



# B L I S S

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VOICE OF SRINIVAS YOUNGMEN'S ASSOCIATION

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Syma Website : [www.syma.in](http://www.syma.in)

From the President's Desk . . .

*For internal circulation only*

Dear (s)

On 11th of this month, SYMA volunteers hit the road collecting old clothes for Rajasthan Cosmo Club. The effort was indeed laudable. We have a full report on RCC and our effort. The exams are round the corner and SYMA is striving to do its bid in educating students. We are about to launch tuition programme for the students set to face the public exam. Your suggestions are invited.

At the national front, the grisly fire that engulfed two coaches of the ill-fated Samjhauta Express (aka Friendship Express) on February 18 near Panipat, resulted in the death of almost 70 passengers. The attack on the train that runs between Delhi & Lahore was aimed at derailing the peace process between the neighbouring nations. The Cauvery tribunal verdict has evoked reactions with the kannadigas protesting it in a large scale. Disputes between riparian states and even countries have not been uncommon. In this context the recent report issued at Berne, Switzerland by Raymond Lafitte, the World Bank-appointed neutral expert holding that the basic design of the dam is in conformity with the 1960 Indo-Pak Indus Waters Treaty but calling on New Delhi to bring its height down by 1.5 metres assumes significance. The Baglighar dam, a hydro electric power project is on the chenab river in Doda dist. of J & K conceived in 1992, the construction of which was opposed by Pakistan. The need of the hour is to value independent, technically sound rulings on contentious issues. When hostile Nations can learn to give and take on Indus, why the riparian States refuse to budge the same over Cauvery or Mullaperiyar is a moot point.

March 13, 2007 will see a spectacular cricket World Cup unfold over with the first match between the hosts and Pakis at Sabina Park, Kingston, Jamaica. Reams will be written over about the chances of men in Blue. There were no real surprises in the 15 member squad announced. Surprise is a good element in strategy but not as much in selection. The recent bashing the much touted Aussies has raised glimmer of hope for many. Effectively, the batsmen will have to win India this World Cup & much is expected of the three senior monks who have the pedigree. So as usual, we are expecting with lot of hopes and aspirations for a result which will be to our liking !

Yours Friendly . .

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## WHAT YOUNGSTERS CAN DO TO SOCIETY !

SYMA proudly has been associated with Rajasthan Cosmo Club Foundation for some years now. They have been helping us in our Educational Aid programme by donating uniforms through us to deserving school children. We have collected used clothes for them earlier and we did it again this month. SYMA volunteers went on street to street campaign collecting useable old clothes.

A visit to the cloth bank really inspires one. It makes you understand how service to society can be rendered and the way it needs to be executed. The main objective is to collect the unwanted / unused Clothes from the society and process them to make them usable by the needy people and thus make productive use of clothes which would have otherwise gone waste. They have their own building and dedicated team for running the affairs. The whole building looks so tidy and well maintained. The collected used clothes are checked, segregated according to size, mended, steam washed and then neatly packed in germ free poly bags size-wise, ready to be handed over. The motto of restoring human dignity is being achieved by the timely help provided to the less fortunate.

The formation of the Rajasthan Cosmo Club was based on the unique objectives of giving an impetus to the Rajasthan culture at Chennai, providing a platform of opportunity to young and hidden talent besides lending a helping hand to less fortunate members of society. This club was inaugurated in 1994 with the objective of social service, and a Trust under the name and style of Rajasthan Cosmo Club Foundation was registered in 1994. Thus was born the unique cloth bank with popular connotation "gajbharkapda". RCC later constructed own premises at 28, Noor Veeraswamy Lane, Nungambakkam, Chennai in 1998 where permanent staff manages the day to day operations professionally. The members have created a Corpus fund to take care of the normal Expenses of the project.

The functioning of the Cloth Bank itself is an unique concept providing excellent job opportunity in vocations like tailoring, ironing & packing.

As early as in 2001 less privileged children from about 60 schools were provided uniforms in the colour and design prescribed by the individual school; the children of Gujarat affected by the devastating earthquake

also received uniforms that year. In celebrations of 2600th Jan mahotsav of Bhagwan Mahaveer, RCC distributed uniforms, note and text books.

Besides old clothes, they have thoughtfully instituted another scheme for providing uniforms. Under this scheme new school uniforms are distributed to needy and deserving students at the beginning of academic year. The applications are invited through schools and members. The uniforms are custom tailored by permanently employed tailors stitched to each student's specification.

In a short span of time, the association has blossomed into a well-known service organization committed to its goal of restoring human dignity which has been made possible by the active involvement of its committed members and society at large.

Some of the activities listed below aptly describe their commitment

- u Distribution of clothes to the victims of fire at Nochikuppam & at Besant Nagar
- u 5000 clothes were handed over to a NGO for distribution to the needy.
- u 1820 clothes distributed to the poor near Madurantkam thro' Rotary Club of Silver Beach.
- u 10,000 clothes were distributed to the poor people of villages near Kundrathur.

Besides the above, the association has been providing clothes to the victims of natural calamities such as Fire, Floods Earthquake and Droughts etc. The association airlifted cargo of clothes to Gujarat for distribution within three days of earthquake.

The presence and activities of such associations striving for the betterment of society, infuse fresh vigour in people like us to do more for the society. **BLISS** hails RCC for the good work

SYMA thanks all its volunteers who partook in the collection of old clothes.

**Q:** On 4th of this month, a maneuverable land attack version of the BrahMos missile fired from a mobile launcher, was tested at Chandipur, Orissa. As Lt. Col. Bishnu Ram pressed the ignition button, the missile rose and flew over the Gulf of Bengal along an "S" trajectory. This is another successful testing of the missile designed to carry conventional warheads. Do you know the origin of the name ? **Ans in Pg.4**

## **SYMA WELCOMES LEGISLATION ON COMPULSORY WEARING OF HELMETS.**

*Every individual must adhere to safety norms but unfortunately when it comes to two wheeler riding, we tend to adopt "it-cannot-happen-to-me" syndrome refusing to accept that we are at risk.*

*The saddest part is that a good and simple means of preventing devastating head injury is available — wearing a HELMET. It saves lives and reduces debilitating injuries.*

*We welcome the move of the TN Govt making wearing of helmets compulsory for two-wheeler drivers and pillion riders in the State. This certainly is a decision taken in the interest of safety. Placing a Government Order, dated February 9, to this effect before the Madras High Court on Monday, the Government has sought time to frame rules and notify them. In compliance with Section 129 of the Motor Vehicles Act 1988, the Government has decided to implement wearing of helmet compulsory for two-wheeler driver and pillion rider. The helmet should conform to the standards of Bureau of Indian Standards.*

*Quite often, one hears common excuses like hair-style, headache and other inconveniences, but compared to the trauma and brain injury an accident could cause, these inconveniences are certainly minor. It is confirmed by Neurosurgeons that additional protection to the head reduces the severity of the force transmitted to the brain and injury to it. What would otherwise be an irreversible injury could be made reversible. Wearing a helmet reduces significantly the fatality rate, the period of hospital stay, medical costs and degree of disability. Head injury reportedly is the sixth most common cause of death in India. Any statistics would seldom reflect the agony and misery faced by families when a breadwinner gets critically injured or dies.*

*There are different types of head injuries observed in motorcycle accidents, but the most serious involve the central nervous system, the brain and the upper spinal cord. If your skull is fractured, your brain may be torn by penetrating objects and bone fragments. However, your brain may also be injured by violent impacts that leave your skull essentially undamaged. Most brain injuries are irreversible. The source of all these injuries is impact. When your head makes sudden, violent impact with something unyielding, the small part of your head that is hit stops moving immediately. But the rest of your head remains in motion. As a result, your brain and skull may break and tear before they too can stop moving.*

*The brain is housed in a rigid bony structure (the skull), covered by a thick layer called the scalp. Under the bone is a thick watertight membrane called the dura which surrounds the brain and contains a watery fluid called cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) in which the brain "floats". The brain is made up of two halves (the right and left) or cerebral hemispheres united in the midline. At the centre is the brainstem which continues down as the spinal cord.*

*The variant injuries are described as : 1. Trauma. 2. Unconsciousness: - lack of awareness of surroundings. Coma is a deep level of unconsciousness. 3. Concussion 4. Contusion: structural damage in the brain with areas of patchy bleeding. 5. Skull fracture 6. Haematoma- (a) Extradural (b) Subdural & (c) Intracerebral. 7. Brainstem injury and 8. Edema : brain swelling, due to water collection in the brain tissue surrounding an injured area.*

*One must understand that unlike an injury to the hand or leg, brain injury is an ongoing dynamic process which proceeds even after the initial event. This is why a person who is well at the time of admission may deteriorate later even when getting treatment. A CT scan is a revolutionary type of x-ray that gives valuable information to the neurosurgeon.*

*A good helmet protects your head by giving your skull and brain a little time to match speeds with suddenly encountered objects. The hard outer shell distributes the force of a blow and prevents objects from piercing the skull. Making two-wheeler users wear helmets does not require funds or expertise. All that it requires is a change in mindset.*

*Indifference, apathy and insensitivity to traffic laws on the part of the public at large, often reflect fatalism. Things like these should not be left to chance. Next time a Police cop fines somebody on this, understand that enforcement is one way to demonstrate that individuals are cared for and protected and sometimes one has to be cruel to be kind. Public laws are aimed to protect human beings and society. So next time and every time, you use a two wheeler - WEAR A HELMET UNLESS YOU'RE THICKHEADED!!*

*One also hopes that Govt. regulates and ensures that only quality helmets are sold in the market lest the wearing would not be of use.*

## SYMA REMINISCES WORLD CUP

SYMA and Triplicane have been associating themselves with cricket for long and all of us are avidly looking forward to the present edition of World Cup. In this country cricket is not just a passion, but a religion. The whole nation would be cheering and hoping for the best performance of blue billions.

During good olden days, the following was not of this magnitude. For the 3rd edition, which India won, television coverage was only from the semi final matches. Even radio commentary was restricted and not dedicated, covering more than one match. It will be interesting to notice that SYMA evinced keen interest in Cricket and had organized, almost three decades back, a function just before the second edition of World Cup.

On 8th May of 1979, the Indian Captain S. Venkatraghavan was felicitated on his appointment as the Captain of Indian Cricket Team at East Tank Sq in a function organized by SYMA. Founder President RS Ramanujam welcomed the huge gathering. The podium was embellished by cricketers - MJ Gopalan, CR Rangachari, MO Srinivasan; TNCA Officials - Pattabhiraman & R Sriraman; Raghavanandam, the then Minister, sportswriter Rajan Bala and many other eminent persons.

The area wore a festive look and huge crowd had gathered to listen and see Venkat. Many local organizations and cricket teams garlanded Venkat wishing him (& India) success. Unfortunately it turned out to be a tour not worthy of remembrance. India lost all their (3) matches, biggest humiliation going down to the meekly Srilanka by 47 runs at Old Trafford. The next version at England proved to be luckier and Indian fans burst into jubilation on 25th June 1983 when Kapils Devs lifted the Prudential World Cup defeating the mighty West Indies.

**WATCH OUT**  
**NEXT ISSUE FOR AN ENTICING CONTEST ON**  
**CRICKET WORLD CUP - 2007**

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## Pitambare's martyrdom

On 27th of Nov. 2006, the army commander in Anantnag in Kashmir valley got a tip-off that the head of the dreaded terror outfit Hizbul Mujahidin, Suhail Faisal, was holed up in a crowded locality in the town.

Night was approaching. The mission was clear. Faisal, the coward with guns hiding behind civilians, had to be finished off with zero loss of non-combatants. Major Manish Pitambare, the best officer the commander had and a dare devil soldier who had had many hits to his credit, was the obvious choice. His high risk and successful tenure at the war zone was to end in another three weeks' time. But he was called to his last mission before he left the valley. And that became his final mission. He accomplished the mission for his motherland. He engaged and killed Faisal with zero loss of civilians and also saved his buddy who was hit by bullet. But the price he had to pay for this was his own life.

Merely 32, he left behind his shattered wife and child, just 18 months old, who hardly saw his father, besides his aged parents. The brave young soldier perished to relieve his motherland of a dreaded terrorist.

Every civilized Nation need to glorify the valour and rever their martyrs. Often such great acts go unnoticed and trivial things get the limelight. This great warrior has perished for the motherland like thousands of brave soldiers have in her cause - unreported, unsung and unwept. Despite being ignored by the media thousands joined the funeral procession of Manish at Pune.

It is imperative that we understand and ponder on how long are we, the Citizens of India, going to silently suffer in this war of one thousand cuts carried out in proxy by the Government of Pakistan? How many more sacrifices of young and bright sons of this land like Manish do we want before we say enough is enough? When will the Govt. take any strong action ever? We Salute Major Manish and soldiers of his Elk.

Courtesy : Shailesh Dhuri in rediff.com & S Gurumurthy)

.2 : This is not the first time the BrahMos is being test fired, that happened in 2001. BrahMos Aerospace Private Limited was established in India as a Joint Venture through an Inter-Governmental Agreement between India and Russia signed in February 1998. The acronym BrahMos is perceived as the confluence of two great nations represented by two great rivers, the Brahmaputra of India and the Moscow of Russia. Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) from India and the Federal State Unitary Enterprise NPO Mashinostroyeniya (NPOM) from Russia are the joint venture partners of the Company. The Brahmos has a target range of 290 kilometers and can carry up to 300 kilograms of conventional warheads.