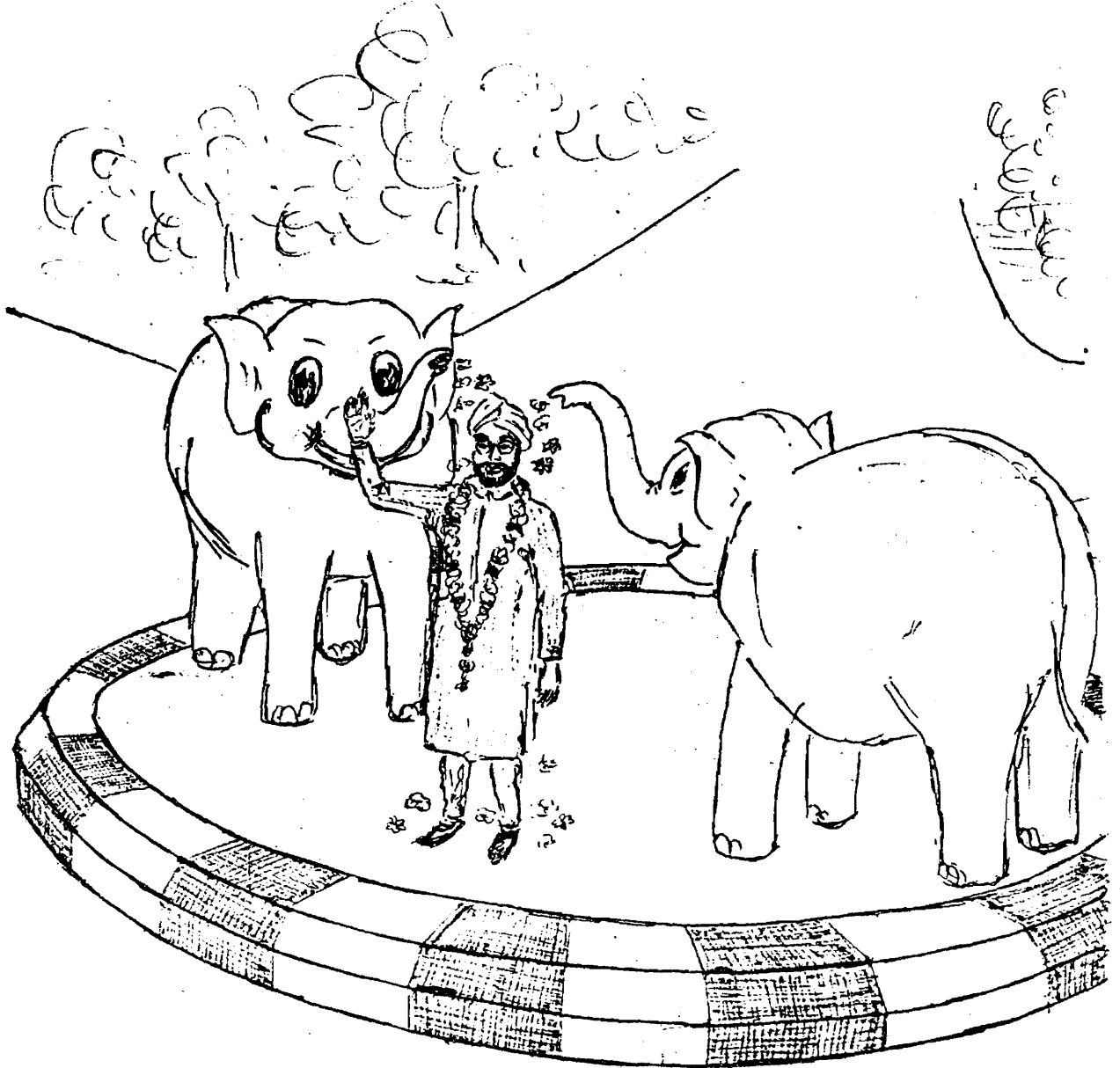


*Compendium 1-2*

# CAMPASTIMES

AUG '83



THE VISIT THAT WASN'T

*1/18*

Dear Eds.,

I have written this letter because I had nothing to do.

Now I stop because I have nothing more to say.

Meouw Junior  
Narmada Mess

Your Honour,

A week back, I returned from my classes, to find my room burgled. 'Economics': Samuelson, secured with great difficulty from the Book Bank (13 copies available for 120 students) was missing. Well, right is right and wrong is wrong.

I pinched the same book from another, later in the same day. But I was caught in the act. I appeal to you for justice. I deserve the book. I need it badly.

Yours plaintively,

'Bo Derek', Ganga

\* \* \*

## EDITORS

KUMARAN SATHASIVAM  
307 SARASWATHI

SRIVATSAN,R.  
104 NARMADA

SRIRAM,R.  
339 GANGA

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Mr. Swamy's help is gratefully acknowledged.

## EDITORIAL

Squares. Stripes. And patterns Kaleidoscopic, of yellow, green blue and a myriad other colours. That is how we, the new editors look at the new year: the year that we look forward to with the starry eyes of a child.

The Convocation, the Silver Jubilee, Mardi Gras, as well as the first and second quizzes, midsems and the endsems... in short, throughout the entire academic year, we will be there with you, putting to pen those little nothings, which may not be Nobel prize material, but which nevertheless will be [we hope] providing you with that refreshing break amidst entanglements over carrier waves and superposition. We also hope to emphasise the idea that everyone of us is going through those crests and troughs which we often find ourselves over.

The change of size and format should dispel the last remaining sores of memory of the bunch of pages stapled together that went under the name of Campastimes. Coupled with periodicity that would put a quartz oscillator to shame, we should be able to make CT more readable [and available]. Through the informal interviews with the staff, we hope to look beyond the faces that we have put up with everyday of our life here, in spasms of fifty minutes.

About contributions, ah, contributions, well, er, that is, what are such things anyway? If the magazine is to mean something more than just an assortment of editorials under different titles, you must just sit down for, may be half-an-hour, and tell us that, hilarious incident that happened to him (real or invented). And you'll probably go up a peg in the financial world.

# CAUSERIE

When all the deer are gone....

Often outsiders talk of our campus as "the place where deer roam tame and numerous as cattle or sheep". This is of course an exaggeration, but we don't correct their view. Really, we take the deer, and our wild, natural, campus for granted.

The first thing that struck me when we came back this semester was the large eyesore near the hostels—a huge area that was vegetated thickly to the last square centimetre when we left last sem. now standing bleak, literally without as much as a leaf on it except for a few palm trees. A bulldozer was going methodically over the area to see that the job was complete.

I am told that the "cleaning" of this area as well as that behind Ganga and Mandakini Hostels (upto the oxidation pond) is to provide fields and playgrounds for the forthcoming inter-IIT meet. Whatever the reason, what a price to pay! Consider the encroachment we are making on our environment in steps like this. Slowly, as I suppose must happen wherever we humans choose to settle, we are turning our campus into one of the concrete and desert complexes that other institutions are now, elsewhere. Even as we do this, we are aware that deforestation on a worldwide scale means failure

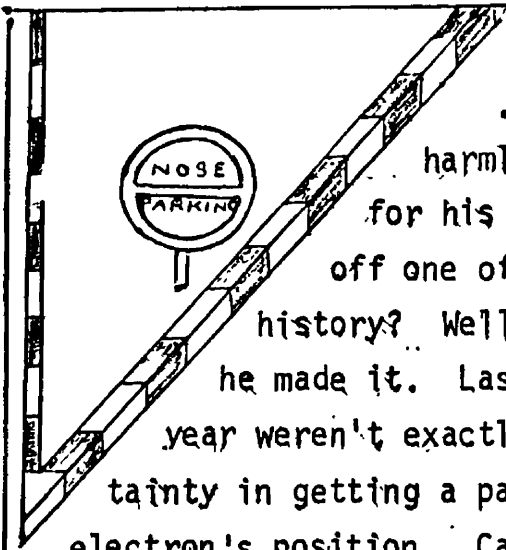
of rains, the consequences of which everyone in Madras is familiar with. Apart from this, we are ripping up an eco-system that is the habitat of the deer and all the other fauna as well as the flora.

What we are seeing in our campus is symbolic of what is happening around the world-natural forests and wild lands falling to the axe and giving place to wastelands. I am informed that the area stripped of forests each year in the world is of the order of thousands of square kilometres.

One need not be a keen observer to note that far fewer Axis (spotted) deer or blackbuck are around here now than even a few months ago. True, they have mostly migrated to the adjacent deer sanctuary because it is greener there in summer, but we may be sure that the latest attack on their rightful home has played an important role in sending them packing.

If all other considerations fail, our aesthetic sense should prevent us from felling another tree or consigning another acre to that tribute to human achievement, the bulldozer. After all, a basketball court never looked as beautiful as a forest, what? If we don't pause to think, it won't be long before all the deer are gone....

KUMARAN SATHASIVAM



... Who would have thought that one harmless, too lean for his size, and too dense for his age, guy from Narmada hostel was to pull off one of the greatest of stunts in weightlifting history? Well, history has to be made sometime, and so he made it. Last year's Electrical students in the IInd year weren't exactly the brightest around, and their uncertainty in getting a pass in Elce was slightly less than that of electron's position. Came the sems, and the eve-of-exam, our man somehow did some magic and, lo! He pulled the weight effortlessly from its resting position and held it long enough for the judges to nod approvingly. Cheers for this 'sweet' guy.

... With the whole campus literally agog with the secret, it is not far wrong to let a little of this excitement bubble over into the leaves of Campastimes, is it? We all know (and know that we should not know too) that there has been an errant, one who has let his greed for aids take the better of his senses, amongst those who have passed out this year. We sincerely hope that, henceforth, we would have no occasion to even hear as a rumour, somebody trying to manipulate likewise. We all have come here through a decent procedure. Let the going out, too be, of similar nature, rather than with a helping hand or with lead around our feet.

\* \* \*

Sriram.R.

"Young man", said the Prof. to a student who kept interrupting, "Are you trying to teach the class?"

"No sir", said the student.

"Well then, don't talk like an idiot!"

## WHOS WHAT

Though it would be much more complete if some of the 'veterans' had written this sort of piece on life here, it wouldn't be totally off the mark, if I, who has every chance of increasing the fore-mentioned group's count by one, try a hand at it.

To begin with is all the excitement and pride with which one arrives here; to have beaten tens of thousands of people in a 'gruelling' competitive exam; the determination of those who have made it to the top to stay there, and of the possible branch-changers to make a desperate bid for Comp Science or Elce, they ride on the crest of the incoming tide of this gritty doggedness for nearly a month or two.

Over hot cups of Taramanî chat, and with such application and involvement that would put any ingratiating politician to shame, are discussed who the 'muggo's are, and who are the 'funda' guys; who mugs secretly at one 'O' clock in the night after pretending to have crashed at nine p.m. and who walks to exam halls 'without even looking at the book', and the like.

More 'weathered' students take up topics of greater seriousness: who did what malpractices and how, and the way in which so-and-so made to such-and-such a place... Poring thoughtfully over maps of U.S.A. are those who hope that some 'luck and oriental magic' should enable their grades to be good enough to obtain aids.

And then, the type of guys who could be ten-pointers if they only cared, but who wants to live with some lousy notes and in dingy classrooms, when there is freedom, and hence head whatho for the greens...

And, of course, there are those guys (three, to be precise) haggard, a week's stubble on their chins, a pen held limply in one hand, wondering how the hell to fill a blank sheet of Campastimes with material that would appeal to the "general student community"; whose only hope in life is a nuclear war...

\* \* \*

U-Thinker

### ON THE YELLOW LINE

Moments of trusting-time shimmer on Time's canvas..  
 Visions of week-end strolls,  
 Holding hands, whispering endearments,  
 Fleeting images..  
 Speeding automobiles rush past me  
 Stranded as I am on the yellow line  
 Visits to the Art Gallery, to the Zoo,  
 A week-long wait, a few precious hours of togetherness  
 Burning out the week's passion at the shores  
 To the tumultuous crescendo of the waves..  
 Klaxons blare like desperate maniacs..  
 Your tears, my pain, another parting  
 Cutting like ice..  
 Days when dreams effloresced  
 While uncertainty gnawed.  
 Time now stands still  
 A bird in mid-air  
 Anaesthetized I step across the road..  
 Headlights screech to a grinding halt  
 Flooding the busy highway..  
 In the frenzied blur of lights  
 I am a silhouette slipping  
 On an avalanche of remembered moments.

S. Mohan  
 Lecturer  
 Humanities Department



## MEET OUR STAFF...

"Going abroad is not at all wrong," says Director P.V. Indiresan of the I.I.T. Madras, "but staying is". This was a reply to a query from us, the editors of CT, who were invited to supper and an informal interview.

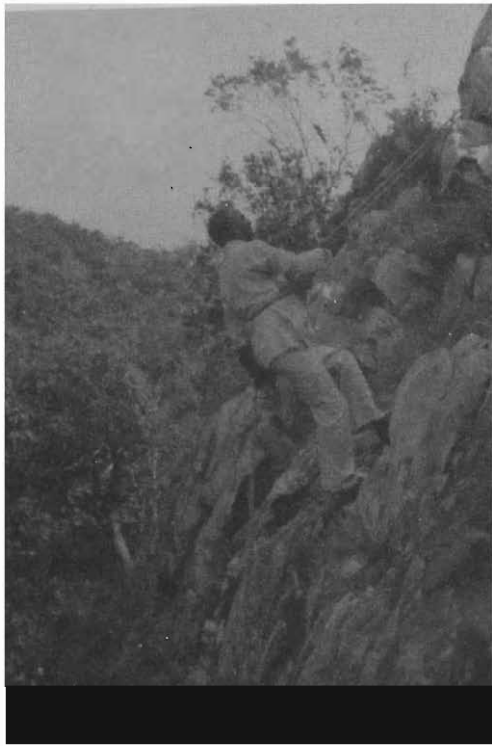
Parking our bicycles by the gate, beside a suspicious chowkidar, we walk down the portico and present ourselves. Apparently, we had interrupted a family of four viewing Doordharshan's attempts at creativity. We are welcomed by a pleasantly smiling Mrs. Indiresan, and son Atri [of Agrawal fame] soon the Director emerges, all amiability. Having seated ourselves, he surprises the party with a small, hand-held taperecorder [Indian??].

"I was born in Madras, with most school studies in Tamil or Kannada". Then on to Presidency College and then to Bangalore as research scholar. In Roorkee he was, for a period, as Lecturer, before going to Birmingham. After collecting his doctoral research degree, back again to Roorkee, and he started ascending the success ladder. A series of promotions, and a change of university and he was in IIT-Delhi as Dean, before the present position. "340 days I have before I will step down" he says, with the calm assurance of one who is perfectly sure of what is coming.

"In certain universities in the South, the administrative positions are not filled by academicians, but of managerial origin. What's your idea of this?"

"Administrative qualities are no doubt necessary, but there will be the lack of understanding, of really looking into the requirements of the teacher that are apart from those of direct bearing". He breaks off to tell that the administrative setup in Delhi is more or less on similar lines, but there is greater scope for students getting their views through here at Madras. "There are certain dimensions which we wouldn't have known at all had not the students told us."

Mangala Gowri, his daughter offers us limejuice in 'cute' looking tumblers as Mrs. Indiresan joins the party. Diro looks meekly up at hers as if seeking permission to continue. But then she is in too pleasant a mood to think otherwise. Out to flatter her, the Diro enlightens us on the fact that she had won a gold medal in Psychology in her MA course at Madras University. Is there any vicarious



pleasure in his informing us that Atri and Nithya (his elder daughter) are both NTS scholars? .

Of IITians, he feels that it is "an honour to be at IIT-Madras: but it is unfortunate that the majority of the students are cynical, with not much to fall back upon".

At the dinner table, we are confronted with decent arub (a welcome change after hostel food). Atri tells us that he is going to start his own industry. What with his brain (All India 5th rank) and brawn (Watch out), he's formidable enough to overcome any difficulties. We look at photo-

... HIS WIFE CAN DO BETTER

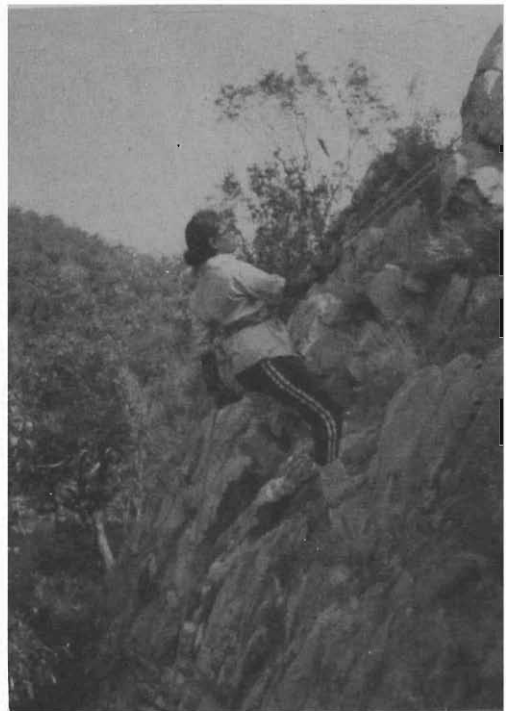
WHAT THE DIRECTOR CAN DO ...

-graphs (two of them reproduced here) of the Indiresan's family's grappling with heights.

"Papa, what about the code of conduct rule rumoured to be brought about" asks Mangala with mock seriousness.

"What rule." Mr. Indiresan is innocence personified.

"Hey, ditchya." She is unable to hold back her mirth anymore.



BEST PHOTOGRAPH AT MOOD INDIGO '83

BY P. VENKATAKRISHNAN



## HAVE WE A SOCIAL CONSCIENCE?

"The students in IIT have absolutely no social consciousness", said the Deputy Director, Dr. R. Srinivasan. Startled, I looked straight across at the bespectacled gent slumped in a chair many times his size. Eyebrows raised in enquiry, he watched me. In a flush of indignation, I countered his statement. But he continued: "Every year, we turn out brilliant students, but none of them has any social conscience whatsoever". The edge of bitterness in his voice seemed to make the whole thing rather too personal. But the sincerity of this man was evident. I left Dr. Srinivasan's office, having made a few angry half-retorts. But it is now a week past. So let me pause.

Are we students really guilty of a selfish and cock-eyed stance? Have we sufficient reason to be self-satisfied and complacent? Have we performed our duties not only by ourselves, but by our parents and our institution?

The answer to the last question is; by and large, yes. Sweeping generalizations on student irresponsibility merely reflect a pompous superior attitude that some professors seem to claim as one of their perquisites. But now, please permit this student to raise a few questions on 'social consciousness': Should the various students who work tirelessly for all the institute functions, be considered lacking in social responsibility?

Are the few student secretaries and the others who work for better teacher-student rapport, to be considered irresponsible?

Is the NSS to be considered a defunct body in that its student volunteers don't merit mention as socially conscious youngsters?

Haven't the students invariably adopted the most reasonable manner of expressing their demands?

Beneath the veneer of scepticism, most of the students do believe that the senior members of the faculty are genuinely interested in the students. But ill-conceived notions of the student conscience hardly promote such beliefs.

Detraction from students' social consciousness could be one way of justifying a 'code of conduct' with several unreasonable restrictions on student freedom. So, for its own good, let the student community beware.

R. Sriyatsan

## JULY

Another evening in July  
 Melancholic clouds hover  
 Tired mynahs homeward fly  
 Bizarre thoughts engulf.

It was another July, my dearest,  
 When the sky was serene and clear.  
 The distant horizon blushed  
 As we forgot centuries advancing.

Many a July has passed since  
 Leaving us separated  
 Dreams of distant nebulae blinking  
 And of the twinkle of your eyelashes.

July witnesses many transitions  
 The summer heat subsides  
 The first cool showers appear  
 With sunshine in between, pleasant.

Rosy dreams does July bring  
 But harsh realities await,  
 Concealed in unsuspecting moments  
 Like winters implied by springs preceding.

With every July the world shudders:  
 "Will there ever be a next July?"  
 With all the nuclear missiles lurking  
 And biological warfare spreading.

Oh! no, dear; July won't frighten us -  
 For, the human potential is yet unfathomed;  
 There will never be a crisis without solutions  
 For every end is but only a beginning.

INTERVIEW.

"THE GREATEST DANGER TO THE WORLD TODAY, IS INTERNATIONAL LAW-LESSNESS. AND THE ONLY SAFEGUARD AGAINST THIS IS THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS."

Having spent more than 2 decades of his life at the UNO, C.V. Narasimhan has developed a firm belief in the utility and purpose of the UNO. He started his UN career in 1956, as executive secretary of the Economic Commission for Asia, at Bangkok, and went on to become Under Secretary General for Special Political Affairs, Chef de Cabinet to the Secretary General, Deputy Administrator of the UN Development Programme and Under Secretary General for inter-agency coordination. After his retirement in August '78, he became a senior fellow of the UN Institute for Training and Research. He is currently on a teaching assignment at the University of Texas, where he discusses 'International Organizations.' We met him during his brief summer vacation in Madras.

"I HAVE GIVEN UP MORE POSTS IN THE UN THAN MOST PEOPLE HAVE HELD"

'Governments resort to wisdom only when they have tried everything else, and failed': C.V.Narasimhan quotes Aba Aban (former foreign minister of Israel). "There is no sanction in the UN for law-breakers", he says, referring to South Africa and Israel. "The greatest (and only) sanction is that of informed public opinion".

"SOUTH AFRICA HAS BEEN MADE TO FEEL THE 'PARIAH' OF THE SPORTING WORLD. THAT'S A BIG ACHIEVEMENT"

He dismisses the western media's criticisms of the UN as "garbled, tendentious and anti-UN".

"MY OBJECT IS ONLY SERVICE, I HAVE BEEN A CIVIL SERVANT ALL MY LIFE"

Born in the '10s, C.V.Narasimhan was sent on a scholarship to Oxford, after his BA(Hons.) in History at St. Joseph's College, Tiruchi. When he took the Indian Civil Services entrance exam in '36, he stood 1st among the Indians. He had earlier finished the 4-year course at Oxford in 2 years. Narasimhan started his ICS career as an Assistant Collector at Vizag. A little embarrassed, he recalls the freedom movement at that time: 'I had to deal with the riots.. but there wasn't much of a problem'.

In 1950, Narasimhan joined the Ministry of Food and Agriculture as deputy secretary. He was in the Department of Economic Affairs when he met Dag Hammerskjold (the then UN sec.gen.) in February '56. Highly impressed even after a brief meeting, Hammerskjold decided to get Narasimhan into the UNO.

Now in his 70s, C.V.Narasimhan speaks with a gentle lisp and forceful emphasis. His interests range from tennis to carnatic music, Kalidas and Shakespeare. His views are expressed candidly and he readily impresses one as being knowledgeable.

#### ON INDIAN POLITICS AND POLITICIANS:

"The greatest need for education is at the level of our politicians. The members of our legislature have a very narrow view of the interests of India". Expressed concisely, "They are hide-bound, self-centred and ignorant".

Politically, he calls himself a 'pink liberal' (Eds: Oops!). He is also a great admirer of Mrs.Gandhi.

CT: How does the ICS of your times compare with the IAS?

Narasimhan: Many of the IAS officers have found that the way to get on is by being 'very friendly' with the ministers and senior officials and doing their bidding. That's not the way we did it!

"AGITATIONS ARE A DREADFULL WASTE OF ENERGY"

"In India we have now got some enormous problems. Some of these problems are of our own creation". In his opinion, "Family planning should be given top priority".

"I BELIEVE INDIA WILL HAVE A GREAT FUTURE ANYHOW"

He believes firmly in adherence to tradition, at least in Carnatic music. He does not join the general clamour about deteriorating quality of music. But he disapproves of the over-emphasis on swara-prasthara. "Make music, not mathematics", is his plea.

He has helped make Ravi Shankar and M.S. Subbulakshmi, world celebrities. Recently, he also arranged for Parveen Sultana's tour of the US.

"I PUT RAVI SHANKAR ON THE WORLD MAP"

C.Y. Narasimhan is now a retired man and even looks rather obese. But he still keeps himself very active. He is currently working on his magnum opus: 'a personal history of the U Thant years' (U Thant was UN Sec.Gen. from '61 to '71). He is the type of person who keeps you on your toes even during normal conversation. By the time we got to our feet, we had certainly gained by the experience.

*Interviewed by: Ananth Sethuraman & Srivatsan.*



# QUIZ Times

1. Name the Bangladesh-born architect who designed the world's tallest tower, the Sears Tower.
2. What was set up on the recommendation of the Sarkar Committee?
3. Who was the Britisher who is supposed to have founded Madras City?
4. Expand 'Lions' of Lions Club.
5. Who used to produce the James Bond movies (for 21 years)?
6. What is the Hindi remake of 'Jaws'?
7. Which is the one non-fictional book by Alistair Maclean?
8. In the Bible, what was the new name given Jacob?
9. What is the first name of Mr. Lodge of Archie comics?
10. What is a calender?
11. What are the male and female swans called?
12. What is Simon Templar better known as?
13. "What is good for your nose may not be good for your eyes". Which company advertises so?
14. Which is the widest bridge in India?
15. How much did I.I.T. Madras spend totally last year?

\* \* \*      Compiled by: Joy.A.Thomas

*A man gets drunk on Monday on Whisky & soda water; on Tuesday on Brandy & soda water; on Wednesday on Rum & soda water. What caused his drunkenness? Obviously, the common factor, the soda water.*

\* \* \*

*When the world was destroyed by nuclear warfare, the sole survivors were two monkeys in an African jungle. They discussed the situation and one of them asked the other, "Shall we start the whole thing all over again?"*

\* \* \*

## CROSSWORD CLUES

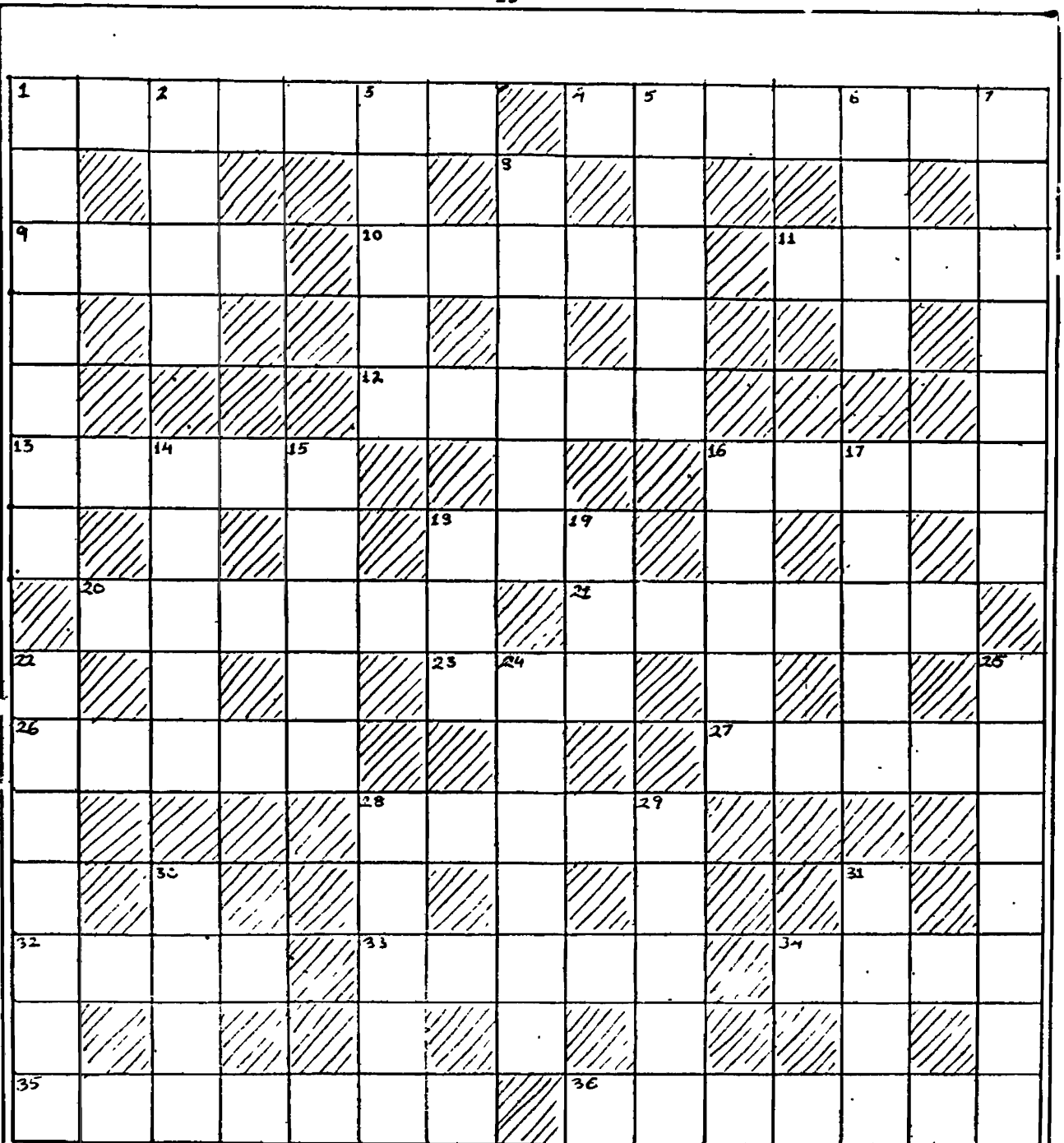
N.C. SURESH

## ACROSS

1. Pigeon sitting behind the bike(7)
4. Ninny lost years returning in a toupee but is coming first(7)
9. From the nova, light came in the shape of the earth(4)
10. Strange, extremely pointless to donate(5)
11. Idiots are turned to make unconscious(4)
12. Revolver turned to mind itself(5)
13. Horseman in direr positions(5)
16. Game rootsoldier has right to fish(5)
18. Baron Epstein brings unity(3)
20. Duplicated light gas about in lout(6)
21. Martial art sound like rabbit food(6)
23. Before back the same(3)
26. Never twice back with me, for vegetable(5)
27. Our land in diametric proportion(5)
28. Cluster sound like boxer hitting with a cold(5)
32. I swindle you about the image(4)
33. I trade in perfect things(5)
34. Towards Mount Orion(4)
35. Worse than the Rumanian in court?(7)
36. Equation for a foul arm(7)

## DOWN

1. Shut down sounds nearer(7)
2. Horse blood runs even in the burro animal(4)
3. Keen as the proverbial beaver(5)
5. Bury the main terrorist(5)
6. Not I that's going in(4)
7. Whole mob closing in?(7)
8. Box sounds like vehicle weighs a lab(6)
14. Everybody returned to the master, the beast(5)
15. Imprisoned our Queen before a small nation(3,2)
16. Among the French(5)
17. Mimicked Edward after the cooler initially(5)
18. Rode in the elegy(3)
19. Scrape from small dog(3)
22. Abroad it sounds like the enemy is ruling(7)
24. Leased and torn(6)
25. Her chest gave trouble(7)
28. Sea water for tears?(5)
29. Hi, certainly not said in heaven(5)
30. Sounds like rules cause bankruptcy(4)
31. Tyre made in France?(4)



SOLUTIONS OVERLEAF

## SOLUTIONS TO CROSSWORD

## ACROSS:

1. Carrier 4. Winning 9 Oval 10. Grant 11. Stun 12. Rotor  
 13. Rider 16. Prawn 18. One 20. Cloned 21. Karate 23. Ere  
 26. Onion 27. India 28. Bunch 32. Icon 33. Ideal 34. Unto  
 35. Nastier 36. Formula

## DOWN:

1. Closure 2. Roan 3. Eager 5. Inter 6. Into 7. Ganging  
 8. Carton 14. Llama 15. Ran in 16. Parmi 17. Acted 18. Ode  
 19. Eke 22. Foreign 24. Rented 25. Pandora 28. Brine 29. Hello  
 30. Loss 31. Pneu

## ANSWER TIMES

- |                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Fazlur Rahman                      | 2. The I.I.T's  |
| 3. Sir Francis Day                    | 4. Liberty, Integrity and Nations' Safety   |
| 5. Harry Saltzman and Albert Broccoli | 6. Aatank   |
| 7. Biography of Captain Cook          | 8. Israel   |
| 9. Hiram                              | 10. A machine with rollers for finishing cloth or paper surface, using moisture, heat and pressure. |
| 11. Cob and Pen respectively          | 14. Maraimalai Adigalar bridge at Saidapet, Madras  |
| 12. The saint                         |   |
| 13. Lawrence and Mayo, Opticians      |   |
| 15. Rs. 9.90 crores                   |   |

\* \* \*