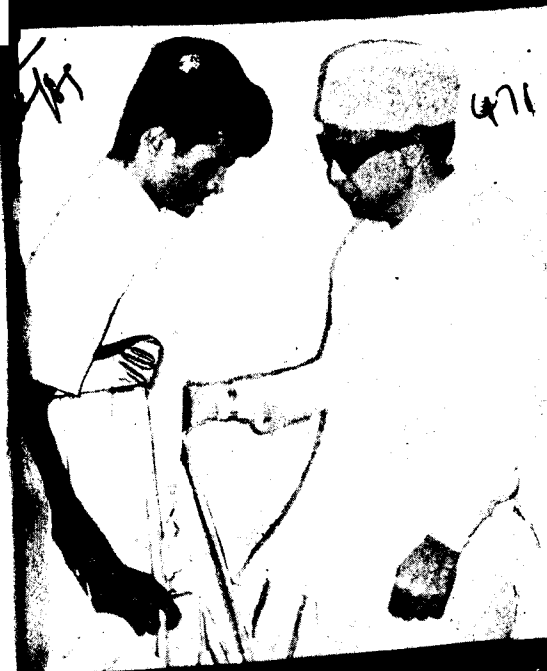
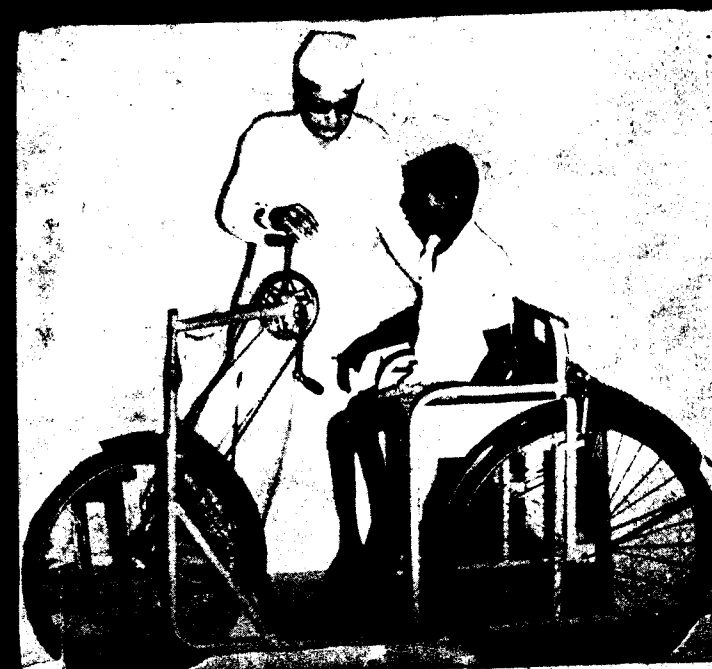




Tamil Arasu





Tamil Arasu

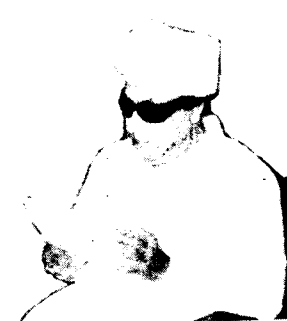
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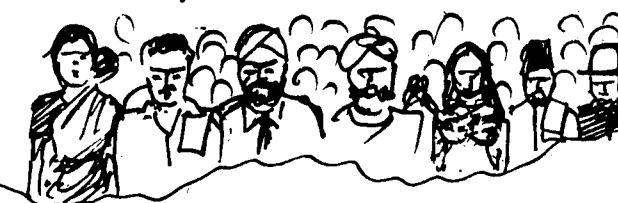
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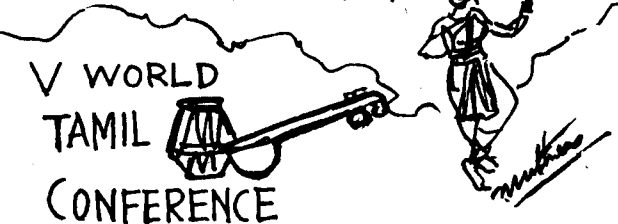
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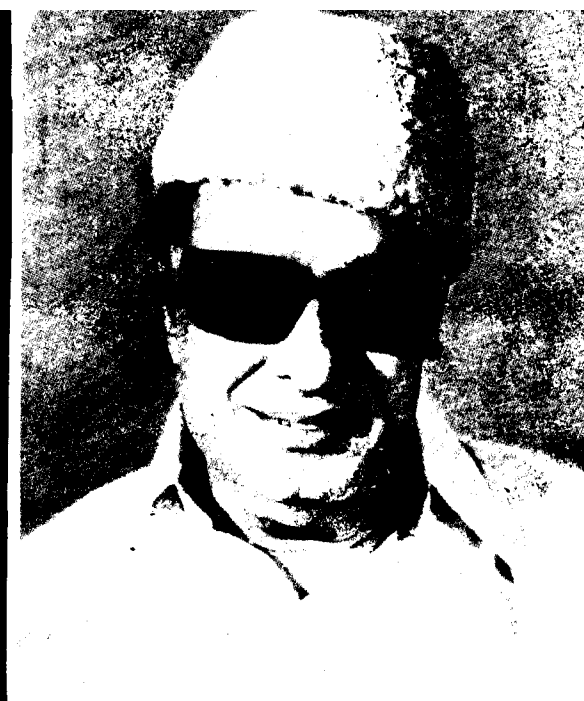
SADIQ ALI
Governor of Tamil Nadu

Raj Bhavan,
Madras-32.

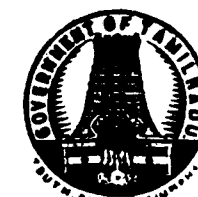
MESSAGE

There are fifty to sixty million people in our country who suffer from one kind of disability or the other. There is a growing realisation among us now that this disability can be reduced or even overcome and a disabled person can lead a more or less normal life. There are many new inventions and new lines of treatment which make this possible. This is one of the obligations cast on a modern government to do all it can to help the disabled to conquer their disability to educate them, to help them to learn a craft or take up any profession and earn a decent livelihood. Apart from the Government the Society also has a part to play in assisting the handicapped people to live with dignity and self respect and give free expression to all the talents they possess. It is good that many voluntary agencies have sprung up to discharge an obligation which we all owe to a section of our countrymen who for no fault of theirs have become victims of a physical disability. I do hope this good work will continue and expand so that more and more disabled people may benefit by it.

(Sd.) SADIQ ALI.



M. G. RAMACHANDRAN
Chief Minister



Fort St. George,
Madras - 600 009.

MESSAGE

The year 1981 has been declared as the "International Year of the Disabled Persons" with the view to focus the attention of the people world over on our hapless brethren who are physically handicapped. They also form part of the society as much as we are and so are entitled to equality and equal participation.

The fact that these persons are disabled calls for our special attention and understanding. It is the moral duty of the society to care for them and to help them do their part of duty to the community in a manner that suits their physical condition. We should not merely look at their physical disability and consider them as a burden. But we should look for the talents and aptitudes latent in them. There might be among them persons with the genius of a poet or an orator or an artist or a scientist. What we have to do is to make them feel at home and bring out the best in them, in a useful way. Given the opportunity, they can also contribute to the progress of the society in good measure. Instead of thinking about what they are incapable of doing, let us take interest in what they are capable of doing.

The Government of Tamil Nadu is implementing several welfare schemes for the handicapped. But it will be difficult for the Government machinery alone to look after all their needs. Individuals, voluntary organisations, political organisations and Industrial undertakings should come forward to help this cause.

I would, therefore, appeal to all in the "International year of the Disabled Persons," to develop a positive and compassionate attitude towards the disabled persons and help their rehabilitation as useful citizens.

(Sd.) M. G. RAMACHANDRAN.



TMT. GOMATHI SRINIVASAN
Minister for Social Welfare
Government of Tamil Nadu

Fort St. George.
Madras - 600 009

MESSAGE

The disabled have demonstrated time and again their indomitable will and unrelenting courage to surmount their handicap and bring meaning to their life. Innumerable instances have borne out that the handicapped can contribute greatly to the development of our society, culture, literature, economy and so on.

It is the responsibility of each and everyone of us to help them develop their abilities so as to enable them to lead a normal life. Government of Tamilnadu have initiated a number of schemes to better the lot of the handicapped and to rehabilitate them in life. Several new measures will also be undertaken during 1981, the International Year of the Disabled persons for rendering complete and comprehensive rehabilitation assistance covering all spheres such as Medical, Vocational, Economic and Social.

I have every hope that there will be co-operation and enthusiastic support from all welfare oriented institutions and individuals towards the stupendous task that still lies ahead of us in the rehabilitation of the disabled.

(Sd.) GOMATHI SRINIVASAN.



GANDHI ILLAM

A Museum on the Life of Mahathma Gandhi
(Opposite Rajaji Hall,
Government Estate, Madras-2.)
Open from 8 A. M. to 8 P. M.
On all days (Including Sundays and Holidays)
Facsimile of Gandhiji's Writings
Photographs depicting his life and work
Photographs of Gandhiji's visits to
Tamilnadu
The "Chekku" drawn by V. O. C.
When he was in Coimbatore Jail
AND MANY MORE ARE ON DISPLAY
ALL ARE WELCOME.

STRONGER SUPPORT FOR MGR



Chief Minister M. G. Ramachandran's "strong supporters" among the people of Tamil Nadu have increased from 33 to 38 per cent in the last year.

This interesting revelation is contained in an authentic and scientifically conducted State-wide survey by the statistics department of the Madras Christian College in the first fortnight of January, 1981.

About 80 students of the B.Sc. and M.Sc. classes took part in the survey. A sample of 1,400 adults of the State were interviewed using random sampling method from about 400 villages and towns, and the results processed with the aid of a computer.

The survey reveals that 49 per cent of the agricultural, landless labourers, strongly support MGR. Among the trading community 41 per cent, and among agriculturists 34 percent, preferred him. Compared to last year, MGR's supporters have increased among office workers, traders and professionals.

Indian Express, February 3rd, 1981

V. KARTHIKEYAN, I.A.S.,
Chief Secretary,
Government of Tamil Nadu

Fort St. George.
Madras-600 009.

MESSAGE

The International year of the Disabled aims at focussing attention on the multifaceted problems of the handicapped persons and the need for improving facilities for them in the fields of education, employment and training. In recent years there has been some progress in developing special services and facilities for the handicapped both by Governmental and voluntary agencies. These have, however, at best made only a beginning and much more remains to be done. The ultimate objective of all these services should be to enable the handicapped persons to help themselves and to assure them of a means of physical and economic independence.

I take this opportunity to appeal in particular to all industrialists and employers in both the public and private sectors and to all financing institutions to involve themselves in full measure and to contribute meaningfully towards provision of better and more varied opportunities for the best utilisation of the talents and capacity of the disabled. With their co-operation we shall strive even harder towards the fulfilment of the aspirations of our less fortunate brethren and help them become full and active citizens.

(Sd.) V. KARTHIKEYAN.

A. S. AHLUWALIA, I.A.S.,
Commissioner & Secretary to Government,
Social Welfare Department,
Government of Tamil Nadu

Fort St. George.
Madras-600 009.

MESSAGE

The measure of progress of a society is very often indicated by the care and opportunities provided for the underprivileged and disabled. The creation of an atmosphere conducive to the smooth integration of those unfortunate sections into the mainstream of society is a continuous endeavour.

The declaration of 1981 as the International Year of the Disabled, makes it imperative for us to take stock of what we have done for the disabled, and what we hope to do for them in the future.

Sustained efforts by the Government and the voluntary associations in the fields of education, employment and training are essential for their positive rehabilitation and to take them towards greater self-reliance, and freedom from social and economic dependence.

During the International Year of the Disabled, let all of us who are involved in this cause, re-dedicate ourselves with understanding, enthusiasm, sincerity, compassion and love to the noble task of enabling the Handicapped to get their rightful place in society and their due share in its prosperity.

(Sd.) A.S. AHLUWALIA.



National Development Council

CHIEF MINISTER'S ADDRESS

Tamil Nadu Government would at the outset assure the Government of India of its wholehearted support to the massive onslaught on poverty and backwardness which is sought to be mounted under the Sixth Five-Year Plan. While we are in broad agreement with the objectives and strategy of the Sixth Five-Year Plan, we would be failing in our duty if we do not draw the pointed attention of the National Development Council to certain problems, particularly with reference to the resources of the States for implementing the Plan.

The Sixth Five-Year Plan provides for a total outlay in the public sector of Rs. 97,500 crores. Out of this, Rs. 47,250 crores are in the Central Sector and Rs. 50,250 crores are in the States and Union territories sectors. The share of the States is only 51.54 per cent in spite of the significant efforts by the States to raise resources. It is our view that the total share of the States should be increased to at least Rs. 55,000 crores, as a result of greater transfer of resources from the Centre to the States.

The main item of resources transfer to the States towards the Plan is under the Gadgil Formula. The amount proposed to be transferred under the Gadgil Formula to the 14 category A States through the Sixth Five-Year Plan period is Rs. 7,700 crores. Consistent with our view that the States' Plan should be at least Rs. 55,000 crores, we consider that there should be a greater transfer of resources under the Gadgil Formula to the States.

The instruments of fiscal policy are primarily with the Centre and hence there is a basic imbalance in the amount of resources that can be mobilised by the Centre and the States. Most of the efforts towards eradication of poverty, provision of minimum needs, generation of employ-

ment, reduction of inequalities, will have to be undertaken by the States. It is, therefore, only reasonable that the resources transfers from the Centre are so worked out that the States have adequate resources at their disposal to effectively implement these vital programmes. Tamil Nadu Government would, therefore, suggest that the resources transfer under the Gadgil Formula be raised substantially over Rs. 7,700 crores indicated in the Draft Plan.

The application of the Gadgil Formula has been under debate and discussion for quite a few years. At the meeting of the National Development Council, held in August, 1980, Tamil Nadu had proposed certain modifications to the Gadgil Formula. We had suggested the following :—

- (a) 60 per cent. on the basis of population,
- (b) 10 per cent. on the basis of tax efforts excluding excise revenue,
- (c) 20 per cent. on the basis of backwardness to be distributed based on percentage of people below the poverty line,
- (d) 10 per cent. on the basis of special problems of the States.

The validity of relying largely on the population criterion in the revised Gadgil formula is itself open to question, because it would amount to penalising States which have done well in implementing family planning schemes. For example, Tamil Nadu, as a result of its concerted drive in family planning schemes has already had its representation in the Parliament reduced. On top of it, it has suffered financial loss also under the resources transfer system of the Gadgil formula. For this reason also, we would urge that greater reliance should be placed on the percentage of people below the poverty line. Relief to people below the poverty line is an internationally accepted principle in planning. We would urge that the transfer of resources from the Centre should largely be governed by the percentage of people below the poverty line.

It should also be noted that the focus of the Sixth Five-Year Plan is on eradication of poverty. The Gadgil Formula which links backwardness solely to per capita income below the national average was evolved before 1971, when there was no such pronounced emphasis in the plan priorities on the reduction of poverty. Further, there is a very harsh cutoff implicit in the concept of linking backwardness to per capita income below the national average, because even the States which have per capita income marginally above the national average stand totally deprived of any assistance under the 20 per cent. component in the modified Gadgil Formula although they may face more serious poverty and income distribution problems. The Sixth Five-Year Plan has correctly laid emphasis on the need to eradicate poverty through special programmes. In order to enthuse the State Governments to effectively apply themselves to this major task, it is necessary that the 20 per cent component under the revised Gadgil Formula is allocated on the

basis of poverty percentages. It is also seen that in allocating additional market borrowings in the Sixth Plan period, the per capita income criterion has again been adopted. We would strongly plead for the adoption of the poverty percentage concept to this element also.

A new entry was also sought to be included in the Union List to enable the levy of tax on the consignment of goods where such consignment takes place in the cause of inter-State trade or commerce. The tax so levied on the consignment transaction was to be assigned to the States. After due consultation with the States, a Bill providing for these amendments was introduced in Parliament in March 1979. This Bill however lapsed consequent on the dissolution of the previous Lok Sabha.

It is understood that these amendments are under consideration of the Government of India. Tamil Nadu would urge the Centre to undertake these amendments at an early date so that the resources generated would be available to the States for the maximum period in the Sixth Plan.

Additional Excise Duties in lieu of Sales Tax

The Tamil Nadu Government would like to refer to two important issues relating to the levy of Additional Excise Duties. The replacement of Sales Tax with Additional Excise Duties is entirely a voluntary tax-rental arrangement between the Centre and the States. Tamil Nadu would urge that there is no need to withdraw Sales Tax on more commodities and bring them under Additional Excise Duties. Further the National Development Council at its meeting in December 1970 came to the agreed conclusion that the incidence of Additional Excise Duties as a percentage of value of clearance would be revised to 10.8 per cent in a period of 2 to 3 years and also the ratio between basic and special Excise Duties on the one hand and Additional Excise Duties on the other would not exceed 2:1. It is observed that neither of these two directions has been observed in practice. The State Government would strongly urge that the Centre take urgent steps to implement these decisions of the National Development Council.

Tax on Railway Passenger Fares

The Seventh Finance Commission has specifically suggested that the question of increasing the grant in lieu of the tax on Railway Passenger Fares, which was withdrawn from 1st April 1961, should be referred to the appropriate Railway Convention Committee by the Government of India. The annual grant to the States remains at the level of Rs. 16.25 crores fixed in 1966-67. The current level would easily come to more than Rs. 63 crores. The State Government would request the Government of India to take an early decision on this issue.

Corporation Tax

One of the long standing pleas of the States has been to make the Corporation Tax shareable with the States as in the case of Income-tax. The States have to incur considerable expenditure in providing the infrastructure and maintain the services which help to promote new business and sustain the existing business leading to collection

of Corporation Tax. This tax has also shown great buoyancy. In the context of the Sixth Plan, it will be a good gesture if the Centre accepts the suggestion of the States to undertake a constitutional amendment to include the Corporation Tax among the taxes shareable with the States.

Most of the enterprises of the States are either utilities or are promotional Corporations. Any profit they make would be reserved for further development in key sectors. It is in this context that the State Government would also like to reiterate its request that State Enterprises may be exempted from Corporation Tax.

The States have to raise a substantial amount of additional resources during the Sixth Plan. The avenues for fresh taxation by the States are limited. It is in this context that we would like to urge the Centre to use the powers available under Article 269 of the Constitution and undertake measures to levy taxes on the following :—

- (a) taxes on railway passenger fares and freights,
- (b) taxes other than stamp duties on transactions in stock exchanges and future markets,
- (c) taxes on sale or purchase of newspapers and on advertisements published thereon

Powers of taxation under Article 269 could also appropriately be brought under the concurrent list.

Centrally-Sponsored Schemes

After several rounds of discussions in the National Development Council in the recent past, a carefully considered decision has been taken to limit the number of Centrally-Sponsored Schemes and keep the outlays on account of these schemes under constant check so that they do not exceed a proportion of Central assistance towards States' plans. Based on this decision, a careful exercise of listing the schemes that could be transferred to States was undertaken and Central resources meant for these schemes were also to be transferred to States under the I. A. T. P. Formula. While the 1978-83 plans was being finalised, it was agreed that assistance under this Formula will be transferred to States to cover the expenditure on transferred schemes till the end of the Plan. It is seen that Central resources transfers under this Formula in the Draft Sixth Plan provide for the requirements of States only for 3 years, namely, 1980-83, to meet this transferred liability. The remaining 2 years in the 1980-85 Plan are thus left uncovered. This would lead to the inference that the Centre has shifted the responsibility for some major schemes to the States without adequately transferring the resources. Further, the resource transfer under the I. A. T. P. Formula which is adequate only for 3 years is being spread over the 5 years of the plan. This will cause shortfalls in effective implementation of these transferred schemes.

The distribution of outlays in respect of sectors like Agriculture, Medical and Public Health, Education, etc., indicate a very high Central Sector outlay. It would be much better to transfer resources to the States and allow the States to execute plans in these sectors.

The following specific proposals are recommended :

- (i) The assistance to States under the I.A.T.P. Formula may be enhanced to Rs. 2,800 crores. The additional amount may be found by pruning Central Sector Outlays in sectors like Agriculture, Medical and Public Health. This amount of Rs. 2,800 crores may be released over the 5 years, 1980-85.
- (ii) The number of Centrally-Sponsored Schemes should be kept to the minimum as already decided and any new scheme should be introduced only in consultation with the States.
- (iii) In formulating and implementing Centrally-Sponsored Schemes, the States should be given freedom to settle the detailed staffing pattern, etc., whereas the Centre should concentrate on the physical targets. This will enable the States to adapt these schemes to their areas and also relieve the Centre of the responsibility of detailed formulation of schemes.
- (iv) Patterns/principles of assistance under Centrally-Sponsored Schemes should be intimated even at the time of annual plan discussions so that States can plan and implement these programmes properly. At present these are often delayed leading to late starts and tardy progress.
- (v) By definition, Centrally-Sponsored Schemes are of national importance. These schemes should be fully financed by the Centre on a 100 per cent grant basis.

Growth with Stability

In financing the plan, deficit financing is to be relied upon to the extent of Rs. 5,000 crores. The control of inflation and maintenance of stable price levels are crucial for the successful implementation of the plan. The States which are to implement the Minimum Needs Programme (all rural works) will find the real scope of the programme seriously eroded unless inflation is kept under control. Price stability during the plan period is absolutely crucial to its implementation. Recent experience indicates that bottlenecks in certain critical sectors like transport, iron and steel, coal and oil have a significant impact on price trends. While the Centre has reserved a substantial portion of the plan resources for investment in these sectors, unless improvements in managerial efficiency are speedily ensured, the States' plans will be seriously jeopardised. The instruments of control of these sectors are largely with the Centre and hence a determined effort to improve the performance in these sectors requires to be undertaken.

Agriculture Sector

The Tamil Nadu Government would like to draw specific attention to the problems facing the

Agricultural sectors. The Sixth Plan visualises an annual growth rate of 5.2 per cent. in respect of agricultural production. The plan documents also stress the need to adopt appropriate pricing policies by Central and State enterprises in order to achieve an adequate return on capital employed. In this process it is likely that the cost of farm inputs increase rapidly unless they are held back by appropriate subsidies. Withdrawals of subsidies may yield increased resources for plan investment. However, this would have a very serious impact on the farm sector, particularly on the small and marginal farmers. Every effort should be taken to provide remunerative prices for agricultural commodities which should fully cover the cultivation expenses and leave a reasonable surplus. However, fixation of remunerative prices alone would not be adequate as very often benefits of Government fixed prices do not reach small and marginal farmers as marketing of agricultural produce is still to improve. In view of this there is paramount need to continue subsidies on inputs to the farm sector.

In order to ensure the availability of essential commodities at reasonable prices to the consumers it is essential that the public distribution system is strengthened and made a permanent feature of our economy. Tamil Nadu has been effectively implementing a scheme of a fair price shop in each village and has opened 17,000 such shops all over the State. As these shops are in the rural areas, they cannot be expected to be commercially viable atleast in the initial period and the State Government is incurring an expenditure of about Rs. 4 crores every year as subsidy to these shops. As this scheme constitutes a major effort of the State to provide relief to the rural poor, Tamil Nadu would reiterate its request that the Centre should extend its support to this scheme under the Plan and come forward to bear atleast 50 per cent of the subsidy in the Sixth Plan.

Tamil Nadu welcomes the special emphasis given to Rural Development in the Sixth Plan. The National Rural Employment Programme is a well conceived programme. However, in making allocations under this programme to States, greater weightage should be given to the poverty percentages. Further for a rice consuming State like Tamil Nadu, it is important that the prompt delivery of specified allotments of rice is ensured under this programme. In respect of the Integrated Rural Development Programmes, allocations are made to each block on a standard scale although the problem of poverty is much more serious in certain States. The Tamil Nadu Government would like to press for a higher per block allocation to the group of 7 States having the highest poverty percentages.

Tamil Nadu has always been in the forefront implementing progressive land reform measures. Substantial extents of agricultural land have already been declared surplus under the Ceiling Laws, taken over and redistributed to thousands of landless poor. To give a new thrust to land reforms in the Sixth Plan the State Legislature has passed the Tamil Nadu Land Reforms (Fixation of Ceiling on land) Second Amendment Bill 1980, which has been sent to the Government

of India. As soon as the assent of the President is received the new measures will be implemented, is a result of which benami transfers of land will be unearthed. Enforcement of this Act will make available even larger extents of land for redistribution to the poor.

The Tamil Nadu Government welcomes the new thrusts in the Sixth Plan for the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The special component plan for Scheduled Castes is bound to be welcomed by all States. While implementing this plan, there should be a flexible approach allowing the States to adopt innovative ideas in framing schemes for the welfare of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

It is heartening to note that the strategy for development of irrigation includes action to investigate feasibility of a national plan for inter-basin river water transfers. While this is a subject which is of paramount importance to ensure speedy development of backward and drought prone areas, concrete steps to ensure the early realisation of this objective have not been taken in the past. The Centre should complete the assessment of water potential of States quickly, draw up and implement definite schemes for optimum utilisation of waters.

The Central Plan consists of an outlay of Rs. 4,725 crores on power. While the States have been constrained to cut back outlays on power generation due to the resources position, the Centre will be making a substantial investment in this sector. It is necessary to ensure that the benefits of this investment are shared on a rational basis among States. Tamil Nadu would like to press for a national grid and allotment of Central pool energy to each State on a rational basis. Early steps for the realisation of this objective should be taken.

Tamil Nadu is not well endowed with natural resources. The available irrigation potential of the State has been almost fully harnessed. Tamil Nadu accounts for the highest percentage of unemployed in the country. The State has one of the highest percentages of people living below the poverty line. While the State is poised to make a determined effort to achieve rapid growth in the Sixth Plan, it cannot do so without massive Central investment in the State. The Central Sector outlay in the Sixth Plan is very substantial. Central investment in Tamil Nadu has however come down appreciably in the past. It is in this context that we would like to urge the Centre to undertake a few major projects in Tamil Nadu in the Sixth Plan.

The Tamil Nadu Government has been requesting the Centre to take up the Sethusamudram Canal Project. Another Committee is to go into the feasibility of this project. We would urge the Centre to clear this project soon so that it can be completed in the Sixth Plan period. A significant effort is to be undertaken in the Sixth Plan to make the country self-reliant in energy resources. The establishment of a new atomic power plant at the site near Tuticorin which has been surveyed should be included in the Sixth Plan. The Ocean Thermal Energy conversion plant in the Bay of Bengal is a promising new source of renewable energy. This should be taken up as a research

and development project in the plan of the Science and Technology Department of the Government of India. On-shore oil exploration in the Cauvery Basin and off-shore efforts in the Palk Bay need to be intensified.

A number of new broad gauge railway links are urgently required in Tamil Nadu particularly with the development of Tuticorin as a major port. The Karur-Dindigul broad gauge line, Tuticorin-Tirunelveli broad gauge line and the conversion of the Madras-Tuticorin metre gauge line into broad gauge are the main railway links which should be undertaken in the Sixth Plan to open up the entire southern half of Tamil Nadu. The State would like to urge commencement of work urgently on the East Coast Road from Madras to Kanyakumari as a new National Highway. The Sixth Plan provides for a very small outlay for a third level air service mainly in the North Eastern Region. The State Government should be assisted in provision of the third level air service connecting important tourist centres in the State. The serious transportation problem in Madras City can be solved only through a rapid transit system. An exhaustive project report has been prepared. This project should be undertaken in the Sixth Plan.

The Sixth Plan provides for several new starts in petroleum refining, petrochemicals and fertilizers. Tamil Nadu would urge the Centre to locate a second refinery in Tamil Nadu along with a petrochemical and fertilizer complex.

Before I conclude my speech I would like to refer to two issues which in Tamil Nadu have assumed urgent significance. The closure of the B & C Mill have resulted in about 13,000 labourers being thrown out of employment. We would strongly urge that in order to protect the interests of these labourers the Government of India should take an early and favourable decision about taking over the mills and running it themselves.

There is clamour in Tamil Nadu for the writing off of loans of small farmers and this demand has been strongly and actively supported by all political parties in Tamil Nadu including the Congress (I) which is the ruling party in the Centre. Tamil Nadu has offered substantial concessions already to the agriculturists even beyond its means and has written off loans to the extent of about Rs. 80 crores. A satisfactory solution to this problem can be found only if the Government of India comes forward with substantial financial assistance to write off the loans of small farmers. As this agitation is threatening to become a law and order problem it is urgent that the Government of India should take bold and imaginative decision in the matter at an early date.

We are confident that the Government of India will appreciate our firm resolve to implement the Plan vigorously and come forward to give the most sympathetic consideration to the genuine difficulties we have pointed out and the ideologically sound and the eminently practical suggestions we have made.

(Excerpts from the speech delivered by Thiru M. G. Ramachandran, Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, at the National Development Council meeting on 14-2-81.)

Rehabilitation

of the

Handicapped



O.P. SOSAMMA, I.A.S.
Director of Social Welfare

The era of technological progress, whose notable contribution to human thought has probably been the development of a rational and scientific approach to many human problems, has revolutionized the traditional concept of disability. In to-day's world physical disability is no longer viewed as a scourge and it is increasingly being realised that given the right type of opportunity, they can also play a very useful role in society. In fact, it has been rightly said that emphasis should be placed not on what a person lacks but on what he has. This, in essence, is the philosophy of modern rehabilitation services which aim at the complete integration of the handicapped individual into the community.

The present day concept of rehabilitation is of comparatively recent origin. In almost every country, including India, services for the handicapped were initiated by the missionary zeal of charitably disposed persons whose main concern was the alleviation of human sufferings. The primary purpose of most of the early institutions was to provide a sanctuary for the disabled and to offer training in pastime occupations. Consequently although educational and training

institutions have existed in India for about a few decades, it is only during the last few years that a concerted effort has begun to be made to place handicapped persons in remunerative occupations a step which is of paramount importance for the socio-economic rehabilitation of the handicapped.

Economic rehabilitation can be generally in four main forms viz., work, sheltered employment, open employment, and self-employment.

In some advanced countries, severely handicapped persons are often assisted in working in their own homes, welfare organisations undertake the responsibility to provide raw material, and to sell the finished goods and also to provide technical assistance wherever necessary. This form of employment has not developed in India, mainly due to the lack of proper communication facilities and the problems of finding suitable market for the finished goods.

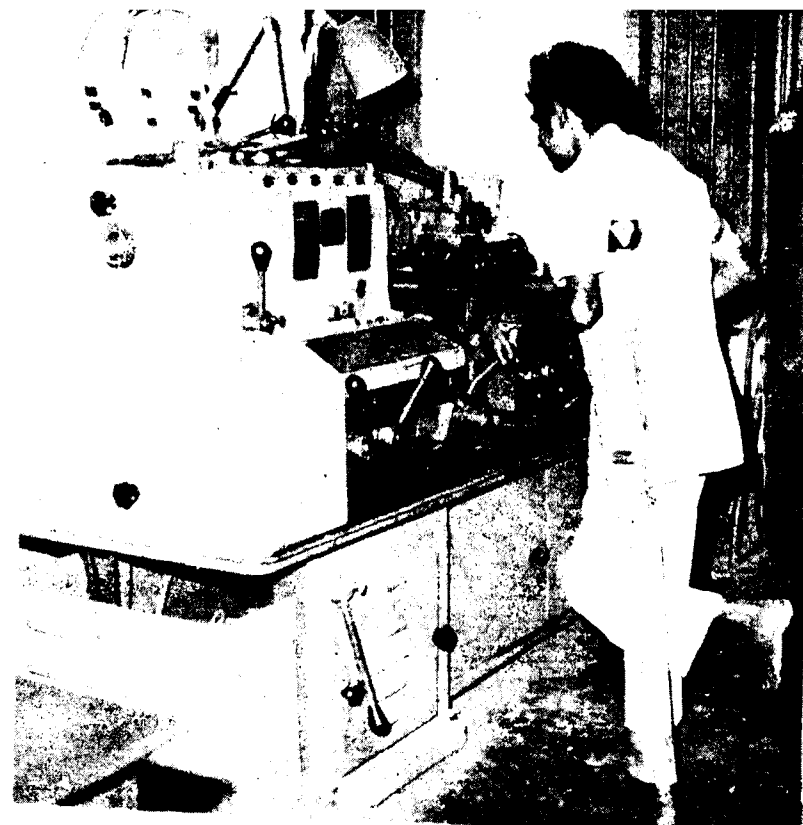
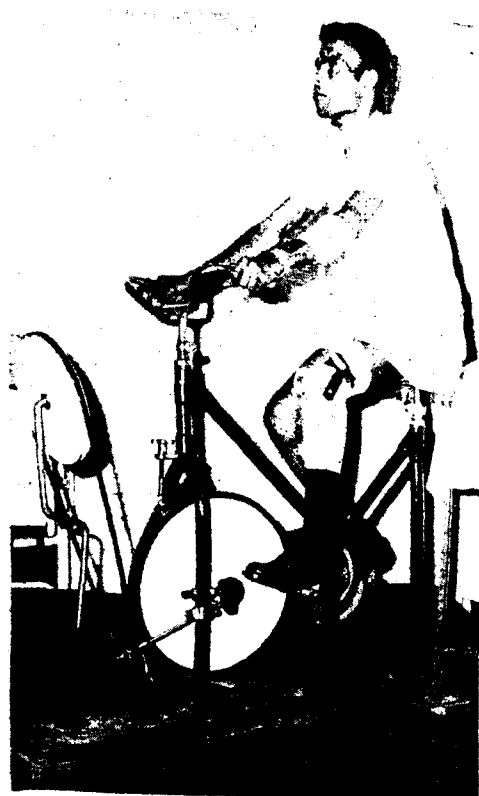
The main objective of sheltered workshops, where traditional crafts peculiar to a country are usually practised, is to provide employment under sheltered conditions to such handicapped persons as are unable

to hold their own in the open field. An important function of a sheltered workshop is to provide the initial working experience for those who can subsequently be placed in open employment. Establishment of



sheltered workshops for the handicapped has just commenced in India.

The most important and profitable form of employment for the handicapped is what is known as



"open employment." This merely means the placement of handicapped persons in ordinary industry, commerce or public services.

The other important area in which handicapped could be economically rehabilitated is in the field of "Self-employment". Under self-employment, disabled are assisted to take up self-employment ventures for which technical assistance is rendered, financial aid is given and other required help is provided. This form of employment is increasingly becoming popular among the handicapped and significant number of them are thus being rehabilitated.



Tamilnadu is one of the earliest States to provide rehabilitation services to the handicapped. Initially it is only the voluntary Agencies and Service Organisation which started rendering service in the field of education and training. School for the Blind at Palayamkottai, which was started in 1890, is one of the oldest institutions for the handicapped in the country. The Government school for the Blind at Poona-mallee, which is now managed by the Government, also came into existence as a joint effort of Madras Association for the Blind and the Victory Memorial Committee in 1930. But the Voluntary effort



was confined mostly to the field of education and it was also found to be very inadequate to commensurate with the needs of the handicapped. The Government realised the need and urgency for extension of these services in other areas and hence slowly started establishing schools for the handicapped in different places of the State. At present there are 45 institutions for the handicapped in the State of which



17 are Government managed institutions. Most of the private managed institutions are getting financial aid from the Government.

The Government also realized the need for providing vocational training to the handicapped and it therefore started the Light Engineering Project for the Adult Blind at Guindy in the year 1967. In the middle of seventies the Modern Training cum Production Workshop for the physically handicapped was started at Muttukadu and a Rehabilitation Home for blind women was also started in the year 1978.

An Institution for the Mentally Retarded is also to be established shortly by the Government. A Regional Rehabilitation Centre for the handicapped on the pattern of Vocational Rehabilitation Centre for physically handicapped of Government of India is also being established at Madurai which will undertake evaluation and placement of the handicapped on scientific and systematic lines. A Production-Cum-Weaving Co-operative for the Blind has also been sanctioned by the Government, which, when established, will rehabilitate 120 blind in self-employment.

The Government Institute of Rehabilitation and Artificial Limb Centre at Madras and the Artificial Limb Sub-Centres at Madurai,

Coimbatore and Thanjavur are rendering valuable service in the field of medical rehabilitation of the physically handicapped by supplying artificial limbs and appliances. Similarly the recently established Institute for speech and Hearing impaired at the Government General Hospital, Madras serves those with speech and hearing impairments.

Besides providing medical and vocational rehabilitation services to the physically handicapped by establishing Institutions, handicapped individuals are assisted for their medical, economic and social rehabilitation through various schemes of the Government. Free supply of hearing aids to poor, deaf children, free supply of tri-cycles to poor, Orthopaedically handicapped, free supply of wheel chairs to Paraplegic patients, free supply of calipers to poor Orthopaedically handicapped children are all important programmes of the Government aiming at medical rehabilitation and every year thousands of persons are benefitted by these schemes.

In recent years, economic rehabilitation of the handicapped is also receiving special attention of the Government. Two important schemes for the economic rehabilitation of the handicapped are now being implemented by the Government of Tamilnadu. One of the schemes is to assist the handicapped for setting up of Bunk stalls in different places of the State by arranging

loan assistance from Banks and with the Governmental subsidy of Rs. 500/- to each handicapped beneficiary. The objective of the Government is to rehabilitate 1,000 handicapped persons under the self-employment programme. As per the other scheme of economic rehabilitation, each trained handicapped who has registered his name at the Employment Exchange is placed as an Apprentice in an industrial establishment on a payment of Rs. 150/- per month as stipend from Government during the period of one year of apprenticeship and the employer is to absorb the candidate on completion of apprenticeship. The Government aims to place all the 1,500 trained handicapped in suitable employment under this special apprenticeship programme.

Scholarship is also given to the physically handicapped in order to enable them to pursue their studies or training course or other vocational course. This scholarship is sanctioned by the Government of Tamil Nadu from the funds provided by the Government of India, and about 1,000 handicapped get the benefit every year under this scheme.

Both Governmental and the Voluntary Agencies in Tamilnadu have been taking concerted efforts for providing comprehensive rehabilitation services covering all aspects-medical, vocational, economic and social rehabilitation of the handicapped. It is expected that by expansion of the existing programmes and starting many new programmes in 1981, we will be able to rehabilitate considerable number of physically handicapped persons meaningfully and make them economically and socially independent.

Lack of appreciation of the potentialities of the handicapped worker is probably the most serious obstacle in the way of placement of handicapped persons in suitable employment. Let us not be disheartened by what the disabled cannot do; Instead let us be encouraged by what they can do. All the rehabilitation measures should aim at making the physically handicapped self-reliant ultimately. This has been beautifully summarized by Henry Kessler in his following words:—

"The object of help is to make help superfluous. This is the ideal and the motivating power behind rehabilitation. No Nation can afford the luxury of wasted man power"



PORT of MADRAS

What had been a tiny hamlet called CHENNAIPATTINAM housing a few fishermen always looking upto the mercy of Mother Nature for their daily bread has been transformed into a metropolitan city housing various types of industries with a population of nearly eight millions. This is the stage in a nutshell of the development of Madras into a sprawling metropolis as it stands today. Such a development was possible primarily due to the development of Madras Port.

Towards such an effort, a small and humble beginning was made 200 years ago with the arrival of the British in this area. The East India Company had to carry on its trade from the Fort St. George. Cargo which arrived by ship from alien lands had to be carried by small boats known as 'Masula Boats' from ship to shore and then to the Fort St. George. This operation was indeed hazardous from the point of view of the risk involved for the men engaged in such an operation and the loss of cargo on account of surf. This situation attracted many a thinking public and the then Government towards the creation of a haven for the merchant

navy ships. The construction of an Iron screw pile pier was the small beginning of to-day's Major Port of Madras. The then traffic was a few thousand tonnes particularly merchandised and finished goods. As years passed, the screw pile pier could not cope with the increased traffic and then came the imperative necessity for an enclosed basin for the ships to be safe at moorings. 15th December, 1875, a red letter day in the history of Madras City as well as the Madras Port, was the day on which the harbour works were commissioned. Two breakwaters forming an artificial harbour with an eastern entrance were nearly completed in 1881 and there came peace for the merchant navy ships. The Madras Port had been born. The traffic then slowly picked up to a few lakhs tonnes.

In 1886, the management of the Madras Port was transferred to a Board of Trustees. Since then, the Madras Port has never looked back. From a small embryo to an intermediary level and then to a Major Port of 20 alongside berths and 3 mooring berths, Madras Port has been transformed into a Major Port on the East Coast. It is no exaggera-

tion to say that it became the Eastern Gateway of India. From 2.5 million tonnes in the year 1952, the traffic has increased to 10.17 million tonnes to-day. The commodities imported and the cargo exported form a wide variety:—

Imports	Exports
Fertiliser	Iron Ore
Cement	Barytes
Oil	Skins and hides
Coal	Textile goods
Raw materials for fertiliser factories	Condiments
Other general cargoes	Granites

The Madras Port has now completed 100 years of its useful existence in the development of the national economy and the foreign trade. Although the achievement in the past was considerable, there is still tremendous scope for more and more modernisation of the Port operations in Madras which will bring more traffic and bring about economic prosperity to the country in general and to the hinterland, covering the areas of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka in particular.

A few development plans which are in the offing are enumerated below:

OUTER ARM:

The Bharathi Dock on the northern side of the port is capable of handling giant tankers upto the draft of 46'. It has a turning circle of 49' draft. From October 15 to January 15 the monsoon period caused by the North East Monsoon serves as a deterrent in using this dock to the permitted draft for the vessels coming in with oil for discharge and the ones loading iron ores to the distant countries like Japan, Korea and Rumania. Madras Port is now engaged in the task of constructing a wall into the sea of 1005 Mtrs. length to give tranquility to this dock. This work is expected to be completed by 1982. The water spread area between this wall and the eastern breakwaters of the Bharathi Dock may help the future planners to go in for yet another harbour according to the exigencies of demands.

FISHERIES HARBOUR:

The eastern coastal region is abundant with sea-food. To modernise fishing and to alleviate the difficulties and the sufferings experienced by the fishermen of this area, the Madras Port has undertaken the construction of the Fisheries Harbour as a Deposit work for the Union Ministry of Agriculture. The fisheries Harbour with the spacious auction hall and sophisticated handling equipment for the catches is expected to be ready in the year 1981—the centenary year of the Port.

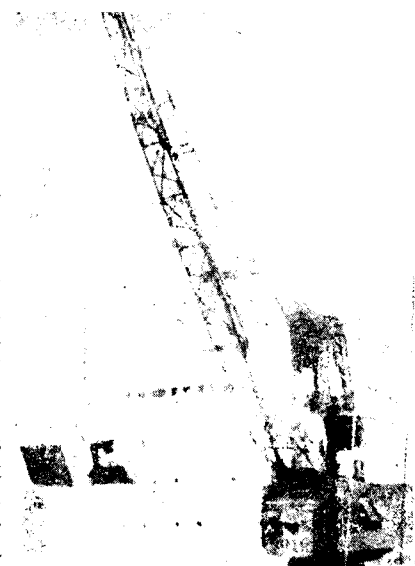
With the commissioning of the Fisheries harbour, 40,000 tonnes of sea food could be handled scientifically. The Harbour could be a haven for 150 trawlers and 500 pablo boats. The harbour basin will have 48.56 hectares water spread area and will have a depth of 6 metres. The cost of the project is about 11 crores.

REMODELLING OF BOAT BASIN AND PROVIDING REPAIR FACILITIES TO THE TRUST'S FLOATING CRAFTS

In order to attend to the repairs of the Trust's dredgers, tugs and other floating crafts, it is proposed to remodel the boat basin at an estimated cost of Rs. 372 lakhs and also to construct a dry dock capable of catering to bigger vessels upto 20,000 DWT Tonnes.

CONTAINER HANDLING FACILITIES:

Transportation of cargo through containers is on the increase. The



Port has planned to keep itself fully equipped with the container handling to match the international standards. The facilities will be created in two stages. In the first stage, containers would be unloaded in the Jawahar Dock and moved to Bharathi Dock, where container stacking yard, freight station and other infrastructure would be created for stuffing, destuffing and stacking of the containers. In the second stage, a full-fledged container berth with a draft sufficient to berth the vessels of 42' with ship-to-shore container quay cranes and other supporting infrastructures would be provided. The total cost of the Project will be around of Rs. 25 crores.

MULTI FUNCTIONAL GRAIN TERMINAL WITH SILOS:

The Food Corporation of India is planning a bulk grain terminal at Madras Port at a cost of Rs. 12 crores for export of rice and wheat and import of wheat when it becomes necessary. This installation will consist of fully mechanised equipment for handling foodgrains and storage complex consisting of larger circular bins of capacity 25,000 tonnes duly incorporating a bag delivery system and a despatch building equipped with automatic bagging and stitching machines. Necessary land in the Port area has been allotted by the Port to the Food Corporation of India.

EXPANSION OF JAWAHAR DOCK

The Jawahar Dock is located inside the main harbour. The dimensions are 518 Mtrs. x 152 Mtrs. It is designed to take 3 vessels of 150 Mtrs. length of the wharves on either side. 15 years ago, this dock was commissioned. Of late,

the port is receiving modern vessels which are longer and are of the order of 185 to 200 Mtrs. The berthing of such vessels at Jawahar Dock results in the adjacent berth becoming unutilised. This is a major impediment in handling of vessels. In view of this, it is now proposed to expand Jawahar Dock sufficiently to accommodate two vessels of 200 Mtrs. length and one vessel of 150 Mtrs. length on either side, with sufficient space earmarked for handling of LASH barges at the southern end of the dock. The Project is tentatively estimated to cost about Rs. 15 crores. The feasibility report has been submitted to the Government of India for approval and the same is expected to be cleared shortly.

DRY DOCK:

A slipway of 950 tonnes capacity is now available at Madras Port to carry out the essential repairs to the Port crafts. The dredgers of the port 'Cauvery' and 'Coleroon' cannot be accommodated in the existing slipway and therefore they are sent to other ports for their maintenance repairs resulting in huge expenditure on loss of useful working days in sailing to and fro and in waiting for accommodation in the out side dry docks. Considering all these aspects, it is proposed to construct a dry dock at this Port to meet the essential needs of the Port crafts. Plans have been drawn up to design this dry dock to take up vessels upto 20,000 DWT. The feasibility report on the dry dock has been presented to the Government and sanction from the Ministry is awaited.

There are a few other plans on hand which will help to increase the berth capacity and the traffic passing through the Madras Port. These projects will not only bring economic development to this region but also create a lot of employment opportunities.

The Madras Port, on the threshold of the second century of its useful existence, is preparing itself to meet the needs of the commercial public and the growing traffic. It has a greater role to play in the promotion of exports and in the development of its vast hinterland. The central aim is to render maximum service at minimum cost. The task of motivating human effort to improve performance will be a continuous one. So also will be the effort to look ahead and respond in time to economic managerial and technological developments. With a look back with pride on its past, Madras Port looks forward to the future with hope and determination.

AESTHETICS OF KAMBAN

Dr. JUSTICE S. MAHARAJAN

Kavichakravarti Kamban has an exceptionally heightened awareness of the beautiful and he communicates his perceptions in the pure perfection of poetry.

The perennial charm of Kamban is that he immerses us in an atmosphere of beauty; a beauty not reserved for some special occasion, sentiment or character but a beauty which permeates the whole common world of men, women and Nature and it has an incomparable freshness and is endowed with an inner glow. This is evidently due to his profound sympathy for everything, animate and inanimate, and to his capacity for "feeling into" every object that he perceives. Not only that. He has

a genius for selecting the significant and eliminating the insignificant and of communicating his intuitions in language that arrests and captivates the attention of the reader.

Here is a scene in which Kamban paints a word-picture of the girls that throng to have a look at Rama as he goes in a chariot through the streets of Ayodhya to the palace of Dasaratha. Some girls look at him, standing close to the pillars at their thresholds. Others look at him from bushy bowers, half hidden by creepers. Yet others look at him from open courtyards and through windows. Their looks express different moods—dazed looks, admiring amorous looks, longing languorous looks.

Some eyes look ferociously fascinating like long spears, and some others are crimson like blood-stained daggers and yet others are like darting fish or flitting bees. The faces of these girls are like lotus blossoms, fresh and fair. Kamban focusses his camera upon these eyes that speak and faces that bloom. He says:-

In the long-pillared portals,
in the bowers,
where creepers unfurl their leaves,
and in the moonlit courtyards,
long spears sparkle with blood-shot daggers,
flashing fish mingle with flitting bees
and swoon,
and even in the casement-

the lotus flowers are in bloom.
This poem is marked by a rare rococo charm, with its delicacy of colour and freedom of brushwork and the gay magic it weaves out of women's eyes and faces.

Here is another scene laid in Mithila before Rama's wedding with Seeta. A procession round the city is arranged for Rama. The maids of Mithila rush into the street to watch the procession. They gambol like deer and sail around like peacocks, their eyes twinkling like stars and their slender waists quivering like lightning. As Rama's chariot moves on, the girls rush through parks and flower gardens to overtake the chariot. Kamban is struck with their

agility and says that their spirited movement has the dynamics of water rushing animatedly down a deep depression. The load of flowers on their heads gives them a momentum and their delicate waists feel the strain of the load. They run fast, as if in hot pursuit of their own mind which have sped far ahead of them in search of Rama.

They come in time to see the enchanting figure of Rama seated in his chariot. They are utterly absorbed in his Charms, and Kamban perceives and suggests that their absorption has a mystical undertone:-



Those, who gazed at his shoulders,
kept gazing at his shoulders,
Those, who gazed at his lotus feet,
kept gazing at his feet.
Those, who gazed at his mighty arms,
did likewise;
which is the girl that could unhinge
her gaze
and drink in his total form?

They were verily like the differing
Faiths,
each catching but a glimpse of
His Form.

How true and modern is the verdict
of Kamban on the limitations of the
established Faiths!

The procession ends in front of
the Wedding Hall in which Vasistha
and Visvamisra are waiting. Blue-
hued Rama wears a garland of
dazzling diamonds around his neck
and the garland swings to and fro as
he prostrates himself before the
Rishis and throws off flashes of light
upon his blue skin. The contrast
of colours fascinates the Poet who
says Rama is like a seasonal blue-
cloud gently settling down at the
feet of the Rishis—a cloud which is
coruscating with lightning.

By exploiting colour words
and vivid imagery and
the littlest of significant details,
Kamban produces not a still
photograph, not a motion picture,
technicolour film, but a three dimen-
sional drama staged right in front
of us. This is the result of what Sri
Aurobindo would call the inspired
style. According to Sri Aurobindo
there is something superior
even to the inspired style and
it is the style of supreme inevita-
bility, which produces pulsing palpa-
ble life itself, catching us up in multi-
farious incalculable patterns". In
fact Kamban at his heights touches
the supremely inevitable and produ-
ces "convincingly perfect utterance".

In Kamban's Epic, we find the
physiological effects of sounds and
colours most adroitly exploited.
When the drums beat and the trum-
pets blare and the doors slam sud-
denly, our hearts beat more quickly
and we breathe fast. We thus find
that sounds affect the human orga-
nism in a striking way and great
emotional effects are produced by
sounds.

Colours also have distinct physio-
logical effects. Some colours cheer
us up and some others depress us.

Further we associate certain
colours and sounds with certain

occasions—Weird, bizarre, mournful.
Thus both by reason of their intrinsic
nature and by association of ideas,
sounds and colours become expres-
sive. In some subtle way, Kamban
gives sounds and colours an ex-
quisitely aesthetic expressiveness.

Here is an illustration: After
catching a glimpse of Sita, Rama
falls head over heels in love with her.
He had never before been smitten
with love. It is a new experience
which overwhelms his whole being.
In the palace of Janaka, Rama is allot-
ted a bed in the balcony. He is all
alone there. As he is musing over
Sita, darkness closes in, adding
poignancy to his musings. His condi-
tion is aggravated by the appearance
of the rising moon. Is he alone? No,
says Kamban. Solitude, Darkness,
the Moon, his own tormenting self
and his Sita keep him company.
In the company of these tormenting
thoughts Rama spends most of
the interminable—seeming night and
ultimately falls asleep. Kamban,
who, unlike Valmiki, depicts Rama
as the embodiment of God, is moved
by the human agony that afflicts
Rama. The love-torn Rama and his
anguish inspire Kamban to point out
to us the condescending grace of
God, who, out of compassion for
Man, comes down upon earth, im-
prisons himself in Time and Space
and subjects himself to agony in order
to redeem Man. The Poet sings of
the waking up of Rama at dawn in
words of untr. slatable charm:

The sweating Sun,
riding in his chariot,
borne on wheels of light,
Dipped and bathed himself in
the western sea,

and rose, refreshed and cool,
in the Eastern sky
And, with his tender arms of light,
touched the feet of Rama
and stirred him out of sleep.
And Rama reached the shore
of that endless agonising night—

The Joyous One, who might
have slept
in the Sea of Infinity
On his native couch of a thousand
dazzling lights
chose, instead,
to turn and writhe in pain
on this constricting couch of
Space and Time.

God's infinite freedom in His un-
conditioned sea of infinity, on his
native couch of a thousand dazzling
lights, is described in words which
have sounds and colours suggesting
the dazzling splendour and exuber-
ance of the freedom of Infinity, while



the love-sickness of the embodied
God, who is imprisoned in Time and
Space, is narrated with words, sounds
and colours that suggest the inten-
sities of mortal sorrow and pain.
The Poem has been suffused with
such inspired music that the resulting
rhythm haunts and the haunted
reader finds himself slipping out of
the prison of cause and effect.

In certain other poems of Kam-
ban, he aesthetically fuses his words
with their meanings. Learning of
Rama's exile after his return to
Ayodhya, Bharatha resolves to go
to the forest and bring back Rama
and enthrone him. He takes Satru-
gana and the Dowager Queens
Kausalya, Sumitra and Kaikeyi into
the forest where they meet Guha, and
receive from him a demonstration of
his spontaneous love and devotion
for Rama. Guha carries the Royal
family in a boat across the Ganges
and on the boat Bharatha intro-
duces Guha to Kausalya. At once,
Guha falls at her feet and sobs.
As Guha weeps, the eyes of Bharatha
and Satrugana became wet with tears.
Kausalya comforts them all
in a song, which breathes the very
spirit of serene benediction and
defies the translator's art.

Grieve you not, my sons, grieve no
more; it is well indeed
that the warriors of Truth renounced
the realm
and came to the wilderness;
Befriend this mighty warrior
who stands like a heroic elephant,
with a trunk as strong as the
hills;

and, befriending him,
may the Five of you, becoming one
govern this Earth
for many and many a year!

In the mellowness of her grief,
Kausalya's mother-heart embraces
the lowly hunter as one of her own
blue-blooded sons. There is in this

song a certain epic nobility of thought
which lifts the reader above human
pettiness.

Kamban's variety of musical
accomplishment is prodigious. In
fact, he works in larger musical
units than any other Tamil or
English poet. In this stanza
which consists of four lines, each
line comprises 19 or 20 syllables.
To be able to control so many syl-
lables and words at once is a sure sign
of exceptional mastery, and to be
able to arrange them in such a musi-
cal order as to set them to a key
appropriate to the relevant emotion
is the most conclusive evidence of
his supremacy in poetry.

Beethoven said once that Goethe
was in D-major. Likewise, every-
thing and everybody seem to present
themselves to Kamban in a certain
key, and Kamban communicates
them in a key most appropriate to
them by resorting to musical phrases
and rhythmical devices which produ-
ce the intended impression on a
sensitive and penetrating reader.

The question, "what do we mean-
by Kamban's aesthetic greatness",
can be answered by the counter
question, "What do we mean when
we say that Shakespeare's King
"Lear" is greater than his "As you
like it". The values expressed by
Shakespeare in the former play are
certainly greater than those expressed
in the latter. In King Lear, the
spectacles of human love, mortality
courage, romance and religious ex-
perience are presented as spectacles
which go to the roots of our being
and profoundly transform us. In
Kamban's Ramayana, a stupendous
range and variety of human experi-
ence is aesthetically organized and
a series of significances are merged
into one harmonious significance so
that the reader experiences the inter-
relatedness of the whole Universe and
realises that he is in the presence of
great poetry. The totality of Kam-
ban's inclusiveness naturally includes
not only the mystical, the religious,
the tragic and the profound but also
the comical, the slight, the whimsical
and the bizarre, each in its proper
proportion and relevant place.

Describing the aridity of a
parched desert, he can, with his
tongue in his cheek, compare it with
the detachment which marks alike
the common prostitute and the
Saint aspiring for Jeevan Mukti.
Describing the building of a bridge
across the ocean, he can mention, with
loving and cinematographic details,
the feats of a monkey carrying three
hillocks all at once—one rolling

under its heels, another borne in its
upstretched arms and the third, firmly
held in its looped up tail. He can
narrate with a gift of immediacy and
a sense of personal involvement
a variety of battles, each conceived
and executed on a different pattern
from the rest, and all packed with
thrill, suspense and intense tempo.
As a connoisseur of the human heart,
he can reveal the most secret springs
of human action. He can neutralize
the stiffness of the Epic with the
suppleness of Drama and suffuse
both with the glow of his lyrical
intensities.

To illustrate the dramatic as-
pects of Kamban, I shall take up a
particular situation in the Epic and
contrast its treatment by the great
poet Valmiki with that of Kavi-
chakravarti Kamban. After Kaikeyi
extorted the two boons from Das-
aratha in the bed-chamber, Dasaratha
falls into a stupor. Kaikeyi, however,
is filled with a sense of fulfilment and
she summons Rama and tells him:
"The King has ordered that your
brother Bharatha shall rule his King-
dom and you should go out into the
jungle, and return in fourteen years",
Valmiki's Rama is shocked by this
command and laments repeatedly
that the wickedness of Kaikeyi has
given him endless pain and suffering.
But Kamban's Rama is cast in a
different mould. He rejoices at this
command and the Poet says that
Rama's face, which before receiving
the command resembled the lotus
in freshness and charm, outshone
the freshly-blown lotus after hearing
the command. Rama tells Kaikeyi:

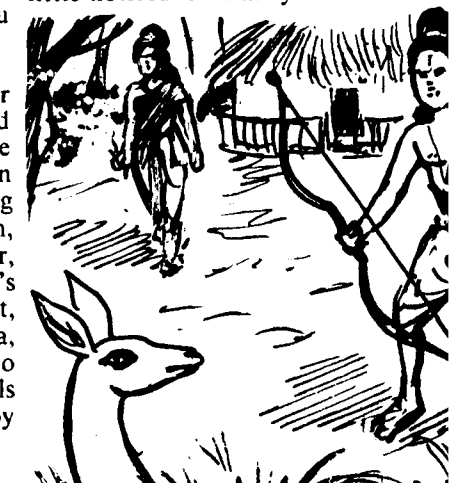
"Were it not the King's com-
mand but yours,
would I disobey it?
Is not the wealth conferred on
my younger brother
the wealth conferred upon me?
I can think of no greater fortune
than carrying out your comm-
and.
This very moment I take leave
of you
and set out for the forest."

Kamban's Rama knew that his father
was in the inner chamber, but he did
not go in to take leave of him. He
offered his salutation in the direction
of his father, and after prostrating
himself at the feet of Kaikeyi again,
he left for the palace of his mother,
Kausalya. On the contrary, Valmiki's
Rama, before leaving for the forest,
seeks an interview with Dasaratha,
who, after summoning his wives to
his presence, calls Rama in and tells
him, "I have been defrauded by

Kaikeyi to grant those two boons.
You must, therefore, ignore my com-
mand and become King of Ayodhya.
This statement compromises with
the concept of Dasaratha as an un-
compromising champion of Truth
and provokes Valmiki's Rama to
preach a homily to his own father
and to dissuade him from breaking
his pledged word. Kamban cuts out
this awkward confrontation scene
for sound artistic reasons. Firstly,
the pathos of separation would be
more dramatic and intense if Rama
went into the wilderness without
taking leave of his grief-stricken
father. Secondly, Dasaratha's love
for Rama and love for Truth are so
lofty that the totality of either will
be impaired by overstringing the
other. The numerous situations in
the Epic are thus altered and dra-
matised by Kamban with the keen
aesthetic sensibility of a Hollywood
Director.

The inter-relatedness of things
is brought out by Kamban by means
of subtle and startling similes. Here
is a description of Rama's killing of
the giantess Thadakai. Kamban says
that the arrow shot by Rama was as
sharp and hot as an unkind word
and the arrow pierced her chest and
shot past her heart, like good counsel
given by the virtuous to the wicked.

Here is another Simile. Sur-
panaka after her mutilation by
Lakshmana bursts into the City of
Lanka. Kamban says: The dark-eyed
giantesses of that boundless city
were shocked as they saw the sister
of His Imperial Majesty in this muti-
lated form: they wrung their hands
and stared in awe, they ran, helter-
skelter, uttering words, which, like
incoherent pieces of clotted milk,
floated disconnectedly. Words
thrown out of syntax have a striking
similarity to the isolated clots float-
ing in coagulated milk. There is
something fantastically original
about a Poet who can perceive this
little-noticed similarity.



Take again the Poet's description of the intriguing movements of golden deer, in which words gambol enchantingly like the deer:

It treads the ground
softly, slowly

and stares and stares in panic
and in panic it leaps into the air.
Pricking up its ears,
pressing its four limbs against
its chest,
it gallops high into the sky
it gallops faster than wind and
mind,
seeming to impart speed to
Speed.

It climbs up the hill
and leaps into a bunch of clouds
As Rama nears it, it trots away
and as he pauses, tired,
it would come within reach of
hand;
feigning to stand still, it goes far,
far away,

it moves like the mind of the
flower-bedecked beauties,
who project goldward
their changing affections.

As the reader is absorbed in the physical movements of the deer, Kamban transports him, by means of an apt but shocking simile, to a different plane of reality, and makes him see the vacillating mental movements of the sad, gay girls that ply for hire.

We shall turn now to another scene. Rama's arrow has pierced the chest of Vali and Vali is lying on the ground in a pool of blood. His son Angada rushes to the scene and falls wailing upon his father. Both Vali and Angada are white-complexioned. How did he fall? A simile describes it:

Upon Vali, who lay
like a Moon lying upon the
Earth
Angada fell like a lightning fall-
ing from Heaven.

This simile reminds us of Shakespeare's description of the function of a Poet:

"The Poet's eye, in a fine frenzy
rolling,
doth glance from Heaven to
Earth
and Earth to Heaven",

As for the lyrical treatment of Kamban, it is also aesthetically edifying and convincing. After the death of Vali, his bereaved wife Tara be-

comes inconsolable. Kamban uses words of austere intensity to bring out her great grief. In her lamentation Tara resorts to a piece of devastating logic to shatter the delusion that she and Vali had been dwelling in the hearts of each other. Here is her song of lamentation:

"Oh! Lord of battle-happy
shoulders!
Were I a dweller of your heart,
the arrow that pierced it
ought to have sucked my life,
too!
and were you a dweller of my
heart,
you ought to be alive!
Neither has lived truly in the
heart of the other.

Even while propounding his philosophic values, he suffuses them with his aesthetics. Throughout the Epic, Kamban speaks with the assurance and self-surrender of one, who has discovered the controlling centre of life. Take, for instance, the Hiranya Vadai Padalam, in which he creates an intensely original dramatic situation. In this scene, Brahma, the creative aspect of God, confronts Vishnu, the Ultimate Reality, and conducts a cosmic dialogue with Him. At the invocation of Prahlada (the son of Hiranya), God breaks asunder the shell of the Macrocosm and after shattering the roof of the Cosmos, descends to the Earth in human form with a lion's head before the unbelieving Hiranya, and red in tooth and claw, destroys him. As Narasimha (Man-Lion) is roaring in infinite fury, Kamban, with his sense of exquisite artistry and humour, introduces Brahma into the scene in an attempt to appease the Lion of Heaven. In accents of great devotion, not unmixed with loving irony, Brahma exclaims:

By precipitating Thyself in this
form,

Oh! Lord of Lords,
Thou hast proved
that Thou must have created
Thyself!

But, by indulging in this act of
self-creation,

My Lord,
Hast Thou not encroached upon
my jurisdiction
and set at nought Thy purpose
in creating me
for creating the multitudinous
forms!

There is more devotion than logic in the mock complaint of Brahma that the Sovereign, who has power - to delegate his jurisdiction,

has no power to trench upon it. But there is truth in the following charge that Brahma levels against his Principal:

The myriad stars and planets
linger in Thy Primordial Sub-
stance
like the unlingering bubbles in
the Arctic seas;
Thou art the myriad forms,
but, alas! by assuming this singu-
lar form,
Hast Thou not needlessly im-
posed
a narrowing constraint
upon Thy Infinite plurality!

After demonstrating the incongruity between the Infinity of God and the unflattering finitude of his manifestation, Brahma brings out the paradox between Gods' immanence and God's transcendence in the following words:

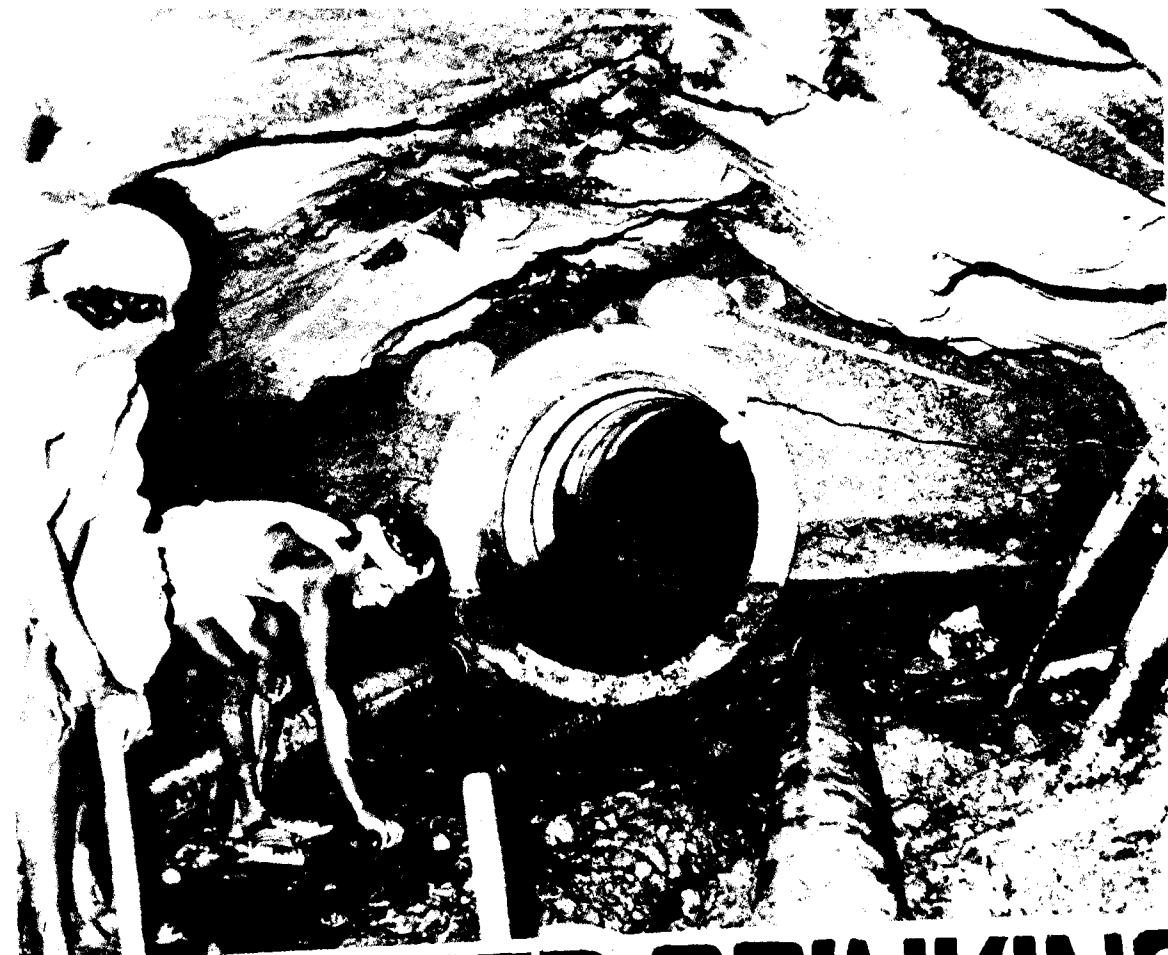
I have no existence outside Thee;
without Thy Grace, I can create
neither life nor matter;
I can exist neither before nor
after;

I am like a goldsmith
born inside Thy golden sub-
stance,

shaping that substance
with Thy Grace.



Thus does Kamban argue metaphysics with his Maker in a series of poems, which, in the amplitude and boldness of their vision, in the sweep of their reverential humour and pathos, and in the overwhelming splendour of their poetry and dramatic power can equal the best in the literatures of the world. It is difficult to find in the world's Epics a situation and a passage which has such metaphysical and aesthetic profundity. Such indeed is the *attar* of Kamban's aesthetics that by common consent of the Tamils, Kamban has been acclaimed as the Emperor of Tamil Poesy. In fact, Kamban has strong claims to be considered the Emperor of World Poesy.



PROTECTED DRINKING WATER

V. KARUPPAN, I.A.S.,
Managing Director,
Tamil Nadu Water Supply and Drainage Board

Next to Air, water is the most important element for the survival of human beings as well as animals and plants. When man lived under natural surroundings with less pollution problems and with more resistive powers drinking water is no problem and man lived in more healthier and better surroundings. But with the advent of civilisation environmental pollution has increased, an untreated and unprotected water for human consumption has become a health hazard which creates economic, social and physical problems. Therefore, it becomes an urgent and immediate need to provide protected wholesome adequate water to quench the thirst of the millions and millions of people.

By providing protected water, the following benefits are assured. It saves people from water borne diseases like cholera, malaria, and the like. Investment on water will increase the economic activity of both the rural and urban areas. Providing water at the door steps of every household will reduce the labour of procuring the water from distant places and labour thus saved could be used for productive purposes. Protected water supply helps in the long term economic growth and increases the potential of water based industries. It reduces mortality and morbidity and preserves the health of the people and decreases health hazards.

Unfortunately, water like any other commodity is very scarce and always the demand is more than the supply. This situation makes it incumbent on us to plan for the economic application and judicious use of the available water to the betterment of the human beings. Water creates floods and non availability in-adequate quantity creates drought. That is, the availability of water is distributed in such a way that it is not available in a place where it is needed most and available where it is least required. This imbalance will have to be corrected and used for the betterment of the living things.

Existing statistics show that water is only 3% on our planet of the total mass of things available. Even of this, 97% of the water is saline and non-potable and 74% of the water is available only as ice and the surface water like river water, lake water, water in the vapour, water in the soil as moisture and ground water constitute the other 26%. One can imagine the magnitude of the shortage compared to the needs of the growing millions and millions in the world. This compels the scientists and the technologists to conserve water and reuse by using high technology and scientific methods.

Like any other element of God's creation, water also cannot be destroyed, but can be transformed from one shape to another. This helps us to plan for the judicious use of the water to satisfy the needs of millions and millions of people. It requires high level management,

sophisticated technology and scientific development to bring water where it is needed and protected from the atmosphere pollution and supply to the people as fresh protected adequate water. This situation exists all over the world.

So far as Tamilnadu is concerned, the availability of water resources is still worse and the quantity is very small compared to the needs. At the Centre, the Government of India has the ambitious programme of providing water supply to all the sixty five crores of people wholesome and protected water supply. Tamilnadu Government has also geared the machinery for this achievement by providing a separate organisation viz. the Tamilnadu Water Supply and Drainage Board (TWAD) as early as 1971 and has also provided sufficient funds for its activity.

To give a little more of statistics, there are about 12,000 and odd Town and Village Panchayats in the State in addition to about 100 Municipalities and two Corporations. In view of the vastness of the requirement of the City Corporation, the Government constituted a new Board viz., Madras Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (METROWATER) to deal with the need of the Madras City Water separately. The TWAD Board takes care of all other rural areas including the Municipalities and the Corporation of Madurai.

Though the water supply programme has commenced right from the date of our independence, much head-



way could not be done. The rapid development commenced only after the formation of the TWAD Board.

The population distribution between the rural areas and the urban areas are 66 2/3% and 33 1/3%. The TWAD Board has programmed to supply wholesome protected water supply to all the urban areas numbering about 740 and rural areas numbering 43000 habitations. Of this, water supply has been provided to 231 urban units. There are about 448 Town Panchayats to be taken up under the urban water supply schemes and of this 245 are proposed to be taken up during the sixth Five Year Plan. The TWAD Board has moved the Government as well as other financing agencies like L.I.C. of India and the world Bank for financing the programmes and to complete the water supply schemes in the urban areas before the end of 6th Plan.

Similarly, in the case of rural areas the Government have proposed a crash programme to cover all the

rural habitations on the basis of an area approach. To start with, the Government of Tamilnadu has proposed to cover all the habitations in about 69 Panchayat Unions at the rate of 5 Panchayat Unions per District and wanted the TWAD Board to complete the water supply programme in all the 69 Panchayat Unions covering 2,200 habitations with wholesome protected water supply before March 1981. Similarly, for the year 1981-82, the Government have programmed to extend the same water supply scheme to another 100 Panchayat Unions. During the next two years of Sixth Plan, it may be possible to cover all the 43,000 habitations in Tamilnadu with protected wholesome water supply schemes which will bring the economic efficiency of the people and prevent disease and morbidity. The TWAD Board has been assigned this stupendous task of completing this work in record time and it has dedicated itself to complete the work on the target dates.





make 1981
**A happy
 New Year**

**for the handicapped
 and
 the disabled also.**

The General Assembly of the United Nations has proclaimed 1981 as International Year of Disabled Persons.

The Government of India endorses the Objectives set forth in the Resolution of the General Assembly

For further details, contact
**Ministry of Social Welfare,
 Government of India**
 Shastri Bhawan,
 New Delhi-110001



day 90/100



CARE OF THE EYES

The care of eyes should commence from the time, the baby to be borne is conceived in the mother's womb. Proper antinatal care of the mother by prompt treatment of discharges and infection of the birth canal and provision of nutritious food and vitamins to the pregnant woman will ensure the birth of a healthy baby with good eye sight.

The new born baby should be bathed and its eyes washed with clean water and antibiotic drops instilled. Any watering from a infant's eyes should be viewed with suspicion and the doctor consulted because the tears are secreted only six weeks after birth. The baby's eyes should be protected from bright light and contamination by flies.

The child's eyes should be examined by a specialist once at the pre-school age and then periodically at the school atleast once in two years. A child who has an eye defect may exhibit the following signs. Inability

DR. E.T. SELVAM
Professor of Ophthalmology,
 Madras Medical College, Madras &
 Superintendent, Government Ophthalmic Hospital, Adviser in Ophthalmology, to the Government of Tamil Nadu.

to see the black board from distance, tilting of the head, frequent opening and closing of the eyes, rubbing of the eyes or screwing them to obtain clear vision. The school teacher should spot out these signs and advise the parents for their children to have a specialist examination.

At the age of forty even normal persons will require glasses for reading and other near work—This is a physiological phenomenon. But, for the prescription of glasses we should consult a specialist and not purchase glasses straight from the Optician shop, because the specialist besides prescribing the proper glasses will

also examine your eyes thoroughly and detect early stages of diseases like glaucoma, diabetes and high blood pressure.

Squint eyes

Squint may be hereditary in certain cases and has a tendency to occur more frequently in certain families particularly the offspring of marriages amongst close relations. Other common causes of squint are birth injuries, faulty muscle attachments, excessive farsightedness and certain illness. Squint is not a sign of good luck. It cannot be outgrown nor will it improve by itself. Treatment, directed toward straightening the eyes can involve suitable glasses, patching, eye drops, surgery and exercises, singly or in combination. To obtain the best results, treatment should be done as early as possible preferably between the ages of five and six. If the treatment is delayed all that be achieved is straightening of the eyes but the

KERATOPLASTY

(Corneal

Transplantation)

Before Operation



After Operation



function of the eye may

Myopia or short sight:

Majority of the cases are of a simple variety with a moderate degree of defect and without serious consequences. Higher degrees of defect known as pathological or malignant myopia is a serious condition. The vision may not improve very much even with correcting spectacles and complication which may develop is retinal detachment requiring a major surgical procedure. There is a common belief that if a child with myopia does not wear the spectacles constantly, the defect is likely to increase. This is not so. Children with short sight live in a small world. They do not take part in sports and games like other normal children just because they are not able to see distant objects and hence prefer to read and become book-worms. The reason for insisting on the myopic child wearing the glasses constantly for distant and near work is to encourage them to take more active interest in the outside world. This will not only widen their visual horizon but also their mental horizon.

Keratoplasty
(Corneal Transplantation)

The whole eye cannot be transplanted. If the cornea (the clear front portion of the eye) becomes opaque and defective, this portion could be replaced by a fresh cornea from a dead person. This is what is meant by keratoplasty. The first Eye Bank in India was started in the Government Ophthalmic Hospital by the late Dr. R.E.S. Muthayya in 1948. Now there are about thirty eye banks in the country. Even in spite of requests through media like the T.V. and A.I.R. the public are reluctant to come forward to donate their eyes after their death. The number of voluntary donations are very few. The main source of donor eyes to our country is from Sri Lanka, where the Buddhists and Christians routinely donate their eyes to the eye bank after their death. Sri Lanka export about 2000 eyes per year to other countries, including India. There are a number of patients including women and children waiting for keratoplasty in the Government Ophthalmic Hospital, Madras. Please donate your eyes to the eye bank so that your blind brethren could see through your eyes after your death.

Cataract:

Just like the lens in a photographic camera there is a clear lens

SQUINT.

Before Operation After Operation



in the eye which is necessary to produce a clear distinct image upon the screen known as the retina. If this lens loses its clarity and becomes opaque the condition is known as cataract. Cataract is the major cause of curable blindness and it accounts for about 50% of the total blindness in our country. Cataract can be cured by a simple operation of removal of the diseased lens and prescription of glasses. It is estimated that there are several lakhs of people afflicted by cataract in our State. A crash-programme on Eye camps launched by the Government of Tamilnadu has been able to restore vision to about 2 lakhs of people affected by cataract during the last eight years, but there is still very much to do.

Glaucoma:

This is a condition where there is increased pressure in the eye which may damage the optic nerve resulting in blindness. It is usually common in the older age group above fifty years but may rarely affect even children and young adults. The treat-

ment of this condition may be both medical and surgical but it is very important to detect these cases early and institute appropriate treatment. That is the importance of routine periodical examination by specialists particularly after the age of forty.

Night Blindness:

The most common cause of blindness is deficiency of Vitamin A and the condition could be treated with oral or injections of vitamin A. Persons suffering from this condition should be advised to take food stuffs rich in vitamin A viz. green leafy vegetables, carrots, pappaya, fruit, seafish etc. Vitamin A deficiency is usually associated with protein deficiency particularly in children and they should be provided with food stuffs rich in vitamin A and also protein rich food.

There is a more serious cause of night blindness due to a hereditary disease known as Retinitis Pigmentosa the cause of which is not

known and there is no useful treatment. For the time being, the only suggestion is that persons suffering from Retinitis Pigmentosa should not have children so that they don't propagate the disease.

TELEVISION:

Is viewing T. V. harmful to the eyes? No, provided the following suggestions are observed.

The T.V. set must be a good standard one.

The picture must be clearly focussed.

The screen and the eyes should be at the same level.

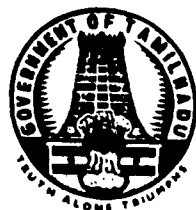
Comfortable view of distance of 8-10 feet.

One additional light in the room which should not be too bright.

In fact, there are certain advantages due to T.V. Some persons detect their eye defect for the first time while viewing the T.V. because they are not able to see as clearly as others.

RATION CARD HOLDERS!

HELP US TO SERVE YOU BETTER...



AN APPEAL.... in your own interest

Your Ration Card ensures regular supply of essential commodities like rice, sugar, kerosene etc. You also pay only Fair Prices. It is your bounden duty to see that your ration card stands up to scrutiny by the concerned authority.

Malpractices deprive many people of their legitimate share of essential commodities

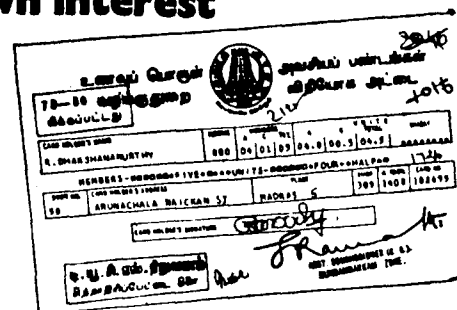
Under the Tamil Nadu Scheduled Commodities (Regulation of Distribution by card system) order, 1974, issued under Essential Commodities Act, 1955, the following are offences.

Where a family card...

- is obtained in the name of a person who is non-existent or fictitious; or
- contains the name of any person who is non-existent or fictitious; or
- contains the name of any person whose name is already included in any other family card issued to any household;
- contains any entry which is deliberately incorrect or false; or
- is transferred or pledged to any other person;
- is used by a person to whom it was not issued but was issued to some other person.

It will also be an offence under clause 12 of the said order...

- to dishonestly apply for or receive a family card if he knows or has reason to believe that his name has already been included in any family card



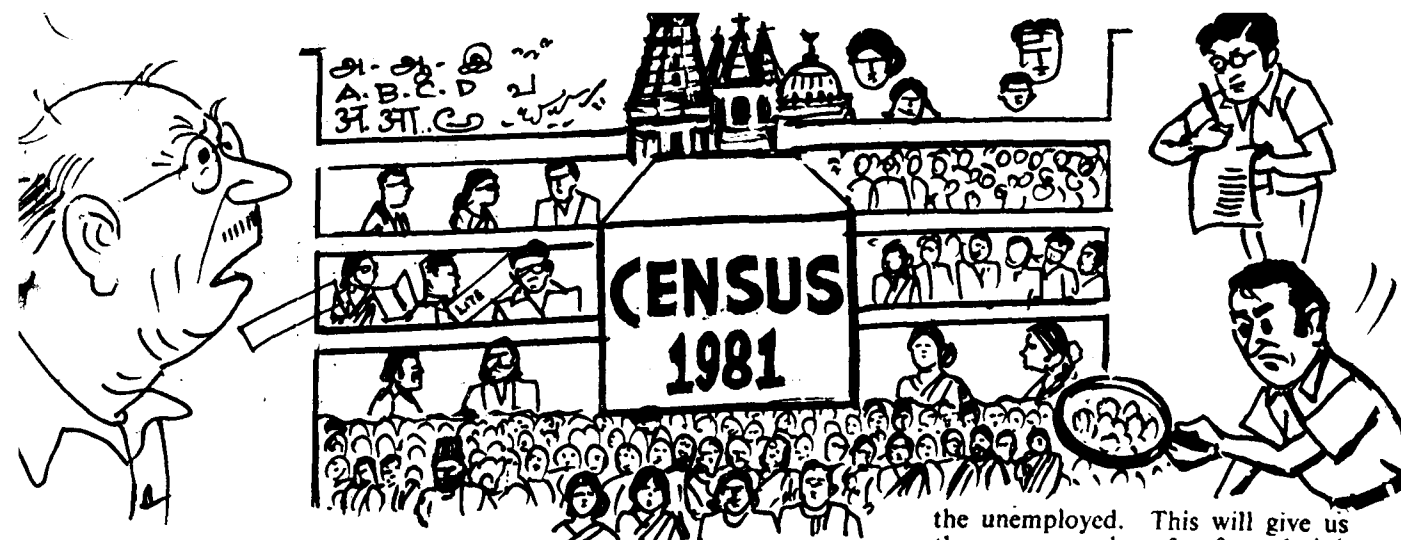
- to obtain a card by giving false information

- to alter or destroy a family card issued to him without lawful authority.

FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE PUBLIC

For any request concerning issue of family card or any changes therein, the public are requested to approach directly the offices of the Assistant Commissioner of Civil supplies and not to be misled by any other person.

THE DIRECTOR OF
INFORMATION & PUBLIC RELATIONS
Fort St. George, Madras-600 009.



The 1981 decennial census in our state commenced on the 9th February 1981. It is a complete process of collecting and compiling economic, social and demographic data pertaining to all persons in the country at a given point of time. The reference date for the ensuing census is the sun rise of 1st March 1981. The census is conducted simultaneously throughout the country and has to cover the entire population without any omission.

For us in India census is not a new feature. It is taken every ten years. According to historical records, censuses were taken even in ancient India. The first regular census was however in 1872 followed by successive decennial censuses beginning from 1881. The present census is the fourth one since independence.

A carefully planned and executed periodical census is of vital importance for efficient public administration and planning especially in a developing country like ours. Thus the most important use of the data collected at the census is to be found in our planning efforts for the socio-economic development of our masses. If the resources at the disposal of the Government are to be wisely and effectively utilised for the welfare of the people, the Government must have correct basic data. The census gives us this data for the country as a whole as well as for States, districts, towns and villages. Under our constitution, the delimitation of constituencies for elections to the Parliament and the State Legislatures is made with the help of the census figures. But this is not all. The census figures serve as a useful frame for many surveys and studies conducted by research organisations, scholars and industrialists.

A. P. MUTHUSWAMI, I.A.S.,
Director of Census operation.

Since 1981 is the International Year of handicapped, data have already been collected about their number covering the totally blind, crippled and dumb. This information is being tabulated and will be released in due course.

Two schedules will be canvassed in the forth coming census - the household schedule pertaining to each and every household and the individual slip which will be filled up for every person in the household. The houseless population will be covered in a one-night enumeration on February 28th.

Following are some of the salient features of the present enquiry. The household schedule has been so designed as to collect data on housing, facilities available including drinking water, electricity and toilet facilities (only in urban areas), details of ownership of land, house, house site and tenancy.

In the individual slip, apart from the usual questions relating to sex, age, marital status, mothertongue, religion, scheduled caste or scheduled tribe and literacy, specific information on school and college going population is collected for the first time in our census. Information regarding workers and non-workers is also obtained. As regards workers, further information relating to their secondary work is gathered. For the first time in the census, information is being sought regarding

the unemployed. This will give us the necessary data for formulating specific schemes for relieving unemployment in our country.

Information on migration pattern and fertility will be obtained on a sample basis. The question on migration will seek information on the reason for migration like employment, education, movement of family or marriage. The migration data will be generally useful in population studies and in particular for urban development planning. The answers to questions on fertility will give the age at marriage pattern, the current fertility level and the like which will be very useful for demographic studies and in the implementation of family welfare measures.

The enumerators will be visiting every household for collecting information. In Tamil Nadu, about a lakh of people have been engaged for this national task who are mostly drawn from the teachers and Government staff. They are doing this job as a part-time arrangement in addition to their normal duties. In fact they are doing this arduous job as a labour of love. It is therefore our duty to show them utmost courtesy and answer the questions truthfully. The questions asked are simple and straightforward. The information furnished by an individual is treated as confidential and cannot be used in any judicial or administrative proceedings. This has been ensured in the Census Act itself. Citizens must therefore give them correct and complete details as accuracy and coverage are the hallmark of a good census. It is hoped that the people of Tamil Nadu who have led many a progressive national movement in the past will live up to their high traditions and make the census enumeration a total success.

V WORLD TAMIL CONFERENCE
MADURAI, 1981

CULTURAL Programmes



DRAMA

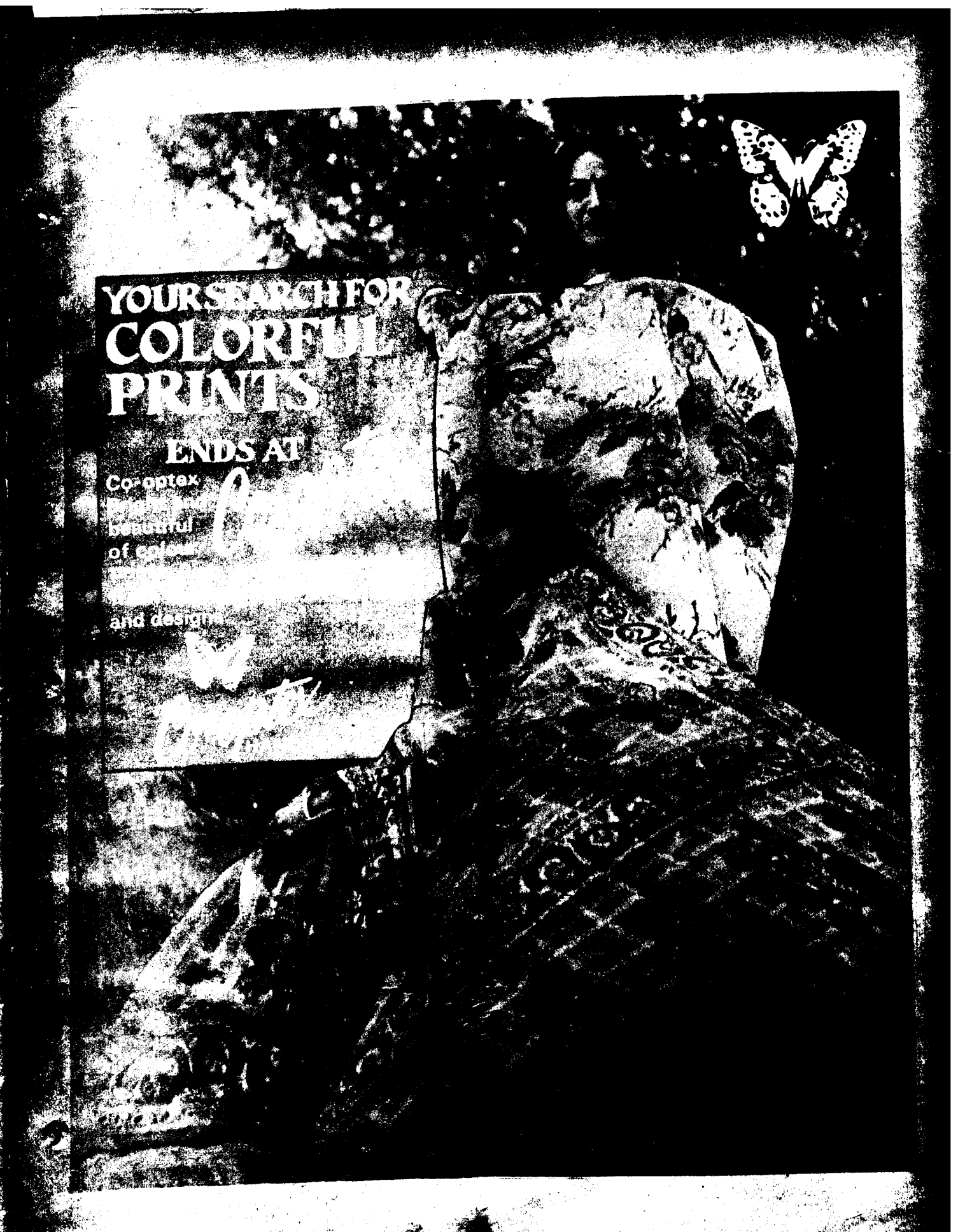


V WORLD TAMIL CONFERENCE
MADURAI, 1981



MUSIC







TIRUVALLUVAR DAY (15-1-'81)



VALLUVAR KOTTAM
MADRAS

Tamil Arasu

APRIL 1981 50 P

(Panguni - Chithrai - R)

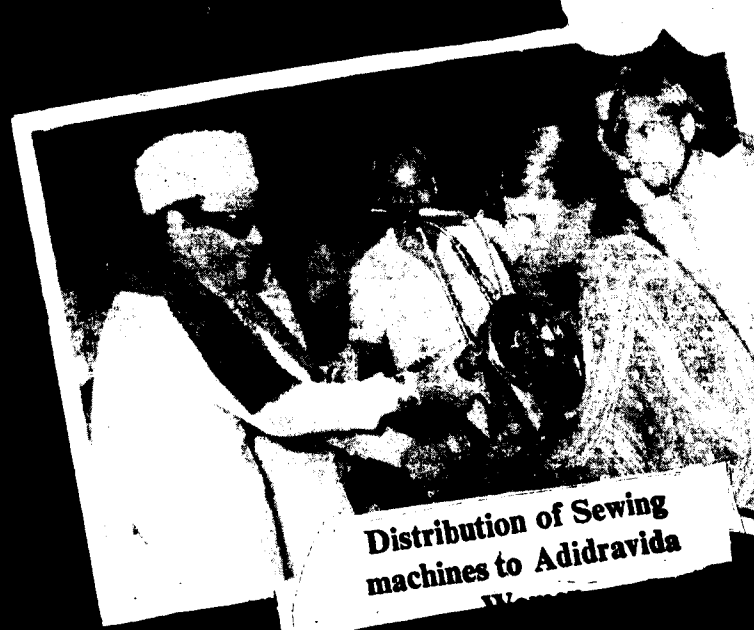
Tiruvalluvar Y

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WELFARE SCHEMES FOR ADIDRAVIDAS



Distribution of Sewing machines to Adidravida



50
50
50
1500

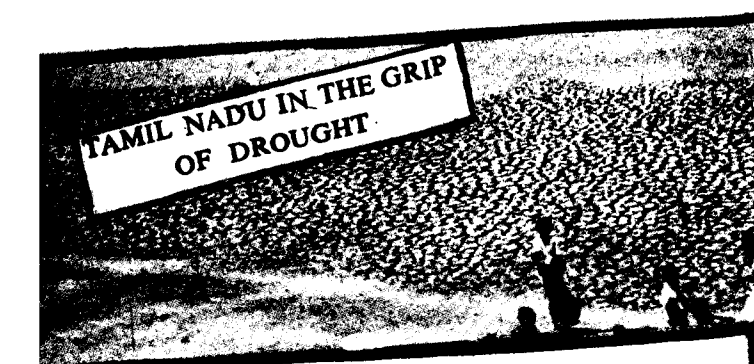
Tamil Arasu

APRIL - 1981

VOL: IX

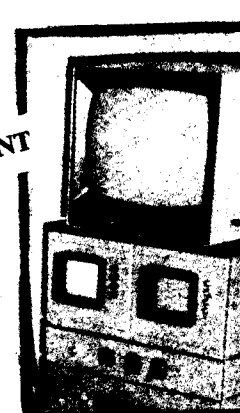
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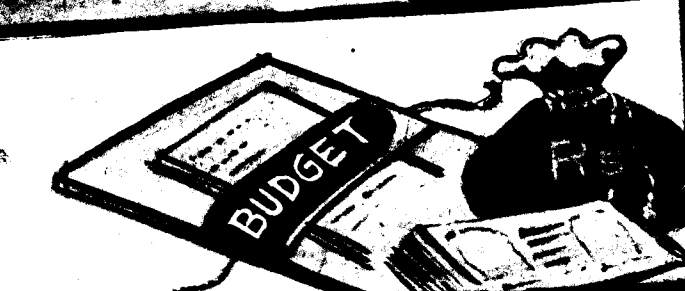


TAMIL NADU IN THE GRIP OF DROUGHT

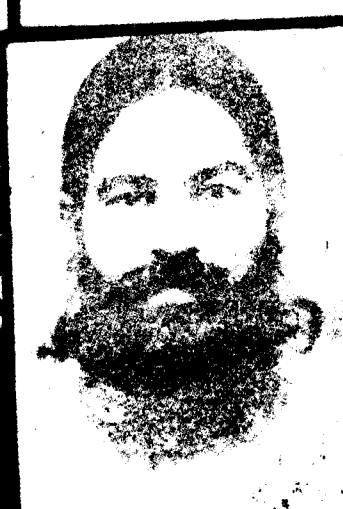
HEART SCAN EQUIPMENT



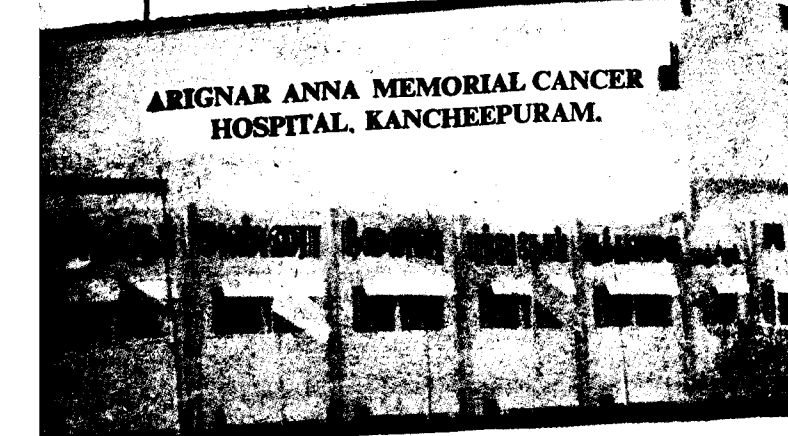
V.V.S. IYER
THE SCHOLAR
CRITIC.



HANDLOOM INDUSTRY IN
TAMIL NADU



BHARATIDASAN
THE BARD
OF REVOLT



ARIGNAR ANNA MEMORIAL CANCER
HOSPITAL, KANCHEEPURAM.



30th All India Police Games and Sports

TAMILNADU IN THE GRIP OF DROUGHT

'Tis rain begets
the food we eat
the precious rain
is drink and meat.'

The great sage Valluvar writes
about the benefits that rain brings
to man. It is seen that without
water mankind, or any living
creature can not survive.

'And every tongue through utter
drought

was withered at the root.....

They passed a weary time :

each throat was parched ".....

The more the people became
thirsty, the more they looked to
Heaven and prayed. But the rain
God has turned a deaf ear. The
spectre of drought is stalking over
Tamilnadu, hailing in its wake
images of luscious green fields being
converted into arid deserts.

The monsoons have failed. Fields
where paddy stalks with ripe corn
should be blowing in the breeze
and ready for harvest, have gone dry
and barren. It is only March.

The summer has yet to display its
fury, but already the fields are with-
out water. There are vast stretches
of sands where once rivers flowed.
There are only sandy ribbons in the
place of streams. Ponds, wells,
water-holes contain very little water.
Often, none at all. In many places
they have gone completely dry.
There is acute scarcity of drinking
water. Agricultural operations
have been thrown into disarray.
People are seen going long distances
with pots on their heads for drinking
water. The farm hands with their
employment opportunities dwindling
have to be provided with work
so that they could feed hungry
mouths at home.

If the people are so affected
the cattle are no better-off.
Most animals in the area no
longer graze in herds. They roam
about from place to place in search
of fodder, which is scarce.
They wander from one water-hole
to another, Acres and acres of
green fields lie parched and deserted
presenting a gloomy picture. Tamil
Nadu is in the grip of a severe
drouht.

Into this picture of grim drought
entered, the Government of Tamil

Nadu with its army of manpower and
resources to mitigate the sufferings
due to the "drought octopus". The
government has drawn a blue-
print to keep the drought at bay.
Programmes have been drawn up to
tackle the situation on all fronts
on a war-footing.

A high level committee has
been set up, financial assistance ex-
tended to the drought-hit areas to
expedite relief measures. A detail-
ed report has been submitted to the
Government of India seeking finan-
cial assistance to gear up the work.
Besides, assistance has been sought
for provision of additional rice,
coarse grain and wheat for distri-
bution in the affected areas and also
for diversion of rigs to be used for
sinking bore wells.

The Chief Minister of Tamil
Nadu, Thiru M. G. Ramachandran
did an extensive tour across a section
of the chronically arid zones and
other drought hit areas and saw for
himself the dried-up irrigation tanks,
the fallow lands, which were once
fertile and green, now lying dry and
cracked up and the starved cattle
wandering in search of scarce fodder.

Based on the reports received
from District Collectors, the Govern-
ment of Tamilnadu has sanctioned
a sum of Rs. 695.05 lakhs for sinking
new bore wells and for augmen-
ting water supply in Municipal
towns and town Panchayats.

In addition to this a sum of
Rs. 50 lakhs has been allotted for
distribution of water through lorries,
carts and head loads. Another Rs.
50 lakhs has been allotted for con-
struction of separate feeder lines for
supply of electricity continuously to
water supply works of municipali-
ties and Town Panchayats wherever
feasible.

The above-mentioned drinking
water supply works are being execut-
ed on a war-footing by the Tamil
Nadu Water Supply and Drainage
Board, the Agricultural Engineering
Department and the Ground water
Department. All the available rigs
with these organisations have been
mobilised and have been put to use.
About 2,000 bores will have to be
put up. Another 4,000-5,000 bores
will have to be put up before the end
of June 1981. A large number of
existing drinking water wells will
have to be deepened and the deepening
work is in progress.

The Government of Tamil Nadu
have requested the Central Govern-
ment to divert about 100 rigs for
meeting this contingency.

The Government is keeping a
close watch on the situation and no
effort would be spread to ensure
relief for the people.

District wise allotment for new
bore wells and deepening of wells.

	Rs. in lakhs.
North Arcot	140.00
Ramanathapuram	89.61
Dharmapuri	48.09
Tirushirapalli	60.00
South Arcot	40.00
Thanjavur	45.31
Pudukottai	77.04
Salem	60.00
Madurai	45.00
Chengalpattu	30.00





Periyar	..	20.00
Coimbatore	..	20.00
Tirunelveli	..	10.00
Kanyakumari	..	10.00

Due to severe drought conditions, there is an acute scarcity of drinking water in the State. Employment opportunities also have dwindled resulting in a number of people being rendered jobless.

Instructions have been issued to expedite the works under the National Rural Employment Schemes and for taking up new works to provide employment to the people. Besides, more rice has been made available for distribution. A sum of Rs. 1 crore has been sanctioned for digging of open wells in the beds of minor/major irrigation tanks of land Revenue.

Exemption from levy of land revenue: There has been widespread crop failure in the affected areas. Taking note of the crop position, the Government has ordered remission of land revenue including local cess, water-tax, special water-tax and cash crop tax in areas where the yield was less than 50 per cent in the districts of

North Arcot, South Arcot, Ramanathapuram, Pudukottai, Dharmapuri, Salem, Madurai and Chengalpattu.

In the case of landowners for whom land revenue had to be waived, for 50% of their land holdings recovery of Government loans and arrears would be postponed to next year.

North Arcot had a rainfall which was 50% below the average and which led to the drying up of 2970 irrigation sources including Kaveripakkam lake. The groundnut and cholam crops in all the districts have withered up. There was only 59% of rainfall in South Arcot district resulting in the drying up of over 2,900 tanks. Ramanathapuram experienced a rainfall which was 30% less than what it had been in the previous year. About 3,500 out of 7,322 tanks have dried up, affecting agricultural operations in the District. In Pudukottai, Dharmapuri, Tiruchirappalli, Madurai, Salem and Periyar districts also similar situation prevails.

The State Government is aware that a massive rural employment programme is necessary to take up works in the affected areas. An additional quantity of 13,050 tons

of rice has been released to the districts for taking up additional employment oriented works in the drought affected areas under the National Rural Employment Scheme. The Government have also sanctioned a sum of Rs. 12.50 crores for taking up labour-oriented works like the formation of roads, repairs and improvements to minor irrigation sources, major irrigation tanks, formation of new tanks, deepening of ooranies, ponds, etc.

CHIEF MINISTER'S TOUR OF DROUGHT - HIT AREAS :

The Chief Minister, Thiru M.G. Ramachandran toured the drought-affected areas in the districts of North Arcot, South Arcot, Dharmapuri, Pudukottai, Salem, Ramanathapuram, Madurai and Chengalpattu.

Beginning his tour in the North Arcot District, the Chief Minister inspected the Kaveripakkam irrigation tank and made detailed enquiries about the ground water potential of the tank.

The Chief Minister asked the engineers to study the possibility of sinking some open wells in the tank bed itself to alleviate the sufferings of the people. He was told that water would be available at a depth



of 30 feet on the tank bed itself. Subsequently orders have been issued for sinking of open wells in tank beds or in the proximity of tanks, so as to supply drinking water in the neighbouring villages.

CHIEF MINISTER'S TOUR OF DROUGHT HIT PUDUKOTTAI

The Chief Minister Thiru M.G. Ramachandran drove 100 km across a section of the chronically arid zones of Pudukottai district. He saw for himself the dried up irriga-

tion tanks, the fallow lands and the starved cattle looking for scarce fodder.

The Agriculture Department estimated the loss of crop at over Rs. 40 crores, paddy to the tune of over Rs. 21 crores, groundnut

Later he visited Kilveeranam village and inspected a tank renovation work at Mangalam Village under the National Rural Employment Programme.

The Chief Minister, Thiru M.G. Ramachandran told newsmen that the State Government in its recent report to the Union Government on the drought situation had sought financial assistance besides additional allotment of rice, coarse grain and wheat for public distribution in the affected areas.

The Self-sufficiently programme has been extended to cover 150 blocks in the State with immediate effect, so as to take up welfare measures on a war-footing, he said.

The Government would provide funds to all departments so that relief works would not be affected due to lack of finance or procedural delays.

Special squads will be formed in the Tamil Nadu Water Supply and Drainage Board for maintaining handpumps and for attending to immediate repairs.

Answering a question, Thiru M. G. Ramachandran said that he was hopeful the Central assistance would come in adequate measures to meet the exigency.





around Rs. 9 crores and other crop at over Rs. 10 crores. Pudukkottai has always been a self-sufficient district in the matter of rice.

The Chief Minister drove from Pudukkottai to Kavinadu Kanmoi, the biggest irrigation tank in the district. During the 1975 drought a sum of over Rs. 12 lakhs was spent to improve the kanmoi.

The Chief Minister then went to Annavasal, Illuppur, Viralimalai, Keeranur and kotlathur where he inspected TWAD Board efforts to provide drinking water.

The Agricultural Engineering Department is busy deepening 247 wells, sinking 64 new wells and drilling 201 in-bores in the hard-rock and sedimentary soil areas in the 9 panchayat unions. These would cost Rs. 17.54 lakhs.

2535 habitations had been identified for solving the drinking water problem.

Two Panchayat unions, Aavudayarkoil and Aranthangi situated on the coastal belt, had problems of salinity and hence only deep bore wells could meet the demands of these two areas. Seven deep bore wells would be dug to benefit 260 habitations.

Regarding crop failures, a remission of Rs. 54 lakhs would be given immediately.

Drought: Tamil Nadu Needs Rs. 75 Crores :

Completing a 350 Km tour of drought hit Ramanathapuram District, The Chief Minister said that Tamil Nadu would require more than Rs. 75 crores to tide over the drought conditions in parts of 11 districts. Justifying the 40 per cent levy on paddy, the Chief Minister said that the Government has a duty to make rice available to the people.

The District Collectors have been entrusted with the responsibility for Co-ordination and for smooth and speedy implementation of the programmes. The required funds are being allotted to the Collectors who in turn distribute it to the implementing agencies. Each of the affected areas has been put in charge of a responsible officer who will look after the progress of implementation of the drought relief programme.

The Government have ordered the constitution of two types of Committees in each district—one a local committee for each of the affected area and two—a district level committee.

The Local Area Committee will consist of Members of the Legislature, Members of the Parliament and representatives of political parties.

These Committees can inspect relief works in progress, ascertain the needs of the people in the affected areas and bring to the notice of the Collector pressing problems for action. They may also make suggestions for remedial measures of a temporary or permanent nature. The officer appointed to be in charge of the relief works in the local areas will be the convenor of the Local Committee. The Collector will preside over the meetings of the District Level Committees. The suggestions and reports made through the Committees will be considered by the Collector for suitable action.

The Government have also constituted a High Level Committee with the Chief Secretary as Chairman and 19 other Secretaries to Government and Heads of Departments as Members to review the implementation of the drought relief programmes, to monitor the progress to give instructions to the implementing agencies and to advise the Government on the policy regarding the drought relief programmes. This Committee will meet once in a fortnight and review the situation.

The Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu himself has presided over a detailed review meeting and has given instructions on the speedy execution of works.



The Revenue Minister of Tamil Nadu has apprised the Union Minister for Agriculture and the Union State Minister of Agriculture of the drought situation in the State.

The Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has brought to the notice of the Prime Minister of India the drought conditions prevailing in the State and has requested for assistance and help in tackling the situation.

The State Government is closely watching the situation and are taking up remedial measures immediately. In the context of failure of crops on a large scale, the State Government has to strengthen the Public distribution system. The State Government has asked for increased allocation of rice and wheat.

ALLOTMENT OF FUNDS

Name of the District	Category of the works and amount allotted				
	Formation of new earthen roads	Repairs improvements to minor irrigation tanks	Desilting of Ooraries including ponds meant for the use of cattle	Formation of percolation ponds	Total of cols. 2 to 6.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
	(Rs. in lakhs)				
1. Chengalpattu	25	5	..	..	30
2. North Arcot	35	20	5	..	60
3. South Arcot	20	15	5	..	40
4. Tiruchirapalli	5	5	..	..	10
5. Thanjavur	3	3	1	..	7
6. Pudukkottai	3	15	5	2	25
7. Salem	18	5	..	..	23
8. Dharmapuri	20	10	10	..	40
9. Madurai	7	8	..	..	15
10. Ramanathapuram	20	20	5	5	50
	156	106	31	7	300



Serial No.	Name of the District	Drinking water Supply Scheme	Labour Intensive Works		Grand Total
			Executed by Panchayat Union.	Executed by Public works Department	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
(RUPEES IN LAKHS)					
1.	Chengalpattu	30.00	30	50	110.00
2.	North Arcot	140.00	60	200	400.00
3.	South Arcot	40.00	40	120	200.00
4.	Pudukottai	77.04	25	90	192.04
5.	Ramanathapuram	89.61	50	200	339.61
6.	Dharmapuri	48.09	40	80	168.09
7.	Salem	60.00	23	80	163.00
8.	Tiruchirapalli	60.00	10	40	110.00
9.	Thanjavur	45.31	7	10	62.31
10.	Madurai	45.00	15	60	120.00
11.	Periar	20.00	..	..	20.00
12.	Coimbatore	20.00	..	..	20.00
13.	Tirunelveli	10.00	..	20	30.00
14.	Kanniyakumari	10.00	..	..	10.00
TOTAL		695.05	300	950	1945.05
To sink open wells in Tank beds To construct separate feeder lines by Tamil Nadu Electricity Board to water supply works.		100.00			100.00
		50.00			50.00
Provision of Drinking Water through lorries & Carts, head loads.		50.00			50.00
		895.05			2145.50



"Diseases' absence, mighty wealth, the largest yields from land,
And joys and protection are five fold jewels
of a kingdom grand"

is the wise saying of the sage Poet Thiruvalluvar. Disease free life, abundant wealth, bounteous agricultural production, an immensely happy life and sound protection are the five embellishments of a State, as visualised by Thiruvalluvar. On behalf of my Government whose functioning is guided by the objectives of retaining these embellishments perennially, I have great pleasure in placing the Revised Estimates for 1980-81 and the Budget Estimates for 1981-82 for the approval of the House.

Before dwelling on the financial position of the State, it is my duty to refer to the situation prevailing in the country. Increase in the prices of essential commodities, inflationary trends and shortage in consumer commodities prevalent at the All-India level have adversely affected Tamil Nadu. In addition to this, the severe drought condition in many parts of the State resulting from the failure of monsoons has brought misery to the people of Tamil Nadu in many ways. The State Government, with its limited rights, powers, opportunities, capacity and financial resources, has to handle this situation to the extent possible. To resolve difficult situations that arise and to give help to the affected persons, the State Government needs substantial additional resources. As the powers and the financial sources are very much restricted in the present federal structure of the Indian Constitution, State Governments have necessarily to look up to the Union Government every now and then for assistance. While speaking on the floor of the Rajya Sabha, Perarignar Anna once said, clearly and unequivocally, as follows :—

"The working of the federal structure all these years has created a sense of frustration in the minds of the States. They feel that the States are fast becoming dole-getting corporations. The States are feeling more and more frustrated that their demand is to make the Union Government think that there should be a review of the Constitution, a reappraisal of the Constitution."

As it is the direct responsibility and duty of the State Government to ensure the welfare of the people, I would like to take this opportunity to emphasise that the Central Government should come forward to give necessary powers to the States. A few days ago, Government of India has announced an increase in the procurement price of wheat from Rs. 117 to Rs. 130 per quintal. The State Government has been pleading with Government of India for a higher fixation of the procurement price for paddy. It is hoped that Government of India will agree to an upward revision of paddy prices as requested by this Government.

I would like to draw the attention of the Honourable Members of this House to the grim situation facing the State on the drought front. This House had the opportunity of discussing this subject

TAMIL NADU BUDGET-1981-82

Thiru V. R. Nedunchezhiyan
Minister for Finance

in very great detail a couple of weeks ago. Since then, the Chief Minister, my Cabinet colleagues and myself have been touring throughout the State, to get to know first-hand, the drought conditions in various districts. Consequent to these visits and other follow-up measures taken by the Government, the administrative machinery has been geared fully to meet this challenge. I would also like to assure the Honourable Members that no effort will be spared to alleviate the sufferings of the people nor will finance be considered as a constraint for taking remedial measures. Digging and deepening of wells through Tamil Nadu Water-Supply and Drainage Board, Agricultural Engineering Department and the Ground Water Directorate have been undertaken on a massive scale. At this juncture, I would recall what happened when Tamil Nadu had a severe spell of drought some years ago. The poor villagers had to sell their cattle and their belongings and had to migrate to other districts in search of water, food and employment. But this time due to timely action taken by the Government, this catastrophe has been averted. Government is also confident that such a situation will not arise in the coming months either, as a well worked out drought relief programme ensuring water, food supplies and employment opportunities will continue to be implemented. Government of India have already been appraised of the seriousness of the situation and the need for sending a Central team for on the spot assessment of the condition. I am confident that the Central Government would render assistance to the State Government to the maximum extent possible. I am sure that in this common cause, all the Honourable Members will extend their fullest co-operation so that the hands of the Government are strengthened in helping the people out of their sufferings. I may also assure the Members that though the drought is severe, it is well under control and everything possible will be done by the Government to ensure that the people are supplied with drinking water, food and other necessities of life.

Food Situation

As a result of the failure of the monsoons, production of foodgrains is likely to show a downward trend. If the monsoons are favourable to us, we expect to touch an aggregate food production of 92.14 lakh tonnes during the next year comprising 65 lakh tonnes of rice, 22.80 lakh tonnes of millets and 4.34 lakh tonnes of pulses.

Consequent to the failure of the monsoon, production of paddy has fallen below normal levels. This has increased the demand for rice in the Public Distribution System. To meet this, Government introduced traders' levy on paddy and rice purchased by the wholesalers throughout the State at the point of first purchase. Sufficient buffer stock will be built up to supplement the availability in the open market. Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation has been permitted to purchase rice from the open market outside the State. Steps have also been taken to procure and bring paddy or rice from surplus States

like Andhra Pradesh. State Government has also made a request to the Central Government to make a larger allocation from the Central pool and to move this quickly into the State. It has been suggested that as against 3,000 tonnes of wheat per month, 10,000 tonnes of wheat may be allocated.

State Plan

Now turning to the Plan projects, as the Honourable Members are aware, the State's Sixth Five-Year Plan has been fixed at Rs. 3,150 crores. While the allocation for the current year is Rs. 411 crores, the Union Planning Commission has approved a Plan Outlay of Rs. 514 crores during the next financial year. But, it is the view of the Government that the scope of developmental activities needs to be extended so that many more schemes can be taken up for implementation. Consequently, a Plan for Rs. 563.26 crores has been drawn up for implementation during the next financial year. This necessarily would mean that the State Government's efforts in mobilising resources to fulfil this ambitious programme with a higher outlay, would require further intensification. I will advert to this in greater detail a little later.

Agriculture

The Government is of the view that agricultural extension work in the rural areas requires special attention. To achieve this, a new project to reorganise and strengthen the agricultural extension work has been formulated and negotiations are being conducted with the World Bank officials to implement this scheme shortly. This scheme will provide agriculturists up-to-date advice on farm practices, best suited to the local conditions. It is expected that this will be introduced throughout the State over a period of about two years.

8. This Government is implementing a scheme for increasing the production of coconuts from the existing level of 103 crore nuts to 153 crore nuts per year, over a period of five years. The activities in the nurseries for producing quality coconut seedlings are also being increased considerably to achieve this objective. The Government is also considering a proposal for encouraging palm cultivation to increase the indigenous production of Palmolein oil. This will be done in certain selected districts where climatic conditions are most suitable for the growth of this special variety of palm trees. This scheme along with other schemes for increasing the production of edible oils, will help the State to tide over the shortage of edible oil after a few years. The Government also proposes to increase the production of groundnut in the districts of Chengalpattu, North Arcot and South Arcot over a period of ten years. With this goal in mind, the Oil Seeds Growers' Federation has been established, which, through its member co-operative societies, will assist the farmers to increase the productivity and get a better price for their produce.

The Small Farmers' Development Agency (SFDA) programme has been merged with the Integrated Rural Development Programme with effect from October 1980. During the next year, this programme will be implemented in all the blocks at a cost of Rs. 20.64 crores which will be shared equally by Central and State Governments.

Co-operation

The Co-operative movement has taken deep roots in Tamil Nadu. The help being given by Government to this sector is very well-known. A number of schemes will be undertaken during next financial year to add strength to

the growth of the Co-operative movement. It is proposed to cover one lakh families of agriculturists belonging to Scheduled Castes by enrolling one person from each family to the membership of Agricultural Service Co-operative Societies so as to enable them to avail themselves of the credit and other services rendered by the societies and for improving their income. In 1981-82, the number of members to be admitted would be 40,000. It is also proposed to give a subsidy of Rs. 100 to each of these persons admitted as a member, towards the share capital to be paid by him to the society for raising cultivation loans and/or medium term loans for dairying, poultry-keeping, sheep breeding, etc.

Yet another proposal to be introduced during 1981-82, is to organise motorised cycle rickshaw drivers' societies, in important centres in the State and to provide financial assistance to 1,000 members for the purchase of 1,000 motorised cycle rickshaws. The assistance from the State Government will be in the form of subsidy of Rs. 1,125 towards 25 per cent of the cost of each motorised cycle rickshaws. The balance of the cost will be met through loans.

Animal Husbandry

In the year 1981-82, Intensive Cattle Development Project will be commenced in the two districts, Chengalpattu and South Arcot at an estimated cost of Rs. 29.60 lakhs. In each project, one lakh heads of cattle will be covered to improve their quality and increase the milk yield. Government has been running nine livestock farms where vast extent of area can be put to profitable use with development of irrigation facilities. In the next financial year, Government proposes to strengthen 4 livestock farms by creating additional water sources, purchasing agriculture implements, etc., at a cost of Rs. 19.08 lakhs. Opening of 20 new veterinary dispensaries, upgradation of 4 dispensaries into hospitals and upgradation of 3 hospitals into clinical centres will be taken up next year. A new poultry disease diagnostic laboratory will be set up at Erode in Periyar district where a lot of interest is shown in poultry development. Rinderpest tissue culture vaccine production section of Institute of Veterinary Preventive Medicine at Ranipet will be strengthened to produce adequate quantity of tissue culture rinderpest vaccine to eradicate this dreadful disease. Government has drawn up a scheme at a cost of Rs. 31.53 crores for development of poultry in Tamil Nadu. This scheme has been sent to Government of India for getting assistance from World Bank.

Irrigation

During the Sixth Plan, Rs. 150 crores have been earmarked for major and medium irrigation projects and Rs. 18 crores for minor irrigation projects. The outlay proposed for the next year under irrigation is Rs. 26.62 crores. An additional potential to benefit 20,500 acres of land will be created which is expected to yield food production of 20,500 tonnes of irrigated dry crops.

In view of the marginal availability of untapped surface flows, the programme of modernisation of existing irrigation systems which aims at economy in water use and extension of irrigation from the water thus saved, has been given priority in the Sixth Plan. Fifty-five per cent of the total outlay on irrigation is earmarked for modernisation schemes. One of the major modernisation projects which is under implementation is the Periyar-Vaigai Modernisation Scheme. The reduction of water losses in



this project under the existing conveyance system will be used to increase the irrigated area by about 25,455 acres.

Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare

A programme has been started for improving the inland fish production. The first phase will have a target of 100 million fingerlings per year which will be completed by 1983-84. Two more phases will be taken up subsequently which will step up the production to 300 million fingerlings per year. Further, reservoirs and irrigation tanks would be stocked with quality fish seeds. A training programme for the rural youth in Prawn Farming has also been taken up. These centres will train about 1,000 youths in a year. Simultaneously, the activities in the deep sea fishing will also be accelerated. During 1981-82, four sophisticated deep sea fishing trawlers will be acquired and deployed to exploit fish resources available in the Wadge Bank, Pedro Bank, Gulf of Mannar and Palk Bay areas. In addition, the Tamil Nadu Fisheries Development Corporation will acquire five 45 feet purse-seiner vessels to exploit pelagic resources in the south-west and south-east coasts. The Corporation will also expand and intensify the marketing activities by opening more retail outlets in Madras City and in other important cities like Coimbatore, Madurai and Tiruchirappalli.

The landing facilities and fishing harbours will also be improved during the next financial year. A major fishing harbour at Madras is under construction. Yet another fishing harbour at Chinnamuttom and a minor landing jetty at Valinokkam will be taken up during the next year. Investigations have been completed for developing similar facilities at Pazhayar in Thanjavur district. It is proposed to provide such facilities in Thondi village also and investigations have been taken up. In collaboration with F.A.O. Government has been taking various steps to improve the earnings of fishermen. Trials with small fishing boats, improved indigenous crafts and surf boats, are being conducted to assess the most suitable and efficient small fishing crafts to increase the marine fish landings of small fishermen. Experiments are also being conducted at Mandapam and Tuticorin to assess the efficiency of the pair trawling methods.

Forest

It is very well-known that failure of monsoons generally results from the extensive deforestation activities. While it is necessary to cut down trees for domestic and industrial uses, it is equally necessary that forest

growth is kept up at a fast rate. Government has been giving special importance to social forestry. Talks are under way with SIDA (Swedish International Development Agency) for drawing up a special scheme costing Rs. 45 crores under Social Forestry, during the Sixth Five-Year Plan period.

Power

The State Government has given the topmost priority for development of power in the State. In the Sixth Plan, the outlay will go up to about Rs. 1,023 crores in an overall outlay of Rs. 3,150 crores. The installed capacity of Tamil Nadu grid, which was 2,719 megawatts at the beginning of the present Plan period will be increased to 4,769 megawatts by the end of the Plan. The second unit of the Tuticorin thermal project was commissioned in the month of January this year. With the commissioning of the third unit of the Tuticorin thermal project and the 235 MW unit of Kalpakkam Atomic Power Project, the generating capacity will be increased to 3,374 MW during 1981-82. Works have been commissioned for setting up of the Mettur Thermal Project and Lower Mettur-Hydro-electric Project from which Tamil Nadu grid will draw benefits in the last two years of this Plan period. A project report for replacement of the existing units of the Basin Bridge Power House by a 110 MW unit, is now before the Government of India. A 630 MW capacity thermal station in North Madras is being proposed. Till February 1981, 29,742 agricultural pumpsets were energised, as against a target of 30,000 pumpsets for the year. With the energisation of 916,969 pumpsets, Tamil Nadu has the distinction of being first among all the States in this field. These efforts will be continued and 30,000 more pumpsets will be energised during 1981-82. During the very short period of 1½ years after the commencement of the scheme of electrifying the huts, 2.7 lakhs huts have been given power supply so far.

The low storage position in the reservoirs resulting from the failure of monsoons has forced the Government to impose a cut in supply of electricity. But with the production of power picking up at Ennore and Tuticorin and supplies coming from Kerala and Neyveli, it is hoped that the position will improve.

During the last three years the cost of coal has increased from Rs. 82 to Rs. 114 per tonne. Similarly the ocean freight as well as railway freight rates have also gone up considerably. In addition increase in the cost of power purchased from Kerala has added on to the cost. Apart from this, power is purchased from the Neyveli project at a fairly high rate. The revenue presently earned by the Electricity Board does not cover the running expenditure fully. Even for covering the maintenance cost, principal and interest liabilities to the Institutions, Government has to give assistance. After taking into account Rs. 100 crores as assistance from Government, there will still be a gap of Rs. 89.31 crores in a Plan of Rs. 169.59 Crores. Planning Commission has stressed the need for a tariff revision, which, according to them, is absolutely essential to improve the performance of Electricity Board. Planning Commission has also mentioned that the rates charged by Tamil Nadu Electricity Board is one of the lowest in the country and it has pointed out that it is inadvisable to continue this low rate of tariff.

Industrial Development

In the field of industrialisation, Tamil Nadu has done quite well. Suggestions have been received from various quarters that further incentives must be given for

encouraging the setting up of new industries in the State. Government is examining all these suggestions and a decision will be taken soon. In the meantime, the public sector industrial corporations are forging ahead with their own schemes. An application has been made for a letter of intent for setting up the third cement plant in the public sector in Madurai district. This project, costing about Rs. 32 crores will generate employment for about 1,000 persons. TIDCO is also pursuing the Explosives Project to be set up in North Arcot district with Swedish collaboration at an estimated cost of about Rs. 20 crores. The spinning mills in the co-operative sector have done creditably well during this year. Certain mills have generated sufficient surplus funds to take up expansion of their installed capacity. The mills in North Arcot and Salem will increase their spindlage from 12,000 to 25,000 and the mill at Pettai is intending to establish another unit at Ettayapuram with an installed capacity of 12,000 spindles. In addition, 3 more spinning mills will be set up in the co-operative sector by the Government to cater to the increased demands of the weavers. A provision of Rs. 1.7 crores has been made in the budget for starting a sugar factory in 1981-82 with a crushing capacity of 1,250 tonnes per day.

Tamil Nadu Minerals Limited, a public sector undertaking has done commendably well by achieving a very high turn over. This Corporation has done particularly well in promoting exports and 90 per cent of its income is by way of foreign exchange. Its profits are likely to wipe out all the accumulated losses incurred so far.

Tamil Nadu Magnesites Limited, another public sector company has earned profit in the very first year of its operation. A beneficiation-cum-refractory plant at a cost of Rs. 3 crores will be set up to further improve the performance of this Corporation.

Small Industries

Government is also attaching great importance to the development of small scale industries and through the Tamil Nadu Industrial Investment Corporation, small scale units are getting better financial facilities. During the current year, this Corporation is expected to double its operations with the sanctions going up to Rs. 32 crores. During next year, it has programmed to expand its financing operations to Rs. 45 crores. Government is also promoting the growth of small scale industries through another of its Corporation, viz., Tamil Nadu Small Industries Development Corporation. Assistance is given to small scale industries by this corporation among other things for construction of work-sheds and Tiny-sheds. It procures iron and steel, paraffin wax, coal and coke for distribution among the small scale units. During the current year, the turn over of this corporation will increase from Rs. 12 crores to Rs. 17 crores, while during the next year it will be stepped up to Rs. 25 crores. This Corporation is also concentrating on reviving sick units by providing margin money assistance.

Handloom

The continuing interest of the Government in the welfare of the handloom weavers is very well-known. Recently when there was an increase in the price of yarn, Government arranged supply of yarn of counts 20s to 40s at reasonable prices. At Government instance, the South India Mill Owners' Association has agreed to make available 5,000 bales of hank yarn at reduced rates in coarse counts of 40s for distribution to handloom

weavers. The Government intends to introduce the "Tamil Nadu Handloom Workers' Conditions of Employment and Miscellaneous Provision Bill" shortly to regulate the working conditions of the weavers.

The Government has also been taking steps for increasing the marketing of handloom cloths of Co-optex. The turnover of Co-optex will cross Rs. 45 crores in the current year and will further be increased to Rs. 50 crores in 1981-82. The Government will invest next year Rs. 100 lakhs in the share capital of Co-optex with assistance from Government of India.

Village Industries

Employment in the rural sector is given an impetus by the Government through the Khadi and Village Industries Board. The Board is expecting to create additional employment opportunities for 33,000 persons during the next financial year. The Board will be expanding its Chrome Tanned Upper Leather Units in Periyar district at a cost of Rs. 21.12 lakhs. State Government will continue to provide adequate assistance to the Board to finance its activities. By lending Rs. 27 crores through T.I.C., by procuring raw materials of the value Rs. 25 crores through SIDCO, by increasing the turnover of the village Industries of the Khadi and Village Industries Board to Rs. 45 crores and by allocating a plan provision of Rs. 13.19 crores, Government will be further promoting the development of the small scale and village industries in the next financial year.

Roads

Formation and improvement of roads benefiting villages of population of 1,500 have been attended to by Government in a phased manner. This scheme consisting of 5 phases will cover 2,789 villages at an outlay of Rs. 28.25 crores forming 4,819 km of road network. In the current year, this programme will be implemented in self-sufficiency blocks for which purpose Rs. 6 crores have been allocated. This has been enhanced to Rs. 7 crores for the next year. The total outlay is of the order of Rs. 40 crores for the Sixth Plan period. In addition to this, the programme of Government to take over panchayat roads on which buses ply will be continued with a provision of Rs. 10 crores this financial year. During the next financial year the provision will be stepped up to Rs. 13 crores.

Sethu Samudram Project

Members may kindly recall that this Government had been pressing the Union Government for taking up the Sethu Samudram Project. I am happy to inform the Members that Government of India has since constituted a High Power Committee to have a fresh study of this Scheme.

Transport Corporation

Transport Corporations have put on roads during the course of the financial year about 1,376 buses till February 1981. New routes to connect 310 villages benefitting the population of about ten lakhs have been introduced. The steep increases in the price of petroleum products and steel have adversely affected the financial position of the Transport Corporations. These Corporations which earned a pre-tax profit of Rs. 6.67 crores in 1979-80 are likely to end up with a huge loss of about Rs. 16 crores in 1980-81, which is bound to adversely affect the capital programmes of these Corporations. In view of the increased cost of fuel, there will be a gap of Rs. 14.46 crores in a Plan of Rs. 17.50 crores. In order

to bridge this gap and to continue to give to the public an efficient and economic service, the revision of bus fare is inevitable. This has already been mentioned in the Governor's address. Necessary steps have been initiated by the Government for revising the fare. The neighbouring States have already revised the rates which are higher than the rates prevailing in Tamil Nadu. The two successive price hikes in petroleum products and huge increase in cost of all items involved in Transport operation has left us no other option except to raise the fare to an economical level.

Tourism

Tourism is gaining prominence day by day. It is one of the most important industries earning valuable foreign exchange for the country. Tamil Nadu Tourism Development Corporation is working hard to make the State attractive for tourists. Besides developing places of international tourist attraction like Mamallapuram, Rameswaram and Kanyakumari, the Government is also giving attention to develop new places like Pichavaram, Hogenakkal, etc., which have a lot of tourism potential. A Master Plan for the development of Rameswaram involving a total outlay of Rs. 28 crores has been drawn up and forwarded to the Government of India for seeking assistance from the I.D.A. A scheme for setting up an open air museum at Mamallapuram which will depict among other things, the evolution of sculpture and temple architecture, has been sanctioned. Youth hostels for promoting youth tourism are under construction in about 8 places of tourist importance. As a further boost to the development of tourism, Tamil Nadu Tourism Development Corporation is continuing to put up tourists' hotels in important places. A 3 star hotel was recently commissioned at Madurai and another major project is nearing completion at Coimbatore. Recently, T.T.D.C. appointed overseas selling agents in Malaysia and Singapore for their coach tours. Tamil Nadu is the first State to have this distinction at the All-India level.

Education

In the year 1981-82, total outlay on Education has been stepped up from Rs. 238.88 crores in the current financial year to Rs. 255.35 crores. The Plan Outlay for Education in 1981-82 is Rs. 23.58 crores compared to the outlay of Rs. 18.71 crores in the Revised Estimates, 1980-81. In the year 1981-82, 1,650 teachers will be appointed consisting of 1,000 teachers at elementary school level and 200 B.T. grade teachers at high school level to cover the additional enrolment of students. In the Middle Schools 200 B.T. Grade Headmasters and 250 Physical Education Teachers will be appointed, while 250 posts of part-time craft instructors will be converted into full-time posts. 500 Tamil Pandits will also be appointed in the Middle Schools. A new scheme for employment of Tamil Pandits by big temples is being drawn up. The Central Kitchen Scheme will be extended to Dharmapuri district at an estimated cost of Rs. 49.70 lakhs with CARE assistance. In the coming financial year, Science Laboratories for 50 High Schools will be equipped with science equipments and 5 Mobile Science Laboratories will be introduced in 5 Educational districts at an estimated cost of Rs. 50.17 lakhs. School buildings for Aided Corporations, Municipal and Government High Schools will be put up incurring an expenditure of Rs. 50 lakhs. Additional school buildings in 86 Higher Secondary Schools will be put up at an

estimated cost of Rs. 2 crores. Industrial Training Institutes will be set up at Cuddalore and Arakkonam in 1981-82. Members may be aware, the Panchayat Union Teachers will become Government teachers from 1st June 1981.

Non-formal education in the Self-sufficiency Blocks will be commenced in 240 centres to cover those in the age-group 6-14. 100 Post-literacy Centres for neo-literates will be opened in the Self-sufficiency Blocks. Provision of Rs. 160 lakhs has been made in Budget Estimates, 1981-82 for Adult Education.

Provision of Rs. 10 lakhs for new Bachelor Degree Courses and Rs. 5 lakhs for new Post-Graduate Courses in colleges have been made in the Budget. Government will also commence certain new Post-Graduate Courses in Science in the Evening Colleges. Additional class rooms and hostels will be constructed at an estimated cost of Rs. 18.50 lakhs. In the Governor's address, it was mentioned that two Universities—a Tamil University and a University at Karaikudi—would be established during the current financial year. Government has since decided to start the Tamil University at Thanjavur and is endeavouring to inaugurate it on Arignar Anna's Birthday on 15th September 1981. Regarding the establishment of the University at Karaikudi, it is under correspondence with the University Grants Commission. The Work Tamil Sangam will be set up at a cost of Rs. 1 crore.

Government has been bestowing special attention to Technical Education. The Plan provision of Rs. 15 lakhs for the year 1980-81 has been increased to Rs. 21 lakhs in 1981-82. A Central Service Centre with a Computer will be set up in the Government College of Technology, Coimbatore at an estimated cost of Rs. 50 lakhs. In the Alagappa Chettiar College of Engineering and Technology at Karaikudi, a Control System Laboratory will be put up incurring an expenditure of Rs. 22.38 lakhs. For construction of hostels in five Technical Educational Institutions, Rs. 7 lakhs have been provided in the Budget. For the new Courses, a provision of Rs. 15 lakhs has been made.

Sports and Youth Welfare

Government is keen to develop Sports in Tamil Nadu. A new Department set up for this purpose has been taking up various steps to spot and develop talents and even from the young age. In 1981-82, construction of an open air stadium in Pudukottai and Periyar districts will be started and in two district headquarters, swimming pools will be constructed. In 150 Panchayats, rural sports centres will be set up. To select talented sportsmen even in the young age, the programme "Catch them Young" will be continued and expanded in the coming year. Government intends putting up an indoor stadium in Madras in the next financial Year.

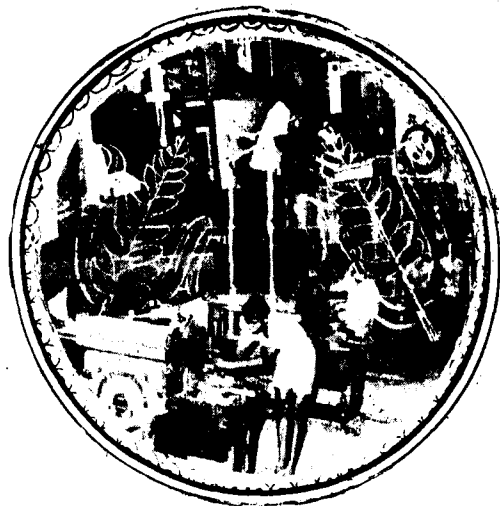
Health

Government attaches a lot of importance to the concept of providing health facilities in the rural areas. It has been proposed to open 20 new primary health centres during next year. Further, 15 existing centres will be upgraded at a cost of Rs. 82 lakhs for providing facilities of a hospital. The annual allocation for drugs for the existing mobile team will be increased from Rs. 15,000 to Rs. 20,000. The scheme for medical check-up of school children in the age-group of 6 and 11 will be extended to 50 primary health centres and 25 municipalities as against 20 primary health centres

during the current year. The scheme for immunisation of children with triple vaccine, will be extended to 50 more primary health centres. By these measures, 8.5 lakh school children will be additionally covered in the year 1981-82. At the same time, Government has not been ignoring the needs of the urban areas. In this International Year of the Disabled persons, Government has proposed to set up a Peripheral Limb Fitting and Rehabilitation Centre at Government Rajaji Hospital, Madurai and a new building for this purpose will be constructed at a cost of Rs. 24.5 lakhs. A Renal Transplantation Unit in Government General Hospital, Madras and a Virology Unit at Madurai Medical College will also be taken up during the next year. A separate Paediatric Block will be put up at Stanley Hospital to benefit children in the Northern part of the City. A new Peripheral hospital at Perambur at a cost of Rs. 1,70.91 lakhs will be constructed. During next year the bed strength in the teaching hospitals will be increased to 15,050. In the district headquarters hospitals, 507 beds will be added to the existing strength of 4,631 beds. During the next financial year, the accident emergencies relief scheme will be extended to 4 districts at an ultimate cost of Rs. 181.38 lakhs. All the district headquarters hospitals will be provided with the stand-by-generators and for this purpose, Rs. 13 lakhs have been set apart in the next financial year.

A comprehensive and an all embracing health care programme which would include strengthening of infra-structural facilities in the rural hospitals with special emphasis on the strengthening of maternity and child health, family welfare and preventive services will be taken up for implementation in 1981-82, with aid from the Danish International Development Agency. This project will be implemented in Salem and South Arcot districts over a period of 5 years at an estimated cost of Rs. 14 crores. The aim of this project is to improve the health status of the population in the project area and to cater to the needs of the weaker sections of the society. A provision of Rs. 2.4 crores has been made for this project in the year 1981-82. The provision for Indian Medicine which was Rs. 41.25 lakhs in the year 1975-76 has been stepped up to Rs. 102.37 lakhs during 1980-81. This Government is taking keen interest in the development of Indian Medicine. Keeping this in view, Government has decided to open Siddha wings in 200 primary health centres next year at a cost of Rs. 62 lakhs. In the district headquarters hospitals at Ramanathapuram, Dharmapuri and Chidambaram, 15 bed wards will be started for children while 24 beds will be opened in the Arignar Anna Hospital for Indian Medicine at Madras. Separate buildings for the Siddha wing will be constructed at a cost of Rs. 5 lakhs in the headquarters hospitals at Dindigul and Vellore. For implementing all these schemes, the provision under Indian Medicine will be increased to Rs. 1,71.47 lakhs in 1981-82.

In the course of this year, the General Hospital at Madras has had the distinction of putting into operation CAT Scanner and Echo Cardiogram, two very expensive and sophisticated medical gadgets. This has proved a boon to numerous patients suffering from cardiac and brain ailments. Government is also considering a proposal to expand the medical facilities in General Hospital, Madras by taking over the present Jail premises which will be shifted to another location outside the city.



Family Welfare

The Family Welfare Programme is being implemented vigorously in the State. As against the sterilisation target of 182,000 for the current financial year, the achievement up to end of January 1981 is 101,253. Allocation of additional 10 beds have been permitted in district headquarters hospitals for post-partum purposes. The construction of 20 bedded post-partum wards in 14 district headquarters hospitals at an estimated cost of Rs. 28.60 lakhs, is in progress. To ensure quality and to obviate the irregularities and other defects pointed out by the Evaluation Teams, the State Government has dispensed with the Intensive Family Welfare Campaign during the current year. It is now being implemented on a steady and continuous basis throughout the year.

Rural Development

The Food for Work Programme and the National Rural Employment Programme, which has replaced the Food for Work Programme, has provided considerable employment opportunities to unskilled rural workers and has also created durable community assets. During the current year, a cash grant of Rs. 7,68.5 lakhs in addition to 60,000 tonnes of rice have been allotted by Government of India under these programmes. From 1st April 1980, till end of February 1981, about Rs. 8.36 crores worth of works have been completed. Till end of February, about 3 lakh persons were provided with employment under the Employment Guarantee Scheme.

Self-Sufficiency Scheme

The self-sufficiency scheme which is one of the most important programmes being implemented in the rural areas, is now in progress in 69 blocks. As the Honourable Members are aware, the following essential works are undertaken in the scheme:

- (i) Drinking water-supply;
- (ii) Link roads;
- (iii) Culverts;
- (iv) Pathways to Harijan habitations and burial grounds;
- (v) Improvements to minor irrigation sources;
- (vi) Rural dispensaries;
- (vii) Maternity and child welfare centres;
- (viii) School buildings;
- (ix) Houses for Harijans (Rural Housing Scheme).

The results under the self-sufficiency scheme have been commendable. Works on about 6796 kilometers of link roads 976 kilometers of pathways to Harijan colonies and burial grounds, about 942 school buildings, about 84

rural dispensaries and about 237 maternity and child welfare centres are expected to be completed would be nearing completion by the end of this financial year. Taking note of the success of the scheme, Government will be taking up works in 150 new blocks during the year 1981-82.

Rural Water Supply

The programme of providing rural water-supply to all category I and II villages will be very nearly completed. The provision for 1981-82 under this programme has been stepped up to Rs. 24.5 crores to cover the habitation in the blocks under the self-sufficiency scheme besides others.

Rural Housing

The rural housing scheme started by this Government in 1979 has been a great success. As against the original target of 1 lakh houses in five years, Government has proposed to assist construction of 2 lakh houses in five years. During the eight months between July 1980 and February 1981, 73,756 loan applications for Rs. 22.68 crores have been sanctioned. In that period, 19,952 houses were completed of which 15,009 were accounted for by Adi-Dravidars. In 1981-82, assistance will be given for construction of 40,000 houses.

Slum Clearance Board

The work of the Slum Clearance Board is progressing well. Till 1980, 27,783 tenements at a cost of about Rs. 29 crores have been constructed. During the current year, about 3,200 tenements are expected to be completed at a cost of Rs. 3.24 crores. During the next financial year, 3,500 more tenements will be put up at a cost of Rs. 3.42 crores. Assistance to Slum Clearance Board for this scheme has been stepped up from Rs. 150 lakhs in 1980-81 to Rs. 250 lakhs in 1981-82.

Welfare of the Disabled

In this International year of disabled persons, Government will be launching many new schemes for the benefit of the disabled. Government proposes to set up three Regional Centres for giving special training to the disabled and for securing them suitable placements. In addition, two schools for the blind, two schools for the deaf and one centre for severely orthopaedically handicapped will be started next year. The allowance given to unemployed graduates will be extended to physically handicapped with a few relaxation of the conditions. Government will also provide subsidy for small units to be set up by physically handicapped persons to enable them launch self-employment ventures. Two new sub-centres for artificial limbs and peripheral limb fitting and rehabilitation centre at Madurai will be commenced in the coming year. A proper identification and enumeration of the physically disabled persons is essential for drawing up suitable schemes. Government will take up census of the physically disabled persons. Apart from the continuing schemes, an additional provision of Rs. 59 lakhs has been set apart for the programmes of the welfare of the physically disabled in the year 1981-82. The free bus pass scheme for the handicapped children, will be extended throughout Tamil Nadu.

Welfare of Women and Children

Government has been implementing various schemes for the benefit of poor women to improve their standard of living. In 1981-82, a new scheme to give vocational

training in Book-Keeping and Accountancy for 1,00 poor women will be taken up for implementation. Financial assistance to children of widows studying in higher secondary schools will be given. The question of supplying "thalis" at subsidised cost has been engaging the attention of the Government. In 1981-82 a beginning will be made for giving "thalis" at subsidised cost for the marriage of the daughters of poor widows. A provision of Rs. 10 lakhs has been made for this purpose.

In 1981-82, 100 new child welfare centres will be opened and for 20 Balwadi buildings will be constructed. It is also proposed to open 100 new creches in the Integrate Child Development Service Programme area in Madurai. 50 creches each will be started in Coimbatore and Madurai to look after the children of women workers. The World Bank Nutrition Project will be extended in 1981-82 to 33 blocks in the district of Madurai. A provision of Rs. 8.54 crores has been made for this project in the Budget. Construction of Health sub-centres selection and training of nutrition workers and health workers, and supplying of nutrition supplement will be taken up next year.

Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

15 hostels for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes students will be opened in the coming year. The food charges in hostels for high school students will be raised by Rs. 15 and the residential scholarship in subsidised hostels will be raised by Rs. 10 for both scheduled castes and scheduled tribes and backward classes. Additional expenditure of Rs. 1 crore will be incurred for this purpose. A provision of Rs. 245 lakhs has been made for construction of hostels for boys and girls of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes in the year 1981-82. In the year 1981-82 Government proposes to take up on a pilot basis a new scheme for giving special coaching to students of scheduled caste and scheduled tribes at high school level. This scheme will be launched to cover students in 500 high schools. The special component plan for scheduled caste is being implemented in all the blocks to increase the per capita income of 1.8 lakh families annually to enable them cross the poverty line as determined by the Union Planning Commission. A provision of Rs. 1 crore has been made for share capital investment in the Harijan Housing and Development Corporation for taking up economic development activities for the benefits of scheduled castes. To help the hill tribes, a separate programme to start small scale industries will drawn up.

Welfare of Backward Classes

In the year 1980-81, Government sanctioned opening of 34 hostels for the students of Backward Classes. In 1981-82, 40 new hostels will be opened at an estimated cost of Rs. 13.16 lakhs. Buildings for three hostels will be taken up for construction. Government will be launching a new scheme in 1981-82 for acquisition of land for house sites to Narikuravars, Oddars, Barbers and Washermen. A provision of Rs. 15 lakhs has been made for this purpose in this Budget. The budget provision for welfare of Backward Classes has been increased from Rs. 756 lakhs in the Revised Estimates to Rs. 799 lakhs in the Budget Estimates 1981-82.

Cyclone Shelters

Tamil Nadu coast is hit by cyclones quite frequently. Hence the Government has ordered the construction of 82 cyclone relief centres along the coast-line for providing several shelters to inhabitants of cyclone prone area.

constructed with financial assistance from Tamil Nadu branch Indian Red Cross Society on 50 : 50 cost sharing basis. The Canadian International Agency is assisting in the construction of 2 shelters through UNICEF, on the same partial sharing basis as mentioned above. The European Economic Community has offered one crore of rupees for the construction of 50 cyclone relief centres. The progress in the construction of these shelters has been very good.

Revenue Administration

Government has been taking up in a phased manner construction of Office-cum-Residence for the firka Revenue Inspectors. In 1981-82 construction of 200 additional buildings at a cost of Rs. 50 lakhs will be taken up. Construction work of village chavadies at a cost of Rs. 10 lakhs will also be commenced. Office buildings for two Revenue Divisional offices and three taluk offices at an estimated cost of Rs. 27.50 lakhs will be built in the coming year. Government has sanctioned construction of new office building for the Collectorate and other offices in the newly created Periyar district at Erode. A provision of Rs. 1.26 lakhs has been made in the Budget for 1981-82 for taking up this work. Since the census work was taken up, upgradation of sub-taluks was kept in abeyance in 1980-81. In the next year, six Independent sub-taluks and 10 dependant sub-taluks will be upgraded into full-fledged taluks at an estimated cost of Rs. 32.32 lakhs.

Police

The Police personnel in the State are discharging their duties efficiently and impartially. Government on its part is formulating various welfare measures to help the police personnel who work under very difficult conditions. The distribution of subsidised food articles costing roughly Rs. 4 crores a year has proved to be a very beneficial measure to the families of policemen.

In order to boost the morale and instil courage and confidence in the minds of the police, a special ex-gratia payment of Rs. 10,000 is given to those killed in action under heroic circumstances, besides the lumpsum grant of Rs. 10,000 paid under the Tamil Nadu Government servants' Family Benefit Scheme. Similarly ex-gratia payment ranging from Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 3,000 is also paid to those who sustain injuries. Those who are permanently incapacitated from the injuries sustained in action under heroic circumstances, are also given ex-gratia payment of Rs. 5,000. Under special circumstances, extra amount is also given as in the case of some police officers who were killed in August 1980 near Tirupathur taluk Police Station when an additional ex-gratia payment of Rs. 30,000 was made to each of the families, bringing the total financial relief in each case to Rs. 50,000.

During the current year, 16 new police stations, 8 new police outposts and one new circle headquarters have been ordered to be opened in the State. In addition, three existing police outposts have been upgraded into pucca police stations. Keeping in mind, the need to extend protection to villages against the activities of anti-social elements, Government will continue to open new police stations in rural areas wherever necessary. The State had programmed to recruit 1,200 Police personnel. As part of this scheme, 4,000 have been recruited during the current financial year.

Government have sanctioned nearly Rs. 2 crores for the purchase of 350 V.H.F. sets and 1,800 Walkie

talkie sets which are meant to modernise and equip the police force. Sanction has been accorded for a sum of Rs. 1.2 crores for acquisition of U.H.F. facilities.

The women's wing of the police is also being strengthened. Government has sanctioned the employment of 60 women sub-inspectors, 60 women head constables and 600 women police constables.

The Fire Service Department is continuing to render efficient service. It is proposed to give top priority for purchase of ready-built fire engines like the mobile tank unit, trailer pump, wireless cars and other sophisticated fire engines. Some other items of equipment are also being added on to the Department. 30 new fire stations have been sanctioned to strengthen the activities of the Department. The fire service personnel below certain levels are being provided with certain food commodities at subsidised rates.

Concessions to Government Servants

Honourable Members are aware of the appointment of One Man Commission which has been set up by the Government to go into the cases of alleged anomalies resulting from the implementation of the recommendations of the Third Pay Commission. This Commission has since submitted its report. In pursuance of the recommendations of this Commission, the Government has decided to extend the following concessions to the employees :—

(1) Pay scales of over 100 categories of posts will be revised ; these scales will be given effect to from 1st April 1978 with monetary benefit from 1st January 1981;

(2) House Rent Allowance and City Compensatory Allowance are not being paid along with surrender leave salary at present. The Government has now decided that these two allowances will also be paid along with the surrender leave salary ;

(3) Stagnation increments will be allowed to those who are stagnating in the Selection Grade for more than 10 years ;

(4) Employees who have reached the maximum of the pay scale whether in the ordinary grade or in the Selection Grade, shall continue to get stagnation increments.

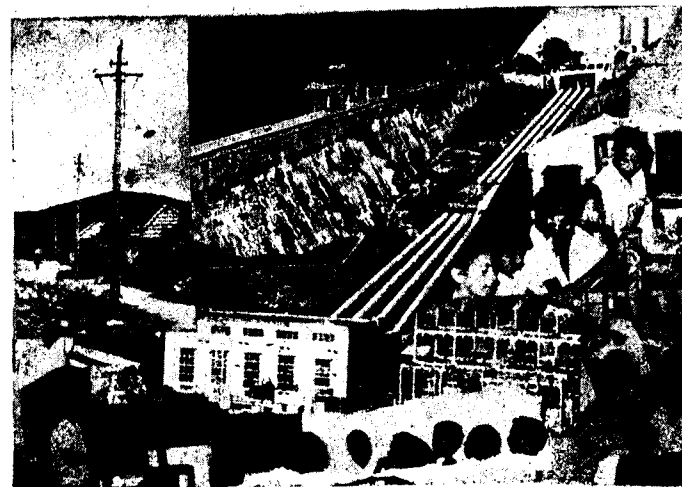
(5) The maximum of the pay limit for sanctioning stagnation increments which is Rs. 1,500 shall be raised to Rs. 2,000;

(6) While fixing the pay in the Selection Grade, the minimum benefit that shall be allowed to the employees will be as follows :—

Employees in the Grade.	Minimum benefit.
	RS.
VIII to XI	15
XII to XVI	10

(7) On promotion to higher posts carrying higher responsibilities, the pay of the employees shall be fixed in such a way as to ensure a minimum benefit of at least 5 per cent over their pay in the lower post ;

(8) A scheme of Leave Travel Concession shall be extended to all the permanent and approved probationer State Government employees once in two years for the journey of the employee and his family to any place in the State, beyond 240 kms from his place of work. The Government will bear the railway fare one way and the Government servant shall be required to compulsatorily



go on 15 days' earned leave for availing himself of this concession.

(9) The employees will also be given the opportunity to give their option for getting their pay refixed between 1st April 1978 and 31st March 1979 in the revised scale of pay either as recommended by the Third Pay Commission or by the One Man Commission, which has been accepted by Government. This option must be exercised before 31st August 1981.

The cost of implementing the recommendations of the One Man Commission would be of the order of about Rs. 3 crores per annum.

The marriage advance given to Government servants will be increased from Rs. 2,000 to Rs. 3,000 for the marriage of the daughters and from Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 1,500 for the marriage of the sons.

Repeated representations have been received from pensioners urging the restoration of the commuted portion of the pension. Government after taking a sympathetic view has decided to restore the full commuted portion of the pension to all those pensioners with effect from the date on which they complete 15 years from the date of retirement.

All the above concessions will be given effect to from the date of the orders sanctioning them.

As the All-India Consumer Price Index crossed 376 points, Government has decided to sanction another instalment of dearness allowance to Government servants. This will be given from 1st December 1980, at additional 2.5 per cent for those drawing pay upto Rs. 650 and 1.875 per cent for those drawing pay more than Rs. 650.

Annual Plan

The Budget Estimates for 1980-81 were presented projecting an Annual Plan Outlay of Rs. 438.61 crores. Taking into account the various changes that have taken place subsequent to the preparation of the Budget, the Revised Estimates now arrived at, present a picture of Rs. 454 crores as outlay for 1980-81. As against this outlay, the Union Planning Commission approved a Plan Outlay of Rs. 514 crores for the year 1981-82. As outlined in the earlier portion of my speech, there are certain essential increases which cannot be accommodated within the outlay approved by the Union Planning Commission. The new schemes that have been proposed during the year account for a plan expenditure of Rs. 35 crores. Taking into account these important provisions and keeping in view the outlay of Rs. 3150 crores for the year 1981-82, the Budget Estimates have

been drawn up projecting an Annual Plan of Rs. 563.26 crores. I have already highlighted the important schemes in the various sectors. Power sector continues to receive maximum attention with 30 per cent of the total plan outlay. The outlay in other sectors are : Rs. 169.59 crores for Power, Rs. 26.62 crores for Irrigation, Rs. 104.69 crores for agriculture and Allied Sectors, Rs. 55.61 crores for Industries, Rs. 37.61 crores for Road and Road Transport, Rs. 23.58 crores for Education, Rs. 25.89 crores for Health, Rs. 51.30 crores for Water-Supply and Drainage, Rs. 33.83 crores, for Housing and Urban Development, Rs. 17.87 crores for Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and Rs. 16.67 crores for other sectors.

Financial Position

The Budget Estimates for 1980-81 envisaged a revenue receipt of Rs. 982.66 crores and revenue expenditure of Rs. 967.27 crores leaving a surplus of Rs. 15.39 crores. In the Revised Estimates, excluding the provisions relating to subsidy to and interest receipts from Electricity Board amounting to Rs. 90.58 crores from both expenditure and revenue, it is anticipated that the revenue receipts will be Rs. 1083.17 crores while the revenue expenditure will be Rs. 1,094.47 crores leaving a deficit of Rs. 11.30 crores. Though the tax revenue has registered an increase of Rs. 47.32 crores, the non-tax revenue has increased by Rs. 105.75 crores and assistance from Government of India and State's share of Union Excise Duty by Rs. 38.04 crores, there has been a worsening due to commitments taken on account of writing off of loans to agriculturists. The Revenue Expenditure also includes a provision of subsidy to Electricity Board to enable the Board to achieve the required percentage of return from the capital invested. The Revised Estimates provide for a capital expenditure of Rs. 93.33 crores as against the budgeted outlay of Rs. 94.21 crores. The net expenditure on Loan Account in the Revised Estimates is Rs. 77.55 crores as against Rs. 76.33 crores anticipated in the Budget Estimates for 1980-81. In Public Debt, the net receipt has been estimated at Rs. 109.70 crores as against Rs. 110.83 crores in Budget Estimates, 1980-81. In all, the overall deficit in the Consolidated Fund originally estimated at Rs. 44.32 crores in the Budget Estimates, 1980-81 has now been arrived at Rs. 72.48 crores in the Revised Estimates. In Budget Estimates, 1981-82, taking into account the surplus in the Public Account the overall surplus was placed at Rs. 33 lakhs. In the Revised Estimates, it has changed to an overall deficit of Rs. 3.64 crores. Taking into account the Opening Balance of Rs. (—) 7.83 crores, the Closing Balance at the end of this financial year has been estimated at Rs. (—) 11.47 crores.

The Budget Estimates for 1981-82 provide for a revenue expenditure of Rs. 1137.84 crores as against the revenue receipt of Rs. 1128.27 crores. There will be a deficit in the revenue account to the tune of Rs. 9.57 crores. The capital expenditure in the year 1981-82 has been stepped up to Rs. 135.99 crores while in the Loan Account, the net expenditure will be Rs. 125.02 crores. Taking into account the net receipts of Rs. 112.62 crores in the Public Debt Account, the net deficit in the Consolidated Fund has been placed at Rs. 153.96 crores. The Budget for 1981-82 has been drawn up to reflect the overall deficit of Rs. 111.49 crores. After taking into account the net surplus of Rs. 42.47 crores in the Public Account, the closing balance at the end of the financial year will then be Rs. (—) 122.96 crores.

I had mentioned earlier about the need for increasing the resources for financing a bigger Plan Outlay and for undertaking various welfare measures in the State. After very careful consideration, Government feels that certain tax measures should be embarked on for financing these developmental activities. However, care has been taken to see that this impact is minimal and that the common man is not hit by these few additional imposts. These are as follows :

Madras Corporation has been facing acute financial difficulties for the past many years. An agreement has recently been signed with the World Bank for improving the civic amenities in the Corporation limits. It has become very essential that financial assistance should be given on a more permanent footing to the Corporation for coping with the increased responsibilities. Hence, the surcharge on Sales Tax in Madras Corporation limits and the belt area of 32 kilo metres around Madras City will be increased from the present rate of 5 per cent to 10 per cent, a sizeable portion of which will be given to the Madras Corporation.

Stamp Duty on sales, exchanges and gifts registered in places other than Madras, Madurai, Coimbatore, Salem and Tiruchirappalli will be raised from 6 per cent to 7 per cent. Stamp Duty on deeds relating to mortgage, lease, partition, release under Article 16 will be modified as follows. The rate on every Rs. 100 for the first Rs. 1,000 will be increased from Rs. 2.50 per Rs. 100 to Rs. 3 per Rs. 100. On values higher than Rs. 1,000 for every Rs. 500 or part, the rate will be increased to Rs. 15 from the existing level of Rs. 13. Stamp Duty on settlements will be increased from the present rate of Rs. 2.50 for Rs. 100 to 8 per cent of the value, in cities and 7 per cent of the value, in other places. Stamp Duty on deeds relating to releases under Article 55 will be revised to the same level as of settlements. For giving effect to the changes relating to surcharge on sales tax and the changes in the Stamp Duty, suitable legislative measures will be introduced in this Session.

Sales Tax of 5 per cent on petrol in Tamil Nadu is the lowest compared to other States like Andhra Pradesh (11 per cent), Kerala (15 per cent) and Karnataka (12.5 per cent). Hence it is proposed to increase it to 11 per cent. In the case of diesel also, it is lower than those in some other States, like Andhra Pradesh (10 per cent), Kerala (20 per cent) and Karnataka (16 per cent). Hence, it is proposed to increase the sales tax on diesel from 9 per cent to 11 per cent.

While these increases have been made Government also wishes to give relief in sales tax in certain transactions. With a view to encourage industries within the State supplying goods to Central Government, Railways and the State Government, it is proposed to reduce the rate of General Sales Tax on such sales to the Central Sales Tax level of 4 per cent, wherever the existing rates are higher. This will make the local industries more competitive in tenders as against bids from parties outside the State as the 4 per cent tax would be on par with the Central Sales Tax rate.

It is proposed to reduce the single-point tax of 8 per cent to 4 per cent on lay flat tubes, films, sheets, cans, blow moulded containers including caps and closures, etc., made of polythene, poly-propylene and poly vinyl chloride.

Rubberised coir is subject to a higher level of sales tax in Tamil Nadu than obtaining in the neighbouring States. Keeping this in mind, it is proposed to reduce the tax on rubberised coir products from 4 per cent to 2 per cent.

As a help to small newspapers with a circulation of 15,000 and below, the 8 per cent sales tax on newsprint will be reduced to 4 per cent.

Sales of Appalam, Vermicelli and Bakery products without a brand name or with brand name not registered under the Trade and Merchandise Marks Act, 1958 will be exempted completely from the multi-point sales tax.

These changes in Sales Tax will be given effect to from 1st April 1981.

Loans to Agriculturists

In 1980-81, Government announced concessions to write off loans of agriculturists for Rs. 71 crores composed of Rs. 21 crores of Takkivi loans (as against Rs. 16 crores announced earlier) and Rs. 50 crores of Co-operative loans (as against Rs. 42 crores announced earlier). Government has also announced that an amount of Rs. 23 crores repaid by the Agriculturists will be adjusted against instalments of Co-operative loans falling due next year. Government has decided to give the following concessions to further reduce the debt burden of the Agriculturists.

(1) If a small farmer, owning or cultivating as a tenant, land of an extent of 5 acres or less, has not so far repaid principal of the short-term loan in arrears and if he repays the principal before 30th June 1981, then the interest due and the penal interest thereon will be written off. Government will be making the payment to the Co-operative Societies on behalf of the agriculturists.

(2) If other farmers repay the short-term loans taken from the Village Co-operative Societies together with the normal interest before 30th June 1981, then the penal interest due from them will be fully written off and the Government will be paying this amount to the Co-operative Societies.

76. As an incentive for prompt repayment of dues, it is proposed to give during 1981-82 a rebate of 2 per cent of interest to small farmers who repay their short term loans and medium term loans instalments on or before the due dates.

Prohibition

In the Governor's Address of this year, free and frank views of the members were sought on as to how best the prohibition policy should be implemented effectively or modified or whether a rethinking was warranted. Accordingly, Members also expressed their views. The Members are aware of the firm resolve of this Government and the Chief Minister in implementing the prohibition policy effectively. Members are also aware of the prevalence of illicit distillation and unauthorised drinking and the amendments enacted to hand out stiff penalties to those indulging in illicit distillation and unauthorised drinking. But, contrary to expectations, many poor families landed in difficulties and taking note of this, some changes were effected in the implementation of the policy. Rules relating to issue of permits for consumption of liquor

Members stated that Prohibition Act was not in force and remarked whether prohibition policy was still in vogue at all. This Government reiterates its firm belief in prohibition policy; it would also like to state that it would not scrap the law on prohibition. The Government is of the view that through modification of the prohibition Act it would be able to get at the money which otherwise went into the pockets of the anti-social elements. Hence, the Government has decided to make the following changes in the Prohibition Act :—

Only those above 25 years of age will be permitted to drink. They must obtain permits by following the procedure. Sale of bottled Arrack only will be allowed through authorised shops. No one will be allowed to drink in the premises of the shop. Shops will not be allowed to be opened near schools, hospitals, places of worship and students' hostels. Only authorised persons will be allowed to sell liquor. Illicit distillation and unauthorised sale and consumption of liquor will be prohibited and offenders will be punished under law. Only members of recognised tree tappers' Co-operative Societies will be permitted to tap toddy. Suitable legislative measures relating to manufacture and sale of arrack and toddy will be brought before the House.

Government will take up intensive propaganda on the evils of drinking. Rupees one crore will be provided initially for carrying out propaganda on prohibition through cinemas, dramas, cultural shows and songs. Through the changes proposed above, the Government, hopes that people will be relieved from the clutches of illicit distillers, bootleggers and from the abettors of illicit transport of liquor.

I have clearly laid before the House, the situation obtaining in Tamil Nadu and the financial position of the State. I have offered my explanations and I have also made my requests. In implementing effectively and efficiently the policies, the objectives and the programme placed before the House, I seek the assistance and co-operation of all the Members.

I request the full fledged support from all the Members, to the Government, in its endeavours to implement its programmes which have been drawn up after assessing the resources and the means and after deciding on the nature of the deed, the appropriate time and the place and after eliminating all the flaws as epitomized in the following words of Thiruvalluvar :

“ Money and means as well as time, the nature
of the deed.
And place—these five, sans doubt examine
before you act indeed.”

Thiruvalluvar year 12—Rowthiri—Panguni—8
21st March 1981

TAMIL NADU BUDGET, 1981-82

Items.	Accounts, 1979-80.	Budget Estimate, 1980-81.	Revised Estimate, 1980-81.	Budget Estimate, 1981-82.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
(IN CRORES OF RUPEES)				
I. CONSOLIDATED FUND—				
Revenue Receipts	9,44.85	9,82.66	11,73.75	11,28.27
Expenditure met from Revenue (Net)	8,49.55	9,67.27	11,86.05	11,37.84
Surplus or Deficit on Revenue Account	(+)95.30	(+)15.39	(-)11.30	(-)9.57
Capital Receipts	2,44.78	2,78.45	2,36.57	2,89.96
Expenditure met from Capital including Loans and Advances (Net)	3,71.62	3,38.16	2,97.76	4,34.35
Deficit or Surplus on Capital Account	(-)1,26.84	(-)59.71	(-)61.18	(-)1,44.39
Total Consolidated Fund (Net) ..	(-)31.54	(-)44.82	(-)72.48	(-)1,53.96
II. Contingency Fund (Net) ..	(+)0.56	..	..	..
III. Public Account (Net)	(+)24.90	(+)44.65	(+)68.84	(+)42.47
Total Net Transactions (I+II+III)	(-)6.08	(+)0.83	(-)3.64	(-)1,11.49
Opening Balance	(-)1.75	(-)2.34	(-)7.83	(-)11.47
Closing Balance	(-)7.83	(-)2.01	(-)11.47	(-)1,23.96

TAMILNADU RAFFLE SCHEME
Tamil New Year Special Bumper Draw

1st Prize Rs. **10 LAKHS**

3 Special 2nd Prizes Rs. **1 Lakh each**
& Thousands of other Prizes.

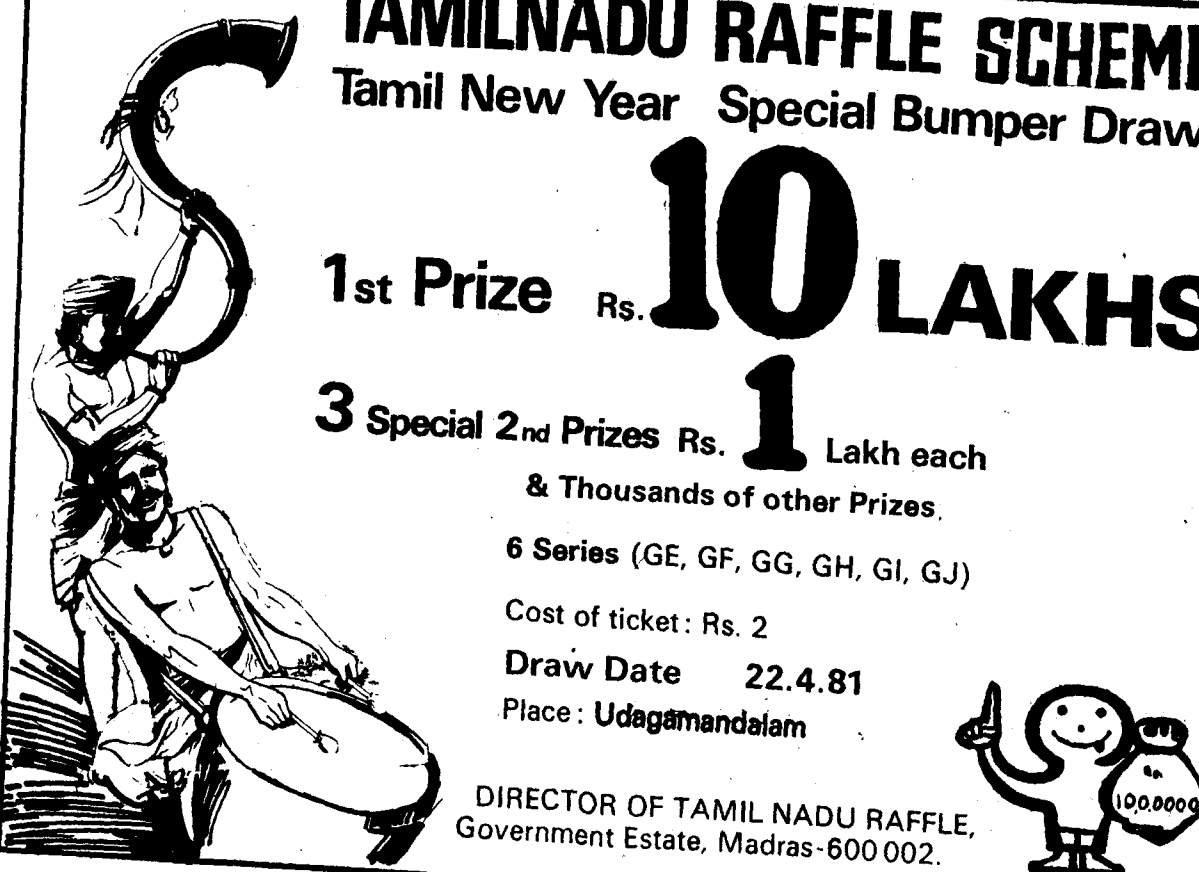
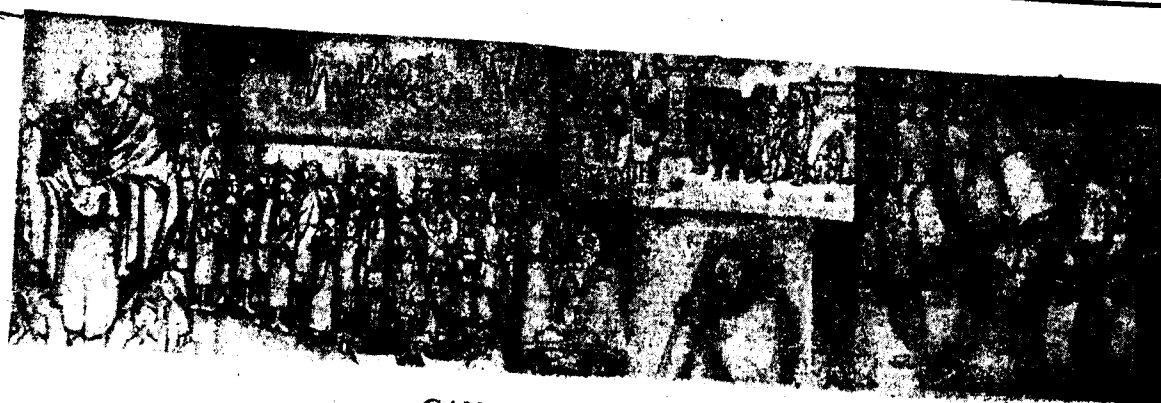
6 Series (GE, GF, GG, GH, GI, GJ)

Cost of ticket: Rs. 2

Draw Date 22.4.81

Place: Udagamandalam

DIRECTOR OF TAMIL NADU RAFFLE,
Government Estate, Madras-600 002.

GANDHI ILLAM

A Museum on the Life of Mahathma Gandhi
(Opposite Rajaji Hall,
Government Estate, Madras-2.)
Open from 8 A. M. to 8 P. M.
On all days (Including Sundays and Holidays)
Facsimile of Gandhiji's Writings
Photographs depicting his life and work
Photographs of Gandhiji's visits to
Tamilnadu
The "Chekku" drawn by V. O. C.
When he was in Coimbatore Jail
AND MANY MORE ARE ON DISPLAY
ALL ARE WELCOME.

HANDLOOM

TRADITIONAL RURAL INDUSTRY

R. VARADARAJULU, I.A.S.,
Director of Handlooms and Textiles.

Handloom is an important traditional rural industry and ranks next only to agriculture from the point of view of employment potential. Though at one time there was fear of handloom cloth not getting a fair market in view of the sophistication entering the society, it is by now established that the handlooms have definitely an important role to play in the textile field and given the protection which has been considered necessary for this purpose, they can satisfy a very large internal market. In addition, the export potential for handloom cloth has risen substantially because of the capacity of handlooms to meet the artistic demands which are changing from time to time in the affluent societies of the world. Given the right backing and the technological and design support, the export market for handlooms could be an expanding one. Therefore, handloom is definitely a rural industry which can be developed to give remunerative employment to the handloom weavers.

they are brought into an organisational frame-work-under a centralised management. Development programmes for the handloom sector have therefore all along laid emphasis on the need for an appropriate non-exploitative organisation eliminating the middle men. In the light of our experience in the last two decades, it has been found that the Cooperative Societies form the best institutional agency for providing required facilities to the handloom weavers.

The Sivaraman Committee appointed by the Government of India recommended that 60% of the handloom weavers in the country should be brought into the Cooperative fold so as to ensure provision of continuous employment and regular income to the handloom weavers. The Centre has accepted this recommendation and recommended the same to the States. Accordingly, the Government of Tamil Nadu have taken up a number of programmes to increase the Cooperative coverage during the VIth Plan period. This include:

- i Strengthening the existing Weavers Cooperative Societies.
- ii Formation of a net work of new Weavers Cooperative Societies in all important centres having concentration of handlooms, and
- iii Setting up of Industrial Weavers Cooperative Societies for the benefit of loomless weavers.

Of the total of 38 lakhs handlooms in the country, 5.56 lakhs handlooms are scattered throughout the nook and corners of Tamil Nadu. These 5.56 lakhs looms provide employment to 13.34 lakh weavers and livelihood to about 30 lakhs persons in the State and produce about 600 million metres of handloom cloth per annum. The Government of India have since announced the new textile policy which seeks to allow maximum growth to handlooms. While at the national level, a total production target of 4100 million metres has been fixed for the handloom sector to be reached by March 1985, Tamil Nadu is aiming at increasing the production to the level of 700 million metres by the end of the Sixth Plan. It has been recognised that it would be very difficult to arrange for a regular flow of finance and raw materials and to provide marketing support to the handloom weavers unless

Though the national target for cooperativisation of handlooms is 60% the Government of Tamilnadu has proposed to increase the Cooperative coverage to 67% by the end of the Sixth Plan Period-March 1985. We have so far enlisted 2.55 lakhs handlooms by organising 1115 Primary Weavers Cooperative Societies in the State. The present production of these Primary Weavers

Cooperative Societies is 100 million metres of handloom per annum. The 'Apex' Handloom Weavers Cooperative Society in the State, popularly known as 'Cooptex', to which all the Primary Weavers Cooperative societies have been affiliated, plays a very important role in regard to supply of essential inputs and providing very effective marketing support to the handlooms within the Cooperative fold. As for the supply of the key raw material, namely, cotton yarn, the Government of Tamilnadu have set up a chain of 12 Cooperative Spinning Mills in the State which serve as a captive source for producing almost the entire requirements of yarn of the Cooperative sector of the Handloom



Industry ranging from 10s to 120-counts. The Apex society procures yarn from the 12 Cooperative Spinning Mills and distributes the same to the Primary Cooperative through its net work of 21 retail out-lets. The Cooptex also provides marketing support to its affiliated primaries by procuring about 50% of the total annual production. During the year 1979-80, the Cooptex procured handloom fabrics worth about Rs. 29.00 crores out of the total production of about Rs. 56 crores. The Cooptex effected a total sales turn-over of Rs. 35 crores during 1979-80 and thus established itself as the biggest marketing organisation in Handlooms in the country. The projected sales turn-over of Cooptex during 1980-81 is about Rs. 42.00 crores.

The Reserve Bank of India has been extending liberal finance towards the working capital of handloom weavers at 2½% less than the bank rate. On the recommendation of Dr. Hate Committee, the Reserve Bank of India has recently increased the scale of finance per loom by fixing higher limits namely Rs. 2,000/- per cotton looms, Rs. 2,500/- per silk looms and Rs. 5,000/- per polyester loom. It has also liberalised the credit facilities to weak and dormant societies so as to enable them to resume, continue and increase the production. It would be interesting to note that out of the total Reserve Bank of India credit limit of Rs. 60.00 crores for the handloom sector in the Country, Tamil Nadu alone is availing of credit facility to the extent of about Rs. 37.00 crores.

In tune with the fast-changing fashions and consumer-preferences and to meet the growing demand in the internal and International markets for new handloom products, it has been recognised that the Handloom Industry should also adopt modern techniques of weaving. Any technology appropriate to the handloom sector would involve three distinct objectives viz. reduction of costs, improving quality of the product and reducing fatigue on the part of the weaver. For this purpose the handloom Cooperatives in the State are being encouraged to undertake renovations/modernisations of looms or to purchase new modern looms. To enable the handlooms to develop new products and designs, the Cooptex has so far set up 4 Design-cum-Service Centres one each at Madurai, Trichy, Salem and Coimbatore. Two



more such centres are to be set up at Tirunelveli and Kumbakonam during the VI Plan Period.

Though most of the weavers are accustomed to produce traditional varieties and even resist any changes, concerted efforts are being made to introduce a massive programme of diversification in the pattern of production and to adopt a suitable product-mix, bearing in mind predominantly the consumer needs. This has resulted in a number of handlooms taking to the production of polyester fabrics-shirtings, sarees and suitings in the recent years. These fabrics are well received by the consumers. Leading polyester filament/fibre manufacturers like M/s. Petrofils Ltd. and CAFI have acted as "change agents" for the introduction of polyester fabrics on handlooms through brain-storming of weavers. Now about 2000 handlooms are engaged in the production of polyester fabrics, and it is proposed to increase the number of polyester handlooms to 5000 by the end of the VI Plan Period, which would give a total production of 27.50 lakhs metres per annum. If the difference in cost of production of polyester fabrics between the handloom and mill sector is compensated

or reduced by way of concession in excise duty or draw back of excise duty, there is tremendous scope to introduce in the market, polyester handloom fabrics in a big way.

The new textile policy announced by the Government of India provides for increasing the production of controlled cloth from 400 million square metres to 650 million square metres. The handloom sector is expected to be given "a progressively increasing share" in this scheme. The handlooms in Tamil Nadu are also producing cheap cloth for distribution to weaker sections. In our state, about 10,000 handlooms are engaged in the production of Janatha varieties of handloom dhoties, sarees and lungies. While we are aiming at a total annual production of 35 million metres of cheap cloth by the end of the Sixth Plan Period, we hope to achieve 15 million metres during 1980-81. The projection for 1981-82 is 20 million metres.

Exports of handloom cloth which were around Rs. 11.43 crores in 1966-67 has risen to Rs. 302/- crores at the national level during 1979-80. About 50% of the total handloom exports from our country are out of handloom cloth produced in Tamil Nadu. So far as the Cooperative



Sector is concerned, the Cooptex has set up a separate Export Wing called "Cooptex International" and is gradually building up export sales. Its export to various countries such as Australia, United States of America, United Kingdom, Germany etc. are being stepped up. It is expected that the export of handlooms by Cooptex, which is now around Rs. 2.50 crores will reach Rs. 4.00 crores per annum in the next two years. A liaison Office-cum-Show rooms of Cooptex is being opened at Singapore where there is good demand for Tamil Nadu Handlooms. A Team headed by Thiru S.N. Rajendran, Honourable Minister for Handlooms, Government of Tamil Nadu with the Director of Handlooms and Textiles and the Special Officer, Cooptex as the other members is visiting Singapore and far east countries to explore the markets for handlooms, shortly.

The Government of Tamil Nadu are implementing Welfare Schemes such as 'Weavers Housing Scheme' and "Savings and Security Scheme" for the benefit of handloom weavers within the Cooperative sector. The weavers Housing Scheme which was discontinued after 1962 has since been revived with effect from 1979-80. It is proposed to construct 5000 houses during the VI Plan Period. Of this, the construction of 2000 houses has already been planned and the scheme is now under implementation. For this purpose, the HUDCO is providing loan assistance upto 70% of the total estimated cost (Rs. 8000/-) for each house subject to the condition that the maximum loan assistance should not exceed Rs. 5,600/- per house. The HUDCO has so far sanctioned loan assistance to the extent of Rs. 59.79 lakhs and another loan amount of Rs. 49.73 lakhs is being sought for from them. The Government has sanctioned a subsidy of Rs. 1,000/- per house.

The Cooperative Handloom Weavers Savings and Security Scheme which is being implemented in our State for the benefit of handloom weavers within the Cooperative fold is linked to a Group Insurance Scheme. 66,400 handloom weavers have so far been brought under the scheme. Each weaver who has joined the scheme is contributing 6 paise for every rupee of wages earned by him and the State Government is contributing 3 paise per every rupee and the total accumulations are funded with 7% interest in such ac-

cumulation. If a weaver who had joined the scheme died on or prior to 29th February, 1980 his nominee would get an amount equal to the total accumulation in his fund account or a minimum sum of Rs. 500/- from the Life Insurance Corporation. The Government of Tamil Nadu have since ordered that the quantum of insurance cover be increased to Rs. 3,000/- with effect from 1st March 1980.

As a result of the implementation of the various handloom development programmes in our State which are aimed at ensuring steady supply of inputs, marketing support to handlooms, upgradation of level of technology and product development, provision of welfare measures etc. the Handloom Industry will continue to fulfill its obligation of meeting the clothing needs of the people and will help to improve the standard of living of the handloom weavers.

It is an annual feature to conduct the 'All India Handloom Fortnight Celebrations' with Handloom Exhibitions at Madras and other important towns in the Districts during March/April, in order to help disposal of handloom goods and to make the consumers handloom conscious. This year, the 27th All India Handloom Fortnight is being celebrated for sixteen days from 4th April to 19th April, 1981, in Madras City and in eleven important towns namely Kancheepuram, Trichy,



Kumbakonam, Madurai, Dindigul, Tirunelveli, Tuticorin, Nagercoil, Salem, Coimbatore and Erode. Handloom Exhibitions are also being held in these places as part of the All India Handloom Fortnight Celebrations. It is hoped that the consuming public will visit the Madras and the Handloom Exhibitions in the Districts in large numbers, buy their entire requirements of cloth from Handloom taking advantage of the Government rebate and thereby give a helping hand to the poor weavers of our State.

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INCENTIVE FOR DOCTORS TO SERVE VILLAGES

The Chief Minister Thiru M.G. Ramachandran declared open a 250 bed cancer hospital, conceived as a standing memorial to the late Perarignar Anna, former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu at Kancheepuram on March 8, 1981. The Tamil Nadu Government will soon provide greater incentives and facilities to doctors to enable them to serve in rural areas.

Details in this regard were being worked out and these would be announced during the budget session, said the Chief Minister.

EARLY DETECTION OF CANCER STRESSED

"The Anna Memorial Cancer Institute had done 10 years of field work in and around Kancheepuram to detect people who showed signs of pre-cancerous conditions particularly in uterine cervix (neck of the womb) and the mouth."

This was stated by the Health Minister, Dr. H.V. Hande, while presiding over the function.

Dr. Hande said the project was evolved as the first of its kind in South-East Asia by WHO in collaboration with the Tamil Nadu Government.

By treating the early cases, not only could the incidence of cancer be brought down but the people could also be saved from becoming a victim to the disease later.

Perarignar Anna, the then Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu conceived the idea of establishing a cancer institute to alleviate the suffering of the poor people who die of cancer without any proper treatment and cure. In view of these he had approached the World Health Organisation for establishing an Institute dedicated to research, teaching and training in prevention and cancer control, to establish a hospital for the rural population who can not afford to go to metropolitan cities and urban towns for treatment. Considering the merits of the request of Anna, the World Health Organisation carried out surveys all over the country and found that Kancheepuram with a population of 1,10,000 semi-urban, urban and rural in characteristics, non-migratory in nature was most suited for the purpose of establishing a Cancer Control Pilot Project. An agreement and plan operation was signed by Dr. V.T.H. Gunaratne, the Regional Director, World Health Organisation, New Delhi with Government of India and Government of Tamil Nadu on 11th November 1968. The Project was inaugurated on 23rd March, 1969.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT :

(a) To organise cancer detection and treatment programme covering oropharyngeal and Uterine Cervical Cancer (which constitute 80% of total cancer cases reported); (b) To work out means and methods for making efficacious and meaningful studies by adequate coverage of the population and follow-up systems and (c) To train the relevant personnels. The long term objectives are: (a) To demonstrate cancer control; (b) To work out prevalence and incidence rates of the cancer

sites under study; (c) To record any suggestive causative factors for the disease; and (d) To set up a training centre for medical and para-medical personnel for the State and country.

FUNDS

The Budgets were increased from Rs. 94,696.97 to 6,23,522.86 upto the year 1979-80 gradually depending upon the needs.

W.H.O. AID:

As per the plan of operation one million Norwegian Kroners (equivalent to 11 lakhs rupees) were to be channelled from the Norwegian Aid Agency, through the W.H.O. for Capital Out-lay on buildings, equipments, etc., for this Institute apart from 20,000 U.S. Dollars (equivalent to 1.5 lakhs rupees) to be given per year through W.H.O. as a grant-in-aid to be cut by 20% each year for a period of five years.

MAN POWER:

The W.H.O. had agreed to give consultants from time to time and fellowships for members of National staff to be trained abroad apart from equipments and supplies. A W.H.O. Medical Officer would act as Programme Director atleast for a period of 12 months. Whereas a W.H.O. Medical Officer who was an Epidemiologist was present at this Institute for a period of two years. The Principal Medical Officer who was considered as a National Counter part to W.H.O. Medical Officer was sent abroad for training in Epidemiology and Cancer Control Programme for a period of one year. The importance of the role played by a Statistician was realised and a Statistician of this Institute was sent on a W.H.O. fellowship to Manchester (U.K.) for training in cancer statistics for a period of 6 months. After completion of training he was joined by a W.H.O. Statistician for a period of 5 weeks to organise statistical component of the project.

A qualified Pathologist was also sent to Perth in Australia for training in Cyto-pathology on W.H.O. Fellowship. He was again joined by a Consultant Cytopathologist from Hungary to train more Cytopathologists and also graduate Lab Technicians in Cytopathology. Four other Assistant Professors of Pathology were also trained in this Institute with the aim of establishing a net work of Cyto-pathology departments all over the State.

An Oral -pathologist who is a dentist by qualification was also sent to UK on a W.H.O. Fellowship for training in Oral Pathology.

For the purpose of field work and mass education and also to study the social and cultural characteristics of the population a Health Educator was sent abroad for training in Health Education for a period of one year. On the advice of the W.H.O. Consultant on the needs of the Multi disciplinary team approach for the functioning of the project 26 persons of various categories were appointed by the State Government. More

than 8 WHO Consultants covering the specialities of epidemiology, statistics, Cyto-pathology, planners the project, social scientists, health educators on pathology, organisation of cytology laboratory and a cancer epidemiology specialist have worked in this Institute for periods varying from a few weeks to two years.

In a population of 1,10,657 'at risk' population constitutes 32,579 Females for Cervical Screening and 64,475 both Males and Females for Oral Screening. These populations are subjected to comprehensive health screening to derive at the process of establishing the oral and cervical pathologies in their earliest pre-cancerous stages.

In this Institute and Hospital, various departments are established to facilitate and aid the investigation, diagnosis and treatment procedure. The following departments have been established and manned by fully qualified and trained personnel.



The departments of Epidemiology, Cyto-pathology, Obs.etrics and Gynaecology, Statistics, Oral Screening, Radiotherapy and Radiology, surgery, Anaesthesiology, General Medicine and Chemotherapy, Dental Surgery, Blood Bank, Microbiology, and Clinical Laboratory.



V.V.S. IYER-THE SCHOLAR CRITIC

- A.V. SUBRAMANIAN

In this the centenary year of V.V.S. Iyer's birth, it is most fitting that we remember him with love and gratitude. His life was dominated by three interests-the first was politics, the second was the education of young Indians and the third that runs as a golden thread throughout his short life was love of Tamil. Politics has a way of dominating over other interests and the politics of his time involved total sacrifice with no rewards at all. He burnt himself out, fighting a fully entrenched imperial government at a time when the conscience of the world had not awakened to the full measure of the guilt and moral degradation of a country enslaving another and exploiting it for its own good. England, except for a small liberal minority, felt no qualms at all at this barbarism: the national conscience was conveniently stilled when repressive measures were taken against patriotic Indians when the finest flower of the nation was mowed down by lathi-wielding police-men and the survivors were clamped in prison. During this period, Iyer was a soldier of the patriotic army who, in the early years, preferred violent means to satyagraha for wresting freedom from the imperial power. During these troubled times he flits in and out of the footlights, a striking, heroic figure who seemed more properly to belong to the pages of Sir Walter Scott's novels. Then Gandhi came into his life and tamed him to the point when the patriotic fires began to burn low but burn steady in the intrepid warrior. Iyer died a true satyagrahi, having forever forsworn the pistol. He died without holding high office in the party and without the compensations that mellowed the evening of the lives of many compatriots who lived to see India free.

Fortunately, when we write about his third interest, we have pleasanter things to deal with. This is despite the fact that much of what he wrote seems to have been lost forever-not a surprising sequel considering the kind of life he led, a fugitive from justice; the brand of justice the British had set up in India. We have his translations from the Kural and the Ramayanam of Kamban into English and critical passages in English on the latter classic as precious heirlooms to remember him by.

However, Iyer's "Kamba Ramayanam-a study" is rightly regarded as his magnum opus; it was composed in nine months of jail life and how sorely Iyer would have missed the amenities of a library and the help

and advice of scholars in that jail room in Bellary; Still Iyer, undaunted, wrote to a friend in Kasi and got a few books he needed most and carried on.

But even without the help of reference books, Iyer has culled quotations and ideas from an amazing range of works starting with Aristotle: indeed his knowledge of Western poetics seems profound and in the first few chapters where he analyses the whole epic, he puts this knowledge to expert use. Iyer was the first critic to discuss ideas like the architectonics of the epic: he was the first to point out that our epics are planned in a chronological manner unlike the epics of Europe which follow the principle of *in medias res* as laid down by Aristotle; and a brilliant discussion ensues where Iyer ably defends the scheme preferred by the Indian epic-writers, pointing out how the western preference for "plunging into the midst of things" even at the beginning of the epic creates as many problems as it solves.

Besides being able to use western concepts of poetics, Iyer has brought in concepts from Samskrit poetics too to prove some points. Kamban was doubtless familiar with works of alankara in Samskrit and in so far as they were not repugnant to Tamil concepts enshrined in *Tolkappiam*, he must have put them to use to enrich his work. And Iyer is right in applying Samskrit alankaric principles in understanding Kamban's mind.

Iyer is a warm admirer of Kamban and he pays the most marked tributes to Kamban wherever he excels; he does not hesitate to show Kamban at an advantage over Valmiki. Even where Kamban takes whole passages out of Valmiki, he places them at points in the epic, different from where the Samskrit poet places them: and with a fine critical sense Iyer points out how Kamban's work has registered a substantial improvement over the Samskrit originals, thereby. For instance, Valmiki makes Rama praise Bharata as the best of brothers in the war council while discussing the question whether Vibhishana should be admitted into their camp. Kamban takes the idea from Valmiki but puts it in the passage when Lakshmana condemns the conduct of Sugriva in inviting Rama to kill his own brother; now Rama replies

"If all were like in their devotion to their brothers
How can my Bharata be placed the first

"the list of the loyal brothers?" This is a better place than Valmiki's for in the Samskrit epic Lakshmana is admonished in public by Rama putting Bharata above this brother who had sacrificed everything for Rama -the admonition is done before all the monkey chieftains! Kamban will be found to display greater finesse, greater sophistication than Valmiki in most places where the later writer deviates from the original. This may be owing to the fact that a later writer can work into the work of an earlier writer: it is also indicative of the personal calibre and accomplishments of a formally trained scholar-poet as against the inspired genius of an unlettered hunter.

The analysis of Indrajit and Ravana is among the best portions of the work. V.V.S. Iyer was a staunch admirer of heroism and of heroes and this comes out best in describing the two most valorous characters of the epic. The verse translations hereabouts assume a new virility as witness Ravana chiding Indrajit;

The barbed darts still fixed in thy chest
Announce the failure of thy sacrifice;
They more than adamant frame doth tremble like
A plantling twig; and thou ha: the stricken look
Of cobras when they sight the eagle swoop
On them, so, son, now tell me what has passed.

When Ravana hears Indrajit, in reply, praise Lakshmana, his ire rises as does his ego and in a long passage he announced his intention to go forth and deal with the human striplings, stating that he never expected his army or even Indrajit to fight his battles for him; for, In my soleright arm I placed my trust and I provoked this war. These verse passages in the portions devoted to Indrajit and Ravana are full of martial spirit and contain much genuine poetry.

Indeed, apart from the high value of the critical passages in the Study, the verse translations are of the highest importance to the literary world. It is true, they are not all of the same high standard; if Iyer had had the time he might have polished some of the lines which are prosaic, where the rhythm sags: but they are most often competent and here and there rise to the level of genuine creative poetry.

in 1981 let us build on the foundations laid in 1980

Galloping inflation was checked in 1980 and substantial increases achieved in the production of coal, power, industrial goods and foodgrains.

Now is the time to consolidate our gains and increase production before any section of society asks for a larger slice of the national cake.



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heart scan equipment

The heart-scan equipment is a two dimensional real time-foci scan phased linear array echocardiogram.

This sophisticated machine, adopting the ultrasonic system, flashes on a video screen, the continuous image of the functioning heart, contracting and dilating.

The visual display of the heart will eliminate some of the complicated and laborious investigations in detecting various heart diseases like tumour, defective valves and fluid collection in the pericardium; the membranous sac enclosing the heart.

The equipment based on two dimensional image technique, has a video-recorder and a strip chart. It has built-in provisions to freeze the image on the video-screen and take a print out in a few seconds.

The transducer a small electronic gadget measuring about 3 inches, when placed over the chest flashes an image of the heart over the T.V. screen.

The transducer, transmits a short accoustical pulse. The rebounding echoes are electronically converted into dots and displayed along a vertical line. The electronic calipers provided in the machine can be adjusted to measure the actual dimensions of the various chambers of the heart and their wall thickness precisely.

This equipment is useful in diagnosing various cardiac disorders like Valvular Heart diseases, Myocardial diseases, coronary Atherosclerotic heart diseases etc. But it would not be possible to study the pressure inside the heart chamber.

The procedure is painless and safe with no hazards of radiation and can be repeated any number of times. It can be done for a new born baby as well as patients in the geriatric age group.

There is no need for any special preparation of the patients. Diagnosis could be over in less than ten minutes.

The equipment costs about Rs. 8 lakhs and it is the first of its kind to be installed in India, and the Government General Hospital, Tamilnadu has the unique distinction of acquiring this equipment.





Kanakasubburatnam, alias Bharatidasan as he came to be known later, was born in the year 1891 in Pondicherry, when it was under French Rule. Pondicherry was an asylum for political refugees from India during the freedom movement. Subburathnam came into close contact with Subramania Bharati, who was himself one of the refugees on voluntary exile from India. He admired Bharati's poetry, and having developed a great regard for the nationalist poet he assumed the pen name "Bharatidasan".

Subburathnam had his early education in a French School in Pondicherry. He did his university education at Calway College, Pondicherry and stood first in Tamil. On completion of his education he became a teacher when he was barely eighteen.

Subburathnam possessed a sense of rhythm and a balanced felicity of expression in Tamil which enabled him to write enchanting poems. At a friend's marriage he sang one of Bharati's folk songs. He was not aware that the great poet himself was present at the marriage in the year 1908. Bharati was greatly impressed by the fire and fervour with which Subburathnam recited the poem and sensed that Subburathnam had in him all the makings of a great poet. Once when among his friends Bharati announced that Subburathnam could compose poems many doubted. But Bharati looked at him encouragingly whereupon he sang the poem "எங்கெங்கு காணிலும் சக்தியுடா". He earned the title "Kavignar" from Bharati and became the latter's ardent follower and disciple.

BHARATIDASAN THE BARD OF REVOLT

Among modern Tamil poets Bharatidasan was very popular and ranks next only to Bharati. A champion of Tamil renaissance, Bharatidasan has produced more than forty works which include poetical compositions, prose and a few dramas. Noteworthy among his works are the three anthologies "Alagin Sirippu", "Kudumba Vilakku" and "Pandian Parisu."

Bharatidasan's "Puratchi Kavi" and "Ethirparatha Mutham" bear testimony to his genius for romantic lyricism.

His love for nature is expressed with rare sensibility in his "Alagin Sirippu". Tamil is his religion and his songs on Tamil are uniformly popular in the Tamil knowing world. He looks on Tamil with great reverence and calls her the World Mother.

Love, emancipation of women, Tamil, Tamilians, and an aspiration for equality amongst men formed the core of his themes. "Sanjeevi Parvatathin Saral" and "Puratchi Kavi" are his best in this genre.

Bharatidasan was a crusader of social reforms. He was a great believer in education for all and was a protagonist of compulsory education in the ideal society he visualised. This is evident in his "Iruna Veedu" where he deploras the plight of a family which is illiterate. Picturing the family's house, which is kept in an unkempt condition full of dust and dirt, the inhabitants living in a mire of ignorance and superstition, he emphasizes the need for universal education. As if in contrast he presents the picture of a happy family in his "Kudumba Vilakku" in which education, love and sense of duty reign supreme. He had a great faith in the wo-

men of the country and it is no wonder that his women characters are superior in all respects.

In his poems, Bharatidasan breaks free from the conventional tradition and introduces a refreshingly new and realistic view in Tamil literature. His works have generally been plebeian-oriented, the main characters being the farmhand the weaver and the industrial labourer.

He has inordinate faith in equality among men and believes in an ideal society where wealth belongs to everyone: in his "Panamum Manamum", he deploras current values, pointing out how the social mores of the day are borne on the monetary factor and not on human values.

Bharatidasan held Tamil literature in great esteem and regarded it as an embodiment of culture.

This is seen in his version of the great epics, Silappathikaram and Manimekalai titled "Kannagi Puratchikappiyam" and "Manimekalai Venba" respectively as also in his narrative poetry on the life of Kumaraguruparar and in his dramas on the lives of Sattimuthu pulavar and the Sangam poet Piciranthaiyar. The play "Piciranthaiyar" is in chaste Tamil. He was awarded the Sahitya Academy Award for this play in 1969, posthumously.

Bharatidasan was drawn into the Self-Respect movement of Thanthai Periyar. Through his poems he tried to awaken the people from the slumber of inertia and beckoned them to free themselves from the shackles of superstition and bondage to conventions. His heart bled for the poor and the toiling masses. He became a champion of the downtrodden. He waged a crusade against pretensions of all kinds.

Bharatidasan in his unshakable faith in the ancient Tamil culture, sings the glory of the Tamil language with great fervour and pride.

"Our life and fortune is our eternal Tamil!"

Our enemies have disappeared with fear and frustration having seen the unity and strength of us.

O conch! Convey this message to the world!"



The Police-guardians of law and order are ever under the scrutiny of the public. Their tasks are arduous and unenviable. While carrying out their onerous duties of maintaining peace, law and order, they have to keep check over unsociable elements. Relaxation aids boost morale and one of the best form of relaxation is active participation in sports meet. This allows diversion from their rigid duties. Sports meet held periodically aids understanding and relationship between the public and the police. The Tamilnadu Police have turned out outstanding sportsmen in the fields of cricket, hockey, football and other athletics. They have won name and fame for Tamilnadu.

Tamil Nadu had the proud privilege of hosting the All India Police Games for the second time. The 30th All-India Police Sports and Games were held from February 20th to 28th at the Rajarathnam Stadium. Competitors from all over the country had assembled to give of their best at the meet. The meet began with considerable fanfare with the Tamilnadu Governor, Thiru Sadiq Ali declaring it open and taking the salute at a march past of the athletes. A number of games were held, individual and group participation, team games such as relay race, basket ball, volley-ball and testing of individual skills such as wrestling etc.,

During the closing down of the meet, the Chief Minister, Thiru M.G. Ramachandran, who was the chief guest, distributed awards to the participants who won various competitions. In his address, the Chief Minister said that the unity of the people only could protect and safeguard the freedom of a country. If the police corps which follows the ideals of sacrifice, discipline and unity could instil the same in the minds of the youth, then the unity of the nation could be assured. Weapons alone do not protect the freedom of a nation, but unity and the feeling of self-respect alone could safeguard the interest of a nation.

The Chief Minister said that he was glad to note that the participants from various parts of the country had brought to the games a spirit of unity. The spirit of discipline and unity shown by the players would be

XXX all india police games

useful in guarding the freedom, culture and unity of the nation. He observed further "though we did not use weapons to attain India's independence, we have to nevertheless maintain weapons to defend the freedom of the country.

Freedom can be protected only by people who have a sense of unity, self-respect and discipline. This unity cannot be achieved through legislation. Unity develops only through such competitive sports. The victors might have secured first, second and third places, but we get the sense of feeling that the victory is totally ours. The merit of the players and the laurels they have won belongs to India. The players who make such a sacrifice and win awards will set an example for the future generation.

The Chief Minister said that he would advise the police to include the youth also in their games in future. Such participation in competition will help imbibe a sense of sacrifice and discipline.

They would help overcome religious and fissiparous tendencies in others and safeguard India's freedom. In such a situation, unity could be achieved and maintained.

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MULTIPLY YOUR CHANCES

Here is a tip for you. Enhance the scope of your winning a prize by constantly maintaining the minimum balance of Rs. 200 so that the account participates in each draw. Or by opening an account

in the name of every member of your family. Or if you like, by having more than one account in your own name—of course with different post offices.

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12, Seminary Hills, Nagpur-440006

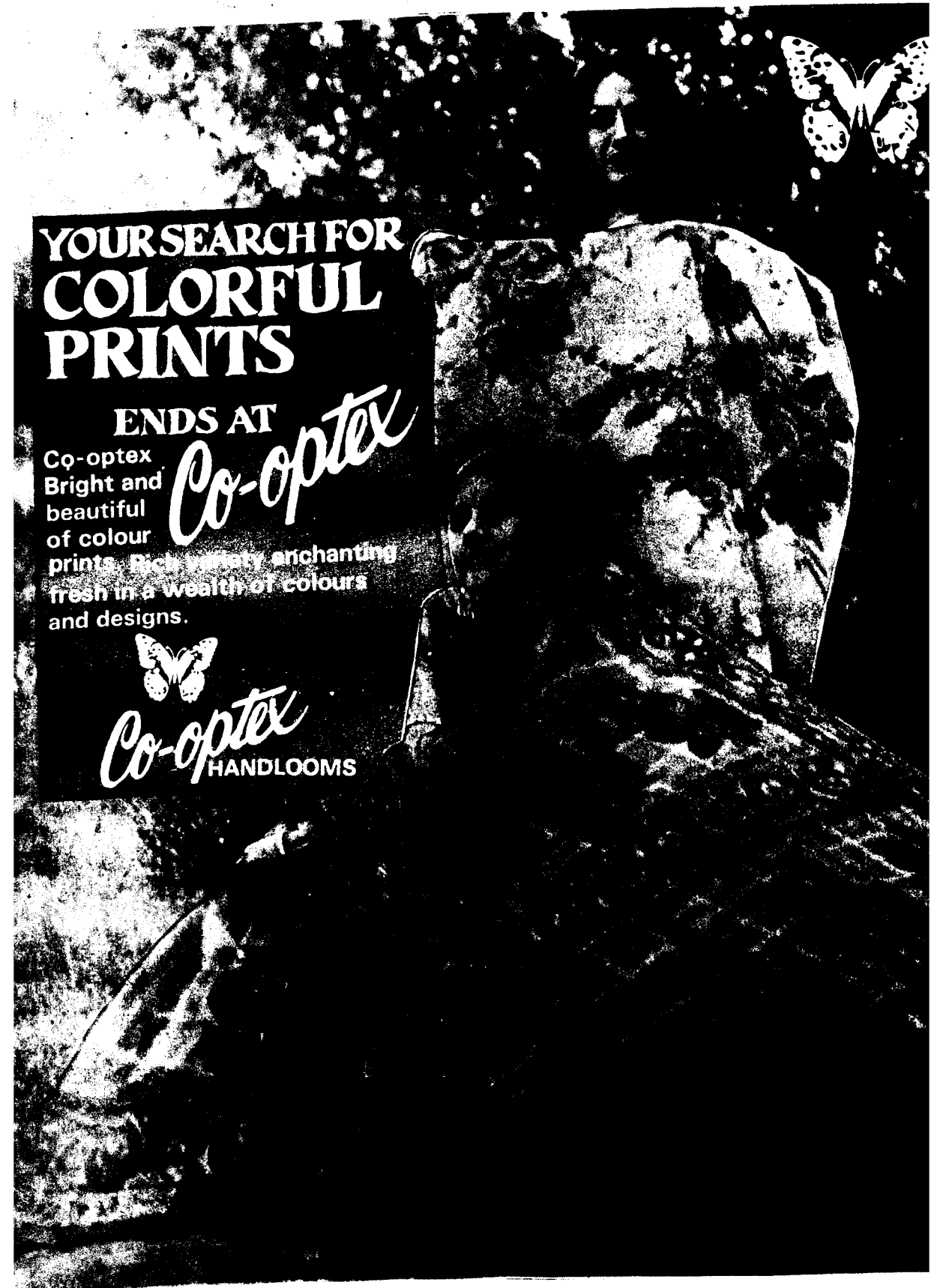
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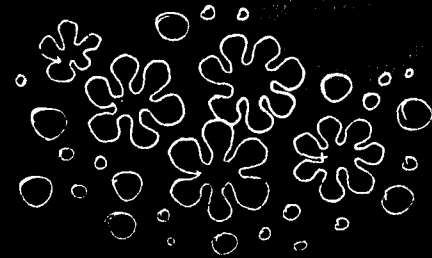
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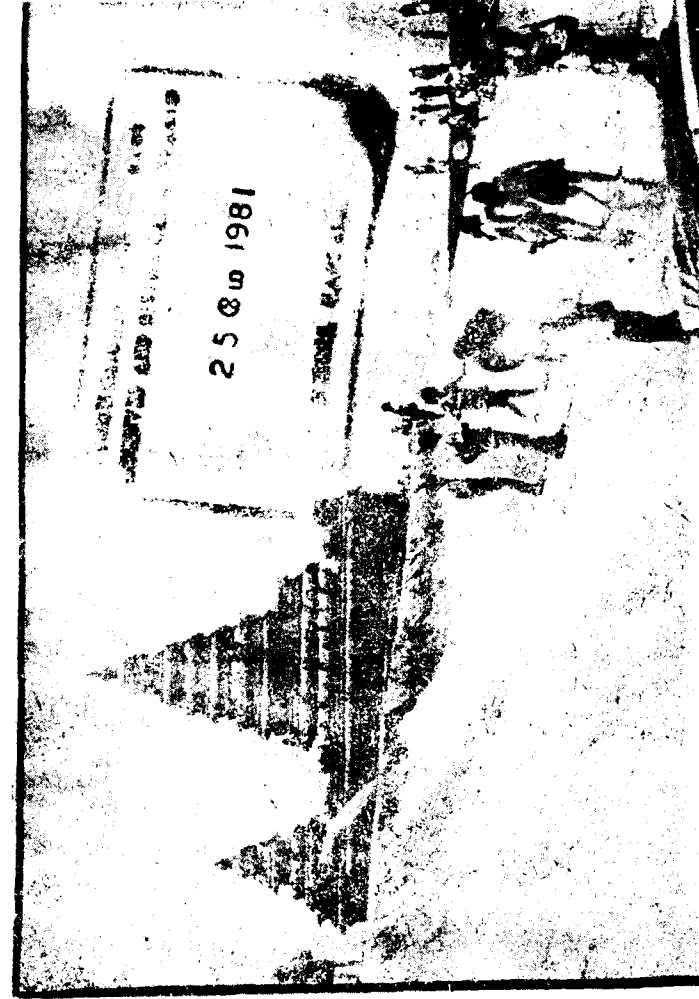


Tamil Nadu has a very rich Tourism potential. The ancient temples with lofty towers, architectural monuments, rivers, deep and lovely woods, with wildlife sanctuaries, unparalleled hill stations, health resorts and long beaches adorn the State. Tamil Nadu has an advantage of well developed net work of roads and transport services. Thus any investment on Tourism Development in Tamil Nadu will get increasing benefits.

The Budget outlay which was only Rs. 22.70 lakhs in 1975-76 has gradually been stepped upto Rs. 110 lakhs in 1981-82, which will prove that the Government are very much interested in the field of development of Tourism.

Development of Tourism in Tamil Nadu has the following objectives :—

(i) Development of places of International importance to attract more tourists ;



Tamil Arasu

MAY-1981

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TOURISM

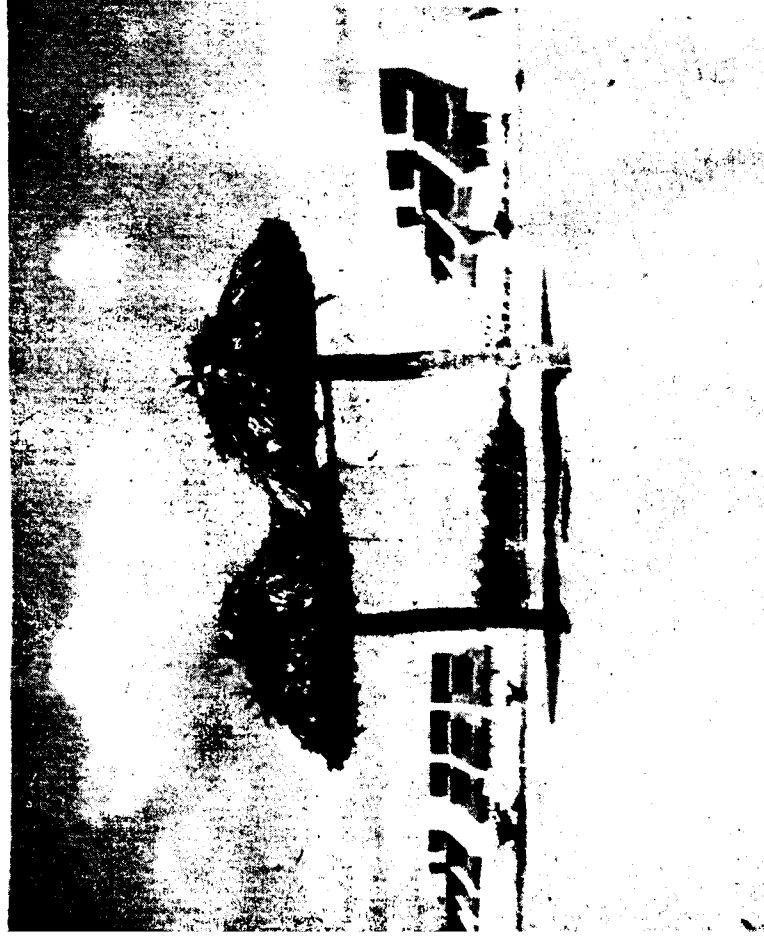
EARN\$ RICH FOREIGN EXCHANGE

THIRU R.M. VEERAPPAN,
Minister for Information and Religious Endowments.

(ii) Development of places of National importance to develop domestic tourism ;

(iii) Development of less known Tourist Centres which have great potential in this State ; and

(iv) Provision of inexpensive accommodation to the Domestic Tourists and Budget Tourists.



Development of Travel Circuits :

We were advised by the Government of India to identify at least two broad Travel Circuits and to formulate our Sixth Plan for the development of the identified travel circuits, in order to ensure that further investments by the Centre and the State on tourism development yields the maximum benefit. We accordingly identified the following three Travel Circuits.

I. Madras - Mamallapuram-Thirukazhukundram-Kancheepuram-Tiruchirappalli-Thanjavar-Pudukottai-Madurai-Rameswaram-Kanniyakumari-Chottalaim-Trivandrum.

II. Madras - Krishnagiri - Hogenakkal - Yercaud - Coimbatore-Udhagamandalam-Mudumalai-Mysore-Bangalore.

III. Rameswaram - Madurai - Koduikanal - Pudukottai - Tiruchirappalli - Thanjavur - Mamallapuram - Madurai.

We have drawn up a Master Plan involving a total outlay of about Rs. 70 crores. We have sent this Travel Circuit Plan to the Government of India requesting Central assistance for the development of travel circuits. Our proposal is under the consideration of the Government of India.

Mamallapuram :

A Master Plan has been drawn up for development of Mamallapuram at a cost of Rs. 6 crores. The rock-cut monoliths, Shore Temple, beautiful beach, round the year usability of the area are the factors which make Mamallapuram one of the important Tourist Centres of the world. The Co-ordination Committee has identified the following five schemes to be taken up on a priority basis in the first phase :

1. Formation of Ring-road.
2. Transport Terminal.
3. Regulated Shopping Plaza.
4. Vista formation.
5. Recreation facilities.

We have requested the Government of India to provide Rs. 25 lakhs as first instalment for the development of the above five schemes. Their reply is awaited.

During 1978-79 a sum of Rs. 1,81,814 was incurred towards the construction of a rest-shed with basic amenities for the benefit of budget tourists. During 1979-80, a sum of Rs. 3.5 lakhs was sanctioned for the provision of a camping site to encourage self-catering holidays. During 1980-81, a sum of Rs. 2.20 lakhs has been sanctioned for the

improvement of the camping site. Construction of the camping site is in progress. It has been decided to set up an open-air museum at Mamallapuram which will depict the evolution of sculpture and temple architecture. The proposed open-air museum will be a large park spread over to an area of about 25 acres near the beach. A sum of Rs. 9.80 lakhs has been sanctioned for the proposed open-air museum during 1980-81. It is also proposed to provide a sum of Rs. 10 lakhs during 1981-82.



Rameswaram :

Rameswaram is one of the important pilgrim centres in our sub-continent. It is also the entry point for Tourists from Sri Lanka by sea. Besides, Rameswaram is a fine beach resort and the neighbouring islands offer an ideal setting for setting up a Marine National Park. Because of high tourism potential, we have drawn up a Master Plan for the development of Rameswaram and its environs involving a total outlay of Rs. 28 crores over a period of 10 years. As the Rameswaram project qualifies for international assistance in many respects, we have requested the Union Government to seek financial assistance from the World Bank.

Our Government have provided funds for construction of rest sheds and dress changing rooms at a cost of Rs. 3 lakhs. During 1981-82, we have proposed to construct a Youth Hostel at Rameswaram to cater to the needs of the budget tourists at a cost of Rs. 10 lakhs

Kanniyakumari :

Kanniyakumari which is at the southern end of India attracts both foreign and domestic tourists throughout the year.

We have appointed a Tourism Consultant to prepare a Master Plan for the development of Kanniyakumari. The Master Plan is under preparation.

In the meantime, during the year 1980-81, a sum of Rs. 5 lakhs has been provided for construction of a dormitory (Youth Hostel) to cater to the needs of the budget tourists and Rs. 1 lakh has been sanctioned for the construction of Tourist Office.

Udhagamandalam :

Under the Hill Area Development Programme, we have sanctioned Rs. 20.5 lakhs to develop Udhagamandalam lake area. It is proposed to enlarge the Boat House and to provide a mini-train in the lake area. During 1981-82, it is proposed to provide Rs. 15 lakhs under Hill Area Development Programme to develop Udhagamandalam.

Yercaud :

The Government had so far sanctioned a sum of Rs. 6.72 lakhs for beautifying Yercaud lake. A new boat house-cum-restaurant has been constructed and boating facilities have been provided. A further sum of Rs. 1 lakh has been sanctioned for construction of Telescope House at Lady's Seat.

Kodaikanal :

Two Telescope Houses have been constructed at Kodaikanal at a cost of Rs. 1.6 lakhs. Rs. 2.8 lakhs have been provided for construction of Restaurant Block during 1977-78. During 1978-79, a sum of Rs. 7.03 lakhs has been sanctioned for construction of a dormitory. Construction of dormitory and the restaurant is now in progress.

Pichavaram :

Pichavaram is a place of unparalleled scenic beauty with back waters and mangrove forests on the East Coast. It has great potential as a picnic and holiday resort. With a view to develop Pichavaram, the Government have sanctioned a sum of Rs. 4.5 lacs for construction of rest sheds in 1978-79. The work is now in progress. A further sum of Rs. 3 lakhs has been sanctioned during 1979-80 to provide further amenities. It is proposed to provide Rs. 5 lakhs during 1981-82 for construction of Boat House and purchase of pleasure boats for the benefit of tourists.



Hogenakkal :

Hogenakkal water falls is one of the popular tourist attractions in Dharmapuri district. Hogenakkal falls is famous for curative powers of its water. During 1979-80, a sum of Rs. 3 lakhs has been provided for construction of dormitory to cater to the needs of the budget delegates as well as domestic tourists.

The Department of Tourism participated in the special Tamil Cultural Exhibition organised at Madurai in connection with the Fifth World Tamil Conference in a big way. It has put up a sound and light pavilion which has attracted large number of foreign delegates as well as domestic tourists.



Production of films :

Production of documentary films to project the tourist attractions of the State has also been taken up. A documentary film on 'Holiday resorts of Tamil Nadu' is under production. The film is likely to be completed in a couple of months.

tourists. The work is in progress. It has been proposed to construct a hanging bridge at a cost of Rs. 5 lakhs during 1981-82.

Youth Hostels :

To promote youth tourism and to accommodate budget tourists, youth hostels (Dormitories) are being constructed at all important tourists centres. Youth Hostels are designed to provide dormitory accommodation at a nominal rent of Rs. 5 to Rs. 7.50 per bed. We have sanctioned construction of Youth Hostels in the following places :

Yercaud ;
Mandapam ;
Pichavaram ;
Hogenakkal ;
Kodaikanal ;
Kanniyakumari ;
Udhagamandalam ;
Rameswaram and
Mamallapuram.

Youth Hostels at Yercaud, Mandapam, Hogenakkal, Mamallapuram are nearing completion. The remaining works are at various stages of construction.

Publicity and Promotion :

In order to disseminate information and attract more tourists, the department continued to take up several promotional and publicity measures.

Exhibitions :

The Tamil Nadu Tourism Development Corporation has conducted the eighth All India Tourist Trade Fair, at Madras at the "Fair Lands" near War Memorial. In response to our request, the Government of India have transferred 6.5 acres, a portion of the Island Grounds to the State Government. It is proposed to develop the Fair Lands as a permanent exhibition site by landscaping the entire area. This year Government have provided a token amount for the purpose.

In order to make people tourism conscious, the Department of Tourism has been participating in all the important exhibitions organised by the Directorate of Information and Public Relations.

Photo Library :

The Department is maintaining a photo library. Negatives and colour transparencies of our tourist attractions are collected, indexed and kept in the Department. They are extensively used in the Department publications, exhibitions, advertisements and other publicity materials. They are also lent to newspapers and periodicals and travel trade journals.

As the colour photograph are increasingly used in our publications, it is proposed to purchase colour processing equipment and audio visual equipment at a cost of Rs. 3 lakhs during 1981-82.

Publications :

Providing comprehensive background materials on the greatness of Tamil Nadu and basic information about the facilities available in the State is one of the important activities of the Department. During 1980-81 attractive brochures have been brought out besides making certain corrections, updating the literature produced earlier.

The tourist literature produced by the Department are distributed through the Tourist Offices and other channels to the tourist visiting the State. They are also sent to the Government of India Tourist Offices and Air India Offices abroad for distribution to the travel trade at their end. The travel agencies, Airline offices, hotel and others in the travel trade in Tamil Nadu are also supplied with these tourist literature.

Fairs and Festivals :

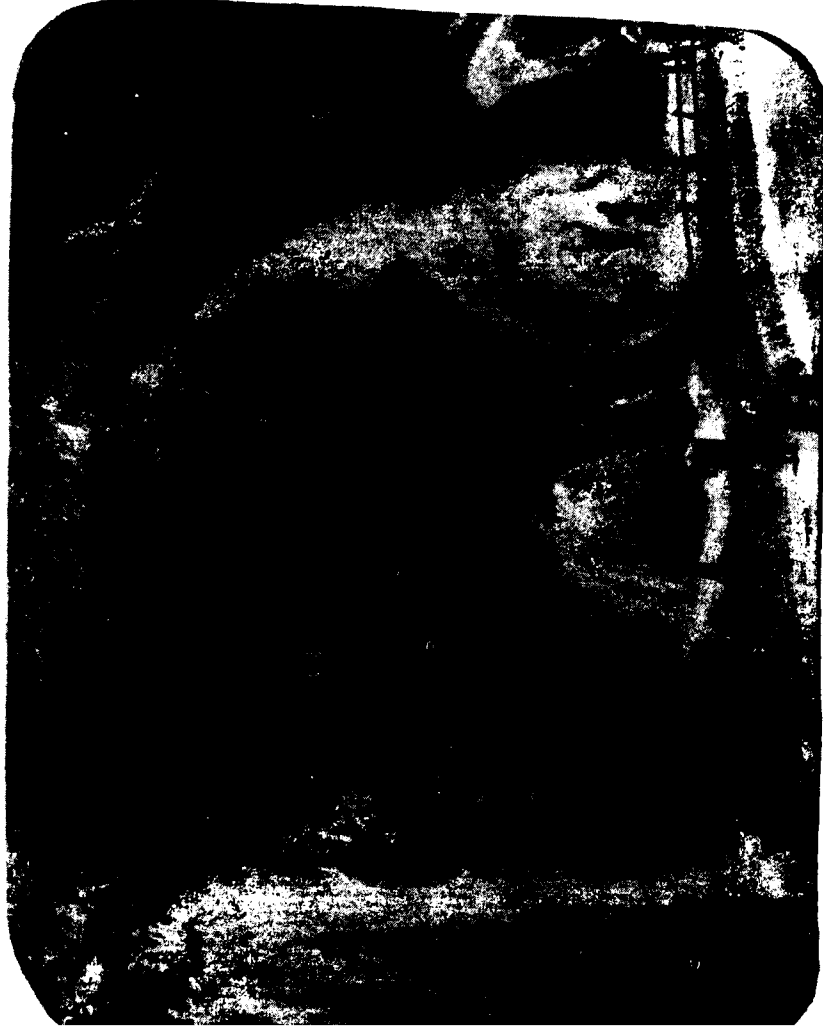
Pongal season is the peak tourist season for Tamil Nadu. During this period large number of foreign tourists and tourists from other States visit Tamil Nadu. The Department conducts Pongal Tourist Festival in all the important Tourist Centres, in all the districts.

The department actively assists in the celebration of "Summa Festival" in all the Hill Stations viz., Udhagamandalam, Kodaikanal and Yercaud.

Tourist Information Centres :

We have strengthened the Tourism Department during 1980-81. We have opened a new Tourist Office at Madras.

In order to cater to the needs of foreign and domestic tourists, a Tourist Information Centre was opened at Delhi during August, 1980.



We have also opened a Tourist Information Counter at Meenamakkam Air Port.

Tourist Information Counters at Tiruchelvai Junction and Madras Central Railway Station will be opened shortly.

Tamil Nadu Tourism Development Corporation Limited :

The Tamil Nadu Tourism Development Corporation which has been entrusted with the commercial aspects of tourism development has been receiving an increasing assistance from the Government. This has enabled the Corporation to register an impressive progress. During the last three years Tamil Nadu Tourism Development Corporation was restructured on commercial lines and its activities expanded manifold and thus creating a firm impact in travel trade as a pioneer in providing the much needed infrastructure which includes transport and accommodation facilities for tourism promotion in Tamil Nadu. The internal transport and accommodation facilities offered by the Tamil Nadu Tourism Development Corporation have become much sought after by the tourists visiting Tamil Nadu from different parts of India as well as from abroad. This is mainly because of the reasonable inexpensive nature and good standard of the services offered. This has enabled the Corporation to cross an annual turnover of Rs. 1 crore and become a Public Limited Company with effect from 1st July 1980.

The Corporation's turnover during 1971-72 was Rs. 4.58 lakhs. In 1976-77 this has been increased to Rs. 68.51 lakhs. This has further been increased to Rs. 153 lakhs during 1980-81, and it is estimated to cross Rs. 200 lakhs in 1981-82. The Corporation made, for the first time, a net profit in the year 1977-78 and all the losses incurred earlier have since been wiped off. The Corporation has also started paying interest on the loans obtained from the Government. The net profit before interest for the year 1980-81 is expected to be Rs. 15 lakhs. The authorised capital which was only Rs. 50 lakhs in 1971 increased to Rs. 100 lakhs in 1974, Rs. 200 lakhs in 1977 and Rs. 500 lakhs in 1980. The paid up capital of the Corporation now is Rs. 195.05 lakhs.

A sum of Rs. 20 lakhs has been proposed to be provided by Government as Share Capital assistance and another sum of Rs. 20 lakhs as loan assistance for the Corporation during the year 1981-82.

Hotels :

In 1971, when the Corporation was formed, it took over Tourist Bungalows run by the Government. The bed strength then was 253.

In 1975-76, the Corporation had 11 Tourist Bungalows with a total bed capacity of 752. This has now risen to 16 units with a combined bed strength of 1,095 following the commissioning of new hotels including a new 3 Star Hotel at Madurai. This is, besides the expansion of the existing Hotels at Madurai, Udhamandalam, Kodaikanal, Kanniyakumari and Yercaud. A new 3 Star Hotel at Coimbatore will be commissioned shortly with a bed capacity of 91 built at a cost of Rs. 35 lakhs. At Mamallapuram, 30 new Cottages are being constructed with all modern amenities at an estimated cost of Rs. 30 lakhs. New hotels are also proposed at Modumalai, Kancheepuram and Pudukkottai. It is also proposed by the Corporation to build a Star Hotel in Madras.

To provide wayside amenities, two motels have been commissioned at Ranipet and Ulundurpet. The work on the third motel at Krishnagiri is in progress. The aim of the Corporation is to provide Motels on all the National Highways in the State.

The hotels and motels run by the Corporation now are located in the following places :—

Hotels.—Chidambaram, Thanjavur, Tiruchirappalli, Madurai (two hotels), Rameswaram, Tiruchendur, Kanniyakumari (two hotels), Udhamandalam, Kodaikanal, Yercaud, Hogenakkal and Mamallapuram.

Motels.—Ranipet and Ulundurpet.

The revenue receipt from hotels has gone up from Rs. 4.50 lakhs in 1971-72 to Rs. 40 lakhs in 1976-77 and to Rs. 85 lakhs in 1980-81.

Transport.

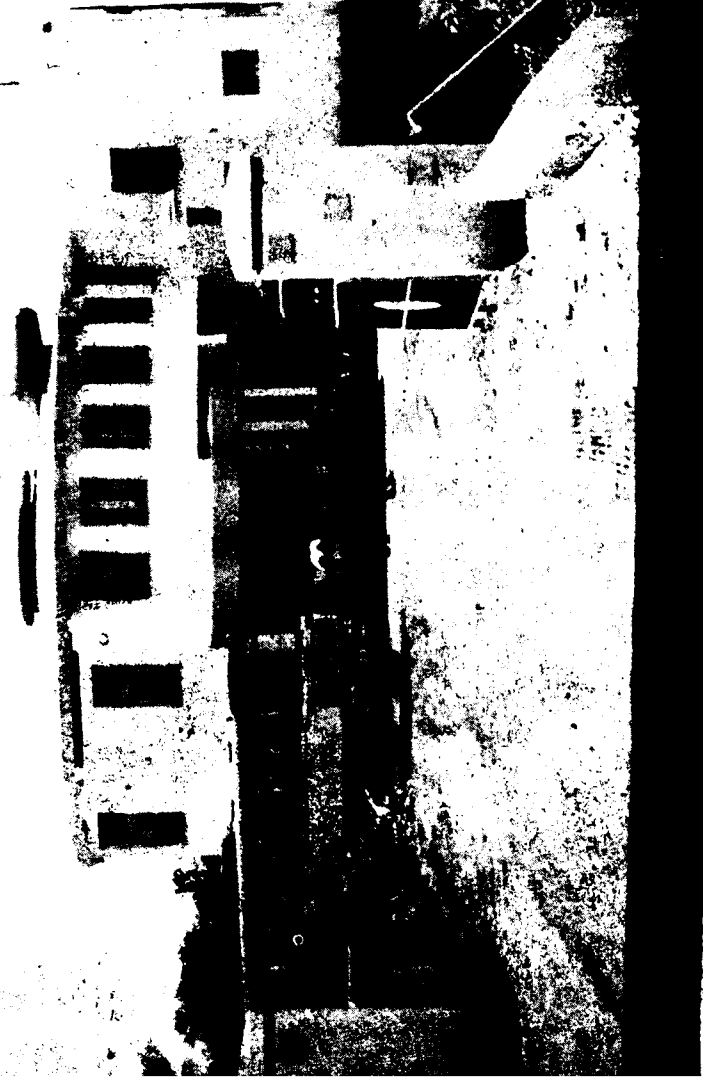
The Transport Wing of the Corporation was completely remodelled and rationalised in the last three years. Not only old tours have been modified on the basis of the "feed back" from the clients, but also attractive new tours have been introduced. Our coach tours are accepted as the best in the country as evidenced by the fact that sister corporations of the neighbouring States have deputed their officers to study our transport services. The Corporation is now operating the following coach tours :—

1. Daily city sight-seeing tour of Madras.
2. Daily excursion tour to Kancheepuram, Tirukazhukundram and Mamallapuram.
3. Daily tour to Tirupathi.
4. 7-day coach tour of Tamil Nadu.
5. 7-day coach tour of South India.

Special tours are also organised on requests to suit the convenience of the visitors.

Our tours are extremely popular among ethnic traffic from South East Asian Countries. In order to attract more tourists from these areas, the Corporation has recently appointed general selling agents at Malaysia and Singapore. Tamil Nadu Tourism Development Corporation is the first Tourism Corporation in the country to make such an arrangement.

To make the tour tickets readily available for the tourists, all the leading hotels and travel agents in Madras have been appointed as selling agents of the Corporation from October, 1979. Our coach





tour tickets are also available at the Metropolitan cities like Bombay and Delhi.

The Transport Wing, which was started in 1972 with 2 luxury coaches, now has a fleet strength of 15 luxury coaches including an air-conditioned coach. Two more air-conditioned coaches are to be added shortly.

In addition to operating our tours, the coaches are also hired to group tourists.

The capital investment in the Transport Wing upto 31st March 1981 is Rs. 35 lakhs. The receipts from the Transport Wing which was Rs. 2 lakhs in 1972-73, Rs. 14 lakhs in 1976-77 is Rs. 35 lakhs in 1980-81.

OTHER ACTIVITIES.

The Boat House at Udhagamandalam was taken over by the Corporation from the Fisheries Department in 1977 and a new Boat House was built at Yercaud in April 1979. More boats have been put into operation in these Boat Houses for the benefit of the tourists.

Tourist Service Centre :

The Tourist Service Centre at Mamallapuram is run by the Tamil Nadu Tourism Development Corporation to cater to the tourists visiting the sea side resort by sale of petrol, motor spare parts and tourist literature. In February 1981, a diesel outlet has also been added to this



service centre as an added facility to the tourists coming by diesel operated vehicles.

Trade Fairs:

The Tamil Nadu Tourism Development Corporation organises annual Tourist Trade Fairs at Madras, which is a popular annual event in the city. The Eighth Annual Tourist Trade Fair which concluded on 15th March 1981 was visited by as many as 20 lakh people.

Souvenir Division:

To enable the tourists visiting Tamil Nadu to carry sweet memories of our State, attractive souvenir items are being brought out by the Corporation. The picture post cards and the tourist map of Tamil Nadu, brought out by the Corporation are already popular with the tourists. An attractive purse-cum-shopping bag has since been devised as a souvenir and other souvenir items like scarves, art plates, etc. will be brought out shortly.



Labour Welfare Measures:

The number of employees of the Corporation which was 143 at the time of formation of the Corporation has risen to 750 as of now. The welfare of the staff has always been engaging the attention of the management. The Pay and Allowances of the employees belonging to catering section and transport wing have always been above the minimum prescribed by the various Acts of the Government. Besides, the Corporation has also been giving many monetary and non-monetary benefits to their employees.

The Corporation paid bonus to its employees for the first time in September, 1978 and continued thereafter.

To enable the employees to earn a share in the surplus generated in their own unit, a system of incentive bonus was devised and introduced with effect from 1st October 1979. The incentive bonus scheme has further been liberalised from 1st October, 1980. Subsidised food is served to the staff in the Tourist Bungalows and Motels. An Employees Gratuity Trust has been created with effect from 30th January 1980. To provide housing facilities to all the staff members of the moffussil, a phased programme of construction of staff quarters has been taken up. It is proposed to introduce a medical scheme for the benefit of all the employees of the Corporation under which the employees will get free treatment on par with Government servants in all Government hospitals.

The employees who were receiving adhoc wages were brought into a time-scale of pay with effect from 1st January 1979. Following the recommendations of a specially constituted Wages Sub-Committee, the wages of the employees were substantially revised from October, 1980 by granting special allowances like hill area allowance, dearness allowance, etc.

With all these, the average earnings of the employee per month which was Rs. 140 during 1971-72 and Rs. 210 in 1976-77 rose to Rs. 420 in 1980-81.

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LABOUR WELFARE MEASURES

Thiru
S. RAGHAVANANDAM,
Minister for Labour.

The Tamil Nadu Labour Welfare Board :
Reading Rooms :

The Tamil Nadu Labour Welfare Board is a statutory body, constituted under the Tamil Nadu Labour Welfare Fund Act, 1972. The Minister in-charge of Labour is the Chairman of the Board which comprises representatives of the Government, employers, and employees, few legislators and independent members. The Board has been implementing several welfare measures for the benefit of the labour in Tamil Nadu.

The Board at present runs four reading rooms at Perambur, Tondiarpet, Madurai and Coimbatore. Newspapers, Weekly and Monthly Magazines are supplied to the readers. The Board has since decided that in these reading rooms a small library with reference books in Science, Mathematics and Industrial Law could be opened. An expenditure of Rs. 50,960 has been incurred during 1980-81.

T. B. Ward, Tambaram :

The Board has constructed a 26 bed T. B. Ward at Tambaram at a cost of Rs. 3.64 lakhs for the treatment of workers. The Board has decided to construct T. B. Wards for workers in the T. B. Hospitals at Vellore, Asaripallam (Kanyakumari District), Perunthurai (Periyar District), Austinpatti (Madurai District) and in the Government Hospital at Tiruppur. The Board has also proposed to take up a special paediatric clinic at Sivakasi with 20 beds for the benefit of the Workers' Children.

**Subsidised Industrial Housing Scheme
(Private Employers' Projects).**

Under this Scheme, financial assistance is extended to employers to construct houses for the benefit of industrial workers covered by the Factories Act, 1948. For the purpose of extending Financial assistance under the scheme, the following ceilings have been approved:—Rs. 5,350 for small two-roomed houses (double storeyed). Rs. 6,050 for small two-roomed houses, (multi-storeyed). Rs. 7,600 for regular two-roomed houses (double-storeyed) and Rs. 8,500 for regular two-roomed houses (multi-storeyed).

Tailoring Centres :

The Board is now running a Tailoring Centre at Gudalur. In addition to this, it is proposed to open the Tailoring Centres at Kothagiri, Manjolar Estate in Tirunelveli District and Lower Kodayar (Kanyakumari District).

The Budget Estimate for 1980-81 is Rs. 5.26 lakhs under loan, and Rs. 2.50 lakhs under subsidy. Provision has been made in the Revised Estimate for 1980-81 in respect of the following projects:—

Madurantakam Co-operative Sugar Mills Limited, Padalam for construction of 16 houses.—Rs. 60,800 towards loan and Rs. 15,200 subsidy. Sundaram Textile Mills Ltd., Nanguneri (Entire Subsidy for 12 houses.) Rs. 16,050 towards subsidy. During the year 1980-81 the following projects under the scheme has been sanctioned. Shri Ramalinga Mills Private Limited, Aruppukottai.—Number of houses : 140 double—storeyed. Small two roomed tenements. The loan and subsidy sanctioned are Rs. 3,74,500 and Rs. 1,87,250 respectively. A sum of Rs. 32,100 was disbursed to the Sundaram Textiles Limited, Nanguneri towards loan during 1979-80 for the schemes sanctioned previously. The completion of the following works are anticipated during 1980-81 Madurantakam Co-operative Sugar Mills Limited, Padalam —16 houses. Salem Co-operative Sugar Mills Limited, Mohanur—72 houses upto plinth level only. The following development schemes are contemplated during the year 1981-82:—National Co-operative Sugar Mills Limited, Alanganallur.—48 houses (II Phases) are expected to be constructed. Madurantakam Co-operative Sugar Mills Limited, Padalam —40 houses (II Phases) are expected to be constructed. Salem Co-operative Sugar Mills, Mohanur —72 houses are expected to be completed upto roof level. Sri Ramalinga Mills (P) Ltd., Aruppukottai.—140 houses are expected to be constructed upto plinth level.

No new project has been proposed to Government for sanction during this year.

The Plantation Labour Housing Scheme :

The scheme envisages assistance to the planters for construction of houses for their workers, with 50 per cent loan and 37.5 per cent subsidy based on the ceiling cost of

construction, per single roomed tenement at Rs. 4,000 during the year 1979. No new project for construction of houses for workers in the plantations has been sanctioned by the Government during the period under report.

The Present position in regard to Plantations Labour Housing Scheme is summed up in the Statement hereunder :

1. Total number of residential families including single workers requiring houses	46,372
2. Number of standard houses provided	38,754
3. Total number of standard houses yet to be provided	7,618
4. Number of non-standard houses available	3,600

General :

With a view to get statistics about the number of establishments and workers covered under various Acts, the Inspectorate was asked to take census of these establishments in the month of December, 1980. This survey revealed an increase of about 25 per cent in the number of establishments covered by various enactments and 30 per cent in the number of workers who would be benefited under the various labour legislations.

Holiday Home :

Holiday Home at Yercaud is now functioning in a rented building. Construction of Holiday Homes has also been sanctioned at Mamallapuram and Courtallam. An extent of 0.25 acre of land has been allotted to the Tamil Nadu Labour Welfare Board for the construction of Holiday Home at Uthagamandalam. It is also proposed to open Rest House at Valparai and Holiday Homes at Kodaikanal and Rameswaram.

Child Care Centres :

Mahalir Manrams at Thiruvika Nagar, Barracks Line Village, Colony, Madras S.I.H.S. Thozhilalar Mahalir Manram, Coimbatore and at Rajapalayam are run with the annual grant of Rs. 8,000 from the Tamil Nadu Labour Welfare Board. The Board also runs a Child Care Centre at Palladam. The Board has decided to open more Child Care Centres one each at Sankagiri,



Coonoor, Sathur, Tiruchirappalli, Mukkudel, Tuticorin, Bhavani and Alangulam (Ramanathapuram District). An expenditure of Rs. 23,670 has been incurred during 1980-81.

Rest House for Trade Union Leaders and Workers' Representatives at Teynampet, Madras :

The construction work is in progress and it is expected to be opened in April 1981. It is also proposed to open a library in the Rest House at Teynampet containing reference books for use by the Trade Union Leaders.

Book Banks :

The Board has decided to start Book Banks to assist the workers' children in colleges and schools at Madras, Tiruchirappalli, Madurai, Coimbatore, Salem, Kanyakumari and Tirunelveli districts. Under this scheme, the Board is supplying non-returnable text books, free of cost to the workers' children studying upto 7th standard and returnable books to students of 8th standard and above. 161 applications were received for the reimbursement of the cost of the books; and a sum of Rs. 2,074.50 has been sanctioned so far.

Tuition fees and examination fees to Worker's Children who are learning typewriting and shorthand :

193 candidates got reimbursement under this scheme. A sum of Rs. 15,681 have been so far sanctioned.

Reimbursement of the cost of spectacles to workers who suffer from poor-eye-sight :

During the period under report 544 persons got reimbursement of the cost of the spectacles. A total sum of Rs. 22,922.38 has been sanctioned so far.

Grant of scholarship :

The Board grants scholarships to Worker's Children as detailed below :—

- 10+2 (Ten Plus Two) Two scholarships to Students who secure first and second rank in each district.
- Engineering—15 Scholarships.
- Medical—10 Scholarships.
- Law—9 Scholarships.
- Industrial Training Institutes —15 Scholarships.

Other Schemes

The Board is conducting annual sports every year to the men and women workers, including the children. The Board has decided to open Recreational Cultural activities in labour colonies and labour populated areas to remove the evils of drinking habits among workers. The Board grants funeral expenses at the rate of Rs. 200 to the family of the workers if he dies while in service. The Board supplies artificial limbs

to disabled workers, who are not getting this benefit from any other source. It is also proposed to start multipurpose, labour welfare centres at Thiruvattiyur or Ennore (Madras) Madurai, Coimbatore, Tiruchirappalli, Salem and Erode. The Board has also decided to open a Community Centre-cum-Auditorium in North Madras, and a Community Centre at Ambattur where the workers could conduct marriages, ear-boring ceremonies and other social functions. The Board has also decided to implement the Integrated Health Package Service Scheme to the workers not covered by the Employees' State Insurance Scheme.



The Government have sanctioned a scheme for the grant of financial assistance to meet legal expenses of trade unions in respect of proceedings in the High Court at Rs. 150 per writ petition or writ appeal subject to certain conditions. The Commissioner of Labour has been empowered to sanction the legal assistance. During 1979, one application was received for the grant of legal aid and Rs. 150 was sanctioned. During the year under report, there was no claim for aid under this scheme.

A sum of Rs. 1,000 per year has been provided by Government towards legal assistance at State cost to poor and deserving workers or their dependants claiming compensation under the Workmen's Compensation Act. Injured workmen are also eligible for legal assistance to defend their cases in the High Court, when the managements go on appeal against the orders of the Additional Commissioner for Workmen's Compensation, provided such assistance was granted to them in respect of the proceedings before the Additional Commissioner for Workmen's Compensation.

Labour Legal Advisory Cells :

Three Legal Advisory Cells are functioning at Madras, Coimbatore and Madurai and they are being managed by Retired Judicial Officers and Retired Labour Officers. These Cells have been set up by the Government on the recommendation made by the One-man Committee appointed to examine the general question

of framing a scheme for legal aid both in the private and public sectors to people of insufficient means, mainly with a view to bring about attitudinal changes and build up of workers with understanding and sound human relations in industry. These Cells hear the representations of workers with understanding and sympathy and suggest to them the procedure to be followed for redressal of their grievances and the forum to be approached for securing relief under various labour enactments and connected matter.

These Cells have heard 350 representations during the year 1980 as compared with 274 representations during 1979.

Tamil Nadu Industrial Nutrition Programme :

With the assistance of the 'CARE' Institutions, the Tamil Nadu Industrial Nutrition Programme is being implemented in the State for the benefit of workers. Pre-school and the pregnant and lactating women in workers families are the beneficiaries of the scheme. 29,982 are receiving benefits under the scheme at present in respect of 106 units (including the welfare centres of the Tamil Nadu Labour Welfare Board) under the scheme. In addition to the existing Industrial Nutrition Programme, the need for the implementation of the Integrated Health Package Service Scheme has been recognised, so that in conjunction with the nutrition food supplied, the beneficiaries received medical care as well.

Tamil Nadu Institute of Labour Studies, Madras :

The Tamil Nadu Institute of Labour Studies, the first of its kind in South India was established in March 1973 by the Government of Tamil Nadu for the development of sound and healthy trade unionism, the development of managerial resources and development of an efficient labour administrative service. The curriculum of the Institute has been designed as to achieve these objectives. The curriculum includes the following programmes :

1. Imparting education to workmen (manual, clerical and technical) employed in the industrial establishments in the public as well as in the private sector on all aspects of labour legislation as well as behavioural science with special emphasis on the value of internal leadership among trade unions.

2. Training of officers in the managerial cadre in the industry

3. Conducting refresher courses for the officers of the Labour Department in-charge of enforcement of labour laws and their administration ; and

4. Training of the officers who are dealing with labour in the Co-operative Societies, Local Bodies, etc.

The number of courses and seminars so far conducted by the Institute is 99 covering 2912 participants.

In appreciation of the useful activities of the Institute, the Government of Tamil Nadu upgraded it as a First Class Institute in 1978.

Part-time Diploma Course in Labour Administration.—

The Government permitted the Institute to conduct a Post-Graduate Diploma Course in Labour Administration. On 19th September 1980, the II Post Graduate Diploma Course in Labour Administration was inaugurated by the Honourable Minister for Labour. The strength of the students has gone up from 30 to 40.

Monthly Labour Law Journal in Tamil.—

The Institute has been publishing in Tamil a Labour Law Journal entitled "Uzhaippavar Ulagam" since September 1978. The journal brings out in simple Tamil, articles of interest to labour by eminent specialists in the field, digests of important decisions of Labour Courts, High Court and also the Supreme Court on industrial disputes. Statistics relating to the cost of living index particulars of strikes, lockouts and settlements; minimum wage notifications, etc., for the benefit of the workers.

Other activities:—

The Institute proposes to publish all the labour laws in Tamil for the benefit of the workers and trade union leaders who do not know any language other than Tamil.

The Institute is expected to set up a Research Cell for making in-depth study of labour statistics and labour problems.

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PLATINUM JUBILEE OF THE MADRAS VETERINARY COLLEGE

The Madras Veterinary College is celebrating its platinum jubilee this year. It is the first Veterinary College in the country to be affiliated to a University. The College has students not only from various state of the country, but also from other countries like Sri Lanka, Burma, Malaysia, Iraq, Phillipines and Africa. The College has made steady progress in education and research activities. The research workers have contributed many significant and noteworthy research findings in the field of Veterinary Science.

The President Thiru Sanjiva Reddy inaugurated the Platinum Jubilee celebrations of the Madras Veterinary College on 7th April '81. While inaugurating the function The President said:

"The cattle wealth of our country has played a vital role on the farm front in the last thirty years. Despite the increasing role of machines in day-to-day life, the strategic importance of animals in the country's agricultural life cannot be minimised in the foreseeable future. It is necessary to give top priority to animal husbandry programmes which would contribute to efforts to banishing poverty and improve the income of the rural people. I am confident that Madras Veterinary College will continue to do its best in the coming years in this regard.

In the last few years particularly we have taken great strides to achieve increased live-stock production together with growth of its attendant

infrastructure. The Government at the Centre and in the States have been attaching increased importance to such development programmes that are oriented to ensure higher productivity and gainful employment. In this context, I find cross breeding has come to stay as the main plank on these development activities. However, for making this successful, provision of assured and effective health cover is also essential. In the last two decades, particularly, the milk yield from cows and buffaloes has increased substantially. It needs to be maintained and improved further. Recently, I read about the sale of an Ongole Bull to a Brazilian buyer at a price of Rs. 2.5 lakhs. This indicates that our cattle have won international recognition and value which is a compliment to the experts in this field in our country. In view of this, it has become all the more necessary that suitable insurance cover be provided to the cattle population in our country with a view to protect the interests of the farmers. In the present day world insurance has become common place and a variety of items of machinery, equipment, gadgets, motorcars and the like are being insured, there is no reason why the animals, which do so much service to the community, are left out. You can visualise our ever increasing demand for qualified and trained veterinarians to look after and guide the health and husbandry practices of livestock efficiently. The necessity and significance of veterinary education needs no over-emphasis.

The President laid the founda-

tion for a modern in-patient block for large animals.

The Governor, Thiru Sadiq Ali in his presidential address said:

The Veterinary College here has to its credit, other achievements apart, a good deal of research activity. You have, attached to the college, a well equipped hospital which gives proper medical aid to sick animals. The benefits of this research are made available to our farmers through the numerous extension centres and also when the staff and students visit villages and give them specialised advice and guidance in their animal husbandry activities.

So far as Tamil Nadu is concerned, I am glad to say that cattle development has made good progress. With the implementation of key village schemes and intensive cattle development projects, we have now 62 key village centres in the State, creating large pockets of milk production. The seven intensive cattle Development Projects have contributed to an overall increase in milk production and productivity. Further, the health-cover—treatment and preventive measures—for the different classes of livestock is provided by a net work of different types of veterinary institutions in the State which seek to render effective service to diseased animals and ensure prophylactic measures against contagious and infectious diseases. The Institute of Veterinary Preventive Medicine at Ranipet is playing a pivotal role in this sphere.

The Governor laid the foundation for the new hostel block.

The Chief Minister, Thiru M.G. Ramachandran, laid the foundation for a building to mark the jubilee. The Chief Minister in his speech said: "The Tamil Nadu Government would do its best to provide all facilities to veterinary students and doctors in delivering health care to animals." He paid tributes to the college for becoming a centre for excellence.

The Agricultural Minister, Thiru K. Kalimuthu released a souvenir.

Thiru P. Kolandaivelu, Minister for Local Administration inaugurated a science exhibition.

The Minister for Animal Husbandry Tmt. Gomati Srinivasan, released a Tamil Journal brought out by the College.

FUTURE PROGRAMME

Currently in the Veterinary Faculty Ph.D. Programmes are conducted in 9 major departments. In the years to come when more qualified persons are available Ph.D. in the rest of the departments will be started in a phased manner.

Department of Bio-chemistry:

At present the department of Bio-chemistry which is clubbed with Microbiology will be separated and formed into a separate department. This separation is based on the modern research developments and also to provide more opportunities for the post-graduates for undertaking advanced research in Bio-chemistry. Further Masters and Doctorate degree programmes in Bio-chemistry will be started in the years to come.

Veterinary Public Health and Epidemiology:

This is a new department which will be created to keep in tune with the advancements made in this country and also abroad. This is a vital department to study the impacts of Animal diseases on human health and also to monitor such diseases in the state.

Dairy Technology:

With a modern, well equipped Dairy Technology Building completed it is proposed to start specialised courses in Dairy Technology at the undergraduate level, the intention being to provide the required trained personnel for the various Dairy Development Programmes being implemented in the country under "White Revolution." In a phased manner facilities will be made available for post-graduate studies at Masters and Doctorate level. For this purpose the qualified trained personnel will be recruited to fulfil the objectives.

In addition to the existing Multidisciplinary Regional Centres and Poultry disease investigation centres, emphasis on the future will be to locate any one of these centres in each district. Further, problems on nutrition, disease occurrence, marketing, etc. will be handled in these centres. In all the regional centres, farmers training courses will be started. In the Poultry investigation centres similarly poultry farmers training courses will be conducted. Further the training programmes will actually be taken in the rural areas by arranging classes and practical demonstrations on the spot for the benefit of the farmers.

The Director of Animal Health will be in overall control of all these centres located in the state.

Institute of Animal Genetics and Breeding:

The field of Animal Genetics has brought in more advances in the area of Research and teaching which have a bearing on animal production. This is directly related to the farmer by way of breeding improved quality livestock for better returns. Naturally advance research on fundamental genetics forms the basic foundation (i.e.) Drosophila Genetics, Biometry, Bio-chemical genetics, Pharmacogenetics, Radiation genetics, immunogenetics, molecular and microbial genetics and lab. animal genetics. The results of these will be applied to animal genetics with the aim of evolving high producing, high quality livestock. In addition Artificial Insemination will form a part of Animal Genetics to preserve and utilise Germ Plasm of exemplary character. The field of Cytogenetics will be applied to detect and diagnose reproductive and other allied disease conditions due to Chromosomal aberration.

A. VENKATARAMAN I.A.S.
Vice-Chancellor, Tamil Nadu
Agricultural University, Coimbatore.

The present department of Genetics will be upgraded into an Institute of Animal Genetics to handle these problems.

In recent times the field of Bacteriology, Virology and mycology have progressed vastly through advanced research findings. This was mainly due to detection of many varieties of casual agents affecting animals and man. With this in view it is contemplated to upgrade the department of microbiology to an institute of Microbiology to provide more avenues for advanced research programmes and for more specialised teaching in Bacteriology, virology and mycology.

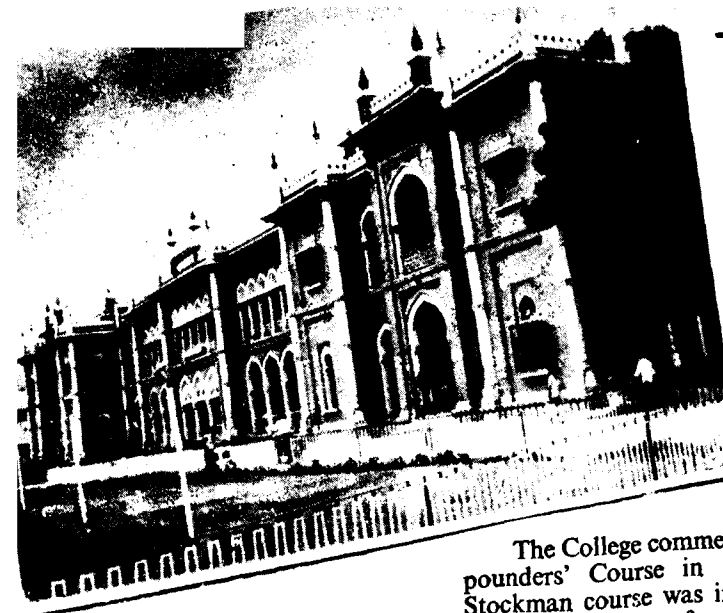
Institute of Animal Nutrition:

With an increase in awareness by the farmers to maintain high quality livestock and poultry for augmenting their income, it is necessary that quality feed is essential for maintaining and increasing the productivity of the livestock and poultry. Many commercial firms and private individuals who have flooded the market with ready mixed feed, many of them are sub-standard and also injurious due to toxic substances like sphlotoxin. Further, the utilisation of industrial wastes, other varieties of forage crops, etc. which have higher got higher nutritive value have not been exploited could be investigated and their nutritive value ascertained for use as cheap feed materials for Livestock and poultry, since livestock and poultry have been competing with human food. With this background it is contemplated to start an Institute of Animal Nutrition in the near future with modern facilities to fulfil the objectives.

An expansion programme in the field of Veterinary clinics is being worked out with the establishment of a Directorate of Clinics. The 4 major Clinical departments now functioning independent of department of clinics will be so modified such that the clinical department will co-ordinate in a large measure with the Directorate of clinics for rendering more useful and quality type of treatment to the ailing and sick animals brought to the hospital. In this programme new specialised disciplines for diagnosis of complicated cases will be started in a phased manner, (i.e.) Cardiology, Neuro-surgery, Neurology, Ophthalmology, Orthopedics, Clinical Pharmacology, Dermatology, etc.

It is proposed to attach more livestock farms or start new farms in appropriate areas in the state to help in undertaking advanced research programmes by the various departments. These Research Projects will be field oriented for the direct benefit of the farmers. Emphasis will be laid on starting new farms for goats, buffaloes, white cattle, poultry and ducks for undertaking research projects on these species. Under the future development programme cattle farm will be started in North Arcot, duck farms in Trichy and Kanyakumari, poultry farm, in Ramnad, buffalo farm in Periyar and goat farm in Dharmapuri districts in a phased manner. The Director of Animal Production will be in charge of the farms.

With the advancement and growth on the post-graduate educational programmes in different disciplines being implemented in the veterinary faculty the Dean for post-graduates studies, will attend to and look after the post-graduate programmes.



VETERINARY COLLEGE MADRAS

Dr. V. M. Ramaswamy,
DEAN

The College commenced a Compounders' Course in 1916 and a Stockman course was introduced in 1939. It had also for sometime a Veterinary Stockman Compounders' Course. A 2 year Livestock Inspectors' Course was started in 1948-49. It has since been abolished. A course on Flaying was started in 1953 which is not in operation now.

On the recommendations of the Indo-American team on Agricultural Research and Education, this College was upgraded as a "Southern Regional Centre of Post-Graduate Education and Research" in the year 1958. The Master of Veterinary Science (M.V.Sc.) degree programme in various Departments was a phased one and by 1962 sixteen Departments had started the courses.

The great enthusiasm of the workers in their field and the recognition and strong support given by the Government led to the creation of a separate "Directorate of Veterinary Education and Research" in the year 1969 and this again was a unique feature in the field of Veterinary Education in India.

The Madras Veterinary College started functioning from 1-10-1903 with 20 students on the rolls in the rented building known as "Dobbin Hall" situated about 175 yards from the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, on a monthly rent of Rs. 80/-. Major W. D. Gunn, M.R.C.V.S. who was then Superintendent, Civil Veterinary Department, Madras was appointed as a part-time Principal. Initially the Veterinary Course was spread over a period of 3 years and the diploma awarded was styled G.M.V.C. Though the Madras Veterinary College was the fourth Veterinary Institution to be started in India, it was the first Veterinary College to get itself affiliated to a University. The University of Madras recognised this Institution as a constituent College in 1935 to impart instruction for the degree of Bachelor of Veterinary Science (B.V.Sc) of 3 years and one term duration from the beginning of the academic year 1936-37. In 1938 the duration of the diploma course was extended to 4 years, and the duration of Bachelor of Veterinary Science degree course was extended to 5 years (1938-39). Later in 1946-47, according to the recommendations of Veterinary Education Committee of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, the degree course was remodelled into one of 4 years and one term. The diploma course was abolished in 1946. The subjects taught cover all aspects of Veterinary and Animal Husbandry, starting from basic sciences in the first year. The students are given intensive farm training in summer vacation for a period of 6 weeks every year. The 1979 batch of I.B.V.Sc. students have been admitted with a curriculum which includes an internship programme of 6 months duration.

Since 1974, the College stands affiliated to Tamil Nadu Agricultural University. Since December 1976, the College is a constituent unit of the Tamil Nadu Agricultural University.

EDUCATION:

Under Graduate Programme:

Currently the B.V.Sc. degree is a 5 year and one term course after one year of Pre-University Study. Over the years new subjects were added to equip the students with more knowledge in order to help the farming community. The course is rather of an arduous nature with students working about 8 hours a day, all 11 months in an academic year without holidays. The curricula and syllabi are of International standard following closely the recommendations of FAO/WHO team on Veterinary Education. Equal importance is given to animal health and production and to make the Veterinarian a well trained person to tackle both aspects. Another unique feature is the introduction of internal evaluation system as



early as in 1958 which has paid good dividends to the student community. The College draws its student population not only from various States in India but also from other countries like Sri Lanka, Burma, Malaysia, Iraq, Phillipines and the African Countries. In all 4842 graduates have obtained degrees from this College since its inception. From 1977-78 the Trimester system has been introduced at B.V.Sc. level. At present there are 21 Departments handling undergraduate classes in the Institution.

Post-graduate Programme:

All the Departments in the College are running M.V.Sc. degree courses extending over a period of 2 years with course work and a dissertation exercise. This is offered in 16 subjects at present. So far, 576 students have acquired the Master's degree from this Institution. This includes students who registered for the degree from other States as well. The Trimester system of education has been introduced at M.V.Sc. level from 1977-78.

Facilities for taking the Doctorate degree in 9 subjects have been introduced over the years and 19 students have taken their Ph.D. in this College. Currently the Trimester system of education has been introduced for the Doctorate Programme also.

Dr. M.N. Menon, the retired Animal Husbandry Commissioner to the Government of India and an alumnus of this College was the first F.R.C.V.S. awardee in India. Three of the alumni of this College have been the recipients of the Jawaharlal Nehru Award for outstanding Ph.D. Thesis in Veterinary Microbiology.



Training Programme:

- 1 This College conducted courses for the award of the Diploma in Veterinary Parasitology of 9 months duration.
- 2 Inservice training in Instruments Methodology and in Applied Statistics were also conducted in the College for the benefit of staff members and Post-graduates.
- 3 A Flaying course was conducted to train butchers and Veterinarians in Scientific Flaying and Carcass utilisation.



Further training programmes in the College include:

- 1 Refresher Course for the Veterinarians of the Animal Husbandry Department.
- 2 Laboratory Technician course of 1 year duration after pre-university, and also a 6 months part time training for senior attenders.
- 3 Farmers Training Course for the Farming Community in 3 Centres Hosur, Orathanad and Kattupakkam.
- 4 Courses in Veterinary Public Health for B.S.Sc., students and special lectures for the medical students and Public Health staff are important and note-worthy.



5 Training in Poultry Farming for employed and unemployed personnel in and around Madras City.

6 Training Courses in Hygienic Meat Production and Meat Quality Control for Marketing Officers.

7 Training in frozen semen utilisation.

Recently 2 new Departments have been started-Department of Disease Investigation and Control and Department of Clinics to provide better health cover to livestock at large. In addition, a separate Disease Investigation Centre for Poultry has been started at Namakkal, Salem District, keeping in view the large number of poultry farmers and breeders in that area so that the people could derive the maximum benefit.

To keep pace with the intensive dairy development projects implemented in India, on the Education, Research and Training side, a modern Dairy Technology building with modern facilities has been put up so that suitable personnel could be made available from this institution for employment in the dairy projects.

EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

The Department of Extension has been helping the farmers by conducting "Farm School on All India Radio" and also through correspondence courses, Animal Husbandry and Veterinary subjects of interest and benefit to farmers are being conducted. "Cheiron" a Scientific Journal was started in October '72 as a half yearly issue. It later became a bimonthly journal from June, '79. This journal is printed

in the College Communication Centre. It has a wide International circulation and has been recognised as a standard professional journal. Farm Advisory services to the extension farmers in and around Madras City and the State are offered to solve problems connected with disease control, management etc. as and when they are requested through direct contact or by post, thereby giving direct benefit to the farmer fulfilling the objectives of "Laboratory to land programme".

During this year 3 Regional Veterinary Centres have been started in Trichy, Dharmapuri and Madurai. These centres are multi-disciplinary in character intended to help the farmers to overcome their Animal Husbandry and Veterinary problems. Three more Poultry investigation Centres similar to the one at Namakkal have been started.

Research and achievements:

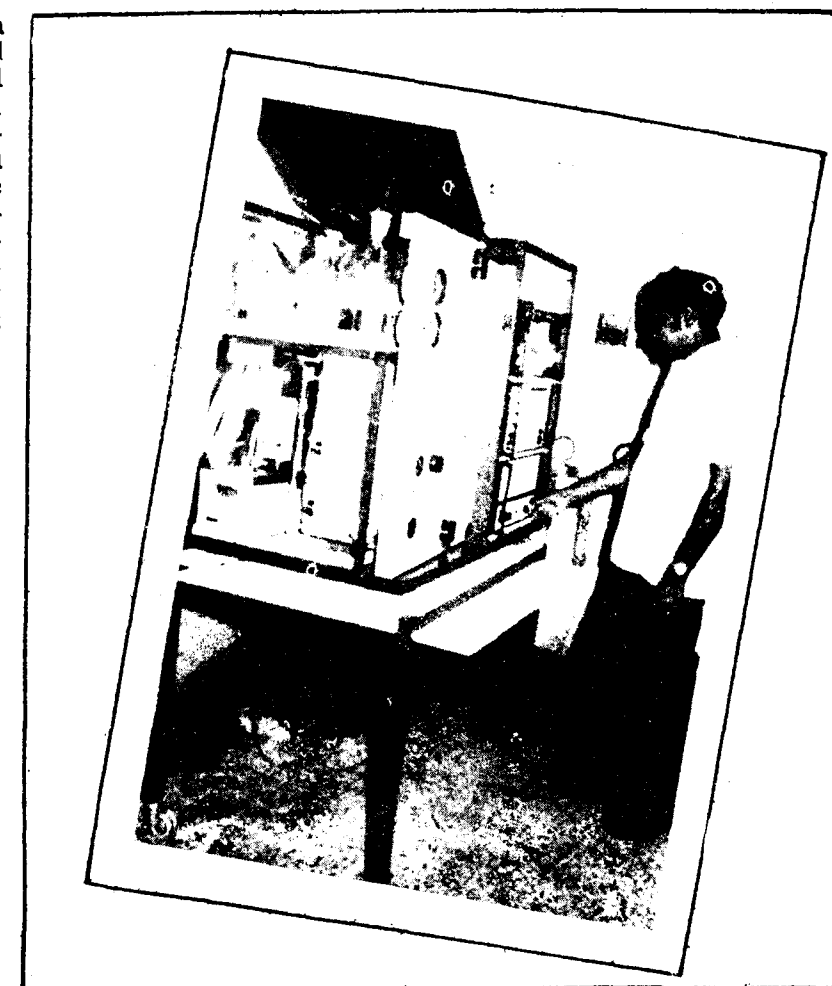
This Institution has been keeping pace with the advancement in Science. To enable the staff and post-graduate students to undertake advance research projects, sophisticated equipments and facilities like Electron Microscope, automatic amino acid analyser and Isotope and Trace mineral laboratory have been installed and put to use.

The jurisdiction of this College extends throughout the State. Besides the Poultry Research Station at Nandanam, the Livestock Research Station at Kattupakkam (Chengelpet), the Sheep Breeding Research Station at Ootacamund, the Sheep Research Scheme at Mecheri tract and training centre in Thanjavur and Dharmapuri Districts, the staff are actively engaged in solving the problems of farmers all over the States.

Starting from 1903, the College has made steady progress in education and research activities. The Research workers of this College have contributed many significant and note worthy research findings in the field of Veterinary Science. This trend has been continued and in recent years many new innovations, breeds and schemes have been implemented for the benefit of the farming community.

Hostel accommodation:

During the early days the hostel was within the campus over the



Dobbin Hall. Later a new hostel building consisting of 2 blocks was constructed near the College. Later a vast area belonging to the Defence Department which was lying vacant behind the existing hostel was acquired and a big block for hostel accommodation was constructed. In later years a new P.G. block was added. Accommodation for Warden and two Deputy Wardens have also been constructed simultaneously. Currently two blocks called teachers hostel and 13 staff quarters have been constructed and completed. In all, the hostel accommodation has been increased to comfortably house 530 students. More facilities for the students like reading room with journals and periodicals and facilities for indoor and outdoor games have been provided over the years of growth of the college and hostel.

Library:

For making available reference material and for providing the latest literature for the staff and students of this college a very well equipped Library, accommodated in a spacious floor in the clinical block is functioning.

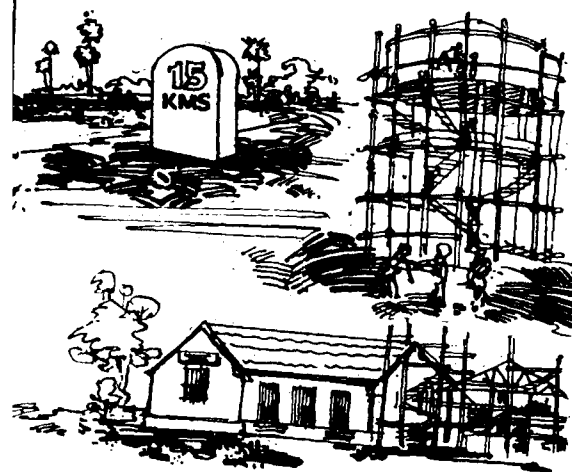
Extracurricular activities:

In the field of games and sports, many of the students have shown exemplary talents. Many trophies and laurels were won over the years and many of our students have represented the University and State Associations in games and sports bringing credit to the Institution. All encouragement is given to promote this aspect among the student population.

The graduates of this Institution are equipped to serve the cause of the nation through Veterinary and Animal Husbandry service. Its alumni are spread throughout the globe.

The Madras Veterinary College completed 50 years of noble service in 1953 and its Golden Jubilee was celebrated with great enthusiasm and splendour under the immediate presence of Thiru Jawaharlal Nehru, the then Prime Minister of India.

This Institution which bears a historic background is now celebrating its Platinum Jubilee in a fitting manner.



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ARIES/DIPR/468



TARRA

India lives in its villages. Hence rural development is an economic compulsion if the country is to make progress and register economic growth.

The concept of the community development programmes and the national extension service sponsored by the Government was to create an active awareness among the rural folks to have better living conditions through better environments, education and communication facilities. The people were encouraged to undertake nation building programmes through their own participation with assistance from the Government.

During the last 30 years about 68,000 k.ms of rural roads were formed, 11,000 power pumps and 42,000 hand pumps were installed and 85,000 tube and simple wells were constructed to provide drinking water. About 2,800 maternity and child welfare centres, 560 Veterinary dispensaries were started and over 23,000 schools were opened.

These are certain indices to show the quantum of achievements made so far. Though these achievements seem significant, yet large areas are still without some of the basic amenities and a comprehensive survey before launching the Self Sufficiency Scheme in the panchayat unions revealed that about 25,000

k.ms. of link roads have to be improved, that 23,000 culverts and 7,000 school buildings are yet to be constructed. We still require about 1,300 maternity and child welfare centres and about 1,00,000 houses for the harijan community. And above all, about 13,000 habitations are yet to be provided with drinking water supply.

This calls for an investment of Rs. 300 crores for the above crore schemes only and another Rs. 230 crores to provide for other development programmes.

Thus an investment of Rs. 530 crores is needed for the comprehensive development of rural areas against the present annual invest-

ment of Rs. 29 crores. At this pace of development, it will require another 17 years to provide our villages with basic amenities alone.

Where do we stand ?

Unless the Government efforts are supplemented by voluntary agencies and business and industrial houses, the long-felt requirements of our villagers would not be solved in the near future. The villagers are also getting impatient.

With this view, the Government of India have introduced sections 35 CC and 35 CCA to the Income-Tax Act 1961 which provide cent

Thiru H.B.N. SHETTY, I.A.S.,
Commissioner and Secretary to
Govt., R. D. & L. A. Department

percent rebate on the amount spent in the approved rural development projects.

In Tamil Nadu, good progress has not been achieved in comparison with the states of Gujarat and Maharashtra. The reason might be the communication gap and the difficulties experienced by the industrial houses at the field level.

To obviate these difficulties, Tamil Nadu have constituted an association called "Tamil Nadu Rural Reconstruction Association under the Societies Registration Act, 1975.

'TARRA' as it is called has the Chief Secretary to the Government of Tamil Nadu as Chairman, the Commissioner and Secretary to Government, R. D. & L.A. Department as Vice Chairman and the Director of Rural Development as the Chief Executive Officer.

TARRA is a voluntary agency sponsored by the Government of Tamil Nadu to channelise a portion of the taxable profits to nation building measures in specified rural areas as defined in the Income Tax Act.

The interior villages need more attention compared to the villages in the vicinity to the city and municipal limits. In order to see that rural areas alone will get the benefit under the scheme, a radial distance of 15 k.ms. from the Corporation limits of Madras City, 10 k.ms from the limits of Madurai Corporation and municipal limits of Tiruchirappalli, Coimbatore and Salem and 10 k.m. distance from other municipal and cantonment limits have been taken as criteria for the areas for the purposes of concessions under the Act.



TARRA is ready to execute any projects which confer benefits on our villages. Construction of school buildings, provision of water-supply, street lighting, formation and improvements to roads, minor irrigation sources etc. are but a few examples of the schemes taken by TARRA for execution.

TARRA as an agency will identify the project villages, formulate the projects on behalf of the donors. It will also execute the projects based on the wishes of the donors as well and the identity of the donor will be maintained subject to the principles and policies of the Government.

Lastly, it may not be out of place to mention that by attempting to get 10% of the corporate taxes out of Rs. 220 crores collected in Tamil Nadu, TARRA may easily get Rs. 22 crores for rural development projects in the State.

I, therefore, appeal to all industrial and business houses based in Tamil Nadu and even outside to come forward and associate themselves for the welfare of our rural brothers and sisters by taking up as many rural development projects.

I, therefore, appeal to all industrial and business houses based in Tamil Nadu and even outside to come forward and associate themselves for the welfare of our rural brothers and sisters by taking up as many rural development projects.



WELFARE OF THE DEPRESSED CLASSES

P. L. PONNUSWAMY, I.A.S.
Director of Adi Dravida and Tribal Welfare



According to 1971 Census 73,15,595 Scheduled Castes and 3,11,515 Scheduled Tribes are residing in Tamilnadu. Despite all that has been done for Adi Dravida both before and after independence yet we have a long way to go before they attain full equality with the rest of the Nation in all fields of life. They have been labouring under social, economic and cultural disabilities of many kinds. Though Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of the Nation had dedicated himself with devotion and duty towards the ameliorative measures of the so-called untouchables, "Touch-me-notism" continues to be a great blot on our society. Much has been done by Central and State Governments and several Voluntary agencies to mitigate these disabilities, but Adi Dravida problem still remains in several of its aspects. Uplift of the down trodden is the prime concern of any welfare State and the Government of Tamilnadu is attaining far-reaching results in the field of Harijan and Tribal Welfare. This can be seen from the enhancement of allotment from one crore in 1949 to Rs. 24.68 crores in the year 1980. At this stage we shall highlight the achievements in the field of Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

EDUCATION :

If a society is to be elevated, the basic criterion is education. Realising the objective fully, nearly 2/3rds of the budgetary provision is spent on schemes relating to education of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

For the purposes of education 942 schools are run by this department. 85,633 boys and 76,795 girls are studying in these schools. So also there are 103 residential and one non-residential schools being run for Tribes throughout the State. Nearly 6368 Scheduled Tribes children are educated in these Tribal schools. To fulfill the needs of students new schools, and hostels are opened every year. 60 (Hostels were recently constructed, and two new pucca buildings per year at a cost of four lakhs each are being constructed. New pucca buildings are constructed for the Government hostels through THHADCO by providing the required funds. It has been proposed to construct 50 girls' hostels and 30 boys' hostels during the year 1980-81.

An Adhoc merit grant of Rs. 300 is being granted to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes students who have secured 60% and above marks in the X Std in High Schools and first class in the Second year of the Higher Secondary Classes. The Scheme of Bright students' award which was available for S.C. and S.C. Convert boys only has been extended to Scheduled Tribes boys and girls and also for Scheduled



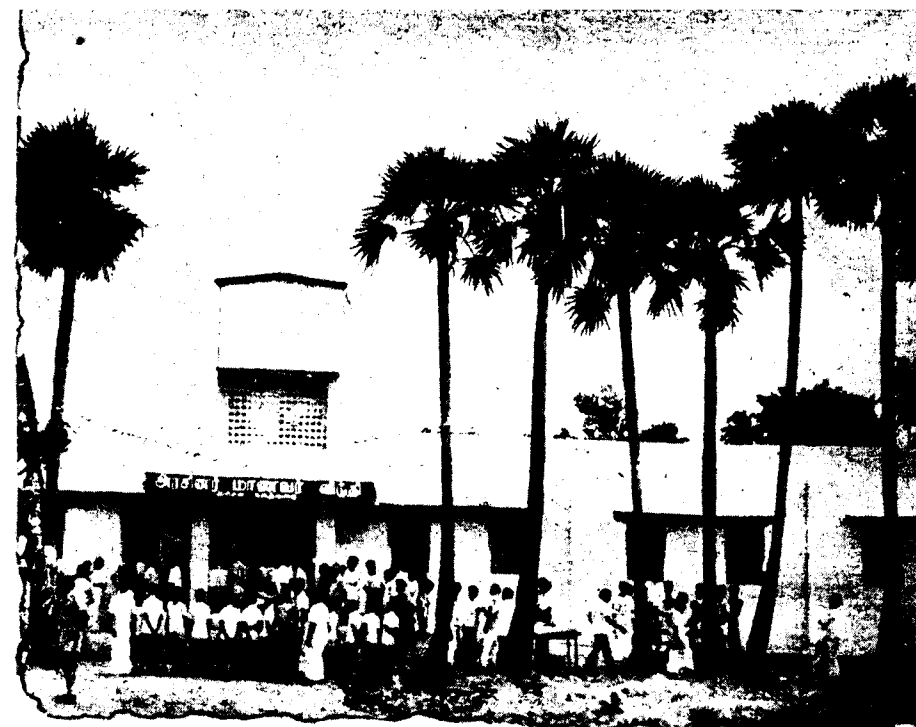
Castes and Scheduled Caste convert girls. Under this Scheme, Scheduled Castes Hindu Boys, Scheduled Castes Hindu Girls, Scheduled Tribe Boys, Scheduled Tribes Girls and Scheduled Caste Christian Boys and Scheduled Caste Christian Girls 2 under each category in each are sanctioned Bright students Award regardless of the income of their parents. The Gandhi Memorial award to one Scheduled Caste Hindu boy and one Scheduled Caste Hindu Girl and Merit-cum-means award to one Scheduled Caste-Xian Boy one Scheduled Caste-Xian Girl, one Scheduled Tribe boy and one Scheduled Tribe Girl in each district are continued to be sanctioned without regard to income of their parents.

Apart from this, at present 2 sets of uniforms for the boys and girls are given free in Adi Dravida Welfare Schools at the beginning of the Academic year and during Pongal.

At present, 1,12,332 Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe boys and 87,342 Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe girls are benefitted in Adi Dravida Welfare and Tribal Welfare Schools and Hostels. Midday meals along with the assistance of the CARE are supplied to them. One significant achievement in the field of granting Non-Residential scholarship is that from the year 1977 onwards, the required number of approved Text-books are supplied to the students studying not only in Adi Dravida Welfare schools but also in all the education Schools, in Tamilnadu. Food charges to hostels are enhanced from time to time to accord with the increase in price.

In the High School hostels, B.T. Candidates have been appointed as Tutor-cum-Wardens so that they will coach the students in various subjects outside school hours. In Hostels where there are no tutor-cum wardens part-time tutors are appointed from the concerned High Schools.

For Law graduates financial assistance of Rs. 500 as subsidy and Rs. 750 as loan were sanctioned towards the cost of books and furniture and for payment of enrolment fees and rent of chamber for commencing their profession. During 1980-81 the subsidy has been enhanced to Rs. 750. The Scheduled Caste candidates studying in Industrial Training Institute Centres were hitherto sanctioned monthly stipend of Rs. 45. This has been enhanced



to Rs. 55 from 1-8-1980. A cash grant of Rs. 1,000 is given to each of the S.Cs, S.Ts. and Denotified Tribe students of Tamilnadu who come out successful in the All India Services Examinations. No income-limit is fixed for eligibility for this cash grant if the beneficiary got selected for appointment to the All India Services without undergoing coaching in the Pre-Examination Training Centre, Madras.

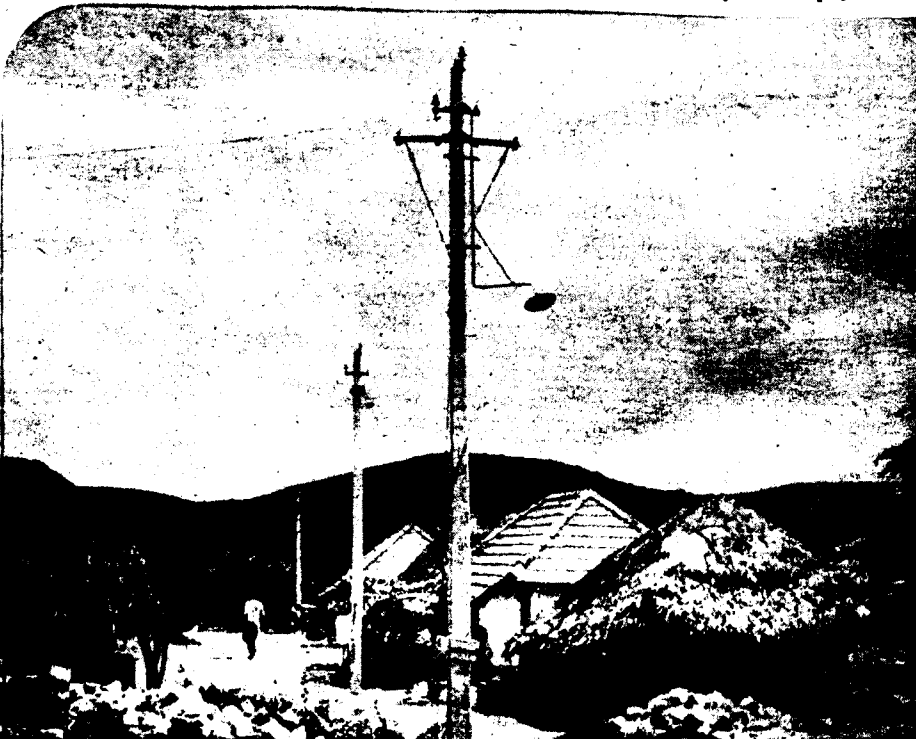
HOUSE SITES :

Poramboke lands wherever available are assigned as house sites to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes by the Revenue Department.

Where such lands are not available private lands are acquired at Government cost to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes free of cost. So far (upto 31-12-1980) 3.53 lakhs house sites with an extent of 22243.09 acres of land have been acquired at a cost of Rs. 8.07 crores. During 1979-80 about 27068 house sites with an extent of 1624.01 acres of land have been acquired at a cost of Rs. 84.56 lakhs. This is an all time high record.

ECONOMIC UPLIFT :

The Scheme of granting petty trade loan to Harijans for running thirty-one (31) trades such as cycle shops,



hostels, grocery shops etc. continues to be implemented from 1968-69. The amount of loan ranges from Rs. 125 to 15,000/- depending upon the nature of trade. From 1980-81 a sum of Rs. 10.00 lakhs for Scheduled Castes and 1.00 lakh for Scheduled Caste converts have been sanctioned under this scheme. For Scheduled Tribes a sum of Rs. 0.50 lakhs has been provided. The Government have sanctioned loan for establishing a service Co-operative society for Harijan match workers in Ramnad District. The Government have accepted setting up of a development wing in THHADCO to assist in the flow of benefits to the Scheduled Castes from suitable programmes by acting as promoter, financier and guarantor. During the current year, for this purpose, a sum of Rs. 51 lakhs has been released to THHADCO being the share capital investment to play immediately an important role in the economic development of Scheduled Castes. The Central Assistance under this scheme would be in the ratio 49 : 51.

CO-OPERATION

With a view to facilitating rapid advancement of Adi Dravida in the field of industry, the Government have organised several cottage Industrial Co-operative societies, Training Centres, Training-cum-production Centres, Work Centres and they are run by the Director of Industries and Commerce, Director of Social Welfare, Director of Handlooms and Textiles and the Tamilnadu Khadi and Village Industries Board, who possess the necessary technical know-how. The amount required for running these centres and societies is borne by Adi Dravida and Tribal Welfare Department.

In order to free the tribals from the clutches of various exploiters and also with a view to enabling them to market the forest produce and to improve their economic conditions there are four co-operative marketing societies, four Forest Labour Contract Co-operative Societies and four Multi-purpose Co-operative Societies in the State for Scheduled Tribes. To provide alternative credit to the Scheduled Tribes through the financing institutions, on reasonable rate of interest, nine LAMPS (Large Sized Multi Purpose Co-operative Societies) have been organized in tribal areas with Government financial assistance. The LAMPS not only provide production credit but also consumption

credit. Loan from Nationalised Banks are also arranged for meeting the contribution towards the distribution of the agricultural inputs.

With a view to helping Adi Dravida and also to give them employment opportunities during the off seasons, Milk Supply Co-operative Societies have been organised. Each Adi Dravida Member in the Co-operative Milk Supply Societies in the State is given financial assistance at the rate of Rs. 1,500 per animal. He is eligible for a subsidy of Rs. 500 from Harijan Welfare funds and Rs. 1,000 as loan under differential rate of interest from Nationalised Banks, per animal. Each individual is entitled for the above assistance to purchase of the animals only. During 1980-81, a sum of Rs. 11.48 lakhs has been provided for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Caste Converts to Christianity for this purpose.

The ceiling fixed on the expenditure in respect of drinking water—well works has been raised from 5,000 to Rs. 6,000 perwork. The Government have permitted the Director of Adi Dravida and Tribal Welfare, Madras to purchase the tools without referring to the ceiling fixed for each trade or category of tools and supply them free of cost to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Converts to the extent of budget provision. Dhobi Khanas are constructed in Kanyakumari District and Shencottah Taluk in Tirunelveli district for the benefit of the Scheduled Castes Dhobies.

A new scheme has been implemented from 1978-79 for payment of cash grant of Rs. 50 towards expenditure connected with funeral rites on the death of a member in poor Harijan families. 5,740 persons were benefited. A sum of Rs. 18.80 lakhs has been provided during 1979-80 and a sum of Rs. 5.00 lakhs has been provided during 1980-81.

BONDED LABOUR :

Rehabilitation schemes are implemented for the released bonded labourers. So far 2,883 bonded labourers have been released in ten districts of this State. Of them, 2,336 persons have been already rehabilitated by way of assignment of cultivable land, provision of adhoc employment and through credit facilities.

REMOVAL OF UNTOUCHABILITY :

Effective measures are taken for the removal of untouchability. Every

year "Adi Dravida Week" is celebrated from 24th January to 30th January. During this week special supplements were issued laying importance on the protection of Civil rights Act and releasing posters highlighting the removal of untouchability. Special meetings are arranged throughout the State on the evils of untouchability and stressing the needs for the eradication of untouchability.

Government have issued orders enhancing the incentive provided for the inter-caste married couple a sum of Rs. 4,000 will be invested as Fixed Deposit in any Nationalised Bank jointly in the names of the couple and a cash grant of Rs. 3,000, a gold medal and a certificate of appreciation will also be given to the couple.

Commending the services rendered by Special Workers for the removal of untouchability, merit certificates were issued to 133 Social Workers.

150 Child Welfare Centres were opened from Harijan Welfare fund for the Welfare of Scheduled Castes. During 1980-81 Government ordered to open 50 more Child Welfare Centres.

For the integrated development of Scheduled Tribes sub-plan has been prepared and an expenditure of Rs. 144 lakhs during 1977-78 and an expenditure of Rs. 168.84 lakhs in 1978-79 have been incurred for implementing special schemes for Scheduled Tribes, under the Sub-Plan. During the year 1980-81, a sum of Rs. 347 lakhs has been provided to implement the above scheme. A Special Component Plan has been prepared in which not less than 18% of the budget allocation under various sectors of development has been allocated to benefit Scheduled Castes and is being actively implemented.

SELF-SUFFICIENCY PROGRAMME

The Tamil Nadu Government have formulated the Self-Sufficiency programme in the rural areas. This programme includes provision of drinking water wells, construction of link roads, culverts, pathways to burial grounds, School buildings and houses for Harijans.

One Crore economic schemes for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes through the THHADCO is being implemented during the current year, 5,000 houses for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the current year to be given free of cost.

REHABILITATION MEDICINE AND THE ORTHOPAEDICALLY HANDICAPPED

DR. I. S. SHANMUGAM, M.B. D. ORTHO. D. PHYS.
MED. (LOND.)

Prof. of Rehabilitation Medicine and
Artificial Limb Centre.



Concept of Rehabilitation :

Every man has a right to live a respectable life. The Rehabilitation Medicine through a multi-disciplinary approach strives to achieve a respectable life for the physically handicapped patients. This new branch of Medicine offers a comprehensive rehabilitation programme. The Doctors specialised in this speciality of Medicine evaluate the various physical abilities and disabilities and try to reduce the disabilities, improve the abilities, study the patient and his environment as a whole. They also organise educational and vocational career for the physically handicapped.

The physically handicapped patients consist of three categories :—

(a) Blind (b) Deaf (c) Locomotor (Orthopaedically Handicapped.)

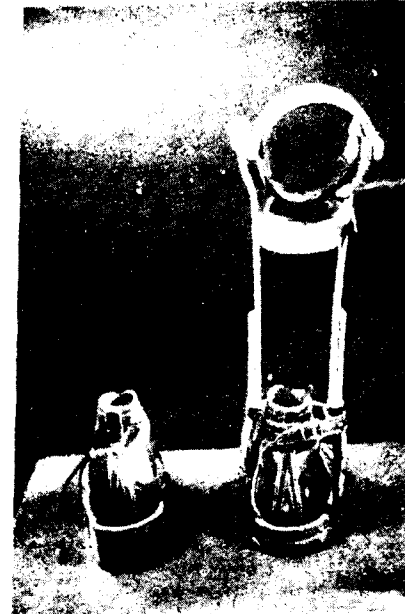
The rehabilitation Medicine concentrates on the Medical management of Locomotor handicapped patients. The treatment and rehabilitation of these patients have to be approached by a team work. The team consists of various medical and paramedical sections.

The Causes for the Locomotor Handicapped :

The anterior poliomyelitis is still the largest single disease to cripple the children in this part of the country. Cerebral palsy and other birth defects are the other causes to disable the children. The accidents are the big factor to maim young adults. Arthritis is the largest disease to deform and disable the middle aged groups. In old age stroke is the main cause.

Need for Rehabilitation :

According to the 1971 census the population of Tamil Nadu is 41.2 Millions and the projected figure for 1980 is 47 millions. The orthopaedically handicapped patients consist roughly of 1.4% of the total population. To this alarming figure there is an addition



of 4% every year. After the advent of independence general health care has improved and the life span also is increased. So unlike the pre-independence period the orthopaedically handicapped patients now live long. There is an increase in road traffic, industrial and agricultural accidents and these patients, because of the improved medical technology live long, though they lose a limb or lose the power of the hand or leg. These



patients if not properly rehabilitated will be a source of heavy dependency and drain on the economy of the community and orthopaedically handicapped patient if given suitable job he proves to work better and more than by a normal man at that job could turn out. So it becomes patent that rehabilitation of the orthopaedically handicapped becomes essential.

Methods of Rehabilitation :

The rehabilitation of the physically handicapped has two phases :

1. Physical Rehabilitation
2. Socio-Vocational Rehabilitation.

By the physical modalities such as physiotherapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy and caliper or limb fitting the disabilities are treated and the abilities are improved and the patient gains an independent ambulation. When once this is achieved and training given to take alternate job he is given a gainful employment. So a vocational rehabilitation department should always be a part of rehabilitation medicine department.

The comprehensive Rehabilitation programme involves a heavy expenditure and co-operation of the Government and the Voluntary organisation and individual philanthropy. But in a climate where still opportunism reigns supreme there is little incentive for striving to achieve this goal. But with the limited resources this speciality of rehabilitation medicine is trying to uplift the unfortunate community of orthopaedically handicapped and tries to fix up a gainful employment whereby it reduces the heavy drain on the society and a drag on the country at large.

The year 1981 has been declared as 'International year of Disabled.' The Tamil Nadu Government has already taken great and important steps in various rehabilitation procedures and help to improve and uplift the disabled people.





One of the marvels of the surgery in modern times is the reattachment of the amputated hand or foot with the help of microsurgery. An amputated thumb and an amputated whole hand at the level of middle of palm respectively have been successfully sutured back at the Department of Plastic Surgery and Reconstructive Hand Surgery, Stanley Medical College & Government Stanley Hospital, Madras.

One was a young man aged 25 years, who came with his amputated right thumb within 3 hours of the accident. The thumb was put back by anastomosing the 0.8 mm vessel through the Operating Microscope. The bones, nerves and the tendons have also been sutured back.

Another was a man aged 20 years, who came with the amputated right hand through the middle of the palm within an hour of the accident. The whole hand has been successfully sutured back. This is the first reported case in the country, where reattachment of the hand severed at the level of middle of the palm has been successfully sutured back. It had taken 11 hours for this operation.

The Dean, Stanley Medical College mentioned that it is a great landmark in the field of microsurgery in our country in general and in particular our State. Dr. R. Venkataswami, Professor of Plastic Surgery & Reconstructive Hand

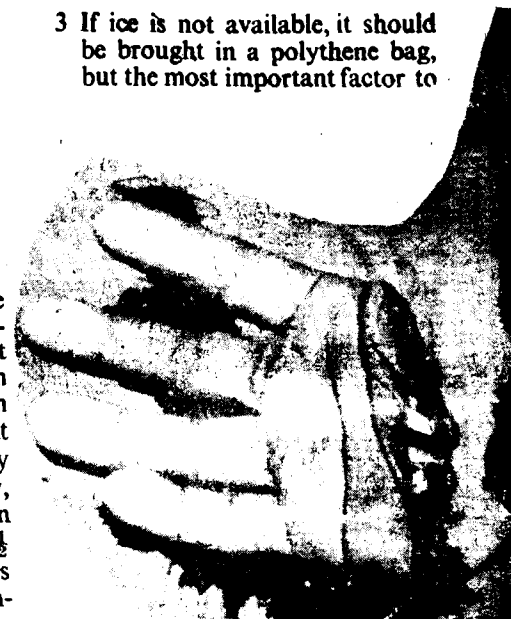
Surgery, Stanley Medical College explained in detail the various aspects of micro surgery. He said that microsurgery is well advanced in the western countries and it is still in its infant stage in our country. But the Department of Plastic Surgery & Reconstructive Hand Surgery, Stanley Medical College has been doing microsurgery for the past 2½ years on injured nerves and nerves affected by Leprosy. The Government of Tamil Nadu has been the pioneer in organising one of the best Hand Injury Services in our country at the Stanley Medical College and providing all the facilities and equipments for carrying-out microsurgery in this Centre. In this respect the Government of Tamil Nadu has been the fore-runner in developing microsurgery in a Government institution in our country.

He also said that the reimplantation surgery is one aspect of microsurgery and in the years to come, microsurgery will be used in this Centre to transfer skin, tendon, nerves and bones from one part of the body to the other on the blood vessels and anastomose them at the new site so that they survive immediately. This will be a great advance in the field of reconstructive surgery. Micro surgery needs constant practice in the experimental laboratory. This Centre has all the facilities for experimental work. The other areas where reconstructive microsurgery will be useful are in

The anastomosis the cut vas and tubes and in filariasis.

It was explained why the amputated parts should be brought soon after the accident. Accordingly the important points to be observed are:

- 1 The amputated part should be washed with clean water, if available and placed in a clean polythene bag and the bag surrounded by ice.
- 2 On no account, the amputated part should come into direct contact with the ice or put into any solution.
- 3 If ice is not available, it should be brought in a polythene bag, but the most important factor to



be observed is to bring it immediately and any delay more than one hour will affect the result. It was also pointed out that clean cut amputations will be more suitable for reattachment than crushed ones.



Ever since the United Nations announced 1979 as a 'Children's Year', the Council of the Victoria Technical Institute has been considering how best this Institution could promote the welfare and interest of children in our country. Among the various schemes which came up for consideration one, which appealed to the Council most, was to devise some means for helping and developing the capability of the handicapped children. With this end in view, the Council decided in 1980 that it should hold an annual competition in Art for handicapped children. The implementation of this project coincided with the inauguration in the year of the Disabled, 1981.

The first competition was thrown open to the physically handicapped children between 6 and 14 years of age, in and around Madras and applications were invited from duly sponsored by institutions. The response to invitation was great that about 100 applications sponsored by 20 Institutions in City were received.

Ninety applicants participated in the competition. The competition started at 10 A.M. in the presence of the committee of judges. The Competition was concluded by 1 p.m. and the children were given lunch.

In all, 20 boys and 5 girls from 14 Institutions got prizes. The type of disability of the handicapped children who participated in the Competition and the number of prize winners in each category were as follows:

Type of disability	No. of children who participated	No. of children who got prizes
1. Deafness	36	11
2. Poliomyelitis	25	4
3. Orthopaedically Handicapped	9	4
4. Mentally Retarded	19	5
5. Colour Blind	1	1
	90	25

The prizes along with certificates were distributed to the winners by the President of V. T. I. It was both a miserable and a happy moment for the President to give the First Prize of Rs. 500 to an eight-year old boy, Subramaniam from the Institution,

'Mithra', miserable because the boy had no hands to receive the prize; and happy because it was a glorious moment in that boy's life that his talents in painting with his foot could be recognised and applauded.

The boy, E. G. Ravikumar from St. Louis Institute got one of the second prizes for his painting in colour, though he is colourblind! Eight year old Selvaraj from the Life Help Centre proved that although handicapped with mental retardation, he is a creative artist winning a second prize. The boy Noor Mohamed aged 11 years sponsored by the School for Orthopaedically Handicapped Children, General Hospital, had Congenital deformity, got a second prize.

Finally, the V.T.I. gave all the children who participated in the competition each a gift of a box of Oil pastels as further encouragement to their art activity and in appreciation of their participation in the competition unmindful of their physical disability.



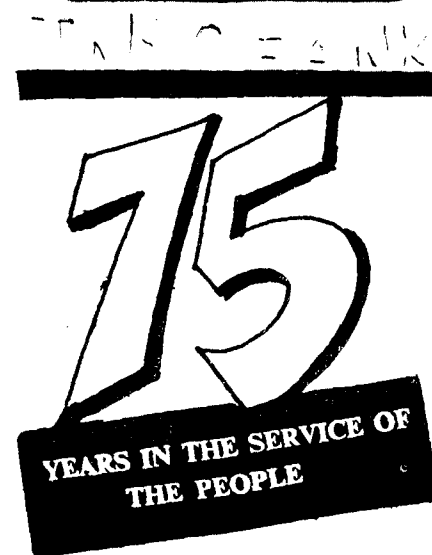
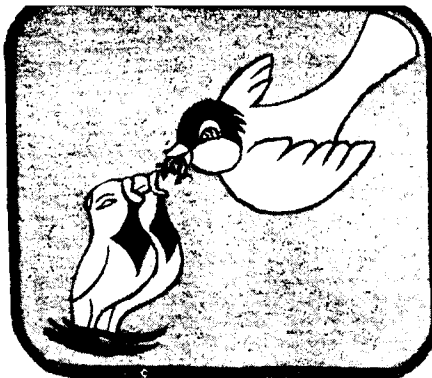
The Tamil Nadu State Co-operative Bank Limited, the first apex co-operative bank (then called the Madras Central Urban Bank), was started in November 1905, has completed 75 years of its useful service to the co-operatives in Tamil Nadu and this is the Platinum Jubilee Year of the Bank. The Bank has been playing a vital and significant role in the dispensation of agricultural credit, both short term and medium term, and has contributed in no small measure to the Green Revolution in the State. It has also largely contributed to the progress of the Co-operative Sugar Mills and Spinning Mills in the State and the Handloom Co-operatives including the Co-optex.

In addition to routing the funds provided by the Reserve Bank of India for financing seasonal agricultural operations, medium-term agricultural purposes, medium term conversion loans, handloom weavers' financing and produce pledge loans, the bank has been providing various reimbursement cash credit limits to Central Co-operative Banks from its resources. These limits are in respect of fertilizer business, general business, distribution of essential commodities, working capital to sugar and spinning mills, jewel loans issued through branches of Central Co-operative Banks and primary credit societies, etc.

Jewel Loan :

Consequent on the debt-relief measures initiated by the Government of Tamil Nadu, the traditional sources of private money lending have dwindled. Therefore, with a view to helping the weaker sections of the community in Madras City, the Bank took upon itself the task of providing jewel loans through its branches. The scheme which was started in December 1976 in 3 branches, has now been extended to 15 more branches. The outstanding under jewel loans as on 31-12-80 amounted to Rs. 200.10 lakhs in respect of 46,687 accounts.

The Bank has also been providing reimbursement facilities to Central Co-operative Banks, in respect of their advances against the security of gold ornaments through their branches as well as loans issued through primary credit societies and urban banks. Cash credit limits aggregating Rs. 3,302 lakhs have been sanctioned to central co-operative banks for the above purposes.



Self-employment Loans :

In keeping with the social aspirations of the nation and to help the weaker sections of the community, the bank has been issuing loans upto Rs. 2,000/- for acquisition of capital assets like cycle rickshaws, sewing machines, wet grinders, mobile ironing units etc. as self-employment loans. These loans are repayable in monthly instalments within 24 months from the date of availing of the loan.

The scheme was inaugurated in December 1976. Since the commencement of the scheme, a sum of Rs. 8.76 lakhs has been issued as loans to 765 borrowers. The bank has also offered reimbursement facility to central co-operative banks for this purpose. This loan is extended to the physically disabled persons also.

Loans to Salaried Employees :

In March 1979, the bank introduced a scheme for issue of loans to salaried employees, who are working in various organisations in the City of Madras and who are not members of the Employees' Co-operative Societies, if any, func-

tioning in their own organisation. Loans are given upto Rs. 2,000/- or two months gross salary, whichever is less, and have to be repaid in 12 monthly instalments.

1981 has been declared as the International Year of the Physically Handicapped by the United Nations Organisation. The physically disabled is looked upon as a burden, as a parasite and outcaste by society. Such an attitude on the part of the public should be changed.

They should also be treated as human beings and made to feel that they are also wanted by society.

Therefore, they should be taken care of, given education, provided with assistance, given training and absorbed in suitable vocations, so that they too could become useful members of society and self-dependant; that they too could stand on their own legs; that they too could contribute their mite to society.

The public should be educated about the handicapped; their disabilities and their needs and that they could be rehabilitated and be made self-reliant.

For the rehabilitation of the physically handicapped the Government has come forward with a number of schemes. A number of voluntary agencies have also come forward to help these unfortunate human beings. But no single institution,

whether a governmental body or a voluntary organization can solve the problem which is enormous. Many institutions also have to make their endeavour to help them.

Here, the banks could play a useful role in extending concessions to the physically handicapped. In the matter of employment and also lending financial aid to those individuals desirous of starting small industries on their own or put up petty shops; to set up a cycle repair shop; to buy sewing machines and run a tailoring shop; in raising cows and buffaloes; goats and pigs; hens, ducks etc.

The Nationalised banks have come forth to help in this noble cause in extending financial aid to this weaker section of society. The Tamil Nadu State Co-operative Bank which is celebrating its platinum jubilee this year has also joined hands in this venture.



UDAIYARPALAYAM PAINTINGS

Udaiyarpalayam, a village about 65 Kms. to the North East of the Trichy Town is in Trichy District. The Taluk is also named after Udaiyarpalayam, but the taluk offices are located in Jayankondam. Udaiyarpalayam gives its name to an important Zamindari. The famous Chola temple Gangaikonda Cholivaram built by Rajendra-I at Gangaikonda cholapuram is about 20 Kms. from here.

ZAMIN HISTORY

The founder of Udaiyarpalayam Zamin was Rangappa Udaiyar, a petty poligar of Conjeevaram. Under the orders of Vijaya Nagar King, Vira Narasimharaya (1509), Pallikonda a village near Kunnattur in South Arcot District was given as a small Jaghir by the Nayaks of Gingee to Rangappa Udaiyar. The Vijaya Nagar King also gave him a large tract of country between Vellar and Coleroon rivers as a reward for his help at the Battle of Ahmad Nagar and conferred him the title 'Arasu Kavalgar' or head of Police. He was succeeded by his brother Lachi Chinna Nallappa Kalakka Tola Udaiyar who was the real founder of Udaiyarpalayam Zamin.

TEMPLES :

There are two temples at Udaiyarpalayam one dedicated to Siva and the other to Vishnu. The Siva temple is known as Payaraniswaraswami and the Vishnu temple as Varadaraja Swamy temple. In front of the Siva temple there is a Vinayaka shrine wherein the Vinayaka is seen carrying a bow in his hand a very rare iconic representation.

VARADARAJASWAMY TEMPLE

Varadaraja swamy temple, facing east was built around 16th Century AD (Vijayanagar period). No inscription is noticed in this temple. However lands were donated to this temple and these are recorded in Copper Plate grants and palm-leaf manuscripts. Copper Plate grant dated, saka 1685, corresponding to 1763 A.D. registers the tax free gift of 90 Kuli land purchased for 36 Pon in the Village of Edayattangudi in Kattalai Nadu, a sub-division of Vikrama Valanadu by Arasunilainattiya Kumara Vijaya Oppilada Malavarayar, Son of Vijaya Oppilada Malavarayar and grand-son of Muttu Venkatappa Malavarayar.

The gift was made to meet the Uchchikala Kattalai of God Varadaraja. Another Copper plate grant tells about the gift of some lands by Muttarasa Reddiyar and Peddu Reddiyar to the same temple. PAINTINGS :

Recently some interesting paintings were noticed by me in the Mahamandapa and the entire ceiling of the prakara around the main shrine.

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of Archaeology.

The painting on the ceiling of Mahamandapa shows the well-known Pattabhisheka scene of Lord Rama and Sita. By the right side of it some royal portraits are seen. It is very difficult to identify the portrait figures. Unfortunately the whole painting has lost its colour due to seepage of water in the ceiling. Only the contour lines of figures are visible.

On the ceiling around the main shrine is seen the paintings of the



complete story of Ramayana. In most of the places the painting is damaged due to seepage of water. But in a few places paintings are preserved in good condition.

Generally Black, Green, Red and Yellow colours are noticed in the paintings. Rama and Lakshmana are shown as young boys. Rama is aiming an arrow at 'Tataka'. Sita's Swayamvara : bringing the bow in a Cart ; Dasaratha's arrival in a palamquin and the reception

given by Sita's father, Janaka are some of the scenes that are being well preserved.

In the procession scene, the soldiers are shown carrying guns in their hands. Ayodhya City is surrounded by fort walls over which are placed cannons on all sides.

The scene depicting the crossing of river Ganges by Rama, Lakshmana and Sita in a boat, is interesting and appears very similar to the

boat found in the paintings of Nayak period at Alagarkoil, Madurai.

DATE OF THE PAINTING :

Udaiyarpalayam painting is quite akin with the Maratta paintings. The head gear and other stylistic factors are similar to the tradition of Tanjore paintings that are dated to 18th Century A.D. The depiction of cannons and guns show the influence and participation of foreign people in the History of Tamilnadu.



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