

A Time for Milestones





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Sanmar Consolidations Ltd

Sanmar Shipping Ltd

Cabot Sanmar Ltd

Sanmar Engineering Technologies Ltd

- Products Divn.

Flowserve Sanmar Ltd

BS&B Safety Systems (India) Ltd

Xomox Sanmar Ltd

Xomox Valves Divn.

Pacific Valves Divn.

Pentair Sanmar Ltd

- Steel Castings Divn.

Sanmar Foundries Ltd

Matrix Metals LLC

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Matrix can be viewed at www.sanmargroup.com

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A TIME FOR

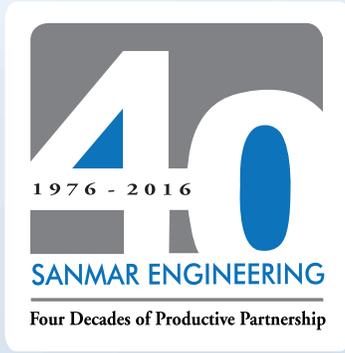


MILESTONES

The recent past has been a period of some remarkable milestones in the history of Sanmar.

If the association of the Sanmar family with Jolly Rovers Cricket Club completed a record 50 years on 29 July 2016, the Sanmar Engineering saga of JV partnerships that began with Durametallic India in 1976 had completed four decades on 1st July 2016. Chemplast, the flagship company of The Sanmar Group that will turn 50 on 4 May 2017, has grown exponentially from its modest beginnings to a Rs 2800 crore turnover business now, the second largest PVC producer in India. With its environmentally friendly manufacturing facilities at Mettur, Cuddalore, Karaikal and Vedaranyam, Chemplast has been a good citizen with its path-breaking corporate social responsibility initiatives.





Sanmar Engineering – 40 years in

Sanmar Engineering celebrated 40 years on 1 July 2016, with Flowserve Sanmar, the first building block of Sanmar Engineering, completing forty years of partnership between Sanmar and Flowserve Corporation, USA.

Vijay Sankar put it succinctly in his welcome address: ‘In today’s context of short-lived Internet startups – a venture lasting successfully for forty years is something very special to be celebrated.

But that is not all we are commemorating, we are also commemorating

- **Forty years of long-term sustainable partnerships**
- **Forty years of market leading performance**
- **Forty years of friendships**
- **Forty years of successful financial enterprise and growth.’**



the Process of Excellence

Sanmar Engineering is a well-integrated, synergistic group of engineering companies serving the process industry, in India and abroad. It had its beginnings in Durametallic India Limited on 1 July 1976 at the Karapakkam village in erstwhile Madras, when a small bunch of enthusiastic engineers came together in a company founded by N Sankar as a joint venture between him and a small family-owned business of Kalamazoo, Michigan, to manufacture mechanical seals in India.



Vijay Sankar delivering the welcome address.





Keith Gillespie

Talking on the four decades old partnership between The Sanmar Group and Flowserve, and its legacy companies, Keith Gillespie, Senior Vice President and Chief Strategy Officer of Flowserve said, ‘In today’s world, partnerships like this are rare and this one in particular serves as a gold standard for successful global joint ventures. Our relationship built on a strong and long history of trust and transparency has served this partnership well. And I know that those who have been involved in this business throughout the years have always held the relationship with Sanmar very dear.’ He also stressed that ‘on this 40th anniversary, our partnership goes well beyond just business. The relationship is personal and is based on trust and shared values. We believe these are the key building blocks for at least another forty years of success in India.’



Louis Pinkham

and often not advisable. But as far as partners, there could be none better than Sankar and his vision embodied in Sanmar. Sankar, you have made it look so easy with your drive, ambition and integrity. And behind the scenes, with your family’s philanthropy.’

‘We know that we can count on Sanmar as our partner and that our JV will stay true to our core values and continue to deliver innovative solutions that delight our customers thereby setting us above all others.’

Tiffen Kenneally



Tiffen Kenneally, CEO of BS&B Safety Systems, a JV partner with Sanmar for 35 years, said, ‘Since 1892, the history of BS&B now spans three centuries. ‘...because of the unique nature of our products and our industry expertise, business partnership in the manufacture of our products are not the norm

| JV Partners | Products/ Services | |
|--|----------------------|---|
| BS&B Safety Systems LLC, USA | Rupture Disks |  |
| Flowserve Corporation, USA | Mechanical Seals |  |
| Crane Co., USA | Pressure Seal Valves |  |
| Pentair PLC, USA | Safety Relief Valves |  |
| Xomox Corporation, USA (Subsidiary of Crane Co.) | Valves & Actuators |  |



(L to R): B Visweswaran, Louis Pinkham, Bradley L Ellis, Keith Gillespie, Tiffen Kenneally and Vijay Sankar at the evening get-together.

Recounting the history of the JV, Louis Pinkham, Senior Vice President, Crane, said, ‘Through this period of nearly thirty-four years, Sanmar Engineering and Crane have had a very successful partnership based on mutual trust and to expand...Sanmar Engineering is known for its ethical standards and transparency, a highly professional organisation that

cares much for results as it does for the way it gets results. Honestly, this is very unusual in emerging markets and Sanmar Engineering is leading the way.’

B Visweswaran proposed the vote of thanks, concluding that the story of Sanmar Engineering is truly a remarkable and inspiring one and today represents forty years of their vision and leadership.



B Visweswaran

In sharp contrast to the formal inauguration at Karapakkam in the forenoon of 1 July 2016, it was an informal get-together in the evening at Hotel Taj Coramandel. There was so much nostalgia in the air with erstwhile employees recalling their association with Sanmar Engineering with affection and pride. This was followed by networking with customers and friends of Sanmar Engineering.



Sanmar Engineering 40 Commemoration at the Branches

Following the get-together at Chennai on 1 July 2016 to commemorate the 40th anniversary of Sanmar Engineering Technologies Ltd (SETL), meetings were held in Mumbai, Pune and Delhi attended by as many as 600 customers across leading OEMs, end users and customers in those regions.

Renowned safety consultant Nagesh Walame made a presentation on safety in the process industry covering various aspects of process safety such as some

of the possible causes of accidents in a chemical plant as well as some of the measures that could be taken to minimise the occurrence and impact of accidents. He also explained the critical role played by safety devices such as safety relief valves and rupture discs.

The first of the customer events was held in Mumbai at the Taj Santacruz. Around 200 customers attended the event, with many of them travelling from places as far as Pali, Patalganga, Nagothane, and Uran.

Pune



Hari Jinaga, Crane India, addressing the guests in Pune.



Nagesh Walame, safety consultant, presenting on safety in process industries.

Delhi

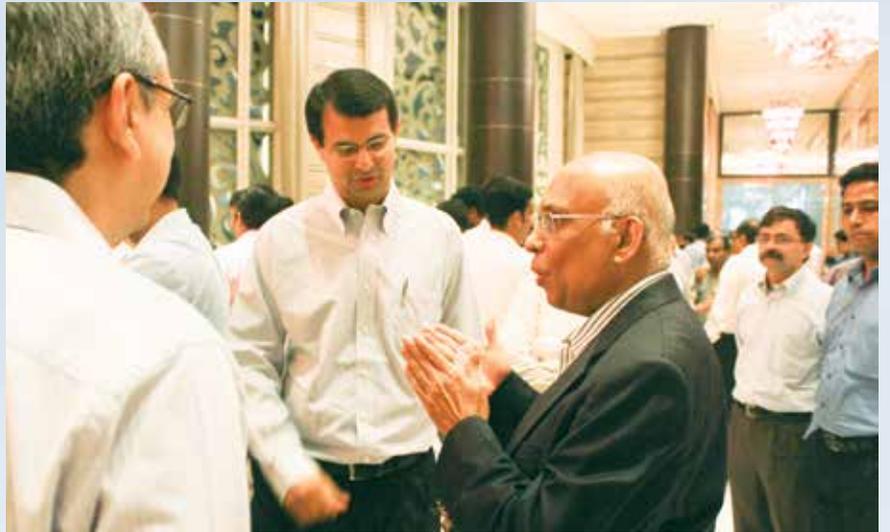
The invitees at the Delhi event listening to the presentation with rapt attention.



Senior officials from Reliance Industries also attended. The second event was held at Hotel Taj Blue Diamond in Pune. Despite the very heavy rains and water logging in Pune, nearly 100 customers from leading OEMs and end users were present. The Delhi meet at the Imperial Hotel had more than 200 customers representing leading engineering consultants, OEMs, EPC companies and end users from Gurgaon, Noida, Faridabad, Ghaziabad and even as far as Bhiwadi.

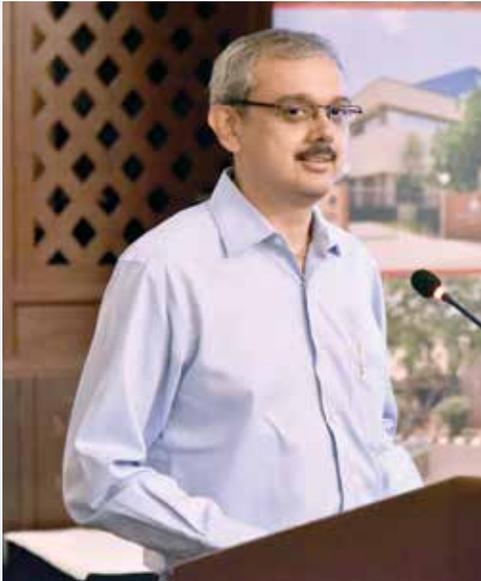
The feedback from the guests about their association with SETL was overwhelming.

Mumbai



Interaction with customers at the Mumbai event.

Delhi



Dinesh Khanna making a presentation on SETL's product portfolio.



SETL team with customers at the Delhi event.

Mumbai

A section of the audience at the Mumbai event.



“Cricket for the love of it”

Jolly Rovers Golden Jubilee Valedictory

A valedictory function to commemorate the completion of fifty years of the Sanmar family’s ties with Jolly Rovers Cricket Club was held at Hotel Crowne Plaza, Chennai, on 29 July 2016, the same day the celebrations began with much fanfare a year ago.

on the occasion by Indian cricket legend Kapil Dev. Historian Ramachandra Guha, who also writes on cricket, received the first copy. The Sanmar family’s association with Jolly Rovers is possibly the longest such record of a single family anywhere.

(L to R): Vijay Sankar, Ramachandra Guha, Kapil Dev, N Sankar, V Ramnarayan and N Kumar.

A book chronicling fifty years of Jolly Rovers, ‘Cricket for the love of it’ authored by V Ramnarayan was released

Guha’s keynote address was passionately delivered, with anecdotes galore to illustrate the ‘Five Forms of Partisanship’





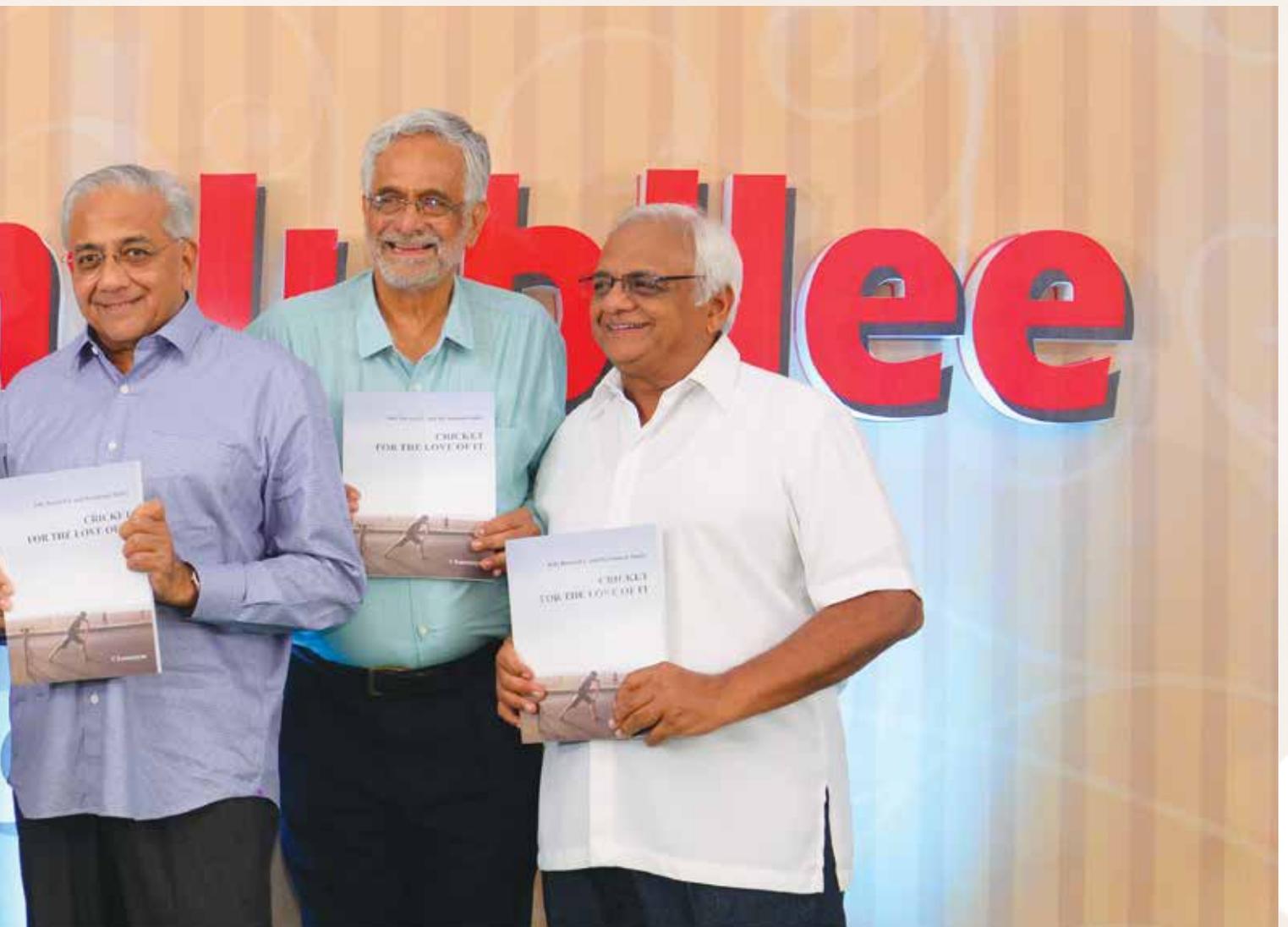
Ramachandra Guha



*The scintillating speeches
by Ramachandra Guha and
Kapil Dev can be heard at:*

[https://www.youtube.com/
watch?v=zZKJaiGzGog](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zZKJaiGzGog)
and

[https://www.youtube.com/
watch?v=tlGKcJtSJM8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tlGKcJtSJM8)





Kapil Dev addressing the audience.

in cricket ranging from his loyalty to his Friends Union Cricket Club, and the Karnataka State Ranji team, preference for Test cricket, his respect for bowlers and fondness for players of the generation he grew up with. Guha called himself, 'the fifth bowler and the No.11 batsman of his team' and spoke at length about his aversion to T20 cricket. According to him, Test cricket was the real deal, the single malt whisky to the Indian-made foreign liquor that is one-day cricket and locally brewed arrack that is T20. While concluding his

N Kumar delivering the welcome address.



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

– *Kapil Dev*

speech, Guha admitted grudgingly, that while watching Virat Kohli in the recent T20 World Cup, he replaced his idol GR Viswanath with the present Indian Test skipper in his all-time Indian 11.

The chief guest of the event, Kapil Dev had the audience in splits with his self deprecating humour referring to a few amusing stories from his early days in international cricket. ‘The biggest challenge for me this evening is to speak in English... The Indian chief selector ahead of the 1982-83 tour of West Indies kept saying, “How can Kapil Dev be the captain? He can’t speak English?” I always felt like saying, “Why don’t you pick someone from Oxford or Cambridge to speak and let me play.”’

Recalling his love for Chennai, Kapil said, “ I have always shared a great bond with the people of this state. I love Tamil Nadu for two reasons – south Indian food and the fact that whenever I have played here, I have done well, with both bat and ball. I can proudly say that Chepauk is one of the grounds where I have never failed.”

The 'Haryana Hurricane' also stressed the need to keep learning and improving in order to stay relevant.

“Bishan Singh Bedi is a great character. If you don't have such characters in cricket, the sport will die. McEnroe is a character.”

The function began with a welcome address by N Kumar, Vice Chairman, The Sanmar Group. Recapitulating the Sanmar family's 50 year-long association with Jolly Rovers, Kumar said, “To celebrate a Golden Jubilee, is to celebrate the people involved in it. Both cricketers who played earlier and those who are playing with us now deserve a very special mention. It is their hard work that has helped Jolly Rovers and Chemplast achieve all the various goals in the 50 years and I am sure more success will follow in the future.”

In his introduction to the book, the author V Ramnarayan in a lighter vein



said, “I should have mentioned earlier that while I have been a sort of historian of Jolly Rovers, in my playing days there was no love lost between us. I am sure the dislike was mutual, and I hated the confidence Jolly Rovers exuded, the way the players carried themselves on the field. And they did win almost everything before them, so it meant you were invariably at the losing end against them.”

Ramesh Laxmi Ratan and B Kalyanasundaram, Jolly Rovers players from the 1960s were honoured at the function.

N Sankar flanked by Kapil Dev and Ramachandra Guha. On the extreme left is V Ramnarayan.



Sentimental Kick-off to Chemplast



N Sankar



Vijay Sankar

May 2017 will mark the golden jubilee of Chemplast Sanmar, the flagship of The Sanmar Group. To set the ball in motion, an informal dinner meeting of Chemplast Sanmar's stalwarts over the years was organised on 16th September 2016 at Chennai, an initiative led by SB Prabhakar

Rao and R Kalidas, both veterans with the Group for almost five decades now.

A sizeable number of Chemplast employees past and present attended the gathering and shared their experiences at Chemplast with much passion and energy. Ramkumar Shankar coordinated the proceedings with equal joie de vivre. A golden jubilee logo of Chemplast Sanmar was released by N Sankar on the occasion.



*Sitting (L to R): S Narayanan, S Surendranath, T AN Thenappan, T Raghunathan, MV Madhavan, R Kalidas, Vijay Sankar,
First Row (L to R): S Ramanathan, S Gopal, P Vijaykumar, R Ramesh, K Narayanan, CG Sethuram, K Thiagaraja
Second Row (L to R): V Ramachandran, KS Venkiteswaran, MS Sekhar, Gopal Mahadevan, N Subramanian, S Ravi, S Hariharan*

Sanmar Golden Jubilee



SB Prabhakar Rao, R Kalidas and Ramkumar Shankar.



Chemplast Sanmar stalwarts over the years.



N Sankar, N Kumar, NK Rangarajan, V Ramakrishnan, A Janakiraman, S Thambu, KN Vasanth, N Sivakumar, R Nagarajan, KN Jayakumar, VR Rajaraghavan, R Chandrasekhar, Capt. S Charapani, JK Menon, SB Prabhakar Rao, B Krishnamurthy, VR Venkatraman, S Gopalakrishnan, Ravi Rajagopalan, P Vasudevan

The Vanishing Bookstore

Many, many bookstores have disappeared from our cities in the last decade or so. Landmark and Odyssey have been among major casualties of this trend in Chennai, though one Odyssey outlet is still around, doing apparently good business at Adyar. The Huffington Post has a breezy take on the situation. An article in it says: “Not a good time for books, is it? And by books I mean those quaint glue-bonded, ink-on-paper pages that adorn whatever book shelves you still have. Bye-bye Gutenberg. Hello Kindle!”

“I know every book of mine by its smell, and I have but to put my nose between the pages to be reminded of all sorts of things.” George Robert Gissing (1857 to 1903).

The e-book makes it possible to continue reading and never have to visit a bookstore. And that threatens to ring the death knell for the real bookshop as against a virtual one. To some readers, however, a physical bookstore is still important. These can be seen at Higginbothams, Giggles, Crossword or Odyssey still, but the owners of these bookshops need to constantly think on

their feet and come up with innovative ideas. Giggles, in a corner of the Taj Vivanta on Commander-in-Chief Road, has been around for many decades.

Once, a thriving beehive of activity in the main part of the hotel, where readers and potential buyers used to engage in conversation with the owner, Ms Nalini Chettur, Giggles, now has a little cubbyhole of a space bursting with books. It takes the domain knowledge of the owner to locate a book for the customer, who cannot squeeze into the store herself.

Odyssey Adyar is still alive and kicking, perhaps thanks to the many book readings and other events the owner Ashwin conducts periodically at the shop, The Madras Week in August, for instance, provides a good opportunity to showcase Chennai-based authors.

Higginbothams has the advantage of longevity and loyal customers who keep going back to it. Its impressive Tamil book collection is a vital supplement to its stock of English books. The store sends many of its regular buyers a monthly newsletter. Called *The Mail*, this newsletter is also a way of keeping alive the licence originally granted to the

newspaper of the same name, now long defunct in that avatar.

Crossword, too, in Alwarpet, depends on events and activities, especially those targeting children to keep it afloat and viable.

From India's capital comes this depressing report: "Most bookstores have disappeared. Galgotia's, miraculously, still survives but has been reduced to one dingy basement. Big players like Reliance TimeOut are forced to close down."

Almost all bookshops absolutely must offer a variety of products including stationery and writing aids, as well as music collections, to attract clientele in a fast changing world.

One of the biggest threats to physical books is posed by devices like the Kindle Reader.

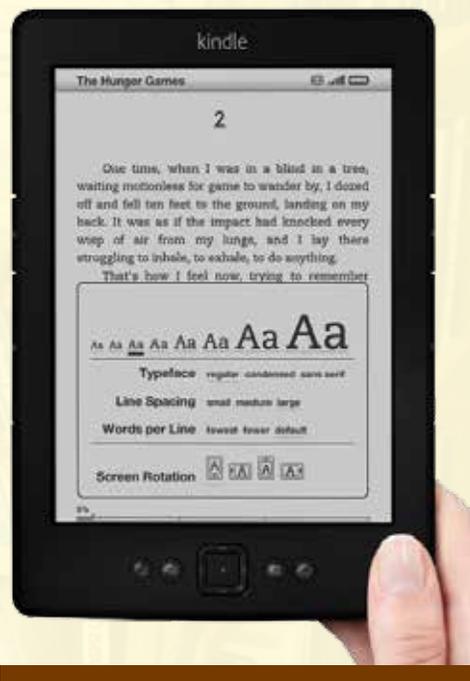
Even diehard bibliophiles prefer to pack hundreds of their favourite books into such hand-held reading devices. At another level, many of us are guilty of buying books online from Amazon or Flipkart. How can we help it, when these offer us a large variety of books and prices that the physical bookshop cannot match?

One booklover says: "I don't ever want to mourn the demise of books or the endangered status of them just as I did with music tapes and do with music CDs now. I feel a deep sense of loss when I discover a bookstore I knew has closed.

I sure hope all bookstores don't vanish or disappear into the cyber, it would be like losing the common thread of civil life and a street without a bookstore would be like a bookshelf without a book."

A sentiment easy to share for most of us.

- V Ramnarayan



Meeting of Indian CEOs with Visiting Egyptian President

A business meeting of select Indian CEOs led by Vijay Sankar met the visiting President of the Republic of Egypt, Mr Abdel Fattah el-Sisi, at Hotel ITC Maurya, Delhi, on 1 September 2016.

The meeting, which lasted almost an hour and a half, was attended by eight CEOs from the Indian side other than Vijay Sankar, Deputy Chairman of The Sanmar Group, and PS Jayaraman, Chairman of TCI Sanmar Chemicals, CK Dhanuka, Vice Chairman, South Asian Petrochem, Madhu Kannan, Group Head-Business

Development and Board Member, Tata Sons, Sudarshan Venu, Joint Managing Director, TVS Motor Company, Santrupt Misra, CEO-Carbon Black Business and Director-Group Human Resources, Aditya Birla Management Corporation, Vikramjit Singh Sahney, Managing Director, Sun International, and Ashok Chaturvedi, Chairman-UFLEX.

Eight CEOs from the Egyptian side were also part of this meeting, along with three Egyptian ministers (Trade & Industry, Foreign, and Investment).

Vijay Sankar and PS Jayaraman greeting the Egyptian President at the Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi in the presence of the Indian President.



Vijay Sankar with the Egyptian President and other CEOs of Indian and Egyptian companies at Hotel ITC Maurya, New Delhi.



4th India-Egypt Business Council

The fourth India-Egypt Business Council meeting organised by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) was held in Delhi on 1 September 2016, to coincide with the visit of the President of the Republic of Egypt, Mr Abdel Fattah el-Sisi, to India.

The Council was attended by Eng. Khaled Abu Elmakarem, Co-chair of the India-Egypt Business Council from the Egyptian side, HE Hatem Tageldin, Ambassador of the Arab Republic of Egypt to India, Sanjay Bhattacharyya, Indian Ambassador to the Arab Republic of Egypt, and leading Egyptian and Indian businessmen.

In his presentation, Vijay Sankar, Chairman of the India-Egypt Business Council from the India side, highlighted the increased frequency of interactions between Indian and Egyptian businesses as a sign of good times to come for the two partners. He also said that while India-Egypt cooperation had expanded

to cover diverse areas, there was a need to correct the slowdown in trade.

Ambassador of Egypt to India HE Hatem Tageldin said that the Indian and Egyptian leadership were committed to enhancing cooperation in all sectors – political, cultural, economic and defence.

Indian Ambassador to Egypt Sanjay Bhattacharyya said 52 Indian firms, including 25 joint ventures with \$3 billion investments across sectors, were operating in Egypt. “With 89 million consumers, the second largest in Africa, and a \$ 286 billion economy, Egypt represents immense potential and scope,” the Indian envoy said on the occasion.

The Indian and Egyptian Business Council members also discussed possibilities of luring Bollywood to shoot in Egypt and big companies to hold annual meetings to promote corporate tourism.



Vijay Sankar presenting a memento to Eng. Khaled Abu Elmakarem (top) and to HE Hatem Tageldin (bottom).



Vijay Sankar, Chairman of the India-Egypt Business Council from the Indian side flanked by Eng. Khaled Abu Elmakarem, Chairman of the Egypt-India Business Council from the Egyptian side (right) and Indian Ambassador to Egypt Sanjay Bhattacharyya (left) at the meeting. Seated extreme left is Sheila Sudhakaran, Asst. Secretary General, FICCI and on the extreme right is Mongy Aly Badr, Minister-Plenipotentiary, Embassy of Egypt in Delhi.

ar Chemicals S.A.E.
rt Said, Egypt

4th India-Egypt Business Council Meeting September 1, 2016 - New Delhi

SANMAR
TCI Sanmar Chemicals S.A.E.
Port Said, Egypt



South Asian Diaspora Convention at Singapore

“Train the workforce in the skills required by Indian industry today,” N Kumar



N Kumar delivering the keynote address at the Third South Asian Diaspora Convention (SADC).

The third South Asian Diaspora Convention (SADC), organised by the Institute of South Asian Studies, National University of Singapore, was held on 18 and 19 July 2016 in Singapore. Dignitaries Ranil Shriyan Wickremesinghe, Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, and Tharman Shanmugaratnam, Deputy Prime Minister of Singapore, were the Guests of Honour at the inaugural session. Lee Hsien Loong, Prime Minister, Republic of Singapore, was present at the convention dinner on 18 July.

N Kumar was a keynote speaker in the panel discussions on ‘captains of industry representing India’, at the Convention.

Excerpts from N Kumar’s speech

India has a large population in the age group of 25 to 35, and a sizeable section of this population will enter the job market in the next ten years. This young workforce has high level of aspiration to build enterprises, and an intrinsic capacity to take risk.

With the current rate of growth of the Indian economy and approaching saturation level for employment in the existing industry structure, it looks untenable in the long run to provide jobs for this growing workforce. The public sector is also not a viable option to create jobs.

In this situation it is only natural that India is looking towards nurturing its entrepreneurial ecosystem and create more start-ups, to feed the aspirations of a large section of its population below the age group of 40 getting gainfully employed.

In addition, Indian states are also gearing up to set up a state specific Innovation and Entrepreneurship Policy in order to foster local entrepreneurs. Many progressive states like Kerala, Andhra Pradesh and Gujarat have already announced indigenous state level policies on entrepreneurship and start-ups.

The key to promoting orderly growth of manufacturing is to adequately train the



N Kumar with S Iswaran, Minister for Trade and Industry, and Lee Hsien Loong, Prime Minister, Republic of Singapore (extreme right), who joined the convention for the dinner on 18 July 2016.

workforce in the skills required by Indian industry today.

High-level industry-relevant research is the key to the success of a nation and CII is working with academia to promote it. One such important platform has been created by CII itself, along with the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India, called the Global Innovation and Technology Alliance (GITA) which is implementing India's collaborative industrial R&D programme with different countries.

As a key beneficiary of the education services, Indian industry has embarked on many initiatives to bring about quality in education in India.

To strengthen the 'Swachh Bharat' initiative announced by the Prime Minister of India, CII has launched 'Mission Sanitation of Schools (SoS),' to work with companies on the construction

of toilets across the country. Industry has been very responsive. Several companies such as TCS, Coal India and the Bharti Foundation have already committed to take forward the 'Swachh Bharat' initiative, and many others are on the anvil.

How can Indian industry help the Diaspora in this process?

This year, CII is also running a unique corporate internship programme for students of foreign universities wherein they are being provided paid internship positions in top Indian companies as part of a joint CII and Overseas Indian Facilitation Centre (OIFC) programme along with India's Ministry of External Affairs. For this programme, which has commenced its maiden batch this month, a total of 260 applications were received from students from across the world.

N Kumar standing (6th from the left) at the 9th India-Singapore Strategic Dialogue that was held during August 29-30 in Singapore.



Vijay Sankar gives away Sanmar-TNTA League and Adidas Tournament Awards

The Annual Day of the Tamil Nadu Tennis Association (TNTA) was held at the Conference Hall of the SDAT Tennis Stadium on 27 August 2016.

Awards and cash prizes of the Sanmar-TNTA City Club League were distributed to promising and performing players.

The 24th edition of the National Junior U-18 Claycourt Tennis Championship was held from 15-20 August 2016 at the Madras Cricket Club. Sponsored by brand "Adidas" the tournament had four events - Boys U-18 Singles and Doubles and Girls U-18 Singles and Doubles.

Vijay Sankar, Vice President TNTA, gave away the prizes to the winners and runners of the various zones of the Sanmar-TNTA league and to the winners in the boys' events at the Adidas tournament.



Boys Singles Winner - Nitin Kumar Sinha.



Boys Doubles Winners - Adil Kalyanpur and SJ Banthia.



Vijay Sankar, Srinivasan, CFO, Ucal Group, Rajendra Kumar IAS, Principal Secretary of Tamil Nadu, Youth Welfare and Sports Development and MA Alagappan, President, TNTA, along with the winners.

Cabot Sanmar Conferred CII Excellence Award

Cabot Sanmar has been conferred the Excellence Award in Environment, Health and Safety (EHS) and a 3-star rating by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) Southern Region.

CII confers EHS awards to corporates who excel in EHS practices and implement them effectively in their work area.

The award acknowledges Cabot Sanmar's commitment to high standards of environment, health and safety management.



All Round Excellence at

Sri Sankara Vidyashramam Matriculation Higher Secondary School Tiruvanmiyur

Inter-school fest 'Pradharshini 2K16'



An inter-school festival, Pradharshini 2K16, was organised at the school premises on 3 August 2016 and Rio Raj, Anchor and VJ, Sun Music, presided. Nellai Nadar Matriculation Higher Secondary School won the trophy, securing the highest number of points in the events conducted at the fest. In all, 22 schools participated.



Sri Sankara Vidyashramam hosts SSV Rolling Trophy 2016



The SSV Rolling Trophy for Inter School Volleyball Tournament 2016 was inaugurated by Balamani Shankar, ESIC, Minister of Labour and Welfare on 27 June 2016 at the school premises at Sri Sankara Vidyashramam. Desinghu Rajan, Physical Director of DB Jain College, presided over the valedictory function on 28 June 2016. Santhome Higher Secondary School, Chennai, won the tournament. A throw ball tournament was held on 29-30 June 2016 and Sacred Heart Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Chennai, was the winner. Founder and Managing Trustee of RISE and Directress of Sports Ethiraj College was the Chief guest at the valedictory.

Sri Sankara Schools

Sri Sankara Senior Secondary School, Adyar

Sankara Model United Nations - SANMUN 2016

The 11th edition of Sankara Model United Nations (SANMUN) took place during 12-14 August 2016 at the Sri Sankara Senior Secondary School, Adyar. The oldest one in Chennai, this MUN is known for its quality debate and high standards. Starting with only two schools 11 years ago, SANMUN has come a long way, with more than 20 schools participating this year, including DPS Sharjah.

The chief guest for the event was SN Srikanth, Honorary Consulate General Designate of Fiji, who addressed the 250 delegates present in the audience on the rapidly changing world, and how diplomacy and debate were key to world peace and solving issues cropping up every minute. N Kumar, the Managing Trustee of The Indian Education Trust,



attended the opening ceremony. This year's SANMUN stood out, with its seven committees including an International Press Corps.



Asia World Schools Debating Championship

Amrithavarshini Raghavan of Standard XI was chosen to be a part of a four member team that represented India at the Asia World Schools Debating Championship (AWSDC) held in Bangkok, Thailand, in July 2016. Team India stood first and bagged the championship trophy in the tournament, which saw 32 teams from 13 nations participate.



Third from left is Amrithavarshini Raghavan of std XI.

Beyond Sanmar

CSR activities at Chemplast Karaikal



An International Coastal Clean-up Day was organised by the Indian Coast Guard Station, Karaikal, on 17 September 2016 at the Karaikal beach front. Karaikal Sub-collector R Kesavan inaugurated the function which was attended by Commandant SNM Patnaik of the Indian Coast Guard Station, Karaikal. Heads of government departments and NCC cadets and other children from schools and colleges attended. Chemplast Sanmar co-sponsored the event.

An RO plant for purification of drinking water and tree guards were donated to Keezhavanjore Panchayat at Karaikal by Chemplast on 1 September 2016.



Madhuram Narayanan Centre for Exceptional Children

SAMYAM – a coming together of past, present and new children

A platform for past, present and new children and parents, SAMYAM is a coming together of sorts to exchange notes on challenges on mainstreaming, and challenges faced in the care and management of special children and how to overcome them. The old students who have left the portals are invited to showcase their talents and recall their stay at MNC. This year SAMYAM took place on 30 July 2016.

Chief Guest LV Jayashree, Director of SPASTN, stressed the need for mothers and grandmothers to act as carry-over agents at home in providing 24 hour intervention to their children.

Other than story narration by MNC kids in vibrant costumes, solo acts, poetry recitation, and listing the days of the week by tiny tots kept the encouraging audience engaged.



Legends from the South

Kamban

“Even the loom in Kamban’s home recites verse,” goes a famous saying about the poet Kamban, who lived during the Chola age. He was born in the 9th century in Therazhundur, a village in the culturally rich Thanjavur district in the modern state of Tamil Nadu in South India.

“In the Tamil literary firmament, Kamban shone like a star, inaccessible to others,” M Varadarajan (1912-1974), known as Mu Va and widely regarded as an authority in Tamil studies, wrote in A History of Tamil Literature.

While some of them theorise that Kamban belonged to the ninth century, others put it much later—the 12th century or even the 13th. But, according to Nilakanta Sastri, Kamban flourished during the reign of Kulottunga III (1178-1218).

However, the Encyclopaedia of Indian Literature (Volume III), published by the Sahitya Akademi first in 1989, categorically states Kamban’s period as the ninth century. The release of Kamba Ramayanam was said to have been made in an assembly of scholars in the Srirangam temple in 885 A.D.

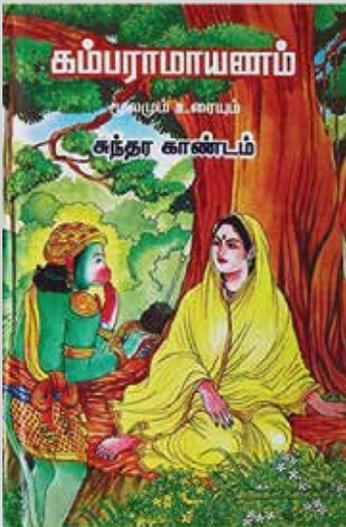
The ‘Kamba Ramayanam’, based on Valmiki’s Ramayana, that Kamban

authored is regarded as a great Tamil epic, known for its fluent and relatively easy language. No wonder Kamban is hailed as Kavi Chakravarti. Subramania Bharati (1882-1921), the celebrated Tamil poet, wrote that Tamil Nadu owes its fame to Kamban. KA Nilakanta Sastri (1892-1975), historian and author of the seminal work, A History of South India, described Kamba Ramayanam as the greatest epic in Tamil literature.

It goes without saying that Kamban was well versed in Sanskrit along with his mother tongue Tamil. Kamba Ramayanam was no mere translation of Valmiki’s Ramayana. It is very different from the Sanskrit work in many respects.

This great writer was also influenced by the Vaishnavite literature before his time. Like the Alvars and the Nayanmars, Kamban had supreme command over the art of versification. He was a master of characterisation and description. He was an expert in the technique of stage management. Even minor characters were brought to the fore by his magic touch.

Kamban received the patronage of the Chola king, Rajendra Chola, who granted to him the fiefdom of Kamba Nadu and also the title ‘Kavi Chakravarti.’



Kamba Ramayanam spread the story of Rama in ancient Tamil country. This great literary work also succeeded in reviving the greatness of the Tamil language during this period. Known as 'Ramavataram', the epic has more than 10,000 verses of four lines each.

It is no wonder that Kamba Ramayanam captured the imagination of people through the ages. Leading public figures of Tamil Nadu, including VVS Iyer and TK Chidambaranatha Mudaliar, brought out powerful commentaries and rendered the work into English. It is for all these reasons that the epic has stood the test of time.

Kamban's poetry was reputed for lyrical beauty, brilliant rhymes, simile and astonishing variety, all conforming to the strict demands of classical poems.

Besides, Kamban's work is characterised not just by the beauty of the language, magnificent descriptions and embellishments but also the poet's insight into human nature.

In the words of Justice MM Ismail, a Tamil scholar especially in Kamban Ramayana, "Kamban sang the story of Rama as of God come down on earth to suffer, chasten, uplift, help and guide men. Apart from this difference

in the treatment of the hero, there is considerable difference in the poetic form between Valmiki and Kamban. Kamban's Ramayana is a lyric, while Valmiki's is an epic. The lyrical sparkle of Kamban and Tulsi Das goes well with their constant reminder that Rama is the Supreme Being Himself".



