

Mr. P.K. Srinivasan : I have been going about collecting original materials and other stories about Ramanujan's life and his blossoming as a Mathematician. But the problem was how to make people get at those things and I have been trying to get people interested. Many expressed admiration and appreciation but no one was able to allot a place where these things could be displayed. So, it so happened that I came into contact with A.T.B. Bose, who was such a innovative Maths teacher. He sent word through the Arun ice cream proprietor Chandramohan who happened to be a my old student. So, Mr. A.T.P. Bose in his school I showed how algebra could be taught from class III was surprised him. And ultimately he was able to see the point in my claim that algebra could be thought that way.

He was telling me he was putting up a cultural association: Avvai Academy and I said "could you have a place for Ramanujan ?" He appreciated it, but when he took me along before it was completed. I asked him about the place. Then he said "could this be enough, this place?" I said since Ramanujan was a paper pencil genius this is enough. So that way it started.

We have been trying to collect as much as possible. And after the Museum was setup we have collected some more original letters, one written by Ramanujan to Prof. Ganapathi Iyer of Presidency College. It is very important letter I could secure that. It is very a romantic story about it. And then letters written by Ramanujan to Mr. Vinayaka Rao. They are also given by Vinayaka Rao's daughter. They are all additions to Ramanujan Museum here. And this Museum has been visited by 36 foreign Mathematicians from 11 countries. They all praised. They said this is very small place, but any way we appreciate it. This is the only personal of Ramanujan Museum in the world and we projected Ramanujan very well but this should have a final presentation. Earlier we did not have a/c and all that, now we are having a/c. And the way in which the original letters are displayed are unique. Because you can turnaround and see both the sides. And this is the handy work of Mr.A.T.B. Bose.

And this Museum has got a great future. Because children don't have exposure to creativity of a Mathematics man. Here they see that Ramanujan was not a routine Maths Professor. So right from the day we had this interest in mathematics roused. He has been jotting down all the things that got his

fancy. From that jotting we have made these charts here. So we have charts that appeal to students from class 5 to plus 2 students, even graduates. So all students some thing to get inspired and these are all not in the syllabus, not in the present curriculum. They are not touched by Professors or teachers. So that way students come and ask “sir,how is it sir these are not pointed out to us?” So that way this could be a very important mission in creating interest in Mathematically trained students. And students come in groups as excursions. But still it goes a long way but it is not caught the fancy of tourist promoters or excursion promoters. And this has got a great future no doubt about it. Because Ramanujan the only Mathematician who is still throbbing with a lot of meaningfulness unlike other Mathematicians who are remembered. But this man is still thinking and trying.