



**NOTES OF GOODWILL** From Achi Sing the Season 2012

PHOTO: R. RAVINDRAN

## Spirit of the Season

**EVENT** *From kids to corporates, Achi Sing the Season 2012, tested the participants presentation and musical skills*

**D**uring the finale of Achi Sing The Season 2012, vice-consul of the American Consulate John R. Hall rendered 'Gloria In Excelsis Deo'. Simple and sincere and free of fanfare, the performance touched a chord in the audience at the Madras Centenary Auditorium. John endeared himself to the crowd even more when he greeted them in a Tamil that was clearly the result of sustained study and practice. In doing so, he enunciated a good part of what constitutes the Christmas message — goodwill among men. Another memorable feature of the evening was playback singer Mano presenting a few lines from 'Yesu Raja Munne Selgirar'. Battling a sore throat, he apologised for not going the whole way.

The singing groups also provided

by three women Sheba Suresh, Cecil Kotey and Shoba Rebecca — was bigger than ever before. "There were 190 choirs, spread across four categories — school, college, church and corporate — and seven cities," says Shoba.

Presented by Bells N Rings, the event was imparted multiple layers this year, with teams from Tirunelveli, Palayamkottai, Nagercoil and Madurai battling out in a separate segment.

"This segment of the event, conducted in Tirunelveli, was introduced for the benefit of the sizeable Christian population down South," says Shoba. Teams from Chennai, Coimbatore and Tiruchi competed in the other segment, which culminated in the summit clash at the Madras Centenary