



Manjusri Dutta of CB Block won the flower arrangement contest with her Republic Day-themed entry. The imposing piece used Palm leaves, Gerberas, Lilies and had a tri-coloured ribbon at the centre. Namita Bandyopadhyay's entry, using a red Anthurium and Gerbera, was adjudged runner-up. "I called the piece Platonic Love," said the GC Block resident. "The flowers were both red but belong to different groups and so cannot unite." Asrukana Mitra of AD Block won special mention for her *gayatri* mantra and ikebana-inspired entry. "The piece was called *Bhur bhuvah swaha*, referring to the three worlds. Ikebana too believes in depicting three layers and I used Stocks, Poinsettias and leaves to depict this."



A child admires potted Marigolds entered in the Bidhannagar Horticultural Society flower show at the courtyard of AMP Vaisakkhi mall on Sunday. (Top right) Chrysanthemum Spider. Pictures by Debasmita Bhattacharjee



Arijit Poddar with his home-grown Oranges. "They are not very sweet but are not bad either," smiled the GD Block resident. Visitors were also surprised to see Mangoes on plants this season.

LOVE'S LABOUR ON BLOOM



Chief guest General (ret'd) Shankar Roy Chowdhury hands over a prize to Asrukana Mitra with secretary Bijan Ghosh (left) and vice-president Kanti Mukherjee watching. "I'm happy to see your members pursuing gardening so seriously. The entries are beautiful," said Roy Chowdhury. Saumitra Maiti, the compere, shared that the group holds seminars, workshops and distributes saplings on various occasions round the year.



(Clockwise from above) Chilli, Chiching, Broccoli. "Broccoli is relatively new to India but it grows well in our conditions," said Rina Chandra of BD Block, who had brought potted Broccoli and Broad Beans (*sheem*). "Others can try growing these at home."



(Clockwise from top) Prize-winning Tamarind bonsai by Aniruddha Pal, an Agave flower that flowers just once in its life before dying, and a grafted cactus