



DEAD FOOD
I WILL NOT EAT OYSTERS. I WANT
MY FOOD DEAD. NOT SICK. NOT
WOUNDED. DEAD

—WOODY ALLEN



TAMING TIGERS
IT IS NOT PART OF A TRUE CULTURE TO
TAME TIGERS, ANY MORE THAN IT IS TO
MAKE SHEEP FEROCIOUS

—HENRY DAVID THOREAU

potpourri

The trend of sporting handle-bar moustaches is likely to stage a comeback, **Sukanya Chellappa** is told

THE recently released Hindi film of Salman Khan, ‘Dabangg’, is the current toast of Bollywood. It has raised many an eyebrow for diverse and interesting reasons. One of the reasons is the hero, Chulbul Pandey’s caterpillar moustache. It seems to have raised the curiosity quotient amongst the youngsters. Just about when we thought that pencil drawn moustaches of MGR and Sivaji were long forgotten and even barely noticed! In this land of Bharathiyars and Periyars even Gods, be it Lord Parthasarathy or Ayyanar or Karupusamy, conjure up images sporting their trademark moustache and beard. A chunk of it seems to have a legendary attachment for moustaches, think about some of our policemen or the forest brigand Veerappan. Facial foliage, particularly moustaches, evoke pride, a sign of masculinity and a feel good factor for boys. Girls also associate the same with them. Sans that one is smirked at or teasingly asked if they are a ‘Vadan-attu Paiyan’. ‘Expresso’ had a free-wheeling chat with some boys and girls, to know the trend. Prem Kumar, says, “Boys in their teens make great effort to sport moustache by frequently visiting the local hair dresser. We die to look mature around that age and have misplaced notions about being good looking and manly. However, after we are past our teens, it depends, on each one, if one wants to sport a mous-

tache or not. This depends on a wide range of reasons - social, cultural or the individual’s notion.”

Jagan Rajagopalan, 28, an Image Consultant, says, “I love to sport a moustache since it is a Tamilzhan’s pride. I don’t have one as I feel it doesn’t look good on me. Also, the just released trailer of Rajnikanth starrer, ‘Robot’, has wonned the audience and youngsters feel his looks are sure going to impact as always, be it in hair-style or the mous-tache. The trend of sporting handle-bar



moustaches is likely to be back.”

Vimal, a Senior Stylist, at a beauty salon, says, “My clients who are under 25 years, mostly prefer the clean and shaven look whereas it’s only after marriage they sport a moustache.”

Films like a Kamal Hassan’s ‘Thevar Magan’ or ‘Virumnadi’ and Surya’s ‘Singam’ inspired and paved the way for droves of men to sport the same. Women also tend to have a fascination for men with mous-

taches as they effortlessly turn on the charm, command respect and contribute to a vital sense of manliness. Jini Dash, a home maker, seems to firmly believe in this statement.

With child-like enthusiasm, she gushes, “After marriage, I goaded my husband to sport a moustache and without much ado, he obliged. Now, I feel there is a sense of authority and prestige added to his personality.” Sure, women seem to swoon when Abishek Bachan is sported with bristles rather than clean shaven or when Surya acted as ‘Anbuselvan IPS’, in ‘Kaka Kaka.’

Surya Badri, a Communication Consultant, says, “I like watching and observing how the various kinds of mustaches quiver, tremble, droop, bristle... as they accompany the various emotions.” whereas there are women like Satyakala Seshagiri, a mother of a year old child, who says, “I hate men with moustache and particularly hate the French beard as it makes men look older. According to my mindset, it is very regional. Also, it has become cliched.” Women of her like feel men would be more hip, smart and suave sans a moustache.

But the consensus seems to be that a moustache or sans, if a man has a great personality, a good sense of dressing, and, above all, great values, then any man would be loved, respected and admired. And, that is what we call a complete man.

Maiden train trip for orphans

RAILWAY Police Friends, an organisation of volunteers helping and assisting railway police in discharging their duties, arranged a tour for 15 orphan children from Bird’s Nest Foundation, Madurai, recently.

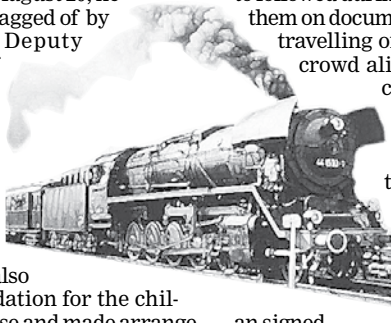
Talking to *Expresso*, V Vishvaanarayan, Chief Commandant of Railway Police Friends, said that it was the first time that these children travelled on a train. They were taken to Chennai on a three-day trip from August 20, he said. The tour was flagged off by Poornachandran, Deputy Superintendent of Railway Police and MLA Nanmaran was present during the flag off. The tour was sponsored by S Sreenivasan, Producer and Director, Lathika Films, Chennai. He also provided accommodation for the children in his guesthouse and made arrangements for sight seeing. The children visited Valluvar Kottam, Marina Beach, Vandaloor Zoo, Spencer Plaza and newly constructed assembly hall. A special holy mass was also arranged for them at Santhome Church, he said.

Correspondent of Bird’s Nest, Parker ac-

companied the children and S Jayaprakash of Railway Police Friends coordinated the event. The children were given a dress material and fashion jewels as a memento of their trip to Chennai, he added.

Talking about Railway Police Friends, Visvaanarayanan said that they were group of 100 volunteers who assist the railway police. They visit the railway station morning and evening and carry out duties like advising passengers about safety methods to followed during a train journey, guiding them on documents to be produced while travelling on e-ticket, regulating the crowd alighting from the general compartments, cautioning AC coach patients to safeguard their belongings, help the disabled to board the trains and handling over unclaimed baggage to railway police, he said. Every member was provided with identity card and uniforms and they have to report for 10 call outs in the month to retain their membership, he said. Every month 10 prizes are given to best performing members and 25 consolation prizes for other members.

—J Arockiaraj



GREAT LEAP

That would be an apt description of Devadarshni’s Chetan’s role in *Endhiran*. The actress opens up to **Shankaran Malini** on her experience

Small, yet powerful...

THERE are artistes who take to the small screen after their tryst with the big screen and there are those who hit the silver screen after their stint with television. But there are artistes who have an equal and consistent foothold on both, like Devadarshni Chetan. The actress, who has recently finished shooting for *Endhiran* is now busy with night-shoot schedules for Raghava Lawrence’s project, *Kanchana*. “This is my first working experience with Rajinikath. One day I got a call from Shankar’s office about this slot. Who would say no to a Rajini film?” says Devadarshni. And what is her role in *Endhiran*? “It might not be a major role but it has its share of prominence. It is not the role of Rajini’s sister in the film but a sister of sorts to Aishwarya,” she says. One scene much-talked about in the film is the *Valaikattu* scene. “Yes. It was predominantly shot in AVM Studios. This scene is part of a song sequence in the film. Filming it was a gala affair,” says the excited actress. “When working with Rajinikanth sir, I realised how down-to-earth he is. He has no

ego issues. It is very difficult to be so popular, yet so humble,” she says. As for the beauty queen, she says, “Aishwarya is so stunning. And I believe she deserves every bit of the Miss World crown. She has an elegance about her which makes her even more beautiful. I cherish those informal conversations I had with her on the sets.” Devadarshni, who started her film career with *Kakka Kakka*, bagged the Tamil Nadu State Film Award as the Best Comedian for her role as Amudha in *Parthiban Kanavu*. “I would like to do a full-fledged comedy but I appreciate only healthy comedy. Roles, whether big or small, comedy or supporting are good as long as you play your part well,” she says. The actress, who started her small screen stint with *Arma Desam* is still on the small screen with *Athi Pookkal* and *Ithayam*. “We will wind up with *Athi Pookkal* soon. *Ithayam* is still on. I have not committed to any other small screen project as of now. I am doing a thorough slapstick comedy with Kovai Sarala in *Kanchana*, which is a horror flick. I am also doing a role in the Bharath-starrer *Yuvan Yuvathi*,” she says.

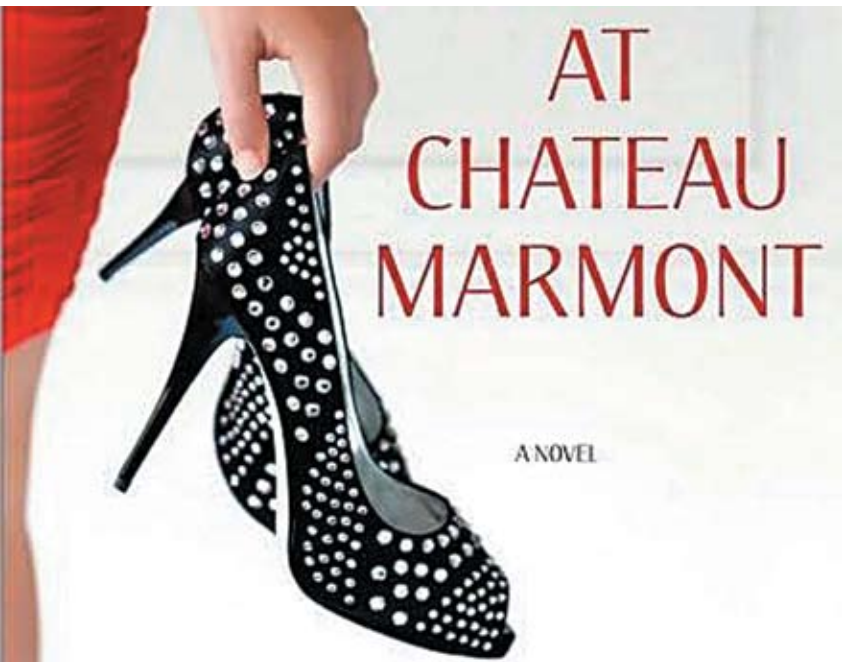


SCHOOL CHILDREN ENAMoured BY ISRO EXPERIENCE

SCHOOL children who were taken to the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) shared their experiences with the media during a meeting held in Madurai recently. Nineteen children from various schools were taken to the Sathish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota by the Rotary Club of Madurai Mid Town on Monday. The children, who went on the tour were R Srivani and K S Gajalakshmi from Cathy Matric Hr Sec School, K M P L Gandhi Kamaraj and S Raj Thilak from Idhayam Rajendran Residential School, S Abhiesh Siva and P Prannav Vael from Lakshmi School, G Jayashree and M Sajitha Aafrin from Landis Matric Hr Sec School, P Priyadarshini and M Aishwarya from TVS Matric Hr Sec School, B Sundara Meenakshi and R Ranjana from VHN Girls Hr Sec School, T Swathik Prasanna and A Akilan from VMJ Hr Sec School, R Monica and M Himaya from EVR Corporation School, G Nithya from Ponnudiyar Corporation School, Selva Lakshmi from Kasturba Corporation School and T Lakshmi Priya from Avvai Corporation School. During the interaction, the students narrated what they had seen at the centre. They briefed about Mission Control, Vast 6C building, First Pad - Mobile Service Tower, Second Launch Pad and Radar centre. The children also talked of their interaction with eminent scientists present there. The students expressed their gratitude to the Rotary Club for making their dream of visiting ISRO come true. Many students also expressed their ambition to join ISRO. Staff coordinators, Rayburn Francis from Lakshmi School and P Panimalar from VHN Girls Hr Sec school also shared their experiences in which Rayburn narrated the best practices followed in the centre and how every penny spent was accounted. Panimalar encouraged the Rotary to arrange such kind of trips to other science centres. Nicholas Francis, Rotary president stated that spirit of patriotism was dominant when they visited ISRO especially seeing the sophisticated system. The essays of children, ‘My Dream Satellite’ were compiled and submitted to ISRO and they were impressed with the ideas of the students. There are possibilities that in future the idea of a Pandian Satellite and Gandhian Satellite, which were conceived by these students will become a reality, he said. Rotary was also planning to set up a Rocket Club and Satellite club which will take these experiences further and asked the students to share their experience with others so that it would motivate them. Rotarians, K Mathan, SP Uthaman, Herbert Landis and other members were present during the meeting.



—V K Anusree



Book: Last Night at Chateau Marmont
Author: Lauren Weisberger

More than just 15 MINUTES of fame

What I love about Lauren Weisberger’s books, despite being chick-lit novels is that it’s not about a woman with weight problems trying to snag a man. Sure they make a comforting read, and the collective readers’ psyche is rooting for the embattled, now emaciated heroine to find The One, become successful, achieve world peace, save the planet and smile a contented, satisfied, cat-that-caught-the-canary kind of smile at the end of the book, but once in a while it’s exciting when women protagonists fight other battles. Wesiberger tries to not employ formulaic ideas for her best-sellers, and to some extent she is successful. She of

The Devil Wears Prada and *Chasing Harry Winston* fame has come out with her latest — *Last Night at Chateau Marmont*. *Last Night at Chateau Marmont* is about a happy couple — Brooke and Julian. While Julian is a struggling musician, Brooke juggles two jobs to bring home the money. But when Julian is ‘discovered’ and gets famous overnight, life as they know it is over. With the constant media scrutiny and their life under the paparazzi glare, life only gets more difficult and when a sudden scandal looms, Brooke has got to make some tough decisions. Grab the book to figure out what happened last night at Chateau Marmont.



bookmark
Nandhini Parthib



EXPRESS TRAINS FROM TIRUCHY					
T No	Name of the train	From	To	Arr	Dep
1043	Lokamanya Tilak-Madu (Sa)	Lokamanya Tilak	Madurai	8.50	9.00
6127	Guruvayur (D)	Chennai Egmore	Guruvayur	13.05	13.15
2635	Vaigai (D)	Chennai Egmore	Madurai	17.50	17.55
6351	Mumbai CST-Nager (W,Su)	Mumbai CST	Nagercoil	20.40	20.45
6735	Tiruchendur (F)	Chennai Egmore	Tiruchendur	23.30	23.45
2605	Pallavan (D)	Chennai Egmore	Tiruchirappalli	21.15	---
2653	Kanyakumari (D)	Chennai Egmore	Kanyakumari	22.35	22.40
2652	Sampakranthi (Th,Sa)	Hazrat Zizzamud.	Madurai	0.35	0.40
2642	Thirukkural (M)	Hazrat Zizzamud.	Kanyakumari	0.35	0.40
2667	Nagercoil (F)	Chennai Egmore	Nagercoil	0.35	0.40
6723	Ananthapur (D)	Chennai Egmore	Trivandrum	1.10	1.15
2693	Pearl city (D)	Chennai Egmore	Tuticorin	1.25	1.30
2661	Podigai (D)	Chennai Egmore	Senkottai	1.30	1.40
2631	Nellai (D)	Chennai Egmore	Tirunelveli	2.25	2.30
2637	Pandian (D)	Chennai Egmore	Madurai	2.55	3.05
2689	Central-Nagercoil (Sa)	Chennai Central	Nagercoil	3.25	3.35
2665	Howrah-Kanyakumari(W)	Howrah	Kanyakumari	3.25	3.35
2663	Howrah-Tiruchy (Sa,Tu)	Howrah	Tiruchirappalli	4.25	---
6107	Egmore-Mangalore (D)	Chennai Egmore	Mangalore	4.45	4.55
6177	Rockfort (D)	Chennai Egmore	Kumbakonam	5.30	5.40
6788	Jammu Tawi-Tirunel (M,Th)	Jammu Tawi	Tirunelveli	11.50	11.55
6352	Nagercoil-Mumbai(Th,Su)	Nagercoil	Mumbai CST	12.30	12.35
6128	Guruvayur (D)	Chennai Egmore	Guruvayur	14.05	14.10
2666	Kanyakumari-Howrah(Sa)	Kanyakumari	Howrah	15.50	16.00
1044	Madurai-Lokamanya(Sa)	Madurai	Lokamanya Tilak	20.55	21.00
6178	Rockfort (D)	Kumbakonam	Chennai Egmore	21.55	22.20

train timings

6108	Chennai (D)	Mangalore	Chennai Egmore	21.50	22.00
2638	Pandian (D)	Madurai	Chennai Egmore	23.30	23.35
2668	Chennai (Sa)	Nagercoil	Chennai Egmore	23.55	0.05
2632	Nellai (D)	Tirunelveli	Chennai Egmore	0.20	0.25
2634	Kanyakumari (D)	Kanyakumari	Chennai Egmore	0.35	0.40
2662	Podigai (D)	Senkottai	Chennai Egmore	1.10	1.15
2694	Pearl City (D)	Tuticorin	Chennai Egmore	1.20	1.30
6724	Ananthapur (D)	Trivandrum	Chennai Egmore	2.10	2.15
2641	Tirukkural (Th)	Kanyakumari	Hazratat Nizamu	2.55	3.00
2651	Sampakranthi (Tu,Su)	Madurai	Hazratat Nizamu	2.55	3.00
2690	Nagercoil-Central(M)	Nagercoil	Chennai Central	2.55	3.00
6736	Tiruchendur (F)	Tiruchendur	Chennai Egmore	2.55	3.00
2606	Pallavan (D)	Tiruchirappalli	Chennai Egmore	---	6.30
2636	Vaigai (D)	Madurai	Chennai Egmore	8.45	8.50
6787	Tirunelveli-Jammu(M,F)	Tirunelveli	Jammu Tawi	22.30	22.35
2794	Madurai-Egmore(Th,Sa)	Madurai	Chennai Egmore	23.55	0.05
6853	Egmore-Tiruchy (D)	Chennai Egmore	Tiruchirappalli	16.35	---
8496	Bhubaneswar-Rames (Sa)	Bhubaneswar	Rameswaram	17.05	17.15
4260	Varanasi-Rameswaram(Tu)	Varanasi	Rameswaram	18.00	18.05
6713	Egmore-Rameswaram(D)	Chennai Egmore	Rameswaram	22.25	22.35
6701	Egmore-Rameswaram(D)	Chennai Egmore	Rameswaram	5.25	5.30
2793	Egmore-Madurai (Sa,M)	Chennai Egmore	Madurai	5.55	6.05
6854	Tiruchy-Egmore Exp(D)	Tiruchirappalli	Chennai Egmore	---	9.15
8495	Rameswaram-Bhubanes(Su)	Rameswaram	Bhubaneswar	13.00	13.10
6702	Rameswaram-Egmore(D)	Rameswaram	Chennai Egmore	22.30	22.35
6714	Rameswaram-Egmore(D)	Rameswaram	Chennai Egmore	1.45	1.50
4259	Rameswaram-Varanasi(Th)	Rameswaram	Varanasi	4.10	4.15
2654	Mangalore-Tiruchy(M)	Mangalore	Tiruchirappalli	8.15	---
6866	Ernakulam-Nagoor (D)	Ernakulam	Nagoor	7.45	7.55

2084	Janshatabdi (Except Tu)	Coimbatore	Mayiladuthurai	10.55	11.05
6234	Tiruchy-Mayiladuthurai(D)	Tiruchirappalli	Mayiladuthurai	---	13.00
6232	Mysoore-Mayiladuthurai(D)	Mysoore	Mayiladuthurai	4.05	4.15
2083	Janshatabdi (Except Tu)	Mayiladuthurai	Coimbatore	16.50	17.00
6865	Nagoor-Ernakulam (D)	Nagoor	Ernakulam	20.00	20.10
6231	Mayiladuthurai-Mysoore(D)	Mayiladuthurai	Mysoore	20.25	20.35
6233	Mayiladuthurai-Tiruchy(D)	Mayiladuthurai	Tiruchirappalli	10.45	---
2664	Tiruchy-Howrah(Tu,F)	Tiruchirappalli	Howrah	---	16.00
PASSENGER TRAINS FROM TIRUCHY					
803	Lalgudi-Tiruchy(Except Su)	Lalgudi	Tiruchirappalli	6.40	---
807	Vridhdachalam-Tiruchy(D)	Vridhdachalam	Tiruchirappalli	9.00	---
805	Cuddalore-Tiruchy (D)	Cuddalore	Tiruchirappalli	10.50	---
825	Mayiladuthurai-Tirunel(D)	Mayiladuthurai	Tirunelveli	13.50	14.00
703	Tiruchy-Dindigul (D)	Tiruchirappalli	Dindigul	---	18.20
701	Villupuram-Madurai (D)	Villupuram	Madurai	20.10	20.25
702	Madurai-Villupuram	Madurai	Villupuram	6.20	6.55
704	Dindigul-Tiruchy (D)	Dindigul	Tiruchirappalli	8.30	---
800	Tiruchy-Lalgudi(Sa)	Tiruchirappalli	Lalgudi	---	11.55
826	Tirunel-Mayiladuthurai (D)	Tirunelveli	Mayiladuthurai	13.10	13.20
806	Tiruchy-Mayiladuthurai (D)	Tiruchirappalli	Cuddalore	---	15.05
804	Tiruchy-Lalgudi(Except Su)	Tiruchirappalli	Lalgudi	---	16.50
808	Tiruchy-Vridhdachalam (D)	Tiruchirappalli	Vridhdachalam	---	18.15
893	Thanjavur-Tiruchy (D)	Thanjavur	Tiruchirappalli	6.55	---
891	Thanjavur-Tiruchy (D)	Thanjavur	Tiruchirappalli	7.55	---
811	Mayiladuthurai-Tiruchy (D)	Mayiladuthurai	Tiruchirappalli	9.10	---
871	Nagore-Tiruchy (D)	Nagoor	Tiruchirappalli	11.30	---
897	Thanjavur-Tiruchy(Sa)	Thanjavur	Tiruchirappalli	15.20	---
779	Nagore-Tiruchy (D)	Nagoor	Tiruchirappalli	17.20	---

873	Nagore-Tiruchy (D)	Nagoor	Tiruchirappalli	19.20	---
823	Mayiladuthurai-Tiruchy (D)	Mayiladuthurai	Tiruchirappalli	21.05	---
899	Thanjavur-Tiruchy(D)	Thanjavur	Tiruchirappalli	23.40	---
890	Tiruchy-Thanjavur(D)	Tiruchirappalli	Thanjavur	---	6.10
874	Tiruchy-Nagore(D)	Tiruchirappalli	Nagore	---	1.30
824	Tiruchy-Mayiladuthurai(D)	Tiruchirappalli	Mayiladuthurai	---	7.10
892	Tiruchy-Thanjavur(D)	Tiruchirappalli	Thanjavur	---	8.25
780	Tiruchy-Nagore(D)	Tiruchirappalli	Nagore	---	10.00
894	Tiruchy-Thanjavur(Sa)	Tiruchirappalli	Thanjavur	---	12.10
876	Tiruchy-Nagore(D)	Tiruchirappalli	Nagore	---	16.30
812	Tiruchy-Mayiladuthurai(D)	Tiruchirappalli	Mayiladuthurai	---	18.05
898	Tiruchy-Thanjavur(D)	Tiruchirappalli	Thanjavur	---	20.05
831	Tiruchy-Karakudi(D)	Tiruchirappalli	Karakudi	---	18.15
830	Karakudi-Tiruchy(D)	Karakudi	Tiruchirappalli	---	9.00
829	Tiruchy-Rameswaram(D)	Tiruchirappalli	Rameswaram	---	6.15
832	Rameswaram-Tiruchy(D)	Rameswaram	Tiruchirappalli	---	21.00
882	Erode-Tiruchy(D)	Erode	Tiruchirappalli	---	20.15
884	Karur-Tiruchy(Except Su)	Karur	Tiruchirappalli	---	17.30
888	Palghat-Tiruchy(D)	Palghat	Tiruchirappalli	---	13.45
858	Erode-Tiruchy(D)	Erode	Tiruchirappalli	---	11.45
880	Karur-Tiruchy(Except Su)	Karur	Tiruchirappalli	---	9.10
881	Tiruchy-Erode(D)	Tiruchirappalli	Erode	---	6.45
883	Tiruchy-Karur(Except Su)	Karur	Tiruchirappalli	---	9.30
887	Tiruchy-Palghat(D)	Tiruchirappalli	Palghat	---	13.00
857	Tiruchy-Erode(D)	Tiruchirappalli	Erode	---	16.00
879	Tiruchy-Karur(Except Su)	Tiruchirappalli	Karur	---	18.10

{ Su-Sunday, M-Monday, Tu-Tuesday, W-Wednesday, Th-Thursday, F-Friday & Sa-Saturday, Ex- Except, D-Daily}

Timings are subject to change without notice. Telephone numbers: General Enquiries : 131, Reservation Enquiries : 132, 1361, 1362, 1363