

# TURNING HEADS

Writer Ashwin Sanghi, who was in the city, tells us what keeps him ticking...

**A**shwin Sanghi strongly believes in the adage of history repeating itself. That's probably why both his books, one on religion, and the other on Chanakya, have a blend of history in them. "When I looked at the scams, political upheavals and corruption



Photo: John Sahayadas

"Writing is a intensely personal activity. I can pen down my best thoughts when I'm alone. But when one is elevated into the stature of an author, you have to think about your books in terms of their business angle," says Ashwin, who has also been an entrepreneur for the last one decade.

He is all praise for *namma*

Chennai. "If there is one city apart from Mumbai, where I would love to settle down, it has to be Chennai. Although the city has grown leaps and bounds today, the people's warmth remains the same and they appreciate the little joys in life. And that's what makes them stand apart," concludes Ashwin Sanghi.

P Sangeetha

**APART FROM MUMBAI, CHENNAI IS THE ONLY CITY, WHERE I'D LIKE TO SETTLE DOWN**

prevailing in society today, it struck me that these incidents didn't occur out of the blue. They have happened in the past and are bound to repeat themselves. Only the backdrop and the people have changed," begins the writer who has a fervour for history and conspiracy.

"Conspiracies fascinate me. When I visited the Rozabal shrine in Srinagar before writing my first book, I remember thinking that the person enshrined there was no ordinary mortal. History is rife with mysteries and that visit ignited a fire to unveil some of them," remarks

## THE WRITE STUFF: Ashwin Sanghi

Ashwin Sanghi.

The entrepreneur-turned-writer goes on to say, "Master storytellers like Jeffrey Archer and Arthur Hailey use simple language. But, they manage to grab the attention of the readers, right from page one. I'll consider myself a good storyteller, the day people believe it's OK to be late for work or postpone deadlines, just to finish reading my book," says he.

Ashwin isn't particularly fond of the tag that comes with being an author.

**PASSING THROUGH**