

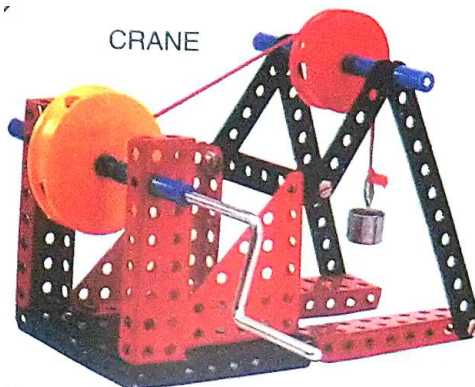
**'New' Indian System: METAL MACANO** Thanks to Jan Ringnalda for details of his set, designated 'SENIOR' above the name on the lid right. The parts in the open box in Fig.2 will remind some readers of METAMECH, described in 22/625, and the contents of the two sets are very similar. They are also very like the META BUILD Junior outfit described in 6/126, though its parts are much more muted in colour. These systems are unusual in their parts & their rather strange models. Each of the three had a different maker, and for METAL MACANO it is Star Industries, 26 Baban Mishra Compound, Sonawala Cross Road, Goregaon (E), Bombay-400 063., with marketing by Vishal Marketing, Dadar (W), Bombay-400 028.

The main parts in the Set are: 4 each of the 6, 9 & 12h Strips, 2 DAS, 4x 8\*2h & 1x 8\*8h Flanged Plates, 2x 6\*6h Triangular Flanged Plates, 4 Reversed A/Bs, 1 each 38mm & 52.5mm Pulleys, 12 Sleeves (used as axle stops, to join Axles, & bush the Pulleys), 2x 100mm & 6x 55mm Axles, 1 Crank Handle, 1 Weight, 138mm Cord, 20 each M4 5mm u/h, cheesehead Bolts & hexagon Nuts, 1 Spanner, 1 Screwdriver.

Compared with METAMECH the contents are the same except that the Reversed A/Bs, which were in META BUILD, are present. The colours are the same too except that those of the 9 & 12h Strips have been interchanged, and the Sleeves are blue instead of pink. Apart from a few insignificant changes, the parts are also the same, except that at 3.86mm Ø the Axles are slightly smaller.

The models are on a sheet folded into three. The front pane has the same heading as the lid with a similar photo under it (its sides have been cropped). There is one photo & a name for each of the 17 models shown (from CHURCH to STAGE) and they include all of the 15 in META MECH, though with small changes to some. The two 'extras' are Windmills, one of which was the META BUILD model shown in OSN 6. The models are not in their true bright colours (as METAMECH were) but duller as right, quite similar to the META BUILD images. That makes seeing some of the parts more difficult. The new Windmill & one of the Cranes are shown right – notice that the latter still has no hook.

No date is known for METAL MACANO but no doubt it would have been before 1995 when Bombay's name was changed to Mumbai. With their brighter parts it is reasonable to think that both METATECH & METAL MACANO came after META BUILD (also both have named models whereas META BUILD's weren't



**Fig.3**

named). METATECH is known from 1995 and given that its models are still shown in the gloomy META BUILD style, it seems most likely that METAL MACANO preceded METATECH.

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METAL MACANO: S1

### **Snippet. A smaller GILBERT TUBULAR TOY Outfit**

The only set known at the time, packed in a transparent cannister, was described in 39/1195.

The present set is in a red box which scales at 32\*21cm, and has the small label above, about 12cm wide, in the centre of the lid. The parts can be seen right and compared with the OSN 39 set there are no Pulleys; 4 fewer Tubes; and 10 instead of 12 Connectors, with 2 of them instead of 4 with centre holes.

The Model Sheet is identical to Fig.3 in OSN 39 (and just possibly it is stuck to the inside of the lid). It is Copyright 1937 as before and the PR is M1810.



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GILBERT TUBULAR TOY: S2