

Mathematician aims to build 'Ganitaangan'

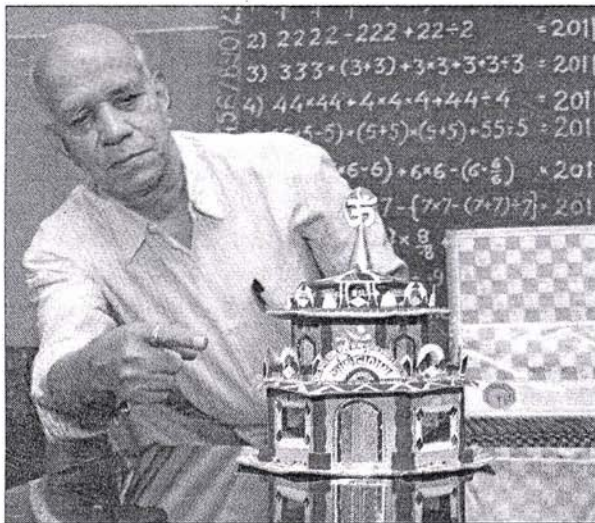
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Pune: Model Colony resident Vilas Potnis, who is a passionate mathematician, wants to build a Mathematics Temple, "Ganitaangan", at Girivan near Paud.

Potnis, whose inspiration was derived from noted mathematician Srinivasa Ramanujam, is a mechanical engineer by profession and had a manufacturing unit in Bhosari, supplying to companies like Philips and Telco (Now Tata Motors).

But mathematics has been his infatuation. On the lines of the popular game "Snakes and Ladders", he developed



DREAM PROJECT: Mathematician Vilas Potnis shows model of his mathematics temple, which will be constructed at Girivan.

a game involving mathematical calculations that he commercialised. The game won him the prestigious Baburao Parkhe award, presented by the Maharashtra Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture (MCCIA). He sold more than 50,000 copies of the game.

Potnis says that we should treat mathematics as god and offer prayers by solving at least 10 problems every day. By doing so, the fear of mathematics will vanish and the "devotee" will become interested in the subject.

"I feel we should stop projecting mathematics as a difficult subject. The approach to teaching the subject too

should change," says Potnis while urging that the potential of Vedic mathematics too should be explored.

So great is his love for mathematics that Potnis has wound up his manufacturing unit to devote himself wholeheartedly to the subject. He has purchased 10,000 sq feet of land at Girivan and plans to build a mathematics temple, his dream project. The mathematics temple is already under construction and Potnis says it will be completed by 2012. The temple will have many exciting models like a ladder based on Pythagoras Theorem, or Lord Ganesha drawn in numerical figures.