

MATRIX

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A PUBLICATION OF THE SANMAR GROUP



A 'Royal' addition to the Sanmar fleet



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Festival of 'India by TCI Sanmar Chemicals, Port

The Embassy of India in Egypt and Teamwork Arts presented 'India by the Nile 2016' – a celebration of contemporary and classical music, dance, theatre, visual arts, film, food and literature for the fourth successive

year. TCI Sanmar Chemicals, Port Said, continued to be the lead sponsor of the festival for the fourth consecutive year.

The festival was a unique endeavour platforming the wealth of India's classical and contemporary cultural heritage

PS Jayaraman, Chairman, TCI Sanmar Chemicals at the Press Conference held at Cairo on 21 April 2016 to mark the beginning of the festival. The press conference was chaired by Sanjay Bhattacharyya, Ambassador of India to Egypt, Sanjoy Roy, Managing Director Teamwork, Camelia Sobhi, Foreign Cultural Relations Sector and Yehia Rashed, Minister of Tourism. It was well attended by media from across the city and there were over 150 media personnel present.

PS Jayaraman (first from left) with dignitaries at the festival of 'India by the Nile 2016.'



the Nile' season 4

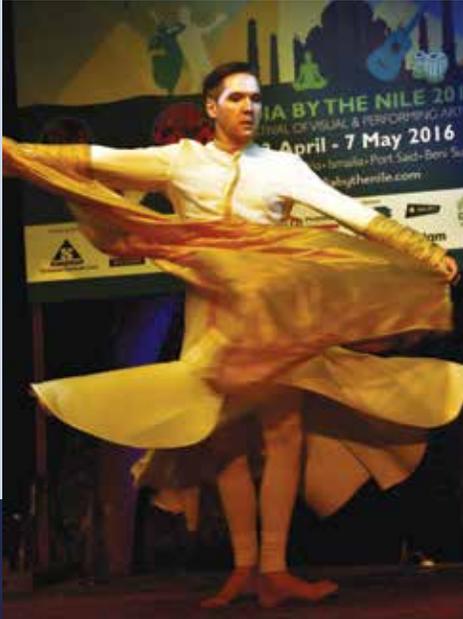
Said, the lead sponsor

including dance, theatre, music, food, film, literature and visual arts.

The festival provided audiences in Egypt an occasion to engage with the cultural diversity of India's heritage.

'India by the Nile' brought some of the most invigorating performances in Indian classical dance, World Music, Bollywood musicals and a world class photography exhibition to Egypt.

Facts and figures	
28	Shows and events
75	Performers artists and craftsmen
81%	Local attendance
5000	Attendance at ticketed events
35000	Attendance at non ticketed events
200000	Footfalls over 16 days



The festival was inaugurated on 21st April with a well attended Press and a flash mob by the Bollywood ensemble on their arrival at the Cairo airport.

Jannat-E-Nile, a Documentary Film by Arti Kulkarni, was screened and Make in India, the flagship programme of the Government of India was successfully held in Cairo.

A food festival curated by noted chef Vikram Udaygiri in partnership with Four Seasons Hotel was organised for over a week in the city.

The Bollywood musical was staged over nine shows in Cairo and Alexandria to packed houses.

The other events included an exhibition of photographs depicting the festival of colours by Haran Kumar followed by discussions on street children with Indian and Egyptian speakers, Odissi classical dance by Dona Ganguly and her troupe, World Music by Indian Ocean across three cities, and free master classes in Yoga.



A seven-member Taal Vadya Kacheri (Percussion Ensemble) at the festival.

Wellbeing session.



Food Fiesta - Cuisines from India.





Women of substance at India House.

Dona Ganguly and Group - Odissi Dance.



Colours of life by Haran Kumar.



Sanmar Shipping makes its presence felt in gas

Sanmar Royal, the latest addition to its fleet



Sanmar Royal, formerly Queen Catalina, the latest addition to the Sanmar fleet, is a Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) carrier, flagged with the Marshall Islands. Being a type C and an ethylene carrier she is one of the most versatile of the gas carriers.

Ethylene carriers are the most sophisticated of the gas tankers and have the ability to carry not only most other liquefied gas cargoes but also ethylene at its atmospheric boiling point of -104°C .

These ships feature cylindrical, insulated, stainless steel cargo tanks able to accommodate cargoes up to a maximum specific gravity of 1.8 at temperatures ranging from a minimum of -104°C to a maximum of $+80^{\circ}\text{C}$ and at a maximum tank pressure of 4 bar.

The Sanmar Royal has been acquired under a unique financing scheme: Sanmar has the vessel under a five year bareboat charter from the owners Asahi Tanker(S) Pte., Singapore.

The vessel is now on a time charter with Braskem of Brazil, the largest petrochemical company in Latin America and a major player in the international petrochemical market.

trade sector with



The vessel is being technically managed by Hartmann – Reederei, Germany, a part of the Hartmann group and provides a full service of management for gas tankers, containers, vessels and bulk carriers.

The commercial management of the vessel is by GasChem Carriers, Hamburg, Germany, also a part of Hartmann group and one of the largest Gas Pool operators.

Built at Cantieri Navali Benetti Gecan S.P.A, Ship Building, Italy, in 1995, Sanmar Royal has completed 20 years of service and is good to go for at least another decade.

The size and tonnage make her ideally suited for our Cuddalore Terminal and VCM trade also, which gives Sanmar the tradable option, in house.

With the addition of Sanmar Royal, Sanmar Shipping now has a presence in four major maritime trade sectors, namely Oil, Chemical, Bulk and Gas.

To the Moon... and now back to Earth!

BS&B India's odyssey continues

BS&B Safety Systems (India) is committed to providing reliable pressure relief devices for critical applications in high technology areas - such as India's first mission to moon - Chandrayaan in 2008, critical safety protection in nuclear power plants, the fast breeder reactor, BHAVINI at Kalpakkam, and in the Defence sector in battle tanks and missiles in the AGNI series, including the latest AGNI V which was successfully field-tested in 2012. The elite customer list includes India's leading OEMs like BHEL and ABB, Thermax, L&T etc.

On 23 May 2016, the Indian Space Research Organisation successfully flight tested India's first winged body aerospace vehicle operating in hypersonic flight regime. The project is known as the **Re-launch Vehicle Technology Demonstrator (RLV-TD)**. The purpose of the mission is to validate and test a launch vehicle for future use thereby saving cost. This may be a prelude to future human space missions.

The winged RLV-TD is designed to evaluate various technologies, namely hypersonic flight, autonomous landing and powered cruise flight, thermal protection systems, navigation, guidance and control schemes and re-entry mission management etc. By the success of the mission all the above were tested and proved to be working successfully.

BS&B India participated in the above project by supplying its Rupture Disk assembled in the Retro Rocket motors which were used on its main solid motor to separate from TD. The Disk was made of Titanium to take care of several factors like weight, corrosion, and other extreme ambient conditions. Further, this needed to be welded to a control ring on one side for rigid clamping to prevent leakage of fluid medium. Welding Titanium posed a problem as it gets oxidised easily at



ambient atmosphere. Then solving the leak tightness between the ring and the disk membrane was an issue. This was because it had to be qualified for absolute Zero leakage, being tested using a Helium Leak testing machine to check for leakage between ring and the Disk membrane. Finally after taking care of providing an Argon gas atmosphere to prevent oxidation of Titanium, welding was carried out using Plasma welding technology. The disks were repeatedly tested for its consistency to ensure that welding does not affect the performance of the disk.

In the RLV experimental mission, the solid rocket booster Rocket, HS9, that carried RLV-TD after reaching the designated altitude and its descent,

The photograph of the disk kept as sample in house is reproduced below along with a Five Rupee coin for size comparison.



Top view

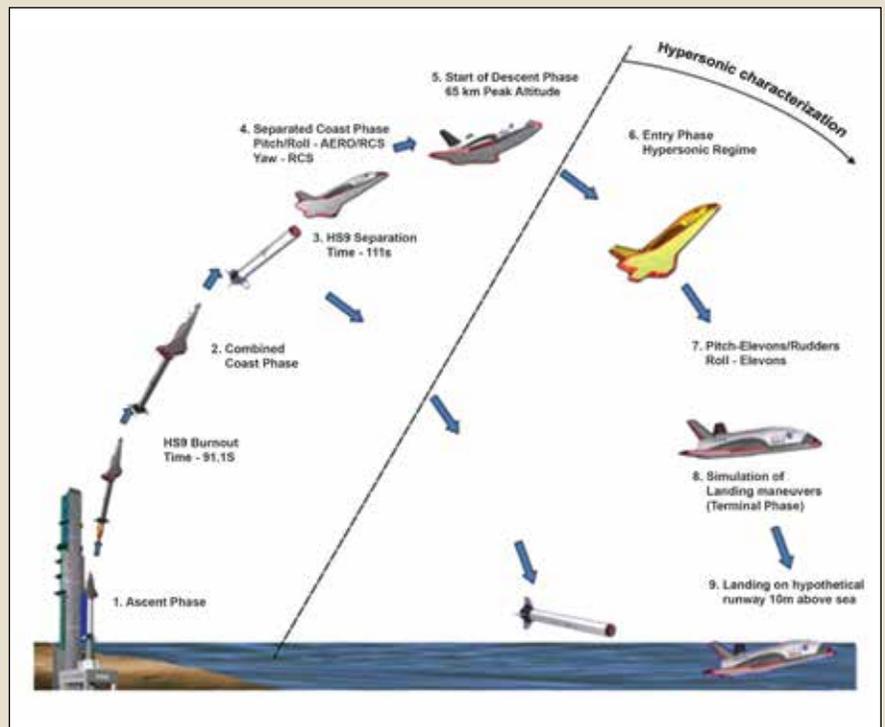


Rear view

disengaged RLV and the separated Vehicle further ascended to a height of about 65 km as programmed.

From that peak altitude of 65 km, the Vehicle began its descent followed by atmospheric re-entry at a Velocity of around Mach 5 (five times the speed of sound). The vehicle's Navigation, Guidance and Control system accurately steered the vehicle during this phase for safe descent. After successfully surviving high temperatures of re-entry with the help of its Thermal Protection System (TPS), RLV successfully glided down to the defined landing spot over Bay of Bengal, thereby fulfilling its mission objectives. The vehicle was successfully tracked during its flight from ground stations.

In this flight, critical technologies such as autonomous navigation, guidance and control, reusable thermal protection system and re-entry mission management have been successfully validated.



Chennai Runners... and

Over the last few years, the number of the city's residents engaged in a daily run has seen a steady increase, despite Chennai's weather, with 365 days of summer, seemingly an impediment to the experience. The most prominent of the clubs mushrooming in the city is Chennai Runners, which has over 2000 active members. It is open-to-all club that uses many tools to keep its members updated – Facebook, WhatsApp, Twitter, and Google groups. Almost every location has a dedicated running group in its surrounding which will train, mentor and motivate you to run. While Chennai Runners has 18 chapters across the city, other groups in the city include Zen Runners (employees of Cognizant), Dream Runners (a community of families from Besant Nagar) and Cool Runners (a group of runners from YMCA).

Chennai's is a lovely running community, cosmopolitan to the core. Even if your legs are not strong enough, various running groups will train them to become strong. Once you are part of any of these groups, you will get hooked to running for life. They will guide you

and advise you, help you run better and faster.

Isn't Chennai too hot for running?

We have four months of pure bliss for runners: November to February, when the weather is just perfect for running. The preceding four months from July to October are not bad either because it is rainy season and it hardly rains for about 20 days out of those 120 days in Chennai. That leaves a hot and humid period from March to June, but early mornings between 5.00 am and 7.00 am is still bearable. You have the roads all to yourself, and the sultry and warm Chennai weather is the coolest then. But the good news is that if you train in the tough conditions of Chennai, you are assured of doing well in an event in any other city in India/World.

Where are the places to run in Chennai?

For starters, there are the beaches. From the iconic lighthouse at Marina Beach, you can cut a straight path all the way down past the Napiers Bridge for an enjoyable five-km run. The sea breeze and the potential for people-watching make this a great option.



other running addicts

On Sundays, while the rest of the world sleeps in, many runners meet at the Anna University parking lot at 5 a.m. By 5.15 a.m., the parking lot is empty. They pass through Boat Club, head to Elliots Beach via the quiet lanes of the Theosophical Society. This 10 to 16 km (depending on where you turn back) running route brings one back to Anna University. There is inside the University a well shaded 2.5 km loop that is quiet and beautiful, with proximity to the 400 mt track for speed workouts.

If you are a beginner you may have many questions:

What do I wear? For short distances and short durations (say 30 minutes), a loose-fitting cotton shirt/ kurta and exercise shorts/ pants are good enough. For long distances, one may be better off spending on a couple of synthetic shirts that have the ability to rapidly wick sweat away. As for shoes, one needs to experiment a little and follow the body's cues.

Is it okay to walk during a run? Absolutely! There is no requirement that you should run continuously. In fact, most runners, irrespective of the race category, invariably take walk breaks. Also, many a time, walking is a great way to begin.

Am I too old or heavy to run? Pretty much anyone can run. Running seems to arouse all sorts of fears in people — Is it bad for my knees? Consult a doctor, ease slowly into the activity, practise moderation, and take precautions for specific conditions. Runners across ages, gender, weights, and those with asthma, diabetes, etc., swear by how much running has helped them.

Within The Sanmar Group, a steadily increasing number of employees are

taking to running. In communities such as Mettur, Berigai and Chennai, Sanmarites are realising the benefits of this activity. According to Krishna Kumar Rangachari, running is a great enabler and a great leveller. Enabler – because it opens your eyes very quickly to benefits of being fit and taking care of your health, and Leveller – because anyone can run, the roads are free, one doesn't need fancy gear or gadgets (just stop by at Marina beach on any given morning and you will catch sights of mamis jogging in a salwar/ saree and a mama running barefoot in a veshti/lungi!).

The Wipro Chennai Marathon

Some of the most enjoyable running events are conducted in Chennai. This includes the Dream Runners Half Marathon, Dawn to Dusk, Dusk to Dawn, Cool Runners Half Marathon and Chennai trail marathon and the marquee event of the City The Wipro Chennai Marathon.

In a short span of time, 4 years since the first edition of the Wipro Chennai Marathon was started by Chennai Runners in 2012, the event has grown leaps and bounds. While close to 6000 runners participated in the inaugural edition, the 2015 edition saw over 16000 runners hit the streets! The success of this event has also resulted in other events getting popular. On any given Sunday you can be assured that the Marina Beach area would be hosting a running event! Many of them in aid of social causes, like the Terry Fox Chennai run (for Cancer awareness) and the Dawn to Dusk Marathon held this year for the cause of Liver Diseases.



Krishna Kumar Rangachari



Some runners from Sanmar:



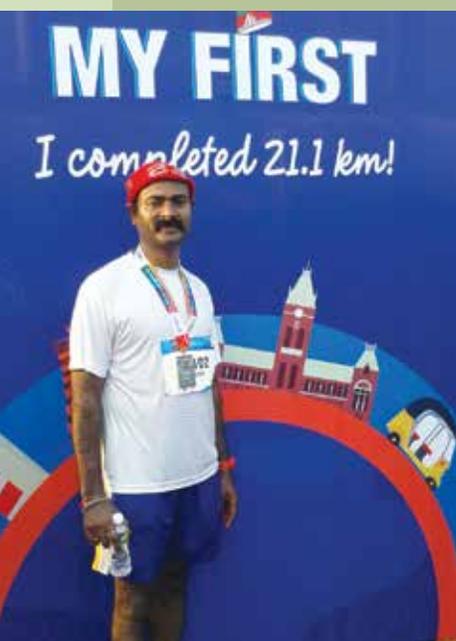
A Amarnath

A Amarnath

A national level athlete in my younger days, I had slowly become absolutely unfit, thanks to lack of motivation and the sedentary lifestyle of a corporate job. Thanks to my move to Chennai and introduction to Pettai Rappers group of Chennai Runners, I am now getting back on track to become physically fit again.

S Gajendra Bharathy

Though I have been an athlete from school days, I have never been a marathoner. I was inspired by some of our Sanmar runners to participate in the Wipro Marathon in December 2014 running for 10 km. My second run with Wipro was in January 2016, when I ran the 21 km Half Marathon. I jog every Sunday for about 10-15 km.



Gajendra Bharathy

S Thangavel

My first running experience was a Half Marathon at the Chennai Marathon. Since then running has become my passion. Within a year and a half, I have finished at least 6 half marathons and a handful of 10 km runs. Running long distances and achieving the target not only boil down to fitness or timing, it is all about endurance and patience to run an hour long race.

S Ganesh

When I was a spectator in a marathon in the US, I saw an elderly woman completing her Half Marathon. I then realised that it was never too late to start running. Since then I have been running 4 kms every alternate day and attended five marathons.

S Gurumurthy

It was during the first Chennai Trail Marathon, 2012 that I suddenly found the urge and ran the 10 km in jeans and sandals. The easy finish got me excited and immediately signed up for the Half Marathon 21.1 kms in the maiden Wipro



S Thangavel



S Gurumurthy

Chennai Marathon 2012. I became a full marathoner the next year.

P Prabakaran

My first marathon was a 10 km fun run before the full marathon of 42.19 km. I have completed two Half Marathons and 3 Full Marathons across South India. "Run with your head up," because it gives a positive attitude in approaching life's hurdles.

P Prabakaran (first from left)



TCI Sanmar Chemicals, Port Said, recognised for best safety standards

TCI Sanmar Chemicals has been recognised for its excellent safety standards in the field of chemical manufacturing by the Ministry of Manpower and Emigration, Arab Republic of Egypt. A team from MOMP visited TCI Sanmar at Port Said and adjudged that it has one of the best safety systems in Egypt. A certificate of appreciation and shield of excellence were awarded to TCI.



Two ABCI awards for Sanmar Corporate Communications

The Sanmar Group won silver and bronze awards at the 55th Awards Nite of the Association of Business Communicators of India (ABCI). Sanmar's employee newsletter 'Scribbles' won a silver under the tabloid category and a bronze for newsletter design.

The awards were given away by Mohan Tanksale, Chief Executive of Indian Banks' Association and former CMD of Central Bank of India at a function held in Mumbai on 18 March 2016.



Madhuram Narayanan Centre for Exceptional Children

‘Moving ahead’: Mainstreaming of children with special needs

Management of disability has been the greatest challenge for each child with special needs, and therefore a matter of pride for both the teacher and the parent that these children who have received early intervention have met the challenges satisfactorily and become eligible to enter mainstream schools/special schools or vocational schools.

A support system from the Madhuram Narayanan Centre for Exceptional Children ‘Sanmargam’ meaning ‘Good Direction’ is a project formalising the ‘mainstreaming’ of children with special needs after receiving their early intervention in the ‘Upanayan’ Early Intervention Programme. The project is aimed at hand holding and

guiding the mainstream school teaching staff for a period of three years to manage children who arrive at their doorsteps.

The culmination of Upanayan is ‘Moving Ahead’ celebrated every year on the last academic day. The children don their graduation gowns, receive a school bag as gift and exhibit their talents by presenting skits, action songs and other skills.

This year thirteen children moved ahead at a function on 22 April 2016. While appreciating MNC’s efforts, Chief Guest of the day, Dr Darez Ahamed, Mission Director, National Health Mission, Tamil Nadu, expressed a desire to replicate the programme at the Primary Health Centre levels in all the 32 districts of Tamil Nadu.



MCC wins Sanmar-TNTA Chennai inter-club league title for

Madras Cricket Club 'A' won the 'A' Zone title for the fourth time in a row when they got the better of a fighting Besant Nagar Club 'A' winning two matches to one in the final played at the Besant Nagar Club Courts.

This was the 24th edition of the Sanmar-TNTA Chennai City Club Tennis League, played during February and March 2016. 43 teams and some 500 players participated in six zones - A, B, C, D, E and F of the regular league. 17 teams with 130 players participated in the Veterans' 45+ event, while 18 teams and 50 players participated in the Veterans 60+ event. The total prize money for the event of Rs.2,75,000/- was sponsored by The Sanmar Group.

Over the years, top players of Tamil Nadu have taken part in this prestigious league. This year was no exception and the players who represented various clubs included Ramkumar Ramanathan, Vinod Sridhar, Vijay Kannan, Rushmi Chakravarthy, M Fariz, Ajay Selvaraj, Elwin Antony, Prajnesh Guneshwaran, Arun Prakash, young Manish Sureshkumar among others.

This year, there were some positive rule changes. Important amongst them was a rule in the regular format of the League that permitted only three ATP ranked players to play in each tie for each club. For the first time, the Veterans 45+ event was split into two Zones, each Zone having its own winner and runner-up. These new rules, initiated by N Sankar,

Standing L to R: Varun Gunnaseelan, Mohammed Fariz, Prajnesh Guneswaran, Vinod Sridhar, Neeraj Elangovan, Elwin Antony, Rajeev Vijay Kumar, Ramesh Krishnan, Srivatsan Subramaniam, Anand Amritraj, N Sankar, Venkata Subramaniam and Vasu. Kneeling L to R: Mohamed Fahad and Tariq Jacob.



the fourth year in a row

make the league more competitive and interesting according to senior tennis player.

Among the sports stars present to witness the finals were the two legendary Indian tennis players, the current Indian Davis Cup captain Anand Amritraj, and past Indian Davis Cup captain Ramesh Krishnan, and Joshna Chinappa, the national squash champion.

N Sankar gave away the KS Narayanan Memorial Rolling Trophy to the winning team and the runners-up. In a nice gesture, he invited Anand Amritraj and Ramesh Krishnan to join him in presenting the trophy.



PC Sekhar Memorial Cricket Tournament: Sanmar trophy for St Bede's

The PC Sekhar Memorial Cricket Tournament (Under 14 Boys) for the Sanmar Cup organised by PS Senior Secondary School drew participation from 32 city schools this year. Ranji Trophy cricketer Kaushik M Gandhi presided over the valedictory function and distributed the prizes. AN Radhakrishnan, Hony Secretary and Correspondent, Lakshmi Srinivasan, Principal, and Revathy Parameswaran and R Sivakumar, Vice Principals of the school were present.

St Bede's Anglo Indian Higher Secondary School, Santhome, emerged winners in the tournament and PS Senior Secondary School, Mylapore, runners-up.



Winners St Bede's with the Sanmar Cup.

Chemplast's training programme in English for rural students



S Venkatesan gave away prizes to meritorious students.

A training programme in Basic English and Grammar was conducted by Chemplast Mettur for students from rural backgrounds in Standard IX of Vaidheeswara Higher Secondary School. These students appeared for the SSLC public examination in April 2016 and have scored remarkably well in English – the lowest mark scored in the subject was 53 and highest 93, with an average of 74.6%. 16 students scored more than 80%.

Out of the total 42 students who underwent training, 25 were from Tamil medium schools. In all, 29 students scored more than 400 marks out of 500.

Chemplast's programme has not only helped the students to perform better in the exams but also given them the courage to speak in English in public as well.



Sri Sankara Schools

Global acclaim for Sankara School Students and staff

Raghuram Sundararajan of Standard VIII of **Sri Sankara Senior Secondary School, Adyar**, secured International Rank 1, and S Bhuvanakrishnaa of standard VII, International Rank 3, in the 6th International English Olympiad.

While Raghuram was awarded the International Gold Medal, a merit certificate and a cash prize of Rs 50,000, Bhuvanakrishnaa received the International Bronze Medal, a merit certificate and a cash prize of Rs 3,333. More than 34000 schools had registered from over 1400 cities across 22 countries for the competition.



Raghuram Sundararajan

M Lakshmi, PGT Biotechnology of Sri Sankara Senior Secondary School, Adyar, was awarded the International Young Scientist Award 2016 in Biological Science for her presentation on 'Anti dandruff Activity of Coleus Zeylanicus: a potent medicinal plant'. She had made a presentation on this topic at the 2nd International Young Scientist Congress held at Pondicherry in May 2016.



Accolades for Biochemistry toppers at Sri Sankara Vidyashramam

Students of **Sri Sankara Vidyashramam Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Tiruvanmiyur**, secured state ranks in Biochemistry in the Higher Secondary Examination conducted for Standard XII in March 2016. M Dhivyanka came first scoring 198/200 and Deepa Christina Jeyaraj stood second with 197/200.



M Dhivyanka



Deepa Christina Jeyaraj

Best Heritage Club Award 2015-16

The Parampara Heritage Club of Sri Sankara Vidyashramam has been selected as the Second Runner-up in the category 'Best Heritage Club Award 2015-16' by INTACH, New Delhi. A trophy and a cash award of Rs 2000 were given away.



Iconic Institutions of Chennai

Kalakshetra



Kalakshetra is an iconic institution of higher learning in the arts established in 1936 as the International Academy of the Fine Arts, at Adyar, Madras, by Rukmini Devi Arundale, theosophist, reviver of Bharata Natyam—the classical dance form of south India—and animal welfare activist.

In December 1935, 31-year old Rukmini Devi had made her debut as a Bharata Natyam dancer under the banyan tree inside the Theosophical Society, Adyar.

It had been a brave step, as the dance had hitherto been known as something disreputable until visionaries like E Krishna Iyer and Rukmini Devi saw in it a great art with spiritual dimensions to it. Bharata Natyam was earlier practised only by devadasis, a community of women dedicated to temples even as children. As the art had declined and acquired an unsavoury reputation, it had become a victim of the well-intentioned campaign against the institution of devadasis.

Known today as the Kalakshetra Foundation, it is a centre for the study and performance of fine arts, designed in the style and proportion of Indian aesthetics.

An Act of Parliament in 1993 accorded Kalakshetra the status of an Institute of National Importance. It is now an autonomous body under the Ministry of Culture, Government of India.

Rukmini Devi wanted Kalakshetra to impart to the young "the true spirit of art, devoid of vulgarity and commercialism."

In appearance resembling Rabindranath Tagore's Santi Niketan of Kolkata, Kalakshetra is spread over some 100 acres of tree shaded land by the seashore.

The residential facility on campus is a model of simple, aesthetic living offering nutritious vegetarian food and encouraging the values of ahimsa and self-discipline.

The College of Fine Arts is Kalakshetra's central unit, where students graduate in dance or music in the traditional gurukulam ambience. The Kalakshetra Repertory Company, formed in the early 1940s, specialises in performing mythology based dance-dramas, with the Ramayana series its most famous production. These dance-dramas have come to be recognised worldwide for their impeccable technique and aesthetic. These works are a legacy of the founder Rukmini Devi Arundale.

The Kalakshetra Repertory has been performing all over the world for many decades, with its dancers trained in the solo format as well as dance drama. Rukmini Devi's dance-dramas are known for their unique visual, aural and emotional aesthetic.

Rukmini Devi believed that it was important to rediscover India's rich traditions and to

create worthy ambassadors of Indian culture. The Besant Theosophical Higher Secondary School (1934) and the Besant Arundale Senior Secondary School (1973) have been popular destinations for not so affluent children. The alumni of both schools have distinguished themselves in society.

The Weaving Centre was set up to sustain and recreate the colours, motifs and designs of traditional handlooms.

The Craft Centre is located in the same premises as the Weaving Centre. Printers and dyers work in the Kalamkari Unit, which was instrumental in helping to revive the art of Kalamkari which was almost lost through neglect in the early part of the twentieth century.

The Craft Centre at Kalakshetra was inspired by the same ideals that illuminated everything that Rukmini Devi undertook. In all that she did, Rukmini Devi's aim was to "permeate the land with beauty of spirit and form."

The campus once housed a Montessori school after Rukmini Devi the great European child educationist Maria Montessori to do a teacher's training course. The Montessori environment has since been merged with the Besant Arundale School.

Rukmini Devi's dream to build an auditorium for dance and music that was aesthetic, Indian in spirit, and would provide an ideal setting for her choreographic work, was fulfilled when the Bharata Kalakshetra auditorium, built in the Koothambalam style from Kerala, was inaugurated in 1985. It has remained closed for years now, in need of major repairs and mired in controversy.

The Craft Centre is located in the extension across from the main Kalakshetra campus. In the large, high ceiling hall of the handloom Weaving Centre, thirty looms weave saris in silk and cotton, along with other natural textiles. Weavers spin and dye the thread for the saris woven on their looms.

Today Kalamkari fabrics are available across the country and the Kalakshetra Kalamkari unit continues to produce fabrics printed in this style which are made into items such as bags and linen and sold through the Kalakshetra Craft Shop, located next to the Weaving Centre.

Since Rukmini Devi's death in 1986, the institution has survived many a crisis, including question marks raised against the ability of successors to rise to the occasion. From Sankara Menon who succeeded Rukmini Devi to the present director, Priyadarsini Govind, each incumbent has brought his or her own strengths to the job, and despite becoming a government institution—albeit autonomous—Kalakshetra has managed to maintain the high standards of the past, the aesthetic values of its founder still to be seen in all its activities right from the beauty of the morning prayers to the high standard of dance and music of its productions.

If the Kalakshetra of Rukmini Devi's period was seen to be somewhat insular, with an emphasis on a Spartan lifestyle for staff and students, it has now opened its doors to greater interchanges with the outside world, with artists from other backgrounds frequently performing and lecturing at Kalakshetra. It has become a prominent hub of artistic activity through the year. Despite the changes, it continues to be an attraction to art lovers worldwide.



