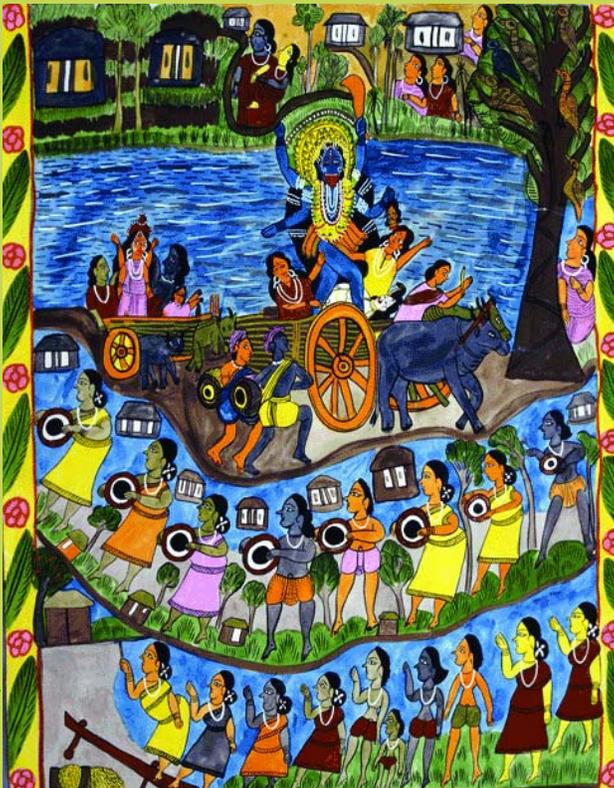


**V**illage of Painters, a book by Frank J. Korom, tells the story of itinerant folk artists from Naya, a village in West Bengal. The book is companion to an exhibition from October through April 2007 at the Museum of International Folk Art, Santa Fe, in the U.S. state of New Mexico. Called *patuas*, these craftsmen create vivid scroll paintings and perform songs to accompany the unrolling of their art. The book features photographs by Paul Smutko and over 100 paintings on contemporary themes like terrorism, HIV/AIDS prevention, interaction between people from different communities and globalization. Engaging and rich in ethnographic detail, *Village of Painters* celebrates the diverse and constantly evolving art form.

Courtesy International Folk Art Foundation Collection in the Museum of International Folk Art, Santa Fe, New Mexico



**E**llis Island Café, which brings the experience of an American coffee shop to Calcutta, was inaugurated on August 21 at the American Center. The café's design was selected through a competition among architecture students in West Bengal. Bengal Engineering and Science University students won.

# NEWS SCAPE



SAURABH DAS © ARWWP

**O**n a five-day visit to India in August, Assistant Secretary of State for South and Central Asian Affairs Richard Boucher visited the Salaam Baalak Trust's outreach center and shelter for boys near the New Delhi railway station. Supported by USAID, through Family Health International, the project provides street children with food, medical aid and education. He also went into the station to understand the lives of street children living on railway platforms. Boucher met 150 young people at the American Center and answered their questions on topics ranging from the U.S.-India Civil Nuclear Cooperation Initiative to world trade talks. He also addressed business leaders in New Delhi and Calcutta.

A.P.S. VUENDRAN

Indra K. Nooyi, 50, was named to take over as CEO of PepsiCo, one of the world's largest food and beverage companies, on October 1. She replaces Steve Reinemund, shown with her in this 2000 photo. Chennai-born Nooyi, named as the fourth most powerful woman in the world by *Forbes* magazine in September, joined PepsiCo in 1994 and has been president and chief financial officer since 2001. Nooyi has degrees from Yale University, the Indian Institute of Management, Calcutta, and Madras Christian College. Her career includes work at the Boston Consulting Group and Motorola.



STUART RAMSON © AP-WWP



A.P.S. VUENDRAN

The University of Madras' Senate House, a once-popular venue for conferences and exhibitions that fell into disrepair, was renovated partly with U.S. government funds and re-inaugurated on September 4 by President A.P.J. Abdul Kalam. A Federal Assistance Award of more than \$35,000 from the Public Affairs Section of the U.S. Embassy in New Delhi paid for restoration of four ceiling panels and recreation of 17 new panels in the Great Hall. The historic building, with its stained glass windows, intricate murals, painted panels and patterned balcony railings, is expected to once again become the hub of the university's campus life and a favored site for public functions.



A.P.S. VUENDRAN

Half a million people in 32 Indian cities participated in marches on July 29 to raise awareness about large-scale childhood deaths from diarrhea. The events, like the one shown in the photo from Indore, Madhya Pradesh, were organized by USAID and ICICI Bank Ltd. to mark National ORS (oral rehydration salts) Day. Anyone suffering from diarrhea can replace lost fluids by drinking this mixture of glucose, sodium chloride, potassium chloride and trisodium citrate with water. Students and their parents, doctors and NGOs came together in the states of Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Bihar, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and Rajasthan for the event. Over 500,000 children die in India each year due to dehydration caused by diarrhea.



SANJEEV VIJAY, PSP-ONE