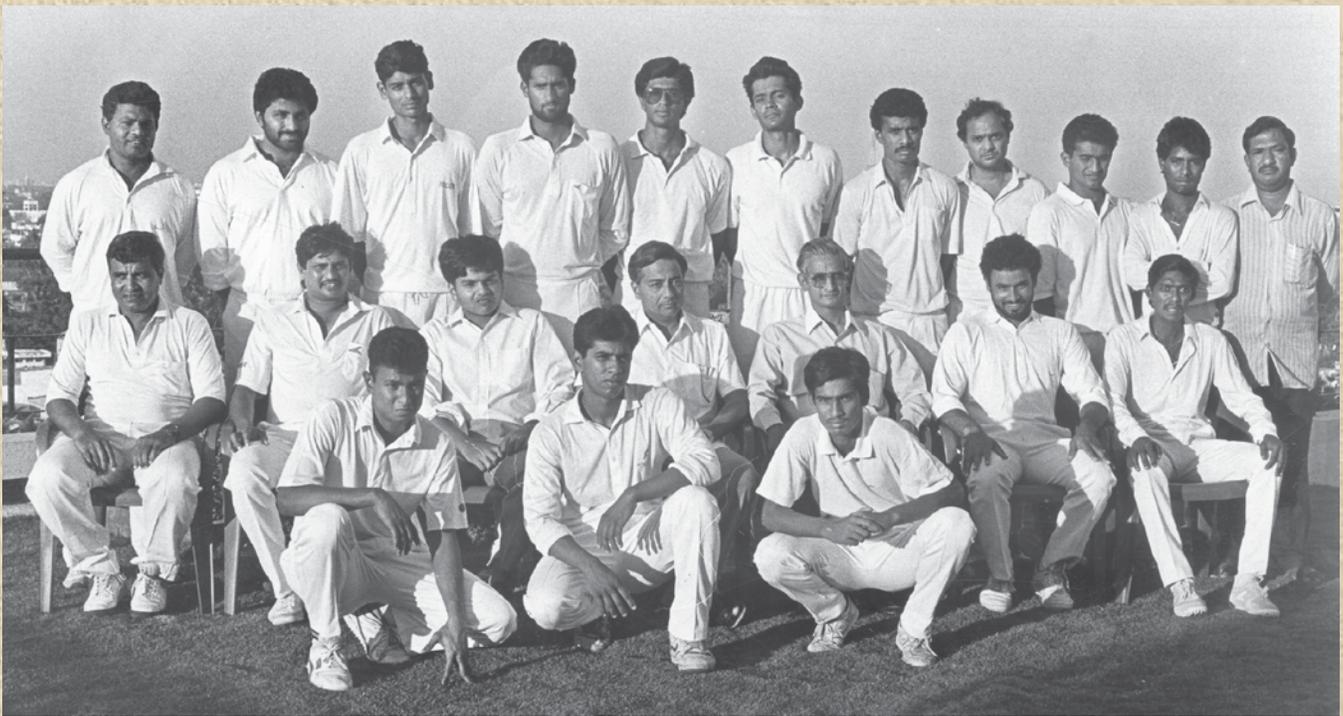


Photo shows the Jolly Rovers team members. Standing (L to R): PS Moses, B Arun, R Shivakumar, S Sunil Subramaniam, Jayakumar, D Vasu, Kubendran, Prasad, Shyamsundar, N Chandran, GS Pakshiraj (scorer). Centre Row (L to R): Abdul Jabbar, Bharath Reddy, Vijay Sankar, N Sankar, (Managing Director), MS Sekhar, VB Chandrashekar and L Sivaramakrishnan. Squatting (L to R): Reuben Paul, M Mujibur Rehman, S Sharath in Madras on February 21, 1991. (Courtesy: The Hindu Archives).

Chemplast adopts 'Responsible Care'

Responsible Care is a chemical industry initiative, which calls for companies voluntarily to demonstrate their commitment to improve all aspects of performance, which relate to protection of Health, Safety and Environment together with open and transparent communication with stakeholders.

Originally initiated by the Canadian Chemical Producers Association, Responsible Care programme has now been adopted by most of the developed and developing nations. The programme rests upon two major fundamentals – to look beyond the law to prevent all accidents and the foremost is that the society has certain expectations from the chemical industry as a Corporate Citizen.

In India, Indian Chemical Council (ICC) coordinates and promotes Responsible Care from 1993. ICC grants the Responsible Care Logo to those companies who implemented Responsible Care subject to audit for compliance.

Chemplast Sanmar is a signatory to Responsible Care and practicing this code from 2006.

After a site audit at Chemplast Sanmar during July 2015, the Responsible Care team from Indian Chemical Council satisfied with the compliance to Responsible Care Code authorised Chemplast Sanmar to use the Responsible



Responsible Care[®]
OUR COMMITMENT TO SUSTAINABILITY

Care logo for a three year period from October 2015 to September 2018.

The logo was presented to Chemplast by Daniel Rocznaik, Senior Director, Responsible Care, American Chemistry Council on 30 September 2015 at Taj Mahal Palace, Mumbai.

Daniel Rocznaik, Senior Director, Responsible Care, American Chemistry Council presenting the Responsible Care Logo to Dr R Palaniappan, Chemplast Sanmar and Yogeeswara Gowda, Sanmar Speciality Chemicals on 30 September 2015 at Taj Mahal Palace, Mumbai.



Chemplast Sanmar's double distinction of Awards from ICC and FICCI

Dr R Palaniappan and S Viswanathan of Chemplast Sanmar receiving the ICC awards and citation from Richard Ridinger, CEO, Lonza Group in the presence of Vijay Sankar, Deputy Chairman, The Sanmar Group and Addl Vice President, ICC.

Chemplast Sanmar won the Indian Chemical Council award for excellence in Health, Safety and environment and excellence in water resource management in Chemical industry. Chemplast also won the FICCI award for the 'Most environment-friendly company in chemicals sector'.

The ICC awards and citation were received by Dr R Palaniappan, Head of Safety, Health and Environment (SHE) at Chemplast from Richard Ridinger, CEO, Lonza Group at a special function held on 30 September 2015 at Taj Mahal Hotel, Mumbai.

S Venkatesan, Executive Director, Chemplast, received the FICCI award from Surjit K Chaudhary, Secretary, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals, Government of India at a function held at Mahatma Mandir, Gandhinagar, Gujarat on 28 October 2015. Deepak Mehta, Chairman, FICCI National Chemical Industry Committee was also present.

These awards are prestigious ones among the industries to compete on the leadership in environmental protection measures.





S Venkatesan, Chemplast Sanmar, receiving the FICCI award from Surjit K Chaudhary, Secretary, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Government of India.

Adam Smith Awards Asia 2015

The Adam Smith Award across the Asia Pacific region for the best financing solution has been presented to The Sanmar Group.

The challenge for the Group was to implement a financing programme to attain cost and liquidity efficiency for its offshore subsidiary and R Rangarajan, Managing Director – Finance, came up with a prudent financing solution. Deutsche Bank demonstrated its ability to both think outside of the box and to successfully execute a complex and innovative transaction and structure a financing solution and enhance counterparty risk by ring-fencing it using the credit insurance policy.

As Rangarajan points out, “This solution is the result of true client-centricity and close coordination across various

stakeholders and truly a global one with teams across US (Matrix Metals/ Legal Counsel), UK (Insurance Company), Singapore (Deutsche Bank/ Legal Counsel) and India (Deutsche Bank Trade and The Sanmar Group).”



‘Artitude’–SPASTN fundraiser for special children



The Spastic Society of Tamil Nadu (SPASTN) and the Artists Conclave organised a fundraiser art event ‘Artitude’ in the city to raise funds for a flexible multi-purpose therapeutic Enrichment Activity Hall (TEACH).

N Sankar was the Chief Guest at the event which had artworks of eminent artists from the conclave. ‘Art-related fundraising events have become a staple and Chennai is in the forefront of this,’ said Sankar.

Curated by Kalpana Yuvarraaj, an artist and an entrepreneur, and US state alumna, the event drew participation from several artists including Ilango A, VL Indira Dutt, Augustine Annadurai,

Baskaran NK, Saravanan S, Geetha Senathipathi and Hemalatha, Kalpana Yuvarraaj, Carmelita Roy, James Manikam, Rohini Yuvarraaj, Senathipathi M, Shyam Sharma and Thejomaye Menon.

With NGOs not getting sufficient funding from the government, events like ‘Artitude’ helps says VL Indira Dutt, president, SPASTN.

Kalpana’s artwork themed on Ganesha was sold for one and a half lakh, a few hours after the inauguration of the event by N Sankar.



N Kumar, Chief Guest at Banasthali Vidyapith, Rajasthan

N Kumar was the Chief Guest at the Special Annual Function of 'Banasthali Vidyapith' held on 7 October 2015 in Rajasthan.

Vidyapith is a fully residential women's university, with more than 11,000 students on its 850-acre campus situated amidst rural setting in Rajasthan.

During his address, Kumar said, 'Woman power is important to the economic growth of any country. In this context, I am reminded, that a Human Resources Professor of Harvard who came to India in 2000, was astounded to see that as compared to China fewer women work in India - be it in hospitals or restaurants.' According to him, if you solve that problem, development and empowerment of women will happen automatically.

As Ms Irina Bokova, Director General of UNESCO, says, 'Empowering girls is a development multiplier. Secondary

education has a direct impact on reducing early marriage, child and maternal mortality and nutrition. If effectively supported during adolescent years, girls can break inter-generational cycles of poverty, violence, exclusion and discrimination to become tomorrow's leaders, entrepreneurs, scientists and mothers. For this, education is the best investment a society can make.'



Beyond Sanmar

Coastal Cleanup at Karaikal



Chemplast Karaikal participated in the International Coastal Cleanup organised by Indian Coast Guard station, Karaikal during September 2015.

Karaikal Additional Collector Mohamed Mansoor inaugurated the cleanup which was well attended by NCC cadets, students from schools and colleges among others. SNM Patnaik, Indian Coast Guard Station, Karaikal, was present.



Chemplast Sanmar provided financial assistance for the procurement of furniture at the Government Coaching Centre, Karaikal. A cheque was handed over to E Vallavan, District Collector, Karaikal, on 8 October 2015.

Madhuram Narayanan Centre for Exceptional Children 12th National Workshop

Professionals and service providers involved in the training and management of children with special needs came together at the 12th National Workshop on “Early Intervention in Mental Retardation and Associated Disabilities” conducted by the Madhuram Narayanan Centre for Exceptional Children on 20 - 21 November 2015.

Dr K Manivasan, IAS, Commissioner for the Differently Abled, Government of Tamil Nadu, was the chief guest and inaugurated the two-day workshop.

Experts related their experiences on the theme ‘Preparing for Holistic Inclusion with Early Intervention for Children with Disabilities.’

SK Srivastava, Member Secretary, Rehabilitation Council of India, presided over the valedictory session.



The resource persons for the workshop were drawn from among the best in the country. The participants included special educators, doctors, paramedics, therapists and officials from allied offices.

Dr K Manivasan, IAS, Commissioner for Differently Abled, Government of Tamil Nadu, releasing Social Accounts 2013-2015 and handing over the first copy to N Kumar. Prof P Jeyachandran and Jaya Krishnaswamy are also seen.



A section of delegates who attended the workshop, threat of rain not withstanding.

Iconic Institutions of Chennai

The Cancer Institute



The Cancer Institute (WIA) is one of the iconic institutions of Chennai, doing yeoman service in cancer care and educating the public about the dreaded disease, freeing people from the fear of it, treating and rehabilitating patients, and saving lives.

It was founded by Dr Muthulakshmi Reddy, a great social activist and reformer in 1954. The first woman in India to graduate with a degree in medicine (in 1912), Dr Reddy dedicated her whole life to the championing of causes, particularly women's issues. After losing her sister to rectal cancer in 1923, she sent her only son, S Krishnamurthy, to the United States, Switzerland and the UK to train in cancer treatment. When he returned, the Adyar Cancer Institute was established, with the stated mission of particularly caring for poor patients.

The foundation stone for The Cancer Institute was laid by the Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru on 10 October, 1952, under the auspices of the Women's Indian Association Cancer Relief Fund.

The Institute began with two doctors, Krishnamurthy and V Shanta, with a single building, minimal diagnostic and therapeutic facilities and a cluster of 12 huts to house the patients. The only cancer hospital in South India, it was established with public donations as a voluntary, charitable, non-profit institution.

Dr Shanta took over as the Institute's Director and Chairperson when Dr Krishnamurthy retired in 1979. Today, the Cancer Institute still offers subsidised treatment to the poor.

Dr Shanta, the main person behind the hospital, has been much honoured and



The Sanmar contribution

Over the years, The Sanmar Group has been a steadfast supporter of the Cancer Institute.

The premises of the Institute include the Mrs Madhuran Narayanan Block, built on a donation from Sanmar. The Group has made further contributions towards the renovation of the building and towards furtherance of research activities in the Institute.

feted for her outstanding work. Her dedicated service has won her many awards, including the Ramon Magsaysay Award and the Government of India's Padma Bhushan, one of the highest honours in India.

The Institute is spread over nine acres in Adyar, Chennai. Today it has more than 400 beds and over 1,25,000 patients annually are treated. They are drawn from all over India, parts of South and South East Asia. The indigent among the patients are treated free of charge. The hospital has state-of-the-art facilities for diagnosis, evaluation and treatment of cancer as well as rehabilitation.

Living its mission of providing state-of-the-art treatment to people with all types of cancers, the Institute is equipped with world class medical facilities. It houses a hospital, College of Oncological Sciences, an exclusive division for Preventive Oncology and a research centre.

The hospital employs 78 doctors and 150 nurses. The paediatric oncology department was introduced in 1960, a pioneering effort in India. Hundreds of children under the age of 14 are treated annually. Recently, with the support of the Mahesh Memorial Trust, the new 22,000 square feet Mahesh Memorial Paediatric Oncology Centre was added. The building contains a play area, dining room, general wards, an ICU, and many other amenities.

In addition to treatment and research, education is also a major goal at the institute. The centre has been recognised for Ph.D. programmes/ D.Sc. in oncological sciences from 1965 by universities across the country. The college also trains radiotherapy technicians

and cyto technicians. It is the first centre in India to introduce superspeciality courses in Medical (DM), Surgical (M.Ch.) and Radiation Oncology (MD) courses as early as 1984. Since then the centre has become a postgraduate centre and college of Oncologic Sciences attached to the Dr MGR Medical University at Chennai.

The Institute has made outstanding contributions in the field of oral and cervical cancer in South India. The first case control investigation into the aetiology of oral cancer in South India was carried out by the Institute in 1969. An investigation into the causes of oral and cervical cancer established that chewing of tobacco, arecanut and betel leaves played a dominant part but was not the sole reason. It also showed that genetically susceptible epithelium was a pre-requisite for the induction of cancer by tobacco.

A satellite cancer care centre of the Adyar Cancer Institute has been established at Pallikaranai, a few miles from the main hospital.

The centre offers free screening and testing for pre-cancer and cancerous conditions; and also disseminates information on prevention of cancer.

