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With the opening up of commercial activities post the first lockdown in 2020, a Chennai resident is concerned about the spread of the virus. He takes it upon himself to spread awareness about COVID Appropriate Behaviour. Taking inspiration from what he watches on T.V. he decides to do what he can in the best way he can to save lives. This despite all his personal challenges. The third story is not only of the indomitable spirit of P. K. Perumal but also of his ingenuity in utilizing his tools to reach out.

India gave rise to many such Perumals – fearless, compassionate and determined to be of help to their community during the pandemic. Their contributions are indeed commendable.

Lane after lane in the bustling fish markets of Chennai, a voice beseeches over the microphone - "Coronavirus isn't over yet. We must not let our guard down".





“When COVID happened, I saw on TV how people were dying. That made me cry too. I wanted to do something about it”, P. K. Perumal recalls of how he got inspired for his mission.



“I was constantly thinking of what I could do. Then I bought a loudspeaker and went to crowded places and using the mic, I urged people to wear mask and follow preventive measures, because the virus was spreading fast and people were dying”, reminisces P. K. Perumal.

Perumal took to the busy markets of Chennai on his customized two wheeler fitted with loudspeaker and mic, cautioning people against the virus.



Right from delivering medicines to the ill, to groceries at people's doorsteps, P. K. Perumal did all to support his community members. He exults as he talks about his experiences and how he never charged for his petrol expenses.



Perumal meets a police constable, who dissuades him from carrying on with his activities and also reasons with him that if something were to happen to him, who would take care of his family. However, seeing Perumal's persistence, he not only relents but also offers help.

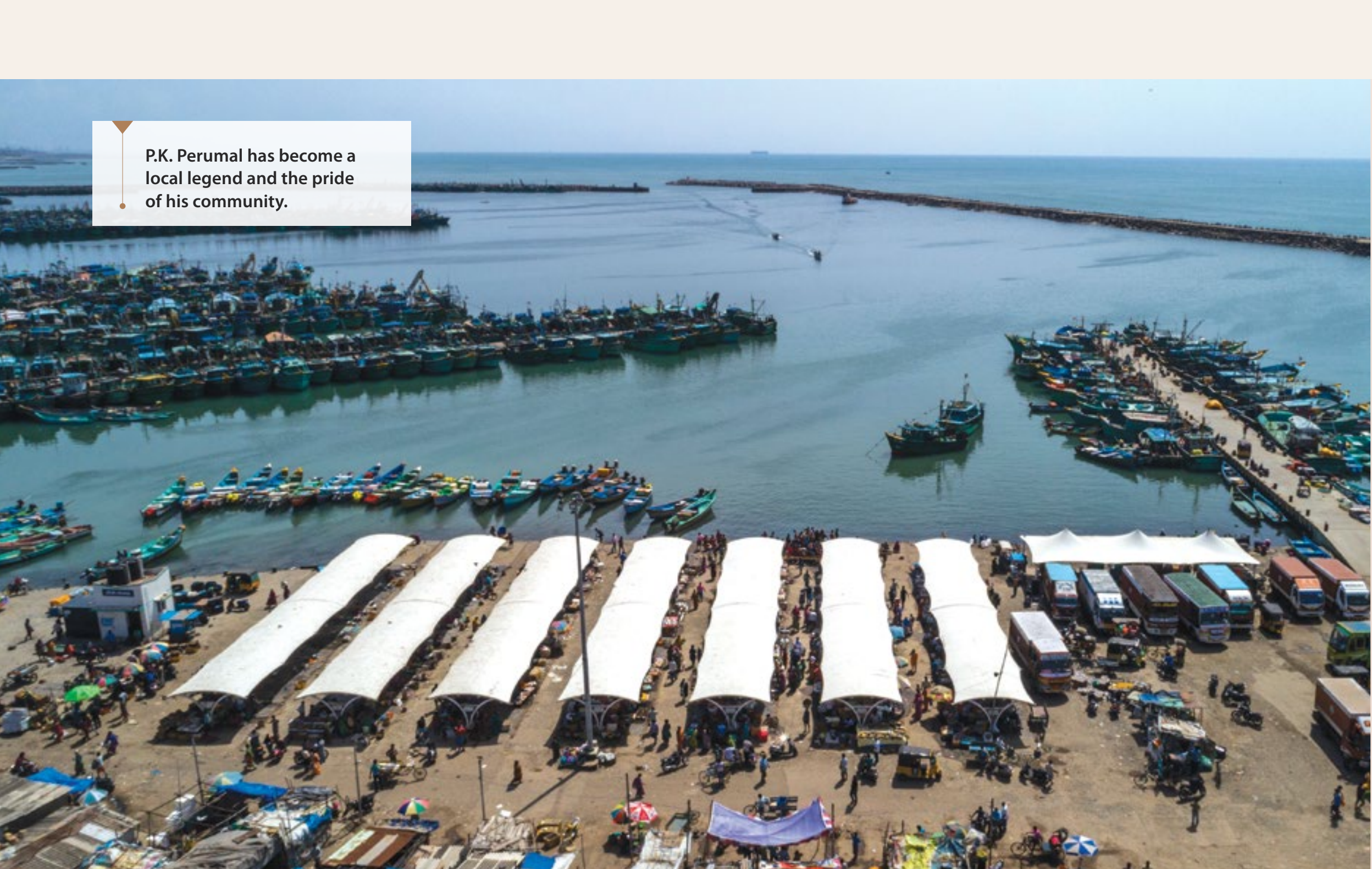


P. Sveta, his daughter recalls with pride how he would leave early in the mornings and return by 3 pm. As soon as Perumal reached home, he would wash his hands, feet and face. He would then plan for the next day in the night itself.



P. Sveta, his daughter says, "the family was apprehensive at first but gave way as he was adamant to help people in any way he could".





P.K. Perumal has become a local legend and the pride of his community.