



Sands of Time

Tata Central Archives Newsletter

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TATA CHEMICALS PLATINUM JUBILEE EXHIBITION



Exhibition Panels on display at the Tata Chemicals' stall at Vibrant Gujarat 2015.

Tata Central Archives (TCA) had an opportunity of designing the exhibition commemorating the 75th Anniversary of Tata Chemicals Limited (TCL). This Platinum Jubilee exhibition, which comprised 16 panels, traced the history of the Company from its inception to its present day.

The story of Tata Chemicals, is the story about harnessing the fruits of science for goals that go beyond business. Not only is it the story of the development of an industry but also of the people whose lives were influenced by the setting up of this industry.

"Changing an entire community's life for the better is really the most rewarding aspect of business."

Darbari Seth

The exhibition not only showcased the expansion of the Company's product base from salt, soda ash, allied chemicals to fertilisers, other agro-chemical products and much more. It also highlighted the various technological, welfare and safety reforms, CSR initiatives and innovative projects that the Company has undertaken over the years.

Tata Chemicals was incorporated on January 23, 1939.

The Okha Salt Works and the Pioneer Magnesia Works were taken over and formed the nucleus of the Company's new heavy chemicals complex at Mithapur in present day Gujarat, India.

In its initial years the Company was faced with numerous challenges owing to World War II, inadequate technological know-how, etc. However, it successfully overcame every hurdle and moved forward. Among one of these successes was the cracking of the code for the soda ash manufacturing process which was the monopoly of a few companies and a well-kept secret. Having cracked the code, stabilised production of soda ash was achieved.

"Of all the Companies with which I have been concerned, none has had to overcome so many difficulties compounded with bad luck, as has been the lot of Tata Chemicals."

J.R.D. Tata

In the 1950's, the Company undertook the Four Hundred Tonne Programme (FHTP) and indigenously designed the technology and executed the expansion of the heavy chemicals complex at Mithapur. The entire programme down to the last detail was prepared by the staff of Tata Chemicals.

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TATA CHEMICALS PLATINUM JUBILEE EXHIBITION...

"...this is part of the new India.

The Prime Minister not so long ago bewailed the fact that we do not in India have any design engineers, that we do not design and build our own plants, that we depend on foreign experts... I am sure the Prime Minister would be very happy to know that practically all that is being done here is being done by Indian engineers..."

J.R.D. Tata

When faced with the problem of water scarcity and closure, the entire technology of water usage was revamped using the principles of conservation, substitution, and reuse at Mithapur. Sea water was used in place of fresh water in soda ash manufacture. Also recovery of condensate from brine evaporates and soda ash hot effluent for cooling and other processes. Various techniques of water conservation and reuse continue to be used at the different Tata Chemicals' Works and Townships even today.

Although the Company had been manufacturing edible salt since its inception, it was only in 1983, for the first time ever, it entered the consumer market. It pioneered iodised, packaged, vacuum evaporated edible salt in India and marketed it under the brand name "Tata Salt" – *Desh Ka Namak*.

In the 1990's Tata Chemicals ventured into the fertiliser business (initial attempts were made in the late 1960's) to not only save millions of dollars in foreign exchange spent on imports but it was also believed that empowering farmers, enriching the land and enhancing agricultural productivity were key factors to the nation's prosperity.

The Babrala Fertiliser Complex which started production in 1992, was the only complex in the country to use dual feedstock: natural gas or naphtha, or a combination of both. It also houses India's first customised fertiliser plant.

Through its Innovation Centre (IC) set up at Pune in 2004, the Company concentrates on R&D activities based on biotechnology and nanotechnology. It plays an important role in expanding the company's portfolio by focusing in the areas of food and fuel; energy and environment; and water and wellness (FEW). Tata Swatch and Nutraceuticals are some of the products

that were developed at the IC.

Having established operations in Mithapur, Babrala, Haldia and other part of the country, the Company started creating its global footprint from 2005, through several joint ventures and acquisitions like the Brunner Mond Group, General Chemical Industrial Product, etc.

For decades, Tata Chemicals has consistently demonstrated its concern for the community, a respect for its environment and the local ecology. Its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) activities span across the globe to the various locations where the Company has its presence.

Starting from humble beginnings, Tata Chemicals, is presently a global company with a presence across four continents (Asia, Europe, Africa and North America), with sustainability and innovation at the core of its businesses. It is presently a leading manufacturer and marketer of inorganic chemicals and fertilisers in India, as well as the second largest producer of synthetic soda ash in the world.

The exhibition spanning the 75-year journey of the Company was displayed at seven cities in India – Gandhinagar, Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Bengaluru, Delhi and Pune, from mid December 2014 till end of January 2015, as it accompanied the book launch tour of "Salt of the Earth – The Story of Tata Chemicals", written by Philip Chacko and Christabelle Noronha.

The panels were also displayed at the Tata Chemicals' stall at Vibrant Gujarat held in January 2015. Vibrant Gujarat is an investors' summit held by the Government of Gujarat State, which is a platform to understand and explore business opportunities. Tata Chemicals was one of the many companies that participated in this summit.



Panels on display at Gandhinagar, Gujarat.

TATA CHEMICALS PLATINUM JUBILEE EXHIBITION...



Visitors viewing the Exhibition at Vibrant Gujarat 2015.



Dr. K. Kellie Leitch, Minister of Labour and Status of Women, Government of Canada viewing the exhibition panels at Vibrant Gujarat.

THEY DARED TO DREAM

The Tata Chemicals Platinum Jubilee Exhibition featured two personalities, Kapilram Vakil, the man who laid the foundation of this Company and Darbari Seth whose expertise, dedication and leadership strengthened the foundation and set the Company on a path to progress.

KAPILRAM VAKIL

Kapilram Hardevram Vakil born on April 28, 1884, was an Indian Chemical Engineer who played an important role in the development of the chemical industry in India. He founded the Okha Salt Works, forerunner to Tata Chemicals Limited and was largely responsible for the preliminary investigations and construction of its Works.

Kapilram was appointed a Technical Director and General Manager of Tata Chemicals, from its inception, until his death, on January 29, 1946.

He graduated from the Elphinstone College, Bombay (Mumbai), and then proceeded to England where he pursued his studies in oils and fats, dyeing and bleaching, at the Manchester College of Technology.

On his return to India in 1912, he hoped to improve the oil pressing industry and joined the Jamshed Oil Mills

(later TOMCO) at Kurla, Bombay. Here he carried out research and developed an indigenous process for manufacturing vegetable ghee which was later extensively used in U.S.A. and European countries.

On receiving an invitation from the Privy Council, he proceeded to England to carry out research at the College of Technology, Manchester where he was awarded the M.Sc. Degree for his successful findings and study, which were beneficial to the dye industry. He was also made an Associate Member of the Institute of Chemistry - a rare honour for a non-Britisher in those days.

On his return, he was employed as a Consultant in the Tata Engineering and Consultants Company. He prepared the schemes for the recovery of by-products from the coke oven of the Tata Iron and Steel Co. Ltd.

He was also instrumental in resolving an impediment in the way of the Tata Hydro-Electric Scheme. Kapilram was sent on behalf of Tatas, to meet Mahatma Gandhi on a mission to intervene in the situation and to assure the inhabitants of over 40 villages to be rehabilitated, so that a lake could be built for the project. Mahatma Gandhi eased the situation which enabled Tatas to go ahead with their



THEY DARED TO DREAM...

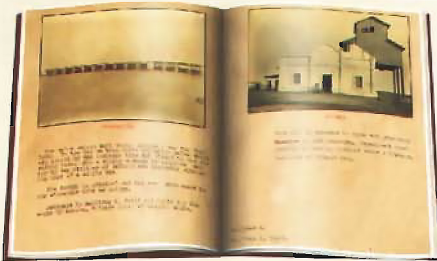
project, however, he advised Kapilram as follows:

“Kapilram give up politics and give me an undertaking that hereafter you will devote yourself entirely to the Industries of India and serve the country.”

In subsequent years, Kapilram, left Tatas to pursue his dream of setting up a heavy chemical industry in India. He prepared the first scheme for the manufacture of soda ash in India, which commenced production in 1925, for the Dhrangadhra State, (now part of Gujarat).

During the same period, he carried out research in the recovery of salt and other by-products from sea water. He soon discovered that Okhamandal (a region in the Indian State of Gujarat) was well suited for the recovery of salt and marine minerals from sea water. He hoped that this would ultimately lead to the establishment of an integrated heavy inorganic chemical complex at the heart of which would be a soda ash plant.

His pioneering efforts led to the establishment of the



Sagar Dam and Kurkutch Mill designed by Kapilram Vakil.

Okha Salt Works Ltd., in 1926, the first salt works in India to be planned on a scientific basis.

The company was set up on a barren piece of land

about 13 miles from Dwarka in the Okhamandal region. V.T. Krishnamachari, the Dewan of Baroda, laid the foundation stone of the Works on May 4, 1927. This area was later christened Mithapuri in 1929.



Kapilram Vakil in his office.

Although the production of salt and the recovery of other sea water minerals progressed well in its initial years, keeping the operations going was never easy. Kapilram and his team not only battled the wilderness of Okhamandal but



Kapilram Vakil and P. Pujara going to the top of the Chimney by rope lift.

also the policies of the British Government. Restriction on the sale of salt, heavy taxation and support for foreign imports threatened the very existence of the Works.

In 1929, he founded the Indian Salt Association and started the crusade against the import of salt from the U.K. Sinking his large personal fortune in this struggle, he along with other manufacturers was successful in stopping the import of foreign salt in Bengal-Bihar-Orissa.

Thereafter, Kapilram went ahead with the second phase of his plan and developed a scheme for a heavy chemicals complex to produce soda ash and other allied chemicals. He however, lacked the financial resources to implement this project and in 1937, Maharaja Sayajirao Gaekwad III, Ruler of Baroda State, approached Tatas on behalf of Kapilram, to take over this venture.

Tatas accepted his proposal to build a heavy chemicals complex and Kapilram was put in charge of its



Send off given to Kapilram Vakil as he leaves for a Tata Chemicals project.

THEY DARED TO DREAM...

construction. The plants at Mithapur were conceived, designed and executed by his sheer genius, undaunted courage and dint of hard work.

Those who worked with Kapilram bore witness to his determination and dedication. Although known to be temperamental, he had a softer side and was always concerned with the well-being of his colleagues and workers. The locals in the Okhamandal areas had full confidence in his vision and entrusted their loyalty and land to him. For those who worked with him firstly in the Salt Works and later in Tata Chemicals, he was a godsend whose vision had infused a new life in their desolate and barren land of Okhamandal.

"Our meeting was very short. But with wrinkles on Mr. Vakil's face and a bit of his high pitched tone I thought it will be difficult to work under him. But I realised in a short time that Mr. Vakil's personality was like a coconut. The outward being quite hard, with an interior which contains all softness and sweet water."

Iftikhar Yahya

Survey and Traction Department, Tata Chemicals.

Kapilram also worked tirelessly for the development of technical education in India. He was associated with the establishment of the Department of Chemical Technology, University of Bombay; Veermata Jijabai Technological Institute (V.J.T.I.), Bombay; etc. He was also a Member of the Advisory Committee of the Royal Institute of Science, Bombay and played a prominent role in the establishment of the Indian Chemical Manufacturers Association.

Despite his varied activities, he also found time for social and welfare activities. He was the Secretary of the Orphanage started by his father at Surat.

Today, emphasis is laid on self-reliance in know-how, engineering, fabrication of process equipment, applied research in industry and service



Kapilram at the Mithapur airstrip.

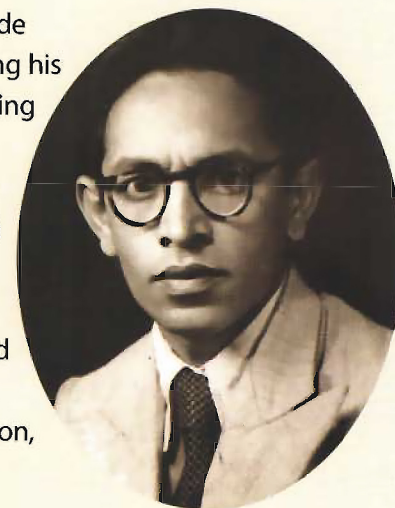
to the needy. Kapilram practiced all these in his life. He was a One Man Institution in which all the credentials needed for the ultimate objective of building a strong base for the chemical industry, thrived. His sterling qualities and total dedication serve as an inspiration for present day technocrats.

DARBARI SETH

"The only way you can stay ahead is not by financial wizardry, but having expert people with character. When it comes to this, there are not many equivalent to the Tatas in the country. The same applies to the companies managed by Darbari Seth."

J.R.D. Tata

Darbari Shah Seth, made corporate history during his glorious career extending over 52 years. His achievements will not be complete without a reference to his deep commitment to, and faith in, his country and his countrymen, his innovativeness, his vision, and his charismatic leadership.



Darbari was born on January 1, 1920. He came to Mithapur in 1943, after completing his Bachelors and Master's Degree in Chemistry from the Punjab University. He was appointed a Junior Chemist at the soda ash plant.

In 1953, he proceeded to U.S.A. to pursue a Degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Cincinnati, Ohio. After completing his Masters he spent a few years gaining work experience with several companies abroad before returning to India.

Around 1957-58, it was Darbari who convinced J.R.D. Tata, Chairman, Tata Chemicals, not to expand the soda ash capacity to 200 TPD (Tonnes Per Day) using German Technology. He proposed that 400 TPD, could be achieved at a much lower cost by designing and fabricating the plant using local expertise. He was thus

THEY DARED TO DREAM...

assigned the responsibility of the Development and Process Control Department.

In 1962, while the Four Hundred Tonne Programme (FHTP- an expansion programme to increase the production of soda ash as well as an all-round



At the Works in Mithapur.

expansion of the Mithapur plants) was in progress, severe drought conditions threatened the complex at Mithapur, which could have led to its closure. Under Darbari's leadership several innovative ideas were implemented and the complex went on to prosper.

In 1967, he designed a solar-cum-nuclear based agro-industrial fertiliser project for Mithapur, which did not materialise due to lack of government support. However, when the fertiliser project at Babrala was initiated in the 1980's, Darbari played a vital role in its development.

Darbari also thought of an institute to tackle and deal with the immense and acute energy problems that mankind was likely to face in the future. This led to the creation of the Tata Energy Research Institute (TERI) in 1974.

Darbari Seth was Chairman of over 14 companies and a Director of over 20. In 1994, Darbari stepped aside as the Chairman, to make room for the next generation, however, he continued as Chairman Emeritus until his death in 1999.

In addition to his deep and dedicated involvement in various corporate activities, Darbari was also the Founder-Chairman of several Institutions and Trusts.



*At the Crèche at Mithapur.
From L to R Indira Gandhi,
Darbari Seth and J.R.D. Tata.*

In an exceptionally brilliant academic career, Darbari won many laurels in India and abroad. In 1980, the Faculty of the University of Cincinnati unanimously elected him "The Distinguished Alumnus of the Year" - the first ever non-U.S. citizen to have been so honoured.

He was also conferred several awards, prominent among them being the National Award for Leadership in Chemical Industry; Doctor of Science, Honoris Causa, by the Banaras Hindu University; as well as by The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda; Eminent Chemical Engineer Award by Indian Institute of Chemical Engineers; Hall of Fame Award by Chemtech-CEW, etc.



Darbari Seth addressing a gathering in the Dream Room.



*Ratan Tata's visit to the Babrala Complex,
accompanied by Darbari Seth and Dr. Manu Seth.*

JAMSETJI N. TATA EXHIBITIONS

Exploring Records at the Tata Central Archives (TCA) is a voyage of constant discovery. The challenge before us is how to expand public viewership; how to create awareness. Over the years, TCA has set up over 20 thematic exhibitions in its Galleries mainly targeting the corporate audience in Pune. However, in an effort to widen our outreach, the exhibitions are now being organised at different venues in India.

The year 2014-15, marked the 175th Anniversary of Jamsetji N. Tata, the Founder of the Tata Group. To commemorate this occasion an exhibition "Jamsetji N. Tata", was organised by TCA at St. Xavier's College, Mumbai from February 22-25, 2015.

The exhibition at St. Xavier's was a first for TCA. This exhibition was especially designed and adapted for high school and college students, in Mumbai, with a view to inspire the younger generation, awaken their concern and love for the country, which is exemplified by the life of the Founder, Jamsetji N. Tata.

It was inaugurated by Dr. Nawaz Mody, Advisor, J.N. Tata Endowment for the Higher Education of Indians. The Chief Guest on this occasion was Reverend Father Frazer Mascarenhas, Principal, St. Xavier's College. Mr. F.N. Subedar, Chairman, Tata Services Limited was present for the inauguration.



*Inauguration of the Jamsetji N. Tata exhibition.
(From L to R) Reverend Father Frazer Mascarenhas,
Dr. Nawaz Mody, F.N. Subedar and Mr. Z.D. Mistry.*

Addressing the audience, Dr. Mody, remarked that St. Xavier's College, is one of the premiere colleges in the city and it was an appropriate venue for hosting the exhibition on Jamsetji Tata, which introduces him to the youth of today.

Father Mascarenhas divulged that there is a long association between the institution and Tatas, as Jamsetji's sons - Sir Dorabji Tata and Sir Ratan Tata were alumni of the college. He thanked the Tata Trusts for their generous contributions towards the upkeep of the college buildings over the years.

Speaking on the occasion Mr. Subedar commended the Founder, who he said was way ahead of his times for setting up a steel factory at Jamshedpur and for promoting the culture of philanthropy in the country. "Jamsetji was an unbelievable visionary and so relevant even today", he added.



*Principals of the Bai R.F.D. Panday Girls' High School,
Bai M.N. Gamadia Girl's High School and
Bai B.S. Bengallee Girl's High School going round
the exhibition.*

The exhibition comprised of several panels, which were divided into four sections - Enterprise, Education, Environment and Engagement, each showcasing the Founder's contributions.

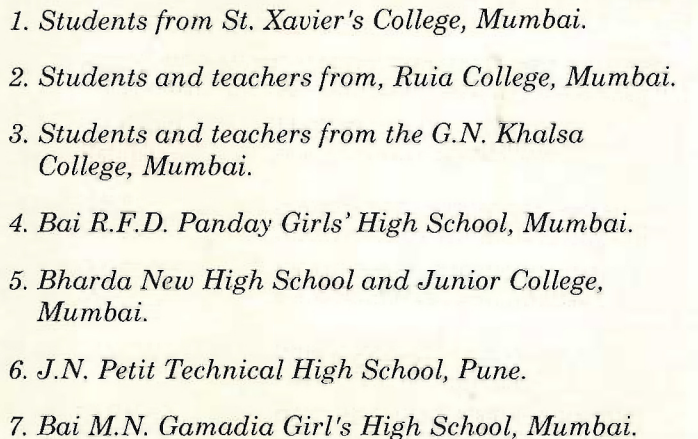
Guided tours of the exhibits were available to the visitors. The tour was followed by the screening of "Keepers of the Flame" a film on Jamsetji's life. To encourage student participation an interactive and fun quiz session, was organised. Attractive wristband pen drives were given away as prizes.

In the course of three days the exhibition was visited by students from various schools and colleges from South Mumbai.

The exhibition received an overall positive response and was enjoyed by all. In the near future TCA intends to take this exhibition to other cities in the country, thereby reaching out to wider audiences.

JAMSETJI N. TATA EXHIBITIONS...

Guided Group Tours of the exhibition.



1. Students from St. Xavier's College, Mumbai.
2. Students and teachers from, Ruia College, Mumbai.
3. Students and teachers from the G.N. Khalsa College, Mumbai.
4. Bai R.F.D. Panday Girls' High School, Mumbai.
5. Bharda New High School and Junior College, Mumbai.
6. J.N. Petit Technical High School, Pune.
7. Bai M.N. Gamadia Girl's High School, Mumbai.

JAMSETJI N. TATA EXHIBITIONS...

Film Screening and Quiz.



1



2

More frequent exhibitions, that can reach the hearts of general public will really help enrich the current Indian generation by giving the idea to adopt humanitarianism.

No need of improvement its excellent for the students because we were not knowing so much about Tata. We have listened it the history ^{book} ^{about} here we have come to know the importance & his history in this exhibition.

It was a wonderful journey exploring the life + contribution of a visionary and a great legend to the city of Mumbai and of course the nation. Its been a great inspiration for the youth of today and the need of the hour.



3



4



5

1. Screening of "Keepers of the Fame" in progress.
2. Students from Bai R.F.D. Panday Girls' High School, Mumbai and Sir J.J. Fort Boys' and Girls' High School, Mumbai viewing the film.
3. Students from Bai B.S. Bengallee Girl's High School, Mumbai participating in the quiz.
4. Quiz session in progress.
5. A winner of the Quiz from Girton High School, Mumbai.

JAMSETJI N. TATA EXHIBITIONS...

Another exhibition on the Founder, designed in-house by TCA was displayed at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru from February 26-28, 2015.

The J.N. Tata corporate exhibition formed part of the Institute's Annual Open Day, which is usually held on a weekend between the Science Day (February 28) and Founders Day (March 3).



Exhibition panels on display at IISc, Bengaluru.

The Open Day is an opportunity for outsiders to visit IISc and learn more about the Institute and its work. During the Open Day, all the departments put up their innovative projects on display. The aim is to inculcate an interest in science in the youth of today.

The exhibition at IISc comprised 20 panels on the life and work of the Founder.

This exhibition, which was designed for corporate audiences, received a positive response from people of all age groups including school and college students.



Visitors going around the J.N. Tata Exhibition.

Some of the feedback was as follows:

Very interesting and inspiring information on Great legend J.N. Tata. Keep doing this great work.

We were very thankful for providing a such a novel opportunity to know about the founder of IISc. J.N. Tata. and his contribution to society and country.

It is very greatfull to know all these things

Thank you

Here is a comment made by a nine year old school student, probably one of our youngest audience member.

Awesome exhibition!

Isn't J.N. Tata clever?

Very nice presentation and very understandable. Incl lots and lots of information!

Do get in touch with us, if your company is interested in setting up the J.N. Tata corporate exhibition at your location.

For details contact 020-66092016.

FOUNDER'S DAY AT TCA

It was Mr. D. M. Madan, Chief Accountant, Tata Steel, Jamshedpur, who started the Founder's Day celebrations on March 3, 1932 in Jamshedpur. The thought behind the gathering was to give each employee an opportunity to pay respect to Jamsetji Tata and demonstrate his pride in working for the Tata Organisation.

The staff of Tata Management Training Centre (TMTC), Tata Quality Management Services (TQMS) and Tata Central Archives (TCA) gathered at the TCA foyer to pay homage to Jamsetji N. Tata on his 176th birth anniversary on March 3, 2015.

Lt. Col. Alan Burby, General Manager, TQMS and Mr. Dilip Rokade, Store Manager, TMTC who would be retiring in 2015; were requested to garland the bust of the Founder and the photograph of J.R.D. Tata. Lt. Col. Burby addressed the audience and said a few words about Jamsetji and the legacy he has left behind.



Lt. Col. Alan Burby garlanding the bust of Jamsetji Tata.



Mr. Dilip Rokade, Store Manager, TMTC garlanding the photograph of J.R.D. Tata.

CURRENT EXHIBITIONS

Over the last few months, Tata Group employees and members of the public have visited the Archives to view the two exhibitions on display.

The first exhibition is "Tata Personalities (1877-1938)", which features over thirty individuals who played a prominent role in building various Tata Enterprises. The story of their lives including the challenges that they overcame and their contributions serve as an inspiration to future generations.

The second exhibition on Dr. J.J. Bhabha is TCA's tribute to one of its founding fathers on his Birth Centenary. He was not only a valued and respected member of the senior team that steered the Tata Group for over 60 years but was also part of various organisations that dealt with environmental concerns and the promotion and preservation of the Arts.

From January to March, 2015, several Tata employees visited the Archives representing, Tata AutoComp Systems Limited, the Taj Group of Hotels, Tata Power, Tata Chemicals, Tata Motors, Tata Teleservices, Tata Consultancy Services, Tata Services Limited etc. Tata AutoComp Systems Limited, and the Taj Group of Hotels encourage their employees to visit the Archives, as part of their induction schedule.

Tata Services Limited organised a learning excursion for its employees, on January 11, 2015. The employees working in the different departments of the company travelled all the way from Mumbai to acquaint



Staff of Tata Services Limited.



Mr. Bharat Vasani, Chief Legal and Group General Counsel, Tata Sons Ltd. and his team keenly viewing an exhibit on display.



Mr. Zubin D. Mistry, General Manager – Finance addressing the Tata Services Staff in the TCA foyer.

themselves with the different personalities on display in its galleries.

A delegation from the Zoroastrian Return to Roots Program, a youth-led initiative with volunteers currently spanning three countries across five continents, visited TCA on March 13, 2015. Its present institutional home is the UNESCO-PARZOR.

The delegates included young Zoroastrians from North America, Canada, Pakistan, the U.K. and India. They were on a tour of Zoroastrian India exploring and discovering their heritage, while learning about their communities and the diversity that exists across the diaspora. Their itinerary also included a visit to Jamsetji Tata's Birthplace at Navsari, Gujarat.

CURRENT EXHIBITIONS...



Delegates of the Zoroastrian Return to Roots Program viewing the panels of the 'Tata Personalities' exhibition.



Keonli viewing the Dr. J.J. Bhabha exhibition.



Mr. R.P. Narla, Archivist, TCA explaining the Tata Family Tree.

The Virasat Pune Club part of Virasat Pune - a people's movement for Pune Heritage and Culture, an initiative of Janwani - an NGO created by the Mahratta Chamber of Commerce, Industries and Agriculture (MCCIA) also visited the Archives on March 28, 2015.

This Club organises a number of heritage tours of the city and surrounding areas.

Their visit to TCA included a tour of the Tata Management Training Centre Campus, guided tours of the galleries and a film screening of "Keepers of the Flame". The group comprised of people from various age groups, all of whom thoroughly enjoyed their visit.



Member of the Virast Pune Club in the Main Exhibition Hall.



Visitors enjoying the exhibition at TCA.



Visitors on a tour of the TMTC Campus.

**The Tata Central Archives is open to the public.
For further information, please contact us on
020-66092016.**

THE RATAN TATA OFFICERS HOLIDAY HOME



Udhagamandalam better known, as Ootacamund or Ooty is a popular hill station in the South of India. Well established as part of the Anglo-Indian social world, Ooty underwent its greatest expansion in the 1860's and thus took on the Victorian resort appearance that marks it today as a remnant of India's colonial past. The Victorian heritage is preserved not only in the hill station's cottages, halls and the layout of its country lanes, but also in the two titles Ootacamund carries. One is the affectionate sounding nickname Ooty and the other is the more formal claim to being the Queen of the Hill Stations.

Mr. Zubin D. Mistry, General Manager-Finance, Tata Services Limited, on a holiday with his wife and two daughters stayed at The Ratan Tata Officers Holiday Home (RTOHH), a majestic bungalow constructed in 1870, on an eight-acre property on a hill.

The Bungalow was earlier referred to as "Harrow-on-the-Hill". In 1900, it was acquired for personal use by Sir Ratan Tata (Jamsetji Tata's younger son) and his wife Lady Navajbai Tata.

On the demise of Sir Ratan Tata, the bungalow was gifted by the Sir Ratan Tata Trust to the Defense Services through an indenture dated December 21, 1922 to be used as a "Hospice" for all Officers holding His Majesty's

Commission in the Regular Army, Royal Navy, Royal Indian Marine, Indian Medical Services and Royal Air Force.

The Britishers later added a wing with two floors, each comprising eight rooms. After Independence, Field Marshal K.M. Cariappa, OBE, approached Lady Navajbai Tata with a request to allow the Bungalow to be used by the officers of the Indian Defense Services for which she gave her consent.

The Bungalow is a mere 1 km from the *Udhagamandalam* Railway Station (viz Ooty Railway Station). The property is perched on top of the Hill providing a bird's eye view of the entire Ooty Town, valley and the Dodabetta Peak, which is the highest mountain in the Nilgiris.

View from the Holiday Home.



THE RATAN TATA OFFICERS HOLIDAY HOME...



View of the grounds.



Reception area.



Garden area.

The best part of it is the ambience and the charming colonial entrance with a fireplace, drawing room with a portrait of Sir Ratan Tata and Lady Navajbai Tata and a grand dining hall. Adding to the old worldly charm is an old piano and a bar in the sit outs near the lobby.

This property comprises hundreds of trees - huge Pine Cone and Eucalyptus (which is known as Nilgiris locally), a picturesque rose garden, a play area, and so on.

There is also a nice little path for a refreshing walk around the property! It seems secluded (and also cooler) than the rest of Ooty.

The ambience of the Holiday Home is a tribute to the Defence Personnel who have spared no effort in maintaining it in its pristine British image. A simple menu and dress regulations for meals, maintains some kind of correctness in a world that is fast losing sight of etiquette and decorum.

Amongst the commercial and crowded Ooty, The Ratan Tata Officers Holiday Home still remains a place unaffected by the woodcutters saw and the mason's concrete.

This property comprises hundreds of trees – huge Pine Cone and Eucalyptus.



WEAVING THE PERFECT PICTURE

In 1874, Jamsetji Tata floated the Central India Spinning, Weaving and Manufacturing Company Limited. On January 1, 1877, the Mills were opened and named the "Empress Mills".

In 1939, to commemorate the birth centenary of Jamsetji Tata, the Empress Mills commissioned a portrait of the Founder woven in cloth.

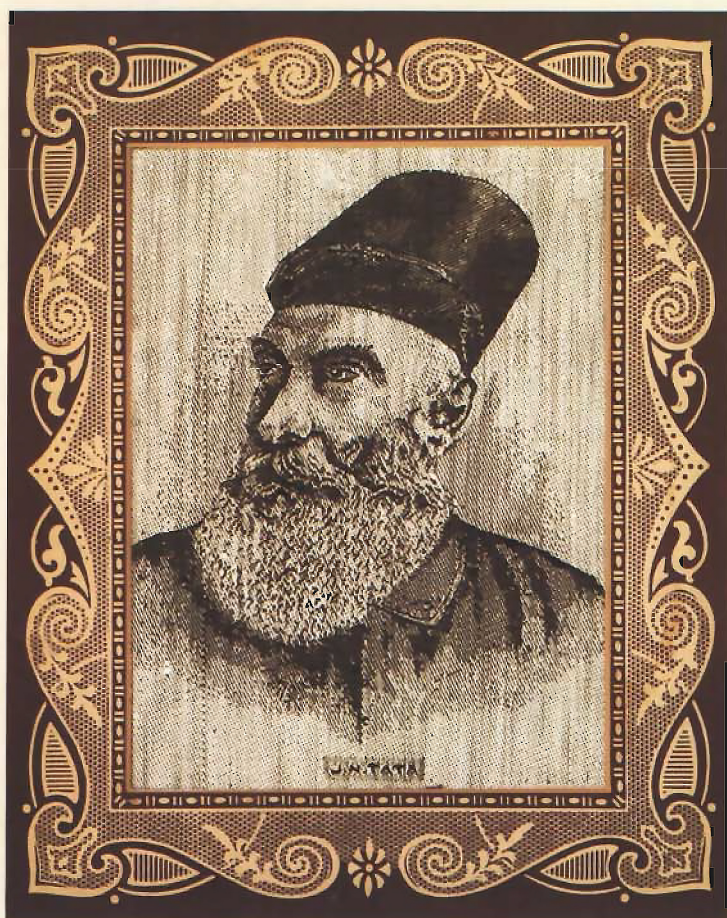
It was designed by Mr. Burjor Byramji Desai, Weaving Master of Mill No 5 of the Empress Mills. He was probably one of the last of a now extinct breed of master weavers who could spin the stuff of legends on the common place loom.

The portrait was made on a 400s Jacquard machine (The Jacquard machine or loom is a mechanical loom,

invented by Joseph Marie Jacquard, first demonstrated in 1801, that simplifies the process of manufacturing textiles with such complex patterns as brocade, damask and matelasse. The loom was controlled by a "chain of cards", a number of punched cards, laced together into a continuous sequence.) with 2/40s bleached wrap and coloured artificial silk weft of 150 den., the reed being 64' and picks 64. The size of the portrait was about 6"x8".

Copies of these portraits were presented to all the employees at the Mills.

Today these beautiful embellishments form an important part of the TCA Collections as they not only commemorate an important event but are also testament of the exclusive work carried out at the Mills.



Jamsetji Tata's portrait woven on cloth.



Loom Shed.



Yarn Reeling.

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