



# SANDS OF TIME

Volume I Issue 1

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Tata Central Archives Newsletter

## WELCOME

Dear Colleague,

We are extremely happy to announce the first Newsletter of the Tata Central Archives.

Archives play a pivotal role in preserving the history of the House of Tatas. Our organisation is so steeped in history; it is felt that all our pioneering efforts should be preserved for posterity.

The name Tata is synonymous with India's industrialisation. The efforts and vision of Jamsetji Nusserwanji Tata, Founder of the House of Tata, helped India not only to take the first steps on the road to industrialisation but also to lay the basis for the future development of industries in the country. The story of Tatas thus symbolises the growth of industry in the country. It is a treasure house of facts that are associated with it.

The Tata Central Archives will aim to provide an opportunity to know the history of this great organisation from its inception to its present status, to understand its ethos and to appreciate the quality of the people who shaped it. Kept in the repositories are thousands of documents, letters, photographs, memorabilia, press clippings, audio-video recordings of the past histories of the Tatas. It is also a mine of information for the employees of the Tata Group of Companies, researchers and educative to the students. It also inspires and motivates the Tata employees to realise that there is a tradition that they can hold on to, that they can fall back upon.

### *In this issue*

- ❖ Inauguration of Tata Central Archives
- ❖ Exhibition on the Founder, Jamsetji N. Tata
- ❖ Gallery - J. R. D. Tata
- ❖ Glimpses of J. N. Tata Exhibition
- ❖ Principals, Teachers and Students of Pune Schools visit the Archives
- ❖ Our Heritage - Letter from Dadabhai Naoroji to Jamsetji N. Tata
- ❖ Forthcoming Event

## INAUGURATION OF TATA CENTRAL ARCHIVES

The Tata Central Archives located in the precincts of the Tata Management Training Centre, Pune was formally inaugurated by Mr. Ratan N. Tata, Chairman, Tata Group of companies on February 13, 2001 in the presence of a distinguished gathering.

The Archives were thrown open to the public on March 3, 2001, which commemorates the birth anniversary of the Founder, J. N. Tata. The Archives are open to the public on Monday to Saturday from 10.30 A.M. to 5 P.M.

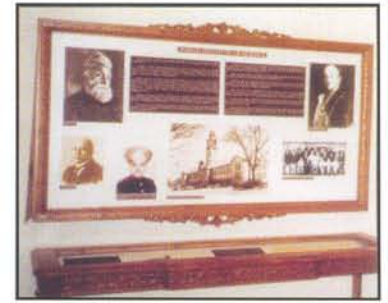
*Exterior view of the Tata Central Archives.*



## EXHIBITION OF J. N. TATA

The exhibition of Jamsetji Nusserwanji Tata (1839-1904), the Founder of the House of Tata, focussing on his life, industrial ventures and philanthropic work has been categorised into several sections. These sections include the Tata Family, Phases of Jamsetji's Life, The three Textile Mills, Esplanade House, The Indian Institute of Science, The Tata Iron and Steel Company, The Taj Mahal Hotel, The Tata Electric Companies and The Last Days of Jamsetji, each section being enhanced by restored photographs and relevant documents. Among the exhibits, the original agreement of the J. N. Tata Endowment scholarship awarded to Mr. K. R. Narayanan, the President of India is being displayed.

## GLIMPSES OF THE J. N. TATA EXHIBITION



### GALLERY

A permanent gallery has been set up replicating J. R. D. Tata's Mumbai office.



Some of the prestigious awards received by J. R. D. Tata such as the Bharat Ratna, UN Population Award, Knight Commanders Cross of the Federal Republic of German, Legion of Honour, Daniel Guggenheim Medal, etc. are also on display.



### PRINCIPALS, TEACHERS AND STUDENTS OF PUNE SCHOOLS VISIT THE ARCHIVES



How can we inspire our younger generation with the richness of the heritage of India and its great men? With

that aim in mind Principals and teachers from various schools in an around Pune were invited to the Archives.

Jamsetji's life is part of textbooks of the Standard Eight in Maharashtra



The Principals and Teachers expressed their eagerness to send their students from

places as far as Baramati located over 100 kms from Pune.

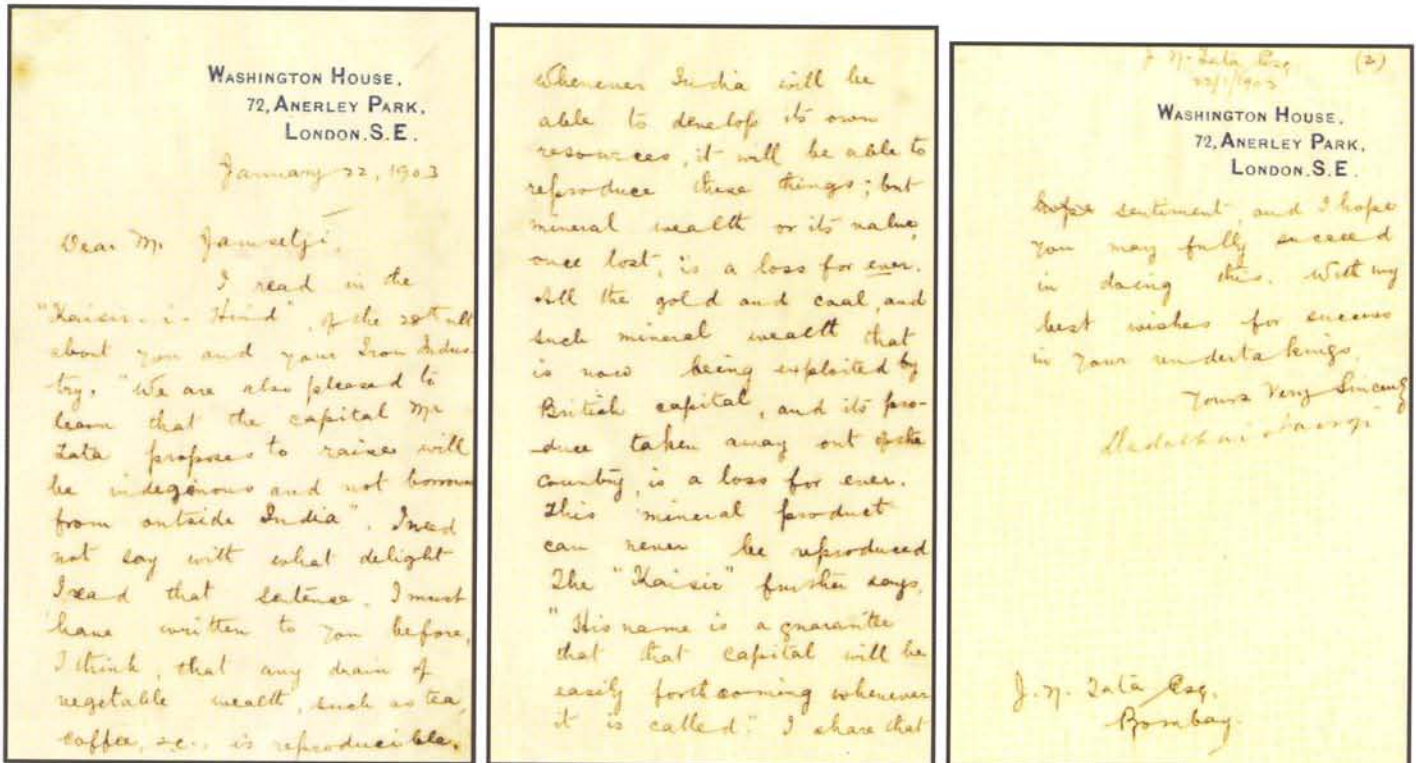
There has been an overwhelming response and students from various schools are visiting the Archives.



## OUR HERITAGE

Correspondence between Jamsetji N. Tata and Dadabhai Naoroji regarding the raising of capital for the proposed steel company.

This letter which has been exhibited in the gallery is one of the important historical collections in the Tata Central Archives.



### Transcript of the letter written by Dadabhai Naoroji to Jamsetji Tata

Washington House,  
77 Anerley Park, London S. E.  
January 22, 1903

Dear Mr. Jamsetji,

I read in the "Kaiser-i-Hind", of the 28th inst. about you and your Iron Industry, "We are also pleased to learn that the capital Mr. Tata proposes to raise will be indigenous and not borrowed from outside India". I need not say with what delight I read that sentence. I must have written to you before, I think, that any drain of vegetable wealth, such as tea, coffee, re., is reproducible.

Whenever India will be able to develop its own resources, it will be able to reproduce these things; but mineral wealth or its value once lost, is a loss for ever. All the gold and coal, and such mineral wealth that is now being exploited by British capital, and its produce taken away out of the country, is a loss for ever. This mineral product can never be reproduced. The "Kaiser" further says, "His name is a guarantee that that capital will be easily forthcoming whenever it is called." I share that sentiment, and I hope you may fully succeed in doing this. With my best wishes for success in your undertakings.

Yours very sincerely,  
Dadabhai Naoroji

J. N. Tata Esq.,  
Bombay.

## IMPRESSIONS

These are some of the impressions of the Group Chairman and Senior Tata Executives which were recorded in the Visitor's Book at the Tata Central Archives when it was inaugurated on February 13, 2001

NAME, COMPANY & DESIGNATION	REMARKS
Rajiv G. Tata	A very well done and well documented Archive, which truly captures the Tata heritage and history.
R. Gopalakrishnan	Future Tata managers will derive a great sense of history here - essential for the leaders Tatas will develop. A wonderful contribution to our heritage.
Jambhed. J. Dani -	A house such as ours needs to record its history - to inspire the future generations. These Archives, I am sure, will achieve that goal. Very well documented & displayed.
K A Chankar	... with pride in the past and hope for the future... a place of 'a new' pilgrimage!
R K. Krishna Kumar Taj Palace Hotel, Mumbai	Greatly impressed by the dedicated work which celebrates the work of a great visionary family.
ICHAAT HUSSAIN; TATA Sons Ltd; Bombay. Home; 24, Horni Mody St; MUMBAI; 400001	A magnificently compiled archive. An essential part of the memory of all Tata people.

### FORTHCOMING EVENTS

The Tata Central Archives propose to hold its next exhibition on the "Sir Dorab Tata Trust and its Philanthropic Activities" in March 2002. It would be open to the public till the end of June 2002.

### AN APPEAL

The Tata Central Archives would welcome any letters, documents photographs and memorabilia related to the Tatas from companies and individuals. For any further information please contact - Mr. H. Raghunath, Archivist.